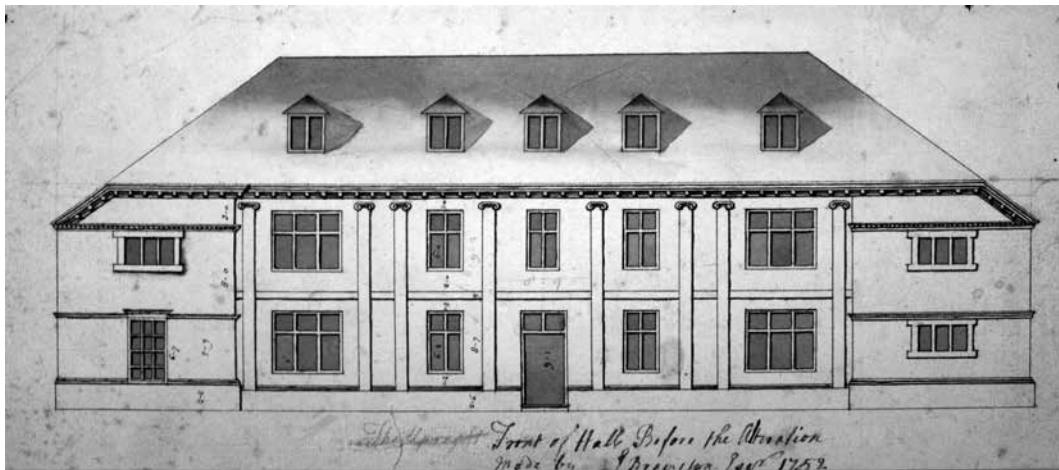




Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

No 57, Spring 2012



Front of [Oakley] Hall Before the Alterations made by E Bramston Esq 1752

Archaeology



Historic Buildings



Landscape



Local History



Contents Autumn 2012

General editor, Dick Selwood

From the President (*Dick Selwood*)

President's notes	Dick Selwood	1
-------------------	--------------	---

Landscape (*Section editor, George Campbell*)

Editorial	George Campbell	3
A Century On: Re-tracing and Re-appraising O.G.S. Crawford's Cloven Way	George Campbell	3
The Final Turnpike Road from Andover	Diana K. Coldicott	7
Drove Roads Revisited	George Watts	9
2012 Landscape Section Conference	Mike Broderick	10
Book Review		10

Archaeology (*Section editor, David Allen*)

Editorial	David Allen	11
Summary Report: St Mary Magdalen, Winchester, 2008-2011	Simon Roffey & Phil Marter	11
Excavations at St Elizabeth's College, Winchester, 2011	Richard Whinney	13
Evidence for small-scale religious practices in Roman Hampshire?	Jan Bristow	15

Local History (*Section editor, Mark Page*)

James Richards of Overton 1892 to 1916: Congregational Pastor and Local Politician	Roger Ottewill	17
The Pauper Crisis in Portsmouth in the Winter of 1816/17	Malcolm Walford	19
Archives and Local Studies News from Hampshire Record Office	David Rymill	22
Book Reviews		25

Historic Buildings (*Section editor, Edward Roberts*)

Another warning from the past	Edward Roberts	27
The Origins of Oakley Hall	Richard Tanner	27
Houses built by tenants on landlords' land in Hampshire	Stan Waight	29
No. 40, High Street, Alton, and its Dairy	Jane Hurst	31
Book Review		32

From the President

Dick Selwood, 34 North View, Winchester, SO22 5EH
Email: president@fieldclub.hants.org.uk

Since the last Newsletter, I have had the privilege of attending the meetings of the different Sections. This has been extremely interesting, and I must thank the different committees for inviting me.



During these meetings, I learned about activities at the section level, and discovered things I knew little or nothing about. Equally I discovered that I knew things that had somehow not reached the sections. One of my objectives for my term as President is to improve communication and, by the next issue of the Newsletter, I hope to have more to

report. As part of this, however, later in this column, you will find more information about the HFC's library at Southampton University and about the links between HFC and the University of Winchester.

Secretaries

In the last issue of the Newsletter there were pleas for people to volunteer to be Editorial and Membership Secretaries. These were responded to, and I am very pleased to report to you that Pauline Blagden and Michael Nelles are working their ways into these roles.

Writers' contest

To quote the website (<http://www.writersconference.co.uk/>) "The Big 32nd Winchester Writers' Conference, Festival and Bookfair is at the University of Winchester from 22 - 24 June, 2012." Once again there are numerous competitions associated with the conference, and once again the HFC, in conjunction with the University, is sponsoring a local history competition. There are full details on the flier enclosed. As well as fortune (£250) you will get fame, by being published here in the Newsletter and also in the anthology of the other winning pieces.

The HFC Library

Since it was founded, the HFC has maintained a library. This has been housed for many years at the University of Southampton. Professor Chris Woolgar, who is Head of Special Collections in the library and also Professor of History and Archival Studies, has sent us these notes on using the HFC library.



The Library of the Hampshire Field Club is held in the University of Southampton's Hartley Library. The collection contains material on the regional history of Great Britain and on the history of the Church of England. This includes publications on the cathedrals and many books on church architecture, monuments and brasses. There is also a general section on architecture and a small amount of material on natural history.

In total there are about 1,000 volumes and some 70 periodical titles, the latter received by exchange with other English local history societies and so includes publications on other areas of Great Britain as well as the HFC's own titles.

The Hampshire Field Club Library is shelved in the Special Collections open access area on level 4 of the Hartley Library, which is on the University's Highfield Campus (maps at <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/>). It can be used whenever the Hartley Library is open: the opening hours are given at <http://www.soton.ac.uk/library/about/opening/hl.html> If you are not a member of the University, you will need to show a form of ID on arrival at the Library. Please contact the Library in advance if you wish to register to borrow library stock as an HFC member. Members will then be issued with a library card, which will enable them to borrow a total of 5 items from the University Library's 3 week loan stock (this gives HFC members access to borrowing from a much wider stock than just the HFC library). Access to the University Library needs a 'smart card': for those who wish to borrow stock, the library card functions in this way. For those wanting regular access to the building but not wanting to borrow, a 'smart card' is available with reader access to enable entry but without the option to borrow. Hampshire Field Club books are listed in the Hartley Library card catalogue, which is on level 3, and post-1970 acquisitions are included in WebCat, the online catalogue, at <https://www-lib.soton.ac.uk/> These are indicated by the call number prefix and location H.F.C. The WebCat tutorial at <http://www.soton.ac.uk/library/infoskills/webcat/index.html> shows the most effective ways to search the catalogue. For basic searches use the 'words or phrase' option in Quick Search. Searches can be restricted to the H.F.C. Library by selecting that location on the Advanced Searches screen. The books are arranged by the Library of Congress classification scheme and follow the same subject arrangement as the general library stock. Periodicals are also classified and are shelved after the book sequence, with most titles in the main periodical sequence for the University Library.

The University of Winchester

Professor Michael Hicks, the head of the history department at the University of Winchester, has kindly provided an update on the relationship between the University and the HFC. As he says, since well before King Alfred's College gained university status, the two organisations have been very close.

For the past 40 years King Alfred's College, Winchester, has serviced and sought to enhance Hampshire's archaeology and history and has seen the Hampshire Field Club as central to this mission. So are Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton Record Series,



Michael Hicks

Hampshire Papers, and Southern History. Martin Doughty, Colin Haydon, Michael Hicks, Tom James, Tony King, and Annie Robinson held important Field Club offices and we helped the Society get through some of its stickiest patches.

This outreach is if anything more important now the college has become a university. Haydon, Hicks, King and Lavelle remain involved in the Editorial Board and sections. Our Wessex Centre runs twice-monthly seminars in term on local and regional history and archaeology that are free to all, advertised via Field Club mailings, and complement, we hope, the Society's work. So too, we hope, do our twice-yearly day conferences in Winchester and Salisbury. These are well-subscribed: less well known, perhaps, are our Modern History seminars every month on such topics as the Cold War and the Holocaust. There is much archaeological field work and an annual training excavation, latterly on England's earliest leper hospital on Magdalen Hill, previously on South Wonston, the Nunnaminster, and Meonstoke Roman Villa.

We run two taught MA degrees in the evening, on Regional and Local History and Archaeology (or just one of them) and the more modern and international Historical Studies. Running one evening a week and part-time, these are particularly suitable for Field Club members. A third MA is on Cultural and Heritage Resource Management. Medieval Latin and Palaeography courses are provided. Numerous Field Club members have in fact taken these MAs over the past twenty years and many completed dissertations (e.g. Clayton, Grant, Harwood) that have been published in Hampshire Studies. Quite a few have progressed to research degrees on topics as diverse as Anglo-Saxon place names, minsters and royal estates (Hawkins, Lavelle, Pitt), the late medieval bishopric, county community and Winchester college (Arthur, Brown, Harwood, Oakes Purser,), chantries (Roffey, Wood), early modern towns and crime (Stevenson, Younger), and on modern Winchester and Southampton (Butler, Grover, May, Mark Allen, Parker, Thick). Graduates give papers to the Field Club and elsewhere. Some theses have been published as articles (Ruth Allen, Beard, Wood), record series volumes (Beard, Butler, Harwood, Lewis, Thick), monographs (Phillips, Richardson, Stoeber), and CDs (Mark Allen, Young). There are other theses in progress on medieval landscape and monasteries and 19th-century Winchester elections. Both at MA and PhD level we offer students personal contact and individual supervision by experts in their field. We then encourage and assist them to publish their findings.

We have published four Winchester Historical

Databases on CD on the 1447-8 Brokage Book, the 1871 Winchester Census, Sparsholt 1841-1901, and County Council Elections 1889-1974. Winchester University Press has launched a History Series that begins this year with The Danes in Wessex. Particularly prominent in our work are three collaborative projects: the long-running Winchester project extending Derek Keene's work into the census era; the Overland Trade Project 1430-1540 on Southampton's extraordinary brokage books, which goes live online this year; and the New Victoria County History of Hampshire that is updating our understanding of the Basingstoke district. Those who have got their MAs and PhDs often continue to work on our projects. We have never been so active: the current emphasis on Impact and the Big Society ensures that we remain so.

This is what we do and the services we can offer. We want Field Club members to participate at all levels: at our seminars and conferences which present the best current work; on our MAs, which provide the excellent training to transform local interest into publications, and on our PhDs, which can also be studied part-time. There are costs of course, but our fees are still at the levels they were before the national fees-hike. We offer a research environment of like-minded people: some have been taking our Wednesday evening Latin classes for years! We want volunteers on our excavations, to enter data for the Winchester project, or to become volunteers on the New VCH. Less Field Club members than we would wish have taken advantage of these opportunities in recent years: we would like to see more of you. E-mail first Michael.Hicks@winchester.ac.uk or write to him at the University of Winchester, SO22 4NR and he will put you in touch.

Local Archaeology and History at Winchester are marvellous of course and are central to our mission, but complementary opportunities are offered by Portsmouth and Southampton Universities and such institutions on our northern periphery as Royal Holloway, Kingston, and Oxford Brookes universities. Search them out too. There have never been more opportunities to understand and enhance your local past.

Editor's Note

Michael didn't mention that, of course, the University also still offers a wide range of first degrees in history and archaeology, both as single honours or, in some cases, joint honours with other departments. The part time courses are normally during the day, alongside the full time students. I can say, from personal experience, that they do take quite a bit of juggling of priorities and commitments for six years. But they can also be intensely satisfying.

Dick Selwood
March 2012

Landscape

Editor: George Campbell, 10 Church Lane, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1SZ
e-mail: georgecampbell@supanet.com

Editorial George Campbell

In our landscape researches, and in other fields, we attempt to solve a problem to the best of our ability with the aid of existing resources. It is then for those who follow, with new methods, new technologies and a larger and more accessible pool of knowledge, to pick up the baton where we left off, and run with it.

O.G.S. Crawford was a pioneer of landscape research with limited resources. To take Roman roads as one example; one cannot but admire the thought and energy he invested, and be infected by the enthusiasm with which he tracked and reconstructed the Roman road from Winchester to Poole¹, and rediscovered the 'Cloven Waie' (below).

Others have followed him in extending our knowledge of Roman and other roads by turning up more of the missing pieces of the roads' jigsaw puzzles. But few can better the record of Arthur Clarke, who with great precision reconstructed the exact course of the New Forest stretch of the Roman road from Shorn Hill to Lepe, by replicating the survey methods used by the Romans. His was the key piece of the puzzle and a perfect fit².

Diana Coldicott's researches into the turnpikes of the north of the county³ are exemplified in her study of the Andover turnpike and its link with its neighbours (below).

Her account: 'The Final Turnpike Road from Andover' has an unusual twist. Far from being eclipsed by the railway, this turnpike was created to facilitate access to a railway station. The railway company needed it to meet a demand that they could not: to enable passengers to reach their station. Her work sheds new light on important detail, and opens up opportunities for turnpike research further afield.

A downside of this quest for 'answers', is that on occasions, researchers keen to complete a long standing puzzle may invent a missing piece. One was Charles Dawson who 'discovered' the Piltdown Man, thereby creating a red herring of such immense proportions that it hindered the search for *homo sapiens*' origins for more than thirty years.

But even sound evidence can frustrate a well planned investigation. This was George Watts' experience when he attempted to build on some earlier drove road work of Malcolm Walford's, and would have failed but for his determination to solve the mystery of a misnamed inn (below).

Even worse, several years ago when I was tracking the course of the various drove roads that lead off the Chute Causeway, I felt I was doing rather well. Everything was falling into place; features such as roadside ponds and old deep cattle tracks were well represented, all en route for Weyhill, when I approached the village of Lower Chute, a possible 'stance' (drovers' resting place). To my delight there was a large thatched, timber-framed inn, with a depression by the roadside (former pond?), at its side a tall pine (signalling drovers' shelter?) and in the forecourt, a genuine ancient well. Well satisfied with my morning's work, I sat down in the forecourt and ordered lunch. The publican's daughter who had taken my order was just moving off when I remarked, 'It must give you much pleasure to be in charge of such an attractive old inn.' 'Old? It's not old', she replied. 'It only dates from the 1960s when my dad knocked together the three cottages.' I was still reeling from the shock of this bombshell, when she returned. 'Here's a photo of the three cottages.' And there they were, complete with the well in a front garden. But my shattered confidence was beginning to be reassembled by a growing spark of relief; that I'd not deluded myself into getting as far as writing up my 'recently discovered drovers' inn'. Without doubt, it would have been exposed as a fake and my credibility ruined; to be regarded thereafter as Hampshire's Piltdown Man.

References:

1. Williams-Freeman, J.P., *Field Archaeology as illustrated by Hampshire*, 1915, pp. 437-445.
2. Clarke, A., The Roman Road on the Eastern Fringe of the New Forest from Shorn Hill to Lepe, *HFC Proc.* 58, 2003, pp. 33-58.
3. Coldicott, Diana, Andover's Turnpike Roads and Toll Houses, *Lookback at Andover*, Vol. 3, No.2, Sept. 2011 pp. 50-61.

A Century On: Re-tracing and Re-appraising O.G.S. Crawford's Cloven Way.

George Campbell

Searching for a Roman road in 1912, O.G.S. Crawford discovered a hollow way close to Tatchbury Mount. With his characteristic zeal, finely tuned powers of observation and persistence, he tracked it unerringly across country to Old Sarum. Quite early on he realised that this was no Roman road but a Saxon trackway which followed the course of an older ridgeway linking Iron Age forts and barrows. 'The trails are generally

very clear and run several abreast for a considerable width of ground' ¹.

In 1931 Crawford published his report² accompanied by a unique series of aerial photographs of selected sections of the route, each with an explanatory sketch map. What was also revealed by these remarkable photographs were the unmistakable features of a major drove road, with its hollow ways,

interlaced ruts and ridges, all running roughly parallel, the whole trackway at times covering a width of 20 metres or more. The photographs along with Crawford's painstaking research through documents, maps and particularly on the ground, also provided a unique record of the final phase of centuries of livestock droving until its extinction by the railways by about 1850. What follows is an attempt to re-discover Crawford's 'Cloven Way' after almost a century, by tracing what evidence remains of Saxon trackway and drove road, allowing that they may not always coincide.

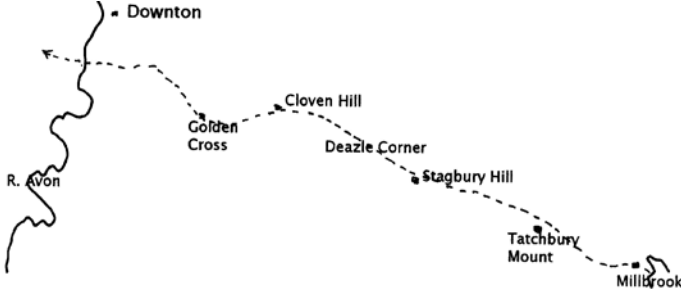


Fig. 1 Crawford's Cloven Way.

The course of Crawford's trackway is clearly seen in the sketch map (fig. 1). Essentially, it linked Totton with Tatchbury Mount via tracks, which by Crawford's time had become modern roads. It continued along the northern edge of the New Forest to Charford where it crossed the Avon before turning north to Old Sarum. He recognised in the 'deeply cut trenches or traffic-ruts produced by the combined action of use and weather' a probable Saxon herepath 'used for the movement of large bodies of men.' It was a particularly dramatic cutting or cleft in the central section between Nomansland and Golden Cross (SU214179), where the track 'cut through a narrow sandy spur named Cloven Hill', that caught his imagination and led him to name the entire trackway 'the Cloven Way'. His subsequent researches, however, revealed that he was not the first to be so moved. In a law suit of 1619 to settle the boundaries of Melchet Forest³, the commissioners taking depositions from witnesses received one boundary marker as 'the Cloven Waie', which clearly referred to the line of Crawford's herepath, as the succession of boundary markers read: '.....thence to Stagmore Hill (Stagbury Hill), thence to Dersill (Deazle Corner), thence to Cloven Waie (probably Cloven Hill), thence to Deadmansford, (near Golden Cross).....' ⁴. This Cloven Waie was probably a medieval drove and packhorse trail for the movement of livestock and the transport of wool and cloth to Southampton. Beyond Cloven Hill he was unable to trace the tracks further. Much later, (he does not state when), he decided that Charford, that key crossing point of the Avon, was probably connected with the Cloven Way. He then started to retrace its course from the old crossing point, and almost immediately found 'a deep traffic rut leading up from the disused ford along Charbridge Lane'. He next traced it without much difficulty via Hale Dairy Farm, up a steep sided valley to Home Farm (SU184188). Then, along Drove Lane, a minor road leading east into Hatchet Green with its broad grazing area, to the exit at Tethering Drove, another minor road leading to the Roman road and Saxon herepath at SU205191. From then on, the Cloven Way ran south-east to Golden Cross closely parallel with the road before descending to Pound Bottom; the evidence

clearly visible in the aerial photograph⁵ or his sketch map (fig.2). From Charford to this point, Crawford's route coincides closely with existing roads and tracks. However, the section from Pound Bottom to Cloven Hill is described simply as '....and so to Cloven Hill.' So, leaving for later researchers the problem of determining the route between Pound Bottom and Cloven Hill as well as the precise location of Cloven Hill itself.

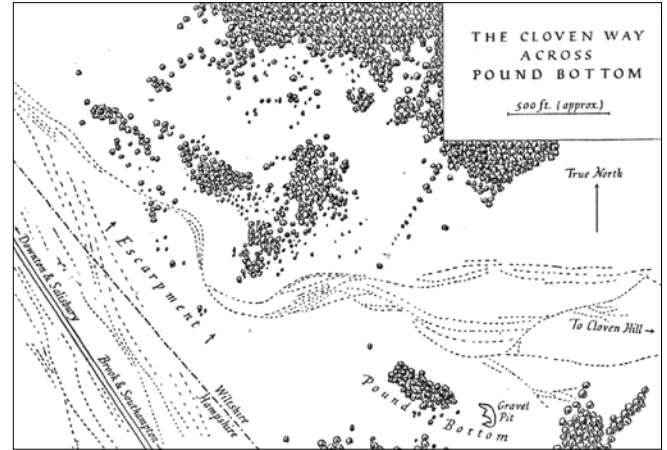


Fig. 2 The Cloven Way across Pound Bottom.

Before exploring further this missing link, it is necessary to return to the Avon to take account of another ancient crossing a little to the north of Crawford's starting point. This North Charford ford, also recognised by Crawford, certainly possessed the credentials of an ancient trackway, as in one section it runs alongside the ancient Hampshire County boundary (SU186197). In the same section it was identified as 'drove road' on the Taylor Map (1759). Much of this trackway can still be walked along today. At SU198197 it joins the Roman road and turns south to link up with Crawford's Cloven Way at Tethering Drove. So the certainty is that both these trackways to Pound Bottom are ancient, probably pre-Saxon, then, later, probably in late medieval times began their final phase as commercial drove roads. Now, transformed into modern roads, following their course presents no problems.

The area around Golden Cross (SU214179) is a meeting point of several old trackways which are crossed by the Brook to Downton Roman road. At this point Crawford described his trackway descending 'by a winding spur to Pound Bottom at the foot of the New Forest escarpment, and so to Cloven Hill.' The various strands and direction of what was undoubtedly a drove road are displayed in the aerial photograph and sketch map of Pound Bottom (fig. 2). Comparison with the OS 1:25000 sheet confirms contours at SU216178, which correspond to his route. In addition, drovers would have been anxious to leave the Roman road, as it was turnpiked further south at Bramshaw Telegraph. In former times drovers would have found Pound Bottom a sheltered spot for a night's rest, with ample grazing and a pond for the animals. Alternatively, nearby Windyeats Farm on the road just to the north-west of Golden Cross, as the only habitation for miles, would probably have provided shelter and pasturing. In recent years Pound Bottom has become a landfill site, with the loss of the original terrain.

To return to the problems of the Pound Bottom to Cloven Hill section. Determining the route eastwards and locating Cloven Hill would not have presented

a problem in Crawford's day. But the cutting of a broad swathe 200 metres wide, from east to west across country, by the Electricity Board between the wars, has obliterated both the original tracks and Cloven Hill itself, although the northern section of the 'beautiful Cloven Hill plantation' which Crawford so much enjoyed walking through still exists. To be fair to Crawford, the detail of the missing section did not concern him; he had already conclusively proved the existence of the trackway. But, by retracing the former boundary of Melchet Forest it should be possible to reconstruct the probable course of the trackway. Besides, it traverses fairly open country, and the intervisible medieval boundary markers from Stagbury Hill to Deadmansford lie along an almost straight line, close to the geological boundary of the Bagshot Sands and the Barton Clays while remaining on the drier and level terrain of the Sands.

Drovers having rested at Pound Bottom would have turned north-east, keeping the stream on their right to ford it at about SU224179 where now a broad track leads east over a culvert. It is possible to reconstruct the drovers' probable route by taking as Crawford's next easterly marker the sawmill to the south of Lyburn Farm (SU238182), where he noted 'the tracks crossing the road'. A broad heavy duty track laid by the Electricity Board runs parallel to the pylons along what is now the southern margin of Cloven Hill Plantation, with the probable site of Cloven Hill itself on a bare ridge at SU229180 where the original feature was removed, probably by heavy earth-moving machinery. This point was also probably the 'Cloven Waie' Melchet Forest boundary marker described in 1619, as its command of the view east to Deazle Corner and west to Deadmansford is unequalled along the route. Less than a kilometre to the east-north-east was the crossing point of a tributary of the Pound Bottom stream just by the sawmill, which the drovers had to ford. There is now a small bridge, but the sawmill has long since disappeared. However, the high concrete walls between which the stream was channelled remain, as does the waterwheel that drove the machinery. Of the tracks observed by Crawford none was found although the adjoining fields were carefully examined. However, close to the sawmill site a lone pine stands proud, high above the hedge line. (A guide-post?)

Crawford's trackway continued due east to cross the southern slopes of Risbury Hill, site of an Iron Age

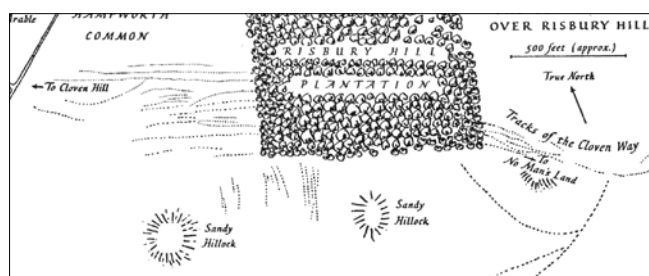


Fig. 3 The Cloven Way over Risbury Hill.

barrow. It is clear from the aerial photograph⁶ and the sketch map (fig. 3), that on this open ground, the tracks extend over a width in excess of 60m. Clearly also, Risbury Hill Plantation is a relatively late arrival; i.e. post 1850, as its presence would have impeded the drovers. This is confirmed by its absence from the 1837

Map of Downton Parish. There is also evidence that by 1837, due to the enclosure of Hamptworth Common in 1822, 'south of Risbury Hill the land was held by smallholders and farmers from other parishes in parcels, some of which were converted to arable'⁷. This means that in the closing years of drover activity until 1850, drovers would have been confined to the belt of open country across the lower slopes of Risbury Hill, as borne out by the aerial photograph.

Continuing east, Crawford's trackway crossed the Landford road on to Landford Common. Then south over rough pasture where a shallow hollow way indicated by Crawford on his sketch map⁸ can still be seen running north to south (SU262182) just north of the Plaitford road. The tracks that crossed the Plaitford road have been 'adopted', and now form a section of farm track that skirts a low hill on the top of which stands a clump of tall firs, perhaps a marker indicating shelter for the drovers near the point where they turned south. Crawford's aerial photograph and sketch map clearly show the features of the trackway south from this point past Lord's Oak Cottage, closely parallel with the Landford road before it turns south-east along the county boundary to Deazle Corner (SU261177). There has been much recent building to the north of Lord's Oak Cottage, which has destroyed any evidence of tracks that might have remained. However, in the grounds of the New Forest Classic Car Centre, an overgrown hollow way has survived, but with a west-north-west orientation, i.e. in a direct line with Deazle Corner, Cloven Hill and Deadmansford; a probable survivor of the Saxon trackway and Melchet Forest boundary. At grid ref. SU261174 a similarly west-north-west trending broad trackway continues the line of the Furzley – Barford Farms minor road (itself merely a tarmac strip covered trackway). This clearly defined trackway averages about 10 metres in width, has a firm gravel foundation with turf cropped close by grazing animals. It continues over a minor road at SU258175 shortly before crossing the Stoney Cross to Plaitford road to continue west-north-west probably as a former Saxon trackway and the 1619 'Cloven Waie', but, since the 1822 enclosure of Hamptworth Common, quite straight. However, the line of the old trackway also coincides with the southern boundary of the Hamptonworth township (recorded on the 1837 Map of Downton Parish), which extends roughly west-north-west. It is tempting to assign a drove road role to the Lamb Inn (SU254173) that stands on the Stoney Cross to Plaitford road a short distance south of the trackway crossing. However, the Lamb Inn is not an early feature, dating merely from the late Victorian growth of the Nomansland settlement, around about 1870. There is no evidence of an earlier inn or even a habitation on or near that site.

Although Crawford apparently experienced no difficulty in following the tracks in a direct line from Stagbury Hill to Deazle Corner, (he gives no details), the present course of this trackway has been obstructed at many points by subsequent building developments. However, as Upper and Lower Barford Farms already existed by 1773⁹, and a broad tract of common pasture is still preserved between the farms and the road, it is likely that both Saxon trackway and later drove road used it as a through route south to Penn and Furzley Commons and beyond. It is also worth noting that

this route, roughly following the minor road, crosses several streams, easily accessible to thirsty livestock. In addition, at Penn Common, the modern tarmac ribbon diverts along the front of a row of 20th century houses and gardens, while the original trackway clearly continued in a direct line along their backs, temporarily rejoining the road at SU283166 before diverting through woods (SU284164) as a deep hollow way towards the south side of Stagbury Hill. Was this the original Iron Age / Saxon trackway?



Fig. 4 Broad trackway near Stagbury Hill.

By the late 18th century Barford Farms, Penn Farm, their enclosed fields and Penn Copse, would have confined the drovers to the trackway that now lies beneath the minor road. It is possible, however, that the drovers followed the course of the hollow way (SU284164) until later obstacles of woodland and fences prevented them. The evidence of tracks over Furzley Common to the north of Stagbury Hill suggest that this was probably the preferred later route, due to being free of restrictions, and on a direct line for Duck Hill ('Duxmore' of the 1619 depositions), Tatchbury, and the Southampton markets. This was also observed by Crawford, and explains his northern 'loop' around Stagbury Hill (figs. 1 and 4). Perhaps this last point suggests why the drovers were unable to follow the route of the ancient trackway and forced to adopt a new one. It also explains the wide loop around Nomansland: to avoid the obstacles created by the 1822 enclosures.



Fig. 5 Ruts and ridges at Duck Hill.

Today, between Stagbury Hill and Duck Hill are two broad trackways which head east-south-east on a broad ridge of firm sand and gravel, crossing at SU294162 and passing along the northern and southern flanks of Duck Hill respectively. Both trackways exhibit parallel sequences of shallow ruts and low ridges all

aligned in an east-west direction. By the northern trackway, at SU296161, is a large shallow pond, and at the foot of Duck Hill, in the softer sediments, are multiple parallel deep narrow trenches (SU297161) (fig.5). A little further on, the trackway intercepts the north-south wire fence marking both the eastern limit of Half Moon Common and the probable eastern boundary of Melchet Forest in 1619. Beyond this point the obstacles of woodland, farmland and recent building, have obscured or obliterated the tracks that Crawford followed from Barrow Hill. Beyond their point of intersection, the southern trackway continues to exhibit the rut and ridge features mentioned above but with a notable difference: the tracks have now widened to between 15 and 20 metres which width is maintained over the southern shoulder of Duck Hill, clearly heading for what is today a narrow corridor between two belts of woodland (SU299158), leading on to Copythorne Common.

A spate of building in the later 20th century at Newbridge has destroyed any evidence of an immediate eastwards continuation of this drove road. However, passing into the woodland that now covers much of Copythorne Common, the familiar features of parallel ruts and ridges are once more visible at several points: e.g. SU303157, SU309155 etc., and usually 10 to 15 metres in width. The M27 motorway has swept away any further evidence, as has 20th century land and housing developments to the east of it, over Barrow Hill to Tatchbury Mount, Crawford's original starting point.

Aerial photographs taken in 1935¹⁰ confirm the above observations and more. To the north and south of Stagmore Hill the two trackways heading east are clearly visible, intersecting at SU294162. The northern branch has a greater width than is seen on the ground today, and continues to the woodland fence. There it is seen to pass through to emerge as a broad trackway across what was then bare earth, then onwards to Barrow Hill and beyond. This section is almost certainly Iron Age in origin, as it links Iron Age sites, but has continued to be utilised through the ages for the transport needs of the time, until blocked by the woodland barrier. The southern branch viewed from the air is identical to that observed on the ground, trending south-east to the narrow corridor at SU299158, leading to Copythorne Common and Tatchbury. There were no aerial photographs of the Cloven Hill area, that might have pin-pointed Crawford's 'deep cleft.' However, further east at Deazle Corner and also near Lord's Oak Cottage, faint tracks were discernible which were not visible on the ground. More positively, the trackway observed on the ground at SU258175 (by the minor road), was clearly visible, adding support to the idea that this was part of the original early Cloven Waie.

Since Crawford's day, Tatchbury Mount has become a large hospital, having built extensively over the surrounding level ground. Fortunately, immediately to the south, the hollow way that first excited Crawford is still preserved, though probably not for long; building surveyors' marking pegs are already closing in (2006!). At the north end the hollow way is overgrown but still clearly defined: about 10 metres wide and its floor about 3 metres below field level. It extends south-east from the base of the Iron Age earthworks, for approximately one kilometre, screened by trees and an overgrown hedge (fig.6). Further south it becomes narrower, with

a small pond (SU334145), but persists at a depth of 3 metres below field level, almost to the road, the A326 at SU334144. Part of the southern end is recorded on the Pathfinder sheet but not on the Explorer.



Fig. 6 Trees lining Crawford's hollow way near Tatchbury Mount.

Today, extensive modern housing now blocks its continuation, along the ancient lane that marked the final section of the drovers' journey, leading them into Calmoor Road and on to Millbrook, and the sale of their cattle; one possible recipient being James Moore, listed as a cattle dealer in Millbrook in the third quarter of the 19th century¹¹.

With all the indisputable evidence for drove roads, why did Crawford never mention them? The answer must surely be, that in the early 1900s drove roads were commonplace; he was after bigger game. But the apparent freshness of the tracks revealed by the aerial photographs is puzzling, until it is recalled that many of the old drove roads were brought back into service during the First World War because of the shortage of cattle trucks; most of them having been commandeered by the army¹². Crawford photographed the various sections of the Cloven Way in the 1920s, shortly after the end of the war during which Southampton was a major port for shipping cattle to France. So, it follows that the Cloven Way was probably one reinstated route. But there is no proof of this, as yet!

References:

- 1 Williams-Freeman, J.P., *Field Archaeology as illustrated by Hampshire*, 1915, p.435, note from O.G.S.C.
- 2 Crawford, O.G.S., *Cerdic and the Cloven Way*, *Antiquity* Vol. V, 1931, pp. 441/58
- 3 VCH Hampshire Vol. IV p.541
- 4 VCH Wiltshire Vol.IV p.429
- 5 Crawford, *ibid.* p.450
- 6 Crawford, *ibid.* p.449
- 7 VCH Wiltshire Vol. XI p.61
- 8 Crawford, *ibid.* p.448
- 9 Andrews and Dury, *Map of Wiltshire 1773*
- 10 NRBC Swindon, *Aerial Photographs: CCC5135/X477, 480, 481, 1 May 1935.*
- 11 White's *Hampshire Directory* 1878 p.730
- 12 Godwin F. and. Toulson S., *The Drovers' Roads of Wales*, 1977 p.227-28

The Final Turnpike Road from Andover

Diana K. Coldicott

We all know that the great age for turnpike roads was brought to an end by the rapid spread of railways from the 1830s. However, one turnpike road from Andover actually came into being as the result of the railway connecting London and Southampton.

The Act of Parliament for making a railway between Nine Elms, Battersea and Southampton had been passed in 1834 but three years later another Act allowed for some changes from the original planned line. One of these was the eight mile long 'Popham deviation' which allowed part of the line to run from East Oakley on an elliptical course through the parishes of Ash, Overton and Micheldever before rejoining the original route.

The first part of the London and South Western Railway line from Battersea to Woking Common opened in May 1838, and the continuation to Winchfield was ready four months later. In spite of difficulties caused by the Basingstoke Canal Company, the next stretch from Winchfield to Basingstoke, as well as the line up from Southampton to Winchester, opened in June 1839. That left the intervening 18 miles of line to be laid between Basingstoke and Winchester where there were some massive earthworks to be removed¹.

There was also a perceived need to find a suitable site for a station on that section of the line. This was resolved by the purchase of Warren Farm, roughly half way between the two towns and immediately to the north of Micheldever village (the farm is marked on C. and J. Greenwood's 1826 map of the county). During the planning stages the new station was called 'Warren Farm Station' but by the time the full length of the line was finally opened on 11 May 1840 it had become the 'Andover Road

Station', as in the timetable published that November². Later, the name was changed again to Micheldever.

At least by 1839 the Trustees of the Andover and Basingstoke Turnpike Road Trust had appreciated the need for a proper road to give easy access to the station, some twelve miles away. When Harry Footner, the solicitor and clerk to the Trust, had to provide information on the state of the local roads for a Parliamentary Enquiry in 1840 he finished his submission thus:

I think it proper to remark that in consequence of the introduction of the South-western Railway, and a station having been fixed at Warren Farm, about midway between Basingstoke and Winchester, it has been thought expedient that an Act of Parliament should be applied for to enable the trustees to form a turnpike-road communication between Andover and the intended station, in order to secure the continuance of traffic, which has hitherto been very considerable on this line of road to the western parts [of] England³.

A Bill was duly prepared for a private Act of Parliament which covered general road repairs on the Trust's existing turnpike roads and permitting 'making a new Road from the said Road at the Eastern Entrance of the Town of Andover to the Warren Farm Station on the London and South-western Railway in the said County of Southampton'⁴. The terms of the Act are set out in eighteen somewhat dense pages that include the proposed route, which was to make use of part of the existing turnpike road from Winchester to Whitchurch then go through a field in Bullington before a new road would carry it down to Warren Farm Station. It

is easier to appreciate what was happening, and who was affected, by studying both the plan for the new turnpike road and the associated memoranda that were submitted to Parliament on 27 March 1840.

The large 'Plan & Section of Projected Branch Turnpike Road from Andover to the London & South Western Railway Station at Warren Farm...' shows the proposed route with the bridges, cuts and embankments that would be needed, as well as the existing turnpike and other roads that would cross it. The Section shows that the rise at Bere Hill was 1 in 17 and 1 in 19 towards the summit⁵. One of the accompanying memoranda was a declaration by Mr Footner concerning the intended route and the costs of the turnpike road, which were to be defrayed out of the new tolls; he also mentioned that the plan of the intended turnpike had been deposited with the Clerk of the Peace on 30 November 1839. Besides Mr Footner, the person most involved with the plans was Turner P. Clarke of Andover, the surveyor and civil engineer to the trust who submitted two memoranda. In the first he estimated that the probable income from the new tolls would be £1000, leaving a surplus of £600 after meeting the costs of maintenance. However, the greater interest lies in his second memorandum in which he summarised the work that would be needed:

For reducing the Hills called Bear[sic] Hill, Harewood Hill and Drayton Hill, building four Bridges and raising an Embankment over Drayton Level, widening and improving the present Highway to Bullington and forming a new Road from thence to the Stockbridge Road, including Stones, gravel and Land and fencing will amount to the Sum of four thousand two Hundred Pounds⁶.

The other papers submitted to Parliament were lists of the owners, lessees and occupiers of the land that would need to be 'taken in' (ie. compulsorily purchased) in order to make the new turnpike road, and a Book of Reference that listed their names and the type of their property, which was mostly arable land (no buildings were involved)⁷. This is a summary of their findings:

Owners of the land: There were 11 individual owners and 2 corporate owners (the Dean and Chapter of Winchester and the Trustees of the Stockbridge Turnpike). Of these, 7 gave their assent to the proposals, 2 were neuter, one (the Stockbridge Trustees) dissented and 3 apparently gave no opinion.

Lessees: 3 portions of land were held on lease, all from the Dean and Chapter. Of these, a meadow was held by the executors of an estate (who gave no opinion), and 2 were leased by the occupier, Charles Penton, who was neuter about the proposals.

Occupiers: There were 15 occupiers of one or more pieces of land, all individuals (including 2 women) except the above executors. Of these 9 assented to the proposals, 3 were neuter (inc. C.P.) and 3 (inc. the executors) gave no opinion.

The dissent by the Stockbridge Trustees seems rather unnecessary as they were just objecting to the proposed new road crossing their own turnpike road to Basingstoke. Most people who would be losing part of their land could evidently see the merit of having

a good road, and even the few who were 'neuter' in their opinion did not actually protest, although one imagines there were plenty of grumbles about the mess once the work started.

The Bill was enacted on 14 April 1840, less than three weeks after the various papers had been deposited with Parliament. The trustees had to meet at The Star Inn in Andover shortly afterwards and then work would have commenced. Among its various clauses the Act allowed the trustees to erect toll gates and toll bars on the new route as well as any necessary toll house, which had to have a garden of not more than one eighth of an acre. The Act set out the tolls to be collected, ranging from 4½d for every horse drawn vehicle to 1d for any cart drawn by a dog or goat; the one new feature was a charge of 3 shillings 'For every carriage moved or propelled by Steam or Machinery, or by any other Power than Animal Power' (clause XVIII). At first the tolls were collected in the town near the King's Head Inn but by 1851 there was a toll house at Cut Hedge End, Longparish⁸.

The surveyor would have been the first to realise that the hardest part of the navvies' work would be 'reducing the hills' in order to ease the gradient for horse drawn traffic. He had listed the three in the order in which they occurred after Andover but it was the first, Bere Hill, which was the greatest challenge. Moreover, the deep cutting through the chalk there destroyed part of the popular Ladies' Walk which had run along the top of the hill towards Andover Down.



Fig. 1 The Iron Bridge, Andover

The trustees made amends by commissioning Tasker's Iron Works to make a bridge to span the road, which quickly became a local landmark.

The Act of 1840 remained in force for 31 years but well before that term had expired, the railway had at last reached Andover itself, where the single line to the new station was publicly opened on 3 July 1854⁹. Another Act of Parliament brought the Andover and Basingstoke Turnpike Trust to an end on 1 November 1872.

Today most of the former turnpike road has been subsumed into the A303 but there are some parts that still survive. The short road leading down to the railway at Micheldever, with its yellow brick and flint station, is still 'Andover Road'. And travelling west towards Andover 'Old Micheldever Road' is signposted, but anyone going down it quickly finds that the little stretch of country road ends at the modern Harewood Lodge. The best section to explore is on the outskirts

of Andover where Micheldever Road is a turning to the right off London Street, just after Martin's Garage; it is another cul-de-sac but a rewarding one because it soon leads to the famous Iron Bridge, dated 1851 (fig. 1). Early photographs showing the bridge in a barren landscape do not prepare one for its present setting enfolded amongst trees and vegetation. Park in a lay-by on the left and then enjoy scrambling up one of the tracks that join Ladies' Walk, which is still in regular use by pedestrians and their dogs. Walking across the bridge and looking down at the old road far beneath

is the best way to appreciate the depth of the cutting made through the chalk by the early Victorian navvies, using just their picks and shovels.

References

1. R.A. Williams. *The London & South Western Railway*. Vol. I: *The Formative Years*. (Newton Abbot. 1968) pp.20, 32, 36-40.
2. *ibid.* p.43.
3. Parliamentary Papers Online. 1840 [280] Page image 156 of 649, item 14.
4. Local and Personal Act, 3 & 4 Victoria I, c.xxxi.
5. Parliamentary Archives, HL/PO/PB/3/plan 258 Andover Road.
6. *ibid.* Book of Reference, p.10.
7. *ibid.* pp.3-5, 11-15.
8. John Spaul. *Andover 950-1974*. (Andover. 2004) pp.138-9.
9. Williams, *supra*. p.85.

Drove Roads Revisited

George Watts

Until the railways came, the movement of livestock from the western counties into Hampshire and thence into Sussex was a very significant component of economic activity. Portsmouth was an important destination. In 1805, for instance, 16,000 cattle were supplied to the Navy for victualling purposes¹. In 1821, Malcolm Walford found "400 head of Devon and between 300 and 400 of Welch cattle and about 6000 Somerset, Dorset and Southdown sheep" being sold at Petersfield. Walford also quotes Mr. Lanham, a livestock dealer in Southampton, saying that "a great quantity of cattle were brought annually into this town from Bridgewater, Taunton and Yeovil and the parts adjacent, a number of calves from Dorsetshire and of sheep from Devonshire"².

How did "a great quantity of cattle" get into Hampshire? The two great livestock fairs in the north-west of the county – Weyhill and Appleshaw – have been well documented³. But road building, housing and developments of all kinds in the past 150 years have made the ancient drove roads frustratingly difficult to find. George Campbell has described a north-south route running just inside the county boundary towards Appleshaw via Scots Poor and the Chute Causeway. On it, at Scots Poor, was a characteristic drovers' inn, of the kind often called a Hutt, with a 10 acre field for overnight grazing⁴.

A new piece of evidence recently discovered by Malcolm Walford has provided an important piece of the jigsaw of a drovers' route from "Bridgewater, Taunton and Yeovil" towards Southampton and Hampshire in the early 19th century. It is an advertisement in the Hampshire Telegraph of the 14th May 1827:

Public House called TALBOTT or BLACK DOG situate in Ludwell within the parish of DONHEAD 3 miles from Shaftesbury and on the road leading from thence to Salisbury. Good brewhouse, cellars, barn, large stalls and stables and 9 acres of good pasture land adjoining the premises, which is well adapted for depasturing cattle going onto the London and Salisbury markets, and has hitherto been used for that purpose.

K.G. Watts has identified Ludwell as the destination of a number of drove roads⁵. Here was another characteristic Hutt with its 9 acres of overnight grazing on the route through Wiltshire to the east. Inspection seemed to be required. A field trip to Ludwell on a

beautiful day in June 2011 proved, however, to be an object lesson in taking nothing for granted. On arrival in Ludwell there was a Grove Arms but no Talbott or Black Dog, and the local postman directed us to Berwick St. John, three miles to the south-east. Through this attractive village, and there indeed was the Talbot, with the sign of the Black Dog hanging outside (946223). But on enquiry inside, a courteous landlord directed us towards a customer enjoying his lunch in a corner. He proved to be the retired landlord of the Grove Arms in Ludwell, and was able to explain the mystery of the two Black Dogs. At some point in the 19th century someone had decided to swap the names and the sign. So back to the Grove Arms and another knowledgeable landlord. The inn described in the 1827 advertisement really is in Ludwell – the Grove Arms.

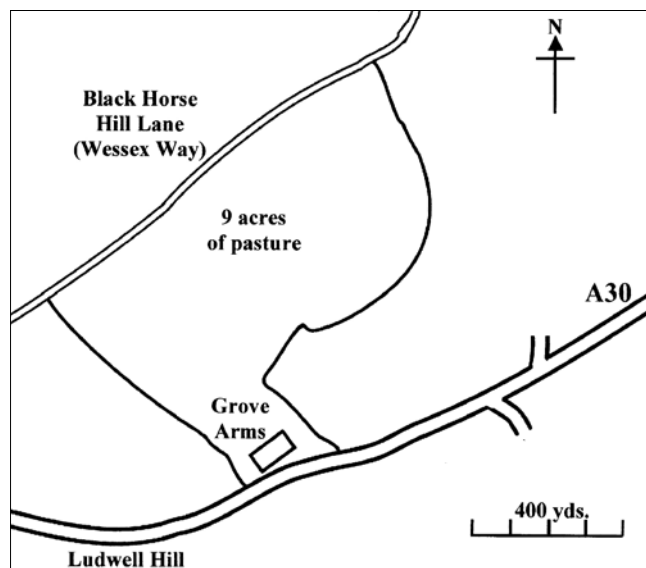


Fig. 1 The Grove Arms, Ludwell

The Grove Arms lies on the north side of the A30 Shaftesbury to Salisbury road (SU906225; Fig. 1). An ancient building, it has been largely rebuilt since a major fire in the 1990s, but listed 16th century walls have survived in the south-east corner. A date stone of 1714 has been reinserted on the wall of one of the bars. The "nine acres of good pasture", thankfully not built over, can still be seen as two pasture fields on the slope running up behind the inn. On the ridge above is a bridle way, Black Horse Hill Lane, now part of the long-distance Wessex Way, running to the north-east.

Landscape

What makes these two inns relevant to Hampshire is that they stand close to major drove roads heading east. The A 30 itself, between Shaftesbury and Salisbury, was turnpiked in 1753, providing an expensive route for carriages and wagons. Drivers looked for alternatives. Two miles east of Ludwell was a turnpike cottage, and there a track leaves the A 30, and climbs south-eastwards on to White Sheet Hill. This is the ridgeway called the Salisbury Way heading east, or the Shaftesbury Way heading west. Four miles beyond White Sheet Hill is the site of the former Fovant Hut (SU001265). A mile further along the ridge was the Compton Hut. Beyond, tracks run on to Wilton and then into Salisbury, but the drove road continued to Britford, the Avon crossings

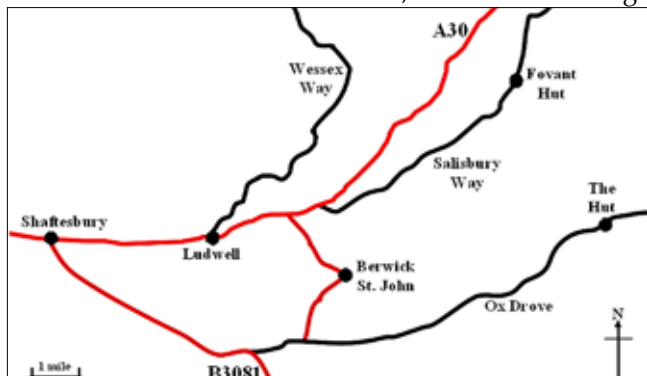


Fig. 2 The Drove Roads, Ludwell

and to Hampshire.

A mile and a half east of Ludwell, at Whitesand Cross, a road leaves the A30 and runs south-east to Berwick St. John, where we found the Talbott/Black Dog. Across the road from the inn, a village street becomes a deep holloway, climbing south on the flank of Winklebury Hill to a second great ridgeway, the Ox Drove. Some six miles to the east is the site of yet another Hut (SU039223). Beyond, the Ox Drove can be followed to Downton and other Avon crossings (fig 2).

Ludwell, and particularly the Talbott/Black Dog Inn, now the Grove Arms, is a fine example of the nodal points described by Walford and by Campbell. A drover arriving from the north could drive his livestock straight into the nine acres of pasture, as could arrivals along the present A30. Refreshed, they could set off along two great ridgeways towards Hampshire, where we then find them in all the great markets and fairs.

References:

1. Watts K.G., *Droving in Wiltshire: The Trade and the Routes*, Wiltshire Life Society, 1990, p.42.
2. Walford M., *Livestock Movements on the Hampshire-Sussex border*, HFC Newsletter 44, pp.4-5.
3. Raper A.C., *Weyhill Fair, 1988*; Green I.M. *Drovers and the Movement of Livestock in N.W. Hampshire 1770-1840*, HFC Newsletter vol 1, no.8, 1983.
4. Campbell G., *Scots Poor on the Chute Causeway*, HFC Newsletter 46, pp. 14-16.
5. Watts K.G., *op.cit*, p.39.

My thanks to Ken Groves for the maps.

The 2012 Landscape Section Conference

Mike Broderick

This year we shall be returning to a topic that has been partly considered in the past, namely water in the landscape. But this time we shall concentrate largely on waterways, and the effect of the sea on the development of a Hampshire village. The conference will give the opportunity to find out more about the complex history of our natural and man-made waterways, river ports and minor seaports; all mostly overshadowed by the dominance of Southampton

and Portsmouth. The conference will open with a presentation by David Chun, author of 'The Hamble: a history'.

The conference flyer will give full details of the event, including date and venue, which, as I am writing at the end of January, are still to be finalised. We look forward to a good turnout.

Editor's note - The conference is now set for Saturday 27th October at the Hampshire Record Office.

book review book review book review book review book review

George Watts (Ed) *Titchfield: an ancient parish* 2011; 196pp. 120 illus. £15 from the Titchfield History Society.

The county is fortunate in having a number of local societies that publish reports on a variety of local studies. Titchfield is one, with a longstanding active local history society committed to exploring and uncovering all aspects of its history. The most recent: 'Titchfield, an ancient parish', is the third in the series, with no fewer than forty-five articles covering a wide range of well-researched studies. Archaeological topics include coverage of the Stone Age and an Iron Age/Romano-British site at Upper Segensworth. There are studies of national figures where they featured in local events, such as Margaret of Anjou who married King Henry VI in Titchfield Abbey, and Chilling's part in the Dudley Conspiracy against Queen Mary. Landscape studies include: the interpretation of a 17th century

map of Titchfield and the surrounding area, two on the Titchfield Canal, and a report on Titchfield's first bypass. Buildings studied include Crofton Old Church and the dating of seven of Titchfield's ancient buildings by dendrochronology.

A feature of many of the articles is that the subject is studied in its wider context, so improving understanding of events and who or what influenced them. The order is roughly chronological, the range of articles is extraordinarily wide, the standard of writing throughout is good, as are the many illustrations, a high proportion of them in colour.

Overall, this is a fine achievement, with credit due to many industrious local enthusiasts and the effective work of the editorial team. It is another milestone on the road to reconstructing the whole story of Titchfield parish, and is a pleasure to read.

George Campbell

Archaeology

Editor: David Allen, c/o Museums & Archive Service, Chilcomb House, Bar End, Winchester, SO23 8RD
tel (01962) 826738; email: musmda@hants.gov.uk

Editorial

David Allen

Last September provided the opportunity to pay respects to the God's House Tower Museum and the Maritime Museum in Southampton both of which have now closed their doors. In April the 'Sea City Museum' is scheduled to open in the heart of the 'emerging cultural quarter' (the old Grade II listed Magistrates' Court). The 'Tudor House' has reopened, and is well worth a visit; as well as the house, there is the reconstructed garden, and you can go into the 12th-century merchant's house, one of the best examples of its kind in England – but is now roofless, so go in fine weather!

In the north of the county continuity holds the edge over change as Basingstoke Archaeology & History Society celebrated 40 years of endeavour and looked forwards to the next four decades. Again in September over 100 people gathered in the Great Barn at Basing to hear talks both long and short and enjoy a hog roast. The Barn was an excellent venue until the torrential rain drove the temperature down to around zero! But the achievements of the group over the years were enough to warm the heart.

The South Downs National Park is beginning to flex its muscles. John Manley, erstwhile CEO of the Sussex Archaeological Society, was contracted to write a guide book to the Park, covering both its archaeology and history, and sought advice on what to include for the Hampshire bit. It should be out fairly soon, so keep a lookout.

The changing face of museum provision is still making the news, with a significant report on the potential of merging the County and City archaeological collections due by the end of February. This, however, is just a first, tentative step and it's unclear what effect the 'Hampshire Alliance' not netting one of Arts Council England's big grants will have on the process. It also should be seen against the English Heritage-backed 'Evaluating Archives' survey, managed by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (January to July) which

will show the nature and extent of the archaeological archives 'issue' across the country and hopefully include indicators of actual and potential public and specialised research use of this material.

An interesting development is that some small museums (e.g. Fordingbridge and Petersfield), which have previously been happy not to feature archaeology in their displays to any great extent, want to exhibit a lot more. This can be for educational purposes or because there are a growing number of archaeologically-informed volunteers willing to work with the material (or both!). Volunteering is the name of the game generally. There are continued opportunities to work on the archive collections and also to become involved in front-of-house, or 'Welcome Host' activities – all this against a backdrop of job losses, unfortunately. More specific projects include the Rockbourne Roman Villa Roman Garden, where Scheduled Monument Consent has been obtained to create a 12m square plot, much along the lines of the Brading Roman villa example.

Winter fieldwork has included Debbie Charlton's excavation at Steventon on the site of Jane Austen's birthplace, and the Basingstoke Archaeological & Historical Society exploration of a lost brickworks at Up Nately, once served by the Basingstoke Canal. North East Hants Historical & Archaeological Society members have just published Vol 6 of their Journal, which describes a watching brief they undertook in 2009 on a 'probable pottery working site' at Tower Hill, Farnborough. It is a model of its kind for a local archaeological group.

Work summarised in these pages involves an update on the Magdalen Hill Archaeological Research Project by Drs Roffey and Marter, a summary of the 2010 WARG excavations at St Elizabeth's College, Winchester, by Dick Whinney, and a look at the 'Dea Nutrix' pipe clay figurines from our area, an extract from a wider study of these Roman-British fertility symbols by Jan Bristow.

Summary Report: St Mary Magdalen, Winchester, 2008-2011

Simon Roffey and Phil Marter

In 2007 the department of archaeology at the University of Winchester initiated the Magdalen Hill Archaeological Research Project (MHARP) with the aim of studying the history and development of the former documented medieval leper hospital and almshouse of St Mary Magdalen, Winchester, Hampshire. The site is relatively undisturbed by later urban encroachment and is presently used for arable farming. Typical of many leper hospitals the site was located on the

outskirts of the medieval town suburbs, some 1.6 km (1 mile) east of the City. Despite its importance, and our lack of knowledge relating to early hospital foundations, little work had formerly been carried out on the site. In 2000 it was the focus of a small excavation televised by Channel Four's Time Team. However work was not completed due to particularly adverse weather conditions and information concerning the earlier phases of the hospital were largely inconclusive. In late

2007 and early 2008 MHARP carried out an evaluation and desk-based assessment of the site including field and geophysical surveys, together with an assessment of primary and secondary documentation. This was combined with a reanalysis of the Time Team material. These results provided the basis for a long term excavation project by MHARP directed by Dr Simon Roffey and Dr Phil Marter. The excavations, which are now entering their fifth year, also form a context for the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The site of St Mary Magdalen hospital, Winchester, has a long and varied history. The first documented use of the site was as a leper hospital sometime in the mid-twelfth century. By the fourteenth century the hospital was reformed and partly rebuilt. By the late sixteenth century the masonry hospital was largely demolished to make way for brick-built almshouses (although the medieval chapel survived). These were later used as a base for troops during the Civil War and a prison for Dutch prisoners in the wars of 1660/70. The buildings were ruinous by the 1780s and were subsequently demolished by order of the Bishop of Winchester. The site was later the location for one of Hampshire's largest First World War bases. Today nothing survives above ground.

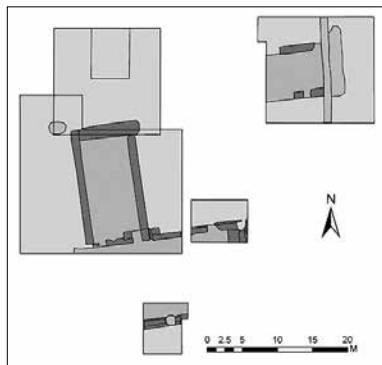
Excavations 2008-11

The development of the hospital site can be divided up into six general phases:

Phase 6 Twentieth Century.

The latest phase concerns the First World War base and here excavations revealed evidence for former military buildings including part of a stable block, wooden bases for former barrack blocks as well as drainage trenches and gravel paths. On another area of the site, the brick foundations of the camp cinema/theatre were also revealed.

Phase 5 Post-Medieval



Phase 5 AD1670-1790

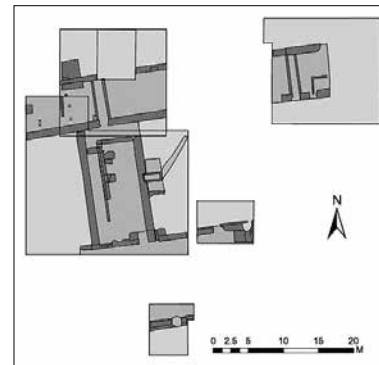
Much of this phase was covered by a destruction layer comprising mainly of brick from the dismantling of the building in 1789. It was also clear that whilst some of the buildings were systematically taken down, and much brick work subsequently removed to foundation level, some

areas of the former almshouse had likely collapsed prior to this, possibly due to subsidence.

The post-medieval phase was also represented by a mass of prison rubbish which comprised mostly animal bones, clay pipes and broken bottles. Part of a circuit wall was also excavated and may relate to a prison enclosure of the 1660s.

Phase 4 Late Tudor

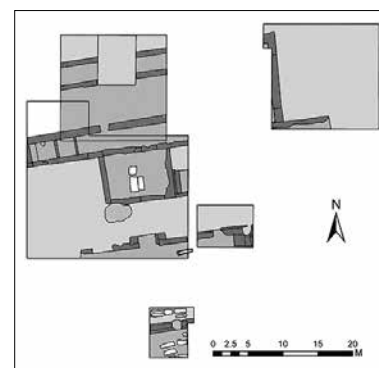
In 2008/9 the post-medieval brick-built almshouse range was excavated together with an adjoining Master's lodge. The investigations revealed that the almshouses were divided into individual units each with a rear fireplace and with internal corridor providing access to each house. A kitchen area and base for staircase, giving



Phase 4 AD1450-1670

access to an upper floor, were excavated at the western end of the building. The adjoining master's lodge presented evidence for internal partitions, a fireplace and joist beam slots for a boarded floor. To the east of the building was a brick-lined and tiled latrine.

Phase 3 Fourteenth - sixteenth centuries

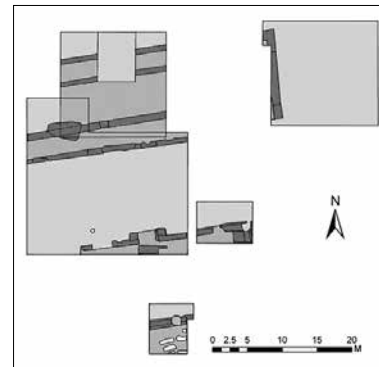


Phase 3 AD1300-1450

Underlying the almshouses and master's lodge were the remains of a large masonry aisled hall, to the north and parallel to the chapel (Phase 2). Attached to the south side of the hall aisle was a building with a centrally-placed tiled hearth. This structure may represent an earlier master's

lodge, likely added as part of the fourteenth century reorganisation, noted above. Inside the south aisle of the chapel a series of graves also related to this phase, and included a plaster-lined tomb with Purbeck marble slab, the contents of which had been later 'robbed'. The remains within the earliest of these graves has been C14 dated to the late fourteenth century and may be indicative of refoundation and a consequent increase in patronage and lay burial.

Phase 2 Twelfth- thirteenth centuries



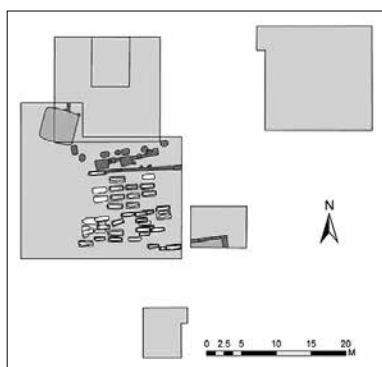
Phase 2 AD1140 -1300

Phase 2 was represented by a substantial aisled masonry hall. This building was likely the twelfth-century leper hospital infirmary. The presence of partition slots and small tiled hearths at the western end of the south aisle suggested the aisle had been divided into cells, suggesting some level

of privacy. Examination of the building materials of the infirmary and the medieval chapel to the south indicate that they were contemporaneous. Both buildings were flint-faced walls with rubble cores. A cemetery to the south of the chapel was also initiated during this phase, and a number of burials presented evidence for leprosy.

Phase 1 Pre-1148

Significantly, a large group of burials including that of two children were found to the north of the chapel between the chapel and infirmary (and underlying



Phase 1 Pre AD1148

the later medieval phases). They were also aligned differently from the chapel. The majority of these burials showed indications of leprosy (over 70%) as well as evidence for TB, hydrocephalus and possible malnutrition. One individual also showed signs of amputation of the lower left

leg. Here there was very little evidence for infection, probably indicating that the individual received a degree of medical treatment for the injury. The unusual inclusion of two pottery vessels in the grave may have been personal food bowls and suggest that the individual received day to day assistance in feeding. Significantly, C14 dates for one burial, which presented evidence for leprosy gave a date of cal AD 980-1060 (65% probability). A further sample from this individual corroborated these findings in presenting a cal AD 890-1040 (95% probability and 90% within AD 940-1040) with a clear spike in the area of AD 970-1030. This burial was therefore of some significance in that it presented a possibility of a Pre-Conquest burial. A

further dating sample, from the same area, however, provided a broader dateline from either side of the Conquest and the presence of a pilgrim burial, one of the latest additions to the cemetery, suggest the burial ground was in still in use during the 12th century.

It was also clear that there was an earlier, pre-1148 occupation phase. This was represented by substantial linear post pits and post holes as well as a large 'cellared' or sunken-featured structure underlying the twelfth-century medieval infirmary. It is not yet clear whether or not this was a feature of an earlier Norman or pre-Norman hospital or represents a component of a secular high status site, pre-dating the hospital. These features will form the subject of continued excavations in 2012.

Research on medieval leper hospitals is complex, hampered by both the fragmentary archaeological evidence and limited documentary sources. Archaeological work in Britain is some way yet behind that conducted in France, but important excavations at urban sites such as Winchester are beginning to redress the balance. At Winchester, work conducted on both hospital and cemetery is allowing for the cross comparison of different forms of archaeological data, as well as a wider interpretation of the development and transformation of the hospital and its buildings throughout the medieval period. Ultimately it is beginning to shed some light on the life and afterlife of an important medieval institution as well as provide an insight into almost a thousand years of Winchester's history.

Excavations at St Elizabeth's College, Winchester, 2011.

Richard Whinney

In August 2011, members of WARG, ably supported by scholars from Winchester College, undertook a two week exploratory excavation on the site of the church of St Elizabeth's College, which lies in a pasture field south-east of Winchester College. Following a geophysical survey, targeted trenches were dug to examine and characterise elements of the major anomalies. Much of the effort was focussed on the remains of a large masonry structure, the College church, but 1-2 other trenches were excavated to try to understand other anomalies.

Historical background

In 1301-2, Bishop John de Pontoise ordered the construction of the College of St Elizabeth on land south of Wolvesey Palace. The College church or chapel was completed by the time of the Bishop's death in 1304. The College was dedicated to St Elizabeth of Hungary, and the church is recorded as having three altars at its east end. The central one was dedicated to St Elizabeth, and the others to SS Stephen and St Lawrence, and to SS Edmund and Thomas of Canterbury. The college was governed by a Provost, and a living was provided for 7 chaplains and choristers. The College was originally endowed with 6 acres of land in the meadows of St Stephen together with income from estates elsewhere.

St Elizabeth's College was surrendered to the Crown in 1544. The deed of sale describes a wealthy establishment with a church, belfry and cemetery, in 4½ acres. The estate also contained houses, buildings, barns, granaries, dovecots, kitchen gardens, orchards,

gardens, pools and vineyards. In the 15th century, the buildings included a cloister, hall, kitchen, bake house, brew house and chambers.

Henry VIII sold the site to Thomas Wriothesley for £360 in 1544. In the same year Thomas sold the site on to Winchester College on condition that the buildings were either used as a grammar school, or were to be pulled down. Immediately, in 1544-5, the roof of the church was removed. Much of the complex was demolished and materials used for building elsewhere. The hall was repaired, but the remaining buildings were still being demolished and their foundations dug out in the 17th century. The buried remains of St Elizabeth's College have remained in the estate of Winchester College to the present day, and lie in an area of pasture and water-meadows.

Previous work.

Despite some confusion about the true identification and location of the site of the College church, some survey work was undertaken in the mid-19th century, as well as two poorly documented excavations, one in 1922 and the other in 1964. In all these cases, the walls of the church were apparently located and at least partially exposed, allowing plans of the building to be drawn. Otherwise, very little other information was recorded or has been archived.

Geophysical Survey

Prior to the excavation, a geophysical survey was undertaken by members of the Archaeology department of Southampton University. Their work identified a

number of significant anomalies.



Fig 1. St Elizabeth's College, Winchester: geophysical survey superimposed on satellite image (by permission of Archaeology Department, Southampton University)

In the centre of this image, a large rectangular building with buttresses along each side, can be clearly seen. To the north and east of the church are a number of other dark, less well defined anomalies, which are the possible sites of other buildings. Immediately east of the church, a north-south linear feature which appears as a clearer area without anomalies may be the southern continuation of College Walk. Moving east, further smaller areas may also relate to buried buildings or other linear features. Running roughly north-east to south-west, the lines of at least two modern features (drains or sewers), one cutting the church foundations, are also clear.

Summary of excavation results

A series of trenches were opened across the remains of the church, and exposed a number of sections of the foundations. The church, when standing, was clearly an impressive one. It measured 31.60m east-west, and 12.75mm north-south, internally. A regular series of buttresses, seven on each side, helped support the building along the main east-west walls, and at the corners. The surviving foundations - a strong matrix of flint and mortar - were revealed just below the grass and topsoil. At the junction of the walls and buttresses, blocks of dressed stone were included to provide both stability and precision of alignment. The width of the foundations was fairly constant - around 1.25m. Similarly, the buttresses along each side and at



Fig 2. St Elizabeth's College, Winchester: foundations and buttresses at the north-east corner of the church

the corners were of fairly regular dimensions, about 1.25-1.30m wide by 1.60-1.80m long.

The foundations of the north and south walls had been cut through by a number of drainage and sewer pipes (Fig 2). These cuts allowed the examination of the foundations of the church and revealed the method of construction. On the natural alluvial silt, a chalk raft was built, apparently across the whole area of the church. This raft of rough chalk blocks was on average around 0.40m thick. Cut into the chalk raft, along the lines of the external walls, strong flint and mortar foundations were constructed, above which the superstructure was erected. The foundations were around 1.25m wide and between 0.40 and 0.70m deep.

Only a few details of above ground superstructure of the building survived, but it seems reasonable to assume that the major components of the walls would also be constructed of flint and mortar. The doors and fenestration would have been defined in ashlar and carved stonework. At the west end, expanded flint and mortar foundations on either side of a doorway hint at a more sophisticated superstructure, with perhaps twin tower or stair turrets. The partial survival of a bed of mortar at the point of entry preserved the imprint of a number of flagstones, the remains of a paved surface at the west doors of the church.



Fig 3. St Elizabeth's College, Winchester: foundations at the west end of the church.

A small sample of the interior of the building was examined, in two centrally located trenches. These revealed that, despite a quantity of floor tile fragments, pieces of dressed and worked stones amongst a general demolition deposit, little or nothing of the internal floors survived the demolition process or subsequent agricultural activity. It appears that the building was systematically taken down, and the material recovered taken away to be reused elsewhere. Stonework that probably came from the chapel is in walls across the College site. Floors, such as that in the monument room, have floor tiles that are identical to fragments found in the chapel, and are almost certainly reused. At the east end, where the three altars were originally sited, the surviving remains were closer to the surface than elsewhere, and tree root activity was much greater, so little or nothing of the internal layout was discernible, apart from some evidence for a small recess let into the wall.

The disturbances caused by the insertion of the modern drain/sewer pipes also revealed a number of disarticulated human bones. These bones may have once

belonged to internal burials in the church, but no grave cuts or tomb deposits were identified. It is also possible that these remains derive from burials that predate the construction of the church. Another possible grave was



Fig 4. St Elizabeth's College, Winchester: remains of a possible stone lined grave at the west end of the church.

located adjacent to the west end of the church.

Immediately to the east of the church, two trenches were excavated to examine the area of the possible southern extension of College Walk. The eastern edge of the chalk raft was located, and possible flint covered track surfaces and silts were revealed.

Future Work

It is hoped that another season of excavations will take place in the summer of 2012. It is intended that further examination of the interior of the church will be undertaken together with the exploration of some of the other suspected buildings located by geophysics to the north and east of the church.

Acknowledgements

WARG would like to acknowledge the significant financial help and practical support given to the excavation by staff and students of Winchester College. Equally without the dedication and unflagging involvement of WARG members, the excavation would have resulted in a significantly poorer set of results.

Evidence for small-scale religious practices in Roman Hampshire? Using pipe-clay figurines as disposable devotional objects.

Jan Bristow

This article is compiled from a dissertation that looked at these artefacts in Central Southern England, but which is here confined to the area of Hampshire. Two tribal groups, the Atrebates and the Belgae are likely to have included present-day Hampshire within their territories; Silchester was known as *Calleva Atrebatum* (the place in the woods of the Atrebates) and Winchester as *Venta Belgarum* (the market place of the Belgae). So what do these figurines show? What are they figurines of? They are thought to represent images of mostly goddesses (figs. 1, 2 and 3) or animals associated with specific gods. For example the cockerel (fig. 4) is frequently depicted with the god Mercury.



Fig. 1 Winchester 'Venus'

Having looked at a relatively large number, it seems to me also likely that using clay was important in making the figures breakable: many of the figures are

The figurines are known as 'pipe-clay' figurines because they are mostly the same colour as the much later clay tobacco pipes, though the Roman pipe-clay figurines are made from clay found in Central Gaul (France). This clay is remarkably white when fired, so could have been carefully selected to represent purity.

broken and the breaks look deliberate, and similar (for instance, the figures are often headless and footless). It's a wide and long-standing tradition that breaking a religious offering can reinforce an act of devotion.

These figurines are all small, roughly hand-size, and quite light, so they are portable. They were probably cheap to produce and in France moulds of some of the common types have been found in excavations at workshops (at Lezoux, for example). They are obviously less permanent than, for example, the small metal figurines found from Silchester in the Reading museum.

Pipe-clay figurines are found on quite a range of Roman sites in Hampshire, from the two *civitas* or tribal centres of Winchester and Silchester, and the small town of Neatham (see map), to the villa site at Holt Down (see map), with one fragment of a *Dea Nutrix* found at the Hayling Island temple site. Several were also found within the Roman site of *Claesentum* (modern day Bitterne Manor, Southampton).



Fig. 2 Neatham 'Venus' lower torso

The locations of the different types of figurine are noted on the map. The goddess figures, which are the commonest types by far, are of two sorts, a nude female referred to as a 'pseudo-Venus' (Figs. 1 and 2) and the *dea Nutrix* or mother-goddess, depicted clothed and seated in a basket chair, nursing one or two babies (Fig. 3). Much rarer in Hampshire are any other kinds, such as the Silchester cockerel (Fig. 4) or a horse's head from Winchester,

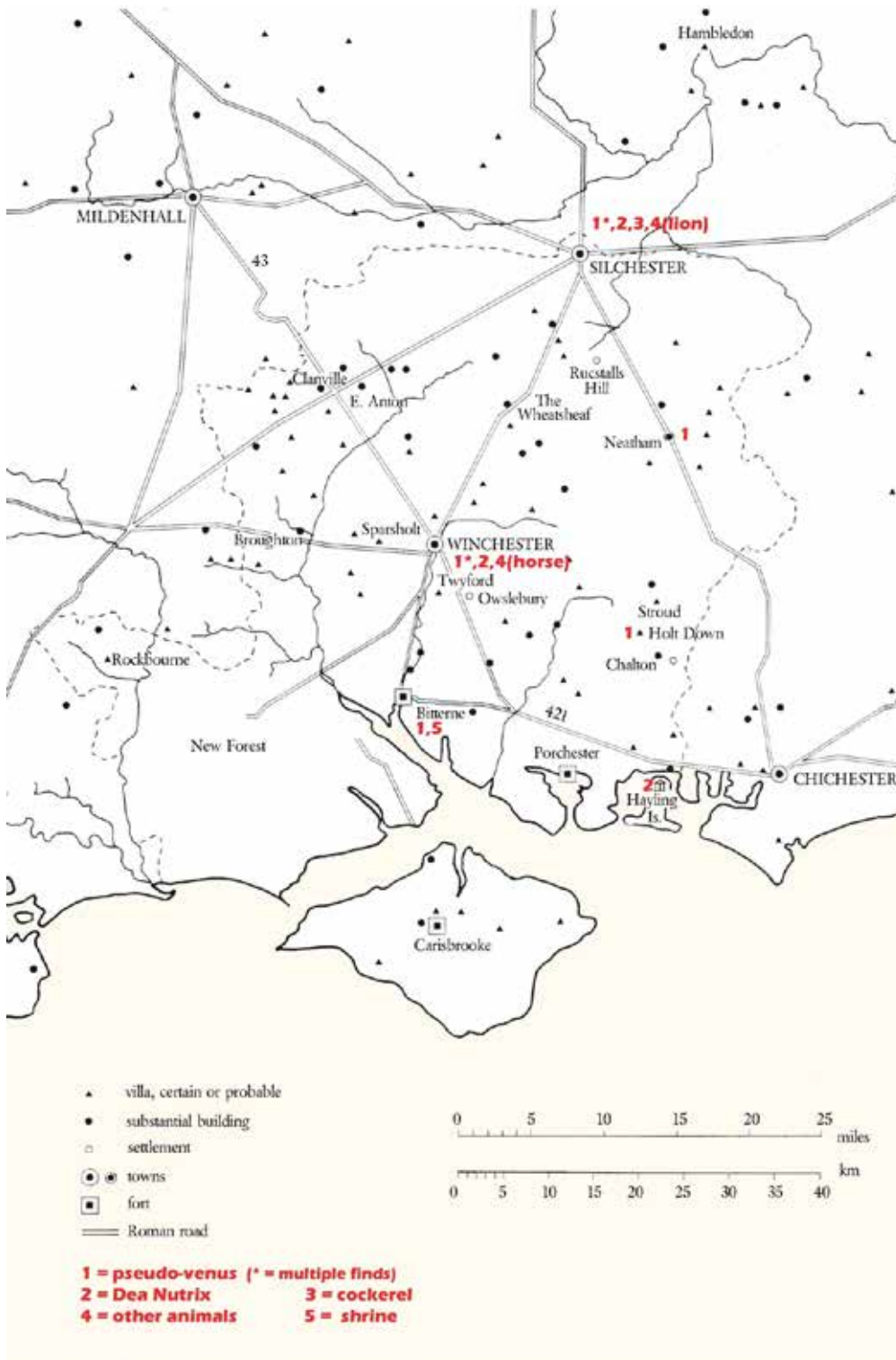


Fig. 3 Silchester Dea Nutrix with two infants



Fig. 4 Silchester cockerel

standards of recording, give their contexts as pits (Silchester), ditches (Bitterne and Neatham) or general occupation layers (Winchester and Silchester). The fragment of *Dea Nutrix* from Hayling Island is thought to be residual, found in a fourth century layer.

Some conclusions can be made, using Hampshire to reflect a wider area: the figurines are not specific to a type of settlement, but clusters of types occur in the two tribal capitals, with a sparse distribution elsewhere. The 'Venus' figurine type is the most common, but usually only the head or part of the body is found, so were these figurines used for a 'domestic' act of devotion, perhaps even used by women only? Once dedicated and broken, it seems that selected fragments were discarded, their use over.

which could refer to the Celtic goddess *Epona*. Figurines of this kind represent a blending of Celtic and Roman ideas of deities, known as 'syncretism', perhaps a facet of the Romanising influence, in that deities are 'personalised'.

Having noted where these figurines are found, a clue as to how they were used might be the context on the various sites, but those found years ago, such as the Holt Down Venus, have rather sketchy origins. More recently found examples, at sites with modern

relatively enigmatic group of Romano-British artefacts, from the first two centuries AD, imported from Gaul and used in a personal and particular way.

Note:

This article is taken from a dissertation produced for a MA in Regional and Local History and Archaeology, University of Winchester, under the supervision of Professor Tony King. Acknowledgements are due to Hampshire County Museum; Winchester City Museum; Portsmouth City Museum; University of Reading and Dr. Gordon Brooks.

Comments are welcome: contact Jan Bristow at jan.bristow@virgin.net

Local History

Editor: Mark Page, 7 Irwell Close, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6SX
email: mrp15@leicester.ac.uk

James Richards of Overton 1892 to 1916: Congregational Pastor and Local Politician

Roger Ottewill

Part 1: 'Beloved by All Members of the Community'

Although it was not unusual for Congregational pastors to serve on public bodies during the Edwardian era, James Richards of Overton can be said to have exemplified this blending of sacred and secular roles. It is perhaps something of a conceit to describe him as being 'of Overton' since he hailed from, and spent a large portion of his life, in Kent. Nonetheless from the late Victorian period to midway through the First World War, he was one of the most notable personalities in the village. Between 1892 and 1916 he served as the high-profile and well-respected pastor of Overton Congregational Church (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 A plaque commemorating James Richards's ministry in Overton.

At the same time he made no secret of his affiliation to the Liberal Party and was active in local politics, representing Overton on Whitchurch Rural District Council and Board of Guardians [RDC/BG] from 1895 to 1917, and serving as a parish councillor from 1894, the year in which the parish council was established, to 1896 and from 1897 to 1904. In this three-part article his contribution to both the religious and political life of Overton is reviewed and evaluated. For Richards and others like him, there was no incongruity in the mixing of religion and politics.

For primary source material a heavy reliance has been placed on press reports from the Hants and Berks Gazette and Andover Advertiser, both of which gave some attention to what was happening in Overton. This is supplemented with the minutes of meetings of Overton Congregational Church and the public

bodies on which Richards served. Unfortunately there is relatively little in the public domain of a personal nature and despite an extensive search no photographs of Richards have been found. The closest one can get to visualizing him is a description from a report of the celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of his arrival in Overton. In this he is portrayed as 'hale and hearty despite the grey locks which speak of his gathering years, with a friendly word and smile for one and all, it is no wonder that he is generally beloved by the inhabitants of the place where his influence is greatest'.¹

Background and Early Life

James Richards was born on 5 September 1835 at Hythe in Kent. His parents' names were John and Sarah and in the census returns for 1841 his father's occupation is shown as that of 'agricultural labourer'. By 1851, aged 16, James was employed as a 'porter to a wine merchant', which is somewhat ironic given his subsequent links to the temperance cause. At a gathering to commemorate the 9th anniversary of his Overton pastorate it was mentioned that he had started preaching at 16 years of age and as his later career was to prove he clearly had a talent for it. It is not known for certain where he preached or which church he attended but it was probably Hythe Congregational Church located in East Street.

In 1856 James married a local girl, Mary Ann Steel, who was two years younger than him and also born in Hythe. The 1851 census returns show her as living with her widowed mother and younger sister on 'parish relief'. By 1861 James and Mary Ann had three children and they went on to have nine more. Their large family comprised six daughters and six sons.² Information from the 1911 census indicates that four had died by then. A number did not survive infancy, but one son, Christopher, died in his thirties. Thus, the family had its share of sorrow. This may well have enabled James and Mary Ann, who was destined to make a notable contribution to her husband's ministry and the life of the church in Overton, to empathize with those to whom they were called upon to provide pastoral care.

To support his young family, data from the census returns indicate that James was employed in a variety of jobs. In 1861 his occupation is recorded as that of 'baker' and in 1871 as 'collector of rates'. Shortly thereafter the family moved from Hythe. As recorded in his official obituary, James 'commenced his public Christian service in connection with the Evangelistic Society about August 1872'.³ The Society had been founded in 1864 and was committed to 'bringing new life to the nation'.⁴ Richards worked for the Society as

Local History

an 'agent' until 1884, being described in the 1881 census return as a 'gospel preacher'. He was then employed for a number of years at the Bell Street Mission off the Edgware Road. This was followed by a short spell as pastor of Bletchingley Chapel in Surrey, which had been adopted as a mission church by Redhill Congregational Church a few years before his arrival. In 1892 James was appointed pastor of Overton Congregational Church (Fig. 2). By this time he was in his late fifties, but he still had a great deal to contribute as his 24 years in Overton testify.

Getting Established: The First 10 Years

At the time of his arrival in Overton, Richards was not ordained but appeared on List B of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, which meant that technically he was an evangelist. The Church was designated an evangelistic station receiving financial support of approximately £40 a year from the Hampshire Congregational Union [HCU], to which it was required to submit annual reports.



Fig. 2 A contemporary photograph of what was Overton Congregational Church. The buildings are now used by the Methodists.

From later comments praising Richards' dedication and ability, it is clear that the Congregational cause in Overton had been struggling and was desperately in need of an effective leader. At a meeting held to welcome him in June 1892 there were already indications that his pastorate would be a productive one. 'The Rev. J. Richards, in acknowledging the cordial welcome he had received delivered a lively and interesting address, in the course of which he illustrated his association with that church by means of a marriage—they fell in love with him and he with them, after which came marriage and a happy honeymoon'.⁵

To continue with the analogy, the annual anniversaries of Richards' arrival were to be celebrated with increasing ardour. Moreover, notwithstanding some setbacks, his 'love affair' with Overton extended well beyond the confines of the Congregational Church to the community at large.

Not long after settling in Overton, the passing of the Local Government Act 1894 opened up opportunities for Richards to engage in public service. One avenue was membership of the democratically elected parish council established under the Act. In 1894 he secured 72 votes in the show of hands at the first parish meeting and 87 votes in the poll that was subsequently demanded.⁶ In both contests Richards was the sixth of the eleven successful candidates.

Another avenue was to serve as one of Overton's three rural district councillors and poor law guardians serving on Whitchurch RDC/BG respectively. In his first election Richards finished third in a contest with seven candidates, a very creditable achievement for a relative newcomer and a clear indication that he had already made his presence felt.⁷

However, his early years in Overton were not entirely trouble free, with the first part of 1896, at least, being something of an *annus horribilis*. First, in March he lost his seat on the parish council, receiving just 17 votes and finishing last but one of the 19 candidates in the show of hands, and 34 votes and sixteenth position in the ensuing poll. However, he was one of no fewer than six sitting councillors who lost their seats and as letters published in the *Andover Advertiser* suggest, the electors wanted to express their displeasure at the performance of the council as a whole, especially in financial matters.⁸ Second, and perhaps more seriously, in April it was reported in the church minutes that two critical letters had been sent to Richard Wells, Secretary of the HCU. One complained of Richards's 'want of straightness in money matters', while the other requested 'the removal of Mr Richards'. Not surprisingly, their receipt triggered a special church meeting. Representing Richard Wells were the respected pastor of London Street Congregational Church in Basingstoke, Alfred Capes Tarbolton, and one of the leading laymen of that Church, Thomas Maton Kingdom. As recorded in the minutes, following a lengthy discussion the following two resolutions were passed, the first unanimously and the second by 17 votes and with no one voting against:

*That this church having heard the full ... explanation of the charge against Mr Richards expresses the conviction that so far as the church is concerned there is no ground for any financial charge against him; regrets any should have been made and expresses its full confidence in his integrity. ... That Mr Richards has the feeling of this church very strongly in his favour and that it is desirable he should remain here.*⁹

These resolutions clearly indicate that he was completely exonerated and had the full support of his Church and that the complaints, such as they were, were groundless. Nonetheless, they did highlight the sensitivities and potential for misunderstanding inherent in the post of pastor. That said, over the next two years Richards appears to have put these setbacks well behind him.

In 1897 he regained his seat on the parish council (indeed there was no contest),¹⁰ and in 1898 he held his seat on the Whitchurch RDC/BG. In the same year a new schoolroom for the Church was built at a cost of £160, which had been fully raised by 1900. At the opening ceremony in May 1897 the Sunday School Superintendent 'spoke of the work of Sunday School teaching, and of his great pleasure in having such a beautiful room for the purpose'.¹¹ In addition to the schoolroom, a number of other improvements were made to the fabric of the church premises during these early years. The church was re-seated at a cost of £100; an organ was installed; a piano was put in the schoolroom; and a storeroom was built at the back of the schoolroom.¹²

A further indication of the increasing visibility of Richards's ministry is that in 1899 the celebration of the anniversary of his settlement in Overton was

reported in the local newspaper for the first time. Special services on Sunday were followed on Monday by a tea and a public meeting at which the senior deacon gave a short account of the Church's progress. 'He proceeded to show that the church was in a prosperous condition; that it had been steadily increasing during the seven years of Mr Richards' pastorate. Also the Sunday School and Christian Endeavour [Society] were going forward'. Another speaker referred to the willingness of Richards 'to ever fight for a good cause, in the church, in the parish [council] meeting, or in the District Council meeting'.¹³

However, an even greater accolade came two years later in 1901, with reference being made, at a gathering to commemorate the 9th anniversary of his pastorate, to the fact that:

During the nine years in which Mr and Mrs Richards ... [had] been resident in Overton they ... [had] made themselves as generally beloved by all members of the community, both Churchmen and Dissenters, that, as evinced at the last District Council election [in 1900] when Mr Richards was returned at the head of the poll, there are no more popular persons in the place. And deservedly so, for the Pastor and his no less estimable wife are the ideal of what a country parson and his wife should be. They have won a well-merited renown for hospitality, geniality, and better still, for the sweet words of comfort and faith with which they have solaced the afflicted and troubled.

Later the church secretary referred to Richards's 'straightforward preaching and his attractive manner in visiting the homes of the people ... [which] had done great good, and he was sure the work would go on and prosper'.¹⁴

Speaking on the occasion of his 10th anniversary celebration, Richards was equally fulsome in his praise of church members:

He was very thankful to say that there were thoroughly good congregations on Sunday, they had a good staff of teachers in the school, a good church secretary, treasurer and deacons, and he might say they were all working together in unity. He was

also glad to say that the balance financially had been on the right side. They were determined to keep the buildings in good repair and they had good faith that they would be enabled to keep their head above water. It had been a great pleasure to him to work there during these last ten years.

Amongst the leading members with whom Richards had established such a close rapport were John Pyle, a foreman at the Laverstoke paper mill and church treasurer, and George Hide, a local draper and church secretary.

One of the contributors to this anniversary celebration, the pastor of Whitchurch Congregational Church, made the perceptive point 'that in all the congratulations to Mr Richards, Mrs Richards must not be forgotten. Much of the success of his ministry was doubtless due to her tender care and solicitude for his welfare'.¹⁵ By this stage, it was clear that James and Mary Ann had both become indispensable to the life of not only the Congregational Church but also the whole community.

Notes

- 1 *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 17 May 1902.
- 2 The names and years of birth of the eleven where the details are known were Eva, 1858; Annie, 1859; James, 1860; Matilda, 1862; Carrie, 1864; Hedley, 1866; Christopher, 1867; Emily, 1869; Albert, 1870; Leonard, 1873; and Charles, 1876.
- 3 *Congregational Year Book 1920*, 110.
- 4 www.tes.org.uk (accessed 18 Nov. 2011).
- 5 *Andover Advertiser*, 1 July 1892.
- 6 For an explanation of the procedure for choosing parish councillors see Roger Ottewill, 'The Establishment of Parish Councils in Hampshire', *Southern History* 30 (2008), pp.43-77.
- 7 Richards secured 91 votes. The most successful candidate, Gerald Fitzherbert, secured 123. The full result, including the identities and votes of the unsuccessful candidates, is not known. *Andover Advertiser*, 21 Dec. 1894.
- 8 *Andover Advertiser*, 20 and 27 Mar. 1896.
- 9 HRO 159/M85/1, Overton Congregational Church minute bk, 14 Apr. 1896.
- 10 *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 20 Mar. 1897.
- 11 *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 21 May 1898.
- 12 *Andover Advertiser*, 31 May 1907. These achievements were recalled at Richards's 15th anniversary celebrations.
- 13 *Andover Advertiser*, 2 June 1899.
- 14 *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 4 May 1901.
- 15 *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 17 May 1902.

The Pauper Crisis in Portsmouth in the Winter of 1816/17

Malcolm Walford

Introduction

The histories of Portsmouth tend to skip over the problems that faced the parishes of Portsmouth and Portsea in the years immediately following the end of the Napoleonic war. This is probably due to the complete lack of Portsea vestry records for this crisis period in the Portsmouth Record Office. After the victory celebrations, the visiting 'great and the good' returned to their town houses or country estates, but they left behind a ticking bomb as the defence establishment was swiftly reduced to peacetime levels. The story that follows has been pieced together from the pages of the *Hampshire Telegraph* (HT) and the *Hampshire Chronicle* (HC).

The Increase in Paupers and the Cost of Food

In May 1816 the HT reported on the hardships being

suffered by the working class of Portsmouth since the end of the war. The numbers applying to be admitted to the Portsea poor house' (*Fig. 1: A*) were more than its capacity and the town was full of 'hunched or half-fed, half-clothed' people who had not yet applied for relief.² The overseers, it said, were willing to listen to any suggestions that would halt the increasing burden of the Portsea poor rate.

The dockyard was by far the largest employer on the island and many businesses depended on it. It had employed 3,878 in 1814 and Quail, in *The Spirit of Portsmouth*, quotes a loss of 1,500 jobs between 1813 and 1820. For example, in March 1816 the HT noted the following imminent reduction in the dockyard workforce: 94 shipwrights, 51 carpenters, 49 sawyers, 17 blacksmiths, 12 caulkers, 11 from the wood mills, 6 from the metal mills, 9 joiners, 7 scavellers, 4 bricklayers, 10 bricklayers' labourers, 1 rigger, 9 riggers' labourers, 2

Local History

painters, 1 painter's labourer, 5 millwrights, 1 plumber, 3 masons, 1 pitch heater, and 7 oakum boys. Vacancies for skilled tradesmen were non-existent as the Navy Board had prevented the establishment of private boat building on the island and the settlement laws prevented the unemployed from seeking work off the island.

Year to	Easter 1815	Easter 1816	Easter 1817
Number of collections of 6d. rate	7	8	14
Amount raised ³	£7,835	£8,592	£13,406
Daily average of paupers in Portsea poor house	452	493	680

Source: *Abstract of receipts and expenditure for Portsea parish.*

To make matters worse, the continued use of convicts in the dockyard by the Navy Board denied labouring jobs to the local population. In the same week a bad situation was made worse by the Ordnance who discharged up to 50 civil tradesmen and labourers. The HT estimated that the redundancies, including those made previously, would mean a reduction of £50,000 in the wage bill compared to that of the previous year. This was a very significant loss to the town's economy.⁴ Apart from redundancies, wage cuts added to the distress and further undermined Portsmouth's financial income. Many trades such as tailoring and shoemaking depended on a large naval presence, as did shopkeepers, stallholders, and publicans.

The cost of food was also increasing. In April 1816 the price of potatoes had risen from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon, but thanks to a good crop this had fallen by September to 2d. However, the other staple food of the poor class was bread, and the unremitting rise in its price in Portsmouth was a major source of concern for the two vestries in the town.

Price of a quartern loaf in Portsmouth:⁵

5 Feb. 6 May. 10 Jun. 6 Aug. 14 Oct. 4 Nov. 2 Dec.
1s. 4d. 1s. 9d. 1s. 9d. 1s. 10d. 2s. 1d. 2s. 4d. 2s. 7d.
(Source: HT).

The protection of wheat prices guaranteed by the corn laws and a very wet summer had combined to affect the supplies and price of wheat. The price remained around December's level until March, finally peaking at 3s. per quartern on 9 June 1817. A major crisis was about to unfold.

The Portsea Vestry Calls for Help

The voluntary churchwardens and overseers found themselves in a desperate financial situation. A meeting of parishioners was held on 1 December at Kingston church to consider the enlargement of the poor house, which had 650 inmates and was full to capacity, and to discuss how best to meet the present demand for the necessities of life from the poor. Henry Plowman, the chairman, explained that parish expenses had risen to £1,000 a month, and that he could see no end to further rises as currently some 5,000 people were being helped and this number was increasing by the week as winter arrived. The meeting accepted a proposal to form a committee of 24, as well as the two churchwardens and six overseers, 'to consider the state of the poor and the most effectual way of affording them relief'.⁶

A fortnight later the committee published a report which unfortunately has not survived, nor was it published in the newspapers. Various recommendations were made for the employment of the 680 (*sic*) paupers in the poor house, and for those able-bodied on outdoor relief to repair the parish roads and highways. The committee accepted an offer from

Messrs Rands and Hayles of a house with 4 acres of land to take up to 50 people for a period of two years, providing exemption was given from poor rates, and Mr Gain offered ten wagon loads of furze to heat the house's oven.⁷

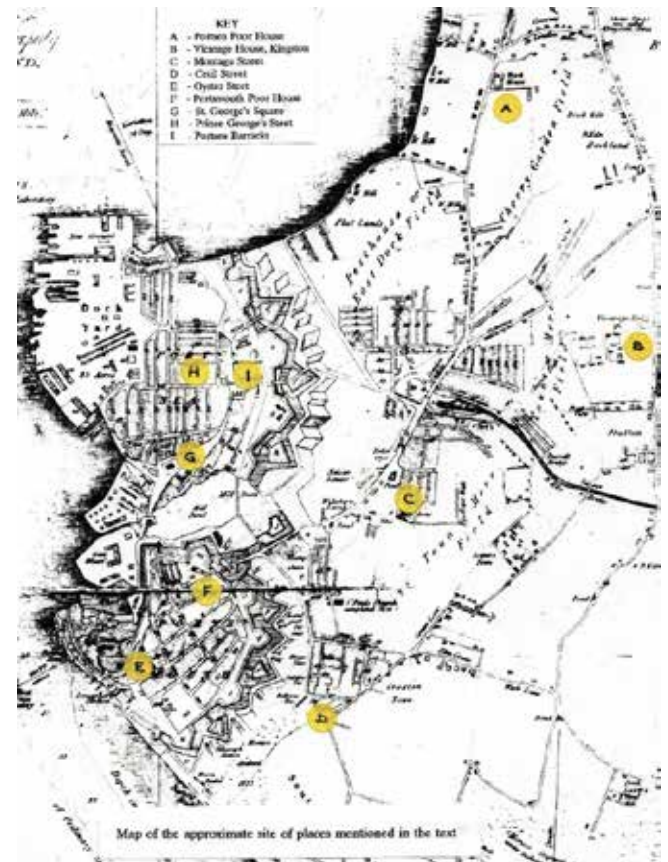


Fig. 1 The 'Jenkins Map' printed in HT 27 Dec. 1929. Source: Portsmouth Central Library.

The committee decided to seek public subscriptions. As was customary, the committee published a notice on 14 December in the local papers calling on the mayor, Edward Carter, to hold a public meeting to discuss 'the propriety of entering into a subscription for the relief of the distress of the poor at the present season'.

Swift Public Support Followed

On 20 December the mayor held a meeting of Portsea residents in the Beneficial Society Room. The issue of a public subscription was agreed and £306 5s. was raised on the day. It was agreed to form a committee of 40, who would visit the poor in their own homes and assess their needs, and who would be responsible for an effective distribution of aid in kind. Various rules were agreed which provided for checks and balances in the system. On 30 December the HC reported that the neighbouring parish of Portsmouth had followed Portsea's 'excellent example': subscriptions had been started, and a kitchen opened in Oyster Street (*Fig. 1: E*), where visiting subscribers claimed 'the soup was of a better quality than was frequently made for their own families'.

In the much larger parish of Portsea soup kitchens were opened by Christmas in Cecil Street, Southsea (*Fig. 1: D*), and at Prince George's Street, Portsea (*H*). By the end of December two more were operating from Montagu Road⁸ (*C*) and from near the vicarage house, Kingston (*B*), and a fifth one was planned to be sited at the recently defunct Portsea barracks (*I*). Soup was available from noon, and was either free to paupers with tickets or cost a penny a quart, and by 6 January nearly 2,000 people had been served. Further help

was given by the committee, who resolved to sell potatoes at 2d. a gallon and to distribute in small quantities 10 fathoms of firewood.⁹

Public Support Continued

By the end of the first week of January £887 13s. had been subscribed in Portsea by up to 400 people, whose names appeared in the HT on 6 January. A further £23 13s. was donated over the next three weeks. Mr Pushman had supplied 4 fathoms of wood, George Baker a quantity of bacon, and Thomas Mottley of Lake Lane House had provided free use of his 100-gallon copper and his premises for the preparation of soup. Mr Plummer of Salterns Farm had employed two paupers at 2s. a day and had opened a small shop to supply his poor neighbours with various items at cost. Further offers of work were forthcoming when agreement was reached between the overseers and the commissioners for paving that 60 able-bodied paupers would be employed as scavengers to clean the streets; the Board of Ordnance had agreed to provide handcarts, wheelbarrows, and tools.¹⁰ Furthermore, names and addresses of unemployed but reliable shoemakers and tailors with large families from the vicinity of St George's Square (*Fig. 1: G*) were held by Professor Inman, Royal Naval College, and Mr Glendenning, a solicitor in St James Street. In Portsmouth £412 had been subscribed.

On 27 January the HT reported that during the previous fortnight members of the Portsea committee had visited 1,600 families, almost all of whom had received potatoes and fuel.¹¹ To the very poor the committee had agreed to give, weekly, a gallon or 1½ gallons of potatoes, to other less poor at 2d. a gallon, and a bushel basket of wood. Members of the public continued to provide material support: Revd S Leggatt gave 10 cwt of potatoes and Mr Park, St George's Square, £5-worth of coal for use in the soup kitchens.

The Crisis Deepens

Reduction in dockyard wages continued: 52 ropemakers and 4 bricklayers who were declared surplus in mid-February were offered the choice of becoming labourers, three redundant sail-makers became scavengers, wages of shipwrights were reduced by 6d. a day, and other trades were reduced proportionately.

The HT of 31 March informed its readers that a Portsea vestry meeting had declared that between 600 and 700 people were in the poor house and more than 2,000 on weekly relief. Despite 15 rate collections, the parish was in debt to 'the enormous sum of £4,030'. During the financial year nearly 600 people had been admitted to the poor house and an almost equal number discharged. The extraordinary rise in the price of bread since November had added £500 to the parish's expenses.

In April the Portsmouth poor house (*Fig. 1: F*) contained 208 people and the number of families on out-relief was 361, compared with a yearly average of 160.¹² Although the accounts for the Portsea committee were never published in the local papers, having been available to subscribers, those for Portsmouth were printed in the HT on 15 September 1817 and give an insight into, among other things, the ingredients of the soup. A shortened version follows:

Subscriptions received	£470 11s.
Soup sold at 1d. a quart	£221 0s 6d.
Cash from repair of roads	£3 3s. 9d.
TOTAL	£694 15s. 3d.
<u>Less</u>	
Beef	£179 4s. 3d.
Scotch barley	£108 18s. 5d.
Vegetables, peas, oatmeal, salt, pepper	£67 4s. 8d.

Coal and wood	£19 16s. 3d.
Labourers repairing roads	£126 11s. 4d.
Cartage of shingle for roads	£32 3s. 6d.
Other expenses	£84 2s. 5d. ¹³
TOTAL	£618 0s 10d.
Balance at Messrs Grant's bank	£76 14s. 5d.

At the beginning of June 1817 Portsea's voluntary subscriptions were exhausted, but warmer weather had arrived, and prospects for the poor were not quite so bleak. The committee resolved to keep up the supply of soup at the cost of ½d. or 1d. a measure, but needed to raise £100 for soup making. Nevertheless the prospects for the ratepayer were daunting.¹⁴ In the financial year to Easter 1818, the number of rate collections increased to 24.

Summary

This story about the immediate response to the crisis which affected the island's working class, unemployed through no fault of their own, may be regarded as the 'Big Society' in action. No help would be forthcoming from the government, the county or the borough, because care of the poor was the responsibility of the parish. Well-to-do subscribers swiftly created an effective organization to collect income and distribute aid in kind to the deserving poor; mothers were at least assured of getting food and warmth for their families rather than owners of beer shops profiting. Committee members were local men who were able to use discretion in their allocation of resources, a practice forbidden when the Portsea Union was formed later under the new Poor Law. It should also be remembered that committee members put their own health at risk when visiting many of the poor in the very squalid and insanitary conditions which existed in the rows and courts, some of which were the centres of the cholera epidemic which broke out in 1849.

The government was the only major employer. There was no editorial column in the local papers of the day but a letter to the editor highlighted the very real problem that the Admiralty had recruited a large workforce from parishes outside the island.¹⁵ These men and their families had gained settlement in the parish, so that when they were discharged the burden of maintaining them fell on their 'new' parishes, regardless of their origins. Another unpublicized problem of the time and not voiced until 1851 was the zero-rating of government establishments.¹⁶ The then mayor, Benjamin Bramble, complained to the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the lack of rates paid by the Dockyard, Gun Wharf, and other government centres which attracted large numbers of immigrant labourers with big families. The presence of barracks whose soldiers' families became a burden on the parish when the men were sent abroad also attracted numbers of 'loose women who thronged the garrison towns and who became sick and diseased' and who added to the poor rate burden.

Finally, it should be pointed out that these events occurred during the time of the 'Bread or Blood' riots in East Anglia, the riots in Spa Fields, London, frame-breaking in Leicester, and widespread disturbances in town and country. No rioting occurred on the island. Was this due to the rapid action taken by the better-off which defused potential problems and, perhaps, were the poor only too aware of the large military presence and that their future employer was probably going to be one of the government's establishments?

Notes

¹ The term 'poor house' was used instead of the more familiar 'workhouse' which gained such prominence after the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act. Its purpose really was the care of children, unmarried mothers, the aged, and those with physical or mental problems which rendered them unable to earn a living.

Local History

- 2 HT 27 May 1816, p.4 c.5.
- 3 These amounts should be factored by approximately 42 to give today's value.
- 4 HT 11 Mar. 1816, p.4 c.4 & 5; HT 25 Mar. 1816, p.4 c.5.
- 5 A quartern loaf was one made with a quarter of flour, i.e. a 4 lb loaf.
- 6 HC 2 Dec. 1816, p.4 c.3.
- 7 HC 16 Dec. 1816, p.4 c.2.
- 8 This is probably Montague Street, Halfway Houses, as shown on the 1823 map of Portsea.
- 9 According to the *Shorter OED*, a fathom is a measure of 6 feet or 6 feet square.
- 10 HT 20 Jan. 1817, p.4 c.4.
- 11 The annual accounts for Portsea parish for the year Easter 1817 show an expenditure of £3,225 on victualling. In later years this item was split between the poor house and outdoor relief. An assumption is made that bread was also distributed to the poor in 1816-17.
- 12 HT 18 Apr. 1817, p.3 c.6.
- 13 The report provides a detailed analysis.

- 14 A future article by the author will chronicle the final 20 years of Portsea under the old Poor Law, with comparisons with Alverstoke, a Gilbert's Act Union parish.
- 15 HT 28 Apr. 1817, p.4, from a 'parishioner of Portsea'.
- 16 HT 10 May 1817, p.5.

Sources

- The *Hampshire Telegraph* and *Hampshire Chronicle*: dates quoted in the text or notes
- J Field, *Portsmouth Dockyard and its Workers 1815-75* (Portsmouth Papers 64, 1994)
- S Quail *et al*, *The Spirit of Portsmouth* (1989)
- R Rawlinson, *Report to the General Board of Health on the Borough of Portsmouth* (1850)
- R Riley, *The Industries of Portsmouth in the Nineteenth Century* (Portsmouth Papers 25, 1976)
- M Walford, *Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure for the Parish of Portsea 1809, 1812-36* (2011, available on the open shelves of Portsmouth Record Office)

Archives and Local Studies News from Hampshire Record Office

David Rymill

Recent additions to the archives

In Hampshire villages

One of the smallest recent arrivals gave us special pleasure: thanks to donations from Hampshire Archives Trust, Wellow History Society, Wellow Parish Council, LTVAS Group, the V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, and local individuals, we were able to buy an album of 109 drawings of Wellow in the 1840s. It is a delight to look through this album and see the villagers—named in the captions—working in the fields, hanging out washing, or larking about outside school. The album is now available for consultation (124A11/1) and we are planning ways of making it more widely accessible.

Our appeal for photographs of the 2011 Royal Wedding celebrations resulted in the donation of six photographs of Monxton's events, including a street party outside the Black Swan (112A11/3). We are still hoping that some members will follow Monxton's lead and send in photographs of celebrations in other towns and villages. If your street, village or town is planning events to mark the Diamond Jubilee - or the passage of the Olympic flame - please consider recording the event in photographs or film, and placing them with us.

Looking back to earlier royal commemorations, the Queen Victoria Institute in West Meon was established by the rector, Revd Alexander Poole, in 1897 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. He felt very strongly that the young men in West Meon had nowhere to go on winter evenings, and he organized fund-raising so that a hall could be built with separate rooms for reading and amusements. It was opened on 8 September 1897, and we have received minute books covering most of the period from 1898 to 1978 (118A11).

Gardening and farming

Fascinating insights into the work involved in maintaining a turn-of-the-century garden are provided by a diary or commonplace book written by Thomas Lobb (1855-1936), head gardener at Penton Lodge, Penton Mewsey, from 1885, and also farm bailiff of the Penton Lodge estate from 1895 to 1926 (107A11/A1). Items of horticultural interest in the 1890s include lists of apple, pear and plum varieties and 'useful Palms', and comments on varieties of tulips, describing 'Duchess de Parma' as a good late variety, and 'Couleur

de Cardinal' as the best. Often Mr Lobb gave the exact varieties of plants used, giving a much better insight into the appearance of the garden.

Agricultural labourers were the backbone of the Hampshire economy for centuries, but we can usually only guess at how they spent their working days. We were therefore excited to acquire a detailed daily farm journal for Ashley Hatch Farm, near Milton, 1826-8 (130A11/1). The left-hand pages contain journal entries for each day, Monday to Saturday, giving a brief description of the day's farming activity and often a description of the weather. The right-hand pages give an account of the labour carried out, giving the names of the farm servants, daily labourers and horses, and



Fig. 1 Wheelwrights at Upton Grey, from a recently catalogued Women's Institute scrapbook (148A09/D1).

a description of the work they did each day, such as picking potatoes, threshing or 'at plough'.

Church and school

Recent additions of parish records include a delightful coloured manuscript map of the farm and lands of John Willis, gentleman, at Ringwood, surveyed by Thomas Bishop in 1769 (22M84/PZ1). Additional parish records received from North Waltham (41M64) include a poor rate assessment book, 1902-4, and a transcript of the churchwardens' accounts, 1593-1709. The churchwardens' account book for Wonston for 1803-72, which arrived in a very fragile condition, has now received conservation treatment, and is available for consultation (94A03/PW1). It includes lists of householders assessed to pay rates for the upkeep of

the church, and accounts of expenditure, including payments for work on the church.

Several schools are also represented in the recent additions to the holdings. A more unusual arrival proved to be a notebook containing the names of past and present pupils and staff, managers and friends, who combined to present to Mr G Northcott a parting gift on his retirement from the headmastership of Brook Street School (later Brookvale County Primary), Basingstoke, in 1922 (108A11/1). A minute book of the managers (effectively governors) for Wherwell Church of England School for 1903-28 (109A11/A1) conjures up aspects of school life, such as a discussion in January 1921 about a parent's complaint that his child had been detained longer than the legal number of hours, 'but it transpired that the time was only ten minutes and the reason was the explanation of a sum'.

Business and property

Several business-related documents have arrived recently, giving insights into the daily lives of tradesmen and their customers. The sales ledger, kept by Robert Dowling, importer of wines, of High Street, Andover, from 1870 to 1879 (106A11/1), contains customer accounts, listed by name. An account book of a wheelwright, possibly Daniel Nash of West Meon, 1845-55, gives details of work on carriages, wagons, ploughs and harrows (93A11/1), arranged by date. A bundle of deeds relating to a tenement at Pitt Hill, Soberton (47A11) is unusual for including a sketch of a bird in the initial letter of the first deed, dated 1702.

Singing, scouting and sports

The records of Hayling Island Choral Society (84A10) cover a period of over 65 years, 1926-92. From the outset, as well as holding their own concerts, the society participated in the annual Petersfield Musical Festival, and the annual reports give extracts from the judges' comments on their singing in the competitive part of the Festival. The more famous judges included, in 1935, Herbert Howells, 'a very witty judge [who] gave us many hints'.

Scouting in the inter-war years is captured in a log book of East Tisted Rover Crew, begun in 1928 (97A11/1). The main part of the log records meetings and camps in 1928-31; it also includes a manuscript tribute to Gerald Mead, the first Rover Leader at East Tisted, 1931, described as having been connected with the Boy Scout Movement from its early days, and able to discuss 'practically any subject under the sun'. A first for the Record Office was the arrival of our first set of ice hockey material, in the form of match programmes of the Basingstoke Bison Ice Hockey Team from their formation in 1988 to 2011 (88A11).

Recent cataloguing

Collections recently catalogued include a group of papers of the Bowker family of Winchester (4M94). These include an album recording Cllr Alfred Bowker's mayoral year, 1897-8, containing many photographs of Winchester children wearing fancy dress for a ball in January 1898, and also photographs of civic occasions such as the opening of the Westgate as a museum, and Princess Henry of Battenberg's visit to the cathedral to unveil a Jubilee window (4M94/C1).

Alfred Bowker was born in 1870 into a well-known Winchester family, living at Lankhills, and joined his father's firm of solicitors, Bowker and Sons. He was involved in many local organizations: he was

elected to Winchester City Council at the age of 25 in 1895, becoming the city's youngest-ever mayor in 1897-8 and serving in the same office at the time of the Alfred the Great Millenary in 1901; he was the City Justices' Clerk for 41 years, and Chairman of the Hampshire and General Friendly Society's Winchester agency for 46. This family archive complements official papers we hold representing all these aspects of his life.

An archive of British Maritime Technology, including reports, plans and other papers relating to work on hovercraft models and other hydrodynamic testing in the 1960s-80s (38M93) has recently been catalogued. British Maritime Technology evolved from the National Physical Laboratory, founded in about 1900, and Hovercraft Developments Ltd, founded at Hythe in 1959. The NPL, set up to create national standards of mass, length, time, etc, expanded into practical areas with a Ship Division (hydrodynamics) and an Engineering Division (aerodynamics). HDL was established to develop and exploit early hovercraft patents, especially the pioneering work of Christopher Cockerell; their Hythe site was used for building and testing hovercraft models. In 1969 HDL was nationalized and attached to the Ship Division at Feltham. The work widened into full-scale ship trials, such as research into Channel traffic routes. Growth of the off-shore oil industry led to research into wave-loading measurement such as an experimental rig at Christchurch Bay. In the early 1970s projects at Hythe included the manufacture of prototype hovercraft and academic research.

Local Studies Collection: some new books on the shelves

Derek Bright, *The Pilgrims' Way: the fact and fiction of an ancient trackway* (The History Press, 2011). The author brings together a mass of evidence and re-evaluates how we should view this ancient trackway.

Ron Brown, *Lee-on-the-Solent from Old Photographs* (Amberley Publishing, 2011).

Colin Davison, *Through the Magic Door: Ursula Moray Williams, Gobbolino and the little wooden horse* (Northumbria University Press, 2011). A biography, drawing on unpublished letters and diaries, of this children's author and illustrator (1911-2006), whose books have enthralled millions of readers.

Matthew Hollis, *Now All Roads Lead to France: the last years of Edward Thomas* (Faber, 2011). An account of the final five years of this First World War poet, centred on his extraordinary friendship with Robert Frost and Thomas's fatal decision to fight in the war.

Jo Ivey (ed.), *Commoning Heritage: The Mansbridges of Longdown* (Ytene Artizans, 2011). The story of a commoning family from the First World War to the present day, written in the words of two family members, and showing how life has changed for these guardians of the New Forest over nearly a century.

Penny Legg, *Winchester: history you can see* (The History Press, 2011). This history of the Saxon capital of Wessex is told through evocative photographs of its buildings and intricate nooks and crannies; includes a view of the Record Office, described as a 'striking edifice'.

Anne McEntegart (ed. Emma Robson), *The Milk Lady at New Park Farm: the wartime diary of Anne McEntegart June 1943-February 1945* (Regional Magazine Company, 2011). The detailed diary of a woman who worked alongside Land Girls at New Park Farm, Brockenhurst during the Second World War.

Local History

Colin Maggs, *The Branch Lines of Hampshire* (Amberley, new edn, 2010). Illustrated with over 150 black and white photographs, maps etc. The branch lines of Hampshire offered the opportunity to see a wide variety of locomotives serving both rural outposts and the major towns. The Hampshire branches are described in detail, and the text includes anecdotes about the trains and those who served them.

Margaret Scard, *Tudor Survivor: the life and times of courtier William Paulet* (The History Press, 2011). A biography of the man who defined the role of courtier, but also gives insight into everyday life, from etiquette and bathing, to court politics and the monarchs themselves.

Edward Thomas, *The South Country*: centenary edition with wood engravings by Eric Daglish (Little Toller Books, 2009). Edward Thomas's lyrical, passionate, and sometimes political writing merges natural history with folk culture, recording the feelings and observations of one of the great poets of the English language.

Ashok W Vaidya, *Mills and Millers of Hampshire: volume 1 (central)* (Hampshire Mills Group, 2011). Detailed histories and photographs of mills and millers; this volume includes the Winchester area.

Paul H Vickers, *A Gift So Graciously Bestowed: the history of the Prince Consort's Library, Aldershot* (Friends of the Aldershot Military Museums, 2nd edn, 2010).

Forthcoming events

Exhibitions, in the Record Office foyer unless otherwise indicated

22 Feb-21 Apr (*in the top-floor gallery*): Humanity in Action: stories of some Red Cross VADs from Hampshire over the past 100 years—presented by the Balfour Museum of Red Cross History.

6 Mar-28 Apr: PATHH—identifying historic highways in Hampshire: Providing Access To Hampshire's Heritage is a two-year project to identify historic highways that might meet a modern need if reinstated.

At *Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Gravel Hill, Horndean*, 16 Mar-29 Apr: 'The Enchanted Country': the extraordinary world of Ursula Moray Williams.

We hope to arrange exhibitions marking the Diamond Jubilee, and Hampshire's role in past Olympic Games, in the late spring and summer.

Lunchtime lectures (last Thursday of each month, 1.15-1.45pm, free, no need to book)

29 Mar: PATTH: Identifying historic highways in Hampshire, by Stephen Fisher

26 Apr: Titanic film: fact or fiction? an examination of the 1912 Newsreel, by David Lee

31 May: The Showpeople of Hampshire, by Dr Jo Ivey

28 June: The Queen and Hampshire: a Diamond Jubilee commemoration, by David Rymill.

26 July: Healthy exercise and the competitive spirit: a selection of films from Wessex Film and Sound Archive celebrating sport in the region, presented by David Lee

30 Aug: Hampshire and the Olympic Games: a local history of a global event, by Dr Martin Polley, University of Southampton

27 Sept: The Folklore of Hampshire, by Alex Godden *Family History for Beginners; local and family history workshops (booking essential, on 01962 846154)*

Our 'Family History for Beginners' sessions help you start family history research. £10 per person. Thurs 19 Apr, 2-4pm, Tues 22 May, 6-8pm, and Thurs 14 June, 2-4pm.

Watch out for our spring/summer workshops

which will include favourites such as reading old handwriting (sessions in both English and Latin) and a new one, beginners' Latin.

For more information, visit www3.hants.gov.uk/archives/whatson-hro, ring 01962 846154 or sign up at www.hants.gov.uk/showcase for a monthly Showcase e-mail.

Recognition for the Winchester Pipe Rolls

The Winchester Pipe Rolls, the audited annual accounts of the Winchester bishopric estates covering 328 years between 1208 and 1711, are one of the finest series of account rolls in Europe, thanks to their early date, length of coverage and level of detail (down to the last piglet and roofing nail), and their value for diverse research areas (from agricultural yields to building history, and from planned towns to plague). They now have national recognition, among 20 items and collections selected as outstanding examples of UK documentary heritage to be inscribed in the UK Memory of the World Register. This register, for items of specific UK significance, complements the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register, a catalogue of documentary heritage of global significance.

Conservation of Winchester Cathedral medieval manorial rolls

Hampshire Record Office's conservation section is currently undertaking conservation work on some badly damaged medieval manorial and obediary account rolls from the archive of Winchester Cathedral (formerly St Swithun's Priory). A grant was obtained from the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust to enable work to be done on 50 rolls within one year. Hampshire Archives Trust has also contributed to the cost of the work. The aim is to produce a flexible and sympathetic repair which will enable the documents to be handled safely once more and, we hope, survive for another 600 years. The rolls will also be digitized to allow wider access and reduce handling of the originals. We aim to raise funds to continue the process in subsequent years.

Community archives

After the success of the Living Links project we are maintaining the momentum of community archives work: funding from Hampshire Archives Trust is enabling staff time and resources to be used to take this work forward creatively and secure the legacy of the project.

We have already worked with a variety of groups, from those just starting out to more established ones. We can help by lending equipment, providing contacts, offering advice on cataloguing, conservation



Fig. 2 A recently donated photograph of the Sopley Oddfellows' Centenary Fete, 15 June 1910 (112A11/1).

or digital archives, running workshops to tackle any apprehensiveness about using archives for the first time, and encouraging community groups to devise exhibitions and display them in the Record Office. For further information, contact Mark Pitchforth (mark.pitchforth@hants.gov.uk) or visit www3.hants.gov.uk/archives/community-archives.htm.

The Showpeople of Hampshire

The Showpeople of Hampshire project, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, has developed in a number of expected, and some unexpected, ways. Widespread publicity through the local and Showmen's press, as well as by word of mouth, has aroused interest in the project and its aims from all parts of the community. The Ken Wise photographic archive has now been catalogued and packaged by volunteers at the Record Office; the photographs will be also scanned, and digital copies kept on hard drives here and at the National Fairground Archive in Sheffield.

A group of oral history volunteers has been out in the field, at fairgrounds and yards to record showpeople's life stories, and we have scanned photographs in their homes, including views of traditional fairground rides, traction engines and fairground activity, and family snapshots. Two Hampshire schools, Wellow Primary and Swanmore College of Technology, have taken part in the project, and the project film-maker has recorded the events and experiences of the project team, the school children, and the showpeople with whom we have been working.

Hampshire Registration Service: volunteers needed

Since civil registration began in July 1837, registers

recording births, deaths and marriages in Hampshire have been kept in local register offices. The registers for Hampshire (excluding Portsmouth and Southampton) have now been transferred to the Record Office, and certificates can be ordered online at www.hants.gov.uk/registration or by post from the Certificate Processing Centre at the Record Office, or by phone (0845 603 5637).

The CPC staff expect to produce 12,000 copy certificates a year. Most of the indexes are handwritten, and searching these is time-consuming, so we have decided to place them online. For this mammoth task we are seeking a team of volunteer transcribers. The initial stage, transcribing into Excel spreadsheets from the indexes can be done at home. The second stage, adding individual entry information to the spreadsheets, can only be done at the Record Office, from the original registers. Local and family historians derive great benefit from online indexes, so this is an opportunity to get involved in a worthwhile project and participate in producing an online index facility for Hampshire.

If you can spare a few hours per week or month, Val Proctor, Quality and Project Manager, would be pleased to hear from you. Please let her know if you would prefer to work at home or are able to travel to the Record Office and, if you are able to come to Winchester, whether you are able to bring your own laptop or would need us to provide a PC. Val can be contacted at the Certificate Processing Centre, Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester SO23 8TH, e-mail val.proctor@hants.gov.uk or telephone 07903 925670.

book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews

John Hare, **A Prospering Society: Wiltshire in the Later Middle Ages**, Studies in Regional and Local History Volume 10, University of Hertfordshire Press: Hatfield, 2011; pp.xvi+240, £18.99.

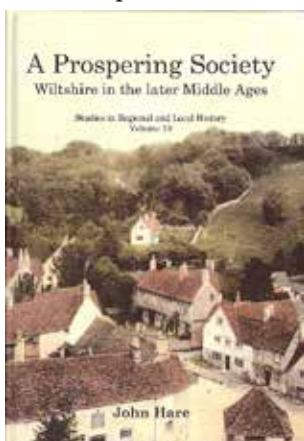
John Hare is well known to members of the Hampshire Field Club as one of the county's leading economic, social, and architectural historians of the later Middle Ages, whose many contributions include studies of Bishop's Waltham Palace, Netley Abbey, Basingstoke parish church, Andover's Angel Inn, the Hampshire estates of Winchester Cathedral Priory and the bishops of Winchester, and the Dissolution of the county's monasteries. His career in historical research began, however, with a study of his native Wiltshire submitted as a London PhD thesis, 'Lord and Tenant in Wiltshire c.1380-1520', in 1976. That work forms the core of the present book, amplified and enhanced by much additional research over the intervening 35 years, in which Wiltshire is placed in a local, regional, and national context. The result is an examination

of late medieval social and economic change that historians of Wiltshire, Hampshire, and England more generally will certainly want to read.

As the title of the book suggests, Hare's broad argument is an optimistic one: late medieval Wiltshire was a prospering society and many of its inhabitants experienced a rising standard of living. Despite the problems caused by famine, plague, economic recession, social unrest, and war, in the 14th and 15th centuries the county's agriculture and industry generated considerable well-being, and in 1525 judging by its taxable wealth Wiltshire was among the ten richest counties in England. For most people this was a 'world of growing opportunities, mobility and choices and of an increasingly important market' (p.215).

The two dominant themes of the book are the continuing vitality of the county's agriculture and the expansion of the cloth industry, which in many ways were interdependent, the one reinforcing the other in a virtuous circle of growth. Only in the years around 1450 when war in Europe disrupted international trade and prevented the export of England's cloth was the country plunged into a deep economic recession, in which Wiltshire was particularly hard hit. Agriculture and industry both suffered in the downturn, but though recovery was 'piecemeal and ragged' (p.208) it was well underway by 1500.

At a more local level Hare examines the contrasts



between farming in the chalklands in the east of the county and the clay vale in the west, popularly distinguished as 'chalk' and 'cheese'. He shows that the later distinction between the large-scale sheep-and-corn husbandry of the chalklands and the family-based pastoral economy of the clay vale had already begun to emerge in the 15th century (p.81), and presents useful evidence of peasant agriculture, demesne leasing and lessees, tenant mobility, and the land market. The county's towns are also examined, with valuable discussions of Salisbury, Marlborough, and several smaller towns, and their marketing links with the countryside. A notable feature of the cloth industry in west Wiltshire was its mainly rural character, at places such as Castle Combe. Hare explains its spectacular growth as one largely dictated by geography: the region possessed the necessary natural resources and lay between two existing cloth-producing centres around Salisbury and east Somerset which could expand no more (p.194).

This book very usefully brings together a large body of evidence from many different archives, and demonstrates the economic opportunities and challenges experienced by the inhabitants of various parts of Wiltshire in the later Middle Ages. It is also an important contribution to the view that people reacted positively to the changes of the post-Black Death period, and made the most of the chances that were offered to them.

Mark Page

Rupert Willoughby, **Basingstoke and its Contribution to World Culture**, privately published, 2010; pp.108, £10.99.

Despite its whimsical title, this book is both informative and entertaining. Rupert Willoughby discusses the lives and careers of four individuals with links to Basingstoke whose impact can justifiably be described as international. Thomas Burberry (1835-1926), inventor of the waterproof 'gabardine' cloth, ran a draper's shop in Winchester Street and was a major benefactor to the town. Walter de Merton was born in Basingstoke in the early 13th century, was educated at Merton Priory in Surrey, and founded Merton College, Oxford, in 1264. Jane Austen (1775-1817) was a regular visitor to the town, where she attended assemblies and balls. Finally, Margaret Chandler (1822-1915) was a life-long resident whose name was given to the Margaret River in Australia as a result of the intrepid journeys of her more adventurous cousin John Bussell.

Willoughby is a talented historian, but in this book he also demonstrates his skills as a polemicist, taking amusing aim at some particular *bête noires*. Observing that in the early 21st century the Burberry brand was appropriated by 'chavs', he launches into a blistering though insightful account of 'prole drift', whereby up-market products are increasingly consumed by lower socio-economic groups. Even more venomous is his discussion of Basingstoke's redevelopment from the 1960s by Patrick Abercrombie and other 'self-congratulatory, middle-class, left-wing intellectuals of the architectural schools' (p.92). The author's anger is no doubt heart-felt but like much polemic it is also sometimes extremely funny. Certainly the book provided the comedian Mark Steel with material for his hilarious talk about Basingstoke (first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on 20 Dec. 2011). Basingstoke

may or may not be a boring and unattractive town in which to live, but few could doubt that it is an interesting place to study.

Mark Page

Vincent May and Jan Marsh (eds), **Bournemouth 1810-2010: From Smugglers to Surfers**, Dovecote Press: Wimborne Minster, 2010; pp.200, £14.99.

For most of its existence Bournemouth was Hampshire's westernmost town, until it was taken into an expanded Dorset in 1974. Bournemouth's traditional foundation date of 1810 marked the purchase by Lewis Tregonwell of a plot of land by the sea on which he built Exeter House, and I well remember as a schoolboy in the town being taken with my class to see the site, now incorporated into the Royal Exeter Hotel. The bicentenary of that momentous event was marked by the publication of this beautifully presented set of 11 essays, lavishly illustrated, outlining various aspects of the town's history. Themes include tourism, transport, wartime, education, and health. Inevitably the essays vary in quality, from excellent to extremely poor, and the book would have benefited from a stronger editorial hand. The outstanding chapter is undoubtedly John Soane's brilliant overview of the town's architectural development, demonstrating with clarity and concision how the town was built up and the wide variety of architectural styles employed. Overall this is a welcome addition to historical writing about the town.

Mark Page

Lookback at Andover, vol. 3, no. 2, 2011; pp.96, £3.60 incl. p&p from Mill Pound Cottage, Monxton, Andover SP11 8AW.

Two of the articles in this regular journal have a distinctly institutional flavour. Diana Coldicott discusses Andover's turnpike roads and toll houses, outlining the terms of the parliamentary acts by which the trusts were set up and the charges levied on the roads' users. The rights to collect tolls were regularly auctioned, but receipts fell following the building of the railways. Andrew Jackson makes use of business records in his study of the financial history of the Catherine Wheel Coffee House Company Ltd from 1879 to 1921. Shareholders received generous dividends in the early years, but the business failed to expand, accounts were not properly kept, and on the expiry of the coffee house's lease the company went into liquidation.

Roger Ottewill traces the history of the Congregational chapel on East Street in the early 20th century, focusing on the pastors who served the community. He enters the historiographical debate on the vitality of the movement in the early 1900s, concluding that the Andover evidence supports both optimistic and pessimistic interpretations of the period, but that on balance it was more a 'golden age' than the 'beginning of sorrows'. Finally, Derek Tempero provides some personal memories of developments in the town during his period of employment on the *Andover Advertiser* from 1939 to the 1980s, including the bitter anti-fluoride campaign in the 1950s which destroyed the careers of several leading councillors, and the expansion of the town from the 1960s.

Mark Page

Historic Buildings

Editor: Edward Roberts, Grove House, Cheriton, SO24 0QQ

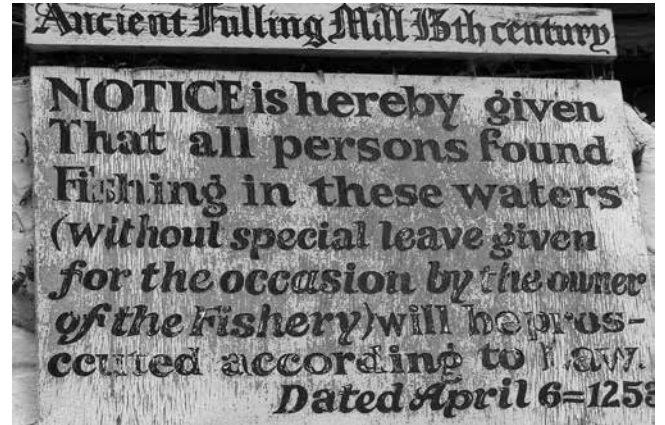
Email: edward.roberts15@btinternet.com

Another Warning from the Past

Edward Roberts

In the last Newsletter I wrote about an early-19th-century sign painted on a barn in West Meon warning against begging within the parish. It turns out I was only half right! Ross Turle has pointed out that the original sign is in the Winchester Museums Service collections. It is rather faint and he presumes that this is why it was removed and replaced with the replica.

George Campbell offers another example of an historic warning sign painted on old fulling mill in New Alresford. The mill site is probably 13th century but the present building appears to date to the 17th century. I guess the sign itself may belong to the late-19th or early-20th century but readers may be able to correct me on this.



The Origins of Oakley Hall

Richard Tanner

Strung along the 1750s toll road west of Basingstoke is a set of country houses including Oakley Hall. These were well known to the young Jane Austen who would have passed them on her way to dances at Basingstoke Assembly Rooms. Jane and her sister Cassandra would have been invited to visit by Wither Bramston¹, who is generally credited with having built Oakley Hall in 1795.

Searching for evidence in the Hampshire Record Office for Wither Bramston's rebuild, I came across the 'Ground Plan of Hall before the Alterations made in 1752' (Fig1)². Oakley Hall was first known as 'Hall', and these 'Alterations' would have been by Wither's father, Edward Bramston, who inherited the estate in 1748.

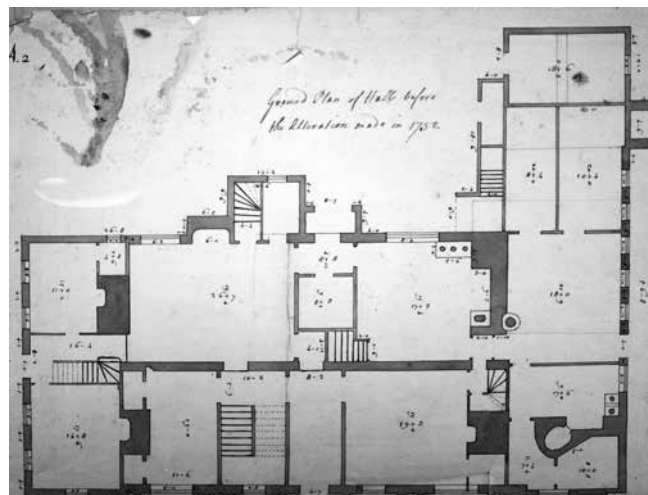


Fig 1 Ground Plan of Hall before the Alterations made in 1752

There was also a drawing of Hall (Fig2)³, which I took to be the 'mansion house' built by Edward Bramston's father-in-law, Charles Wither the Younger⁴.

I had nearly finished my research for "Ashe & Deane"⁵, Oakley Hall being in the parish of Deane though its grounds run over into Church Oakley, so I knew about Charles Wither the Younger. He had inherited Hall in 1697 when aged about 12, been given a dowry of £5000 for marrying Frances Wavell, the daughter

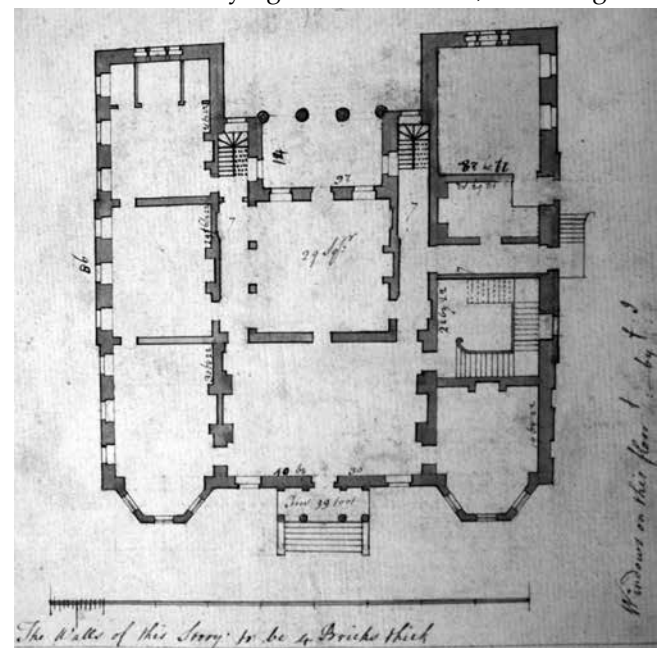


Fig 3 Ground Floor Plan of Edmund Bramston 1752

of wealthy Winchester merchants, and become High Sheriff of Hampshire aged only 25. It seems he had used his dowry to build his 'mansion house' and to acquire most of Deane by 1727⁶.

Edmund Bramston had married Charles's heir, Henrietta Maria, in 1748 and was ready to rebuild once her mother died in 1752. He had several plans drawn up, one of which seemed to match the current Oakley Hall (Fig3)⁷. The thing to do was to visit with a tape measure to see if anything of Charles's mansion survived.

The entrance hall proved promising. Its measurements matched Edmund's plan but, going in an anti-clockwise direction, the library seemed rather too narrow until the six-foot deep fireplace located on the plan was included. However, the main room to the SE proved much too short, even when six feet of corridor was added.

The Garden Room was omitted as this did not feature in the 1752 plan and was probably added in 1795 when what is now the bar area was opened up. Again, the dining room in the SW was found to be too short, but the main staircase stood in exactly the right place.

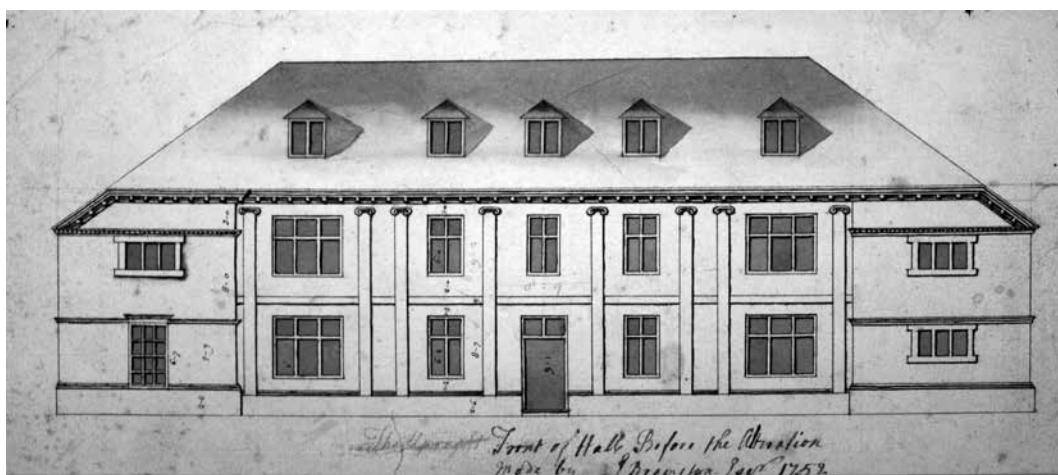


Fig 2 Front of Hall Before the Alterations made by E Bramston Esq 1752

filled in the centre area between the two wings. William Wither Bramston Beach is known to have added an extra storey in the 1860s, renaming the house, 'Oakley Hall'. His addition can be seen in the changing colour of the bricks both to the front and, more clearly, the rear of the building (Fig 5). Here, the matching



Fig 5 South-facing side of Oakley Hall showing Wither Bramston's central infilling between the two wings and Beach's third storey addition.

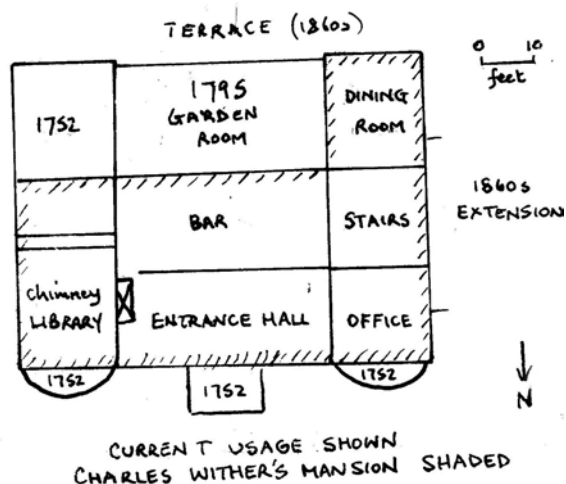


Fig 4 Oakley Hall Today

Taking measurements outside clinched matters; the N front was 81' across, exactly the same as Charles Wither's mansion. The E side had only seven windows, not nine, and the depth was 72' not 86', so Edmund had modified the plan, building the east wing only as far south as the old west wing.

Edmund and Maria's son, Wither Bramston, usually credited with rebuilding Hall Place, merely

trio of windows of the two wings echoes those in the 1752 plan, while the centre part, slightly retracted and with plainer windows, marks Wither Bramston's 1795 infilling.

In conclusion, it appears that Oakley Hall dates from the early 18C, that Edmund Bramston remodelled it into today's shape, that his son Wither filled in the area between the two wings and altered the interior, and that WWB Beach added the third storey and the extensions to the west, making the grand mansion we see today.

References

- 1 Le Faye, Deirdre, ed. *Jane Austen's Letters* #23, Oxford, 1995.
- 2 HRO 33M99/1
- 3 HRO 33M99/10
- 4 Debrett, *The Manor, Church Oakley*, June 1989.
- 5 Tanner, Richard, *Ashe & Deane*, 2011 is a well illustrated and referenced booklet telling the history of these two downland parishes.
- 6 Debrett, *op cit*, quotes from Charles Wither's account book c1727 pp310/1 and HRO T1/14&15 have details of his purchase of Deane.
- 7 HRO 33M99/8

Houses built by tenants on landlords' land in Hampshire

Stan Waight

Introduction

A development in housing in the Early Modern period that became popularly known as *The Great Rebuilding* was first referred to as such in 1953 by W.G. Hoskins. He suggested that the movement began in the 1560s and was most conspicuous between 1570 and 1640.¹ He further posed the question 'Who financed this housing revolution, and from what sources?', maintaining that a great deal, perhaps most, of the rebuilding and substantial reconstruction of this period was the work of freeholders. These, he said, were the bigger husbandmen, the yeomen, and the lesser gentry, who had absolute security of tenure, and whose chief rents, fixed centuries earlier, were nominal and unalterable. His views were generally accepted by many historians at the time.³ While he cited examples in many areas in England to support his hypothesis, Hoskins also said that there was no evidence for southern and south-eastern England.⁴ Although it touches upon the range of dates of the Great Rebuilding, this paper mainly concerns Hoskins' question as to who were instrumental in carrying it out.

In 1994, Dyer held that the erection and maintenance of buildings on copyholds had been the responsibility of the customary tenants as far back as our documents go. He dismissed freeholds, as lords had no direct interest in the buildings on them, and maintained that lords built one in a hundred tenant buildings at most. Further, he argued against rebuildings after the medieval period being a 'revolution'.⁵ But his work was mainly confined to the Midlands and like Hoskins, he produced no evidence for the South. In a more recent contribution to the discussion, Parry also said that the builders tended to be the larger husbandmen, yeoman and lesser gentry, commenting that these were affluent freeholders who tended to have nominal and unchangeable rents. She, too, appears to have ignored the fact that many leaseholders and all copyholders were in much the same position.⁶

Recent research into collegiate estates in Hampshire has demonstrated that copyholders and lessees played a prominent part in the rebuilding in that county and that it began at a rather earlier date than that put forward by Hoskins. The small downland parishes of Mapledurwell and Up Nately in Hampshire are rich in timber-framed houses which survive from the 16th and early 17th centuries. The houses, which may be termed 'rural vernacular', were well-built and fairly expensive in their time.⁷ At the same time, the rare combination of documentary sources which survives for both parishes suggests that they are historical models for other communities in the county and probably elsewhere in the South.

Copyhold tenancies

Mapledurwell formerly belonged to Corpus Christi College Oxford, and was the manor of the same name, while copyholds in next-door Up Nately were part of Winchester College's manor of Andwell. In each case, manorial court books have survived. Furthermore, accurate 17th and 18th century estate maps and surveys record the names of tenants and their holdings in both

parishes in their time. From these sources, the descent of the manorial copyholds has been established and the houses built upon them have been identified.

The rents paid by customary tenants were fixed by custom of the manor and had gradually lost their true value through inflation. Fines paid by these copyholders on admittance or the granting of reversions, when spread over the term of a tenancy, were also of little value from the lords' point of view (this was particularly the case in collegiate tenancies until the late 16th century since it had been the practice in the Oxford colleges for the Fellows to appropriate fines to their own use).⁸ It is therefore inconceivable that lords would have gone to the expense of building substantial houses for their tenants. Furthermore, manorial custom, by which copyholds descended from one 'life' to another, also ensured security of tenure and it was not unusual for a copyhold to be held by one family for 200 years or more. Amalgamation of copyholds could also take place and villein tenants often built up a large estate.

The situation for the tenant was significantly changed by a population explosion in the 16th century, after the decimation of the Black Death. Food prices were greatly increased and the balance shifted from subsistence farming to farming for profit. Tenants' incomes were greatly augmented while their outgoings remained low.

A third documentary source, the inventories



Fig. 1 Kolkinmon House in Up Nately accompanying wills, confirms that customary tenants in the two manors were relatively affluent in the 15th and 16th centuries and implies that large profits were being made. The importance of the cloth-making industry in the Basingstoke area at this time is also evident from many of these documents. Seventeen inventories from the 16th century reveal that sheep were the main animals in Mapledurwell, where there was a weaver in 1552 and a fuller in 1566.⁹ There were two mills under the same roof at Andwell and, when the lessee of the corn mill, John Lokar, died in 1621, his estate included 302 sheep and large quantities of corn and fodder.¹⁰ In the

same decade John Guy, lessee of the fulling mill, was described as a clothier.¹¹ Moreover, it was possible for succession in copyholds to be manipulated, with little benefit to the lord. Occasional notes in the court records show that outgoing copyholders in Mapledurwell and Up Nately were paid large amounts of money by incoming tenants for the transfer of their rights. This practice was also noted by Dyer and indicates that the purchasers considered that there was the probability of large profits being made.¹² The sums paid would usually more than recoup the cost of building a house.

It would normally be extraordinary for a tenant to build a substantial house on a landlord's land. Nonetheless, given the prospect of security of long-term tenure combined with high profits and the ultimate opportunity for them or their descendants to recoup the outlay, it is clear that copyholding families in Mapledurwell and Up Nately chose to display their wealth by building such houses at their own cost. The following specific instances have come to light. A court book entry of 1579 shows that John Wilde was the tenant of 'a toft with a messuage and half an acre of land upon which Thomas Wilde had built three tenements called Beatons in Mapledurwell'. This entry and a rental of 1550 establish that the site was held of Andwell Manor, of which Thomas Wilde had been an earlier copyholder (Andwell Copyhold No 5).¹³ Another entry in the Andwell court book of 1614 noted that 'Licence is granted unto Robert Milton, gent, for the pulling down of an olde house now standing in the middle of the backside of his copyhold tenement and for the erection of a new house instead thereof' (Andwell Copyhold No 9).¹⁴ In all, of eleven houses in Mapledurwell identified as having been built between 1487 and 1650, eight (88%) were built on copyhold tenancies against three on freeholds. The corresponding ratio in Up Nately was six on copyholds (66%) against three on freeholds.¹⁵ While there is no concrete evidence that the building was financed by the copyholders themselves, it may be inferred from the evidence of the known examples that this was so for some, if not all, of the houses.

Several of the houses on copyholds were subsequently given brick façades or even complete wings, notably Manor Farm House and The Farm in Mapledurwell and Eastrop Farm House and Mead House in Up Nately. It is not credible that such concessions to fashion would have been funded by the landlords. In depth research of copyholds in other Hampshire manors has not been initiated to date, but the will of John Crook the Elder, a yeoman copyholder of Steventon, who died in 1616, directed his son to buy sufficient timber to build a dwelling house and barn on the family copyhold.¹⁶

Leasehold tenancies

There is evidence to show that leasehold tenants were also contributors to the so-called Great Rebuilding in Hampshire. These were the lessees of ecclesiastical institutions such as the university colleges, which were significant landowners in the county. The rents charged for college leaseholds were regarded as fixed until the corn-rent legislation of 1576 and, provided they abided by the terms of their leases, tenants were secure in their occupation. It is evident that, despite an act of 1571 that nominally restricted their terms to 21 years, some lessees felt secure enough to fund building and renovation on college land in the meantime.¹⁷

William Searle, a wealthy cloth merchant, was regranted a Corpus Christi lease of five estates in Odiham in 1546 'In consideration of the great charge of building and cost of reparations that he hath done upon the messuage in Odiham that he dwelleth in'.¹⁸ This very substantial building is now known as Fountain's Mall in the High Street.



Fig. 2 Jackdaw Cottage in Up Nately

Corpus Christi College, Oxford, carried out a rebuilding programme of five of its leasehold houses in Overton in the first half of the 16th century, presumably to bring them up to a habitable standard for leasing. In 1534 the bailiff reported that the house on the site now known as Wintons in Winchester Street was in very bad repair. The account for the rebuilding of the house in 1542 shows that the replacement was of very high quality. It had glazed windows, a tiled roof, chimneys, a cellar and a detached kitchen. The first tenant was John Dowse, another affluent cloth merchant who rose to become mayor of Overton. Although Corpus Christi College in Oxford undertook the rebuilding, Dowse contributed the not inconsiderable sum of £4 towards the cost.¹⁹

Conclusion

The precise periods in which rural vernacular houses were erected can now be readily established, but the status of their tenure, i.e. freehold, leasehold or copyhold, is more difficult to determine. In the absence of other contemporary evidence this requires the survival of adequate court and estate records. Such survival occurs mainly in the archives of ecclesiastical and collegiate institutions. The evidence from a few settlements in Hampshire is sufficient to suggest that further research would confirm this and that the building of good quality houses or their substantial improvement by copyholders and lessees was widespread. It also confirms Dyer's proposition that the late medieval rebuildings should be defined 'as a number of trends and processes rather than revolutions'.²⁰

Addendum

The corn-rent legislation had not completely resolved the colleges' inability to get truly economic rents from their leases and their lessees were still able to regard their tenancies as secure. This situation continued to exist until 1858, when university colleges were empowered to charge rack rents for their properties.²¹

Thus in 1770 William Woodward 'laid out upwards

of Seven Score Pounds' refurbishing his Corpus Christi leasehold, the White Hart inn in Overton²², and, as late as 1817, lessee William Long engaged in extensive and expensive additions and alterations to Corpus Christi's Marwell Hall.²³ The work involved was much more than was called for by a repairing lease.

References

- 1 W. G. Hoskins, 'The Rebuilding of Rural England - 1570-1640', *Past & Present* 4 (1953); reprinted in W. G. Hoskins *Provincial England* (London. 1963).
- 3 *Ibid*, 132 & 139-140
- 4 *Ibid*, 135
- 5 English Peasant Buildings in the Later Middle Ages (1200-1500) in *Everyday Life in Medieval England*, Christopher Dyer, 1994, 137 & 146 & 161
- 6 *Vernacular Architecture - Assignment 1*, an essay by Lisa Parry, 2007.
- 7 *Hampshire Houses 1250-1700 Their Dating & Development*, Roberts, 2003, Ch. 11
- 8 *Hampshire Studies*, li, 179
- 9 HRO, 1552U/ 59, 1566A/52
- 10 HRO 1621B31
- 11 HRO 1627B33
- 12 Dyer, 160
- 13 Winchester College Muniments, WC 23043, p.29; WC 2919
- 14 WC 23048, 99
- 15 Structural assessments by Edward Roberts; documentary evidence by Stan Waight
- 16 HRO 1616B/028
- 17 Waight, *The Hampshire Lands of Corpus Christi College, Oxford* in *Hampshire Studies* 1996, Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, Vol. 51, 174 & 176
- 18 HRO 83A02/6, 14
- 19 HRO 83A02/8, 17 & 25
- 20 Dyer, 161
- 21 Shadwell, L.A., *Enactments in Parliament*, 1912, 217
- 22 HRO 83A02/8/26
- 23 Waight, *Hampshire Studies*, 1998, (Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society Proceedings), 211.

No. 40, High Street, Alton, and its Dairy

Jane Hurst

The building shown in the pictures (Figs. 1 and 2) belonged to No. 40 High Street (now Lloyd's Bank), Alton even though it lies behind No. 36 High Street. Maps show that 40 High Street had a large garden and that it extended along the back of several other properties (Fig. 3). The structure appears on the maps as far back as 1896 but is not on the 1870 version - hence giving its probable date. The building is very decorative and complemented the extensive pleasure grounds that existed here. Octagonal and made of brick, it has a conical thatched roof. The inside is neatly tiled with slate work tops and there is attention to detail with the window handles being in the form of cow horns.



Fig. 1 The model dairy from the north-west

No. 40 High Street had belonged to the Richard Marshalls - father and son - and was then left to Miss Martha Hutchins. She died in 1873 in her mid-80s. The property was then acquired by William Trimmer, a solicitor. He seems the most likely person to have erected the small brick and thatch building which, from its fittings, appears to have been a small domestic dairy.

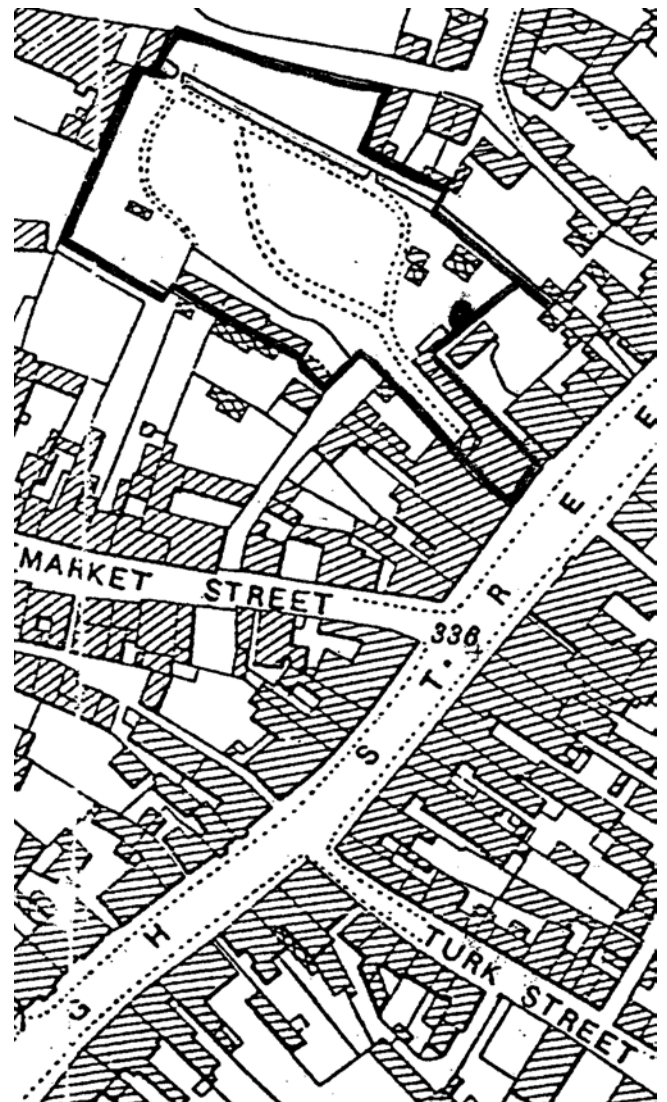


Fig. 3 The dairy is marked with a black dot on this map of part of Alton High Street.

William Trimmer was the father of William Bradley Trimmer whose name lives on in the present firm of Bradley Trimmer. The family came from Farnham

Historic Buildings

at the end of the 1700s and were Alton solicitors for several generations. When William's wife died, he moved to a smaller house and there was an auction of much of the 'valuable household furniture and effects'. The sale took place on Wednesday 22 November 1905 and included:-

End-over-end churn by Hathaway	not sold
Alpha Laval Separator	
"The Humming Bird"	£2 12s 6d
Butterworker, patties, Scotch hands and sundries	4s 0d
A tin milk bucket, an enamel ditto and 2 creampans	5s 0d

As well as being a solicitor, William Trimmer farmed 187 acres according to the 1881 census and employed eight labourers and three boys. Presumably the little dairy in the garden made use of milk from William's own cows and produced butter for his household. William had married Agnes Hall - daughter of Henry Hall the Alton brewer. By 1881 the couple had 8 children ranging from 13 years to 4 months and a cook, nurse, nurse maid, house maid, kitchen maid and governess all lived in. What is not clear is who worked in the dairy.

No. 40 High Street was bought by the Conduits and became Conduit's Temperance Hotel. Several postcards of the 'ornamental grounds' exist and one may just show the dairy. When the hotel was put up for sale in April 1914, there was a detailed description of the grounds and the garden buildings - two rustic bridges, glass houses including a vinery, three summer houses, and a 'Model Dairy heated with pipes from adjoining stoke-hole'. As this is an unaltered small domestic dairy in an urban setting it would be a great shame if it was allowed to deteriorate any further. It



Fig. 2 Interior view showing the tiled walls and slate-work surfaces

does not seem to have been, as yet, listed but, hopefully, this can be rectified.

[Small, domestic dairy buildings are a charming, and perhaps under-researched, topic. The editor would be pleased to receive brief notes (with a picture) of any other Hampshire examples known to readers.]

book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews

Dr Ashok Vaidya (ed.). **The Mills and Millers of Hampshire: Vol.1 Central**, Hampshire Mills Group, 2011; pp.159. Price £12.99

Hampshire's spring-fed chalk streams are ideal for powering water mills, and the tides on its southern shores formerly powered tide mills. Although only a few working mills remain within the county, in the past they not only ground corn to produce flour but also processed iron, fulled cloth and made paper. Since 1990 the Hampshire Mills Group has studied, preserved and recorded these mills. Now they have begun to publish the fruits of their endeavours in three volumes.

The first volume to be published covers central Hampshire including the rivers Itchen, Hamble and Meon. It is produced in A5 format so that readers can carry it in their pockets when they go 'mill-spotting'. The book is easy to use with annotated maps so that mills can be identified and there is a glossary with an explanation of the workings of a watermill that even the technologically illiterate will understand. (Your

reviewer tested this personally!) Altogether 72 mills are described in detail with a further 9 noted more briefly. Historical notes are provided for each mill and each mill is illustrated - some with modern photographs, some with historic pictures and some with John Reynolds's exquisite drawings - some with all three. The work is well-referenced and, for genealogists, there is a comprehensive index of names.

This book will be appreciated by local and family historians and by those needing a foundation for the study of this aspect of Hampshire's industrial archaeology. The Mills Group will publish a second volume on the mills of the Test, Avon, Anton and Dever rivers next year.

Edward Roberts

Available from the usual bookshops, or through Hampshire Mills Group's website, (<http://www.hampshireremills.org/>) or by sending a cheque payable to HMG for £14.99, which includes postage, to Eleanor Yates, Danesacre, Worthy Road, Winchester, SO23 7AD.



Programme of Events

April - December 2012

- 14th April - Saturday - Local History Section
Spring Symposium
- 12th May - Saturday - Archaeology Section
Pottery Workshop: Saxon to Post-Medieval. To be held at Wessex Archaeology, Old Sarum
- 19th May - Saturday - Historic Buildings Section
Visit to the Test Valley to view wall paintings.
- 30th May - Wednesday
Annual General Meeting and OGS Crawford Lecture
Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester at 7.30 pm.
The AGM will be followed by John Hare *The medieval bishops of Winchester and their continuing impact on modern Hampshire.*
- 9th June - Saturday - Historic Buildings Section
Visit to medieval palace, gardens and fishponds at Bishops Waltham
- 21st June - Thursday - Archaeology Section
Visit to Magdalen Hill Leper Hospital excavation with University of Winchester, 6.15 pm
- 23rd June - Saturday - Local History Section
Summer Outing to Buriton
- 29th July - Sunday - Archaeology Section
Visit to Silchester excavations with Mike Fulford of Reading University, 2.00pm for 2.30pm.
- 7th August - Tuesday - Archaeology Section
Visit to St. Elizabeth's College excavations, Winchester: hosted by WARG with wine and refreshments, 6:15 pm
- 22nd Sept - Saturday - Historic Buildings Section
Visit to Mottisfont Abbey and church. (This is a repeat visit.)
- 6th October - Saturday - Local History Section
AGM & Visit to Lyndhurst
- 27th October - Saturday - Landscape Section
AGM & Conference: "Waterways in the Landscape" to be held at the Hampshire Record Office.