

We have been unable to find any documentary evidence to support the 1740 date. The deeds go back only 100 years and searches at the Essex Record office have failed to get definite confirmation of the build date. But the house does appear as a tiny square on the Chapman & Andre map of 1777, in what was then called Low Lane.

The Tithe map of 1838 shows, at plot 515, the 'Cottages and Garden' being owned by Mary Mabbs and occupied by 'William Francis etc.' How many people the 'etc' represents I dread to think, all crammed into a space that today we often think is not big enough for two of us. Mary Mabbs also owned the two fields to the south of the cottages but these were tenanted by a Mr Charles Milburn. The triangular plot of land shown on the tithe map is very much as it is today and the density of the hedges suggests that they may well date from this time. (I believe that the number of species in a natural hedge is a guide to its age and there are a lot of different species in the hedges at Lanterns)

The census of 1841 shows no William Francis in what had by then become Lower Green and it is not possible from the census details to pin down who lived in which property. There are many families with an 'Agricultural Labourer' at the head living along the lane and the same description applies in the 10 yearly census details through to 1891, but at no time is it possible to allocate tenants to properties. The 2nd edition of the OS map dated 1896 clearly shows the plot of land and two cottages.

By the early years of the 20th century the cottages and land were in the possession of Thomas Chaplin. Upon his death in November 1915 the property became part of a large trust to provide income for the family but eventually came to be owned by Miriam Chaplin. In 1935 Miriam sold it on to Walter William Claude Chaplin and Phillip Herbert Chaplin for one hundred and sixty pounds and in 1950 the Chaplins sold to Mrs Ellen Gibbons. It passed through a couple more hands between the 50's and 80's until the house was totally renovated when we bought it in 1986.

Brian Robinson

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PAST TIMES

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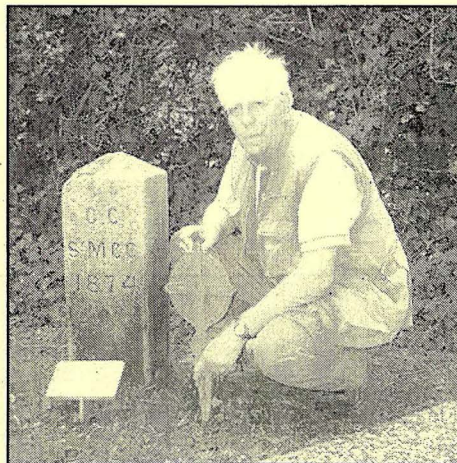


Where or What is this?

OUR mystery picture this month reveals another piece of Galleywood history. Abigail Hedgecock is pointing out a rusty iron bolt protruding from some well worn concrete. We suspect it's more than likely that Abigail was persuaded to show us this long forgotten artifact by her grandfather John Turkentine. There are no prizes for answering the question, but the sharp-eyed ones amongst you will be able to air your knowledge at our next meeting.

Our next meeting

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD AND THE GALLEYWOOD BOUNDARY STONES



Permanent Markers?

Talk by John Turkentine
Chairman Galleywood Parish Council

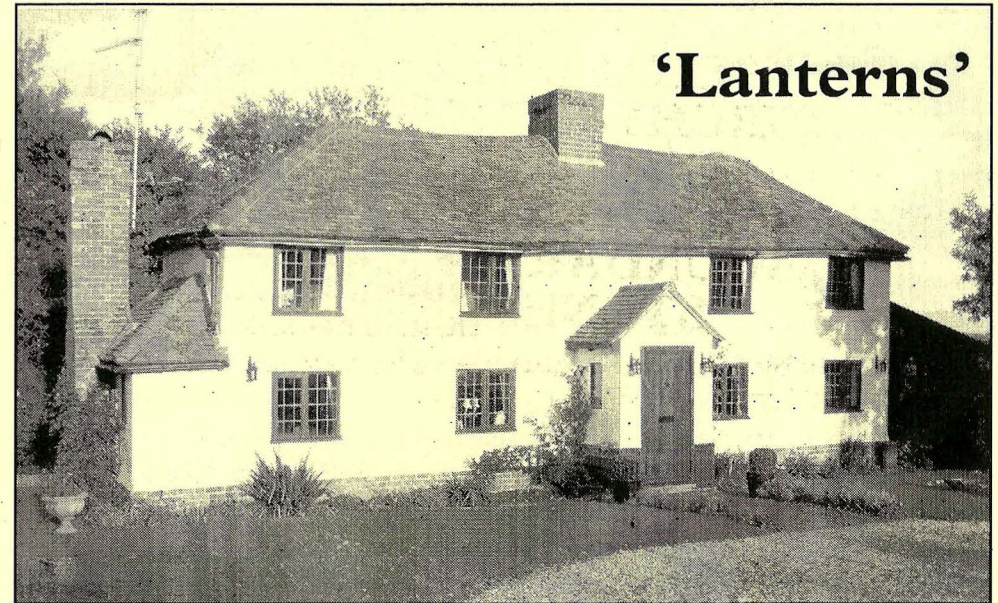
A chance find by John Turkentine three years ago has resulted in his total involvement in the community in which he has lived for 36 years. This has led John to the re-discovery of some of the lost heritage of Galleywood. His talk is based on the finding of eight of the Parish boundary stones and marks his first anniversary as Sexton at St. Michael and All Angels.

Wednesday 16 November 2005
Keene Hall Watchhouse Road at 8 pm
This meeting will commence with the brief formalities of our Annual General Meeting

DATES for your Diary

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| 2006 | |
| 8 March | THE CHAPLIN FAMILY OF GALLEYWOOD
Talk by Christine Whybro and John Chaplin |
| 7 June | THE HISTORY OF GRAY & SONS
Talk by Michael Gray |
| 20 September | THE HISTORY OF INGATESTONE & THORNDON HALLS
and the history of the Petre Family
Talk by Lord Petre |

In 1986, Brian and Christine Robinson bought a cottage in Lower Green. Almost hidden from the road, this is one of the oldest houses in our village. Brian shares with us the results of his search for the history of his home.



THE house that is now called **Lanterns** in Lower Green Galleywood was, we believe, built in 1740 but then it was two cottages. One cottage was what is now our dining room and the other our sitting room. The kitchen at the eastern end of the house was added very much later, probably in the early 20th century and the upstairs of the house has been so much changed as to bear no resemblance to the original cottages.

The prime remaining evidence of the two cottages is the original chimney going through the middle of the house with one fireplace in each room; each fireplace has some remaining ironwork in the chimney for hanging food over the fire. These fireplaces are not now used and we have another fireplace at the other end of the sitting room. The beam structure throughout the ground floor indicates that each of the cottages had a main room and an annex room with a staircase. The beams obviously had a life prior to this house because there are many notches and holes cut into them that have no relevance to the present structure.

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