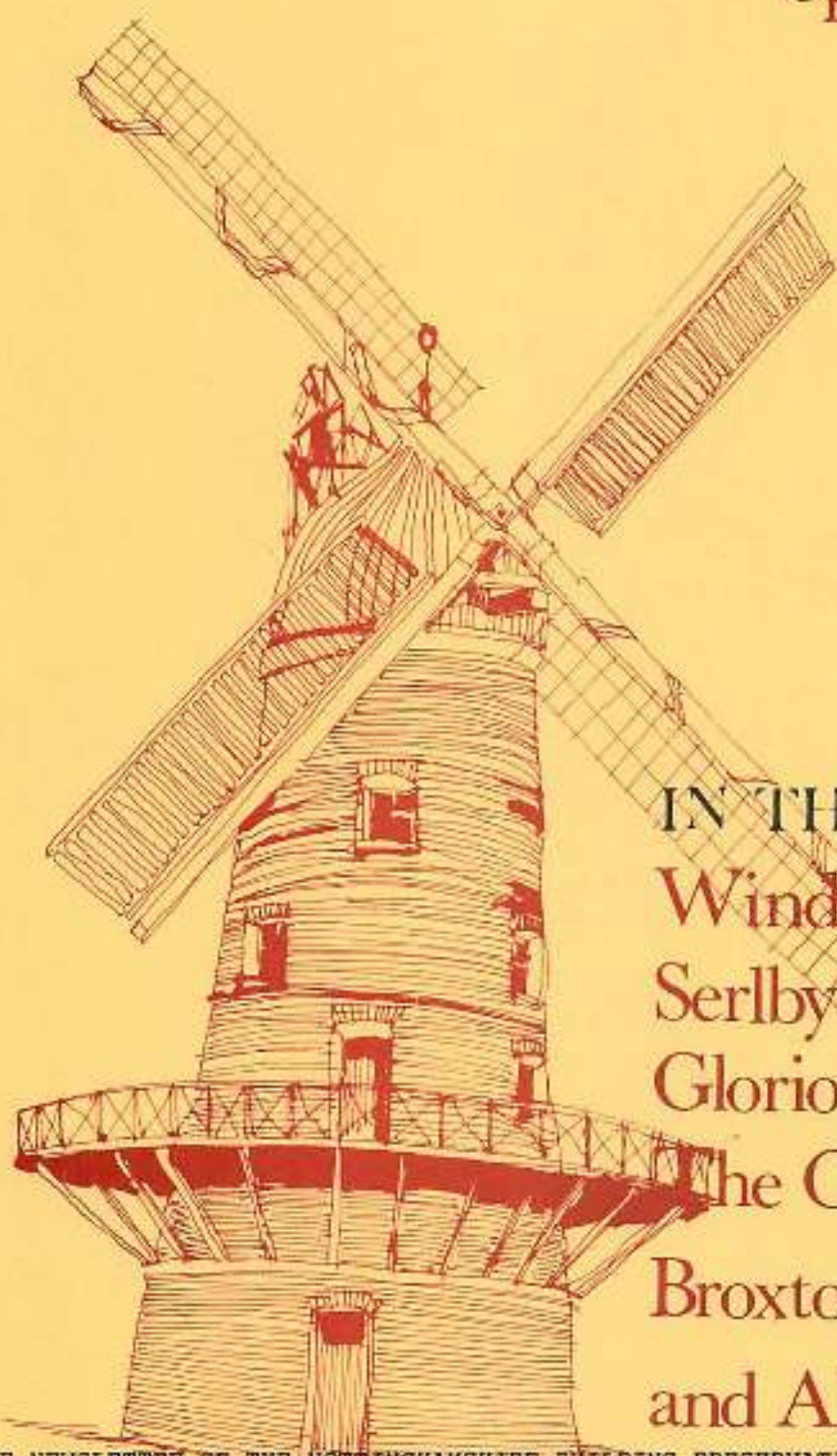


CONSERVATION IN NOTTS.

Spring 1982



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Windmills
Serlby Hall
Glorious First of June
The Old Presbytery
Broxtowe Hall
and All the News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST LIMITED

SMEINTON WINDMILL
Sketch of final restoration proposal

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST LIMITED

The Old Bowls Pavilion,
Bridgford Road,
West Bridgford,
Nottingham NG2 6AX
Tel. (0602) 819622 (24 hour answer)



The Work of the Trust

The Trust - as a limited company with charitable status - operates within a legal framework, designed to protect buildings of historical and architectural interest and to maintain the character of towns and villages in Nottinghamshire. The Trust was formed in 1965 and has over the past years built a fine reputation for its assistance both financial and technical in helping preserve the Heritage of the County. However in recent years the Trust has lost, because of Government cutbacks, the financial assistance of some of the local councils. The Trust will therefore concentrate on:

- Advising local planning authorities on applications to alter or demolish listed buildings, and on applications affecting conservation areas;
- Presenting evidence on the same issues if and when they come to public inquiry;
- The Trust is anxious to extend its work in two other directions. It is prepared to offer technical advice to owners who, without proposing to alter a building, wish to maintain its essential character and possibly to restore historic features. Such advice calls for professional knowledge and skills. Owners will therefore be expected to pay a modest charge for such advice. This advice is available not only for buildings listed or in conservation areas, but for any building of age;
- The Trust is particularly anxious to resume its policy, carried out successfully in Windles Square, Calverton of acquiring old buildings, restoring them suitably and then selling. The Trust has limited capital funds for this purpose, but hopes to be able to borrow the additional funds from the Civic Trust or from local authorities.

The Trust has accumulated a large collection of photographs and reports, and they are important for reference. Recently the Trust has surveyed a number of farm buildings because they are often now redundant. They differ from one part of the county to another, and it is impossible to advise on, for instance, a proposal to convert a barn into a house unless its historical character is understood. Recently the Trust has extended this by arranging surveying weekends for members. At these members learn the technique of measuring buildings whilst acquiring a valuable record for the Trust of the important buildings in a particular village.

FINANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Trust depends for its finance on voluntary donations. The largest source of voluntary help is supplied by local authorities. From 1980 and for the foreseeable future, owing to cutbacks in Local Government expenditure, the amount of this help will be much reduced and a greater emphasis on help from private individuals and voluntary organisations will be needed.

The Trust invites subscriptions from those who wish to associate themselves with this work; the rates are as follows:

Individual membership	- £2.00
Corporate membership	- £2.50
Life membership	- £20.00

Much of the work is done by volunteers from the Trust's new headquarters at the Old Bowls Pavilion, West Bridgford, which the Trust is restoring. If you are interested in finding out more about us please contact Janet Blenkinship at the above telephone number.

Subscriptions

Our subscription level has stayed the same for many years despite a huge increase in administration costs. The annual subscription barely covers the cost of the newsletter and postage. Our income from local authority grants has been drastically reduced and so we must rely on dramatically increasing our membership to survive. So, please try to enlist a new member this year - leaflets advertising our work are available from the Trust's offices - or why not take out a subscription to the newsletter for a friend who has moved away from the area.

NEWSLETTER

Additional copies of the newsletter can be provided either singly @ 25p + p+p, or in bulk:-

10 copies	£2.00 post paid
50 or more copies	£1.75 per 10 post paid

or sent to any part of the U.K. for £1.50 a year.

The Heritage of the County is in Your Hands

A Building Archive

There is an increasing awareness that buildings are being demolished or altered in such a way as to change their character or historic form totally before a record of the original building has been made. Certain types of building are particularly vulnerable, especially farm buildings, industrial buildings and cottages which are being 'improved'.

A national archive of photographs and plans, of buildings of all sorts, already exists: the National Monuments Archive, maintained by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, at Fortress House, 23 Savile Row, London WC1. It is arranged by county and parish; it can be consulted by anyone (the library is open every day).

Unfortunately, it does not contain much Nottinghamshire material because, compared with some other counties, not much work has been done. Secondly, not everyone can travel to London to consult it. We need a county archive, housed in Nottingham.

It would be desirable that good examples of buildings, particularly those in which deep investigation or discovery has taken place, should be published for the benefit of students and scholars as well as for general information; A few have been published in the Transactions of the Thoroton Society, but there ought to be a regular series.

Beneath the skin of many buildings lies a much older and historic background and this can be deduced by an informed study of plan form or dominant historic strains. Often historic features are discovered too late, as the building is being demolished, whereas a discerning eye might have identified the historic background to the building at a much earlier stage.

The Trust intends to establish an archive in its new headquarters at The Old Bowls Pavilion and is now asking all members to offer records, drawings or photographs of any interesting buildings in the County for inclusion in the collection.

If you think you can help please contact any of the technical advisers who would be delighted to advise you or accept records from you.

A useful start to the archive has been made by the work carried out during the Flintham and Upton measuring week-ends and it is hoped that such recording can be continued and expanded. A group at Mansfield Woodhouse, led by members of the Trust who have taken part in training week-ends, is busy recording the oldest buildings there. However there must be a mass of information lying about homes and offices concerning the buildings of the County and it is our desire to collect, collate and present this information for the benefit of all those interested in our building heritage.

Geoff Turner

Sneinton Mill



In the late 18th and early 19th century the skyline of Nottingham was dominated by eight windmills on the Forest and three in Sneinton on Windmill Lane, but during the latter part of the century most of these mills were to disappear, the last one on the Forest being burnt down on 2nd December, 1858.



In December 1981 Nottingham's skyline once again boasted a windmill cap which, with the assistance of a large crane, was lifted onto the top of George Green's tower mill standing on high land in the heart of Sneinton and is visible from all parts of the city.

The windmill structure was first erected in 1807 by George Green senior, a local businessman and baker, to supply his own bakeries with flour. The new red brick tower mill probably replaced an earlier post mill with a much more sophisticated piece of mechanical engineering.

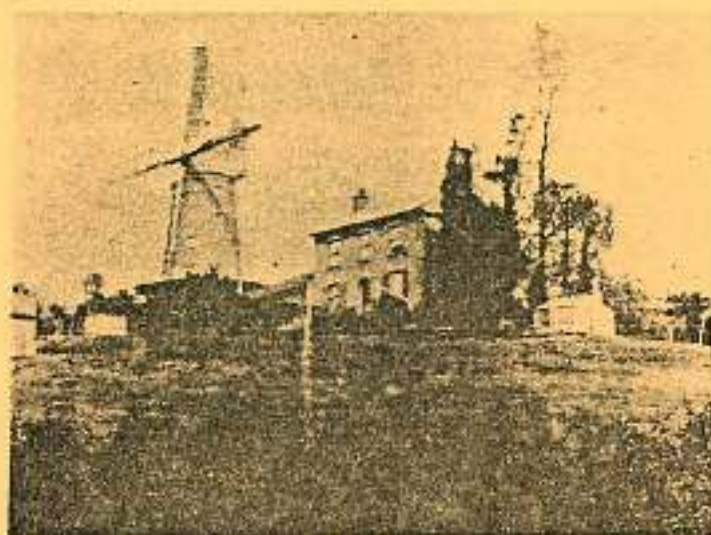
The 55' high brick tower was surmounted by an ogee-shaped cap with a fantail which was an advancement in mill design ensuring that the sails automatically faced the prevailing wind. Four sails arranged in pairs drove the machinery, two common, or sail cloth covered sails and two 'spring' sails. These were invented by Andrew Meikle in 1772 and consisted of hinged shutters which were connected together and controlled by a spring which had the advantage of being able to 'spill the wind' if the wind pressure increased beyond a pre-set limit. Internally the windmill was fitted with four pairs of stones, three French burr types for grinding flour and one Derbyshire peak set for animal meal. A large gallery at first floor level ensured that the miller could gain access to the sails to reset them to suit the wind conditions.

George Green Senior undoubtedly employed a miller to work the mill which continued in use until 1871 after which time it fell into disrepair.

George Green Senior also built a house for himself and family alongside the brick mill in 1817, and his son, George Green, was to inherit the mill, house and other business interests on his fathers death in 1829. This house still stands today.

The young George Green's primary interest was not in the family business but in mathematics. Although he assisted his father in running the family business, and it did in time ensure him of a reasonable income, his interest in mathematics led him to pursue private study and in 1828 he published "An Essay on the Application of Mathematical Analysis to the Theories of Electricity and Magnetism". In it he stressed the importance of voltage and also introduced a mathematical technique known as 'Green's Functions'. His work, little known outside the world of Physics and Science has had a profound influence on electrical and electronic engineering, structural design (elasticity) and solid state physics.

George Green went to Cambridge in 1833 to continue his studies as a Don, but there his work did not receive any special acclaim and it was not until much later that it was 're-discovered'.



Green's mill and family house c. 1860.

He returned in ill-health from Cambridge in 1840 and died at the age of 42 on 31st May 1841 and is buried in the Churchyard of St. Stephen's Sneinton.

The latter part of the 19th century saw the introduction of steam powered mills for flour grinding at the ports and throughout the country windmills declined rapidly in importance.

Green's mill was to fall into disrepair like many others but in 1921 was purchased by a Nottingham solicitor, Oliver Hind who intended to restore it. By this time the fantail sails and gallery had gone and he rebuilt the cap and reclad it in copper. He later let it to a firm of floor polish manufacturers, H. Gell & Co., and in 1947 a fire started which gutted the mill and it was abandoned as a blackened shell, although a concrete roof and first floor were added.

The mill was purchased by the City Council in November 1979 using funds donated entirely by the George Green Memorial Fund and its restoration was commenced immediately under a Job Creation scheme supervised by Mr. Chris Salisbury, a Lincolnshire millwright.

The first major task tackled by the small work force was the removal of all the remains of the charred beams which were structurally too weak to be retained. The beams were analysed by a team of researchers at Nottingham University and their date was established as 1800 approximately. Salvaged oak beams were inserted followed by floors and the main central drive shaft. Much of the machinery was salvaged from a derelict mill in Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire by the millwright and has now been fitted in place.

An important aspect of the project has been the fund and help raising campaign which had been jointly organised by the George Green Memorial Fund, Sneinton Environmental Society, the Civic Society and the City Council.

The windmill has been open to the general public to observe progress and these 'open-days' have been well attended and have assisted towards the fund-raising appeal.

The target is £20,000 and at the present time £17,500 has been raised. Major contributions to the appeal have been donated by the Nottingham Civic Society, The Nottinghamshire County Council, the Civic Trust, the Royal Society and the David Knightly Charitable Trust.

The general level of interest shown by the public in the project has been enormous and this has also been reflected in offers of assistance from local firms and colleges.

Staircases and windows have been made by the Long Eaton Skill Centre and the cap framework and brakewheel by student joiners at Basford Hall College, all at material cost only. UBM Hills have donated unbreakable glazing and scaffolding, Furse & Co., the lightning conductor material, and Bowner and Kirkland (crane hire) expertly lifted the cap but lowered their price.

The Community Task Force is an independent agency funded by the Manpower Services Commission and a team has been 'loaned' to the mill to complete external repairs and repointing.

Plans are now being prepared for the reconstruction of buildings around the perimeter of the mill yard which will house a shop, toilets, display areas, a lecture room and workshops and, subject to the availability of funds, the first phase may be underway in the Spring.

One of the main features in the display area will be working models which will demonstrate the modern day application of Green's functions in physics and electronics, as well as information about the windmills of the County and will be the only museum of its kind outside London.

The land around the mill is also being transformed from neglected allotments into a park by the City Council which includes a well-equipped children's play area and a car park is shortly to be constructed on an adjacent site.

The original concept of the Green's Gardens Scheme of a public park with a semi-restored windmill feature has changed dramatically and when the windmill is completed it may be possible again to buy a bag of wholemeal flour produced in Sneinton.

It is envisaged that the project will be undertaken in four stages.

Stage one: 1979/80

Clean and repair the brickwork externally and install new windows and doors. Fix shutters to ground floor windows for security. Construct new floors inside mill. Make up the access road and clear the area surrounding the mill. Estimated cost: £15,000.

Stage two: 1980/1

Remove the concrete roof and construct new ogee cap with new curb and skeletal fantail. Erect the gallery internally, install the wind shaft and brakewheel. Establish the exhibition area on the ground floor. Estimated cost: £15,000.

Stage three: 1981/2

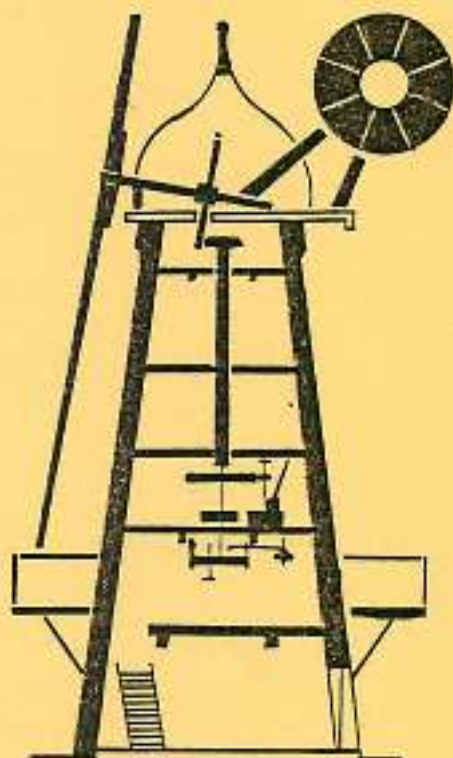
Fit out the interior with the remaining machinery (salvaged). Erect the sails and complete the fantail. Estimated cost: £15,000.

Stage four: 1982/3

Complete minor internal fitting out. Minor landscaping. Estimated cost: £5,000.

Stage five if possible

Erect the shop and toilet building. Estimated cost: £7,000.



All offers of assistance or donations to Ray Craig, Nottingham City Planning Department. Telephone Nottingham 48571

Acknowledgements:

Photograph- Adrian Thompson

Other help and assistance The George Green Memorial Fund.

The Old Presbytery, Newark

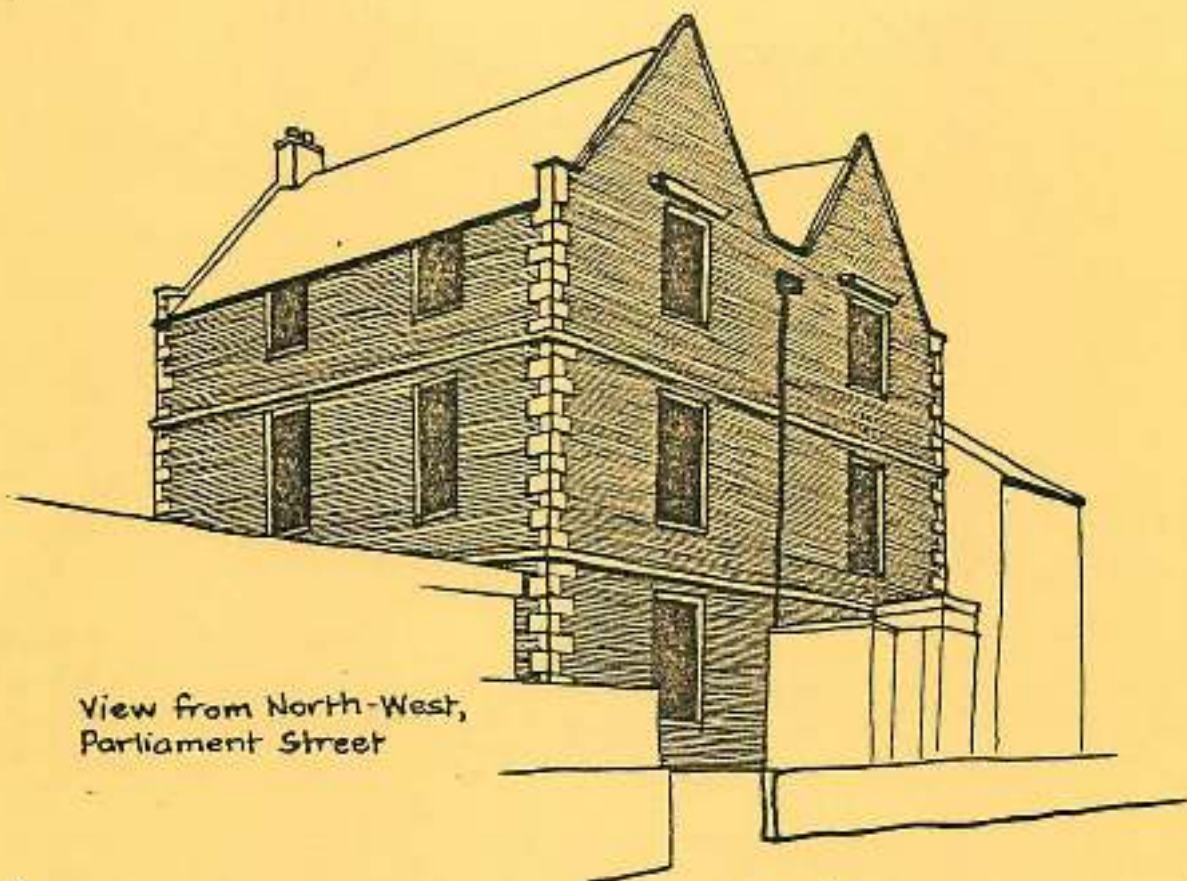
The Trust has been concerned about this house because it was noticed a few months ago that it was empty and being vandalised. Inquiries showed that it had ceased to be used as the presbytery for the Roman Catholic church next door; that it had been bought by the Nottingham Community Housing Association with the idea of adapting it to accommodate students. Although the house is listed - a matter for which the D.O.E. is responsible - the D.O.E. with its other arm had frozen the funds of the National Housing Corporation, on which such local housing associations depend.

The house was probably built about 1680, although it might be 20 or 30 years later. It has brick walls with stone quoins. It has a plan and design very popular for manor houses and others of similar superior status. The type was known at that time as a double-pile plan, because it was almost square and two rooms, deep, instead of the traditional one. There were manor houses of almost identical design, and similar date at Stapleford and Chilwell; those at Bulcote, East Leake(now the Post Office) and the Rectory at Wilford, still survive; they were all built about 1720. Yet another is the Unicorn Head at Langar, dated 1717. All these examples show why one may be tempted to date the Newark house to about the same date. It is annoying that no one has yet found any documents about it, to show who built it and when. The house has been measured and photographed by the Royal Commission.

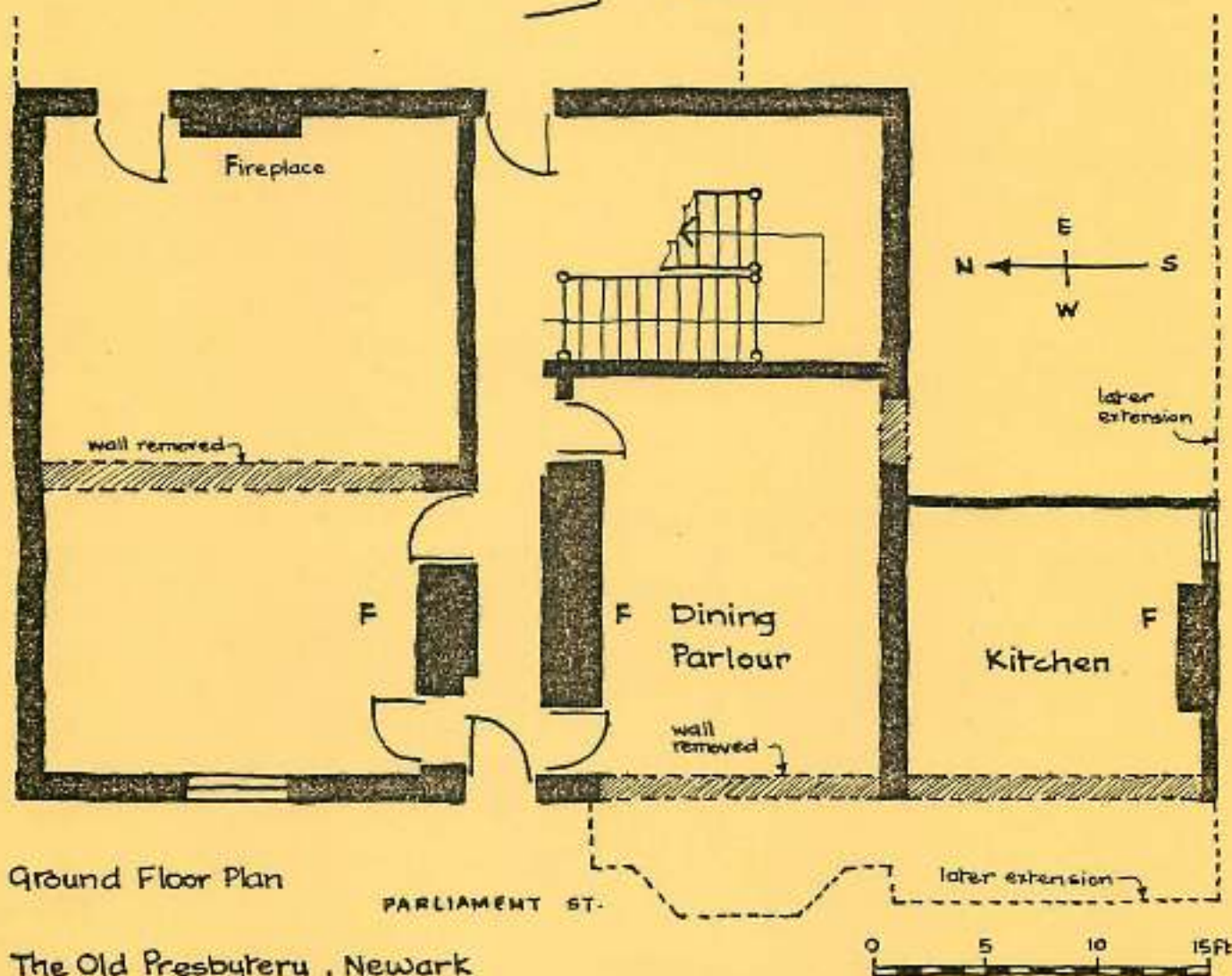
With these double-pile houses, the problem of how to roof a square could be solved in several ways. The oldest was simply to build two pitched roofs in parallel, and use a lead gutter in the valley between. The oldest example, not always recognised, is one of the Jew's Houses at Lincoln, the one on Steep Hill, built before 1200 A.D. Most of the Nottinghamshire ones, including the Old Presbytery, were like that. It has been somewhat altered inside and it has been added to but the original arrangement can be deduced. One half of the house, originally two rooms, were made into one; when restored this will be several small rooms. The staircase has been moved but the original newel posts, with large knobs, are still there, and the moulded handrail and turned balusters. The original kitchen was an extension on the South side of the house. There are no original fireplaces left and the windows, which probably had wooden mullion and transom (what Pevsner calls "cross windows") now have Georgian sashes.

The Trust looks forward to seeing this house restored, even in its altered condition.

M. W. Barley



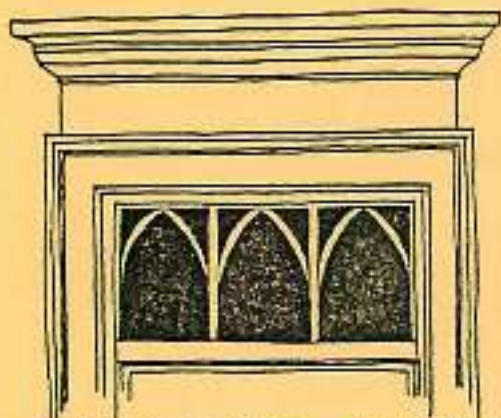
View from North-West,
Parliament Street



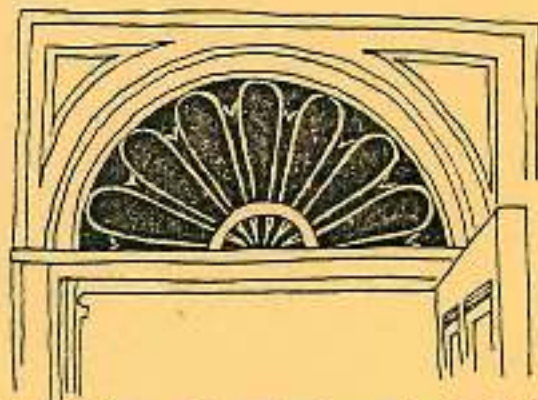
Ground Floor Plan

The Old Presbytery, Newark

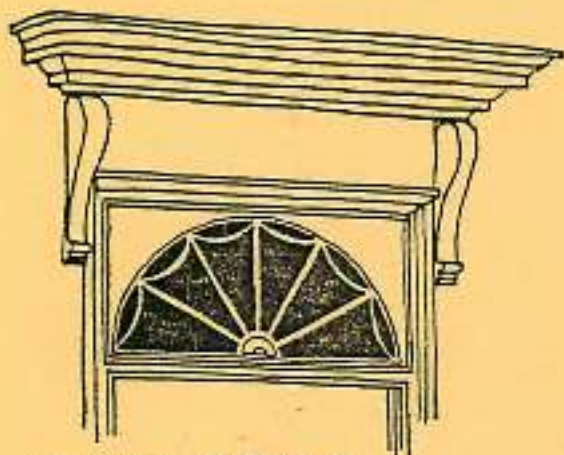
ATTENTION TO DETAIL 2.



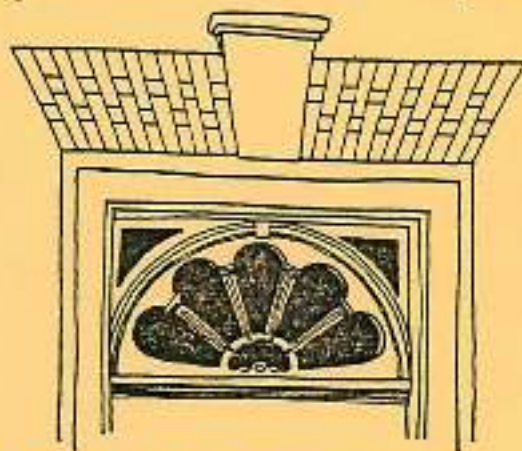
Southwell. West Lodge, No 9 Westgate
Mid-C 18 house with a Gothic Revival
fanlight



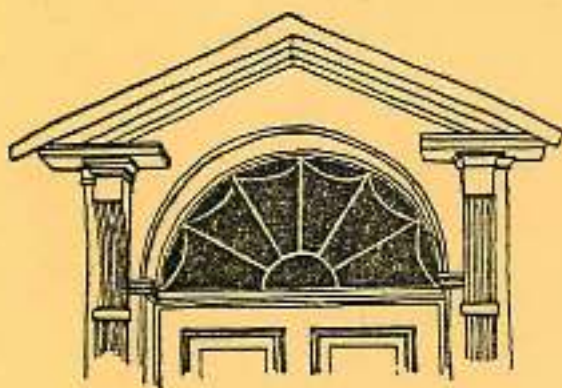
Nottingham. Bramley House built 1752
for Sir Geo. Smith, banker by "a Mr. Taylor"
(was this the famous architect Sir Robt. Taylor?)



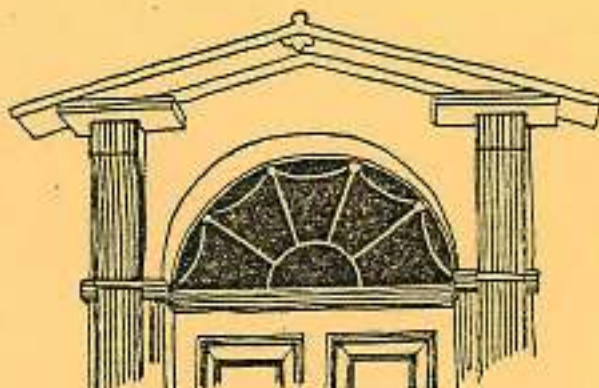
Workop. 93 Park St.
Grant-aided by the Trust
many years ago.



Retford. Old Social Security Office
near The Square



Flintham. House west of Smithy.
Fanlight has 5 glazing bars.



Flintham. College Farmhouse. 4 glazing bars.
Slightly better visually as there is no bar in the middle.
These two 'bagged' on Trust measuring weekend.

SOME FANLIGHTS collected by Graham Beaumont

The glazing bars should be painted white, but are sometimes
spoilt by carrying the paint over on to the glass, making them
visually too heavy.

1982

Coach Tour

THE FOUR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 'W's

We are planning a coach tour of four important old sites in the County on

Saturday May 1st 1982

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Winkburn Hall | - | An interesting red brick hall of Queen Anne date with later attic, set in parkland. Winkburn had been left empty and deteriorating, and was on the Trust's 'Buildings at Risk' list for 12 years until Mr Craven-Smith-Milnes bought it about two years ago and started making a wonderful job of its restoration. |
| Winthorpe Hall | - | Set in a little garden on a hill this prominent Palladian style villa was begun by George II's physician and finished by a Newark Banker, possibly to the design of Carr of York. The roof was repaired and restored to its original design with substantial help from the Trust, and recently the stone facing has also been repaired. |
| Willoughby on the Wolds
Church and Manor House | - | Willoughby gave its name to one of the foremost Nottinghamshire families and Sir Hugh Willoughby (died 1448) can be seen standing among the famous, though neglected monuments in the church. There was a mid 17th century manor house next to the church which was demolished in 1978 despite protestations by the Trust, and a poor replica built. |
| Wiverton Hall | - | (pronounced Werton) A romantic, Regency, stuccoed and castellated house overlooking flat 'plover infested' fields in the Vale of Belvoir. |

We shall visit Winkburn and Winthorpe in the morning and picnic at Flintham Hall (by kind permission of Mr. M. Hildyard). In the afternoon it is the turn of Willoughby and Wiverton. There will be two points at which you could join the coach - either at County Hall, West Bridgford or at the Lorry Park opposite the Castle in Newark. The coach will return you to the point at which it picked you up at the end of the day. To cover the cost of the coach the charge for this outing will be £3 per person. Enclosed with the newsletter is a reply slip.

Serlby Hall

The Dowager Lady Galway of Serlby Hall was for many years the Chairman of the Building Trust, and we are forever indebted to her inspiring effort and guidance on building preservation that exists in Nottinghamshire.

The Serlby estate was bought by the first Lord Galway in 1727, and the house then existing was virtually rebuilt in stages, by the Architect James Paine (1717-1785) for the second Viscount between 1754 and 1773. The present house as seen today is the result of a remodelling by the Architect Lindley and Woodhead of Doncaster in 1812 which removed the symmetry of the original composition.

To return to Paine's design, it was of Palladian inspiration much favoured in the 18th century for its flexibility in use. It is illustrated in the first volume of the Architect's plans published in 1757 and consists of a square centre block containing important rooms, with short wings extending from each end to terminate in pavilions. Two of the main elevations accompany the plans and show the use of a curious device of double interlocking pediment, over the three bays in the centre block. A better picture of this is shown on the artists drawing in Thoroton's *Antiquities of Nottinghamshire*, edited by John Throsby 1790-1796, vol III, page 33. Paine remarks in his book on the affable and generous behaviour of his client, and the satisfaction that he was "pleased to express this during the time of carrying on this building."

Paine had an ability in the use of rococo ornament which he had learnt at The St. Martin's Lane Academy in London. Of equal help was his success in finding the highly skilled craftsmen to employ on this decoration and one of the best interiors that he ever completed is the Great Dining Room at Serlby; a remarkable and beautiful room.

The new owner of Serlby, Major G. Berry has expressed his intention to restore the house and garden, with retention of the State rooms for his own occupation, and to create ten self contained flats in the remainder of this building. It is understood from a press statement that the first four flats will be finished by April of this year.



P.S. For a more detailed account of the Architecture of Serlby, see information by Dr. Leach in Pevsner's *Nottinghamshire guide to the Buildings of England*.

DIARY

WORKING WEEKEND

UPTON We are returning to Upton in order to finish the work started in that village last year. New members will be most welcome at this weekend as we will be actively measuring. The work is most interesting and a lot can be learned about old houses through the very act of measuring them.

OUTING

NEWARK A joint walk around Newark is planned with the C.P.R.E. Bob Harrison will escort us round Newark, on foot, on the evening of 12th August, 1982. This date is a must for your diary and full details will appear in the June Newsletter.

A.G.M. It is hoped that this years A.G.M. will be held at Wollaton Hall during October/November. Further details in the September issue of the Newsletter.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party was a resounding success despite the appalling weather suffered on the night of the 16th December.

Everyone who came enjoyed themselves tremendously and all were very generous. The sum of £140 was raised for the Dovecote Fund. Thank you very much to all those who donated the price of a ticket, but were unable to come. Thank you also to Mrs Skirving who, once again, worked very hard to ensure the evening was successful.

DONT MISS!!

1982 Coach tour - Page 9

The Glorious First of June - Page 13

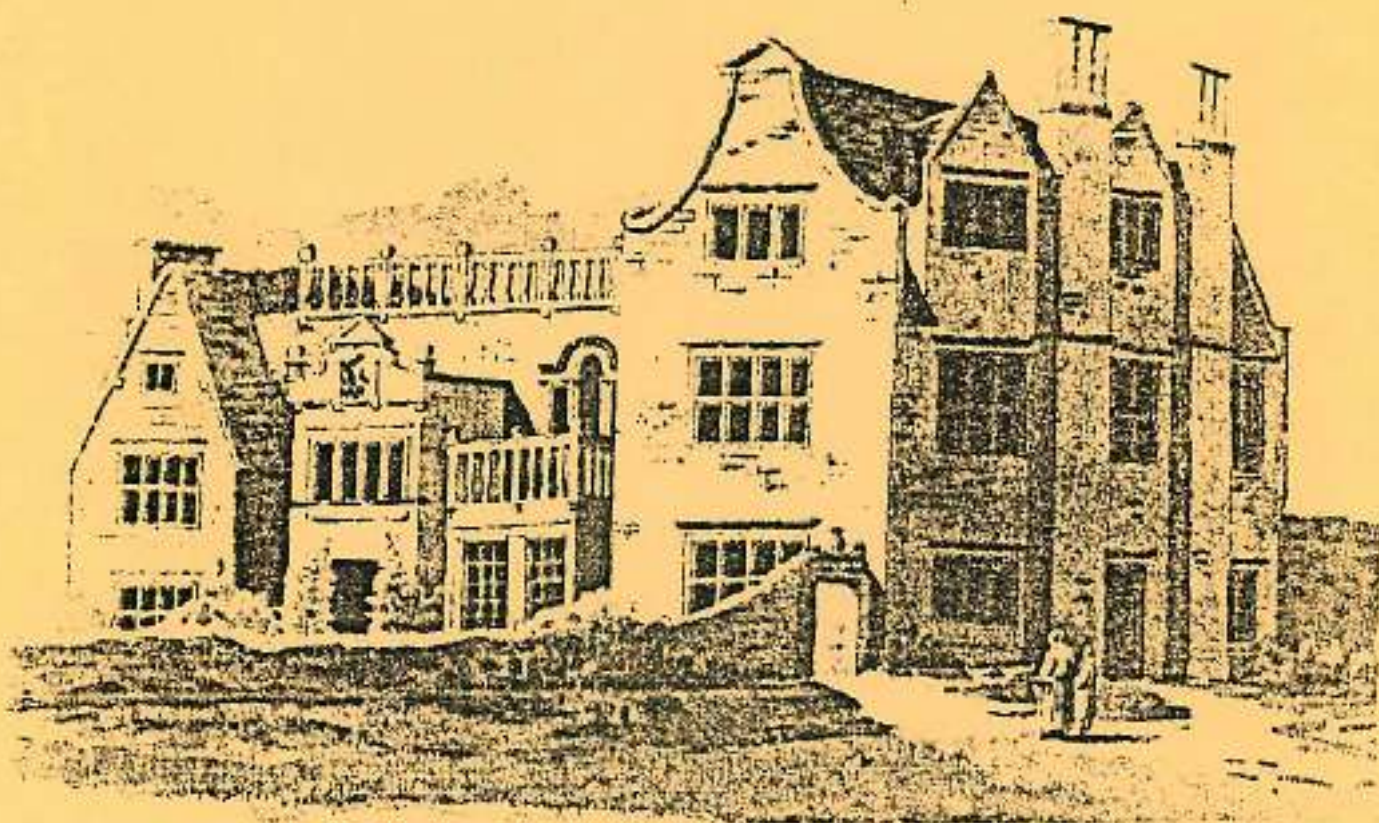
Broxtowe Hall

Broxtowe Hall was on the west side of Broxtowe Lane, just before Bells Lane diverged from it. The house, shown in the 1831 drawing, was built, according to Dr. Thoroton, by Thomas Smith of the family from Ashby Follville, Leicestershire, early in the 17th century. The date is shown by the mullioned windows, balustrades, straight and shaped gables and the elaborate entrance porch with the Smith Achievement above. The ownership passed through several families, including the Smiths of Nottingham, Lord Middleton and eventually the Nottingham Corporation.

Even by 1831 there had been alterations, one of which was the Venetian windows near the entrance. Later the upper storey on the right was removed and the gable ends had ornamental barge boards. The house stood alone as the village and church of Broxtowe had disappeared long before.

During the present century the house was occupied by a timber merchant but in 1937 it was demolished as Broxtowe housing estate was being developed.

Keith Train



The Glorious First of June

Admiral Richard Lord Howe (1725-1799) whose family home was at Langar, is the most famous person to have lived in the village. During a most distinguished career his most outstanding victory was known as "The Glorious First of June".

The 1st June, 1774 was the start of the Napoleonic naval battles and took place off Ushant in the Bay of Biscay. The first broadside from Howe's flagship killed more than 300 men and by the evening victory was his. This victory shattered the morale of the French Navy and so opened up the way for Nelson's subsequent victories.

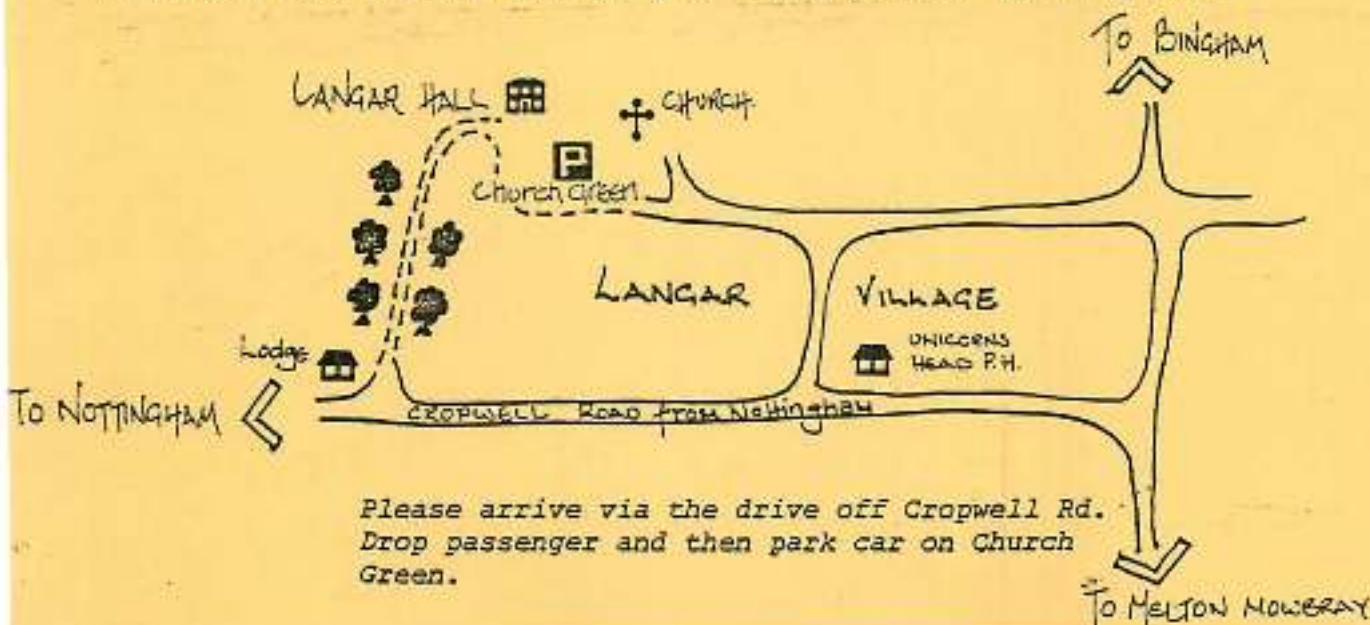
After the war he returned home to a Hero's welcome - no-one at that time was more popular - although he was known as Black Dick because he so seldom smiled. King George III, who was a close friend said "Your life my Lord has been one of continued service to your Country". A truly Royal compliment.

PLEASE COME AND HELP US CELEBRATE THE GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE AT LANGAR HALL

We will meet at the Hall at 7.00 p.m. for a glass or more of Admirals Cup. Around 7.30 Mrs Skirving, the owner of the Hall, will give a brief talk on Langar Hall and its historical connections with Lord Howe. The Reverend Henry Thorold will be a guest at the party and will tell us about his experiences whilst writing his latest Shell Guide. The one for Nottinghamshire.

Bring a picnic supper with you and if it is pleasant weather we will eat in the garden, otherwise tables will be set up in the Hall.

Tickets for this occasion will be limited to 50 guests and are priced at £2 each. Please reply as early as possible on the slip enclosed with this newsletter. Any profit made will, of course, go directly into our Building Fund.



ADVERTISEMENT S

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The Trust would like to congratulate:-

R. J. Coleman for his recent conversion work at East Leake,

and

C. R. Crane for work done at Winkburn

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Art Gallery, Portland Building
12th Feb - 25th March

Holme Pierrepont Hall - home of Mr. & Mrs Robin Brackenbury is an early Tudor Manor.

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2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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Telephone Doddington 227

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