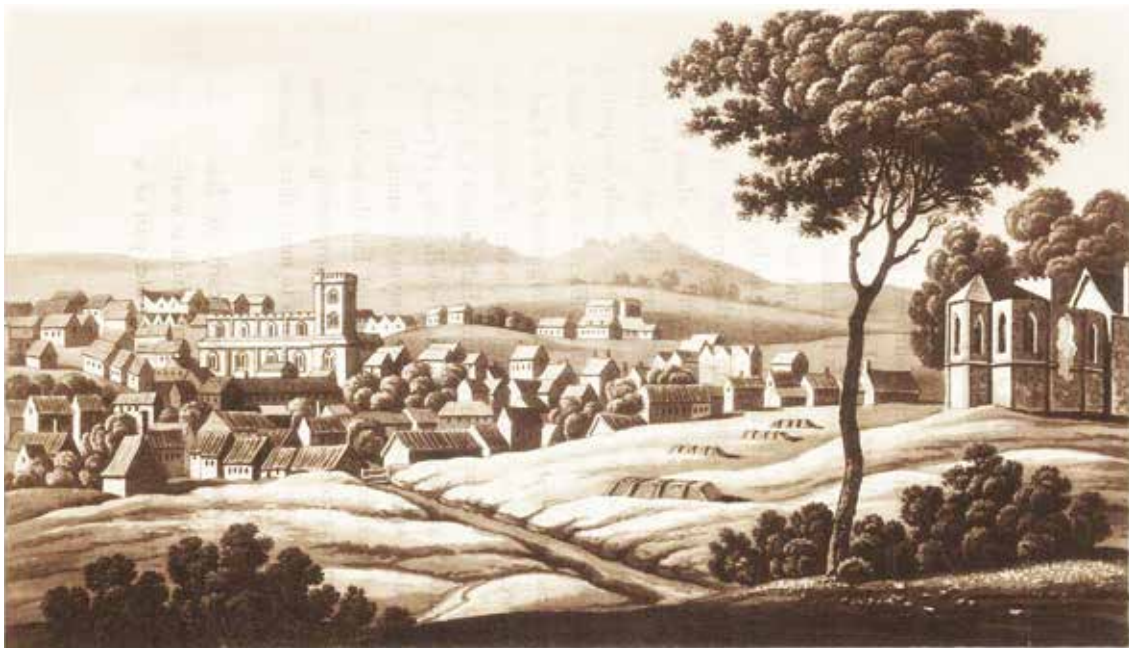




Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

Newsletter

No 71, Spring 2019



'Basingstoke and Holy Ghost Chapel as it appeared in 1669': frontispiece to F J Baigent & J E Millard, A History of the Ancient Town and Manor of Basingstoke (1889).

Archaeology



Historic Buildings



Landscape



Local History



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From the Acting President

Jo Bailey

Email: president@hantsfieldclub.org.uk



It may come as some relief to you that the Council of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society has its full complement of Executive Members once more. Three volunteers have come forward to 'act up' as President, Secretary and Treasurer until the next AGM when they will be formally appointed

unless any other members of the Field Club wish to put themselves forward in the meantime. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to these new members of the team.

I have volunteered to stand in as President. I am very grateful to our last President, Chris Elmer, who stood down in May 2018, for encouraging me to take on the role. He has given me a very thorough introduction to what's involved. I would also like to thank another of our former Presidents, Dick Selwood, for chairing recent Council meetings. I have been on Council as an Ordinary Member for the last two years but still have plenty to learn from them and all the other very experienced people around the table. I welcome their support and encouragement. Thank you all.

My first involvement with the Field Club was, however, back in the 1980s. Some of you remember me as Secretary of the Archaeology Section. I was working for the Winchester Archaeology Office at the time, on the Brooks excavation (you might recall it as 'Britain's biggest dig!') and several other projects before that. I was already familiar with the Field Club having both discovered its extremely useful collection of publications in the Hartley Library and frequently referring to the 'Proceedings' during my time at the University of Southampton as an archaeology undergraduate.

After the Brooks, I moved into museums and away from having direct involvement in archaeology. I developed a specialism in museums marketing and research which led to roles at national and regional levels, as well as in the County Council. The nature of this work, combined with the demands of a growing family, meant that there was little time to attend Field Club events. But my most recent full-time job, as Head of Collections at Hampshire Cultural Trust, and the chance to leave full-time work recently has given me the opportunity to re-engage with local history and archaeology. I have found the Field Club's wonderful mix of talks, tours and publications a great way to update my knowledge and indulge my enthusiasm for Hampshire's heritage.

I am now in a position to make a contribution to the smooth operation of the Field Club, so that others can continue to benefit from everything that this fine institution has to offer. I am also keen, during this period

of unprecedented change, for the Field Club to play its part in encouraging the conservation of Hampshire's heritage in all its forms so it can be enjoyed by future generations.

Jane Wheeler has agreed to act as Secretary and Valerie Archibald has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer from Sandy McKenzie who is stepping down after a remarkable 25 years invaluable service. Valerie has been working closely with Sandy over the last few weeks to ensure a smooth transition.

They introduce themselves below

Jane Wheeler



I studied history at Leeds University, prior to joining the West Yorkshire Police as a graduate entrant. During my time with the Police Service I undertook an MA in history with the Open University for which I received a distinction. Returning to full-time education at the University of Bradford I changed tack,

shifting to archaeology, specifically scientific methods within the discipline of environment. Being awarded an MSc with merit, this led to a full-time scholarship funded by the ESRC/NERC to undertake doctoral research to explore the exploitation and management of natural resources in the environs of Rievaulx Abbey in the North York Moors. This project subsumed pre-monastic, monastic, and post-monastic settlement, land utilisation, and the chronology of iron-working and resource management within the landscape over a millennium. Evidence for human-environmental impacts were explored using a multi-proxy suite of tools and a variety of eco- and artefacts from excavated and environmentally-sampled sites across the valleys of Bilsdale and Rievaulx. Since being awarded a doctorate from the University of Bradford, I have continued to work within the remit of the environment and archaeology. Undertaking post-doctoral research at the University of Bradford I investigated environmental evidence to locate the site of Bosworth Battlefield, at Aberdeen University conducting paleoenvironmental analysis of wetland samples from a series of sites across Ireland to explore the correlation of prehistoric and subsequent "burnt mound" activity, and at the University of Leeds where I used palaeoecological methods to investigate the degradation of a lowland peatland site in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. I have published extensively across disciplines.

I have undertaken a number of consultancy and academic roles in the remit of environmental analysis, and am an experienced field archaeologist, having worked on numerous sites across the UK, and in Europe and South America, such as the Bronze Age site of Os

Perdigões in the Alentejo region of Portugal, sambaqui sites on the north coast of the island of Florianópolis in southern Brazil, and forensic search and excavation in Ireland for the Independent Commission for the relocation of Victims Remains. More recently I have undertaken charcoal-analysis from sites to the south-west of Winchester, and from Lymington in the New Forest. Currently, I am working with the Department of Environment & Geography at the University of York, continuing paleoenvironmental work on data from a number of coastal sites within the archipelago of the Inner Hebrides, saltmarsh archives to explore land-use change on the Newfoundland peninsula in Canada, and the seasonal physical dynamics of pollen distribution at a number of UK sites.

I became a member of the Hampshire Field Club after moving to the Winchester area three years ago, have served on the committee of the archaeology section, and consequently as a result of this involvement have now taken on the role of Secretary of the Field Club. As well as a great amount of archaeological and historical experience to the HFC, I think that I also bring management and administrative skills from having managed numerous projects over the past twenty years.

Valerie Archibald

I am a chartered accountant, with previous experience as a charity treasurer and trustee. Most of my career was in central government, running finance teams and teaching finance to senior managers, politicians, armed forces, emergency services and overseas public servants. I was head of finance profession for my organisation, and have written two books on accounting for non-financial managers. To widen my expertise, I obtained



an MBA from the University of Warwick in 2003.

My research interest in the past began as far back as 1973 with the investigation and recording of a number of prehistoric sites in Derbyshire for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition. For my honours dissertation in French at the University of St Andrews I wrote about the development

of three Provençal perched villages. In 2009 I gained a certificate in archaeology at the University of Reading. I was secretary of the Berkshire Archaeology Research Group to 2012 and have been a member of Hampshire Field Club since moving to Hamble. I am a joint leader of an Arts Society group of church recorders, compiling a detailed inventory of the interior of churches, personally specialising in the stonework. I am an occasional volunteer with the Maritime Archaeology Trust.

I am a long distance walker, and enjoy seeing the landscape and settlements slowly unrolling across Europe. To celebrate my retirement, I left from my front door and walked 1200 miles to Spain on my own, which took three months. It gave me thinking time, as I changed from being a working person to being retired. I have also recently walked the Pennine Way, which was in some ways tougher than walking all the way to Spain.

HFC News

Writers' Competition

We will be running a writers' competition again during 2019. Everyone, from established authors to new researcher, is invited to submit well-documented and referenced manuscripts covering a topic of relevance to the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society – including Local History, Archaeology, Historic Buildings and Landscape. The papers may include photographs, sketches, maps and other illustrations. There is a minimum of 1,000 words and a maximum of 10,000.

The winner will receive a prize of £250 and their entry, plus others of merit, may be published by the Society. An entry form is available in this issue of the Newsletter or can be downloaded from the web site <http://www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk/>

The closing date is 30th September 2019 and the results will be announced in the Spring 2020 Newsletter. Any enquiries should be addressed to David Allen, Chair of the Editorial Board (dave_allen99@hotmail.com).

VCH Hampshire Update

The Victoria County History (VCH) Hampshire project is surging ahead. In addition to volumes on Mapledurwell, Steventon and Medieval Basingstoke (reviewed on page 8) a new volume Cliddesden, Hatch and Farleigh Wallop by Alison Deveson and Sue Lane

was launched in December. It traces the history of three small closely-linked parishes that lie to the south of Basingstoke on the edge of the chalk downlands. They have a common manorial descent from the 15th century onwards and were managed as components of a single estate under the lordship of the Wallop family (earls of Portsmouth from 1743) from their seat at Farleigh House. Whilst this volume considers the manorial owners and the development of the estate it includes much also about the lives and activities of ordinary people living and working in the several settlements. A rector ejected from his church, men caught up in the Swing Riots, an innovative dairy farmer and the founder of the Hants and Berks Gazette all feature in the book which also includes the history of Cliddesden school and the story of a rebuilt chapel.

The next publication will be Penton Mewsey by John Isherwood. This will be the first volume to look beyond the Basingstoke area and covers a small village near Andover. Two other volumes are currently being worked on. Basingstoke in the 19th Century, c1800-c1925, will be a complete history of the town during that crucial century. An ambitious project, research is well underway and several sections have been completed. This will be followed by another book in the series on the combined parishes of Newnham, Nately Scures and Up Nately.

Local History

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The Bi-centenary of the Death of Admiral Cornwallis

Barry Jolly¹

The bi-centenary of the passing of one of England's most famous admirals is to be celebrated on 5th July 2019 at Milford-on-Sea where he is buried. Admiral



Fig. 1 A contemporary engraving (1802) of Admiral Sir William Cornwallis.

the Hon Sir William Cornwallis (Fig. 1) is the most renowned resident of a village with more than its share of historical interest. Much, but by no means all, of this centres on the various residents of the Cornwallis estate of Newlands (Fig. 2).

Throughout the 19th century Cornwallis and his heirs at Newlands dominated the village and, by the early years of the 20th century, the gossip columns of national newspapers also. In the last hundred years they have helped to fill the pages of the Occasional Magazine published by Milford-on-Sea Historical Record Society, whose articles have been of a rather more moderate character. Ironically, amongst the local men of standing who founded the Society in 1909, was William Cornwallis-West,² who both bore the name of the famous admiral and also did much to provide the gossip-mongers with column inches.



Fig. 2 Newlands (centre left) in 1797, note Everton then called Evelton. Courtesy of the British Library. OSD 75, pt.1; item no 15. Surveyed 1797, published 1810.

Cornwallis-West was the grandson and heir of Mrs Theresa Whitby, herself the principal beneficiary of Admiral Cornwallis' will. Cornwallis had done much to promote the career of Captain John Whitby, treating him very much as a son, and the relationship extended on Whitby's death to Mrs Whitby. Her daughter, also Theresa, was Cornwallis' god-daughter. She married a grandson of the second Earl de la Warr, Frederick Richard West MP of Ruthin Castle, Denbighshire, in Milford Church on 11th September 1827. Their youngest son was christened Cornwallis in honour of the relationship. Indeed he was known as Cornwallis rather than William. The name was hyphenated after Mrs West's death, William having inherited both the West and Cornwallis estates.

Cornwallis-West, who always used his military title as a colonel of yeomanry (although he never fired a shot in anger) and his flamboyant and flirtatious wife, a favourite of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII), spent extravagantly on a futile redevelopment of nearby Hordle as a seaside resort and on entertaining the leading aristocratic and royal families of England and of Germany. They were matched by the spending of their son, George, who dissipated his own and his future fortune (or what little his parents were to leave) in his unsuitable and ruinous marriages to the widow

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of a Chancellor of the Exchequer (Lady Randolph Churchill) and the actress Mrs Patrick Campbell. George did leave one important item however, his Life and Letters of Admiral Cornwallis.³

The Society's Occasional Magazine has sought to clarify and amplify George's Life and Letters. 'The Story of Newlands Manor'⁴ and 'The Making of Mrs Whitby',⁵ together with a later monograph, Mrs Whitby's Locket,⁶ shed light on the Cornwallis and Whitby years. Mrs Whitby's scientific interest come to the fore in 'Silk Production at Milford'⁷ whilst her less engaging attitude to some neighbours is to be found in 'A Dispute between Mr Benjamin Pepper of Milford Mill and Mrs Whitby in 1833-35'.⁸ The almost frantic search for fortune, and a comparable willingness to waste even more, is exposed in 'Money, Politics and Family: The Life of Frederick Richard West MP of Ruthin Castle and Arnewood House, Hordle',⁹ and the Victorian seaside development takes shape in 'Notes relating to the Development of Milford'.¹⁰ That some money could be well spent is shown in 'The Royal Garrison Church, Portsmouth and the Cornwallis Connection',¹¹ explaining the gift by Mrs West of a communion set to The Royal Garrison Church, Portsmouth, in honour of Admiral Cornwallis.

Throughout all of this one question has remained unanswered: the location of Cornwallis' grave in the churchyard of All Saints, Milford. According to George Cornwallis-West, Cornwallis asked to be buried in an unmarked grave next to his good friend John Whitby. This request was adhered to by Mrs Whitby, but her daughter, Mrs Theresa West, erected a very fine monument in the church (Fig. 3)¹² and also, again according to George Cornwallis-West, moved the remains to a new vault in which also was buried Mrs Whitby. The old gravestone was abandoned, and all memory of it was lost.

In 2016, however, a long-term member of the Society, Anne Braid, correctly identified the location. Covered in vegetation and lichen the old grave stone



Fig. 3 Memorial in All Saints Church, Milford to Admiral Cornwallis, Captain John Whitby and Mrs M A T Whitby erected by Mrs West in 1852. The addition below is dedicated to Mrs West.

lay on the ground worn and broken. Sufficient of the wording was visible, however, the upper half dedicated to John Whitby, and the redundant lower half bare. The immediate reaction was to conserve the gravestone, but the Society was also conscious of the existence of another memorial in need of conservation, this being to a second naval officer who served with distinction in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, Rear Admiral John Peyton. Additionally, a third senior naval officer and friend of Cornwallis, Admiral Robert Man, is buried at All Saints, Milford.

An approach was made to The 1805 Club for assistance, finding a willing reception and resulting in an extended dialogue. The outcome of the ensuing collaborative efforts is currently as follows:

1. The work on the memorials to Admiral Cornwallis and Rear Admiral John Peyton is already complete, and arrangements for a church service at 2.00pm on Friday 5th July 2019 are well in hand. The Bishop of Basingstoke will conduct the service, and The 1805 Club will be well represented. We expect a Deputy Lieutenant for Hampshire to attend. Our understanding is that it may also be possible for a senior naval officer to attend, although this is dependent on operational requirements.
2. A Commemorative Dinner will be held on Saturday 6th July 2019 in the Cornwallis Suite of South Lawn Hotel, Milford (once the property of Admiral Cornwallis). This is being organized by The 1805 Club, and the eminent naval historian, Professor Andrew Lambert, will be the guest speaker.
3. Arrangements are in hand for a ten week exhibition at St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington with which the Society has long-standing links. The 1805 Club has offered its educational workshops to local schools at Key Stages 2 & 3, and we are pursuing this jointly.
4. The Society has published for 2019 a commemorative edition of the Occasional Magazine. This includes articles on Admirals Cornwallis, Man and Peyton together with more general articles on the Milford area at the time of Cornwallis. This edition complements the various publications mentioned above, including Mrs Whitby's Locket, which explores the relationships between Cornwallis and Captain John Whitby and Mrs Theresa Whitby. Additionally an article on Admiral Robert Man, 'A Good Man in Every Sense of the Word: The Reputation of Admiral Robert Man' was published in The Mariner's Mirror in May 2018,¹³ and another covering all four senior officers of that name is scheduled for publication in Topmasts later this year.
5. We are establishing, in conjunction with other parishes and local history societies, a heritage trail from Hurst Castle through Milford and surrounding churches on to Bucklers Hard. This is designed to complement the exhibition at St Barbe Museum and to be a lasting resource for residents and tourists alike.
6. We wish to take the opportunity of raising awareness of Cornwallis and other local naval personnel of the period of the French Wars through both a media strategy and also activities on the village green to coincide with the church service. The 1805 Club has arranged for the Trafalgar post-

chaise to come as a sequel to the church service, and we are discussing participation in a number of other activities with the Royal Navy and local village societies.

Cornwallis' claims to fame lie in a long and almost unbroken period of service in the Royal Navy, culminating in the Blockade of Brest between 1803 and 1805. It was during this period that Napoleon planned, and came close to executing, an invasion of England. It was the courage, perseverance, determination and leadership displayed by Cornwallis throughout two winters of the most dreadful sailing conditions that prevented this outcome. The achievement of preventing a major invasion stands alongside the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and the Battle of Britain in 1940 in the annals of this country.

Cornwallis never fought a fleet action as an admiral, but his skill in saving his squadrons from vastly superior forces on two occasions, in 1780 and 1795 (the latter known as Cornwallis's Retreat) was captured in oils by Thomas Luny – Fig. 4), matched his bravery in major actions, especially at the Battle of The



Fig. 4 Painting by Thomas Luny of Cornwallis's Retreat, 17 June 1795. Painting has been cropped. Wikipedia Commons.

Saintes in 1782. Many years after his death, his god-daughter, Mrs Theresa West, penned these lines:

*The nobly-born!¹⁴ the foremost in the fight!
Who 'mid the ocean's roar his power display'd,
True son of Britain! With the arm of might
He dared the foe in triple strength arrayed.¹⁵*

The Society believes that the events which are being planned for the bi-centenary of his death are a suitable tribute both to his memory and to that of the many other local naval personnel of his times.

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A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to China: Southampton Merchants and The New World

Cheryl Butler

Southampton was the premier port in medieval England, the place where the Italian city states chose to offload their goods, the main entry port for wines from France, and a trading partner with the Low Countries.¹ In 1492 all that was about to change. When Christopher Columbus discovered the New World in that year he had been trying to find a new route to China and India, a way to open up the East for merchants who were not from Venice, Genoa or Florence; instead he found a new market altogether. The discovery of what would become South America turned Spain and Portugal into super-powers, ridiculous wealth flooded in from silver mines, and ginger, sugar and precious stones were the new luxury goods. Colonial

empires were forged. The English were by contrast very slow off the mark. Geographically a crossing from England would naturally take you to North America, a very different land whose wealth potential was less obvious. Southampton, a town always looking for new opportunities, especially as the lucrative Italian trade was drying up, initially focused on Newfoundland. Small ships would make the long voyage and spend a couple of months fishing in the waters around Newfoundland, setting up temporary shelters in which to dry the fish to create stockfish before returning to Southampton.² In this period there were many fish days: Fridays, Holy Days, Saints Days when fish was the diet decreed by the Church, and the town had a

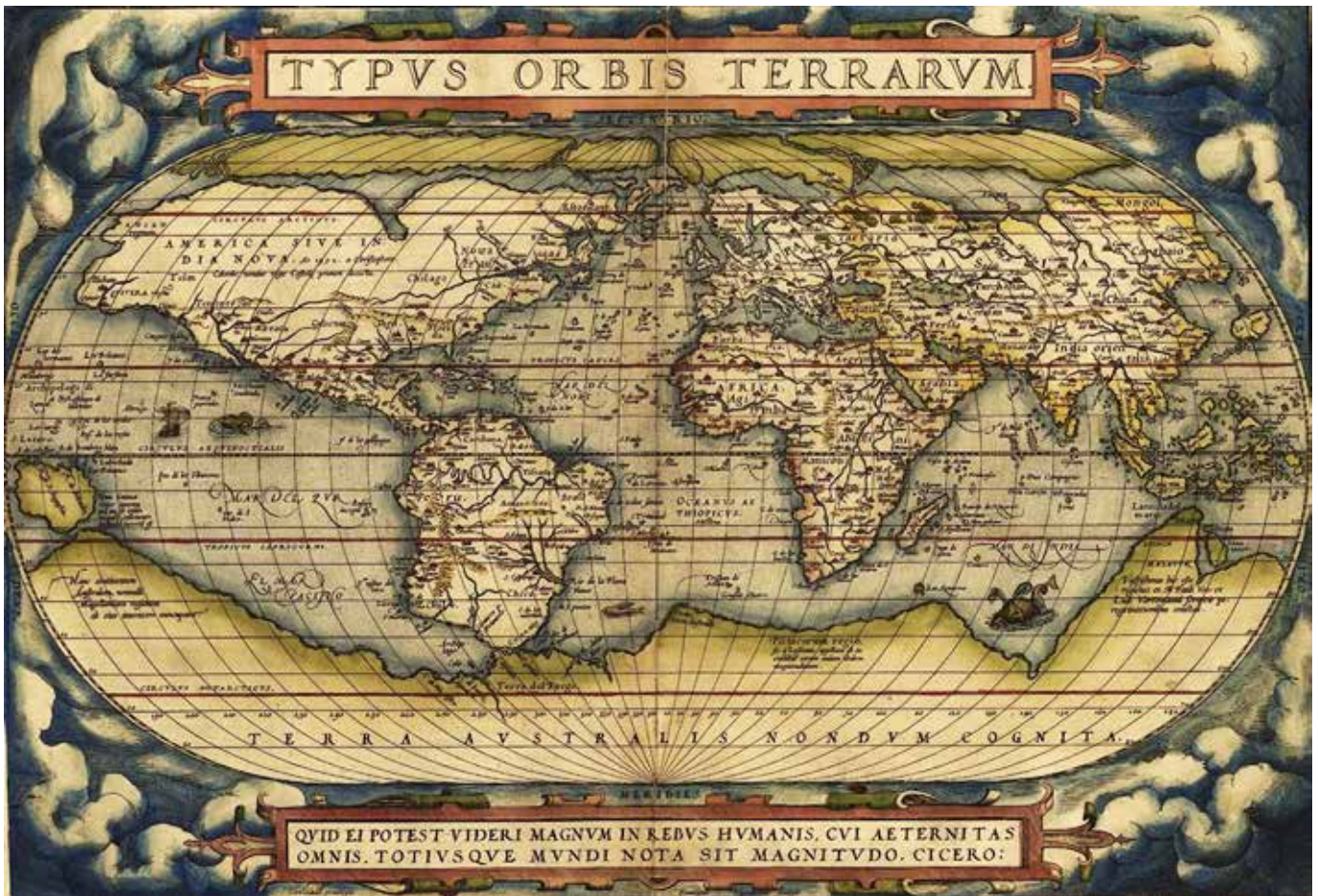


Fig. 1 Theatre of the World – 1570 Abraham Ortelius

well-established fish market in St Michael’s Square. With each voyage the European mariners made, maps improved and the shape of the new found land started to appear (Fig. 1), sailing manuals were produced and new exotic foods and animals appeared in Southampton.³ A porcupine was displayed in the town by the Queen’s bearward, alongside lions and puppets. In 1585-6 Lord Hertford was presented with 10 lbs of potatoes as a gift, the first time that vegetable is recorded as being in England.⁴

Southampton merchants began to be more adventurous in their trading ventures. Thomas Bory traded for figs and sugar in Brazil, another, Pudsey, even went so far as planting a fort at Bahai in Brazil.⁵ Richard Whitborne brought not only fish but deer, beaver, otter and seal skins which he sold to good advantage in Southampton.⁶ When Francis Drake returned from his circumnavigation of the world in 1580 he went on to support Edward Fenton and was in Southampton in 1583 supervising his departure on a voyage to China.⁷ Robert Dudley, son of the earl of Leicester, set out from Southampton on an expedition to Trinidad in 1594-5, two years later Sir Anthony Sherley sailed from the town bound for the West Indies, and in 1602 Bartholomew Gosnold was the first Englishman to land at New England, sent by the earl of Southampton.⁸ Not all voyages were successful. Fenton never made it to China, ending up in Brazil, and had to justify himself by writing a book about his ‘troublesome voyage’. Edward Cotton’s 260-ton ship perished en

route to South America ‘through sheer dissolute negligence’.⁹ It is perhaps not surprising that some merchants and mariners decided that trying to set up legitimate trade routes and settlements was too difficult and instead took another option to gain the riches of the New World. The first recorded act of privateering was carried out by the Southampton merchant Robert Renegar in 1545. He seized the Spanish ship *San Salvador* in retaliation for his cargo of wheat being embargoed in Spain, and found instead an illegal cargo of Spanish gold. His return to England caused an international incident, when Henry VIII made all the right noises to the Spanish ambassador. However, the crown and the merchants realized that they had stumbled upon a way to make themselves rich. Renegar was appointed collector of customs for Southampton and became the richest man in the town.¹⁰ Henry VIII’s daughter went on to support privateers like Drake, Raleigh, Frobisher, and Hawkins, pretending to be shocked at what, to the Spanish, were acts of piracy, but in fact issuing letters of marque which made attacking foreign ships legal if they could be seen as enemies of England, and Elizabeth got her cut of the booty.

Southampton did not give up legitimate exploration and in 1583 they gave financial backing to the voyage of Sir Humphrey Gilbert. Gilbert was the first man to not only land at Newfoundland but to take possession of that land in the name of Queen Elizabeth I, thereby founding what became the British Empire.¹¹ When he died on the return voyage his licence was

passed to his half-brother Walter Raleigh who in 1586 supported the establishment of England's first colony at Roanoke. The leader of the colonists was John White, who was an artist and map maker and produced not only maps but images of the Native Americans and their way of life, which are now housed in the British Library. White returned from America and came to Southampton in 1587 bringing with him a Native American who was later baptized in Bideford (Fig. 2). White had returned for supplies but unfortunately England was now on a war footing expecting an invasion from Spanish troops and all ships were consigned to port. After the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 White returned to America



Fig. 2 Watercolour by John White, one of a series made between 1585 and 1587 (© British Museum)

to find the colony and his own family had disappeared, and no-one has ever discovered their fate.¹²

Despite this setback the potential to accrue great wealth encouraged others to follow the example of Roanoke including two local Southampton landowners, the third earl of Southampton and Lord de la Warr. In 1609 the earl gained a charter from the king's council to found the Virginia Company. The next year Thomas West, Lord de la Warr, put out from Southampton (having received a gift of a hogshead of sac wine) taking three ships and 150 immigrants to Virginia, where he became the first governor. Soon trade was flowing back to Southampton: in 1616 Sir Thomas Dale came back from Virginia in the ship *Treasure* with a cargo of 'exceedingly good tobacco' weighing 2 cwt and valued at £112. It is thought likely that one of the

passengers was Pocahontas.¹³

There was a downside to this scramble for the New World. John Hawkins brought not colonists to work the new land but slaves from Africa, and ever since the Europeans had arrived diseases were introduced to an indigenous population who lacked any natural defences, smallpox being particularly devastating. To entice more colonists, promotional tracts were produced promoting North America as a land of milk and honey, or at least of turkeys and wild strawberries. Images of the New World also inspired the creativity of writers like William Shakespeare who produced the first masterwork about this 'brave new world' with its 'goodly creatures', *The Tempest*. It is perhaps no coincidence that Shakespeare had the third earl of Southampton as his patron. This ushered in the period known as The Great Migration. Between 1620 and 1640 English emigration to America led to the establishment of England's first colonies on the Eastern seaboard and it is estimated that 50,000 people undertook the 3,000 mile journey. The most famous



Fig. 3 Public art, High Street Southampton

of these colonists were of course the Pilgrim Fathers, who set sail from Southampton in August 1620 on the *Mayflower* and *Speedwell* (Fig. 3).

Unlike the earlier explorers and colonists they were not motivated by trade and potential wealth but by a religious fervour to set up a more radical Protestant enclave, which they could govern in line with their own beliefs.¹⁴ Two of the leaders of the group were Stephen Hopkins from Hursley and Clayford and John Alden, a cooper, who joined at Southampton. Alden married Priscilla Mullens and they were the parents of the first 'white woman' born in New England. A few years later other Hampshire men, Richard Dummer of Bishopstoke and Stephen Bachiler, a Hampshire parson, founded the Company of Husbandmen to develop 1,600 square miles in New England. These new settlers were disapproved of by the *Mayflower* colonists. Another Bishopstoke man Samuel Sewell, a judge, went to Salem and later took part in the notorious Witch Trials, an episode he later went on to regret and renounce.¹⁵

The last English colony founded was Georgia. Founded by James Oglethorpe in 1732, there the concept was different. It was to be a place where debtors would be encouraged to go and where they might rebuild their lives. They were, however, supposed to be married to encourage a more stable environment, and to that end in 1738 the parish register for Peartree Church, Southampton, records

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a whole series of marriages that were performed for couples bound for Georgia, at least 23 couples being married between 23 April and 12 June (Fig. 4).

A generation later the American adventure came to an end when the American War of Independence broke out in 1775 and instead of being a place of embarkation for colonists, Southampton became a military port for redcoats trying to preserve George III's imperial dream.



Fig. 4 Extract from Peartree Register (courtesy of Southampton Archives)

Note

This article is a shortened version of a presentation given at the 2018 Local History Section Spring Symposium.

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Book Reviews

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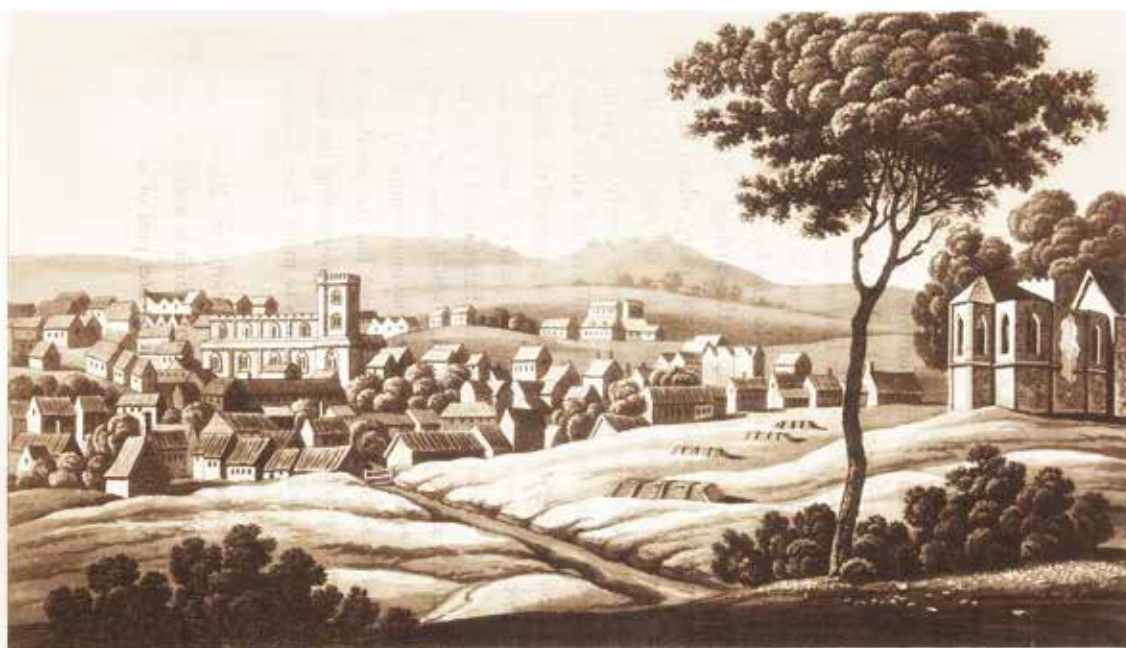
Book Reviews

John Hare, **Basingstoke: A Medieval Town, c.1000-c.1600**, The Victoria History of Hampshire: University of London, 2017; pp.xii+106, £12 (£8 for HFC members)

Basingstoke was a significant centre of trade and manufacture in the Middle Ages, with a particular emphasis on the production of cloth. John Hare's excellent 'short' history of the medieval town is the third volume to appear in the new Victoria History of Hampshire series, and like its predecessors (on Mapledurwell and Steventon) it offers a well-researched, attractively produced account characteristic of the VCH. The first chapter outlines Basingstoke's emergence as a town and its establishment as a market centre for north-east Hampshire, and describes its medieval urban architecture. The extensive 20th-century redevelopment of the town makes this a particularly challenging task, though work supported by the Historic Buildings section of the Hampshire Field Club has provided important and interesting evidence. Basingstoke was a royal manor at the time of Domesday Book in 1086, and the second chapter traces its subsequent landownership and local government, while the third (and longest) chapter is devoted to the town's economic development. Agriculture remained of prime importance, and open fields surrounding the town continued to be worked throughout the Middle Ages. Nevertheless many inhabitants pursued non-

agricultural occupations including those associated with the cloth industry (among them mercers, drapers, fullers, weavers, and dyers), with the production of food and drink (e.g. brewers, bakers, butchers, and fishmongers), and with the building trade. Goods came into the town from London and Southampton (and passed the other way), and surrounding villages also entered into a commercial relationship with the town.

The fourth chapter examines Basingstoke's social structure, beginning with the wealthy elite, headed in the early 16th century by the mercers and fullers, and continuing with the middling sort and the poor. Other themes explored include migration into the town, the role of urban inns and innkeepers, the keeping of order, charitable provision, and education (though the town lacked a significant educational institution). The town's religious history forms the subject of the final chapter. The church at Basingstoke was originally a chapel of nearby Basing, but as the town grew in prosperity its inhabitants demanded a church that reflected their (and the town's) wealth. Accordingly the church was completely rebuilt in the 15th and 16th centuries, and most of the surviving fabric dates from that period. Also established were a chapel dedicated to the Holy Ghost and a hospital of St John the Baptist. Basingstoke reached the peak of its medieval prosperity in the 15th and 16th centuries, when most of the surviving evidence was also



'Basingstoke and Holy Ghost Chapel as it appeared in 1669': frontispiece to F J Baigent & J E Millard, A History of the Ancient Town and Manor of Basingstoke (1889).

produced. The book's focus is therefore largely on the period 1400-1600. That is appropriate for a short study of this kind, but the challenge remains to produce a more balanced account of the town's development for the eventual 'big red book'. A still greater challenge will be to continue the story from 1600 to the present day. Although one visitor described Basingstoke in 1669 as 'wretched, both in regard to the buildings ... and the total absence of trade', it retained its local significance, and in the 19th and 20th centuries expanded once more. It is pleasing to see from the VCH website that the research is already underway.

To purchase a copy please write to Dr Jean Morrin, 23 West Road, Emsworth, PO10 7JT Cheques should be payable to Hampshire Archives Trust (VCH project). Price £8 for HFC members plus £2 p&p or £12 +£2 for non-members

Mark Page

Lookback at Andover: The Journal of the Andover History and Archaeology Society, vol. 3, no. 9, 2018; pp.120, £4.50, available from www.andover-history.org.uk.

The seven articles included in this expanded issue of Andover's regular historical journal illuminate several features of the town's history from the 18th to 20th century. The longest article is Craig Fisher's 'Andover Cenotaph: the Town's Memorial to its Fallen of the First World War', which tells the tangled story of the construction of the town's war memorial and its subsequent removal. In 1919 Andover in fact decided to raise two memorials to its war dead: the cenotaph (unveiled in 1920) and a new cottage hospital (opened in 1926). The cenotaph was built on High Street outside the front of the town hall, but plans to extend the latter (by then called the guildhall) resulted in a proposal to remove the cenotaph to St Mary's churchyard. Such a move was contested by a sizeable group of inhabitants, but it went

ahead anyway and the cenotaph was rededicated in its new location in 1956. Sadly the memorial has since been vandalized, and demands for its return to the High Street have continued. Among those serving in the First World War were members of the Sutton family of Penton Lodge at Penton Mewsey. John Isherwood traces the history of the house, its owners, and its tenants from 1758 to 2017 including Lord Huntingtower, an 'unprincipled rogue' and 'serial philanderer', and (until its closure in 2001) a convent school run by the Benedictine nuns of the Order of the Holy Child.

When Penton Lodge was sold in 1852 the auctioneer was Frederick Ellen (1825-80), who is the subject of a biographical study by David Borrett. Ellen moved to Andover as an apprentice auctioneer while still a teenager and soon afterwards set up on his own account. Despite competition from other auctioneers in the town he evidently prospered, in the late 1850s building the prestigious Eastfield House in Italianate style, and later serving as mayor, alderman, and magistrate. Another prominent Victorian-era inhabitant was Martha Gale (1774-1863), who in 1852 established an 'industrial school' for training girls in domestic service. Martin Coppen traces the history of the school, which closed in 1935 and was demolished in 1975, making way for ecclesiastical and residential buildings. The Congregational chapel at Picket Piece opened in 1908 and closed in 2001: its role in the town's religious life is discussed by Roger Ottewill, while Diana Coldicott highlights the career of the 18th-century architect James Paine. Born in Andover in 1717 he spent most of his life in London, and among his commissions were improvements at Chatsworth House and the new Wardour Castle. Memories of the Second World War are recalled by Ken Yates, who was called up from his father's Andover farm to serve in the South Wales coalfield as a Bevin Boy, and there is a short memoir of the local historian John Spaul (1926-2018).

Mark Page

Landscape

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Portsmouth: Naval Port, Industrial City & Regional Centre

Mike Broderick

After two late withdrawals, due to ill health, the programme for the 2018 Conference and AGM had to be revised. I was particularly grateful to Celia Clark for stepping in at very short notice. Summaries of the talks are given below.

Portsmouth Dockyard: Creation and Creator of Portsmouth's Landscape

Dr Ann Coats, Senior Lecturer Heritage Property at the University of Portsmouth, gave an overview of the development of Portsmouth's Dockyard. She noted that the city's position as a major naval dockyard was largely due to geographical accident and once it had begun to develop, then inertia played a part in maintaining its position. To extend the dockyards, much of the surface had to be built up to raise the level sufficiently for the necessary buildings.

Dr Coats gave an account of the historical development from Roman times through to the beginning of the 20th Century. A drop in sea level in the 11th Century raised the land so that the site became a viable option for a port. The first charter was awarded by King Richard I while the first dock was built during the reign of his successor, King John. As the docks grew, so did Portsmouth; by the 13th Century the High Street and St. Thomas' church were in existence. By the reign of Henry VIII defensive walls enclosed Portsmouth. Under the Stuarts, a first dry dock and double docks were constructed.

At the end of the 17th Century, the dockyard community of Portsea was established to save workers having to get there from Portsmouth. The 18th century saw a long period of war which led to innovation; Portsmouth was well placed to service ships in wars against both Spain and France. Buildings were, from the 1770s onwards, built in brick, with cast iron plates between floors, to guard against fires. Changes in ship design, with increasing amounts of iron being used, also affected the dockyards.

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard - Defence Heritage Tourism to the Rescue?

Dr Celia Clark, President of the Portsmouth Society, gave a talk on the difficulties of making the transition from the former defence site to civilian uses. An animated presentation, set to music, gave an enjoyable introduction to the growth in number and type of the defence sites in the Portsmouth area. The first part of the talk took a comparative approach by considering sites in other European countries, e.g. the Arsenale in Venice. The different options for redundant sites were considered. The issues, including the sheer density of regulations involved in changes of use, were highlighted. The maintenance of infrastructure is also crucial.



In 1982, the Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Society was established. It was composed chiefly of former Dockyard employees. The aim was to collect artefacts of the material culture of the Dockyard before they were lost and the skills and trades they represented had disappeared. Storehouse 10 houses the collected artefacts.

In 1985, the Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust (PNBPT) was established in order to manage the changeover to new uses. Limited funding has hampered the work of this organisation. Success stories include the new Mary Rose Museum. However, not all buildings are managed by the PNBPT; the grade 1 listed Block Mills are not in its area. The building is empty and, while it was re-roofed in 2006, it needs a new use to prevent further deterioration.

A proposal to apply for World Heritage Status could have helped to preserve the area. Unfortunately, after six years preparing the report with five local authorities working together, Portsmouth Council cancelled the application.

Strawberry Growing in South Hampshire

Dr Mary South, Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Winchester, explained how strawberry growing became a major employer in the south of Hampshire and how it had almost vanished by the middle of the 20th Century.

In southern Hampshire, Wickham Common in particular, and other commons in general, were partially or wholly enclosed and used for strawberry growing. The development of the railway in the 19th Century, which was vital to the growth of this type of farming, eased access to major urban centres – especially London.

The generosity of the Garnier family, who lived

at Rookesbury Park, was cited. Twenty-four back-to-back houses were built on enclosed commons; 4-5 acres were allocated to each family and this led to the start of strawberry growing. This amount of land would support a family and provide employment for a number of casual workers.

Botley railway station was the first to take advantage of the growing trade; sidings were built and extra staff were needed and the station was thronged with horses and carts delivering produce from the many farms. Swanwick station became the main point for shipping strawberries; at its peak millions of individual baskets of strawberries would have been sent to market from southern Hampshire; over 20 'specials' per day would have departed during high season.

The trade declined due to foreign competition which undercut the prices charged by Hampshire's growers. Little now remains as evidence but the 'Strawberry Trail', which begins and ends at SU512128 Botley, Hampshire, has information boards *en route* to commemorate what was a very important way of life for over 100 years.

Forton Lake Boatyards, Gosport

Mr Martin Marks, PR Officer for the Steam Pinnace 199, spoke on the development of boatyards on the western shore of Portsmouth Harbour. Forton Lake was a tidal inlet which led to the building of Forton Tide Mill. The Isaac Taylor map of 1759 showed

a landscape of farms and their associated fields. A later map of 1832, by I T Lewis, showed that the millpond and mill were still there.

The history of the various boatyards was covered. The Maritime Workshop, where Pinnace 199 was refitted, has links back to the 18th century. Two more boatyards, which are no longer on the lake, were Thomas White's and the Ferrol Road Boatyards. The former had links to J. Samuel White's Yard at Cowes where, in 1911, Pinnace 199 was built.

Pinnace 199, which, after a long period of neglect, has been restored, was used as an example of the types of vessels which would have been built and/or serviced in the boatyards of Forton Lake. The fact that they had over 600 of this type of vessel in 1914 indicates how busy these relatively small boatyards would have been. The costs of the project meant that the Royal Naval Museum (now National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth) had to take over the restoration work.

Mr Marks outlined the uses to which Pinnace 199 has been put, including taking part in the Queen's Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. Housing the restored vessel links into the issues raised by our second speaker; Pinnace 199 is kept in a wet dock in the Museum's building.

The Landscape Section would like to thank all speakers. Martin Marks was particularly helpful in suggesting possible contributors for the Conference.

The South-West Hampshire Flatlands

David A. Hinton

Just before the railway from Southampton to Bournemouth reaches Christchurch, a passenger who gazes out of the window will be struck by something unusual for Hampshire: a large area of relatively flat land, mostly on the north side of the line but with a little also on the south. Perhaps because, after leaving the New Forest, 'Castleman's Corkscrew' runs more or less on a straight line over an embankment, the traveller may get a slightly exaggerated notion of the land's flatness, as it actually undulates a little and rises gently up to the north and east. On the west is the slope down to the River Avon. Most of what can be seen is now in Dorset, annexed in 1974, but its historical significance belongs to Hampshire.

The area visible from the train is really no more than a part of a plateau, bordered on the west by the B3347 road and by the New Forest on the east; it varies in width from only about a mile north of Ringwood at Ibsley to about two miles at the railway line, and is only about ten miles north to south. Any visual coherence is disguised now by Ripley Wood and by Ringwood. The OS map shows spot heights of 26 m at Ibsley, dropping down to 8 m at Burton – even then it is 5 m above the floodplain. This slope perhaps belies any suggestion that the zone has any real coherence, let alone that it should be treated as a distinct *pays*. Most of the land is gravel and sand terrace; there are a few streams, one flattered by being called the River Mude, whilst Waterditch, possibly a unique name for Hampshire, suggests drainage problems. Nevertheless, when large tracts of common land were enclosed in

the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, it does not seem to have been thought necessary to edge most of the new fields with ditches, only the lane out of Waterditch having noticeable gullies on each side. The land was not particularly valuable, which permitted several extensive parks to be created, such as that at Sopley which featured in the previous *Newsletter*.

Like so many place-names, Sopley was first recorded, as *Sopelie*, at the end of the eleventh century in Domesday Book, in which other manors occur and are now identifiable as settlements, mostly close to the Avon. Some of the lesser names reveal later medieval usage: Waterditch first occurred in the later twelfth century¹. Nearby are three farms named Bockhampton; in 1199 this was *Backamton*, the *o* variant appearing in 1272; the origin might therefore be Old English *bace*, 'ridge'. The present-day farm buildings are not obviously on a ridge, whether seen from the ground or on a LiDAR image, but they are presumably slightly above the levels of the streams and a ridge may have been more noticeable in the Middle Ages, before Enclosure: the 1st edition OS map, surveyed in 1805-8, shows what seems a deep ravine near the present North Bockhampton Farm, but this seems exaggerated by the contour hatching. Three farms now have the Bockhampton name; North is probably the oldest, only acquiring its distinguishing geographical component in 1295, and perhaps indicating divisions within quite a large medieval unit.

Some other place-names in the area may have more than local significance, amongst which are

some that have attracted recent attention, such as Hampshire's only example of Burton, now encased within the sprawling Winkton in the south; 'burh tūn' could be taken as 'defence point',² but being so close to Christchurch it would better suit Simon Draper's reinterpretation of the name as being 'farm dependent on a burh',³ Twynham of course being one of Hampshire's four places named in the 'Burghal Hidage' of the late ninth or early tenth century. Preston Lane, leading eastwards from Burton, might even preserve a 'priest's tūn'. Also near Christchurch is Staple Cross: stapol, 'post', could imply some sort of totem-pole, the 'cross' added to Christianise it; elsewhere, the name appears as a place where the local hundred met, so it could have more age and meaning than the other 'cross' names around the Forest.⁴ Further north is Kingston, an example of a fairly common name usually taken as a 'farm dependent on a king's estate' but recently reinterpreted as 'royal place', a middle Anglo-Saxon control point on a routeway.⁵ That argument depends upon positing that a Roman road, Margary 422, did not cross the Avon at Ringwood, but at Wattons Ford two miles to the south, necessitating that it should have left the present main road – assumed to overlie the Roman one – to run south-west from Picket Hill,⁶ a straight lane does lead down to a farm here, but does not continue.⁷ Even if this was the line of a Roman road, however, it is unlikely to have been used so much in the seventh/ninth centuries that it merited royal attention, only to be completely lost subsequently.

Another eye-catching name in the area is Shirley, applied both to a common and to Shirley Farm, a house recorded by Historic England as having fifteenth-century crucks, and evidence therefore of a medieval settlement. It was not a Domesday manor – but was the name of the Domesday Hundred, Sirlie. 'Shirley' is one of several place-names containing the element scir which Bruce Eagles has recently suggested do not relate to the county as a whole, but to common pasture or other resources exploited by subsistence farmers grouped in 'small shires'. He regarded the Avon valley example as of 'uncertain significance',⁸ not least because it may have been within a zone called Meonwara, 'dwellers of

the Meon', recorded as subservient to the Isle of Wight and therefore 'Jutish'. He identified a small shire in the Southampton area, based around Hilingbury, 'the stronghold of the Hyltingas people', however, which since it includes a place-name Ytingstoc, has a claim to be within a 'Jutish' province, as does the New Forest, Ytene. The lower Avon valley might therefore have had some unitary coherence, a territory possibly including most of the south part of the New Forest in view of the great size of the Anglo-Saxon parish of Twynham/Christchurch.⁹ If a name has to be sought for this 'small shire' to match those of the Basingas and Hyltingas, then Hampshire's only example of an -ingham name, Ellingham, 'home of Ella's people', might supply it, particularly if the same element appears in Eling on the west bank of Southampton Water.¹⁰ But that is perhaps to take musings from a railway carriage too far off-line.

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Magdalen College Lands at Oxenbourne

Michael Blakstad

In 1480, the Bishop of Winchester, William Waynflote, handed over to Magdalen College Oxford 350 acres of land in what was then the tithing of Oxenbourne in the manor of East Meon, his largest Hampshire estate. Bishop Waynflote had founded Magdalen in 1458; the rental from Oxenbourne would help towards the cost of running the college.

With the land went documentary records for the previous three centuries, which the library at Magdalen has preserved. These provide a fascinating picture of life in medieval East Meon (including a protest against Bishop Waynflote which led to the imprisonment of its ringleaders).

The College lands included what is now Hill Hampton (*the place of Halamtons in the township of Oxynborne & parish of Eastemene*); Fig. 1 shows the estate

which the college held for over five hundred years.

The present farmhouse at Hill Hampton was built at the end of the 18th century when the Dean of Christ Church College, Oxford, who rented it from Magdalen, saw an opportunity to attract higher rents from one of the prosperous farmers who were increasing their acreage. Magdalen finally disposed of its lands in Oxenbourne in 1897.

The Archive

I first learned of the Magdalen archive when researching the history of Hill Hampton, a farm in Oxenbourne, where I came across notes written by a neighbour, Joan Haines (now deceased), who had been researching a historical novel about medieval East Meon which was based on fact but imaginative in its interpretation.¹ She noted:

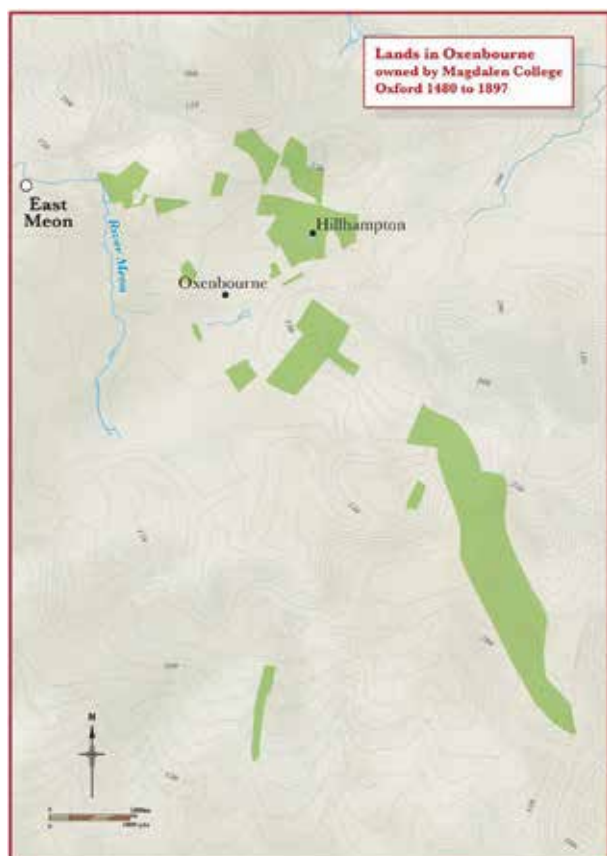


Fig. 1 Map showing Magdalen College lands in Oxenbourne

'William Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, had founded Magdalen College in Oxford in 1458 and to fund it had closed Selborne Priory and many other monastic foundations and even given it the income from the lands of Hill Hampton just outside East Meon.'

Another note read:

'Hilhampton in Oxenbourne, Hampshire, is in the parish of East Meon. Land known as Hilhampton or Helmington Farm, with appurtenances in Oxenbourne, Ramsdean, Langrish and Elbechute, was acquired for Magdalen

College by Bishop Waynflete in 1479...The revenues from the manor were originally entered in a separate account, but they were later included in the accounts for the Petersfield circuit with a summary entry in the Selborne circuit accounts.'

I arranged to visit the library at Magdalen College where the documents are meticulously archived and transcripts available.

Medieval Oxenbourne

In the earliest deed, dated between 1240 and 1245,

Pavia de Bere grants to John de Menes, for ten marks, all her land *'in Oxenburne and Ebechute, vis all her moiety of the whole land which belonged to her father Lewis and her mother Maud'*. In a second, her husband Adam grants to John de Menes *'all his moiety of all the land in Oxenbourne and Ebechute'* and they *'guarantee also to him the other moiety which the said Pavia, owned before her marriage to the said Adam'* and *'quitclaim their right in both the properties'*. Hill Hampton (to use today's spelling) appears to have stood alone in the midst of its own fields; all other Oxenbourne farmers lived together in a cluster of dwellings in the tithing and went out each day to cultivate 'lands', or strips, within the open fields which they jointly rented from the diocese.²

'Menes' is today's East Meon and John de Menes is described as a 'clerk', one of the few literate members of the community who performed a number of secretarial and clerical roles on behalf of the parish. In 1350 we meet *Will. de Hullamptone and Nicholas his wife* [sic] acknowledging substantial holdings, including 4 messuages, one of which was Hill Hampton.³ (See Fig. 2)

By the fifteenth century, relations between the bishop and his Oxenbourne tenants were becoming increasingly fractious. In August 1461, when the new king Edward IV journeyed in Hampshire, the tenants of the manor of East Meon, *'in grete multitude and nombre,'* petitioned the king for relief from certain services, customs, and dues which the bishop and his agents were attempting to exact.⁴

According to one account, the tenants had seized Bishop Waynflete.⁵ Edward evidently rescued him from the hands of those seeking his life and arrested the ringleaders whose case was tried in the House of Lords on 14 December 1461, when judgement was given for the bishop and the protestors jailed.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Bishop Waynflete chose to give away part of his estate in



Fig. 2 17th century map showing tithing of Oxenbourne in 17th century: The main settlement was gathered around Upper House, Oxenbourne and Parsonage Farms. Leythe Farm was probably a small cluster of farm buildings and dwellings serving Hilhampton

1481, *'Will, bp of Winch and his co-feoffees'* signed a release *'to the pres. & scholars of Magd. Coll. of all their right in the lands...leased to the latter by the said feoffees'*⁶ (See Fig. 3)

This marks the end of the medieval period and the start of five centuries of Magdalen College as landlord of these lands. Property ownership in East Meon changed first with the confiscation of the Bishop of Winchester's estates by Cromwell's Parliament, then with their restoration by Charles I; manorial rights were restored to the diocese but tenancy was allocated



Fig. 3 The assignment of lands at Hill Hampton by Bishop Waynflete to Magdalen College Oxford, October 1st 1480

to courtiers who had supported Charles' return to the throne, most of whom were absentee landlords. The same applied to the Magdalen College lands. The new landholders purchased Indentures which gave them the right to collect the rectorial, or greater tithes, previously granted to the diocese. The open field system collapsed and tenant farmers were able to consolidate their holdings; farmsteads now appeared among fields held by individual yeomen (much as Hill Hampton appears to have done from earliest times).

18th and 19th centuries

The handsome farmhouse which stands at Hill Hampton today was probably built in the late 18th

century by Dr Edward Bentham, Dean of Christchurch College Oxford, who rented the farm from Magdalen College Oxford (or by his wife Elizabeth who succeeded him). It is unclear whether the Benthams or Magdalen paid for the new building; either way, it was intended to attract a richer farmer and higher rental and it was duly let in the early 19th century to John Christmas and then his son, also John, who grew their holdings to become the largest farm in Oxenbourne.

By the end of the 19th century, however, farms in the parish were suffering from over-reliance on sheep/corn farming in the face of cheap imports from overseas and from a period of disastrous weather. Rents plummeted and in 1897 the College sold off its land in Oxenbourne to one Samuel Brothers Darwin of Portsmouth, another absentee landlord.

Conclusion

Magdalen College's land in Oxenbourne was typical of tens of thousands of acres which had been given to Oxford and Cambridge colleges by generous donors; many own land to this day which fulfils the donors' original purpose in providing income to sustain their finances. It is to be hoped that all keep records as valuable as those at Magdalen.

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Pestilence, famine and the Civil War: Mortality crises in East Meon 1600-1660

Michael Blakstad

In March 1644, Colonel Waller's Parliamentary Army encamped outside the village of East Meon on its way to confront the Royalists at Cheriton. That year, the village suffered the second worst mortality crisis in a pestilential period of our history: was it caused by the war typhus which left a trail of deaths behind both Civil War armies? Bubonic plague was also common, particularly among the famished poor during the first half of the 17th century; the parish registers do not record causes of death and diocesan records make no mention of plagues. Close scrutiny shows that the majority of the burials in 1644 actually preceded the March occupation. However, Waller's army had camped nearby before mustering in East Meon: might foraging troops have carried war typhus to the village?

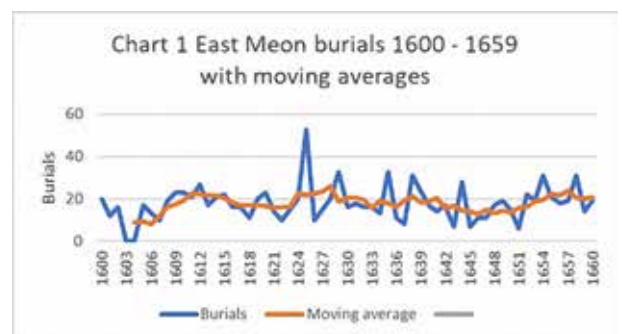
Sources

Death rates in this period are taken from the parish register of burials at All Saints Church, East Meon, which kept continuous records despite the sequestration of its vicar, John Shrigley.¹ 'Mortality crises' are defined by Andrew Hinde as years in which burials exceeded the moving average by between x1.5 and x2.² The number of paupers is calculated from exemptions to the Hearth Tax assessment of 1665, using the multiplier of 4.3 suggested by Tom Arkell.³ I am indebted to David Rymill of the Hampshire Record Office for research into the Winchester Pipe Rolls and

to David Hopkins for his analysis of troop movements in and around East Meon.⁴

Mortality Crisis years

Chart 1 shows the peaks of burials recorded at All Saints Church East Meon in the first six decades of the 17th century. The figure for 1625 is more than double the moving average for East Meon and that for 1644 just under, while figures for four other years are higher than x1.5.



Pestilence

The legacy of the Black Death lingered for three centuries: bubonic plague was still rampant in the 17th century, caused by *pasteurella pestis*, a parasite carried by rats, typically on human transport; Paul Slack describes how it followed 'the major routes

of trade and commerce, to major ports, cities, market towns and a few villages⁵. East Meon's market town is Petersfield five miles away, on the road from London to Portsmouth. The crises in 1625, 1629 and 1634 probably resulted from bubonic plague.

The second candidate is war typhus.

*'In 1643 and 1644 England had its first experience of ... 'war typhus', which developed first in Oxfordshire and Berkshire and attacked the forces both of the King and parliament.'*⁶

Typhus is carried by lice, which typically lodged in the clothes and bedding of soldiers. As we shall see, the Civil War came to East Hampshire in March 1644; did it infect the villagers with war typhus?

Both forms of pestilence were exacerbated by poverty and famine, which was common, particularly in the village of East Meon. The population of England was growing fast: expanding towns and cities created a hungry market for agricultural produce. Landowners who could afford to invest in new techniques and equipment prospered but smaller farmers and labourers were plunged into poverty; food prices rose six-fold. There were also 'local crises' in food prices in the South East, for instance in 1624 and 1625, making it harder still for the poor to afford food.⁷

Poverty in East Meon

The 1665 Hearth Tax survey provides a measure of paupers in East Meon.⁸ Using the multiplier 4.3 suggested by Tom Arkell, the population of the 7 tithings neighbouring East Meon numbered 1797. Paupers were exempted from Hearth Tax, and by the same calculation numbered 340 – just under 20% of the population. In the tithing of East Meon itself one third of villagers lived in poverty.

Tithing	Hearth tax	Exemptions	Totals	X 4.3
East Meon	102	31	133	571
Oxenbourne	52	2	54	232
Langrish	33	14	47	142
Ramsdean	64	12	76	327
Combe	25	1	26	112
Riplington	21	10	31	133
Bordean	50	1	51	219
Totals	347	71	418	1736

Chart 2: Hearth Tax 1665 exemptions

The manor belonged to the Diocese of Winchester but records for this period are patchy, sometimes undated, and carry no explicit mention of famine or plague.⁹ The Meon Ecclesia manor roll for 1624-5, for instance, makes no reference to either, even though 1625 was the worst mortality crisis year.¹⁰ Names in the burials register carry clues: in 1625 clusters of surnames suggest poor households vulnerable to infection: 5 Cagers, 5 Hencoakes and 4 Aburrows; 12 burials took place in August, 16 in September and 9 in October. *'Human mortality [from bubonic plague] is always heaviest in the summer and autumn'*, writes Slack, *'In northern Europe, it is usually concentrated in the period from July to October.'*¹¹

The Civil War visits East Meon

In the last week of March 1644, Sir William Waller's forces mustered near East Meon. Captain Robert Harley, a troop commander in Waller's Regiment of horse, reported: *'Tuesday the 26th, Wednesday [sic], the 27th, the heath by East Meane was the rendezvous for all our horse and foote.'* During their short stay in the parish, the troops certainly came into contact with villagers, foraging, seeking refreshments and recruiting men; lead was stripped for bullets from All Saints' Tournai font. Meanwhile, the royalist army was based in Winchester under Lord Hopton; he sent 6,000 cavalymen to reconnoitre parliamentary troop movements from Winchester Hill, just outside West Meon. Lieutenant Elias Archer reported: *'That night (Monday 25th) we were appointed to quarter at Westmean, three miles distant from the main body, where we found a partie of the Enemies horse when our Quartermasters entred the Town, which occasioned some action.'*¹² Waller's cavalry moved to Westbury Down to observe the royalists, and on March 28th, his army left East Meon and headed towards Cheriton, avoiding the royalist cavalry by skirting around West Meon via today's 'Vinnell's Lane'. The troops took food from the mouths of the villagers; did they also leave a deadly heritage of war typhus, causing the second worst mortality crisis in this period?

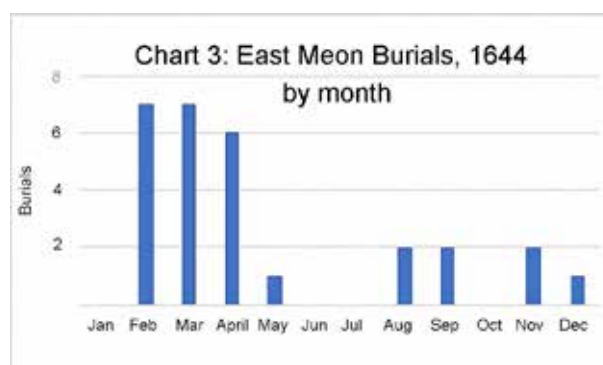
Close analysis of the dates in the parish burials



Map 1. Map showing troop movements of Royalist and Commonwealth armies, March 1644

register suggest not: the two months with the highest death tolls preceded the arrival of Waller's army (see chart 3). However, it is unlikely that bubonic plague was the cause either, because these deaths took place in winter months.

Winter 1643/4



Landscape

No pipe roll survives for the summer of 1643 which was, according to Hoskins, a good year nationally for harvests, but food stocks in poor households had probably run out by spring 1644.¹³ Waller's 12,000 troops will have foraged for food in barns and fields. As noted, bubonic plague is rare in February and March, and Waller's army only arrived on March 26th, so these deaths were not from typhus contracted during their stay. However, Hopton's Royalist army had occupied Petersfield in late 1642, and Waller's troops had converged on East Meon in 1644 via Liphook, Midhurst and Havant. Both armies would have foraged widely and carters travelled between these towns and East Meon, possibly carrying typhus-bearing lice. Paupers would have been weaker from loss of food to both armies. Perhaps war typhus did indeed cause the 1644 mortality crisis, whichever army was responsible.

Conclusion

Further mortality crises occurred during the 1650s, reflecting continuing hardship and both kinds of pestilence. Parliament stripped the Diocese of Winchester of its estates, including East Meon and although King Charles returned nominal ownership to the Diocese after his Restoration, he granted tenure of prime East Meon estates to his favourites, notably Sir Stephen Fox who financed his return from exile, and Sir William Lewis of Bordean, who had supported Cromwell and helped Waller recruit soldiers locally but lost favour during Pride's Purge and transferred his loyalty to the King. These new landowners purchased indentures which relieved them of the duty to pay tithes to the Diocese; the face of farming in the valley was to change forever.

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- 7 E.A. Wrigley & R.S.Schofield Ibid P340. They also recorded falls in real wages in the 1630s and 1640s, pp 316 – 328
- 8 Elizabeth Hughes and Philippa White (ed) The Hampshire Hearth Tax Assessment 1665. 219 - 228
- 9 Since Domesday, there were two manors, Mene Manor and Mene Ecclesia. The latter comprised lands farmed in demesne by the diocese and was much the smaller, surrounded by Mene Manor.
- 10 Hampshire Record Office, Winchester Diocese Pipe rolls (11M59/ B1/329, 11M59/B2/17/154 and 155)
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Book Review

Book Review

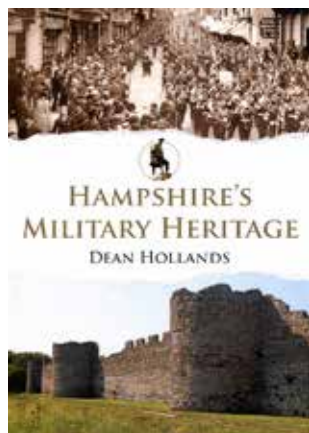
Book Review

Book Review

Dean Hollands, **Hampshire's Military Heritage**, Amberley Publishing, Stroud, 2018, pp. 94, £14.99 ISBN: 978-1-4456-8091-0

This book, which ranges over a span from the Bronze Age to the late 20th Century, has a mainly thematic approach. There are many excellent photographs and some artistic impressions of events, which illustrate the topics under discussion and highlight the ways in which Hampshire's military heritage still affects the landscape today.

The author looks first at invasions followed by the attempts to protect the county by the building



of defensive sites. The Civil War, the Hampshire Regiment and other later Regiments, which have all left their mark on the county, are discussed. A chapter on detention illuminates a lesser known aspect, i.e. that of guarding prisoners of war, beginning in the 17th Century and continuing until the end of World War II. The arrangements for our own military offenders are dealt with too. The care of the wounded and of those who did not survive is covered in a chapter on Hospitals and Cemeteries. The final two chapters take a geographical approach in dealing with the major military centres of Portsmouth & Southampton and Aldershot & Farnborough.

In summary, this volume is a useful introduction to the subject, which will give readers inspiration to extend their own studies to areas of military interest in Hampshire.

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Archaeology

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Latest News

David Allen

It was a busy summer, with excavations taking place at all points of the Hampshire compass. We take a look at results from the north (Chilton Candover, near Basingstoke) centre (Winchester City) and south (Meonstoke) involving a manor house, medieval abbey and Roman shrine respectively. But we begin with a personal reflection on some of the Hampshire excavations promoted by the late Ken Barton at Basing, Odiham and Beaulieu.

Kenneth James Barton 1924 - 2018

Ken Barton, who died in August aged 94, will be remembered by many for the years 1976 -1988, when he was Director of the Hampshire County Museums Service. In fact this wasn't his first association locally, as he was Director of Portsmouth Museums from 1967 onwards.

As if the political and practical aspects of his Hampshire role, heading up a rapidly expanding countywide service during the 1980s, were not enough, Ken was always keen to have a summer excavation project on the go. Thus it was that I dug with him at Basing House, Odiham Castle and Beaulieu Abbey,

each very memorable in their own way.

At Basing, the exploration of the Citadel gateway, which had been started by Tim Schadla-Hall, was brought to a conclusion in 1982/83. Ken admired, but wasn't totally committed to the 'prehistoric approach' adopted during the earlier work (as in delicate spits dug within well-defined areas) and felt that most sites consisted of four elements – top, upper middle, lower middle and bottom. Digging - and especially recording - with and for him - could therefore be a matter of hanging on to his coat tails as the features resolved themselves.

With later work taking place at Basing, notably in the walled garden ('I want you to excavate the garden area at Basing, starting next Monday!') and many other projects on the boil, it was 1999 before the report appeared, as Field Club Monograph 10. I remember our greatest point of argument being over the beautifully built, flint-lined pit in the Citadel gateway. Ken felt it should be a drawbridge pit. The other school of thought was 'tower base'. The report tells all.

Work at Odiham Castle began before Basing was



Plumbing the depths of the inner moat at Odiham Castle, 1984



Basing House Citadel gateway – writing up the dig diary, 1983



Beaulieu Abbey 'Winepress' – describing the latest finds to Lord Montagu, 1987

finished. The Basing Canal restoration project floated the idea of filling the moat at the site with water and Ken jumped at the chance to test the stratigraphy. A well-placed trench across the centre of the octagonal keep unlocked some of the castle's secrets and its extension, out across the inner ward, found lost buildings and an equally unsuspected inner moat.

The excavations were over by 1985, but it took twenty five years to publish – I had a lot on at the time! The main points of discussion at this site were whether or not King John built the keep, and who was responsible for all the spent arrowheads and stone catapult shot which littered the site? The report (Studies 65) tells all, but probably gets some of it wrong. It was a disappointment to the excavators – and Ken in particular - that a royal site should yield such a paltry collection of pottery, with a particular absence of imported wares.

The third and final collaboration, from 1987-89, took place at Beaulieu. By now Ken was, or soon would be, the archaeological consultant for the Beaulieu Estate and was delighted with the availability of a small flat in Palace House in which to rest his head. With Bob Burns from Guernsey also in the team, our main focus was

the 'Wine Press', a building that appeared to be served with water at both high and low levels and had a series of tanks fit for industrial use. The suggestion is that the process was fulling, but the Hampshire Mills Group, on a visit and unable to find any evidence for a wheel, said that it shouldn't be called a 'mill'. This didn't go down too well, but any umbrage they engendered was soon deflected in my direction. In 1989 the final report was promised to Lord Montagu 'within the year'. It took me ten, and appeared in Studies 52 (I had a lot on at the time!). This delay rather spoiled our relationship, but by now Ken had decamped to Normandy and our paths rarely crossed.

Digging with Ken was never dull. He could be a hard taskmaster, but was always ready to share his boundless knowledge and provide ample opportunities for those willing to follow his lead.

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The first shrine to Epona found in Britain – Meonstoke hexagonal building excavations 2018

Anthony King

The third season of excavations of the Meonstoke hexagonal building (King 2018a; 2018b) has yielded spectacular findings that now allow us to say with some certainty that the building is a shrine, and also provide a strong indication of its dedication.

The earliest features under the hexagon date to the late Iron Age. Two ditches terminate within the area of the later stone building, one coming in from the south-east, and the other from the south-west, approximately at right angles. The first of these was located in the 2017 season (King 2018, fig. 7), and contained quantities of pottery and animal bone that point to debris from meals, or perhaps, feasting and offerings. Parallels for the pottery can be found in the immediately pre-Roman phases at Silchester, and include imported fine wares, such as probable terra rubra and terra nigra. The pottery, together with coins of Epaticcus and a potin, from elsewhere in the excavation, suggest relatively high-status activity.

The other ditch was a new discovery for 2018, found when the interior of the hexagon was excavated c. 40 cm below the putative floor level of the later stone structure. This ditch was shallower, but contained a spectacular find in its terminal, which was located almost exactly in the middle of the hexagon (Fig. 1). A



Fig. 1 Vertical photo of the hexagonal building, showing the position of the horse and foal skeletons in the centre. North is to the left of the photo. Photo I Harris.

female horse skeleton had been laid into the ditch, with its head to the south-west. It had been squashed in, to a certain extent, with the cranium pushed up and bent downwards (Fig. 2) and the front and rear limbs lying at unnatural angles in relation to the body of the horse. In all probability, the head and limbs of the corpse of the horse had been twisted to fit the ditch, but it had not been dismembered. It was a small individual, of pony size.

Alongside the adult female horse was a foal skeleton, with its head to the north-east, apparently laid out in a crouching position. (Fig. 3) The foal was very young, with all sutures being open in the cranium, and



Fig. 2 The skull and upper spinal column of the horse skeleton. Photo A C King.

all teeth apparently unerupted. It seems fairly certain the foal had been born (i.e. it was not a foetus), but the exact age at which it died remains to be established with detailed osteological analysis. The bones of the foal were very fragile and it proved impossible to lift intact, and the same problem applied, to a lesser extent,

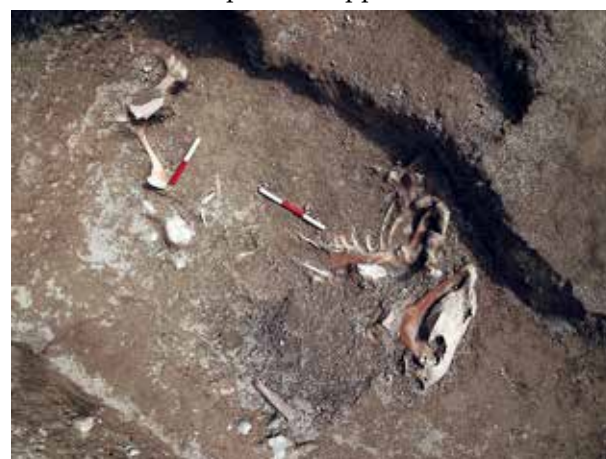


Fig. 3 The horse and foal skeletons. The top of the foal's skull can be seen just below the shorter, 20 cm scale. North is to the left of the photo. Photo I Harris.

to the adult. However, it should be possible to obtain measurements of stature from the long bones, and to carry out scientific tests (DNA, isotopes, etc.) to answer questions of the relation between the adult and the foal (presumably, but not certainly closely related), and any factors such as origin of the adult from outside the local region.

The implications of this find are exciting, because the immediately relevant association is with the goddess Epona, assuming of course that the deposition was a result of an offering of some sort, not a simple veterinary tragedy. The goddess is usually shown on sculpture and figurines as being seated on a female horse, sometimes with a foal (Oaks 1987, Table 1, type 1a; Fig. 1). She is often side-saddle, and carrying a cornucopia. As such, she is a fertility deity, closely

related in function to the mother goddesses (Green 1986, 91-4). Epona is always associated with horses, and by extension, was a patron of horsemen. The dedicators of Epona inscriptions include many cavalrymen and other military officials (Green 1995, 184-7; Oaks 1987, 299; Magnen & Thevenot 1953). There is also a link, via the foal, to kingship and princely succession, as dramatically brought out in the story of Rhiannon in the Mabinogion (Gantz 1976, 45-65; Oaks 1987, 308; Green 1992, 187-90). The position of the foal at Meonstoke, with its head towards the rear end of the mare, may indicate suckling, and thus fertility, nursing and the rearing of young. This is also seen in imagery from Gaul (Green 1992, 22) and on coins, such as one of the Aulerci Cenomani (inf. D. Nash-Briggs).

Evidence for Epona in Britain is limited, as worship of the goddess was essentially focused on central and eastern Gaul and the Rhineland. Green has a bronze figurine from Wiltshire, now in the British Museum, as the main surviving evidence (1983, 54-

6). The Meonstoke find adds considerably to this, and suggests that the hexagonal shrine, built over the horse burial some 150 years later, and conserving the position and memory of late Iron Age ritual activity, may be the first known cult building of Epona in Britain.

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The 2018 Hyde900 Community Dig
 at 10, 14 & 15 King Alfred Terrace, Winchester

From a report provided by David Spurling

Following on from successful digs in 2016/17 Hyde900, with support from WARG and local householders, carried out a four-day project in April 2018 aimed at uncovering more of the story of Hyde Abbey. The

excavation and related activities involved 150 people of all ages, unearthed a number of spectacular finds to go with those of previous years, and attracted significant media coverage.



Fig.1 Outline of abbey church and cloisters (brown), pre-2016 excavations and interventions (purple), outline of the abbey curtilage in yellow, Hyde900 excavations 2016 (light blue), 2017 (yellow), 2018 (green). [Abbey and street outlines courtesy of Winchester Museum Service – now Hampshire Cultural Trust]

Hyde Abbey was a hugely important abbey having been endowed by Alfred the Great - and was the final resting place for the king and some of his family. The 2018 work revealed the definitive location and orientation of two major walls of the south range of the abbey cloister, which enabled the redrawing of the outline of this structure. Based on the new evidence, it appears that the cloister had not been built to a square plan. The reason for this is unclear, but may relate to the shape of the land recorded in the original grant of Hyde Moors to the abbey in 983. Another new find was part of a south cloister building, most probably the abbey refectory.

In addition, the original floor level of the cloistral buildings was established – and shown to be common to all areas excavated. Sondages revealed a 400mm depth of clay/brick earth beneath the foundations and an 800mm depth below floor level. Ample evidence of

Roman occupation in the area was found, particularly in the form of opus signinum (crushed tile cement).

A highlight of the previous work was the finding of eight voussoirs and fragments of abaci dating back to the Norman period, which matched the capitals and

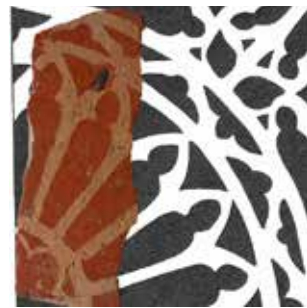


Fig. 4 Fragment “sun king” encaustic tile found at no 15 King Alfred Terrace which formed part of a set of four



Fig. 5 Miniature head carved from Bath stone (about the size of your thumb)



Fig. 2 Reconstruction of the original Norman arch of the abbey cloisters



Fig. 3 The final tally of 21 largely intact reused Norman voussoirs

springer stone from Hyde Abbey on display in nearby St Bartholomew’s church. This enabled a reconstruction of the original Norman cloister arch, shortly to be on display in Winchester Museum.(Fig. 2) The 2018 season added to this, with a total of 14 early 12th century voussoirs (Fig. 3) being recovered as well as other architectural items including a piece of capital and fragments of trefoil window tracery. Detailed analysis will allow a further insight into the construction history of the abbey cloisters, both from the initial build (1110



Fig. 6 Head carved in 13th century from Caen stone

to c1130) and the refashioning, established by the 2017 dig as between 1300 and 1350.

Other finds included pottery ranging from the Saxon period to the present day, a fragment of semi-circular column made from travertine, and a piece of inlaid tile of 'sun king' design, known from the



Fig. 7 East face of wall foundations revealed (looking south)



Fig. 8 Fragment of capital with carving matching that of the capitals in ST Bartholomew's church



Fig. 9 John Crook recording the reused voussoirs revealed on the line of those found during the 2017 dig

cathedral and St Cross, but not previously found in the Hyde area. Other decorative pieces included an intricately carved head the size of a thumb from the Norman period and a 13th century head carved from Caen stone.

Samples were taken from many contexts for future analysis, courtesy of the Archaeology Department of



Fig. 8 Volunteers of all ages took part

the University of Winchester, and charcoal samples may provide important and informative C 14 dates. It is hoped that probing and other techniques in Alswitha Terrace, King Alfred Place and King Alfred Terrace will allow the wider stratigraphy to be mapped.

The project benefited from sponsorship from the Aviva Community Grant, CBA (Wessex), Hampshire Field Club and local estate agents Belgarum. Adam Architecture once again kindly donated graphic skills, David Ashby of the University of Winchester was the Dig Advisor and John Crook, Consultant Archaeologist to Winchester Cathedral, provided the architectural expertise.

Chilton Candover Manor House Excavations

Mark Peryer – BAHS

In 2014, The Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society (BAHS) was contacted by Tim Schadla-Hall, from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, who was seeking help with an investigation into the site of a house that had been situated on a terrace above the Candover valley floor. From 2015 to 2018, BAHS excavated the site of the house, engaging with Tim as work progressed. The project has now reached the 'write-up' stage and this article is aimed at sharing some of the findings from the work so far.

Chilton Candover can be found on the B3046 Candover valley road between Basingstoke and Alresford. Recorded as a manor in Domesday Book (VCH, 1911), Chilton Candover was depopulated in the late 1500s, but the church and the farm survived (Norden, 1595).

An avenue of yew trees runs up the valley slope for about a mile south east from Chilton Candover to Juniper Hill. The avenue was mentioned by William Cobbett, who passed by on one of his Rural Rides in 1822 (Cobbett, 1973). The most recent study of the avenue was by Peter Norton in 2014 (Norton, 2014). The house that we investigated was situated facing the avenue, which would have formed an attractive vista and provided an impressive entrance for visitors. However, the avenue is just part of the landscaping associated with the house site.

The valley slope has been terraced in at least four places; at the house site itself; once below; above at the rear of the house; and then once more at the top of a steep rise that leads to a parterre garden. Between the rear of the house and the parterre garden we have found remains of the steps that would have been necessary to climb the slope. Either side of the steps there are the remains of yew hedges. Further up the slope there is a triangular wooded area, Dunridge Copse,

that forms an arrow head to the line of the yew avenue. The landscape in which the house was set would have required considerable organisation and manual labour to construct.

The house site is adjacent to the church yard of St Nicolas, which was demolished in the 1870s. The area that was excavated sat on a terrace in the chalk where there were a number of very obvious slumps and high points indicating possible remains of back-filled cellars and house structures.

Once below the top soil layer, day to day digging at the site involved shifting large quantities of broken brick, tile and mortar that were heaped randomly on top of each other. During four seasons of excavation we found only a few complete bricks indicating that we were dealing with a site where the materials had been comprehensively re-cycled with any good quality or complete material removed for use elsewhere. However, amongst the rubble we came across fragments of high quality material including marble, internal egg and dart plastering, other forms of linear plaster mouldings and a reasonable quantity of window glass and lead. The pottery finds ranged in date from medieval to early modern, including some very fine examples of Chinese porcelain.

The initial season of work, carried out in 2015, confirmed the presence of what we now know to be the front wall of the house. During 2016, BAHS members searched record offices for information about the house and its origins. One of the discoveries was a map, drawn up by local land owners for Enclosure Act purposes in 1792 (HRO 11M52/647, 648). It showed the outline of a house located in the right position, described as the 'site of the former mansion'. During the 2016 digging season, we were able to confirm that the front of the house had two small wings that were roughly 3 m



Fig. 1 Aerial photograph of the house site, showing some of the landscape features.

in width. The eastern wing appeared to run into the adjacent church yard, whereas the return of the western wing was more difficult to trace, having been severely robbed.

Over the subsequent seasons, we started to piece together the outline of the house. One of the most important aspects was determining the relationship between the house and the boundary of the church yard which is marked by a concrete, brick and flint shuttered wall dating from the mid-1800s. Once we cleared the thick undergrowth in the northwest corner of the church yard it became evident that the footings of its wall were the remains of an earlier house wall. In other words, the church yard boundary marked the eastern extent of the house. Under the northwest corner of the church yard we found a 60 cm wide brick wall that had a return that formed the north eastern corner of the house.

As we traced the outline of the walls, several other things started to become evident. The core of the house was a shallow 'H' shape, with the two wings at the front echoed at the rear. The house had a rear north eastern entrance that led to a basement level, from which we discovered brick steps leading to an upper level.

The area had distinct high and low points. Investigation of the higher points closest to the church yard led to the uncovering of a large area of mainly



Fig. 2 The basement and edge of the flint area

flint and mortar. We were able to resolve some interior wall structures and some thicker areas suggestive of external supporting walls. Underlying the flint area was chalk bedrock.

The slumps in the terrace corresponded to a basement area cut into the chalk. On the edge of the flint area we dug a trench down to the basement level, revealing an interior wall of flint, some brick and the remains of rendering. This wall sat on a 2 cm plinth just above the basement level. In other places at the rear of the house we found substantial brick footings that either sat on similar chalk plinths or were butted up against the chalk cut. This is suggestive of a method of construction where the basement was cut into the chalk bedrock of the terrace and then the footings were built upwards.

The current interpretation of the results of our investigations is that the house evolved from a small medieval manor house sited next to the church, and that during the late 1600s it was developed into a country seat by the Worsley family, who acquired the manor of Chilton Candover as they built up their holdings in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Acknowledgements

Grateful thanks are due to the owners of the Chilton Manor Farm Estate, Charles and Susan Marriott, for permission to excavate the site and for their supportive interest. Thanks are also due to their farm manager, Darren Ivey, for his practical help. I should like to thank my colleagues from the BAHS and other local societies, and the BAHS site team, Ian Waite, and his helpers Mick Buckwell and Paul Cater.

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Historic Buildings

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Editorial
Bill Fergie

Timber framed buildings in Abbots, Headbourne, Kings and Martyr Worthy.

Following a talk on timber framed buildings that the Section editor gave to the Worthys Local History Group in 2017, he and Edward Roberts were persuaded to do some research in the locality. What started as a relatively low key project quickly developed momentum as a number of interesting structures came to light. Eventually some 25 timber framed buildings were studied and it was decided that what had been discovered merited publication.

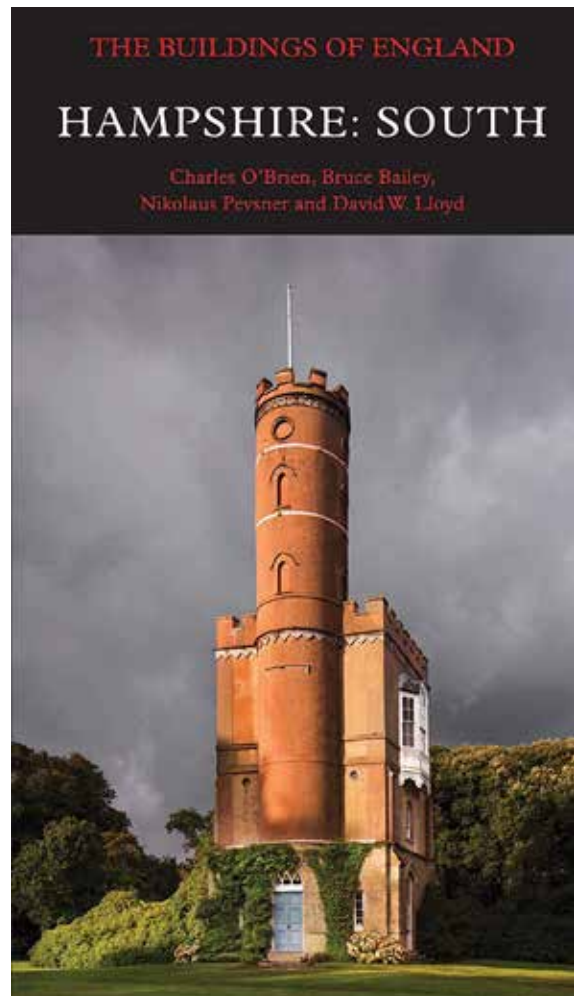
The work is now nearing completion, with just a few final details to be checked. Two of the buildings already have the benefit of tree ring dates to support the research, and a third report is awaited on what may well prove to be the county's youngest open hall house so far identified - by a margin of approximately thirty years! Most of the text and illustrative material has been prepared, and it is expected that the book will be published in 2018. As a teaser for the anticipated publication an article on one of the buildings examined is included in this edition of the Newsletter. Watch this space for further information on publication.

New Pevsner guide - Hampshire: South

The publication of Hampshire: South by Yale University Press on 25th September 2018 marked the completion of the new three volume series covering the whole of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The new volume was co-authored by Charles O'Brien, joint series editor, and Bruce Bailey. Much of the groundwork was done by David W Lloyd who died in 2017 and whose obituary appeared in the Spring 2018 edition of this newsletter. David had been the co-author, with Nicholas Pevsner, of the original Hampshire and the Isle of Wight volume in 1967, and also wrote the Isle of Wight volume of the new series which was published in 2006. Charles O'Brien will be talking to the Field Club about the production of the new volume on 27th March 2019.

Hampshire: South contains 800 pages, and 130 specially commissioned photographs, covering the southern half of the county, from the woodland and heath of the New Forest to the cities along the Solent, and from remote Saxon churches to modernist seaside villas. The guide explores major ecclesiastical monuments in Romsey, the Bishop of Winchester's palace at Bishops Waltham, and the remains the great post-Dissolution houses at Beaulieu and Titchfield. On the coast, Southampton has one of the best preserved medieval town walls, while at Portsmouth the structures of the 18th- and 19th-century Royal Navy dockyard are among the most important of their kind.

The book costs £35-00 and can be obtained via the Yale Books website.



Isotope-supported Dendrochronology

Dendrochronology has now been a standard tool for dating timber buildings for a generation. However, its use is sometimes constrained by timber species, provenance and available core length. A new technique, the subject of the OGS Crawford lecture by Professor Neil Loader of Swansea University on the 18th of April 2018, uses a system known as isotope-dendrochronology, to provide answers where simple dendrochronology has proved unsuccessful.

The process combines multiple isotopic indicators with tree ring widths to provide precise dating with quantified statistical confidence. It has the ability to work across species, and to overcome most of the problems which can frustrate simple dendrochronology. The new technology is already showing its ability to unlock the dates of difficult buildings as Professor Loader illustrated in his lecture. The university project is funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

Two Historic Inns in Hook Part II: The Raven

Bill Fergie, John Hare and Edward Roberts

In the Middle Ages Hook was an area of dispersed settlement, and owed its emergence to its position on the London Road, and the need for provision of services for road travelers and their horses. This trade was devastated by the coming of the railways, initially from London to Basingstoke in 1839 and subsequently when Hook gained its own station in 1883. But the latter event helped generate further growth, and in 1932 Hook became a parish in its own right. New light has recently been shed on the rise and fall of the travel industry by the study of two of its inn buildings: The White Hart and The Raven. The White Hart was dealt with in a previous article, and still provides food and drink. That study established the presence of an early fifteenth century range of chambers.¹ Meanwhile, The Raven was a victim of changing circumstances and failed to survive as an inn, becoming first a private house and then a care home.²

The Raven existed as an inn by at least the late 17th century. There is a date over a door of 1653 but this does not appear to be genuine. In around 1660-70 the then proprietor, Anne Atkinson, issued trade tokens at the Black Raven,³ and in 1665 widow Atkinson possessed a large house with 7 hearths.⁴ In 1671, Thomas Atkinson left his son, another Thomas, the house and property known as The Raven Inn Hook.⁵ Significantly the inventory included seven chambers with beds, again reinforcing the idea of this as an inn. It continued as an inn throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, being recorded either as The Raven Inn or The Raven (Fig.1.). It was owned in 1842 by Thomas and Charles May, members of a leading brewing family of Basingstoke. The coming of the railway to Basingstoke in 1839 not merely diminished road traffic from London, but left The Raven far from the crucial cross roads and even further from the railway station when this was opened in 1883. Consequently The Raven was replaced by a new hotel, significantly adjacent to the station. Mays, the brewers and owners, bought a small block of land by the station in 1901 and had built a hotel on it by 1903.⁶ The last licensee of the former inn was given a licence that would last up to Oct 1902 'on the opening of the



Fig.1. This 19th century engraving of The Raven shows the jettied south elevation viewed from London Road. The upper floor appears to be tile-hung, the tiles perhaps masking the poor condition of the framing which was subsequently restored soon after 1900 when it became a house.

new hotel at Hook station'.⁷ In November 1902, the former inn was sold, symbolically at an auction held in its successor, The Raven Hotel, and was bought by the Rev. A.G.Barker of Sherfield on Loddon.⁸ He probably undertook the restoration of the house since a book published in 1906 recorded that the building had now been restored and converted into a private house.⁹ Was this for his son, who later seems to have sold the house prior to service in Salonika during the First World War?¹⁰

Further study of the building has helped to establish something of the earlier development.

The timbers of The Raven have recently been tree-ring dated to the winter of 1572/3, implying that building began at this date, or soon afterwards. Its south front, which faces the London Road, is continuously jettied with decorative ogee braces and timber framed panels infilled with herring bone brickwork. Much of this may belong to the early twentieth century

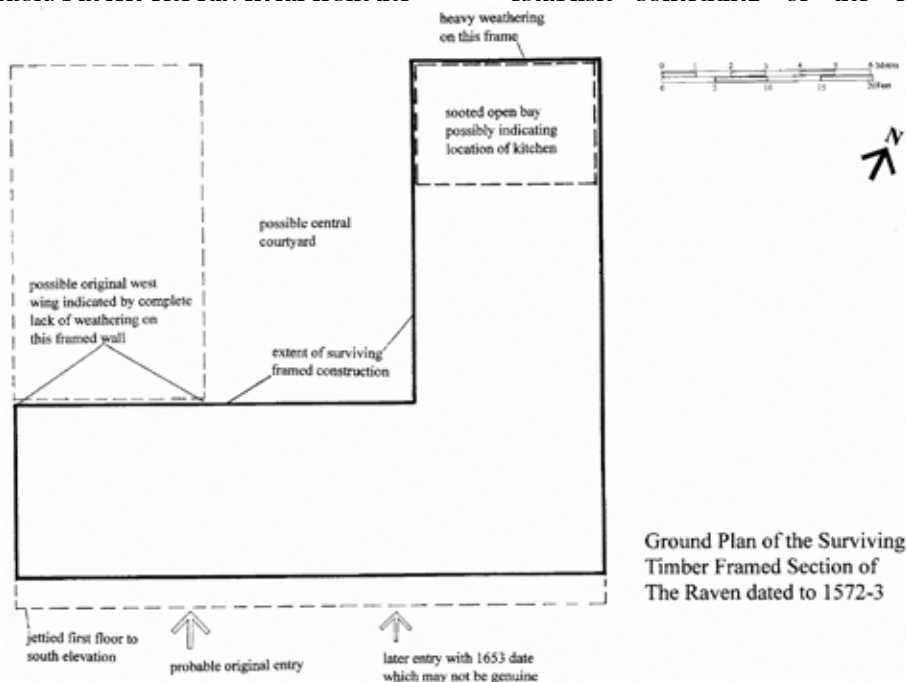


Fig.2. Plan of the surviving L-shaped section of the timber-framed building of 1573/3. There is some evidence to support the existence of an additional western range, which would have given a U-shaped building with a central courtyard.

restoration, although some of the timbering is certainly original. At both ends of this front are gables projecting towards the road, such as appear in a print of *The Raven* published in 1832¹¹ and in the engraving in Fig.1. The frontage at first floor level was then tile-hung.

Behind this apparent continuity the present structure also shows evidence of the extent of the drastic restoration of 1903-6, when the timber framing on the south front was uncovered and the house took on its present appearance. Some of the braces are clearly



Fig.3. The south range showing the very uniform brickwork above the jetty. This is in contrast to the brickwork elsewhere which exhibits much more variation, and wider bricks, and probably indicates the major restoration work that was undertaken.

modern although they may have replaced original timbers of the same form. A good deal of the brick infill is also relatively modern. Moreover, the western front gable appears to have been heavily 'restored' or may even represent an early-20th century recreation.

At present Old Raven House is an extensive care home complex, and the surviving section of 16th century building comprises an L-shaped building in the south-western corner of the site adjacent to London Road (Fig.2.). The western end of the south front (Fig.3.) contains a half-bay which seems to have formed the original lobby-entry. However, it now contains a brick chimney, which does not appear to be an original feature, and there is some smoke-blackening on the roof above this half-bay. It is possible that at some time it contained a smoke hood or timber chimney. A later entry point was subsequently formed at the opposite end of the southern range, perhaps when the original entry bay was taken over as a fireplace. The date 1653 is carved over this doorway but the carving looks remarkably fresh for such a date, and may not be genuine.

From the east end of the south range another range runs back and away from the road (Fig.4.). Its most northerly bay is heavily smoke-blackened in the roof and probably contained an open hearth – perhaps for a kitchen. The timbers at the north end of this bay are heavily weathered, implying that this has always been an external wall. In contrast, the frame at the north-west end of the main range is completely unweathered, implying that a further range always ran northwards from this point, thus creating the third side of a courtyard. The structure currently occupying this section of the site appears to date from the restoration which took place soon after 1900.

The seven hearths recorded in 1665 are not reflected in the present structure and the evidence of the unweathered frame strongly suggests that the house was larger than at present in 1573. With its numerous rooms and twin wings *The Raven* would seem to fit more easily into the pattern of a 16th century inn than of a prosperous farmhouse. In the absence of documentary evidence it seems likely that *The Raven*, like the earlier *White Hart*, was built as an inn in the 16th century.



Fig.4. The eastern range exhibits a variety of infill brickwork. The incremental approach this illustrates is in contrast with the uniformity of the first floor of the restored southern range.

Acknowledgements:

Dr Nick Maslin of the Hook Local History Group introduced the authors to both buildings and has generously shared his knowledge with them. Dendrochronology for both buildings was undertaken by Dr Andy Moir of Tree-Ring Services, and was financed by The Hook Local History Group with a contribution from the Historic Buildings Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society.

The Raven is now a care home and we are grateful to the proprietor, Gillian Hepworth, for permitting entry and to the manager, Anne Turner, for facilitating our visit.

References

1. Bill Fergie, John Hare and Edward Roberts, 'Two Historic Inns in Hook Part I: The White Hart', Newsletter, No 70, Autumn 2018, 1-3.
2. For references to the general comments on Hook in this and the next paragraph see the forthcoming VCH 'short' on Newnham and Up Nately, with Andwell, Hook and Nately Scures. (in prep), and Fergie, Hare and Roberts, 'Two Historic Inns in Hook', 1.
3. G. C. Williamson *Traders' Tokens of the Seventeenth Century*, p 263; J L Wetton, *The Hampshire Seventeenth Century Traders' Tokens*, pl 8
4. E. Hughes & P. White, *The Hampshire Hearth Tax Assessment*, 241
5. HRO 1671B/03 (for electronic version see Victoria County History Explore)
6. HRO 79MA01/H1/1/7, 67M83/160/1
7. HRO 97M83/XP140, 48-9
8. HRO TOP 166/3/3
9. C G Harper *The Old Inns of England* vol. II, 1906, page 86 called 'The Raven at Hook' – "In 1903 it ceased to be an inn, and the building has now been restored and converted into a private house styled 'The Old Raven'".
10. HRO 11M65/279
11. Print of *The Raven* from William Hone, *The Year Book of Daily Recreation and Information*, London 1832 page 225.

Tavern Cottage, King's Worthy. A Medieval Survivor.

Bill Fergie and Edward Roberts

Local studies that the authors have recently been carrying out in conjunction with the Worthys Local History Group have revealed a number of previously un-recognised medieval and post-medieval houses. It is expected that the work will soon be published, but in the meantime Tavern Cottage gives a foretaste of what has been discovered.



Fig.1. Tavern Cottage as it appears today. The roof dormer was the result of a later-20th century alteration to allow more headroom in the upper floor rooms.

Tavern Cottage is a relatively rare survivor of a type of dwelling - the modest house of a small farmer - which must once have been fairly common. However, such houses have largely disappeared because their modest size made it difficult for them to be adapted to incorporate the fundamental changes that were being introduced into domestic buildings, particularly during the 16th century. By the beginning of the 17th century the 'modern' house would have emerged, and features which identified the medieval house would have largely disappeared. The changes entailed the flooring through of the previously open hall and other open bays, the provision of chimneys to clear the rooms of smoke, the building of convenient staircases, and the glazing of windows. Where earlier houses were substantial enough they were gradually adapted, but many meaner houses were rebuilt to incorporate the new features.

As originally built the Tavern Cottage comprised three bays, a form typical for small medieval houses. The central hall bay still has some heavily soot-blackened rafters,

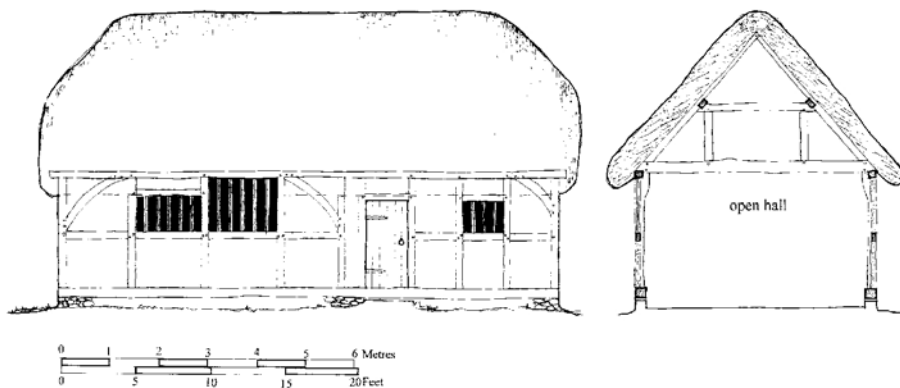


Fig.2. These reconstruction drawings are based on the available evidence. The elevation indicates how the front of the building might have appeared. The section illustrates the queen strut roof truss still in evidence at the north end of the hall.

showing that originally it had an open fire whose smoke could drift upwards towards the apex of the roof. At the socially 'low' end of the hall was the front door, whose frame survives, and beyond this a service bay which has been much altered. It is likely that this bay too would have been open to the roof. At the high end of the hall is the small parlour with framing for an original, tiny

window. The relatively small size of the house can be illustrated by the measurement of only 2.25 metres (7 feet 4 inches) from the top of its sole plate to the underside of its tie beam. This meant that only a very cramped attic space might have been contrived over the parlour - perhaps with a ladder access from the hall. By contrast, at The Old Post Office, another late-medieval house nearby, the distance between the top of its sole plate to the underside of its tie beam is 3.5 metres (11 feet 6 inches) thus allowing for adequate head-room at first-floor level. Both houses were probably built for small tenant farmers, but while the occupant of Tavern Cottage may have been content to be called a husbandman, the original occupant of The Old Post Office may have aspired to be called a yeoman.

The curved wall-braces visible in the front wall (Fig.1), and the queen strut truss shown in the tentative reconstruction drawings (Fig.2.) suggest a construction date in the decades around the year 1500. An early photograph (Fig 3.) shows the relative



Fig.3. This photograph is from a postcard of 1909 and shows the roof before the later alteration. The two small eyebrow windows must have been at floor level in the upstairs bedrooms.

lack of adequate room for an upper floor at Tavern Cottage, and this no doubt prompted the substantial raising of the roofline in the late-20th century so that the room sizes might be increased. This and other alterations prevent a full interpretation of the original building. Nevertheless, it is clear that the original roof was half-hipped at the parlour end and probably at the service end too. The original framing of the front door survives and indicates the position of a probable cross-passage beside the low end of the hall. Part of the framing of the front elevation of the hall and parlour also survives with large curved wall-braces and the probable framing for the parlour window. The exact size of the original hall window is unclear and that shown in the reconstruction is therefore speculative. Local lore has it that the cottage was once a tavern or alehouse.

Acknowledgement:

The authors are grateful to the owner for allowing access on a number of occasions while we tried to understand the history of her house.

Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project: January 2019 Update

Karen Wardley

One of the project's aims is to raise awareness of historical graffiti, and its contribution to the understanding of people's beliefs and behaviour in the past. To this end the graffiti group has attended a number of local history events over the summer and autumn, aiming to engage with both the public and local groups and societies. We attended the St Cross Michaelmas Fair in September, where we launched a medieval graffiti trail for visitors to take around the site. We also attended a Heritage Open Day event at St John's Winchester, providing tours of the recently discovered medieval graffiti, and had a stall at the New Forest Community History Fair at Lyndhurst in November.

The Southampton team continued its survey of medieval buildings in the Old Town, including the Wool House, formerly Southampton Maritime Museum and now the Dancing Man brewery and pub. This fine example of a medieval warehouse also served as a prison in the 18th century, and the graffiti left by French prisoners is relatively well known, and described in a 2013 report by Dr Ian Friel. With Dr Friel's permission, the team used his report as a basis for carrying out a full graffiti survey of the building, discovering more inscriptions in the process. Inscriptions were found on both stonework and elements of the substantial timber roof structure.

By the SW window on the upper floor are two clearly carved names: FRANCOIS DRIE and THOMAS LAIS and the dates 1711 and 1710.



Historic Buildings

On the southern most roof beam is a long inscription:

JEAN : MAUDRERE : 1748

DV : NEPTVNE:

This was presumably made by Jean Maudrere of the ship Neptune, presumably one of the French vessels taken as a prize by the British during the War of Austrian Succession (1740-48).

A number of other names, of people and vessels, were discovered which will merit more research.

Thanks to Dr Ian Friel for his report, and to the manager and staff of the Dancing Man Brewery for their support and interest despite the disruption we caused.



The Wool House by Richard Nevell - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=35343708>



Events at the Hampshire Record Office

Monday 25 February, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm, Voices for Heritage: LGBT History Month Event

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events/details?id=416173>

See some of Hampshire's LGBT archives and hear about 'Aspects of Hampshire's Queer History' with guest speaker Dr Clifford Williams.

No admission charge.

Book by emailing dawn@yservices.co.uk

Saturday 2 March, 9.45 am - 1.00 pm, Community Archive Forum

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events/details?id=416174>

As in previous years the Community Archive Forum provides an opportunity for representatives of local history societies and similar organisations in Hampshire to showcase what they have been doing; to network; and to share their experiences. It enables anyone with an interest in the county's history to hear what is happening at local level and be inspired to get involved. The Forum is now a collaborative venture between Hampshire Archives and Local Studies and the Local History Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society. This year, there will be contributions from:

Milford on Sea Historical Record Society

Christchurch History Society

Ashburton Court, Southsea, research project

Hyde900

Hampshire Constabulary History Society

Plus, a panel discussion on publications: journals, newsletters and occasional; including allocation of responsibilities; securing contributions; format; editing; financial considerations; marketing and distribution; web presence.

The Forum will be held in the cinema at Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester. This is a free event, and places are limited. To book, please telephone Hampshire Record Office on 01962 846154 or email archives.enquiries@hants.gov.uk no later than 25 February.

Tuesday 12 March, 6.30 pm-9.00 pm Hampshire Travels the World

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events/details?id=416184>

The Silk Road from Georgia to Afghanistan: join Hampshire's own explorer and broadcaster John Pilkington in an exciting journey across Central Asia. In 2011 John followed a spectacular branch of the Silk Road, starting in the Caucasus and crossing the Caspian Sea to Bukhara, Khiva and Samarkand. Then, reeling from the beauty of those legendary cities, he turned south-east to explore the High Pamirs of Afghanistan – a region well-known to Marco Polo – before making a dramatic finale at the source of the Oxus in the heart of Central Asia. His stunning photos and some hair-raising stories will make this an evening not to be missed.

John is one of Britain's most experienced adventurers and public speakers. For many years he was a broadcaster with the BBC World Service and Radio 4, making travel documentaries and contributing to programmes such as 'From Our Own



Correspondent'. But it's for his thought-provoking, beautifully illustrated talks that people know him best. He has spoken to over 1,000 audiences in six countries, and holds the Royal Geographical Society's much-coveted Ness Award for popularising geography and the wider understanding of the world. More about him at <http://www.pilk.net>

An exhibition of archive material relating to Hampshire travellers and explorers will be on display, taking you across the world through journals and other items concerning George Marston, Ernest Shackleton and others.

Tickets will include a drinks reception and nibbles. Price: £14, early bird deal of £12 if booking before booking before 26 February.

To book:

Please telephone Hampshire Record Office on 01962 846154 or email archives.enquiries@hants.gov.uk

April to June Exhibition - From Fields to Ford and Beyond: Ford Transition Touring Exhibition

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events/details?id=416186>

The Ford Transition touring exhibition is a repurposed version of the original April 2018 Heritage Lottery funded pop-up museum which was housed in three cargo containers at the site of the Ford Vehicle Repair Centre site off Wide Lane, Swaythling, Southampton. The exhibition explores Southampton's shift from 'making' to 'moving' through the changing uses of one small but historically significant site. From production of aircraft parts (Cunliffe-Owen 1937-1945) to motor parts (Briggs 1949-1953) and the iconic Ford transit van (Ford 1953 – 2013) the industrial activity at the site in Swaythling highlights Southampton's rich transport manufacturing heritage. Now, as it is redeveloped into a logistics park attracting businesses through its land, sea and air connections, the site tells a story of Southampton's strengthening status as 'Gateway to the World' and its economic transition from 'making' (manufacturing) to 'moving' (logistics) industries.

In the back Dick Selwood

We don't often get press releases sent to the Newsletter so it was nice to get this one from the Wickham History Society.

Take a Journey Through Wickham's History Wickham History Boards project launched with National Lottery support

Wickham now has twelve local history boards at key locations around the village. Each board highlights different aspects of Wickham's history using many wonderful old photos and illustrations. There are some fascinating stories too: why was a horse a regular at a Wickham pub, what was a "water meadow" and why is one of our mills named after an American warship?



Coloured drawing of St Nicholas Church in the 1840s, before the tower was rebuilt - the subject of one of the boards.

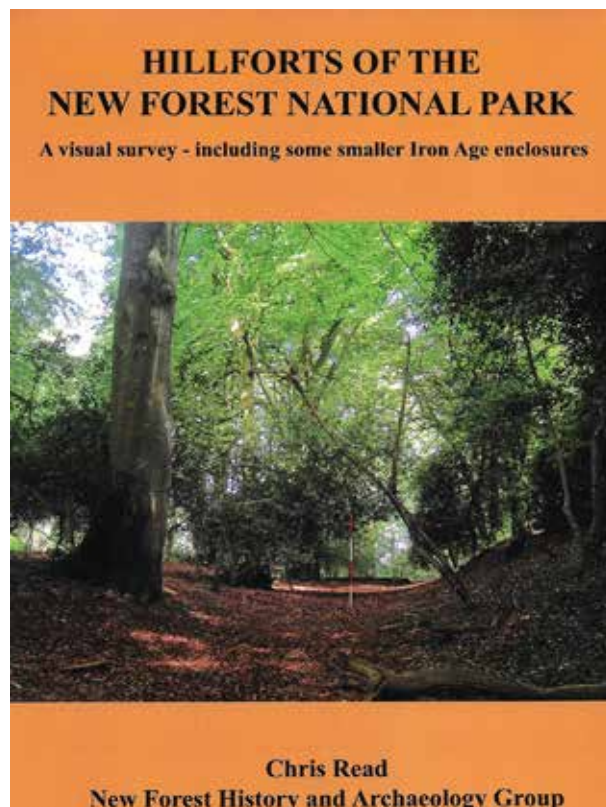
Visitors can use their smartphone at each board to link to more information, photos and stories on the Wickham History Society website (www.wickhamhistory.org.uk). Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project has opened up Wickham's history from its first settlement to modern times.

Thanks to the hard work of local volunteers from Wickham History Society and an £8k grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, joint sponsors Wickham History Society and Wickham Parish Council celebrated the realisation of the project on Saturday 26th January with an official opening on the Village Green, Bridge Street, where three of the twelve boards are located.

At the opening ceremony Cllr Angela Clear, Chair of Wickham Parish Council, said: "We are very grateful for the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund which has made the Wickham History Boards project possible. We know many visitors to Wickham are keen to know more about our lovely village and we hope these history boards will help make their trip even more interesting and enjoyable."

New book

We are aware of an interesting new book.



Read, Chris Hillforts of the New Forest National Park, 2018, ISBN 978-0-9933946-2-1 (£12)

Hard on the heels of the national 'Atlas of Hillforts', which is readily available on-line at <https://hillforts.arch.ox.ac.uk/>, comes this 94 page account of hill forts and 'some smaller Iron Age enclosures' within the boundaries of the New Forest. The results of the survey, by members of the New Forest History and Archaeology Group, will be of interest to locals, tourists and archaeologists alike. The book describes 18 sites, including new discoveries, and assessments of previous surveys and is profusely illustrated. It considers current hill fort theory and research and also the vulnerability of some of the forts, many of which are in beautiful locations.

Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society

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

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Programme of Events

2019

- 2nd March Saturday **Local History Section**, jointly with the Hampshire Record Office,
Community Archive Forum
- 27th March Wednesday **Historic Buildings Section**
Evening talk on Pevsner Revision
- 4th April Thursday **Archaeology Section**
David Johnston Memorial Lecture by Dr John Pearce, King's College London: *Marking the
Dead in Roman London*, 7.30 pm, Peter Symonds College
- Date tbc **HFC&AS**
OGS Crawford Lecture
- 27th April Saturday **Local History Section**, jointly with the Wessex Centre for History &
Archaeology
Spring Symposium, *Childhood and Adolescence in Hampshire* Hampshire Record Office.
- Date tbc **HFC&AS**
Annual General Meeting, 7.30, Peter Symonds College
President's Lecture: tbc
- 29th June Saturday **Local History Section**
Summer Outing to Milford on Sea: *Cornwallis and Georgian Lymington*
- 21st September Saturday **Local History Section**
Autumn Outing to Hook, incorporating the Section's AGM
- 2nd November Saturday **Landscape Section**
Annual Conference and AGM: *Basingstoke* Peter Symonds College
- 16th November Saturday **Archaeology Section**
Annual Conference and AGM: 10.00 am, Peter Symonds College

The Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society Newsletter is produced by the Society
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Information about the Society, its activities and other publications can be found at
www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk

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