Notice of the Annual General Meeting
Thursday, 31st July 2003

The one hundred and third Annual General Meeting of the London Topographical Society will be held on Thursday, 31st July 2003, in the new lecture theatre at the British Museum. Refreshments will be served from about 5.30pm and the meeting will start at 6.30pm. Members may bring guests to the AGM.

The meeting coincides with the exhibition London 1753, which celebrates the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the museum. You can, of course, visit this before the meeting but it will also be open for about an hour afterwards.

If arriving from the main entrance, there are lifts down to the lecture theatre just before reaching the Great Court. Alternatively you can use the stairs in the south-west corner (turn left as soon as you go into the Great Court).

Laurence Worms has kindly offered to bring his zograscope to demonstrate how it works. Vues d’optique, intended for viewing with a zograscope, are included in the exhibition. We will have some of our most popular back-list publications for sale and have also been promised a selection of British Museum publications at reduced prices.

After the business meeting, we plan to have three short talks – from Sheila O’Connell on the exhibition, Ralph Hyde on Kip’s panorama and Laurence Worms on the zograscope.

Members intending to come by car should remember that the congestion charge applies until 6.30pm.

The annual publication will be distributed to members at the meeting. Those who cannot attend will be sent theirs by post, probably in August or September. Please write to the Hon Secretary if you would like to nominate anyone as an officer of the Society or as a member of Council, or if you wish to raise any matter under item six of the agenda.

AGENDA
1 Minutes of the 102nd Annual General Meeting
3 Accounts for 2002
4 Hon Editor’s report
5 Election of officers and members of Council
6 Proposals by members
7 Any other business

Items 1-3 are all published in this Newsletter.

– Patrick Frazer, Hon Secretary


The publication for 2002 was a revised edition of John Tallis’s London Street Views 1835-1840, with an updated introduction by Peter Jackson and additional indexes.

As in 2001, good sales of the A-Z series of books and other past publications helped to generate a surplus for the year. The A-Z of Victorian London was reprinted to meet demand.

At the end of 2002 there were 977 fully paid up members – ten more than in 2001 – and three Honorary members.

The Newsletter was published in May and November, with articles on the new-look Trafalgar Square, the site of Merton Priory and the Corporation of London Cemetery.

Council meetings were held in January, April and September to discuss the Society’s publication programme and administrative matters.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the London Topographical Society 2002

The one hundred and second Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Grand Temple at Freemasons’ Hall at 6.30pm on 2nd July and was preceded by refreshments co-ordinated by Mrs Joyce Cumming. The Chairman, Mr Peter Jackson, welcomed about 260 members and guests attending and thanked Mr Richard Gan who had made it possible to meet in such splendid surroundings.
The Annual Report of the Council and the Minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting, which had been previously circulated, were approved. The Annual Accounts were adopted after an introduction by Mr Roger Cline, who reported that there had been a larger surplus than normal because of strong sales of past publications. Dr Ann Saunders spoke about the annual publication and acknowledged the work of Iain Bain who had supervised its production, as he had done for the first edition thirty-three years ago.

All the officers were re-elected, viz: Peter Jackson as Chairman, Roger Cline as Hon Treasurer, Ann Saunders as Hon Editor, Simon Morris as Publications Secretary, Penelope Hunting as Newsletter Editor, Patrick Frazer as Hon Secretary and Hugh Cleaver as Hon Auditor. With the exception of Trevor Ford, who stood down, all Council members were also re-elected.

After the business part of the meeting, members heard talks about the establishment and development of freemasonry by John Hamill and about the site and building of Freemasons’ Hall by Diane Clements. Copies of the annual publication were available to collect and members could visit the Library and Museum of Freemasonry.

**Publication for 2003**

Number 161 for 2003: Jan Kip’s *Prospect of London, Westminster and St James’s Park* (1720) with an introduction by Ralph Hyde and keys by Peter Jackson. This panorama is the largest view of the City of London, Westminster and St James’s Park ever published. You will still be able to carry it home.

The Kip panorama will be on sale at the British Museum to accompany the *London 1753* exhibition (see News and Notes). Do not be tempted to buy it: your copy is reserved for you at the AGM, or by arrangement with Roger Cline (see below).

There is a possibility of an extra publication for 2003 but if not, watch this space. Your Honorary Editor has been working hard on a *borne bouche* for members: Charles Cockerell’s *Tribute to the Memory of Sir Christopher Wren* (1838) – a glorious conglomerate of Wren’s works – with an essay by Dr John Schofield.

**Cakes and Ale**

This year’s AGM at the British Museum offers exceptional facilities: a comfortable lecture theatre, space for sales and an opportunity to see the *London 1753* exhibition. Members and their guests will of course be fortified with refreshments beforehand and in true LTS tradition you are encouraged to bring a home-made cake or special treat to share with eager, hungry topographers.

**Notes from the Treasurer**

The late date of the AGM means many of you will be on holiday on the day and so cannot collect your publication at the meeting. Those of you who cannot arrange for a friend to do so and who would like to pick up your copy from central London, please make arrangements with the Treasurer before mid-July (collection can be left until later if more convenient).

The Treasurer himself will be celebrating acquisition of his bus-pass by cycling from John o’Groats to Land’s End while members are consuming tea at the British Museum. This means he will not be on hand to answer questions on the Accounts, but invites any such questions in advance so that the answers can be given at the meeting.

The enclosed Accounts are unaudited and we hope to have the auditor’s approval by the AGM. In anticipation of your questions, the interest received has gone up in spite of decreasing rates because we have more money in our reserves. The grant is our annual gift from the Scouloudi Foundation – we did not think it right to do the rounds of the other funds for the *Talis* publication. No asset has been estimated for future tax refunds on Covenants and Gift Aid payments since with the changes in regulations the Treasurer prefers to wait for his chicks to hatch before counting them, although the Gift Aid declaration may produce refunds of about £6,000. The publications stock has been revalued after a stock take; even so, the valuation has prudently ignored the slow-selling items.

**Any orders?**

Our stocks of some publications are getting low – if you were procrastinating over ordering back numbers, you should act quickly.

Publication 152 – *The Royal Exchange* is down to less than ten copies; cost to members £33.75 plus £7 postage.

Publication 135 – *The London Surveys of Ralph Treswell* is still available as a paperback, but we have a few casebound copies in not quite pristine condition, very slight bumping of corners etc. Price to members £16 plus £4 postage. Copies can be inspected chez Treasurer before purchase, by appointment.

Odd copies of the *London Topographical Record* are available at £25 plus postage, but all the long runs previously advertised were snapped up.

Please send your orders for, or enquiries about, these and any other back publications you are seeking to the Treasurer.

In the last Newsletter we gave details of an exhibition of a collection of London maps. The maps themselves have been sold but the Society has managed to acquire some copies of the catalogue of the exhibition, which has an introduction by Ralph Hyde. The catalogue – 160 A4 pages of text and colour illustrations – gives a good idea of the collection. The Society is offering it at the bargain price of £47.50, half the original asking price. We do not
have many copies, so leaving the purchase until the AGM may cause disappointment. You can send your order and cheque to the Treasurer and collect your book either from him by appointment or at the AGM. If you want the book sent please make your cheque out for £53 to cover postage and packing.

At the AGM we shall have on sale a selection of the more popular publications from our back-list. Following the closure of Charles Traylen’s shop in Guildford, we shall be offering a few copies of his facsimile version of Buck’s Panorama of the Thames (Westminster Bridge to London Bridge) dating from 1749, in five uncoloured sheets each about 32 inches long, at £10 the set. There may be other goodies. Copies of the Buck Panorama can be reserved in advance (subject to availability) by sending your cheque to the Treasurer (postage £3 extra).

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City Merchants and the Arts -
An Intimate Peek at City Taste
after the Great Fire
by Mireille Galinou

The Conference City Merchants and the Arts started with a surprise. We are so used to conference speakers emphasizing the most positive aspects of their subject that when Philippa Glanville chose as her first slide a desperately crude portrait of Charles II on an early coronation mug, there were gasps in the audience. How could artistry have sunk so low? What sort of training was available to artists? How did one become an artist in late-seventeenth-century London? More searching questions followed: Where could Londoners see/buy art? What was perceived as art? Who were the arbiters of taste? What new factors changed the situation between 1680 and 1720?

When the South Sea Bubble burst in 1720 creating havoc in the City, many merchants were bankrupted and forced to produce inventories of their goods. These show many paintings as well as traditional plate and tapestry. A recognizable art market and opportunities for art education were now flourishing in London. The art market had developed despite import restrictions and the lack of obvious role models among the urban elite – no Grand Tour, no Academy, no Guild of St Luke, no exhibitions.

Auctions and private agents were the source of supply for paintings but silver and tapestries were appreciated more highly than sculpture and paintings.

The Conference proceedings were divided loosely into: one, the impact of art on merchants’ private lives and two, its impact on merchants’ public lives. Dr Ann Saunders’s contribution, ‘A Day in the Life of a Merchant Taylor’, also created a stir. As she explained to a fascinated audience: “My paper may read like a novel but every point made, every allusion, every event is fully documented either in manuscript form or through objects in museum collections or in books and accounts of the period. I have not invented a single thing.” Thus the driest historical facts were so deliciously coated in engaging story-telling that her paper will remain in people’s memories for a long time. Her (imaginary) day fell in the autumn of 1673, when Sir William Turner (1615–93), ‘a sober, considering man’, consulted Robert Hooke, the mathematician, over the adornment of the Merchant Taylors’ Hall and when he gave advice over a mysterious suit of clothes for a certain gentleman.

Alongside these two outstanding ‘performances’ by key speakers, the Conference offered more traditional contributions which, in many cases, broke completely new ground – for instance Katharine Goodison’s meticulous and lively historic reconstruction of a merchant’s house in Stepney. This paper explored a rare survival of a house type which was popular in the City at the end of the seventeenth century and throughout the eighteenth century but now barely survives (“the mansion of the greatest bigness” as it was described in the 1667 Rebuilding Act).

There were surprises, too, for art historians who had long associated the Antwerp-born painter Siberechts with court patronage. Karen Hearn (Tate Britain) and Laura Wortley (River & Rowing Museum at Henley on Thames) both demonstrated and documented probable links with wealthy City merchants: Goldsmith-banker John Cogges for Karen Hearn and the celebrated and immensely wealthy Sir Robert Clayton, Lord Mayor of London, for Laura Wortley.

Sir Robert Clayton was also the subject of Anthony Hotson’s paper. Here for the first time, aspects of his doctoral research on ‘Late Stuart Moneymen’ were presented to the public. Hotson analysed the Robert Clayton funerary monument, an excellent starting point for the study of dynastic monuments commemorating late Stuart City merchants.

The clothing of City merchants is another under-researched area. The merchant classes, unlike their peers in Holland, cannot be readily identified by a distinctive style of dress. Successful merchants and their families had easy access to the latest luxury goods, whether of native production or imported from abroad. Their awareness of changes in fashions, often inspired by French styles, European textiles and accessories from further afield is under-recorded in surviving contemporary portraiture. An important exception is the Vyner Family painted by John Michael Wright in 1673. Dress historian Valerie Cumming examined with great humour the manner in which this particular family group were dressed and depicted. This analysis offered clues to the shift from the constrained sobriety of the late 1640s and early 1650s as recorded by Hollar, to the growing richness of late-seventeenth and early-eighteenth-century merchant dress.
By contrast Vivien Knight dealt with portraiture in terms of patronage of civic art. In 1670 the Court of Aldermen decided to commission from John Michael Wright portraits of the 'fire judges' – the senior judges appointed to assess property claims and disputes in the wake of the Great Fire of London. A sub-Committee was delegated to see the commission through and the resulting twenty-two portraits were the origin of the Corporation of London’s art collection.

David Mitchell, on the other hand, dwelt on the increasing quantity and variety of exotic goods that were imported into London during the second half of the seventeenth century – lacquer, porcelain and tea from the East; textiles, pearls and diamonds from India; textiles and coffee from the Levant; and chocolate and tobacco from the Americas. These luxury commodities were largely shipped by English overseas merchants and subsequently sold by trades in both the City and the 'Town', the expanding area of gentry housing to the west, centred on Covent Garden.

These imports led to an enthusiasm for the East and to a rash of exotic decoration on English ceramics, silver and japanned furniture, which was subsequently termed chinoiserie by art historians. The paper examined the role of London’s mercantile elite in this enthusiasm. The Painted Room (see illustration) from 32 Botolph Lane featured in both this talk and another, dealing more specifically with merchants’ houses in the City.

Adriana Turpin focused on another barely researched area of mercantile taste: the furnishing of merchants’ houses. Most of the information available comes from the upper levels of the group, both in terms of inventories and identifiable furniture. An attempt was made to identify specific pieces made for merchants. Another method was to consider the clients in the available accounts of London cabinet-makers, thus providing some information about the level of patronage afforded outside aristocratic circles. Finally a case study was made of the contents of Squerreys Court in Kent, bought by the Warde family in 1731. Sir Patience Warde and his nephew Sir John Warde were both Lord Mayors of London and important City figures. Sir John was one of the first governors of the Bank of England. Surviving in the house are a number of pieces which were acquired in 1719 on the marriage of John Warde to Frances Bristow. They offer some understanding of what a wealthy London merchant might have bought to furnish his house.

Conclusion
The Conference was packed, both in terms of the number of papers given and attendance. Its success depended on addressing, virtually for the first time, a theme which has been consistently overlooked, as well as having leading experts in London history and the arts alongside new academic research. Unusually perhaps, the day succeeded in appealing both to scholarly interests and to a wider audience. We hope to repeat this feat with the publication based on the Conference scheduled to become available in early 2004. Encouragingly, the Corporation's Education Service has agreed to fund a second Conference, 'City Merchants and the Arts II' which will focus on the late Georgian and Victorian periods.

This event was initiated and supported by the Corporation of London's Education Committee, in collaboration with Guildhall Art Gallery. The Conference(s) and publication are co-ordinated by Mireille Galinou. Anyone interested in the Conference publication and/or the forthcoming Conference sequel for the Victorian period should contact Mireille Galinou at m.galinou@virgin.net.

A booklet on the Painted Room is available from the Guildhall Library Shop, priced at £2.00. To order a copy ring 020 7332 1858.
The London Property 'Market' before and after the Great Fire* by Ian Doolittle

Introduction

Readers will be aware that the late Philip Jones calendared two volumes of the Fire Court decrees in 1966 and 1970 and that there are two more volumes-worth of decrees still to be published. I have recently started work on volume E onwards. It struck me that they take the lid off the seventeenth century London property market in a way that may not have been properly appreciated before. The decrees recite the circumstances in which the freehold or the leasehold interests had been acquired and the principal terms (especially as to repair) of the leases and sub-leases. It is a remarkably clear camera shot which avoids the distractions, indeed obscurities, of legal conventions. As a way of illustrating what can be elicited from a decree I have prepared a diagram of one set of legal relationships. I have deliberately chosen one of the more complicated ones to show what you can expect to find in a number of decrees. (See page 6).

For the purpose of this article I have analysed the decrees in volume A: there are some 200 in all. My preliminary findings are best presented as answers to a set of questions.

How was the rebuilding, or indeed redevelopment generally, financed?

Reddaway thinks £300 or £400 was required for a middle to good quality house. Porter has come up with a somewhat higher average - a little over £500 - but acknowledges that this mean figure reflects a few expensive taverns or large houses and the median therefore is probably about where Reddaway put it. My own figures certainly fall into that frame. So where did people find their £400s? My guess at this stage is that loans were not important. The obvious sources of loans - goldsmiths, bankers and scriveners - appear to be conspicuous by their absence. I say "appear" because I have only checked some of the big names and I need to do a more systematic exercise. Perhaps for various reasons they would be hidden from view; but for now the working hypothesis is that the sort of money required to rebuild or redevelop did not need to involve the money men. Melton’s conclusion in his study of Clayton and Morris is that the rebuilding process was achieved without mortgage debts.

It is certainly the case that there are only a few mortgages mentioned in volume A of the decrees. This could be because mortgagees did not need to be involved in the Court proceedings. Melton has shown that many loans were secured contractually by bonds and then by leases. Given the apparently small-scale of rebuilding/redevelopment in the City it is possible that lenders satisfied themselves with bonds alone.

It is noteworthy that the few mortgages which appear in the decrees are not obviously linked to either rebuilding or redevelopment and for the present I believe that Reddaway was right in surmising that rebuilding costs – and by inference conventional redevelopment costs – were met out of cash reserves. In many cases this was a rather grand term for literally money chests. It was apparently a personal, ad hoc and small-scale system. All the average rebuilding/redeveloping tenant required was an incentive; and this the owner or landlord often supplied, in the form of a longer term, a lower rent and no fine. This was enough. A dip into the available cash or perhaps a loan from a relation or friend (Pepys lent a cousin £350 to rebuild his house) did the rest.

How was property used as security?

The most frequently encountered form of security instrument was the lease, possibly supporting a bond. There appears to have been little standardization and some lack of clarity about the effect of the security methods. This created complications for owners and occupiers; and the existence or possible existence of charges caused concern about getting good title to property. The Fire Court could play a useful role in allaying fears but it would be surprising if there were not plenty of disputes between mortgagees and others interested in the property. It would be some while, I am assuming, before the equity of redemption (i.e. the right for a borrower to buy off his mortgagee) was translated from a legal principle into a practical conveyancing convention. How many such rights were included? Indeed how many charges, as opposed to leases, were employed at all? It may be that the stakes were not yet high enough for legal solutions to be developed. Nevertheless the risk of a mortgagee enforcing his security was real and tenants were right to be nervous. It was therefore something of a blessing if the rebuilding/redevelopment process was relatively free (as currently appears) from the legal complications of mortgages, bonds, rent charges and the like.

Did people hold or acquire City property as an investment?

There was certainly plenty of sub-letting. The classic arrangement involved the freeholding livery company or City Corporation granting a long lease to X and X granting a sub-lease to Y. There are, however, only a few explicit references to income, and when they arise they are often in the context of charities and family settlements and were clearly designed to tug at the heartstrings of the judges. I have found only three such cases in my volume A sample.

It is obviously important to look elsewhere, to add depth to this picture. The key question is not whether some lessees held property as an investment, but rather whether Londoners with cash to spare invested in leasehold property purely for income purposes. My current instinct is that few did so but I could be proved wrong.
How and why were occupational rights transferred?

There certainly were plenty of assignments. I have counted sixty decrees involving assignments among my 192 ‘occupation’ cases. The significance of this number will become more apparent when I understand how frequently landlords were entitled to give (or withhold) consent to assignment; but whatever the position occupational rights were bought and sold with striking frequency. By contrast, inheritance featured infrequently. I have identified only thirteen obvious instances in volume A. The comparison with ownership is marked. Occupation was a transitory affair, continually subject to changes in personal and economic circumstances. If it was an asset it was ‘traded’ and if it was a liability it was shuffled off.

Who were the freeholders and what role did they play?

The decrees certainly attest to the importance of the City Corporation, the livery companies, St Paul’s and other churches, and a few other ‘institutions’. More difficult is establishing how many individual freeholders there were. Nevertheless I think it is fair to assume that a large proportion of the freehold reversions were owned by those who had little taste for risk-taking or hands-on development but rather looked for capital or income to further their corporate or charitable objectives. The result was long leases with low rents and high fines. These pre-Fire leases were extended by the Fire Court, thus pushing the freeholders even further away from their properties.

It is little wonder therefore that the freeholders rarely played an active role in the rebuilding process. The parties before the Fire Court were the ‘real’ owners and their tenants and if the freeholders did appear it was simply to urge the Court to preserve their income.

Was there a market – at least an efficient, responsive one?

I have tried to find some patterns in the main pre-Fire lease terms to see if they reflect market pressures. There is certainly a fairly standard length of lease: it was usually somewhere between twenty-
one and thirty years. Rents were commonly between £15 and £80 per annum and the rent levels seem to have reflected in predictable fashion the value or utility of the property.

Fines were surprisingly frequent, even for quite short terms such as the popular twenty-one years. For run-of-the-mill leases, I calculate that at least half included fines at the outset. Fines generally ranged between £50 and £200. Why they were at the bottom or top of this scale is hard to fathom; there is certainly no obvious correlation between rent and fine.

I have considered compensation for improvements. The Court was certainly alive to tenants' interests, being careful to take improvements into account in deciding the terms for either a new lease or a surrender of the existing one; but in ordinary pre-Fire dealings between landlord and tenant it seems that tenants often simply took their chance. There appears to have been a good deal of gratuitous expenditure by tenants confident that in face-to-face negotiations they could get new leases which reflected the value of their improvements.

I have also looked at the assignment or transfer of leases. If a lease is rack or fully rented you would not expect fines to be paid. And yet one tenant is found paying £275 for the twelve years left on a lease at £20 a year, despite the fact that the original tenant had paid no fine at all - odd. In 1653 a tenant gets a twenty-one-year lease and pays no fine; eight or nine years later his assignee pays £275 for the rest of the lease at (by definition) the same rent. Can this really be attributable to post 1660 confidence? Even when a fine had been paid at the outset it was certainly not habitual for that fine simply to be 'passed on' while in other cases assignees actually paid more than the original tenant. There is no market logic here.

As far as sub-letting is concerned, the decrees suggest that deals were struck simply on the best terms the parties could achieve. There was no apparent correlation between the terms of the head or main lease and the sub-lease. For example, what explains the willingness evidenced in one decree to pay a higher rent and a substantially larger fine for a shorter lease of the same, rack-rented premises?

How is this absence of market patterns explained? Short term views were obviously the norm. The risk of sudden personal, domestic or economic misfortune was present in a way which is difficult now to appreciate. This no doubt encouraged tenants to make light of the (apparent) lack of legal security: they took their chance that they could renew when they wanted to do so; and as far as I can judge they were often successful. There are many references to tenants surrendering and getting fresh leases in mid-term.

What role did women play?
I was struck how frequently women featured, and not merely in a passive role. I have considered how

women were both constrained by, but also able to evade, the legal conventions and rules which afflicted them. In particular I applied the distinction between 'feme overt' and 'feme covert' and the basic forfeiture of a wife's rights to her husband, while at the same time looking out for those settlements and trusts which created or re-created independent rights for a wife (i.e. the so-called 'separate estate').

In my crude category of 'owners' I have found women with reversionary interests in various roles - owning, leasing and so on - and tried to draw some conclusions about their activity in the property market and the extent to which, willingly or not, they were merely passive participants.

The overall conclusion is that the legal rules appear to have broken down in practice. The three instances of pure ownership are too few to bear much weight; but the cases of women as lessors are numerous and persuasive. In a number of cases husbands and wives jointly grant leases in apparent flat contradiction of both the 'feme covert' rule and the exceptions to it. I have counted seven such instances; only in two cases is there anything which hints at an explanation. I may have misunderstood the law at the time; but perhaps lessors, or more to the point lessees, wanted to bind in all those who might be said to have an interest in the reversion.

There is enough here to suggest that under the commercial and financial pressures of urban property dealings the laws and customs applying to women were breaking down or simply adjusting more rationally to practicalities.

When we turn to women as 'occupiers' we find women playing various roles; and the cases I have found attest to the way in which at least widows and unmarried women occupiers ostensibly enjoyed real legal and commercial freedom. I also believe that in contrast to the 'ownership' cases the 'feme covert/overt' rules were followed for occupiers. Presumably 'ownership' required legal solutions which mere 'occupation' did not.

How were wives and families provided for?
In my 167 'ownership' cases in volume A I found at least thirty-four which refer to family trusts or settlements of some kind. By contrast the 192 occupation cases produced only three or so. Which families tended to settle or tie up their London property in trusts? One of the most elaborate settlements rehearsed in the volume A decrees involved Northumberland House. Other properties were not so well-known; they simply comprised a large number of houses. In one instance a widow had a life interest in six properties as her jointure and in another a husband charged five properties in his will with payments to his wife and unborn child.

Why were properties treated in this way? Occasionally it was to make a charitable bequest to a third party; for example, we find a freehold left by will in tail (i.e. theoretically preventing subsequent disposal), with the income going to the
Haberdashers’ Company. Usually the charity was closer to home. Classically it would simply involve a husband giving a life interest to his wife and remainder to his son, but there were variations. It is worth bearing in mind that, as Horwitz has shown, the Custom of London, which stipulated how personal property (including leases) was to be distributed to widows and families, was frequently ignored or circumvented.

The next question is how these arrangements were created. There were a few formal marriage settlements, as in the case of a husband giving a life interest to his wife with the remainder (in the absence of children) to his brother and his son. There are also some plain references to trusts. More commonly, however, these family arrangements are simply created by will.

Most of the trusts/settlements gave the wife a life interest of some kind and there might be assured payments or annuities from the property income. A life interest usually entitled a widow or indeed other ‘beneficiary’ to grant a lease during the remainder of her life-time and in a number of my cases she did so.

This variety of cases involving ‘owners’ is in stark contrast to the paucity of cases involving what I term occupiers. The contrast is striking but predictable. Only those with a long-standing and secure interest in property were likely to devise ways of distributing income from that property to the family. Tenants who were merely transient occupiers would look to other means to provide for their wives and children, if indeed they had alternative assets at all.

Conclusion

The more I have investigated the Fire Court decrees the more I have become convinced that they offer some new information on the working of the London property market at the time. I hope that my further work on the decrees will strengthen this conviction, as well as adding depth and detail to current knowledge and understanding.

*This is a substantially condensed version of a paper I gave to a seminar at the Centre for Metropolitan History. I am grateful to the Director, Matthew Davies, and those who attended. I also acknowledge the help I have received from the published work by Reddaway, Porter, Horwitz, Melton, Keene and McKellar.

The Rothschild Archive by Denise Silvester-Carr

The Rothschilds have always been a family of great collectors, not simply of paintings and priceless objets d’art. Their range of interests is extraordinary: from history to horticulture, economics to oenology, natural history to publishing. They have also been hoarders. The five brothers who originally set up the banking dynasty throughout Europe more than 200 years ago wrote regularly to each other and their secret correspondence as they struggled to supply the Duke of Wellington with gold in the lead-up to the Battle of Waterloo, is among the huge cache of family letters held in the Rothschild Archive at the London bank’s headquarters in New Court, St Swithin’s Lane, EC4.

Four years ago the Rothschild family established a Trust to develop its rich and varied archive for educational purposes. It is an archive housing almost two kilometres of papers, photographs (including some early pre-1910 colour photos), ephemera and family mementoes. It has recently recovered the papers of the Austrian Rothschilds from a secret archive in Moscow where they had lain since being captured from the Gestapo. It has been collaborating with other centres of Rothschild research, notably in this country with Waddesdon Manor, where the catalogues of the collections are one of the great international reference points for art historians. The result of the collaborations is the Rothschild Research Forum, an on-line resource due to be launched on 28th May. Researchers will be able to register their interests, find out about new discoveries, exchange news and opinions, and publish their findings.

The site shows how the simplest and most humble of records can be of value in this electronic environment. For instance, from 1852 onwards Baron Lionel de Rothschild (1808-79), the first Jewish MP and head of the London bank, kept the receipts for all the goods and services he purchased. By means of a simple search, details of the various suppliers from whom he bought seeds and plants for his gardens can be accessed, as well as information on the art dealers who sold him paintings. There is information about building work at Gunnersbury, his house in Ealing. His wife Charlotte’s letters are a mine of social and political information, the arrival of the telegraph in London causing her to write “I hear that a complete network of such wires will, ere long, connect all the streets and markets of this huge metropolis... I am not sure it will be pleasant to receive messages from morning till night.”

There is material on Jewish philanthropy in the East End and, naturally, on banking. Although the archive covers fields as diverse as the Rothschild mynah bird and Jewish settlements in Palestine, it is also a valuable resource for various aspects of life in London. The Rothschild Research Forum can be found on www.rothschildarchive.org from the end of May.
Lindsey Street, London EC1
by David Lindsey

Gillian Bebbington in her book London Street Names (Batsford 1972) mentions Lindsey Street only to say that its origin is unknown. This street was in fact named after my great-grandfather Mark John Lindsey. A Dictionary of London, by H.A. Harben (London 1918) describes it as running “north out of Long Lane, at No.23 to Charterhouse Street. The southern end is in Farringdon Ward Without, the northern end outside the City boundary (PO Directory). It lies at the eastern end of Smithfield Market. It covers the site of smaller courts, such as Carpenter’s Yard, etc.”

Smithfield in 1888. The unnamed street adjoining the eastern end of the market was, two years later, named Lindsey Street. Aldersgate Street Station is now the Barbican.

As to the naming of the street, the initiative appears to have been taken in 1890 by a private individual in the City, Mr Benjamin Tabberer of 13 Basinghall Street, who approached the London County Council (LCC) with the suggestion that the previously unnamed street should be named Horace Street after Sir Horace Jones, the City Architect who had designed the original market buildings of 1868 for the Corporation. This was not possible as the name was already in use, so the LCC asked the City Commissioners of Sewers, who then had the responsibility for City streets, for suggestions. The Commissioners referred the matter to the Central Markets Sub Committee who considered the matter at a meeting on 11th June, when they heard the City Architect’s (Alexander Peebles) rather uninspired suggestions for the street, namely East Market..., East Central Market..., East Central... and Central Market Street or Avenue. The Committee instead chose Lindsey Street and, although the minute does not say why the name was chosen, there can be very little doubt that the name was chosen as a compliment to the then Chairman of the (Grand) Markets Committee, Mark John Lindsey. The Markets Committee agreed to adopt the suggestion on 20th June, as did the City Commissioners of Sewers, who then forwarded it to the LCC and heard on 21st October that the name had been assigned to the street.

Mark John Lindsey was a Common Councilman of the City for the Ward of Farringdon Within (south side) 1866-78 and 1879-1905. His City address during that period was 32 Ludgate Hill and he was a liverman of the Blacksmiths’ Company and is also listed as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. Lindsey had extended periods of service on Corporation Market Committees, including the Markets Improvement Committee, the (Grand) Markets Committee, the Cattle Markets Sub Committee, the Billingsgate and Leadenhall Markets Sub Committee, the Finance and Parliamentary Sub Committee and the Central Markets Committee. When he died in 1906, he was a Past Master of the Blacksmiths’ Company and his obituary, published in the City Press on 10th March 1906, described him as “being regarded in his day and generation as a market authority”.

Lindsey was a surgical appliance manufacturer who worked first with his father and two younger half-brothers in the Borough and in the City. In about 1859 he set up on his own at 5 Chiswell Street. In this he was helped by his future father-in-law, a solicitor, William Henry Watson, a partner with his brother Robert in the law firm, Watson and Sons of 12 Bouverie Street. Lindsey later acquired premises at 37 Ludgate Street which was re-named and re-numbered as 32 Ludgate Hill. It was here that, with his two sons, Mark John founded the family business, Lindsey & Sons, which later acquired branches in Oxford, Maldstone, Brighton, Portsmouth, and Exeter. There was also a branch at 40 Gracechurch Street and a factory for making truss springs, metal splints, and leg instruments in Goldsmiths Row, “a tumble down place just off Fleet Street”, according to Mark John’s younger son. This factory was later transferred to Macleans Buildings. I have been unable to identify these last two places.

Between the wars the leases on Ludgate Hill and Gracechurch Street expired and the business was transferred to 137 Cannon Street. As a result of the Blitz and a fall off in business in the City, the London branch was closed but the firm continued in the provinces, in one form or another, until the 1990s.

Acknowledgement
I am grateful to James Sewell, the City Archivist, for confirming and enlarging upon what has always been part of the collective family memory.
Obituary
Bernard Adams MBE, FLA

"It must be described in Adams" is what thankful librarians say when stuck with any tricky bibliographical problem relating to London images. You can bet it will be, and that Adams will solve their problem. Adams - in other words London Illustrated, 1804-1851, published by the Library Association in 1983 - is Bernard Adams's great memorial.

Bernard was born in Carshalton in 1915. Educated at Westminster School, he tested his vocation with an Anglican monastic order before being conscripted into the RAF in World War II. Following the war he briefly worked at Cambridge University Library, and then moved on to British Council where he became Librarian of the Home Library. He retired in 1976.

I got to know Bernard in 1965 when he was already working on London books with engraved plates, dashing over from the West End in his lunch-breaks in order to examine volumes we had at Guildhall Library. Though astonishingly erudite, he always made librarians feel they were the real experts and he had everything to learn. He was our favourite reader, and to me he became a close friend.

On retirement we saw much more of Bernard as he set about completing London Illustrated. He submitted his manuscript to Library Association Publishing, but for several years it languished in a cupboard. A new editor discovered it, blew off the dust, looked at it, and marvelled. Despite the huge costs involved in publishing this hefty book for an inevitably narrow market the LA had the courage to publish it. Bravo!

Even before publication Bernard had joined my staff as a volunteer. He helped us in a number of ways - cataloguing exhibits for the Getting London in Perspective exhibition at Barbican Art Gallery, and providing text for the Harry Margary/Guildhall Library facsimile of Leighton's Grand Architectural Panorama of London (1849). His major on-going job, however, was re-cataloguing our large collection of topographical drawings and watercolours, starting with better-known artists such as T.H. Shepherd, George Shepherd, George Scharf, and Robert Blemmel Schneebeline, and moving on to lesser known but useful artists such as J.P. Emslie. All Bernard's data was added to the library's public catalogue when the entries for the Print Room's stock was retrospectively converted in the late 1990s.*

In 1994 Bernard became a resident at Morden College, Blackheath, occupying attractive quarters in the seventeenth-century quad., and taking energetic early morning constitutional round the Heath. Latterly he became engrossed in Italian Renaissance church architecture paying regular visits to Rome, Florence, and Venice in particular. In his eighties he learnt Italian to read the literature of the subject and also to converse with Venetians. He greatly enjoyed his final trip to Venice in October 2002. He died on 10th December.

* Guildhall Library's catalogue is now on-line, and you can access it on www.citoryoflondon.gov.uk/librarycatalogue. A click on 'catalogue' brings up Opac; click on Author (i.e. artist) and type in (for example) 'Schneebeline, R.B.'; click on 'Begin Search'; in 'Author Search' you will find 256 Schneebeline items listed; click on any item relating to a drawing rather than a print, and in 'Copy Locations' click on 'Title details'. At last you have reached Bernard's cataloguing! Phew! A sweat, but very well worth the effort.

- Ralph Hyde

News and Notes

London 1753
An exhibition at the British Museum from 23rd May to 23rd November 2003 celebrates London at the time of the foundation of the Museum 250 years ago. It was a time of transition when London was in the process of moving from being the capital of an emerging economy to the centre of a new empire. In 1745 the claims of the Stuart monarchy were expunged at Culloden; in 1760 the German-speaking George II died and his young, London-born, grandson became George III; in 1763 the end of the Seven Years' War saw Canada, India and much of the Caribbean under British control.

The exhibition is arranged topographically in five sections: the City, the River, Charing Cross to Bloomsbury, Westminster, and the newly developed areas of St James's and Mayfair with the pleasure gardens of Ranelagh and Vauxhall beyond. John Rocque's twelve-sheet map of London has been lent by the British Library to set the scene. Views by Thomas Bowles and John Boydell depict new developments while watercolours by Paul and Thomas Sandby and above all, drawings by Canaletto give an elegant gloss. Identifiable locations are the settings for humorous prints by Louis Philippe Boitard, John June, Anthony Walker and, of course, William Hogarth whose Gin Lane shows starving drunkards at the foot of St George's Bloomsbury. Prints from Hogarth's Mariage à-la-Mode series are included, as well as prints and preliminary drawings from his Industry and Idleness.
The Museum has also used this opportunity to exhibit trade cards, portraits of well-known Londoners, satirical prints, watchpapers, playing cards and objects that relate to those prints: jewellery, cut-glass, porcelain, coins, medals, watches, Spitalfields silk, shop signs and Greek and Roman sculpture of the sort collected by Grand Tourists.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with 344 entries, 350 black and white and thirty colour illustrations and essays by Celina Fox, Ralph Hyde, Sheila O’Connell and Roy Porter (£24.99, £19.99 in the exhibition).

Sir John Soane

The collection of drawings built up by Sir John Soane (1753-1837), one of the finest collections in the world, is now accessible on-line through a concise catalogue on the Sir John Soane Museum website: www.soane.org. For the first time researchers will be able to check the contents of the drawings collection on-line before making a library appointment. It is particularly appropriate that this new catalogue, which will make Soane’s work so much more accessible to all, should be launched at the start of the 250th anniversary of his birth.

The catalogue contains some 30,000 entries and consists not only of drawings from Soane’s own architectural practice (including watercolours he commissioned to illustrate his Royal Academy lectures) but also drawings by other architects and artists collected by Soane. Those represented in the collection include John Thorpe, Sir Christopher Wren, Sir William Chambers, George Dance (elder and younger) James Playfair, John Carr, William Kent. There are also architectural perspectives by Piranesi, J.M Gandy and work by topographical artists such as John Robert Cozens, George Cooper, Richard Dalton, Edward Dodwell. Students of sculpture will be interested in a volume of designs for monuments by Scheemakers, Rysbrack, Nollekins.

The only drawings not included are those by Robert and James Adam.

Images are not included on the website but the catalogue is designed to accompany a set of microfilms of the drawings, available from ProQuest Information and Learning (formerly Chadwyck-Healey). Contact customerservice@proquest.co.uk. For more information about the concise catalogue of drawings and for images contact Susan Palmer on 020 7440 4245, spalmer@soane.org.uk.

The 250th anniversary of Soane’s birth is also marked by the development of number 14 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, next door to the Museum. Number 14, designed by Soane in 1824 and acquired by the Museum in 2000, will become an education centre with proper storage for the Adam drawings collected by Soane.

The British Library forges ahead

The catalogue of the British Library Map collection is now available on the internet, via the British Library website, or Copac and Google. The catalogue lists 4.5 million maps and topographical views (no images). From 20th May all the maps in the Crace collection and Ordnance surveyors’ drawings will also be available (with images).
St Ethelburga’s restored

There was no more appropriate time to visit St Ethelburga’s than during the war in Iraq. I visited St Ethelburga’s Centre for Reconciliation and Peace to see for myself how the medieval church had been reconstructed after the explosion of a terrorist bomb in Bishopsgate in April 1993 had ruined it.

St Ethelburga’s is better than ever: light, clean, simple and pure it stands as a dignified reproach to terrorism, representing hope and faith in the future, especially at times of conflict. Rubble and medieval timbers from the old church have been incorporated, also the 300 year-old bell and the weather vane bearing the date 1671 – this sits proudly atop a new cupola. The architectural history of the church has been preserved as far as possible and its parishioners are still remembered in surviving memorial tablets. Even fragments of stained glass were rescued and used in the new window which features St Ethelburga and the words “O pray for the peace of Jerusalem”.

The reconstruction of the church was the vision of the Bishop of London, Richard Chartres, who chairs the charitable trust which administers St Ethelburga’s. City livery companies and institutions have been generous and the Worshipful Company of Gardeners plans to restore the garden in a tranquil courtyard behind the church.

St Ethelburga’s was re-consecrated as a church in November 2002 and was opened by the Prince of Wales as a Centre for Reconciliation and Peace the next day. Lectures, seminars and meetings are held here: the series on Faith and Conflict (Wednesdays at 6pm) began with a lecture by the Archbishop of Westminster and will conclude with the Bishop of Oxford’s talk on “The Church’s role in conflict” on 18th June.

For those who would like to be shown round St Ethelburga’s (78 Bishopsgate), it will be open on 6th June 12–2.30pm and on Wednesdays 11am–3pm (please check) and over two days 3rd and 4th June as part of the City churches open days (see below). Enquiries to 020 7496 1610 and see www.stethelburgas.org

- Penelope Hunting

The City churches marathon

The Friends of the City Churches is organizing the annual City Churches Walk on 3rd and 4th June 2003: an opportunity to explore over forty churches some of which are rarely open. Walkers are asked to register at St Mary Aldermanbury, Bow Lane (opposite Mansion House tube) from 10am on each day. All participants will be armed with a map and descriptions of the churches, so can make their own way at their own pace. Alternatively, tours will leave St Mary Aldermanbury between 10.30 and 10.45am and at about 2pm. The charge is £8 for one day, £12 for two with reductions for Friends of the City Churches. The walks will culminate on 4th June at St Sepulchre Holborn with a choral concert (Gilbert and Sullivan) at 4pm, £5.

The Friends of the City Churches: tel 020 7626 1555.

Museum in Docklands – at last

This great project encountered financial problems that delayed its opening. Following the decision to merge the new Museum of Docklands with the Museum of London, the Docklands site will open to the public on 24th May – a free day for the family.

![Museum in Docklands - opening Saturday 24th May 2003.](image)

The opening of the Museum in Docklands fulfils a dream that began twenty years ago as a project dedicated to the rescue of artefacts and memories of life in the Docklands. The Museum tells the story of London’s docks, the associated trades and lives that have passed into history. A whole warehouse building is devoted to the docklands theme, with boats, machinery, workshops, tools, material from the Port of London Authority Archive and of course the Rhinebeck Panorama.

The Museum stands on the edge of the West India Quay – a quayside formerly known as Blood Alley after the damaged hands, necks and backs of the dockers who once heaved sacks of raw sugar from the sailing ships. Now it is overlooked by skyscrapers built in the last twenty years to challenge the Square Mile as London’s financial powerhouse.

Open 10am–6pm daily and accessible by Docklands Light Railway to West India Quay or Jubilee Line to Canary Wharf. For more information telephone 020 7001 9800.
Pepys at Leisure

"As happy a man as any in the world", Samuel Pepys is as entertaining as ever. An exhibition of prints, drawings, books and manuscripts at Guildhall Library until 7th June focuses on the great diarist at leisure. As we all know from his Diary (1660-69), he enjoyed life to the full – music, food, drink, women, perambulations, plays and all the delights afforded by the exciting times he lived in. On display are some fine Hollar etchings and Morden, Lea and Browne’s Map of London in 1700 – three years before the diarist’s death. The exhibition is free and is open 9.30–5pm Mondays to Saturdays.

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Book Reviews

London Bridge. A Visual History
by Peter Jackson. Historical Publications (2002). 144 pages, 161 illustrations of which 9 are in colour. £15.95.

It is always a pleasure to see a fine book back in print. Peter Jackson’s updated version of London Bridge brings history forward with Queen Elizabeth II’s opening of the new bridge on 16th March 1973. Colour plates, lacking before, have been added, and marginal changes to the text have been made.

This is a book that teems with life. Subtitled “A Visual History” it is more of a feast than could have been had at one of the frost fairs held beyond the starlings. Peter’s superb illustrations bring alive the ebb and flow of humanity on and under the Bridge over the centuries. We begin to recognize the enormous presence London Bridge – in its various forms – has had in our capital city.

As one rushes across Waterloo Bridge to catch a train or saunters across Battersea Bridge to meet a friend, it seems hard to imagine the days before 1750 when London Bridge was the only London Bridge. Peter Jackson takes us back not only to those times, but also through them and beyond, to wonder at the mechanical skills involved in creating the several different landmarks all called London Bridge.

– Sally de Beaumont

Changing Places.
A short history of the MEOTRA area

Mile End Old Town was an extensive hamlet of the ancient parish of Stepney, incorporated into the new metropolitan borough of Stepney under the London Government Act of 1899. Stretching from St Mary’s, Whitechapel, in the west to Bow Common in the east and from the Eastern Railway’s Shoreditch line in the north to Commercial and St Paul’s Roads in the south, it then had a population of about 113,000. The booklet under review deals only with the northeastern sector, for reasons that are not made clear. Nevertheless, it is a good example of what can be achieved by the communal efforts of members of residents’ association, illuminating the historical record with the recollections of those still living, photographs dating as far back as 1895, and a number of earlier engravings.

The area examined was dominated by two large estates, that of the Coborn Charity dating from the seventeenth century, and that assembled in the late eighteenth by Charles Gould, an eminent lawyer and insurance magnate whose wife inherited the Welsh estates of the Morgans of Tredegar. The two estates were developed in two waves, from the 1820s through to the 1840s (terrace in Mile End and Bow Roads, and side streets now called Aberavon and Coborn Roads, Coborn Street, Rhondwa Grove, and Tredegar Square), and then in the 1860s (Tredegar and College Terraces, Lichfield and Alloway Roads). Initially these houses were occupied by professional and rentier families, but the 1891 census, we are told, shows a change to craftsmen and lodgers. There was always a close connection with the docks in employment terms, and their proximity made the district a first place of settlement for the Russian and Polish Jews fleeing from the pogroms of the 1880s, as well as successively for people from the British West Indies and South Asia seeking their fortunes in the 1950s and 1970s.

The booklet also describes the history of local transport and educational facilities, and looks briefly at the development of places of worship – curiously, the considerable Irish settlement in the district is only considered under this last heading. Public health also features, unsurprisingly in view of the major cholera epidemic of 1866 (1,253 deaths in ten days), having begun in nearby Poplar, in “a house close to the River Lea which discharged its sewage into the river near to the East London Water Company’s intake”. A brief glance at cemeteries follows, the City of London and Tower Hamlets Cemetery being one of the major privately-owned burial grounds established around London at the outset of the Victorian era. Finally recreation, entertainment and leisure are reviewed, including an account of the development of Mile End Park, its sections north and south of Mile End Road linked by Piers Gough’s notable landscaped bridge.

In accomplishing their highly commendable work, MEOTRA have been fortunate in having at hand the rich resources (both archive and human) of the Tower Hamlets Local History Library, which now holds the transcripts of the interviews and essays on which the booklet is based.

– M.H. Port
The Twenty-Five Churches of the Southwark Diocese. An inter-war campaign of church-building
£19 post free, by cheque, The Ecclesiological Society, 24 St Hilda’s Terrace, Whitby, YO21 3AE

In the years after the First World War Lloyd George’s promise of A Land Fit for Heroes to Live In saw the rise of countless housing estates around the country. The 1919 Housing Act enabled the London County Council and local authorities to requisition substantial tracts of lands on which houses for people of limited means were built. The largest of these developments in London occurred in the Anglican Diocese of Southwark. By far the biggest was in the parish of Lewisham. Farmland around the village of Southend, on the outskirts of Bromley, was bought and 6,000 solid, low-density houses went up in Downham and a further 2,000 in Bellingham. Thousands of East Enders whose homes were being demolished as part of a slum clearance programme moved south of the Thames to Lewisham and to other developments in nearby Eltham, Roehampton and the St Heller estate in Morden and Carshalton.

Cyril John Garbett, who had been appointed Bishop of Southwark in 1919, realized that the parish church serving acres of new houses in Southend was woefully inadequate. He conceived the idea of a new super-parish, with a mother church at Southend and satellites at Downham and Bellingham, and he later extended this scheme across the diocese. New places of worship were required and the Twenty-Five Churches Fund was set up.

Kenneth Richardson in his readable introduction and survey relates the success of a fund-raising campaign that was intended to achieve its target in five years. It was estimated that £200,000 would be needed, half to be raised by local schemes with the remainder coming from the Central Diocesan Fund and grants from sources such as the City Parochial Charities Fund. In the event, it took less than three years, one Gift Day at Southwark Cathedral in June 1928 attracting some 20,000 people bearing freewill offerings and visits from the Lord Mayor of London in full state panoply and mayors from all the boroughs within the Diocese, a deputation of Eastern ecclesiastics, and, later, the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey with a trumpet fanfare. I can’t quite see that happening nowadays!

In all, twenty new churches of varying architectural merit were built, five existing ones were completed or enlarged, ten church halls were erected and three sites acquired for future buildings. The best-known of the new churches is St Saviour, on the Middle Park estate in Eltham, a great power-station of a church designed in 1931 by Nugent Cachemaille-Day. It was something of a landmark in English church design and one clergyman advised prospective visitors to say a little prayer en route for strength to bear the sight! Richardson provides a wealth of illustrations - engravings, drawings by John Bray, elevations and photographs - for all the churches. His excellent gazetteer - in expanded Pevsner fashion - is excellent on local background, architectural detail and information about important furnishings. He relates the history of each church from its construction in the inter-war years to today, devoting a commendable 1,000-1,500 words to each. It is a fascinating account of church expansion in most of the south London boroughs and a worthy tribute to the foresight of Bishop Garbett, the driving force behind the programme.

- Denise Silvester-Carr

The Heath

The Heath, Neil Rhind’s 1987 companion volume to his Blackheath Village and Environs has long been out of print. This revised version brings the story of the flat escarpment above Greenwich up-to-date. What, one asks, is there to add in the intervening fifteen years? Well, not a lot, actually, but the closure of a section of the London to Dover road last year has enabled Rhind to explain the horrendous traffic jams that occurred throughout south-east London, and to gain a new audience for this history of the Heath.

In April 2002, exactly a week before the twenty-second London Marathon, the A2, as the Roman road of Watling Street is known today, fell into the caves at the bottom of Blackheath Hill. Many local people knew nothing of the existence of old caverns cut into chalk workings and were intrigued to discover that masked balls had once taken place in the caves in the mid-nineteenth century. Fortunately the Marathon was not affected by the closure - it starts a few hundred yards east of the hill. The Marathon is merely the latest of a long line of sporting activities associated with Blackheath. This is where James I is assumed to have played golf, and where the oldest golf club outside Scotland, the Royal Blackheath, was founded - though it is now based in Eltham. Almost every other sport, including archery, rugby, shinty, boxing, football, hockey and cricket have been played here at one time or another.

The Heath has also been the scene of many great royal occasions, among them the welcomes extended to Henry V on his return from Agincourt and to Charles II at the Restoration of the monarchy. It was the assembly point for Wat Tyler’s poll tax protesters in 1381 and where Gladstone defended his government’s policies at a rally in 1871. For anyone
who lives in the area and for thousands of motorists who wonder about the flat expanse of grassland they drive across each day, Rhind's book gives a clear picture of the colourful past of one of London's open spaces.

— Denise Silvester-Carr

Short notes on recently published books

Public Sculpture of the City of London by Philipp Ward-Jackson, published by Liverpool University Press in conjunction with the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association, 2003, 520pp. ISBN 085323-967-3 cased, 085323-977-0 (paperback £29.95). A profusely illustrated feast of information about sculptors, dates, materials and dimensions, with plenty of references for further reading. There are often mentions in passing of the architects and details of the buildings on which some sculptures are mounted. The entries are arranged by street, so if you can manage the weight, the book makes a marvellous companion to a walk through the City. Now we look forward to a companion volume for the West End.

Enterprising Women. The Garretts and their Circle by Elizabeth Crawford, published by Francis Boutle (020-8889 8087) 2002, 341pp. paperback ISBN 1 903427 12 6 £20.00. Packed with information on the multi-talented family whose most famous member, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, has left her mark on London with her Hospital on the Euston Road. The family has left other marks on London, including the Elephant Brewery in Camden Town which has intrigued your reviewer as he waits to leave the local Sainsbury car park, and the Ladies' Residential Chambers in Chalors Street, Bloomsbury with its relief sculptures by Eileen Rope, still partially intact. There is plenty about architects, including Basil Champneys and J.J. Stevenson, furniture design and, of course, women's rights.

Non-Conformist Chapels and Meeting Houses in Eastern England by our member Christopher Stell, published by English Heritage 2002, 380pp, ISBN 1 873592 50 7 casebound. The price is officially about £65, but there is a special offer (with apparently no time limit) of £57, posted, for which forms can be obtained by sending a s.a.e. to the author (address in London Topographical Record). Greater London occupies sixty pages of the 360 page inventory extending from Lincolnshire to Sussex. There are plenty of photographs and plans, together with some sketches by the author. Some apparent omissions led your reviewer to consult the Preface, which make it clear that attention has been paid specially to buildings dated from before 1800, although later works which have been possible to inspect have been included — a large number of them are. Map references, details of fittings, architects and useful bibliographical references are included. If you happen also to be a member of the Ecclesiological Society, this is a must for you.

— Roger Cline

Arthur Tate's book The Story of Staple Inn on Holborn Hill tells the tale of the remarkable survival of the Inn, its guises, renovations and observations recorded by Dickens, Trollope and Nathaniel Hawthorne. If you would like a copy please write to the Institute of Actuaries, Staple Inn Hall, High Holborn, London.

Two booklets have been published to help restore Dollis Hill House following serious fires in 1995 and 1996. Both are written by Hamilton I. Hay, contain some thirty pages and are illustrated. The Celebrity of the Century concentrates on William Gladstone at Dollis Hill House (1882-94) and Summer in Paradise on Mark Twain's summer there in 1900. "Dollis Hill comes nearer to being a paradise than any other home I ever occupied" he wrote. The booklets retail at £3.50 each. Please contact Hamilton Hay, tel 020 8452 2001 at 3 Meredith Avenue, London NW2 4AG.

STOP PRESS

International Map Fair
Sunday 8th June

If you are free on 8th June, go and see the Map Fair at the Olympia 2 Conference Centre, Hammersmith Road, W14. Maps from the fifteenth to the twentieth centuries, atlases, town plans, prints, globes, sea-charts — a veritable orgy. Admission is free and free identification and valuation available. Organized by the International Map Collectors Society, tel: 020 8207 6244 or see www.incos-mapcollecting.org
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New membership enquiries should be addressed to the Hon Secretary, Patrick Frazer. Correspondence about existing membership including renewal payments, requests for standing orders and gift-aid forms and the non-receipt of publications (after September) also any change of address should be addressed to the Hon Treasurer, Roger Cline. The Honorary Editor, Ann Saunders, deals with proposals for new publications.

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The Society’s web site address is: www.topsoc.org

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# LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2002

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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>8,500.00</td>
<td>Publications Storage and Service</td>
<td>2,182.40</td>
<td>2,010.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry donations</td>
<td>222.26</td>
<td>244.22</td>
<td>Total Administration Costs</td>
<td>6,759.12</td>
<td>6,760.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income for the year</strong></td>
<td>32,784.69</td>
<td>35,923.22</td>
<td>Total expenditure for the year</td>
<td>25,748.62</td>
<td>23,227.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surplus for the year</td>
<td>7,036.07</td>
<td>12,695.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money in bank &amp; National Savings</td>
<td>97,945.80</td>
<td>72,889.61</td>
<td>Subscriptions paid in advance</td>
<td>4,460.00</td>
<td>1,708.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax claimable on Covenants and Gift Aid</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Overseas members’ postage in advance</td>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance Payments</td>
<td>34.45</td>
<td>1,398.70</td>
<td>Overpayments</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value of Society’s stock of publications</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>4,585.00</td>
<td>1,873.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock at end of previous year</td>
<td>8,672.57</td>
<td>16,262.61</td>
<td>Net Worth of the Society</td>
<td>116,123.95</td>
<td>89,087.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions to stock</td>
<td>13,795.85</td>
<td>9,281.62</td>
<td>Change in net worth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of publications sold</td>
<td>-19,739.72</td>
<td>-16,871.66</td>
<td>Previous year’s net worth</td>
<td>89,087.88</td>
<td>76,392.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluation of stock</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Surplus for the year</td>
<td>7,036.07</td>
<td>12,695.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value of stock at year end</strong></td>
<td>22,728.70</td>
<td>8,672.57</td>
<td>Revaluation of stock</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>120,708.95</td>
<td>90,960.88</td>
<td>End of year net worth</td>
<td>116,123.95</td>
<td>89,087.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>