



1919

William de Bois Maclaren buys Gilwell Park for Scouting. The first Rover Scouts arrive on Maundy Thursday.

Francis Gidney is appointed as the first Gilwell Camp Chief.

Scout leaders attend the first Wood Badge Course.

1920

The first Cub leaders training course is held, attendees receive the Akela Badge.

1921

The first Reunion of the 1st Gilwell Pack and Troop is attended by over 140 leaders.

1926

The Bronze Buffalo statue is donated by the Boy Scouts of America and unveiled by Robert Baden-Powell and The Prince of Wales.

1929

Robert Baden-Powell is granted the title of Baron Baden-Powell of Gilwell.

The building of the Gidney Cabin in memory of Francis Gidney, the first Camp Chief, is started.

1931

The Jim Green gate is built by Don Potter. Potter created many of the wooden sculptures and carved features on site.

1934

Work starts on replacing the old lodge to provide accommodation for the Camp Chief.

1938

Baden-Powell's caravan, Eccles, is donated to Gilwell.

1939

The Ministry for War take over Gilwell for the duration of the Second World War.

1940

The estate expands with the purchase of The Quick and the Hilly Field.

1941

A bomb dropped during a German air-raid created a hole on site, which later becomes a pond known as the 'bomb-hole'.

1947

A Roman Catholic Chapel is built.

1951

The Maori Arch is erected at the large campfire circle. The arch was donated by New Zealand Scouts who attended the 1947 World Scout Jamboree.

1952

The 1st World Scouters' Indaba (camp) is held at Gilwell.

1953

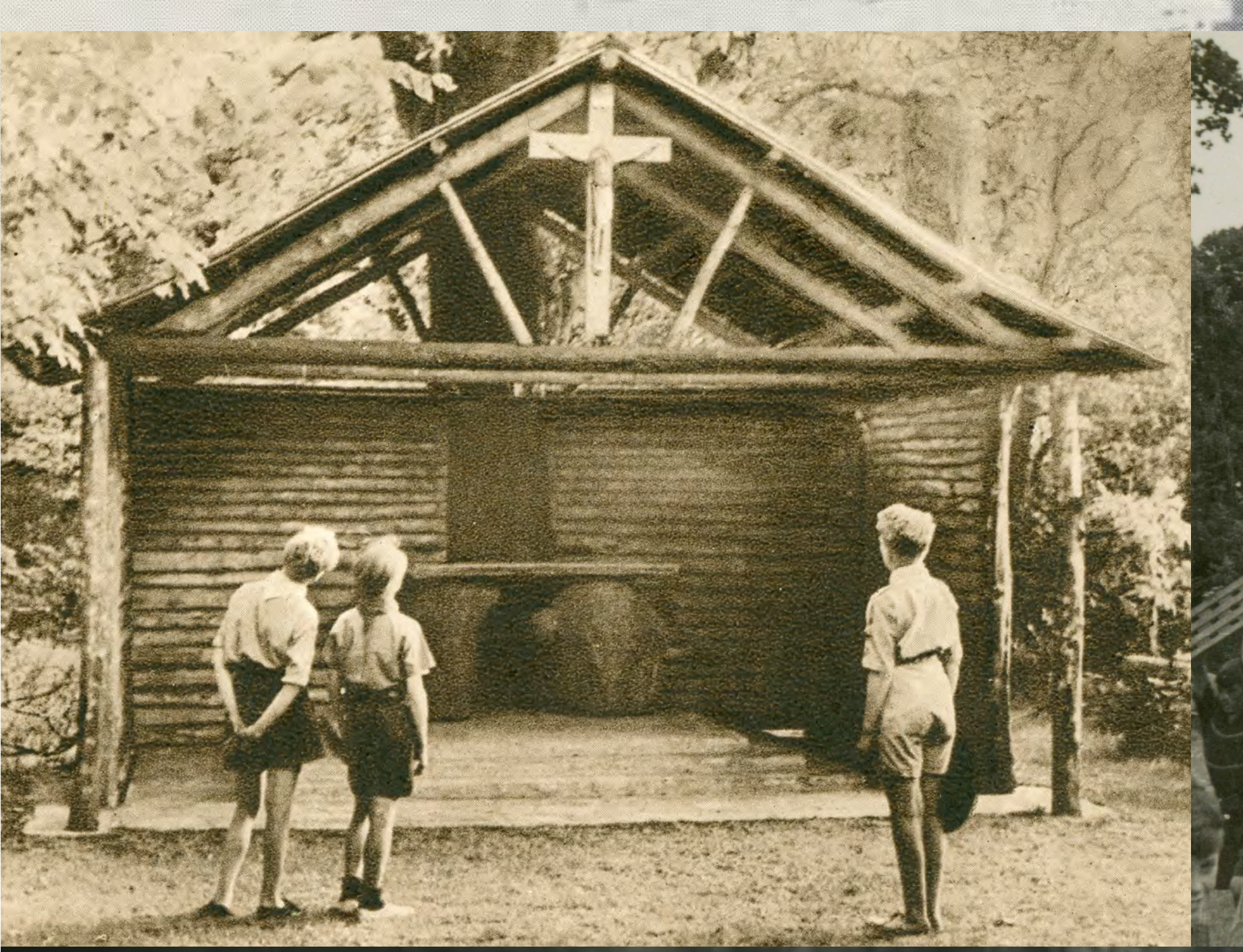
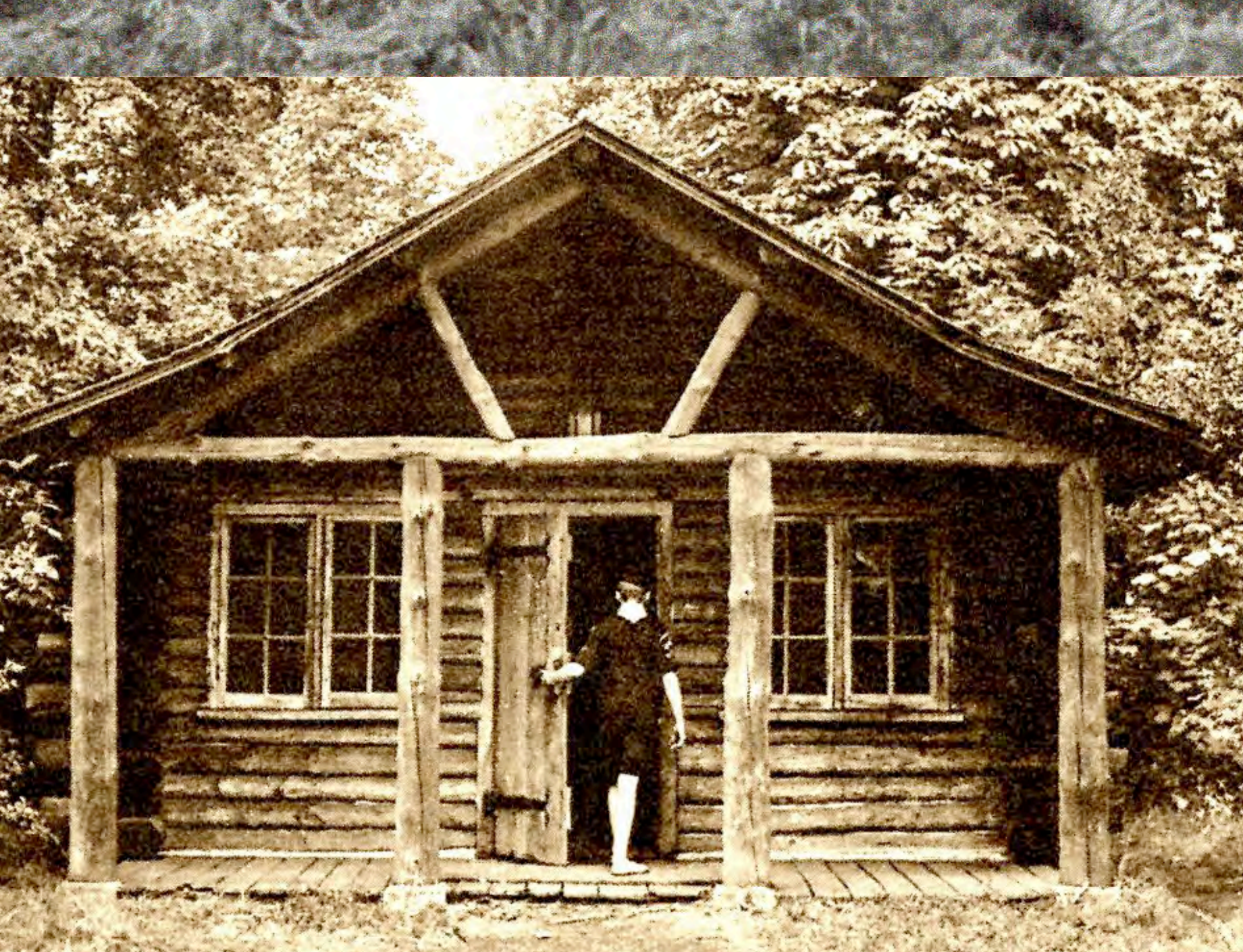
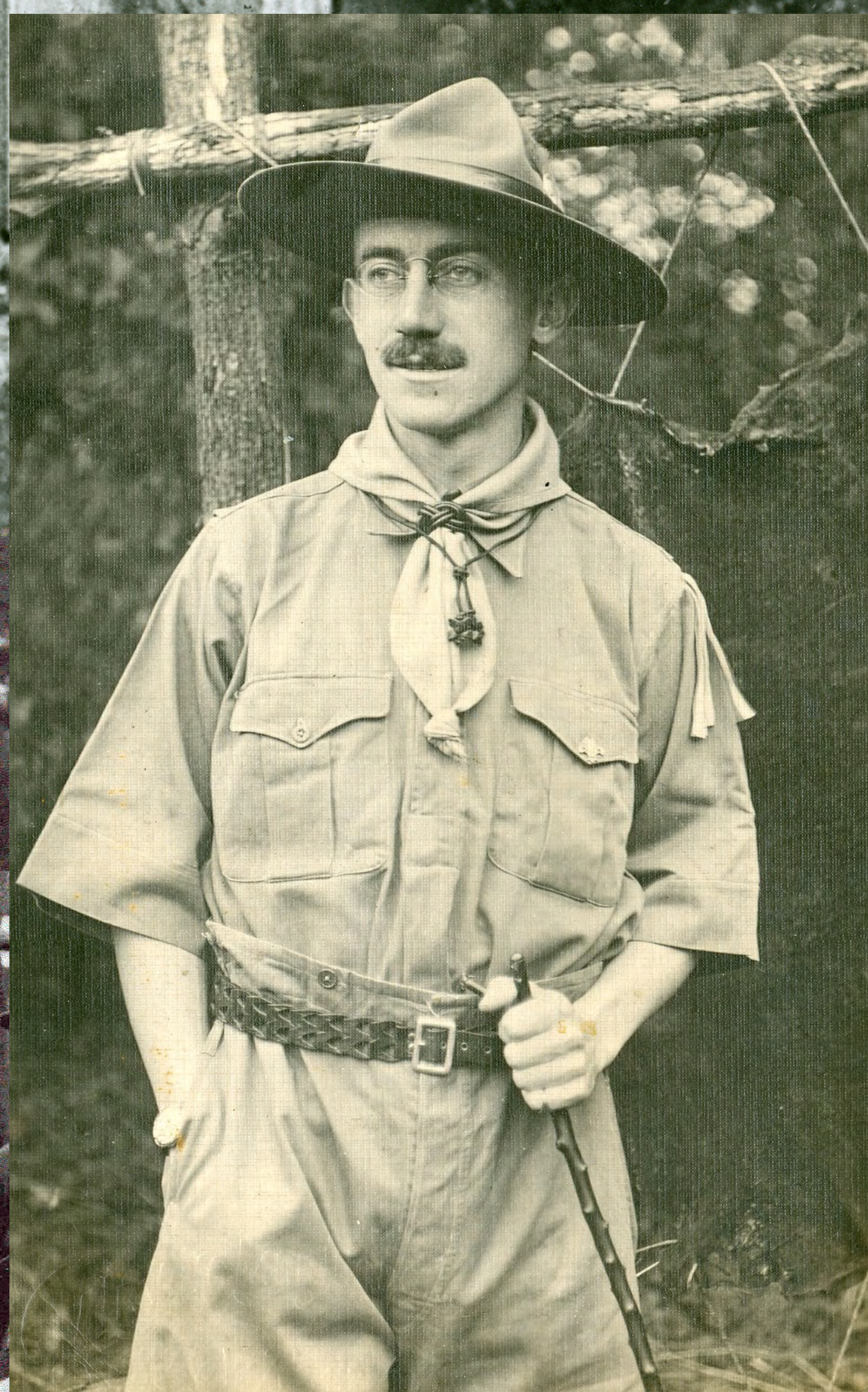
Gilwellbury is bought to expand the estate.

1953/4

The Swan Hut, a multi-denominational space for worship, is built. It is named after C.V. Swan, an important figure in early Scouting who was involved in several early World Scout Jamborees.

1956

Over 11 weeks Gilwell plays host to over 250 Hungarian refugees who are seeking new homes following the Second World War and subsequent political unrest.





1957

UK Jewish Scouts raise funds and build a Synagogue to mark 50 years of Scouting.



1958

The first UK based Agoonoree is held at Gilwell, an international camp for Scouts with additional needs.

A dedicated sick bay and first-aid station, nick-named the Barnacle Hospital, opens thanks to funding from Bill Campbell of the Boy Scouts of America.

1962

The Woodlands Training Ground opens.

1965

The present Roman Catholic chapel is built incorporating the existing altar.

1966

A copy of Tait McKenzie's statue, The Ideal Scout, is unveiled.

The Swan Centre replaces the original 1954 Swan Hut.

1968

The Buddha Sala, a gift from the Boy Scouts of Thailand, is opened.

Big Mac, the clock at the centre of Camp Square, is built and named after Camp Warden Alfred Mactintosh.

1969

Gilwell celebrates its Golden Jubilee.

1971

Colquhoun International Centre (CIC) is built and provides much needed indoor training facilities.

1978

A storm causes damage to the outdoor chapel. The new cross is made from one of the fallen trees.

1982

Extoree camp is held at Gilwell. It is the first international camp to fully integrate Scouts with additional needs.

1983

The Gilwell Scout Amateur Radio Group create a time capsule as they move the radio aerial.

1987

A shelter is built in memory of John Thurman, Camp Chief 1943-1969.

1993

Restoration on the White House and CIC starts. Its completion in 1995 is marked by a visit from Queen Elizabeth II.

2001

The Scout Association HQ moves to Gilwell and the new offices are opened by The Duke of Kent.

2007

Gilwell provides the off-site activities centre for the 21st World Scout Jamboree. It is known as the Land of Adventure.

2008

The Jack Petchey Lodge opens for use.

2010

The Peter Harrison Lodge opens for use.

2014

Chief Scout, Bear Grylls attends Gilwell Reunion.

2015

The foundations are laid for a new international volunteer lodge.



To whom ever may be digging this tower up:
 This which up tower was placed here and completed on this day to accommodate the 2 metre band omnia for the scouts own radio station. This point is 300 feet above mean sea level and is on the Gilwell park camp site which contains 100 acres of good camping ground. The tower took 3 months to dig up and remove from it's old site (1/4 mile away due North) and then a month to re locate and position where it is now.

