

ELSTED, TREYFORD
AND
DIDLING, SUSSEX

NOTES BY
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North Garden,

Treyford.

1969.

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AUTHORS'S NOTE

This small book cannot attempt to give a comprehensive history and description of these three parishes. It is the result of researches made at various times and from various sources since 1923.

Charles Troke. May. 1967.

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R. C. T.

TREYFORD

Treyford is about a mile east of Elsted. The parish is a long narrow one containing 1,272 acres. The south part called Phyllis Wood and Phyllis Wood Down on the South Downs is woodland and heath. On Phyllis Wood Down is a row of five tumuli known locally as the Devil's Jumps, a sixth has been almost levelled with the ground. From the Devil's Jumps the land falls abruptly from over 700 feet to the small village which now consists of a manor house, a ruined church and a few houses and farm buildings. The houses are mostly of the 17th or 18th century, but two or three incorporate an older timber-framed building. There were only 7 or 8 houses in 1633-4 and 11 in 1811. There were 14 families in 1724. The residents numbered 95 in 1801, 155 in 1841 and 95 in 1931. The civil parishes of Treyford and Didling were amalgamated in 1934. In the Confessor's reign Aelard held the manor of Earl Godwin but after the Conquest Treverde (*1) was held of Earl Roger by Robert Fitz Tetbald who was tenant of what afterwards became the honor of Petworth, and also probably, sheriff of Arundel. The manor then, as in King Edward's time, was assessed for 11 hides and there was a mill. Of the manor 2 hides belonged to a prebend in the Church of Chichester. Offa held them of the bishop in King Edward's time but Robert was holding them at the time of Domesday Survey. (*2) The whole manor was then worth 100s. The Abbey of St. Peter's Winchester claimed this manor but the hundred (court) testified that he who held it of the abbot held it for the term of his life only. (*3) The mill mentioned in Domesday is not now traceable. Tithes of it are noted in 1341 (*4) and a water mill is mentioned in 1571. (*5) Treyford did not become, with Robert Fitz Tetbald's other lands, part of the honor of Petworth. It passed to the family of Vilars or Viliers who held it of the earls of Arundel. Pain de Vilars the first holder of the manor, probably that Pain who was living at the time of the Lindsey survey, (1115-18) (*6) gave it to his son Allan. (*7) About 1150 Allan gave to the Monks of Lewes 5s from Treyford. (*8) In 1166 one fee in Treyford was held of the honor of Arundel, the tenant's name is not given. Robert de Vilars made an agreement with the Bishop of Chichester in 1194 whereby Robert gave to the church of the Holy Trinity Chichester, 5 acres of land in Treyford. (*9) Robert, who was seneschal to the Earl of Arundel, was in the King's service in Sussex in 1208, and in 1212 he was owner of Treyford manor. (*10) He died about 1223. (*11) It was probably his son Robert who was slain by two thieves near Hastings in 1237. His land at Treyford was mortgaged for payment of a debt to the Jews in 1235, and it was probably on this account that Treyford was held in 1242-3 by Master Alexander le Seculer. Robert son of Robert de Vilars held two fees in Cudlow and Treyford which were assigned as John Fitz Alan's share of the honor of Arundel in 1244, (*12) and in 1256 Robert obtained a grant of free warren at Treyford. He was accused of appropriating a new warren at Treyford in 1274. Four years later Robert settled the manor upon himself for life, with remainder to his son Nicholas de Vylars with contingent remainders to John, William and Robert, brothers of Nicholas, in tail. Robert son of Robert de Vylars opposed his claim. (*13) Nicholas settled the manor in 1315 upon his son Nicholas and Joan his wife. (*14) Nicholas the son was probably in possession of the manor in 1327 and he obtained in 1336 a confirmation of the grant of free warren made to Robert de Vylars. In 1334 Robert complained that Sir Thomas Camoys and others had broken into his park at Treyford. He probably died soon after, for in 1347 his sons Robert and William conveyed the manor for 100 marks to Richard, Earl of Arundel. (*15) Their sister Joan also relinquished her claim to the Earl. This conveyance was made ignoring the entail set up in 1278, and in 1385 John de Berwick son of Joan successfully claimed the manor against Henry, Earl of Arundel. The jury awarded the manor to John, with reversion if

he died without heirs, to the Earl. (*16) John died before 1417, and in that year his widow Maud who had married Philip de Egerton claimed a third of the manor against Hugh Punchardon who had somehow obtained a life interest in Treyford. (*17) Hugh was still holding the manor in 1423 when the trustees of Thomas late Earl of Arundel obtained licence from the king to grant the reversion after Hugh's death to the Hospital of the Holy Trinity at Arundel. The hospital was in possession by 1428 (*18) and it remained in their possession till the Dissolution. The manor, with all the rest of the hospital property, was granted by Henry VIII in 1546 to Sir Richard Lee. (*19) He obtained licence in 1547 to grant the manor to Richard Chatfield (*20) but apparently did not do so, as in August of that same year he obtained another licence to sell it to Henry, Earl of Arundel, (*21) the conveyance being made in the Michaelmas term of that year. (*22) The Earl and John Lord Lumley who had married his daughter Jane, sold the manor in 1570 to William Aylwin (*23) second son of John Aylwin of Canons in West Dene. Full particulars of the Allwin succession in Treyford are given separately. Their male line ended with the demise of Robert in 1740, when two sisters each had half the manor. Of these, Mary married the Hon. Charles Talbot and Elizabeth married Sir William Mannock, bart. In 1766, Charles Talbot and his wife Mary being dead, Lady Elizabeth Mannock sold the whole estate to James Peachey Esq., this sale having already been agreed to by Charles Talbot before his death in 1764. From James Peachey the manor passed by will to his nephew Sir James Peachey, bart. of West Dean Park, who was created Baron Selsey in 1794 and died in 1808. His grandson, Henry John Lord Selsey, dying without issue in 1838, the manor passed to his only sister Mrs. L. V. Harcourt. At her death in 1871 it passed to Ulick John, Marquess of Clanricarde, who on December 12 of that year sold it to Frederick Bower of West Dean who was still lord of the manor in 1891 as was William Dodge James, also of Westdean, in 1895. The manor house and farm at Treyford, which had been occupied by tenants since about 1766, was rented by Mr. Henry Sampson in 1895, and he bought the whole when it was sold as part of the Westdean estate in 1911. After his death his son Mr. Thomas Sampson came into possession. He died in 1961 and the property was again sold, the Manor House was then purchased by Bertram Aykroyd, Esq., the farm being sold separately.

Treyford occupied by Parliamentary Troops

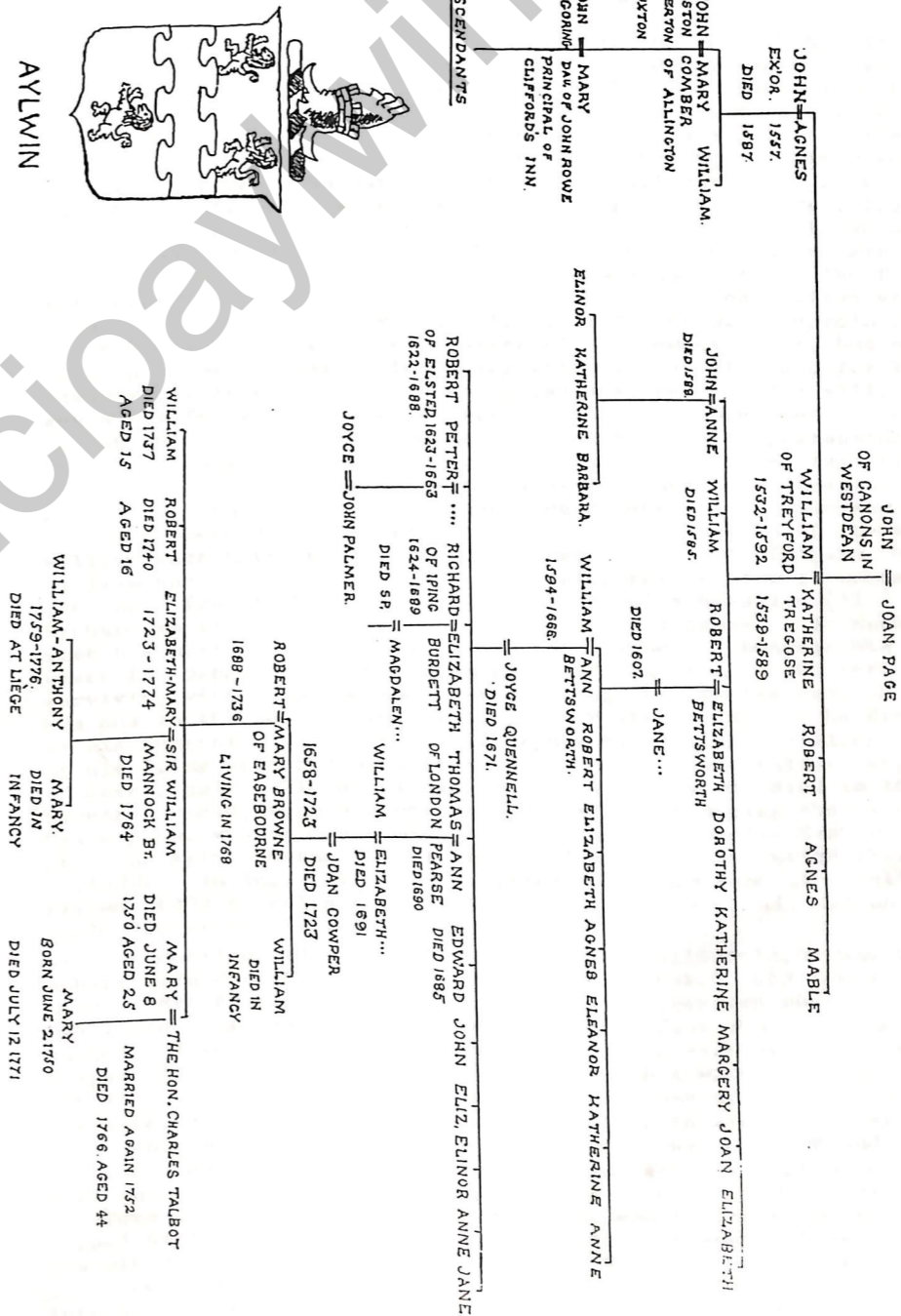
It was in the early spring following the severe winter of 1643-4 that Lords Forth and Hopton, with Kent and Sussex for objective, challenged Sir William Waller to give battle. Waller's base was at Farnham, but on March 21st he was at Chichester and he decided to move his forces westwards to meet the Royalist threat. For this purpose he chose as his advance guard the London Brigade which was made up of the Red and White Regiments and the Southwark Regiments. The brigade, under command of Major-General Browne, was then stationed at Midhurst, having been moved there from Petworth on March 16th. There was with the Brigade a reporter who supplied the Lord Mayor of London with information. His name has not survived, for he signs himself "Eyewitness". The following is an extract from one of his letters. "Upon Thursday the 21st of this instant March, (our Brigade being stationed at Midhurst), our major general received orders from Sir William Waller to advance towards Winchester to a town called Traford, which he did with incredible speed, almost at an hours warning, and that night arrived there, which we found to be a small village, not above seven or eight houses to quarter all our men. There we met with much hardship". A second letter discloses the next move - "On Monday last 25th March, we were

drawn forth from a town called Traford into a heath appointed by Sir William Waller for the gathering of all his forces " This was most probably Petersfield Heath. At this rendezvous three disorderly soldiers of the London Brigade were executed, two being shot and a third hanged. Nevertheless by evening of the same day the brigade had progressed over muddy roads as far as the village of West Meon, which they occupied after having driven out Royalist outposts. Next day Sir William Waller and his headquarter staff rode into East Meon. On the following day (March 27th) there was more skirmishing as the Roundhead forces moved towards Hopton's headquarters at New Arlesford. On March 29th long and bitter fighting took place on the plain near Cheriton village. The King's forces were completely routed and as evening drew near Hopton was forced to retire to Reading. Discontent was very prevalent among the London Regiments. Unused to deep mud, and exposure in severe weather, they also complained that their daily toil was interrupted and their livelihood threatened by long service in the field. Troops were most unwelcome in the villages, they took bread and other supplies from country men's houses. On September 18th 1645 a thousand Sussex farmers gathered on St. Roch's Hill to protest against having to feed so many for so long. Quotations from two letters are from The Civil War in Hampshire. Revd. G. N. Godwin.

The Allwins of Treyford Manor

One of the oldest land-owning and farming families of Sussex is that of Aylwin, who still farm many hundreds of Sussex acres, as they may have been doing since before the Conquest, since Aylwin is one of the few old English Christian names that escaped that cataclysm. (*1) In about 1474, Henry Aylwin had a grant from the Crown of the manor of Brooms in Chilgrove for an annual rent of £6.6.8, (*2) and he may possibly be the ancestor of the Aylwins of Westdean and Treyford. In 1524 Roger and John Aylwin of Treyford were paying subsidy, as were others of this name at Westdean, Chilgrove, Elsted, Bepton and elsewhere. (*3) It is at this period that wills and parish registers begin to furnish evidence that Aylwins were resident in many parishes in West Sussex. The earliest Treyford will appears to be that of Richard, who in 1540 was buried in the church to which he left 6s.8d. 'John Aylwin, yemen', will dated March 14, 1545, instructed 'to be buried in the church of Or Lady in Treford', he continues 'I will that there be bought ij torches the pryce of them to be vjs viijd and they to be borne at my buriall and afterwards to remayne to the church of Treford to the onor of Goddes services whyll they do last. I will that there be kept one stock of bese for to mayntayne a taper befor the Sepulcar yerely. I will that ther be done at my burying V masses and at my moneth mynd V masses. I give unto the Church of Chichester xijd. I bequethe unto the Church of Treford vjs viijd I bequethe unto Sir Richarde Pylchard parson of Treford for the tithes forgotten iij s. I will master parson of my goodes to se this my will performed. To his wife Marian he left all she brought unto him and his house and two stalls of bees. He left 3 sons John, Roger and another, to one of whom he left 30 wether sheep. To his god-children each 2 pence. (*4)

The pedigree of the manor family begins with John Aylwin of Canons in Westdean, to whom by indenture dated 29 May 1533 the Dean and Chapter of Chichester Cathedral assigned Westdean parsonage with appropriate tithes in Chilgrove, Binderton, Singleton, and Didling for a period of 43 years. (*5) Canons House, where the lessee lived, stood on the



east side of Westdean churchyard and was in fact the rectory house. John of Canons evidently died before October 2 1559, when the dean and chapter demised the lease to Lord Lumley. John's will is dated Nov. 5 1557 and that of his widow, Joan, Nov. 23 1561. They had three sons, John, William born in 1532, (*6) and Robert. In 1571 William, who married Katherine daughter of John Tregose, a yeoman of Westdean, bought the manor or lordship of Treforde of Henry, Earl of Arundel and John, Lord Lumley for £420. (*7) In 1584 William settled Treyford upon himself and his wife Katherine, with remainder to his sons John, William, and Robert in tale male, but William died s.p. Nov. 7 1585, John died without male issue July 26 1588, and in 1589 his wife Katherine also died. William now, by a deed dated April 9 of that year, settled his main estate on his surviving son Robert, with remainder to Dorothy, Katherine, Margaret, Joan and Elizabeth, his daughters by his late wife. (*8) On April 1 1588 William Aylwin contributed £40 for defence against Spain. (*9) He died May 3 1592, holding Treyford, Sextons in Pagham, and properties in Singleton, Westdean and elsewhere. By will dated March 22 1591 William Instructed to be buried 'in the church of Treaford' and gave 20s for the repair of the church. He gave £20 to his daughter, Margaret Bailie, and gifts to Richard, William and Katherine, his said daughter's children. To his daughters Joan and Elizabeth he left £200 each at age of 21 or on date of marriage, and £50 each to Elinor, Katherine and Barbara, children of his deceased son John. These were then aged from six to four years. To the poor of Treaford 2s. to the poor of Singleton 5s. and to the poor of Pagham 5s. William was succeeded by his son Robert, whose first wife was Elizabeth daughter of Richard Betsworth. Robert died June 16. 1607 and the inquisition taken on July 5 of that year contains note 'Jane widow of R.A. survives at Treaford'. (*10) She received £100 under her husband's will, which bears date May 29, and on July 21, commission was issued to overseers to administer during the minority of the executor. This was Robert's son William, born in 1594. The overseers were Richard and Arthur Bettis worth, and Richard Aylwin senior and junior. The first two were probably members of the Betsworth family then living at Fitz Hall in Iping. (*11) Robert Aylwin willed to his second son Robert and his heirs 'annuity of £26 out of the Manor of Iping, and if Peter Bettisworth of Colmer (*12) gent, or his heirs, pay £260 according to a proviso in a mortgage, then I give the same to my son'. Robert instructed he be buried in the chancel of Treaford Church near to his father. He gave to Chichester Cathedral 12d, to the poor of Treford 20s, to the poor of Singleton 5s, to the poor of Pagham 10s: to the parish church of Treford 5s. The son William obtained livery of his father's lands in 1610 and his initials with date 1621, may be seen on a wall at the Manor. His first wife was Ann Betsworth who belonged to the family at Fyning in Rogate, apparently unconnected with the Iping family. (*13) On May 22. 1634 confirmation of crest was granted to William Aylwin of Treyford Captain of the Trained Bands of the Rape of Chichester, to John his kinsman, and to John Aylwin of Goring Esq., sometime Captain of the Trained Bands. William married secondly Joyce, daughter of Robert Quennell of Leghill, Harting, to whom administration was granted after her husband's death in 1666. (*14) She was buried at Treyford May 10. 1671. Their eldest son Robert, of Elsted, succeeded. He was born in 1622 and matriculated at Magdalene College, Oxford July 7. 1637, aged 14. (*15) He held his first Court at Treyford April 13. 1675. Robert was unmarried, and by will June 12. 1688 gave and devised to his servant Mary Pay, spinster, of Elsted, his 'message situate and being in the parish of Treford, late Thomas Newman's and sometime held by Copy of the Court Roll of the said Manor.' He gave £100 to be distributed among the

poor of Treford, Elsted and Didling within one year of his decease. On Feb. 25 1688-9, in accordance with his will, he was buried 'on the south side of the Church at Treford'. On Jan. 17. 1688 Robert sold the Manor of Treford and Creswolls farm in Elsted to Thomas Musgrave, John Randall and others for £1 on condition he held it for his life and then it reverts to his nephew William Ayling of Wolbeding and his heirs, after Thomas Musgrave, John Randall, etc. have collected £200 from the rents for the benefit of the said William Ayling and his heirs. (*16) This nephew William, who succeeded to Treyford after the death of his Uncle Robert, was the only child of Thomas Aylwin who was a younger brother of Robert. Thomas married Ann Pearse and was admitted to the freedom of the Mercers' Company of London in 1648. Their son William was born in 1658. On June 20 1688 Mrs. Ann Aylwin made her will wherein she is described as a widow, of the parish of St. Clement Danes, but she was then, presumably, living in Sussex with her son William, for Thomas Musgrave, then rector of Woobeding, was a witness to the will. To her son she left two messuages or tenements in the upper part of Hatton Garden and "all my goods and personal estate now in possession of my son" Now, by a curious arrangement made May 10. 1689, William sold Treyford to his mother for £1, and two weeks later she made a declaration that she held it as trustee for her son and would convey it to whoever he may nominate whenever he may please. Then on October 28 of the same year William made agreement with another uncle, Richard of Iping, by which William was to hold Treyford in fee tale, paying from it annually from the rents £200 to Richard, and £40 to his wife Magdalen. (*17) Richard married three times, but died without issue. In accordance with his will, proved April 3. 1689, he was buried between his two dead wives in Iping churchyard on March 10 of that year. He left to his surviving wife £250, to the poor of Iping 40s, to the poor of Trotton 40s and to the poor of the Tithing of Chithurst 40s, to be distributed at his funeral. He left to his nephew William one shilling. The bulk of his Iping property he left to his nephew Allwin Palmer, who was a son of Joyce, only child of Richard's brother Peter who died in 1663. Richard named executors who should administer during the minority of his nephew, who on his coming of age was to be wholly Richard's executor. Mrs. Ann Aylwin mother of William of Treyford, was buried there March 25. 1690. On August 20. 1690, William paid John Randall, gentleman, of Elsted, £200 to release Treyford Manor from the entail set up by his uncle Robert Jan. 17. 1688. William married twice; by his first wife, Elizabeth, he had two sons, Robert born Jan. 20 1688, and William, born Feb. 4 1689 and died Jan. 22. 1690. Mrs. Elizabeth Aylwin was buried in Treyford church October 18 1691, and there also is the grave of her infant son, William. On Sept. 24. 1699, at Treyford, William Aylwin married secondly Joanna Cowper of Petworth. In 1706 William and his wife Joan agreed to cut off all entails on the manor to ensure the use of the same to William for life, and then to his wife for her life in lieu of dower and in recompence of her portion of £500, then to use of heirs and assigns. (*18) William died August 10. 1723, and administration was granted to his widow Joan who, however, died on October 13 following. Both were buried in Treyford chancel. (*19) The son Robert who succeeded, matriculated at Oxford at the age of 19. He married Mary Browne of Easebourne, who was described in 1724 as 'Mr. Alwins wife a Papist' (*20) The date of the marriage is not known, but the first child, William, was born in 1721. Anthony Browne first Viscount Montague of Cowdray, who died in 1592, had by his eldest son Anthony three grandsons, Anthony-Maria, John and William. The Viscount's son Anthony being dead before his father, nearly all the estates passed to the grandson Anthony-Maria, who became

second Viscount Montague. Anthony-Maria conveyed to his brother John the manor of Easebourne, and John became the ancestor of the Brownes in that place. (*21) Like the Brownes of Cowdray, this branch of the family remained Catholic. John married Anne Giffard, and Mary who married Robert Allwin was the fourth and youngest daughter of their grand son Stanislaus who married Honora Malbrank daughter of a merchant of Cadiz. (*22) Honora Browne was listed as a recusant in 1715, she being then a widow living at Snowhill, a house in Easebourne village. Robert Allwin, who succeeded to his father's Treyford estate in 1723, died Sept. 24. 1736. His will, dated Sept. 18 1735, is as follows - "My estate called Salters farm in the parish of Pagham now in the tenure of William Adams, to my loving wife for her life, also the house I live in, with all outbuildings orchards and gardens until my eldest son William comes of age". To his wife he also gave "the Warren Meadow, the Red lands, the Coppice fields and the North Garden Field, with the use of all my stock and goods both outdoors and in until either of my sons attain the age of twenty years". To his son William he devised his manor of Treyford on condition he pay thereout £3,000 to the three younger children, namely to Robert £1,000, to Mary 1,000 and to Elizabeth-Mary £1,000. He named as executors and guardians of his four children "the present Earl of Litchfield, the present Lord Montague, Anthony Kemp of Slindon Esq." and his wife Mary. These, together with the three witnesses, were Catholics, the manor was now in Catholic ownership. The will was proved at Chichester June 10. 1737, by Mary the widow, but meanwhile on Feb. 7 the son William had died aged 16 and thus the estate passed to the second son Robert, whose death on Dec. 10. 1740 aged 15 ended the male line. He was buried in his brother's grave in Treyford chancel. Mrs. Mary Allwin held her last Court at Treyford Jan. 18. 1742, the estate now being divided between the two surviving daughters Mary and Elizabeth. In May 1746 the co-heiresses sold the advowson to Christopher Collins, an apothecary of Midhurst, for £284 but there was afterwards considerable disagreement concerning this transaction. Meanwhile, by cession of the incumbent, a vacancy occurred and by law, the co-heiresses being Catholics, right of presentation for this turn was given to Oxford University. The new incumbent was admitted on June 17th of the same year. (*23) On May 23 1749 Mary Allwin married the Hon. Charles Talbot second son of George, younger brother of Gilbert 13th Earl of Shrewsbury (*24) but the marriage was of short duration, for Mrs. Talbot died June 8, 1750, having on June 2 given birth to a daughter, Mary. This event evidently took place at Treyford, for the birth is recorded in the parish register. Mrs. Talbot was taken to St. James's (Catholic) Cemetery at Winchester for burial (*25) and her anniversary was regularly kept at Shrewsbury House, Isleworth, a seat of the Talbots. (*26) Charles Talbot and Elizabeth Allwin were now joint owners of Treyford, and on Dec. 13 1750 they held their first Court. Now followed two marriages; on April 7 1752 Charles Talbot married secondly Mary, daughter of Sir Charles Mostyn 4th Baronet of Talare Co. Flint, and during the same year Elizabeth Allwin became second wife of Sir William Mannock, bart., of Giffords Hall, Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk. (*27) Sir William died March 16 1764 leaving a son William-Anthony, who was born May 28, 1757. The Hon. Charles Talbot and Lady Mannock held their last Court at Treyford Dec. 30. 1764. Charles Talbot died April 11th 1766 having shortly before agreed with Lady Mannock to sell the Treyford estate and inheritance, and by deed Nov. 26 1766 enrolled in Common Pleas, and in pursuance of a decree of the Court of Chancery, Christopher Collins (who still possessed certain legal rights in the advowson) and Lady Elizabeth Mannock, conveyed the estate to James Peachey, Esq., of Newgrove, Petworth, and his heirs in fee, for £13,300. (*28) At the same time the share of the advowson which

passed to Mary Allwyn wife of Charles Talbot and which had been inherited by their daughter and only child Mary, was included in the sale by her trustees, she being then only 16 years of age. James Peachey Esq., by will Dec. 1769 (Proved Feb. 21. 1771) gave all his estate to trustees for the use of his nephew Sir James Peachey of Westdean, and on Mary Talbot attaining her majority she, by indenture dated June 15 1771, conveyed her moiety of the Treyford advowson to the above mentioned trustees. (*29) Thus Treyford reverted to Protestant ownership. Mary Talbot died unmarried July 12. 1771. Lady Elizabeth Mannock entered her son William-Anthony at the Jesuit Academy at Liège Nov. 6 1773. (*30) She died at Giffords Hall and on Jan. 4. 1775 was buried at Stoke by Nayland, where her husband and his ancestors lie. Her age is not stated but a transcript of a lost Treyford Register records her 'christening' on Dec. 12 1723. (*31) Sir William Mannock died at Liège March 24 1776, and was succeeded by three uncles, all without issue. The last of these died in 1789 whereupon the baronetcy became extinct. (*32) Among the signatures to the Deed of Conveyance whereby in November 1766 Treyford Estate passed to James Peachey Esq., is that of Mary Allwin, widow of Robert Allwin who died in 1736. She is there described as of Giffords Hall (*33) and was evidently then living there with her widowed daughter Elizabeth. Two years later Mrs. Allwin was still claiming her life interest in Seftor Farm in Pagham parish, but in 1784 that property had passed to "William Adams Junr. late Mary Allwin". (*34) No record has so far been found of the date and place of her death.

After the sale of the Treyford Estate and the passing of the Manor Family, Aylwins of more than one family continued in possession of their yeoman holdings, copyholds and leases. As already shown, their ancestors were farming there long before John Aylwin of Westdean acquired the manor lordship in 1571. Richard Aylwin who died at Treyford in 1735 is beyond doubt the ancestor of all the Aylwins mentioned in the current Parish Registers of Treyford and Didling. He held a lease for three lives of 45 acres forming part of Lower House Farm, which land had been held continuously for centuries of the Prebendary of the Prebend of Iphorpe in Chichester Cathedral. Offa held it of the Bishop in the Confessor's reign. (*35) Richard also leased other farm lands of Robert Allwin Esq., and there was a house and 12 acres at Elsted. After Richard's death in 1735 these holdings passed to his eldest son Robert. Richard the second son lived at Goldrings Farm. The third son was Thomas of Didling who left "copyholds holden of the Manor of Elsted Didling and Dumpford" to his wife Sarah when he died in 1777. Peter, Richard's youngest son, bought the copyhold of Brooks in Treyford in 1752 but he died unmarried in 1771 aged 55, leaving Treyford properties to his brother Thomas. In 1831 Peter Aylwin (probably the son of Thomas) conveyed Brook, together with other properties, including another copyhold with its dwelling house called Newmans situated opposite the Parsonage House, to trustees appointed to administer the will of John Lord Selsey. There still stands at Treyford a house formerly called Brook with an exterior stone bearing "P.A. 1774". Richard Aylwin of Gatehouse Farm in Trotton parish (probably youngest son of Richard of Goldrings mentioned above), left to his wife Ann in 1779, his copyhold in Elsted and 16 acres called "Reads" in Trotton, together with "her right of Free Bench of six messuages etc. in the Manor of Treyford, and leases from John Radcliffe to continue farming". To his second daughter Ann, Richard left his "copyhold of the Manor of Didling. Dumpford Manor Farm in Trotton parish was held by Aylwins for generations. The Tithe map shows that in 1843 Robert Aylwin was in occupation of 285 acres of land in Treyford belonging to the Rev. L.V. Harcourt of Westdean. Until fairly recently Aylwins still lived at Didling, but no one bearing that ancient name lives in either parish now.

Recusancy in Treyford

Robert Allwin of Treyford (d.1736) left 'three pounds per child to Margaret Gosden, to be paid half yearly for her life' and 'Margareta Gosden de Treford' is named in the Register of Cowdray Chapel, as a god-mother in 1753. 'Mary Gosden, spinster, of Giffords Hall' added her signature to the Deed of Conveyance made in November 1766. She was probably a daughter of Mrs. Margaret Gosden mentioned above, and was evidently then living with Dame Elizabeth Mannock and her mother Mrs. Mary Allwin. The Gosdens were an Easebourne family and many of their Catholic grave inscriptions may still be seen in the churchyard there. In 1749 Agnes, Catherine and Lucy, daughters of Pond, of Treyford, were confirmed by Bishop Challoner. In 1796, Hannah, daughter of John and Hannah Appleton, was baptised at Treyford by the Rev. George Halsey, and the Parish Register records the burial of this "Papish" infant at Trayford church July 12th of the same year.

The Manor House

Sir William Burrell wrote c.1780 "great part of the Mansion house is pulled down, the rest being converted into a farmhouse" (*1) An external stone on a low outbuilding bears the date 1621 and W.A. (for William Allwin); and 1688, scratched on another wall, may well be the date of the main block, which has rightly been described by J.E. Bloe, O.B.E., F.S.A. as "of striking and unusual appearance for rural Sussex" (*2)

He continues. "The front wall is of coursed ashlar stonework, with angles of 17th-century bricks. The plinth, which has a moulded top course of bricks, is of flint rubble, and may be a survival of an earlier period. The elevation is very symmetrical, with a middle entrance and window over, and two windows on either side of it. The dressings are of very fine rubbed brickwork. The doorway is flanked by pilasters with moulded bases and caps carried up high enough to allow a head light above the door; They carry a curved pediment. The window above has a moulded eared architrave flanked by voluted consoles". This window is similar to the central one in the south front at Uppark. (*3) "The other windows, tall and narrow, are more simply treated each is flanked by pilasters with beaded internal edges that rise from the plinth to the eaves course. The openings have flat gauged arches and moulded drip-courses, and the upper lights have moulded sills between the pilasters. All have sash frames. The eaves have a moulded brick course and plastered coving. The roof is tiled and has two gabled dormers. The ends are gabled and the northern has a plain chimney stack. The north-east wall is of similar materials and has two blocked windows to the first floor and open plain windows to the second."

During reconditioning of the house in 1962, a deep cavity was found under a floor at this end of the house, the purpose of which can only be conjectured. But the discovery is of interest in view of the fact that during the period 1736-1766 the manor was in Catholic hands as a result of a 'mixed' marriage.

"The lower story of the south west end is cemented and the upper tile hung. The back wall is of squared rubble with 17th-century brick angles. The plan has a central and staircase hall with rooms on either side of it. The staircase, reaching to the second floor, is of late 17th century date; it has turned balusters alternating with twisted balusters, and moulded handrails. The ends of the steps have shaped brackets. The front room is lined with bolection-moulded panelling. An earlier dovecote,

south of the house, is built of stone rubble, with ashlar angles and has two gables and a tiled roof". In the west wall is a plain rectangular opening beneath which is a circular opening of later date, probably 18th century. The doorway is square-headed. The late P.M. Johnston dated the building late 15th century. (*4)

Treyford Parsonage House

In the Treyford Terrier there is mention of the Parsonage with orchard, barn, stable, gateroom, two outhouses, garden, cottage and about two acres of land adjoining the orchard. In 1724 the house had "3 Roomes on a floor" and the barn needed re-thatching. After the union of the two benefices in 1843 the house was let by the Harcourts. Among West-dean Papers is a confirmed award of exchange of land, 31 Dec. 1861, between the Rev. W.D. Willis and Mrs. L.V. Harcourt. By this exchange the Parsonage at Treyford passed to Mrs. Harcourt and thus ceased to form part of the Glebe. The house was still tenanted in 1891, but later became vacant and lapsed into ruin. A photograph by P.M. Johnston shows a chimney-piece in one of the ruinous first floor rooms. This looks to be of Tudor date and in its centre is an escutcheon flanked by two torses containing monograms, but the carving is indistinct. This had evidently been re-used during rebuilding or extensive alterations. The jambs were of common bricks. Nothing now remains of the house, but the site is still discernable.

The Advowson and Rectory of Treyford, later Treyford cum Didling

During the episcopate of Bishop Ranulph (1218-1224) "Osbert the rector of Triferd" witnessed a deed whereby Allan St. George gave a meadow to Didling Church. (*1)
1291. The Valor of Pope Nicholas IVth. The rectory was taxed at £8. Synodals 18d. Peter's Pence 9d.
1341. The Nonarum Return. Rectory valued at 12 marcs, with a messuage and XX acres of glebe.
1341. Nov. 11th "William Selle chaplain of Trreford" named as a defaulter to subsidy. (*2)
1394. Sept. 2 John Baron instituted "Rector of Toeford, dioc. Chichester" from the rectory of Charborough, Dorset. Bishop Waltham's Register (Sarum). (*3) No exchange.
1397. Bishop Robert Rede's Register begins - the earliest for Chichester diocese.
1399. The Bishop licenced the rector of Treforde to be absent from his benefice one year. Register. R. (Rede) fol. 75b. This leave was granted for study at a university.

Patron.
Thomas Earl of Arundel & Surrey. 1408. Thomas Skendelby, rector of Tarrant Antiock, Sarum diocese, admitted by exchange with John Baron. On November 8 Bishop Rede issued his mandate to the Archdeacon of Chichester to induct. Reg. R. (Rede) fol. 124. (*4) Nominations to the vicarage of Didling by the Dean & Chapter of Chichester cease after 1411.
No Register for Chichester diocese 1416-1438.

Robert Pobbelow, clerk, presents, by reason of the 1416. Nov. 5. John Carby, chaplain, admitted & instituted to the parish church of Trefford by death of Thomas Skendelby. Abp. Chicheley's Reg. pt. 2. fol. 201b.

feoffment of the manor and lordship of Treforde by Richard Earl of Arundel & Surrey, the true patron.

In a return made by Richard Praty. Bp. of Chichester to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer 22 May 1440, the church of Treford appears among those taxed and accustomed to pay the tenth to the King, and not appropriated, whose value is less than 12 marcs or extends to that sum, and on which the rectors and vicars personally reside.

Bp Praty's Reg.E. fol.42 b.

No registers for Chichester diocese 1446-1478. The Hospital of the Holy Trinity Arundel was in possession of Treyford Manor by 1428, but there is no record of a presentment until 1482.

1478. Thomas rector of Trayford is cited to appear at a visitation by Bp. Story. Bp. Story's Reg.D. fol.15.

Bernard Karenay, rector of Treford Chic.dioc.

Presented by John Chambyr master of the almshouse of S. Trin. Arundell. 1482 Sept.12. John Beteyn rector of Chydyngfold, Winton dioc. admitted by exchange with Bernard Karenay. Reg.A. (Story) fol.21b. see Elsted also.

The rectory of Treyford was united to that of Elsted by Bp. Story April 22nd 1485, but he dissolved this union in 1500. See further particulars under Elsted.

From returns made by Bp. Story 5 May. 1487 the true annual value of the church of Treford was less than 12 marcs. A few years later, 26 Jan. 1491-2, it is placed in a schedule of benefices served by incumbents making personal residence, or whose absence was duly licenced for the purpose of study in the universities of Oxford or Cambridge and not beyond 12 marcs in value. It again appears in a similar list dated 16 May 1496. Bp. Story's Reg.D. ff. 99, 115b, 129, 137.

Presented by John Chambyr Master of the Almshouse of Arundell. 1500. Oct. 24. Mathew Wright, chaplain, admitted to the parish church of Treforde by resignation of John Beteyn. Reg.A. (Story) fol.33. Bernard Conelles chaplain.

Presented by John Aslaby, S.T.P. Master of the Almshouse of Arundel. 1519. Aug. 26. Thomas Skidmor, chaplain, adm. to the parish church of Treford by resignation of Bernard Conelles, chaplain. Register A. (Sherborne) fol.16.

Presented by William Busbye, Master of the Almshouse of Arundell and the prior and brethren of the said house. 1523-4. Feb. 23. Richard Pylchyr, chaplain, adm to the parish church of Treford by death of Thomas Skidmor. From the will of Geoffrey Tomson, vicar of Selsey. 1545. Nov. 2. :- "To the parson of Treford I give my best short gowne".

From the will of 'Richard Pilcerde, parson of Treford and Vicar of Didinge'. 1549-50 - "My body to be buried in the chaunsell of Treford before the High Alter,

I will that ther be a taper maynteyned at the mynestracion of the Glorious Communion for the space of one hoyll yere after my departing. I bequethe to the churche of Treford my best surplus.... To mayntan the cause (way) towards the marshe iijs iiijd. To the poverte by the discrecion of myne executrix and overseeres". (*5) Probate was by Johanna Roye, executrix, One overseer was 'Sir Nicholas Kenedy', vicar of Harting. 1543-55. In the Valor Ecclesiasticus, which in 1535 took the place of the Valor of Pope Nicholas, 1291, Treford is rated at £7.12.1, with 20 acres of Glebe. Yearly 10th 15s 2½d.

Presented by Henry Earl of Arundell. 1550. Oct. 29. Richard Roberts (having resigned Elsted) adm. to the parish of Treforde by death of the last rector. Reg.B. (Day) fo.60b.

By Henry Earl of Arundell. 1554-5. Jan. 9. John Lewes (having resigned Elsted) adm. to parish church of Treforde by exchange with Richard Roberts. Reg.B. (Day) fol.98.

Presented by Lady Anne Mawtravers relict of Lord Henry Mawtravers (d. 1556) by reason of her dower made to her by him. Pres. dated 10 Feb. 1557. 1558 April 2. Edward Keble adm. to the parish church of Treforde by death of John Kebil. Reg.F. (Christopherson) fol.3b.

By Anne Mawtravers relict of Henry John Mawtravers by reason of her dower. 1560 June 17. John Byston admitted and instituted to p. ch. of Treforde by death of John Kebil. Reg F. (Barlow) f.16b.

Earlier records of this incumbent are as follows:-

Presented by the Abbot and Convent of Durford. 1531-2 Jan. 11th John Biston adm. and inst. to the vicarage of Rogate by resignation of Henry Skynner. Reg.A. (Sherborne) fol.59.b. 'John Biston canon' (of Durford Abbey) was serving Rogate Vicarage in 1535. (*6)

Presented by Mary Queen of England. 1554 June 26. Thomas Croke adm. to the vicarage of Rogate by deprivation of John Biston. Reg.B. (Day) fol.95. 1554 July 17. John Biston adm. to the parish church of Northmarden by deprivation of Stephen Beard. Reg.B. (Day) fol.95.

From the will of Thomas Richardson, vicar of East Marden, 1556-59:- "1559 March 28.... my body to be buried in the Chauncell of Est Marden Church before the Image of St. Peter. I bequethe to the church of Estmarden vjd. I will that William Fawke my Clarke have for the making of my grave viijd for his labour. I will that fyve masses be said for my soule at my buringe, and to have for their labour vjd a prest and so likewise at my monthes daye I geve and bequethe to

every mayde or wenche inhabitinge within the parishe of Eastmarden ijd. I geve and bequethe to Sr John Biston Parson of Northmarden all my bookes and my best cappe..... The overseare of this my wyll I make and order Sr John Biston Parson of Northmarden and for his labour Vs. Witness whereof ... Sir John Biston Parson of Northmarden with other"

"1560 John Beeston rector of Normerden" Visitation by Will (Barlow)
Ep. Chi.

Biston married Margaret Dyggons at some time before 1573, when her name occurs as Margaret Byston in a list of communicants for Treyford and Didling. There was a son named John. Beyond this there is no further record until 1579 when in answer to Visitation enquiries the churchwardens of Treyford cum Dydlynge presented - "Our cure is served by or. person wch ys an ould man of thage of LXXX yeres savige one and beinge benefited in this dioces by the space of xlviiij yeres now havinge no more livinge but Treyford cm didlinge. Or person hath declared & red such godlie homilies as is prescribed and commanded ev'y sondaie and holie daie and doth willingly receve any pr'cher that is auctoryzed and to reconpens them for their paines. Or p'son affirmith for trueth that he requested and desiered divers preachers as well dwellinge in Hampshire as in Sussex wch did promys to preach but theie did not come. Or p'son is an aged man he is resident of his benefice. The chauncell of the chr Deane (*7) and close wch hath been perted many times and yet not amended. Or person hath bene married at all times by order of lawe".

By will Nov. 20 1579, John Biston committed his son John to the care of his wife's brother Nicholas. He was buried "in the parishe church yearde of Rogate nye unto the place where my mother was buried". (*8)

Presented by 1580 April 27. Thomas Wall adm. and instituted to the parish ch. of Treaford cum Dydlynge by death of John Beeston. Ref.F. (Curteys) fo. 41. Deacon by Richard Bp of Chichester Sept. 11th 1579. Priest by the same Oct. 9. 1579. Original 1584 John Wall sonne of Thomas Wall p'son there was baptised the IXth of March. Presentation. One of his daughters married William Davis curate of Midhurst. (*9)

The commissioners appointed in 1605 to enquire into the learning and abilities of the clergy of the deanery of Midhurst thus speak of this rector. "Mr. Thomas Wall of Treyford no graduate, he hath used to preach and is commended by divers ministers for his sufficiency in the same, he is of honest conversation to or. knowledge. (*10)

1623-4 Feb. 21. Probate of the will of Thomas Wall, clerk, rector of Treyford cum Didlinge by Mary Wall, relict and executor. (*11)

Presented by William Aylwin of Treyford, gent. 1623-4 Feb. 21. John Hayes, a.m. instituted to the rectory of Treyford cum Didlinge by death of Thomas Wall. Bishop's Certificate.

Treyford cum Didling, Easter, 1623. The churchwardens presented "Richard Knowles of our parish for using unreverent speeches by our Minister, in

disgracing his function and doctrine by his lewd and unreverent speeches, and openly in our hearing in the church before the greater number of the parish saying that his sermon was of nothing but of a dead hog, to the great discouraging of our Minister to discharge his duties." (*12)

The Protestation Return for 'Treyford and Didlinge' is dated Feb. 20. 1641, and John Hayes the rector wrote the following at the end of the list:- "All the men of the Parish above sayd above the age off eighteen years have taken the oath off Protestation the daye and yeare above writne; And as concerning Popish and Pomish recusants, we have none dwelling or abiding with us." (*13)

Presented by 1661 Aug. 21. Walter Tomlinson instituted to the rectory of Treyford by the death of John Hayes. Esq. Bishop's Certificate and Consistory Diary H. fol. 221. b.

1662 Jan. 15. Treyford churchwardens presented "or Minister... hath another benefice but is resident with us".

1662 April 11th. Marriage licence - Walter Tomlinson, clerk, rector of Treyford, and Elizabeth Drew of the same, spinster. (*14)

Easter 1665. The churchwardens presented 'we answer that our chancell is out of repair and ought to be repaired by Mr. Walter Tomlinson our parson'

Nothing was done, and the "undecent" state of the chancel is shown in another presentment by the churchwardens dated Sept. 13. 1667. This is given in full under particulars of Treyford Church.

From another Presentment Bill for Treyford, dated 1678 - "Item, concerning our Minister Mr. Walter Tomlinson being unsuspected of all symonia-call Compacts and legally inducted I know not, but was inducted as he pretends by one Richard Ayling an attorney, but was not inducted by any of the parishioners, of whom by reason of the said Mr. Tomlinson's contentiousness he had not any of their consents, but how lawfully he was instituted and inducted I know not.

Signed by Robert Aylwin. Churchwarden.

1685. Feb. 18. William Sadler. m.a. adm. and instituted to the rectory of Treyford by death of Walter Tomlinson. Reg. 1. (Lake) folio 2.

1698. June 22. Archbishop's dispensation for Thomas Musgrave. m.a., also domestic chaplain to Penelope Lady Lucas, Baroness de Shenfield, (Essex) to hold the rectory of Woobeding (which he had held since Feb. 14. 1670) with the rectory of Treyford cum Didling.

Dispensation Roll.

William Aylwin, Esq., Present- ation dated June 11 1698 1698 Sept. 1. Thomas Musgrave, M.A. adm. and instituted to the rectory of Treyford cum Didling by cession of William Sadler. Reg. 1. (Williams) fol. 4.

1724. Mr. Fosbrooke Curate resident at Treyford Bishop Bowers' Visitation Book.

The Rev. Thomas Musgrave of Woobeding left £100 in 1725 for augmentation of the vicarage of Barnham. He desired that Divine Service be performed in Barnham Church every Sunday instead of once a month. He also willed £100 to Chichester Cathedral to be spent on two bells to be "added to those in Ryman's Tower near the said Cathedral", and any belence to be devoted to the repair or rebuilding of the north-west tower of the Cathedral.

Presented by 1725 Oct. 5. William Langbaine m.a. admitted and inst. to Robert Allwyn. the rectory of Treyford cum Didling by death of Thomas Musgrave. Reg.K. (Waddington) Resignation accepted by the Bishop 1729 June 19. Same Register. William Langbaine was rector of Trotton in 1738.

Presented by 1729 Aug. 21. John Alcock, m.a adm. & inst. to the rectory Robert Allwyn of Treyford. of Treford cum Didling by resignation of William Langbaine. Reg.K. (Waddington) John Alcock was instituted to Trotton Oct. 16 1705. Jan. 29. 1710. Abp's dispensation to hold the rectory of Trotton with the rectory of Bepton. He was instituted to Bepton Feb. 1710-11.

Chancellor, masters & scholars, of University of Oxford, by virtue of several Acts of Parliament especially of one made in the 13th year of her late Majesty Q'n Anne patrons for this turn. (*15)

1746 June 17. Richard Garnett m.a. inst. & admitted to the rectory of Treford cum Didling by cession of John Alcock. Reg.K. (Mawson) Instituted to Bepton Sept. 28, 1749. "Rev. Garnett married to Miss Adams ?early in 1759. - Gentleman's Magazine." He held Bepton and Treyford until his death March 5. 1775. He was buried in the chancel at Treyford.

Presented by Sir 1775 April 5. Andrew Levis Boisdaune, m.a inst. James Peachey, bart. of Westdean, co. Sussex. and adm. to the rectory of Treyford with Didling by death of Richard Garnett. Reg.K (Ashburnham)

Presented by Sir 1778 Dec. 19. Stephen Street m.a. add. & instituted James Peachey, bart. to the rectory of Treyford with Didling by death of Andrew Lewis Boisdaune. Reg.K. (Ashburnham)

Presented by 1795 Oct. 13. Thomas Bargus, m.a. add. & instituted Rt. Hon. James Lord Selsey, Baron of Selsey. to the rectory of Treyford cum. Didling by death of Stephen Street. Bp's Cert. and Subscription Book.

1796. A return of Parish Register entries is signed "R. Pargeter Curate".

1799 May 21, William Blomely, B.A. of Brasenose College, Oxford, licenced to serve the office of curate in the church of Treyford cum Didling on nomination of Thomas Bargus the rector. yearly stipend £30. Chichester Register.

1805 May 2, Edward Tippit, clerk, M.A. licenced to serve the cures of the parish churches of Treyford cum Didling Subscription Book.

Presented by 1809. Aug. 18. William Stanley Goddard, D.D. instituted by Rt. Hon. John Lord Selsey death of Thomas Bargus. Bp's Cert. On the same date he was instituted to Bepton, and again instituted to that benefice after cession. 1819 Aug. 27, after which he continued as rector of Bepton until 1837 but he resigned Treyford with Didling in 1813.

Presented by 1813. Nov. 24. Hon. John William Peachey, M.A. inst. to the Rt. Hon. John, Lord Selsey. rectory by resignation of William Stanley Goddard, D.D. Bishop's Certificate. John William Peachey was also for 22 years Vicar of Barkway with Reed, Herts.

1814 Aug. 31 John Sharpe licenced to be curate of Treyford cum Didling. Subscription Book. The Hon. J.W. Peachey was 3rd and youngest son of John second Lord Selsey. Emmanuel College, Cambridge, M.A. 1811. He died at Brighton July 6. 1837 aged 48. Gentleman's Magazine.

Presented by 1837 Nov. 8. William Henry Clinton Chester, B.A., rector Hon. John, 3rd Baron Selsey. of Elsted, inst. to Treyford cum Didling also by death of Hon. & Rev. John William Peachey, (Bp's Cert.) He held both benefices until his death April 14. 1841.

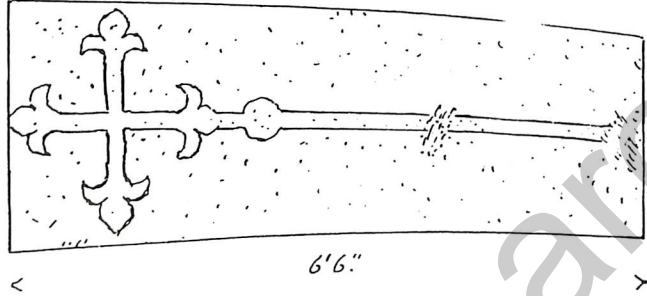
Presented by 1841. June 1. William Downes Willis, M.A. inst to the Revd. Leveson Vernon Harcourt & Hon. Caroline Mary his wife. rectory of Elsted by death of William Henry Clinton Chester. He held a dispensation from the Faculty Office to hold the rectory of Elsted with the rectory of Treyford cum. Didling. He was instituted to the latter August 12 of the same year. Bishop's Certificate.

The rectory of Treyford cum Didling was united with the rectory of Elsted Jan. 4. 1843 under an Act of 1 & 2 Victoria, c. 106. The three parishes are now one rectory in the gift of the Bishop of Chichester.

The Church

A detailed description of Treyford Church is needful, for since the building was closed in 1849 neglect and vandalism have obliterated one of the most interesting of the smaller Sussex churches. Even at that time its interest had become evident and as decay advanced so that interest increased. Mural painting was found beneath perishing whitewash, falling plaster revealed an original doorway, and three altar-stones remained desecrated in the floor. The ruin was hastened by deliberate destruction; the late Philip M. Johnston F.S.A. walked over from Liss in August 1888 and sketched the mural painting in the chancel and it was then, or at a slightly later visit as he informed the writer, that he found the rector and his coachman demolishing part of the roof to obtain tiles for use at Elsted school. All his protests were rendered futile by the existence of the large new church, and today little more than the site remains.

The church was built on a large mound, perhaps an earlier sacred site

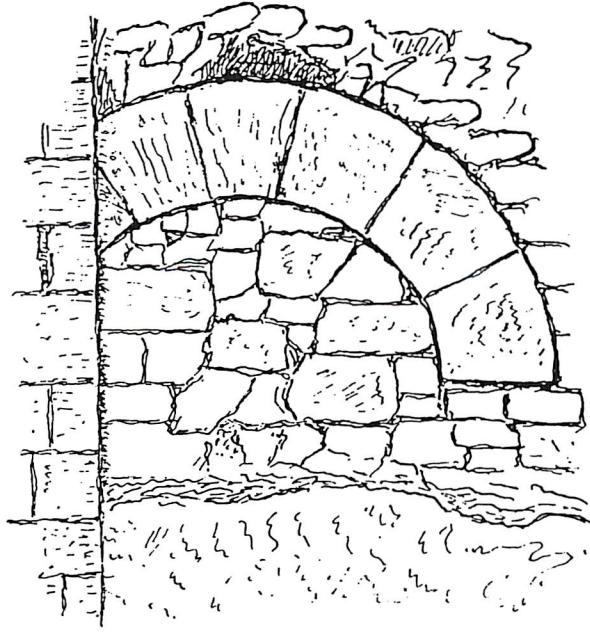


Treyford Church, 13th century sepulchral stone

6'6"

C.T.
1923

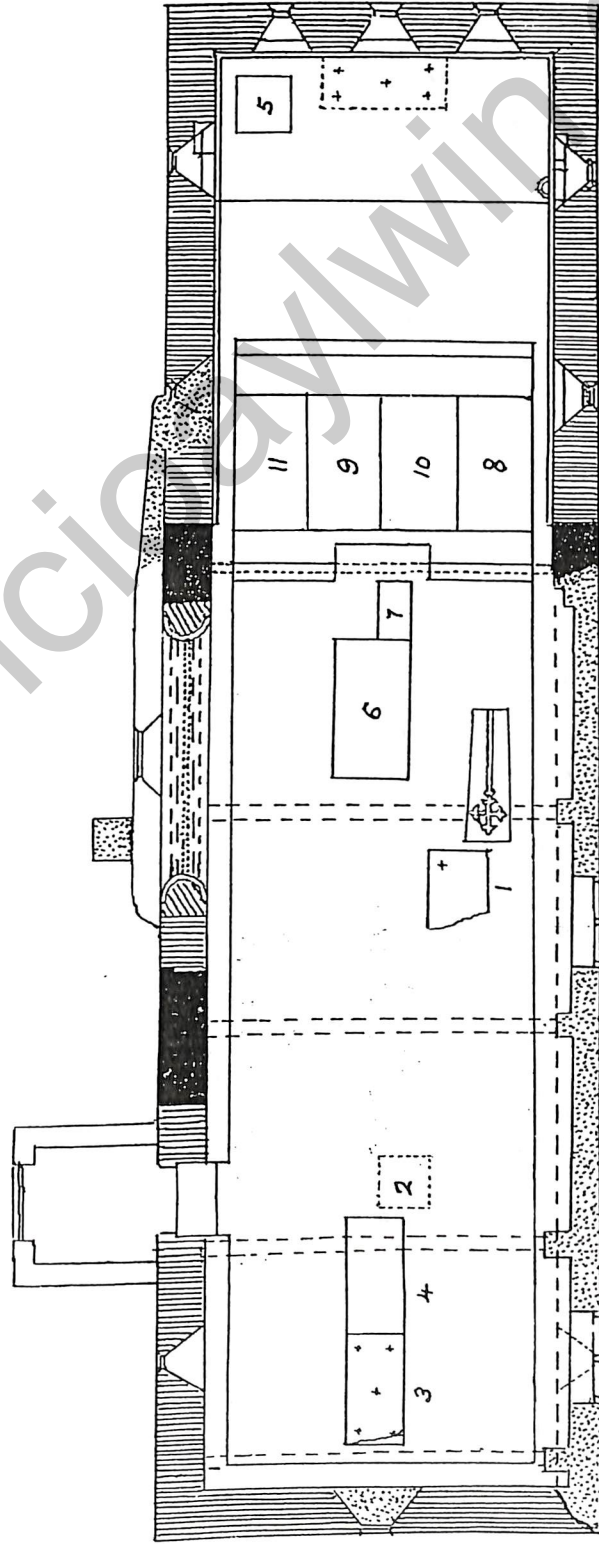
46



Treyford, Doorway in N. Wall

R.C.T.
1923

Our Lady's Church Treyford.



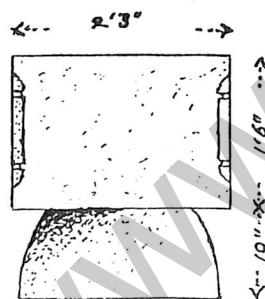
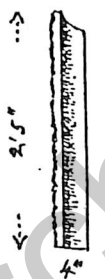
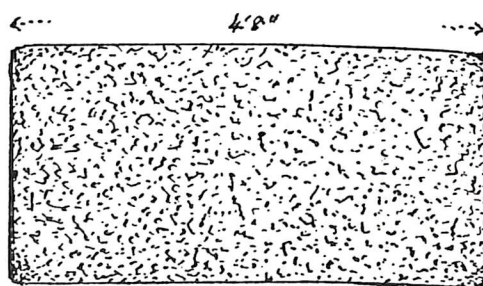
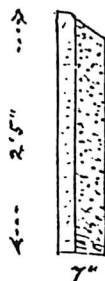
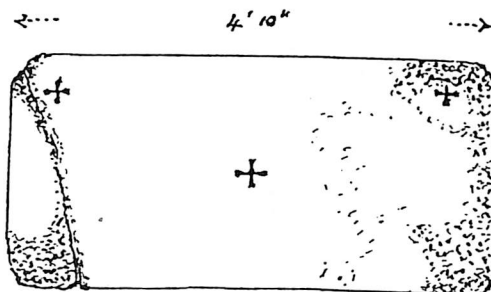
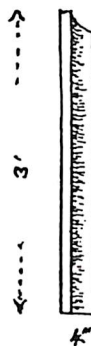
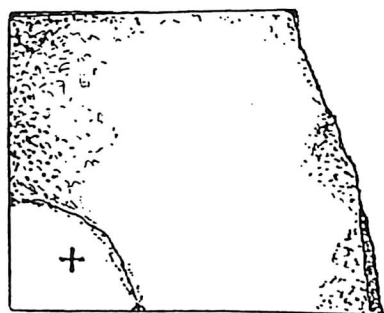
10 5 0 10 20 FEET.

R.C.T. mens et del. 1923.

Late 11th cent. 13th cent. Early 14th cent. 16th cent. Modern.

- ALLWIN GRAVES.
1. Half of mensa from High Altar
 2. Position of the Font
 - 3 and 4 other altar stones.
 5. Rev. Richard Garnett, 1775.
 6. A plain stone probably Elizabeth first wife of William, she died 1691.
 7. Their infant son William, died 1690.
 8. William, died 1723.
 9. Johanna second wife of William, she also died 1723.
 10. Robert son of William. died 1736.
 11. Roberts two sons, William died 1737 and Robert died 1740.

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Treyford Church.
Altar stones and Font R.C.T.

or burial place. There is no mention of a church here in Domesday. The building consisted of nave, chancel, and north porch, a later chapel on the north of the nave having been destroyed. Internal measurements were 69 feet by 16 feet 6 inches. The walls were of local malm rubble with ashlar dressings; much of the external plastering remained. Part of the nave was probably late eleventh century, but the only remaining original feature was a partly destroyed doorway of which six voussoirs of the semicircular head remained in the outer face of the north wall; these were worked in a greenish yellow sandstone brought from a quarry at Henley Wood.

Inside the nave at a higher level was the rear-arch, also semicircular. Early in the 13th century the church was considerably enlarged, a new chancel was built and the nave was extended westward; a new entrance doorway was made and the older one built up. The new doorway had a round head and a continuous chamfer, with no imposts to the jambs on which, among other graffiti, were many small crosses. (*1) For all the 13th century work the local clunch stone was used and judging from the position of remaining consecration crosses of this date, the church was then re-consecrated. Of the porch nothing remains, but a Johnston view shows this to have been stone-built, and apparently of the 17th century. The entrance doorway had a round head and was fitted with gate. West of the porch was a well proportioned single-light window with exterior rebates and a pointed head cut in one piece, but internally the head of the splay was round. There was undoubtedly a similar window opposite, but this was destroyed when the south wall was rebuilt early last century after failure of the foundations. This rebuilt wall is noted on a rough plan of the church drawn by Henry Petrie, F.S.A. in 1805. (*2) The new wall was of poor construction, with red brick dressings and faced with trimmed flint; there were two wood-framed windows. The reconstruction of the nave roof at this time was done in such a clumsy makeshift manner that shoring timbers had afterwards to be erected for its support, as shown in one of Johnston's views dated 1904. The west wall had a single lancet window with exterior rebates and concentric splay, but was blocked up, probably when a gallery was erected. As shown in the Borrer drawing this wall was also completely rendered over with roughcast and lime washed.

No bell-cote is shown, but a tie-beam close to the west wall probably once supported one, and "shingling" is mentioned by the churchwardens in their report during 1667. A bell is mentioned in Bishop Bowers' Visitation Book in 1724 and also in a Census of Sussex Church Bells taken during the same year. (*3) This bell, if still existing in 1846-49, was probably used as metal for the larger one made by Mears of London for the Harcourts' new church.

Near the east end of the north nave wall was an arch formerly opening into a chapel. The older blocked doorway had been much cut into by this arch which appeared to be of the 14th century. The tooling was distinctly different from that of the 13th century work, but the same clunch stone was used. The arch itself was of two chamfered orders resting on responds "semicircular on plan, with moulded capitals of bell form without separate abacus". (*4) The bases were uncovered by the writer. Of these the western one had a double roll moulding, but the other one was of simpler design. Excavations made in 1962 failed to reveal any foundations of the chapel, which had originally been shut off from the nave by a parclose screen, as evidenced by the sockets cut to allow the crossbar to rest securely upon the caps of the responds. The lower part of the archway had been solidly built up, but the arch itself was closed in by a wall erected outside it and this contained a window of late 16th century character. The chapel was probably built by the Villiers family who held the manor for over two centuries. There is no

record of a chantry; there are particulars of the "chantry of Trevor", (*5) but this place, long confused with Treyford, is River in Tillington parish.

From the sanctuary a stone bench extended right round the church but its stonework was not bonded into the walls of the nave, from which it would appear that the bench was of the 13th century. Johnston describes a stone bench in the chancel at Wilmington as "almost unique in Sussex" and he adds "a well preserved example may still be seen in the very interesting ruined church at Treyford".

When the later chancel was erected in the 13th century the east wall of the nave was removed and in place of this was erected a timber and plaster partition, with a loft upon its western face, entirely separating the nave from the chancel except for a doorway in the centre, on either side of which originally stood an altar. There being no structural division, the partition extended to the roof thus forming a background to the Rood. This arrangement was quite common in churches. One of the beams of the rood loft, standing seven feet from the floor, survived until 1923.

Johnston noted "part of text border in a "guilloche" pattern in orange and black, of 16th century date" which showed that the Creed, Commandments etc., were painted on the western face of the partition after the removal of the Rood and its loft. Near the west end of the church the position of the Font could be seen. This was removed to the new church in 1849 - and destroyed with that building in 1951. The truth is that Benjamin Ferrey the architect had it re-cut, placed it upon large stone steps and erected over it a wood canopy fourteen feet high, which was raised and lowered by a pulley and counterweight. No one suspected this to be the old font, in fact when the rector, Rev. H. C. Collings, reported a clearance of rubbish from the ruined church in 1920, he asked what had become of it.

It was in 1952 that the writer found this note in a description of the new church, "one of the most striking features of the nave is the old square plain first-pointed font with its elaborate cover." (*6) The writer's drawing is now the only record of it. The square bowl was of Sussex marble, perfectly plain except for stop-chamfered angles, but this was set upon a plain circular base which was most probably the original font cut down, reversed, and used as a base for the new 13th century one. This base was exactly similar to the font in Chithurst Church. Three altar stones remained set in the floor of the nave where they were finally banished after the accession of Elizabeth 1st. The Gospel half of the mensa from the chancel altar was first noticed by the writer in 1923. This was of Sussex marble and hollow-chamfered on the under side. One cross remained. The centre cross was gone but the length of the stone can probably be ascertained from the fact that six feet of the string-course on the east chancel wall had been cut back at some time, probably to accommodate a retable. The width of this stone was three feet. A second stone had long been visible near the place where the font had stood. This was "very perfect" when the late P. M. Johnston first saw it in 1888. He tried to get it moved to Rogate church, but was unsuccessful and the stone was left to its fate. This mensa was of Purbeck marble and seven inches in thickness; the under side was plainly chamfered and the crosses were deeply cut. It was without doubt the altar from the older chancel. Being too small for the new chancel it was evidently re-erected on the west side of the screen together with a new stone of similar size to stand on the other side of the doorway. This third stone was also found at the west end of the church but crosses were no longer visible on the much perished surface. It was of Sussex

marble, and the under edge was hollow-chamfered. There was also in the floor a 13th-century sepulchral slab with an incised foliated cross of good design.

In the east wall of the 13th century chancel was a graceful triplet of lancet windows, but a Sharpe drawing of 1805 shows the lower parts of the openings built up. There were two single lancets in each side wall, but the western pair were blocked. All had exterior rebates and concentric splays. The western part of the north wall had been clumsily rebuilt after a considerable fall of masonry. At Easter 1665 the churchwardens presented "we answer that our chancell is out of repair and ought to be repaired by Mr. Walter Tomlinson our parson". Evidently Tomlinson disputed this, for nothing was done. The next report, dated September 13th, 1667, is given here in full:- "Treyford. Imprimis we present the Chancel of our Parish Church is in greate decaye, the walles thereof being cracked, the foundations of them being sunck, that if the same be not speedely repaired the Chancell in pbability will shortly fall Downe. I feare the Roofe and Covring as the tileing & shingling thereof is in such great decaye that our Comunion table in wet weather stands wett & is damaged thereby & it is wett and unhelthy for the young People that do use to sit in the Chancell to hear the woord upon Sundayes & holidays in wett weather, and that Mr. Walter Tomlinson Rector of the pish Church of Treford ought to repe (repair) the same. Item, wee p'sent that the said Mr. Walter Tomlinson is & ought to repe the glas windowes of the chancell & do suffer the same to continue in Decaye, with bords takt insiede of glasse windowes which is undescent unseemly and Dungeonlike. Item. wee p'sent that the pishoners of Treford did heretofore for the safety of the p'ish Church of Treford & as a Defence against the stormy and tempestious weather plant sevrall Ash trees in the Churchyard which did growe and sprede brances & were a greate safe-guard and Defence to our said pish Church & were plesant & shady for the pishoners in hott weather & as an invitacion to them to come and staye there in the shade till the Minister came. And that the said Mr. Tomlinson for lucre sake hath cutt or sold or caused the same to be cutt and carried away; by reason whereof the said Church lieth liable to the bleeke stormes and tempests; and is thereby very liable to greate & more speedy Decaye & to become Chargeable to the pishoners in the repires thereof & for want of the shaddow there in the hott somer time the pishoners for shade are faine to sitt & staye in more remote places from the Church soe that they cannott so well attend beginning of Divine service on Sundayes and holidays as they Did before those ashes were cut Downe. Item, we present that the said Mr. Tomlinson rents Didling Parsonage & something like it in Dumford & leaseth the same out againe contrary to the statute, etc." (*7) This report is signed by Robert Aylwin, churchwarden, and bears the marks of Caryll Aylewin, and John Beverstock, churchwarden.

In the north wall of the sanctuary was a plain locker without rebate or trace of door and there was a similar one in the south wall together with a square headed piscina niche. The projecting basin had been hacked away. Round all three walls was a well moulded stringcourse, the ends of which marked the junction with the older walls of the nave. Some of the bonding stones here were dressed pieces from the older chancel. For some reason the screen stood three feet west of this point so that when the south nave wall was rebuilt early last century, a short strip of the older wall had to be left standing. There was a step down at the screen door, the chancel floor here being six inches below that of the nave. Here also were four graves of the Allwin family who owned the manor from 1571 to 1766; wills and parish registers record many Allwin burials here from 1540 onwards. In the sanctuary is the grave of the

Revd. Richard Garnett, who died in 1775. It was not possible to ascertain the original floor levels. The roof, as far as can be judged from remains of it shown in the Johnston views, was the original 13th century one and of simple construction; the rafters and collars had been ceiled in plaster. Several pieces of well worked stone lying about the nave in 1923 represented good work destroyed at some time. In the new church of St. Peter was a modern chest with three well carved panels of Jacobean date set into its front; these may have formed part of the old Parish Chest. When last seen the chest was in Eastdean Church near Chichester.

The discovery of mural painting is noted in the Journal of the Society of Antiquaries:-

"June 1849 - John Henry Parker exhibited a drawing of the Paintings lately uncovered at the east end of the chancel of Treyford Church in Sussex, of the early part of the 13th century. The patterns are particularly interesting as showing the original decorations on the splays of the triplet on the east wall and the windows bear the Saviour and Evangelists". (*8)

Parker's drawing can no longer be found, but the patterns are shown in a coloured sketch by P.M. Johnston, dated August 15.1888. The splays of the triplet bore "a beautiful lattice-work diaper pattern, filled in with alternate diamonds with white trefoiled crosses on a red ground; smaller crosses appearing at the intersection of the bands dividing the diamonds" (*9) The arches had "conventional stone-jointing in red, white and yellow". On the piers of the triplet, and on the wall above, was a very bold scroll pattern finished at the top with a wave border in red and yellow which enclosed a representation of the Saviour in Majesty with the symbols of the Four Evangelists, and two six-winged Seraphim in adoration. The wings of one of the Seraphs are visible in an undated photograph by Johnston and "an angel with trumpet" was noted in 1891 by the Revd. A.J. Roberts; between the windows marble shafts were indicated on the ashlar stonework by "a curious dappled ornament". Caps and bases must also have been shown but these are not visible in Johnston's sketch. (*10) Only faint traces of painting were visible on the side walls in 1936 but it was still possible to see that there had been three paintings on each wall, each enclosed within the red and yellow wave border. The centre panel was wider, as it occupied the wide space between the two side windows. In the centre of each wall, just above the stringcourse, was a consecration cross in red which had first been outlined by incision in the plaster. Of the four narrower panels, that on the south sanctuary wall showed a masonry pattern in red and yellow which evidently formed a background to a large figure, but all the figures had evidently been destroyed. The arches and splays of the side windows no doubt displayed the diaper pattern shown on those in the east wall, but of this no trace remained. Also in 1936 three more consecration crosses came to light on the west wall, and the outline of another was still visible west of the entrance doorway. Its counterpart was destroyed when the south wall was rebuilt at the beginning of last century. Johnston noted "a large figure" on the west wall and many traces of painting in a very fragmentary state were visible there, and also on the north wall. John Aylwen, a yeoman, whose will is dated March 14, 1545, directed he be buried 'in the church of Or Lady in Treford.' This is the only surviving record of the invocation. (*11)

In 1724 the church possessed '1 silver fflagon containing 3 pints, 1 silver chalice and Cover serves for Paten'. (*12) From this silver was probably made Mrs. Harcourt's "special gift" of plate to the new church. This last was sold for £60 in 1951.

The Parish Register for Treyford and Didling is from 1728 only. Accord-

ing to Dallaway an earlier one was "accidentally burnt". Bishop's Transcripts are from 1573, but many are missing. All are now at the Diocesan Record Office, Chichester. Registers from 1812 are at Elsted.

St. Peter's Church, Treyford
1849 - 1951.

The Founders

John Peachey second Baron Selsey of West Dean Park near Chichester married Hesther Elizabeth only daughter of George Jennings Esq., and Lady Mary Jennings (*1) of Newsells Park, Barkway, Herts. The first of their four children was the Hon. James Peachey who died at Newsells in 1811, aged 27. The next was Henry John who succeeded as third Baron in 1816. The third was the Hon. and Revd. John William Peachey, M.A. who in 1813 was presented by his father to the Rectory of Treyford with Didling, and soon after to the vicarage of Barkway with Reed also. He resided at Barkway, Treyford being served by a curate. The fourth child, the Hon. Caroline Mary Peachey, was born May 24 1790 and on August 15.1815 married the Revd. Leveson Venables Vernon. M.A. He was the second son of Edward Venables Vernon, Archbishop of York, and was Chancellor of York Cathedral and Prebendary of Loughton in the same (1827). He was also for a time Archdeacon of Cleveland. The third and last Earl Harcourt was a cousin of the Archbishop who, when that Earl died in 1830, inherited the Harcourt estates and assumed that name. (*2)

In 1837 Mrs Harcourt's mother died and three months later came the decease of her younger brother the Hon. and Revd. John William Peachey. He was unmarried. Then in the following year her surviving brother, Henry John third Baron, died without surviving issue. The title thus became extinct leaving Mrs. Harcourt heiress and sole survivor of the families of Peachey, Barons Selsey and Jennings of Newsells in Herts. The Selsey estate included Elsted and Treyford together with the advowsons. As stated elsewhere, there had hitherto been two incumbents, but for four years previous to his death in 1841 the Revd. William Henry Clinton-Chester had held both benefices. (*3) The Revd. and Mrs. Harcourt then presented the Revd. William Downes Willis to the Rectory of Elsted with dispensation to hold that of Treyford with Didling also, until the Harcourt's plan for the permanent union of both was completed in 1843. A National School at Elsted had been built on a site given by Lord Selsey in 1838.

The Revd. W.D. Willis was well known to the Harcourts, for he had been ordained by Archbishop Harcourt by whom also he was admitted in 1816 to the Vicarage of Kirby with Broughton in Clevelevand, of which parish also Mrs. Harcourt's husband became sinecure Rector, 1819-1823. Mrs. Harcourt refused to repair the three very delapidated old churches at Elsted, Treyford and Didling, insisting instead on the building of a single central church. The architect selected was Benjamin Ferrey, and work began during the summer of 1846. In the course of his address at the Stone Laying Ceremony the Revd. Harcourt commented unfavourably on the discontent of Elsted and Didling parishioners at the prospect of the closing of their own churches and even expressed fears for the future maintenance of the large church already commenced - fears amply justified as after events proved. The new church was consecrated in October 1849. The Harcourts' London house was 29, Portland Place, W. The Revd. L.V. Harcourt died July 26.1860 leaving no issue, and was probably buried at Stanton Harcourt, Oxon, where the archbishop, his father, lies. A tablet in Barkway church records Mrs. Harcourts' restoration of the nave and tower in memory of her husband in 1862 in which year also she built what is now the "Old Rectory" at Elsted. Then in 1864 plans were made for the removal of Selsey church to a new site (except the chancel) and Mrs. Harcourt may be said to have borne practically the whole of the

expense, in addition to which she gave money for a school. The church was consecrated in 1866. Mrs. Harcourt died at Newsells Park July 16. 1871, aged 80 years; the funeral was at Barkway. Her will is dated Nov. 21. 1867 and was proved in the London Court Oct. 23 1871, under £45,000 personalty, by her god-daughter the Hon. Caroline Mary Frances Gervis, the Hon. Mark Gervis of the Inner Temple (brother of the last named) and the Revd. Leveson Cyril Randolph, M.A. Vicar of East Garston, Berks, the joint acting executors. Among several bequests to her friends was £3000 to the Marchioness Dowager of Sligo. To the Marquis of Clanri-Randolph she left all her property at West Dean, and to the Revd. L.C. In all, the Selsey estate comprised 11,933 acres. (*4) To the Clergy Orphan Corporation and to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, each £1,000. After payment of some legacies to servants and others, the testatrix bequeathed the residue to her said god-daughter the Hon. Caroline Gervis, for her own use and benefit absolutely. There was, however, one exception. In accordance with the will of Mrs. Harcourt's mother the manors of Newsells with Reed in Barkway passed to the Rt. Hon. Hugh James Rose first Lord Strathnairn who was descended through his mother from Philip Jennings of Durdleston Manor, co. Salop, father of Rear Admiral Sir John Jennings (1664-1743) who purchased Newsells from the Chesters, and later acquired Reed also.

Sussex Agricultural Express July 4th 1846. (Colindale Newspaper Library) contains an account of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of St. Peter's Church, of which the following is a short version. This event took place on June 29th being St. Peter's day.

The weather was brilliant and people flocked from all sides to see this unusual event. At precisely 2 p.m. more than 40 clergy in caps and gowns, with the Rev. H. Danvers Clarke, (Rural Dean and rector of Iping) and the rector Rev. W.D. Willis in surplices and preceded by the choristers of Elsted and Iping led by the churchwardens with their wands of office, moved forward to the south west of the chancel where the stone was laid. Following the clergy came the founders the Rev. and Mrs. L.V. Harcourt, who were followed by a long train of children of Elsted National school. The Rural Dean commenced the service and the 84th Psalm was "chanted to the Gregorian tune." The rector then in his own name and that of the churchwardens and parishioners requested the founders to lay the stone. Mr. Ferrey the architect then produced a gold trowel with which Mrs. Harcourt spread a portion of mortar laid by Mr. Allen the clerk of works. The Rev. Harcourt then laid the stone. Coins were then placed in a cavity and covered by an inscribed brass plate. (This is now in Elsted church, but the coins disappeared.) Suitable prayers then followed and the 100th Psalm was sung. The service closed with the apostolical benediction pronounced by the rector. Now followed an address by the Rev. L.V. Harcourt the essential part of which now follows, "This is not a case in which a church is built to supply the needs of a crowded and neglected population who have no House of Prayer to which they can resort: here on the contrary, however strange and paradoxical it may sound, a new church is required because there are too many already Here are three contiguous parishes each having its own separate church but consolidated for ecclesiastical purposes into one; that is to say they form one benefice and the incumbent by holding the three lives does not become a pluralist. But it is very desirable that the consolidation should be carried further and made more complete for the population of the three parishes (under 500) is not more than sufficient for the support of one minister; but the disadvantage arising from that division is great for it is obviously quite impossible that

all three churches can have a double service every Sunday, and in point of fact they are not entitled even to one. . . . It is therefore the earnest wish of Mrs. Harcourt and myself that no inhabitant of these parishes should be debarred from that advantage; but how is that advantage to be obtained? It is evident that in order to obtain this there must be a church sufficiently large to contain the whole church-going population of the three parishes, and sufficiently central to be convenient for their use. Now the church of Treyford would answer the last of these conditions well enough, but not the first. It is large enough for the purpose for which it was built - for the use of one parish - but not of three. Yet it cannot be expected that Treyford inhabitants will consent to reconstruct their church on a larger scale, or to enlarge its dimensions for the use of others, it would entail too much expense on the occupiers of land. Therefore we have taken upon ourselves the task of removing the church of Treyford to the site on which we now stand for the benefit more particularly of that parish (for the existing building is in a very delapidated state) and ultimately we hope of all three. But the question arises how is it to be maintained hereafter? That is a question that may be said scarcely to affect the present generation for such confidence have I in the skill of our architect Mr. Ferrey that during that period it cannot be supposed that any repairs will be needed. But afterwards what will happen? It is a question more easy to ask than to answer. I cannot doubt that the parishes of Elsted and Didling upon mature reflection would gladly consent to be relieved of the liability to repair or possibly to rebuild their own churches (for they are in a very bad state of repair) on the condition of contributing their quota to a central church".

The rector's address followed, but this does not call for comment.

At 3 o'clock over 150 of the neighbouring gentry, clergy and farmers' families sat down to an ample dinner served in an elegantly decked marquee 60 feet by 30 in a field immediately adjoining Elsted rectory. The Rev. Willis took the chair, the Rev. Harcourt being seated on his right. There were two toasts - Church and Queen, and The Founders of the Church; a long round of cheers followed this last to which the Rev. L.V. Harcourt suitably replied. Next the rector presented Mrs. Harcourt with the inscribed gold trowel used that day in laying the foundation stone. He made it known that none of the parishioners to whom an opportunity to contribute to the cost had been presented, had refused. At the conclusion of dinner the company adjourned to the rectory and thence to the schoolroom to see the children partake of buns and tea. There was Divine service in Elsted church at 6 o'clock after which the marquee was again put into requisition for a supper for 100 labourers and their families. This brought the day's proceedings to a close.

Sussex Express Oct. 20th 1849. The Consecration of the Church of St. Peter Treyford

The ceremony took place on Oct. 3rd. There had been from unavoidable circumstances frequent postponements and the weather had been fine, but on the actual day rain poured in torrents continuously, yet a large concourse of gentry, clergy and parishioners had assembled from all quarters. At 11 o'clock it was intended that the clergy in surplices should have met the Bishop of Chichester (Dr. Ashurst Turner Gilbert) at the church gates, but this the weather effectually prevented. The Bishop was therefore received by the Bishop of Oxford (Dr. Samuel Wilberforce), Archdeacon Manning of Chichester, the Dean of Chichester and upwards of 40 clergy at the south door of the church. There was a large congregation inside the church, the men occupying the south side of the nave and the women the north side. The Bishop advanced up the

central aisle to the chancel and being seated in his chair was presented by the rector and the founder Rev.L.V.Harcourt with the petition praying him to consecrate the church. The Bishop, having signified his assent, then proceeded followed by the clergy, down the nave to the west door repeating alternately the verses of Psalm 24; returning in the same order to the altar table, the Bishop of Oxford occupying a seat within the rails on his Lordship's right; the three sedilia being occupied by the Rev. Vincent (Bp's chaplain) the Dean of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Chichester. The clergy completely occupied the stalls and benches. The patrons and founders were placed in the first stalls North and South of the chancel screen. The consecration was commenced by the Deed of Conveyance being presented to the Bishop and placed on the altar. The Bishop then addressed the congregation explaining why they were assembled, and read the usual prayers. The Deed of Consecration was then read by the Rev.S.Douglas the rural dean, in the absence of the Chancellor Dr. Phillimore, and was signed by the Bishop with a pen presented by the little daughter of the rector (Frances Maria born Feb.8th 1841) who held before his Lordship an elegant silver inkstand. Morning Prayer was then commenced by the rector, appropriate Psalms being chanted to Gregorian tunes without musical accompaniment by "six girls in scarlet cloaks and six boys in white round frocks". The Lessons were read by the Rev.S.Douglas and the Rev.T.Bailey, with particular prayers by the Bishop. The Litany being ended and the Sanctus sung, the Communion Service was begun by the Bishop. After the Nicene Creed the Bishop of Oxford preached a sermon from Acts, IV.31. The Offertory sentences were read by the Bishop of Chichester. The alms, collected by four clergy, were appropriated to the Chichester Diocesan Church Accommodation Fund, and amounted to £40.9.7. The whole of the clergy and most of the laity communicated, the former going to the end of the nave to allow the latter to enter the chancel. The report does not give further details, most probably the final Blessing was pronounced by the Bishop of Chichester.

After Divine service a substantial dinner of beef, mutton, veal, meat pies, plum pudding and ale provided by Mrs. Rutter of the Eagle Midhurst and to workmen employed on the church, under sheds occupied by the masons. Pouring rain prevented the company from enjoying this pleasing sight. An elegant lunch awaited the gentry and yeomanry under a tent in the grounds of Elsted Rectory, where the Rev. and Mrs. Willis entertained 150 friends and neighbours. This was arranged by Mr. Inkson of the Wheatsheaf, assisted by the rector and his family. Furious wind and drenching rain seemed to threaten to sweep away tent and all within it, but the floor being boarded and carpeted, no inconvenience from damp was felt. Several speeches were made by the rector in proposing healths of the Queen, the founders Rev. & Mrs Harcourt, and the talented architect Mr. Ferrey. The Bishop of Chichester proposed thanks to the Bishop of Oxford, and the Hon. J.J. Carnegie returned thanks to the ladies. Afterwards the company rose from table and proceeded to their homes through drenching rain, apparently highly gratified with the proceedings of the day. A substantial dinner for tradesmen and servants was spread in the schoolroom.

Most of the following description of the completed Church of St. Peter is from Sussex Express. Nov. 3 1849.
The church was erected on a portion of the glebe contiguous to the new road then lately constructed between Elsted and Treyford by the Rev. and

Mrs.L.V.Harcourt. The style was that of the earlier period, about A.D 1330, of the middle pointed or Decorated. The building consisted of a chancel with north and south aisles extending to half its length, nave with north and south aisles, south porch and tower and spire at the west end of the north aisle. It was built of stone found on the spot, the Malm rock, among which was contained in small quantities, a species of limestone rag; of this the tower was constructed. The walling was random without any courses whatever. The dressings throughout were of Caen stone but, as in many of the old local churches, chalk was used for some of the interior work. The roofs were of seasoned Sussex oak open boarded with oak, with tiles laid on dry felt. The extreme length of the church, chancel, and tower was 116 feet. Interior of nave 52 feet by 22 feet, aisles 52 feet by 10 feet. Interior of chancel 32 feet by 16 feet. Height of nave 52 feet, chancel 46 feet. Height of tower and spire 120 feet.

The Tower projected its whole square beyond the west end of the north nave aisle, and was of three unequal stages, the upper diminishing and dying into the tower a few feet below the cornice. The belfry stage was pierced by four pairs of two-light windows deeply recessed and moulded, with lables terminating in the heads of kings, bishops, etc. There was a bell weighing 4 hundredweights, cast by Mears of London. The broach spire rose from the cornice, charged with ball flower, and was remarkable from the height to which the gussets or haunches, springing from the angles, were carried up the diagonal ribs of the octagon. The junction between the tower and spire was thus effected with much more ease and pleasure to the eye than by the more abrupt contrivances of low and short gussets. Two sets of spire lights - the lower of two bays - gave a good effect to this well proportioned spire, which was surmounted by a plain cross on a long spindle.

The Nave was of four bays with north and south aisles. The arches, of two orders (the lower moulded,) sprang from piers alternately circular and octangular. Four narrow trefoil-headed lights formed the clerestory on each side, resting on a stringcourse, beneath which were brackets supporting the arched principals of the roof. The heads carved on these brackets are said to have represented various contemporary dignitaries. The roof was equalateral and from its height and excellent proportions gave to the church an effect of grandeur and space. The principals of the lean-to roofs of the aisles also rested on carved stone corbels. The west window was of four lights with flowing tracery in the head. Over the west doorway on the inside were carved in stone the Royal Arms flanked by two other shields showing Venables Vernon Harcourt with Peachey in pretence, and See of Chichester impaling Gilbert. A stone bench "peculiar to the churches of the neighbourhood", was carried round the nave and chancel aisles which were kept clear of seating. The benches in the nave were low, with square ends of oak plank 3 inches in thickness fixed with small buttresses and capped with trefoil moulding. One of the most striking features of the nave was the old plain square first pointed font, with its elaborate cover 14 feet high suspended from an iron crane fixed to the wall of the north clerestory opposite the south door. This canopy consisted of three stages of arches from which rose a crocketed cone or spire terminating in a well carved finial, and was of dark foreign wood. It is said to have been a copy, made in Belgium, of a well known Sacrament House in a Nuremberg church. A low stone pulpit stood against the south pier of the chancel arch. A reading desk and lectern were of oak.

The porch projected from the 2nd bay of the south nave aisle, springing from low walls four and a half feet high, the roof being carried up higher than the aisle wall, showing the tops of both its gables. The

arch of the inner doorway was of two orders with engaged shafts. According to Suss.Arch.Coll.II.205, the "fastenings of the entrances" were of Sussex iron. The outer doorway was formed of three orders rising from disengaged Purbeck marble shafts, with a label terminating in the heads of the Queen and the Bishop, on either side. The arch ran well up into the high pitched gable, in the upper part of which was a vesica containing a sculptured hand of St. Peter issuing from clouds and bearing the "keys of the Kingdom of Heaven".

The Chancel. The entrance arch sprang from half rounded columns of three and two moulded shafts on either side, with foliated capitals. Here were two steps under a light screen carved in oak. The arches between the short chancel aisles were worked in chalk and sprang from corbels and supporting walls four feet in thickness. Oak parclooses rose from the back of the stalls which, with broad desks before them, stood under the arches in the thickness of the walls. The stalls were returned against the chancel screen. The roof varied from that of the nave by having cusps upon the principals forming trefoils, and there were circular braces between the purlins, the upper part reversed. Three steps led up to the altar, which was of fine dark marble with I.H.S. cut in the centre of the mensa. Its covering was of richest Utrecht crimson velvet. The sanctuary floor was of coloured and foliated Minton tiles. The rise of the lowest step bore, in tiled lettering -

+ L. VERNON. HARCOURT. ET. CAROLINA. MARIA. CON. ET. DE. SUIS. DED. + MDCCLXIX.
All other floors throughout the church were either of stone, or plain tiles. The east window was of three trefoil-headed lights with three trefoils above, and contained glass representing six scenes in the history of St. Peter. This was the work of Mr. Hudson of Pentonville, London. Four single-light side windows, with trefoiled and varied tracery, were filled with "York pattern of Powell's glass". All other windows were of plain or tinted glass. There were three Sedilia on the south wide of the sanctuary, and on the north was a niche or aumbry of similar design to the sedilia. This bore inscription WILL. LYSTER. WILLIS. JAN. 26. 1841. There was no piscina. The priest's door was copied from Wells. The reredos was panelled, and plain except for the Lord's Prayer, Creed and Commandments. Its centre piece was "I.H.S. upon a rich diaper".

By 1951 this fine, but superfluous and unendowed church, said to have cost £30,000 to build, was in a bad state owing largely to the perishable nature of the clunch stone used. But this was not all, foundations began to fail, and consequently cracks appeared in the nave and tower. The authorities condemned the building; the insurance company refused liability; and with a ten thousand pound estimate for repairs, to be met by two small parishes of 315 inhabitants all told, demolition was the only course. One small building has survived; this stands over a well and is near the entrance to the churchyard. This churchyard is maintained and used for the parishes of Elsted and Treyford. Didling and Elsted parishioners were considerably inconvenienced because this church was so far away from their villages. It is known that for a long period after the closing of their churches, baptisms took place in these two derelict buildings.

Treyford Notes and Sources

- "Treyford - i.e. Three-ford, but in Domesday Treverde - i.e. Three-Wood. Formerly, and in the beginning of last century, a small brook (a tributary of the Western Rother) which runs through the village, was "forded" at three places; hence, no doubt, its old Saxon name, but all these three "fords" are now bridged over. Official Guide to Midhurst and District. 1908. p.86.
- Possibly Robert Anslevill who exchanged two hides of land to Ralph Bp. of Chichester, 1091-1123. (Suss.Rec.Soc.XLVI.No.980.)
- V.C.H.Suss. 1,422.
The prebend was that of Ipthorne, 40 acres of land called by that name were in the parish of Whyke outside Chichester south gate, and in Treyford parish about 46 more formed part of Lower House Farm. The land was leased for three lives by the Prebendaries. From its foundation Ipthorne was a "Subdeacon" prebend, and the Prebendaries performed that duty in the Cathedral until the changes in the 16th-century. Most of the prebends were disendowed under the Cathedrals Act in 1840.
- Inq. Nonarum. (Rec.Com), 350.
- Feet of Fines. Suss.Hil. 13 Eliz.
- Farrer, Honours and Knight's Fees, iii, 52.
- Bk of Fees, 207
- Lewes Chartulary. (Suss.Rec.Soc.ii, 78.)
- Curia Regis R.1,12,13.
- Book of Fees 207.
- Exe, e Rot. Fin.1,105.
- Cal Close, 1242-7, p.250.
- Suss Fines (Suss.Rec.Soc.Vii, pp.109.894.
- Ibid, xxiii, 1436.
- Suss.Fines. (Suss.Rec.Soc.xxiii 2054.)
- Add M.S.39375, fol.40v.
- Ibid. 192.
- Feud. Aids. V, 156. Richard Earl of Arundel who died in 1376 had intended to form a hospital or almshouse in connection with the college of secular priests, the foundation of which he was then contemplating. Both schemes were carried out by his successor Richard FitzAlan 14th Earl, who after establishing the college, obtained Royal licence in 1395 to alienate to the masters and chaplains of the same four messuages and three tofts in Arundel for a Maison Dieu of the Holy Trinity. In 1407 its income was just over £50. Under the will of Earl Thomas son of the founder who died in 1415, the hospital benefited greatly. V.C.H.Suss. 2,98.
The foundation was for 20 old men of good life, preference being given

The Vilars held Treyford manor of the earls of Arundel "reddendo unam rosam ad Nativ. Sci. John Bapté, et faciundo capitalibus dominis" ..

The Vylars held the manor of Terwick also, for in early times it formed part of the manor of Treyford, and was still held of that manor in 1614. There is no mention of Terwick in Domesday so that it must have been included in Treyford. Add.MS.5690, fol.257.

Terwick probably became separated from Treyford in the reign of Henry III, when Robert de Vilars gave all his possessions in Terwick, together with the advowson of the church, to Robert de Rogate. V.C.H.Suss. 4. 28.

to servants or tenants of the founder, who could say in Latin Our Father, Hail Mary and Creed. Over them was to be a resident priest as master and chaplain who should have the assistance of a prior elected from amongst themselves. They had care of their own sick. Work included gardening. Regulations for Divine Service were laid down and a brown habit was worn. In addition to that of Treyford, its endowments included the manors of Sullington, Birdham, and Northwood in Stoughton. At the Suppression its revenues amounted to £94. Some remains of its buildings remain near Arundel Bridge.

19. L. and P. Hen. VIII. xxi, (1), 1166. (15).
20. Cal. Pat. 1547-8, p. 229.
21. Ibid., p. 213.
22. Feet of Fines. Suss. Mich. 1 Ed. VI.
23. Ibid. 13. Eliz.

In Treyford, as in many other Sussex manors, the youngest son bore all the copyhold rights. This custom was known as 'Borough English'.

Allwin of Treyford Manor. Sources and Notes.

1. Sussex Notes & Queries xi. 121.
The name is a corrupt form of old English Aethelwine which became used as a common surname through patronymic use. E. E. Baker. S. N. & Qs. XII. 18. Aelwine from O. E. Aethel, (noble), and Wine, (friend), could give a Galicised Aylwin or Allwin. Oxford Dict. of English Christian Names.
2. Burrell MSS - Add. MS. 5690.
All but a few holders of land were dispossessed after the Conquest, but Allwin still held two hides at one of the Mardens (near Treyford). Other Alwin holdings in this vicinity, as elsewhere, had passed to Norman ownership. V. C. H. Sussex (Domesday Index) Vol. 1, Nos. 425b, & 426a & b.
3. Suss. Rec. Soc. 56. 14. Lay Subsidy Rolls. 1524-5.
4. Ibid. 45. 255. Will. C. C. C. Vol. 5. 61.
5. Ibid. 52. 365.
6. In Oct. 1574 William Aylwin was 42 and his wife Katherine aged 35. (Consistory Deposition Books. Vol. 1. 1556-1575.)
7. Add. MS. 39503. fol. 152.
John Tregose presented to the rectory of Treyford cum Didling Jan. 20. 1580. (Dunkin. Sussex Incumbencies)
8. Suss. Rec. Soc. 14. Inq. p. m. No. 50.
9. Suss. Arch. Coll. 1. 33.
10. Suss. Rec. Soc. 14. Inq. p. m. No. 53.
11. Elwes and Robinson. Castles and Manors of Western Sussex. pp. 126 & 183.
12. Suss. Notes & Queries XI 121-123. 'Colmer' is Colemore, co. Hants.
13. Castles Mansions and Manors of Western Sussex. p. 126.
14. Consistory Court Diary. Chichester. Vol. I. p. 14. The name Quennell occurs frequently in Harting registers.
15. Suss. Arch. Coll. VI. 188.
16. Add. MS. 5690. fol. 258.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
19. On the stone she was described as "Johanna daughter to Richard Cowper of Ditcham, Esq."
20. Bishop Bowers' Visitation Book.
21. A History of an old Catholic Mission. Cowdray. Easebourne. Midhurst. p. 62. Rev. H. Willaert.

22. Burke. Ext. Peerage. p. 79. Mary Brown's eldest sister Anne m. Henry Mathews of Heath House, Buriton. She died Sept. 21 1750. aged 75. Both are buried in St. Jame's Cemetery, Winchester. Cath. Rec. Soc. 42. 160.
23. Add. MS. 5690. fol. 258.
24. Burke. Peerage and Baronetage. p. 1987.
25. Cath. Rec. Soc. 42. 160.
26. Ibid. 13. 154.
27. Burke. Ext. & Dormant Baronetage. p. 338.
28. Add. MS. 5690 fol. 258.
29. Dunkin. Sussex Incumbencies. Treyford. Add. MS. 39348.
30. Catholic Record Society. 13. 208.
31. Catholic baptisms are sometimes recorded in Parish Registers but this does not necessarily mean that the baptism took place in the parish church.
32. Burke. Extinct & Dormant Baronetage. p. 338.
33. West Dean Papers. MS. 942.
34. Lambeth Palace Rolls. (Ct. R. No. 154.) Lambeth Palace Library.
35. Domesday entry. Treyford. V. C. H. Sussex. 1, 422.

There are some deficiencies in the Ancestral Chart accompanying these notes. This is largely due to the loss of Treyford Parish Register prior to 1728. Many of the Bishops Transcripts are also missing. The will of Thomas who married Ann Pease has not, so far, been found, and there is no record of several marriages.

Treyford Manor House

1. Add. MS. 5690. 143.
2. V. C. H. Sussex. 4. 30.
3. Uppark was finished before 1698. Designer. William Talman.
4. Suss. Arch. Coll. XLIV, 162.

Treyford Advowson. Notes and Sources. x

1. Suss. Rec. Soc. XLV1, 1114.
2. Suss. Arch. Coll. 82, 134.
3. 1386 Jan. 18. John Baron exchanged the benefice of Exeat, co. Sussex for that of Ledcombe Regis, dioc. Sarum. Abp. Courtenay's Register fol. 259b.
4. 1393 Aug. 16. John Baron was instituted to the rectory of Charborough Dorset. Bp. Waltham's Reg. (Sarum)
5. Thomas Skendelby (or Shendewy) was rector of "Ipyng" dioc. Chichester in 1396.
6. Suss. Rec. Soc. XLV. 225.
7. Henry Hussee, c. 1160, granted to the Abbot of Welbeck land at Dureford, part of his demesne at Harting, for the establishment of a house of Premonstratensian canons, Henry Hussee, the second of that name, gave the church of Rogate to the abbey. V. C. H. Suss. 4, 27.
8. William Deane, patron by reason of his marriage with Lady Anne widow of Henry Lord Maltravers.
9. Chichester Wills. Vol. 12 fol 121.
10. The marriage licence is dated 18 Feb. 1603-4.
11. Chichester Registry. parcel 1348.
12. Consistory Diary. F. fol. 216.
13. Suss. Rec. Soc. 49, 64.
14. Ibid, V. pp. 78-79.
15. Consistory Diary, H. fol. 248.
16. In 1740 the Patronage passed to two co-heiresses Mary & Elizabeth Allwin and both were Catholics.

x Many particulars given are from Add. M S. 39348.

Treyford Church. Notes and Sources

1. Some of these graffiti are illustrated in Sussex County Magazine.
"Crosses were incised on door jambs to keep evil spirits out of the church, in other words they were incised in the church door-post as a defence against the powers of evil". A Field Guide to Archaeology. p.152.
13. p.811.
Eric S.Wood F.S.A. 1963

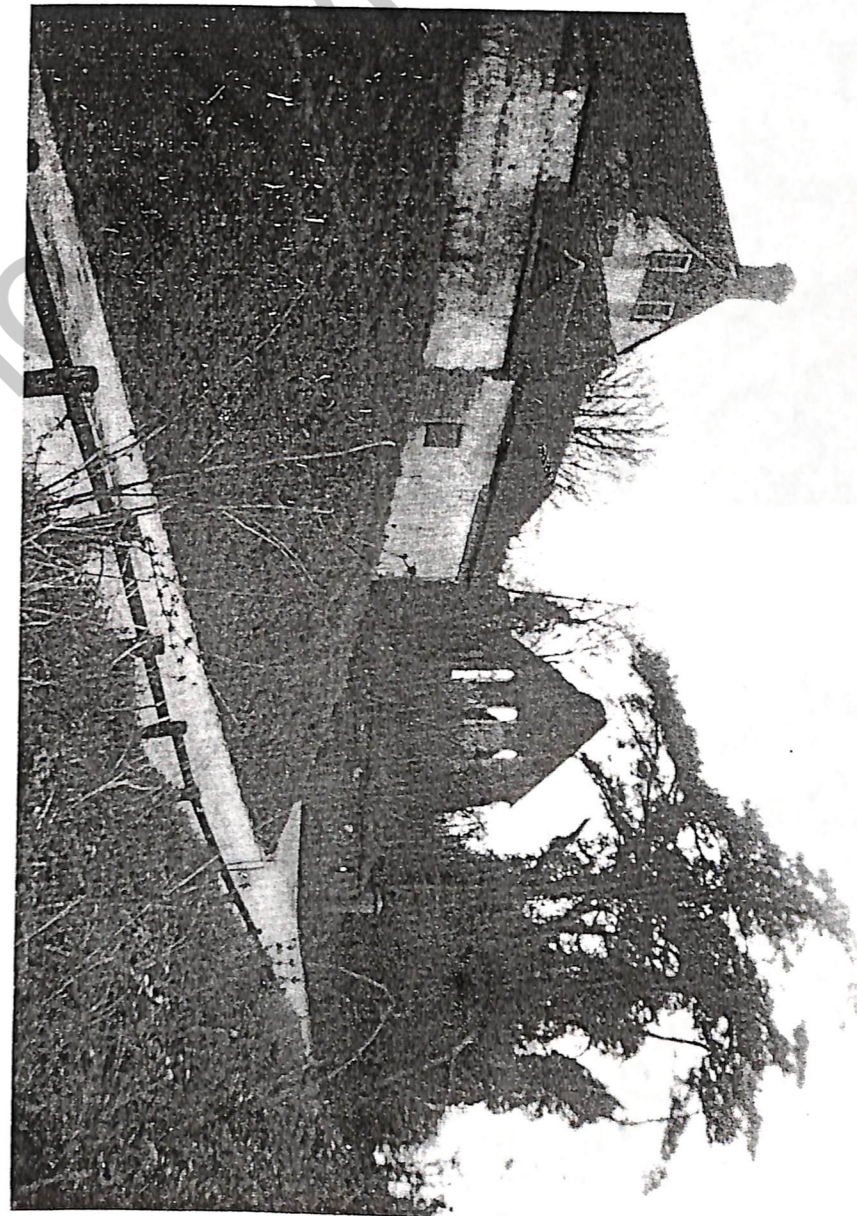
Here at Treyford the large number of crosses was unusual, some were probably votive.

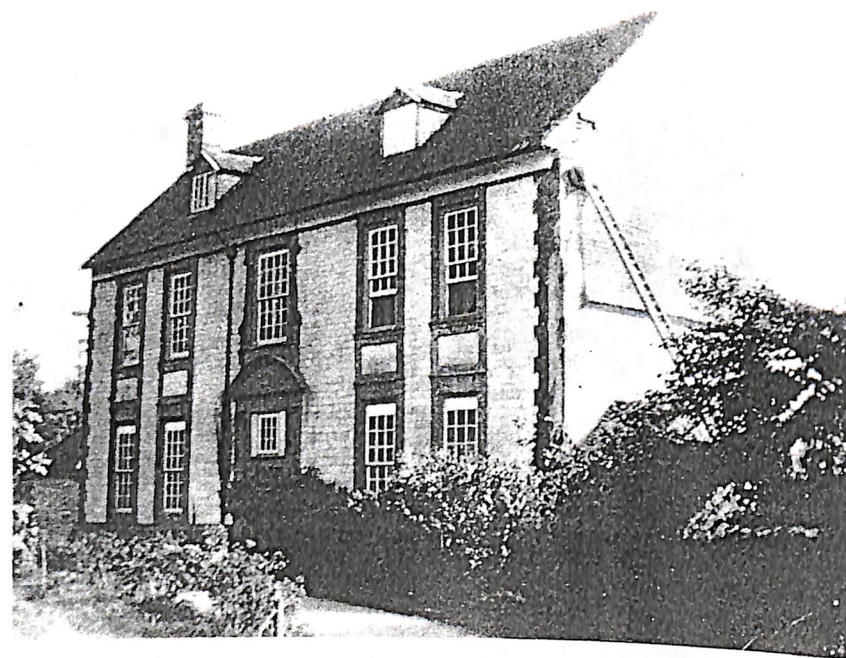
2. Add.6738. fol.127. Burrell Coll. British Museum.
3. Suss. Notes & Queries. xv.(2) 16.
4. W.D.Peckham. V.C.H. Suss. 4. 31-2.
5. Suss. Rec. Soc. XXXVI. pp.8,26,59.
6. Sussex Express. Nov.3.1849.
7. Add. MS. 39433. fol, 25v.
8. Society of Antiquaries' Journal. 2, 19.
9. Johnston. Suss Arch.Coll. XLIII, 224.
10. "Marbling" is similar in Roman decorations. It has been found at Silchester, Fishbourne and Lullingston, where designs have been reconstructed from plaster fragments.
11. Suss.Rec.Soc. XLV. 255.
12. Bishop Bowers' Visitation Book.

St. Peter's Church. Notes

1. She was Mary daughter of Michael (Bourke) 10th Earl of Clanricarde.
2. George, first Baron Vernon, of Sudbury, assumed the additional name Venables when he inherited the estate of his maternal ancestors in 1728. The baron's first wife was a sister of the first Earl Harcourt. Archbishop Harcourt married Anne Leveson Gower third daughter of Granville, third Marquis of Stafford. (Burke)
3. This incumbent was presented by the Harcourts, as was also his predecessor, Robert Chester. The Clinton and Chester families were both of Hertfordshire.
4. Westdean Papers. MS.2438. Will particulars are from Illustrated London News, 1871.

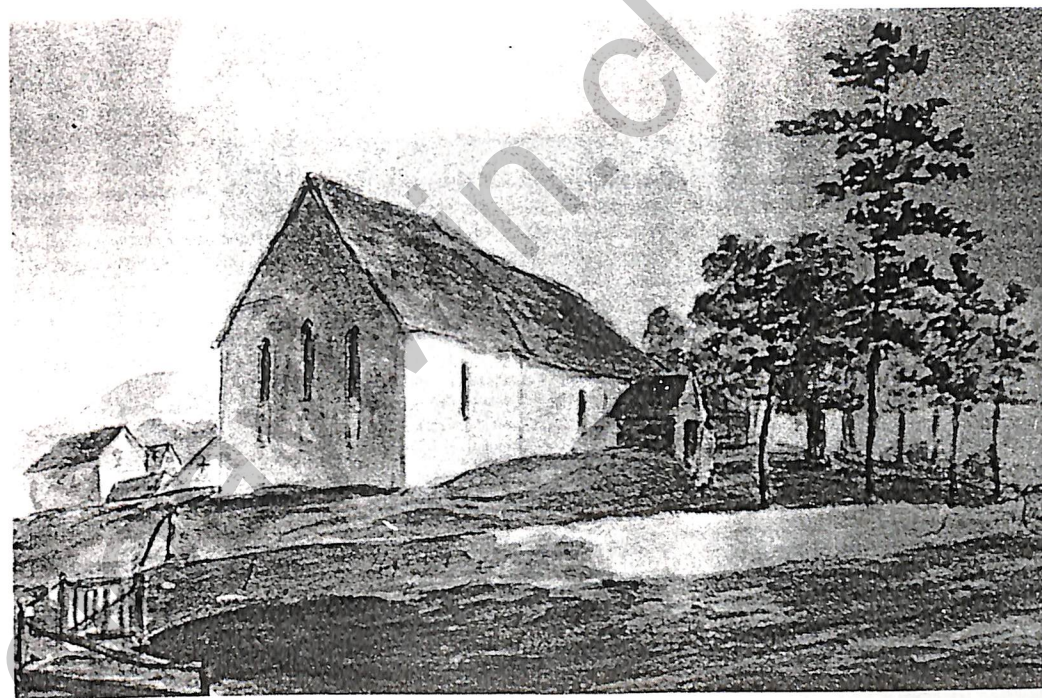
Treyford. Manor House and Church April 1936, R.C.T.





Treyford Manor House 1923

R. C. Troke



Treyford 1805. Henry Petrie F.S.A.

Sharpe Collection



Treyford Parsonage Hc

Mrs. H. L. Ramsdell

seen from what is now the
Cottage - Gate into the churchyard full in an extreme right
Gateway is still there, but the gate -



Treyford. Oct. 9. 1848

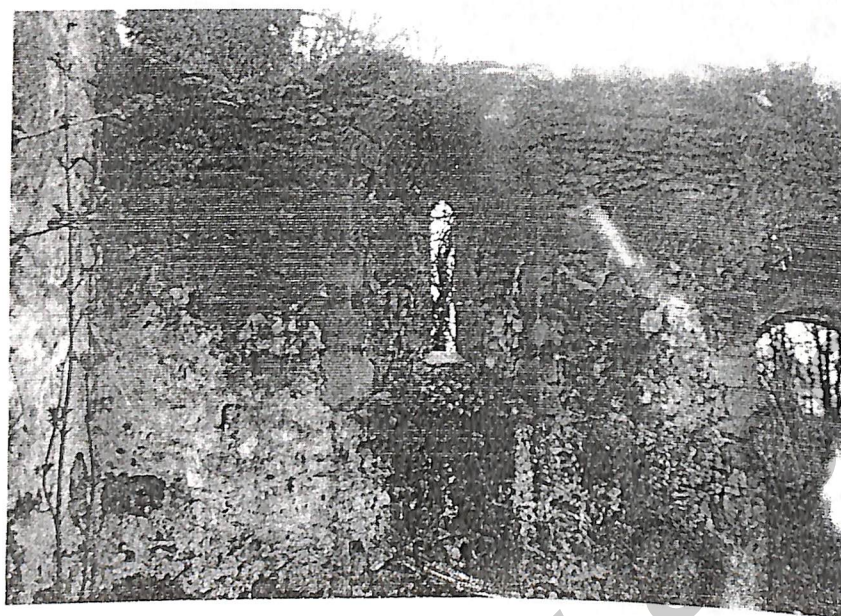
Borrer Collection



The Church looking east April 1904
P. M. Johnston,



Aumbry and piscina April 1904 P. M. Johnston



Troyford Church. The 13th century west end R.C.T. Troke.



The church looking west.
Consecration crosses still visible
1937 R.C.T.