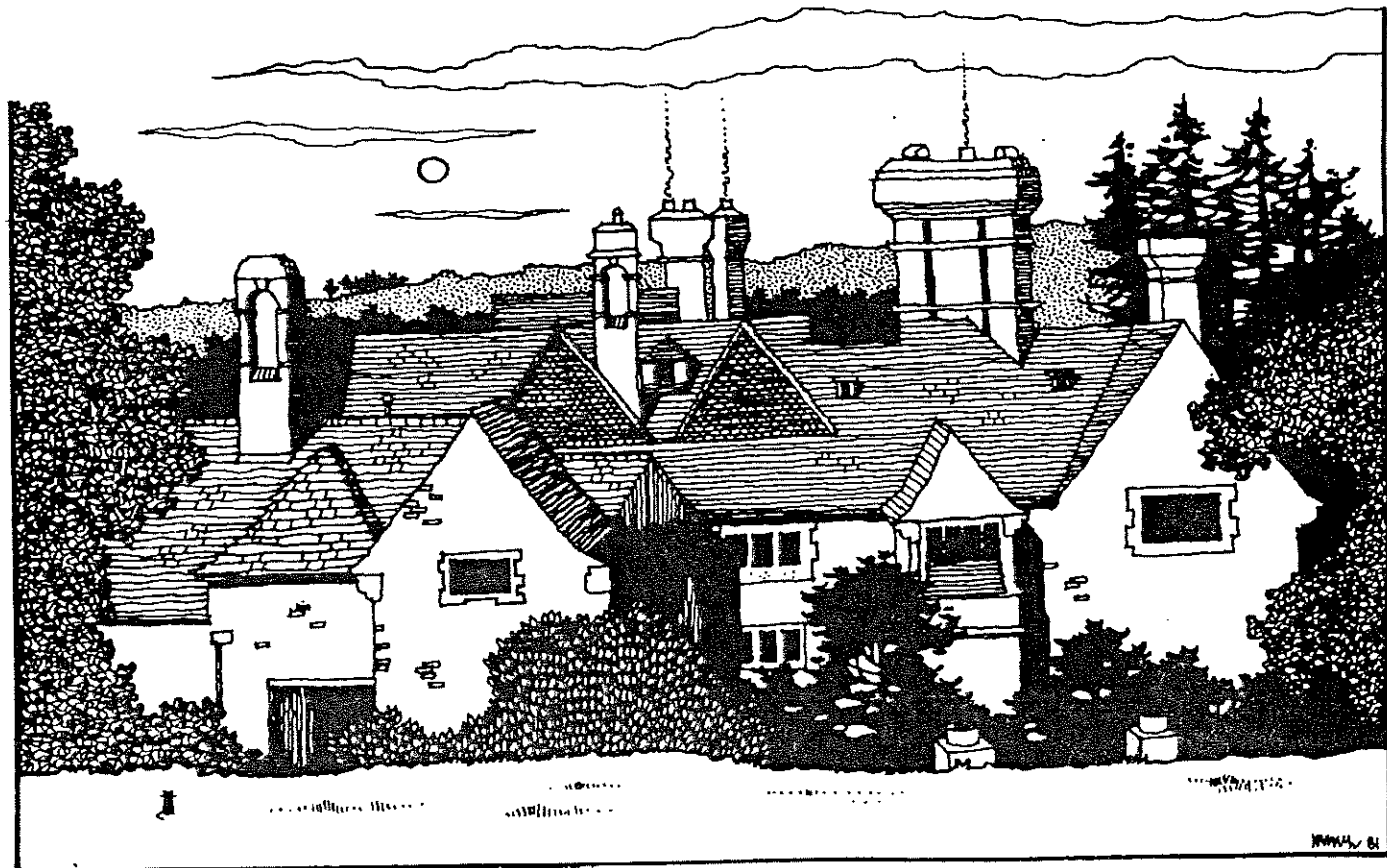
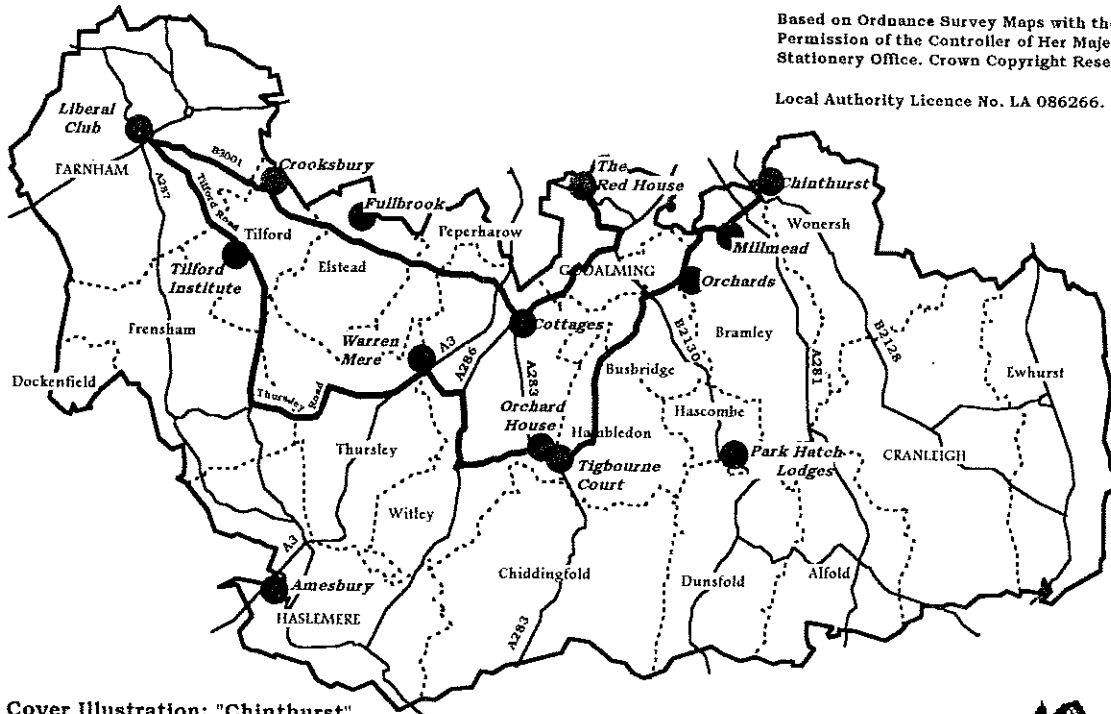


# LUTYENS IN WAVERLEY



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Cover illustration: "Chinthurst"  
All illustrations by Michael McLellan  
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Revised 1995



# LUTYENS IN WAVERLEY

## LUTYENS

Lutyens was born in 1869 and his home during his formative years was at the village of Thursley, near Godalming. As a youth, he toured the Surrey countryside, studying the old cottages and farmhouses and observing and sketching in local builders yards. From this unorthodox training came his exceptional grasp of vernacular design and techniques and his masterly use of all the local materials: bargate stone, brick, rough cast, timber framing and tile hanging for walls and deep eaves under steeply pitched, slightly curved, clay tiled roofs. One continues to marvel at the amazing originality and inventiveness, yet balance, style and perception with which Lutyens believed that a room should contain pools of light rather than overall brightness.

He always "consulted the genius of the place" so his buildings are exactly fitted to their location, site and setting.

Waverley is an area of small scale landscape; sandstone hills and deepcut valleys with small towns and villages of great historic value. Because Lutyens grew up in this area it was here that he started his work and Waverley contains a marvellous collection of early Lutyens buildings, which many people found his most appealing period.

Lutyens is recognised as the greatest British architect of modern times, a genius often compared to Wren. Starting in the vernacular idiom, which you see in Surrey, he built many highly original houses. His range of styles or modes developed to include what he called "the high game" - the beautiful and exactly proportioned classical, in which he built a number of houses and offices. Moving on to a free and individual style, his greatest achievement was perhaps New Delhi, and his best known, the cenotaph in Whitehall.

## THE TRAIL

This circular car-trail allows you to see about 24 of Lutyens' designs in a fairly compact area. It takes you through some of Surrey's loveliest countryside with a convenient stop for lunch or shopping in Farnham, a very fine small Georgian town. The trail would form a pleasant day's outing by car with excursions on foot.

**Please remember that virtually all the buildings are private houses and respect their privacy.** We have tried to indicate what can be seen from the roads or public footpaths and have included sketches of some of the buildings which cannot be seen.

*From Guildford take the A281 to Shalford. Turn left onto the A248 and then immediately right into Chinthurst lane. This will bring you, in just over one mile, to CHINTHURST HILL on your left.*

## CHINTHURST HILL 1893 -5

Although this large house is on a fine hillside, it is difficult to see from the surrounding area. The pleasant lodge on your right is by Lutyens and can be seen at the entrance to the drive. You can take your car up and park on the bend, whence the drive is private. The energetic should climb up Chinthurst Hill, a Surrey County Council public open space with an extensive view over the countryside typical of that which Lutyens knew and loved - small but steep sandstone hills, with a variety of valleys, woods and water. From the south facing slope there is an interesting view of the house, with its gables, varied roofs, courtyards and chimneys. Although built at one time it was designed to look as though it has grown over the centuries. There is a terraced garden by Gertrude Jekyll, the garden designer with whom Lutyens often collaborated.

*Return down the drive turning left into Chinthurst Lane. At the end of Chinthurst Lane turn right for Bramley. Cross over the A281 and a few yards up Snowdenham Lane is MILLMEAD.*

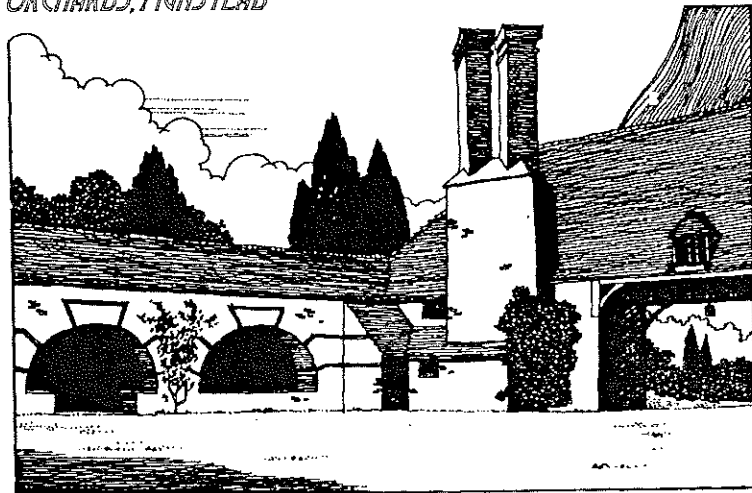
### MILLMEAD, SNOWDENHAM LANE, BRAMLEY 1904 - 7

This is a delightful, modest house in a domestic 17th century style. It was built as a speculative venture for Gertrude Jekyll. It is intensely private - facing the road is a high garden wall with a wrought iron gate and round arch with a wooden door through which the classical entrance front can be seen. The garden fronts a beautifully proportioned symmetrical design. The house was built of bargate stone - Lutyens nearly always used local materials - with dressings of thin red brick. Gertrude Jekyll designed the garden - simple on the north entrance side and carefully planned but lavishly planted shrub and herbaceous borders on the south side.

*Continue along Snowdenham Lane and take the next right towards Munstead. Follow the road until you see, on the right, a finger post pointing to the entrance of ORCHARDS, on your left.*

This is one of Lutyens' finest houses and the view from the gate, although restricted, is one of the best sides of the house. Lutyens often used plans which increased the apparent size of the building and Orchards is one of these. It is planned around a courtyard, one side of which is a cloister. From the entrance to the drive you

ORCHARDS, MUNSTEAD



can see the arch leading to the courtyard and the solid buttressed stable wing to the left. To the right of the arch is the studio of Lady Chance, the original owner's wife, who was a sculptor. The cottage is also by Lutyens.

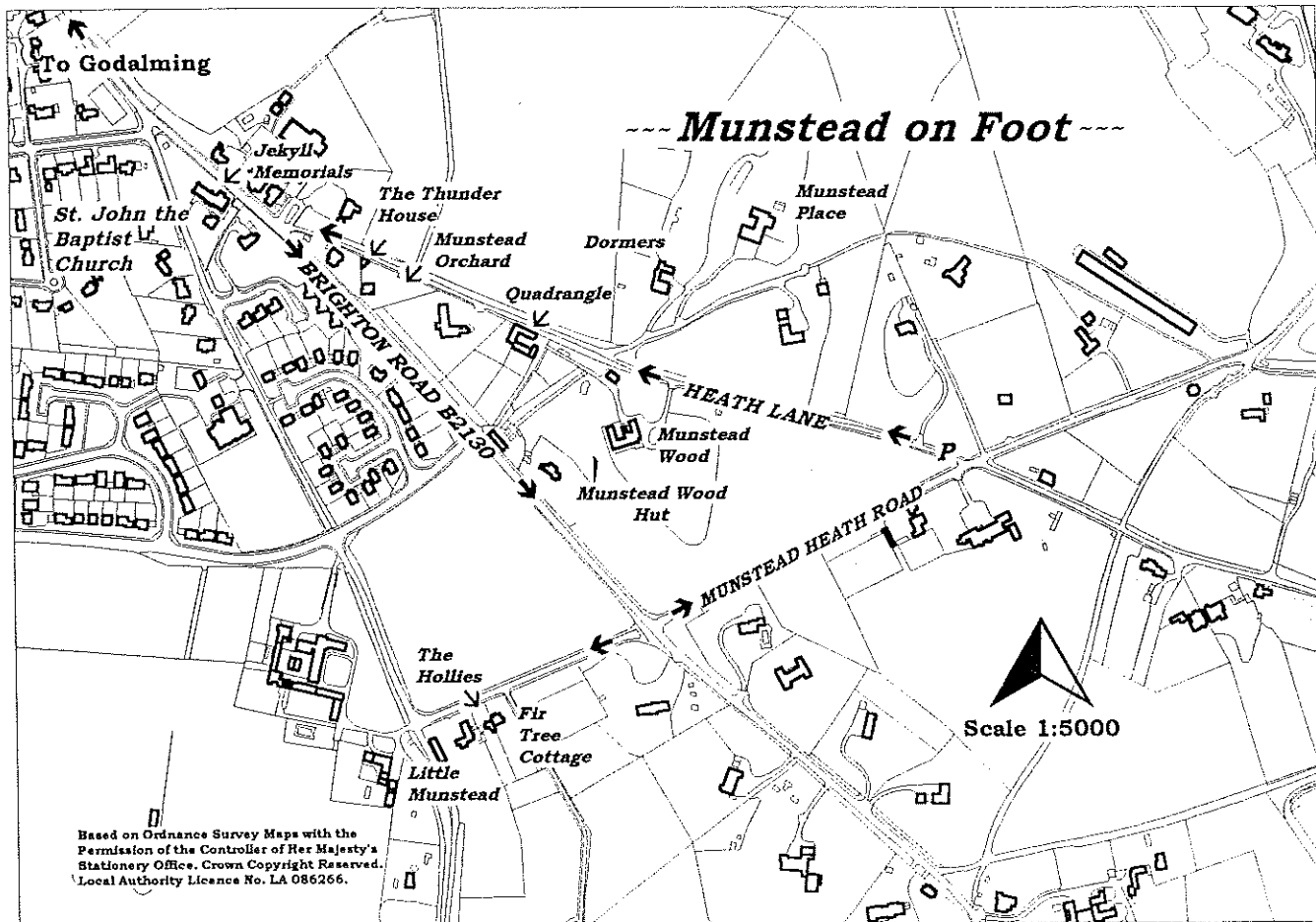
*Continue on the Munstead road, passing a water tower on your left. Immediately past the next junction on your left is **MUNSTEAD HOUSE**.*

## **MUNSTEAD**

*Munstead is probably best explored on foot. See the map opposite. Parking in the vicinity of the crossroads marked 'P', walk down the track towards **MUNSTEAD WOOD** which you can see after a short distance, on your left.*

## **MUNSTEAD WOOD 1896 -7**

From Heath Lane you can see the beautifully conceived entrance - a simple arch with dovecote above in a plain wall, leading into a loggia. The garden front has gables and sweeping roofs. With its traditional solid building material the house gave, as Miss Jekyll wrote, "the impression of a comfortable maturity of something like a couple of hundred years". The garden design of course, was Miss. Jekyll's.

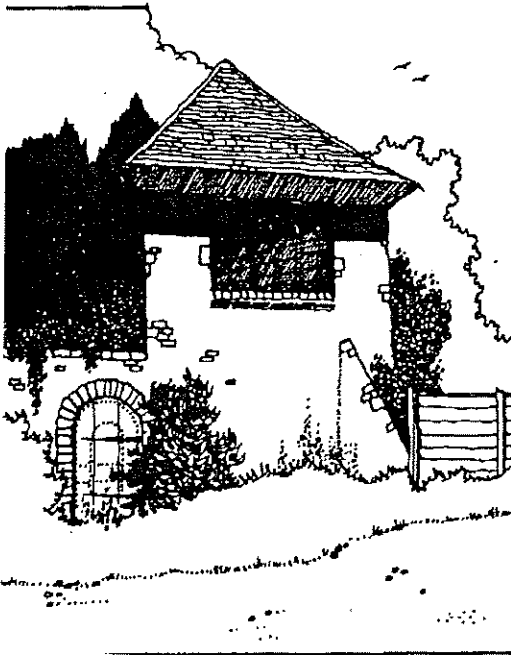


### MUNSTEAD PLACE 1891 - 2

This was probably Lutyens' first commission for a wealthy early commuter. On the side of Heath lane opposite Munstead Wood, you can glimpse the three half timbered gables of the entrance side. The pyramid roof lodge is also by Lutyens.

### THE QUADRANGLE

Originally Gertrude Jekyll's potting sheds and garden outbuildings, forming a courtyard now converted to a house.



### THE THUNDER HOUSE 1895

A very simple triangular shelter, with typical battered walls from which Miss. Jekyll would watch thunderstorms. Originally this was the end of her garden.

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, BUSBRIDGE

Across the road is this church designed by G. G. Scott Junior. The wrought iron screen suspended from the chancel arch was designed by Lutyens. In the churchyard by the chancel end are the Jekyll family graves and near the road junction, a war memorial, all by Lutyens. The gravestones especially are in a free modern style reminiscent of the Whitehall cenotaph.

### THE THUNDER HOUSE



### MUNSTEAD ORCHARD 1898 - 9

This was built for Miss Jekyll's Swiss gardener. The entrance front has a half timbered gable. Note the garden wall in bargate stone with a tile covering.

### MUNSTEAD WOOD HVT 1892

This was an essentially single storey house which Gertrude Jekyll used for entertaining. It has rough-cast walls with roofs sweeping down to a low eaves line and a massive central chimney stack. Nairn and Pevsner describe it as "a self conscious re-creation of the ideal Surrey Cottage".

### LITTLE MUNSTEAD AND TWO COTTAGES 1896 - 8

Down the lane at the crossroads (blocked to cars) is this little house which shows the skilful use of varied materials. Ground floor of stone overhanging first floor rough cast rendering, the rest tile hung and tall red chimney stacks. Next door, Fir Tree Cottage and The Hollies are a staggered pair of gabled cottages showing Lutyens' imagination even when designing smaller houses.

*From Munstead turn right at the B2130. After 200 yards turn left into Home Farm Road and then immediately left on to Hambledon Road. This will take you through the village of Hambledon. Just before you reach the A283, on your right by a small triangular green is:*

### TIGBOURNE COTTAGE

This was part of the Tigbourne Court complex and forms an attractive group. Like the main house it is built of bargate stone with galleting (small stones inserted into the joints).

*Continue to the A283 and turn right. Immediately on your right on the main road frontage is*  
*TIGBOURNE COURT.*

#### **TIGBOURNE COURT, HAMBLEDON 1899 - 1901**

Nairn and Pevsner describe this as "Lutyens' gayest and most elegant building and probably his best ....it could only have been done by a young man - Lutyens was thirty - and perhaps it could have only been done once in a lifetime". This style is an inventive version of the 17th century domestic classical. The main feature is the entrance front, a symmetrical design around a courtyard. The high chimneys and curved screen walls of the side wings interplay with the three gables of the main building, with its cavernous entrance porch below. The materials are most carefully detailed, bargate stone with galleting, bands of tiles and brick dressings. Even the paving is fitted to the building.

*Continue a few yards along the A283 and on the corner of the next turning right is* *ORCHARD HOUSE.*

#### **ORCHARD HOUSE (FORMERLY WOOD END) 1894 - 7**

Designed to use its corner site, this charming small house has a bargate stone ground floor with rough cast gables above.

*Continue along the A283 for a few hundred yards. Over the railway bridge, take the first left turning to Sandhills, through Sandhills, to a crossroads by Crossway Cottages. Turn right (A286), follow the road for three quarters of a mile, and at the Milford Lodge of the Witley Park Estate, turn left. The road continues along the boundary of the park, which contains a little classical bathing pavilion by Lutyens. Just before the junction with the A3, park your car beside the road.*

*On foot, carefully cross the A3 and walk down the signposted bridleway opposite. Where the tracks diverge continue on the bridleway towards Silkmill Cottages. On your right over a field you will see ~~WARREN HERE~~.*

#### WARREN HERE 1896 -7

This house is a 17th century core enlarged and encased by Lutyens in a sympathetic way, with tile hung gables. The entrance front can be seen from the bridleway. Returning to your car, turn left on to the A3.

*The turning for Thursley is the next on your right.*

#### THURSLEY

See map overleaf.

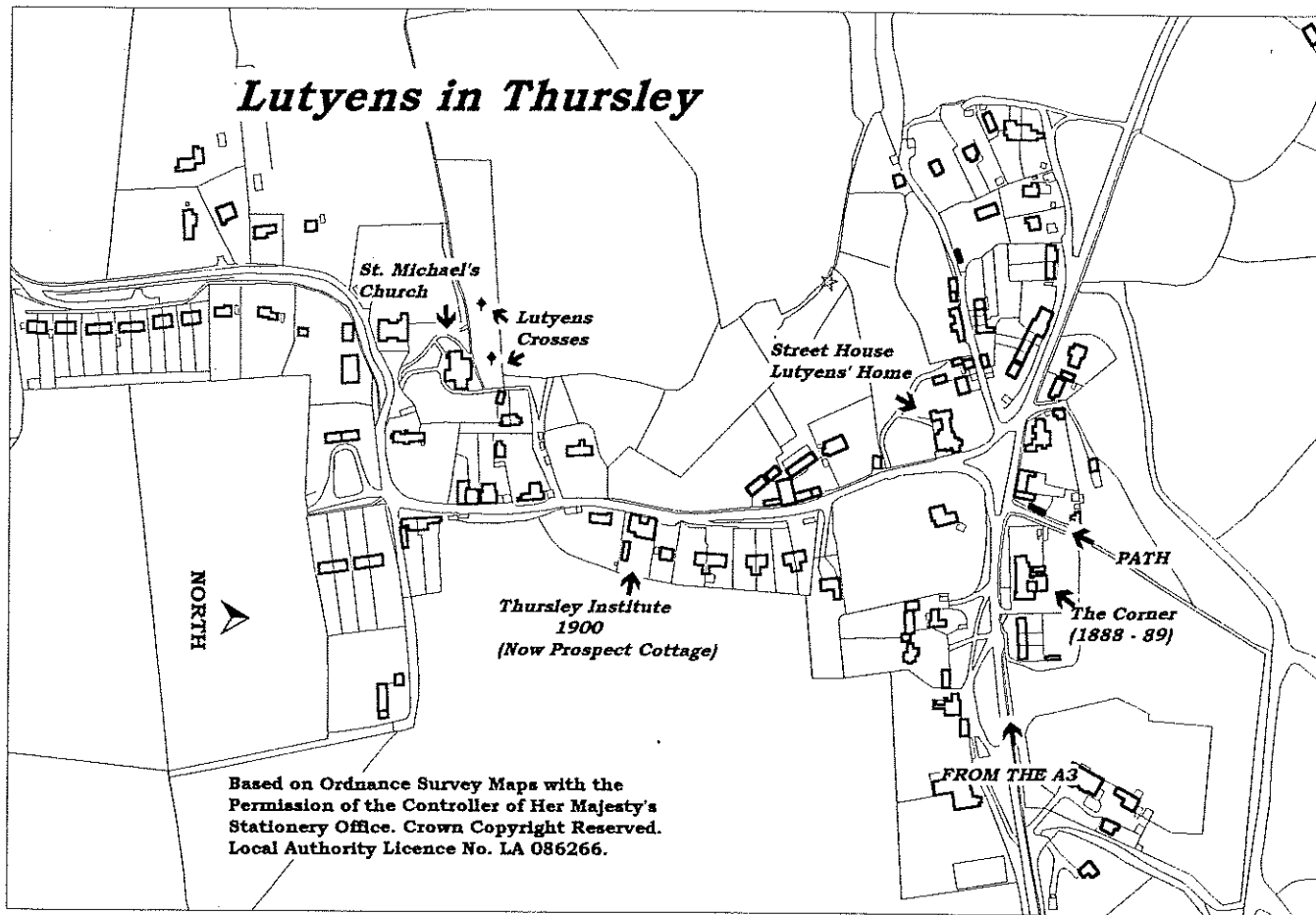
#### STREET HOUSE

This was the Lutyens family home.

#### THE CORNER 1888/9

Opposite Street House, this was Lutyens first executed work, the conversion of a shop and a pair of cottages into a house. Taking the footpath to the left of the house you reach the Common, from which you can see the wing which Lutyens added to the back of the house.

# *Lutyens in Thursley*



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## PROSPECT COTTAGE, THE STREET 1906

This was formerly the Thursley Institute, a brick building with buttressed walls. Its simple style forms an interesting contrast with the earlier Tilford Institute which you will see.

## THURSLEY CHURCHYARD

On the northern boundary of the churchyard there are a simple cross to Lutyens father and a memorial to his nephew, killed in the war. The position of the graves was probably chosen for the view back to the Lutyens house.

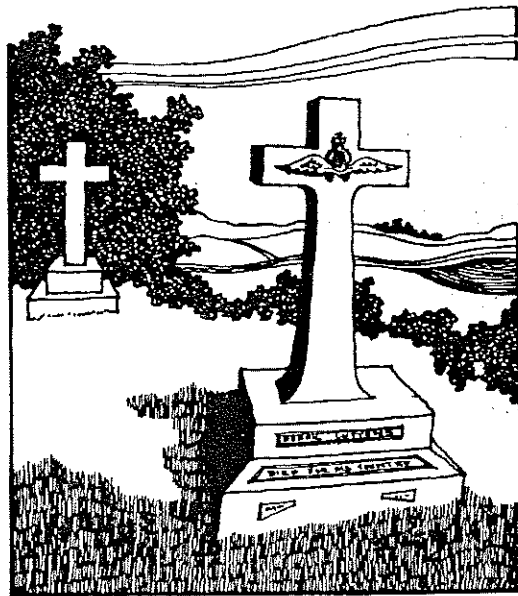
The Church, of Saxon origin, also contains massive Tudor timbers, supporting the tower, whose simple functional beauty is thought to have influenced Lutyens.

*Returning to The Corner, continue through the village away from the A3. At the 'T' junction turn left. In about two mile turn right again for Tilford, at the Pride of the Valley Hotel.*

## TILFORD VILLAGE INSTITUTE 1893

Entering the Green, the Institute is on your left, opposite the Barley Mow Public House. It is an oddly complex little building, with a brick ground floor containing a seat for cricket spectators, and oversailing upper floor in timber framing with a clock and, in the peak of the gable, a bell.

THURSLEY CHURCHYARD



## FARNHAM

*Continue through Tilford across the double bridge to Farnham with its range of shops and refreshment places. This fascinating town, with its fine Norman castle and mediaeval bishops palace overlooking one of the finest informal Georgian groups of properties in England, rewards exploration and a separate town walk leaflet is available.*

## THE LIBERAL CLUB, SOUTH STREET, FARNHAM 1895

*(To be seen on the right hand side on entering South Street just beyond the point of entry into the one-way system.)*

The Liberal Club is an unusual Lutyens design built in thin red brick in a 17th century classical style with odd pediments over the first floor windows. This early work demonstrates Lutyens' response to location - restrained but formal style suited to a town centre street frontage.

*Leave Farnham by South Street. Cross over the A31 at the traffic lights. Over the level crossing fork left at the junction taking the B3001 towards Godalming.*

## CROOKSBURY, TILFORD

This building cannot be viewed from a public place but is interesting in that it was Lutyens' first country house commission (1890), a vernacular building in half timber and tile hanging. He extended it in 1898 -9 with a wing which had one of his first classical exteriors.

An intriguing glimpse of the kitchen garden walls and setting, however, can be obtained.

*Continue on the B3001 towards Godalming. Pass the Donkey Public House and then take the second turn on your left signposted to Cutmill and Puttenham. After some bends in the road, park opposite Broomfield Cottage and walk up the bridle path by the entrance to Fulbrook Farm.*

#### FULBROOK HOUSE, ELSTEAD, 1697 - 9

Only the merest glimpses of the house to your left can be obtained from the bridlepath but the severely designed outbuildings in bargate stone are themselves worth seeing. The main house has a variety of styles on different elevations but the overall impression is Tudor.

*Return to the B3001, and then follow the signs for Godalming. At the first set of traffic lights on the A3 go straight on, ignoring the signs to Godalming and then at the next lights turn left into Cherry Tree Road. At the roundabout, turn left into Church Road. The ~~COTTAGES~~ are on your left, just past Milford Parish Church.*

#### COTTAGES, CHURCH ROAD, MILFORD 1891

A block of four cottages built of brown brick with two overhanging tile hung gables on the road side. Over the door the keystone refers to Robert Webb of Milford House, for whom the cottages were built. A nice touch is the weather vane over the garden shed.

*Continue along Church Road and bear right at the mini roundabout on to the A3100. Almost immediately on your right is *MILFORD HOUSE*.*

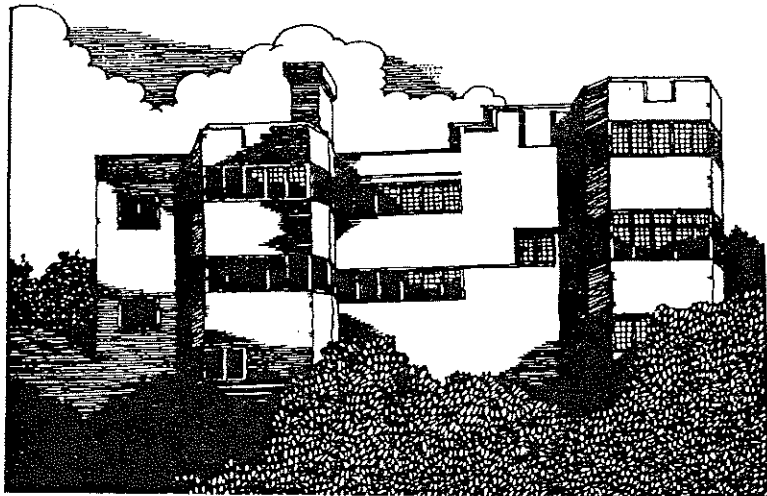
#### MILFORD HOUSE, PORTSMOUTH ROAD, MILFORD

Originally, this 18th century house was the "great house" of Milford and was the seat of the Webb family. They took the young Lutyens under their wing and introduced him to cultivated and intellectual society. The house, once an hotel, caught fire in the early 1980s, and has remained a shell for many years.

*Continue along the A3100 through Godalming. Flambarb Way by-passes the centre. Bear right at the first roundabout. Cross the Town Bridge and then turn left into Chalk Road at the roundabout. This becomes Charterhouse Road and continues up the hill. High up on your right is the **RED HOUSE**.*

### **THE RED HOUSE, FRITH HILL ROAD, GODALMING**

This is a remarkable house, designed for its hillside site in an almost fortress like style, foreshadowing Castle Drogo in Devon, a National Trust property. Looking up from the Charterhouse Road, you can see how the base of the house rises, sloping and almost windowless. The house is like a tower, with the rooms leading off at different levels around a central staircase. This shows outside in the different window levels and parapet levels. The Frith Hill road side of the house is much gentler. Frith Hill Road is reached by taking the first turn right after passing under the Charterhouse Bridge.



### **GODALMING**

You could end your tour in Godalming, an interesting Mediaeval wool town with a fine High Street, formerly the main London to Portsmouth Road, in which some of the resulting inns remain.

***THE RED HOUSE***



## OTHER LUTYENS BUILDINGS IN WAVERLEY

### PARK HATCH LODGES, HASCOMBE 1889

*From the Munstead Crossroads, continue along the B2130, through the village of Hascombe to see these little lodges, one of Lutyens' earliest designs. They form a charming pair on either side of a drive and can be well viewed from the road. They are single story bargate stone buildings, under heavy Horsham slate roofs, relieved by timber framed gables and delightful loggias.*

### AMESBURY SCHOOL, HINDHEAD

*To reach the school continue along the A3 through Hindhead. Take the first left after about one mile and follow the road round. The school is then on your right and can be well viewed from the road.*

Built as a private house, this illustrates Lutyens' ability to use the classical idiom. The facade to the road is single storey and consists of 13 bays, of which the central seven are recessed, with a central door.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This is not an original piece of work but compiles information from other sources into one convenient document. The main sources have been Nairn and Pevsner's "Surrey" in the "Buildings of England" series and Nicholas Taylor's notes for the Victorian Society Lutyens Tour in 1970. Our great debt to these authors is gratefully acknowledged.

## FURTHER READING

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\*Available by post from R.I.B.A Publications, Finsbury Mansion, Morelands Street, London EC1V  
or Telephone 0171 - 251 - 0791.



