FRAM

The Journal of The Framlingham & District Local History & Preservation Society

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Heir of Antiquity! - fair castle Town,
Rare spot of beauty, grandeur, and renown,
Seat of East-Anglian kings! - proud child of fame,
Hallowed by time, illustrious Framlinghame!

From: *Framlingham: a Narrative of the Castle,*
by James Bird (1831)

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FRAM

5th Series Number 18
April 2011

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Editor: M.V. Roberts, 43 College Road, Framlingham

When I first joined the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society in 1994, the Society was, in membership terms, the second largest community organisation in the town (after the Horticultural Society). Whether that is still the case I know not, but certainly our number of members has declined over the past year or two. In the year 2010/2011 it has stood, I am told, at one hundred and six.

Not so long ago, most, if not all, of our winter lectures had so many attendees that we were obliged also to accommodate the audience in the store-room south of the main hall. I cannot recall when this last happened. Our audiences now are keen, interested, and appreciative of the varied range of topics covered, but sadly their numbers are steadily shrinking. Also, occasional visitors, attending for a single lecture, have reduced.

That this should be the case is surprising. With several significant housing developments having occurred within the town envelope since the mid-nineties, one might, indeed, have expected our numbers actually to have increased.

One further point. To be frank, the overall age profile of our current membership is such that we cannot reasonably expect all our devoted members to be able regularly to support our activities for a long time hence. The hackneyed term succession planning springs to mind, whether we like it or not.

There is a problem, but how to address it?

The issue was discussed at a recent committee meeting of the Society. John Bridges, who recently described in this journal the new Framlingham History Archive, has kindly volunteered to ensure details of our lectures and other activities appear in our splendid town newspaper, *Framfare*. It may be that we could have coffee mornings, as we did from time to time in the more distant past. But surely the most promising solution to this whole issue lies at the grass roots, with individual members of our Society. We should spread the word among newcomers to the town about all the Society has to offer them in terms of interest, education, and community involvement. The "Welcome Packs" which, I assume, are still widely distributed, must be highly beneficial for strangers to Framlingham, but nothing is more potent to engage interest than actual word of mouth, whether it is in a queue at the Solar or on some more formal occasion . And finally, you may know friends or acquaintances who have, for some good reason, not renewed their membership of the Society in the recent past. Perhaps now is the time to re-awaken their interest.

We need to have a bigger Society.

THE TOBACCO PIPE IN FRAMLINGHAM AND THE WIDER WORLD

By Tony Moore(1)

A custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain,
dangerous to the lung and a black stinking fume thereof.
(James I. *A counterblast to tobacco* (1604))

It was in October 1964 that I began an archaeological dig on the outskirts of Framlingham, near to the old borough boundary(2). The site being investigated was the foundations of an old Tudor house (it was originally demolished by licence in 1699). During the excavation work that took place over a period of nearly six months, a surprising amount of pottery shards were found both in the foundations, and also in rubbish pits. This in itself was not astonishing, but what was, was the vast collection of broken tobacco clay pipe remains, bowls and stems. Rather unusual because of such a large concentration over a small area. Many of the pipe bowls must have come from intricate moulds, because many had outstanding shapes and patterns on them.

The earliest record of a man smoking a clay tobacco pipe in England was in 1556(3). He resided in the busy shipping port of Bristol, which as we know was one of the first gateways to the New World. It was here that a guild of pipe-makers was formed almost a hundred years later in 1652. By the 1580's, clay tobacco pipes were being made in this country, the idea being copied from the pipes used by the Native Americans. In 1604 King James 1 spoke out against smoking. Bishops and other church leaders joined him. Despite this, and the high price of tobacco, the popularity of smoking grew. The bowls of these very early clay pipes were thimble size, but as tobacco prices fell, so the bowls got larger. Pipe bowls some four inches tall, and requiring three ounces of tobacco to fill the bowl could be found. These would have been mainly used in Masonic Lodges, gentlemen's clubs and other watering holes where men gathered.

Early pipe manufacture was mainly centred in London. Between 1624 and 1638 London held a near monopoly for the importation of tobacco. It also had, until 1640, the sole use of suitable clay. The iron-free Poole clay was especially prized. Other important manufacturing centres that sprang up included Chester, Canterbury, Salisbury, Hull, York, Selby, and Kings Lynn. Throughout the country, especially in rural areas, small private kilns began to appear with new entrepreneurs, not wishing to be left behind, in what would surely become a new-found wealth in manufacturing simple clay pipes.

The general shape of the English clay pipe bowl was similar all over the country until about the middle of the 17th century. London and Bristol in particular produced elegant and slender shapes that contrasted with the thicker rugged-looking pipes smoked by country folk. On the 10th October 1710, the pipe makers entered into a mould size agreement. The length of the long pipes was set at 16 inches, Dutch pipes 14 inches, Jamaica pipes 13 inches, Penned Heeles and Gauntlets 11 inches, and Virginia pipes 8½ inches. In 1734 a certain William Nicholas caused a mould to be

made for a 24 inch pipe. The later repercussions being that the mould-maker was fined five pounds. It was in the old Farriers' Arms in Double Street, Framlingham, that an undamaged 16 inch Church Warden clay pipe was discovered during building alterations in the early 1950's(4). Pipes were made in iron or brass moulds and would last about ten years. On some of these elaborate mouldings many would have makers' marks. An advertisement of 1799 listed the best long pipes, (churchwardens) at five shillings per gross, down to the cheapest short pipes at a shilling per gross. From this we must deduce that profits were virtually non-existent, the bubble had burst, and many of the smaller manufacturers soon went out of business.

Clay pipes were made by hand in a simple two-piece mould with which a skilled maker could produce five hundred pipes a day. These skilled operatives would have served an apprenticeship with a factory that also manufactured tiles as well as pottery and porcelain, in many cases. Many pipe bowls would have a makers' or manufacturers' mark on the spur beneath the bowl. With early pipes dating from the early 1600's, marks are simple and very rare. From the 1650's to the 1700's, some have initials in raised letters or marks beneath the spur (the underside of the bowl) but again they are rare.

Among the various clay pipe bowls excavated during the 1964/65 dig in Framlingham many were a mix of glazed and plain rough finished bowls. One of the more ornate bowls found depicted a moulded (on the spur) Victorian-style laced-up boot kicking a football. Another bowl resembled one that we see being smoked by the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes. These were from the Victorian and Edwardian period, and could well have been discarded by Gypsies camped in the nearby lane (the site of the old Roman road), or even local farm workers(5). The 1964/65 dig did, however, yield several small thimble or acorn-size tobacco bowls dating from the late 1500's to the early 1600's; there were no makers' marks or engraved markings on the bowls. There is the possibility of these being made from a local kiln, even by someone also producing pottery and tiles at the same time.

(A strange and unusual item was brought to the surface during one of the days at the dig. At first glance it looked very much like a piece of broken clay-pipe stem, although fatter in circumference; it had no makers' marks or other engraving. It was about to be thrown into the small finds tray when I noticed it had no hole through the centre of it. If it was not part of a clay pipe what was it? Later, during some research work, I found a most fascinating answer to the mystery. Some manufacturers of clay pipes also used the same material to make wig curlers. The clay pipe curler (which would have been preheated on a fire or in an oven) would have been the forerunner of the modern hair curler).

During the early 1700's, imported Dutch tobacco pipes appeared in Britain; they too carried makers' marks or initials, sometimes on both sides of the bowl or even on the stem. These Dutch pipes generally sported more ornate and carved designs on the bowls; one could almost say they were works of art compared with the plainer English counterparts. However, English pipe design was forced to compete with the Dutch. From the 1750's through to the 1900's more decorative pipes were to be found. Many of the bowls also were larger and more elaborate, fashioned with heads of animals or human heads.

Attending a religious service at St Michael's Church in the town would be of no inconvenience to the smoker with his 16 inch long churchwarden clay pipe. In the porch/entrance to the church whilst removing your hat you would remove your pipe (empty the burning tobacco) and place it in one of the hanging metal racks provided. (You can view one of these churchwarden pipe racks in the Lanman Museum).

By the late 1860's, a decline had set in, clay pipes the original throw-away item were under fierce competition from the new and durable briar pipes, and also the new smoking fashion, the cigarette. The last large manufacturing works in England was that of Thomas George & Co., which finally closed in 1921. Smaller manufacturers were to carry on almost until 1939, but the death knell had finally arrived, and the days of the famous clay pipe had almost come to an end.

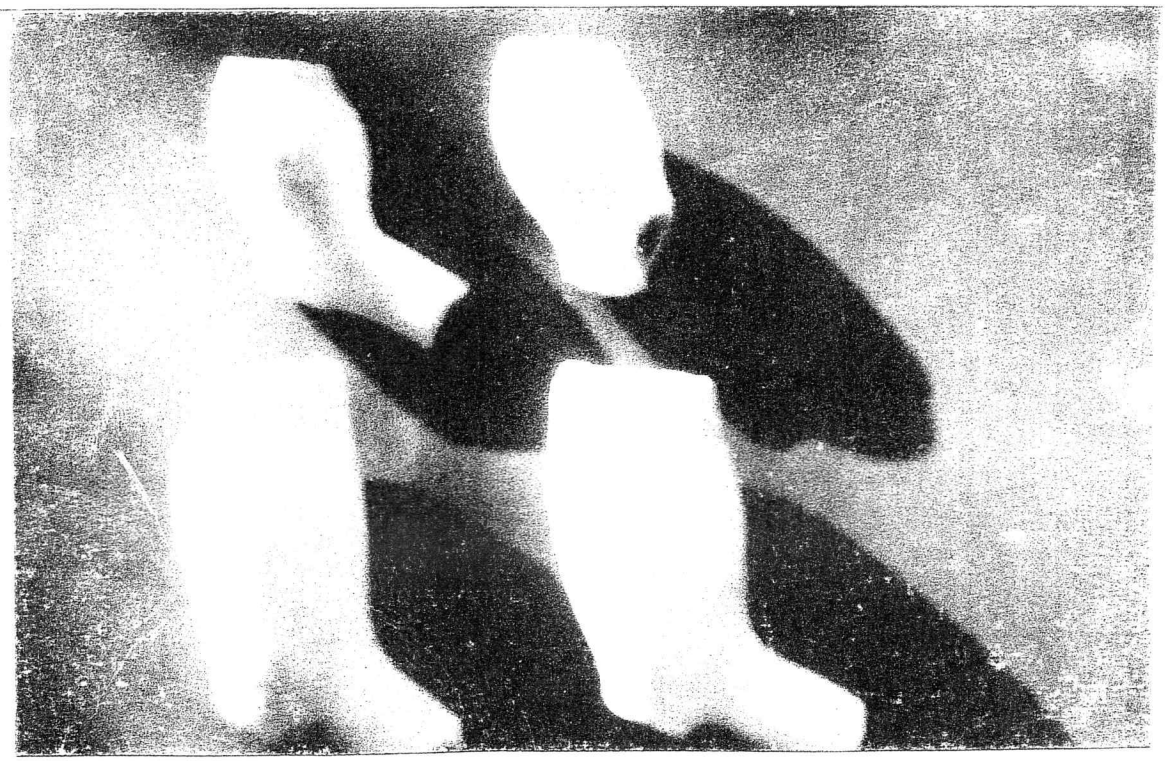
Most Victorian taverns and inns would have had their own designed clay pipes made, a form of advertising over a hundred years ago, and would have provided another accessory for the smokers use as well, the spittoon. One or two of these would have been placed on the bar room floor for the customers' use.

Over recent years, and since the line was closed, dozens of clay pipe stems and bowls have been found on the site of the old Framlingham railway track. One is inclined to deduce from this that these were the legacy from when the line was first being constructed prior to it's opening in 1859(6).

A tobacconist in Bridge Street, who sold clay pipes was 'The Miss Oxborrows', two sisters carrying on the business after the death of their father(7). From this we must assume that someone still made clay pipes, or the Miss Oxborrows had a very large stock dating back to the 1920's. They both retired in the late 1940's(8).

One local character that I recall who smoked a clay pipe lived in College Road, his name Spike Hadley. On each occasion you saw him the clay pipe would have shrunk in size until he finished up with just a stub of the stem and the bowl. Smoking a clay tobacco pipe was not just the preserve of men because many local Framlingham women also enjoyed a puff of the weed. Harriet Pizzy (the menace of the Assembly Hall Picture Palace during the late 1920's to the late 1930's) would often be seen trudging round the town pushing an old broken-down pram, with her clay pipe clenched firmly between her teeth. I have been reliably informed that the tobacco in her pipe was gleaned from discarded cigarette ends. Another dear old lady known to the more senior citizens of the town, was a Miss Rivers, who lived in a cottage with a tall and leaning chimney pot (long since demolished) near the spring pump in Riverside. In her early days she was a classical pianist and in her later years taught music to local children for many years. She could well have stepped from the pages of a Victorian novel and always dressed in black. You would see her, especially on a warm spring or summer evening, sitting quite contentedly in a wooden rocking chair outside her cottage smoking her clay pipe.

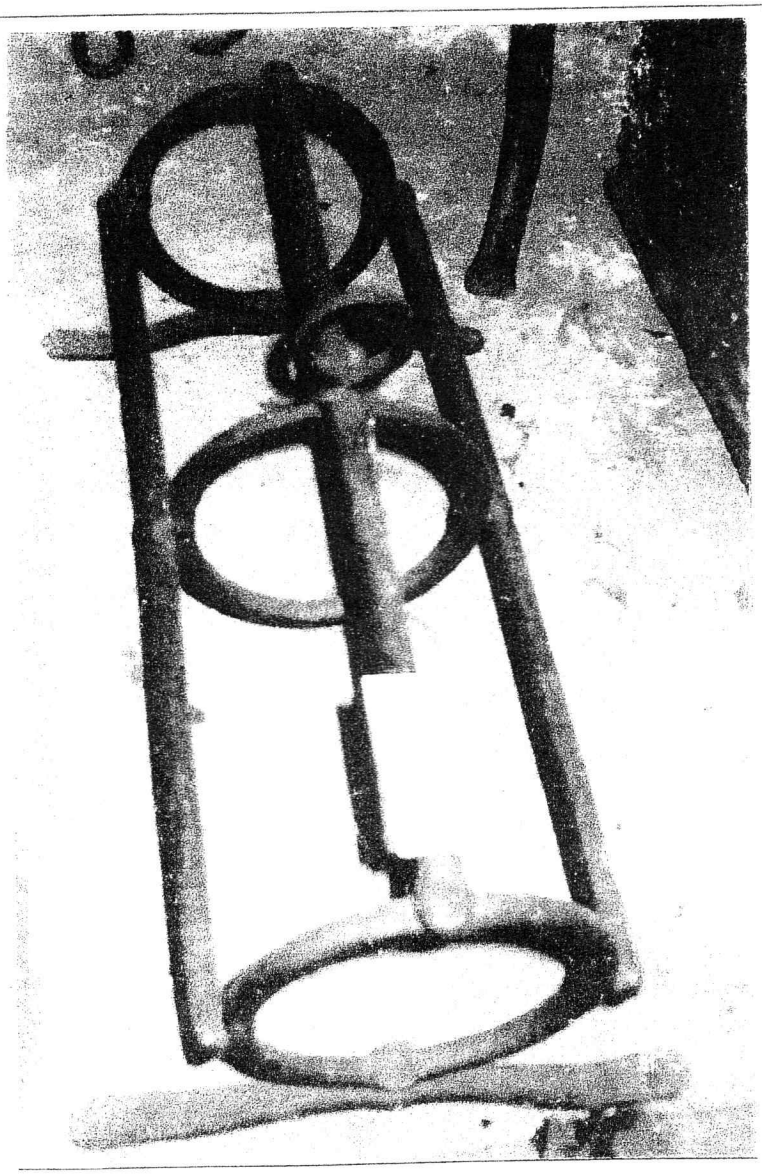
Clay pipe stems would have been very brittle and prone to breakages so it rather depended where the break was if it was kept or simply discarded. In all my years connected with archaeology I have never found a complete, undamaged, clay pipe.



The top of the photograph shows two early thimble/acorn size clay pipe bowls dating from approximately 1590 to 1640, of very plain design and no makers' marks. This was in a period when pipe tobacco was very expensive. Very few of this size bowl were found on the Birds Meadow site.

By comparison the lower two images show larger bowls proving that the price of tobacco is becoming more affordable and also becoming more readily available. Still of plain design but the pipe stems, in this case, are getting longer, dating from approximately 1640 to 1740. Many more of these bowls were to be found on the Birds Meadow site.

All of the bowls were found on or near the site of the Tudor house excavated during the 1964/65 seasons and again during phase two of the second archaeological dig at Birds Meadow in 2008.



Most probably manufactured by a local blacksmith this heavy Church Warden pipe rack would be suspended from a well positioned metal hook in the church porch, or even placed on a low shelf, for the convenience of the pipe smokers of the congregation who would place their 16 inch long tobacco pipes in it before entering the church.

This pipe rack (exact date unknown but most probably made sometime after 1710) can be viewed in the Lanman Museum.

Editor's notes

1 This article is an abridged text of an unpublished paper in the hands of the author.

2 Mr Moore has lectured on this topic to the Society. (See also a speculative note by E.C. Shanks *in Fram*, 1st series, no.2 (March 1969).)

3 References have not been given for information given outside the local context. It is largely derived from standard secondary sources.

4 The Farriers' Arms closed in February 1959 (P.J. Stannard, "The Inns of Framlingham past and present, Part 2" *in Fram,* 3rd series, no.2 (December 1997).) No record of a formal archaeological excavation there is known to the Editor.

5 See footnote 1 above.

6 For further detail on the branch line's construction see D. Pitcher, *All Change for Framlingham* (2002).

7 Robert Oxborrow is listed as trading in Bridge Street in *Lambert's Almanack* from 1887 to 1916, but the trade "tobacconist" does not appear until ten years later. There were a number of "tobacconists" listed in the town at this time. (J. McEwan, *Lambert's Framlingham (1871-1916)* (2000) pp.369-398.)

8 The shop continued to trade as a tobacconist until 1995.

FRAMLINGHAM IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

This is the fourth of our series of extracts from the ***Framlingham Weekly News*** *1893-1894, made available to us by John Bridges. Further parts will be appearing in subsequent issues.*

FRAMLINGHAM SIXTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

No.V.

TRADERS.

GEORGE BLOOMFIELD, saddler, was an active, bustling man in his day, employing several hands. He carried on business in his own premises, which is now occupied by Mr. Wm. Smith, in Well-close Square. He was also engaged in two farming businesses as well. One son, Mr. Mason Bloomfield, and one daughter now reside in the town, the elder daughter residing at Brandeston. The son lives in the same house wherein he was born. The saddlery business was taken over by the late Mr. George Upton, in later years; and at the death of his widow taken over by Mr. Wm. Smith, who does not live in the house adjoining the shop, but in his own house at Albert Place.

JOB BRIDGES, harness maker, carried on business in the house where Mrs. Friend now resides, on the Market Hill. He was an excellent bass singer and 'cello player. His son left the town, and the name and business died out. Mr. Bridges and Mr. Blumfield were the only two harness makers in the town. Several attempts have since been made to keep up or add to the number in that line of business; but they have all failed to establish themselves; and one business in the town now suffices.

JOHN BRIDGES, carpenter and wheelwright, conducted his business in Fairfield Road, between Misses Barnes' house and what is now a portion of Mr. Scott's garden. He was a Congregationalist. He and his good wife used to sit in a little square pew immediately on the right hand side of the pulpit, which then was to be seen in the chapel; but which has for many years given place to a commodious rostrum. His wife was blind, and the poor old man became decrepit that he had to walk by the aid of two sticks. They lived and died in the house now owned by Mr. Cooper, in Fore Street, close to the Chapel.

JOHN FRUER BRIDGES and SILVANUS BRIDGES, blacksmiths, were brothers. The latter carrying on business in Double Street, and the former on the premises now owned and occupied by his son. JOHN was an attendant at the Congregational Chapel; and did a good business in his day. This is another old business handed down from father to son. We are told that a large amount of work used to be executed by him for the tan-yeard and brew-office, held by Mr. Keer.

GEORGE BUTCHER, cabinet maker, owned the premises and carried on business at Mount Pleasant, in the house now occupied by Miss Mobbs and Mr. S. White. In the later years he also did a little auctioneering with Mr. Pryke, under the style of "Pryke and Butcher", but only in a small way. He was an ardent Liberal and Nonconformist.

He had a son and daughter; both however left the town, and the name and business have died out. The name can still be seen on the house of Mr. White when the walls are moistened by a rain. He was a good sound workman, and the "jimcracks" of to-day would have excited his utmost contempt and disgust.

HANNAH BUTCHER, glover, lived in the house now occupied by Mr. William London, Castle Street, and did a good business in her day as a glover and leather breeches maker. Mark the change in customs, young men; but just fancy yourselves in a pair of tight-fitting leather breeches! These were largely worn by hunting men; postilions, post lads, and labouring men. Pair horse carriages would often at that day be driven by a post lad mounted on one of the horses, dressed in scarlet jacket, hat with cockade or hunting cap, leather breeches with top boots and spurs, and short riding whip. The Honourable and Reverend Frederick Hotham, who lived at Dennington Rectory at that time, used however to drive into town with coachman and footman both dressed in blue livery and silver buttons, the carriage being painted yellow and black, and hung on broad leather straps attached to springs, with a flat standing place for the footman behind. So did John Moseley, Esq., of Great Glemham House, use a yellow painted carriage; and old Dr. Field, of the Oaks (who once issued an address to the East Suffolk constituency as candidate for M.P.), used to drive a yellow painted cabriole, which we believe ultimately fell into the hands of Mr. Fruer Bridges at old iron price. Mr. Hotham's son subsequently became Governor-General of Australia; and there is a parish named Hotham and another Dennington near Melbourne, no doubt owing their names to the Governor-General's associations. The Hon. And Rev. Hotham was succeeded by the Rev. E.C. Alston, who also drove his carriage into the town with dark blue liveried servants, high hats, and black and yellow striped waistcoats. He was a J.P., and an active clergyman in his day. The Rev. R.G. Gorton, of Badingham, also drove a carriage and pair with coachman and footman in blue liveries. The Rev. G. Turner, of Kettleburgh, drove a pair horse carriage with drab liveried servants. Also the Groomes of Earl and Monk Soham, and Rev. E. Barlee, of Worlingworth, drove into the town with pair horse carriages and servants. These were "the good old times" our fathers delight to speak of, when the late Charles Austin, Esq., was in his prime at Brandeston Hall, the Corrances at Parham Hall, and Mrs. Arcedeckne, at Glevering.

JONATHAN CAPON, tailor, carried on his business at the shop which originally stood on the site of the one now occupied by Mr. Coleman, on the Market Hill, and lived in Well-close Square.

GEORGE CLODD, tailor and draper, occupied the premises now held by Mr. Clements, innkeeper. In after years he took the premises now occupied by Mr. John Self, clothier. His mother was one of the earliest Wesleyans in the town, living under the roof of the many "Gabled house" in Fairfield Road, where preaching services used to be held. Her son, too, was an active and devoted Wesleyan to the day of his death. He was greatly respected in the town and neighbourhood, and the Rev. G. Attwood, rector, followed his body to the grave. His second wife was the mother of the late Mr. James Larner; and in later years the business (a large one) was carried on as "Clodd and Larner", by his step-son, which was recently taken over by Mr. John Self. The roof of that house has sheltered some of the greatest philanthropists, viz: General Neal Dow, Maine, America; Signor Gavazzi, the Italian Reformer; Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith; Edmund Fry, of the Peace Society; Dr. F.R. Lees; Lawrance Gane, Esq.; Thomas Whittaker, ex-Mayor of Scarborough; Henry Vincent, political lecturer; Sir Shafto Adair; Dilwyn Simms, Esq.; the Ipswich Alexanders, &c., &c. It

was the home and hot-bed of teetotalism in the town; and to the late Mr. Larner the honour belongs of instituting the Framlingham Temperance Society, which in its early days included the honoured name of Sir Henry Thompson among its members. Very few remember the turbulent days of the early history of teetotalism in the town, when saint and sinner, preacher and heares, were united in opposition to the principles. Brick-bats, rotten eggs and rioting greeted the early advocates. The name of Clodd has died out in the town; only one daughter is left now living unmarried in Staffordshire. And although there is a son and heir to Mr. Larner's name, he has long since left the town. An old townsman has written the following reminiscence: "I remember a scene on the Market Hill. A meeting was held on the Market Hill for the purpose of advocating temperance. There was a good and quiet assembly, several gentlemen having come a distance to address them. Mr. Larner had only opened the meeting about ten minutes, when a mob sent on by Jep Wightman arrived on the spot, headed by a man named Chandler, with a large basket of nuts and a policeman's rattle. They not only made such a noise and din as to completely upset the meeting, but following up their violence they pelted the speakers with rotten eggs from the Market Hill, till they were able to take refuge in Mr. Clodd's house, one of the gentlemen as he entered it exclaiming, "If these are Englishmen, I am ashamed of my own country-men"! But as the writer of Ecclesiastes observes, "In its quiet the words of the wise are heard above the braying fools". Mr. Larner died respected by his fellow townsmen, who have erected over his grave a well-merited monument to the memory of a worthy man, who believed in the advancement of his fellow citizens".
[It has been intimated to us that JOHN LUDBROOK, auctioneer, also lived in a house then standing on the site of the shop now occupied by Mr. Dan Scase. We are also assured that the waggon Mr. JOHN KERRILGE lifted on his back was not an empty one, but had a score coombs of corn in it at the time.]

(Published 20 January 1894)

No. VI.

THE BREWERY

Many of our readers are probably not aware of the fact that sixty-five years ago Mr. GEORGE BROOKE KEER was one of the important men in Framlingham, and carried on extensive malting and brewing businesses. What the Cobbolds are now to Ipswich, the Keers where then to the town of Framlingham. A large portion of the malt-office is now standing, and is that tenanted by Mr. E.G. Clarke, in Fore Street (then Back Lane), but which in its entirety extended to the side passage entrance of the Crown and Anchor Inn, embracing the stables and also the site of Mr. R. Green's house. The brewery and offices, with the large yard and offices, stood in the rear of the malting. Mr. E. Lankester, wine merchant, in fact, now owns all the business portion of the premises then held by Mr. G.B. Keer, with the residence also. The latter was then occupied by Mr. G.B. Keer junr.
There were no less than twenty-one public houses in the town and neighbourhood then owned by Mr. G.B. Keer, and of course were "tied" houses, which served as outlets for the products of his brewery. The following is a list of the inns, with tenants:-

White Hart, Framlingham	Mrs. M. Thompson
Waggon and Horses „	Mr. F. Bilney
Crown „	„ Samuel Bloss
Queen's Head „	„ James Coots
White Horse „	„ John Oakley
Hare and Hounds „	„ James Aldridge
Queen's Head, Stradbroke	„ John Aldridge Garrard
White Hart „	„ John Pipe
Willoughby Arms, Parham	„ James Gray
Angel, Woodbridge	„ Wm. Beecroft
White Swan, Alderton	„ John Cable
Fox, Hollesley	„ Elizabeth Cooper
Elephant and Castle, Eyke	„ Wm. Lambert
Bowling Green, Badingham	„ George Read
Royal Oak, Laxfield	„ Wm. Atkyns
White Horse, Sweffling	„ Robert Cross
White Horse, Rendham	„ Robert Self
Tuns, Yoxford	Mrs Jane Barnes
Chequers, Freston	Mr James Hurren
Ship, Blaxhall	„ John Block
Red Lion, Little Glemham	„ Robert Brightwell

Mr. Keer was also owner of and lived in what was then termed "The Mansion House", situate on the site of the house and shop now held by Mr. James Hulland, Chemist, Market Hill. It had an iron-palisaded front, a pillared portico, entrance hall, dining-room, drawing-room, small dining-room, study, six best sleeping and two dressing-rooms, six attics, laundry, kitchen, wine and beer cellars, &c. The highly ornamented garden extended down Bridge Street as far as the Old Meeting House, and ran back to the Rectory Grounds, embracing the sites of the Police Station, Mr. Dale's stonemason's yard, with the houses now occupied by Mr. Moore, Mr. George Dorling, and also the premises now held by Mr. T. Dale, builder. There was a vinery forty feet long, and a large conservatory as well. The Bank of the Norfolk and Norwich Joint Stock Banking Company was under this roof and managed by Mr. MANNING KEER, son of Mr. G.B. Keer. Mr. G.B. Keer also owned the farm now occupied by Mr. Calvin Smith, on the Saxmundham road, also the farm now owned by Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake; also 20 acres 22 perches called "Nun's Land", at Framlingham. There were cottages and lands contiguous to the inns before-mentioned, which were also his property, and formed part of his estate. Among them adjoining the Crown Inn, was a hair-dresser's shop, which stood on the site of the present entrance to the Corn Hall, and there were steps up to its floor level. This shop was tenanted by Mr. Richard Lay, and was papered with posting bills, horsemanship lithographed placards, etc. There are some few living who will well remember him and the shop; also the picture he had inside his shop, illustrating Absalom handing on the branch of an oak tree, and his mule or donkey running away. Beneath which were these lines, as near as we can remember:-

O, Absalom, my son, my son,
Hadst thou had thy periwig on
Thou would'st not have been undone!

This picture is now in the possession of G.E. Jeaffreson, Esq.

Mr. Lay was a man who seemed to live almost without the need of hats or caps, for he was seldom seen in the town with one on his head. His widow is still living in the town, being his third wife. In addition Mr. Keer owned the houses in Double Street, now known as the "Farrier's Arms Inn", which was then a butcher's shop, occupied by Mr. John Dixon, butcher, and Mr. Charles Williams, the excise officer. Mr. Keer besides was a farmer, and on the brewing premises there were eight to ten men employed; eight to ten horses worked, and as well he kept his own coopers at work on the premises.

Through some financial difficulties with the Tax Collectors for duty on malt, Mr. G.B. Keer's affairs were thrown into bankruptcy, and the whole of the foregoing property was sold by public auction, by Mr. Wm. Butcher, auctioneer, Norwich, on the 21st June, 1832. The auction was held on the Bowling Green, by the Castle, and it brought together a large concourse of people. It was then Mr. Cobbold purchased the White Hart Inn (Crown and Anchor) for £700, and a portion of the malting for £700. The brewery was knocked down to Mr. Everett, for Mr. A. Thompson, for £1,400. The dwelling-house in Double Street, Mr. Dixon bought for £355. The Waggon and Horses Inn, with butcher's shop, etc., fell to Mr. Cobbold for £400. Mr. W. Edwards purchasing the stables adjoining and garden for £160. "The Mansion" was bought in for £1,000, so were the two farms on the Saxmundham-road and New Street for £2,700 each. The Crown Inn was bought in for £1,170, afterwards sold to Mr. T. Capon, who disposed of the house to Mr. John Oakley, at a profit. The Queen's Head was bought in for £500, afterwards purchased by Mr. Jeptha Wightman. The White Horse was purchased by Mr. James Brunning (father of the present owner) for £900. The Hare and Hounds by Mr. Richard Wright (father of Mr. S.W. Wright) for £500. The Queen's Head Inn, Stradbroke, was bought in for £900, also the two lots of cottages, and the White Hart Inn, in the several sums of £200, £150, and £820. The Willoughby Arms Inn, Parham, was purchased by Mr. Pattle, for £420, whilst the Angel Inn, Woodbridge was bought in at £850. Mr. Biddle bought the Swan Inn, Alderton for £600, and the Castle Inn, Eyke, for £800, Mrs Cooper securing the Fox Inn, Hollesley, for £510. The Bowling Green Inn, Badingham, fell to Mr. H. Wells, for £410. Laxfield Oak realised £410, Sweffling White Horse, £400; Rendham White Horse, £440; Blaxhall Ship, £345; and the Red Lion, Glemham, £700. Mr. Barnes purchased the Tuns Inn, Yoxford, for £1,800, and Mr. Hurren, the Chequers, Freston, for £495. "Nun's Land" was bought in at £500, but afterwards sold to Mr. J. Smith, veterinary surgeon. The whole estate was put up in 31 lots, and there has not been a property auction in the town either before or since in the memory of man.

The present "lodging house" in connexion with the Queen's Head Inn, used subsequently to be a brewery, in which Mr. Revett for a time carried on business. The cottage was then occupied by William Hern. There was stabling then for 16 horses. The cottage adjoining the Hare and Hounds Inn was occupied by William Jennings, who is described in the Directory as "orange dealer".

There are two or three views of "the mansion" held in the town; and Mr. F. Read, Fore Street, has also a water-colored drawing of the Market Place, giving a view of the "Mansion".

We are informed that everyone seemed afraid to touch "the Mansion" property; but Mr. Mason of Ipswich, ultimately purchased it, and made "a good pull" out of it by demolishing the mansion, and selling the material, and the site in several building plots, on which were afterwards built the present houses. But the present Police Station was originally a double-fronted shop, and occupied by Mr. J.A. Garlett,

shoemaker, the present wash-house up the yard being then the shoemaker's shop. On the failure of the late Mr. Abraham Thompson the brewery and malt offices, with the residence were put up by auction by Mr. Preston, and purchase by Mr. E. Lankester at the low figure of something like £650.
The Castle Brewery now held by Mr. Page, was outside the Keer family, and was built by Mr. Benjamin Rackham, who was employed as a clerk by Mr. G.B. Keer.

(Published 27 January 1894)

SOCIETY NEWS

In common with most local history societies in Britain, we send copies of our journal to the British Association for Local History, and its main contents are then listed in the Association's magazine *The Local Historian.* Each year the Association then gives awards for articles of outstanding quality. An award is being made this year to Tony Broster, our Society's Treasurer, for his paper "An investigation of gas production in the nineteenth century, with particular reference to east Suffolk", which appeared in *Fram*, 5th series, number 15, April 2010. The award will be presented at the Association's Local History Day, Saturday 4 June, at Friends' Meeting House, Euston Road, opposite Euston Station. Tickets for the Day (at BALH members' rate of £12.50 for members of our Society) are available from BALH (L), 7 St Marks Road, Salisbury, SP1 3AY.

The list of keys required for the Broke Hall estate provides not only an insight into the security arrangements but also indicates the high status of the estate and range of produce grown. The reference to underground gates read together with the note on a plan for the kitchen garden in the same batch of papers about having a laurel hedge "to hide them [sheds? or frames?] from the parlour"(96) indicate that gardening activities were not to be visible from the house. This would be consistent with the date that the hall was remodelled by Wyatt, 1791-93, and the park designed by Repton thereafter.(97) There is a similar arrangement at Calke Abbey, Derbyshire, where the large kitchen garden created in 1773 was concealed from the house by winding paths in the shrubberies below.(98)

Broke Hall was not unique in its attitude to security. The rules appertaining to the plant department at Bicton, dated 1842 include:

> Rule 6. Leaving and door or gate open in any department of the garden. Fine 3d
> Rule 7. Leaving and door or gate unlocked, after opening the same, and not returning the key to its proper place. Fine 3d(99)

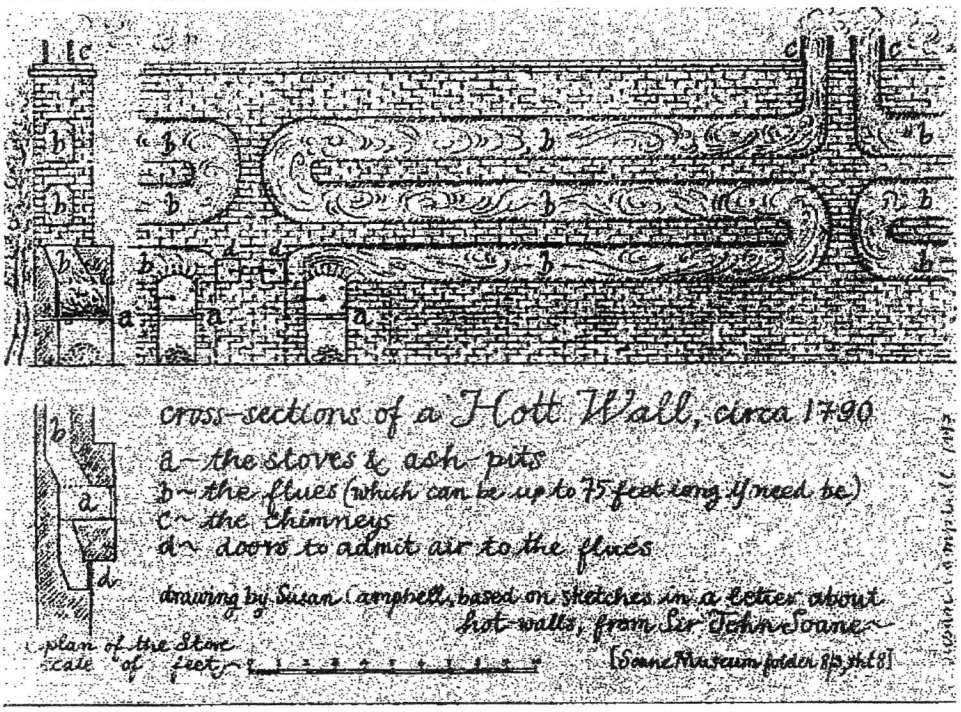
The technology of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries meant that hot walls could be created. Naturally, this required a wider wall and thus more bricks than a conventional brick wall. The additional heat helped fruit to ripen and the trees' wood to mature.(100) The hot walls were created by running horizontal, internal flues across the back of the wall opening into chimneys at the top of the wall. The fireplaces were placed at the back of the wall in line with the wall's foundations.(101) Experiments with hot walls were taking place at Sandon and Trentham, both in Staffordshire, in1780.(102) The sketch in figure 16 gives a clear indication of how hot walls at this time were constructed. There is also an example of such a wall near Beaminster in west Dorset, where the two chimneys, vented on either side, were built into the curved wall facing east-north-east.(103)

In Suffolk there is evidence of a hot wall at Benhall Walled kitchen garden, although remaining pipe work indicates that technology moved on in the years from 1790 to around 1815, the estimated date for Benhall's creation. Smoke had been replaced by water and the fireplaces had been replaced by boilers, because Benhall heated

> much of the south facing (north wall) ... with 4 inch cast iron pipes [from] three boilers...the water moved around by convection.(104) The system must have been successful because the south

facing wall has "a number of holes made by the nails that held carefully trained fruit trees,"(105) indicating the raison d'etre of the heated wall. Langham Hall walled kitchen garden also had "Hot walls for the forcing of fruit,"(106) according to a sale catalogue, dated November, 1832. There is a similar hot wall at Shrubland Hall, but there it was used behind a flower bed, in the pleasure garden.(107) No doubt other Suffolk walled gardens benefitted from the use of hot wall of a similar design.

Figure 16. Sketch showing the cross section of a hot wall, circa 1790



A hott wall, about 1790, drawn by Susan Campbell.

Source: C.A. Wilson (ed.) *The Country House Kitchen Garden, 1600-1950* (Stroud) 1998 p. 109

Together with Norfolk, Suffolk is different from the country to the west in that it has been forced to use brick and /or flint for its walls since the twelfth century. So, it can be said that, because of the indigenous soil, good quality material has been used for construction far longer than elsewhere. Walls of a lesser quality would have disappeared by now, whereas there is usually a remnant of brick, in particular, even if the walls have been demolished and the material used elsewhere. This is how the remains of a frame yard were discovered at Hintlesham.

Water

A water supply has always been fundamental to the success of a kitchen garden. Too much or too little water can be critical to the health of the produce grown within it. In Britain's uncertain climate, it was and is important to conserve water for use in times of drought. By the mid-nineteenth century, water was used not merely for watering plants, but was also to be found in pipes heating glass houses.(108)

Probably the oldest method of storing water is in a Dipping pond. Dipping ponds have been in use since the fourteenth century. As the name suggests, water had to be scooped out by hand using a watering can or something similar. Traditionally, they were "shallow with a thick lining of tempered clay protected by stones or gravel."(109) Dipping ponds were often found at the central crossing point of paths dividing the quarters of a garden. In that position they were a focal point in the style of the fourfold design mentioned in the introduction to this article.

Many dipping ponds, or the remains of them, are still to be seen now because they were still being constructed in eighteenth and nineteenth century gardens. This is surprising because it could be thought that advances in hydraulic technology would have made the dipping pond obsolete by then. However, at Shugborough, Staffordshire, several dipping ponds, not just one, were created when the garden was made in 1805. Evidence for this is lies in

> a map of c.1806... [which shows that] in each of the main sections, paths quartered the areas and met at a central pond, probably a dipping pond for filling of watering cans.(110)

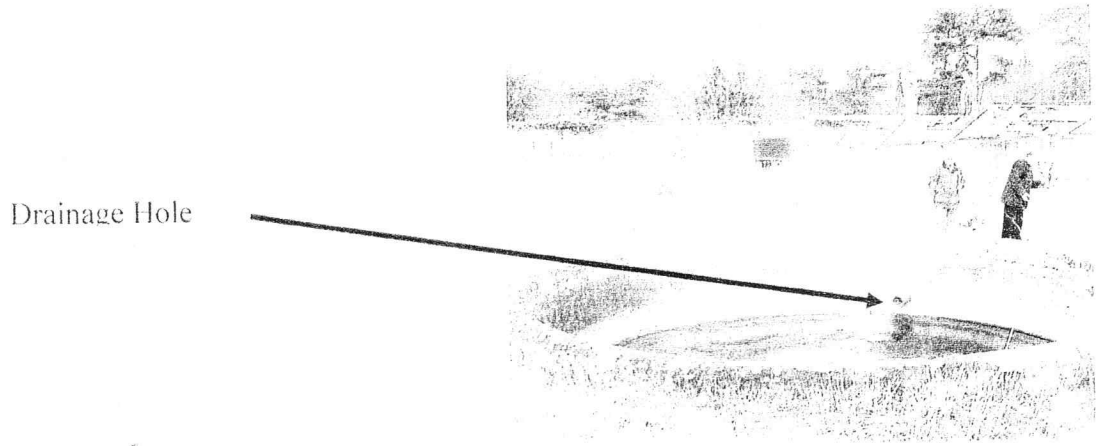
Carrying watering cans to the beds in such a big estate as Shugborough would have been heavy work. Fortunately, at least one water trolley was available to get the water where it was needed because in October 1888 it "was fitted with a new water tank and flange and repainted".(111)

Great Glemham and Sudbourne are examples of Suffolk gardens where the dipping pond is in the classic four-fold garden position. Evidence for this is to be seen, in the case of Great Glemham, in figure 8. With regard to Sudbourne, although its situation is not evident from the picture in figure 17, the 1904 Ordnance Survey map clearly places the dipping pond at Sudbourne in the centre of the rectangular garden.(112) Like Shugborough, Great Glemham

has a water trolley, although whether it is still used for its original purpose is not clear. Figure 18 is a picture of Great Glemham's water trolley; the handles on the side "enabling the gardener to tip out the water"(113) should be noted.

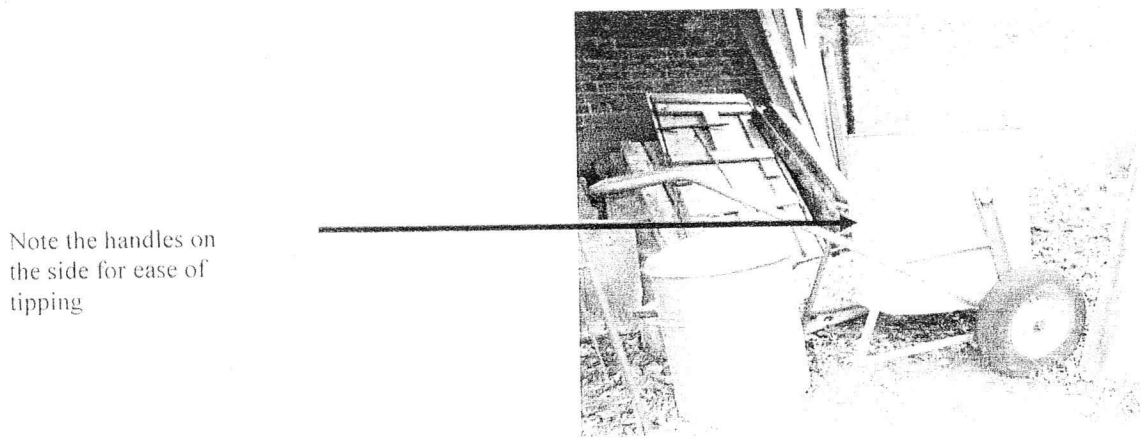
Whereas at Shugborough it was merely conjectured that the ponds shown on the 1806 map were dipping ponds, there is no such doubt at Great Glemham and Sudbourne because it has been confirmed by fieldwork. It can be difficult when looking at a garden pond today to ascertain whether or not it was ever a properly constructed dipping pond since, "the only way to tell ... is to excavate it to see if there are drainage holes at the bottom."(114:115) Fortunately, excavation was not necessary at Sudbourne Hall in March 2008 because the water level in the dipping pond was such that the drainage holes were visible, as is shown in figure 17. The pond there was "of brick construction with a concrete lining. It measured 22 feet in diameter and was 5 feet deep."(116) Unfortunately, although the drainage hole at Great Glemham is visible, it is blocked and therefore the pond is only of ornamental use now, but originally it was gravity fed from a pond in another part of the estate that was higher and lies to the north west of the walled garden. It too has a concrete lining, but it is not clear what material comprises the basic construction.(117)

Figure 17. Dipping Pond at Sudbourne Hall walled kitchen garden, showing drainage hole



Source: Fieldwork with Suffolk Gardens Trust, March 2008. Author's own photograph

Figure 18. Water carrier at Great Glemham, outside the East wall.



Source: Fieldwork at Great Glemham 27 March 2009. Author's own photograph

In some places water was stored not in a pond but in a reservoir or tank. For the purposes of this paper the terms cistern, reservoir and tank are taken to be inter-changeable, all three terms meaning a container that does not occur naturally, as a pond or pool may do. These containers could be found either above or below ground.

At the start of the period it was important that the tank was higher than the garden itself, so that a sufficient head of water would be available to provide pressure for the flow of water to the garden where taps could release water easily for use where needed. Possibly the most famous example of a reservoir high above a garden producing a head of water is at Chatsworth, engineered by the estate's head gardener, Paxton, for the fountain created there in 1844. Doubtless, Paxton also harnessed the water run-off from the nearby moors for the benefit of the 12 acre walled kitchen garden there.(118)

Where the topography of site did not lend itself to producing sufficient pressure, as at Putteridge Bury, Bedfordshire, water barrels had to be dragged "100 yards or more to where it was needed", Robert Fish, head gardener there in the 1860s, dreamt of,

> a cistern at a great height above the level of the garden, and a good supply of pipes, with taps and a hose to screw on, to enable a man to sprinkle water ...without any more labour than holding ...the hose distributor.(119)

An alternative to man power was that of the horse. This was the solution at Nuneham, Oxfordshire, where

> a horse-powered pump ...raised water from a pool in the park and distributed it to the grounds including a large deep round tank in one of the kitchen garden quarters.(120)

There is evidence of tanks remaining in Suffolk gardens, although information as to how the water was extracted from them is a little scarce. Woolvertsone Hall walled garden, laid out in approximately 1776, had a lined irrigation reservoir, and four water tanks,(121) but the 2005 survey does not indicate whether or not they were on the same level as the ground around it and so it is difficult to ascertain how the water was retrieved.

Other Suffolk kitchen gardens had tanks in or near glass houses. At Thornham, part of the main glasshouse, heated by a stove, according to the "Gardener's Book" of 1849, was built on top of a sixteenth century cistern. It can be dated by its brick lining and was originally filled by rainwater collected via a drainage channel.(122) It seems reasonable to assume that, given the date of the mid nineteenth century, the water from the tank was heated by the stove and circulated around the glasshouse by convection, as it was at Benhall.(123) Benhall had a "large brick built water tank...at the [outside] corner of the north and west walls".(124)

Horringer too has a tank, albeit slate, in a greenhouse abutting the boiler house on the other side of the garden wall.(125)

In Suffolk, in particular, another source of water for irrigating walled kitchen gardens, could have been a moat or a canal. These features are still visible today on some estates. They were built primarily either for pleasurable purposes or for drainage.(126) At places such as Ashe House and Thornham, where canals are close to the productive garden, no doubt they would have been used for irrigation when necessary. The canal at Thornham certainly benefitted the kitchen garden in another way "it was dredged every winter for the valuable manure it yielded, much of which was devoted to the kitchen garden."(127) It has not been possible to research this use of canals or moats on a national scale.

Pumps, enabling water to be extracted from below or moved across ground, thus eliminating the need for carrying or pushing cans or trolleys, did not come into general use until the 1860s.(128) Joseph Evans & Sons (Wolverhampton) Ltd., founded in 1810, manufactured a variety of pumps and carried its lion rampant trademark from the 1890s. A pump with such a trademark, used for pumping water from ponds to a walled garden, has been seen at Carlton, near Saxmundham. The firm's advertisement illustrates the type seen there,(see figure 19.)

Benhall "pumped its water from a number of ponds outside the walls to the north."(129) In the case of both Benhall and Horringer, it seems that water was pumped to tanks in greenhouses, the main difference being that Benhall's water was pumped from ponds whereas Horringer's water was raised from a well estimated to be some 50 feet deep situated at the junction of the main paths.(130) If the well was indeed 50 feet deep then it is likely a ram rather than a conventional lift pump was used to bring the water to the surface. Langham also has a pump recorded on the 1884 Ordnance Survey map used to raise water from a circular well of considerable depth.(131)

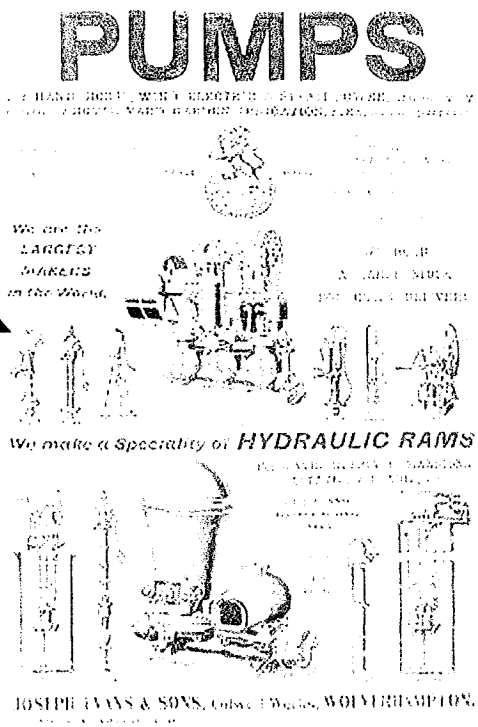
It was not until the end of the nineteenth century, that reservoirs and water towers began to be supplied with mains water. The red brick water tower at Woolverstone was built in the period between 1886 and 1904. Regrettably, the tank itself is missing, but the pipes

descending from it were still visible in 2005.(132) It is not clear whether the water was forced to the top of the tower by a ram, or whether the then new technology of using mains water was available.

Water is a particular problem in Suffolk. The county lies to the east of the country and is one of the last places to benefit from the rain-bearing westerly winds, which means in sandy areas, water conservation is paramount. This was done by storing water in tanks. However, Suffolk has very little high land to provide a head of water, so the invention of mechanical pumps in the 1860s must have been welcome. At the same time, on the clay of high Suffolk, drainage can be a problem to the extent that moats are required, a feature that is quite common in Suffolk but less so elsewhere.

Figure 19. Advertisement for water pumps

The middle row of the advertisement shows small pumps similarly shaped to those seen at Carlton, Horringer and Langham



Source: www.localhistory.scit.wlv.ac.uk /Museum/Engineering/Evans/evans20.htm

Notes:

[96]Ibid.
[97]Williamson, *Suffolk's, op.cit.* p.103
[98]National Trust, *A Short Guide to Calke Abbey* (2003) p.14. Also seen on field trip July 2006
[99]Musgrave, *op.cit.* back cover
[100]Heat was not required to protect the blossom; this was done with screens of canvas or glass. (See *infra.* Glass)
[101]Campbell, *Walled, op.cit.* p.17
[102]S. Sekers, "The Walled Gardens at Shugborough in Staffordshire" in C.A. Wilson (ed.) *The Country House Kitchen Garden 1600-1950* (1998) p.66
[103]Gray, *art.cit.* p.125
[104]SGT, Benhall
[105]Ibid.
[106]SGT, Langham
[107]Williamson, *Suffolk's, op.cit.* p.123
[108]S. Campbell, "Glasshouses and frames, 1600-1900", in Wilson (ed.) *op.cit.* p.111
[109]Campbell, *Charleston, op.cit.* p.38
[110]Sekers, *art.cit.* p.65
[111]Ibid.
[112]OS map. 2nd edit. (1904)
[113]Campbell, *Walled, op.cit.* p.9
[114]Information from Adam Paul. Fieldwork The Clock House, Cransford, November 2008
[115]Aitkens, *art.cit.* "Adam Paul of Parham Hall is a horticulturist who has made studies of kitchen gardens for the Suffolk Garden Trust". Intro.1.1
[116]Suffolk Gardens Trust survey, Sudbourne Hall, March 2008. Later citations of this source: SGT Sudbourne
[117]Information from the Estate's Gardener. Fieldwork, 27 March 2009
[118]Musgrave, *op.cit.* p.168
[119]Morgan and Richards, *op.cit.* p.130
[120]Ibid.
[121]Aitkens, *art.cit.* p.12
[122]Fairclough and Hardy, *op.cit.* p.196
[123]SGT, Benhall
[124]Ibid.
[125]SGT, Horringer
[126]Williamson, *Suffolk's, op.cit.* p.151
[127]Ibid.
[128]Campbell, *Charleston, op.cit.* pp.40,41
[129]SGT, Benhall
[130]SGT, Horringer
[131]SGT, Langham
[132]Aitkens, *art.cit.* p.12

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