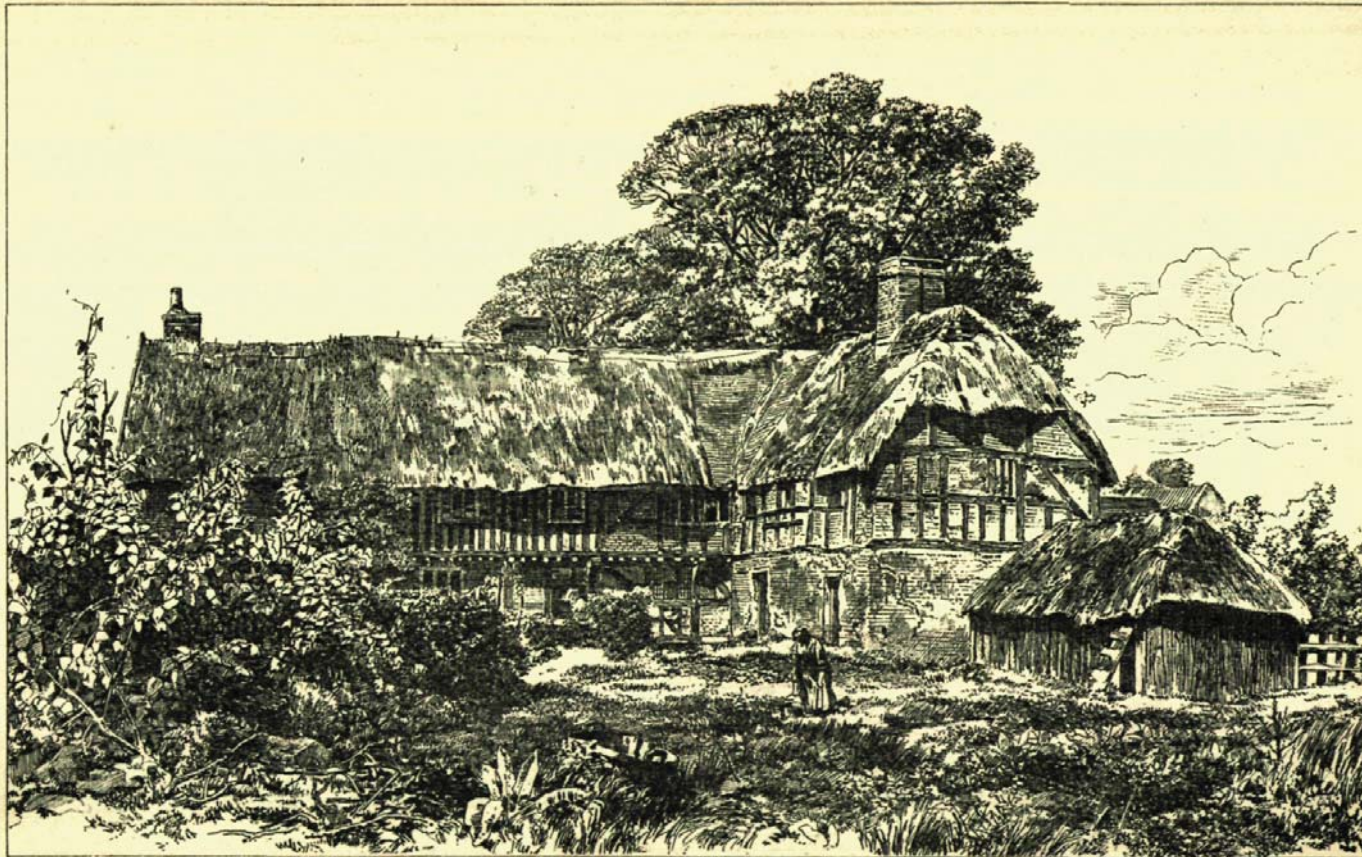


HANTS FIELD CLUB, 1892:



M. SNAPE, DELT.

PHOTO LITHO. SPRAQUE & CO. LONDON.

OLD MANOR HOUSE AT BEDHAMPTON, 1876.

## THE OLD MANOR HOUSE, BEDHAMPTON.

Mr. M. Snape has furnished a drawing from a sketch made by him in 1876, which enables us to give an illustration of the "Old Manor House" at Bedhampton—a type of building fast disappearing owing to natural decay and modern requirements. Such has been the fate of the present example, which has been pulled down since the drawing was made. The walls appear to have been of brick half-timbered, the ground floor recessed, with a chamber storey overhanging, the end of the beams being shown; the roof was of thatch. Mr. Snape says "there was nothing ornamental inside; the beams were of oak, as were the floors, cupboards, &c., and apparently in excellent condition. The right foreground consisted of beds of watercresses, the spring was just to the left of the figure, the foliage to the left was a tangled hedge of scarlet runners, concealing that part of the house which had been refaced, and perhaps rebuilt, as regarded the front wall, the projecting wing was ruinous." The whole formed a picturesque object, well known to travellers between Portsmouth and London, as it stood within a stone's throw of the line after leaving Havant station. An old inhabitant with a far reaching memory, communicates the following with regard to the tenement:—"The old houses were pulled down in 1881. They were divided into six tenements, then owned by the Hon. Ralph Dutton, and were always called 'The Old Manor House' ever since I can remember. There was also an old barn there when I can first recollect; that was pulled down in 1817 and erected in Bedhampton Park."

"White's Hampshire Directory" (1859) tells us "the Manor House is an old brick mansion near the church, where there is said to have been a nunnery, as there are some monastic remains in one of the boundary walls, where a passage is supposed to have led into the church."

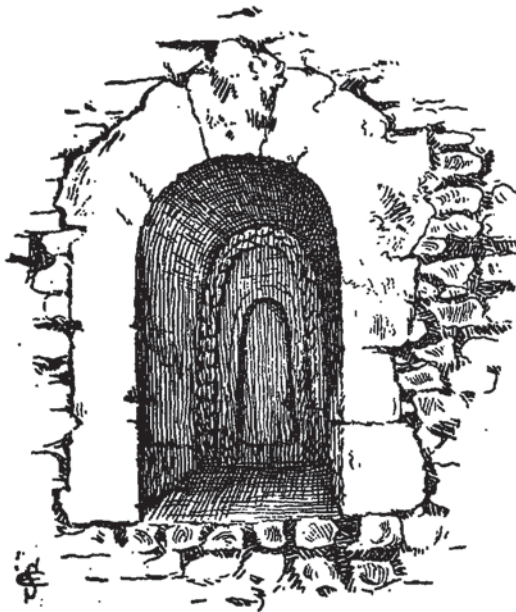
The character and antiquity of the house, supported by local tradition, make it probable that this old dwelling, which was of considerable size and importance, was connected with the Manor, but there is no evidence at all of any religious house having been in the parish. At the time of the survey Hugo de Port held Bedhampton *Betametone* of the Abbey (St. Peter's, Winchester). The Manor formerly belonged to the Countess of Kent (1411), widow of the grandson of Edward I.

That Bedhampton is a place of great antiquity is, perhaps, proved by the fact that among the earliest forms of survey which appear to foreshadow Domesday Book, is that of the land at *Beaddinctun*, which Kemble and Thorpe<sup>1</sup> both identify with Bedhampton<sup>2</sup> referred to in a letter of Denewulf, Bishop of Winchester, to King Edward, about A.D. 901-908. The Anglo-Saxon original, with a Latin translation, is contained in the *Codex Wintoniensis*, the old chartulary of Winchester Cathedral (Brit. Mus. Additional MS. 15,350 f. 96 b.)

<sup>1</sup> "Diplomatarium," p. 162.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. W. De Gray Birch sees no reason why it should not be Beddington, in Surrey.

## EARLY WINDOW AT BOARHUNT.



The churches and chapels existing in Hampshire at the time of the Domesday Book may be reckoned about 133. The number was probably much larger, as in the case of several parishes (*e.g.* Hambledon); there is no mention of a church, although the present edifice attests its existence at the period of, if not anterior to, the conquest.

The church at Boarhunt may certainly be counted among those built before the Domesday Survey. Its general character is Transitional Norman, but the chancel arch is probably Saxon, and the window of which we here give an illustration undoubtedly belongs to a very early period. It is situated in the chancel wall about eight feet from the

ground, and on the north side where the most ancient work will usually be found to have survived. The shape narrows at the top and the measurements are as follows:—

Width on face of wall .. ..	2-ft.
Height .. ..	3-ft. 10-in.
Width within splay <i>below</i> .. ..	1-ft. 5-in.
Width .. .. <i>above</i>	1-ft. 2½-in.
Width of glass space .. ..	7-in.

The outside splay measures 18-in. deep and the wall 3-ft. thick. No trace of the window can be seen within the church, owing to a monument (1567) to the Henslow family which is affixed to the wall at that point.

