Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

No 66, Autumn 2016

Hampshire Churches Medieval Graffiti Survey
Training at Romsey Abbey

Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

Contents *Autumn 2016*

General editor, Dick Selwood

ISSN 0265-9190

Registered Charity No 243773

From the President

Chris Elmer
Email: president@fieldclub.hants.org.uk

I thought it would be of interest for those of you who were unable to attend our Annual General Meeting for me to use this space to offer a flavour of the report made to attending members. In essence it offers a very personal reflection on the year that has passed but celebrates the very real and always worthwhile achievements of our Society.

"As a rather fresh faced (though, midway through a dig, rosy cheeked) President, addressing you for the first time at an AGM, I've been reflecting on my year in office and thinking about all those things that have struck me about our society.

It is my duty, I know as part of this report to tell you about the many excellent initiatives, projects and publications that have all come about because of the energy and enthusiasms of our members, but, I think, most importantly of all it is my duty to say on behalf of us all thank you to the many individual members, Section Committee members and Council members, whose voluntary efforts contribute so much to the continuation of what is a very successful Society.

Like all successful organisations the Field Club is able to embrace change and we recognize the need to move forwards into the future as ably as we reflect on the past. Hence, our website is being updated and we are moving firmly into the world of e-publishing. We have placed our section links prominently on the homepage to acknowledge the valuable work they undertake. They offer what I can only describe as a cornucopia of visits, talks and conferences throughout the year.

In fact our four sections have now become five, with the addition of a new section dedicated to the production of Hampshire Papers. This recognizes the ongoing role our Society plays in the production of high quality publications, as evidenced by our support for publications such as Ryan Lavelle and Simon Roffey's *The Danes in Wessex*.

This aspect of our Society's work, to disseminate information abouit the past and to stimulate new research, is also well served by the grants that we offer. This year for example grants have been made available to projects ranging across osteological analysis to optical stimulated luminescence dating.

With you all, I look forward to another year of successful offerings and new initiatives, including the launch of our local history writing competition, the medieval graffiti recording project and the new members' evening, to name just a few of the upcoming projects. Please do feel free to offer your own thoughts and comments and thank you all for your continued support of our most excellent Society."

Digital News

Hampshire Studies joins the digital revolution

Hampshire Studies will have a digital option from later this year, in line with many other local societies and academic publishers.

The pattern will be that the current year and the previous two years' Studies will be hosted on an internet web site, where non-subscribers will pay to download articles – subscribers (members who have paid the relevant sum) will have free access via a password. Issues more than three years old will be hosted on our new website, and content will be free for anyone to download.

There are no plans to immediately discontinue the printed version.

It has taken a long time and a lot of work, particularly by Pauline Blagden and Nick Stoodley to get us to this place, and I would like to thank them on your behalf for their dedication in getting us to where we are.

David Allen, Chairman, Editorial Board

New Website

After many years of offering the free web hosting to societies, Hampshire County Council has decided to withdraw this service. We have therefore set up our own site, hantsfieldclub.org.uk which, reflecting the changes in technology, is not expensive and gives the society a lot more space. It allows us to host the back numbers of Studies, for example. There is a lot of material on the site, and Webmaster Mike Broderick deserves our thanks for the huge amount of effort needed to move and restructure the site. The new site address means that our email addresses are changing as well and a list of these can be found on the inside back-cover.

Old Basing on VCH Website

The team working on revising the Victoria County History of Hampshire, has recently posted new text about Old Basing on the VCH website. The work on two texts, *Manors and Other Estates 1500-2015* and *Religious History, 1500-2015* was funded by a grant from the HFC, while the third , *Congregationalists*, was written by Roger Ottewill, acting chairman of the Local History section Visit http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/counties/hampshire/work-in-progress/old-basing

Historic Buildings

Editor: Bill Fergie, Foyle Cottage, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3HH
Email: fergies@onyxnet.co.uk

Editorial

Bill Fergie

It is with great sadness that the Historic Buildings Section records the recent sudden death of its treasurer, Robin Freeman.

Robin qualified as an architect in the early 1970s and after initially working on modern buildings gravitated to historic buildings and churches with the partnership Purcell, Millar, Triton in Kent. In 1975 he moved to their branch office in Winchester to work with Corinne Bennett, who was Architect to the Dean and Chapter, and where he was principally engaged in work on the Cathedral. He was subsequently an historic buildings architect at Hampshire County Council, where his work took in buildings operated by the Museums Service, and included the conversion of the relocated barn at Bursledon Windmill. While so employed in the late 1980s he undertook a part-time post-graduate course in building conservation at the Architectural Association in London. During that course he developed an interest in the Winchester architect Owen Browne Carter, who was the subject of his dissertation.

After retirement Robin worked part-time in the Local History Library where he was able to continue his research into Winchester's historic buildings. Robin became well known in Winchester cultural circles and had been an active member of the City of Winchester Trust since 1978. He was a regular leader of the trust's summer walks, and a prominent member of its planning appraisal panel. His studies of Owen Browne Carter allowed him to publish a Hampshire Paper on his work in 1991.

He was a member of The Chesil Theatre, and as well as acting with great distinction in many productions was able to use his professional skills to help maintain its 13th century home. He was also a member of The Cathedral Players, who brought exciting drama into the cathedral and its precincts. The Cathedral Players became The Festival Players and Robin not only took part in their productions but did much of the work to create their scripts. From The Festival Players grew Chapter and Verse with whom he gave a number of performances. Robin's beautiful voice pleased his audiences while his colleagues appreciated his professionalism and his sometimes wicked sense of humour.

Robin was also a car enthusiast from his earliest years. Where other children built sandcastles on the beach, Robin built sand cars, moulded in incredible detail.

As part of the committee of the Historic Buildings Section Robin's expertise allowed him to organise a number of trips to local churches where he was able to share his knowledge. When the treasurership became vacant he willingly took on the mantle and efficiently managed our financial affairs until illness struck. We will sorely miss his friendship and his knowledge.

Cathedral Dendro Dating

The Historic Buildings Section and the Field Club Council made grants to allow dendro dating of Winchester Cathedral timbers accessible during the current major conservation programme. This has established a felling date for the roof timbers of the

The arms of Henry, Prince of Wales and Catherine of Aragon flank the initials of Henricus Rex (Henry VII)

presbytery roof of 1507-8 .

This fits with the heraldry of the vault, which suggests completion before the death of Henry VIII in April 1509. The north transept roof dated well to 1513-14 which is exactly right for the documentary evidence. A drawbar socket in the south transept can be dated to the fifteenth century. (See also the October 2015 issue of *History Today*.)

The Wool House, Southampton: Reconsidered.

Edward Roberts

Writing about the ancient Wool House at Southampton in a recent Newsletter[1] I stated the following,

> *"There has long been a debate as to whether it was a wool store built by Beaulieu Abbey after the French raid of 1338[2] or a warehouse built by Thomas Middleton mayor of Southampton and called a New House in [or shortly before]1407.[3] The debate has now been settled. The roof timbers were felled between 1390 and 1420."*[4]

This was misleading and the purpose of this note is to clarify the position as far as I can.

Fig.1 The extraordinary carpentry of the roof of the Wool House.

The French raid occurred more than half a century before the roof of the Wool House was built so that there can scarcely be a connection between the two. On the other hand, the stone walls may be earlier. Professor Platt, citing a document of 1407 which states that *'a new house of Thomas Middleton ... is of all houses in Southampton the most suitable for the weighing of wool'*, has suggested that the Wool House was probably built by Thomas Middleton who was mayor of Southampton in 1401-3.[5] The dating of the roof to 1390-1420 is certainly compatible with Platt's suggestion but a document of 1410 states that Thomas Midlyngton holds *'le Wollehous'* from Beaulieu Abbey[6] and the Abbey's ownership is confirmed by a Terrier of 1454 referring to the great warehouse called The Wool House which then belonged to Beaulieu Abbey.[7]

So did Thomas Middleton play no part in the building of the Wool Hall? Certainly, Beaulieu Abbey as possessors must have commissioned the work and the quality of the carpentry may well suggest a remarkable carpenter who was able to span approximately 36 feet without using tie beams. Instead, great curved braces are pegged to wall posts with extended jowls and then to a collar beam, partly by means of eight struts of varying length (Fig. 1). Such a skilful and innovative man might be employed by Kings and Abbots rather than mere citizens of Southampton.

Thomas Middleton, however, was no mere citizen. As Professor Platt pointed out, Middleton was Mayor of Southampton for three successive years. He worked for the king in supervising the best part of a programme of work on the walls of Southampton.[8] He would thus be an ideal man to supervise the construction of an important building for a great abbey. Perhaps it would be fair to call him 'a project manager'. This raises the question, "Who builds a building: the commissioner, the project manager or the carpenter who constructed the roof?"

Notes

1. Roberts, E 2014 HFC Newsletter 62, 1.
2. National Heritage List for England.
3. Platt, C 1973 Medieval Southampton, 142.
4. Miles, D and Roberts, E 2005 Vernacular Architecture 36, 97.
5. Platt op. cit., 142-3.
6. Southampton City Archives SC4 /2/210; pers. comm. Dr Susan Rose.
7. Burgess L A (ed.) 1976 The Southampton Terrier of 1454, 96-7.
8. Platt op. cit, 142.

Acknowledgements.
Dr Andy Russel is warmly thanked for his support and advice.

Housing the Medieval Bishops of Winchester

By John Hare

The medieval bishops of Winchester were the richest in the country. They possessed estates running from Taunton in the west to Southwark opposite London and from the south coast to north Oxfordshire. They also tended to be among the main royal ministers, itself a further source of both importance and wealth. It would be expected that the bishops would display this wealth and importance in buildings, and there would also be the expectation that they would mobilise the area of Hampshire and Surrey in the royal interests. Possessing a large number of houses would have seemed a natural and expected method of display that was in both the bishops' and royal interests. Among their houses substantial remains survive at places like Wolvesey Palace (Winchester), Bishop's Waltham, East Meon (Hampshire), Farnham, Esher and Southwark (Surrey), but nothing, or virtually nothing, of once important houses like Highclere, Marwell and Bishop's Sutton (Hants). Around the houses lay deer parks and fishponds where the bishop's importance was marked out in the landscape, as at Bishops Waltham, Marwell and East Meon. In some cases archaeological excavations have taken place, above all at Wolvesey Palace, conducted by Martin Biddle, at Witney (Oxon), Bishop's Waltham, Farnham and Esher. Moreover, in the pipe rolls of the bishopric of Winchester, we have an incomparable collection of building documentation unsurpassed on any other episcopal estate. Far more than any one person could hope to study.

We can see something of the bishops' houses by using the itineraries of the bishops from the thirteenth century onwards, and comparing them with the pipe rolls. In about 1300, when the bishopric had

its largest number of episcopal houses, it possessed 56 manors, each of which would have had a manor house, although not necessarily one used by the bishop himself. These manor houses would have been needed as part and parcel of the agricultural administration of the estate. For an episcopal residence we need a more restrictive definition, one that takes into account the ability to cater for the visiting needs of a bishop and his household. Here this has been taken to be where the documents record not merely a hall and a chamber, but also some at least of a chapel and specific rooms for the household such a knight's chamber, the clerks' chamber, the squires' chamber, or the monks' chamber. Here were houses ready to be visited by the bishop or his household. Such a definition would give us about 23 episcopal houses of which about 10 were frequently used by the bishops.

Bishop's Waltham: bakehouse/brewhouse (1378) on right, the lodgings range on the left inside the later farmhouse (1438-1441)

The number of such houses peaked in about 1300. Thereafter numbers declined as bishops spent more and more time at a few main residences. The bishops themselves were leading a more sedentary and less peripatetic existence, still spending time travelling, but with long periods at a few select houses. In this they reflected developments among royalty and the nobility in general. In keeping with this concentration on fewer houses, the bishops spent more on the luxuries of their housing: more rooms, more private rooms, windows, wooden panelling and tiled floors. Most of these well-used houses where activity was subsequently concentrated were in Hampshire and Surrey, above all in Bishop's Waltham, Wolvesey, Marwell, Farnham, Esher and Southwark. Some residences outside this area were also important, particularly in Wargrave (Berks) and Taunton, but the bishops now rarely spent time outside their Hampshire and Surrey houses, or used those outside a few main Hampshire houses.

The later Middle Ages thus saw the bishops reducing the number of houses which they continued to develop to about a dozen household residences. But much more dramatic change was about to occur. The Reformation of the sixteenth century highlighted the declining political power and influence of the bishops. In 1551, Bishop Ponet was forced to give up his estates in return for a much smaller fixed income. Although the bishopric subsequently, under Queen Mary, regained many of its houses, this was not complete and by the early seventeenth century, the bishops tended to be restricted to four main houses: Wolvesey, Farnham, Southwark and Bishop's Waltham. During the seventeenth century Civil War these houses suffered heavily. Bishop's Waltham never recovered, Southwark was sold, its buildings subdivided into tenements, and with additional streets cut into the courtyards.After the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660, the bishop decided to acquire a new house in Chelsea in 1664, he remodelled Farnham and eventually Wolvesey was completely rebuilt, the present palace being but a small wing of its new 17th century predecessor.

II

Generally, and with the exception of a brief period in the anarchy of Stephen's reign, the residences were non-military in function, although something of this military phase is still visible as at Farnham, Merdon and Downton.

Some residences had particular uses. Southwark, across the Thames from London, was a major and well-used residence since this provided easy access across the river to London and Westminster. While so many of the bishops were major administrative figures within royal government, it was essential to have such a London base, and in the late 13th to 15th century, this was one of the most well-used of their residences. Impressive remains of the hall survive.

Wolvesey was both the palace next to the cathedral and the administrative centre of estate and diocese. Here the estate documentation was brought, along with wool and cash, and the pipe rolls produced. After the fire which destroyed the royal quarters at Winchester castle in 1302, royalty tended to use Wolvesey on its visits to Winchester.

As major royal ministers it was in the bishops' interest to know what was going on in court and its politics, and residences with easy access to the court were necessary. Esher had been bought in order to acquire a new house with easy access to Westminster and Windsor in the thirteenth century. A country seat, but not too far from London. It rapidly became an important and much used residence. Downton was important as long as neighbouring Clarendon was among the king's favourite residences, as it was in the late 12th and 13th centuries. Wargrave went through a brief phase in the early fourteenth century when its proximity to Windsor made it one of the important residences. Bishops needed many houses to track the court, but equally as royalty tended to stay in fewer places, the bishops could reduce the number of houses that they used.

The bishops had also to maintain their hold over the gentry communities of the area. They needed to show hospitality and to offer a gathering place for the local gentry and a chance for networking around the bishop and his officials. Thus some residences were rarely used by the bishops but were nevertheless equipped with household rooms for guests. The hunt was a good way of offering such opportunities, and some 13th century bishops were themselves enthusiasts for the hunt. Hampshire was scattered with episcopal parks and residences which the bishops rarely used after the 13th century, as at Hambledon and Overton. These lesser residences were an essential part of maintaining the bishop's influence and status. Nowhere perhaps can the importance of this be seen than at East Meon. This had rarely been used by the bishops after the early 14th century, but William of Wykeham felt it worthwhile to

Wolvesey Palace: the hall from the SW, the subject of 3 major phases of remodelling

spend heavily on the construction of a grand new hall and adjacent chamber in 1395-7, which fortunately still survive complete within a private house.

The multiplicity of houses also provided an opportunity for hospitality, occasionally for royal visits at such major residences as Waltham, Farnham and Marwell, but also to other members of the nobility or important foreign visitors. Fareham and Bitterne were both important in the 13th century, both as residences near the ports of Portsmouth and Southampton, as well as further bases for hunting.

Buildings were there to impress and it was important to maintain and update them. We can see this from the documented changes to the hall, the main ceremonial gathering place, this process of up-dating and up-grading as at Marwell, Esher and Taunton. At Wolvesey at least four main phases can be seen in the development of the great hall or East Hall. This dates from Bishop Henry of Blois in 12th century. He himself remodelled and heightened it on a grander scale a few decades later. His building had consisted of an aisleless hall with long parallel room. In the 13th century, the two were thrown together by inserting an arcade into the wall between the hall and the subsidiary room, probably making it look rather like the surviving great hall of Winchester castle, but with only a single aisle. Later Bishop Beaufort remodelled it again, giving it a new roof and inserting a new great window at the upper end in 1441/2.

The lord's chambers often also became larger and proliferated with several new rooms, as at Bishop's Sutton and Marwell, in the fourteenth century. At Bishop's Waltham, Wykeham and Beaufort had transformed this range. We can still see how Wykeham enlarged the great chamber, which itself was a major ceremonial room, and how he replaced the round-headed 12th century windows by much larger contemporary glazed ones. He also remodelled the private chamber in the adjacent west tower, which was further transformed by Beaufort who added an extra floor to the tower in 1405/6.

Bishop's Waltham also provides a good example of the growing expectations of the bishop and his visitors. Here in 1437-9, Beaufort built a new row of 22 private rooms for his guests. Each had its own fireplace and chimney stack. Parts of this range and its timber framing have survived almost completely, but the rest can be reconstructed from the surviving foundations.

Here, as in so much else, the bishopric houses reflected both architectural and technological developments, but also the social changes and expectations that were transforming the England of the Middle Ages.

This is a summary of the lecture given at the 2015 AGM of the Historic Buildings Section, and incorporates material from two general surveys of the bishopric houses whose publication is forthcoming. References are provided there and their publication will be noted in a future volume of the Newsletter. My thanks go to Edward Roberts for much useful discussion over the years and to those scholars who have provided material from their own work.

Bishop's Waltham, Wolvesey and Farnham keep, and the remains of Southwark hall are English Heritage sites. and Farnham and parts of Witney are viewable. Check times in advance.

Pamber Priory Farmhouse, Monk Sherborne - An Important Transitional House

Bill Fergie

General Description

Pamber Priory Farmhouse was apparently constructed as a substantial four bay dwelling. A seven bay barn and a granary survive nearby from what was probably an extensive farm complex. The barn was built in two phases in 1508 and 1591 and the house has been tree ring dated to 1561. It has the distinction of being one of the earliest houses in Hampshire to have incorporated a floored roof area as part of its initial construction. Parsonage Farm in Overton, dated to 1546, is the only earlier example so far discovered.

Three of the four original bays at Priory Farm survive. The scaled plan forming part of this description (Fig 1) shows the house in its original form with the five structural cross frames identified A - F from the west. The house adopted the hearth passage plan whereby the large brick inglenook fireplace is constructed in the socially lower of the two hall bays where it backed onto the passage. This may have been a through passage in the later medieval sense but although the southern doorway survives in its original location any doorway to the north has now been blocked. Surviving doorways off the passage gave access to twin service rooms.

The original parlour bay (E - F) has been removed and replaced with a much larger, apparently 18th century, extension. Evidence for the doorway from the hall into the parlour bay survives in the south-eastern corner of the hall in a wall that also contains some evidence of what might be contemporary painting, and also of fixings for a high end bench. Similar evidence shows that there was also a doorway into the missing

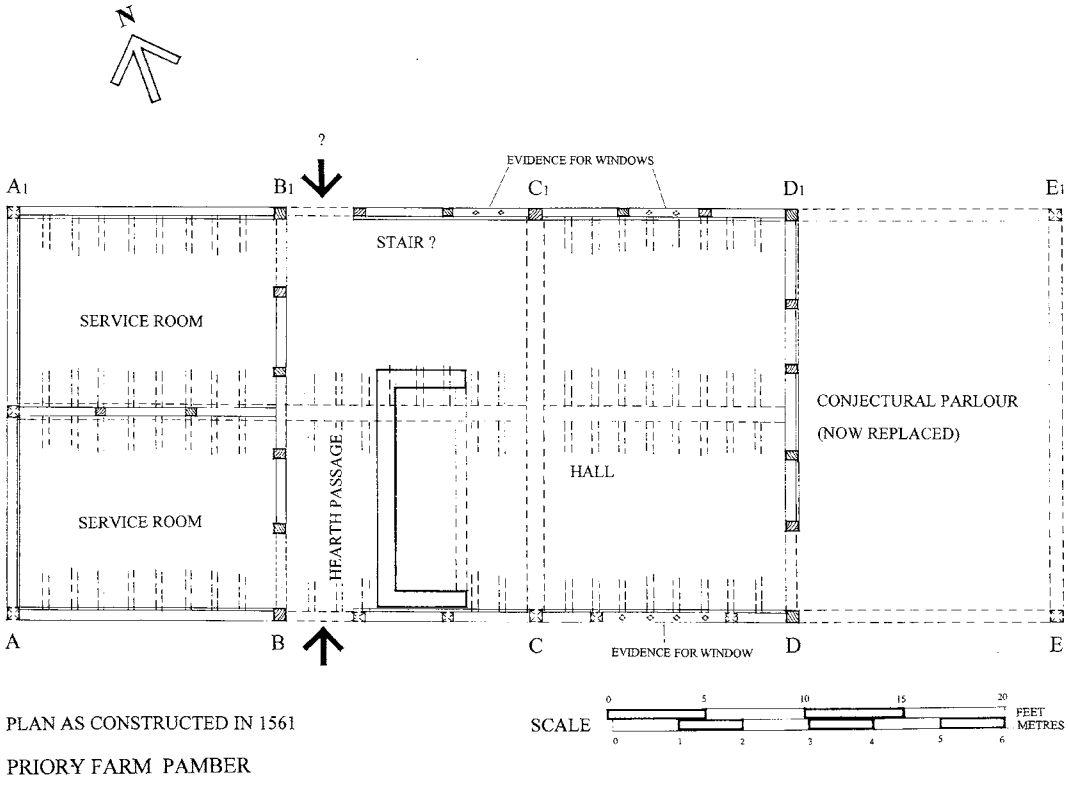


Fig 1 Pamber Priory Farmhouse, scaled plan

bay from the south-west corner of the chamber over the hall. The location of the original stair is not clear although it may well have been to the north of the fireplace, off the passage, as indicated on the plan.

The 16th century in Hampshire was a period of transition between the open hall house of the medieval period and houses in which halls were being floored

Pamber Priory Farmhouse

to provide a chamber over the hall, and a variety of measures incorporated to control smoke. As is sometimes seen with such transitional houses, the relationship between the carpenter who built the frame and the bricklayer who built the fireplace and chimney is not always comfortable, with each apparently being a little unsure of the requirements of the other. In the case of Priory Farm the chimney incorporates one of the main beams supporting the first floor in such a way that it passes through the flue. A very substantial oak timber may not have been in too much danger from the fire, but its location does not represent best building practice. In the chamber above decorative brackets supporting a tie beam in the principal chamber also end up losing their original symmetry and being awkwardly related to the first floor fireplace. Although a floored hall and brick chimney seem to have been intended from the start, the juxtaposition between frame and chimney underlines the experimental nature of much that was taking place at the time as the craftsmen adapted to the changing world of smoke free living. Because of the survival of so much of the original fabric Priory Farm is a very important example of a larger transitional house.

The Conversion of the Roof Space

The flooring of the roof area appears to have been intended from the start from the evidence of spine beams linking the tie beams of the trusses. These could not have been inserted later without dismantling much of the frame. However, it seems that there was a change of intention with regard to the precise function of the roof space. At this date it would have been usual for the roof to have been used for storage, often for valuable crops which might have been more at risk from damp or vermin elsewhere. At Priory Farm a decision was clearly taken, either during construction or very soon after completion, to make the attic more liveable. This is evidenced by alterations to the roof trusses and by the provision of wattle and daub in the altered trusses to compartmentalise the roof into a series of room-like spaces.

The alterations were reasonably substantial and involved the reconstruction of the three internal queen strut roof trusses at B, C and D (see accompanying Cross Section at Fig 2) to allow easier movement through the roof space. The changes involved cutting the central sections from the collars of all three trusses and inserting new collars at a higher level. At trusses B and D doorways were inserted, and the remainder of these trusses were infilled with wattle and daub to create three separate rooms. The workmanship, and the quality of the timber used, was clearly comparable with that of the original build, although some of the timbers

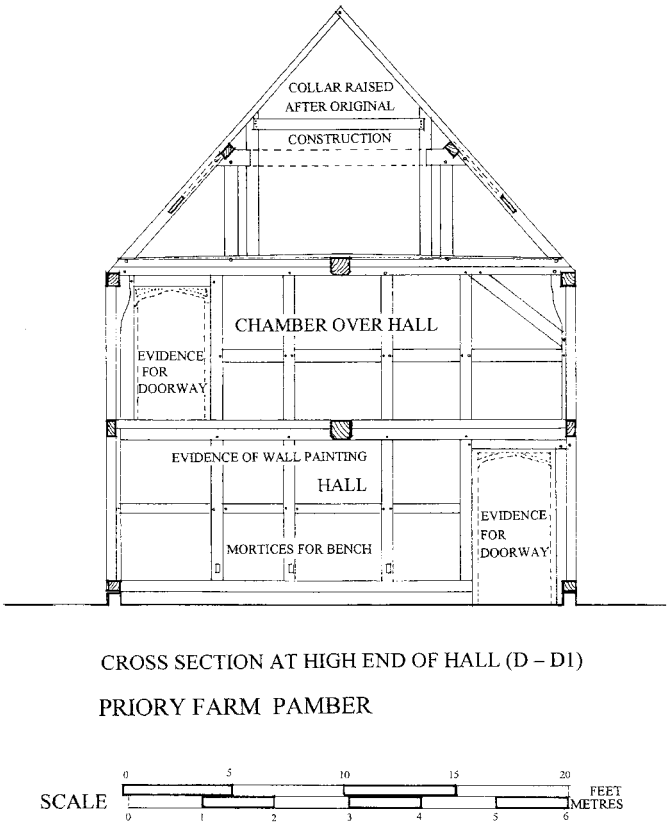


Fig 2 Pamber Priory Farmhouse, cross section

had to be nailed into position where it would have been difficult to make proper carpentry joints without dismantling the trusses.

The date at which this conversion was carried out was not initially clear. However, one of the timbers used to reconstruct one of the trusses gave an identical tree ring date to that of the remainder of the building. Furthermore, Dr Dan Miles, of the Oxford Dendrochronological Laboratory, proved during the tree ring dating exercise that the work was carried out while the timbers of the original truss were still in their green state.

The Hampshire Churches Medieval Graffiti Survey: an update

Karen Wardley

The Hampshire survey was launched on 14th May 2016 by Matt Champion, Director of the Norfolk Medieval Graffiti Survey and author of *Medieval Graffiti: the lost voices of England's churches*. He gave a fascinating talk, followed by a hands-on training session for 25 volunteers wishing to take part in the survey. Appropriately, this was held at King John's House, Romsey, where medieval graffiti, described by Matt as "stunning", is on view. A further training session, led by LTVAS members who are carrying out a survey of the interior features of Romsey Abbey, including its abundant graffiti, was held at the Abbey on 16th June 2016.

Small groups are now being set up to survey the churches in their local areas, but more volunteers are welcome. We are also exploring the possibilities of linking up with other local history groups and universities. There are over 250 churches to survey in the county, so there is a lot of ground to cover! No previous experience is needed to take part, just enthusiasm and willingness to give some time to explore this fascinating topic. Training and basic equipment can be provided. Updates on and findings from the Hampshire survey will be posted regularly on the HFC website: www.fieldclub.hants.org.uk

A new Facebook group has also been set up, for members to post their findings, share information and let each other know about forthcoming church visits.

Graffiti training at Romsey Abbey

Do take a look, and join up!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/HampshireMedievalGraffitiSurvey/

To find out more about the survey, please contact Karen Wardley, at karenwardley@hotmail.com.

Imported Baltic oak with "Hausmarken" – gouged marks: the case of the Renaissance choir stalls at the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester.

Nicholas Riall

Serendipity is often a catalyst to new ideas and new research; it is certainly so in the present context – the discovery of angular gouged marks on Baltic oak. The importation of Baltic oak for use in both building works and in the creation of furnishings has long been documented, with a commentary dating back to the early twentieth century. Largely unnoticed is the presence of gouged marks on Baltic oak, descriptions of which first appear in specialist literature from the 1960s onwards. However, the presence of such marks on any Hampshire work had not been noted, or rather published, until 2014 although they may very well have been seen but not recognised many times over the years given the location of some of them. The purpose of this note is to highlight the presence of these enigmatic markings, to present some evidence showing where they have been found and what they look like, and to provide an overview as to what these markings represent.

The programme of conservation and consolidation was undertaken on the Renaissance choir stalls in the church of the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, between September 2013 and April 2014. Repairs to the choir stalls were undertaken by Hugh Harrison Conservation, with much of the work being done in the church but with some elements being taken to workshops elsewhere. Amongst these pieces were two of the desks, those from the chancel. Hugh Harrison asked Dr Ian Tyers to visit the workshop and to undertake a dendrochronological analysis, which was carried out in December 2013. Unusual marks had been noted by the team working at St Cross, amongst them the author, but none knew what they represented. Dr Tyers was able to identify them as a 'cargo mark, merchants mark or brand mark' or hausmarken as they are often referred to in continental studies. By this point several more marks had been found and Dr Tyers' report led to a detailed examination by the author of all the wood used in the making of the St Cross choir stalls, which resulted in fourteen individual marks being identified.

The presence of this group of hausmarken on the St Cross choir stalls prompted the author to seek them elsewhere whilst examining broadly contemporary suites of work. This fieldwork revealed hausmarken on the choir stalls in Christchurch Priory, Dorset, and on the chapel stalls of The Vyne, near Basingstoke, as well as the furnishings of the Langton chapel in Winchester Cathedral. All of these are ecclesiastical settings and have doubtless survived because of their context. It may be noted that other sites of a similar date did not produce these marks, amongst them the stall frontals added to the choir stalls in Winchester Cathedral in 1540. The presence of these marks is not confined to ecclesiastical furnishings but can be found on oak used for all manner of objects including boards used for paintings, both religious and secular, and on larger pieces of wood that were carved to produce statuary and altarpieces.

Hausmarken tend to be composed of a series of fluid cut marks that together form a geometric motif usually composed of straight or near-straight lines. The cut marks are quite shallow, less than two millimetres in depth, and generally less than five millimetres wide. The overall size of the completed mark varies from 100-150mm in either direction to well over one metre in length. It is not known what tool was used to make these marks but a form of race knife, a forester's tool for marking timber that is to be felled, seems a likely answer. The U-shaped marks were created by pulling the tool rather than pushing it, ruling out the use of tools such as chisels that ordinarily were used to incise maker's marks.

Fig 1. Choir stalls at St Cross. Board back in the south desk in the choir. Scale 150mm.

Fourteen hausmarken were noted on boards and framing timbers of the St Cross choir stalls; six more were found on the woodwork of the choir stalls in the chapel of The Vyne; two were found on panels in the Langton chapel in Winchester Cathedral and two on the choir stalls in Christchurch Priory. In all cases these marks were found on surfaces that are normally not in view, thus it follows that only at St Cross do we have a comprehensive survey for at the other sites much of the panelling and associated woodwork is set against walling and cannot be examined. It may also be noted that a large section of the St Cross choir stalls has been lost, given the return range today is only represented by the desks and part of the frieze.

Fig 2. Choir stalls at St Cross. Board back in canopy of the north bench in the choir. Scale 150mm.

Figure 1 shows one of the boards of the choir south desk. The board is 169mm wide; the longest mark is 170mm and the shortest 80mm, however all the marks were cut through when the board was trimmed. The lowest mark shows the typical fading out, or tailing off, to the cut. Figure 2 shows a second board, this one used in the canopy above the north bench. There are four marks, three clearly visible with the fourth a divergent mark leading away from the top of the left-hand vertical. The long sweeping horizontal mark is unusual for its slight curve. The board edges are 127mm apart, the horizontal cut is 265mm long but is partially overlaid by an adjacent post, the right hand vertical cut mark is 95mm high. Figure 3 is by far the most impressive of the hausmarken at St Cross. It is to be found on a board of the south desk in the nave, but which was formerly part of the suite of benches and desks in the return range of the choir stalls. The board edges are 172mm apart,

Fig 3. Choir stalls at St Cross. Board back in the south desk in the nave. Scale 500mm.

with the longest cut mark, a vertical stroke down the centre of the board, being some 583mm long. After a short space this hausmark is continued by a second cut mark just above. The angled cut marks are 135mm (on the left) and 120mm long (on the right).

Amongst the hausmarken at The Vyne are two shown here, Figures 4 and 5. Figure 4 shows another multi-line hausmark that has three roughly parallel lines with three more crossing on a diagonal line. The board edges are about 180mm apart, the lower diagonal line crossing from lower right upwards is 162mm long, and the lower diagonal crossing from the lower left upwards is 140mm. A more geometric arrangement is shown in Figure 5, where the lower diagonal line is crossed to and fro to produce two small triangles. Unlike many of the other hausmarken, this mark was applied to a heavier, thicker board that was used as a desk end. The lower diagonal crossing upwards from the bottom right is 147mm long.

The keen eyed observer may well notice that in almost every case here the hausmarken are seen on surfaces that are largely unworked, and many were left with their cleaved surfaces as they were when produced in the timber workers' yards. Examination of screens and other furnishings in Devon and Somerset, that are dateable to the sixteenth century and which feature oak that was probably sourced from the Baltic, shows that in many cases the back faces of these pieces were planed. This process may well have removed any potential hausmarken.

Fig 4. The chapel stalls in The Vyne. Board back in the north desk. Scale 150mm.

But what do these marks represent? They are found all over Europe and on all manner of objects, spanning a period from at least the fifteenth century through to the seventeenth. They are generally found on Baltic oak, that is to say oak that was imported into western Europe (mainly Amsterdam?) through the Baltic seaways from forests that lay in eastern Europe, in countries today such as Poland and the Ukraine. There is a substantial body of scholarship from European countries that together indicate that these marks were cut by either the foresters who felled or processed the timber (cutting and splitting the tree trunks into various sizes of planks, beams and other forms of processed timber). Alternatively, they were incised to identify the men or companies who shipped or traded the processed timber, which appears to have been moved in tied bundles rather than individual pieces. The marks are thus akin to well known company logos or badges that are in use today, such as those used by Nike or Apple that are instantly recognisable. There is an almost complete lack of documentary evidence from eastern Europe that might help to shed light on this problem. The wide range of objects and geographical extent of these marks almost certainly rules out any suggestion that these are maker's marks.

Fig 5. The chapel stalls in The Vyne. Desk end board in the north desk. Scale 150mm.

Investigators on the continent are moving towards establishing a pan-European data base to record these marks, but here in the UK there is as yet no similar project. Until we have many more examples of these marks recorded and, however approximately, dated it is unlikely that we will begin to unravel their meaning. Should you, the reader of this article, see any such marks please let the author know. This is an entirely new area of investigation and one that has the potential to tell us so much about trade and society in these eras.

Further reading.

At present the most useful source for information on this topic is contained in a series of essays within a book edited by Van de Velde, C., Beeckman, H., Van Acker, J., and Verhaeghe, F., 2005, Constructing Wooden Images (Brussels University Press).

Local History

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

Buriton Brickmaker Escapes Transportation

Celia Cartwright

The early decades of the 19th century were a time of economic hardship following a period of boom and bust. Thousands of military personnel had returned after the end of the Napoleonic War with no provision made for their resettlement, and political reforms which many had expected to take place once war was ended had not been carried out. In the countryside agricultural rents increased but not the wages needed to pay them. Rural incomes had to be supplemented by poor relief. Between 1811 and 1821 the population of England rose from 12.5 to 14.5 million. As the politician and agricultural reformer Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester (Coke of Holkham) put it 'the superabundance of labourers press upon the soil'.

A prosecution, heard at Winchester Castle in summer 1821 and outlined below, illustrates the effect economic conditions prevailing six years after Waterloo were having on hard-pressed country people. It typifies the measures to which many resorted to provide for themselves and their families. *The Hampshire Chronicle and Courier and South and West of England Pilot* reported in July 1821 that three men – William Windybank, Robert Durdle and William Mould – were to be tried at Hampshire Summer Assizes for stealing a quantity of malt.

The indictment states that Windybank, described as William Windybank the younger, labourer, late of Petersfield, 'on 2 February 1821 stole 8 bushels of malt value 60s, 8 bushels of barley value 40s, 3 sacks value 15s of the good and chattels of Cornthwaite John Hector of Petersfield against the peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity'.[1] It was alleged that the second prisoner, Robert Durdle, alias Durden, a labourer also of Petersfield 'stole 6 bushels of malt of the value of 50s, of the goods and chattels of Cornthwaite John Hector'. In addition, Mould was accused of 'feloniously receiving' the goods stolen by Windybank 'knowing them to have been stolen against the statute'.

The total value of the goods involved was £5 15s, over the 40 shillings (£2) limit which made the offence a capital one. William Mould of Buriton, Hampshire was therefore 'capitally convicted', and sentenced to be hanged. Although the sentence was later commuted to a term of 'transportation beyond the seas and for and during the term of fourteen years' the harshness of Mould's original sentence shows the added severity with which the receiving of stolen property was regarded as compared with the original theft. Windybank and Durdle were both sentenced to seven years transportation.[2]

Mould was then about 32 years old and, although described at the trial merely as a labourer, had been working as a bricklayer. He had a wife, who was pregnant, and three small children, the eldest William born 1816. After his trial he was held at the County Gaol in Jewry Street, Winchester before, as was the usual practice, embarking on the long and hazardous journey to the other side of the world.

The redoubtable Mrs Mould

In September of the same year, unusually for that time, his wife Lucy set in train the procedure whereby she and the children might be enabled to follow her husband to New South Wales. There is a letter in Privy Council Papers from Jonathan Dear, one of the Overseers of the Poor in the parish of St Mary's, Buriton.[3] He writes to the Home Secretary, Viscount Sidmouth, enquiring about how this could be arranged. The parish was willing to send her provided it was practicable and it did not cost too much. This would not only benefit Lucy Mould but mean that a destitute family would not become a burden on the parish, which administered the Poor Rate.

The letter is annotated 'Fwd. Treasury' meaning 'forward to the Treasury', the Government Department expected to deal with financial matters. It is uncertain how the Treasury responded to this request. At this point Mould's name disappears from the records and only reappears when, in 1824, three years later, the redoubtable Mrs Mould submitted a petition for mercy on behalf of her husband.[4]

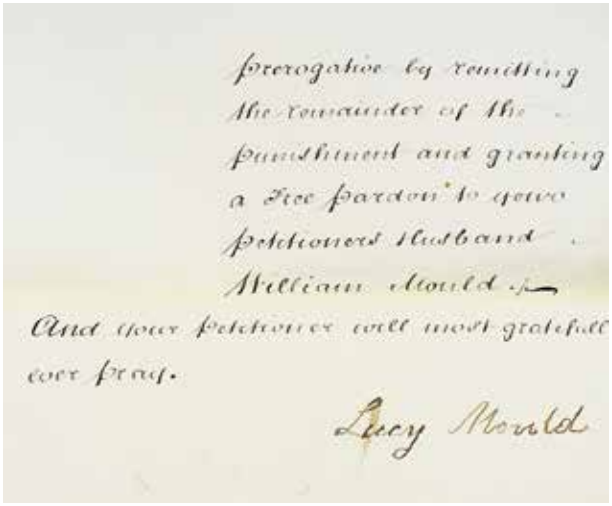

prerogative by remitting
the remainder of the
punishment and granting
a free pardon to your
petitioners Husband
William Mould
And your Petitioner will most gratefull
ever pray.
Lucy Mould

Fig 1. Lucy Mould's petition, with her signature

Before the establishment of the Court of Criminal Appeal in 1906, petitioning the Home Secretary was the only route open to convicted prisoners for remission of their sentence, as there was no statutory right of appeal either against verdict or sentence. Mercy would only be recommended if the Home Secretary considered there were sufficient mitigating factors in the prisoner's favour or if there was an injustice, e.g. an error on the record. Series HO 17 at The National Archives at Kew contains thousands of such petitions from convicts and their supporters.

Submitting a petition would have been expensive, especially for someone like Lucy Mould who, now

left with four small children, had been 'previous to her husband's conviction, wholly dependent on his industry for support'. Through the 'liberality of a few charitable persons' she was evidently able to raise the nine shillings necessary to draw up a petition and get it presented to the Home Secretary. She could also sign her own name (Fig 1).

A journey through the pre-Victorian prison system

More details of the original case come to light in Lucy's 'humble petition'. William was convicted of 'having on his premises a quantity of malt the property of Cornthwaite John Hector of Petersfield Esquire'. At this point no mention is made of the barley, or of the other 'goods and chattels'. It does, however, emerge from his wife's petition that Mould had left Winchester and been held for a time at Millbank Penitentiary. Lucy wrote:

> *That the said William Mould was by reason of his otherwise good character confined in the penitentiary at Millbank till the Removal of Convicts from thence to Woolwich where he now is.*

This shows that Mould was considered a suitable case for transfer to the penitentiary, and so it was unlikely that he would ever be transported or even serve time on the hulks. That it was his first offence and that he had good connexions – the parish officials were prepared to support his wife – would have worked in his favour.

Millbank, the first national penitentiary was completed in London in 1816 as a result of the Penitentiary Act of 1779 which authorized state prisons–there being no centrally organized system of confining prisoners up to this time. It held about 800 male and female convicts who, though they were kept in separate cells, could associate with other prisoners during the day. In the event, Mould was to spend some time on the prison ships, as can be seen from an entry in the Convict Hulk Returns, quarterly lists of all the prisoners on the hulks.[5]

The hulks were superannuated wooden warships with their armaments removed and moored at ports round the country. Authorised by an Act of Parliament in 1776 as a two year temporary measure to extend prison capacity, the hulks were 'for the more severe and effectual punishment of atrocious and daring offenders'. They were actually used into the 1850s, with the last being broken up at Woolwich in 1853. Prisoners were kept on the hulks to await transportation to the colonies or until they had served their sentence. They were employed in building, dockyard and maintenance works. Living conditions on board were overcrowded and insanitary.

Early in 1824 the Millbank Penitentiary was cleared so that it could be cleaned and fumigated to help combat 'a very rapid increase of sickness having recently taken place among the prisoners in the Penitentiary' and 'more than one half of the prisoners [are] affected with a disease of a very peculiar nature'. This was described as 'diarrhoea' in the *Report of the Committee of the General Penitentiary* at Millbank 1824.

All 468 males were then confined on board either the *Ethalion* or the *Dromedary*, vessels lying at Woolwich which had been pressed into service as temporary prisons and which were later redeployed. The *Ethalion* was a hospital ship, and the *Dromedary* was later used to hold prisoners in Bermuda having been moved there in1825. The 167 females were transferred to two other ships, the *Narcissus* and the *Heroine*. Women were never imprisoned on the hulks except in unusual circumstances such as in this case.

In April 1824 the Convict Hulk Returns show that Mould had been received from the 'Penitentiary Prison Ships at Woolwich' on to the hulk *Retribution*. The name, age, offence, when and where tried, the bodily state and behaviour of each prisoner were noted. The lists are signed by the Overseer of the hulk, in Mould's case William Hatton. Mould's bodily state was described as 'good' and his behaviour 'orderly'.[6]

In addition, there is a warrant signed by King George IV, referred to in a letter dated 22 April 1824 from Home Secretary Robert Peel – he had taken up the post in January 1822 – to John Henry Capper, Superintendent of Ships and Vessels Employed for the Confinement of Offenders under Sentence of Transportation:[7]

> *His Majesty having been pleased to give direction that the Male convicts named in the enclosed now on board the Ethalion and Dromedary Convict Ships at Woolwich in the river Thames should be conveyed on board the ship Retribution being a vessel provided by His Majesty for the confinement of offenders at Sheerness in the river Medway I am commanded to notify to you His Majesty's pleasure that you do cause the said convicts to be removed to the said ship where they are to remain until their sentences shall be carried into effect or they shall be otherwise disposed of according to Law. I am etc. Robert Peel.*

Unfortunately the enclosure naming the convicts affected has not survived, but it seems most likely that William was among those affected. Since Lucy's petition is dated April 1824 she almost certainly would have learned that her husband was about to be moved from Millbank Penitentiary to a prison ship and seized the moment to put in her plea for mercy.

Grounds for clemency

Lucy Mould's petition not only included her letter but there is also a certificate signed by Cornthwaite John Hector the 'prosecutor'–the victim of the offence–supporting her arguments. In addition, the Rector, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor and eight principal inhabitants of the parish of Buriton all state they are confident that William, if released, 'will devote the remainder of his time in making a provision for his family and become a useful member of society'. The 'grounds for clemency' cited by his wife were his good character and the fact that he was previously considered honest and trustworthy by his Master Mr John Mundy, who was also one of the two Buriton Churchwardens. She ends in suitably deferential terms:

> *Your petitioner therefore most humbly prays that you will condescend to lay her case before His Majesty and entreat him to take it into His Majesty's most merciful consideration and be graciously pleased to exert his Royal prerogative by remitting the remainder of the punishment and granting a Free Pardon to your petitioner's husband William Mould.*

The petition is annotated by Peel 'Penitentiary' (Fig 2). This comment confirms that, rather than being transported, he should serve the rest of his sentence in prison.[8] However the Convict Hulk Returns show that William was not in fact returned to Millbank but

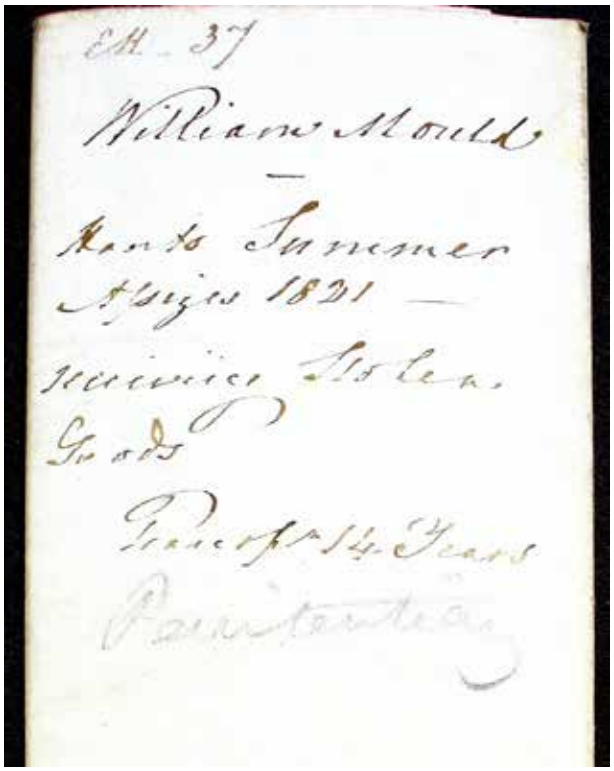


Fig 2. Peel's Penitentiary decision

finished his time on the *Retribution*. Nevertheless, Peel's decision meant that Lucy Mould and her family would not, after all, face the dangerous and uncertain sea passage to join her husband in New South Wales.

Then, at some point, his sentence was reduced from 14 to 7 years probably on the basis of a recommendation of a general pardon which was issued in June each year. From the documents discovered to date it is not possible to be sure how far any further leniency shown to William can be attributed to Lucy's petition, and her attempts to establish his good character. It was often the case that prisoners did not go abroad and were released for good conduct after serving over half their sentence. In Mould's case he served slightly longer than the remitted sentence, perhaps because of the epidemic at Millbank. In April 1826 William's encounter with the penal system ended. Nearly five years after he was convicted, the king granted him a free pardon. No reasons were ever given for such pardons but they were couched in the following terms:

> *We, in consideration of some circumstances humbly represented unto us are graciously pleased to extend our Peace and Mercy unto him and grant him our Free Pardon for the crime of which he stands convicted.*[9]

In the end, although Lucy Mould was prepared to follow her husband to the other side of the world, a destination from which in all probability neither would ever return, this sequence of events meant that not only did William serve a much shorter sentence, but also that he never travelled further than about 70 miles from his home.

Acknowledgements

Celia Cartwright, a volunteer at The National Archives at Kew, is working on a project to catalogue petitions for mercy lodged by convicted prisoners sentenced to death or transportation during the early 19th century. While researching the means by which some prisoners' wives and families were able to join them overseas she came across this case of William Mould from Buriton in Hampshire. Recognising the name of the village from the address of a friend, she set out to discover what became of William and his wife nearly 200 years ago. Celia Cartwright is pleased to acknowledge the help and advice of colleagues at TNA in the preparation of this article.

References

1 TNA, ASSI 25 17/10; ibid. WO 97/1124/399. William Windybank's father was probably William Windybank of Alton, Hampshire, who served in 62nd Foot Regiment and 3rd Royal Veteran, and was discharged aged 43.
2 Ibid. HO 17/122/Yk12. After his trial at Winchester 13 July 1821, Durdle was sentenced to 7 years transportation. On the recommendation list of penitentiary prisoners it states his time was due to expire on 1 August 1825. His character is described as 'good' in prison; also 'good' in the hulk *Discovery*. His free pardon was prepared 16 April 1825.
3 Ibid. PC 69 7.
4 Ibid. HO 17/34/88.
5 Ibid. HO 8.
6 Ibid. HO 8/1/3.
7 Ibid. HO 13/42.
8 Ibid. HO 8/7.
9 Ibid. HO 13/46, p.182.

New Committee Members Sought

We are seeking two or three Field Club members who would be willing to serve on the Local History Section Committee. As a Committee Member you would help us with the planning and organising of four events each year – our annual lecture in January; our spring symposium; our summer outing; and our autumn outing/AGM. There are approximately four Committee meetings a year, mainly convened in the autumn, when most of the decisions relating to the year ahead are made. Meetings are held in Winchester during the late afternoon and last for approximately one and a half hours. There is also a certain amount of communication between Committee Members by email. If you would be interested in volunteering or would like further information about the nature of the commitment, please contact me either by email at rogerottewill@btinternet.com or by phone on 023 8051 2093. Your help would be much appreciated.

Roger Ottewill
Acting Chairman,
Local History Section Committee

Eggar's Grammar School, Alton

Jane Hurst

I found the articles in *Newsletter* 63 (2015) of great interest but could I please ask that writers use primary sources as often as possible or contact those of us in the relevant area. When incorrect information gets published it can take a very long time for those of us doing local research to get it put right, and the internet has made this a huge repeating problem.

I hope that Mr Campbell will not mind if I use a short phrase from his article on 'Financial Planning, Investment, and Town Planning in the Late Middle Ages' as an example. In it he claims that 'It was left to succeeding generations of prosperous tradesman, who rather than investing their wealth in charity or masses as they might have done earlier … built schools, of which examples are Eggars [*sic*] Grammar School, Alton (1638)'.

Unfortunately this statement is not quite right and it is important to get the truth in print. Firstly, John Eggar was of Montgomeries in Crondall and not Alton. Presumably, even then, one could only buy property for a project that was for sale and land in Anstey, Alton, was considered the most suitable of that available at the time. As with other members of the Eggar family before and after, John was a yeoman not a tradesman.

The date given for Eggar's Grammar School was given as 1638 in *VCH Hants*, II, 367, but the truth is not quite as simple as that. Towards the end of his life John Eggar decided that he wanted to establish a free grammar school and, in 1638, he chose 13 feoffees, i.e. trustees to be invested with a freehold estate which they would hold for John's charitable project.

A year later John acquired property in Anstey in the parish of Alton. He had found a suitable site for the school although he had no obvious connection with Alton. John also paid £450 for Mounter's farm in Chawton which was then transferred to the feoffees. This was an endowment as all the rents etc. were to go towards the maintenance of a 'sufficient able schoolmaster lawfully licensed in a free grammar school **to be erected and built**'. As yet there was no school building.

On 7 March 1640/1 John Eggar made his nuncupative will. This was an oral will said in front of witnesses. John left money to the poor of Alton, Froyle, Farnham, Crondall and other parishes as well as bequests to several individuals. The will continued 'hee Will and gave a sufficient allowance for the **finishing of the free schoole** near Alton aforesaid to be done by his Executors'. John was buried on 22 March at Crondall.

The Bill for the erecting of a school by John near Alton had its first reading in the House of Commons on 21 April 1641. The second and third came on 2 June and 19 July respectively. The Bill then went to the House of Lords and was first read on 23 July and secondly on 28 July. Three days later the Earl of Bath reported that the Bill was fit to pass without any amendment and it was passed as law on 3 August that year.

By the time of a meeting of feoffees on 30 August 1641 there were only 10 of them left so more needed to be elected. The minutes in the Eggar's Free Grammar School Book (HRO 39M67/1) also record:

> *An Act for John Eagars Freescole within the parish of Alton in the County of Souythton as followeth, That within the parish of Alton in the said County of Southton, There may be Erected and Founded att the Coste and Charge of your Suppliant his heires or Executors one meete fitt and Convenient house and building for the abiding and dwelling, And for the Necessary Use of one Schoolmaster and one Usher to Instruct or teache Children in the Gramer or Gramer Learning, And that the said house and Building shall and may bee called and named the Free Gramer Schoole of John Eager of Montgomeries (within the parish of Crundall), And that the said John Egar his heires or Executors shall and maie number of Fifteene, which shallbee Freeholders inhabiting within the hundred of Alton aforesaid.*

It was decided that 'the time of the admittance of the Schoolmaster into the Schoole shalbe att Michaelmas in the yeare of our Lord 1642'.

On 11 April 1642, the Feoffees met and chose Henry Welsted of Froyle 'to bee Schoolemaster to enter M'mas next'. It was also decided there could be '30 scholars fit for the master and 50 for the master and Usher'! So the first headmaster started at Eggar's Grammar School on 29 September 1642. Henry Welsted came from Dorset and had attended Broadgates Hall, Oxford in the early 1600s and become vicar of Froyle in 1628.

A copy of the 'Statute and Ordinances concerning the ordering governing and directing the schoolmaster Usher & Scollers' of about this date can be found in the Eggar's Free Grammar School Book. It states that 'honesty and Cleanlenesse of Life gentle and decent speeches humility courtesy and good manners shalbe established by all good meanes, pride Ribaldry Scurrility Lying picking swearing blaspheming & such other vices shalbe sevearly punished, And all vertuous schollars Refraineing to offend in any of these vices

shalbe Commended and Cherished'. Presumably Headmaster Welsted also had a copy.

The School Book gives a summary of the events: 'The howse Intended for the Scolehouse neare Alton was built at the Charg of John Eager but was not fynished at the tyme of his death. Toward the fynishing whereof the rente of the Lande weare Expended Until the Tyme of the Setling of the Scolemaster therein.'

Hence, the information that is available suggests that the school was being built when John Eggar's nuncupative will was taken down on 7 March 1640/1. The building was then finished and the school opened at Michaelmas 1642.

Sources

HRO 39M67/1, Eggar's Free Grammar School Book including accounts
TNA PROB11/186/501, will of John Eggar, yeoman of Crondall
Journals of the House of Commons and House of Lords

book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews

Alton Papers, no. 19, 2015; pp.48, £3+50p p&p from Jane Hurst, 82 The Butts, Alton GU34 1RD.

Two of the articles in this regular journal concern Chawton in the 17th and 18th centuries. Jane Hurst gives an account of Elizabeth Knight (d. 1685), whose second husband Azariah Husbands (d. 1666) served with the Parliamentarian army during the Civil War. The couple were occasionally resident at Chawton House, where alterations to a doorcase marked 'R K 1655' were presumably undertaken by Elizabeth's young son Richard Knight (d. 1679). Edward Hepper discusses the origins of the Knight coat of arms, suggesting that the family arms were adopted during the time of the above-mentioned Richard and were regularised with small changes by a grant of 1738.

Two memoirs are also printed. Maria Heath Curtis (b. 1841) remembered her youth at the Old House (No.4 High Street, Alton), where she particularly enjoyed her grandfather's summer house in the garden. Rather different are the memories of a Belgian school teacher evacuated to England in 1940 who taught Belgian children being treated for tuberculosis at Morland Hall in Alton. Among the children was Jan Van Roey, whose account of the war years is also printed, and who was reunited with his parents in 1945. Their stories are exceptionally interesting, and were uncovered following the publication of the wartime memories of inhabitants in the Belgian town of Malle.

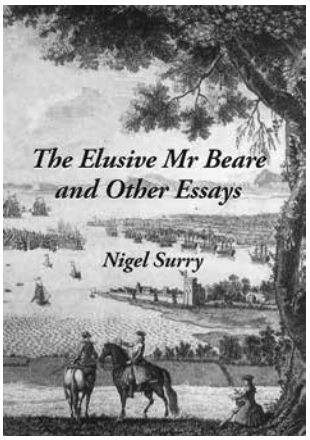
Mark Page

Martin Coppen, **Andover's Norman Church 1080-1840**, Andover History & Archaeology Society, 2015; pp.58, £7+£1.50 p&p from the Society c/o 14 Upper Drove, Andover SP10 3NB.

Andover's parish church, built soon after the Norman Conquest, was demolished and replaced in 1840-1. Martin Coppen reconstructs what is known about the building using 18th- and 19th-century illustrations and a few surviving documentary references. His researches suggest that the original Norman building was cruciform in shape comprising nave, chancel, central tower, and north and south transepts. North and south aisles were added to the nave probably by the early 13th century, and a south chapel was added to the chancel. By c.1300 the nave aisles were further extended and a north room added to the chancel, while by c.1400 the church had achieved its final shape. The building's expansion testified to the town's medieval prosperity, though without strong direction it grew rather haphazardly, and by the 19th century it was unable to accommodate Andover's growing population. The book includes plans and illustrations of the old church, and draws comparisons with surviving churches elsewhere. It is a valuable contribution to the town's architectural history.

Mark Page

Nigel Surry, **The Elusive Mr Beare and Other Essays**, The Fortune Press: Sudbury, 2015; pp.x+44, £5+£2 p&p from the author at 177 Melford Road, Sudbury CO10 1JU.



George Beare (c.1725-49) was a portrait painter active in Salisbury and Hampshire, whose career is the starting point for a wider survey of journeymen painters (including several women) in Georgian Hampshire. Portsmouth was a particular focus of activity, its Dockyard and Naval Academy providing an important source of patronage. Among those benefiting was James Northcote, a former assistant of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who spent several months of 1776 in Portsmouth painting 'many persons in that neighbourhood at the price of five guineas a-head'. Earlier and later developments in the town are also briefly considered, beginning with a lost work showing Henry VIII and his troops on Southsea Common in 1545 with Portsmouth and its fortifications in the background, and ending with Richard Eurich's 1942 painting 'Night Raid on Portsmouth Docks', which depicted 'a nightmare of burning buildings' and the 'scuttling figures beneath them'. One of Beare's portraits, 'Miss Fort of Alderbury', is reproduced.

Mark Page

Jane Hurst, **Hartley Mauditt House**, privately published, 2015; pp.56, £3+50p p&p from Jane Hurst, 82 The Butts, Alton, GU34 1RD.

In the 17th and 18th centuries Hartley Mauditt House was occupied by the Steward or Stuart family. Following the death of Sir Simeon Stuart the contents of the house were sold at auction in 1784, and a transcription of the sale catalogue fills two thirds of the present pamphlet. Precisely what happened to the house thereafter is unclear. Although it was bought by Henry Lord Stawell, the owner of Hinton Ampner and other estates, he was an absentee landlord who probably never lived at Hartley Mauditt. According to tradition he demolished the house in 1798 in order to force his wife to move from Hampshire and live with him in London. Jane Hurst suggests that the truth is rather more prosaic and that the house fell into ruin and was finally demolished c.1810.

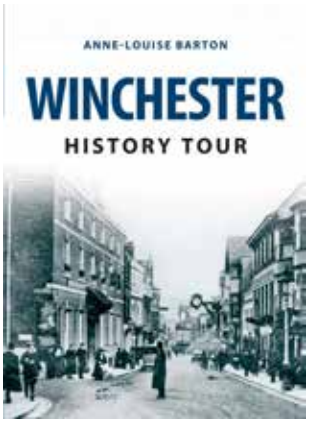
Mark Page

Paul Fenwick (ed.), **Memories of Alton Project: Shops and Shopkeepers**, MOAP no.3, 2015; pp.40, £3 + £1 p&p from Curtis Museum or Jane Hurst, 82 The Butts, Alton, GU34 1RD.

Alton's small, specialist shops are remembered by some of the town's older inhabitants in this collection of anecdotes mostly of the 1940s and 50s. Among them were Shipley's grocer's shop and Adlam's baker's shop, which was damaged by fire in 1977. Some local shops including Trickey's Domestic Stores were adversely affected by the arrival of Woolworths before the Second World War, though one girl was forbidden from shopping there because it was regarded as unsuitable for pupils of Eggar's grammar school. Tailors and dressmakers were prominent, while Gregory's newsagents also sold model aircraft kits by mail order. Mortara's fish, game and poultry shop delivered chickens to the railway station for the London market, advertising them as 'Hampshire Chicks'.

Mark Page

Anne-Louise Barton, **Winchester History Tour**, Amberley Publishing: Stroud, 2016; pp.96, £6.99.



In this illustrated pocket-sized guide to the city's history are 45 photographs, some from the late 19th or early 20th century and others from more recently, which are accompanied by short pithy commentaries on the scenes they depict. Mostly they describe buildings or notable locations, from St Giles's Hill in the east to the Peninsula Barracks in the west, and from St Cross in the south to the railway station in the north.

Mark Page

Archives and Local Studies news from Hampshire Record Office

Mark Pitchforth

Recent additions to the holdings

Since the last report we have received another large school collection, this time relating to **Eggar's Grammar School, Alton**, collected during research for a proposed published history of the school (39M67d3). The deposit includes papers relating to the constitution and administration of the school, such as Schemes for its administration dated 1879, 1909 and 1912; copies of school inspection reports, 1903-93; Governors' minute book, 1921-76; a copy of the school's Instrument of Government, 1937; and a school diary/log book, 1947-77. Perhaps unusually for a school collection, the papers also include four staff registers, covering the period 1883-1970s. Pupil records are represented by a school sports record book, 1919-25; a log book for the 2nd Alton Troop of Boy Scouts (Eggar's Grammar School), 1929-59; a book listing 'Free Scholars' in the 17th century; and some pupil 'progress records' and charts, c.1900. Other miscellaneous records were donated to the school by former pupils and cover most of the 20th century. Much of this material comprises plans and photographs of building works, pupil activities and school groups, 1960s-90s – most dated and identified – along with cuttings, articles and publications, and a handful of film and sound recordings. (Please note that these records are yet to be itemised and some may be subject to access restrictions.)

Rushmoor Mallards sports club was formed in 1974, initially as a swimming club for people with disabilities. Based at Farnborough Leisure Centre, it later developed into one of the country's top disabled sports clubs, with Paralympic, World and European champions at swimming, shooting and athletics among their number, along with two honours in the Queen's Honours lists. Membership of the club declined in later years, leading to the closure of the club last year, largely due to the growing popularity of disabled sports, and their inclusion into mainstream clubs. The records of the club were deposited in January this year (5A16), and comprise mainly annual newscuttings books, 1974-2012, anniversary scrapbooks, and scrapbooks covering special events such as the Paralympics in Seoul in 1988, in which the club's members took part.

Further scrapbooks have been received from **Compton and Shawford Festival Choir** (15A16). The Choir is the oldest in the Winchester Music Festival group, dating back to 1921, and the scrapbooks survive from this early date, covering 1921-38, 1963-83, and 2001-2. The deposit also includes an impressive portfolio containing certificates awarded to the organisation

from 1930 to 1954.

Records of other local societies have included the **Bournemouth and District Federation of the Winchester Diocesan Union of the Church of England Men's Societies** (13A16), comprising a minute book of annual and quarterly meetings, 1923-65; minutes of Executive committee and Council meetings, 1927-54 (2 vols); and 'log book and diary', 1915-24 and 1933-9 (2 vols). Two volumes giving membership details are included, dated c.1932 and 1937-54, along with assorted leaflets and publications, c.1919-66.

A large collection of records relating to Hampshire's freemasons was received in February. More accurately the **Masonic Order of Knights Templar, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Province**, the records (19A16) include a series of minute books, 1880-1996, correspondence, 1904-80, and Preceptory registers, 1961-98. Also included is a series of eight 'statutes' for the wider organisation which it is thought do not survive anywhere else. Though incomplete, the statutes cover the period 1890-1949.

The Hampshire Province has a long history, having been in existence since 1848. Official meetings of the Provincial Priory did not begin until 1880, however. The Isle of Wight was not included at the time; the Vectis Preceptory No.237 received its warrant in March 1925. The two Provinces were united in 1945, and to celebrate, the Annual Provincial meeting was held in Ryde in 1946. A further annual meeting was held on the Island in 1965, the minute book recording that the event 'was held under exceptional difficulty due to the dense fog in the Solent'. There has not been another meeting on the Island since. The organisation's website lists an eclectic range of men who have served as Provincial Priors, including an Admiral, various Army and Naval officers, an MP, members of the clergy and judiciary, and even a couple of engineers. (Please note that these records have yet to be itemised in detail, and may be subject to access restrictions.)

And finally … we are continually adding to our ever-popular series of church- and graveyard memorial inscriptions, most of which have been meticulously prepared by Hampshire Genealogical Society members over many years. The latest to be added is a hard-copy transcript of headstones in Mottisfont churchyard, comprising names additional to those listed by HGS in the 1980s for the 'old graveyard', and a list of names for the 'new graveyard', and ashes, with key map for the churchyard, compiled c.2014-15 (8A16). We've also received digital files for Dummer parish, combining death and burial records taken from memorial inscriptions, identifiable plots in Dummer cemetery, and the parish burial register, with names and regimental information taken from the First World War Roll of Honour for Dummer, including plan (65M72d6).

Forthcoming events

Exhibitions, at the Record Office unless otherwise indicated:

30 Jun - 29 Sept

Capability Brown in Hampshire: exhibition produced by Hampshire Gardens Trust marking the 300th birthday of landscape architect and gardener Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. Capability Brown is remembered as the last of the great English 18th-century artists to be accorded his due, and England's greatest gardener. He designed over 170 parks and gardens, several of which can be found in Hampshire.

30 Jun- 30 Sept

Olympics in Hampshire: exhibition produced by Hampshire Archives and Local Studies highlighting Olympians and Paralympians with Hampshire connections, venues and locations in Hampshire used for the 1908 and 1948 London Games and the Olympic torch route through Hampshire in 1948.

3 Oct-6 Jan

Discovering the county's past: the New Victoria History of Hampshire, exhibition produced by the Victoria County History Project.

Lunchtime lectures: last Thursday of each month, 1.15-1.45pm, no need to book. Free, donations welcomed.

28 Jul:

St Mark's Churchyard, Gosport: Roy Harris and Toby Streatfield-James of The Friends of St Mark's Churchyard on research into those buried in the churchyard and also restoration work.

25 Aug:

George Marston: Shackleton's Antarctic Artist by Stephen Locke.

29 Sept:

Kathakali: classical dance drama of Kerala, India by Barbara Vijayakumar.

27 Oct:

Hampshire and the Olympic Games by Martin Polley.

24 Nov:

Discovering the County's Past: The New Victoria History of Hampshire by Jean Morrin.

Workshops - booking essential: 01962 846154.

Wed 21 Sept 2-4pm.

Maps as sources for local history £14,

Tue 27 Sept 2-4pm.

Tracing Your Army Ancestors £14,

Fri 16 Sept 10am-3.30pm.

The Archive Ambassador training scheme £30.

Sign up today and help us preserve Hampshire's heritage. Training in archive preservation/ conservation, cataloguing, digitisation and oral history recording.

For more information about events, please visit www.hants.gov.uk/whatson-hro or ring 01962 846154.

Landscape

Editor: George Campbell, 10 Church Lane, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1SZ
e-mail: campbell.georgef@gmail.com

Editorial

George Campbell

Landscapes have always been contested. Chronologically, the earliest recorded incident was probably the Garden of Eden, from where, once they had blotted their copybook, the miscreants were ejected. This contrasts with modern times where negotiation has replaced forceful action. One example was in the planning and building of the M3 outside Winchester, when a pond was found to lie in the path of the excavators. When it was examined for wildlife, five rare newts were discovered. Pressures from naturalists were brought to bear, and rather than reroute the motorway, negotiations ensured that the newts were safely transported to a safe environment, at a cost of £750.000, or £150,000 a newt. So, values have changed, and negotiation has arrived, but at a cost.

In this issue, Malcolm Walford provides an example of how man, frequently in conflict with the elements, has overcome the problem of the unpredictability of the weather. From medieval times in Europe, 'models' were designed to ensure that luxuriant meadows were created and preserved, to overcome the effect of long dry periods. His example investigates 'irrigated water meadows' created in the Lavant area, and includes a rare archaeological benefit from a flooded landscape (fig.1). David Chun's piece on the Botley boundary stone reflects the need to avoid conflict between people over land ownership. Finally, a contested New Forest landscape over the centuries is discussed by George Watts, highlighting the long term effects of William the Conqueror's 'imposed model'.

Imposed, Contested and Negotiated Landscapes; a Hampshire Selection.

George Campbell

Throughout history a conflict of interests between agriculturalists and pastoralists has been experienced in most parts of the world, as they contested access to land and water. 18th century Dutch farmers in the Cape were challenged by Bantu pastoralists, who found their pastures and waterholes barred by fences. 19th century 'frontier wars' between 'settlers' and 'cattlemen' featured prominently in the westward expansion of the United States. In the early post-World War II period, the migration of Jewish families into their 'homeland', Palestine, guaranteed after the First World War, and their extension of fruit farming beyond the coastal areas, brought them into conflict with semi-nomadic Bedouin herdsmen, deprived of their traditional grazing grounds in a semi- desert landscape. In this theatre the landscape continues to be contested although the issues have changed.

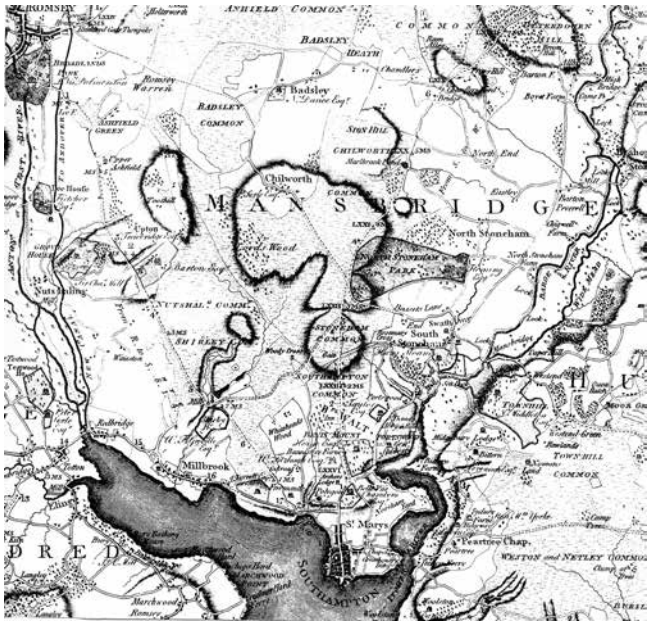


Fig. 1 Commons north of Southampton, recorded in 1781.

In Hampshire, the Late Medieval and later periods are rich in records of contested landscapes. In the rural areas, the 12th and 13th centuries seem to have been a period of prosperity shared by all, due largely to a century of generally fine weather, which helped to promote abundant harvests and population expansion. With the passage of time, an early trend towards larger and more profitable units than the common field strips, gathered momentum, particularly in the period following the ravages of the Black Death, which had increased the supply of 'vacant' strips. This coincided with the landowners' ambition to create more sheep pastures to profit from the rising price of wool. A 'retreat from the margins' also occurred because there was less need to cultivate marginal land.

Kate Gilbert's study of Ashley, near King's Somborne (1), reveals details of the exploitation of the villagers by the landowner, William Wallis, in order to increase the profitability of his land, in the late 1500s. At this time, the continuing practice of copyholding tenants paying rent, (a common practice following the 14th century years of pestilence), was no longer proving profitable, as the value of rents was diminishing. Instead, he realised that to enclose his demesne meant he could cultivate his own crops and raise his own sheep. But that this could only be achieved with the agreement of his tenants whose rights were enshrined in the court rolls. He therefore

enlisted the cooperation of three of his tenants who had already accumulated large landholdings, by offering them attractive new leaseholds, and reshuffling strips to his advantage, in consolidating the demesne. By this stratagem he avoided having to negotiate with the whole community, who probably would have realised that this would have deprived them of fallow land, sheep's dung and corn stubble commonly shared by the whole community; not to mention their loss of access to the resources of 'the waste'. On the other hand, a more generous lord could have explained to the whole community of tenants the obvious advantages of enclosed consolidated land holdings, and the less obvious ones of the greater security of a leasehold, as opposed to a copyhold, and of the increase in the value of their crops and wool.

While one cannot generalise from the Ashley experience, this gradual dismembering of the common fields continued on most other estates. In Martin, for

Fig.2 Stages recorded in the consolidation of strips in Tidpit tithing, and the development of ladder fields, Martin 1788.

example, in 1518, although the strips then numbered 1500, after rapid enclosure between 1518 and 1606, and subsequent periods, the strips recorded in 1788 numbered merely 180. The 1788 Estate Map of Martin (2) reveals much evidence of this dismembering of a 'strip landscape' and consolidation into larger units. Enclosure was apparently by informal means (3). So, by 1788, the enclosure of much of the parish was well advanced. This consolidation not infrequently led into the formation of 'ladder fields' (4 and fig.2).

In this period, before that of the Parliamentary Enclosures, the common fields in many parishes were reduced by 'informal agreements' i.e. negotiation, between tenants and landowner, to promote strip consolidation, but few records have survived. Overall, however, Chapman estimates that 51% of open field systems in Hampshire were enclosed by this method (ref. xviii). He also records several formal agreements in the late 1500s and early 1600s, of which 'an agreement to enclose Kingsclere's Sandford Common' in 1599 is one (5).

18th century Parliamentary Enclosures brought fewer problems, as the consolidation of fields and greater independence for the farmers were seen to be advantageous, and transitions were on the whole peaceful. In South Hampshire some commoners welcomed the chance to gain access to small units of market gardening land (6). There was, however, some contesting where tenants got together prematurely and illegally enclosed the fields, as at Bishop Waltham (7).

Compared with the relatively peaceful enclosure of the common fields, the enclosure of the commons or 'waste' produced more problems and protests from the medieval period onwards. In Hampshire, the peak period for these enclosures was the mid 18th to the mid 19th centuries. The Milne Map of 1781 (fig.1) reveals the extensiveness of the commons then. For example; from the northern boundary of Southampton Common an almost continuous area of commons extended northwards through Shirley, Nutshalling (Nursling), Stoneham, Chilworth, Baddesley, Anfield (Ampfield), Cranbury and Abbots Wood. However, it is not difficult to appreciate why these lands were not developed earlier. Most are underlain by sands and gravels, which yield poor soils, or by heavy clays, originally difficult to work until the arrival of machine driven ploughs. There was also an increasing demand for building land, particularly in the late 19th and the 20th centuries. Any late 20th century map of the area shows the impact of the response.

Although defined as 'waste', the woodland and heath that comprised much of the commons contained a large range of resources, which to a greater or lesser extent were utilised by the local inhabitants, who, while not the owners of the land, had 'rights'. These included pasture for sheep, cattle and goats; fuel, including furze, wood, coal and peat; timber for house building, hurdles and farm equipment; bracken for thatch and livestock litter. Their strength lay in their great diversity which resourceful locals exploited and developed. The minerals found there, besides coal and peat, presented a wide variety: stone, glass-sand, iron ore, gypsum,

Fig.3 Brickworks recorded on Chilworth Common

fuller's earth and brick earth. In Hampshire, exploited minerals were present in many parishes; twelve are recorded on the Milne map. They include for example, the Sowley Iron Works, about 3m. west of Exbury and 'brick kilns' at Alverstoke, Beauworth, Bishop Waltham (2), East Tisted, East Woodhey, Gosport, Lymington, Petersfield, and Widley. One also appears on the Chilworth Estate Map of 1755 (fig.3). So, industrial activity on the commons was not unusual.

With this volume of activity, it is not difficult to imagine the impact on the lives of the local inhabitants when they were suddenly deprived of such resources, a significant part of their 'commons economy'. Contests arose between tenants and landlords, between rival communities and groups, some of whom lived in primitive dwellings on the common, and eked out a marginal existence as their ancestors had done for centuries. Wickham, for example, had 'squatter settlements with small plots' (8). Appeals were difficult to define because of the complexities surrounding the claimants 'rights', which varied from parish to parish, as the records did. A good illustration of the problems arising from the complexities of the 'rights' of the inhabitants of Ampfield (formerly Anfield) occurred in 1692. In that year the Court of Chancery ruled that the copyholders had the right to 'dig for stone, coal, earth, marl, chalk, sand and gravel', and 'use common pasture viz Cranbury Common, Hiltingbury Common, Ampfield Common, Bishops Wood, Pit Down and Merdon Down for all their commonable cattle.....' (fig.1), and 'to cut furze and thorn bushes on common ground to repair hedges and to feed their cattle in the three coppices called South Holmes, Hele Coppice, and Holman Coppice, and the right to mast there'. Only twelve years later, the tenants were given more rights, such as the lopping of trees and the cutting of timber necessary for the repair of bridges, and also the harvesting of hazel, fern, acorns etc. for their own use (9). But without such documentary evidence, rights in other commons were difficult to prove.

Fig.4 Half Moon Common (beyond the road) from Stagbury Hill.

The Half Moon Common (fig.4) dispute provides a fairly typical example of the kind of problem that arose when the whole of that common was arbitrarily enclosed in the 1870s, by a member of the landowner's family. This was opposed by an active member of the Commons Preservation Society. But how? Where was the evidence? Fortunately, the evidence lay in 'an old box with three locks' in the possession of one of the copyholders, who also knew who held the keys. Traditionally, it was believed to contain an entitlement to the rights of pasture that were claimed by the tenants. Upon opening the box, it was found to contain a decree by Queen Elizabeth I's Lord Chancellor, declaring that the tenants of Cadnam Manor were entitled to a right of pasture; irrefutable evidence (10). More often, however, when no written records had survived, rights were handed down orally, but were more difficult to claim, unless continuity could be proved, usually by the older members of the community.

On the other hand, many proposed commons enclosures were settled amicably. In Hampshire, two

Fig.5 Bramdean Common

stand out: Bramdean and Aldershot. The Manor of Bramdean was owned by the Warden and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford, who were also 'Lord of the Manor'. Towards the end of the 18th century there was a decision by the College that the waste, comprising woodland and heath, should be developed and maintained for the benefit of the College tenants in Bramdean who had the right of grazing. In 1877 there was an unsuccessful attempt to 'inclose the common'. In 1950, the College conveyed 57 acres of open common

Fig.6 Magdalen College 'Keep Out' notice, Bramdean Common.

land to Winchester Rural District Council by a Deed of Gift, under the Open Spaces Act. The College retained the woodland, but opened it to the public (figs.5 and 6). Aldershot's enclosure stemmed from the need to

provide a home for a growing military force in the mid 19th century. This required much additional land, and the uncultivated gravelly heath of Aldershot Common seemed ideal, and was selected. Her Majesty's Ordnance purchased 2,386 acres in 1853, and '10 acres for the labouring poor' who had been deprived of their rights (11).

Although the Hampshire commons have been drastically reduced from their original extent, many still remain, so preserving open, and attractive countryside to be enjoyed not just by the tenants, but by everyone. 'Negotiation' seems now to be the established mode, in a period where the response to human needs and the preservation of the natural environment are foremost.

References.

1. Gilbert, Kate, The Break-up of the Common Fields, in *The History of Ashley*, 1992, pp. 84-90.
2. HRO 3M86/15.
3. Chapman,John and Seeliger, Sylvia, *A Guide to Enclosure of Hampshire, 1700 – 1900*, 1997, p.51.
4. Campbell, George, Reconstructing the Former Landscape of Martin, *HFC Newsletter* 54 Autumn 2010, pp.16-17.
5. Chapman and Seeliger, *op.cit.* p,143.
6. Watts, G.W., Three Hampshire Landscapes, *HFC Newsletter* 60 Autumn 2013 pp.27-29.
7. Biddell, Barbara, *Bishop Waltham, A History*, 2012, pp.45-46.
8. Chapman and Seeliger, *op.cit*. p.xvii.
9. Hallett, Elizabeth and Wood, Anita, *Ampfield Through the Ages*, 2000, p.21.
10. Tavener, L.E., *The Common Lands of Hampshire*, 1957, pp.80-82.
11. Chapman and Seeliger, *op.cit*. p.9.

A Nineteenth-Century Boundary Stone at Botley

David Chun

Among an interesting collection of photographic negatives in the Hampshire Record Office known as the Florence Panton Bequest (195M85), which has been deposited by the Lower Test Archaeological Study Group, are several images of places associated with William Cobbett at Botley, including ones of Cobbett's Stone, Cobbett's Tree and Cobbett's Pool. There are two prints of Cobbett's Stone (195M85/11), a boundary stone bearing the initials 'WC' and the date 1805, apparently erected by Cobbett. The date of the Botley photographs is not known, but they were presumably taken by the early 1950s as one of the photographs of the boundary stone appears to have been reproduced in an article by M.L. Pearl, the Cobbett scholar, which appeared in *The Countryman* in 1951.

Fig 1. William Cobbett's boundary stone

It has been suggested locally that the initials on the stone may not refer to Cobbett but to Winchester College, which owned land near Botley House. Indeed, Cobbett took a lease of part of his garden at Botley from Winchester College in November 1808. However, the inclusion of the date '1805', the year Cobbett acquired Botley House and had begun laying out the grounds, strongly suggests that the 'WC' refers to Cobbett. In that year he established a flower garden and a shrubbery, and had one side of his grounds enclosed with a brick wall eight feet high; the latter still stands and can be seen from Church Lane. The boundary stone seems to have been erected as part of this programme of works, and may perhaps have denoted the boundary between Cobbett's copyhold land and the Winchester College land that he rented.

The discovery of the photograph prompted me to make enquiries as to whether the stone was in existence, and it does indeed still stand in the garden of one of the houses on the modern housing estate known as Hamble Wood that was erected on the site of Cobbett's house (Fig. 1). The erection of boundary stones to denote the boundaries of private property does not appear to have been common in this country. Assuming that Cobbett did erect it, was it something that he had seen done during the years he lived in North America?

References

1 'William Cobbett at Botley', The Countryman, Vol.XLIII, No.2, Summer 1951, pp. 257-265.
2 HRO 41M89/239.
3 Hampshire Record Office holds a photocopy of a plan of the house and grounds made just before the property was sold by Cobbett's mortgagee – Photocopy 59. It is reproduced in June Jones, 'Cobbett and Botley again', Hampshire Field Club Newsletter 13, Spring 1990, p. 3.

Irrigated Water- Meadows on the Lavant

Malcolm Walford

Introduction

Rackham has stated that "after 1500 there came the growth of that supreme technical achievement of English farming, the irrigated water-meadow"(1). It was created to provide livestock, usually sheep, with fresh grass between January and April, the hungry period before grass usually started to grow, to provide grazing. Surprisingly, I have been unable to find any reference to the Lavant water-meadows in either the Sussex Archaeological Collections nor the Sussex County magazine The purpose of this article is to provide information of how the system worked and its application along the course of the river Lavant, between Charlton and Binderton in West Sussex.

Historical context

As with many agricultural improvements, the irrigated water-meadows were first developed on the continent. Rackham (2) wrote that they were "an ancient and elaborate practice in Italy and the Alps", and that the earliest reference in England occurred in 1523 in J. Fitzherbert's "The boke of surveying and improvements". In 1610 Rowland Vaughan (3) of the Golden Valley, who is credited with the introduction of an irrigation system that greatly improved grass and hay production of meadows, published a book on the subject. Another agricultural improver and canal builder, Sir Richard Weston of Sutton Place, Surrey, who had spent the early part of his life in Flanders, introduced Vaughan's system to his lands "raising rich crops from irrigated meadows."(4)

Bowie (5) in his article about "Water meadows in Wessex" agreed with the statement by Dr J R Wordie that the great boom in their construction occurred between 1640 and 1750, and that nearly most suitable sites had been converted into water-meadows by 1790. It was the introduction of root crops, problems with neighbours' water supply and rights, and the expense of maintaining irrigated water meadows, that led to their decline in the 1840s; as Lord Ernle stated by 1837 "the farming industry had passed through a quarter of a century of misfortunes, aggravated by a disordered currency, bank failures, adverse seasons, labour difficulties, agrarian discontent"(6).

A brief description of their construction and use.

I am indebted to an article by Moon and Dean (7) which has provided the following account of the floated or flowing meadows.

They were constructed on the flood plain terrace because of the importance of gradients; it was thought necessary to have a fall of not less than 2 inches to the chain; i.e. about 1:400, because if the gradient was less than this it would be difficult to keep the meadow in a "flowing" condition, and to prevent the water from stagnating in the panes (see below).

At a suitable point, the level of the river is raised by means of a weir provided with a large spill-way and a battery of hatches, so that excess water may be run off in time of flood. The main river passes over the weir, but from just above the weir a broad deep channel leads water to the meadows. This channel is the main carrier and is split up into smaller carriers, the amount of water entering these is controlled by hatches, thereby regulating its distribution to the various parts of the meadow system. The water is intended to pass at about the level of the grass roots across to the "drawns"or drains, which are another system of furrows interconnecting with the smallest carriers to take water away from flooded meadows back to the main river. The various sections of a water meadow between the carriers and drawns are known as "panes"and may be clearly seen on the photo taken by the author in January 2016 (fig.1). The mead man or the drowner ,who was responsible for the maintenance and management of the meadows was highly skilled and needed to use his experience as to the timing and duration of the flooding.

Fig.1 Water meadows at Singleton

The Lavant meadows

> *"On the western side of Sussex, that admirable practice of watering their meadows in a regular, is well understood, and successfully practised. The course of the Lavant river, from its spring-head to Chichester, waters the finest and most productive meadows in the county".*

So wrote the Reverend Arthur Young in 1813 (8). He described the practice of flooding the meadows in December for a three week period, which killed moss (and also got rid of moles), and when young grass began to sprout luxuriantly. It was watered, if necessary, in the spring, for 24 hours each time, and in May it ceased altogether. The Lavant is a winterborne and its duration and volume of flow depended on the amount of rain falling on the chalk downland during the autumn and winter. In the 20th century, usually the water appeared before Christmas and dried up by June.

LIDAR (9) images clearly show that irrigated water-meadows were constructed between Charlton and Singleton (fig.2) and in the vicinity of Preston Farm, Binderton (fig.3). The photo taken by the author in January 2016 shows the Lavant, with Preston farm in the background, in full spate. The Binderton Tithe Map of 1847 (10) shows a number of (main) channels above the river, and the meadows covering more than 100 acres, owned by the Reverend Harcourt of West Dean House and occupied by Reverend Walter Calhoun. The Singleton Tithe Map (11) shows that the Duke of Richmond owned some of the meadows, others being

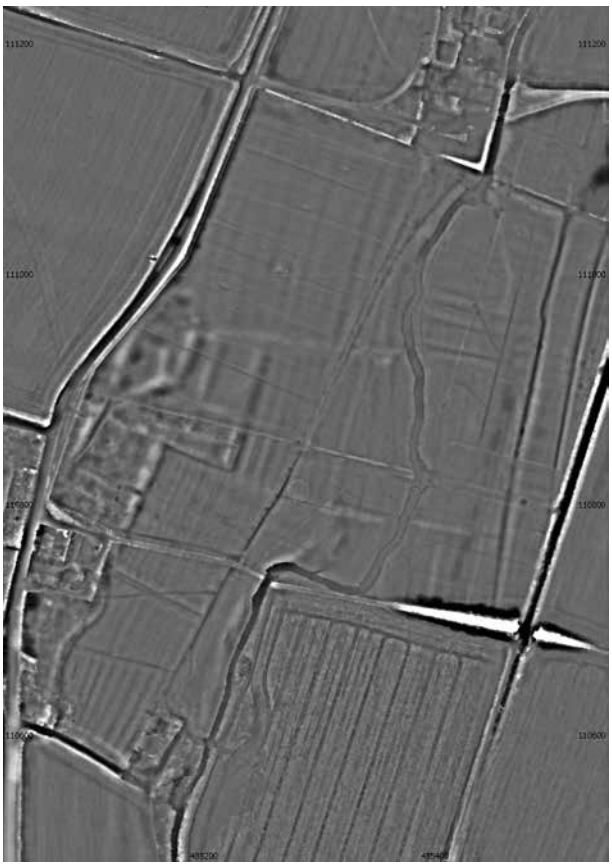


Fig.2 LIDAR image of water meadows.

owned by the Reverend Woods as glebe land.

There were undoubtedly water-meadows opposite the present West Dean mansion because the Highways Authority, following flooding of the main Chichester to Midhurst road to the south of Singleton village in the 1990s, diverted the river further south on to the estate and removed the sluice gates . When Newbury (12) wrote his tale about the Lavant in 1987, the ditches and sluices could still be seen in the grounds of the Weald and Downland museum. In February 2016 I was shown the old course of the river under the main road and the dried up bed of the previous route, but any sluices had been removed.

In 1804 Sir James Peachey, 1st Lord Selsey, rebuilt the manor house, expanded the estate, diverted the main Chichester/Midhurst road and landscaped the park (13) – the water-meadows probably disappeared at this time. LIDAR images for this area show a complex picture of irregularities below the surface of the sheep pastures that need further investigation. It is probable

Fig.3 The Lavant at Binderton

that John Lewknor, who built the original manor house in the time of James I, was the creator of the water meadows but this needs further research.

Unfortunately the author was unable to access the West Dean Estate archives which are in the process of transfer back to the West Sussex Record Office, so has been thwarted in finding out more about the date and cost of the creation of the Lavant water-meadows, but is hopeful of providing this in a further article.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Alice Thorne, archaeologist, of "The Secrets of the High Woods "project for her invaluable help, Dr Caroline Adams for her encouragement and help, Roger Campion of the Weald and Downland Museum and the ever helpful staff at the West Sussex Record office. Permission to reproduce the LIDAR map is also appreciated.

References

1 Rackham. O . (1993 reprint) *The History of the Countryside*. pp 338 -339.3
2 Rackham. O. as above
3 Wikipedia - Sir Richard Weston
4 Wikipedia - Rowland Vaughan.
5 Bowie. G.G.S (1987) Water meadows in Wessex in *The Agricultural History Review* Vol.35
6 Ernle, Lord (1936 edition) *English Farming – Past & Present* - p.350
7 Moon. H. P. and Green F.H.W. (1940) Water meadows in southern England in *The Land of Britain part 89 Hampshire* ed. By L. Dudley Stamp.
8 Young, Revd. A. (1813) General view of the Agriculture of the County of Sussex pp 222-223.
9 LIDAR – Light detection and ranging, using airborne laser sensors to highlight subtle archaeological features on the ground.
10 WSRO TD W14 – Binderton Tithe Map 1847
11 WSRO TD W110 – Singleton Tithe Map 1847
12 Newbury . K. (1987) *The River Lavant* pp 7.
13 *The House past & present* – an undated pamphlet produced by West Dean College.

Forest and Fringe

George Watts

When in 1906 the brand new SS Mauretania sailed past the Isle of Wight and into the Solent, the first English landscapes the American visitors clustered on the rail would have seen were those on the two sides of Southampton Water – gentle cliffs broken by small estuaries, low hills, muddy foreshores and stony beaches, partially covered by largely deciduous woods and hedgerows, and interrupted by some notable buildings: on the starboard side were Netley Castle and the Netley hospital, and on the port side the Tudor Calshot Castle and Capability Brown's Cadland estate - before the spires and warehouses of Edwardian Southampton came into sight.

On the starboard, major changes had been taking place in the preceding sixty years. Extensive ancient commons had, with very little protest, been enclosed, and had become a prosperous landscape of smallholdings and strawberry fields (1). But on the port side, just beyond the gentle coastline, was perhaps the most disputed English countryside of all, William the

Conqueror's New Forest. In about 1079 William had identified the old Jutish province of Ytene as a suitable location for what was to be his favourite hunting ground; he had cleared settlements, allowed arable land to revert to open heath, taken land from many of the surviving settlements, and to protect the deer, had arbitrarily imposed a harsh Forest Law (2). The Forest, of which in 1280 this coastline was part, became the terrain for bitter disputes between the Norman kings and their officers, and the local feudal lords and their tenants (3). The Conqueror had unwittingly created an area for disputation, which has lasted 900 years.

William and his Norman successors were, in the form of the Forest Law, imposing the royal will on an already complex society and landscape. The old Jutish territory, and 500 years of Saxon settlement, had evolved into a sophisticated pattern of land use and exploitation – open arable fields and closes, large interlocking areas of common heath and woodland pasture, an agreed pattern of woodland management, of pannage, coppicing, and of turf, heath and peat cutting. It was already overseen by what was to become English Common Law, and it was hunted by the Saxon kings (4).

Fig.1 Forest to Fringe; Cadland 18c.

The eastern coastal fringe, in recent years known as The Waterside, at first inside, later partly outside the Forest, was from the beginning a scene of uncertainty. In Domesday Book, in the large royal manor of Eling: "in the Forest 16 villagers …were appropriated; also of woodland …and honey, all of which are now missing … they do not know the number of hides"(4). At Fawley, on the coast further south, there were two estates: at one "it used to answer for two hides; now for one virgate, because the seven others are in the Forest". At the other Fawley manor: "It answered for one hide …now for nothing …now it is in the Forest; the King put it there"(5). The Domesday Book clerks had clearly struggled to interpret the documents available to them and the evidence given by local jurors. The history of the Forest and its fringes has long remained full of such ambiguities.

In the words of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, when he succeeded to the throne, William Rufus "sent for all Englishmen …and promised them the best law that there ever had been in this country, and forbade every unjust tax and granted people the woods and hunting rights – but it did not last any time"(6). All of the Conqueror's Norman successors were to be in constant dispute with landowners and their tenants about the application of the Forest Law, in Hampshire and elsewhere. The forests became a major issue in the civil war, which culminated in the MagnaCarta in 1215, so much so that a separate charter, the Charter of the Forest, was issued in 1217 and extended in 1225. This charter was to become the longest surviving unaltered statute in English Law, superseded only with the Wild Creatures and Forest Laws Act of 1971 (7).

The Forest Charter, however, had done little more than establish ground rules for the management of the Forest disputes which were to occur in many guises into the 21st century. New participants in the form of five religious houses with possessions and interests in the Forest and its fringes were to enter the fray between 1134 and 1239 (8). Medieval monasteries, in parallel with their contemplative functions, had developed energetic policies for maximising their incomes. The Cistercian Abbey of Beaulieu, founded in the Forest by King John himself, were to prove to be particularly vigorous landlords. In 1317, for example, they were to provoke a striking example of a Forest dispute (9).

Heaths and woodlands were only two of the venues for medieval disputes. The waters of the coasts and creeks with their valuable fishing and foreshore rights were just as vigorously contested. In 1278 "Brother Hugh of Beaulieu Abbey and others came armed with bows and arrows, axes, swords, hauberks and other weapons, and assaulted two fishermen and wounded their servants". The fishermen turned out to be agents of the city of Southampton, testing the waters (10).

Foreshore rights were also valuable perquisites. Seven centuries after the Beaulieu affair, the late David Stagg became involved in a protracted dispute lasting 70 years between the AGWI Petroleum Corporation with the Cadland Estate, and the Crown Estate Commission, about the foreshore rights at Fawley and Cadland The matter was only settled, if not resolved, in 1996 (11).

In the 1530s the combative religious houses had been swept away, to be replaced by lay landowners equally anxious to exploit the resources of the Forest and its fringe. In particular one of Henry's ministers, Thomas Wriothesley, soon to be the first Earl of Southampton, acquired both Beaulieu and Titchfield Abbeys, the lords of Cadland. At the same time, the priorities of the Forest were changing. An increasing national demand for timber and other woodland products was becoming more important than the ancient concerns of the protection of the deer and limitations on assarting. This was signalled by Henry VIII himself in his Act for the Preservation of Woods of 1543 (12). A striking example of the value of timber is recorded in the Swainmote Court of 1634. Two Londoners, apparently brothers, had "entered the forest of the Lord King" and "within the king's demesne woods …cut and felled one thousand five hundred oaks and beeches worth £1000, and sold the same". They were fined £2000 (13).

The king in 1634 was Charles I, and 1635 was half way through the Eleven Years Tyranny, during which he was ruling without the support of Parliament. One of the unpopular expedients with which Charles attempted to rely was the exploitation of the resources of the forests (14). Thomas Wriothesley, 4th Earl of

Southampton and lord of Beaulieu, was at this time Lord Warden of the Forest, and became critical of the king's policies. When Parliament was finally recalled as the Short Parliament of 1640, Wriothesley spoke strongly in the House of Lords against royal policy, and supported Parliament's Act for the Certainty of Forests (15). The Earl joined the King's side when the Civil War broke out; but this had become the second occasion in English history that a dispute in the Forest was a significant factor in a civil war; in this case a fatal one.

Problems continued into the 18th century and beyond (16). There were 24 Forest Statutes between 1667 and the Wild Creatures and Forest Laws Act of 1971 (17). In 1791 another ingredient had been added to the rich mixture that makes up the character of the Forest and its fringes when William Gilpin identified the Forest as a fine example of the Picturesque. This ancient environment was not just to be valued for its deer, its timber, charcoal, farms and commons, or even the fine houses of the wealthy. It had an intrinsic value of its own, to be preserved and cared for. Gilpin's book Remarks on Forest Scenery planted the seeds of the contemporary valuing of the natural history of the district (18). Following Gilpin along the turnpike roads, then the railway and more recently the motorway have come a new interest group of articulate visitors and residents, who, in their BMWs and their comfortable homes, are still with us.

Fig.2 Fringe to Power Station: Decommissioned Fawley

The 24 Statutes and many other pieces of national policy were to bring into existence a plethora of bodies responsible for the oversight of the Forest: among them a New Forest District Council, a New Forest Natiional Park, a Forestry Commission, Historic England, and Natural England. Like the Charter of the Forest 900 years before this has done little more than establish some ground rules. Within the authorities disputes have continued to sprout like mushrooms. An example has been the planting, felling and management of coniferous plantations. It was an issue which particularily engaged the late Colin Tubbs in his classic book The New Forest (19). In particular, the role of the Forestry Commission continues to anger lovers of other aspects of the Forest. The doyen of Forest commentators, Anthony Passmore, in April this year (2016), wrote of "a simple-minded determination to destroy anything that does not fit into a rigid (ecological) dogma" (20).

On the Waterside in 1772, twenty years before Gilpin, London banker Robert Drummond had bought the former Titchfield Abbey manor of Cadland, and had engaged the architect Henry Holland and the landscape gardener Capability Brown to design a house and an extensive landscaped park overlooking Southampton Water (21 and Fig.1). As with many similar 18th century projects, what remained of a medieval manor – manor house, cottages and a mill – disappeared. It was to be followed by other country estates and marine villas in the Forest and along the coast. This was the coastline which was to be seen by the Lusitania passengers.

But the pace of landscape change was accelerating. In 1920, only 150 years after Robert Drummond's purchase, part of his estate near Fawley was sold to a petroleum company, AGWI, to build what in retrospect has been called "a small refinery". In August 1921 the company chairman reported that "in exactly one year we had on our Director's table, a tin of petrol made at our own refinery". Forty years later in 1951, the greater part of the remaining Cadland estate was sold to the Esso Company (now ExxonMobile), and the largest refining and petrochemical plant in the UK was constructed (22 and Fig.2). To the south, the Fawley Power Station (now decommissioned) followed in 1965. This was the landscape seen by the first passengers of the liner QE2 in 1969.

It had been a remarkable story. Part of the south-east corner of Jutish Ytene had become a medieval manor, then a fine Capability Brown landscape, and then a great industrial complex. And now, in 2016, there is yet another proposed change, for a community of 1000 dwellings, with shops, offices, schools and other facilities, to be built on the site of the former Power Station – a proposal which will be energetically disputed by the successors of William Gilpin (23).

My thanks to Felicity Beard for her contribution to this article.

References:

1. Watts G. 'Three Hampshire Landscapes' *HFC Newsletter* 60.
2. Nisbet J. and Lascelles G. 'Forestry and the New Forest' *VCH Hants* II, 1903 p. 409 sq.
3. Stagg D.J. *A Calendar of New Forest Documents 1244-1334,* Hampshire Record Series III, 1979, no.196.
4. Yates E.M. *The Landscape of the New Forest in Medieval Times,* King's College London Occasional Papers 24, 1985, p.21.
5. Munby J. *Domesday Book,* Phillimore, 1982, pp 1.27,3.19, NF2.1.
6. ed. Douglas D and Greenaway G.W. *English Historical Documents* II, 1953, p.166.
7 .Holt J.C. *Magna Carta* 2nd ed. 1993, p.512 sq.
8. Beaulieu, Breamore, Netley, Titchfield; the Saxon foundation, Twynham was reconstituted as Christchurch.
9. *Calendar of Patent Rolls 1324-27,* p.67
10. ed. Stapleton B. *Conflict and Community in Southern England,* Alan Sutton, 1992, p.3.
11. Stagg D.J. 'Hythe Foreshore: Disputed Rights' *HFC Newsletter* 27 pp.viii-ix.
12. *VCH Hants* II, p.427.
13. Stagg D.J. *Calendar of New Forest Documents; 15th to 17th Centuries,* Hampshire Record Series V, 1983, p.76.
14. *VCH Hants* op.cit. p.429.
15. *DNB* p.2335.
16. See for example, ed. Reeves R. *Use and Abuse of a Forest Resource 1634-1700,* New Forest Museum, 2006; and ed. Roberts P. *Called to Account: New Forest Doccunents 1746-1773,* New Forest Museum, 2008.
17. Stagg D.J. *Calendar of New Forest Documents: 15th to 17th Centuries* op.cit. pp 289-90.
18. Gilpin W. *Remarks on Forest Scenery,* London, 1791.
19 Tubbs C.R. *The New Forest,* Lyndhurst 2nd edn, 2001.
20. *Lymington Times,* 2nd April 2016.
21. Hedley G. and Rance A. *Pleasure Grounds,* Milestone, 1987, p.48.
22. Merley C. and F. *Waterside: A Pictorial Past,* Ensign, 1992; Merley C. and Parkes G. *Fawley and the Southern Waterside*, Waterside Heritage, 2010.
23. *Southern Daily Echo* 3rd February 2016.

Archaeology

Editor: David Allen, Hampshire Cultural Trust, Chilcomb House, Bar End, Winchester, SO23 8RD
tel (01962) 826738; *email:* david.allen@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk

Editorial

David Allen

There's no doubt metal detecting is a great hobby and it must be gratifying when hours of searching are rewarded by a remarkable find. And if you didn't watch BBC 4's *The Detectorists* (two series of gentle comedy written and directed by Mackenzie Crook) in 2014-15, you missed a real treat. Detectorists can also be great allies when it comes to excavation but, as is often the case, there is another side to the hobby and one which doesn't sit well with archaeology.

The problem of 'night-hawkers', those who search sites – known sites and protected sites – after dark and without permission is a constant concern, but one of the worrying developments of recent years is the proliferation of metal detecting rallies. These events, which can number their participants into the hundreds, descend on a particular area and offer a weekend of detecting for people from both Britain and abroad.

The problem comes with the recording of the hundreds, if not thousands, of finds generated by the rally, the realisation that not all can be documented in the time available, and the fact that some items disappear back home with the finders. The Portable Antiquities Scheme managers are aware of the issue and publish a 'code of conduct' https://finds.org.uk/getinvolved/guides/rallycode but there is evidence that some rallies are failing to follow the recommendations and finds are vanishing abroad. The experience last September in the very shadow of Danebury was not a good one, and the organisers propose to repeat it this autumn. Katie Hinds, the Hampshire PAS Finds Liaison Officer is looking at what safeguards can be added, and if there is anyone who feels they can offer a day or two to help record the finds in the field, do please get in touch.

Medieval gold, sapphire and garnet ring from Hursley

Back on the other side of the fence a number of 'treasure' items have recently been acquired by the Hampshire Cultural Trust, with the standout object a medieval gold, sapphire and garnet ring from Hursley.

Down to Earth

The *People of the Heath* project, examining some of the barrow cemetery first classified by a young Stuart Piggott (a native of Petersfield) was quick off the mark this year and their first digging of the season is done, with more to follow in September. Excavations on Barrow 8 revealed a fine Collared Urn, which they were

The urn is slowly revealed, prior to being lifted.

Barrow 8; George Anelay and Stuart Needham discuss the excavation of the Collared Urn with Claire Woodhead, Conservator with the HCT.

allowed to lift (by Historic England) and a large spread of charcoal, which was left in situ. The urn has been given a CT scan at Odstock Hospital and is currently undergoing micro-excavation at Chilcomb House. Once again, there is evidence for a possible organic object adjacent to the pottery vessel, revealed by a different colour and texture of sand, and it will be interesting to see how this turns out. The project can be followed at www.peopleoftheheath.com/category/bulletins/.

Other excavations in the county include a return to Meonstoke for Tony King and the University of Winchester and a Community Archaeology workforce. Here a hexagonal foundation has been uncovered, near to the Roman villa site, and the latest news is that pits with ritual deposits have been found, which appear to

A hexagonal foundation at Meonstoke

A mint coin of Ethelred the Unready (978 - 1016)

confirm the view that it is a shrine.

On the rescue front, the discovery of at least 124 skeletons at Penton Corner, Andover by Cotswold Archaeology represents a hitherto unknown late Saxon 'execution cemetery'. Clues were abundant -intercutting shallow graves, bound hands, prone bodies and gibbet postholes - but finds were few. A mint coin of Ethelred the Unready (978 - 1016) is probably the best indicator of date for this unexpected find. There are parallels to the execution cemetery excavated by N Grey Hill on Stockbridge Down just before World War II, as well as finds at Lopcombe Corner, Meon Hill and Oliver's Battery.

The cemetery may well have something to add to the picture of the Scandinavian impact on the area. The late Saxon period has been the subject of conferences recently, with the millennial anniversary of Cnut's accession, and a new book Danes in Wessex, edited by Ryan Lavelle and Simon Roffey, was formally launched at the City Museum in Winchester in March.

Royal Blood

The discovery also ties in with the *Royal Blood* theme being pursued by the Hampshire Cultural Trust. Exhibitions and events are planned for the Community and Flagship venues, the University of Winchester (a special lecture series) and open spaces. The main exhibition (September to March) will see the 'Winchester Treasure' (Iron Age gold torcs and fibulae) and 'Alton Hoard' (coins of Tincomarus) on show at some of the three Flagship venues (Basingstoke, Winchester, Gosport). Community shows at Alton, Christchurch and Eastleigh will tell a more local story.

Turning the Tide: the coming of Cnut

Archaeology Section Annual Conference, November 2015

Jan Bristow & Kay Ainsworth

The conference celebrated the coming anniversary of the accession of King Cnut (1016), by looking at local and regional events in the 10th and 11th centuries.

The first paper, by Dr Ryan Lavelle, focused on the reign of Aethelred 'the Unready' (978-1016) and gave some idea of the peace-making efforts during this turbulent period. One of the principal 'movers and shakers' was Aethelward, Ealdorman of the Western Provinces, who, with Bishop Aelfheah, brought Olaf Tryggvason to the King at Andover in 993 'where Aethelred bestowed gifts on him royally'. This is probably 10th century speak for 'paid him lots of protection money'! Aethelward's *chronicon* described peace-making a century earlier in Alfred's reign and he was well aware of the significance of the process. He and others had royal permission to buy peace 'for areas which…they had rule over'.

Dr Lavelle also offered a possible connection between the fifty or more Viking bodies from the Ridgeway Hill mass grave (see below) and the Andover peace treaty. The dead, he felt, might represent a ship's crew of the time. The treaty stated that 'every trading ship...is to have peace', so had this crew transgressed in some way or been executed before the enforcing of the treaty? The location of the burial is significant, being near royal estates and overlooking Portland, where the first Viking raid in Wessex occurred in the 8th century.

Dr Tim Bolton then gave a distinctive view of the reign of Cnut the Great (1016-1035). His father, and fellow invader, was Sveyn Forkbeard of Denmark, who defeated Aethelred in 1010 and ruled briefly from the northern half of England, before dying suddenly. Cnut went home, but planned a re-invasion of England and on his return found his opponent was Edmund Ironside, Aethelred's son. They met at Deerhurst, Gloucestershire, to divide the kingdom, but Edmund then died and Cnut was left in sole charge.

Dr Bolton provided interesting evidence of the contemporary power politics through the study of surviving charters. A strict hierarchy in the listing of witness names on these documents – most powerful at the top - demonstrated power shifts over time! The charters also show names connected to the old Royal family who went over to the Danes - having perceived a failure of the old regime. The sources for Cnut show how he was known by the different countries he ruled over: a text from Winchester extols his virtues as a perfect ruler; while one from Scandinavia emphasises his prowess as a war leader.

Dr Gareth Williams then concentrated on a specific form of archaeological evidence - coin hoards. They show that in late Anglo-Saxon England coinage was very strictly controlled, with a number of small mints situated along the Kent and Sussex coast, set up by Aethelred's father, Edgar (943-975). These mints ensured that all coinage in circulation was native Saxon.

The way Cnut was portrayed on coinage changed throughout his reign, reflecting how he wanted to be seen by his subjects. At first he was an Anglo-Saxon king (the quatrefoil issue), then a warrior (with pointed helmet) and finally a 'Roman emperor' (the short cross issue). The final coinage may well reflect that by the end of his reign Cnut was ruler of a Scandinavian Empire, which included England. The Scandinavian countries did not have the same sort of economy as England and the hoards there contain a variety of issues and bits of chopped up jewellery known as 'hack silver'; they had more of a bullion economy. Thus the large-scale coinage reflecting a Christian king is very much an English means of giving Cnut a political and religious identity.

After discussion of several well-known hoards, Dr Williams gave us up-to-date information on the Lenborough Hoard, from Buckinghamshire. This has only recently been declared 'treasure' under the Treasure Act. It contained over 4,000 coins, mostly of the same type (short cross) dating from the 1020s to 1035. These silver pennies were minted in large quantities and if a smaller value was needed for a transaction, the coin was cut in half. The fact that there are no quatrefoil or pointed helmet coins present indicates a gap between the hoards of Aethelred and

The Lenborough Hoard

this find. Dr Williams suggested that this may be because the earlier Cnut coins were small and light and may have been discarded already. His interesting conclusion was that there are different types of hoard from this period- 'saving hoards' from Aethelred's time and 'currency hoards' from Cnut's time, so perhaps the more substantial coins were favoured in this regard.

The afternoon session began with Dr Louise Loe describing 'A Mass Grave from Ridgeway Hill, Dorset' providing an update on the latest scientific research into the 52 skeletons found during excavations in 2009. These works, by Oxford Archaeology in advance of Olympic preparations, identified a rich landscape of prehistoric and later sites, and the investigation of a feature on the crest of Ridgeway Hill revealed the mass burial.

As skulls and disarticulated bodies started to appear, the project turned into a three month excavation during which the complex deposit was cleaned by hand and recorded. It was decided to identify and

lift the skeletons individually. The precise number of bodies was uncertain, but a skull count suggested a minimum of 47 individuals with a maximum of 52; all were male. It appeared likely that all the individuals were executed. They had been decapitated, and not very skilfully, as several attempts had been made to remove their heads. The descriptions of the cut marks amounting to 188 blade wounds on neck and jaw were particularly gruesome. It was thought that more than one person acted as executioner, using swords.

The Ridgeway Hill mass grave

Radiocarbon analysis produced a date of 970-1025 and isotopic analysis from tooth enamel showed that the group came from various Scandinavian countries; therefore all could be considered Vikings and they probably represent the captured crew of a sea-borne raiding party. The date places the burial in the reign of Aethelred the Unready (978-1016) and it was a period of intense Viking activity, described in the *Anglo Saxon Chronicle*, with attacks on Dorset being recorded.

In 1002, desperate to restore peace in his kingdom, Aethelred ordered the killing of all Danes. This was known as the 'St Brice's Day Massacre' The Dorset Ridgeway execution burial may relate to this event, it probably reflects the violent end of a Viking raiding party captured during these turbulent times. Perhaps the missing heads were erected on poles, as was the custom at that time, to deter other raiders from threatening the region. Another mass burial of the period, interpreted as 33 Vikings was found at St John's College Oxford in 2009.

Professor David Hinton's talk 'The Archaeology of Turbulent Times' brought the day to a close. We had been left in no doubt from the earlier speakers that the 9th & 10th centuries in England were periods of bloody conflict, so an image representing more settled times came as a welcome break! The image chosen by Professor Hinton to open his talk was the peaceful scene from the 11th century *Liber Vitae* in which King Cnut and Queen Emma are seen presenting a gold altar cross to New Minster.

The *Liber Vitae*, probably produced in Winchester in the familiar 'Winchester style', stresses continuity, as does Cnut's marriage to Aethelred's widow, which also strengthened his claim to the throne. The composition also depicts Cnut being crowned by an angel while Christ in Majesty blesses the scene from above. In the absence of the New Minster gold cross, he was able to provide an image of an 11th century example from St Michael's Cathedral, Brussels. Likewise the sword, worn by Cnut symbolising victory over the English people, has

similarities with an 11th century sword found in a moat in Mileham, Norfolk.

It was noted how many swords had been found in 'watery places', perhaps harking back to earlier Pagan traditions when weapons were gifted to the gods. It is more likely, however, that they were simply disposed of when broken or lost during battle. One interesting 10th century sword, possibly lost during an earlier conflict with a Viking raiding party and conceivably an event recorded in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* for 998, was found in the River Frome at Wareham. It has an inscription in Old English which, although very worn, translates as 'AETHEL ...owns me'. The rest of the name is sadly too worn to decipher. Interestingly, the Saxon Royal house had many family names starting with the same letters such as AETHEL-wulf, AETHEL-bert, etc. It is very tempting to fill in the rest of the name… such as AETHEL-...red?

Professor Hinton turned his attention to the earlier Viking raids of the 9th century. He spoke of the attacks which blighted Alfred's reign (871-899) and once again highlighted Wareham. The Alfredian burh town was described as a *castellum* with a mint and also a church built during the late 8th or early 9th century. It was attacked by raiders, but the church mercifully survived. Recent excavations have revealed an Anglo-Saxon street layout and a 9th century Carolingian silver-gilt sword belt mount, with acanthus decoration. This was possibly lost by a Viking when the army overwintered at Wareham in 875-6.

An impressive Anglo-Saxon silver hoard, also from the Alfredian period, was found at Trewhiddle, St Austell, Cornwall, in 1774. It consisted of a silver chalice, scourge, mounts, brooch, strap ends and pins. All the items were decorated with the same distinctive animal design and the placename Trewhiddle gave its name to this style of art, in vogue during Alfred's reign. Professor Hinton went on to show other objects from this period displaying Scandinavian influences. These included a gilded trefoil brooch with moulded decoration in the Boore style from Longbridge Deverill, Wilts, and a gilded strap slide from Hannington, Hants. Other items, considered either jewellery or bullion, were the gold arm ring from Goodrington and a gold finger ring from Sandy Grove, Sidmouth, both in Devon and a silver strip ring decorated with rows of triangles from Shaftesbury, Dorset. A lead weight from Kingston, Dorset, had a recycled coin of Aethelred I pinned to its top.

Sporadic Viking attacks continued, but it was in Aethelred's reign (978-1016) that the country was seriously threatened. Burning, ravaging and killing occurred, and although tribute was paid the Danes returned and were determined to take the entire country. In 980 Southampton was attacked and in 994 the whole force took winter quarters there following a peace treaty. However other Viking armies continued attacking along the coast and Breamore and Bishops Waltham are recorded as suffering from these raids. The St Brice's Day Massacre had little effect and in 1006 a Danish raiding army destroyed Wallingford. The people of Winchester watched from the safety of their Roman walls as the Viking army, heavy with loot, returned to their ships.

Professor Hinton looked back over this later period to see what influence the Viking presence had on artefacts from that time. Numerous metal items from the traditional Danish areas have been found along the East Coast. They consist of costume fittings, twisted neck and arm rings and brooches, often decorated in the Jellinge, Ringerike, or Urnes styles. He illustrated a Ringerike brooch from the Isle of Ely, and Wessex finds included a gilded bronze brooch in Urnes style from Pitney, Somerset, and stirrups from the River Cherwell, Oxford. The Vikings certainly left their mark.

Danish influence can also be identified in the two remarkable stones found during excavation of the Old Minster in Winchester. A hogback style gravestone was inscribed in Old English 'here lies Gunni earl's companion'. The other was a fragment of frieze found in the infill of the external crypt featuring a mythical story about Sigmund. Prof Martin Biddle suggests that this is part of a scene from the Scandinavian Volsunga

The Sigmund stone.

Saga. One figure is clad in mail and armed with a straight broad blade sword; another man is seen lying on his back and above him a wolf's head can be seen. The frieze may have decorated the east end of the Old Minster.

Cnut's reign began in bloody conflict, but he wanted to conciliate and consolidate the English nation. In the *Liber Vitae* he is presented as he would have wished, as a good Christian king, a peaceful ruler and a generous benefactor of the church. In fact, by most standards of the age, he proved to be a capable ruler for the next twenty years.

Further reading:

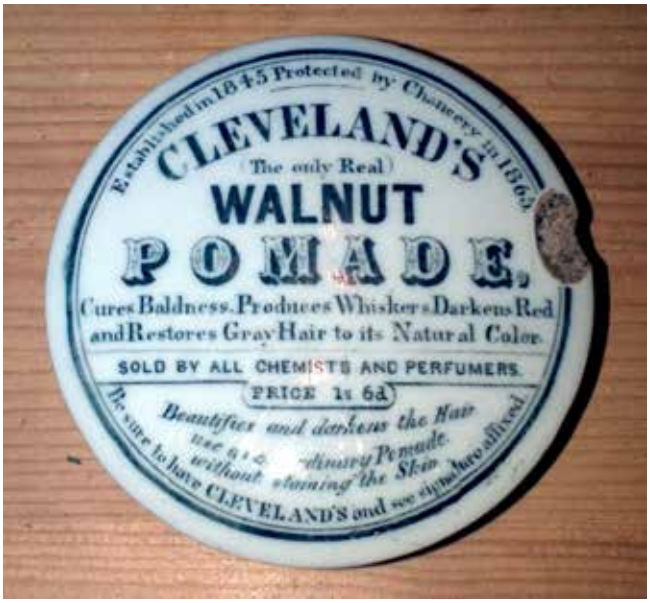
Danes in Wessex: The Scandinavian Impact on Southern England, c.800-1100; edited by Ryan Lavelle and Simon Roffey, Oxbow Books, 2016.

The Thatched Cottage, Alverstoke, Gosport:

A summary report on two Test Pits, dug 17 October 2015

Jan Bristow

Two more Test Pits were opened in the back garden of **The Thatched Cottage**, following the *Test Pit Digging Guide* from Access Cambridge Archaeology (for the location see Newsletter **63**, p10). The Test Pits were dug in 10cm spits, with each layer given a sequential context number. The pit locations were precisely measured from a number of boundary points and the plentiful finds were retrieved by sieving in the same way as before; a detailed list will be lodged with the County Archaeologist. This report simply highlights some of the finds, and shows what kind material was found.



Test pit 2

This was furthest from the house and, as Test Pit 1 in the front garden, contained demolition debris and brick in the upper spits. Among the highlights were a pot lid (from layer 4), describing *Cleveland's Walnut Pomade,* with a date of 1865 (Fig 1). Pomade was a hair cream, derived from apple paste, and was very popular in the Victorian era. Layer 5 had, amongst the usual Victorian glazed pottery fragments, a sandy unglazed sherd with inclusions, which may be early Medieval.

Test Pit 3

This was relatively close to the house, in an area with much less added soil. There was a marked difference in colour between the upper and lower horizons - the basal layers being much greyer. There was again some earlier pottery amongst the mass of Victorian pieces, with a possible early or Middle Saxon grog-tempered sherd in layer 6. Layer 7 contained two rims, one possibly Roman and the other from an unglazed medieval jar.

More work could be done here, and comparisons made with known finds from the area. Archaeological investigation has recently taken place in advance of house-building close by in Alverstoke, and study of this data could assist enormously. It would be good to confirm evidence of the post-Roman occupation in the area. Many prehistoric worked flints were found in both Test Pits, which is to be expected given the location.

The project was carried out by hard-working students and ex-students from St. Vincent College, Gosport, who have now designated themselves the Alverstoke Archaeological Research Group. Opinion on the early pottery was sought from Helen Rees of the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

Dr Edwin Course 1922 – 2016

A Pioneer of Industrial Archaeology

Dr Edwin Course, PhD, FCIT, was born in 1922, and grew up in Tilbury, Essex, and London. During his childhood he developed a lifelong interest in transport, stemming from his father Alfred, a Master Mariner, who later became a Dockmaster and author on maritime subjects.

In the Second World War he served as a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy, primarily on Corvettes like *HMS Kingcup*, in the North Atlantic. Edwin did not recall this time with affection, both because of the privations, but also because he did not find the Navy to his taste.

After the war Edwin undertook various day jobs, including teaching, whilst studying in the evening. He gained a PhD from the London School of Economics. Some of the extra jobs Edwin took brought him into contact with the greatest passion of his life – the railways. He later told tales of his time operating a tea trolley on Victoria Station, and how he found his attention wandering from the customers to the trains.

In 1956 Edwin's life changed dramatically when he was appointed to the staff of the University of Southampton. Here he spent the rest of his career. His subjects were Transport Studies and Industrial Archaeology, and it was at this time that Edwin started to build his remarkable slide collection which has, very recently, been taken into the care of English Heritage.

In the 1960s Edwin's evening classes in Industrial Archaeology began. These soon gained almost cult status, and led to the establishment of the Southampton University Industrial Archaeology Group (SUIAG), the forerunner of Hampshire Industrial Archaeology Society (HIAS). At the same time, the Department of Extra Mural Studies (later the Department of Adult Education) started to run annual weekend and week-long residential courses. These "field trips" ran for almost 40 years, and covered most of the United Kingdom. Over the years they attracted students from around England and Belgium. At their peak, more than 50 would take part – the limit being as many as could fit on a coach.

Meanwhile, SUIAG met monthly, published many books and a Newsletter and a Journal, and undertook surveys of everything from breweries and brickworks in Hampshire to farmsteads. The Hampshire Farm Buildings Survey was a major enterprise. The completed work is deposited at the Hampshire Record Office. SUIAG's practical work was also pioneering with a highlight coming in 1985 when a domestic brewhouse at Southwick was restored and a brew undertaken. A number of offshoot groups developed to follow specific projects and enthusiasms - Industrial Archaeology in Hampshire was the envy of many.

Edwin continued to work at the University, not just in Adult Education, but also in the Departments of Archaeology, Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. He had been active in IA at regional level through the Council for British Archaeology, and nationally through the Association for Industrial Archaeology and transport-related bodies like the Railway and Canal Historical Society. He also maintained an interest in local transport-related societies such as the Society for Nautical Research (South) and the Gosport Railway Society. He was also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Transport and for many years active in the OTTS (Organisation of Teachers in Transport Studies) and the TSSA (Transport Salaried Staff Association).

However, Edwin's interests were wider than IA and transport, and he served as President of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, and as Editor of the Portsmouth Papers. He was also writing numerous articles and a number of books, many of which are still in print, and was involved in media work – TV, radio and films.

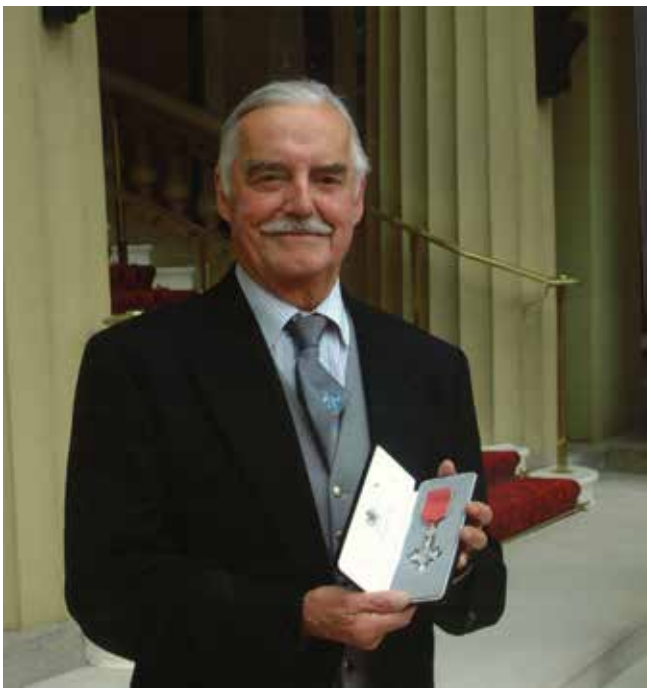
Among the projects which featured large in Edwin's life were the restoration of the Edwardian Water Pumping Station at Twyford (Edwin's efforts resulted in it being scheduled, a remarkable achievement) and the Hockley Viaduct. It was his core sample that revealed the viaduct was not brick, but a mass concrete construction with brick cladding. Again his efforts, with others, eventually lead to the viaduct being restored and it is now being used as a cycle route.

In retirement Edwin continued to be active, lecturing and writing long until ill health prevented him doing so.

This obituary draws heavily on appreciations by Pam Moore in the HIAS newsletter and the Twyford Waterworks Newsletter.

Jack Sturgess MBE

Man of Wessex.



We are sad to report the death of Jack Sturgess, a long time member of the Hampshire Field Club, including service on Council, where he played a valuable role in easing matters during the fraught period leading to the departure of the New Forest Section.

Born in Bitterne Park, Southampton in 1925 he saw himself as a man of Wessex, and despite periods living away, spent the last 35 years living in Bramshaw in the New Forest. Stocks Cross House, chosen for the suitability of the soil as Jack was an enthusiastic gardener, has the Wiltshire/ Hampshire Border passing through the garden.

After Itchen Grammar School, he joined the Royal Marines as an office cadet and trained in Plymouth. War ended before he saw active service.

In 1947 he was allowed early discharge to attend Southampton University to study Law and History where he met Barbara, whom he married in 1948.

His first job was as a lecturer in Law and History at Letchworth Technical College in Hertfordshire. Barbara taught in the village school and they both were involved with the Workers Education Association. Other roles included Principal of Wansfell Short Term Residential Adult Education College in Epping Forest (with Barbara as Bursar) and Vice-Principal of Weybridge Technical College, before, in 1974, he became Further and Higher Education Officer at Hampshire County Council where he stayed, in the ancient capital of Wessex, until retirement as Deputy Chief Education Officer in charge of Further and Higher Education in 1986.

Towards the end of the 70s Barbara was appointed Head Teacher of Landford Village School, in the New Forest, prompting the move to Bramshaw.

In retirement Jack threw himself into grand-parenting, village life and Forest life and developed his interest in genealogy tracing his family back to Bulford, on Salisbury plain in the 18th Century and creating his garden, which also was a venue for memorable parties.

Among the roles he filled in retirement were:

Chair of Parish Council

Member of the New Forest Consultative Panel

Member of the Village Hall Committee

Involvement with social housing and footpaths in Bramshaw and the Bramshaw Trust

Member of the New Forest Natural History and Archaeology Society

Member of the Bramshaw Horticultural Society

Member of the Hampshire Field Club

Member of Probus

Member of the Wiltshire Family History Association

As he was Jack, every membership should be understood as "Active Member", which is why, in 2001, he was awarded the MBE for services to the community.

Jack was someone who got on easily with people and was admired by those who met him. He will be greatly missed.

This tribute is based on the eulogy by his son, Geoffrey, at the Funeral Service where Jack's coffin was draped in the Saxon Battle Flag of Wessex

Footnote: Jack, briefly, became a world famous expert on sheep rolling over cattle grids when a throwaway remark at a Parish Council meeting was picked up by the local, then national, then international press and he was phoned for quotes from as far away as Australia.

Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society

The Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society is governed by an elected Council. Activities are run by elected section committees

Council Members 2015-2016

President	Chris Elmer ✳	president@hantsfieldclub.org.uk
Secretary	Chris Sellen ✳	secretary@hantsfieldclub.org.uk
Treasurer	Sandy McKenzie ✳	smcken@btopenworld.com
Membership Secretary	Jane King	jgking.hfc@gmail.com
Programme Secretary & webmaster	Mike Broderick	wbroderick@lineone.net
Publication Sales Officer	Julia Sandison	publications@hantsfieldclub.org.uk
Editorial Board Representative	David Allen	David.Allen@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk
Secretary to Editorial Board	Pauline Blagden	pauline@blagden.info
Grants Co-ordinator	Alex Lewis	grants@ handsfieldclub.org.uk
Librarian	Jenny Ruthven	J.C.Ruthven@soton.ac.uk
Archaeology Section Representative	Jan Bristow ✳	jan.bristow@virgin.net
Hampshire Papers Repesentative	Dick Selwood	dick@ntcom.co.uk
Historic Buildings Section Representative	Bill Fergie ✳	fergies@onyxnet.co.uk
Landscape Section Representative	Mike Broderick ✳	lanscape@lineone.net
Local History Section Representative	Roger Ottewill✳	rogerottewill@btinternet.com
Ordinary Member (since April 2014)	Marian Gray	marian.gray200@btinternet.com
Ordinary Member (since May 2015)	Karen Wardley	karen.wardley@southampton.gov.uk
Ordinary Member (since May 2015)	Robin Iles	robin.iles@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk
Ordinary Member (since May 2016)	Haighleagh Winslade	h.winslade@gmail.com
Ordinary Member (since May 2016)	Jo Bailey	jovbailey59@gmail.com

✳ indicates a member of the Executive Committee

Editorial Board

David Allen, Chair
Pauline Blagden, Secretary
Nick Stoodley, Studies Editor
Dick Selwood, Newsletter Editor
Tony King
Andy Russel
Simon Sandall

Archaeology Section

Jan Bristow, Chair
Chris Sellen, Secretary
Don Bryan, Treasurer
Kay Ainsworth
Bryony Lalor
Jane Ellis-Schön
Katie Hinds
Robin Iles
Sally Worrall
Ed Donnelly

Landscape

Mike Broderick, Chair
Malcolm Walford, Treasurer
Gordon Ford, Minutes
George Campbell, Programme (jointly with Mike Broderick)
Roy Birch
Marian Gray
Derek Spruce

Historic Buildings

Bill Fergie, Chair
Edward Roberts, Vice Chair
Jean Morrin, Secretary
John Ashworth, Treasurer
John Hare
Karen Parker
Gavin Bowie
Karen Wardley

Local History

Roger Ottewill, Acting Chairman
Val Ottewill, Acting Secretary
Richard Aldous, Treasurer
Mark Page, Newsletter Editor
Sam Butcher
Chris Grover
Michael Hicks
Stephen Lowy
David Roberts
Simon Sandall
Mary South
Katherine Weikert

Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

Programme of Events

August-November 2016

2016

9th Aug.	Tuesday	**Archaeology Section** Evening visit to WARG excavations at Warnford Park.
22nd Sept.	Thursday	**Landscape Section** Afternoon outing to the second season of excavations of the Prehistoric Barrows on Petersfield Heath.
October	Saturday	**Local History Section** AGM and Autumn Outing to Gosport (date to be confirmed).
5th Nov.	Saturday	**Landscape Section** Annual Conference and AGM: 'Andover: Changing Landscapes in and around a Hampshire Market Town'. Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester.
16th Nov.	Wednesday	**HFC & AS** OGS Crawford Lecture 7.30 Peter Symonds College.Further details to follow.
18th Nov.	Friday	**Local History Section** Annual Lecture: Dr Alistair Dougall will speak on 'The Civil War in Hampshire' Timings: exhibition from 6.30, refreshments from 7.00 and the lecture from 7.30 to 8.30 Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry St, Winchester SO23 8SB.
19th Nov.	Saturday	Ar**chaeology Section** Annual Conference & AGM: 'Advances in Prehistory' Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester.

The Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society Newsletter is produced by the Society and printed by Sarsen Press of Winchester.

Information about the Society, its activities and other publications can be found at www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk