

From here the way is forward beside a *left-hand* hedge, and then round by it into a second field and out to BOBBINGWORTH (4½ miles).

Keeping forward, turn off the lane at a left-hand stile 50 yards beyond the lodge-gates of Blake Hall, and follow the half-right path over the parkland of this estate. To the left, the big white mansion is seen beyond the cricket-field, and away to the right is the Roding valley. Continue forward over the drive (5 miles) and so out on to the Ongar road.

Turn left at the road and, after 170 yards, right at a farm road (from white gates). On reaching the farm (Bilsden's Farm), turn right at the pond, and, bearing left past the farmhouse, carry on by the cartway. This leads straight ahead to the railway, beyond which a path—slightly rightwards—runs over to a cross-track. Turn left here, and at once right, through a gate by a house (New Barns). Striking half-left to the fence, keep beside this. (There are views of the red-roofed houses of Shelley to the left.) After 400 yards pass through a left-hand gate. Bear right now, by a green track past Greensted Hall, to ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (6½ miles).

On leaving the church return to the lane. Bear left, and at once go through the white gates, along to a forward kissing-gate. From this a path runs slightly leftward over two fields into the elm avenue. This leads over the Cripsey Brook, into the main street of Chipping Ongar (7 miles).

Chapter VII: Chipperfield Tour

The Chess, Goldingtons, Church End, Belsize, Penman's Green, Chipperfield, Commonwood, Sarratt, Loudwater

Ever charming, ever new,
When will the landscape tire the view?

JOHN DYER

RICKMANSWORTH

Whilst the town increased considerably in size in pre-war years, the neighbouring Chess Valley preserves its rusticity. Other attractions are Rickmansworth Park, Moor Park, the curiously concealed hill of Juniper (a place of views, off the Harefield road), the Grand Union Canal (for fishing), and the Aquadrome (for swimming and boating). A big lake set with wooded eyots, the Aquadrome is really an old ballast pit, or rather it is part of one—possibly the biggest in England. At Rickmansworth the Chess and the Gade join the Colne.

Old Rickmansworth preserves a few old inns and houses, and has a fine modern church (by Sir Arthur Blomfield) with memorials preserved from the old one. Basing House, at the beginning of the Watford road, just beyond Church Street, was a residence of William Penn before Charles II wiped out his debts to the elder Penn by giving the son a few million acres of the Redskins' territory. The house is now occupied by the local council, who have formed a public garden at the rear. Penn came to it on his marriage to Gulielma Springett. New Rickmansworth consists of some fine estates of the garden suburb type.

Moor Park is a remnant of the Moor where Wolsey built an estate on a grander scale even than Hampton Court. Sandy Lodge—now with its golf-course and the Merchant Taylors' School—is another parcel of the old Moor. Moor Park became the home of Admiral Lord Anson after his rough-and-tumble but not unprofitable voyage round the world in the old *Centurion*. Before 'development' Moor Park was the seat of Lord Ebury. The mansion was built