

North Craven Heritage Trust



JOURNAL 2018

TALKS PROGRAMME

- Thursday 15 February 2018 at 2.30pm
Craven in Domesday Book and Beyond
Dr Fiona Edmonds Clapham Village Hall
- Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 2.30pm
Inventing King Arthur (Cancelled - Snow)
Prof. Nick Higham St John's Methodist Church, Settle
- Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7.30pm
Life in the Past Lane: A look at our world through family history
Eileen Bamford and Malcolm Bland Langcliffe Village Institute
- Wednesday 18 April 2018 at 7.30pm
Vernacular buildings of Craven and adjacent areas of Bowland
Kevin Illingworth Long Preston Village Hall
Joint meeting with YAHS
- Tuesday 11 September 2018 at 7.30pm
New evidence for sudden climate change in the Dales since the last glaciation
Tom Lord Austwick Village Hall
- Wednesday 10 October 2018 at 7.00pm
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Members only)
Followed by a talk on
Caton to Keasden: Local history from a hot-air balloon
Edward Huddleston Victoria Hall, Settle
- Wednesday 14 November 2018 at 2.30pm
Barn conversions in the National Park – change in policy, change in landscape?
Nancy Stedman Langcliffe Village Institute
Joint meeting with Friends of the Dales

EVENTS PROGRAMME

*If walking conditions are doubtful please telephone the Leader.
Visitors are welcome to attend talks and join outings at a cost of £2*

- * **Pre-booking essential** –
for details see form accompanying this card
- Sunday 13 May 2018 at 2.30pm**
* **Lawkland Hall Wood at Bluebell time**
Meet at Lawkland Hall
Giles Bowring
Boots or stout walking shoes essential
- Thursday 5 July 2018 at 1.30pm**
* **Tour of Arla Foods factory**
Meet at Arla gate, Sowarth Industrial Estate, Settle
John Caswell
- Thursday 18 October 2018**
* **50 years of North Craven's Civic Society:
A celebration**
Details to be announced
- Sunday 16 December 2018 at 2.00pm**
Some stories of Settle Quakers
Jean Asher and Alison Tyas
Mince Pie meeting
Friends Meeting House, Settle

MEMBERSHIP

Details of membership are available from the Hon. Secretary:
Mrs Anne Webster: 01729 824844

Subscriptions:

Single (65 or over) £6, Joint (both 65 or over) £10,
Single (under 65) £11, Joint £15,
Corporate £35
(please state category on application)

Membership expires on December 31st 2018

—————
The Trust's website address is:

www.NorthCravenHeritage.org.uk

Charity Commission Registration Number 504029

Data Protection Act:

If you wish to view your personal details held on the Trust's
files, please ask the Hon. Secretary

—————
**Visitors are welcome to attend talks and
join outings at a cost of £2**

SUMMER MID-WEEK OUTING

Along the A59

Dr David Johnson will lead his 16th outing on
Wednesday 6 June 2018

Meet at Spring Wood picnic site, near
Whalley, at 9.30am
SD741 361

No minibus this year
Pre-booking essential before Easter,
though early booking is advised.

Enquiries to David Johnson
01729 822915 (evenings only)
d.johnson.50@btinternet.com

Please note that this outing is based on car usage and
is not a walking trip. Members are asked to share cars
whenever possible as parking is limited.



It should be noted that on occasion, for all outings and
events, the addresses of participants may have to be given
to owners of places visited (for their insurance purposes)
and this is a condition of any such visit.

Cover picture: Milk Kits on B6480. Courtesy Doug and Kathleen Taylor. Photographed by Mary Taylor

ISSN 1357-3896

Printed by Lamberts Print & Design, 2 Station Road, Settle, North Yorks. 01729 822177

NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST

North Craven Heritage Trust

which is a registered charity No. 504029

NORTH
CRAVEN



HERITAGE

Editorial

We are lucky to have such a variety of articles by our contributors on a wide range of matters important to our heritage. Heritage is a very wide term but as well as being desirable it can also be a handicap and subvert progress. Conserving the history and heritage of North Craven relies on documents, word of mouth, objects and observations. Interpretations may be a distortion of the facts and opinions can be controversial. History and heritage may also concern the far distant past or be more contemporary. Many questions can arise such as why Settle developed in such a watery site! The practice of baptismal recording was dependent on the Church before registration of births marriages and deaths was mandated by the state. Subjects such as trade and who bought what and where and for how much, are the threads of ordinary life. Money did not always change hands in commerce, as is evidenced in account books of trading. More recent practices such as milk delivery are within living memory for an older generation but are already history.

Some members of NCHT are very active in local affairs as well as the Trust and we acknowledge such activity by an obituary when they die, as in the case of Harold Foxcroft.

We thank Anne Webster and Sylvia Harrop for additional welcome help with typing and editing work.

Would prospective authors please read the Guidance Page on the website, which gives the parameters for style of headings, punctuation and references etc. This helps the Journal to be of a professional standard, reduces the editorial effort and gives all-round clarity.

Maureen Ellis and Michael Slater

Chairman's Report

For most of the past decade the backdrop against which our public life has played out has been 'austerity'. Cuts to funding have meant that our councils and services have been reduced in scale or are operating under stressed conditions. This can severely impact our scattered rural communities as we have seen with the closure of Castleberg Hospital. Community action, in which very many of you took part, has reversed that decision.

Our heritage assets can suffer, especially when local planning authorities, with very limited resources, fail to identify risks to our communities and heritage in their plans or planning applications; or lack the resources to defend their plans against the deep pockets of developers. This is why the local planning dimension of our work remains vital. If you are concerned, as I am, please volunteer for your Committee.

One part of our heritage which has received worthy funding has been the Ingleborough area covered by the 'Stories in Stone' project. This has enabled the conservation, preservation, publication and display of a vast range of documents, collections, artefacts and archives. It has funded archaeological research with community involvement and

broadened and deepened our understanding of times past. Our thanks are due to the many members who have taken part in organising and delivering the project. The new website www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk provides a home for a very wide range of items of local historical value which is now being managed by Friends of the Dales (Yorkshire Dales Society as was).

Our grants for academic research continue to provide analysis and insights into the lives of past generations in North Craven. Charlotte Moody has just completed an excellent project on *The wills of women in 16th century North Craven* which will be published next year.

Settle and District Civic Society was founded at the end of 1968. As we approach our half-century I hope that we will each pause to take stock of why we love North Craven so much – and why it needs our commitment, care and concern for the future. We are very concerned to find extra committee members to ensure that NCHT exists for another 50 years. Please respond to our call for support.

John Asher

Obituary

Harold Foxcroft 1929-2017

Harold, who was joint editor of this Journal until 2003, died last year. He was born in Settle 28th January 1929. He won a scholarship to Giggleswick School, which he attended until 1945. From there he went to Manchester University and graduated with a B.Sc. in Electronics. His first post was with Murphy Radios in Ruislip, which was later taken over by the Rank Organisation. It was here that he met his future wife, Audrey. They later set up home in Welwyn Garden City, spending five years there. He then moved to Salford University Electronics Department, where he worked until he retired. He was in charge of one of the Electronic Laboratories, with a staff of about 14 people. He was later awarded another degree, this time honorary. They lived in Cheadle Hulme, near Manchester.

Contemplating retirement, Audrey suggested they move to Settle and after cautiously trying it out for a while, they did so.

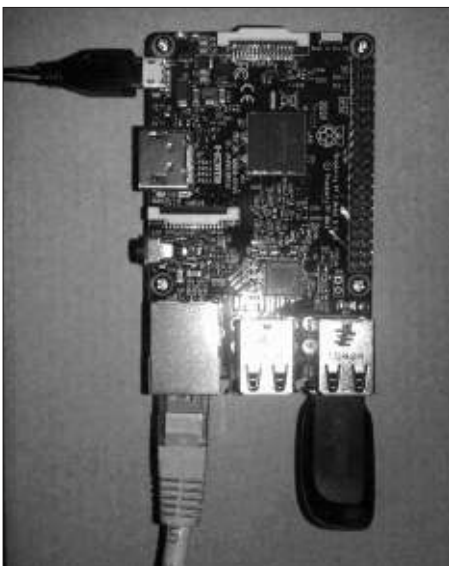
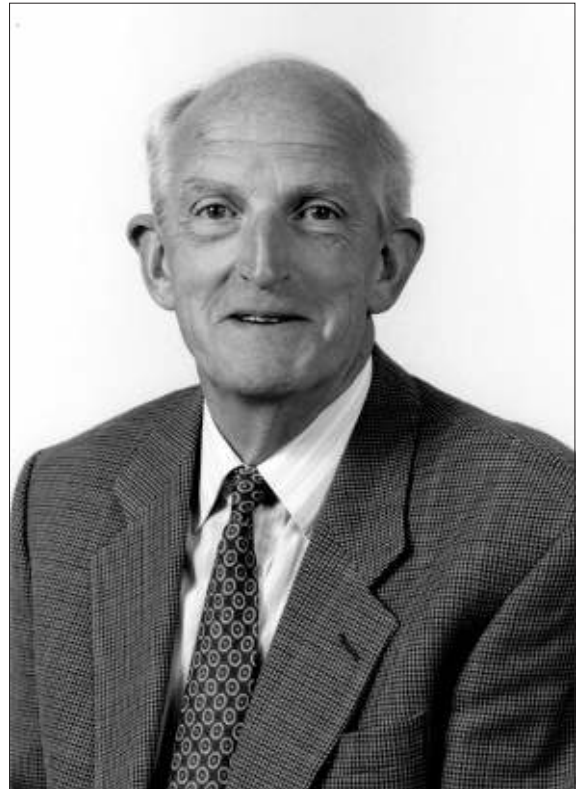
His retirement was productive, he and Audrey loved walking and they threw themselves into local life leading walks for NCHT and Harold contributed a wealth of activity in several spheres. They were both greatly valued Folly Stewards for many years, a role which Harold continued until 2015. His wealth of knowledge of our area, and his ability to engage in friendly conversation with visitors, and answer their questions, added enormously to their enjoyment of the building and the exhibitions.

Harold's grandfather, T.A. Foxcroft was the first surveyor to Settle District Council and Harold inherited his meticulous eye for detail and lovingly preserved his wonderful collection of archives. These have contributed so much to the understanding and development of vital services in North Craven from the late 19th century onwards. One of the jewels in this collection is boxes and boxes of official documents, photographs, letters and drawings relating to the provision of water supplies to Settle, Bentham and surrounding villages. It is a wonderful social history resource. Harold donated this collection to the Folly in 2014, and gave his approval for the originals to be deposited in The North Yorkshire County Record Office in Northallerton, once the work of recording and digitising as much of it as possible had been done.

Harold threw himself into local life and became an advocate of the swimming pool and a committee member of the Settle Area Community Council, which did such valuable work for the town in the 1990s. He also donated to the Folly his complete set of committee papers for this period.

He shared with his brother in law, Derek Soames, an intense interest in preserving many aspects of the social history of our area. He contributed a number of articles to this Journal, which made use of both his grandfather's papers and of Derek's rescue of the records of the Settle Market Building Company. He was an active member for a number of years of the North Craven Historical Research Group.

Audrey Foxcroft, Anne Read and Maureen Ellis



The NCHT webserver

The NCHT website is now hosted on a pocket-size Raspberry Pi 3 computer (running Debian Jessie GNU/Linux and a webserver written at Leeds University). The machine is located in Giggleswick School as was its predecessor. The Pi is a tiny computer somewhat akin to the insides of a smartphone, costing about £50 in total. David Holdsworth has implemented the required software. We are sharing this with the websites for TRAMPS, Settle U3A and The Settle Wheelers cycling club. It also holds items for the Computer Conservation Society software preservation activity based in Settle.

The webserver was originally set up in agreement with Giggleswick School 'for hosting websites relating to not-for-profit local activities'. The generosity of the school for providing a home for this equipment, both physically and on the internet, is gratefully acknowledged.

Raspberry Pi 3, about 10cm by 20cm

The collection, digital imaging and digital conservation of local historical documents

Michael Slater

The accompanying note in this Journal about the tiny Raspberry Pi computer being used to host the NCHT website has led to further thinking about the archiving of historical information in general. As technology changes, questions of obsolescence arise about computer equipment, software and data storage devices. In addition it has been a challenge in recent years to locate, copy, translate and transcribe as many of the earliest documents relating to North Craven as can be found and to make them accessible to read on-line. The style of handwriting and spelling has changed over the centuries and this poses the main difficulty. The use of non-classical Latin in early documents usually needs expert translators. This work also raises the issue of conservation of old documents. The work occasions excitement, disappointment, delight, and frustration but eventual satisfaction.

The NCHT has its own website, backed-up securely. One of its purposes is to make it easy to access the Journal, published since 1992, and NCHT archive material concerning its development over the past 50 years. The websites for the Dales Community Archives and the Ingleborough Archaeology Group are also making historical records more easily available for study. While it would be very acceptable to have an archive centre in our locality the funding implications are problematical and technology may provide the answer with a 'virtual' archive hub.

What has been done so far?

Many volunteers in Local History Groups have been involved in bringing together copies, translations and transcriptions of documents of local historical value to limit the inconvenience and cost of accessing such material in the national and regional Record Offices. Visits to The National Archives in London, the Borthwick Institute for Archives at York University, the North Yorkshire County Record Office in Northallerton, the West Yorkshire Archive Service in Morley, Bradford and Wakefield, the Lancashire Record Office in Preston, Leeds University Brotherton Library and even the Northumberland County Record Office in Woodhorn near Newcastle upon Tyne have had to be made to inspect and copy original or filmed copies of documents.

Wills and inventories, property deeds, manorial court records, tax and other records of local interest have been the subject of local projects. They all throw light on our local history and behaviour in times past. The history of a nation is important to understand and hopefully to be learned from. Wills and inventories have been collected and analysed for the



ancient parishes of Clapham, Giggleswick, Horton in Ribblesdale and Ingleton: a few of these wills date from the early 1400s and some collections extend to 1750. Original wills and copies are held in the Lancashire Record Office and in the Borthwick Institute for Archives. Many property transactions since 1704 held in the Wakefield Registry of Deeds have been inspected and extracts made; there are also deeds in private hands or collections which have been transcribed. Early manorial documents are held in the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society Special Collection at the Brotherton Library in Leeds University and in Chatsworth House in Derbyshire (because of the Duke of Devonshire's connection with Settle). There is a continuing project to translate and transcribe the proceedings of the manorial courts in Austwick, Giggleswick, Horton, Ingleton, Lawkland and Settle, to the early 1700s, the earliest being for 1420. The Elizabethan manorial records are of value and interest with their lists of tenants (of particular interest for genealogists) and sometimes colourful descriptions of their misdemeanours. The national tax records for our local villages written on huge rolls of vellum held by The National Archives spanning hundreds of years from the 1300s are remarkable and much remains to be done to read and copy them.

It is remarkable that so many documents up to 700 years old have survived, thanks to chance and the work of specialist conservators. Those made of vellum - fine-grained lambskin, kidskin, or calfskin first used in the 14th century - are very tough and could last several hundred years more if kept in a controlled environment. However, the ink can fade or separate from the vellum unless handled carefully. Those written on paper in the 16th and 17th centuries are gradually decaying as discovered when scanning early wills of Clapham residents. The less we do to consult and handle them, the better.

Technical equipment

The advent of digital cameras has revolutionized matters by allowing images of records to be studied easily at home. Consideration has to be given to the question of longevity of digital images made as part of the conservation process. It is common practice now at Record Offices to allow digital photography for visitors to take away images to study privately (copyright remains with the Record Office). But making information more freely available on-line, for example, is a worthwhile pursuit. Translation (from Latin) and transcription may allow copyright to be vested in the person involved if sufficient intellectual effort is required. Such work helps conservation since handling of delicate documents can then be almost eliminated. In earlier years Record Offices made available photographs in the form of microfiches (rectangular plastic 'cards') needing special readers and magnifiers, or microfilms with images on a long roll, again needing special reading consoles. The reading of these is difficult and time-consuming and there is evidence that they are suffering wear and tear and will not last much longer.

There are insufficient funds for Record Offices to carry out the monumental task of digitizing records. The National Archives for example hold over 11 million records. Machines are now being used in various places to scan documents and transfer digital images directly by email by the staff or visitor. Images from microfilms can now also be digitized and transferred to a USB flash drive. All these developments cost money but are most welcome. The Record Offices however, regrettably, are not keeping any copies of such digital images or have any system of benefiting from visitors by saving any images or translations or transcriptions on to a Record Office computer.

The storage of digital information

Ideally, transcriptions of text documents and images of documents could be stored for ever in digital format, making physical storage of original material under suitable conditions of temperature and low humidity easier since access can then be severely limited. Much expert consideration is being given to this problem – to electronic format of text, images and hardware requirements. Relying on the continuing existence of commercial equipment, software and formats is risky – non-commercial corporate bodies and non-governmental institutions with long life-expectancy such as independent national libraries and museums and universities might offer the best prospects for preservation of digital information. Ideally digitized text and images need to be kept securely in more than one place free from alteration and degradation with embedded information about the original document to ensure that we always know what the digitized version represents.

For computer-searching of documents for given words we need to store text, which needs much less storage space than images. Currently searching cannot be done for words within images but it seems possible that in future images could be searched for individual words in a manner similar to optical character recognition systems in use today.

The digital format in which information is stored is important; the jpeg or jpg file format for images has worldwide support. Although the tiff format (high quality but large file size) might be the preferred format for preservation of historical documents the jpg format is acceptable: simply

copying does not degrade the image but converting to another form for display, for example, will do so. The independent Joint Photographic Experts Group created this jpeg standard. For text the html file format (Hyper-Text Mark-up Language) is a formal Recommendation by the World Wide Web Consortium and is generally adhered to by the major browsers. This format allows text to be easily readable on all types of screen, whether computer, tablet or smartphone. It is difficult to believe that these non-commercial formats will not be used for the foreseeable future since change to a new system would be a formidable task.

It should be the responsibility of all archivists to make sure that definitive copies are made whenever technological change occurs or obsolescence looms. Copies can be altered on purpose or by accident so care is needed in looking after digital information, preferably kept safe by more than one archivist.

Computers and digital storage devices use transistors which depend on the controlled movement of electrons within them. The future appears to depend on electrons - fundamental, negatively charged, indivisible entities which obey the laws of quantum physics, whereas our ancestors relied sensibly on oak-gall ink, animal skins and feathers to make quill pens with which to write.

Summary

It appears that digital images in jpeg format and text preservation in html format are appropriate for copying historical documents. Storage devices may be reasonably durable but it is not the case that we can rely on the longevity of devices to read the content of current storage systems. The capacity for storage of large amounts of data is not an issue. Repeated updating using the latest devices, computers and software is essential.

Acknowledgements

The essential help of Frank Woodhams and David Holdsworth is gratefully acknowledged in preparing this article.

Websites

www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk
www.NorthCravenHeritage.org.uk
www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RGB_color_model
<http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/camera-sensors.htm>

Appendix

Bits, bytes and pixels

Computers work using transistors which are so small that millions can sit on a pinhead. These can be set to one of two states - at zero or positive voltage brought about by movement of electrons in a transistor. This state can be used to represent a number in the binary system using 0s and 1s - i.e. a binary digit called a bit (symbol b). A 0 is represented by zero volts and 1 is represented by a positive voltage.

All information stored in computers is in the form of files, whether a piece of text or a picture. A file is a sequence of these 0s and 1s. These can be considered as sets of 8 bits called 1 byte (symbol B). The largest number you can represent in the binary system with 8 bits is 11111111, or 255 in decimal notation. Since 00000000 is the smallest, you can represent

256 things with a byte such as a letter or symbol in text or type and intensity of colour. The bit can be faithfully copied from one form of storage to another. This means that a copy of a file, whether text or image, is identical to the original without loss of quality.

Storage of text is the least demanding in terms of bytes - one byte per letter or typographic symbol. Images are more demanding; they comprise very large sets of tiny colour points called pixels. A pixel is usually represented by a 24-bit binary number. There are 8 bits each for red, green and blue allowing $256 \times 256 \times 256 = 16,777,216$ numbers each defining a specific colour and intensity. 1 pixel therefore requires 3 bytes. The website https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RGB_color_model explains the process and shows the range of colours that can be displayed from combinations of red, green and blue. The retina of the human eye is most sensitive to red, green and blue so mixtures of these three additive primary colours give the largest range of colours visible to humans.

An image made up of one million pixels therefore requires three million bytes (3 megabytes, 3 MB), but the number of megabytes can be reduced if required, by a complex process of compression achieved by saving in the jpg format, without much loss of image quality.

See <http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/camera-sensors.htm> for a full explanation.

Data storage devices

Storage of digital information has made use of magnetic iron oxide films, in earlier days held on flexible plastic tapes, then on floppy plastic discs. Commercial CDs and DVDs are

pressed using a metal substrate deposited on more rigid polycarbonate discs and top-coated with a plastic label – they may shortly become obsolete. Storage devices suitable for holding massive amounts of digital information are now cheaply available and perhaps much less prone to damage and decay than formerly. We are now familiar with external disc drives, memory cards as used in cameras and USB flash memory drives. A typical USB flash memory can now store many gigabytes (1 thousand megabytes = 1 gigabyte, GB) (for comparison the Bible requires about 4 megabytes, 4MB) and external drives up to thousands of gigabytes. The NCHT website holds about 10 gigabytes (10 GB) of information in the memory in the tiny Raspberry Pi computer described in this Journal. A memory card is required for storage as used in digital cameras. A hard disc – the high-speed rotating platter where data are stored – is made out of a mix of elements including ruthenium and platinum, two of the world's rarest and most expensive metals. The move to solid-state devices with no moving parts is welcomed, probably being less prone to failure but their long-term longevity perhaps remains questionable. The way they work depends on transistors made of n-p-n type silicon wafers (silicon with added traces of arsenic, boron and phosphorus) which might be subject to external interference or internal diffusional degradation. The working life of flash memory drives may be limited to around 10 years. Nevertheless, by occasional transfer of data to newer devices, maintaining security over hundreds of years seems feasible. Maybe low-temperature storage of such devices would be helpful.

Milk Kitting

Mary Taylor

Milk Wagons

A common sight in the nineteen fifties and sixties were flat-backed wagons carrying kits, sometimes called churns, full of milk to the local dairies. Farmers took their kits of milk to their milk stand to be loaded onto the milk wagon. Many milk stands can still be seen at the side of country roads; smaller producers often shared a stand.

Ken Armstrong and Sam Bargh of Bentham worked on the milk wagons. Ken drove for his father-in-law Jim Millar in 1961; he had two rounds per day in the Lowgill and Keasden areas. He set off every morning with the wagon of empty kits, stopping at each milk stand to swap an empty kit for the heavy stainless steel one containing up to 13 gallons of milk. The farmer had tied a label to each kit with his name and the quantity of milk inside; later these were replaced by lighter ten gallon aluminium kits. At the end of each round Ken drove his full double-decker wagon of 110 to 125 kits, the front ones tied on in two tiers, to Dobson's dairy at Barnoldswick (Fig. 1). There he backed the wagon up and put the kits off the back, although at most dairies they were put off at the side, onto a roller elevator where workers there collected the labels, took off the lids and tipped the milk into

a big vat. The weight of each kit full was recorded to make sure it tallied with what was on the label. It didn't always as some kits were only partly full, this was short measure. Another problem could be water in the milk which could also be detected at the dairy. After emptying, the kits were cleaned and sterilised ready to be loaded onto the wagon to be returned on the next round; Ken said that they were almost too hot to handle.

If the milk was sour it was rejected and returned to the farmer. One farmer didn't get up early enough to do the morning milking, so his kit contained the previous morning's milk which had gone sour. When Ken took this back the farmer's wife was furious, shouting and swearing at him.

Sam Bargh picked up milk for Libby's dairy at Milnthorpe in the mid-1960s. Some of the wagons nearer to the dairy had four rounds a day as the larger farms in that area produced more milk, so the driver had to call at fewer farms to fill his wagon. There were many dairies working in the same way in the area, including Ball and Kelsall, and Bees dairy at Five Lane ends which made cheese, and Settle creamery which is still working.

On 31st July 1979 collections from milk stands ceased, by order of the Milk Marketing Board. Then the new milk tanker had to be driven to each farm to collect milk from the farms' refrigerated bulk tanks. The kits were then taken back by the dairy to be melted down.

Cooling

Milk had to be cooled to stop it going sour. To cool it some just stood the kit in a trough of cold water which wasn't very efficient. The cooler my father used in Chapel le Dale fitted over the top of the kit with paddles going round inside to stir the milk, and cold water running down the outside. The one we used in Tatham Fells was on the same principle, but there the paddles were hollow with cold water running through them. At Wigglesworth, the cooler there was like a corrugated waterfall; my Uncle heaved the bucket of milk into a tank at the top, the milk ran down the outside of the corrugations which were cooled by water running inside, then the milk ran into the kit at the bottom. There could be problems if the corrugations sprang a leak and the cooling water got into the milk. The first the farmer knew of this was when he was informed by the dairy of water in his milk; he then took the cooler to the blacksmith to be repaired. All the milk was strained through a sile, using sile pads like a disk of cotton wool; some people were known to squeeze the sile pad to get the last drop of milk into the kit.

Before Milk Stands

Before the wagon collections at the farm my Father took the milk kit in the sidecar of his motorbike to Ingleton to be collected. During the 1947 winter he took the kit on a sledge, pulled by our horse Major, over the snow and through gaps he had to make in some walls. He brought groceries back in a flour bag inside the kit. He had to rebuild the walls after the snow.

At Wigglesworth my Grandfather, who had several kits, took them with his horse and trap to Long Preston Station to catch the milk train.

Village Farms

In Bentham, Bateman Marshall's family delivered milk twice a day taking it in a smaller wider kit on a hand cart. The milk was measured into the housewife's jug using one of the measures hanging from the frame. There were seven local farmers delivering in this way in High Bentham - Marshalls, Charnleys, Masons, Bob Wilcock, Roger Bainbridge, John Capstick and Butterfields as well as three in Low Bentham. The outlying farmers took their kits to the station to catch the milk train.



Figure 1 Milk wagon, taken in 1961 at Dobson's Dairy, Barnoldswick. It is one of Ken Armstrong's collection, and he let me photograph it. The chute in the middle was for dried milk powder.

Milk Kitters Ball

The Milk Kitters Ball was a dinner dance, a very smart occasion held in the Floral Hall, Morecambe in the 50s, with women in long dresses and men wearing white gloves. A beauty queen was chosen at this time, but the event was discontinued. The Ball was revived in the early 1960s; Stewart Taylor, who had a milk round in Lancaster for many years, was chairman from 1979 to 2008. When it was revived it was held in the Ashton Hall Ballroom at Lancaster Town Hall, then in Morecambe at the Strathmore, Headway, BVV, and Carlton before moving to the County Hotel, Carnforth. To begin with the Ball was held on the last Wednesday in November but changed to the Saturday, with more than 500 people attending, dancing the foxtrot, quick step, waltz, barn dance, valeta, gay gordons etc. to bands including the 12 piece Northern Orchestra, the six piece Silver Keynotes and the Willow Band. Proceeds from the Ball were given to charity. The Milk Kitters Ball changed over the years as disco dancing took over and few people connected with the milk industry attended. It moved to Heysham Golf Club in 2013 but was cancelled in 2016 for lack of numbers, so the last connection with Milk Kitting is now gone.

Acknowledgements

The milk stand shown on the Journal cover is on the side of the B6480, Bentham side of Newby Moor; it belongs to Doug and Kathleen Taylor, and they gave me permission to photograph it. The kits are fastened down and partly filled with concrete to prevent them being stolen.

More fact than fantasy: a literary glimpse into Giggleswick's past

Mary Slater

Victorian novels are not everyone's choice of reading matter, but when you find one mentioned in Brayshaw and Robinson's *A History of the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick* [1932], interest is aroused. The book in question is *Wooers and Winners, or, Under the Scars. A Yorkshire story* by Mrs. George Linnæus Banks. It was published as a three-volume novel in 1880, having the previous year been serialised as *Under the Scars* in three northern provincial weeklies.

The story spans the period 1830 – 1847, revolving around a young man named Allan Earnshaw (aged fifteen years old at the start), his sister Edith (then thirteen) and their step-father Archibald Thorpe and five year-old step-sister Dora who all live at the ancestral Earnshaw home, Ivy Fold, adjacent to St. Alkald's (*sic*) Church in Giggleswick. Allan is an ex-Giggleswick Grammar School boy, now apprenticed in the counting-house of a Leeds merchant, while Edith is still at the local school run by Mrs. Esther Cragg, formerly of Hornby, her daughter Elizabeth and niece Miss Ann Vasey. This school at Well Bank, next to the Vicarage, also serves as a boarding house for the Grammar School. Allan, Edith and Dora have financial prospects through a rich great-aunt in Skipton. Allan and Edith's step-father is kindly to them but other-worldly, engrossed in his local geological, botanical and archaeological interests. One strand of the tale is provided by a schoolboy jape where an unknown boy dresses up as a ghost. The frightening effect of this may have had the effect of hastening the death of Allan, Edith's and Dora's mother and leads to subsequent difficulties and financial implications. Another story-line involves two young men; one, Martin Pickersgill, an upright and handsome youth who was sent to the Grammar School from a West Indian slave-owning indigo plantation background and is in danger of being defrauded of his plantation and South Yorkshire colliery inheritance, and the other a fellow pupil, Jasper Ellis, always with an eye to self pecuniary advancement and not above duplicity and wrongdoing to achieve it. Both pay court to Edith for their different reasons. Mysteries surround wills affecting Pickersgill and the Earnshaws.

All these plot elements are set against the backdrop of Giggleswick and its inhabitants, the staff and pupils of the Grammar School, the houses where the boys lived, the Craven countryside, geology, and local landscape features such as the Ebbing-and-Flowing Well, together with the characters' connections in Settle, Skipton, Leeds and the South Yorkshire coalfield near Barnsley. Background events include the Leeds election of 1832 and the cholera epidemic there in the same year, the Mechanics' Institute movement, the rise and fall of railway investment fever, the emancipation of West Indian slaves in 1833-4, and the improvement of conditions in the coalfields following the Mines Act of 1842. In the end, of course, everybody, good or bad, gets his or her just deserts. There are a number of vividly drawn lesser *dramatis personæ* –

so many, in fact, that in progressing through the book any reader with any sort of acquaintanceship with the history of these areas and of the times will have become aware not only of the authenticity of the settings described, but also that many of the novel's characters were in fact real people.

It is very clear that the author knew the area extremely well and that she had intimate knowledge of people who lived there, particularly in Giggleswick, at that time. But how could this be, when the novel's events took place forty to fifty years before she published the story? Born Isabella Varley on 25 March 1821 in Manchester, she would, after all, have been only nine years old in 1830. Some investigation seemed called for.

The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography and also a biography *Mrs. G. Linnæus Banks* by E.L. Burney [1969] give us the background to her life. Isabella Varley was the daughter of James Varley, a chemist, and Amelia (née Daniels). Her Daniels relations were in the drapery and related trades and Isabella's novels show a close interest in the dress of her characters. Her Varley grandfather, another James, had discovered the use of chloride of lime for bleaching cotton. Well-educated, she first had published a poem at the age of sixteen. For the next ten years she kept a school at Cheetham, Manchester, and became actively interested in the Anti-Corn Law League and later women's suffrage. She was also very interested in British traditional literature and published volumes of poetry, as well as being skilled in needlework and knitting, producing a monthly series of fancy-work patterns over a period of some forty-five years. In 1846 she married George Linnæus Banks, a Birmingham journalist and poet, who became editor of a number of provincial papers over the years, including *The Harrowgate Advertiser* between 1848 and 1852. Isabella travelled with him to his various postings, absorbing background material – history, landscape, characters, dialect – which she could later draw on. They were both particularly keen on the Mechanics' Institute movement. However, her husband had an increasingly expensive drink problem, so despite poor health herself and giving birth to eight children (five pre-deceased her), at the age of forty-three she started to write novels to help support the family. The settings were places she now knew – Yorkshire, Lancashire, Durham, Birmingham and of course Manchester which was the scene of *The Manchester Man* [1876], her most famous work, concerning the story and characters surrounding the Peterloo Massacre of 1819. She also provided numerous contributions to the *Notes and Queries* pages of the *Manchester City News*. She came to know many literary lights of the day such as Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell and Victor Hugo.

Besides gaining inspiration from the surroundings in which she had found herself during the various periods of her life, she also absorbed and used material from her own family history. The Varleys came from Hornby in Lancashire. Her

great grandfather was Elihu Varley, and he had several children including Esther, born c. 1759, John Nicholas, born c. 1761 and James, his youngest son and Isabella's grandfather mentioned above, born c. 1769 (Figure 1). This latter man was an interesting character. Besides inventing bleaching powder, he had travelled widely in Europe, had penetrated a Turkish harem in disguise, had been present at the storming of the Bastille and spoke fourteen languages. Some of these aspects of his life, and others, are hinted at in the character of James Vasey described in the book. Esther married twice, firstly a Mr. R. Bracken, and secondly the Rev. Robert Cragg by whom she had a daughter, Elizabeth. John Nicholas Varley's children included another Elihu (the fictional Elihu Vasey) who became a West Indian planter, and James' children included Isabella's father James and presumably also a daughter Ann, assuming the book's fictional relationship to be true. Isabella herself had several siblings, one of whom was a brother John Daniels Varley who was sent to Giggleswick School, boarding with his great-aunt Esther, in 1833. It is important to note these family names as many appear in *Wooers and Winners* either as they are, or under the thinnest of disguises. In the novel their real histories and relationships are described very accurately. Although the Varley name appears as Vasey in the book, Esther and Elizabeth Cragg appear under their own names. The real Esther Cragg died in Giggleswick in 1837, and Elizabeth in Settle in 1864, and both are buried in St. Margaret's churchyard, Hornby, where also may be seen other stones commemorating Elihu Varley, Isabella's great grandfather, d. 1773, and James Varley, Esther's brother and Isabella's grandfather who died in Giggleswick in 1837 shortly after his sister (Figure 2). Ann Varley died and was buried in Giggleswick in January 1849. Isabella's brother John Daniels Varley appears in the novel as John Danson, a Hornby surname also to be seen on a tombstone in St. Margaret's churchyard. The fictional hero's surname, Earnshaw, was that of an early family friend. The sexton in the story is named Bracken, the surname of the real Esther's first husband. A number of subsidiary characters, such as Dr. Thomas Dixon Burrow and John Tatham, the botanising Quaker shopkeeper of Settle, Parson Clapham and his eccentric son Thomas, and from Giggleswick School the Revs. Rowland Ingram (headmaster) and John Howson (usher), appear in the book under their own names. The reality of all these people, if proof is needed, can be confirmed by historical writings or reference to censuses online and family history websites, although their characters as portrayed in the novel may only have been very distantly remembered or learnt from family reminiscence.

Archibald Thorpe is an interesting character who, according to Adelene Buckland in her book *Novel Science* [2013], epitomises the geologists and other similar scientists of the period who were obsessive to the point of being neglectful of other responsibilities. Isabella writes 'Mr. Thorpe, who had more knowledge of plants and stones than of humanity...'. Others of her books have similar characters. In the novel she has Thorpe, together with Martin Pickersgill, discovering the cave which became known as Victoria Cave. In reality, of course, the cave was discovered in 1837 by Michael Horner and Joseph Jackson. Various reports followed, culminating in William Boyd Dawkins' account in *Cave Hunting* [1874], which Isabella very probably had read.

Because so much of Isabella's time had been spent in the newspaper world, she would have been fully aware of the value of past newspaper files for information about wider events such as the Leeds election of December 1832, the period, the effects and personalities of railway mania, the abolition of slavery and the social conditions in coal-mining communities. Isabella's own teenage urge to write is mirrored in her heroine Edith's similar experience, both having early poetry published in a newspaper. The fictional Edith is encouraged in her writing endeavours by the real Thomas Lister, the Barnsley Quaker poet, naturalist and advocator of Mechanics' Institutes, and Ebenezer Elliot, known as the Corn Law Rhymer. But the background for more local colour must have come from elsewhere. Always interested in local history and topography, she would have seen Whitaker's *History of Craven* which had reached its third edition by 1878. She was known to use maps as writing aids, so she most probably had, for example, the 1847 6 inches to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of Giggleswick in front of her as she wrote, as the descriptions of the village layout are so vivid (Figure 3). Her brother was a Giggleswick pupil in 1833 and would no doubt have told her of schoolboy goings-on. Mrs. Esther Cragg (née Varley) was Isabella's great-aunt and was visited at least once in Giggleswick by her around 1845 (according to an article written for the *Manchester City News* in 1885). Well Bank of the book would be Bankwell, and the 1851 census has Elizabeth Cragg living at Ivy Court (*sic*) in Giggleswick. Isabella describes the novel's Ivy Fold in such minute detail that she must have known it intimately – Ann Varley was living there in 1849 at the time of her death. Isabella is following the good advice given to authors – write about what you know about – even though it was fifty years later.

What did the book reviewers of 1880 have to say about this very locally rooted book? *The Literary Examiner* of 7 August 1880 considered that 'Though there is but very little strong interest in the novel, there is no want of quietly amusing incident and pleasing description. As the main feature of the plot turns on the question as to whether a young man did or did not dress himself up as a ghost, it can be guessed that there is no great sensational excitement to be expected'. However (damning with faint praise) the book was felt to be readable, and was commended to patrons of circulating libraries. Clearly much of the interest of the book would be lost on those who were unfamiliar with the area or with the history of the 1830's.

The Graphic (14 August 1880) considered that Mrs. Banks 'without any large measure of dramatic power, or of skill in putting a story together ... has ... the art of reproducing the manners and customs and the peculiarities of thought and feeling that belonged to provincial England fifty years ago, and of bringing them to life again. ... The scene ... is laid in Craven, when Leeds was first enfranchised, when railways were new wonders, when, in remote districts, people still lived in the fashion of a hundred years before, while the great towns of the North were becoming conscious of new life and power'. The review went on to describe how the private lives of her characters were mixed up with the public affairs and movements of the time, information obviously gleaned by the writer from those taking part in them. The *Graphic* thought the story badly arranged, and having other defects from a

Relevant Varley Family Tree
 VARLEY = VASEY in "Woovers and Winners"

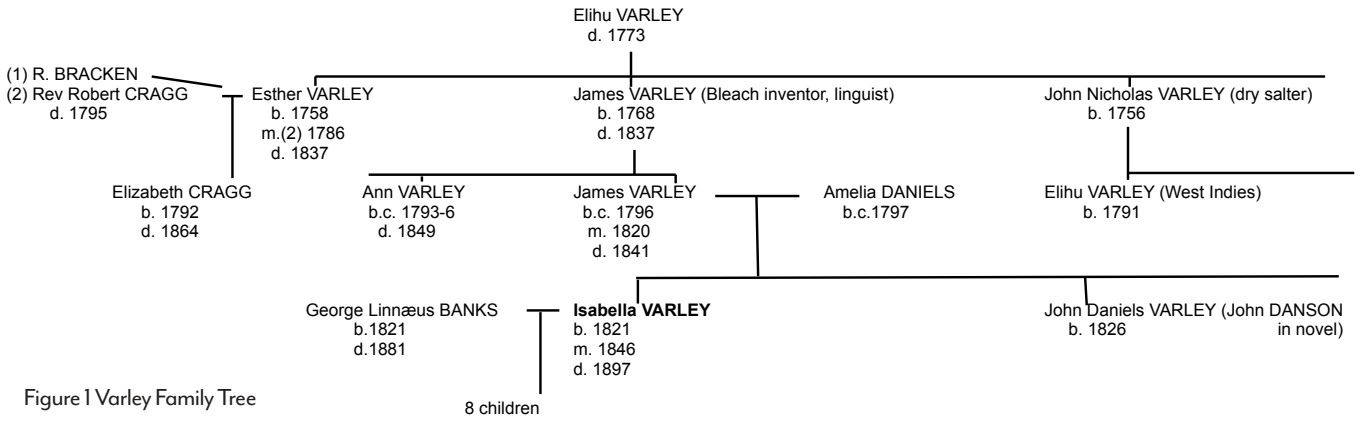


Figure 1 Varley Family Tree



Figure 2 Gravestone in St Margaret's Churchyard, Hornby



Figure 4 The Parish Umbrella Tree. Photograph (n.d.) from Thomas Brayshaw's scrapbook, volume 2, courtesy of Barbara Gent, Brayshaw Library, Giggleswick School.



Figure 3 Giggleswick in 1847 from OS six-inch series. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.

<https://maps.nls.uk/index.html>

literary standpoint, but the minor characters were admirable portraits obviously drawn from life. But all in all, the novel was considered excellent, and recommended not only to those interested in Yorkshire, but to all readers 'who care for manlier food than that wherewith novelists commonly supply them'.

Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper reviewed the novel on 18 July 1880. To quote: 'No novel could be more thoroughly wholesome and satisfactory in tone ... The bad man who flourishes like a bay tree during the first and second volumes, and the greater part of the third, is covered with ignominy before the close of the book, and the deserving men and women are properly rewarded; and all this comes about ... without any strain upon one's incredulity. Mrs. Banks has displayed ... a singular power of description of bygone themes' dealing with the Yorkshire of the 1830s and mentioning George Hudson the railway king and Edward Baines and his work in the education field. *Lloyd's* considered the story had a clever plot, there was 'no puling sentimentality in her love-passages, no lingering on the confines of delicate questions in her pages, no hinting at the breaches of the one Commandment on which so many modern novels turn'. I think the *Graphic* and *Lloyd's* reviewers have both hit the nail on the head.

So ingeniously does the novel's storyline incorporate actual places, personalities and happenings, both local and national, that one suspects many other incidental details described also to be true. We know there was a Parish Umbrella Tree between Settle bridge and Stackhouse Lane, mentioned twice in the text, because there is a photograph of it, labelled The Umbrella Tree, in Thomas Brayshaw's scrapbook held in the Brayshaw Library, Giggleswick School (Figure 4). Dr. Burrow *did* live at the corner of the Market Place, but was it really nick-named Lazy Corner because idlers lounged there? Was Apple Tree Hall a reality? The real Osmanthorpe is near

Southwell in Nottinghamshire – was Isabella thinking of another specific pit village near Barnsley? I am sure some readers will know the answers to these questions.

To finish, I can do no better than to quote again *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*: 'There are many passages in the three substantial volumes that might be quoted with advantage and pleasure to the reader; we will, however leave those persons who are attracted by the account we have given of *Woovers and Winners* to secure the volumes and read the book through for themselves'. To access a copy, try through the library service, look on www.archive.org, Google the title or borrow mine!

Acknowledgement

The image of the Umbrella Tree is taken from Brayshaw's scrapbook, vol.2, by kind permission of Barbara Gent of Giggleswick School.

References

- Banks, Mrs. G. Linnæus, 1876. *The Manchester man*. Hurst and Blackett, London.
- Banks, Mrs. G. Linnæus, 1880. *Woovers and winners, or, under the scars. A Yorkshire story*. Hurst and Blackett, London.
- Brayshaw, T. and Robinson, R.M., 1932. *A history of the ancient parish of Giggleswick*. Halton and Company Ltd., London.
- Buckland, A., 2013. *Novel science*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London.
- Burney, E.L. 1969. *Mrs. G. Linnæus Banks*. E.J. Morten, Manchester.
- Dawkins, W.B., 1874. *Cave hunting*. Macmillan and Co., London..

Death and Disease in North Craven 1610 - 1820

Michael Pearson

Introduction

Last year Mary and Michael Slater provided a fascinating account, which appeared in this journal, of the medical practitioners who served the people of Settle from the late 17th century onwards. This inspired me to investigate the other side of the coin – the people they treated - that is the patients. What diseases afflicted the people of North Craven and what did they die of? The Slaters' article was based mainly on information gleaned from wills and probate inventories. Although these documents provide glimpses of the people and their lives they tell us little about their health and ultimately their death.

Prior to the Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1836, and the introduction of civil registration, baptisms and burials were recorded in parish registers. It is only comparatively recently, from 1845, that a doctor has had to certify the cause

of death before the deceased could be buried. So we are reliant on parish registers for information from the late sixteenth century to the start of the nineteenth century. Unfortunately the registers are not always complete and in the case of Clapham parish there are obvious gaps until the early seventeenth century. For this study I have focused on Clapham but checked my findings with the neighbouring parishes of Giggleswick and Ingleton.

In the case of baptisms the parish registers usually record the name of the child, the names of the parents and the date of the baptism. Occasionally the actual date of birth was noted and where the baptism was of an adult, this too was recorded. With burials the name of the deceased and the date of burial were registered. Where the deceased was still a child or adolescent the name of one of the parents was also entered.

Sometimes the age of the deceased was also noted. Accidental deaths were occasionally recorded. For example, Robert Procter was buried on 12th August 1677 and the comment was added 'fell from a cliff in Norber'. Another rare addition was Laurence Remington 'drowned crossing the bridge near Turnerford on 17th December (1706)'. Other information available from the registers was the abode of the person and sometimes their occupation. So the barest amount of information is available with which to attempt to reconstruct a picture of the lives of people living in the area. What makes the Clapham registers so special is that from January 1804 to December 1812, the incumbent had also recorded the cause of death. We will return to this later, but first of all what can be made of the bare records?

Infant Mortality

Infants are among the most vulnerable members of any society and are often at higher risk of dying than any other age group. So measures of infant mortality are often used as an indicator of the general health of a society and are usually expressed as the number of deaths under one year of age per thousand live births per year. In theory the parish registers provide the number of births (baptisms) in any one year and then by checking the burial records for the following twelve months an assessment of the number of deaths is reached. So for a child baptised in October 1665 the burial register has to be checked until October 1666. This is a very time-consuming task! It was therefore decided to sample one year per decade from 1615 to 1815 and the results are shown in Figure 1. There appears to have been an increase in mortality at the start of the seventeenth century, reaching a peak in 1665 (228 burials), and then declining at the end of the period. However, the graph is very spikey with considerable variation between annual mortality rates. In England the national infant mortality rates have been calculated to have been about 175 per 1000 live births in 1581, increasing to about 200 by the late 17th century and then decreasing to approximately 150 by the early 19th century. The pattern is not too dissimilar for Clapham though the peak was slightly earlier. All of these figures are considerably higher than those reported more recently. According to the Office for National Statistics the infant mortality rate for 2016 was 3.6.

So how reliable are the figures calculated for Clapham? Fortunately in the registers for 1805 and 1815 the date of birth as well as baptism were recorded. It is clear that in some cases there was a delay of several weeks between birth and baptism: so for any calendar year the baptism records would include children born the previous year and exclude others born in that year but not baptised until the following year. On the whole these two should balance each other. Perhaps more significant was the discovery that in each of these sample years there were three children who were recorded in the burial register but had not been baptised. With the appropriate adjustments the mortality rate for 1805 rose from 47 to 109 per thousand and for 1815 it rose from 97 to 138. These large increases are due to the small numbers in the sample. Clearly the rates calculated for Clapham are significantly lower than the actual level of infant deaths.

In theory it would be possible to calculate childhood mortality rates, or the deaths of children below the age of five years. In the 75 years between 1556 and 1652 a total of 5307

children were born in the Swaledale parish of Richmond. Of these 1348 (25%) died before the age of five years [Fieldhouse and Jennings, 1978].

Birth and Death Rates

Unfortunately we do not have reliable estimates of the size of the population for Clapham as the national censuses were not introduced until the 19th century. Thus it is not possible to calculate the birth and death rates (the births and deaths per 1000 people). However it is possible to count the number of births and deaths from the registers. Figure 2 shows the total figures for each decade. For each decade the number of births exceeded the number of deaths, so without migration the population of Clapham would have increased throughout the period. What is also evident is that there was considerable variation in the number of deaths. This is even more apparent when individual years are considered. In the 17th and 18th centuries Europe was subject to periodic surges in the number of deaths, due to epidemics of infectious diseases or short-term famines. These peaks in the number of deaths are often referred to as 'mortality crises'. These peaks have been identified by comparing the number of burials in each year with that expected in an 'average' year. As the average may change with the rise or fall of a population a 'moving' average is often used. For example for the year 1700 the number of burials is compared with the average for 1695 to 1705. Then for 1701 the number of burials is compared with the average for 1696 to 1706. So how much higher do the deaths have to be above the average to be recognised as a crisis year? Some historians use a figure of twice whilst others use a factor of one and a half depending on the size of the parish.

In the former case (twice the 'moving' average) none of the years in the period for Clapham would be classed as a crisis year. When the factor of one and a half was used the following years could be classed as having significantly higher mortality: 1623, 1624, 1655, 1729, 1741, 1742, 1775 and 1791. Is it possible to find out more about the causes of this high mortality? Was it due to food shortage and famine or was it caused by epidemics of infectious disease? Is it possible to speculate which diseases were involved? To answer these questions involves a more detailed, monthly, analysis of the number of burials and comparisons with neighbouring parishes.

The Crisis of 1623

In many parts of northern England this year was marked by a severe mortality crisis. A study of nine Cumbrian parishes provided convincing evidence that not only was there a harvest failure but the resulting famine resulted in an increase in deaths [Appleby, 1973]. Likewise there was an increase in mortality in Dentdale though it was concluded that a combination of factors may have been to blame. In other words malnutrition may have rendered the population vulnerable to unspecified infectious diseases [Stacey, 2000]. A study of mid-Wharfedale parishes demonstrated an increase in mortality but it was not as high as seen elsewhere [Long and Pickles, 1986]. Although the harvest may have been no better than in the rest of the region it was suggested that easy access to markets for the sale of livestock and the existence of secondary industrial activities may have enabled people to buy food and avoid starvation.

Figure 3 shows the number of deaths for the parishes of

Clapham, Giggleswick and Ingleton. In Clapham the first peak in mortality appeared in June and July 1623 when nine and eight burials were recorded respectively (compared to an average of less than two per month). A second peak occurred in December 1623 (nine burials) which steadily declined until April 1624 (five burials), followed by an average of just over two per month to December of that year. This would not appear to fit the pattern expected if famine was the cause of the mortality.

In Ingleton there was no peak in the summer of 1623, but like Clapham there was an increase in burials in the autumn until April 1624. At its height there were 11 burials per month which fell to an average of just over one per month. Again the pattern does not fit that expected from a harvest failure. For Giggleswick there was a peak in deaths in March and April 1623 (12 and 14 burials) followed by a further one in August (13 burials). These were followed by a period of sustained mortality from October 1623 to March 1624 which then fell to an average of just under three burials per month. The pattern was similar to that observed in Clapham but the autumn to spring crisis lasted longer. Another aspect to consider is the balance between adult and child/adolescent burials. For the prolonged peak in Clapham 30 adults were buried compared to seven children. For Ingleton the difference was less stark: 26 adults and 18 children. This was also the case in Giggleswick (29 adult and 21 child burials).

It is generally assumed that where there has been a failure in the harvest the number of deaths would start to increase from September and would continue to the next harvest the following August. If there were reserves in storage then the famine might be delayed for all but the poorest members of the community. This might explain the delay in the peak mortality to the end of the autumn 1623 in Clapham and Ingleton. Even so one would have expected the crisis to last longer to the summer of 1624 but this was not the case. Perhaps all three parishes had access to grain from outside the area. It is also assumed that in cases of famine there would be more deaths of children compared to adults but this was not seen in any of the three parishes.

A final aspect to consider is the impact on the number of births. Famine is known to disrupt the menstrual cycle with a resulting decline in the number of births. All three parishes showed a steep fall in the number of baptisms in 1623 with a further fall in 1624 (apart from Ingleton). The number of baptisms recovered in 1625 but not consistently to the same level as seen in 1622. For example, In Clapham there were 42 baptisms in 1622, which fell to 24 and 17 for the next two years and then recovered to 39 in 1625. If famine was the cause of this decline in the number of births then one would expect the fall to occur in 1624 because of the nine month time-lapse, and yet the decline had started the previous year.

The Crisis of 1729

The years 1727 to 1730 were supposedly the second worst crisis between 1541 and 1871. Mortality was particularly high in northern England and although the harvests of 1727 and 1728 seem to have been poor the crisis does not appear to have been a result of famine. It has also been suggested that the crisis was more severe in the countryside rather than urban areas and that the poor and elderly were particularly affected [Healey, 2008].

Using the 'moving' average method only 1729 would be classed as a crisis year for Clapham. The average number of burials from 1722 to 1726 was 28 per year. The number then rose to 43 (1727 and 1728), 56 (1729) and 52 (1730). The average for the following five years fell to 28 per year. In other words there were four years of higher than expected mortality which suggests that there were several causes for the increased number of deaths: possibly a combination of famine and outbreaks of several infectious diseases.

Figure 4 shows the monthly burials for Clapham, Giggleswick and Ingleton. For Clapham there was a peak starting in December 1728 which lasted until April 1729. There was a similar peak in Giggleswick but of shorter duration (from March to May 1729). In Ingleton there were two peaks, one in January and the other in March 1729. In Giggleswick the majority of burials were of adults (29 adults, 10 children). The contrast was even more striking in Clapham where 43 adults and 6 children died. In Ingleton there were 12 adults and 9 children buried. All three parishes showed further peaks in mortality in the late winter or early spring of 1730.

Focusing on the 1729 crisis is it possible to identify the possible causes based on the timing and the impact on different age groups? It appears unlikely to have been caused by starvation due to the duration and timing of the deaths. Of the infectious diseases it is possible to rule out measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough and dysentery as these primarily affected children or tended to appear in the late summer. Although smallpox spreads slowly it only affects those who were not exposed to the virus since the last outbreak, i.e. mainly adolescents and children. Influenza is generally a winter disease and any epidemic tends to run its course in about seven weeks. Again this does not seem to fit the pattern recorded for 1729 (but does match that observed for the following year). Consumption (tuberculosis) can also be excluded as it is a chronic condition with deaths occurring throughout the year. The first case of cholera appeared in Sunderland in 1831 so this too can be ruled out. This leaves the possibility of typhus fever or typhoid.

In the eighteenth century these two diseases were lumped together under the term 'continuing fevers' to distinguish them from the 'intermittent fevers' such as is produced by malaria. It was not until the next century that physicians were able to differentiate between typhus and typhoid. Both were characterised by fever and a blotchy pink rash: one tended to be acute, killing within days (typhus), whilst the other was chronic, sometimes resulting in months of sickness (typhoid). The cause of these diseases had to wait until the early years of the twentieth century. Typhus is caused by a bacterium transmitted by an infected body louse. Typhoid is a water borne disease caused by human excreta leaking into the water supply or by the consumption of contaminated food. Of course it is pure speculation as to which of these diseases or neither was responsible for the peak in mortality. The season would suggest typhus, due to the reluctance to wash during the cold winter months. Also the dispersed geographical nature of the deaths might suggest that it was not due to typhoid fever. It is unlikely that we will ever discover the cause!

Causes of Death 1804–1812

During this period there were 324 burials in the parish of Clapham and of these only 14 did not have a cause of death entered in the register. The most frequently stated cause was 'infirmity' (30%) which was generally associated with the older part of the population. Likewise 'weakness' (8%) was predominantly associated with infant mortality. Other terms, such as 'fever' and 'convulsions', are more a description of the symptoms rather than the disease involved (11%). Nevertheless there is an interesting array recorded. The greatest killer was consumption (19%) compared to smallpox, which accounted for 3% of deaths. There is a large range of causes listed: accidents (3% which included broken leg and dislocation of the hip), chin cough (whooping cough, three cases), cancer (two cases), gravel and stone (kidney/bladder stones, three cases). There were just two deaths attributed to childbirth and just one of scarlet fever. The latter is a reminder that this disease appeared in a mild form in the 18th century and again in the present day but became a major childhood killer for much of the 19th century. There was just the single death attributed to typhus fever although some 14 people died of unspecified fever.

This raises the question of who diagnosed the cause of death. Was it the incumbent or the relatives of the deceased? Perhaps the local apothecary or surgeon was consulted. Some of the causes are vague (cramp in the stomach) whilst others (internal impostume) suggest some medical knowledge but are equally imprecise.

In 1808 there was an outbreak of smallpox in the parish of Clapham. The first burial was in the middle of March, who was also the oldest victim, aged 15 years. There were a further nine burials, all children. The last one was of Charles Hudson in September. His older brother had died of the same disease the previous month. So of the 49 burials that year ten were due to smallpox and yet this was not a crisis year. As we know the age of the oldest victim it is possible to calculate the number of births in the previous 16 years and subtract the number of childhood deaths for the same period. This provides a childhood population of 553 in Clapham in 1808. As there were ten deaths from smallpox this provides a mortality rate of 1.8% of the childhood population. One of the features of smallpox is that once one has been exposed to it one has immunity to further outbreaks. This would suggest that the previous outbreak was at least 15 years (the age of the oldest victim) prior to 1808. The parish records show that 1791 was a crisis year with some 67 burials, 37 of which were of children under the age of 18 years. This suggests that there may have been an outbreak of smallpox in 1791.

Unlike smallpox the burials for people suffering from consumption appeared throughout the period 1804 to 1812. The number of burials ranged from one to twelve each year with an average of six per year. The age of the victims ranged from under a year in age to 74. The average age at death for women was 29 years whilst the average for men was 35 years. Although the cause of the disease was not known at the time it was recognised that sleeping in close proximity to a person who showed the symptoms was to be avoided [Buchan, 1781]. The danger of close contact is illustrated by the Redmayne family in Clapham. Robert, aged five months, was buried in February 1811. His mother, Catherine, died in

April. Her daughter, Alice, was buried in June 1812, at the age of 6 years. Catherine's husband, and the children's father, Robert Redmayne, was buried in July 1812. In each case the cause of death was ascribed to consumption.

Discussion

Anyone who has used parish records for historical research soon realises that these registers are far from perfect. Nevertheless, they provide important demographic information for the period before the introduction of civil registration. Analysis of baptismal and burial records can provide some interesting insights into the diseases and causes of death in the early modern period. The data show that there was considerable variation in birth and mortality rates over the period. This variation was also reflected in the levels of infant mortality. Detailed analysis of the 'crisis years' of 1623 and 1729 also demonstrates that there was significant variation between neighbouring parishes in North Craven. Although it is tempting to speculate as to the causes of these peaks in mortality it is rarely possible to attribute them to a single cause.

The early 19th century records of the causes of death for the Clapham parish are rare and fascinating. In many instances the cause of death was not known: there was still confusion between the symptoms and the cause of these symptoms. Deaths resulted from accidents, complications of child-birth, cancer as well as a multitude of infections. Some of these diseases were endemic in the population, developing over years, such as consumption. Others occurred in epidemics, such as smallpox, which spread rapidly through these rural communities.

The stark records of the Redmaynes highlight the impact of disease on individual families. It is not difficult to imagine the misery and suffering from the simple statistics. Contemporary letters and journals provide further details. In 1794 a Lancashire gentleman, Richard Hodgkinson, visited his friends (the Flavel family) and noted the loss of three of the children. He wrote 'But the burial of three children all of the same disorder has been so severe a stroke upon Mrs Flavel that she is quite dispirited and seems apprehensive of living to bury the other three' [Wood, 1992].

Although there had been advances in the understanding of human anatomy and physiology, medical knowledge at the end of 18th century was still very rudimentary. William Buchan's *Domestic Medicine* was a popular book which had reached the seventh edition by 1781. Aimed at the self-help market, rather than the medical profession, it highlights the confusion about the causes of diseases and their treatment. For example, he distinguished between several different forms of fever: putrid or spotted, military, remitting and intermitting or ague. In each case he prescribed Peruvian bark as a treatment. In fact we now know that Peruvian bark, as a source of quinine, is only effective in the prevention of malaria or intermitting fever. Buchan's suggested treatment of malaria was initially to cleanse the stomach and bowels with a purging medicine. If this did not result in a cure then bleeding was recommended and if this did not work then Peruvian bark was prescribed. Not only were many of the treatments ineffective but many were even harmful.

For those who found such books too confusing or the treatments ineffective there was professional help at hand.

Those with resources could turn to the physicians, surgeons and apothecaries. The account book of Roger Strickland of Richmond contains numerous entries relating to the care of his children. In 1748 he paid Dr Assque and Mr Wayne, an apothecary, a total of £15-9s-10d. The following year the bill totalled £7-14s-6d. Unfortunately there is no evidence that their treatment was any more successful.

Despite high levels of infant and childhood mortality there were some who survived to old age. Richard Hodgkinson described how on a visit to Manchester in 1844 he found he was unable to stand from the excessive pain in his left leg. Having been examined by two surgeons they “immediately bled me by cupping between my shoulders. At the end of seven weeks I could walk about the room and in ten weeks I could walk a little in the garden”. He continued “This attack has not seriously injured my bodily health but it seems to be rather hastening the feebleness of old age. I have completed my eightieth year”.

The major advances in the control of infectious diseases had to wait until later in the 19th century with the provision of effective sanitation and clean drinking water. This was followed in the 20th century by the medical advances that today we take for granted.

References

Appleby, A. B., 1973. *Disease or Famine? Mortality in Cumberland & Westmorland 1580-1640*. Economic History Review 26: 403-432

Buchan, W., 1781.

Domestic medicine: or, a treatise on the prevention and cure of diseases by regimen and simple medicines. London: Strahan

Fieldhouse, R. and Jennings, B., 1978. *A history of Richmond and Swaledale*. London: Phillimore

Healey, J., 2008. *Socially selective mortality during the population crisis of 1727-1730: evidence from Lancashire*. Local Population Studies 81: 58-74

Long, M. and Pickles, M., 1986. *An inquiry into mortality in some mid-Wharfedale parishes in 1623*. Local Population Studies 37: 19-35

Stacey, F., 2000. *Deadly days in Stuart Dentdale*. Sedbergh Historian IV: 8-11

Turner, M. and Summerbridge Tutorial Group, 1995. *Kith and kin: Nidderdale families 1500-1750*. Summerbridge Tutorial Group

Wenham, L. P., 1982. *Roger Strickland of Richmond 1680-1749*. North Yorkshire County Records Office.

Wood, F. and K., 1992. *A Lancashire gentleman. The letters and journals of Richard Hodgkinson 1765-1847*. Stroud: Sutton

Figure 1 Infant mortality rates for Clapham

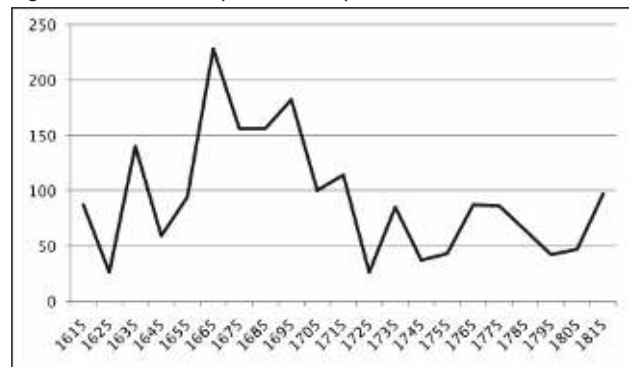


Figure 2 Clapham: Total figures for each decade

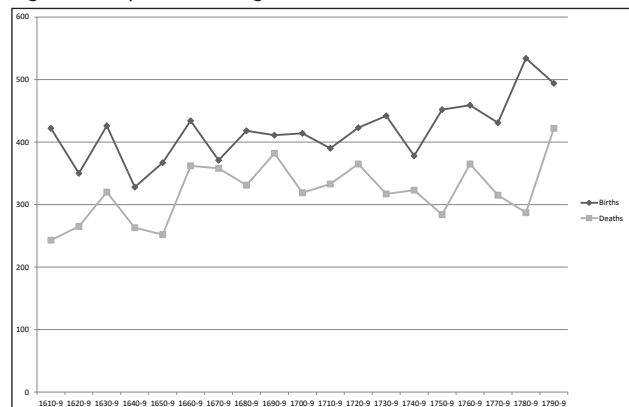


Figure 3 Number of deaths for Clapham, Giggleswick and Ingletton

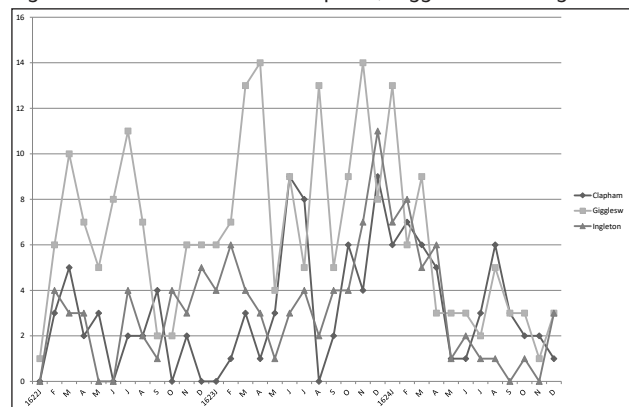
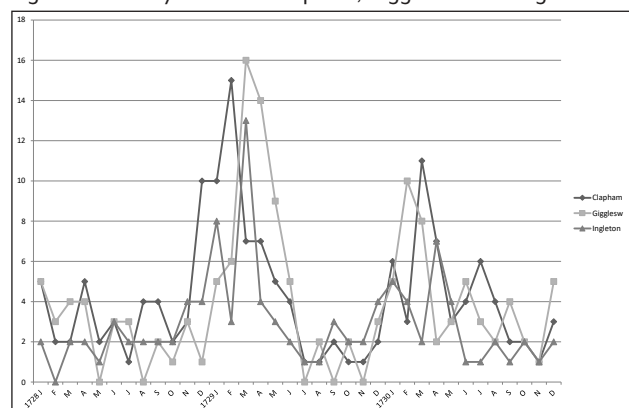


Figure 4 Monthly burials for Clapham, Giggleswick and Ingletton



An 18th Century Shopkeeper – the account book of William Carr of Settle

Sheila M Gordon

A few years ago the account book of William Carr senior, mercer of Settle, was discovered amongst papers belonging to the Wilkinson family of Aysgarth. This fascinating book gives a glimpse of the everyday life of a shopkeeper and his customers in a rural Yorkshire town at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Such books rarely come to light and we are indebted to the family who donated this treasure to the North Yorkshire County Record Office at Northallerton.

During his lifetime William became a wealthy man with a house, shops, barns, stables and gardens in Settle market square where the Naked Man Cafe still stands. He also owned other properties and lands both in the Settle area and beyond. When he died in 1732 his inventory totalled £1001-15s-5d making him one of the wealthiest men in the parish at the time. A closer examination of his inventory appears to show him running an inn at some point as well as his drapery shop, as evidenced by the items listed which include ‘5 spitts used for roasting large joints of meat on’. In addition a search of the account book reveals William paying Robert Brayshaw for making malt for him over a period of three years. If we examine the inventory of John Cookeson of 1690, from whom William bought the property, we see that John (also) appears to have been running the Naked Man as an inn, as shown by large numbers of beds and bedding, crockery, cooking equipment and numerous barrels.

On his death William’s account book was taken over by his brother-in-law Leonard Wilkinson of Swinshea, Dale Head, Slaidburn, who proceeded to use it for his farming accounts. Leonard used any spare pages (including half pages) for this and even went to the extremes of cutting out some blank pages, probably for his own letter writing.

The book gives a valuable insight into the business of a mercer in Settle in the early 1700’s, covering as it does the years 1721 - 1725. It also gives us glimpses of the lives of his customers as they go about their daily business, farming the land, caring for stock, making their own bread and cheese and in particular buying fabrics and accessories to be made up into garments for all the family. No attempt was made to keep

<i>In the year 1724 Recd –</i>	<i>1 Cow in Silverdale</i>	<i>0: 16: 0 by summering</i>
	<i>2 whyes summering</i>	<i>0: 13: 0</i>
	<i>2 tupps [Cald] Close</i>	<i>0: 6: 0</i>
	<i>15 week in silverdale for mare & foal and stotts</i>	<i>0: 5: 0</i>
		<i>2: 0: 0</i>

Another instance of paying his bill ‘in kind’ occurred previously on February 1st, 1721 when he settled part of his account with two cheeses both weighing approximately 33lbs, though no price is shown in the account book for these items.

Three women who had accounts in their own name appear three times in the index; these are Mrs. Baynes of Giggleswick, Mrs. Anna Hargreaves, Widow and Mrs. Anne Jacques. The items debited to Mrs. Baynes’ account are all related to fabrics, binding, thread etc. and are purchased for herself or her

textile purchases separate from farming ones, nor would this have been possible anyway, as William supplied such a variety of goods from animals and animal feed to tobacco, paper, tallow, soap, cane sugar and many other items. All of these pale into insignificance though when compared to the fabrics and accessories which were his main stock in trade.

The book starts with an index of all his clients and often includes the townships and villages that they came from. In all, one hundred and fourteen places are mentioned with Settle being the most frequently listed, as you would expect, followed by Giggleswick, Austwick, Long Preston and Clapham. The customer base was far-reaching and extended from Ingleton and Bentham in the north-west to Gargrave and Skipton in the south-east, from Colne in the south to Kettlewell and Buckden in the north.

Of all the accounts listed in the index three names appear most frequently, i.e. five times. These are John Lister, Apothecary of Settle, Adam Brown butcher of Settle and William Preston of Birkwith. John Lister’s accounts consist of frequent purchases of fabric, buttons, thread, tape, bone and cording, purchased for various people including his wife, daughter and maid. His account for 1724 (p85) was amongst the largest, amounting to thirty-six separate purchases and one of the most expensive items on it was for 6¾ yds. of yellow tammy (a worsted cloth) plus thread costing 9s-9d.

By contrast Adam Brown’s accounts were chiefly of stock purchased for his butcher’s shop in Settle, with just the occasional purchase of fabrics and other haberdashery for his wife and daughter. The list included the purchase of calves, lambs and sheep and also includes the annual rent of his shop in May 1724 amounting to £21-15s-0d.

William Preston’s accounts include many fabrics and associated items but also a significant number of sheep and cattle. In September 1723 he bought twenty wethers at 11s-6d each and fourteen ewes and lambs at 7s-0d each. In 1724 he reduced his bill by £2 by pasturing some of William’s stock on his land in Silverdale:-

daughter. The second woman, Mrs. Anna Hargreaves, Widow, ran the Golden Lion in Settle, this being one of the few occupations open or acceptable to widows during this period. Anna was buying fabrics and other haberdashery as you would expect and also on occasion ‘pecks of best beans’. She must have been shopping in Kendal because there is an interesting note in one of her accounts stating that William Carr ‘owes her for A pair of shoes came from Kendall for my wife’. Whether William’s wife Jane had chosen and ordered

them previously whilst she herself was in Kendal at some point, we will never know. The third woman Mrs Anne Jacques was from Bishopdale and her purchases were likewise fabrics and trimmings. In May 1723 she purchased 6 yards of Mantua Silk at 2s-4d per yard. Such silks at this time were named 'solely by the place of origin' [Kerridge, 1865 p130] and the Mantuas were used for gowns and petticoats.

The frequency of a person's name in the index does not necessarily prove that they were one of William's best customers but it is at least an indicator of such; likewise the length and extent of a person's account. Not all purchases were purely for personal use though and John Lister's account for 1723 (p58) is one such example, extending to thirty-six lines in the book and including items such as 2½ dozen white waistcoats and 4 dozen white buttons; it becomes obvious that this is not just for household consumption. John was in fact a mercer himself, trading in Settle until at least 1744 when he was described as such in a Wakefield Deed. The deed (Giggleswick SS452 605) dated January of that year describes John signing over his property of Thorntree in Giggleswick to his brother Anthony Lister, Vicar of that parish. John was a very wealthy man who owned several properties and land throughout the area and we discover in a deed of 1730 (Giggleswick BB551 739) that he was running the fulling mill in Giggleswick in partnership with Matthew Watkinson, blacksmith of the same place.

An analysis of the fabrics mentioned in the account book reveal that of the forty different types of cloth sold, the most popular was carsey, more commonly known as kersey, with two hundred separate references over a five year period. Carsey was a coarse woollen fabric described as being ideal for keeping out the cold and the wet and so perfect for our northern climes. This fabric was used for working clothes, including overcoats and stockings, and it comes as no surprise that it was top of the list. Being such a basic material there was presumably little need for colour and the figures bear this out with only eight references to the colour brown.

Coming second in the list of the top five fabrics used was serge which, unlike carsey, was available in several colours apart from plain, namely blue, red, orange, grey, brown and black. This durable twilled worsted fabric was very popular in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and was used for general wear. Shalloon was another popular fabric used for women's dresses and coat linings and this was available in blue, red, black, brown and grey as well as plain.

For a more extensive range of colours we must look to tammy which was purchased in green, white, red, scarlet, yellow, brown, black and orange, green and white striped, black and white striped and finally red plaid. Tammy was a fine lightly woven fabric, often glazed and was popular for making petticoats and waistcoats. Red or scarlet cloth was frequently used to make a cloak and this traditional garment was often worn for church or chapel on Sunday [Satchell, 1986 p16] and was immortalised in the story of Little Red Riding Hood. In her account book for 1673 that indomitable Lady Anne Clifford is recorded as having purchased 2¾ yards of scarlet cloth from Kendal, the fabric thought to be probably intended for a cloak [Satchell, 1986 p16]. More pertinent to this area is a record in William's account book dated 26th July 1723 for '2 ½ yards Red Tamey Stript 17d per' and on the same day '1 yard Redish Popling 17d per' and charged to

Mrs. Baynes of Giggleswick. The quantity of red tammy, similar to that purchased by Lady Anne fifty years earlier, would be enough to make a cloak. Likewise the 'Redish Popling' may have been used as part of a lining for the hood, but this is of course pure conjecture.

Finally in our top five list we find fustian, a short napped cloth with a surface resembling velvet and highly suited for dresses and other goods. This fabric, like carsey, had a limited colour range namely plain, white or striped with only seven of the one hundred and ten references being other than plain.

Flannel although not as popular as those previously mentioned, was nevertheless an important fabric, amongst other things because this Welsh-made woollen cloth was frequently used as a burial material. In 1666 Parliament decreed that all burials must be in woollen cloth 'to foster the woollen industry in this country and to reduce the import of linen' [Satchell, 1986 p33]. However this was largely ignored and a new act was passed in 1669 which required a certificate to be produced as proof. Penalties were imposed for non-compliance and an example can be found in Brayshaw [1932 p229] where John Lister, mercer of Settle was fined £5 in 1688 'for burying 2 children in linnen'. Of the 53 references to flannel in the account book, six refer to winding / burial flannel. One of these is in the account held by William Peart of Settle and dated 13th October 1724. This states 'For Mary Wade 3 yards Winding flanel 12d per' and Mary's subsequent burial appears in the Giggleswick Parish Registers [Hoyle 1986] on October 13th 1724.

Allied to the fabrics were the numerous items of haberdashery including tape, thread, hooks and eyes, ribbon, braid, needles, lace and of course buttons. The latter came in many forms namely brass, ockamy, mettle, gimp, pearl and pewter and the numbers purchased seem excessive by today's standards but reflect the fashion of the times. William also sold hats, handkerchiefs, gloves and clogs but also tobacco, tallow and soap. There are also references to him selling straw, beans, barley and oats and occasionally paper, quills and educational Latin text books such as Corderi and Hools Accidence. Presumably the close proximity to Giggleswick School helped make these a viable proposition or maybe, as seems more likely, they were bought in by special request from his clients.

Accounts were often settled 'in kind' as we have seen earlier and the range of items used in exchange was extensive including butter, cheese, potatoes, bread, meat, sugar, geese, apples and also turves and manure. Richard Armistead of Malham sold William nine Ash trees at a cost of 7s to set off against his outstanding account in 1724. Another method of payment was work done 'in kind', an example being John Stockdale of Settle who did two days thatching for William on 12th October 1722 to settle his account of 1s, whilst William Peart of Settle gave William 'grassing' for horses for eight days.

There was often a long time gap between the account being drawn up and the subsequent payment of the bill; in some instances several years elapsed before the account was finally settled. An interesting example of a long delay in settlement appears in Tempest Slinger's account dated December 15th 1722. Tempest had a parcel of goods delivered to his son who was living with a schoolmaster called Mr Marsden at Howgill Chapel near Sedbergh, the bill to be paid on Whit Sunday.

However it is not until the following October that Tempest's son pays just ten shillings off the account and his father has to pay the rest of it.

Local fairs provided the opportunity to catch up on the latest news and gossip but also to meet people and settle debts. Thomas Ripley of Horton paid William £2-2s-2d which he owed him on May 13th 1725, 'being Astwicke fair day'. William also met up with William Preston at the fair and lent him £7-7s-0d. There are many instances of him lending money although he was not engaged in it to the same degree as his brother-in-law Leonard Wilkinson who lent money on a substantial scale.

Sack webs were another item which was traded through the Settle shop. These pieces of coarse cloth came straight from the loom and were used to wrap wool and cloth for easy transport by packhorse. A standard pack of wool weighed 240 pounds which was the usual weight for a pack animal. William supplied the webs to John Sidebotham of Stockport, using various carriers, one of which was John Wright of Settle. Both John 'old' and John 'Junior' are mentioned but there is no further information about them. John Sharp, another carrier listed, may well have been the John Sharp of Linton who appears in the Giggleswick Parish Registers [Hoyle, 1986] when he married Margaret Maudsley of Long Preston in 1728. One of Margaret's ancestors, Henry Maudsley was a carrier himself as evidenced by his will of 1585 [Giggleswick Wills]. John Sidebotham appears to have acted as a middleman, passing the sack webs on to customers in Halifax, Stockport, Otley and in one case via another Manchester carrier called Sharrock, onwards to Blackburn.

The accounts for the shop came to an end in February 1725 after which William appears to have retired to his farm, as subsequent accounts relate chiefly to the buying and selling of stock and the costs of 'summering' his cattle and sheep.

References

Brayshaw, T, & Robinson, R.M., 1932.

A History of the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick,
Halton & Co. Ltd. London

Hoyle, R., 1986.

The Parish Register of Giggleswick, Vol. 2 1669-1769,
Y.A.S. Publication

Kerridge, E., 1865.

Textile Manufacturers In Early Modern England,
Manchester University Press.

Satchell, J., 1986. *The Kendal Weaver*,

Kendal Civic Society & Frank Peters Publishing, Kendal

The transcript of the William Carr Account Book is available on:- www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk

The wills/inventories for the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick and also a summary of the Wakefield Deeds are available on:- www.NorthCravenHeritage.org under Archives

Agnes Burrow: Limestone Scaurs near Settle

Mary Slater



Further to my article on the Burrow family in last year's Journal, thanks to Tom Lord, another artistic work by A.E. (Agnes) Burrow has been brought to my attention. In an article by Henry Ecroyd Smith entitled 'The Limestone Caves of Craven and their Ancient Inhabitants' which appeared in the 1865 Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire (New Series vol. 5) he writes "Of the higher reaches of the scaurs, a good idea may be obtained from the illustrative plate, reduced from a painting in oil by a local artist, Miss Burrow of Settle". The scene is entitled *Limestone Scaurs near Settle*, Yorkshire and as you can see, depicts a romanticised Warrendale Knotts.

Mystery Datestone



This photograph is in the collection of items in the North Craven Museum of Local Life (cat. no. 2010.11.197) and has not been identified. Can anyone tell us where it is please?

Water under Settle

Graham Ball and Michael Slater

In December 2015 NCHT members made a visit to Settle Town Hall while the building was still under development and we were allowed to enter a cellar in the north-west corner where water had been found to be coming through the walls. It was discovered that an old slate-lined drainage system in the room had been upset by works done in the past. New drains have now been fitted to take this water to the original central sump in the room. The water level in this sump seemed to be little affected by attempts to pump water out, so it is presumed that water is flowing along some underground system. The cellar rubble walls have now been insulated, water-proofed and plastered and the sump covered. This visit prompted thoughts that water was flowing underground through Settle town centre from the hillsides towards the river so further investigations were made.

The potential source of the water under the Town hall is of course the tanks at the Well Steps, which are now in a rather derelict condition, but with water feeding the tanks from springs in the hillside above, or later perhaps, from the Upper Settle reservoir. They were probably for watering animals since they are rather small and low to be suitable for washing. However, a photograph taken sometime in the early 20th century shows washing on lines by the steps. Water may have been drawn for use in a brewery in the Folly and for use by the local blacksmith in quenching metal wheel rims. There seems to be a well-head at the rear of the Folly at the south end. There are springs along the line of the limestone cliffs running north-south from Castleberg and Townhead. As one walks downhill from Well Steps, Well Cottage is passed on the right at the corner where the lane meets High Street. There appears to be a well-head, now filled-in, at the back of the cottage. There is no cellar but the main floor has been bitumenized, presumably to stop dampness. The property has mullion windows inside so has 18th or 17th century origins. Next door on High Street is King William the fourth Guest House. By courtesy of the owner, one of us was invited to see the cellar in the front north corner where water enters through the wall, flows along an open channel about 10 cm wide and 8 cm deep, and leaves via a drain. Assuming that the water continues to flow towards the river, it perhaps flows via the Town Hall on the Market Place towards Duke Street. The south-west corner, now Gavagan Art gallery, has a sump (now covered) similar to that in the north-west corner occupied by Capella. It is not surprising that individual and groups of properties had their own nearby sources of water and there is plenty of evidence of wells and other water features as noted below.

Brayshaw and Robinson [1932] refer to the drawing by George Nicolson made in 1822 of Settle Market Place. They remark that ‘... the object in the right foreground. It looks very much like a draw-well, but I hardly think it can be intended for one’. This object could be the grindstone wheel of an itinerant knife grinder. There are also people busy at what appears to be a square trough, and buckets or baskets lie

on the ground near the wheel (not a drum as might have been used for rope winding in a well) but it is unlikely to be a depiction of a well-head.

Other buildings around Settle Market Place have been investigated, thanks to the owners. The NatWest Bank (now closed) has water in the cellar with water flowing north. Trevor Thorpe, a previous manager, described the water in the cellar as a stream. He had had the water tested, and it was of drinking quality. Pumps were in place to deal with flooding, and a current cashier confirmed that they are still operative. Trevor used to check daily, and he told how, one winter, he had become concerned that the pumps were not coping, and before going home had raised them above the water level. At 3am the following morning he went back to check again, and found that they were submerged, with water almost up to the ceiling. He called the fire brigade, who installed a pump with an extraction capacity of 24,000 gallons per hour, means of entry being through the coal chute at the front of the building. We went to look: it is not there now, cobbled over. “Someone may have trouble in the future”, Trevor observed. But he had only known a flood on this scale once. He added that during the Civil War Cromwellian troops had been billeted in the building. There were (are?) hooks in the walls of the rooms on the top floor (second storey), and he had been told that they were hammock fastening points.

Car and Kitchen has no cellar (just an inspection pit from when it was a garage). Garnett’s has a dry cellar. Castleberg Outdoors on Cheapside has brick-lined vaulted dry cellars. Cave and Crag, now an antiques shop, next door to Boots, have a dry cellar. The drinking fountain in the Market Place (now dry) was erected in 1863, replacing an earlier market cross. It was probably supplied by pipeline from the Upper Settle reservoir. One of the houses in Kirkgate has a well, now with the kitchen built over it.

It is noteworthy that the area of Greenfoot Car Park and the northern field of the Rugby Club is probably what used to be known as Paley’s Puddle, noted by Brayshaw [1932] as being shown on a map of 1774 (actually 1769), originally kept in Liverpool House (with dry cellars). The map places the Puddle between the Folly and Cragdale. This map indicated the route of the proposed canal link to the Leeds-Liverpool canal which was near completion by 1774 (see David Johnson [2007] for information on the proposed canal link). There are no wells shown on John Lettsom’s map of 1751 (see NCHT Journal 2005, p.18) but it does indicate a willow tree in front of the Folly. There are no wells or pumps shown on the 1840 Tithe map of Settle. The ground of the Rugby Club has a pump marked on the 1847 6 inch OS map on the northern field. There is a culverted channel from the Rugby Club down the middle of the southern field to pass behind the bungalows - which flows strongly during wet weather. The water joins Ing Beck to flow into the Runley Bridge millpond, joining the flow from Dog Kennel Mill noted below. The site of Limestone View had to be provided with a drainage system before construction could start.

We have recently been in the cellar of the office on the corner of Chapel Street and Duke St. and it is dry. Number 6 Chapel Street has a capped well in the yard behind the house. Cragdale, the old police station, has brick-lined vaulted cellars which were inspected during recent building work, and



Well Steps



Well Cottage



Norlands



Undercliffe Mews

seen to be dry. Proceeding along Duke Street from the Market Place, Skipton Building Society has a cellar which has been wet but not in recent years. Continuing along Duke Street we find Tarn Cottage opposite the Post Office. Nearby is Nelson's boot shop and Undercliffe House (Duke Street was formerly named Duck Street!). The name Tarn Cottage is currently associated with the flat above Nelson's shop. The shop has a cellar which used to flood, but according to Dan Nelson it has not done so since United Utilities installed a non-return valve. Undercliffe House has a watercourse running through its cellar, usually dry, the direction of flow being towards the road. Undercliffe Mews has a well at the front, and a permanently damp area in the back garden which may indicate a spring. Early in 2017 Undercliffe Mews had its own 'Water under Settle' problem, when a mains pipe supplying Phoenix Cottage (in front) sprang a leak. Yorkshire Water's agent, Morrisons, dug in the front yard. The spoil included boulder clay and boulders, indicative of the surface geology. You do not have to dig far at Dog Meadow allotments to find the same. Ashfield House (Settle Social Club) has a dry cellar, but the Golden Lion opposite has water in the cellar.

The Triangle in Settle in front of the Post Office is popularly thought to be the site of a former duck pond (but could have been confused with Paley Puddle). Behind the toy shop next to the Post Office was a well, or at least a source of water according to a previous owner. Norlands (originally a Methodist hostel for young mill workers) has a watercourse in the cellar and clear water present in a sump. The water ebbs and flows according to the weather. However, the neighbouring wine shop to the left has a brick-vaulted dry cellar. On walking towards Upper Settle from the Folly one passes Underbergh which has a spring or well in the cellar, now sealed over. Currier Cottage was a tannery and it too must have had a water supply. The old tannery on the Green with its tan-pits behind similarly needed access to water. In Upper Settle are found Well House and Ivy Well Cottage by

the Green. There is a water flow through a small 'trough' in the yard. In Twisleton's Yard one water pump served fifteen cottages [Miller, 1973].

Although the direction of the water from Duke Street is unknown, to the south of Settle Market Place is Pool's Row cottages (on Ingfield Lane) and the start of Brockholes Lane/Watery Lane leading past the Dog Kennel allotments. The allotments are usually referred to as Dog Meadow.

Dog Kennel Mill (Mitchell Lane) was one of Settle's early cotton spinning mills, powered by water (noted on the 1847/8 6 inch OS map). Water from Mealbank and Springfield culverted under Mitchell Lane by the cottage and pinfold was fed into a mill pond. This later became a covered reservoir just below Mitchell Lane. From the pond it was channelled along the headrace to a water wheel at the mill. The remains of a wall of the mill building can still be seen. From there the tailrace ran downslope, mostly culverted, to enter Brockholes Lane (A 'drain' is marked on the 1847 OS map). After flowing along the lane it is culverted to Beck Ing Plantation, then it appears on the surface for some distance, then under the old A65 to the mill pond serving Runley Mill.

It was hoped to find a map with well-heads for public or private use shown for Settle but without success. Jeffery's map of Yorkshire (1771, revised 1775) is too small scale. There is an 1831 map which concerns 'Waterworks and course of the pipes, being the property of James Silverwood, for supplying with water the town of Settle in the West Riding of the County of York, by T. Hodgson, Surveyor, Lancaster 1831'. The pipe follows the road from the reservoir in Upper Settle to the Well Steps wells and reservoir then along Chapel Street. No well heads are shown on this map. The Tithe map of 1844 shows Settle Water Works Houses (no. 176) at the northern corner of the Well Steps and a reservoir. Could there be a reservoir under the trapdoor at the Well Steps? The 6 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1847 shows wells and pumps at various points around Settle. The Medical Officer's Report on sanitary conditions in Settle in 1897 notes the town water

supply is from Settle Water Works, wells and springs.

One might presume that before piped water became available residents had to use private or public wells, but their location is not certain. The property deeds available from the West Yorkshire Register of Deeds has a number of references to wells in Settle (see NCHT website under Archives). From the names of prominent merchants, tradesmen and apothecaries involved we can assume that some of the properties were probably in or near the Market Place in the 1700s. For example the Birkbecks' property in Duck Street had a well in the yard. Benjamin Robinson and William Carr, apothecaries, had messuages with draw wells. There were many individual beer houses in Settle who presumably had their own water supply and several innkeepers with brewhouses had draw wells or well springs. There is an intriguing reference to Lady Well Close at Barrel Sykes. The Springfield reservoir (opened in 1906) in Upper Settle has now found a new use as a fish farm.

A set of photographs of all the streams around Settle leading into the Ribble has been made and accompanies the website version of this article. However, further study of the lines of these streams and their points of discharge into the Ribble is a project-in-waiting!

Any further information is welcomed.

References

- Brayshaw, T., *Collecteana Giggleswickiana*, Part 1, p.27
- Brayshaw, T., Robinson, R.M., 1932. *A History of The Ancient Parish of Giggleswick*, Picture of Settle on a Market Day 1822 by George Nicolson (p.174). Halton & Co., London
- Johnson, D.S., 2007. 'An overdose of optimism in the canal age: two abortive canal proposals in the Craven area of North Yorkshire', *Industrial Heritage*, vol. 33, no. 1, pp33-41
- Miller, E.M.J., 1973. *An appreciation of Settle*, pub. Settle and District Civic Society (see NCHT Archives, Settle 1973).
- North Yorkshire County Record Office, ZXF M 4/1/1 pp. 366-372 microfilm 2165 West Riding County Council, *Report of the Medical Officer upon the condition of the Settle Union*, 14 June 1897.
- Paley's Puddle, 1769. *Plan of the intended navigable canal from Settle proposed to communicate with the canal now making between Leeds and Liverpool, in the parish of Barnoldswick...*, WYAS (Leeds) WYL 162 GA/2/61.4 (Courtesy Dr David Johnson)

The Buckhaw Brow Underpass

A sketch was made by Diana Kaneps in 2011 of a strange stone built in to the underpass near the top of Buckhaw Brow which has been photographed recently. It is only accessible with some difficulty with plenty of mud to contend with. What is it and where has it come from?



Raisegale, Ingleton Fells: in search of a lost farmstead

David S Johnson

Nathaniel Johnston, a failed physician who harboured a strong desire to leave a lasting legacy, undertook a mammoth series of journeys over a period of thirty years through the whole county of Yorkshire during which he compiled over one hundred journals detailing matters ecclesiastical, manorial and topographical: in 1669 he journeyed through North Craven. Of relevance here is that he listed all the settlements he passed through and in the order in which he had travelled. At the eastern end of Ingleton Fells, travelling from west to east, he noted ... *Winterskill 4 houses, Girston 2 houses, Gale 3 houses, low Parsin*. Winterskill is now Winterscales, Girston is Gearstones and Gale is the High Gayle-Low Gayle area. The place-name Low Parsin does not relate to any modern name so remains an enigma. The subject of this article is Johnston's 'Gale', an area taken in from the moor probably in the sixteenth century, sandwiched between Blea Moor to the west and Gayle Moor to the east, though historically it was all called Gayle Moor. Current Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 mapping names High Gayle (still a working farm), Low Gayle (just a field barn now) and Gate Cote (also just a field barn). Winshaw was a separate entity, also not mentioned by Johnston even though it is recorded as early as 1618 in baptismal records; modern mapping also names Intack, a now-roofless field barn by the roadside. Historically, High and Low Gayle, Gate Cote and Intack were all discrete farmsteads, tenements under the manorial court. In Johnston's day the B6255 road in its present form from Ribbleshead over the watershed to Widdale did not exist: it was created at a special sitting of the justices held at Settle on 25 April 1815 [1]. Hitherto, the road ran from 'Intack House', past Gale along 'Old Rake Road' (now Black Rake Road footpath) to join the Dent road. This age-old routeway was described as presenting an 'Extrem Risk' to travellers and was duly abandoned as a formal road maintained at County expense.

The generic hamlet name Gale (or Gaile or Gayle) is seen in archival sources from 1608 to 1811; the tenement names Low Gale from 1779 to 1804, Gate Cote from 1695 to 1807, Intack from 1724 to 1841, and High (or Over) Gale from 1610 to the present; but the name Raisegale appears in various forms (see below) regularly from 1535 to 1751. The precise location of all the other tenements that made up Gale is known but the question is where Raisegale was situated. From c. 1800 to the early 1950s the whole area from Ribbleshead to Newby Head was part of the Ingleborough Estate, managed from Clapham, and well over two hundred estate maps have survived. However, not one marks Raisegale: it had ceased to exist as a discrete farmstead before the Estate came on the scene.

Monastic Rental Returns

To be more precise, the emphasis of this article is to examine the documentary and cartographic evidence for Raisegale's history and to suggest where it stood. As the

inexorable process towards dissolution of the monasteries was initiated, a full valuation of all monastic property was ordered: it was known as the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII. The valuation for Furness Abbey dated 1535, named and gave the annual rental values of all its properties [2]. Around Ingleborough twelve discrete holdings were listed (Table 1): 'Raneskalles' was valued at 40s 8d, the lowest for all Furness properties on its Lonsdale Estate. The immediate post-dissolution rental, for 1536-38, lists the same properties as previously but this one termed it 'Raysegale' [3]. Its valuation of 40s 8d and the omission of the name Raneskalles confirm beyond doubt that they were one and the same. Beyond this, the two documents can be taken as reliable evidence that Raisegale had been in existence as a settlement during the monastic era. The place-name element 'skalles' – or 'scales' in its modern form – can be taken with a high level of confidence to indicate a settlement that originated before the Norman Conquest. If 'scales' derives from the ON word *skáli* it would suggest it was a settlement with a Scandinavian (Viking) origin; if from the OE word *scēla* it could well have an Anglo-Saxon origin: both, however, meant a shieling site away from the main settlement where livestock were grazed on upland pastures through the summer months.

The latter valuation is especially useful as it tabulated the names of the heads of household within each holding and gave the acreage of meadow that each rented: William Howson, John Wederherd, Edmund Burton and Thomas Bentham each rented eight acres (3.2ha) of meadow paying 10s 2d. From these data we can see that Raisegale was not just one tenement but a collection: as with all other Lonsdale holdings the place-name stated in the record applied not to a single *tenement* but to a *locality* containing a number of discrete farming units. These units were never individually named as they fell under the aegis of the named holding. Raisegale/Raneskalles consisted of 32 acres (13ha) of meadow equally divided among its four tenants, as well as shared pasture ground. The rentals did not state which areas of open fell tenants had grazing rights on but these can be extrapolated from later documentary sources, as will be shown.

Parish Registers

Survival of parish records for Ingleton Fells – that part of Ingleton parish between Whernside and Ingleborough, and from Ribbleshead to Newby Head – is good though for the majority of entries the place of residence was not stated and it can be problematic to associate assumed names with actual names, so in this discussion only definitive links are considered [4]. Baptismal registers mentioning Raisegale run from 1627 to 1700, marriage registers only for 1678 and 1715, and burial registers from 1621-83. For baptisms, six of the seven definite entries occurred between 1627 and 1637 and involved three families: James Burton's (1627, 1630 and 1637), Robert Leake's (1628 and 1630), and George Yeates's

(1630). From these entries we can conclude that there were at least three discrete tenements making up the hamlet of Raisegale: however, it does not mean there were only three as there would have been others with no births recorded by place-name during this period. In 1700 Christopher Metcalfe's wife gave birth to a son. Of the four families recorded here in 1536-38, only the Burtons remained, though the other three family names were present elsewhere in the general area well beyond the seventeenth century. The registered marriages at Raisegale were of Margaret Weatherhead of Raisegale to James Parker of Oughtershaw in Langstrothdale in 1678 and of Richard Lambert to Hannah Jackson, of Raisegale, in 1715.

Nine burials were recorded, again seven in the 1620s and 1630s and two later that century. In 1621 George Thistlethwaite died, as did a daughter of Jeffrey Leake and his wife; in 1622 James Wayte and his wife lost a son, as well as a daughter in 1628. In the following year Brian Bentham died (confirming that this family had also endured here since 1536-38); in 1631 James Burton and his wife lost the son born in 1630; and in 1639 Thomas Calvert died. Thus, burial records confirm that five, not three or four, families lived at Raisegale in the early seventeenth century. In 1679 Thomas Weatherhead's wife, Margaret, died and in 1683 William Procter's son, Richard. These two family names occur time and again across the whole area during late monastic and post-monastic times and, as they shared a limited number of given names and moved from one tenement to another, it is very difficult to unpick them. Through this period Low Gale, Intack and Gate Cote did not appear in parish registers, though Gale was recorded in baptismal and marriage registers between 1608 and 1700, and High/Over Gale appears in 1610 and 1693, suggesting that High Gale and Raisegale were not one and the same tenement.

Hearth Tax Returns

The government of Charles II sought various means of raising revenue, one of which was the Hearth Tax: its basis was that if a house had multiple fireplaces its owners must be capable of paying higher rates of tax which, understandably, made the levy very unpopular. It was payable twice yearly, on Lady Day (25 March) and Michaelmas (29 September); the returns for Lady Day 1672 have survived intact [5]. Details are cursory, showing only the name of the head of household and the number of hearths for each house. They did not indicate who lived where; for Ingleton Fell Quarter, which incorporated the Ribblehead-Newby Head area, thirty-eight names were listed, all but eleven having only one hearth. By cross-checking against other sources it is evident that the tax collector followed a logical line of travel, starting at the lower end of the Quarter, at Twistleton, and ending at the upper, at Newby Head. There is a cluster of five entries almost at the end of the list which can be attributed with confidence to Raisegale: the households of Thomas Procter, Stephen Battersby, Anthony Calvert, Leonard Calvert and Jeffrey Leake were all assessed for one hearth. Third from the end of the list is Thomas Calvert whose entry noted one hearth 'not finished' indicating that his house was in course of construction. He was recorded conveying a tenement at Raisegale, jointly with Leonard Calvert, to kinsman John Calvert in 1674.

Probate Records

As with parish registers, probate records – wills and inventories – were inconsistent in stating place of residence and only two wills and two inventories can be linked directly with Raisegale hamlet [6]. In 1695 William Procter of Raisegale was given joint administration of the effects of his brother, Francis, who farmed at Gearstones. William died six years later and an inventory of his effects was made in April 1701. His estate was valued at £126 3s 4d so he was clearly a man of some substance. He owned twenty head of cattle and two horses but no sheep were listed and only one bed. In 1715 John Calvert, at Raisegale in 1674 but now living at Gearstones, made a will which shows that he was not married and had no direct family members as his tenement at 'the Gayle' and his effects were largely bequeathed to a 'kinsman' with the name James Hodgson, but he made the provision that his cousin, Richard Guy of 'the Gayle', should receive the sum of 40s for a period of ten years from Hodgson.

A will and inventory from 1722 provide more detail: John Cragg of 'Rawes Gayle' had died and though he was described as a husbandman he left an estate valued at £161. In the social order of the day the status of a husbandman was below that of a yeoman and the generic term 'farmer' had not yet come into widespread usage. Cragg left his tenement at 'High Gaille' to his eldest son Richard and his tenement at 'Lower Gayle' to his second son James. This confirms beyond doubt that High Gayle and Low Gayle were by then two discrete tenements and the fact that 'Rawes Gayle' was not specifically bequeathed by name in his will points to that name having been applied not to a specific holding but to the scattered settlement of farmsteads as a whole. It is of interest to note that half of the value of his estate (£80) was accounted for by sheep so he had a substantial flock contrasting with William Procter in 1695. He also had 'Beast and horses' (£56), suggesting a large cattle herd and more than one horse. It is also of interest to note that his inventory was drawn up by James and John Hodgson and Richard Guy showing how close-knit this community was, like most others in the Dales.

Manorial Rentals

Tenants who had held land of Furness Abbey, and paid annual rents to the Abbey, came under the jurisdiction of Newby manor court after Dissolution in April 1537: Newby had been the monastic headquarters and the Higher Division stretched all the way across Ingleborough to Newby Head, hence this name. The tenants became customary tenants of the manor, paying rents now to the lord of the manor at twice-yearly sittings of the manor court. They were termed customary tenants because they held their tenement according to the customs of the manor: in other words, they enjoyed certain age-old inalienable rights and privileges but were subject to its edicts and regulations.

Extracts from the early post-Dissolution court rolls that have survived name various individuals who were admitted tenant [7]. Thomas Calvert, for example, was admitted tenant of a 'certain parcel of meadow and pasture in Raise Get' in the regnal year 1587-88; John Burton surrendered a 'parcel of meadow and appurtenances lying near Raise Gill called Wind Scar' along with grazing rights for fifteen cattle on Blea Moor in 1590-91; and Thomas Procter surrendered the fourth part of a messuage at Rais Gill along with one-and-a-

half cattle gaits in Raise Gill Pasture in 1596-97. Thus, the Burtons had lived here from monastic times, while the Calverts and Procters were to endure long into the future.

At each court sitting a written record was kept of who held which tenement and how much rent they paid. Some records have survived. In 1662 and 1667 six tenants paid their dues (Table 2) [8]. Apart from Weatherhead, the others were also listed in the Hearth Tax assessment in 1672, as seen above. The Craggs and the Guys had not yet appeared on the scene at Raisegale. The accounts do not elucidate the likely reasons for the doubling of Anthony Calvert's and Weatherhead's rents or the halving of Leonard's or the huge decrease in Leake's, and one can but surmise that they had exchanged land amongst themselves, which was within their rights as long as the manor court agreed.

Later extant manorial rental records (for 1711 onwards) lumped 'Gale/Gayle/Gaile' in with Gearstones and Colt Park, and Raisegale was not mentioned [9]. A copy of a later document, however, did mention it noting that amongst a huge tract of common land (Blea Moor and Gayle Moor) 'are found High Gale, Low Gale, Raise Gale and Gate Cote' which all shared pasturage on Gayle Moor's 1500 acres (607ha) [10].

Legal Conveyances

In 1810 control of the manor of Newby passed by purchase from the Dukes of Buccleuch to the Farrers who were solicitors in London keen to build up their Clapham-based Ingleborough Estate. They devoted considerable efforts to drawing together as many historical documents as they could find for the hundreds of individual properties that came under the aegis of the by-then declining remit of the manor court. An impressive quantity of conveyances and deeds of title have been preserved covering the period from 1614 to modern times [11]. For Raisegale legal documents are extant from 1671, and they provide a detailed picture of which customary tenants held property, who occupied the tenements, how frequently ownership and occupation of tenements changed, and how the components of Raisegale – Raisegale itself, High Gale, Low Gale and Gate Cote – interrelated. Tables 3 and 4 summarise the changing situation for Raisegale and the other holdings respectively. There is much to be said from the detail given in Tables 3 and 4 on population mobility, external links, economic and social status, fields and buildings.

Some family names mainly occur in the seventeenth century – Procter, Calvert, Battersby, Moore and Greenbank; others only in the eighteenth – Sedgwick, Hodgson, Howard, Tennant; while yet others span both – Guy, Leake, Wilson, Cragg and Weatherhead. Families died out or moved away or, as in many instances for Raisegale, bought up land with no intention of ever living there but as an investment with the intent of eventually cashing it in. The extent to which customary tenants here changed is abundantly clear from the Tables, as is the wide geographical area within which they lived. The frequency with which undertenants – those who lived and worked here – came and went belies the old stereotypical notion that the Dales were demographically stagnant, that families stayed put. They did not.

Of the twenty men whose social status was stated, twelve were described as yeomen and eight as husbandmen though

it would be a fool's errand to attempt to suggest what criteria had been employed in categorising them. Some were involved in trades – James Hodgson was a hosier as well as a yeoman; Richard Harrison was a linen draper; Catheran Leake was a spinster so may have been engaged in spinning yarn, though that term archaically also just meant a housewife; Matthew Sedgwick was somehow a chapman – an itinerant tradesman – as well as a yeoman; and two innkeepers were customary tenants here. Robert Elam, who entered the scene in 1803, was titled Esquire and he was a man of real substance having paid £1225 for High Gayle [12].

The conveyances name various enclosures, some of which can be identified on the ground, others not. What is of relevance here are the tenements to which they were linked. Heslegill (now Hazel Gill) was part of a conveyance of High Gayle in 1693 but of Raisegale in 1718 and 1725; similarly, Long Field was linked to High Gayle in 1731 but to Raisegale in 1751; while Cow Bank (two fields had this name) was attributed to Raisegale in 1691, 1714 and 1751, to Gale in 1728 and to High Gayle in 1731: however, by 1804 one Cow Bank was part of Low Gale and the other High Gale. This all adds weight to the hypothesis that in part Raisegale was the generic name for the combined settlement.

Conclusion

Evidence from various sources has been presented here which combine to unequivocally support the hypothesis that the name 'Raisegale' was applied to the collection of farmsteads that included High Gayle, Low Gayle, Gate Cote and Raisegale itself. The monastic rental from 1535 listed four discrete tenements at what it named 'Raisegale hamlet'; burial records point to five discrete tenements, Hearth Tax records to five or maybe six, and manorial records definitely to six. Low Gayle appears in the record from 1779-1804, Gate Cote 1717-1807, High Gayle from 1610 to the present, Gayle 1608-1811, but Raisegale is there through almost the entire period, from 1535-1751. It is possible – likely? – that the Lower Raisegale of 1671 morphed into Low Gayle as the name Raisegale faded away.

The key question, however, remains – where was Raisegale itself? Map evidence is critical here, but definitely not an undated map drawn by Arthur Raistrick: he placed monastic 'Rainskill' to the east of Ribbleshead Viaduct [13]. The earliest detailed map seen is that attributed to Thomas Jefferys and published in 1771 [14]. He did not name Gayle Moor, marked only two buildings in the Raisegale area and used only the name 'Gale' which probably referred to High Gayle. Secondly, Robert Elam commissioned the surveyor Thomas Buttle to produce a map of his estate at Gale in 1804 and Buttle used colour coding to depict the extent of what were then three discrete farmsteads – High Gale, Low Gale and Gate Cote (Fig. 1) [15]. In the south-east corner of High Gale lands is a field named as 'Old House Field' with 'House Parrock' next to an unnamed building. The Tithe map for Ingleton (Fig. 2), from 1847, also names the field 'Old House Field' but the building is labelled 'Barn' [16]. An Ingleborough Estate document from 1871 still referred to it as 'Old House Field' [17]. The buildings shown on the Tithe map in Syles Dale can be ruled out as the site of Raisegale: it may have been the same enclosure mentioned in a conveyance of 26 January 1674 as 'one dale called Sicatdale with one

house standing in the same called “Sycat house”...’. At that time, the term house did not refer to a dwelling. The Ordnance Survey First Edition six-inch map named ‘High Gate ... Gate Cote (in Ruins) ... Low Gate (Ruins)’ and ‘Long Barn’ for the old house; the Second Edition named ‘High Gayle ... Gate Cote ... Low Gayle ... and Long Barn’ [18].

There is clinching evidence from these two maps that what is now scarcely recognisable as a building on the ground, that had been downgraded to use as an agricultural building before the start of the nineteenth century, and which stood next to House Parrock in 1804, was Raisegale farmstead. Thus, this name was applied to the dispersed collection of farmsteads – the tenement or ‘hamlet’ of Raisegale – as well as to its original core unit, just as the present South House, Southerscales, Winterscales and Lodge Hall were the core units of their dispersed hamlets. In 1804 Low Gale only had 16 acres (6.5ha), Gate Cote 22 acres (9ha) and High Gale 30 acres (12ha): it is hardly surprising they were not deemed viable units on their own. Raisegale as a discrete farmstead would have had 12 acres (4.8ha) – House Parrock, Old House Field and Cow Bank.

Notes

- West Yorkshire Archive Service (WYAS), Wakefield, QS1/154/5. Quarter Sessions Records. Sec. Rolls, Skipton, July 1815, Bundle 8.
- Alcock Beck, 1844, pp. 3330-31.
- Brownbill, 1915, 648-49.
- North Yorkshire County Record Office. PR/INT. Ingleton Parish Records, 1607ff.
- Hearth Tax, 1992.
- Probate records for Ingleton are archived at the Lancashire Record Office under the reference code WRW/L.
- WYAS, Morley, WYL 524/209. Farrer of Ingleborough. Extract from the Court Rolls prior to the grant to the Duke of Buckingham.
- WYAS, Morley, WYL 524/210. Farrer of Ingleborough. Manor of Newby. Rentals 1662-67.
- WYAS, Morley, WYL 524/209 and /254. Farrer of Ingleborough. Manor of Newby. Rentals 1711-60; WYL 524/255. Rentals 1785-1846
- WYAS, Morley, WYL 524/209. Farrer of Ingleborough. Manor of Newby. Explanation of the Plan of the Higher Division. n.d.
- WYAS, Morley. Farrer of Ingleborough. WYL 524/306. Deeds. Newby, Cattlegaits etc 1614-1739; WYL 524/311. Ingleborough Estate. Deeds.
- Elam sold the whole ‘Gale etc’ estate to the Farrers in 1811 for £4800 (NYCRO.ZTW III/1).
- Arthur Raistrick, ‘Monastic lands in Craven – 1535’, undated map. Special Collections, University of Bradford, uncatalogued.
- Jefferys did not do the surveying, and indeed may never have set foot in Yorkshire; rather he employed a team of surveyors. The level of accuracy is variable, especially so in remote areas. His maps were printed at a scale of one inch to one mile.
- NYCRO. ZTW III, uncatalogued. ‘Plan of High Gale, Low Gale, and Gate Cote, in the Parish of Ingleton and County of York belonging to Robert Elam Esq.’.
- TNA. IR 30/43/234, Ingleton Tithe Map, 1847.
- NYCRO. ZTW III/3. Field Book 1871.
- Sheet 81: First Edition surveyed 1847-48, published 1853; Second Edition surveyed 1893, published 1896.

Glossary

<i>Cow house</i>	A building within which cattle were overwintered, a byre, shippon or mistal.
<i>Dwelling house</i>	A house where people lived.
<i>Fire house</i>	A dwelling with more than one ground floor room.
<i>Hay house</i>	A barn in modern terminology.
<i>House</i>	When used without amplification, a house was a barn or cowhouse, not a dwelling.
<i>Hull</i>	A small outlying building housing one or two cattle.
<i>Mansion house</i>	A dwelling.
<i>Sheephouse</i>	A long low building used for housing sheep.
<i>Tenement</i>	A holding made up of a house, outbuildings and land.

Sources of Information

- Alcock Beck, T. 1844. *Annales Furnesienses. History and antiquities of the Abbey of Furness*. London: Payne and Foss; M. Nattali; Ulverston: S. Soulby.
- Bodleian Library. MS Top Yorks. C.13. f. 171/191. 7 August 1669, Nathaniel Johnston.
- Brownbill, J. 1915. *The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey vol. II, part 1*. Chetham Society New Series, 74.
- The Hearth Tax list for Staincliffe and Ewecross wapentakes. West Riding of Yorkshire. Lady Day 1672*. 1992. Ripon Historical Society and Ripon, Harrogate and District Family History Group.
- Howard, C. and Gordon, S. (eds.). 2015. *Voices from the past. Inventories & wills from the parish of Ingleton 1548 to 1700*. Ingleton: Ingleborough Archaeology Group.
- Howard, C. and Gordon, S. (eds.). 2016. *Inventories and wills from the parish of Ingleton 1700-1750*. Ingleton: Ingleborough Archaeology Group.

Table 1 Valor Ecclesiasticus of 1535: Lonysdall Fells

Place-name in 1535	Modern place-name	Valuation
Selsyde	Selside	£13 3s 4d
Sowthe howse	South House	£8 2s 8d
Sowterskaylles	Southerscales	£13 6s 8d
Brunterskarre	Brunscar	£3 6s 8d
Wynterskalles	Winterscales	£8 0s 0d
Raneskalles	non-existent	40s 8d
Cham Houses	Cam	£3 3s 4d
Lyngyll et byrkwith	LingGill and Birkwith	£6 19s 0d
Neytherloge	Nether Lodge	£3 18s 8d
Thorne	Thorns	50s 4½d
Derstonys et Colte parke	Gearstones and Colt Park	£5 9s 2d
Yngman loge	Lodge Hall	£6 8s 6d
Summa	Total	£76 9s ½d

Table 2 Manorial rentals for Raisegale, 1662 and 1667

Tenant	1662 rental 'Raisgale'	1667 rental 'Raisgaile hamlet'
Anthony Calvert	4s 8d	9s 4d
Leonard Calvert	4s 0d	8s 1d
James Weatherhead	3s 0d	6s 0d
Thomas Procter	3s 0d	4s 0d
James Bolton	10d	
Stephen Battersby		2s 0d

Table 3 Raisegale, 1671-1751: conveyancing details

Date	Conveyor	Purchaser	Detail
30 March 1671	James Tennant of Scarrhouse, Langstrothdale	James Weatherhead of Thomes	A moiety of Lower Raysegale and a second Tenement at Lower Rayse Gail
15 April 1671	Leonard Battersby of Ingmanlodge	Wilyam Procter of Raysegayle	Two cattlegaits on Blea Moor
26 April 1674	Leonard & Thomas Calvert of Raysegayle	John Calvert of Raysegayle	One 'fire house' with stable, Sycat House in Sycatfield, one 'Little house or hull', four fields
26 April 1675	Thomas Procter of Raysegayle	William Procter of Raysegayle	'one fire house with ... one little parrook wherein the new house is built', a barn and two fields
19 February 1680	Thomas Calvert of The Hill	Robert Guy of Raisegaile	Various fields at Raisegaile, Quarrell House
11 November 1682	Thomas Calvert of Upper Hill, late of Raisegaile	William Procter of Raisegaile	One field with the 'house standing' and an 'ancient Messuage' at Raisegaile
2 February 1691	Thomas Calvert of Raysegayle	John Moore of Winterscales and Anthony Greenbanke of Gearstones	An 'ancient dwelling house' at Raysegayle, Cowbank House on The Rigg, one field
22 November 1697	Thomas Battersby of Over Hardacre, Clapham	John Wilson of Masongill	Four fields at Raisegaile
17 March 1698	James Parker of Greenfield	John Cragg of Cragshouse, Dent	Parker's tenement at Rayesgaile
27 March 1699	John Moore of Winterscales and Anthony Greenbancke of Gearstones	John Calvert of Raisegaile	One 'dwelling or mansion house' at Raisegaile, Cowbank House, Quarrell House, two fields
7 June 1703	Thomas Wilson of Masongill & Thomas Leake of Raysegale	John Cragg of Crag's, Dentdale	Four fields, the 'hay house'
31 May 1708	Matthew Sedgwick of	John Cragg of	Various fields at Raw's Gale

	Rawsgale	Craggses, Dentdale	
8 July 1708 ^a	Margrett Battersby of Thorns, Spinster	Mathew Sidgwick of Raysegaille, yeoman	Enclosures and a cowhouse at Thorns
14 September 1711	Richard Harrison of Dentdale, linen draper	Matthew Sedgwick of Gaile, chapman	Four fields behind the 'dwelling house' at Raisegaile
29 May 1714	Richard Guy of Raysegayle	Jonathan Wilson of Masongill	Cow Bank Pasture, a stable at Raysegayle
28 November 1718	John Thistlethwaite of Dent	John Cragg of Rasegaile	A 'mansion fire house', a barn, a turf house and four fields at Rase gaile (<i>sic</i>)
1 November 1724	Stephen Sidgewicke of Ashes	James Hodgson of Raise Gayle	Two tenements at Raise Gayle
7 February 1725	Richard Craggs of Malham	Joseph Howard of Huyton, Lancaster	A 'messuage and tenement' with a 'mansion or dwelling house with two houses adjoining' at Raisegaile, Heslegill with a barn and cowhouse, and a sheephouse, Rough Close and two fields
28 December 1725	John Wilson of Masongill	Thomas Mason of Masongill	A 'mansion house and an outhouse' at Raisegale
18 February 1729	Thomas Wilson of Masongill	Joseph Howard of Loyton, Lancaster	Various fields at Raisegaile
20 March 1732	Joseph Howard of Alston, Lancaster	Francis Wetherhead of Raisegaile	Raisegaile and Great Intack enclosure
27 November 1736	Francis Weatherhead of Filpindale	John Tennant of Raisegale	Raisegale
19 April 1737	Francis Weatherhead of Filpindale	Joseph Howard of Lancaster	Intack at Raisegail
22 April 1751	n/a	Christopher Tennant of Raisegale	Admitted as tenant at the manor court on the death of his father

^a Courtesy of John Owen

Fig. 1
Thomas Buttle's map of High Gale, Gate Cote, and Low Gale, 1804.
Source: redrawn from Thomas Buttle's map of 1804, ZTW III

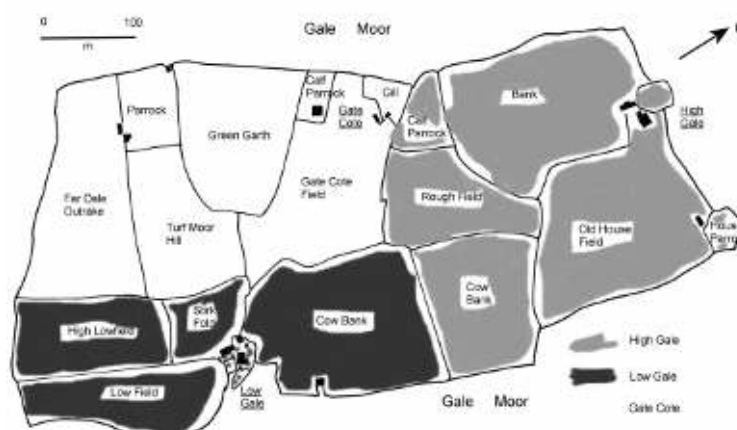
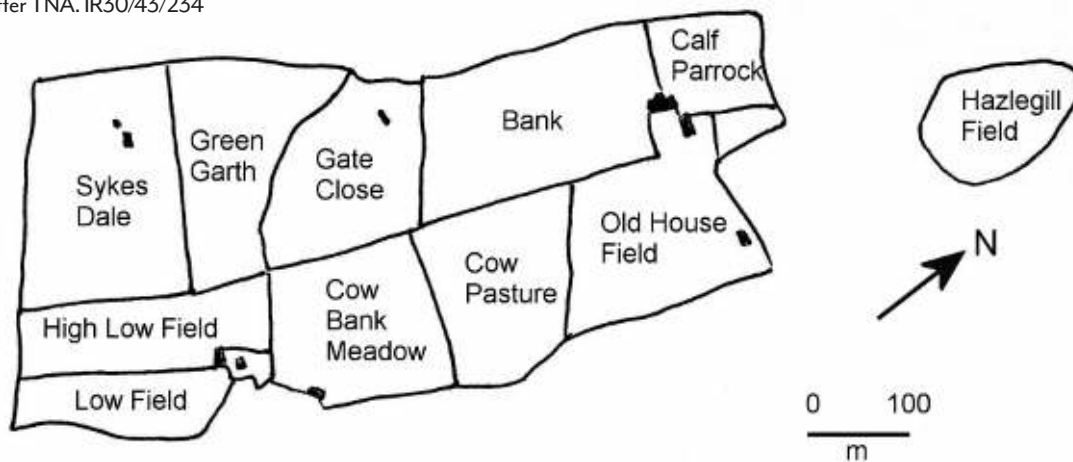


Table 4 High Gale and Gate Cote, 1693-1803: conveyancing details

Date	Conveyor	Purchaser	Detail
8 April 1693	Miles Mason of Dalehead, Dentdale	Robert Jackson of Widdale	Jackson's tenement at High Gaile, occupied by William Bentham, with a 'little cottage oxhouse wherein Elizabeth lived', two fields
22 June 1695	Catheran Leake of Raysegaile	John Wilson of Masongill	Her tenement at Gaytcoate 'with one firehouse', and one field
31 January 1717	Richard and Jane Lambert	Lancelot Slack	The tenement of High Gayle
31 January 1718	John Wilson of Masongill	James Hodgson of Gearstones	A 'mansion or dwelling house' at Gaytecoat occupied by Christopher Metcalfe, five fields
1721	n/a	John Cragg Junior of High Gale	Admitted as tenant under his father's will
10 May 1728	Richard Guy of Gayle	Thomas Wilson of Masongill	Cow Banks Parrock with one house and a stable
1 May 1731	Lancelot Slack	John Tennant of High Gayle	A house, barn and stable, Long Field and a barn, Cowbank Filed and a barn, three fields
20 March 1800	John Tennant of High Gayle	James, his son, of High Gale	John's tenement of High Gale
22 August 1803	James Tennant of High Gayle	Robert Elam Esq of Woodhouse Grove, Leeds	James's tenement of High Gale

Note: original name spellings have been used in Table 3 and 4

Fig. 2
Extract from Ingleton Tithe map, 1847.
Source: after TNA. IR30/43/234



Stephen Park within Gisburn Forest

– a pre-sixteenth century deer-park of the Hamerton family?

Graham Cooper and Helen Wallbank



Figure 1: Stephen Park farmhouse in the early twentieth century (Slaidburn Archive).

Introduction

Stephen Park is a former farmed settlement situated 5 km north-east of Slaidburn, within the Forestry Commission's plantations of Gisburn Forest. The Park was within the old district of Dalehead, acquired in stages by the Fylde Water Board in the 1910s and 1920s for water catchment to feed Stocks Reservoir. The former hamlet of Stocks-in-Bowland is below the water. Most of the Forest is conifer but sloping down from the Park buildings to the principal watercourse of Bottoms Beck is Park Wood, an ancient semi-natural woodland. The farmhouse (Fig. 1) and associated buildings are currently the centre of a recreational hub of cycling and walking trails, and offices.

The earliest date-stone in the buildings is 1662, but the settlement predates this. The earliest use of the place-name noted by Smith was in 1538 as *Stevynparke* but in the Manor of Slaidburn Court Rolls is a 1533 entry for *Stevenparke*. Prior to this date, the Park was associated with the Hamerton family, lords of the manor of Hamerton, modern Hammerton. 'Hamereton' was recorded in Domesday, the vill now designated a Deserted Medieval Village situated east of the River Hodder, and associated with the seventeenth century Hammerton Hall (Fig. 2) and lands to the east extending onto Hammerton Mere (Fig. 3).

Stephen Park is generally described as a medieval deer-park held by the Hamerton family. From the place-name alone, it is understandable to assume that the Park was an authorised deer inclosure like its near neighbours Bashall, Leagram and Radholme parks. An archaeological survey by North West Water (NWW) of their Bowland estate describes the Park as 'a fourteenth century deer park established by Stephen de Hammerton', a claim repeated in the Lancashire Historic Environment Record. Dixon suggests that the Park farmhouse was 'built in 1662 on the site of a hunting lodge'. An architectural survey of the site undertaken in 1999 (and other publications) repeats this view. None of these sources cites primary historical evidence to support the designations—but was Stephen Park unquestionably a deer-park?

To clarify the history of the Park, its purpose, and the role of the Hamerton family in its creation and management, documentary research and a field survey were undertaken:

- the identification and review of original manuscripts and printed primary sources such as Chancery rolls, that could state or indicate that deer were imparked at Stephen Park;
- an exploratory survey of the boundaries of the Park settlement, particularly the ditch and bank design, to provide insights into stock or deer movements, exclusion and enclosure – do the boundary remains show the characteristics of imparked deer retention, or wild deer exclusion?

The documentary study considered the period from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries, terminating just after the execution of Sir Stephen Hamerton in 1537 for treason, and the disposal of his lands by the Crown.

A third aspect of the research, not discussed here, was a review of the long-published pedigrees of the Hamerton family. Primary sources were sought to substantiate and enhance aspects of the biographies of the principals, and provide new insights into grants, land improvements and other economic and social activities of the family, their rise and demise. This paper provides an overview of the research strategy and outcomes. A more comprehensive report, including the work on the Hamertons, is available upon request to the authors.

The Search of Historical Records

An introduction to the purpose and history of deer-parks will set the legal, social and economic context, and illustrate the documentary evidence sought to indicate an authorised deer-park in the medieval period.

Deer-parks

Hammerton was under the ambit of the Master Foresters of Bolland (Bowland) as a purlieu, even though not technically within the bounds known from fifteenth century and later surveys. (A purlieu was disafforested land still subject to some aspects of forest law). The Forest of Bowland was created by William II and granted to Roger de Poitou in 1092, the first Lord of Bowland. It remained a private chase until the late fourteenth century when it came into royal ownership through the Duchy of Lancaster, but in 1661 it was granted to George Monck as Duke of Albemarle. Thus, at different periods in its history, it was a royal forest or a chase. Many forests had deer-parks within or just outside the forest bounds. Private deer-parks were subject to scrutiny by forest officers to ensure that the parks did not harm the forest, particularly regarding entrapment of royal deer or escape of park deer and damage to the browse (young shoots and twigs - fodder for cattle).

Parks were owned by the Crown, nobility, bishops and the upper echelons of the gentry. Their purpose was to breed, succour, hunt and gift deer for the provision of the elite meat, venison. Deer-parks were expensive enterprises, providing a demarcated, private area of wood-pasture and open grazing. They were enclosed by a high fence of timber, stone or hedge, and associated ground-works such as a ditch and bank, collectively known as a 'pale'. Deer-parks were prestigious and coveted areas and were subject to control by the Crown. In the medieval period, a licence was required to make a deer-park although in practice, not all were licensed, such as when the Crown/Duchy owned the park. Licences for Leagram and Radholme deer-parks are not known. The deer species enclosed in parks were principally fallow and red.

The licence, royal grants and continuing maintenance may leave documentary evidence. For a medieval deer-park it could be:

- a licence for deer imparkment, the authorised enclosure of woodland containing deer coverts, or subsequently, rents from a grant of agistment upon disparkment (the leasing of former parkland for raising cattle and herbage);
- pleas to the Crown/Duchy for trespass by others and unauthorised taking of deer;
- accounts for maintenance of the pale, lodge, woodland, and supply of winter fodder;
- payments to the parker and staff;
- royal grants of live deer or venison and associated fees;
- inquisitions into the harm to the king's forest arising from private imparkment;
- licences and accounts for salters (deer-leaps) to populate the park (salters were modifications to the park pale to enable wild or escaped deer to enter, but thwart their return).

This information can be found in Chancery documents, Exchequer accounts and Court of Duchy records. Licences for Bashall Park and an account of the 'breaking' of the park illustrate the type of records sought for Stephen Park. In 1465-6, a private deer-park was granted to Thomas Talbot 'for ever': *The licence of including a close, called Bashall Park, ... (and free warren) ... provided that there is not a deer-leap, commonly called a Saltree (salter).*

The exclusion of a private salter—which would entrap royal deer—confirmed that this was a deer-park. In 1516, Edmund Talbot was licensed to impark lands in Bashall. He could:

enclose [a close] with palings, ditches and hedges ... notwithstanding that some part of the said park may lie within the bounds of the king's forests or chases ... no one shall enter the said park to hunt there without licence from the said Edward (sic) on penalty of 40l. to the king.

Things did not go well—a Star Chamber pleading noted that 560 rods (3.6 km) of fence pales were thrown down by a mob of 400 the following year; they also assaulted and threatened Talbot's park servants, their actions supposedly instigated by Edward Stanley, Lord Monteagle. The gentry, nobility and church were not averse to breaking each other's parks.



Figure 2: Hammerton Hall, built in the 17th century, probably by the Breres family, on the site of an earlier hall.

Enlargement of a park by Sir Stephen Hammerton

An important starting point is a return from the 1517 *Inquisitions of Depopulation* by the Chancery into the inappropriate enclosing and depopulation of land in England, largely driven by the economic advantage of sheep farming over arable. Records from Yorkshire survive: *Stephen Hammerton knight in the enlargement of his park &c. He enclosed in the same park 20 acres then plough land and that Stephen Hammerton is tenant in respect thereof.* Where was this park, and was it used to keep and hunt deer? Upon the marriage of Adam de Hamerton to Katherine de Knolle in the fourteenth century, the family acquired Wigglesworth, Hellifield and Knowlmer manors. They made Wigglesworth manor their principal home and 'had a park about it' according to Whitaker, and 'the fact is certain, but I have never met with the *Licentia Imparcandi* (licence to impark)'. There was still a park there in 1538 when Richard Crumwell leased the site of Wigglesworth manor 'and the herbage and pannage of Wigglesworth Park' from the Crown, following the attainder of Sir Stephen Hamerton (below).

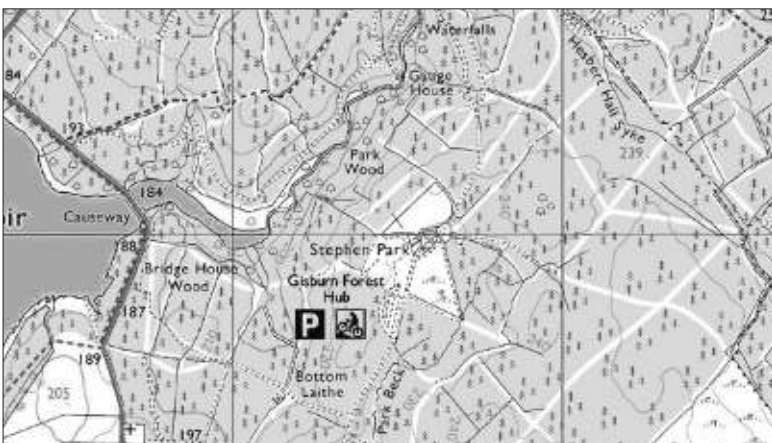
The location of the enlarged park was not given in the inquisition returns, which was unusual. This infers that its location was already given in the name of the tenant, Hammerton. The 1517 inquisition offered no specific date for the park enlargement, but the commissioners were instructed to consider enclosures from Michaelmas 1488. There were two knighted Stephens, the senior died in 1500 and his son John fathered a Stephen around 1494, also knighted but executed in 1537 for his involvement in the 'Pilgrimage of Grace'. Which Sir Stephen enlarged the Park at Hammerton? Stephen senior was made knight-banneret in 1482 but it is not known precisely when his grandson was dubbed knight. In 1528, plain 'Stephen Hamerton' (jnr.) was named amongst West Riding lords, knights and gentry as a commissioner of the peace and also untitled in 1532 as a commissioner for the reformation of West Riding weirs and fish-garths. His knighthood must have been conferred between 1532 and his death in 1537. Although a reviewer of the inquisitions (Leadam) favours Stephen junior as the park enlarger, he was not a knight within the *Inquisitions of Depopulation* accounting period and therefore the park enlargement by 'Stephen Hammerton knight' must refer to



Figure 3: Hammerton Hall, Hammerton Mere, and in the distance Gisburn Forest plantations with Stephen Park within. Note that the modern Gisburn Forest FC estate extends west of the historical Gisburn legal forest, and the modern civil parish.



Figure 4: A comparison of the Stephen Park area in the 1840s and today. Upper: the first edition OS 6-inches to 1-mile, surveyed 1847, published 1850. Lower: modern 1:25,000 OS. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2018).



his grandfather. We know that although Sir Stephen senior was of Wiglesworth, he also retained a mansion at Hamerton.

The name Stephen was recurrent in the Hamerton family, but which Stephen *founded* the Park? The 1501 *Inquisitions Post Mortem* (IPM) of Sir Stephen senior listed many holdings; he was plainly a wealthy and influential man, but could he have afforded a deer-park, and did he attract royal patronage? There were also (at least) two Stephen Hamertons between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries:

1. The Kirkstall Coucher (c.1196) reveals a grant by ‘*Stephanus de Hamertone* [of] 20 cart-loads of hay with the appurtenances in the township of Hamerton ... so that the monks will mow the hay and make with me a close near to a meadow in which now they take the said hay’. In a 1257-8 IPM after the death of Edmund de Lacy, it was noted that Edmund held 30 acres of arable and eight of meadow in demesne within Slaidburn, but ‘Stephen of Hamerton holds all Hamerton by charter and pays 8 s. a year for everything’.
2. In the Knights’ Fees of 1302-3 in Hamerton, another *Stephen de Hamerton* held one carucate and was also a benefactor of Kirkstall Abbey, giving 15 cart-loads of hay from Hamerton. He founded a chantry in the chapel of St Mary, Hamerton in 1332 and for sustenance ‘gave 2 messuages, 36 acres in land, and 20 acres of meadow in Slayteburne and Newland in Bowland [held of the king]’. This transfer to the church required a licence and a fine of six marks.

It is worth noting that imparkment in England grew from the twelfth to the fourteenth centuries and reached its zenith around 1300 when there were about 3,200 parks, occupying up to 2% of the land area, and containing about one quarter of its woodland. In this period, only about one in five senior gentry were deer-park owners. It is perhaps unrealistic to class the two foregoing Hamertons as ‘senior gentry’.

Thus, there were (at least) three Stephens who could have founded the park prior to the enlargement noted in the 1517 account—but was it a deer-park?

The search for evidence of a deer-park

An exhaustive search of catalogued historical records in the national and local archives and printed primary sources translated and edited by scholars in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, failed to find any indisputable or even indicative evidence of authorised (or illegal) deer inclosure in Stephen Park. The absence of evidence is not evidence of absence—it cannot be stated unequivocally that Stephen Park was not an authorised deer-park, but it is certainly most unlikely.

It must not be assumed that the place-name ‘park’ is necessarily a deer-park. In Cumbria, ‘park’ was associated with enclosed woodland, not necessarily containing farmed deer and in Scotland it could refer to fenced pasture for farm livestock. In Yorkshire, ‘park’ was used from the twelfth century and applied to small enclosures and assarts (larger enclosures taken, often without permission, from the common or waste for farming stock, or for arable use). For example, in 1312, Drax Priory and Rievaulx Abbey agreed on the ownership of tithes in Bingley, including ‘Ox-park’ and ‘Calve-park’, indicative that these ‘parks’ were cattle enclosures.

In the Crown's accounts of the disposal of Sir Stephen's lands is evidence that the Park was used for conventional farming activities. In 1538 Leonard Warcopp, an officer at arms, leased for 21 years 'a chief messuage in Bolland', part of the possessions of the recently executed Sir Stephen, late in the tenure of John Proctour (the property had reverted to the king upon the death of Elizabeth, Sir Stephen's widow). The messuage was probably in Hammerton because Proctour had made a plea to the Duchy in 1537-8 that Sir Stephen had harmfully forced entry and taken possession in 'Hammerton Manor'. In 1546, Ralph Greneacre of Sawley was granted the lordship and manor by the Crown when they had reverted from Warcoppe. In a list of tenants was: *our house and garden called Steven Parke and 4a of arable land, 5a of meadow and 40a of our pasture and moss with the appurtenances and now or late in the tenure of the relict of George Parker or her assigns.*

Plainly this was a farmed area in the 1540s and there is no doubt that an authorised and functioning deer-park would have been highlighted. The Parker sons continued farming there until the male line died out in the 1570s.

Just after the Crown's grant to Greneacre in 1546, he was granted a licence to transfer lands in Bowland to Oliver Breres, whose descendants undoubtedly built the new Hammerton Hall. A 1621 inventory of a later Oliver Breres mentions an 'olde hall' and a 1679 indenture discusses both a 'New Hall at Hamerton' and an 'Old Hall', implying that the house may have been built in stages.

Field survey

Survey area and the boundaries

The purpose of the field survey was to identify landscape features that may indicate the former presence of a deer-park: curvilinear boundaries contrasting with angular linear boundaries of later enclosures; remains of the pale system, the ditch being within the park; place-names reflecting a former deer-park such as Pale Wood or Laund.

Curvilinear boundaries were also a feature of assarts in which the settlement boundary would be designed to keep deer *out* and away from crops and herbage (a 'deer-dyke'). The relative positions of the ditch and bank of the boundary are important—a ditch on the outside of an assart or park boundary would indicate a desire to exclude deer, rather than retain them. The survey focussed principally on the ditch and bank arrangements of the outer bounds of the Stephen Park assart, but this required a judgement on the location of the original enclosed area.

A comparison of the first edition OS 6-inches to 1-mile map (surveyed 1847) and the modern 1:25,000 of the Park area is shown in Fig. 4; the earliest large-scale map is the 1844 tithe commutation plan, Fig. 5. A curvilinear boundary is evident (less conspicuous in the south-west) encompassing Park Wood and bounded in the west by Bottoms Beck. The working assumption was that this boundary was a putative deer-park enclosure, and/or the original assart boundary. Some of the inner compartments could have been used to keep deer, and so the internal boundaries were also surveyed. The survey area was 69 hectares (170 acres), with a circumference of 3.5 km.

The practical approach in the dense forestry plantations and moss was to focus the inspections at or near numbered 'nodes', junctions between the compartments and the outer

bounds, and between internal compartments (Fig. 6). One metre resolution Digital Terrain Model LIDAR was also employed but is not discussed here.

It was evident that many of the pre-forestry boundaries had been employed as plantation borders, or as access/firebreaks. In the mossy areas such as Park Moss, historical banks and ditches were frequently not evident due to dreadful ground conditions and self-seeded conifers. Most banks had associated ditches (Fig. 7), some of which were water-filled but there were isolated boundaries with no evidence of ditching. East of the Park farmhouse along the old track east towards Tosside, was a substantial ditch and bank (c. 1.5 m high), originally between arable and meadow enclosures. This was the highest historical bank feature in the park, but being parallel to a track, may have been modified recently.

Additional photographs of the various boundaries in the Park are shown in the web version of this article.

Survey synopsis

The boundaries shown on the nineteenth century mapping were largely still evident on the ground, even within forestry plantations, but nearly all signs of the boundary bank/ditch in east and north east outer bounds were lost in the moss and disturbed ground. The survey provided no evidence of circumferential deer-park pale groundworks designed to retain deer within the Park, nor firm evidence of internal deer paddocks. The ditches, where present on the bounds, suggested that the bank and ditch system was designed to exclude animals from the park interior, undoubtedly wild deer and the stock of other landowners/tenants grazing on unenclosed land.

There was little stone walling but some banks had evidence of hidden foundations such as occasional loose stones and sub-surface obstructions. Some of the banks were substantial, suggesting that walling was not universal as a boundary fence in the park, and that live hedging was probably the norm. It was not possible to determine the age of the banks from such a superficial survey, and no evidence was forthcoming in the documentary research to reliably date the assarting.

Conclusion

It is concluded that Stephen Park was not a pre-sixteenth century deer-park. The name element 'park' is not presumptive evidence that enclosures contained lawfully introduced deer or imparked wild deer. But hunting would undoubtedly have taken place in the area. In c. 1242 William de Percy granted the manor of Gisburn and the forest to Sawley abbey but retained the right to hunt. In the early fourteenth century, Henry de Percy had a chase in Gisburn forest in which he reserved the hunting, and the abbot of Sawley had the wood and herbage. The debate is not whether deer hunting occurred, but whether deer were imparked.

The earliest recorded use of the place-name Stephen Park was in the early sixteenth century when the land was held by Sir Stephen Hamerton (jnr). There was no evidence that his grandfather or indeed any of the Stephens before him named the park. The elder Sir Stephen had extended the park. The 1488-1517 inquisition was the earliest use of the place-name element 'park' for the area. Around the time of the examination, trial and execution of Sir Stephen, there was evidence from the Slaidburn manor court and Crown audits



Figure 5: Extract of a tithe map of Upper Easington redrawn by the Fylde Water Board, and held by Slaidburn Archive. The curvilinear boundary to the north, east and south-east of the settlement is suggestive of an early assart. The image has been digitally enhanced.

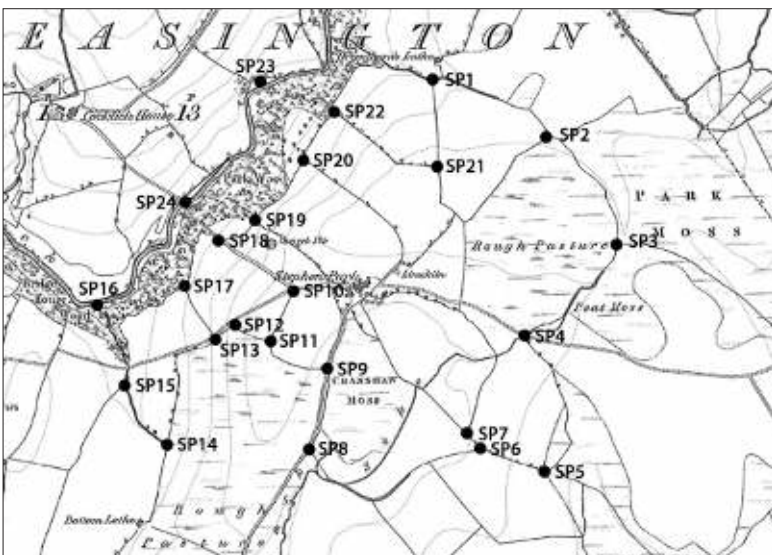


Figure 6: Boundary nodes and other features subjected to an exploratory survey, shown on the 6-inches to 1-mile (1:10,560) OS map surveyed in 1847.



Figure 7: A historical bank and water-filled ditch. The pole is 1m.

of his confiscated lands, that Stephen Park was used for conventional mixed farming activities by tenants.

If Stephen Park as a place-name originated in the late fifteenth or early sixteenth centuries, it is not known if the area was separately identified within Hammerton in the medieval period. It is known that there were pastures and enclosures in the Hesbert Hall area (immediately north of Stephen Park) in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries: for example, in 1269 there was an agreement between Sawley abbey and the prioress and nuns of Stainfield priory (Lincolnshire) that mentioned *'clausis (enclosures) de Esbrichabe (Hesbert Hall) et Stodfalgile (Studford Gill)'*. However, it would be unwise to include the later Park area in the grants because of the parish boundary between them, and uncertainty in the tenurial arrangements in the locale at that date. The grants showed that the general area had pastures for cattle and mares. It is not known exactly when the Park area was assarted, but from this indirect evidence, it is possible that it was used for cattle and horse pasture in the twelfth century and may have been enclosed like Hesbert around the same time, but by whom is not known.

Frankly, we still know little of the history of the Park area before the sixteenth century. Its association with a notable knightly family in Yorkshire (that felt the wrath of Henry VIII for a (perhaps reluctant) involvement in the northern insurrection against his policies and attitude to the Catholic church) provides a historical background that should interest the many visitors to this popular area. That it appears not to be a medieval deer-park is disappointing. This contrary stance to the official view could fall on the emergence of a single undiscovered or overlooked historical record, and so the authors would be pleased to receive any primary evidence that the Hamertons imparked deer. We have certainly found accusations from Queen Isabella in the 1330s that Hamertons were not averse to breaking her deer-park at Radholme in Bowland and carrying away deer!

A fully referenced version of this article is available on the NCHT website. The web version also contains additional photographs of the historical field boundaries in Stephen Park.

Acknowledgements

Chris Spencer translated sources and generously shared his knowledge of the area's history. Diana Kaneps discussed the Hamerton family. Martin Colledge, Forestry Commission Bowland Beat Manager, provided a contribution to the expenses of the field survey and documentary research.

Mear Beck Farmhouse, near Settle

Anthony Bradley

These notes were made by Mr Anthony Bradley in January 2001 and are worth recording.

The name Mear Beck (formerly Mere) can mean boundary and refers to the stream which rises behind the top house and later becomes the parish boundary between Settle and Long Preston. The whole of Mear Beck was once owned by the Preston family, the last Mrs Preston (née Procter) died in 1915. She had several daughters and at least two sons, one of whom was killed in the Boer War and one (Captain Preston) in the early days of the Great War 'leading from the front'. What happened to Mr Preston I do not know.

I was born in 1913 in the farmhouse in Long Preston. The buildings there had been a tannery. They had been advertised for sale in the 1850s as 57 tan pits. One of the 'pits' is still in use as a water trough (made of Helwith Bridge slate). That part of the Preston estate seems to have passed to a member of the family who became bankrupt and was involved in domestic scandal and 'banished' to Canada. No descendants have been heard of. It passed to a Mr Knowles, who had connections with Stainforth.

After the death of Mrs Preston in 1915, the 'big house' was occupied by one of her daughters, Miss Alison Preston and Mr John Procter, a cousin. Other daughters lived at Mount Pleasant, Langcliffe. Miss Alison and many of her generation never married, having lost boy-friends in the war. She spent her time (with a maid) at Grange over Sands in summer and The White Hart at Windsor in winter, with an annual day's visit to Mear Beck, when she called on my mother and had a weep. She lived to be 100 and is buried in the old part of

Giggleswick church yard. It was always thought that the Preston property was entailed (passing to the eldest male heir) but Miss Alison is supposed to have left it to 'the nephew of a friend' by name of Rankin, who seemed to sell property that becomes vacant.

Before the 1914 war, oak trees on the Mear Beck estate (and some brought in by train) were cut on a petrol-driven saw bench into planks and stored in a 'Dutch barn' (which is still there) to be used to 'restore' Long Preston church. This was done in the early 1920s. Sometime after 1900, the farm yard at the top farm was paved by Mr Christopher Sutcliffe of High Bank Farm, Rathmell (my uncle) who quarried the stone in a quarry at the end of the wood in the hillside. When I was a boy, the box sledge used was still there.

The farm owned by Mr Knowles was purchased in the late 1890s by my grandfather, Anthony Bradley. It was tenanted by William Dodgson, who moved to Long Preston and founded a 'proven' (provender) business. The top house was built much later than the rest of Mear Beck and used to be the 'Home' Farm. Where Peter Fawcett now lives used to be the home of the coachman for the 'big house'. His name was Albert Wooler; behind his cottage was a coach-house, stables and a kitchen garden for the big house.

I started school at Long Preston on May 12th 1919. There was a well-trodden path from Long Preston, just west of the Riddings, through Mear Beck, the (paved) farm yard, up the Rookery, along the western edge of Parks Wood, across Lodge Lane and along Watery Lane to Upper Settle.

Eel Ark Hill

George Redmonds and David Shore

Just to the west of Eshton Tarn is a modest hill with the unusual name Eel Ark. It is listed by Smith in *The Place-names of the West Riding* [1961] but no meaning is offered. His evidence is late, restricted to a single example from the tithe award of 1843. The *Oxford English Dictionary* [1989] has an entry for 'eel ark' as a vocabulary item, placed under 'ark', but again the evidence is very late (1883). Their reference was to 'an eel-ark ... at the east end of the North Loch' in Scotland. The entry suggests that the ark was an enclosure for confining or capturing eels and the editors draw attention to the word *arce* which had the meaning of 'coffer-dam' in some European dialects. The *English Dialect Dictionary* [1898] has entries for similar contrivances, that is

eel-hutch, eel-trunk and eel-leap, all of which were containers of one kind or another.

Two important Yorkshire references tell us more about the word's history. The first [Brown, 1914] occurs in a deed of 1562 which confirms a division of lands in Henry Fairfax's manor of Steeton near Tadcaster. These included 'the Little Old Park ... with the great stang (dam) ... and all the pools, ponds, and waters there running from the Eele ark unto Bolton lordship', that is Bolton Percy. Clearly the eel ark was a fixture in the park, either on the dam or one of the feeder streams. An earlier Latin reference is confirmation that 'eel-ark' was in use much earlier: in Whitaker's *History of Craven* [1812] is an entry from the Skipton Castle muniments in

1435-6 'Pro arcis anguillarum de Alanwath Tarne', that is for the eel arks of Alanwath Tarn. The author drew attention to 'The Terne' on Saxton's map of Yorkshire and commented on the tradition in some countries of catching eels in 'a kind of trunks or boxes'.

The use of the word in Latin allows us to take the history of the Eshton place-name back to 1260 when Furness Abbey acquired fishing rights in the lake called 'Estonterne' from the Eshton family [Cottam, 1928]. The fishermen working for the Furness monks were granted a number of rights, including the use of a boat on the tarn and places to dry their nets. More importantly John de Eshton allowed them half of all the eels taken in an ark fixed in the stream which ran out of the lake

'in archa que stat in rivulo exeunte de predicto lacu'. This liberty was then extended to all the arks the abbey might install, to the construction of a building (domus) 'over' the arks and to the rights of way for abbey servants through the Eshtons' lands. An ark was referred to as an 'engine' in the charter, i.e. a trap [Brownbill, 1916]. We can be certain, therefore, that Eel Ark Hill takes its name from the eel-trap of this type constructed on the stream before 1260, possibly from the building used by the fishermen.

On the current Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 map, Outdoor Leisure 10, Eel Ark Hill is some way from Eshton Tarn itself, and is situated on the lower slopes of a hill called Toftus. The Hill slopes steeply down to the stream called Tarn Dike which connects Eshton Tarn with the River Aire, and is particularly steep from the bridge which crosses Tarn Dike on the Eshton to Airton road, to the confluence with the River Aire. In this short stretch of the Dike appear to be the remains of two stone walls, on either side of the stream. It is possible these could be the remnants of the ark. J. W. Morkill [1933] points to the area near the bridge as Eel Ark, 'the high road crosses the dyke which carries the outflow of the tarn at a spot known as Eel Ark. This name, now very commonly disguised as High Lark, indicates that at some period eels were caught in that part of the dyke by means of an ark or trap. At the present day eels are seldom seen in the dyke, though they are said to have been fairly plentiful there fifty years ago.'

The name High Lark illustrates well the problems the first Ordnance Surveyors encountered with the local accent, as the Hill was recorded on the 1st. edition 6" OS map, 1853, Yorkshire 150, as High Lark Hill. Upstream from the road bridge to the Tarn, the Dike is bordered by trees on both sides, named on the 1910 6" OS map, CL NW, as Eel Ark Plantation.

Note

Furness Abbey was founded in 1127. Prior to 1155, William Graindeorge and his brothers granted Winterburn to the monks of Furness. A grange was established at Winterburn after more grants of land, including land in Flasby.

References

- Brown, W. (ed.), 1914. Yorkshire Deeds 2, *The Yorkshire Archaeological Society Record Series*, Vol. L, p.128
- Brownbill J. (ed.), 1916. *The Coucher Book of Furness*, Vol. II, part II, 142/464, Chetham Society
- Cottam, A. 1928. The Granges of Furness Abbey with specific reference to Winterburn in Craven, *The Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, Vol. 80
- Morkill, J.W. 1933. The Parish of Kirkby Malhamdale in the West Riding of Yorkshire, Gloucester
- Oxford English Dictionary*, 1989, Second Edition
- Smith, A.H. 1961. *The Place-names of the West Riding of Yorkshire*, Cambridge University Press, Vol.6, p.47
- Whitaker, T.D. 1812. *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven in the County of York*, Nichols and Son, London
- Wright, J. 1898. *The English Dialect Dictionary*, London, 6 volumes



Fig 1 Eel Ark Hill looking north



Fig 2 Tarn Dike with wall remnants



Fig 3 Tarn Dike running under Road



Summer Outing

More pele towers in the Penrith area

7 July 2017

Leader David S. Johnson

In 2006 an outing was made to the Penrith area to see Clifton Hall, Yanwath Hall, Dacre Castle and church and Brougham Hall. On this 2017 occasion we revisited Clifton Hall Farm and Clifton Hall then St Andrew's Church in Dacre, but continued in the afternoon to visit Johnby Hall (in private ownership) near Greystoke.

David provided excellent weather between the wet days that week. We started at Clifton Hall Farm (not open to the public) to see the now much decayed Roman inscribed tablet, perhaps removed from Brougham fort, but we were provided with a translation. The farm is of a courtyard design with a circular horse gin on one side, made to have a horse pulling a pole in a circle, with a drive shaft into the next room to operate farm machinery. The word gin needed some explanation – relating to engines not alcohol!

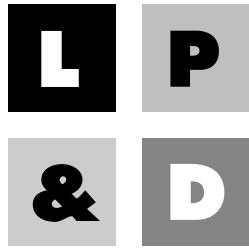
Clifton Pele stands nearby, now a roofed shell with fine roof timbers. It is looked after by English Heritage. Its story is told in full in the 2007 Journal. The property earlier extended far beyond the present ground plan as marked out by setts. It is a complex building, much altered over time, still imposing, and probably never meant to be defensive.

St Andrew's Church in Dacre welcomed us with tea, coffee and tasty cakes and scones. Two of the church members then gave us a tour and description of the interior and exterior which was very well received. There are so many interesting features of this fine old church. In 1984 excavations were made in the churchyard to reveal signs of an Anglo-Saxon monastery and a large drain covered with slabs perhaps taken from a Roman building. Documentary evidence for a monastery supports the ground-work. Four 'bears' or lions stand guard outside the church, perhaps marking the boundary corners of the earlier site. One of the beasts certainly has a long tail so is more likely to be a lion than a

bear. A crusader lies near the altar. A fine window dedicated to William Whitelaw, a much respected politician, can be seen. See the 2007 Journal for more detail. Some of us had a go at ringing the electronically controlled bells, more easily said than done we found to our surprise.

We proceeded after lunch to Johnby Hall in Greystoke (pronounced Greystock). This is the private residence of Henry Howard, who with his wife Anna welcomed us. The core of this stone tower house dates to the late 14th century, built after destruction of the original house by the Scots. In the 1500s the house became the property of the Musgrave family, the main door having an elaborate and perhaps unique panel and inscription over it. In 1696 the house passed to the Hasell family then to the 10th Duke of Norfolk of Greystoke Castle in 1783. It has remained in the Howard family ever since. Many alterations have been made over the years, particularly to the windows. Maud Leybourne-Popham, a family member, made many Arts and Crafts style additions. The house is surrounded by pleasant wild gardens and a 17th century orchard. We were shown the house by Mr Howard, starting in the vaulted ground floor room with a corner stairway into the attached cottage with interesting architectural features. A corridor leads to a spiral stone-step stairway (with a curious lamp fitting) to the hall above with pictures of the Howard ancestors, fine old furniture and artwork done by Aunt Maud. Another spiral stairway to the next level in the opposite corner twists in the opposite direction. We were provided with tea and cakes to finish a most pleasant day.

With thanks to David, who had the task of driving a minibus, and for all his efforts to make the visit go smoothly. These annual outings require a lot of organization, for which members are very grateful.



LAMBERTS Print & Design

We specialise in the design and printing of

- journals, magazines and short run perfect bound books,
- letterheads, bespoke wedding stationery, order of service booklets, greetings cards, invoices, leaflets
- 2-part, 3-part or 4-part carbonless books, pads & sets to your specification, for invoices/delivery/collection etc.

Tel: 01729 822177

2 Station Road, Settle, North Yorkshire BD24 9AA



Solicitors

Please contact:

Richard Bentley, M.A. (Cantab.)

Anne Verhagen, B.A. JD.

J Leslie Fawcett F.Inst.L.Ex

Local Lawyers – Personal Service

Market Place

Settle

Tel: 01729 823500

Fax: 01729 822023

e-mail: info@goadandbutcher.co.uk

Regulated by the Solicitors Regulatory Authority.

SRA number 300457



Neil Wright

ASSOCIATES

**29 YEARS SELLING
IN SETTLE/BENTHAM AREA**

ESTATE AGENTS

▲
VALUERS

FREE SALES VALUATIONS & SALES ADVICE

COMPETITIVE RATES OF COMMISSION

NO SALE, NO FEE

PROMINENT HIGH STREET OFFICES

1 High Street, Settle Tel: 01729 825219

King's Arms Buildings, 15 Main Street,
High Bentham Tel: 015242 62458

www.rightmove.co.uk

www.neilwrightestateagents.co.uk



Floorcoverings Limited

16 Station Road, Settle, North Yorkshire

Tel: 01729 823302

www.andrewmounseyfloorcoverings.co.uk

Floorcoverings - Furnishings

**Style Centre for all your
Carpets, Vinyls, Laminates,**

Solid Wood Floors

Professionally fitted

Large selection of rugs

**New offers all the time
Please call in for details**

Trust the people you know

Contents

	Author	Page no.
Editorial	Maureen Ellis & Michael Slater	1
Chairman's Report	John Asher	1
Obituary: Harold Foxcroft 1929-2017	Audrey Foxcroft, Anne Read and Maureen Ellis	2
The NCHT webservice		2
The collection, digital imaging and digital conservation of local historical documents	Michael Slater	3
Milk Kitting	Mary Taylor	5
More fact than fantasy: a literary glimpse into Giggleswick's past	Mary Slater	7
Death and Disease in North Craven 1610 – 1820	Michael Pearson	10
An 18th Century Shopkeeper – the account book of William Carr of Settle	Sheila M Gordon	15
Agnes Burrow: Limestone Scaurs near Settle	Mary Slater	17
Mystery Datestone		17
Water under Settle	Graham Ball and Michael Slater	18
The Buckhaw Brow Underpass		20
Raisegale, Ingleton Fells: in search of a lost farmstead	David S Johnson	21
Stephen Park within Gisburn Forest – a pre-sixteenth century deer-park of the Hamerton family?	Graham Cooper and Helen Wallbank	29
Mear Beck Farmhouse, near Settle	Anthony Bradley	34
Eel Ark Hill	George Redmonds and David Shore	34
Summer Outing: More pele towers in the Penrith area		36

North Craven Heritage Trust Aims and Objectives

The North Craven Heritage Trust was set up in 1968 to encourage interest in, and to help safeguard, the distinctive beauty, history and character of the North Craven area. It encourages high standards of architecture and town planning, promotes the preservation and sympathetic development of the area's special historic features and helps to protect its natural environment. It arranges lectures, walks and local events and publishes booklets about the North Craven area.

This annual Journal aims to keep members informed of the Trust's activities. Further information about the Trust and details of membership are available from any committee member. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the publishers.

www.NorthCravenHeritage.org.uk

Committee 2017 / 2018

PRESIDENT

Mrs A Read, MBE

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Miss S Haywood

Dr D S Johnson

CHAIRMAN

Mr J Asher
1, Joe's Close, Stainforth,
Settle BD24 9PE 01729 825075

HON. TREASURER

Mr G R Bowring
Lawkland Hall, Austwick LA2 8AT 01729 823551

HON. SECRETARY

Mrs Anne Webster 01729 824844

MEMBERS

Mrs C Beattie 01729 823497
Mr M Corner 01729 825063
Dr M Ellis 015242 51802 & 0113 2737459
Dr M J Slater 01729 823205

SUB-COMMITTEE CONVENORS

Reserves G R Bowring
Publications and Archives Dr M J Slater

JOURNAL EDITORS

Dr M Ellis & Dr M J Slater