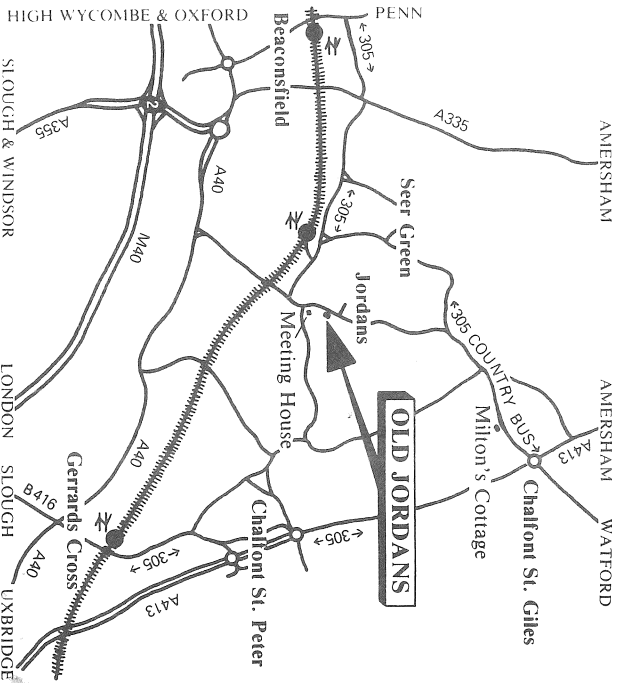


*Milton's Cottage, Chalfont St. Giles*

## Nearby Places of Interest

The Quaker, Thomas Ellwood, obtained 'this little box in the country' in Chalfont St. Giles for his friend, John Milton to escape the plague in 1665. Now known as Milton's Cottage, the house is a museum where many relics associated with Milton can be seen. The cottage is just over a mile away from Old Jordans. Stoke Poges (and its connections with Gray's Elegy), Windsor and Eton are within easy distance and can be reached by bus from Beaconsfield or Gerrards Cross. The attractive old towns of Amersham and Beaconsfield are also worth visits.



## ACCOMMODATION

24 Comfortable rooms, central heating, direct dial telephone, tea and coffee making facilities and radio alarm. Some rooms with bathroom and toilet en-suite, others with washbasin and nearby bathroom and toilet. Lounge and TV room.

## DINING

The Dining room is open for breakfast and lunch every day and dinner Monday to Saturday. Home cooking using fresh and local produce is our speciality. Vegetarian options are always available. Reservations are advisable. Morning coffee, afternoon teas and snacks are available every day.

## CONFERENCES

We have four meeting rooms suitable for meetings and private dining for 2 up to 60 persons. The Mayflower Barn is a popular venue for weddings and larger meetings and events. Please contact us for our comprehensive information pack.

## PARKING

There is plenty of uncovered parking in our car parks. Old Jordans accepts no responsibility for vehicles and their contents when left in the car parks.

## HOW TO GET TO OLD JORDANS

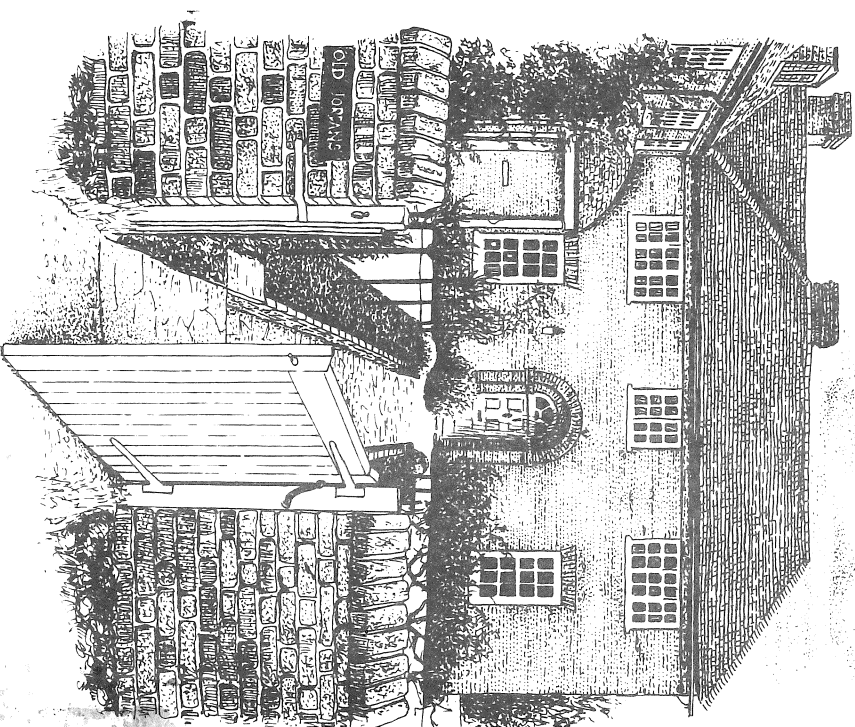
Trains run frequently from Marylebone, London to Gerrards Cross, Beaconsfield and our local station Seer Green and Jordans. Taxis are available at the stations. By road Old Jordans is 5 minutes from junction 2 on the M40.

**OLD JORDANS GUEST HOUSE AND CONFERENCE CENTRE**  
 Jordans Lane, Jordans, Near Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire HP9 2SW  
 Telephone: +44(0)1494 879700 Fax: +44(0)1494 875657  
 Email: [info@oldjordans.org.uk](mailto:info@oldjordans.org.uk)  
 Website: [www.oldjordans.org.uk](http://www.oldjordans.org.uk)

*Designed and drawn by Trevor Newton, Pilgrims Cottage, Jordans, Bucks.*

# OLD JORDANS

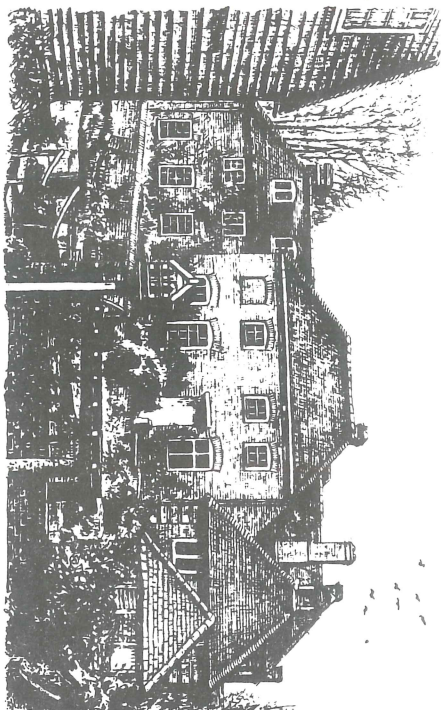
~ 1618 ~



## Guest House and

## Conference Centre

Near Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire



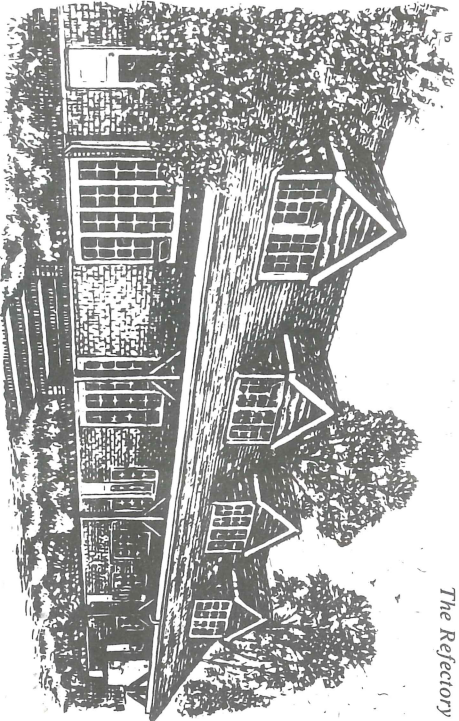
## OLD JORDANS

Under the direction of the Committee of the Society of Friends, Old Jordans, with its guest house, refectory annex, and Mayflower Barn, is a centre for rest and inspiration for private guests and conferences, in touch with Jordans Meeting, but in no way limited to members of the Society of Friends.

In the Seventeenth Century the farm house was a meeting place of the early Quakers and the scene of religious persecution. The friendly atmosphere of the present-day Old Jordans, the peaceful charm of the garden, and the beauty of the surrounding countryside—Jordans lies amongst the unspoilt beechwoods of the Chilterns—attract visitors from around the world, some for an extended sojourn, some for a short holiday, and others just to linger for a few precious moments to absorb what is here. Jordans has been called "a well where men come to draw waters of peace".

When Friends acquired the property in 1911 they did so from several motives—historical, social and religious. Historical, because the close association of Old Jordans Farm with the pioneer Seekers of the 17th Century was worthy of preservation: social because they wished to maintain the area as a place of peace and quiet for all to enjoy; and religious, because in that setting visitors might share the atmosphere which had nurtured early Friends.

*The Refectory*

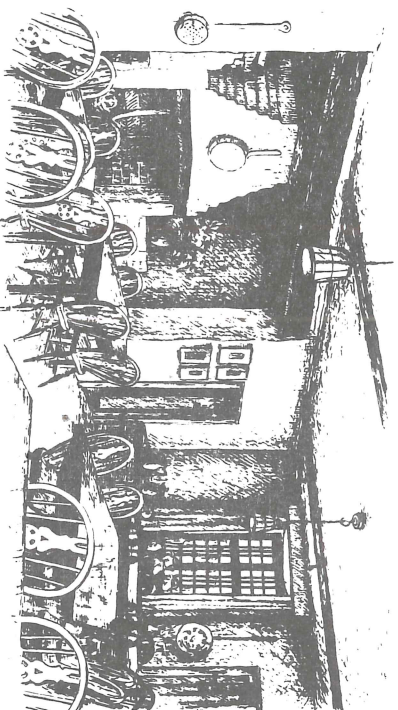


These motives have matured and become even more relevant with the years. Age merely emphasizes the need to preserve historical links. Socially, the Friends of the early part of the century achieved more than they knew. They started a movement which shaped the whole concept of Jordans of which we are the inheritors—the dedication of Dean Wood, Dean Meadow, Chalky Field, and Crutches Wood as open spaces for the general public benefit and hence the background from which Jordans Village could emerge. We remain part of that concept. Religiously—and we use the word in the widest sense—Old Jordans still has its part to play in a place where reasonable refreshment of body may be had, in an atmosphere conducive to refreshment of mind and spirit. In that sense we welcome as equals all men of whatever creed, race or colour. We would stress that the non-Friend is as welcome as the Friend. We would stress as strongly that we do not seek to proselytise. All that we ask is that you share what Old Jordans has to offer. May your visit bring refreshment to you in the widest sense of that word.

## Historical background

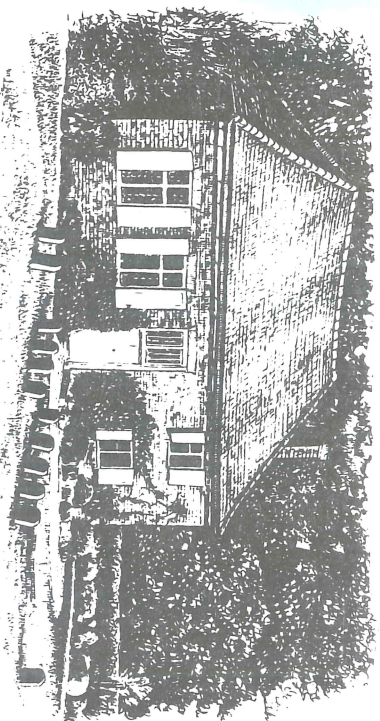
As with farmsteads up and down the English countryside, Jordans Farm dates back into the late Middle Ages when some long-forgotten Jordan, or Jourdain, ploughed the fields and sent his corn to Mispourne Mill. The known history of the farm begins in 1618 when Thomas Russell, the sitting tenant, bought the freehold from the Fleetwoods of the Vache in Chalfont St. Giles. The deed with the thumb-prints of the principals and witnesses now hangs in one of our rooms. At that time the house consisted of two rooms on either side of the old front-door and two bedrooms above. In 1624 the new owner added a kitchen—now the dining room—with two bedrooms above it.

In 1639, William Russell, son of the original Thomas, took over Jordans Farm. He was one of the early Quakers in these parts for, in



*The old kitchen dining-room*

1659, while George Fox and the Publishers of Truth were preaching from one corner of England to another, Meetings for Worship began to be held regularly in the Farm. During the next thirty years, there was much persecution of Dissenters and Jordans Meeting was frequently broken up by orders of the local Justices, those attending being hauled away to prison. An account of one such episode is recorded on a tablet in the house. It was during this period that George Fox, James Naylor, William Penn and other dedicated men, well-known to Quakers and with their own place in English history, came to Jordans Farm and worshipped where we now dine and sup.



*Friends' Meeting House*

In 1688 the Declaration of Indulgence gave freedom to Friends to build their own Meeting House. William Penn, the Founder of Pennsylvania, with his wives Gulielma and Hannah, together with ten of their sixteen children, is interred in the burial ground by the Meeting House, just a minute's walk through the orchard. For some fifty years thereafter the Farm remained in Quaker hands but, by the beginning of the last century,

*William Penn*  
1644—1718

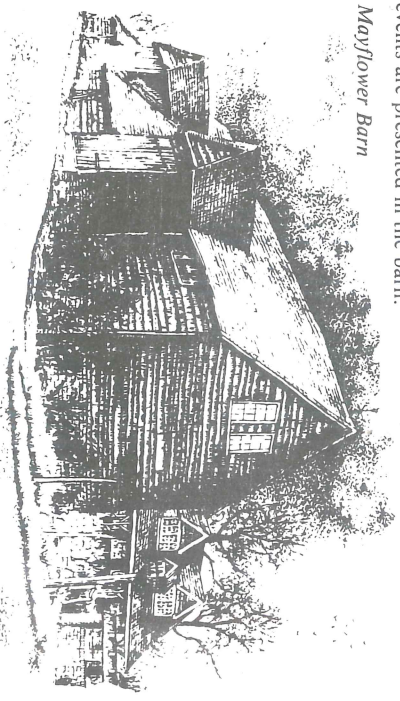


it had lapsed into neglect. In 1910, Friends learned that the old, almost derelict, farmhouse was for sale, and early in the following year, it was acquired jointly by four Monthly Meetings. The place was put in good repair, the farm-yard laid out as a pleasant garden and the stables rebuilt as the Refectory. A wing was added in 1920; and recently the old Refectory was replaced with a new building offering modern facilities.

On the south side of the garden is the Mayflower Barn. This was originally the main barn of the farm and, like most Buckinghamshire barns, was built of old ships' timbers. That these were the timbers of the Pilgrim Fathers' *Mayflower* was established, to his satisfaction, by Rendel Harris, an antiquarian and scholar of great repute, and he published the evidence in his book 'The Finding of the *Mayflower*'. Of his claims there can be no final proof but so learned a man's opinion demands respect and establishes a cogent probability.

Concerts, recitals, plays, lectures, art exhibitions, flower shows, wedding receptions and all manner of cultural, community and social events are presented in the barn.

*Mayflower Barn*



# OLD JORDANS

GUEST HOUSE AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

(Effective March 2003)

Single Room en-suite	£65.00
Double Room en-suite	£85.00

All rooms are en-suite & have direct dial  
Telephones, TV, radio/alarm clock  
& tea and coffee making facilities.

All rates include full English Breakfast  
and VAT @ current rate

- Special Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Packages
- Special Weekend Packages
- Special Children's prices
- Extensive Gardens & Lawns
- Lounge
- Dining Room (Please feel free to bring your own wine, we will be pleased to serve it to you)

Meetings, Conferences, Seminars,  
Lunches, Teas, Dinners & Weddings  
*for 10 to 120 people*

Please ask for our comprehensive  
Events Brochure

Jordans Lane, Jordans, Near Beaconsfield  
Buckinghamshire HP9 2SW  
Tel: +44 (0)1494 879700 Fax: +44(0)1494 875657  
[www.oldjordans.org.uk](http://www.oldjordans.org.uk)  
E-mail: [Bookings@oldjordans.org.uk](mailto:Bookings@oldjordans.org.uk)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE