

Rutland Record 35



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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No 35 (for 2015)

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Haymaking at Teigh (Rutland County Museum)

The Durham Ox, South Luffenham (Rutland County Museum)

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Editorial : And thick and fast they came...

Principally they used to come by post. Nowadays, they mostly arrive by email or at least via the internet, and from far and wide. No, not those succulent young Oysters on which the Walrus and the Carpenter so over-indulged, something rather less prandial but still demanding attention: a succession of local history enquiries of varying complexity and interest which the Society is invited by the hopeful to try to resolve. If anyone should doubt our value in this regard, let them look at just some of the enquiries received over the past twelve months or so:

A family history enquiry involving the history of nineteenth-century fellmongering and parchment making in Barrowden and Gretton (the latter just over the Welland in Northamptonshire).

A request for information about Cardinal de Fargis, a fourteenth-century archdeacon of Salisbury with a Ketton connection.

A researcher with an interest in American Troop Carrier Commands looking for wartime photographs of RAF Cottesmore.

A family history enquiry about the Gray family in Oakham in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and another about the nineteenth century Brown family in Uppingham.

A documentary film company asking about the history of Oakham railway station.

Local people expressing concern about the condition of the Clipsham yew tree avenue and its future, and likewise about the dilapidated state of the lime kiln at Pickworth associated with the poet John Clare.

An enquiry about possible Rutland associations with Ireland during the Plantation of Ulster in the early seventeenth century.

Naturally, this is not just a one-way trade, and either corporately or individually we make our own enquiries, sometimes relating to articles in preparation for this journal – for instance, concerning comparisons for the Exton witch bottle or the identity of the photographer of the Three Horseshoes at Market Overton in the current issue; sometimes to follow up matters raised such as the Pickworth lime kiln mentioned above; and sometimes to refer the queries we have received to others we think may be able to help, whether it be the Rutland County Museum, the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland, or knowledgeable individuals. This is all performed as a voluntary effort, relying on the goodwill and expertise of our members, and the more we can encourage people to join and participate, the better: certainly we should not complain, like the churlish Carpenter, that ‘the butter’s spread too thick’!

The range of enquiries received and made is thus considerable. Some of them can lead to articles in *Rutland Record*. We write and talk of many things, as our *Indexes to Rutland Record* – that for *RR 21-30* just published – demonstrate; the challenge is to see how far we can emulate the Walrus and the Carpenter:

‘Of shoes’ – for instance, Nine Men’s Morris: a Greetham Cobbler’s Pastime, *RR 12*.84-6;

‘and ships’ – Joseph Matkin (1853-1927), Rutland’s Unsung Voyager [on HMS Challenger], *RR 12*.70-9;

‘and sealing wax’ – on many an historical document even if not specifically mentioned;

‘of cabbages’ – hmmm, clearly an opportunity for some seminal research into the history of brassicas in Rutland;

‘and kings’ – no lack of them in our pages;

‘and why the sea is boiling hot’ – a question that would have excited Thomas Barker of Lyndon, given his interest in natural phenomena: see *The Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire* (Rutland Record Series No 2);

‘and whether pigs have wings’ – we come close: Did Rutland Save England’s Bacon?, *RR 19*.400-02.

Given the eccentric imagery of Lewis Carroll’s littoral vision, we seem to score quite well with these pearls in our Oysters.

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Preston Manor House, Rutland

NICK HILL & VANESSA DOE

Preston Manor House is one of the largest and most complete houses of the seventeenth century in Rutland. A new study of the building, accompanied by tree-ring dating, shows that it was built in a single phase in c1631. Documentary research indicates that it was constructed not for the Sheild family (as previously thought), but by Richard Swanne, Rector of Preston. In around 1655, it was bought by William Sheild, a notable Preston resident

who served as a Member of Parliament for Rutland. A remarkable discovery made during the recent survey was a diagram of a lunar eclipse, probably dating from Sheild's time, and perhaps drawn by the local astronomer, Vincent Wing. During the eighteenth century the building continued to be called 'Swanns House', only becoming known as the Manor House in the nineteenth century.



Fig. 1. Preston Manor House from the south-west, dominating Cross Lane.

Introduction

The impressive gabled front of Preston Manor House, squeezed onto a minor village street, is one of Rutland's least expected sights (fig. 1). Its long, five-bay façade, three storeys tall, towers over the short and narrow Cross Lane near the centre of the village. How did such a grand house come to be located in Preston? There is little previous research to shed light on the history of the house. The *Victoria County History of Rutland* notes the

building briefly, calling it the 'Old Manor House' and giving its date as seventeenth century. Listed Grade II* in 1955, it was described as being of mid-sixteenth century date. In the *Shell Guide to Rutland* of 1963, W G Hoskins assigns it a date of c1600 and includes a fine photograph, but gives no other detail. The house was visited by the Vernacular Architecture Group on its annual conference in 1974, and the conference notes included a useful ground floor plan (see fig. 14), but did not venture to



Fig. 2. The main front, with tall bay windows to either side of the central doorway.



Fig. 3. The rear elevation, with cross-wings projecting to left and right.

give a date. Pevsner (1984) includes a brief mention, according the building a seventeenth-century date. Traylen (2005), following local tradition, thought the house was built in the early seventeenth century by the Sheilds, a leading family of the village, but gave only anecdotal sources. As one of the largest and most complete houses of its period in Rutland, a proper study of the building's development and its ownership was clearly long overdue. The opportunity for the present study arose out of a village visit event at Preston organised by the Rutland Local History & Record Society in 2013, and the kind agreement to allow access for research by the house's present owners, Jim and Marilyn Strachan. A new measured survey was undertaken by Nick Hill and Robert Ovens, with tree-ring dating by Robert Howard of Nottingham Tree-ring Dating Laboratory. Documentary research was carried out by Vanessa Doe, with assistance from Robert Ovens.

The original house

The house has a main block with a short cross-wing at either end, forming an H-type plan, though the gables of the cross-wings only project slightly at the front. Tree-ring dating has shown that the whole house was built in *c*1631 (see below). The main front is a perfect piece of typical Jacobean symmetry, with the entrance doorway in the centre (fig. 2). The whole building is constructed of local ironstone, with the deeper brown variety used for the windows, quoins and other dressings. Stone-mullioned windows are used throughout, probably the most extensive surviving original set of such

windows on any house in the county. The windows have ovolo mouldings of standard local type, with cornices over them of the hollow-moulded pattern which was used during the first half of the seventeenth century in Rutland. To either side of the front doorway there is a fine bay window with canted sides, rising to an attic gabled storey. These bay windows and those to the front gables of the cross-wings have multiple lights, with a thicker 'king' mullion to the centre – a feature found only on the better quality houses of the area. An unusual detail is the incorporation of narrow 'squint' windows at the short forward projection of the front cross-wings. These would have allowed views down the street, but were probably added simply for architectural effect.

The rear elevation (fig. 3) is much less regular, with windows placed as needed to serve staircases, often at mid-floor level. Two windows here are of timber, replacing bays added in the Victorian period, though the original windows were no doubt also of stone-mullioned type. Besides the front door, there are two further original doorways to the rear. All three have the four-centred arch ('Tudor') pattern typical of the local style of *c*1600-1650. Interestingly, while the two rear doorways have standard hollow-moulded cornices, the front doorway has more advanced treatment, with an entablature of architrave, flat frieze and cornice. Here the mouldings are of ogee profile, the type which generally replaced hollow mouldings in the second half of the seventeenth century. The roof has many tall, gabled dormers and coverings of

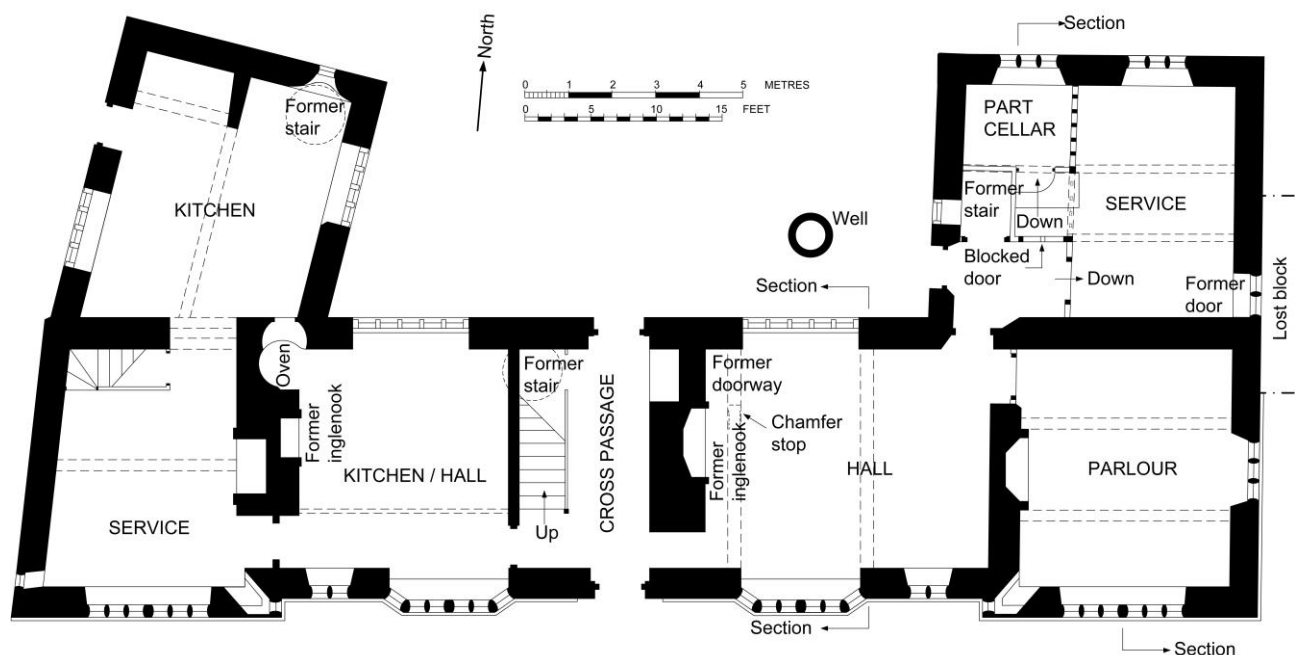


Fig. 4. Ground floor plan, with probable original room uses noted.

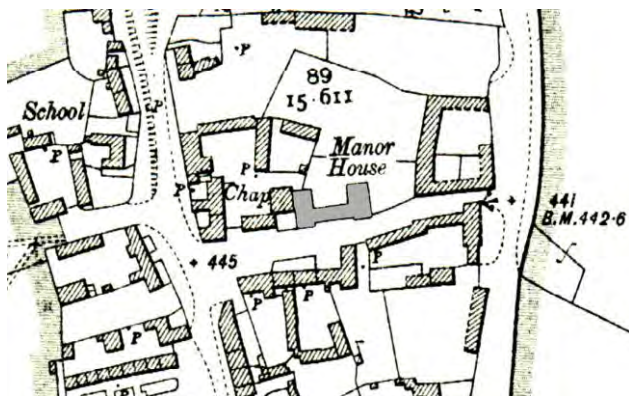


Fig. 5. Ordnance Survey map of 1904, showing the constricted location of the Manor House.

Collyweston slate. The gables have coped parapets with moulded corbels to the front and both sides though the rear is treated more plainly. The original stonemasonry survives in remarkably complete condition, except for the chimneystacks, which have been rebuilt in limestone, probably replacing eroded ironstone. According to Traylen, the stacks were rebuilt in 1909, along with repairs to the nineteenth-century sundial over the front door. In terms of the layout of the property, there is an obvious anomaly in the skewed alignment of the northern part of the west cross-wing (fig. 4). This would normally suggest that the building is of two different phases,

but the whole structure here, both externally and internally, is fully integrated and clearly of a single build. The explanation must be that the alignment follows an early property boundary line (fig. 5). The west side of this cross-wing has no original windows except for the two squint windows and an attic dormer at the south-west corner, so seems to have been built with a blank wall, against adjoining property. An Independent Methodist chapel was built here in 1830, sitting tightly against the rear part of the cross-wing (fig. 6). It was demolished in 1981, when the area became the driveway access to the Manor House, with the chapel's 1830 date-stone reset into the front boundary wall. The original access to the yard and garden at the rear of the Manor House must have been past the east cross-wing. The chamfered plinth which runs along the main façade is returned for some distance around the south-east corner, as this would be visible from the street approach. Originally, the farmyard for the house was probably to the rear, though it seems to have been relocated to the east of the house (where a large farm complex survives) in the eighteenth century.

On the ground floor, the front door leads into a cross-passage, a traditional plan form still popular in the seventeenth century. The large room to the east was probably the hall (i.e. the principal room) of the original house. It now has a stone fireplace with a



Fig. 6. A view of the house in around 1910, with the adjoining Independent Methodist chapel (Jack Hart Collection, Rutland County Museum).

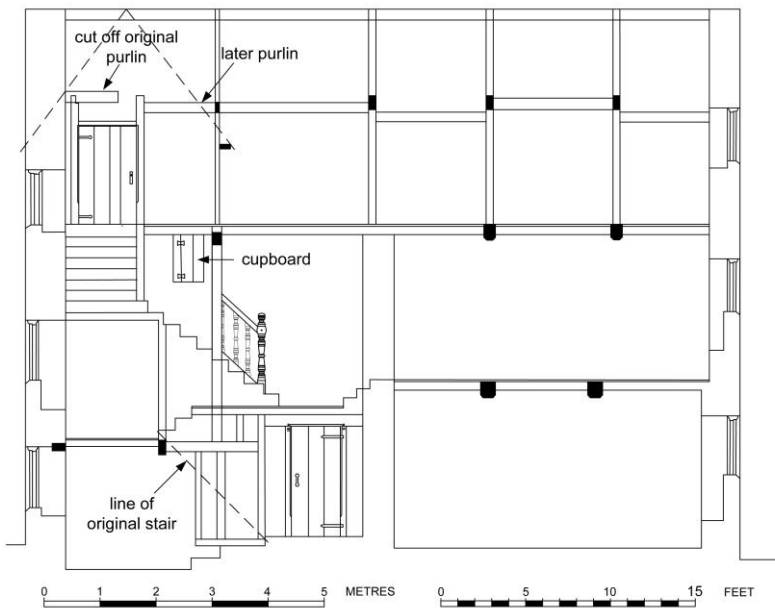


Fig. 7. Section of the east cross-wing.

four-centred arch of typical seventeenth-century pattern, but this is a late insertion, probably from elsewhere as it is of limestone, not ironstone. A chamfer stop in the ceiling beam indicates that there was formerly a large inglenook fireplace, with a projecting cheek wall to support the end of the ceiling beam. It is likely that the original doorway was to the north side of the fireplace, giving the typical local plan form with the cross-passage running across the back of the hall chimneystack. East of the hall was the parlour, which would have been a high quality reception room in the original house, with good windows to both south and east. Its fireplace, of ironstone, has been re-worked in the nineteenth century, but was clearly of sophisticated design, with a wide four-centred arch and a fluted frieze.

The rear north-east wing is of complex plan form, but was unheated, without fireplaces. It originally contained the foot of a fine staircase, which survives now only on the upper floors (fig. 7). Below the stairs a doorway, now blocked, led down a few steps to a part-cellar. The oak door jambs here have been cut back to a curved shape, to allow barrels to pass through. Much early timberwork survives in this area, including some fine oak-boarded doors. Parts of a stud partition remain, dividing off another service area to the east. Leading out of the south-east corner of this room, there was originally a doorway. Although later converted to a window, the opening still has straight sides, rather than the splayed reveals of a window. Close examination of the external masonry on the east side of this cross-wing shows that there was originally a projecting block in this location. The plinth which runs around the south-



Fig. 8. The principal staircase on the first floor, with turned balustrade of oak.

east corner of the cross-wing terminates at this point, and the raking line of a roof for a low two-storeyed structure can be discerned. It seems likely that this rather unexpected lost block formed further service or storage space.

Returning to the centre of the ground floor, there is now a central hallway with a staircase of nineteenth-century date, which Traylen says was inserted soon after 1870. Originally, the west side of the cross-passage was probably enclosed by a partition, but this area was subsequently opened out into the current entrance hall, with a later cross-wall. The original house did however contain a winding stair in this location, as can be seen from the split-level stair window of the seventeenth century and a curving recess in the wall. The main room to the west originally contained a large inglenook fireplace, with the circular recess of a bake-oven to one side. As in the hall, a stone fireplace has been inserted here, a re-used fireplace of seventeenth-century date, of limestone with moulded jambs and a flat head. A thin west-east ceiling beam indicates where a corridor was inserted in the nineteenth century, removed in the 1980s. The south-west room has a fine window to the south front but is blind to the west. There was originally no fireplace to this room, as an inserted chimneystack is evident on early photographs (see fig. 6), rising awkwardly from the attic dormer and partly blocking its window. The inserted former fireplace can be seen on the plan of 1974 (see fig. 14), but was subsequently removed. A plain staircase was inserted against the north wall in the late eighteenth or nineteenth century. The rear wing, with its skewed alignment, has a large inglenook fireplace

with an arched beam and ironstone cheek wall. To the right of the fireplace there was originally another winder stair, set into a curved recess with a split-level window. The later stair in the adjoining room was no doubt inserted when this winder stair was removed.

In terms of the overall form of the building, the decision to create a grand, symmetrical front clearly dictated much of the internal arrangement. To the right of the central cross-passage, the eastern half of the house contained the most important rooms, with a standard sequence of hall, parlour and principal staircase, though the incorporation of service spaces here, including a buttery/cellar, is somewhat unorthodox. The longstanding tradition for English houses was that the rooms on the other side of the cross-passage were for service use, the 'lower end' of the house. At Preston, with the front door placed centrally rather than offset, the service end is very extensive, perhaps providing rather more service space than was actually required. To maintain the impressive façade, the service rooms have very fine front windows, though the blind side elevation and skewed alignment against the property boundary make this end of the building suitable only for service use, not for principal rooms. The main kitchen may well have been in the rear wing, but there was a secondary kitchen or hall to the west of the cross-passage. Perhaps this room could also have served as a servants' hall. The unheated room to the south-west probably functioned as storage space, taking on the traditional role of buttery and pantry, though the incorporation of the circulation route to the rear kitchen would have made this less than ideal.

The staircase to the north-east originally formed the principal approach to the first floor. The stair had a lower flight, leading to a half-landing, then a shorter flight up to the first floor. There is now a fine section of turned balustrade on the first floor (fig. 8), but this has been re-worked, and may well in fact be the original balustrade from the ground floor. From the first floor, the original stair leads on up to the attic, around a closed well of oak framing, with a quarter landing. Three broad steps also lead southwards, giving access to the two best bedchambers, over the hall and parlour (fig. 10). It is interesting to note that each of these bedchambers was originally accessed independently from the staircase, though the door to the east room was blocked up when a corridor was created. This room, with fine windows to south and east, retains its original ironstone fireplace, with moulded jambs and four-centred arch head. In the larger bedchamber to the west, only the chimneybreast of the fireplace is visible. To the north-east was a smaller bedchamber

of rather lower status, with another original ironstone fireplace, squeezed in beside the window. A recess in the south-east corner of this room indicates the location of a doorway which once led into the projecting block. The size of this lost room, and its location beside one of the lesser bedchambers, suggest that this formed an additional closet rather than a garderobe.



Fig. 9. A fireplace on the first floor, over the cross-passage.

To the west of the cross-passage, the lost winder stair gave independent access to the lesser bedchambers in the central part of the house. A small chamber must somehow have been arranged over the cross-passage, as a good quality ironstone fireplace survives *in situ* here (fig. 9). The window here is squeezed in beside the fireplace, to allow the symmetry of the front elevation to be maintained. Beyond, probably partitioned off from the stair, was a much larger chamber, heated by a fireplace in the west wall (now with a later iron grate). The room in the south-west corner was probably unheated, like that below, so used as a servants' chamber. There was another servants' room over the rear kitchen, though this would have been warmed by the fireplace below.

The attic floor, with its tall dormer windows, is well lit but unheated, with no fireplaces (fig. 11). It would have provided extensive space for servants and storage. There are five rooms, divided by full-height stone walls, with original oak door frames and floors of gypsum plaster. The framed staircase to the north-east and the winder from the kitchen both rose to attic level, though the central winder staircase does not appear to have done so. The plasterwork has a range of scratched graffiti, the earliest of which is 'WS 1701' (on the reveal of the doorway leading out of the east cross-wing, no doubt for a William Sheild). The roof structure has nine trusses with tenoned collars and two sets of tenoned

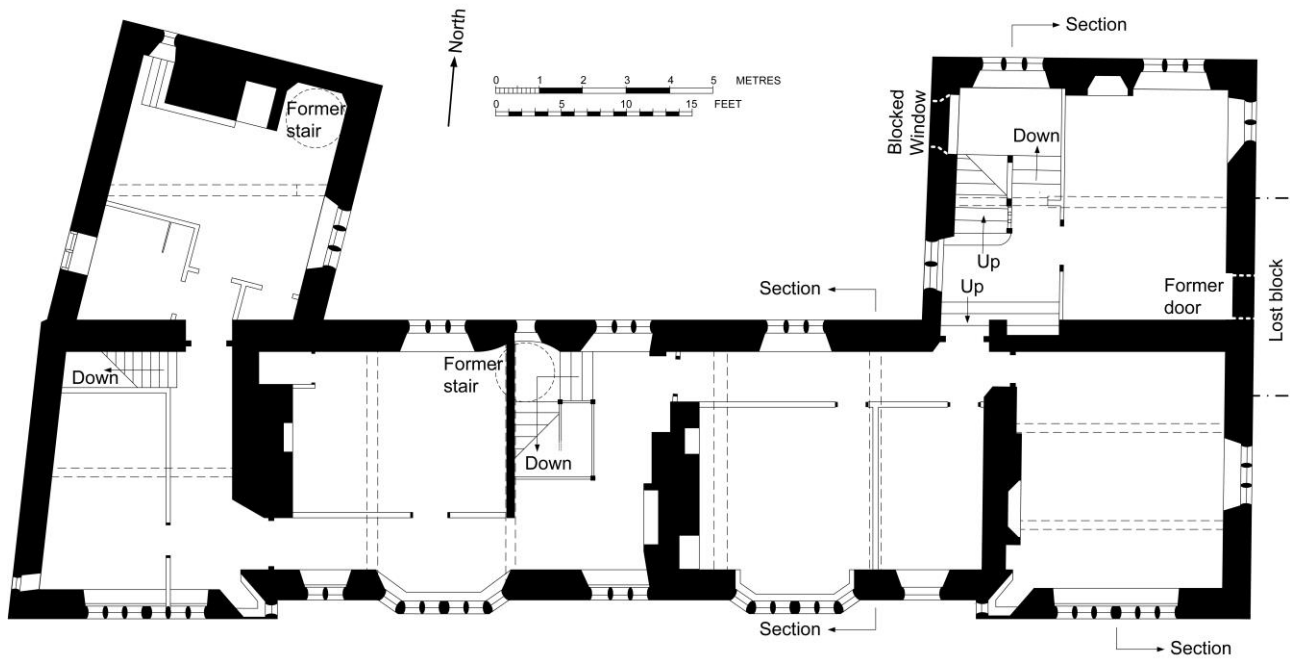


Fig. 10. First floor plan.

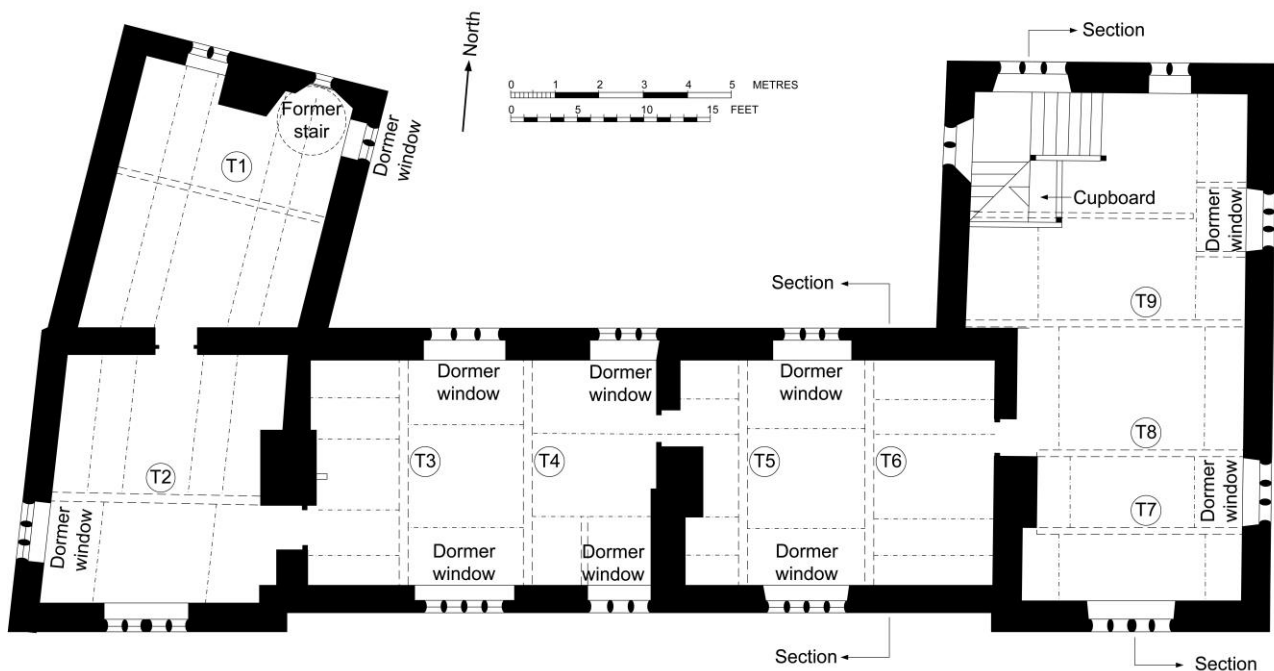


Fig. 11. Attic plan.

purlins (fig. 12). The roof apex and rafters are not visible. Tree-ring dating of the roof structure was carried out by Robert Howard and Alison Arnold, of Nottingham Tree-Ring Dating Laboratory, in 2013. Eleven samples from the principal rafters of trusses T2-T6 and T8 were successfully dated, three with complete sapwood, giving a precise felling date of 1631. Structural oak timbers of this type were nearly always used shortly after felling, so the construction of the house would have taken place in 1631-2.

Later development

Detailed analysis of the house has confirmed that the whole building was constructed in a single phase of work in c1631. The house remains in an unusually complete state, with relatively few later changes. One rather puzzling early alteration is the raising of the roof pitch over the inwards-facing roof slopes of the projecting rear wings (fig. 13). This shows as a straight joint in the masonry, running down from the corner of the dormer window to the head of the first

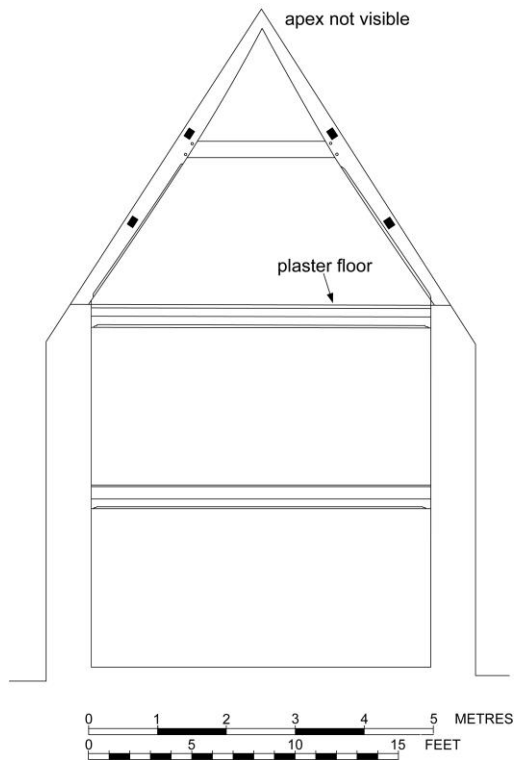


Fig. 12. Section of the main block at truss T6.



Fig. 13. The north-east wing, with later raised roof and date-stone to the right of the gabled dormer.

floor windows. Inside, it can be seen that the roof slope has been altered to a lower pitch, with later purlins introduced, propped off the structure at a higher level. The area of added external walling to the north-east wing incorporates a date-stone which reads 'IHA 1667'. The initials probably represent Henry and Anne Ireland, who were married at Brooke in 1653 and lived in Preston, though their relationship to the other Irelands of Preston (see below) has not been established. Henry Ireland paid tax on three hearths in the Hearth Tax of 1665. It seems likely that the 1667 date-stone came from a house built by Henry and Anne in that year, though

it remains a puzzle how it came to be re-set at Preston Manor House.

Very little other alteration work seems to have been carried out until at least the late eighteenth century, apart perhaps from the demolition of the small projecting block to the east. Around the early nineteenth century, the winder stair in the kitchen, running from ground floor to attic, was removed, and replaced by a new stair to the south-west. The attic floor, probably less used at this stage, was now accessed only from the north-east. A chimneystack was added to the south-west, to enable a fireplace to be inserted on the ground floor. As noted by

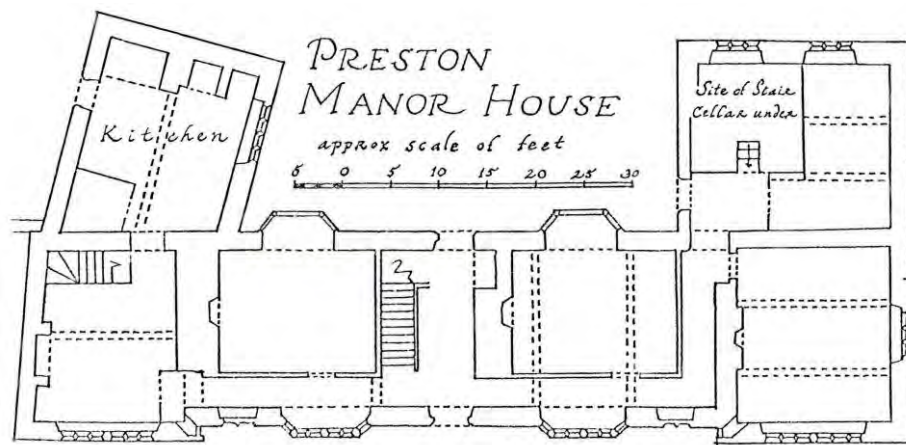


Fig. 14. Ground floor plan of 1974, before the removal of the bay windows and corridors (Vernacular Architecture Group conference handbook).

Traylen, a major phase of alterations was undertaken around 1870. The new central staircase hall was created, and the lower flight of the original staircase was presumably removed around this time. Bay windows were added to the rear, and internal corridors introduced (fig. 14). The bays and corridors were removed again in the 1980s, when the demolition of the adjoining chapel also allowed a window to be inserted in the formerly blind west wall of the kitchen. A programme of restoration and repair works was carried out by the current owners, who were awarded the George Phillips award in 2013 by the Rutland Local History & Record Society in recognition of their work.

Documentary history and ownership

As described above, Preston Manor House is a very large and imposing building. Despite its cramped site on a narrow lane in Preston it appears to be the house of an important and wealthy local family. At the time of the Hearth Tax in 1665 the house was occupied by William Sheild, a wealthy gentleman landowner, well connected to the leading families in the area, who had been an important Parliamentary leader in the Midlands. He became a Member of Parliament for Rutland from 1654 to 1659. His first wife was from a local Preston family but after her death he had married outside the immediate area, to Mary Claypole from Northborough near Peterborough. Mary's brother John had married Oliver Cromwell's daughter, so there was a close family connection to the Cromwells during the Commonwealth period. Preston Manor House with its grand design and spacious accommodation provided an excellent domestic setting for such a well-connected family.

In eighteenth-century records (see below) Preston Manor was known as Swann (or Swanne) House. We now know from the tree-ring dating of the timber that it was built in the 1630s, well before the rise of William Sheild to local prominence. In his will of 1673 William refers to his house. He left to his son Edward 'all that capital messuage or tenement, heretofore two messuages or tenements lately purchased by me of Mrs Ann Swann and Mr John Swann'. Ann Swanne was the widow of Richard Swanne who in 1617 came to Preston as rector and who was offered the headship of Oakham School in 1644 or 1646 (see Needham 2012, 68-9). He died in Oakham in 1648. The evidence points to his being the builder of this great house in his parish. He and his family may have occupied it until he died. It was then acquired from his widow in about 1655 by William Sheild. Known locally as Swann House in the mid-eighteenth century, it was never actually a manor house owned and occupied and

used as an administrative centre by a manorial overlord. (The surname Swan had a number of different spellings. Richard's surname was usually spelled Swanne, but where a direct quotation from a document is given the original spelling is used.)

The history of Preston manor in the medieval period was inextricably linked to the manor of Uppingham. Preston village lay on a crossroads. It was on the course of a ridgeway route from west to east, approaching the village from Ridlington a mile to the west. This route passed down Church Lane and across Main Street to continue down what is now Cross Lane and on in the direction of Wing. The more important route through the village may have been the north to south route from Uppingham to Oakham, along which Main Street in Preston appears to have developed. The 'Manor House' was built away from Main Street on Cross Lane, the west to east alignment of the ridgeway route. It looks cramped and out of place there today.

In about 1588 the Manor of Preston cum Uppingham was acquired by the Cecils of Burghley. In the Survey of the Manor in 1595, a copy of which is in the Fitzwilliam Manuscripts in the Northamptonshire Record Office (NRO, Fitzwilliam Mss Misc Vol 433), there is reference to a guildhall but no reference to a manor house. Chief rents were paid by nine individuals for land held both in Preston and elsewhere in Rutland, including William Feilding for Martinthorpe and John Harrington for Ridlington. There were twenty-eight copyholders and four leaseholders in the village including Everard Digby of Stoke Dry who leased the 244 acres of demesne land in Preston for £6 3s 6d annual rent.

In 1622 William Cecil, the third Earl of Exeter, settled various estates Rutland including the Manor of Preston on his daughter Anne. In 1628 Anne married Henry Grey. After William had secured the royal Manor of Stamford he gave it to his daughter and her husband, and his son-in-law became the first Earl of Stamford. The ancestral home of the Greys was the estate of Groby near Leicester. Henry, as Lord Grey of Groby, commanded the Parliamentary armies in the Midlands. Neither the Cecils nor the Greys had any need of a manor house in Preston. As absentee lords of the manor all the business of the manor court was handled by their steward. The site of the so-called Manor House appears to have been once two cottage plots near the centre of the village purchased by Richard Swanne, the Rector of Preston, on which he built his new house in 1631.

Richard Swanne

Richard was probably the son of Richard Swann, the vicar of Ryhall, and was born in about 1580. He may

have been educated at Stamford School. The school's close connection with St John's College, Cambridge, and his later education would suggest this. Richard Swanne matriculated in 1598 and, as was expected of Stamford School scholars, went to St John's College. He was awarded a BA in 1601/2 at which point he was appointed, apparently straight from Cambridge, to become the Headmaster of Stamford School. According to B L Deed in the *History of Stamford School* the headmaster's house was built for Richard Swann 'and his successors' in 1609 (Deed 1954, 106).

In 1610 a Richard Swanne was married to Mistress Faith Neville in Tinwell parish church. There is as yet no corroborative evidence that this was the marriage of Richard Swanne of Stamford School, but it seems likely. Tinwell Manor was the dower house used by the Cecil family of Burghley. Thomas Cecil's first wife was Dorothy Neville. She died in 1608 but the Neville connection with the village makes the appearance of Faith Neville as Richard's wife more likely. Their first child, Mary, was baptised in Stamford St Michael in August 1613 although only the one parent, her father, is named.

After his marriage Richard Swanne was ordained in 1612 and became vicar of Stamford St Michael until, in 1617, he was offered the living in Preston. He stayed in Preston until as we have seen, already in his sixties, he was invited to become headmaster of Oakham School (Barber 1989, 43-5; Needham 2012, 68-9). He died in Oakham in 1648, and was replaced as Rector of Preston in 1649. The parish registers of Preston record the children of Richard Swanne baptised there: three sons, Robert in 1620, John in 1623 and Richard in 1625. He also had at least three daughters, all married in Preston parish church. Elizabeth was married in 1634, Anne in 1636 and Jane in 1638. From his will (TNA, PROB 11/207) it is clear Richard Swanne had married twice. With his second wife Anne he had three daughters, all under age in 1648, but he also mentions older children. His eldest daughter Mary was born in Stamford St Michael in 1613. There was also a son Isaac, possibly also born before he left Stamford, and a son-in-law Bryan Austin married to his daughter Elizabeth, and he had grandchildren from this and other family marriages. His property in Preston is not mentioned in his will but his widow Anne and a son John were living in the house there in the 1650s when they sold it to William Sheild.

It is hard to understand why Richard Swanne undertook to build a house on such an impressive scale even though the Rectory in Preston, described in later glebe terriers (ROLLR, MW 19/626), was rather cramped and would have been small for a growing family. It had a hall and parlour on one side

with a cellar and dairy in a yard behind. A 'small house' accommodated the servant's parlour with a corn chamber, a little room for a maid servant and a study on the first floor. The kitchen was detached 'standing apart on the north side'. There were barns, a stable and a dovecote, a garden and an orchard. It is perhaps not surprising that Richard Swanne, an educated and civilised man, wanted something better, but his new house spoke also of unusual wealth and high social standing.

Swanne began accumulating land in Preston in the 1620s. The site of the Manor House was held by copyhold. The records of the manor court of Preston cum Uppingham (ROLLR, DE 1836) on a roll marked 'Mr Swann his copie', shows that in 1625 he purchased a messuage and a virgate of land from Leonard Ireland and his son William. The roll contains the copies of the descent of 'Irelands yardland' from 1534. Leonard died in 1631 and his will is in Northamptonshire Record Office (NRO, MW 93/231). It was witnessed by Richard Swanne, Parson of Preston. Shortly after this, in 1634, Richard Swanne led the villagers of Preston in bringing a case in Chancery against the Lord of the Manor, the Earl of Stamford (TNA, CR78 1634). The case centred among other concerns on whether the Earl could exact a fine on the transfer of property and whether that fine could be varied or not. Eventually the copyholders in Preston achieved an agreement that the fine would be a certain amount, usually twice the annual rent, and not subject to variation. But disagreements with the Earl of Stamford continued until 1656 when a document was signed, 'The Tripartite Agreement', limiting the Earl's influence and privileges in the Manor.

The Ireland land purchased in the 1620s may not have been all Swanne acquired for his purposes. It seems he was held in high regard as a leader of the tenants of the manor and he probably purchased or leased enough land to provide a good site for his house, and enough farmland to maintain his family in comfort. The house was referred to until the late eighteenth century in the Court Rolls as 'formerly two messuages or tenements'. The house does indeed appear to fill the width across two plots side by side on the north side of Cross Lane but shows no sign in the present building that it was designed as two properties.

Where finance came from for Swanne's great house is a mystery. It is possible he himself had accumulated wealth, but perhaps more likely, if there was a connection by marriage with the Nevills, that his wife's family provided some financial support. After his death in 1648, records show his widow as a wealthy member of the community, able to match the other Preston landowners in her

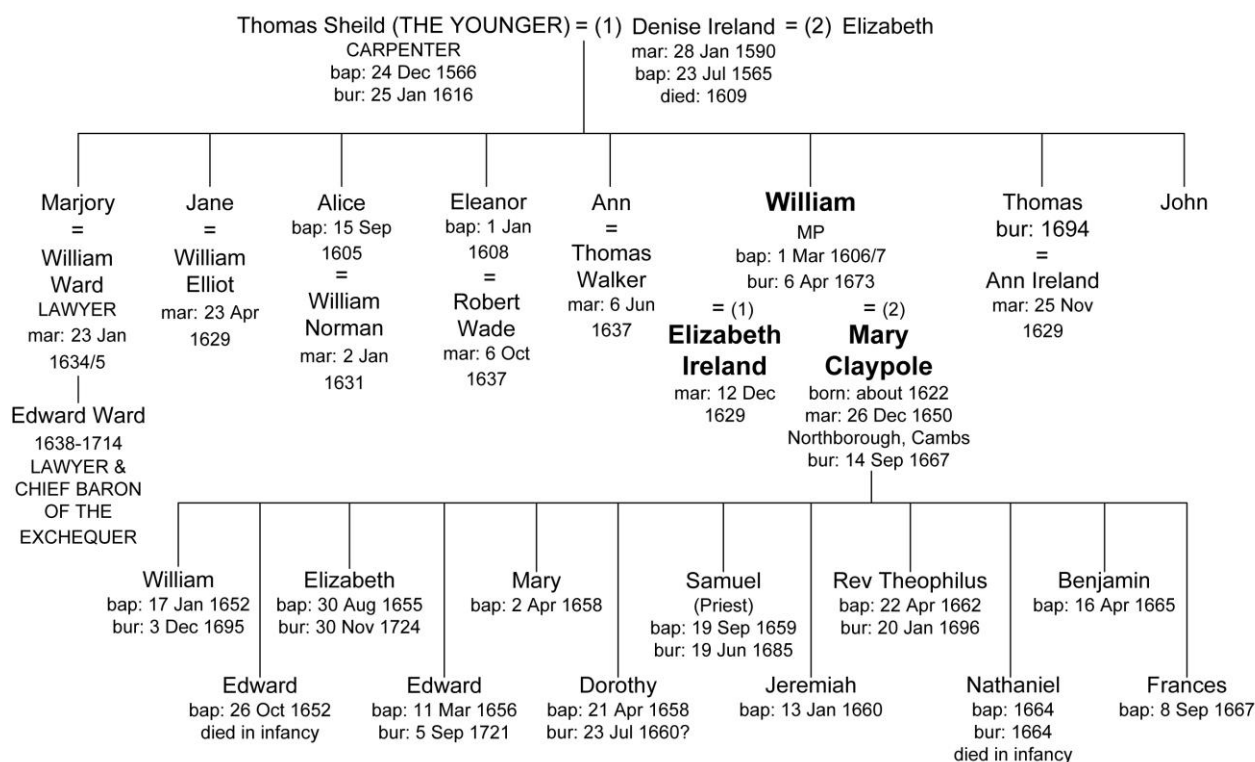


Fig. 15. Family tree of William Sheild.

contributions to local taxation during the Civil War (ROLLR, DE 2461/135). A Mrs Anne Swanne, possibly his widow, died in Manton in 1666 (Manton Parish Register).

William Sheild

William Sheild purchased the house now known as the Manor House from Ann and John Swanne in about 1655. The last record for Ann paying tax in Preston was in that year, and she does not appear in the list of taxpayers for 1658, suggesting that by then she was no longer resident in Preston. As William Sheild was listed in 1656 as the copyholder of the property in a survey in the Manor Court rolls, it is evident that the purchase took place in 1655-6. The purchase of this important house features in his will in 1673 as *'all that capital messuage or tenement heretofore two messuages or tenements, and all of these three quartern [quarters] of land, all of them copyhold and lately purchased by me of Mrs Ann Swann and Mr John Swann'* (TNA, PROB 11/207).

In the Hearth Tax of 1665, William Sheild was listed as paying tax for fourteen hearths, by far the largest property in Preston at that date (Bourne & Goode 1991, 39). The evidence of the existing building shows that it would originally have contained a maximum of ten hearths, so the additional hearths must have been in other buildings. William Sheild's tax assessment of fourteen hearths was, unusually, 'for two Houses'. This might be a reference to the original purchase of the property as

being formerly two plots, though it may be that he also had a smaller house in the village at this date.

William Sheild was baptised in Preston in March 1606. His father Thomas Sheild the younger was a carpenter (fig. 15). His mother was Denise or Dennis Ireland, who died in 1609-10. The Sheilds and the Irelands were important local families in the early seventeenth century, probably of similar status in the community. Intermarriage between them was not inevitable but it was likely.

In November 1629 both William Sheild and his younger brother Thomas married. Both their brides were Irelands (fig. 16). William married Elizabeth, the elder sister of Edward Ireland, son and heir of Thomas Ireland who died in 1624. Elizabeth's older sister Ann married first William Fynne and later Robert Blewett of Hambleton. William Sheild's younger brother Thomas also married an Ann Ireland, the daughter of Thomas Ireland, a glover, who died in 1632. The wives of the two Sheild families were only connected by marriage. The brothers William and Thomas did not marry Ireland sisters as is often claimed.

William's first wife Elizabeth had three daughters, Elizabeth, Ann and Eleanor. Their twin sons William and Richard died in infancy in 1636.

In 1641 Elizabeth's brother Edward Ireland died, unmarried. He was only 24 but from relatively humble beginnings, benefiting from his father's will, he had risen in wealth and status and was styled gentleman when he died. In his will (TNA, PROB

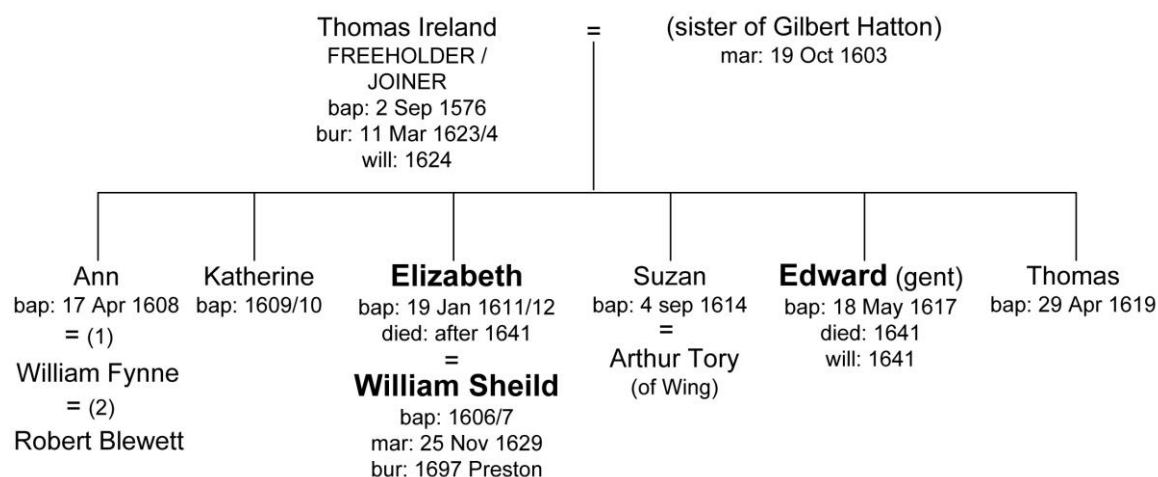


Fig. 16. Ireland family tree.

11/186) he left over £1,000 in cash to be distributed after his death. His chief beneficiary was his brother-in-law and executor, William Sheild, to whom he left 'all my freehold lands, copyhold lands' and 'all my messuages, cottages, houses, lands tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances in Preston'. As a result of Edward's bequests, William Sheild became one of the richest men in Preston in the mid-seventeenth century. He began the century as the son of a carpenter, and was referred to in his brother-in-law's will as a yeoman, but in the 1650s in the taxation returns for the village he was William Sheild Esq, gentleman (ROLLR, DE 2461/135), his status largely dependent on his brother-in-law and the generosity of his bequests. His wife Elizabeth had her last daughter, Eleanor, in 1638. There is no record of her death but she is not named in her brother Edward's will, and may have died by 1641.

After the death of his first wife, William Sheild married again, choosing his new bride from among the most powerful families in the area during the Interregnum and Civil War, Mary Claypole from Northborough near Peterborough. Her brother, John Claypole, was well known to Cromwell. He had joined the Parliamentary armies at the beginning of the Civil War and had fought at Newark in 1645/6. He had then married the lively young Elizabeth Cromwell, the youngest of Oliver Cromwell's daughters and his favourite. After their marriage they lived at Northborough and Cromwell is known to have visited them there (Claypool 2005, 35). William Sheild and Mary married in Northborough in 1650 and during the next fifteen years she bore him twelve children. He increased his wealth and advanced socially in the community, eventually becoming, by his support of the Republican cause, first a Justice of the Peace and later one of the Members of Parliament for Rutland (as noted

above), where he sat from 1654 to the eve of the Restoration in 1659. The house he purchased from the Swanns provided an appropriate setting for a man of his wealth and status and was large enough to accommodate his rapidly growing family.

After his death in 1673 his 'capital messuage' was left to his second son Edward and the transfer was recorded in the Manor Court. In later transfers of the mid-eighteenth century the house was referred to as Swanns House, the association with a former rector of the parish remembered above that of the Sheilds. Edward married Elizabeth Smith of Manton about 1690 and they had one son, William, born in 1692, who in 1710 was at Cambridge. He was ordained in 1718. His two sons William and Edward both died in infancy. The great house in Preston then passed to another branch of the Sheild family, Henry and his wife Mary, and was described in the manor court in 1750 as 'formerly Swanns House late in the occupation of Edward Sheild, then Mrs Ann Hotchkinson'. Henry and his wife reserved to themselves and their heirs 'the barn called the Great Barn and the passageway at the north end'.

Henry died intestate and by the mid-eighteenth century the Sheild family had become impoverished. Mary, the daughter of William Sheild's first son by Mary Claypole, married Cornelius Belgrave in 1703, the son of William Belgrave, rector of Ridlington. He and his successors as Rectors of Preston financed much of the building of Preston Hall and the fortunes of the Sheilds were inextricably linked with those of the Belgraves in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The later history of the ownership of Preston Manor House has been set out by Traylen (2005, 221-2). It was owned by the Parker family in the nineteenth century, and it may well have been during this period that it became called the 'Manor House'.



Fig. 17. The cupboard door on the staircase, with eclipse painting.

Lunar eclipse painting

A surprising feature of Preston Manor House was discovered on the rear face of a cupboard door located in the closed well of the staircase in the north-east wing. The cupboard is clearly an integral feature of the staircase construction. The door itself, measuring 380mm wide by 910mm high, is formed of two oak boards nailed to an upper and lower batten (fig. 17). It has 'butterfly' pattern hinges, fixed with handmade nails. All the features of the door indicate that it is an original feature and *in situ*, not an import from elsewhere. A lock plate (with a key) has been fitted to the door at a rather later date (though still fixed with handmade nails). A row of holes just below the lock plate probably indicates the location of an original latch.

On the rear face of the door, painted onto the bare oak, is a sketch of a diagram of the sun, moon and earth aligned as for an eclipse of the moon (figs 18-19). The sun, painted onto an irregularly shaped background of lighter colour, is shown as a yellow ball with red flames leaping from its circumference, in a style typical of the period. It has a cheerful face, the main features of which, painted in red, are well preserved. Beside it, shown with roughly the same diameter (c100mm), is a blueish-green sphere,



Fig. 18. The eclipse painting.

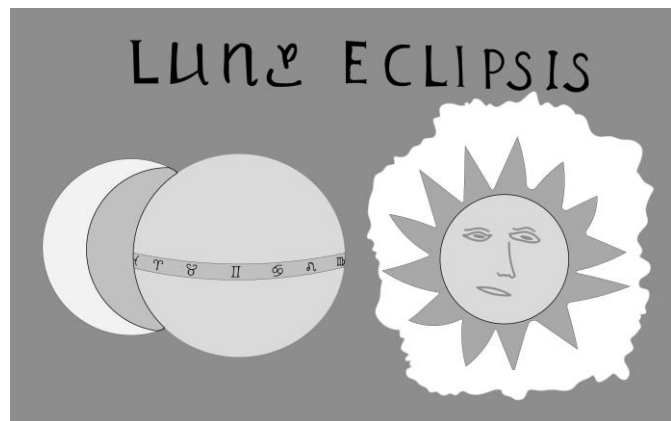


Fig. 19. A drawing of the eclipse painting to show the key features (Robert Ovens)

representing the earth, with a narrow red girdle on which the signs of the zodiac are indicated. Beyond it are two crescents, representing the moon with the earth's shadow passing across it. The work is entitled, in well-formed large black letters, '*Lunae Eclipsis*' (Eclipse of the Moon). All of the circular features have been set out with incised lines from a compass, but in some areas (particularly the earth's circumference) there have been several attempts, with repeated arcs. Incised straight lines have also been used to set out the lettering, and the signs of the zodiac (being very small) are incised, not painted. The overall appearance is that of a lively diagram, rather than a finished piece of art. Part of the moon has subsequently been overlaid by the lock plate, and an area of darker staining (probably lock oil) has spread over much of the moon.

The artist and the date of the painting are matters of conjecture but it seems that this represents the eclipse in a heliocentric solar system, first put forward as a theory by Copernicus in the 1540s. European society in the sixteenth century, and particularly the Catholic Church, favoured the Ptolemaic, geocentric view of the universe, with the earth as a fixed point round which the other elements of the solar system revolved. British astronomers

who understood and studied the Copernican system were still rare in the early seventeenth century, so this painting at Preston Manor was unlikely to have been made in Richard Swanne's time. By the 1650s, however, works were appearing with detailed astronomical observations and mathematical calculations supporting the views of Copernicus. A major contribution in this field was the astronomical studies of Vincent Wing, who was born in North Luffenham in 1619 and lived in Rutland throughout his life.

Vincent Wing was largely self-educated in the classical languages, mathematics and astronomy but he was by all accounts a sociable man who soon found friends in London and Cambridge with whom he could exchange ideas. He earned his living as a surveyor and completed maps of several estates and villages in his home county of Rutland. His father was making astronomical observations in the 1620s and, with his eleven-year-old son, observed the lunar eclipse in 1630 (DNB). Vincent's most noteworthy book on astronomy, entitled *Harmonicon Caeleste*, was published in 1651 and set out to prove the Copernican view of the universe by observation and developing a mathematical system to explain the underlying basis of this revolutionary theory. The lunar eclipse in May 1650 was observed, he tells us, with his young friend Robert Billingsley, the son of the vicar of Morcott, and a student at Cambridge (*Harmonicon Caeleste*, 150).

Although the 1650s were times of great political

upheavals, Wing took a pragmatic view of the politics of the day and had supporters of both the Parliamentarians and the royalists among his friends and patrons. *Harmonicon Caeleste* was dedicated to Baptist Noel of Exton, a convinced royalist (Capp 2010, 390). But his next book on astrology, *Ephemerides*, published in 1652, was dedicated to his patron Thomas Waite who, as a member for Rutland in the Long Parliament, was present at the execution of Charles I. Waite and William Sheild of Preston will surely have been acquainted. They both served with the Parliamentary forces locally and Wing would have known Sheild's house in Preston. It seems entirely possible that Wing was responsible for the painting, choosing the back of a cupboard door to illustrate his theory to Sheild.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Jim and Marilyn Strachan, the owners of Preston Manor House, for kindly allowing access. Besides preparing the drawings of the building, Robert Ovens assembled the family trees and provided other assistance with research and illustrations. Peter Lane provided information on the work already done on the Sheild family by Robin Robilliard of New Zealand, and pointed us in the right direction with his work on the Manor Court Rolls, both in ROLLR and the transcripts in the Rutland County Museum Local History Library. Thanks are also due to Sheila Ervin of Preston House for help and encouragement.

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Abbreviations

DNB	Oxford Dictionary of National Biography – online
NRO	Northamptonshire Record Office
ROLLR	Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland
TNA	The National Archives

Documentary sources

Preston cum Uppingham Manor Court Rolls are held at ROLLR DE 1797/4 (1648 – 1804) and DE 1836 (1553 to 1625), though there are a few gaps. The Court Rolls have been partly transcribed by the Uppingham Local History Study Group and the results are kept in the Uppingham folder in the Rutland County Museum Local History Library. The Rutland Parish Registers are held at ROLLR, with microfiche copies in Rutland County Museum. Occasionally the Preston Register appears incomplete, particularly in the 1630s and 40s.

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A Witch Bottle from Exton, Rutland

ALAN G MASSEY & T H MCK CLOUGH

In 1983 a mid to late seventeenth century stoneware bellarmine jar was found under the hearth of a cottage in Maltings Yard, Exton, Rutland. Analysis of its contents demonstrates that it had been deposited as a witch bottle.

The location of the cottage and the identification of horse urine as a component of the contents raise the possibility that the occupier of the cottage may have had a particular association with horses.



Fig. 1. The Exton stoneware witch bottle (photo: Rutland County Museum).

Let us imagine for a moment the following scenario, happening some three and a half centuries ago in an age when superstition was rife, veterinary skills and knowledge were modest, and antibiotics yet to be discovered....

He had lost three of his valuable horses in as many days. What was wrong? Who had cursed him so cruelly? As his new cottage took shape, he decided he must seek help from a local cunning man or wise woman in protecting the rest of his stable; the words whispered in his ear that day were known to no-one, but their manifestation was discovered over three centuries later – hidden beneath the great hearth of his cottage. Whether the magic device had worked or not we can never know....

Many old properties are renovated or altered by their various owners over the years, as happened to one late seventeenth century Rutland cottage in 1983, namely in Maltings Yard, Exton, which lies off the Green behind the Fox & Hounds inn. To the probable surprise of the workmen and of course of the then owner, Sqn Ldr B A Watt, an intact stoneware jar was

revealed standing upright just below the centre of the inglenook fireplace; intriguingly, it was sealed and obviously contained a liquid, judging from the motion felt when the jar was gently shaken. On the opposite side to the handle, a grotesque face of a bearded man was imprinted onto the mottled surface of the neck.

The jar (fig. 1) is of a type made by the hundred

thousand in the Rhineland, mainly in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and many were imported into Britain. This one can be dated to the third quarter of the seventeenth century (*see* Appendix, below). They were called ‘bartmann’ (ie ‘bearded man’) bottles, calling to mind a ‘wild man’ found in popular European myths of the period. Nowadays people usually refer to them as ‘bellarmine’, an alternative name which probably arises from an erroneous belief that the bearded mask and rotund form of the jar represented the face and figure of Cardinal Roberto Bellarmine (1542-1621), a staunch opponent of Protestantism in northern Europe.

The fact that this bellarmine was both sealed and secreted beneath the cottage fireplace strongly suggested that it had been deposited as a witch bottle – although, unusually, it was found standing upright when most other witch bottles are buried upside-down. The hearth or fireplace is a common place of deposit for such items because the chimney, which provides direct access to the outside, was thought in those more superstitious times to be an easy entry point for a witch.

Luckily, Sqn Ldr Watt reported the find to the Rutland County Museum, with a sketch of where it had been found (fig. 2), and offered it for analysis rather than removing the stopper and washing the contents away as can often happen with such objects. Graham Morgan and Terry Hector, then of Leicester University and Leicester Polytechnic respectively, were assigned to carry out the study, which took place in 1984: copies of their notes are deposited at the museum. Subsequently the cottage has changed hands several times, and unfortunately the whereabouts of the jar are currently unknown.

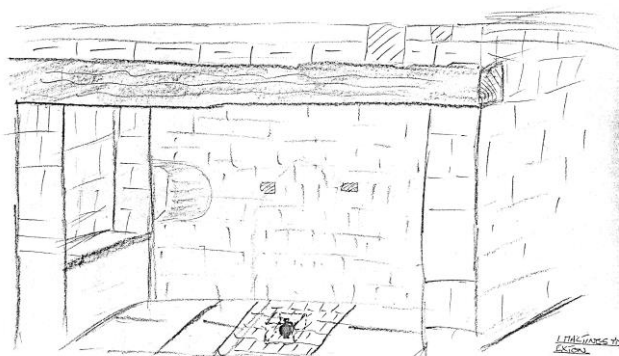


Fig. 2. Sketch of the findspot of the witch bottle (drawing by Sqn Ldr B A Watt in Rutland County Museum archives).

The investigation began with an X-ray examination of the still-sealed bottle. This showed that no metallic objects such as pins and nails were concealed inside – these are often found in witch bottles to add potency to their perceived ability to

ward off evil. After careful removal of the granular material sealing the neck, 840ml of muddy brown liquid were decanted from the bellarmine into a glass container; this was almost neutral, with a pH of 7.4, and had a smell reminiscent of a farmyard. Small amounts of sodium, potassium, calcium and magnesium cations were present, but the big surprise not understood for some years was the 1109mg per litre of oxalate anions. Distilled water was used to flush out all of the remaining solid material in the bottle which, when dried, was of a greyish colour and weighed 4.5gm; much of it was amorphous although some crystals of calcium oxalate were identified by their morphology using a microscope.

Some eighteen years later the bellarmine contents were passed to Loughborough University for further study, by which time, as previously noted elsewhere (Massey & Edmonds 2000, 36), all the oxalate in the liquid had decomposed although some calcium oxalate was still present in the grey solid, as determined using powder X-ray analysis. A full analysis carried out on the liquid by the British Geological Survey laboratories gave results which were consistent with it being a decayed urine sample – but one which had originally had a high oxalate content (Table 1). We may note that horse urine contains oxalate and tends to deposit insoluble crystals of calcium carbonate and calcium oxalate.

<i>component</i>	<i>mg per litre</i>
sodium	149
potassium	264
magnesium	104
calcium	90
chloride	51
sulphate	44
nitrate	11
phosphate	<10
oxalate	1109 (in 1984)
silicon	10.4
iron	1.5
TIC	246
TOC	304
pH	7.4 (in 1984)

Table 1. Analysis of the liquid from the Exton bellarmine carried out in 2004.

TIC = total inorganic carbon (bicarbonate); the solid left when a sample of the liquid was evaporated to dryness effervesced vigorously when hydrochloric acid was added to it.

TOC = total organic carbon: probably from a small amount of fatty acid material.

The grey material proved not to be homogeneous when extracted with a variety of solvents. Most of it was soluble in diethyl ether to leave behind calcium carbonate, identified by infra-red spectroscopy. The

solid remaining after treatment with dichloromethane, CH_2Cl_2 , proved to be mainly calcium palmitate; whereas a fat had been extracted into the CH_2Cl_2 . Thus there were only three major components of the grey solid. Copies of the infra-red spectra are also deposited at Rutland County Museum.

The calcium palmitate fraction was treated with hydrochloric acid in order to release the fatty acids which, when analysed by infra-red spectroscopy and a gas chromatograph/mass spectrometry combination, were found to be palmitic acid, $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{31}\text{COOH}$, containing less than 5% stearic acid, $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{35}\text{COOH}$. Only two common fats have such low stearic acid content: fat from chickens and fat from horses. Taken together, these results indicate that almost certainly the bellarmine had originally been filled with horse urine and horse fat, and thus may seem to suggest an intention to protect horses in some way.

Over the centuries the horse fat would have slowly hydrolysed to release glycerol and the various constituent fatty acids, but once the bellarmine was opened to the air in 1984 bacteria destroyed most of the acids as well as the glycerol. Calcium carbonate in the meantime attacked the two remaining acids forming calcium palmitate and calcium stearate which are now the major constituents of the grey solid. Morgan and Hector noted the presence of a few fibres originating from mice, farm animals and grass, all of which presumably had floated into the open bellarmine naturally, rather than being intentional additives, which might suggest a rather dirty environment.

Clearly, the urine and body fat point to 'horse' being of particular importance in the context of this protective deposit, but cannot reveal the supposed force by which this could be accomplished. Ralph Merrifield, in his book *The Archaeology of Ritual and Magic* (1987, 125), cites an old country custom whereby a calf's head was hung above the door of a barn to ward off disease from the sheltering cattle herd. Although it has not been established if there were indeed maltings nearby at the time of deposit as the road name might imply, could it be that here, perhaps near a malting yard where horse-powered transport was vital, the bellarmine was 'expected' to achieve a similar, but now equine, purpose? More recently my research group at Loughborough University analysed the contents of a small bottle hidden under a parish boundary wall in Dorset in the mid-eighteenth century; it had contained bovine fat and salt solution probably 'designed' to protect local cows from an outbreak of distemper of horned cattle (Massey *et al* 2003). But describing the subtle details of 'magic theory' in words is, as one author put it, like trying to cut roast beef with a screwdriver!

Was there any disease of horses which the Rutland bottle might have been used to fight? Although there

doesn't seem to be any historical account of a horse plague like the periodic outbreaks of foot and mouth occurring in cows, there was one contagious disease, glanders, which caused serious problems with horses over many centuries. Thankfully it is now absent from Britain but previously it would have thrived in warm stables crowded with horses – and it could be transferred to humans through contact with infected animals. Although local late eighteen/early nineteenth century commentators such as Crutchley and Parkinson make no specific reference this is not to say that glanders may not have been present locally either then or a century earlier when the jar was deposited. Our supposed Rutland horseman would have been wise to take whatever precautions he could to protect his house and prevent such a disease spreading among his animals, if that had been his specific worry.

A few comments about the analytical data shown in Table 1 would seem appropriate. For example, the reasonably high concentration of bicarbonate still present in the liquid is further proof that the latter was once a specimen of horse urine. The absence of the other characteristic species, oxalate, was proved using anion chromatography on the liquid: only three elution peaks were observed for chloride, nitrate and sulphate. When the chromatogram was repeated after sodium oxalate had been added, four peaks were observed with the oxalate being retained longest on the column. It is not too surprising that the quite reactive oxalate anions had decomposed during the eighteen years which had elapsed between the bellarmine being opened to air and the urine being analysed.

It is probable that the iron and at least some of the silicon (as silicate) were leached from the bellarmine fabric by the urine over the long period of burial, although some grasses do contain silicon. As a well-known confirmatory test for iron, a few drops of potassium thiocyanate solution were added to the urine when a pale crimson colour developed due to the formation of the cation FeSCN^{2+} .

A veterinarian has pointed out that the concentrations of sodium, calcium and possibly magnesium are rather higher than expected for normal horse urine. There are a number of possible reasons for this: the 'high' values may be the result of an infection, or due to an unknown component originally added to the bellarmine, or leaching of these elements from the salt-glazed stoneware (sodium chloride, for example, is thrown into the kiln during the firing of the clay vessels). Species present in the urine can, of course, be influenced by diet, one example being elevated phosphate levels observed when horses are fed on oats. Virtually no phosphate was present in the bellarmine urine when it was analysed in 2004. In 1984 there was phosphate in

both the urine and the grey solid, being estimated at about 100ppm in each.

Little comment can be made concerning the pH value of 7.4 measured for the liquid in 1984; it lies within the normal range for fresh horse urine but may have changed somewhat from its original value in the late seventeenth century.

Purists may dislike the Exton bellarmine being referred to as a witch bottle because it does not fit the 'classic' type that contains, beside urine, bent pins and nails, hair and finger-nail cuttings. However, after analysing witch bottles for nearly two decades it has been apparent that each one is subtly different in its contents. Their depositors, on the other hand, seem to have a single purpose in mind: to protect. To protect self or family, or a building or animals – but protection always seems at the core whatever the contents of a bottle are. Simple uneducated country folk can hardly be expected to question the supposed strange workings and power of magic when contemporary people like Joseph Glanvil and the American divine Cotton Mather, both Fellows of the fledgling Royal Society, believed in witchcraft. To most of us, it is impossible to imagine that a hidden bottle containing just urine and fat could protect anything – so we cannot understand what power was perceived to be in the

bellarmine buried by our imagined horseman over three centuries ago. We assume it was an anti-spirit or anti-witch device: a witch-bottle.

If the workings of the Exton bottle are hard to comprehend, that of a bottle found during alterations to Aylesbury Museum (acc no AYBCM 1984.16) stretches credulity much further. It is a bellarmine with a broken handle found, as usual, within a building's fabric: it was totally empty but had the glaze rubbed off the medallion – and off the nose of the mask – and off the top couple of centimetres around the neck. All this damage, including the broken handle, has to be assumed deliberate and further to have been done in an effort to 'kill' the bellarmine. Was this now dead bottle used as a device to protect the building by capturing evil spirit and witches in their 'other' world? How? If we assume it was an anti-spirit device, then it is presumably correct to refer to even that empty bellarmine as an example of a witch bottle.

Acknowledgements

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Appendix

Identification of the bellarmine, by Deborah Sawday

The vessel was not available for inspection since its current whereabouts are unknown, and so the identification has been made from two photographs taken soon after its discovery, showing the jug face on and in profile (fig. 1). A drawing was also made at the time (fig. 3).

The jar is a stoneware bellarmine, possibly from Frechen or Cologne in Germany. Salt-glazed externally, height approximately 205 mm. Bead rim with double cordons beneath which springs a handle. Decoration: outside on the neck opposite the handle is a face mask with a 'T' shaped rib between the brows and a down-turned mouth and crude curved lines representing a beard. On the body beneath is an oval medallion with a schematic heraldic design incorporating a stylised crown and a heart, which were popular seventeenth-century Rhenish motifs (Hurst *et al* 1986). The stylized mask and the ovoid body narrowing towards the base suggest a date from c1650-1675.

Hurst, J G, Neal, D S, & Van Beuningen, H J E, *Pottery produced and traded in North-West Europe 1350-1650*, Rotterdam Papers VI, Museum Boymans-Van Beuningen (Rotterdam 1986).

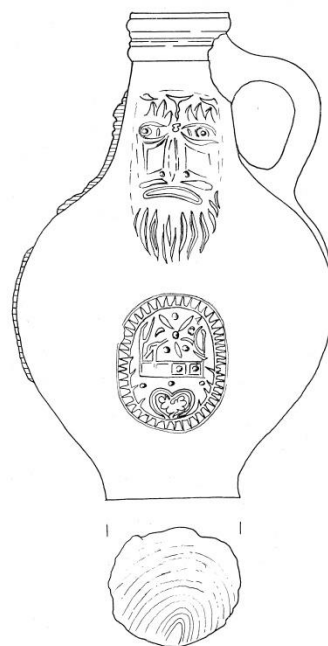


Fig. 3. Drawing of the Exton bellarmine (Rutland County Museum).

Population trends in Rutland, 1851-1911

KATE COOPER

Decennial census taking in Britain began in 1801, and among other things this enabled statisticians to plot population levels by county and identify particular growth areas. However, it was not until the intro-

duction of individual birthplace data from 1851 that it became possible to trace population movements between counties, and this revealed the extent to which migration was taking place in Victorian Britain.

The nineteenth century witnessed a shift in economic emphasis in Britain from agriculture to commerce and industry. This meant that the country was no longer subject to checks on population increase beyond the level of subsistence, and the population rise that had begun in the mid-eighteenth century was able to continue at an ‘unparalleled rate of natural increase’ throughout the nineteenth (Saville 1957, 2). Indeed, the census returns reveal that despite considerable emigration the population of England and Wales doubled between 1801 and 1851 and then again by 1911 (Woods 1991, 22). Nevertheless, in 1911 there were six counties in England and Wales whose populations were actually smaller than in 1841, and Rutland was one of these (the others were Cornwall, Huntingdon, Cardigan, Montgomery and Radnor (Mitchell 1962, 20, 22)). The population of Rutland had mirrored the national increase until 1851 but thereafter slowly declined as the century progressed, albeit with slight fluctuations. So what was going on? Given the excess of births over deaths throughout England and Wales during this period, the decline in the six losing counties suggests that considerable outmigration was taking place.

Decennial census taking began in Britain in 1801, but it was not until 1841 that the use of basic household schedules listing individuals by name was introduced. From 1851 the schedules required more details, including birthplace data, but the personal nature of the information means that the schedules are subject to a 100-year embargo. Thus those up to 1911 are now publicly available. This article will consider the population trends in Rutland as revealed by the censuses from 1851 to 1911, and consider some of the key factors involved.

Although the censuses are central to the research for this article, they only give the position on a given day in every ten years and care is needed in the interpretation of the information (for more on this see Higgs 1996). In order to gain as accurate a picture of the background as possible, therefore, this study will also draw heavily on contemporary journalism and government reports. Even at the time there was criticism of some of the opinions expressed and conclusions drawn in this literature (Freeman 2003), but if we seek as far as possible to balance the available evidence, these sources provide the best picture we can gain of Victorian and Edwardian migration.

It has been said that the most important feature of society in nineteenth-century Britain, after its inequality, was its mobility (Anderson 1980, 154-55). Indeed, the inclusion of the birthplace data in the 1851 census revealed for the first time that ‘there is a constant emigration from house to house, parish to parish, and county to county’ (1851 Census. *Population Tables II* 1854, ciii). Subsequent censuses confirmed this trend, but how does the experience of Rutland fit into this picture?

Outmigration from Rutland

Perhaps surprisingly for such a small county as Rutland, the 1851 census indicates that there were Rutland natives living in every county in England by that time. The major destinations, though, were the neighbouring counties of Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, each with well over 2,000 Rutland-born, while London was third-ranked with over 1,000 Rutland migrants, and Northamptonshire had just over 800. As the century progressed the drift from Rutland steadily increased, as can be seen from Table 1.

	1881			1911		
	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>total</i>
Born in Rutland	14170	14436	28606	13681	14241	27922
Born & enumerated in Rutland	7552	6906	14458	5856	5378	11234
Rutland outmigrants	6618	7530	14148	7825	8863	16688

Table 1. Rutland outmigrants in 1881 and 1911 (source: population censuses 1881, 1911).

Destination	1881			1911		
	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>total</i>
Leicestershire	1415	1766	3181	1683	1910	3593
Lincolnshire	1081	1164	2245	1054	1187	2241
Northamptonshire	746	889	1635	754	900	1654
London	672	842	1514	488	687	1175
Yorkshire	537	453	990	703	596	1299
Nottinghamshire	318	426	744	559	650	1209
Derbyshire	277	219	496	443	330	773
Lancashire	191	204	395	218	254	472
Warwickshire	155	204	359	247	251	498

Table 2. Main destinations for Rutland outmigrants in 1881 and 1911
(source: population censuses 1881, 1911).

Two trends are immediately obvious from Table 1. First, although the total of those born in Rutland had fallen by 1911, the outward movement had actually increased: almost 50% of Rutland natives had moved away by 1881 while in 1911 the figure had risen to almost 60%. The other notable trend is the excess of female outmigrants over male. We will return to this latter topic later.

Main Migrant Destinations

Although there were Rutland natives living in every county of England (and a few in Wales) by 1851, some destinations drew far more migrants than others. An indication of the preferences during the later years of the century can be gained from Table 2.

Clearly, Leicestershire continued to be the most popular destination in the later decades, with numbers of Rutland migrants increasing towards the end of our period, while the movement to Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Lancashire remained fairly stable. Migration to London, on the other hand, appears to have slackened off considerably, although that to Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire increased significantly. Migration networks may have influenced these trends. It has long been recognised that the 'bulk of migrants move along paths that have already been taken by friends and relations' (Baines 1985, 26). Information and feedback about employment prospects and social amenities are important factors in these networks, while the prospect of arriving in a strange place would not be so daunting if the newcomers could be sure of help with adjusting to the new environment. More detailed research could perhaps show how far these networks were significant to the Rutland migrants. As regards emigration, unfortunately there are no statistics showing the county of birth of nineteenth-century emigrants from England (with the exception of a return for the first half of 1841) (Cooper 2011, 179-80).

The Decision to Move

It is generally accepted that the principal motives for

nineteenth-century migration were economic. Nevertheless, contemporary commentators also recognized that the decision to move was a very complex and personal one and that 'no one ... explanation is adequate or certain' (Price 1894, 48). Indeed, the consensus of opinion was that:

there can be no doubt that many causes contribute their quota, and it may well be that in each locality some one of these contributory causes ... may ... become so important as even to be predominant. Further, ... the many contributing causes act and react upon one another [in a way] which is far from easy to unravel (Longstaff 1893, 413).

Is it possible, then, to identify, broadly speaking, who was leaving Rutland in the later nineteenth century and why? The census occupational tables can help with the first part of this query. They confirm, unsurprisingly, that agriculture was overwhelmingly the main source of employment here, but they also reveal a steady drift away from the land (Table 3).

	1851	1871	1891	1911
farmers	657	596	546	440
farm workers*	2792	2552	1900	1467

*agricultural labourers and farm servants.

Table 3. Main classes of agricultural workers enumerated in Rutland, 1851 to 1911.

The figures are for males and females combined
(source: population censuses, 1851-1911).

Certainly, the gradual reduction in the number of farms in the county was noted by Samuel Druce reporting on Rutland to the Royal Commission on Agriculture in 1882. Apparently the smaller farms (300 acres and under) were decreasing in number while larger farms were increasing in both number and acreage. This trend continued into the twentieth century (Druce 1882, 408; *Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 128), and was just one of the changes in the system of farming in response to economic forces, as we shall see.

It is difficult to see what form of alternative employment would have been available at this time to the majority of these former farm workers in a county with no large urban centres or heavy industry. Certainly, the expanding railway network was providing work for station staff, signalmen, track workers etc, but only in a small way in Rutland (fewer than 200 individuals in the 1901 census); while ironstone quarrying was only just beginning in the county at the end of our period. It seems that many would have had no option but to leave Rutland altogether. Moreover, if they were married, their families would go with them, which in turn would have had a considerable impact on the county's population levels. But why were so many leaving agriculture?

The move from the land at this time was by no means restricted to Rutland. Indeed, the reduction in the number of persons engaged in agriculture in Great Britain was first noted in the 1861 census (*1861 Census. General Report* 1863, 60) and became 'one of the most prominent features' of the census returns for the second half of the nineteenth century (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 6; *1881 Census. General Report* 1883, 36). Indeed, rural outmigration and the state of agriculture in late Victorian Britain generated a considerable literature and newspaper comment as well as several government reports.

1. The state of agriculture

Perhaps the most widely cited reason for the movement out of rural areas in the later nineteenth century was agricultural depression. Certainly, contemporary commentators considered that it was 'impossible to avoid the conclusion that ... the rural exodus is connected with the state of agriculture' (Graham 1892, 10). One of the main causes of the depression was alleged to be 'the increase of local burdens' such as railway tolls for conveying produce to market, and also the new highway, school and sanitary rates (Druce 1882, 422). Foreign competition was also cited (Druce 1882, 422; Graham 1892, 12; Bear 1894, 253). Free trade policy and improved transportation methods, including refrigeration, meant imported cereals, butter, cheese and meat were flooding British markets. This situation was further aggravated by a succession of poor harvests so that British markets had to depend more on foreign imports (Druce 1882, 421; Nicholson 1906, 78). Samuel Druce, reporting in 1882, considered that for Rutland one of the main causes was the 'very unpropitious weather' of the previous few years (Druce 1882, 421). He concluded that:

Agricultural depression exists in this county, and has existed for the past five or six years, but 1879 and 1880 were the worst years; 1881 was also a bad

year, the wheat crop, to a great extent, was a failure, the barley (the staple crop of a great part of the county) although good in quantity, was poor in quality, having been spoiled by a wet harvest (Druce 1882, 409).

His conclusions echoed recent reports in the local press:

Farmers begin to despair the prospect of another bad harvest (*GJ*, 22 June 1878, 7).

Bad seasons and low prices have been the chief causes of the undue pressure now experienced by agriculturists (extract from the audit of Lord Norton's Uppingham Estate, *GJ*, 6 Dec 1879, 2).

The continued wet and stormy weather has done much damage to grain crops (*GJ*, 14 Aug 1880, 2).

Despite the poor harvests, though, Samuel Druce was able to report that no land 'had been left to become altogether uncultivated or unoccupied' as had happened in all Rutland's neighbouring counties (Druce 1882, 409). Inevitably, for farmers throughout Britain low prices and diminished capital meant that they felt compelled to

make changes in the system of farming.... Labour has been economised by the use of machinery and dispensed with in consequence of the fact that land has been laid down to grass (*RC on Labour* 1894, 212).

The widespread nature of these measures was confirmed by a Royal Commission in 1897 (*RC on Agriculture* 1897, 39) and also in a Government report of 1906:

the compulsion put upon farmers to reduce expenditure ... is very commonly referred to.... The most important change ... in practically every county from Cornwall to Caithness, is the laying down of land to grass (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 11).

In the Agricultural Returns of the later nineteenth century Rutland was classed as a 'mixed pastoral and corn county' (Druce 1882, 407); but as the century drew to a close farmers here were also following the trend towards increasing permanent grassland as can be seen from Table 4.

	1881	1891	1901
arable	41,989	36,607	34,209
permanent grass	44,675	50,619	52,307

Table 4. Acreage of arable and permanent grassland in Rutland 1881-1901 (source: *Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 118-9).

In confirmation of this, Nathaniel Wortley, a farmer of about 500 acres in Ridlington and the Agricultural



Fig. 1. Haymaking at Morley's farm, Teigh.
Before mechanisation farm work was slow and labour intensive
(photo: Rutland County Museum).

Correspondent for Rutland, reported in 1906:

The low price of agricultural produce has made it more difficult to pay and employ labour; arable land has been converted to pasture (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 37)

The major expense in agriculture was labour (fig. 1), and further economies had been made in the county by the amalgamation of farms and the introduction of farm machinery.

In particular, the latter development reduced the need for casual labour for the corn and hay harvests 'though probably not to a greater extent than the resident population' (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 90). But, Wortley added, the prospect of higher wages was, in any case, drawing the people 'away to the towns' (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 37). In 1894 William Little, reporting to the Royal Commission on Labour, had concluded that in general in Britain, 'Everything seems to point to less employment of labour [on the land]' (*RC on Labour* 1894, 225). The 1906 Report, however, qualified this conclusion:

Alongside the influences affecting demand, and more than keeping pace with them, has been the desire of the labourer to leave the land ... particularly the younger generation (*Decline of the Agricultural Population* 1906, 15).

This theory was tested for Rutland by using data for Market Overton, one of the larger villages with a good range of rural occupations and demographic mix. In 1881 there were 47 male farm labourers enumerated in the village. These individuals were traced to the 1891 census and the results are

interesting. Eight had died, two were in Oakham workhouse, while nine had left agriculture altogether. The new occupations of these former farm labourers were quite diverse, and some individuals had moved quite far afield. William Rawlings and John Preston were shoe finishers, the former living in Oakham and the latter in Leicester; Arthur Preston was a railway labourer living in Edmondthorpe (Leicestershire); Samuel Brown was a road labourer living in Melton Mowbray; John Tidd was a stationer's delivery man living in Leicester; Thomas Watkin was a postman living in Sandiacre (Derbyshire); Josiah Seneschall was a commercial traveller living in Hampstead; William Selby was a footman living in Guildford (Surrey), and William Kettle was a member of the rifle brigade stationed in Hampshire. Of these nine outmigrants seven were aged between 13 and 18 years in 1881.

2. Communications

In his report of 1894 to the Royal Commission on Labour Wilson Fox remarked that rural life 'has some advantages over a town one, ... lower rents, gardens, allotments, fresher air, purer food and the friendships that exist in a village community', but others representing the rural labouring classes criticised the Commission for drawing too favourable a picture of rural life (Freeman 2003, 84). It became fashionable for Victorian authors and artists to sentimentalise farm work and rural life, but many people, including many of the rural workforce themselves, held it in low esteem. Not only did agriculture necessitate a 'frugal way of living and the most unwearied industry', but 'complaint is made of the gross and palpable dullness of lower

class ... country life', and its comparative isolation (Graham 1892, 69-70, 204). In the closing decades of the century, however, Britain's farm workers were beginning to recognise the dependence of their way of life with its lack of any reasonable prospect of advancement, and to 'revolt against it' (*Decline of the Agricultural Population 1906*, 15-16; Graham 1892, 25). They were 'stimulated by all they hear and read of town life' (Stirton 1894, 87), and were becoming ever more aware of alternatives to agricultural labour. The range of trades and occupations available in urban/industrial Britain presented 'innumerable temptations for men to quit husbandry', while urban life provided far greater opportunities for social contact and leisure-time activities (Graham 1892, 204-5; *Census 1891. General Report*, 333-4). As literacy grew, through newspapers and magazines and also by word of mouth the rural populace were becoming ever more aware of life beyond the narrow confines of their neighbourhood, while the expanding railway networks and cheaper fares were opening up new horizons with their perceived economic, commercial and social attractions (*RC on Labour 1894*, 118).

3. Compulsory elementary education

Not only were the more ambitious men abandoning agriculture, the younger generation were increasingly reluctant to even take up this work, and many people blamed education. Before compulsory elementary education was introduced in Britain there was a great contrast in the quality of education available (for the situation in early Victorian Rutland see Ryder 2011, 16-37). The 1870 Act made a basic education available to every child but was treated at first with animosity by many working class parents who relied on their children's labour to make a contribution to the family economy. In time, though, as agricultural pay rates improved, not only the young children but also 'the wives of many labourers withdrew from fieldwork' (*RC on Labour 1894*, 224). Moreover, illiterate parents were beginning to encourage their children's efforts to improve themselves, for they realised that:

Let a man love the land ever so much, when once he is educated ... it is utterly impossible that he should drudge and drudge at farmwork with no outlook save that which is bounded by the workhouse. He must see that, provided he have the requisite ability and industry, there is a career before him by which he can at least be assured that the children who follow him will have a more favourable starting-point than fell to his share (Graham 1892, 209).

Certainly, Nathaniel Wortley, as Agricultural

Correspondent for Rutland, seems to have reflected contemporary opinion that:

The prospect of higher wages has attracted the population to the towns, while the system of education has also caused discontent with present rural conditions (*Decline of the Agricultural Population 1906*, 37).

In order to test whether the inclination to migrate from Rutland in the latter decades of the nineteenth century was age-related, males of Market Overton aged between 4 and 54 years in 1881 were traced to the 1891 census and the results can be seen in Table 5 (the sample was restricted to males because tracing females to successive censuses is complicated by marriage).

Age in 1881	Still in Rutland in 1891	Left Rutland by 1891	Unable to trace in 1891	Total
4 to 14 years	22	31	3	56
15 to 24 years	5	11	3	19
25 to 34 years	4	5	6	15
35 to 44 years	17	6	6	29
45 to 54 years	17	1	3	21

Table 5. Males aged 4 to 54 years enumerated in Market Overton in 1881
(source: population censuses 1881, 1891).

Four-years-old in 1881 was chosen as the starting point for the sample because it was thought likely that all these individuals would be working by 1891. This did turn out to be the case. Moreover, the tendency of younger adult males to move away is clearly demonstrated. Incidentally, of all the outmigrants, only three were farm hands in 1891. Moreover, all the outmigrants in the youngest age group were already living independently of parents by 1891.

For some of the migrants a move seems to have been necessary in order to gain experience, make progress or gain qualifications in their chosen occupation, although this was not the first move for some of these individuals (Table 6). As regards the individuals who could not be traced in 1891, there are several possible reasons: they could have emigrated or died, or simply be mistranscribed in the 1891 census

As noted above, some individuals, such as farm labourers, also changed their occupation when they moved. Further examples from Market Overton include Edward Sheffield, a gardener in 1881 who

<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthplace</i>	<i>Occupation in 1881</i>	<i>Abode in 1891</i>	<i>Occupation in 1891</i>
Francis Steeles	Marham (Norf)	joiner	Islington	carpenter/joiner
Josiah Dams	Harringworth (Northants)	gardener	Rowberrow (Som)	gardener
Harry Peake	Market Overton	groom	Walton on the Wolds (Leics)	coachman
Henry Wells	Glington (Northants)	journeyman saddler	Barnack (Northants)	saddler
Herbert Roach	Gretton (Northants)	apprentice butcher	Leicester	butcher
Robert Pollard	Market Overton	apprentice blacksmith	Woolwich Arsenal barracks	blacksmith
John Skillington	Market Overton	pupil teacher	North Benfleet (Essex)	certified schoolmaster
Joseph Brown	Market Overton	groom	Basford (Notts)	groom at Mapperley Hall

Table 6. Males living in Market Overton in 1881 and enumerated elsewhere in 1891 but with the same occupation (source: population censuses 1881, 1891).

<i>Name</i>	<i>Abode in 1891</i>	<i>Occupation in 1891</i>
George Wood	Grantham	bamboo furniture maker
Frederick & Charles Skillington	Leicester	woollen merchant's assistants
Alfred & Henry Barfoot	Peterborough	coach painters
Francis Steeles jnr	Islington	piano key maker
Joseph Brown	Boston, Lincs	chemist's apprentice
Henry Rawlings	Chelsea	footman
Edward Brady	Shoreditch, Middx	paper box maker
Edward Pridmore	Chelsea	butcher's assistant
George Osborne	Knightsbridge	domestic servant
George Tomblin	Sandy, Beds	footman

Table 7. Selected males who were scholars in Market Overton in 1881 and enumerated elsewhere in 1891.

was a groom in South Witham by 1891; William Rogers, an errand boy in 1881 and a gardener in Croydon by 1891, and Joseph Rawlings, a shepherd in 1881 and a carter in Leicester in 1891. At the younger end of the scale were those who were scholars in 1881. The majority of these boys were born in Market Overton, but, as we have seen, about 60% had moved away by 1891. The range both of occupations and destinations was quite diverse, giving us a glimpse into life in late Victorian England. A selection of these migrants is listed in Table 7.

4. Female migration

It is clear from Tables 1 and 2 above that there was a considerable excess of females over males in Rutland's outmigrants. Indeed, in twenty-nine out of the thirty-four counties of England and Wales classed as rural in the Victorian censuses, women were more likely to migrate within Britain than men (Pooley and Turnbull 1998, 12; Baines 1985, 235-6).

At this time there was a particular incentive for Britain's female rural migrants to move to the towns. Economic prospects for single women were very poor, and almost no women's wages were sufficient to support them adequately alone. Marriage was thus seen as essential to escape penury, and young women were becoming aware that a move from the country to the town offered a wider social life and

greatly improved their marriage prospects. Domestic service was the main occupation drawing these young women to the rapidly expanding urban centres with their large and growing demand for servants. Country girls were more likely to go into service in the towns than their urban counterparts, and even the stringent demands of the work were seen as less daunting than agricultural drudgery. Moreover, the board and lodging provision offered the chance to accumulate savings for a dowry.

Indeed, domestic service was overwhelmingly the main female occupation throughout Victorian and Edwardian Britain. As the nineteenth century drew to a close, however, employment prospects for women were beginning to open up as personal expectations increased and a wider range of jobs became available to females (Horn 2001, 3). As one commentator noted in the 1890s:

it is quite evident that after a girl has had several years of intelligent schooling she will not be content to earn a livelihood by carting manure and hoeing turnips. She would rather be a domestic servant; though again, the domestic servant would rather be a dress-maker or a post-office clerk. Ambition has, as it were, fired the entire order of women compelled to work for a livelihood (Graham 1892, 23).

In this connection it is worth mentioning the Society for Promoting Industry among the Infant Poor in the County of Rutland. The purpose of the Society was to reduce the burden on the Poor Rates by teaching the children of the poorest families to knit and sew, skills that would be useful both in a domestic context and also enable them to earn some money (*RR* 2 (1981), 93).

The tasks associated with many of the newer urban jobs for women, such as factory, clerical and shop work, were often equally as monotonous as those of a domestic servant, but those employed in them found them less demeaning, they had more free time, and they were not so socially isolated which meant that their marriage prospects were immeasurably greater than those of the domestic servants.

Job vacancies became known in various ways. Sometimes it was by word of mouth, but newspaper advertising played a major part. Here is a selection of advertisements from newspapers that would have been available to our Rutland outmigrants, asking for domestic servants, both female and male:

Registry Office wants all classes of Domestic Servant for London and the Country (*SM*, 29 July 1870, 8).

WANTED, for a small family, A GENERAL SERVANT, about 16. She must be able to wash well and milk two or three cows (*GJ*, 25 April 1874, 4).

WANTED, good Cooks, Parlourmaids, Housemaids, General Servants ... Coachmen, Grooms, Gentlemen's Footmen, Pages (*DDT*, 2 March 1880, 3).

WANTED, general servant, one from the country preferred (*LDM*, 13 June 1890, 1).

In order to test whether the employment diversification is apparent in our Rutland outmigrants, a

trawl was made through the 1911 census for single females aged between 14 and 25 who had been born in Rutland and were living independently in Leicestershire at this time (Table 8). Despite the clear predominance of domestic service, the trend to a wider sphere of employment is apparent, although it is interesting to note that many of these job opportunities would probably have been available in Rutland. Clearly these young women chose to go further afield.

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Number employed</i>
barmaid	2
bookbinder	1
cook (hospital)	1
domestic servant	75
drapery shop assistant	3
dressmaker/tailoress	3
factory worker	4
commercial laundry worker	3
milliner	3
nurse (hospital)	2
shorthand typist	1
post office telephonist	2

Table 8. Occupations of a random sample of Rutland female outmigrants, aged 14 to 25, living in Leicestershire in 1911 (source: population census, 1911)

5. Rural trades and crafts

The nineteenth-century rural exodus was more than just a drift from the land: it did not just involve those engaged in agriculture but the rural community as a whole. For generations, the rural neighbourhood had been more than a social unit; it was also an inter-dependent economic entity with a wide range of trades, crafts and services (Figure 2). As the railway network spread it impacted on rural economies in conflicting ways. While opening up wider markets



Fig. 2. Rural crafts: the smithy at Burley on the Hill (left), and Ward of Eggleton, wheelwrights (right). The blacksmith and wheelwright were vital to village life when horses were used both in agriculture and for transport; and the smith also made farm implements and household utensils until mass-produced goods became generally available (photos: Rutland County Museum).

for farm produce, the railways also fostered a centralization of industry and the mass-production of goods. As the latter became ever more widely available and the rural populace more mobile, the decline in the demand for rural trades and crafts became increasingly apparent (Longstaff 1893, 414). Inevitably, employment opportunities in the countryside dwindled at the same time as demand for labour in the towns soared.

As early as 1957 John Saville, in his influential study on rural depopulation, highlighted this decline using the case for Rutland (although variations in census procedures do not permit exactitude in the statistics). A selection of his statistics can be found in Table 9, and the dramatic decline is immediately apparent.

Trade or craft	1851	1911	% change
blacksmith	116	83	-28
boot and shoe maker	236	138	-42
miller	63	22	-70
saddler	31	24	-23
tailor	173	63	-64
wheelwright	74	42	-43

Table 9. Selected rural craftsmen in Rutland in 1851 and 1911 (source: Saville 1957, 74).

Flow and Counterflow

Conventional migration theory holds that for each migration flow there is usually a counterflow (Pooley and Turnbull 1998, 12). This certainly

seems to have been the case for Rutland. We have noted the considerable and sustained movement out of the county during the Victorian and Edwardian eras. At the same time there was a steady though smaller inward movement, and the main destination counties were also among the main sending counties as Table 10 indicates.

Here again the mobility of females is marked. Figure 3 gives an idea of both the proportion of immigrants to natives in Rutland towards the end of our period and also the gender split.

It is difficult to explain this inward movement. There seem to be no obvious clues in parish population levels (*VCH* I, 231-2): most villages were either fairly static or dwindling throughout most of our period, and any increases were very moderate. As regards the towns, Uppingham grew from 2068 individuals in 1851 to 2573 in 1911, while Oakham increased from 2820 in 1851 to 3667 in 1911. Contemporary trade directories can give us a flavour of the trade and commerce carried out here. For instance, Kelly's of 1891 tells us that, besides the usual commercial outlets of a small market town, Oakham:

has a good trade in coal, corn and malt; the female part of the population are engaged in the knitting of fancy hosiery. There is a large shoe manufactory belonging to a Leicester firm, and a patent steam brewery carried on by Messrs C. and C. K. Morris, and occupying a range of buildings in New Street

Birthplace	1881			1911		
	m	f	total	m	f	total
Lincolnshire	715	917	1632	857	995	1852
Leicestershire	539	686	1225	515	540	1055
Northamptonshire	440	699	1139	546	700	1246
London	208	225	433	263	276	539
Yorkshire	105	97	202	124	93	217

Table 10. Main sending areas of migrants into Rutland in 1881 and 1911 (source: population censuses 1881, 1911).

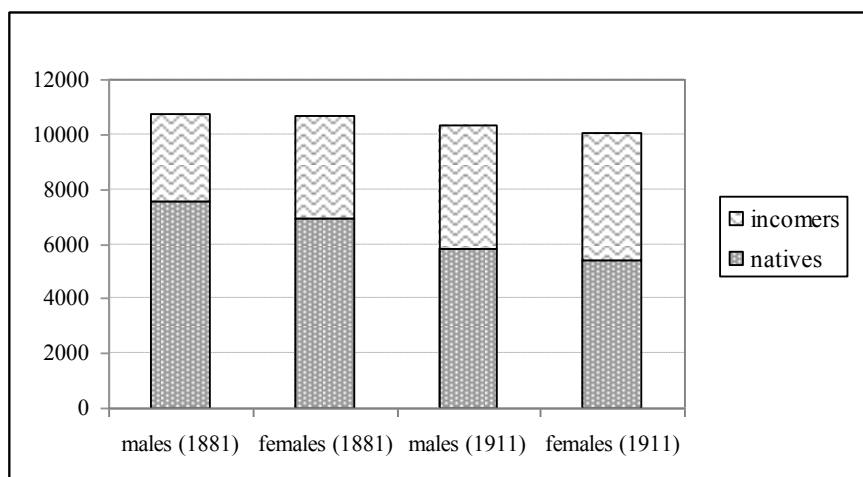


Fig. 3. Population, by gender, of Rutland in 1881 and 1911 (source: population censuses 1881, 1911).

[and] ... Cross Street. Another shoe manufactory was erected in 1889 by Mr William Manton (Kelly 1891, 837).

Uppingham, according to the same source, 'consists principally of one long street, running from east to west, containing some good houses, shops and inns' (Kelly 1891, 845). A prominent feature of the town, however, was Uppingham School which:

in the year 1854 began to be gradually remodelled ... at that period there was one boarding house & about thirty boarders; there are now twelve boarding houses (including the school house) & 300 boarders (Kelly 1891, 846).

This transformation of the school from poor provincial grammar school to notable public school was achieved by Edward Thring, headmaster from 1853 to 1887; and the increase in boarding pupils and staff plus all the ancillary services was clearly a factor in the rise in Uppingham's population mentioned above.

As regards occupations, the census confirms that the main occupational classes in Rutland, by a huge margin, were agriculture (males) and domestic offices / services (males and females) throughout the period. Perhaps the incomers were to some extent making up a shortfall in these classes left by the outmigrants. To test this theory, a random sample was taken of 80 single female and 80 male migrants from Lincolnshire living in Rutland in 1881, and while by no means definitive, the results are certainly illuminating.

Of the 80 single females, 76 were in domestic service. This is very striking and suggests that lack of work in this sphere was not a determining factor for young females moving out of Rutland at this time. The occupational exceptions in our 1881 sample were Elizabeth Coulson, aged 17, a telephonist at the Post Office/general store in Empingham; Ann Dunham, aged 33, a school matron at Uppingham School; Sarah Cliffe, aged 65, a dressmaker living in Essendine; and Margaret Alford, aged 24, also a dressmaker, working in Oakham for Furley & Hassan, drapers, tailors and general outfitters who employed 16 men and 11 women at this time. Much of their trade was linked to the aristocratic and hunting fraternity, giving the firm high status and longevity: their successor, Furlays, can still be found in Oakham today. Along with several other employees, Margaret was lodging in the household of John Hassan, himself an incomer from Lincolnshire (Stamford). Another household of interest from this sample was South Luffenham Hall where Emily Boston, aged 26, was a domestic servant. Her employer was Horace Chaplin, originally from London, and there are 15 individuals

listed in his household, including seven servants, none of whom had been born in Rutland.

As might be expected, the male incomers from Lincolnshire in our 1881 sample had a wider range of occupations (Table 11).

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Number employed</i>
baker	2
blacksmith	1
boot and shoe maker	2
bricklayer	2
butcher	2
carpenter	2
clergy	3
domestic servant	13
farm bailiff	3
farm worker	21
farmer	7
general labourer	3
grocer	2
maltster	2
millers	2
quarry worker	2
railway worker	3
tailor	2

Table 11. Occupations of the male incomers in the 1881 sample (source: population census, 1881).

In addition to the incomers' occupations listed in Table 11 some are interesting enough to warrant being identified separately. William Murfitt was Superintendent of Police in Uppingham, while the following individuals all lived in Oakham: Joseph Billings, housepainter; Charles Orme, JP; Silas Tennison, rope and tentmaker; George Orson, groom at the Odd House Inn; and John Parmiter, watch and clockmaker's assistant. The incomers from the rest of the sample were spread throughout Rutland, and agriculture clearly dominated the occupational structure followed by domestic service.

Conclusion

Early studies of migration patterns within Victorian England and Wales revealed the 'immensely complex drift between counties' (Friedlander and Roshier 1966, 239-79; Smith 1951, 210) and this certainly seems to have been the case in Rutland. The picture that emerges is one of considerable movement, not only out of but also, to a lesser extent, into Rutland throughout the Victorian and Edwardian eras. In many cases, however, the distance travelled was not very great and merely involved crossing the county boundary by a few miles. County boundaries, though, are notional barriers and mostly irrelevant to those who belong to the same *pays*; so the move for these migrants would bring no culture shocks. Nevertheless many individuals, especially the younger ones, travelled

much further afield, not only leaving behind friends and family but also making the transition from a rural to an urban lifestyle with all the adjustments that this entailed.

The decision to move is a very complex and personal one, and Victorian commentators came to realise that there were many reasons for moving 'besides actual deficiency of employment or lowness

of wages' (*RC on Labour* 1894, 110). This certainly seems to have applied to the migrants both out of and into Rutland. Indeed, the perceived potential to improve one's situation, cheap and easy travel, or simply the urge for a change, all fuelled the restless spirit which seems to have characterised Victorian and Edwardian Britain.

Abbreviations and Bibliography

DDT	<i>Derby Daily Telegraph</i>
GJ	<i>Grantham Journal</i>
LDM	<i>Leicester Daily Mercury</i>
RR	<i>Rutland Record</i>
SM	<i>Stamford Mercury</i>

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A note on some of Rutland's lost public houses

T H MCK CLOUGH & ROBERT OVENS

The Jack Hart Collection of picture postcards in the Rutland County Museum, acquired in 2002 with the aid of the Friends of the Museum and made possible by a grant from the Resource / Victoria & Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund, is a remarkable resource comprising over 2,300 historic photographs (*Rutland Record* **23** (2003), 134, accession number H6.2002). Mostly dating from the earlier years of the twentieth century, when sending or receiving postcards could be an almost daily occurrence, the views include not just Oakham and Uppingham but scenes in every parish in the county. For the local historian the collection preserves images of streets and buildings which in many cases have undergone radical change in the ensuing century or more, and can be used to illustrate many aspects of life of the period. Here, a few images have been selected to represent just some of the public houses of Rutland which have closed since the photographs were taken; information about known dates is largely based on details kindly supplied by Bob Jarrett [RPJ].

Barrowden, The Windmill Inn



A Grade II listed building with 1630 date stone, now Windmill House. RPJ records licensees 1831-1941, with a closing date of 1956. Annotated on the reverse with these names: Mrs M Pridmore; boy – George Pridmore; girl – Dorothy (Dolly) Pridmore (Lunn); note that in fact there are two girls sitting on the grass. The name of the photographer is not known and the card is unused and undated. Other closed pubs include The [White] Swan (RPJ: 1870-1933); The Crown (RPJ: 1875-1970); and The Wheel (RPJ: 1846-1922). RCM 2002.6.1251.

Lyddington, The Pied Calf



Now Pied Calf Cottage, a Grade II listed building in Main Street. Held by Thomas Sherwood in the early 17th century, and purchased by Edward Allin, gent, in 1678, and then by John Falkner in 1773. Owned by the Falkner family until 1857 when it was inherited, as the Pied Calf public house, by Mary Green (*Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor*, forthcoming). It closed in 1934 (RPJ). The name of the photographer is not known and the card is unused and undated. Other closed pubs include the Lord Roberts (RPJ: 1913-33), the William IV (dates not established), and the Swan (closed about 1850). RCM 2002.6.0535.

Manton, The Blue Ball



This former small pub on Priory Road, Manton, is recorded from 1846-1970 (RPJ), and is now a private residence. The card, which is unused, is one of a set of views of the village published by Raphael Tuck & Sons in January 1947 (<https://tuckdb.org/sets/6320>, accessed 10/10/2015). RCM 2002.6.0362.

Market Overton, The Three Horseshoes



An 18th century Grade II listed building in Main Street. Licensees recorded by RPJ from 1846-1941, including John Henry Orgill, who joined up in 1916 and died in captivity in 1918 (www.rutlandremembers.org, accessed 12/10/2015). The pub closed in the late 1990s. The card is post-marked Stamford 30th April 1940 but the view is clearly considerably older than this. The faint photographer's imprint near the bottom edge probably reads 'St[a]ffords Series'; if so, the picture may have been taken by the renowned Brighton photographer John Edward Stafford, who was born in Melton Mowbray. RCM 2002.6.0609.

South Luffenham, The Durham Ox



A 17th/18th century Grade II listed building in Back Lane. Recorded by RPJ from 1863-1966, when it closed. In 1913 there was a major village fire probably caused by sparks from a passing train. A butcher's shop, five cottages, two farms and three straw stacks were destroyed; the inn just lost its sign. Known briefly in the mid 19th century as the Bull or Hereford Ox. Other lost pubs include the Crown and the Railway Inn (RPJ). An unused card by Dolby Bros of Stamford. Another pub, the Axe & Saw, known from 1846, was burnt down in an earlier great fire in 1874 caused by a small boy playing with lucifers (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Luffenham, accessed 12/10/2015). RCM 2002.6.1037.

Rutland History & Archaeology in 2014

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 in Rutland is not reported here are invited to contact the Society so that it may be considered for inclusion.

The following abbreviations are used:

ABH	Archaeology & Built Heritage, 14 Crown Hills Rise, Leicester, LE3 5DG	ROLLR	Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland.
APS	Archaeological Project Services, The Old School, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 9RW	RR	<i>Rutland Record</i> .
NH	Neville Hall, 38 Finningley Road, Lincoln, LN6 0UP.	ULAS	University of Leicester Archaeological Services, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH.
RCM	Rutland County Museum (MDA code: OAKRM).	WA	Witham Archaeology Unit 6, Sleaford Station Business Centre, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7RG.
RLHRS	Rutland Local History & Record Society.		

I – Archaeological Fieldwork during 2014

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.

Cottesmore, Rogues Lane (SK 90541392)

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by ULAS on land at Rogues Lane in advance of proposed residential development. Thirteen trenches were excavated targeting the proposed house plots and access road. A series of features were identified, in both the western and eastern areas of site. The features included ditches, gullies, pits and a post-hole. Pottery and other material, including a kiln bar and a glass bead, of early Roman date were recovered from the features. The evidence indicates domestic and perhaps industrial activity in the mid-1st to 2nd century AD. Some residual flint was also recovered from the features and the overlying ploughsoil. RCM 2014.51.

Wayne Jarvis

Great Casterton, 12 College Close (TF 00180939)

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by NH in advance of two building extensions. The work took place on 26th-27th February 2014 and consisted of monitoring and recording of groundworks for the redevelopment. The work identified a buried soil horizon of probable medieval date and beneath this, two undated pits cutting into the natural subsoil. The stratigraphic position of these features may indicate an earlier date although no finds were recovered.

Neville Hall

Oakham, Barleythorpe Road (SK 855092)

Archaeological excavations by ULAS at Huntsmans Drive, Oakham revealed an extensive area of activity from the Neolithic/Bronze Age to the Late Saxon/Early Medieval period, including a phase of intensive Iron Age/transitional settlement activity consisting of two enclosed roundhouses in association with a re-used

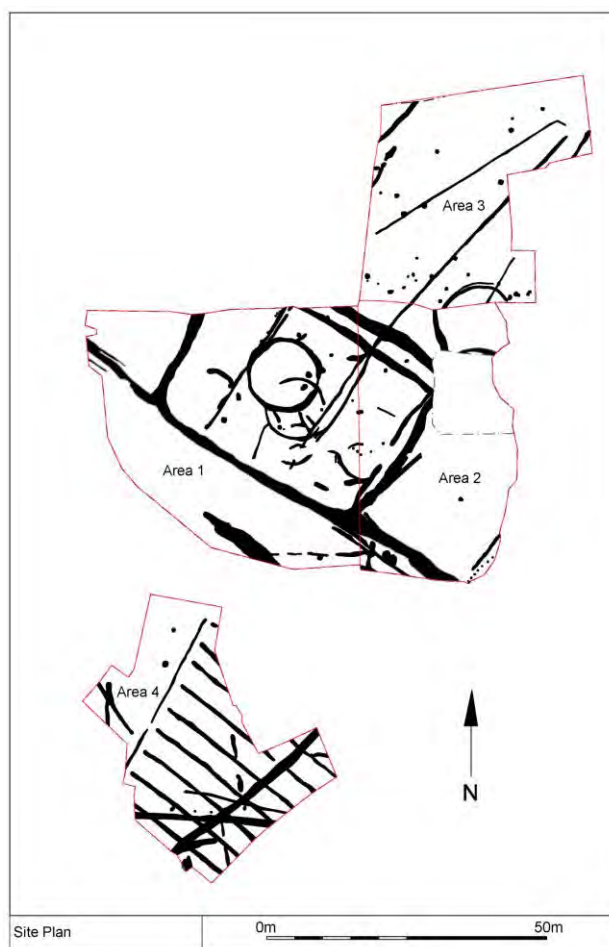


Fig. 1. Plan of archaeological features revealed by excavations at Huntsman's Drive, Barleythorpe Road, Oakham (ULAS).

landscape boundary ditch.

Settlement on the site was evidently long-lived. The main focus took place during the Late Iron Age/transitional period, eventually declining or changing in nature in the 1st century AD. Evidence for activity in the Late Saxon period was also recovered. The Iron Age/Roman site probably represents part of the same spread of settlement revealed during excavations at Catmose College to the northwest (Brown 2010) and is comparable in type and development to other contemporary settlements in Rutland and Leicestershire, adding to the regional knowledge of sites from this period. Although the finds assemblage was small, it offered some indication of the changing function of the site over time. Limited environmental information suggests that the site existed within a largely cleared landscape with areas of open grassland and possibly agricultural fields nearby, although wooded areas would probably still have existed in the vicinity. Although it is thought that the inhabitants of the settlement were involved in mixed farming, an emphasis on pastoralism is suggested. Evidence for metal working and food processing was also recovered. RCM 2011.32.

Brown, J, Iron Age and Roman settlement at The Vale of Catmose College, Oakham, Rutland (unpublished Northamptonshire Archaeology Report 09/152, 2010).

Steve Baker, Roger Kipling

Ridlington, Park Farm (SK 8302)

Two Palaeolithic hand axes and a Palaeolithic 'keeled-core' were amongst some 1100 struck flints found by the RLHRS Archaeological Team during a field walking survey within the old medieval hunting park at Ridlington. Lynden Cooper, ULAS, and Mark Powers, scholarship doctoral research student, University College Dublin, identified these three pieces.

Most of the material comprised Mesolithic [?] 'blades' and Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age 'flakes', and included cores, scrapers, two Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowheads, and a Late Neolithic plano-convex knife (identified by Lynden Cooper).

The pottery comprised mainly 19th century sherds. Earlier material was noticeable by its absence with only a dozen 16th/17th century early post-medieval pieces. Four

very worn but possible Roman sherds were found in the eastern field. RLHRS Archaeological Team unpublished archive reports R123, R124 & R127.

Elaine Jones

Uppingham (SK 875004)

Two fields east of Uppingham on the Glaston Road mill site and the 'Lound' were field-walked by the RLHRS Archaeological Team.

From the forty struck flints retained from the Glaston Road mill field was an Upper Palaeolithic 'backed blade' reused during the Bronze Age as a scraper (identified by Lynden Cooper, ULAS) and two Early Bronze Age 'thumb-nail' scrapers. Eighteen medieval and twenty early post-medieval sherds were found, mainly near to the old mill mound. A possible medieval lead seal was lying by the Glaston Road hedge.

The 'Lound' field yielded 65 flints; most were Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age 'flakes' and were found mainly along the eastern end of the field. The nine patinated 'blades' showed no concentration. Early pottery was rare and the late medieval/early post-medieval sherds were found mainly towards the town end of the field. RLHRS Archaeological Team unpublished archive reports R125 & R126.

Elaine Jones

Whissendine, Whissendine Cottage, Main Street (SK 8284114275)

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by ULAS on land at Whissendine Cottage, Main Street. The investigation consisted of the excavation of seven trial trenches within the area of proposed new houses and associated access. No definite archaeological features were found during the trial trenching. A series of ditches that were identified can be associated with historic map evidence and were constructed for boundary and drainage purposes. A single post-hole of uncertain date was identified together with a modern surface and plough furrows. A very low density of artefacts was recovered during these groundworks, comprising a sherd each of Iron Age and Roman pottery, and a struck flint scraper. RCM 2014.61.

Wayne Jarvis

Negative watching briefs and evaluations in Rutland:

Barleythorpe: Land at Main Road (SK 84920988), by ABH.

Langham: 1 Oakham Road (SK 84361090), by APS.

Oakham: Land off Barleythorpe Road (SK 85570936), by ULAS.

Oakham: Oakham Castle, Cutts Close (SK 86170903), by ULAS.

II – Historic Building Recording during 2014

Lyddington Manor Project

Buildings in the villages of Caldecott, Lyddington, Thorpe by Water and Stoke Dry have been investigated as part of Lyddington Manor History Society's ongoing 'Historic Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor' project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (www.hlf.org.uk), including dendrochronology by Nottingham Tree-ring Dating Laboratory. The number of buildings surveyed to date in the four villages (including brief surveys, not reported here) now stands at 67.

Nick Hill & Robert Ovens

Caldecott, 1 The Green (SP 868936)

This house was constructed in 1684, as a date-stone, together with tree-ring dating, indicates. The date-stone

initials show that it was built for Robert Colwell, who married Elizabeth Renolds at Lyddington in 1680. The house was of compact two-unit plan form. On the ground

floor there were a hall and parlour, with two unheated bedchambers on the first floor. The original house had further space at attic level, well-lit by gable windows but obstructed by low-set roof collars. A large stone barn was added in the 18th century, though it now survives only in cut-down form.

In 1810 (as indicated by tree-ring dating) the roof structure was replaced. The obstructive collars were removed and replaced with slender tie-beams, connected to the principal rafters only by iron straps, with no carpentry jointing. An extension was also added at this date, providing a separate kitchen.

Caldecott, Threeways, 1 Main Street (SP 869879)

This is a well-preserved example of an early 19th century house, mixing some contemporary features with more traditional, vernacular details. A date-stone in the south gable carries two dates: 1814 (probably the original building date) and 1859 (probably a later alteration to the gable). The plan form is fully developed, with a symmetrical façade and rooms placed either side of a central entrance/stair hall. The fine masonry of the front elevation is more traditional, with finely cut ironstone interspersed with bands of limestone. Inside, the joinery details are particularly well preserved, with many original doors, cupboards and other details. In contrast to this, the roof (formerly thatched) has an A-frame truss of crudely shaped oak timbers, with forelock bolts and ash pole rafters. An examination for tree-ring dating found the timbers unsuitable.

Lyddington, 40-44 Main Street (SP 874973)

It seems there was a row of houses on this site from the mid-17th century, but the present row of three houses dates principally from the later 18th century. The work was undertaken by a Lyddington stone mason, Hugh Clarke, who was admitted to the copyhold tenancy in April 1765 and re-fronted most of the building in the same year, with fashionable masonry surrounds to windows and doorways. Hugh occupied the central section of the row (No. 42), with his wife and young family, and proudly placed a date-stone over his front door, with his own and his wife's initials. His second son, James, was born in October that year. James continued in his father's trade and inherited the property in 1813. No.

Other historic building surveys undertaken in 2014

Empingham: Shacklewell Lodge Farm (SK 9649007778), by ULAS.

Essendine: Manor Farm, Manor Farm Lane (TF 04731311), by WA.

Preston: Preston Hall (SK 8714002508), by ULAS.

III – Other Reports for 2014

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) 782040. Fax: (01522) 530047.

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

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

Please check opening hours and search room reader ticket and

40 at the south end served as a village bakehouse from around the late 18th century. Parts of a large bake oven, including several cast iron doors, survive inside.

Lyddington, The Knoll, 103 Main Street (SP 873975)

This house was built around 1770-90 to a high quality design, more sophisticated than many village houses of the period. The tall front elevation is double-fronted, with fine ashlar masonry and well-proportioned sash windows to both ground and first floors. The roof was always of Collyweston slates, rather than the thatch used on most village houses at this date. The plan form is well developed, with a central stairs/entry hall and the parlour and kitchen set to either side. Under the parlour was a cellar with its own fireplace, an unusual feature in the area. The first floor had two bedrooms, though only one was heated originally. Construction features are transitional, with the use of pine as well as oak, and brickwork in an internal partition.

An extension containing further kitchen/service space was added around 1830-50. It had external walls of solid brick, one of the earlier houses of such construction in the area. Rooms were also created in the attic during the 19th century, with the staircase extended up to the second floor.

Thorpe by Water, Manor House (SP 893965)

This fine house, built by the Harrison family, is of two phases. The earlier part of the house, dating from the first half of the 17th century, now forms a projecting front wing. Originally, however, the house also had a main range along the street frontage, as seen on early maps and a photo of c.1910, of which only parts of the lower walls survive. An impressive additional range was added in 1691, as indicated by a date-stone and tree-ring dating of the roof structure. This has high quality masonry features of sophisticated design in Ketton stone, and was accompanied by an elegant gateway with rusticated stone piers. The new range had a central doorway and 'lobby entrance' plan, but the fine oak staircase was located at the junction, to serve both the new and old ranges. There was a large farmyard, now largely in separate ownership, with the buildings converted to domestic use. The 'Manor House' name is not historic, but was transferred from Tudor House, across the street, in the mid-20th century.

booking systems before making a journey.

Opening times: Tues-Sat: 10am to 4pm; closed on bank holidays and at Christmas and New Year.

Latest time for requesting original documents on the same day is 1½ hours before closing time or 12 noon on Saturdays.

The only Rutland-related item acquired by Lincolnshire Archives during 2014 is a picture postcard of Barrowden

Church, 1910 (document reference: 47 MLL 19).

Adrian Wilkinson

Northamptonshire Record Office

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

Tel: (01604) 362513.

Website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/heritage.

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

Opening times:

Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9am to 5pm; Fri: 10am to 4pm;
first Sat of month only: 9am to 1pm.

The Northamptonshire Archives Service, based at the Record Office in Northampton, has had another busy year. We now have an online catalogue for customers to search from the comfort of their own home. Our parish registers, many going back to the mid-1500s, have been digitised, and are now being indexed. They will be available to search and view on the website ancestry.com from January 2016. This website can be accessed for free at the Record Office, and at public libraries throughout Northamptonshire.

The Archive Service has maintained the Customer Service Excellence Award, which reflects the hard work and dedication of our staff. We have a growing number of wonderful volunteers who generously give their time to help us make our collections more accessible. Together, our volunteers gave nearly 4500 hours of their time last

year. Some of the volunteer projects have involved listing the Casebooks of St Crispin's Hospital, and the First World War Tribunal papers. Other projects have involved repackaging archival documents, to help preserve them for the future.

We have Family History Help Desks at the Record Office on the first Saturday of each month, provided by the Northamptonshire Family History Society, between 9.00 and 12.30. These are proving to be very popular, as is the Record Office generally.

If you have not been to the Record Office recently, we hope to see you again soon. You can find further information about our services and visiting us on our web-pages: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/heritage.

Daniel Williams

Operational Manager (Archives & Heritage)

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland

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

Website: www.leics.gov.uk/recordoffice.

Email: recordoffice@leics.gov.uk.

Opening times:

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9.15am to 5pm;

Wed: 9.15am to 7.30pm; Sat: 9.15am to 12.15pm.

After the drama of the project last year to complete the cataloguing of the papers of the Noels of Exton, it is hard not to characterise the year 2014-15 as one of anti-climax. This would be unfair, however, on a year which saw a slight increase in the number of Rutland archival deposits received and no diminution in the percentages of both Rutland enquiries and visitors logged by the Record Office.

The number of visitors from Rutland was 996, representing about 13% of those attending for research alone (7,719 people ordering 1,305 documents between them) and 7% of the total number of visitors for all purposes (14,756). There were 398 Rutland enquiries (6% of the total) and 328 copies (digital scans) produced to order. Project and outreach work was calculated to have reached 318 individuals in Rutland, though this figure inevitably misses Rutland visitors to events elsewhere who may have looked at Record Office displays or called in at Record Office stalls.

Exton continues to cast a long shadow, with visitors still expressing their surprise and delight that the papers are at long last accessible. The reach of the Noels beyond their home county is also noticeable, with important projects on topics such as the alms-houses at Chipping Campden in Gloucestershire.

Conservation work has been as varied and demanding as ever. Some 33 items were conserved, bound or encapsulated.

The year's new accessions were as varied and

interesting as ever. Future researchers will be well served by the deposits of 35mm slides, which record a slowly vanishing landscape and threatened historic buildings. The Rutland Decorative and Fine Arts Society must also receive an honoured mention, since their reports are always a model of exhaustive exactness. It is pleasing to think how helpful the current reports on Rutland's parish churches will be in three centuries' time and what a godsend such a thorough record would be today had one been made in 1715!

Roderick Cave's survey of slate gravestones shows what an individual can achieve, given energy and imagination.

More mundane perhaps (but no less important) is the photographic survey of its sub-stations made in the 1950s and '60s by the Central Electricity Generating Board. This, thankfully, included Oakham's station which must have seemed then a very unremarkable feature of the urban landscape.

Robin P Jenkins, Senior Archivist (Collections)

Rutland Accessions 2014

DE8739: Papers concerning Ketton church and churchyard and telephone kiosk.

DE8753: Archdeacon Johnson's almshouse charity deed and printed statutes: 1. Statutes and Ordinances of ... Robert Johnson ... for & concerning ... my schools, and Hospitals ... in Oakham & Uppingham 1837; 2. Grant of Easement by the Governors of the Archdeacon Johnson's Almshouse Charity to the Trustees of the Royce Eventide Homes, Oakham, 1955.

DE8781: Miscellaneous Oakham records, 1890-1967, including photographs, sketches of Burley House, Oakham, etc., an apprenticeship indenture for a female grocer, etc.
DE8783: 35mm slides taken by John Plumb of Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland churches, buildings and views.
DE8798: Survey of Leicestershire & Rutland slate gravestones by Roderick Cave of Oakham: photographic survey, with notes & essays of Leicestershire & Rutland gravestones & inscriptions; with published books on lettering, gravestones, etc.; photographs in ring binders & on CDs.
DE8846: Leicestershire & Rutland churches: 35mm slides of ecclesiastical architecture & other features; historic sites & curiosities, inn signs etc.
DE8850: Central Electricity Generating Board: photographs of sub-station construction & facilities in Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland, including DE8850/12: Oakham, 1958-1959.

DE8860: Lyddington Parish Council correspondence concerning lighting, water, chairs and documents: envelopes containing correspondence: 1. Waterworks and water supply, 1904-1934; 2. Chairs stored in the Bedehouse Hall, 1932; 3. Receipts for documents deposited at Barclays Bank, Uppingham, 1926-2008; 4. Street lighting agreements, 1956; 5. County Council consent for a loan for street lighting, 1949.
DE8864: Oakham Mutual Plate Glass Insurance Society Minutes of annual general meetings: MS with pasted-in typescript; signed minutes of AGMs.
DE8900: Rutland Decorative & Fine Arts Society report on Ayston St Mary the Virgin parish church, on the memorials, metalwork, stonework, woodwork, textiles, windows, etc. of Ayston parish church, including colour photographs and plans. With CD copy.
DE8899: Cottesmore Parish Council Minutes, 2002-11.

Langham Village History Group

Website & contact: www.langhaminrutland.org.uk

In common with many history groups throughout the country, we were much occupied by the anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War. *Langham Remembers Them*, researched and written by Brenda Burdett, was published and was well received within the village and beyond. This small hardback volume contains a short biography and photographs of the 27 Langham men who did not return from the conflict, along with much additional information. A copy of the book was given to every Rutland school.

A small snapshot from the Nourish family archive showing the Oakham Company of Territorials (5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment) marching through Langham en route to Loughborough at the outbreak of the war was the catalyst for a re-enactment march on Saturday 2nd August 2014, organised in conjunction with the Lord Lieutenant's committee for the Commemoration of World War I. A company of yeomanry and cadets marched from Oakham to Langham, where they were welcomed by villagers and entertained to tea at the Village Hall. In spite of the weather it was a well-supported and poignant occasion and featured in the BBC Midlands Inside Out programme.

Due to the involvement of our archivist with the Lord Lieutenant's Committee we were kept well informed of the progress of the re-publication of George Phillips's book *Rutland and the Great War*.

For Remembrance Sunday a World War I display was staged in Langham church, and the theme was continued in our entry in the Christmas Tree Festival. Tributes to the fallen will continue until 1919 with commemorative cards

being placed in Langham church on the anniversary of each man's death and special prayers being offered at the nearest Sunday service.

A new booklet was published in March, written by the group's oldest member, Bill Nourish, and entitled *Tales of Langham – things were different then*. We try to encourage people in the village to write or record memories as part of an ongoing social history archive.

Our meetings are normally workshops but occasionally we allow ourselves the luxury of a speaker. Ian Ryder's talk on 'Rutland's Common Fields' was greatly enjoyed and provoked lively discussion. A joint open meeting was arranged with the Langham Neighbourhood Plan Group when the speaker was Dr Richard Jones, senior lecturer in Landscape History at the University of Leicester. The group supported the Neighbourhood Plan at its various events.

The comprehensive work carried out on the Royce archive provided, and will continue to provide, a wealth of useful background information to our researches. Sadly, use of the Exton Papers at ROLLR is still restricted at the time of writing. The ban on photography makes research much more difficult and time-consuming as well as subjecting the original documents to unnecessary handling.

Our website continues to grow and be well used and we receive contacts and requests for help from all over the world. As always, members have continued to research, attend lectures and visit places of historical interest, reporting back at our meetings.

Gill Frisby

Lyddington Manor History Society

Website: www.lyddingtonhistory.org.uk

As last year, I review our progress on two fronts, that of the Society and that of its Heritage Lottery Fund project 'Historic Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor'. As of May 2015 the Society had 67 members; attendance at monthly meetings continues to be excellent. Lyddington Village Hall is a lovely venue and many of our visiting speakers have said how pleasant they have found it. The

Contact: info@lyddingtonhistory.org.uk

subjects of our meetings continue to cover a very wide range and I am very grateful to the many busy people who have given of their time to inform, educate and entertain us.

The HLF project will finish at the end of November 2015. From the outset, the project has had five aims:

1. To involve local people from the Manor of Lyddington and the surrounding area in researching, understanding

and publishing the history of their own community, including how their ancestors lived and worked in the past.

I believe we have richly achieved this. Behind the scenes many others have committed their time, surveying buildings, researching, transcribing, questioning, and collating material. We are now preparing the book to be published at the end of the project. A designer and a publisher have been appointed. Copies of the book will be presented to record offices, universities and libraries, and one will be given to every household in the manor. In addition, householders of every house we have surveyed will receive a folder containing the results of the survey of their house [summaries are given in the *Historic Building Recording* sections of the relevant issues of *Rutland Record – Ed*]. Similarly, householders of every house whose history we have explored will receive a folder containing all the historic information that has been gathered on their house.

2. To enable local people to discover, interpret and disseminate the social, economic and cultural history of the villages in the Manor of Lyddington, paying particular attention to local houses and the people that occupied them.

For the best part of five years, a team has gathered in my dining room each Monday afternoon, reading and transcribing documents. We have had a great deal of fun. Some of the documents have puzzled us, others amused us and many informed us of what life was really like in the manor in the past five centuries. We have mounted a

number of exhibitions and I have personally given three talks to other societies, the last to Market Harborough History Society.

3. To ensure continuing commitment to the conservation of the local built environment through the education of the community in its history and significance.

We have been exceedingly fortunate to have been able to attract as speakers experts on many of the skills needed to preserve our ancient buildings, including talks on Collyweston slate, stained glass and the use of lime. Two more demonstrations this year will cover the techniques of thatching and stone preservation.

4. To build an archive of historic records on the manor that is available for future study.

Our archive of data from Burghley house alone contains 17,400 scans. We also have a huge collection of maps, wills, deeds, and secondary source material.

5. To protect and preserve original material by making electronic copies available, hence reducing the necessity for handling.

With the blessing of Burghley House, our electronic archive of their documents relating to the manor of Lyddington will be made publically available at the end of the project. We intend to deposit a copy at the University of Leicester and another copy will be given to Rutland Local History & Record Society.

The Committee joins me in thanking everyone who has helped. It has been a great privilege to serve as Chairman of this Society for the past five years.

R M Canadine

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; .../familyhistory, .../castle.

Oakham Library, Catmose Street, Oakham, LE15 6HW.

Tel: (01572) 722918. Fax: (01572) 724906.

Website: www.rutland.gov.uk/libraries.

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

Opening times: Rutland County Museum: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, 10am to 4pm;

Oakham Castle: Mon, Wed-Sat, 10am to 4pm.

Closed at Christmas, New Year and on Good Friday.

Email: libraries@rutland.gov.uk; history@rutland.gov.uk.

Opening times: Mon-Fri: 9.30am to 5pm; Sat: 9.30am to 4pm.

Oakham Castle Restoration Project

The success of the Heritage Lottery Fund bid to restore Oakham Castle, recorded in the editorial of *Rutland Record* 34, has enabled this long-awaited project to move beyond the concept stage and into the real work of preserving this important site. November 2014 saw the first actual works on site, as a connection was moled underground between the sewer in Cutts Close and the existing drainage system within the Castle grounds. The work was supervised under the careful watch of the University of Leicester Archaeological Service [report attached for information], and it was with some relief that there were very limited finds recorded, indicating that the careful placement of the works, tunnelling beneath the curtain wall, had not disturbed any areas of significance. ULAS are currently developing an overarching strategy for archaeology on the site, including the planned community archaeology digs in the 3 years of the activity programme, to ensure that this opportunity is used to

maximise our knowledge of the site. Meanwhile, work is in hand to design new exhibitions; repair and restore the Great Hall (including recording and cleaning the horseshoes); and introduce improved services and facilities. The Great Hall will close to the public from September 2015 to Easter 2016 for works to take place, with one exception – the Crown Court will sit at Oakham Castle on 6th October 2015.

Robert Clayton

Displays and Exhibitions

Temporary exhibitions last year included the annual Rutland Open art exhibition. In a change to our usual type of exhibition we also displayed one on Agatha Christie which centred on one person's extensive collection. This proved to be extremely popular and it was nice to have completely new subject area for us.

The major in-house exhibition was the first of our WWI commemorations. 'A Call to Arms – Rutland in the

First World War' was produced by our Heritage and Learning Officer. As this took extensive research the decision was made to display this for a longer period than we would normally. This allowed plenty of time for all those who had kindly loaned us items to see them and 287 children (12 classes) to visit and take part in the WWI workshops.

All the LED lighting has now been incorporated into the archaeology cases on the balcony. The Poultry Hall display area has had its interpretation updated and now includes a revamped school room and a transport display. An 1899 Decauville motor car was on display in this area over the winter period (fig 2). It will be out and about at rallies during the summer and there are plans for it to return to the Museum at the end of the year. The vehicle was the first car owned by the prominent local historian George Phillips (see *RR20* (2000) 437-44), and it now has the first car registration number for Rutland, FP4 (originally given to his second car).



Fig. 2. George Phillips' 1899 Decauville, FP4 (photo: Rutland County Museum).

Collections

The Oakham Decorative & Fine Art Society volunteers are continuing to work on re-packaging and cataloguing the ephemera, social history collection and textile collections.

The Museum website is now fully up and running. <http://rutlandcountymuseum.org.uk>. The site includes a searchable database which is slowly being added to as the records are updated by staff and volunteers. There are currently in excess of 1000 records, most of which include photographs.

The collection stores are being re-organised to allow for the ever-increasing need for space for archaeological archives from planning sites. Work is in progress to reconcile the collection inventory with the collection database.

Acquisitions

Notable acquisitions to the Museum include:

Three books relating to the Popish Plot and Oakham-born Titus Oates:

The Tryal and Conviction of Thomas Knox and John Lane, for a Conspiracy, To Defame and Scandalize Dr. Oates and Mr. Bedloe; Thereby to Discredit their Evidence about the Horrid Popish Plot: At the Kings-Bench-Bar at Westminster, On Tuesday the 25th of Novemb. 1679. Before the Right Honourable Sir William Scroggs, Knight, Lord Chief Justice, and the other judges of the Court. Where, upon full Evidence, they were found Guilty of the offence aforesaid. London, Pub. Robert Pawlett, 1681 (2014.70.1);

The Weekly Pacquet of Advice from Rome, The History of the Damnable Popish Plot, In its various Branches & Progress, London, Printed for B.R.L.W. H.C. and are to be sold by Langley Curtis on Ludgate Hill, 1680 (2014.70.2);

The Tryals, Convictions & Sentence of Titus Oates, upon two Indictments for Willful, Malicious, and Corrupt Perjury: at the Kings Bench Barr at Westminster, Before the Right Honourable George Lord Jeffreys, Baron of Wem, Lord Chief Justice of His Majesties Court of Kings-Bench, and the rest of the Judges of that Court. Upon Friday the 8th and Saturday the 9th days of May, Anno Domini, 1685. And in the First Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King James the II. &C., London, Printed for R Sar ... and are to be sold by Randal Taylor, 1685 (2014.70.3).

Collection of medals and ephemera relating to WW1 and WW2 (purchased by the Friends, 2014.63).

A night helmet plate for Rutland County Police (2014.53).

WW1 Military Medal awarded to Bertie Hugh Tyler (2014.49).

A small silver hallmarked football medal. 1921-1922

RUTLAND & DISTRICT F.C. (2014.47).

Exton Gun. An unusual private militia gun made for the Gainsborough family, c1806 (purchased by the Friends. 2015.4).

The Museum would like to thank the Friends for the recent purchases, particularly for the quick decision which enabled us to secure the Exton gun at auction.

Education and Learning

2014-15 saw record figures using the formal learning programme at the museum and Castle. A total of 2,166 pupils and teachers (67 classes) attended curriculum linked workshops.

Workshops were delivered on eight key themes at the museum: 'The Romans in Rutland', 'The Victorians', 'World War One', 'World War Two', 'Homes in the Past', 'Seaside Holidays in the Past', 'Christmas in the Past', and 'Farming in the Past'.

In addition, during May and June 2014, 15 school groups attended court-based learning sessions at Oakham Castle. This was part of the Heritage Lottery funded PLES (Public Legal Education Syndicate) Project. This was developed and co-ordinated by the National Centre for Citizenship and the Law based at The Galleries of Justice in Nottingham and involved students from Nottingham Trent University.

The holiday craft workshops at the museum had a total of 2,598 children and their parents/carers attend. All formal and informal workshops were facilitated by our Heritage and Learning Officer, Emma Warren.

Visitor Figures

From April 2013 to March 2014 Rutland County Museum received 18,502 visits (2013-14: 16,795). Over the same period the Castle received 28,401 visits (2013-14: 32,982).

Rutland County Libraries Local Studies Service

Rutland Library Service continues to offer a Local Studies Collection at all branch libraries, and at Rutland County Museum. The library and museum service operates a joint enquiry service for local and family history enquiries to avoid duplication and ensure consistency of reply. The service experiences an increasing demand in terms of these enquiries from within the UK and abroad, having received over 200 family history enquiries and 414 object and local history enquiries over the year.

This year saw additions to local studies loan boxes aimed at KS1 and KS2 children, for borrowing by teachers and home educators. On 4th March 2015 the library service went live with a new Library Management System as part of a consortium of East Midlands authorities. Much time was diverted from local studies activities to data conversion and implementation of the new system. This year also saw the installation of a digital microfiche reader/printer in the museum research room.

Local Studies acquisitions continue to slow year on year, due to a reduction in the number of titles published

and/or promoted locally. We have experienced difficulty in receiving notification of new publications from local authors. We purchased 25 separate titles this year, many of which were general interest family history books rather than locally relevant material.

Local Studies Volunteering continues to be particularly strong, with volunteers' continued involvement in research for the Frezenberg exhibition and our museum tour programme.

Volunteers and staff continued to support the HLF Castle Restoration Project with background research and reviews of documentation.

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

The Service continues to work with the Record Office particularly with the co-ordination of new Local Studies acquisitions, management of material, the scanning of Rutland newspapers onto film, and with exhibitions.

Emily Barwell & Lorraine Cornwell

Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust

Contact information:

Email: rhcpttrust@googlemail.com.

Website: www.rhcpt.co.uk.

The Trust exists to provide financial assistance to the 64 churches and chapels within the County of Rutland, whenever they may need help for conservation and maintenance. All of these places of worship have been inherited by our generation to use and to care for, and to pass on to the next generation, 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 & Wardley, Clipsham, Empingham, Morcott, Pickworth, Preston and Stoke Dry, to all of whom we offer our sincere thanks. We also received a further instalment of the legacy from the estate of Kenneth Alan Scott, for which we are most grateful, and in addition we received eight further donations from individuals, to all of whom we extend our thanks.

The Finance Sub-Committee continues to keep our investments closely under review. In response to the continuing climate of very low interest rates for cash investments the trustees are cautiously developing a policy of increasing the proportion of our investments which are held in the COIF range of recommended equity funds suitable for charities, where we anticipate that such funds can remain in investment for the medium term.

The Sponsored Ride and Stride around the churches and chapels of Rutland is due to take place on Saturday 12th September 2015. The event held in 2013 raised in total £16,480, half of which was returned to the individual churches nominated by the participants and half added to RHCPT funds. The organising team, led by Richard Foulkes of Hambleton, hopes to exceed the 2013 total, and has developed an enhancement to the Ride & Stride to encourage participation by more people in the County,

Registered Charity No 211068.

Give As You Earn Reg No 000101080.

Inland Revenue Identification No NAK 60 JG.

by encouraging teams of cyclists to enter, one or more from each village and several from the two larger towns, in addition to the existing traditional participation of individuals who cycle or walk together with friends or family and are essentially together throughout. The teams, called Starbusters, would comprise any number of people, and their objective would be that, starting from their home village or town church, every one of the 64 churches in the County would be visited by some member of the team, so that, as a whole, the team would cover all churches in Rutland. Nobody has ever done this individually and although we always hope that somebody will, we feel that the challenge may best be faced by organising an enthusiastic team. The success of this venture depends upon finding suitable team leaders in the villages and towns.

During the past financial year the Trust has paid and approved grants totalling £36,000 to Ashwell, Brooke, Glaston, Greetham, Hambleton, Oakham, Preston, South Luffenham, Tinwell, and Whitwell. As and when Church Quinquennial Reports are issued we are encouraging the parochial church councils to contact us for financial help, if they need it, so that they may complete the recommended work promptly, thus avoiding any unnecessary deterioration to their church fabric.

The Trustees wish to take this opportunity of thanking all of our supporters, sponsors and donors for all they have contributed during the past year. During the coming year, as in the past, we confidently look forward to receiving the continuing favour of our benefactors, and to providing all necessary support to our beautiful Rutland churches.

Clifford Bacon, Honorary Secretary

Rutland Local History & Record Society

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

In my first year as Chair I am grateful for the expert efforts of the Executive Committee in helping me ensure the smooth running of the Society. The members of the Committee have been supportive in driving forward the need to enhance our membership and raise our profile to the general public. We have an action plan to attend relevant events throughout the year to promote membership and the sale of publications. A tremendous effort has already been made by Paul Reeve in organising the increase in publication sales.

We are pleased to welcome Michael Hinman to the Committee as Minute Secretary. A Programme Secretary to help to organise Society events is another position that needs to be filled, and we also need a Publicity Officer.

This year saw the publication of *Rutland Record* 34, containing articles on Market Overton and the continuing woodland history research of Tony Squires. The Society also published *John Barber's Oakham Castle and its Archaeology* as an Occasional Publication. This sold so well that a reprint was ordered. This well-timed publication coincided with the announcement that work was soon to start on Heritage Lottery funded restoration and enhancement work at Oakham Castle. Tim Clough, who continues to deliver an excellent editorial service, would like offers for articles for future *Rutland Records*, particularly any on Rutland people. Robert Ovens produced another excellent *Newsletter*.

We continue to enhance our website by adding out-of-print editions of *Rutland Record*, as well as local history documents such as Robert Sterndale Bennett's *Home Guard Training Notes*. 2015 will see a continuing effort to increase the publications available on the site. Our Webmaster Mike Frisby is to be congratulated on the smooth running of this valuable resource.

The Society's lecture programme, organised jointly with the Friends of Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle, has continued to provide a wide range of interesting topics. The village visit to Ketton in September 2014 was well attended and proved to be a very informative event. The Committee has decided that the Bryan Matthews Memorial Lecture will now be delivered every two years; the venue will continue to be Uppingham School.

The environmental remit of the Society is demonstrated by the annual presentation of the George Phillips and Tony Traylen Built Environment Awards for new and restored buildings. This event was organised by Robert Ovens, assisted by Carole Bancroft-Turner, and their professionalism resulted in a splendid evening. As in previous years, members are encouraged to nominate any buildings they consider worthy of future awards via the Society's website or the Correspondence Secretary, Jill Kimber.

The finances of the Society remain tightly controlled by the Honorary Treasurer, Ian Ryder. Our Membership Secretary Lyn Ryder ensures that our membership administration is current; this is important in this day of rising postal costs.

Website: www.rutlandhistory.org.

Email: enquiries@rutlandhistory.org.

Our Archaeology Group continues to work actively in Rutland, and Elaine Jones must be thanked for her continued energetic contribution to this work.

As well as Officers, the Committee also consists of elected members who are experts in their field, including Mike Tillbrook, our new Honorary Member and former Chairman. All these volunteers offer their professional advice and opinions and, most importantly, their time, as also do our Honorary Archivist, Robin Jenkins, and our Academic Adviser, Professor Alan Rogers.

I would like to remind members that that the Committee, which meets five times a year, is a voluntary body whose commitments are given solely for the benefit of the Society, and decisions made are not taken lightly. If any member feels that they can make a contribution to the work of the Committee, then we will welcome their application.

Debbie Frearson, Chairman

Website

Regular users of the Society's web site will have noticed the increasing number of links which give access to information held on the site, particularly on the 'Local Research and Resources' index page. As the amount of local data increases work is in hand to redesign the contents/index pages to prevent the pages looking cluttered and to make them easier to use.

Although the site's visual look and feel remains the same, behind the scenes work continues to improve accessibility for those with smart devices. When the site is accessed, our software has to determine the size and type of device being used and serve it with a suitable screen layout and links. This requires page design to be very different from that designed for access on a desktop computer. Much of this work is implemented using web design software but it always seems to require human intervention and hand coding. The Society is always keen to improve access to its web pages and would welcome feedback that will increase the site's content or make it easier to use.

Our software is providing the Treasurer and Membership Secretary with data which allow the Society to gather in subscriptions early in the new season, thus providing an accurate picture of its membership.

The Society would like to make more use of its members' email addresses to provide up-to-date news and information, and to reduce mailing costs, which in turn would help to keep subscription rates static. Currently, we have email details for less than half the membership and some of those we do have are already out of date. Until we have more of the membership providing, or updating, email addresses it requires the Committee to expend considerably more volunteer time to run two processes. Each physical mailing is very expensive in time, materials and postage. Providing an up-to-date email ID helps us to prevent increases in subscription rates.

During the coming year, the Society will be implementing 'Huddle', its new collaboration software

which will allow the Executive Committee to share files centrally, in a way that will enable editing and sharing, without the need for managing multiple email copies. A further benefit is that a complete publication can be viewed, edited, accessed or downloaded by any member of the Committee as there are no file size restrictions.

Mike Frisby, Webmaster

Acknowledgements

The RLHRS Archaeological Team thanks the farmers Trevor Howkins, the Manager of Park Farm, and Mr and

Mrs John Turner of Bancroft Lodge for permitting our survey on their land. Lynden Cooper and Mark Powers' comments on some of the flint were much appreciated – but so much more could be done with our material. This year the Team volunteers were Carole Bancroft-Turner, Linda Dalby, Debbie Frearson, Jo Holroyd, Clive and Elaine Jones, Jasmine Knew and Liz Sanders – to whom, many thanks!

Elaine Jones

Uppingham Local History Study Group

Website & contact: www.uppinghamhistory.org.uk.

The Uppingham Local History Study group continues to meet on the first Monday of the month at Taylor House common room, St John and St Anne, Johnson Road, Uppingham. Dr Vivian Anthony chaired the group and members and visitors enjoyed a varied and interesting programme during 2014. Attendance has been around 20 at most meetings.

Vivian updated us on his research into the early history of Uppingham at the February meeting. With the help of members present and past his work on a History of Uppingham to 1800 will be published in 2015. Vivian reviewed the history of the town up to the ascent of the Tudor dynasty. In prehistoric times the area now called Rutland was occupied by groups of hunter-gatherers like those excavated at Glaston. These people took advantage of the abundant animal life and the commanding views from the ridge overlooking the Welland valley. Professor Phythian Adams argues that with the development of a settled community in the first century BC the natural boundaries of the Rivers Welland, Gwash and Eyebrook formed a population aware of a shared origin, so giving rise to a Rutland identity. The inhabitants were part of the Corieltavi people who had a centre at Leicester with outlying settlements at Stamford, Ridlington and Empingham. The tribe did not oppose Roman settlement and seems to have co-existed. The nearest Roman villa was found at Medbourne, Leicestershire.

Anglo-Saxons settled along the Welland valley: the name of Uppingham points to a 7th century settlement – the people who live on the hill. Viking invasions in the 9th century led to settlements out of which grew five Burghs, of which Leicester and Stamford exercised most influence on Rutland. By the 10th century Uppingham was part of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex. In the 11th century Rutland was a royal estate. Edward the Confessor willed that after his wife Edith's death it should become part of his endowment of his Abbey at Westminster. This was largely ignored by William the Norman who kept Rutland and its revenues to himself.

The de Montforts played the major role in developing Uppingham in the medieval period, seeing off the competition of the Bishop of Lincoln's township at Lyddington. A charter for Uppingham's market and annual fair was granted in 1281. The Middle Ages saw further development and a second rebuilding of the church in the 14th century. Local trade included woodworking such as trenchers and wool production.

Vivian continued his report at our March meeting telling the history of Uppingham during the time of the Tudors. The Battle of Bosworth in 1485 brought the Tudors to the throne. The discovery of the remains of Richard III in Leicester led to great interest around the world in this period of history. Three members were invited to Seaton to hear Dr Richard Buckley from Leicester University give a talk on the discovery of the remains. Lyddington had challenged Uppingham's importance until the Bishops of Lincoln's role was nullified by Henry VIII's reorganisation of the Church. Uppingham's position was strengthened by gaining custody of the County's official weights and measures in 1495/6 and the grant of a royal charter to Richard Cheseldine in 1531 to hold weekly markets and annual fairs in the town. Land was in the hands of a small number of wealthier families. Enclosure was late coming to Uppingham. Uppingham had three manors managed by stewards. Politically Rutland was dominated by the Cecil, Harrington and Digby families with Uppingham's largest manor in the hands of William Cecil, later Lord Burghley.

By the end of this period two men had left their mark on Uppingham: Everard Digby of Stoke Dry with land in Uppingham was made King's Bailiff in 1485 and Forest Ranger of Leighfield; in 1584 Archdeacon Robert Johnson had founded the two charities and two free schools at Oakham and Uppingham for local children with valuable scholarships at Cambridge.

In April Hilary Crowden told us about Ernie Marlow's memories of his childhood in early 20th century Uppingham. Ernie was born into a large Uppingham family who spent their lives working for Uppingham School; Ernie as a gardener. He wrote about his upbringing during WWI and recorded what the town looked like when he was a young man. His memoirs were published in the *Rutland Times* fifteen years ago. Hilary concentrated on Ernie's childhood years, painting a fascinating picture of life in the town at that time.

Peter Lane led our May meeting, speaking on several historic buildings in Uppingham. In his 'Making of Uppingham' Alan Rogers argues that the oldest and only direct route to Uppingham dating from Anglo-Saxon times was that from Oakham to Rockingham, crossing the Uppingham ridge at the Crown public house, the likely site of the first settlement. Peter believes a second old route to the seat of the King's Steward at Ridlington must have existed because those living in Uppingham had more

business there than at Oakham. The Crown Yard, Reeves Yard and Shields Yard were the only throughways. The existence of these routes had a major influence on the older part of the town. The yards show a multiplicity of dwellings behind a grand street frontage. Reeves Yard comprised a single messuage made up today in High St East of the Lake Isle, Murray estate agents and Earthworks. Both footpaths remain much used today though who owns them is not easy to decide. Peter displayed his great knowledge of the previous history of the uses of the buildings on the routes.

In June Nigel Richardson, former Second Master at Uppingham School, spoke to the group about his 40 year journey researching the Rev Edward Thring and the recent publication of his book on him. Thring had been educated at Eton and after training for the Ministry his work in the East End of London interested him in education. After marrying a German girl he discovered much about contemporary education systems in Germany. Thring came to Uppingham in 1853 and succeeded in turning an obscure grammar school into one of the foremost Victorian public schools. He won fame for his forward thinking, encouraged sport and founded the Head Masters' Conference. He dealt with an outbreak of typhoid in the town by moving the school to Borth in Wales. The centenary of the move to Borth in 1977 was celebrated with several articles and a play. Nigel realised that little had been published about the impact on the town of the typhoid outbreak and began further research. University College London agreed to sponsor his doctoral thesis on how Uppingham had been affected. The result is a biography of Thring which is interesting and readable.

In July David Forbes, a member, described his upbringing in Uppingham. During WWI his mother had nursed wounded soldiers in the Military Hospital, previously the Uppingham Union Workhouse and later Constables boarding house, situated on Leicester Road. Built in 1837, during WWI it became a convalescent hospital for soldiers. In the 1930s it was purchased by Uppingham School. A typical patient of the hospital was a 19 year old rifleman, wounded in March 1918 on the Somme with a bullet in his shoulder. He was processed through a field hospital, then to Calais en route to hospital in Leicester for 3 months and finally to Uppingham for the summer. David Forbes' mother Dolly Drake worked as a nurse at the hospital and his father was one of the patients. They were married in 1922.

At the end of July Vivian Anthony and several of the Uppingham residents of St John and St Anne met the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall at St Anne's Close almshouses in Oakham. A bound copy of the history of almshouses by David Parkin was presented to the royal couple. Also in July several members made an evening visit to the Record Office in Wigston for a guided tour.

We welcomed Elaine and Clive Jones to our August meeting to give us an illustrated talk on archaeology around Uppingham. Dr Jones explained the importance of geology in the context of archaeology and its influence on the development and location of human settlement in south Rutland. Recently it has been recognised that

human occupation of the British Isles first took place some half million years ago, much earlier than previously thought. With the ending of the last glacial period 10,000 years ago the present inter-glacial saw the arrival of Mesolithic man bringing with him stone implements. Local inhabitants came to use a range of other minerals they extracted locally. Elaine Jones described results of field walking carried out in parts of Uppingham since 2000. Undertaken from October to March and finds are plotted on maps. Items are washed, identified and reports prepared recording results for deposit with the appropriate authorities. Work has been concentrated in the north of the parish near Ayston, and also along the western side from Castle Hill south to Kings Farm and Beaumont Chase bordering the Eyebrook. Much has been revealed about settlement before the advent of the Royal Forest in the 12th century. Significant deposits of Palaeolithic material have been identified. Many Bronze Age and Roman finds and evidence of early iron production are recorded.

In September Professor Alan Rogers, who founded the group 15 years ago, spoke on the Georgians and Uppingham. Uppingham is a Georgian town with little left of development any earlier than that. At the time it was larger than Oakham. It was a time of change from subsistence farming to market production for sale. Enclosure happened in 1781 and 1802. Trade moved from markets to specialised shops. Turnpikes were introduced in the 1750s, leading to increases in inns and alehouses to serve travellers. Uppingham had its Grammar School and the townsfolk learned national news from the *Stamford Mercury*. Wealth increased, but the division between social classes and the numbers of poor increased.

In October Peter Lane gave an illustrated talk on the funerary monuments in the Parish Church. Peter has researched interesting family details of these monuments and details are available on our website. In November member Margaret Stacey gave us a talk on the Rev Timothy Moxon, a Methodist minister from 1847 to 1850. Margaret had transcribed a handwritten journal written by Mr Moxon and now held in archives in Manchester. There were 20 churches in the Rutland circuit in Moxon's time. He lived in Oakham and most of his journeys were on foot, especially on Sundays when public transport was not available. A horse-drawn bus operated from the Falcon Hotel. When the railways arrived he was able to travel to meetings in Leicester and Nottingham by train. He had a heavy workload dealing with health problems, women dying in childbirth, and drunkenness.

For our final meeting of 2014 in December we welcomed the editor of this journal, Tim Clough, who gave a talk entitled 'Who owned Rutland in 1873?', based on the *Return of Owners of Land 1873*, which showed the numbers and names of owners of land of one acre & upwards; numbers of owners of land of less than one acre; and the extent of common & waste lands in each county. Rutland had four principal landowners, the 2nd Earl of Gainsborough (Exton), the 3rd Marquis of Exeter (Stamford), and Lord Aveland (Normanton) and G H Finch (Burley-on-the-Hill), but there were many others.

Helen Hutton

IV – Rutland Bibliography 2013

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

- Bland, David, *Greetham and the Great War: how a Rutland village played its part in the Great War* (Greetham: Little School Publishing, 2014, ISBN 9780992602017).
- Brown, Mike, *Brewed in Northants: a directory of Northamptonshire brewers including the Soke of Peterborough, Harringworth and Stamford, St Martin's* (Kent: Brewery History Society, 2010) [includes some Rutland breweries].
- Buxton, Audrey, *Rutland marriage index & Rutland marriage licences index* [CD ROM] (Greetham: Gemini Projects, 2014).
- Edkins, Janey, *Walking on marshmallows* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014, £7.99, ISBN 9781497507784) [local author, book set in Rutland].
- Jones, Elaine & Ovens, Robert [editors] *John Barber's Oakham Castle and its archaeology* (Oakham: Rutland Local History & Record Society, 2014, £8, ISBN 9780907464518).
- Lane, P N, *The Parish Church of SS Peter and Paul, Uppingham: the stained glass windows* (Uppingham: ULHSG and Uppingham PCC, 1999, revised edition 2014).
- Nicholls, Rev Brian, & Nicholls, Liz, *Rutland County casualties during World War One 1914-18* (2014) [loose leaf photocopy article].
- Patience, Derek, *Church of St Mary Magdalen, Essendine parish Registers 1600-2009* (2014) [transcript].
- Richardson, Nigel, *Thring of Uppingham: Victorian educator* (Buckingham: University of Buckingham Press, 2014, £25, ISBN 9781908684059).
- Rutland Local History & Record Society, *Rutland Record 34: Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society* (Oakham: Rutland Local Hist & Record Soc, 2014, £4, ISBN 9780907464525).
- Seyderhelm, Amanda, *Isaac and the red jumper* (Lincolnshire: HARK Publications, 2013, £7.99, ISBN 9780957214613) [local author].
- South Kesteven District Council, *The heritage of flight in South Lincolnshire: celebrating our aviation history* (South Kesteven District Council, 2014) [includes Woolfox Lodge].
- Swift, Andrew, *The complete guide to the parish churches of Rutland* (Leicester: Velox Books, 2014, £15, ISBN 9780957570122).
- Uppingham Local History Study Group & Uppingham PCC, *The parish church of SS Peter and Paul, Uppingham: the funerary monuments* (Uppingham: ULHSG & Uppingham PCC, 2014).

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 European archaeology from the University of Edinburgh, and has written and edited many works on local history, archaeology and numismatics.

Kate Cooper worked in Aberystwyth University Library and then in the Welsh Office. A lifelong interest in local history culminated in 2009 when she gained her doctorate from the University of Leicester. She has written a book on migration in Victorian Britain and several journal articles on local history topics of both Welsh and English interest. She is currently transcribing 17th century inventories for the Leicestershire Victoria County History.

Vanessa Doe lives in Rutland and is a member of the Society. She was for many years a lecturer in Local History at the University of Sheffield working in north Derbyshire and the Peak District, and publishing articles in the Derbyshire Archaeo-logical Journal and for the Derbyshire Record Society. More recently she has researched the chapters on Social and Economic History

for the forthcoming Lyddington Manor History Society publication *Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor* and is currently researching the life of Richard Westbrook Baker.

Nick Hill lives in south-east Leicestershire and has been recording and researching historic buildings in this part of the country for the last 25 years. He is an active member of the Vernacular Architecture Group, with an interest in domestic buildings of all periods. He is a chartered building surveyor and works for Historic England.

Alan Massey graduated from Liverpool University and then taught inorganic chemistry in the universities of London and Loughborough. Since retiring twenty years ago he has taken up archaeology, specialising in the study of stone age tools and the peculiar contents of witch bottles. He currently holds an Honorary Fellowship at Loughborough University.

Robert Ovens lives in Lyddington and is Vice-Chairman of the Society. He was joint author of *Time in Rutland* and joint editor and compiler of *The Heritage of Rutland Water* and *John Barber's Oakham Castle and its Archaeology*.

RUTLAND LOCAL HISTORY & RECORD SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 700273

The Society's publications, with their main contents, are currently available (October 2015) as follows:

Rutland Record 1 (£1.00)
Emergence of Rutland; Medieval hunting grounds;
Rutland field names; Illiteracy in 19th century 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 (£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 (£2.50, members £2.00)
Religious Census 1851 (pt 1); Exton churchyard

Rutland Record 23 (£2.50, members £2.00)
Tinwell Roman coins; Ridlington Park; Lord Ranksborough;
Notitia Parochialis 1705; annual reports

Rutland Record 24 (£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* (£2.50, members £2.00), J D Bennett:
full bibliography to 2005, subject index, 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)
Victorian clerical incumbents; The Ven T K Bonney; Martinsthorpe
House; annual reports

Rutland Record 30 (£4.00, members £3.50)
Haringtons of Exton; Vincent Wing; Robert Gouger; annual reports

Rutland Record 31 (£4.00, members £3.50)
Medieval woodlands; Education in Victorian Rutland; annual reports

Rutland Record 32 (£4.50, members £3.50)
Ice Age at Glaston; Fox Talbot and Rutland; Oakham's masters and
ushers; Mid-Victorian Uppingham School; annual reports

Rutland Record 33 (£4.50, members £3.50)
George Villiers & Katherine Manners; Early Victorian Rutland;
Wilkershaw Cowpasture; *Time Team* at Oakham Castle; annual reports

Rutland Record 34 (£4.50, members £3.50)
Early Market Overton; Leighfield Forest in the 16th & 17th centuries;
Rutland resources at Leicester University Library; annual reports

Indexes: Rutland Record 1-10 (by John Field) (1994) (£2.00,
members £1.50); *11-20* (by Robert Ovens) (2011) (£2.50, members
£1.50); *21-30* (by Robert Ovens) (2015) (£4.00, members £3.00)

The following issues are now out of print: *Rutland Record* 2-7, 8
(*Who was Who in Rutland*), 9, 10 (*Burley-on-the-Hill*), 11-15

Rutland Record Series

1. *Tudor Rutland: The County Community under Henry VIII* ed Julian Cornwall (1980). The Military Survey of 1522 & the Lay Subsidy of 1524, with introduction (£3.00, members £2.00)
2. *The Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire* ed John Kington (1988). Thomas Barker's 18th century weather, farming and countryside records, with introduction (£5.00, members £3.50)
3. *Stained Glass in Rutland Churches* by Paul Sharpling (1997). Complete survey & gazetteer; introduction; lists of glaziers, subjects, dedicatees, donors, heraldry (£5.00, members £3.50)
4. *Time in Rutland: a history and gazetteer of the bells, scratch dials, sundials and clocks of Rutland* by Robert Ovens & Sheila Sleath (2002). Definitive account of dials, clocks and bells of Rutland (£10.00, members £7.50)
5. *The Heritage of Rutland Water* ed Robert Ovens & Sheila Sleath (2nd rev imp 2008). History, archaeology, people, buildings, landscape, geology, natural history of Rutland Water area; sailing, fishing, flora, birds and fauna (**last few copies** £15.00, members £12.00)

Occasional Publications

1. *Domesday Book in Rutland: the dramatis personae* by Prince Yuri Galitzine (1986) (OP)
2. *The Oakham Survey 1305* ed Allen Chinnery (1988). Medieval survey: population, occupations, topography, customs, and personal/place-name evidence (OP)
3. *The Rutland Hearth Tax 1665* ed Jill Bourn & Amanda Goode (1991). Introduction and transcript (OP)
4. *The History of Gilson's Hospital, Morcott* by David Parkin (1995). The charity, its almshouse, and farm at Screddington, Lincs; trustees, beneficiaries; foundation deed, Gilson's will (£3.50, members £2.50)
5. *Lyndon, Rutland* by Charles Mayhew (1999). Guide to the village and church (£2.50, members £2.00)
6. *The History of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist & St Anne in Okeham* by David Parkin (2000). The 600-year old charity: history, chapel, trustees and beneficiaries (£3.50, members £2.50)
7. *The 1712 Land Tax Assessments and the 1710 Poll Book for Rutland* ed T H McK Clough (2005). Introduction, commentary, transcripts, indexes (£5.00, members £3.50)
8. *Common Right and Private Interest: Rutland's Common Fields and their Enclosure* by Ian E Ryder (2006). Details of Rutland's enclosures, with historical background, case studies, gazetteer and indexes (£5.50, members £4.50)
9. *Who Owned Rutland in 1873: Rutland entries in Return of Owners of Land 1873* by T H McK Clough (2010). Annotated transcript of the 563 Rutland entries; analysis; Lyddington and Chipping Campden (Gloucs) case studies (£7.50, members £6.00)
10. *Medieval Property Transactions in Rutland: abstracts of feet of fines 1197-1509* by Bridget Wells-Furby (2013). Introduction, discussion, detailed calendar of all 355 Rutland feet of fines, full indexes (£10.00, members £8.00).
11. *John Barber's Oakham Castle and its Archaeology*, edited by Elaine Jones & Robert Ovens. John Barber's notes on his 1950s excavations and other contemporary accounts; full colour (£8.00, members £6.00)

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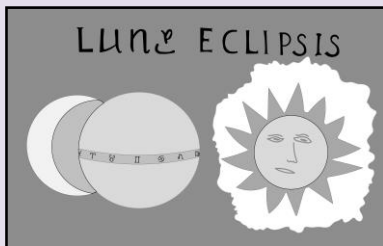
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Rutland Record 35

Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society

In this issue:



Preston Manor House



Witch bottle from Exton



Population in Rutland 1851–1911



Lost public houses