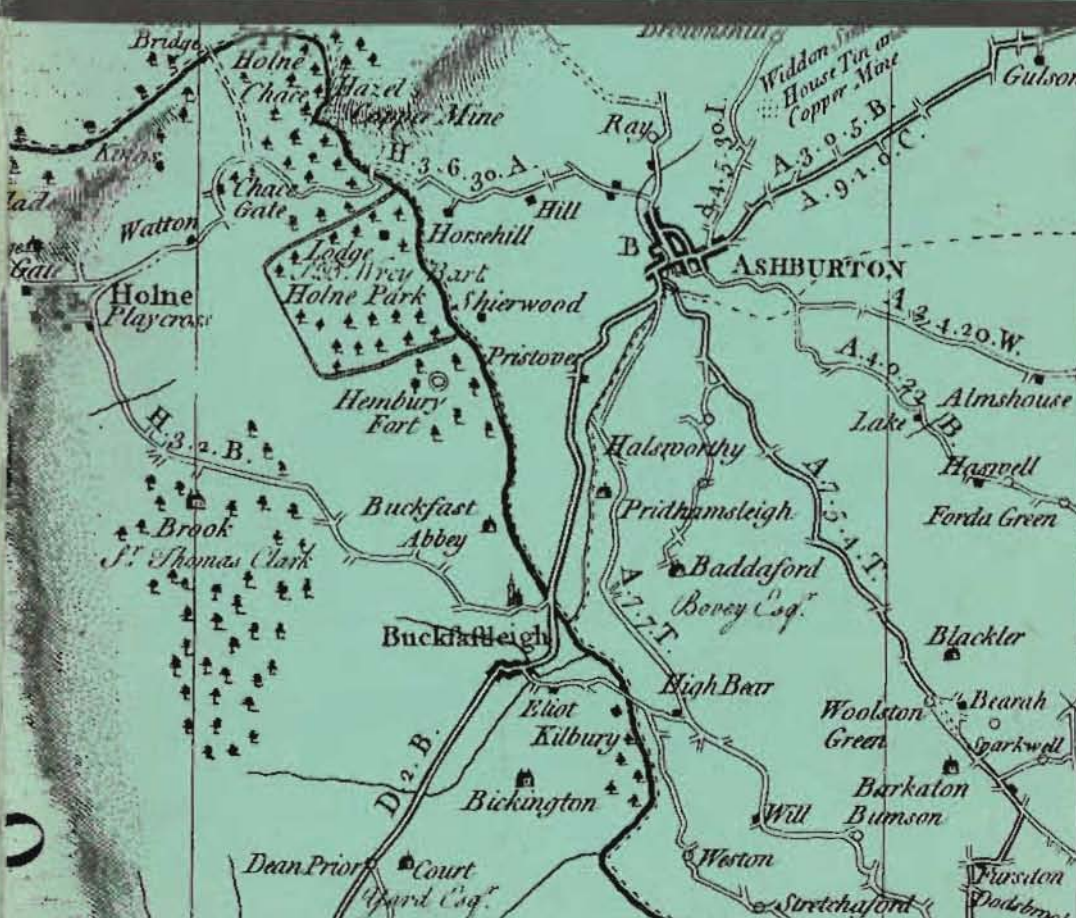
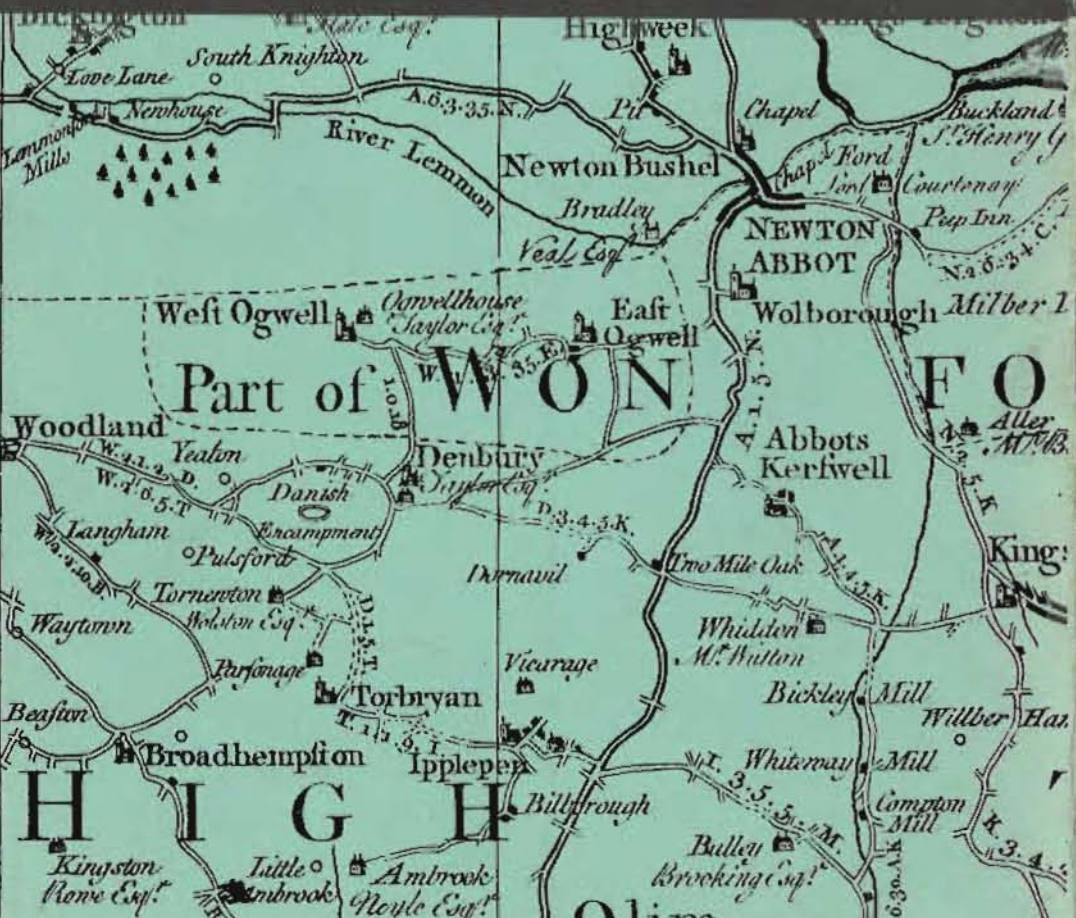


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# The Devon Historian





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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 £4.00 post free and from book shops.

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Melvin Firestone

This brief informal paper is an introduction to the study of crab fishermen ("potters") in the area of Start Point in South Devon. The principle amount of information has been gathered in the community of Hallsands, but the study also pertains to the neighbouring communities of Beesands and Lamacombe. The aim is to contrast the older small open boat fishery with the more recently developed enterprise with its larger, further ranging boats and their sophisticated equipment.

The older form of crab fishing utilized sail and oar until World War I when the open inboard motor boat was introduced. Fishing was entirely in waters just off shore and the fishing grounds named and located by means of traditional offshore sightings. Crab pots were of the ink-well type used in Devon and Cornwall, hand woven of willow by the fishermen. The pots were hauled only during periods of slack tide (between the ebb and flood). Buoys marking the pots would be visible above water only at slack tide and submerged responding to tidal flow at other times. If buoys large enough to be seen at all times (large enough to ride the surface despite tidal flow) were used, the pots would be carried away because the weight of the few pots on each "string" was relatively light. Bait for the pots was procured primarily by means of seine and tuck nets and longlines. Fishing for bait was a matter of two steps: fish "too soft" to be used as bait in crab pots without disintegrating would be caught in the nets and then used to bait longlines with which bait suitable for crab pots would be caught. Needless to say, having to engage in three different forms of fishing in sequence made for a very long and exacting daily schedule.

Crews were almost always of two men, the most notable exception being a group of sisters who fished. Crew membership was usually agnatic in orientation with brothers and fathers and sons making up the greatest proportion. Crew mates were partners with equal shares. The partner joining without equipment would pay his share of the value of the gear to the other, and sometimes this amount was paid out over time. A young man had often to wait for an opportunity to fish with someone; openings occurring when someone died or "packed it in" (retired or gave up). One might then find a situation in which one brother fished with his father while the other brother fished with his uncle (his father's brother), rather than the brothers fishing together - a situation which might occur later when the older men had ceased fishing. At marriage couples got their own cottages. There was no development of the extended or stem family; houses were small.

After leaving school and before obtaining a position as a crabber, a man might work as a farm labourer, and fishermen often worked on farms at harvest time. Crabbers, then, tended to be acquainted with the handling of horses, sheep, cows and planting while the farmers, superior in status and addressed as mister or master, knew little of the sea. Fishermen had subsistence gardens and some earned money by catching rabbits during the winter.

The crews discussed up to now may be specifically designated as "boat crews". Those groups which utilized a common seine and seine boat were called "seine crews". These usually consisted of four boat crews and had the following activities in common:

(1) Fishing for bait with a seine net. This was "shot" from the shore out to sea and returned surrounding a school of fish. These were sighted by a "hillman" stationed upon a nearby height who then directed the playing out of the net by hand signals. The seine boat was rowed by three men and a fourth "shot the net". Wives helped haul the seine and received two-thirds share each. Men received one share with three shares going to the owner of the net and boat. Bait was shared equally between boat crews while proceeds of fish sold were divided according to the above share system.

(2) Maintaining a common winch for hauling boats out of the water, mutual aid in launching and hauling boats (others in the community would also help) and fishing in company for safety. Longlining would be done in concert so as to ensure that lines would not become tangled.

(3) Some seine crews maintained willow groves for the making of pots.

There were in the past tuck nets which, like the seine nets, were fished from the shore. However, these covered a wider area, were carried by the tide for some distance while being hauled, and caught bottom fish. Twelve men were involved in such crews, the net being owned in common. There were also in the past large nets for pilchard and herring in which all fishermen in the community participated.

The seine crews and larger co-operative groups presumably made for community integration, although there were instances of discord between competing seine crews. Such difficulties were eliminated, at least in Hallsands, towards the end of the small boat fishery when the catches of seine were shared with all fishermen.

With World War II the decline in the small boat fishery increased drastically. The last crew ceased operation in Hallsands in 1974, when the three brothers involved reached retirement age. The last small boat from nearby Beesands had "packed it in" the year previously and there was no one to go out with them for purposes of safety. It was also very difficult for only the three men to launch and haul in the boat in the rough seas that can develop off the open beach at Hallsands. Their boat was sold to a man in Hope Cove, on the other side of the peninsula in Bigbury Bay, one of the last potters in the area to operate in an open boat. The now retired Hallsands crew still make a few crab pots which they sell to the crabber in Hope Cove.

The fishery from larger boats is a product of the last decade. Morris Browse of Paignton was the first to set on the design of the modern crab boats through his discussions with builders over a period of time, but was probably also influenced by existing French craft. These run about forty-four feet in length and have plenty of clear deck space for the stacking of pots. The wheel house is about two-thirds of the way back and there is some provision for the piloting of the craft with all men outside of the pilot

house such as an additional wheel on the front of the house, forward controls or an automatic pilot. This is to enable them to "keep on the gear" with all hands working on deck.

The first boat in the Hallsands area was obtained nine years ago and today there are ten large boats owned and/or skippered by men from the area. These are berthed at either Dartmouth or Salcombe, as the open beaches of Hallsands, Beesands and Lannacombe provide little shelter and no docking facilities. In most cases the fishermen have not left their native communities to live in the harbour towns but commute by auto. The large craft have three or four man crews and work "strings" of sixty-five pots instead of the strings of six fished by the small boats. The larger craft have mechanical capstans which enables such heavy tasks to be undertaken and the pots used are manufactured commercially of metal and plastic. The later small boats had engine driven bollards which enabled the crew to deal with a short string of pots, but before this when they were hauled by hand, only one or two were fished. With the larger boats floats large enough to be above water at all times of tide can be used, as the long strings of pots are too heavy to be carried away with the tide.

In the large boat fishery, fishing is a matter of driving to the harbour town, sailing to the grounds and hauling and setting pots. Bait is purchased. Pots are found by Decca, an electronic locating device which will bring the vessel within thirty feet. Indeed, one large boat fisherman said that the old fishery was more interesting. With it, activities were more varied: seining, longlining and potting; and these had to be regulated according to the tide, bait requirements and the fortuitousness of the arrival of schools of fish. It was also necessary to maintain a finer sense of local tides and landmarks. The larger vessels fish the traditional local grounds, but also may go to the Southampton area and across the channel as far as the Channel Isles during the summer.

Some men in the modern fishery were neither in the old nor sons of those in the old. Also, there is a tendency for the larger craft to be owned by a single individual, crew member or not, rather than by equal partners. Government subsidies are involved in the purchase of many of the larger boats but payments due on the vessels require extensive utilization of resources; thus the increasingly longer voyages — sometimes to the West of Scotland.

With the disappearance of the small boat fishery and the moving in of retirees, Hallsands has become essentially a non-community from the point of view of commonality of involvement or interest. The same situation pertains as exists in many coastal communities in Britain; outsiders have moved in purchasing old houses at high prices; other houses are held for high summer rentals only; and the local council makes the building of new houses or the renovations of disused structures difficult for local people. Fishing is no longer a local integrating occupation. There is a photograph in the local pub taken in the 1920's showing ten fishing boats side by side on the shingle with a group of fishermen gathered about a boat, perhaps giving advice in the repairing of an engine. The cry of "Aye boats!" used to bring the women of seine crews running out of their houses to help haul.

However, while relationships relating to crabbing within the community have diminished, the network of relationships outside have widened such as in the Devon Shellfish Association and with individuals in the harbour towns. Prior to World War II the relative lack of automobiles and poor general transportation meant that the local people went little out of their immediate area and the "grockles" (tourists) had not as yet come in great droves.

To summarise: The passing of the old fishery has contributed to the weakening of social integration in Hallsands. Involvement in the modern fishery means working outside the community, often with individuals from other communities. In the old fishery crabbing was more an aqueous extension of the community. The familial nature of the fishery is diminishing. To some extent traditional knowledge has been reduced, but of course, modern technical skills and knowledge, and an increased knowledge of the world has been gained. The older articulation of community organisation with the vicissitudes of the immediate offshore environment has been broken: daily co-operation is no longer mustered according to the tides, the necessity of catching bait and the movements of schools of fish. The fishery itself however, has developed greatly in efficiency and production and carries with it its own adventurousness.

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>1</sup>The research upon which this paper is based was carried out during 1974—75 while on sabbatical from Arizona State University and a Visiting Scholar at the Department of Maritime Studies of the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology. I thank these organisations for their support and encouragement. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to many in South Devon for their aid and interest; to mention but a few: Perce, Jim and Allen Trout of Hallsands; Nora Stone of Hallsands; Mr. and Mrs. Perce Tolchard of Bickerton; Cyril Stone of Kellaton; Alfred Hutchings of Beesands. My thanks go also to Robert Pim and Kay Coutin of the Department of Extramural Studies of the University of Exeter; to W.H. Williams of the Department of Fisheries, Plymouth; and to Sharon Firestone of Tempe, Arizona.

This paper was presented under a slightly different title to the Session on Technological Change and its Effect upon Maritime Communities at the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology in Amsterdam during March, 1975.

M.G. Dickinson

With the existence of two very different compilations in place name studies – the English Place Name Society volumes published in 1932–3 and the County Federation of Women's Institutes manuscript survey of field names made in 1968 – the Devon historian may wonder what remains to be studied. This article is an attempt to provide proof that much work may still be done.

In studying the origins of place names specialised gifts in languages and semantics are essential. Gover, Mawer and Stenton's work *The place names of Devon*, (Cambridge University Press 2 vols.) has held its place as a triumph of linguistic scholarship for over 40 years, and in spite of a revolution in the study of local History.<sup>1</sup> Some of its compilers conclusions as to the early Saxon history of the South West are now challenged, and occasionally the local historian is in a position to alter or supplement the work.

To give some examples of this. There is on Spara Bridge over the River Teign near Lower Ashton, a defaced inscription with the date 1666(?)<sup>2</sup> Reference to minutes of the Devon Court of Quarter Sessions shows that the repair of the bridge was being debated in 1665, exactly one hundred years earlier than the reference given in *Devon Place Names*. But no further light is shed on the meaning or the origin of the name. Again, the three authors state that "Teigncombe in Chagford ..... seems to be identical with the manor known as South Teign in early records." The early churchwardens accounts of Chagford<sup>3</sup> refer repeatedly to the "quarters" of the parish – Town, Meldon, South Teign and Teigncombe. It must be that Teigncombe is in fact the North Teign valley, as local knowledge of the area would suggest. (Ide, near Exeter, is given as "possibly a stream name". However, in Domesday Book the word is "Ida" and the dedication of the church is to St. Ida<sup>4</sup> In each of these three cases the local historian has access to information that the Place Name Society authors did not have, working on a wide scale chiefly from record sources available in London. It would be surprising if the accumulation of records in local record offices and specialised local geographical knowledge did not occasionally place the local historian at an advantage. It would be drawing the wrong conclusion to assume that the local historian must always be right, though there must be other cases where he can add to the story.

The Women's Institute Field Name survey was a splendid example of team work by ordinary individuals<sup>5</sup> But the survey was taken at one point in time, and did not provide material for a comparative study. A wide area of study remains not in piece-meal supplements to the work already done, but in the place name changes (or lack of them) in the last two hundred years, that is, taking up the story where Gover, Mawer and Stenton leave off. How far do dialect or traditional pronunciations survive? What is the effect of the standardisation of spellings? What is the effect of the coming of the modern communications systems of railway and road and of urban growth within the twentieth century? Case histories and recording on a wide scale are needed to document the changes now taking place, and the last unself-conscious

survivals of older forms.

Special circumstances have preserved the oral forms Kirton for Crediton and Woolsery for Woolfardisworthy, and these have almost everyday currency. However, how far are the forms Alscott<sup>6</sup> (for Alverdiscott) and Martin<sup>7</sup> (for Merton) now in actual use? These spellings, obviously based on actual usage, are common in documents, as is Ingerleigh (for Inwardleigh)<sup>8</sup>. Some native (in the sense of "those born there") pronunciations can be authenticated over a staggering period of time. Exeter Domesday has "Holla" (for Hole = Holne) and "Wachetona" (for Wakenton = Walkhampton)<sup>9</sup>. Virtually the same pronunciation, save for the voicing of the final syllable, a change common to the language as a whole, is found over a span of almost 900 years.

Again turning to the Dartmoor area, strictly local place names may be found whose very existence may be forgotten if not recorded soon. "Will Jool"<sup>10</sup> (= Wheal Jewel) is recorded on maps, but such traditional forms as "Willum Gulf"<sup>11</sup> (= Wheal Anne Gulf) survive, with the knowledge of their whereabouts, only in the memory of an ageing generation. A survey of traditional names could be carried out in which such sites were recorded, with notes on the age groups which actually used the name, those who knew of it but did not normally use it, and any to whom it was totally strange, within a given community.

From the transmission of names by oral tradition, we may turn to their transmission by the written word. Leaving aside records earlier than about 1660, which present special problems, it soon becomes obvious that any standardisation of the spelling of place names is only the product of the last hundred or hundred and fifty years or so. The factors leading to this include the introduction of a uniform series of maps for the whole country. The Ordnance Survey began its operations in Essex in 1805, and the Devon sections were completed in 1809. The introduction of the penny post in 1840 and of the railway transport system (1844 onwards in Devon) as well as the wide currency of Guide books and Directories (White's, of 1850 for example) furthered the trend. The introduction of compulsory elementary education in 1870 had equally important consequences.

Late in time, standardisation of spelling was and remains incomplete and arbitrary. Far from securing standardisation of pronunciation, it has played a very ambiguous role.

As examples of arbitrariness one may turn to the present spelling of the names of four South Hams villages: East Allington, West Alvington, Blackawton and Aveton Gifford. Here Allington/Alvington and Awton/Aveton are variants of the same place name, and should logically be spelt the same way. Similarly one may give as examples from Dartmoor, Cadover Bridge and Bellaver Tor, Venford Reservoir and Longford Tor. Here it should be recalled that "ford" and "aver" are variants of of the same syllable, and that moormen did, and probably do, speak of Bellaford and Longaver Tors.

Standardisation of spelling has failed entirely to prevent the persistence of pronunciation "doublets", to which Devon speech seems prone, such as "Eggsfud"/"Eggisford" or "Mort-hoe"/"Morty-hoe". More surprising is the appearance of "Exmuth"/"Exmouth". In such variants as "Hunyton"/"Honyton" there is clearly an oral and a spelling pronunciation side by side, as in the other cases already quoted earlier in this article.



Nor does the story end here. The history of English place names is still in progress, the factors leading to stability still balance precariously with those leading to change. Examination of case histories within the last century soon prove this.

The change of the name Plymouth Dock by royal proclamation to Devonport in 1824, and the founding of Westward Ho! named after Kingsley's book, by a development company about the year 1870, are well known. A less well-known example is the disappearance of Jump, the old name for Roborough village, in the parish of Bickleigh, north of Plymouth, between 1850 and 1866. The new name was presumably taken from nearby Roborough Down<sup>12</sup>, though there may have been other factors.

Changes due to the arbitrary adoption by the railway company of a given spelling have given us Paignton for Paington, and Yelverton for Elfordtown. More complex is the case history of a well known market town and travel centre on the River Lemon. In mediaeval times the Abbot of Tor and the Bushell family established rival market centres, Newton Abbot in the parish of Wolborough and Newton Bushell in the parish of Highweek. In the early years of the nineteenth century, the much used coach route passing through the northern section of the town spread the use of the suffix Bushell for the town of Newton. After the arrival of the railway, with the station at Newton Abbot, in 1846, the use of that name gradually became general, and is now used to refer to the whole town. This is an object lesson in the importance of the placing of a signboard<sup>13</sup>.

Road signs continue this process. On the A30, some six miles from Exeter, signs are placed at the entry to a roadside village, which read "Tedburn St. Mary". True, the village is within the parish of Tedburn St. Mary, but so recently as the 1888 six inch Ordnance Survey, it was recorded as Taphouse. Probably over a somewhat longer period of time "Longdown" on the B3212 has replaced "Longdown End", and "Mary Tavy" on the A386 north of Tavistock "Lane End".

"Woolsery" in North Devon, off the A39, already alluded to, is a special case. Considerations of space have led to the use of this form on County Council finger posts. Current editions of the Ordnance Survey give, uncompromisingly, "Woolfardisworthy" both for this place and for that village of the same name, north of Crediton<sup>14</sup>.

In a rather different context comes the growth of farms and villages with urban development: such are Sparkwell and Chaddlewood near Plympton or Brixington near Exmouth. Growth of housing where none stood before happened frequently in nineteenth century England, occasionally even in Devon, as Wheel Maria Cottages, Clearbrook and Lee Moor (all in West Devon) testify.

It is hoped that this article, brief, diffuse and superficial though it is, may encourage any local historians working in this field and identify possible lines of attack for future writers.

#### FOOTNOTES

1 The article on the "Place Names of Devon" by Kathleen M. Dexter, B.A., in "Exeter and its Region" edited by Frank Barlow, Exeter 1969, states "Much of this chapter follows closely . . . volume IX of the

English Place Name Society publications."

- 2 The author visited this site in the summer of 1969 at which time the last figure of the date was defective, but could only have been 0 or 6. The Quarter Sessions Order Book for 1661-1670, (ref. QS/OB10) is housed like all other documentary sources here quoted at the Devon Record Offices Headquarters Section at Concord House, Exeter.
- 3 Devon Record Office, ref. 1429A/PWI earliest date 1480.
- 4 Exeter Diocesan Directory for 1975, p.92. I am indebted to Miss M.E. Cash for this reference.
- 5 Devon Record Office, ref. D1886.
- 6 White's Directory, 1850, gives this as the alternative form.
- 7 Devon Record Office, ref. Chanter 230, a Visitation Call Book of 1771 gives Marten.
- 8 Devon Record Office, ref. 96M/Box26/8A, an agreement dated 1561.
- 9 Victoria County History: Devon: Introductory Volume, see p.490 for Holne and pp.406 and 547 for Wotkhampton.
- 10 Heard from an inhabitant of Mary Tavy.
- 11 Information from T.A.P. Greeves.
- 12 "Jump" is shown on Donn's 1765 map. The change to Roborough occurs between White's 1850 directory and Kelly's 1866 one.
- 13 White, 1850 properly gives full details about Newton.
- 14 Information as to the form used on signs near Woolfardisworthy East would be of interest.

## WILLIAM BOYCOT, CARTOGRAPHER, IN DEVON

Dorothy Wright (Mrs. C.B. Dix)

My husband and I have come to amateur historical research late in life but the following 'story' may encourage others to use their retirement to do interesting work of some, if limited, value requiring average intelligence and time.

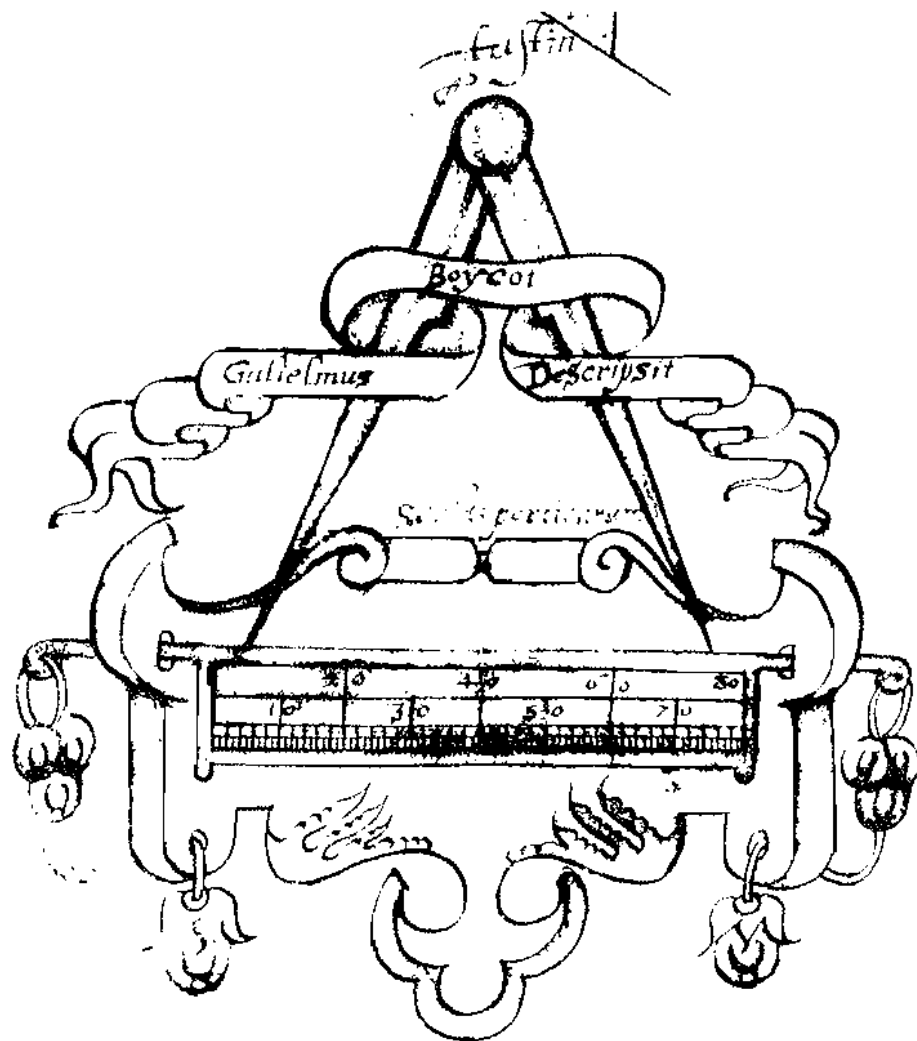
We were lucky in three things: firstly a course of lectures on Making the History of a Parish, secondly, that our town, Bovey Tracey, has an exceptional collection of Parish Records, some dating from 1538; and thirdly, a map, almost unknown, in very good condition, wrapped in an old spring-blind and two shirt tails, was on top of a cupboard in the primary school.

It measures roughly four feet square and the scale is twelve inches to the mile. It is hand drawn on parchment in colour, much wrinkled and dirty but with a lot of life still left in the parchment. At the top lefthand corner is a star-compass with a small daisy in the centre; bottom left is a reference table of holders of the lands of the manor of Bovey Tracey with acreages, set in a fretwork cartouche. At the bottom righthand is the scale surmounted by dividers and a scroll with only the christian name Guliemus still legible. This is in red, yellow and blue. Adjacent owners and occupiers are also shown on the map where the field boundaries are yellow and blue, with names, acreages and buildings in red. The writing and figures are clear to read. Nothing was known about how it came to be in the keeping of the school or for whom and by whom it was made.

Our first interest was to compare it with Domesday and the Ordnance Survey but this was set aside for the time being. The Devon Record Office had Torr's pamphlet on Bovey Tracey Church Rates and Poor Rates, 1928\* and it was obvious that he had never seen the map or known of its existence. Nor had Canon Hyde whose researches into Bovey history are in the Devonshire Association library. On the other hand it was not unknown to the DRO where it is listed c.1670 on the advice of Hugh Peskett who had seen it. By kind permission of Mr. Vinnicombe, the schoolmaster, we were able to study the map, particularly the names on it.

Bovey Tracey is a large and scattered manor and was in possession of the Crown until Charles I sold it in 1633. The man holding the most land not in but round about the manor was Sir Popham Southcott. Our first clue was the entry in the Parish Records of his burial on 3rd November 1643. This gave us an outside date. We then found that the Widow Pinsent, shown holding the farm of Hatherley, had lost her husband on 25th July 1641. The last clue was the burial of Thomas Wills, holder of Wolleigh, on 11th November 1641, so the reference table must have been written between 25th July and 11th November of that year.

The search for the maker of the map and the man for whom it was made was longer and we needed help. I was reading more widely, trying to make a picture of the life of the time. It was in this reading that by chance I got our first clue: a note at the bottom of page 85 in Oliver's Ecclesiastical Antiquities of 1840. 'I have seen a map in the possession of Joseph Steer



of Indio, Esquire, of the Manor of Bovey Tracey, by William Boycot, and probably made in the reign of James I. It contains 2679 acres, 1 rood, 2 perches.' (The acreage is the same.)

No one could tell us anything of William Boycot. Gulienus was clear enough but even an ultra-violet lamp could not give us Boycot. Mr. Paley, in the City Library at Exeter showed me an article by Professor William Ravenhill in the Geographical Magazine for February 1972, 'Joel Gascoigne Cartographer', from which I learnt about cartouches and was able to compare my own coloured photographs of the map. Later Dr. Ravenhill came to see the map and delighted us with his interest and enthusiasm. Through him we later learnt that Boycot was a well-known surveyor from 1617 to 1640 and surveyed and mapped estates in Denbighshire, Flint, Surrey, Kent and Sussex, most of his work being done in the last two counties. He was not known to have been connected with Devon. Dr. Ravenhill suggested that we try to find some possible connection between the man for whom the map might have been made and one of these counties. It sounded a long shot but the answer came in one day's work.

The manor's history was by now known to us in outline: it had been in royal hands for most of its existence, though granted here and there to various tenants. In 1628 the freehold of the manor of Bovey Tracey together with the manors of Ashburton, Buckfastleigh, Heathfield and Pilton were given to the corporation of the City of London to repay loans previously made to the Crown. After complicated negotiations the group of manors was sold to a syndicate consisting of Alderman Ralph Freeman, Alderman Robert Parkhurst and their heirs Sir George Sondes, Freeman's son-in-law, and Parkhurst's son Robert. Freeman became Lord Mayor of London in 1633 and died within the year. His estates went into Chancery for more than 20 years, a period which covers the Civil War. This meant that Sondes and Robert Parkhurst — the third of the name, were unable to sell these properties until after the Restoration. Bovey manor was then bought by a Devon man, John Stawell, a successful lawyer and member of a yeoman family of Herebears, in Bickington parish, who also bought successively the two big houses in Bovey parish, Indio and Parke.

As it happened, for reasons quite other than his ownership of Bovey Tracey manor, Sir George Sondes takes up a considerable amount of space in the **Dictionary of National Biography**. He was an ardent Royalist, imprisoned by Cromwell between 1645 and 1650, and released after compounding for his estate for £3,350 (Calendar of Proceedings p.867). His family life was tragic. He had three wives; the younger of his two surviving sons murdered the elder in 1655 and was hanged for it. The trial gave great scope to 'Ministers and godly men' of the vicinity to preach and write about the royalist Sondes and the upbringing of his children.

But to us he was a godsend. Charles II made him Earl of Feversham (Faversham), Baron of Throwley and Viscount Sondes of Lees Court. All these places are of course in the County of Kent. Before we left Exeter that evening in the Devonshire Institution my husband was looking through Catalogue of Maps and Plans in the Public Record Office, (1. British Isles 1410-1860.) On page 179 is a map of the Manor of Sturry made by Boycot in 1643. Sturry is six miles from Faversham. Three months later a photo-

graph of the cartouche of this Sturry map was on our breakfast table. The cartouches are identical except that the Bovey one has one small embellishment.

Dr. Felix Hull, County Archivist for Kent told us more about Boycot. There were two men of that name, probably father and son. They lived in Fordwich, then a small borough east of Canterbury, about 10 miles from Faversham. Each man acted as deputy for his town at the Cinque port assemblies. Their office may have been in Canterbury.

Plate L. in **Kentish Maps and Map-makers** by Dr. Hull, Kent County Council 1973, is a coloured reproduction of William Boycot's map of Hoddiford Manor in Sellindge, dated 1626. The cartouches are rather more elaborate but the same and there is a coat-of-arms. The Bovey map does not have one, a probable reason might be that the manor was in Chancery at the time.

So far our researches have not led us to any more evidence of William Boycot's excursion to Devon, though it is possible that he surveyed other manors in the Freeman estate at Sondes' request. But maps of such an early date do not often survive and Bovey has been lucky.

Our interest in the map did not end there. We were learning all the time and could see how many other interesting mysteries could be unravelled by using the map with the Parish Records. My husband has a life-long love of maps and he has copied the field boundaries and tracks on to the present six-inch Ordnance Survey in coloured inks and was delighted to find how accurate they were. Houses and farms are so stylised that one can tell little more than that practically all the farms of today were in existence in 1641. It seems unlikely that the houses in the two main streets of Bovey Tracey were drawn with any accuracy of numbers though those round the church fare better. The old main road to Exeter was then up Traw Lane by the church to Five Lanes and down to Trusham where it crossed the Teign, all in narrow lanes today. The Church Rates and Poor Rates of Bovey Tracey are in the City Library of Exeter in manuscript and we are beginning to draw inferences about who lived where between 1596 and 1653 because the scribes have rarely written down more than a street name and occasionally a farm. We hope to be able to make some coherent picture and learn more of the people listed on the map.



## ILFRACOMBE MUSEUM

John Longhurst, Hon. Curator

In the nineteen-twenties the idea of establishing a Museum in Ilfracombe was gaining support. Mr. Copp had opened to the public what was described as a 'repository of curiosities' in Northfield Road, but this had ceased to function by 1931. A meeting to stimulate interest in the proposed Museum was held on Monday, 2nd February 1931 in the Town Hall and subsequently a working committee was formed to get the project going. It must be remembered that in 1931 there was not even a public library in Ilfracombe and people had expressed surprise that the Town Council had not adopted the Museum and Free Libraries Act and obtained financial help from the Board of Education and the Carnegie Trust. On 26th June, 1931 the Town Council set apart a room in the Council Offices for the reception of exhibits and later the Museum Committee, in a letter published in the **Ilfracombe Chronicle**, said it would be grateful for the loan or gift of tables on which to display the exhibits, chiefly Natural History, which so far had been received.

Various sites for the Museum were considered — the then derelict St. Nicholas Chapel on Lantern Hill by the harbour and the east wing of the old 'cucumber frame' pavilion and part of the disused laundry building attached to the Ilfracombe Hotel. In May 1932 the Council finally agreed to let the Museum Committee use part of the old laundry building. Council workmen started the conversion in May 1932: work was completed in July and Mr. Palmer, who by this time had been appointed Hon. Curator, commenced to arrange the exhibits ready for an experimental opening on 1st August in a small part of the laundry building. The only entrance to the Museum was the small door near to the entrance to the 'tunnel'. The petrol pumps were still in position and the garages to the west of the building were still in existence. Such was the interest that 1,231 people visited the Museum on that day, admission was free: a daily figure that was not exceeded until 13th August 1974 when 1,328 visitors paid for admission: the figure for 19th August 1975 was 1,397. The official opening of the Museum did not take place until Wednesday, 19th April, 1933 when Sir Basil Peto Bart, M.P. performed the ceremony in the Rest Room of the Ilfracombe Hotel. The Museum floor area at that time was only about 900 sq. feet. The fine weather during 1933 had the natural effect of reducing the number of visitors: a total of 28,305 for the year; admission was still free, and the displays were still more or less limited to Natural History.

By 1935 the Committee were complaining that the Museum, all 1,500 sq. ft. of it, was already overcrowded with exhibits which lost a certain amount of their importance through this lack of exhibition space. A collection of flints, fossils and geological specimens had been added to the Natural History collection: also some 250 prints and photographs had been collected but there was nowhere (as now) to exhibit them all at one time. There was still no charge for admission to the Museum: the Council still contributed the building free of charge and paid for heat, rates and maintenance.

Following the outbreak of war in 1939 the number of visitors decreased in spite of the influx of evacuees and it was decided that from January 1941 a charge of 2d. would be made for adults: children half price. After 1945 great

difficulties were experienced in keeping the building watertight: the Council seemed reluctant to spend money on the building and the Trustees of the Museum had no money to finance the work themselves. By 1958 however a further part of the old laundry had been brought into use and the roof put in a more watertight condition by the Council, but it was reported that then, as now, the exhibits were being spoilt by the damp walls. The charge for admission had been by this time increased to 6d. for adults. This is now 5p.

Towards the end of 1971 plans were put forward to build an extension onto the west end of the Museum, the cost of which was to be borne by the Trustees: the building was subsequently to be handed over to the Ilfracombe Council in exchange for a fifty year lease at a nominal ground rent. At the same time considerable work was necessary on the floor of the main hall and a very welcome donation from the English Tourist Board helped to pay for this. In 1974 the heating was disconnected when the North Devon District Council closed the old council offices, which were situated in the former Ilfracombe Hotel, and the Trustees must now raise £1,500 to provide some adequate heating to preserve the exhibits.

In June 1975 the Museum was registered as a Charity, particular emphasis being placed on the educational side of its activities. It is hoped that during the coming year many more organised parties from local schools will visit the Museum; many school parties from other parts of the country have regularly visited the Museum in past years. Due to the ever-rising cost of running the Museum the Trustees have decided that the price of admission must now be raised to 10p for adults; 5p for children: organised school parties continue to be free of charge. In October 1974 the Ilfracombe local history group commenced its weekly evening meetings at the Museum.

In addition to the many varied objects which we are unable to have on view, due to lack of exhibition room, there are some 500 books of reference on all subjects, including a complete set of the **Transactions of the Devonshire Association** from 1862, in addition to the bound copies of the **Ilfracombe Chronicle** from 1880 to 1953. Of the 3,000 photos and prints of various views, buildings and events in Ilfracombe and district, only about 100 are on view in addition to the modern photographs of all the local buildings listed as being of architectural interest; the remainder are constantly being referred to by people doing research into various aspects of the history of Ilfracombe, as are the many old magic lantern slides and negatives.

The Natural History collection which contains over 200 specimens of wild birds, is the finest collection of North Devon birds in the country. Among the rare species to be seen in the gallery are Rough Legged Buzzards, Peregrine Falcon, White Tailed Eagle and Osprey. The few birds eggs are alas, becoming rather faded. A wild flower table showing wild plants in flower is maintained and assistance in identifying different species is willingly given. There are some 1,000 butterflies, both British and foreign and sea shore items, in various cases, together with a variety of local fossils.

In addition to the remains of the red petticoat worn by Granny Scott in 1797 and the drum used by Betsy Gammon when the French threatened the town, one of the few turret clocks still in working order, and some thirty oil and water colour paintings, by various artists, depicting Ilfracombe and

district from 1796 onwards are on view. A small map section includes a John Speed (1611) map of Devon, an 1809 Ordnance Survey and various other 19th century maps of Ilfracombe and district – all originals – together with the Ogilby 1675 and the Donn 1765 reprints. The 1840 Tithe Map of Ilfracombe can be seen on request. There is a small but good collection of pewter, (some 40 pieces) china and pottery (including South American). There are flints, arrowheads, blades and scrapers found at Warkleigh, also flints found at Westward Ho!, Baggy Point, Hillsborough and other nearby places all mentioned in Grinsell's *Archaeology of Exmoor*. On show is a brooch made from silver mined at Combe Martin – also a map showing all the mines that existed near Ilfracombe in former times. There are of course many other items from all over the world too numerous to mention.

Visitors seem to appreciate the intimate nature of the Museum and generally are of the opinion that our collection is worthy of a better home. While additions of small-sized objects and documents are very welcome regretfully nothing large can now be accepted. Much larger and better equipped premises are now required if the very considerable number of exhibits are to be displayed in an intelligent manner and those not on show stored under reasonable conditions.

## CONFERENCES

The Autumn Conference of the SCDH was held at Ilfracombe on 8th November, 1975. About fifty members attended, a number coming by coach from Torbay and Exeter. Mr. S. Hiscox gave a most interesting illustrated talk on 'Victorian and Edwardian Holidays in Ilfracombe' in the morning. Visits were made to the Ilfracombe Museum and to a restored water mill at Biclescombe. In the afternoon Keith Gardiner spoke about the archaeology and history of Lundy with many slides.

The Spring Conference took place at Ashburton at the Golden Lion Hotel on 28th February, about 70 people attended. Stephen Treseder spoke about the mines of Ashburton in the morning and in the afternoon Owen Baker explained the new arrangements of the Devon Library services and how this might help the local historian. Visits were made to the Ashburton Museum and to Ashburton Great Meeting, one of the earliest Non-Conformist Meeting Houses in Devon. Visitors followed the new 'Town Trail'.

The AGM of the SCDH will take place on 8th May at the Lecture Room in the Central Library, Exeter. The speaker will be Professor Harry Perkin of Lancaster University who will talk about 'Holiday Towns'.

The Autumn Conference for 1976 will take place at South Molton on 6th November. The speakers will be Jeffrey Porter on 'The 1926 General Strike', the 50th anniversary of which falls this year, and Robert Sherlock of the Planning Department at Barnstaple, author of a recent book on the industrial archaeology of Barnstaple, on 'Historical Preservation and the Planner'.

The Spring meeting for 1977 will take place at Kingsbridge.

## A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO THE TIVERTON PARISH REGISTER

Mahood Society, Blundell's School

### THE PARISH REGISTERS

The Tiverton Parish Registers date from the year 1559 and contain a record of the births, marriages and deaths that have occurred within the parish of Tiverton since then. They are an invaluable source of historical information to those who wish to gain a greater understanding and insight into the conditions that prevailed in Tiverton during the period under record. They are also of special interest to those who wish to trace family trees. The entries are hand written (on parchment in the early years) and one of the problems to be faced in the study is the usual one of interpreting 16th century handwriting.

#### *The Aim of the Investigation*

A major aim of the study has been to familiarise boys in the Society with the character and problems of interpreting a parish register and to begin an analysis of the contents.

The study was divided into three parts and was limited to the years 1559–1616 i.e. those of the First and Second Registers.

- (i) Birth rate and death rate
- (ii) Length of life
- (iii) Population mobility

#### *I. Birth Rate and Death Rate*

Figure 1 shows the pattern of fluctuation of the birth and death rate. The actual number of births and deaths are recorded for each year, not as a per thousand figure which would be normal for a national survey.

We see from this figure that the birth rate is higher over the period than the death rate. As expected, Tiverton was growing. But there are two major and three minor reversals. The first significant one occurred in the Plague of 1591 when the number of deaths reached 576, a five-fold, or in modern jargon a 500 per cent, increase in mortality compared with the preceding and following years. In 1590, 119 deaths are recorded and 1592, 104 deaths. Tiverton was certainly a dangerous place to be in 1591. Perhaps more than a tenth of the town died in that year alone. Such was the severity with which contagious disease could hit a community.

The death rate was sharply raised for a second time in the same notorious decade when in the famine year 1597, 288 deaths were recorded. These two short but dramatic increases were enough to stabilise the population during the period 1559–1616. The birth rate fluctuated gently between 47 in 1560 and 190 in 1616 showing a slow but discernible upward trend. The death rate was too erratic to permit any pattern to be identified.

#### *II. Length of Life*

To provide a completely accurate report on this is beyond the scope of this study but it was hoped to gain a useful indication by taking a limited sample of the entries. It was not possible to pick a purely random sample of

known size, say five or ten per cent, because of the difficulty encountered in the identification and recognition of the names.

In order to obtain the statistics necessary for determining a person's age at death one must first record the subject's name and date of birth and then diligently search through the record of deaths until that name appears. This may possibly be in the next book of the register or not at all - see section III on population mobility. Only when the entry of death has been found can the arithmetic be completed.

Because of the time limit the sample was limited to one hundred subjects. It was further restricted in that each subject should be male. Most females would marry and their death entries be recorded under their married name. Some would move to live outside the parish on marriage and their deaths be recorded elsewhere. This would have complicated the checking operation further. The significance of choosing males was noted in determining life expectancy. Females today have a three-four year advantage over males at birth; it is likely though to have been less in the sixteenth century.

Legibility was again an important factor in determining which 100 birth entries were chosen. The Christian name John was easily recognisable so 100 'Johns' born between 1559 and 1609 were chosen, two from each year. This ensured that the whole of a fifty year period was covered. It had already been noted from the birth and death rate data (Figure 1) that there was no radical increase or decrease in birth or death rate trends and thus over this period studied the average life expectancy was unlikely to have varied greatly and so further curtailed the value of this exercise. An advantage of selecting the names over this wide period, though, is that freak years such as 1591 are less likely to distort the results of the small sample than might be the case if just one year's entries were chosen.

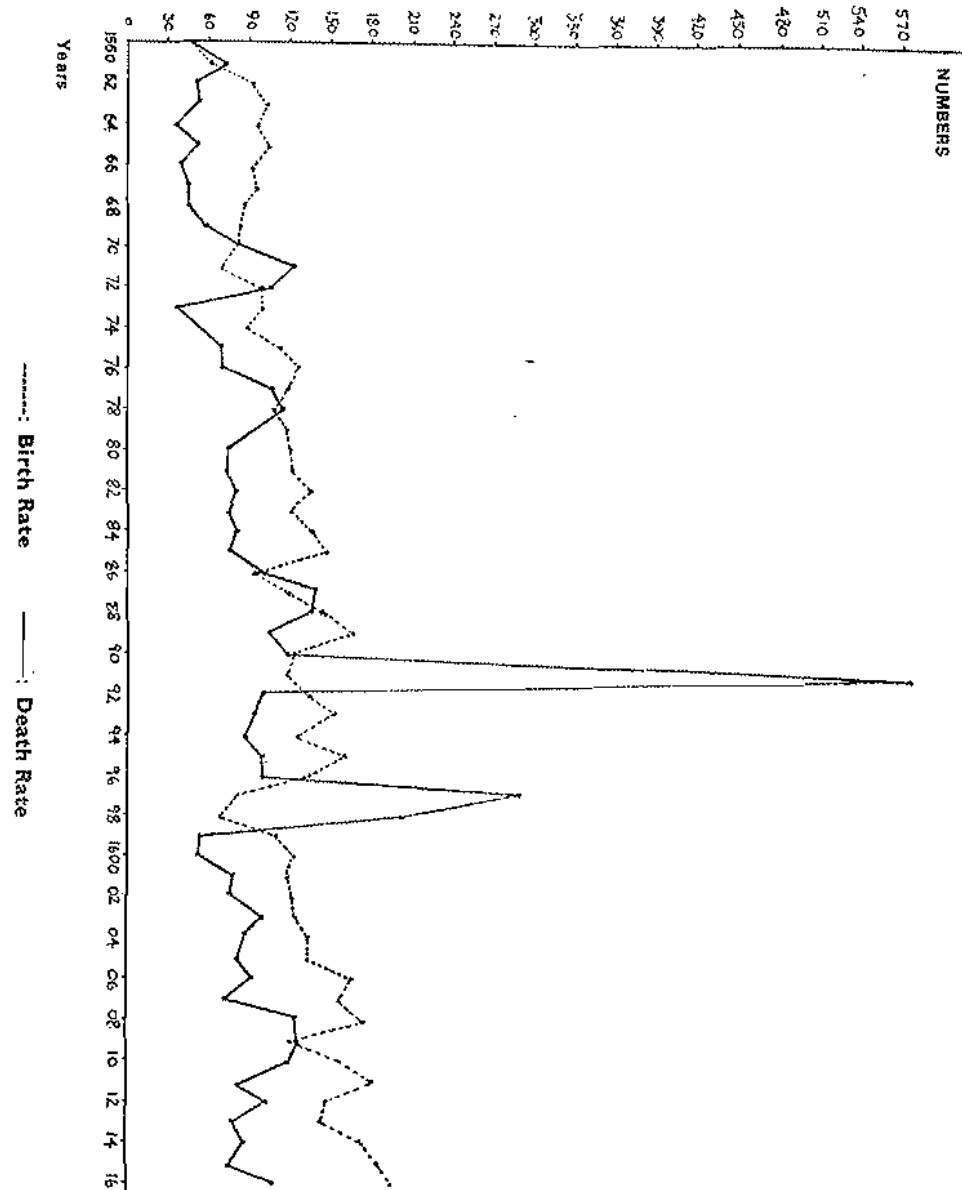
Of the 100 birth entries studied, almost two-thirds (64) were known to have died in Tiverton, the parish of their birth. The survey showed that average life expectancy of these males was 19 years 3 months and once infant mortality had been excluded from the calculations the figure rose to 25 years exactly. The national average life expectancy according to estimates made by Gregory King and Edmund Halley in the 1690's (nearly a century later) was 27 years at birth or 32 years once infant mortality was eliminated.

The life expectancy for children born in 1974 is almost certain to exceed seventy years.

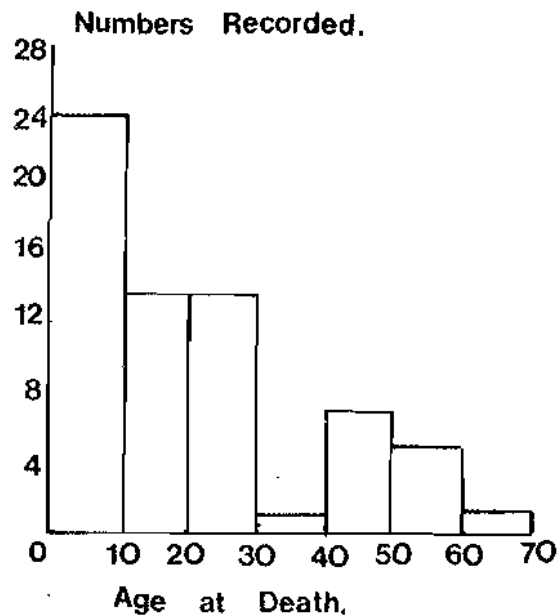
The figure of twenty-five years, after excluding child deaths, is almost certainly an under-estimate, since one-third of the 100 birth entries were not recorded in the register of deaths. It would seem likely that this one-third would move from Tiverton to a neighbouring parish or further afield when they were adults or at least beyond the age for infant mortality.

This points to an estimated average life expectancy at birth more in line with the national figure.

Figure 2 shows that one's chances of dying young were considerable even assuming the missing third were all alive, which is unlikely. Exactly fifty of the 100 subjects were recorded dead before the age of thirty, thirty-six before twenty, twenty-two before ten and sixteen before the age of five years. Life was for most short if not nasty and brutish as well.







### III. Population Mobility

Thirty-six of the 100 subjects recorded as born in the parish register were not recorded in the register of deaths and must be presumed to have died in another parish. Thus two out of every three residents of Tiverton died in the parish of their birth. When one considers that one-sixth of the sample died before the age of five this does not seem a remarkably high proportion but by twentieth century standards it is an impressive figure. If females were readily traceable the relevant data would provide an interesting comparison. Furthermore, a study of the adjacent parish registers for the period might provide an indication of how few people had moved away from Tiverton.

The most that can be read into section II or III is a rough indication of the length of life and the extent of movement away from the town because of the small sample chosen. Given further study the accuracy of this initial survey could and should be determined.

#### Conclusions

It was stated in the title that this work was a preliminary investigation into the Tiverton Parish Registers by the Mahood Society of Blundell's School. It is appropriate to stress this fact here. A number of questions were raised about the births, deaths, life expectancy, infant mortality and population movements in sixteenth century Tiverton. The paper offers few concrete conclusions except on the subject of birth and death rates and infant mortality. Instead it points to the need for more study if trends are to be determined and comparisons made.

Does the population of Tiverton remain steady in the seventeenth century? Do the figures confirm Dunsford's general picture of sixteenth century rise and decline in the mid-eighteenth century? Is there a tendency

for people to leave Tiverton to work elsewhere in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries? Was life expectancy much greater in the Factory Years of Heathcoat than it was in the days of Queen Elizabeth I? How does the level of infant mortality in the seventeenth century compare with that in the nineteenth? All these are questions that should be raised and answers can be provided from the Tiverton Parish Registers. The frequency and severity of sudden calamities such as that witnessed in the year 1591 by the abnormally high death rate can be examined and explanations sought. Plague and pestilence were commonplace and carried off far more than the dramatic Great Fires.

The task has been started but much remains to be done. It would not be fitting to finish this report without acknowledging our sincere thanks to the Rev. C.S. Nye for his encouragement in providing the society with a task which was as interesting in outcome as painstaking in execution. As far as we know it is the first study of its type to be made at Tiverton, albeit common enough elsewhere.

### NOTES

Holsworthy Local History Society is planning the publication of a collection of photographs relating to the History of Holsworthy. In conjunction with the Court Leet and the Town Council they are attempting to arrange proper classification and supervision of the Holsworthy Museum. New Secretary Jean Sinclair, Town Library, Holsworthy.

Hemyock Local History Group is hoping to publish a booklet relating to the history of Hemyock next year, including sections on Hemyock Milk Factory recently closed which began in 1880 as an early co-operative after the building of the Culm Valley Railway, also just closed. Further sections on Hemyock Castle and on the plans made to evacuate Hemyock during the Napoleonic wars, of which many details survive, and on what may be an hitherto unknown open cast iron smelting industry in the area are also planned.

### NOTES ON NEW CONTRIBUTORS

Melvin Firestone is a member of the Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona.

Henry Morgan is the Chairman of Dawlish Museum Society and is engaged on writing the history of that town.

Dorothy Wright taught for the Greater London Council and is the author of a number of books including 'Baskets and Basketmaking' (David & Charles).

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

### SOME GENEALOGICAL RAMBLINGS

#### H.G. Morgan

The man with the grasshopper mind, if he can resist the stern temptation to keep to the matter in hand, may find that the answer to one simple question can lead to unexpected answers to others. This is the incomplete record of such an excursion. It is not, except incidentally, concerned with genealogy, and it is not conducted with the expertise of a genealogist. As the title implies, it is concerned with names.

In 1819, the landlord of the Lobster Inn at Holcombe, near Dawlish, was Oliver Manwaring Mathews. In 1724, Oliver Manwaring was a churchwarden in Dawlish. The question which started this enquiry was 'were they related?' For the benefit of those who turn to the end to see how the story ended, the answer was 'Yes'; it was easily found at an early stage of the investigation, but not so early as to prevent the grasshopper mind from grasping other aspects of the family story.

The family name is peculiarly well adapted to this sort of casual investigation. Firstly, the name itself is relatively uncommon, especially in the South-west (though there are still Mainwarings listed in the local telephone directory). Secondly, it is sufficiently distinctive to be identifiable through the various disguises forced upon it by the phonetic renderings by generations of clerks and officials: 2½ centuries of parish registers supply the following versions – Mannering, Meanwaringe, Manouring, Manaing, Manering, Mawearinge, Maniring, Mainering, Maurenwaring, Mannaring, as well as the accepted Mainwaring and Manwaring. Thirdly, as a family, they were remarkably faithful to particular Christian names, as well as to maternal surnames used as Christian names (in this, of course, they were by no means unique, but some of the names were unusual).

Once the interest was aroused, the name, and related names, cropped up reasonably frequently in lists and indices, and could be followed up in odd moments in the course of the more legitimate pursuit of the history of Dawlish. Apart from parish registers, the trail has led to Burke's 'Peerage' and Prince's 'Worthies'. A branch leading to Wamington-on-Sea has not been followed. A selection of the results follows, each section loosely tied to a particular family name.

**THE FIRST MANWARING:** In eleventh-century France, a certain Ranulphus was living in the village of Mesnil-Guarnier, near Avranches in Normandy (doubtless he had a different name in the Norman dialect, but we hear of him first in his Latinised go-to-meeting name). When the Duke of Normandy assembled his invaders in 1066, Ranulphus was one of them. After the conquest, he was rewarded for his part by the lordship of several manors in Cheshire. In one of these, Peure (now known as Over Peover), was established the original family seat; in reference to his place of origin, the family took the name of Mesnilwaren.

**RANDLE MANWARING:** The name of Ranulphus has persisted as a Christian name in the family over the years. His great-great-grandson was

Sir Raufe Manwaringe, justice of Chester in Richard I's time. Ten generations later, there was still a Randle Manwaringe at Over Peover, whose third son, also Randle, was the direct ancestor of the Devon branch of the family. The name does not appear among the Dawlish and Teignmouth families, but the vicar of Sidmouth (a living which a century later was in the gift of Oliver Mainwaring of Dawlish) in 1635 signed his will as 'I, Randolph Mainwaring, clerk' though referred to by his nephew as 'my uncle Randall Maynwaring'. The name is probably still extant; a Randle Mainwaring was born in the Shropshire branch of the family as late as 1905.

**OLIVER MANWARING:** The name Oliver may have come into the family relatively late, but the first arrivals in Devon, two grandsons of Randle of Over Peover (and hence the seventeenth generation from Ranulphus) were Oliver and his brother George. They were citizens of note in Exeter: among other things, they were the joint founders of St. Anne's Hospital. Oliver himself died without issue, but his brother married Juliana Spurway, whose father was mayor of Exeter in 1540, and one of their sons carried on his uncle's name. His son, Oliver again, was the founder of the Dawlish branch of the family. One of his sons was also Oliver, but it was his eldest surviving son, Esse, who ensured the continuity of the name Oliver. Esse's son Oliver himself had a son Oliver, whose second daughter Jane married John Matthews; their son was the Oliver Manwaring Matthews with which the investigation started.

**A GENEALOGICAL DIGRESSION:** At this stage, the faithfulness to Christian names leads to a situation where mere inspection of the parish registers is incapable of providing the correct answer. With fathers and sons, uncles and cousins, sharing a small number of Christian names, the possible permutations are legion, and we need evidence from other sources before it is safe to draw any conclusions with confidence. In our particular case, there is an added complication in the arrival on the scene of the common Christian name of Jane, which seems to have entered the family twice and probably three times by various marriages or christenings. The previous paragraph referred to Oliver's 'second daughter Jane'; this is literally true. Jane, daughter of Oliver and Elizabeth Manwaring, was baptised at Dawlish on 3rd March, 1733/4. An identical entry appears on 10th May, 1737. Fortunately, the explanation is simple in this case, for we find the burial of Jane, daughter of Oliver Manwaring, recorded, also at Dawlish, on 30th April 1735. The first Jane, named after her grandmother, died in infancy, but the second lived to the age of 83; she had a daughter Jane Mainwaring Matthews, and a daughter-in-law (probably née Hickman), who gave her a grand-daughter Jane Matthews. The Oliver Manwarings also give trouble: one is recorded as having been buried on 24th December, 1739, and one on 14th February, 1740/1. Fortunately, a copy of the will of Oliver (b. 1663) survives, and refers to 'my grand-daughter Jane Manwaring daughter of my son Oliver Manwaring decd.' (the will being dated 8th February, 1740).

**OLIVER MANWARING'S DESCENDANTS:** We have already seen that Jane Matthews gave both her father's names to her son. Another Jane married Jacob Gotham in 1727, and their son Oliver Manwaring Gotham was buried at Dawlish on 22nd February, 1730/1. Oliver's will shows that his daughters also perpetuated his name. His daughter Mary married one of the old Dawlish

family of the Tripes and, though the eldest son took the traditional Tripe name of Gawin, one of the younger sons was Oliver. Another daughter, Loveday Curtis, had eight children, and six of them bore names that ran in the Manwaring family: Manwaring, Oliver, William, Loveday, Jane and Esse. However, coincidence enters here, or may do so, since the father of the family was named Oliver Curtis. But it may not after all be coincidence, for his father was mentioned in Oliver Manwaring's will as 'my good friend ... John Courtice of Sidmouth, clerk'. Now a parson in Sidmouth may have owed his position to Oliver, and may well have named his son for his benefactor. A final addition to the ranks of the Olivers comes with another of his daughters, Ann Clapp, who gave him yet another grandson Oliver.

**PRUDENCE MANWARING:** Prudence was a name that ran in the Manwaring family during the 17th century, and we can date its entry into the family to 1618, when the first Dawlish Oliver was married to Prudence Ash of Sowton. Her father Henry Ash was the son of Richard Ash and Prudence, daughter of John Rudgeley of London, so we have a distant origin for her name. Although the first Prudence Manwaring's home was at Dawlish, she returned to Sowton for her confinements, her first five children being baptised there. Her third child, baptised on 28th April 1623, carried on the name of Prudence. While she was bearing her fifth, Esse (bapt. 22nd October 1626), her first born, Anne (b. 1620) was buried there on 18th October.

**LOVEDAY MANWARING:** We have already met the name Loveday, which one associates with Cornwall. Again we know how it came into the family, for Prudence's father Henry Ash was married to Loveday Moyle, of 'St. Augustines, Cornwall'. She had a daughter Loveday (b. 1625), a granddaughter Loveday (b. 1668 and 'replaced' by another Loveday b. 1670), and the great-granddaughter Loveday who married Oliver Curtis, and whose daughter Loveday married Richard Johnson, apothecary of Ottery St. Mary.

**ESSE MANWARING:** Dawlish's Hearth Tax returns of 1662 were signed by Esse Manwaring as Constable, and record him as having four hearths. His name, like that of his sister Loveday, recurs in subsequent generations. For its origin we can go a great deal further back. His mother's family used various versions of the name, including Ashe, Aisse and Esse. Prince's 'Worthies' traces the family back to Simon Ash or Fraxinus, of Ash-Raph or Esse-Raph (now corrupted to Rose Ash, near South Molton). He was born, says Prince, about 1150 at Ash or Thewborow. Here enters a coincidence: Ash-Raph owes its name to Radulphus or Raufe, whose family held the manor in 1198. So Esse Manwaring owed his two names to the marriage, five centuries later, of two Raufes of different ancestries, Radulphus in Devon and Ranulphus in Cheshire. We can follow the descent of the Ashes further, for one more surprise is in store. The Ralph de Ese who is recorded in the 'Devon Feet of Fines' as acquiring 5 furlings in Ese (Rose Ash) from William de Raleghe, in 1198, is presumably the name Sir Raph de Esse who was High Sheriff of Devon for seven years in the reign of Henry III. From him was descended Henry Esse or Ashe, who married into the Fomyson or Fomison family and thereby acquired the manor of Sowton, alias Clyst Fomyson. Sixth in line from him at Sowton was Nicholas Ashe: his eldest son was the Richard who married Prudence Rudgeley; his third son, James, was an ancestor of William Ashe, of Heytesbury, Wilts. William's daughter

Elizabeth, in 1705, married Pierce A'Court of Ivychurch, later M.P. for Heytesbury, and an ancestor of Baron Heytesbury. Their son, General William A'Court, assumed the additional name of Ashe by the will of his great-uncle Edward Ashe; in 1746 he married Annabella Vernon, and through this, his son, Colonel Sir William Pierce Ashe A'Court, became the Lord Farmer of the Manor of Dawlish.

**A FINAL QUESTION:** This rambling study began with a question, and it ends with another. Sir William A'Court was contemporary with Jane Manwaring, the mother of our Holcombe innkeeper; they were distantly related, through their common ancestor Nicholas Ashe. The question is: did they realise this?



Kathy Tanner

The Cookworthy historical sites index was started in October 1974 both in an attempt to create a centre for local history students in the South Hams, and to build up a coherent system, into which the dozens of odd pieces of information which we gather at the museum, could be slotted and easily retrieved. The index acts as a repository for researched information and it is to be used in conjunction with the growing "library" of local literature which is kept in the same room. The collection includes old topographies, nineteenth century guide books, directories and maps as well as many of the standard reference books. We now have a complete 6" map cover of our area (the old Kingsbridge Rural District) which we bought in conjunction with the South Hams Society. We have purchased copies of the relevant Ordnance Survey antiquity cards and we also have copies of the listed and scheduled sites in the area. The museum has in its collections many documents and old photographs which are organised in such a way that they may be used in conjunction with the index.

The system is based on a series of 6" maps. Each "site", be it building (church, school, manor, mill, etc.), earthwork, field system, small find position, wreck, mine or anything else of historical significance, is identified on the map and allocated a unique "site number". This is marked on the map and is the key to all information retrieval. Each site is written up on a printed index card and files are used for further information. This system provides a ready made slot for most of the scraps of historical data that we receive and also keeps them together so that we may build up more detailed records.

The initial construction of the index is extremely time consuming and we are most grateful to a small group of volunteers who have begun the laborious task of marking sites on the maps, making out cards and sorting the official literature. At this stage we can do little more than build up the mechanics of the index, including research work as we find it. We do not intend to set up in competition with the established local history groups at Malborough, Salcombe and Modbury, with whom we have always had close links, but merely to provide a centre where the results of their researches can be deposited, before or after publication, and be easily accessible to students and the public. Copies of relevant entries will also go into the Devon Archaeological Societies' "sites and monuments" Record.

However, red herrings always come up in this type of work and some of the group have been sidetracked. These are people from local families who have become interested in the history of ownership and use of commercial premises in Kingsbridge. Each property is allocated a number, based on its street number, and all information relating to it, gathered from directories, old people's memories, rate valuations, advertisements and architectural descriptions, is recorded together under that number. I cannot emphasise enough the value of having really local people, chiefly housewives, doing this work. Not only do they know the district better than an outsider like myself, but the old folk, who know so much, are much happier to gossip to the grand-daughters of

old school-friends than to almost total strangers.

The local history centre is very much in its infancy. We are still doing the basic ground work so that the index will be ready to receive information, and our reference library is still small. But, the resources are here, as are many of the primary texts and a growing collection of unpublished theses and articles are held here, and all these are available for public study at the museum. The index and "library" are viewable on application to the Curator during working hours all the year round. Telephone Kingsbridge 3235. Museum is open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays from 5th April - 16th October 1976.

**MATERIALS USED IN CLOTHING FOR THE POOR BY THE WIDECOMBE OVERSEERS IN THE 18th & 19th CENTURIES**

**Iris Woods**

(A Footnote to Ray Freeman's Article "The Pomeroy Paupers")

An important proportion of the money spent by the Overseers was for shoes and clothing. The sick needed bedties and blankets, the apprentices had to be fitted out before going to their masters, the aged and needy had to be supplied with garments. The Overseers bought material in bulk, and gave out lengths to be made up by those competent to do it. Each parish garment was marked with a letter cut from red shag and stitched on -- presumably the letter was P.

The garments remained the property of the parish and had to be handed in if the recipient died before the clothes wore out.

The following list is compiled from the Overseers' Account Books of 1703 to 1830. The descriptions of the materials have been taken from various dictionaries, including the **Drapers' Dictionary**. I should assume that woollen materials were of local manufacture, in spite of the dictionary definitions.

**Barras** A coarse linen fabric originally imported from Holland. 1st ref. in **Drapers' Dictionary**, 1640. 8d. per yd. in 1722, 1/- in 1819.

**Blanketcloth or Witney** Thick woollen cloth.

**Buckram** Cotton or linen glazed with size. 3d. per ¼ yd.

**Calico** Cotton cloth, bleached or unbleached. First brought from Calicut in India. 1/- to 1/2 per yd.

**Camlet** Light cloth of wool, camels' hair or goats' hair. 9d. to 1½d. per yd.

**Canvas** Coarse hemp cloth.

**Check** Light cotton. 5½d. to 10d. per yd.

**Dowlas** Coarse linen cloth. 8½d. to 1/1 per yd.  
(Dowlis, Dowlice)

**Duck** Strong twilled linen or cotton. 1/4 per yd.

**Egypt Cloth** Cotton fabric. 7d. to 1/9 per yd.

**Everlasting** Strong twilled wollen stuff. 1/2 to 1/7 per yd.

**Fflanning** Soft woollen cloth of loose texture. 6d. to 9d. per yd.  
(also Shrouding)

**Fustian** Coarse twilled cotton fabric (also moleskin, velveteen, corduroy) 1/6 per yd.

**Holland** Linen. 1/- to 1/2 per yd.

**Inkle** A broad linen tape for caps. 3d. per yd.

**Kersey** Coarse woollen material. 1/11 in 1723 to 2/8 per yd. in 1761

**Lincloth** Thin linen fabric, used for bed sheets. 8d. in 1720, 11d. in 1783.  
(linning)

**Nap** Woolly fabric. 1/1 per yd.

**Osnaburg** Coarse kind of linen from Osnabruck in Germany. 7d. -- 11d. per yd.  
(Osembrick, Oxenbrick, Ozenbrick, Ossimbrick)

**Pennystone** Coarse woollen cloth called after a town in North Riding, Yorkshire. 1/4 per yd.  
(Penistone, Peneystone)

**Pouldary** Coarse canvas or sacking, named after a town in Brittany. 6d. per yd.  
(Bollitary, Pouldavy)

**Serge** Twilled worsted cloth. 1/- to 1/2 per yd.

**Shag** Cloth with a rough nap. Red shag used for letters sewn on paupers' clothes. 10d. in 1725, 7½d. in 1768.

**Swanskin** Soft twilled flannel.

**Tammy** Good quality fine worsted cloth, often with a glazed finish. Woven in Stowmarket and Bradford.

**CARMENTS MADE FOR THE POOR**

**Women** Hodyses, Coat, Gown, Mantel, Shift, Staybody.

**Men** Bodylinen, Breeches, Coat, Great coat, Waistcoat, Inner waistcoat, Night waistcoat, Shirt, Vest.

**Bed Linen** Bedtye, Blanket, Bolster, Coverlet, Sheet.

**Ready-made garments** Apron, Button stockings, Cap, Hat, Handkerchiefs, Hose, Neckcloth, Shoes, Stockings.

**Buttons** Gyp, Horn, Leatheren, Brass, Mettle, Great & Small, Yellow Bath.

## POUNDHOUSES: A SURVEY

Walter Minchinton

Before the advent of steam power, the internal combustion engine and electricity, power on the farm was provided largely by the human muscle and the horse. In particular, from the late 18th century, horse gear was used in Devon in poundhouses for apple-crushing for cider making, for threshing, for chaff-cutting and for other purposes. The poundhouse can often be identified as a semi-circular or apse-like extension to farm buildings — what Lilian Sheldon called an 'open sided, round or occasionally octagonal excrescence'.

Those interested in this subject may care to look at William Marshall, **Rural economy of the west of England** (1796) I, 223–30; R. Hansford Worth's discussion of cider presses and cider mills in C.M. Spooner, ed. **Worth's Dartmoor** (David & Charles, 1967) pp.380–90; H.R. Hodge, 'Horse gear and threshing machines in Cornwall', **Old Cornwall**, VI (1967–72) 444–8 and Kenneth Hutton, 'The distribution of wheelhouses in the British Isles', **Agricultural History Review**, XXIV (1976) 30–5.

Now poundhouses and the horse gear which they contained are fast disappearing. Before it is too late a record ought to be made of this important aspect of farm equipment. Information about farms which either had or still have poundhouses (with or without equipment) giving map references and parish is therefore required.

Additional information would also be useful:

- (a) What was the size of the poundhouse? Height, width, length, etc.
- (b) Of what materials was it constructed? Roof, walls, beams, central pillar (where this existed), etc.
- (c) Position of the poundhouse. It has been suggested that it was normally on the north side in order that the building should be cool.
- (d) What was the diameter of the horse-path? 12–14 ft. seems to have been common in the south-west.
- (e) How was the horse attached to the horse-gear? Did it push or pull? Was one horse employed? Or more than one?
- (f) Details of the horse-gear: material used (wood, iron, etc.): nature of gearing etc.
- (g) What machinery or equipment was driven by the horse gear?
  1. circular apple mill or crusher; dimensions of granite trough; dimensions of cage runner(s);
  2. or was a different kind of mill used? details?
  3. was the horse-gear also used for the press? nature of the press? size, width and length of base, height, one column or two?
  4. threshing machine: size, gearing etc.
- (h) For the poundhouse, the horse-gear and the associated equipment it would also be useful to know when it was acquired or built, who made it and where and what it cost.

- (i) When last used.

Any information will be welcome to make this survey as complete as possible, including references to published descriptions in books, periodicals, newspapers and manuscript material. Measured drawings are particularly useful. All help will be acknowledged and the results of the inquiry will be published as soon as it can be analysed.



**EDUCATION AND LABOUR IN THE SOUTH-WEST, EXETER PAPERS IN ECONOMIC HISTORY.** Edited by Jeffrey Porter. University of Exeter, 77pp, £1.20.

Labour history is an expanding discipline and as Dr. Porter says in a brief introduction it also remains a frontier study in the south-west of England. The four essays in this collection – delivered as lectures at a seminar at Dartington Hall in 1974 – will assist the forward movement of an inquiry into the culture and conditions of 'average' human beings.

I welcome contributions of this calibre because they tap rarely-used sources such as local journals, newspapers and directories and direct attention to important themes in an exploratory and undogmatic way. Dr. W.B. Stephens provides an anatomy of illiteracy in mid-Victorian Devon using census returns as a main source. He disproves Professor Cipolla's claim as to the 'relative homogeneity in the levels of illiteracy in provincial England'. (*Literacy and development in the West* (1968, p.80).) Illiteracy is a difficult term to define adequately. Some men and women who made their marks on marriage registers could possibly read: those who laboriously wrote their names could sometimes do that only.

Geoffrey Duncan looks at the role of the Church as a factor in adult education in early Victorian Torquay. An impressive figure at this time was the self-educated Quaker geologist, William Pengelly, who was associated with the Torquay Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge which became the Mechanics' Institute in 1846. Francis Place thought these institutes were too closely tied to the imposed ideal of mutual improvement and upper-class patronage. Pengelly was a Darwinist but this did not affect his religious faith. John Beresford's contribution is of value because he uncovers new facts about the local branch of the Social Democratic Federation in Plymouth and notes the successful struggle for free speech that involved the intriguing Arthur T. Grindley, author of *The Warrens of the Poor* (1906), an enquiry into working-class housing conditions.

The experienced historian, Dr. John Rowe, is as lucid and cautious as ever in his account of the declining years of the Cornish tin-mining industry. His sources include *West Briton* and the *Royal Cornwall Gazette* but he is steeped in his subject, never seeking to over-emphasise not merely his special knowledge of the emigration of 'Cousin Jack' but his insight into the mind and circumstance of a spectacular figure. A man who symbolises the morale of Cornish mining at its low ebb was an old mine labourer named Peter Boase who on one mid-November afternoon in 1922 was found hanging by the neck in a shed. He had been drawing unemployment pay of fifteen shillings a week.

The selected themes in this volume extend our knowledge of working-class life and sustain a sense of direction that comes from a person-orientated investigation.

**E. W. Martin**

**ARTHURIAN SITES IN THE WEST** by C.A. Raleigh Radford and Michael Swanton, published on the occasion of the 11th International Arthurian Congress, meeting at Exeter University in 1975. Price: £1.00.

This is a pleasant little book which brings together in a summary form the results of some of the recent work and thinking regarding a number of sites associated with the Arthurian period in the south-west. The main chapters are concerned with Tintagel, Castle Dore, Glastonbury and Cadbury-Camelot. A useful select bibliography is also provided.

The dark thoughts prompted by the Arthurian title are quickly allayed once one gets into the first chapter. It is an eloquent résumé of the generally accepted state of our knowledge, as demonstrated by archaeology and the somewhat elusive literary evidence. The case for a cultural renaissance in the south-west, associated with the economic activities of the post-Roman period, is persuasively stated, although perhaps it is over generous to describe it repeatedly as a 'Golden Age', even on the authority of Gildas! The political organisation implicit in the earth-works of the period is undisputed, but can certainly be matched in more than one phase in early British history.

One was sorry to see the story of the 'Lady of Quality' referred to again. Unfortunately, as Mr. Stevens has pointed out, the whole edifice has been effectively undermined by John Wilkes who, on re-examining the actual inscription, came to the conclusion that 'civis Dunnonia' should be read as 'civis Pannonia' <sup>L</sup>.

The booklet is attractively illustrated and contains some useful maps specifically related to the text.

- 1 Wilkes, 3.3., 'A Pannonian Refugee of Quality at Salona', *Phoenix*, Vol. 21 (1972) 4, University of Toronto Press.

**John Bosanko**

**LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY: AN INTRODUCTION TO FIELDWORK TECHNIQUES IN POST-ROMAN LANDSCAPES** by Michael Aston and Trevor Rowley. Newton Abbot: David & Charles, 1974, 217 pp. £5.50. ISBN 0 7153 6670 X.

This is an addition to the growing shelf of books dealing with techniques in archaeology. It is specifically concerned with techniques which can be used by individuals or groups in towns, in villages and in the countryside. Amongst the methods it discusses are the contribution of maps and aerial photography to such studies. In dealing with the organisation of material, it very usefully draws attention to the excellent sequence of records

maintained by the Oxford City and County Museum which might well be emulated by other counties. Our Historical landscape, as this book quite rightly points out, is under threat. The recent wanton destruction of a toll-house on the Totnes-Newton Abbot road underlines the need for fuller records to be held in Devon covering a wider range than is at present the case. Major road construction and large scale building sites are examples of other works in the county which are markedly changing the face of the landscape. Inevitably in a volume dealing with the whole of the country, the space devoted to Devon is small, with the position of Totnes (with Bridgetown Pomeroy) being discussed and illustrated and a passing reference to Ottery St. Mary. As far as topics are concerned, burghs, churches, deserted medieval villages, enclosures, fishponds, moats, monasteries and ridge and furrow are the major entries in the index. Admittedly the chosen time-span of the volume is long but it scarcely lives up to its title since it concentrates on medieval archaeology. In view of the danger not only to prehistoric, dark age and medieval sites but to the whole historical impact of man on the landscape, it might well be argued that a little more space could have been devoted to post-medieval archaeology and industrial archaeology (or, as some would have it, post-post-medieval archaeology). This volume has a number of plates and line-drawings which supplement the text. Though it is intended 'to stimulate and guide senior school, extramural, college and undergraduate studies', it is also of interest to the general concerned reader and field-worker.

Walter Minchinton

**LOCAL HISTORY AND FOLKLORE: A New Framework** by Charles Phythian-Adams (39pp. 85p). Published for The Standing Conference for Local History by the Bedford Square Press of The National Council of Social Service.

At long last it is gradually beginning to be appreciated that while the subjects of folklore and local history must never be confused yet the former, if properly handled, can offer invaluable insights to the latter. That a historian has now turned his attention to this marks a real breakthrough, and we welcome the new approach.

The author has a number of important things to say in this small book. Briefly, he outlines the difficulties that have up to now created an unavoidable split between the two subjects, and he reviews some of the pitfalls accompanying, on the one hand a purely historical description of folklore (very few customs can be proved to possess the absurd antiquity so frequently ascribed to them) and on the other hand too much reliance on comparative material drawn from cultures very different from our own, which is a legacy from the **Golden Bough** era.

Instead, the author proposes we should concentrate on the village as our focus of study and he emphasises the significance of the calendar rhythm in village life. With these suggestions we must heartily agree: until we really understand what goes on in one village all wider generalisations are built on guesswork.

Finally, Mr. Phythian-Adams offers a method of studying social functions within a limited community. These can be analysed under such headings as 'Ritualistic', 'Ritualised Recreation' and 'Secular Ceremonies'. Within this framework may be considered such symbolic elements as 'Overt Actions and Words', 'Public Decorations', 'Private Dress', 'Traditional Foods' and so on.

The scheme is closely argued and needs – and deserves – careful study. The reader must not be put off by admittedly tiresome slips (as "aural traditions" p.10, and "Rit de Passage", p.35) because the suggestions are constructive and stimulating and should inspire some exciting new topographical studies.

Theo Brown

**THE COMMON STREAM** by Rowland Parker. Collins, 1975. £3.75. 283pp. ISBN 0 00 216113 3.

This book has received much publicity and is in fact already into its second reprint. Despite its title it is a local history, a history in fact of the village of Foxton in Cambridgeshire built on the edge of an anciently constructed stream which all shared. The title claims that it is more than this, that it is 'the story of the Common Man, of the ordinary men and women who in their countless thousands have trudged through life and then departed from it, leaving little visible trace'. The book follows that theme fully and it is the common man of Foxton and his reactions to his varying circumstances that interests Mr. Parker above all. All sorts of evidence is used to throw light on this, from the dredgings of the river, the excavations of archaeologists, the construction of houses, to a very full collection of manorial and other documents that begin as early as the thirteenth century. It is unlikely that a book like this could have been written by anyone who did not in fact live in Foxton. Mr. Parker knows his village and its landscape intimately and is able to relate the past to the present in a way quite impossible to an outsider. There is too an attractive 'warmth' about the book that derives from Mr. Parker's quite apparent affection for his home.

But is it possible to interpret the reactions of our ancestors in quite the way Mr. Parker does? It is one thing to describe their circumstances and then assume that their reactions would have been the same as ours. It is more likely that their aspirations and terms of reference were so different, that such assumptions are wrong, even if human nature has remained the same.

Is it also possible to justify the claim that this is the story of the 'common man'? It is true that much of what Mr. Parker records is instantly recognisable to anyone knowledgeable about the history of any village but there must have been real differences for the 'common man' who lived in an estate village with a resident squire where 'deference' was the rule, or even in a mining or forest or cloth making village with other life styles and economies. Foxton was an agricultural village almost exclusively and at the end of the book no very clear picture has emerged of the daily work and activity of the peasants of Foxton or of their farms and holdings though the wealth of documents should make this possible.

All the same this is a stimulating book and the right and proper aim of the local historian to write a history of the community as a whole is pretty well achieved and some of the details and deductions from seemingly scanty evidence are fascinating. This must be one of the very few village histories that has had a much more than local reference and readership.

There are four maps and a general map as an end paper but none that enables the reader to see Foxton village and parish as a whole.

Robin Stanes

#### INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN DEVON : SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

There have been no recent publications specifically concerned with IA in Devon but the county has featured in a number of general publications on the subject. Surprisingly for a publication sponsored by a petrol company, Neil Cossons, **The BP book of industrial archaeology** (David & Charles, 1975) is largely a history of technology but its last fifty pages include a gazeteer of sites with the Finch Foundry, Sticklepath, the Newcomen engine at Dartmouth, Devon Great Consols mine, the Seaton concrete bridge, Powder Mills farm, the Ridd incline on the Rolle Canal, Morwellham, Starcross engine house, the Haytor granite railway, the Dart Valley Railway and Smeaton's lighthouse at Plymouth comprising the eleven sites which represent Devon, all of them predictable except perhaps for the Ridd incline. A larger gazeteer could well have been provided to take the place of the rather improbable list of IA organisations with Cossons provides. A lecturer at South Devon College, Hugh Bodey, has produced a volume on **Discovering industrial archaeology and history** (Shire Publications, 1975) which deals with the growth of British industries and the problem of maintaining industrial monuments. In the gazeteer, which shows that Bodey takes a wider view of his subject than Cossons, the Devon entries are Haytor, Morwellham and Sticklepath but also Holy Street Mill, Chagford, Postbridge, Steps Bridge, Dunsford and Tavistock. In the museum section, Bicton, Bideford, Brixham,

Exeter and Morwellham find a place. J. Kenneth Major, **Fieldwork in industrial archaeology** (Batsford, 1975), which provides a valuable introduction to IA recording with, as befits the authorship, an emphasis on drawings from the point of view of an architect, is of interest since the detailed drawings provided (figures 9-26 and plates 31-5) are of a Devon watermill, Dowrich Mill near Crediton. In addition, there is a drawing of Bellamarsh Mill, Chudleigh by Bruce Bolton (plate 36). Kenneth Hudson, **Exploring our industrial past** (Hodder & Stoughton, 1975), the latest of the **Teach Yourself Books**, presents his personal (but not generally accepted) view that IA is fundamentally about people which he illustrates with ten case studies, one of which is Finch's foundry, Sticklepath. Then he turns to his current preoccupation, oral history, and draws on the research he did while writing a history of English China Clays as an example. Again there is a list of museums in which Bicton, Brixham, Exeter, Morwellham and Sticklepath are listed but Topsham, Buckfastleigh, Kingsbridge and Torbay also find a place. Three Devon IA societies are mentioned but, such are the risks of publishing such information in books, two are largely defunct and all have changed their secretaries. Finally, the latest of the continuing series of books on Don Quixote's fascination, **Windmills** by Suzanne Beedell (David & Charles, 1975), provides a survey not only of British windmills but also a rather random selection in Denmark, the Netherlands, France, America and elsewhere. As she admits, no up-to-date absolutely comprehensive list of mills exists so she finds no place for the nine sites in Devon where windmill towers exist in various states of preservation.

Walter Minchinton

**THEN AND NOW: THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE OF TOTNES AND DISTRICT** by Michael Dower. Dartington Amenity Research Trust, 1976, 32 pp. 50p.

This compilation of historic paintings, engravings and photographs and contemporary illustrations of Totnes and its surrounding areas is the result of an exhibition on 'Your heritage' arranged by a number of Totnes societies in summer 1975 as a contribution to European Architectural Heritage Year. The first half of the booklet consists of sections providing a chronological account of the town from its first settlement to the coronation of Edward VII in 1902. Then follows sections on 'the architectural heritage', dealing with houses and cottages, country houses, castles, churches and bridges. Finally, 'The challenge of conservation' is shown to include not only the problems of maintaining and finding appropriate

uses for the buildings and areas which earlier generations have bequeathed to us but also the quality of the modern buildings which we add to the historic town and landscape. The historic illustrations give a less familiar picture of this well-known area while some of the modern photographs also depict aspects not easily seen by the casual visitor such as two of the splendid moulded plaster ceilings in the wealthy merchants' houses and the great curving staircase in Sharpham House, Ashprington. The booklet is to be recommended to all those interested in this historic part of Devon.

**Celia M. King**

**APPLEDORE** by John Beara, 60p; 52pp., map and 23 photographs.

This handsomely produced booklet is mainly concerned with the maritime activities which have always been the mainspring of this place, and with developments in the local waterfront and buildings, profusely illustrated and well covered by the text. Having been administratively part of Northam, Appledore lacks the usual range of separate parish records for the use of the historian; but the writer, a member of an old-established local family, has nevertheless produced a well and carefully written account based on the available sources.

**AN ORDINARY DEVON FAMILY – GEEN OF OKEHAMPTON** by M.S. Geen, 50p; 39pp.

This traces the Geen family from the earliest known members in the Parracombe/Lynton district in the mid-18th century, but it does much more. Two of the family were Mayors of Okehampton and prominent in the borough's public life and economic activities, and there is much here of general local interest. Connections also appear with the Bovey ball-clay industry, and another member became Mayor of Torquay. The writer has drawn on a variety of manuscript and other sources to bring out the personalities behind the genealogical lists in both text and illustrations, and the result is a model of its kind.

**R.R.S.**

EXETER UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS

Leófric of Exeter: four essays to commemorate the foundation of Exeter Cathedral Library in AD 1072, 75p.

Exeter Essays in Geography edited by K.J. Gregory and W.L.D. Ravenhill, £3.75.

Exeter in Roman Times (revised edition 1973) by Aileen Fox, 40p.

Exeter and its Region edited by Frank Barlow, 1969, £4.00.

The Maritime History of Devon by M. Oppenheim, 1968, £2.50.

Tuckers Hall Exeter by Joyce Youings, 1968, £3.00.

The Ports of the Exe Estuary, 1660-1860 by E.A.G. Clark, 1968, £2.50.

Industry, Trade and People in Exeter, 1688-1800 by W.G. Hoskins, 1968, £2.50.

Exeter Houses, 1400-1700 by D. Portman, 1966, £3.00.

Benjamin Donn's Map of Devon: 1765, 1965, £4.00.

Seventeenth Century Exeter by W.B. Stephens, 1958, £3.00.

The Franciscans and Dominicans of Exeter by A.G. Little and R.C. Easterling, 1927, 50p.

The South West and the land edited by M.A. Havinden and Celia M. King, 1969, 50p.

Industry and Society in the South West edited by Roger Burt, 1970, 75p.

Ports and Shipping in the South West edited by H.E.S. Fisher, 1971, £1.25.

Farming and Transport in the South West edited by W.E. Minchinton, 1972, 75p.

Provincial Labour History edited by J.H. Porter, 1972, 75p.

Henry de Bracton 1268-1968 by Samuel E. Thorne, 1970, 30p.

The Expansion of Exeter at the close of the Middle Ages by E.M. Carus-Wilson, 1963, 30p.

John Norden's Manuscript Maps of Cornwall and its Nine Hundreds with an introduction by William Ravenhill, mounted in book form, £10, in a wallet, £8. Individual maps £1.50 each.

Henry Francis Lyte: Brixham's Poet and Priest by B.G. Skinner, 1974, £3.00.

Transport and Shipowning in the West Country, edited by H.E.S. Fisher and W.E. Minchinton, 1973, 75p.

Husbandry and Marketing in the South West 1500-1800, edited by M.A. Havinden, 1973, 75p.

Early Tudor Exeter: The Founders of the County of the City, by Joyce Youings, 1974, 30p.

Available from:

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

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