



VCH Oxfordshire Texts in Progress
Shiplake
Manors and Estates

Shiplake included two medieval manors, Shiplake and Lashbrook, with a smaller estate at Crowsley. Lashbrook was assessed in 1086 at 12 hides (c.1,440 a.), and occupied the northern half of the parish, the boundary between the two manors running east–west largely along an ancient routeway.¹ The division followed an established local pattern, giving both manors a share of similar resources.² Shiplake’s medieval manor house was probably (like its successor) immediately next to the church, and Lashbrook’s closer to the river at Lashbrook Farm.

From the 1730s the manors and the Crowsley estate were combined, first under the Heywood and Wright families and later under the Baskervilles, although much land remained in other ownership. The Heywoods and, at first, the Wrights often lived elsewhere, but from 1790 Mary Wright and her successors resided at Crowsley Park. The expanded Crowsley estate was sold piecemeal from 1927, and in the 20th and early 21st centuries much of the parish was bought up by the Lords Phillimore of Coppid Hall. The 150-a. rectory estate (owned in the Middle Ages by Missenden abbey and from the 16th century by St George’s Chapel, Windsor) was broken up from 1870s.

Shiplake Manor

In 1086 the estate known later as Shiplake manor almost certainly remained part of Walter Giffard’s 20-hide manor of Caversham.³ Walter’s son Walter, 2nd earl of Buckingham, was lord of Caversham in 1163,⁴ and after he died without issue in 1164 the Shiplake estate was obtained by the Langetot family, the overlordship passing to the earls of Pembroke.⁵ A fee held of the honor of Wallingford by Ralph Langetot in 1166 was possibly Shiplake,⁶ and the manor subsequently passed to Emma Langetot (1125–after 1185) and her husband

¹ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3114; *ibid.* MS Top. Oxon. c 335, f. 43; above, communics.

² *VCH Oxon.* XVI, 231 (Harpden and Bolney); R.B. Peberdy, ‘From Goring towards Henley: The Course, History and Significance of a Medieval Oxfordshire Routeway’, *Oxoniensia*, 77 (2012), 98–9 (the Rotherfields).

³ Pearman, ‘Historical Notices of Caversham’, 5; above, Caversham, manors.

⁴ *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, no. 667.

⁵ *Bk of Fees*, I, 446, 557; *VCH Oxon.* XVI, 206.

⁶ *Red Bk Exchequer*, 309. Salter, however, identified the fee with Gatehampton: *Boarstall Cart.* 55.

Geoffrey fitz William (d. 1180), lessee of the Giffard honor.⁷ On Emma's death it was inherited by her daughter Muriel (1155–after 1209),⁸ who lived in Shiplake, probably at or near the site of the later Shiplake Court.⁹ Muriel was succeeded by Alan de Dunstanville (d. after 1209) and his brother Geoffrey (d. 1234), her sons by her first husband Alan de Dunstanville, who had followed fitz William as lessee of the Giffard honor.¹⁰ On Geoffrey's death without issue possession of Shiplake was contested between Muriel's heirs through the female line,¹¹ and in the early 1240s the manor was obtained by William Englefield, grandson of Muriel's daughter Emma. Alan Basset, son of Muriel's daughter Cecily, obtained an intermediate lordship which later passed to the earls of Stafford, while Muriel's daughter Muriel retained a third of a fee.¹²

The Englefields, who also acquired Crowsley and part of Lashbrook,¹³ remained in possession until the mid 16th century, residing at Englefield (Berks.), just west of Reading, and at Shiplake. Sir Francis Englefield (1522–96), a devout Catholic, left England for Flanders (and later for Spain) in 1559, shortly after Elizabeth I's accession,¹⁴ and c.1570 his Shiplake estate was taken into Crown hands and divided into parcels.¹⁵ Possession of the manor house (later Shiplake Court) and demesne lands was retained by the lessee Edmund Plowden (c.1518–85), a distinguished lawyer who was guardian of Francis Englefield's nephew and heir-apparent, and who lived in Shiplake by 1562.¹⁶ The rest of the manor was granted in 1588–9 to Thomas Crompton of London,¹⁷ who in 1595 sold it to Bennett Winchcombe and Humphrey Purcell. They sold it to Francis (later Sir Francis) Stonor of Stonor Park, who already owned c.60 a. in the west of the parish as part of the Blount's Court estate in Rotherfield Peppard.¹⁸ John Toovey of How (Watlington) bought it from John Stonor in 1685, and in 1730 a later John Toovey sold it to Francis Heywood.¹⁹ Shortly

⁷ ODNB, s.v. Dunstanville family; *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, no. 670; *Cart. Reading Abbey*, I, no. 499 n.

⁸ *Rot. De Dominabus*, 21; *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, nos. 669, 670, 675; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, III, 38.

⁹ *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, no. 686.

¹⁰ ODNB; *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, nos. 671–2, 676.

¹¹ *Cal. Close*, 1237–42, 113, 118, 131, 234.

¹² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* IV, 176; *Cur. Reg.* XV, pp. 346–8; XVII, pp. 265–6; *Abbrev. Plac.* 118.

¹³ Below, this section.

¹⁴ ODNB, s.v. Englefield, Sir Francis.

¹⁵ TNA, E 178/1822.

¹⁶ G. de C. Parmiter, *Edmund Plowden. An Elizabethan Recusant Lawyer* (1987), 59, 64; Climensson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 215–16; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Edm. Plowden; *Cal. Pat. 1584–5*, 147; below (Shiplake Court estate)..

¹⁷ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3390; *Cal. Pat.* 1587–8, 176–7; 1588–9, 14, 49, 123.

¹⁸ Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3392, 3440; *Cal. Pat.* 1594–5, 48; *Oxf. Ch. Ct. Deposns 1581–86*, p. 32; TNA, C3/377/9.

¹⁹ Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3441, 3190, 3393, 3473.

afterwards Heywood bought both Lashbrook and Crowsley, with which the manor subsequently descended.²⁰

The Shiplake Court Estate from c.1570

Edmund Plowden's son Edmund (d. 1587) was succeeded as demesne lessee by his brother Francis (d. 1652),²¹ who in 1595 bought the freehold of the manor house and demesne lands.²² The estate remained in the family until 1689 when Penelope, widow of Francis's great grandson Edmund (d. 1677), and her son Francis sold the house and land for £5,800 to Robert Jennings (d. 1703), a former headmaster of Abingdon school.²³ The Jennings family retained the estate until the early 19th century and resided there regularly until the late 18th.²⁴ From the 1760s it was heavily mortgaged by Henry Constantine Jennings (1731–1819), an extravagant collector of curiosities who spent time in prison for debt.²⁵

In 1802 Henry's representatives sold the estate to William Newell (d. 1804), whose family had long been tenants of the attached farm.²⁶ The redundant mansion house (Shiplake Court) was demolished, leaving the farmhouse and the separate Shiplake House, which was sold with part of the estate in 1821 by Newell's son William Henry Newell. The purchaser was Joseph Phillimore, regius professor of civil law at Oxford and MP for St Mawes (Cornwall), whose family later built up a substantial estate in the parish.²⁷ Shiplake Court farm (313 a.) and the lease of the rectory estate were separately sold by Newell in 1830 to George Cherry of Denford House, Hungerford (Berks.),²⁸ whose brother sold 362 a. in 1888 to Robert Harrison (1837–1924), a wealthy stockbroker. Harrison was high sheriff in 1900,²⁹ and by 1911 owned more than 400 a. in Shiplake.³⁰ In 1925 his widow sold most of the estate to Reginald Mardon (d. 1945), and the rebuilt Shiplake Court and 38 a. around it

²⁰ Below (Crowsley).

²¹ For the Plowden descent: B. Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry* (1879 edn), II, 1280–1; L.L. Norsworthy, 'The Plowden Interest in Oxfordshire', *Trans. Shrops. Archaeol. Soc.* 52 (1948), 179–90.

²² *Cal. Pat.* 1598–9, 105.

²³ Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3445, 4386; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 285; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. James Jennings (1670–1739).

²⁴ *Hist. Parl.* s.v. James Jennings (1670–1739); E.J. Climenson, 'The Shiplake Virtuoso', *Berks. Bucks. and Oxon. Archaeol. Jnl*, 20 (1914), p. 51; OHC, NWB/VI/4–9.

²⁵ OHC, NWB/VI/6–15; J. Timbs, *English Eccentrics and Eccentricities* (1877 edn), 116–19; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 350–1; Climenson, 'Shiplake Virtuoso'.

²⁶ OHC, NWB IX/4 and 17; *ibid.* QSD/L/239; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 349.

²⁷ *Oxf. Jnl*, 24 June 1820, 24 Dec. 1824; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Joseph Phillimore. For Shiplake House, below (Shiplake Court); for the Phillimores' later acquisitions, below (Coppid Hall).

²⁸ *Oxf. Jnl*, 11 May 1830; OHC, NWB IX/15.

²⁹ OHC, NWB XIX/1–2; *Reading Mercury*, 2 Jan. 1965.

³⁰ OHC, DV XII/55; *Sale Cat., Shiplake Court* (1921): copy in Henley Library.

to Lord Wargrave,³¹ following whose death in 1936 Shiplake Court briefly housed a small prep school called Ladbrooke Grove. In 1941 it was sold to the BBC, becoming the home of Shiplake College in 1959.³²

Shiplake Court and Shiplake House Shiplake Court (so-named by the 18th century)³³ was a medium-sized country house taxed on 17 hearths in 1665,³⁴ and was considerably enlarged and updated by the Jennings family after 1689. A watercolour of 1795 shows an H-shaped building, probably of brick, with two main storeys and attic rooms with dormer windows.³⁵ Surviving early features in the grounds include a ‘canal’ mentioned in 1830 following the house’s demolition; it was then stocked with fish,³⁶ and was possibly the remnant of a medieval fishpond or moat.



Shiplake Court as depicted in a watercolour of 1795.

A lavish Tudor-style replacement house with 25 bedrooms was built by Robert Harrison in 1889–91,³⁷ designed by Ernest George. Of red brick with a ten-bay main range, it includes a three-storeyed battlemented entrance porch, a two-storeyed great hall, and cross-

³¹ OHC, NWB XIX/12–13. For Mardon’s estate, below (other estates).

³² Wells-Furby, *Wish and Fulfilment*, 16–18; below, social hist.

³³ *Par. Colln*, III, 255. Also ‘Shiplake Place’, 1790s: *Universal British Directory* (c.1794).

³⁴ *Hearth Tax Oxon.* 15.

³⁵ Bodl. MS Top Oxon a. 42, f. 38. For a reproduction of a painting formerly kept in the vicarage house, Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, plate between 344–5.

³⁶ OHC, NWB IX/15; Thacker, *Thames Highway*, II, 255.

³⁷ Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 440; M. Girouard, *The Victorian Country House* (1971), p. 187; Bldgs List.

wings.³⁸ The interior includes stone fireplaces, wood panelling, and stained glass, while the hall has an arch-braced timber roof and newel staircase. Electricity was formerly supplied by a dynamo in the adjacent brick water tower.³⁹



The new Shiplake Court (built 1889–91), viewed from the terrace walk c.1921.

Shiplake House, to the north-east, was mentioned in 1753,⁴⁰ and was probably built as a dower house for one of the Jennings widows. In 1820 it was a 'handsome modern mansion for a moderate establishment', and included a walled garden and pleasure grounds.⁴¹ The stuccoed three-storey front was erected by Joseph Phillimore c.1830,⁴² and the house was subsequently enlarged by his grandson Sir Walter, who purchased it shortly after 1885 from his cousin Egerton Phillimore, the son of Joseph's eldest son John.⁴³ It remained in the Phillimore family until the mid 20th century.

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Lashbrook Manor

In 1086 Hugh Bolbec held Lashbrook of Walter Giffard (d. 1102).⁴⁴ Probably the Bolbecs granted the manor to tenants, since in the late 12th century Lashbrook was held by William

³⁸ *Sale Cat., Shiplake Court* (1921), incl. plan; Pevsner, *Oxon.* 756–7 (misdating to c.1905).

³⁹ *Country Life*, vol. 4 (1898), 16–19; vol. 20.2 (1906), 594–602.

⁴⁰ OHC, NWB V/1.

⁴¹ *The Times*, 3 July 1820.

⁴² Pevsner, *Oxon.* 757; *Gardner's Dir. Oxon.* (1852).

⁴³ Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 440; local info.

⁴⁴ *VCH Oxon.* I, 410.

Selfledge (d. 1182), who also had lands in Essex.⁴⁵ On the division of his estates between his two daughters Lashbrook was allotted to the elder daughter Amy, wife of Oger Fitz Oger,⁴⁶ and c.1230 the manor was held by their son Peter (d. after 1250).⁴⁷ It was divided before 1242, when Peter held one fee in Lashbrook and William Englefield another.⁴⁸

Peter's fee passed to his daughter Amy and her daughter and heir Joan de Sandford, on whose death in 1278 it passed to Avelina, wife of Roger Lees and granddaughter of Peter's sister Mirabel.⁴⁹ Two of Avelina's descendants, both called John Lees, held the estate in 1346 and 1428.⁵⁰ By 1513 Humphrey Elmes was lord, but before 1564 he or a successor sold the manor to the Hester (or Hewster) family.⁵¹ They retained it (subject to heavy mortgages) until 1679,⁵² and before 1682 it was purchased by William Aldworth of St Martin-in-the-Fields.⁵³

The Englefields' fee (including Hailey Wood, Binfield Heath, and Lashbrook green, along with various copyholds) descended with their Shiplake manor until 1595, when it was bought by Anthony Elmes.⁵⁴ Humphrey Elmes sold it in 1668 to Theophilus Hart of Wappenham (Northants.), clerk,⁵⁵ and in 1692 Charles Tucker, a London tailor, bought it from Hart's daughters. Three years later it was acquired by William Aldworth, thus reuniting the two Lashbrook estates.⁵⁶ In 1738–9 Aldworth's heirs sold the combined estate to Francis Heywood, who absorbed it into his expanded Crowsley park estate.⁵⁷

Lashbrook Manor House The late 17th-century manor house, attached to the Hester half of the manor, had a hall, ground-floor chambers (including separate rooms for male and female servants), and a parlour, as well as an apparently detached drinkhouse, kitchen, brewhouse and milkhouse. Amongst the outbuildings were barns, stables, a dovehouse, and a probably medieval chapel.⁵⁸ Then and later it was occupied mainly by tenant farmers. The

⁴⁵ VCH Essex IV, 204; R.E.G. Kirk et al. (eds), *Feet of Fines Essex*, I (Essex Archaeol. Soc. 1899), pp. 9, 18.

⁴⁶ *Oxon. Fines*, 3.

⁴⁷ *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, no. 682; *Cur. Reg.* 1249–50, p. 208.

⁴⁸ *Bk of Fees*, II, 829, 833.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* II, no. 248; *Oxon. Fines*, 174; *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, I, C. 977.

⁵⁰ *Feudal Aids*, IV, 176, 200. It was incorrectly stated in 1360 and 1372 that Philip Englefield had both fees in Lashbrook: *Cal. Inq. p.m.* X, no. 638; XIII, no. 125.

⁵¹ Bodl. MS dd All Souls c 19, 1y; *ibid.* MS Ch. Oxon. 3112.

⁵² Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3156, 3431–2; Berks RO, D/EN T48/10–11.

⁵³ Berks RO, D/EN T48/12; Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3437–8, 3429.

⁵⁴ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3114.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 3153.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 3168–73.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 3486, 3492; below (Crowsley).

⁵⁸ Berks RO, D/EN T48/9; for chapel, below, relig. hist.

house appears to have been replaced in the 19th century,⁵⁹ and in the 1950s was converted to a care home. It was greatly enlarged thereafter.⁶⁰

The Crowsley Park estate

A freehold estate at Crowsley, in Lashbrook township, belonged in the 13th century to Isabel of Crowsley.⁶¹ The Englefields acquired it before 1340, when Sir Philip Englefield obtained land from neighbouring lords to 'impark' his wood there.⁶² Thereafter Crowsley was usually described as a member of Shiplake manor, although it was sometimes called a manor in its own right.⁶³ After Sir Francis Englefield forfeited his lands Crowsley was granted with Shiplake manor to Thomas Crompton, who sold it to Bennett Winchcombe and Humphrey Purcell.⁶⁴ In 1595 they sold it to John Mochett of Wargrave for £600, to be held of the Crown in common socage.⁶⁵ Mochett moved to Crowsley and died in 1605,⁶⁶ to be succeeded by his widow Margery (d. 1623) and nephew John Cooke.⁶⁷ He sold the estate in 1627 to Peter du Bois, a London merchant.⁶⁸ At that time it comprised a house and c.278 a., including 53 a. in Harpsden.⁶⁹

In the 1660s Du Bois's widow sold Crowsley to Abraham Otger, a London merchant of Dutch descent,⁷⁰ and in 1732 Peter Otger the elder of Crowsley sold the estate for £2,600 to Francis Heywood (d. 1747),⁷¹ whose father had earlier acquired part of the nearby Rotherfield Greys manor.⁷² Heywood added Shiplake and Lashbrook manors (above) and Crowsley farm, and towards the end of his life took up residence at Crowsley, where he was succeeded by his brother William (d. 1762).⁷³ On William's death the combined Heywood estate was divided amongst his nephew John Crew (d. 1788) and his sisters Mary Wright (d.

⁵⁹ *Sale Cat., Lashbrook House* (1918): copy in Henley Library; 'Andrew Duncan House, Shiplake' (pamphlet c.1960): copy in Bodleian; OHC, tithe map.

⁶⁰ *Henley Standard*, 22 April 2014; 'Andrew Duncan House'; OS Maps 1:2500, Oxon. LVII.2 (1872 and later edns).

⁶¹ *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, I, C. 1595.

⁶² TNA, E 210/6685; E 210/7438; *VCH Oxon.* XVI, 245.

⁶³ e.g. TNA, E 210/6056; Climensson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 179.

⁶⁴ Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 3390, 3114.

⁶⁵ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3115.

⁶⁶ TNA, PROB 11/106/158.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* PROB 11/141/335; Bodl. MSS Ch. Oxon. 4249, 3123, 3127, 3399, 3403.

⁶⁸ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3128.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* 3127.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* 3149.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* 3474.

⁷² *VCH Oxon.* XVI, 280.

⁷³ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3495; *VCH Oxon.* V, 127; above, this section (Shiplake; Lashbrook). For 18th-century tenants of Crowsley Park, below, social hist. (1530–1800).

1780) and Elizabeth Fonnereau (d. 1777), whose share later passed to Mary.⁷⁴ Following Crew's death Mary's daughter Mary Wright received the entire Shiplake estate and land in surrounding parishes, which by the 1840s comprised 2,155 a. including 1,064 a. in Shiplake.⁷⁵

Mary's successor in 1793 was her nephew John Atkyns-Wright (d. 1822) of Crowsley and Oxford, who was high sheriff in 1798 and later MP for Oxford.⁷⁶ On his widow Mary's death in 1842 the estate (which had been heavily mortgaged) was taken into chancery, and in 1845 was bought by Henry Baskerville (formerly Viveash, 1793–1877), a Wiltshire landowner who came to live at Crowsley Park and who was high sheriff in 1847.⁷⁷ In 1911 Henry's son John Baskerville (1839–1927), also of Crowsley Park, owned c.1,048 a. in Shiplake,⁷⁸ almost 40 per cent of the parish; by that time the family was in financial difficulty, however, and in 1927 some 670 a. of the estate (mostly in Shiplake) was sold.⁷⁹ In 1942 the house and park were requisitioned by the government and given to the BBC, although members of the Baskerville family remained in residence until the 1950s.⁸⁰

Crowsley Park House The surviving Crowsley Park was built probably by Francis Heywood in the early 1730s to replace an earlier farmhouse,⁸¹ and includes an 18th-century ten-bay range of red brick. John Atkyns-Wright enlarged it c.1800, adding a Gothic-style battlemented porch and corner turrets.⁸² In 1844 it included a large stone-paved entrance hall, library, drawing and dining rooms, and (on the first floor) six principal bedrooms.⁸³ Servants' rooms included a hall, kitchen, house-keeper's and butler's offices, and 12 bedrooms, while the park had a stone grotto and south and west entrance lodges. Henry Baskerville made substantial changes before 1852,⁸⁴ and more limited alterations followed in the late 19th century.⁸⁵ The Baskervilles also added heraldic family symbols inside and out

⁷⁴ Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3109; *ibid.* MS Top. Oxon. c 175, ff. 124–34.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* MS Top. Oxon. c 175, f. 134v.; *Sale Cat.* (1844) in Bodl. GA Oxon. b 92 (1); OHC, tithe award.

⁷⁶ VCH Oxon. XVI, 281; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 349–50; Peters, *Sheriffs*, 63; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Atkyns-Wright, John.

⁷⁷ OHC, NWB XXI/1; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 361.

⁷⁸ OHC, DV XII/55. John served as JP, DL, and county councillor, and was brother-in-law to William Dalziel Mackenzie of Fawley Court.

⁷⁹ *Sale Cat., Crowsley Park Estate* (1927): copy in OHC.

⁸⁰ *London Gaz.* 17 June 1952, p. 3336.

⁸¹ For the earlier house: Bodl. MS Ch. Oxon. 3124, 3125 [deeds 1618–22].

⁸² Bldg. List, no. 1059598; Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 358.

⁸³ *Sale Cat., Crowsley Park Estate* (1844): copy in Bodl. GA Oxon. b 92 (1).

⁸⁴ *Gardner's Dir. Oxon.* (1852).

⁸⁵ *The World of Interiors* (April 1983), 114–24.

and lavished particular attention on the grounds, planting thousands of trees in avenues in the park and establishing a fine arboretum.⁸⁶

The house was neglected in the early 20th century, and during the Second World War (when it was used by BBC staff) a signals-receiving station was built in the park.⁸⁷ By 1970 the house was in very poor condition, but it was subsequently restored by Hugh and Beeban Morris, who were given a twenty-year rent-free lease.⁸⁸ The servants' wing was demolished, but early interior features in the house's main part were retained, including 18th-century panelling, shutters, and plasterwork.⁸⁹ Surviving outbuildings include a brick-built coach house and stable block erected by William Heywood in 1758.⁹⁰ Much additional work was done by the clothing designer Jeff Banks (as long-term lessee) from 1996 onwards, including the conversion of outbuildings to domestic use.⁹¹



Crowsley Park House in 1995.

Coppid Hall and Other Estates

In 1856 Joseph Phillimore's second son Robert (later Sir Robert, 1810–85) bought a small freehold called **Coppid Hall** from the trustees of Vincent Vaughan.⁹² Additional land was acquired around Binfield Heath, and in 1911 Robert's son Sir Walter (later 1st Baron)

⁸⁶ Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 437; *Kelly's Dir. Oxon.* (1883); OS Maps 1:2500, Oxon. LVI.3–4 (1879 and 1898 edns); Whitaker, *A Descriptive List of the Deer-Parks and Paddocks of England*, 120; *Sale Cat., Crowsley Park House* (1995).

⁸⁷ Contribution by Dennis Faulkner to the BBC 'People's War' website (accessed June 2016); Bodl. MS Top. Oxon. c. 499/1 (photos of house in 1960)..

⁸⁸ *The World of Interiors* (April 1983).

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*; *Sale Cat., Crowsley Park House* (1995): copy in OHC, P409/6/D/1.

⁹⁰ HER, PRN 10519; 'Crowsley Park House: Archaeological and Photographic Record in advance of Building Works' (unpubl. Oxford Archaeology report, 1998).

⁹¹ SODC planning docs (available online).

⁹² Climenson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 393; *Oxf. Jnl*, 7 Feb. 1885 (obituary). For Joseph Phillimore's acquisitions, above (Shiplake manor: Shiplake Court estate).

Phillimore (1845–1929) owned just over 300 acres.⁹³ Further land was purchased from the Crowsley Park estate, notably in 1927, and by 1988 the family had amassed a large estate centred on Dunsden and Shiplake, with a smaller amount of land in Harpsden.⁹⁴ The addition of Shiplake farm (c.380 a.) in 2010 gave the family much of the land between Binfield Heath and the Thames. The present brick-built Coppid Hall (called The Coppice in the later 19th century) dates substantially from 1863, replacing an earlier house on the site. The architect was Henry Clutton (1819–93). Additions and alterations were carried out in 1874, 1901 and 1975–6, and two wings were added in 2004–5.⁹⁵



Aerial view of Coppid Hall in 1964.

Reginald Mardon, whose family owned a large printing business in Bristol,⁹⁶ also accumulated a sizeable estate in the early 20th century, mainly from the Baskerville and Harrison estates. Mardon built a large house called **Haileywood** (1910) in ‘old English country house style’ in the east of the parish,⁹⁷ and by the late 1920s owned more than 800 a. including Shiplake Court, Shiplake Rise, and Kiln farms. In 1936 he gave 347 a. to the University of Reading, and ten years later the residue of his estate (c.461 a.) was sold

⁹³ OHC, DV XII/55.

⁹⁴ Unpublished estate map in possession of VCH.

⁹⁵ Info. from Lord Phillimore.

⁹⁶ *Henley Standard*, 25 Nov. 1983; *Bristol Post*, 3 Nov. 2008.

⁹⁷ *Sale Cat., Haileywood Estate* (1946): copy in Henley Library; OHC, RDC8/8/Y1/19/70 (addn of motor house).

piecemeal.⁹⁸ The Reading University land was sold in the late 1970s to St John's College, Oxford, which in 2010 sold it to Lord Phillimore.⁹⁹



Haileywood in 1946.

The appropriated **rectory estate**, granted to Missenden abbey in 1163, included the church's original endowment of half a hide.¹⁰⁰ It was augmented by donations from local landowners, notably the Langetots,¹⁰¹ and in 1241 the abbey was said to have two ploughlands in Shiplake.¹⁰² In the 13th and 14th century the church as a whole was valued at £11 6s. 8d.¹⁰³ Both rectory and tithes were leased to tenants from the Middle Ages onwards, and in 1527 Sir Thomas Englefield (d. 1528) acquired a lease of the rectory estate for 50 years from 1557 for £8 13s. 4d. a year.¹⁰⁴ In 1547, after the Dissolution, Edward VI granted the reversion of the rectory to St George's Chapel, Windsor,¹⁰⁵ and in 1574 (after the forfeiture of Englefield's estates) Edmund Plowden obtained the lease from the Crown.¹⁰⁶ Later lessees under the dean and canons of Windsor included the Jennings family, Timothy Earle, the Newells, and George Cherry.¹⁰⁷ By 1667 the rectory was said to be worth £216 per annum,¹⁰⁸ though in the 18th and 19th century the rectory lands and great tithes together were let for the low annual sum of £31 10s. 8d. plus an entry fine. In 1830 the clear yearly value was said to be £770.¹⁰⁹ In 1839 (when the rectorial glebe comprised 156 a.) the great

⁹⁸ *Sale Cat., Haileywood Estate* (1946); OHC, NWB XIX/14; NWB/XXIII; above, Shiplake manor.

⁹⁹ Info. from Stephen Doble, tenant.

¹⁰⁰ Below, relig. hist.

¹⁰¹ *Cart. Missenden Abbey*, III, nos 669–78, 681, 684–5, 690–3.

¹⁰² *Oxon. Eyre 1241*, no. 614.

¹⁰³ *Tax Eccl.* 30; *Nonarum Inquisitiones*, 136; *Rot. Welles*, I, 178.

¹⁰⁴ TNA, E 310/22/119, m. 42; Climensson, *Hist. Shiplake*, 187.

¹⁰⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1547–8, 149–50.

¹⁰⁶ TNA, E 310/22/119, m. 42. In 1646–7 a £40 sequestration was made against Francis Plowden as lessee, presumably for recusancy: Bodl. MS Bodley 323, f. 239.

¹⁰⁷ OHC, NWB VIII/1–31.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.* PAR234/15/R1/1, f. 28.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.* NWB VIII/1–31; NWB IX/15.

tithes were commuted to a £593 rent charge,¹¹⁰ and in 1870 the estate was bought by George Charles Cherry, who in 1884 sold 91 a. of it to John Baskerville.¹¹¹

¹¹⁰ Ibid. tithe award.

¹¹¹ Ibid. NWB VIII/32.