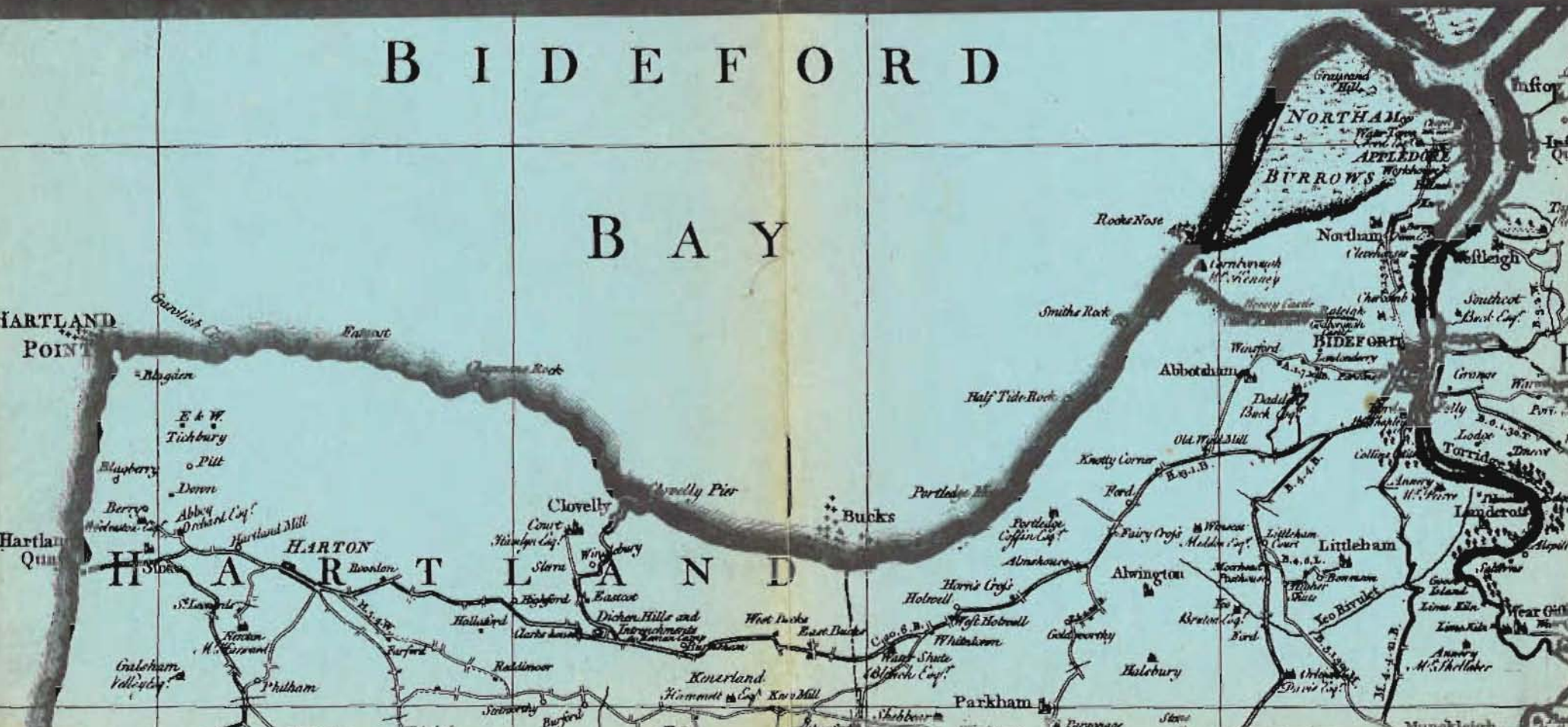


The Devon Historian



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The map on the cover is part of Benjamin Donn's 'Map of the county of Devon' first printed in 1765 and reprinted in 1965 jointly by the University of Exeter and The Devon and Cornwall Record Society. It is available from the Academic Registrar, University of Exeter price 45/- post free and from bookshops.

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Correspondence relating to the Devon Historian or for possible publication therein or contributions for publication should be sent to the Editor, The Devon Historian, Culver House, Payhembury, Honiton. Contributions for the next issue should be sent to the Editor by the 30th June 1971.

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SOME SOURCES FOR 'THE HISTORY OF DEVON FARMS

Audrey Erskine

Professor Hoskins has estimated the total number of medieval farms in Devon to be in the region of fifteen thousand, and on the basis of reckoning that the majority of Domesday place-names are those of demesne manors and that other then existing farmsteads are not named, he has also suggested that over nine thousand farms were to be seen in the landscape of 11th century Devon. In view of the immense longevity of some farming sites - some of the Domesday ones may even stretch back into the Iron Age - it is not surprising that there are many claims for existing farmhouses that they are 'recorded in Domesday', especially those still called 'Barton', since this term in Devon is almost always applied to demesne farms. Some warning should, however, be given at the outset about the exact interpretation of the obscure terms of what has been rightly called 'that cryptic shorthand text' of Domesday, and, even more, the vast difficulty and good measure of luck entailed in making continuous connection between an existing site (for few buildings have work in them earlier than the fifteenth century and most have been entirely rebuilt) and an 11th century reference to the name. However, it cannot be denied that Domesday has its place in such research, and Exeter Cathedral Library, normally the home of the Exon. Domesday (which is temporarily away for repair) has a good coverage of information about it. But research must work from the present day backwards to be at all reliable. An important aspect of the investigation of the history of farms is of course the field work, the answering of the vital question 'Why here in this place?' and the considerations of topography and field arrangement. Several of Professor Hoskins' books give general guidance on this subject and on general documentary sources, and also a number of most admirable models of how farm histories can be pieced together (see for example 'Provincial England', 'Devonshire Studies', and 'Fieldwork in Local History' and the miscellany which he has edited with his own comments called 'History from the Farm') but some more particular suggestions about local printed and documentary sources which may perhaps yield information to assist in building up a continuous history of a particular farm - or even to some extent also a substantial village house of obvious age - may, it is hoped, furnish a supplement to these works.

To proceed then from the known, an existing farmhouse, to its unknown history; one can probably assume a dearth of modern title deeds much before c.1800 in the hands of the owner, though if one family has owned it for a long time, farming accounts, rentals and other vitally informative material may be to hand - and particularly useful 19th century papers are sales catalogues, which are usually very detailed about buildings, contents and stock, and which may still be kept with such few deeds as a solicitor still holds for a property, or may be found in a solicitor's general deposit in a local record office. But if there is little immediate information available, the printed Devon directories are a priority, to be searched for the names of owners or occupiers; these directories, of which White's of 1850 is both early and informative, often give help about the manors associated with various parishes, and it is useful to establish as soon as possible in what manor as

well as what parish a farm or house belonged. The old local historians of Devon should be consulted at an early stage for references - Lyson's 'Magna Britannia' is obvious, but Polwhele, Risdon, Westcote, Hooker and Sir William Pole have all been known to yield a crumb or two of information or description. And anyone who fails to consult the indexes of the Transactions of the Devonshire Association or of Devon and Cornwall Notes and Queries may well find later that he is duplicating searches already made. Armed with such details in print as can be dredged up, it is time to turn to the Tithe Apportionment map of the parish in which the farm lies, where exact location, ownership, acreage and field details can be found; these maps and their accompanying awards made following the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836 are preserved in the Devon Record Office, and are invaluable, especially in view of the lack in Devon of Parliamentary Enclosure awards and maps relating to anything but common and waste (though, conversely, it is only because Devon was not enclosed wholesale in the late 18th century, like so many other counties, that its ancient farm pattern has survived to so marked an extent). A printed map, John Donn's 'County of Devon in 1765' (published in facsimile in 1965) is unexpectedly useful for house history, for not only country seats but also large farms are marked and their then occupier often named. However, information in the Tithe map can in most cases be followed back to 1730 in the Land Tax Assessments (in Devon Record Office, and those for 1747 and 1751 also survive there for some parishes). It should also be borne in mind that there were a number of sales made in redemption of Land Tax in the decade around 1800 especially; for instance, several manors and some smaller estates of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, previously their property for many hundred of years, changed hands at this period.

The search backwards from the late 18th century naturally tends to be both for the names of occupiers and for the property itself in conjunction. Moreover, the name by which a farm is known can change in relation to the names of its occupant, though many ancient names survive in modern form and are positively helpful, for example the suffix -hay (or -hayae) itself means simply 'farm'. If there is any element of 'glebe' in the name, the diocesan glebe terriers for the relevant parish should be consulted (in Devon Record Office, among the diocesan records, many of the early 17th century) for they sometimes describe buildings as well as glebe land in detail. The most desirable evidence is, of course, that of title deeds, and if it is possible to track these down it is usually necessary to make preliminary investigations into the lords of the manor or other principal landowners of the area, and into parish records (rate books, where surviving, can prove helpful) in order to discover whether any family collections exist which might produce some documents. In this connection, one will probably need to enquire of all record office of the area, and it may be mentioned that the Devon Record Office's recent 'Brief Guide', though limited to official and ecclesiastical collections, can prove a mine of information, for the breakdown given there of surviving types of records of individual parishes goes as far as indicating principal private collections relating to them, as well as other useful classes of archive. A good general source for sales of property is the Enrolled Deeds of transfers of land by the procedure of bargain and sale, which an Act of

1536 ordered to be registered; they survive in good series in the Devon Record Office, nearly 2000 between 1536 and 1760, most of them in fact before 1670 (a typescript calendar of these is available in Exeter City Library). If a property was not freehold but copyhold, manorial court rolls, accounts and rentals of the relevant manor if surviving in a complete enough series will provide a sequence of occupiers and perhaps also some information about the repair or alterations of actual buildings; the survival of a manorial map is a bonus here, as it is often difficult to locate a house accurately without it - for instance, a small cottage in Ide, identified in the manor map of 1800, was successfully traced thereafter through 200 years of court rolls.

It is regrettable that little documentary material is likely to be available on the buildings themselves. Inventories compiled for valuation of a person's property on his death are the best source of room-by-room descriptions of the house in which such property was examined, but a large collection of these was destroyed when the Exeter Probate Registry was bombed during World War II, together with most of the testamentary records for Devon of all periods. Some inventories have survived by chance, but very few (see for example 'Devon Inventories' edited by Margaret Cash, Devon & Cornwall Record Society vol. 11). However, three papers on 'The Old Devon Farmhouse' by C. H. Laycock, which include the use of such material before its destruction (Devonshire Association Transactions, vols. 52, 54, 55) can be recommended as useful guides. Aids to interpretation and dating of buildings will also be found in two more general works of Mr. Maurice Barley, 'The English Farmhouse and Cottage' and 'House and Home'.

In the medieval period, the sources are scantier and the measure of good fortune in survival or records to come upon relevant information is proportionately greater. If a property, traced back to the 16th century is included among the possessions of an ancient institution such as the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, or can be connected with the endowment of a religious house before the dissolution of the monasteries, chances are better, but even then it is easy to lose the thread of continuous history. The valuations of monastic land when it was sold off under Henry VIII and later have been published by Dr. Joyce Youngs 'Devon Monastic Lands: Particulars of Grants 1536-58, (Devon and Cornwall Record Society, vol. 1) and these are a good guide to the transfers into lay hands of monastic estates, sometimes even mentioning individual tenements. Oliver's 'Monasticon' of the diocese of Exeter gives some indications of where any records of individual monasteries have survived, and if relevant cartularies or similar materials exist, particular properties can sometimes be traced back to the 12th century. The records of the Dean & Chapter of Exeter are still extant in situ but even these illustrate how piecemeal in some respects their total survival has been - for instance leases for Chudleigh farm, Ashburton, exist among these muniments from the 16th century until it was sold at the end of the 18th century, accompanied by a neat and detailed map of the whole property, situated on the Ashburton-Staverton border; only a stray 15th century lease of

Chevelegh describes it as the rectory house and sanctuary land of Ashburton at that time (though a considerable distance from the church) and there is no other indication anywhere of the curious origin of this farm. If no ecclesiastical connection can be made, probably the best line of approach is to investigate manorial and family descents in Devon in the medieval period by way of the mass of information in O. J. Reichel's 'The Hundreds of Devon' (published in parts by the Devonshire Association 1925-33, the best approach to which is from the large composite index volume published in 1942) which itself is a good demonstration of the use of such sources as printed calendars of 'Inquisitions Post Mortem', and tax record such as subsidy rolls, to track the descent of families and property. 'The Subsidy Roll of 1332', is the fullest surviving in complete form for Devon, (Devon and Cornwall Record Society, vol. 14) and its main use is for tracking family names in relation to property. If Reichel's material suggests family names which might be concerned in the descent of the property being sought, the two volumes of printed calendars of 'Feet of Fines for Devon, 1196-1369' may provide fuller information of its having changed hands. Feet of fines are enrolments of conveyances of land in the king's court by the procedure of fictitious suit, and have a wide range of reference over the whole county. Finally, the volumes published by the Place-Name Society on Devon place-names should not be forgotten as a help in the hunt for origins, for they often provide a good starting point for names which are post-Domesday in origin by supplying the medieval forms and mentioning the earliest date at which they were found by the compilers.

Again it must be stressed that the gulf to be crossed between Domesday and later medieval record sources may prove unbridgeable, since 12th century sources are far from numerous, but perhaps with some good luck and a dogged determination to follow up clues, a complete history of a farm property may eventually emerge. It has been done, and can be achieved for many more Devon farms: it is a fascinating occupation, even if from time to time somewhat frustrating.

OFFERS OF HELP

Mr. J. O. Thorne (who edited the current Chambers' Biographical Dictionary) offers assistance to members working on biographies of Devon worthies.

Mr. J. Wilson would also be glad to collaborate in biography compilation, and also offers to search for scarce books on local history for members.

Miss D. Bowhay offers help on the compiling of the Dictionary of Devonshire Biographies (see last issue).

Mr. Brian Mosely offers help in the compilation of a catalogue of books on Transport History in Devon.

THE DEVONSHIRE DOMESDAYS

R. Welldon Finn

Though the untranslated and contracted text of the Exchequer Domesday was printed in 1783, and of the 'Liber Exoniensis' in 1816, while a copy of the original Exchequer text was produced by photozincography between 1861 and 1863, serious work on the Devonshire section did not begin until late in the century. Between 1884 and 1892 the Devonshire Association produced a translation and extension of both texts, with indexes. It is not flawless, and it was a mistake to alter the order of the Exeter text to correspond with that of the Exchequer version.

Devon is fortunate in possessing the 'Liber Exoniensis', always, it seems, the property of Exeter Cathedral. It covers the five south-western shires, but much relating to Wiltshire and Dorset is lost. So are the leaves which contained 46 Devonshire entries. It includes not only a first draft of Domesday Book for the county, but also a section styled Terrae Occupatae, dealing with additions to and abstractions from manors, unsanctioned occupation of territory, and failure to pay customary dues. In addition, it gives two lists of Hundreds, not identical, and the condensed accounts of a levy of 'geld', the land-tax, at the abnormal rate of 6s. on the 'hide' or unit of assessment, at a time near that of the Domesday Inquest. None of these appears in the Exchequer text, a condensed version of a lost improved copy of the main Exeter material.

For the Exchequer text ignores much which its supervisors felt to be inessentials, e.g. the demesne livestock, often the hidage of manorial demesne, and usually the sobriquets of tenants, while it frequently combines information about manorial components into a single statement. There are many verbal and arithmetical differences between the versions. A list of those affecting geographical factors is given in 'The Domesday Geography of England', vol. V Cambridge, 1967.

The first volume of the 'Victoria County History' for Devon appeared in 1905, and included an introduction to the Devonshire Domesday and a translation of the Exeter version by O. J. Reichel, a voluminous writer on Domesday. It contains inaccuracies, and some of the deductions, theories, and place-name identifications must now be abandoned. Reichel also produced reconstructions of the Domesday Hundreds, while T. W. Whale, a somewhat under-appreciated researcher, analysed and indexed the text. In 1959 I published the results of an examination of the ms. of the 'Liber Exoniensis' and an enquiry into how the Inquest was held and the resultant text physically produced. The indexes to Devonshire Association Transactions list numerous articles, of varying merit, relating to the Devonshire Domesdays.

While the Normans were compelled to use the existing administrative divisions of shire and Hundred for the Inquest of 1086, they thought from the

first of the presentation of its results in terms of the local fief. Thus Domesday Book consists of a series of breves or 'chapters', each dealing with the land of the individual tenant-in-chief. They wished also to establish that all property was held legitimately. They therefore investigated how a landholder had come by his estates, for the broad principle of allotment after the Conquest had been that a newcomer should succeed to the holdings of one or more nominated native predecessors. Everywhere they found unsanctioned possession of land.

Their unit had to be the undefinable 'manor'. Manors varied enormously in size and composition. Some consisted of the individual village; some villages were divided between two or more manors. There were gigantic manors composed not only of the vills from which they took their names but also of numerous other vills, and hamlets, usually in the neighbourhood of the settlement named, which had been combined with it to form an economic whole, e.g. Crediton. Only rarely were the components of a complex manor named, and unfortunately early Devonshire records indicating the dependent holdings are very few. But there were also manors which were no more than hamlets or even isolated farms, e.g. Lank Combe. The newcomers, *Terrae Occupatae* shows us, had in the interests of economic and administrative efficiency done much towards combining a number of small independent settlements into a single manor. It is probable, as has been demonstrated by Professor Hoskins in 'Provincial England' 1963, p.20, that for many small vills the manor consisted of a demesne farm and separate farms in different parts of the land of the manor, one for each villain mentioned.

The main purpose of the Inquest was to record in written form; from which there could be no appeal, who held what, and by what right, and such manorial detail as could enable the authorities to estimate the owner's capabilities. Those responsible were to furnish information about a manor's assessment to the geld, the value of the manor and its external responsibilities. In addition, they were required to state the amount of arable land, the number of plough-oxen, both of the lord and the peasants, the quantity and categories of adult inhabitants, classed mostly as villeins, bordars, and slaves, and the amount of woodland, meadow, and pasture. These were the prime manorial attributes, but there were other aspects of the economy to be noted, though their appearance and the amount of detail regarding them varies from shire to shire. These included mills, churches, fisheries, saltpans, markets, the lord's livestock, and, less frequently, vineyards, apiculture, and various forms of local industry, such as iron-working.

But information about many of these is lacking in a high proportion of entries. The inquest clerks were dependent upon the material supplied by the bailiffs and reeves and household officers of landholders, and seem rarely to have troubled to have this supplemented if it seemed to be deficient. Nor can we be sure that clerks who were obviously overworked and hurried recorded all that they should have done. Sometimes they omitted the ploughlands or the oxen

which tilled them, or said that there were villeins, but not how many. They received estimates of woodland, meadow, and pasture in several different ways, by linear dimensions or by acreage, or as capable of pasturing so many swine or sheep or plough-oxen. Churches appear only irregularly. Unfortunately we do not know what a league or a furlong or an acre conveyed to the men of the time.

Nor does it seem that 'there is land for n plough-teams' is always to be interpreted in the same way. It may be an arbitrary round-number approximately; it may, as seems to be the case at Crediton, result from adding together the existing teams. Sometimes it could well convey the amount of land available, but only one-half or one-third of which is used in any one year - and these are not the only possibilities. A large increase in the value of a manor may not imply that it is being more efficiently administered than before; the lower value may be that of the manor as it was in 1066 or rather later, the higher that after substantial additions to its territory.

Not infrequently there were differences of opinion about legality of tenure, or, among other matters, the value of a manor. Some of these were referred to juries representing the shire as a whole or the individual Hundred, and their findings were noted. The accounts of the latest collection of geld were investigated, and failure to discharge liabilities, together with authorised exemptions from liability, recorded.

The Devon accounts of the 'geld' pose a curious problem. They state that the total number of hides in the shire was 1,026½ but Domesday Book lists over one hundred more. Nor are its details for the royal estates readily reconcilable with the statements of the geld accounts. Here is a discrepancy deserving further study, for Reichel's suggestion that some royal land was ignored in the accounts is not altogether satisfactory.

The one indication as to the information required, preserved in a document belonging to Ely Abbey, makes no mention of cities and towns, and there can have been no definite instructions as to how these were to be dealt with. Consequently the record of these is for the most part extremely meagre, and for the five Devon boroughs especially so.

Domesday Book is full of pitfalls for the amateur. In the first place, all printed versions contain inaccuracies. For example, VCH translates *i qua* as 'one cottager', or *cotarius*. But it stood for *equa*, or mare, while in the printed edition of the Exeter version 'Hane' on fol. 337b should be 'Hanc'. Reference should always be made to the original or to a photographic copy thereof. It does not involve intensive labour to become reasonably familiar with the technical terms and contractions used by the clerks of the day, given an elementary knowledge of Latin. Secondly, early identifications of place-names are not always defensible; here the two volumes of 'The Place-Names of Devonshire' (Cambridge, 1931-2) are a help. Thirdly, it must be appreciated that the information furnished by the texts is incomplete. For example, only a single

female slave is recorded in Devon, though there must have been many more. We do not know how many women and children or aged and infirm persons are concealed in a statement such as 'there are n villeins', for probably only able-bodied males were counted. We do not know what relation the Domesday acre bore to the Domesday square furlong, or whether the value set on a manor is a fair rent or what its owner hoped to extort from it. It is unsatisfactory to consider even a single entry without some familiarity with the content and implications of the text as a whole, and the formulistic and telegraphic character of this does not encourage clear-cut deductions. But we must be content with the vast amount of material so fortunately preserved.

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NEW ADDRESSES

Exmoor Society. Hon. Sec. C. D. Jukes, Parish Rooms, Dulverton.
Devonshire Association, Parochial History Section. Hon. Sec. Rev. M. S. Geen, Bowerland, 13 Longmeadows, Crediton. EX17 1DK
Bideford Branch, Devonshire Association. Hon. Sec. Mrs. Jenkyn, Stoke Lodge, Hartland.
East Devon Branch, Devonshire Association. Hon. Sec. G. A. Medley, Brabyns, Cotford, Sidbury.

THE BIDEFORD POTTERY INDUSTRY Part One

R. H. Phillips

The importance of the local pottery industry in the economy of the North Devon towns of Barnstaple and Bideford from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, has tended to be overshadowed by the exploits of the seamen, ship-builders and merchants of the same period. Again, what has been published on the potteries has been largely concentrated on those of Barnstaple, leaving the impression that Bideford's share of the total industry was negligible. An attempt to learn more of the Bideford potters, however, has revealed that this was far from the case and, indeed, that the Bideford industry was on a par with that of its larger neighbour over a long period of time.

The origins of potting in Bideford are lost, and the earliest known record tells that in 1659 John Berryman had a pottery in the town, but this date is arbitrary and one can be sure that a pot works did not suddenly spring into being in that year.

The clay beds at Fremington are known to have been used by North Devon potters from the earliest seventeenth century, and clay was also known at Westleigh, Wearc Gifford and in Bideford town itself. Timber for heating the kiln, and furse for flashing the ware, was available in abundance near the town.

When transport was slow, probably mainly by sea, the area had to be self-supporting, and one can assume that any known natural material close to hand would be made use of for the benefit of the inhabitants, and thus that domestic earthenware was made from an early date.

The next record concerns one of the best known local works, that usually referred to a "Crocker's Old Pottery" which was established in Potters Lane - now North Road - in 1688. To its end in 1896 this works boasted a chimney pot bearing the date of its establishment, and some fire holes and other relics of it can still be seen at the rear of North Road and The Strand.

Potters Lane, as its name suggests, was always a centre of the industry in the town, although works have existed elsewhere, notably at East-the-Water. In the area around the lane, sherds are plentiful, and a layer six feet or more in depth has been found below the soil. Demolition of old cob cottages also, has revealed sherds intermixed with the clay and straw of the walls; some such cottages have been dated as possibly five hundred years old, and if potters spoil heaps of sufficient size were then available to augment the traditional Devon building material, the potteries which had created those heaps must have existed much earlier.

In the early seventeenth century exports were made from local pot works to Ireland, North Cornwall, Bristol and Exeter. The facts are confused as sailings from both Barnstaple and Bideford were recorded in the Barnstaple Port Books, irrespective from which port a vessel sailed. However, in 1655 three vessels, two of them Bideford registered, sailed to the North American colonies with "50 dozen of earthenware" amongst their combined cargoes, and this was the beginning of the heyday of the North Devon potters, when vast quantities of domestic pottery were made and exported to North America, or sent to Ireland and the West Country ports.

One of the principal exports was the oven, and those made in Bideford had a reputation for efficient and rugged service. Ovens and other coarse ware which would be subjected to hard wear and heat, were made of clay tempered with gravel from a ridge in the River Torridge just above Bideford Bridge. The gravel was found only on this one ridge, and it had the peculiar quality of hardening and binding together the soft Fremington clay in articles which were expected to be roughly used.

Watkins, Bideford's eighteenth century historian, claimed that "though the potteries at Barnstaple make use of the same sort of clay, yet their earthenware is not held in such esteem at Bristol etc., as that of Bideford". His claim is based on the use of Bideford gravel, but as Barnstaple potters made use of the same gravel (presumably 'exported') in their ware, the superior quality of the Bideford pots must lie elsewhere.

An oven of local make, circa 1650, is in the Bideford Museum, having been found built into the wall of a house on the Quay. A similar oven of North Devon manufacture is still intact and in situ at the John Browne House, Flushing, Long Island, whilst a further fragment has been found at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

The Borough Quarter Sessions Minute Books of the period refer to local potters, mainly regarding contraventions of a lengthy presentment by the jurors in 1679. This presentment refers to the "common and public nuisance" caused by potters, bakers and brewers who "do make, erect and permit divers great piles and ricks of furses, and other like combustible matter - to the great endangering of the houses, goods and merchandises of the inhabitants - should it happen by negligence, willfulness or other casualty to be on fire". Offending tradesmen are therefore instructed to limit their ricks to three hundred faggots, which must be kept at "the least 240 feet from off their respective kilns".

There follows various instructions for precautions against fire: that the "fire buckets of leather" belonging to the town "be with all speed amended, pitched and made serviceable": that the inhabitants do "put and place water at their respective foredoors, in hogsheds, tubs or other vessels". The whole order to be published by the "common crier, after the sounding of his common bell, in the several parts of the town".

That this order added bite to precautions against fire is shown by later entries in the Minute Books, where fines ranging from 5/- to 20/-, with warnings of penalties up to £5, were made for keeping large ricks of "bruerie" (briar) and furse, and similar offences.

From the end of the seventeenth century decorative slipware was made, in particular the harvest pitcher. Bideford's distinctive contribution bore a nautical flavour, as befitted a prominent seaport, and large, bulbous, full-bodied pitchers, with thick set necks frequently bearing a chevron pattern, and handles finished at the lower end with a outward curling scroll, can be seen not only locally, but also at museums up and down the country.

Made of red Fremington clay overlaid with a slip of Bideford pipeclay, they were decorated by a method known as sgraffito, whereby the white slip was incised away from the red body so that the design, when glazed with galena, showed in contrasting colours of cream and red. The decoration of the harvest jug was generally confined to fertility symbols, but the ship jug usually bore a central motif of a vessel under sail, surrounded by the compass rose, fishes, mermaids, the heavenly bodies and other devices, in great profusion.

One fine pitcher of 1741 - "made by me Edward Reed drane by me Thomas Stonman" - is at Stoke-on-Trent Museum, and a further example is at the North Devon Athenaeum, made in 1760 by John Phillips. The names of both Thomas Stonman and John Phillips appear in the Bideford Parish Registers of the time.

Other pieces can be seen at Exeter, Cambridge, Sheffield and, of course, in Bideford, and there is a jug possibly of local make in the British Museum. Almost all surviving examples are decorative work; this being specially commissioned, has meant a high survival rate. The vast bulk of ware made was, however, for domestic use; pots, jugs, dishes, platters, et al. Whatever we use about the house or garden nowadays made of plastic, china or heatproof glass, had its counterpart made in earthenware by local craftsmen.

Decorative floor tiles were certainly made, and can be seen (usually termed "Barnstaple" tiles) in many churches in North Devon, but both towns produced quantities of them for church restoration work.

Investigations begun in 1935 in Jamestown, Virginia, revealed a "seventeenth century English pottery making centre of unsuspected magnitude"; thus is described the results of pottery finds made along the whole Eastern coast of the United States. Subsequent investigations showed that this pottery centre was that of Barnstaple and Bideford, and the report goes on to say that "in the investigation of colonial sites and in the British Public Records Office are indications that the North Devon potters, for a time at least, rivalled those of Staffordshire".

Bideford's colonial trade was mainly with Maryland, Virginia and New England, and many cargoes of earthenware were sent to the colonists in local vessels, which returned with cargoes of tobacco, the town's principal import. Local merchants had extensive possessions in these colonies, and they installed factors to handle their exports and imports. Six such Bideford factors resided in Northampton County alone.

Again the Port Books demonstrate this extensive trade. In 1681 for instance, five vessels are recorded as leaving Bideford for North America, carrying 6,050 parcels, and 40 dozen, of pottery between them. On the 11th October, 1688, the Eagle of Bideford arrived at Boston, from Bideford, with 9,000 parcels of earthenware. And so the story is repeated over a period of many years.

Fragments of local ware have been found at a great number of colonial sites, including that of George Washington's birthplace. Yet, apart from the oven previously mentioned at Flushing, and a harvest pitcher of 1698, no North Devon pottery has survived above ground in the United States.

Surely, Sir Richard Grenville, who led the first ill-fated expedition to America in 1585, would have been pleased to know that, within one hundred years, his home port would be playing such a prominent part in supplying those who did eventually settle there.

TO BE CONTINUED

DEVON BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mr. Brockett the Sub Librarian at the University Library writes 'You should know therefore that a project has already been started to record all material relating to the County of Devon which is available in the libraries of Exeter that is Devon County, Exeter City, Exeter University, The Cathedral and The Devon and Exeter Institution. Each of the five libraries concerned is sending to me at the University Library record cards for all their Devon material and I am gradually amassing a union catalogue on slips which will eventually, we hope, be sorted and printed by computer.

It is already possible by a telephone call to me to discover whether any particular item is available, whose author's names fall between A and M. The final list will have an index to personal and place names and to subjects and will form a practical Bibliography of the sort you are asking for'.

Editor's note - The slips are now complete from A - Z. The scheme should surely be extended to cover the whole county.

Devon Historian Supplement - MEETINGS SUMMER 1971

DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

- ANNUAL MEETING, Barnstaple. 4th - 9th June 1971.
- Friday, 4th June, 4 p.m. Conducted tour of old Barnstaple.
8 p.m. Reception at Civic Centre.
- Saturday, 5th June, 10 a.m. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
2.30 p.m. Excursion - Braunton, Croyde, Saunton, Lee Bay.
- Sunday, 6th June, 2 p.m. Excursions to Tawstock or Parracombe.
- Monday, 7th June, 10 a.m. Excursion to Knightshayes, Tiverton.
2 p.m. Excursion to Braunton and Buckland.
8 p.m. Lecture 'An Introduction to Exmoor' by Charles Hulland.
- Tuesday, 8th June, 9.30 a.m. Tour of Exmoor.
2 p.m. Excursion to South Molton Museum.
- Wednesday, 9th June, 10 a.m. Excursion to Hartland, Clovelly and Morwenstowe.
2 p.m. Excursion to Appledore Shipyard.

REPORTS AND PAPERS will be read at the following times:-

- Saturday, 5th June, 2.15, 4.30, and 8 p.m.
Sunday, 6th June, 8 pm.
Monday, 7th June, 10 and 11.15 a.m.

It should be noted that the Devonshire Association has departed from its usual custom and is holding its Annual Meeting largely over a weekend.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON OF THE ASSOCIATION

- October 2nd, Luncheon of the Association at Devonshire House, Exeter University.

NORTH DEVON BRANCH

- 15th May, Morwellham Quay.

EAST DEVON BRANCH

- May Stourhead.
June Old Rectory, Bridford.

NEWTON ABBOT BRANCH

- 13th May, Marine Biological Laboratory, Plymouth & Bickham House.
10th June, The Roman Villa, Uplyme.
12th August, Swell Tor and Foggintor Quarries, Princetown.

DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION, continued.

EXETER BRANCH

- 16th May, Widworthy Barton.
2nd June, Cothay.
2nd October, Bull House, Pilton. Chambercombe Manor and Tawstock Church.
19th October, 'The stormy election of Bishop Frederick Temple' by the Ven. Archdeacon Babington.

PLYMOUTH BRANCH

- 15th May, Boringdon Hall.
August, Visit to the South Hams.
11th September, Industrial sites in the Lydford area.
13th October, 'Writing the history of Modbury' by the Rev. L. B. Hutchings.

AXE VALLEY BRANCH

- 11th May, Dart Valley Railway.
25th May, Lacock Abbey.
22nd June, Sherborne Castle.
6th July, Pilsdon Manor.
September 2nd week, Hatch Court, Taunton.

EXETER INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

Field excursions.

- 22nd May, Dartmoor mining.
12th or 26th June, Tiverton and South Molton area.

Surveys are being undertaken of Bellamarsh Mill, Chudleigh, and of Lympstone Mill.

'Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of Exeter', recently published.

The chairman, Professor Minchinton is collecting information on all Devon watermills.

DEVON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

- 8th May, Old Burrow, Countisbury and other N. Devon sites.
8th June, Sherborne Castle.
4th July, Legis Tor and the Plym Valley.
18th August, Visit to excavations at Roman Villa at Uplyme.

Visits are also proposed to Carn Brae, Cornwall and to the Torre Abbey excavations.

NORTH DEVON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

- 8th May, Joint meeting with Devon Archaeological Society, (as previous page).
19th June, Morwellham Quay.
10th July, Joint meeting with the Historical Association, (N. Devon Branch). 'Open Air History', Wistlandpound Reservoir.
18th September, Stone Castle, Cheldon Camp and Crosses at East Worlington.
9th October, Lynton Museum and Parracombe Church.

Excavations are taking place this year at Torre Abbey, the Roman Villa at Uplyme and on the site of St. Mary Major in Exeter.

MORETONHAMPSTEAD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

- May, Detailed tour of Moretonhampstead Parish Church.
June, Old Moretonhampstead houses.
Expeditions to Compton and Berry Pomeroy.

Possible summer visits to Wooston Butterdon and Cranbrook Camps.

WESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Plymouth and Exeter Branch)

- 6th May, 6 p. m. Methodist Church, South Petherton.
Bicentenary commemoration Service of Dr. Thos. Coke, once curate of South Petherton, 1771-1777, an early Methodist Bishop. Speaker the Rev. Dr. Baldwin Edwards.

It should be noted that the meetings and excursions mentioned above are normally confined to members of the societies concerned, but that members of the public would, in all probability, be welcome to attend, on application.

The Editor would be grateful if secretaries of organisations and societies who would like publicity for their excursions and meetings in the magazine, would send details of these to him by 1st March and 1st August for publication in the spring and autumn numbers.

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

John Perkins has left and his place has been taken by Mr. J. Horrabin as Tutor Organiser in West Devon. He is at present, doing a Post Graduate degree in Land Ecology.

DARTMOOR FIELD EXCURSIONS

A series of excursions are being held every Sunday from 18th April to 6th June led by Mr. Birkett Dixon.

Two further excursions on Saturday 12th June and Saturday 26th June on Tinning and Warrening will be led by R. M. L. Cook.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PLYMOUTH

Six weeks course beginning 25th May at 7.30 p.m. at Plymouth Sailing School, Vauxhall Street. Speaker, Mrs. Cynthia Gaskell Brown.

TRAINING IN INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

Course at Morwellham, 22nd-23rd May. Non-residential.

HOLIDAY COURSE - Joint University of Exeter Extra Mural Dept. / W. E. A.
9th - 16th July. 'Dartmoor and its region'. At Duryard Hall.

A.M. Lectures. P.M. Excursions.

Speakers include Professors Hoskins, Minchinton and Stewart, Dr. John Wilkinson and Mrs. Fowler, and will cover History, Geology, and Archaeology. Cost £22 inclusive.

PROSPECTS FOR TRADE UNION HISTORY IN DEVON

Jeffrey Porter

In other regions of the country trade union and labour history is one of the most flourishing fields of local study but as yet there seems to be little activity in Devon. There are, for example, only five members of the national Society for the Study of Labour History in the south-west; three of these being in the University of Exeter. However, there are now some signs of progress for the Department of Economic History in the University of Exeter is holding a weekend seminar in Labour History at Dartington Hall in March 1971, at which papers will be read. Nevertheless the development of labour history in Devon depends not only upon interest in seminars but upon the discovery of source material which will permit further progress to be made.

In the first issue of the Devon Historian the Editor rightly stressed the need to describe the contents of museums, libraries and record offices so as to make fullest use of the available sources for the writing of local history. It also would be most useful to have a handlist of records held in private hands which would supplement the list of the public holdings. This is particularly relevant to the field of labour and trade union history where organisations were frequently short-lived, not likely to leave a legacy of printed records nor to preserve their series of manuscript records once their direct usefulness had passed.

When H. B. Williams wrote his 'History of the Plymouth District Trades Council' Plymouth, 1952 he noted in his introduction the scarcity of written records. The problem of source material for labour history in Devon is particularly acute because of the disastrous bombing raids upon Plymouth and Exeter during the last war. As a result in many cases trade union records for these two cities now date back only to 1941. Not only did the bombing take its toll but many other records also disappeared in waste-paper salvage drives.

Further, it is not unusual to find that a retiring union branch secretary takes the records, minute books and accounts away with him when he relinquishes his post. This is not too harmful whilst some other officer knows their location but eventually the retired secretary dies and all too frequently the records are then thrown away as 'a load of old rubbish' by a younger relative who does not appreciate their importance to the historian. In this situation it is doubly urgent that a list of records in private hands should be compiled.

Just before writing the Plymouth Trades Council history Mr Williams conducted a survey of branch records and some five years ago undertook a similar survey in Exeter. Over the past year the present author has also pursued enquiries with other branches. These surveys cover unions having branch or regional offices in Exeter and Plymouth. In some instances the south-western regional office for a union will be based in Bristol and a more complete list would need to take this into account. Additionally some branches did not respond to the survey and in some cases the secretaries' addresses have changed so they could not be traced.

However, whilst the limitation of such small scale enquiries is obvious the results of the combined surveys are listed below in the hope that interest in labour history might be stimulated and that the persons or organisations holding records might inform us of their existence. Further, it would be useful to learn of local privately printed trade union publications and histories which do not find inclusion in the major national bibliographies. Upon such co-operation depend the prospects for trade union and labour history in Devon.

1. List of available sources

EXETER

National Union of Metal Workers & Coppersmiths - Minutes from 1897.
National Union of Railwaymen (No.1) - Minute Book 1893-1914.
National Union of Operative Printers - Minute Books from 1918
Trades Council - Minutes from 1915.
Transport & Salaried Staffs Association - Branch list of officers from 1925,
Minute Books 1918-28, 1936-date.

PLYMOUTH

Musicians Union - all records prior to 1945 in national office.
National Society of Painters - Minute Book from 1884.
National Union of Boot and Shoe Operative - Minute Book, 1930.
National Union of Commercial Travellers - Minute Book from 1928.
National Union of Vehicle Builders - Minutes 1907-60, contribution books
1904-21, sick and superannuation books, 1904-45.
Trades Council - Annual Reports 1897-1917, Broadsheets to 1922.
Transport and General Workers Union - Minutes from 1923.

2. The Following reported only recent records with those prior to the war lost in bombing or salvage drive.

EXETER

Amalgamated Engineering Union, Amalgamated Union of Farm Workers, Amalgamated Society of Painters and Decorators, Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, General and Municipal Workers Union, National Union of Public Employees, Post Office Engineering Union, Society of Graphical and Allied Trades.

PLYMOUTH

Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry Workers, Electrical Trades Union, National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters, National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, National Union of Railwaymen, Plymouth Typographical Association, Transport and General Workers Union, Transport and Salaried Staffs Association.

EMIGRATION

John Rowe

The decision to emigrate from one particular locality to another at a particular time resulted from many factors, some of which brought pressure upon a person to leave his homeland while others attracted him to a country far overseas. Other issues, too, had to be faced by those considering emigration - the ability to and opportunities for travel and so forth. In high priority among motives impelling emigration from South Western England in the early nineteenth century were declining economic opportunities at home which threatened the loss of social standing and status. Impoverished landowners and farmers were attracted by the broader acres of North America and Australasia which were subject to no such crippling burdens of taxes and tithes as those which prevailed in the Old Country. Merchants fallen on hard times through the vagaries of the markets in which they dealt, sometimes and perhaps not rarely accentuated by heavy family responsibilities, might well decide to go, a typical case being that of the Wearne family of Hayle, in the adjoining county of Cornwall who, after considering Australia, went to Canada, and quickly moved on down into Wisconsin in 1848. Henry Kingsley's novel, 'The Recollections of Geoffrey Hamlyn', indicated some of the types of emigrants who left Devonshire for the Antipodes during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. There were, too, those who went despite their own desires - transported convicts. Often depicted as rugged, unconventional and nonconforming individuals, banished to distant servitude for trivial peccadillos, transportees to Botany Bay and Van Diemen's Land have often been said to have possessed the qualities of individual initiative necessary to successfully adapt to and survive pioneering conditions; close scrutiny of assize reports, however, indicate that a large proportion were misfits socially, mentally, morally, and even in some instances, physically.

Emigrants were drawn overseas by their hopeful anticipations of greater opportunities. Books of travel and the propaganda of shipping and colonial land companies provided attractive pictures of homesteads in 'new' countries that could be contrasted with the miserable hovels of cob, thatch and even worse which they knew only too well at home. Men with a passion for sport which might lead them into transportable poaching scrapes in the Old Country, may have seen pictures of Australian kangaroo hunts and heard of the game of the North American forests and, thereby, been inspired to take their departure a jump ahead of game law enforcement by English squires and gamekeepers.

The West Country, particularly the port of Plymouth, had fair facilities to offer for the passage overseas. Right through the early part of the nineteenth century, too, it was possible to get a cheap passage to North America from many Devon and Cornish ports on ships that had brought in cargoes of Canadian lumber and, but for a load of emigrants, might well have made an unpaying return voyage in ballast. The greatest problems of emigrants were those of providing for the long voyage and for the prolonged spell of enforced unemployment between leaving

the old home and finding a roof and work overseas; this might take three or four months in North America, and nearer six in the case of emigration to the Antipodes and was a considerable deterrent till the successive gold strikes in California, Australia and, later, British Columbia and New Zealand intensified the incentive to depart and, it is likely, assuaged the fears of those who had been somewhat queasy of the hazards of long sea voyages to far-off bournes from whence few travellers and emigrants returned.

NOTES

The Torbay Branch of the Devonshire Association intends to record the Tombstone Inscriptions in Paigton Church yard.

Some work has been done on Devon Surnames by a WEA group in Torquay the results of which it is hoped to publish from time to time in the Devon Historian.

An informal group at Clyst St. Mary under the guidance of Mr. A. Wood is investigating the eventful history of that village.

Professor Minchinton has asked for help in compiling a list of Watermills in Devon. Information should include type, size and material of wheel, purpose and age of mill, when last worked, state of preservation and details of construction and remaining machinery.

Mr. J. V. Somers Cox is cataloguing the collection of Devon topographical prints in Exeter City Library, and hopes soon to have this catalogue available.

Mrs. Elsa Godfrey (Hon. Sec. Dawlish Museum Society) would welcome assistance in the recording of local tombstones and past and present businesses.

Plans are already made for a Cookworthy Museum at Kingsbridge. This will be housed in the Old Grammar School, itself worthy of preservation. The museum will concentrate on William Cookworthy the first English maker of porcelain and the founder of the China Clay Industry who was born in Kingsbridge. There will be room for other exhibits.

QUERY

Mr. F. J. Hughes, manager of the Kings Arms Hotel, Fore Street, Kingsbridge, is anxious to obtain the recipe for the traditional Kingsbridge White Ale. Can any member help?

DEVON MUSEUMS

ARLINGTON COURT, Arlington, Nr. Barnstaple. Tel: Shirwell 296.
Curator: Mr. H. J. Newman. Open: Sun. to Fri. from April to September 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Admission: 30p (children 15p).

The house, designed for John Palmer Chichester by Thomas Lee in 1822, has a collection of model ships, shells, pewter, snuff boxes and small objets d'art. In the stables is a large collection of horse-drawn vehicles.

ASHBURTON MUSEUM, 1 West Street, Ashburton. Tel: 380
Curator: Mr. R. C. Garner. Open: Sat. from September to May, 2.30 - 5 p.m. Tue. Thur. and Sat. from June to August, 2.30 - 5 p.m.; other times by appointment.

Local antiquities, weapons, period costumes, lace, implements, American Indian antiquities, lepidoptera.

BARNSTAPLE, North Devon Athenaeum, The Square, Barnstaple. Tel: 2174
Curator: Mr. G. A. Morris. Open: Mon. to Sat. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2 - 6 p.m. (not Sat. aft.).

Exhibits include a cryptogram collection, local antiquities, North Devon earthenware, ceremonial spoons, geological fossil collection, Roman pottery excavated at Trentishoe, butterflies, coins, maps.

BARNSTAPLE, St. Ann's Chapel Museum. Details not available.

BICTON COUNTRYSIDE MUSEUM, Bicton Gardens, East Budleigh.
Tel: Budleigh Salterton 2789/2820; Colaton Raleigh 465.
Curator: Mr. N.D.J. James. Open: daily from Easter to May, 2 - 6 p.m.; June to mid-September, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; mid-September to mid-October, 2 - 6 p.m.; other times by appointment. Admission: 15p (children 7½p).
Traction engine, steam roller, vintage tractors, farm wagons, ploughing, cultivating, seed time, hay time and harvest, the barn, the estate and woods, the farmhouse and dairy, rural crafts.

BIDEFORD MUSEUM, Municipal Buildings, Bideford. Tel: 2486
Curator: Mr. L. G. Firmin. Open: Mon. and Sat. 9.30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Tue. Thur. and Fri. 9.30 a.m. - 6.45 p.m.; Sat. 9.30 a.m. - 12.45 p.m.
Ship models and ship's tools.

BRIXHAM MUSEUM, Higher Street, Brixham.
Curator: Mr. J. E. Horsley. Open: daily June to September, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2.30 - 5.30 p.m., 7.15 - 9 p.m. (Sun afternoon only); October to November, March to April, Wed. and Sun., 2.30 - 5.30 p.m. or by appointment. Admission: 5p (bona fide students 2½p, children 1½p)
Local history and folklife with an emphasis on maritime affairs (shipbuilding, fishing, smuggling, merchant trading, navigation etc.); local archaeology and geology, underwater archaeology.

BUCKLAND ABBEY, Nr. Tavistock. Tel: Yelverton 3607

Curator: Mr. A. A. Cumming. Open: daily from Good Friday to September 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Sun. aft. only); Wed. Sat. and Sun. from Oct. to Easter, 3 - 5 p.m. Admission: 10p (children 5p)

Grenville and Drake relics, Devon folk collection, silver, ship models, large medieval tithe-barn.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON ARTS CENTRE AND MUSEUM, Fairlynch, Fore Street, Budleigh Salterton. Tel: 2666.

Secretary: Mr. J. Gordon Hull. Open: daily, April to May, October to January 2.30 - 5 p.m.; June to October 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., 2.30 - 5.30 p.m.

(Sun. aft. only). Admission: 10p (students 5p, children 2½p).

18th century hatched house containing costume gallery including period wedding dresses and Honiton lace, smugglers' cellar and look-out tower, local and natural history.

DARTMOUTH BOROUGH MUSEUM, 6 The Butterwalk, Dartmouth. Tel: 2923.

Curator: Mr. Thomas Richardson. Open: Mon. to Sat. winter 2 - 4 p.m.; spring, 2 - 5 p.m.; summer 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; autumn, 2 - 5 p.m.

Harbour and shipping paintings and prints, ship models, maps, charts, Thomas Newcomen and the steam engine.

DARTMOUTH, Newcomen engine, Mayor's Avenue, Dartmouth.

Curator: Mr. S. C. Wiltshire, 7 Churchfield Gardens, Dartmouth. Tel: 2716

Open: daily, July to August 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Whitsun and September 2 - 5 p.m.

Admission: 5p (children 2½p)

Newcomen atmospheric steam engine from Griff colliery, Warwickshire.

DART VALLEY RAILWAY, Buckfastleigh. Tel: 2338.

Open: April to September.

Reconstructed GWR steam operated light railway line from Buckfastleigh to Totnes. Small transport museum at Buckfastleigh station.

DAWLISH MUSEUM, The Knowle, Barton Terrace, Dawlish.

Secretary: Mrs. E. Godfrey. Open: daily, 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., 2 - 5 p.m.

(Sun. aft. only); Tues. and Thurs. also 6 - 8 p.m. Admission: 5p (children 2½p)

Local material covering home, farm and industry, mainly 19th century.

EXETER HISTORICAL MUSEUM, Rougemont House, Castle Street, Exeter.

Curator: Miss S. Pearce. Open: Mon. to Sat. 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. (5 p.m. in winter).

British archaeology and local history.

EXETER MARITIME MUSEUM, The Quay, Exeter. Tel: 58075

Director: Major D. R. Goddard. Open: daily, May to October 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.;

November to April, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission: 17½p (children 7½p)

Full-sized craft from all over the world.

EXETER, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Queen Street, Exeter. Tel: 56724

Director: Mr. P. J. Boylan. Open: Mon. to Sat. 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.

Exeter silver, North Devon pottery, English paintings and watercolours, ceramics, glass, costume, zoology, ethnology, archaeology, technology.

HOLSWORTHY MUSEUM, Manor Offices, Holsworthy. Tel: 304.

Curator: Mr. E. Stacey. Open: by arrangement with caretaker of Manor Offices.

Agricultural and craft tools and equipment and domestic articles.

HONITON AND ALLHALLOWS PUBLIC MUSEUM, High Street, Honiton. Tel: 35.

Curator: Lady Cheke. Open: Mon. to Sat. from April to October 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Honiton lace, a Devon kitchen and other local by-gones.

ILFRACOMBE MUSEUM, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe. Tel: 3541.

Curator: Capt. H. Rawnsley. Open: daily from Easter to September 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2 - 5 p.m., 6.30 - 8.30 p.m.

Natural history, pictures, ship models, Victoriana.

KENTON, Powderham Castle. Tel: Starcross 253.

Owner: The Earl of Devon. Open: Mon to Sat. 2 - 6 p.m.; Sun. in summer.

Admission: 15p (children 10p)

Castle, built between 1390 and 1420, contains Stuart and Regency furniture and family portraits.

LYNTON, LYN AND EXMOOR MUSEUM, Lynton. Tel: 2333

Chairman: Mr. H. J. Pedder. Secretary: Mr. H. Sutton. Open: daily from Easter to September, 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.; 2 - 5 p.m. (Sun. aft. only).

Admission: 5p (children 2½p)

Exmoor arts, crafts and implements; Exmoor kitchen; old building with unique stone slab roof.

OKEHAMPTON, Finch Foundry Museum, Sticklepath.

Chairman: Mr. R. A. Barron. Tel: Sticklepath 352

Secretary: Mrs. M. F. Payne. Tel: Sticklepath 286

Open: Forge area and water wheels at all times. Museum by appointment.

Restored water-driven edge tool factory; water-driven agricultural implements, domestic and rural hand tools.

PLYMOUTH CITY MUSEUM, Drake Circus, Plymouth. Tel: 68000

Curator: Mr. A. A. Cumming. Open: daily, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Fri. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sun. 3 - 5 p.m.).

Paintings, Cottonian collection of paintings, drawings and early printed books, ceramics (mainly Cookworthy and Champion Plymouth and Bristol hard paste porcelain), local history, archaeology, natural history.

PLYMOUTH, Elizabeth House, 32 New Street, Plymouth
Curator: Mr. A. A. Cumming. Open: summer, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.,
2.15 - 6 p.m.; winter, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2.15 p.m. to dusk.
Elizabethan merchant's house with Elizabethan and Jacobean furniture.

SALCOMBE, Overbecks Museum, Sharpitor.
Secretary: Mr. M. Trinick. Open: Sun. to Fri. from March to October
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 2 - 6 p.m. Admission: 20p (children 10p).
Salcombe shipping, life in the South Hams, agricultural by-gones, local history.

SALTRAM HOUSE, Plympton, Plymouth. Tel: 36504.
Secretary: Mr. M. Trinick. Open: Wed. to Mon. from April to September
2 - 6 p.m. Admission: 30p (children 15p; Fri. 50p).
18th-century house with furniture, china and a large collection of pictures,
including fourteen portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

SIDMOUTH MUSEUM, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth. Tel: 2725.
Curator: Mrs. D. G. Gibbens. Open: daily, July to September 10.30 a.m. -
12.30 p.m., 2.30 - 4.30 p.m. (Sun. aft. only)
Devon kitchen, Victoriana, local prints and views, flints.

SOUTH MOLTON BOROUGH MUSEUM, The Guildhall, South Molton
Curator: Mrs. W. A. Alexander. Open: daily, 11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.,
2.30 - 4.30 p.m. (Sun. aft. only).
Local history and by-gones, pewter, weights and measures, fire engines,
agricultural implements, documents.

TIVERTON MUSEUM, St. Andrew Street, Tiverton.
Curator: Mr. V. J. Broomfield. Open: daily, 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., 2.30 -
4.30 p.m.
Agricultural exhibition, local history, Victoriana.

TORQUAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY MUSEUM, Babbacombe Road, Torquay.
Tel: 23975.
Curator: Dr. N. Harris. Open: Mon. to Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission: 7½p
(children 2½p).
Finds from Kents Cavern including 155,000 year old skull, flint implements,
teeth and bones of early man and mammals, Laycock agricultural and domestic
by-gones, natural history, ecology, archaeology, Victoriana, musical instruments,
porcelain.

TOTNES BOROUGH MUSEUM, The Elizabethan House, 70 Fore Street, Totnes.
Tel: 3452.
Custodians: Miss Jean A. Bell, Mrs. M. Wade. Open: Mon. to Sat. from April
to September 10.30 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2 - 5.30 p.m. Admission: 2½p (children 1½p)
Period furniture and costume, local tools, toys, domestic articles, archaeology.

SHIPS AND HARBOURS OF EXMOOR, by Grahame Farr. The Exmoor Press,
1970, 48 pp. 12 plates, 30p

Exmoor is usually thought of as an area of moors and secluded villages
but ranged along its seaboard are a number of ports, Ilfracombe, Watermouth,
Combe Martin and Lynmouth in Devon, Porlock Weir, Minehead and Watchet in
Somerset as well as a number of smaller creeks. Of the Devon ports, most
important was Ilfracombe to which Mr Farr devotes more than half his book. He
tracks its history from the thirteenth century. Although it had at one time or
another a substantial fleet of fishing, coasting and some larger vessels, its main
importance was as a port of refuge for vessels sailing the treacherous waters of
the Bristol Channel and as a pilot station. Its decline came in the nineteenth
century with the replacement of sail by steam. More recently it has been of
some importance as a pleasure steamer port. The story of the other Exmoor
ports in Devon is told more shortly. Watermouth, Combe Martin, Heddon's
Mouth and Lynmouth all carried on a trade in coal, culm and lime for their
limokilns and also imported miscellaneous goods to supply their immediate
environs. Lynmouth in addition had for a period a substantial herring fishery and
exported oak bark. All these remote harbours were also said to have been
favourite haunts of smugglers. Drawing on his great knowledge of the maritime
history of the Bristol Channel, Mr. Farr has given a skillful account of these
small and often neglected ports and of the ships which sailed from them.

Walter Mischinton

DARTMOOR, A NEW STUDY, by Crispin Gill, Newton Abbot: David & Charles,
1970, 314 pp. £3.75.

Designed as a complement to Worth's Dartmoor, this book is concerned to
examine current theories on the geology and prehistory of Dartmoor and to look
at other aspects of the history of the area such as land-use and recreation with
which Worth was not concerned. While some of the authors, notably Michael
Ewans on railways and Michael Havinden on farming, present some new material,
the work in the main is one of synthesis, which is stronger on the early history
of the moor than on its more recent experience. The individual chapters have
been contributed by separate hands with a loose editorial aim so that there is
some fragmentation of treatment. Agriculture suffers worst. The nature of the
soils, vegetation and climate are discussed by Derys Brunson and John Gerrard,
the activities of early man by James Barber, the types of settlement and field
systems of Saxon and early medieval times by John Somers Cocks, farming by
Michael Havinden and Freda Wilkinson and enclosures from the 1780s by Somers
Cocks again. But the account of the industries of the moor is also taken up in
three chapters. Frank Booker shares this subject with James Barber and Somers
Cocks. Though the book is not concerned with contemporary controversies over
the use of Dartmoor and the non-appearance of the chapter on Dartmoor and
politics is only partially remedied by the general editor's introduction - there
hidden assumptions. In the main the book presents a view of the moor as nature,

so there is no extended discussion of settlement on Dartmoor. Then, despite the availability of census material since 1801, the only population figure given is for 1085. Further, should the term 'exploitation' be confined to recent agriculture, forestry, water supply, military training and so on? Should it not also include prehistoric or medieval tinworking and modern china clay working? Though not a full-scale history of Dartmoor, this book is nevertheless to be welcomed as it does provide an up-to-date survey of a number of aspects of Dartmoor's past.

Walter Minchinton

THE DARTMOOR BIBLIOGRAPHY: NON FICTION, compiled by J. V. Somers Cocks. Dartmoor Preservation Association, Publication No.6. 1970. 66 pp. 50p.

Divided into two sections, this pamphlet contains a listing of 290 titles alphabetically by author's name. For the bibliophile the dimensions of volumes is given in mms, but Christian names are not to be found with any consistency though this information would enable the ordinary reader to locate a given author more quickly in a card-index. The second part of this bibliography which is a list of works by subjects (listed on p.39) contains the titles of the first part and an additional 200 or so further articles and papers which are listed in order of publication and not alphabetically by author. But would not an alternative arrangement which gave the full details under the subject listing and then an author index have made this bibliography easier to use? Only those who have themselves compiled bibliographies know what an arduous, demanding and time-consuming occupation it is and Mr. Somers Cocks has placed all those who care for Dartmoor in his debt by this work. Within such a compass, however, completeness is difficult to attain. Since the compiler himself admits his compilation is 'not exhaustive', would not A Dartmoor Bibliography have been a more appropriate title?

Walter Minchinton

INDUSTRY AND SOCIETY IN THE SOUTH WEST, edited by Roger Burt (Exeter papers in Economic history). 110 pp. 75p.

This is the third of the papers produced by Exeter University Economic History Department relating to the Economic and Social History of the South West. The first two 'The South West and the Sea' and 'The South West and the Land' were published in 1968 and 1969 respectively. They are welcome since they represent a general interest in the history of the South West, not particularly noticeable in the historical publications of the University so far, most of which, as distinct from those of some of its members, have been confined to Exeter and its immediate area.

Superficially there is little to connect the five papers here assembled, but at a deeper level they are linked by the fact, not well realised or easy to appreciate today that the South West was at one time commercially and industrially an area of prime importance. Nowhere before the age of steam was there an area that combined cloth manufacture and mining and trade to such a degree. It can be argued that the area went through its own industrial Revolution long before the eighteenth century, fortunately less obvious than the later one because it was mainly 'domestic' and not 'factory'.

Like its eighteenth century counterpart this Revolution had social consequences. These are interestingly considered in two papers. John Miller Huson writes of the part played by private Charity in the relief of the poor in sixteenth and seventeenth century Plymouth. It seems to have been a considerable part, mainly supplied by the merchant class, revealing thereby at once their wealth and their social conscience. What is not clear however is the part played by statutory Poor Relief, though the figures for comparison are available from 1611. It is contended that the Poor Law merely supplemented private Charity. This is however not shown in this paper and would not be true to eighteenth century rural parishes. If, by the eighteenth century, the poor depended on statutory Poor Relief as opposed to private funds, it would be interesting to know what brought about the change.

Possibly John Rule's paper on 'Some social aspects of the Industrial Revolution in Cornwall' provides a partial answer. Here it is made clear that the conditions of work of the Cornish Miner deteriorated considerably from the late eighteenth century onwards under pressure from employers, themselves bound to find funds for new techniques. However, Mr. Rule shows that the Cornish miners were quite prepared to take the law into their own hands and enforce corn prices they could afford by careful intimidation. The traditional 'apartness' of the miner and the influence of Methodism on his conduct are interestingly shown. Carew in 1600 said that the miners were a mutinous lot. They still were in 1800 and later.

That other cornerstone of the South West, the cloth trade, is examined in its seventeenth century context by David Seward. Inevitably the technicalities of cloth, combing and carding wool, bays, straits, perpetuanos, etc., are met with here and, difficult as they are, they were of immense importance at the time since new techniques determined profitability. As with Cornish mining, new ideas demanded capital and the independent spinner or weaver gave way to the large scale capitalist merchant. Devon had an enormous variety of cloths dependent it would seem on the wool available. It would have been interesting to relate these, if possible, to the history of sheep breeds in the County.

Another paper deals with the fate of the Jewish Community that arrived in the South West from Germany in the eighteenth century, possibly attracted by the

industrial character of this region. The Rev. Bernard Susser shows how a markedly distinct and immediately recognisable group has been totally absorbed and assimilated 'out of existence' in the South West. A curiously interesting and little known story.

Finally Margaret Cash adds a valuable note on the resources available in the Devon Record Office for the student of Economic and Social History.

Altogether a valuable contribution to aspects of Regional History too little recognised.

R. S.

A GUIDE TO INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN EXETER, by Michael Chity. Published by the Exeter Industrial Archaeology Group and the Department of Economic History, Exeter University. 24 pp. 15p.

Exeter probably contains more of Industrial Archaeological interest than anywhere else in Devon and this becomes abundantly clear in this Guide. It takes the form of a conducted tour of the City indicating the buildings of interest in turn and relating something of their history and present and past use. The compiler admits to incomplete knowledge but it is difficult to think that much has been omitted. What is interesting is that so many otherwise insignificant and unrecognisable buildings spring as it were to life when this guide is used. What is lamentable is that so much is to be demolished, particularly on Exe Island. Preserving some of the almost complete Industrial remains such as Cricklepit Mill could surely form part of the proposed development of this area. Perhaps the only criticism possible of this admirable guide is that there is no map. Without it the directions are not easy to follow. Other places should surely follow this lead and indeed something of the sort is being planned for Plymouth. (see page).

R. S.

OAKUM, BEING STRANDS DRAWN FROM THE MARITIME HISTORY OF DEVON, edited by Peter A. Kennedy, (Devon County Council for the Exeter Maritime Museum). 1970. 51 pp. 30p.

This volume contains a small collection of 27 facsimile reproductions of documents from the public and private records deposited in the Devon Record Office ranging from a report of shipwreck in the Isles of Scilly in 1433 to an apprenticeship indenture to Salcombe shipwright of 1863. There are four groups of documents dealing with seamen, trade, ports and war at sea which provide introduction to some aspects of the maritime history of Devon. Attractively produced by the Devon County Archivist, using as a cover illustration the Turner drawing of the quay at Exeter, it deserves a wide sale.

Walter Minchinton

CONFERENCE

The first Conference of the STANDING CONFERENCE ON DEVON HISTORY was held at the Central Library Plymouth on Saturday, 7th November, 1970 and was attended by thirty seven people. The subject was "Emigration" and Mr John Rowe gave a characteristically interesting talk on the factors that led so many people to emigrate to many different parts of the world from the South west mainly in the nineteenth Century. The question of sources available to the local historian of this subject was also touched on. In the afternoon an account was given of the resources available to the Local Historian in Plymouth and members visited and were shown round the Archives and the Local History Collection and the remarkable Naval Collection, originally housed in the Royal Naval Barracks.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MEDIEVAL TOWNS

This Weekend School organized by the Department of Extra-Mural Studies at Exeter University and held in December 1970 showed the problems of the subject and summarized some recent achievement. Mr. D. Hill reviewed the nature and siting of Anglo-Saxon towns in the South West, using both archaeological and historical evidence, and suggested that the fort usually assumed to have been at Lydford may have been at Lifton.

Other speakers covered recent work in Bristol, Plymouth, Southampton and Winchester, explaining the nature and quality of information obtained by archaeological research on medieval towns. At Bristol the plan and extent of the castle is being recovered. Until recently nothing was known of this, but it is now seen to be possibly the largest ever built in Britain.

At Winchester large scale excavation of a section of the city has revealed the medieval layout with its streets, houses, workshops and churches. A study of documents has enabled the pattern of tenement holdings in the fourteenth century to be linked with the plans produced by excavation.

At Plymouth Mr. J. Barber has supplemented the study of documents and surviving buildings with excavation, and has built up a picture of the extent of the medieval town at successive periods.

At the present day the centres of our towns, of all sizes, are being redeveloped at a growing pace resulting in an increased rate of destruction of evidence. The county of Devon had in the medieval period more towns than any other county, ranging in size and importance from the city of Exeter to abortive plantations such as Bow or Colyford. It is therefore a county in which there are unusually good opportunities for research into medieval towns particularly as in many cases these have not been overlaid with later urban development as they have been elsewhere. Apart from Plymouth, and Lydford, little archaeological work has been done on Devon towns. Large scale excavations will be taking place in Exeter.

A lecture by Mr. T. J. Miles outlined the history and archaeological potential of medieval Exeter. It is to be hoped that some of this potential will be realised. Most archaeological research over the whole of Britain has concentrated on city centres and the large towns. Almost nothing has been done on the smaller towns in which Devon was so rich. The work of the archaeologist in the medieval period can only be really rewarding if done in conjunction with historians researching in the same fields. The study of medieval towns offers a valuable opportunity for the co-operation between the historians and archaeologists of the county.

ERRATA

The Torquay Borough Librarian whose name was so unfortunately omitted from the previous number is of course Mr. J. R. Pike, FLA, who has done much work to promote Local History in Torbay. DH p.19.

The Parochial History Section of the Devonshire Association meets on the second Monday of the month not the first as stated in DH no. 1 p. 12.

RECENT EXETER UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS

Exeter and its Region edited by Frank Barlow, 1969. 50/-

The Maritime History of Devon by M. Oppenheim, 1968. 42/-

Tuckers Hall Exeter by Joyce Youngs, 1968. 35/-

Industry, Trade and People in Exeter, 1688-1800 by W. G. Hoskins, 1968. 35/-

The South West and the Sea edited by H. E. S. Fisher, 1968. 7/6

The South West and the Land edited by M. A. Havinden, 1970. 7/6

Available from:

The Registry, University of Exeter, The Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QJ