

Planning Inspectorate
(via email)

Date: 14 November 2019
Ref: ARRG/03

Dear Planning Inspectors

Southampton to London Pipeline – written representation from Ashford Road, TW18

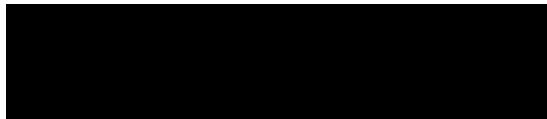
Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group has reviewed the Development Consent and the impact it will have on the residents of Ashford Road (TW18) and the surrounding roads.

Please find attached the written representation produced on behalf of the Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group.

The Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group has no objection in principal to the replacement of the pipeline but the Residents Group has identified concern over certain aspects of the proposal which require further consideration and mitigation.

Thank you in advance for considering this written representation.


Yours faithfully,



Claire Watters
Secretary
Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group

Enc
Written Representation

CC via email
Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth – Kwasi Kwarteng
Member of Parliament for Spelthorne - Kwasi Kwarteng
Surrey County Councillor for Staines South and Ashford West – Denise Turner-Stuart
Strategic Planning Department, Spelthorne Borough Council



Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group *(inc. adjacent roads)*



Section 60, Planning Act 2008

Esso Petroleum Company Limited

Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Application for a Development Consent Order – Reference EN070005

Ashford Road (TW18) Residents Group Written Representation, November 2019

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1. Introduction

Esso Petroleum Company Limited has applied for a Development Consent Order for a replacement aviation oil pipeline running from east of Southampton to the company's West London Terminal Storage Facility south of London Heathrow Airport.

The proposed pipeline passes through Ashford Road (TW18) in Surrey and the construction phase will impact in a variety of ways on the residents of Ashford Road (TW18) and surrounding areas. Company.

The residents of Ashford Road ask the Examination Authority to review the justified concerns and we request that that Esso respond to each of our questions

2. Ashford Road (TW18) Order Limits

The Order Limits follow the alignment of Ashford Road and extend laterally onto to the eastern road verge. The verge features a continuous line of mature woodland designated as a group TPO. In addition to its inherent landscape and visual value along Ashford Road the woodland provides screening to an active gravel works to the east.

The western side of Ashford Road generally comprises detached suburban housing on sizeable plots.



Figure 1. Ashford Road

(yellow line denotes proposed location of pipeline)

(red line denote extents of Order Limits on western side of Ashford Road)

3. Ashford Road (TW18) – Points of Concern

3.1. DCO Part 2. Principal of Powers

3.1.1 Limits of Deviation

(a) Section 2, Paragraph 6 (1) states that whilst the works cannot be outside of the Order Limits they can deviate laterally within them.

Q1. At what point will the Project Team know they need to deviate from the preferred route of the pipeline?

Q2. How much notice will be given to residents affected by the deviation?

(b) Section 2, Paragraph 6 (2) states that pipeline works can deviate vertically – up to a maximum of 5m below ground level.

Q3. How does this vertical deviation align with the proposed level of the Brett Aggregate conveyor belt and their associated works within the eastern verge of Ashford Road?



Figure 2. Brett Aggregate works on Ashford Road

Q4. What assurance will be given to residents regarding subsidence should this level of vertical deviation take place on the western edge of Ashford Road?

3.2. DCO Part 3. Streets

3.2.1 Power to alter layout etc of streets

(a) Section 3, Paragraph 9 (1) and Schedule 3 states that the only street subject to temporary alteration is Station Road, Ashford.

(b) Section 3, Paragraph 9 (2) states that for the purposes of constructing or maintaining the authorised development that any street can be temporarily or permanently altered – whether they are within the Order Limits or not and the following can be undertaken – where no comment on the action it has been deleted for clarity:

(a) increase the width of the carriageway of the street by reducing the width of any kerb, footpath, footway, cycle track, central reservation or verge within the street;

(b) alter the level or increase the width of any such street, kerb, footpath, footway, cycle track, central reservation or verge;

(c) reduce the width of the carriageway of the street;

(d) execute any works to widen or alter the alignment of pavements;

Q5. There are a number of side roads off Ashford Road that only have one point of access/egress – what assurance will be given that there will no alterations – as those stated in Paragraph (2a- 2i) to these roads?

Q6. Ashford Road is a popular cycling route and the pavement is used for the school walking route to the school in Laleham Village. What level of protection would be provided should the above actions be implemented?

(f) execute any works of surfacing or resurfacing of the highway;

Q7. This would be a welcomed mitigation measure and the Residents Group would be looking to see a full repair to the highway surface – not just a patch repair - using latest technology for noise reduction. Can the Project Team confirm this would be given consideration?

3.2.2 Street works

(a) Section 3, Paragraph 10 states the Project Team can enter any of the roads listed in Schedule 4 – Ashford Road is listed - and without the consent of the street authority do the following:

(a) break up or open the street, or any sewer, drain or tunnel within or under it;

Q8. This is a very broad statement and requires clarification.

- Break up or open the street
Q8a. How would through-flow of traffic be maintained and access to properties be gained?
- Break up or open any sewer or drain
Q8b. What mitigation would be in place if a sewer or drain was decommissioned?
- Break up or open any tunnel
Q8c. The only tunnel that would be under Ashford Road would be the conveyor tunnel from Brett Aggregates development on the western side of Ashford Road to the eastern side and into the Thames Water land. How would this be possible?

(b) tunnel or bore under the street or carry out works to strengthen or repair the carriageway;

Q9. There are a lot of existing services within Ashford Road and the adjacent verges. This statement implies that the Project Team anticipate some degree of strengthening would be required, for example if the maximum vertical deviation was realised – in order to maintain support to these services. Can the Project Team expand on the meaning of this statement?

(c) remove or use all earth and materials in or under the street;

Q10. This is a very broad statement and requires clarification. Ashford Road is in a mineral-rich area and this suggests that the Order Limits will be used to mine the aggregate under the entire length and breadth of Ashford Road. The Project Team need to clarify this point.

(d) place and keep apparatus in the street;

Q11. "Apparatus" is defined as "pipelines" in the "New Roads and Street Works Act, 1991" to which the Works of this Order will be executed. This statement can therefore be read that there will be no requirement for temporary storage logistics hubs along the route of the pipeline as the pipeline, and possibly ancillary materials and equipment, can be placed and kept along the verges of Ashford Road or the roads adjoining Ashford Road. Can the Project Team please advise their intentions with regards to this section?

(e) maintain, alter or renew apparatus in or on the street or change its position;

Q12. Can the Project Team confirm if there is a timescale to this or can this statement be applied at anytime within the design life of the new pipeline?

(f) demolish, remove, replace and relocate any street furniture within the street;

Q13. There are currently wooden knee railings present along Ashford Road on the eastern verge and they contribute to the aesthetics of the road. Would the Project Team confirm these will be replaced upon completion of the Works?

(g) execute any works to provide or improve sight lines;

Q14. Can the Project Team confirm is this referring to sight lines for the execution of the Works or for when the Works are complete?

(h) execute and maintain any works to provide hard and soft landscaping;

Q15. The Residents Group would welcome soft landscaping along Ashford Road and adjoining roads. The eastern verge of Ashford Road would lend itself well to sowing of wild flowers therefore there would be no further requirement for ground maintenance of that section of the road. The Group would welcome discussion on options relating to hard landscaping.

- (i) *carry out re-lining and placement of road markings;*
- (j) *remove and install temporary and permanent signage;*

Q16. The Residents Group would welcome the above Works being undertaken.

3.2.3 Temporary stopping up on streets and public rights of way

(a) Section 3, Paragraph 12 (1) states that traffic can be diverted and persons can also be prevented from passing along the street or public right of way.

Q17. Ashford Road has adjoining roads with only one point of access/egress and that is via Ashford Road. Can the Project Team confirm that access to the adjoining roads will not be affected?

Q18. Ashford Road is a long linear road with two main points of access – one to the south via Laleham Village and one to the north via Kingston Road. There is access mid-way via the Royal Estate. Can the Project Team confirm if there is any intention to effectively cut Ashford Road in two to allow works to progress using access only via the Royal Estate for residents to access their properties on Ashford Road and have no through traffic? It should be noted that Ashford Road is a major route for emergency services between Ashford Hospital and St Peters Hospital, Chertsey.

(b) Section 3, Paragraph 12 (2) states that the Project Team may use as a temporary working site and street or public right of way which has been temporarily stopped up, altered, diverted or restricted.

Q19. Within the design refinement stage in early 2019 there was a temporary logistics hub identified between 133 and 151 Ashford Road. When the final proposed route was announced in March 2019 this temporary logistics hub was no longer part of the scheme. Can the Project Team confirm if this was removed as it was evident from the statements within the DCO that the Project Team could choose anywhere, and adhoc, to use as a temporary working site?

3.3. DCO Part 4. Supplemental Powers.

3.3.1 Authority to survey and investigate land

(a) Section 4, Paragraph 19 (1) states that the Project Team can enter any land shown within the Order Limits – or which may be affected by the Development.

Q20. How much notice would be given to resident and how would this notice be given? If works were being under taken on the western verge of Ashford Road how would residents access their properties?

3.4. DCO Part 5. Powers of Acquisition and Possession of Land

3.4.1 Compulsory acquisition of land – incorporation of the mineral code

(a) With reference to Paragraph 21:

Q21. Can the Project Team confirm if Ashford Road and the Order of Limits will be subject to Compulsory Acquisition of Land due to the presence of minerals (aggregate). Refer also to Q10 on this matter.

3.4.2 Rights under or over streets

(a) Section 5, Paragraph 28 (1) states the Project Team can enter upon and use so much of the subsoil, or air space over any street within the Order Limits for the purposes of the development or any other purpose ancillary to the proposed development.

Q22. Can the Project Team confirm if Ashford Road and the Order of Limits will be subject to the above statement and access to the subsoil for mineral extraction? Refer also to Q10 and Q21 on this matter.

3.4.3 Temporary use of land for carrying out the authorised development

(a) Section 5, Paragraph 29 (1) states the Project Team may take temporary possession of land.

Q23. Whilst Schedule 7 states where these land plots are what assurances can the Project Team give the Residents Group that as the project

moves through the development stage there will no be changes to this?

3.4.3 Temporary use of land for maintaining the authorised development

(a) Section 5, Paragraph 30 (1) states there may need to be access for maintaining the pipeline.

Q24. Whilst the current proposal is for the pipeline to be down the eastern verge of Ashford Road and the valve to the north of Ashford Road this may change as the project moves through the development stage or during construction phase there may be changes that need to be made. How will the Project Team notify residents of this work, how much notice will be given and how would the Project Team mitigate disruption to the users and residents of Ashford Road?

3.5. DCO Part 6. Miscellaneous and General

3.5.1 Felling or lopping

(a) Section 6, Paragraph 30 (1) states there may be a need to fell, lop, prune, coppice, pollard or reduce in height or width any tree or shrub – or cut back its roots – and that the Project Team will not cause unnecessary damage. Any compensation will be paid to any person who sustain any loss or damage from such activity.

Q25. How can it be possible to cut back roots of ancient woodland trees with veteran tree status and not cause damage? Ashford Road is lined with ancient Oak trees and this forms part of the appeal for why residents chose to live on the road. How does the Project Team propose to compensate residents for loss of these trees?

3.5.2 Trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders

Refer to Schedule 8 comments with specific points of concern regarding this section.

3.6. DCO Schedules.

3.6.1 Schedule 1 – Authorised Development

(a) Work No 9AM – temporary construction access to the east of the B377 Ashford Road.

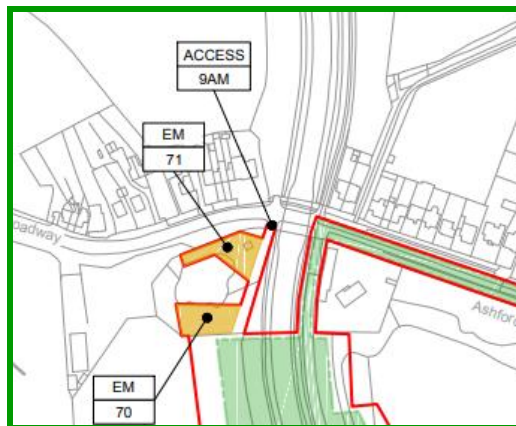


Figure 3 – Work No 9AM

- Q25a.** How long will it take to install the temporary access?
- Q25b.** How many vehicles will this accomodate?
- Q25c.** Will the vehicles be contruction vehicles ie large items of plant
- Q25d.** What will be the operating hours?
- Q25e.** How will vehicles be controlled accessing and egressing the site – this is a very fast stretch of Ashford Road
- Q25f.** Will vehicless be required to cross over to the works location on the opposite side of the road – how will this be controlled?
- Q25g.** What are the environmental mitigation measures for EM70 and EM71?

(b) Work No 11E – permanent access to Work No 2O (valve) with provision of vehicular parking off B377 Ashford Road

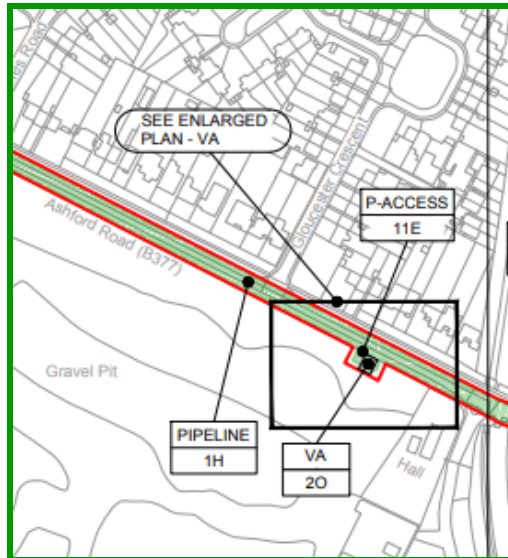


Figure 4 – Work No 11E

Q26a. The above plan does not detail associated off road parking with Work No 11E or VA 2O. Is this referring to the temporary access at locations 9AN and 9AO?

(c) Work No 9AN and 9AO – temporary construction access to the west and north of the B377 Ashford Road.



Figure 5 – Work No 9AN and 9AO

- Q27a.** How long will it take to install the temporary access?
- Q27b.** How many vehicles will this accomodate?
- Q27c.** Will the vehicles be contruction vehicles ie large items of plant
- Q27d.** What will be the operating hours?
- Q27e.** How will vehicles be controlled accessing and egressing the site?
- Q27f.** What consideration has been given for the residents on the corner of Ashford Road and Kingston Road and the impact on the children's nursery?
- Q27g.** This section of the road is busy with workers from the council deport parking cars in the area – how will this be addressed?

(d) Sections (a) to (q) generically explain the Works associated with the Work No's detailed in Schedule 1.

- Q28.** When will location specific Construction Phase Plans be made available? Contractors when appointed for each of the areas along the stretch of the pipeline will develop the further when they are appointed however at this stage of the development the Client should have a reasonably detailed Construction Phase Plan in place and this is not evident from the documents that have been made available.

3.6.1 Schedule 2, Part 1 - Requirements

(a) Paragraph 2 states the time limit for starting the development after the date the Order comes into force is 5 years.

Q29. When will a specific detailed pre-construction and construction programme be available for each work location?

(b) Paragraph 4 states specific Work No's must be carried out in general accordance with the indicative layout drawings.

Q30. The Work No's of particular interest to this Residents Group (9AM, 9AN; 9AO and 11E) are not included in those work areas therefore can the Project Team advise why these areas are not included in that statement?

(c) Paragraph 6 makes reference to the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

Q31. When will this be available for each work location?

(d) Paragraph 8 states that reinstatement of hedgerows and trees will be in line with the relevant plans.

Q32. Why are these plans not available now for scrutiny within the period for Written Representation?

(e) Paragraph 14 (1) states construction hours will be between 07:00 and 19:00 Monday to Friday with Saturdays by exception.

(f) Paragraph 14 (3) lists activities that can take place outside of these hours. These activities are not acceptable to the Residents Group and will be challenged with Spelthorne Borough Council to ensure approval for these hours are not granted. The activities listed as being outside of the core hours implies possibility of 24 hour working.

(g) Paragraph 14 (4a) states oversized deliveries to site, arrival of personnel etc. This will also not be acceptable to the Residents Group and will be challenged with Spelthorne Borough Council to ensure approval for these hours are not granted. This will be very disruptive for residents to have personnel arriving on site as early as 6am – the location of Work No's 9AM; 9AN and 9AO are in very close proximity to residential properties and consideration must be given to resident's mental health and wellbeing.

Q33. On what basis has the Project Team assessed these hours to be acceptable to local residents?

3.6.2 Schedule 4 – Streets subject to street works

(a) Sheet numbers 51, 119 and 124 apply to areas of the development that impact the Residents Group. All comments relating to this have been highlighted elsewhere in this Written Representation.

3.6.3 Schedule 5, Part 2– Streets or public rights of way to be temporarily stopped up for which no diversion is to be provided

(a) There will be 1,300m from junction of the Broadway to the junction of the access to Brett Aggregates.

- Q34.** Over this length of carriageway a contra-flow will need to be in place. Has the Project Team give consideration to where this will be to ensure the traffic lights controlling the contra-flow are strategically placed to ensure light pollution from the traffic lights is considered as well as air pollution from idling vehicles?

3.6.4 Schedule 7 – Land of which only temporary possession may only be taken

When referring to the Land Plans it identifies the Order Limit as blue shading. When cross-referencing this back to the Book of References it states that blue shading depicts the following:

*“....may compulsory acquire permanent rights over in respect of the pipeline and associated works.
....may compulsory acquire permanent rights of access and parking over this land”*

The description of the blue shading contradicts the heading of the schedule – the heading states only temporary possession yet the detailed description states otherwise.

- Q35.** Why is this Schedule misleading? Does the Project Team have any intention of acquiring permanent rights over the extent of the Order Limit along Ashford Road?

3.6.5 Schedule 8 – Trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders

There is a collection of trees between 151 and 165 Ashford Road between 151 which have been identified as being felled, crown lifted/pruning of overhanging branches to prevent damage during plant movements past the trees.



Figure 6 – Trees on western side of Ashford Road(TPO 076)

Q36. Why do these trees need to have tree work carried out on them?

The Residents Group has carried out extensive research into the history of the ancient woodland on the eastern verge of Ashford Road and believes it to be of historical importance. Refer to appendix A.

Q37. Is the project Team aware of the historical aspect of this area? has the Project Team discussed this area of the development with Natural England, Woodland Trust and other interested parties?

Appendix A - Research into the woodland area adjacent to Ashford Road.

Dates researched for this Written Representation - 1366 - 1938

Extent of research - 436 documents

Scope and Content

- Personal Family Records. Property in Littleton: The Manor of Littleton
- (Lambell's Title Deeds) 1419 - 1650;
- The Manor of Littleton 1650 - 1749;
- Littleton Manor Court Rolls 1529 - 1717;
- The Chantry House and 1 acre in Dunstall Shott 1589 - 1683;
- Malthouse Close and Hearne Close 1680 - 1683; The Chantry House, 1 acre in Dunstall Shott, and Malthouse Close 1684 - 1748;
- The Farm House of Richard Singer 1677 - 1686;
- The Freehold messuage with 22 acres of land, 3 acres in Littleton Mead, 3 half acres in Ridibin Mead, and the Malthouse with 8; acres and Farm Close. 1547 - 1732;
- Pound House and Pound Close 1701 - 1751;
- Ipwells Halls and Martins;
- The Smith's Shop 1708 - 1749;
- Hook Ayt and Swans Nest Hill 1754 - 1776;
- Littleton Park (Modern Documents) 1918 & 1938;
- Advowson of Littleton 1366 - 1610; Littleton Glebe (Undated) & 1667;
- Odd pieces of property acquired by Wood 1661 - 1791;
- Odd pieces of property acquired by Nicholas and Francis Townley 1605 - 1666;
- Odd pieces of property acquired by the Singer family 1575 - 1683;
- Odd pieces of property acquired by James Stiles 1695 - 1696;
- Odd pieces of land in Littleton 1416 - 1809.
- Terriers, Rentals and Surveys: Raveners, Ipwells and other lands in Littleton Shepperton and Laleham 1420 - 1742.
- Legal Papers: Papers relating to a Dispute over the Manor of Astlam, Thomas Wood v. Gilbert Lambell 1717.
- Property in Laleham: The Manor of Laleham 1538 - 1661;
- Dirks, Goodgroomes and Delawares 1601 - 1660;
- Odd pieces of property in Laleham 1624 - 1803.
- Survey and Rental: 1 Survey, 1584;
- 1 rental, probably of Laleham N.D. ? 15th C. or 16th C..
- Legal Papers: Papers relating to a Dispute. Thompson Stapley v. Sir Thomas Reynell. re seizure of bricks and enclosure of copyhold land 1650 - 1651.
- Property in Shepperton: The copyhold tenements of Lotons, Rayners, Balnetts and Harts 1719 - 1798.
- Property outside Littleton, Shepperton and Laleham: 1427 - 1809.

- Odd Documents: 1489 - 1651.
- A note of seal wrappings and bundle labels: 1513 - 1617.
- Appendix: Report on the records made to Shepperton Studios Ltd. November 1965.

Administrative History

Littleton Park Records

These Records (Some 436 items, 1366-1809 and 1938) were deposited with the Greater London Record Office (Middlesex Records) on 24th May 1966, by Shepperton Studios Ltd., the present owners of Littleton Park.

They are in fact the title deeds of the estates of the Wood family in the Littleton area, which were handed on intact to their successor at Littleton Park in 1873/4. They thus passed from Wood to Sir Richard Burbidge in 1874; to Sir Edward Nicholl in 1918; and then to Shepperton Studios Ltd., the present owners.

Related Material

The main collection of Wood papers, including a detailed history, are at reference ACC/0262. More papers relating to the Wood Family can also be found under reference codes ACC/0421, ACC/0423, ACC/0840, ACC/1030, ACC/1302, ACC/1362, ACC/1713, ACC/2456, ACC/2916 and ACC/2917.

Copyright

Depositor

Access Restrictions

These records are available for public inspection, although records containing personal information may be subject to access restrictions

Arrangement

The Records were kept in a large tin box inscribed: "Deeds dating from 1373 to 1902 conveying Lordships of the manors of Astlam and Littleton and other documents. 483 deeds. Sir Richard Burbidge, Bart." LITTLETON MANOR COURT ROLLS There appear to be no original manorial court rolls among the Littleton Park records but there are a number of copies of the rolls or extensive extracts from them, as follows:-

ACC/0928/001/15 1529 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/001/21/3a 1529 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/001/68 1641 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/021/3b 1641 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/001/71 1650 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/021/3c 1650 Court Baron. Court Roll. (Copy) ACC/0928/021/4 & 5 1717 Court Baron. Court Roll.(2 copies) Some records listed here are NOT deposited in this office

Littleton

Lutleton, Litlinton (xiii cent.); Lutlyngton, Littelyngton, Littelton (xiv cent.); Lytelyngton, (xvi cent.).

The parish of Littleton lies to the west of Laleham. The northern portion is roughly triangular in shape, the base about 2 miles long, lying along the road from Staines to Kingston, the sides narrowing gradually towards the village at the apex. The southern part is a mere slip of land about 1½ miles long and nowhere more than half a mile wide, which runs from the village to the River Thames. The curious shape of the parish may perhaps be accounted for by the fact that it probably formed part of Laleham until the end of the 11th century, when this wedge-shaped piece was separated from the western part of the latter, the dividing line being drawn at the River Ash. The ground falls gradually towards the Thames, and the higher and more northerly parts are well wooded, while two stretches of common, known respectively as Astlam and Littleton Common, fall within the northern boundary.

The village is one of the least spoiled in the county. It is built almost entirely of red brick, and presents a cheerful and peaceful aspect as it clusters about the church. There has never been either public house or shop in the parish, and the only trade represented is that of the blacksmith. No railway line runs through the parish, the nearest station being at Shepperton, 1½ miles. A road from Feltham passes through the village from north to south, and joins the Laleham-Shepperton road, which runs across the narrow part of the parish, and from the latter a road leads southwards to Chertsey Bridge. There was formerly a wooden bridge here connecting the counties of Middlesex and Surrey, of which either county maintained half. About 1770 the Middlesex part was much out of repair, and the magistrates of Middlesex prevailed on those of Surrey to join in building a stone bridge. When the contractor had finished the number of arches he had undertaken, they did not reach to the Surrey shore, and it cost that county a large sum to make good the deficiency.

Much land in the parish belongs to Captain Thomas Wood of Gwernyfed Park, Three Cocks, Brecknockshire. Littleton House, which was originally the family seat of the Woods, was burnt down in 1874. It was a large brick mansion, surrounded by a park and grounds of 600 acres, and is said to have been built during the reign of William III, by the workmen who were then employed at Hampton Court. This seems all the more likely considering that the Thomas Wood of that time was ranger at Hampton Court. Littleton House contained Hogarth's famous picture 'Actors Dressing,' which was destroyed when the house was burnt. A portion of the house has been rebuilt, and is now the residence of Mr. Richard Burbridge. It stands behind the church to the south of the village, and the waters of the River Ash form a natural boundary to the grounds.

Another considerable house, 'the Manor House,' is the residence of Mr. Theodore Bouwens.

Littleton was enclosed in 1848 under the General Enclosures Act. There are 1,138 acres in the parish, of which 325 acres are arable, 524 acres are permanent grass, and 270 acres are woodland, and 19 acres are water. The population is principally dependent on agriculture. The soil is sandy loam, and the subsoil gravel. The chief crops are wheat, barley, clover, mangold-wurzel, peas, and beans. A weir is mentioned in 1235, when it was conveyed by William le Sire to Robert de Beauchamp.

MANORS

Littleton is not mentioned by name in the Domesday Survey. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was probably included in the estate of Achi, a servant of the king. The 'soke' then belonged to Staines. Achi's manor, assessed at 8 hides, passed to Robert Blund, to whom it belonged in 1086, when it was said to be in Laleham. But it has been seen that the estate was probably too large to have been included as a whole within the present bounds of that parish, and as the two parishes are contiguous, and as the descendants of Robert Blunt held Littleton in the time of Henry II, ¹ it may be concluded that in the 11th century the latter formed part of the 8 hides ascribed to Laleham.

Littleton is first mentioned by name about 1166, when it was held as one knight's fee in the barony of William Blunt, Baron of Ixworth, by whom it had been inherited from his father Gilbert, who held it in the reign of Henry I. It still formed part of the barony in the latter half of the 13th century, but on the division of the Blunt lands after the death of William Blunt at the battle of Evesham (1265), the mesne overlordship of the fee does not appear to have passed to either of his heirs. It appears to have been by 1316 in the hands of the Abbey and Convent of Westminster, who had temporalities there as early as 1291, and it is probable that the abbey may have received a grant of it towards the end of the 13th century. It was apparently held of them in 1528. In 1166 Littleton was held of the Blunts by Robert de Littleton. It apparently descended to Osbert de Littleton, who conveyed it in 1204 to Robert de Leveland, the son of Nathaniel de Leveland and Desirea, his wife, of Leveland in Kent. His family held the offices of custodian of the royal palace of Westminster and of the Fleet Prison, which offices descended at this time with the manor of Leveland.

The Leveland inheritance came in the reign of Henry III to an heiress, Margaret de Leveland, who married first Giles de Badlesmere, and secondly Fulk de Peyforer, but having no issue by either marriage, her heir was found to be Ralph de Grendon. On his death, which occurred about 1280, he was succeeded by his brother Stephen, who was also known as de Leveland, and who left an only daughter and heiress Joan. She married John Shenche or Sench, by whom she had a son of the same name, who died in 1349 and was succeeded by Margaret his daughter. Margaret died in 1361, and her heir was found to be Roger, son of Roger Sapurton, who held the manor of Littleton, and also the offices of custodian of Westminster Palace and the Fleet Prison. After the death of Roger the manor was held by his daughter Elizabeth, whose husband, William Venour, was keeper of the Fleet in

1440. It came probably after the death of Elizabeth to Ellen, the daughter and heir of John Sapurton, brother of Roger, who married Robert Markham, with whom she conveyed it in 1528 to Anthony Windesore, representative of the family of Windsor of Stanwell. Edward Lord Windsor sold it in 1563 to Francis Vaughan, and it appears to have come before 1573 to John Bartram, who transferred his right in it in that year to Thomas Newdigate. The latter possibly acted for the Somerset family, as Francis Newdigate married Anne, Duchess of Somerset, the widow of the Protector, and Henry Newdigate conveyed the manor in 1600 to her son, Edward, Earl of Hertford. It was inherited after the latter's death by his grandson and heir William, who succeeded to the earldom in 1621. He conveyed it in 1627 to Daniel and Thomas Moore, of whom Thomas conveyed it to Nathaniel Goodlad in 1648. The history of the manor for the next hundred years is somewhat obscure. It is said to have come early in the 18th century to the family of Lambell, the last of whom, Gilbert Lambell, certainly held it in 1749. He died in 1783, having sold the manor to Thomas Wood, whose family had held the manor of Astlam (q.v.) in this parish since 1660. His direct descendant, Captain Thomas Wood, holds the manor of Littleton at the present day. Several members of the family have gained distinction in military service, of whom perhaps the most famous is General Sir David Wood (1812-94), the son of Colonel Thomas Wood of Littleton. He served in the Boer campaign of 1842-3, and commanded the Royal Artillery at Balaclava, Inkerman, and before Sebastopol, and the Horse Artillery in the Indian Mutiny. The eighteen tattered colours of the Grenadier Guards, which now hang in the church, were placed there by the father of the present representative of the family, who was colonel of that regiment.

Wood of Littleton

Sable a bull passant argent.

The Leveland family appears to have let the manor to tenants. Robert de Winton held it as a tenant of Robert de Leveland in 1209, paying a yearly rent of 1 lb. of pepper. Edward de Winton owed the service of three-quarters of a knight's fee in Littleton during part of the 13th century. It is uncertain how long the de Wintons held the manor, but it was probably until about 1335, when an Edmund de Winton presented to the rectory, the advowson having been first granted to Robert de Winton in 1209. Possibly the manor passed very shortly to William de Perkelee, who held the advowson about that time, and tenants of the same name, who were presumably his descendants, held the manor in the reign of Henry VI, rendering the same yearly rent of 1 lb. of pepper by which the de Wintons had held. Guy de Perkelee, citizen and fishmonger of London, appears to have held the manor in 1424. A few years later Simon de Perkelee and his brother Guy, who were possibly his sons, held the manor together. Simon, who was a citizen and scrivener of London, died in 1439, leaving a son William, then nineteen years of age. [\(fn. 59\)](#) Litigation took place in 1444, Guy and his sister Matilda, the wife of John



Talent, having apparently taken possession of the manor, and their nephew William attempted to recover it from William de Bokeland, to whom they had conveyed it. It is possible that William de Perkelee died before the conclusion of the suit, for in the following year the manor was divided, two-thirds being held by Guy and his wife, and one-third by Agnes, who was William's wife, with remainder to Guy. The latter, in that year, conveyed his share and the remainder of the third part to William de Bokeland, who appears to have held the whole manor in 1458. After this time the under-tenure seems to have lapsed.

The so-called manor of *ASTLAM* (Ashlam, Aschlam, Astelam, Astleham, xvii and xviii cents.) appears to have been held in chief. The name first occurs in 1600, when Katharine Ryse, widow, conveyed the manor to Francis Townley. Nicholas Townley, who was probably the heir of Francis, and Joan his wife held it in 1650-1, and in 1660 sold it to Thomas Wood, the son and heir apparent of Edward Wood, alderman of London, who was the first of his family to settle at Littleton. The manor remained with his descendants, and was inherited by Thomas Wood, who bought the manor of Littleton (q.v.) towards the close of the 18th century. It is last mentioned in 1801, after which time it was probably merged in the manor of Littleton. The name is still preserved in Astlam Common, which lies in the north-west of the parish. According to an extent taken in 1660, there was a 'mansion house built with brick,' where the lord of the manor dwelt. Belonging to it were outhouses, barns, stables, mill-houses, orchards, gardens, and 'back sides. A dove-house was built between 1600 and 1650, and dovehouses are mentioned in 1660.

CHURCH

The church of *ST. MARY MAGDALENE* consists of chancel 39 ft. 2 in. by 17 ft. 6 in., nave 33 ft. 4 in. by 19 ft. 4 in., north aisle 6 ft. wide, south aisle 6 ft. 9 in. wide, west tower, and some buildings on the north of the chancel, which were burial places for the Wood family, built in 1705, but are now transformed into vestries.

The chancel seems to date from the 13th century, and the plan of the nave is perhaps of the 12th, a south aisle having been added in the 13th century, and a north aisle in the 14th; the clearstory is of red brick, and probably of the 16th century; and the west tower except for its top stage, and the south porch are perhaps of the same date. The walls, except those of the clearstory and north aisle, are rough-cast, and the roofs are red tiled, with plastered coves.

The chancel has a modern east triplet of lancets, two original lancets on the north, to the east of which is a modern doorway into the vestries; and in the south wall three modern lancets, a window of two trefoiled lights at the south-east, and a south door between the first and second lancets from the east. The proportions suggest that it has been lengthened eastward since its first setting out.

The chancel arch is old work in two pointed chamfered orders, and at the springing is a modern moulded string; to the south of it, in the angle of the nave, is a lancet window inserted to give light to the pulpit, which looks like old work re-used.

The nave has a north arcade of two bays, with arches of two chamfered orders with a label, and an octagonal central column of 14th-century detail; the responds have a moulded string on the inner order only. The south arcade has two pointed chamfered orders with a large circular column, and semi-octagonal responds with plain capitals, probably cut down, and bases which show remains of 13th-century detail. The clearstory has two square-headed two-light windows on either side over the arches, of cut red brick with moulded labels.

The walling of the north aisle is rough rubble of stone and flint; in the west wall is an old lancet window, and to the south of it can be seen the angle of the earlier aisleless nave. In the north wall is a pointed 14th-century doorway with an external hood; it is now blocked, and contains a small window. To the east is a window of two trefoiled lights with a segmental head, the jambs being probably 14th-century work, while the tracery is modern.

The south aisle has an old lancet window at the west end, and a modern doorway and two-light window on the south. The porch has a fourcentred outer order and moulded 16th-century beams in the ceiling.

The tower is in four stages; the top stage, which seems an 18th-century addition, has no roof, but a quatrefoiled opening in each wall. The third stage has two-light belfry windows in red brick, and in the ground stage is a fourcentred west door with a three-light window over it.

There are some simple 15th-century pews in the nave, and in the vestry is an old iron-bound chest of the reign of Henry VIII, ornamented with leather and nail work. The pulpit is good 18th-century work, and at the west end of the nave is a large organ. The font is octagonal on a round stem, and is ancient but extremely plain. Its pierced and domed wooden cover seems to include a little old woodwork.

In the north wall of the chancel is a brass inscription taken up from the floor, *'Here lyeth Lady Blanche Vaughan, sometyme wyfe of Syr Hugh Vaughan, knight, who lyeth buried at Westmynst' whych Lady Blanche decessyd the VIIIth day of deceber, An^o Dni mⁱ v^cliii whose soules Ihu pdon.'* Below is a shield with three castles and a fleur de lis, and on each side of the shield a double rose, having on their centres the words 'Ihu mercy.' There are several later monuments to the family of Wood.

In the church are eight pairs of colours of the Grenadier Guards, and two red ensigns belonging to the same.

There are three bells by W. Eldridge, 1666.

The plate consists of a chalice of 1632, engraved with three fleurs de lis in a border bezanty, quartering a fesse checky in a border engrailed, the whole impaling a quarterly shield: 1st, a bend bearing three stags' heads embossed on an escutcheon between six crosslets fitchy; 2nd, three leopards passant, a label of three points; 3rd, checky; 4th, a lion rampant; a flagon with date mark 1734, given by Mrs.

Elizabeth Wood in that year; a small cover paten of 1632, engraved with a goat's or bull's head breathing fire; a standing paten of 1680; a chalice of the 1696 cycle; and an embossed salver marked

N.I.E.1677.

The earlier registers are: (1) christenings 1579 to 1652, marriages 1564 to 1652, burials 1562 to 1651; (2) woollen burials 1678 to 1715, marriages 1678 to 1705, burials without affidavits 1698 to 1705; (3) printed marriages, 1754 to 1810; (4) baptisms 1664 to 1811, burials 1664 to 1812, and marriages 1664 to 1751.

ADVOWSON

The church of St. Mary Magdalene is first mentioned in 1209. The living is a rectory, the gift of which appears to have been held in early times by the sub-tenant of the manor. It was conveyed by Robert de Leveland in 1209 to Robert de Winton, and appears to have remained with the de Wintons for over a century, Edmund de Winton presenting in 1335. It then probably passed to William de Perkelee, who presented on four occasions between 1321 and 1336. Four years later, however, it was conveyed by Master John de Redeswelle, parson of 'Goderushton,' to Sir John de Moleyns. ¹ On Sir John's imprisonment in that same year it was taken into the king's hand, Edward III presenting in 1343.

In September 1345 Edward III gave the order to restore the advowson of the church of Littleton to Sir John. At Easter 1346 the latter conveyed it to Sir Guy de Brian. At midsummer in the same year a settlement of the advowson was made by John Gogh (apparently a trustee) on Edward de Bohun and Philippa his wife, with remainder in default of heirs to Guy de Brian. This may perhaps be explained in connexion with Moleyns' recent forfeiture. The person represented by Gogh may possibly have had a grant of the advowson between 1340 and 1345, so that the rights of both parties may have been compromised in this act.

In 1355, however, the advowson of Littleton was settled by Edward de Bohun on his wife: Edward died childless in 1362, so that the lastmentioned settlement would be rendered ineffective by the former remainder in favour of Guy de Brian. The latter evidently came into possession, for he gave it in 1372 to the priory of Hounslow, for the remembrance of his own and his wife's anniversary. It remained with Hounslow Priory until it was granted by Prior Thomas Hide to Edmund Windsor. Andrew Lord Windsor presented in 1537, the next presentation being made by his son's executor, Roger Roper, in 1554. The advowson was sold by his grandson, Edward Lord Windsor, in 1563, with the manor, and came with the latter to Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford, who first presented in 1572. In 1610 the advowson was granted by the king to William Hughes, who was probably a fishing grantee. Later in the same year he and his father Reginald Hughes conveyed their right to Francis Townley, but the Earl of Hertford presented in 1616 and 1617. Litigation ensued, and Francis Townley recovered the right of presentation from the earl, and the rector, who had been inducted in 1617, was admitted a second time (in 1619) on Townley's presentation. The Seymours, however, seem to have retained some right in it, for in

1637 Frances Countess of Hertford held the patronage for the term of her life, _ after which it appears to have passed to the Townleys. Nicholas Townley held it in 1650, and conveyed it in 1660 to Thomas Wood. It has remained with his descendants to the present day and is now held with the manor by Captain Thomas Wood. In 1341 the parish was rated at £9 6s. 8d., but because the land was sandy, and the inhabitants were unable to sow it on account of their poverty, only £6 could be raised. The rectory was valued at £14 at the Dissolution, and the same in 1548. In an extent of 1610, a mill, house, dovecote, orchard, garden and fishing are mentioned as belonging to the rectory.

A chantry was founded in 1324 by Thomas de Littleton, then rector of Harrow, and formerly rector of Spaxton. By an agreement with the Abbot and Convent of Chertsey, the latter bound themselves to pay 5 marks yearly to a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily at the altar of St. Mary in the church of Littleton, in honour of the saint, and for the souls of the founder, of his parents, and of Simon de Micham. The chaplain was to be appointed by Thomas de Littleton, and after his death by Sir Geoffrey de Perkelee, the rector of Littleton, and his successors. In 1548 the chantry was served by a French priest, Sir Philip Lyniard, who had a house, an orchard, and a little croft or close. After the dissolution of the chantries in 1548 the land seems to have been held by the Crown until 1610, when it was included in a grant of the advowson of the rectory to William Hughes. It has probably descended since with the rectory.

CHARITIES

The Bread Charities.-In 1724 Mrs. Elizabeth Wood, by will, bequeathed to the minister and churchwardens £100 to be put out at interest, and the yearly income thereof to be laid out in bread to be distributed every Sunday among poor attending the church. In 1737 Robert Wood, LL.D., by will, bequeathed £100 South Sea Annuity stock, the income thereof to be distributed in bread every Sunday by the minister and churchwardens.

These legacies are represented by a sum of £217 4s. 9d. consols, with the official trustees. In 1906 the dividends, amounting to £5 8s. 4d., were applied in the distribution of bread every Sunday to five families.

The school, formerly carried on in a room on the estate of the Wood family, was erected in 1872 in memory of the late Lieut.-General Wood. It is endowed with a sum of £382 13s. 7d. consols with the official trustees, producing £9 11s. 4d. a year, which arose from the accumulations of a legacy of £30 bequeathed by will of the Rev. Thomas Harwood, D.D., rector, dated in 1731, and from subscriptions in 1787 of £50 each by Thomas Wood, Thomas Wood, junr., Edward Elton, and the Rev. Henry Allen, D.D., rector.

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