Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

No 60, Autumn 2013

A Palaeolithic flint handaxe found during work on constructing a viewing platform at Basing House

Archaeology Historic Buildings Landscape Local History

Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

Contents Autumn 2013

General editor, Dick Selwood

Archaeology *(Section editor, David Allen)*

Editorial	David Allen	1
Egyptology in Bournemouth	Martin Jacques	3

Historic Buildings *(Section editor, Edward Roberts)*

Parsonage Farmhouse, Southington, Overton	Bill Fergie & Edward Roberts	6
'Shack and Track' development at Hookpit, Kings Worthy in the inter-war years	David Fry	9
Revised drawing for John Hare *Looking Again at Winchester Cathedral Nave*		11
Whitchurch Study Day: 21st July 2013	Bill Fergie & Edward Roberts	12

Local History *(Section editor, Mark Page)*

Vi et Armis et Contra Pacem Regis: An 18th-Century Trespass Case at Bursledon and Hound	David Chun	13
Richard Fox and His Pelican Badge	Nicholas Riall	16
Book Reviews		18
Archives and Local Studies News from Hampshire Record Office	David Rymill	20

Landscape *(Section editor, George Campbell)*

Editorial	George Campbell	23
Romsey Extra's 'Deserted' Medieval Settlements?	George Campbell	23
Three Hampshire Landscapes	George Watts	27
The River Hamble at Fairthorne and Curbridge	Malcolm Walford	30

From the President*, Dick Selwood* 31

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Archaeology

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Editorial

David Allen

The Axe Factor

June was a good month for axe activity at the County Museums Service. A current project at Basing House, one of the sites looked after by the County Council, is the provision of a 'viewing platform' on the crest of the Norman ringwork and during a recent visit to look at the foundation pits for the platform supports I was 'presented' with a splendid example of a Palaeolithic handaxe, found in the associated service trench.

When Larry Martin, the Project Manager, called me to say it was a good time to take a look he mentioned that one of his team, David Warner, had found a flint handaxe. As lumps of flint are common at Basing and handaxes are rare in northern Hampshire I had my doubts, but it turned out to be an absolute peach of an example (fig 1). It's a roughly hand-sized tool with a notable butt at one end, retaining some 'cortex' or natural outer surface. The working edge, around most of the circumference, is still very fresh, and the whole axe has a white 'patina' from being buried in chalky soil. The flint would originally have been grey in colour.

Handaxes like these belong, of course, in the Old Stone Age or Palaeolithic. They were the multi-purpose tools of our earliest ancestors and can date back as much as half a million years. There have been a few Middle Stone Age flint finds at Basing before, but they go back only 10,000 years, so this new discovery is a fantastic reminder of a time when small groups of humans roamed the landscape hunting woolly mammoth, wild horses, reindeer and aurochs.

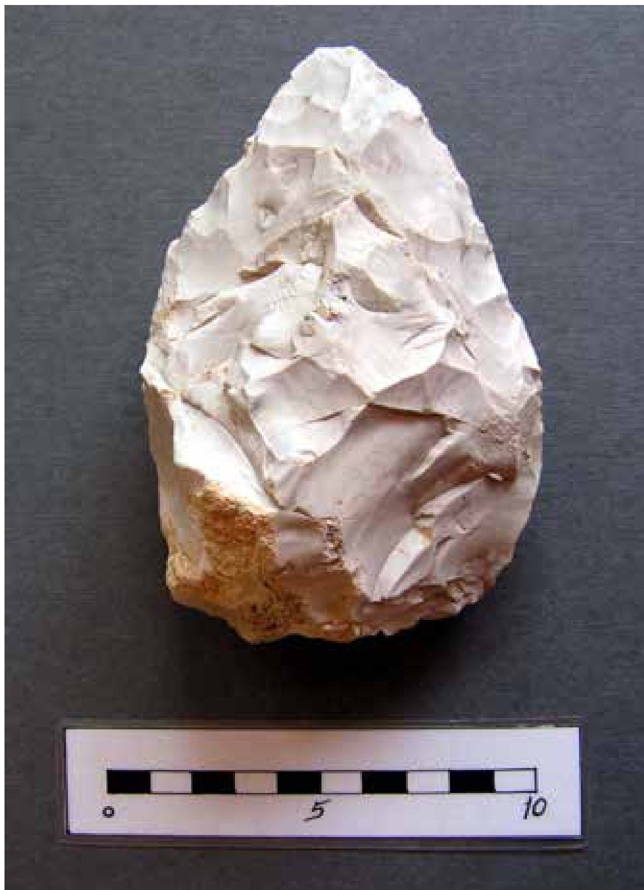

Fig 1: Flint handaxe from work at Basing House

The visit also reminded me that my working association with Basing goes back a fair way and over twenty years ago I was digging a cross-section on this particular stretch of the earthwork where rain and rabbit holes had made it unstable. The backfilled trench can be seen in the foreground of Fig 2. In the background Project Manager Larry Martin, structural engineer Andy Smith and architect Barnaby Wheeler are discussing the position of the new post pads. This re-examination also reminds me of how soon we will be re-opening the trenches dug by the Aldermaston Archaeological Society in the mid 1960s. Their 'Wheeler style' grid (expanding on an initial cut 90' long and 3' wide (roughly 30 x 1m)) found Roman and Iron Age evidence sealed beneath the Civil War outworks less than a musket shot from where the platform work is taking place. The Museums Service has joined forces with the University of Southampton to reopen the trenches, reassess the evidence and then backfill them properly, as this wasn't done at the time.

Fig 2: Work at Basing House reveals back-filled trench

The project runs from 22 July to 9 August and although it will already have happened by the time you read this, a fully illustrated account will be available on the web (follow http://basinghousecat.wordpress.com) as well as in the pages of the next Newsletter. The handaxe (now catalogued as A2013.08) will go on display in the Lodge Museum at Basing House. The viewing platform should be ready by September.

At Andover Museum bronze took the place of stone, and I went there recently to help put six new exhibits on show – the group of palstaves and socketed axes found in the Laundry Field on Cholderton Estate in 2007. They have already made an appearance in these pages (Newsletter 59, p17 - where astute readers will

have noted that the captions of the two drawings were cunningly transposed) and the story of their discovery is well known. Already on display at Andover were the socketed axe and palstave, found in the same location about 80 years ago. They would originally have been deposited in the ground in the Late Bronze Age, about 3,000 years ago. It was the new find that sparked off a project looking at the archaeology of the Cholderton Estate, led by Cynthia Poole and this continues, providing an ideal archaeological opportunity for anyone living in the north-west corner of the county. If you are interested in field-walking and finds processing you can contact Cynthia on cynbyn@btinternet.com.

Fig 3: Vivienne Brett, Dr Brendan O'Connor, Cholderton Estate owner Henry Edmunds and project director Cynthia Poole, with the 2007 finds.

As a prelude to putting the objects on display, Briony Lalor wrote the piece for the last Newsletter and some notes for the museum display. The former was spotted by Dr Brendan O'Connor, who has written about various Hampshire bronze finds, including the Danebury Bronze Age metalwork, in the past. He decided he would like to take a look at them before they went into the showcase and flew down from Edinburgh to do so. What was even more remarkable was that he then flew back again…on the same day!

Fig 4: Owen Brickell, one of the project volunteers, puts an axe on display, under the watchful gaze of Dr Brendan O'Connor.

One result for us was that we were treated to a delightful unexpected seminar on the significance of the find and of bronze palstaves and socketed axes in general. There's always great debate about whether such finds, particularly the hoards, represent ritual burials – offerings to the gods – but we did manage a bit of ritual ourselves. I invited those present, including estate owner Henry Edmunds, Vivienne Brett (who found three of the axes), Cynthia, Brendan, Briony and members of the project team, to don white gloves (a barrier to harmful human salts which might cause corrosion to the objects!) and put the axes in the case. We then indulged in even more ritual, by recording the event photographically and then having a cup of tea downstairs in the Museum.

Keeping the Fire Alive

A couple of weeks after the handaxe discovery at Basing House, the call came through that another unusual find had been made at the site. Those familiar with the place will know that what is missing at Basing is the 'House'. When Oliver Cromwell and his forces took Basing in a final assault in October 1645, and trashed what had once been 'the greatest of any subject's house in England, yea larger than most of the King's palaces', Parliament compounded the episode by declaring that anybody could take away brick and stone from the ruins 'and keep it for their pains'. This invitation to treat the site as a quarry was taken up with gusto, and only the Great Barn survived intact.

Most of the foundations remained, however, and many of these were revealed during the excavations of the 1880s to 1910. In exploring floor levels and cellars, Lord Bolton's gardeners found numerous architectural fragments, some of which - particularly the stone corbels - were actually built into the walls of the

Fig 5: Dave Phillips, one of the workmen, tidies the fireplace surrounds

'Bothy', the small house constructed at the time as the site museum. No detailed study of these fragments has yet taken place, although it is hoped that this omission will be remedied as part of the new partnership with the University of Southampton.

The news, that an in situ fireplace had come to light, was therefore of considerable interest. Brickwork conservation is a constant theme at Basing and the ravages of the two hard winters we've experienced

Fig 6: Fireplace detail

recently have required a good deal of remedial work. This particular section of loose brickwork was near to the location of the viewing platform and it had clearly been built against an interior wall - a plastered wall – although it's difficult to be certain just when. Some modifications took place during the life of the building, some at the death, when the defences were strengthened, some after the Restoration, when the area was probably turned into a garden, and some following the excavations a century ago. The fact that the wall removed was very rough and ready make it a candidate for the most recent of those potential episodes, but it is built on firmer foundations that may well be of 17th century date. Be that as it may, the fireplace (Figs 5, 6, 7) is undoubtedly of 16th origin, probably of Caen stone. We will be looking through the fragments we have in store to see if there is anything to compare.

Another mystery is just what did the fireplace serve? The perimeter wall, the plastered wall, has quite definite returns to both east and west (putting the fireplace at the centre). It also has a series of fixing holes suggesting that it was originally covered with oak panelling. But there is no clear indication of how far the room extended into the interior. The 19th century excavations here were taken to a lower level, probably in pursuit of an earlier cobbled courtyard, and this

Fig 7: The fireplace is located in the farthest reaches of the circular Old House, directly opposite the main gate. Was it originally an important private room?

doesn't leave room for a room of any consequence. We may well be able to investigate the area in a little more detail during the summer. If any of the floor level associated with the hearth remains in situ, then a basic sequence can perhaps be established.

Egyptology – past and present.

A number of Hampshire sites and museums have connections with Egypt. One of the rewards of scaling Beacon Hill, Highclere, for example is that as well as appreciating a very fine hillfort and outstanding views, you can also pay homage at the grave of Lord Carnarvon, former owner of the hill and discoverer of the tomb of Tutankhamun. Nearby, Highclere Castle, his Lordship's ancestral home, offers an Egyptian experience for schools which still holds its own against the appeal of the house itself to devotees of period drama.

In addition, Portsmouth City Museum is hosting a 'Secret Egypt' exhibition this autumn, while Southampton boasts an Ancient Egypt Society. Winchester City Museum and the County Arts & Museums Service also have small collections of Egyptology, the latter most notably at the Willis Museum, Basingstoke. One of the most vibrant centres for the study of this ancient civilisation, however, is just over the county boundary at Bournemouth. Martin Jacques, who amongst other things is a volunteer at the Red House Museum, Christchurch, takes up the story.

Egyptology in Bournemouth
by Martin Jacques

The mummy has risen in Bournemouth. Egyptology is a flourishing field in this south-coast town thanks to the work of two thriving local societies – the Wessex Ancient Egypt Society (WAES) and the Bournemouth Natural Science Society (BNSS).

The Wessex Ancient Egypt Society (WAES) was established by Angela Dennett, and held its inaugural meeting in the autumn of 2000. As Angela explained:

"After my husband died in 1997, I wanted something to keep me busy and as I always had an interest in Egyptology, I decided to study it in more depth. This led to me travelling up and down to London, Reading and Canterbury for study days and summer schools. After a few years I was asking myself why I always had to travel, why didn't things come to Bournemouth? I decided to make this happen and called a general meeting for anyone interested. Around 50 people turned up for that meeting in 2000 and the rest is history."

Today, the WAES currently has over fifty members and meets monthly at the main Bournemouth University campus in Wallisdown. Next year's subscription is only £16, which entitles members to come to meetings for half the price of non-members, who pay £4. It also includes a free, yearly newsletter produced and written by members of the society, which is packed with articles and photos about Egyptology and the Society's activities.

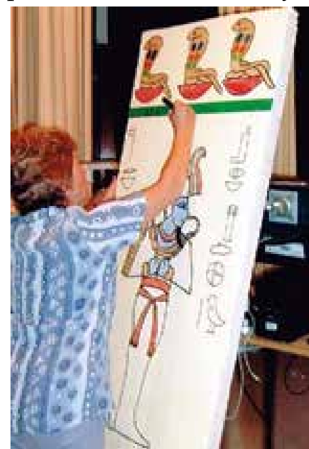

Fig 8: WAES study day (1)© WAES

The WAES is also hosting some top speakers in Egyptology next year including: Dr Joyce Filer, the former British Museum mummy expert, Professor Alan Lloyd from Swansea University and Joanna Gryffin from the Egypt Exploration Society.

In the past, the WAES has also held study days for members with leading Egyptologists, and organized its own trips to museums with guided tours for members to view Egyptian collections as far afield as Oxford, London and Bristol.

Recently the WAES held a series of study days with famous conservationists Helena and Richard Jaeschke, where members made their own amulets, painted tombs and mummy cases. "These were tremendous fun and very interesting,' said Angela. (Figs 8 &9)

Fig 9: WAES study day (2) © WAES

The WAES is a very friendly society and offers a breaktime in meetings for free tea, coffee and biscuits where members get the chance to socialize and make friends with people who have a shared interest in common.

Meetings start promptly at 2pm and are usually finished by around 4pm. They are normally held on the first Saturday of every month, excepting July and August when the WAES has a break for the summer period.

Meanwhile, the Bournemouth Natural Science Society (BNSS) and Museum is also based in Bournemouth and offers Egyptophiles the chance to see some locally-based ancient Egyptian artefacts as well as the opportunity to attend talks about Egyptology.

Formed in 1903, the BNSS has today around 300 members. It is a registered charity whose aim is to promote study, interest and enjoyment in all branches of the Natural Sciences, History and Archaeology

The BNSS offers a range of activities throughout the year for anyone interested in plants and animals, the environment, fossils and geology, geography, history, astronomy and the humanities. Its extensive programme of events includes weekly talks, museum open days, exhibitions, study groups, field meetings, cultural visits and social activities.

Visiting non-members can attend talks if they leave a donation. Members are also given access to the BNSS Egyptian collection of artefacts by special request or when the museum is open.

Fig 10: A sixth dynasty model boat © BNSS

The collection includes a rare wall relief from Tuthmosis III's Mortuary Temple, a sixth dynasty model boat (Fig 10), a model of a granary with six little figures making bread (Fig 11), a collection of shabtis, pots from the Middle Kingdom found at Esna and Hierakonpolis and a full set of Belzoni's lithographs.

However, the most famous artefact is a mummy called Taheema – she used to be a resident of Thebes during the 26th dynasty and was the daughter of a local priest of Amun (Fig 12).

"She was fifty years old when she died and was in a lot of pain at the end," explained BNSS Egyptology Curator Stephanie Roberts. "She had scoliosis of the spine and half her teeth were missing. The rest were diseased," added Stephanie.

Stephanie works to keep the collection in its present condition and prevent it deteriorating. Conservation is limited though because money is tight, she explained to me. She also provides a point of contact for enquiries from around the world about the collection. For example, she has recently worked with the Garstang Museum at the University of Liverpool to catalogue the Middle Kingdom pots which were excavated in 1905 and then shipped around the world with no records kept.

In addition, Stephanie has provided information to international post-graduate students doing research into Egyptology. She recently helped a Marine Archaeology student from Bournemouth University do research into

Fig 11: A granary with bread makers © BNSS

the sixth dynasty model boat from the BNSS collection. She has also worked with the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology in Manchester, which has conducted an endoscopy examination of Taheema.

Having written and published a couple of books about items from the collection, Stephanie is also much in demand as a speaker to the BNSS membership about Egyptology, and plans to give a talk about famous

Fig 12:Taheema of Thebes © BNSS

explorers of ancient Egypt at a forthcoming meeting.

Every month, the BNSS holds an open day for the general public at its premises in Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, where the Egyptian collection can be viewed.

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Alan Jacobs Remembered

Those who worked with Alan during his time in Hampshire (2007 – 2010) may like to know that the recent meeting of the Worcestershire Young Archaeologists Club was devoted to the presentation of the inaugural Alan Jacobs Archaeology Award.

Alan was a regular helper at the club and competition generated a number of worthy entries. The winner was a film about the history and archaeology of an abandoned pump house served by a number of wells and cisterns, delivered in true tv documentary style.

The Award is a replica Castor Ware beaker, reflecting Alan's particular interest in Roman ceramics. It was presented by Michelle, Alan's widow, and his brother Martin.

Historic Buildings

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Parsonage Farmhouse, Southington, Overton.

Bill Fergie and Edward Roberts

The main, south, elevation of Parsonage Farmhouse (Fig.1) reveals little to indicate that there is substantial evidence for an early house inside. The north elevation is rather more intriguing (Fig. 2), but can only be glimpsed very obliquely from nearby Southington Lane. However, it was this latter view which prompted an approach to the then owner/occupiers in early 2005. The subsequent investigation by the authors, and a tree ring dating exercise, revealed an interesting story.

Fig. 1 South Elevation of Parsonage Farmhouse.

Fig. 2 North Elevation of Parsonage Farmhouse.

Overton parsonage was a sinecure in the gift of the bishops of Winchester. This meant that the rector enjoyed the fruits of the living without actually having the responsibility of parochial work. Thus the bishop could reward his able and ambitious young clerks, several of whom went on to become bishops or hold other high offices[1]. It is uncertain whether the rebuilding of the rectory was funded by the bishop or the rectors but, if the latter, they did not stint themselves. The list of rectors on a board in Overton parish church shows that either William Croucheston or William Mounter would have been rectors when the earlier surviving section of the house was built around 1431-52; and Robert Rookes was apparently in charge when the later section was constructed with timbers felled in 1546. The careers of these individuals could be further researched with profit.

As indicated above, there are two historic components to this house: a cross wing (trusses 1-5 on the Plan - Fig.3) and a hall range (trusses 6-9). The 3-bay cross wing, whose roof timbers have been tree-ring dated to 1431-35, has an axis running north to south. There are masonry walls at ground-floor level and, on the first floor, three bays of timber framing rest on horizontal plates. The ground-floor walls are approximately 600mm thick and are composed of flints and stone rubble with ashlar quoins (in sandstone, probably from the Burghclere quarry) that clearly mark the original south end of the wing. The original chimney stack, which is attached to the west

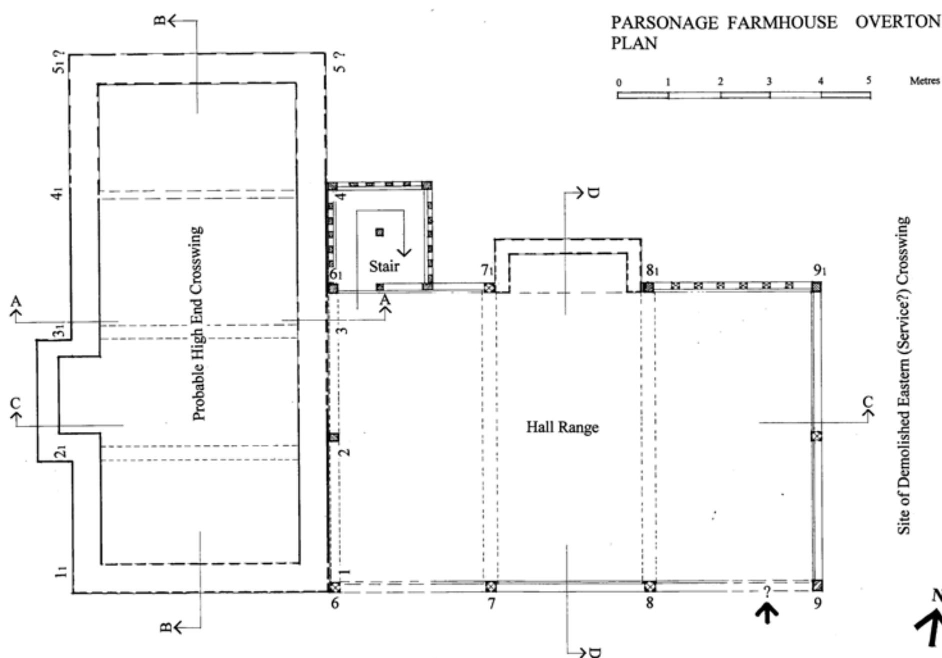


Fig. 3 Ground Floor Plan

wall between trusses 2 and 3, also has ashlar quoins. Internally, there is a stone chimney-piece with a simple chamfer and a depressed 4-centred arch whose appearance is compatible with the mid 15th century building-date.

In the roof the original south truss 1 (which probably formed a gable) has been destroyed. The next two trusses (2 and 3 on Section C-C – Fig.5 and Plan - Fig.3) are open and have short, curved brackets between hollow-chamfered posts and cambered tie beams. Each of these trusses has a central crown strut and vertical struts between principal rafters and tie beams. The clasped purlins are chamfered on both inner arrises; the lower chamfers stopping at the trusses while the upper chamfers run through. The scantling of the timbers is considerable, with the crown struts a little less than 300mm wide. The whole roof was painted red. Both these features point to a high-status building. The present north truss in the cross wing (Section A-A – Fig.6) has a fan-truss form and was always closed. The wall below has a blocked doorway with a depressed segmental arch, which is rebated in a way that shows that access was from the fine 3-bay, first-floor solar into a now demolished, more private room, of perhaps only one bay.

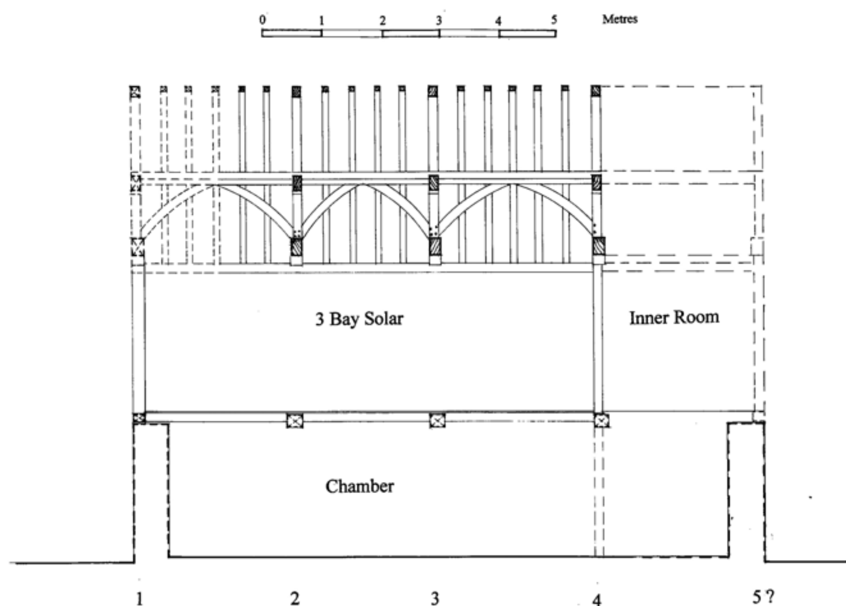


Fig. 4 Long Section B-B

The hall range is of 3 timber-framed bays on an east-west axis (Trusses 6-9 on the Plan – Fig. 3), whose roof has been tree-ring dated to 1546[2]. At first-floor level the frame was close-studded in both the main body of the hall range and in the related stair tower. Close-studding has been removed at ground-floor level, but peg-holes in the lower part of the face of the north storey-rail in bay 8-9 and in the storey-rail of the stair tower show that this feature also originally existed at this level. However, there is no peg for a storey-rail to the west of the north post of truss 8 where there is presently a chimney stack. This indicates that such a stack in this location was probably an original feature, although the present stack is now internal to the hall and a brick in it bears the date 1792. This probably represents a rebuilding of the original stack, which, on the evidence of other Tudor timber-framed houses, is likely to have been attached externally.

The present front door (in bay 6-7 on Section C-C – Fig.5 and Plan Fig.3) leads to a passage and the stairs. The passage has the cross wing to the west and a second-phase partition to the east. A stair tower in the north angle of the hall and cross wing is close-studded on both floors. It appears to be integral, and thus coeval, with the hall range, although the join between the two is at present obscured. If original (and the storey-height close studding suggests that it is) it is the earliest such tower yet found in the county. It originally rose clockwise – on the evidence of a mortice for a doorhead - but has since been reversed.

At first-floor level, there was storey-height close studding, both in the exterior walls and in the internal partition of truss 8-8′ (Section D-D – Fig.6) and on the closed panel between hall and stair tower. Such extravagance speaks of wealth and status. Storey-height close studs in Hampshire have not so far been dated post-1550, and this is therefore a very late example. On the inner side of the outside walls, straight braces were placed where they would not be visible from the outside. Until this example was sampled, straight braces in Hampshire had not been dated earlier than the 1550s.

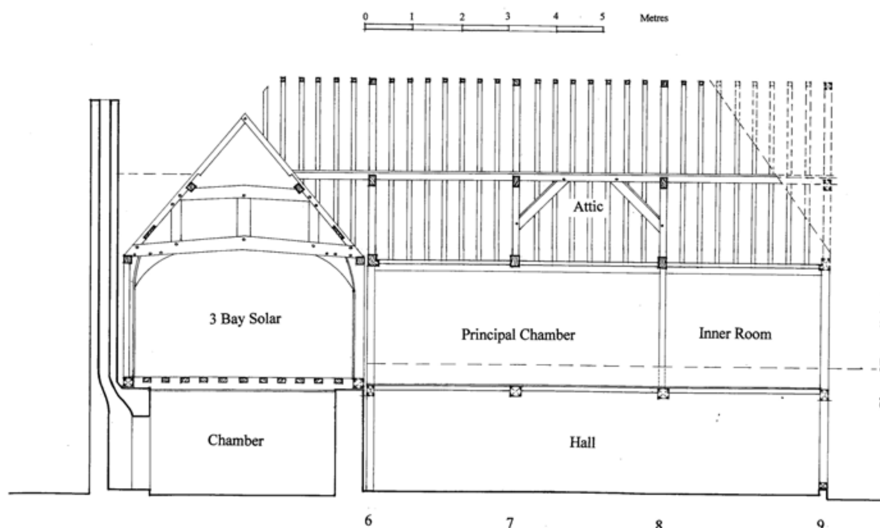


Fig. 5 Long Section C-C

In the main body of the hall range, there was always a first-floor partition at truss 8-8′ between a single eastern bay and a 2-bay western chamber. The doorway between the two first-floor chambers partly survives and the height of its door-head – together with evidence in the stair tower - shows that the first floor has been raised. The close studs in the partition at truss 8-8′ have two chased grooves that held horizontal laths for a plaster finish on both faces of the partition. This again is an extravagant and high-status feature.

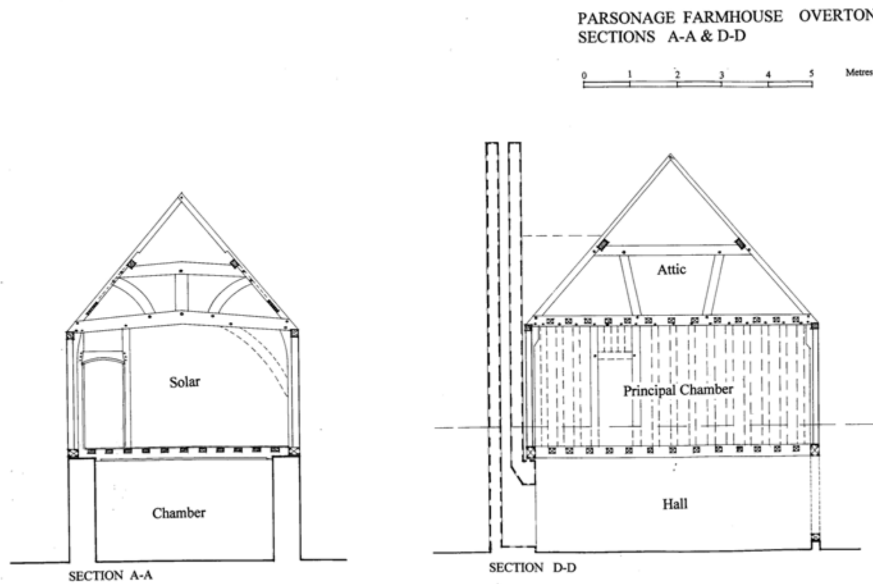


Fig. 6 Cross Sections A-A and D-D

The western tie beam at frame 6-6′ is rebated to receive attic floorboards and the floor joists at this point appear to be in their original mortices. However, the eastern end of the floor has been altered, and the joists have either been raised slightly or perhaps merely levelled to correct a degree of settlement. This can be seen in the tie beam at frame 8-8′ where the original mortices are visible below the present ceiling of the first floor room. An attic was a high-status feature at this date. In the attic, the trusses have raking queen struts, clasped purlins and diminished principals. Wind braces are again straight and are in alternate bays: two pairs to the south and one pair to the north.

19th-century maps reveal the existence of an east cross wing whose early date is suggested by large foundation stones discovered in situ (pers. comm. Dr. R. Waldram). At this end of the house there is also a well, and the former farmyard was also located further to the east. The missing east wing could either have been a further private suite at the high end of the hall or, more likely, the original low, service, end of the hall. In the 16th century the entrance and through passage would have been at the low end of the hall, and this is the location indicated on the plan (Fig.3). This suggests that the entrance has been moved to its present location at the western end of the hall range. This interpretation is supported by the location of the stair tower which, in the 16th-century would generally have been located at the high end of the hall. Thus the present rather wide stair-passage entrance could be an 18th-century creation, since such a plan then became fashionable.

If the hall had occupied all three bays it would be reasonable to assume that the original entrance was in bay 8-9, as indicated on the plan. Support for a generous hall of three bays may lie in a description of the house given in particulars when the lease was being auctioned in 1836. The description includes "a Hall or Saloon, 32 feet by 15" (pers. comm. Dr. R. Waldram). The longer dimension closely matches the internal length of the three bays of the hall range, although the lesser dimension is about 600mm narrower than the depth of the building.

The survival of a cross wing of mid 15th century date with an adjoining hall range of mid 16th century date suggests the phased redevelopment of the site. The surviving cross wing may well have originally flanked a contemporary, or even earlier, open hall. It, in turn, may have had a contemporary low end cross wing, for which there is both archaeological and early mapped evidence. The high quality replacement hall range of 1546, with two storeys and attic, would have been a state of the art development in the period when the open hall was going out of fashion.

Acknowledgement

The authors are indebted to Richard and Jane Waldram who allowed access on a number of occasions, and who were unstinting in their support for our research and in sharing the results of their own investigations into the history of the house. They have recently moved within the village and we wish them well in their new home.

Notes

1. VCH Hampshire iv, 217-8.
2. Miles, D. Worthington, M and Bridge, M. 2005 'Tree-Ring Dates from the Oxford Dendrochronological Laboratory', *Vernacular Architecture*, 26, *89-90*

'Shack and Track' development at Hookpit, Kings Worthy in the inter-war years

David Fry

'Shack and track' is one of a number of terms used to describe a form of housing that manifested itself in

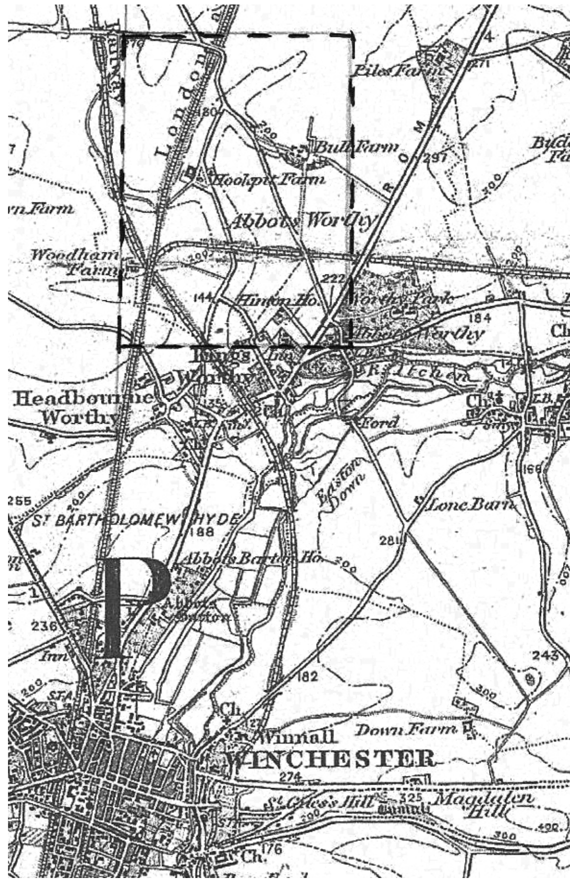


Fig. 1. Location map of Hookpit based on the 1895 O.S. map.

England for a few decades in the first half of the twentieth century. Although already developed in a number of areas before the First World War, it flourished in the unique social and economic conditions that existed in the inter-war years and was generally replaced by better-quality housing in the late-20th century. Shack and track was most commonly developed on farmland of marginal economic productivity, often isolated from traditional settlements, which could be subdivided into large building plots of at least an acre of land and sold off piecemeal. Where access was not available by public or private roads, simple unmade tracks were laid out; in every respect investment in the infrastructure was minimal. There was no overall plan determining location or elevation of buildings and the result was an irregular pattern of developed and undeveloped plots. Most building was done on the initiative of individuals rather than professional developers. The style of dwellings tended to be a variation on the one-storey bungalow type, not infrequently constructed of non-traditional materials.

Shack and track development occurred on the open downland area called 'Hookpit' in the northern part of the parish of Kings Worthy, near Winchester (Figs. 1 and 2). Plots were offered for sale in 1919 and had all been occupied by 1939. By the 1950s the pioneering landscape of plotlands with their attendant bungalows and shacks was already being altered, and to such an extent that it would now be impossible to visualise its original appearance today without a photographic record. And who would bother to make such a record? The relative isolation and poor architectural quality of this ephemeral landscape was not obviously attractive and the craze for collecting picture postcards before the First World War died out after the war when the price of postage was increased. Thus Hookpit, where development started in 1919, missed out on this golden age of postcards. Fortunately, a photographer called Frank Newell who was based at that time in Alresford, continued producing postcards of the surrounding villages throughout the 1920s and into the mid-1930s. The postcards of Hookpit appear to date from the early 1930s but only a few have been found, forming a precious visual record of this ephemeral and vanished landscape.

The sheep pond (Fig. 3). Although taken at the northern edge of Hookpit between the wars, this photograph by Frank Newell could have been recorded at any time over past centuries with open uncultivated downland beyond a hedge-less area of sheepwalks. As with the rest of the Hampshire downs, such land use would have characterised the Hookpit landscape in the time before it was split up into building plots. The thin chalk soil was not really suited to arable farming

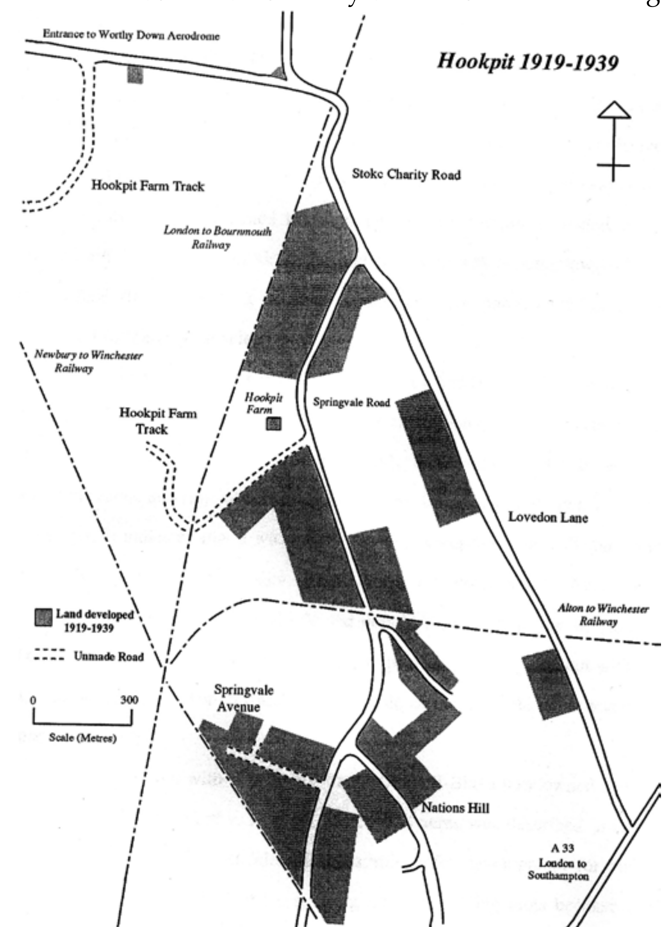


Fig. 2. A map to show the area of Hookpit and the plots sold in 1919 that were occupied by 1939.

Fig. 3. Sheep Pond near the entrance to Bull Farm Lane, Hookpit, c.1930.

without the input of modern fertilisers. Farmers would make the most of natural springs by creating ponds for the benefit of the sheep. Such springs would eventually be the source of much flooding along 'Springvale' Road in Hookpit and prompted calls from the local residents for improved drainage to go with the general road widening in the mid-1930s.

The Post Office (Fig. 4). The way that jobbing local postcard photographers, such as Newell, would usually work was to canvas orders from local shops in areas that would not be covered by national firms. The main retail outlet in Hookpit was the post office that was located where the entrance to Hayden Close is today. The shop, with the name 'Hookpit Post Office and Stores' above the window, can be seen incorporated into the left of the house. The bungalow (with the shop included in the original plans) was built in 1925 for Leonard Hards by George Loader, a builder who also lived in Hookpit. The open landscape gives a good idea of the relatively treeless downland that faced the early settlers in the area, and is reminiscent of pictures of early homesteading in the colonies.

Fig. 4. Hookpit Post Office & Stores, c.1930.

Hookpit Farm Lane (Fig. 5). A postcard that sums up the fairly rustic environment of early Hookpit is this view of Hookpit Farm Lane, looking southwards towards the first railway bridge. Untypically, there are a couple of mature trees shown. Clundell-Blake, the local auctioneer and speculator who sold the estate, provided regular supplies of free saplings for the early residents, which showed an awareness of the rather stark appearance of the bare downs. But this was a rare example of overt philanthropy, and the fact that he sold off plots along Hookpit Farm Lane showed his desire for a quick profit for minimum outlay. Unlike

Fig. 5. Hookpit Farm Lane, c.1930.

speculators elsewhere, he did not bother laying out new roads or putting in services, he simply utilised the roads and tracks that already existed. Soon there were to be many complaints to the parish council about the state of the farm track. It is interesting that Newell did not ignore even out-of-the-way places like this in the search for sales.

The Northern End of Hookpit (Fig. 6). Missing from the previous picture of Hookpit Farm Lane are telegraph poles that can be seen in this view that shows the group of bungalows at the northern end of Springvale Road. There is no evidence of the Springvale Hotel built on the opposite side of the road in 1937. The six insulators on the telegraph poles tell us that there were only three separate lines (or more if shared) that went from here to the Winchester exchange. Although piped water had arrived by the mid 1920s, the arrival of

Fig. 6. The northern end of Hookpit, c.1930.

electricity was to take until 1935. It is clear that the road at this end of Hookpit was not yet properly drained, which increased the problems of flooding. Drainage ditches and culverts were eventually introduced in 1936. The bungalows here were all built in 1922 and 1923 by Thomas Witcher who was responsible for many of these wooden-framed, concrete-rendered and asbestos-lined buildings.

The numbering on Newell's postcards suggests that there were many more originally produced given that he took two views of just a pond and was prepared to go out of his way to get larger vistas as well as to go up farm tracks for a few bungalows. So it could be assumed reasonably that there are also postcards to be uncovered of views more easily taken from the roadside of much of Springvale Road and Lovedon Lane, as well as less well travelled routes such as Legion Lane. So where are they? The fact that of those that have been

found only a couple were sent through the post, suggest that they had some value to people at the time to keep as a record of the place, but on their own they were much easier to lose than as part of the collections that were a feature of pre-First-War social custom.

Given the great changes that have occurred in this area of Kings Worthy, not least the loss of the name Hookpit, the unique value of Newell's postcards in recapturing its interwar landscape is inestimable. So it makes sense to finish with a plea for anyone with knowledge of any views of Hookpit by Newell, other than those shown here, to be kind enough to get in contact so that they can be copied. This would be a valuable contribution to our understanding of the appearance of early twentieth century Hookpit. Please send any information on Hookpit or Hookpit postcards to David Fry at df@davidfry.net

Author's Note

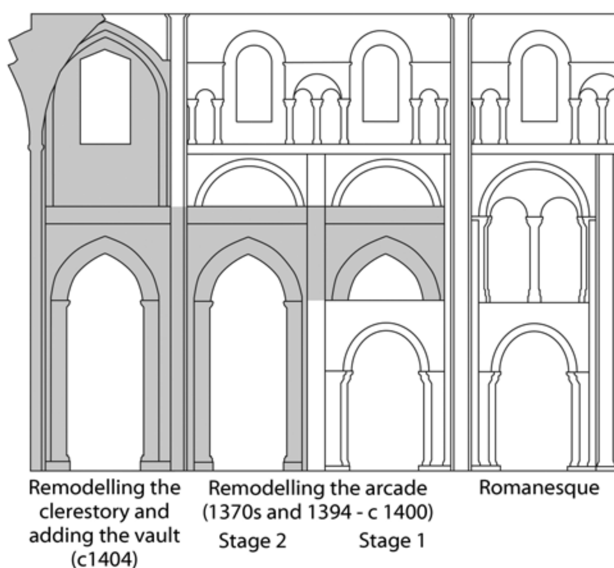
This paper draws on an article in Worthy History 15 dated 2011 in which the author discusses his research on Frank Newell's life at much greater length and on the author's MA thesis entitled 'Inter-War 'Shack and Track' Developments: A study of three inland examples' lodged at Leicester University Library. (There is also a copy in the Hampshire Record Office).

Footnote by the Section Editor.

David Fry's article draws attention to a humble fast-disappearing aspect of the county's architectural history. Here are pictures of the last two inter-war bungalows to have survived in Cheriton. They were built in 1925 and demolished in 2012. Perhaps readers know of interesting examples that have survived elsewhere in the county.

Fig. 6 & 7. The last two interwar bungalows to survive in Cheriton, until they were both demolished in 2013

Revised drawing for John Hare, *Looking Again at Winchester Cathedral Nave*



Due to an editorial mistake during production, the drawing by Nathalie Barrett that appeared in Newsletter 59, p. 11 was wrongly labelled. The correct version appears here. The General Editor wishes to apologise to Nathalie, John and Edward Roberts, the section editor.

Whitchurch Study Day: 21st July 2013.

Bill Fergie and Edward Roberts

On a gloriously sunny day over 40 members met at the Gill Nethercott Centre in Whitchurch. The morning was devoted to a series of short PowerPoint presentations; the technical aspects being ably managed by John Deveson.

Alison Deveson described how the Prior of St. Swithun's, Winchester established a market town at Whitchurch in the mid-13th at the crossing of two trade routes. This market centre was at some distance from an earlier settlement around the Saxon church. The market was too close to the neighbouring town of Overton to be a great commercial success and she discussed its varying success throughout the Middle Ages. Edward Roberts and Bill Fergie then illustrated the architecture of the town's timber-framed buildings and of the parish church with its remarkable Saxon grave marker and medieval stair to the bell tower. Martin Smith spoke about the town's post-medieval development, discussing the late-16th century building on waste land and the effect of the town's rotten borough status on the quality of building both before and after the Reform Act of 1832. Finally Geoff Hide illustrated the early history of Whitchurch Silk Mill and the Hide family's long-standing association with the Mill.

Fig. 1. Alison Deveson talks to members in the council chamber of Whitchurch Town Hall, dating from 1786-7, at the start of a guided walkabout in the town. The walk was aided by a walking guide which Alison and others had compiled. (Bill Fergie)

Fig. 2. Geoff Hide, whose family owned and ran the Silk Mill around the turn of the last century, addresses members during a guided tour. Geoff is a member of the board of the Silk Mill Trust as well as a prominent member of the Friends of the Silk Mill. (Bill Fergie)

In the afternoon Geoff Hide gave us an expert tour of the Silk Mill, discussing its complex architectural development and explaining the mysteries of silk manufacture. Then Alison Deveson took us to the council chamber of the Town Hall and led us to the church where she discussed its history and Bill Fergie discussed its architecture. Finally, Alison showed us the beautiful interior of the Methodist Church while explaining the history of Methodism in Whitchurch.

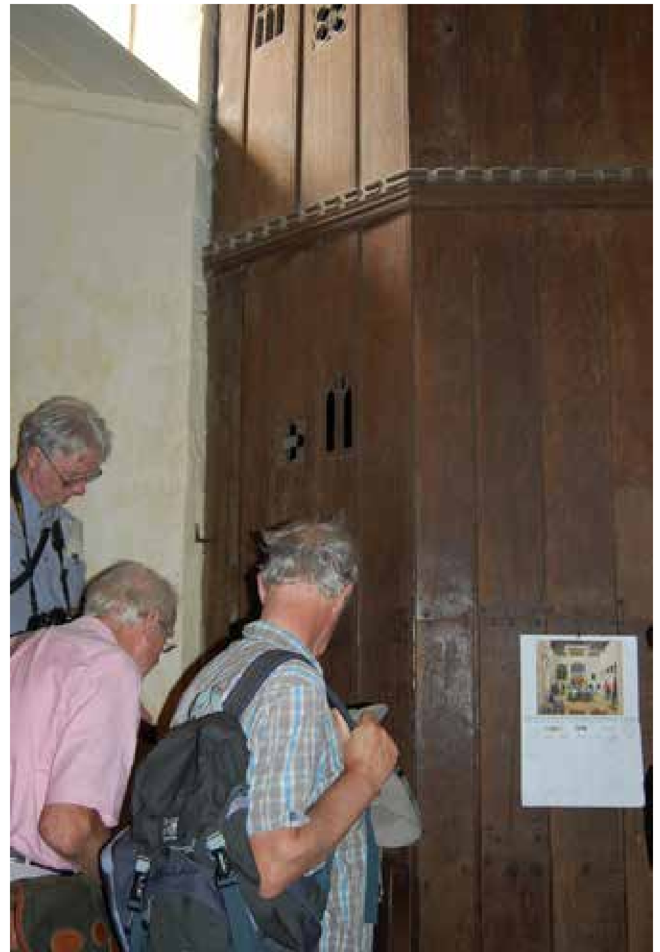


Fig. 3. Members examine the unusual timber enclosure of a newel staircase within the tower of All Hallows church. The structure is reported to be medieval in date, but concern was expressed about inconsistencies in its construction and the degree of alteration it might have suffered. It was generally agreed that it would merit further study, including perhaps dendrochronological investigation. (Bill Fergie)

Fig. 4. Whitchurch Methodist Church
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Local History

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Vi et Armis et Contra Pacem Regis: An 18th-Century Trespass Case at Bursledon and Hound

David Chun

On Sunday 1 May 1768 and 'on Divers other Days' 10 men broke into and entered some small fields or closes on the borders of the parishes of Hound and Bursledon. If the evidence of William Durman, the ostensible owner of the property, given in a subsequent trespass action in the court of King's Bench, is to be believed, they performed on his land the offices of a well-trained wrecking crew, destroying standing crops, trees, hedges and fences, breaking locks and chains, even filling in ditches. By Durman's account—and the perpetrators never seriously challenged the substance of what he alleged as to the physical damage—the destruction caused was apparently immense, going well beyond what one would normally expect with a trespass case. According to Durman, the defendants amongst other things:

> *with Feet in walking trod down stamped upon spoiled and consumed the Grass and Corn to wit wheat rye barley peas beans and oats and the potatoes of the said William Durman of the value of Ten pounds there then standing growing and being in the said Closes and with certain cattle to wit horses mares geldings and oxen depastured eat up trod down consumed and spoiled other the grass and corn to wit wheat rye barley peas beans and oats and other the potatoes of the said William Durman of the value of Twenty pounds there then standing and growing in the said Closes and with the wheels of carts waggons and other carriages tore up turned up subverted and spoiled the soil to wit Two hundred perches of the soil of the said William Durman there in the said Closes and cut down pulled down pulled up and prostrated and destroyed the hedges fences posts pales banks.*[1]

The details of the defendants' alleged actions and the damage done run to a further 2,000 words in the plea roll. Even allowing for the verbosity of 18th-century pleading, it is unsurprising that the aggrieved landowner should seek redress in the courts.[2] The case is of particular interest because the defendants asserted, amongst other things, that Durman had obstructed a public right of way and their actions may have represented a meting out of community justice that was intended to abase Durman, to publicly humiliate him.

Durman was, it seems, 53 years old at the time of the alleged trespass. He was by then a widower, his wife Elizabeth having died in January 1768 aged 55. He was the only son of Thomas Durman and inherited the bulk of his father's property. Described as a yeoman in contemporary documents, he was a small landowner in the parishes of Hound and Bursledon. As well as being engaged in mixed farming, growing arable crops and keeping sheep and cattle, he grew fruit—plums, currants, gooseberries and strawberries. Durman appears to have died in 1782.[3]

The defendants to the trespass action were Richard Hickley, John Lane, Thomas Primmer, John Vere, William Palmer, Andrew Strugnell, Edward Cleverly, William Sine, John Privett and John Phillips. Edward Cleverly was almost certainly the prime mover. He was, like Durman, a widower and was in the latter part of his life at the time of the events that gave rise to the trespass action; he was to die in 1776. He is sometimes referred to as a yeoman in documents, but in the will he made in 1768, he, perhaps tellingly, describes himself as Gentleman. Like his brother John, he owned substantial copyhold property in the parish of Hound, some at least of which he had presumably inherited from his father. He had also acquired freehold property including Mansel Heath farm (later called Maidenstone Heath, Fig. 1), which lay by the river Hamble, and Freegrounds farm at Botley as well as copyhold land there.[4]

Fig. 1. Maidenstone Heath, Bursledon (HRO 130M83/PZ 41).

The other defendants are described as being Cleverly's servants. However, Richard Hickley was clearly more than this. He was Cleverly's son-in-law, the husband of Cleverly's daughter, Ann. Interestingly, there is a double memorial on the outside of Hound church to two children of it seems this Edward Cleverly and his wife who had died in infancy and two children of the Hickley family who had died at a similarly young age. This may indicate a close bond between the two families.

Durman's father had been a tenant of Mansel Heath farm prior to it being acquired by Cleverly and had acquired a parcel of land on the farm from Cleverly's predecessor in title. There is no evidence that this was a source of animus between Durman and Cleverly but neither man was it seems averse to litigation. Durman was involved in two church court cases relating to tithes—one against a Thomas Cleverly who may have been a brother of Edward—and Cleverly was later to be involved in a case brought by the parish of Botley on account of Cleverly's refusal, being non-resident in the

parish, to take an apprentice.[5]

The Events of May 1768

Durman claimed that on Sunday 1 May 1768 Cleverly and the other defendants ‘with force and arms’ entered his closes known as The Garden, Lower Orchard, Misling Croft otherwise Mageline Croft and one other close belonging to him in Hound parish.[6] They trampled grass and corn to the value of £10. With carts and carriages they ‘turned up and subverted the soil’, hedges, fences and gates were broken down, and wood and earth removed. The locks and chains on the gates were broken and carried off. The defendants also felled trees—oaks, sycamores, poplars, hazels, alders and other trees—and carried off 50 cart-loads of timber and 50 cart-loads of other wood. 500 hurdles were also destroyed as well as a number of fruit trees—apple, pear, cherry, plum, fig, gooseberry, currant and barberry.

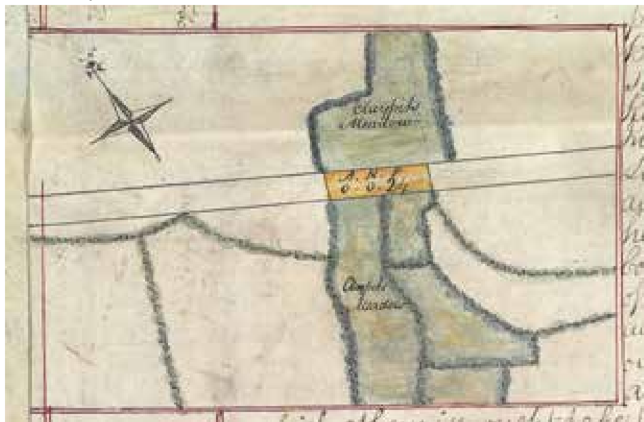

Fig. 2. Clay Pits in the early 1800s (HRO 52M48/156).

Durman also alleged that the defendants had entered Clay Pits Close in Bursledon parish (Fig. 2).[7] Again crops were trampled, trees and hedges felled and levelled and 80 cart-loads of timber and wood carried away. Other trees were lopped, topped and shredded. It is a measure of the destruction that Durman claimed over £600 in damages.[8]

The Litigation

Durman, represented by his attorney William Clarke, commenced proceedings for trespass against Cleverly and the other defendants *vi et armis et contra pacem regis* (with force and arms against the king’s peace) in the court of King’s Bench in Easter term 1769. Edward Cleverly and the other defendants were represented by James Garth and, later in the proceedings, by a Mr Legay.[9] It was to take two years for the case to be concluded.[10]

The defendants’ arguments, and Durman’s attempts to rebut them, at the ‘bar of the court’ are recorded in the plea roll. While not challenging the substance of what Durman had alleged in terms of the damage done, the defendants vigorously defended the legitimacy of their actions. Their defence was fourfold:

(1) That the closes in Hound parish that Durman claimed he owned were originally one large field called Well Close or Tripps, and that this field belonged to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester and had by a lease dated 24 June 1765 been demised to Edward Cleverly for a term of 21 years.[11] They acknowledged that Durman claimed title to the land by a charter of demise for the term of his life made by the Dean and Chapter but maintained that Well Close did not pass by that demise. The defendants’ actions were therefore lawful: Edward Cleverly was acting in his own right and the others ‘as his servants and by his command’. The defendants also argued that they were entitled to destroy the gates, stiles, hurdles and locks and chains as they had been unlawfully erected on Cleverly’s land.

(2) That Well Close, which was Cleverly’s property, not Durman’s, enjoyed a right of way over Durman’s adjoining land in favour of another part of Well Close and in exercising this right of way the cattle ‘did unavoidably snatch and eat a little of the said other grass and corn and potatoes then growing in the said close’.

(3) That they were ‘Subjects of this Realm’ and thus entitled to use a ‘certain common Foot way leading between the village of Botley … and the village of Bursledon’ that ran through the Garden, the Orchard and the other closes and that in exercising this right the damage complained of was unavoidably done to the standing crops, trees and hedges and fences.

(4) That Edward Cleverly was possessed of Hill Close, which was ‘contiguous and next adjoining’ Durman’s land, and the trees, hedges and fences on Durman’s land ‘overspread overshadowed and overhung’ Cleverly’s land and it was necessary to cut down such trees, hedges and fences to remove this nuisance.

Although they did not challenge the substance of Durman’s allegations as to the damage, they did maintain that timber had not been carted away and the locks and chains had been removed but left nearby for his use. Durman appears to have had little further to offer in rebuttal of the defendants’ claims. He

Fig. 3. Sir William Blackstone (1723-80), judge and jurist, by unknown artist, c.1755, National Portrait Gallery 388.

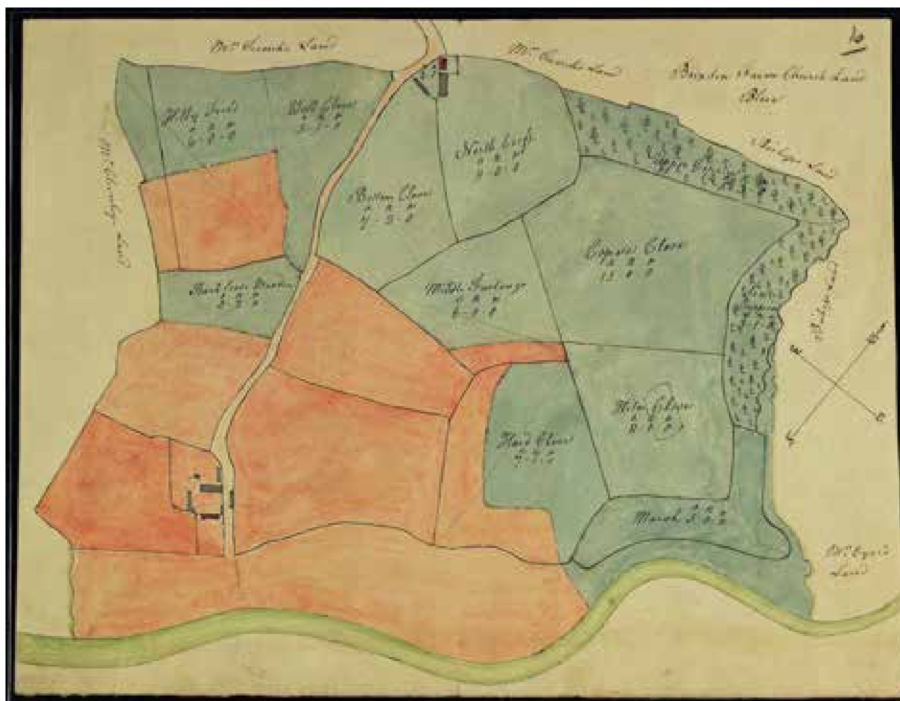

Fig. 4. Brixden farm. Reproduced by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester Cathedral.

maintained that the closes were as pleaded and denied the existence of the right of way in favour of Well Close. Whilst he acknowledged the existence of the 'Common Foot way' between Botley and Bursledon, he maintained that the defendants had broken and entered the closes 'out of the said way in that plea mentioned' and trampled the corn and grass, cut down and prostrated the hedges and fences and carried out the other damage complained of. Both parties 'put themselves upon the country'.

Given the arguments by the parties, it seems likely that the case would, to a large extent, have turned on the relative claims of Durman's charter of demise and the 1765 lease held by Cleverly, though interestingly Durman does not mention any documentary title to the land in his counter-arguments to the defendants' claims. In this regard the evidence of the Dean and Chapter is likely to have been significant. In accordance with the nisi prius procedure, the case was sent for trial at the Winchester Assizes in March 1771 and was heard before Sir William Blackstone (Fig. 3) and Sir George Nares.[12] The outcome of the case is not entirely clear because the note of the outcome indicates 'Juror withdrawn'.[13] This probably indicates that the proceedings were suspended to allow a settlement to take place or for the matter to be referred to arbitration, more likely the former in this instance as there does not appear to be any record of a subsequent arbitration. Support for this interpretation is provided by the fact that Durman appears to have paid at least Richard Hickley's costs, albeit in the seemingly modest sum of £3 14s 4d.[14]

Discussion

Almost certainly the case was in essence a private dispute between Cleverly and Durman, probably as a result of a disagreement as to the boundaries of Brixden farm (Fig. 4). In this regard, it is interesting that the 1765 lease required Cleverly as lessee to deliver to the Dean and Chapter or their surveyor a 'true and perfect terrier or boundary' of the land demised within three years of the grant, and it is probably not coincidental that the actions taken against Durman occurred towards the end of this three-year period. However, the case may have had more of a public, communal aspect given the defendants' contention that Durman had obstructed a 'Common footway' between Bursledon and Botley and the defendants may have felt that they were doing more than assert a right to private property.[15] As E P Thompson and other historians have reminded us, common rights were jealously guarded by local communities. Thompson gives 18th- and 19th-century examples of parishioners 'rioting' and destroying fences and hedges, observing: 'These could have been little affrays or "riots" or they could have been actions deliberately intended to bring on a case which would try their "right"'.[16]

It is reasonable to assume Cleverly and the other defendants planned their actions in advance to provoke the type of legal action that Thompson describes. The timing of the defendants' actions is also interesting. The 'trespass' took place on May Day, a date associated with extreme behaviour generally as well as a time when specifically the cutting of trees (the 'gathering of the May') was considered to have some legitimacy.[17] It may have been a deliberate ploy on the part of the defendants to carry out their actions on that particular day, even if what they did was an inversion of the customary May Day rituals.[18] The fact that in 1768 May 1 fell on a Sunday may have been an added advantage for the defendants, allowing them to commence their activities with less chance of being disturbed.

The extent of the damage caused is also noteworthy. Given that they would still have been under the draconian shadow of the Black Act (1723) and other such legislation, it seems difficult to believe that the defendants would have embarked on such destruction unless they were, quite literally, sure of their ground.[19] It might be inferred that the defendants had at least the tacit support of the Dean and Chapter if not to their actions on 1 May 1768 at least in respect of Cleverly's title by virtue of the 1765 lease.

Conclusion

The Durman-Cleverly case provides a fascinating insight into an 18th-century rural parish, revealing a long-forgotten dispute and perhaps a wider protest by members of the local community against Durman's actions. However, further research is required to tease out its full significance. Hopefully, further evidence will come to light, particularly as to the circumstances surrounding the case, its exact topography, the family relationships, and the motivation of the defendants.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Rosalie Spire, a professional researcher, who undertook research for me in the National Archives and to Gill Rushton of Hampshire Record Office who kindly researched and produced for me relevant documents in Winchester Cathedral archive including the fine estate map of Brixden farm reproduced here. Jeff Martin has been very helpful in supplying

information about the Durman family and William Durman's land transactions in the 1770s. Barbara Biddell very kindly read a draft of this article and made some helpful comments.

References

1 The National Archives (TNA) KB122, Roll 394.
2 A copy of the case is in Hampshire Record Office (HRO) 26M61/1. The case has interested me ever since I came across the document over 20 years ago.
3 HRO 1763A39, will of Thos Durman; HRO Photocopy 664, survey of manor of Hound; HRO 38M74/174, indenture dated 22 December 1810; HRO 21M65/C9/10; typescripts of Hound and Bursledon parish records in Southampton Local Studies Library and Hampshire Record Office. Presumably he was the Wm Durman baptised on 28 Dec. 1714 who died on 18 Mar. 1782, though a Wm Durmin died in 1785. Jeff Martin, a local historian and direct descendant of Wm Durman, has drawn my attention to the fact that his ancestor's fortunes waned during the 1770s, forcing him to sell property: *Hampshire Chronicle* 18, 25 Mar., 1, 8, 29 Apr., 17 June, 12 Aug. 1776, 30 June 1777. His children were the recipients of poor relief in the early 19th century.
4 HRO 1721A/026, will of Edw. Cleverly snr; HRO 1776A34, will of Edw. Cleverly jnr; Hound survey; 1810 indenture.
5 For Mansel Heath, see 1810 indenture. For the tithe cases, HRO 21M65/C9/10 & 21M65/C9/265. For apprentice case, HRO 44M69, 93/456/1; TNA ASSI 24/42; Edmund Bott, *A Collection of Decisions of the Court of King's Bench upon the Poor Laws* (1773).
6 I have not been able to fully resolve the topography of the case and indeed it may have been affected by the defendants' actions in 1768. However, I have been assisted by tithe maps of Bursledon and Hound in HRO, an 18th- or early 19th-century map of Brixden farm, and other maps and documents.
7 Interestingly Claypits is preserved as a minor place name where Long Lane joins the A27 at Bursledon.
8 This sum would need to be multiplied more than 60 times to get an approximation of the value of the damage in today's values (TNA currency converter).
9 This was presumably Chas Legay, Cleverly's usual attorney who witnessed his will in 1768.
10 The HRO copy of the plea roll (26M61/1) is difficult to handle and read, and parts of it are illegible. However, unlike the copy in TNA (KB122) it contains the referral of the case to the Winchester Assizes for determination.
11 The lease can be found in the Chapter Book for the years 1739-76 (CATH_CB_CD6), which can be made available for study in HRO.
12 Trials of fact of civil cases took place in the local assizes. Nisi prius means 'if not sooner' or 'if not before' and this meant that theoretically a trial would take place in London if it had not previously been heard at the relevant local assizes.
13 TNA ASSI 22/3.
14 TNA KB168/20; James Oldham, *The Mansfield Manuscripts and the Growth of English Law in the 18th Century*, I, p.157 n.437 quotes Wm Tidd, an 18th-century legal authority, to the effect that this 'is frequently done, at the recommendation of the judge, where it doubtful whether the action will lie; and in such case the consequence is, that each party pays his own cost'. See also James Oldham, *The English Common law in the Age of Mansfield* (2004). Oldham's works have been invaluable to me in trying to understand the legal background to the case. The payment to Hickley may be in respect of the costs of all the defendants as they do not appear to have been separately represented.
15 Carl Griffin, '"Cut down by some cowardly miscreants": plant maiming, or the malicious cutting of flora, as an act of protest in 18th- and 19th-century rural England', *Rural History* 19 (2008), pp.29-54. This interesting paper examining the maiming of trees and flora as protest notes that 'whilst such attacks sought to address individual grievances they could, as with incendiarism, take on a wider symbolic role within the community', and this may have been what happened in the Durman-Cleverly case.
16 E P Thompson, *Customs in Common* (1993), p.119.
17 Charles Pythian-Adams, *Local History and Folklore: A New Framework* (1975); Bob Bushaway, *By Rite: Custom, Ceremony and Community in England 1700-1880* (1982); Robert Malcolmson, *Popular Recreations in English Society 1700-1850* (1973).
18 Or perhaps it was not an inversion of customary practice: Malcolmson gives examples of May Day being the occasion for the settling of grudges.
19 E P Thompson, *Whigs and Hunters: The Origins of the Black Act* (1985).

Richard Fox and His Pelican Badge

Nicholas Riall

'History', declared Leopold von Ranke, 'is an endless argument'. Perhaps his dictum can be qualified by insisting that there are some things that we should be able to accept without argument, and one such is the description of Richard Fox's pelican badge. Was it a 'pelican in piety' or a 'pelican vulning'?[1]

As a motif the pelican is widely recognised as symbolic of 'sacrifice', because according to medieval bestiaries the bird would peck at its breast making it bleed in order to feed its young—thus saving them. It follows that the pelican is symbolic of Christ's atonement, of his sacrifice on the Cross, and can also be associated with the Resurrection. Anderson added that the pelican was said to 'slay its fledglings in a moment of irritation at their importunity, and then, after three days, to bring them back to life by tearing its own breast'.[2] This was based on St Augustine's interpretation of his reading of Psalm 102, v 6-7, 'I am like a pelican of the wilderness, I am like an owl of the desert; I watch, and am as a sparrow alone, upon the house top'. Augustine considered that it was the male pelicans that had a habit of killing their young and then to mourn their death for three days; and that it was the females that would wound themselves to give life back to their nestlings. Whilst pelicans had a role in the mythology of ancient Egypt,[3] where they were associated with death and the afterlife, they are not identifiable in classical art in which peacocks and other birds are commonly encountered. As a Christian iconographical motif the pelican appears in English contexts from the earlier medieval period, and is frequently depicted in manuscript illustrations and amongst ecclesiastical furnishings, such as misericords and bench ends.

During the medieval period two depictions of the motif evolved: the pelican perched on its nest and feeding its young—thus the pelican in its piety—and secondly, the pelican seen alone, pecking at its breast: a 'pelican vulning' (from the Latin vulno, 'to wound'). A bench end at Bishop's Hull, Somerset, shows an example of the pelican in piety, offering a clear depiction of a pelican feeding its young (Fig. 1). The depiction of the pelican with its young, three of them, being fed in their nest is generally termed as a 'pelican in its piety' or occasionally as a 'pious pelican'. The distinguishing difference between this image and that of the pelican shown by itself, the pelican vulning, is to be found in the presence of the young pelicans being fed in their nest.

We do not know exactly when Richard Fox first adopted the motif as his personal badge, but it was probably from early in his episcopal career. It appears in work he commissioned at Durham, where he was

Fig. 1. Bench end showing a pelican in piety.

elected bishop in 1494, having previously been bishop of Exeter and of Bath and Wells. Many examples of his pelican badge can be seen in Winchester cathedral, where Fox was bishop from 1501 until his death in 1528. His pelican badge also features in the architecture of his Oxford college, Corpus Christi, which was founded in 1517 with a ceremony held in the church of the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester. Here too can be found examples of his pelican badge, where it adorns the magnificent early Renaissance choir stalls, as well as a slightly earlier desk finial.

The depiction of Richard Fox's pelican always shows the bird alone, pecking at its breast and often with large drops of blood spilling down its front (Fig. 2). There is a veritable flock of Fox's pelicans in the presbytery area of Winchester cathedral. They appear most notably standing atop the pinnacles of his chantry chapel, which makes further sense of Psalm 102, but many further examples can be found both on the external and internal elevations of the chapel. Still more pelicans feature on the bosses of the presbytery aisles, on the presbytery screens, and amongst the wonderful array of wooden bosses in the vault above the presbytery, and in the glass of the presbytery windows. Further pelicans can be seen on the stonework of the presbytery exterior.

Although no doubt intended to underline Fox's spiritual beliefs, the badge unequivocally points to the works in the cathedral commissioned by Fox, and equally clearly signifies those areas where he did not intervene. Thus we can see that the main area of his interventions were in and around the presbytery, whereas it is evident from the lack of any pelicans that he did not intervene in the retrochoir where the

Fig. 2. Winchester cathedral: boss in bay 2 of the north presbytery aisle, showing a pelican vulning with a backdrop of vine leaves. Note the well-defined droplets of blood on the pelican's breast.

vault above the shrine of St Swithun almost certainly required substantial repairs.[4]

We do not know why Richard Fox selected the pelican motif as his personal badge, but it is possible to see wider implications through linking the pelican to the Lord's Supper or Mass, and especially so with the great medieval ecclesiastical feast of Corpus Christi. Threaded through the carving work on his chantry chapel, and to be seen also amongst the bosses in the presbytery aisles, are discrete but unmistakeable

Fig. 3. Title page of the Sarum Processionale printed for Bishop Fox in 1508.

Fig. 4. Hospital of St Cross, Winchester: a medallion from the north frieze of the Renaissance choir stalls.

references to the Eucharist. There are 99 bosses in the two presbytery aisles, of which more than 60 have these indirect references to the Eucharist, mostly in the form of vine leaves (Fig. 2). By contrast, pelicans feature on 12 of the bosses, with six of these showing Fox's badge impaled with the crossed sword and keys arms of the Winchester diocese. That Fox had a particular devotion to the Eucharist, and thus also to Corpus Christi, is fully evident from the name he chose for his foundation of an Oxford college.

Fox's pelican featured on the title pages of various ecclesiastical books printed for Richard Fox whilst he was bishop of Winchester, amongst them an edition of the Rites of Sarum (Fig. 3). The image captures well the general feel of the creature that appears in stone, wood, glass and other media amongst works patronised by bishop Fox. It is always depicted with a curved, sharp beak and claws for feet, which are very hawk-like in appearance. The drops of blood often feature, but are not always apparent and in some cases are missing. It hardly needs be said but that this bird has little resemblance to the pelican found in nature, of whatever species, for the iconographical motif does not have the long beak and throat pouch that so characterise this bird in real life, let alone the webbed feet that are a feature of this type of bird. On some species of pelican there is a crimson spot on the tip of its bill, and while this might have inspired the connection to self-sacrifice, it does not explain the differences between the Christian icon and the bird from the natural world.

The suite of choir stalls in the church of the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, features at least three depictions of Fox's pelicans, two of which can be seen in the main surviving sections of frieze that hang in the chancel (Fig. 4). The pelican to be seen in the frieze that hangs on the north side of the chancel shows a relatively standard portrayal of this motif, but is unusual for its combination with a dolphin.

The dolphin is recognised in Christian iconography as representing the Resurrection, and as an image that relates to Christ our Saviour, thus in the St Cross imagery the medallion demonstrates two major themes from Christian iconography. The pair of birds that support this medallion are thought to represent either cranes—their characteristic posture with one leg raised supports such an identification—but they might be illustrative of another type of bird, such as peacocks. They have rather peculiar ear-like projections on their heads, a feature that is shared by many of the dolphins, although with these creatures these seem more akin to horns. No one has yet offered a convincing explanation for these odd attributes. The dolphin seen in the medallion is repeated many times over in the St Cross frieze, where moreover it also features dolphins being ridden by little boys, in imagery taken directly from classical Roman sources.

Richard Fox's badge was a pelican vulning, and not the pelican in piety that was, as it happens, taken as his badge by Richard Sherborne who was Master at St Cross from 1492 until c.1508, by which time he had become bishop of Chichester.

References

1 John Crook in his commendably well-researched book on St Cross describes the badge as a pelican in piety, *The Hospital of St Cross* (2011), p.74.

2 M D Anderson, *The Imagery of British Churches* (1955), p.176.

3 A H Collins, *Symbolism of Animals and Birds Represented in English Church Architecture* (1913), p.33.

4 Repairs to the retrochoir vault were undertaken in 1532/3 by Thomas Bertie. An indenture between Fox and the prior and chapter of St Swithun's, dated 1513, clearly indicated a need for work in this area of the cathedral.

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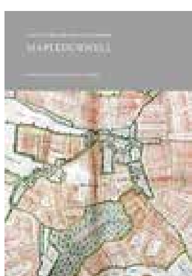


John Hare, Jean Morrin & Stan Waight, **Mapledurwell, The Victoria History of Hampshire:** University of London, 2012; pp.viii+85, £7 from Dr Jean Morrin, Dept of History, University of Winchester, SO22 4NR.

This book is the first of what one hopes will be many publications resulting from Hampshire's new Victoria County History project launched in 2008. Intended to arouse interest in and support for the Hampshire VCH, this single parish history will eventually be incorporated into a new VCH 'red book' covering Basingstoke and the surrounding rural parishes. That larger study will allow Mapledurwell's place in Basingstoke's hinterland to be more clearly understood, but in the meantime this attractively produced volume is a welcome innovation for the VCH, providing a well-informed account of an interesting village and its inhabitants.

From the Middle Ages the parish was predominantly agricultural, and sheep-and-corn husbandry was widely practised. In the 15th century a cloth industry developed, providing tenant farmers such as Thomas Smith (d. 1552) with alternative employment as a weaver. The Smiths became one of Mapledurwell's most prominent families, and in 1678 John Smith endowed the parish's only private charity. The charity benefited the village's poorer inhabitants, most of whom worked as agricultural labourers. Marked economic and social divisions in the 19th century gradually lessened in the 20th, when community life was focused on the village hall, sports pavilion, pubs, and church. In offering a concise, lucid and fully referenced account of Mapledurwell from prehistory to the present day, the book invites further exploration of the parish's past.

Mark Page

David Borrett, John Isherwood & Diana Coldicott, **A Second Andover Miscellany,** Andover History & Archaeological Society, 2012; pp.114, £9.50 + £1.50 pp from Mill Pound Cottage, Monxton, Andover, SP11 8AW.

Four articles feature aspects of 19th-century Andover's industry and infrastructure. David Borrett discusses the career of Robert Tasker (1785-1873), founder of the successful Tasker's ironworks. Robert was a nonconformist, which initially caused him some unpopularity in his adopted village of Abbotts Ann, but his growing reputation as a blacksmith allowed him to overcome Anglican hostility and expand his business. The ironworks were a target for the 'Captain Swing' rioters in 1830, though Tasker appealed for leniency at the resulting trial, and in the paternalistic spirit of the age he built chapels, schools, and workers' accommodation. A less progressive and enlightened attitude characterized successive generations of Andover's town councillors, who vetoed the provision of an adequate water supply and sewerage system. As John Isherwood explains, a determination to keep rates low resulted in poor facilities and pollution until the 1930s. One of those who objected to water closets on principle was the surgeon George Vivian Poore (d. 1904), the subject of a second essay by David Borrett. He favoured the introduction of earth closets and the use of human waste as compost and experimented in the town at Portland House. Finally, as Diana Coldicott demonstrates, from the 18th century Andover was served by several booksellers and printers including Benjamin Bensley, who avoided confrontation with the Swing rioters of 1830 by buying them off.

Mark Page

John L Wainwright, **The Last To Fall: The Life and Letters of Ivor Hickman—An International Brigader in Spain,** Open Eyes Press, 2012; pp.200, £12.99 + £2.50 pp from 3 Well Cottages, Basingstoke Road, Old Alresford, SO24 9DR.

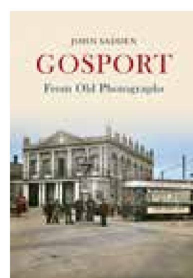
Ivor Hickman was probably the last member of the International Brigade to die fighting for the Spanish government during the Spanish civil war in the 1930s. He is recorded on a memorial in Southampton and on a wooden bench at his former school, Peter Symonds' School, now College, in Winchester. I had often wondered about this former pupil: I knew the historical context, but what led him to risk his life in the International Brigade? This book goes some way to answering some of these queries. It is mainly based on a collection of letters to his girlfriend and subsequent wife, Juliet, mainly written from Spain during his time with the International Brigade and found in an attic by his wife's daughter.

The letters have their limitations: written during the fighting, subject to censorship, the pressures of war and limitations of writing materials. They provide one side of a very personal relationship, and the letters to a recently married wife naturally seek to reassure about the dangers. But their discovery adds a valuable source and at time some letters have much to say about life behind the lines. The author makes good use of the letters, quoting extensively and integrating them with his much wider knowledge of the civil war and its fighting.

Hickman came from Southampton and won a scholarship to Peter Symonds. He was successful there, gaining a scholarship to Christ's College Cambridge where he studied Mathematics (1933-6). We know little of his time there or of the influences upon him, but there developed some form of friendship with Wittgenstein with whom he corresponded after Cambridge. He spent the summer of 1935 travelling in Europe, although we know little about this. Capitalism seemed to be failing amidst the great depression, and Russian Communism seemed to offer hope. He joined the communist party in 1935, and he was evidently already thinking of migration to Russia by the end of that year. After Cambridge he went to Manchester as an apprentice learning useful skills for his new life, including Russian and German. The decision to emigrate to Russia remained, as seen in his letters both then and from Spain. He married Juliet in 1936. But the changing scene abroad led to a change of plan. In 1937 they went to Paris and Ivor left to join the struggle in Spain. Most of the letters and book deal with the war and this last year of his short life.

This is a thoroughly worthwhile book that can be read with interest by the general reader. The letters can only provide us with a very partial view of a tragically curtailed life. A generation ago this could have been supplemented by the recollections of his friends and acquaintances. Now few of these will survive. We must be grateful to the author and a pile of letters in the attic for taking us this far, and he has done much to bring the name on the bench to life. But why only the bench? Why did subsequent attempts fail to give him recognition in the school Memorial library, and thus to place him with those who died in the First and Second World Wars. Was it because he was a 'premature anti-fascist'? Was it the result of the Cold War or what?

John Hare



John Sadden, **Gosport From Old Photographs,** Amberley Publishing: Stroud, 2011; pp.160, £12.99.

Photographs dating from the late 19th to the late 20th centuries are grouped into 11 thematic chapters, covering topics including the seaside, the town centre, schools, leisure pursuits, employment, transport, hospitals, the military, and notable inhabitants. Each photograph is accompanied by the author's comments, which provide much interesting anecdotal information about the town's history and development. Several photographs give the impression (possibly a false one) that Gosport was at a low ebb in the 1970s (e.g. pp.36-8 and 77 showing run-down buildings and streets) and that the town had seen better days. Some architectural landmarks were lost around that time including the pier (p.8) and 'The Hall' (p.127), in the latter case in spite of protests led by 16-year-old Stephen Weeks, while the campaign to save Haslar hospital in 1999 (p.115) was also ultimately unsuccessful. Gosport's coastal location and close relationship with the armed services is evident from many of the photographs, though its civilian and commercial character is also apparent, for instance in two images from c.1956 of gentlemen playing bowls at Anglesey Gardens (p.63) and the gleaming showroom of Erskine Motors (p.103), contributing to a successful and evocative collection.

Mark Page

Archives and Local Studies News from Hampshire Record Office

David Rymill

Recent additions to the archives

Around the boundaries

Several interesting groups of records have recently been transferred from Andover Library. An unexpected treat is a record of a perambulation of Andover parish that took place on 2-4 December 1835 (160A12/A1), a formal 'walking' of the parish boundaries by the parish officers and others, with a view to establishing Andover's boundaries with Knights Enham, Foxcott and so on. It includes numerous attractive coloured sketch-maps showing the route taken, orientated so as to make it easy for anyone undertaking a perambulation in future years to follow the same route. The volume includes quite a few names of local people, mainly owners or tenants of the lands near the boundaries. It was apparently not written down, at least in this form, until 1837, and includes some pieces of additional information about the boundaries which were received after the perambulation: for instance, Mr Wise of Abbotts Ann 'who with his father have laid out the Tythes in Abbotts Ann Field for 50 years' was able to give more details of the boundary at a field called the Stretch Acre.

Celebrations in Andover

Also from Andover Library, we have received two albums of photographs compiled by Francis Shaw JP of High Street, Andover, concentrating on the town's celebrations for the Golden and Diamond Jubilees of Queen Victoria in 1887 and 1897 (160A12/B1 and B2 respectively) and the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of York, later King George V and Queen Mary, on 6 July 1893 (also in 160A12/B1). The quality of the photographs is excellent, and they show dramatically the huge crowds that filled the centre of Andover to mark such occasions, and the trouble taken by local businesses to decorate floats on the occasion of the 1893 Royal Wedding.

A potato dish at Houghton

One of the earliest Women's Institutes in Hampshire, Houghton, has recently deposited records including minute books from 1918 onwards (74A12). The first year's activities included talks or demonstrations about 'What to do in the Garden in March', bread-making and boot-mending, and competitions for 'the best dish made from potatoes' and 'the best and most economical cake'.

A study in Southsea

The number of signatures of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle known to exist in our holdings has increased from two to three, thanks to an eagle-eyed volunteer cataloguing papers of the 4th Earl of Carnarvon in his capacity as Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire in 1888-90. They include a letter from the officer commanding the 1st Volunteer Brigade of the Southern Division of the Royal Artillery, enclosing a form for the commissioning of Joseph Henry Ball, a Southsea architect, as a Second Lieutenant, and incorporating a medical certificate signed 'A Conan Doyle MD' (Q30/3/13/15). It was while practising as a doctor at Southsea that Conan Doyle wrote the first Sherlock Holmes novel, A Study in Scarlet.

At home in Shawford

Some additional papers of the Bowker Family (4M94) include visitors' books for The Malms, Shawford, the home of Alfred Bowker, containing photographs, cuttings and notes of events hosted by Mr Bowker, ranging from large receptions and parties to small 'At Homes'. Among the photographs are views of a garden party which he hosted for Winchester schoolchildren on 25 May 1897 for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, one of the Winchester School of Art sketching class on a visit in June 1899, and the 1898 Winchester Corporation staff outing of 1898.

Almshouses and apprenticeships in Titchfield

We have received the archive of the Earl of Southampton Trust (152A12), a Titchfield charity which continues to provide housing, welfare grants and day rooms, a natural progression from its traditional provision of almshouses, apprenticeships etc. *Four Centuries of the Earl of Southampton Trust*, a history by a former Clerk to the Trustees, David G Smith, includes a schedule of the records, which has formed the basis of our online catalogue entries. This book was published in 1997, the 100th anniversary of the amalgamation of the charity founded by the 3rd Earl of Southampton in 1620 with two other local charities, and also the 400th anniversary of the establishment of Robert Godfrey's Charity, the oldest of the constituent charities.

The archive contains original documents from the mid 18th century onwards, with copies of earlier items. Of particular interest are the minutes and accounts of the Charity of the Earl of Southampton from 1752 onwards and of Robert Godfrey's Charity from 1830 onwards. The accounts include the names of those who received grants from the former charity, often indicating the cause (such as 'in great distress', 'to enable him/her to carry on the trade of a…', 'to buy fishing nets').

In 1752-5 they give details of expenditure on arrangements for the establishment of the trade of spinning and weaving worsted at Titchfield, first by William Milligan of Alton and then by John Greenvill or Grenville of Alton. There is also material relating to various Titchfield properties associated with the charities, perhaps most interestingly a 1960s file about Titchfield Market Hall and Cage, also referred to as Titchfield Prison and Titchfield Old Gaol or Jail, and its transfer to the Weald and Downland Museum in West Sussex.

Preparing for war at Curdridge

A comprehensive record of activities in Curdridge during the Second World War, included in a deposit of records from Curdridge Parish Council (77M79), reveals the amount of organisation which went on, and shows how well-prepared the village was for the very real possibility of invasion. They include a list of residents issued with respirators (gas masks), and registers of evacuees (77M79/K1-K3 and K10-K12). Other items in this group include the Curdridge Invasion Committee minutes, 1941-3 (77M79/K27), Curdridge's copies of printed leaflets such as *If an Invader Comes What to Do and How to Do It*, and a schedule of residents of Curdridge stating whether they had items such as a bicycle and what work (such as cooking) they could do (77M79/K13).

The Invasion Book (77M79/K14), compiled under the chairmanship of Colonel W M Coldstream, gives detailed arrangements for food supply, cooking,

transmitting messages, shelter, transport etc in the event of an invasion. A great number of villagers are named, perhaps as organisers of work groups, messenger cyclists, owners of premises containing wells, or volunteers who would help in a rest centre. The Invasion Book also lists tenants of farm buildings that could be used for accommodation, with comments on the condition of the premises, and includes detailed maps.

Women of Hampshire Transported to Australia 1787-1852

A dissertation by Michael Saunders (2007), studies Hampshire women transported to Australia between 1775 and 1852 (THESIS/61). It explores why they were transported and how the courts perceived them, investigating the consistency of correlation of offence and sentencing. It includes lists of women sentenced by Quarter Sessions for the county, Portsmouth and Southampton, and the Assizes, and those named in ships' manifests. Extracts from contemporary newspapers show that transportation for seven years was common even for minor thefts: in 1837 Mary Ann Masters was sentenced for stealing a tablecloth from R Guy of the Dolphin Hotel in Southampton, having a previous conviction; Elizabeth Taylor, who was aged 13, was similarly sentenced at Portsmouth the next year for stealing a pair of gloves from Charles Helby, but her name is not on any ship's manifest, so perhaps her age won her some leniency.

Local Studies Collection: some new books & pamphlets

Some particularly interesting local publications about natural history have been transferred from the library service, to which they had been bequeathed by the Revd J E Kelsall, co-author of *Birds of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* (1905). Among them are bound volumes of *The Sussex and Hants Naturalist* for 1893-4, including articles about birds of the Test Valley, insects of north-east Hampshire, and a natural history ramble at Weyhill, with articles about birds and mammals of Hampshire by Kelsall himself (590.5), and *A Supplement to Frederick Townsend's Flora of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* (the original of which appears in the Victoria County History) by J F Rayner, 1929 (581.94227), with numerous manuscript annotations, presumably by Kelsall.

Other older books transferred from the library service include *Memoranda of the Parishes of Hursley and North Baddesley* by John Marsh, 1808 (942.2732) and *The English Village: Sketches of Local History* by T Press, 1938-9 (942.27) which gives short histories of various properties on the Hampshire-Surrey borders, such as Chiltlee and Greatham Manors, with contemporary comments on the houses and their owners including Dr Herbert Godwin of Greatham Moor, a former Army Surgeon, and the racehorse owner Edward Mason of Pophole Farm, Liss.

Books about railways feature prominently among recent local titles, including *Treacle Mines, Tragedies and Triumph: The Building of the Bournemouth Direct Line* by Jude James (Natula Publications, 2012), the substantial and well-illustrated *The Longmoor Military Railway: A New History: Vol 1: 1903-1939* by Col David Ronald and Mike Christensen, and Marie Panter's *Hampshire's Lost Railways* (Stenlake Publishing, 2005), which includes photographs of long-closed stations ranging from Fullerton Junction to Hayling Island.

One of Hampshire's more famous residents of the 16th century is featured in *Tudor Survivor: The Life and Times of William Paulet* by Margaret Scard (The History Press, 2011), which combines biography, historical context and imaginative reconstruction, while some lesser-known names are introduced in *Penton's Heroes: The Story of a Hampshire Village in the Great War*, written and published by Rod Eggington (2010), which covers Penton Mewsey and Penton Grafton, and in *Mrs Whitby's Locket: The story of Captain John Whitby – England's youngest ever naval captain – and his redoubtable wife* by Barry Jolly (Milford-on-Sea Historical Record Society, 2011). This book tells the intriguing story of how the Newlands estate at Milford passed from Admiral Sir William Cornwallis to Captain Whitby's descendants.

Digital accessions

Our recent digital accessions comprise a mixture of born-digital material and digital copies of hard-copy originals. The born-digital items include photographs of events such as the visit to Romsey Abbey by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in June 2007 (10M58/PZ45). There are also a few digital items in our collection of material about the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, which covers the Olympic torch route through Hampshire, participation by Hampshire athletes in the Olympics and Paralympics, and Hampshire celebrations of the Games (120A12, cataloguing in progress; we should be very pleased to receive additions to this collection). Chris Surtell has given us a set of digital photographs of Laverstoke Mill, formerly the premises of banknote paper makers Portals, which he took in January 2012 shortly before work began to convert the premises into a gin distillery (96A12).

The digital world has also allowed depositors to provide us with copies of material, while the originals remain elsewhere. A particularly evocative set of digital images was received from Derek Wren, who has scanned the slides of Basingstoke which he took in 1964 (146A12). They show the town just before the redevelopment of much of the central area, and depict Basingstoke as a town of small shops, market stalls and picturesque streets (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. Wheatsheaf Hotel, Basingstoke, by Derek Wren (1964).

Forthcoming events

Exhibitions,

3 Aug-3 Oct (in the foyer and the top-floor gallery): Wellow then and now: early Victorian times to the present day (presented by Wellow History Society), together with a display of artwork by pupils of Wellow Primary School, inspired by the 1840s Wellow Album (Fig. 2).

8 Oct-12 Dec: (in the foyer) The Showpeople of Hampshire.

Lunchtime lectures: last Thursday of each month, 1.15-1.45pm, no need to book. Free, donations in the region of £2 welcomed.
29 Aug: The early Victorian Wellow Album and its artist: finding clues in the drawings, by Professor Michael Sleigh.

Fig. 2. Drawing of James Reeves's house, Wellow Wood, from an album of 109 pencil drawings showing buildings, people and scenes in East and West Wellow, 1840s.

26 Sept: Woodfidley: 40 years of a folk group, an archive film presentation.
31 Oct: William Cobbett: Botley's Radical Farmer, by David Chun.
28 Nov: Edward Costello, the Story of a Peninsular War Rifleman, by Major Ken Gray, Keeper of the Archives, Royal Green Jackets Museum.
Family history for beginners. £12, booking essential: 01962 846154

Practical advice and help in starting your family history research: discover the main sources available and how to use them; access material on microfiche/film with staff on hand to answer any questions. All you need to know to begin researching your family tree. 24 Sept, 22 Oct, 26 Nov 6-8pm; 5 Sept, 10 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec 2-4pm. £12 per session, booking essential (you only need to attend one session).
Workshops. Unless otherwise stated, 2pm-4pm; each session £12 per person. Booking essential, on 01962 846154
19 Sept: **House history for beginners**: find out how to use archive sources to discover tales about the people who lived in your house and how it fits into the history of the local community.
3 Oct: **How to find your Army Ancestors**: Find out more about the soldier in your family tree with this workshop revealing the many types of records which throw light on your soldier ancestors, including those from the First World War.
18 Oct: **Meet the archive conservators**: Find out how archive documents suffer damage through poor storage, damp and pests, and how conservators repair the damage and protect archives for their long-term future.
12 Nov: Their Name Liveth for Evermore: researching **First World War memorials**.
Special events

Did you miss our over-subscribed event marking the 250th anniversary of Barings Bank and celebrating Hampshire's links with the **Baring family**, at Stratton Park, Northington Grange and Norman Court? We are repeating it on Mon 23 Sept, 5 for 5.30pm. Once again, this will include talks by Lara Webb on The Barings at Work and by Stuart Bridges on The Barings at home and abroad, plus a special display of original Baring family archives, and light refreshments. Booking essential; please ring for details.
9 Oct, 2-3pm: Is there a book in you? Practical guide to writing & publishing your book by Dr Alison Baverstock, Kingston University. £6 per person. Advanced booking essential.
Wed 13 November, 10am-3.30pm: The **Archive Ambassador** training scheme. Sign up today and help us preserve Hampshire's heritage. Training in archive preservation/conservation, cataloguing, digitisation and film and sound archives. £18 per person, booking essential.

For more information about events, visit www3.hants.gov.uk/archives/whatson-hro or ring 01962 846154.

'A Serche in Oure Evidences': cataloguing the Winchester bishopric archives

One of the largest and most significant collections in our care will become fully accessible thanks to grant funding which we have secured to catalogue the estate archive of the Bishopric of Winchester, opening up these under-used records to researchers of all kinds. The project will be funded through the National Cataloguing Grants programme, administered by The National Archives on behalf of several funding trusts. The award of £23,809 was made by an independent panel following a demanding and competitive two-stage application process. Hampshire Archives Trust is also contributing £1,000 to the project.

The estate at its height comprised 60 manors across seven southern counties. The archive comprises 515 boxes and 16 metres of volumes, from the 13th to the 20th century, as well as the celebrated Pipe Rolls recently recognised by UNESCO. It has long been seen as a rich resource for economic and social history: the records contain a wealth of names, and have informed studies of medieval agriculture, demography, labour, wages, peasant landholding, and the history of rural and urban buildings.

The grant means that the catalogue – the researcher's key to using the collection – can be upgraded. More descriptive and contextual detail will be added to help users of the online catalogue worldwide. Fascinating series such as the court papers, giving vivid accounts of misdemeanours such as dumping waste in the streets and allowing animals to roam, and including many lists of tenants' names, will also be described more fully. Adrienne Allen has been seconded to undertake the cataloguing project (a temporary appointment will cover her hours); look out for updates from Adrienne once work is under way.

Saturdays

Please note that our document retrieval service is now more limited on Saturdays, particularly over the lunch period; if you are planning to consult original documents on Saturdays, it is a good idea to contact us in advance so that we can fetch at least some documents out in advance and avoid keeping you waiting.

Landscape

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Editorial

George Campbell

Switzerland provides some interesting examples of deserted village sites. In the Alps, south of Sion and just north of the Italian frontier, one can look down on clusters of house platforms on deserted village sites on the high shoulders of glaciated valleys; all that remain of villages that were still in existence in the mid 19th century (fig.1). Life had never been easy for the inhabitants, cultivating small rocky strips, and grazing their cattle and sheep on the higher mountain slopes as the snows cleared. Large families could not be sustained, and so sons and daughters descended the mountain tracks to find work and lodgings in the towns. Then came the railway along the lower valleys linking the main towns, from Geneva and Berne to Sion and beyond. Roads were built from the railway towns up the higher valleys to alpine villages. While the purpose was primarily to open up the country to the burgeoning new tourist industry, it was also intended to improve the lives of the highland inhabitants, by giving them easier access to the resources of the towns. But the effect was to enable the inhabitants of the high villages to escape to an easier life in the towns and beyond, at a time when the attractions of the New World were being advertised.

Fig. 1 House platforms marking the site of deserted settlements in La Florclaz, Alpi Pennine, Switzerland.

Nearer home, Scottish highlanders, forced off their smallholdings by their landlords, left their hard livelihoods in remote crofting communities for jobs in the growing manufacturing industries on Clydeside and further afield, while educated rural Welshmen unable to find suitable employment in their home village, migrated along the A40 to buttress the school teaching force of Oxford.

What follows is an investigation of some local sites, thought to be those of deserted settlements.

Romsey Extra's 'Deserted' Medieval Settlements?

George Campbell

To the north and south of Romsey, within a mile of the Abbey, are a number of listed houses, some incorporating medieval remains. They are: Spursholt House, Moorcourt Farmhouse (Fig.2), Skidmore House (Fig.3), Lee Manor House, and Pauncefoot House (1). They are all associated with sites recorded as 'possible deserted hamlets': Roke (SU337227 and fig. 7) and Pauncefoot (SU344201) (2), Lee (SU360179), and Skidmore (SU356180) (3). Only one of these former settlements, Moorcourt, has left any visible evidence of its original form (Figs.4 and 5)). The HCC Archaeology and Historic Buildings Record gives little more information on the others, but the work of the Medieval Settlement Research Group in Hampshire and the IOW suggests that in thinly populated areas where the settlement pattern is not strongly nucleated, sites such as these probably represent 'the site of a manor house with the peasant/tenant tofts scattered across the settlement territory' (4). This may well be the pattern here, but there is no archaeological confirmation. However, maps, documents and fieldwork could reveal more information, such as when they flourished, declined, were deserted, and possibly, why. What follows is an attempt to reveal what can be reconstructed of their origins and history, from the accessible sources.

In the Hampshire Domesday, not one of these places is named within the boundaries of the Romsey Hundred. It does not follow that none of them existed then; but if they did, they were not significant enough to be individually named and assessed; or because they were abbey lands, it was administratively easier to regard them as a unit. However, examination of the surrounding surface geology, reveals a high proportion of low yielding sands and gravels, suggesting that any population concentrations were likely to have been small ones. So, what settlement existed then is probably included in the entry for Romsey which refers to '53 smallholders'; some presumably situated on the north and east sides of the main settlement, others dispersed over the rest of the Hundred, on favourable sites. Such sites would have included the edge of gravel terraces with access to the meadows on the alluvial flood plain bordering the river Test on one hand, and some arable and pasturing on the dry low gravel terrace on the other (fig.1). The Domesday record of 18 ploughs suggests a considerable level of arable activity, probably mainly in corn and pulses. However, it is difficult to determine whether any evidence of ridge and furrow remains due to absence of heavy clay soils, which might have preserved them. The lighter sands and gravels preserve little (fig.7). However, the recorded 50 acres of meadow along the Test and its tributaries would have been a major asset to nearby settlements. The 'deserted settlements' of Lee, Moorcourt, Pauncefoot, Roke, Skidmore (a farm of Welles Manor) and Spursholt, all fall into this group in respect of their choice of site near the edge of the gravel terrace close to the Test's alluvial meadows (fig.1). When they were founded is not known, nor even whether they existed at the time of Domesday, because of no specific

identification of manors within the Romsey Hundred. However, both The Hampshire Domesday and the VCH contain clues that suggest that some may have been settled before Domesday. Pauncefoot is recorded in a variety of spellings at different periods. It is highly probable that Bernard Pancevolt, one of the Conqueror's henchmen, who held a number of small manors in Hampshire including some not far from Pauncefoot Manor, should not also have held that one (5). If so, then it would almost certainly have existed in Saxon times. Several other manors included in the 10th c. gift of King Edgar to the Abbey have early mentions, such as Spursholt, 12th c. (6), Skidmore (a farm of Welles Manor home of the 14th c. Scudamore family) (7), and More Abbas, now only marked by the remains of its moat and fishponds (SU342170). Moorcourt is also believed to have been part of the gift of King Edgar, as it probably lay within the arm of the 'Old Test' and therefore, on the same side of the river as the other manors (8). So, a Saxon manor house with its associated small group of dependent homesteads could well have been the pattern in this area.

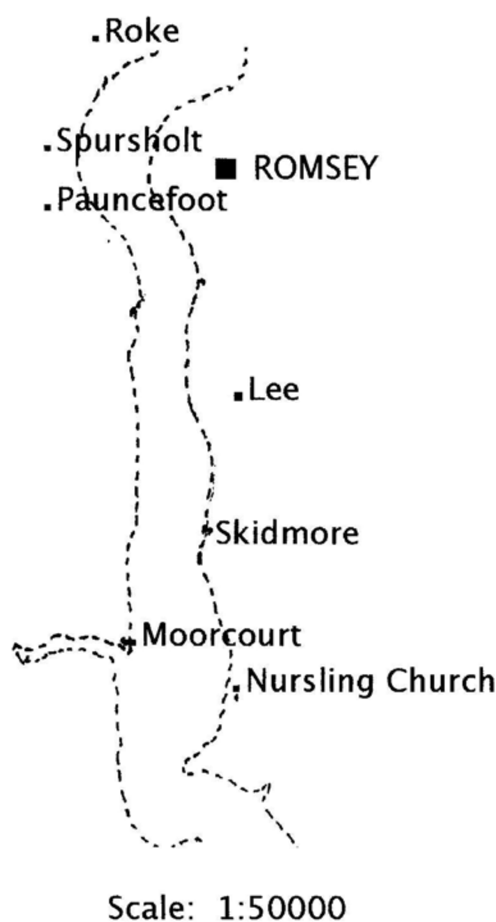

Fig. 1 The sites of possible deserted settlements on the edge of the gravel terrace above the R. Test alluvial flood plain. (Geological boundary marked by broken line.)

However, it is in this late Saxon period that this whole area suffered at the hands of the Danes. The monastery at Nursling was destroyed along with Romsey Abbey. The surrounding district can hardly have escaped without suffering some losses; but there is no information on the fortunes of these minor settlements (9).

With regard to the possibility of medieval settlement desertion, as early as the 1200s there are reports of enclosure of the common fields, probably for conversion into more profitable sheep pastures (10). Such reductions in cultivable land for the local peasant families may have driven some of them off the land to seek a livelihood in nearby Romsey, particularly in the years when the cloth industry was gaining momentum. An event that also may have had an influence on livelihood, and therefore settlement, was the building of the Abbey church which started in 1180, and continued until its completion in about 1250 (11). It could have drawn workers from the land to provide additional labour; but it could also have encouraged families to produce more food for the increased workforce by remaining on the land but releasing the able bodied for part-time work on the Abbey site.

By 1327, the Lay Subsidy Rolls of the Somborne Hundred reveal Moorcourt, Pauncefoot, Roke, Spursholt, and Stansbridge as places significant enough to be named but not wealthy enough to be assessed separately. Thus, Roke is assessed with Stanbridge, Pauncefoot with Spursholt, and Moorcourt with Ridge. Skidmore is not named, but John Escudemour, after whose family the farm is named, is the biggest taxpayer in the small manor of Welles. Lee, first mentioned in records,1241 (12), is assessed separately. The assessment levels indicate that all except Lee have little wealth and few taxpayers. The numbers of those too poor to achieve the tax threshold is not known

	Assessment	Taxpayers	
Lee	29s 5d	12	5 paid 2s or more
Roke & Stansbridge	23s 9d	13	2 paid 2s or more
Spursholt and Pauncefoot	24s 1d	10	2 paid 2s or more
Moorcourt and Ridge	34s 3d	8	3 paid 2s or more
Skidmore (in Welles)	19s 8d	8	4 paid 2s or more

When these are compared with larger and more prosperous 'townships' in the Hundred (below), they

Fig. 2 Moorcourt Farm

Fig. 3 Skidmore House

Figs. 4 & 5 The site of Moorcourt's former moat. SW corner(left), SE corner (right)

fall short. But poor as they were, they yielded more wealth than nearby Chilworth and Canterton, which, nevertheless, were assessed separately in Domesday.

	Assessment	Taxpayers	
King Somborne	51s 7d	39	7 paid 2s or more
Leckford	106s 1d	39	24 paid 2s or more
Longstock	73s 2d	33	12 paid 2s or more

From the 1327 Lay Subsidy Rolls, Somborne Hundred

A study of their location confirms well chosen sites on terrace or valley gravels above flood level, and with easy access to the fertile alluvial flats and meadows of the Test valley (fig.1). However, the geological map also reveals their location in a more thinly settled area than their neighbours on the more productive sandy clays of the Bracklesham Beds; perhaps an indication of their expansion on to more marginal lands during the climatically favourable 12th and 13th centuries, because of the increasing population pressures then. However, there is no evidence of assarting. Interestingly, these small settlements withstood the ravages of the Great Famine of 1315-18, although their inhabitants may have suffered.

In the 1334 assessment, their taxes were roughly 50% more than in 1327 because of the high cost of the nation's wars: Lee £4.10.0, Roke and Stanbridge £1.14.0, Spursholt £1.4.0 and Pauncefoot £0.12s.0; all apparently maintaining their relatively low level, but with Lee still well ahead of the others.

In 1349 the Black Death descended on the Romsey area. The Abbey suffered badly with the loss of the Abbess, at least one prebendary and two vicars. 'No doubt many of the nuns succumbed, for there were never more than 25 nuns thereafter. There were formerly 91!' (13). Inevitably, the misfortunes of the Abbey as the biggest employer and purchaser of services, food etc., would have impacted on the prosperity of the town and local communities, although neither the details nor the scale of the loss of life among the townsfolk and outlying settlements is known.

In view of the small size of the settlements and their relatively low value, it might have been expected that they were irretrievably lost, with the possible exception of the wealthier Lee. However, they all seemed to have survived, as there are reports of them later in the century and beyond. For example, in 1367 John de Welles and his wife, and Richard Pauncefoot, are mentioned in land transactions (14). Several were manors held by the Abbey, and appear in the Abbey Records (15). By 1412 the accounts reveal that the Abbey was in the red (16). While the Abbey's diminishing fortunes must have adversely affected the town's trade, the accounts also record the substantial income from wool, in the period of the burgeoning cloth industry. But the manors that produced it were, with one exception, not those in the immediate vicinity, possibly because their pastures were poor. A confirmation of this appears in the 1412 Account Roll where More Malwyn (later Moor Court), provided the smallest returns of the six Abbey manors: £12 in corn and rents with no wool, compared with £404 including £60 of wool for the six. It is also significant that in the various land transactions recorded, rough pasture seems to dominate. Thus, the de Welles transaction in1367 identified 100 acres of 'land' (arable?), 50 acres of meadow, 100 acres of heath and 10 acres of moor (14). Another land transaction of 1455 described 16 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture and 4 acres of wood in the manors of Romsey, Stanbrigge, Okle [Roke], Mayhenstor [Mainstone] Welles and Ashfield, plus two manors on the Isle of Wight (17). However, as these transactions occurred at a time when pastures were in demand, the emphasis on pasture may have been merely a commercial ploy. However, it suggests that the villagers' arable land may have been under pressure, and their livelihood threatened.

An interesting illustration of this point appears in the Abbey Records, when in 1444 'Thomas at Roke erected a fence across a right of way which he was ordered to pull down.' (18). This incident may indicate that Thomas was enclosing his land to run sheep, at a time when Romsey's cloth industry was prospering; or he may have been merely asserting his authority. In the same year, the tenants of Lee took their corn to the mill of John Grenefeld at Skidmore rather than to the Abbey's, and were fined by the Abbess (19). Skidmore Farm also appears in the account roll of 1539. The existence of mills, then, underlines the apparent persistence of cereal production on these marginal soils. Pauncefoot also held the adjacent manor of Mainstone from the 14th century until the last of the line died in 1492. These were without doubt the descendents of Bernard Pancevolt who held various properties in Hants and Wilts recorded in the Domesday Book. So, in 1492, we get a glimpse of the nature and extent of this manor's lands. They comprised: 300 of acres arable, 200 acres of pasture and100 acres

of woodland (20). Of the group, this manor was most favourably situated; close to the Romsey market, and on the more balanced and productive soils of the Bracklesham Beds, which combined with the alluvium of the Test valley gave it a distinct advantage.

The Suppression of the Monasteries was the next blow to befall the Abbey, and with it the town and the surrounding country and settlements. Immediately after the Dissolution, the up and coming gentry attempting to hold on to the coat-tails of the aristocrats, along with wealthy merchants and entrepreneurs, intent on investing their wealth and creating fine houses and estates to improve their social standing, were the first to purchase the forfeited lands of the Abbey. The 'tithing of Lee' was granted to William Paulet, Lord St. John, Earl of Wiltshire (21). More Abbess and Mor Malwyn were granted to Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford, who then granted them to Richard Dowse who passed them on to his son, John. By then the two estates had been combined as Moor Court, the name of the house John built shortly after he inherited. (22). The Lay Subsidy Rolls of 1586 should have provided evidence of Moor Court, but does not, although other settlements such as Lee and Spursholt, another possession of the Dowse family, are named and assessed. Lee recorded ten taxpayers; all except two on the minimum. Spursholt recorded only two; Richard Dowse assessed at £40, and a John Sherlocke at £3, the minimum; and Spursholt's main structure is described as 16th century. (23). Skidmore's buildings are recorded as 17th century with 18th century additions (23 and fig.3). So, there is much evidence of the building of substantial houses in the 16th century by new landowners.

Although in 1586, the poorest inhabitants were not recorded, the signs are that those of the unnamed settlements, previously recorded in 1327, were either too poor to be assessed or had departed. These are: Roke, Pauncefoot (with Mainstone), Skidmore and Moor Court. Even if they had been included in the Romsey Extra assessments, the latter's low total of eight taxpayers would have reflected a diminished population.

A clearer picture emerges in the Hearth Tax Assessment of 1665 (24) where several settlements missing in 1586 appear, as do 'the poor' (too poor to be charged). Moor Court with its nine hearths is clearly a large building, if the nine listed all apply to the house. But this is not clear; nor is the number of 'not charged', if any. Spursholt is more revealing, although only the main house is assessed for eight hearths and one other. As in 1586, there are no 'poor' recorded. Lee, relatively prosperous in 1327 and in 1586, records fifteen taxpayers and only four 'not chargeable'. Mainstone (with Pauncefoot) omitted in the 1586 assessment, records three taxpayers and four 'not chargeable'. Skidmore records three taxpayers only. Roke was not found. Romsey Extra records 34 taxpayers and 77 'not chargeable'. So, on the fragmentary evidence provided, the conclusion must be that in the period following the Dissolution, and the changes in land ownership, and commencement of wide scale building or rebuilding of prestigious houses, on their lands, the desertions of these small settlements must have commenced or continued.

It seems that these small communities were vulnerable in the sense that they were a hairsbreadth away from starvation if they could not maintain sufficient critical mass to manage a plough team, on what was clearly marginal land, to be kept productive by rotation and constant manuring. Clearly they did, for the population tables reveal that they survived into the 19th century when the last of their open fields were enclosed (25). So how do we explain the evidence of the deserted sites? It was clearly not the Black Death or subsequent epidemics, although these may have contributed to their decline. The local economy set against the national picture may have played a part. The fluctuation in the price of grain (and bread!) seen in relation to the demand for pasture for sheep grazing land when wool was commanding a high price, may have driven more of the population to the towns, Romsey and Winchester in particular, to earn more. But it is equally likely that although they may have worked in the town, they retained their home and smallholding in the hamlet. So, while there may have been some permanent drift to the towns it seems unlikely that the settlements were deserted in the medieval period. After the Dissolution, and the sale of the Abbey lands, the new owners were probably quick to respond to the high wool prices between 1548 and 1573 by enclosing more of their land for pasture, so reducing the area under cereals and driving up the price. Between the same years the price of grain rocketed by an increase of almost 60% (26). This could have prompted more of the rural population who would have lost their lands, to seek higher earnings in the cloth industry in the towns.

Fig.6 Palmerston Estate Cottages, near Lee.

The most likely cause of the abandonment of the settlement sites at this period, was most probably because the landlord wanted to build a more prestigious house. An early example is the moated house, More Abbas, built as a manor house for the Abbess, circa 1250-1300, on the back of the long period of prosperous agriculture. It probably occupied the site within the moat, of which the outline remains, with the fishponds at SU342178. Both moat and fishponds would have been status accruing features for an important church dignitary. Servants and estate workers would have been housed outside the moat. About 1500, another fine house for the Abbess, perhaps as a successor to the moated house, was built about 400m to the east on the site of More Malwyn, of which the 14th century remains of 'four bays of a solar range' were incorporated in Moor Court (above), built by Dowse c.1540. (27).

A late example is the creation and consolidation of the Palmerston estates. In the mid 18th century, Henry Temple, who became the first Lord Palmerston, purchased the Broadlands estate, greatly extended

it, built his grand house, and enlisted the services of Capability Brown to create a fine park. His grandson, the famous parliamentarian, consolidated his family's holdings in the 1860s, by purchasing all the manors immediately south of Romsey to create a long block. These comprised Moor Court, Mainstone, Wells and Lee. (28). Landlords, such as the Palmerstons shared a central aim: to visibly improve their standing in the eyes of the wider community by building a prestigious house on an impressive estate. To achieve this they had to distance themselves from the smallholders, and so, the latter were removed. The evidence in the Romsey district shows that some of the latter were still hanging on, perhaps in new homes built for them by their

Fig.7 Pig Farm on gravel heathland, near the site of the deserted settlement of Roke.

landlord on a nearby site, and there is evidence that the Palmerstons resettled their communities. Pevsner gives a hint of this when he describes a row of cottages circa 1870 erected by Palmerston III as part of the latter's 'varied estate housing'(29 and Fig. 6). But it would be helpful to know if any of the earlier landowners resettled their workers, and, if so, to bring any of the details of these events into sharper focus. If this was a general trend, then perhaps while the original settlement sites may have been deserted, their inhabitants had merely moved, or been moved, to another one nearby.

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Three Hampshire Landscapes

George Watts

In the last number of the Newsletter I described the abandonment in the 14th century of an area of arable land in the south-west corner of Titchfield Common, and the transformation of the landscape that followed (1). The area reverted to common: it was shown as such on the Earl of Southampton's map of 1605, and together with the rest of Titchfield Common remained virtually unchanged in the Ordnance Survey's map of 1810 (2a and 2b). The Common shared the characteristics of large parts of south Hampshire at the time. Local resident Freddie Light, born a year or two after the 1859-66 Enclosures, wrote that 'Some of the cottagers had a cow, a pig, a horse or a donkey, and most of the food required for the sustenance of the animals could be obtained from the common. Heather turf was cut with a special cutter… Even the dung was collected in the summer and built into neat stacks for the winter fire… wood collected from the common was used as fuel for baking' (3). It was a landscape that had survived for 500 years.

There were twenty similar areas of common in south Hampshire between the Test and the Sussex border (4). These ancient landscapes were to be transformed during the first 60 years of the 19th century. They were enclosed in two phases, 1804 to 1836, and 1852 to 1864, the largest – the 4600 acres of the Forest of Bere –in 1810. West of the Test, the great area of open common and woodland of the New Forest was to survive: to the east the old landscape would soon be largely forgotten.

The 1100 acres of Titchfield and Swanwick Commons were enclosed by two Acts between 1859 and 1866 (the two Commons were contiguous)(5). Some landowners and farmers acquired blocks of land (36%). But the historically most significant outcome of the Enclosures proved to be the creation of 106 allotments of less than an acre; a further 33 allotments were charitably donated. The allotments were intended to be subsistence holdings on which families were to grow potatoes and other vegetables, so keeping themselves out of the workhouse. But from the beginning a half of the 106 were more ambitious, 53 of them buying additional plots from the Commissioners, and building up units of one or two acres. The Bevis family, for instance, were allocated small allotments in both Titchfield and Swanwick, and then bought additional land in Titchfield. In the 1920s we can see them as characteristically well-equipped market gardeners (fig.3). Like hundreds of their neighbours they

had seen that the future was not in subsistence crops: it was in cash crops, which could be profitably sold – you could then buy your potatoes and vegetables. Those cash crops were to be strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries and currants.

Commercial market gardening, practised around London since the 17th century, had developed only slowly in south Hampshire. Strawberries and other fruit were grown in the walled gardens of the landowners; a nice example is given by Jane Austen in her novel *Emma*, published in 1816 (6). But they were not grown by their tenant farmers. Now the rapid development of Portsmouth and Southampton created an urban population without gardens and reliant on greengrocers. Suzanne Shuttleworth has shown that between 1847 and 1875 the number of greengrocers in Portsmouth grew from 29 to 123 (7). Traditional farmers in the Titchfield area were slow to respond, but the newly enfranchised smallholders, not constrained by the traditional routines of the sheep-corn husbandry, had the freedom to do so.

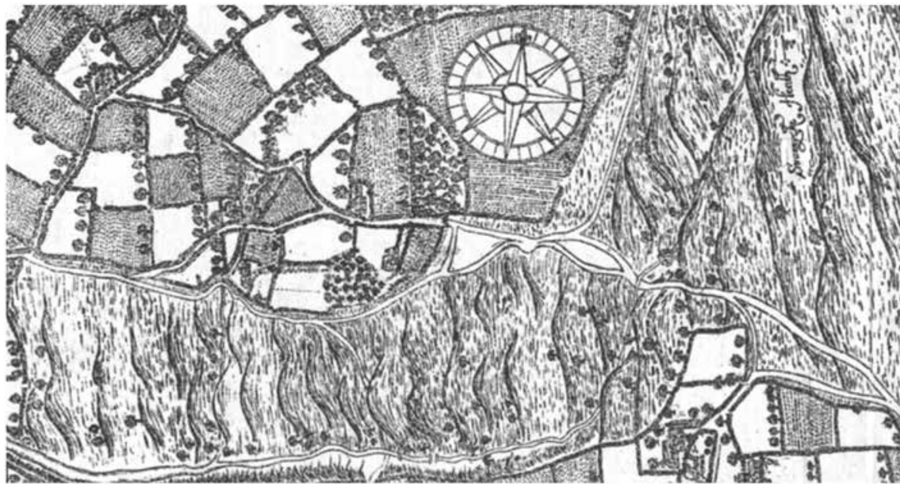

Fig. 1 Earl of Southampton's map of 1605

Fig. 2 From OS 1" Map, 1810.

The suitability of strawberry growing for smallholdings on the thin soils of many parts of south Hampshire had already been grasped before the enclosures of the 1850s. A popular local tradition is that tenants, legitimately or illegitimately acquired plants from the walled gardens of their landlords. Often cited is the establishment by William Garnier, lord of the manor of Wickham, in 1845, of a group of cottagers and a common field called Hundred Acres, part of the former Forest of Bere; the cottagers were encouraged to grow subsistence crops but were also given strawberry plants (8).

The value of strawberries and other soft fruits as crops in Hampshire was evident before 1845. In September 1822 the *Hampshire Chronicle* reported that 'strawberries of the Roseberry and Alpine kinds' had been exhibited at a horticultural show in Winchester (9). In June 1844, a Mr Oakley of Southampton was awarded a first prize for British Queen strawberries 'splendid in size and rich in flavour'(10). By 1852, immediately before the Titchfield and Swanwick enclosures, Strugnells, grocers in Titchfield, were selling strawberry plants and gooseberry and currant bushes (11). In 1863, while the enclosures were taking place, at an agricultural show in Gosport 'first prizes were given to flowers, vegetables and strawberries from Titchfield' (12).

There is no evidence in the Titchfield area of the kinds of social problems provoked by enclosure which have been widely discussed by many historians (13). Freddie Light reported that the poor had lost their grazing and other privileges but 'nevertheless in a few years they had accommodated themselves to the change, and it was from the time that the Acts were applied to Warsash that its development really began' (14). A mile or so to the north of Warsash, one of the gentry had seen the same process from a landowner's point-of-view. Captain (later Admiral) Maxse of Sarisbury Court, speaking at a meeting to consider the enclosure of the New Forest on 1870, cited Titchfield Common as 'an instance of the good effected by the enclosure of waste land for the purpose of cultivation' (15). Sarisbury Court is said to have been one of the big houses at which strawberry plants were distributed to tenants. Light tells us that 'the Admiral had laid out a large piece of common for allotments' (16).

The enclosures, and the subsequent development of smallholdings devoted to the cultivation of strawberries and other soft fruit, had brought into existence a new, perhaps unique, landscape. Gone were the long views over unhedged rough grasses and bushes. Most of the allotments had been laid out in approximately one acre

Fig. 3 The Bevis family, typical smallholders.

strips of a furlong or so in length which stretched from an access point on an existing road or newly created occupation lanes. Occupiers were required to fence one long side and one short side of their holdings, and commonly did so not with expensive fencing but with quick-growing laurel bushes which within a few years were head-high. A short length of driveway for carts led up to a corrugated-iron packing shed. There baskets (or 'punnets') were given grease-proof covers ready for transport to markets by cart or by rail. The Bevis family were just such smallholders (fig.3). Still in the 1940s, when walking or cycling through the area, you passed a succession of gateways through which could be seen the almost secret gardens of your neighbours. In due course many strawberry growers were able to build comfortable brick houses next to their packing-sheds.

Fig. 4 From OS 6″ Map 1931, which has been marked by hand with the smallholdings growing strawberries at that time outlined in red

A manuscript survey of the strawberry district drawn for Reading University in 1932 gives us a unique birds-eye view of this landscape, with the smallholdings growing strawberries outlined in red (17 fig.4). The long strips are shown in blocks faintly reminiscent of the furlongs of medieval open fields. The names of the occupiers indicate that many had several holdings at some distance from each other, a pattern that had begun with the additional purchases of the Enclosure Awards and which became more common as the industry developed. The Reading

Fig. 5 The 1931 area shown in Fig.4 as it was in 2012 (Google).

Survey shows that 43% (210) of the holdings surveyed in 1932 were in two or three plots.

In 1897, 31 years after the Enclosures, Kelly's Directory described the whole process very succinctly: 'Titchfield Common has been enclosed and extensively built upon: it is chiefly cottage property occupied for the cultivation of strawberries, large quantities of which are forwarded to London and the other markets'.

The landscape of 1897 was to survive for another 60 years. Market gardening continued through the periods of depression in the First World War and in the 1920s. In 1932 Reading University was able to collect data from 482 holdings. After adapting to the requirement to grow more vegetables in the Second World War, strawberry growing remained profitable in the immediate post-war years. But since the 1960s most market gardeners and other landowners have been unable (and unwilling) to resist the demand for land for more housing. In 2012, apart from some recreational areas, virtually the whole of the common enclosed in 1859 is covered with a complicated network of modern streets, lined with comfortable houses and bungalows and their gardens. Kelly's 'cottage property' and the churches, schools and pubs built to serve the strawberry community have been swallowed up in a suburban landscape (19 fig.5). This is a third landscape, the late 20th century successor to the medieval heath and the Victorian market gardens. Only the place names – Titchfield Common and Locksheath – remain to remind us of 500 years of change.

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Thanks

My thanks to Ken Groves for the illustrations.

The River Hamble at Fairthorne and Curbridge

Malcolm Walford

This field excursion on the 15th June, led by David Chun, was an extension of the lecture David gave at our last conference, to enable members to see for themselves the evidence of the Hamble's industrial and commercial past. In the Curbridge Horse and Jockey car park, David distributed extracts from an 1870s 6inch map of the area, and gave us a short overview of our walk. Before lunch, this would entail following the course of Curbridge Creek to beyond its confluence with the Hamble; in the afternoon along an upper section of the Creek's west bank.

Fig.1 Approaching Harmsworth Hard on Curbridge Creek

As we entered the long belt of woodland and continued along the track, with views of the beautiful river scenery, we realised and appreciated the foresight of the National Trust's 1920s investment, which David described. In the post World War I period when many of the large estates were being broken up and sold off, the Trust purchased this long strip of land on both sides of the river in order to preserve the riverside scenery for posterity. As we approached the sites of the former hards, there were extensive views of the meandering river, with its densely wooded banks; scenery for all to enjoy.

Surrounded as we were by the tranquillity of this apparently remote riverside woodland, it was difficult to imagine the scenes David described, centuries before, of intense industrial activity as timber was transported here from further inland, chopped, sawn, and shipped downriver. Now, it's returned to its natural state, with only the stumps of the former quays as evidence of another period of its history. Outside the National Trust strips the current Pathfinder map, reveals little woodland, whereas on the 19th century extract it appears much more extensive.

After lunch, we crossed to the other side of the river on to land bought by William Cobbett in 1806. On it was Fairthorne Farm, standing timber, and a field on which was sited a timber yard. We walked through Landing Place Copse to see the site on which a cottage had existed in Cobbett's time. At the site there was no evidence above ground, but when someone picked up a piece of tile, Jan Bristow, archaeologist, identified it as Roman. Thereafter, several people found surface material, which Jan was able to identify. Then, having consulted her I-Pad she found that we were on the probable site of a Roman kiln!

A comparison of an early estate map with the first large scale OS map showed that Cobbett had spent some time in improving his estate, and that there was evidence he was trying to create one in the Repton style, with vistas towards the river and woodland beyond. David then led us over a very large overgrown pasture named Lower Carter on the Tithe Map, towards four large Scots pines, flanked on either side by hardwoods. A few feet below these lay a large flat grassy area bordering on which previous excavations had identified the site of a large villa or several smaller Roman buildings. We then walked to the river bank where evidence had been found in 1974 of the crossing place of Roman road No.41; we found a ford some four metres wide and at least a metre deep. Several members of the group who were scanning the silt at the edge of the bank spotted material which looked similar to that found earlier in the woods. When shown to Jan Bristow she confirmed their Roman origins, one of the pieces being a fragment of Samian ware. Notes from Jan are below.

Regrouping, back at the car park, Mike Broderick thanked David Chun for an excellent day by the banks of the Hamble.

Comments on the Landscape Section walk along the River Hamble by Jan Bristow, Chair, Archaeology Section.

The afternoon section of the walk, along the National Trust land adjoining Curbridge Creek included two encounters with the Roman era. Firstly, we came to a low mound about 10-15 metres across on sloping land in woodland, close to the Creek. The fired clay pieces eroding out down slope were examined and all proved to be typically Roman building material, including imbrex (curved tops) and tegula (flat bottoms with a lip each long side), both roofing fragments. When people began finding bits of flue tiles (early Roman central heating), it was quite exciting! An online check, there and then, of the county HER (Historic Environment Record) database confirmed that we were looking at a Romano-British brick and tile kiln. Having confirmed this we left our finds for others, and walked across about half a mile of this 18th century landscape to more Roman stuff – this time David pointed out the placing of a Roman building where there had been a crossing of the Creek in the Roman period. This had been investigated previously, and could still be seen as a regular platform. So, yet more building fragments were eroding on to the shoreline, but also lots of bits of pottery – some very local and typical of the area, some all the way from Gaul – we found some Samian ware – imported in the first two centuries of occupation. A few pieces of mortaria were picked up too – these were very large and heavy dishes, which were used in food preparation – with tiny pieces of flint embedded into the inside of the dish. We even found a large piece of Purbeck Marble from Dorset, which had been used to pave the crossing point!

So for me personally, a very rewarding day, going back to the Roman era by way of William Cobbett, the National Trust and of course the Landscape Section.

From the President

Dick Selwood, 34 North View, Winchester, SO22 5EH
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AGM report

This year's AGM was held at the Stripe Theatre of the University of Winchester, courtesy of the University and of The Wessex Centre for History and Archaeology and The Centre for Applied Archaeology and Heritage Management.

Before writing about the AGM, I would like to remind you about the structure of your society. The activities of the HFC are provided by the four sections, Archaeology, Historic Buildings, Landscape and Local History. They each have elected committees and organise the meetings, lectures and visits that are the backbone of our activities. There is also an Editorial Board that manages the production of Hampshire Studies.

Providing co-ordination and looking after the broader issues is Council. This is made up of the chairs of each of the sections and the Editorial Board, elected officers and elected "Ordinary Members". The Officers are the President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Programme Secretary, Publication Sales and Publicity, and the Librarian.

After the AGM these roles are filled by:

President: Dick Selwood
Treasurer: Sandy McKenzie
General Secretary: Chris Sellen
Membership Secretary: Michael Nelles
Publication Sales and Publicity: Julia Sandison
Programme Secretary (& Webmaster): Mike Broderick
Editorial Board Chair: David Allen
Archaeology Section: Jan Bristow
Historic Buildings: Bill Fergie
Local History: Stephen Lowy
Landscape: Mike Broderick
Ordinary Members: Pauline Blagden (also Editorial Board), Jane Ellis-Schön, Chris Elmer, Alex Lewis and two vacancies.

Council meets three times a year, and to deal with anything arising in-between meetings there is an executive committee of the section chairs, President, Treasurer and General Secretary. This generally meets "virtually" through e-mail exchanges.

As a part of the AGM, I report on the last year. I covered a number of points, and a summary of these follows.

Through the last year we have started to use e-mailing software to communicate with members. This both fast and very economic, but unfortunately we still have a relatively low proportion of e-mail addresses. We promise we won't bombard you with e-mails – so please let us know your e-mail address.

Electronic communication has been a regular topic for discussion at the Editorial Board. Like other county societies, we feel we have a duty to publish relevant material, like the reports of excavations in the county. At the same time, even with the financial support of the commercial organisations whose reports we carry, it is expensive to continue in our current printed form. So, as well as looking at alternative routes we are also looking at the function of Studies and this newsletter. We hope to bring you some more news in the spring.

As noted above, we have four "Ordinary members" on Council, while our constitution allows for six. If there is anyone who would be willing to attend three evenings a year to help run the society, please get in touch with Chris Sellen.

Sandy McKenzie, the treasurer, reported on a healthy financial position for the Society, enhanced by an extra, archaeological, issue of Studies and by the efforts of Pauline Blagden in bringing in the publication fees from the commercial archaeological companies.

The President, alone among the elected officers, serves only for three years. This provides continuity problems, and the AGM approved a change to the rules of the society, that allows the President to serve for up to a further three years, if the executive committee (and the President) agree.

OGS Crawford Lecture

Sadly, Alex Langlands was forced to pull out of the 2013 OGS Crawford lecture at the last minute. We were very fortunate that Tony Wilmott, was able to step in. Tony is a Senior Archaeologist for English Heritage, and winner of Archaeologist of the Year 2012. One of the leading authorities on Hadrian's Wall and the amphitheatres of Roman Britain, he gave a gripping lecture on his work on a Roman site at Maryport, in Cumbria. The field work on what were thought to be ritually interred tombstones actually showed that they were being re-used as plates for posts of a later building. "Overturning established ideas by further excavation is a real highlight in any archaeological life."

Mapeldurwell

In the last issue, Jean Morrin talked about the work on revising the Victoria County History of Hampshire and in this issue (page 18) there is a review by Mark Page of the Mapeldurwell volume. I have heard from John Isherwood, the Secretary to the Hampshire VCH project.

> *Sales so far have generated over £500 towards the cost of a similar publication for one of the other parishes currently under research by our volunteers. We can now begin planning to extend the project beyond the Basingstoke area. We have made a splendid start, thanks to Professor James Wilkes making a first donation towards this of £10,000 with the promise of doubling it, if we ourselves can also raise at least another £10,000. We need your help and support to do this.*
>
> *If we can achieve our immediate £10,000 target,*

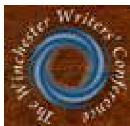
it will also greatly improve our chance of being awarded much greater matching funding from one of the big grant making trusts, including the National Heritage Lottery Fund and the EU."

If you want to donate to help the work, please contact John (ji@dmac.co.uk) to get a copy of a donation form.

If you would like to get involved in the work on the VCH, please email the volunteers' team leader Dr Jean Morrin [Jean.Morrin@winchester.ac.uk]

Winchester Writers' Conference Local History Competition, 2013

Once again, the HFC sponsored the Local History Competition at the Winchester Writers Conference. Dr Mark Allen, Senior Lecturer in Modern History at the University of Winchester judged the entries, and his (heavily edited) comments are below. Mark clearly put in a great deal of work (his original remarks run to four pages) and we are very grateful to him.



Mark wrote:

This year saw more entries than last year, and at the top end it was pleasing to see so many that were of a decent standard. Some works were under-referenced, and there was a smattering of more antiquarian pieces, but overall I think that those who have written something for this competition can be proud of what they have done. I wrote last year that the best local history places information in wider historical events, and this is certainly what the vast majority of this year's entries do. It was very difficult choosing a winning entry, but I think that the entry I have chosen does manage to link historiographical awareness with true archival research on a local level.

Winner: New Money, New Gentry: The Heathcotes of Hurley, 1718-1892 – Dr A. E. Gatton

This is an excellent piece that deservingly wins the Local History prize. It starts with a clear reference to contextual material that underpins the later analysis of a major Hampshire family, and the travails that caused its financial downfall by the end of the nineteenth century.

Second place: Forton Barracks: A Discarded Treasure - RG Hart

This is a worthy piece of research into a lost building in Gosport. It highlights the extent of the eighteenth century buildings, provides a corrective to Pevsner and Lloyd and shows how the buildings developed.

Third place: The Palace and the Princess – Andrew Hicks

This was a very entertaining piece to read and (as a non-Roman specialist) I learned a lot, which is always one key element of a good piece of work. It was well-written, carefully argued and seems to have been thoroughly researched. It imaginatively linked the Roman palace at Fishbourne with wider areas, and posed some interesting questions about possible links between individuals in Rome and England.

The following are highly commended

Youthful Offenders – A History of Hampshire Reformatory School for Boys 1855-1908 - Michael Southgate

What's in a Wall – The Manorial Buildings of Twyford - Chris Corcoran

The 'Feudal Transformation' between the year 900 and 1050 - Guy Liardet

History of Saxon Church at Corhampton – Peter O'Sullivan

Party Politics in Hampshire in the Mid-twentieth Century, with particular reference to the Liberal Party in Southampton: A Memoir - Martin Kyrle

Forthcoming events

Society for Clay Pipe Research conference

Dorchester, Dorset, 21st-22nd September 2013

The 29th annual SCPR conference will be held this year at the United Church Hall, 49–51 Charles Street, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1EE. The Saturday programme of lectures will focus on the Dorset clay tobacco pipe industry and will be complemented by displays. In the evening there will be the optional conference dinner at a local restaurant. A guided tour of Dorchester is to follow on the Sunday morning. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the meeting and/or guided walk. Non-members of the Society will be very welcome to attend on either day but are asked to contact the conference organiser in advance to book a place.

Further information is available on the Society website (http://scpr.co) or from Robert Lancaster (robertlancaster123@yahoo.co.uk).

Notes and Queries

The Mystery of Hampage Wood & the Rising of 1381

Michael Hanrahan of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine writes:

The Great Rising of 1381 affected many parts of England, including Hampshire and Winchester. Accounts of the events of the Rising in Winchester describe how a rebel provocateur arrived in Winchester from London on 17 June, and persuaded residents to ride to Farnham, where they fomented sedition and were joined by yet more rebels returning from London.

From Farnham the rebels returned to Winchester but not before making a brief detour to Hampage Wood in the parish of Avington. This detour is somewhat of a mystery that might be explained by some hitherto undiscussed cultural or historical significance to Hampage Wood in the late fourteenth-century. One notable landmark in Hampage is the Gospel Oak. I'm trying to discover if Hampage or even the Oak itself was a common meeting place in the parish or hundred at that time? Please direct any thoughts on the subject to Michael Hanrahan (mhanraha@bates.edu).

Programme of Events

August- December 2013

3rd September	Tuesday - Archaeology Section **Visit:** WARG's dig at St. Cross Hospital, Winchester, 6.15 pm at the excavation site
5th October	Saturday - Local History Section **AGM & Visit:** to Fleet, hosted by Fleet and Crookham Local History Group
13th October	Sunday - Historic Buildings Section **Visit and study day** - Salisbury
9th November	Saturday - Landscape Section **AGM & Conference:** 'Hampshire Fortified' 10.00 am Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester
30th November	Saturday - Archaeology Section **AGM & Conference:** 'Past Technologies: Inspiration and Innovation' at Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester

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