Town House, the rents of which provided Christmas handouts to the poor, was situated in Butley parish. The civil parish was amalgamated with Butley in 1936 and in censuses it is variously grouped with other villages. The name of its manor, Tangham, all but disappeared when Tangham Forest was incorporated with Rendlesham by the Forestry Commission. Houses scattered along the road known as Capel Street maintain Capel's identity, but the once vibrant community round the Green and the Green itself are no more. Had Cobbold cast his 'faction' differently, the merchant Francis Cook would have taken his pack-horse round Suffolk to sell braids of smuggled silk made by the skilled home-workers on the Green. Much later the dresses created by Elizabth Pratt surely provided opportunities for another generation to undertake trimming and hand-finishing at home.

Valerie Fenwick

Notes

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After WWII 'an old man, Harry Firth, lived for years in the ex-postman's hut on the edge of the Green.
He had a pot-bellied stove' (Roy Collins).

8. Perkin, J, 'Sewing machines: liberation or drudgery for women?' History Today, Vol. 52, Dec. 2002.

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10. The back-house or back-kitchen of a farmhouse. The back'us boy cleaned boots, fetched fuel, collected eggs and did innumerable other jobs about the farmhouse. See Ask the Fellows who Cut the Hay, above, pp 23-27.

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