

# Rutland Local History & Record Society

Registered Charity No. 700273



## Barrowden Village Walk September 2022

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### INTRODUCTION

Barrowden is *Berchedon* in the Domesday Book of 1086 and *Baroughden* on John Speed's c1610 Map of Rutland. The village name is thought to mean *a hill with barrows or tumuli*, referring to the slope of the Welland Valley on which it lies. The barrows were probably prehistoric burial sites and a line of barrows continues to the west in the neighbouring parishes of Seaton and Thorpe by Water, and with Bee Hill and Prestley Hill in Lyddington parish.



Barroughden on John Speed's c1610 map of Rutland.

Barrowden was once part of a royal Mercian estate, later held by Edith, the Saxon Queen of England, as her dowry when she married King Edward the Confessor in 1045. At the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086, William the Conqueror held Barrowden.

In 1551, Barrowden was one of the manors granted by Elizabeth I to Sir William Cecil, who was created Baron of Burghley in 1571. His son and successor, Sir Thomas Cecil, was created Earl of Exeter in 1605. The manor has been passed down to the present day with the title of Earl and then Marquess of Exeter. Since 1987, Burghley Estate property in Barrowden and elsewhere has been administered by Burghley House Preservation Trust which was established by the sixth Marquess of Exeter. Today, William Cecil is the eighth Marquess of Exeter.

The parish is about 1,810 acres (732.5 hectares) in extent and is bounded to the north in part by the A47 trunk road, formerly the Leicester to Peterborough turnpike established in 1753, and by the River Welland to the south. The population was 481 in 1811 and 506 in 2011.

Barrowden is a typical nucleated village, with homesteads and farmsteads collected together in a compact settlement adjacent to the church.

### THE VILLAGE MAP

The map attached to this walk is based on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25 inch to one-mile map of 1904. Consequently, later buildings, extensions and demolitions are not shown. Numbers in the text, [12] for example, refer to locations shown on the map.

Please:

Respect private property.

Use pavements and footpaths where available.

Take great care when walking alongside or crossing roads.

Remember that you are responsible for your own safety.

### THE WALK

The walk starts in Wakerley Road at Barrowden **Village Hall** [1] which was built in 1927. Turn right and walk down Wakerley Road to the junction with Main Street. On the left is the Grade II listed **Windmill House** [2], formerly the Windmill Inn which closed in 1956.



The Windmill Inn about 1910 when the landlord was George Dexter (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).

This coursed rubblestone house with quoins, Collyweston slate roof, ashlar chimney stacks and stone



mullion windows is dated 1630. It is named after the windmill which once stood in a field to the north. The datestone on the front elevation is inscribed *ANO DNI 1630 OVR LIFE PASETH AWAIE LIKE A SHADO*. This is often used as a motto on sundials, but there is no gnomon or obvious hour lines.

The datestone on the front of Windmill House (Nick Hill).

The listing details also record a stone tablet on the rear of the house with the inscription *Sine timore domini omnia vanitas*. This translates as: *Without fear of the Lord all is vanity*, possibly suggesting a religious use for the building at some time or, perhaps, association with a devout owner.



Also, according to the listing, there is an inglenook and a stone fireplace with a Tudor arch inside this house.

Turn right and walk along Main Street, then turn left towards Mill Lane. On the left is **Knob Hall [3]** which was once a steward's house of the Burghley Estate. Immediately adjacent is an eighteenth century Grade II listed **dovecote [4]** with a Collyweston slate roof and two square wooden louvres. The interior is divided into two cells, each with separate entrances, and there are 638 nesting holes in each cell. The Historic England listing describes it as '*A rare and unusual building*'. Doves and pigeons housed in dovecotes provided a source of food for the table, as well as feathers and manure.

Continue to walk down Mill Lane which, together with Main Street, is part of the **Jurassic Way**, an eighty-eight mile footpath which mainly follows the Jurassic limestone ridge between Banbury and Stamford.

On the left is **Carpenter's Cottage** and on the right is **The Old Shop**. Continue down to the site of the former Barrowden **watermill [5]** where there is an information board.



The watermill is first recorded in 1259, when William Mauduit, the king's chamberlain, leased it to Richard Gubiun at a rent of forty shillings. A stone tablet on a wall recorded that '*N Bullingham made this mill 1607*'. The main part of the building was rebuilt in 1815.



*The watermill looking west from the mill pond about 1910*  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).



*The watermill looking east from the mill leet about 1910*  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).

In its final form there were two waterwheels which powered millstones and woodturning lathes. These were

used for the milling of corn, particularly barley, the grinding of oak bark for use in tanning leather, and the turning of wooden items which included wooden plates, bowls and plough handles. A trap in the sluice caught eels, which were regularly sent by train from Wakerley Station to Billingsgate Market in London.

Some of the watermill's uses continued until about 1925, but after this it was unused and was in ruins by 1951. It was demolished in 1970. The large building, shown on the walk map on the north side of the watermill, was originally a tannery (see later). It was demolished a few years later.

Before the watermill was demolished, the River Welland served as the **mill leet [6]** as shown on the walk map. The river then continued via the mill pond to join the mill bypass. In the 1960s it was subject to extensive works in order to improve land drainage and flood water discharge. The mill leet was filled in and the river now runs along the course of the former **mill bypass [7]**. This is crossed by a **footbridge at [8]** and the footpath carries on across the meadow to Wakerley.

Return to the top of Mill Lane and turn left into Main Street. Immediately on the left is **The Tannery** which is a small estate of three modern houses built on the site of the former tannery, together with older buildings which were originally part of the tannery site.

On the left at the entrance is **The Chestnuts [9]**, an unlisted c1780-1800 two storey-house built in local stone with dressed quoins and a Collyweston slate roof.



*The Chestnuts about 1910* (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).

The large stone-built three-storey **tannery [10]**, or fellmongery, was established in the seventeenth century by Samuel Wells and continued in use until 1885, producing tanned and white leather, parchment, and fleeces from sheep hides. Associated trades included glovers, saddlers and vellum-makers as well as glue and rug making.

The site also included a dovecote, a wagon hovel, stables with a chaff house and a number of large tanks for tanning the hides and possibly the storage of chemicals.

Together, the tannery and the watermill provided employment for many of the villagers. After the tannery closed, the buildings had a number of different uses, including being used as a base for a carrier and a licensed hawker and grocer, a base for a travelling fish and chip business, the storage of ammunition during World War II,

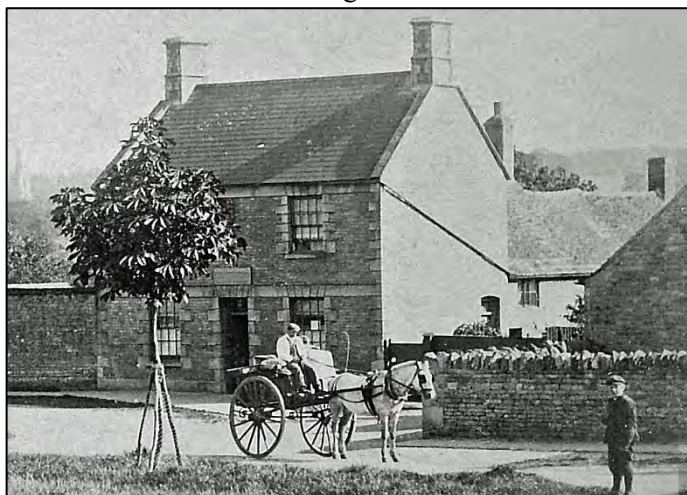


the storage of fertiliser by Fisons after the war, and the storage of grain and a depot for lorries. The final use was as a manufacturing unit by Linecross Plastics.

Now walk along Main Street in a westerly direction. On the right is the Grade II listed late seventeenth century **Main Street Farmhouse [11]** at 18 Main Street, sometime known as Pollards Farm. It has oak beams and two inglenook fireplaces inside. Pollard's Close behind the farmhouse was built on the farm close by Burley Estate in the 1990s.

Next on the right is **20 Main Street [12]**, an eighteenth century Grade II listed property. Opposite is **Welland Farmhouse [13]**, another eighteenth century Grade II listed property, now a private dwelling. In 2021, Burghley Estates received planning consent to build houses on the adjacent farmyard, known as Welland Farm Barns.

The next property of interest is **17 Main Street [14]** which is further along on the left. This house is unlisted, but it was formerly the Swan Inn which opened in 1870 and closed in 1933. The landlord in 1881 was John Stubbs who was also a wheelwright. From 1900 until it closed the landlord was Thomas Partridge.



*The Swan Inn in Main Street in 1910  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

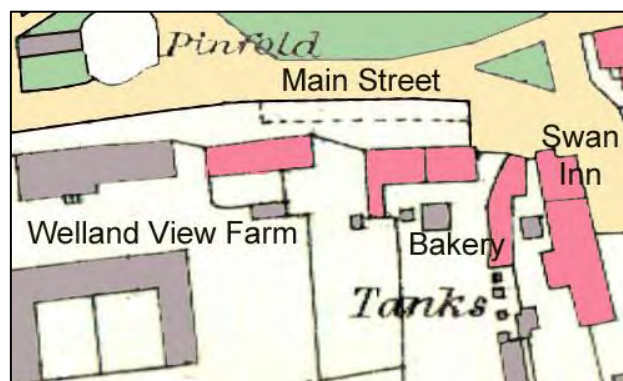
Next to the former Swan Inn is **The Old Bakery [15]** at 19 Main Street, although the building is now very much altered. From 1908, the baker was David Cole, then aged 35, who lived here with his wife and three children, Bertha, George and Herbert.



*David Cole, master baker, with his delivery cart in front of his bakery about 1911 (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

Over the years the business developed with all three children being involved. Bread and cakes were delivered to most of the surrounding villages by pony and trap until well after World War I. Although David died in 1954, the business continued as D Cole and Sons until its closure in 1973. The original coal-fired oven from 1908 was being used to the end.

Sometime after 1770, John Arnold established a considerable malt vinegar works in Barrowden. The vats, or tanks, shown behind the bakery on the OS Series 1 map of 1896 may well indicate the location. Apparently, they were so large that a party of nearly a dozen people was able to have a dinner in one of them. Malt vinegar is made by brewing ale from malted barley which is then allowed to turn sour. Following John's death in 1816 and prior to the erection of the Baptist chapel in 1819, Elizabeth, his widow, had the vinegar store made into a temporary Baptist chapel (see later).



*The possible vinegar works tanks, or vats, behind the bakery on this annotated extract of the OS Series 1 map of 1896.*

Opposite the former bakery, at 2 Chapel Lane, is the Grade II listed **Cornerstone House [16]**. This late seventeenth century house was restored in 1975.

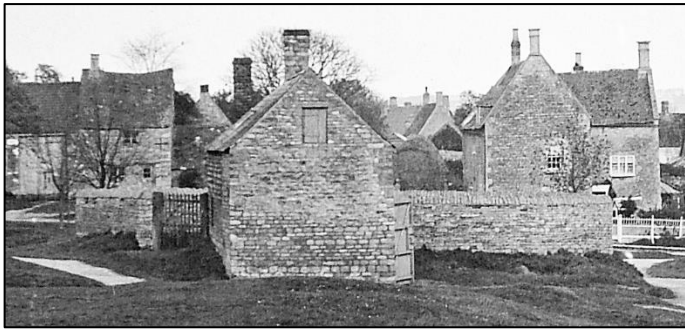
Continue along Main Street. The former **butcher's shop [17]** at 21 Main Street was owned by James Woods, a South Luffenham farmer. His main shop was in South Luffenham and his slaughterhouse was in North Luffenham. The Barrowden shop was a distribution centre and deliveries were made twice a week to this and the surrounding villages before domestic refrigerators were common. The business was sold to Nelsons Butchers in 1953.

Next on the left is the eighteenth century Grade II **Welland View Farmhouse [18]** and its adjacent barns which have been converted to dwellings. Opposite is the former **Smithy** and site of the former **pinfold [19]**.



*The smithy and the pinfold wall from the east in 1920  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*





*The smithy and the pinfold wall from the west in 1920  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

The much restored former blacksmiths' workshop is now used as a storage facility by a local business.

The village pinfold, or pound, at the east end of the workshop as shown on the walk map, was where stray animals were kept. Early photographs (above) show that this was originally surrounded by a stone wall.

Continue along Main Street to the **duck pond [20]**. Note the stone seat in memory of Bert Pridmore. This shallow pond is a former wagon wash and is similar to but larger than that at Spring Lane, Glaston, which is considered to be c1740. It has walls of dressed stone with the south-west side originally being an open slope to allow wagons to enter. Soaking the wheels prevented the wood from shrinking away from the metal rims. It would also have been used for soaking horses' hooves.

Now turn left into Church Lane. **1 Church Lane [20]** is Grade II listed and it has a datestone with J T over 1825. To the right, the long single-storey extension has various blocked openings from when it was a post office and shop.

Nearby is the Grade II listed K6 type cast iron **telephone kiosk [22]**. The K6 was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in 1935. This kiosk is still in use, but only for 999 emergency calls.

Opposite at 2 Church Lane is the Grade II listed **Pepperday Cottage [23]**. It is named after the Pepperday family who lived in Barrowden from *circa* 1800 to the early 1900s. This late sixteenth century cottage has stone coped gables, ashlar chimney stacks and stone mullion windows. It is one of the few remaining thatched houses in the village.

Next on this side of Church Lane is the Grade II listed former Rectory, now known as **Carey's House [24]**. It is named after the Rev Richard Carey who rebuilt it in 1834.



He was Rector of Barrowden from 1795 to 1840 when he died at the age of 76.

*The Rev Richard Carey  
(Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

The original house was eighteenth century and some of this was incorporated in the rebuild. The stepped entrance has a pair of Tuscan pilasters under an entablature. According to the listing details, there is a stone-flagged

hall, a contemporary staircase, and four-panelled doors inside.



*Barrowden Rectory about 1910 (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

The earthworks of a possible **manorial site** and a **medieval fishpond** in the field [25] opposite Carey's House leading down to the River Welland were surveyed in the 1980s. Fishponds were recorded here in 1297.

Next on the left-hand side of Church Lane is **Apple Tree Cottage [26]** and then the modern **Rectory**, built in 1975 on the site of a former cottage. Apple Tree Cottage is an extended c1880 property originally known as Church Cottage. On the right-hand corner of the gable end is part of a stone tablet which is inscribed with the following, possibly in reference to passing funerals: 'WHY LOOKS THOU ON MY DUST IN PASSING BY THOU SE[E]ST NOE WONDER THO[U] THYSELFE MUST D[IE]'.

This stone is much earlier than the cottage and was possibly recovered following the Victorian works in the churchyard.

Opposite is the Grade II listed **Church Farm Cottage [27]** with a Collyweston slate roof. In the centre of the front elevation is a datestone with G over H A and 1803. Inside there is an inglenook fireplace and chamfered oak beams.

Behind is the Grade II listed **Church Farmhouse [28]**, some of which can be seen from the churchyard. Although the house is much restored, it has datestones with R O C and S W 1586, and Z C 1648. The roof is Collyweston slate with ashlar ridge and end chimney stacks, and stone coped gables with kneelers. The stone mullion windows are twentieth century. Inside is a stone fireplace with moulded pilasters, cornice and frieze. The adjacent **Church Farm stables** are also Grade II listed.

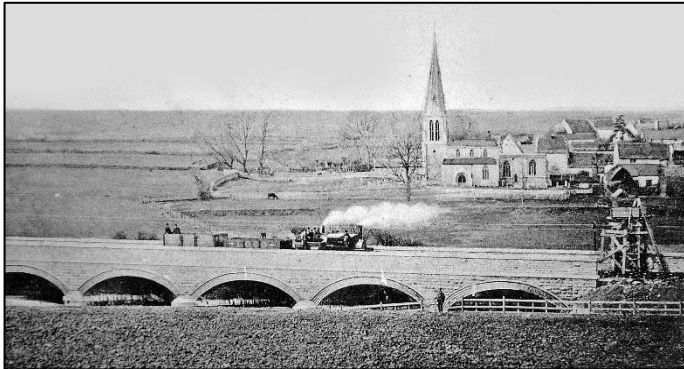
**Church Farm Barn [29]** is also Grade II listed and is best seen from the churchyard where the south gable forms part of the boundary. It has numerous tiers of triangular ventilation holes and there is a double barn door on the left-hand side. On the right-hand side facing Church Farmhouse there is a blocked barn door, over which is a date possibly reading 1755. Inside is a renewed five-bay double purlin roof with tie beams and collar. According to the listing details, the barn is probably earlier and is said to be a former tithe barn. However, in 1797, two years after becoming Rector, Richard Carey had removed a barn known as the 'great tithe barn', to improve the view from his Rectory.



Now enter the **churchyard [30]** via the Grade II listed Gothic style wrought iron **carriage and pedestrian gates** with moulded stone piers. They were probably installed at the time of the 1875 restoration of the church.

Inside the churchyard, to the left of the entrance gates, are two Grade II **table tombs**, one of which is to the memory of Rowland Taylor who died 1840. It is decorated with palm leaves, honeysuckle and arabesques.

Looking across the valley to the south, the **Eight Arches railway bridge** over the River Welland can be seen from here. It was on the former Rugby to Peterborough railway line which opened in 1879 and closed in 1966. Wakerley and Barrowden station, now a private dwelling, was to the east in Wakerley parish.



*Eight Arches railway bridge from the south in 1905 (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

Also in the churchyard, look for the Barrowden **Millennium yew tree** to the west of the church tower. A nearby plaque states that it was ‘*planted in 2000 by Toby Carr from a cutting from The Great Yew [Taxus baccata] at Clun Churchyard [Shropshire] believed to date from the time of Christ*’.



Nearby is the magnificent canopied **Swann memorial** which is Grade II listed. Members of the Swann family were builders and stonemasons in Barrowden in the nineteenth century (see later). It is identical to the Wilson tomb in the churchyard of St Nicholas, Stretton and similar to the Whitmee memorial in Barrowden Chapel yard.

*The Swann memorial (RO).*

**St Peter’s Church** is Grade II\* listed and is normally open during the daytime. It is well worth a visit if time allows. There is a printed guide available in the church.

The following are some of the highlights:

- The entrance doors which have scroll strap hinges and banding from the original single door of around 1180.
- The memorial tablet to the Rev Richard Carey on the north wall of the chancel.
- The monument to Roland Durant directly opposite the south door, whose house still exists near the church (see later).

- The bookcase dated 1605. It was part of the three-decker pulpit sold to Harringworth church in the 19th century.
- The six carved wooden figures supporting the chancel roof. They are: St Peter with a key to the Kingdom of Heaven, St Michael with both of his hands outstretched, Our Lady with hands crossed, an angel holding an instrument like a lute, a figure with long robes holding a rebec and another blowing a sackbut (an early trombone).
- The carved stone corbels supporting the roof beams in the nave.
- The new floor with under-floor heating installed in 2019 as part of a major reordering project.



*This image of c1900 shows elaborate decoration, banners and hangings around the chancel arch. Also note the oil lamps on long chains in the nave and chancel (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

Now leave the churchyard and walk back along Church Lane to the telephone kiosk and turn left into School Lane. Near the top on the right is the Grade II listed former **Church of England School [31]** and schoolmaster’s house, built in 1862 by the Marquess of Exeter, and extended in 1872 to provide a room for infants. The school closed in 1976 and plans were submitted to convert it into senior citizens’ accommodation or a youth hostel, but it was eventually converted to a private dwelling.

The headmaster from 1925 to 1929 was Edward Bolton. He then became headmaster at Uppingham National School and then headmaster at the new Casterton Secondary School in 1939 where he remained for 25 years until his retirement.

In World War II he joined the Rutland Home Guard, becoming a Company Commander with the rank of Major. He also collected rural artefacts which were becoming extinct, including old ploughs and farm machinery. This expanding collection eventually filled much of the school.



After his death in 1964, the collection was transferred to the new Rutland County Museum.

On the left at the top of School Lane is the Grade II\* listed **Durant House [32]**. This sixteenth century building has a Collyweston slate roof with ashlar chimney stacks, stone capped gables stone mullion windows. Inside are oak beams, an inglenook fireplace and several stone fireplaces with Tudor arches.

The barn to the left, also included in the listing, is connected to the house by a roofed carriageway and is of the same age. Note the prominent striped effect of the stonework, the double barn doors and the ventilation slits.

In 1552, it is recorded that John Durant owned a property in Barrowden called *Slawson's Thing* which was probably this house.

Now walk into Main Street. Immediately opposite is **Ashtree Cottage [33]** which is listed (Grade II) as 32 and 34 Main Street. It has oak beams and an inglenook fireplace inside and was the home of Francis (Frank) Ellis who owned the tannery site during the 1950s and 1960s.

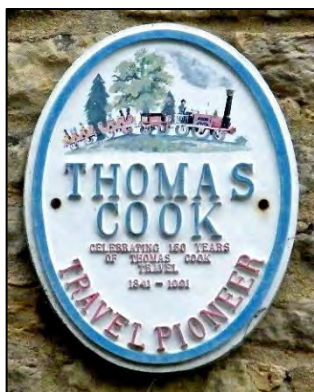
To the left of Ashtree Cottage is **Hobgoblins [34]** at 36 Main Street, a Grade II listed cottage of c1700. Of particular interest here is the early timber mullion window on the ground floor of the south gable which has been retained in its unrestored condition.



*The rare timber mullion window at Hobgoblins (Nick Hill).*

Continue walking along Main Street in a westerly direction. On the left is the **Durant Farm boundary wall [35]** with sloping top and stone coping which is included in the house listing.

Continue to **West Farm farmhouse [36]** on the right. This Grade II listed house has two datestones, one on the projecting brick chimney stack with T R over 1742, and one on the single storey extension with 1883.



On the front is a plaque linking this house to **Thomas Cook**, the travel pioneer. In 1828, Thomas was appointed as an evangelist by the Baptist Village Missionary Society based at Barrowden. Here he met Marianne Mason, teacher at the Baptist Sunday School and the daughter of William Mason who lived at West Farm.

Due to lack of funds, Thomas's job as a missionary finished in 1832 and he settled in Barrowden as a cabinet maker and wood-turner, probably using the wood turning lathes at the watermill.



Thomas and Marianne were married at St Peter's Church, Barrowden, on 2nd March 1833 by the Rev Richard Carey. After their marriage, they moved to Market Harborough where they took the temperance pledge. In 1841 he took 485 passengers, on his first train excursion from Leicester to a teetotal rally in Loughborough.

*Thomas Cook's statue at Leicester station (RO).*

In the 1851 Census, the occupants of West Farm were Henry Mason, a maltster and farmer of 250 acres employing five men, together with his brothers William and John. All were the brothers of Marianne. John Cook aged 17, Thomas and Marianne's son, was also living here at this time.

Retrace your steps along Main Street to the junction with School Lane and continue to the front of **The Exeter Arms [37]** which belongs to the Burghley Estate and is Grade II listed. This late seventeenth century house has been a public house since before 1841 and is the only one of five public houses to survive in the village.

The earliest known landlord is John Bates who was here from 1828 to 1862. He was also a farmer and grazier. The landlord from 1904 to 1922 was Edwin Wooton who is recorded in the 1911 Census as an innkeeper and blacksmith, perhaps using the eighteenth century Grade II listed barn at the rear, which has smoke-blackened beams, for his forge.



*The eighteenth century barn at the rear of the Exeter Arms (Nick Hill).*

Next to the Exeter Arms, on the right, is **Rosemary Cottage [38]**. This late seventeenth century thatched house was formerly known as Ivy Cottage.

Continue to follow the road round to the left and walk into Tippings Lane. The first house on the right is **Rose Cottage [39]** at 2 Tippings Lane. This c1800 Grade II listed house was formerly a post office and shop. It still has an active post box in the gable wall.

Walk up Tippings Lane. On the right, but largely unseen from here, is the 1970s Dovecote Close estate.



Before it was built, there was a derelict **dovecote** [40] in this field, but it was demolished when the site was developed (see the walk map).



*The derelict dovecote in Dovecote Close before its demolition (Private collection).*

Continue to the junction at the top of Tippings Lane, then walk ahead into Luffenham Road. On the left is **The Firs** [41], a c1800 Grade II listed house with a Collyweston slate mansard roof and Lincolnshire dormers. A blocked doorway on the right suggests that this was once two dwellings.

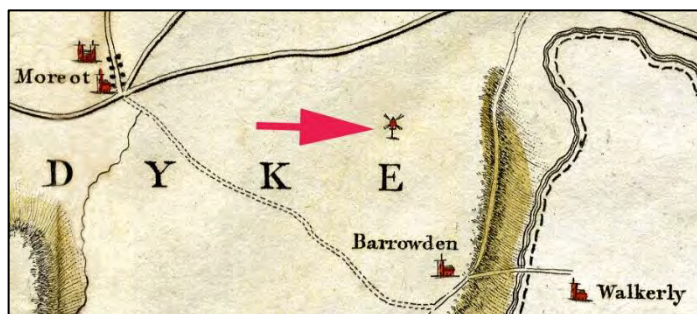
A little further along Luffenham Road, on the left, is **Barrowden House** [42], which is Grade II listed. It has a



slate roof with ashlar chimney stacks and a datestone on the front elevation with R over F S and 1724, but some parts may be older.

*The datestone on the front elevation of Barrowden House (Nick Hill).*

Higher up Luffenham Road, the field on the right was the location of Barrowden windmill, first recorded in 1315. It had been completely levelled to the ground by 1526 but rebuilt by 1680. In 1811 it had two pairs of stones and four sails, but it had been demolished by 1900.



*Barrowden Windmill on Cary's 1805 map of Rutland.*



*Barrowden Windmill on the OS one-inch Old Series map, 1864.*

Return to the junction and turn left into Wakerley Road. On the left is the nineteenth century unlisted **Vine Cottage** [43] and, a little further along on the right, is the entrance to Dovecote Close.

To the north of Wakerley Road and Back Lane is the **recreation ground** [44] and the home of Barrowden and Wakerley Cricket Club. A stone tablet in the boundary wall states:

*The refurbishment of the recreation ground wall was completed in AD 2002 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 1952 to 2002*

Continue to walk along Wakerley Road. Round the bend and on the right is **Crown House** [45]. This was the Crown Inn from c1870 until its closure in 1970. In 1891 the landlord was John Springthorpe who was also a lime burner. By 1911, William Hedley Pepper was '*Publican & Blacksmith*'.

Now walk to the right of the triangular green along Kings Lane and continue straight ahead across the junction. On the right is the early nineteenth century Grade II listed **Brookleigh** [46] of coursed squared stone with a Welsh slate roof and ashlar chimney stacks. It was originally known as Brookleigh House.

In 1890, Albert Grinstead moved to Barrowden to set up Brookleigh House School. At the same time he became pastor of Barrowden and Morcott Baptist Chapels. The new school grew in popularity and at one time there were 20 boarders as well as day scholars. The house became a community hub during Grinstead's time and the schoolroom was used for lectures, concerts and meetings of villagers and Non-conformist groups. Albert was a keen entomologist with a large collection of butterflies, moths and other insects, these often being the subject of his lectures. In 1903, he moved to Peterborough where he founded another school.



*Brookleigh House School in 1900. Note the classroom in the front garden (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).*

**BROOKLEIGH HOUSE SCHOOL, BARROWDEN, STAMFORD**  
(In union with the College of Preceptors),  
Conducted by Mr. A. E. GRINSTEAD, M.C.P.,  
assisted by competent and Certificated Teachers.  
School duties will be (D.V.) resumed on **SEPTEMBER 15th, 1902.**

*Stamford Mercury 8th August 1902 page 1.*

The school continued with Charles Baker Hughes as the new principal. It closed in 1907 when he moved to a new school which he had founded in Shifnal, Shropshire. The house has been a private residence ever since.



Walk down to and turn left into **Wheel Lane [47]**. The Wheel public house opened c1845 and closed in 1922, but its location in Wheel Lane is not known. The landlord in 1891 was James Toft who was also a carpenter. When he died about 1912, his wife Emily became landlord and continued until it closed.

Walk to the end of Wheel Lane and turn left into Chapel Lane. On the left is the unlisted **Manor Farmhouse [48]** with a Collyweston slate roof and ashlar chimney stacks.

On the right at the bend is the Grade II listed former Baptist Chapel [49] which was first opened for services in 1819 and closed at the end of 2003. It has now been converted to a private dwelling.



(Right) This memorial to William Whitmee and his wife Mary is by Swann of Barrowden and is Grade II listed (RO).



The original Baptist chapel was established in 1816 by Elizabeth Arnold who had a vinegar store made into a temporary chapel for services and a Sunday School. However, she continued to collect funds towards the erection of the permanent chapel.



The Grade II listed wrought iron gates and ashlar piers. The gates have now been relocated to allow car parking (RO).

The other non-conformist groups in Barrowden at the time of the 1851 Religious Census were the Particular Baptists, the Latter Day Saints and the Wesleyan Methodists, all holding their services in private dwellings.

On the left is Orchard Close, a 1990s development by Burghley Estate in the grounds of a former orchard.

Continue to walk down Chapel Lane. On the right is **Redland Close [50]**, a 1970s development of six houses and three barn conversions in Redhill Farm crew yard.



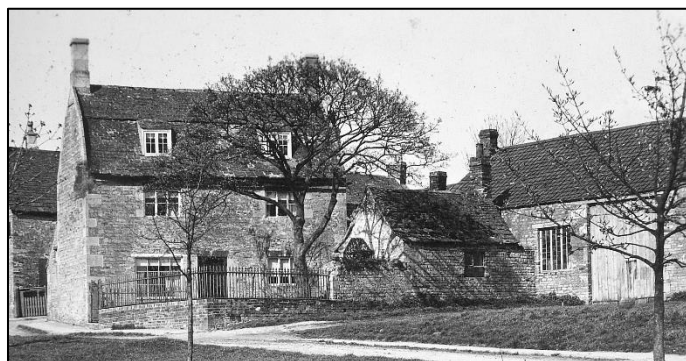
Next on the left is the Grade II listed **Fern Cottage [51]** at 20 Chapel Lane which has an ornate datestone with 1823 above the arched first floor window.

This was the family home of the Swann family who lived in Barrowden for over two hundred years. Thomas, John, Robert, Samuel, Simon, William and Valentine Swann were all listed as stonemasons in the 1861 to 1891 census returns. On the right is a late nineteenth century two-storey wing projecting forward from the main house. This was built as a post office and John Swann was the sub-postmaster here in the early 1900s. A sundial dated 1895 recorded on the south elevation is now missing.

Next on the left is the Grade II listed c1800 **12 Chapel Lane [52]** which is behind the stable of the same age with its gable end fronting the lane.

Opposite is the eighteenth century **Redhill Farmhouse [53]**, which is Grade II listed as Amberleigh House. This large two-and-a-half storey house has a Collyweston slate roof, ashlar chimney stacks, hipped dormers, a basement and a large rear wing.

**10 Chapel Lane [54]** is another Grade II listed property of a similar date. Parallel to it is **8 Chapel Lane [55]**, a two-and-a-half storey house with a Collyweston slate mansard roof which is again Grade II listed. It has a datestone inscribed J T 1799 in the gable facing the street and was formerly known as Smithy House.



Smithy House in 1932. The smithy is on the right. (Jack Hart Collection at RCM).

This is the end of the walk. Return to the Village Hall via Main Street and Wakerley Road.

#### Acknowledgements

Linda Worrall and Mat Rumbelow of Barrowden, Tim Clough, RLHRS Editor, and Rutland County Museum (RCM).

#### References

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Based on the Ordnance Survey 2nd  
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