



# WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CURATOR  
MRS AVRIL LANSDELL

TELEPHONE:  
WEYBRIDGE 43573

WEYBRIDGE MUSEUM,  
CHURCH STREET,  
WEYBRIDGE.

26th May, 1972.

William Wells, Esq.,  
Keeper,  
The Burrell Collection,  
Camphill Museum,  
GLASGOW, G41.2EW.

Dear Mr. Wells,

Thank you for your letter of 28th April and for the photograph of the Tudor fireplace. The information on the typescript is rather confusing, and I think, somewhat misleading.

Oatlands Palace was built by Henry VIII on the foundations of a 14th century manor house built by the Rede family. Although it could have been described as a "hunting lodge" it was a very large building with a grass court, a cobbled court, several small courts and privy gardens. The description by Eric Parker, from "Highways and Byways in Surrey" is certainly of the Palace, which was not a "typical 16th century timbered house" as you can see from the enclosed picture. However, in the park of Oatlands there was a lodge house, which stood on the highest part of the park, described as being "Hall, parlour, pantry, buttery and kitchen on the ground floor, with eight chambers and two garrets above." This house was left standing when Cromwell destroyed the Palace in 1651, and it was this house that was rebuilt in Georgian times, not the Palace.

The query is, therefore, did your fireplace come from Oatlands Palace or Oatlands House? Are there any records of the compilation of the Hearst Collection that might tell us from which building the fireplace came?

I enclose a print of the palace and a copy of the history of the palace, together with the 1969 restoration

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