

the narrow path through the gorse round to the right of a sandpit. Codicote Heath is a charming place and one of the few commons on the north of London where heather grows.

Skirting the pit, keep straight ahead by the broad grassy track, keeping left at a fork down to the lane at Codicote Bottom (1 mile). Bear right, pass another sandpit and cross the Mimram at Codicote Mill, now a private residence, with the old water-meads converted into a lovely garden. Keep forward by the lane.

On reaching the cross-road at The Elms farm, turn left and take to the drive that runs straight up from the lodge of Ayot Park on the right. Looking back after a while there comes a pleasing picture of Codicote Mill and the farm in the wooded vale. After about half a mile—on passing into the parkland proper by a gate and stile (2 miles)—leave the drive for a forward footpath on the left which runs under a big beech and over the park, out into (right) AYOT ST LAWRENCE.

Passing through the village, carry on round to the fork by Shaw's Corner (already established as such on the Ordnance Survey maps), the comfortable red-brick residence of the late Bernard Shaw. Turning right here, beside the hedge, leave the lane at the bend, go forward through the gap to left of a gate, and carry on by a delightful enclosed pathway to Lamer Park (3 miles). Here follow the avenue—of old elms and young lime and maple—for 260 paces and then take to the half-left path that diverges from it (by a stile and gate). Crossing another stile farther on, pass under an old sweet-chestnut tree, and so to a drive that reveals the Georgian house, which dates from 1761 and is the home of Mr Apsley Cherry-Garrard, the Antarctic explorer and author of *The Worst Journey in the World*. Turn left along the drive and out into Lamer Lane (4 miles). A short half mile to the left is WHEATHAMPSTEAD.

## Walk 5c

WHEATHAMPSTEAD TO HARPENDEN (4 miles)  
BY MACKERYE END.

Turn right on leaving the porch of Wheathampstead church and take the path from the gate. Follow it—past some old cottages, round over the railway, and across the Lea—into a lane. From here a path continues forward to The Dell. Here turn left, and following the hedgeside path for about 800 yards—to where it diverges right as a cartway—leave it then for the path on the *left* (1 mile). This hugs a right-hand hedge for a good half mile and then runs out between hedgerows to Marshall's Heath—a roadside grass-plot with new cottages. Here bear right and in a few yards left by a lane that leads up to MACKERYE END (2 miles).

Turning left, bear round beside the mansion and follow the winding lane down and round into Batford. Here a forward lane (by some thatched cottages) leads over the Lea and past a spring-well that is still the reservoir for some of the cottages, to the Marquis of Granby alehouse (3 miles). Take the lane ahead and when it narrows (a few yards beyond Lyndhurst Drive on the right) take the path from a stile on the left. This path (there may be hurdles at the hedge gaps) runs straight ahead to HARPENDEN. A rightward turn along Milton Road, left at the end, and so into the green-set main street, near the coach stop.