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My memories of Kingshurst ...

First glimpsed from the edge of Yorks Wood when attending Cub & Scout camp in 1937-38. Farm and fields decidedly 'out of bounds' although the boundary fence of the wood was virtually non-existent! Visit proper made in the late 40's with Box Brownie to photograph the house and 'tump' - not successful as negatives under-exposed. Second and last visit in '57 with Sanderson $\frac{1}{4}$ plate camera (less its tripod) and a moderate result achieved. I had thought of asking Mr Townsend permission to photograph the house interior but from the exterior ^{noted} the majority of the ground-floor windows and others were shuttered and I assumed that he would be disinclined to 'open up'. Perhaps wrongly I also felt that his life-style would be too exposed at my intrusion. Being on his own and 'under siege' could not have persuaded him to exercise much spit and polish.

The characteristic features of Kingshurst Hall, and moreover the general symmetry with its four square chimney stacks, recalls the arrangement at Heathcote Hall s. of Leamington Spa and dated to 1725. A short distance to the north-west of Kingshurst Hall and on the lip of the moat bank there was a timber-framed ancillary building - sketch enclosed - which may well date from that of the house. It had an end chimney and may have served as a brewhouse. The hall's window pattern in the respect of its design varied according to the status of the rooms that they adorned. Hence the main east elevation and that of the south side were of sash type: that to the rear or west side were of casement type and different again was the north side which seemed to have mullion & transomed windows with one opening casement each. A few windows on the north and ~~west~~ ^{east} sides had been picked up - either the result of window tax or interior refurbishment.

The roof pattern of the house allows drainage both to its outer walls and what must have constituted a small internal courtyard. Presumably the latter may have contained a large cistern fed from such a source and used in household activities.

P.S. Note the farm work bell suspended on the side of the north-east stack in photo.