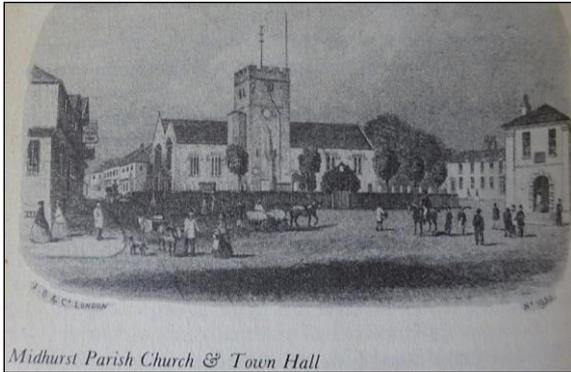


MIDHURST, MARKET SQUARE & EDINBURGH SQUARE

Market Square, North side
21/45 The Parish Church of St Mary

(Formerly listed under Red Lion Street)



GV II 18.6.59

Chancel with north and south chapels tower in the place of a south transept with low shingled spire, nave with aisles. Base of the tower C13, the upper portions of the tower, the nave and the arcades of the chancel early C16. The remainder dates from 1882, when the whole church was so much restored that its character is largely C19.

Architect Lacy W Ridge.

Listing NGR: SU8871321483

"The clock is believed to be early 18th century, but is not shown in a 1790 illustration. 19th century renovations revealed musket balls embedded in rood timbers (believed to date from 1643 when Roundhead troops stabled their horses in the church). The North Aisle and West Porch are later additions, but otherwise the current layout is as it was in the 16th century. It is possible that what is now the Choir Vestry in the North East corner was originally a private pew as there is a fireplace there. (This would account for the siting of the East Door.) I can confirm from personal experience that the Curfew Bell was rung by hand from 1930 until the electrification of the winding mechanism in 1990. The only exceptions were during WW2, and on odd occasions when volunteers could not be found. It was rung, successively, by Mr Frank Ashby, Doris his daughter, Mr John Charlton, Mr Bob Barham, Mr Jim West and Mr Arthur Woolnough. These people also wound the clock mechanism. The clock could run for 28 hours at one winding. To these names should now be added Mr Leslie Howell and Mrs Joyce James. (As remembered by Leslie Howell)





The story of the church is told by P. T. Jones, B.A. in an illustrated guide costing Threepence (undated, but probably 1930s).

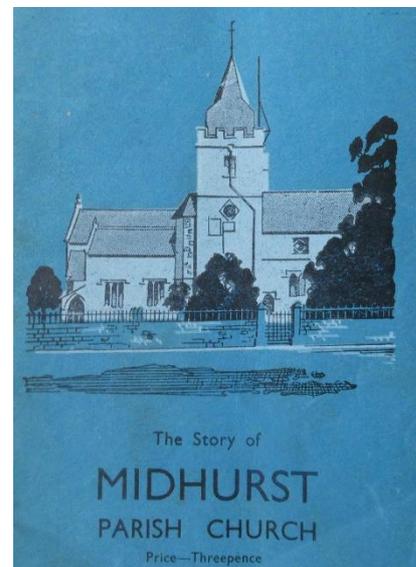
"According to tradition the church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene and St Denis, which may have arisen through dedication to Mary of Easebourne nunnery. Dedications to St Denis (Dionysius), the patron saint of France, are not common in England.

"The original church on this site is conjectured to have been a late-Norman or Transitional structure, perhaps erected by Franco de Bohun, to whom Richard I in 1190 confirmed the barony of Midhurst conferred on Savaric de Bohun by Henry I. Presumably, the original building consisted of chancel and nave placed as those of today, and chancel south chapel or aisle with the tower at its west end. The church was still referred to as 'Midhurst Chapel' as late as Henry VIII's reign.

"In 1422, near the end of Henry V's reign, Midhurst Church was almost entirely rebuilt in the Perpendicular style of that date, the lower part of the tower only being retained from the ancient structure, to a plan identical with that of the old portions of the present church, except possibly that the site of the Southampton Chapel was as yet vacant. This chapel – the eastern portion of the south aisle – was built c1543 as a sepulchral chapel by the executors of Sir William FitzWilliam, Earl of Southampton; but it may be presumed that 'built' means 'rebuilt'. The Earl had directed in his will that a special 'aisle' should be built in Midhurst Church and that he should be buried there if he died within 100 miles of Midhurst. As it happened, he died in Newcastle on a march northward to pacify Scotland in 1542.

"The Southampton Chapel did, however, contain the famous 'Montague' tomb, erected to the Earl's relative Anthony Browne, first Viscount Montague, and the Viscount's two wives. But owing to need of increased seating space the monument was moved to Easebourne Church in 1851.

"The handsome modern glass of the chancel east window, which shows figures of our Lord and the four Evangelists, was erected by old pupils of the Grammar School as a memorial to Dr. Bayly, its most celebrated Head Master."



Market Square, Island Site

21/47 Eagle House Antiques Market with the Parish Room over it.



GV II Built as the Town Hall about 1820. Ground floor probably open originally. West front stuccoed and ground floor rusticated. Pilasters flank the front. Hipped slate roof. Modern windows on ground floor. Glazing bars intact on first floor. Side walls stone rubble. Outside staircase to first floor on north side. Two storeys. Two windows.

Listina NGR: SU8872721444



[Goats photo from the Charles White Collection]

[Inside: two lock-up cells; outside: the stocks. Still there.]

[Later the fire station. The bell still hangs outside.]

[Despite the wording in the listing, the building is much older than 1820. And the building opposite is called 'Eagle House'.]

[The first-floor meeting room is in the care of Midhurst Town Trust.]

Market Square, East side

21/46 The Fernery, Granville House, Johnson and Clarence Solicitors



Dormitory for Granville College

(Formerly listed as The Fernery, Granville House and House adjoining Granville House to the south)

GV II Listed:18.6.59

Listing last amended: 26.11.87

Terrace of houses. C17 or earlier timber-framed construction and some timbering is exposed at the rear or east side which is in three parallel wings. But they were refronted along the street in the C18 as a terrace of three houses. Stone with red brick dressings and quoins. Hipped tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Outside stone steps to first floor on south side. Two storeys and attic. Nine windows. Four hipped dormers.

Listing NGR: SU8875321465

[From Drey A Lou: "My ancestor Alice Buckman born 1885 in Midhurst of Taylors Cottage was a domestic housemaid at Granville house on the 1901 census aged 16. It is recorded as an all-girls boarding house, 25 students from all over the country were taught Music, English, French, Art."] [See entry under St Anne's Hill for classroom.]

Market Square, south side
21/42 Jackson, Stops and Staff
and 'Second Thoughts' Clothing Shop
with Giraffe Records.

(Formerly listed as Premises at Corner of South Street)

One-time home of Midhurst District Council, Eagle House is a fine example of decorated 18th century construction, with simple columns of stone and a horizontal roof line. These elegant lines were compromised in the 19th century, with the addition of a row of heavy, cement plaques inserted above the upstairs windows. The 20th century complicated matters further, when an arched window was deemed 'suitable' for the ground floor western wing. Between the two wings, unusually, are three doorways, one of which is 18th century and the other two are reasonable imitations.



GV II: Listed 18.06.1959

Large house, now two shops with premises over. C18, altered in C19. Red brick. Stone pilasters flank the front and three centre window-bays. Stone stringcourse. Brick parapet. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact above ground floor. Carved stone panels above first floor windows. Three doorways with stone pilasters, projecting cornice and rectangular fanlights. Modern shop fronts on each side of these. Two storeys. Seven windows.

Listing NGR: SU8871321429

A clue was found to the origins of the building when an invitation card was discovered behind the panelling in one of the ground-floor fireplaces. It bore the name 'Charman' and a date: 179? The Midhurst Local History Group decided to investigate. They traced the will of a



certain John Charman, who died in 1742. It became clear that he had built the house in 1734, the date on the gracious staircase along with the words: 'Daniel Lucas fecit' (made by Daniel Lucas). The Charman family had owned two burgages there for over a century, and it seems likely that John demolished earlier buildings to make way for his mansion – panelled in every room but the kitchen and attics. Behind the house were stables and a garden, eventually replaced by smaller houses more than a century later (the work of local master-builder Mr Othen).

John Charman junior inherited on his father's death, and in 1749 he divided the house and sold the western end to his brother James. In 1753 he sold the eastern end to a man named Gale, and three years later bought it back again. He had probably continued to live there, such property dealings although strange to our modern eye could well have been connected with the burgage system, whereby votes in Parliamentary elections were based on possession of certain properties. Midhurst was a 'rotten borough', returning to Parliament two members who represented a mere handful of burgagers – who probably voted according to instructions!

When John Junior died in 1777 his son George inherited. He was the last of the line. The house never had a name but was always referred to as 'Charman's House' – or 'the house that Charman built'.

In the late 19th century the Rural Council moved into the east wing and remained there until WW1. A youth club took over between the wars, and during WW2 it was used for fire-watching.

[The research of the Midhurst Local History Group was written up in an article in the Midhurst & Petworth Observer in 1961, from which these notes were made.]

Market Square, South side

No 2

(Formerly listed as two Cottages adjoining 'Savings Bank' on the west)

GV II 21/41 18.6.59

C17 or earlier timber-framed building, now faced with roughcast. First floor oversails. Rusticated quoins flank the front and the windows. Casement windows, with wooden shutters on ground floor. Tiled roof. Two storeys. Two windows.

Listing NGR: SU8872521427



"2 Market Square is an attractive Grade II Listed town cottage (believed to be 15th century) with delightful accommodation including dining room, sitting room, kitchen, three bedrooms, studio/cellar and paved secluded courtyard. Rendered elevations with wooden square-paned windows, some exterior shutters, beneath a tiled roof. Many period features including beams and an open fireplace." [Jackson Stops brochure, 2006]



Edinburgh Square

The Old Savings Bank

GV II 21/52

Now a House. Early C19. Stuccoed. Tiled roof. Casement windows with latticed panes and drip moulds over. Four-centred doorway with dripstone. Another similar doorway in north front. Two storeys. Two windows.

Listing NGR: SU8873021426



EDINBURGH SQUARE (west side)
21/51 Coppet Hold

GV II

C18 Cottage. Faced with rough plaster. Tiled roof. Venetian shutters. Glazing bars intact. Doorway with flat hood over. Two storeys and attic. Two windows. One dormer.

Listing NGR: SU8872621420

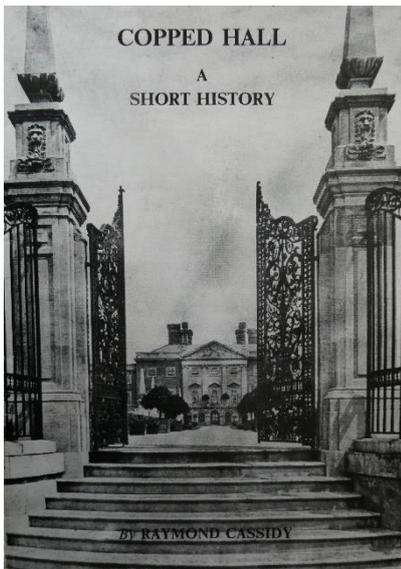


"Coppet Hold is a delightful town house, listed Grade II and situated within the Conservation Area of Midhurst. The property is tucked away but a stone's throw from Midhurst's amenities and incredible rural landscape with access to St Ann's Hill which overlooks the infamous Cowdray Park Ruins. The house has been subject to comprehensive refurbishment and has a very pleasant layout comprising a welcoming hall which leads to a large

sitting room with inglenook fireplace. At the end of the hall there is a delightful kitchen/dining room with an aspect over a manageable courtyard garden. Coppet Hold has the benefit of a pedestrian access to the garden as well as an outdoor utility area. The kitchen has the additional benefit of a cellar. Upstairs there are two bedrooms on the first floor and a family bathroom. The landing has capacity for a work area and storage. Across the second floor there is another double bedroom and shower room en suite." [Jackson Stops brochure 2020]



In the will (August 1599) of Henry Grete (Clothier) there is reference to "A little tenement called Copp Hall in Midhurst". A deed of 1633 relating to Court Green House refers to "burgage messuage or dwelling house called Copped Hall". In 1760 there is a lease from Sir William Peere Williams to John Charman. In 1797 Coppitt Hall was leased from Baron Carrington to William Court of Midhurst. In 1816 Coppitt Hall was leased from George & John Smith to Joseph Jellico of Friern in Middlesex. (*Cowdray Mss*)



Copped Hall was a rather grand title for a small cottage. It was also the name of a property in Essex, dating from 1258, granted by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Thomas Heneage in 1564, and rebuilt by him (from a ruinous state) into a "noble house with a court in the middle" and named from the nearby Cobbing Brook. Was the Midhurst property named after the "noble house"? There is a rather tenuous possible connection. Mary, the 13-year-old daughter of the 1st Viscount Montague, married Henry Wriothesley in 1556. Their son became the 3rd Earl and was a patron of Shakespeare. The marriage was not a success, and Mary later married Heneage, the Queen's Treasurer of the Chamber and Vice-Chancellor of the Royal Household. There are unconfirmed stories that link Shakespeare with the Cowdray and Montague families. Perhaps Heneage is the link. In any event, the timing is right for someone to borrow the name of Heneage's "noble house" and bestow it on a property in Midhurst. (*From "The Shakespeare Connection"; Midhurst Heritage Magazine No. 8, 2007*)

EDINBURGH SQUARE (east side)
21/48 The Crown Inn
[Now a private residence]



GV II; listed 26.11.1987

Public House. C18. West front stuccoed, south wall stone, north wall red brick. Eaves bracket cornice. Tiled roof. Two small modern bays on ground floor. Casement windows above. Two storeys. Three windows.

Listing NGR: SU8875021425

The *Midhurst Tithes Map* of 1841 identifies the piece of land now occupied by The Crown as Plot 108 and the Apportionment gives the owner and occupier as William Kemp, and the use as 'house etc'. The adjacent houses to the north (101-107) were all owned by J Smith and described as houses, gardens, and one block of stables. At the rear of Plot 108 is a rectangular building (probably erected circa 1840-42).



The *Midhurst Population Census Returns* for 1841 give William Kemp, a brewer aged 25, living in Edinburgh Square with his wife Mary aged 23. In which case, perhaps Kemp constructed the outbuilding for use as a brewhouse and this would then be the date when The Crown started serving beer or ale to paying customers.

1903-05 in Fred Payne's time

In 1871 the Census shows Henry Dyer, a beermaker and beerseller aged 40, living at the Crown Beer House with his wife Betsy, aged 32, two sons, four daughters, a servant, and a lodger named George Cook who was described as 'comedian'. By 1881, Henry Dyer was a beer retailer; and in 1891 William Dyer (Henry's son?) was 'Beerhouse Keeper' at The Crown Inn. The Dyers were followed by George Bailey, Rebecca Bailey, Fred Payne, Edmund Elliott, James Elliott, Pt. Whitehead, Edith Whitehead and Chas E Burgess.

~ from the **Listed Building Assessment by Fred Alsworth, 2010.**



Edinburgh Square, South side
Gate House
(Formerly listed under Market Square)

GV II 21/49 18.6.59

C18

Faced with grey headers with red brick dressings, quoins, stringcourses, dentilled eaves cornice and panels between the windows. Ashlar plinth. Tiled roof. Windows with keyblocks and glazing bars intact. Doorway with flat hood on brackets. The rear is stuccoed with two gables.

Listing NGR: SU8874921402



[The old postcard shows the garden to the rear of the property. The modern photo is the view from the front, in Edinburgh Square itself.]

[Formerly a private hotel]

[Now apartments.]

In March 1790 (in the thirtieth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God) a lease for 1,000 years was signed between the Right Honourable George O'Brien Earl of Egremont and Henry Pruet of Midhurst. The property was described as: All that Messuage or Tenement Backside Barn Stable and Garden and the premises in the tenure or occupation of [numerous individuals mentioned] at a yearly rent of six pence of lawful money. No map was attached, but the land appears to stretch to 'the street leading from South Pond to the Market Place'.

[In the 1901 Census under "Square" and next to "Bierton", a building described as "**Edinburgh House**" is being run as a ladies' school; Principal Mary Newman, with her sister Martha. There are teachers in English (two), music and French. Nineteen young ladies (aged 10 to 19) are boarders, and there are three servants. Is this Gate House?]

Edinburgh Square, South side
Bierton House

(Formerly listed under Market Square)

GV II 21/50 18.6.59

House. C18 front to a probably older building. Faced with grey headers with red brick dressings, quoins, stringcourse and dentilled eaves cornice. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Casement windows. West and south fronts stone. Two storeys. Three windows.

Listing NGR: SU8873121398



A photo of the house appeared in the Observer (date unknown) asking for help in identifying the property. It was, erroneously, named as Hill House. The

following week, the newspaper printed this: "The house which we called Hill House is, in fact, Bierton House and stands in Edinburgh Square next to The Crown [?]. It was owned by Chairman of The Midhurst Society, Mr. J Fletcher, for 30 years, before he sold it to Mrs. Dickson who lived there until last year. Both Mr. Fletcher and Mrs. Dickson easily recognised the house. It was built in 1725.

History of owners and tenants of Bierton House (from WSCC records)

1725: Indenture between Bulstrade Peachey Knight of West Dean and John Charman

1760: Bought by William Peere Williams

1761: Demisee sold to Viscount Montague

1768: John Charman (son) and Charles Thorpe

1788: Richard Luff (later with Ann Marnar, his wife), Charles Thorpe and Richard Clare.

1788: Montague sold to Egremont

1790: [Was this property covered by the 1,000-year lease referred to under The Gatehouse?]

1795: Egremont sold to Robert Smith (later Baron Carrington)

1797: Richard Clare and Christopher Hull (Inner Temple)

1801: Robert Smith sold to brothers George and John Smith

1801: Richard Clare and Christopher Hull

1811: Executors of John Charman (grandson) and Christopher Hull

1814: Christopher Hull dies

1830: Lansdown Hull and George Key

1836: George Smith dies; property remains with John Smith

1843: James Hooper, Thomas Wright, Nathaniel Hooper & Clementina Key Mearns; Lansdown Hull; William Hayward Hayes Shorto.

1880: Certificate of redemption of land tax

1903: Charles Albery & James Lucas; Mary Ann Parker

1910: Gerald Dudley Smith sold to 1st Baron Cowdray

1936: Richard Popplewell and Sir Henry Harvey