

Rutland Record 23

Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society



Rankinborough

Rutland Local History & Record Society

The Society is formed from the union in June 1991 of the Rutland Local History Society, founded in the 1930s, and the Rutland Record Society, founded in 1979. In May 1993, the Rutland Field Research Group for Archaeology & History, founded in 1971, also amalgamated with the Society.

The Society is a Registered Charity, and its aim is the advancement of the education of the public in all aspects of the history of the ancient County of Rutland and its immediate area.

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Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society
No 23 (for 2003)

Editorial	98
Notes on Contributors	98
A hoard of late 3rd century Roman coins from Tinwell, Rutland <i>T H McK Clough & Richard Abdy with Elaine Jones & Richard Pollard</i>	99
The medieval park of Ridlington <i>Anthony Squires</i>	105
John Fielden Brocklehurst: Major-General Lord Ranksborough (1852-1921) <i>Jean Bray</i>	114
The State of some Rutland Churches in 1705: The Rutland Returns in the Notitia Parochialis <i>Peter Tomalin</i>	119
John Strecche, Prior of Brooke, 1407-25 <i>Geoffrey M Hilton</i>	128
Rutland History and Archaeology in 2002 <i>Edited by T H McK Clough</i>	130
Book Review: Arthur Cossens <i>The Turnpike Roads of Leicestershire and Rutland</i> (Peter Tomalin)	136
Rutland Bibliography <i>Compiled by Christine Hill</i>	136

Cover Illustration:
Major-General Lord Ranksborough
(G Phillips, *Rutland and the Great War*, 1920)

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Editorial: New Lamps for Old

In the heritage world the last few years have seen many changes. We have had to delete familiar acronyms from our files, amongst them, on the national scene, PRO, HMC and RCHME, and more locally LRO, LMARS and EMMS. We have learned new ones – HLF, NA, ROLLR and EMMLAC. Others have remained constant: RCM. What does this signify? What have we lost? Have we gained anything?

Some of these changes reflect the renaming of organisations whose remit has been redefined, perhaps bringing together the work of several institutions. Thus the vaguely dusty image of the Public Record Office (~~PRO~~) has been merged with the Historical Manuscripts Commission (~~HMC~~) to become The National Archives (NA): the ~~PRO~~ habit is one which some will find hard to kick, but it must be done. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England) (~~RCHME~~) has disappeared but its responsibilities, including the National Monuments Record (NMR), have been subsumed within English Heritage.

Closer to home, the succinct Leicestershire Record Office (~~LRO~~) has chosen to reflect its geographical and post-1997 local authority remit by adopting the more cumbersome Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland (ROLLR). It doesn't trip off the tongue lightly but keeps the politicians happy. What of Leicestershire, Museums, Arts & Records Service (~~LMARS~~), ROLLR's parent? Internal re-organisations in Leicestershire County Council have seen this become the county's Heritage Services. And good old East Midlands (Area) Museums Service (once known as ~~EMAMS~~, then ~~EMMS~~), which offered advice, assessment, encouragement and financial aid to museum services in the area? New arrangements have brought together regional bodies to form the East Midlands Museums, Libraries and Archives Council; makes sense, it would seem, to get curators, librarians and archivists in the same room, even if EMMLAC sounds at first hearing like something taken internally.

But do these changes mean that the money will still be there, the support and advice will still be offered, and the work will still get done? One way to tell will be to watch the Rutland scene. We have had success stories, with some at least of the county's applications to the HLF (Heritage Lottery Fund) in its first ten years winning through: the Rutland Railway Museum, the Rutland County Museum (RCM), our own Society, a survey of public monuments and sculpture in Leicestershire and Rutland, to note but four examples. Will potential projects, such as the nascent hopes for solving the conservation problems posed by the earthworks of the important but at-risk Ancient Monument of Oakham Castle, win through? They should, but it has to be remembered that it was Aladdin's old lamp that produced the genie: it's no good polishing the new ones if they can't produce the goods. We still need the old magic.

Notes on Contributors

Richard Abdy, a graduate of Glasgow University, now curates later Roman and early Byzantine coins at the British Museum. This includes work on Romano-British coin hoards as part of the Treasure process, ensuring that they are recorded and published.

Jean Bray has been a journalist and writer for more than 40 years and is currently working on the family archives at Sudeley Castle. Her book *The Lady of Sudeley* has just been republished in paperback by Sutton Publishing, and her forthcoming book on Lord Ranksborough, *Soldier of the Queen*, is due for publication in 2005.

Tim Clough was Curator of the Rutland County Museum from 1974 to 2002. He is the Society's Honorary Editor, and has written and edited works on local history, archaeology and numismatics.

Geoffrey Hilton taught biology in schools and ecology in the University of Wolverhampton before retiring to Kenilworth, which diverted his interests to history: he is secretary of the Kenilworth Abbey Advisory Committee.

Sue Howlett is the Society's Honorary Secretary. Having taught English for many years in secondary and further education, she now works in adult education as part-time tutor of literature and local history.

Elaine Jones is a graduate of Leicester University, has done field-walking in Rutland for about 20 years and has published summaries of her work in *Rutland Record*.

Richard Pollard is Assistant Keeper of Archaeology with Leicestershire County Council's Environment and Heritage Service. His research interest lies in Roman ceramics. He has a BA (Hons) and PhD in Archaeology, and is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

Tony Squires is an occasional tutor for the University of Leicester's Institute of Life-Long Learning and author of publications on landscape history.

Peter Tomalin worked as a metallurgist in the engineering industry until his retirement. He is a member of the RLHRS and has a particular interest in churches.

The contents of *Rutland Record* reflect the views of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Society or its Editor.

A hoard of late 3rd century Roman coins from Tinwell, Rutland

T H McK CLOUGH & RICHARD ABDY

with ELAINE JONES & RICHARD POLLARD

Over 2,800 silvered bronze radiate coins dating from AD 253-275 were found during a metal-detector search of a field at Tinwell in 1999. The remains of the Romano-British Nene Valley ware pot in which they had been buried were also found. The presence of many irregular coins points to a date of deposition late in the third

century AD, a very troubled period in the history of the Roman empire during which many such hoards were deposited. The hoard was declared Treasure under the 1996 Act, and was subsequently acquired by the Rutland County Museum.

The discovery of the hoard

A metal-detectorists' rally in a field at Tinwell in eastern Rutland on 30th August 1999 led to the discovery of a hoard of 2,830 late third century Roman coins. A group of detectorists were taking part in a three-day search of some stubble fields in this parish, with the permission of the farmer. Although there had been a few scattered finds of Roman coins during the search, it was not until the afternoon of the third day that a concentration of finds was located, suggesting that there might be a dispersed hoard in the vicinity. Soon afterwards, Peter Hartmann – a relative newcomer to the metal-detecting scene – received a signal which led to the discovery of the main body of the hoard in and around the remains of the pot in which they had been buried.

Although the hoard had clearly been disturbed by ploughing, spreading some of the coins up to 10m away from the burial spot and damaging the upper part of the pot, the bulk of the coins remained *in situ*. Most of the coins were removed from the ground as soon as they were found, and a small excavation below the plough-soil into the clayey subsoil revealed that the base of the pot was still in the ground. Although there were still positive signals from the detectors, it was decided to stop digging so that the site could be examined archaeologically. Accordingly, the discovery was reported to HM Coroner and to the Rutland County Museum, so that it could be dealt with under the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996. The exact site of the discovery remains confidential.

In his then capacity as Curator of the Rutland County Museum, one of the authors (Tim Clough) visited the site with the museum's Conservator, Phil Rayner. Together, they recovered the remains of the pot, which was in a very friable condition and could not be lifted in one piece, and a few more coins,

including some which were adhering to the inside of the pot. These were taken back to the museum for further examination.

Subsequent fieldwork by members of the Rutland Local History & Record Society's archaeology group pointed to the coins having been deposited within a Romano-British settlement, and not buried or hidden in some remote place (Jones 2000, 2001). Elaine Jones reports that lying on the ploughsoil around the hoard was a spread, measuring c300m x 100m, of some 350 Iron Age, samian and Romano-British potsherds, along with building materials of brick, tile, burnt limestone and cobbles. An apparently unrelated find, a Neolithic polished stone axe made from rock originating in the English Lake District, was also found within the area (Clough 2001). Crop-marks on aerial photographs showed enclosures nearby which could be interpreted as Iron Age, and limited excavation of a small gully near the site produced eight sherds of Roman pottery, together with an undated wall foundation which was traceable for 11.5m (Masters & Shaw 1997).

The field overlies faulted Middle Jurassic strata. This faulting, first recorded by the Stamford & District Geological Society in 1996, is interpreted as a camber-induced rift complex affecting a low anticline in the Jurassic Blisworth Limestone. Blisworth Clay, Cornbrash and Kellways Clay and Sand are progressively faulted down between flanks of Lincolnshire Limestone.

The coins were taken to the British Museum's Department of Coins & Medals for detailed examination and identification by Richard Abdy, and the remains of the pot were studied by Richard Pollard of Leicestershire Museums, Arts & Records Service. Their specialist reports are incorporated into this account of the find. Mr Hartmann subsequently wrote a first-hand account, recalling his excitement at making such a substantial find, which appeared in *Treasure Hunting* magazine (Hartmann 1999). The

discovery, with a summary of the field-walking finds, has been noted briefly in an earlier issue of *Rutland Record* (Jones 2001), and the stone axe was described in detail in the same issue (Clough 2001). The hoard attracted attention in the local press, and was mentioned in a review of the workings of the Treasure Act 1996 in the *Museums Journal* (Hull 2001, 27-8). Abdy has used some of the Tinwell coins to illustrate 'barbarous' radiates in his account of late Romano-British hoards (Abdy 2002, 43, fig. 25), and his summary of the find appears in *Coin Hoards from Roman Britain* (Abdy, forthcoming).

The coins: historical background and local context

The coins in the hoard, all but one of which are silvered bronze *radiates*, range in issue date from AD 253 to AD 275. The other coin is a *denarius*. The composition of the hoard is typical of the many known Romano-British debased radiate hoards with a *terminus post quem* (the date after which they must have been deposited) of the 270s onwards. The radiate, a modern name describing the solar rays on the diadem worn by the emperor on the obverse, is often known – without ancient warrant – as an *antoninianus*. It was originally a silver multiple of the denarius, but by the time the coins in the hoard were made it had become debased to the point at which it was essentially bronze (c5% silver or less). The minting of the radiate, which had reached its most debased form during the reign of Gallienus in the 260s, was subjected to an improvement in weight, appearance and the consistency of its silver content (often indicated by the mintmarking XX I, ie 20:1 or 5% silver) by the emperor Aurelian in his reform of AD 274. However, there is only a tiny presence of the reformed radiates of Aurelian here; the explanation for this may well lie in one of two theories, namely supply problems or denominational selection, or indeed a mixture of both.

The deposition of the Tinwell hoard is to be seen in the light of the fraught political situation in the Roman empire in the latter part of the 3rd century AD. This may be exemplified by events in AD 259 or 260, which 'saw Postumus establish himself as emperor at the head of a breakaway movement of the western provinces known as the *Imperium Galliarum*, ... which severed its institutional connections with the legitimate government of Gallienus in Rome. From then, until AD 273 when Aurelian regained control of the western territories from the Tetricks, these provinces not only had their own emperors, but also other officials and functionaries...' (Shotter 2003, 229). During this period usurping emperors seized power in quick succession, often with the support of rebellious troops, only to be

assassinated in their turn after a taste of power lasting weeks rather than months or years. They made it a priority to issue coins in their name as a statement of authority and propaganda; the rare coins of the short-lived emperors Laelian and Marius in the hoard are good examples of this practice.

The British province formed part of the territory both of this Gallic Empire in AD 260-274 and also of the later Britannic Empire established by Carausius in AD 286 (or 287) which lasted until AD 296. Britain and the near continent perhaps had difficulty with coin supply during the years between these breakaway states, as coinage of 274-86 is rare as hoard or site finds. The presence of locally-produced copies (generally known as 'irregular' or 'barbarous' coins) appears to increase over the course of the 270s and 280s, leading to the suspicion that they may have been produced to fill a supply gap. They may be reasonably good copies of the originals, but more often the dreadful quality and imprecision of their designs makes a mockery of the models they are imitating. Alternatively, since the older coins were not withdrawn with Aurelian's reform, they may well have circulated at a discounted face value (even if, in the absence of any surviving official decree such as Diocletian's later revaluation edict of AD 301, this was only an informal market-place practice). This could have led to a segregation of coin hoards similar to that found in the majority of hoards known from the fully trimetallic (gold, silver and bronze) system of the early Roman period. In this context, the relatively high value of the reformed radiate may go some way to explaining the lack of site finds, since the lower the denomination, the more likely the casual loss. Further, it has even been suggested that, in some cases at least during this disturbed period, 'people's political sympathies were carried even into the matter of the make-up of their savings', with hoards containing a majority of coins either of the legitimate rulers in Rome or of the self-styled leaders of the Gallic Empire (Shotter 2003).

Whatever the cause, the absence of post-reform coins in many of the huge numbers of debased radiate hoards known makes judging the date of deposition very hard. A recent hoard from Langtoft, Yorkshire, unusually contained quantities of pre- and post-reform radiates and Tetrarchic *nummi* down to AD 305 (Barclay, forthcoming). That hoard is highly unusual in Britain, although similar cases are known from northern France. In this light it is possible that although the production of debased radiates ceased in AD 274 they could still have been circulating in the early years, or even decades, of the fourth century.

Tinwell, which contains over 35% irregular coins,

Ashby de la Zouch 1818	Two urns with coins of Gallienus, Victorinus, Tetricus and Claudius II Gothicus recorded (Abbott 1956)
Gilmorton 2004	Urn with 1,254 mid-late 3rd century coins (inf R Knox)
Goadby Marwood 1953	Urn with 1,917 radiates, Valerian I to Probus (Abbott 1956)
Heather 1992-93	176 mid-late 3rd century coins, dispersed (inf R Knox)
Hoo Ash 1992	Urn with 2,793 3rd century radiates (inf R Knox)
Leicester 1936-38	38 radiates, Gallienus to Probus (Abbott 1956)
Lutterworth 1869	254 radiates, Volusian to Tetricus II (Abbott 1956)
Mount St Bernard 1840	Urn with up to 2,000 radiates, ranging up to Probus (Abbott 1956)
Tinwell 1999	Urn with 2,830 radiates, Valerian I to Aurelian (Severina)(this paper)

Table 1: Late 3rd century hoards from Leicestershire and Rutland

belongs to the later stages of this series of hoards (see Cheeseman 1997). The hoard is made up as follows: 46% are coins of the Gallic empire, 35% are irregular, and only 18% are of the central empire; a few are unidentifiable. Selected coins are illustrated in fig. 2. Although the latest coin is a denarius of the empress Severina, minted in AD 275 by her husband Aurelian, it is likely from the composition of the hoard that it was abandoned a number of years after this date.

Although no other hoard certainly of this date is recorded from Rutland – those from Great Casterton, Ketton and Whitwell are of the fourth century, and details of the Thistleton finds are still unavailable as noted below – several hoards similarly terminating with coins of the 270s and 280s are known from Leicestershire. Some were found many years ago (Abbott 1956; Winter 1977-78), others more recently (information from Richard Knox, Leicestershire Museums), as listed in Table 1.

Abbott discussed hoards known to him in his publication of the Goadby Marwood find, which comes from a Roman iron-working site some five miles north of Melton Mowbray, and had been buried beneath the floor of an extraction pit (Abbott 1956, esp 23, 25-37). Most were found in urns, and Abbott (1956, 23, fig. 7) illustrates the Mount St Bernard and Goadby Marwood vessels. Winter (1977-78) notes that the Mount St Bernard hoard was also found with pottery and fragments of building materials in the vicinity, and that the Lutterworth hoard comes from near Tripontium, a Roman town of on Watling Street – perhaps a comparable situation to Tinwell which is not far from the Roman small town at Great Casterton on the Great North Road (Ermine Street). Further, Tinwell borders the parish of Ketton, where a number of Roman discoveries have been brought to light over the years during extensive quarrying of limestone (see this issue, p131, for the discovery of the Garley's Field hoard in 2000); it also lies not far to the east of Empingham and the Gwash valley where recent studies have demonstrated a flourishing Romano-British rural settlement pattern (Cooper 2000).

Abbott (1956, 25) also gives a breakdown of the composition of the Leicestershire hoards (apart from Ashby-de-la-Zouch where insufficient detail survives). Although he does not distinguish between official coinage and locally-made irregular coins, he notes that in every case the debased coinage of the Gallic empire, principally that of Victorinus and the Tetrici, accounts for more than half the total of each hoard. Those of the legitimate emperors Gallienus and Claudius II are well represented amongst the remainder. The small Lutterworth hoard has no coins of Aurelian and very few of the Tetrici, and may be the earliest of these finds. Those from Jewry Wall and Goadby Marwood both have a few coins of Probus (AD 276-282) and thus may be a little later than Tinwell. The latest coins from Mount St Bernard are two of Aurelian and this find may be the nearest in date to Tinwell.

Details of similar finds can be found in the sites and monuments records of all the neighbouring counties, so broad is the pattern of hoard deposition of this period. It is frustrating that details of two further finds, from the extensive Roman site at Thistleton in Rutland, still remain unpublished, so that they cannot be brought into this discussion. No other details are known beyond the brief record that during the excavations in the field known as Black Wong in 1957 remains of buildings were dated to the third century, 'two small 3rd century coin hoards being found in the top of a large pit' (*JRS* 1958).

The coin list

The coins in the hoard, of which a selection are illustrated in Fig. 2, have been identified by Dr Abdy and are summarised in Table 2.

The pottery container (fig. 1)

Richard Pollard contributes the following report:

The vessel is in Lower Nene Valley white colour-coated ware with a very dark greyish-brown to very dark grey slip (Munsell colour 10YR 3/2 to 3/1) on all surfaces. Internally, the globular body exhibits

CENTRAL EMPIRE			
Valerian I	AD 253-260	7	died in captivity in Persia in AD 260
Gallienus (joint ruler)	AD 253-260	3	shared power with Valerian
Valerian II		1	died young
Salonina		7	wife of Gallienus
Gallienus (sole ruler)	AD 260-268	242	murdered at Milan in AD 268
Salonina		21	murdered with her husband
Claudius II Gothicus	AD 268-270	187	won major victory over the Goths, died of plague
Divus Claudius	AD 270	31	issued after his death and deification
Quintillus	AD 270	17	committed suicide
Aurelian	AD 270-275	3	assassinated in Thrace in AD 275
Severina (<i>denarius</i>)		1	wife of Aurelian
Total for the Central Empire		520	
GALLIC EMPIRE			
Postumus	AD 260-268	30	assassinated at Mainz in AD 268
Laelian	AD 268	1	defeated in a revolt against Postumus
Marius	AD 268	4	murdered after a reign of a few days
Victorinus	AD 268-271	362	murdered at Cologne in AD 270
Tetricus I	AD 271-274	635	spared by Aurelian after surrendering to him in AD 273
Divus Victorinus		1	issued in honour of Victorinus
Tetricus II		258	spared by Aurelian like his father Tetricus I
Total for the Gallic Empire		1,291	
Irregular local issues		996	
Uncertain fragments		23	
Grand total		2,830	

Table 2. The contents of the Tinwell hoard

strong wheel-throwing marks, consistent with a closed form such as a flagon or jug, but sometimes present on open forms such as wide-mouthed jars or bowls (eg Perrin 1999, fig 65.279). These forms both occur in a group from kiln A2 at Water Newton, near Peterborough, dated typologically to 'round about the turn of the 2nd and 3rd centuries', with the simple splayed foot of the Tinwell vessel. The maximum surviving diameter of the latter, 196 mm, which if it is a simple globular form appears to be its real maximum, is within the range (196-200 mm) of the five flagons from the kiln group (Gillam 1999, 20-23 and fig 12.26-30). The nine wide-mouthed jars or bowls from this group are somewhat smaller, at around 150-162 mm (ibid, figs 11.14-15, 12.16-22). Perrin (1999, 106) confirms that production in the Lower Nene Valley of jars in colour-coated ware continued throughout the third century, as did that of flagons and jugs (ibid, 98). It appears that colour-coated jars were restricted to small vessels until the late third century (ibid, 82).

To conclude, the form of the vessel is uncertain because its upper part is missing. It could be either a flagon or a wide-mouthed jar or bowl, but if the latter it is likely to be an early example of the larger

vessels produced from the late third century probably up to the end of the Lower Nene Valley industry in the late fourth/early fifth century AD.

The Treasure process and the acquisition of the hoard

The story of the Tinwell hoard provides a good example of the working of the Treasure Act 1996, which superseded the centuries-old and outmoded law of Treasure Trove. Put simply, the old law had dealt only with objects of gold or silver and their alloys, whereas the new law presently covers any object, other than a coin, containing at least 10% gold or silver and at least 300 years old when found; all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (and at least ten of them if they contain less than 10% gold or silver), including strays from the original deposit; any object, whatever it is made of, found in the same place as or originally together with another object that is Treasure – such as the pot which contained the Tinwell coins; and any other object which would have been Treasure Trove under the old law.

All finds that might be Treasure must be reported to HM Coroner for the district in which they are

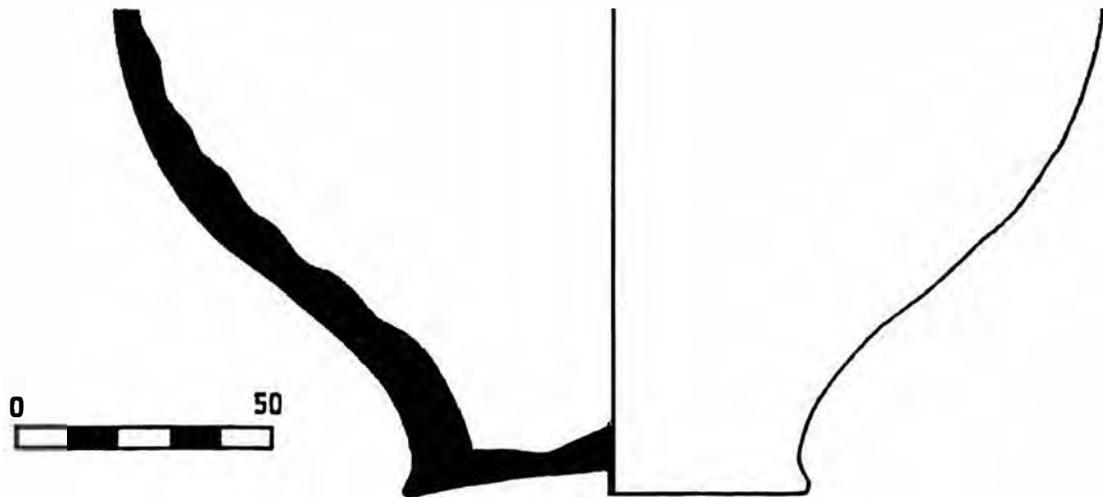


Fig. 1. The pot in which the Tinwell hoard was found (drawing: Wendy Scott)

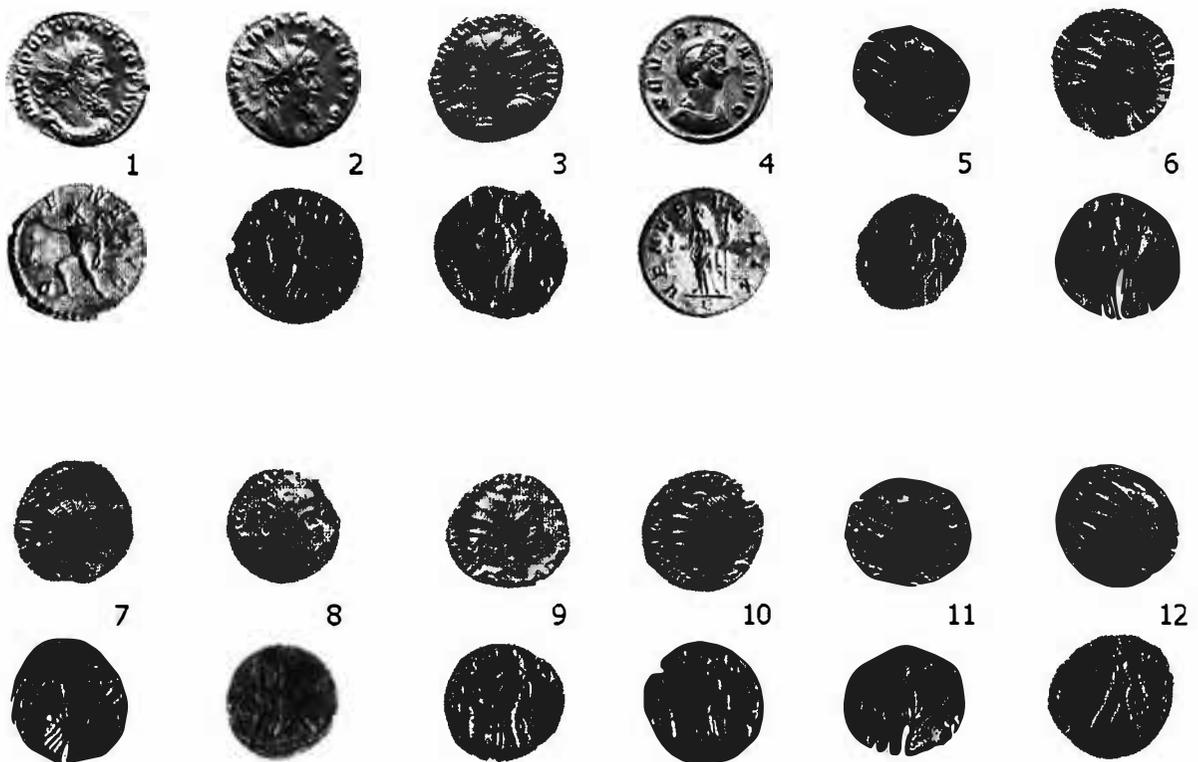


Fig. 2. Selected coins from the Tinwell hoard. Regular issues: 1, Postumus; 2, Laelian; 3, Victorinus; 4, Severina. The remainder are irregular issues of varying quality, including coins nominally of Claudius Gothicus (6), Victorinus (10) and Postumus (12) (photograph: British Museum)

found. This can be done direct or through the police, or through one of the many archaeological organisations and museums, including the Rutland County Museum, which now act officially as places where such finds can be received on behalf of the Coroner, and can offer advice on the procedures to be followed. Finds Liaison Officers working under the Portable Antiquities Scheme can also provide similar assistance.

Many people co-operated to ensure the successful outcome of the Treasure process in the case of the Tinwell hoard. After its discovery and the transfer of the coins to the British Museum for identification and conservation, an inquest was held by the Coroner for Rutland and North Leicestershire to decide whether the find was Treasure or not. After the inquest, the coins and the pot were valued, and the Rutland County Museum was offered the chance of buying the hoard. The museum decided that this would be appropriate, for several reasons: the hoard is typical of coin finds of the period and it could be used in displays; there was no comparable material in the museum's collection; it was not too big and since the

individual coins were mostly of relatively little monetary value it seemed affordable. Indeed, its relative ordinariness made it attractive. However, the museum had no dedicated purchase budget for exhibits, and an application was made to the Purchase Grant Fund run by the Victoria & Albert Museum on behalf of Resource, the Council for Museums, Archives & Libraries. This was successful, and the Fund made an offer of 50% of the valuation; the Friends of the Rutland County Museum contributed the remainder. The hoard was received at the museum in January 2001 (accession no. A47.2001), when a selection of the coins were put on display.

Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank all those who contributed to the successful recovery of the hoard and its acquisition by the Rutland County Museum, including the finder, landowner and tenant, members of the RLHRS fieldwalking group, and their respective museum colleagues. The Cecil Estate Family Trust kindly donated the fieldwalking finds to the Rutland County Museum.

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The Medieval Park of Ridlington

ANTHONY SQUIRES

Ridlington park was a royal deer park from its foundation in the twelfth century. For almost five hundred years it occupied an important place in the administration of the royal forest of Rutland, later known as Leighfield Forest.

Its reserves of timber, wood, pasture and deer were subject to considerable abuse by crown servants over the centuries and, in a very run-down state, it was eventually disparked in the early 1620s.

Introduction

The hunting park was a prominent feature in the landscape of England from shortly after the Norman Conquest to the close of the Middle Ages. It was essentially an area of land enclosed with a bank, ditch and fence (the pale) where deer were bred, raised and hunted. The interior of a park could be undivided, in which case the deer and possibly domestic animals had a more or less free run and all other interests were of secondary importance. Alternatively, and more often, the park could be divided into compartments where the grazing was carefully controlled and where income-generating activities such as tree-growing, turf-digging, stone-cutting and warrening took place.

It is usually held that the hunting park was introduced by the Normans. A recent reappraisal of Domesday Book has suggested that parks of a similar if not identical form were present in late Anglo-Saxon England (Liddiard 2001). However, almost as rapidly as they established their castles the Normans were laying out their parks. The heyday of park creation was the century and a half following the year 1200. After the arrival of the Black Death in 1348 many parks were abandoned as a result of the widespread social and economic changes which followed. Those relatively few parks created in the fifteenth century were usually on a more modest scale or were parks in name only. By the middle of the sixteenth century parks had changed in nature to reflect changing times and bore little resemblance to their medieval ancestors.

The possession of a hunting park, whatever its size and form and however it operated, was a sign of social status. The crown had the greatest number of parks, followed by the wealthiest nobles and the major religious houses. However, over the years the possession of a park tended to move down the social scale so that even knightly families aspiring to nobility might find themselves in a position to enclose a hundred acres or so. At one time or another during the years to 1485, approximately 1,900 parks spread across England (Cantor 1983) with 52 known for Leicestershire and thirteen for Rutland (Cantor & Squires 1997).

The park of Ridlington was an important component of the Royal Forest of Rutland, known in its later years as Leighfield Forest. The park was founded shortly after the establishment of the Forest in the early twelfth century. On account of its topography, the nature of its soils, its heavy woodland cover and its unbroken ownership by the crown, it remained an important and prominent feature of the landscape, if not the royal revenues, until Leighfield's disafforestation shortly after 1620.

History

The earliest record of the park's existence comes from an enquiry of 1255 which was held to determine whether Thurstan de Montfort, lord of Uppingham and Ridlington, had been seized in 1167 of certain woods, 'namely the park of Ridlington and woodland in Uppingham under Beaumont' (*VCH Rutland II*, 97). The outcome was that this was so, and it is clear that the park was then up and running. A twelfth-century foundation date places Ridlington among only a handful of very early parks in Leicestershire and Rutland. In the same year the rights of Thurstan were confirmed to his great-grandson, Peter. Earlier in 1238, Peter was also granted permission to make enclosures near the park and have common of pasture for his demesne beasts in the outwoods belonging to the park (*Cal Pat R 1232-47*, 234). Additionally, in 1253, Peter was granted grazing rights in 'that parcel of the wood called the park of Ridlington', rights which were confirmed three years later (*ibid*, 242). However, the king reversed his decision in 1264 and instead granted Peter and his heirs £50 in exchange for a quitclaim in which Peter made over to the king all his rights in the woods belonging to the manor of Ridlington (*ibid*, 389).

However, all was not well in park and forest, and the crown moved to check abuses which had been taking place, particularly in the park. In 1257 the king prohibited the cutting of oaks and the taking of deer. Evidently the problems were not confined to Rutland since the same provision extended to royal parks in ten other counties (*Cal Cl R 1256-59*, 131). The king's servant at Ridlington at the time was one

Peter de Neville who, shortly after the death of his father Hasculf in about 1249, had been entrusted with the keepership not only of the park but of the entire Forest of Rutland (Clough 1998, 334).

This appointment proved to be a continued disaster for the park. During the following twenty years and more Peter showed a complete disregard for his responsibilities to the crown and the rights of the local people. A catalogue of his crimes as presented to the Forest Eyre of 1269 included the theft of 7,000 trees from the park of Ridlington and elsewhere worth 12d each. These had been sold or given away for building purposes, to fuel limekilns in the forest and turn wood into charcoal. The total damage was put at £350 (Clough 1998, 337). Further, it was presented that 'the injury done to the underwood and branchwood in [Ridlington] park ... [has been such] that it cannot in any way be estimated' (Turner 1899, 45). The king once again ordered the woods in the park to be inclosed so that recovery could take place. However, Peter 'continued to pasture animals there which ate the new shoots of oak and underwood which sprouted from the stumps and then he uprooted the stumps for charcoal' (Clough 1998, 337). In addition, he enclosed a parcel of land in the park called le Dale, 'taking £16 for the hay sold there' (ibid).

Eventually Peter was outlawed, and thereafter the running of the park appears to have been placed on a somewhat sounder footing, with the appointment of keepers with fixed wages, duties, profits and privileges. These included the precise number of trees which each man might cut, the number of deer he could take, the number of cartloads of wood which could be collected and the number of domestic stock which could be grazed within the park.

Over the following hundred years or so (c.1270-1370) there are few references to the park. However, in 1375 the sheriff of Leicester was warned to make ready for a visit by the king (Edward III) 'so that they be there at his coming without difficulty and the king's sport be not hindered by neglect' (*Cal Cl R 1374-77*, 154). Whether or not the monarch made an appearance is not recorded, but the following year it was stated that 'it would be to the profit of the king if the park of Ridlington with la Haloughygate and le Shortgate be inclosed' and that 'the beasts of the chase are able to come and go' (NA E32/307). If it were enclosed the king would have great profit from the pasturage for the deer there. One suspects that Edward did turn up and made his own assessment of the park's potential.

A further century or so passes before the park is heard of again. During that time it seems to have been in the care of officers who took advantage of their local knowledge and the lax supervision from

the central government to further their own ends. For instance, in 1448 John Chesilden sold a life interest he had in the keepership of the park to Thomas Neal, who in turn was permitted to appoint his own deputy as he wished (*Cal Cl R 1477-54*, 43). At the Pleas of the Forest heard in Uppingham in 1490, the then parker, one Thomas Parker, and his sub-parker, Robert Rokely, had felled lime trees worth 6s 8d each and had killed eight deer when training their dogs (*VCH Rutland I*, 256).

There was also a noticeable lack of interest in their Rutland properties on the part of three successive monarchs: Edward IV (1461-83), Richard III (1483-85) and Henry VII (1485-1509). This was probably because the Forest of Rutland proved to be too far distant from those places where the royal court met and, in any case, it could not match the kind of sport which the larger royal forests in the south provided. This lack of concern is reflected in the men appointed to administer the forest and its parks and the often conflicting authorities suggested by the titles of their offices; 'surveyor and controller of the forest', 'master of the deer and master forester', and 'master of the game and deer' are three such.

Early in the reign of Henry VII responsibility for the entire Forest was granted, without proof of age, to George Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon and a royal favorite, who was about 19 years old at the time. The grant included the keepership of Ridlington Park and six other parks in Leicestershire and much property and many privileges in other parts of England (*Cal Pat R 1494-1509*, 575). In this task he was apparently assisted by one John Merston who had been appointed as keeper of Ridlington park in 1505 (ibid, 433). To add to the confusion, John Husee was appointed, in the same year, 'surveyor and controller of the forest of Lee ... and the game there and in the park of Ridlington' with 'licence to sell wood and make a profit' (ibid, 428-9). Sixty-five years on, one John Dyve (or Dove) was paying Queen Elizabeth £4 13s 4d for the herbage and pannage of the park (*TLAHS xxxviii* (1962-63), 29). However, the tenure of the park by the Hastings family was short-lived, as by 1582 they had sold the office to a local man, John, Lord Harrington (NA C66/1211 mem.39).

Despite neglect, abuse and downright plunder over the centuries Ridlington park still retained considerable woodland at the beginning of Elizabeth's reign (1559). The various coppices were regularly felled and the underwood sold 'to the queen's majesty's use', although returns to the Exchequer after expenses had been paid were never very great. However, the first signs of the long-term gross maladministration from which the park would not recover were beginning to appear. The John Dyve already mentioned was the chief culprit. He eventually

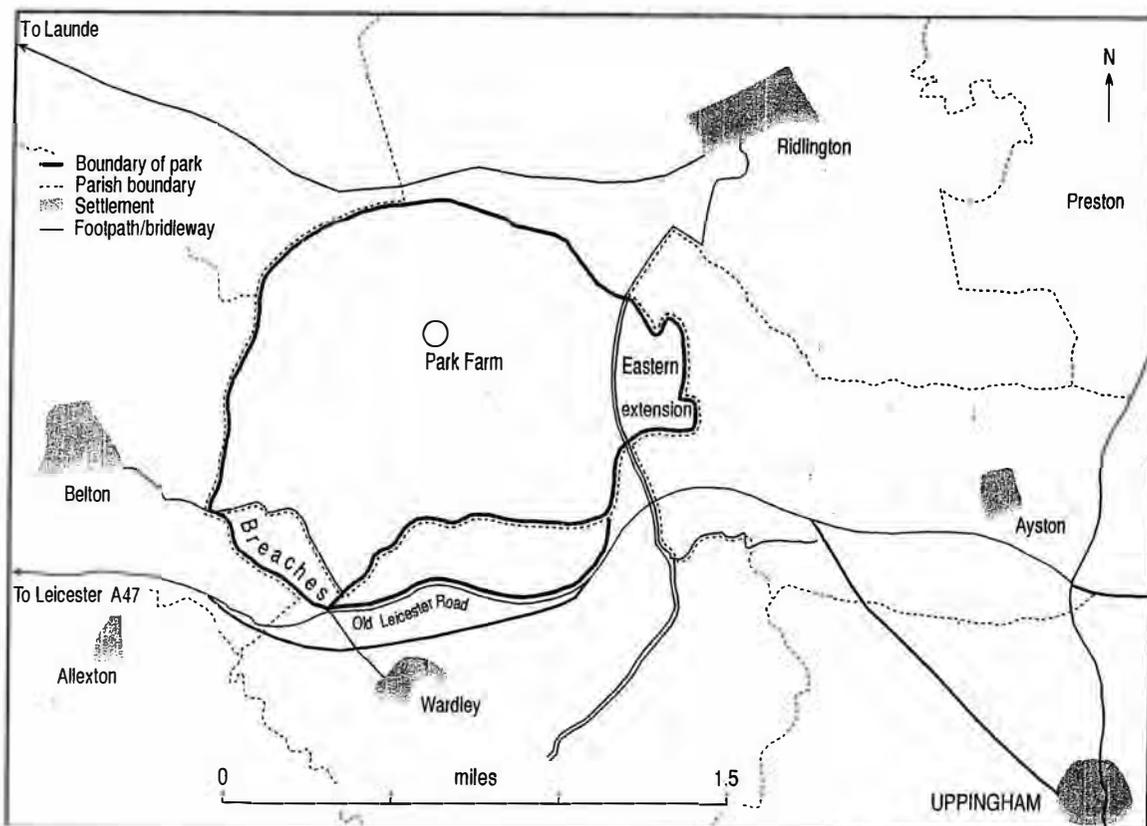


Fig. 1. Ridlington Park in its modern setting

found himself in court facing what today one might see as a specimen charge, that of 'unlawfully taking and selling deerbrouse wood in Ridlington park and also the taking of fire and fuel wood ... and the carrying away of green wood of the verderers and others by the sufferance of the keepers there'. The testimony of one witness to his misdeeds was that those in charge 'will destroy the said park within a short time unless better order be taken' (*VCH Rutland I*, 257).

Although Speed's map of 1610 (fig. 5) shows the park as well-wooded, political events at national level meant that the end of Leighfield Forest and Ridlington park became inevitable. Both James I and Charles I experienced great difficulties with their fiscal affairs and saw ridding themselves of both park and forest as a relatively easy way of raising cash. In 1622 Charles I granted to the Duke of Buckingham what, lacking evidence to the contrary, was the freehold of the forest (*Cal State Pap Dom 1619-23*, 442). Disafforestation followed shortly afterwards. Ridlington park was specifically exempted from the transaction but no details of its subsequent break-up and sale have been found: the writer would be pleased to receive information on this subject.

Topography

Much of the site of the former park is visible as one travels along the old line of the Wardley Hill section of the A47, the Leicester to Uppingham road. It

appears as a very pronounced bowl in the landscape to the north of the road. Some of the contours have been modified and probably accentuated by landslips. The modern Park Farm occupies the only prominence in the park and commands views in all directions. The entire area is now given over to large-scale arable farming although, in recent years, new hedges have been planted around the farm.

The soils of the park fall into five broad categories. Those of the Northamptonshire sandstone in the north-west are easy to work and naturally quite productive. The Upper Lias Clay occupying the west and centre along with the area of the 'eastern extension' (see below) is rather variable but mostly very heavy to work in both wet and dry conditions. Boulder Clay accounts for only two fields in the north-east and these are reasonably easy to plough. There is one small patch of glacial gravel in the south of the park, adjacent to an area known as 'breaches' (also see below), which presents little trouble to a modern plough. Finally, the areas marked by the Ordnance Survey as 'landslips' offer a mixture of soils from the farming point of view. Seen as a whole, the park, with steep slopes together with large areas of markedly heavy soils, would have caused much trouble to the medieval ploughman, even with a team of eight oxen.

Little is known of the history of the site of the park before Domesday Book. The small numbers of archaeological finds recorded in the county's Sites

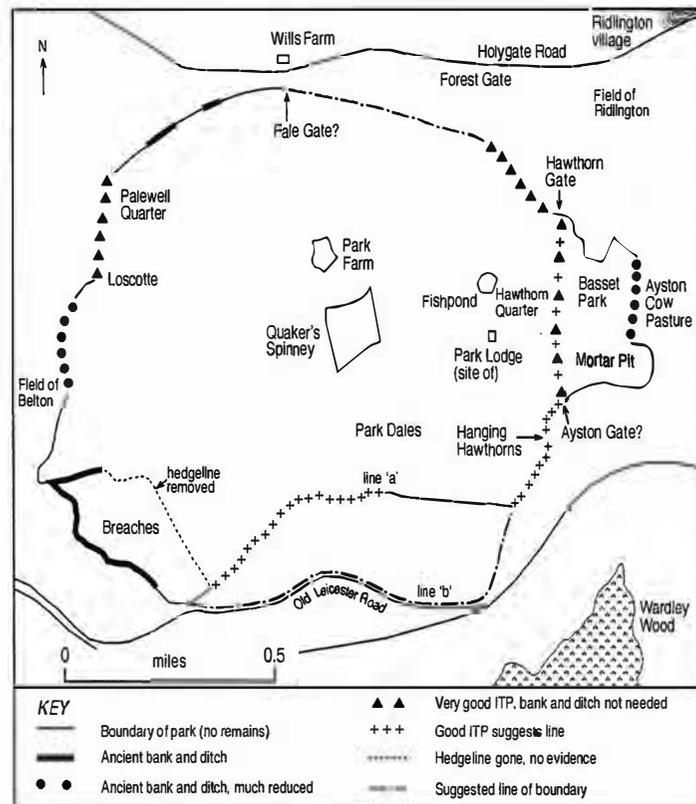


Fig. 2. Topographical details of Ridlington Park

and Monuments Record are grouped in three main areas. Where the land is flat, ie in the area around and to the north of the farm buildings, there is a little evidence of earlier occupation in the form of Mesolithic flint scatters and a cropmark which may indicate a Bronze Age ring ditch. In the north of the park there is also evidence of earlier activity with a Mesolithic to Bronze Age flint scatter, a Bronze Age pit, and evidence of metalworking. The south-west corner of the park shows evidence of Roman activity and Roman metalworking (Cowgill & Jones 1996). Here also there are a few minor indications of earlier human activity.

The earliest record for Ridlington is that of Domesday Book, which allows a limited and retrospective view of the area in late Anglo-Saxon times. The entries for Rutland can be interpreted with the assistance of place names together with the evidence from documentary sources of later centuries (Phythian-Adams 1980). The most important concern here is woodland, and Domesday Book records for Ridlington and its seven dependent bailiwicks a wood two leagues long and eight furlongs wide. This translates as approximately 1,600 modern acres (640 hectares). As later records indicate, the area where the park was first delineated and from which it was enclosed was well wooded and it remained so until the 1620s (Squires & Jeeves 1994). Today, the only woodland is a small and roughly rectangular patch known as 'Quaker's Spinney'. It contains no obvious

archaeological remains and, apart from a few fairly old stumps, it shows none of the features associated with ancient woodland. The origin of the name is unknown, but it may derive from persons of the Quaker faith who are known to have lived within the park (inf. Robert Ovens).

Ridlington Park is typically sited on the edge of the parish but less typically takes the form of a large bulge in the parish to the south-west of the village. Two possible explanations arise. The first is that one or possibly both of the lines for the pale were in existence before the park was created and therefore formed at least part of the boundary of an earlier land unit, probably dating from Anglo-Saxon times. In this case the ancient line was so favourable to those laying out the park in the early twelfth century that they adopted it as their own. Alternatively, the line of the pale along line (a) (fig. 2), which is followed by the parish boundary, was laid down as part of the re-definition or re-adjustment of jurisdiction to create the manor of Ridlington shortly after the Conquest. This second possible explanation is to some extent supported by the topographical evidence, much of which is discussed below.

Both Jones (2000, 49) and Winchester (2000, 31-7) suggest that most parish boundaries were fixed no later than the twelfth or possibly early thirteenth century. Rackham (1986, 19) says the system was 'frozen' in about 1180, which is a little later than the early twelfth century date for the founding of the

park. The creation of the Royal Forest may have given the king and the manorial lords the opportunity to revise, adjust and reorganise parish boundaries to their best advantage. On the basis of this very scanty evidence and after discussions with others, the writer can only reserve judgement on the matter.

We now consider the precise line of the pale based on field survey, documentary research, local knowledge and inherent topographical probability (ITP). The theoretical ideal shape for a medieval park was a circle. This form enclosed the maximum amount of land for the minimum length of pale, which was costly to erect and maintain. One view of Ridlington park, presented on figs. 1 and 2 and considered below, comes remarkably close to this ideal. In place of the usual banks, ditches and fences, the use of natural features such as gullies, waterways and steep slopes might reduce constructional costs but yet create a deer-proof barrier. The wooden pale fence was often replaced by a thick dead hedge composed of cut hawthorn or blackthorn, both spiny species. Such hedges were particularly used to mark the boundaries of a park's internal compartments as was the case with those at Ridlington. A park keeper's house might be surrounded by plain rail fences and often a small moat. The registers' certificates for Elizabeth's reign regularly record the provision of materials for boundary features. That for 1556 notes 'thorns for the fencing of Ridlington park and for the repair of the rail at Hedgefield and placing the hedge about Ridlington park' (*VCH Rutland I*, 256). Trees from nearby Waterlees Wood (Squires & Jeeves 1994, 50) were also provided for 'the rail around the lodge' (Hastings Papers).

The results of the field survey are shown in fig. 2. In view of the fact that the landscape of the park and of the surrounding area has for many years been given over to high-technology agriculture, it is perhaps not surprising that there are few prominent remains of the pale. However, the westernmost line does not seem to be in any doubt on account of two short lengths of surviving ancient bank and the very favourable topography, including a deep gully. In the south-west corner, a hedge line has recently been removed in part, but sufficient ancient bank, under the remnant hedge, indicates that the pale continued along the missing line. However, in the area called 'breaches' an anomaly exists and this is considered below.

The southern route of the pale, along the line just described, presents two possibilities. The first of these is shown as line (a) on fig. 2. Here, for approximately one third of this section, as the pale moves eastwards it follows the broad deep valley of an unnamed watercourse. To the south of this the land rises steeply to provide a topographical advantage

which could hardly be bettered. For the next short section the land rapidly flattens out, although the topographical advantage remains good. The final length of line (a) presents no topographical advantage and its straightness suggests that it has been laid out simply as the shortest possible distance between two points. At no place along line (a) are there signs of an ancient bank.

The alternative route for the southern pale is shown as line (b) on fig. 2. From the eastern end of line (a) the ground rises abruptly towards the south to meet the line of the old Leicester road where the ITP is very favourable. Moreover, as one faces northwards at any point along the road one appreciates, from the essentially bowl-shaped nature of the landscape, how much more logical line (b) would be as the park's boundary. Once again, along its entire length, there is no sign of any remnant ancient bank but this may well be on account of improvements and repairs to the road over the centuries. In any case, the ITP is so strong that, for all practical purposes, only a stout fence along line (b) would have been required to keep in the deer. Finally, this line would have enabled the park-makers to come close to the optimum shape for a park.

Before considering the line of the pale as it turns northwards we must consider the significance of lines (a) and (b) in relation to one another. The best explanation, at least for the present, appears to be as follows. When the park was founded in the early twelfth century line (b) was adopted as the preferred route. However, the boundary retreated at a very early date and was relocated along line (a). At the same time the parish boundary between Wardley and Ridlington was fixed along line (a). This established that the land between the two lines lay in Wardley parish and the move was probably made at the same time that 'breaches' was created (see below). Unfortunately no documentary record of such rearrangement has survived. Also, it is difficult to appreciate the importance and value of the abruptly rising land between the two lines, except as woodland, especially since the result of the readjustment was the contraction of the area of a royal park.

As the line of the pale moves almost due north from the south-east corner of the park, it follows a course of very favourable ITP. From the west the land rises so steeply that, once again, only a stout boundary fence would have sufficed. However, a second anomaly in the line arises in the area of the fields known as Mortar Pit and Basset Park. This too is considered below. The final short section of the line as it forms the northernmost border has been completely destroyed but, from considerations of ITP and from field survey, it seems reasonable to complete the line as shown.

We return now to a consideration of the first anomaly, mentioned above, in the area of 'breaches', which means 'land broken up for cultivation' (Cox 1994, 315). This lies in Wardley parish and is first recorded in 1633 (*ibid*, 129). Judging from its position, this block of land appears to have been taken from the park since there are prominent banks and ditches, as indicated on fig. 2. The bank to the south-west is clearly the bank of the early pale which continued as line (b) on fig. 2. 'Breaches' appears to have originated as an assart and was delineated and enclosed in one operation. Its creation resulted in the early relocation of the pale to line (a). The disturbance of the park's original boundary could only have been brought about by a man of considerable importance in royal circles. At present the most likely candidates are Thurstan de Montfort or one of his descendants.

Finally, it must be pointed out, 'breaches' may have been created *after* the park was sold and forest law lifted, thus enabling a determined improver from Wardley to negotiate and purchase land from the park. There is no evidence for this and it seems most unlikely. The present writer's opinion is that 'breaches' was taken from the park at about the same time that the southern pale was relocated.

The second anomaly of the line of the pale concerns the area of the two adjoining fields known as Basset Park and Mortar Pit (fig. 2). They form a shape reminiscent of the handle of a cup and will be referred to hereafter as the 'eastern extension'. Although there is evidence of a bank and ditch, as shown on fig. 2, the ITP is very poor along the entire length of the perimeter. On account of its irregular

course, not readily explained by topography or soils, it is very uncharacteristic for a pale line. As already noted, a very much more suitable line lies to the west.

It would be tempting to adopt the simple explanation that these two fields were simply unimportant and undocumented extensions of the main park were it not for an Anglo-Saxon charter of 1046. This is for Ayston, the adjoining parish to the east, and is referred to hereafter as the 'Ayston Charter'. This remarkable document is the only known charter for Rutland with boundary clauses and records the granting of land in Ayston by Edward the Confessor. The details are published by Hart and an explanation of where the places mentioned were located on the modern landscape is given by Finberg (Hart 1966, 108-17). Phythian-Adams (1977, 81-2) presents an alternative interpretation, while Cox (1994, 175-7) restricts himself to reproducing the charter bounds and explaining the meanings of the terms.

Only details of the Ayston charter's boundary clauses on the west of the estate concern us here. These are items 3 to 6 in Cox (1994): 'Martin's headland or promontory', 'the brook running in the hollow', the 'brockholes' (ie the badger holes, a common boundary marker), and 'the road suitable for riding upon'. To be brief, the highly irregular line of the perimeter of the 'eastern extension', which is followed by the boundary between the parishes of Ridlington and Ayston, could very easily accommodate part if not all of the charter line. There are brockholes at two points today but, more important, the line is typical of that which was

Hawthorns coppice set with underwood of thorn, maple and hazel of 9 years growth and with timber oaks after 12 in the acre containing 15 acres.

Palewell Quarter set with old oaks some timber and with hazel, maple and thorn past mind of man 110 acres whereof is waste 14 or 16 acres.

The Fairhaythorn thick set with oak part timber with some hazel with thorn past mind of man 10 acres.

Hanging Thorns set with oak part timber and well with hazel, maple and thorn of age past mind of man 19 acres whereof is waste 2 acres.

Also one piece of wood called Synders Bank set with old Shire oak being no timber and with some oaks being timber and Maple of great age contains 12 acres whereof is waste 2 acres.

Conygreenhill and the Lodge Quarter set with old oaks much being timber and with thorn, maple and hazel of age past mind containing 88 acres.

Munkshill sale set with oak part timber and with underwood of hazel, thorn and maple of 16 years growth containing 58 acres.

The Cleares set with old oaks no timber and with some thorn and maple of age past mind of man contains 37 acres.

Total of her Majesty's woods within the said park 349 acres.

Fig. 3. The Woodlands of Ridlington Park AD 1565. Source: NA LRR05/3

From the north part of the gate which is called Pale gate along the forest gate going towards the west along the ditch and pales to a place called Loscotte and then by the ditch, pales and fence excluding the fields of Belton up to a certain close called breaches and then to the field of Wardley up to the close called Park Dales and from there to a certain part of the park called Ayston gate and from there by the ditch and park fence excluding the fields of Ayston and le Cow Pasture of Ayston up to a certain part of the park called Hawthorn gate and from there excluding the field of Ridlington up to le Highe Roade and from there to the Gate called Pale Gate alias Forest Gate where the perambulation first began.

Fig. 4. Inquisition as to the bounds and woodlands of Ridlington Park. AD 1623.

Source: NA E159/461

drawn up not to accommodate a hunting park but to delineate the lands of two different owners of a once common resource, in this case presumably woodland. It seems most likely that the creators of Ridlington park moved eastwards to include this ancient boundary but, because it was still important in some way, regarded the land it enclosed as an addition to the main park which lies to the west of line shown on fig. 2. The charter line, still bearing a wooden pale fence, is shown on a map of Ayston of 1637 in the Brudenell Archives at Deene Park, Northamptonshire. The same document locates the Cow Pasture of Ayston mentioned in fig. 4.

We may now consider the size of the park. The only documentary reference, that of 1623, states the park contained 612 acres, although this is almost certainly an underestimate (NA E159/461). The various editions of the OS 25-inch map give the area, minus 'breaches' but including the eastern extension, as approximately 632 acres. If one includes the area of 'breaches' (c42 acres) the total rises to approximately 674 acres, and to a little over 800 acres with the inclusion of the land between lines (a) and (b). It would seem therefore that 'breaches' left the park before rather than after disparkment, and long before in view of the fact that the parish boundary separates it from Ridlington.

On account of both the rolling topography and heavy nature of the soils in the area, it is hardly surprising that there was a continuous heavy cover of woodland from before the Norman Conquest to the mid seventeenth century. A considerable area of woodland is recorded by Domesday Book for what is now western Rutland, and it can be demonstrated from later records that much of this lay in the parishes which lie along the border with Leicestershire – the history of the area is the writer's long-term research project. This early woodland together with the low human population of the area were no doubt major considerations for the establishment of the Royal Forest. The continued presence of the woodland through the middle ages provided a focus

for the contraction of the Forest in the fifteenth century. Ridlington park was only one of several hunting parks created around patches of Domesday woodland which survived to the thirteenth century (Squires 1992, 47-52).

Even at the time of its disparkment Ridlington park was well wooded. There is little point in using the data given in many of the regarders' reports since the figures, names and descriptions they give are very confusing and misleading. Perhaps the most accurate statement is the report made in 1565 (fig. 3) which lists eight different coppices which were said to contain a total of 349 acres. If we take the area of the park at that time as 632 acres, a little over half (55%) was woodland. Speed's map of Rutland in 1610 (fig. 5) appears to record the woodland with a greater degree of accuracy than one might at first believe, and the non-wooded areas appear to be a fair reflection of the distribution of 'certain meadows, closes and pastures called park dales'. These particular closes were held by Edward Lord Harrington in 1623 and were valued at £25 a year. They had originated as (unrecorded) assarts, legal or otherwise, in the area of 'the Dales' where Peter de Neville had sold the hay.

The details in fig. 3 give not only a good idea of the mixed nature of the woodland in the coppices but also the rundown condition brought about by long-term uncaring management. One wonders just how the accountants in the Treasury were expected to interpret the details supplied to them. The coppices were mostly enclosed with dead hedges of thorns cut in the park or, more usually, in other parts of the Forest. The maintenance of these barriers, which controlled the movement of deer and domestic grazers, was a major expense. As regards the trees in the park prior to disparkment, the report of 1623 states there were 1,085 'trees to be felled' together with 'trees called saplings fit for felling, sparse growing' worth a combined total of £309 15s. There were, in addition, '897 other trees not ready for felling, growing sparsely', valued at £134 11s.

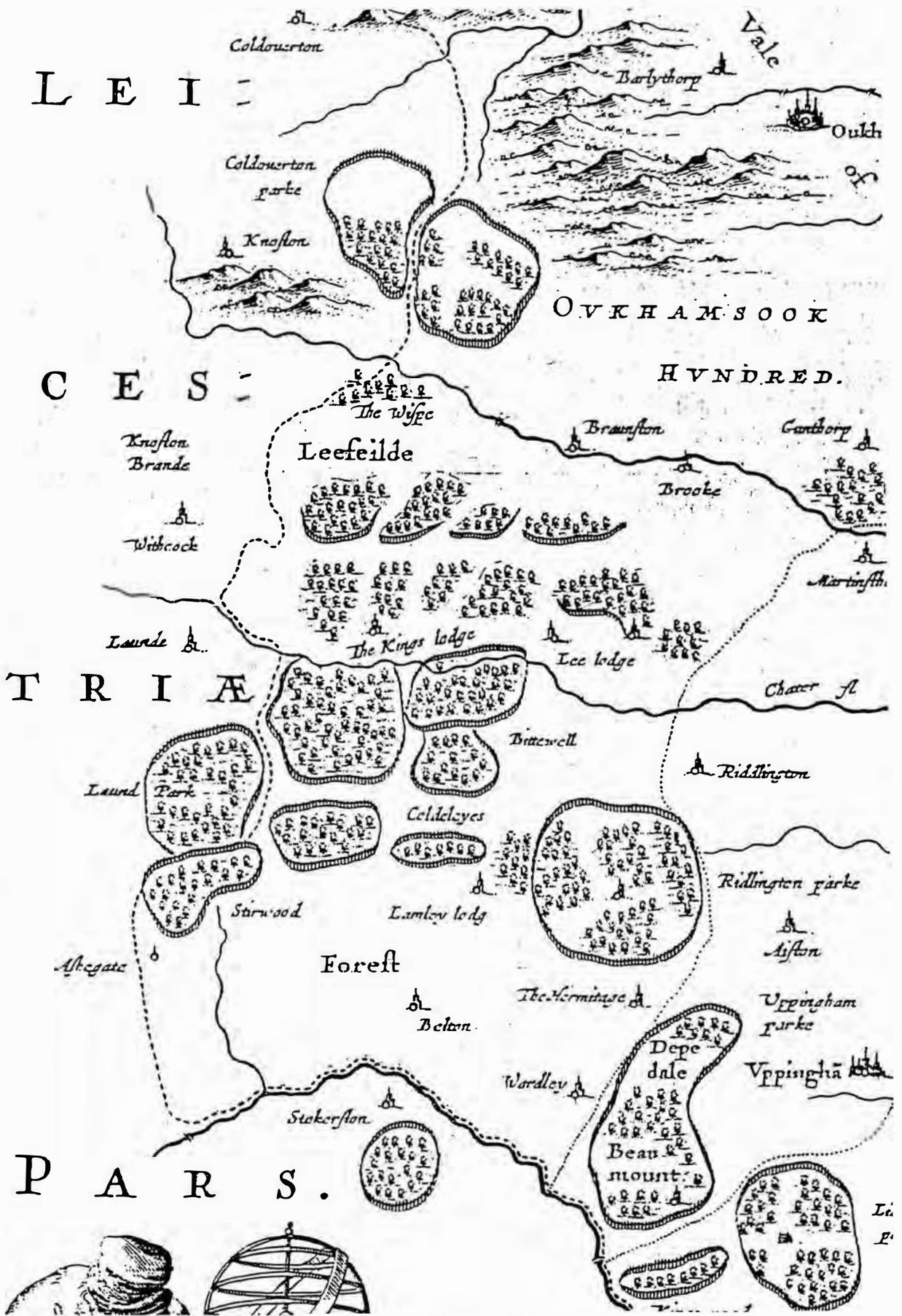


Fig. 5. An extract from John Speed's map of 1610 showing Ridlington park and Leighfield Forest

The pattern of fields laid down following disparkment was probably broadly that shown on the first edition of the OS 6-inch map of 1885. Unfortunately modern farming methods have modified this considerably. Hedge lines have been removed, fields enlarged and drains laid. However, past and present field names enable us to locate the presence of three former wooded areas: Palewell Quarter, Hanging Hawthorns and Hawthorn Quarter (fig. 2) (Trevor Howkins, *pers. comm*). The steep slopes of the last-named support wood and scrubland to this day.

A number of other features of the park require mention. The prominent and dominating site of the present Park Farm dictates that this was the site of the house of the park keeper through the centuries. A building in the park is first recorded in 1369 when it stood near 'the clearing of Hole Welegh' (Hollywell) (NA E364/2). In 1556 timber was cut to repair it (*VCH Rutland II*, 256). No structural or archaeological details of the present building on the site are available and there are no signs of a former moat. There is also a site in the east of the park (fig. 2) noted on the OS 6-inch map of 1885 as 'Park Lodge'. Only the foundations survive and there has been no survey of these to date (Trevor Howkins, *pers comm*).

On the eve of disparkment an inquisition was made 'as to the bounds and wood of Ridlington

Park' (fig. 4). The approximate locations of the places mentioned are also shown. Speed's map (fig. 5) indicates that the road from Wardley to Ridlington followed, for part of its length at least, 'the road fit to ride upon' of the charter of 1046, ie between Hawthorngate and Aystongate on fig. 2. Present public footpaths point to rights of way across the park but not necessarily to their precise ancient or medieval courses. No signs of ridge and furrow have been detected in the area of the park.

If one stands at any one of a number of vantage points along the old line of the A47 and looks northward, it is not difficult, with the help of Speed's map, to reconstruct in the mind's eye much of the former landscape of the ancient park. Perhaps at some future date the agricultural policy of the government of the day will place an even greater emphasis on countryside conservation at the expense of food production. In such a case, the present large arable fields may give way to tree-covered slopes with grazing herds of sheep and cattle and, who knows, even deer.

Acknowledgements

The writer wishes to record his thanks to Dr Clive Jones for his remarks on the geology and to Trevor Howkins, manager of Park Farm, for his very considerable help in many ways.

Abbreviations and Bibliography

<i>Cal Cl R</i>	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
<i>Cal Pat R</i>	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls</i>
<i>Cal State Pap Dom</i>	<i>Calendar of State Papers Domestic</i>
Hastings Papers	Huntington Library, San Marino, California

NA	The National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office)
TLAHS	<i>Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological & Historical Society</i>

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Ranksborough

*Fig. 1. Major-General Lord Ranksborough (G Phillips, Rutland and the Great War (1920), pl facing p.1)
(copy image from Langham Village History Group archives)*

John Fielden Brocklehurst – Major-General Lord Ranksborough (1852-1921)

JEAN BRAY

Lord Ranksborough - John Fielden Brocklehurst - was born in 1852 into a wealthy Macclesfield silk family. After schooling at Rugby and Trinity College, Cambridge, he was commissioned in the Royal Horse Guards - the Blues - in 1874; he helped to transform the Household Cavalry into an effective fighting force. He served under Wolseley in Egypt in 1882, taking part in the attempt to rescue General Gordon, a close personal friend, from Khartoum. He took command of the Blues in 1894. In the Boer War he commanded the cavalry forces in Ladysmith through-

out the siege. After 26 years as a regimental officer he served the Royal Family for nearly 20 years, first as an equerry to Queen Victoria in 1899, then as sole equerry to Queen Alexandra, and finally Lord-in-Waiting to King George V. He was a keen huntsman and a fine judge of horses; he and his wife Louie settled in Langham in 1893, where he bred horses and cattle. In 1906 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of the County. When ennobled in 1914 he chose his title from Ranksborough Hill, below which he built his home; the title died with him in 1921.

Holed up by the Boers on the hot and dusty streets of Ladysmith early in 1900, John Brocklehurst longed for his cool green acres in Rutland. Seven years earlier, in 1893, he had built a solid but unpretentious house at Langham under the shadow of Ranksborough Hill, only to leave it to take command of a Brigade of Cavalry in the Boer War and become the youngest General Officer at the front. As the four-month siege of Ladysmith came to an end he wrote anxiously to his wife enquiring about the farm, his mares and yearlings – ‘I quite sympathise with the Boers wanting to get back to their farms’, he wrote.

He was not a native of Rutland but was born in Macclesfield, Cheshire in 1852, the eldest son of Henry Brocklehurst of the Macclesfield silk family and Ann Fielden, whose father, John Fielden, a successful cotton manufacturer of Todmorden and a Radical MP, played a leading part in securing the passage of the Ten Hours Bill through Parliament.

He was educated at Rugby School under that great churchman Frederick Temple, and in 1902, when standing-in for King Edward VII at the full dress rehearsal for the King’s Coronation, remarked, after receiving homage from the Archbishop of Canterbury, that the last time he had come into close personal contact with the great man was on receiving a flogging at his hands at Rugby some thirty-five years earlier.

After taking an ordinary BA at Trinity College, Cambridge, Ranksborough was commissioned in the Royal Horse Guards in 1874, and has since been credited with helping to transform the Household Cavalry from the ‘ornamental soldiers’ they had become in the seventy years since the Napoleonic Wars into a fighting force. He volunteered to serve under Wolseley in the Egyptian War in 1882 when

he took part in the ‘Moonlight Charge at Kassassin’ and the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir, receiving the war medal with clasp and the Khedive’s Bronze Star.

A few years earlier he had gone to Egypt and the Sudan during his annual leave to hunt big game and found himself on an expedition to Abyssinia with Charles George Gordon - Gordon of Khartoum. They became close friends, and Ranksborough was to play a pivotal part in Gordon’s life both before and during the siege of Khartoum.

In the spring of 1884 when all communication between Khartoum and the outside world had been cut and Gordon appeared to have been abandoned and neglected by his country, Ranksborough worked out an ingenious plan to smuggle letters and reports to him through the Mahdi’s lines. Using funds mainly supplied by Baroness Burdett-Coutts, an Englishman called Curtis was paid £700 for the dangerous mission. Disguised as an Arab, with the name of Abdul-el-Kadur, he had the papers shrunk photographically to the size of a postage stamp so that they could be hidden about his person. He made seven perilous deliveries to Khartoum in this way and the fact that least some of them reached Gordon was proved when the latter enclosed one of them in his final letter to Ranksborough.

Earlier Gordon had made several attempts to have Ranksborough transferred to his staff, but neither his regiment nor his young wife were keen to lose him, and it was due to her pleading that he regretfully turned down Gordon’s invitation to accompany him on his final fatal mission to Khartoum. Instead, while the Mahdi tightened his noose round Khartoum, Ranksborough was chosen by Wolseley to manage a moveable Remount Depot for the Nile Relief Expedition which was sent to Gordon’s rescue. This involved collecting and caring for

all the camels needed by the Camel Corps and running a Remount Depot, a 'sort of moving saddler's shop and livery stable combined' – a difficult assignment which earned him a mention in dispatches and promotion to brevet Major.

By the time he had taken command of the Blues in 1894 Queen Victoria had begun to take an interest in the 'promising and gallant young officer' and in 1899 he was appointed an equerry to the Queen. She called him her '*beau sabreur*' and he was then described as 'a giant in inches, a child in simple-minded religion and the staunch friend and disciple of Charles Gordon'. Queen Victoria declined to share his services with Lord Wolseley who was by then Commander in Chief of the Army and wanted Ranksborough to be his ADC.

As it was, his first tour of Royal duty was interrupted by the Boer War where he accompanied Lieutenant-General French to Ladysmith, took part in the fighting at Elandslaagte on 21st October 1899, when he came much under notice, and was afterwards left to command the Cavalry force in the town throughout the siege. The starving conditions there resulted in four-fifths of his horses being eaten – 'the soup thereof is called "chervil" and otherwise they gave the only meat you could get your teeth through'. He also commanded several actions round Ladysmith and in the words of Sir George White in all of them 'his personal gallantry was conspicuous'. Less complimentary comments by some of his fellow officers were more likely to reflect his sudden promotion to Major-General rather than his own ineptitude. After the relief of Ladysmith he continued to serve in Natal and in the Transvaal east of Pretoria and was awarded the CB. Macclesfield, his home town, was immensely proud of its local war hero and presented him with the Honorary Freedom of the town in recognition of his gallantry.

In 1878 Ranksborough had married one of Rotten Row's 'finest flowers', Louisa Alice Parsons, a granddaughter of Lord Feversham. It was to prove a loving and happy marriage, but they had no children and this cost him the inheritance of Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire when to secure the succession of the estate his uncle John Dent left it instead to his brother who had an heir.

In 1903 *Bailey's Magazine* described Ranksborough as:

having all the tastes of a country gentleman. He farms a few hundred acres close to Ranksborough Gorse, famous in hunting annals as a sure find. There is no better known figure in the hunting field – always admirably mounted, his weight carries him well to the front. He is recognised as one of the best judges of a horse in England and has also a deserved reputation as a horseman; few can equal him

in the kind and judicious handling of a high-spirited young one.

He is constant in his attendance at Newmarket, where he invariably sends his hack down for the meetings and watches the racing from the saddle. He has never registered colours, but for some years past has kept a few good brood mares at Ranksborough and has bred some good stock from them.

Horses held first place in his affections but he also became known in cattle breeding circles. He has bred shorthorns, Dexter Kerries and black polls. His herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle was founded by the purchase of several good cows and heifers from Captain the Hon. A Greville of Burghley Paddocks near Stamford. Herds of Col. Lambert and the Hon. T W Fitzwilliam were also laid under contribution.

The Aberdeen Angus herd did exceedingly well and multiplied until during the owner's prolonged absence in South Africa [Boer War] they outgrew the limited accommodation at Ranksborough. In October 1900 the whole herd – 44 animals – were sold at Peterborough.

The Kerries were purchased from Messrs Robertson and were maintained for the dairy. The shorthorn herd was founded 10 years earlier on purchases made from Northern breeders, including a few animals of Booth blood; this herd was also disposed of during the owner's absence at the war, but after his return he acquired a few more pure-bred shorthorns.

The latter were catalogued for breeders in 1909: a copy of the catalogue survives in the Rutland County Museum (fig. 2; RCM 1976.58).

Besides his country pursuits he continued to serve the Royal Family. After Queen Victoria's death he was appointed sole equerry to Queen Alexandra and from that time became a close friend and confidant to her and her children. He was also valued for his knowledge of horses and there are letters among his personal papers from her daughter Maud, who married King Haakon of Norway, asking him to look out for a small pony for their son Olav and from Queen Victoria's granddaughter Victoria Eugenia thanking him for choosing and sending three horses out to Spain for her. 'What ages ago it seems to me since I used to go out for rides with you and we went to the meet at Carisbrook', she wrote. He is also credited with having introduced most of the Royal family to foxhunting, including the Prince of Wales (Edward VIII).

In 1906 the then Prime Minister, Hugh Campbell-Bannerman, suggested that Ranksborough should be invited to be Lord Lieutenant of Rutland. 'He is I believe not a supporter of the Government, but we all know him to be a broad-minded man,' he wrote to Francis Knowles, the King's Secretary. This appointment was followed in 1914 by his elevation

to the peerage, when he chose to become Baron Ranksborough of Ranksborough, claiming to be the only peer to have taken his title from a fox covert. The following year King George V persuaded him to leave Queen Alexandra's household and become his Lord-in-Waiting.

After Ranksborough retired from the Army in 1901 he continued to take an interest in promoting military training among the men of Rutland, establishing miniature rifle ranges at Oakham and Uppingham and playing an active part in the formation of village rifle clubs in the County.

In April 1908 he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment, and as Lord Lieutenant he became President of the Rutland Territorial Forces

Association, assisting in raising two companies in Rutland. He continued with a strenuous recruitment campaign after the start of the First World War, convening meetings and organising funding for the Rutland Volunteers. As an experienced regimental officer he realised the need for efforts to relieve distress among the families of those on active service and rallied support for the Rutland Soldiers and Sailors Families Association and the Red Cross. He was also President of the County Committee for War Savings and took a decisive lead in all the efforts throughout Rutland to help in the war effort (Phillips 1920, 1-2).

Unfortunately there are few records of Ranksborough's time in Langham. Recently Lil Walker arranged for me to meet some of the older residents

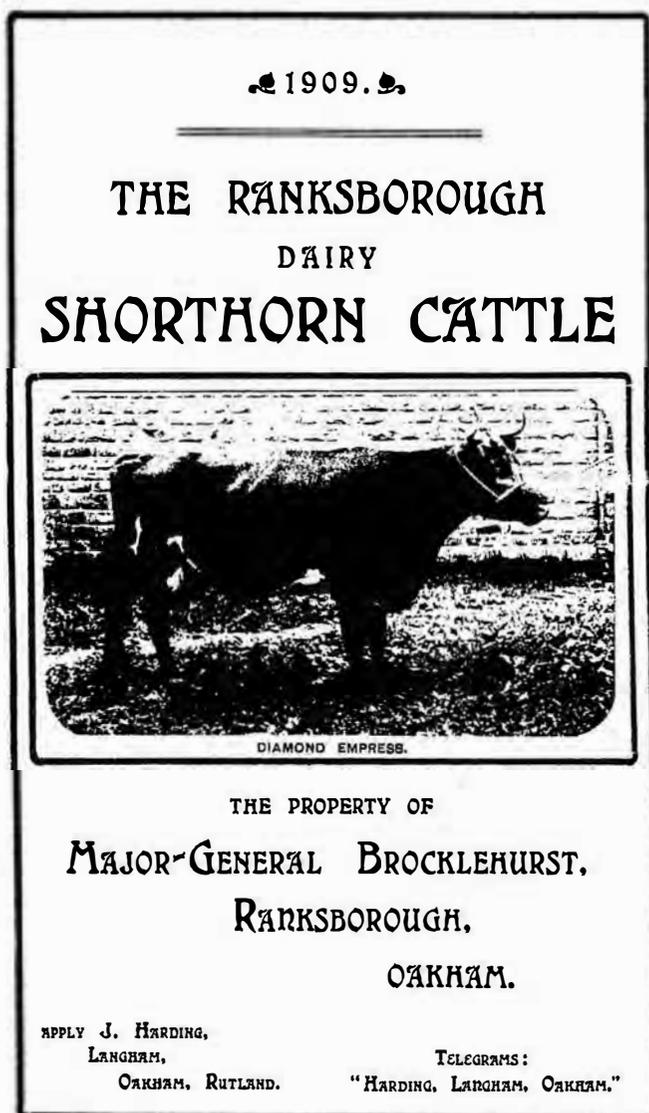


Fig. 2. The cover of the catalogue of Lord Ranksborough's short-horn herd (Rutland County Museum, acc. no 1976.58)

of the village – Audrey Hubbard, Margaret Catchpole and Benjie Walker – and they remembered him as a very tall, God-fearing gentleman with a large cavalry moustache (fig. 1; Phillips 1920, pl facing p1). According to a booklet published by the Rutland Local History Society (Traylen 1975), up to the beginning of the 20th century the village consisted of many smallholdings, each having two to six cow commons. A youth was paid 40 shillings a year to fetch the cattle to the gate, morning and evening, to be near for the milkers, and presumably to keep him and the waiting milkers amused a skittle bed was built at the gate entrance by Lord Ranksborough.

His other main association was with the village school. In his diary Ernest Walker says:

I remember him coming into the classroom one day and telling the whole senior school that he would start any girl or boy with a first issue War Savings Certificate, value 16 shillings (80p), if they learnt and recited to the headmaster the 13th chapter of St Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians ['Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels...'] within a stated time. This certificate increased its value to £1 after 5 years and was the very first issue of this type of Government Bond.

Ernest himself was not one of the children who learnt the lines in time but Maggie Catchpole did, and when I met her at Langham she repeated them word perfect although she was over 90 years old.

In the Rutland hierarchy in Edwardian times the Ranksboroughs were outranked during the hunting season by the Lonsdales at nearby Barleythorpe Hall. Ernest Walker, who was a choirboy in the parish church at Langham, recalled that the Lonsdales always arrived last in their open landau drawn by four black horses, just as the morning service was about to start (or should have started). Lord and Lady Ranksborough would have arrived a few minutes earlier in their hansom cab.

However, the esteem and affection in which Lord Ranksborough was held in the rest of England and particularly by the Royal Family and the Army was apparent after his death on 28th February 1921. His funeral in St Peter & St Paul, Langham, was attended by two future kings – the then Prince of Wales, representing King George V, and the Duke of York. Again I am indebted to Ernest Walker for his description of the ceremony which besides the Royal brothers included among the mourners Sir Douglas Haig, Chief of Staff at the War Office, and other senior officers, together with Dukes, Marquises, Earls, and other Lords and Knights from all over the realm. 'It is doubtful if such a distinguished company has ever gathered in a village church at any time,' he wrote.

Sir Malcolm Sargent, then the organist at Melton Mowbray, directed the choir and played the organ

for the service. A detachment of the Royal Horse Guards – his old Regiment which he loved so well – was present and carried him to his last resting-place.

Ranksborough's chief claim to fame will always be his unique friendship with Gordon of Khartoum, which inspired him for the rest of his life. In his obituary in the *Household Brigade Magazine* (1921, 18, 58) Lord Erroll says:

his chief characteristic was his intensely human outlook and the sympathetic stand-point from which he approached all questions concerning the welfare of his fellow men. His altruism was spontaneous and disinterested. It came somehow natural to him to look at things from the point of view of our common humanity.

There is one memory in Langham from Archie Shelton, whose father worked for Lord Ranksborough for 27 years: when Archie contracted polio at the age of 12 Lord Ranksborough paid for his six months' hospital treatment at Baschurch in Shropshire at a cost of twenty-seven shillings and sixpence a week.

Lord Erroll continued:

As a friend he was kindly, true and cheery, a charming companion and a trusty comrade. He was the ideal of a cavalry soldier, a perfect horseman, a *beau sabreur* in every sense and a very gallant gentleman to boot... There are few men who occupied so unique a position among his contemporaries or will be more missed among a large circle of friends.

A tablet in his memory was erected by Lady Ranksborough on the north side of the chancel in the Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul at Langham, although his regimental pennant can no longer be displayed above it due to disrepair. Ranksborough Hall, like so many of our great private houses, is now part of a leisure complex at Langham, but I like to think that Lord Ranksborough's spirit still lingers in the countryside he loved and rode over so often, hidden deep in the gorse on Ranksborough Hill.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Johnny Van Haefen and the Dent-Brocklehurst family for their permission to use the Ranksborough Papers and the Sudeley Castle Archives, on which this article is based.

I would also particularly like to thank Miss Lil Walker of Langham for allowing me to use extracts from the diary of her brother Ernest Walker.

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The State of some Rutland Churches in 1705: The Rutland Returns in the *Notitia Parochialis*

PETER TOMALIN

In 1705 a questionnaire was sent to the incumbents of parish churches in England enquiring about their tithes, benefactions, advowsons and other matters. The replies can now be seen as six bound volumes in the Lambeth Palace library under the title Notitia Parochialis. In this

paper the returns from the Rutland parishes have been transcribed and certain points of interest discussed. The return from Hambleton gives information which tends to confirm a historical connection with adjacent parishes.

Introduction

An advertisement, or questionnaire, was sent to the ministers of the parish churches in England in 1705. It was attached to a church brief requesting contributions towards the cost of rebuilding a church in Oxford. The questionnaire read as follows:

Advertisement

To the Reverend the Minister of every Parochial Church or Chappel in England.

Reverend Brother.

There being a Design form'd of publishing *The Present State of Parish-Churches*, giving an Account of all pious Persons who have been Benefactors to the Church since the Reformation; together with several other things that are worthy to be known: You are therefore humbly desired to contribute your kind Assistance to this so useful an Undertaking, by returning a particular Answer (at the bottom, or on the back of this Advertisement) to such of the following Queries, as the case of your Parish, and any neighbour vacant Parish (if such there be) shall require. 1. Are the Tithes, or any part of them, impropriated, and to whom? 2. What part of the Tithes is your Church or Chappel endow'd with? 3. What Augmentation or other Benefaction has your Benefice had, when, and by whom? 4. If your Church or Chappel was founded since the Reformation, when, and by whom? 5. What Union or Dismembring (if any) has been made of your Church, and by whom? 6. What Library is settled or settling in your Parish, and by whom? 7. If the yearly value of your Rectory, Vicarage, or Chappelry be under £30, how much? 8. To whom does the Advowson, Collation, or Donation to your Benefice belong? 9. If it be co-nominal with any other Place, what is the Note of Distinction? 10. If it be a Benefice that is not taken notice of in the *Valor Beneficiorum*, pray express in what Arch-deaconry or Deaconry it is. The Account you'll be pleas'd to give of these or the like Particulars, shall be faithfully apply'd to the Service of the Publick. Pray take care that what you write be at the Foot, or on the Back, of this Advertisement, and not upon the Brief; and if that Paper be too little, you may affix more, and write upon't.

Any Notices relating to this Advertisement, upon the return of the Briefs, will be taken care of and lodg'd with *William Hawes*, Bookseller, at the *Golden Buck* over-against *S. Dunstan's Church in Fleetstreet*, for the Author, a Divine of the Church of *England*.

The questionnaire and the returns can be seen in six bound volumes at the Lambeth Palace Library (MS 960-965). The responses are written at the foot of the advertisement or on the back and in the bound volumes they are arranged at random. The index, a separate volume, was compiled by the Lambeth Palace librarian, Dr A C Ducarel, in 1762. In the index the parishes are listed alphabetically, but the county in which the parish lies is not given. The Rutland returns were therefore found by searching with the aid of a list of parish names.

Of the returns, thirteen are from Rutland parishes, and are numbered 1072 & 1108-1119. The parishes concerned are Hambleton, Market Overton, Whissendine, Ridlington, Braunston, Wing, Little Casterton, Empingham, Tinwell, Pickworth, Wardley cum Belton (two parishes), Morcott, and Lyddington cum Caldecott (two parishes). These thirteen returns, representing fifteen parishes, are the only replies from 52 Rutland parishes in all, a response of approximately 29%. Curiously, although the Rev Jonathan Clough submitted a brief note for Pickworth, there is no separate

return for Great Casterton, of which he was also Rector. The national response was 1,606 returns from 8,838 parishes, or approximately 18%.

The transcribed returns (Appendix 1) have been arranged alphabetically for the sake of convenience and the original page number is given alongside the parish name. The transcriptions retain the original spelling. Some abbreviations have been expanded and some punctuation altered in the interest of clarity. Brackets that appear in the original are shown as round brackets; editorial additions are in square brackets. Where there is a Latin text this is transcribed with a translation. The Hambleton return contains a description in Latin of entitlements from other parishes and in view of its length this has been presented, with a translation, as Appendix 2.

In some cases a return does not contain the name of the incumbent. Where this occurs the volumes of *Northamptonshire and Rutland Clergy* (Longden 1938-52) have been used to trace the name and it has been inserted in brackets at the end of the entry.

What is known of the history of this questionnaire is contained in two documents attached to the first volume of the returns. One, which is not signed, states that the questionnaire was published by the order of Mr Robert Harley, 'who was at that time endeavouring to relieve the distress of the inferior clergy'. Harley, who was from a Presbyterian family but politically came to favour the Anglican Communion, was Speaker of the House of Commons from 1701 to 1705; in 1711 he became 1st Earl of Oxford and Lord High Treasurer. The other document is a memorandum from Dr A C Ducarel, Lambeth Librarian, dated 1760. In this he notes that he purchased the returns from the Rev Mr Entick of Stepney who, in 1743, had bought them at a sale of the Earl of Oxford's books. Soon after this they were bound and deposited in the Lambeth Library by order of Archbishop Secker.

According to the advertisement, the questionnaire was sent out in order to obtain information on church benefactors and other matters in connection with the publication of a book. One of the documents attached to the *Notitia* suggests it was associated with moves to provide relief to under-funded parishes. In this connection it should be noted that Queen Anne's Bounty was established in 1704 in order to supplement the incomes of the poorer clergy (Savage 1955), and it seems likely that the book was intended to be a source of further information on the financial needs of the parishes and on the existing benefactions. However, according to the British Library, there is no evidence that such a book was ever published.

Other reviews of the returns in the *Notitia Parochialis* are by A R Bax on the Surrey returns

(Bax 1895), and R W Dunning on the Somerset returns (Dunning 1968).

The Replies to the Questionnaire

There is a wide range of detail in the Rutland returns. Some, like those for Morcott and Pickworth, are brief; others are quite extensive. The returns for Whissendine and Lyddington go into considerable detail in listing their tithes and endowments, while the incumbent at Hambleton quotes earlier documents concerning the receipts due from the parishes of Normanton, Edith Weston, Manton, Lyndon and elsewhere. This additional material is particularly interesting.

The Hambleton Return

A summary of the financial position of Hambleton parish is written on the front of the advertisement, and this refers to rectorial dues from the 'neighbouring towns' of Normanton, [Edith] Weston, Manton, Lyndon as well as from St Peter's, Stamford, and to vicarial income from Great and Little Hambleton, Lyndon, Normanton and Braunston. The summary neglects to mention Martinsthorpe. On the back there is a copy, in a similar but unknown hand, of a document in Latin giving full details of the entitlements from the parishes of Braunston, Normanton, [Edith] Weston, Manton, Lyndon and Martinsthorpe, and referring to a pension from the church of St Peter in Stamford. Alongside the return in the bound volumes is a further copy of this document but in a different hand; again the writer's name is not given. The preamble to the document indicates that the information in it derives from an 'antiquum scriptum' [ancient writing] found at Lincoln Cathedral; however neither the Lincoln Cathedral Library nor the Lincolnshire Archives have been able to locate the original, and the identity of Hugo Godewyn, the rent collector whose name appears at the end, has not been established. The document itself is dated 4th November 1635, and the copy ends by recording that it was 'transcribed by Hippisley'. This is likely to have been the Tobias Hippisley who was assessed in the Rutland Hearth Tax of 1665 for seven hearths (Bourne & Goode 1991, 38) and, if it was he who left notes on his family's history, appears to have been a man of antiquarian interests. His transcript of the Hambleton document is included, with a translation, as an appendix to this paper (Appendix 2).

In the early history of Hambleton the manor was part of the dower of the mother of Ethelred the Unready (979-1016) and later of Ethelred's queen, Emma. Edward the Confessor (1042-1066) granted the church of Hambleton and the church of St Peter, Stamford, which belonged to it, to St Peter's, Westminster, and the manor of Hambleton became the property of

Edward's queen, Edith, to whom he had granted Rutland for life (*VCH Rutland II*, 67). According to Domesday Book, in the time of Queen Edith Hambleton had seven berewicks or outliers (Thorn 1980, R19).

Phythian-Adams (1977, 75, 80 note 17) has suggested that before the Norman Conquest Hambleton was the centre, or *caput*, of a royal Anglian estate comprising the whole territory of Rutland, and although Domesday does not specify the berewicks he proposes that they were in fact Braunston, Normanton, Lyndon, Martinsthorpe, Manton, Edith Weston – exactly the places referred to here – and Nether Hambleton. The last-named survived as a shrunken medieval settlement in the valley between Hambleton and Lyndon until the construction of Rutland Water, and should not be confused with Hambleton Parva. Given the frequency of early references to Hambleton Parva, or Little Hambleton, and its appearance here, that manor might be preferred as the seventh berewick. Domesday records that, after the Conquest, Albert the Clerk had from the King the church of Hambleton and St Peter's Stamford, which belonged to Hambleton, with the attached lands of the churches (Thorn 1980, R21).

According to Wright (1684, 69), 'in 2E1 [1273] ... [the] living was found to consist at that time in Vicaral Tythes in Hamildon and Braunston, but also in certain profits arising from Normanton, Lindon, Martinsthorpe, Weston, and Manton'. In the Braunston return, its curate refers to his parish as being a 'Member of Hambleton'.

Therefore, the entitlements from the adjacent parishes referred to in the Hambleton return appear to be a continuation of a long historical connection, and may support the view of Phythian-Adams that the adjacent parishes are the berewicks referred to in Domesday. As mentioned above, St Peter's, Stamford was described as belonging to the church at Hambleton in pre-Conquest times and in Domesday, so that the pension due to Hambleton is no doubt a long-standing entitlement from a daughter church.

Tithes

The replies to the question on tithes show that in five of the parishes the tithes were impropriated, and in six parishes they were not impropriated. Three incumbents did not reply. Impropriated tithes were those that had been acquired by a cathedral or a lay person and were no longer of benefit to the parish. Usually it was the great tithes consisting of those on corn and hay that were impropriated, leaving the small tithes such as garden produce, eggs and cheese to the incumbent.

Of the impropriated tithes, three, Braunston, Empingham and Hambleton, were impropriated to Lincoln Cathedral; the other two were impropriated to lay persons, in the case of Belton to Mr Marston, and at

Whissendine to Lord Sherard. Little Casterton, Ridlington, Market Overton, Tinwell, Wardley and Wing declared their tithes were not impropriated. Lyddington cum Caldecott, Morcott and Pickwell did not reply, but since Lyddington (though not Caldecott) was a prebend of Lincoln Cathedral it is likely its tithes were impropriated to Lincoln. This was the case at Empingham which was also a prebend of Lincoln.

The vicar of Tinwell had carried out some research in connection with the Chief Rent payable to the Patron, the Earl of Exeter, and casts some doubt on its validity. However, the expression of the chief rent in nobles does imply a late 14th/early 15th century date for its origin: the noble was introduced by Edward III in 1344 and was produced only until the first coinage of Edward IV in 1461-64, apart from a very brief reintroduction by Henry VIII in his coinage of 1526-44. The expression of an amount of rent in nobles rather than in marks is relatively unusual.

Augmentation and Benefaction

Three parishes reported augmentations or benefactions. Braunston had an augmentation of twenty marks per annum from the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. The parish of Empingham received a benefaction of ten pounds per annum from a Mr Henry Forster of Thistleton, and the Whissendine return records the same amount from a Mr Foster of Thistleton. The benefactor in both these cases is presumably the same person and is no doubt the same as the Henry Forster who in 1692 established a charity for education in Thistleton, Greetham, Exton, Langham and Empingham (*VCH Rutland II*, 298).

There is a specific reference to Queen Anne's Bounty in the Empingham return and remarks about augmentation elsewhere. The vicar of Lyddington uses a literary quotation from *The Art of Contentment* (1675, attributed to Richard Allestree), to criticise the lack of augmentation of clergy income to compensate for the loss of tithes taken away at the time of the Reformation; he also mentions the income he received for his work at the 'hospital', namely the Lyddington Bede House.

Libraries

Among the questions on finance and organisation of the churches there is one about libraries. Dunning (1968), in his review of the replies to the questionnaire from the county of Somerset, mentions the work of Dr Thomas Bray which led in 1709 to the Parochial Libraries Act. The aim was to provide four types of library, one for incumbents, one for laymen (held by incumbents), lending libraries in market towns for the use of clergy and gentry, and libraries for country curates. No libraries were reported in the Rutland returns, although the Rector of Ridlington mentions

two books, one an unspecified book of homilies and the other a copy of *The Apology of the Church of England* by John Jewel, Bishop of Salisbury (1522-71). The latter was first published as *Apologia ecclesiae Anglicanae* in 1562 and was readily available in later English editions; it was one of the four chained books which Archbishop Bancroft ordered to be put in the parish churches of England – the others being the Bible, Erasmus's *Paraphrases* and Foxe's *Acts & Monuments*. The vicar of Empingham is pessimistic about ever having a library. Had there been a return for Oakham this would surely have mentioned the important bequest of theological works to the parish church there by Lady Anne Harington of Exton in 1616. That collection, consisting of some 150 volumes, of which about 70 probably originated in her bequest, is now housed in the Special Collections section of Nottingham University Library.

Value of the Rectory or Vicarage

The questionnaire asked whether the value of the rectory or vicarage was below £30. Ten parishes responded to this question, of which four had a figure below £30. These were Belton, Braunston, Lyddington and Caldecott. The values ranged from £15 for Belton to over £100 (including the lord of the manor's payment) from Hambleton.

Valor Beneficiorum

The *Valor Beneficiorum* or *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, also known as *The King's Books*, was a valuation of the income of all churches carried out in 1535, in the time of Henry VIII. It was used as the basis for a tax on the income of benefices. According to the Rutland returns, the parishes of Empingham, Little Casterton, Market Overton, Tinwell and Whissendine are entered in the *Valor Beneficiorum*, whereas Belton, Lyddington cum Caldecott and Wardley are not. Braunston, Hambleton, Morcott, Pickworth, Ridlington and Wing did not comment.

Other Comments

The vicar of Whissendine suggests that the church was probably built before the impropriation of the

tithes to the Abbey of Sempringham in Lincolnshire, which occurred before 1321. The return shows that by 1705 the glebe land and great tithes had become impropriated to Lord Sherard.

The vicar of Empingham refers to the glass in the windows as indicating that the church was founded before the Reformation. In fact some 15th century glass survives in the tracery lights of the E windows of the N aisle and the N transept (Sharpling 1997, 37).

In the Tinwell return there is a reference to a former church or chapel at Ingthorpe, some part of which remained at that time in an old house or barn. The taxation record of Pope Nicholas IV in 1291 includes an entry for a parochial chapel at Ingthorpe in the parish of Tinwell, but it had fallen into ruin by the time of the valuation of ecclesiastical property in 1535 (*VCH* II, 144, 146). The site of this chapel has been identified subsequently as adjacent to Ingthorpe farmhouse.

Summary

The Rutland returns in the *Notitia Parochialis* have been transcribed and reviewed. They contain interesting and useful information on tithes, benefactions, advowsons and other matters which will be of value to local historians; this is particularly true of the material relating to Hambleton and its subsidiaries, which suggests that the full significance of this entry in the *Notitia* has not been appreciated in the past. There are however too few returns for any general conclusions to be reached about the income of the Church as a whole in 1705.

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Appendix 1 – The Rutland Returns to the *Notitia Parochialis*

Arranged in alphabetical order

Braunston [1111]

These are to certifie whom it may concerne that the great Tythes of Branston in the County of Rutland and Diocese of Peterborough are impropriated to the Dean & Chapter of Lincoln. The Small Tythes by an antient composition of Six Shillings & Eightpence the yard land per annum amount to about 12£ per annum, it has likewise an Augmentation of twenty marks per annum¹ given about an hundred years ago by the Dean & Chapter of Lincoln who have the advowson of the said Parish Church it being a Member of Hambleton three miles distant from it [see The Hambleton Return, above], & in the Deanary of Rutland. There is likewise two acres of land lying in the forest of Lye-field and belonging to it which makes the whole yearly value amount to about Six & Twenty pounds per annum. This is all that can be said pursuant to the Advertisment.

Witness my hand
WiH Cooke. Cur^t. Ibid [William Cooke. Curate]

Empingham [1114]

To the enquiry above I answer 1st the Great Tithes of the parish of Empingham in the County of Rutland, even to wool & lamb, hay & sylva cedua [coppice wood], are in the chathedrall church of Lincoln leased out by the Prebendary of Empingham to Robt Mackworth Esq. 2. The Vicarage Tithe is milk, pigs, eggs, apples, etc with Easter offerings, and a Glebe of about fourty acres. 3. The Vicarage hath been augmented with an addition of ten pounds per annum for Ever, about three years since by one Mr Henry Forster of Thistleton in this County. 4. Our Church was founded (as I guess by some glass in the windows, for we have no records of it that I can meet with) before the Reformation, but how long and by whom we cannot find. 5. There has been no union or dismembering that we can hear of. 6. We have no Library, nor hopes of any. 7. The value of the Vicarage was, before the late Augmentation, about twenty six or twenty seven pounds per annum, now it is about thirty seven. 8. The Advowson of the Vicarage belongs to the Prebendary of Empingham for the time being. 9. It is not Co-nominal with any other place. Last of all both Empingham Prebend & Empingham Vicarage are in the Valor Beneficiorum. Which is all that is desired, and also is all the account that can be given by

Nth. [Nathaniel] Weston. Vicar there

It is a large Parish and that worthy person that undertakes the present State of Parish churches, would do an acceptable work, if by his means any further Augmentation could be procured to it, either from the Queens Bounty or any other way.

¹ A mark was worth 13s 4d, though it did not appear as a coin of this denomination.

Hambleton [1072]

[see also Appendix 2]

The Rectory is Impropriated to the Dean & Chapter of Lincoln, unto which Rectory belongs not only the Glebe Land & Parsonage Tithes within the said Parish, but also an Old Right of Sheaves of Wheat & Oats payable by the Yard-land in kind or Composition every year, according to Custom & Records, from these Neighbouring Towns (viz: Normanton, Weston, Manton, Lyndon) and a Pension of xx s [20 shillings] per annum from the Parsonage of St Peters in Stamford (viz Back hereof [see Appendix 2]). The Vicarage Advowson belongs also to the same Dean & Chapter, & the Revenues thereof are as followeth (viz, £100 per annum payable quarterly by the Lord of the Mannor for the time being in lieu of all Vicarial Demands in Great Hambleton, and £4 3s 4d per annum for the Vicarage Dues from Little Hambleton, and £3 6s 8d per annum for Accustom'd dues from Lyndon, and 12s per annum from Normanton, and all the Vicarage Tithes of Branston (keeping a Curate there)): and this revenue as aforesaid is setled on the Vicarage by Act of Parliament & Custom.

[Andrew Goodall. Vicar]

Little Casterton [1113]

- 1st Querie. I say that I do not know that the Tithes of Little Casterton in the County of Rutland or any part of them are impropriated.
 2nd I do conceive the Church to be endowed with the whole tithes.
 3rd I do not know of any Augmentation.
 4th I do not know when the Church was founded.
 5th I do not know of any Union or Dismembering of the Church.
 To the 6th Querie I answer there is no Libery at all.
 7th I answer that it is above 30£ per An.
 To the 8th. The Advowson belongs to John Brown of Tolethorp Esq in the Parish of Little Casterton in the County of Rutland.
 9th It is co-nominal with the next Parish but distinguished by the name of Little Casterton.
 10th I answer that it is taken notice of in the Valor Beneficiorum.

[David Viney. Rector]

Lyddington cum Caldecott [1119]

Reverend Brother.

An Account of the State of the Parish of Liddington cum Caldcot in the County of Rutland is this. The whole Glebe Land lying in the Fields of Both the Townes is in possession of a Tenant by Lease for three lives under the Reverend John Gerey LLD: Prebendary of Lincoln: about the Tithes the Words of the Endowment of the Vicarage be, Decima foeni totius praebendae cum garbis Decimalibus ubicunque crescant in Praebenda praedicta.

[*Translation*: A tithe of hay of the whole prebend with tithes of sheaves wherever they grow in the aforesaid prebend].

The Endowment of the Vicarage consists in profits in Omnimodis Proventibus ad Altaragium totius Praebendae pertinentibus, viz Decimis Lanae Agnorum et Vitulorum, Lini et Cannobii et Curtilagiorum et Omnibus aliis minutis Decimis et aliis minoribus Obventionibus quocunque nomine censeantur, et Oblationibus Universis in Pecunia, cera, Pane, et aliis quibuscunque provenientius ad Altare cum Decimis Molendinorum, Lactis etc quae ad Ecclesiam proveniunt Supradictam, et Ejus Capellam una cum Principalibus Sive Mortuariis, quae juxta Consuetudinem loci, Ecclesiae pro Defunctis praestantur Sive in Vivis Animalibus, sive in Rebus aliis consistant. Ceragium colliget Vicarius.

[*Translation*: in all types of income pertaining to altar dues of the whole prebend to wit tithes of wool, of lambs, of calves, chickens, pigs, geese, flax, hemp, curtilages, with all other small tithings, and with other smaller incomes by whatsoever name they are known, with all offerings in money, wax, bread, and any other profit whatsoever to the altar, with tithes of mills, of milk etc which issue to the aforesaid church and its chapel, together with principalia or mortuaries which according to the custom of the place are paid to the church on behalf of the dead, whether in the form of living animals or other things. The Vicar collects wax scot²].

Endowment was ordained AD 1258. The profits of the Towne of Liddington might amount in the yeare 1704 to somewhat above twenty and eight pounds, but out of this hath been paid above Four Pounds for Tenths, Taxes, Town payments, and the Charges and Expences of Collection may generally amount to five pounds in a year and More, with the Reparations of an Old House. No Man offers above twenty pounds for the Profits of Caldecot. No Augmentation. Each Towne Church hath Divine Service and Sermon every Sunday. The summe of three shillings four pence is given to the Vicar for Catechising the Men of an Hospital every first Sunday in the afternoon of the four quarters of the year, for admitting them. The Hospital belongs to the Right Honble John Earle of Exeter, founded about the year 1601 by the Right Honourable Thomas Ld Burghly. The prebendary is Patron. The prebendal parish is a peculiar joining to the Archdeaconry of Northampton under the Deane of Lincoln. Probably not taken Notice of in the Valor Beneficiorum. There is no Library in the parish.

[*note in the margin*]:

[The] Author of *Art of Contentment*³ queries:
Is the Love of Appropriation an Heavenly Quality?
Is not neglect of Augmentation a Reproach on our boast of Reformation?

Za. [Zachary] Rue
Vicar de Lyddington cum Caldecot united

² Wax scot was a tax to provide candles for the church

³ *The Art of Contentment*, 'by the author of the *Whole Duty of Man &c*', published anonymously in Oxford in 1675, attributed by some to Richard Allestree (information from the British Library)

Market Overton [1108]

Not any of the tythes of this Parish are impropriated. 2. The Church is endowed with all the great and small tythes throughout the Parish. 3. The Benefice has had no augmentation or Benefaction that I know or heard of. 4. The Church was founded before the Reformation. 5. No dismembering or union I ever heard of. 6. No library here. 7. The value about £30. 8. The perpetual Advowson belongs to John Wingfeild Esq. of Tickencourt in this County. 9. It is not co-nominal with any other place. 10. It is taken notice of in the Valor Beneficiorum.

[Henry Tymperon. Rector]

Morcott [1118]

John Savage Clerk the present Rector of the parish of Morcot in the Diocese of Peterborough & the County of Rutland is Patron of the said Church. He has nothing to return to any of the other Queries.

[John Savage. Rector]

Pickworth [1116]

The Rectory of Pickworth is united to the Rectory of Casterton mag. [Great Casterton] in Rutland. The Earl of Exeter is patron.

[Jonathan Clough. Rector of Great Casterton]

Ridlington [1110]

Neither the Tythes nor any part of them impropriate. The Church endowed with all the Tythes. No Augmentation nor Benefaction. Founded before the Reformation. No Union nor dismembering. No Library settled nor settling save a Book of Homilies & Bishop Jewels Apology already there [see Libraries, above]. The Rectory above £30. The Advowson belongs to the Right Honorable Baptist Earl of Gainsbrough. Not co-nominal with any other place.

Wm. Noel. Rector ibid.

Tinwell [1115]

A Rectory in the County of Rutland. The Earl of Exeter, Patron: to whom is due from the incumbent a Chief Rent of 5 nobles per annum.⁴ They have a tradition here that the tithes were formerly impropriated and restored again to the Church by one of the Earls of that family, upon which account probably the Chief Rent becomes due: but having searched the original Rolls of Henry 8th (from whence is copied the Valor Beneficiorum) and there found it a Rectory, and so believe it hath always bin, whatever was the first reason for paying a Chief Rent to the Patron [see Tithes, above].

A Thorp, called Ingthorpe, belongs to this parish, where hath formerly bin a church or chapel, the marks whereof remain in an old house and barn, now let to a poor tenant by the Earl of Exeter.

Except one Rate tithe of a noble a year for the mill and mill homes, all tithes are paid in this parish.

Ri. Croke, Rector of Tinwell [Richard Croke. Rector]

⁴ A noble was worth 6s 8d, or half a mark.

Wardley cum Belton [1117]

This Brief is for Wardley and Belton to answer yet desiring to the queries then it is the Rectory of Wardley cum Belton, 2 parishes. 1 querie, Belton only is impropriated to Mr Marston of Belton. 2 querie, Belton is endowed with the small tithes only. 3 querie, no augmentation. 4 querie, not founded since the Reformation. 5 querie, no disunion. 6 querie, no library. 7 querie, value of Belton 15£. 8 querie, the advowson belongs to the Queen. 9, not co-nominal. 10, both ly in the Archdeaconry of Northampton or Deanery of Rutland.

[Thomas Smith. Rector]

Whissendine [1109]

An Account of the Parish Church of Whissenden alias Whissondine lying in the County of Rutland & Diocese of Peterborough & Archdeaconry of Northampton

The Answers follow the Order of the Queries.

The Ansr to the 1st Querie. The Right Honourable Bennet Lord Sherard & his predecessors have for many years had the Impropriation of all the Gleab land (except ¼ part of a yard of arable land with the grass & commons in proportion, & the hay of 7 acres of meadow), and likewise the Impropriation of all the great Tythes, i.e. the tythes of all sorts of corn, the tyth of all hay, except what grows in some little enclosures lying next the town which is almost of no value, and they have possessed the tyth of wool, sheep, & sheeps skins, time out of mind; all of which are lett for 260£ a year, besides some part of the Gleab land lett for 30£ a year. To the 2nd Querie. The last and best Endowment of the Vicarage cannot be found at present among the ingrossed records, but it is supposed to be endowed with half a yard of arable land, a close of about 20 acres of meadow, a cottage, and all the small tythes; of which the Vicar enjoys at present only the above mentioned fourth part of a yard of arable land, the hay of seven acres of meadow, & of the home enclosures when mowen; some small surplice fees & mortuaries, & Easter offerings, and the small tythes without the tyth of wool which is worth about as much as all the other small tythes, all which present profits of the Vicarage are worth about 38£ per Annum. To the 3^d. Q. Some little Augmentation has been made to the vicarage tythes since its first endowment, but its uncertain when or by whom; Only one Mr – Foster of Thistleton in the County of Rutland Gent. who died about 3 years ago, left his estate to pious uses, and among others, he gave in his last Will a Benefaction of ten pounds per Annum to the Vicar of Whissondine and his successors for ever, his Will was proved in the Arches, or Doctors Commons, in the year 1704 [see

Augmentation and Benefaction, above]. To the 4th Q. The Church was built in all probability long before the Reformation, even before the Impropriation of the tythes to the Abby of Sempringham in Lincolnshire, which was before 1321. To the 5th Q. No union or dismembering has been heard to be made of the Church, unless it be as to the tyth wool above mentioned and that part of the Vicarage Gleabland, now in the hands of the Impropiator. To the 5 last Queries; there is no Librery settled or setling in the Parish; the Advowson belongs to the Impropiator; the Parish is not Co-nominal with any other place here known; it is in the Valor Beneficiorum 7-1-1 present value 48£.

The Church is very large, the parishioners about 600 young and old, none profess themselves Dissenters.

W.C. Vic [William Cumming. Vicar]

Wing [1112]

Wing in the County of Rutland is the only Town of that name in the whole County. The Parish church was built by Henry of Clipsto[n] according to the account which I find given by one of my Predecessors, viz Dominus Henricus de Clipsto[n] fuit fundator huius Ecclesie Parochialis de Wing, quem quidem Ecclesiam Sancto Petro Jesu Christi Apostolo dedicavit consecravique.

[*Translation:* Master Henry of Clipston was the founder of this parish church of Wing, which same church he dedicated and consecrated to St Peter the Apostle of Jesus Christ].

Donatio et Avocatio istius Ecclesie Parochialis Divi Petri de Wing ante Dissolutionem Domorum Religiosarum pertinebat ad Priorem et conventum monasterii Sancti Neoti ordinis Sancti Benedicti, Lincolnensis Diocesis comitatu Huntingdoniae. Post vero Dissolutionem monasteriorum venit in manus et jus Regum et Reginarum Angliae.

[*Translation:* The gift and advowson of this parish church of Holy Peter of Wing belonged before the dissolution of the religious houses to the prior and community of the monastery of the Order of St Benedict of St Neot's of the diocese of Lincoln, in the county of Huntingdon. However, after the dissolution of the monasteries it came into the power and jurisdiction of the kings and queens of England.]

It is endowed wth the whole Tythes

It is in the Archdeaconry of Northampton

NB: Clipsto[n] is in the Forest of Sherewood in Nottinghamshire. Steward Howe's Annals, 218, col. 1.

Camden in his map of Nottinghamshire.

[John Bromfield. Rector]

Appendix 2 – The entitlements of Hambleton from its dependent parishes

[On the back of the Hambleton return]

Universis et singulis Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes Littere Testimoniales pervenerint easque lecturis vel auditoris et his presertim quos infrascripta tangunt seu tangere poterunt quomodolibet in futuro Decanus et Capitulum Ecclesie Cathedralis Beate Marie Lincolniensis Salutem ac fidem indubiam presentibus adhiberi, Ad universitatis vestre notitiam inotesimus et notum facimus; Quod scrutato Registro nostro in archivis ejusdem bene et fideliter per Laurentium Styrope Notarium Publicum Registrarium nostrum principalem custoditis, inter alia comperimus evidenter et invenimus quoddam antiquum scriptum concernens Ecclesiam de Hameldon; Cujus quidem verus tenor sequitur et est talis.

Ecclesia de Hameldon que est de Communa Ecclesie Lincolniensis omnia inferius contenta a prima sua fundatione percepit et percipit de villatis subscriptis, videlicet de *Normanton*:

De E. Domino de Normanton: viginti trabas garbarum videlicet decem frumenti et x avene, et continet traba xxiiij garbas. Et de tredecim virgatis terre ejusdem ville recipiet de qualibet virgata terre sexaginta garbas videlicet xxx ta frumenti et xxx ta avene, Et illi qui tenent dictas xiiij virgatas terre debent cariare suo custu proprio apud Hameldon, Et nisi garbe fuerint bone, careste sue debent retineri quousque domino predicto satisfecerint, et blada domi persone cariabunt. Et si illi qui tenuerint predictas virgatas propter sterilitatem vel aliquid aliud infortunum, vel quia easdem terras non seminaverint, non percipiant de eisdem virgatis summam garbarum superius contentis nominatarum, satisfacere debent plenarie Ecclesie de Hameldon de supradicto numero garbarum frumenti et avene; Item de eisdem qui tenent predictas xiiij virgatas debet etiam habere de qualibet virgata terre tres panes et tres obolos ad tres anni terminos et debent ferre eos apud Hameldon, Et si panes non fuerint boni, sacci sui in quibus panes deferunt debent retineri, Et debent ferre panes apud Hameldon ad festum omnium sanctorum et ad Purificationem Beate Marie. Item de eisdem debet habere decimam pullorum, vitulorum, agnorum et porcillorum prout decet.

Weston

Item apud Weston debet Ecclesia de Hameldon recipere de Dominico domini de Weston duas garbas decime et persona de Weston terciam et debet eas colligere et secare in campis. Item debet recipere sexaginta garbas de viginti quattuor virgatis terre in villa de Weston videlicet de qualibet virgata triginta garbas frumenti et xxx avene, et debent cariare et omnia facere ut supra. Item debet Ecclesia de Hameldon recipere de omnibus illis qui xxiiij predictas virgatas tenent tantum pane sicut prius et eodem modo retinere ut dictum est, Et de predictis tenentibus xxiiij virgatas recipiet omnes decimas suas pullorum, vitulorum, agnorum et non porcorum, Et dicta Ecclesia de Hameldon faciet eos colligere in dicta villa de Weston et hoc modo recipiet de pullo obolum de vitulo obolum pro agno obolum et decimum agnum si septem habent etc.

Manton

Item apud Manton recipiet de xxvij virgatis terre de qualibet virgata lx garbas videlicet xxx frumenti et xxx avene. Et illi qui eas tenent debent cariare ut prius, et totum ut prius; Item de eisdem tenentibus recipiet panem sicut prius et argentum de quolibet tenente ut prius, et debet facere ut prius, et saccos retinere ut prius. Item debet recipere decimas vitulorum et agnorum sed non pullorum nec porcorum, et debent colligere ut prius etc.

Lyndon

Item apud Lyndon debet recipere de viginti virgatis terre lx garbas, videlicet de qualibet virgata xxx garbas frumenti et xxx avene, Et debent cariare ut prius et retinere ut prius; Item predicta Ecclesia debet recipere ut prius decimam pullorum, vitulorum et agnorum et porcorum et debet colligere eos et totum ut prius. Item due sunt culture Domini de Lyndon, unde dicta Persona debet habere decimum sellionem quum vannata sunt blada et persona debet eos sacare; Item debet recipere ad tres terminos anni predictos xvij panes et ix d. ob. Et duo domini homines qui colligunt predictos panes et argentum debent habere duos panes et dominus nec dare debet de duabus virgatis terre etc.

Martynsthorp

Item de Martynsthorp recipiet de viij virgatis terre lx garbas frumenti et avene videlicet xxx de frumento et xxx de avene, et persona debet eas cariare de domibus hominum de Martynsthorpe ad hospitium. Item debet habere ad terminos predictos sex panes et tres denarios, et debet mittere pro illis. Item debet recipere de vj virgatis terre decimam pullorum, vitulorum et agnorum. Item debet habere medietatem totius principalis animalis sive alteragii et debet deferri vel effulgari apud Hameldon et ibi sorte pertire etc.

Rentale Ecclesie de Hameldon de certo reddito per annum

Hugo Godewyn redditarius

Rector Ecclesie Sancti Petri Staumford per annum nomine pensionis reddendum ad Festa Sancti Michaelis et Pascha.	xx s.	Summa	xx s.
Rector Ecclesie de Weston ad Festum Sancti Michaelis	vi s. viij d.	Summa	vj s. viij d.
		Summa omnium summarum	viiij li. xv s. ij d.

In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum quo in hac parte utimur presentibus apponi fecimus. Data in domo nostra Capitulari Lincolniensi quarto die Novembris Anno domini millesimo sexcentismo trigesimo quinto. 1635

Translation

To all and every one of the faithful in Christ to whom these attested letters may come and who will read or hear them, and particularly to those whom the underwritten matters affect or can affect in any way in the future, the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Mary of Lincoln offer greetings and urge them to have complete trust in these letters. We bring this to the attention of all of you and make it known. The register in our archives has been well and carefully examined by Lawrence Styroppe,¹ a Notary Public and principal keeper of our registry. Among other things we have noted clearly and have found an ancient writing concerning the church of Hambleton. The true tenor of this is as follows:

The church of Hambleton, which is part of the property of the church of Lincoln, has from its first foundation received and is receiving all that is written below from the following manors, namely from *Normanton*:

*From E, the lord of Normanton*² 20 thraves³ of corn sheaves, namely 10 of wheat and 10 of oats and a thrave contains 24 sheaves. And from 13 yardlands⁴ it will receive from each yardland 60 sheaves, namely 30 of corn and 30 of oats. And those who hold the 13 yardlands must in accordance with their duty carry their contribution to Hambleton. And if the sheaves are not good their carts must be kept until the said lord is satisfied and they will carry the corn to the house of the parson. And if those who may hold the said yardlands do not, because of a poor crop or other misfortune or because they have not sown the said land, receive in full from these lands the number of sheaves set out above they must satisfy in full the church of Hambleton with the aforesaid number of sheaves of corn and oats. Item: from the same men who hold the said 13 yardlands the church must also have from each yardland 3 loaves and 3 halfpennies at three fixed dates in each year and the men must bring them to Hambleton. And if the loaves are not good the sacks in which the bread has been brought must be kept and they must bring bread to Hambleton at the feast of All Saints [November 1st] and of the Purification of Blessed Mary [February 2nd]. Item: from the same men the church must receive a tithe of chickens, calves, lambs and piglets in accordance with custom.

[Edith] Weston

Item, at Weston, the church of Hambleton should receive from the demesne of the lord of Weston two sheaves of the tithe and the parson of Weston a third, and should collect them and reap them in the fields. Item, it should receive 60 sheaves from 24 yardlands in the village of Weston, namely from each yardland 30 sheaves of wheat and 30 of oats and they should carry them and perform everything as described above. Item, the church of Hambleton should receive from all those who hold the aforesaid 24 yardlands as much bread as before, and should keep it in the same way, as described. And from the aforesaid holders of the 24 yardlands it should receive all the tithes of chickens, calves and lambs, and not of pigs. And the said church of Hambleton shall cause them to collect in the said village of Weston and in this way it will receive ½d for a chicken, ½d for a calf, ½d for a lamb and the tenth lamb if they have seven etc.

Manton

Item, at Manton, it shall receive from the 27 yardlands 60 sheaves, namely 30 of wheat and 30 of oats. And those who hold the lands must carry them as before, and the whole arrangement should be as before. Item, from the same tenants it should receive bread as before and money from each tenant as before, and should do as before, and should retain the sacks as before. Item, it should receive the tithes of calves and lambs, but not of chickens or pigs, and should collect them as before, etc.

Lyndon

Item, at Lyndon it should receive from the 20 yardlands 60 sheaves, namely from each yardland 30 sheaves of wheat and 30 of oats, and they should carry them and keep [the sacks] as before. Item, the aforesaid church should receive as before a tithe of chickens, calves, lambs and pigs, and should collect them, and the whole arrangement should be as before. Item, there are two furlongs belonging to the lord of Lyndon from which the aforesaid parson should have the tenth strip when the corn is winnowed, and the parson should reap them. Item, it should receive on three fixed dates in the year the aforesaid 17 loaves and 9½d. And the lord's two men who collect the aforesaid loaves and money should have two loaves, and the lord should have to give nothing from the two yardlands, etc

Martinsthorpe

Item, from Martinsthorpe it shall receive from 8 yardlands 60 sheaves of wheat and oats, namely 30 of wheat and 30 of oats, and the parson shall carry them from the houses of the men of Martinsthorpe to the store-house. Item, it should have at the aforesaid fixed dates 6 loaves and 3d, and should send for them. Item, it should receive from 6 yardlands a tithe of chickens calves and lambs. Item, it should have a moiety of every beast taken by way of mortuary or altar-dues, and this should be conveyed or driven off to Hambleton and there be divided by lot, etc.

Rental of the Church of Hambleton in fixed returns each year

Hugo Godewyn, rent-collector

The Rector of the Church of Saint Peter at Stamford each year in the form of a pension to be paid at the feasts of St Michael [September 29th] and Easter 20s

In total 20s

The Rector of the Church of Weston at the feast of St Michael [September 29th] 6s 8d

In total 6s 8d

Total of all sums £8 15s 2d

In witness of this we have caused our common seal to be fixed to this writing. Given at our Chapter House of Lincoln on the fourth day of November AD 1635.

Transcribed by Hippisley⁵ out of the said Dean and Chapter's parchment copy under their seal, still remaining in his hands, but the original was taken away from Lincoln in the time of Rebellion [presumably at the time of the Commonwealth].

¹ Lincoln Cathedral records show Laurence Styroppe was granted the office of Chapter Clerk on 12th October 1621 (D&C Bij.2.6, fol. 166).

² This may be a reference to Lord Edmund de Normanville, Lord of the Manor of Normanton, born 1291, died before 1315 (*VCH Rutland* II, 86).

³ Alongside the Hambleton response is a second version in another hand. It has a marginal note saying 'A thrave is 12 sheaves, in some places 24'.

⁴ A marginal note in the second version says 'A yardland is 40 acres'.

⁵ For Hippisley, see under The Hambleton Return, above.

John Strecche, Prior of Brooke 1407-25

GEOFFREY HILTON

John Strecche, appointed Prior of Kenilworth Priory's small and impoverished daughter house at Brooke in 1407, included a comment in his chronicle of English

history making it clear that Brooke Priory was regarded as a place of punishment where a troublesome canon might be sent.

John Strecche, a canon of the important Augustinian Priory at Kenilworth, wrote a chronicle of English history from pre-Conquest times to the death of Henry V in 1422. His *Historia Regum Anglie* would appear to have been completed soon after this date, and comprises five books. In the fourth book in particular he included material about the Priors of Kenilworth, from which we can learn much about them and their buildings (Hilton 2004). Strecche's history survives with other historical writings attributed to him in the British Library (Add MS 35295), and the fifth book covers the reign of Henry V (Taylor 1932).

Kenilworth Priory, an Abbey from 1447, had a small dependent cell at Brooke, near Oakham in Rutland. Its origins seem to lie in an endowment of land by Hugh de Ferrers from the family's manorial holdings centred on Oakham Castle (*VCH Rutland* II, 38). Although it was Rutland's only monastery, it was always a small, impoverished and, it would seem, somewhat neglected establishment, catering only for a handful of monks. Its priors were instituted by the Bishop of Lincoln, and in the episcopal registers it is frequently referred to as the '*cellula de Broke*'. Apart from a few specific references and a fairly complete list of its priors, its history is largely obscure, especially in the fifteenth century (*VCH Rutland* I, 159-61). Any reference that can shed a little light on its story is therefore welcome.

Of the very little we know about John Strecche it is certain that he was instituted by Bishop Repingdon as Prior of Brooke in 1407, and remained there until 1425, when he resigned (*VCH Rutland* I, 161; Sunley & Stevens 1995, 72a). He makes only one significant comment about Brooke Priory in his history (Add MS 35295, f253v; fig. 1), but one that prompts this attempt to add the flesh of speculation to the scant bones of fact and to construct a picture of the life he may have led there.

While at Brooke, Strecche was isolated with only two to four canons, some of whom, on the basis of his comment, might have been sent there as punishment for their wrongdoings at Kenilworth. He would need to treat them with firmness, yet humanity. He would also have to uphold the right of distant

Kenilworth to possess this small Priory against any who may have seen it as a tempting prize of land and income.

All this must have been in his mind when he wrote about Prior William de Evesham, tenth Prior of Kenilworth, 1276-80:

This Prior William was haughty and unpleasant to his Brethren and severe in his regime. Any troublesome Brother was sent without delay to Brooke, which place of punishment was, is, and always shall be, in the hands of the Priors of Kenilworth [*qui locus sive cellula flagellum in manum prioris de Kenill semper fuit est et erit*] and while there Brethren atone for their wrong-doing.

Strecche was probably a teacher of novices at Kenilworth and writing his chronicle for their instruction. This passage not only warns them about the possibility of punishment but also instructs them in the importance of Brooke being kept in the possession of Kenilworth. In fact it slipped out of the hands of the Abbot of Kenilworth two years before the Dissolution thanks to the self-interest of its last prior (Wright 1684, 26-7; *VCH Rutland* I, 160, & II, 38; Sunley & Stevens 1995, 49a, 49b).

Nevertheless, he must have found this appointment rewarding, for he stayed eighteen years, more than twice the average length of service for Priors of Brooke, many of whom lasted only for two or three years – a fact perhaps in part attributable to the poverty of the house. Perhaps it gave him the chance to concentrate on the task of writing his chronicle, equipped with the history notes he must have made as a student, a supply of vellum sheets, quills and ink.

Chaucer, in his jocular way, wrote only twenty years earlier about the opportunities and temptations open to the Prior of a small monastic cell when he describes the monk in *The Canterbury Tales*. Brian Jackson has kindly contributed the following version:

There was a monk, at the top of his profession, who spent his time outside the monastery riding round the estates and enjoying the hunt... He had many a handsome mount in his stables and the bells on his bridle called as clear and loud as the chapel bell at

the cell where he was in charge... He kept greyhounds swift as birds in flight and on no account would he give up his tracking and hunting the hare. He did not agree in the slightest that hunters are unholy men, or that a monk outside his cloister is a fish out of water... Why should he drive himself mad with study, poring over books in a cloister? Or toil with his hands, as St Augustine wished? Augustine can keep the hard work all to himself! ... His sleeves were trimmed at the wrist with costly fur and to fasten his hood under his chin, he had a pin made of gold. A roasted fat swan was his favourite dish.

Chaucer's monk is a satirical fictional portrait and there is of course no reason to suppose that John Strecche was anything other than conscientious and pious, but one hopes he had some relaxation and enjoyment in the pleasant shire of Rutland.

Travelling to and from the two Houses must have been an interesting and somewhat perilous experience. Brooke is sixty miles from Kenilworth and would have been a considerable journey for a moderate horseman, possibly with an interlude at the great Augustinian Abbey of Leicester. I am indebted to Sue Hutchins, for the following account of the logistics of the journey:

A journey of sixty miles would have taken about two and a half to three days. This is assuming the horse, or pony, travelled at about four miles per hour. Rest stops and frequent water stops would be necessary at rivers and streams. The horse would graze at these points. Presumably the canon would

take refreshment and fodder should have been provided for the horse.

Provided the horse was rested overnight in a stable, it would be capable of this type of journey. The pony type would probably have been the predecessor of the Welsh cob, stocky and surefooted.

A party from a religious house might be thought to be carrying treasure and money, and would need servants with weapons to ward off robbers.

Despite the presence of various earthworks in the vicinity of the site (*VCH Rutland* I, 117, & II, 37; Hartley 1983, 8-10), there is little certain trace of the Priory today, but a mile away lies the church of St Peter, Brooke. John Strecche must have visited this church frequently, worshipped there, and discussed the business of the church and manor, which had been granted to Kenilworth Priory. The church was rebuilt in Elizabethan times, but many features he must have known still exist there. As a historian, he would appreciate the 13th century tower, Norman font, and internal arcade, and no doubt been amused by the fish-skeleton hinges on the north door. His Priory may also have kept and venerated a saint's relic in the medieval Limoges enamel reliquary now to be seen in the Rutland County Museum at Oakham.

Acknowledgement

The author would like to thank Tim Clough for providing additional references and for his editorial assistance in the preparation of this article.

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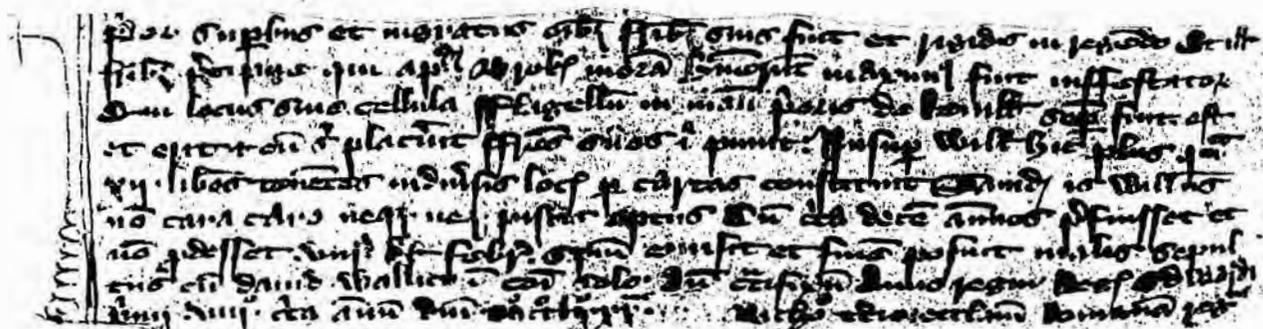


Figure 1. An extract from folio 253v of John Strecche's manuscript, Add MS 35295, c.1422, Brooke appears as 'Broke', fifth word in line 2. The third line begins 'qui locus sive cellula flagellum...'.
 From a microfilm in Warwickshire County Records Office; by permission of The British Library.

Rutland History and Archaeology in 2002

Edited by T H McK CLOUGH

The following abbreviations are used in this section:

APS Archaeological Project Services
BUFAU Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
JSAC John Samuels Archaeological Consultants
LMARS Leicestershire Museums, Arts & Records Service
NA Northamptonshire Archaeology
RCM Rutland County Museum

RLHRS Rutland Local History & Record Society
RR *Rutland Record*
SMR Leicestershire & Rutland Sites & Monuments Record
TLAHS *Trans Leicestershire Archaeol & Hist Soc*
ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

I - Archaeological Fieldwork during 2002

Short reports, arranged in alphabetical order by parish

Ayston (SK 8700)

The RLHRS Ayston to Glaston fieldwalking project continued over the Damme Field of some 70 acres, next to the Thornham Brook mentioned in the Ayston charter of AD 1046. Five possible Palaeolithic/early Mesolithic flints were found. There were four end-scrapers among c60 pieces of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic material. Some 330 late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints included five arrowheads, 48 scrapers and a 'scale-flaked' knife. Pottery included Iron Age, Romano-British and early Saxon sherds along with Saxo-Norman Stamford and medieval wares. Glass beads and coins were also seen. No finds of such archaeological importance have been found here before, the only clue being an aerial photograph indicating a possible Iron Age enclosure by the ridgeway. Some of the material has been identified by LMARS; archive report in SMR (R47). Fieldwork continues.

Elaine Jones, RLHRS



Fig. 1. Possible Palaeolithic/early Mesolithic flints from Ayston

Barrowden, Main Street Farm (SK 949001)

A watching brief undertaken on behalf of Ross Thain & Co during the excavation of footings for a new house on the site revealed only modern debris from former farm buildings and areas of probable stone quarrying. No dating evidence was recovered from the quarry pits.

Joe Prentice, NA

Beaumont Chase (SP 846987)

Ancient iron workings indicated by tap slag found in a copse next to the 'hills and holes' of old stone pits at King's Hill, S of Uppingham, were surveyed. Although no associated dating material was found, aerial photographs point to a possible Iron Age rectangular enclosure nearby. Some say that the stone pits are Roman but as yet there is no supporting evidence (R42).

Elaine Jones, RLHRS

Caldecott, Uppingham Rd (SP 868937, SP 869937)

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during barn conversion and the construction of a new stable block at Weldon House. There were no surviving archaeological remains within the application area. The stable trench was within a field of surviving ridge and furrow earthworks.

Pat Chapman and Ian Fisher, NA

Cottesmore, Lilac Farm, Mill Lane (SK 902139)

An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken in September 2002 on land at Lilac Farm on behalf of F P D Savills and Exton Estates. This revealed evidence of late Saxon and early medieval activity in the form of ditches, pits and gullies. Linear deposits of limestone pieces may possibly be padstones that relate to the foundations of timber-framed buildings. Large quantities of iron slag recovered from spreads of silty material are a good indication of smelting activity in the immediate vicinity of the application area. A further scheme of archaeological work would be necessary to ascertain the nature and function of the remains seen through evaluation (RCM A1.2002).

Sophie Clarke, ULAS

Empingham, Loves Lane (SK 95140887)

A programme of investigation supervised by F Walker was undertaken for Landbilt Ltd prior to and during development near the NE edge of Empingham. Previous investigations at the site had encountered medieval remains toward the road frontage of adjacent Main Street (TLAHS 72, 191). An extensive rubble spread, of medieval date and probably representing demolition debris of buildings of the period, was identified close to the Main Street frontage. Two stone walls, undated but perhaps also medieval, were recorded nearer to Loves Lane. A group of refuse pits of 18th-early 19th century date was identified, together with an adjacent posthole. The finds and site records will be deposited with RCM.

Steve Thomson, APS

Exton, Church Farm, Oakham Road (SK 924111)

An archaeological evaluation, by trial trenching, was undertaken in September 2002 on land at Church Farm. Trenching has shown the land to have been stripped of all topsoil and subsoil before being built up and levelled for use as a farmyard. The locating of the trenches was severely limited by the existence of under-lying electricity services, and the layer of modern over-burden was such that natural substrata

were only reached in the S part of the application area. No significant archaeological deposits were observed during the evaluation, with the exception of wall footings in Trenches 2 and 3. Although no dating evidence was found for the wall footings, it is probable that they pertain to 19th century farm buildings that were demolished in recent times.

Sophie Clark, ULAS

Great Casterton, Pickworth Road (TF 000093)

During April 2002, Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust excavated five trenches on land adjacent to Great Casterton Primary School on Pickworth Road. The site was commonly overlain by 0.5-0.6m of topsoil and subsoil, though it was more truncated towards the S end, in the areas of hard-standing. Archaeological features were sealed by sub-soil. The evaluation revealed Roman features. Sparse ditches and gullies of probable Roman date were present in the N part of the site, in addition to modern drainage features. A Roman inhumation cemetery was present in the S part of the site, with at least seven burials, generally aligned NE/SW. Small-scale investigation was undertaken to establish the character of the graves, and defined at least two cist burials, lined with vertical limestone slabs. The cemetery almost certainly relates to that recorded S of the site during the construction of the primary school.

*Nicholas Crank & Wesley Keir,
Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust*

Holywell, Lincolnshire (SK 997159)

When amateur archaeologists from RLHRS field-walked farmland at Holywell, on the Rutland border, they found a concentration of tap slag from an iron smelting site associated with about 400 Romano-British potsherds and some coins of 3rd-4th century date. The site was unknown prior to its discovery by the Holywell Hall gardeners in 2001.

Other evidence of Roman activity nearby along the Rutland-Lincolnshire boundary was recorded by the late John Barber, who annotated a set of OS 6-inch maps kept in RCM. A Romano-British villa at Clipsham Quarry to the W was excavated from the 1950s by A L Tabor, who recovered iron tap slag and iron artefacts associated with pottery and building material (SK 982154); evidence of possible Roman ironworking was found in Holywell Wood (SK 991148); and a Roman ironsmelting furnace with clay chimney and some intact flues came from Blind Eye Quarry, S of Holywell (TF 001147). A possible Iron Age enclosure is recorded N of Manor Farm, Pickworth, in the SMR (SK 992146).

Although Lincolnshire sites are not noted here, these five findspots point to Roman iron production in this area. Only 6km to the W runs Ermine Street, with Thistleton and Great Casterton nearby. King Street and the Car Dyke are some 10km to the E.

The archive report and finds were handed in at Holywell Hall on 27th November 2002, the day before Prince Yuri Galitzine, President of RLHRS, died. He had followed the Society's investigations on his land with great interest, and would have appreciated these results (R37, R38).

Elaine Jones, RLHRS

Ketton, Garley's Field (SK 987062)

Following the chance recovery of a late Roman coin hoard and the remains of at least two inhumation burials from a machine-cut pit excavated during agricultural improvements in the northern part of Garley's Field, Ketton, the landowner, Mr Andrew, immediately contacted Northamptonshire Archaeology. A team from NA, with the assistance of

Leicestershire County Council, undertook limited excavations and recovered a total of 1,038 coins from disturbed soil along with at least two burials, one of which was within a stone-lined and capped cist that had been disturbed in the excavation of the pit.

Further phases of work comprising excavation, metal-detecting survey, geophysical survey and field-walking were carried out by NA supported by English Heritage during the summer, autumn and winter of 2002/03. Parts of five graves were recovered. Osteological evidence indicates the presence of complete or partial remains from a total of at least eleven individuals. These include nine adults, with six males and one female identified. The youngest individual was 13-15 years old. A further 326 coins were also found, bringing the total to 1,364. Copper staining on the bones of a disturbed inhumation, possibly an earlier occupant of the stone-lined cist, suggests that the hoard may have been deposited with this burial.

These results, allied to a search of the SMR, added considerable data to the wider context of the site. It lies within part of a wider Roman landscape comprising crop-mark enclosures, settlement activity and a possible villa within the village of Ketton itself, as well as a minor Roman road linking Tixover Villa to the SSE with the small Roman town of Great Casterton to the N. The nearby Tinwell coin hoard is also to be seen in this context (see this issue, 99-104).

*Richard Knox, LMARS
Anthony Maull, Peter Masters, NA*

Market Overton (SK 899165 & SK 901165)

Two adjacent fields, known locally as 'Mrs Pridmore's fields', were fieldwalked in March and August. A quantity of medieval and post-medieval pottery indicative of manuring was recovered, together with 10 Romano-British sherds. The flint collected comprises flakes, scrapers, blades and two possible Palaeolithic corticated pieces. Expert opinion on the flints is awaited (R44).

Kate Don, RLHRS

Market Overton, Industrial Estate (SK 889176)

A watching brief was carried out by C Moulis near to Roman and Saxon remains to the N of Market Overton. However, only recent deposits associated with a former ironstone railway, or the present industrial estate, were revealed, and no archaeological remains were encountered. The archive will be deposited with LMARS.

Paul Cope-Faulkner, APS

Oakham, Ashwell Road (SK 864 096)

A watching brief was continued on behalf of Barratt East Midlands Ltd during development on the N side of the medieval town in an area of prehistoric, medieval and later remains. Previous investigations on an adjacent part of the site had revealed an undated ditch and prehistoric, Roman and medieval artefacts (RR 22 (2002), 91). A N-S ditch and a parallel linear hollow were revealed. Both of these were close to the western limit of the site and probably served a boundary function, but were undated (RCM A13.2000).

Paul Cope-Faulkner, APS

Oakham, Oakham School

Observations during renovations to Talbot's Yard in the Market Place and the Chaplain's House in Choir Close were recorded by the School Marshall, R E M Thomas MIPSAs and passed on to RLHRS.

Talbot's comprises two buildings: the S part, now rented by Gilbert & Thomas (Estate Agents), was once the office and strongroom of the Stamford, Spalding & Sleaford Bank, which was here in 1886. This building and an old ironstone cottage linked by an old alleyway to the rear were purchased by Oakham School in 1907. The cottage, to the W, could be part of the remains of the old hospital that was here until the mid 1800s. The N side of Talbot's Yard was purchased a little earlier. This was a drapery shop and post office at the time.

Seen during the work was a large steel grille mounted into the ceiling of the ground floor area of the old bank. There is also a door and window in the S wall giving onto a very narrow passage some 14" wide, which would have gone W and then S to the Market Place. This was possibly pre-1850. Whilst setting in new drains a well, some 3m deep, constructed of ironstone laid in a spiral fashion was found in the yard.

The second renovation, at the Chaplain's House in Choir Close, included underpinning the structure with steel piles and then covering the cellar area with a mat of reinforced rods and concrete. Two wells were seen during the work.

Thomas's observations raise several questions: can one conclude that the ironstone cottage in Talbot's Yard is part of the old town, predating Victorian re-building? Did it once front the Market Place? Was it part of the old Hospital? Can one follow the old alleyways around adjacent curtilages? Does the presence of wells and the need to underpin the Chaplain's House point to the presence of the underlying Castle moat, part of which was excavated prior to the construction of the present Post Office? (R43)

Elaine Jones, RLHRS

Owston, Leicestershire (SK 775977)

Mrs Pat Harvey of Manor Farm found pottery dug up by badgers on their old abbey earthworks. The sherds were predominantly medieval with a date range of around 11th-12th century to c1550 AD, and included two Stamford wares, a piece from Bourne, and Midland Purple and Cistercian wares (R46).

Elaine Jones, RLHRS

Ryhall, Turnpike Road (TF 035112)

Development close to medieval remains on the N edge of Ryhall was monitored by J Albone. An elongated pit back-filled with limestone fragments was exposed. This was of late post-medieval date and perhaps related to known stone quarrying in the area. The finds and site archive will be deposited with RCM.

Steve Thomson, APS

Seaton, All Hallows Church (SK 90429825)

Excavations for the installation of services at the Norman church of All Hallows were monitored by F Walker. A graveyard soil containing disarticulated human remains was revealed but not dated. Cut into this graveyard soil was a culvert of dry stone construction and although also undated this is thought to be post-medieval. The records will be deposited with LMARS.

Steve Thomson, APS

South Luffenham, South Luffenham Hall, Hall Lane (SK 941018)

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at land at South Luffenham Hall between October and December 2002.

The work was commissioned by the Wilmot Partnership, Chartered Architects and Surveyors, on behalf of the owners Mr and Mrs A Jukes. The site is within the historic settlement core of the village, and the work was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of a swimming pool building and the excavation of service trenches.

A rectilinear ditch was recorded together with a possible pit or ditch terminal. No datable finds were recovered from these features. The rectilinear ditch was partly sealed by a later clay layer, which may have been associated with later landscaping on the site. The original ground surface appears to have sloped down to the SE and N. It seems likely that the sloping ground was terraced at the NE end of the site and built up to the SE and N to produce a level ground surface. This may have taken place during the 20th century, in order to provide a level surface for a tennis court, but may have happened earlier. This landscaping appears to have removed any potential archaeological features associated with earlier activity in this part of the site. The rectilinear ditch and possible pit or ditch terminal may have survived because of their depth and their location in a part of the site not so greatly affected by the landscaping. An undated stone surface was recorded in one of the service trenches, to the NE of the area affected by the landscaping, possibly a floor surface or path. The only finds that were recovered were sherds of pottery from recent layers and these were of 19th-20th century date.

Kirsty Nichol, BUFAU

Thistleton (SK 912171)

The first phase of fieldwalking on the Romano-British town site was completed in December. The assemblage of finds, including over 4000 sherds of pottery, brick and tile, was identified and catalogued during February-May by Kate Don, Wendy Walden, Jenny McConnell and Sue Davidson under the expert guidance of Elaine Jones. Mapping was subsequently undertaken in June. Further fieldwalking is planned to confirm the extent of the town (R39).

Kate Don, RLHRS

Whitwell, Main Road (SK 92260885)

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on 784 sq m of land at The Cottage on behalf of Mr and Mrs Blagg. Two trenches, with a total length of 40m, were opened in advance of the development of the site for a residential property. No archaeological remains were recorded and no archaeological finds were recovered. There was evidence for significant modern truncation of part of the site and the capping of other parts of the site with the topsoil removed in the levelling process.

Danny McAfee, NA

Negative watching briefs carried out in 2002

- Cottesmore:** 23 Main Street (SK 905135), *ULAS*
Edith Weston: Well Cross Street (SK 928052), *ULAS*
Empingham: 3 Audit Hall Road (SK 94800845), *JSAC*
Eggleton: Brook Farm (SK 875072), *NA*
Morcott: 5 Willoughby Rd (SK 923008), *ULAS*
Oakham: Rutland Water Golf Course, Lodge Farm (SK 910057), *ULAS*
Ryhall: Crown Street (TF 037112), *APS*
Teigh: Allwoods Barn, Main Street (SK 865160), *ULAS*

II - Other Reports for 2002

Lincolnshire Archives

Contact information:

Lincolnshire Archives, St Rumbold Street, Lincoln, LN2 5AB.

Tel: (01522) 525158 (search room appointments and enquiries); (01522) 526204 (other enquiries).

Fax: (01522) 530047.

Website: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives.

E-mail: lincolnshire.archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Opening times: Mon: (Mar-Oct) 1pm-7pm, (Nov-Feb) 11am-5pm; Tues-Fri: 9am-5pm; Sat: 9am-4pm. Closed on UK public holidays, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Appointments for microfiche viewers and study tables are necessary to ensure space in the search room.

No Rutland material reported for this year.

Northamptonshire Record Office

Contact information:

Northamptonshire Record Office, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BQ.

Tel: (01604) 762129. Fax: (01604) 767562.

Website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/community/record+office.

E-mail: archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk.

Opening times: Mon: 10.30am-4.45pm; Tues, Wed: 9am-4.45pm; Thurs: 9am-7.45pm; Fri: 9am-4.15pm; Sat: two mornings a month, 9am-12.15pm. Contact the office to confirm Saturday opening dates.

No Rutland material reported for this year.

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland

Contact information:

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland, Long Street, Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE18 2AH.

Tel: (0116) 257 1080. Fax: (0116) 257 1120.

Website: www.leics.gov.uk/index/community/museums/record_office. E-mail: recordoffice@leics.gov.uk.

Opening times: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9.15am-5pm; Wed: 9.15am-7.30pm; Fri: 9.15am-4.45pm, Sat: 9.15am-12.15pm.

The office received 18 deposits of Rutland records during the year April 2002 – March 2003. These included:

- DE 6168 Ryhall parish council records, c.1936-1989
- DE 6197 Casterton Methodist church records, 1997-2001; Knossington Methodist church records, 1908-2002 (Copy) photographs of Whissendine people and views, c.1880-c.1920
- DE 6213 Deeds of 2 Nether St, Belton, 1875-1914; papers re Hudson family of Belton and elsewhere, 1879-1970
- DE 6232 Deeds of properties in Market Place and High St, Uppingham, 1677-1883
- DE 6233 Ayston parish records, 1838-1998, incl. register of marriages, 1838-1998
- DE 6243 Ketton parish council records
- DE 6256 Pocket account book of John Hack of Clipsham, re enclosure of Clipsham, Greetham, and elsewhere, 1764-1802, with notes of receipts, 1845-1851
- DE 6257 South Luffenham parish records, 1619-1884, incl. glebe terriers, 1619 and 1684, notes re church monuments, c.1860, and fire insurance, 1884
- DE 6267 Deeds of 22 Priory Rd, Manton, 1831-1987
- DE 6268 Deed of part of the Oakham Canal, 1851
- DE 6271 Deed of land in Leigh Forest, 1838
- DE 6320 Railway records: plans and agreements re various Leicestershire and Rutland Railways
- DE 6356 Wingfield/Tickencote Estate management files, including A1 dual carriageway, MoD oil pipeline, limestone quarry proposal 1971-1979
- DE 6370 Terrier of manor and lordship of Tixover 1717
- DE 6373 Traylen & Lenton (later Hemmings & Partners), architects, of Stamford: correspondence, plans etc c.1939-c.1978

Of particular interest were:

- The account book of John Hack which appears to contain payments for hedging newly enclosed fields in a number of Rutland and Leicestershire parishes. Whether he was acting for a large landowner, for the parishes, or on his own account is unclear, but merits further research for the

potential light it can throw on the process of parliamentary enclosure.

- The South Luffenham parish deposit was notable for two 17th century glebe terriers and also for notes made immediately before the church restoration of 1860, during or subsequent to which many of the church monuments recorded were either moved or lost.
- The manorial terrier of Tixover 1717.

Following the retirement of two of the three conservators during the year, there was a significant decrease in the overall amount of conservation work undertaken. Despite this the Rutland proportion was healthy, and included three interesting items:

- Letters patent under the Great Seal of Queen Anne appointing William Roberts of Glaiston (sic) esq, Sheriff of Rutland, 28 Jan 1711/12 (DG40/529)
- Diary recording the social and domestic life of Henrietta Louisa Fermor, Countess of Pomfret (and mother of Lady Charlotte Finch), 1744-1746 (DG7/D2(ii))
- Royal charter (James I) of incorporation of the borough of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, 1605 (temp ref. DE3214/156)

The last is among a large number of deeds among the Exton MSS relating to the Gloucestershire estates of the Noel family (Earls of Gainsborough). Following an approach from Chipping Campden town council for a copy to exhibit, it was found to be in very poor condition and was conserved prior to production of a photographic facsimile.

While usage of the Record Office by personal visitors fell back from the previous year's peak, the proportion researching Rutland subjects remained exactly the same.

Editorial work at the Record Office on the Historical Manuscripts Commission's forthcoming calendar of Finch Manuscripts Vol V (correspondence of Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham, as Secretary of State, 1693) was effectively completed during the year, but a publication date is still awaited.

Carl Harrison, County Archivist

Rutland County Museum

Contact information:

Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland,
LE15 6HW.
Tel: (01572) 758440. Fax: (01572) 758445.

Website: www.rutland-on-line.co.uk/rcc/rutlandmuseums.

E-mail: museum@rutland.gov.uk.

Opening times: Mon-Sat: 10.30am-5pm; Sun: 2pm-4pm.

The year 2002 was an exceptional one for the Rutland County Museum. At the end of 2001, after much hard work, a bid was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund for grant-aid to enable substantial changes to be made to revitalise and update the museum. In June, it was announced that the bid had been successful and that a grant of £301,500 would be forthcoming. This could not have been achieved without the financial support of the Friends of the Museum and also of the Rutland Local History & Record Society, and the goodwill of many local and community organisations. Rutland County Council committed itself to finding adequate capital funds to see the project through to its conclusion. The redevelopment is seen as the first phase in a more extensive project which will eventually result in upgraded and modernised facilities throughout the museum, for the benefit of Rutlanders and visitors to the county alike.

At the same time, it was announced that the museum's Curator, who had been in post since 1st April 1974 when the museum became (until 1997) part of Leicestershire's Museums, Arts & Records Service, would retire at the end of August. He and his wife were given a generous and resounding send-off by the Friends of the Museum and others at an

Selection of acquisitions received during 2001

H6.2002 Collection of about 2,300 postcards of Rutland – the Jack Hart Collection
H9.2002 Scrapbook of cuttings and photographs of the opening of the maternity unit at Rutland Memorial Hospital
H12.2002 Drawings, photographs and postcards of Lyddington, Barrowden and Wakerley

Extraordinary General Meeting which soon became a less than formal occasion.

It was hoped that there would not be an interregnum, but the Council's staffing review of the museum service (which also includes Oakham Castle) had not then been completed. A successor would not be in post until early 2003. Nonetheless, preparation for the Lottery-funded project was able to continue in the meantime, and most of the museum's other activities, such as its temporary exhibitions programme, were also maintained.

However, pressure of work did necessitate a moratorium on the acquisition of new material for the collections for much of the year, but not before several worthwhile acquisitions had been accepted. Prime amongst these, and of real value to local historians, was the Jack Hart collection of Rutland postcards. This contains many hundreds of photographic views, mostly dating from the earlier years of the 20th century, not just of Oakham and Uppingham but of nearly every village in the county. The purchase of the collection was financed by the Friends of the Museum aided by a grant from the Resource / Victoria & Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund.

H13.2002 Photograph of Melton & Oakham Motor & Motor-Cycle Club visit to Fort Dunlop 1928
H17.2002 Hambleton Hall sale catalogue 1954
H18.2002 Handwriting sample book written by a prisoner at Oakham Gaol
H23.2002 Collection of 12 mostly 18th century printed maps of Rutland.

Tim Clough, lately Curator

Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust

The Trust records with great sadness the death of Col Tom Haywood, its President since 1963. His wisdom, vision and generosity over these 40 years will be sorely missed.

During 2003-03, the Trust regretfully bade farewell to Mrs Lornie Taylor. The happy teamwork she engendered for fifteen years has been deeply appreciated. As Trustee with special responsibility for the same churches as Mrs Taylor the Trust now welcomes Lady Kennedy. Mr John Saunders, Trustee, has taken responsibility for the churches previously looked after by the Trust's Chairman, Sir David Davenport-Handley.

The Trust acknowledges the continued commitment of PCCs determined to preserve Rutland's churches. Grants totalling £18,000 were promised in 2002-03 to four: St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, for the S aisle roof; St John the Baptist, Bisbrooke, for the N nave roof; St Mary the Virgin, Ayston, for work on the windows; and St Peter & St Paul, Langham, for major roof repairs. Loans totalling £10,000 were promised to three churches: St Peter & St Paul, Great Casterton, for churchyard wall repair; St Peter, Empingham, for work to the S porch; and St Peter, Barrowden, for work to

the N aisle roof. Further requests have been received since: these old buildings always need maintenance.

The Trust's moneys come from its only sources of income: interest on capital investments, donations, legacies, and the Cycle Ride. While every effort is made to find the best returns on investments, interest rates are presently much reduced. Eleven PCCs committed themselves to making donations this year, which is both useful and heartening, and it is hoped that other PCCs will follow suit. The Trust is also very grateful to individuals who donate, and where Gift Aid can be claimed the value of such donations is increased; likewise, anyone who wishes to help the Trust may wish to do so by remembering it in their Will. Plans were in hand for the Cycle Ride to be held on 13th September 2003; as usual, half of the sponsorship proceeds go back to individual churches.

Rutlanders have consistently shown how much they care about their County, and by supporting the Trust in any of these ways they can help to maintain the beautiful and remarkable churches which embody so much of its heritage and grace its landscape.

Linda Worrall, Honorary Secretary

Rutland Local History & Record Society

The most significant event for the Society during 2002-03 was a sad one: the death of its President, Prince Yuri Galitzine, whose obituary was included in *Rutland Record* 22 (2002, 50). It was particularly sad that Prince Galitzine did not live to see the Society's new office in the Rutland County Museum in Oakham, which has since been named in his honour. There was much consultation with Rutland County Council about the form of licence under which the Society would be able to use this room; this was signed on 11th January 2003 and allows the Society full use of the room in return for a rental of £200 for two years. It is hoped and expected that the arrangement can be extended for many years to come.

At last the Society has an official base with all the advantages that that brings. It is a great help to all involved with the organisation of the Society, especially the Honorary Secretary, who led a working party to adapt the room and its furnishings to the Society's requirements. Now the Society has somewhere to keep its equipment, books and papers, including that portion of Prince Galitzine's library that he gave to the Society and hitherto had been housed by Professor Alan Rogers. To this have been added the many parish files which Prince Galitzine had developed over the years, so that when all have been sorted and listed they can be made available for reference.

Discussions were initiated about the possibility of offering a prize, perhaps annually, for original work on Rutland local history, to be named the Prince Galitzine Prize.

The Society organised some very successful events during the year, notably the launch of the fourth volume in the Society's Record Series, *Time in Rutland*, by Robert Ovens and Sheila Sleath, both Society members. The launch was followed by a barbecue in the Museum garden and was attended by the handbell group Tinnabula, who exploited to the full the acoustics of the Old Riding School. The book itself, which gives a full account of the bells, scratch dials, sundials and clocks of Rutland and their makers, has since received excellent reviews and sold nearly 400 copies in a short space of time.

The year's village visit, to Ashwell, was particularly well attended, as also was the Bryan Matthews lecture, 'The Making of Uppingham' by Alan Rogers, which was held at Uppingham School by kind permission of the Headmaster. This occasion saw the first use of the Society's own sound equipment, purchased at modest price second-hand.

Meetings in the Museum were restricted to some extent due to building work for the Museum's redevelopment, but the Society looks forward eagerly to the completion of this project when, it is understood, facilities will be greatly improved. These are expected to include a Local Studies Room, to which the Society has agreed to contribute £4,000, in the expectation that the Society will have some say in the detail of its operation.

The Society's historic links with the Museum, and with its Friends, are thus strengthened. However, the Society has an independent existence, and the report of the development group set up in June 2001 has enabled the Society to

establish a set of aims which should enable it to plot a course for the future. Actions arising from this report include the preparation of various policy statements covering aspects of the Society's work, including its publications.

Publication of *Rutland Record* 21 was delayed while *Time in Rutland* was got ready for the press, but the issue was published later in the year, and *RR* 22 was programmed to appear before the end of 2003. Attention would then turn to the Index of *RR* 11-20 as well as several Occasional Publications: the 1712 Land Tax for Rutland, the 1787 Oakham Map, and the Nether Hambleton excavation report. Ways in which the Society's publishing function could be enhanced were being investigated.

Kate Don took on Chairmanship of the Society's *Archaeology Group* on 4th October 2002, when Elaine and Clive Jones hosted a supper for 33 people, including group members and their spouses, field-walkers, and 'luminaries' from the Rutland Natural History Society as well as RLHRS. The group continued to undertake fieldwalking projects as detailed in the archaeological reports above. In particular, at Ayston, a group led by Elaine Jones discovered a scatter of Saxon and Romano-British pottery, iron tap slag and Bronze Age flint material. Also, during the summer of 2002, Kate Don and Wendy Walden grid-walked two fields adjacent to the Cottesmore RAF base and close to the Roman town site at Thistleton. Worked flint tools, including blades and scrapers, were recovered, which initial identification suggests are from the late Neolithic/Bronze Age period.

Kate Don and Wendy Walden held an exhibition of finds from the Romano-British Town at Thistleton in the village hall at Market Overton as part of the 'Feast Weekend' activities. A great deal of interest was shown and new field-walkers were recruited as a result.

The Archaeology Group is indebted to the farmers and landowners who kindly permit fieldwork on their land, and to the staff at Leicestershire's Heritage Services who provide expert opinion on finds and a great deal of encouragement and support. Finally, we must thank the fieldworkers who participated in the projects, and who did so with great good humour in often cold and wet conditions.

Planning applications are kept under review, and a photographic record has been made of Uppingham Congregational Chapel prior to its probable sale.

A new Oral History group was established, co-ordinated by Lin Ryder, and the Society purchased recording equipment for use by members.

Any energetic Society looks as much to the future as to the past. This Society hopes to make itself more attractive to its members and to promote its aims more effectively. All suggestions and offers of help are most welcome. With the establishment of its own base, a new chapter in the Society's history has opened. After two most interesting, if arduous, years as Chairman, I record grateful thanks to all on the Executive Committee who have supported me in particular and the Society in general, and send the new Chairman, Robert Ovens, my very best wishes for this new chapter.

Auriol Thomson, Chairman

Book Review

The Turnpike Roads of Leicestershire and Rutland, by Arthur Cossens.
Kairos Press 2003. ISBN 1-871344-30-1. £6.50.

The author of this book, who died in 1963, had a great interest in local history and in turnpike roads in particular. At the time he died the text had been completed but not published. His heirs have now decided to publish.

The first half consists of information on the development of turnpikes – their origin, construction, maintenance, the speed of coach journeys, tolls, and an example of the procedure for passing a Turnpike Act through Parliament. Inevitably most of the specific references are to roads in Leicestershire, but some of the facts on Rutland are interesting. In 1811 the average speed of the Royal Mail coach from London to Oakham via Bedford and Kettering was 6.31 mph, whereas by 1835, after improvements

to the roads by Telford and McAdam it had risen to 9.68 mph. This section is followed by a series of maps showing how the system of turnpike roads in the two counties developed and declined in the period 1750–1880.

The book concludes with a gazetteer which gives details of the relevant Acts of Parliament and a route sketch for each of the 34 turnpike roads which ran through the counties. For Rutland the entries are: the stretch along the Great North Road, Leicester to Peterborough via Uppingham, Nottingham to Kettering via Oakham and Uppingham, Stamford to Oakham and Greetham.

Although the book was written some time ago the material continues to be valuable to those interested in the history of roads in general as well as to local historians, and at a price of £6.50 it represents very good value.

Peter Tomalin

Rutland Bibliography

A bibliography of recent books and pamphlets relating to Rutland, compiled by Christine Hill

ASTON, Nigel
All Saints', Oakham, Rutland, Mulum in Parvo Press 2003
£2.95

BARRETT, D W
Life and Work among the Navvies, Silver Link Pub Ltd 2003
£14.99

An account of the author's mission to the navvies of the Kettering to Manton Railway. Originally published in 1880.

BELL, David
Leicestershire and Rutland Tales of Mystery and Murder,
Countryside Books 2002 £7.95

BERRIDGE, G W R
The History of North Luffenham, K Berridge 2002 no price

BOURNE, Jill
Understanding Leicestershire and Rutland Place-names
Heart of Albion Press 2003 £6.95

BRANDWOOD, Geoffrey K
Bringing them to their knees: church-building and restoration in Leicestershire and Rutland 1800-1914
Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society 2002
£15.00

CANTOR, Leonard
The Scheduled Ancient Monuments of Leicestershire and Rutland, Kairos Press 2003 £7.50

CHAMBERLAIN, Peter
Trees of Rutland Water. An Activity Booklet for Adults and Children, Impressions, Whissendine 2003 no price

CHORLTON, MARTYN
Leicestershire and Rutland Airfields in the Second World War, Countryside Books 2003 £12.95

COSSONS, Arthur
The Turnpike Roads of Leicestershire and Rutland
Kairos Press 2003 £6.50
See review above.

HALL, Herbert R. W. H
Exton Remembered. The Recollections of a Rutland Schoolmaster, Spiegl Press 2002 £9.50

MEAKIN, Peter (compiler)
Memories of Ridlington, P Meakin 2002 £3.00

OVENS, Robert, & SLEATH, Sheila
Time in Rutland. A History and Gazetteer of the Bells, Scratch Dials, Sundials and Clocks of Rutland
Rutland Local History and Record Society, Rutland Record Series No 4 2002 £24.00 (members £20.00)

PALMER, Roy
Folklore of Leicestershire and Rutland
Tempus 2002 (reprint, first published 1985) £14.99

PAUL, J Ann
300 Strangers. Navy Life on the Kettering to Manton Railway, Silver Link Pub Ltd 2003 £16.99

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland
Handlist of parish and non-conformist Church registers in the Record Office, revised edition 2003 £3.00

ROGERS, Alan
The Making of Uppingham as illustrated in its topography and buildings
Uppingham Local History Study Group 2003 £5.20

TRAYLEN, A R
Notable Citizens of Rutland. A Compendium of the Famous through to the Infamous from the records of time to the mid 20th Century
Vol 17, 'In Rutland' series, Spiegl Press 2002 £9.95

TRUBSHAW, Bob
Rutland Village by Village, Heart of Albion Press 2003 £6.95

Uppingham Local History Study Group
Uppingham in 1802. A Year to Remember?
£6.00 2003

A survey of all aspects of Uppingham in 1802.

WAITES, Bryan
Francis Frith's Oakham Photographic Memories
Frith Book Company Ltd 2003 £9.99

WAITES, Bryan
Pub Strolls in Leicestershire and Rutland
Countryside Books 2002 £7.95

RUTLAND LOCAL HISTORY & RECORD SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 700273

The Society's publications, with their main contents, are currently available as follows:

- Rutland Record 1* (£1.00 post free)
Emergence of Rutland; Medieval hunting grounds;
Rutland field names; Illiteracy in 19th century Rutland
- Rutland Record 2* (£1.00 post free)
Archdeacon Johnson; Thomas Barker's weather records;
Rutland Agricultural Society; Rutland farms in 1871
- Rutland Record 6* (£1.50, members £1.00)
Transitional architecture in Rutland; Family of Rutland
stonemasons; Restoration of Exton church
- Rutland Record 7* (£1.50, members £1.00)
Rutland place-names; Rutland Domesday; Lords and
peasants in medieval Rutland; Shakespeare in Rutland
- Rutland Record 12* (£2.00, members £1.50)
Deer parks; Preston records; Thring at Uppingham;
Jeremiah Whittaker; Joseph Matkin; Cinemas in Rutland
- Rutland Record 15* (£2.00, members £1.50)
Meadows at Seaton; 18th C Rutland elections; Rutland
Fencibles' 1794 Riding School; Childhood at Stocken
- Rutland Record 16* (£2.00, members £1.50)
Iron smelting; Saxon archaeology; Stilton cheese;
Oakham in 1871; Rutland Hotel, Wanganui
- Rutland Record 17* (£2.00, members £1.50)
Byrch's charity; Maj-Gen Robt Overton; 50-52 High St,
Uppingham; White Hart, Uppingham
- Rutland Record 18* (£2.50, members £2.00)
Earthworks at Belton-in-Rutland; Peter de Neville;
Oakham gallows; Buckingham's house at Burley
- Rutland Record 19* (£2.50, members £2.00)
Anne Barker; Exton and Noel family; 14th century
Rutland bacon; Emigrants to Australia
- Rutland Record 20* (£2.50, members £2.00)
Rutland castles; Medieval site at Barrowden;
Mompesson and Rutland inns; George Phillips
- Rutland Record 21* (£3.50, members £3.00)
Mary Barker letters; Anton Kammel, musician;
Uppingham School and Borth, 1875-77
- Rutland Record 22* (£3.50, members £3.00)
Religious Census 1851; Exton churchyard
- Rutland Record 23* (£3.50, members £3.00)
Tinwell Roman coins; Ridlington Park; Lord
Ranksborough; *Notitia Parochialis* 1705; annual reports
- Index of Rutland Record 1-10*, compiled by John Field
(1994) (£2.50, members £1.50)

Index of Rutland Record 11-20 – in preparation

The following issues are out of print:

Rutland Record 3, 4, 5, 8 (Who was Who in Rutland),
9, 10 (Burley-on-the-Hill), 11, 13, 14; please enquire for
details of contents and availability of photocopies

Rutland Record Series

1. *Tudor Rutland: The County Community under Henry VIII*, ed. Julian Cornwall (1980). The Military Survey of 1522 & the Lay Subsidy of 1524, with introduction (now £4.50, members £3.00)
2. *The Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire*, ed John Kington (1988). Thomas Barker's 18th century weather, farming and countryside records, with introduction (now £7.50, members £5.00)
3. *Stained Glass in Rutland Churches*, by Paul Sharpling (1997). Complete survey and gazetteer; introduction; lists of glaziers, subjects, dedicatees, donors, heraldry (now £10.00, members £8.00)
4. *Time in Rutland: a history and gazetteer of the bells, scratch dials, sundials and clocks of Rutland*, by Robert Ovens & Sheila Sleath (2002) (£24.00, members £20.00)

Occasional Publications

1. *Domesday Book in Rutland: the dramatis personae*, by Prince Yuri Galitzine (1986)(OP)
2. *The Oakham Survey 1305*, ed Allen Chinnery (1988). Medieval survey: population, occupations, topography, customs, and personal/place-name evidence (£3.50, members £2.50)
3. *The Rutland Hearth Tax 1665*, ed Jill Bourn & Amanda Goode (1991). Population and payment information, with introduction (£3.50, members £2.50)
4. *The History of Gilson's Hospital, Morcott*, by David Parkin (1995). The charity, its almshouse, trustees, beneficiaries, and farm at Scredington, Lincs; foundation deed, Gilson's will (£3.50, members £2.50)
5. *Lyndon, Rutland*, by Charles Mayhew (1999). Guide to the village and church (£2.50, members £2.00)
6. *The History of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist & St Anne in Okeham*, by David Parkin (2000). The 600-year old charity: history, chapel, trustees and beneficiaries (£3.50, members £2.50)
7. *The 1712 Land Tax for Rutland, with Poll Book for 1710* – in preparation

Postage and packing

Rutland Record, Index, Occasional Publications: 75p each; *Stained Glass*: £1.50; *Tudor Rutland, Weather Journals*: £2.00 each; *Time in Rutland*: £5.00. Maximum on any one UK order except *Time in Rutland*: £3.00; overseas charged at cost - please enquire for details: payment in sterling only

All orders for publications, with payment in sterling including postage as shown above, and trade enquiries should be sent to: The Honorary Editor, RLHRS, c/o Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW, England. **Membership enquiries** should be sent to the Honorary Membership Secretary at the same address.

Rutland Record 23

Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society

A Hoard of late 3rd Century Roman Coins from Tinwell

The medieval park of Ridlington

The Rutland returns in the *Notitia Parochialis* of 1705

Major-General Lord Ranksborough, 1852-1921

John Strecche, Prior of Brooke, 1407-25

Rutland History and Archaeology in 2002