

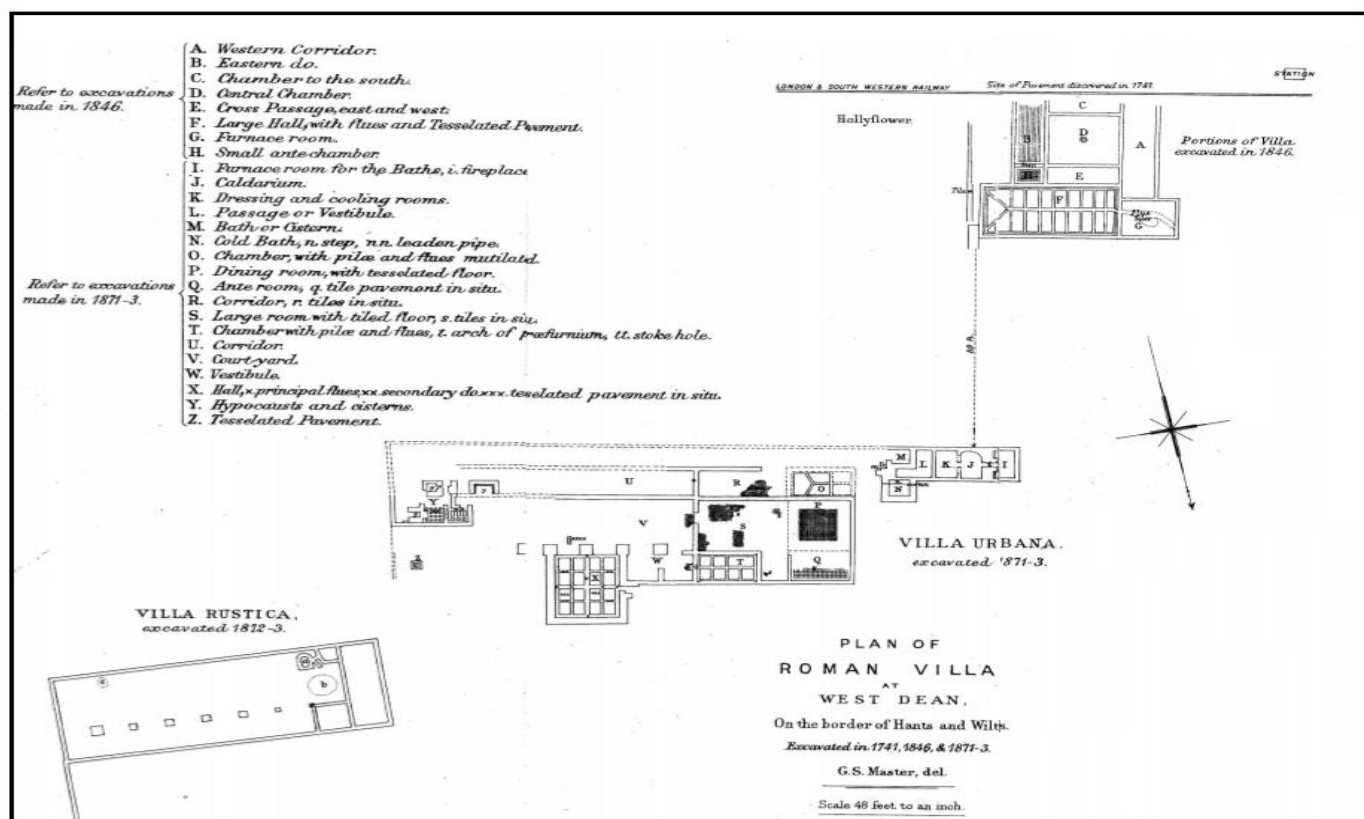
MAP OF WEST DEAN IN 1772



THE ROMAN VILLA

Set out below taken from an article entitled "Collections for a History of West Dean" written by the Rev G S Master, Rector from 1865 to 1886, and published in the magazine of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society, are a plan of the site, his report of the excavations carried out in 1845 which are reflected in his plan, his account of the excavations he made himself between 1871 and 1873 and the list of objects he discovered.

THE PLAN OF THE SITE OF THE ROMAN VILLA



THE EXCAVATIONS OF 1845

“The portions excavated under the direction of Mr Baring-Wall [*of Norman Court*] and examined by Mr Henry Hatcher of Salisbury comprised the two long corridors **A** and **B**, which extended northwards from the Malthouse and adjoining gardens, in which the original discovery was made in 1741, and enclosed between them the chambers **C** & **D**, the latter 25ft by 21ft, and the cross passage **E**, beyond which was the large aperture **F**, which, with its furnace room **G** on the west, seemed to terminate the building towards the north. The walls were $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness, constructed of flints, set in mortar. The corridor **B** was paved in long bands with a coarse mosaic of red and white tesserae, a tiled step at its northern extremity 4 “or 5” high and 22” broad leading to the small chamber **H**, similarly paved, but with its stripes laid in the contrary direction. In the centre of the apartment **D** was a circular design like a star, its rays of three colours – red, white and yellow – radiating from the centre to the circumference, where they were interrupted by segments of smaller circles in stone grey. The large hall **F**, measuring internally 46ft by 20ft, was heated throughout by flues as shown in the plan, the central one 2ft, the lateral ones from 9” to 12” wide, the pilae supporting the floor being solid construction of flint and chalk. The pavement, which had fallen in by the subsidence of the flues, was of an elaborate character, and of varied patterns, divided into squares and circles by interlaced borders but not, as far as I know, containing any figures. It had an outer border of a coarser kind. In the furnace-room **G** a stag’s horn and a small metal duck were found.”

THE EXCAVATIONS OF 1871 TO 1873

“It was in the summer of 1871 that, in fencing a newly made plantation, I struck accidentally upon another foundation [*a reference to the previous excavations of 1741 and 1845*], part of the chamber marked **X** upon the plan, and from that time until October 1873, when the excavations I made were necessarily filled in, was engaged at intervals in the investigation of further portions of this important villa. I was unsuccessful in tracing, with the help of a light tubular crowbar, made for the purpose, any connecting walls between the excavations of 1845 and my own – and am therefore inclined to think that they appertained to two separate dwellings; and further, that this place, eight miles distant from Sorbiodunum, was probably a Roman station – the first on a road from that town to Clausentum, the nearest seaport.

Reverting to the ground plan. The group of small chambers marked **I** to **N** were baths, and their appliances, the floors of **I**, **J** and **K** being sunk to a depth of 3ft. Their walls, of flint with sandstone quoins, approached to within 6” of the surface of the ground, and from their uniform level suggested the possibility of having supported a timber superstructure. The furnace room **I** had a floor of beaten chalk, sloping basin wise to the fireplace *i*, and in the thickness of either pier a narrow seat for an attendant slave. The arch of the fireplace had fallen in. The curved wall of the steam bath **J** showed the position of the stool on which the bather sat, a moveable metal dome, raised or depressed at pleasure, retaining or releasing the vapour. The adjoining chamber **K**, was a cooling or dressing room; **L**, a passage on either side of which were the baths **M** and **N**, the former for hot water, the latter for cold, the first heated by a fireplace at *m*, which seems to have also served as the prefurnium of the chamber **O**, the second approached by a tiled step at *n*, and supplied with water by a leaden pipe, carried through the wall at *nn*. Both had floors of pink concrete, and were only $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in depth. The southern wall of the oblong room **O** had been destroyed, but its flues remained, with their substantial pilae of flint and chalk, without any traces, however, of pavement upon them.

The floor of the adjoining room **F** was perfect, but without a hypocaust. Its centre, composed of twenty squares each way, alternately of brick and stone tesserae, each square of 62 containing 36, was surrounded by an 8ft border of red tesserae of the same size. I think that this room may have been the

dining room, and have contained the triclinium, in which was the anteroom **Q** with its floor of common 62 tiles – many of which remained *in situ* – would have been the serving room for the attendants.

In the corridor **R** and the large hall **S** patches of similar tiles were found, and the impressions of others which had been removed were indented in the concrete of the floors.

The room **T**, heated by flues of similar construction to those at **O**, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep, had the arch of its prefurnium entire at *t*, with a square plastered stoke-hole at *tt*. The little recesses at the corners may have received the upright timbers supporting the roof. Many bones of oxen, pigs and deer were found in the flues, but there were no indications of a tessellated floor. The corridor **U** was in an imperfect state of preservation, the courtyard or ambulatory **V** retaining, however, its boundary wall to the south, and a small portion of its tiled pavement. The vestibule **W**, divided into two equal parts by short walls on the north and west, was probably open to the south, a strong pier, 5ft square, taking the place of a wall on that side. Three similar piers ranging with this, and once supporting columns, formed the southern front of the important chamber **X**, 26ft by 20ft, having strong walls, 3ft in thickness, and intersected by principal and secondary flues, marked *x* and *xx*, respectively 4ft and 3ft in depth, constructed between and within substantial and solid pilae of flint and chalk. Upon these were lying several large fragments of pavement marked *xxx*, the tesserae 1" square, arranged in parallel bands of red, white and grey; and portions of a finer centre, the tesserae of which were $\frac{1}{4}$ " square, had fallen in ruin to the bottom of the flues. These were covered over with large pieces of Portland stone, those at *xx* remaining *in situ*, while the others had been battered down by the fall of the roof and walls. The arch of the prefurnium had collapsed, but its sides were perfect, constructed of thick and large tiles. From the position of this chamber, the unusual thickness of its walls, its southern arcade of piers – a portion of the tiled passage between two of them remaining at *xxxx* – I am led to the conclusion that it formed the entrance-hall or principal reception-room of the villa; and, as it was the first to be discovered, so was the most important portion of the whole.

A second series of baths was discovered at **Y**. Here were two hypocausts in very perfect preservation, the suspension in both cases destroyed. The chamber *yy* contained fourteen pillars of tiles, and communicated, by three well-turned arches, with that marked *yyy*, in which the sustaining piers were of flint and chalk. The cisterns *y* were constructed of tiles, and lined with salmon-coloured concrete.

At *z* a perfect piece of tessellated pavement, about 4ft square, was successfully exhumed entire, and is now in my possession. It formed the centre of a larger floor, the outer part of which was composed of forty rows each way of inch-square stone tesserae. The finer portion, of $\frac{1}{2}$ " tesserae, red, white, grey and black, represents a double-handed urn or cup, surrounded by a circular twisted guilloche border, within a square of the same design. The walls of this chamber could not be defined.

The "Villa Rustica", as I presume to call it, was a large oblong enclosure, built askew from the lines of the main building, and measured internally 107ft by 32ft. Its walls, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft in thickness, were strongly constructed of flint with coigns of red sandstone. Its western end was occupied by a long chamber or corridor, perhaps the dormitory of the slaves, 11ft in width; adjoining which, on the north east, was a smaller room, 11ft square, the inner angle of its walls supported by a block of freestone, 2ft by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Ranging with this was a row of piers, 10ft apart, upon which rested, I suppose, the wooden supports of a lean-to roof, sloping towards the south. The western pier was a block of freestone similar in all respects to that beneath the angle of the adjoining wall. The remaining five constructions, of flint, were 3ft square, with the exception of the eastern one, which, having perhaps to carry the return of the roof, was 5ft square. The remainder of the area – open or not to the air – was for the use of the slaves, and had a floor

of hard chalk. At the south-eastern corner was a curious construction of stone, flint and tiles, containing a sunken oven or cooking-place (marked *a*) of baked clay, bearing evidence of intense heat, about 3ft by 2ft, a stoke-hole $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft wide at its side, and a smaller enclosure about 5ft square occupying the angle of the adjoining walls. Many bones of cattle, oyster shells, and other refuse were found here, and in a circular ash-pit (*b*) hard by, fragments of pottery and charred wood. There was another hearth, or fireplace, at *e*.

The eastern wall of the enclosure, prolonged towards the north, we laid bare for 70ft without finding its termination or making further discoveries. It had formed, perhaps, the boundary of a courtyard or garden.

The "Villa Fructuaria", the third division of a Roman dwelling of importance, remains yet to be explored; and I am conscious that the investigation of the other portion has been but imperfectly conducted, and that much that is of interest may have escaped my notice. But enough has been disclosed to prove that these buildings were of considerable consequence; and their excavation certainly deserves to be placed on record".

LIST OF ITEMS DISCOVERED BY THE REV G S MASTER

Fragments of internal wall-plastering, frescoed in lines and trellis work, the colours still bright – green, yellow, red and white;

Portions of the horns of red, fallow and roe deer;

Boars' tusks and cocks' spurs;

Pottery of several kinds, coarse black and grey ware, of which the larger culinary vessels were made;

A harder kind, of brown colour, for drinking vessels, some of them ornamented with patterns laid on in white lines;

Basins of fine Samian Ware; upon a fragment of one of them an embossed design of animals and figures, suggesting a portion of a zodiac;

Montaria for grinding grain;

A single thin glass bowl of green colour;

Quantities of window-glass of various tints and thickness, some of the pieces smooth on one side and rough on the other;

Small pieces of marble and spar;

Nails of all sizes, from the "clava trababales" which held in place the large beams of the roof, to small iron tacks;

Iron pincers, gouges, hooks, rings, knife blades, cramps and the bowl of a fire-shovel – found in one of the stoke-holes;

Fragments of lead and copper;

Bones of cattle, deer, swine etc, shells of oysters, whelks, mussels and snails.

Of personal ornaments and utensils there were bone pins and knife handles;

A bronze pin silvered;

Wooden rings and whorls;

Bronze fibulae, buckles, armillae, links and lockers.

Most interesting of all, he says, because identifying the occupation of the villa with post-Christian times, a small bronze seal or stud set with a white stone bearing a crucifix impressed upon it.

The Rev Master stated, at the time he was writing, that all these were in his possession and formed the nucleus of a small parochial museum which he trusted might be preserved and examined by his successors. This is no indication that this ever happened.

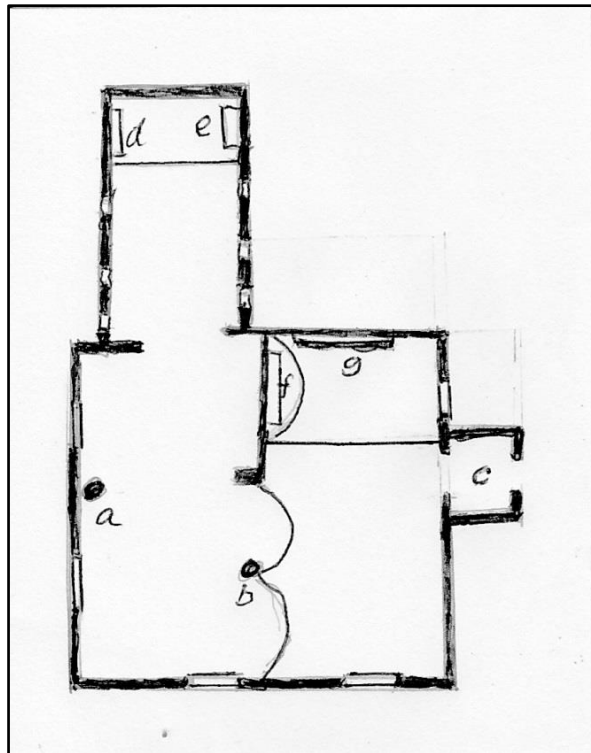
The coins found were chiefly of second and third brass comprising specimens of Victorinus, Aurelianus, Cerausus, Allectus, Helena, Alexander (silvered), Constantinus Magnus, Crispus, Constantinus II, Constans, Constantius II and Magnentius. A first brass of Commodus and one of Helena were the only coins of that size.

THE OLD CHURCH OF ST MARY &

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN

The old church of St Mary was demolished in 1868 following the building of the new church and its dedication in 1866. Set out below are a plan of the old church, a detailed description of it in the last years before it was taken down and during demolition, a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement for the restoration of the Borbach Chantry, the Balance Sheet of Receipts and Payments for the construction of the new church and its accompanying letter.

A Plan of the Old Church of St Mary based on that published by Sir R C Hoare in his book "The History of Modern Wilts".



Nave 37ft 5ins long, 34ft 6ins wide Chancel 34ft 6ins long, 12ft 9ins wide

a Pulpit b Font c Porch d Monument of John Evelyn e Monument of Elizabeth Tirell
f Monument of Sir John Evelyn g Monument of Robert Pierrepont

THE OLD CHURCH OF ST MARY

The following account of the old church was written by the Rev G Master, rector from 1865 to 1886, and published in the magazine of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society as part of an article entitled "Collections for a History of West Dean". It indicates the changes which had been made to the church over the years and explains the reason why it had to be replaced.

"The old church of St Mary was taken down in 1868, with the exception of its south or Borbach Chantry, which has been restored as a mortuary chapel, and of which more hereafter. The ground plan comprised a chancel, nave, south chantry and south porch, the wooden turret being supported upon baulks of timber at the west end of the nave. The walls were rough-cast externally and, with the exception of those of the chantry, which were of faced flint, were loosely constructed of rubble of chalk, flint and sandstone.

The chancel was of the plainest Early English character, having on its north side four, and on its south side three single lancet windows, the most eastern on either side concealed behind a monument, and only brought to light during the progress of demolition. The splays of two of these windows on each side had been cut away to give more head room to the occupants of the stone seats which ran along the chancel wall, a short Early English column with boldly-carved capital supporting the weight of the wall above. These pillars were hidden behind modern wainscotting and were somewhat mutilated when disclosed. Beneath the most western lancet on the south side was a blocked square-headed low-side window. A priest's door in the same wall had been cased in brickwork and its character destroyed. The east window, of three lights, and one of two lights, blocked, in the south wall, were insertions of Decorated date, having quatrefoils in their heads.. The latter has been removed to the restored chantry. Two concealed piscinae were brought to light, one a plain Early English chamfered opening, with circular basin, its drain carried to the ground through a long perforated stone; and a little to the east of this, superseding and destroying a plain square ambrey, a larger piscine of Decorated date, with bold roll moulding, a square head, and an arched ambrey above. The sacrarium, elevated one step above the level of the chancel, retained portions of its original encaustic pavement. Among the patterns of its tiles were an archer on horseback, rudely designed, and two birds with twisted necks, forming the Lombardic letter M – the monogram of the Blessed Virgin, in whose honour the Church was dedicated. Here, against the north wall, was the large Jacobean monument of John Evelyn, Esq; on the opposite side the bust of Mrs Tirrell; and the tablet of Mrs Griffinhoffe; and upon the door the brass of George Evelyn; all now removed into the chantry. The chancel arch, of fair Decorated character, was much crippled by the spread of its abutments.

The nave must have been re-built at a later date than that of the chancel, no Early English features appearing in it, and its only remaining un mutilated windows – one of two lights on the north side and one of three lights on the west end – being of the Decorated style. Its walls, inclining outwards, had been strengthened on the north and west by strong buttresses of stone; but notwithstanding the support of these, a large and dangerous fissure at the north-west corner suggested unpleasant possibilities, and in fact rendered necessary the removal or re-building of the Church. A few of the old seats, very rough and plain oaken benches, have been transferred to the chantry. A large wainscotted pew, with Jacobean carving, blocking up the only original arch on the north of the nave, was the devotional retreat of the great family from the mansion hard by. Upon the plaster above some slight traces of colour were discernible, little more, however, than rude scoring in red ochre, representing masonry; and some fragments of an illegible black-letter inscription. The pulpit, western gallery, and remaining fittings of the Church, were of the meanest kind, of painted and unpainted deal. The font, a large circular basin, upon a pier of rubble-work, has been re-erected in the new Church, upon a new pedestal of stone and marble. A few moulded timbers remained in the roof, which, however, had been modernised, under-ceiled, and spoiled. Rude beams, or rather baulks of oak, resting upon the floor, supported the ugly wooden bell-turret, and its three bells. These have been hung in the new Church, one of them having been first re-cast by Messrs John Warner & Sons, and bearing an inscription to that effect, with the date 1866. Of the remaining two, one is quite plain, the other is inscribed "GOD BE OVR GUYD RB 1600".

The south chantry, the only portion of the Church now remaining, was approached from the nave by two modern semicircular arches of brick, upon square piers of the same material. These had, no doubt, superseded the original arches and pillars, the style of which may be inferred from the mutilated remains of a third arch, built of chalk, pointed and chamfered, the apex of which was visible above the wainscotting in the nave. The architecture of the chantry is in accordance with the known date of its foundation, c 1333. It is of good Geometrical Decorated character, its east and west windows (the former blocked internally by

a monument) and one on the south being of two lights, with quatrefoils in head, but without hood mouldings within or without. There are oblong chamfered openings in the gables. The founder's tomb, beneath a cinquefoiled ogee recess in the south wall, contains no effigy or inscription. This portion of the Church, being found on examination to be of better construction, as it was certainly of better character than the rest, it was determined to preserve and restore it, as a chapel for the service for the burial of the dead, and as a receptacle for ponderous monuments, which could not with either safety or propriety be removed to another building. A new porch, made sufficiently high to receive in its open gable a bell to be tolled at funerals, has, accordingly, been added to the south, in lieu of the mean and dilapidated structure which preceded it; the plaster ceiling which concealed the timbers of the roof has been removed; and the whole chantry put into substantial repair, at the cost of W.J. Evelyn, of Wootton, Surrey, Esq, a tablet above the door recording his liberality."

On flat stones upon the floor are inscriptions to:

Richard Emmott, died 14 August 1735, aged 56 years

Philip Emmott, his son, died 2 May 1770

In line with these, but now outside the chapel, are others to:-

Mary Emmott, died 23 June 1790, aged 48 years

Dorothy, wife of Mr Philip Emmott, died 20 Nov 1779, aged 74 years

Richard, their son, died 16 sept 1765, aged 26 years

Rachel Emmott, died 21 April 1794, aged 47 years

Philip Emmott, died 26 Feb 1786, aged 45 years

On flat stones, formerly upon the chancel floor, now in the open air, but unremoved:-

H.S.E. Abrahamus Franke, S.T.P. Leyiisce Ecclesiae

Rector, neenon in ecclesia Sarisburiensi Praebendarius,

Sereniss Principibus Georgio I^{mo} & 2^{do} Capellanus, et

SS^{tae} Trinitaris Collegⁱⁱ apud Cantabrigeeenses Olim Solius

Obiit I^o die Sept MDCCXXXIII Act^s Suiae XLVIII

Nathaniel Franke, A.M. frater A^{bri} Franke non lomgius

Abhine jacet Sepultus. Ob^t 16o Martii, MDCCXXVII, Act Suse XXX

Here lyeth the Body of M^{rs} Anne Sloper, the Daughter of y^e Reverend M^r Walter Sloper, who departed this life March The 7th 1722

Here lyeth the body of M^{rs} Elizabeth Sloper, the Daughter Of M^r Walter Sloper, Rector of this Place & Anne his wife Who died Jan 24th 1698, in the 12th year of her Age

Also near this Place lyeth y^e Body of M^{rs} Anne Sloper, wife Of Walter Sloper, Rector of this Parish, who Dyed October y^e 12th 1700

Walter, y^e son of Walter Sloper, Rector, & Anne his Wife Who dyed August y^e 24th 1702, aged 17

Walter Sloper, M.A. Rector of this Parish, who Dyed June The 1st 1714, aged 61"

The Memorandum of Agreement for the restoration of the Chantry

Memorandum of Agreement
made the twenty second day of
January one thousand eight hundred
and Sixty eight,

between
_____ and John Crook of West Dean
Wills (Builder)

I John Crook do agree to execute the
works required to be done in the
restoration of a part of the Old
Church at West Dean,
For a Mortuary Chapel, and to
Remove the Monuments and Tablets
agreeable to the Drawing and
Specifications, the works to
Commence when the Faculty is Granted
and to be completed as ^{soon} as Proper
Payment when the Roof is tiled
two hundred pounds, and the
Remainder when the Works is Completed

The Estimate

£350-0-0

John Crook

The Balance Sheet of Receipts and Payments for the Building of the new Church

NEW CHURCH AT WEST DEAN, WILTS.

BALANCE SHEET OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS.

Receipts.			Payments.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P., (with a new Site and addition to the old Churchyard).....	1000	0 0	Builder, Mr. John Crook, West Dean	1997	5 11
Rev. G. G. P. Glossop, Rector... £500	0	0	Architects, Messrs. Pownall & Young, 30, Gower Street, Bedford Square	222	2 6
Rev. Henry Glossop, Patron.....	190	0 0	Law Expenses, &c. Messrs. Maynard.....	£43	19 10
Mrs. Glossop, Isleworth	50	0 0	" Messrs. McDonald and Brodrick ...	24	5 9
F. H. N. Glossop, Esq.	25	0 0	" Messrs. Ewer and Winstanley ...	3	3 0
Colonel J. J. Glossop.....	25	0 0	<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>	71	8 7
Miss Glossop	25	0 0	Fencing, &c., Messrs. Johnson	18	8 4
Charles Morrison, Esq., Basildon	100	0 0	<i>Church Furniture and Appliances:—</i>		
Mrs. Morrison.....	50	0 0	Bells, Messrs. Warner	£71	0 0
Alfred Morrison, Esq., Fonthill	25	0 0	Stained Glass and Decorations, Messrs. Lavers and Barraud	43	18 9
Miss Morrison.....	20	0 0	Font, Messrs. Jacquet, Hart, and others	22	5 0
Mrs. Moffatt	20	0 0	Clock, Mr. Benson	60	0 0
Allan Morrison, Esq.	50	0 0	Altar-table.....	10	10 0
Frank Morrison, Esq.....	25	0 0	Corona and Lights, Mr. Singer	15	0 0
Walter Morrison, Esq., M.P. ...	10	0 0	Service Books, S. P. C. K.	6	3 0
George Morrison, Esq. Hampworth	25	0 0	Altar-cloth & Church Furniture, Messrs. Jones & Willis	26	3 10
<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>	1140	0 0	Church Furniture, Messrs. Wilton	5	0 10
Rev. G. S. Master (afterwards Rector) and Friends	100	0 0	Do. Miss Walton	3	2 2
The Lord Bishop of Salisbury (for Altar-table)	10	10 0	Do. Mrs. Newberry	1	12 2
Mr. W. T. Beauchamp, West Dean (for Clock)	60	0 0	Do. Messrs. Powell	1	4 0
Mr. John Crook, West Dean (for Pulpit, &c.)	25	0 0	Carriage of Bell, Altar-table, Clock, Sundries, and Postage..	3	1 3
Sarum Diocesan Church Building Society ...	50	0 0	<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>	269	1 0
W. J. Evelyn, Esq., Wotton	20	0 0			
W. J. Farnell, Esq., Isleworth	10	10 0			
Miss Corfe, West Dean	10	10 0			
Mrs. Ramsden, Twickenham (for Corona in Chancel)	10	0 0			
Miss Proby, Twickenham (Service Books for Church).....	6	3 0			
Miss Newland, Slindon	5	0 0			
Captain W. Black, Wilts Militia	3	3 0			
Rev. W. H. J. Collings, Serceque	2	2 0			
Rev. H. C. Hawtrey, Windsor	1	1 0			
By Elm Tree, standing on the ground ...	5	3 0			
Offertories at West Dean and East Grimstead	37	0 0			
Interest, at Messrs. Pinckney's Bank	82	4 4			
<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>	£2578	6 4			
			<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>	£2578	6 4

The Letter of 8th July 1869 addressed by the Rev G G P Glossop to the Subscribers to West Dean Church which accompanied the Balance Sheet

BRICKWORTH PARK, SALISBURY,
Thursday, 8th July, 1869.

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS TO WEST DEAN CHURCH.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—

It is now time for me to lay before you the Statement of the Accounts of the moneys received by me for the re-building of West Dean Church, and I do so with great pleasure, and rejoice in seeing the work so satisfactorily completed: it was my great ambition to be able to place the New Church in the hands of my successor complete in all its details, and there is only one point in which I have been disappointed, viz: in the matter of the New Organ. You will see on looking at the accounts that the new Rector gave £100, this he originally intended to have spent upon an ORGAN—but he has allowed it to pass into the General Account, and I venture to think that he would be willing to receive with many thanks any gifts the subscribers may feel disposed to send him for that purpose.

He has had to procure from his own resources some share (£50) of the cost of the New School and Residence at West Dean, and he is also building a somewhat similar School and House at East Grinstead, so that he has had many calls upon him in spite of what was done during my time by self and friends. The expenses incurred in the transfer of the land, and in the document of the "substitution" for making the new building, the Parish Church have amounted to a great deal, but this was unavoidable. So also the architects bill has been nearly doubled in its ordinary amount by the fact of my having had no less than three several and distinct sets of plans prepared. This was principally caused by the difficulty of deciding between the two plans, viz: whether the old church should be repaired, or a new one constructed on a new site; the latter plan has been acted on, and the Church now stands on a choice and ample site closer to the village and in a better situation than the old one. I need hardly remind you that this choice site is the gift of Mr. T. Baring, M.P., the other piece of land given by him is contiguous to the old church yard, and has been consecrated for burials; while the south aisle of the old church has been made a mortuary chapel for the performance of divine service, and for the preservation of the ancient monuments of the Elvyn family. W. J. Evelyn, Esq., of Wotton, paid entirely for this latter work in addition to his gift towards the New Church.

To return to the New Church, you will be glad to hear that Mr. John Crook, the builder of it, is now employed under Mr. William Butterfield in the re-building of Whiteparish Church, and that his work has given such satisfaction to that eminent architect that he was heard to say a few days since that Mr. Crook was one of the few workmen "whom he could count upon his fingers" in whose work he could place perfect confidence. I rejoice to be able to record this saying of Mr. Butterfield's concerning my old friend and churchwarden, John Crook, of West Dean.

You will be glad also to hear that the contract with him *included* the construction of a large subterranean chamber and the erection in it—at an additional cost of £40—of a very efficient warm-air apparatus by G. Haden and Sons of Trowbridge, Wilts; so that the arrangements for warming the Church *have been found to be perfect*, and there will be no fear of any future disfigurement by stove and pipe, &c. &c.; also the south and the north-east door have additional doors of wirework which provide for a perpetual current of air for ventilation at other times than those when the Church is open for service. Hassocks have been provided all over the church, the seats are open benches, and (as in the case of East Grimstead) are perfectly free and unappropriated for ever, being at the disposal of the Churchwardens under the Bishop's orders for the convenience of the Parishioners as he shall direct. There has been no reservation made in either case by myself and friends who have been at the cost of the erection of these two Churches.

I have now only to thank you all, especially Mr. Baring for his large gift of money and of two pieces of land, for helping me to carry out this work which I trust will be found to the honour of God and to the good of the souls of His children living in the parish of West Dean.

I am, my dear Friends,
Yours faithfully,
G. G. P. GLOSSOP,

*Formerly Rector of West Dean with East Grinstead annexed, now Vicar of Twickenham
and Rural Dean of the Deanery of Hampton, Middlesex.*