



**The Midhurst Society**

## **MIDHURST: SHEEP LANE / ST ANNE'S HILL**

Sheep Lane  
Russet House



Listed 18.6.59

- II 21/39

House. C18. Red brick and grey headers in Flemish bond on a stone plinth.

Stringcourse. Coved eaves cornice. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Doorway with flat hood on brackets and deep panelled reveals. Old Sun insurance sign No 68554. Two storeys. Five windows.

Listing NGR: SU8871221526

Sheep Lane  
St Ann's



[Garden photo from Jackson Stops sales brochure (2003)]

GV II 1899/21/10018

House. Possible early C18 origins but otherwise late C18 with date 1789 carved in serif style into the jamb of the rear door. Front has ground floor of diaper brickwork with fewer grey headers to upper floors, side has tile-hung ground floor with painted brick above, rear is of stone rubble with red brick dressings. Hipped tiled roof with end brick chimneystacks. Main house of three storeys; 4:4:2 windows to front. Cambered sashes, 9-pane to second floor and 12-pane to lower floors. Doorcase has wooden architrave with pilasters, 6-panelled door, three steps and curved iron handrail. Moulded cornice and plinth. Rear elevation has irregular fenestration of 9, 12 or 16 paned sashes with some tripartite windows and first floor 3-light curved bow supported on circular columns. Attached two storey rear wing of stone rubble with red brick dressings and tiled roof was probably a service building originally. Interior has contemporary staircase. Records of tenancy agreements date back to early C18.

Listing NGR: SU8872721542

[It was built for Captain John Quantock of the Dragoon Guards who acquired the site by marriage in 1778.]

### Sheep Lane St Ann's House



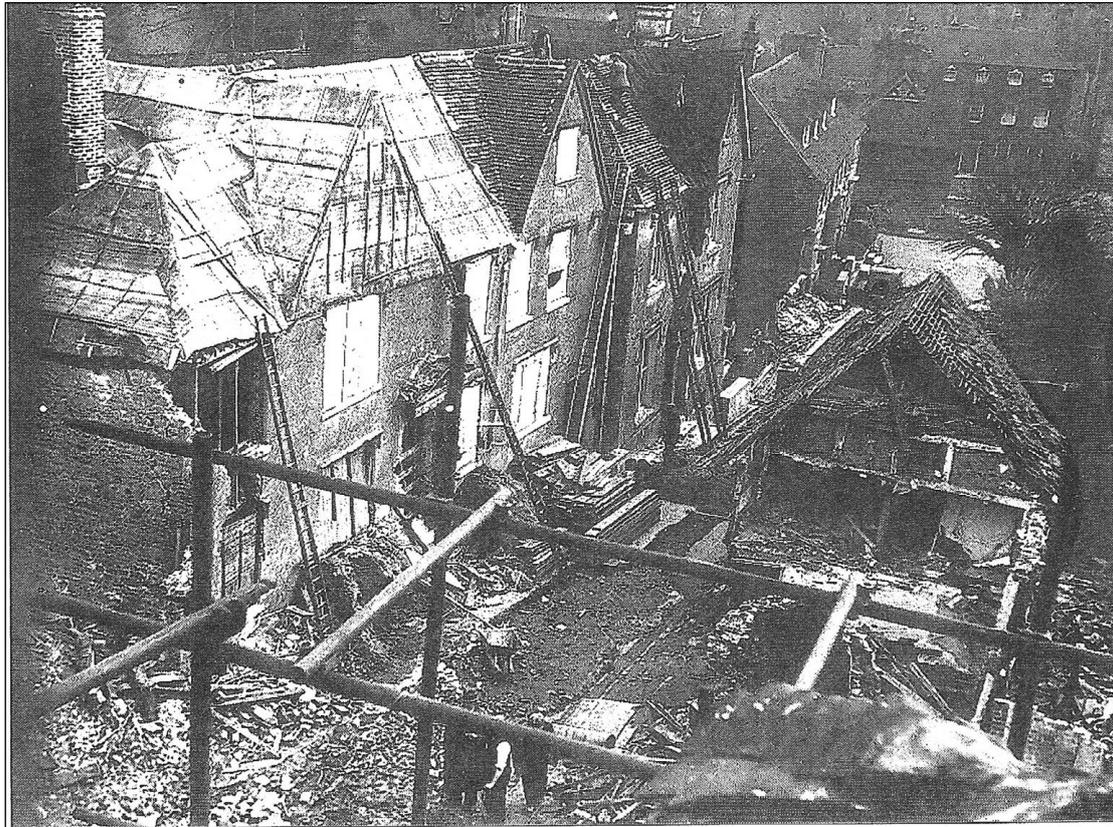
- II 21/40

C18. Red brick. Parapet. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Doorway at the head of stone steps with fluted pilasters, flat hood on brackets and door of six fielded panels 4 glazed. 2 storeys. 5 windows.

Listing NGR: SU8876021525

[The largest Georgian house in Midhurst, built by Major Richard Newland, of the Dragoon Guards. As was his neighbour at St Ann's.]

[Badly damaged by a bomb in WW2]



Sheep Lane looking south towards the Market Square,  
"Sheepcote", at the bottom of the photograph, has been completely destroyed

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### St Anne's Hill Court Green

- II 21/62

House. C18 or earlier. Two parallel ranges.  
Ground floor coursed stone, above  
tile-hung. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact.  
Gable ends north and south.

Listing NGR: SU8880121440



[“The land to the north of St Ann’s Hill (now impenetrably overgrown) is known as Court Green. From Saxon to Mediaeval times, it was the three-weekly meeting place of the law court of the local Hundred, an administrative district extending from Half Way bridge to Trotton bridge.” ~ extract from **The Midhurst Society history leaflet** on St Ann's Hill.]

Extract from the Sussex entries of the **Victoria County History**:

“during the time, 1284–1311, that Midhurst was in the hands of Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, his agents are said to have pulled down, in one place, a hall worth £50, a chamber (£62), another chamber (£12), two chapels (£5 each), a kitchen (10 marks), and a granary (5 marks). This points to the dismantling of the Tan Hill site, but 'the chapel of St. Denis within the former castle of Midhurst' was functioning in 1291, and is referred to in 1367 as standing 'in a place called Courtgrene'.”

**St Anne's Hill**  
**342-347 St Anne's Hill and St Ann's Hall,**  
**including archway to Edinburgh Square**

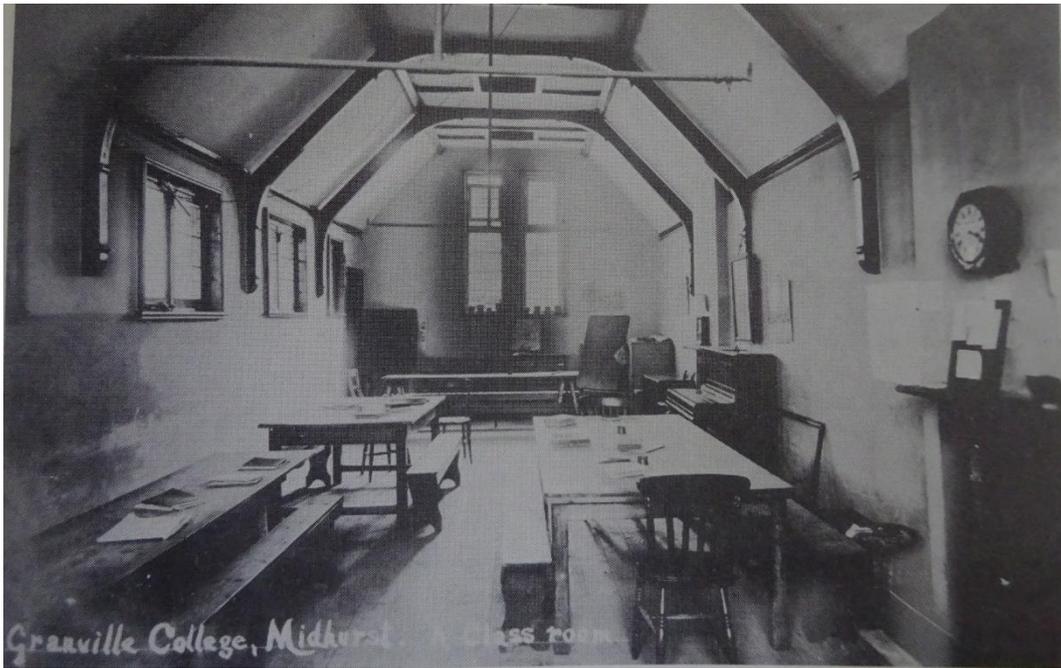
Listing Date: 22 December 2011  
Grade: II  
Source: Historic England  
Source ID: 1405049



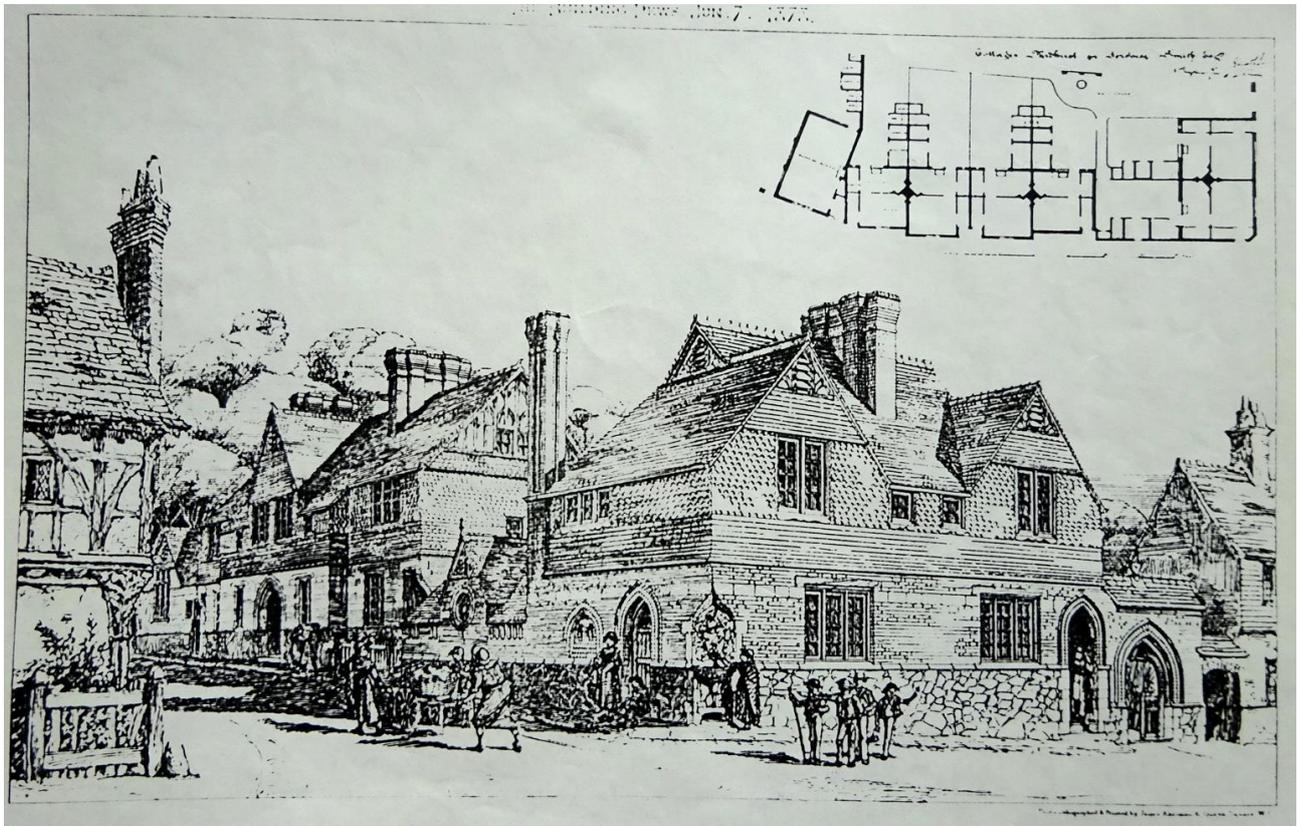
[The listing appears to include the whole block, including what is now St Anns Hall. At one time the First National School for Infants; later, Granville College, a private school for girls; later still, the Red Cross Hall.]

[The name is usually shown as St Ann, but in modern times St Anne has made an appearance. As the name comes from Hebrew texts, where vowels are in short supply, it is a matter of interpretation. However, it is commonly believed that the original name was Tan Hill. Therefore, no 'e'.]





“The first National school for infants could accommodate 120 pupils, but by 1890 it was only attended by 65. These were transferred to the school by the Half Moon and the building became Granville College, a private and superior place of education for girls.” (R. Carpenter coll)  
 [Granville House, round the corner in Market Place, acted as boarding house. The 1901 census listed 25 young ladies living there.]



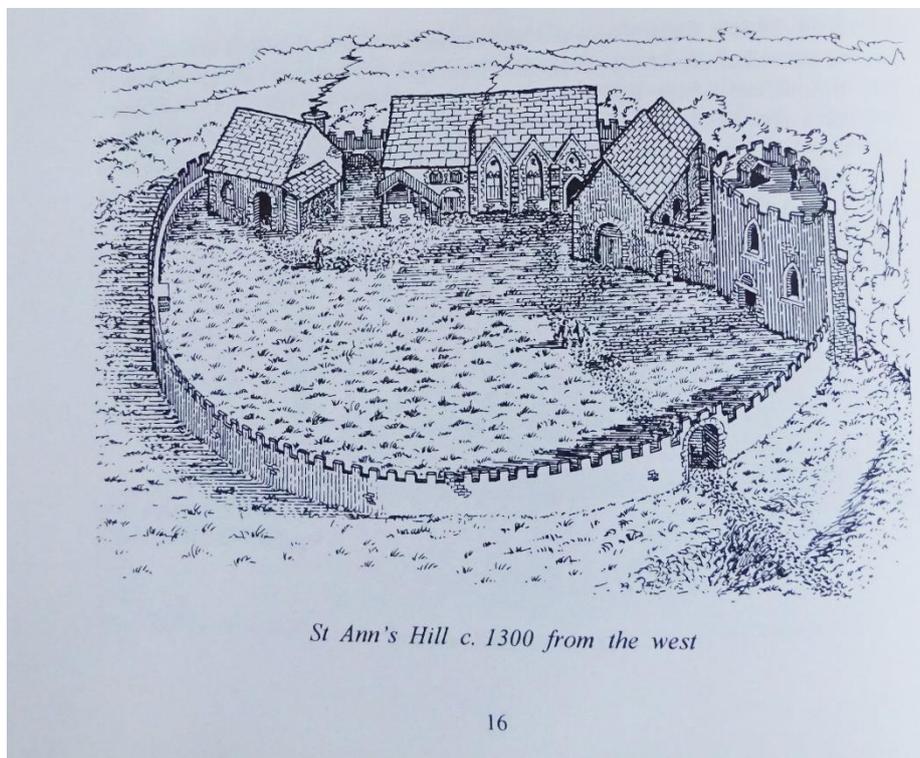
St Anne's Hill  
Ruined castle or fortified house

[see also TMS History Leaflet]

Heritage Category: Scheduled Monument  
List Entry Number: 1012176  
Date first listed: 28-Sep-1954  
Date of most recent amendment: 19-Jul-1991



The monument includes the earthworks and ruined walls of a castle dating from the 12th century. The central area of the castle is the artificial mound, or motte, an existing natural prominence which was heightened using rubble. On the motte was built a roughly oval enclosing wall up to 1.7m thick which defined an area 65m north-south by 50m east-west. Backing on to the wall were a number of chambers used for living quarters, kitchens and storage, as well as a small chapel dedicated to St Denis. The motte was defended on the south and east sides by steep slopes. On the north side a dry ditch was dug measuring over 10m wide which has now been largely infilled by eroded soil although it is still over 3m deep at the northern end. On the west side the defences were pierced by an arched entrance, probably the front part of an otherwise wooden gatehouse. To the north-west of the motte, and still within the defences, is a second raised area which is likely to have been the site of ancillary buildings such as stables and granaries. This bailey area measures 78m north-east/south-west by 15-25m north-west/south-east. The foundations of many of the stone walls of the castle were traced during partial excavations by Sir W. St John Hope in 1913. The walls were partly reconstructed so that they stand to ca. 0.8m, the original stone having been taken for other Midhurst buildings after the site's abandonment in favour of the nearby Cowdray mansion in the Tudor period. The two sets of steps and all of the modern fences and walls are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath is included.



*St Ann's Hill c. 1300 from the west*

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Illustration by Max Wholey from the book *Midhurst: Walks in the Old Town* by Frances Johnson-Davies

