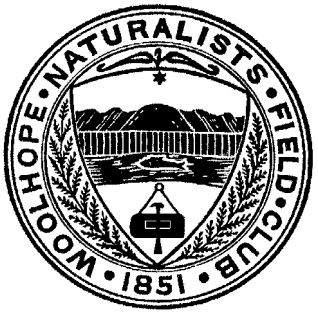
TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

WOOLHOPE

NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB

HEREFORDSHIRE

"HOPE ON"  "HOPE EVER"

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Proceedings, 2013

SPRING MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 12 January 2013: Dr Janet Cooper, president, in the chair.

Mr Andy Boucher of Headland Archaeology gave an illustrated talk entitled 'Some archaeological myths exploded'.

Mr Boucher explained how his interest in archaeology had developed in Leicestershire and had also taken him around the world. Over the years he had encountered many myths, which had subsequently been explained either by advances in archaeological techniques, or just common sense. As an example he showed how the fraud associated with Piltdown Man, first revealed in 1912, had survived until the arrival of scientific archaeology in the 1950s (the talk being 100 years to the month after its first announcement).

As a more recent example he explained how Headland Archaeology had recently gone in search of a postulated Roman fort at Prestatyn in North Wales. This had been scheduled following the work of an eminent archaeologist, but neither geophysical survey nor a series of excavations provided any physical evidence.

However, scientific archaeology, which often seems infallible, could also be flawed. Mr Boucher had worked in the mid-1980s upon the Master Curve for British dendrology, based upon native oaks, only to find that for a substantial section, German pine had been substituted. This had a serious impact upon dating as Carbon 14 dates rely on this chronology too. Similarly, he referred to the limitations of ground radar, which had failed to pick-up shallow features on many urban sites where the method is most advocated.

Towards the end of his talk he turned to Hereford and focussed on the theories for an Anglo-Saxon grid imposed upon Hereford's town plan. Whilst many of Hereford's roads are cited in the theory no archaeological evidence for Saxon surfaces beneath them has yet been found e.g. Broad Street. Also the extent and nature of the early town is becoming better defined with ironworking dating from Mercian times located to the north of All Saints' church and the defences to the south of the Wye now being dated to the time of Harold Godwinson.

Headland's recent work in the Cathedral Close had also dispelled a few myths but the story had become much more complex. Beneath the post-Conquest burials that are ubiquitous in the Close, there is a level of extensive industrial activity relating to early 11th century ironworking. Pre-dating this, a very substantial post hole and palisade wall trench provided a radio-carbon date of AD 783-970 (with a higher probability that it dates between *c*.800-905—the era of West Saxon ascendency). A burial of an adolescent was found beneath the foundation trench and dated to between AD 780-974. The timber structure appears to have been an early high status building based on its scale, mode of construction and an associated eagle bone. Was this an early phase of church-building in the Close or a great hall—royal or episcopal? Mr Boucher feared that unfettered interpretation could result in the birth of a new myth for Anglo-Saxon Hereford. On the other hand, he welcomed a reasoned 'model' for the development of early Hereford, which could usefully inform future archaeological work in the City.

Ron Shoesmith proposed a vote of thanks and looked forward to the publication of the recent work in the Close.

SECOND MEETING: 2nd February 2013: Dr Janet Cooper, president in the chair.
Duncan James, a committee member, gave an illustrated talk on 'Medieval hall houses: recent research and discoveries in the county'.

Mr James explained that as more research has been carried out into timber-framed buildings, regional, county and even parish differences were being identified in construction practices. Similarly, significant events, social as well as political, such as Owain Glyndŵr's incursion into Herefordshire could lead to extensive rebuilding, reflecting a watershed in practice and style. He stressed the high quality of much late medieval housing in the county, which was far removed from the 'peasant' housing of the Midlands.

The 'Great Rebuilding' for England and Wales has been extended backwards towards the early 15th century, but even at this time Herefordshire houses had distinct features not shared with other southern counties. The crown-post roof, for instance, is rare in the county, whilst structural features like the trenched purlin are ubiquitous. Moreover, the Wealden house, so common in south-east England is absent from the county, except for eight examples of the half-Wealden house in Weobley.

Using some excellent slides, which graphically demonstrated the stages of structural evolution, Mr James presented a series of generic hall houses, the earliest being The Hyde at Stoke Bliss, a 'spectacular' base-cruck house, probably of 14th-century date, much enhanced by high quality mouldings. There were also more typical examples such as Carter's Croft at Stapleton with a two bay hall, solar and service end. Here there was a cruck truss over the centre of the hall. At Green Farm, Preston-on-Wye there were several additional features, including an arched head to the front door and smoke-blackened cruck blades. All this had been saved by the providential use of corrugated iron on the roof. Some examples of two-storey solars, developed as cross wings in the 15th century were described with examples from West End Farm, Pembridge and Whitehall, Presteigne. The latter had a tree-ring date of 1463 and was made up of 350 components, held together by over 1,000 pegs.

Many houses in this period have sophisticated embellishment, clearly for display. Houses described as 'court' or 'manor' are likely to have been used for local manorial proceedings. At The Hyde the base crucks have moulded capitals; quatrefoils occur in many houses e.g. the Dairy Farm at Weobley and most spectacularly on the upper-end wall at Shelwick Manor and at Swanstone Court, Dilwyn. Brick House at Pembridge lacks foils but has gothic chamfered openings. Contemporary windows are often treated in a similar manner e.g. at Marlbrook House, Weobley, where the cross-wing is dated 1441.

Many insights into late medieval life were provided by Mr James's deductive commentary. The byre end of several houses was discussed and we learnt that at Bank Farm Barn, Bollingham the byre was possibly used for animals in the winter but became a service room in the summer. At Upper Limebrook Farm, the animals in the byre would have been visible from the hall—the oxen were thus integrated into family life. Some barns today have fine trefoils and smoke-blackened trusses indicating domestic usage when they were constructed. Some late medieval houses were subsequently rebuilt in brick but with the original roof carefully retained, suggesting that the high quality of medieval carpentry was recognised in later centuries. Almost without exception, the upper end of a late medieval house faced the prevailing wind, thus protecting the long-side of the house with its apertures.

Finally, something was said about the carpenters whose marks are often very plentiful. Those at the Old Priory, Titley are carved particularly boldly, presumably to ease construction on the site. Mr James believed that craftsmen were often drawn into an area by institutional

work, especially on churches, but saw opportunities locally and began building farmhouses and sometimes introduced innovations. Their distinguishing marks can be widely detected. The president, Janet Cooper, moved the vote of thanks.

THIRD MEETING: 2 March 2013: Dr Janet Cooper, president, in the chair.
Dr Henry Connor gave an illustrated talk on 'Some Herefordshire Doctors'.

Dr Connor's earliest reference to a medical practitioner in Herefordshire is to be found in the Club's *Transactions* where an oculist's stamp, discovered at Roman Kenchester, is discussed and mentions the medicines he purveyed. During the Middle Ages physicians are occasionally mentioned by name. John and his two sisters, Solicita and Matilda, practised at Ford, near Leominster, in the 12th century, and the two sisters are the earliest named women doctors to have been identified in England. From the beginning of the 16th century bishops were supposed to license doctors but this was rarely done in the diocese of Hereford; information about individual doctors comes from incidental references in a variety of sources. Dr Bridstock Harford, a parliamentarian during the Civil War and custodian of William's Hospital, appears to have been a good doctor but poor neighbour, having been repeatedly reported at the city inquests for making a 'miskyn'—a dung-heap—outside his door. Nevertheless, he was buried at the Cathedral.

In the 18th century the picture becomes clearer. There were still some female surgeons, which seems to have been a career followed by widows of surgeons. One of the most prominent doctors in the locality was John Matthews, who retired early from practice in London to his native county and in 1788 built a mansion at Belmont. He was a Member of Parliament, colonel of the local militia, a banker and a minor literary figure. He also has a memorial in the cathedral and rather ironically, one of his sons wrote the *Diary of an Invalid.*

During the 19th century Herefordshire produced a number of exceptional doctors with reputations that extended beyond the limits of the county. James Eyre, sometime mayor of Hereford, moved to London where he published several works including the *Stomach and its Difficulties*. He was knighted and received an obituary in *The Lancet*. There were also many famous naturalists, amongst whom were several founder members of the Woolhope Club, including the celebrated Dr Henry Graves Bull. Less well known is Edward Bevan, trained at St Bartholomew's, who practised in the north Midlands but eventually returned to Herefordshire in 1849, living at The Friars in St Nicholas parish. He was an early correspondent of Thomas Andrew Knight and was fascinated by bees, writing about them extensively. In 1851 he took his hives to the Great Exhibition. He died at the age of 90.

Remarkably, in the late 19th century Herefordshire nurtured a notable woman surgeon, Dame Louisa Aldrich Blake, daughter of the incumbent of Welsh Bicknor. In 1895 she was the first woman to gain the London degree of Master of Surgery. She practised at the Royal Free Hospital and was made Dean of the Royal Free Medical School for Women. She was very active in many fields of care and her ashes were buried at Welsh Bicknor.

Dr Connor ended his talk with the arrival of the NHS in 1948 but as a postscript he showed a short film, made for television in 1968, of Dr Cyril Francis, which showed the ageing doctor still visiting his patients in a horse and carriage. The president, Dr Cooper, moved the vote of thanks.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING: 23 March 2013: Dr Janet Cooper, the retiring president, installed Mr Joe Hillaby as president 2013-14 after thanking the officers of the Club for their work during the year. She gave her address on two early 17th-century clergymen—Thomas Thornton, Master of St Katherine's Hospital, Ledbury, and William St Barbe, the rector of Eastnor—and their circle, as shown by their full and interesting wills. All were Oxford graduates and shared the reforming ideals of Bishops Westfaling and Bennett; Thornton and St. Barbe in particular appreciated the importance of books, and were major benefactors to the cathedral library. The diocese at that time was considered backward by reformers; the records show continuing support for pre-Reformation beliefs and practices, and, later, for the work of seminary priests. Some of the Anglican clergy, particularly those who were pluralists, neglected their cures.

Her presidential address is printed in full in these *Transactions*.

FIELD MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 21 May 2013: A walk in the Deer Park at Kentchurch Court.

David Lovelace and David Whitehead met thirty-five members and friends beside the parish church of St Mary at Kentchurch. The deer park at Kentchurch, probably established in the early 16th century, is an English Heritage registered Grade II* landscape. In order to qualify for the higher level of the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, a survey and parkiand plan was required, which was carried out by the two guides, assisted by the Farming and Wildlife Advisor, Caroline Hanks.

After a short introductory talk, members walked into the Lower Park to view the scheduled moated site beside the drive to the Court. This had often been regarded as the predecessor to the Court but in the early Middle Ages the Scudamores were domiciled at Rowlstone or, possibly, Great Corras. Documentary evidence, which becomes plentiful in the late 18th century, suggests that the moat was used for recreational purposes. Thus it may have developed as a 'pleasaunce' in the later Middle Ages or the Early Modem period, being used as a detached lodge in association with hunting. Similar facilities were developed at Kenilworth, Raglan and Clun.

The park pale, which had been moved frequently in past centuries, was followed up on to the Yew Tree Plain—so named from the number of self-sown yews found there. Here we visited the double lime kiln, which appears to have been built in the 1820s, close to an outcrop of limestone and which produced lime for building and agricultural purposes. Coal appears to have been the preferred fuel and was brought to Kentchurch from South Wales via the Abergavenny tramway. Today the kiln is threatened by the roots of trees, particularly a picturesque yew, perched on its brow. These are to be trimmed to reduce their weight.

Mr Lovelace discussed the diverse flora to be found on this limestone outcrop, which is grazed by the indigenous herd of 340 fallow deer. A disused drive, approaching the Court from the south-west was pointed out here. It was designed to provide fine views of the Court as it broke from the parkland cover. Nearby we passed Bothy Wood, a coniferous plantation of the 1960s, which was condemned to felling in the new plan. Close by, many fine trees were admired, not least among which were the ancient thorns and field maples, and eventually, the finest oak of all was reached, the Jack of Kent, teetering on the edge of the Bothy Dingle. The age of this veteran stimulated a long debate among the experts with Mr Lovelace holding the modest position at 600 years and Stephen Dennis, a compulsive tree measurer, suggesting that it was closer to 1500 years. They agreed, at least, that the girth of the tree was around 11m.

With some movement towards the middle ground on the age of the oak, the party scrambled down the steep slope of the Dingle to visit the Deer Larder, a small two-storey brick and stone building, standing beside the stream. Mr Whitehead explained that the idea that it was a 'deer larder' was probably recent and that in the early 18th century it was more likely that it was used as a bath house/banqueting pavilion, with a changing room and plunge pool below and an eating room above.

Members bravely took to the steps again, passing the newly planted Otto's Arboretum—named after a recently retired forester—and up to the Iron Deer Grove, where fine views of the Court were to be enjoyed. We were reminded that time was passing, so tea was taken in the dining room of the Court at the invitation of Mrs Jan Lucas-Scudamore and for those, still thirsting for knowledge, a postprandial walk over to the northern side of the park was led by Mr Lovelace.

SECOND MEETING: 10 June 2013: Abercamlais and Treberfydd, led by Dr John and Mrs Margaret Eisel.

Unusually, the second field meeting of 2013 took place on a Monday, due to the unavailability of one of the venues later in the week. As it turned out, this was beneficial, as the weather was good—and it broke the next day! A clear run to Abercamlais meant that we were early, and this caused a little delay in the start of the visit. An introductory talk on the front lawn was given by Mrs Susan Ballance, whose family had owned Abercamlais since the early Middle Ages. Abercamlais is mediaeval in origin, but was extensively altered in the early eighteenth century, and work was done on the house in the nineteenth century, including a porch of ecclesiastical design being added, which rather spoils the symmetry of the front. We then went inside for coffee, this taking a while because there were 45 in the party, and then Mrs. Ballance talked of the history of the house, giving personal, family, insights, which were much enjoyed. We could then wander round the house and grounds, and have a look at the fine octagonal pigeon house, which, in earlier times, had been converted into a privy, the situation over a river providing running water! The servants had their own, segregated, part of the privy.

A picnic lunch was taken by the canal basin in Brecon, the sun still shining, and a stroll along the towpath showed how much of an attraction this canal is, the area being maintained by a volunteer force of local residents.

To get to Treberfydd, in the parish of Llangasty Tal-y-llyn, the last section was through a narrow lane, which was safely negotiated, and the coach parked by the end of the driveway. The walk up to the house was short, and we were met by David Raikes, who gave an introductory talk outside the main front of the house. Before he gave the talk he asked about the Club, and Dr Eisel was able to give him tell him something of our history and activities. Treberfydd was built in the Gothic Revival style in the early 1850s to the designs of John Loughborough Pearson (architect of Truro Cathedral). Like Abercamlais it is still a family home, and David Raikes is a direct descendant of the builder of the house. His personal stories of the house were again much appreciated. Because of the size of the party we had to divide into three groups for guided tours of the house, followed by a buffet tea (not actually a good idea as those who are there first do very well and those who were last—the third group—lost out!) There was plenty of time to enjoy the gardens, and for those who were more energetic there was time to walk down to the church by the lake, which had been rebuilt at about the same time as the house.

Because of the narrow road, it was not possible to turn the coach around. However, the recce had identified that it was possible to continue down the road and return via Llangorse and Talgarth, which made a very pleasant drive back, and Hereford was reached a few minutes earlier than was anticipated.

THIRD MEETING: 9 July 2013: North Herefordshire Churches, led by Dr Paul Olver.
Four churches were visited with the twin aim of exploring the Norman heritage still to be seen and, secondly, to examine the building stones in use during the 11th century, those used for rebuilding in the 13th to 14th centuries, and later renovations and stone replacement programmes.

First stop was St Leonards' at Hatfield, which features an 11th-century nave with excellent tufa quoins and an early Norman doorway on the north side, together with a tympanum of *opus reticulatum* (square stones set diagonally). Its early date is confirmed by the herringbone masonry to the east of the doorway.

Our next stop was the Norman nave and chancel of St Michael & All Angels at Edwyn Ralph, where a welcome coffee stop had been arranged. Old Red Sandstone, some showing green reduction spots, with grey grits of the same age on the quoins, was the main building materials. Occasional olive buff siltstones (Upper Silurian) and some tufa quoins were also noted. The south doorway with primitive ornamentation and roll-moulded arch (made pointed in the 13th century) was the key Norman feature.

After a lunch stop in Tenbury Wells, we moved onto the old church of St Bartholomew at Richard's Castle, named after Richard FitzScrob who built his castle here in 1050. Built mainly of pale red Old Red Sandstone, it has a detached bell tower which is now rendered. However, the oldest pre-Conquest wall on the north side of the nave is largely of buff weathering calcareous siltstones (Upper Silurian). An early font possibly of Hoar Edge Grit from the Shropshire Hills and a fossiliferous tablet of Carboniferous Limestone opposite the south doorway were also identified. The panelled box pews and traces of wall paintings all added to make this a particularly interesting church, looked after by the Churches Conservation Trust since 2001.

Our last stop was at Aymestrey, where the church of St John the Baptist & St Alkmund displays a 16th-century nave heading into an Early Norman chancel. Tufa surrounds were seen in chancel windows as well as further herringbone masonry. Within the nave, the three-bay arcades have large piers re-used from the former Wigmore Abbey. Geologically, Aymestrey is remembered for its mid-l9th century incumbent, the Rev. T. T. Lewis, an early Woolhope Club president and supporter of Sir Roderick Murchison's work on the Silurian System. The party then moved on for an excellent tea at the nearby Riverside Inn (formerly called the Crown).

FOURTH MEETING: 6 August 2013: President's choice.
The last of the Club's summer programme of excursions was inspired by the Herefordshire section of Volume X of the *Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture*, by Richard Bryant.

The morning was spent in the north-east of the county, where St Peter's, Bromyard, was the first site visited. Here the panel of quartz sandstone displayed over the south doorway shows St Peter with his keys. As Bryant points out, this shows 'evidence of deterioration over the past fifty years caused by rain water flowing [diagonally] across the carving through the damaged upper border of the panel'. It is especially important as a charter of Bishop Cuthwulf of *c*.840 provides valuable evidence of life at the Anglo-Saxon minster church on the site. This

was found in a solicitor's office at Fakenham. Luckily, it had not been in the Hereford diocesan archives when the Welsh fired the cathedral in 1055.

Travelling down the upper Frome valley, we stopped at St Giles, Acton Beauchamp, where part of an early 9th-century cross-shaft was reused in the 19th century to provide a lintel for the tower's south doorway. In terms of carving, this is one of four sculptures examined in this volume, with the Cropthorne cross-head; the cross-shafts from St Oswald's Priory, Gloucester and St Andrew's, Wroxeter. In Bryant's words, these have 'such close similarities in technique and decorative repertoire that the carvings have long been seen as products of a single or group of carvers'. He points out that the ornament is also very similar to that of the narrow frieze at Breedon-on-the-Hill, Leics. Later, two 11th-century panels on the exterior of the west tower of Cradley church were examined.

Picnic lunch was taken at Abbey Dore on the west (Welsh) side of the Dore river which formed the eastern boundary of Ewias. Here Bishop Thomas Cantelupe, d. l282, had to he protected by an armed convoy when he consecrated some new work, as the area was still in dispute between the dioceses of St David's and Hereford. The penultimate visit was to the church of St Clydog at Clodock, where a panel behind the pulpit reads: 'This tomb preserves the limbs of Budic, the wife of Guinnda, a dear spouse, who was herself ...'. The evidence of palaeography and language suggest a 10th/11th century date. The coach then pressed its way between high hedges to Llanveynoe, where a cross-slab and crucifixion panel within the church of St Peter (originally St Beuno) are dated respectively to the 9th/10th and 10th/11th centuries. Externally, on the north and south walls are a pair of incised stone crosses; both are possibly of the 6th but more probably 7th to 9th century. South of the church stands a short-arm cross, for which Bryant suggests a date 'probably tenth/eleventh century'. A sketch of 1698 suggests that an inscribed stone then near Olchon House may date from the 6th century. For further linguistic discussion of the Llanveynoe sculptures, see Mark Redknap and John Lewis, in *A Corpus of Early Medieval Inscribed Stones and Stone Sculpture in Wales 1* (2007).

Our thanks are due to Mandy Palmer of Bromyard and District LHS, for assistance with traffic arrangements at Acton Beauchamp; to the Revd Nicholas Lowton at Llanveynoe; and to Keith, our intrepid driver.

AUTUMN MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 28 September 2013: Dr Janet Cooper, Vice-president, in the chair.

Mr David Whitehead, Hon. Secretary of the Club, gave an illustrated talk on 'The Building of Eastnor Castle, 1812-24'

Mr Whitehead explained that he had been given the chance to explore the Eastnor archive under the aegis of the VCH Herefordshire, which was producing a parish history of Eastnor. In the 18th century the Somers-Cocks family inhabited a rambling moated manor house, called Castleditch. This had been provided with an additional Neo-classical wing in *c*.1780, for the first Baron, Charles Cocks, designed by the Gloucestershire architect, Anthony Keck. However, with the tide of architectural improvement running strongly in the region, the second Baron, John Somers (later first Earl) decided to build a new castellated mansion to reflect both his wealth and the status of his family.

On the advice of Lord Lonsdale of Lowther Castle in Westmoreland, he commissioned Robert Smirke, an up-and-coming London architect, to provide designs for his new castle. Mr Whitehead, using Smirke's beautiful watercolour perspectives of the castle, explored the shared objectives of both architect and patron. Fortunately, the survival of 17 volumes of

accounts, including the vouchers of the craftsmen and a collection of letters from Smirke, enables the building process to be followed with unprecedented clarity. In the early stages of the project there was an extended debate between Smirke and Somers over the source of suitable stone. The latter assumed that the ashlar building stone would be found on the Eastnor estate, which, after all, enjoyed a very varied geology. Smirke, however, after a long search, concluded that only the carboniferous limestone of the Forest of Dean had the necessary strength. Work on the castle was further delayed when Somers discovered that his chief mason, George Wood, had created a cartel, with the connivance of the quarry owners, to charge Somers an inflated price for the stone. Smirke sorted this out and from 1813 work progressed steadily, notwithstanding hard winters, labour shortages and transport problems.

Particularly interesting insights are provided by the documentation into the organisation of a large building project and the use of new technology. For example, materials were moved around the site on a tramway, a 'hydraulic machine' was used for lifting the stone and iron girders were used in the roof structure of the building. This was an innovation that attracted the attention of a Parliamentary committee. From the human perspective, the letters sent back-and-forth between architect and client show why Smirke was one of the most well-patronised architects of the period, and present Somers as a diligent, but difficult employer.

The work was drawn out because of financial constraints. Lord Somers had been over-ambitious and the final bill for the Castle was over £100,000. Smirke was constantly called upon to make economies and the building was left without an adequate service court, no new stables, a temporary staircase and rooms only superficially decorated. Many craftsmen went unpaid, which remained a bone of contention with Smirke long after the project ended. Moreover, little was done to the landscape; Humphry Repton wrote to Lord Somers, but was not employed. Nevertheless, Herefordshire was left with a major country house—regularly visited by the Woolhope Club in the late 19th century—which was the equal of any mansion built at this time anywhere in England. Dr Cooper proposed the vote of thanks.

SECOND MEETING: 19 October 2013: The F. C. Morgan Lecture was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall: Mr Joe Hillaby, president, in the chair. Dr Richard Bryant gave an illustrated address on 'The Anglo-Saxon Sculpture from the Mercian Borderland'.

Dr Bryant explained that there was continuity for the sculpture of the West Midlands from the 8th to the 11th century, which was unchanged by the Viking incursions. Herefordshire, in particular, may have been influenced by earlier insular traditions as evidenced by the Hereford Gospels. The earliest stones, which date from the 6th century, are to be found at Llanveynoe and Wroxeter and were created in a British context.

The earliest elements of Anglo-Saxon sculpture—birds, animals and plant scrolls—are found at Acton Beauchamp and date from the 8th century. The lintel here started life as a cross-shaft and is similar to a cross-shaft at Wroxeter where deer-like creatures are depicted with interlaced tails. Here too, there are stems of plants and leaves. Moreover, there is a deeply carved dog (?), which is also found at Cropthorne. These crosses were probably created in a workshop either in Worcester or Gloucester. There is a further cross-shaft at St Oswald's in Gloucester with diverse creatures and plants from the same school and other fragments have been located at Clifford, Oswestry, Westbury (Glos.) and Diddlebury.

Figure sculpture was very rare in the West Midlands until the 9th century (Upton Bishop) and 10th century (Bromyard). The Upton Bishop figure has braided hair, a cope and is attended by a person gesturing salutation. He may therefore be a bishop. There is a good deal of purely

architectural carving in the border counties e.g. a frieze at Wroxeter, similar to one at Breedon-on-the-Hill (Leics.), a further frieze at Cradley (Herefs.) and a string course from Old St Chad's, Shrewsbury.

Dr Bryant said there was little direct evidence that West Midland sculpture was coloured but the reconstruction of the chancel arch at Deerhurst provided a beast-head heightened with red paint, which would have been particularly effective when seen with subdued lighting. There are a few inscriptions in the West Midlands but the only known runic one comes from a sundial at Cleobury Mortimer. At Clodock (10th-11th centuries) an inscription commemorates a 'dear spouse' whilst at Llanveynoe (9th-10th centuries) there is a Chi-Rho with other Christian monograms and the name of the maker of the cross –'Harerdurh'.

In the 10th and 11th centuries grave-slabs as markers become more common and one at St Mary's, Shrewsbury, suggests Viking influence, perhaps from the Isle of Man. Several markers have inscribed crosses e.g. Bromfield, Llanveynoe and Garway; at the latter two places British influence was still strong in the 9th century.

Dr Bryant informed the Club members that the 9th century font at Deerhurst was the earliest known north of the Alps. He believed that it started its life as a round shaft. More common in Herefordshire are 'tub-fonts' e.g. at Bosbury (10th-11th centuries). At Kenchester and Wroxeter re-used Roman columns were employed, whilst the font/stoup at Michaelchurch is a re-used Roman altar. In general, sculptors were probably influenced by Roman or Byzantine models e.g. icons.

Finally, Dr Bryant showed reconstruction of the lower half of the Cropthorne cross, which suggested a painting scheme for the sculpture against a red background. He also believed that the Virgin panel at Deerhurst shows traces of red paint and he thought that the mother and child in the central void was similar to continental examples derived from Byzantine sources. We were shown his reconstruction—the first time in public.

The president, Mr Joe Hillaby, proposed the vote of thanks and drew attention to his review of Dr Bryant's recent book in the Club's *Transactions* Vol. 60 (2012),172-76.

THIRD MEETING: 9 November 2013: Mr Joe Hillaby, president, in the chair. Mr Gerry Calderbank, a member of the Club, gave an illustrated lecture entitled 'A Leominster canal excursion'.

Mr Calderbank began his talk by reminding the Club of its past involvement in recording and celebrating what remains of this early transport system. He drew attention to the pioneering article by Isaac Cohen in the Club's *Transactions* for 1957 which became the foundation and starting point for all subsequent research. A detailed survey of the canal was carried out by the Archaeological Section of the Club, led by the speaker between 1968 and 1974. Some of the results of this survey were now being presented to the general membership of the Club for the first time.

He began by stressing that the purpose of the Leominster Canal was to bring coal from the Shropshire and Severn Valley coalfields to north Herefordshire, which had hitherto come by road from Clee Hill or via the irregular Lugg Navigation. The Herefordshire gentry shared in the national enthusiasm for canals, displayed elsewhere in Britain in the last decades of the 18th century. Several schemes were mooted in this period, most focussing upon Hereford. An early idea for north Herefordshire proposed using the Teme and Kyre Brook system to bring a canal to Bromyard but it was Thomas Dadford Junior, inspired by Robert Whitworth's earlier explorations, who surveyed the route of the Leominster Canal in 1791. This was backed by

many local families including Thomas Harley of Berrington, Lord Bateman of Shobdon, William Greenly of Titley Court and Sir Walter Blount of Mawley Hall, whose mines at Mamble supplied the first coal, which reached Leominster by boat in October 1794.

Mr Calderbank proceeded to explore some of the research carried out by the Archaeological Section, beginning with the investigation of the feeders utilised to bring water to the canal from the Stretford and Stockton Brooks near Leominster and the Ashton Brook near Berrington. This was illustrated by the speaker's own conjectural drawings and detailed recordings done by Peter Cooper. One of the spin-offs of this survey was an opportunity to explore the glacial deposits along the course of the canal. It seems that Dadford was very sensitive to the changing terrain along the route but at Putnal Field, to the east of Orleton, the glacial moraine caused great problems and resulted in the need for a longer tunnel than he anticipated. Bravely, the Club members entered the tunnel by canoes and managed to measure its dimensions using surveyors' tapes. The tunnel is in reasonable condition albeit penetrated by roots near the north portal. The Great Flood of 1795 added to Dadford's difficulties and led to the destruction of the Woofferton Aqueduct, which had to be rebuilt.

As the canal progressed to Tenbury, the terrain worked against it, and notwithstanding a succession of reports and surveys in the early decades of the 19th century, little was done to extend the canal to the Severn at Stourport. Mr Calderbank finished his talk by looking at some of the surviving bridges and showed images of the recent damage to the Rea Aqueduct. It came as no surprise to discover that the canal never made a penny for its shareholders but, at least, it provided cheaper coal for the inhabitants of north Herefordshire until the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company took over in 1858 and extinguished part of the route of the canal.

The president, Mr Joe Hillaby, proposed the vote of thanks.

WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: 2 November 2013: Mr Joe Hillaby, president, in the chair. Mr Robert Walker, a member of the Club, gave an illustrated talk on 'Herefordshire Turnpikes and Mile Markers'.

Mr Walker paid a tribute to the earlier work by Club members on this subject. He drew attention to the modern illegal trade in mile markers, facilitated by eBay. Much heritage was also being lost through neglect and damage. Of the *c*.500 markers identified in Herefordshire, about 95 have recently been lost, including 37 that had been listed. Road improvements were a particular threat since unidentified stones are often found, but not recorded.

There is a great variation in the character of stones, which can often be identified with a particular turnpike trust, the earliest of which, in Herefordshire, was the Ledbury Trust, founded in *c*.1720. The last was in 1825. The first markers, for the Ledbury Trust, were not erected until 1740 and were vandalised by poor people who resented the paying of tolls. Trusts came in various sizes; the largest and poorest was the Hereford Trust, the smallest was the Bluemantle Trust, which looked after a short stretch of road from Mortimer's Cross to Leintwardine.

Mr Walker regarded milestones as the 'satnav of Georgian England'—a convenient means of measuring time and distance. In their hey-day, hunt meetings gathered near milestones, criminal cases referred to them to identify remote places and the fire brigade and country carriers charged by them.

In his analysis of the surviving stones, Mr Walker proceeded from trust to trust. Bromyard Trust managed 36 miles of road and set-up stones with inserted iron plaques. Some of these on the road to Tenbury have fine serifed lettering. The Hereford Trust controlled 156

miles of road, it had heavy expenditure. It too used stones with iron plates usually stating ‘To Hereford….miles’. They were cast by Hodges Foundry in Ludlow but after 1849 a series of triangular plates were made by the Hereford Foundry. Finally, in *c.*1900 markers were being made by Harding Bros. of Hereford.

The Kington Trust had 45 miles of road but had a small income and very few markers survive. The earliest markers used by the Ledbury Trust had painted numbers, executed by a member of the Sayce family of Ledbury. But by the mid-19th century stones were being used and the survival rate is very high. The Ledbury and Leominster Trust also have good iron markers made at the Leominster Foundry in the 1850s and 60s. Some good examples can be seen at the Leominster Museum where there are also examples from the Leominster Trust, which controlled 35 miles of roads to Kington and Ludlow.

Some trusts left very little evidence of their existence e.g. the Golden Valley and Presteigne Trusts. Several fine stones survive for the Ross Trust, the plaques made at the Perkins and Bellamy Foundry in Broad Street. Mr Walker ended on a positive note: local communities are increasingly taking a pride in their stones and not only keep an eye on them but also pay for repairs. He urged Club members to be equally vigilant. Mr Joe Hillaby, the president, proposed the vote of thanks.

These *Transactions* include a more detailed account of Herefordshire’s mile markers by Mr Walker, with illustrations of the many different types.

Editorial Message

This is the last issue of the Club's *Transactions* which will be produced under my editorship. From the end of the 2014-15 session my duties will pass into the capable hands of Dr Jane Adams, who will be well known to the Friends of Herefordshire Record Office and to Herefordshire VCH project members.

Jim Tonkin retired as editor on 14 June 2005, having no Publications Committee (as we have now) to help him or, indeed, to nominate a successor. I have been much more fortunate in being supported by a knowledgeable and helpful team. In particular I would like to thank the past chairman of our committee, Brian Smith, for his kind guidance on the appropriate format for text and punctuation in academic papers. Also, during these ten years my load has been immeasurably lightened by the continuing expertise of our printers, Orphans Press, cheerfully and helpfully given. They have been printing the Club's *Transactions* since 1976.

The editor's duties have ever been a curious mixture of the practical—ensuring that the physical *Transactions* reach members every year—and the intellectual; only the balance of the two has changed over the years. All papers submitted are carefully considered by the committee. Occasionally we do have to turn down a paper as unsuitable for the *Transactions*, but it is always a joint decision.

The editor's primary duty is to ensure that material published under the Club's imprint reaches the standard expected of an academic journal; that the subject matter is relevant to the Club's sphere of interest and geographical area; that the material has been properly researched and presented and, critically, that Club members find it interesting. At present, the editorial policy for the *Transactions* has been reactive; a steady stream of papers has been submitted and most have been worthy of publication. In general, the Club has not solicited submissions for particular publications except in cases such as the *Essays in honour of Jim & Muriel Tonkin*, where people who had known them over many years were invited to do so. The commitment required from authors has to be balanced against possible rejection of the result.

The design, computer formatting and indexing of the *Transactions* text now forms a large part of the editor's workload. Assuming this task has given us considerable freedom in the appearance of the *Transactions* and we have been able to include many more illustrations including colour. This has been extended to the design of other publications.

During the ten years I will have been in office, the Club will have published eleven issues of the *Transactions* 2003-2013; 2 large volumes of the Index to the *Transactions* 1851-2003; a *Supplement to the maps of Herefordshire 1577 to 1800* by Brian Smith; *Essays in honour of Jim & Muriel Tonkin* and *Downton Gorge National Nature Reserve.* Sadly, the market for separate publications has dried up, and we have no plans for more after the last in the pipeline—on the pre-1851 book trade in Herefordshire—being prepared by John Eisel. This will be issued as a free monograph despatched with the *Transactions* at some future date.

Finally, please continue to support your new editor by supplying her with material for the *Transactions.* Although the Club must continue to maintain the academically-high standard of our longer papers, it does not mean that shorter items of local interest are not welcome. The reverse is true; small items of historical, geological or botanical interest, be they mile markers or fossils or geraniums, need to be noted and recorded. The editor is always ready to advise you.

Rosalind Lowe

WOOLHOPE NATURALIST'S FIELD CLUB

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31st December

2012				2013	
		RECEIPTS			
22		Interest on investments	Subs Reserve	20	
3			GW Smith Reserve	3	
1487			Charity Bond	3860	
334			National Savings	438	
3			Worcs C.C	3	
33			War Stock	33	
	1882				4357
7851		General Subscriptions		7284	
212		Sale of Transactions		105	
178		Sale of Tonkin Essays / Herefordshire Taxes		48	
698		Sale of Herefordshire Maps supplement		30	
		Donations		30	
1403		Gift Aid Tax Reclaim (Net)		987	
30		Insurance Refund			
		Sundries		50	8534
205		Archaeological Research	Net Surplus	779	
125		Geology Section	Net Surplus		
234		Field Meetings	Net Surplus	223	
	10936				1002
	12818				13893
		PAYMENTS			
1012		Insurance		54	
11282		Stationery, Printing & Binding		5343	
193		Meeting Expenses		100	
3900		Postage & Telephone		1550	
235		Subscriptions & Donations		253	
34		Materials		82	
200		Honoraria		200	
369		Laptop computer			
164		Website		98	
		Grants for publications (GW Smith Fund)		2000	
270		Miscellaneous		153	
14		Natural History Section	Net Deficit		
		Geology Section	Net Deficit	259	
	17673				10092
Deficit	4855		Surplus		3801

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER

2012			2013	
		ASSETS		
1040		Herefordshire County Loan		1040
58408		National Savings Investments		58846
118000		Charity Bond		118000
		Bank accounts:		
835		General	773	
664		Subscriptions	1435	
4014		GW Smith Account	5904	
40911		Subscriptions Reserve	40931	
5000		GW Smith Reserve	5000	
35		Natural History Section	35	
2960		Archaeological Research Section	3740	
1186		Field Meetings	1409	
2164		Geology Section	1905	
	57769			61132
	235217	Sub Total		239018
	235217			239018

Note that the following assets of fluctuation or indeterminate value are not included in this balance sheet:
£933 3.5% War Loan current value approximately £743
The contents of the library and stock of publications
Photographic and computer equipment etc.

		CAPITAL		
		General Funds		
240072		Balance brought forward	235217	
		Add surplus in year	3801	
4855	235217	Deduct deficit in year		239018
	235217			239018

Biographical Details of Contributors

Dr Janet Cooper
Janet Cooper lives in Ross and is Chairman of the Trust for the Victoria County History of Herefordshire. After taking an Honours degree in modern and medieval history from the University of St. Andrews, and a PhD from Cambridge, she spent her career working for the Victoria County History (VCH) on the local history first of Oxfordshire and then of Essex. She has published numerous articles in VCH volumes, notably on the medieval history of the city of Oxford and of the borough of Colchester, as well as articles in local journals in both counties. More recently, she compiled the history of Eastnor for the Herefordshire VCH.

Dr J. Edward C. Peters
Edward Peters is an architectural historian with a special interest in old farm buildings. He has lived in Malvern since 1971. He read architecture at Manchester University, then followed it with post-graduate research on farm buildings. He continued to study them in his spare time and has published various articles on the subject. Until retirement he was an architect in private practice, involved in conservation work.

Gerry Calderbank
Gerry Calderbank joined the Woolhope Club in 1963 and was a co-founder then third Chairman of the Woolhope Club's Archaeological Research Section. He is a Trustee/Director of the Herefordshire Archaeological Trust, and a former Trustee of the Earth Heritage Trust, which he briefly chaired during its transition to Charitable Limited Company status.

From a geographical background, Gerry was thirty-five years in educational and academic publishing, originally with Methuen Educational and subsequently with Cambridge University Press. Following semi-retirement, he then continued a further six years with OUP and CUP in a Further Education partnership enterprise.

As co-instigator of the Woolhope Geology Section, he was its founding Secretary and then Chairman in turn. Gerry has a particular interest in the geology and archaeology of transport systems and is currently Secretary to the Friends of the Leominster Canal.

Details of the other authors have appeared in previous issues of the Club's *Transactions.*

Thomas Thornton, William St Barbe and the church in Herefordshire, 1580–1630

By JANET COOPER

This research was sparked by the wills of two early 17th-century clerics and scholars with connections to Ledbury and its area: Thomas Thornton master of St Katherine's Hospital, Ledbury from 1612 until his death in 1629, and William St Barbe, rector of Eastnor from 1591 until his death in 1619. From information in the wills I was able to expand the study into their circle of friends and colleagues, and found that all were highly qualified graduates, many of them, including Thornton and St Barbe, members of Christ Church, Oxford. There they would have known each other and also Herbert Westfaling, bishop of Hereford 1586–1602. There, too, they were both involved in the establishment of Christ Church library and Thornton also with the Bodleian Library, experience reflected in their work for Hereford Cathedral Library. During their ministries in Herefordshire they had to battle against a lingering attachment to Catholicism, both within and without the Church; this is also explored.

THOMAS THORNTON

Thornton left two wills, both prefaced with a remarkable, autobiographical, statement of faith, thanking God for:

> giving me life and bringing me into this world when the general apostasy of the Church of Rome and her departure from Christ began to be more publicly revealed, it pleased him in the riches of his mercy, not only to pluck my feet out of that general corruption wherein the most then were entangled, but also to enlighten me with his heavenly truth (of which grace I was most unworthy). Neither did he only cover and remit the sins and ignorance of my youth of his mere mercy and favour (for otherwise I deserved to have been utterly rejected and forsaken of him) but of the same his infinite goodness and love he did vouchsafe to call me to the ministry of his holy word in cathedral and collegiate churches, whereby I have been in continual travail as well for the government as for the doctrine of the true Church of Christ. And though I have continually found much opposition: first by popish brethren who in doctrine could not be withdrawn from the traditions of the Church of Rome, afterward by my own brethren whom for the true doctrine I loved and always well approved, but touching the government of the church I can scarce yet win them from the wilfulness, ambition, coaction [and] violence of the Church of Rome. Nevertheless I have still patiently endured all contradiction; the same grace of Christ hath kept me from severing myself from any church wherein the true doctrine may be and is sincerely preached...[1]

This gives a flavour of the contemporary theological disputes in which Thornton had been embroiled and displays his learning, but provides little concrete information about his life.

Figure 1. Thomas Thornton's memorial in Ledbury church. (J. Cooper)

The main source of information on Thornton's origins is his memorial in Ledbury church which states that he was born at Harrow-on-the-Hill in Middlesex, but says nothing of his parentage.[2] In the first of his wills, made in 1617, he made bequests to three 'cousins': George Thornton, Joan Ward and her son George Ward, all living in London.[3] Using this information, Joan Williams, in a talk given in Hereford Cathedral library in 2011,[4] has been able to identify his father as the yeoman Thomas Thornton of Greenford who acquired land at Harrow through his wife Agnes Page. The elder Thomas leased Greenford manor from Westminster abbey, and the lease seems to have descended in the family at least until the mid 17th century.[5] The family later claimed descent from a John Thornton, servant to Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII.[6] Our Thomas Thornton also seems to have married well; his wife was the sister of Robert Hovenden, a member of a Kentish gentry family who was warden of All Souls', Oxford, from 1571 until his death in 1614.[7] He clearly remained close to her family as when he made his 1617 will his wife's orphan niece Catherine Hovenden was living with them. By 1627 she had married a Pixley landowner, Henry Jones, who was appointed as Thornton's executor.[8]

Thomas Thornton took his BA at Oxford in 1560, and the following year became a Student (Fellow) of Christ Church. He took his MA in 1563; he obtained the degrees of BD in 1570 and of DD in 1583, the year in which he was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the university for the first time. Among those he taught while at Christ Church were (later Sir) Philip Sidney and the herald and antiquary William Camden. Meanwhile, in 1573, Thornton had been admitted, by proxy, to a prebend in Hereford cathedral, made precentor of the cathedral and a canon of Worcester.[9] His responsibilities at the university meant that, despite being a residentiary canon at Hereford, Thornton continued to reside for much of the time in Oxford. This led to protracted disputes with the cathedral chapter. Finally, in 1581, after the five Privy Councillors (the Earl of Leicester [R. Leycester] Francis Knollys, James Croft, Christopher Hatton and Francis Walsingham) had written to them on Thornton's behalf, the dean and chapter gave way, and there was no more opposition to Thornton's residence in Oxford.[10] Thornton was Vice-Chancellor for a second time in 1599, in which capacity he was involved in the work of founding the Bodleian Library.[11]

The Privy Councillors referred in 1581 to Thornton's having been 'a painful preacher' in Hereford cathedral, so he clearly spent some time there. His chief work in Hereford was the refurbishing and virtual re-founding of the cathedral library, important work which has already been fully described elsewhere.[12] In 1612 he became master of St Katherine's hospital, Ledbury where, according to the inscription on his monument, 'his outstanding generosity brought comfort to the poor'. He started his tenure of the mastership with a protracted dispute with Elizabeth Griffin, widow and executrix of his predecessor Dr Roger Bradshaw, over fixtures and fittings in the master's house and over some of the hospital's properties and rents. The dispute does not show either party in a particularly good light. When it was ended by the arbitration of three other prebendaries, Thornton recovered back payments of some rents for himself or for the hospital, but most of his demands were rejected by the arbitrators. They had included the costs of suits in King's Bench brought against him by Elizabeth Griffin, costs which the arbitrators declared had already been allowed him, 'although we see no just cause wherefore the same should be allowed him in regard the suits were justly brought against him'. On the other hand, Elizabeth was 'much to be blamed' for cutting down trees and thus committing waste on the hospital lands. Thornton was ordered to return to Elizabeth three great vats, a great chest and 'certain painted cloths' which had been her husband's, but he was allowed to retain one 'furnace' there. Finally, both parties were ordered to repay to the dean and chapter the 'surcharge' on the 20*s*. a year allowed for a dole of 8 bushels of wheat distributed to the poor of Ledbury each year.[13] One has the impression that both parties were doing their best to increase their own incomes. It may or may not be significant for Thornton's involvement with Ledbury that even though he had been there 25 years and the Master's House was his principal residence when he made his last will, there is no specific mention of Ledbury in it.[14] He was, however, buried in the chancel of Ledbury church.

In addition to refurbishing the cathedral library at Hereford, Thornton gave it a large number of books, books which indicate his own interests and concerns, principally his concern to emphasise the continuity of the 17th-century Church of England with the early church in Britain. The laudatory introduction to the list of his gifts in the library benefactors' book refers to his having restored the ancient church as introduced by Lucius the first Christian king of Britain and its apostolic faith. The books included works of the medieval historians Gildas, Bede, Geoffrey of Monmouth, Florence of Worcester, Matthew Paris, and Rannulf Higden, as

well as more recent historical works of Polydore Vergil and John Bale, and copies of Francis Godwin's account of the English bishops, both in Latin and English. Thornton seems to have given no theological books to the library, although in his will he referred to his books of 'divinity, physic and law', and specifically to the works of St Augustine and of St John Chrysostom which he had lent to two colleagues.[15]

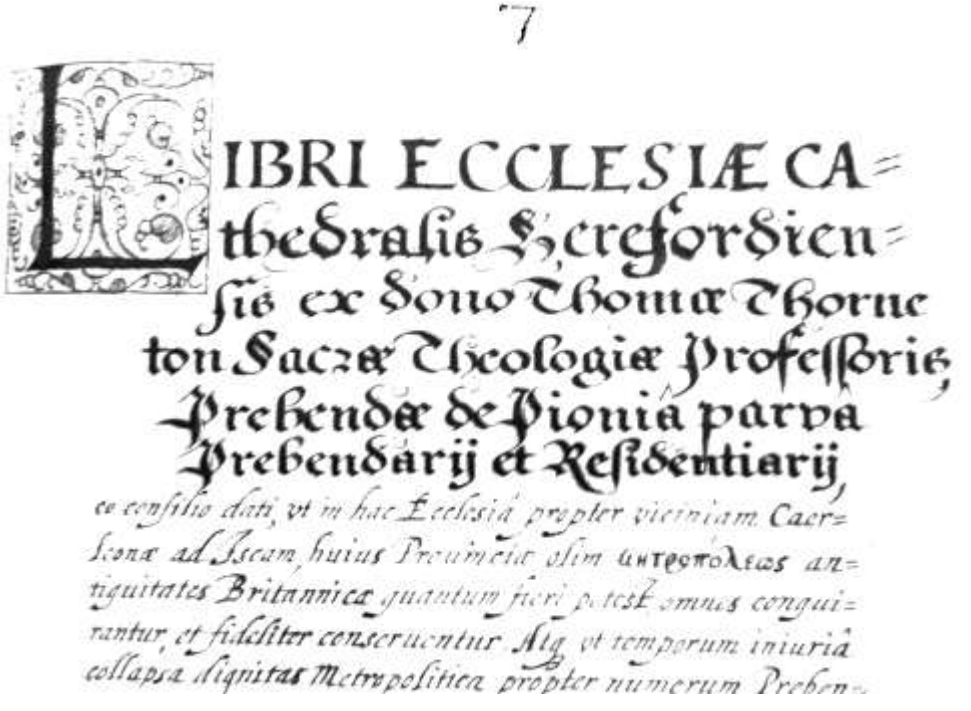

Figure 2. The heading for the list of books given to the Cathedral Library by Thomas Thornton. (Hereford Cathedral Library, P.9.8, p.523)

WILLIAM ST BARBE

William St Barbe's will is very different from Thornton's. He makes only a very brief and conventional declaration of faith, returning his soul 'unto almighty God from whom I received the same beseeching him in mercy to receive it', but his bequests provide much more information about his family, colleagues and possessions than Thornton's.[16] St Barbe's background was similar to Thornton's. His father, another William St Barbe, was the younger son of a Somerset landowner who did well for himself, becoming a gentleman of the privy chamber to Henry VIII. In 1543, although a layman, he became provost of the monastic college of St Edmund in Salisbury, an appointment which was a prelude to his buying the college at the Dissolution in 1546. He sold the college itself in 1549, but retained its rectory estate in Whiteparish, Wiltshire, where his eldest son Edward later lived.[17]

William St Barbe entered Christ Church, Oxford, in 1572 and remained there at least until 1587 when he took the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. It was presumably the connection

he made there with Bishop Westfaling and with Thomas Thornton that brought William St Barbe to Eastnor, of which the bishop was patron, in 1591. He also held the prebend of Wellington in Hereford cathedral from 1597, and the rectory of Ross, a valuable sinecure, from 1615.[18] Thornton was a beneficiary under St Barbe's will,[19] receiving 'a book entitled *Dives and Pauper* in English', presumably an edition of the early 15th-century homiletic book of that title.[20] Bishop Westfaling predeceased St Barbe, dying in 1602; his sumptuous monument shown in Plate 1.1 has been partly lost and the remaining effigy has lost its bright colours. The Mr Westfaling who received in the will 'Plutarch's *Lives* and *Morals* in English', translations of two important Classical texts, was probably his son, another Herbert Westfaling. Mistress Elizabeth Walwyn of Newland (in Great Malvern, Worcestershire), who received his best cow, was the bishop's daughter.[21] St Barbe may also have been close to Bishop Westfaling's successor, Bishop Robert Bennett (d. 1617), for he wrote a Latin poem praising Bennett's faith and piety and lauding his teaching. The poem was one of three which were placed on the bishop's tomb (now lost) in Hereford cathedral, the others being written by Leonard Bennett, probably the bishop's cousin and executor of that name, and George Benson, presumably George Benson, DD, who was a prebendary of the cathedral from 1603 to 1648.[22] Apart from Thornton, one other Hereford prebendary, Dr Silvanus Griffiths, received books. To Bennett's successor as bishop of Hereford, Francis Godwin, St Barbe bequeathed a bay mare, and to the prebendary Gabriel Walwyn he left a gown.

In contrast to Thornton's, St Barbe's will shows that he had remained close to his family, and was on friendly terms with some of his parishioners at Eastnor.[23] He remembered many of his relations in his will, including his brother Sir Henry St Barbe, and his nephews Edward and George St Barbe. To his cousin Edward Hide, another Christ Church theologian who held livings in Wiltshire,[24] he bequeathed a grosgrain and a damask cassock, a cloth gown faced with velvet, a cloth cloak faced with velvet, and four theological books. Another cousin 'the L[ord] Yelverton' was left 'a ring of gold wherein my arms are engraven'. This suggests aristocratic connections, but there was no Lord Yelverton in the early 17th century. The only person who might conceivably have been so described was Henry Yelverton of Easton Maudit, Northants. (d. 1630), a lawyer who served as MP for Northampton between 1597 and 1614, became solicitor general in 1613, attorney general in 1617, and a judge in the court of common pleas in 1625.[25] It would be interesting if he were the Lord Yelverton of St Barbe's will, but there seems to be no possible connection between the two men.

St Barbe signed the Eastnor parish registers fairly regularly, and witnessed parishioners' wills in 1591 and 1597.[26] In 1595, however, he was twice presented in the ecclesiastical court for failing to say services or administer Holy Communion himself;[27] presumably he was then non-resident and employing a curate. He asked to be buried in the chancel of Eastnor church, and he left money or household goods to members of Eastnor families. He was clearly on friendly terms with Richard Cocks of Castleditch, the most important resident landowner in the parish, for he left him two books, a history of Venice and an edition of John Stow's *Chronicle of England*. He seems to have lent money to him as well, for when Cocks himself died in 1623 he owed the large sum of £200 to William's heir, George St Barbe.[28] To William Danford, a prosperous yeoman whom he appointed as one the overseers of his will, he left 'three great chargers' or large serving dishes. To 'Mistress Weobley', probably the wife of his other overseer, Mr John Weobley, St Barbe left three of his best cushions, four joined stools, and a Bible with gilded leaves.[29]

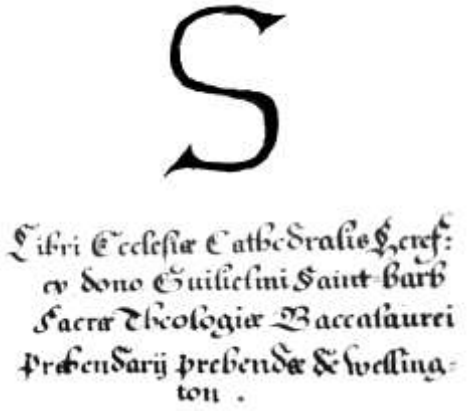

Figure 3. The heading for the list of books given to the Cathedral Library by William St Barbe. (Hereford Cathedral Library P.9.8, p. 481)

Like Thomas Thornton, William St Barbe was a major benefactor of the cathedral library, both during his life and at his death.[30] As did Thornton's, St Barbe's books give an impression of his learning and interests. Of the total of 28 books mentioned in his will, 14 bequeathed to the cathedral library and 14 bequeathed to individuals, the vast majority were theological, including works by St Gregory Nazianzus, St Gregory the Great, St Basil and St Thomas Aquinas, but he also bequeathed, to laymen, histories of Spain, France, the Netherlands and Venice. The eight books given to the cathedral library in his lifetime were similar, including a New Testament in Greek and Latin, commentaries on Genesis and the Pauline epistles, and a work of Erasmus on the New Testament. He does not seem to have shared Thomas Thornton's interest in the early history of the English church, although one of the commentaries was by the Venerable Bede.

Both Thornton and St Barbe were closely involved with other clergy in the diocese, but only one, Gabriel Walwyn, occurs in both wills. He was a member of an extensive Herefordshire gentry family, some of whom owned land in Ledbury and Eastnor.[31] Gabriel's father was originally from Coddington, although he had moved to Worcester by the time Gabriel matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1579. Gabriel held a fellowship at Brasenose from 1584 to 1588, and took his MA in 1594, but did not proceed to any higher degree. He held the rectories of Dinedor and Winforton in 1601 when he became the prebendary of Hunderton in the cathedral, the only cathedral office he held.[32] In 1613, when he held How Caple in plurality with Sutton St Nicholas, the churchwardens of How Caple presented him for non-residence and failing to repair the chancel or provide a barn for the rectory. The church then lacked a flagon for the communion wine, a psalter and the book of homilies, suggesting neglect either by Walwyn or by his churchwardens.[33] Sutton probably fared better, as Walwyn was resident there, at least at the time of his death in 1633.[34] In his first will Thomas Thornton described Walwyn as his coadjutor in Hereford and said that he had lent him the works of St John Chrysostom, perhaps a work which Thornton saw as a basic text since he bequeathed it in his second will to the layman, his cousin Henry Jones. St Barbe left Walwyn not books but a stuff gown faced with velvet and a cloak of stuff faced with satin. Walwyn's county connections brought him into Bishop Westfaling's circle. His brother Robert, who had an estate at Newland in Great Malvern, married as his second wife the bishop's daughter Elizabeth.[35] The bishop bought land in Herefordshire from another brother, James Walwyn, using it to endow two fellowships and two scholarships at Jesus College, Oxford.[36] Robert and Elizabeth Walwyn's younger son Humphrey (Bishop Westfaling's grandson) was one of St Barbe's godsons.[37]

Thornton had lent a book which he later bequeathed to his cousin Henry Jones to another cleric, Henry Bright. The book, the works of St Augustine, was another basic theological text which Bright, an Oxford MA, surely did not need himself. A member of a Worcester family, he had matriculated at Brasenose College in 1580 but was at Balliol when he took his BA in 1584 and his MA in 1587. He held livings in his native Worcestershire from 1591, became a prebendary of Hereford in 1607 and of Worcester in 1619. His main work was as master of the King's School at Worcester, where he was a 'famous schoolmaster'. The Oxford historian Anthony Wood praised his teaching of Latin, Greek and Hebrew and noted that he was also 'an excellent preacher and was resorted to far and near'.[38] Bright's appearance in Thornton's will is a reminder of that some Hereford prebendaries, including Thornton, also held prebends at Worcester.

Thornton in his second will left all his books not specifically bequeathed, as well as his papers and writings, to Dr John Best, Dr John Hoskins and his nephew Robert Ward of Christ Church, Oxford, 'not to sell them for they be little worth, but to keep them as true remembrances of the love which I have born them'.[39]

Dr John Hoskins was vicar of Ledbury from 1612 until his death in 1631,[40] and thus was a near neighbour of both Thornton and St Barbe. Like them, he was from a prosperous yeoman family, the younger son of John Hoskins of Monkton in Llanwarne, whose family, like the Thorntons and St Barbes, had benefited from an association with a religious house at the time of the Dissolution. Members of the Hoskins family had leased Monkton from Llanthony Abbey, Gloucester, since at least the early 16th century, and seem to have obtained the freehold at the Dissolution.[41] Dr John's elder brother, also called John, was a distinguished lawyer and judge, and by 1634 the family had definitely entered the ranks of the gentry, having acquired a coat of arms.[42]

Figure 4 (left). Memorial to Dr John Hoskins in Ledbury church. (J. Cooper)

Dr John Hoskins was educated at Winchester school; he entered New College, Oxford, in 1599, and was a fellow of the college from 1601 to 1613. He obtained the degree of bachelor of civil law in 1606 and that of doctor of civil law in 1613. He seems to have been resident in Oxford, and active in college affairs, for much or all of this time,[43] but nevertheless he was made prebendary of Hereford in 1612, the same year that he became vicar of Ledbury. Like Thomas Thornton, he also held office in Worcester, becoming master of St Oswald's hospital

there in 1614.[44] When he did leave Oxford, later in 1613, it was to serve as chaplain to Bishop Robert Bennett of Hereford. The Oxford historian Anthony Wood described him as an able civil lawyer but better theologist and much followed for his 'edifying way of preaching'.[45] In 1624, however, he fell out with the chapter and with the bishop, Francis Godwin, over a lectureship to which he had expected to be appointed. It appears to be after this that he obtained an appointment as chaplain to James I, a post which presumably took him away from Hereford and his enemies there.[46] He did spend some time at Ledbury, where he witnessed the wills of two of his higher status parishioners in 1614 and 1621, and a memorandum added to the will of a third in 1620. He signed the parish registers on several occasions between 1620 and 1625.[47] In 1624, however, he made arrangements for another graduate to preach at Ledbury in his absence.[48] He was buried in the chancel of Ledbury church in 1631. Some of his family remained in the town; his widow Frances married a wealthy Ledbury clothier, and in 1663 his son Charles Hoskins, gentleman, had a house in Church Lane and land at Wellington Heath.[49]

The other cleric who shared Thornton's books, John Best, was a native of Hereford. Like Thornton, St Barbe and Bishop Westfaling, he was a member of Christ Church, Oxford, where he matriculated in 1585; by the time he took his BA in 1588 he was at Brasenose, but had returned to Christ Church when he took his MA in 1594 and DD in 1610. In his will he remembered Christ Church and Brasenose 'wherein I had my breeding' with legacies of £10 and £5 respectively.[50] He became a residentiary canon of Hereford in 1612. He worked closely with Thornton in the refurbishment of the cathedral library, being in charge of the works in the cathedral, while Thornton was in Oxford.[51] Best no doubt improved his position in the diocese when he married (as her second husband) Bishop Robert Bennett's daughter Jane.[52] The bishop did not mention Jane in his will, although she outlived him, dying in 1622, but he left the Bests' daughter Elizabeth the large sum of £50. Best himself was one of three clergy, the others being Dr Silvanus Griffiths and Dr John Richardson, to whom the bishop bequeathed all his books. He and Dr Griffiths were appointed overseers of the bishop's will, and the bishop asked him to preach at his funeral 'to exhort all Christian people which have received the light of the Gospel to hold fast the same unto their end and to be zealous for the same'.[53] Jane Best was buried (in 1622) at Lugwardine, where John Best was presumably already vicar. At his death in 1637 his second wife, Mary, erected a memorial with a laudatory inscription praising his learning and describing him as a 'Paradox of worth'.[54] The colourfully decorated memorial incorporating the vicar's bust survives in Lugwardine church. (Plate 1.2). In his will he left to the cathedral library several books, including the works of Plato in Greek and Latin and a Hebrew concordance. Only a commentary on Matthew's Gospel published in 1542 seems to survive in the library.[55] He also left books to his 'sons' Francis Powell (step-son?) and Mr John Pember (actually his son-in-law), and to each minister who served or had served a cure under him. To the parish of Lugwardine he left £4 to augment an earlier legacy, but to his native city of Hereford he left £10.[56]

Dr Silvanus Griffiths, who was associated with Best in Bishop Bennett's will, also appears in St Barbe's, in which he was left three theological works, one by Thomas Aquinas, another a commentary on some of the decrees of the Council of Trent. Griffiths was a Herefordshire man who matriculated at Brasenose College in 1590 but had migrated to Christ Church before he took his BA in 1595; he took the degrees of BD and DD in 1610. He became a prebendary of Hereford in 1603, was treasurer of the cathedral from 1604 to 1606, archdeacon of Hereford from 1606 to 1617, and dean of the cathedral from 1617 until his death

in 1623.[57] In 1607, when he received a dispensation to hold the rectory of Kingsland in plurality with that of Hampton Bishop, he was a 'preacher of God's word', unlike many of his contemporaries who were regularly presented in the bishop's court for neither preaching themselves nor arranging for another minister to do it.[58] He married into the family of Bishop Robert Bennett, who referred to Griffiths's wife, Margaret as his 'cousin' and bequeathed her £100 and a gilt cup and cover, with a further £50 to her eldest son Robert.[59] Silvanus Griffiths's own will is a very brief nuncupative one, which records nothing except for his total confidence in his wife's ability to manage his affairs and bring up his children. However, one of the witnesses was Sir Robert Bennett, knight. Was this the nephew and heir of Bishop Bennett?[60] One very interesting document relating to Griffiths's estate does survive: a list of the 26 volumes (valued at £5 5s.) which his widow sold to the cathedral library in 1624. They included several books of Calvinistic theology, including the works of Zwingli in three volumes, three or four legal treatises, and one volume of homilies in Greek.[61] There are none of the early church fathers in the list, but that may have been because the library needed no more copies of those works rather than because Griffiths had not possessed them.

THE STRUGGLE WITH RECUSANCY IN HEREFORD DIOCESE

Thornton's first will, written in 1617, makes its importance clear: he left books to the libraries of Hereford and Worcester, 'knowing them both well inclined to public libraries, especially so remote from the universities, and where so many recusants, seminary priests, and Jesuits have been used to lurk and hide themselves'. Presumably by the time his second will was written in 1627, Thornton considered the cathedral libraries adequately provided with books, but he used almost exactly the same form of words in bequeathing books, including works of St Augustine and St John Chrysostom, to his cousin and executor Henry Jones of Mainstone Court, Pixley, because he lived 'so far from the universities as he doth, and where so many recusants, seminary priests and Jesuits have been used to lurk and hide themselves'. Biographers of bishops Scory, Westfaling and Bennett have all stressed their efforts to root out continuing Catholicism in the diocese,[62] and clearly reforming clergy could feel themselves beleaguered. In August 1561 Bishop Scory complained about the activities of popish justices, notably Mr Havard and Mr John Scudamore, and described how papists, including priests, driven out of Exeter and elsewhere had been 'received and feasted in the streets with torch lights' in Hereford.[63] How much evidence is there for continuing Catholic practices and recusancy in the diocese? The presentments, or accusations, brought against people in the courts of the bishop of Hereford provide some evidence.

Under the religious settlement of Elizabeth I churches were stripped of most of their ornaments and vestments. Most people, willingly or unwillingly, obeyed the new laws, but some hoped for the return of the old ways. In 1586 a cope and another unspecified 'vestment' were being kept in houses in Canon Frome, and a cope at Much Cowarne,[64] presumably in the hope that they would one day be restored to use in the churches. At Ross in 1595 a widow was ordered to return to the church a cope which had been used as a pall to cover the dead.[65] The motive here is less clear. Was the widow trying to keep the cope from being damaged, or from what she considered inappropriate use, or had she simply taken a fine piece of embroidered cloth? In 1587 the churchwardens of Wormbridge had still to report on the defacing of the altars and the white-washing and paving of the places where they had stood, work which should have been carried out nearly 30 years earlier.

Praying for the dead, a practice banned by the reformed church, seems to have been deeply rooted in parts of Herefordshire. At least two men at Ballingham rang the church bells at night on All Saints' Day 1587,[66] presumably for the banned commemoration of All Souls, the dead for whom prayers had been said in the medieval church. Ringing the bells at 'unlawful' times, presumably former festivals, continued in 1588; at Ashperton in April the ringer went so far as to break down the door of the bell chamber to gain access to the bells. At Bodenham in July the churchwardens were presented for allowing the bells to be rung for a month's mind, that is prayers for a dead parishioner a month after his or her death, and at the same court John Williams was presented for 'procuring month's mind's ringing for his father-in-law'.[67] As late as 1619 at Huntington (Weobley deanery) William Gough was presented for 'ringing the bells superstitiously for the month's mind of Rhys Gough'. In the same year two Pixley women were accused of praying for the dead.[68]

People were fairly regularly accused of arguing with, slandering or insulting their ministers. Usually it is not clear whether there was any religious dispute behind the words, but the Tenbury man who in 1588 said that 'all priests that were married were cuckolds',[69] probably hankered after the old ways. Leonard Thomas of Kentchurch who in 1605 called the minister 'an outcomer and a heretic and said he was no better than the worst boy in the parish',[70] was probably one of the many recusants in the parish.

Popish priests begin to be mentioned in the court records in the early 17th century. In 1605 it was reported that a Kingstone widow had had a child privately baptised by 'one Kidwallender, a seminary priest'; men from Madley and Orcop had also had children christened by popish or seminary priests. In the same year at Eaton Bishop a man was presented for sheltering a papist, at Welsh Newton two men for receiving and harbouring Richard Hipsley, a scholar and popish recusant.[71] In 1619 a seminary priest taught at the house of John Elliot, gentleman, in Clifford.[72] At Kilpeck in 1609 Magister (Master) Sain 'was buried in a Catholic place behind the church'.[73] At Bridge Sollers in 1613 the recusant Thomas Philpotts of Sarnesfield was buried in the churchyard at night,[74] presumably with Catholic ceremonies.

In addition to these records of popery, or at least of continuing devotion to the old faith, there were numerous accusations of failure to receive Communion in the Church of England as the law required. Over 80 people were presented in the summer of 1596 for failing to receive the sacrament the previous Easter. Among them were Henry Rawley, gentleman, of Westhide, whose name appears on a list of popish recusants in 1607, John Seaborne, armiger, of Sutton St Michael, Jane and Elizabeth Saice, wives of gentleman, in Wormbridge and Thomas Saice, gentleman, in Kilpeck. At Kentchurch that year the 17 people who did not receive the sacrament included Margaret Scudamore, widow, probably the widow of John Scudamore of Kentchurch Court, lord of Kentchurch manor.[75] The situation was little better in 1617 when Bishop Bennett's register contains what seems to be a pretty comprehensive list of recusants in the diocese: 102 women and 40 men, plus 32 people living in the peculiar jurisdictions of the dean and chapter (that is, lands owned by the dean and chapter over which the bishop had no authority). The women included Rachel wife of Richard Blunt, esquire, and Mary wife of Francis Blunt, gentleman, both in Leominster deanery, two sisters of John Seaborne late of Sutton, Bridget wife of Thomas Bridges, gentleman, and niece of Lady Bodenham, Mary wife of Rhys Preece, gentleman, and sister of Sir Charles Morgan of Arkeston. The men included Thomas Hall, Richard Powell, and Walter Saice, gentlemen, in Garway and Kilpeck, George

Moore, gentleman, and his household in Goodrich, George Scudamore, esquire, and his household in Llangarron, and Ralph Lingen, gentleman, and his household in Aymestrey. The vast majority of recusants, however, were artisans, husbandmen and widows.[76]

At Brinsop, the vicar did not say services at 'due hours', and was drunk on Easter Day. In 1596 the vicar of Ledbury was 'a common gamester at unlawful games', an offence for which he was temporarily suspended.[77] At Stoke Bliss in 1596 the vicar had not read the homilies or preached a sermon for 6 months; this may have been just as well, as when he did expound the Scriptures (without a licence) he strayed from the topic to rage against one parishioner, James Pit, saying 'I am no whoremonger nor am I no perjured man', and expelling James from the church.[78] At Withington it was reported in 1605 that the vicar did not administer the sacrament three times a year or preach a monthly sermon, and he omitted the prayer for the royal family. His parishioners considered him 'a very contentious, seditious and quarrelsome person'.[79] At Callow the curate did not preach nor arrange for sermons to be preached – but the churchwardens had failed to provide a pulpit.[80] At Fownhope divine service was said at 'inconvenient and undue' times because the curate served Mordiford as well; service times were so uncertain that 'the parishioners do not well know when to come'. Again, the churchwardens were not blameless: there was no convenient seat for the minister to read the service, and the pulpit did not stand 'conveniently nor in its ancient place'.[81] Things were equally bad at Ross where the non-resident vicar was a drunkard who seldom said the services himself; the curates, who were not licensed to preach, changed often. At Llanrothal in 1619 the vicar, although he preached regularly, was rumoured to get so drunk that he had to be carried home, and the church had no 'common cup' (chalice) or 'pot' (wine flagon) for the communion. The situation had deteriorated in 1625 when, in May, the churchwardens reported that they had had neither sermon nor homily since Easter 1624.[82] At Abbey Dore the church was so ruinous that the parishioners dared not come to services because 'great pieces of timber and stone have fallen' and it was 'very perilous'. The ruin was so great and the parish so small that the churchwardens could not undertake the necessary repairs.[83] Although the impression given by the later court books is that in most of the diocese the labours of the university-trained clergy had resulted in an increase in conformity and an improvement in church life by about 1620, the people of Abbey Dore had to wait until the 1630s for the restoration of their church. When it did come, it came from a very different form of Anglicanism from that of bishops Westfaling and Bennett and their clergy: the high Anglicanism of Archbishop William Laud.[84]

CONCLUSION

It was against such difficulties and abuses as those described in the court books that the late Elizabethan and early Stuart bishops and their clergy struggled. This paper has demonstrated how the bishops were able to draw on a reservoir of committed protestant clergy, all graduates and many of them known to each other at Oxford, and particularly at Christ Church, before they came to Hereford diocese. Interestingly, all those whose origins can be traced came from the ranks of the prosperous yeomanry or minor gentry, at least two of them from families which had profited from the Dissolution of the monasteries. Their work, and that of their numerous colleagues whose careers are beyond the scope of this paper, ensured that the reformed Church of England was securely established, although not completely unchallenged, in Hereford diocese before it was shaken again by the great religious upheavals of the Civil War and Commonwealth.

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[50] Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses 1500–1715*, sv Best, John; TNA, PROB11/175: will of John Best.
[51] *TWNFC* XXXV, 213–15.
[52] HRO, CF50/114, 17, 23.
[53] TNA, PROB11/130, will of Robert Bennett, bishop of Hereford
[54] MI in Lugwardine church; copy in HRO CF50/114, 23.
[55] On-line catalogue: asp.bibits.no/hereford-cathedral, accessed 28 January 2013.
[56] Brooks and Pevsner, *Herefordshire*,
[57] Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses 1500–1715*, sv Griffiths, Silvanus; Aylmer and Tiller, *Hereford Cathedral*, 637, 639, 641–2.
[58] www.theclergydatabase.org.uk, accessed 12 February 2013
[59] TNA, PROB11/130, will of Robert Bennett, bishop of Hereford.
[60] TNA, PROB 11/143: will of Silvanus Griffiths; Oxf. DNB sv Bennett, Robert.
[61] HCA, 1122.
[62] Oxf. DNB.
[63] *Calendar of State Papers Domestic Elizabeth I*: british-history.ac.uk, accessed 6 February 2013.
[64] HRO, HD4/1/151 (unfoliated).
[65] HRO, HD4/1/156 (unfoliated).
[66] HRO, HD4/1/152 (unfoliated).
[67] HRO, HD4/1/153 (unfoliated).
[68] HRO, HD4/1/177 (unfoliated).
[69] HRO, HD4/1/154 (unfoliated).
[70] HRO, HD4/1/162, 96.
[71] HRO, HD4/1/162, 12, 14, 20, 122, 141.
[72] HRO, HD4/1/178.
[73] HRO, HD4/1/166 (unpaginated).
[74] HRO, HD4/1/170, f. 59v.
[75] HRO, HD4/1/156; for Scudamores see C.J. Robinson, *Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire*, opposite p.154.
[76] HRO, AL19/16, 64–80. (This register is arranged in two sections, the first foliated the second paginated).
[77] HRO, HD4/1/156.
[78] HRO, HD4/1/157
[79] HRO, HD4/1/162, 60–1.
[80] *Ibid*. 82–3.
[81] *Ibid*. p. 148.
[82] HRO, HD4/1/177;178.
[83] HRO, HD/4/1/162, 322.
[84] Jim Tonkin, 'The Scudamore Restoration' in Ron Shoesmith and Ruth Richardson, *A Definitive History of Dore Abbey* (Logaston Press, 1997 & 2000), 163–72.

Herefordshire mile markers and their makers

By ROBERT WALKER

In the summer of 2011, the conservation team of Herefordshire Council was contacted by the Milestone Society[1] about one of the county's listed milestones (a stone with an iron plaque) that was for sale on eBay. Chris Partrick subsequently travelled to Cambridgeshire to arrest it and it is now in the hands of the Canon Pyon parish council, to be erected close to its original site outside the Parish Hall. Since then another listed marker, a cast-iron post of a distinctive local pattern, has been advertised for sale on eBay. In this case, the long iron stem had been sawn off to make it more manageable as a piece of interior decor. Milestones are, to a great extent, a hidden heritage and when these cases arose nobody seemed to know exactly how many existed in Herefordshire or how they were faring. How many had been stolen, damaged or destroyed?

The index of the Club's Transactions yielded no information other than a few words about a rare Roman milestone from Kenchester,[2] and the county's Historic Environment Record[3] held only thirty records. The Milestone Society's excellent website with its database seemed to go a long way towards answering those questions, but there had been no recent, comprehensive audit.[4] After a little thought and a couple of short excursions, it became obvious why. Milestones are very difficult to find in overgrown verges, so that surveying must be done in the winter, and looking for them, especially with a car, is very hazardous. It seemed then that there was a need for the rapid, comprehensive survey on which this paper is based and which was carried out in the winter weekends of 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 with the aim of accounting for all known milestones.[5]

SURVEY METHOD AND CONCLUSIONS

It was decided that the only reliable basis for a survey was the early, high resolution Ordnance Survey maps which are held on the digital GIS system of Herefordshire Council, which are grouped in time bands or 'Epochs',[6] supplemented by the online Milestone Society map files, the statutory list of listed buildings and the county's Historic Environment Record (HER).[7] The objective was to locate, photograph and assess the condition of every mile marker, to establish how many survive and whether they are at risk. The results are quite striking. It became clear quickly that there is probably no category of heritage that has been so carelessly treated and which is so grimly at risk.

The survey looked at 520 sites of which about 320 are included in the Milestone Society records, including all of the 126 statutorily listed mile markers (all at Grade II). The Society's records included many sites which had not been surveyed and this survey fills the extensive gaps in its photographic record. We also discovered a few markers that are new to its records.

Ninety-five of the Milestone Society sites were 'not found'[8] or severely damaged, 37 of which were listed. This is a quite staggering proportion – imagine that just under a third of all listed buildings had disappeared in the last thirty years! Some have been stolen, but most were, no doubt, the victims of the mechanical hedge hacker (Plate 2.1A), or careless engineering work. More worrying is the finding that 98 of the surviving (or found) sites, almost half, are unsafe and at risk. A picture of one of the half-buried iron posts (Plate 2.1B) expresses this risk

graphically. Many more markers, though safe, are in poor condition. Very few of the cast-iron posts have been painted recently. The rate of attrition may be accelerating; since this survey began, three markers have been severely damaged.[9]

This situation demands a response, and it is to be hoped that the publication of this survey will highlight the importance of these 'heritage assets' in local conservation practice. There are also three important steps for national bodies to take:

The first is to review the listing of mile markers.[10] If existing listed markers are taken as defining the appropriate listing standard then there are 121 unlisted mile markers of the same kinds which are also logically of sufficient merit (and are often part of a series, which is of far greater significance than an isolated marker). The listing coverage appears almost random, but it is difficult to see how this can be remedied given that listing these small objects would take almost as much administrative time as listing more complex buildings.

The second issue is the inconsistency of representation on the current OS maps. Accidental damage is probably more of a threat than theft, so it is important that the remaining markers are known about and plotted on the 1:25,000 maps. This will help to ensure that planners and engineers are alerted to the presence of mile markers when considering proposals.

The third issue, for national transport bodies, is to ensure that works on trunk roads are more carefully organised and do not lead to further losses.[11]

Herefordshire mile markers have a significantly better rate of survival than those in the other counties in Table 1, which may be a case of poverty being the best preservative. Perhaps the most effective way to preserve them is for the local parish councils and local history societies to adopt them, keep them clear of undergrowth, paint them where necessary and watch them with 'anxious care.'[12]

Copies of the survey will be deposited in, among other places, the Herefordshire Record Office and the Milestone Society's records. Details of the survey and how information can be added to it will be given there.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The history of mile markers is part of the broader history of the system of turnpike roads and turnpike trusts. It is not the intention here to give a detailed account of the trusts, beyond providing the necessary context for explaining the milestones themselves,[13] but the main part of this article is divided into chapters corresponding with the domains of the trusts, because the different types of mile marker and their distribution arise from the trusts and, later, from the local authorities that replaced them. That the milestones in the Ledbury area differ from those in Bromyard or Ross, for example, is explained almost entirely by the boundaries of highway and turnpike administration, and only in a secondary sense by those of topography or geology.[14]

Herefordshire, or rather its class of men who became turnpike trustees and investors,[15] embraced the idea of turnpikes with relatively great enthusiasm. They were not first in the field; early developments under an Act of 1663 took place along the route of the Great North Road and under the aegis of the Justices. It was not until 1706 that the model of governance by 'private' trustees was established, in the Act for the Fornhill to Stony Stratford road, which rapidly accelerated the advance of the turnpikes. Ledbury's trust, the first in Herefordshire, was established by an Act of 1720,[16] at a time when only about ten trusts were being established each year nationally.[17] It was only the third foundation in the four adjacent counties used as comparators in Table 1. The principal Herefordshire towns followed over the next thirty-five

years in the order: Hereford, Leominster, Ross, Bromyard, Kington. This occurred during a period of relatively modest growth of networks nationally. The smaller trusts were founded over a longer period of the next seventy-five years, which was the time of greatest expansion nationally; the last, for the Hope to Trumpet road, was started in 1825. The Hereford Trust, with 156 miles in its care, became the second largest trust nationally.[18]

It is worth looking a little deeper at Herefordshire's place in the overall picture, which must say something about the trusts' ability to meet their obligations, among which, as set out below, was the provision of milestones. A parliamentary paper was published in 1841 giving statistics for the whole of England and Wales.[19] That survey was taken at what was probably the high watermark for turnpikes. They had got over the violent opposition which manifested itself in riots at, for example, Ledbury and Leominster, and had weathered the coming of the canals, although in Herefordshire that competitor was weak. The railways had yet to arrive, and the evolution of local and national government into adequate providers of all public roads was far off.[20]

The following table sets out some of the dimensions of the turnpike system in Herefordshire compared with the adjacent English counties and, with Lancashire, a county containing more urban and industrial areas.

	HEREFS	GLOUCS	WORCS	SALOP	LANCS
Length (miles)[21]	**407**	945	468	686	630
Area (acres)	**539,752**	795,734	480,560	859,516	1,207,605
Acres/mile	**1326**	842	1026	1252	1,917
Popn. (1831)	**110,686**	387,019	211,365	222,938	1,335,600
People/mile	**272**	409	452	325	2,120
Income[22]	**23,403**	78,339	42,824	27,548	148,822
Income/mile	**57**	**82**	**92**	**40**	**236**
Bonded debt	**55,169**	341,285	117,084	117,884	830,081
Debt/mile	**136**	361	252	171	1,318
Expenditure	**22,689**	81,594	35,820	30,143	139,288
Spend/mile	**56**	**86**	**77**	**43**	**221**
No. of trusts[23]	**20**	61	32	46	78
Miles/trust	**20 #**	**15**	**15**	**15**	**8**
Surviving markers[24]	**268**	437	187	276	302
Surviving markers/mile	**0.66**	0.46	0.40	0.40	0.48

there were 13 miles per trust in the whole of Herefordshire excluding Hereford Trust.

Table 1: Comparisons between counties

This broad view suggests a system in Herefordshire of relatively limited means, in which trusts would meet their obligations, such as the provision of mile markers, carefully. At the time, Herefordshire was sparsely populated, as seen in the table in the relatively small numbers of people served by the turnpikes, and a relatively high proportion of those people were engaged in agriculture rather than industry.[25] Nevertheless, its spending was still higher than the national average of £51 per mile, although significantly less than that in other counties in the table.

Certainly there are no exceptionally showy milestones like those found in parts of Lancashire for example, where income was four times greater than in Herefordshire, but there are less discernible differences with the adjacent counties. On scanning the pictures on the Images of England website,[26] there is an impression that the milestones of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire are somewhat grander than those in Herefordshire. Both of those other counties prefer stones with applied iron plaques, which tend to be more impressive than their Herefordshire counterparts. Similarly, the Shropshire stones are generally meaner, except for the series of magnificent iron and stone markers along Telford's Holyhead road. These comparisons are, of course, wholly impressionistic because the aggregate figures in the table hide significant differences between individual trusts; not all Gloucestershire trusts, for example, were better off than all Herefordshire trusts and within Herefordshire some trusts, such as Ledbury and Hereford, were on a favourable financial footing while others, such as Kington and Ross, were in an 'adverse' financial state.[27]

A requirement to measure roads and provide and maintain mileposts was imposed through the acts of Parliament which founded or re-established individual trusts from about 1740 onwards. Thus, in Herefordshire, the renewing Act[28] of 1764 for Ledbury required:[29]

> 'And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, may, and they are hereby impowered and required to cause Stones or Posts to be set up on the Sides of the said Roads, at the space on one mile distant from each other, with Inscriptions thereon, denoting the distance of each of the said Stones or Posts from some Town or Place as they shall think fit, and also to erect guide or direction Posts with such inscriptions thereon as the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, shall think proper; and if any Person or Persons shall wilfully break or pull down, dig up, or damage the said Stones or Posts, or any of them, or any Part thereof, or obliterate or deface any of the Words, Letters, Figures or marks that shall be inscribed thereon, or cause or procure the same to be done, every such Person shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Shillings whereof One Moiety shall be paid to the Informer, and the other Moiety (after replacing or repairing the respective Stones or Posts that shall be removed or damaged) shall be applied in such Manner, and for such Purposes, as other the Forefeitures by this Act imposed are hereby directed to be applied.'[30]

This was gathered into a similar general requirement in the General Turnpike Act 1766, and continued in the General Turnpike Act 1773, and the great consolidating General Turnpike Road Act 1822.[31] In Herefordshire, where records survive, for example in Ledbury (1839) and Ross (1841), trustees provided and maintained their milestones after the 1822 Act (see below), indeed, most surviving markers, including all of the iron posts, were erected after 1822.

Milestones were also required on roads outside the turnpike system. The Highway Act 1835 was far more specific than the turnpike acts and its specification of letter size was probably influential in both domains:

> 'XX IV. And be it further enacted, That the Surveyor of every Parish, other than a Parish the Whole or Part of which is within Three Miles of the General Post Office in the City of London, shall, with the Consent of the Inhabitants of any Parish in Vestry assembled, or by the Direction of the Justices at a Special Sessions for the Highways, cause (where there are no such Stones or Posts) to be erected or fixed in the most convenient Place where Two or more Ways meet a Stone or Post, with Inscriptions thereon in large legible Letters, not less than One Inch in Height and of a proper and proportionate Breadth, containing the Name of the next Market Town, Village, or other Place to which the said

> Highways respectively lead, as well as Stones or Posts to mark the Boundaries of the Highway, containing the Name of the Parish, wherein situate;...'

It is almost certain that many of the older mile markers were posts made of wood. None survive, but one is recorded by Heather Hurley in an account of vandalism in Byford in 1833, (on the eve of the Rebecca Riots[32] in Wales):

> '...when we had arrived opposite the fifth miles-post (*although Byford is at the seven mile station now*), one of our party, not having a fear of the Turnpike Trust, picked up a large stone and hurled it at the upper part of the post with such a force as to strike the cross-board free from its fixture, and send it spinning far into the field beyond.'[33]

That stretch of road was provided with new iron posts by Hodges of Hereford about sixteen years later (see below). The reference to a cross-board suggests, perhaps, the provision of additional information in an *ad hoc* way, as requirements changed. In 1839, the minute book of the Ross Turnpike Trust ordered:

> '...that the Surveyor examine all the Milestones and Direction Posts within the District and cause the same to be fresh painted or renewed where necessary – Also that he see that the name of the Towns or Villages are painted on some Wall or Board as required by the Act 3 Geo IV c 136 Sec 119.'[34]

The minute should refer to 3 Geo IV c 126, i.e. the 1822 Turnpike Road Act of which Sec 119 says, in addition to requiring the placing of mileposts, that the trustees should,

> '...cause to be painted in legible characters, on some wall or board at the entrance to every town or village, the name of such town or village, and also cause stones to be put up marking the boundaries of parishes where such boundaries shall cross any turnpike road.'

A board of similar type to that described at Byford, at St Owen's Cross, was recorded by Madeline Hopton and Alfred Watkins. Here a wooden post was fixed into a medieval cross base and the cross board, with the name of the place, fixed below the top giving the impression of a religious symbol.[35]

Boundary stones, and guide posts probably deserve to be the subject of another survey, although only three of the former were found at roadsides in this survey, at Newlands and Mill Street Bridge between Leominster town and its rural parish and at Stanner on the road to Aberystwyth (Plate 2.2). Very few complete pre-World War II guide posts appear to have survived.[36]

The purpose of milestones is usually stated as being an aid and guide to travellers, and that is obviously true for those for whom Herefordshire's roads were unfamiliar. They did, however, have many more less well documented but profoundly important uses for local people who already knew, if not the actual distance, the routes, and the time it would take, to travel to nearby villages or market towns. At the national level, the first milestones were being erected at about the same time as the first road maps were being drawn, but those maps, such as John Ogilby's strip maps of 1675, showed mileages from London on main roads and had little influence locally. For example, when the 1720 Ledbury Turnpike Act was drafted, there was only the vaguest notion of the dimensions of the locality, and the distances given in the Act are

significantly adrift. Accurate maps would not arrive for many decades and even then would be of little use to the majority of the population who could not read or afford them.

Milestones were therefore no less than the 'satnav' of the rural Georgians and Victorians, and their everyday importance can be read in the Herefordshire newspapers of the time. The installation of mile markers set down, for the first time, a spatial grid of relatively accurate distance measurement and positioning.[37] It is only necessary to compare the mileages stated in the turnpike acts with the actual mileages defined by milestones to see what a vast improvement they brought in the understanding of distance. That was particularly useful for the sporting fraternity so that they became an invaluable aid to the making of 'hunting appointments.'[38] A typical example, from the *Hereford Times*, where a meet was to take place at a specific milestone, is illustrated in Plate 2.3A.

That ability to position meeting places or events more accurately also took on importance in judicial evidence. The *Hereford Times* of 25 November 1843 reported that Mr Jones, of Little Thinghill, was summoned by the lessees of the tolls for unloading a wagon with intent to evade the duty payable on overweight vehicles. Robert Howells, keeper of the Wye-bridge toll gate,

> 'deposed that on 7th instant a wagon was returning laden with coal from the Forest of Dean; on the same day a cart went through the gate, bearing the name 'William Jones, Little Thinghill'; he watched it beyond the second mile-stone on the Ross-road, where it met a wagon; both vehicles were brought a little way on this side of the mile-stone when a portion of the coal...was put on the cart.'

On 20 May 1854, the *Hereford Times* reported another case, concerning a coat, lost on the Weobley road, which John Whittington, a mason from Gloucester, was charged with having obtained under false pretences. The lost coat was being looked after by the wife of the man who found it and who had been enquiring after its owner in a public house in Canon Pyon. Whittington overheard those enquiries and went to falsely claim the coat, making his misrepresentation sound more convincing by saying, '...*t*hat he lost it on the fair night between the 5th and 6th milestones.' The woman believed him but the stones, of course, proved the falseness of his claim in court.[39]

The commerce of the area also benefitted from a more accurate system of measurement, particularly where distance meant money. This benefit of milestones needs further research but a good example is found in an advertisement from the *Hereford Times* of 1 January 1853 (Plate 2.3B) setting out the fees for calling out the Ross fire engine. The table of charges starts:

'For the use of the Engine within the four first mile posts £1 0s 0d'

PARISH AND LOCAL AUTHORITY MILE MARKERS

Markers continued to be considered useful after the end of the turnpike system, when local and national government became responsible for all roads. Examples of markers in Abbey Dore, Garway, Cradley and Wigmore are described in the detailed accounts below.

A more modern phenomenon is seen in the large yellow enamel AA signs (Plate 2.4) which are now attracting interest nationally and being included in the Milestone Society database. They were erected between 1906 and 1922, but all those in Herefordshire are of a form with a winged badge denoting the merger with the Motor Union in 1910.[40] There are a few other 'private' mile markers, all of which are modern.[41] The fine example in Fownhope churchyard is illustrated at Plate 2.5.

*In the accounts that follow '**Found**' has its expected meaning; '**Lost**' means that there is map or other evidence that a marker existed but it was not found; '**None recorded**' means that there is no map or other evidence for the provision of mile markers.*

BLUE MANTLE HALL TURNPIKE TRUST[42]
(14 miles in 1839, £283 total annual income, £20/mile)
The Blue Mantle Hall Turnpike was founded by an Act of 1758[43] and ran, in Herefordshire, from Stretford Bridge to Walford (more or less the present A4110). A few records of this Trust survive; none record the placing of milestones.[44]

At the southern end two stones survive in place; they have a pointed top and large, serifed lettering (Plate 2.6). At Mortimer's Cross a stone pillar of exceptional size and character (Plate 2.7) stands at the crossroads. This is an important survival, but was probably placed by the Presteigne/Yarpole Trust, which controlled the east-west road at the crossing (see below). Nothing else survives until cast-iron, local authority markers are encountered beyond Wigmore (Plate 2.8).

The Wigmore Rural District, which is named on the crest of the markers, was founded in 1885 and commissioned markers here and on the Leintwardine to Ludlow road. The markers are not signed by the founder but are of a type found in other parts of the country, and are probably not of local manufacture.[45]

MARKERS ON THE ROAD OF THE BLUE MANTLE HALL TURNPIKE TRUST:
From Stretford Bridge (A4110 northwards) (see H1 below for the southern continuation):
Found: 12 miles from Hereford (tombstone with slightly pointed top) (Plate 2.6). Lost: 13, 14.
Found: 15 miles from Hereford (modern tombstone replacing stone of same pattern as Plate 2.6[46]). Lost: 16 miles from Hereford.
Found: 17 miles from Hereford (stone pillar at Mortimer's Cross which gives the distance to Hereford as 19 miles) (Plate 2.7).
Lost: 18, 19, 20.
Found: 21 and 22 miles from Hereford (cast-iron, of triangular section with semicircular crest, erected by Wigmore Rural District Council) (Plate 2.8).

BROMYARD TURNPIKE TRUST
(39 miles in 1839, £1,766 total annual income, £45/mile)
The founding Act of 1751[47] established a network of mainly minor routes in quite difficult terrain. Mile marking was not, however, neglected and the Minute Book records, on 2 October 1792:

> 'Ordered that direction posts be put up on or near Flagoners Cross and the Turnpike Road leading towards Leominster and another on the Turnpike Road near Coopers Green leading towards Hereford and Ledbury and also milestones on the roads leading towards Stoke Lacy and Bishops Frome.' [48]

The Bromyard markers are all of one type – reddish sandstone tombstones with applied iron plates bearing Roman capitals (Plate 2.9). They were probably installed in a single campaign well into the 19th century, so that the minute book entry refers to stones which were never installed or subsequently replaced. The two roads referred to in the minute book were taken

over from the Hereford Trust and the Ledbury Trust respectively, and the Trustees may have felt the need to stamp their own mark on these routes. Fourteen Bromyard pattern markers were found (one of these is in pieces and two have lost their plates), and a further twelve are known to have existed from records or from gaps in known series.

MARKERS ON THE ROADS OF THE BROMYARD TURNPIKE TRUST:
***As at 1821 Act*:**
BR.1: To Docklow (A44). Found: 1 (Bromyard pattern). Lost: 2, 3, 4. Found: 5 (Bromyard pattern). Lost: 6.
BR. 2: To Whitbourne (A44). Found: 1, 2[49](Bromyard pattern). Lost: 3. Found: 4[50] (Bromyard pattern) (Plate 2.9).
BR. 3: To Acton Green (B4220). Lost: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
BR. 4: To Herefordshire Lake[51] (Acton Beauchamp). None recorded.
BR. 5: To Perry Bridge (B4214). Lost: 1, 2. Found: 3, 4 (Bromyard pattern).
BR. 6: To Sapey Wood and Tenbury Turnpike. Lost: 1. Found: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Bromyard pattern).
BR. 7: To Stoke Lacy (A465). Found: 1 (Bromyard pattern in pieces). Lost: 2, 3. Found: 4 (stone pillar with iron plate of 'Hereford Plate' type (Plate 2.10), erected by Hereford Trust).
BR. 8: To Castle Frome (B4214). Found: 3, 5 (Bromyard pattern). Lost: 2, 4, 6 (6 was Bromyard pattern[52]).
On the Tenbury/Worcester Turnpike: Broad Heath to Sapey Common. Found: Worcester 15 (large stone pillar – Plate 2.11). Found: Worcester 13 (cast-iron by Grazebrook of Dudley *c*.1905 – Plate 2.12A).
Linley Green: Markers are shown on early OS editions on the road branching from BR. 8 (Bromyard to Castle Frome) towards Suckley Knowl but none were found.[53]

GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD TRUST
This Trust was an early foundation by Act of 1725[54], but its routes through Herefordshire were, by Acts of 1729 and later, taken over by the Hereford and Ross trusts. It is unlikely that it provided any markers in its own right at this relatively early date in turnpike history.
See H.16, H.17, R.1 and R.2 under the Hereford and Ross trusts below.

HEREFORD TURNPIKE TRUST
(156 miles in 1839. £8,506 total annual income, £54/mile)
The Hereford Trust was founded by an Act of 1729[55] and enlarged by subsequent acts (set out in the inventory of markers below). It quite quickly took over parts of the Gloucester/Hereford Trust's network within the County boundary (H15 and H16 to Lea and Harewood) which was an administrative convenience confirmed by the Act of 1748.[56] New roads were ordained for difficult and important routes on the Abergavenny, Monmouth, and Goodrich roads (Act of 1769[57]). The way to Hoarwithy Bridge and associated routes over Dinedor Hill proved particularly difficult, and the old circuitous route *via* Holme Lacy is still marked on the OS 1:25,000 map by an isolated MP south of Old Schoolhouse; the post itself could not be found.[58]

An Act of 1782[59] consolidated the route from Clifford to Dewchurch, which crossed the Bredwardine/Hay turnpike at Hardwick and then followed the route of the B4348 through Dorstone, Peterchurch, Vowchurch, Kingstone, Thruxton, Much Dewchurch and Llandinabo, thereafter joining the Hereford to Ross turnpike. Part of this route was already within the

Hereford Turnpike Trust and is accounted for in H.20 and H.23 below. No markers are recorded on the lane from Clifford to Hardwick, but the whole of the way from Hardwick was provided with cast-iron markers (Hodges small font stamp dated 1849) by the Hereford Trust (as the example in Plate 2.14B). This is one of the most complete series of markers in the country; twelve of the twenty markers remain.[60]

The mile markers on the Hereford network fall into a relatively limited number of types. None of the stone markers can be precisely dated, but there are some indications about their age in what is known about the history of the Trust. The oldest is probably the group with applied iron plates of what I will call the 'Hereford Plate' type (Plate 2.10), which are found on a number of routes of the Hereford network, but not outside it. Only seven survive intact, two or three stand without their plates, and a further four are known from photographic records.[61] A lost (but photographed) group of three on the Monmouth road, either side of Llancloudy, could have been provided as part of the improvements to that route, which would give a date some time, perhaps shortly, after 1769.

In the same part of the county is the road finished in 1819 between St Owen's Cross and Whitchurch (Ganarew). The group of four similar, unusually large, stones at the southern end of that are very likely of the 1820s (Plate 2.18). The stones give only the miles to Monmouth, but the OS 1st Epoch text gives the miles to Hereford as well. This suggests later augmentation with iron markers which have been lost—unsurprisingly these monoliths outlasted them!

There are two further groups of stones with iron plates. The plate in Plate 2.19 appears once on the Ross road (1st), three times[62] on the Bodenham road (4th, 6th and 7th) and twice on the Abergavenny road (7th and 10th). By its bolder, heavily serifed style, it would seem to be of the later 19th century. In all cases it is attached to stone pillars with distinctive horizontal tooling. The final type presents only one example at Allensmore, on the Abergavenny road (4th) (Plate 2.20). This has a larger plate with the mileage in each direction, and may be of more recent date.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	letters	
Onions, Burwarton	8	14.75	13.5	5	9.5	9	1.0	
Hodges: large font stamp	8	16	13.75	5.5	9.5	9	1.5	
Hodges: small font stamp (1849) with rear flange.	8	16	13.75	5.5	9.5	9	1.5	
Harding Bros:	8	16	13.75	5.5	9.5	9	1.625	
Perkins and Bellamy:	7.75	15.5	13.75	5.5	9.5	9	1.0 2.0	letters numbers
Nicholson:	7.75	15.5	13.75	5.5	9.5	9	1.0 2.0	letters numbers
Onions, Moor Clee Downton	8	15.5	13.75	5	9.5	10.5	1.0	
Richard's Castle type:	7	15.5	12.5	5	9.5	10.5	1.25	

Table 2. Comparison of the faceted iron markers. (Measurements given in inches.)

THE CAST-IRON MARKERS OF HODGES and HARDING

The faceted cast-iron markers that form such an important part of Herefordshire's roadside heritage were cast over a period of at least fifty years. In the domain of the Hereford Trust these are in three groups: two bear the name of C. Hodges & Son, Hereford using two distinguishing founder's stamps; one using a small font which is dated 1849 (Plate 2.14B), and the other using a larger font (Plate 2.15B). The third group is stamped by Harding Bros. of Hereford (Plate 2.16B). These markers and similar ones from other turnpikes and other foundries are compared in Table 2.

THE HODGES MARKERS

Chaplin Hodges is buried in St Giles's churchyard, Ludford, where his body stone records:

In affectionate Remembrance of
Chaplin Hodges
(of Castle Foundry Ludlow)
Who died March 26th 1877 Aged 87 years.

He moved to Ludlow before 1823 and his first son, also Chaplin, was baptised at the town church of St Lawrence in that year.[63] Their brass and iron foundry at Castle Mill, Dinham was started in 1827, and it remained in the family (each generation having a Chaplin) until it was sold in 1893, after the death of the second Chaplin in 1889.[64] The foundry was a flourishing concern and the Hodges name is found on numerous artefacts including cellar covers and mill wheels[65], as well as mile posts.

As the paper by John Eisel in these *Transactions* shows, the Hodges established a foundry in Bath Street, Hereford in 1847 just before the date of the first iron markers sold to the Herefordshire Trust. The design of the markers was not, however, a Herefordshire innovation and clearly comes from the Ludlow end of the business, because it is closely based on the design of markers signed and dated 1843 by John Onions, a coal and iron master of Broseley.[66] That founder used and signed two patterns of iron markers on the same road, in the domain of the Ludlow Second Turnpike Trust, from Ludlow to Bridgnorth via Burwarton (Plate 2.13A and 36B) both of which are of interest in this Herefordshire survey. The Hodges mile posts, dated 1849, are slightly different in dimensions (see Table 2) from the Onions markers of 1843 as seen at Burwarton, and lack the shaped corner brackets and decorative swag which Onions used in both his patterns; this suggests that the design was copied but that Hodges was not in possession of the actual patterns. The castings of the Hodges markers are of far better quality than those produced by Onions, especially in the form and placing of the lettering.

The two types of signed Hodges mile post are compared in Table 2. The small font stamp of 1849 is also distinguished by a flange on the back, between the lettered facets and the stem (Plate 2.14C). The omission of this flange from the markers with the large font stamp, the patterns for which clearly stayed with the Bath Street foundry and continued to be used by the Harding Brothers (see below), indicates that the large font markers are later in date and, given the 'C. HODGES' signature, were made during the latter part of Chaplin Hodges's participation in the business in Hereford.

In 1851, Lascelle's *Directory* listed Frederick Hodges as a 'founder' in Willow Walk. Frederick was the youngest son of Chaplin, born in 1825, and was clearly minding the Hereford shop while the older men developed their main works in Ludlow. In March 1863, the Hodges placed a notice in the *Hereford Times*[67] stating that the co-partnership between Chaplin and Frederick was dissolved and that Frederick would continue in Hereford in his own right. In 1867, Frederick was running the Bath Street works[68] but nine years later he had left Hereford and Richard Morris Harding had the Bath Street foundry. The split between the Hodges in 1863 may suggest that the markers displaying the stamps with 'C Hodges and Son' all predate that year, but that is not certain for, as noted above, the patterns stayed with the Bath Street Foundry until it was sold.

The large font stamp pattern has a splayed foot to hinder its being uprooted. It has not yet been possible to examine the foot of a small font stamp type marker.

The small font stamp is the most common: forty posts survive of which six are broken, and a further twenty eight have been lost from series where posts survive. The small font stamp type was used along principal routes such as the roads to Brecon and Shrewsbury, and it is, perhaps, relevant that as they were being placed on Dinmore Hill while the railway tunnel was being driven below. That such fine posts were provided must have been a matter of what we now know as corporate imaging or rebranding in the face of a rival mode of transport. The large type stamp is found on some principal routes such as the Worcester road, but mainly on lesser routes such as the Weobley road. Fifteen of the large font stamp pattern were found, one of which was severely damaged,[69] and twenty sites of lost markers in known series were identified.

Of the fourteen Hodges markers paid for by the Ludlow First Trust in 1848, nine survive.

THE HARDING BROTHERS MARKERS

The Hardings were synonymous with ironmongery in Hereford from 1859 and their emporium in Commercial Street was the front of a substantial business. Their mileposts in this survey are stamped 'Harding Brothers', which gives them a date after 1890 when the founder, Richard Morris Harding had retired, and George and Richard Harding, the brothers, had taken over. They continued to lease the Bath Street foundry from G. W. Harding.[70]

It will be seen in Table 2, which compares the dimensions of the iron markers, that they must have purchased the Hodges large font patterns with the Bath Street foundry. They used them with slightly larger, san-serif lettering and their own stamp (Plate 2.16B). The production of mile markers could not be described as the backbone of their business; only ten markers were found and a further three probable sites identified. The two markers on the old Hereford Trust turnpike through Tillington, were commissioned by a successor to the turnpike trust to replace lost or damaged markers of an older type. Their principal client was Dore Rural District Council (in existence 1894 – 1934), and the almost complete series made for the road between Vowchurch and Kentchurch is noteworthy.

THE GRAZEBROOK MARKERS

Three iron markers of a further type (Plate 2.12B) are found in Cradley (and see the end of the Bromyard section above). The inclusion of pointing hands makes them, perhaps, the most visually pleasing iron markers, and they are stamped by M & W. Grazebrook of Dudley, with the date 1898.

The M & W. Grazebrook mark is associated with an enterprise on an altogether greater scale than those of the local manufacturers.[71] The ironworks at Netherton was at the centre of the industrial Black Country, had its own railway spur, and made castings as large as canal bridges. Francis Grazebrook (1856–1945) was master at the time the mile markers were made.

There are three Grazebrook markers in Herefordshire and seven close to its eastern border, notably along the A417 through Redmarley, which were erected by 'Worcester County'. A group of four around Alfrick was purchased by the Martley Rural District Council, but the Cradley posts are not stamped with the name of the client. They were probably purchased by Ledbury Rural District Council.[72]

MARKERS ON THE TURNPIKE ROADS OF THE HEREFORD TRUST:

***(1729 Act)*. H. 1**: To Stretford Bridge (A4110). Found: 1 mile from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plates 2.14A, B, C). Lost: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7[73], 8, 9. Found: 10 miles from Hereford (tombstone with Hereford Plate as Plate 2.10). Lost: 11 miles from Hereford. Found: 12 miles from Hereford (tombstone with slightly pointed top and serif capitals) (Plate 2.6) at junction with Blue Mantle Hall Trust.

H.2: To top of Dinmore Hill (A49). Found: 1, 2, 3 miles from Hereford. Lost: 4 miles from Hereford. Found: 5, 6, 7 miles from Hereford. (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plates 2.14A, B, C)).

H.3: To Bodenham Moor. Found: 1 mile from Hereford. (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plate 2.15). Lost: 2, 3, 5 miles from Hereford. Found: 4, 6, 7 miles from Hereford (stones with curved tops, distinctive tooling and applied iron plate) (Plate 2.21).

H.4: To Stoke Edith (A438). Found: 1 mile from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (unstamped but of large font type series without rear flange). Lost: 2, 4, 7 miles from Hereford (all three were listed and described as painted cast-iron). Found: 3 miles from Hereford (modern iron replacement for listed iron post by Hodges). Found: 5 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plates 2.16A, B). Found: 6 miles from Hereford (fragments of cast-iron post by Hodges).

H.5: To Pontrilas Bridge (A465). Lost: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12 miles from Hereford (the 2nd was a stout stone with curved top;[74] the 3rd was listed—it was a stone with an iron plate of the 'Hereford Plate' type (as Plate 2.10) showing only the distance from Hereford.[75] Found: 4 (tombstone with iron plate) (Plate 2.20). Found: 7, 9,10 (stone pillar with iron plate as Plate 2.19).

H.6: To Bromyard (A465). Found: 1 mile from Hereford (See H.4 above). Found: 3, 6 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plates 2.16A, B). Lost: 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges) (large font stamp as Plates 2.16A, B).[76] Found: 10 miles from Hereford (stone pillar with 'Hereford Plate') (Plate 2.10). Lost: 11, 12, 13 miles from Hereford (subsequently Bromyard Trust – see above) (stone fragments of 13 found with fixings for iron plate).

H.7: To Weobley via Tillington.[77] Found: 1 mile from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 2 miles from Hereford. Found: 3 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Harding Brothers of Hereford as Plates 2.16A, B). Lost: 4 miles from Hereford. Found: 5 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Harding Brothers of Hereford as Plate 2.16). Lost: 6 miles from Hereford. Found: 7 (relatively large stone pillar with iron plate of 'Hereford Plate' type (as Plate 2.10) deeply embedded in the hedge). Lost: 8, 9 miles from

Hereford. Found: 10 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford—large font stamp as Plates 2.15A, B).

H.8: To Frooms Hill (A4103) from Lugwardine. Lost: 3, 4. 5 miles from Hereford (the 4th a stone with rounded top and iron plate of Bodenham type (similar to Plate 2.21).[78] Withington White Stone. (On the NS a stone column with weathered inscriptions. On the south side a stout milestone with barely decipherable inscription (Plates 2.22A, 22B).[79] Found: 6, 7. (tombstone with iron plate of 'Hereford Plate' type as Plate 2.10). Lost: 8, 9, 10

From the end of the Hereford Turnpike at Frooms Hill towards Worcester all markers have been lost until three iron markers, placed by a local authority, are found in Cradley, at 16, 17 and 18 miles from Hereford. These were made by Grazebrook of Dudley (similar to Plate 2.12B) and are dated 1898.

H.9: To Bredwardine Passage[80] via Byford (A438). Found: 1 mile from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Found: 2 (modern stone replacing a cast-iron marker by Hodges). Found: 3, 4, 6 (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 5, 6 (were in the above series by Hodges).

H.10: To Peterchurch via Madley and Stockley Hill (A465, B4349 and B4352). Lost: 1, 2, miles from Hereford (see H.5: A465 to Pontrilas Bridge above). Found: 3, 4, 5 (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14).

Lost: 6, 7, 8 (of the same series by Hodges). There are no records of markers over Stockley Hill to Peterchurch.

H.11: To St Weonards (A49 to King's Thorn then A466). Found: 1 mile from Hereford (stone pillar with iron plate) (Plate 2.19). Found: 2 (stone pillar with iron plate of 'Hereford Plate' type as Plate 2.10). Found: 3 (stone stump). Lost: 4, 5, 6, 7.[81] Lost: 8 (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plate 2.15).[82] Found: 9 (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plate 2.15). Lost: 10, 11, 12 (a great loss—three listed tombstones with iron plates of 'Hereford Plate' type as Plate 2.10)[83.] Lost: 13 (low tombstone) (Plate 2.23).[84]

H.12: To Hoarwithy Passage via Holme Lacy. Found: 1, 2, 3, 4, miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 5 (was in the same series by Hodges). Lost: 6 (a milepost on the old route to Hoarwithy Passage—see introduction to the Hereford Turnpike). None are recorded beyond this point.

H.13: To Hoarwithy via Aconbury. 1 (see H.12). Found: 2, 3 (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 miles from Hereford. Found: 9 miles from Hereford (probably by Hodges). See Ross, R3 4th.

H.14. To Eckley's Green (Norton Canon) via Credenhill (A480). 1, 2 miles from Hereford (see H.9 above). Lost: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 miles from Hereford (probably cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford).[85] Found: 9, 10 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plate 2.15).

H.15: To Sugwas Passage. Found: 1 mile from Hereford (stone pillar with fixings for plate of 'Hereford Plate' type). Lost: 2, 3 miles from Hereford. Found: 4 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). (The only post in this survey with '0 MILE').

(1748 Act). **H16:** To Harewood Inn (A49). 1 – 5 miles from Hereford see H.11: To St Weonard's above. Lost: 6. Found: 7 (damaged stone block). Lost: 8 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross as Plate 2.17). Found: 9 miles from Hereford (stone pillar with fixings for plate of 'Hereford Plate' type). See Ross R1 (below) for continuation.

H17: To Lea via Fownhope (B4224). Found: 1, 2, 3, 4 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 5 miles from Hereford (of the same series). Lost: 6 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Harding Brothers of Hereford).[86] Found: A modern stone pillar in Fownhope churchyard (Plate 2.5). Found: 7 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Harding Brothers of Hereford as Plate 2.16). Lost: 8 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Harding Brothers of Hereford as Plate 2.16).[87] Lost: 9, 10, 11, 12 miles from Hereford. Found: 13 miles from Hereford (stone pillar with indent for iron plate). Lost: 14 miles from Hereford. Found: 15 miles from Hereford (decayed stone with no surviving inscription). Lost: 16 miles from Hereford.

***1810 Act.* H18:** Madley to Bredwardine (B4352). Lost: 7, 8, 9, 10 miles from Hereford (7, 8, 9, were cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14).[88] Found: 11 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 12, 13 miles from Hereford.

H19: Byford to White Hill Weobley (B4230). Found: 9, 10 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.15). Found: 10 (the count is restarted north of the A480 so there are two ten mile markers), 11, 12 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (large font stamp as Plate 2.15). There are no records of markers in Weobley or between the town and the Brecon road.

H20: Harewood to Kivernoll, Three Horseshoes, Batcho Hill and Peterchurch (B4348). Lost: 7 miles from Ross (probably Hodges small font stamp as below). Found: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 miles from Ross (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 13, 14 miles from Ross. Found: 15 miles from Ross (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). See H21 for next three (10, 11, 12 miles from Hereford)

H21: Clehonger to Peterchurch via Batcho Hill (B4349, B4348). Found: 5 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 6 miles from Hereford. Found: 7 miles from Hereford (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 8, 9 miles from Hereford (of the same series). Found: 10, 11, 12 (miles to Hereford) (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14).

H22: Brobury to the Kington Turnpike – see Wyeside Trust below.

***1819 Act.* H23:** Hentland to Ganarew (A4137) – See Whitchurch and Llangarron Trust below.

***1835 Act:* H23:** Peterchurch to Dorstone (B4348). Lost: 1, 2 miles from Peterchurch (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp). Found: 3, 4, 5 miles from Peterchurch (cast-iron by Hodges of Hereford) (small font stamp as Plate 2.14). Lost: 6 miles from Peterchurch.

KINGTON TURNPIKE TRUST

(45 miles in 1839. £1724 total. £38/mile).

The Kington Trust was founded by an act of 1756.[89]. The second re-establishing act of 1794[90] added tributaries, and that enlarged network remained unchanged until the trust closed in 1877. As with its neighbour Presteigne, very few markers survive; a reflection perhaps of the relative poverty of these trusts and the difficulty of the terrain they covered. Only two mile markers remain, and one of these, in the Kington Museum (Plate 2.24), cannot be conclusively connected to a known site. Some other roadside artefacts of special interest survive, however, especially turnpike cottages of which 5 remain.[91] There is also the best preserved boundary stone in the county, on the A44 just before Stanner (Plate 2.2), and two unique pitch markers,[92] called The White Stones on the first hill towards Presteigne.

MARKERS ON THE TURNPIKE ROADS OF THE KINGTON TRUST:
(1756 Act). **K1:** Welch Hall Lane to the County Boundary: None recorded on the old route or present A44.
K2: To Brilley Mountain. OS 1st ed. records 2, 3, 4. The road continued to Rhydspence under parish control and OS 2nd ed.records markers at 5, 6 and 7 miles from Kington. There was a spur to Huntington but no markers are recorded.
K3: To Eardisley (A4111). OS 1st ed. records 1 and 2, OS 2nd records 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 miles from Kington.
K4a: To Almeley Wooton via Spond. None recorded.
K4b: To Almeley via Holmes Marsh. A marker at 4 miles from Kington is shown on early OS editions. These two routes did not become modern metalled roads.
K5: Lyonshall to Eccles Green via Sarnesfield (A480). OS 1st records markers at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 miles from Kington. (See H.14 for continuation to Hereford).
K6: To Eardisland (A44): OS 1st ed. records markers at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 miles from Kington
K7: Through Titley and Stansbatch to Staple Bar: Lost: 1, 2. Found: 3 (iron plate in wall of Titley Court (Plate 2.25). Lost: 4. None recorded from 4th station onwards.
K8: Lyonshall to Knoakes Bridge: OS 1st ed. records markers at 4, 5, 6, 7 miles from Kington.
(1773 Act). **K9:** Eardisley to Willersley. OS 2nd ed.records 6 miles from Kington.
(1794 Act). **K10:** Lyonshall to Titley: None recorded.
K11: Lyonshall to Two Mile Gate (A44): None recorded.
K12: Pembridge to Stansbatch: OS 1st ed.records markers at 5, 6, 7 miles from Kington.
K13: Eardisland (Legions Cross) to Stretford Bridge: OS 1st ed. records markers at 9, 10 miles from Kington.
There were routes over the hills to Nash which are now mere paths or tracks. No markers are recorded.
The 4th of any of these routes may be the site of the stone with early 19th-century lettering in Kington Museum (Plate 2.24).

LEDBURY TURNPIKE TRUST
(63 miles in 1839. £3294 total. £53/mile)
The Ledbury Trust was, as noted above, an early foundation, on the passing of the 1720 Act.[93] It was also the focus of rebellion in 1735 which led to the execution of three rioters.[94] The subsequent renewing Act of 1741[95] reduced the tolls, '*which said duty has been found burdensome*': a belated acknowledgement of the protesters' cause.[96]

The founding Act of 1720 was refined and extended by further acts[97] including that of 1764 which extended the turnpiking of the Bromsberrow road in a south-easterly direction to Corse, meeting the Gloucester to Upton road '*between the seventh and eighth Mile Stones*', but the network remained much as originally designated. A magnificent map of 1832[98] shows the extended system, indicating milestones and a number of proposed improvements (most of which were never carried out).

The statutory list notes that the milestones in the Ledbury area are remarkably uniform. With few exceptions, the surviving stones are of igneous stone and of stout, oblong section and columnar form. All have similar, fairly crude, san serif lettering. A typical stone, the first on the Hereford road, measures 12' x 9' (300mm. x 225mm.) on plan (Plate 2.26).

The minutes of the Trustees' meetings make a number of references to milestones. In 1841 it was ordered that:

> 'Robt. Dobbins's tender for painting, with two coats in oil, the mileposts within this Trust for the sum of six pounds be accepted.'[99]

Dobbins is a local name that survives today, and there are numerous Dobbins in the local records—indeed William Dobyns is named as one of the Trustees in the 1720 Act of foundation. It is likely that the painter of 'mileposts' was Robert Dobbins of Corse, a wheelwright,[100] who would have been well practiced in the art of oil painting. His death is recorded in January 1863.[101] He was paid £6 18s. 4d. for the work.[102] Later, in April 1852:

> 'Ordered that the following bills be paid:
>
> South Mileposts and lime £12 7s 0d' [103]

'South' had been paid sums of £2 0s. 0d. and £8 17s. 6d. in 1851[104] and a further sum of £1 2s. 6d. was paid for milestones to an unspecified tradesman in 1854.[105] There are at least four Souths in the Ledbury record who could have been the man in question, but nothing is known of their trades to enable a link to be made to an individual.

It appears likely that all of the milestones of the characteristic 'Ledbury pattern' date from the early 1850s and were the work of a Mr South. Dobbins had painted the original 'mileposts' in 1841, but they were replaced a decade later. There was a requirement for 35 stones on the network illustrated on the 1832 map and there were 40 on the lengths of road defined today by stones of the Ledbury pattern. Almost all of these survive, making a remarkable collection. If the total known sum spent on stones, i.e. £24 7s. 0d., is divided by 40 a sum of 12s. per stone is obtained. This is commensurate with the cost of 15s. per stone, including fixing, for stones provided on the Presteigne to Knighton road in 1857, and supports the suggestion of comprehensive replacement by Mr South or another, unknown, mason.[106]

There is one other piece of evidence which suggests the complete replacement of the Trust's mile markers after 1832. The map of that year shows markers with their mileage from Ledbury. Some are given in Roman numerals and some in Arabic script, suggesting that some of the original markers had Roman numerals. None survive with Roman numerals today. In addition, the series on the Hereford road were set at half-mile stations (i.e. ½ , 1½ , 2½ etc., miles) from Ledbury whereas present Ledbury-pattern stones on that road are at mile points from Ledbury.[107]

The surviving stones in the Ledbury domain are of a very robust and durable form and they remain generally visible today with little risk of theft or accidental damage. It is, perhaps, not surprising that one of the most soundly managed and financed trusts has left the most complete collection of mile markers. Statutory listing is at its most consistent around Ledbury because these stones were easy to spot.

MARKERS ON TURNPIKE ROADS FROM LEDBURY:

All similar to Plate 2.26 unless otherwise described.

LED 1: To Tarrington on Hereford road via Trumpet (A 438). Found: 1, 3, 6, 7 miles from Ledbury. Lost: 2,4,5. The inscription of the first (Plate 2.26) inconsistent in that it makes the distance between towns 16½ not 14½ miles).

LED 2: From Trumpet to Stretton Grandison (A417). Found: 5, 6, 7, 8 miles from Ledbury.

LED 3: To Eastnor on Tewksbury road (A 438). Found: 1, 2, 3 miles from Ledbury (Iron plaques have been applied to these stones; those at 1 and 3 miles have lost their plaques. Stones 2 and 3 are of a redder stone and more weathered which suggests they might be pre-1832) (Plate 2.27)
LED 4: To Much Marcle on the Ross road (A449). Found: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 miles from Ledbury. Lost: 3.
LED 5: To Wynd's Point on Malvern road (A 449). Lost: 1. Found: 2, 3, 4.
LED 6: To Corse (A417). Found: 2 miles from Ledbury. Lost: 1, 3. Lost: 4, 5. Found: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (The markers (4+) are across the border in Gloucestershire in the length of road added by act of 1764. The 6, 7, 8 are cast-iron by Grazebrook, 1898 (as Plate 2.13). The last two are quite crude stones that may be of 18th Century date).
LED 7: To Bishop's Frome on Bromyard road (B4214). Lost: 1, 2, 3, 4, miles from Ledbury. Moved: 5. Found: 6, 7. (Between stones 6 and 7 in this series of Ledbury pattern there was a listed stone with an iron plaque of Bromyard type—see above).
LED 8: To Cradley on Worcester road (B4220). Found: 4, 5, 6, miles from Ledbury. Lost: 7, 8.
LED 9: To Greenway on Newent Road (B4216). Found: 1, 2, 3, miles from Ledbury. (There are no stones between the county border and Newent. This road was a late addition to the Ledbury network through an act of 1802 (a *terminus post quem* for the Ledbury pattern of stones).
LED 10: To Little Marcle. None recorded.
LED 11: To The Wyche via Colwall Green. None found. The map of 1832 shows markers at I, II and V miles from Ledbury;[108] none are shown on any OS edition.

LEDBURY AND LEOMINSTER: Hope to Trumpet
(14 miles in 1839. £365 total. £26/mile)
This road from '*Hope Turnpike, in the Leominster and Hereford Road, to or near Burley Gate, in the Hereford and Bromyard Turnpike road; and from thence to a place called the Trumpet, in the Ledbury and Hereford Turnpike-road*' is important and busy today (A417), but was one of the last in the country to be turnpiked. The turnpiking of its continuation from Trumpet towards Dymock was intended (and marked thus on Bryant's map of 1835) but never executed. Cross routes, as opposed to roads leading to market towns were simply not as important as they are today.

The Trust was founded by an act of 1825,[109] but was relatively short lived, being wound up in 1878. Some documents relating to the management of the Trust survive, and it appears that there was a close working relationship with the pre-existing Leominster and Ledbury trusts.[110] That is illustrated by the surviving milestones which are in two different styles each side of the half-way point between the two towns.

On the Ledbury side stones of the Ledbury pattern are found. On the Leominster side only two markers survive of a series of a rare cast-iron pattern, one of which is now in Leominster Museum (Plate 2.28). These do not have the founder's stamp, but it is possible that a Leominster founder was responsible because, in almost every case elsewhere, markers were locally sourced. However, this object shows far superior workmanship than the other faceted cast-iron markers, and may well be from a larger, more distant foundry. Towards the end of the life of this Trust there were foundries in Leominster, under the millwright Richard Miles of South Street and at the Vulcan Works of Messrs. Preece & Sons,[111] in West Street. Miles was

capable of casting these markers, as can be seen from the mill wheel castings he has signed at, for example, Clodock (1868) and Court of Noke, but little is known about the products of the Vulcan Works. A plausible alternative would be the Kington Foundry, of the Meredith brothers;[112] they were capably of high-quality casting and were involved in other road work in Leominster by providing the balustrade for a new bridge. It may be that these markers pre-date the 1822 Act, with its requirement to give the names of parishes (when the road as far as Bodenham was in the Leominster Trust), in which case the Kington Foundry is a very strong candidate, there being no known foundry in Leominster at that date.

A further example of this pattern stood in Ashton village on the A49, but only a stump remains.[113] Both the more sophisticated form and higher quality of casting set these markers apart and make the statutory listing and repositioning of the surviving road-side post a matter of urgency.

MARKERS ON THE LEDBURY AND LEOMINSTER TURNPIKE:

Trumpet to Stretton Grandison: (See Ledbury above). Stretton Grandison to Ocle Pychard (A417): Found: 8, 9, 10, 11 miles from Ledbury (all of Ledbury pattern as Plate 2.26). The 11th is halfway by Ledbury's reckoning. The markers to the west give the mileage as 21 miles. From Ullingswick to Hope (A417): Lost: 12, 14, 15 miles from Ledbury. Found: 13 miles from Ledbury. (Presumably all of the unique cast-iron pattern of the 16th now in Leominster Museum) (Plate 2.28).

LEOMINSTER TURNPIKE TRUST.

(35 miles in 1839. £1459 total. £42/mile)

The Leominster Turnpike Trust was founded by an Act of 1728.[114] In common with Ledbury its gates gave rise to rioting, most famously at the Poplands gate in 1735. The surviving trust records do not help with establishing the dates or makers of the stones, none of which are signed or dated. The relatively modest spending of this trust is reflected in the modest stature of the milestones which mostly take the form of simple tombstones.

MARKERS ON THE LEOMINSTER TURNPIKE:

LEO 1: To top of Dinmore Hill via Hope (A49). Lost: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 miles from Leominster (all shown on OS 1st Epoch but none survived to be recorded).

LEO 2: From Hope to Bodenham (A417). See Ledbury and Leominster Trust above.

LEO 3: To Docklow (A44). 1 mile from Leominster (in Leominster Museum) (Plate 2.29), (a broad tombstone type painted white with black, serifed lettering). Lost: 2, 3, 4 miles from Leominster. Found: 5 (Plate 2.30) (a broad tombstone, probably slate, unpainted, with similar lettering to Plate 2.29. In both cases 'BROMYARD' is in italic caps).

LEO 4: To Brimfield Cross (A49). Found: 1 mile from Leominster (a broad 'tombstone' type painted white with black, serifed lettering) (Plate 2.31). The 'other' destinations in this series are given in italics as with the Docklow road (Plate 2.29), but the lettering is less skilled and probably not by the same hand. Lost: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. The stub of a triangular iron post (similar to Plate 2.28) survives at 4 miles from Leominster. 3 and 5 were similar to 1 (Plate 2.31) and clearly by the same mason.[115]

LEO 5: To Yarpole (Bircher) via Luston (B4361). Lost: 1, 2, 3 miles from Leominster. Found: 4 (broad tombstone type with serifed lettering similar to Plate 2.31, but in poor condition and not upright).

LEO 6: To Blue Mantle Hall via Kingsland (A44, B4529 and B4360). Found: 1 (Plate 2.32), 2, 3, 5[116] miles from Leominster (three similar tombstones with curved tops and capitals). Found: 4 (stone pillar with iron plate) (Plate 2.33).
LEO 7: From Cholstrey to Eardisland Bridge (B4529). Lost: 3 miles from Leominster. The current OS 1:25,000 map shows a lost stone between the 2nd milestone from Leominster (above) and the 4th (below) but not at the midpoint. Older editions show a stone in the right place. It could be that the stone in the Leominster Museum (Plate 2.34) came from here but has an anomalous mileage.[117] It is by the same hand as the present 4th stone from Leominster. Found: 4 (tombstone with round head similar to Plate 2.34 – see also Plate 2.31 which appears to be by the same hand). There is no record of a 5th station just before Eardisland Bridge.
LEO 8: To Monkland. (1st station is Plate 2.32, accounted for above). Lost, 2[118], 3 miles from Leominster.
LEO 9: To Ebnall. None recorded. Gin Hall Lane was a secondary route.
LEO 10: To Ivington Bridge. Found: 1. No trust stones recorded but a small tombstone (Plate 2.35) at Dishley is shown on maps after 1904. The style and lettering suggest a much earlier date.
LEO 11: From Ivington Bridge to Bush Bank. None recorded.

LUDLOW TURNPIKE TRUSTS
(21 miles in Herefordshire (98 miles whole network) in 1839. £3893 total. £40/mile over whole network.)
Two Ludlow trusts had roads in Herefordshire. The Ludlow First Turnpike Trust was founded by an act of 1750[119] and included the routes to Tenbury and Orleton. The Ludlow Second Turnpike Trust, founded six years later,[120] included the route to Leintwardine and on to Knighton. The Trusts were combined in 1859.

Two types of marker survive: on the Leintwardine road are iron markers placed by the Wigmore Rural District Council some time after 1885 (as Plate 2.8—see Blue Mantle Hall above), whilst an older iron pattern is found on the Richard's Castle and Tenbury roads of the First Ludlow Trust.

On the First Trust roads are faceted iron posts which are clearly based on patterns of 1843 by John Onions of Broseley, as used on the Ludlow/Bridgnorth road (Plates 2.36A and 36B and Table 2). They differ from other, similar types in having corner brackets and a significant amount of oversailing of the upper, sloping panel. The Herefordshire markers are not signed by Onions, but are similar in most respects except for the height of the lettered panels and the size of letters. It is as though the same patterns have been used, but with an inch removed from the pattern, perhaps to save metal. It might be surmised that these patterns were acquired by the Ludlow foundry of Chaplin Hodges after his split with Frederick in Hereford, and that he adapted them for his own use locally.

MARKERS ON THE LUDLOW TURNPIKES:
LUD 1.1: To Tenbury via Woofferton (A49 and A456). Found: 1(as Plate 2.36B), 6, 7, 9 (as Plate 2.36B) miles from Ludlow. Lost: 3, 4, 5, 8[121] miles from Ludlow.
LUD 1.2: To the Maidenhead, Orleton (B4361). Found: 1 (see LUD1.1), 2, 3[122], 4, 5 miles from Ludlow all as Plate 2.36B.
LUD 2: To Knighton via Leintwardine (A49 and A4113). Found: 7, 8 (as Plate 2.8) and 9 miles from Ludlow: all by Wigmore Rural District. Lost: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (Shropshire), 6[123], 10, 11, 12.

MONKLAND and PARTON TURNPIKE TRUST (later called Weobley Turnpike Trust)
(11 miles in 1839. £295 total. £28/mile.)
An Act of 1782 established the Trust on the line of the present A4112.[124] Three markers survive in the form of very pleasing cast-metal plates. Two of these are fixed to wooden tombstones and one to the churchyard wall at Dilwyn (this last is out of place and was probably fixed to a wooden post in its original location). The lettering suggests a date early in the 19th Century.

MARKERS ON THE MONKLAND and PARTON TURNPIKE:
Found: 6, 11, 12 miles from 'Lemster' (all as Plate 2.37). Lost: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, and 14.

MONMOUTH TRUST: 8th District – Longtown[125]
In 1800 an Act was passed[126] extending the reach of the Monmouth Trust into the Golden Valley, through Longtown and Michaelchurch Escley to the Bredwardine Bridge and Hay. These routes are not referred to in later parliamentary returns, and probably proved impracticable. In the Longtown area, a number of similar milestones survive on the road from Michaelchurch to Abergavenny through Clodock; these are not recorded on the 1st Epoch OS sheets, and were probably not placed by a turnpike trust.

Similar stones are found on the Longtown to Llanveynoe road, and between Turnastone and St Margaret's; these roads were never turnpiked.

MARKERS ON THE MONMOUTH TRUST ROADS IN THE LONGTOWN DISTRICT:
(1800 act) **MN1:** Clodock to Bredwardine Bridge via Michaelchurch and Dorstone: Found: 12, 10, 9 miles from Abergavenny (Plate 2.38). There are no records of stones from Michaelchurch to Dorstone or from there over the ridge to Bredwardine.
MN2: Llanan to Hay via Vagar Hill: None recorded.
MN3: Dorstone to Hardwick – see RAG 5
MN4: Hardwick/Clifford to Whitney Bridge: None recorded.

RELATED MARKERS IN THE LONGTOWN DISTRICT:
In Longtown village and on road to Llanveynoe: Found: 10, 11(Plate 2.39) miles from Abergavenny.
Between Turnastone and St Margaret's: Found: 12 miles from Hereford (Plate 2.40), Lost: 11, 13.

PRESTEIGNE
(29 miles in 1839. £793 total. £26/mile.)
The principal routes of the Presteigne Trust, from Woofferton and Leintwardine, were delineated in an act of 1756,[127] and it is probable that some of the surviving markers were placed shortly after that foundation. A further act of 1788 allowed the turnpiking of the lanes from Staple Bar[128] to Lingen and Willey's Oak, and the route between Kinsham and The Rodd.[129] Few records survive,[130] but none throw light on the makers of the markers. The turnpike history of Presteigne is complex and interwoven with the histories of the Bluemantle, Kington and Radnorshire trusts. That complexity led to discontent about tolls, as noted by Keith Parker,[131] 'Thus a journey from Presteigne to Kington involved paying three tolls; at the Corton gate to the Radnorshire Trust, at the Roddhurst gate to the Mortimer's Cross[132] trust and at the Titley gate to the Kington Trust.'

MARKERS ON THE PRESTEIGNE TRUST ROADS:

PR 1: To Woofferton (B4362). This series, including the fine example at Mortimer's Cross (Plate 2.7) are all of a tall tombstone type, with a distinctly rounded top and fairly crude scratched lettering, surviving at 2 miles from Presteigne, 3 (stunted), 5, 6 (similar to Plate 2.7), 7 (smashed), 8 (similar to Plate 2.7), 14 (applied iron plate—Plate 2.41) and 15 (applied iron plate similar Plate 2.41). The stone at 1 mile from Presteigne is not recorded on early OS sheets. The stones at 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 are lost. The iron plates were applied between the 1st and 2nd epochs of the OS sheets and are recorded on 9 – 15 except for 13 and may indicate a change in management arrangements. The stones at 5 and 6 miles from Presteigne cannot agree about the distance to London giving 146 and 148 miles respectively. The 2nd Epoch OS shows an additional marker between 2 and 3 miles from Presteigne which gave the mileage (8) to Kington.

PR 2: To Trap Hill.[133] None recorded

PR 3: To Walford (Leintwardine) via Stapleton Hill and Lingen. None recorded

PR 4: Kinsham to The Rodd.[134] All lost. Two recorded between Kinsham and Combe at 9 and 8 miles from Kington. See PR 1, above, for markers in Coombe. Two markers are recorded the Ordnance Survey north of Titley at 4 and 5 miles from Kington.

PR 5: Staplebar (Byton) to Boresford, Willey's Oak and Lingen. None recorded.

PR 6: Lingen to Wigmore: None recorded.

PR 7: To Titley via Rodd Hurst: Markers recorded by the Ordnance Survey at 4 and 5 miles from Kington but none survive.

PR 8: Nash Lime to Broadford (Stansbatch) via Rodd Hurst: None recorded.

PR 9: Shobdon to Milton House: None recorded.

PR10: To Knill: Two series are recorded but none survive. Two stones showed miles to Kington (but they both said '7 miles'[135]) while three stones showed the 2, 3, and 4 miles to Presteigne.[136]

PR 11: Through Orleton village. None recorded.

ROSS TURNPIKE TRUST

(41 miles in 1839. £2887 total. £70/mile.)

The Ross Trust was established by an Act which came into force in 1749.[137] It took over the turnpikes of the Gloucester/Hereford Trust (established in 1726),[138] and these important roads brought it a relatively large income. That allowed investment in road improvements[139] in which mile markers were not forgotten. In 1839 the trustees ordered that:

> '...the surveyor examine all the Milestones and Direction Posts within this District and cause the same to be fresh painted or renewed where necessary – also that the name of the Towns or Villages are painted on some Wall or Board as required by the Act 3rd Geo IV C136[140] Sec 119.'[141]

The most numerous markers on the Ross roads are those cast later in the Ross foundry of the agricultural engineers, Perkins and Bellamy, which are identified by their stamp (Table 2 and Plate 2.17). They are almost the same dimensions as the Hodges/Harding markers of Hereford, but they differ significantly by using two sizes of lettering. The text is in one-inch serifed capitals and the numbers are double height. The castings have a small straight-edged flange on the back, at the base of the letter panels.

The foundry was started some time before 1868.[142] The partners, Henry Perkins and Thomas Henry Bellamy, were local men in their twenties,[143] with some ambition given the scale and central location of the foundry in Broad Street. In its heyday, they employed seventy men making similar products to those of the Ludlow foundry of Chaplin Hodges, including cellar covers,[144] railings and agricultural machinery. There was a works' band which turned out to civic and social events, and both men were 'widely known and respected' in the town.[145] Henry Perkins died, aged only thirty nine, in 1879 'at his residence Bank House Ross after a long and painful illness.'[146] The foundry continued for another sixteen years but these were the difficult years of the agricultural depression,[147] and in 1894 Bellamy, then living in Gloucester Road, Ross, was bankrupt.[148] A year later the foundry was up for sale. The following report from the *Gloucester Citizen* of 22nd November 1895 gives the unhappy details:

> 'Thomas Henry Bellamy, agricultural engineer, Gloucester-road, Ross, Herefordshire came up for his public examination at Hereford Court on Thursday. His gross liabilities amount to £9,300, of which £7,148 is due to unsecured creditors, and his assets, mainly consisting of furniture, were £85. The debtor was for many years managing director of, and partner in, the firm of Perkins and Bellamy, iron mongers and implement makers. In October last year, however, he commenced business on his own account as a steam hauling contractor. In order to start this he borrowed £600. Included in the £7,148 due to unsecured creditors, two items—£4,800 and £689—were due in connection with the company and partnership of Perkins and Bellamy, and the balance of £1,659 included £950 for money lent, the £600, and an additional £350. The bankrupt attributed his insolvency to the liabilities incurred in Perkins and Bellamy's failure to successfully carry on the new company of Perkins and Bellamy Ltd, and to trading to a greater extent than his capital warranted.'

The mile markers appear to represent a single, comprehensive campaign for re-marking the principal routes. About forty markers were cast, of which twenty three survive, including two broken stumps. They must have been cast before the foundry closed *c*.1894 but their earliest possible date is difficult to establish. Their dual mileage does not appear on the 1st epoch of the Ordinance Survey but is recorded on the second, i.e. from 1891. They must have been set up between *c*.1868 (when the foundry started) and 1891, which meant that they could have been commissioned by local authorities rather than the turnpike trust, which was wound up in 1873.[149]

At Lea there is an iron post stamped 'NICHOLS / ROSS' which is clearly from the Perkins and Bellamy pattern but has no flange on the back. Also, the parish name is only painted on, it has uneven lettering and uses an inverted '2' for the '5'. This appears to be an amateur use of the patterns after the foundry had changed hands.

Few stones have survived. There is a unique (for Herefordshire), listed, triangular stone in Weston-under-Penyard[150] which is of early date (Plates 2.47 and 2.48). This stone with its fine lettering is exceptionally pleasing. A simple tombstone type, which stood opposite the Cross Keys Inn, was recorded by Madeline Hopton about 1900,[151] and a pillar which had an iron plate remains in Pencoyd. One stone remains, out of position, on the Hoarwithy road (Plate 2.42), which bears some resemblance to one of the, now lost, stones on the road between Ross and Goodrich Boat.

The minor routes, for example to Perry Tump and Deep Dean were probably never marked or, if so, never re-marked in the 19th century to make up losses.

MARKERS ON THE ROSS TURNPIKES:

R1: To Harewood End (A49). Found: 1, 3, 4, 5 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Lost: 2, 6 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross).[152] Found: near 5 above (stone pillar with indent for iron plate).

R2: Towards Gloucester (A40). Lost: 1 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Found: 2, 3, 4 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Found: 2A (listed stone of triangular section out of position – Plates 2.47 and 2.48). Found: 5 (cast-iron by Nichols of Ross).

R3: To Hoarwithy. Found: 4 (stone (Plate 2.42) moved to wall in front of Sheppon Hill Cottage). Lost: 1, 2, 3, 5.

R4: To Perry Tump via Hole-in-the-Wall. None recorded on Ordnance Survey.

R5: To Much Marcle. Found: 4, 6 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Lost: 1, 2, 3, 5 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross).

R6: To Upton Church via Black House then to Gorsley[153]. Lost: 1, 2, 3, 4 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross).

Found: 5, 6 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross).

R7: To Linton Church. None found. One Ordnance Survey record at 3 miles from Ross, otherwise none recorded.

R8: To Walford via Coughton's Chapel. Found: 1, 2, 4 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Out of place: 3 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross. In a private garden near Mill Race Inn).

R9: To Goodrich Boat. Lost: 1, 2, 3 (stones recorded in old photographs).

R10: To Old Forge (A40). Found: 1, 3 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross). Lost: 2, 4, 5 (cast-iron by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross replacing stone markers.

R11: To Deep Dean: None recorded. An arduous route which remained no more than a track.

ROSS, ABERGAVENNY, GROSMONT and HAY TRUST (RAG)

(32.5 miles in 1839. £212 total. £6.5/mile.)

The diffuse network of this trust was set out in an Act of 1772;[154] it included, in Herefordshire, the routes from Longtown to Welsh Newton, and Skenfrith to Cross Hands on the Hereford/Ross turnpike. In 1833 numerous minor improvements were propounded and the Golden Valley route from Pontrilas to Hardwick established. This Act also included a new route over the ridge between Vowchurch (Ponty Pinna) and Shenmore (Madley), which was not built. The Trust's long reach over sparsely populated upland made it the poorest of the Herefordshire trusts, and it is likely that it never met its obligations to provide mile markers. There are no records on the first Epoch OS sheets, and the series of markers that survive were placed by later authorities (see below).

In the 1840 Parliamentary Report[155] the details for the Ross, Abergavenny, Grosmont and Hay Turnpikes did not list Abbey Dore and the Golden Valley parishes as being in its domain, and these roads were, by then, being operated by the Hereford Trust. Consequently, between Hardwick and Vowchurch the markers are by Hodges of Hereford (small font stamp of 1849) which are part of a longer series placed by the Hereford Trust along the B4348. Between Vowchurch and Pontrilas there is a series of cast-iron markers by Harding Bros placed by Dore Rural District Council (after its formation in 1894). A series by Harding Bros. of Hereford, probably for Ross Rural District Council, runs from the western boundary of Garway parish (i.e. the Ross RDC boundary) eastwards to Cross Hands.

MARKERS ON THE ROSS, ABERGAVENNY, GROSMONT AND HAY TURNPIKES:
***(1772 Act)* RAG 1:** Skenfrith to Cross Hands on the Ross to Hereford Turnpike (B4521): A series by Perkins and Bellamy of Ross: Lost: 4, 5 miles from Ross. Found: 6. Lost: 7.[156] Found: 8, 9 (as Plate 2.17).
RAG 2: Lower Crossways to Grosmont (B4347): In Monmouthshire, none recorded.
RAG 3: Llanfihangel Crucorney to Capel-y-Ffin: In Monmouthshire, none recorded.
RAG 4: Welsh Newton to Pont-yr-Ynys (Longtown) via Garway, Kentchurch and Pontrilas: A series by Harding Bros. of Hereford, probably for Ross Rural District Council. Found: 5[157], 6, 7 (as Plate 2.16) miles from Pontrilas. Lost: 8, 9, 10. Between Pontrilas and Kentchurch is a further marker by Harding Bros recording 10 miles from Peterchurch (as Plate 2.17) and continuing the next series in RAG 5 below.
***(1833 Act)* RAG 5:** Hardwick to Pontrilas (B4348) (B4347): From Hardwick to Vowchurch a series by Hodges and Son with the small font stamp dated 1849: Found: 4, 5, 6 (as Plate 2.14) miles from Hay. Lost: 3, 7, 8. Found: 12, 11, 10 miles from Hereford. From Vowchurch to Pontilas a series by Harding of Hereford for Dore District Council. The unusual feature is that the miles to Pontrilas are painted on and not cast: Lost: 1. Found: 7 (as Plate 2.16), 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, miles from Pontrilas.

WHITCHURCH AND LLANGARREN TURNPIKE TRUST
(6.25 miles in 1839. £461 total. £7.4/mile.)
The making of a new road from Hentland to Old Forge, Marstow (the present A4137) was the subject of an act of 1819,[158] to be executed by the established Hereford Trust. In 1835[159] the management of the 6 ¼ miles in the Llangarron District of roads was given to a new trust.

A significant series of large milestones survives (Plate 2.18). These were probably placed in the early 1820s when the road was cut.

MARKERS ON THE WHITCHURCH AND LLANGARREN TURNPIKE:
WL 1(A4137): Found: 9, 8, 7, 6 miles from Monmouth (stone pillars with rounded tops and scratched lettering, probably shortly after 1819) (Plate 2.18).[160]

WHITNEY AND BREDWARDINE (BRECON and BROBURY) TURNPIKE TRUST
(11.5 miles in 1839. £577 total. £5.0/mile.)
The original Brecon to Brobury Act of 1759[161] embraced the (A465) from Brobury to the border, provided for a new bridge at Bredwardine and turnpiked roads from the two bridges of Bredwardine and Whitney to Hay. The Hay roads were accounted for separately, and in 1822[162] were established under a separate trust (The Whitney and Bredwardine Turnpike Trust). The Brecon road, between Staunton and Rhydspence, was given over to the Wyeside Trust in 1824. Milestones are found on all routes and were probably placed by the Trusts.[163]

MARKERS ON THE WHITNEY AND BREDWARDINE (BRECON and BROBURY) TURNPIKES:
WB 1: Whitney Bridge to Hay through Clifford: Found: 2: miles from Hay (Plate 2.43): Lost: 3 and 1.
WB 2: Bredwardine Bridge to Hay via Hardwick: Found: 3 (Plate 2.44), 7 miles from Hay – all modest stones with segmental top and painted lettering. Lost: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.

WYESIDE TURNPIKE TRUST

(7.75 miles in 1839. £456 total. £6.5/mile.)

The Wyeside Trust ran eight miles of the present A438 between Staunton on Wye and Brilley. The eastern part was first turnpiked by the Hereford Trust in 1810 but was ceded to the Wyeside Trust in act of 1824[164] which extended the turnpike westwards to Brilley. A few stones survive; that at Letton with its mixed case lettering was probably placed by the Hereford Trust before 1824 (Plate 2.45). To the west of the Kington Turnpike two stones with cruder lettering are found which are probably the works of the Wyeside Trust (Plate 2.46). These two series are on the 1st Epoch OS sheets, but the 2nd Epoch OS shows, in addition, a series of mileposts (MP) showing miles to Kington, none of which survive.

WS 1: A438 east of Kington Road from Staunton on Wye: Lost: 11, 13 miles from Hereford. Found: 12 (stout tombstone) (Plate 2.45).

WS 2: A438 west of Kington Road to Rhydspence Inn: Lost: 15, 16, 18 miles from Hereford. Found: 14, 17 (tombstones with scratched lettering) (Plate 2.46). The OS 2nd Epoch records a second series which showed the miles to Kington, none of which survive.

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This survey would not have been possible without the help of Meredith Walker, Heather Hurley and the ever helpful archivists at the Herefordshire Record Office, Historic Environment Record (SMR) and National Monuments Record. John Eisel very kindly made his paper on Hereford iron-founders available to me.

REFERENCES

[1] There is also a Benchmark Society. The author is the Milestone Society's representative for Herefordshire. Website: www.milestonesociety.co.uk.

[2] The Kentchester stone, of *c*.283AD, which is on display in Hereford Museum, has an abbreviated inscription which, like most Roman stones, does not actually give a distance to anywhere. The inscription: IMP C MAR AVR NVMORIAN ORPCD (assuming the end abbreviation stands for: *Officina Res Publicae Civitatis Dobunnorum)* has been translated as: 'For Imperator Gaius Aurelius Numerianus Made by the department of public works for the tribal council of the Dobunnii'. See www.roman-britain.org.

[3] Previously the SMR—Sites and Monuments Record.

[4] Heather Hurley kindly shared the results of a survey of the Ross area and a booklet has been published by the Hartpury Historic Land and Buildings Trust which has some references to Herefordshire.

[5] The survey was carried out mainly by bicycle. The author's wife, Meredith, provided the crucial navigation, organisation, provisions and encouragement. The 'not found' sites were revisited in the winter of 2012–2013 to check.

[6] These maps form three layers, referred to as 'epochs': Epoch 1: 1843 – 93, Epoch 2: 1891 – 1912, Epoch 3: 1904 – 1939, Epoch 4: 1919 – 1943.

[7] Enquiries were also made at the National Monument Record in Swindon.

[8] Some sites were so overgrown or so dangerous that it is possible that the mile markers are there but might only be found by a prolonged search with the protection of traffic control.

[9] In Weobley, Brockhampton by Bromyard and Easthampton.

[10] There seems even less prospect of this now that English Heritage has declared that it will discourage spot listing requests in future. (English Heritage website, 16 October 2012).

[11] Some local authorities and the Milestone Society have operational agreements with the highway agencies aimed at ensuring the preservation of roadside heritage assets.

[12] John Ruskin in *The Seven Lamps of Architecture*.

[13] See: Hurley, H., *Trackway to Turnpike*, Fineleaf Ross (2007) and published parish histories.

[14] This applies nationally, and means that a county-wide study has validity in its own right.

[15] There were a few women investors but no female trustees.

[16] Public Act, 7 George I, Statute 1, c. 23, 1720.

The literature is confused about dates; some authorities give the date of the founding Bill and some the year of the Act or the trust's inception. In this paper the date of the Act in the chronological Parliamentary list used on the 'Portcullis' website is used because that is the most convenient for locating the original documents.

[17] Albert, W. *The Turnpike Road System in England*, Cambridge (1972), Appendix B.

[18] Bristol had 173 miles – both according to http://www.turnpikes.org.uk/

[19] 'An Abstract of the General Statements of the Income and Expenditure of the Several Turnpike Trusts in England and Wales from 1st January 1839 to 31st December 1839, inclusive.' House of Commons, 17 June 1841. (Available to download from Google).

[20] The local authorities did, of course, look after the greater part of the road system which was formed by roads that were not turnpikes (a quite modern picture of privatisation where the ratepayer supports the patently unprofitable services). They also paid towards the repair of turnpike roads in their parishes – a cause of regular disputes before the Justices.

[21] In 1840: http://www.turnpikes.org.uk.

[22] From tolls, fines and parish contributions.

[23] The total number of recorded trusts. They may not all have existed at one time because of amalgamations and schisms: http://www.turnpikes.org.uk.

[24] The figure here is the Milestone Society (MSS) record figure. There are more sites in Herefordshire than the number given following this survey. The MSS figure is used because it is a common source for comparison.

[25] Wrigley, T., 'English county populations in the later eighteenth century', *Economic History Review*, 60 (2007), 35-69.

[26] www.ImagesofEngland.org.uk. Free access to the statutory lists maintained by English Heritage. See also http://list.english-heritage.org.uk

[27] Albert, W., *The Turnpike Road System in England*, Cambridge (1972), Appendix F.

[28] Public Act, 4 George III, c. 62, 1764.

[29] See also, for example, the Kington Act of 1756: Public Act, 29 George II, c.65, 1756.

[30] Public Act, 4 George II, c. 62, 1764 at Herefordshire Record Office (HRO), D74/7. This is accompanied by an interesting appendix setting out the tolls – HRO, D74/8.

[31] Public Act, 6 George III, c. 40, 1766, Public Act, 13 George III, c. 84, 1773 and Public Act, 3 George IV, c. 126, 1822.

[32] The Rebecca Riots were so called because the rioters wore women's clothing. The rioting in Ledbury, almost a century earlier, was also conducted by men dressed as women, but with the additional disguise of being blacked-up.

[33] Hurley, H., *Trackway to Turnpike*, Fineleaf Ross (2007), 96. The source of the quote is not given other than 'Thomas Vaughan in 1833'.

[34] HRO, Q/RWt/33 15 March 1839.

[35] Lowe, R. A. 'Madeline Hopton's Sketches: The Examples of St Owen's and Goodrich Crosses', *TWNFC*, 59 (2011) 115 – 124. Madeline Hopton's sketch books are kept in the Woolhope Club library.

[36] Guide posts were, of course victims of wartime invasion fears but good examples survive in Weobley (four examples), Holme Lacy, on the north side of Bredwardine Bridge, Stockley Cross, Luntley, Greenway and Rushwick Cross.

[37] 'Accurate' is a relative term here, and there are inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the placing of markers. They were the subject of complaint even in the newspapers of the day.

[38] Indeed if the word 'milestone' is searched in the British Library's on-line newspaper archive hunting appointments are by far the largest category of entries.

[39] Another amusing example is the case of a drunkard reported on 16 March 1867. 'Joseph Collins, P.C. deposed: I was on duty on the Bromyard road on Saturday morning last, and when near the second milestone found the defendant standing up in the ditch half asleep; his hat was off and he had a handkerchief round his head; his horse was loose and the bridle broken; when I asked him what he was at he did not give me a decided answer...'.

[40] AA Signs were found in Almeley, Collington, Lingen, Pembridge, Richard's Castle and Woonton. Photographs were found of lost signs at Aymestry and Leintwardine. A further sign from Pembridge, and two from Brimfield are in the collection at the Eardisland dovecote, which holds an interesting exhibition about the AA in Herefordshire. Signs known to have existed at Comberton, Eardisley and Stretton Grandison were not found.

[41] The survey identified private markers at Fownhope churchyard, Kingsland village green, Little Hereford village hall, and two on the Brierley Hill lane out of Lingen (put up by the owner of that most eccentric building, 'The Crooked House').

[42] Blue Mantle Hall, or Blue Mantle Cottage as it is known today, is named for being on the spot where Blue Mantle offered Pembroke single combat with the King before the Battle of Mortimer's Cross.
[43] Public Act, 32 George II, c. 66, 1758.
[44] HRO, N41 Box 2587 and Box 2515 contain papers of Thomas Sale, a Leominster lawyer, who was clerk to Leominster, Presteigne and Blue Mantle trusts. These boxes hold bundles that are not catalogued yet. There is a map of the Blue Mantle road in 1840 at HRO, F76/9/14 but no milestones are shown.
[45] For example, on the A65 at Kendal, between Brough and Middleton and between Bradford and Huddersfield.
[46] A photograph by George Storey in the county HER.
[47] Public Act, 25 George II, c. 56, 1751. Subsequent Acts of 1770, 1791, 1821, and 1842 did not change the extent of the Trust's network. An Act of 1874 wound it up.
[48] HRO, D92/2 Order Book 1787–1793.
[49] Plate stolen since survey carried out.
[50] Moved to present site from 230m. to the west.
[51] The Act says, 'Herefordshire Lake, in the Parish of Bromyard.' The meaning of this has been lost; the Historic Environment Record suggests the low valley towards Acton Beauchamp.
[52] www. ImagesofEngland.org.uk
[53] On the Worcestershire side of the border the road there are iron markers by Grazebrook, *c.*1905 (similar to Plate 2.12).
[54] Public Act, 12 George I, c. 13, 1725.
[55] Public Act, 3 George II, c. 18, 1729.
[56] Public Act, 22 George II, c. 18, 1748.
[57] Public Act, 9 George III, c. 90, 1769.
[58] Public Act, 29 George II, c. 108, 1789. No other sites are recorded on early editions of the OS. This part of the network must always have been impermanent against hopes for a better passage to Ross.
[59] Public Act, 22 George III, c. 112, 1782.
[60] Two listed markers to the west of Peterchurch have been lost recently. The full restoration of this line would be a very worthwhile project.
[61] Hereford Plates are found in Lower Bullingham, Stoke Lacy, Yarkhill, Westhide, Canon Pyon, Birley and Wormsley.
[62] A photograph of a fourth stone of this type, (3 miles from Hereford) is held at NMR
[63] England, Births and Christenings Index, 1538-1975.
[64] He was buried in the churchyard associated with St Leonard's church in Corve Street.
[65] Notably at Buckton Mill at the northern extremity of Herefordshire.
[66] Pigot's *Directory* 1822 lists him thus, but he also had Ludlow connections and died there in 1861.
[67] *Hereford Times*, 21 March 1863 p.3.
[68] Littlebury's *Directory* 1867.
[69] This example just outside Weobley was damaged when the survey began, but almost destroyed by a further flailing in 2013. Local people have collected all the pieces, using a metal detector, and hope to get it repaired. This will be a helpful example for others to follow.
[70] HRO, CK33, Ten year lease of 1910 and see John Eisel's paper in these *Transactions*.
[71] The Dudley Museums Service website has numerous images of the works and notes:
'Started in 1641 when Michael Grazebrook went into business at Stourbridge. In 1730 they controlled a glass-works at Stourbridge, a mill and forge at Halesowen and a colliery at Coseley. The third Michael Grazebrook (1723-1766) started iron production instead of glass. His son Michael (1758-1826) moved to Netherton in 1800 and the firm was re-named after his two sons, Michael (died 1838) and William. 1848. A new brick blast furnace was built and the forge sold. In 1860 the Glassworks was disposed of and the Netherton ironworks connected to the railway. John Grazebrook went to study in Paris in 1848. He invented many machine and hand tools. Francis Grazebrook (1856-1945) took over the firm and streamlined and modernised it. In 1914 a new Company M. & W. Grazebrook Limited was formed. Cold blast pig iron and heavy fabrications have been the company's main products, but during the Second World War (1939-1945) they manufactured 8,000lb and 12,000lb 'Blockbuster' bombs. By 1968 the Grazebrook family no longer owned the company which had become part of the Hingley Group.'
[72] There is an outlier to this group on the A44 at Blockley, east of Evesham.
[73] This is now known to be the stone with an iron plate of 'Hereford Plate' type which was retrieved from Cambridgeshire by Christopher Partrick.
[74] MSS Repository.

[75] MSS Repository.
[76] The whole group was by Hodges (large font stamp). The 5th was listed and a photograph on the ImagesofEngland website adds confirmation. The text in the OS second epoch also reflects the wording on this type of post.
[77] This length of road has the greatest variety of markers compared to any other similar length.
[78] NMR photograph from listing survey.
[79] The White Stone is thought to be the remains of a medieval wayside cross of which the shaft has been inverted and inscribed with the names of the towns, Hereford, Ledbury, Leominster and Worcester. The initials and date 'TD1700' are also found. There was also a report, in 1908, of a Roman milestone near the White Stone. 'It is stated that a milestone with illegible inscription is still lying *in situ* on this road near Withington.' *Victoria County History of Herefordshire*, Vol. 1, p.174.
[80] 'Passage' refers to a river crossing.
[81] From the OS text it is likely that the 7th was first in a series of Hodges posts. The sixth is described with a single mileage, '*Hereford 6 MS*' while the 7th and subsequent are given as '*Hereford 7 / Monmouth 11 } MS*'.
[82] NMR listing surveyor's photograph. Was listed grade II.
[83] NMR listing surveyor's photograph. Were listed grade II.
[84] NMR listing surveyor's photograph. Was listed grade II.
[85] The OS text is typical of the facetted iron markers.
[86] Statutory list description for the 6th which omits the Hodges apostrophe in GLO'STER as does the Harding post at the 7th station.
[87] Statutory list description and NMR photograph.
[88] MSS and Images of England.
[89] Public Act, 29 George II, c. 65, 1756.
[90] Public Act, 34 George III, c.119, 1794.
[91] At Floodgates, Kingswood, Headbrook, Sunset (Presteigne road) and Hergest Road. This is the highest survival for any trust in the county.
[92] Tony Boyce in an article on the web site of the Kington Museum says, 'Stones or posts could be erected on those hills where horses over the stipulated number were allowed when hauling vehicles up an incline.' www.kingtonmuseum.co.uk/home/news.
[93] Public Act, 7 George I, Statute 1, c. 23, 1720
[94] Hillaby, J., *Ledbury: A Medieval Borough*, Logaston (1997), 106.
[95] Public Act, 15 George II, c. 17, 1741: Twenty one years was the standard initial period in founding acts at this time.
[96] *Ibid*. – but failed to quell the protests.
[97] Public Act, 4 George III, c. 62, 1764; Public Act, 29 George III, c. 104, 1789; Public Act, 33 George III, c. 132, 1793, Local Act, 3&4 William IV, c. lviii, 1833 and Public General Act, 34 & 35 Victoria I, c. 115, (this last being the winding up).
[98] HRO, CO81.
[99] HRO, D96/117 p.121.
[100] One of the recurrent costs in trust accounts is the repair of wheelbarrows. Dobbins may well have had an association with the Trust through that work.
[101] National Probate Calendar (accessed via the Ancestry website).
[102] HRO D96/117 p.130.
[103] HRO D96/117 p.287.
[104] HRO D96/117 p.260 and p.270 respectively.
[105] HRO D96/117 p.316.
[106] *Hereford Times*, 11 July 1857 p. 9, col. 5. This report follows enforcement by the magistrates against the County Roads Board for failing to provide mile markers. 'The Clerk read the minutes...and it was reported by Mr John Thomas, the Surveyor to the Board, that new milestones were to be placed on the roadside between Presteign and Knighton, and would be fixed as soon as possible. The cost would be 15s each.' Only one of these stones survives *in situ*; it stands in Norton (MSS reference RAD PRKN02). Two others survive in private hands: they are larger and more finely wrought and lettered than the Ledbury stones and worth the extra 3 shillings.
[107] The post at Tarrington originally stated '6 ½' from Ledbury, but that number was filled in and '7' superimposed. It is as likely that this represents the correction of a mistake rather than the survival of a pre-1832 stone.
[108] I on WS just S of confluence of lanes E of Bradlow. II on ES just S of Petty France. V on ES by junction with the Mathon lane and before Colwall Court.
[109] Further acts of 1855 and 1877 did not amend the route.

[110] HRO, N41/Box 2587 and Box 2515. These are disorganised bundles of papers deposited by the solicitors, Thomas Sale of Leominster. He was clerk to at least four trusts; Presteigne, Blue Mantle Hall, Leominster and Ledbury and Leominster.
[111] Started after 1851 (the date of Lascelle's Directory in which the works is not listed), included in Kelly's Directory of 1879 and still listed in Kelly's Directory of 1913.
[112] The foundry worked from 1739 until 1927. Many of the buildings remain.
[113] Leominster Museum, Accession 3302.
[114] There were further acts: Public Act, 22 George II, c.15, 1748; Public Act, 17 George III, c.85, 1777; , Public Act, 37 George III, c.176, 1797; Local and Personal Act, 39 & 40 George III, c. Lxv, and Local and Personal Act, 56 George III, c. Xxxi.
[115] NMR and MSS photographs respectively.
[116] Between the 4th and 5th is a modern stone on the corner of the lane to the church: 'KINGSLAND / GREEN / Lemster 4 / Ludlow 12 / Heref'd 12 / London 144'.
[117] It shows the correct mileage to Kington but 5 instead of 3 miles to Leominster.
[118] This was a tombstone similar to that at Barons Cross – MSS Archive.
[119] Public Act, 24 George II, c.29, 1750.
[120] Public Act, 29 George II, c.59, 1756.
[121] The 8th from Ludlow is illustrated on ImagesofEngland and has been lost since 2007 it was of the type shown in Plate 2.36.
[122] Found out of position in the drive of Rose House opposite the plotted position.
[123] The 6th was recorded by MSS but since lost to road improvements.
[124] Public Act, 22 George III, c.100, 1782. The Act also made provision for the turnpiking of a new road from Ford Bridge through Stoke Prior to Stockton (Kimbolton), and for the now partly lost routes from Grendon Green to Kyre Park and from Fair Mile Green (Stoke Prior) to Broad Heath via Pudleston. These routes are not mentioned in the returns of the mid 19th century and were probably never developed, although there are records on the OS 1st Epoch of mile markers on the latter at 4, 5, and 6 ½ miles from Leominster and 4 miles from Tenbury.
[125] It is difficult to give comparative statistics for Monmouth. It gave its income as £2,730 in 1839 but made no return to the commissioners in 1840, so the length of its network is not stated.
[126] Private Act, 39 & 40 George III, c.15, 1800.
[127] Public Act, 29 George II, c.94, 1756.
[128] Public Act, 28 George III, c.105, 1788: Staple Bar is just east of Byton Hand.
[129] The outline given here is a simplification and more study is required to establish how the trusts with roads converging on Presteigne worked.
[130] HRO, some Presteigne material in R/QS/S/409-10; Q/RWt/14; Q/RWt/19.
[131] Parker, K., *Radnorshire's Old County Town: A History of Presteigne*, Logaston (1977) p.97. More research is required about these trusts and their relationships over time. The 'additional' milestones at Coombe (PR 1 in the gazetteer) and Nash (PR 2) suggest a more complex and shifting arrangement than presently thought.
[132] This is a misnomer, the Mortimer's Cross road was vested in the Presteigne Trust but the trustees met at the Mortimer's Cross Inn. The Radnorshire Trust met in Presteigne.
[133] Trap Hill is no longer named by the Ordnance Survey, but this route is thought to be via Nash and Turnpike Cottage to Green Lane Farm where the road leads on to Titley.
[134] Via Kinsham, Coombe and Corton.
[135] This could be an error by the Ordnance Survey.
[136] This is the best recorded example of rival trusts erecting stones to the effect that they were probably at half mile intervals along this stretch of road.
[137] Public Act, 22 George II, c. 26.
[138] A40 to Lea and A49 to Harewood End,
[139] Hurley, H., *Trackway to Turnpike*, Fineleaf Ross (2007) p.24 and following. Despite its income potential, William Albert (see note 27 above) considered that the Trust's finances were not well managed. Indeed, the 1839 returns show it was the most indebted of all the Herefordshire trusts.
[140] This was incorrect as it should be 'C 126'.
[141] HRO Q/RWt/33: minute of 15 March 1839.
[142] Slater's *Directory* 1868. They were advertising for staff from 1864 but may have bought in stock.
[143] Henry Perkins was born in 1840 in Clifton, Gloucs, and Thomas Henry Bellamy in Westbury-on-Severn in 1841.
[144] See outside the Horse and Jockey.

[145] *Gloucester Citizen*, 20 January 1879 p.2.
[146] *Ibid*.
[147] Robinson G M, 'Agricultural Depression 1870 – 1900', *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club*, 42 Part 3 (1978) 259–278.
[148] *Edinburgh Gazette*, 27 September 1895 accessed at British Newspapers Archive on line. There are similar reports in local papers.
[149] Hurley, H., *Trackway to Turnpike*, Fineleaf Ross (2007) p.104.
[150] The stone has been moved from the roadside into the garden of a house. List description: 'Milestone. Probably early C19. Stone. Triangular plan. Left-hand face inscribed: 'To R[oss] 2 Mile 600 yds'. Right-hand face inscribed: 'To [G]loucester 14 Miles'.
[151] Her sketchbooks are held in the Woolhope Club library.
[152] NMR has a photograph of the 6th.
[153] The road from Crow Hill to Newent turnpiked later, in 1802.
[154] Public Act, 12 George III, c. 67, 1771.
[155] Report of the Commissioners for Inquiring into the State of the Roads in England and Wales. 1840 [256].
[156] The lost markers are all listed and were recorded by Heather Hurley *c.*1990. The 5th has appeared on eBay but its return has not been secured.
[157] Severely damaged.
[158] Local and Personal Act, 59 George III, c. Lx, 1819.
[159] Local and Personal Act, 5 & 6 William IV, c. Xxii, 1835.
[160] The OS first Epoch gives the dual destinations of Hereford and Monmouth, whereas the stones only give the latter. This suggests later augmentation by iron markers which have subsequently been lost. These massive stones are more or less indestructible.
[161] Public Act, 33 George II, c. 58, 1759.
[162] Local and Personal Act, 3 George IV, c. Lxxxvii, 1822.
[163] This whole group are recorded on the 1st Epoch OS.
[164] Local and Personal Act, 5 George IV, c. Civ, 1824.

Iron-founding in Hereford

By JOHN EISEL

In 1994, in his report as recorder for Industrial Archaeology, John van Laun called attention to gradual changes in the streetscapes, a process that had been accelerated by the privatisation of public utilities and consequent changes in such mundane items as manhole covers and cellar flaps. However, many of the earlier examples of these artefacts bear the name of the founder, often a local firm, and are thus part of the history of the city. As streets are repaired and redeveloped these historic artefacts are lost and only a fraction of those that were present even twenty years ago still survive. Also the modern trend for converting cellars into living spaces leads to the replacement of cellar flaps with entrances or windows. This paper is designed to bring the names of the firms who cast these artefacts to the attention of the present generation, before they are lost altogether.

INTRODUCTION

During the 18th century there was an increasing use of cast-iron, both in machinery such as beam engines, structurally in bridges, and in decorative items, such as railings and balconies.[1] This trend continued in the 19th century as cast-iron, usually supplied from the major industrial areas, was used in the development of the country's transport infrastructure.

Towards the end of the 18th century there was the first tentative use for structural elements in architecture, leading to the ground-breaking iron-framed Ditherington flax mill at Shrewsbury, built 1796-7. From the 1790s cast-iron was used in a small way in domestic buildings, and then in a major way from about 1812.[2] In Herefordshire in 1813 cast-iron beams and other cast-iron elements were used in the construction of the roof of Eastnor Castle, a total of 16 tons of metal. These were cast in Stockport, Cheshire, and were hauled by road from Upton, with consequent damage to the public highway.[3] Clearly the scale of this enterprise was exceptional, but the increasing demand in Hereford and its locality for simpler structural elements such as cast-iron columns, decorative ironwork, and practical ironwork such as cellar flaps, coal holes, and manholes, as well as pipes, made it an increasing attractive proposition to open an iron-foundry. This was helped by improved communications for bringing the necessary materials to Herefordshire—coal and pig iron from the Forest of Dean, South Wales, and elsewhere, using the tramroads and canal.

It is not suggested that there was no iron-working in the county prior to the nineteenth century; many of the forges which formerly existed in the county have been discussed in these pages, and the products of such a forge were listed by the ironmongers who bought up the stock when the proprietor of Tidnor Forge declined business in 1806.[4] Nor is it suggested that there was no casting of iron, as opposed to hot working: it is only necessary to instance the cannon Roaring Meg, which was used in reducing Goodrich Castle in the Civil War in the 17th century, possibly cast in Whitchurch, or the cast-iron grave slabs at Burrington church, cast at Bringewood Forge in the 17th century. What is suggested, however, is that when the demand for cast-iron increased in the early nineteenth century, there was no foundry as such (rather than a forge for hot working of metal) which could satisfy that demand. Even so, at that period Hereford was not the first place in the county where an iron-founding business was established.

An iron-foundry (in a small way) was opened by John Meredith in Kington in 1815, which was moved to new premises at Sunset, Kington in 1820, a number of years before Captain Radford's foundry in Hereford.[5] Meredith's enterprise was no doubt helped by the improved communications offered by the Hay tramroad.

CAPTAIN RADFORD'S FOUNDRY IN FRIAR STREET

The first iron-foundry in Hereford itself was established by Captain William Radford R.N., who is one of those interesting characters who appear, play an active role in the city—and then disappear! In this case Radford was born locally, but spent a good part of his earlier life in the Royal Navy, details of which were recorded in the *Naval Biographical Dictionary* of 1849. He was born on 9 November 1780, entered the Royal Navy in March 1803, and was promoted to lieutenant on 22 February 1815.[6] There is no record of his promotion to Captain, or of when he left the Royal Navy, but it may have been soon after the end of the Napoleonic Wars later that year, with the consequent reduction of the size of the fleet. It is possible that he served on a merchant ship before he came to Herefordshire, hence the courtesy title of Captain, and it is certain that he kept up with developments in naval architecture.

William Radford was recorded as living in Kington in the middle 1820s, so the William Radford of Kington who took out a game licence in 1823 was almost certainly him.[7] Soon after there was a proposal to form a Steam Navigation Company for the Wye, published in the *Hereford Journal* on 12 January1825, and later evidence shows that Radford was the promoter. A subscription book was opened in April 1825 and by July 1825 it was announced that half the necessary amount had been raised.[8] On 8 November 1826 it was reported in the *Hereford Journal* that some £1550 had been subscribed, and that further subscriptions would be received by Captain Radford at Kington.

While all this was going on, an advertisement appeared in the *Hereford Journal* on 11 October 1826, publicising the publication, by Captain Radford R.N., of a prospectus for a steam boat company to be based in Aberystwyth, for the coasting trade to Liverpool and Bristol, via Beaumaris and Tenby, respectively. It was also the intention to improve the communication from London to Ireland, via Hereford and Kington, either to Aberdovey or Aberystwyth, a difficult undertaking, and not the most direct route, as was pointed out by a letter published a fortnight later, and the matter was quietly dropped. It was hardly likely to have been successful in the year when Thomas Telford's superbly engineered Holyhead road was completed.

In 1827 William Radford organised for the Wye Steam Boat Company the construction of the steam boat called the *Paul Pry*, of 31 tons register, the completion of which was announced in the *Hereford Journal* of 2 January 1828, and it was sent downriver for fitting out. It was the intention to use this boat as motive power for barges, a letter about which was published by its proposer in the *Hereford Journal* three weeks later, the same issue that reported the return of the *Paul Pry* after successful trials pulling barges up-river. Details in the anonymous letter identify the writer as Radford, and also establish that he was then living at Dry Bridge House.[9] However, little more was heard of the project and the *Paul Pry* was used elsewhere.[10]

On 12 June 1828 William Radford, then of St Owen Street, married Anne Weaver at St Peter's church, Hereford.[11] However, his wife died on 26 January 1830, 'to the inexpressible grief of her disconsolate husband.'[12] His furniture was advertised as being for sale by auction in

May 1830, it being stated that it was the 'Property of Wm. Radford, Esq. R.N. who is about to leave the neighbourhood.'[13] As usual there was no report of the results of the auction, but it seems, from subsequent references in the local papers, that he remained in Hereford, still living in St Owen Street.[14]

Iron-founding in Hereford began with the establishment of a major foundry in Friars Street—then called Quakers' Lane—by William Radford in 1834, and a notice of this was published in the *Hereford Journal* on 15 January 1834.[15] The same paper reported on 12 March 1834 that the foundation stone had been laid, while in January 1835 it was advertised that the foundry was then ready to supply orders, but the business was not in full operation until February 1836.[16]

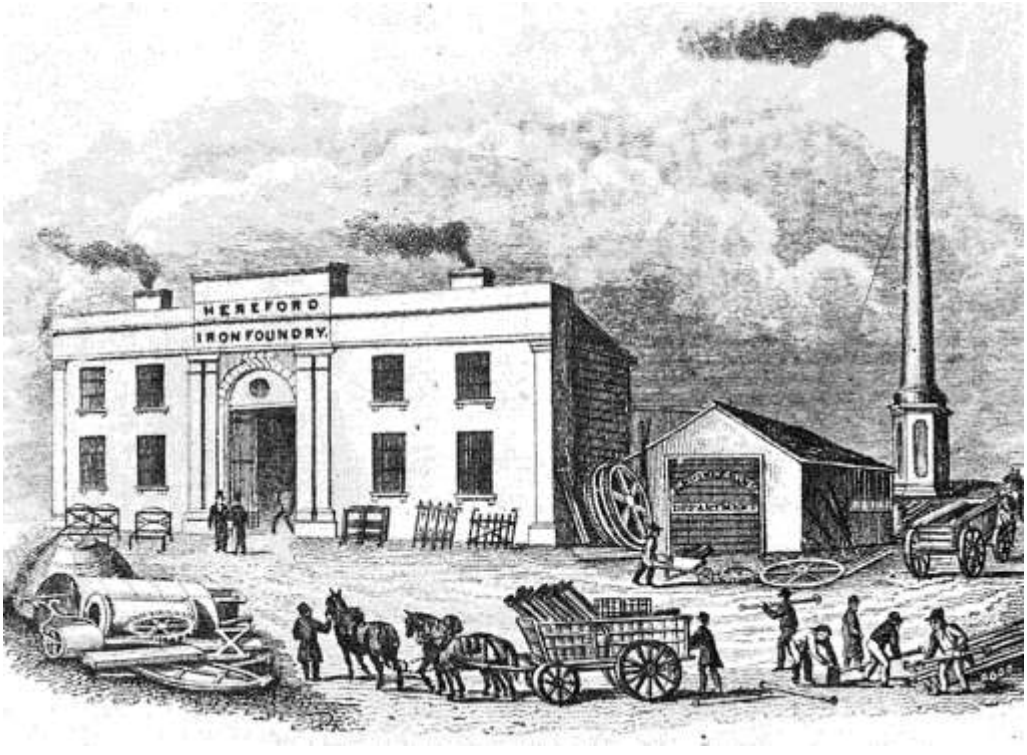

Figure 1. Radford's iron-foundry in Friar Street, from a trade card in T. T. Davies's *Illustrations of Herefordshire*, Vol. 1, p.83 in Hereford Reference Library

While William Radford was setting up the foundry, he was also building a steam vessel named *Water Witch*, at a site above Wye bridge, and launched on 30 April 1834 in front of a large crowd. The report of the launch that was published in the *Hereford Journal* of 7 May 1834 stated that she was 'built upon a partly new construction so as to ensure a light draught of water.' The subsequent history of the *Water Witch* lay elsewhere, but Radford's interests suggest that this vessel may well have been constructed using iron sheets.

Once in full production, a wide variety of goods were cast at the Friars Street foundry.

On 1 June 1836 it was reported in the *Hereford Journal* that the foundry had cast a veranda for the Mitre Hotel in Broad Street, also that kitchen ranges were being manufactured.[17] (The very decorative portico now in front of the former Mitre Hotel (Plate 3.1) is, sadly, not that by Radford). Almost eighteen months later it was announced that a furnace had been erected to enable small items to be cast twice a day. Then, in a report on the celebrations for Queen Victoria's coronation, it was said that salutes had been fired at Captain Radford's foundry, from carronades cast there.[18]

When the foundry was set up, William Radford was the sole proprietor, and must have invested a considerable sum in the enterprise, but in 1838 an attempt was made to convert the business into a Joint Stock Company.[19] One of the selling points related to William Radford's interest in waterborne transport, and the prospectus stated that 'The demand for wrought iron boats is daily increasing...' and made a great point of the fact that such a boat needed much less depth of water, a boat carrying 25 tons needing only fourteen inches of water. The detail given in the adverts makes plain the scale of the business, which encompassed all sort of engineering as well as the foundry business. But after the initial flurry of adverts, nothing further was heard of the Joint Stock Company, and it must be assumed that there was not enough interest from investors.[20] Certainly, the business remained in Captain Radford's hands.

Captain Radford was a notable local figure, and in 1837 was chosen as Bishop's Bailiff for the ensuing year. The following year he became a Town Councillor for Monmouth Ward, following the death of his predecessor, and reports in the local papers give his address as being in Bridge Street,[21] where he had moved by 1836 and where he was resident at the time of the 1841 census. He was also a prominent member of the Hereford Philosophical Society and lectured to the society on his interest in naval architecture.[22]

Unfortunately, the business ran into difficulties, and in the summer of 1841 the sale by auction of the fixtures and the stock-in-trade was advertised, this to take place under an execution from the Sheriff of Herefordshire.[23] This sale did not take place, as advertisements in the autumn of the same year stated that the stock in trade and effects of the business would be sold by auction in October at a date to be announced.[24] Again nothing happened, as an advert in the *Hereford Times* of Sat. 3 September 1842 stated that the manufactured stock of the Hereford Iron-foundry was then being sold at a very considerable reduction in prices. This was an extended process, and the stock was still being advertised at very low prices in March 1845.[25]

Meanwhile the business seems to have carried on in some form, despite Captain Radford's departure for London in 1844, and it is likely, but not certain, that iron-founding was continuing.[26] However, on 27 June 1846 it was reported in the *Hereford Times* that a plan to convert the iron-foundry into a corn mill was under consideration. Possibly because of this the foundry closed that summer, a fact which was only referred to in passing some while later and not reported at the time. On 13 January 1849 the *Hereford Times* reported on a court case, the defendant being accused of stealing tools etc. from the iron-foundry in Friars Street, the property of Captain Radford. In his evidence, one witness stated that the foundry had been closed for two years the previous June; i.e. June 1846. In the summer of 1850 the plant and machinery of the iron-foundry were advertised to be sold by auction, but again this did not take place as the machinery remained *in situ*. The advertisements for this sale record that it took place at the direction of the executors of the late Francis Hamp, Esq., so at some point there had been a change in ownership.[27] Then early in 1853 the premises were advertised as being for

sale by auction, the advert stating that the machinery etc. might, or might not, be included in the sale.[28] Although, as usual, the result of the auction was not reported, the premises did change hands at this time, as in the evidence in a court case about a privy, reported in the *Hereford Journal* on 26 October 1853, it was stated that the foundry had formerly belonged to Mr John Hamp, but had recently been sold, and the witness did not know who the owner was. This seems to have been Charles Watkins who, in 1855, converted part of the site into the Imperial Flour Mills.[29]

THE LADMORE FOUNDRY

A few years after the establishment of his business Captain Radford had competition, which may have led to his financial problems. In 1832 John Ladmore, a whitesmith and (domestic) bell-hanger, moved to Hereford from Kington, establishing a business in Eign Gate.[30] In 1835 the business was removed to Widemarsh Street, where Ladmore developed his business as a gunsmith, a trade in which he had been engaged in Kington.[31] It seems that he was keen to expand his business, as in 1838 he advertised that a specimen of Dr Arnott's cast-iron stove could be seen at his premises and that he was in the process of making arrangements for the manufacture of stoves of this design. However, it was not until late in the following year that he announced that every description of castings in iron and brass could be manufactured on the premises of John Ladmore and Sons. No doubt for the sake of publicity, in December 1839 it was reported that a stove of Dr Arnott's design had been presented to All Saints' church in the city.[32]

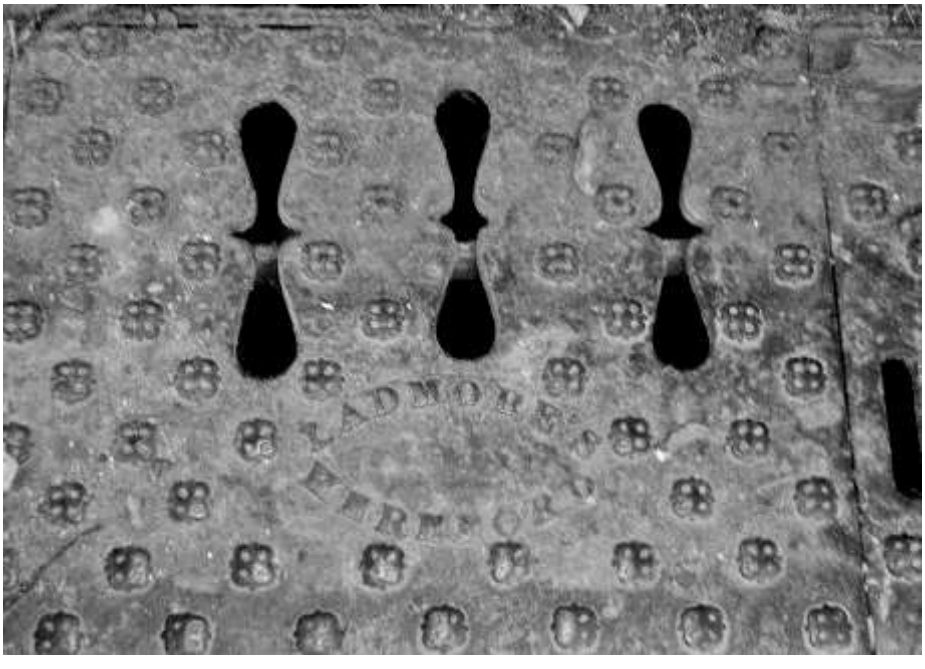

Figure 2. One of a pair of cellar flaps outside 34 Etnam Street, Leominster, cast by Ladmore's of Hereford. Most cellar flaps by the main foundries have this type of decoration although in varying sizes

Thereafter the ownership of the business becomes somewhat confused, but within a few years it seems that John's sons were running the business. Evidence in a court case in 1850 indicated that John Ladmore jun. and his brother William were in partnership in about 1841, and in the mid 1840s John Ladmore sen. left the city for a while, returning a few years later. In 1845 the firm was styled John Ladmore jun. and Co., in 1847 Ladmore Bros. It is also evident that Thomas Ladmore was involved in the business, as on his marriage in 1847 he was described as an iron-founder, but it is clear that John Ladmore jun. was the main figure in the firm.[33] When, in 1849, a contract was placed for the supply and erection of a cast-iron suspension bridge over the river Ithon at Disserth, it was dealt with by John Ladmore jun. However, the contract was not completed in time, and withholding of part of the money was considered.[34]

The business was expanded to take in mechanical engineering contracts, and on 9 January 1858 an advert by John Ladmore in the *Hereford Times* advised that steam engines etc. could be repaired. But this was evidently not successful, and in March 1860 William Ladmore advertised that he was relinquishing the business, and that the plant and patterns of the business would be sold by auction on the premises on 19 March 1860.[35] John Ladmore had financial problems, and on 4 April 1860 the *Hereford Journal* reported that he had been summoned for non-payment of the poor rate. In all this John Ladmore sen. was in the background, and possibly involved in the firm but not in a managerial way. He had returned to Hereford after his absence in the middle 1840s, and when his wife died in 1850 he was resident in Widemarsh Street.[36] He also seems to have had financial difficulties, and in 1860 he also was summoned for non-payment of the poor rate: he was then still living in Widemarsh Street. This difficulty may have been the reason that, when there was a vacancy in Williams' Hospital, Hereford, he was chosen by the Trustees to fill it. Curiously enough, the report in the *Hereford Times* of 14 November 1863 refers to him as a gunsmith, and not as an iron-founder. After the closure of the iron-founding business those of the Ladmore brothers who had been involved went their separate ways, and continued in other businesses.[37]

HODGES AND SON, BATH STREET

It may have been due to the running down and closure of Radford's iron-foundry that another foundry was set up in Hereford in competition with the more active Ladmore foundry. Some time in the mid-to-late 1840s a foundry was set up under the style of Hodges and Son, the partners being Chaplin Hodges and his son Frederick, Chaplin Hodges being an iron-founder in Ludlow.[38] It was first advertised in Hunt's directory of 1847, which stated that the business was 'Hodges and Son' with premises in Withey Walk, Hereford, while Pigot's directory of 1850 gives the location as Mill Street, and Lascelle's directory of 1851 gives it as Willow Walk. The census of 1851 records that Frederick Hodges and his household lived in Mill Street, in St Peter's parish. This was a short-lived name for what is now Bath Street, and should not be confused with the later Mill Street, which was one of the roads in Hereford renamed in 1855.[39] Wood's 1836 *Survey of Hereford* shows that there was no development outside the city ditch in the sector between Commercial Square and St. Owen's Gate, but soon afterwards a road was built outside the city ditch, and the resulting development was already in progress in the 1840s. The 1851 census gives an idea of the extent of development at that time. For this part of the city, the enumerator worked down Commercial Road, then the County Gaol and The Priory, before returning to Commercial Square, and then listing three houses in Sally

Walk, followed by a number of houses in Mill Street, including that occupied by Frederick Hodges. The enumerator recorded that these houses were in St. Peter's parish, and so cannot have been in what was then Mill Lane, which was in St. Owen's parish. At this period Mill Street was most, if not all, of what is now Bath Street.

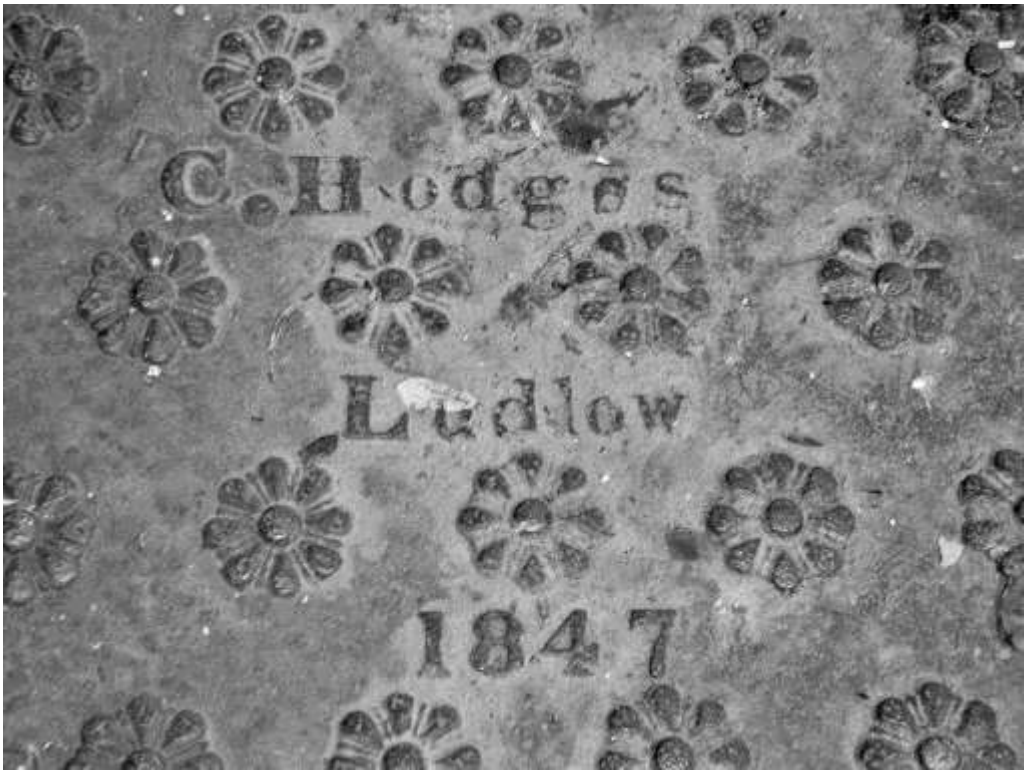

Figure 3. A dated cellar flap outside 18 Etnam Street, Leominster, cast by Chaplin Hodges of Ludlow in 1847, at about the period when his Hereford foundry was established

The reason why the road from Commercial Square to St. Owen's Gate was called Mill Street, albeit fleetingly, is not hard to find. In 1847 the Society for Aiding the Industrious made a proposal to build a steam corn mill, and a piece of land was purchased, and the mill built, its opening being first advertised in the *Hereford Times* on 8 April 1848. From this it was a simple step for the road in front to be called Mill Street, but had nothing to do with the Castle Mill. Cassey's directory of 1858 still recorded that the Hereford Steam Mill Co., with manager Thomas Day, was in Mill Street, and the same directory recorded that a W. Strong was a shoemaker living in Mill Lane, so the two roads were clearly distinct when the information was collected. This late use of the name Mill Street for Bath Street indicates that the information in Cassey's directory was collected over a long period, and did not take into account the name changes in 1855.

Frederick Hodges was a bachelor, and his elder sister Harriet kept house for him, recorded in the various censuses. In 1851 his older brother Chaplin was staying in the house at the time of the census, when he was described as a visitor. The firm was working under the name of Chaplin Hodges and Son, the son in this case being Frederick Hodges, but in 1863 the co-partnership between Frederick Hodges and his father was dissolved, with Frederick becoming the principal of the firm.[40] Consequently Littlebury's directory of 1867 listed the foundry business in Bath Street under the name of Frederick alone, and stated that he was living at 18 Bath Street. The business would appear to have been doing well, as the 1871 census stated that Fredrick Hodges was an iron-founder, employing 4 men, and records that his premises were adjoining a beer house called the Baker's Arms, no doubt very useful to replace liquid lost in the heat of the foundry! His premises were between the new road and the city wall, adjacent to Commercial Square. In 1876 the business was sold to Richard Harding, and in Littlebury's directory of 1876 Harding was listed as an iron-founder there.

Although the firm was in a good way of business and clearly concentrated on iron-founding, little has survived of its products. We know, for instance, that in 1850 50 cast-iron gratings were supplied for the ventilation system in the gaol in Commercial Road, but these are long gone,[41] and a more tangible record of the work of the foundry is in a number of cast-iron mile markers by the roads of Herefordshire. There is also an uninscribed cellar flap outside Turnpike House, Barton Road, Hereford, the decoration of which bears a distinct resemblance to that used at the Ludlow foundry, and so may have been cast at the Hodges foundry.

THE BARTON IRON WORKS, FRIARS STREET

In the early 1860s the Hodges foundry was the only one in Hereford, and there was clearly an opportunity for another, particularly one that also specialised in mechanical engineering. This opportunity was taken by Felix Smith, a dealer in agricultural machinery from Upton Bishop who, in the mid 1860s, also had a depot in the market at Hereford. The opening of the business of Felix Smith and Sons at the Barton Iron Works, Friars Street, as engineers, millwrights and iron- and brass-founders, was first announced in the *Hereford Times* on Saturday 16 March 1867. It was stated that all sorts of ironwork would be carried out, including the manufacture and repair of stationary and portable steam engines. Eight months later it was announced that the business was then in the hands of Hubert Smith (one of the sons) and was called Hubert Smith and Co. The works had been extended and more powerful machinery added.[42] How long the firm continued is, at present, unclear, but it may well not have prospered.

In 1878 Thomas Nayler set up an engineering and iron-founding business, operating in the same premises as the Smith business, part of the old Radford ironworks, although any firm connection with the firm of Hubert Smith and Co. has yet to be established. Nayler had started a career in law, but set up the business because of his skills in engineering.[43] Kelly's directory of 1879 records that he also had a showroom in New Market Street as well as the foundry premises in Friars Street. By 1885 the firm had become Nayler and Co. Nayler's developed the mechanical side of the business, in the 1890s becoming well known for steam wagons, and in the years leading up to the First World War developing a series of oil engines. Regular advertisements in the *Hereford Times* at this period indicate that there was also a thriving business in second-hand machinery, as well as servicing and repairing motor vehicles, and it is known that Nayler's also produced their own motor vehicle. Castings were supplied as part of the business, and a number of cast-iron coalholes cast by the company still survive in the

Whitecross area. The business was diverse enough as to be a supplier of millstones.[44] The firm prospered, and a photograph of the staff in 1908 included Mr T. Nayler and his three sons, with 36 employees.[45] However, Thomas Nayler died only two years later, on 21 April 1910, at the age of 71. In announcing his death, and commenting on his good personal qualities, the report in the *Hereford Times* of 23 April 1910 commented that Thomas Nayler's wife had predeceased him by some 36 hours, but he had been too ill to be told.

Figure 4. A stop-cock cover, at the entrance from Castle St. into the Cathedral Close, cast by Nayler and Co. Ltd.

The extent of the business in the years leading up to the World War I can be deduced from an illustrated advertisement that appeared in Jakeman and Carver's directory of 1914. But after the WWI the firm was much reduced in scale and gradually declined. In the middle 1920s the firm was run by Arthur W. Davis who continued in that capacity until he retired in 1961. At the end the main work was repair work for farmers, using the machine shop, and the only iron-founding was casting manhole covers of varying sizes. The site was then in a very poor condition and iron-founding ceased.[46]

RICHARD MORRIS HARDING/HARDING BROTHERS

It was noted above that the Hodges foundry in Bath Street was sold to Richard Morris Harding in 1876, a well-known local ironmonger, who set up his business in Commercial Square in 1859. He was the only son of George Bishop Harding, a native of Gloucester city, who seems to have come to Herefordshire in the 1830s. George Harding married Mary Morris at Holme Lacy on 23 December 1833, where Richard Morris Harding was christened on 22 February 1835. In the register George Harding was described as carpenter, and the family was resident in the parish.[47] By 1840 George Harding was licensee of the Angler, in Union Street, and was recorded there in the 1841 census. He had moved on by 1844, as there was no record of the Angler in a directory of that year, but soon afterwards, he had moved to the Crown and Sceptre in Commercial Street, which in 1844 had been held by Thomas Cutler. Certainly he was there in 1847, as Hunt's directory shows, and was there at the time of the 1851 census. By 1856 George Harding had retired from the Crown and Sceptre, which was then occupied by W. Jones, and at the time of the 1861 census he was living in Fownhope, although he moved back to Hereford a few years later.

Richard Morris Harding, the only son of George and Mary, was living with his parents at the Angler at the time of the 1841 census, but at the time of the 1851 census was living at 12 High Town, where he had been apprenticed to the ironmonger Charles Bennett.[48] After he completed his apprenticeship he continued to work for Charles Bennett, and in February 1856 became a business partner.[49] However, this did not work out, and the partnership was dissolved on 1 June 1857.[50] In 1859, at the age of 24, he set up in business on his own in Commercial

Square, an advert in the *Hereford Times* on 7 January 1860 for this business stating that he was a general and furnishing ironmonger, cutler and japanner.[51] This business evidently prospered, and he subsequently moved to 48 Commercial Street, in the premises that had formerly been the Crown and Sceptre Inn. In 1863 the Crown and Sceptre was still licensed, but by 1867 Richard Harding taken over the premises, being recorded there in Littlebury's directory of that year, which also records him in Union Street, to which the back of the premises extended. The inference is that George Harding had acquired the freehold of the premises, enabling his son to move his business there, to a larger site.

The business expanded further in 1876 by taking over the nearby foundry in Bath Street, formerly owned by Frederick Hodges. Although R. M. Harding was recorded as an iron-founder in 1876, Kelly's directories of 1879 and 1885 do not record him in that trade. However, Wells & Martin's directory of 1886 records 'Harding's foundry and warehouse' in its street directory and Jakeman and Carver's directory of 1890 has a large display advertisement which features an engraving of the foundry premises. The Bath Street premises were conveniently near to the rear of the Harding premises in Union Street, and iron-founding evidently fitted in with the expanding ironmongery business. Richard Harding Morris was clearly a good businessman, and the expanding business evidently did well. In 1884 new premises were built on the Crown and Sceptre site, and at the top of the façade facing Commercial Street an inscription proudly proclaimed 'Established 1859.'

In 1886 Richard Harding took two of his sons into the business, L. G. S. Harding and R. M. Harding. No doubt feeling that the business was in good hands, he retired in 1890, the business then becoming known as Harding Bros. Another brother, C. J. Harding became a partner in 1901. Expansion continued by taking over other businesses, including those of Messrs. T. & H. Carless, in High Town, James Read in Bridge Street (1914), and Messrs. Daffern and Edwards, High Town (1931). Also, in 1907 a year's lease, renewable, of four bays in the Cattle Market was granted by Joseph Carless, Town Clerk, on behalf of the city, to L. G. S. Harding, on behalf of Harding Bros., at an annual rent of £16. These had been previously occupied by Meats and Meats, and Bayley Bros.[52]

Figure 5 (left). A Harding Bros. stop-cock cover, in the kerb in Mill Street, Hereford

It is also clear that the other premises in which the business was carried on were owned by individual members of the family and not by the business, as demonstrated by two surviving leases, both dated 8 February 1910 and both effective for 10 years from 1 January 1910. By one, George William Harding, ironmonger, granted a 10-year lease of the foundry premises in Bath Street to Harding Bros. Ltd., while by the other, Leonard George Steele Harding and Richard Morris Harding, ironmongers, granted to the business a similar 10-year lease of the premises at 48 Commercial Street.[53] The business was reorganised in 1914, and in addition to those directors mentioned above, the following joined the Board, after long service in the company: Messrs. G.W. Harding, E. R. Harding, C. B. Chamings, C. J. Wingate (secretary), O. J. Strong, L. H. Hall, and F. H. Long.[54]

Of the Harding brothers, the last to be connected with the firm was Cuthbert John Harding, who died on 11 March 1956 at the age of 87. In his early life he had spent five years working in Detroit in the United States, before returning and joining the family firm, from which he retired in 1946, although he maintained a keen interest, was chairman of the board of directors, and visited the Commercial Street premises every day.[55]

Figure 6 (right). A manhole cover outside Sarum House, 3 St Ethelbert Street, Hereford, cast by Harding Bros.

On 27 April 1964 the firm was amalgamated with J. C. Baker Holdings Ltd. of Worcester, and it was stated that the 80-strong staff would continued to be employed. At that time the chairman, Mr Hall, and Mr C.J. Wingate, director/secretary, were still serving the company, and were the only surviving directors from the formation of the limited company. All the older directors retired, and Mr A.T.S. Wingate, Mr W.W. Strong, and Mr J. Price carried on. Of the amalgamation, the report in the *Hereford Times* stated:

> 'This move had been made to ensure that the business was continued as part of the expanding city of Hereford and to ensure the continued employment of staff.'

Unfortunately this proved less than accurate, as the following year the main premises at 48 Commercial Street was sold to Tesco, which firm also acquired the Coach and Horses public house next door. These were demolished and a branch of Tesco was built on the site, a building which does not enhance the streetscape. However, the restricted site did not enable expansion, and subsequently another, larger, branch was built and the former premises eventually became a branch of MacDonald's.

Worse was to come, as in the mid 1960s the inner ring road was being built. As a result of widening of the roads in the area of Commercial Square, Harding's foundry, which had probably been run down, was demolished in 1967 leaving only premises in Union Street.[56]

These latter were dealing mainly with what would now be called domestic white goods and their repair. This part of the business lingered for a number of years, but finally closed, but the memory of the firm has remained in the memory of an older generation of Herefordians.

MINOR IRON-FOUNDERS

There are other minor iron-founders that must be considered. In Littlebury's directory of 1876, as well as Harding's foundry there were two other iron-founders listed, T. & W. Bray, of Blackmarston Street, and Evans Bros. and Co., of New Market Street, both of whom advertised in the directory as founders, engineers, and millwrights. Nothing further is known of Evans Bros. and Co., and if indeed the company manufactured cast-iron nothing is known to have survived. It may be significant that in 1879 Thomas Nayler had a showroom in New Market Street, suggesting that he may have taken over the business.

Thomas Bray was a millwright of some celebrity, and at the time that Lascelle's directory was published in 1851 he was in partnership with William Cartwright as a millwright, machinist, and French stone maker. The partnership split up in 1853 and the former partners went into business on their own account, no doubt in competition.[57] The 1871 census still recorded Thomas Bray as a millwright, with the assistance of his two sons, Thomas and William, but within a few years (and certainly by 1876) the firm had become T. & W. Bray, and Littlebury's directory of 1876 refers to the firm as iron-founders, millwrights and machinists. Whether this was Thomas sen. or jun. is unclear, but since Mrs Thomas Bray is recorded in the same directory as a baker and confectioner on her own account, it is probable that Thomas sen. was still working in the millwrighting business. This is the only advertisement for the firm as carrying out iron-founding, and earlier cast-iron elements for mills are considered to have been cast for Thomas Bray sen.; it is known that for some time he was a customer of Turton's foundry in Leominster. However, the venture into iron-founding appears to have been unsuccessful, and by 1879, the date of the next directory, the firm had ceased trading. The brothers continued to work as engine fitters, but as journeyman, not on their own account, and Thomas Bray sen. is recorded both in directories and in the 1881 census as a baker and confectioner.[58]

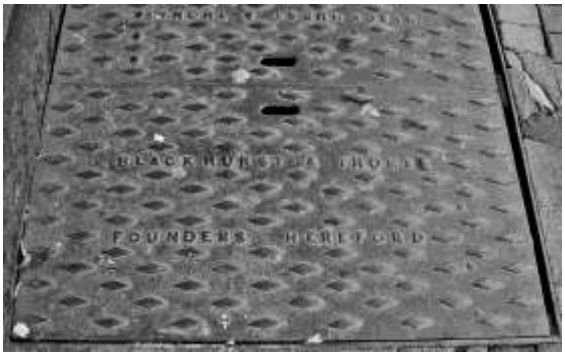

Figure 7. A fine pair of cellar flaps is in the pavement outside The Thai on the Wye in West Street, Hereford, cast by Blackhurst and Thomas, *c*.1880

A name that has only been found on the products of his foundry is that of [Thomas] Blackhurst, whose name does not appear in any trade directories. In 1881 he was living with his family in Mill Street, and the census records that he was then aged 34, had been born in Birmingham, and was an iron-founder. His name is not recorded in Kelly's directories of 1879 and 1885, giving the extreme dates for his working life in Hereford.

Two drain covers in Barroll Street are inscribed ‘PARKER’S IMPROVED / BLACKHURST & C^{O} / FOUNDERS HEREFORD’ while another outside 15 Cantilupe Street is inscribed ‘BLACKHURST & THOMAS / IMPROVED HEREFORD.’ At present it is not possible to say which came first. There are also cellar flaps outside nos. 6 and 51 Eign Road which bear the names of Blackhurst and Thomas, and a fine pair outside the Thai restaurant in West Street with these names on. It is not certain where the foundry was, but it is possible that Blackhurst used the Bath Street premises which had been taken over by R. M. Harding in 1876, and which he does not seem to have been using fully at this time.

Figure 8. Although the name of George Bonnor of Hereford appears on a pair of cellar flaps outside 1 Castle Street, Hereford, he was an ironmonger and not an ironfounder

Figure 9. One surviving cellar flap of a pair outside the Chandos Pharmacy, at the junction of St. Ethelbert Street and Cantilupe Street. T. & H. Carless was a firm of ironmongers, subsequently taken over by Harding Bros. The decoration is unusual

At 1 Castle Street, Hereford, the building which houses the Cathedral Junior School, there are a pair of cellar flaps which bear the name of G. Bonnor, Hereford. He was an ironmonger, and nothing has been found to indicate that he was an iron-founder, so it is likely that this had been cast for him at one of the other foundries in Hereford, with his name on it, rather then the name of the founder. Since he retired from business in 1847, this might have been the Hodges foundry (just), or perhaps the Radford foundry.[59] Also in this category is the fine cellar cover on the St. Ethelbert Street side of the Chandos pharmacy, one of a pair of cellar flaps, which bears the name of T. & H. Carless, a firm known as ironmongers rather than iron-founders, although in the 1876 directory they were also advertising as iron merchants. The cover does not resemble any product of the Hereford foundries so far identified, and it may well have been cast elsewhere, through contacts in the trade. The firm was taken over by the Harding brothers in the early 1890s.

Finally, there are a number of manhole covers, mainly from the twentieth century which bear the names of builders or sanitary engineers, which were most likely cast locally by one of the foundries discussed above.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Most of this paper was researched in the Hereford Reference Library before the recent run-down in the local collection, and thanks are due to Marianne Percival for help given. Alan Stoyel has been very helpful with references to millwrights, and Jean Dobson has been very gracious in passing on the results of her genealogical researches into the history of Hereford, which give a possible background to the interestingly named Chaplin Hodges. This paper began as an article on Hardings, but with the involvement of that firm in iron-founding, the emphasis changed to a more general paper on iron-founding in Hereford, and I am grateful to Roz Lowe for helpful suggestions in remodelling the paper. I am also grateful to her for genealogical information on the Radford family.

REFERENCES

[1] Notable examples of bridges are those at Ironbridge, 1779, a tramway bridge and aqueduct, built in 1793 to supply the Cyfartha ironworks, Merthyr Tydfil, and the famous bridge at Sunderland, opened 1796, replaced 1926.

[2] Iscoed Mansion, Ferryside, Carmarthenshire, begun in 1793, now a derelict shell, used cast-iron beams between the front and rear walls, for supporting the floors. There is no evidence of disturbance in the brick walls, and they must be considered as part of the primary structure. In 1812, when the ironmaster John Cragg who was a fanatic in using cast-iron for all purposes, was designing a church and five houses which he was going to build in Toxteth, Liverpool, he met the architect Thomas Rickman, who helped him with the design. The five houses were built, using many cast-iron elements, including at least one cast-iron staircase. While the church of St. Michael's in the Hamlet was designed at this time, the structure being essentially of cast-iron, it was not built until 1814-15, and was predated by St. George's, Everton, another cast-iron church designed by Rickman after St. Michael's, built 1812-14, and consecrated in 1814, for which see *Liverpool Mercury*, 28 October 1814. Another cast-iron church from the collaboration was St. Philip's, Hardman Street, the opening of which was advertised in the *Liverpool Mercury* on 1 Nov. 1816, since demolished. See Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England. South Lancashire.* (1969), 221-2, 242-3, 248.

[3] D. Whitehead, 'The Building of Eastnor Castle, 1812-24', *TWNFC* Vol. 60 (2012), 101.

[4] Rhys Jenkins, 'Industries in Herefordshire in Bygone Times,' *TWNFC* (1937), 70-73. *Hereford Journal* (henceforward *HJ*) 5 Feb. 1806. The list contains no examples of cast-iron.

[5] [Richard Parry], *The History of Kington* (1845), 45-6.

[6] He was the third son (and fourth child) of John Radford, of Smalley, Derbyshire. John Radford had married the heiress Theophila Vaughan, daughter of Alexander Vaughan, of Brilley, and in the early 1780s was living, with his family, in the estate called Parkstile (later called Huntington Court) in the parish of Huntington, near Kington. Although the parish register for Huntington does not record the baptisms of any of John Radford's four oldest children (Frances Theophila, John, Alexander and William), censuses from 1851 onwards show that they were all born in the Kington area. In 1782 John Radford moved back to Smalley, Derbyshire, where his further eight children were born. (See *HJ* 28 Aug. 1782, where Parkstile and the adjoining farm of Mahollam, then in the possession of John Radford, were advertised as being to let.)

[7] *HJ*, 1 Oct. 1823.

[8] *HJ*, 20 April 1825, 19 July 1825.

[9] At this period there were two houses in St. Martin's called Dry Bridge, the other occupied by Thomas Bird.

[10] A meeting of the Wye Steam Boat Company was held at Kington on 26 Jan. 1828 at which it was decided that the objects of the company could not be met owing to the lack of suitable barges, and it was decided that the *Paul Pry* should be sent to Gloucester to be employed for the benefit of the company. (*HJ*, 30 Jan. 1828). Then, on 13 Feb. 1828 it was reported that the *Paul Pry* would visit Gloucester when its register etc. could be obtained, but it was not until 22 July 1829 that it was reported in the *HJ*, that the *Paul Pry* was fitting out in Gloucester Basin and would sail for Liverpool 'this week.'

[11] *HJ*, 18 June 1828. The *Naval Biographical Dictionary* incorrectly records that this marriage took place in May 1827.

[12] *HJ*, 27 Jan. 1830.

[13] *HJ*, 27 Jan. 1830, 28 April 1830 & 5 May 1830.

[14] *HJ*, 6 April 1831, 8 Jan. 1833.

[15] The site, on the west side of Quakers' Lane, which was about three acres in extent, was bought by Radford from James Eysam Graham, and his wife Sarah, of Ludford, for £650, by an indenture dated 18 February 1834. Herefordshire Record Office (henceforward HRO), AP 39, 149.

[16] *HJ*, 14 Jan. 1835, *Hereford Times* (henceforward *HT*) 17 Jan. 1835; *HJ*, 17 Feb. 1836.
[17] Also reported in *HT*, 11 June 1836. A print by W.H. Vale, published *c.* 1840, shows what appears to the Mitre with a splendid cast-iron balcony at first-floor level, but no sign of the portico that now graces the front of the building, suggesting that this reference is to the balcony rather than a portico. This balcony can also be seen in a photograph of *c.*1870 (D. Foxton, *Hereford Then and Now* Vol. 3 (1997), 24.) where there is no sign of the present porch. Although it is suggested that this dates from c.1865 (Brooks and Pevsner, *Hereford* (2012), 325) it must have been installed later in the century, perhaps reusing elements from Radford's verandah. The name of the founder on the south-west column of the porch is obscured by paint, and only by removing the paint will it be legible, and the probable period of the porch in its present form be established.
[18] *HJ*, 6 Dec. 1837, 4 July 1838.
[19] *HJ*, 14 Jan. 1835, *HT*, 25 Aug. 1838.
[20] *HT*, 25 Aug. 1838, *HJ*, 29 Aug. 1838 & 15 Sep. 1838, and *Worcestershire Chronicle*, 6 Sep. 1838.
[21] *HT*, 3 Dec. 1836, *HJ*, 7 Dec. 1836.
[22] *HJ*, 14 Oct. 1837; *HJ*, 25 April 1838, *HT*, 28 April 1838; *HJ*, 17 April 1839, *HT*, 27 April 1839. As a consequence of Radford's interest in naval architecture, in 1840 he published a 90-page book entitled *On the Construction of the Ark as adapted to the Naval Architecture of the Present Day; on the Equipment of Vessels, and on Steam Navigation to India*. Although published in London, it was printed by Elliott, in Hereford.
[23] *HJ*, 2 & 9 June 1841, *HT*, 29 May & 5 June 1841.
[24] *HT*, 25 Sep. 1841, *HJ*, 29 Sep. & 6 Oct. 1841.
[25] *HT*, 11 & 25 Feb. 1843, *HJ*, 5 April 1843, *HT*, 3 June 1843 & 30 Sep. 1843, *HJ*, 4 Oct. 1843 &28 Aug. 1843, *HT*, 7 Sep. 1844 & 6 Nov. 1845. There was also an advert in *HJ*, 6 Nov. 1844 for straw cutters, so it was not entirely a sale of stock.
[26] This departure seems to have been unplanned, and as a consequence his position as a councillor for Monmouth Ward was declared void and an election was arranged to fill the vacancy. See *HT*, 3 Aug. 1844, *HJ*, 7 Aug. 1844. The latter reference states that Captain Radford had been away from the borough for more than six months. There is nothing to suggest that he ever returned, and at the time of the 1851 census he was living in a lodging house at 8 Buckingham Street, in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London. His occupation was stated to be 'Lieut. Royal Navy (Half pay).' He must therefore have been reduced to living on his naval pay. He cannot be located in the 1861 census, suggesting that he had died in the interim.
[27] *HT*, 10, 17 & 24 Aug. 1850
[28] *HJ*, 23 Feb., 2 & 9 March 1853; *HT*, 26 Feb. & 5 March 1853.
[29] *HT*, 3, 10 & 17 Nov. 1855.
[30] *HJ*, 21 March 1832.
[31] *HJ*, 9 Dec. 1835, *HT*, 12 Dec. 1838.
[32] *HT*, 24 Feb. 1838, *HJ*, 28 Feb. 1838; *HJ*, 30 Oct., 6 & 20 Nov. 1838, *HT*, 26 Oct. & 2 Nov. 1839; *HJ*, 11 Dec. 1839.
[33] *HT*, 21 Sept. 1850; *HT*, 19 June 1847; *HT*, 2 Aug. 1845; *HT*, 21 July 1847; *HT*, 3 July 1847, *HJ*, 7 July 1847.
[34] *HT*, 21 April 1849, 27 Oct. 1849, 20 April 1850, 13 July 1850. The bridge was subsequently demolished, being replaced by a more solid structure suitable for heavier traffic.
[35] *HT*, 10 March 1860, *HJ*, 14 March 1840.
[36] *HT*, 20 April 1850.
[37] For the history of the Ladmore family, see J.C Eisel, 'The Ladmore Family', *TWNFC*, 53 (2004) 97-103.
[38] Chaplin Hodges, who set up the Ludlow foundry, was the son of John Hodges, of Leominster, where he was baptised on 29 October 1794. It is likely, but not proven, that John Hodges was the millwright of that name who worked in Leominster. It is also possible that he was the John Hodges whose baptism on 10 Oct. 1765 was recorded in the St. Owen's, Hereford, register. If so, he had an older brother, Chaplin Hodges (baptised 16 July 1753, later a millwright, in Hereford), and his father and grandfather were both called Chaplin Hodges.
[39] In late 1855 Hereford Town Council decided to rename some of the streets. The recommendations of the street-naming committee were published in the *Hereford Times* on Saturday 10 Nov. 1855 and in the *Hereford Journal* on Wednesday 14 Nov. 1855 and included in these was a general alteration of various lanes to be called streets, more in keeping with the increasingly urban environment. Thus, for instance, what was Mill Lane (and before that Britons Street) became Mill Street. For some while this alteration caused citizens of Hereford to jocularly address anyone whose surname was Lane as 'Mr Street'. One of the recommendations, as published in the local papers, was 'That the street leading from Commercial-street to the south-east of St. Owen-street, should be called Baths-street.' Despite the use of the plural, it was immediately called Bath Street, as an advert for crab stocks and apple trees, placed by J. Powell, Bath-street, in the *Hereford Times* on 8 December 1855, shows.

[40] *HT* & *HJ*, both 21 March 1863.
[41] Supplement to *HT*, 5 Jan. 1850.
[42] *HT*, 9 & 23 Nov. 1867.
[43] *HT*, 23 April 1910.
[44] HRO, J70/B
[45] A. Sandford, *Hereford in old photographs* (1987), p.61. Other photographs on pp. 61&62 show the extent of the business at that time.
[46] In an email on 30 Sept. 2013, Mr George Davis, son of Mr Arthur Davis, described the condition of parts of the site as 'truly Dickensian.'
[47] HRO, MX 186.
[48] Bennett's business had its origins in the firm set up by George Bonnor, which began trading on 1 July 1820. (*HJ*, 28 June 1820) Its location was said to be 22 High-street, but the position, which was stated to be three doors along from the Sun Tavern, clearly places it as being in High Town. As the business prospered, the shop became too small, Bonnor moved to premises at 12 High Town, directly opposite his former premises, these new premises being stated as being two doors to the right of the new market, and two doors to the left of the Herefordshire Bank. (*HT*, 25 October 1834, where the former premises were still described as 22 High-street.) In November 1847 George Bonnor sold his business at 12 High Town to Charles Bennett, (*HJ*, 24 Nov., 1 & 15 Dec. 1847, *HT*, 27 Nov., 2, 4 & 18 Dec. 1847)
[49] *HJ*, 13 & 27, Feb., 12 & 26 March 1856, *HT*, 23 Feb., 8 & 22 March 1856)
[50] *HJ*, 3 & 10 June 1857, *HT*, 6 & 13 June 1857, *London Gazette* 5 June 1857.
[51] Unless otherwise stated, details of the history of the firm are taken from Hereford Times, *The Cavalcade of a Century 1832-1932*, p.31. This gives the date of establishment of the firm as 1859, confirmed by later evidence.
[52] Jakeman and Carver's Directory of 1902 records that Meats and Meats were makers of agricultural machinery, suggesting that Harding Bros. were diversifying.
[53] HRO, CK33/1/2, CK33 1/3.
[54] Although the history of the firm, published in 1932, states that the firm became a private limited liability company in 1914, the reference above predates this.
[55] *HT*, 16 March 1956.
[56] Graham Roberts, *The Shaping of Modern Hereford* (2002), 68.
[57] *HT*, 10 & 17 Sept. 1853; *HJ*, 21 Sept. 1853.
[58] Much of the information on these millwrights had been supplied by Alan Stoyel, who has identified a number of examples of Bray's work as a millwright. At the time of the 1891 census the brothers were recorded as engine fitters, but were not recorded as being in business on their own account in any trade directory.
[59] The listing description for 1 Castle Street, Hereford states (incorrectly) that the flaps bear the name G. Bonn<u>e</u>r. For Bonnor's history see note 48 above. The front of 1 Castle Street was remodelled at this period, said to have been in 1851. (Brooks and Pevsner, *Herefordshire* (2012), 321). However, the cellar flaps were clearly cast before that date, and so may well have been used in an earlier phase.

Stables in eastern Herefordshire

By EDWARD PETERS

The following analysis is based on records of farm buildings in the eastern part of Herefordshire made in the last forty years, much of it in the last ten or so. The area covered extends from just south of Tenbury Wells to a line just north of Ross, bounded on the west by the rivers Lugg and Wye, with an extension to the west of the Wye between Ross and King's Caple. On the east the parishes of Mathon and Acton Beauchamp are included, which were part of Worcestershire until 1897. There are also a few isolated farmsteads beyond this area. Recording was inevitably affected by what had survived or had not been converted to some other, non-agricultural use, or by availability of permission, which was only rarely refused. It should be noted that none of the examples are open to the public. Some 486 stables were recorded, the period covered extending up to 1880 or just after.

FARM HORSES AND THEIR USE

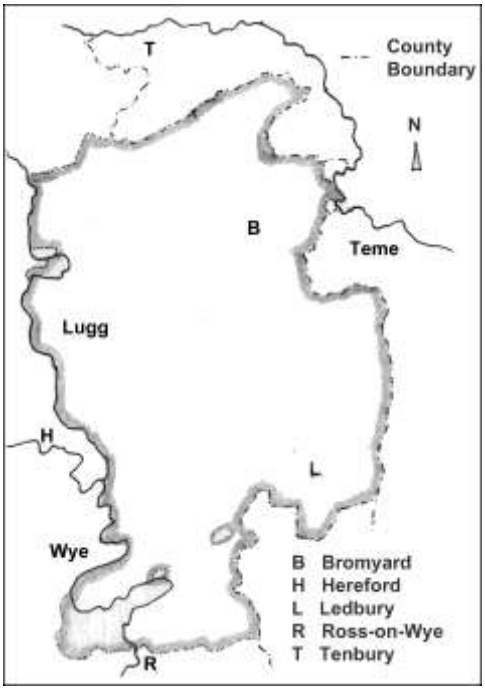

Figure 1. The area of study in eastern Herefordshire

Two types of horse were found on the farm: those required for farm work and those for riding or the trap. This analysis is concerned with the stables for the former type of horse although a few built for the latter may have been included. The number of horses for farm work was affected by different factors, including the size of the farm and its degree of compactness, unproductive travelling being involved with a scattered holding. A principal factor was the type of farming. Herefordshire was noted for corn growing up to at least the early to mid 19th century. Some conversion to grass had however taken place in the first part of that century, with further contraction of arable in the last part of the 19th century.[1] Another significant factor was the use of oxen for ploughing. This continued in the county until the late 18th century, but had died out by the mid 19th. Marshall, writing in 1788, noted that half the plough teams in the county were oxen, and that they were also used for cartage. They would, of course, have been kept in the cowhouse. A further factor was the growth of farm size in the 19th century.[2]

The largest proportion of stables recorded date from the 19th century; this probably reflects the change from using oxen noted above, as well as the increase in farm size in the 19th century

which would in any case have required larger stables. There was also an increase in farm work in the later 19th century, with more machinery. However, the number of horses used for farm work in the county rose only slightly between 1870 and 1895, so any increase will have predated this period. Such figures are not, unfortunately, available from before 1870.[3]

STABLE PLANS

There are two basic plan types for stables, both of which occur in the county. In the first (type 1) which is the earliest surviving, the horses were tied facing along the building, that is parallel to the ridge in the roof. In the second (type 2) they faced across the building.

Beginning with the first type, the earliest examples found dated from the 17th century. It was the most economical plan if there were only 3 or 4 horses, the stable being built against the gable of another building, normally the barn, which dictated its span. Frere's objection that only the outer horses received adequate ventilation presumed that this was only provided through the side walls, which was not always the case.[4] This plan accounted for just under a quarter of the stables recorded; it continued to be built into the third quarter of the 19th century.

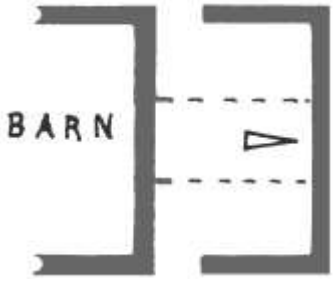

Figure 2. Plan, Type 1, Haygrove, Linton, 1790

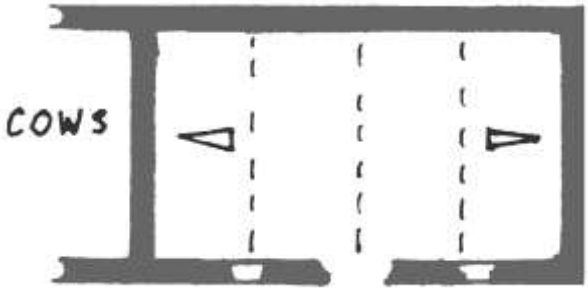

Figure 3. Plan, Type 1, Dudale's Hope, Bodenham

It could be the same date as the adjoining building, as at Haygrove Farm, Linton (1790), or Pound Farm, Coddington, or be added to an earlier building, as at Nuttall Farm, Much Marcle. A problem with the plan was the limitation in span, and so in the number of horses; only one example was recorded where the stable was slightly wider than the adjoining building, a cart shed, at Lower Buckenham, Woolhope, dating from the 1860s or early 70s. In a few cases, as at Burleigh Gate, Ocle Pychard, the stable was adjacent to the threshing floor in a barn, the loft over forming part of the barn storage for unthreshed corn, rather than being a separate loft for straw or hay. A very few were built as isolated buildings, as at The Grange, Sellack, dating from the mid 19th century; this could equally have been built with the roof the other way, which would have made it a type 2 stable. One exception in size was at Knapp Farm, Pixley, *circa* 1851, with 8 horses in a row, built as one room across the gables of two adjoining ranges.

When there were more than three or four horses, the plan could be doubled, with two rows of horses facing away from each other, with a shared, central access between. This arrangement had appeared in the county by the mid 18th century; Dudale's Hope, Bodenham is a late example. The idea was, however, found much earlier in East Anglia, a 1484 contract for a building in Suffolk describing this plan.[5] Seven examples were recorded in Herefordshire, with a further three with a cross wall with an opening dividing the two halves. In one case it

had a feed store/harness room projecting at the back, accessible from both parts. In a second, at Court Farm, Moreton Jeffries, the feed store and harness room separated the two halves, but with a wide gap between uniting the main parts. This dated from the 1870s. There was still the problem of limitation of numbers however, to six or eight horses, perhaps a reason why so few were built. The total of this arrangement is a fortieth of those recorded, little more than half the proportion found in the writer's Staffordshire survey.

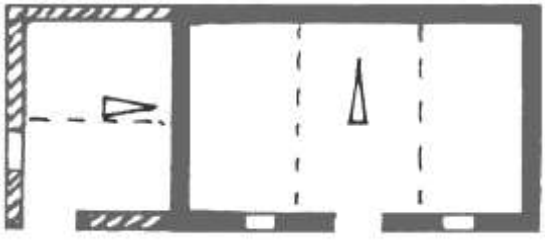

Figure 4. Plan, Type 1 added. Nuttall Farm, Much Marcle

An alternative way of increasing the number of horses, but still retaining the basic type 1 arrangement was to have the horses facing each other over a feeding passage; this arrangement was found in Staffordshire, but no examples have been recorded in Herefordshire.[6]

Of course, an increase in the number of horses could be accommodated by having two separate stables, but this often involved a later building, as at Nuttall Farm, Much Marcle.

Figure 5 (left). Nuttall Farm, Much Marcle. Type 2 with type 1 added

The second plan with the horses facing across the building was a much more flexible arrangement; it could be built to house any number of horses, from one upwards, and was not limited to multiples of three or four. It accounted for about three quarters of those recorded in the county. It was usually a single room, which had the advantage of supervision being simpler

than with separate stables, and also that all the horsemen were aware of the day's instructions.[7] A very few examples appear to date from the 17th century, a number from the 18th, as at Upper Penallt, King's Caple, built in 1701 or at Plaistow, Ledbury. The bulk are, however, 19th century. In passing, early 17th-century stables at Goodrich Castle were of this type, but only the floor and footings survive; it was probably for riding or carriage horses, however. Duffield Farm, Bishops Frome and Petty France, Colwall, are of this pattern; Hill End, Much Cowarne, was a larger range, partly divided by an off-centre harness room, but this extended no further across the building than the stalls between the horses, effectively leaving the whole a single room.

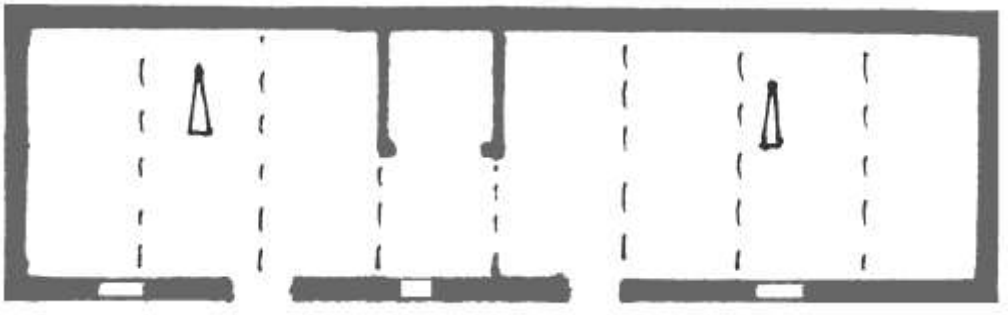

Figure 6. Plan, Hill End farm, Much Cowarne

There are some examples where the stables were divided into two, usually unequal parts, by an imperforate cross wall, as at Hellens, Much Marcle, or Risbury Court, Humber, where both parts were type 2. It is not always clear whether the smaller second section was also for farm horses, or was the nag stable. The latter position was found at Court Farm, Wolferlow, but only identified from the sale catalogue, there being, as is often the case, no apparent difference now in standard between the two parts.

Figure 7. Hill End Farm, Much Cowarne

At Nuttall Farm, Much Marcle, (Fig. 4), a type 1 stable was added to an earlier type 2 but this probably reflected an increase in horse work on the farm, with the provision of a horse engine to drive the threshing machine, and other barn machinery. Some writers considered that the

stables should not open onto the cow yard, as there was a risk that loose cattle would escape when the gates were open to let the horses out.[8] There was still the problem of disposing of the manure, however; at Howbury Barn, Ocle Pychard, the stable had access to the cow yard, but also a door in the gable, providing access for the horses without going through the yard.

A third alternative was the loose box, normally used to supplement type 2 stables; a few examples were recorded in the area. It was useful for a sick horse, or as a foaling pen.[9] It might be partitioned off the main stable, as at Great Hegdon, Grendon Warren, albeit there a completely separate room. With a timber partition the evidence may well have been lost when the stables were converted to some other use, after horses ceased to be used on the farm. Loose boxes were sometimes used for the nag stable as happened at Ocle Court, Ocle Pychard, where part of the barn was converted to their use in the mid 19th century. Unusually, a range of eight was provided at The Wells, Bromyard, in about 1904, so outside the period covered here; they were probably for breeding horses.

LOFTS

Turning to other aspects, a very large proportion of the stables in Herefordshire had lofts (85%). This provision had some advantages, in that the lofts helped the stable to warm up more quickly when the horses returned from the field in winter and to retain some warmth during the day. The loft was generally used for hay or straw, which could readily be fed into the racks below.[10] Access was normally by a ladder against the wall, but occasionally by external steps.

Figure 8. Type 2 stable, Oldcastle Farm, Colwall

Horses required a greater volume of air than cows, and needed better ventilation, so the loft was normally somewhat higher than in a cowhouse, very occasionally markedly so. In a few cases there was evidence that the loft had at some stage been raised to give better headroom below, as at Court Farm, Sollars Hope. It is just possible that here the room had originally been

for oxen, and that the change in floor level reflected a change in use. A number of lofts were used for other purposes; however; a very few were used as granaries (30 in all, as at Lower Brockhampton, Bromyard); this is a rather smaller proportion than in Staffordshire.[11] In three cases the loft was used as part of the cooling floor for hop drying, and in one case it housed farm labourers.

Some writers considered that stables should be single storey, to provide better ventilation. This was a 19th-century development in the area, the majority of the examples in the second half of that period, as at Court Farm, Wolferlow. Whilst the range at Hellens, Much Marcle, dating from the late 18th century, might be considered an exception, now being open to the roof, it originally had or was intended to have a ceiling at eaves level, with some evidence that there was a loft floor provided above.

Figure 9. Type 2 single storey stable, Lower Norton, Bromyard

BUILDING MATERIALS

About half the stables recorded were of stone, with a very few with a stone ground floor and a timber-framed upper level, usually weatherboarded, as at Oldcastle Farm, Colwall. A little over a fifth were of brick, and only 15% timber-framed. In date the earliest were timber-framed, stone appearing by about 1700, but brick not until the mid 18th century. The small proportion of timber-framed stables is somewhat surprising as over half the recorded barns are of this material, but it probably reflects the proportion of stables dating from the 19th century, and also that timber-framing was more liable to damage by livestock than brick or stone, and more subject to decay. The position in south-west Worcestershire is somewhat different, three fifths of the stables there being brick, and a little over a fifth timber- framed.[12]

On the interior, the partitions between the horses were generally spaced between five and six feet apart, the higher figure being that more generally recommended. Interestingly, at Court Farm, King's Caple, stalls as built in the early 18th century were at 5 feet 4½ inch centres but were reset in the 19th century at six feet, losing space for one horse. This is the only case where such a change was noted. The space was needed for grooming the horse once tied up, but also permitted taking food to the trough past the horse. This was in marked contrast to the cowhouse where only three feet was normally allowed per animal.[13]

Figure 10. Type 1 double stable, Court Farm, Moreton Jeffries

Whilst the width between the stalls avoided the need for a feeding passage, two examples were built with one, both dating from the mid 19th century. The manger was generally fairly high, as the horse fed standing; it could be of brick, stone or timber but in the first two cases usually had a timber lip to the front. Above was a hay rack, usually with a sloping front; however, some writers recommended that the front should be vertical to avoid grass seeds falling into the horses eyes.[14] This required more framing, and a wider stable, the greater expense involved perhaps accounting for only 10 examples being recorded in the area, as at Church House, Acton Beauchamp. There may have been others, but removal of fittings once horses ceased to be used on the farm may have destroyed the evidence.

STABLE FITTINGS

A cupboard recess in the wall was provided in some cases for horse medicines and curry combs, a feature not found in cowhouses. It first appeared in the county in the late 18th century. Its provision was dependant on there being a thick enough wall, as the recess was 9 inches deep.

The harness was generally hung on timbers projecting from the wall behind the horses, often grouped to clear the windows and doors. However, in about an eighth of the stables a separate room was provided for this, or for feed storage, sometimes for both. This provision was generally found in 19th-century stables, but there are a few late 18th-century examples. An advantage was that the ammonia from the horses' urine was considered to affect the leather and brass of the harnesses, but it was quicker for the harness to be hung in the main stable, and also for collecting, avoiding the need for the various horsemen to have get through a single door into a separate room.[15]

Figure 11. Sloping rack standing for one horse, Bringsty, Bromyard

Figure 12. Manger, rack with vertical front, Church House, Acton Beauchamp

Generally these rooms were provided at the end of a type 2 stable, as at Old Court, Bosbury, but as noted above, at Hill End Farm, Much Cowarne, the harness space was set just off centre in a long stable, and at Court Farm, Moreton Jeffries it was set between the two halves. A few of the double type 1 stables had a projection at the rear for this purpose.

The chaff house built onto the side of the stable at Lillends Farm, Little Marcle, was a later addition, and unusual. The provision of harness and feed rooms in Herefordshire attached to stables was proportionately slightly greater than the writer found in the area of Staffordshire recorded.[16]

Figure 13. Harness and feed room, Old Court Farm, Bosbury

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[7] Peters, *op. cit.* in note 4, 116, 117.
[8] J.C. Loudon, *Observations on Laying out Farms in the Scotch Style*, 1812, 34; P.F. Robinson, *Designs for Farm Buildings*, 1837, des. XIII; C. Waistell and J. Jopling, *Designs for Agricultural Buildings*, 1827, pls II–VI.
[9] Peters, *op. cit.* in note 4, 122.
[10] Peters, *op. cit.* in note 4, 126.
[11] *Ibid*.
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[15] Frere, *op. cit.* in note 4; Dean, *op. cit.* in note 13.
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The Leominster canal: the Rea aqueduct crisis

By GERRY CALDERBANK

The construction of the part of the proposed canal from Kington to the river Severn which was actually built—Leominster to the Mamble coalfield—was difficult. In particular, aqueducts had to be built over the rivers Teme and Rea. The following paper is an account of events leading up to the recent partial collapse of the Rea Aqueduct near Newnham and concludes with an interim assessment of the damage and its potential consequences. The account uses material from the Leominster Canal project booklet series, produced by the Friends of Leominster Canal (FoLC) which in turn is based on much earlier research and field investigations by members of the Woolhope Club's Archaeological Research Section (ARS).

BACKGROUND HISTORY OF THE LEOMINSTER CANAL

Figure .1. Location map of the Rea aqueduct of the Leominster canal

A paper on the construction of the Leominster canal by Israel Cohen was published in the Club's *Transactions* in 1957, though it has since been amended somewhat.[1] In 1777 three possible canals were mooted and Robert Whitworth was appointed to make surveys of the routes and estimate their relative value. He was unable to complete the survey and there the matter rested until 1789 when proposals for a Leominster-Stourport canal were mooted in the press. Thomas Dadford jnr. surveyed the route and made his proposals of the work necessary. The history of the construction and use of the canal is a large subject and only the part concerning the Rea aqueduct can be covered here.

THE REA AQUEDUCT: ITS SITING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION[2]

There can be little doubt that the siting of this aqueduct bridge was cleverly conceived by Thomas Dadford jnr., even though its actual design and construction has since been criticised by generations of visitors, some more expert than others, but with all following on from John Rennie's report*:* 'To the Committee of Management of the Leominster Canal...' that resulted from his commission of 1795. Since then, warnings of its imminent demise have dogged the structure for over two hundred years; nevertheless, the advice by a visiting (retired) 'Roads & Bridges' civil engineer in 1999 was that with the trees and vegetation removed together with some basic conservation- it could well last as long again!

Siting

The extent or implications of Robert Whitworth's earlier exploration (1777) are unknown in the sense that, although he clearly favoured and recommended a Teme valley route with a Rea crossing, he seems not to have taken the precise levels normally required for an ocular survey. Without this, and his 'sketch plan' if such was submitted, it is impossible to determine the proposed contour level and, as a result, the likely crossing point he had in mind. When considering this issue, we should also bear in mind that Whitworth's brief did not then require him to use the Marl Brook valley, there being no mention of the Mamble collieries at that early date; nevertheless, he clearly *was* intending to access the Pensax coal pits, together with others nearby and, of course, Stourport remained his overall objective.

Dadford sited his aqueduct here because it gave access to the more favourable (right) bank of the Marl Brook, which valley leads directly to the Blount collieries near Mamble; furthermore, under the powers and provisions of the First Act, and in addition to accessing the mines, the brook itself was an essential source of temporary feed-water during the construction phase of the canal. Such choices of bridging point are usually the result of compromise, and there were certainly a few alternative places where the Rea valley was more constricted (thus offering shorter approach embankments) but these did not provide the same combination of directness and accessibility to both coal and water supply.

A detailed analysis of John Hodgkinson's report (1812)[3] makes it clear that Hodgkinson, in turn, would certainly have made use of the existing aqueduct bridge in his proposals to complete the line of the canal—even though Worcester had by then replaced Stourport as the favoured river port and canal junction. Furthermore, it is almost certain that Hodgkinson would also have used this ready-made bridge even if his connection to Worcester were to be plateway instead of canal.

Design and construction

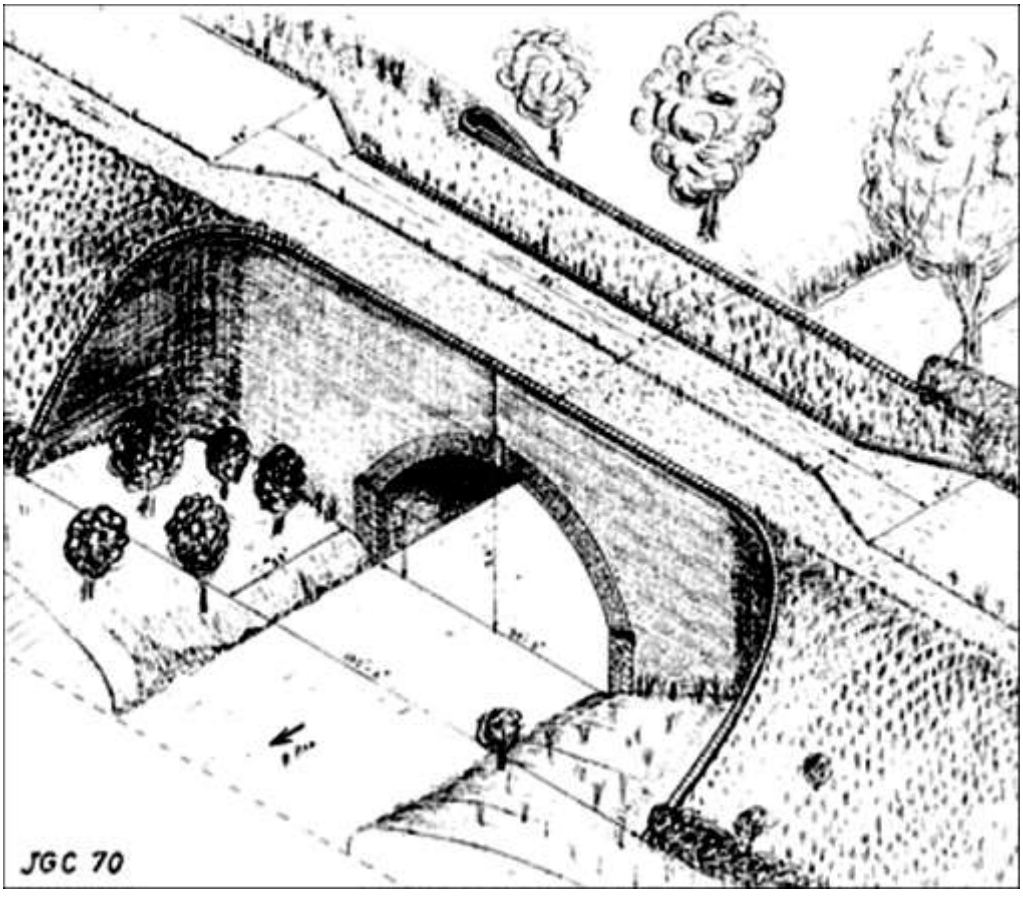

Figure 2. The design of the Rea aqueduct (©G. Calderbank)

The construction is almost entirely of brickwork, much of which had remained basically sound considering its age and the lack of routine maintenance that should have been accorded to such a bridge if its use had been continued. From the superficial appearance, and knowing the cash-strapped history of the canal from Cohen's paper, we could only presume, at first acquaintance, that the dilapidation must have resulted from poor construction and the gross neglect resulting from the known financial mismanagement of the proprietors, but this is only part of the story.

It was a considerable surprise when we eventually learned the true circumstances, as revealed from a belated reading of the John Rennie report.[4] Obviously, neglect and the long period of disuse have indeed played their part, but Rennie reported that the aqueduct bridge had been in poor condition almost from the outset, and he attributed this more to faulty design than to poor workmanship. We are informed that the boat channel leaked from the very first, but that it had already been repaired and modified by the time of his inspection. Rennie also criticised certain other aspects of the design but, although unconventional, these features have

certainly stood the test of time without modification—the validity of such criticism might therefore be questionable. Aesthetically however, there can be no doubt whatsoever that the bridge was very pleasing.

Conventional design required the boat channel to be 'floated' or surrounded by a mass of puddled clay but such clay is immensely heavy, requiring the massive bridge structures we usually associate with Brindley and his contemporaries. It was the perceived wisdom with these pioneers that only by such massive construction could the bridge be expected to withstand the transverse strains imposed (in particular) upon the outer walls, with it being assumed that the arch itself was then able to stand the strain – provided its abutments were adequate. It will be seen that Dadford's design was thoroughly unconventional in several ways and, although the passage of time has seemingly discounted Rennie's criticism of the longitudinal design (the lack of a conventionally 'stepped' interface between arch and abutments) the consultant seems certainly to have diagnosed the transverse weakness and also explained the initial leaking.

From an overall reading of Rennie's report, it appears that Dadford's two other operational aqueduct bridges shared the same defect; certainly, the Teme aqueduct also required transverse tie-bars with cast iron crosses, exactly as Rennie described them. Late in its life, the canal company sought tenders for repairing a leaking Ledwyche aqueduct. However, we can rule out the Lugg aqueduct because, although completed, it was immediately swept away by the 'Great Floods' of February 1795. It seems that Dadford may have been experimenting with his own design of boat trough, probably in an attempt to save bulk and therefore construction costs. This involved his taking the inner (trough) walls down to the crown of the arch, instead of 'floating' the trough, but the result was seepage down the clay/brick interface and then through the arch itself.

SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS

Unfortunately, the scope for amateur structural investigations and work by FoLC is fairly limited, being constrained by factors such as finance, procurable manpower and available leisure time. In essence, most work that they undertake can best be regarded as 'reactive', with the members rallying and responding, whenever possible, to various crisis situations such as occurred with the Wyson syphon, the Easton Court Bridge—and now with the Rea aqueduct.

Nevertheless, the canal has also received more 'proactive' attention from time to time, including abortive attempts by FoLC to deal with the aftermath of the previous footpath closure that debarred the use of the aqueduct. Following a series of meetings, and concerted efforts in conjunction with the two county councils and the landowners, matters seemed for a while to be on the verge of obtaining an alternative footbridge at the Rea aqueduct site. FoLC were shown the drawing for a proposed replacement footbridge, so things appeared to be moving at last, but then came the financial crisis which put paid to the prospect of imminent work.

Understandably, things became very quiet again with nothing much happening other than the usual FoLC programme of walks, some of which entailed crossing the Rea aqueduct. This is how the situation remained for several years. The aqueduct bridge continued to be used on FoLC walks (there is no alternative!) but we couldn't help noticing the increased number of loose bricks accumulating in the river, and it would seem that the loss of fabric had accelerated since the trees and ivy were removed; perhaps the vegetation (seen below) had, to some extent, helped in holding things together. The quiescence was abruptly interrupted in February 2013

when our worst fears were realised as we suddenly received news from one of our local members of a collapsing Rea Aqueduct, together with reimposed footpath closure notices.

Plates 4.1 through 4.4 show before and after views of both sides of the aqueduct, Underside views of the arch show exfoliation of bricks from the abutment face, as also possibly occurs in places with the base layer bricks on the soffit. It is not known whether the massive stone block-work was formerly more extensive, perhaps extending the full inter-face length, or whether it once reached to the spring line, although there is nothing very suggestive of this.

The pattern of brick bonding is difficult to ascertain, particularly since there could well have have been repairs and alterations to the original. In general, the main arch-work consists of multiple courses of bricks; these are not tapered and shaped 'voussoirs', but merely the ordinary hand moulded and lime-mortared sort used throughout, and where exposed, they are mostly, if not all, deployed as soldiers.

Conceivably, could the arch have partially lost an intrados layer at the upstream end, thus exposing the soldiers, whilst retaining the intrados down stream? Until recently, the crown of each face was secured by a massive keystone, although over the years these were seen to crack until, eventually, the upstream stone was dislodged. The upper portion of the remaining stone can still be seen *in situ* on the downstream face. Its cracked base base has now fallen, but the keystone was intact when recorded in 1970. Such was the loss of bricks, that we detected no bonding consistency at intrados or extrados; however, all the brick courses were skewbacked from a stone-work course laid at the springing line in order to secure the arching bricks at the appropriate starting angle.

We know that the timber inserts and iron tie-bars were added shortly after construction because the aqueduct was found to be leaking through the arch. In December 1795 John Rennie reported as much, and we are further informed that an original internal boat channel wall had been completely dismantled prior to his visit:

> '. . . The River Rea is crossed by an aqueduct of one arch forty-one feet span, built mostly of Brick; this aqueduct unfortunately is in a very bad situation, being split in the longitudinal direction of the arch in both sides nearly under the puddle, and is now kept together, not by its own strength, but by iron bars which have been put a cross it, and Screwed to Crosses of Cast Iron on the outside,its failure has arisen from four Causes.
>
> First from want of iron bars, which should have been laid in the arch transversely, when it was erected.
>
> Secondly, from the wing-walls and arch having too little batter in the front.
>
> Thirdly, from the face or retaining walls being straight, and having no butt against the wing-walls.
>
> And lastly, from the inside retaining walls being built on the arch, and the puddle laid between them, which has admitted the water to the Arch, and thereby loosened the cement.'

With our 1970 ARS survey we could only conjecture as to the internal structure, but in any case we gave this little thought at the time since it wasn't accessible. We understandably pondered the iron crosses, and these were simply taken as indicating past trouble of some sort. Although tie bars are frequently associated with subsidence, in this case they were clearly holding the structure together!

My initial drawing therefore offered no interpretation of the 'innards' and it was only following a belated reading of the Rennie report that we were led to speculate further; however,

the main impetus for heightened curiosity derived from a re-examination of our own survey data. Measured from the parapet at the crown, there was a drop of fourteen feet to the intrados, whereas the boat trough would only require a fraction of that depth. Hence the two hypothetical cross-sections that were later appended to the second Hereford Ramblers' handout and to the Teme Valley LCP booklet.

I added a note to the effect that (given an opportunity) the boat trough also required further investigation; what we had in mind was merely a small trial trench, sufficient to ascertain whether or not the channel was floored. We now see that following the rebuild it was indeed simply 'floated' in clay.

We would also have wished to record the depth of the trough and perhaps even to find evidence of a remnant inner wall. Following the collapse we see no such remains and, must conclude that not only was the inner wall completely removed, but that the whole interior must have been excavated to extrados level in order to insert the tie-bars. This surely amounts to a major redesign and re-build!

PRINCIPAL DIMENSIONS ***as recorded in July 1970 in imperial units***

THE BRICK ARCH:

SPAN Abutment Opening Size 39' 2"
RISE Overall (from mean waterline) 24'
Wing Walls (at root) 105' 6"
Springing Line 40'

RADIUS (from springing line) 14' 8"
DEPTH Damaged, so unrecorded (multiple common or facing brick courses, mostly with 'soldier' orientation and tapered mortar jointing. No apparent extrados course)

ABUTMENTS (at mean waterline level) 9' 4" X 31' 3" overall. Irregular sized cornerstone blocks are inter-bonded with brickwork and 30 courses of English bond brickwork walling comprise the main face. The brickwork courses are surmounted by a continuous layer of shaped skewback stones at the springing line. Many bricks have fallen but it is not known whether the abutment walling was ever stone-faced to some extent – although probably not, apart from the portal corners, where some blocks are clearly missing.

PARAPETS Low stone parapets capped the faces and wing-walls. It is not known if the crossing was ever railed.

WING WALLS These are uninterrupted continuations, curving away from the faces and gradually sloping down to the natural ground level at root. They serve to retain the embankments, thus defining the profile of the slopes, and are offset 32' maximum from the aqueduct face, as measured from an abutment cornerstone.

TOWPATH This was of variable width on the embankments, widening to 12' across the bridge. The opposite side was grassed.

BOAT TROUGH The normal canal width (approx. 20') is tapered via a 'throat' at each end to 8' width for the crossing. The right bank throat is 11' in length, whereas its left bank counterpart measures 15'. Each throat was very slightly curved and had a set of protective strake stones at the outer end. Construction is a continuation of the (8') boat channel, comprising brickwork courses surmounted by sunken stone capping. The heavily silted channel is 85' in length between the throats, whereas its depth, although not ascertainable at the time of survey, was presumably about 4'.

CONCLUSION

The aqueduct is obviously in a very hazardous condition, with considerable danger from both falling single bricks and larger clumps of bonded brickwork; on no account should it be crossed pending a fully detailed engineer's inspection and published report. Whereas this may seem obvious from its structurally damaged condition, together with the fencing and emplaced warning notices, there is nevertheless the danger of children and/or irresponsible adults venturing onto the towpath since this is still intact across the span.

It therefore seems important that further measures be taken at the very earliest opportunity. It has been reported to the FoLC committee that preliminary examinations have already been made (at county council level) and we greatly appreciate this prompt action.

Nevertheless, since the aqueduct is a Grade 2 listed structure, it would also seem to require the urgent attention of the appropriate grading authority, which we assume to be English Heritage still, and so this appraisal will be forwarded for their attention amongst others.[5]

REFERENCES

[1] I. Cohen, 'The Leominster-Stourport canal', *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club*, 1957, 267-286.

[2] Excerpt: G. Calderbank, *Canal, River & Railway - The Teme Valley section of the Leominster Canal - Wyson to Southnett*, Hereford 2003.

[3] John Hodgkinson operated from Abergavenny and, having started out as purely a canal engineer, he turned increasingly to plateway construction around the turn of the century, having been under the influence and tutelage of Benjamin Outram. Hodgkinson made two reports to the Leominster Canal Proprietors, the first in May 1803 when he advocated completion from Leominster to Kingsland and from Southnet to Stourport with plateways instead of canal. His second consultation was in 1812, following which the Leominster Canal Company advertised an intention to complete their route with a plateway from Southnett via Martley to Worcester, where it was intended to join the Worcester & Birmingham Canal at their Diglis Basin, but none of this came to fruition. Hodgkinson did, however, have some interesting thoughts about improving the Leominster summit level water supplies – but that is another story altogether, and his ideas were never taken up; almost certainly, they could not have afforded his suggestions!
A booklet on this—*Unfinished Business*—was intended to be written on this subject but it remains unfinished!

[4] John Rennie, the eminent Scottish engineer, was asked to comment on the Rea aqueduct, the Putnall tunnel and the Southnett tunnel. His report was not favourable. (East Riding of Yorkshire Archives, DDCC/147/44, *21 Dec. 1795*).

[5] Initial Circulation:
English Heritage
Herefordshire & Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust
North Worcestershire Archaeology Group (NORWAG)
Shropshire County Council
The Council for British Archaeology (CBA)
The Environment Agency
The Institution of Civil Engineers
The Railway & Canal Historical Society
The Ramblers' Association
The Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club
Worcestershire County Council.

The Fosse, Castle Green, Hereford revisited

By JOHN EISEL

In the Club's Transactions for 2009 I published an article in which I demonstrated that the Fosse had not been built to the designs of [Sir] Robert Smirke in the 1820s as had previously been thought, and that the evidence strongly suggested that the house was built in the 1840s. Also, the first resident to whom a name could be put was Thomas Jenkins, a gentleman of independent means. Two court cases have now come to light which not only confirm that Thomas Jenkins was the person for whom the house was built, but also give the period of construction and the architect, and a more detailed search using the information from the reports of the court cases reveals more background to the building of The Fosse.

DEVELOPMENT IN CASTLE STREET

At the time of the publication of Wood's survey in 1836 (Fig. 1), the site of The Fosse was empty, except for the overflow from Castle Pool, while to the north Castle Street was lined with houses. When Curley made his survey in 1854 (Fig. 2), the footprint of the houses lining Castle Street was completely different, and The Fosse had been built, showing that the whole site had been redeveloped.

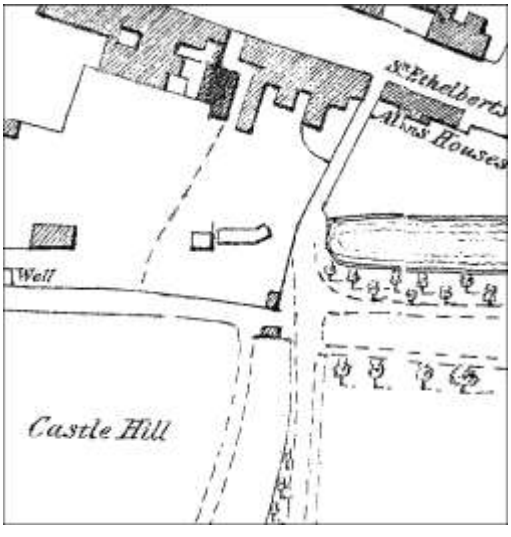

Figure 1. Wood's Hereford survey, 1836. Note the footprint of the houses to the left (west) of the Alms Houses on Castle Street

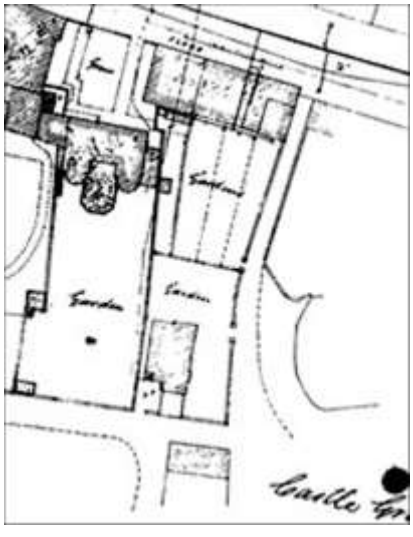

Figure 2. Part of Curley's survey, 1854. The houses on Castle St have have changed and have south-facing gardens adjacent to The Fosse

Internal evidence in Wood's survey indicates that it was up-to-date at the time of publication, which was in accordance with his usual practice of surveying a number of towns between the spring and summer, and returning to his base in Edinburgh to have them engraved and

published.[1] As his survey was published in 1836, this implies that he was working in Hereford the previous year, although no record has been found in the local press. Even without knowledge of his working practice, it could be deduced that the survey was up-to-date, as recent developments in Castle Street in the vicinity of the entrance to Castle Green were recorded by him. An advert for property that was to be sold by private contract appeared in the *Hereford Journal* on 7 March 1832, and one of the lots was a messuage or dwelling house in Castle Street, immediately opposite Castle Green. Of this, the advert went on to state that

> 'The site of these Premises would be found peculiarly adapted for Building on, being immediately opposite the Castle Green …'

A sale must have taken place, as a pair of houses was built on the site, now Nos. 10 & 11, and these were sold by auction, in two lots, at 'the Hotel' on 31 October 1835, the advert describing them as

> 'The new and excellently Brick Built FREEHOLD HOUSES, situate in Castle street, directly opposite the Castle Green, and now in the several occupations of the Rev. W. Munsey, and Miss Thomas.'[2]

This gives confidence that Wood was up-to-date, and that that his survey accurately represents the houses to the north of the site of The Fosse, fronting on to Castle Street, although soon after the survey was made these were demolished and the site redeveloped. Because the site of The Fosse cuts across all the gardens of the rebuilt houses, the most likely scenario is that the whole redevelopment was carried out by the same person, Thomas Jenkins, who is known to have owned the majority of the site. This redevelopment began with the building of what is now No. 27, and then continued with Nos. 25 & 26 (with No. 1 Castle Green round the corner). The contrast in style between No. 27 and the rest of the terrace suggests a break of some years between the completion of No. 27, and the rest of the terrace, which is rather taller in proportion, although still of three storeys.

The building of Nos. 25 & 26 can be dated almost exactly: a letter by 'Viator' that appeared in the *Hereford Journal* on 18 June 1845 suggested that Castle Green could be improved by widening the access from Castle Street, going on to say:

> 'The corner house being pulled down this may now, with the consent of the owner, be accomplished at little expense, and I do hope that the matter will be taken up before it is too late.'

This was supported by a letter from a different correspondent that appeared in the *Hereford Times* ten days later, but the suggestion was not implemented except in a minor way. Indeed, it was almost certainly too late for any major change since plans for Nos. 25 & 26 had almost certainly been drawn up already.

Building work was completed early in 1846; a letter from Mr Jenkins was read out to a meeting of the Paving Commissioners on 3 March 1846.[3] He was stated to be the proprietor of the newly-erected houses at the entrance to Castle Green, and was enquiring about repaving the footpath in front of the houses, and widening the culvert for carrying off water.

In the discussion that ensued, it was stated that persons taking up the pavement should relay it at their own expense, and it was agreed that Mr Leonard Johnson, surveyor to the board, should meet with Mr Jenkins and report back to the board.[4] At the next meeting of the Commissioners, on 7 April 1846, it was reported that Mr Jenkins would pay £7 towards repaving in front of his new houses in Castle Street and find all materials except 23 feet of curbing and an iron grating. He would pay £1 more if the paving was of slate instead of stone. This was accepted and a pavement of slate was ordered to be laid down. It was also reported to the meeting that Mr Jenkins had widened the entrance into Castle Green by nine inches.[5]

A few months later, an advert appeared in the *Hereford Times* on 8 August 1846, stating that one of the new houses in Castle Street, adjoining Castle Green, was to be let. It had three sitting rooms and six bedrooms, and applications were to be made to Mr Bosworth, St Owen's Street, who perhaps had bought one of the houses as an investment. No further adverts have yet been traced.

The Paving Commissioners were also responsible for lighting the highway, and at a monthly meeting held on 6 April 1847 an agreement was made with the gas company for several new gas lights, including one to be erected at the 'entrance to Castle Green, at T. Jenkins's property, Castle-street.'[6]

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOSSE

Having completed the redevelopment of the frontage to Castle Street, Thomas Jenkins then turned his attention to a residence for himself. Although each of the houses in the new terrace had a garden on the south side, he had retained the southern part of the site, where he built his own residence, now known as The Fosse.

Figure 3. A view of The Fosse *c.*1900, down a frozen Castle Pool. (*Derek Foxton Collection*)

Evidence quoted below proves that the architect of The Fosse was Thomas Nicholson, who began practising as an architect in Hereford early in 1846.[7] Nicholson placed an advert in the *Hereford Journal* on 8 December 1847 and the *Hereford Times* on 11 December 1847, asking for tenders for erecting a house near Hereford, for which plans and specifications could be obtained from him. Either this related to the Fosse, or there is another house in Hereford or its environs, designed by Nicholson, waiting to be identified!

No report of the beginning of the construction phase of The Fosse has so far been located, nor any evidence of the identity of the builder, who was supervised by Thomas Jenkins himself. However, the work must have been begun in 1848. At a monthly meeting of the Paving Commissioners, held on 5 January 1849 another letter from Thomas Jenkins was read out, requesting to know whether the house he was erecting in Castle Green would be included in the lighting and paving act, and if so, suggested replacing an oil lamp with a gas light. The commissioners were of the opinion that lights should not be erected for the benefit of private individuals, and referred the matter to the gas committee.[8] That committee reported back at the next monthly meeting on 13 February 1849, that it thought that the light erected at the entrance to the Castle Green was sufficient, and considered that Mr Jenkins wanted a light in front of the house he was erecting, which could not be acceded. However, he was not liable to pay the paving and lighting rate.[9] As a consequence of the decision, Jenkins wrote a letter to the *Hereford Times*, which appeared on 3 March 1849, claiming that he had been misunderstood, and that the application referred to a lamp at the corner of Castle Green, 'which, for the darkness, it has, I am sorry to say, become the resort of the idle and disorderly of both sexes.' Despite this plea, the commissioners turned it down at their next meeting, as the opinion of the gas committee was that it was quite unnecessary.[10]

There is also evidence that the design of the house was not appreciated. There was a regular contributor to the *Hereford Journal*, who wrote under pseudonym 'Oliver Periwinkle', and published a series entitled 'Sketches of the Herefordians.' The fourth in the series appeared on 29 August 1849 and told of an evening stroll, instead of the writer's usual morning one. The first part discusses, at length, the many drunken Herefordians that he met, and then, with some surprise, noted that he found himself in Castle Green, where 'I was very agreeable su[r]prised to see that some respectable member of the township had made an effort at imitating the architecture of our friends the Chinese.' He then went on to make criticisms and, and, referring to the gables, commented, tongue in cheek, that 'not one of them has the long line of pendent bells.' This could only refer to The Fosse, then under construction.

By December 1849 the building was far enough advanced for Thomas Jenkins to have moved into it, although not yet finally completed. A letter on another matter, written by him, appeared in the *Hereford Times* on 15 December 1849, and it was stated to have been written at Castle Green, but no name given to the house.

Later that month, on 20 December 1849, the first of the two court cases referred to above took place in the County Court, a report of which appeared in the *Hereford Times* on Saturday 29 December 1849. The report began:

> SUMMONSES.
>
> *Thomas Jenkins* v. *William Prosser*.—The plaintiff is a gentleman of the city of Hereford, and brought the present action against the defendant, who is a tradesman of the city, for

> alleged damage said to have been done to a house the plaintiff has recently erected in the Castle Green, by the defendant, who was employed there, not having done the work which he had been employed to do in a proper manner, by which the plaintiff had sustained the loss to recover which the present action was brought.—….

From the evidence given, the defective work was the rendering of the exterior of the house, during the course of which 10½ barrels of Portland cement were used. While the exterior is not specifically mentioned, the fact that part of the cornice was produced as evidence of defective work must surely be significant. The work had been due to be completed on 19 June 1849 but was not completed until the next month, when the final payment was made. Subsequently doubts arose about the quality of the work which resulted in this case. Thomas Jenkins gave evidence about the agreement and standard of work, during which he stated that 'I employed Mr Nicholson to make the plans and drawings only, and not to superintend the works;...' Various witnesses were called, including Thomas Nicholson, and William Heather who appeared as an expert witness. After much evidence had been considered, the judge nonsuited the plaintiff on the technical ground that the agreement for the work was not on a stamp, but suggested that if the agreement could be put on a stamp, then the suit could again take place.

I cannot find anything further about this court case, but the work evidently needed to be redone, and Thomas Jenkins employed a plasterer called Mr Hatton, a fact known from a court case which was tried in the Police Court on 18 March 1850, and reported in the *Hereford Times* on 23 March 1850.[11] From the evidence given in court, Thomas Jenkins was suspicious about the loss of cement from the work that was being carried out, and this was traced to Mr Hatton's son, who as a consequence was committed to gaol. Hearing of this, Mr Hatton went round to the house in Castle Green, was abusive to Mrs Jenkins, and claimed that only a small amount of cement had been taken to repair an ornament. Consequently Mrs Jenkins went and had the lad released from prison, an action which she later regretted when it transpired that a much larger quantity of cement was missing than had been claimed. Subsequently Mr Hatton again went round to the house in Castle Green, and threatened Thomas Jenkins with violence. All this came out in evidence when Thomas Jenkins took Mr Hatton to court in an endeavour to have him bound over to keep the peace. The evidence in court was not absolutely consistent, but Mr Hatton was fined 1s. and with expenses had to pay a total of £1 8s. 4d. and required to enter into his own recognisances to keep the peace for 12 months. It would seem likely that Thomas Jenkins found another plasterer to finish the rendering of his house!

Nothing further seems to have been reported on the construction of The Fosse, and it must be assumed that the completion took place without any further untoward happenings. But the various newspaper reports quoted above inevitably lead to the following conclusions:

1. The terrace of houses, consisting of nos. 25-27 Castle Street, was completed in 1846, and does not date from *c*.1800 as proposed by Brooks and Pevsner.[12]
2. The architect who designed The Fosse was Thomas Nicholson.
3. The Fosse was begun in 1848, and early in 1850 was still not complete, but is likely to have been finished shortly afterwards.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

[1] In a long career Wood surveyed some 150 towns in Scotland, Wales and England. More details of his working practices can be found on http://www.mangeogsoc.org.uk/pdfs/robson_13_2.pdf (accessed 15 March 2014). The publication of Wood's Hereford Survey was not advertised in the local press, but the report of a meeting of Hereford Town Council on 15 August 1836 that appeared in the *Hereford Times* (henceforth *HT*) of 20 August 1836 recorded: 'Mr Anthony then introduced a lithographic map of the city and borough of Hereford, which had been just published by Mr John Wood, and observed, that as he thought the Town Council ought to appear among the first to encourage any useful work of art or science, relating to the city or county, he would propose that a copy of Mr Wood's plan be purchased, and be placed in the Council Room, a convenient form for reference. Agreed to.—The meeting then separated.' The report of the meeting that appeared in the *Hereford Journal* (henceforth *HJ*) of 17 August 1836 recorded the decision to buy a copy of Wood's Survey, but failed to mention that it was proposed by Mr [Charles] Anthony!

[2] 'The Hotel' was how the City Arms was often referred to at this period. The advert appeared in the *HT* on 17, 24 & 31 October 1835, and in the *HJ* on 21 & 28 October 1835.

[3] The Paving and Lighting Commissioners worked under an Act of 1774, with amending Acts of 1816, 1834 and 1840.

[4] *HT* 7 March 1846.

[5] *HT* 11 April 1846.

[6] *HT* 10 April 1847.

[7] Thomas Nicholson, best known for his work on churches, but who also worked on other buildings, first announced his presence in Hereford in a small advertisement that appeared in the *Hereford Journal* on 21 January & 4 February 1846, and the *Hereford Times* on 24 & 31 January 1846. Subsequent advertisements over his name deal with projects that he had in hand, starting with a new church which he had designed for Llanfihangel Nant Melan, Radnorshire, advertisements relating to which appeared in the *HJ* on 25 February 1846 and the *HT* on 28 February 1846.

[8] *HT* 6 January 1849.

[9] *HT* 17 February 1849.

[10] *HT* 10 March, 1849.

[11] Lascelle's directory of 1851 has two plasterers with the surname Hatton, James Hatton of Chapel Street, and John Hatton, of Widemarsh Street. It is not possible to identify which was the culprit.

[12] Alan Brooks and Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: Herefordshire* (2012), p.323.

Recorders, 2013

Archaeology, 2013

By RON SHOESMITH

As in previous years, I have included a section for each archaeological organisation that responded to my request for information. Their reports continue to provide members with a vivid picture of archaeological work throughout the county.

One prehistoric site hit national headlines – the Neolithic site on Dorstone Hill was given full cover in the December 2013 issue of *Current Archaeology* with a six-page spread under the title 'Halls of the Ancestors - How halls for the living became homes for the dead on Dorstone Hill'. There have been further investigations at Eaton Camp in Eaton Bishop parish, where traces of a circular building were found. The Roman period is well represented with excavations at Leintwardine, where early cremation burials were examined, at Moreton Business Park in Moreton-on-Lugg, where there was further evidence of a Romano-British farmstead, and slight traces of Roman occupation at Cross Farm, Credenhill.

The medieval period is represented by work associated with the consolidation of the masonry at Kilpeck Castle, excavation on the ditch line at Hereford Castle, and an examination of the structural remains of the castle at Weston-under-Penyard. Survey work at Croft Castle and Brockhampton has produced much additional information. Herefordshire Archaeology has been involved in several projects including Parish Audits at Bridstow and Fownhope, Hereford Nature Trust Parklands survey at Laugh Lady Valley at Brampton Bryan, Woodbury Hill at Moccas and Haye Park at Richard's Castle. Further work on Dinedor Origins included research on the deserted medieval village and an examination of the site of Rotherwas House. Railway archaeology is represented by works associated with the new cycle access from the city to Rotherwas.

In every section I have indexed each report by city, town or parish, and site name with a six-figure grid reference where appropriate. Many of the references are to internal unit publications (now called 'grey literature'), some of which are available in the City Library, others may be consulted in the Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Herefordshire Archaeological Service, others on the internet. Where County Sites and Monuments Record numbers are given they are prefixed by HSM; if it is an event it is prefixed by EHE (Event in Herefordshire) to distinguish it from a site. The Herefordshire Historic Environment Record is shown by HHER and Scheduled Ancient Monument numbers are prefixed by SAM.

Once again I would like to offer my most grateful thanks on behalf of the members of the Woolhope Club to the staff of all the organizations who have willingly provided the information that has made this report a valuable and up-to-date source of information about archaeological work in the county during 2013. Also my thanks to Roger Barrett, who has spent much time checking and correcting the text and putting it into the Woolhope Club format.

GROUP AND UNIT REPORTS

BORDER ARCHAEOLOGY

HEREFORD, 12 Quay Street (SO 511 396)

During 26–27 February 2013, the unit carried out a programme of archaeological observation of ground-works relating to a single-storey flat-roofed extension to the east of Quay Cottage, close to the site of the medieval Hereford castle and at the eastern end of the walled town.

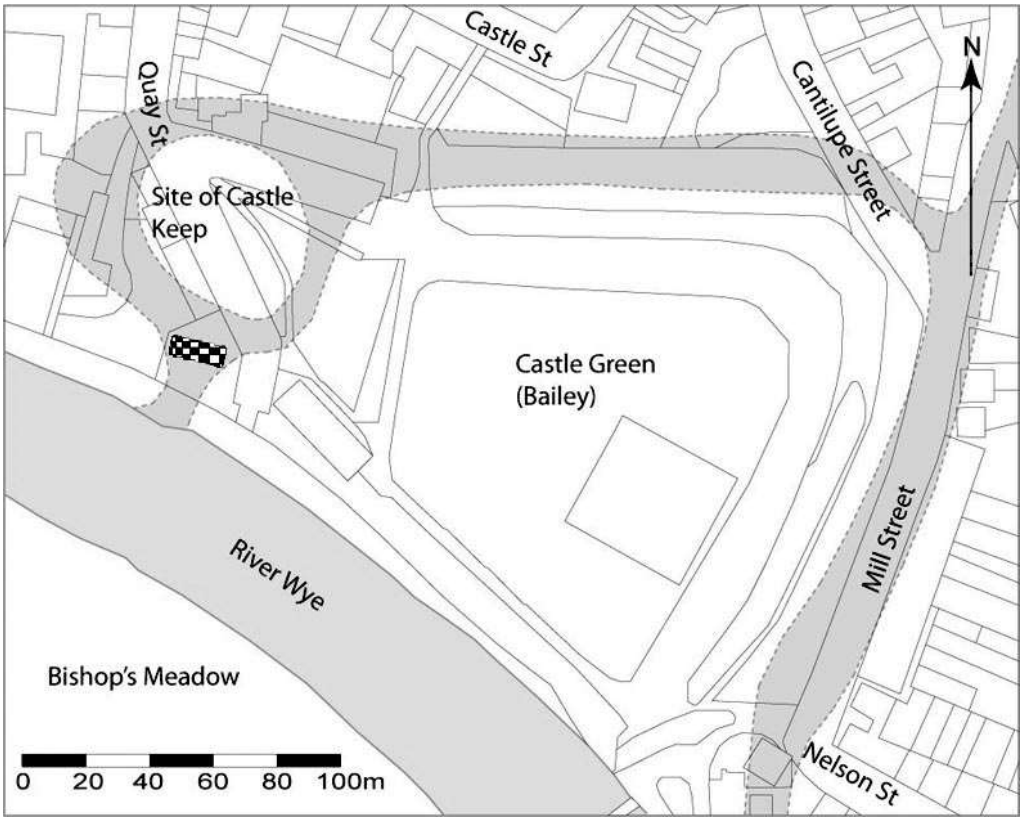

Figure 1. Location of 12 Quay Street, Hereford in relation to the Norman keep and bailey

Ground-works revealed a large ditch [103] oriented NNE-SSW. The ditch was backfilled with late post-medieval demolition material to a depth greater than 0.8m. The base of the ditch was not revealed due to limited excavation depth.

This feature may have formed part of the defensive ditch around the late 12th to early 13th century Norman keep formerly sited approximately 40m. to the north, and which was believed to connect with the river at this point (Fig. 1 & Plate 5.1).

CROFT, The Walled Garden, Croft Castle (SO 449 656)
Border Archaeology was instructed by the National Trust to carry out a programme of archaeological observation (watching brief) of preparatory ground-works for a new path extending internally around the perimeter of the walled garden. This programme took place intermittently between February and March 2013.

Observation of ground-works revealed a crude stone pathway of likely post-medieval date extending round the west, east and north-east extent of the walled area. A different phase of path construction was revealed running east-west adjacent to the southern elevation. A modern cobbled surface was revealed in the south-west corner of the garden. In the northern extent of the garden, a levelled area of re-deposited natural stone was revealed in the vicinity of the gardener's cottage. This had served as a platform for the two glasshouses documented in this location. No further evidence of glasshouse construction was revealed.

CROFT, Croft Castle (SO 449 656)
The unit carried out a programme of archaeological observation of approximately 1.3km. of trenching excavations for a new water main located to the north of the mansion and Home Farm, within the parkland. This programme took place intermittently between January and March 2013.

Ground-works revealed no features or finds of archaeological significance. No evidence for occupation within the area excavated was identified. However, a large section of ENE–WSW terracing was identified within the parkland to the west of the castle, possibly representing the remains of lynchets associated with medieval or early post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing on the slope to the north. An alternative interpretation could be that it formed a park boundary delineation, as suggested by the 19th century tithe apportionment and Ordnance Survey mapping.

LEINTWARDINE, Mortimer Medical Practice, High Street (SO 404 746)
Archaeological excavation was undertaken between February and April 2013 on the site of a new surgery on land immediately to the west of High Street (Fig. 3). The excavation followed a programme of field evaluation carried out in 2009,[1] the results of which have been largely confirmed by excavation. The work revealed not only a number of ditches on a north/south alignment, similar to that of the present High Street, but also two cremation pits at the far southern end of the site (Fig. 2 & Plate 5.2). In all, at least three phases of Roman activity were identified, all, however, dating from a fairly short period between the later first and the middle of the second centuries AD.

Whilst it is possible that the cremations are an isolated group, it is also possible that they represent the northern extent of a larger cemetery, associated with either the town or the fort at Jay Lane. The limits of the cemetery were demarcated by two ditches, one of which ran parallel with the road and another, aligned west/east that separated the area containing the cremation pits from the north part of the site, where activity was agricultural. This was consistent with strong evidence for extensive woodland disturbance and landscape change around this time, as reflected in the diverse charcoal assemblages from this site.

The first of the cremation pits contained two urns, which survived as the lower parts of vessels only, whilst the second pit, which lay approximately 1m. further north, comprised a single intact urn. All three cremation vessels are likely to be of local manufacture. The complete vessel takes the form of a Malvernian jar but wheel-made and with a fabric closer to

a variant of oxidised Severn Valley ware. The second vessel is a handmade closed form in a light grey grog-tempered sandy ware. The third one is in a more typical Severn Valley Ware oxidised fabric and is again a closed form The forms all appear to be consistent with a first- or early second-century date.

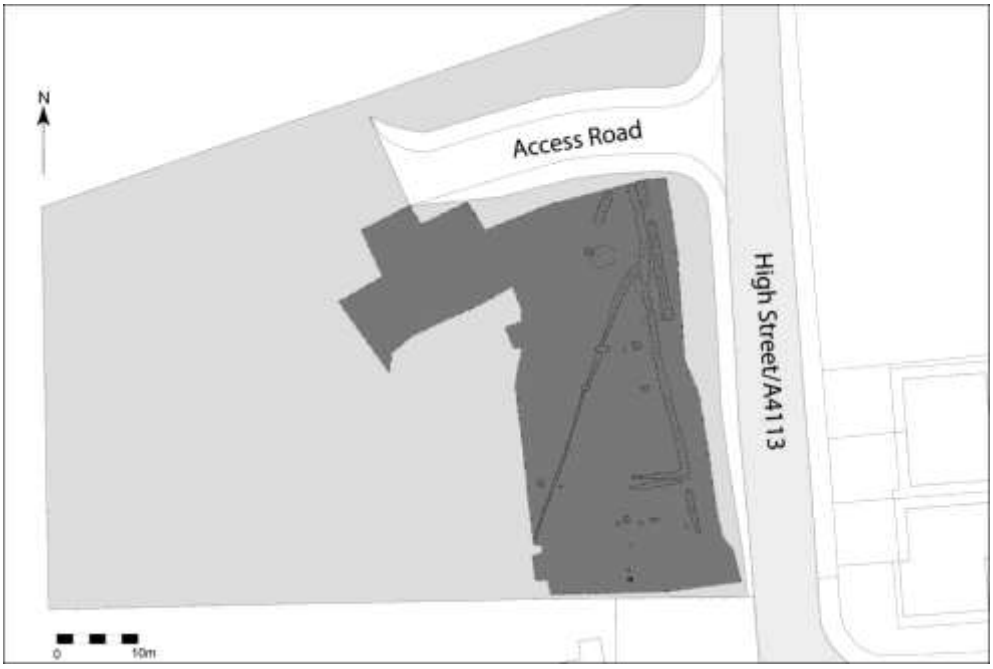

Figure 2. Leintwardine. Plan of site

One of the urns in the first pit, contained the remains of an adult aged 25–40, sex unknown. The amount of cremated bone (323.7g.) was far less than that expected from a modern cremation, but typical for the period. It probably represented a token burial typical of the late Iron Age/Roman period. The urn probably protected the contents, helping to minimise fragmentation and preserving relatively large fragment sizes, which facilitated identification of bone elements. Those identified included parts of the skull, spine, pelvis, legs and feet. The lack of tooth roots and very small bones from the hands and feet may be related to the way in which the bone was collected prior to burial. Only the cremated bone from this urn was present in sufficient quantity to facilitate radiometric dating, the amount of material recovered from the remaining two urns being too small for this purpose. Indeed, both contained such little bone that they may have represented cenotaphs, or memorials, and it was not possible to determine conclusively whether the remains were human or not. Alternatively, the urn from the first pit may have been a grave offering to accompany the cremated remains rather than containing a burial in its own right

The radiometric analysis at 95.4% confidence yielded a date range for this burial of 90 cal. BC to 70 cal. AD.[2] These remains are thus dated to the late Iron Age or early Roman period while pottery evidence is consistent with a first- or early second-century date.

The fill of the first pit consisted of charcoal-rich material and dark brown silt which may represent bone disturbed from the urns. Alternatively, they may be from pyre debris placed over the urns. The deposits contained small quantities of cremated bone, charcoal and potential pyre offerings (hobnails, charred plant remains and an animal bone fragment). If these are deposits of pyre debris, it is possible that they relate to the same cremation event as the bone deposited in the first urn, and so may be part of the same individual. If so, it would seem the individual had been cremated either wearing shoes or with shoes placed on the pyre (represented by the hobnails, primarily in the pit fill but also within the urn). There were also possible food offerings (charred plant remains, animal bone fragment). The pit fill also contained a complete rim and neck fragment of an unguent bottle in blue/green glass with green impurities at the rim. Given the ambiguity of the rim edge, a secure date could not be proposed, but one in the first or second centuries is suggested.[3] During that time the inclusion of unburnt unguent bottles in funeral rites was not uncommon. The recovery of this piece with a burial perhaps also explains the only other identifiable vessel fragment from the excavations of the rest of the site, as that too was an unguent bottle.

The bone from all contexts was predominantly buff/white, suggesting it was burnt at sufficiently high temperatures and with enough available oxygen for long enough to ensure oxidation of most of the bone. This suggests the community had access to adequate supplies of suitable fuel, probably oak, as well as the necessary skills and knowledge to construct and tend a pyre successfully. This is confirmed by the common presence of oak together with hazel in all of the bulk samples and cremation deposits, indicating that these more useful of woodland resources were readily available.

The site was abandoned at some point in the middle of the second century, with substantial quantities of pottery being dumped into the ditches. The date of this operation roughly coincided with the abandonment of the auxiliary fort at Buckton and the fortification of the town at Leintwardine[4] and it is possible that, with a military presence no longer in the area, the occupants may have preferred the safety of the town. Following a brief hiatus, during which a shallow layer of colluvium was deposited, the area was brought back into agricultural use, resulting in the formation of two further features.

During the late Iron Age, from the mid-first century BC, there was a transition towards cremation burial in the south-east of England that was possibly associated with Roman influence.[5] Cremation burial became more widespread in England following the Roman invasion in AD 43. These cremation cemeteries were located outside towns, usually alongside major roads. However, Hope[6] has cautioned that some areas of Britain may have practised cremation burial during the Iron Age, and so the presence of cremation burial cannot be seen as indicative of the adoption of Roman practices in all areas. Rural areas in particular may well have been slow to adopt new fashions in burial practice.[7] Therefore, the burials at Leintwardine may either indicate rapid and early adoption of a new burial rite in a rural area, or represent the continuation of existing native burial practices.

HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY (UK) LTD.

KILPECK, Archaeological Works at Kilpeck Castle (SO 444 305) [HSM 714]
[EHE 2115, 2122]

The Unit was commissioned by Natural England to undertake a programme of archaeological works in conjunction with a project to stabilise the standing remains of the castle.

Kilpeck Castle is a Norman defensive work on the classic lines of a raised mound, or motte, encircled by an enclosing ditch; and with further ditched and fortified enclosures – the inner and outer bailies – attached. The earliest structure on the motte is assumed to have been of timber; the stone keep is believed to have been built in the 12th century prior to the death of Hugh de Kilpeck in 1169.[8] The castle appears to have been at the height of its grandeur in the 13th century, when King John was accommodated there on three occasions during the early part of the century, and a weekly market and annual fair were granted to the village in 1259. The 14th and 15th centuries appear to have been a period of decline. Although John Leland recorded that the castle was in a ruinous state in the 1530s, it was sufficiently sound to be garrisoned during the Civil War. Following the end of the conflict in 1645, the keep is believed to have been slighted by the Parliamentarians.

The current works concerned the two surviving fragments of the polygonal shell-keep. The fragments were at risk of structural collapse as a result of erosion of the motte's upper slopes caused by the influence of plants and burrowing animals. A structural survey recommended the emplacement of ground-anchors tied into the upstanding masonry in order to prevent movement of the structures. To enable this work a series of trenches needed to be excavated into the motte in order to bury the ground-anchor cables. Considering the sensitive nature of the site as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, English Heritage recommended a program of archaeological work to evaluate and mitigate the impact of the stabilisation works.

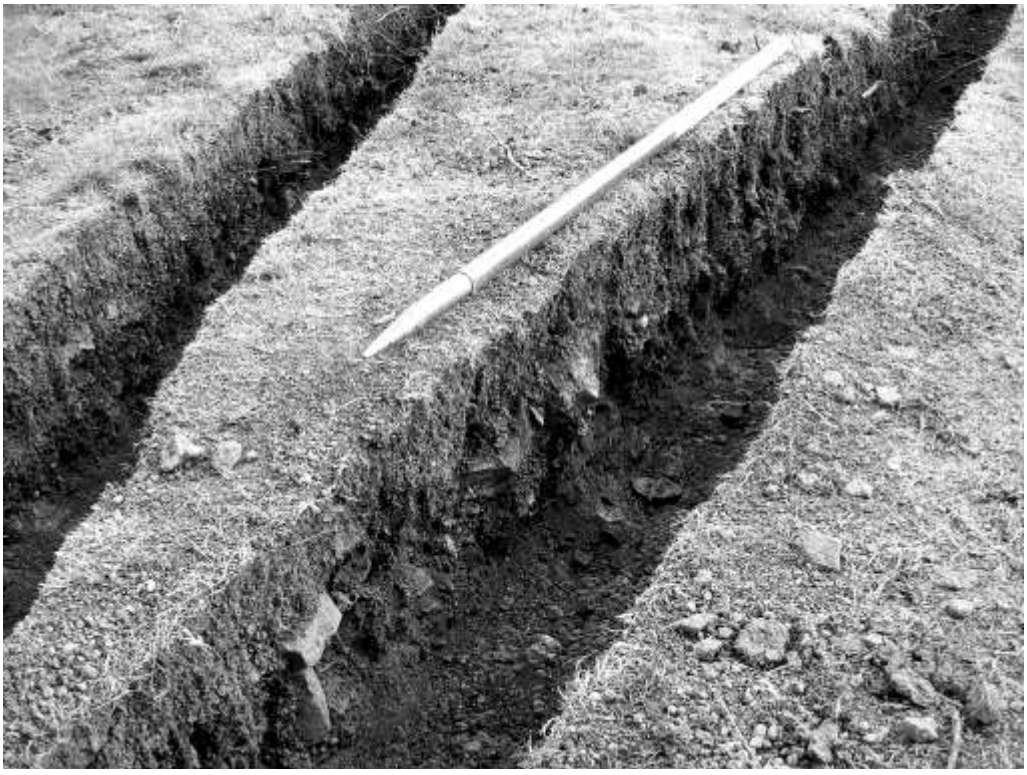

Figure 3. Kilpeck. Rubble deposit visible in the section of the cable trenches

In order to evaluate the likely archaeological impact of these works, a resistivity survey was undertaken in May 2013.[9] The survey indicated the possible presence of buried stone structures on the motte platform, including the possible presence of backfilled cellars adjacent to the two surviving masonry fragments. Four test pits were then excavated in order to test the results of the resistivity survey. No evidence for buried stone structures was found, but deposits of stone rubble were present which may explain the responses recorded during the resistivity survey. Significant archaeological deposits were identified at a depth of *c.*0.30m. below ground level. The evaluation concluded that there was a sufficient thickness of overburden to undertake the stabilisation works without significant damage to the monument.[10] In light of this, fourteen strip trenches were excavated across the top of the motte to allow for the emplacement of the ground anchors.

Throughout all the excavations, a consistent series of deposits was revealed.[11] The earliest deposit encountered (at a depth of *c.*0.30m.) was a medieval occupation layer containing charcoal, charred seeds and animal bone. The pottery recovered from the deposit indicates a late 12th to early 13th century date. Overlying the occupation layer, a heat-affected deposit containing concentrated charcoal and occasional iron nails indicated a widespread burning event resulting from the destruction of timber framed buildings on the top of the motte. This deposit was overlain by a layer of rubble (Fig. 3), containing a significant amount of angular sandstone fragments. Mortar attached to some of the stones, and the presence of roof tile within the deposit, indicate the collapse or demolition of roofed structures within the shell keep. Pottery recovered suggests a date in the late 14th to the early 15th century for the accumulation of this deposit.

The archaeological evidence would appear to support the historical evidence that the castle was occupied during the 12th and 13th centuries, but subsequently suffered decline. The Kilpeck estate was valued at £62 0s. 6d. in 1325, but this had dropped by two-thirds when re-valued in 1338.[12] Potentially there is a connection between this fall in value and the evidence for burning in the archaeological record. The rubble deposit is likely be coeval with the abandonment of the castle. Whether the rubble was deposited as a direct result of the fire, or alternatively, the fire led to abandonment, disrepair, and gradual collapse of the masonry, is not clear.

Structural remains identified during the excavation consisted of a stone and mortar structure with a smooth-faced northern edge, encountered at a depth of 0.42m. below ground level. The structure was located within the recessed round-backed hearth in the south-western shell keep wall fragment. It did not extend completely across the width of the recessed fireplace and is orientated on a different alignment to the shell keep wall above. The structure was located within the area identified by the resistivity survey as a potential in-filled cellar.

The most notable find recovered from the site was a nine men's morris or merels board (Fig. 4), a game popular during the medieval period.[13] Game divisions had been incised into the flat dressed surface of a piece of sandstone. It is approximately 45mm. at its thickest point, with a back that is rough hewn, and it appears to be a broken fragment of a larger stone block. It is thus unlikely that it was ever intended as a portable board. It is more likely that it was incised by masons into a block of architectural stone during the construction of the castle, the game providing a diversion from the hard labour. Such boards are often found cut into architectural fragments later incorporated into structures.[14] Only part of the board survives, half is missing and there is some damage to the edges, but the design is clear. The board would have measured approximately 160mm. across and is typical of the type, with three concentric

squares joined at the corners and edges by cross-cutting lines. Such simple hand-drawn boards cannot be closely dated. They are known throughout the medieval and into the early post-medieval periods. The board was found within the medieval occupation deposits and potentially dates back to the original construction of the stone castle, or to a period of significant repairs or alterations.

Figure 4. Kilpeck. Nine-men's morris board recovered from the motte

Other medieval finds were similarly of fragments of the fabric of the building, though typically lacking in any distinctive features that could aid in the dating of any structures. Finds included two fragments of window glass, offcuts of lead sheeting, pieces of dressed and moulded building stone, and pieces of sandstone floor and roof tiles.

Following the programme of archaeological works and the stabilisation and repair of the upstanding masonry, trees and vegetation were removed from the site allowing for an enhanced appreciation of the monument's topography (Plate 5.3). The project has safeguarded the future of an 'at risk' monument and facilitated greater understanding of the settlement and abandonment of an historic site. (Luke Craddock-Bennett, Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd.)

ROTHERWAS, Watching Brief at Outfall Works Road to Chapel Road (SO 522 390) [EHE 2005]

Amey Consulting acting as agents for Herefordshire County Council, commissioned the Unit to conduct a programme of archaeological monitoring for the construction of a cycle and footway from Outfall Works Road to Chapel Road, Rotherwas.

Within the span of the existing railway bridge crossing the River Wye, the cutwater for a previous bridge was indentified (Plate 5.4). The cutwater runs parallel to the existing bridge footing; but it is only half the width of the existing bridge. Examination of the available cartographic evidence shows that in 1858 the railway bridge carried only a single broad-gauge line into Hereford. The later bridge was casement constructed, which helps to explain why the original cutwater was not incorporated into the later bridge design; the new bridge requiring deep and more substantial footings. It is highly probable that the cutwater represents the earlier, single-width bridge relating to an early railway crossing of the Wye into Hereford, the first being the Barton bridge. (Mayes, S. R., Hereford Archaeology Series 992).

JEREMY MILLN

BROCKHAMPTON PARK, Bringsty, Bromyard – Conservation Planning 2013

Two Conservation Management Plans (CMP) were completed in 2013 for the National Trust at Brockhampton. For the 702ha. agricultural estate the CMP was provided by Cookson & Tickner Ltd, while for the 137ha. grade II registered park Chris Burnett Associates were awarded the contract.

Reconnaissance archaeological survey of the Estate had been carried out by Keith Ray (then of Herefordshire Archaeology) in 2003. Sites then identified for the first time included a deserted medieval village site near Home House Farm (to add to that previously known at The Grove), indications of early field systems, a major early ridge-top boundary bank, several farmstead sites, a likely pillow-mound, mill & leat sites, numerous charcoal-platforms, quarry features, lynchets, saw pits, boundary banks and track-ways.

Figure 5. Brockhampton. The former carriage drive in East Park

This data was assimilated by Will Cookson and Matthew Tickner for the plan for the Estate, but it was felt that further archaeological survey was needed for the Park, mainly to improve the understanding of the complex changes wrought by the Barnebys and Lutleys during the latter periods. This has increased the record from 137 to 193 sites, the 56 ‘new’ ones being mainly features of the Park design such as carriage rides (Fig. 5), bridges, culverts, walls and a remarkable complex of tufa-forming dingle cascades (Plate 5.5) and pools redolent of the contemporary work of William Shenstone at the Leasowes, Halesowen.

As ever with plans of this sort the challenge seems enormous and the National Trust and English Nature must prioritise the tasks over a ten-year period. Woodland work and the mending of fences come first. After that there will be a programme of de-silting of the Grove, Lawn and Hyde Pools, the restoration of their dams and the reordering of the multi-period complex of rides, tracks, drives and paths which weave across the park and through the woods so much enjoyed by visitors (Plate 5.6).

MUSEUM OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGY (MOLA)

*HEREFORD, 101-102 East Street (*SO 351 240)

MOLA staff maintained an intermittent watching brief of groundworks associated with the re-ordering works on the one-time Conservative Club building. The demolition of 19th-century outbuildings was recorded and a well and cess-pit (both shown on Curley's detailed survey plans of 1856) was recorded. The work continues into 2014. (Please see the more detailed report in the Buildings section).

ONE TEN ARCHAEOLOGY

CREDENHILL, Lodge Farm Evaluation (SO 452 436)

In November 2013 an evaluation comprising 150m.$^{2.}$ of trial trenching was carried out on land adjacent to Cross Farm. The work was required due to a proposal for residential development of the site. The application site lies within an area of archaeological interest and is on the line of the Roman road that joined Wroxeter to Caerleon and Caerwent via the nearby settlement of *Magnis*.

The site also lies within the probable extent of the medieval settlement at Credenhill village, Cross Farm (a 17th-century timber-framed building) being one of three historic farms in the village that may have had their origins in the medieval period. The Roman road at Credenhill runs straight except at Cross Farm where there is a kink in the alignment. It was thought that this kink could have been brought about by the construction of farm buildings and that the original Roman road lay at the northern end of the site. In the event excavation showed that the Roman road did not continue through as anticipated, but that it was more likely to have followed the course of the existing route. It was thought that this may suggest that an earlier farm pre-dating the Roman road existed on the site which may have influenced the road layout.

There was an absence of significant archaeological deposits in the trial trenching. Overall finds were scarce; pottery fabrics ranging in date from the 12th to the 19th centuries. A stone and pebble surface identified in one trench was dated to the late 19th and 20th centuries. It lay to the east of an early 20th-century building that appears to have been open and may have been a Dutch barn, which was demolished in the 1970s. (Cook, S., Cross Farm, Archaeological Evaluation)

WORCESTERSHIRE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

HEREFORD, Blackfriars Street (SO 509 403) (EHE 2121)

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at land at Blackfriars St. on behalf of Western Power. Three 10m. trenches were opened on the footprint of the proposed transformers and new control building. They revealed cellars and a series of brick and concrete structures dating from the 1920s construction of an early electricity works or industrial depot building (Fig. 6).

One trench contained a narrow gauge rail track orientated north-south, set in a concrete base. It may have been associated with the railway system that is recorded on the 1929 Ordnance Survey map of the area heading east-west across the Cattle Market, and may have been used to transport fuel or goods into, or around the electricity works.

No other significant archaeological deposits were recorded.

(Arnold, G., *Archaeological evaluation of land south of Blackfriars Street, Hereford* Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, Report 2022)

Figure 6 (right). Blackfriars Street, Hereford. The trench looking south-west showing 20th-century brick and concrete structures

HEREFORD, Hereford Livestock Market (SO 350 240) (EHE 2173)

A programme of archaeological works was undertaken at the former Hereford Livestock Market. The investigation area lies to the immediate north of the historic centre of Hereford and comprises an area of *c*.5ha. comprising the former Livestock Market, elements of the surrounding streets, council offices, a car park and the Grade II Listed Old Market Inn.

The archaeological investigations were commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Stanhope PLC, who are developing the site into a new retail and entertainment complex. Investigations included an evaluation of land beneath a building demolished as part of the development (Garrick House) and a watching brief carried out on intrusive ground-works in other parts of the site.

The development area lies partially within the Hereford Area of Archaeological Importance and the Central Conservation Area. A Scheduled Monument comprising a section of the city walls, rampart and ditch lies close to the southern boundary of the site. The development site lies to the north of the projected boundaries of the Saxon and medieval towns and cartographic evidence indicates that until the middle of the 19th century, the majority of the site was part of a common field called the Port Fields. The eastern part of the site, however lay within burgage plots fronting onto Widemarsh Street, which was a major route into the city from the north from the medieval period onwards.

Previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the north part of the site revealed evidence of late Neolithic/Bronze Age activity as well as a number of undated postholes and pits and a post-medieval cultivation soil, which was also apparent in a geotechnical borehole in the north-east corner of the site. The investigations did not recover further evidence of prehistoric activity. Evaluation in the south-eastern corner of the site revealed a cluster of pits, interpreted as gravel extraction pits, which were backfilled with domestic refuse in the medieval period. This activity is thought likely to have taken place to the rear of the burgage plots fronting Widemarsh Street. To the south of this a ditch or gully was recorded running parallel to the main city ditch. An assemblage of 17th-century material, and a very large quantity of cattle metacarpals and horn cores were recovered from the ditch. The bias in the assemblage is indicative of the tanning industry and horn-working, and suggests that these activities must have been happening in the immediate vicinity. To the north-west of this feature an almost identical assemblage was recovered from a later 19th-century gully, suggesting that these industrial activities continued in the area for at least 300 years. To the immediate north a roughly rectangular structure 2m. in length by 1m. in width is thought to have been a cess-pit associated with domestic properties fronting Newmarket Street. (Arnold, G. and Webster, J., *Archaeological investigations at the former livestock market site, Hereford*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, Report 2044)

HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY

In addition to routine advisory case-work (development management and countryside matters) and continuing Historic Environment Record (HER) maintenance and updating duties, staff of the County Archaeological Service for Herefordshire undertook several grant-aided projects in 2013. These involved a number of partnerships with organisations including English Heritage, Herefordshire Nature Trust, Natural England, The National Trust and The Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The upgraded Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Record was completed in 2012, and from January 2013 it has been re-launched, in line with such Records nationally, as Herefordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER). It is now administered jointly with the Herefordshire Collections and Archives Service in preparation for the development of a new Herefordshire Archives and Records Centre. The new Centre is being built at Rotherwas, and from 2015 will house the County Record Office (Archives), the HER, the Biological Records Centre, and the Archaeology Service.

This has been a difficult year for Herefordshire Archaeology. Council budget cuts and associated re-organisation have led to a number of project staff being made redundant. This culminated in the deletion of the post of County Archaeologist in December 2013.

Field projects undertaken during 2013 included further investigations of the Neolithic site on Dorstone Hill, which led to the conclusion that the features looked at during previous seasons relate to Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary monuments of national significance; a final season of small-scale excavations within the hill fort of Eaton Camp (Ruckhall, Eaton Bishop), and the completion of the Dinedor Origins project. Fieldwork included parish audits of Bridstow and Fownhope under 'The Past Around You' project, and the final phase of the Herefordshire Nature Trust Parklands Project within Moccas Park, Brampton Bryan Park and Haye Park.

CROFT: A Rapid Recording Survey of Pathways and Trackways within Fishpool Valley, Croft Castle, The Croft Estate.(SO 450 661); [EHE 2158]

A report was produced in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed between The National Trust and Herefordshire Archaeology in order to record the course, nature, and extent of a series of paths, walks and carriage-rides which exist within Fishpool Valley on the Croft Estate. The National Trust has begun the management of part of the Fishpool Valley with the aim of the partial restoration of areas within it to a post-medieval landscape park. The carriage-rides, paths and walks were an intrinsic part of this designed landscape. The Trust has expressed an ambition to understand the layout of these route-ways and if practicable open some lengths of them as way-marked walks.

The survey identified twelve lengths of route-way which survive as earthworks within the valley. These appear to contour around the valley sides at different heights in order to benefit from a diversity of viewing points taking in either landscape views or overlooking specific features and buildings.

Whilst many of the route-ways were found to have been cut by later features such as quarries, some survive for considerable distances and could be reinstated as walks accessible by visitors. The re-opening of some lengths of route-ways, particularly through areas where the Trust has begun the restoration of the pre-19th-century park, would greatly enhance the experience of walking through and understanding the subtleties of the form and design of Fishpool Valley.

This survey has also highlighted the subtle complexity of the designed landscape features within the base of Fishpool Valley which, in order to be understood, will require further research. (Hoverd, T. HAR 325)

DORSTONE, Dorstone Hill (SO 326 424), *[HSM 1551]*

A third season of excavation on the site of what was previously thought to be an Early Neolithic (4th millennium BC) hilltop enclosure took place in July 2013. It was again directed by Professor Julian Thomas of Manchester University and Dr Keith Ray, in association with Professor Koji Mizoguchi, of Kyushu University, Japan, and Tim Hoverd of Herefordshire Archaeology. The project was staffed by local volunteers and by students from (mostly) the Universities of Manchester, Kyushu and Cardiff. These excavations followed those of 2012 to the west of the 2011 trench.[15] This latter site was across the 'bank' surveyed by English Heritage in the late 1990s and test-excavated by Roger Pye and members of the Woolhope Club in the 1960s. This now slight earthwork extends for some 130m. across the narrow neck of the large promontory that overlooks the Golden Valley to the west, and the Wye valley to the east (Plate 5.7).

Upon closer inspection, this bank, much reduced by ploughing, was resolved into two linear mounds, oriented east-west, on subtly differing alignments and with a 10m. gap between them (Plate 5.8). In 2012, the excavation of a 10m. wide trench, aligned north-south across the western of the two mounds, demonstrated a three-phase development, and substantiated Roger Pye's finding that there was no associated ditch. Moreover, the two sides of the mound were found to be identical in having been retained, first by post-built walls with turf laid between them, and then by cladding in stone. A sub-rectangular stone-lined cist, or closed chamber, was found sealed beneath the stone cladding on the north side of the mound. This cist had been inserted into the collapsed turf of the previous phase. A leaf-shaped flint arrowhead was found

in close association with this cist. That the tip of this arrowhead had broken in a characteristic way suggested that it may have entered the cist embedded in a human body. Unfortunately, soil conditions on the hill have prevented the survival of organic material, unless carbonised, and this meant that no bone, human or animal, was recovered. The earliest phase of activity identified in this trench was a deposit of burnt clay mixed with carbonised wood. This was exposed but not excavated in 2012. A closely similar deposit had been found, surviving in a highly vestigial state at the base of the eastern mound, in 2011.

In 2013, the trench over the western mound was re-opened and the lower, primary, deposit closely investigated. A second trench was opened, 10m. by 12m. in extent, to the east of this, and sited over the gap between the two mounds. This latter trench demonstrated that the mounds were indeed distinct: the one to the east with a broad west-facing terminus, and that to the west terminated by a tapering 'tail' to the bank. The eastern mound was found to have had a cylindrical pit dug into its top. The base of this pit had survived the ploughing of recent years, and contained a small but remarkable assemblage of objects, including a fine thin ovate flint knife and a polished flint axe with a finely-ground blade (Plate 5.9). These are items highly characteristic of the late Neolithic period in the Vale of York and the Yorkshire Wolds, whence the flint is derived. Their careful deposition in the pit, replete with knapping waste from the manufacture of the knife, after the end of the main sequence of mound-construction had ended, provides a *terminus ante quem* for that entire sequence, placing it in all probability in the 4th millennium.

Beneath the west end of the eastern mound, and existing prior to the fence-defined turf phase and further stone-lined cists and cladding found here, was a rectangular burial chamber some 6m. long by 2m. wide, defined east and west by the former locations of axially-placed vertically-set tree trunks. The base of this chamber had been lined with carefully-placed stone slabs upon which it is deduced that human bones would have been laid. This is also attributed to the first half of the 4th millennium BC on analogy with similar such chambers excavated and closely-dated elsewhere, such as at Wayland's Smithy I, Oxfordshire, and at the Haddenham long-barrow, Cambridgeshire (where the timbers had been preserved). A large polished stone axe, of likely Graig Llwyd (North Wales) origin, was retrieved from the area immediately to the west of this chamber.

The western of the two 2013 trenches demonstrated conclusively that the burnt deposit was formed from clay-daub debris mounded up over the site of a deliberately-fired building. This building exhibits a number of features characteristic of early-4th-millennium 'halls' elsewhere in Britain. It has not yet been dated by radiocarbon analysis of the samples of charred wood retrieved, but is thought likely to belong to the origins of the Neolithic period in Britain. The 'hall' was aisled, and was some 8m. across and at least 30m. long (traces of its eastern end were found in the western part of the eastern 2013 trench), and featured stake-built partitions. The 8 aisle-post holes revealed in the trench and excavated in 2013 showed that they had been charred, but not entirely carbonised, in the fire that had destroyed the building. The debris from the side walls was then amassed around their still-standing lower portions, and they had subsequently rotted *in situ* before the turf mound was built over them.

Around a 60m. length of the western mound survives so if (as is thought likely) a further chamber had been built at the western end of this mound, the hall could have been up to 50m. in length. This will, hopefully, be resolved in 2014. Most remarkable was the survival of coherent structural timbers from the roof and super-structure of the building, preserved by having become embedded within the burnt clay daub from the walls. These timbers include

what appear to be a series of small right-angled wall-crucks (concentrated, as might be anticipated, around the end of the structure), and a fragment of what appears to be a wall-plate featuring a well-carpentered mortice-hole.

A total of 5 cists or chambers inserted into the sides of the mounds were revealed in the excavations, and they demonstrate that during the 'stone' phase of construction of the mounds, these chambers were all set on the northern sides of the mounds, facing away from the Black Mountains and towards the Herefordshire lowlands. It is perhaps also noteworthy that the long-mounds were visited not only in the late Neolithic, but also in the Bronze Age, as indicated by the digging of an oval 'Beaker-style' (presumed) burial-pit close to the east end of the western mound, and unaccompanied cremations inserted into the mound itself. The pit had been covered by a charred timber board, under which had been inserted some knapped and trimmed flakes of rock-crystal. This is also a rare find nationally, having been recovered from only one such pit in recent excavations in Britain, in the close environs of Stonehenge (K. Ray).

EATON BISHOP, Eaton Camp, (SO 453 393) [EHE 2006, HSM 907, SAM 10]

Two seasons of small scale excavations within the interior of Eaton Camp promontory hill-fort were undertaken during 2012 and 2013. The work was carried out as part of the Eaton Camp Conservation Project, a Heritage Lottery funded project organised by the Eaton Camp Historical Society.

The primary fill in the two ditches found in the two excavations undertaken in 2012[16] was radiocarbon dated to the early Iron Age. The form and location of the western-most ditch suggests that it may be an early phase of the promontory fort defences. The second ditch cut off the very end of the promontory and served to demarcate that area. Deliberate deposition may be suggested by articulated cattle bones and fragments of human skull in the primary fill. An apparent midden deposit in the very top of the ditch contained Middle Iron Age ceramics, including crucible, burnt bone, fire-cracked stones and abundant charred plant and cereal remains.

During 2013 three further trenches were opened. The main trench was 6.00m. by 6.00m. and was designed to investigate the apparent occupation deposits, seen in the previous year excavation, running east into the area demarcated by the ditch. Sealed below the occupation deposits were features associated with a circular building. These comprised a wall slot suggesting that the building was about 6.00m. in diameter and a drainage gully (Plate 5.10). No direct dating evidence was recovered, but it may be contemporary with the ditch and the overlying soils containing middle Iron Age pottery. The second trench was designed to investigate a large geophysical anomaly. It was found to be a *c.*3m. diameter pit of significant depth (it was not fully excavated). A single sherd of decorated middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from one of its fills. The mound on the eastern end of the promontory was also examined and found to be a section of rampart. This probably served to enhance the visibility of the fort from below (from the River Wye) and/or to enhance the enclosure of the area containing the building and defined on the west by the ditch. (Dorling, P., HAR 313)

WESTON-UNDER-PENYARD, Penyard Castle, A report on a site visit (SO 618 226) [EHE 80006]

Herefordshire Archaeology was contracted to undertake an outline survey and condition appraisal of the Forestry Commission holding of Penyard Castle. This comprised the standing remains of a masonry building, thought to represent the late medieval or early post-medieval

remains of a farmhouse, or possibly the remains of the domestic quarters associated with the castle. Vegetation growth and structural weakness made the survey impossible, but a full appraisal was made suggesting that elements of the structure may well date from the medieval period and that it is likely that these elements represented part of the solar block of the castle. (Baker, N., HAR 336)

THE DINEDOR ORIGINS PROJECT

The following projects were commissioned by the Dinedor Heritage Group as part of the Dinedor Origins Project, a Heritage Lottery funded project. The investigations were led and the reports compiled by Herefordshire Council's archaeology service.

DINEDOR, Site of Medieval Village (SO 533 365) [SAM HE224]

The scheduled medieval village is located to the south of the present Dinedor village. The 2ha. field in which the site is enclosed is situated on gentle east-facing slopes (falling from 71.5m. in the west to 64.9m. OD to the east) at the foot of Dinedor Hill, a prominent ridgeline which lies on a north-east/south-west alignment.

The monument is at the northern end of a small hanging-valley basin where the solid geology is dominated by the Raglan Mudstone Formation. To the east the basin is marked by superficial river terrace deposits of sand and gravel beyond which the topography drops sharply to form the current course of the south-flowing River Wye. The modern centre of Dinedor is located upon these deposits whereas the historic core surrounding St Andrew's Church was established over superficial colluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel to the west. During its course through the valley basin Tar's Brook is fed by at least six watercourses issuing from springs to the north and west. The most substantial water course flows through the centre of Dinedor Village southwards along the eastern edge of the scheduled monument.

Across Herefordshire, villages recognised as either deserted or shrunken medieval settlements have been investigated, but only on a limited scale. In particular settlement 'life-cycles' regarding how and why centres develop, grow and subsequently decline is little understood. As part of the Project this investigation aims to address these fundamental questions, aspects highlighted in the West Midlands Research Framework.[17] The extent to which field systems are related to settlements have also been limited within the county. These investigations provide an opportunity to improve the understanding of the construction of field boundaries and the subsequent use of the land and impact on the immediate landscape.

The project started with an Archaeological Field Survey [EHE 2087]. The aim of the investigation was to identify and record, by means of a measured survey, raised earthworks associated with the scheduled site of the medieval village. The survey identified multiple small field/garden enclosures which cannot be identified through historic mapping resources and thus predate the production of the 1840 Tithe Survey. As well as these, a number of possible platforms were identified within the vicinity of St Andrew's Church as well as along the roadside to the west. A single platform that can be traced running into the graveyard extension of St. Andrew's Church appears to represent the site of a structure known as 'The Garrison' as indicated by the 1840 Tithe Survey. (Atkinson, C., HAR 327)

This was followed by a Geophysical Survey [EHE 2088] with the aim of identifying evidence for below-ground anomalies of potential archaeological significance by a resistance survey centred on the medieval village site. The results of the investigation complemented the

measured survey whereby readings of high resistance matched above-ground archaeological features. (Atkinson, C., HAR 328)

Finally, limited excavations took place [EHE 80026]. A series of three trial trenches were opened: one across an anomaly identified during the geophysical survey and shown on the Tithe map (Trench 1), a second on the raised platform (Trench 2) and the third on the sunken platform in the south-west of the site (Trench 3).

The full results of the investigation await analysis of the pottery and archaeo-botanical samples. However, the interim results have greatly improved the understanding of the monument. Trench 1 has established that the structure was more suited for habitation rather than agricultural or storage use due to the presence of a hearth and internal divisions. The structure also had stone foundations, which due to the limited width would suggest a largely timber superstructure. The three consecutive cobbled surfaces identified in the trench 2 excavations indicate the access route to the structure identified in trench 1 as dating from the late 17th century.

In trench 3 there was no structure on the potential platform. The terraced boundary identified as a result of the survey consisted of an earthen bank which appears to have been utilised to store stone from field clearance, which subsequently slipped down the slope to the north. The bank and clearance stone was subsequently buried by an accumulation of plough soil containing medieval ceramic wares. (Atkinson, C., HAR 336)

DINEDOR, Site of Rotherwas House, Geophysical Survey (SO 535 383)
[EHE 2088, SAM HE548]

The aim of the investigation was to identify evidence for below-ground anomalies of potential archaeological significance by a resistance survey centred on the scheduled site of Rotherwas House. The results of the survey were used to enhance the current understanding of the layout and condition of the site. (Atkinson, C., HAR 329)

THE PAST AROUND YOU: Parish Archaeological Records Audit

These projects were undertaken with funding from the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The projects were intended to pilot work that will provide a more systematic coverage of the resource that can then inform future priorities at the local parish level and at the strategic AONB and county level.

It is recognised that our current knowledge of the archaeology of the landscape has developed piecemeal through projects that have a geographic or period specific focus or that have come from casual field observations. The records for a single parish can therefore be biased to certain monument types or areas. The methodology used followed a standard pattern for area studies. Firstly the existing record was reviewed, allowing a picture of the known archaeology of the parish to be established. Historic maps were then studied to identify historic features. These included the Tithe maps and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th editions of the Ordnance Survey maps. The two parishes examined in 2013 were Bridstow and Fownhope.

BRIDSTOW, (SO 579 247) [EHE 2050]

The full report discusses the results of a desk-based assessment and rapid walk-over survey of locations identified as historically significant within the parish. Over the course of a series of volunteer-based events, locations previously identified as centres of medieval settlement were

visited and reassessed, noting accuracy of the record, condition and potential for further study. As part of the investigation a number of new features and sites were recorded, the information from which was used to update the HER. These included features indicative of relict field systems in use at the time of the 1839 tithe survey as well as a potential early industrial site identified as 'The Moat' through field-name evidence. (Atkinson, C., HAR 323)

FOWNHOPE, (SO 578 346) [EHE 80021]

Through the use of LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) in combination with other techniques the project was able to quantify the number and extent of individual monument types. It gave an indication of the condition of the resource and created a dataset and summary that is useable at the parish level. The Dudley Stamp Land Utilisation Map was used to compare land use and landscape features. In addition the vertical aerial photographs held digitally on the council's Geographic Information System (GIS) were examined as were the Google Earth images for the area. LiDAR height elevation modelling was used to attempt to identify earthwork features, especially in areas currently under woodland cover. Minimal ground survey was undertaken, mainly due to the lack of involvement from the local community.

In all fifty-six new sites were recorded and sixteen existing records have been enhanced.

Sites from the historic maps were recorded in the form of physical features on maps that if still present will be relict or historic features such as wells, milestones, quarries and place-names such as 'Limekiln Piece'. Also recognisable from the historic maps were a number of relict open-field remnants—these areas have subsequently been enclosed and sub-divided. In a number of cases the extent of quarry areas have been traced from historic maps to provide polygons or areas for records instead of spots.

Extant earthworks were recorded from the aerial photographs and from the detailed elevation data from LiDAR surveys. These are for the most part associated with open-field arable agriculture in the form of ridge and furrow, strip lynchets and relict headland but there are also two enclosure sites and a number of quarry areas. The limited fieldwork was specifically to visit the cross dyke and the nearby 'moated' platform. This visit was useful in gauging the survival and clarity of the monuments and in assisting with their interpretation as probable post-medieval features.

Given the extensive woodland coverage within the parish, and the agricultural history of those areas outside the woodland, it is perhaps not surprising that there were not more 'conventional' sites recorded. It is known from the woodland surveys that the potential for recording new sites within those areas is high and areas not surveyed in the past might produce a number of new sites.

Those sites that have been recorded during this audit need to be checked on the ground to verify the interpretation from remote sources and also to assess the condition of the remains. (Dorling, P., HAR 324)

HEREFORDSHIRE NATURE TRUST PARKLANDS PROJECT: *Archaeological Investigations*

The three investigations which follow form part of a larger project entitled: The Herefordshire Nature Trust Parklands Project. This project involved the recording of ecological and archaeological / historical features within parklands across the county. Ecological and archaeological assets were recorded by volunteers under professional supervision in order to

enhance and update the data held within the Biological Record Centre and the Historic Environment Record. The final Phase of the project included the more detailed investigation of a range of parkland features within Moccas Park, Brampton Bryan Park and Haye Park.

BRAMPTON BRYAN, Laugh Lady Valley, Brampton Bryan Park (SO 351 716) [EHE 80024]
The investigations comprised the detailed survey and partial excavation of a series of earthworks within Laugh Lady Valley thought to be part of a charcoal-burning settlement. The detailed survey recorded the location and scale of a series of earthworks within Laugh Lady Valley. These had been previously identified during a walk-over survey of the Deer Park in 2003. The location and form of the earthworks suggested that they related to timber extraction and charcoal burning. A levelled platform was tentatively recorded as a hut / building platform and a low mound a midden. The excavations confirmed the existence of a charcoal-burning platform. However, trenches across the platform and midden showed that these were the earthwork remains of a brick kiln and associated wasters. The excavation of a presumed saw-pit revealed a feature most likely linked to brick production during the 18th century. (Hoverd, T., HAR 334)

MOCCAS, Woodbury Hill, Moccas Park (SO 337 423) [EHE 80023]
The investigations comprised the detailed survey and partial excavation of a small earthwork enclosure on Woodbury Hill and the detailed survey and excavation of a section of park pale. The small enclosure appears to represent the earthwork remains of a late or post-medieval stock enclosure. The section of park pale investigated revealed that the pale was constructed on a pre-existing field terrace. This appears to be associated with a clearance cairn which was excavated during the project and is likely to date from the Bronze Age (Plate 5.11). (Hoverd, T., HAR 333)

RICHARD'S CASTLE, Haye Park, (SO 492 722) [EHE 80025, HER 6368]
The investigations comprised the excavation of a section across the external ditch of a large earthwork enclosure. The enclosure appears to represent the earthwork remains some form of late Prehistoric and/or Romano-British, defended settlement or farmstead. The original ditch was rock cut to a depth of 1.85m. and was 2.6m. wide. The material excavated from the ditch was used to form the bank or rampart and a small external counterscarp bank. It appears that this may have been rapidly filled to form a 2.6m. wide and 1.4m. deep ditch before more gradually filling up. Later, it was re-cut in order to create a 1.8m. wide and 1.1m. deep ditch which appears to have been allowed to gradually fill up with erosion products from both the rampart and the counterscarp bank. A single sherd of pottery was recovered from the latest, undisturbed deposit filling the ditch. This has been dated to the late 1st or 2nd century AD. The location of the sherd of pottery within the soil profile and its un-abraded condition suggests that this was *in situ* and that this may well date the final use of the enclosure.
(Hoverd, T., and Williams, D., HAR 335)

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further within this 2 sigma confidence rating from 90–73 cal. BC at 2.7% probability and 58 cal. BC to 70 cal. AD at 92.7% probability. (Caffell, 2013).

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Botany, 2013

By PETER GARNER

As county botanical recorder I have received records from more people in 2013 than in any previous year. Some have been from visiting botanists, but many others have come from local botanists.

In my last report I included the remarkable discovery made by Mark Jannink of the Ghost Orchid, which he found in 2009. This year Mark has found another rare orchid! Not quite as rare as Ghost Orchid, but almost as difficult to find. Mark recorded one spike of the Fly Orchid—*Ophrys insectifera*—from the Doward on 1 June 2013, at a site where it had been recorded many years previously. It was a small plant with just two flowers on the spike growing in a 'sea' of Dog's Mercury. He led me to the spot and pointed, but I still required further direction from Mark before I was able to see it. I was even more amazed at the discovery when he explained that he first found it a week previously when it was still in bud! Fly Orchid has not been seen in Herefordshire for thirty years and, as it has declined nationally, it is a plant we feared had been lost to the county.

This year I found two other plants, not as remarkable as the Fly Orchid, but nevertheless, plants that it was feared might have been lost to Herefordshire:

Orobanche minor (Common Broomrape) is a parasitic, orchid-like plant and I found just two plants growing towards the back of a wide verge beside the A4103 (the main Worcester to Hereford Road) at Woodmanton (21 July 2013).

Cynoglossum officinale (Hound's-tongue). I re-found an old record for this plant in a disused quarry near Preston Wynn (31 July 2013). This is very likely the only extant Herefordshire site.

For most plant families, especially where the species are difficult to determine, there is a nationally-appointed expert who is referred to as the 'referee' for that genus.

The Wild Rose family presents many very difficult identification problems because even though there is a relatively small number of true species, they all hybridize freely with each other. To make matters even more complicated, in the genus *Rosa* the pollen parent provides 7 chromosomes and the seed parent provides 28. As a result of this peculiar method of reproduction the hybrids are matriclinal in their characters, resembling the seed parent more than the pollen parent.

Roger Maskew is the national referee for *Rosa* and on 6 August 2013 he visited some Herefordshire sites with me. Near the Hereford Nature Trust's reserve on Common Hill and in a disused quarry near Ledbury we found a very rare hybrid between two of the three native British species of sweet-briar rose: *Rosa x bigeneris* = (Eglantine – *R. rubiginosa* x Small-flowered Sweet-briar – *R. micrantha*), and at the Ledbury site we found reciprocal hybrids with both *R. micrantha* and *R. rubiginosa* as the seed parent.

The Sweet-briar roses are uncommon and are restricted to calcareous soils (Eglantine is sometimes planted in hedges and can be found as 'escapes' close to gardens). The leaves, bracts, sepals, stalks and hips of Sweet-briars are covered with tiny glands that smell sweetly of apples. The hybrid, *R.* x *bigeneris*, has only been recorded from four other British counties and never before from Herefordshire.

A summary of some other interesting records are as follows:

Juncus subnodulosus – Blunt-flowered Rush. David Green discovered an extensive patch of this large rush near Whitchurch in the extreme south of the county (24 June 2013).This plant is known from very few sites in Herefordshire and never before from anywhere near where David found it last July.

Ranunclus arvensis – Corn Buttercup, is a rare and fast declining arable weed, which has only been recorded in Herefordshire five or six times in the last fifty years. Geoff Newman found the plant 'sparsely scattered' at a farm near Bosbury.

Hordelymus europaeus – Wood Barley. On 3 July 2013 Hilary Ward discovered a small population of this nationally scarce grass in Brockhill Wood near Colwall.

Ophioglossum vulgatum – Adder's Tongue Fern (Plate 6.1). On 12 June 2013 Ian Curtis found hundreds in his meadow at Old Ashmoor near Kington.

Geranium rotundifolium - Round-leaved Crane's-bill. As I am writing this report, I have just received the news from Les Smith that on 9 April 2014 he has re-found this small plant at its only known Herefordshire site in the centre of Ross-on-Wye. For the last two years we had been unable to find it (Plate 6.2).

Buildings, 2013

By DUNCAN JAMES

The detailed study and analysis of vernacular buildings in Herefordshire has the potential to enrich our understanding of the past. For the most part it touches on the past lives of ordinary people for which there is little or no documentary evidence. This enhances its importance. Historic houses with their accretion of evidence for other, later lives can be seen as a palimpsest; sometimes these later changes are lifted or removed to expose the traces that lie beneath. Such moments are usually when repairs or alterations are being made and sadly, it is also when damage to those earliest traces can occur. This is standing archaeology of which Herefordshire has an abundance. The fact that it is still standing means that it is subject to unremitting erosion both natural and man-made. Understanding and recording these deeply vulnerable artefacts has never been more urgent.

Copies of the full reports concerning the houses summarised below have been deposited in the Woolhope Club library.

Macklins, Mansell Lacy, Herefordshire, HR4 7HQ
Lat/Long:- 52.103896,-2.845181
RCHME Monument No. 8.

Figure 1. Macklins, Mansell Lacy. Hall range and crosswing

This is a grade II listed building dated in the listing description as 'probably C17 and C18, with later alterations'. It is however, more significant than this suggests. It is a cruck-framed late-medieval hall range and crosswing with evidence for an internal jetty at the upper end of the hall (Fig. 2). An internal jetty in a medieval hall forms a canopy over the dais end whilst also

increasing the floor area of the solar accommodation, which in effect, at first-floor level, projects into the hall. Only a few internal jetties have been identified in the county including Upper House, Eardisley and The Old Maidenhead, Lyonshall, which is described below.

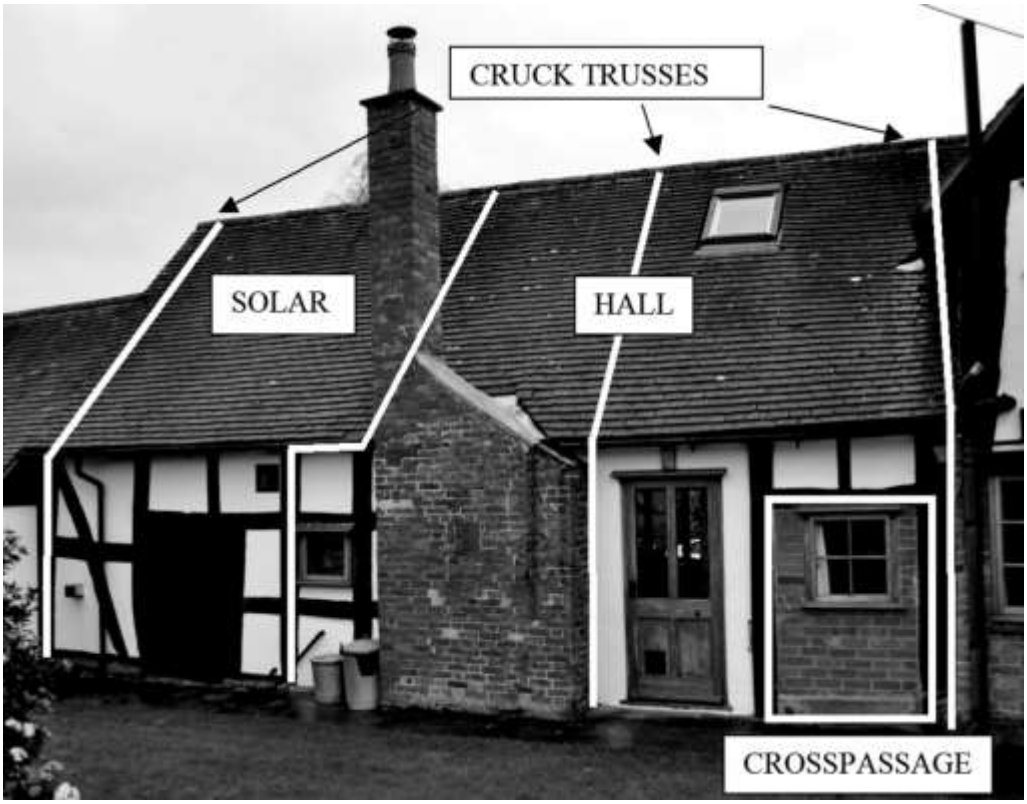

Figure 2. Macklins, Mansell Lacy. Rear view of the hall range with the position of the internal jetty indicated between solar and hall

Macklins is, in fact, a two-storey, timber-framed, formerly open-hall house of 15th-century date. The principal three-bay cruck-framed range is laid out on an approximate north-south alignment with, at the south end, a slightly later, three-bay box-framed crosswing (Fig. 3). The two-bay hall has an inserted floor, probably of late-16th century date and the crosswing floor has been replaced, possibly as part of the same phase.

A modern garage abuts the north end of the main range replacing an earlier barn on the same footprint.

The two-bay hall has a pair of cruck blades over the middle of the hall with an arch-braced collar (since removed) and, most unusually for this county, a king post rising from the collar to support the ridge purlin, with the upper ends of the cruck blades tenoned and pegged into mortices in the sides of the post (Fig. 4).

Figure 3. Macklins, Mansell Lacy. The three-bay, two-storey crosswing

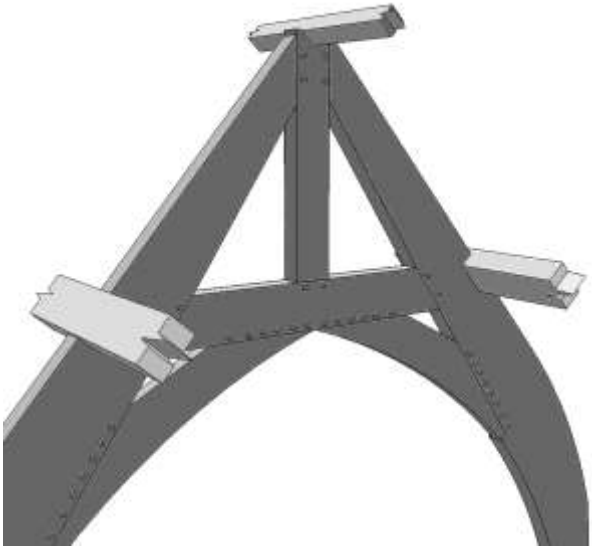

Figure 4. Macklins, Mansell Lacy. Reconstruction sketch of the cruck structure over the hall

The present front door of the building, with a lean-to porch, leads directly into the wide crosspassage where there is evidence for the former spere screens. There is a ceiling over the crosspassage but this is a later addition, probably contemporary with the inserted ceiling in the hall as it has similar chamfers and cut stops on the joists. A redundant mortice in the beam on the south side of the crosspassage indicates the position of a central primary post with a service doorway on one or both sides. With the addition of the present, later crosswing this post had to be removed in order to allow access into the new structure.

This crosswing, whilst offering generous additional accommodation, also retained the service function of that end of the building with the construction, either then or later, of a large service fireplace and chimneystack at the west gable end of the wing. The fireplace has since been reduced in width although the original oak lintel survives.

Probably in the late 16th century the floors in the crosswing were replaced and set at a slightly higher level giving greater headroom on the ground floor, possibly compensating there for a rise in the floor level.

At this time a floor was inserted in the hall with access through from the first floor of the crosswing. The main lateral beams of this ceiling have wide chamfers and broach stops whilst the joists have chamfers and cut stops. Following the creation of a first floor level the collar and arch bracing of the central cruck frame would have been removed to allow access.

Macklins is an important house and one that indicates that it was occupied in the 15th and 16th centuries by a family of some importance and status. In more recent times it functioned as a farmhouse and is now wholly domestic. My thanks to the owners, Terry and Carol Allen for inviting me visit their house.

The Old Maidenhead, Lyonshall
NGR: 52.194377, -2.970867
RCHME Monument No. 6. HSMR 9491

Figure 5. The Old Maidenhead and Corner House, Lyonshall

This house is a listed building, grade II (Fig. 5). It is clear that the listing description has been based on the Royal Commission report of the 1930s and is incorrect in its interpretation of a building that is more important than its grade II status might indicate.

The evidence for the earliest phase survives behind the later, north-east gable of the present building where there is a timber-framed solar bay and the upper end bay of a late medieval hall of perhaps mid-15th century date. The lower bay of the hall and the service bay stood on the site of Corner House, the adjacent property, which is a later build of late-17th- or early-18th-century date that appears not to reuse any earlier timber. This is the stone fronted house on the right in Figure 5. What makes the Old Maidenhead exceptional is that it has a dais canopy forming an internal jetty above the upper end of the hall (Fig. 6). This is in the form of coving with a moulded beam along the upper and lower edges of the canopy—in the positions of the jetty plate and bressumer.

Figure 6. The Old Maidenhead, Lyonshall. This shows the internal jetty with coving on the right and the inserted counterchange ceiling on the left

An additional feature in the building is that it had a single-storey lean-to or aisle along the south-east side. This is an early second phase structure and sufficient timber is in place for a partial reconstruction to be made. There is a doorhead over the now blocked doorway that gave access from the upper end of the hall into the aisle and thence to the solar, the primary doorway in the close studded screen having been closed off although it has now be reopened.

A third phase, although it may have been coeval with the second phase, was the addition of the south-west crosswing. This is a two-bay, two-storey range, seen on the left in Figure 5, that would have functioned as additional solar accommodation. It is an independent structure built adjacent to the end of the earlier range either late in the 15th or early in the 16th century. (The sawmarks suggest *before* 1540). This crosswing was jettied towards the street but is now underbuilt, with a chimneystack, possibly of 18th century date, in one corner.

In the late 16th century a coffered ceiling, with wide chamfers and broach stops, seen on the left in Figure 6, was inserted into the upper bay of the hall and over the aisle alongside. It is likely that the gable (central in Figure 5) was added at this time.

More recently the building was a public house but it is now wholly domestic.

A significant aspect of the design of the building is that the moulding on the jetty plate and bressumer of the canopy is similar to that used in Weobley on the jetty plates of a number of related buildings and the coving is also similar to that seen on the surviving examples of the half-Wealdens, also in Weobley.[1] Whether the Lyonshall building is a product of the same team of craftsmen is open to question.

My thanks to the present owners, Derek & Marion Cottrell for allowing access and to Robert Walker for drawing my attention to this exceptional building.

New House Farm, Moccas

Lat/Long: 52.075139,-2.939298

RCHME Monument No. 4

Recently, an architectural investigation of New House Farm was commissioned by the owner, Dr Rachel Jenkins, and this was followed by tree-ring dating of both the house and a barn on the site in order to resolve a conflict in the dates of construction of these two buildings.

Figure 7. New House Farm, Moccas. The jettied crosswing and single surviving bay of the ceiled hall range

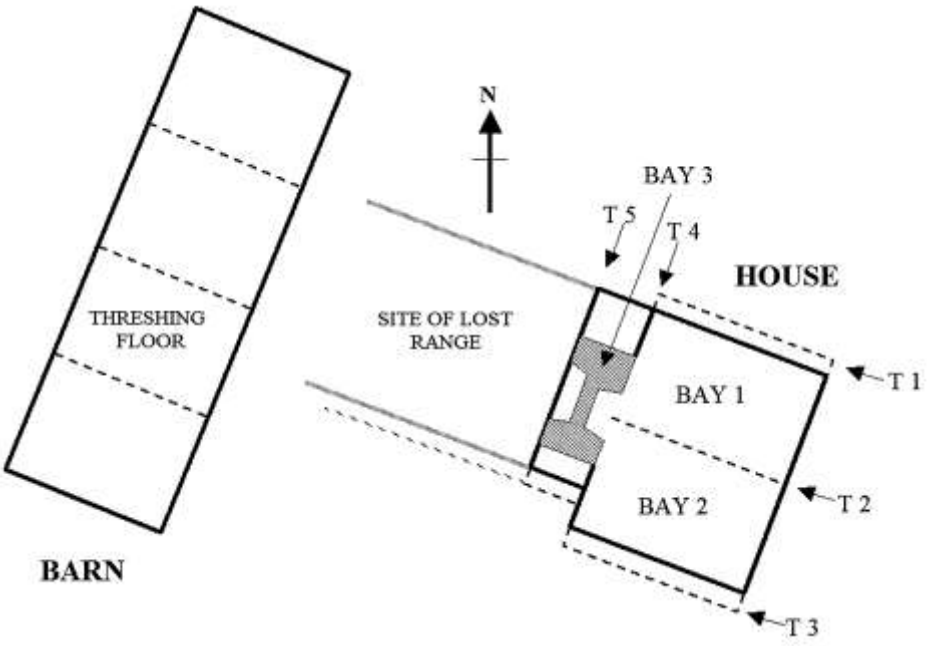

Figure 8. New House Farm, Moccas. Simplified layout plan showing the relative positions of the barn and house

The house, dated to 1584,[2] is a two-storey timber-framed crosswing, with attics, jettied on both gabled ends with one surviving bay of a coeval, lost ceiled-hall range abutting one side (Fig. 7). This bay houses a massive chimney stack topped by a stone chimney with four diagonally-set flues. The timber framing has square panels. On the ground floor the ceiling beams have narrow chamfers and cut stops above a single chamber embracing the two bays. See Figure 8 for a sketch plan. On the first floor however, there was a central crossframe dividing the space into two rooms on the line of the bay division. This had been removed at an early stage when a fireplace, Fig. 9, was inserted and the first floor layout altered. Without the supporting crossframe the tie beam above that supported the attic floors began to bend, forcing two phases of realignment of the attic joists before a section of plank and muntin screen was inserted under the tie beam when the room layout was again revised.

The chimneystack stands within a bay that, like the crosswing, has also been tree-ring dated to 1584 but the stack may have been inserted in a later, 17th-century phase of reordering following the loss of the principal part of the building which comprised the ceiled hall and presumably the service bay. The chimney stack appears to have had back-to-back fireplaces on the ground floor, both with substantial but plain oak lintels, which suggests that one or both of them may have been hidden behind elaborate carved overmantels.

On the first floor the fireplace, which has a moulded stone lintel and jambs (Fig. 9), could not have been a primary feature due to the crossframe that originally divided the space into two separate rooms. It must have post-dated its removal and, by the time the plank and muntin screen was inserted and the room divisions revised, the fireplace had probably been blocked off.

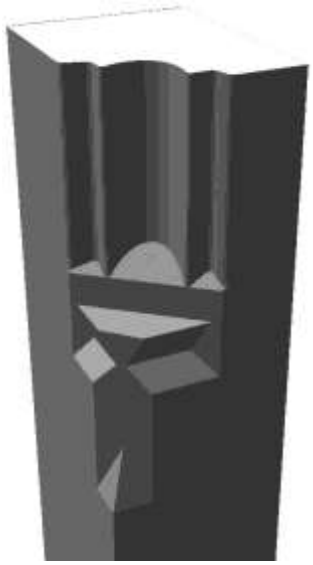

Figure 9. New House Farm, Moccas. The first-floor fireplace in the crosswing
Figure 10 (right). Sketch of the moulding profile and elaborate stop on the jambs of the first-floor fireplace in the crosswing

The 1930s report by the Royal Commission[3] states that the 'west wing was burnt down in modern times', however, as the ground plan shows (Fig. 8) the barn stands, in part, on what would have been the footprint of this west wing. With the wing in place the barn could not have functioned properly in view of the position of the threshing floor and the need for wagon access. The barn has been tree ring dated to the late 17th century,[4] which means that it could only have been built after the loss of the 'west wing'. In support of this interpretation is the fact that the barn was found to incorporate a number of earlier re-used timbers that were, when tree ring dated, found to be of the same date as the crosswing timbers, and therefore almost certainly sourced from the lost part of the house.

One noteworthy feature of the house is the fact that both ends of the crosswing are jettied (or were – that on the east side is now underbuilt). The present 'front' of the house is to the north with access from the B4352. But the crossframe between the bays is faced up to the south, indicating that the south rooms, on the first and attic floors, were the significant chambers, and that the front of the house was to the south. This reading is confirmed by the remains of a jetty on the south side of bay 3 which shows that the two-storey hall range was jettied towards the south and that this must have been the principal facade (Fig. 11). The approach road to the house would have been from the south and indeed the tithe map suggests that the line of the present B4352 is a relatively recent change.

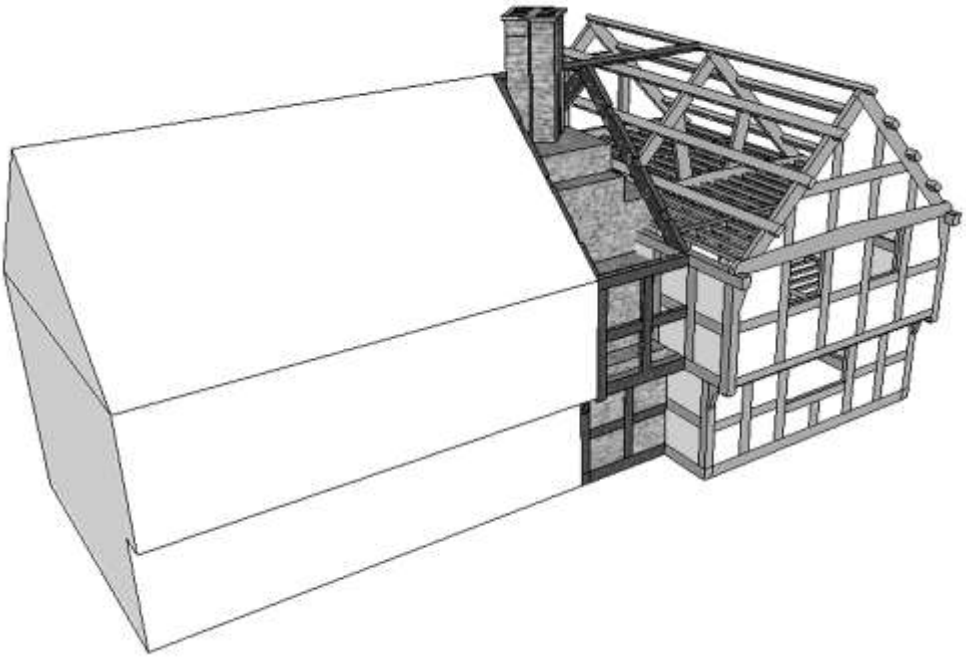

Figure 11. New House Farm, Moccas. Reconstruction sketch showing the south elevation of the crosswing and lost ceiled-hall range

Old House Farm, Pentre Lane, Bredwardine

Lat/Long: 52.08376498,-2.97732822

RCHME Monument No. 8.

An architectural analysis and report, along with tree ring-dating, was commissioned by the owners, Dr. and Mrs. C. Staley. Old House Farm is a two-storey, two-bay stone house of late 16th century date standing on a house platform cut into the side of the hill (Fig. 12). The walls are 2½ ft thick with, originally, heavy wood-framed mullioned windows with wide internal splays.

The two ground-floor rooms were divided by a plank and muntin screen (Figs. 13 & 14). The north room had an internal chimney stack and large service fireplace with, on one side, the principal entrance and on the other, a stone spiral staircase to the first floor (Fig. 15). A doorway in the screen gave access to the unheated south room, probably the 'parlour', with, in the west wall, a doorway to the rear of the building, or possibly into a, now lost, single-storey scullery. On the first floor there were two rooms, divided by a timber crossframe with a doorway linking the north and south rooms (Fig. 14). In the latter was a fireplace with a flue mainly within the wall but partially on the exterior, supported by stone corbels. In the course of recent refurbishment it was discovered that the north room originally had a cellar with trapdoor access, and that this had been infilled, possibly either due to flooding or because there was a decision to lay large flagstones that would have been difficult to support on wooden beams.

Figure 12. Old House Farm, Bredwardine. North-east elevation

Figure 13. Old House Farm, Bredwardine. The plank and muntin screen, looking south

The roof timbers and ceiling beams were tree-ring dated to *c*.1593/5.[5] Near the house, to the north, is a substantial timber-framed barn, with later additions at each end, that may be of similar or slightly later date than the house. It is interesting to note that in 1878 Thomas Davies, farmer, was living in the house with his family, and he was visited a number of times by Kilvert.[6]

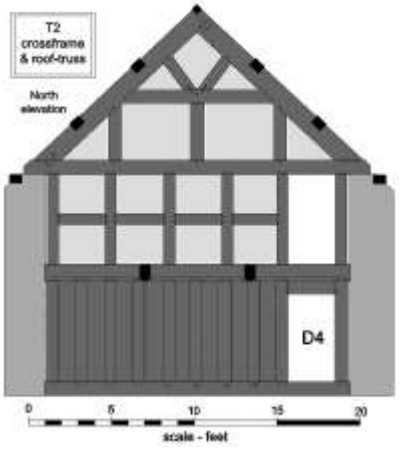

Figure 14. Old House Farm, Bredwardine. Reconstruction drawing of the crossframe dividing the two bays

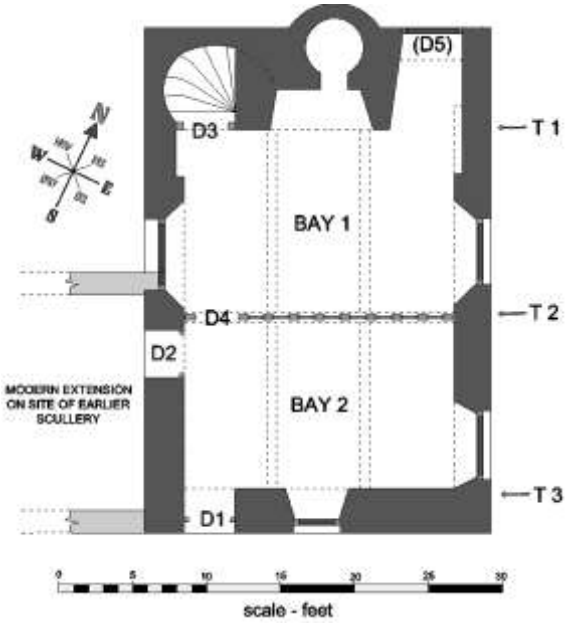

Figure 15 (right). Old House Farm, Bredwardine. The ground plan

Many stone houses of 16th- and 17th-century date in the area are thought to have been built of timber-framing that was subsequently replaced with stone, retaining some internal framing and the timber roof structure. However, with Old House there is clear evidence that this was not the case. There is no indication in the soffit of the ends of the roof truss tie beams that there were ever wall posts, and the plank screen and crossframe above 'fit' the stone building perfectly. Finally, the massive oak window lintels, an integral part of the stone walls, were dated and found to be coeval with the rest of the timber structure.

Shop Cottage, Old Road, Monkland, HR6 9DB

Lat/Long 52.213606,-2.796949

A detailed study of this house was commissioned by the owners, Dr David Jeffery and Dr Jenny Barnes. The building was not noted by the Royal Commission in the survey of the 1930s, possibly because the front has a lot of brickwork and it was assumed to be of later 18th-century date. However, the surviving framework indicates that it is probably a late 16th-century building. It is a three-bay, two-storey structure, set back from, and parallel to, Old Road (Fig. 16). The framing is in square panels with short diagonal braces in the top corners. The panels have been infilled with brick and the now slated roof lowered in pitch. The front of the building has undergone many changes to the framing, but much of the timber survives intact on the back (north) and east sides of the house.

Figure 16. Shop Cottage, Monkland. South-east elevation

The building has a curious layout, with three bays of diminishing (internal) lengths from west to east: *c.*16ft., 11ft., and 10ft. Figure 17 shows a reconstruction. The structure is 25ft. wide with a total length of 40ft. 5in. There is no clear evidence for a primary chimneystack although there was a lateral stack on the north side of the middle bay that was removed in the late 20th century. No evidence was found in the frame for the positions of primary doorways and windows, although the latter could simply have utilised the panel openings. There is primary evidence for floors and at least one crossframe, so this was not simply a barn. In spite of what is known about early timber-framed buildings in the county, there are some structures which seem not to 'fit' into any of the recognised categories and layouts, and Shop Cottage appears to be one of these. A few significant features survive such as wide chamfers and cut stops on one of the crossframe beams, and the flared jowl posts. These suggest a date in the second half of the 16th century. However, it is difficult to see the layout as one that is purely domestic, or wholly agricultural: the build quality is too high to indicate the latter. It is possible that this was a unique building that had some special use perhaps combined with a domestic function for which evidence no longer survives.

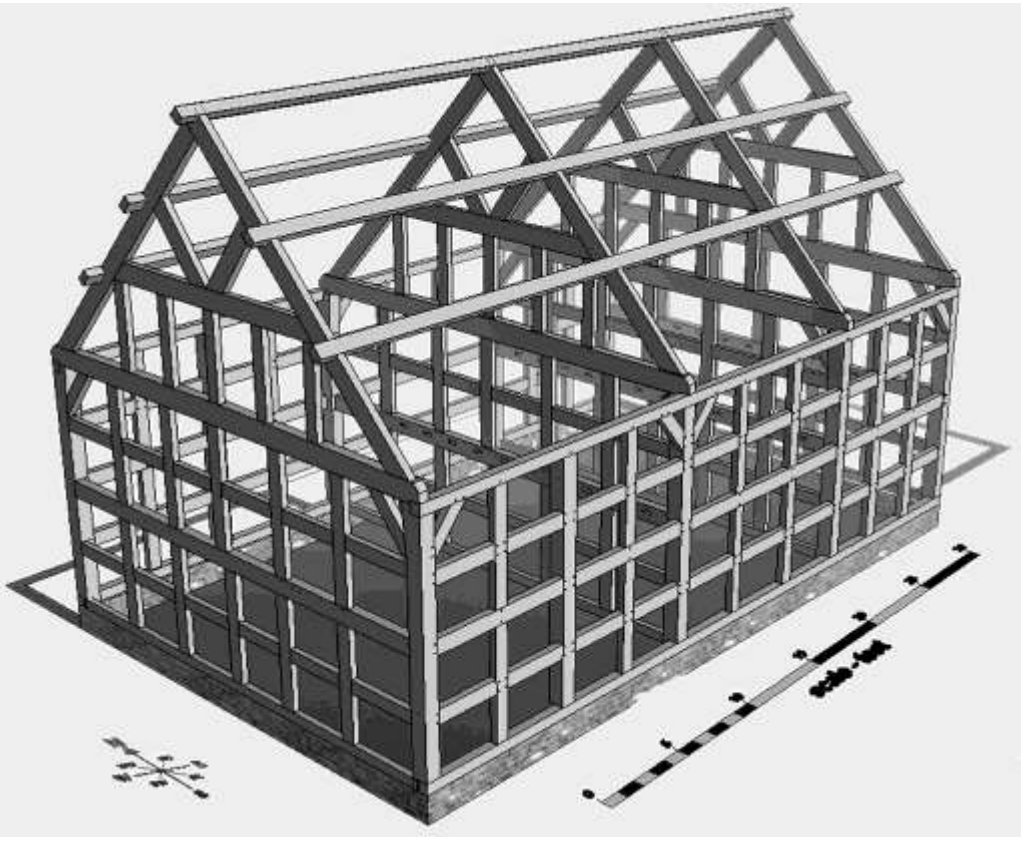

Figure 17. Shop Cottage, Monkland. Reconstruction drawing showing the basic frame layout. Details of the exact form of the roof are lost and there is no evidence in the frame to indicate the primary door and window positions

Victoria Place, East Street, Pembridge

Lat/Long: 52.218399,-2.891971

RCHME Monument No. 22.

Pembridge houses were the subject of investigation in a lottery funded project organised by Pembridge Amenity Trust in 2002.[7] This was combined with tree-ring analysis of a number of houses in the village during which Victoria Place was seen in order to assess the potential of the timbers for sampling.[8] This revealed that the cruck truss over the centre of the former hall was not suitable for analysis because it was cut from black poplar rather than oak. The house was seen by the 1930s RCHME inspectors and again by two RCHME inspectors in 1975 when the building was undergoing extensive refurbishment. This latter report suggested that the west end crosswing and the hall range were coeval. In January 2014, following a visit and further consideration of the building, an alternative possible sequence of development was proposed.

Figure 18. Victoria Place, Pembridge with, on the left, Spire Cottage

The house (Figure 18) as it stands, contains the much altered remains of a two-bay cruck-framed medieval hall house in which the cruck frame of the central truss survives along with some re-set primary purlins. The primary walls of the hall have been re-built, probably in the 17th century, when floors were inserted and the roof was raised to its present two-storey height. At the east end, now in separate ownership, is Spire Cottage, a two-bay service crosswing, probably of late 16th/early 17th century date, that replaces the primary service bay. This wing has been raised in height from 1½ storeys to a full two storeys and the gable removed to align the roof with the rest of the range. At the west end is a larger two-bay, two-storey crosswing with a jettied first floor. The front, especially on the ground floor, has been restored and a window, based on surviving evidence in the frame, reconstructed at first floor level. This crosswing is the most complete component part of the building.

The 1975 report suggested that it was coeval with the hall range, but this is probably not the case. The cruck-framed hall range, with evidence in the purlins for long passing windbraces, is typical of local houses of the period 1425-1450, whereas the west crosswing very probably belongs to the third quarter of the 16th century. This is on the evidence of the way in which the jetty is supported: by four beams rather than the earlier practice of using a series of substantial joists (as, for instance, in the dated crosswing of King's House, on the opposite side of the road). Also, the way in which the primary roof of the hall (before it was raised to its present level) was supported by the side-wall of the west crosswing, is unorthodox and typical of an *ad hoc* modification when changes are made to a timber-framed structure.

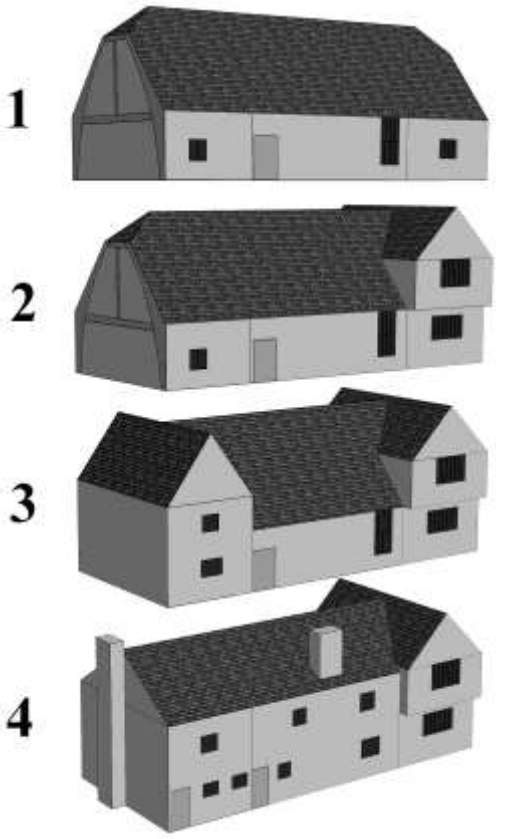

Figure 19. The suggested sequence of development of Victoria Place and Spire Cottage

It is proposed here that the present form of the building has been arrived at through four principal phases, shown in Figure 19.

The first phase (1) would have been the construction of an axial, cruck-framed, four-bay hall house of early-to-mid-15th century date.

This was then modified (2) in the late 15th or early 16th century by upgrading the west-end bay through the construction of the two-storey crosswing. To achieve this, it is suggested that the crucks at each end of the solar bay were removed and the side-wall of the wing used to support the west end of the hall roof.

This was followed (3) perhaps a century later, by a similar upgrading of the service bay with a two-bay, 1½-storey crosswing at the east end of the hall. Again, two pairs of crucks were removed to achieve this.

The last major alteration (4) was the replacement of the walls of the hall with new framing rising to a full two storeys, coupled with the insertion of a floor in the hall. In carrying out this final phase the first floor of the service wing was also raised to a full two-storey height, the gable was removed and the roof re-aligned with that of the hall.

The removal of crucks in a building is often because they do not permit changes to be made easily, especially when floors are inserted: quite simply, they impede movement through the building. In the case of Victoria Place, it is perhaps curious that the primary wall framing was removed, rather than modified and extended in height, but this may just possibly have been due to deterioration of the original structure. Bearing in mind that black poplar was used for the principal crucks over the hall, it may be worth considering whether other components were made of this wood, which on the outer walls of the building could have deteriorated more rapidly than oak.

With thanks to Mr & Mrs Philip Rogers for inviting me to make a brief study of the house.

THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB, EAST STREET, HEREFORD *by Huw Sherlock*
NGR: 351037 239936

Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) was commissioned by Mr Robert Blyth-Curry to carry out archaeological monitoring during reordering and extension works at 101-102 East Street, the former Conservative Club. In both the maps below north is to the top, with the current East Street to the north and Capuchine Lane, now Church Street, to the west. The rear building with the west-facing elevation is ringed.

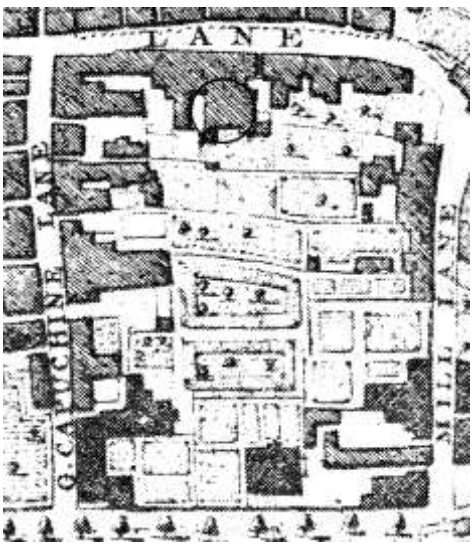

Figure 20. Taylor's 1757 map of Hereford

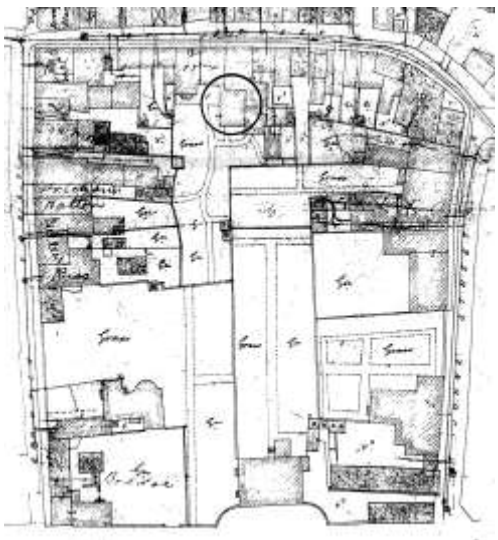

Figure 21. Curley's 1858 plan of Hereford

A detailed photographic record was made of the interior of the building prior to stripping out and during the progress of the works. Archaeological monitoring of the excavation of new footings and drain runs was also carried out. Details of the earlier fabric were uncovered, including a stone fireplace in the panelled room on the ground floor which was revealed when the decorated wooden fire surround was removed for refurbishment.

To the rear of 102 East Street is a west-facing elevation with three gable ends. This has been altered on the ground floor by the removal of the timber frame and its replacement by brick. Initially the whole elevation was covered in a concrete render. When this was removed it revealed the original timber frame, substantially intact although significantly altered.

A full photographic and metric record was made of this elevation and a fully annotated CAD version of the working drawing has been digitised and annotated. The English Heritage Listed Building entry[9] describes the core fabric of this wing as being 17th-century; however, none of the original frame now recorded would have been visible to the surveyors. There are several diagnostic elements such as the moulded tie beam and wall plate that appear to be of a later phase associated with the insertion of the three gables. A possible earlier wall plate is visible running immediately below the moulded one. Whilst this has had two later windows inserted through it and its southern end has been removed it originally formed part of the lower timber frame which is double pegged and has earlier wattle and daub infill.

Figure 22. Part of west elevation of rear block of 102 East Street

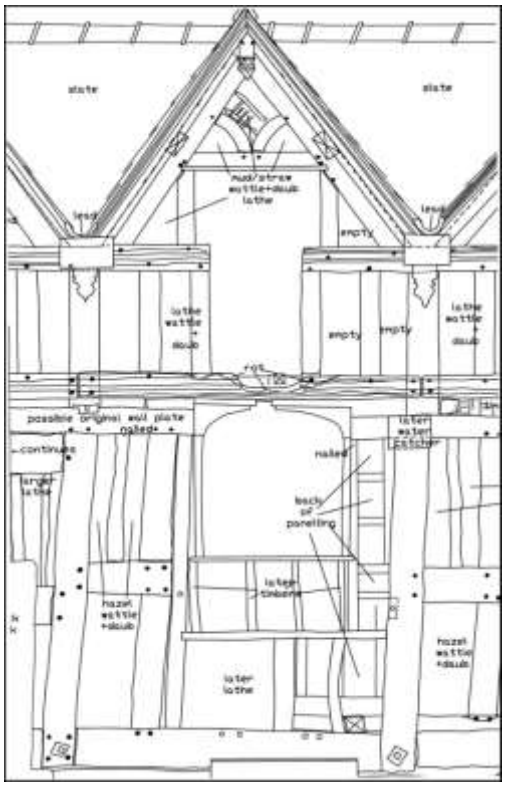

Figure 23. Drawing of the part of the west elevation of rear block of 102 East Street

It is interesting that this west-facing elevation was given a high status façade as it would indicate that it was fronting onto a public space. Ongoing research in the Hereford Cathedral Archives shows that the Vicars Choral owned the property where the Lichfield Vaults now stands, and also property at Serjeants Court. Taylor's 1757 map shows a number of alleyways running through from Capuchin Lane (now Church Street) between the Lichfield Vaults and 14 Church Street and this building would have been a major feature.

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[3] Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, England, *An inventory of the historical monuments in Herefordshire. Vol. 1, South-West* (1931), H.M.S.O., 205.
[4] See note 2.
[5] Alison Arnold and Robert Howard, 'Tree-ring analysis of timbers from Old House Farm, Pentre Lane, Bredwardine, Herefordshire.' Unpublished report, May 2013. The Nottingham tree-ring dating laboratory.
[6] William Plomer (ed), *Selections from the Diary of the Rev. Francis Kilvert* (1977) Penguin Books, 367/8.

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Geology, 2012-3

By MOIRA JENKINS

Herefordshire's geology is attracting interest from researchers in other parts of the country.

RESEARCH ON FOSSILS FROM THE CARBONIFEROUS

The shrimp-like fossil, thought to be the Malacostraca *Pseudotealliocaris etheridgei*, found on the Great Doward and reported on in the 2007 *Transactions* pp.58-60, is being researched by Dr Neil Clark, Curator of Palaeontology at the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow. Dr Clark has published papers on similar specimens found in a few sites in Scotland, including a paper recently in *Palaeodiversity* 6, 2013, '*Tealliocaris*: a decapod crustacean from the Carboniferous of Scotland'. Dr Clark paid a visit to Herefordshire in autumn 2013 and believes the Herefordshire fossil is not *Pseudotealliocaris* but a closely related species. It will be interesting to see what identification he makes as he researches the specimens further. Plates 7.1 and 7.2 show the Herefordshire fossil with a 50-pence piece for scale.

RESEARCH ON THE TRANSITION FROM MARINE TO TERRESTRIAL CONDITIONS IN THE SILURIAN

Herefordshire also had a visit from Dr S. J. Veevers, who is a sedimentologist with a particular interest in the evolution of the southern and eastern margins of the Welsh Basin during the Silurian. She is currently working on a reinterpretation of the sedimentology of the Ludlow Bone Bed and contiguous strata. She is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham and wrote the following report:

> 'I recently enjoyed a sunny afternoon of fieldwork at Linton Quarry in Gorsley, Herefordshire. The quarry is owned by the Parish Council with whom special arrangements had been made for the visit. The stratigraphy here is of particular significance as the Gorsley inlier, the smallest Silurian inlier in the Welsh Borderland, preserves the local Silurian sequence from Wenlock through Ludlow and Přídolí strata, within a section of only around 12 metres thick.[1] The thin, condensed sequence of Ludlow strata here sit unconformably on the Gorsley Limestone, which is of Wenlock age.[2] It is interpreted that there was a topographical high on this part of the Midland Platform shelf area at this time, which is referred to as the 'Gorsley High', and was a unique environment of deposition when compared with the rest of the Silurian sequence in the Welsh Basin.
>
> Linton Quarry is currently in a rather poor state of upkeep and we spent much of our visit cutting through brambles and trying to forge a way to see the sequence here. There are a number of ash trees starting to grow out of the quarry face itself, which over time will begin to destroy this high quality exposure. Brambles and high vegetation are blocking the routes through the quarry and in other parts a heavy covering of ivy masks the rocks completely. This is an important SSSI for geology and a Silurian Geological Conservation Review site and as such needs some careful management of the vegetation growth to maintain appropriate access and preserve the geology itself. Perhaps a group of willing volunteers would be interested in a bit of 'gardening' at Linton Quarry to address this? I have got my secateurs ready!'

The photo in Figure 1 shows the overgrown state of Linton Quarry. This is also one of the Earth Heritage Trust 'Champions' Sites described in the Geology Report in the 2011 *Transactions*. More local volunteers are needed to participate in helping to look after this important site. If you are interested in this or other 'Champions' Sites, please contact eht@worc.ac.uk or telephone 01905 855184 and leave a message if necessary.

Figure 1. The overgrown state of Linton Quarry

The Club's Geology Section has continued to be involved in various projects and fieldtrips in 2012-13. A paper in the 2011 *Transactions* described the initial work at Martley. Since then another trench has been dug which has made new and unexpected discoveries. A paper is being prepared for the *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* describing these. Many field trips visited sites outside Herefordshire. Within the county, trips were made to see the work of the 'Champions' at sites at the Fishpool Valley at Croft Castle and at Loxter Ashbed Quarry.

With the permission of the landowner, visits, including one by the Woolhope Club Geology Section, have also been made to a track on the north side of Merbach Hill, along which is exposed an almost complete succession through the uppermost Silurian Raglan Mudstone Formation (the lowest beds of the Old Red Sandstone). There are many interesting features in these freshly-cut sections, which are not usually so clearly visible in mudstones because they degrade rapidly. There is clear evidence in the rock that about 400 million years

ago this area was a semi-arid land crossed by seasonal streams, which constantly changed their courses and deposited sediment washed down from the newly formed mountains of Wales. There are sand lenses which mark former infilled river channels. At intervals, soil layers developed and some contain evidence of bioturbation, disturbance caused by the first creatures to live on land as opposed to in the seas. There are clear traces of burrows. The general colour of the mudstone is reddish purple due to oxides of iron. Where there is organic material, such as a root, reduction of the iron takes place giving the greenish blue colour of ferrous hydroxides of iron. Reduction also takes place where conditions are moister (Plate 7.3).

Plate 7.4 shows a fossil soil layer which developed when there was a period without the accumulation of sediment. Ground water saturated in calcium carbonate was drawn to the surface and evaporated leaving behind layers with concentrations of calcium carbonate as nodules. The curved lines are deformation structures called pseudoanticlines, formed in the fossil soil layers by the movement of ground water and shown up by the concentrations of calcium carbonate.

The Bishop's Frome Limestone in this section is less pronounced than in other parts of Herefordshire consisting mainly of a repetition of immature calcrete layers. The overlying St Maughans Formation, the lowest of the Devonian strata contains Beaconites, large burrows about 10 centimetres in diameter. Fossil fish have been found here rarely, but unfortunately not on our trip.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RECORDING TEMPORARY EXPOSURES

Moira Jenkins would be very grateful to hear about sites where rock is temporarily exposed so that these sites can be recorded before being covered over again. Some examples of findings are given below:

A landowner gave permission for a visit to a site in Colwall where excavations had been made for the foundations of a barn. This temporary exposure in the Silurian Wenlock Limestone showed a mound of very hard crystalline limestone which appears to be a reef with thinner limestone bands banked against it to the side.

Heavy rainfall swelled the water in a tributary of the Pentaloe Brook on the north side of the Woolhope Dome. Plate 7.5 shows a small cliff freshly eroded by the stream in the Coalbrookdale Formation, formerly called Wenlock Shales. This exposed mudstone with 2 bentonite bands about 10cm. apart. These bentonite bands record two eruptions of distant volcanoes, the ash from which fell into deep water in the Silurian seas and was altered chemically to produce the pale clay layers seen in the photo.

THE WYE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

This project, funded by Defra through Natural England, has enabled Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust (H&W EHT), as one of the partners, to carry out site recording and clearance work at 4 sites.

On Little Doward, three geological sites were cleared. The limestone pavement is now clearly visible and fossils such as coral and gastropod have been exposed. This site was covered with nettles and brambles and now there is a chance for delicate lime-loving plants to grow in the grykes, the clefts in the limestone pavement. A site where Tintern Sandstone overlies Quartz Conglomerate was cleared. Also the junction of Lower Limestone Shale (Avon

Group) and Lower Dolomite (Black Rock Limestone) was uncovered. This work has enabled the variety of interesting geology on Little Doward to be more easily accessible.

Clearance work also carried out with permission of the Forestry Commission and Herefordshire Nature Trust at Rudge End Quarry nature reserve, which not only cleaned up the rock faces but improved the habitat of the stinking hellebore which had been struggling to compete with brambles.

Also on Forestry Commission land at Huntsham Hill the gradual transition from Upper Devonian Tintern Sandstone, formed on a land surface, to Carboniferous Lower Limestone Shales (now called the Avon Group), laid down in shallow seas, was investigated. The Tintern Sandstone overlies the Quartz Conglomerate and there is a gradual change from these coarse deposits to finer sandy deposits. Then occasional calcareous layers with occasional fossils gradually appear until there are deposits of true marine conditions with limestones and shales. Lines of crags on the hillside expose these rocks clearly, but for some reason, researchers have neglected this area of Herefordshire and there is no written record in the literature of the sites.

The work on the Wye Valley Partnership project continued in 2013 with sites recorded in the Cage, Worm and Garren Brook valleys, on Garway Hill and around Breinton and Kenchester. There were many interesting discoveries in both the solid rock and glacial deposits near the southern limit of the Devensian glaciation. The Garren Brook has incised meanders cutting deeply into the former land surface. The wave length of the meanders is related to the volume of water in the stream. As there is no longer a great volume of meltwater, this is now greatly decreased and smaller amplitude meanders are developing on the limbs of the incised meanders. There are kettle-hole ponds in the Kenchester area which are relicts of the Ice Age. When blocks of ice buried in glacial deposits finally melted the sediment above collapsed leaving hummocky topography with ponds in the hollows from which there is no exit for drainage. The Old Red Sandstone rocks of the area show frequent evidence of former river channels in the Devonian. There is more evidence of organic activity than has been recorded previously, just one of the examples which shows that there is so much more to be found out about Herefordshire geology.

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Natural History, 2013
Whitman's Hill Quarry and Woods

By JANET PARRY

This is the seventh year of monitoring the leased area begun in 2007. Nine visits were made to check on the nest boxes in the woodland in May and to carry out an audit of the flora in the quarry in August, after the Peregrine nesting season.

The Quarry 'Champions' held another family fossil day in August to encourage youngsters to find out more about their local environment with some hands-on fossil hunting, always greatly enjoyed.

In September, a group of botanists from the Malvern branch of the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust were guided round the quarry and were very appreciative of being able to access the site. They helped to confirm the list of plants already noted.

THE QUARRY

The vegetation in the quarry is begining to stabilise and is little altered from last year apart from increasing in size (Plate 8.1). The Silver Birch, *Betula pendula,* and Buddleia, *Buddleia alternifolia,* are dominant with Traveller's-joy, *Clematis vitalba,* spreading even further and starting to hang off the cliffs. The Buddleia has resprouted where it was cut back and the uncut ones are getting very large. The mini forest of Ash, *Fraxinus excelsior,* is still in evidence although more germinate than survive. More Oak, *Quercus robur,* and Yew, *Taxus baccata,* seedlings have taken hold. On the bunds, the Wild Strawberry, *Fragaria vesca,* was very prolific this year, the Teasels, *Dipsacus fullonum,* did well and the Common Gromwell, *Lithospermum officinale,* continues to thrive. Pendulous Sedge, *Carex pendula,* and Red Clover, *Trifolium rubrum,* were seen for the first time. There was evidence of Rabbits, *Orictolagus cuniculus,* grazing in the quarry and this may be the reason for the slow establishment of the grasses.

The ponds were in good shape with very clear water. A clump of Bulrush, *Typha latifolia,* had appeared in the more southerly pond, presumably spreading from the northerly one. The Newts in the ponds were identified as Greater Crested, *Triturtus cristatus,* and seemed to be flourishing.

The Peregrines, *Falco peregrinus,* did not breed again this year though individuals were seen over the quarry. No more rock falls have occured to make a big enough nesting ledge to attract the female to stay. During one visit, three birds were seen quarrelling above. One dropped something which was tracked down and it turned out to be a beheaded pigeon. Rings from the carcase were sent to the authorities and it was confirmed that the bird was a racing pigeon.

WOODLAND

More trees blew down in the winter leaving spaces where Ash seedlings germinated in profusion. The basic vegetation remains stable with the usual Bluebells, *Hyacinthoides nonscripta,* Woodruff, *Gallium odoratum,* Wood Anemone, *Anemone nemorosa,* and Yellow Archangel, *Lamiastrum galeobdolon,* flowering through the Dog's Mercury, *Mercurialis*

perennis. The Herb Paris, *Paris quadrifolia,* bloomed again in its habitual places with 17 spikes in the largest patch.

Despite a late spring, the birds had a fairly good season with 10 out of 15 of the boxes occupied. The main news was that a pair of Pied Flycatchers, *Ficedula hypoleuca,* built a nest in one box and had shown an interest in 2 others. They successfully reared a brood of 5 chicks. This was reported to the local bird-ringing group who came and ringed the chicks. The adults had been ringed previously and we learnt that they had been breeding on Midsummer Hill the previous year with different partners and that the female was older than the male. The total numbers of fledgelings recorded were 21 Blue tits, *Parus caeruleus,* 13 Great tits, *Parus major,* and 5 Pied Flycatchers in the bird boxes and with 19 more Blue tits raised in the Dormouse boxes, the woodland yielded a grand total of 58 birds this year compared with 52 last year.

No Dormice, *Muscardinus avellanarius,* nests were built this year, but it is hoped they are still in the wood. One box hosted a Woodmouse, *Apodemus sylvaticus,* nest. The bird records have been entered on the Herefordshire Ornithological Club (HOC) database and appear in the Woolhope Club Transactions as well as the Herefordshire Nature Trust journal *Flycatcher*.

CONCLUSION

The site is beginning to stabilise in terms of vegetation which is growing well in the quarry. This gives the Champions a constant battle to keep a clear access to the geology which is its primary purpose. The woodland has not been used as a regular bike track this year which may have contributed to the nesting of the Pied Flycatchers. Maybe they will make it a regular breeding site. Hopefully the Dormice will also reappear in one of the boxes next year.

Ornithology, 2013

By BERYL HARDING

The previous year closed having had the coldest summer since records began and with almost twice the average rainfall giving widespread flooding over the already-saturated ground. There was some respite as January 2013 started unseasonably mild with temperatures in double figures and with no further appreciable rain for the first two weeks but by mid-January some three inches of snow fell round Hereford and a further two to three inches a couple of days later, brought by cold north-east winds.

A Peregrine was noted on the cathedral again this January while during February a Great White Egret was seen at Wellington Gravel Pits where it remained until 9 March. It had been earlier noted in late November at Brockhall Gravel Pits – a first for the county records. An adult Kittiwake remained in flood waters by Wergin's Bridge from 8-16 January presumably blown in by gale winds.

In January as usual, the annual 'Big Garden Bird Watch' took place run by the R.S.P.B. and the B.T.O. (British Trust for Ornithology). Gardens take up 4% of the UK's land surface in our towns and cities with some 433,000 hectares of land and have 28.7 million trees and 3 million ponds, thus providing an enormous habitat and a vital feeding ground for birds. 600,000 people participated helping to produce data - which still showed that, sadly, many species continue to decline. The Starling, now Red-Listed, hit an all-time low in 2012 and its numbers sank by a further 16% this year. The huge flocks seen in winter in their pre-roosting flights, or murmurations, consist of thousands of winter visitors as well as our resident population and can give the false impression that there is no real cause for concern. This decline in numbers is seen in Europe as well.

However, it was not all bad news. Blue Tits remain as the number one garden visitor with Blackbirds a steady number two and with Robins, Great Tits and Dunnocks among the top five. After the cold snap of the previous January, the winter-migrant Siskins are becoming more accustomed to feeding in gardens and sightings showed a huge surge in numbers. Their ever-increasing numbers over-wintering in Britain and Ireland have depleted their naturally available alder and birch food so they are turning readily to peanuts and also to nyjer seeds and sunflower hearts. Our colourful Bullfinches have increased six-fold since the mid-1990s particularly in those gardens with thick cover. They tend to remain partner faithful and spend the winters in pairs and are now seen later bringing their newly fledged young to the feeders—somewhat at odds to their previously shy and retiring behaviour. Wood Pigeon numbers have supplanted Collared Doves in many gardens (a point that may not be applauded by everyone!). After years of decline House Sparrow numbers are stabilising but the U.K. population is only half that of 40 years ago and they are still not found in any great numbers in our cities as in the past. Suggested possible reasons for this decline were given in last year's report.

In the 1980s and 1990s people were encouraged to feed birds but only from autumn to winter and not in the summer lest unsuitable food was given to the young. It has since been realised summer feeding helps the parents, giving them time to search for appropriate food for their fledglings, and helps the newly independent young to augment food supplies. The scale of the bird-food industry in the UK has thus escalated, offering a diversity of food types which, in turn, has attracted new species to gardens, such as the Lesser Redpoll (a bird of conservation

concern) attracted by the nyjer seed. In the 1970s an average 15.9 species came to feed between October and March and by 2011 this had risen to 22.7 species. One B.T.O. report mentioned a Moorhen fluttering up amid nearby bushes to take seed from a feeder four feet from the ground!

February continued sunny and cold for the most part with temperatures some 3˚C lower than average. By 11 March there was again snow. At the same time last year it was 15˚C (in fact, March turned out to be the summer of 2012!). By the end of this March cold winds again brought snow to much of the U.K. giving snow drifts to the north and north-east of the country. It was reckoned that March had an average temperature 3˚C colder than normal and was in fact the coldest March for 50 years.

Spring temperatures have been increasing steadily since the 1970s causing vegetation to come into leaf earlier and triggering a similar advance in invertebrate emergence. Consequently, reports indicate that 42 of the 74 recorded species are now producing their clutch significantly earlier than they were 50 years ago. In 2013, however, spring temperatures dropped to levels comparable to those last experienced in the mid-1960s. March is a difficult month for many resident species, with the need to secure territories and mates which increases their energy requirements at a time when food supplies are dwindling, so a sudden drop in average temperature presents a serious challenge and a delay in the nesting outcome. In total, 10 of the 13 resident songbirds for which nesting activities can be recorded, delayed nesting for 5-12 days this year. It was noted later that this delayed start had relatively little effect on the success of individual nests but there appeared to be a drop in clutch sizes – perhaps due to the consequent poor condition of females during the earlier cold spell.

Despite the cold weather of February and March, some Blackbirds were seen with young by late March and other birds had been calling, pairing and beginning to make nests. An early Wood Warbler was heard on 20 March at Bromyard and the first Sand Martins noted at Wellington Gravel Pits on 23 March. By 4 April some Chiffchaffs were recorded arriving but it was still too cold for many of these migrants and any that came too soon had difficulty finding food – some Chiffchaffs were noted feeding along the tide line in southern England.

Breeding success in 2012 was reduced by the cold wet weather so fewer migrant fledglings made the journey back to their wintering grounds. While the wet Sahel growing season may have boosted over-winter survival many were met with strong head winds and low temperatures returning over Europe so there were unprecedented numbers of migrants found dead on arrival. The first summer Ring Ouzel was seen at Kenchester Ponds on 6 April but the Black Mountains were still snow-covered. The earliest completed nest recorded this year was that of a Nuthatch at Mary Knoll on 10 April.

Conversely, winter migrants were not yet leaving and flocks of Waxwings were still being seen at fifteen locations across the county, the largest of 64 at Cleeve Orchard, Ross, on 6 March. The last Redwing didn't leave the country until the end of April. [These movements are recorded by the B.T.O.'s Birdtrack data.]. By mid to late April, as the biting easterly winds abated there was a sudden 'clear-out' of winter migrants over a period of just two days to be replaced by the gradual return of the summer migrants. On 1 June Portland Bill observatory recorded, during a five-hour period, a northbound stream of 800-1,000 Spotted Flycatchers arriving in waves flying in at low level off the sea. Nevertheless, some people who normally have them nesting in their garden complained of their loss again this year. They are becoming an increasingly rare migrant and we have lost half of them since 1985.

A single Honey Buzzard was seen in flight in various parts of the county from 27 April-27 May. It is slimmer-bodied than the Buzzard with a smaller head, longer neck and longer wings – as the name denotes, it feeds on insects and robs the nests of bees and wasps. It is a summer visitor to the region of western Europe and southern England, so it was further west than usual.

A Californian Quail was seen Goodrich in 2012 and again this year. A member of the pheasant family, it is about 10inches in length, the male has an erect black plume on its head. They are found in open scrubland in America but also in Germany so could presumably be a local escapee rather than 'blown in' from Germany or America.

The first Cuckoo this year was heard on 13 May in the dawn chorus at Sutton St. Nicholas but fewer calls were subsequently noted. As previously mentioned, the Cuckoo population is in decline in the southern part of the U.K. but less so in Scotland. Hence, further studies on the migration routes of these birds are continuing. In 2011 the migration of the tagged birds had been relatively straightforward but in 2012 there were cases where the birds roamed southern Europe first, presumably because they could not find enough food. One turned back from the mid-Mediterranean to the security of northern Italy where he had last fed.

Also in 2011, B.T.O. researchers had been surprised when two tagged birds successfully used a previously unrecorded west route in Africa but in 2012 no bird that used this route completed their journey. One died in France, one in Spain and one failed to cross the Sahara. Only one English Cuckoo which took the Italian route made it to his wintering grounds in the Congo. Perhaps the western route is only favourable in some years and not others? The only birds using the western route were tagged in England. A Scottish and a Welsh bird travelled east across Europe to Montenegro and two birds from Wales wintered further east than the others. There is a lot yet to be done to understand Cuckoo migration by studying the same birds in different years and to assess the effect of weather conditions on their choice of route, but it is an expensive project which requires more funding.

B.T.O. records at Wicken Fen, north of Cambridge, have shown an interesting pattern. Reed Warbler numbers there have not changed for thirty years whereas Cuckoos have declined from fourteen females parasitizing warbler nests in 1985 to just one or two females in the last years and in 2012 not a single Cuckoo chick fledged from Wicken. It appears that this is because the Reed Warblers there have evolved two defences against this parasitism. Firstly, they mob an adult Cuckoo with loud calls and attacks which female Cuckoos will try to avoid – partly because of the risk of injury (the warblers can quickly demolish a Cuckoo model) but, more likely, because mobbing alerts the neighbourhood so there is less chance of the female Cuckoo reaching a nest secretly. Secondly, Reed Warblers sometimes reject Cuckoo eggs (this has also been tested with models) and also the warbler host race has now evolved a slightly dissimilar egg pattern to that of the Cuckoos.

But it has also been found at Wicken that these defence methods have gradually become less necessary with the decline of successful Cuckoo breeding so the warblers may no longer maintain them and perhaps eventually lose these mechanisms if the decline continues. The overall results for 2013 for the Nature Trust Nest Box Scheme are as follows:

Results for last the last nine years:

	2013	**2012**	**2011**	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**2007**	**2006**	**2005**
Sites recorded	26	26	26	29	30	29	33	30	27
Boxes available	741	805	820	818	939	961	943	983	825
Boxes used	453	478	521	510	508	519	639	578	510
% used	**61.1**	**59.3**	**63.5**	**62.3**	**54.1**	**54.0**	**67.8**	**58.7**	**61.8**

Take up of the boxes available has been the lowest ever this year probably due to the cold, wet start to the breeding season.

Species Results for 2013 compared with 2012:

Species	**Sites 2013/12**	**Nests 2013/12**	**Eggs 2013/12**	**Hatched 2013/12**	**Fledged 2013/12**	**% success 2013/12**
Pied Flycatcher	14/11	135/87	773/543	637/438	563/354	72.8/65.2
Blue Tit	26/26	209/252	1474/1925	1140/1623	1019/1309	68.0/69.1
Great Tit	26/26	98/144	719/985	579/755	489/594	60.3/68.0
Coal Tit	1/0	1/0	9/0	9/0	9/0	0/100.0
Marsh Tit	1/1	1/1	5/8	4/7	4/5	62.5/80.0
Redstart	4/3	7/5	43/19	32/19	31/12	63.0/72.1
Nuthatch	5/8	11/20	70/65	56/56	30/53	81.5/42.8 *

* A poor year for the Nuthatch, despite the improved figure compared with 2012. They usually have 80-100% fledging results. This downturn is probably because they tend to start nesting early and were consequently hit by the poor, wet spring while those birds that delayed laying had better results.

Comparative annual success rate in fledging for the various species for past four years:

Species	**2013**	**2012**	**2011**	**2010**
Pied Flycatcher	72.8% -14 sites	63.7% - 9 sites	65.2% - 11 sites	74.9% - 12 sites
Blue Tit	69.1% - 26 sites	58.7% - 26 sites	68.0% - 26 sites	61.7% - 28 sites
Great Tit	68.0% - 26 sites	67.3% - 26 sites	60.3% - 26 sites	72.9% - 28 sites
Marsh Tit	80.0% - 1 site	Failed - 1 site	62.5% - 1 site	37.5% - 3 sites
Coal Tit	100% - 1 site	No record	100% - 1 site	100% - 1 site
Nuthatch	42.8% -5 sites	56.8% - 9 sites	81.5% - 8 sites	89.7% - 7 sites
Redstart	72.1% - 4 sites	? - 3 sites	? – 3 sites	51.6% - 3 sites
Wren	? - 1 site	58.3% -1 site	-	-

Wrens' nests conform in shape to the surrounding cavity within tree holes or nest boxes and with an entrance hole slightly to one side it is difficult to record activity within the nest. Consequently, the records only shows the presence of a nest with no further detail. Wrens also raise a later second brood but this is usually beyond the time that recorders are registering results so will not enter into the figures, or even whether they have re-used nest boxes.

Redstart numbers have been declining for many years but they seem to be picking up, probably because many are now laying more than one clutch each year.

Pied Flycatcher only Results: [2001 – no recording due to Foot & Mouth restrictions.]

2000	24 sites	140 nests	669 eggs	494 fledged	73.8% success
2002	14 sites	96 nests	685 eggs	263 fledged	38.4% success
2003	14 sites	109 nests	708 eggs	376 fledged	53.1% success
2004	14 sites	89 nests	620 eggs	443 fledged	71.4% success
2005	14 sites	85 nests	574 eggs	423 fledged	62.3% success
2006	16 sites	88 nests	520 eggs	503 fledged	96.6% success
2007	12 sites	107 nests	636 eggs	263 fledged	41.4% success
2008	13 sites	81 nests	582 eggs	367 fledged	63.0% success
2009	13 sites	93 nests	525 eggs	353 fledged	67.2% success
2010	12 sites	82 nests	539 eggs	404 fledged	74.9% success
2011	11 sites	87 nests	543 eggs	354 fledged	65.2% success
2012	9 sites	75 nests	477 eggs	425 fledged	63.7% success
2013	14 sites	135 nests	773 eggs	563 fledged	72.8% success

Fewer sites were taken up in 2012 due to the cold, wet April weather that year. The number increased in 2013 and could have been more as males were heard calling but presumably didn't always find a mate so nesting did not always follow.

As usual, our thanks go to the recorders who visit their rounds regularly during April and May to obtain results. Regular visits were again hampered by the continuous wet weather and nests were found to have some eggs but incubation was delayed which involved extra recording visits. Again, it was disheartening to find many broods eventually failed. Our thanks also go to the few ringers who keep the detailed records which are fed into the B.T.O. A task which requires careful timing from mid-May onwards to both ring the young before leaving the nest and to check the previous ringing of the parents.

Tits can lay eggs and leave them for up to twelve days if necessary before starting incubation, though these can be abandoned if left much longer and the parents then start again, usually in another nest. This was found to be the case by several recorders. Other boxes were still left without any nest material in them during April which favoured the returning Pied Flycatchers as often many boxes have already been taken up by the time of their return. So this year recorders did not have to block off some entrances until their arrival. By mid-April the season was some five to six weeks behind 2012 and four weeks behind the average year. The first Pied Flycatcher (a male) was noted checking out box sites at Crow Wood reserve on 23 April and by 10 May a few Flycatcher nests had been completed but with no eggs laid.

The Flycatchers were also affected by the lack of caterpillars although they were feeding their young a bit later in the season when it was a bit warmer. Some dead fledglings from one reserve were examined at Gloucester University and found to contain indigestible bits of beetle wings and legs giving hard pieces of black chitin in their intestines and a black 'goo' blocking the mouth and throat.

Again, some birds usurped other nests with varying degrees of subsequent success or failure. At a Doward Reserve one box occupied by a Nuthatch had five warm eggs in but when visited three weeks later then had a Blue Tit nest built above with a further three warm eggs which eventually fledged two young. During later cleaning out it was found that all the Nuthatch eggs had been fertile and partially hatched. The recorder noted that 'this was a first for me in over forty years of monitoring'!

One nest box recorder and ringer who deals with several sites both in and outside the county is also involved in various research projects, some with Gloucester University. One project has been to identify micro-organisms found on Pied Flycatchers and within their nest boxes to seek any correlation between their presence and nesting success of the birds.

Briefly, the results showed:-

i) Even the most common fungal species occurred on only 40% of swabs. Ten species were specifically identified, five of which are known to be pathogenic. The nest boxes had a noticeably higher 'fungal load' than individual birds – not really surprising as birds regularly clean themselves whereas debris can accumulate under the nest material.

ii) Fifty bacterial species were isolated – six species were specifically identified and five were identified as being haemolytic i.e. causing the breakdown of red blood cells. There was no significant difference between the microbial load of nest boxes at the different sites (whose habitats are broadly similar), which is consistent with earlier research showing that habitat type has no significant effect on the plumage community in Pied Flycatchers.

In addition, in 2013 another study was begun with the University in which small samples of moulted feathers known to have grown in Africa were taken from ringed adult Pied Flycatchers at three sites in Herefordshire and elsewhere before their autumn migration. Then, by the use of stable isotope analysis of these feathers, and again on fresh feathers from the same birds after their return, to try and detect where different breeding populations of Flycatchers from various parts of the U.K. are wintering within Africa. The food eaten in Africa leaves its isotope 'fingerprint' in the feather material grown there, so different isotope results would suggest different wintering sites. This is just the beginning of a complex and on-going project.

May had closed sunny and warm and with *c*.47mm. rain so now this improvement could allow those birds with second broods to try and offset the poor season to date. June and July gave us the hottest temperatures for some years (up to 29˚C) and this longed-for summer continued through to September. Too late for further nesting by many single-brood birds but at least giving them a season to build up their strength for the coming winter and the year to follow. It was sufficiently hot at times for Blackbirds to be seen panting!

The fine weather broke over the August Bank Holiday with 28mm. rain on the one day in Hereford. However, the summer was the hottest since 2006 and with little rain generally. Temperatures began to fall in September but they were still in double figures continuing into October but with rainfall again above average for the month. Westerly gales in late October brought in geese from Iceland and Greenland a bit ahead of time but held back European migrants such as Waxwings and the winter thrushes but many Starlings from eastern Europe had already arrived. In October the first tinkling calls of small flocks of Goldfinches can be heard soaring over gardens preparing for their migration towards the Mediterranean to over-winter. (Unfortunately, a call less easily heard by humans as we get older!)

Acorn collection by Jays begins in earnest in October. The crop was poor in 2012 but abundant this year. Normally ground feeders, in autumn Jays spend as much time in tree tops screeching and plucking up to five acorns at a time which they store in their expandable throat pouches; they do not collect fallen acorns. They then bury their trophies out of sight of rival birds and a single Jay may collect several hundred. It is commonly thought that they forget where they have buried them but, on examination of dead Jays, acorn remains have been found in their stomachs in every month of the year which suggests an impressive long-term memory. So, perhaps the remaining growing seedlings are simply left in favour of tastier options.

Robins remain resident with separate winter territories for each sex, marking their boundaries by constant singing. As more food is required during the winter so there is pressure to enlarge these with fighting to drive out weaker birds into adjacent territories. A member of the Hereford Ornithological Club (H.O.C.) has been observing and recording the lives and behaviour of Robins in his corner of Hereford for over twelve years and 'keeps tabs' on an average of sixteen birds in sixteen gardens and four well-hedged country lanes. He can recognise most of the birds by sight which is not easy with their territory movements but they respond to his calls and to his offers of food when he is checking their whereabouts.

He has noted the few Robins that pair in the December are second or third re-pairings otherwise most pair from January to March. Once pairing has taken place the two birds occupy the same territory, usually with the female moving. A male driven from a garden will search to establish a new territory and a female on hearing his full song is often prepared to join him. Once paired they remain faithful apart from the interruption of winter separation. A pair will often move from a garden territory to one in a lane which, in fact, has several advantages. Robins are largely ground-level nesters, often in banks, which are available in lanes and the flanking hedges offer further protection when feeding or approaching the nest as well as providing a high invertebrate population. The warmth of the lane's tarmac surface benefits the birds and their insect prey.

Like all small song birds they live at 'fever 'pitch' with their body temperature 41˚C rising to 43.5˚C with exercise and their heartbeat is 370 beats/minute compared with our average of 70 beats. This is necessary to keep their small bodies warm and to maintain their rapid movements.

H.O.C. has been working on a 'Herefordshire County Bird Atlas', their ambition has been to publish in one volume the first fully documented Atlas for both breeding and wintering species seen within the county over the last five year period of 2007-12. It will complete a 'life-time achievement' in the Club's history. Work is now at the final stages of record verification, data analysis and designing maps after the field work closed last summer. 17,500 records have been collected from 285 surveyors and the book will have information on over 200 species. The target date for publication is next summer. It can then be used as an on-going basis for comparative future bird records within the county.

New sightings recorded by H.O.C. this year:

A male Lesser Scaup was seen at Wellington Gravel Pits on 22 April. Similar in appearance to the Tufted Duck but lacking any tuft, it is a north American species and a regular migrant, presumably brought in by strong winds.

A male Blue-winged Teal was seen with a Shoveller flock also at Wellington on 10 November. It is common on marshy pools in the U.S.A. but rarely coastal. Again a regular migrant brought in by strong winds and tending to join Shovellers. If accepted, this will be a new county species. A large flock of Shovellers peaked to 94 at Wellington earlier on 24 March.

A female Parrot Crossbill was found with Crossbill flocks in the larches at Wapley Hill on 22 December. If accepted, this will be a first county record. There has been an influx of this species this year and also of the Two-barred Crossbill. To detect these visitors within the general flock movements is certainly a challenge!

The wet spring followed by a really warm summer gave abundant crops of hedgerow berries, acorns, beech mast and a later good holly-berry crop so birds largely ignored garden

feeders. November and December continued mild with few frosts in lowland areas of the county but with nearly continuous rain often accompanied by high winds of up to 70+ mph. These were pushed east from the Atlantic by a higher wide strong jet stream of up to 280 mph. Together with spring tides, the gales caused several storm surges during these two months with coastal damage and the overflowing of rivers, already in full spate, giving flooding around the country. On 23 December low pressure deepened reaching a record low of 968mb. in the Midlands (927mb. over northern Scotland) with strong winds and more heavy rain. The total rainfall for the year amounted to *c*.735mm. 2013 proved to be yet another year with weather records being broken. Nevertheless, the year concluded with temperatures above freezing and with many garden plants still in flower even though water-logged.

Weather Statistics, 2013

By ERIC WARD

Month	*Max. temp. shade ºC*	*Min. temp. shade ºC*	*Nights frost air/ground*		*Rainfall mm.*	*Max. rainfall in 1 day mm.*	*Days with rainfall*
January	12.0	-5.0	13	11	54.5	12.0 (29th)	15
February	11.0	-3.0	12	3	37.7	13.0 (10th)	12
March	11.0	-2.0	17	9	80.4	17.0 (21st)	11
April	20.0	-3.5	6	0	21.3	7.0 (11th)	8
May	23.0	1.0			64.5	27.0 (14th)	12
June	26.5	6.0			34.4	8.0 27th)	11
July	29.0	10.0			58.0	27.0 (27th)	10
August	28.0	11.0			55.3	16.0 5th)	12
September	25.0	5.0			54.7	18.0 (8th)	11
October	20.0	3.0			180.9	23.0 (21st	21
November	14.0	-3.0	6	5	51.5	11.0 (3rd)	17
December	13.0	-1.0	1	4	89.8	28.0 (23rd)	17
Total			**55**	**32**	**783**		**157**

Highest day temperature: 29.0ºC 18th July
Lowest night temperature: 5.0ºC 15th, 16th January

Weather Summary 2004 to 2013

Year	*Total rainfall year mm.*	*Wettest day mm*	*Date*	*Days with rain*	*Highest temp. deg C*	*Lowest temp.deg.C*	*Days air frost*
2004	698	26	Aug .3	182	3 l.0	-5.0	17
2005	656	40	Jul. 24	156	31.0	- 5.5	17
2006	759	30	Aug.17	172	35.0	- 4.0	27
2007	940	103	Jul. 20	184	28.0	-6.0	22
2008	982	50	Mar.15	191	29.5	-6.0	32
2009	870	46	Jan. 5	176	30.0	-6.5	42
2010	670	47	Aug.25	167	29.5	-11.2	63
2011	557	26	Jun.22	165	30.5	-6.3	20
2012	1142.6	59	Sep.23	198	28.0	-5.5	33
2013	783	28	Dec 23	157	29.0	-5.0	55

Recorded by E.H. Ward at Woodpeckers, Much Marcle.

Book Reviews, 2013

By DAVID WHITEHEAD

***The Palgrave Dictionary of Medieval Anglo-Jewish History*, Joe and Caroline Hillaby (Palgrave-Macmillan 2013), 447pp.**

This book was published to mark the 120th anniversary of the foundation of the Jewish History Society in England. It celebrates the contribution made to English life by the extensive Jewish community that settled in England during the two centuries following the Norman Conquest. This was no marginal settlement, as there were nearly 30 self-governing communities extending across England from York to Exeter, Hereford to Canterbury. Moreover, they were 'many hundreds of times richer than those in France' for instance.

The book is also much more than a dictionary. There is a useful introduction, charting the progress of English Jewry from *c.*1075-1290, which is followed by a section containing key documents. This prints, for example, Richard I's charter of liberties for English and Norman Jewries (1190) and ends with Edward I's writ of expulsion exactly 100 years later. The main body of the *Dictionary* has a topographical and biographical approach.

As most members of the Woolhope Club realise, Joe Hillaby came to English Jewry via his early interest in the development during the Middle Ages of Herefordshire's small towns; beginning with Bromyard (1970) and Ledbury (1970) progressing towards Leominster (1987). During the 1980s Mr Hillaby was Chairman of the Hereford Civic Trust and spent a decade fighting against comprehensive re-development for inner Hereford. His thoughts on Hereford's town plan were published in the *Transactions* for 1983. Rather fortuitously for the history of English Jewry, the areas threatened with re-development also included the medieval Jewry. As Mr Hillaby writes, with evident feeling even 30 years later, 'despite determined opposition in the city, the topography of the Jewry was swept away by the City Council co-operating with Norwich Union Properties, to build a new shopping precinct, "Maylord Orchard"'. As it turned out, Hereford's loss was Jewish history's gain.

In 1984 the *Transactions* contained the first instalment of Mr Hillaby's 'The Hereford Jewry, 1179-1290' to be followed in 1985 and 1990 with parts II and III. Bravely, the editor, Jim Tonkin, published these weighty articles (173 pages in all) and was surprised to find that he had a best seller on his hands. The spare copies of these *Transactions* were soon winging their way across the world. Moreover, within these articles there was a substantial tranche on the medieval history of Herefordshire and a story which, via the de Lacy family, carried the reader off to Ireland in the late 12th century and into the fascinating story of castle building, accomplished with Jewish loans, and ultimately debts, underwritten by ungrateful kings.

The bibliography of the *Dictionary* shows that hardly a year has passed since 1985 without Mr Hillaby extending his studies of medieval English Jewry. First to Worcester, then to London, Gloucester, Bristol, York, East Anglia and Lincolnshire; and now, in this book, to every corner of England where there was a Jewish community. Distilled within the book is an evaluation, often accompanied by a plan, of the topography of all the major English cities where the Jews were to be found. This introduces the reader to the key Jewish families and their patriarchs, like Hamo of Hereford and Aaron of Lincoln, who were the key players in royal finance. One is left with the impression, simplistic as it may seem, that the great achievements of the early Plantagenets—Henry I to Edward I—were based upon access to Jewish finance, realised from debts run up by the hapless nobility.

There is much else in this excellent book to tempt both the serious scholar and the curious antiquarian. Joe Hillaby has single-handedly stimulated a new interest in the *Mikva'ot*, the ritual baths, a central part of the Jewish purification ceremony, which have been re-discovered by archaeologists in Bath and Bristol and may also lie below Tesco's in Bewell Street, Hereford. Other eye-catching entries in the *Dictionary* include ritual child murder accusations, crossbowmen, herb gardens, libraries and books, surgeons, women, to mention just a few. All in all, this is a great achievement and Joe and Caroline Hillaby have produced a book of international importance, which remains informative and appealing (dare I say it) even to members of the Woolhope Club. Generously, the authors have given a copy of the book to the Club library.

***Kilvert's World of Wonders: growing up in mid-Victorian England*, John Toman, (Lutterworth. 2013), 325pp.**

This admirable book completes John Toman's trilogy on Francis Kilvert. The author admits it has been a long journey since Logaston Press published *Kilvert: the Homeless Heart* in 2001, which, in retrospect, he admits 'overstated his (Kilvert's) love of traditional society'. Subsequently, he began exploring in greater depth KiIvert's background and the literary *milieu* that nurtured his romantic vision of the countryside. The result was *Kilvert's Diary and Landscape* (2009). Now, following further probing of Kilvert's family connections, the nature of his Evangelical mission and his extensive reading we have Kilvert placed in the vanguard of the forward-looking elite of Victorian England, participating in the great debate between science and religion. It has been Mr Toman's ambition, over the last decade, to reverse the traditional view of Kilvert, promulgated by the editor of his diaries, William Plomer. He, in the dark days leading up to the Second World War, portrayed by rigorous editing of the manuscript diaries a naïve and insecure country vicar, who could hone a good sentence when admiring pastoral countryside—and the occasional pretty girl—but was otherwise pretty shallow. Now we have a portrait of a sophisticated man, certain of his values, very much connected with metropolitan culture and in tune with the urgent issues of his time.

In this volume Kilvert's diaries play second fiddle as Mr Toman's deep research reveals layer upon layer of cultural detritus from his early life in Bath and Oxford, which nurtured his moderate Evangelicalism in tandem with his fascination for science, technology, geology and natural history; all of which prepared him for Darwin's decisive attack upon his faith. Kilvert came from a middle class family, which was remarkably well-connected with the intelligentsia of Regency England. This, Mr Toman claims, framed Kilvert's world-view and generally supports this with apposite quotations from the diary. Occasionally, the diary fails to deliver the proof but Plomer's radical pruning can easily be blamed. The Religious Tract Society combined with Captain Marryat and R. M. Ballantyne provided much of the scientific knowledge devoured by the precocious young Kilvert. His curiosity for the world around him was facilitated by the child-centred nature of his education, as recommended by Rousseau and Pestalozzi. This, in turn, was practised by Kilvert as an adult, when later he was called upon to teach the mysteries of nature, as well as religious studies, at Clyro. His collecting, museum visiting, walking and socialising, together with his regular access to the *Saturday Review*, *Macmillan's Magazine* and the *Cornhill Magazine* kept him up to speed with the greatest developments of his age. He was very impressed by trains, steam ships and the telegraph and made several visits to the Crystal Palace. At the same time, he was fascinated by the working of the human mind and intrigued by folklore, miracles, phrenology and mesmerism, which he

regarded as matters of rational inquiry, clearly separated from his religious faith.

Kilvert was much influenced by the activities of the Literary and Philosophical Societies that mushroomed in early Victorian England and recruited their membership especially, from among Evangelicals. Yet he had little time for the Woolhope Club, preferring to enjoy the wonders of nature alone. He no doubt kept in touch with the Club's activities via *Macmillan's Magazine*, where its meetings were reported, and through his friends like Thomas Webb and the Rev. Sir George Cornewall.

Mr Tomen brings the book to a climax exploring Kilvert's interest in Africa, which was closely linked with the Evangelical Church Missionary Society and the heroic endeavours of missionary-explorers like Livingstone. He was thrilled by the descriptions of sublime landscapes and exotic animals such as the gorilla. All this coincided with the publication of Darwin's views on evolution, to which Kilvert's diary responds with a renewed interest in the geology and archaeology of the deepest past. Mr Toman shows that popular ideas concerned with evolution had already entered Kilvert's consciousness enabling him to combine his faith in God as creator with the progress promised by science. Thus, there was no' shock of the new' and life continued as normal at Clyro and Bredwardine. Not only is this volume the essential handbook on Kilvert, but it also encapsulates some of the fundamental issues that dominated intellectual life in the 19th century and remain so important in our own time.

***In Search of John Kyrle: The Man of Ross*, Jon Hurley, (Fineleaf, Ross-on-Wye, 2013), 127pp; *Herefordshire's River Trade: Craft and Cargo on the Wye and Lugg*, Heather Hurley, (Logaston Press, 2013), 198 pp; *A History of Tedstone Delamere*, Jennifer Weale, (Bromyard and District Local History Society, 2013), 280pp; *The Pember Family of Herefordshire*, Colin Boylett, (Pound Farm Publishing, 2013), 326 pp plus CD.**

John Kyrle is a legendary but lost figure; at last he has found a modern biographer. There is a great deal of antiquarian material about John Kyrle but it is mostly based upon hearsay and often very repetitive. John Hurley, however, has found a body of contemporary material, some of it rather intractable, from which he has produced a very useful biography as well as the story of the legend created by Alexander Pope. Occasionally, to fill gaps there is a bit of creative writing to produce some local colour but this helps the story along. There is a long list of sources at the end of the book but without footnotes it is difficult to attach them to the interesting nuggets found in the text which would thus enable the book to become a useful research tool.

This is not a complaint that can be levelled at Heather Hurley's study of the Herefordshire river trade, which has a complete referencing system, a very full index and some useful appendices. This is a spin-off from the *Landscape Origins of the Wye Valley* (2008), combined with some exciting fieldwork both on the river and dry-land, to locate the many wharves and informal quays used by the bargemen in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Refreshingly the book focuses on the boats and the men who carried goods up and down the Wye and Lugg, rather than on the rivers themselves and the problems, natural and man-made, that afflicted early river navigation. Several sets of barge accounts provide a very full record of the immense variety of goods carried up and down the rivers, and insights into the character of the boats and the bargemen themselves. The majority of the book is a detailed topographical account of the Wye from Symonds Yat to Glasbury, indicating that even after nearly two centuries of change, there are still many traces of landing places, which served virtually every settlement close to the river.

The Bromyard and District Local History Society published its first volume, *Bromyard: a Local History* in 1970 when Jennifer Weale contributed a chapter on the 1851 Census. Mrs Weale has remained a stalwart of the society since that time and in 1997 produced a *History of Bredenbury* and now comes a *History of Tedstone Delamere*. Nowhere else in the West Midlands has such a full coverage of well-researched parish histories as this remote stretch of north-east Herefordshire. Inevitably, national historians seeking exemplars of settlement patterns, farming practices etc. in the Welsh Border find themselves drawn to these volumes and, increasingly, the Bromyard area comes, by default, to represent Herefordshire. This is no bad thing, as what the studies lack in context and perspective is more than adequately compensated by deep and long-term research applied with local knowledge and obvious attachment to familiar places. Each parish history also benefits from those that have gone before as the Society breathes its experience into the research efforts of its individual members. This is reflected in the admirable library and research centre the Society has established adjoining the Market Square in Bromyard.

Tedstone Delamere follows the pattern established by Phyllis Williams in *Whitbourne; a Bishop's Manor* in 1979. The early history of the parish is conveniently dealt with under the headings of 'Church' or 'Manor' where the expertise of local archaeologists and Bruce Coplestone-Crowe are recruited to elucidate crucial issues such as the earliest settlements and the descent of the manor. Like Bredenbury, Tedstone Delamere generally had a resident lord of the manor at Tedstone Court and produced useful court rolls, which are well exploited, notwithstanding their degenerate handwriting. In the Early Modern period Michael Faraday's lists become invaluable when combined with a plentiful supply of wills and inventories. The main body of the book moves steadily from farm and smallholding across the parish, combining family history and a knowledge of vernacular architecture with every scrap of known information, however miscellaneous, to recreate the lives, private and public, of the indigenous population. The book is a model of its kind, demonstrating how intractable fragments of documentation, swept up since the late 1940s into the local record office, can with skill be moulded into a coherent historical narrative. Moreover, treasured family albums have been opened up for the author to reveal the names on the lists, often in their Sunday best, standing in exquisite pastoral scenery, before pristine vernacular farmsteads and cottages. Nostalgia is not part of the Bromyard and District Local History Society's remit but the *History of Tedstone Delamere* is local history at its best; rigorous scholarship, written stylishly and with a sensitivity that only comes through long association with the people and places it presents.

The Pember Family of Herefordshire is much more than its title suggests. From the first sentence of the introduction it becomes clear that this is a rich mixture of landscape and architectural history, brought together by its association with the Pember family who lived in and around Kington from the early Middle Ages. Mr Boycott, who happens to live in a hamlet known as 'Pember's Oak', chases with great determination every place associated with the family in the parishes of Lyonshall, Eardisley, Almeley, Pembridge , Brilley and, ultimately, in more modern times, virtually every other parish in the county. After 330 pages, the author is forced to abandon the hard copy and retreats to a CD for chapters 11 and 12, where we also find his extensive list of sources and references.

Mr Boycott's acknowledgements indicate his persistence in pursuing every lead in his search for the Pembers, which included getting into some of the best historic houses in his neighbourhood and producing a remarkable photographic record of every architectural detail

that caught his attention. Similarly, he has an eye for landscape details noticing every motte, moat, house platform and hollow way, which are also photographed and reproduced with maps and plans. These include reproductions of Geoff Gwatkins tithe maps, air photographs and extracts from historical plans such as the Thomas Budgen's survey of 1815, from the British Library, which is new to this writer and includes field boundaries.

Above all else there is the author's wide reading and extensive documentary research, including the services of an assistant who combed the national repositories. He patiently interprets these and provides page after page of quotations, all of which are referenced to source. Unfortunately, these are found on the CD where a host of contrived abbreviations are employed, making cross-referencing very hard. Moreover, many secondary sources are referenced without page references. Here and there Mr Boycott provides a more extensive narrative. John Pember and the Hundred Years War take us to Agincourt and Rouen and there are several other moments when Pembers play a walk-on part in the great historical events of the realm. Whatever your interest, there is often something that catches your eye but you need to have patience to sift out the nuggets, for there is no index except one for the ubiquitous Pembers.

The Woolhope Club would welcome new books and pamphlets on the local history of Herefordshire for its library, which for over 160 years has been a repository for such material. We cannot always promise a review but the gift will be recorded in our bi-annual newsletters.

David Whitehead

Index, 2013

Notes. Page numbers for black and white illustrations are shown in italics. Coloured plate numbers are shown in bold italics. If requesting copies from the *Transactions*, please ensure that you ask for the complete article.

A

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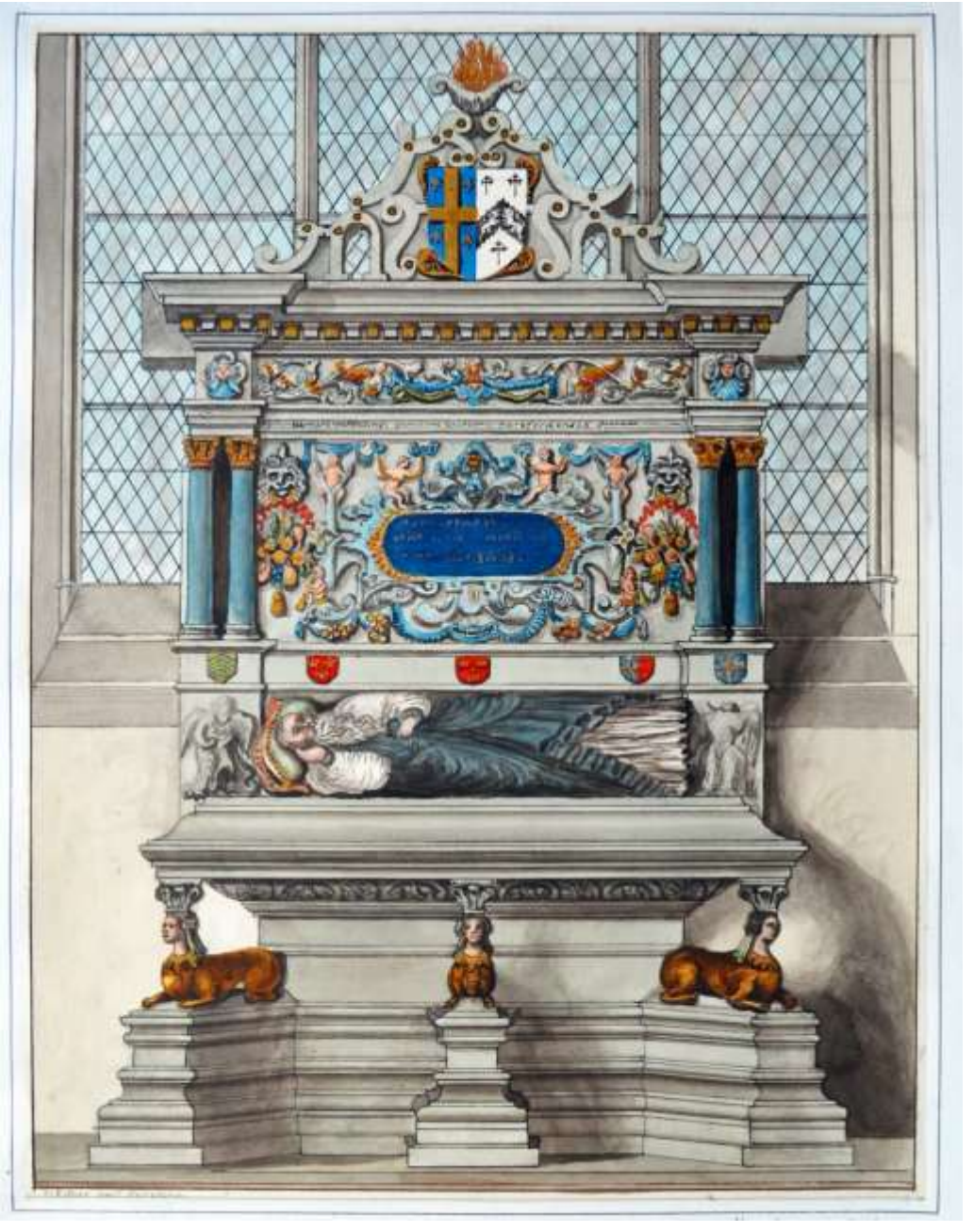


Plate 1.1. Bishop Westfaling's tomb in Hereford cathedral by S. Fisher *c*.1785. The drawing was annotated in 1953 to say that 'The base has been destroyed and the backpiece is now in the Bishop's cloister. The effigy survices.' (Reproduced by kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries)

Plate 1.2. John Best's tomb with his effigy in Lugwardine church

Plate 2.1A. On A438 Stoke Edith. Hodges of Hereford, large type stamp series

Plate 2.1B. On B4224 Hampton Bishop. Hodges of Hereford, small type stamp

Plate 2.2. On A44 at Stanner

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Tuesday, Jan. 6.....St. Weonards
Friday, Jan. 9.....Aconbury Priory (at 11 o'clk.)
Tuesday, Jan. 13.....Credenhill
Friday, Jan. 16.....8th mile-stone, Froome's-hill-rd.
At half-past Ten.

THE LEDBURY HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Monday, Jan. 5.....Highnam
Friday, Jan. 9.....The Kennels
At half-past Ten.

THE LUDLOW HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Tuesday, Jan. 6.....Hilson Wood
Thursday, Jan. 8.....Burford Bridge
Saturday, Jan. 10.....Beckleton Court
At half-past Ten.

THE MONMOUTHSHIRE HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Monday, Jan. 5.....7 miles from Abergavenny.
Grosmont-road
Thursday, Jan. 8.....Craig Finger-post
At half-past Ten.

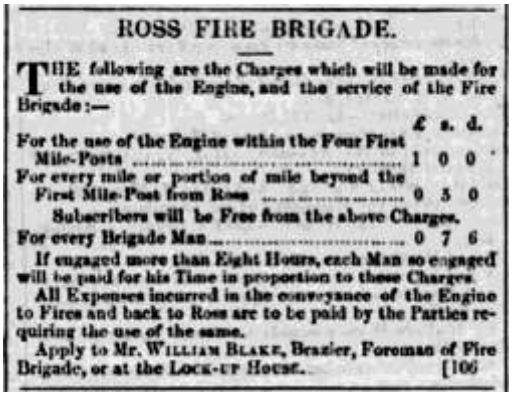
THE WORCESTERSHIRE HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Monday, Jan. 5.....Croom Perry Wood
Wednesday, Jan. 7.....The Rennels
Friday, Jan. 9.....Northwick Arms, Bengeworth
At half-past Ten.

THE WHEATLAND HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Wednesday, Jan. 7.....Oldbury
Saturday, Jan. 10.....Linley
At half-past Ten.

THE UPTON PACK WILL MEET—
Thursday, Jan. 8.....Linley
At Ten.

THE KINGTON HOUNDS WILL MEET—
Tuesday, Jan. 6.....Summerpark, Brilley
Friday, Jan. 9.....Tilley Gate
At Ten.

Plate 2.3A. Hunting appointment in *Hereford Times*, 7 April 1847



ROSS FIRE BRIGADE.

THE following are the Charges which will be made for the use of the Engine, and the service of the Fire Brigade:—

	£	s.	d.
For the use of the Engine within the Four First Mile-Posts	1	0	0
For every mile or portion of mile beyond the First Mile-Post from Ross	0	5	0

Subscribers will be Free from the above Charges.

For every Brigade Man	0	7	6

If engaged more than Eight Hours, each Man so engaged will be paid for his Time in proportion to these Charges.

All Expenses incurred in the conveyance of the Engine to Fires and back to Ross are to be paid by the Parties requiring the use of the same.

Apply to Mr. WILLIAM BLAKE, Brazier, Foreman of Fire Brigade, or at the LOCK-UP HOUSE. [106

Plate 2.3B. Advert for Ross Fire Engine, *Hereford Times*, 1 January 1853

Plate 2.4. AA sign at Lingen

Plate 2.5. (right) Private mile marker in Fownhope churchyard

Plate 2.6. On A4110 south of Bainstree Cross

Plate 2.7. On A4110 at Mortimer's Cross

Plate 2.8. On A4110 at Gotherment House

Plate 2.9. On A44 at Whitbourne

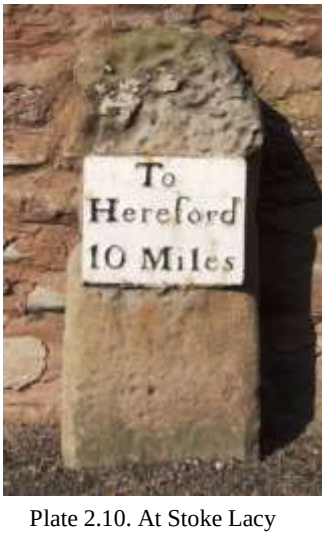


Plate 2.10. At Stoke Lacy showing the Hereford Plate

Plate 2.11. B4204: Upper Sapey

Plate 2.12A. B4204 Upper Sapey by Grazebrook

Plate 2.12B. On A 4103 at Cradley by Grazebrook of Dudley dated 1898

Plate 2.13A. Onions marker at Burwarton

Plate 2.13B. Onions marker at Burwarton with misplaced lettering

Plate 2.14B. Hodges small font stamp

Plate 2.14A. Hodges small font stamp type on A49, Dinmore

Plate 2.14C. Hodges small font stamp type showing back flange

Plate 2.15A. Weobley: Hodges large font stamp

Plate 2.15B. Hodges large font stamp

Plate 2.15C. Foot of stem of Hodges large font stamp type

Plate 2.18. On A4137: Bridstow

Plate 2.16A. Harding Brothers marker at Bacton

Plate 2.16B. Harding Brothers stamp

Plate 2.19. On A49 at Lower Bullingham

Plate 2.17A. Perkins and Bellamy marker at Hentland

Plate 2.17B. Perkins and Bellamy stamp

Plate 2.20. A465:Allensmore

Plate 2.21. At Bodenham

Plate 2.22A. The White Stone, Withington (detail)

Plate 2.22B. Milestone opposite White Stone on A401

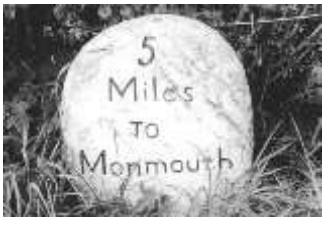


Plate 2.23. On A466 at Llangarron (NMR)

Plate 2.24. in Kington Museum

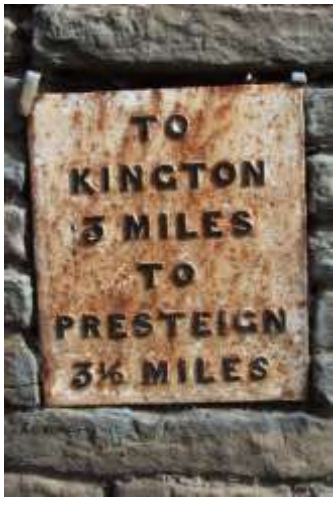


Plate 2.25. On B4355 at Titley Court

Plate 2.26. On A438 at Ledbury

Plate 2.27. On A438 at Eastnor

Plate 2.28. From A417 now in Leominster Museum

Plate 2.29. From A44 now in Leominster Museum

Plate 2.30. From A44 now in Leominster Museum

Plate 2.31. On A49 outside Leominster

Plate 2.32. On A44 outside Leominster

Plate 2.33. On B4360 at Kingsland

Plate 2.34. In Leominster Museum

Plate 2.35. At Dishley

Plate 2.36A. At Clee Downton by J. Onions

Plate 2.36B. At Richards Castle

Plate 2.37. On Dilwyn churchyard wall

Plate 2.38. At Clodock

Plate 2.39. At Llanveynoe

Plate 2.40. At St Margaret's

Plate 2.41. On B4362 at Orleton

Plate 2.42. At Hoarwithy

Plate 2.43. In Clifford

Plate 2.44. On B4352 at Clifford

Plate 2.45. On A438 at Letton

Plate 2.46. On A438 at Willersley

Plate 2.47. On A40 at Weston-under-Penyard

Plate 2.48. On A40 at Weston-under-Penyard

Plate 3.1 The splendid portico at the front of the former Mitre Hotel, Broad Street, Hereford. This is not, however, the veranda supplied by Captain Radford in 1836

Plate 4.1. The upstream face of the Rea aqueduct before face collapse, 10 March 2012. (©G. Calderbank)

Plate 4.2. The upstream face of the Rea aqueduct after face collapse, 10 March 2013. (©G. Calderbank)

Plate 4.3. The downstream face of the Rea aqueduct, 13 November 2004. (©G. Calderbank)

Plate 4.4 . The downstream face of the Rea aqueduct, 10 March 2013. (©G. Calderbank)

Plate 5.1. 12 Quay Street. View to the south-south-west of the cut in the north-north-east-facing section

Plate 5.2. Leintwardine. View looking north showing ditches

Plate 5.3. Kilpeck Castle following the completion of restoration works

Plate 5.4. Rotherwas. The cutwater for the single-line railway bridge over the Wye

Plate 5.5. Brockhampton. Hyde Dingle. Dam with cascade fossilised in tufa

Plate 5.6. Aerial view across the Park with Bringsty Common in the foreground and Brockhampton Estate beyond. (photo Jensen Jones)

Plate 5.7. Dorstone. General site photograph looking to the south-east

Plate 5.8. Dorstone. Aerial photograph showing the excavated areas and the postulated extent of monuments

Plate 5.9. Dorstone. Base of the pit containing a polished flint axe and other flint artefacts

Plate 5.10. Eaton Camp. The wall line and drainage gully of the circular building from the east. The stony band between the two can be clearly seen. The stone surfacing within the interior is visible in the foreground

Plate 5.11. Moccas Park. The cairn

Plate 6.1. *Ophioglossum vulgatum* - Adder's Tongue Fern, Bromyard Downs, 2012

Plate 6.2. *Geranium rotundifolium* - Round-leaved Crane's-bill, Ross-on-Wye, 2013. (R. Lowe)

Plate 7.1. The carapace of the shrimp-like creature, originally thought to be Malacostraca *Pseudotealliocaris etheridgei*, found on the Great Doward

Plate 7.2. The abdomen of the shrimp-like creature in Plate 7.1

Plate 7.3. Merbach Hill. Roots and other evidence of organic material can be seen as blue green areas in the red mudstone

Plate 7.4. Merbach Hill. Fossil soil layer showing pseudoanticlines formed by concentrations of calcium carbonate

Plate 7.5. Pentaloe Brook, Woolhope Dome. Exposed Bentonite bands in mudstone

Plate 8.1. Whitman's Hill Quarry, August, 2013. (J. Parry)