

Auckland House  
Queens Rd  
Shanklin  
Jan 28/26

Dear Mr. Weeks,

I have received back the Beading MS. from our mutual friend Mayo. With regard to the question raised by yourself & Mr. Crawford as to what has become of the lands which, it would appear, were once held by Beading Rectory, I can say little. I do not know how far glebe land was held by churches in the middle ages. In some cases present glebe is an exchange for tithes in modern times.

Beading church had lands in the 13<sup>th</sup> cent., which were granted to the church "before & at the dedication" in about 1200, not only by the de Lisle's, - Walter de Morda & his mother, - but also by Philip de Glamorgan, Ph. de Blackpanne & his father, Alice de Langred (Langward), Jocelin Pung (Punch), John & Richard de Chalocroft. (mentioned in lease by John de Marisco, ante 1247. W. P. Stone's Arch. Hist..) But what these lands amounted to, I have no idea. There are many deeds of that period which convey grants of an acre, or a fraction of an acre. One would naturally have expected that any land held by the rectory in mediæval times would be glebe land at present. But it appears that Beading has only 5 ac. of glebe.

I should be very happy to meet Mr. Crawford, & have a talk with him some time.

I have translated 42 deeds of St. Helen's Priory. The majority are 13<sup>th</sup> cent., a few early 14<sup>th</sup>, & 4 of later date. There are also some documents in English later still. Many of the deeds, - especially the 13<sup>th</sup> cent. - are beautifully written, & nearly all in almost perfect preservation (except for loss of seals). At the dissolution, - with the alien priories in Hen. V's time, - they went with the lands to Eton College. The lands were sold by the College about 100 years ago, & the deeds are now in the hands of Miss Spencer-Edwards of the Priory. The large majority are grants of land made to the Priory in 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> cents. by many neighbouring holders of land. - The contract for the building of the Hall at Beading stands alone, & is of quite unusual interest.

Miss Spencer-Edwards is willing for anything of these deeds to be published, & the Beading deed certainly ought to be. I propose offering it to Mr. Crawford, the new editorial Secy, for the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club & Arch. Society, but I doubt if it will appeal to him, as his interest is all in Prehistoric times & the Roman period. When a king had only tithes, what sort of building would the rectory have been in mediæval times?  
Believe me yours sincerely J. C. Hughes