

# *Rutland Record 31*

*Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society*



# 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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The Society welcomes new members, and hopes to encourage them to participate in the Society's activities at all levels, and to submit the results of their researches, where appropriate, for publication by the Society.

The address of the Society is c/o Rutland County Museum,  
Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW, telephone Oakham (01572 758440)

website: [www.rutlandhistory.org](http://www.rutlandhistory.org) – e-mail: [enquiries@rutlandhistory.org](mailto:enquiries@rutlandhistory.org)

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*Front cover illustration:*  
Aerial view of Burley Great Wood (p7)  
(photo: Tony Squires)

*Back cover illustrations:*  
Extract from Speed's map of Rutland 1611 (p5), plan of South Luffenham School (p23) (ROLLR),  
and the Society's new logo, based on the County's nineteenth century seal

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Contributions and editorial correspondence should be sent to the Honorary Editor,  
Rutland Local History & Record Society, Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW

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# Editorial : Planning for the Past – will it still be there?

Most of us value the environment in which we live. We appreciate our landscapes, our historic buildings, our townscapes, our village scenes, our archaeological sites and ancient monuments, and our museums and record offices. Despite these strong feelings, there are always some in national or local government, whether elected or employed, and in the world of commercial development who seem to think otherwise.

Sometimes it is the pressure of economic factors that appears overwhelming, as when a year ago the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review heightened fears, sadly too often since realised, for the future of many publicly-funded organisations concerned with our national heritage.

Only a year later, it is the draft National Planning Policy Framework which has been causing equally widespread concern. Hitherto, the law has required that planning decisions affecting heritage sites should take into consideration a series of planning guidelines, established through much effort on the part of the heritage community, aimed at protecting listed buildings, conservation areas and ancient monuments and their environs. Now, however, the NPPF appears designed to overwrite and set aside, or at best weaken, the protection that the planning guidelines and statutory listings put in place, substituting for them a presumption that development interests should take priority even at the cost of this protection. A very wide range of influential heritage bodies and knowledgeable individuals as well as significant areas of the press have voiced extensive criticism of the draft proposals. The consultation period will have expired by the time this is published, but we would urge all our members to take every opportunity to monitor the planning situation in the future and to register their opinions regarding general policies and individual planning applications, especially where they affect our historic environment.

Sadly, however, expressions of concern or objection do not always work – witness the highly regrettable closure by Lincolnshire County Council of neighbouring Stamford Museum in July 2011 in the face of considerable opposition, or the controversial decision in August 2011 by a planning inspector, on appeal, to permit a housing development off Uppingham Road, Oakham, despite a sustained public campaign of objection and Rutland County Council's intention to recommend refusal.

That said, the extensive series of reports in this issue shows that, in Rutland at least, there has been a great deal of activity in the recording of archaeological sites and historic buildings locally, and that our heritage bodies, voluntary or otherwise, have been able to continue their mainstream activities in the face of the general economic situation better than may have been feared. Now, despite the continuing pressures, we hope we can look forward to some stability, especially in the county's museum service (a Quality Assured Visitor Attraction). Also, there are two projects in progress which we are watching with great interest: first, the Record Office's cataloguing of the Noel archives which contain so much Rutland material (supported by a National Cataloguing Grants Award), and secondly, the HLF-funded study of Oakham Castle which it hoped will lead to a substantial programme of consolidation, archaeological investigation and interpretation of what is probably Rutland's most important site. So some at least of the past will still be there, and accessible: but we do need to do our utmost to ensure that the rest will be there for future generations too.

## **Rutland Record 30 and Vincent Wing – a correction**

Unfortunately the plan of 'Part of the Mannor of L. in the County of Rutland' by Vincent Wing (front cover of *RR30* and p388, fig 3) was misidentified as of North Luffenham, whereas in fact it is of neighbouring Lyndon as other maps confirm. The plan was published by Wing in his *Geodætes Practicus* (1664), of which only a handful of copies are known to survive. Although this work is available on-line to those who have access to *Early English Books Online* (see *RR30* for details), it was very hard to find a copy which both contained this plan – it is missing from or incomplete in some copies – and was not so tight that it could be copied. Eventually after a search extending to both sides of the Atlantic the Science Museum Library came up trumps; Doug Simpson there kindly checked their copy again to see if the 'Mannor of L.' is referred to in the text, but it appears that although the plan is mentioned the identity of 'L.' is not. The editorial assumption that Luffenham was meant, because that is where Wing lived and also because details of his Luffenham survey field book do appear elsewhere in *Geodætes Practicus*, was therefore unfounded. We are grateful to our member Elizabeth Bryan for this correction.

*Tim Clough, Honorary Editor*

## **Notes on Contributors**

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

**Ian Ryder** is the Society's Honorary Treasurer. He has published works on the civil war in Yorkshire and Ireland, and is the author of

the Society's *Common Right and Private Interest: Rutland's Common Fields and their Enclosure* (Occas Pub 8, 2006).

**Tony Squires** is co-author (with Michael Jeeves) of *Leicestershire and Rutland Woodlands Past and Present* (Kairos Press 1994), and is well known for his work on other aspects of the historic landscape. He has published papers on the medieval parks of Flitteris and Ridlington in *Rutland Record* 12 and 23 respectively.

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

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# A Provisional List of the Medieval Woodlands of Rutland (excluding Leighfield Forest) c1086 – c1540

ANTHONY SQUIRES

*Many of the sites of the present woodlands of Rutland have long histories. Some bore woodland in one form or another at the time of the Norman Conquest and probably long before. Over the centuries, and in common with those of other English counties, the*

*ancient woodlands of Rutland have been much reduced in both area and number. This paper draws together the records, so far located, for the woodlands of the middle ages and adds comments on their descendants in the modern landscape.*

Woodland has proved to be an enduring feature of the English landscape. The pioneering work of Oliver Rackham has shown, in his volume *Ancient Woodland*, that the history of the British woodland is not one of unrelieved decline, neglect and destruction (Rackham 2003, 1). In pre-industrial times it formed an essential element in human survival and its value is reflected in its frequent appearances in pre-conquest charters and later manorial documents. This article has two purposes. The first is to present a list of woodlands which existed, or are believed to have existed, between the years c1086 and c1540. The first date is that of Domesday Book, while the latter marks the closing moves in the dissolution of the monasteries, which set off the huge wave of changes in land holdings, including woodlands, in the mid sixteenth century. Secondly, notes, observations and comments about certain woodlands are offered as sources of interest but also with the hope that readers may feel moved to fill in some of very many major and obvious gaps in our knowledge. Those woodlands of the former Royal Forest of Rutland, later known as Leighfield Forest, provide an additional 49 sites, and these will be considered at length in a future article.

The problems of locating and interpreting woodland records are well known. The main ones may be noted here. First, woodland in various forms is usually the climax form of vegetation on a landscape that, in lowland England at least, has always been in a state of change. Human activity has been the dominant agent in Rutland. Generations of local people have managed their trees so that by coppicing, pollarding and selective felling they have maintained an adequate supply of wood and timber to supply all life's needs. Under inappropriate management, where for example over-grazing takes place, woodland can, over a long period, be transformed into heathland on certain soils. The reverse process may take place when grazing is reduced or

prevented. Woodland was very rarely, if ever, planted in the Middle Ages: land simply tumbled down to scrubland and then woodland. The first appearance of woodland seldom reached the written record, although its presence or absence may be inferred in some cases. Woodland destruction is much more likely to be mentioned on account of its economic value. Finally, a first specific reference need not imply that a new wood has appeared on the landscape.

At the outset we face a problem with the terms 'manor' and 'parish' and, in plotting woodland sites, with how well the boundaries of the former coincided with those of the latter, especially with those of the nineteenth-century civil parishes. A knowledge of manorial history is therefore important here. Of particular interest is the history of the boundary of western Rutland with Leicestershire, which the writer is currently researching. Here the western boundaries of both Uppingham and Oakham appear to have been finalised at a date later than those elsewhere in the county.

A further area of uncertainty is that some medieval (and later) references may be to two apparently different and separate woods which may actually have been one and the same or may have formed one large wood or wooded area. Partitioning woods, for example between the heirs after the death of an owner, was not uncommon. Personal names attached to woodland may refer to a long-deceased or only temporary owner. Woodland areas may be inaccurately measured, often on account of poor motivation or expertise on the part of the maker of the record. Some statements of woodland areas may be little better than rough approximations or guesswork. Woodland entries in Domesday Book have, in some counties, been shown to be inaccurate, inconsistent, repetitive and partial, and in some cases woodlands have been missed or purposely omitted. The entries for Rutland are still being assessed and it

is hoped that the remarks below will be helpful to those inclined to take up the challenge of a detailed investigation.

It must be pointed out that the records for woodland in medieval Rutland are certainly very sparse. The present writer has drawn upon the results of trawling a wide variety of documentary sources over a period of 30 years and more. For a particular woodland in a given parish only the earliest date and reference is usually given. Most later references to the same wood, where they exist, are usually omitted here in the cause of brevity.

The second source of information is fieldwork. Woodlands past and present cannot be fully understood without reference to geology, topography and soils, together with archaeological features such as wood banks, ridge and furrow, and the results of geophysical survey and excavation. Often the correlation between woodland and geology and soils can be very tight. Over the county there are areas which are intrinsically very poor for cultivation and where ploughing has taken place in the past only under exceptional circumstances in the Middle Ages. Such areas have favoured grazing and the presence of woodland. It is usual for large extant woodlands to show the signs of piecemeal retreat and advance, although many may retain the boundaries they had in c1600. Owston Big Wood in Leicestershire (close to the Rutland border), which extends over c273 acres, is a case in point. It occupies a site of the heaviest Lias clays and has changed in shape and size not at all since 1600, yet the writer has found it to contain ridge and furrow, the certain evidence of former cultivation. He must confess to have surveyed only a selection of the woodlands of Rutland and there remains much scope for further action.

A special approach to a woodland's history is an examination of its flora and fauna. There are animals and plants which cannot tolerate disturbance and/or are unable to spread to other areas. These are the key species when determining a woodland's long term presence. Unfortunately many of the county's woodland flora and fauna were badly damaged by mismanagement during the twentieth century and one must work with what remains.

One particularly important documentary source is the work of the cartographer John Speed (1552-1627). Speed's map of Rutland (1610) (fig. 1) was the first detailed depiction of local woodlands, superseding the efforts of predecessors such as Christopher Saxton. It remains the main tool of the woodland researcher until the publication of the first edition of the One Inch Ordnance Survey Map in the early nineteenth century. Speed's map is based very largely on the fieldwork of the gifted amateur John

Harington who became Lord Harington of Exton in 1603. Harington worked with great care and plotted with commendable accuracy the hills, woodlands and parks and their positions relative to the surrounding villages. Less than twenty years after the appearance of Speed's map the Royal Forest of Leighfield was sold off, resulting in a catastrophic loss of woodland in the Rutland parishes along the Leicestershire border. Here was an example very similar to the situation at Leicester Forest at about the same time, where the new owners of the land felled the woodlands to recoup their outlays and develop pastures for the more profitable sheep-rearing. In some instances Speed's pictorial information gives clues to possible additional 'lost' woodlands which may have escaped the documentary record.

Another important resource is Professor Barrie Cox's *Place Names of Rutland*, published in 1994. This monumental work not only investigated the origin of Rutland village names but extended this to the field names of each parish. The extraordinary thoroughness of his documentary research combined with superb scholarship has produced a work which no researcher in Rutland can afford to ignore. Of course, Dr Cox's work is not to be treated as infallible and his body of data will be added to by future research into sources which were not available to him. In the meantime, Cox's work has opened new windows onto local woodland history and, as will become clear, the present writer has used it extensively.

Again, the history of enclosure may provide possible clues. For example, in his survey of enclosure of Rutland, besides providing a glimpse of the impact this process had on the county's woodland, Ryder shows that 'Wood Field' occurs with some frequency amongst the open field names of the county (Ryder 2006, 25-26, 62-68).

In compiling the list of woodlands for this article, the writer has been obliged to exercise considerable discretion on several matters. Certain early place-name elements referring to woodlands, e.g. 'lundr', Old Norse 'a small wood, a grove', and 'wudu', Old English 'a wood, timber', and 'stocking', Middle English 'a clearing of stumps, a piece of ground cleared of stumps', have been mentioned. The pursuit of these and other tantalising 'possibles' could be extended to a further interesting piece of research.

Another area where discretion and judgement has been exercised is the assigning of a piece of evidence for woodland to the most appropriate status: certain, probable and possible. A named wood was the chief criterion used with, once again, the writer perhaps tending to the side of caution.



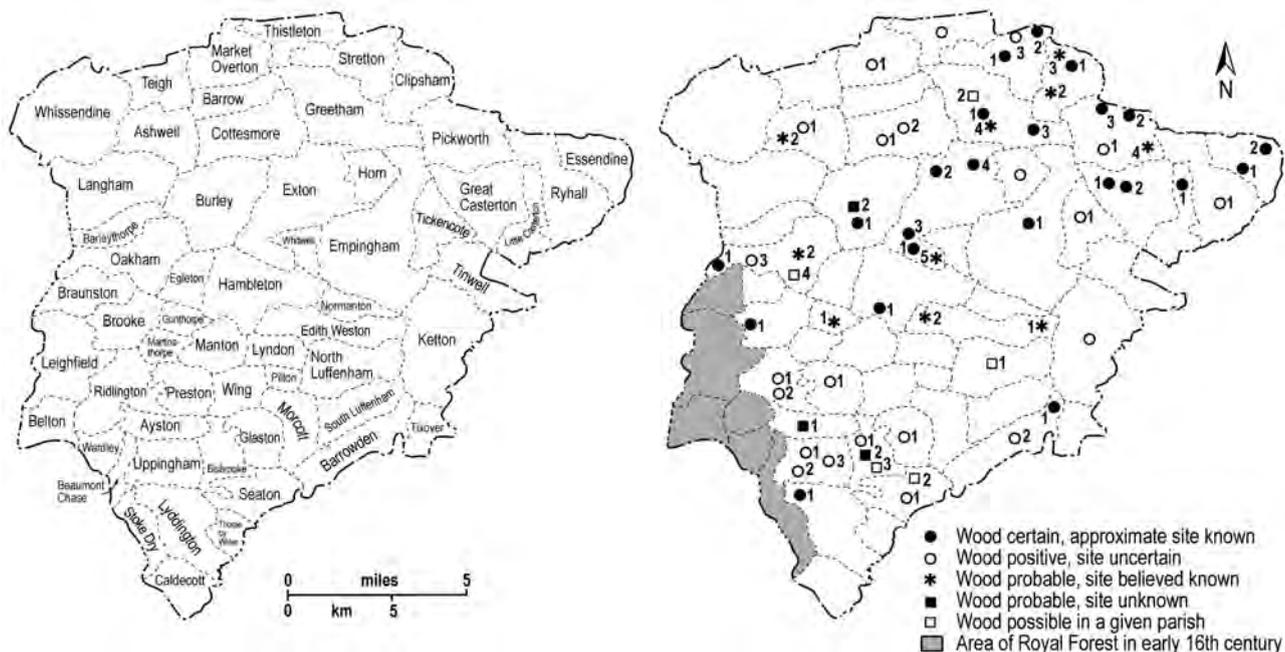


Fig. 2. On the left, a map of Rutland showing modern parishes as used in this list, and on the right a map indicating the location of medieval woodlands so far identified. A number beside a symbol refers to a specific woodland in that parish.

**ASHWELL** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. Bikerwode, 1371; ‘a wood subject to dispute’ (Cox 1994, 7).
2. Speed records some unfenced and un-named woodland to the SW of Ashwell village and to the SE of Whissendine. He also accurately marks a small hill in the same area. This straddles the boundary of the two parishes. To the W of this hill he also marks a mysterious ‘Loudall’: the nature of any settlement here remains obscure, and Ryder (2006, 65) suggests that it may have been simply a mill site rather than anything more substantial. Cox (1994, 4) picks up Loudal Lane in Ashwell and Loudell furlong in Whissendine as being in local use today. He adds that the origin of the first element in both names is obscure. No other records of the element have been found. One wonders if this could possibly be derived from ON *‘lundr’*, ‘a small wood, a grove’ (ibid, 358) and that a wood may have occupied part of the area of the hill where the soil is Boulder Clay.

**AYSTON** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. Childeslund, 1218; ON *‘lundr’*, ‘a small wood, a grove’. Childeslund may have bordered Ridlington Park, possibly in the region of the present Ayston Spinney, where there is an Anglo-Saxon estate boundary and a long history of woodland owned by the de Montforts in the 13th century (Squires 2003). Alternatively the site of the woodland may have been the area of the Lound Close of 1633 (Cox 1994, 174), marked by Sterndale Bennett as E of the village. Lawn Close at the W end of the parish is another possibility.

**BARROWDEN** DB Woodland: ‘6 acres’, ‘spinney’; no park on record

1. Shirewood, 1250; OE ‘a shire, an administrative district’ (Cox 1994, 376). In 1250 William Maudit exchanged with the freeholders of South Luffenham and Barrowden a pasture called ‘The Hay’ in exchange for Shirewood for his use (NRO Exeter (Burghley) MSS). This probably lay in the N of the parish (*VCH* II, 170) on a patch of Boulder Clay where the present Shire Oaks and Coppice Leys are located. Speed marks the wood as ‘Baroungen Hey’.
2. Conynger Wood, 1315; Rabbit Warren Wood (*VCH* II, 170). The site is at present unknown.

In 1479 custody of ‘the woods of Barrowden’ was granted to John Digby but after this date there is no similar record (*VCH* II, 170). At least part of these woodlands may be accounted for by the two above-named woods and the ‘Baroungen Hay’ of Speed’s map. These woodlands appear to have been on Boulder Clay, in contrast to Luffenham Heath which is mostly on Lower Lincolnshire Limestone.

**BISBROOKE** DB Woodland: 1½F x 1½F (19 acres); ‘underwood’; no park on record

1. Westwode, 1251; William de Moyvill of Braunston and Agnes his wife recognised the right of Richard son of (Arnold) de Seyton to hold the eastern moiety of the wood of Westwode (TNA CP25/1/192/3/38).

2. 'Faleys', 1339; possibly with the prefix (*ge*), 'a felling of trees' (Cox 1994, 242). The name has come down to us as 'Follies' (cf a similar name at South Luffenham).

3. The Lound. One of the great open fields of the village which presumably is derived from 'lundr', ON 'a small wood or grove' (Cox 1994, 358).

Speed marks a wood apparently in Bisbrooke but un-named; it is most likely to be the 'Estwod' in Uppingham (*qv*).

**BROOKE** DB Woodland: nil; no medieval park on record

1. Brooke Wood, 1537. This is the E part (now approximately 18 acres) of the present Prior's Coppice. It lay outside the Royal Forest and was long established at the time of the Enquiry of 1537 into the possessions of Brooke Priory (*VCH* I, 160). The prior may have also held the W part of the present coppice but this lay within the Forest. Speed appears to mark the 18 acres there as part of Prior's Coppice. Both parts of the coppice lie on heavy Upper Lias Clay with the exception of the S portion which is over Boulder Clay.



*Fig. 3. Aerial view of Burley Great Wood, with Burley on the Hill mansion (left) and Rutland Water (right). This modern view (1988) includes at least part of the site of the wood listed for Burley in Domesday Book and that of the medieval park (photo: author).*

**BURLEY** DB Woodland: 1L x 3F (300 acres); 'woodland pasture in places'; one park on record (1206)

1. Burley Great Wood, 1492. In this year the wood was to be divided equally between the three daughters of Isabel, wife of Sir Richard Sapcote (*VCH* II, 115). In 1207 a dispute about Burley Woods arose between David, earl of Huntingdon, and Henry de Armenters (*TNA* CP5/1/192/2/18) as to where the boundary separating the woods of the two men should run. In 1343 20 acres of wood at Alsthorpe are mentioned (*TNA* CP2/1/192/6/31). These lay next to (or very likely were part of) the disputed woods. They probably formed the woodland later recorded as Austhorpe Grove. A Rental of 1695 of the manor of Burley noted there were 490 acres of woodland belonging to the manor, a part of which was cut each year (*ROLLR* DE 1793/3/26). There are major earthworks around and within the present woodlands, part of which belong to the medieval park. There is a rich flora (*LRWT*). This woodland lies on Upper Lias Clay and is marked by Speed as adjacent to Rushpit Wood (*sv* Exton).

2. Austhorpe Grove, 1610 (Speed). DB records 3F x 2F (50 acres) of 'wood pasture'. According to Speed the wood lay S of the former settlement of Alsthorpe, which seems to have disappeared by the middle of the 16th century (Cox 1994, 11).

**CASTERTON, GREAT** DB Woodland: 3F x 2F (50 acres); 'spinney' recorded for Casterton; no park on record

1. Woodhead (=Wayhead) Wood, 1263; 'headland or eminence with a wood' (Cox 1994, 131). In 1374-75 the underwood was worth 20 shillings (*Rot Hund*, II, 53). Thirty-four acres of wood were noted for Wayhead in 1402 which Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, held 'between the wood of John [Wroth] ... on the east and all the woods of the same John on the west ... and 8 acres between the wood of the same John on the east and the King's highway on the

west' (*Cal IPM Hen IV*, XVIII, 375). Creighton (1999, 22-23) remarks of Woodhead that the woodhead (and its castle) is 'clearly of some antiquity'. Speed marks this wood as 'Woodhead Wood'. It lies on Upper Estuarine Clay and supports a rich flora (LRWT).

2. Eastwood, 1610 (Speed). Speed shows this wood as 'Estwood' and places it to the SE of Woodhead Wood. There are no medieval records but the wood must surely have existed three generations or so earlier. It lies on Boulder Clay and is now an SSSI on account of its rich flora (LRWT).

**CASTERTON, LITTLE** DB Woodland: see above under Great Casterton; no park on record

1. Frithwood, 1256 (Cox 1994, 135). Cox (*ibid*, 336) defines '*frith*' as 'land overgrown with brushwood, scrub', but here it is clear there was woodland. Le Storth (1300), from ON 'a young wood' (*ibid*, 394), may have been part of Frithwood, the name Speed uses.

Little Casterton contains the area known today as 'Tolethorpe Oaks' in the extreme NE of the parish where it forms a broad tongue of land between Great Casterton and Ryhall. Although there is no record of Tolethorpe Oaks before 1806 (Cox 1994, 135) the suggestive name, together with the strange shape of this part of the parish, may indicate where Frithwood was located. A rich flora has been recorded (LRWT).

**CLIPSHAM** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

Clipsham is not mentioned in DB as it was a detached part of Oakham Soke which had 600 acres of 'woodland pasture'. One wonders if some of this woodland lay in Clipsham and if any other well-wooded parishes in the NE of Rutland were also answerable to Oakham.

1. 'Nordwude', 1227 (Cox 1994, 81). In 1687 it was 'North Wood' and in 1883 'Park Wood' or 'North Wood' (*id*). At present it is Clipsham Park Wood. This may be what Speed shows as unfenced un-named woodland. It appears once to have had a rich flora (LRWT).

2. Osbanal Wood, 1610 (Speed). Speed marks it as 'Osburneall Wood'. There is no other evidence for the history of this wood, although further research will almost certainly prove otherwise.

3. Addah Wood. The first record for Addah Wood, which lies on Boulder Clay, is 1687 (Cox 1994, 81), although it is almost certainly much older. It is not shown by Speed under this name. Cox notes the field names 'Farr Lound' and 'Hither Lound' from '*lundr*', ON 'a small wood or grove' (*ibid*, 83). It has been clear felled and replanted with conifers.

**COTTESMORE** DB Woodland: 1L x 7F (700 acres); no park on record

1. '60 acres of wood in Cottesmore', 1319. In 1319 Henry de Ruton, parson of the church of Teigh, held 60 acres of wood in Cottesmore (TNA CP 1/1/192/5/25). This may well have formed part of the wood of Westwode of 1422.

2. Westwode, 1422 (Cox 1994, 19). Speed marks it as 'Cotsmoore' Wood. Its site in the parish remains uncertain but is probably that of the present Cottesmore Wood.

**EDITH WESTON** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

At the time of DB, Edith Weston was probably one of the seven bailiwicks of the Crown and included in the return for Hambleton.

1. Wychele, 1310 (*VCH I*, 254). In 1310 the abbot and convent of St George had licence 'to assart and cultivate a part of their waste, containing 100 acres, in Wychele in Edith Weston' (*ibid*). Cox (1994, 122) says it is very possibly 'a folk name that is present here and that the original form of the place name was '*Hwicca-leah*' - 'the woodland of the Hwicce'. The site may be the present Wycherley Warren Spinney which occupies a patch of sterile Upper Estuarine Clay. It is not marked by Speed.

2. Eastwood, 1610. Speed shows this wood as Edyweston Wood but locates it to the W of the present village. The site was probably part of the present Berrybutts Spinney / Gibbet Gorse and is now partly under Rutland Water.

**EMPINGHAM** DB Woodland: 1F x 10P (2 acres); 'woodland'; no park on record

1. The wood of Thomas de Normanville, 1295. The site is almost certainly that of the present Empingham Old Wood, which occupies a patch of Boulder Clay and is marked by Speed as Empingham Wood. Its antiquity is also indicated by the (former) presence of a rich flora (LRWT). Much of it has been ploughed and replanted with conifers leaving the former large wood in fragments. In the mid 16th century a dispute arose when Francis Mackworth was accused of taking wood and fuel from Empingham Common (*VCH II*, 246).

For Boyhall Wood: *sv* Tickencote.

**ESSENDINE** DB Woodland: 6F x 4F (200 acres); 'woodland'; one park recorded (1296)

1. Frewode, 1417 (*VCH II*, 250); 'wood in which the commoners enjoyed certain rights' (Cox 1994, 100). The title

map for the parish records 'Freewode' as 17 acres in extent (NRO), and 'Freewood' is noted by Ryder (2006, 64) as an alternative name for Broadholm, one of the open fields. It is not marked by Speed. The site, now known as The Freewards, is to the SW of the village. There are a few good plant records which suggest ancient woodland.

2. Essendine Park Wood (1413). In this year Elizabeth le Despenser held in Essendine a wood called 'Esynden parke' (*Cal Inq Misc* 1399-42, 262). The park and its wood descended as one place name through the centuries to the present. Strangely, Speed does not mark it. The site is on or near the present Park Farm against the border with Lincolnshire.

**EXTON** DB Woodland: 5F x 5F (210 acres); 'woodland, pasture in places'; one park recorded (1269)

1. 'The Park of Bernardeshull', 1282 (*VCH* II, 130). Speed marks the wood adjacent to 'Barinsdale' to the N of the River Gwash and separated from Rushpit Wood by an area of unfenced woodland. The present name is Barnsdale and the site is now partly under Rutland Water. In 1421 there was a meadow called 'Barnardesthilpark' (*Cal IPM XXI*, 6-10 Hen V (1418-22), 288).

2. Westlane, 1256. In this year Gilbert de Hamilo wasted his wood of Funchawe and Westerlane and it is taken into the king's hands (TNA 32/249). The wood is mentioned again in 1421 as 'Westlond' when Joanna, widow of Nicholas Greene, held it along with two other properties called 'Bovewood' and 'Oxpasture'. All three were described as 'waste' with no annual value 'because all the tenants of Burley-on-the-Hill and Exton manor have common pasture in them throughout the year and there is no underwood to cut' (*Cal IPM XXI*, 288). Speed shows the wood as Westland Woode. It lies to the N of the village and extends over an area of Boulder Clay.

3. Rushpit Wood. The first date for this wood is 1421 when it was a wood called 'Rushpate' (*Cal IPM XXI*, 288). Speed (1610) marks it as it exists today: an extension eastwards of Burley Woods (SK 899097). There is no bank separating the two woods although Speed does show a dividing line.

4. Tarringley Wood, 1610 (Speed). There is a reference in 1421 to 'Todyngley' which may have been a wood, although this is not made clear (*Cal IPM XXI*, 288). There is no obvious reason to account for its lack of medieval references. The modern name is Tunnely Wood. Messenger (1971, 118) describes it as 'a fine example of mature woodland on Boulder Clay'. It is now much reduced in size.

5. Armley Wood. This is not shown by Speed but is effectively the S part of Barnsdale Wood and lies to the S of the River Gwash. Most of the wood's original site is under Rutland Water.

**GLASTON** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. A wood called 'Brende' (1326), (*VCH* II, 182). At this time it was held by John de Haryngton (*Cal IPM Ed II*, VI, 457).

**GREETHAM** DB Woodland: 16F x 7F (940 acres); 'woodland, pasture in places'; one park recorded (1446)

1. Greetham Wood, 1610 (Speed). He names the woodland here as 'Greetham Wood'. It was known as Greetham Great Wood in 1712 (Cox 1994, 30) and later as Far Wood and Near Wood, separated by the route of the A1. Both were damp oak woods on Boulder Clay but were replanted with conifers in 1955 (Messenger 1971, 109). Again, the absence of early records is to be regretted. Here, both woods are regarded as jointly occupying the same ancient sites.

2. The Coppice, 1652 (Cox 1994, 25). This is not marked by Speed.

3. Woolfox Wood, 1653 (Cox 1994, 24). This appears to be the wood which served the deserted village of Woolfox. Speed marks it as 'Wolfoky Wood'.

4. Fulwood, 1578; 'foul, dirty wood' (Cox 1994, 29). No early records have been found but Speed marks this as Fauldal Wood and, curiously, as in two parts.

In this parish was 'Wood Fylde' (Cox 1994, 33). Other names which have so far not been identified on the present landscape are Hall Dale Wood (1652) and Priest Wood (1652) (*ibid*, 30).

**GUNTHORPE** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. Woodland at Gunthorpe, 1610 (Speed). Speed shows an unfenced area of woodland between the village to the N and the river Gwash to the S. Cox's earliest date is 1795 and for 'Gunthorpe Wood otherwise Gunthorpe Coppice' (Cox 1994, 91).

**HAMBLETON** DB Woodland: 3L x 1½L (3,024 acres); 'underwood, fertile in places'; one park recorded (1274)

At the time of Domesday Book Hambleton appears to have had seven bailiwicks: Braunston, Edith Weston, Lyndon, Manton, Market Overton, Martinthorpe and Normanton (*VCH* II, 68).

1. Woods in the park of Hambleton, 1274. Philip of Keymerse 'was seised of the manor of Hambleton ... and there made destruction of woods in the park ...' (*Rot Hund*, I, 31). In 1361 a wood called 'le Park' was held by William de Bohan (*Cal IPM Edw III*, X, 527). Speed marks it as 'Hamleyton' Wood. It is interesting to note how little wood there

was in the manor in the 14th century. The inference is that much of the large DB acreage of woodland must have been located elsewhere, i.e. in Hambleton's seven bailiwicks, from which much of it disappeared at an early date. Part of the wood of 1274 was lost to Rutland Water; the remainder is an SSSI (LRWT).

**HORN** DB Woodland: 1F + 12P x 17P (c5 acres); 'woodland'; no park on record

Rackham (1994, 10) produces the following quote: 'a grant of Sempringham (Lincolnshire) in 852 AD included the [annual] right to 60 fothers – a kind of cart load – of wood in the wood of Horn [Rutland], 12 fothers of a grove (whatever that was) and 6 fothers of poles. Here we have three different kinds of product, excluding timber, to be collected from a wood 16 miles away'. Almost all the present woodland in the parish has appeared during the last two centuries and a lack of field names prevents the tracing of any early woodland there may have been.

**KETTON** DB Woodland: 16 acres; 'poor woodland'; no park on record

There is no indication here of woodland after Domesday Book. However, there are suggestions of inter-commoning between the inhabitants of Ketton and Empingham (Cox 1994, 156). Some closes in Empingham bordering Ketton bear 'heath' names as do the same adjoining in Ketton (Sterndale Bennett 1943). 'Ketton Heath' is marked on the first edition of the One Inch Ordnance Survey Map (1824) and in 1768 there were 800 acres of Common Heath in the parish (*VCH* II, 254). One wonders if the present Empingham/Ketton border was originally woodland before, and possibly long before, the Norman Conquest.

**LEIGHFIELD**

There are 17 separate named woodlands located for this parish, which gave its name to the remnant of what at one time had been a much larger Royal forest. The following parishes, most of them well wooded, also remained within the forest boundary until the disafforestation: Beaumont Chase, Belton, Braunston, Ridlington (part), Stoke Dry (part) and Wardley. Speed's map details the individual woods. It is intended to present the results of further research in a future article devoted to Leighfield.

**LUFFENHAM, NORTH** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. There are no certain references to ancient woodland. 'Apud le Wodgate' (1356) is the name of a furlong of land lying beside the road to a wood (Cox 1994, 267), but which wood was referred to and where was it located? 'Witchley Way' (1631) (*ibid*) probably refers to Wychele Warren in Edith Weston (see above) and this may be the location of the wood of 1356.

**LUFFENHAM, SOUTH** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

There are no medieval references for named woods in this parish. 'Faleys' (1356) has come down to us as 'Follys Close' (*sv* Bisbrooke) and may have originated, with the prefix (*ge*), as 'the felling of trees' (Cox 1994, 242). Sterndale Bennett marks the site as along the river Chater, to the NE of the village bordering North Luffenham. In 1615 'woodslade' remembered a wooded valley (*ibid*, 242). One wonders about the origin of the once extensive heath at South Luffenham and its relationship to the area of Barrowden known as Barrowden Hay.

**LYDDINGTON** DB Woodland: 3F x 2F (50 acres); one park recorded (1199-1216)

1. Wood in Lyddington Park (early 13th century). Hugo de Welles, bishop of Lincoln (1209-35) enclosed woodland from the Forest of Rutland to add to his park (*Rot Hund*, II, 54). Speed marks four woods, names unknown, within the park, and here there is no reason to believe he was less accurate in locating them there than he was with the wood in Ridlington Park (see below).

Speed also shows an unnamed narrow wood lying E-W by 'Kings Road' to the W of Lyddington Park and a small unnamed wood between Lyddington and Stoke Dry.

**LYNDON** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

Lyndon was one of the seven bailiwicks of Hambleton and it is quite possible that some of the total for Hambleton was located here. However, no evidence for medieval woodland in Lyndon has been found.

**MARKET OVERTON** – *See* STRETTON

**OAKHAM** DB Woodland: 1L x ½L (605 acres); 'woodland pasture'; two parks recorded

Oakham's outliers at the time of Domesday Book were probably Brooke, Clipsham, Egleton, Gunthorpe and Langham, together with Knossington in Leicestershire (*VCH* II, 10) and Twyford in that county (Farnham 1930, 6, 248).

1. A wood called Flitteris, 1250 (*VCH* II, 13). In 1250 King Henry III granted the earl of Cornwall the right to enclose with a ditch and hedge the wood called Flitteris at Oakham (*VCH* II, 13). Speed marks both the park and the four woods

and the open spaces it contained but does not name them, though he does name the coterminous Cold Overton park on the Leicestershire side of the county boundary. For an account of Flitteris Park by the present writer, see Squires 1992.

2. Little Park at Oakham, 1300. It is possible or even probable that this small park on the edge of the village contained woodland. The first record for the presence of deer in the park is 1300 (*Cal IPM Edw I*, III, 461). Speed makes no mention of a park.

3. The wood of Riseberwe, 1266 (Cox 1994, 101). The location of this wood is unknown but appears to have been the place where King Henry I (1100-35) while travelling north saw a group of deer and subsequently decreed the establishment of the Royal Forest of Rutland (*VCH Rutland*, II, xxviii).

4. It is possible that a further wood existed under the name of 'Loundes' (1305) and 'les loundes' (1347) as was noted under Bisbrooke, above.

**PICKWORTH** DB Woodland: nil; one park recorded (1547-53)

1. Lyndwode, 1313; 'limewood' (Cox 1994, 160). This wood appears to be a southerly example of the extensive limewoods of Lincolnshire.

2. Newhall Wood, 1541 (Cox 1994, 157). The wood is now Newell Wood. Speed locates it on, or perhaps straddling, the county boundary, where it merges with woodland in Lincolnshire. Much of it stands on a large 'island' of glacial gravel where the geology is primarily limestone and clay. The wood is notable for its oaks, some of which have trunks up to 2 metres in diameter. It is presently an SSSI on account of its flora (LRWT).

3. Pickworth Wood, 1541 (Cox 1994, 158). Since c1800 it has been known as Pickworth Great Wood (ibid, 158). This huge wood occupies an area of Boulder Clay. It has ancient earthworks and a rich flora and fauna. Strangely Speed does not mark it by name but probably combined it with Newell Wood.

4. Turnecouse Wood, 1610 (Speed). This large wood is now called Turnpole Wood and lies on Estuarine Clay. Originally it was rich botanically.

The name 'Abbot Stocking' (1537) (Cox 1994, 160) reflects the presence of former woodland. There is no woodland recorded by DB for Pickworth, but it is highly unlikely none was present. Pickworth was a detached portion of Martinsley Hundred and possibly part of Oakham (see Clipsham above).

**PRESTON** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. 'The King's demense wood of Preston', 1217 (*VCH II*, 88). Preston was a bailiwick attached to Ridlington. 'Preston Underwood' – 'land beneath the wood' (1665) (Cox 1994, 206) – formed a detached part of the parish of Uppingham, which along with 'Preston leys' was included in Beaumont Chase (parish) in 1885 (*VCH II*, 95).

**RIDLINGTON** DB Woodland: 2L x 8F (1600ac); 'wood pasture in places'; one park recorded (1238)

The early boundaries of the Royal Forest of Rutland included the parish. By an unknown date the whole of Ridlington, except the park, had left the Forest. The development of the park and its woodlands, well shown by Speed, has been described by the present writer (Squires 2003).

1. The Wood of Ridlington, 1226. In this year William de Boyvil was given four prepared timber oaks by the king from 'the wood of Ridlington' (*Cal Cl R Henry III*, XII, 1261-64, 192).

2. Fridwood, 1253 (Cox 1994, 210).

**RYHALL** DB Woodland: 4F x 2F (67 acres); 'woodland'; no park on record

1. Brackenhull, 1330. In this year Edmund, earl of Kent, held the manor of Ryhall, including a wood called Brackenhull (*Cal IPM Edw III*, VII, 224). The earls of Kent still owned the wood in 1397. Speed marks a substantial wood as 'Brokenell'. Ridle Field was one of the great open fields of the village which Cox (1994, 163) suggests may originate from '(ge) ryd' OE 'cleared (of trees)'; Ryder (2006, 67) notes that this is an alternative name for Bretland field. In 1425 Edmund, earl of March, received 6s 8d yearly from the sale of underwood in Ryhall manor (*Cal IPM XXII*, 422).

**SEATON** DB Woodland: 1F x 1F (8 acres); 6F x 2F (100 acres); 'spinney'; no park on record

1. The wood of Seaton, 1250. In 1256 King Henry granted to Simon St Liz and Amy or Anne his wife relief from the 'Forest burdens in the wood of Seaton' (TNA E32/139).

2. As already noted (see Bisbrooke above), a series of 'lound' names, which begin in 1631 (Cox 1994, 295), may reflect the former presence of woodland. Sterndale Bennett places these to the S of the village.

**STRETTON and MARKET OVERTON** DB Woodland: 1L x ½L (605 acres); one park recorded at Market Overton (1269), and one park recorded at Stretton (1291)

These two parishes lie on the boundary with Lincolnshire. Domesday enters the above woodland data for each manor, but this is repetition. The medieval and later references make it clear the bulk of the Domesday woodland lay in Stretton and that Overton lost its woodland at an early date. There was a park at **Overton**, location still unknown, which is mentioned in 1346 when it presumably contained some woodland (Cox 1994, 36). Overton's connection with Oakham (see above) may be important here as regards early woodland. Middle English 'Brenole' names ('burnt, cleared by burning') appear in 1363 and 1371 (*ibid*, 36-7) but beyond that we are left with only one certain woodland.

1. Norton Wood, 1363, and Overton Wood, 1371 (Cox 1994, 37). These appear to be references to the same wood. At some time after 1086 much of this manor's woodland disappeared to leave Norton Wood. There is no sign on the present, almost treeless landscape, where the woodland and the park in which it was probably located lay. Speed makes no mention of woodland, although he does show a few unenclosed trees between Barrow and Market Overton.

At **Stretton** the medieval record of woodland is very much stronger and, unlike Market Overton, where the parish is virtually treeless, Stretton still contains some woodland.

1. Stretton Wood / Litleall Wood, 1610 (Speed). Speed is the earliest reference for the huge woodland known today as Stretton Wood. He marks it as a major wood on the county boundary with Lincolnshire, the W half being Stretton Wood and the E half shown as Litleall Wood, with no dividing line between the two but a separate plain arc (rather than a fence as is usual) defining the outer limit of each wood. The present Stretton Wood as shown on the first edition of the Six Inch Ordnance Survey Map, is sited about half a mile to the S. The history of the site requires further study.

2. Stocken Wood, 1326 (Cox 1994, 39). The element 'stocken' descends the centuries in a confusing pattern (*ibid*, 37-38) to the present as 'stocken' in HM Prison of that name. In 1381 Roger Bellers, knight, held in Stocken a meadow in a place called 'le stokkyn' (*Cal IPM 1-7 Ric II*, 130).

3. Easthawe, 1326. On his death Roger Beler had 'a wood called Esthawe [held] of the King' (*Cal IPM Edw II*, VI, 442). The wood is mentioned again in 1369 (TNA C 135/199/7) and in 1381 when it covered 160 acres (*Cal IPM 1-7 Ric II*, 131).

**THISTLETON** DB Woodland: 15 acres (18 acres); 'woodland'; no park on record

No medieval references to woodland in Thistleton have been found and Speed shows no woodland. One of the great open fields of the village was Wood Field (Ryder 2006, 67), usually a reliable indicator of the presence of early woodland. There are 'wood leys' names adjoining the county boundary with Lincolnshire from 1576 (Cox 1994, 54). In view of the tiny quantity of DB woodland for Thistleton one wonders if the 'wood' of Wood Field lay in South Witham in Lincolnshire which had three recorded woods of 13, 66 and 84 acres. Alternatively, the 'missing' wood may have lain in Stretton.

**TICKENCOTE** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

1. Bowood, 1585 (Cox 1994, 166). A wood in Tickencote called Buiwood in 1588 (ROLLR DGH/939). Speed marks it as Boyal Wood and shows it lying to the NW of the village. Ryder (2006, 63) notes 'Boyhall' as an open field name in Great Casterton, but also that Boyhall Wood is recorded as in Empingham in the early 17th century.

**UPPINGHAM** DB Woodland: nil; no park on record

Uppingham is not mentioned in Domesday Book but can be identified as one of the bailiwicks dependent at that date on the manor of Ridlington, which was in the King's hands (*VCH II*, 97). See Bisbrooke and Preston, above.

1. Eastwood, 1269. 'Robert, the hayward of Lyddington, took a rabbit in Eastwode outside Uppingham' (Clough 1998, 337).

2. Wood in Uppingham, 1247. Henry Murdak and others held 3 acres of wood in Uppingham (TNA CP25/1/192/4/42).

3. Wood in Uppingham, 1305. The bishop of Coventry and Lichfield held 15 acres of wood in Uppingham (TNA CP25/1/192/4/42).

In 1373 the name 'Stybynges' – a place with tree stumps' (Cox 1994, 216) is recorded and in 1346 'le Brende' – 'a burnt place, a place cleared by burning' appears (*ibid*, 315). Woodfield, 1688 (*ibid*, 216), was one of the great open fields of the village. Cox also records Wood Close and other Wood names from the 18th century. Also the Lounde (1634) and Lawnde Park (1572). Speed shows Uppingham Park, evidently referring to enclosed woodland incorporating Deepdale and Beaumont [Chase].

**WHISSENDINE** DB Woodland: nil; one park recorded (1143-1219)

The site of the park, and that of any woodland it may have contained, appear to have left no trace.

## **Woodlands and Geology**

In very general terms the north and west of Rutland are covered with heavy soils which are neutral inclined to acid, while in the south and east the soils are noticeably more basic. The Boulder Clay and the Estuarine and heavy Lias clays of the north and west supported much of the county's woodland at the time of Domesday Book and throughout the Middle Ages. These soils here were heavy, ill-drained and difficult to work and did not attract early settlement. This was especially true of the parishes along the border with Leicestershire which later became the core of the Royal Forest of Leighfield. At the same time and over the county as a whole there was so much variation in local soil conditions that Messenger, a botanist, described it as 'astonishing' (Messenger 1971, 14).

The Boulder Clays have played an important part in Rutland's woodland history. Above the impervious substrata they are heavy and, until recent advances in agricultural technology, have been very difficult to work. As such they have proved ideal for woodland and grazing, including the wood pasture of Domesday Book. Above the Oolite and Northamptonshire Sands they drain better and are more easily worked for cultivation. Boulder Clays, variable in character, have been exploited by local communities in various ways.

Many of the ancient woodlands discussed above for each parish were or remain located on Boulder Clays. These include Shirewood at Barrowden; East Wood at Great Casterton; Norwood at Clipsham; Empingham Old Wood; Tunnelly and Westland Woods at Exton; and Newell and Great Woods at Pickworth. Many of these sites survived at the limits of cultivation reached by many generations of local communities until the arrival of advanced agricultural technologies in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Further investigation of the history of the woodland on the sites mentioned here (and along the broad lines already noted) would make an interesting series of local studies.

## **Woodlands and Parks**

In the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries woodland in many areas of the East Midlands was retreating before a wave of agricultural expansion. One way of conserving the best of the remaining woodland was for a manorial lord to enclose his own woodland in a park, where he was better able to exercise control over how it should be used. There is strong evidence from Leicestershire (Squires 2004, 146-50) and elsewhere that much of the woodland involved enclosed at least part of the larger woodlands of Domesday Book. Many of these were old at the time of the Conquest, having served many earlier

generations. Evidence for some of the woodland sites listed above and recognisable today suggests they may be, at least in part, very ancient indeed.

Of the fourteen parks known for Rutland (including Pickworth – see below) all but five are believed to have contained woodland. Two manors, Greetham and Hambleton, each contained large quantities of woodland in 1086 and it is most likely that emparking and woodland were intimately connected. Whissendine had no recorded Domesday woodland and the site of the park is unknown, but was there really no woodland present suitable for emparking?

One wonders why some manors have no recorded Domesday woodland but did have at least one old wood in the Middle Ages where, as far as records allow, we see no emparkment taking place. At Ayston, again without recorded Domesday woodland, the wood of Childeslund first appears in 1218, but there is no record of emparkment. Further similar examples are evident from the above list. However, the reasons for emparkment or otherwise must also be sought in changing social and economic conditions of manorial control and organisation. In a wider perspective, the position of a particular manor in a lord's holding elsewhere in Rutland and beyond must be considered. Here then, is scope for another line of research.

## *Woodland Boundaries*

It has already been noted that the documentary evidence for woodland in medieval Rutland, outside Leighfield Forest, is sparse and well scattered. Beyond this point the writer finds himself inevitably dealing in a considerable degree of speculation, but hopes that the following observations may offer insights into the history of the county's early woodland.

Any particular wooded area recorded in Domesday Book will often, but by no means always, give a fair indication as to where we should begin a search on the modern landscape. However, the trees and vegetation of a modern wood – if there is one – may be occupying only part of the actual area of where Domesday woodland grew. Here we are primarily looking for possible sites by drawing together information from the geology, topography, soils, fauna and flora, place names and boundaries, especially parish and manorial boundaries.

Using this approach the evidence from Leicestershire may be helpful. In that county Domesday Book records 29 woodlands of 200 acres or more. Of these sites, twenty-two have been identified on the modern landscape (Squires 2004, 143-45). Many of these large woods survived, at least in part, to the fourteenth century and some to the present. For

Rutland there are certainly at least nine large Domesday woodlands:

Burley	Burley Great Wood
Cottesmore	Cottesmore Wood
Essendine	Essendine Park Wood
Exton	Barnsdale/Rushpit Wood
Greetham	Greetham Wood
Hambleton	Hambleton Wood (now partly under Rutland Water) and elsewhere
Market Overton	unknown
Oakham	Flitteris Park (and probably elsewhere)
Ridlington	Ridlington Park
Stretton	Stretton Wood and surrounding area

If, as is likely, there was also woodland in Market Overton this would make ten. A park is recorded for each of the above manors except Cottesmore, Oakham having two; others at Market Overton and Pickworth make a total of eleven parks.

#### *Pickworth Great Wood*

One wonders how many wooded areas Domesday Book failed to record in the county: probably very few but Pickworth Great Wood, seemingly missed, presents a number of interesting lines of enquiry.

The apparent absence of woodland at Pickworth in 1086 may well be explained by Pickworth's relationship with Oakham, 'of which it may possibly [have] formed a part ... as it was subsequently held of Oakham Castle' (*VCH* II, 34). It continued to be held of the barony of Oakham in 1300 (*VCH* II, 11), and also five years later (Chinnery 1988, 26). Woodland at Pickworth may have been subsumed under the 600 acres given for Oakham – this is almost certainly the case. It also points to the possibility or probability that other such amalgamations under the heading of a single capital manor may exist elsewhere in Rutland. Another possibility is that the site of Pickworth Great Wood may have been in Lincolnshire in 1086, but there is no evidence for this.

The modern Pickworth Great Wood occupies the northern part of the parish and borders on Lincolnshire. It extends over 160 acres and sits tightly on a large deposit, almost an island, of stiff Boulder Clay with small areas of Upper Estuarine Clay in the north-west and very small areas of Lincolnshire Limestone in the north-west and south-west. Its western boundary is truncated to give a straight north-south line. There are clear signs of assarting having taken place to the west of this (Hartley 1983, 53) where the soils are somewhat less daunting to work. At some time in the Middle Ages this programme of clearance, over an area of about a further 160 acres, may well have reached the present

boundary with Clipsham, or may even have determined it. Sterndale Bennett locates 'Pickworth Parks' in this general area. There is also a record of a monarch, probably Edward VI (1547-53), making payments to the keepers of Crown woods in Leicestershire, with references to 'Pickworth Park' and 'Pickworth Wood' (Harleian MSS 240, British Library). In the mid sixteenth century 'the park' at Pickworth probably remained as a park rather than simply just the name of a long-lost enclosure. The eastern end of Pickworth Wood is also truncated, but the reasons for this are not evident.

The lines of the southern and northern boundaries of the present wood are more easily accounted for. One wonders whether the wood once followed a tongue-shaped extension of the Boulder Clay southwards towards the site of the village. If this was so, it was cleared at an early date because the entire southern edge of the present wood shows a sinuous outline. This clearly demarcates not only the boundary of the wood but also the northern limit of the village's outfield (*Cal SP Dom 1547-80*, 36). In short, cultivation ceased when ploughing came up against the southern extent of the Boulder Clay.

The northern boundary of the modern wood is also of great interest. Along almost the entire length is a massive and continuous bank and ditch. The eastern section is followed by the county boundary with Lincolnshire and shows an abrupt right-angle change of direction. This indicates a determined effort to separate Pickworth from the present Lincolnshire parish of Holywell, noted in Domesday Book as Aunsby. Platts (1985, 118) notes that assarting was taking place here in the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries. In the extreme north-west of the line, the bank is broken by the limestone quarries of Clipsham, themselves collectively an old feature. Within the wood there are banks and ditches which require mapping, but lacking documentary evidence these may be very difficult to interpret. A thorough survey of the sub-surface features is also essential.

Pickworth Great Wood remains one of the largest blocks of deciduous woodland in the two counties of Leicestershire and Rutland. It contains stands representative of ancient semi-natural woodland on clay soil and has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The evidence of the surviving flora and fauna further points to the antiquity of at least parts of it.

The relationship between Pickworth Great Wood and the neighbouring Newell Wood is a mystery. Speed did not show Pickworth Wood on his map but he did show Newell Wood as straddling the borders of Rutland and Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire part is called Castle Dike Wood on account of the presence of an ancient earthwork. Again, the county

boundary has been laid down through the middle of what appears to have been one large woodland so as to retain this feature in Lincolnshire.

A further early division of woodland between the two counties can be found at Stretton and probably at Clipsham. At Stretton the woodland on the Lincolnshire side of the border is called Morkery Wood which Platts (1985, 88) suggests perpetuates the name of the Saxon earl Morcar. Cox (1994, xxxiv) maintains it derives from the old English 'mearc-rio' meaning 'a boundary stream' with the first element Scandinavianised to 'mark', meaning 'a boundary'. Cox (ibid, xxxiii) suggests that the early rulers of the Anglian Kingdom most likely took measures to protect its frontiers. This view is based on place names and largely unexcavated earthworks and other archaeological evidence. The point of interest here is, of course, the age of the boundaries and the possible role of ancient woodlands in determining what is now Rutland's

north-east boundary with Lincolnshire.

#### Other Boundaries

One wonders how the presence of woodland in Rutland influenced the demarcation of parishes at the time their boundaries were being laid down and at other times of re-organisation. Several interesting relationships, not so far mentioned, can be offered as potentially rich lines of research. These are Osbanall Wood in Clipsham parish, Wytchley Warren Spinney in Edith Weston, and Tolethorpe Oaks in Great Casterton.

It is hoped that this broad-brush approach to Rutland's ancient woodland goes some way towards indicating the important role this enduring feature played in the development of the geography and landscape of Rutland in the middle ages and earlier, even in the origins of the county itself.

### Abbreviations and Bibliography

BL	British Library
<i>Cal CIR</i>	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
<i>Cal Inq Misc</i>	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous</i>
<i>Cal IPM</i>	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem</i>
<i>Cal SP Dom</i>	<i>Calendar of State Papers Domestic</i>
DB	Domesday Book, Phillimore edition
F	furlong
L	league
LRWT	Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust

NRO	Northamptonshire Record Office
P	pole
ROLLR	Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland
<i>Rot Hund</i>	<i>Rotuli Hundredorum temp Hen III and Edw I, I (1812), II (1818)</i>
Speed	Map of Rutlandshire by John Speed, 1610
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
TNA	The National Archive at Kew

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The writer is happy to share the results of his research with those working on particular parishes or areas of Rutland. Please write to 4, Tudor Drive, Cosby, Leicester, LE9 1TU, stating your interests and providing an email address.

# Social investigations in early Victorian Rutland

## Part I – The State of Education

IAN RYDER

*By the early decades of the nineteenth century most children in Rutland were receiving some form of education, be it from charity, private schools or the rapidly expanding number of Sunday schools. However, for the vast bulk of pupils both the schools and the*

*education they provided were quite rudimentary. The Manchester Statistical Society's 1838 report on the state of education in Rutland provides a unique insight into a time before government involvement in education became the norm.*

Studies of early education in Rutland are limited to an examination of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Shearing 1978, 38-48) and education in Oakham from 1800-1902 (Young 1975). Various histories have been written of the county's two ancient public schools, most recently by Barber (1983) on Oakham and Matthews (1984) on Uppingham. The first volume of the *Victoria County History* published in 1908 includes a chapter on schools, but unfortunately provides very limited information on early education as its main focus of attention was also on Oakham and Uppingham schools (*VCH* I, 259-300). More recently Traylen has provided a gazetteer of village schools, but while useful as a history of individual schools, it does not look in detail at educational provision (Traylen 1999). What has been lacking is a county-wide study of the range and nature of education provision available to the poorer classes in the period between the eighteenth century and the gradual imposition of state control in the mid nineteenth century. It is therefore fortunate that in 1838 the Manchester Statistical Society undertook a detailed investigation of education in the county.

Prior to the mid nineteenth century, education was the province of voluntary and private sectors, with little government involvement. Nevertheless, in the early part of the century, the numbers both of schools and of children attending were rapidly growing. The period between 1818 and 1833 saw an increase in the numbers attending school of half a million to around 1.3 million. Sunday schools had grown at a rate almost double that of day schools (Roderick 1978, 12-13). By 1851 the number of day and Sunday scholars in England and Wales had expanded further to 2.1 and 2.4 million respectively, although there was a great overlap of scholars attending both schools (Mann 1854, xiv). The first Sunday school had been founded in 1780, and the Sunday school movement which developed there-

after was the first attempt to educate large numbers of poorer children. This was followed by the establishment of day schools by two societies, the non-denominational British and Foreign School Society in 1808 (favoured by dissenters) and the National Society for Promoting the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church in 1811 (known as the National Society). The Rutland branch of the National Society was formed in 1816 and many of the county's schools used its system (fig. 1) (Charity Commission 1839, 366, 394; COERC, NS/10/2/21, NS/7/7/2/2). These two organisations were to dominate education of the poor until the Education Act of 1870 (Goldstrom 1977, 93). Many of these voluntary sponsored schools were also charity schools, which from the late seventeenth century it had become more common for individuals to endow, rather than, as previously, classical grammar schools (Stephens 1998, 2). The Church of England dominated the charity and public schools, but local impact was affected by the level of interest and energy displayed by the parish clergy and by what financial assistance could be obtained from wealthier parishioners (Stephens 1998, 32). This finance was often channelled via annual subscriptions to the local National Society. Beyond the charity schools there were private ones, such as dame, common day, evening, superior day and boarding schools. The first three types of school catered for the poor, while the last two were for the children of professional and private gentlemen. The wealthiest classes preferred to employ tutors or send their children away to select schools (Gardner 1984, 16; Roderick 1978, 13).

The mass migration of the rural population to the new industrial towns, in the early years of the nineteenth century, had created huge urban social problems. Local awareness of these issues in the face of national bureaucratic disinterest had generated, by the early 1830s, a demand for reliable

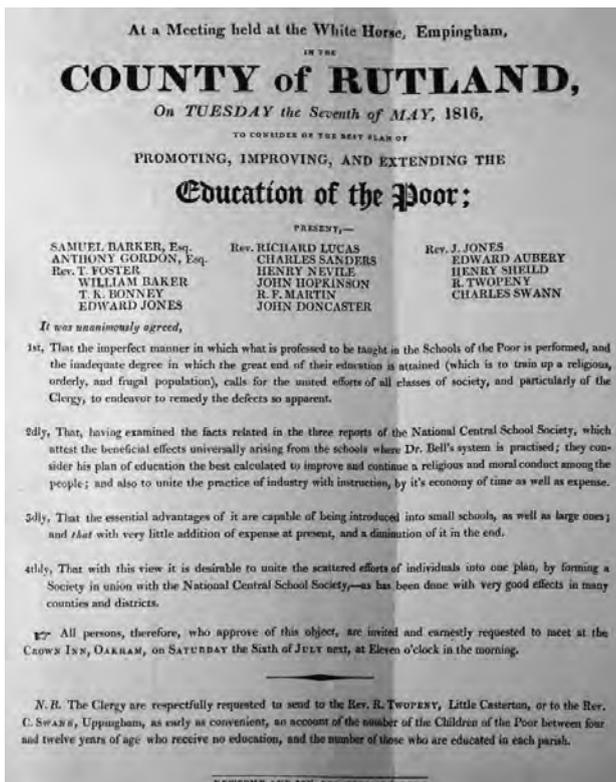


Fig.1. Report on the 1816 meeting at which it was agreed desirable to form a National School Society in Rutland (by permission of COERC, NS/10/2/21)

quantitative information to challenge this complacency. This, in turn, had led to the founding of Statistical Societies in many industrial towns. The first to be formed, in 1833, and still surviving, was the Manchester Statistical Society (MSS), and amongst its first reports were those into Manchester and Liverpool children and schools (Roderick 1978, 12). Through these studies the MSS quickly became aware of the need to put its results into context by comparing them with those from a rural environment, Rutland being chosen as the exemplar: or, as they expressed matters in the introduction to the Rutland report, ‘a very rapid increase of population [in the industrial towns] had evidently not been met by any corresponding or adequate expansion of established institutions. The Society, therefore, selected for their next inquiry an agricultural district, where a very slight growth of population had taken place, and where, consequently, many more favourable results might be expected, especially as regards the adequacy of the existing means for educating the people’. The Rutland report (MSS 1839a, hereafter ‘MSS Education Report’) was read at a British Association meeting and published by the London Statistical Society – this later became the Royal Statistical Society, by whose kind permission it is appended below (pp 28-37). References to original tables contained in the MSS Education Report are designated by either ‘MSS Table / Sunday Table

[number]’ for numbered tables or ‘MSS Summary Table’ for the General Summary (p30).

The study into the state of education in Rutland was undertaken, in 1838, by Mr J R Wood, a paid agent of the MSS; it is probable that the study was undertaken in the latter part of the year as the MSS Education Report makes reference to an evening school at Oakham National School (MSS Table IX). This school had only been established in October of that year (COERC, NS10/2/21). Wood obtained his information by visiting schools throughout the county. He was scathing about the quality of information to be obtained from circulated questionnaires: ‘It is impossible to expect accuracy in returns obtained by circulars, various constructions being put upon the same question by different individuals, who consequently classify their replies upon various principles’.

Once the MSS and other societies began to study social matters they immediately ran into the problem of definitions, none more so than when they investigated schooling. For example, how were they to categorise the many and varied schools that had evolved? What was a dame school and what a common school? The London Statistical Society described common day schools as ‘in fact little else than superior dame schools’ (Gardner 1984, 21). The problem was that many common schools were run by females, and the age ranges taught by both schools overlapped widely. To bring the order necessary for study the new Statistical Societies often found it necessary to impose their own definitions, dame schools becoming schools where only reading and a little sewing was taught (Gardner 1984, 20). Many of these early definitions imposed by the Statistical Societies became the national norm, but it should be remembered that at the time of the original studies the terminology was much more fluid. The new process of categorisation can be seen in the MSS Education Report correcting an earlier 1833 Rutland return: ‘One error we take this opportunity of correcting, viz.: ten infant schools are reported, whereas there is not in the whole county a single school of the class which bears this title; the ten schools in question are mere dame-schools (the 1833 return, a result of a Parliamentary Enquiry, also provides a parish by parish list of day and Sunday schools, as does an earlier 1818 survey (Digest 1819, 739-42; Enquiry 1835, 762-66).

The MSS Education Report also had to work with the imperfect statistics provided by the early censuses. Prior to 1841 there was only a total population figure broken into male and female. No individual information such as age was provided. Some of the assumptions the report was forced to make, because of these limitations, can now be

examined. The population of Rutland in 1831 was 19,385 and, based on the increase of 5% seen in the previous ten years, the MSS Education Report estimated it, in 1838, at 20,000 (the 1841 census reported 21,302), with 5,000 children aged between 5 and 15 years. The number of Rutland children as a percentage of the population can be examined from a sample of the 1841 census returns for the villages of Braunston, Eggleton and Hambleton, which themselves were the subject of a second MSS report (MSS 1839b, hereafter ‘MSS Condition of Population Report’, which will be the subject of a future *Rutland Record* article). The population of these three villages represented about 5% of the county total, with children aged 6 to 15 constituting 25.3% of the population. In 1851, uniquely, an Educational Census of schools and pupils (Mann 1851, 158-9) and a Religious Census, which included questions on Sunday schools (Tomalin 2002, 51; 2004, 169), were additions to the standard census. Unfortunately, the aggregated Education Census figures have survived only for the registration districts of Oakham and Uppingham. These registration districts were based on the Poor Law Unions and were not coterminous with the county boundary. Some Rutland parishes were included in the Stamford district and parts of Leicestershire and Northampton incorporated into Oakham and Uppingham districts (Tomalin 2002, 51). However, as individual parish returns from the Religious Census survive a county total can be constructed for that survey. A comparison of the county data from these three studies and the 1833 Parliamentary Enquiry is shown here in Table 1.

Table 1

	Number of Rutland Schools		Number of Rutland Pupils	
	Day Schools	Sunday Schools	Day Schools	Sunday Schools
1833 Enquiry	112	56	2701	2732
1838 MSS Report	133	69	2964	3196
1851 Education Census	111	67	3396	3553
1851 Religious Census	–	47 *	–	–

\* Two schools each Sunday were reported in 6 churches and 3 chapels; all these are included in the total.

While the figures for the number of Sunday schools in the MSS Education Report and in the Education Census are similar they are significantly lower in the Religious Census, a probable consequence of misinterpreted or incomplete returns to the Religious Census. The MSS Education Report

recorded that the Church of England alone had Sunday Schools in 46 out of its 53 parishes and two hamlets. It also gave a total of 55 Church of England Sunday schools, reflecting some churches having more than one Sunday school. The larger numbers of Sunday schools in the MSS Education Report compared to the Enquiry results both from more Church of England parishes with a school and from greater numbers with more than one. The MSS Education Report records over twenty day schools in the county more than either the Enquiry or the Education Census. However, while it lists more pupils at both day and Sunday schools than the Enquiry there are many fewer than in the Education Census. Whilst the difference in day schools probably relates to deficiencies in the questionnaire based surveys, used for the Enquiry and Education Census, the difference in number of scholars also reflects the growth of Rutland’s population from 1833 to its nineteenth century peak in 1851. This would naturally have generated around an extra 500 school children. These considerations vindicate the MSS Education Report’s approach of visiting schools to obtain information rather than simply relying on a questionnaire.

The MSS Education Report gives a total of 4,313 for all ages attending either day or Sunday schools, with the vast majority (3,561) aged 5–15 (this total is slightly different from that given in the MSS General Summary Table of 3,552). The bulk of other children in education were aged under 5. The second report by the MSS (1839b) on the condition of the population in three Rutland villages provides a more detailed age breakdown for the schoolchildren: under 5s, 11.6%; 5 to under 10, 62.3%; 10 to under 15, 23.9%; 15 and over, 2.2%. The MSS Education Report estimated 29% of the 5–15 age group did not receive school instruction. However, this figure is a snapshot and a much lower proportion would have received no instruction at all during their childhood. Official reports regularly ascribed lack of attendance, at national or public schools, to apathy, ignorance and concern for status. All three were judgements on the parents, with the last being used to explain why some parents would choose a ‘more genteel’ private school. In fact, while some parents were uncaring, more often the reason for non-attendance was poverty, with either insufficient income to pay for schooling or the children being required to work to support the family (Gardiner 1984, 84). At Wing in 1818 the poor were reported to be in ‘great difficulty in sparing sufficient means for their children’s education’ (Digest 1819, 742). This was exacerbated when agricultural wages deteriorated after 1824 until 1837, falling from between 13-15s to 10s per week (Thirsk 1954, 237).

Table 2

	All ages	%	Age 5-15	%
Only attend day or evening school	1,117	25.9	695	19.5
Attend both day and Sunday school	1,922	44.6	1,775	50.0
Only attend Sunday school	1,274	29.5	1,082	30.5
	4,313		3,552	

The MSS Summary Table reveals the importance of the Sunday school in the education of Rutland children, with 80% of those aged 5–15 who went to school attending, as the analysis in Table 2 shows. It also makes clear the often nominal nature of ‘number on the books’, with a Sunday school average attendance of 79% (MSS Sunday Schools Table I). The MSS Education Report ranked Rutland attendance relative to other parts of the country which they had measured using the number of all ages ‘on the books’. Rutland in this assessment came out well, being ranked second for attendance as percentage of population, both in the Sunday school, day and evening school sectors. However, as the MSS Education Report points out, ‘Numbers alone afford a very imperfect test of this subject, as so much depends in education upon the character and quality of the instruction imparted’. In taking these community comparisons further the MSS limited themselves to the dame and common day schools, because the Sunday schools rarely gave secular instruction and Rutland had few superior private and boarding schools, compared to Manchester, Liverpool or York. Oakham and Uppingham schools accounted for 53 out of the total of 81 boys at Rutland’s superior private and boarding schools (MSS Tables I & III). The numbers at Uppingham were particularly low due to disputes with the headmaster, but generally, at that time, there were around 50 scholars at Oakham and 60 at Uppingham (Barber 1983, 63). In 1840, the numbers at Uppingham returned to normal following a migration of pupils from Wakefield, when the headmaster of that school was appointed to Uppingham (Matthews 1984, 57). At the time of the MSS Education Report there were only four free scholars at Oakham and the majority of pupils at Oakham and Uppingham were boarders. Many Oakham and Uppingham scholars went on to university (Barber 1983, 63). One other unnamed superior school also consisted of a ‘few private pupils’ preparing for university (MSS Table VIII). The Rev T K Bonney (1782-1863), rector of Normanton, is known periodically to have had pre-university boarding pupils (Reeve 2009, 348). The low number of superior private and boarding schools in Rutland, at that time, probably reflects the small numbers of middle class in the county relative to the

towns. The masters of Oakham and Uppingham schools put the low numbers of local applications for free places at their schools first down to uncertainty amongst ‘the inferior class of tradesmen’ as to whether their children qualified and secondly to the fact that there were ‘very few inhabitants in the town who are desirous of giving their children a classical education’ (Charity Commission 1839, 377). The main emphasis of the ‘classical education’ received at these schools was upon Latin, Greek, English and Mathematics. Geography, French, music and writing were extra and paid for separately (Barber 1983, 63).

While Rutland had a similar percentage of pupils attending dame and common schools to Manchester it was higher than Liverpool or York. In terms of pupils attending endowed or charity schools it was much higher than either Manchester or Liverpool and slightly lower than York. The report commented that ‘there are as many endowed or charity schools in Rutlandshire as there are parishes’. These comparisons indicate that Rutland had an above average number of children in schools certainly in comparison to the new industrial towns of Manchester and Liverpool and even the ancient city of York. This is further supported by the MSS Condition of Population Report which indicated that the children of Braunston, Egleton and Hambleton appeared on average to remain at day school longer than those in Lancashire.



Fig. 2. The room above the church porch at Ryhall housed a school until the new National School was built in 1838. Access to the room was from the door at the top of the steps to the right of porch (photo: author).

The MSS Education Report has three subdivisions for the day and evening schools serving the poorer part of the population; charity and public, dame and common. It is clear from the description in the report that there was much commonality in terms of management and teaching at these schools, the majority of charity schools being ‘only on a par with

dame and common day schools'. The school masters and mistresses of the charity schools were usually appointed by the trustees and those children in receipt of the charity were normally nominated by the local minister or overseer of the poor. The term charity school covers a multitude of situations. Leaving aside the two grammar schools of Oakham and Uppingham, out of 50 charity schools, 36 provided free education. The two union workhouse schools at Oakham and Uppingham provided free board and clothes in addition to schooling. The other fourteen schools levied a charge on some or all of the parents (MSS Table III). Even the type of charity can be further subdivided according to how they were supported: eleven with endowments of some kind (Belton, Braunston, Glaston, Hambleton, North Luffenham, Lyddington, Thistleton, Greetham, Exton, Langham and Empingham), a further eleven by the private charity of individuals, and 26 by subscriptions from the population (MSS Table III) (Charity Commission 1839, 347-94). However, the MSS Education Report states that those 'parties who contribute by subscription to their support appear, with few exceptions, to take little further interest in their welfare'. The nature of endowment varied from school to school. In the five villages of Greetham, Exton, Langham, Empingham and Thistleton the school masters were required to be single and to teach the poor boys and girls of the respective village in writing, reading, arithmetic and the church catechism. The number of these free pupils varied, in 1839, from 26 at Empingham to 34 at Langham, for which the masters received about £30 per annum. In addition, there was a 'small charge of about 2s 3d for each child' for slates, books and fuel for the winter. The masters were also able to take other fee-paying pupils. At North Luffenham for a salary of £20 per annum the master was required to teach 15 poor boys of the parish to 'read write and cast accounts and the church catechism'. He also taught some girls 'for whose education he is paid by [Rutland National Society] subscription'. The £5 annuity paid at Braunston to the minister for teaching 20 poor children had been delegated to the Parish Clerk, but he had found it insufficient and it had reduced to eight who received free instruction in reading and church catechism '...with other children, whose instruction is paid for by their parents' (Charity Commission 1839, 349, 366, 394; COERC, NS/10/2/21; Enquiry 1835, 740-2). Fourteen charity or public schools are listed as being founded before 1801 (MSS Table II), namely Oakham and Uppingham schools as well as those at Belton, Braunston, Glaston, Hambleton, Ketton, Lyddington, North Luffenham, Empingham, Exton, Greetham, Langham and Thistleton (*VCH* I, 298). The latter

five schools were founded by Forster's Charity in the late seventeenth century (Charity Commission 1839, 394). In 1669, the headmaster of Wellingborough School is recorded as taking up a better paid post at North Luffenham (Shearing 1979, 42).

In contrast to the charity schools, 63% of schools and 46% of pupils were supported at dame, day and evening school solely by their parents (MSS Table III). Some important differences are revealed in the average number of children and their ages in the various types of day and evening school (MSS Table I), as demonstrated here in Table 3.

School type	Average Number of Pupils per			% Children under 5 years
	School	Regular teacher	All teachers	
Dame	13.6	13.6	13.6	36.7
Common Day	23.5	19.3	19.3	14.3
Superior Private & Boarding	15.1	12.4	9.7	2.9
Charity	32.9	28.2	25.2	9.6
Evening	10.7	10.7	6.25	—

Table 3.

Although the dame schools had a low pupil to teacher ratio, similar to that of the superior public and boarding schools, they catered for a much higher proportion of under 5s than other schools. There were seven evening schools in Rutland, three run as adjuncts to charity schools and four fee-paying schools. The latter made an average weekly charge of 5.5d, a rate below that of common day schools (MSS Tables I & IV). The evening schools are characterised by a high percentage of scholars aged over 15 (56%), and this may explain their low pupil to teacher ratio compared to other schools (MSS Table V). The higher average age also meant that they were often run seasonally, to fit in with the rhythm of agricultural work. The National evening school at Uppingham only functioned during the winter months (White 1863, 817). What is surprising is the high pupil to school and teacher ratio for the charity schools compared to common day schools. This is explained by the use of the monitorial system in over 40% of charity and public schools (MSS Table VI). The monitorial system was a keystone of Anglican education in the National Schools and allowed the deployment of a single teacher no matter how big the school. A large part of the teacher's work was delegated to low or unpaid brighter child monitors (Goldstrom 1977, 94). However, the only subject that was universally taught in these schools was reading, with most also providing instruction in morals and religion. The MSS Education Report states a 'serious

impediment to the usefulness of these schools', whether charity, common or dame, was a lack of books. In the MSS Condition of Population Report the only books recorded as being held by the villagers of Hambleton, Egleton and Braunston were religious tracts: John Fox's *Book of Martyrs*, John Fleetwood's *Life of Christ*, and Henry Venn's *Whole Duty of Man*. Those books that were available to poor schools tended to be supplied by the religious educational societies, including the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK). In 1861 Clipsham School applied to the National Society for help with 'a grant of school books and maps which are greatly needed. The school has lately changed from a kind of dames' school on a very inefficient footing to one on the improved National School system' (COERC, NS/7/13224). The book series produced by the National Society included sets of cards, which gave prescriptive instructions on how a teacher and monitor were to proceed; an example is given below (Goldstrom 1977, 95).

Q How is the National School Book, No. 2, that is the collection of stories of words of one syllable, begun?

A By a repeating lesson from the mouth of the teacher, in the following manner: the teacher says, 'The way', class says the same after him; teacher, 'of God', class, 'of God'; teacher 'is', class the like; teacher, 'a good way', class, ditto. Then the assistant and the boys after him, as before in the cards.

Q What is done next?

A The first boys say, 'The way'; next, 'of God'; next, 'is'; next, 'a good way'. Each child repeating to itself in a whispering or low voice what is said aloud by the child whose turn it is to read...

In dissenting schools the process was similar, but extracts from the scriptures formed the staple if not the only reading material. In the society of that time it was seen as vitally important that poor children should grow to take their place as members of the respectable, devout and hard working poor, and not allow themselves to become one of the undeserving poor. It was also important to reconcile the poor child to their lot and there were Sunday school discussions on the duties and obligation of the rich towards them. This is reflected in the MSS Education Report's observation about Rutland prizes for the Queen of knitters and Queen of sewers 'inducing habits of diligence and order. The moral effect is no doubt good, and a greater interest in the lower class of schools is also thereby created amongst the gentry'. However, the divine endorsement of class status was encapsulated in the now often omitted verse 3 of the Anglican hymn *All things bright and beautiful*:

*The rich man in his castle,  
The poor man at his gate,  
God made them high and lowly,  
And ordered their estate.*

In charity and public schools reading was universally taught, but writing and arithmetic were only taught in between 55 and 60% of schools (MSS Table VIII). Common day schools claimed to teach a much greater range of subjects including writing to both boys and girls. However, while all the boys were reputed to receive instruction in arithmetic, only some schools taught this to girls. Sewing was only taught in 60% of charity and public schools probably because of the relatively low number of girls attending these schools. In contrast all common day schools taught girls sewing and above half knitting. Charity and public schools did have a higher level of professed questioning and examination of pupils as well as external visiting than other types of school, though the latter took place only in a minority of these schools (MSS Table VI). From 1839 government grants for school buildings were made conditional on allowing inspection (Morton 1997, 14). The Rev J J Blandford in his 1849 HMI report on the East Midlands gave a damning assessment of Rutland's National schools: 'There are five schools under inspection in this county: of four which have been inspected, I can only record their inefficiency for any practical purposes of education' (Minutes 1850, 7). It is not surprising that soon after the attention of the Rutland National School Board was drawn to the 'importance of [an] organised regular system of inspection' (COERC, NS/10/2/21).

To combat the success of the religious organised schools, other schools had begun by the 1830s to offer a broader secular curriculum (Stephens 1998, 16). The evening schools had a limited focus on just reading writing and arithmetic. Teaching of secular subjects such as grammar, geography or mensuration (measurement) was limited, but where undertaken enabled an extra charge of 3d per week (MSS Table IV). However, religious education was still seen as important and above 60% of the common day schools also claimed to teach both boys and girls morals and church catechism (MSS Table VIII). Unfortunately, the MSS Education Report does not provide information on the sex of the teachers in each type of school, but in another report their agent Mr Wood stated that male teachers continued to treat the teaching of writing as their speciality (Gardiner 1984, 112). Example salaries produced for Lancashire and Lincolnshire in the 1851 Education Census also demonstrate that school mistresses were often paid much less than school masters (Mann 1851, 140-1). This is reflected in the salaries paid to the master and mistress of Oakham National School in 1851 of £50

and £26 respectively (COERC, NS/10/2/21). While the MSS Education Report separately records common day schools for girls and boys, there was less distinction in practice, with 20% of girl pupils at boys' schools and 28% of boy pupils at girls' schools (MSS Table I). Nevertheless, there was double the number of common girls' schools than boys' schools, probably a result of the lower proportion of girls attending charity schools. The report also indicated a much lower number of girls (1,398) receiving day or evening school education than boys (1,641). That this pattern had continued for some time is indicated by the excess of grooms' to brides' signatures on English marriage records falling only slightly, from 20% to 17%, between 1754 and 1840 (Stephens 1998, 35). The Rutland National School Society had recommended to its subcommittees in 1818: 'to provide for the instruction of as many girls as they can: judging the right education of the female sex, even in the lowest situation of life, to be of the utmost importance ... When the wife has been best taught, the family is best conducted and the children brought up in the best manner'. That the National Society in Rutland was successful in redressing some of the imbalance is shown by the proportion of girls in fourteen schools supported by the Society rising from 21.5% to 38.8% between the 1818 and 1839 annual reports (COERC, NS/10/2/21).

In dame schools the only subjects taught were reading, sewing, knitting and religious studies (MSS Table VIII), though as described earlier this limited curriculum was the MSS definition of a dame school. Given the limited curriculum together with a higher proportion of under 5s than in other schools it is perhaps not surprising that the average weekly dame school charge was half that of a common day school (MSS Tables IV & V). In fact there appears to have been a competitive market working in this sector, as seen from Table 4.

Table 4

<i>Weekly charge in pence</i>	<i>Dame Schools Pupils per school</i>
2	8.1
3	13.2
4	15.3
6	30.0

The more that was charged, the greater the number of pupils in the school. This may indicate that parents were trying to send their children to those schools with a good reputation and poor ones had to charge less to attract pupils. An alternative explanation could be that there was limited provision in certain villages and higher prices could be charged, but given the low cost of setting up a dame school such a situation would not have lasted for long. However, as dame schools were run from kitchens

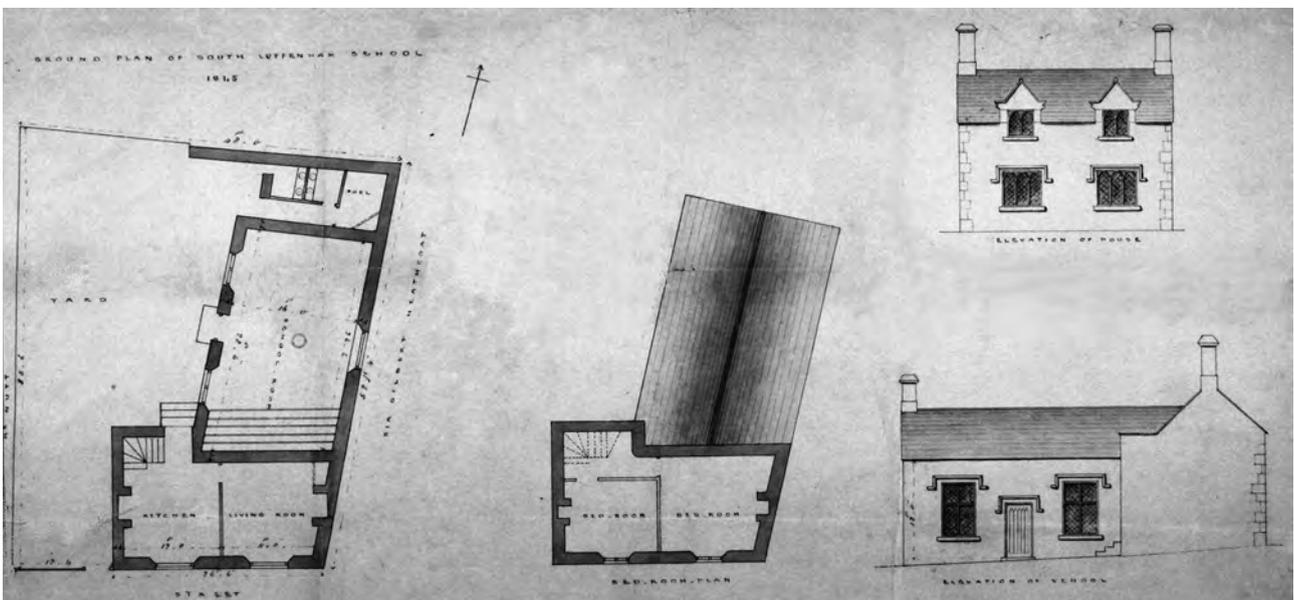
and sitting rooms one has to wonder at the overcrowding of 13 to 15 children in a room let alone 30. It is possible that the latter may reflect two classes of 15, one morning and one afternoon.

Orderliness and discipline were also assessed (MSS Table VII). A high proportion of the dame schools (22%) were classified as disorderly, with only one other school in the county similarly described. The vast majority of charity and public schools were classified as orderly, while a high proportion of common day schools received the lower rating of 'orderly middling'. Corporal punishment was less commonly used than in the towns with 27 schools applying no punishments and three using tasks. Corporal punishment was biased towards boys, being administered in all eight of the common boys' schools, but only in five out of sixteen common girls' schools. In contrast to punishments, rewards in the form of books or prizes were rare, only six schools providing such incentives.

The MSS Education Report also provides information on school buildings and their condition (MSS Table IX). Only 41% of schools were conducted in a school room, the remainder taking place in a kitchen or sitting room. Initially, schools were established in whatever rooms were available. At Clipsham the day school was held in a small room in the master's house and the Sunday school in a room attached to the rectory 'very inconvenient to all parties' (COERC, NS/7/1/3224). At Ryhall a room over the church porch served as a school for thirty children (fig. 2) (Blore 1811, 56). The time of the MSS Education Report saw the commencement of a period of National School construction in Rutland, such as those built at Ryhall and Exton in 1838-39. This building programme was to continue over the next three decades. Sometimes local landowners deeded land and buildings: Braunston, Clipsham and Ryhall (COERC, NS/7/1/1829, 3224, 10677). At other times they retained ownership of the school: Burley, Barrowden and Exton (COERC, NS/7/1/779, 2272, 4755). From 1735 the conveyance of land for charitable use, including school buildings and after 1836 also for schoolmasters' houses, had to be recorded in the Close Rolls of Chancery. As a consequence the building applications for Rutland schools survive in The National Archives. Many newly-built National Schools included a school master's house, as shown on the South Luffenham plans (fig 3). The need for this arose from the shortage of suitable accommodation, resulting from an expanding population and little new building. In 1837 the curate at Ryhall wrote: 'That a master's house is indispensable [can be seen] from the difficulty of obtaining house room as a proof whereof the Relieving Officer had nearly lost



Fig.3. Plans for the National School at South Luffenham, built in 1846 (below). These include a house for the master attached to the school room. The schoolroom opened onto a playground which also housed the privies (by permission of ROLLR, Ma/E/BG/R42/1). Above is a recent photograph of the school, now a private house, whose aspect is little changed (photo: author).



his situation from not being able to become a householder as by law required' (COERC, NS7/1/10677). Some early school building plans are kept by the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland. The records of the National Society are held at the Church of England Record Centre. The MSS Education Report also noted where kitchens or sitting rooms were used for schooling that in the majority of cases 'the room is used for both purposes.' The use of a kitchen or sitting room was almost universally true of dame schools, a third of charity and public schools and two-thirds of girls' common schools. Such schools have been described by Gardner: 'Apart from the usual addition of a few long forms as additional seating, existing domestic furniture and equipment was pressed into use. Characteristically, such a school would have looked like this: the teacher seated in a chair, possibly with a table, either in a corner of the room, or more likely towards the centre; children of all ages clustering around in a rough circle or horseshoe pattern, some seated on forms others where

they could ... When school ended, very little reorganisation of furniture was needed for the room to revert to its other function' (Gardner 1984, 157). Whilst the majority of all types of school were recorded as clean, 16% of dame schools were described as dirty, 48% were poorly ventilated and 22% ill lit (MSS Table X). Though two-thirds of common girls' day schools were held in similar places their conditions were recorded as cleaner, better ventilated and lighted. This may reflect a better standard of housing for the common girls' schools compared to dame schools, which may be another reason, besides a wider curriculum, for their higher weekly charge (an average of 6.13 pence per week, dame schools 3.25 pence, MSS Table IV).

School-keeping was never very remunerative, and teachers suffered as much as their pupils' parents. In many cases teaching was only resorted to when all else had failed. Amongst the list of reasons given in the MSS Education Report for mistresses taking up schooling were 'because they were

widows', 'from poverty or misfortune', and 'because other trades failed' (MSS Table XI). Due to the poverty of their clients private schools often suffered bad debts and evidence to an 1837 Select Committee indicated this was as much as 20% (Gardiner 1984, 117-21). The rural nature of the county also made the recruitment of pupils difficult, with the MSS Education Report commenting: 'In some of the more thinly peopled parts of the county the teachers find it very difficult to carry on the business of the school at all'. Due to their low incomes dame and common schools often had a shorter life than other schools and this is indicated by about 50% of those in the Rutland survey having only been established in the previous eight years (MSS Table II). None of the common day schools provided a playground for the children, and only six of the charity schools had this facility; even half the superior schools were without them (MSS Table IX), though they were a feature of the new National schools in the process of being constructed.

Information is also provided on the principal teacher in each school (MSS Table XI). Only a minority of teachers (16%) were educated for their employment and they tended to be in the charity and public schools. The majority (66%) had received only the basic education designed for service or household duties. This was particularly in the case of the dame and common girls' schools. Other teachers came from a mixed background of professions: 'one tailor, one seamstress, one bonnet maker, two shoemakers, four shopkeepers, one labourer, one butcher, seven farmers, and five clergymen'. While the vast bulk of superior and charity day and evening school teachers (57 from 61) professed to be Church of England, dissenters formed a much higher proportion of the teachers in the other schools, dame (32%), common day (40%) and evening (50%).

There is very little comment on the competence of the teachers, probably because of the subjective nature of such an assessment, but also because the MSS had already identified the lack of teacher training as a major issue in its earlier reports (Gardner 1984, 108). This exhortation was repeated in their Rutland report: 'all exertions to improve the present system of education will prove of small avail until a class of teachers shall be properly and systematically trained for discharging the important duty of bringing up the youth of this country'. Probably because of this overwhelming concern the MSS Education Report, while acknowledging the gratifying 'marked difference' between the county's dame schools and those in the industrial towns, was patronising in its assessment of its mistresses: 'invariably persons of good moral character, of quiet, orderly habits, cleanly in their habitations,

decent in their personal appearance, and of respectful deportment'.

The combination of all these factors limited the benefit that Rutland's children could derive from their education, which was further compounded by the majority leaving school by about the age of 12. The MSS Education Report noted the early age that children of both sexes entered service. In some cases endowments specified the ages of children to be taught. At Glaston children were admitted at the age of four and continued at the school until the boys were aged nine and the girls ten. At Hambleton those nominated to receive free education were not to be under the age of seven or over eleven and were not to continue beyond the age of fourteen (Charity Commission 1839, 358 & 360). The demands of rural life meant that children were often kept away from school, the MSS Education Report stating: 'The attendance, however, is at no time very regular, as the scholars are frequently detained at home, or sent to assist in outdoor-work. Those residing at a distance are frequently kept away for two or three months during winter, and others are withdrawn during seed-time, for employment in "bird-frightening".' The 'usual great holiday' was at harvest, when some schools closed for four weeks and children were 'able to earn wages'; others continued, though the attendance of the children at these was 'generally much lower than at other seasons of the year'.

ACADEMIES.		ACADEMIES.	
Clark Edward, High street	<i>Free Grammar School</i> , Rev. Henry Holden, M.A. head master; Rev. Wm. Turner, second master	Adcock Ann, Market street	(Marked * take Boarders.)
Houghton Mary E. High street	Leaton Mary, High street	*Charity Eliza, Mill street	
<i>National School</i> , High street, Chas. Greenhow and Eliza Edgson	Penny Joseph, High street	Darlow Elizabeth, Church street	
Reeve Sarah, High street	Thorpe Wm. High street	Foster George, Beadhouse row	
Tomblin Elizabeth, High street	<i>Union School</i> , Miss Measures	* <i>Grammar School</i> , Rev. Spicer Wood, M.A., head master; Rev. Timy. Byers, M.A., second master; & J. H. Leach, writing mstr	
		*Leach James Hind, High street	
		National School, Wm. Stone and Frances Stimson	

Fig. 4. Academies in Uppingham (left) and Oakham (right) from White's 1863 Rutland Directory.

Sunday schools were frequently run by the masters and mistresses of the day schools, who thereby obtained an extra income (MSS Sunday Table X). The schoolmaster at North Luffenham received £3 per annum for his attendance at Sunday school, in addition to his £20 annuity for day school (Charity Commission 1839, 366). Like the day schools there was little systematic visitation of these schools to ensure standards were maintained. Attendance at these classes was often small and fluctuated. It was noted that few attended in the depth of winter, deterred by the cold. The 1851 Religious Census shows this situation continuing, with Sunday scholars at Teigh varying between 12

and 20 (Tomalin 2002, 79). Also most Sunday scholars, similar to day scholars, had stopped attending by the age of 12 or 13, the report commenting that farm duties on Sunday fell heaviest on the young and, as they got older, others 'felt shame to go'. These features led the MSS Education Report to contrast lower attendances at Rutland Sunday schools adversely with those of Manchester and Liverpool. However, it may also be associated with the smaller number of dissenter Sunday schools and lack of Roman Catholics in Rutland, compared to the industrial towns.

A large majority (80%) of Rutland's Sunday schools had been established before 1820, indicating that the county had been part of the rapid expansion of the movement in the early decades of the nineteenth century (MSS Sunday Table III). Sunday school was the sole education for 30% of children receiving an education (MSS Summary Table). Unlike the day and evening schools girls formed a higher proportion of those attending (48.3%). The majority of Sunday schools were attached to the parish church, but the total for Church of England Sunday schools was 55 and the number of parishes with Sunday schools was 46: some had two, split by gender (Enquiry 1835, 762-5). In addition there were 14 dissenter Sunday schools, but whereas each Church of England school had an average of 2 teachers, the dissenters had an average of 9 (MSS Sunday Table IV). Thus, despite the small number of schools, dissenters taught 27% of all children attending Sunday schools. They were also able to provide a better pupil to teacher ratio of 7 compared to the Church of England schools of 21. This competition provided an incentive for the construction of National schools in support of the Church of England. The time spent at Sunday school varied from less than 2 hours to over 6, with most children spending between 3 and 4 hours (MSS Sunday Table V). During this time the vast majority were taught a very limited curriculum of reading, religion and morals (MSS Sunday Table VI). Sabbatarian objections to secular instruction from the 1820s had gradually led to a dropping of writing in Sunday schools (Stephens 1998, 5). Or as Horace Mann expressed the matter, 'If children are taught to read [at Sunday school] it is only for the purpose of removing an impediment to the grand design [reading scripture]' (Mann 1854, 71). The MSS Education Report gives an outline of the activity at a typical Sunday school: 'Although the majority profess to use the Scriptures in school, time rarely allows more than an opportunity of learning the Collect, repeating the Catechism, or reading from the Prayer Book the Gospel of the day.' The Church of England Sunday schools were mostly conducted in charity

school rooms (84%), but whereas Church of England teachers tended to be paid, the dissenters were not (MSS Sunday Tables X & XI). Not all the charity school rooms were used for Sunday school (25 of 32). The other Sunday schools were conducted either in church (6) or in a kitchen/sitting room. Dissenters conducted their classes either in a school room or the chapel, and only one class was run in a kitchen/sitting room. By comparison with day schools the Sunday schools were conducted in cleaner, better ventilated and lighted conditions (MSS Sunday Table XI). As with day schools corporal punishment was not universally inflicted, but occurred in a higher proportion of Church of England schools (60%) than in those run by dissenters (36%). In contrast rewards were awarded in 71% of dissenter schools and only 32% of Church of England Sunday schools. In 1854, Oakham Congregationalists included in their rules: 'That scholars capable of reading and who are regular in their attendance, diligent and well behaved, shall on the recommendation of their teacher have the privilege of receiving a library book, once a fortnight' (ROLLR, N/C/R35/D). Unlike the day schools where often parents had to provide books, at Sunday schools books tended to be provided either by charity or through congregational collections (MSS Sunday Table VIII).

The MSS Education Report describes a very mixed bag of schools for Rutland's poor. The product of these schools can be seen in the educational achievements of adults, described in the MSS Condition of Population Report for the three villages of Braunston, Egleton and Hambleton: those that could read (92%), write (61%), and cipher (perform arithmetic) (38%). This order of educational ability is perhaps not surprising as it reflects the amount the MSS Education Report records them as being offered in Rutland's schools: reading (100%), writing (48%) and arithmetic (41%) (MSS Table VIII). There was of course a large distinction between writing and arithmetic being offered and taught, the latter often requiring an extra payment. The 'good level' of education, in these three villages, is confirmed by the MSS Condition of Population Report observing that half the children who had left school had remained there above five years. The lower level of arithmetical ability in the villages was probably a reflection of girls not being taught this subject, in preference to sewing.

By the 1830s education was at a crossroads. Until this point it had been dominated by the religious societies, but increasingly secular needs were being championed and government was urged to intervene. As a result of earlier petitioning, the government had made its first ever intervention in education, in 1833,

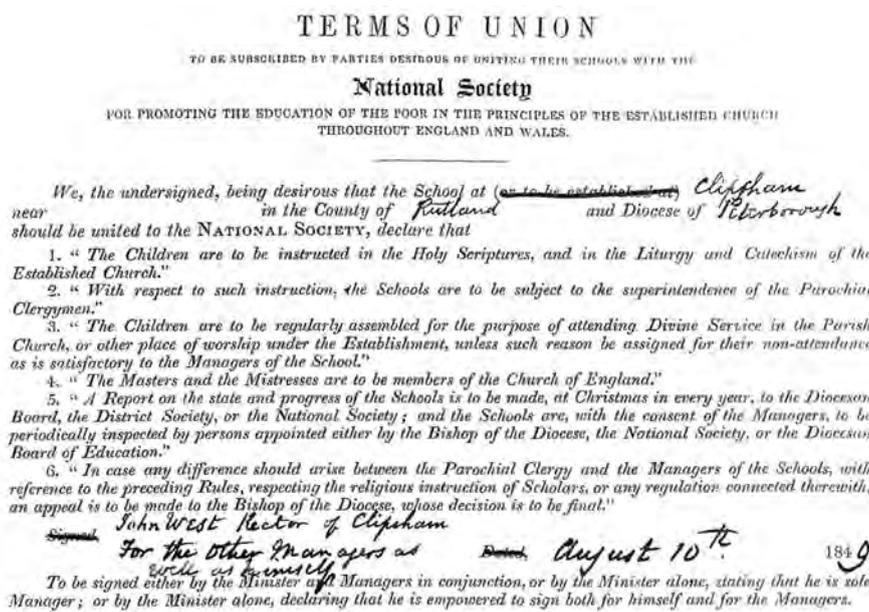


Fig.5. Application to join the National Society from the Rector of Clipsham, on behalf of the village school (by permission of COERC, NS/7/3244).

Year	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
Number	25	32	27	63	91	113	117	108	67	35

Table 4. Advertisements for educational establishments in the Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury showing the highest weekly figure of each year, usually in January.

with a grant for the erection of school houses. By 1839, it was giving £30,000 per annum for education. Of this grant 80% went to the Church of England based National Society and 20% to the dissenter favoured British and Foreign School Society. However, the UK was a long way behind German and Swiss states which had already established a system of schools based on compulsory attendance. This backwardness has been attributed by some economic historians as the main reason for the UK falling economically behind Germany later in the century. Under pressure the government appointed three select committees to study school provision. The work of the Statistical Societies, such as the study of Rutland, was part of this process, providing the essential fact and figures. The outcome was the appointment, in 1839, of a Committee of the Privy Council to consider 'all matters affecting the education of the people'. One of the major concerns of this committee was the poor training of teachers and it proposed a state training college. This immediately created a storm of protest over who should control education: the church bodies or the state. In a pre-emptive move a number of diocesan training colleges were established, in 1840. Later that decade the weaknesses in the monitorial system were recognised and the government instituted a pupil-teacher scheme with salaries for those prepared to

serve a five-year apprenticeship to teaching. The process of gradual government involvement continued, with the appointment in the 1840s of the first government inspectors. However, even in 1861 a government commission still rejected compulsory attendance at school as 'neither desirable or attainable' despite establishing that nationally average attendance was only 76%, with one third of pupils attending for less than 100 days in a year, and that less than 20% stayed on after the age of 10. Nevertheless in 1870 an Act of Parliament established a Board of Education to which the local rate payer could apply if they felt local schooling was inadequate and in 1880 school attendance until the age of 10 was made compulsory (Roderick 1978, 12-18). The rise of private schooling throughout the early nineteenth century and its decline with the establishment of Boards of Education can be seen in the number of advertisements for educational establishments in the local paper (Table 4) (Young 1975, 93).

The Manchester Statistical Society Report on the state of education in Rutland shows a great division in the quality of education provided to the various classes of society. The grammar schools concentrated on a 'classical education' and on preparing a proportion of their pupils, mostly boarders from outside the county, to attend university. At the same time the vast majority of Rutland children were taught by a

motley range of individuals, from those who had received some training to others that had taken up schooling ‘because other trades failed’. Rutland had been chosen for the Report because its population growth was low and consequently its schools were not under the pressures seen in the rapidly expanding industrial towns. Nevertheless, at the time of the Report, an estimated 29% of its 5 to 15 year olds did not appear to receive instruction, be it at day or Sunday school, though very few would have received no instruction at all during their childhood. Sunday schools had rapidly developed from their inception in the late eighteenth century and by the time of the report were providing the sole education to 30% of the county’s children who were in receipt of education. The precepts of religious societies set up to promote education dominated the county’s schooling, in particular the National Society, which had been founded by the Church of England and was supported by the local land owners. The association of the county’s schools with the National Society, in the nineteenth century, is the reason so many of the

county’s present day Primary Schools are Church of England sponsored. While reading was universally taught in all schools together with moral or religious education, writing and arithmetic and other subjects were more limited. The Report’s definition of a dame school specifically excluded teaching of any subject other than reading, religious studies, sewing and knitting. Sunday schools avoided what were seen as secular subjects and focused on reading and religion. It was therefore not surprising that the MSS Condition of Population Report had found high levels of reading ability in the adult population, but much lower skills in writing and arithmetic. While charity could be used to educate some children, mainly of the very poor, other parents had to pay. Agricultural wages had fallen by up to one third in the decade prior to the Reports, and Rutland’s inhabitants were described in them as living in ‘thrifty poverty’. Consequently, the number of its children being given even the limited education of the time is an eloquent statement of the lower classes’ understanding of its importance.

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COERC: Church of England Record Centre, London.  
 ROLLR: Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.

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## Appendix

### Report of a Committee of the Manchester Statistical Society on the State of Education in the County of Rutland in the year 1838

*[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, 27th August, 1839]*

The districts heretofore examined by the Manchester Statistical Society, with a view to ascertain the state of education, have for the most part been considerable towns; and in some of them a very rapid increase of population had evidently not been met by any corresponding or adequate expansion of established institutions. The Society, therefore, selected for their next inquiry an agricultural district, where a very slight growth of population had taken place, and where, consequently, many more favourable results might be expected, especially as regards the adequacy of the existing means for educating the people.

The county of Rutland, being the district selected, was carefully examined in the year 1838, and the accompanying tables contain a minute analysis of the results of the inquiry.

The small size of the parishes is one of the first things which attracts attention on comparing Rutlandshire with the county of Lancaster, there being in the former a parish church for every 400 inhabitants. Another difference is, that in Rutlandshire there is little or no Roman Catholic population, which appears from the circumstance that no places of worship or Sunday-schools connected with that denomination were met with. Estimating the members of other denominations by the number of churches or chapels, and the number of Sunday-scholars, (which may probably afford a fair criterion), it would appear that about two-sevenths of the population belong to various sects of Protestant Dissenters, amongst whom the Wesleyan Methodists preponderate, while the remaining five-sevenths are connected with the Church. In Lancashire, on the other hand, the numbers attending Dissenters' Sunday-schools decidedly preponderate over those attending the church schools, the latter containing in Liverpool about 41 percent, and in Manchester only 31 percent of the whole number.

The returns of schools obtained by the government in 1833 appear to have been made more accurately in this county than in any place previously examined by the Society. One error we take this opportunity of correcting, *viz.*: ten infant schools are reported, whereas there is not in the whole county a single school of the class which bears this title; the ten schools in question are mere dame-schools. (It is impossible to expect accuracy in returns obtained by circulars, various constructions being put upon the same question by different individuals, who consequently classify their replies upon various principles. The government seems now to be perfectly aware of this difficulty, for Lord, John Russell, in presenting the returns of schools this session, acknowledged the little dependence that could be placed on their accuracy.)

The population of Rutlandshire was, in 1811	16,380
It had increased 13 percent between that date and 1821 when it was	18,485
But in the following decennial period the increase was only 5 percent, the population in 1831 being (males, 9,721-females 9,664)	19,385

It is to be presumed, therefore, that 20,000 will be a fair estimate in round numbers of the present population. Of this number 5,000 must of course be children between 5 and 15 years of age, of whom 3,561 were found to be in attendance either at day or Sunday schools, leaving 1,439, or about 29 percent, not receiving school instruction.

Taking the Scholars of all ages:

1,117	or about 5.6 percent of the population, attend day and evening schools only
1,922	or about 9.6 percent of the population, attend both day and Sunday schools
1,274	or about 6.4 percent of the population, attend Sunday schools only
4,313	

Numbers alone afford a very imperfect test of this subject, as so much depends in education upon the character and quality of the instruction imparted; but, before proceeding to comment upon the latter point, we may premise that, comparing the number of scholars with the population in Rutlandshire and in other places examined by the Society, the following rank may be assigned to each:-

Sunday Schools	[%]	Day and Evening Schools	[%]
Manchester and Salford	17	York	17
Rutlandshire	16	Rutlandshire	15
York	12	Liverpool	13
Liverpool	6	Manchester and Salford	10

According to this valuation the palm must be conceded to York and Rutlandshire, over either Manchester and Salford or Liverpool; for although inferior to Manchester in the number and efficiency of the Sunday-schools, they supply a more general day-school instruction than is found to exist in Manchester by at least 50 percent and although not more than 20 to 30 percent better than Liverpool in the relative number of day-scholars, yet the Sunday-school instruction is in more than double the proportion.

As, however, Sunday-schools very rarely profess to give secular instruction, we shall pursue the comparison only in reference to the day schools.

The proportion of Superior Private and Boarding schools in Rutlandshire is small, as compared with Manchester or Liverpool; in York they bear a larger proportion to the total population than in either of those towns. This is a class of schools respecting which the Society has never made any minute reports, and we therefore proceed to those of a humbler class.

The dame and common schools are attended (percent of population)

In	Liverpool, by	5.17
"	Rutlandshire, by	6.25
"	Manchester and Salford, by	6.52

There are as many endowed or charity schools in Rutlandshire as there are parishes; and, comparing the proportion of the population educated in these different places out of charitable funds and endowments, we find:-

2.45%	of the population of Manchester and Salford
5.87%	of the population of Liverpool
8.26%	of the population of Rutlandshire

York has a still larger proportion of charity and endowed schools, as they contain 9.63 percent of the population; while it is the lowest in self-supporting; schools, in which there are only 4.77 percent of the population.

It appears by the preceding calculations that the people do nearly as much for themselves in Rutlandshire as they do in Manchester, notwithstanding the more extensive endowment of their schools.

In a separate examination of three parishes in Rutlandshire carried on from house to house [MSS Condition of Population Report] the larger attendance of children at school in that county was confirmed, and it also appeared that the average time of their remaining at day-schools was greater than in Lancashire. In Pendleton, near Manchester, one-third only of the children appeared to remain at school above five years, and one-third remained less than three years; while, in the three parishes of Rutlandshire which were visited, it was found that, of the children who had left school, one-half had remained there above five years.

*Charity Schools:-* There are many schools belonging to this class in Rutlandshire; but, as regards their management and efficiency, the majority are only on a par with dame and common day schools. (This will be observed on examination of the Tables: in two-thirds of these schools no books are provided for the scholars, except such as the parents may send.) The parties who contribute by subscription to their support appear, with few exceptions, to take little further interest in their welfare.

Like the scholars in common day-schools, the majority leave before or about the age of 12. The usual great holiday is in harvest, when the children are able to earn wages. In none of these schools were found any industrial occupations; but in the Union Workhouse schools something of this kind was said to be contemplated.

The teachers generally bear irreproachable characters, which has doubtless much influence on the character and deportment of the population, whose manners appeared exceedingly orderly and respectful.

*Dame Schools:-* In the dame-schools it was very gratifying to observe the marked difference in general appearance and order, as compared with schools of a similar class in large towns. The mistresses are almost invariably persons of good moral character, of quiet, orderly habits, cleanly in their habitations, decent in their personal appearance, and of respectful deportment. The scholars too, except in one or two instances, were found clean and tidy, however mean their attire, and generally remained orderly and quiet during the visit. The rod or cane is much less in use than in the towns formerly examined, though it usually forms part of the furniture of the school. The girls were generally found sewing or knitting, and in many schools the boys learn to knit.

A Society for the promotion of industry, supported by subscription, exists in the county; and prizes are given to those children who, according to their age, have performed the most work during the year. This excites a great competition as to which village shall produce the Queen of the Knitters, or the Queen of the Sewers, and many ladies in the county consider the Society to have great influence in inducing habits of diligence and order. The moral effect is no doubt good, and a greater interest in the lower class of schools is also thereby created amongst the gentry.

Very few of the dames pretend to do more than they are competent to perform. They labour, with the few books they possess, to initiate the scholars in the mystery of spelling, or even carry them so far as to read a little, but here they stop.

*Common Day-Schools:-* The remarks on the superior condition of the dame-schools equally apply to these; and, taken altogether, the common schools appear to be nearly as efficient as the charity-schools.

During harvest-time the attendance of the children is generally much lower than at other seasons of the year. Some of these schools, and of the charity-schools, were, in fact, closed for four weeks at this season, which was also found to be the case in the National and Lancastrian schools at York. The attendance, however, is at no time very regular, as the scholars are frequently detained at home, or sent to assist in outdoor-work. Those residing at a distance are frequently kept away for two or three months during winter, and others are withdrawn during seed-time, for employment in "bird-frightening".

Want of books is a very serious impediment to the usefulness of these schools. None, however, were found so totally destitute of books as in some other places, but nearly all complained of difficulties arising from this cause. The general understanding is, that parents shall provide books; but this is so generally neglected, that teachers are under the necessity of providing the cheapest they can procure, without regard to their being suitable; or else, such books as a few more favoured scholars may bring are used for the whole school.

In some of the more thinly peopled parts of the county the teachers find it very difficult to carry on the business of the school at all.

*Sunday Schools*:- There are 53 parishes and 2 hamlets in the county, of which 46 have at least one Sunday-school, leaving only 7 parishes and 2 hamlets without one.

The average attendance fluctuates much, particularly in those schools which are held in churches. In these cases very few scholars attend during the depth of winter, which is probably in many instances owing to their being deterred by the cold.

There is in almost every parish one school attached to the Church of England, and sometimes two, of which one is confined to boys, and the other to girls and the very young boys. The teachers are generally paid, and most frequently they are masters or mistresses of day-schools. One of the Sunday-schools is kept by a female, who provides a room for the scholars, and receives 6d. per week. Two or three are conducted by ladies or gentlemen residing in the parish without charge, and a few of the paid teachers are occasionally aided in a similar manner. Most of them receive an occasional visit from the clergyman, but, excepting in one or two cases, there is no systematic visitation. Although the majority profess to use the Scriptures in school, time rarely allows more than an opportunity of learning the Collect, repeating the Catechism, or reading from the Prayer Book the Gospel of the day.

The small attendance at Sunday-schools is remarkable, when contrasted with that which is found to exist in the more populous districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire. This may be partly occasioned by the early age at which both males and females enter service. It has also been a custom for the children to discontinue their attendance at the age of 12 or 13; and some who were questioned as to the cause, said they “felt shame to go”. Farm-servants will always have a greater difficulty in continuing to attend Sunday-schools than the young people in towns, as they have duties which require to be performed on Sunday, as on any other day; and on Sunday these duties frequently devolve in a greater degree than usual upon the younger servants.

These details exhibit, to any one conversant with the Sunday-schools of Manchester and Salford, the great inferiority of those in Rutlandshire. The reverse, however, holds good when comparing the dame and common schools in that county with those in Manchester or Liverpool, although they also would admit of immense improvement.

Pains should be taken to introduce amongst them a sufficient supply of good school-books, which are almost equally needed in the charity schools; but all exertions to improve the present system of education will prove of small avail until a class of teachers shall be properly and systematically trained for discharging the important duty of bringing up the youth of this country.

### General Summary of Schools and Scholars in the County of Rutland, 1838

Estimated Population 20,000	Age			Sex		Total		Percentage		
	Under 5 years	Between 5 and 15 years	Above 15 years	Male	Female	Schools	Scholars	Of the total estimated population	Of the total no. of Scholars	Of the type of School
Sunday Schools										
Church of England	229	2077	13	1221	1098	55	2319	11.6	53.74	72.56
Protestant Dissenters	91	780	6	429	448	14	877	4.38	20.32	27.44
Total	320	2857	19	1650	1546	69	3196	15.98	74.06	100
Percentage	10.01	89.39	0.60	51.63	48.37					
Returned also as Day or Evening Scholars	134	1775	13				1922	9.6	44.49	
Receiving Sunday School Tuition only	186	1082	6				1274	6.38	29.57	
Day Schools										
Dame Schools	249	429	–	277	401	50	678	3.39	15.71	22.87
Common Boys' and Girls' Schools	77	463	–	272	268	25	540	2.7	12.52	18.22
Superior Private and Boarding Schools	4	125	7	85	51	9	136	0.68	3.15	4.59
Supported solely by the Scholars	330	1017	7	634	720	84	1354	6.77	31.38	45.68
Endowed and Charity Schools wholly or in part supported by the public	154	1419	37	941	669	49	1610	8.05	37.31	54.32
Total	484	2436	44	1575	1389	133	2964	14.82	68.69	100
Percentage	16.33	82.18	1.49	53.14	46.86					
Evening Schools										
Supported solely by the Scholars	–	13	20	24	9	4	33	0.16	0.77	44.0
Connected with Charity Schools	–	21	21	42	–	3	42	0.21	0.97	56.0
Total	–	34	41	66	9	7	75	0.37	1.74	100
Percentage	–	45.30	54.70	88	12					
Total Number of Schools and Scholars	670	3552	91			209	4313	21.57	100	
Percentage	15.53	82.36	2.11							

[Author's note: Minor adjustments have been made to this table and to several others for ease of reference.]

## Day and Evening Schools

Table I – Summary of Schools, and of Children receiving Education, exclusive of Sunday Schools

Description of Schools	Number of Schools	Number of Teachers		Number of Scholars			Number who attend Sunday School
		Regular	Occasional	Boys	Girls	Total	
Day Schools supported solely by Parents	50	50	–	277	401	678	316
Dame Schools	8	9	–	186	46	232	120
Common Day Schools for							
{ Boys	17	19	–	86	222	308	159
{ Girls	6	6	–	81	–	81	–
Superior Private & Boarding Schools for							
{ Boys	3	5	3	4	51	55	1
{ Girls							
Total supported by Parents	84	89	3	634	720	1354	596
Charity and Public Day Schools	49	57	7	941	669	1610	1300
Total Day Schools	133	146	10	1575	1389	2964	1896
Evening Schools	4	4	–	24	9	33	2
Charity Evening Schools*	3	3	5	42	–	42	24
Total Day and Evening Schools	140	153	15	1641	1398	3039	1922 †

\* These are attached to Charity Day Schools, two being conducted by the same teachers, and one by the vicar of the parish, aided by some of his private pupils.

† Of this number 134 are under 5 years of age, 1775 between 5 and 15, and 13 above 15 years.

Table II – Date of Establishment

Date	Dame	Common		Superior		Charity and Public		Evening	Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Day	Evening		
Before 1801	–	–	2	–	–	14	1	–	17
1801 to 1810	5	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	11
1811 to 1820	6	–	3	1	–	10	–	–	20
1821 to 1830	12	3	5	–	1	6	–	1	28
Since 1830	27	5	7	4	2	13	2	3	63
Not ascertained	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Total	50	8	17	6	3	49	3	4	140

Table III – Statement of the Mode in which the Schools are Supported

	No. of Schools	No. of Scholars		
		Boys	Girls	Total
FREE – No part of the expense being borne by the scholars				
Clothes, board, and education provided	2 *	20	6	26
Education only provided	34 †	402	228	630
Ditto Grammar School, Oakham	1	4	–	4
NOT FREE – Part of the expense being borne by the scholar				
Charity Schools	14 ‡	255	289	544
Scholars attending Free Schools who pay	–	253	146	399
Grammar School, Uppingham	1	19	–	19
Scholars attending Grammar School, Oakham, who pay	–	30	–	30
NOT FREE – The whole expense being borne by the Scholars				
Dame, Common and Superior Day Schools, Boarding and Evening Schools	87	658	729	1387
Total	139	1641	1398	3039

\* Union workhouse schools, Oakham, being supported out of the poor's rates.

† Of this number, 10 are supported by specific endowment; 19 by subscriptions, one of which is an evening school; 5 by private charity, one of which is an evening school; and one partly by endowment and partly by private charity.

‡ One of these is supported by endowment, 7 by subscription, and 6 by private charity.

Table IV – Statement of the weekly Charge for Instruction in Schools supported by payments of the scholars, exclusive of superior schools

Weekly Charge in pence (d)	Dame Schools		Common Day Schools				Evening Schools	
			Boys		Girls			
	Schools	Scholars	Schools	Scholars	Schools	Scholars	Schools	Scholars
2	7	57	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	25	331	–	–	2	57	–	–
4	17	260	–	–	2	46	1	9
6	1	30	3	66	6	85	3	24
7	–	–	–	–	3	36	–	–
8	–	–	3	95	1	26	–	–
9	–	–	–	–	1	21	–	–
10	–	–	1	60	1	30	–	–
Total	50	678	7	221	16	301	4	33
Average	3.25		7.43		6.13		5.50	

In two common day schools the information could not be obtained.

In the dame-schools the highest charge made in each case for instruction in reading and needle-work has been taken in forming the above table.

In common day-schools, and in evening schools, the highest charge made in each case for instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic (including plain needle-work) has been taken.

An additional charge of 3d. per week is made for instruction in grammar, geography, or mensuration in the few schools in which these subjects are taught.

Table V – Statement of the Ages of the Children

Schools	Under 5 years	Between 5 and 15 years	Above 15 years	Total	
Dame	249	429	–	678	
Common	{ Boys'	19	213	–	232
	{ Girls'	58	250	–	308
Superior private and boarding	{ Boys'	1	73	7	81
	{ Girls'	3	52	–	55
Charity	{ Day	154	1419	37	1610
	{ Evening	–	21	21	42
Evening	–	13	20	33	
Total	484	2470	85	3039	

Table VI – Method of Instruction professed to be pursued

	Dame	Common		Superior		Charity and Public		Evening
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Day	Evening	
Out of the total number of	50	8	17	6	3	49	3	4
The scholars are classed in	–	6	6	2	3	22	–	–
The monitorial system is adopted in	–	–	1	–	–	21	–	–
The scholars are questioned systematically in what they learn in	–	–	–	4	3	1	1	1
ditto partially in	1	2	1	–	–	8	–	–
There are appointed visitors in	–	–	–	–	–	7	–	–
ditto occasional visitors in	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–
There are periodical examinations - annual	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
- half yearly	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–
- every 4 months	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
There are occasional examinations in	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–
Maps and Globes are used in	–	–	–	5	1	2	–	–
Maps only are used in	–	1	2	1	2	–	–	–

It is, of course, to be understood that, with regard to each method, the contrary system is adopted in the remaining schools.

In one charity, and one common girls' school, the information was refused. In two superior boys' schools it was refused with regard to the questioning of the scholars, and in one with regard to the classes.

Table VII – Discipline of the Schools

Corporal punishments are inflicted in 42 dame, 8 common boys', 5 common girls', 1 superior boys', 46 charity day, and 2 charity evening schools.

The scholars are punished by tasks in 2 superior girls' school, and by confinement in 1 charity day school.

No punishments are resorted to in 8 dame, 11 common girls', 2 superior boys', 1 charity day, 1 charity evening, and in the 4 evening schools. The information could not be obtained in the remaining schools.

Rewards of books are given in 1 dame, 1 common girls', and 1 charity school.

Various prizes are given in 1 superior boys', 1 superior girls', and 1 charity day school. The information was not obtained from 2 common, 1 superior, and 2 charity schools. In the remaining schools no rewards were given.

There is neither a lending library nor a benefit or clothing society attached to any day or evening school in the county.

Table VIII – Subjects professed to be Taught in each Class of Schools

Subjects	Dame	Common		Superior		Charity and Public		Evening	Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Day	Evening		
Out of the total number of	50	8	17	6 †	3	49	3	4	140
Reading	50	8	17	5	3	49	3	4	139
Writing	–	8	17	4	3	29	3	4	68
Arithmetic	–	8	10	4	3	27 ‡	2	4	58
Sewing	39	5	17	–	3	31	1	–	96
Knitting	43 *	4	12	–	–	31	–	–	90
Grammar	–	4	5	5	3	3	–	–	20
Geography	–	3	4	5	3	3	–	–	18
History	–	2	2	5	3	3	–	–	15
Mensuration	–	–	–	5	–	2	–	–	7
Mathematics	–	–	–	4	–	2	–	–	6
Drawing	–	–	–	4	2	2	–	–	8
Music	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	4
Modern Languages	–	–	–	3	1	2	–	–	6
Classics	–	–	–	6	–	2	–	–	8
Morals	–	5	11	6	3	47	2	–	74
Church Catechism	32	4	14	–	–	8	–	–	58
Watts' Catechism §	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Religious Instruction	16	2	1	6	3	41	2	–	71

\* In 22 of these schools the boys are taught to knit.

† One of these consists of a few private pupils who are preparing for the university, and one in a preparatory boys' school kept by a lady.

‡ In one of these schools the four first rules only are taught.

§ [namely Watts 1730].

Table IX – Locality, Accommodation, and Order of the Schools, with the way in which Books are provided

	Dame	Common		Superior		Charity and Public		Evening	Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Day	Evening		
Out of the total number of	50	8	17	6	3	49	3	4	140
With a school room	1	7	5	5	3	32	3	2	58
School held in a kitchen or sitting room *	49	1	11	–	–	17	–	2	80
Having seats for all the scholars	49	8	16	3	3	49	3	4	135
Having seats for only part of the scholars	1	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	9
With a play ground	–	–	–	4	1	6	1 ‡	–	12
Without a play ground	50	8	16	1	2	42	2	4	125
Orderly	35	3	12	2	3	45	–	2	102
Orderly Middling	4	4	3	–	–	1	–	–	12
Disorderly	11	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	12
Books supplied by: parents	41 †	8	17	6	3	33	3	4	115
teacher	7 †	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	8
either	2 †	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
charity	–	–	–	–	–	13	–	–	13
poor-rates	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	2

Note:- In a few schools the information could not be obtained.

\* In a majority of these cases the room is used for both purposes.

† Several of these were nearly destitute of books.

‡ An evening-school attached to, and held in, the National school room at Oakham.

Table X – Physical Condition of the Schools

Description of Schools	Total	Not Ascertained	Total Ascertained	State of Cleanliness			Ventilated			Lighted		
				Clean	Middling	Dirty	Well	Middling	Ill	Well	Middling	Ill
Dame	50	–	50	39	3	8	14	12	24	5	34	11
Common Boys	8	–	8	6	2	–	1	3	4	–	7	1
Common Girls	17	1	16	14	2	–	9	5	2	7	5	4
Superior Boys	6	3	3	3	–	–	1	2	–	3	–	–
Superior Girls	3	–	3	3	–	–	2	1	–	2	1	–
Charity, &c.	49	1	48	44	4	–	34	10	4	–	2	–
Evening	4	2	2	1	1	–	–	1	1	32	13	3
Charity Evening	3	–	3	2	1	–	2	1	–	2	1	–
Total	140	7	133	112	13	8	63	35	35	51	63	19

Table XI – Information relative to the Teachers

	Dame	Common		Superior		Charity and Public		Evening	Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Day	Evening		
Out of total number of Teachers *	50 †	8	17	6	3	49	3	4 §	140
No other occupations	42 ‡	6	16	3	3	45	2	2	119
With other occupations	8	2	–	3	–	3	1	2	19
Years engaged in teaching, viz									
less than 1 year	2	–	–	–	–	2	–	1	5
1 year	7	2	1	–	1	4	–	–	15
2 years	4	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	7
3 years	1	–	–	–	–	3	–	1	5
4 years	3	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	5
5 years	6	–	2	–	1	2	1	–	12
6 years	4	1	1	–	–	1	–	–	7
7 years and upwards	23	5	12	3	1	29	2	–	75
Place of birth, viz England	50	8	16	6	3	49	2	4	138
Education, viz									
For the employment	1	2	2	–	1	12	1	1	20
Household duties	27	–	10	1	2	11	–	–	51
Servitude	20	–	2	–	–	10	–	1	33
Other employment (see note #)	2	6	1	3	–	9	–	2	23
Religious Profession, viz									
Church of England	32	5	10	5	3	46	3	2	106
Dissenters	16	3	7	1	–	3	–	2	32
No profession	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2

Note:- When the figures do not agree with the total numbers, the information could not be obtained.

\* The above information refers only to the principal teacher in each school.

† Of the mistresses of these schools 24 represented themselves as having undertaken the office of teacher for a maintenance, 5 to aid their husbands, 5 because they were widows, 4 from poverty or misfortune, 2 by request of neighbours, 2 from infirmity, 2 from the illness of relatives, 1 “because other trades failed”, and 4 assigned no cause.

‡ One of these receives 1s 6d. per week from the Union.

§ Two of these are kept by teachers of day-schools, one by a labourer, and one by a butcher.

# Viz:- one tailor, one seamstress, one bonnet maker, two shoemakers, four shopkeepers, one labourer, one butcher, seven farmers, and five clergymen.

### Sunday Schools

Table I – Summary of Sunday Schools and of Scholars on the books, and in average attendance

Religious Denominations	No. of Schools	No. of Teachers	Scholars					Total on the Books	Average attendance *	Average attendance as percentage of Total on books	Ave. No. Scholars attending a school
			Age			Sex					
			Under 5	Between 5 and 15	Above 15	Boys	Girls				
Church of England	55 †	112 ‡	229	2077	13	1221	1098	2319	1850	79.8	34
Wesleyan	6	56	36	353	–	177	212	389	303	77.9	50
Independent	4	42	23	236	–	132	127	259	196	75.7	46
Baptist	2	17	19	104	6	70	59	129	90	69.7	45
General Baptist	2	12	13	87	–	50	50	100	90	90	45
Total	69	239	320	2857	19	1650	1546	3196	2529	79.1	37

\* As many of the schools keep no account of the attendance the average has been in these cases made according to the judgment of the respective teachers.

† In one of these schools with 29 scholars the total numbers on the books was returned as being the average attendance. The reason assigned for this punctuality was, that the scholars are punished in case of absence

‡ Two of the Church of England schools have a few occasional teachers, who have not been included in this number, as their attendance is very irregular.

Table II – Size of Sunday Schools

Number of Sunday Schools in which	
the number on the books does not exceed 50	50
the number on the books exceeds 50 and is not above 100	17
the number on the books exceeds 100	2
	69
the average does not exceed 50	60
the average exceeds 50 and is not above 100	7
the average exceeds 100	2
	69

Table III – Date of Establishment

Established	Schools	Scholars			Average Attendance
		Boys	Girls	Total	
In and before 1820	49	1341	1224	2565	2007
1821 to 1830 inclusive	8	117	128	245	193
Since 1830	12	192	194	386	329
Total	69	1650	1546	3196	2529

Table IV – Number of Scholars to a Teacher

Number of Scholars to one teacher	Church of England			Dissenters		
	Schools	Teachers	Scholars	Schools	Teachers	Scholars
Not above 10	8	29	208	14	127	877
From 10 to 25	23	53	927	–	–	–
From 25 to 50	22 *	27	978	–	–	–
From 51 to 100	2	3	206	–	–	–
Total	55	112	2319	14	127	877

\* See note ‡ to Table 1.

Table V – Employment of School hours

Total Time in School	Time devoted to direct instructions					Total No. of Sunday Schools
	Less than 2 hours	2 and under 3 hours	3 and under 4 hours	4 and under 5 hours	5 and under 6 hours	
Less than 2 hours	1	–	–	–	–	1
2 and under 3 hours	2	8	–	–	–	10
3 and under 4 hours	–	19	17	–	–	36
4 and under 5 hours	–	2	10	5	–	17
5 and under 6 hours	–	–	2	2	–	4
6 hours and upwards	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total no. of Sunday Schools	3	29	29	7	1	69

Table VI – Subjects Taught in the Schools

Subjects Taught	Schools	Scholars			Average Attendance
		Boys	Girls	Total	
Out of the total number of	69	1650	1546	3196	2529
Reading, Religion, and Morals, taught in	69	1650	1546	3196	2529
Writing, taught in	3	94	36	130	101
Singing, taught in	2	41	21	62	46

Table VII – General Conduct of the Schools

	Number of Schools	Number of Teachers	Scholars	
			Total on the books	Average attendance
Out of the total number of	69	239	3196	2529
With appointed visitors	11	35	559	430
With occasional visitors	1	1	46	46
With half-yearly examinations	1	2	99	82
With occasional examinations	2	22	156	119
Upon the monitorial system	12	16	592	489
Where the scholars are systematically questioned on what they read and learn	10	87	630	514
Where the scholars are occasionally questioned on what they read and learn	5	22	386	290
Attached to charity schools and conducted by the same teachers	41	83	1800	1452
Not attached to charity schools and conducted by paid teachers	11	22	432	319
Not attached to charity schools, and conducted by gratuitous teachers	17	134	964	758

Table VIII - Discipline of the Schools

	Church of England	Dissenter	Total
Out of the total number of	55	14	69
Corporal punishments are inflicted in	33	5	38
Rewards of books are given in	14	10	24
Rewards in money are given in	3	–	3
Rewards of books and money are given in	1	–	1
No rewards are given	37	4	41

Table IX - Libraries and Societies attached to the Schools

There are Lending Libraries attached to 8 Sunday schools, containing 404 scholars.  
 There is not any Evening School, Benefit Society, or Savings Bank, attached to any.  
 In some of the parishes there is a Clothing Society, but it has no connection with the Sunday School.

Table X – Manner in which conducted, whether by paid or gratuitous Teachers, whether connected with Charity School, and whether the attendance of the Scholars is compulsory

Sunday Schools	Schools	Teacher	Scholars
Connected with Charity Schools (Church of England):			
Having the same teachers (attendance compulsory)	22	29	946
Having the same teachers aided by others (ditto)	13 *	45	664
Having the same teachers (attendance not compulsory)	5	5	145
Having the same teachers aided by others, (ditto)	1 †	4	45
	41	83	1800
Not connected with Charity Schools:			
Being conducted by paid teachers. Church of England	11	22	432
Being conducted by gratuitous teachers, Ditto	3	7	87
Ditto Dissenters	14	127	877
Total	69	239	3196

Note:- There are no Catholic Sunday Schools in the county.

\* The additional teachers in seven of these schools are paid and in six gratuitous.

† The additional teachers in this school are gratuitous.

Table XI – Locality and physical condition of the Schools, and the way in which Books are provided

		Church of England	Dissenters	Total	
Out of the total number of		55	14	69	
Locality	in a Schoolroom	25	3	28	
	in a Church or Chapel	6	10 *	16	
	in a Kitchen or Sitting-room	24	1	25	
Physical Condition	Cleanliness { Clean	35	7	42	
	{ Middling	3 †	–	3	
	Ventilation { Well	23	10	33	
		{ Middling	9	–	9
		{ Ill	7	–	7
	Light { Good	22	10	32	
{ Middling		15	–	15	
{ Bad		1	–	1	
Books Provided	by congregational collections	30	13	43	
	by private charity	15	1	16	
	by parents	3	–	3	
	out of property bequeathed to the poor	5	–	5	
	out of poor's rates	2	–	2	

Note:- Where the figures do not agree with the total numbers, the information could not be obtained.

\* In one of these schools the girls are taught in the vestry during the winter.

† These three schools were visited on a week-day, and their condition when inspected is here recorded.

# Rutland History & Archaeology in 2010

Edited by T H MCK CLOUGH

The Editor is grateful to all those who have provided information and reports for this section. Organisations whose work is not reported here are invited to contact the Society so that it may be considered for inclusion.

The following abbreviations are used:

AA	Allen Archaeology, Unit 1C, Branston Business Park, Lincoln Road, Branston, Lincolnshire, LN4 1NT.	NA	Debbie Frearson), www.historic-investigations.co.uk Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2 Bolton House, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN3 8BE.
AOC	AOC Archaeology Group, Herald Way, Pegasus Business Park, Castle Donnington, DE74 2TZ.	RCM	Rutland County Museum (MDA code: OAKRM).
APS	Archaeological Project Services, The Old School, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 9RW.	RLHRS	Rutland Local History & Record Society.
BA	Benchmark Archaeology, 64 Edwards Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B24 9EW.	ROLLR	Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland.
HER	Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record	RR	<i>Rutland Record</i> .
HI	Historic Investigations (Carole Bancroft-Turner &	TPA	Trent & Peak Archaeology, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD.
		ULAS	University of Leicester Archaeological Services, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH.

## I – Archaeological Fieldwork during 2010

Short reports, arranged in alphabetical order by parish

*Note: Where appropriate, archives are expected to be deposited with Rutland County Museum under the accession number shown.*

### Ashwell, The Old Hall (SK 86711292)

Further investigations (see *RR 28-30*) were undertaken by APS for Midland HR in the grounds of the Old Hall, adjacent to scheduled medieval settlement and post-medieval garden remains. A watching brief, undertaken during excavation of foundation trenches for a new greenhouse and summerhouse adjacent to The Old Hall, revealed a large quarry pit. Although this was undated it was truncated by a refuse pit of 12th-13th century date. This refuse pit yielded 31 sherds of medieval pottery and a quantity of animal bone. RCM 2010.10.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

### Ashwell, The Old Hall (SK 86541292)

Following an earlier evaluation that had revealed Late Saxon and medieval ditches and gullies (see *RR30*), a strip, plan and sample excavation was carried out by APS for Midland HR on the site of a proposed tractor store to the NW of the hall. Extensions to the ditches/gullies found in the earlier investigation were revealed. The earliest of these, perhaps of Late Saxon (9th-10th century) date, was aligned NE-SW. This was crossed by three further ditches, all aligned E-W, dating between the 10th and 12th centuries but which were perhaps created in sequence, rather than being open at the same time. These ditches were all in the S part of the investigation area, nearest to the hall. Only a pit of the 9th-11th century and possible posthole of 11th-12th century date were found N of the ditch complex. This suggests that these linear features formed a limit to concentrated Late Saxon and medieval settlement activity which was probably focused to the south, around the hall. A single Neolithic flint core fragment was also found. RCM 2009.16.

*Gary Taylor*

### Ayston, 'Ayston Close', 'Hopkins' and 'Toll Bar' (SK 847011)

Fieldwalking was carried out on these three fields in Ayston parish by RLHRS. 633 struck flint pieces dating from the Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic to the Bronze Age were recovered. A Roman-British iron smelting site was marked by a surface concentration of iron slag about 150m in diameter associated with over 100 sherds of Roman pottery and tile. Two early Saxon sherds were also found. RLHRS R101, R102, R104. *See also* Uppingham Castle Hill (below).

*Elaine Jones*

### Ayston, 3 Main Street (SK 860009)

A strip, plan and sample exercise was conducted by TPA adjacent to a cottage with 17th century origins. A house was shown here on early 20th century photographs, the N wall of which was re-used as a boundary wall. Though much of the area had been disturbed by an oil tank, remains of walls, a corner padstone and flooring were noted. Two sherds of post-medieval pottery were also recovered.

*Richard Sheppard*

### Barleythorpe, land N of Oakham (SK 855100)

Geophysical survey was undertaken by APS over areas of proposed residential development and associated works on land at Barleythorpe and N Oakham. Some 30ha were surveyed. Magnetic survey was generally successful, with a good range of responses evident in the surveyed data and archaeological features identified in a number of areas. Features identified in Area 1 potentially relate to the Anglo-Saxon remains identified in prior evaluation trenching, with the form and scale of the features suggesting further sunken featured structures.

In Area 2 a double ring ditch was identified, potentially a prehistoric ritual monument. Linear boundary features here are earlier than the medieval ridge and furrow field systems and presumably relate to some earlier division of the landscape.

In Areas 3 and 4 a linear boundary feature, at least 500m in length, and attached rectilinear enclosure with internal features are also earlier than the medieval field system. Their form suggests a later prehistoric date.

Medieval field systems were strongly represented, ridge and furrow patterns showing well across most areas.

*Steve Malone*

### **Barrowden, 13 Main Street (SK 94840000)**

This site had been identified as an area of archaeological potential from records held by the HER. During February 2010 BA undertook a programme of archaeological strip, plan and sample excavation for Paul Marriner during soil stripping and groundworks associated with the proposed construction of a three-storey dwelling.

Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains and finds (MLE's 9843, 9273, 16577 and 16715) have previously been recorded in the historic core of Barrowden. This expectation has been realised by the recent archaeological work. Two pits were recorded on the site (F104 and F106). Pottery recovered from F104 dated it to the Anglo-Saxon period, probably the 10th century. Pit F106 had a very similar feature fill and level and is likely to be of a similar date. The features are likely to represent refuse pits to the rear of dwellings along the Main Street frontage. The presence of a buried topsoil deposit of c17th/18th century date suggests that the site had later been landscaped / terraced.

The unstratified pottery comprised a mixture of late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval material, indicating that there has been more or less unbroken activity on the site from before the Norman Conquest to the present day. Animal bones recovered included Red Deer, Sheep, Goat and probably Cattle, derived from domestic refuse. The bones are believed to be relatively modern in date given their large size. Environmental sampling did not recover any significant remains

*Richard Cherrington*

### **Belton-in-Rutland, The Old Hall (SK 81550135)**

On behalf of Harris McCormack Architects and Mr J Browett, further investigations were carried out by APS on land adjacent to the Old Hall (see *RR30*). Earthworks, perhaps elements of a formal garden of possibly post-medieval date, exist in the development area. Several small gullies and ditches, mostly at right angles to each other, were revealed. These were undated but were sealed beneath subsoil derived from ridge and furrow agriculture of probable medieval date, indicating the gullies are of this date or earlier. A post-medieval pit and a series of dumped deposits forming an earthwork bank, possibly a garden terrace, were also revealed. A substantial piece of tap slag of probable medieval date was found and suggests iron smelting in the area. RCM 2010.25.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

### **Bisbrooke, Village Farm, Main Street (SP 885995)**

An earlier desk-based assessment and building recording indicated that Village Farm had an 18th-century threshing barn and was in an area of medieval and post-medieval settlement, with a kiln and rabbit warren at the site or adjacent. Six trenches were excavated by APS on the site of proposed residential development, two of which contained

archaeological features. One contained a NW-SE orientated ditch and a pit. The ditch, possibly a boundary feature, contained three sherds of Saxon pottery. An environmental sample taken from the ditch fill produced a small amount of animal bone and hammerscale along with charred plant remains. In addition to the Saxon sherds recovered from the ditch, further sherds of 10th-11th and 12th-14th century pottery were recovered from the trench. A second trench contained a large pit/ditch associated with 19th/20th century pottery and a sub-circular pit. It was thought that the large pit/ditch feature probably post-dated the 1798 map of Bisbrooke. RCM 2010.24.

*Gavin Glover & Mark Peachey*

### **Braunston, Chestnut Cottage, 10 Wood Lane (SK 833064)**

A watching brief was undertaken at Chestnut Cottage by ULAS, in conjunction with a Level 2 Historic Building Survey, during groundworks for a new extension. The work revealed a stone-lined well located approximately 6m to the west of the building, but no further archaeological remains were found. RCM 2010.13

*Sophie Clarke*

### **Egleton, Barnett's Farm, Church Lane (SK 876074)**

An archaeological field evaluation was carried out by ULAS at Barnett's Farm in advance of the construction of a new dwelling and garage. Two 1m x 1.5m test pits were excavated by hand within the footprint of the proposed dwelling. The test pits yielded evidence of a yard surface, which overlay a clay layer and possible feature containing numerous sherds of mainly early medieval pottery.

A strip, plan and sample excavation was then carried out on the site. This located fragments of a limestone surface which may have been added to consolidate the ground. The base of a dry stone wall was also located which may be part of the original southern wall of the farmyard, or possibly part of a vernacular building such as a pig-sty or barn. Although not closely dated it is likely that the wall foundations and limestone spread is associated with the early phase of Barnett's Farm's use.

The development did not impact on any of the possible medieval deposits below the limestone surface which were revealed during the test-pit evaluation. Further archaeological control and supervision of groundworks will take place when trenches for services are excavated. RCM 2010.2.

*Leon Hunt*

### **Empingham, Audit Hall Road (SK 44442779)**

AA excavated a single 10m long evaluation trench in advance of the construction of a single dwelling. The site is in the historic core of the village. The trench exposed a Romano-British ditch, two pits containing 11th/12th century Stamford Ware pottery and a possible stone structure and associated demolition material of 13th to 16th century date. RCM 2010.32.

*Chris Clay*

### **Great Casterton, Willow House, Strawson's Farmyard, Old Great North Road (TF 00140895)**

Archaeological work was carried out by ULAS on land at Willow House in advance of two extensions and a detached garage being constructed on the site, which lies within the medieval core of Great Casterton and within the Roman town. Three excavation areas revealed a series of make-up

layers associated with landscaping during the conversion of Willow House from a barn into a private dwelling. No archaeological features were revealed but three sherds of Romano-British grey-ware were recovered from the topsoil within Area 3, suggesting the presence of nearby activity from this period. RCM 2010.12.

*Leon Hunt*

**Hambleton, Lymes Farm, Lyndon Road**  
(SK 89781280)

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by APS in advance of construction for an under-floor heating system. The site is in the hamlet of Middle Hambleton close to previous discoveries of prehistoric and Roman remains. Four trenches were excavated, all of which contained finds and/or archaeological features. There were two medieval ditches, one truncated by a pit containing 15th-16th century pottery, a post-medieval ditch containing 17th-18th century ceramics, and an undated ditch, hollow, posthole and gully; 20 sherds of pottery ranging from Stamford ware (early medieval) to Black-glazed wares (1550-1750) were recovered, as well as 15 fragments of animal bone and a piece of slag. RCM 2010.5.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Ketton, Geeston Road (SK 9875 0421)**

Two trenches were excavated by APS on the site of a proposed new house in an area of earthwork remains of the shrunken medieval settlement of Geeston. However, the investigation revealed that an earthwork bank was composed of recent material. A modern, probably machine-cut, pit and a brick rubble soakaway were also revealed. No earlier archaeological remains were encountered but a few pieces of 12th-13th century pottery suggest medieval activity in the area. RCM 2010.24

*Mark Peachey*

**Lyddington, land at 44a Main Street (SP 874973)**

ULAS carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 44a Main Street as part of an archaeological impact assessment in advance of a proposed development. The work identified Saxo-Norman activity, consisting of four ditches/gullies and two pits all dated by pottery to the 10th-12th centuries. Residual Roman pottery was also recovered from one of these features. RCM 2010.15.

*Gavin Speed*

**Oakham Castle (SK 865090)**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by ULAS at Oakham Castle during groundworks associated with the installation of exterior lighting. Little impact was made on *in-situ* archaeological deposits; finds retrieved dated from the medieval period to the 18th century. RCM 2010.9.

*Jon Coward*

**Oakham, land at South Street (SK 859085)**

Three trial trenches were excavated on land at South Street by AOC. This revealed three prehistoric ditches and a Romano-British ditch as well as several 19th/20th century features including a substantial boundary ditch, wall foundation and dog burial. RCM 2010.19.

*C Clarke*

**Oakham, Vale of Catmose College, Cold Overton Road (SK 85180914)**

Excavation by NA revealed two areas of settlement with origins in the middle Iron Age. One of these settlements was subject to full excavation, the other has been preserved *in*

*situ*. The excavated site was a small open settlement, probably containing four roundhouses, although not necessarily all contemporary. The best preserved example contained a narrow and shallow wall slot terminating at deep doorway post holes. The final arrangement included a D-shaped enclosure. The pottery is dominated by storage jars, some in Scored Ware. It is suggested that occupation spanned the 2nd to 1st centuries BC. Finds included fragments of one saddle quern and several rotary querns, a triangular loomweight and limited evidence for iron smithing.

In the early 1st century AD, a boundary division was introduced. At least two roundhouses were present into the early Roman period. The dividing ditch was retained until the mid-2nd century, when there was a new arrangement created respecting the earlier alignment. In the 3rd and 4th centuries a small Roman settlement comprised a rectangular sub-enclosure, layers of domestic debris and two wells. These were probably related to a timber house for which all direct traces had been lost. A small assemblage of ceramic roof tile survived. A single inhumation burial lay nearby. Domestic items included a scalpel, tweezers, a lead weight and fragments from rotary querns. RCM 2008.58.

*Jim Brown and Jason Clarke*

**Rutland Water, near Egleton, Lagoon B (SK 881080)**

Two archaeological sites were excavated by NA prior to the construction of a new lagoon (Lagoon B) by Anglian Water Services. One site was a large, sub-rectangular Iron Age enclosure with a small ring ditch, probably the remains of a roundhouse, located outside the entrance on its eastern side. Pottery from the enclosure ditch suggests that it dates to the end of the middle Iron Age, the 2nd and 1st centuries BC.

The second site, 150m away to the SW, comprised the remains of a circular stone building, probably a Romano-British shrine. It was constructed in the 2nd century AD and was surrounded by a rectangular enclosure. The building contained over 200 Roman coins, part of a bronze figurine, probably of the goddess Minerva or the god Mars, a lead curse tablet, Roman pottery vessels, and animal bone, some of it articulated. At the end of the 2nd century the enclosure was replaced by a more substantial ditched enclosure and an additional, smaller enclosure, containing a small rectangular timber building, was constructed to the north. The shrine fell out of use towards the end of the 4th or early in the 5th century AD. A grave in the centre of the circular building, containing the remains of a young adult male, probably dates to the 5th or 6th centuries AD. The furrows of a medieval open-field system were also identified. RCM 2009.14.

*Chris Jones*

**Rutland Water, near Egleton, Lagoon C (SK 881064)**

An evaluation carried out by NA formed part of a programme of archaeological investigation and mitigation associated with the Rutland Water Habitat Creation Scheme. The remains of a medieval open-field system, surviving as a regular pattern of furrows beneath the subsoil, were identified across most of the site; the furrows shown by the geophysical survey in the north-eastern part of the site had largely been ploughed away, leaving no discernible trace. There was also a small ditch, the position of which corresponds with a field boundary shown on a late 19th-century Ordnance Survey map of the area, suggesting that it is an 18th- or 19th-century enclosure ditch. RCM 2009.14

*Chris Jones*

### Thistleton, Top Yard, Silverwood Farm (SK 91001830)

An archaeological watching brief, undertaken by ULAS in advance of construction for a new corn store, revealed an extensive area of parallel linear trenches thought to be potential cultivation features or lazy beds. Previous evaluative work on the site in 2008 (see *RR29*) had located a number of small, shallow gullies, only one of which provided dating material – a single sherd of shell tempered pottery that probably dated to the late Iron Age. The lack of finds and the absence of any associated pit/posthole type features suggested that the remains were probably not indicative of settlement activity (Harvey 2008). The site was close to the cross roads of Fosse Lane and Thistleton Road, both former Roman roads.

In December 2010 a large area was stripped as part of the initial groundworks for the corn store foundations and yard on the W side of the farm. The complex of parallel trenches, spaced between 3m and 4m apart, was revealed c0.30m below the present ground surface. These parallel trenches were the same shallow gully-type features first revealed in the evaluation, and appeared to be laid out in two separate areas of varying orientation. The largest concentration of parallel ditches covered an area of c945m square and was located towards the E half of the stripped area. These lay on a SW-NE orientation although the full extent of the complex could not be determined as it extended eastwards beneath the existing farmyard.

A smaller and apparently separate area of parallel trenches, covering an area of c105m square, was exposed immediately to the W and comprised a series of similar trenches oriented NW-SE. This set of parallel trenches had been extensively truncated, so their full extent could also not be fully determined.

Several sections were excavated across the trenches at various points. Initial excavation was conducted using mattock and shovel with additional sections excavated using trowels to characterise subtle variations in the infill. The sections produced varied profiles, some having steep sides and flat bases and others more gentle slopes and rounded bases. The trenches varied in size from 0.30m wide x 0.10m deep to over 1.00m wide x 0.30m deep; this was probably due to extensive horizontal truncation.

The trowel-excavated sections revealed a primary infill of very pale yellowish clay silt, often cut by narrow linear slot features running down the centre of the trench. The slots often had near-vertical sides with a rounded base and contained dark greyish slight humic clay fill mixed with occasional charcoal flecks. Only the occasional 2nd century Roman pottery sherd was found within the fills of the trenches, and these were fairly abraded, suggesting perhaps that they were introduced to the features within a deposit of waste associated manuring, or midden deposits.

Very similar features have been found at Wollaston, Northamptonshire, where excavations exposed an extensive c7.5ha area of parallel trenches spaced 5m apart, that were thought to be the remains of Roman vineyards (Brown *et al*

2001). These trenches also had near-vertical sides and flat bases, which were cut by pitting thought to be for root balls and post holes which were probably used to support a crop. The narrow linear slot features found within the Thistleton trenches could also perhaps be remains of root balls for a crop. The dimensions and character of the trenches found at Wollaston were thought to be very similar to *pastiatio* trenches which can be associated with vineyards. A similar set of cultivation trenches has also been identified at Grendon, Northamptonshire (Jackson 1995). Samples taken from the excavated trenches in Northamptonshire also revealed rare low percentage of grape vine pollen.

There are various possibilities for the function of the parallel trenches. They could represent either open drainage, or irrigation channels associated with fields systems on the periphery of either the Roman town which lies directly to the south or the Roman villa to the north. RCM 2008.52.

### References

- Brown, A G, Meadows, I, Turner, S D, & Mattingly, D J, Roman Vineyards in Britain: Stratigraphic and palynological data from Wollaston in the Nene Valley, England. *Antiquity* 75 (2001) 745-57.
- Harvey, J, *An Archaeological Evaluation of land at Top Yard Silverwood Farm, Thistleton, Rutland* Unpublished ULAS Report 2008-101.
- Jackson, D. 1995 Archaeology at Grendon quarry, Northamptonshire, Part 2: Other Prehistoric, Iron Age and later suites excavated 1974-75 and further observations between 1976-80. *Northamptonshire Archaeology* 26.

Timothy Higgins

### Tixover, Tixover Grange (SK 98080183)

On behalf of Bowman (Cambs) Ltd, a watching brief was undertaken by APS during groundwork for a new access road and water main trench at an existing sewage treatment plant. The site is adjacent to a Roman villa. No archaeological remains were revealed, with a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil layers observed. However, a moderate quantity of Roman material, 7 pottery sherds and 24 pieces of brick/tile including imbrices and tegulae, were recovered. A few fragments of post-medieval pottery were also retrieved. RCM 2010.11.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

### Uppingham, Castle Hill field (SK 8500)

Castle Hill field comprises 26 acres on the Northampton Sand ironstone plateau with commanding S and W views. A pit alignment, thought to be Bronze Age, crosses the field while a motte and bailey site lies at the W end. Fieldwalking by RLHRS recovered high quality surface finds including 3 early Palaeolithic, 30 Upper Palaeolithic or early Mesolithic, 656 Mesolithic/early Neolithic, and 867 Neolithic/Bronze Age flints. These must link with material from adjacent fields in Ayston. Pottery included possible Iron Age or early Saxon sherds, Roman pottery, Saxo-Norman Stamford ware, and early, late and post medieval material. Iron slag was present. Flint and pottery identifications by Richard Knox and Dr Richard Pollard (Leicestershire CC Heritage Services).

Elaine Jones

### Negative archaeological watching briefs and evaluations in Rutland

**Ketton:** Long Barn Farm, High St (TF 34064211) (AA).

**Langham:** Langham Church of England Primary School (SK 84421090) (NA).

**Oakham:** Cutts Close (SK86090903) (ULAS).

**Ryhall:** Land north of Hill Top Cottage, Essendine Road (TF 03741155) (ULAS).

**Ryhall:** Home Farm, Little Casterton Road (TF 03161009) (APS).

**Rutland Water:** Manton Bay (SK 97560564 to SK 88140570) (NA).

**Wing:** Water pipeline (SK 897031) (Wessex Archaeology)

## II – Historic Building Recording during 2010

### **Barrowden, The Chestnuts (SK 95000004)**

The Chestnuts is a two-storey early 19th century house on the edge of an area known as 'The Tannery'. HI found that deeds were available from the early 18th century, and subsequent owners of the tannery and the buildings associated with the process were fully documented. The business specialised in high quality lambskins; associated trades such as glovers, saddlers and vellum-makers were all present on the site. Industries from the by-product of the tanning process were also sub-contracted by the owners, including glue and rug making. The report studies the industry, the buildings in the landscape, and their subsequent use. Archive: RCM.

*Debbie Frearson*

### **Braunston, Chapter Farm, Wood Lane (SK 833065)**

Dating largely from the 17th century, this house contains the rare but fragmentary survival of an earlier building, dating from around the late 15th to mid 16th century. The north crosswing, on a slightly skewed alignment to the rebuilt main block, had stone walls and was of two storeys. It probably formed the crosswing to a central block containing a late medieval open hall. Various timbers, including smoke-blackened sections from the former open hall, have been re-used in the 17th century rebuilding.

The house was rebuilt in impressive form around 1650-75, perhaps after a fire damaged much of the earlier building. A large central range housed the hall, with two chambers above. At the S end was a spacious parlour, with a large best chamber on the first floor. The building is distinguished by two rectangular bay windows to the front and has high quality masonry features throughout. Two large, projecting lateral chimneystacks, unusual at this date, provide fireplaces for the hall and parlour, as well as for two chambers on the first floor. Beyond the crosspassage, the north crosswing was retained, but altered to contain the kitchen and services, with lesser, unheated chambers on the first and attic floors. It has not been possible to identify the owners, builders or occupants for these earlier periods. Various lesser alterations were carried out around the late 18th or early 19th century, when the tenant was a grazier, Thomas Barfoot. Extensive ranges of cow-houses and stables survive from this and later periods to the farmyard at the rear.

*Nick Hill*

### **Lyddington, Main Street, Home Farm (SP 87519697)**

NA found that the range of four agricultural buildings attached to Home Farm is currently used for storage and workshops, but is likely to have been a threshing barn, stable and associated outbuildings in the 18th century, with changes in the 19th century. Reroofing in the late 20th century has erased much of the architectural interest of the buildings and storage of large items has obscured the remainder; however, enough features are visible to provide an insight into the original use, sequence and significance of the buildings.

*Angela Warner*

### **Oakham, Castle Cottage Café, rear of 35 Market Place (SK 86100885)**

Castle Cottage Café is a two-storey brick building with a garden in the heart of Oakham, currently operating as a café. Using archival resources and field investigations HI researched the building and the landscape history. The café is attached to the rear of 35 Market Place. Prior to 1996 it was

not known as a separate dwelling; the earliest documentation of 1773 referred to the site as 'The Dukes Head', and it was eventually owned by George Phillips. In 1996 the rear buildings were developed into a 'cottage'. The investigation considered the original and modern formation of the building, including the Castle walls which are in the curtilage. Archive: RCM.

*Debbie Frearson*

### **Uppingham, 2 High Street East (SP 866997)**

This small stone building was probably built in the earlier 17th century as a shop, with accommodation above. The original building had two rooms on each floor, with only one of the first floor rooms having a fireplace. The owner in 1656 was Henry Sewell, gentleman, who would have let the property to tenants, rather than living in it himself. Although the end gables and rear wall are built with the standard 17th century stonemasonry features of the area, the N front wall was originally jettied, with timber-framing, a rare occurrence at this date in Rutland. The jettied frontage can be seen in a historic view of c1820, but was removed later in the 19th century, when a large glazed shop-front was also installed.

*Nick Hill*

### **Uppingham, 27 High Street East (SP 868997)**

This is a finely built house dating from c1610-50, with an impressive street frontage, including large bay windows and a crosspassage doorway of classical design. The 17th century house had a hall and parlour on the ground floor, with chambers on the first floor, together with a cellar and attic rooms. There may well have been a further bay for service rooms to the E, before the extent of the building plot was reduced. The W part of the building projects as a crosswing to the rear, but the crosswing form is not reflected in the internal structure. There are some indications that there was an earlier building on the site, probably of similar form with a main range and crosswing. A surviving beam in the rear wall of the main range suggests that this earlier building may have been partly timber-framed.

*Nick Hill*

### **Uppingham, Tudor House, 8 High Street West (SP 866997)**

This house consists of a main range parallel to the High Street and a short crosswing. Both parts were constructed as a single, integrated building, dating from around 1610-50. The house is of high quality construction with many fine features, in particular a highly unusual open porch and loggia, which forms the principal entrance, at the rear of the building. The rooms in the main range and crosswing are arranged on split floor levels, with an original staircase serving both floors. The building seems to have formed part of the Manor House (now Thring Centre) site and was probably built to face the main manor house. It is likely that the builder was one of the Fawkener family, who owned the Manor House from 1658 and may have occupied the site before that.

*Nick Hill*

### **Stretton, Stretton Lodge, Clipsham Road (SK 96071691)**

Building survey was carried out by APS for R Needham, prior to conversion of a barn which forms part of a Grade II Listed Building dated to 1809. The surveyed structure is a

laith-type barn integrated with a house, a type of building most commonly dating from around 1780 to 1820. Breather slits and pitching holes survive and the barn, which was of three bays, was largely unaltered from its original layout. The barn may have been used for hand-threshing and storage of crops though it only has one wide door, rather than an opposed pair which might be expected for this function. Iron cross-ties and plates had been installed to prevent movement of the long walls in the second half of the 19th century and a small boiler room had been inserted recently. RCM 2010.22.

*Vicky Mellor*

#### **Other building investigations took place at:**

**Ayston:** 3, Main Street (SK 860009) (TPA).

**Braunston:** Chestnut Cottage, 10, Wood Lane (SK 833064) (ULAS).

**Burley:** Burley on the Hill House (SK 88391019) (NA).

**Clipsham:** Park House (SK 96981661) (NA).

**Ketton:** 47-49 High Street (SK 981047) (ULAS).

**Ridlington:** Outbuildings at Fig Tree Farm, Top Road (SK 84920274) (ULAS).

**Seaton:** Manor Farm Barns (SP 90229820) (NA).

**Wing:** Garden Cottage, 8, Top Street (SK 892030) (Trigpoint Conservation & Planning Ltd).

### **III – Other Reports for 2010**

*Note: Records under 100 years old containing personal information may be subject to access restrictions.*

*Please contact the appropriate Record Office for further information or advice on specific items or collections.*

#### **Lincolnshire Archives**

Lincolnshire Archives, St Rumbold Street, Lincoln, LN2 5AB.  
Tel: (01522) 525158 (appointments and enquiries); (01522) 526204 (other enquiries). Fax: (01522) 530047.  
Website: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives).  
E-mail: [lincolnshire\\_archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:lincolnshire_archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

During the year, Lincolnshire Archives received a deposit of records of Empingham Methodist Church (acc no: 2010/048:00). These are currently uncatalogued, but consist of the following items:

Trust account books, 1900-52 and 1956-92.  
Leaders' meeting minute book, c1905-10.  
Society steward's account book, 1962-64.  
Collection journals, 1921-46 and 1946-74.  
Sunday school attendance registers, 1901-02, 1903-13, 1913-21, 1922-33, 1934-38, 1951-63, 1964-70.  
Adult bible class attendance register, 1897-1910.

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.

Methodist Missionary Society account books, 1955-71, 1972-89.  
Pulpit notice books, 1978-81 and 1981-82.  
Bank account passbooks (four items), 1955-76.  
Folder of exhibition items: 'A Brief History of Methodism in Empingham'; circular re proposed new chapel (1899); architectural plan of toilets (1968); trust vouchers (1943-75); photocopies of trust deeds and chapel registration forms.  
Envelope of documents formerly belonging to 'Aunt Christine': 'A Brief History of Methodism in Empingham'; programme for Flower Festival (1994); notes and photocopy for a talk on the history of the chapel; photograph of Empingham Chapel Band (c1900).

#### **Northamptonshire Record Office**

Northamptonshire Record Office, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BQ.  
Tel: (01604) 762129. Fax: (01604) 767562.  
Website: [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/community/record+office](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/community/record+office).

E-mail: [archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto: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 relevant Rutland material was reported for 2010.

#### **Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland**

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, Long Street, Wigston Magna LE18 2AH.  
Tel: (0116) 257 1080. Fax: (0116) 257 1120.  
Email: [recordoffice@leics.gov.uk](mailto:recordoffice@leics.gov.uk).

Website: [www.leics.gov.uk/recordoffice](http://www.leics.gov.uk/recordoffice).  
Opening times: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9.15am to 5pm; Wed: 9.15am to 7.30pm; Fri: 9.15am to 4.45pm; Sat: 9.15am to 12.15pm.

#### **Archival Accessions, April 2010 – March 2011**

This year's accessions from Rutland were very much in line with the last few years', both in number and diversity. Local government was well represented, as were the local churches. Two deposits included digital material, reflecting both the impact of new technology and the interest and involvement of local history societies, which had arranged digital scanning, as part of the process of preserving and making more widely available important local records. The deposit of two Royal British Legion branches' records shows the impact of a project to identify and record such material. Most unusual perhaps were the records of an

Uppingham supermarket, which included details of account customers and also staff training and company promotional material. The latter were redolent of the 1960s, including preparation for decimalisation of the currency (which was announced in 1966).

A full list of this year's accessions appears below.

DE7947: Stamford and Rutland Methodist Circuit records relating to Chapels at Whissendine (deed conveying land for chapel, 1868; cradle roll, 1944-50; Church council minutes, 1971-2009; accounts, 1995-2002; visitors' book, 1991-2000; etc), Oakham (Evening House group minutes, 2003-09), and Uppingham (Church Council minutes, 2000-03).

- DE7948: Rutland District Council rates valuation books: valuation lists (amended), direction sheets, totals of values, etc, 1934-90, and records of advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, etc, 1974-87.
- DE7949: NADFAS record of the church of St Mary the Virgin, Morecott: record of memorials, metalwork, stonework, woodwork, textiles, paintings, library (including parish records), windows, etc, compiled by the Rutland Decorative and Fine Arts Society, 2007-09.
- DE7968: Uppingham parish records: Charities' trustees' file, 1914-2004, and file of rent statements and associated correspondence re parish lands, 1989-98.
- DE8004: Belton Baptist Church graveyard survey: binder enclosing a transcription of the memorials, photographs (and negatives) of the church, graveyard and individual gravestones, 2006.
- DE8005: Oakham Poor Law Minutes: Minute book 1864-68, and digitised copy on compact disks.
- DE8008: Whissendine School admission register compact disk: photographs of admission register and index, 1902-35 (2010).
- DE8011: Uppingham Methodist Church photographs, recording the congregation, events, and rebuilding work, 1978-99.
- DE8027: Uppingham School architect's drawings for the conversion of workshops to dwellings, 1995.
- DE8028: Uppingham Fine Fare store records: accounts, advertising material and staff information and training literature, 1962-69.
- DE8035: Copy pen and ink sketches of Normanton and Edith Weston churches and area, prior to flooding for Rutland Water, nd [c1970].
- DE8077: Royal British Legion Oakham branch records: account book, 1924-48; minutes, 1932-95; news cuttings and certificates, 1970s-80s.
- DE8078: Royal British Legion Empingham branch records: AGM and Monthly Meetings' Minutes, 1972-2006; Service Committee Minutes, 1949-90; Womens' Section Minutes, 1958-72; and financial records, 1947-95.

We continue to add Rutland documents and accession cards from our considerable historic backlog on to our online catalogue, as time and resource allows. Among the interesting Rutland items added from the old 'paper' catalogues this year were:

- DE204: Uppingham Poor Law Union Diary of Relieving Officer, 1872-1874.
- DE1781: Inventory of Thomas Barker of Lyndon, 1680/1.

### **Local Studies Library accessions**

Some 123 items relating to Rutland were ordered or donated to the Library's stock during the period.

Among the highlights of the year was the purchase of 30 titles published by Books LLC (an American imprint specialising in reprints of rare titles) which cover a number of Rutland topics including parish registers, water supply, geology, buildings of special interest and political history.

Our most recent purchase of microfilmed newspapers was a run of the *Stamford Mercury* (incomplete) covering the years 1710-1818 and pre-dating the newspapers already in stock (1819-1934 and 1960-Dec 2009).

The librarians have created a 'Rutland' shelf in the public searchroom to show the range of topographical works on Rutland towns and villages.

Our very extensive 'Ephemera' collection has, for long, been one of the hidden treasures of the Local Studies Library, but thanks to the work of very committed

volunteers, marshalled by one of our archivists, the project to catalogue it online was completed in 2010-11. The collection consists of programmes, leaflets and flyers for various local organisations and societies, and includes:

- Rutland Natural History Society programmes of meetings etc 1979-2009
- Rutland Railway Museum flyers, 1981-2005
- Rutland Sinfonia programmes, 1978-2004
- Rutland Theatre programmes & handbills, 1973-2006.

### **Conservation**

During the period of this report, an impressive 96 Rutland items were dealt with by Conservation, of which 4 items were bound and 92 were encapsulated for protection.

The growing importance of Conservation volunteers was noted in last year's report. They have been responsible for the care of two important collections during the year. The correspondence of Roger Conant, MP, was listed and reboxed by a group of Oakham NADFAS volunteers (ref DG 11). The documents, dating from 1947 to 1959, had been kept in 4 concertina box files. The volunteers worked from May 2010 to March 2011 removing paperclips etc, listing the letters and packing them into folders and archival boxes.

The volunteers then went on to number and encapsulate a large portfolio of miscellaneous prints and drawings from the Finch collection (ref DG7, Misc 10).

Three volumes of the heavily used *Rutland Marriage Index 1754-1837* were rebound during the year, as was the volume of Tinwell parish registers.

### **More on Volunteers at the Record Office**

Our growing team of volunteers work on a variety of projects within the office (in addition to Conservation). One project with particular interest to Rutland has been the cataloguing online of the Finch family (Burley) letters and papers (DG7, General Series bundles 26-33 & 39) dating from 1718/19-1828. Over a period of 6 months, David Gillis has entered approximately 1,000 letters and other documents onto CALM, our online cataloguing system, thus making them more easily available for research. He writes:

'The collection takes in the sweep of the Georgian era from the early 18th to early 19th century and through original documents provides extraordinary insights into moments of historical importance, as well as the intimacy of family and day-to-day life ... The correspondence includes many highly interesting first-hand accounts including political and diplomatic manoeuvring, as well as descriptions of the war between Sweden and Russia (1730s), an English attack on Spanish military installations at the port of Carthagena (1741) and experiences and conditions for the British during the American War of Independence (1770s).

'It also provides detailed accounts of the 9th Earl of Winchilsea's lengthy grand tour (1772-1774) taking him across Europe to Constantinople (Istanbul); takes in many key family moments from births to deaths; and gives reminders of social history with letters detailing amongst many things, the fatal outcome of a duel, contemporary medical remedies and fear of earthquakes in London.

'There are also original documents connected with the

British royal family, including a warrant signed by George III for the establishment of a Regiment of Foot during the American War of Independence (1779), letters of condolence from Queen Charlotte, her daughters and the Prince Regent (later King George IV), following the death of Lady Charlotte Finch (mother of the 9th Earl of Winchelsea and Governess to the children of George III and Queen Charlotte – for a biography see *RR28* (2008) 299-303), and details of the 9th Earl's appointment to the role of Groom of the Stole, distinguishing him as a close and trusted aide to George III.'

#### **Outreach work April 2010 – March 2011**

Only one of the Record Office's exhibitions travelled to Rutland during the year – a small, table-top display giving information about a new project which marks the 90th anniversary of the Royal British Legion in Leicestershire and Rutland. This exhibition was at Oakham Museum at the beginning of March 2011, alongside a display provided by Peter Baker from Empingham RBL branch. One very important result of the event was that the extant records of Empingham and of Oakham RBL branches were given to the Record Office for safe-keeping and now appear on our online catalogue (*see* Archival Accessions above).

Another anniversary has been celebrated during the year: the Magistrates 650th Anniversary was marked by an exhibition with accompanying events. This touring exhibition includes a section on the Melton, Belvoir and Rutland Bench as well as giving an overview of the history of the magistracy as part of national celebrations. The bulk of the research was undertaken in 2010-11 by staff and Record Office volunteers. The exhibition will tour throughout 2011.

We had a breakthrough with Education work this year, when the first Rutland school to visit the office, Leighfield Primary, Uppingham, and Year 5, attended an intensive workshop in July 2010. It was based around 4 activities looking at local history sources – OS maps, photographs, trade directories and the 1881 census, to reveal what life was like for people living in the area over 100 years ago.

A new resource for schools on our website is in the final stages of creation, and should be available to schools in Rutland as well as Leicestershire during the coming months. 'What a life for a crust' aims to explore the life of a Victorian child through the themes of domestic life, school life, leisure/play, health/disease through documents from the Record Office. It will be a key resource for Keystage 3 teaching on industrial Britain and Keystage 2 on the Victorians.

The annual session for PGCE students studying at Leicester University was held in February. This session gives the trainee teachers an overview of records held for

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland as many will be undertaking placements or working in these areas. Records covered included Rutland censuses, wills, schools, maps and landed estates. Many of the students have subsequently visited the office to obtain records to use in their teaching.

In terms of annual statistics, we recorded 1,160 visitors from Rutland to the Record Office this year (an increase of 356 on last year). We dealt with 229 postal or email enquiries and 105 telephone enquiries which were specific to Rutland archives, but these totals discount enquirers who were asking about both Leicestershire and Rutland matters. We gave only 2 talks to Rutland groups during the year, with a total attendance of 45.

During the year we have divided our successful and long-running newsletter *The Dustsheet* into two separate publications. We felt it was becoming too unwieldy and contained a mix of current news (which was often out of date by the time it was published) and research articles. The new *Dustsheet* is a free quarterly newsletter giving updates on new accessions, volunteer projects, forthcoming events and a competition. Longer research articles are published in our journal *The Searcher* which is produced twice a year and priced at £4 (free to members of the Friends). This ensures the right publication goes to the right audience.

#### **Legal Compliance**

We have continued to monitor and respond to latest guidance and decisions from the Information Commissioner's Office relating to Data Protection, Freedom of Information and Environmental Information enquiries. This ensures compliance with the access regimes and that customers receive the correct information in a timely manner. Staff have received training in the legal obligations relating to requests for information.

Requests dealt with in 2010-2011 have included childcare and adoption files, school, court and rights of way information. In response to a recent decision notice given by the Information Commissioner we have changed our procedures on access to school records under 100 years old.

Equalities Impact Assessments on collections and access to information services provided by the Record Office have been undertaken and signed off by Leicestershire County Council's Departmental Equalities Group. These examine the effect of our services on different groups based on age, gender, sexual orientation, race, faith and disability. These aim to ensure that illegal discrimination is not occurring, to mitigate other discrimination issues and guarantee equal access to services by all groups.

*Margaret Bonney, Chief Archivist*

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### **Rutland County Museums Service & Local Studies Library**

Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW.

Tel: (01572) 758440. Fax: (01572) 758445.

Websites: [www.rutland.gov.uk/museum](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/museum);

[www.rutland.gov.uk/familyhistory](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/familyhistory)

E-mail: [museum@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:museum@rutland.gov.uk); [history@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:history@rutland.gov.uk)

Opening times (Rutland County Museum & Oakham Castle):

Tuesday-Friday, 10am-5pm; Saturday, 10am-4pm;

Sunday & Monday closed (open Bank Holiday Mondays).

Closed at Christmas, New Year and on Good Friday.

### **Rutland County Museum**

This was a busy year for the Museum. The staff and volunteers worked hard to re-develop our existing permanent display areas and develop further the in-house temporary exhibitions. New interpretation panels, the movement of objects and re-painting of displays will encourage repeat visits, an ongoing process we will be continuing, particularly within the Poultry Hall.

The Museum is developing its offer to the younger visitors and the Dino Discovery area has been a great hit, along with the children's trails around the Museum.

The Museum has benefited from Carbon Management funding which has allowed us to update our lighting systems which include sensor-operated lighting and new LED lights in the Riding School, Poultry Hall, Courtyard and Temporary Exhibition area. This will dramatically cut the electricity costs to the Museum in the next financial year. We have also benefited from being part of the Green Museum initiative with expert advice on energy efficiency.

A major disposal process was started last year with items which no longer conform to our collections policy being identified. This process has already enabled us to create more space within the Courtyard and allowed two tractors to be removed from the Riding School – creating a much more versatile space for events and exhibitions etc. This is phase one of the project which we hope to complete in 2011. Stage two will involve the items currently in the main stores and will be begun early 2012.

Over the past year the Museum has increased its seventeen. They regularly help the museum with displays, documentation and identification. Among the projects which have been continuing over the past year is the digitisation of the Rutlandshire maps by our NADFAS volunteers. These can be seen on the computers in the Local Studies room on request. The digitisation will reduce the need for the original maps to be handled and increase accessibility. Matkins (printers) ephemera collection is also being catalogued. One hundred items have already been completed. A new textile group has also been started, and will be identifying, cataloguing and re-packaging these items.

### **Local Studies Service**

The move of the bulk of the library local studies collection to the new Museums Local Studies Library has continued this year, with a large number of reserve items being transferred including the press cuttings collection. This is a time-consuming process and we expect it to continue in 2011/12.

### **Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust**

Contact information:

Secretary: Clifford Bacon (clifford\_j\_bacon@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: www.rhcpt.co.uk

Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust exists to provide financial assistance to the 63 churches and chapels within the County of Rutland, whenever they may need help for conservation and maintenance. All of these places of worship, fine buildings, have been inherited by our generation to use and to care for, and to pass on,

The collection of 626 OS maps which we received in 2010 has now been indexed thanks to the efforts of staff, and there have been significant additions to the *Rutland Mercury* microfilm collection.

The new location has proved popular with researchers and attracted many visitors.

### **Oakham Castle**

Oakham Castle is currently benefiting from the Castle Development project. This is an HLF funded project which will lead to a Development Plan for the site which will highlight what needs to be done to secure the site for the future. This includes protecting the ecology, the castle walls, and the Great Hall itself. Once the Development Plan has been produced there will be an opportunity to go for further funding by English Heritage and HLF to help deliver the plan. New archaeological surveys of the grounds and hall have been produced and the results of these will be available soon.

### **Acquisitions**

This year the local studies library has continued to purchase books, and other materials relating to Rutland and the surrounding area to complement our collections. The apparent decline in local and private publishing has continued and consequently there is a significant reduction in Rutland-related new book acquisitions this year.

In 2010/11 a total of 111 items were acquired including a collection of fiction titles by local authors such as Rob Scotton and Peter F Hamilton, and a number of general genealogy titles. Additionally, many items have been purchased for loan boxes to schools covering mapping skills, local studies, and family history.

The Museum has accessioned 46 groups of items in 2010. Many of these are archaeological accessions and we have not yet received the items/reports in the museum. We have also taken in several other items which have not yet been accessioned such as a Rutland Constabulary truncheon and some silver items related to George Phillips (cigarette case, match holder and napkin holder). These will all be added shortly.

### **Partnership work with the Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland**

We continue to work closely with the Record Office, particularly with the co-ordination of new acquisitions and the scanning of Rutland newspapers onto film. The beginning of March 2011 saw the local studies library and museum hosting ROLLR's Royal British Legion event.

*Lorraine Cornwell, Collections Manager*

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Inland Revenue Identification No NAK 60 JG

diligently preserved, as we have received them.

Our new income for this year has come from kind and generous donations from the following Rutland Parochial Church Councils: Belton, Empingham, Exton, Morcott, Oakham School Chapel, Preston, Ryhall, Stoke Dry and Tickencote, to all of whom we are most grateful. We are

also a grateful beneficiary of the Kenneth Alan Scott Legacy and of the Ring and Sing Concert in Oakham Church on 9th October 2010.

The Trust has made grants totalling £17,000 to Uppingham St Peter and St Paul, and to Langham St Peter and St Paul. The work at Uppingham entailed major repairs to the roofs including re-construction of parapet gutters with new lead linings and complete renewal of the slating to the organ vestry roof. At Langham, an ancient oil-fired boiler had failed and needed replacement, along with some adjustments to the flue.

As and when their Quinquennial Reports are issued we are encouraging the parochial church councils to contact us for financial help so that they may complete the recommended work promptly.

The Archdeacon of Oakham, the Venerable David S Painter, attended his final AGM as a trustee this year.

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### Rutland Local History & Record Society

Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW.

The Society has once again enjoyed a successful year, albeit one without any major projects reaching fruition.

The Society has continued to hold a wide range of activities. The monthly lecture programme, offered in conjunction with the Friends of the Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle, has continued to be varied and stimulating. It is unfortunate, therefore, to report that attendances at lectures have definitely suffered since the enforced move of the bulk of the Society's activities from the traditional Thursday to Wednesday evenings. Lecture highlights have included the career and influence of the cricketer pioneer H H Stephenson, the location of the battlefield of Bosworth, and (finally) the location of St. Leonard's Hospital at Stoke-by-Newark. Unfortunately, for a combination of circumstances it proved impossible to arrange the Bryan Matthews Memorial Lecture this year.

In December the Society once again staged the presentation of the George Phillips and Tony Traylen Awards. The George Phillips Award went to the owners of Cheyney Wood in Edith Weston and the Tony Traylen Award went to Bisbrooke PCC for alterations to the church. Amongst the other regular activities of the

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### Uppingham Local History Study Group

Website: [www.rutnet.co.uk/ulhsg](http://www.rutnet.co.uk/ulhsg).

The Uppingham Group currently has 16 members and we continue to meet in each other's homes. The founder of the group, Prof Alan Rogers, continues to take an interest in the group from his home in Norfolk and gives advice on projects we consider researching.

We were sorry when one of our members, Ione Roseveare, died in September 2010. She made a valuable contribution to the group and had worked as a code breaker at Bletchley Park during the war. Ione wrote about her memories of Bletchley Park in our publication *Uppingham at War*.

We met at Valerie Hughes' home in February 2010.

David was first appointed a Trustee in May 2000, and we shall very much miss his distinguished contribution to the work of the Trust. We are sad also to record the retirement in October 2010 of our Trustee Peter Tomalin, and we thank him for his very knowledgeable and detailed contributions to our proceedings during the past six years. He will be succeeded by Peter Lawson of Lyddington, to whom we offer a warm welcome. The Trust also wishes to record its thanks to the Treasurer and Secretary, for their services during the past year.

Our next Ride and Stride event will be in 2011 on the 10th September, for which preparations are well in hand. In the meantime we confidently look forward to receiving the continuing favour of our benefactors, and to providing every support to our Rutland churches.

*Clifford Bacon, Honorary Secretary*

Website: [www.rutlandhistory.org](http://www.rutlandhistory.org).

Email: [enquiries@rutlandhistory.org](mailto:enquiries@rutlandhistory.org).

Society were the guided historical walk in September in the Welland Valley and the village visit to Whissendine. The Archaeological Group continues with its field-walking activities. The Society has also taken an active role in seeking to preserve the historical environment of Rutland, especially through the monitoring of planning applications.

The Society's website, [www.rutlandhistory.org](http://www.rutlandhistory.org), has become in itself an increasingly important research resource for anyone interested in the history of Rutland. There is now a continuing commitment to the placing of articles, especially from the early issues of *Rutland Record*, and the online publication of primary sources, including Quarter Sessions records from the eighteenth century.

I must end on a sad note. Committee member Chris Wilson passed away in the spring. Chris was a multi-talented man whose expertise in the built environment proved of immense value to the Society during his time on the committee. A modest and invariably courteous man, Chris will be much missed.

*Mike Tillbrook, Chairman*

Email: [ulhsg@fsmail.net](mailto:ulhsg@fsmail.net).

Valerie told us about the research she had been doing into her cottage in Spring Back Way. The earliest known copyholder was a John Marven who was admitted tenant in 1784. A familiar Uppingham name, Thorpe, appeared in Valerie's home and several neighbouring properties during the nineteenth century.

In March, Peter Lane spoke to us about his research on Hopes Yard, Uppingham. In the 13th century the Lord of the Manor introduced the planned market, and the boundaries of the Yard were established. Its oldest building is the Little Crooked House, the remains of a late medieval or early Tudor hall house. The 17th century saw

a decline following a fire with buildings in the Yard now workshops or used for storage. In the 18th century fire insurances show the Bullock family's bakery as the dominant use. By this time the centre of activity has moved to the shop buildings fronting the High Street.

In June we met at the home of Vivian Anthony. Having completed his book on *The History of Allexton*, Vivian has suggested we produce a 'History of Uppingham'. A possible approach could be to write the history chronologically. We are hoping to embark on working towards this aim over the coming months and probably years!

In July Audrey Day spoke to us on her work recording the inscriptions on the gravestones in Uppingham Church Yard. Our group had contributed to this work and it is a valuable resource for people studying their family history. Sadly Audrey died suddenly in March 2011, but she leaves behind a valuable record for future historians to refer to. Member Hilary Crowden has recorded inscriptions in the lower churchyard.

We ended the year with a second visit from Nick Hill to update his work on the Little Crooked House where our meeting took place in November. From the evidence, Nick thought the house had been built in the mid-15th century and certainly no later than the 16th century. Internally beams showed it was built with an open hall, a solar, screen passage (now the right of way through Hopes Yard), and a service area, buttery and cellar, now part of a separate dwelling. A first floor and high quality Tudor fireplaces were added in the 17th century. Nick also spoke to us about Tudor House in High St West, and another interesting building, the florist's shop at 2 High Street. This is reputed to have been the market office in Tudor times. Nick also told us about Sarah Harding's at 27 High St East. This is another building showing features of a hall house with a screen passage at the right where the earlier entrance door is closed up, and its former service area is now beneath no 29 – a conclusion supported by the distorted boundary shape shown in the 1804 map of the town.

Helen Hutton, Leader of ULHSG

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## IV – Rutland Bibliography 2010

*A bibliography of recent books and pamphlets relating to Rutland compiled by Emily Barwell.*

- Belton History Society, *Belton at war* (Belton History Society Journal 4, 2010, £9.50).
- Butt, Stephen, *Rutland through time* (Stroud: Amberley, 2010, £14.99, ISBN 9781848689015).
- Clough, T H McK, *Who owned Rutland in 1873?: Rutland entries in the Return of Owners of Land 1873* (Oakham: Rutland Local History and Record Society, 2010, £5.50, ISBN 9780967464440).
- Greenall, R L (ed), *The Autobiography of the Rev John Jenkinson, Baptist Minister of Kettering and Oakham* (Northamptonshire Record Society, Victor Hatley Memorial Series 3, 2010, ISBN 9780901275684). \*\*
- Hamilton, Peter F., *The evolutionary void* (London: Macmillan, 2010, £8.99, ISBN 9781405088947) [Rutland author].
- Newman, Aubrey [et al], *A history of the Masonic province of Leicestershire and Rutland* (System: Anchor Print Group, 2010, £15, ISBN 9781907540028).
- Noyce, Roger, *Drive and stroll in Leicestershire & Rutland* (Berks: Countryside Books, 2010, £7.99, ISBN 9781846741760).
- Oliver, Graham, *Portrait of Leicestershire & Rutland* (Wellington: Halsgrove, 2010, £14.99, ISBN 9781841149943).
- Stacey, Margaret, *From the archives of Uppingham Methodist Church: Mary Drake and the missionary* (Uppingham: M. Stacey, 2010, £2.50). \*
- Stoate, Christopher, *Exploring a productive landscape: from a long history to a sustainable future in the Eye Brook Catchment* (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust on Behalf of the Eye Brook Community Project, Fordingbridge, 2010, £10, ISBN 9781901369120). \*\*
- Stoddart, Hilda, *Know your Place: an introduction to the maps in the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland* (Leicester: Friends of ROLLR, 2010, £8.00, ISBN ??). \*\*
- Tarleton, Rick, & Hornsby, John, *Oakham Bowling Club 1910-2010* (Oakham Bowling Club 2010). \*\*
- Uppingham Local History Studies Group, *Hope's or Bullock's Yard, Uppingham* (Uppingham: ULHSG, 2010 £n.p.).
- Uppingham Local History Studies Group, *No 18 High Street West, Uppingham* (Uppingham: ULHSG, 2010, £n.p.).
- Uppingham Local History Studies Group, *The Bethesda Chapel & Ministers House* (Uppingham: ULHSG, 2010, £n.p.).
- Uppingham Local History Studies Group, *The Road to Ridlington: A look at the evidence for Anglo Saxon and early Medieval roads to Ridlington; And their relationship to the Deep Park and Hunting Lodge now Park Farm* (Uppingham: ULHSG, 2010, £n.p.).
- Waites, Bryan, *Oakham photographic memories* (Salisbury: Identity Books, 2010, £12.99, ISBN 9781907639418).
- Waites, Bryan, *Uppingham photographic memories* (Salisbury: Identity Books, 2010, £12.99, ISBN 9781907639425).
- Waites, Bryan, with Ovens, Robert, & Sleath, Sheila, *Normanton Church – Rutland Water* (Oakham, Discover Rutland & Multum in Parvo Publishing, 2009, £3.25, ISBN 9780952454472). \*\*
- Wheatley, Ken, *Leicestershire & Rutland living memories* (Salisbury: Identity Books, 2010, £14, ISBN 9781907639371).

\* = Reviewed in RLHRS Newsletter 1/10 (April 2010); and \*\* = reviewed in Newsletter 1/11 (April 2011) (Newsletter, including reviews, available on-line on [www.rutlandhistory.org](http://www.rutlandhistory.org)).

# RUTLAND LOCAL HISTORY & RECORD SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 700273

**The Society's publications, with their main contents, are currently available (autumn 2011) as follows:**

## *Rutland Record* 1 (£1.00)

Emergence of Rutland; Medieval hunting grounds;  
Rutland field names; Illiteracy in 19th century Rutland

## *Rutland Record* 2 (£1.00)

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* 16 (£2.00, members £1.50)

Iron smelting; Saxon archaeology; Stilton cheese;  
Oakham in 1851; 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 (£2.00, members £1.50)

Earthworks at Belton-in-Rutland; Peter de Neville;  
Oakham gallows; Buckingham's house at Burley

## *Rutland Record* 19 (£2.00, members £1.50)

Anne Barker; Exton and Noel family; 14th century  
Rutland bacon; Emigrants to Australia

## *Rutland Record* 20 (**now** £2.00, members £1.50)

Rutland castles; Medieval site at Barrowden;  
Mompesson and Rutland inns; George Phillips

## *Rutland Record* 21 (£2.50, members £2.00)

Mary Barker letters; Anton Kammel, musician;  
Uppingham School and Borth, 1875-77

## *Rutland Record* 22 (**now** £2.50, members £2.00)

Religious Census 1851 (pt 1); Exton churchyard

## *Rutland Record* 23 (**now** £2.50, members £2.00)

Tinwell Roman coins; Ridlington Park; Lord Ranksborough;  
*Notitia Parochialis* 1705; annual reports

## *Rutland Record* 24 (**now** £2.50, members £2.00)

Medieval wool trade; Ketton quarries;  
Religious Census 1851 (pt 2); annual reports

## *Rutland Record* 25 - *Rutland in Print: a bibliography of England's smallest county* (**now** £2.50, members £2.00)

Compiled by JD Bennett: full bibliography to 2005,  
with subject index and index of publishers

## *Rutland Record* 26 (£3.50, members £3.00)

Rutland and Gunpowder Plot; Uppingham's typhoid outbreak;  
Rutlanders in 1851 Census; annual reports

## *Rutland Record* 27 (£3.50, members £3.00)

Rutland Militia; Railways in Rutland; Hunters & gatherers of  
Uppingham Plateau; annual reports

## *Rutland Record* 28 (£4.00, members £3.50)

Late 15th century wills; Lady Charlotte Finch; Thos Hotchkin  
of Tixover; shorter notes; annual reports

## *Rutland Record* 29 (£4.00, members £3.50)

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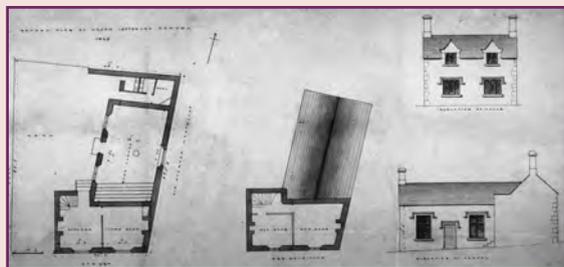
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