

many of them were buried there. Both Captain's Wood and Chapman's Creek probably perpetuate corrupt versions of the name.

One final point. I asked John and Jennifer Chaplin whether there is any connection with the famous actor and comedian Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977) and there is! Charlie's father, Charles Spencer Chaplin, lived at Polstead, Suffolk, but the connection is eleven generations ago via Robert William Chaplin (1556-1629).

Acknowledgements

The photographs are my own.

For what I have been able to add to this history, I am indebted to the local knowledge and research Vic Harrup did for the original article in 2007 but I could not have done this without the scholarship,

help and deductions of Valerie Fenwick. Richard Chaplin's descendants, John and Jennifer Chaplin, came to Cowton for the first time in October of this year and have kindly provided copies of family documents. I am also grateful to Diana Fulcher and Judith Hilliard for their recollections, to the Suffolk Records Office and to Jenna Ingamells, Curator of Orford Museum, for their assistance. Finally, special thanks to Elizabeth Spinney, Chairman of Orford Museum, for her introductions, encouragement and patience.

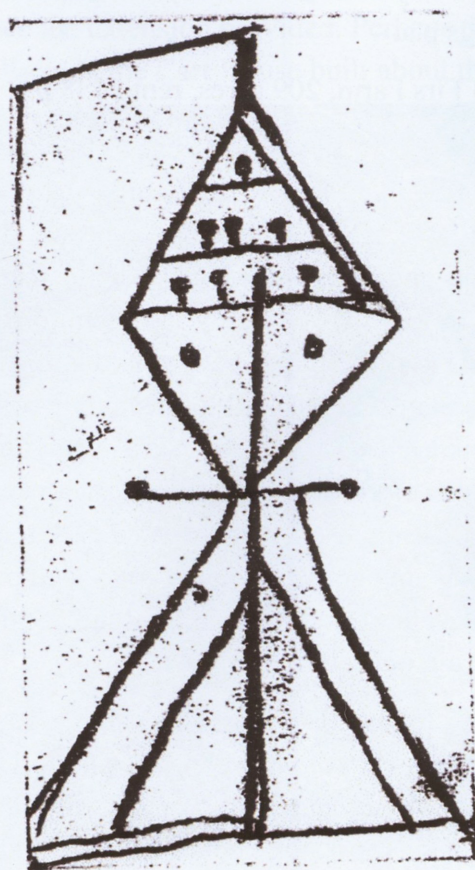
It has been rewarding for Sheena and me to learn something of our predecessors who lived in the same rooms, walked and worked the same land (though now only 9 acres). We would be delighted to receive any further information at simon@simonbarrow.org.uk.

The Syred Family of Orford

By Vic Harrup

Margaret Poulter wrote about the signal station at Orford Castle in the first two issues of the Bulletin. She imagined a bored signals officer chiselling the graffiti, depicting the station, whilst waiting for something to report. When I found it for myself I read the name beneath it as J. Syred 1798. Clearly he made the sketch - note the circular incisions both in the sketch and attached to some of the letters of his name. A John Syred was a farmer in Orford around this time, so I decided to try and track down his family. I quickly found Hastings Syred, which was a name that intrigued me, because I knew that Thomas Hastings was prominent in the town a hundred years before 1798.

In 1705 Thomas Hastings was one of the newly appointed trustees for the Stanhope Charity, along with John, James and Hastings Syred and others. His trusteeship was short and he made his will the same year, leaving bequests to many people. The main beneficiaries of the will were the brothers James and John Syred. The former, whom he had brought up from childhood, was bequeathed his brewhouse, malthouse, lands in Orford and property in five other local parishes. James and



Sketch of the graffiti (Orford & District Local History Bulletin: Issue 2)