



Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

No 67, Spring 2017



*Graffiti found on Southampton Bargate,
possibly depicting beheadings following the
Southampton Plot of 1415.*

Archaeology



Historic Buildings



Landscape



Local History



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From the President

Chris Elmer

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Hello to all our members. I've been in post now for over a year and as I have always said we owe a debt of gratitude to all our Council and Section committee volunteers for the energy and thought they bring to our Society. I'm writing this after a busy Autumn season for the Society. We recently welcomed our guest speakers Richard Coates & Oliver Padel to our annual OGS Crawford lecture examining Place names and archaeology, a theme which

is tied in nicely with the relatively recent publication of *Oscroft's Place names of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight*.

I also recently attended a fascinating evening at Royal Victoria Country Park to celebrate the launch of the latest Hampshire Paper on the Japanese Red Cross at Netley and I'm aware many other Society activities and events have been happening, including Section AGMs and lectures. One of the key aims of the Field club is to promote awareness of and access to Hampshire's heritage, and if you take a look at the revamped website (www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk) as well as the newsletter and the online version of Hampshire Studies you'll notice how much purposeful activity is actually helping us to achieve this aim, including research projects such as the medieval graffiti recording project.

All of this is worth celebrating but at the same time we need as a Society to keep relevant and move with the times. The Field Club's Council, informed and supported by the Section committees, continually debates the role we should play as a respected organisation with a heritage focus within Hampshire and I would like to invite you, as I have done over the last year, to also join this debate. How far should we, for example, play a more active role in advocacy and should we be establishing stronger links with other local heritage organisations to move our mission forward? These are just a couple of the questions we will debate and hopefully resolve during 2017.

One way you may be able to offer your opinion and at the same time enjoy a riveting lecture is by attending our Annual General Meeting at Peter Symonds College on 10th May, at 7.30 p.m. This represents a more formal avenue for feedback, but any comments on the night in relation to the President's report or other reports are most welcome. We are also voting for various Council members and this is a genuine opportunity for the membership to have a say about the make up of the

council which ultimately serves all of you.

For now, though, may I just close by saying I hope you continue to enjoy the many events and publications we offer and I wish you all a (slightly belated) happy and fulfilling New Year.

Field Club Secretary

Our secretary, Chris Sellen, is standing down and we are urgently looking for a new one. The role, while not arduous, is important in providing support to the President and Council of the society.

Tasks revolve around organising and attending the quarterly Council, ad hoc Executive and General Meetings, taking notes and producing definitive minutes.

The regular newsletter and fliers mailing sessions are also organised by the Secretary, who ensures that sufficient resources are available to perform the twice-yearly mailings.

They are also the main point of contact for organisations and individuals who wish to get in touch with the varied groups and Sections which form the grass roots of the society and act as a liaison point to ensure contacts are made.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact either me or Chris Sellen for a no-commitment chat. Our contact details are on the inside back cover of this newsletter.

Digital matters

We now have Hampshire Studies available electronically. You should have received a letter from our Membership Secretary, Jane King, explaining how you can gain on-line access to the latest three years, which are available free to you, but are otherwise charged for. If you haven't received the letter, please contact Jane at jkking.hfc@gmail.com.

Place names

There are still copies of *Oscroft's Place names of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* available from the publication sales officer, Julia Sandison, at a special members' price of £10.00. As they are heavy, post and packing is a further £4.00 - so you might want to discuss with Julia picking up your copy at an HFC meeting or from her house. Again her contact details are on the inside back cover.



Local History

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Twyford's Historic Landscape: The Mill of South Twyford

Chris Corcoran with Mike Matthews (maps)

One of the views most looked at in our village is the one from Norris Bridge which carries the Shawford Road over the Itchen. The river runs quietly and purposefully beneath. There is everything you could wish for in a river view, the fish, the plants and insects, the birds, the play of light and shade, the overhanging tree. Upstream the view is more open; the river winds towards the church, across the meadows, but downstream, after 50 yards or so, like the sacred Alph, it is lost to sight; it vanishes into a brick culvert with six arches and a trellis on top that blocks all further views. If you stand on the Shawford side of the bridge, you can just see some water flowing in a channel to the left but you cannot see where it goes or how far. I suspect that few Twyfordians (or anyone else) have seen what the river does below this point; the next public view of the Itchen is a mile downstream, below the Malms, where the Navigation and the River come together again. So Map 2 is a guide to what happens in the 300 yards or so below Norris Bridge.

Map 2 is based on the OS plan and shows the ground as it is today; numbers 1-10 refer to locations identified in the text. At the Six Arches (1) the river divides; straight on, through the brick arches, the level of the water drops by five or six courses of bricks (about ½ m.), giving it a sharp increase in speed. This is the main river which continues in a channel (2): the 1:2500 OS map of 1936 shows it as 7 m. wide, the width of the Six Arches, but my measurement is about 10 m. It runs straight for 110 m. down to a low weir (3). About 15 m. further on there appears to be another low weir (4). Throughout this stretch the 7-10 m. channel has been narrowed to about one third of the more normal width of the Itchen. Below the downstream weir the river widens out to a more natural and irregular width, with much less evidence of interference.

Back at the top the

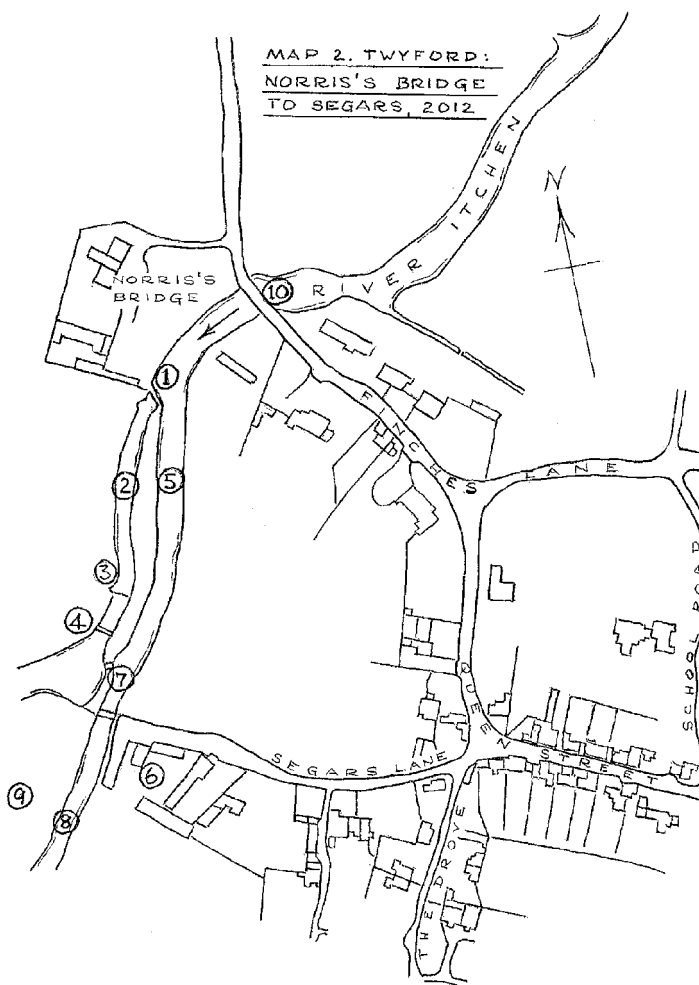
river divides to the left of the brick arches in a channel of approximately 12 m. width, narrowing to about 10 m. This is the Segars Drain (5). It flows at a much gentler gradient, parallel to the main river, and is retained at a higher level by a bank which divides it from the main river. Its flow is regulated by the hatches within the Six Arches. The Drain continues along the edge of the garden of Elms House and its neighbours, then past the yard of Segars Farm (6). Here the retaining bank narrows and the two watercourses are tight up against each other, but with a 1 m. difference in level. In the bank is a hatch from the Drain into the main river (7). Where this discharges into the lower of the river channels, there is a deep pool, formed, it would seem, by a strong flow over a long period. Segars Drain then continues past Segars Farm (8) through the watermeadows (9) of Manor Farm past Twyford Moors House and so eventually back into the Itchen.

There is, so far, as the reader will have noticed, no mention yet of a mill, let alone the mill of South Twyford, which is shown on Map 1 at the bottom of

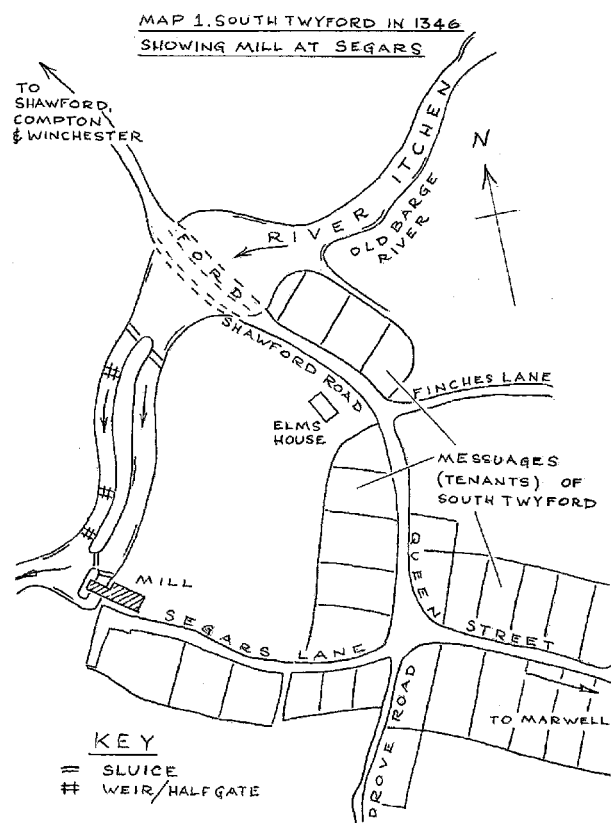
Segars Lane. Today there is no sign of a mill; there is no memory of one; no street or place name; none of the local histories refer to one in this location. How to explain this? Is there an explanation for the surviving watercourses which can be reconciled with the known history? As discussed in Newsletter 63 (2015) there were five or six mills at Twyford in Domesday Book. In the Winchester Pipe Roll of 1301-2 (ed. M. Page 1996) there are five mills and all are named. The mill of South Twyford is one of these.

Where is South Twyford?

The next step is to locate South Twyford. Here there is ample evidence summarized in the excellent survey of Twyford in the Winchester section of 'Historic Rural Settlements' by Hants CC (2004, available online via Hantsweb). This suggests that North Twyford



was the original location of the village, i.e. where the church has been since Saxon times, and with its own mill, North Twyford or Hockley mill. North Twyford mill is recorded in the 1209 Winchester Pipe Roll, which suggests that South Twyford was already a distinct part of the village. 'Historic rural settlements' even suggests a pre-Domesday foundation for South Twyford, and that it was a planned settlement. My own training as a town planner leads me to the same conclusion. The plan of Queen Street shows to this day small tight rectangular



plots, which are the classic messuages of the manorial village. Most villages of this date do not have the same formal arrangement. One or two houses in this part of Twyford date from the late 1300s and several from the 1400s; many front the street, again typical of a village street of that age. Again it is typical of a manorial village to have its own mill, provided the water power was available, so the existence of a mill in South Twyford fits the normal manorial practice as well as being confirmed by the 1302 Winchester Pipe Roll. A location at the bottom of Segars Lane makes it both close and convenient to the people who used it. The mill of South Twyford fits snugly into the yard of Segars Farm. So two of the tests for the location of a mill are met, namely that of access and the need for it. All this is consistent with Map 1 which suggests the layout of Twyford in 1346; it is remarkable how close this is to that of today.

Would a mill work in this position?

Two further and basic requirements for a mill are adequate flow and adequate head of water. The Itchen

at this point gives both. To create the head, the weir is built at 1; this is far enough below the ford (10) so as not to interfere with its use by creating excessive depth. Segars Drain gives it an ample flow. The fall down to river level is about 1 m. The channel to the left (the eastern one, 5) is the mill leat and this maintains an artificial height for the head. Between the mill leat and the river, and shown on the OS map, is the sluice (7). This is the bypass which allows the mill to be shut off for repairs and to regulate variations in flow; the deep pool at its foot is an indication that it flowed constantly for long periods. As Map 1 shows, the mill wheel would then be immediately below this sluice with its race discharging into the river. This channel for the mill is less easy to identify but there is a dry, grass channel below where the mill is shown. The mill leat would have stopped at this point; Segars Drain was probably not extended until it was put to separate use as a feed for the Mildmays' watermeadows in the 1700s.

When was the mill of South Twyford first built?

There is no easy answer to this question. The mills of Shawford and North Twyford are older; both are close to South Twyford and could have provided the necessary milling for the villagers. There are however tantalizing references to the building of a new mill in the Winchester Pipe Roll of 1209:

'Expenses of the mill

in iron bought for making the spindles, mill-rinds and picks [for dressing millstones] for the new mill, and for Shawford mill, and Compton mill, 4s. 3d.

In wages of the smith 12d.

In planks bought for making mill buckets, and for the repair of the wheels of the new mill, 10d.

In wages of the carpenter for the same, 3d.

For the purchase of one millstone for the aforementioned mill, 21s.'

(trans. Charlotte Bellamy).

When did the mill of South Twyford cease to operate?

The lack of any reference to the mill of South Twyford in the Pipe Roll of 1409-10 (ed. M. Page 1999) suggests that it was a casualty of the Black Death and that, from then on, Shawford mill and North Twyford mill were the mills for Twyford village; however there are about 250 Winchester Pipe Rolls which have yet to be read in the sort of detail which the edition of the 1209 roll and Mark Page's translations have made possible. So it is best not to be too dogmatic.

To sum up, in this article we have located South Twyford mill and suggested a date of 1209 for it, the weir and Segars Drain. We suggest that the channels were constructed then and have remained in place to this day. Are we right? The existence of South Twyford mill in the yard of Segars Farm is, I hope, plausible enough to encourage someone to explore the ground further.

Note: the name Segar occurs as one of the tenants of Twyford in the 1209 Pipe Roll; it seems likely that people in those days were named after the places they lived in; Hockley is a similar Twyford case. The Anglo-Saxon *sigan* is the verb to drain.

Following in the Footsteps: Field Club Visits to Kingsclere in 1895 and 2016

Roger Ottewill

On Thursday 6th June 1895, a party of 'some 50 or 60 members of the (Hampshire Field) Club and friends, who had come from Southampton, Winchester, Romsey, Bournemouth, the Isle of Wight, and other parts ... had an extremely pleasant excursion to ... Kingsclere'.¹ Just over 121 years later, on Saturday 2nd July 2016 between 30 and 40 Field Club members followed in their footsteps by returning to the village, as guests of the Kingsclere Heritage Association, for an equally enjoyable and hospitable outing.²

The earlier visit was the subject of detailed reports in the *Reading Mercury* and *Southampton Times and Hampshire Express* and a copy of the programme for the day has survived (see Fig. 1). It is therefore possible to compare the experiences of the visiting party in the late 19th century with those who returned in the early 21st century. Members of both parties would have agreed with the writer of the report in the *Southampton Times* that Kingsclere is 'one of the most interesting spots in Hampshire, as well as one of the most famous for the beauty of its scenery'.³

A notable contrast between the two visits was that whereas in 1895 the party 'met at Basingstoke Station at 10 o'clock in the morning', with the majority travelling there by train (see Fig. 1), and then 'proceeded in brakes

to Kingsclere',⁴ in 2016 most used their own transport to reach the Village Club by 10 o'clock, the venue for talks during the morning on the history of the village.

Tickets for seats in the brakes cost 3s and members were reminded that 'owing to the difficulties of making arrangements' these could not be provided for those who failed to send in their names.⁵ The horse-drawn journey from Basingstoke to Kingsclere took the earlier visitors the whole morning since they went by a rather circuitous route that took them via Worting; Battledown tumulus in the parish of Oakley; 'the Harrow way, an old British track running east and west'; and 'Caesar's belt where a long portion of the Roman road from Silchester to Old Sarum is distinctly traceable'.⁶ Somewhat lyrically, the report continued:

Soon after leaving Caesar's belt, the open down was reached, and a magnificent panorama, extending over Berkshire and right into Oxfordshire, burst upon the view. The day was perfection ... Close by was a wide sweeping coombe, reaching down to where the village of Kingsclere nestled. The landscape was flecked with passing clouds, and the scene was one never to be forgotten (see Fig. 2).⁷

While a picnic lunch was taken on the down, the President of the Field Club, Mr W. Whitaker, F.R.S., 'described the geological features of the locality'.⁸

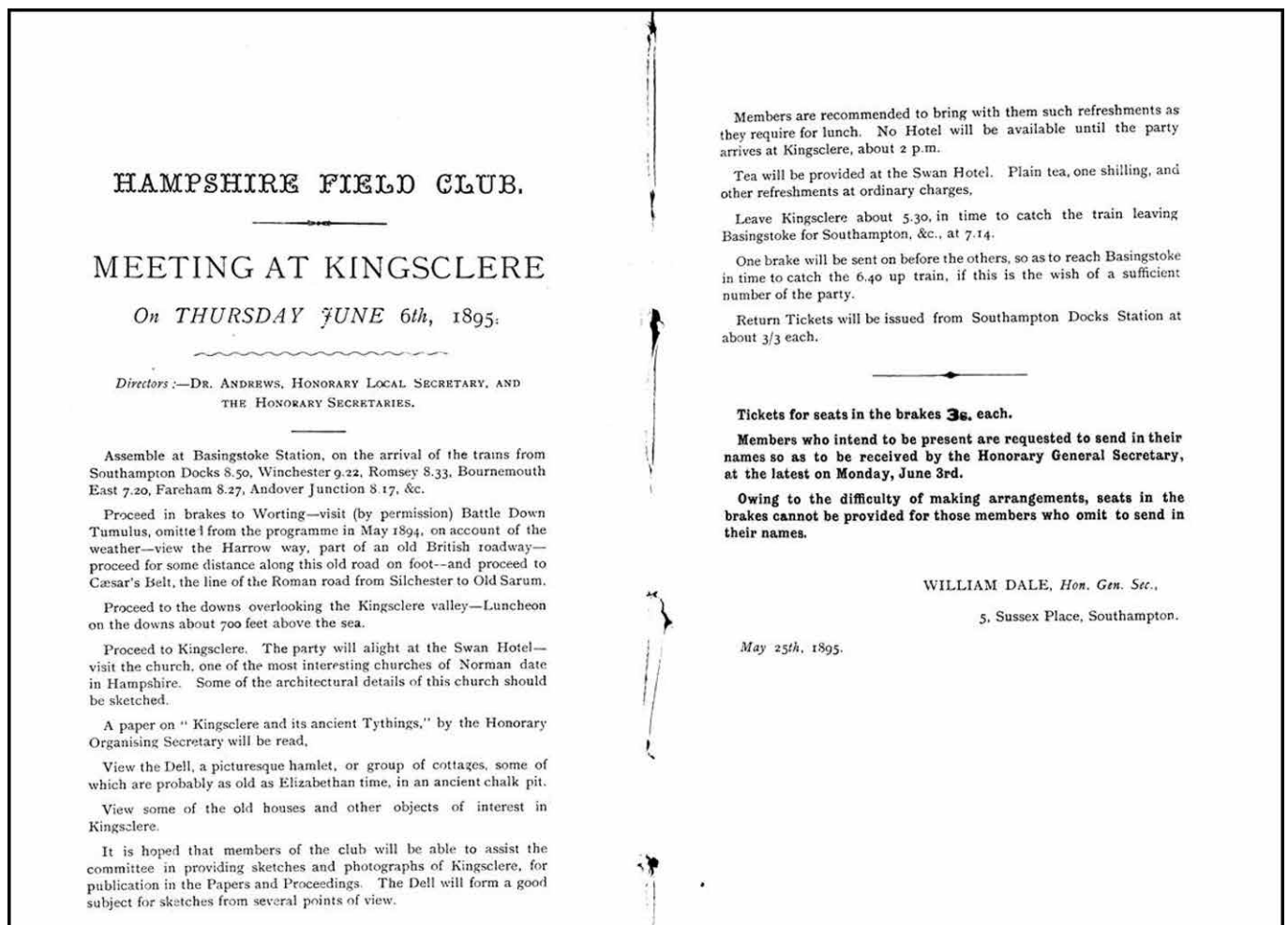


Fig. 1 Programme for Field Club Outing to Kingsclere in 1895



Fig. 2 Kingsclere as seen from White Hill in 1895



Fig. 3 Horses from Park House Stables ascending White Hill in 1895

Similarly, in 2016, one of the speakers, Richard Croft, gave a detailed explanation of the origins of Kingsclere in terms of the physical geography of the area.

On leaving their picnic spot the 1895 'party had a sight of a number of horses belonging to Mr J. Porter [of Park House Stables] on the Downs for exercise' (see Fig. 3).⁹ Indeed, 'no less than ten Derby winners had cantered on this turf.'¹⁰ For the 2016 visitors, the continuing importance of the contribution of Park House Stables to the history and economy of the area was highlighted by Gareth Martin during his talk.

On their arrival at Kingsclere, following a short rest at The Swan, an 'old hostelry which ... belonged for many centuries to Winchester College',¹¹ the earlier visitors were escorted to the parish church by the vicar of Kingsclere, the Revd Arthur T. Finch.¹² Here 'the company now swelled by many of the local gentry and landowners'¹³ heard a paper read by Thomas William Shore of the Hartley Institute, and Honorary Secretary of the Field Club, entitled 'Kingsclere and its Ancient Tythings'. He began by pointing out that:

There are very few places in Hampshire which have associations of as much interest as those of Kingsclere. Many kings, Saxon, Norman, Plantagenet, have left their marks upon its history, and at least six monastic and religious houses were endowed at one time or other with its lands and tithes, one of which was the metropolitan church of Normandy, the Cathedral of Rouen.¹⁴

Thus, in keeping with the interests of the time, the emphasis was very much on the Anglo-Saxon and medieval history of Kingsclere. While this was also covered for the 2016 visitors, equal attention was given by speakers, including Michael Leah the chairman of the Kingsclere Heritage Association, to the economic activities of the area during later periods, such as Chance's stores (see Fig.4), tanning, rope making and brewing, as well as milling (see Fig. 5), none of which survive. Consideration was also given to aspects of



Fig. 5 Gailey Mill

social history, including a talk by Helen Gore on the Kingsclere Union Workhouse, built in 1835/6. This could accommodate 300 inmates and served not only Kingsclere but also 14 neighbouring parishes (see Fig. 6). It was demolished in the 1950s and most of the site



Fig. 4 Chance's stores

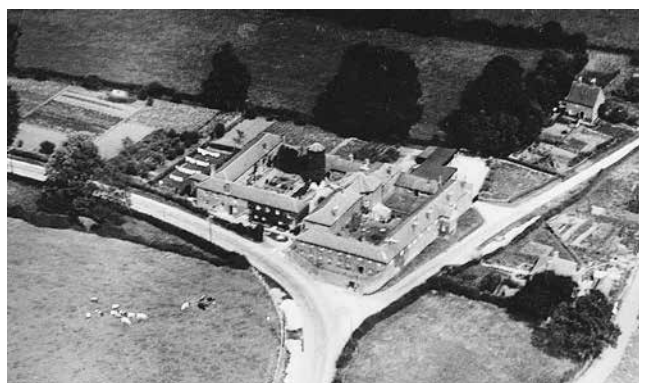


Fig. 6 Kingsclere Workhouse as seen from the air in 1930

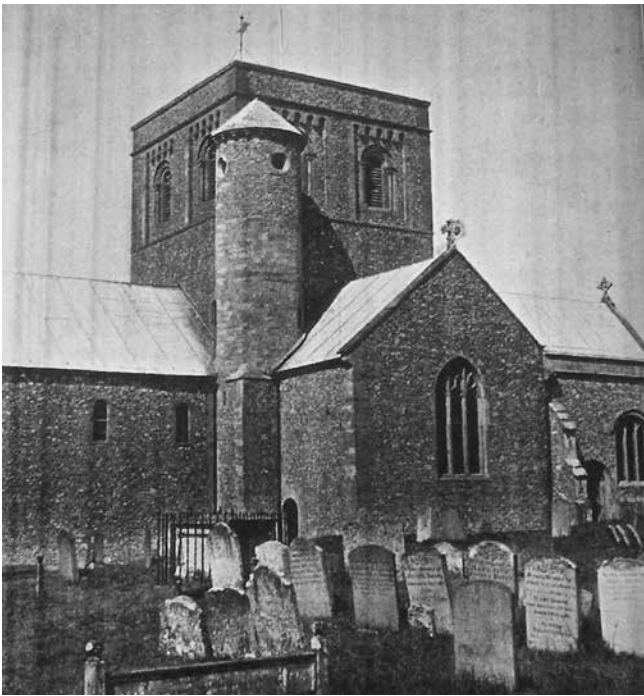


Fig. 7a St Mary's Kingsclere in 1895



Fig. 7 b St Mary's Kingsclere in 2016

is now a road junction.

Those visiting in 2016 had the choice of two alternative afternoon walks with a key attraction of both being the parish church of St Mary's, as indeed it had been in 1895. In the intervening period the building had changed little: 'The chancel is Early English, but the rest is Norman, somewhat late in style, a plain cruciform church, with no aisles to the nave, but four magnificent tower arches and a lantern of beautiful proportions.'¹⁵ One particular item of interest was 'the handsome monumental tomb of Sir Henry and Lady Kingsmill'.¹⁶ Photographs of the church were taken by members of both the earlier and later parties (see Fig.7). The only visible change has been the removal of most of the gravestones. As recorded in a leaflet about the churchyard: 'In 1964 it was decided to move all broken and neglected headstones with the exception of War graves and certain historic memorials ... Many stones were retained and can be seen flanking the footpaths.'¹⁷

Depending on which walk was selected, other attractions included the Methodist Church; the views across to Cottington Hill, White Hill and Watership Down from the Linches; The Swan; Gailey Mill and the Albert Hall, which was a relatively new building in 1895 having been opened in 1886. In addition to the church, the 1895 party visited 'the Dell, a large disused chalk-pit filled with cottages, many of them very old.'¹⁸ Although the Dell remains an attractive location, there was not sufficient time for it to be included in the itinerary for those visiting in 2016.

While they departed at 4.00 p.m. following tea and biscuits at the Village Club, those on the earlier visit

stayed for longer having either 'plain tea' for a shilling or 'other refreshments at ordinary charges' at The Swan.¹⁹ As reported: 'by half-past five the brakes were once more loaded. A drive of an hour and a half brought the members back to Basingstoke ... where they arrived in time to catch the 7.14 train to Winchester.'²⁰

Acknowledgements

Fig. 1 is taken from the records of the Hampshire Field Club which are lodged in the Special Collections Archive of the University of Southampton Library. The photographs that constitute Figs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, were kindly supplied by Gareth Martin of the Kingsclere Heritage Association. Figs 2 and 3 are taken from an article published in the 16th July 1895 edition of *Racing Illustrated*, in which it is also mentioned that: 'The downs were visited the other day by members of the Hampshire Field Club, who came together at Kingsclere early in June...'

References

- 1 Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895. 'The directors of the excursion were Dr Andrews of Basingstoke, and the Hon. Secs. Mr T.W. Shore and Mr W. Dale.' Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 2 The Association was founded in 2000.
- 3 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 4 Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895.
- 5 'Hampshire Field Club, Meeting at Kingsclere on Thursday 6th June 1895', Programme.
- 6 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895.
- 9 Ibid. It is interesting to note that 'in their interest a hard working secretary carried away an empty champagne bottle left by a luncher!' Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 10 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 11 Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895.
- 12 Ibid.
- 13 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 14 T.W. Shore, 'Kingsclere and its Ancient Tythings', Hampshire Field Club Papers and Proceedings, Vol. III (1895), pp.183-99 (183).
- 15 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 16 Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895.
- 17 'St Mary's Churchyard', Leaflet.
- 18 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895.
- 19 'Hampshire Field Club, Meeting at Kingsclere on Thursday 6th June 1895', Programme.
- 20 Southampton Times, 8 June 1895 and Reading Mercury, 15 June 1895.

Village Shops in Medieval Hampshire: The Case of East Meon¹

Mark Page

By the 14th century shops were a common feature in towns and villages throughout England. In medieval Hampshire shops were particularly prominent in large towns and cities including Winchester, Southampton, and Portsmouth,² and they also flourished in smaller towns such as Alton, Fareham, and Havant.³ A dense network of weekly markets meant that inhabitants across the county had easy access to at least one – and often more than one – place where goods and services were regularly exchanged, and trading also occurred at the farm gate and in other unofficial locations. Villages supported fewer shops: demand was insufficiently strong to provide enough custom in rural places where most inhabitants were agricultural tenants and partly self-sufficient. Nevertheless village shops did exist in the Middle Ages, and this short article examines one recorded at East Meon.

In the 13th and 14th centuries East Meon was a largely agricultural village without commercial pretensions. It did not possess a licensed weekly market, and its inhabitants were within a day's journey (reckoned at about 6 miles) of the market town of Petersfield. The village was, however, relatively isolated in hilly countryside on the edge of the South Downs, and it was the focus of a large parish containing numerous hamlets and farmsteads. Moreover in the years around 1300 the medieval population was at its height. Thus the appearance of a shop at East Meon would not be entirely unexpected. In 1321 Thomas le Mason left to his wife Alice and his brother Peter two stalls next to the stile of East Meon churchyard. Four years later a third stall in the same location was surrendered by Thomas le Barrer.⁴

A stall may originally have referred to a moveable wooden trading booth for temporary use at different places, but by the 14th century many stalls had become semi-permanent structures which could be bought, sold, and inherited like other types of property. The development of a temporary stall into a permanent shop is certainly suggested at East Meon, where Peter le Mason's property next to the stile of the village churchyard was explicitly called a shop in 1339. In that year Peter surrendered it to Richard le Ridler, who also planned to enlarge it by acquiring an additional 5 ft of ground on its south side, 4 ft on its east side, and 3 ft on its north side. The shop's encroachment of ground on its north, south, and east sides suggests that it bordered the churchyard on its west side, and a building fitting that description is shown on late 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps. (I have not attempted to trace this building's history: if readers know anything about its use I would be pleased to hear from them.)

The shop's location on the edge of the village churchyard is potentially significant. In the 12th century and probably before, unofficial markets were sometimes held when large numbers of people assembled at major churches to celebrate feast days or other significant occasions. These churchyard markets were unpopular with the church authorities, which tried to suppress them, but in many villages the

churchyard provided the largest and most convenient public space for gatherings of local people for whom the church had become a focal point for both religious and secular purposes.⁵ East Meon was the mother church to a large Anglo-Saxon parochia, and even in the 14th century the church still served a wide area: in 1327 the parish encompassed places including Bordean, Coombe, Langrish, Oxenbourne, Riplington, and Ramsdean.⁶ Long before Peter le Mason's shop existed the village churchyard must have been the site for regular comings and goings of people from a wide area, offering plentiful opportunity for the exchange of news, gossip, goods, and services.

While medieval records demonstrate the existence of village shops, and tell us something about their size, location, and ownership, they reveal little about their day to day use. What was bought and sold in the shop on the edge of East Meon churchyard? Did it offer a range of different goods and services, or was it more specialised? Was it open full-time or only part-time, perhaps when parishioners gathered at the church for specific religious events? Was it run by a professional shopkeeper, or by an agricultural tenant for whom it offered by-employment during slack times in the farming year? Were shops more often run by men or women, who might thereby supplement their household's main income from agriculture? If surnames are still any guide to occupations in the early 14th century Richard le Ridler was a siever or sifter of corn, or possibly of sand and lime in making mortar, while Peter le Mason was a stoneworker. Were both these men involved in the building trade, and was the shop therefore the medieval equivalent of a builders' yard? Certainly there was demand from the bishops of Winchester for builders to construct and maintain the episcopal residence and farm buildings at East Meon, and repairs to the barley barn and other structures were made in 1302.⁷ Whatever the shop was used for – and sadly we will probably never know for sure – it reminds us that commerce and exchange extended deep into the medieval Hampshire countryside.

References

- 1 This article is an extract from a paper titled 'Who were the shopkeepers of medieval England?' delivered to the conference 'Retailing and Distribution before 1600' at the University of Wolverhampton on 15 September 2016.
- 2 D Keene, *Survey of Medieval Winchester* (1985); C Platt, *Medieval Southampton* (1973); K A Hanna (ed.), *Deeds from Portsmouth and its Area before 1547* (2008).
- 3 M Page, 'The origins of towns in medieval Hampshire: the case of Alton', *Hampshire Studies* 60 (2005); M Page, 'Shops and shopkeepers in medieval Hampshire: evidence from Fareham and Havant before the Black Death', *Hampshire Studies* 66 (2011).
- 4 Evidence from the Winchester pipe rolls entered in M Page, 'Peasant land market in southern England, 1260-1350', database deposited at ESRC data archive, ref. no. SN 4086.
- 5 J Blair, *The Church in Anglo-Saxon Society* (2005), pp.335, 458, 503, 508.
- 6 P Mitchell-Fox and M Page (eds), *The Hampshire Tax List of 1327* (2014), pp.6-7.
- 7 E Roberts, 'William of Wykeham's house at East Meon, Hants', *Archaeological Journal* 150 (1993); M Page (ed.), *The Pipe Roll of the Bishopric of Winchester 1301-2* (1996), p.287.

Archives and Local Studies news from Hampshire Record Office

Recent additions to the holdings

In the last few months we have received a number of photographic deposits, among them a collection of nearly 50 glass-plate slides showing images of hop-picking at **Buriton manor**, on the Bonham Carter family estate, around the turn of the 20th century (57A05d10). The Bonham Carter family itself is represented in this deposit by a game book and record of shoots on the estate for the period 1906-57, and the collection also includes seven glass-plate slides relating to **Ditcham**, showing Ditcham from the air and the **Cave family** c.1902, as well as two black and white prints of Ditcham House taken in the 1850s prior to demolition and replacement in the 1880s.

Another photographic deposit relates to the **Sharland family of Fareham** (67A16), who owned the **Wallington Tannery, North Wallington**. The album shows individuals and family groups in the usual way, but more unexpectedly also features informal shots of employees at the tannery working on stretching and rolling hides, in the lime pits and the tannery yard, with scenes of the immediate locality, many named and identified and all dating from the late 19th to early 20th century.

Along similar lines are two formal group photos showing workers at **Laverstoke Mill**, received in September (66A16). One of the images is identified as 'Laverstoke Mill, 1920', but the second is unidentified. It clearly features some of the same men, however; the fact that they seem a little more grizzled and portly suggests the same subject and location at a slightly later date.

Further local history group records have come from the Yateley Society (186A09d7), relating to aspects of the history of **Yateley and Eversley**. The collection is eclectic but interesting, and includes two copies of court roll relating to **Cron dall manor** lands (cottage at Heathcroft, Darby Green), 1730s-50s, an annotated transcript of the diary of John Mills of Holly Hill, Yateley, 1876-80, deeds relating to West End Farm, Yateley, 1908-64, notes on the history of St Mary's church, Eversley, early 20th century, and sale particulars for Yateley Lodge and Yateley Hall, 20th century. There is also a box-file of published records relating to **Yateley Manor School**, including copies of the school magazine, 1961-6, a history of the school, c.1999, with school prospectuses and copies of the school's news-sheet, c.1990s-2000s.

Family records received have included business records of **E W Stent and Son of Eastleigh**, sanitary plumbers, comprising end-of-year accounts, 1950-67, cash books, 1939-51, income and expenditure books, 1951-7, wages/petty cash book, 1939-51, 'job' books and related papers, 1938-49. Other financial records include samples of sundry costs incurred, such as motor car and motorcycle expenses, telephones, stationery, rates, etc., 1930s-50s, all of which provide a detailed insight into the working life of a local tradesman during the Second World War and the years following. The depositor has also kindly provided some very helpful contextual information including notes on the history of the business, and photos of family members and business vehicles, c.1930s-50s. Cataloguing is currently

in progress for this collection (54A16).

Other family records came in a trunk, salvaged many years ago from a local builder's skip. Inside were the personal estate papers of **Henry Wheeler of Winchester and Otterbourne, timber merchant** (d.1888). Wheeler owned a sawmill at Allbrook, Otterbourne and the papers relate mainly to his family and descendants, covering the period c.1855-1953. In the trunk were also a number of deeds and papers concerning writer Charlotte Mary Yonge and her family, who leased land at Allbrook to Mr Wheeler in the 1860s.

Further family items have come from the **Bowker family of Winchester** (4M94d8), comprising papers relating to Alfred Johnstone ('John') Bowker (1922-93) and consisting of personal papers, correspondence, photographs, certificates, cuttings, invitations, programmes, cards and memoranda, etc., all arranged in chronological order and covering the period c.1926-93. Another file in the collection concerns John Bowker's time as Resident Magistrate in Northern Rhodesia, 1957-65 (which even included an envelope containing an elephant hair!), and an autograph/sketch book belonging to John as a boy in the 1930s.

Finally, we have acquired a court book for **Putham manor, Heckfield** (72A16). The manor was owned by the **Powlett family, Marquesses of Winchester and Dukes of Bolton**, whose archives are already well represented in the county records (see 11M49, 22M58, 54M98 and 72M98). The catalogues for these four collections show that this latest acquisition, dated 1755-1816, fills a gap in the existing record for Putham manor.

Forthcoming events

Exhibitions at the Record Office

January-March: Barton Stacey Miniature Knights Exhibition

April-June: Hyde Abbey Exhibition

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

30 March: There is an often repeated story that a town mayor first used the term 'airport' when describing sea planes using Southampton Water. But is the story true? Kingsley Miller is a local teacher with a post-graduate qualification in research methods. He has a YouTube Channel called 'Southampton on Video' and recently uncovered film of the US squadron using Beaulieu airfield on D-Day. He has investigated the claim to see what evidence, if any, there is to support the idea that Southampton is the home of the first airport. It is hoped that the talk will help to provide an opportunity for interaction and dialogue which will settle the matter once and for all!

27 April: Historical Murder-War Hero to Murderer: a talk by Paul Sticker.

In 1917 Percy Toplis is alleged to have been involved in a mutiny among allied troops just ahead of the Battle of Passchendaele. Two years later he is suspected of a series of robberies and the murder of a taxi driver on a quiet country road near Andover, Hampshire. The hunt for the fugitive ends when he is shot dead by police near

Penrith, Cumbria and which then raised questions about the justification of his death.

25 May: Hursley Park History.

In July 1911 Hursley Park celebrated the 21st 'Coming of Age' birthday of George James Robertson Cooper, the eldest son of Sir George Alexander Cooper Bt who had bought the estate in 1902. Only a few years before Hursley Park had been in decline with financial problems forcing the sale of the estate in both 1888 and 1902. However, by 1905, using the enormous wealth of the Cooper family, Hursley Park had been rebuilt, modernized, redecorated and revitalized to the very highest of Edwardian standards. Using original photographs and records, including those held in Hampshire Archives, the talk will paint a picture of this Edwardian 'Golden Age' and the events that almost brought it to a crushing halt.

29 June: Chawton House Garden.

The garden is inspired by Elizabeth Blackwell's 'A curious herbal' where the plants are described for medicinal uses. It is laid out in quadrants with all plants in each area used for the same body area – so skin, head, chest and digestion.

Workshops

21 March Archive Ambassador Training Day:

Learn how to catalogue and preserve your archival collection and how to digitise your

documents or create new archives through oral history. Be trained by the experts in all these fields in an extensive training day. Cost: £30, advanced booking required.

29 March Maps Workshop:

Discover how you can use maps for local history research. Cost: £14, advanced booking required.

25 April House History:

Learn how to discover the story and secrets of your house. Advanced booking required.

23 May Palaeography Workshop: Learn about the different scripts used during history and tips on how to read them. Advanced booking required.

Special Events

18 May: A Moment in time. A film show and drinks reception. During May we will be celebrating our collections relating to Jane Austen to mark the 200th anniversary of Jane's death. These include letters by Jane Austen, her baptism entry and a range of documents concerning her family who lived in Hampshire.

70th anniversary

2017 is also an important year for Hampshire Record Office since it marks our 70th anniversary. We will be hosting events to celebrate this milestone and hope you can join us for this later in the year.

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

book reviews book reviews book reviews book reviews

Jean Morrin, **Steventon**, The Victoria History of Hampshire: University of London, 2016; pp.viii+103, £12.

Steventon is the second Hampshire parish to be given book-length treatment following the launch of the county's new Victoria County History project in 2008. (The first was Mapledurwell, published in 2012, and reviewed in *HFC Newsletter* 60.) The series in which it appears is known as 'VCH Shorts', though in fact these single-parish paperbacks allow for a much lengthier consideration of a parish's history than the conventional VCH 'red book' in which a dozen parishes or more are covered in relatively concise fashion. The more expansive format of the 'Short' thus provides a welcome opportunity to explore a parish in detail with a generous number of maps and photographs to illustrate the text.

Steventon is certainly worthy of extended treatment. It is best known as the village in which the novelist Jane Austen was born and grew up, but it is also an interesting example of a chalkland settlement with a long tradition of agricultural improvement, a close-knit, hierarchical, and occasionally fractious rural community, and a staunchly conformist religious life with little or no Protestant Dissent until the 20th century. Steventon lies a few miles south-west of Basingstoke and is crossed by the Winchester to Basingstoke railway. Its population – never very large – was chiefly focused on a dry valley some distance from the hilltop church and manor house, whose

non-resident owners included Jane Austen's relatives the Knights (of Chawton). In characteristic VCH style an account of the parish's geology, landscape, settlement and buildings is followed by a study of its landownership, farming and rural industry, social character, schools and charities, manor courts and parish officers, and religious practices. The result is a satisfyingly comprehensive understanding of how life in the parish developed over a thousand years from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Mark Page

Monxton. A Hampshire Village History by Diana K Coldicott was first published in 1998 (reviewed in *HFC Newsletter* 31). As it has been out of print for several years, a limited edition has now been reprinted and is available from the author at Mill Pound Cottage, Monxton, Andover SP11 8AW, price £15 incl. p&p. It is fully illustrated and the 179 pages include four appendices, full references and an index. The book traces the development of the parish from the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066 which resulted in its becoming part of the English estate of the Norman abbey of Bec-Hellouin. In 1441 it was presented by Henry VI to his new college at Cambridge which was to become King's College. Their archives, as well as those at Hampshire Record Office, have been used to trace the history of the village over the following five centuries. Oral history helped bring the story up to the end of the 20th century.

Landscape

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Editorial George Campbell

When one raises the question of 'lost landscapes', the theme for this issue, we all have different perceptions and provide different examples. If I had to confine my choice to southern England, it would be the dramatic disappearance of the medieval Suffolk port of Dunwich, which was swept away by a succession of violent sea surges, in 1286/7. Turning to Hampshire; our notable losses were medieval buildings in fires in the towns, such as Andover, Alresford and others. However, it is often by the forces of nature that one sees man's efforts frustrated, and ultimately extinguished. Here, much less dramatically than at Dunwich, the

insidious work of sluggish currents have gradually accumulated formidable barriers to shipping, which stifled trade, depressed local industry and ruined towns. The Isle of Wight (below) provides some examples; not least, Newtown.

However, these are not the only perceptions of lost landscapes. In this issue, Malcolm Walford writes on lost 'treescapes' in France and Southern England, while Chris Corcoran writes on lost landscapes, that are only lost to our perception because we cannot read and interpret the signs.

The Isle of Wight Medieval Minor Ports; their rise and fall.

George Campbell

Many years ago when I first stood on the remains of a medieval quay at Newtown, a planned town of the Bishops of Winchester, I reflected on its fortunes and puzzled over the decision to found it there. Its town hall was famous; an architectural gem, but standing forlorn in open country; a symbol of status for a town that apparently never was. Looking around me, there were only marshes, sandbanks and water, so if there was a town, its fall must have been severe and final. I was reminded of (and revised!) the final lines of the poem, 'Ozymandias' that marked the fall of that Egyptian king's great dynasty: 'Nothing beside remains. Around the decay of the medieval quay, the lone and level sands stretch far away' (fig.2) (With apologies to P.B.Shelley.)

However, more positively, the 13th century, when the town was founded, was well into a period of political stability and economic prosperity, and the Solent, a safe assembly area for shipping, was the focus of the recently established wine trade between England and Aquitaine in the 1150s, following the marriage of Eleanor and Henry II. The estuary on the shores of which Newtown was planned, was a sheltered anchorage on a navigable



Fig.1 IOW medieval minor ports mentioned in the text.

inlet before silting became a problem, at a period when coastal communication on the Island was essential and sea transport common. In addition, looking out over a busy Solent, opposite the flourishing port of Southampton, would have been good reasons for founding a new town on the Island at that time. It was also a period when the granting of new markets was at a peak, with landowners keen to cash in on the burgeoning trade within a sound economy. Newtown joined the other newly founded Island markets of Brading and Swainston, along with the earlier custom established ones of

Carisbrooke, Newport and Yarmouth.

One of the legacies of the Ice Age was rising sea levels, and the drowning of valleys that had formerly fed the great Solent River, creating a series of navigable estuaries along both shores of the Solent. These allowed penetration far inland of shallow draft galleys, enabling ports to be developed at the head of these estuaries; usually the limit of tidal flow and at the



Fig.2 Coastline of deposition, near Newtown.



Fig.4 Head of Yar estuary, Freshwater.

lowest easy crossing point. Such sites were also a good location for mills, freshwater or tidal, and gave access to the fish, oysters, crabs and water-fowl of the estuary and surrounding waters (1). Boat and shipbuilding would have been common along these gently shelving sheltered shores, woodland close by to provide the necessary timber. Archaeological discoveries along the Wootton-Quarr stretch of coast confirm this and have revealed more evidence of pre-historic coastal settlement, and stages in their migration to sites in the estuaries, as well as much evidence of early trading activities. For example, there is evidence that at about the time of the first reported Viking raids (c.897), an early coastal fishing settlement migrated up the estuary to a site close to the modern Wootton (2). At Fishbourne, the sources of the variety of medieval pottery discovered include south-west England, Normandy, Brittany, southern France, Holland and Spain (3).

By Saxon times manors had been established at the head of estuaries at, for example, Brading,

Freshwater, Shalfleet, Thorley and Wootton. That these sites were wise ones economically is borne out by their Domesday valuations: Brading 20/-, Freshwater £30, Thorley £12, Shalfleet £15, Wootton £3. The values reflect mainly the economic standing of these manors at that time, and, as their centres were located at the head of what were then navigable estuaries, we can assume some seaborne traffic from the earliest times. At their centre was the manor house, the hub of the manor community and its economy. It is significant, therefore, that at Freshwater a church is recorded; at Shalfleet a church and a mill (fig. 3); at Wootton a mill. It is also known that Brading, Shalfleet and Freshwater (fig.4), were very early church foundations: 'mother churches'. Recent archaeological work at Shalfleet has revealed evidence of a Christian farming settlement at Shalfleet as early as the 7th century (4). What is also clear is the greater prosperity of the western manors: Freshwater, Thorley and Shalfleet, all large and productive, compared with their eastern counterparts. The low values of Brading and Wootton perhaps reflect their having to bear the brunt of early 11th century Viking raiders due to their more exposed coastal location and greater vulnerability. On the other hand, Brading and the other coastal manors seem to have prospered in the period between 1066 and 1086 as their values had doubled (5). This may have been due to trading under the more secure regime of the Normans.

By the end of the 11th century the country was beginning to adjust to the changed political landscape of the Conquest, and to benefit commercially from it. The archaeological evidence from Southampton, in particular the frequency with which Norman decorated jugs have been recovered, is clear evidence of the increase in cross Channel trade in the 12th century (6). The 12th and 13th centuries, were fortunately ones blessed with good weather, large harvests, and close cross Channel ties helped by a united England and Normandy. A favourable economy and no doubt the sense of wellbeing contributed to a big increase in the population. While it is impossible to build up a full picture of the fortunes of the coastal settlements, details do emerge that provide glimpses of activities that influenced their commercial development.

On the Island, Quarr Abbey, founded in 1131, has provided a fairly comprehensive picture of its economic activities, through the intensive investigation and analysis of its records by Dom S.F.Hockey. Its



Fig.3 Site of the Saxon Mill, Shalfleet.



Fig.5 The Hard, Shalfleet Manor

efforts to first develop the land by growing 'corn' and later branching out into wheat, barley and oats, while grazing extensive flocks of sheep for their wool, brought prosperity to the Island. Its possession of the widely distributed nine granges and four manors, meant that the products and other benefits, such as employment, that they brought to their communities, were not confined to the vicinity of the abbey. Quarrying building limestone at Binstead, and its ability to transport it by the abbey's cartage, led to it being used extensively in the Island and exported to Southampton and further afield. It also developed industries such as fish farming in freshwater fishponds at Shalfleet and saltwater ones and oyster beds at 'Fishouse' on Wootton Creek (7). It also introduced the fulling process into the Island with its first fulling mill at Heasley in 1182. This provided the opportunity for developing a kersey manufacturing industry, built up through its large supplies of local wool, which reached a peak about 1400 (8). Another manufacturing industry it introduced was tanning, which was particularly profitable in the 13th century (9). A tanning-mill is recorded at Kirkstall; and the profitability of that industry is revealed in 'the income c.1291 being equivalent to that of all four corn-mills the abbey had on the Island' (10). While the abbey must have contributed to the trade of Newport, its own small port of Claybrook was midway down the Medina estuary. The abbey also possessed a fleet of boats for coastal trade (11), and one ship, the Mariote, which is mentioned in 1336, when it transported victuals to Edward III in Scotland (12). Associated with this was boat building along the shores of the main estuaries to provide the principal mode of transport between the Island coastal settlements and the mainland. For example, at Freshwater and Yarmouth c.1300 (13).

While there were other landowning families involved in local developments, such as the Trenchards and the Redvers, the abbey led in the creation and development of local industries. Also of significance in this period was the award of market charters to Newtown at its founding in 1255, and to Brading in 1285.

The 1327 Tax List assessments for these coastal settlements would seem to confirm a degree of prosperity in most of them.

So, what was responsible for their decline?

Inland from Newtown, on my first visit, the

geographical picture to the south seemed rather discouraging. Agriculturally, its level hinterland was poor; heavy clays, difficult to work, and sands, not very productive; so little potential for provisioning ships that might call. More seriously, it was isolated from the more populated parts of the Island, as no road passed close to it, limiting its potential as a trading port. What perhaps could not be foreseen at the time of its founding, was that there were other locations along the coast with potentially much stronger geographical assets, such as the better situated markets, mentioned above, that would be realised later, to its detriment.

Working against the navigability of these estuaries, however, was the constant threat of longshore drift, and the danger of silting up at the mouth with sand or shingle bars, particularly for those exposed to the prevailing westerly winds and high tides, especially after a period of storms. Tidal scouring, where it existed, helped to offset the worst effects. Yarmouth, at the mouth of the Yar estuary, is fortunate in this respect, having a headland (now built over by the quay) that deflected the current northwards, and kept its harbour clear. By contrast, Hook, on the mainland, with its long winding estuary, Hook Fleet, more open to westerly winds, was completely blocked by seaborne sediment by the 17th century. Brading provides a more dramatic transformation from a thriving port in Roman times on the eastern Yar estuary, Brading Haven, the site of which is now 2 miles inland. As a result, ships were obliged to berth at St Helens, probably at the North Quay (fig.4), so assisting its further development at the expense of Brading. Even in medieval times, St Helens could provide good anchorage for the fleet (14).

But longshore drift was not the only source of silting. In an earlier (geological) period, when the downs were much higher, most of the streams were longer rivers, and flowed faster down steeper gradients, carrying much more alluvium eroded from the valley sides. The eastern Yar was one, whose later deposits gradually filled Brading Haven, and eventually reduced it to a salt marsh. At its mouth, Bembridge Harbour has been protected in more recent times by the construction of a causeway. St Helens had constructed an earlier one (fig.6).

The Medina is another example, where by 1400 it was losing trade to Cowes because of the heavy deposits of silt that had gradually accumulated to form two marshy tracts east and west of the town quay. The



Fig.6 The Causeway, St. Helens



Fig.7 Thorley Brook and 17c. mill

eastern anchorage was reserved for boats of shallow draught; the western was annexed by the town as 'Little London' (15). The abbey had earlier wisely located Claybrook as their collecting centre for exporting wool, midway down the Medina estuary.

The extensive shallow estuary of the western Yar (fig.4) is the result of the original river that created it, having been beheaded by the strongly eroding seas of the Channel to the south, much earlier in its geological history. All the Island's northwards flowing rivers suffered a similar fate. A shortened and sluggish western Yar is one result. However, like a number of the estuaries, it has a tributary, Thorley Brook (fig.7), which until 1664, when a mill embankment was built, ships were able to reach Thorley to load and discharge cargoes. But as the Haven silted up, this became more difficult and Yarmouth developed as the main port. Nevertheless, barges were still able to deliver coal to Thorley until the late 19th century.

Finally, the Newtown estuary was created by three stream systems, creating a dendritic pattern (treelike), leading into Western Haven, Shalfleet Lake, Causeway Lake, and Claverkin Lake, all feeding into Newtown River, providing the power to scoop out the estuary.

Later, reduced to smaller streams acting against a rising post-glacial sea level, led to a slackening of the current, deposition, and the gradual loss of the Newtown harbour. It was also at a time when bigger boats with greater draughts required deeper anchorages. Centrally located in the Newtown estuary, but set further inland is Shalfleet, a Saxon settlement. However, in spite of a healthy Domesday assessment of £15 it too began to suffer the effects of increased silting. The former Shalfleet Lake, never deep, became shallower, when only barges could manage the final journey as far as the Hard (fig.5). Remains of the ancient quay can be seen close by. A later quay built further downstream is still used by yachtsmen.

This gradual deterioration in trading prospects was however greatly hastened by the several conflicts, regional and national, to which they were directly or indirectly exposed which have been reported elsewhere (16). In addition, the closure of the abbey by the king in the mid 16th century, removed one of the Island's principal economic mainstays.

However, the last half century has seen a return to some degree of prosperity with the establishment of marinas in many of these former harbours. Yachtsmen find no difficulty, and in fact enjoy, navigating around sandbanks.

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New Treescapes for Old

Malcolm Walford

It is in the nature of things to change; sometimes slowly and sometimes rapidly. But they all need to be noted, especially those in the landscape. This article looks at some recent changes in treescapes, which are often taken for granted, until they are no longer there or have been altered in some significant way.

In Southern France

In 2012 I was holidaying at Homps in the south of France, near the Canal du Midi, and was struck by the beauty of the plane trees (London Plane), with their attractive mottled or patchwork flaking bark, which had been planted, kilometre after kilometre on either side of this waterway (Fig. 1), which is 150 miles (241 km) long. These had been planted many years ago to

stabilize the banks of the canal and to provide shade with their large leaves so as to reduce water loss by evaporation in the dry Mediterranean summers.

In 2014 I returned to the village, and noticed unmistakable signs of dying plane trees. Unfortunately, I did not have my camera to record the activities of workmen lifting the trunks of dead or dying trees with attached root systems, beside and over the canal, to large pits, which had been dug out in an adjoining field where they were burnt.

Their deaths had been caused by a microscopic fungus (*ceratocystis platanus*), which spreads either by contact with intertwined roots, or damage caused by the friction of boats against the network of tree roots,



Fig. 1 Canal du Midi, Homps 2012

when tying up for a break in their journeys. Because the Canal du Midi is a World Heritage site, the authorities (1) had erected notices of plans for replacement of the 42000 plane trees due to 'la maladie du chancre colore'. Those at Homps would be planted between 1 November 2015 and 31 March 2016.

This year, when I revisited the area, the canal treescape had completely changed. A new information board showed planned changes (Fig. 2). The banks of the canal between the road bridge at Homps and the first lock to the east of the village, had been replanted with 205 white poplars, each about 12 feet high, in the same positions as the removed plane trees. Each was supported by a tall central cane; its stem protected by a cylinder of split canes. In addition, each tree was supported by 'tree ties' to three stakes, and the base kept free of weeds by chipped bark



Fig. 2 Canal du Midi Informaton Board



Fig. 3 Canal du Midi, Homps 2016

(Fig. 3). To avoid any future similar expensive disaster, a variety of trees would be planted. The list of probables would include: oaks, large leaved limes, white poplars, and Norway maples. White mulberry, tamarisk, and stone pine (pin parasol), also selected, would be planted near the Mediterranean.

To give some idea of the size of the plane trees removed, a couple of trees in Avenue du Languedoc, Homps, near the canal and very similar to those removed, were measured at chest height; these were 7 feet 2 inches (218 cm) and 9 feet 4.5 inches (286 cm) in circumference, respectively (Fig. 4). The loss of the plane trees also created a loss of nesting habitat for jackdaws who also nest in holes in those on the Avenue du Languedoc.

In lowland England

In the late 1960 and 1970s, a very noticeable change to our landscape occurred with the loss of 90 per cent English elms due to a microscopic fungus infection (*Ceratocystis ulmi*), commonly known as Dutch elm disease. According to the late Oliver Rackham (2), the disease was caused by two species of elm bark beetles.



Fig. 4 Measuring a plane tree on Avenue de Languedoc, Homps 2016

These made tunnels under the bark of recently dead elms, and laid eggs in them. The fungus then produced spores inside the tunnels, and this rubbed off on newly produced beetles who flew on to living elms, and as they fed by nibbling the bark, transmitted the spores to kill off other trees. Sometimes the disease was sucked into the roots which often resulted in death of rows of elms in hedges. In 1973 East Sussex County Council (3) set up a control zone to limit the spread of the disease. This was very successful and they claim that 'East Sussex now contains the only population of mature English elms in the world' There are now many more elms inside the East Sussex zone (Falmer to Pevensey) than when the disease arrived; nearly fifty thousand, which include a number of large veteran elms. Elms were a favourite nesting tree for rooks, and often colonies used them for years.

At Stansted, Rowlands Castle, the head forester Michael Prior, who started his career felling thousands of Cambridgeshire elms, some of which were truly gargantuan, has recently planted 'new disease resistant elm cultivars that might become features in our landscape again' (4). I have been unable to discover the costs of removing dead elms, but he informed me (5) that in those days labour was very cheap, and most estates had a sizeable forestry or tree maintenance team to do the work. He well remembered a team of three or four woodmen touring the Milton Estates' tenant farms, after harvest, with a truck, winch tractor and trailer and a Volvo timber grab, to fell any dead trees before drilling took place. Unfortunately, whilst the corporation he later worked for burned everything on their sites to try and stop the spread of the disease, adjacent landowners often did nothing until their trees were dead, so this practice was not very effective.

In the adjoining county on the West Dean estate,

the elms felled were within the Park or largely on the roadside, and not within any forestry compartment. Ian Odin, head forester, stated that 'It was a tremendous change in that the parkland looked devastated after we had finished, as did the roadside' (7).

Recently, it was the turn of the larch to become infected with a fungus like pathogen (*Phytophthora ramorum*), which can cause extensive damage to a wide range of trees and plants, such as bilberry and rhododendron (6). The decision was taken early on to fell the Japanese larches at Stansted. These have been replaced by two primary species; Douglas Fir and the western red cedar, plus smaller numbers of Japanese red cedar, Atlas cedar and coast redwood (5). Thus our treescape has changed again, and hopefully the cone loving birds will take to these replacements.

And then there is 'Ash die back' disease. West Dean Estate has leased 2.5 hectares of land to the Forestry Commission who are experimenting with ash from different parts of the country to discover any disease resistant ones. Ian Odin is also experimenting with the use of eucalyptus *gunnii* as possible ash replacements (7). We await developments.

Acknowledgements

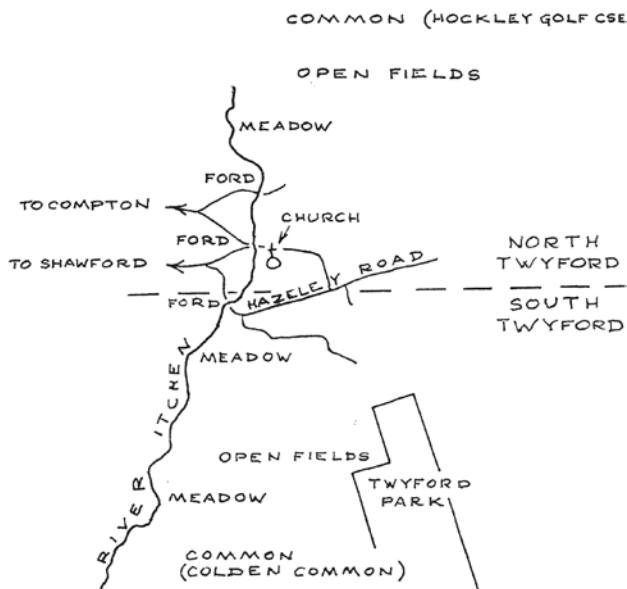
I would like to thank Michael Prior, head forester for the Stansted Foundation, and to Ian Odin, head forester for the West Dean estate, for finding time to answer my several questions, and to my friend, Glyn Griffiths, for patiently helping me whilst the French plane trees were measured, and trees and canal photographed.

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What did Twyford look like in 1300? A lost landscape, but in plain view?

Chris Corcoran



Map 1 North and South Twyford: Broad layout.

Twyford (Map 1) has been a busy and prosperous village community for well over a thousand years, and probably over three thousand. So 1300 is a relatively recent date in Twyford's history. My starting proposition is that the Twyford of 1300 and that of 2016 bear striking similarities. And that this is true of both the parish and the village. The historical evidence is best summarised in HCC's Historic Hampshire Settlements, which also lists the key sources (1).

This choice of 1300 as a date is arbitrary. In the time span of Twyford's landscape from the Bronze age to the present (c.3,500 years), the management regime of the land will have changed probably about eight times, possibly every 400 years or so. The selection of a point in time allows the local evidence to be tested against the more general studies of this period. The date of 1300 is also a high point in the manorial phase, and has the great benefit of a detailed written record of its accounts, in published form (2).

For my study area, the focus is the ancient parish of Twyford, which includes Colden Common and

Brambridge, but not Marwell (Map 3).

The Bishop of Winchester and his ownership of Twyford as part of his vast estate, was a dominant factor in the life of the community. Consequently, he is always 'the Bishop' in this article.

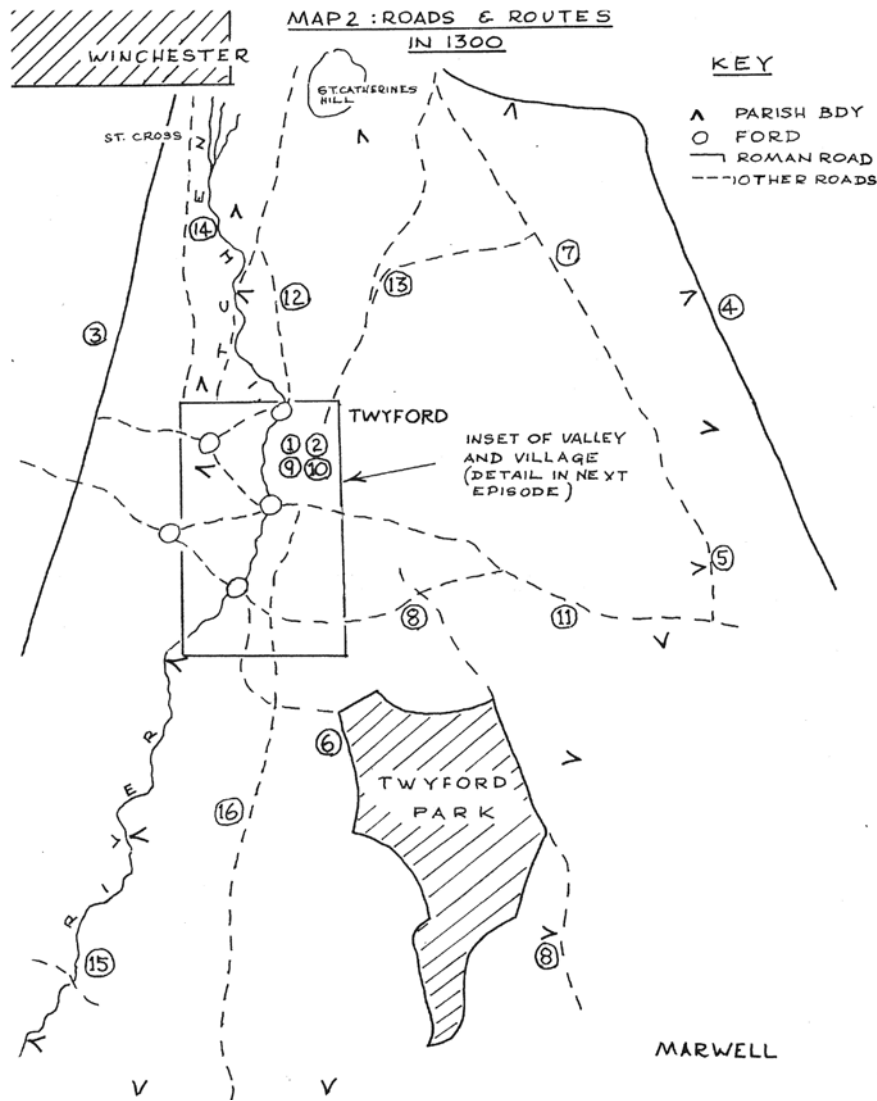
What does the Twyford of 2016 have in common with that of 1300?

In comparing this land then, in 1300, with its appearance now, the land form is a constant factor ...the River Itchen with its steady plentiful flow; its highly productive flood plain, underlain by extensive chalk; the clay to the south, more suited to woodland. These factors imposed themselves on the farmers and managers of the land, then as now. Despite substantial changes, such as the M3, and the growth of Colden Common, much of the parish is still rural (arable, grassland, meadow, woodland), unchanged by works or buildings.

Turning to the evidence surviving from the year 1300, many of the normal sources of information are of little help. Firstly, although much archaeological and landscape investigation has taken place in the parish, there is no evidence that the land use or the layout of the village has been studied at that period. One site adjoining the parish is contemporary: Compton Place, which was the home of the Wascelyn family, has not been excavated, but its significance was recognised by Drew (4). Secondly, with regard to buildings, the earliest dwellings are, probably, part of the former Vicarage (now Mildmay house) which is mid 14th century, and the cruck cottage on the High Street, The Rosary. The manorial complex: Manor Farm and Manor House, was progressively rebuilt in the 17 and 18th centuries (5). The medieval church, demolished in the 1870's, was rebuilt on the same site; its records reveal that it was clearly in use in the early period (6).

Thirdly, the earliest scaled map of Twyford is that of John More, in 1618, but there is no manorial map (6).

Since only 19th Century pictures of the old church provide the only link with the physical fabric of the village in 1300 (7), the description of Twyford at that time relies on, firstly, the Pipe Roll for 1301/02; secondly, local physical evidence; thirdly, studies of the manorial



Map 2 Twyford in 1300: the roads and paths.

system, including the Bishop's estates; fourthly, the wider surroundings. All this evidence is of exceptional value in the work of reconstructing the early village.

1 The Pipe Roll as landscape evidence

The Twyford entry for 1301/02 runs to ten densely printed sides. It is essentially an audit with an inventory, for the Bishop's property, not that of his tenants. However, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The manor of Twyford was a highly structured and closely managed organisation.
2. It was organised on

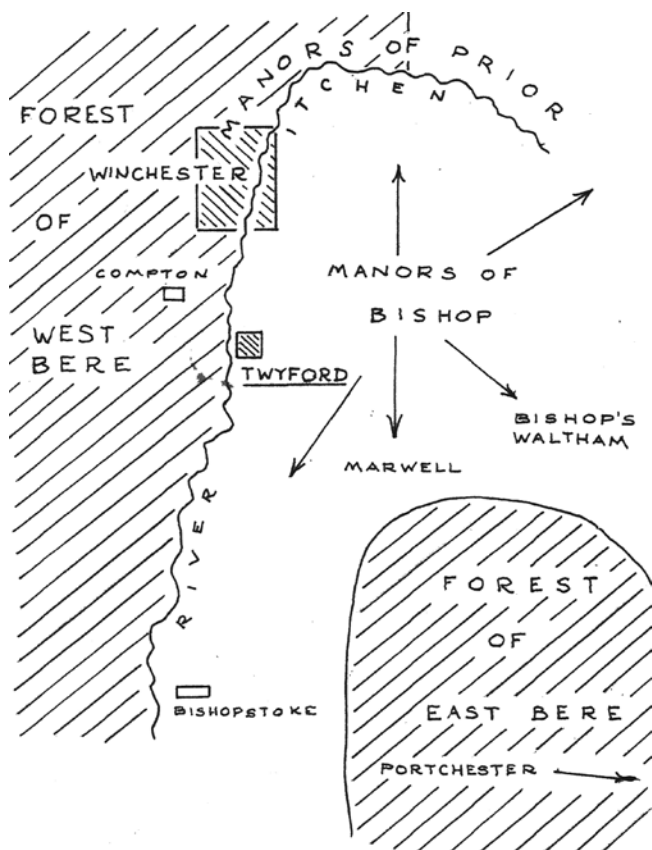
the basis of separate tithings for North and South Twyford.

3. It details the crops, acreages, harvests, and some equipment.
4. It gives the number of tenants, a key component in the manorial village.
5. It lists occupations - shepherds, carters, smiths, manorial servants etc.
6. It gives evidence of particular buildings of the landlord - his kitchen, stable, dairy and the cart shed and garden.
7. It lists field names such as 'suthwollenmede'- the meadow of South Twyford with the springs in it.
8. The mills - five are listed, Compton, North Twyford, South Twyford, Shawford and Brambridge.

2 Local physical evidence

Mills. These are key elements in the economy. The locations of the 5 mills can be pinpointed from their engineering requirements and surviving leats. Two mills are still operational (8).

Roads, footpaths and tracks. Oliver Rackham's chapter on Highways gives a robust overview of this topic, including how ancient, and not so ancient, roads and paths are lost when not used (9). Consequently, my hypothesis is that where a route can be shown to have existed before 1300, and is still in use today, it will have



Map 3 Twyford in its surroundings.

been in use in 1300. The following is a record of some of Twyford's many ancient routes (Map 2).

1. The fords - Twyford was named by the Anglo Saxons from two fords. On the east of the valley, there are three bridged fords and on the west, there are two.
2. The three valley crossings are on causeways.
3. The Roman road from Winchester to Clausentum and the Waterside.
4. The Roman road from Winchester to Portchester marks the eastern boundary of the parish.
5. Mare Lane (A/S "maer" = boundary) which marks the parish boundary with Morestead/Owslebury.
6. Hare Lane (A/S "here" = army) which loops around the south of the village before heading east (10).
7. The Bishop's route from Winchester to Marwell.
8. The roads and tracks passing through and round Twyford Park, emparked by the Bishop in about 1200.
9. Queen Street, which is the central street of the planned settlement of South Twyford.
10. Lower Church Path, which was the route from the manorial complex at Manor Farm to the tithe barn adjacent to the Old Rectory (demolished 1850's).
11. The old road to London' - the path from the Waterworks path to Mare Lane.
12. Twyford Lane and St Catherine's Lane to Winchester.
13. Whites Lane to Chilcomb and Fawley Down.
14. St Cross Lane from Place Lane to St Cross.
15. Kiln Lane, the crossing of the Itchen between Otterbourne and Brambridge.
16. Twyford to Bishopstoke.

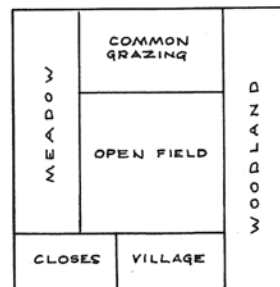
Existing routes, which were probably not in existence in 1300, are the main road through the village - Hazely Road, Church Lane and the Shawford Road.

Other landscape evidence: There are boundaries and ditches, hedges and woods, down land and

watermeadow, many with humps and bumps, indicating signs of earlier activity, begging for interpretation and explanation. One interpreter of such details of historical landscape is Oliver Rackham; his influence underlies and, I hope, validates many of my local observations and deductions. For instance, the woodbanks around Gabriel's Copse are the remains of the pale of Twyford Park (Map 2, No. 8).

3. The Manorial System And The Bishop's Estate

The manorial system imposed a common pattern; a set number of tenants, each with a plot for his house and his animals, and a paddock of an acre or so, along with a virgate of land in the common fields. The 1301/02 Pipe Roll entry for Twyford is completely consistent with the typical manor. It follows that any reconstruction of the landscape of Twyford in 1300 must be able to show how this system relates to the local landscape.



The Mediaeval Manor Conceptual Plan

4. Twyford's Surroundings.

To the north of Twyford in 1300 lies the Royal and Episcopal city of Winchester, a city then of between 7,000 and 10,000 people, and wholly reliant for its basic daily needs for food fuel and building materials on the countryside around it. It was surrounded by a ring of manors, with villages, which supplied these daily needs. Of these, Twyford was always one of the larger and most productive. Twyford was also on the edge of a very different landscape. To the south, south-east and west, there were areas subject to Forest Law, where the predominant settlement form seems to have been scattered farms rather than nucleated villages (11).

I hope that a second article will continue this theme, and show in more detail the layout of the lands of North Twyford and a plan of the split villages of North and South Twyford.

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Archaeology

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Latest News

David Allen

Rovers return

In one of those odd coincidences that happen every now and then, two significant sets of material gathered in the early 1970s were offered to the Hampshire Cultural Trust at around the same time last year. The first was a collection of worked flints retrieved while bird watching (mud larking?) in Langstone Harbour; the second an archive of watching briefs and minor excavation reports compiled as Christchurch saw a wave of redevelopment.

John Bowers, and his wife Anne, originally ventured into Langstone Harbour monitoring the bird populations, but Anne started to pick up flints as an alternative to counting waders. They became friends with Chris Draper, who discovered and published many sites along the coast and in the eastern parts of Hampshire, and he helped with the identification of some of the less obvious pieces.



Anne and John Bowers reminisce on the collecting of the Langstone material.

The great thing about the collection is that a catalogue was compiled and most of the artefacts have details of provenance and can be put 'on the map'. The sad thing is that there *was* once an accompanying map, but an unfortunate accident involving a mercury-vapour moth trap resulted in a bedroom fire in the house in Leeds where the map, flints and Bowers were resident - and the map was a victim. It was this 'narrow escape' for the flints that caused John to get in touch and propose that they were better off in the county collection.

Langstone Harbour has for many decades been a focus of attention for archaeologists and coastal geographers and the 1990s saw a significant investigation by Wessex Archaeology, sponsored by

a number of bodies including Hampshire County Council. This was reported in brief in HFC Newsletter 36 (2001) and in full in CBA Research Report 124, *Our Changing Landscape; an intertidal survey of Langstone Harbour, Hampshire* Allen M & Gardiner J, (2000). Apparently the archaeologists toiled 'for seven years in deep mud and treacherous tides' (as if deep mud wasn't enough!) and the work showed that the harbour was an area of open grassland and woods in prehistoric times, with people coming to find and utilise the flint and other resources. Inundation began in the Iron Age, and salt-making and the farming of oysters followed. The Bowers Collection of a few hundred worked flints, most of which are well sourced (A2016.102) is an exciting addition to this study.

The other material involves the archives compiled by the late Paul Aitken, when Christchurch was finding its archaeological feet. Once again there is a major publication *Excavations in Christchurch 1969-1980*, by Keith Jarvis; DNHAS Monograph 5 (1983) covering some of the sites concerned, but the Aitken collection provides additional content and recording of sections etc. Much of this relates to the activities of the *South Wessex Archaeological Association* who, in the bad old days, stepped in to rescue information that would otherwise have been lost. The *SWAA Chronicle* for December 1973 states that 'the developers have descended upon Christchurch, and we are hoping to be given a chance to examine some sites before they are covered up again'; a familiar lament in those times. The archive is testament to the SWAA efforts and the accompanying newsletters, listing a wide range of social events and outings, are a reminder of how much enjoyment was (and hopefully still is) attached to archaeology.



How it was then! Paul Aitken recording the burh defences at Pond Lane, Christchurch, March 1973

The archive came by way of Luke Craddock-Bennett, of Headland Archaeology - and he and his wife Suzy, also an archaeologist, and their two boys

kindly shipped it down to Cirencester, where we met up for a Service Station handover. The archive is now housed with the Trust as A2016.100, and again forms an interesting footnote to the larger excavations that took place once significant Department of the Environment funding was found. In the preface to his report Keith Jarvis praised the 'considerable efforts of the SWAA, which carried out eleven excavations' and noted that



Jane King with the first Petersfield Heath collared urn, before its 'micro-excavation'.

'the watching brief work by P Aitken and the work of A White require individual recognition'.

Peopling the Heath

The Collared Urn discovered beneath Barrow 8 at Petersfield (*Newsletter 66*) was duly scanned, at Salisbury Hospital, and the contents 'micro-excavated' in the lab at Chilcomb House by Jane King, HFC Membership Secretary and a People of the Heath volunteer. It was done over a number of weeks and Jane was able to identify a complex pattern of internal fill lines and deposits, while not finding any of the anticipated cremated bone. The exterior of the vessel has now been consolidated and conserved. The exciting news is that in the September excavations another Collared Urn was discovered – this time 'inverted' with other slabs of pottery present around it. It will follow the same path as the other vessel and has already been scanned. The New Year will see the start of micro-excavation, but whether from the rim or the base direction has yet to be decided! The *People of the Heath* project can be followed at <http://www.peopleoftheheath.com/category/bulletins/>

Barton Farm

Barton Farm, north of Winchester, is another site which keeps on giving and Paul McCulloch of PCA Ltd brings us up to date with the latest discoveries.

Warnford Park

WARG headed south last summer to investigate a site at Warnford Park, and were blessed with perfect digging weather. Techer Jones and Chris Sellen describe the excavation and the 'challenging interpretation'.

Royal Blood

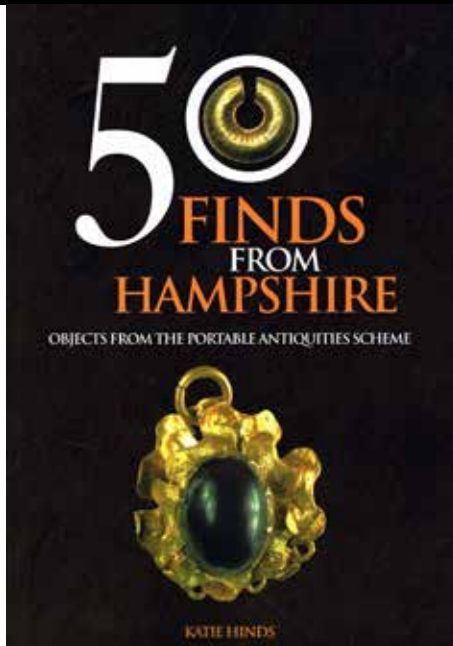
Gosport Gallery provides the last opportunity to see this exhibition, reviewed below; it opened there on 20 January and runs through to 11 March. Some of the exhibits, such as the Late Iron Age 'Winchester Treasure' will have been returned to the lenders, but there are still a number of archaeological finds on show. Check the HCT website for opening hours.

book review book review book review book review

Katie Hinds, **50 Finds from Hampshire: Objects from the Portable Antiquities Scheme**, 2017; Amberley Publishing, 96pp fully illustrated, £14.99

Katie Hinds is the Hampshire Finds Liaison Officer for the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). For the purposes of this book she has chosen 50 of the 43,000 finds listed for the county on the PAS database to describe and illustrate. But that is only half the story, as most of the items have comparative images, or contextual information, making it a veritable feast of high quality, crystal clear pictures, beautifully presented.

The book gives an introduction to the scheme and the county before approaching the area in chronological fashion. While metal detector finds inevitably provide most of the images, the author has included



objects of flint and stone as well as pottery to ensure a good balance. And the inclusion of a few items from beyond the scheme's AD 1700 'cut off' point brings the list into the 20th century.

This is the perfect book with which to explore the remarkable range of tools, weapons and especially jewellery, coins and tokens used by and worn by former occupants of Hampshire. Their everyday items, as well as their keepsakes and devotional objects, can tell us much about the past, and this book provides a rich slice and innumerable reminders of our history.

Excavations at Barton Farm, 2016
 Paul McCulloch, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

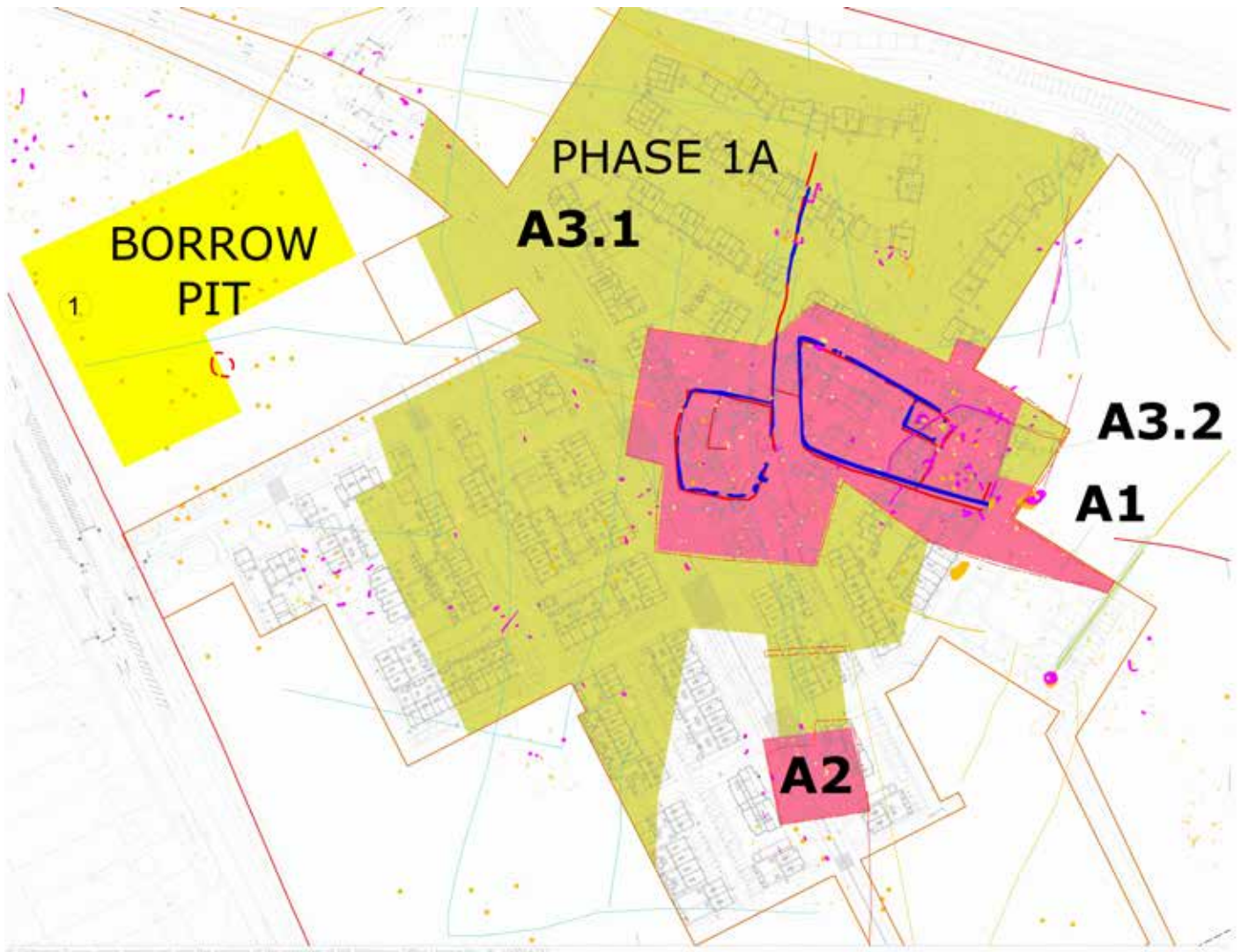


Fig. 1: Plan showing Barton Farm 'Phase 1A'.
 © CgMs.

In *Newsletter 64*, I reported on the first phase of targeted archaeological excavation at Barton Farm, Winchester, carried out in 2015 ahead of housing development. The project got underway in July last year and we have been back on site with Cala Homes carrying out further work ahead of house building east of the Andover Road and at the northern extent of the site – so-called 'Phase 1A' (Fig. 1). This is the area where, in 2015, we investigated a beaker burial, Iron Age settlement evidence and two Romano-British funerary enclosures.

With Cala Homes ground workers stripping areas ahead of building, by September last year we had investigated more evidence of Iron Age settlement, including dispersed pits and roundhouses. But it was in the area selected for a 'borrow pit' in the north west corner of the site that we made a surprising discovery. Previous geophysical survey had shown a circular

feature in this area (Fig. 1 – red circle in borrow pit), which was initially suspected to be a ring-ditch, perhaps of a ploughed-out barrow.

Once the topsoil was stripped off, the feature could be seen to comprise seven 'ditch segments' forming a circle approximately 13m in diameter, the gaps between the segments being less than 0.5m. Excavation of the segments revealed each of them to be formed of two roughly circular pits (Fig. 2 & 3), about 2m in diameter and 1m deep. The fills were fairly similar in each pit, consisting mainly of chalk rubble, but there were also soil horizons perhaps representing periods of stabilisation. There was some indication that the chalk rubble fills represented rapid backfilling of the pits but, while it is assumed that this was the material dug out to form the pits, it remains uncertain if it was

heaped on the outer or inner side of the pit circle. It is also unclear whether the large pit to the south east of the ring was related to it in any way.

A flaked flint axe of probable Neolithic date was found in one of the pit fills and perhaps offers an initial indication of date. Also recovered were fragments of antler, one pig femur, one cattle mandible and one cattle femur. Several partially complete antlers were also retrieved from the base of seven of the pits (Fig. 4). These

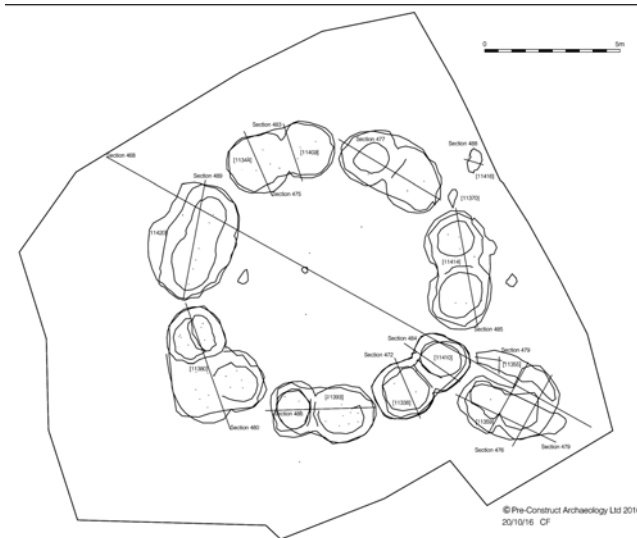


Fig. 2: Plan of the pit circle at Barton Farm. © PCA

display evidence of having been used as digging picks and rakes. The antler assemblage, and other bone, has been sampled for carbon dating and the results will hopefully provide a clearer idea of the date of the monument.



Fig. 3: Excavating and recording the Barton Farm pit circle, looking north-west. © PCA



Fig. 4: A section of one of the pits in the Barton Farm pit circle showing an antler pick at the base of the pit (bottom left). © PCA

WARG Excavation 2016 – Warnford Park

Techer Jones & Chris Sellen

WARG, the Winchester society for archaeology and local history, has undertaken a summer excavation most years since 2006 and Field Club members may have visited our sites at St Cross and St Elizabeth’s Mead in Winchester. The summer of 2016 saw us move away from the city (although still in the Winchester District) when we were asked to explore a site at Warnford. We were blessed with perfect weather – not too hot or cold - with not a single minute’s digging time lost to the elements.

History of the site

Warnford Park is a working estate specialising in dairy production. The church is located in the park, about half a mile from the present Warnford village. It contains Saxon work, including a sundial, and is predominantly Norman in date. The main Alton to Portsmouth road originally went past the church, but the modern A32 follows a line about 300m to the west.

Historically, the estate was owned by New Minster, and is listed in the *Liber Monasterii de Hyda* as being in the possession of Adam de Port in 1180-1213. Immediately east of the church is a ruin known as St.

John’s House, or sometimes King John’s House. This is a hall house of c.1230 - 40. It was probably built by Adam de Port, or his son William, who changed his name to St. John after marrying into the family.

It is recorded that the hall house was ruinous, and that a new house was built when William Neale, an auditor to Elizabeth I, bought the estate in 1577. The current landowner, Andrew Sellick, was keen to establish the location of this Elizabethan house. Local histories tell that the main estate house went through four main phases of development or major additions. First the Neale house; then an addition by the 11th Earl Clanricarde, who bought the estate in 1765; a third phase was undertaken by Edward Tunno in 1846; and finally yet more major work was commissioned by Henry Woods after 1865. In the 1770s, during the ownership of Earl Clanricarde, the parkland was landscaped by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown.

The complex of buildings was massively extended in the mid-19th century, however the documentation is sketchy and wordy, and the actual sequence of construction, locations of buildings and periods of disuse

and decline are not clear. Within the park, and to the north of the church, the large mid-18th century house called 'Belmont' was demolished in the late 1950s, having fallen into disuse and disrepair after its occupation by Canadian troops in the Second World War.

The task WARG set itself was to try to provide the physical evidence which would support the known history and fill some of the gaps. The main target was the Neale house. The Elizabethan period is not one which has figured large on WARG's excavation list and would provide new building types and techniques for its members to explore and document. The landowner was aware of the history, and his and his family's interest would be massively increased as the dig progressed.

Initial geophysics, including GPR, had been carried out with the help of the University of Winchester in the spring of 2015. This showed buildings, but also indicated that the foundations were deep, far too deep for the traditional WARG method of hand-removal of overburden. An initial 1m-wide exploratory trench at an angle to the foundations allowed an assessment of where the major building foundations were located. This was where the historical documentation suggested that the Elizabethan part of the house stood. This showed a mixture of deep and quite shallow foundations and it also informed the location of a single 20m x 11m trench to test these results. We were grateful, therefore, when both the Hampshire Field Club and CBA Wessex approved grants to fund a mechanical digger and driver. In essence, this allowed the preparation of the trench, removal of turf and overburden over a comparatively vast area and ensured that WARG was able to do 15 whole days of archaeological excavation unencumbered with the tasks of ground-breaking and back-fill. Luxury!

The Dig

Over 80 WARG members got stuck in to what became a complex multi-period site, which had many heads being scratched. During the fortnight, as well as organised visits (such as that from the HFC Archaeology Section) and a public open day on the middle Sunday, a number of local historians and archaeologists from Winchester (working and retired) peered into the trench. All contributed opinions and suggestions about what was being unearthed, and the following is an early summary of what was found.

The trench was aligned on one wing of the 18th century Clanricarde building to try and establish wall lines and hopefully produce relative dates for their construction. The stratigraphically highest features

appear to belong to World War Two. Certainly, parts of the 18th century building had been partitioned with very poor WW2 brickwork which may not have even been a full storey high. Latrines and shower-blocks were the most likely explanation for these internal divisions, especially as rudimentary drains had been dug through the earlier more sturdy structures.

A fascinating, frustrating wartime feature was exposed which has not yet been categorically identified. Nick-named 'the sand pit' it was a rectangular brick feature which was full of clean sand about a metre below floor level. No finds or age-related contaminations were present. A large number of theories were put forward - from a place where secret documents could be hidden or stored, to a pit where the changing watch guards could discharge their weapons to ensure there were no live rounds in the weapon! Any more suggestions are requested on a postcard!

The majority of the building foundations appeared



The " Sand Pit"

to relate to the wing of the building from the 18th century. This may have been an incorporation of the Elizabethan structures into a larger house, or a northern extension which eventually became servants' quarters or utility buildings to the 19th century structures. There were also a number of drainage features and culverts, draining westwards towards the River Meon and a well with a beehive cover (probably quite late, to seal it off). Features such as that 'popped up' unexpectedly and tended to throw the on-site interpretations, especially when dating can only be by association or typology. Clearly, however, the 18th century phase of building



Cobbled surface



Trench from the air. North is at the left of the picture,.

was characterised by red brick structures, many of which were placed on, or abutting, earlier flint walls.

As we worked down, two key features emerged. Firstly, across much of the west of the trench site, a cobbled courtyard surface was revealed, sloping towards gullies of probable Tudor brick laid on their sides. Dating evidence was tantalising, such as finding a figurine stylistically dated to the 18th century sitting on a putative Tudor courtyard. This prize piece (which incidentally was found by the landowner's wife) didn't help other than to say the courtyard is pre-18th century.

The second aspect was that some areas of the trench were taken down much further than the rest, and massive flint walls which we thought may have been the walls of the Tudor house kept going below the courtyard. They appear to be resting on rammed chalk foundations as much as 2m below the supposed floor. Even accounting for the fact that the trench was on a slope down to the River Meon, these structures are far too massive to be a courtyard wall. Was there a period of demolition of the earliest Elizabethan structures before a courtyard was built on top?

In summary, WARG's initial set of objectives have been met and we have located at least part of the Tudor house and its immediate environs. However, we are a

long way from being able to define the extent of those early buildings: which were for accommodation, which were outbuildings, where the courtyards fit in, and how the whole site is phased.

There are a great many questions being raised by this site and its challenging interpretation. There is a complex story to unravel. The large numbers of visitors provided the dig team with new sources of local knowledge, photographs, and even eye-witness accounts of the latter days of 'Belmont'. One visitor described how, as an eight-year-old, he had been 'adopted' by the troops. He clearly recalls entering the house and seeing the map of Normandy on a wall in the pre-D-Day spring of 1944. Another described how his father had bought some wonderful mahogany doors when the house was being demolished in 1958 and that they had made very satisfactory pigsties! There is a great deal of documentary research required on these new sources. This potentially means a return by WARG sometime in the future armed with more information and a more focused set of trench objectives.

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Royal Blood - Births, Battles, Beheadings

David Allen

Royal Blood was Hampshire Cultural Trust's 'Big Theme' for 2016. It took various guises, including living history re-enactments, family fun events, lecture series and seminars and a number of exhibitions held at the Trust's Community Museums and Flagship Galleries. The Museums ran various versions of 'Heads & Tales', featuring sixty monarchs from the Late Iron Age Atrebatian rulers to Elizabeth II. The variety came in the form of the local story, be it Civil War, as at Alton and Christchurch, or Tudors as at Fareham. The Galleries (Basingstoke, Winchester and Gosport) took inspiration from the theme 'Births, Battles and Beheadings', with 'City Under Siege' – a look at the ways in which Winchester and its predecessors were defended, up to the time of Oliver Cromwell – an additional attraction at that venue.

It was the Flagship shows that saw most archaeology on display, in an exhibition that also

included portraits, the 'Chace' - the splendid Heywood Sumner/William Morris tapestry - a King John charter of May 1205, the Tichborne spoons, and a set of Tudor books from Winchester College.

The first exhibit was arguably the most stunning – the 'Winchester Treasure' of gold neck torcs, bracelets and brooches, presumably representing a 'his and hers' set of diplomatic gifts, which arrived in this area a generation or so before the Claudian conquest. Such jewellery could have influenced the Roman Republic's essential alliance with local tribal leaders, individuals represented by the other loan from the British Museum, some of the 'Alton Hoard' of gold staters.

The period was also characterised by finds from Silchester. Although lack of space meant these were few in number for such a productive site, they did include a Tuscan column base which provides some indication of the monumental magnificence of the rebuilt Forum-Basilica.

The Early Medieval period was represented by finds from Breamore, including the celebrated Byzantine bucket, with its inscription in Ancient Greek 'Use this, good lady, for many happy years'. The work on the site, which culminated in a Time Team dig in August 2001, has just been published by David Hinton and Sally Worrell, and the bucket, or 'pail' – as it is made solely from metal, compared with the six composite buckets also found – is proposed as part of a 'his and hers' toilet set, made in far off Antioch. Just how such a possession reached the banks of the River Avon is anyone's guess, although there is another example from the Isle of Wight. The pioneer band of 5th and 6th century settlers on the banks of the Avon was apparently well-armed, hugging the river, no doubt facing some resistance from a population abandoned by Rome.



The Winchester Treasure and a small part of the Alton Hoard.

Striking a different note were the leg bones and iron fetters excavated at Oliver's Battery in 2009 by Andy Russel. This report has just been published in *Hampshire Studies* (Vol. 71) and tells of multiple hangings and burials of miscreants in prominent, unconsecrated ground outside the 11th century city.



The Breamore bucket: a Byzantine pail inscribed in Ancient Greek

Two of the offenders had been shackled together and this is the first time, in the recording of about thirty Late Saxon cemeteries, that a set of irons has been found, still attached to the deceased.



Hung in chains: the unique set of fetters from the Oliver's Battery execution cemetery and the legs they shackled.

Medieval artefacts in the show included stone catapult ammunition from Odiham Castle, a 13th century stronghold built for King John and held for a time by his daughter, Eleanor, and her ambitious husband Simon de Montfort. A recent find from the general locality, made by Bernie Pye, is an enamelled

harness fitting with the Despencer's coat of arms. The fortunes of this, equally ambitious, dynastic family were closely linked with those of de Montfort. When Simon was defeated and killed at the Battle of Evesham, in 1265, Hugh le Despencer was cut down too.



A harness fitting of the Despenchers: Bernie Pye collection.

The final piece of archaeology in the exhibition is the hoard found in 1919 at Dummer Grange. Just over half of this discovery of 200 silver coins of Elizabeth, James I and Charles I survives. The date of the coins (Elizabeth, James I and Charles I) and their apparent burial beneath a burned out cottage, led to the conclusion that the hoard was hidden in time of trouble. A Field Club article (1922) records it as a 'pathetic reminder of the insecurity of life and property in a countryside that was often fought over during the English Civil War.'



The Dummer hoard; coins of Elizabeth I, James I, Charles I..

Historic Buildings

Editor: Bill Fergie, Foyle Cottage, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3HH

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Editorial

Bill Fergie

John Reynolds

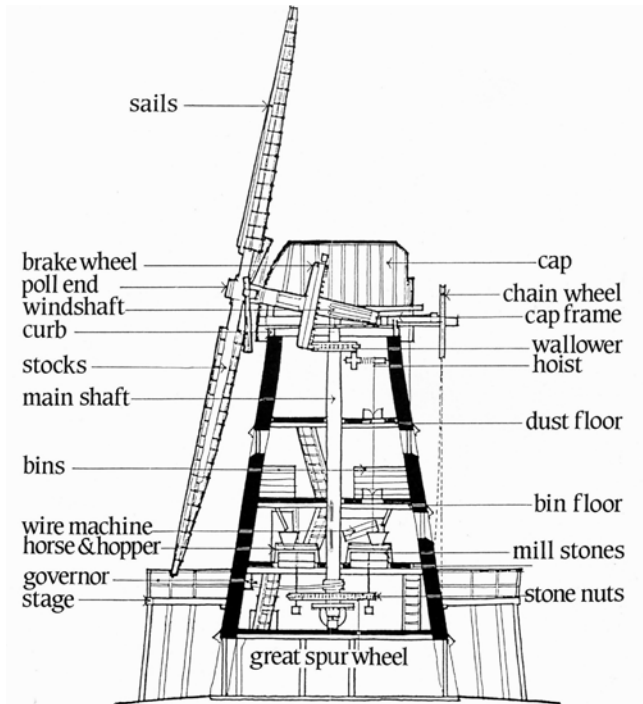
Although he was not a member of the Field Club many will have known Winchester Architect John Reynolds who has sadly died at the age of 89.

Although John's early career was in the merchant navy he subsequently trained as an architect and eventually joined Hampshire County Council and worked on a variety of conservation projects, both for his employer and in a voluntary capacity.

I first came to know of him as part of the team which assisted the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust in its renovation of Bursledon Windmill in the 1980s. The illustrations show a promotional drawing

of the mill, produced by John to publicise the work, alongside the finished article. He produced other memorable drawings for a number of conservation projects, including Whitchurch Silk Mill and The Great Barn at Basing House.

John was something of a mills expert and was the author of "Windmills and Watermills" published by Hugh Evelyn in 1970 in the 'Excursions in Architecture' series. He was a founder member of the Hampshire Mills Group in 1982. He will be remembered for his great understanding of the workings of historic industrial buildings and for his ability to communicate that knowledge through great draughtsmanship.



The chapel of the Holy Ghost, Basingstoke

John Hare

'The most familiar object in Stoke-Barehills [Basingstoke] nowadays is its cemetery, standing among some picturesque medieval ruins beside the railway; the modern chapels, the modern tombs, and modern shrubs, having a look of intrusiveness amid the crumbling and ivy-covered decay of the ancient walls.'

T. Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*
(First published 1896)

The ruins may no longer be ivy-covered but they still provide a notable landmark whether for train travellers or for those who get off in search of what is left of one of Hampshire's most important medieval towns. It is the ruin of a building which has played an important role in the history of the town, both medieval and later.

The chapel of the Holy Ghost, reputedly originated in a graveyard set up outside the town in the interdict when religious services were halted in the struggle between the Pope and King John. An alternative explanation of its origin may be that it had served a subsidiary settlement on the north side of the Loddon, one of several chapels (including the later parish church of Basingstoke itself), which belonged to the Saxon mother church. The chapel was clearly in existence by 1244 when William de Raleigh bishop of Winchester assigned a third of the offerings to the vicar of Basingstoke, and it possessed a chaplain by 1250. It soon became a substantial building, able to host the ordination of 140 men in 1309.

The chapel was an important element in the late medieval town. Here the major guild of the town was based. A list of contributors to the fraternity of the

Holy Ghost of Basingstoke survives from c 1460. The position of the guild with its alderman, wardens, brothers and sisters, and land holdings was formalised in a royal charter of 1525. Some of the town's leading figures specified burial here rather than in the parish church.

In the early 16th century, when Basingstoke was at the peak of its importance as a major trading and manufacturing centre for the cloth industry, the chapel went through a dramatic rebuilding programme. This was predominantly the work of Lord Sandys, of the Vyne, although the citizens would have also been involved. Some work was already underway in 1503, but the

main transformation was slightly later. This involved both a new chancel east end and a new chantry chapel, the chapel of the Holy Trinity, which Lord Sandys built and where masses would be said for his soul. Sandys was a leading figure and minister at the court of Henry VIII, as soldier, as treasurer of Calais from 1517-26 and then Lord Chamberlain (1527-49). His time in Calais gave him close continental links, which were reflected in his artistic patronage, and his use of overseas craftsmen for some of the furnishings of the Vyne, a nearby great house which he was rebuilding. But it was also seen in his new chantry chapel above all in the magnificent window glass, much of which still survives intact after having been removed and reset in the chapel at the Vyne. He imported glass from Flanders and the windows were in the latest Flemish fashion, probably the work of a group of Flemish glaziers who were employed by Sandys and who stayed with him in 1522. The remarkable sequence of work covered the windows in his chapel and those in the chancel of the Holy Ghost chapel, with images representing the life of Christ and of influential contemporary figures or of benefactors. At some point, it was damaged and now includes substantial early 17th



The Holy Ghost chapel today

century repairs. The glass was removed to the Vyne probably at some time before the siege of Basing House in 1643-5, when lead from the roofs was stripped in order to be melted down and converted into lead shot. It is difficult to imagine careful removal of the glass taking place in such a military context, when the windows themselves would also contain much lead. Sandys' new chapel was not completed until after 1518, when he became a knight of the garter, since his arms on the battlements include the garter, and the glass was not finished until after 1522. Additionally, in 1536, Sandys commissioned two tombs for the chapel from an Amsterdam craftsman who was then resident in Artois in N.E. France, one for himself and another for his wife, parts of which still survive. Most of what remains of the standing remains of the chapel comes from this major addition. The new building was of brick with ashlar facing. It seems to have had an elaborate vault with extensive painted bosses. Even today the ruins show elaborate and expensive external decoration with the



Glass from the Holy Ghost chapel, now in the Vyne

decorated niches and carved heraldry.

By the time the chantries were closed in 1547–8, under Edward VI, the Holy Ghost chapel had taken on responsibilities for the education of some of Basingstoke's young. The guild there, whose purpose had originally already been to provide a priest, had shifted to providing a school master. This may have represented a formalisation of an informal earlier function or a means of justifying the continuation of the guild in a changing religious context as traditional religious ideas of salvation came under increased challenge. But this educational role failed to prevent the dissolution of the chantry and its lands under King Edward VI.

The accession of Mary allowed for the return of traditional religion. Town leaders took the opportunity to recover the lands of the Holy Ghost Chapel and the guild, or fraternity, was re-established in 1557. From then for almost a century, the evidence is supplemented by the accounts of the warden of the fraternity. The restored guild and chapel retained a formal educational role. Thereafter, it remained a combination of a chapel, in which distinguished members of the town continued to be buried, a social meeting place, with special dinners for the fraternity, and a school. The accounts



The Holy Ghost chapel today

provide a sense of what needed to be spent and done to achieve this refoundation, and of the readiness to pay to restore the old institutions. Almost a hundred people contributed to an initial fund. Money was spent on embellishment and repair, including the expenses for an alderman and a warden going to London to obtain bricks from the neighbouring Marquis of Winchester, presumably from the surplus of his great building works at Old Basing. Then there were the expenses for the internal refitting to make the church ready for Catholic worship: a joiner for making an image, painting the image and the rood, a Holy water pot, sawing rails for the chapel, and carpentry in the chancel, the purchase of an organ, and wax for candles.

Under protestant Queen Elizabeth, the guild was refounded, but now its educational role was preeminent, and it appointed a school master in 1559. The shift from priest and chantries to education meant that the school master became an urban institution, remembered in bequests in some of the citizen's wills. Under the will of Sir James Deane in 1608, a rich London merchant from a Basingstoke family, an annual payments was made to the school teacher, enabling the school to be declared

a free school, and this was followed by a further large bequest from his cousin Sir James Lancaster, another rich London merchant from Basingstoke in 1618. A new school building was built in 1636, costing over £50. This timber-framed building was probably that at the west end of the chapel which is shown on 18th and early 19th century engravings of the latter.

The chapel had thus acquired a new educational role which it was to retain. But it continued to have a religious role. The maintenance of the fabric of the buildings is reflected in the repeated payments to glaziers for the repair of the windows. Something of the memory of an earlier role is reflected in the burial patterns of some of the rich families of the town. The gentry Cuffold family buried several members there in the later 16th and early 17th centuries, and several of the leading citizen families saw it as their natural place of burial. Gilbert Lookar had migrated to nearby Andwell, but in his will of 1592, required his body to be buried 'in the schoolhouse at the Holy Ghost chapel'. The buildings were now divided into a religious part and a schoolroom (probably in the nave) and there was evidently a clear distinction in the mind of the accountant between school and chapel. The use of the term 'schoolhouse' suggests burial in the school part and provides a reminder of the traditions and religious continuity that survived the dramatic changes of the Reformation.

The 17th century civil war with its drawn out conflict over the adjacent Basing House, led to considerable disruption and damage and robbing of the buildings. The lead was stripped from the roof, and converted into shot for the fighting. The accounts disappear between 1641 and 1649 and, when they resumed, the need for major rebuilding was evident in the acquisition of large quantities of building materials: bricks, sand, lime, scaffolding and the need to dig a sawpit. There were also disputes over the control of the land and the appointment of the schoolmaster, was ultimately resolved by the arbitration of the bishop of Winchester, George Morley, in 1669.

How much of the chapel was restored is not clear. By the end of the century the east end still seems to have been roofless and by the end of the 18th century this was the case for the whole of the chapel buildings. It was an overgrown ruin. The area around was surrounded by tombstones. We are back to the scene painted by Hardy at the beginning, and shown in contemporary engravings. The school continued in the timber-framed schoolhouse adjacent to the chapel until 1849. It was re-established on a new site in 1852 as Queen Mary School, part of a piecemeal reorganisation of charities and education that occurred in 19th century.

Bibliography & Notes

This draws heavily on my *Basingstoke: a medieval town, c. 1000-c.*

1600 (VCH 'short'), which is in press and available later in the year, where references can be found. For later developments see Baigent & Millard, *Basingstoke*, and J.E. Millard *The Book of Accounts of the wardens of the fraternity of the Holy Ghost in Basingstoke, AD 1557- AD 1654* (1882). For the Vyne, M. Howard and E. Wilson, *The Vyne: a Tudor house revealed* (2003).

The glass may be seen at the Vyne, a National Trust property. The glass windows from the chapel of the Holy Ghost have recently been restored and can be seen in all their glory, although because of major roof repairs the first floor of the house is currently closed.

A New Dendro-date at No. 78 Hursley Village

Bill Fergie and Edward Roberts

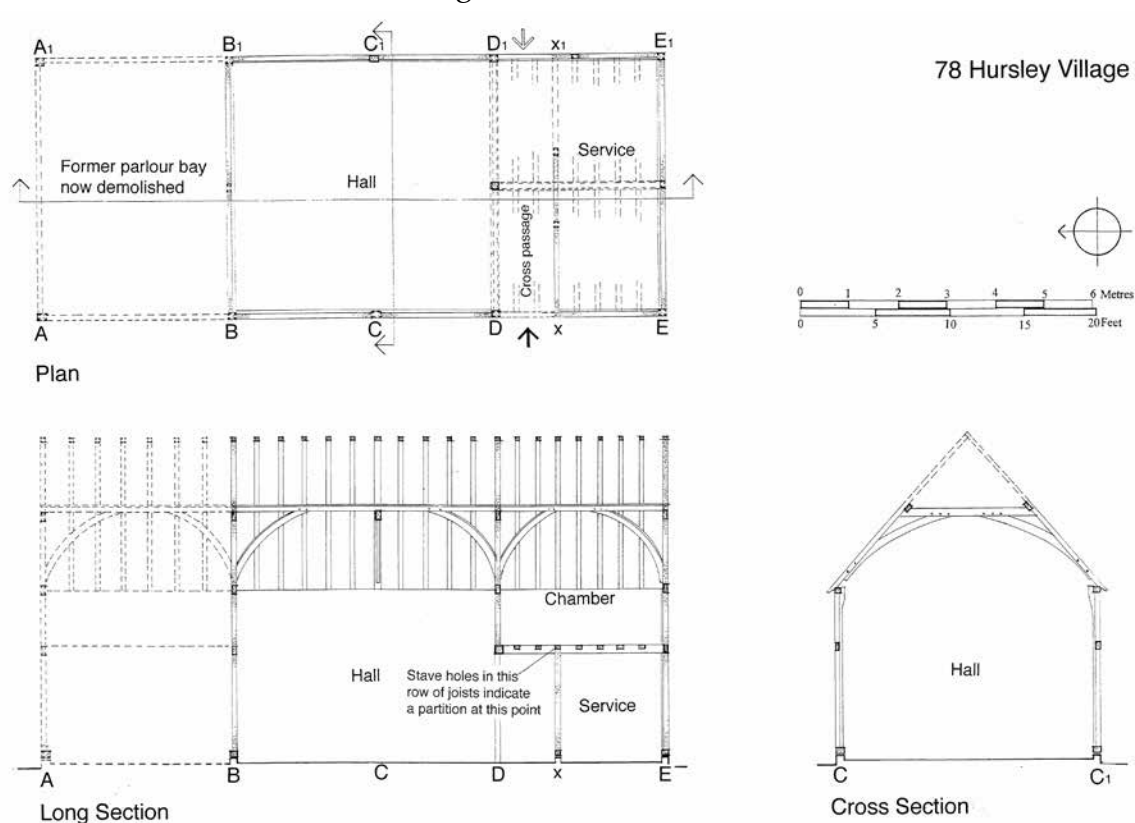


Figure 1. No 78 Hursley Village as originally constructed. Drawing by Bill Fergie.

To the passer-by No. 78, Hursley Village appears as a charming cottage beside the village post office. Its brick front may suggest an 18th-century date but behind the brick is a timber-framed hall house. In 1988 an analysis of the late-medieval frame of the house was published in a book called 'Medieval Hall Houses of the Winchester Area'.¹ The lead author was Elizabeth Lewis, then curator of Winchester City Museum, who (before any house in Hampshire had been tree-ring dated) suggested a date of c.1520.

The owner, retired architect Michael Prendergast, is currently working on an extended study of the house which will include information on the known occupiers and will be published in 2017. As part of that study a dendrochronological survey was undertaken which has given a felling date for the timbers of 1516.² This is remarkably close to the date Elizabeth Lewis arrived at solely on the basis of her considerable knowledge and experience.

Because the book had been published nearly thirty years ago, the owner kindly asked the present authors to re-examine the building. As Elizabeth Lewis had observed, the timber-framed house was originally of four bays (see Fig.1). The parlour bay appears to have been demolished and its space is now occupied at ground floor level by the post office, but the two-bay hall and service bay survive. The hall truss is of arch braced collar form and lacks a tie beam (see cross section at C-C1). This form of hall truss was quite common in Hampshire in the mid to late 15th century but this is the only 16th-century example that we have dated.³

When the house was published in 1988 it was recognised that bay D-E had been the service bay of the

medieval house. At that time, however, lath and plaster covered its ground floor ceiling,⁴ making it reasonable to assume that the service was longitudinally divided beneath the spine beam. Since then, however, the lath and plaster ceiling has been removed revealing stave holes and a mortice for a stud beneath a pair of joists. It seems that the division of bay D-E was transverse and not longitudinal. The transverse partition attested by the evidence in the pair of joists (marked x-x1 on the plan) would have stood about 3' 4" (1 metre) from the cross beam at D, thus suggesting the likelihood of a cross-passage within the service bay between the partition and the cross beam rather than in the hall. However, there is no visible evidence on the underside of the cross beam at D for an answering partition. The central stud beneath the cross beam appears to be original and is justified structurally. Could there have been moveable screens to form one side of the cross-passage but which would have left no structural evidence when the hall was floored over and there was no longer a need to screen the passage from the hall?

As so often with fascinating old houses, we are attempting to complete jigsaw puzzles with some of the key pieces missing!

Notes

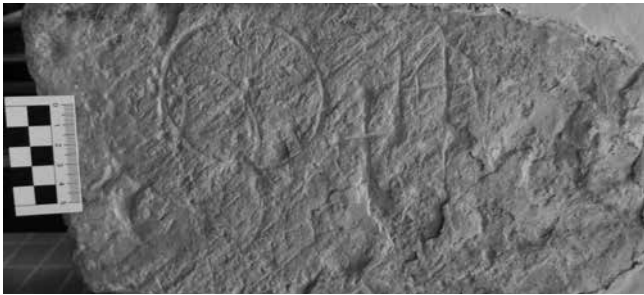
1. Lewis, E et al. 1988 *Medieval Hall Houses of the Winchester Area*, Winchester, pp.108-110.
2. Moir, A 2016 *Dendrochronological Analysis of Oak Timbers from 78 Main Road, Hursley, Hampshire*, Tree-Ring Services Report SOHR/48/16.
3. Roberts, E 2011 'Early Roofs in Hampshire: 1240-1600' in Walker, J (ed.) *The English Medieval Roof*, The Essex Historic Buildings Group, pp. 47-62 (see p. 60 for dated open hall trusses with and without tie beams).
4. *pers. comm.* Mr Michael Prendergast.

Hampshire Graffiti Survey Update

Karen Wardley

Our survey is progressing well just as public awareness of this fascinating topic is growing. The National Trust is publishing results of graffiti surveys at its properties, for example apotropaic markings have been found carved into roof timbers at the Vyne. Historic England issued a press release last year in time for Hallowe'en, encouraging the public to look out for "witch marks". And, for those of you who may have missed it, Celebrity Antiques Roadtrip visited Norwich Cathedral where Rick Wakeman was invited to play some medieval music found incised into the stonework there.

Back in Hampshire we have completed surveys on a number of churches, including Sparsholt St Stephen, North Stoneham St Nicolas, Kings Somborne

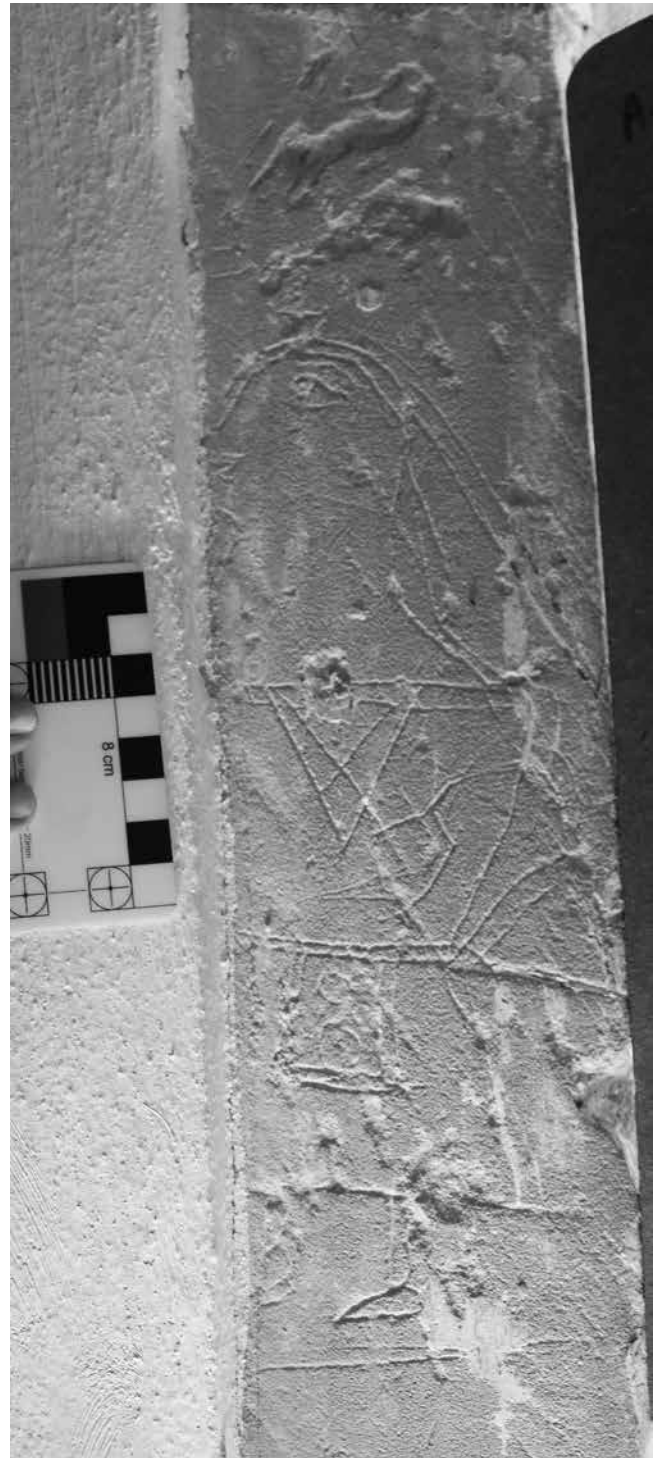


Intersecting circles from Ashley St Mary

Ss Peter and Paul, and Ashley St Mary, while more are nearing completion. However, the list of churches still to be surveyed is long, so we would welcome more volunteers to help with the project. Regular church



A Deer From Ss Peter And Paul Soberton



Mutiple grffiti from Michelmersh

visits are organised so beginners can come along to learn beside more experienced surveyors. Or if you have a local church you would like to survey, please get in touch and let us know.

As the project progresses we have extended our remit, and we record all the graffiti we find, not just the medieval, so our work will serve as a complete record which can be used as a benchmark for future investigations. As well as finding wonderful examples of medieval graffiti – figures, animals, inscriptions and protective symbols - we have also enjoyed finding more recent examples, including the grumblings of those tasked with pumping the organ bellows at Soberton church in the 1930s.

We have also extended our survey beyond churches, recording the spectacular graffiti in Southampton's Bargate. This was carried out in December as equipment for the "flying Santa" was being installed, and we were privileged to witness Santa's first flight – one of many bonuses we have enjoyed!

However, our survey is just a beginning. As we make more discoveries our findings provoke more questions, and we hope that this body of data will form the basis of research to eventually help broaden our understanding of medieval beliefs and practices.

For more information and contact details see the HFC website www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk



Southampton Bargate. Possibly depicting beheadings following Southampton Plot 1415

In the back

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In his introduction (p.1) President Chris Elmer referred to the launch of the third Hampshire Paper The Japanese Red Cross at Netley 1915-16. The paper tells the amazing story of how, in 1914, the Japanese Government sent a party from the Japan Red Cross Society on a six month mission to Britain. The 20 female nurses, 2 highly qualified doctors, an interpreter and a secretary arrived in January 1915 to work at the newly constructed pre-fabricated, Red Cross Hospital in the grounds of the military hospital at Netley. The mission's work was highly valued and the British Government requested an extension of the mission's stay. When they did leave in January 1916, all members received gifts from Queen Alexandra and the two doctors and the two chief nurses were decorated by King George V.

To research this, Dr Gordon Daniels made extensive use of both Japanese and British primary and secondary sources, including several hitherto untranslated speeches made by the Japanese ambassador in 1914. He used these to analyse the mission's role as a part of Japan's war time diplomacy, as well as its contribution to the British wartime medical services.



The 22 Japanese nurses at Netley (British Red Cross Archives)

Dr Daniels is one of the leading scholars of modern Japan, having been a founder member of what is now the School of South East Asian Studies at Sheffield University. He was also a founder of the British Association for Japanese Studies, which he served as secretary and president. He has visited Japan many times and lived there, at different times, for four years.



Prefabricated Red Cross Hospital, Netley. (AMS Museum)



Dr Suzuki at Netley. the Leader of the Japanese Red Cross party to Britain. He was appointed CMG, by King George V, in a special reception at Buckingham Palace (AMS Museum)

While we in Britain have forgotten these amazing men and women, they, along with other groups who went to France and Russia, are still remembered in Japan and are being held up as examples to modern Japanese women of what they could be capable. Sadly less than thirty years after the visit Britain and Japan were enemies.

Writers wanted

If you are doing personal research on some aspect of Hampshire's history or archaeology then please consider contributing to this Newsletter. In the first instance, contact the relevant section editor (whose contact details are at the beginning of each section) and they can guide you on the best way to develop your article. We look forward to seeing your contributions.

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Place-names of Hampshire & the Isle of Wight.

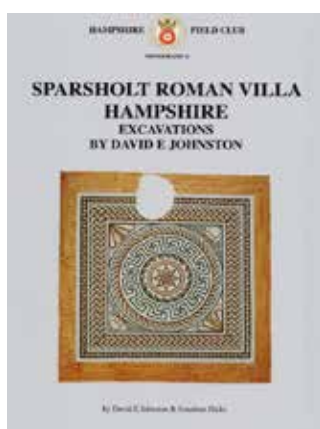
A Oscroft (2015) £10 to HFC members/ £15 to non-members.

Monographs

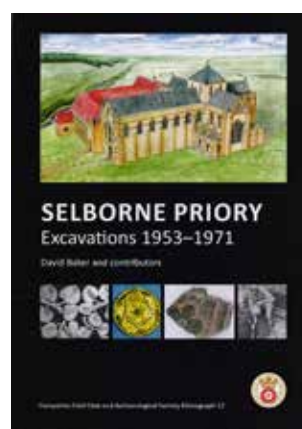
Price £3 to HFC members / £5 to non-members

except Nos 11 & 12 which are £10 to HFC members / £15 to non-members.

6. The Archaeological Site at Easton Lane , Winchester. P J Fasham, D E Farwell & R J B Whinney (1989)
7. Archaeology and the M3. P J Fasham & R J B Whinney (1991)
9. Twyford Down , Hampshire. Archaeological Investigations on the M3 Motorway from Bar End to Compton 1990-3. K E Walker & D E Farwell (2000)
10. Basing House , Hampshire. Excavations 1978-1991. D Allen & S Anderson (1999)



11. Sparsholt Roman Villa,
Hampshire. D E Johnston & J
Dicks (2014)



12. Selborne Priory:
excavations 1953-1971
D Baker (2015)

Hampshire Papers: Second Series

Price £6 to HFC members / £8 to non-members.



No 1 "...And I don't like being
turned out of Hampshire:"
Florence Nightingale and her
Hampshire Connections, Helen
Betts (2015)



No.2 Dr Joseph Stevens of St
Mary Bourne: Public and private
health in north-west Hampshire
c.1835 - 1900, J Isherwood (2015)



No. 3 The Japanese Red Cross at
Netley 1915-16. G Daniels
(2016)

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Programme of Events

March - December 2017

- 7th March Tuesday **Archaeology Section**
The David Johnston Memorial Lecture: *The discovery of the Villa in Brixton Deverill, Wiltshire and its initial excavation*. Dr. David Roberts, Historic England, 7.30 pm, Peter Symonds College.
- 18th March Saturday **Landscape Section**
The Urban Landscape of Andover. A morning visit to Andover, 10.00 - 12.45. Limited numbers.
- 22nd March Wednesday **Historic Building Section**
Interpreting the Picture Bosses of the Presbytery Vault at Winchester Cathedral, a lecture by John Crook.
- 4th April Tuesday **Archaeology Section**
Visit to Winchester College Treasury, 6.30 pm, Winchester College.
- 10th April Monday **Archaeology Section**
Visit to Winchester College Treasury (Repeat), 6.30 pm, Winchester College.
- 22nd April Saturday **Local History Section.**
Spring Symposium *Literary Hampshire: Historical Perspectives*. With talks on William Cobbett, Gilbert White, Jane Austen and other literary figures associated with Hampshire. Hampshire Record Office.
- 10th May Wednesday **HFC&AS**
Annual General Meeting, followed by *Hung in Chains: A late Saxon execution cemetery at Oliver's Battery, Winchester* a lecture by Andy Russel, 7.30, Peter Symonds College.
- 13th May Saturday **Landscape Section**
The Rural Landscape of Andover
- 1st July Saturday **Local History Section**
Summer Outing to Alresford
- 13th July Thursday **Archaeology Section**
Visit to the final season of excavations on the 'People of the Heath' project at Petersfield. 11.00 am start.
- 30th September Saturday **Local History Section**
Autumn Outing to Bitterne, incorporating the Section's AGM.
- 4th November Saturday **Landscape Section**
Annual Conference and AGM: *Romsey - Landscapes in and around a Market Town*. Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College.
- 18th November Saturday **Archaeology Section**
Annual Conference and AGM: *Death & Burial*. 10.00 am, Peter Symonds College.

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

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

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