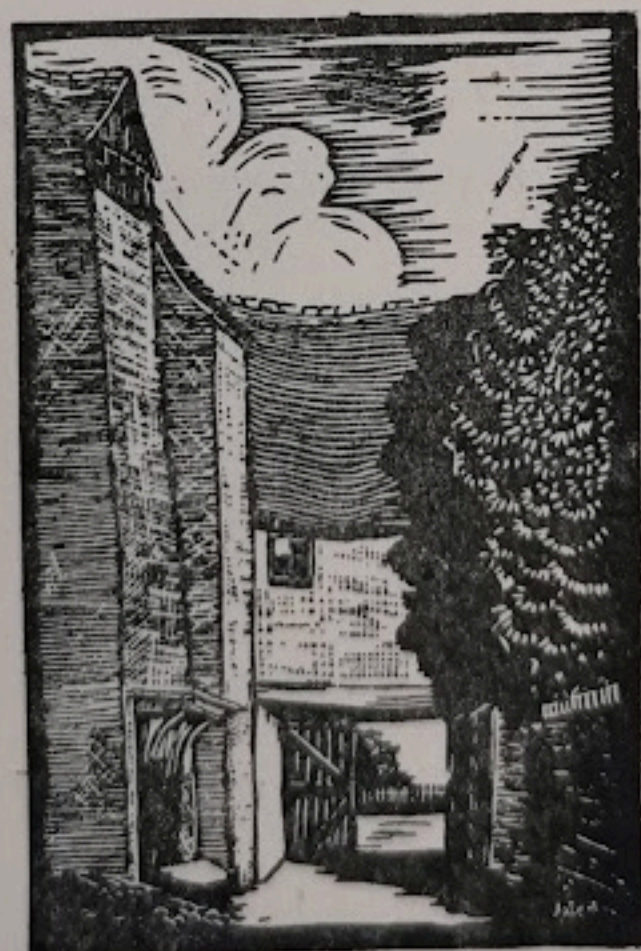


THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY  
FOLK MUSEUM  
ASSOCIATION

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1945



THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM  
2 CASTLE STREET, CAMBRIDGE

# The Cambridge and County Folk Museum Association

## OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1945

*Patron:*

THE RT. HON. THE LORD FAIRHAVEN, D.L., J.P., F.S.A.

*President:* THE MASTER OF MAGDALENE

*Vice-Presidents:*

E. A. B. Barnard, M.A., F.S.A.  
L. C. G. Clarke, M.A., F.S.A.

Mrs. J. N. Keynes, J.P.  
Miss Catherine E. Parsons

Ald. E. Saville Peck, M.A., D.L.

*Hon. Secretary:*

H. I. Fyjis-Walker  
8, Howes Place, Cambridge

*Acting Hon. Curator:*

R. C. Lambeth  
The Folk Museum

*Hon. Treasurer:*

H. I. Fyjis-Walker  
8, Howes Place, Cambridge

*Acting Assistant Curator:*

Mrs. Lambeth

*General Committee:*

Mrs. C. Armstrong  
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W. Brereton, F.S.I.  
Miss E. Brooks  
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M.A., F.S.A., F.G.S.  
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Dr. L. Cobbett  
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Ald. H. Franklin

H. I. Fyjis-Walker  
Sir Graham Greene, K.C.B.  
W. Balfour Gourlay,  
M.C., M.A.  
E. B. Haddon, M.A.  
Dr. T. S. Hele, O.B.E.  
H. C. Hughes, M.A.,  
F.R.I.B.A.  
H. S. Johnson  
B. J. Matthew, M.A., J.P.  
Prof. Sir E. H. Minns,  
Litt.D., F.S.A.  
Dr. Margaret Murray,  
F.S.A. (Scot.), F.R.A.I.  
L. F. Newman, M.A., F.S.A.

Ald. J. Nutter  
Miss Catherine E. Parsons  
T. T. Paterson, M.A.  
Ald. E. Saville Peck,  
M.A., D.L.  
Coun. Talbot Peel, M.A.  
Coun. A. B. Ramsay, M.A.  
The Rev. Dr. R. F. Rattray  
Miss M. O'Reilly, M.A.  
J. Saltmarsh, M.A., F.S.A.  
Miss Z. M. Scruby, M.B.  
Coun. Mrs. Tharp  
Mrs. Vulliamy  
Miss Warrington  
A. H. Wooll, A.S.A.A.

*Executive Committee:*

*Ex-Officio*  
The President  
Hon. Secretary  
Hon. Treasurer  
Hon. Curator

*Elected*  
E. A. B. Barnard  
L. C. G. Clarke  
Dr. L. Cobbett  
Miss Catherine E. Parsons  
Ald. E. Saville Peck  
~~Dr. Z. M. Scruby~~

*Representative nominated by*

Cambridge Antiquarian Society  
Cambridge Borough Council  
Cambridge Borough Teachers' Association  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Cambridgeshire Teachers  
Isle of Ely County Council  
Senate of the University

Miss M. O'Reilly  
Coun. G. H. Rylands  
Miss Howlett  
A. B. Ramsay  
Mrs. Vincent-Brün

L. F. Newman

*Co-opted*

T. W. Bagshawe  
W. Brereton

~~H. S. Johnson  
Dr. Margaret Murray~~

# TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1945

THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Association was held on the 23rd February, 1945. The President, the Master of Magdalene, took the chair, supported by the Patron, Lord Fairhaven, Vice-Presidents, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and a good attendance of members. The Chairman expressed the great regret of the meeting at the absence, through illness, of Ald. Peck, without whose enthusiasm and energy, he said, there would have been no Folk Museum.

In presenting, as Secretary, the Annual Report for 1944, Mr. Fyjis-Walker said that he was content with the position in the sixth year of war. Objects of great interest and rarity continued to be offered to the Museum. The collection was now a very fine one, far outstripping the space available for exhibition at the White Horse Inn. The status and interest of the Museum fully justified the hopes and enthusiasm of the founders.

The speaker in presenting the accounts, as Treasurer, was not so happy. The financial basis of the Museum was a very slender one, barely sufficient to support the edifice which had been erected upon it by the devoted work of the officers and the support of the present membership. He asked the Association to consider very carefully in 1945 the problem of extending the financial resources to cover the expansion which must come with peace.

An address, both witty and erudite, by Mr. John Saltmarsh, F.S.A., on "Life in Tudor England" was much enjoyed by the company.

The retiring officers, the General Committee and the elected members of the Executive Committee were re-elected en bloc for 1945.

THE OLD ABBEY HOUSE, ABBEY ROAD, was thought by the Committee to offer a solution to the problem of physical expansion, as a building of character and great historical interest, deriving from the Abbey of Barnwell. It was found to be in the market. In a magnificent gesture the Patron informed the Committee that in recognition of VE day and as a thank offering for our deliverance he would purchase the Old Abbey House and give it to the Association on two conditions: first, that the sum of £3,500 be raised by the Association to convert the premises for use as the Folk Museum and to provide a sum of money to carry on the Museum there for an initial period: second, that the building be covenanted with the National Trust.

This offer with its conditions was gratefully accepted by a special General Meeting of the Association held on the 8th June, 1945. A second Special General Meeting held on the 9th November, 1945 passed a resolution to incorporate the Association as a Company Limited by Guarantee, in order that it might hold the property, when made over to it, in its own name.

Immediately the Committee took steps to launch an appeal for the £3,500 necessary to secure the Old Abbey House. Mrs. J. N. Keynes, with whom was associated Lord Keynes, Mr. Louis Clarke and Ald. E. Saville Peck, each promised £500, in the two latter cases partly by seven year covenants. At the 31st December, 1945 a sum of £3,050 has been raised, of which £1,970 has been received in cash, the balance being represented by covenants. The Committee earnestly appeals to members who have not yet subscribed to the Abbey House Fund, and to friends into whose hands this Report may come, to make up the £450 required to take advantage of the Patron's magnificent offer of a new and permanent home of its own for the Cambridge and County Folk Museum.

ACQUISITIONS during the past year have certainly not diminished in quality or quantity; even after ten years of building up the collection it would seem that the supply of interesting objects is inexhaustible.

An outstanding gift from Mrs. Derek Cooper, of a collection of 46 children's toys of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, will make a great contribution to the Children's Room when we have enough space to show them. Two truncheons painted with the Royal, and Borough Arms, dated 1910 and 1916, and a miniature one with the Royal Arms only, dated 1848, have been given by Lord Fairhaven. Another interesting item is a Chondrometer of 1826, from Mr. J. T. Idris. This instrument was used for finding out the weight per bushel of grain, when grain was sold by bushel, and not by weight as it is to-day. This gift will replace a similar instrument which has only been on loan. A flint-lock Blunderbuss comes from Mr. P. B. Standley and six pairs of ladies shoes of the late 18th century from Mrs. G. Tharp. Perhaps the most interesting gift of the year, and particularly appropriate now, is a fine portrait of the builder of the Old Abbey House, Jacob Butler; this with a number of framed Cambridge prints comes from the late Mrs. Macaulay. Certainly the most charming gift is a small cabinet containing a miniature library of seven children's books, dated 1803, all with hand coloured plates, the gift of Mrs Vincent.

EXHIBITIONS were held throughout the year away from the Museum. Early Children's Books were shown at Linton Village College and old Agricultural Implements at Burwell and Bottisham for the Cambs. War Agricultural Executive Committee. Old and New Rural Industries were illustrated at Bottisham Village College and Early Methods of Education at Impington Village College for the Parish Councils Conference. Material was also lent for a travelling exhibition arranged by the Village Drama Organiser.

TALKS AND LECTURES were given by the Hon. Curator, with lantern slides, to the Ely Literary Society, several Women's Institutes, the Cambridgeshire Craftsmen's Society, the Bottisham Young Farmers' Club and the Burwell Agricultural Discussion Society; these last two for the Cambridgeshire War Agricultural Executive Committee.

CHILDREN from the Village Schools visited the Museum, giving up, let it be noted, their Saturday afternoons and paying their own bus fares, to hear talks by the Hon. Curator. In all fifteen such parties were welcomed during the year.

ORGANISED PARTIES again made good use of the Museum. The number which came in 1945 was no less than 22, comprising 463 visitors. Among them were groups of A.T.S., Girl Guides, Women's Institutes, the New Education Fellowship and the Cambridgeshire Craftsmen's Society. The total attendance of visitors, including the parties, was 4208, of whom 2470, paid for admission and 1738 came on the free days.

THE ACCOUNTS FOR 1945 show little variation from the norm of the war years. There was an increase over 1944 of £5 in the ordinary subscriptions, but a drop in the receipts from visitors, probably due to the return home of evacuees and the gradual withdrawal from the district of members of the Forces, two classes of persons who made considerable use of the Museum during the war. A small profit in 1944 was turned into a deficit of some shillings in 1945. The County and Borough Education Authorities and the Thomas Wall Trust were kind enough to continue their grants, for which the Committee offers them its grateful thanks.

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The Committee wish to remind members that the Museum is open on Sundays from 2.30-4.30, and on week-days, except Monday, from 2 o'clock to 4.30 p.m.



1678

From Gray's "Cambridge Revisited"

## THE OLD ABBEY HOUSE

Many people in Cambridge know the Abbey House, or the Old Abbey, as it is more often called, but its history may not be so well known. The house was built in 1678, from what was left of the ruins of Barnwell Priory—a priory for a long time so large and important that it came to be called an abbey. The present house and garden occupy a small part of its site.

The story of the Abbey begins at Castle End. In the reign of William Rufus son of Willaim the Conqueror, there was a Baron Picot of Bourn, who was High Sheriff of the County. His wife, Lady Hugoline, was taken so ill in Cambridge that she was given up by the King's physicians, upon which she made a vow that if she recovered her health, she would build a church in honour of St. Giles, her patron saint, and also establish a house for canons of a religious order. Her husband promised to enable her to carry this out. "Upon which," adds the monkish chronicle, "she perfectly recovered in three days." So Baron Picot founded the Church of St. Giles' near the Castle, of which he was probably custodian, and added a monastery for six canons of the Order of St. Augustine.

Before this pious work was completed, Picot and Hugoline died, and left it in charge of their son. He, however, became involved in a conspiracy against the King, Henry I., and had to flee the country. His estates were granted to Payne Peverel, a famous and valiant soldier, who had been standard-bearer in the Holy Land to Robert Curthose, brother of the King.

Peverel resolved not only to maintain, but to increase the monastery of St. Giles' which had been built on the site where Magdalene College now stands, but found the place too small and without the convenience of a natural spring of water. He therefore obtained of the King "a certain place without the town, extending from the highway to the river Cam," and the canons of St. Giles' were moved by Payne Peverel to a fine new building on this pleasant site in the year 1112.

The Abbey had many distinguished visitors, the most remarkable occasion being the time when in 1388, King Richard II, summoned Parliament to meet him there. Priors, or abbots, of Barnwell succeeded one another for over 400 years, keeping strict order among the "brethren," until in 1538 the Priory and all its revenues had to be surrendered to Henry VIII. The estate then passed into private hands and the great buildings fell into a ruinous condition, being largely used as a quarry for building material.

In 1659, the property was acquired by Mr. Butler, the first private owner who actually lived there; the present house was probably built by him. The Butler family kept possession for a hundred years, until the death in 1765 of Jacob Butler, an eccentric character, of whom strange tales are told. After that date, the estate again changed hands several times, until in 1886 it was bought by Mr. J. Sturton, who laid out roads and built a number of houses, ~~sometimes called Sturton Town~~. Fortunately enough land was left to form a good garden for the Old Abbey, and the last remaining remnant of the original Abbey on a separate piece of ground was given by Mr. Sturton to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

Now, more than eight centuries after the historic migration of the canons of St. Giles' from Castle End to Barnwell, another migration is to take place, it is hoped, in the near future—again from Castle End to Barnwell.

The Folk Museum, established in 1936 in the old White Horse Inn, at the foot of Castle Hill, and opposite to the modern church that has taken the place of Picot's church of St. Giles' now has the prospect of moving to the Old Abbey for the extension of its work.

The museum, which was started by a small group of enthusiasts, with a handful of modest exhibits, has developed so rapidly and proved so useful in illustrating the life of the past in Cambridge Town and County, that it has outgrown its present charming and appropriate home. On looking round, it seemed to the committee that nothing at all suitable could be found except the Old Abbey, and by great good fortune it has been offered to the Association as a gift. Hugoline's early settlement was a thank-offering for the preservation of her own life when in serious danger; this latest gift expresses thanksgiving for the preservation of the nation in its recent perils.

The Folk Museum Association, youngest of the local societies interested in the study of the past, has taken on a great responsibility in accepting this wonderful gift, which must be utilised in a way worthy of the generosity of the donor. Success can be attained if the enterprise meets with the sympathy and support of the public—and only in this way.





# Donors to the Abbey House Fund

31st December, 1945

- £500 : Mr. L. C. G. Clarke, Lord Keynes and Mrs. J. N. Keynes, Mr. E. Saville Peck.
- £105 : Mrs. Charles Armstrong.
- £100 : Cambridge Preservation Society, the Hon. Lady Darwin, King's College, Trinity College.
- £75 : Mrs. A. H. Lloyd.
- £50 : Miss R. Darwin, Gonville & Caius College.
- £25 : St. John's College.
- £21 : Mr. Grafton Pryor.
- £20 : Capt. R. G. Briscoe, Jesus College, Magdalene College, Peterhouse, Mr. J. Saltmarsh.
- £15 : Clare College, Emmanuel College.
- £10 10s. : Mr. T. W. Bagshawe, Mr. R. C. Blows, Downing College, Mr. Balfour Gourlay, the Misses Kenny, Pembroke College, St. Catharine's College.
- £10 : Dr. F. W. Aston, Mr. E. A. B. Barnard, Messrs. Bidwell & Sons, Corpus Christi College, Sir William Dampier and Miss Dampier, Mr. H. S. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. P. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Lambeth, Sidney Sussex College, Trinity Hall.
- £5 5s. : Mrs. D. K. Bland, Mr. F. G. Collins, Mr. C. J. L. Hull, Lord Inverclyde, Linton Village College Students, Mr. G. F. Roe, Earl Spencer, Messrs. C. H. Stockbridge & Son, Mr. and Mrs. Vulliamy.
- £5 : Miss Eddington, English Folk Dance & Song Society, Mr. H. H. Harper, Mr. H. C. Hughes, Air Vice-Marshal G. L. Keynes, Mrs. A. Lilley, Hon. Audrey Pauncefote, Mr. C. W. Phillips, Mr. R. Pierce, Mr. W. F. Reddaway, Mr. S. A. Rolfe, Sawston Village College Students, Dr. E. M. W. Tillyard, Mrs. E. M. W. Tillyard, Dr. G. M. Trevelyan, Mrs. A. Wagstaffe.
- £3 3s. : Mr. Alex Christie, Mr. P. C. Gray, Mr. O. E. Johnson.
- £3 : "A Rough Hand."
- £2 2s. : Mr. and Mrs. Ewart Beattie, Mr. H. Franklin, Miss M. A. Graves, Lt.-Col. J. Groves, Mr. A. F. Leach, Mrs. B. M. Lock, Sir R. Meiklejohn, Mr. C. E. Ridgeon, Messrs. Robt. Sayle & Co. Ltd., Mr. S. Stubbs, Mrs. Granville Sharpe.
- £2 : Sir G. de Montmorency, Mr. G. P. Wright.
- £1 1s. : Mr. W. L. Cuttle, Mr. A. K. Dewey, Dr. W. Down, Mr. T. Graham, Mr. L. A. Holder, Mr. J. H. S. McArthur, Mr. V. A. Malcolmson, Mr. E. H. Saville, Mr. R. Smart.
- £1 : Mrs. Bond, Mr. A. L. Percival.
- 10s. : Mrs. Cameron, Capt. Hatfield, Mr. A. Macdonald, "Mary", Mrs. Cole Phillips.

1945

## Life Members

(Donors of 10 guineas and upwards)

Mrs. C. Armstrong  
T. W. Bagshawe  
Miss E. Binney  
R. C. Blows  
Capt. R. Briscoe, M.P.  
Maj. the Hon. H. R. Broughton  
Cambridge Preservation Society  
Clare College  
L. C. G. Clarke  
C. M. Coote  
Hon. Lady Darwin  
Miss R. Darwin  
Downing College  
Dr. H. E. Durham  
Emmanuel College  
Master of Emmanuel  
Lord Fairhaven  
Col. Foster  
Gonville & Caius College  
W. Balfour Gourlay  
E. B. Haddon  
N. Higgins  
Jesus College  
Miss Agnes Kenny  
Miss Muriel Kenny

Lord Keynes  
Mrs. J. N. Keynes  
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L. F. Newman  
Miss Catherine E. Parsons  
Ald. E. Saville Peck  
Pembroke College  
Peterhouse  
Grafton Pryor  
Queens' College  
Mme. Raverat  
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Dr. C. M. Stevenson  
Lt.-Col. L. Tebbutt  
Dr. E. M. W. Tillyard  
Mrs. E. M. W. Tillyard  
Trinity College  
Mrs. Dudley Ward

## Subscriptions and Donations

ORDINARY MEMBERS (Annual Subscribers of 1 guinea and upwards)

T. W. Bagshawe  
E. A. B. Barnard  
Mrs. Bond  
Miss H. M. Buckenham  
Canon H. J. E. Burrell  
W. D. Bushell  
W. A. Cairns  
Cambridge Antiquarian Society  
Cambridge & District Co-operative  
Society  
Cambridge Borough Teachers'  
Association  
H. D. Catling  
L. C. G. Clarke  
Dr. L. Cobbett  
Miss R. Darwin  
Miss Eddington

Ald. A. R. Fordham  
Ald. H. Franklin  
Miss. C. M. Fuller  
H. I. Fyjis-Walker  
W. Balfour Gourlay  
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Miss R. E. M. Harding  
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Homerton College  
H. S. Johnson  
Percy Johnson  
C. Kerridge  
King & Harper, Ltd.  
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Lloyds Bank, Ltd.  
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Professor Sir E. H. Minns  
Capt. P. C. D. Mundy  
Dr. Margaret Murray  
Mrs. Pemberton  
R. C. Pierce  
Dr. S. H. Pritchard

W. F. Reddaway  
Prof. D. S. Robertson  
J. Saltmarsh  
Dr. Z. M. Scruby  
P. B. Standley  
Trinity College  
Lt.-Com. R. D. Tufnell  
A. H. Wooll

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS (Annual Subscribers of 5/- and upwards)

J. D. Bland  
G. B. Bowes  
W. Brereton  
Mrs. Cameron  
Miss B. E. Clay  
Ald. C. F. Clay  
F. G. Collins  
Miss E. Davies  
Sir. G. de Montmorency  
A. W. Dilley  
Dr. J. Hughes Dudley  
Miss Eddington  
R. H. Edleston  
Miss A. Edleston  
A. Eraut  
Dr. R. French  
R. L. Fuller  
Sir Harold Gray  
Lady Gray  
Miss N. M. Gray  
G. B. Halls  
Mrs. Eva Hartree  
Mrs. R. Stormont Hayes

Miss G. C. M. Heitman  
Mrs. A. V. Hill  
Canon Hulbert-Powell  
Mrs. K. E. Long  
Mrs. McArthur  
A. N. Mason  
B. J. Matthew  
T. M. Morris  
Miss E. Peck  
Mrs. C. D. Rackham  
Rev. Dr. Rattray  
S. A. Rolfe  
Miss A. H. Spalding  
Miss A. M. Spalding  
J. T. Spittle  
C. F. Tebbutt  
Mrs. Vincent-Brüns  
Miss Warrington  
F. R. Whitaker  
Women's Institutes (Cambs.  
Federation)  
H. Woods

DONATIONS

Anon

Taylor, W. J.

Mrs. J. N. Keynes

ANNUAL GRANTS

Cambridge Borough Education Committee  
Cambridgeshire County Education Committee  
The Thomas Wall Trust

# THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December, 1945

EXPENDITURE		1945		1944		By		1945		
1944	To	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
51	Rent, Rates and Insurance .. ..	53	7	9	57			62	3	0
25	Heat, Light and Water .. ..	34	19	11	19			19	6	0
38	Cleaning, including Cleaner's Wages .. ..	32	12	2	29			20	0	0
		120 19 11						101 9 0		
57	Assistant-Curator's Salary and National Health Insurance .. ..							20	0	0
10	Printing, Postages, Stationery, and Sundry Expenses .. ..	13	11	8	10			10	0	0
1	Bank Charges and Cheque Books .. ..			4	20			20	0	0
3	Advertisements and Carriage .. ..	3	10	0				50 0 0		
2	Repairs and Renewals .. ..	1	12	10	43			37	13	6
		18 18			1			1	12	4
		<u>£196 17 5</u>			5			39 5 10		
					5					5 8 4
					-					14 3
					-			£196 17 5		
					207					

## BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1945

LIABILITIES		£		s.		d.	
180	Life Membership Subscriptions at 1st January, 1945 .. ..	180	8	9			
-	Add: Received in 1945 .. ..	41	16	0			
		222 4 9					
8	Sundry Creditors .. ..				8	15	0
	The Abbey House Fund .. ..				20	12	8
	Accumulated General Fund at 1st January, 1945 .. ..	54	13	0			
	Less: Deficit for 1945 .. ..			14	3		
		53 18 9					
		<u>£2297 16 9</u>					

ASSETS		£		s.		d.	
204	Cash at Bank: Cambridge Trustee Savings Bank Deposit Account and Interest .. ..	251	7	9			
37	Accrued .. ..	25	12	8			
	Lloyds Bank .. ..	277 0 5					
	Petty Cash in hand .. ..				3	5	3
	Payments in Advance (Rates) (Abbey House) .. ..				4	8	0
	Cash on Deposit "Abbey House": Trustee Savings Bank .. ..	1000	0	0			
	Lloyds Bank .. ..	971	15	0			
	Cash in hands of Agents (Abbey House Rents) .. ..	41	3	3			
		2012 18 3					
		<u>£2297 16 9</u>					

### AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the foregoing income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet with the books of accounts of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum Association and certify them to be in accordance therewith,

E. A. B. BARNARD,  
*Hon. Auditor.*

11th January, 1946.