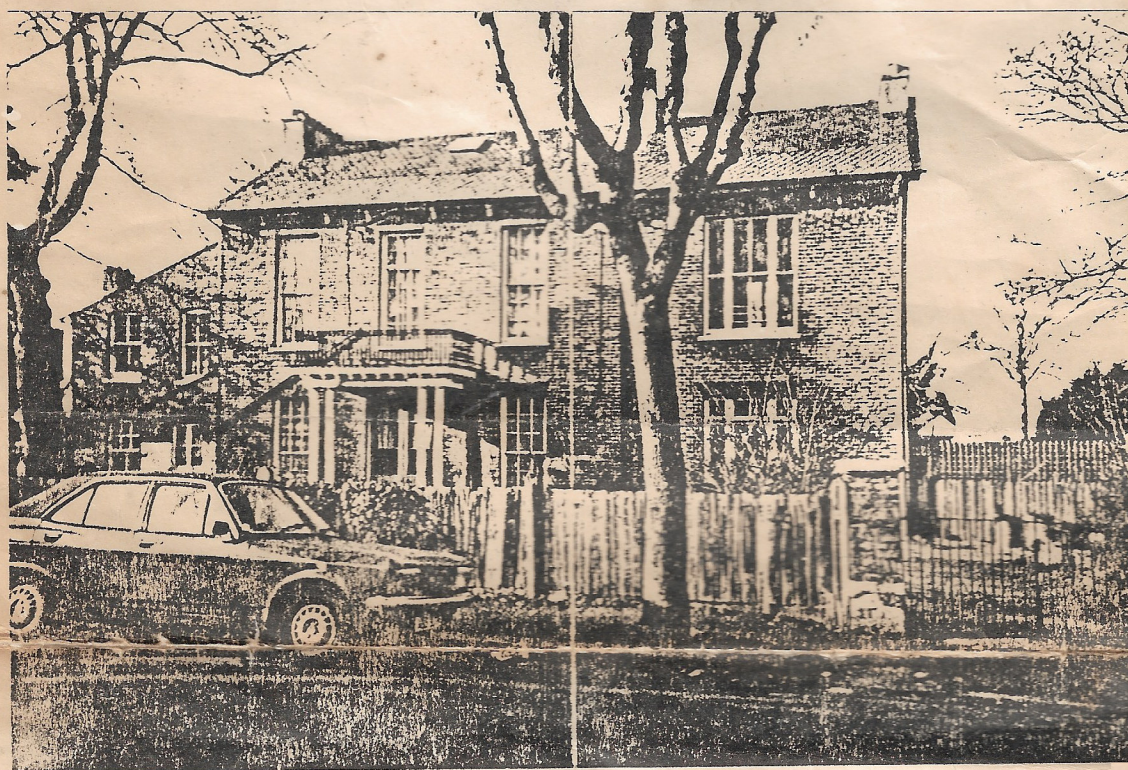


# THE CARSHALTON SOCIETY

for the preservation of old buildings and the scenic amenities of Carshalton



STANLEY HOUSE, 59, STANLEY ROAD, CARSHALTON-ON-THE-HILL.

At present, Stanley House is threatened with demolition by property developers, who wish to replace it with a part two, part three storey building to be used as a nursing home for the elderly. It is hoped that its owners can be persuaded to change their plans and incorporate the house into their scheme, because its demolition will mean the loss of the only surviving building of importance to the history of the area once famous for its fields of herbs and lavender in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Stanley House was built in 1860 on a plot of ground one hundred feet wide and two hundred and sixty five feet deep. A London stock-broker, his unmarried sister and their two servants lived here until 1874, when a local business man bought the house for himself, his wife and family. Carshalton-on-the-Hill was a small, select group of villas and the Stanley Hotel, which was a popular place for country holidays, and convalescence in healthy rural surroundings after an illness. Property developers financed by a Mr. Israel Abraham, spoilt the neighbourhood when they built three large terraces of houses on the land on the opposite side of Stanley Road in the 1880s. These properties remained unfinished due to lack of buyers because there were no piped water or gas supplies here at that time. Homeless local workers moved in but they could not afford the repairs and maintenance of these houses which became the slums known locally as "Jerusalem. Thus, other residents moved away and the hotel was closed.

The most important part of the history of Stanley House began in 1906, when it was sold to Mr. E.C. Pannett, who was a partner in the firm of seed merchants known as Pannett and Needham. Consequently, the large garden was soon well-stocked with all kinds of flowers, shrubs and fruit trees, a long greenhouse was erected, and Mr. Pannett employed two gardeners to work here. He also established a small herb-