

The Survey

of Bath and District

The Magazine of the Survey of Old Bath and Its Associates

No.10, October 1998

Editors: Mike Chapman

Elizabeth Holland



The Elizabethan fireplace in the Great Room of Abbey Church House, displaying the heraldic achievement of the arms of Clarke on the overmantel.

Heraldic Illustrations by Roland Symons.

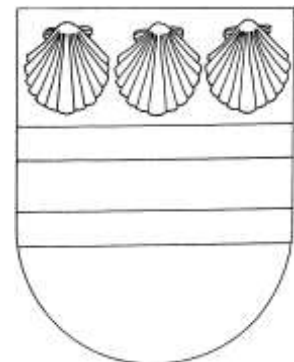
Right: **Hungerford**, with **Hussey** on the right as you look at it, and **Heytesbury** on the left.

The **Hungerford** coat of arms was assured from **Fitz-John**:

Sable two bars argent in chief three plates.

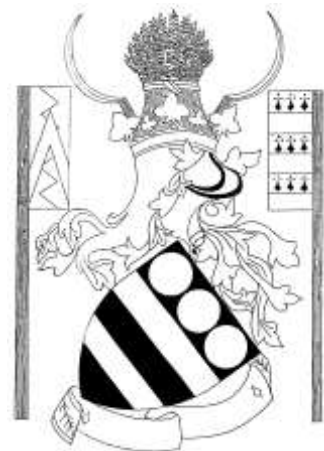


Right: **Skrine**



Right: **Clarke.**

Or two bars azure in chief three escallops gules.



Included in this issue;

The City Wall of Bath; a current overview of its survival.

Some thoughts on the Fullers's Earth Windmill at Odd Down.

Recent research on the ownership of Prior Park before Ralph Allen.

NEWS FROM THE SURVEY

Our booklet on the Charlton map of Lyncombe and Widcombe has now been published, as described under “Publications”. On 7 October Mike gave a talk to the History of Bath Research Group on the development of the Manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe, with a number of slides taken on our visits to various sites. At the same time Allan Keevil spoke about Barracks Farm, in the south-west corner of Lyncombe. He has been making an extended study of Barracks and hopes to submit it for publication when completed. We were able to sell a number of our booklets at this meeting.

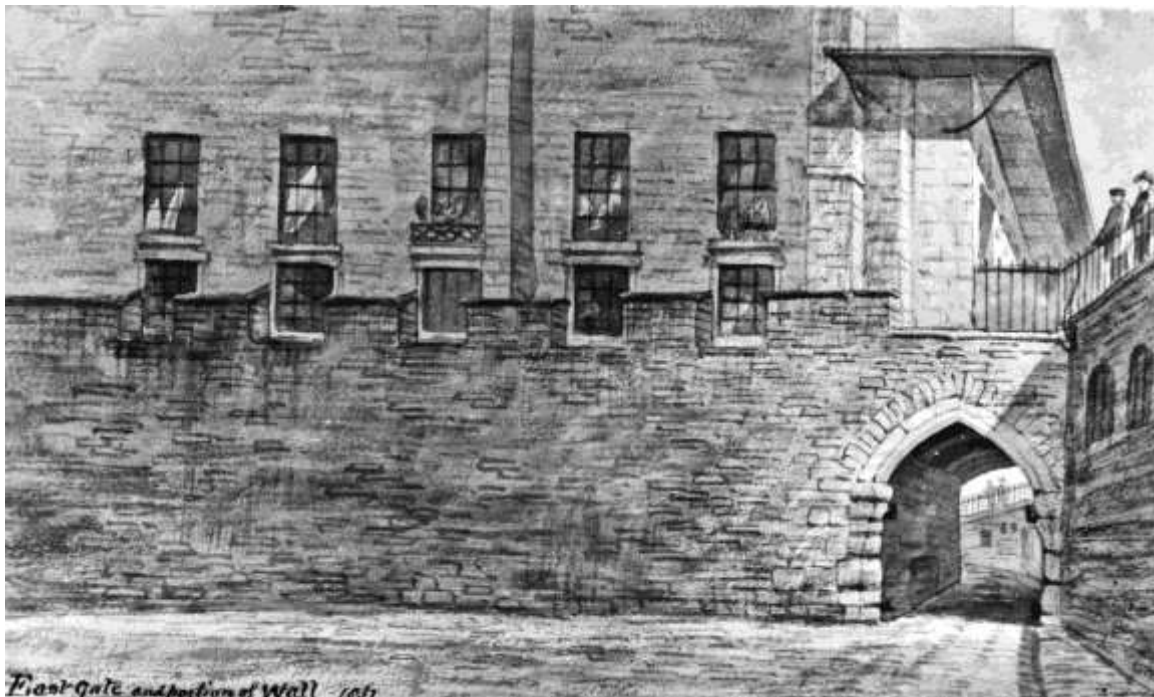
In preparation for the Guildhall booklet, a walk was held on 15 July, which is outlined under “News from the Friends”. The Guildhall booklet will aim to bring together existing research rather than to break new ground. A number of speakers including Mike dealt with different aspects of the area which have already been studied.

We have applied for a B&NES grant to create a booklet on the Bimbury area. We hope to include a copy of Palmer’s development map of c.1805. As mentioned in “Notes and Queries”, the Survey has dropped from its programme the idea of making a complete Georgian map of old Bath. Some part of Bath was always being redeveloped and there is no one point at which one can map the whole of the old city.

We have been retained by Bath Archaeological Trust to make a historical review of the Sawclose preparatory to a proposed development there. For this we have made a detailed Georgian map of the area, using lease plans of the late 18th century. At this period the old boundaries still largely remained. This is really an anniversary occasion as Elizabeth drew the same kind of Georgian map of Frog Lane for Tim O’Leary nearly 20 years ago. Mapping old Bath has taken longer than Tim envisaged, but we have had an interesting time along the way, with the Baths exhibitions for instance and our excursions into Lyncombe and Widcombe. Meanwhile we are glad to be able to support the work of Bath Archaeological Trust.

B&NES are carrying out a street survey in which Mike is taking part, in his capacity as historical topographer.

We have been holding talks on finding some kind of grant with which to continue the study of the Hetling area. This has now exhausted voluntary resources. Our proposed builder of Abbey Church House is mentioned in the article in this issue, following our excursions into Somerset and discussions with various experts on the Clarkes.



The East Gate in 1851, from a watercolour in the Bath Reference Library. The city wall can be seen to the left (compare with the early photograph in Marek Lewcun’s article on p.27.)

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

The fifth A.G.M. of the Friends of the Survey of Old Bath was held on Friday 12 June, at the United Reformed Church Hall, Grove Street. An account of the meeting by Priscilla Olver appears below. Once again we offer congratulation to June and her team for their successful efforts.

On Wednesday 15 July a walk was held around the Guildhall area. June Hodgkinson and Priscilla Olver have provided a description of this, below.

John Wroughton, President of the Friends, writes that his book on the experiences of ordinary people in Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire during the Civil War is due to be published in 1999. He has also been commissioned to write a number of articles for the *New Dictionary of National Biography* to be published by Oxford University Press in 2004. His entries will include a number of local 17th century figures (Sir Edward Hungerford, Sir John Stawell, Alexander Popham, John Ashe, etc.).

Dr. Kellaway is planning further studies of the thermal waters, through the use of boreholes and geophysical methods. The world of hydrogeology has moved on from the idea that the thermal waters of Bath originate in the Mendips and further investigation is now necessary. Dr. Kellaway is also working on a study of Stonehenge. He supports the concept that the stones are glacial in origin rather than that they were brought to the spot by man.

On 14 June Elizabeth with John and Linda Macdonald and Alison Hannay attended the meeting of the British Burney Society to hear a talk on Fanny Burney and Bath, which provided many interesting sidelights from her journals and letters. The Petty France hotel, run by a descendant of the Burneys, provided excellent refreshments.

Kerry Birch's dissertation on Richard Gay is being published by the *Baptist Quarterly*. He hopes to be able to pay another visit to Bath. Robert Alexander writes to say that Point Park College has enjoyed a successful year. Robert enclosed a donation for the Peter Chapman memorial tablet. The Abbey is gratified that Peter, restorer of the Abbey, is being remembered around the world.

After his successful exhibition in Widcombe Week, John Brushfield is going ahead with plans for the Millennium map of Lyncombe and Widcombe and also for another exhibition. Stuart Burroughs also plans a Millennium exhibition. There was some confusion at our end about the opening of the exhibition at the Bath Industrial Heritage Centre. Ruth Haskins then arranged a party at short notice. We telephoned a number of the Friends but quite a few were out or already engaged. Ruth has sent this note:

A number of Friends attended the opening evening of the Summer Exhibition of local industries of the past at the Camden Works Industrial Museum in mid-June. Among the guests were District Judge and Mrs. Mark Rutherford. Apart from a display on refuse disposal, the exhibitors were all local history societies; the exhibits were interesting and unusual and included material from the Survey of Old Bath. After the reception, guests were offered coffee and light refreshments at the nearby home of the Chairman of the Friends of the Survey of Old Bath. It was a pleasant social evening.

Mrs. Amanda Davies has now replaced Mrs. Brackenbury as Secretary of Bath Preservation Trust. Paul Blackmore, a distant cousin of the Friend's Chairman, Ruth Haskins, joined the Friends at the June A.G.M. He has a number of interests and he and Ruth enjoy discussing their research. Alastair Cowan has also joined and Michael Walker, husband of committee member Denise. Another new member is Peter Carey of Donald Insall's, architectural advisers to the Spa Project. Everyone was interested in Peter's talk at the recent Spa meeting where he announced Messrs. Insall's plans for the refurbishment of the Cross Bath.

Management of a World Heritage Site and Recent Archaeological Investigations in Bath

At the Annual General Meeting of the Friends on 12 June 1998, Mary Stacey, Built Heritage Manager for Bath & North East Somerset, spoke of how her department manages the World Heritage Site of Bath. The city has nearly 5,000 listed buildings, of which 635 are Grade I - more than any other

authority in Britain. The point of listing is to control alterations of character, and her department advises the Council and the public on the best way of preserving the buildings and character of the area to ensure that our heritage is there for future generations to enjoy. Great attention is given not only to the buildings themselves (inside and out) but also to the streetscape and the roofscape, and slides were shown illustrating details such as roofing materials, railings, pavements etc. Bath has a single region of 1,900 hectares of conservation area. The rural region, which has 30 conservation areas, also has an important heritage, with its coal mines, brass foundries and farmhouses: around 1,500 are listed and provide a good balance with the urban heritage. Mrs. Stacey emphasised how important it was for her team to keep in close touch with the public and groups such as the Friends in order to build up a detailed knowledge of all aspects of the Council region.

This followed a joint presentation with slides by Mike Chapman and Marek Lewcun on recent Archaeological and Historical Investigations. Mike spoke of the interest aroused at Stanton Drew after a geophysical survey revealed signs of an earlier structure beneath the present stones, thus making it a large and very important site. (A brief note of this appeared in Issue No.9.) John Wood was influenced by British/Celtic culture as well as classical architecture, and this could possibly have had a bearing on his designs for the Circus.

Mike had also been involved with a recent archaeological excavation on the Caisson Lock at Combe Hay, part of the Somerset Coal Canal, following a geophysical survey. (See Issue No. 8.) The Lock, built in the early 1800s by the Bath engineer William Smith, was the only one of its type ever constructed, and such was its importance that many people visited it, including the Prince of Wales and Jane Austen. It was a "lift" type and, therefore speedy and economic as there was no loss of water, with a depth of 46ft. - six times the depth of the present Widcombe Lock. Its failure had been attributed to faulty workmanship but it has now been proved that it was built on Fuller's Earth, thus making the construction unstable. A grant for the excavation of the Somerset Coal Canal has been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Marek illustrated his talk with slides of work carried out at Bridewell Lane, London Road, Circus Mews and the most recent investigations at the Hot Bath. Here several features of John Wood's bath have been revealed and recorded, and this information not only adds to our knowledge of the city's history but will greatly assist with the present planning for the Millennium restoration.

The Chairman, Ruth Haskins, warmly thanked the three speakers for their fascinating and most informative insight into the past, present and future heritage of our city.

Priscilla Olver, June 1998.

A Walk round the Guildhall

Colin Johnston, archivist for Bath and N.E. Somerset, led a guided seminar round the Guildhall area on Wednesday 15 July, with five well-known speakers invited to give short addresses on their own special topic for the Friends of the Survey. After welcoming the large party of "Friends", Colin Johnston started the seminar in the area at the rear of the Empire.

Mike Chapman, Chairman of the Survey of Old Bath, described the medieval Guildhall and its changing situation around the 13th century and how the Guildhall moved out to the site of the present High Street in 1626.

Trevor Fawcett, Secretary of the History of Bath Research Group, identified the site of the old Orange Court and the fine houses which were built by the city wall, and the development of the area now occupied by the Orange Grove. At one stage several shops were built right against the Abbey wall and access by a very narrow Wade's Passage took such a long route that the north aisle of the Abbey was used as a short cut before the present passage was opened. Trevor Fawcett then described the Stuart Guildhall in the High Street and its later extension.

The narrative was taken up by the architectural historian, Jane Root, who spoke of the planning and building of the present Georgian Guildhall and of its architect, Thomas Baldwin. Ruth Haskins, Chairman of the Friends of the Survey of Old Bath, gave an account of the Victorian market and the chaotic conditions that originally prevailed and the gradual improvement in the running of the market, all meticulously recorded at the time and duly preserved in the Bath Record Office archives.

A change of scene took the party to the fragment of the old city wall by the Mineral Water Hospital. Marek Lewcun of Bath Archaeological Trust had thoughtfully provided everyone with diagrammatic drawings giving details of the city defences as they had developed since the first ditch was dug and the first rampart raised in pre-Roman times. The Romans had raised the original stone wall by cutting a terrace into the earth rampart and over the centuries it was extended until it reached a width of 4.6 metres of solid rock which can still be found under Upper Borough Walls.

Mike Chapman identified the position of the North Gate by the parish marks on the walls by the present Northgate area, and he mentioned among many old city features of interest, the former archway used by the schoolboys from King Edward's which was first established at the west end of Frog Lane.

As Colin Johnston conducted the party back to the Empire, Marek Lewcun traced the course of the old city walls to the East Gate and to where they lie under the Empire. Copies of a photograph of the old Lot Lane were passed round for a comparison to be made with the present site. On reaching the front of the Empire, Marek Lewcun confirmed the considerable amount of original city wall that still lies beneath that building and Terrace Walk. The Abbey clock was striking nine as Colin Johnston and all the speakers were warmly thanked by Ruth Haskins on behalf of the "Friends" for a fascinating and most informative evening.

Priscilla Olver and June Hodkinson, July 1998



Bridewell Lane; looking north as it rises to meet the top of the city wall in front of the Mineral Water Hospital.

Photo: Elizabeth Holland.

CITY NEWS

Bath Industrial Heritage Centre

The exhibition "Work in Progress" was on display from June to September. Material had been contributed by different local history societies and mounted by staff of the centre, and looked very attractive. The Survey's contribution on the Southgate area was mounted along one wall and included plans showing the location of Stothert's Newark Foundry when in that district, as well as illustrations of transport from the days of horse traffic on. Stuart Burroughs reports that the exhibition aroused a good deal of interest, some visitors coming especially to see it. It is hoped to repeat the experiment for the Millennium, perhaps on "1000 Years of Manufacturing". We are considering presenting material on the leather trade and the many Chapmans who were involved in it. In economic studies of Bath, people tend to ignore the leather industry, but there is evidence of it from medieval times.

The Widcombe Association

Once again the Association planned a programme of events for "Widcombe Week". This included John Brushfield's exhibition on Widcombe and Lyncombe in the headquarters of the Natural Theatre Company, towards the foot of Widcombe Hill, 30 June - 4 July. This was again very successful; in spite of the pouring rain a number of people attended the opening reception. There were stands on the proposed Millennium map, pictures of bygone times drawing partly on Paul De'Ath's collection, a traffic scheme from a researcher at Bath University, and contributions from current residents. Andy King, landscape architect, provided a study of recent work on the gardens of Widcombe Manor to match the Survey's contribution on the history of the Manor. Our display on the Prior Park Garden Centre, mounted by Mike Chapman and including a number of photographs by Paul Willis of the Centre, with a grand panorama, as well as photos by Elizabeth, was redisplayed in the Garden Centre café, where it attracted a good deal of attention. The pictures and the text were arranged to form a concise history of the Garden Centre.

Fred Daw

Fred Daw, former Parks Director of Bath and founder of the Garden Centre, died at the end of August. Fred Daw was director of the city's parks and gardens from 1952-1973 and reclaimed many bomb sites. Bath won the Britain in Bloom title four times under his direction. He was a national Britain in Bloom judge and spent 45 years on the committee of the Bath and West show.

The Spa Project

Towards the end of July the Spa Project Team held tours of the Beau Street and Old Royal Baths, as the Beau Street Bath was due to be demolished in August, followed by further archaeological investigation. The team were anxious to collect memories and mementoes for a proposed archive of anecdotes and memorabilia. An article which might be of some interest, "Spa Treatment at Bath" by Marigold Mann, describing her days as a trainee physiotherapist, with photographs taken inside the Hot Bath, was published in The Survey No.3, June 1995.

On 18 August the Chronicle reported that the demolition of the roof and internal structure of the Beau Street bath was due to begin that day. Two of the outside walls were to be left in place until planning permission for the new building was obtained. Subsequent photos showed Paul Simons on the cleared site. On Wednesday 23 September a meeting on the Spa Project was held from 6-8 p.m. at the R.L.S.I. in Queen Square, looking very smart with its fresh interior decoration since the days when it housed the Reference Library. Mike and Elizabeth were there, several of the Friends, including Ruth and June, David McLaughlin, Marek Lewcun, Gillian and Michael Cope, Doreen Collyer and John Brushfield. Rhodri Samuel was once again in charge of marshalling the public. The meeting was so well attended that extra seats were provided downstairs, with a screen, reminiscent of Proms in the Park.

Paul Simons welcomed the audience, and then Peter Carey of Messrs.Donald Insall, consultants to the Spa Project, outlined plans for the Cross Bath. As far as one could see from downstairs, two circles, the bath itself and a new roofed area to the east, will overlap in a vesica in which a fountain rises. Peter Carey related this new design to the old bath, and showed a slide of Palmer's drawing, recently purchased by Colin Johnston for the Record Office after David McLaughlin had pointed to the availability of a number of Palmer plans.

Nicholas Grimshaw presented his updated plans, and spoke about the grass-roots concept of having bursts of steam in Beau Street. This was something the old city had all the time and complained about constantly, but it is designed to give the public a hands-on feeling about the Spa. A member of the audience also enquired whether Mr.Grimshaw's roof-top bath was going to be colonised by seagulls and ducks, with Charles and Beatrice perhaps moving to quarters with a better view. This was apposite to the final talk on purification apparatus by Geoff Farnham. Chlorine and ozone will be used to sterilise the water. Iron and calcium must also be extracted to prevent its staining qualities, and enough sediment to allow a clear view of the bottom of the pool, according to regulations. Altogether it was accounted a very successful meeting which demonstrated a great interest in the Spa project.

Bath Urban Archaeological Database

The second phase of the Bath Archaeological Database (UAD) has just begun: the database is being used to evaluate critically the archaeological evidence in Bath and make an assessment of the state of archaeological knowledge in the city. The work is funded by English Heritage for nine months, and is being carried out by the project officer, Emily La Trobe-Bateman, who has just finished working on its sister project looking at the small towns of Avon (Avon Extensive Urban Areas Survey, EUS). The archaeological assessment report will be one of the first to be published by English Heritage in a series looking at historic urban centres in England. If members wish to find out more, copies of the project design have been deposited at Bath Record Office and Bath Central Library. Emily would welcome any additional information which is not available from published sources and which is likely to have escaped the attention of the Trust or the Archaeological officer for Bath - please contact her at Trimbridge House on 01225 477561.

Walcot Street

In August Stephen Green of Future Heritage announced plans to develop "the old Tramshed and Beehive Yard in Walcot Street". It was hoped there would be accommodation on the site for some of the traders who would be required to move from Walcot Yard if this was developed. An exhibition was held at the beginning of September, in the hall under the YMCA. Walcot residents appeared to be pleased with the proposals, especially the plans for a riverside walk. Stephen Green was quoted as saying that Walcot was well-known as an urban village with a thriving bohemian community, and that Future Heritage's plans aimed "to retain and extend the diversity and artisan character that is Walcot". It is proposed that the economic development committee of B&NES Council should set up a Walcot Street Team.

Widcombe Manor

The owners of Widcombe Manor withdrew plans for the proposed covered swimming pool and gymnasium. Redevelopment as a garden area is planned instead.

Meanwhile a most unpleasant burglary was carried out in the neighbourhood, and antiques, silver and jewellery were removed from a house in the vicinity while the owners were on holiday. Apparently Widcombe Manor itself was not burgled, possibly due to the exertions of Mutt and Jeff, pictured in the last issue.

Somerset and Dorset Railway Tunnel

Prior to the hand-over to the Somerset and Dorset Railway Restoration Trust, a length of sealed tunnel was re-opened at Combe Down in September. The Trust aims to restore the S&D line. Apparently the tunnel was bought by Wessex Water from British Rail in the 1970s, and sealed after vandalism.

The Widcombe and Lyncombe History Study Group

1998 began for us in April when we held our first meeting of the year at the headquarters of Bath's famous "Natural Theatre Company" at the bottom of Widcombe Hill. This is the former Widcombe Institute which served for almost 100 years as St.Matthew's Church Hall. But times change and so does ownership and we were very interested to see how the space has been adapted to the requirements of a busy theatre group. Lottery money has been well spent too on cleaning and refurbishing the exterior and Widcombe should be pleased that one of its Victorian landmarks is looking good and is gainfully employed.

In May we were privileged to meet the Widcombe Crescent home of one of our members who told us something about the history of the house. Widcombe Crescent, dating from about 1800-1805, is unusual in that it faces into the hill slope and presents its back to the wonderful view over the Widcombe vale.

A beautiful Sunday afternoon in June (a very rare moment that month) saw a small party of members clearing a group of graves in Abbey Cemetery. Many bags of nettles, brambles, even young saplings, were subsequently taken to the city tip but some interesting inscriptions were revealed beneath all the growth. These long dead men, women and children are now being researched by some of our members and their findings will be given to us at our November meeting when we shall also be following some of the local water courses. Before then, in September we shall hear Dr. Graham Davis talk about crime, punishment and begging in Widcombe (that's 19th century Widcombe).

In October we are going to look into the role that smoking and drinking played in the life of the area before the turn of the century. Marek Lewcun and Paul De'Ath are going to help us with some of their research. And the year will end with a quiz (not too difficult) and a chance for members to bring and show any item of historical interest which they've found, inherited, acquired, bought - or dug up. But soon we must start thinking about our programme for 1999 ...

Doreen Collyer, August 1998

The East Twerton and Oldfield Park Local History Society

East Twerton and Oldfield Park Local History Society began in January 1996, after a series of local history talks in Moorland Road Library had been heavily over-subscribed. Meetings were held bi-monthly to begin with, but since June 1997, they have been held monthly. A few members are undertaking research in various aspects of the history of the area, but the accent is very much on nostalgia: some of our most popular meetings have been on local firms, which attracted a number of their former workers. These meetings included Stuart Burroughs talking about the Twerton Wool industry and David Cook on the Hygienic Laundry in Lymore Avenue. Some of the summer meetings are held out of doors, in the form of walks around Oldfield Park looking at various local sites.

ETOP has also held five exhibitions: three as part of Moorland Road Flower Day in July and two in conjunction with Oldfield Park Baptist Church as part of the annual Winter Festival in January. The first two were of memorabilia and the Society's own collection, but we now have a themed exhibition: last summer's was on Transport and in January the fourth exhibition "Recording the Past" looked at the development of the local maps, census returns and family trees. Our fourth exhibition on Flower Day this year was not well-attended, mainly because of the appalling weather, so, with something of a sigh of relief, we are repeating it in January.

Our Spring 1999 programme is in course of preparation, but we still have a couple of meetings scheduled for the autumn. On Thursday 22 October, Dr. Graham Davis will be giving one of his inimitable talks, this time on "Bath Paupers and the Bath Union Workhouse", while on Thursday 26 November Angela Marks will be giving a slide show and talk on "The Man who Split Twerton in Half": better known as Isambard Kingdom Brunel. At the end of January we shall be collaborating with the Baptist Church to produce our third Oldfield Park Winter Festival, which includes an exhibition, a concert by the Emerald Chamber Players and a church service for the community on Sunday morning. This year we're also promised line dancing and a fish-and-chip supper on the Friday evening!

Members will be busy setting up the exhibition that evening: the subject will be the churches of Oldfield Park, which inevitably includes Lyncombe and Widcombe and Twerton. Further details will be available nearer the date from the Library, and the local press. Meetings of the Society are held in Oldfield Park Baptist Church Hall on Thursdays, usually the third in the month, depending on the availability of the hall, at 7.30 p.m. Annual membership costs £5 with some concessions available, or £1 per meeting for non-members, who are always very welcome. For further details of the Society, or to book a copy of the 1999 programme when available, contact Angela Marks on Bath 337279.

Angela Marks, September 1998

Note: Accession 323, BRO, includes plans for an extension to the Hygienic Laundry, by Taylor and Fare, 1937.

DISTRICT NEWS

GWR

The Great Western Railway has been put forward as a site worthy of holding World Heritage Status, already held by Bath. The *Chronicle* wrote in August: "Built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel in the 1840s, it is regarded as the most complete early railway in the world. The Box tunnel, which involved workers cutting through the hills to make way for steam, took four years to complete and cost many lives." Colin Maggs, railway expert, of Old Newbridge Hill, who has just completed his 58th book, was quoted as saying: "It really merits the status because it has historical importance and great architectural features...The line was a very great undertaking and I believe the Box tunnel would have been the longest in the world at the time."

Arthurian Legend

In August Neil McDougall of Corsham suggested that a raised platform area on a hill at Monkton Farleigh might have been the site of the battle of Mons Badonicus. Nick McCamley of Monkton Farleigh immediately replied that the bulge represents waste soil from an underground ammunition depot excavated during the Second World War. He has written a book on such works, entitled *Secret Underground Cities*. The same kind of instant history has occurred in Bath when people have brought out imaginary maps of Saxon or early medieval Bath, with "ancient" roadways where no road was constructed until the 18th or 19th century. Local lore in the Combe Down/Widcombe area advertises an old British trackway on a spot which Mike Chapman has already pointed to as the fallen perimeter wall of the Bishops' hunting park.

Time Travel

Meanwhile Baldrick is looking for a site on which to establish a Saxon theme village in the West Country. Opinions vary about the value of Baldrick and his Time Team. We hear from archaeologists that after the team have discovered a bangle, or an ear-ring or whatever in the given time and then departed, it takes days to clear up the effect of the tramping feet of the TV technicians and get back to some real archaeology. Archaeology in the late 20th century, our Man with the Spade has remarked, is about measuring out sites and patiently sifting soil, not about seeking instant finds.

Fosseway

In the summer Bath Archaeological Trust carried out work on the presumed site of the Fosseway near Combe Hay and established that the Roman road there was of a significant width, suggesting a main route rather than a by-way. Once again, modern work has altered the terrain, and Peter Davenport, Director of Excavations, reported: "the original Roman road was only just above original ground level, but of a considerable width, about six metres. The road surface was of packed local limestone cobbles set in a fine, hard lime dust, forming a hard smooth surface. Wheel ruts were visible". A similar dig near Radstock did not confirm the Roman origin of the track investigated there.

Keynsham Local History

Mrs. Barbara Lowe is hoping that her Census of Old Somerset will be published this year. She writes that Keynsham Heritage Trust is still quietly and persistently trying to find a way to obtain a museum for Keynsham. To maintain public awareness of Keynsham's rich heritage, they planned a small exhibition of Keynsham's Roman artefacts on Wednesday 28 October at Keynsham Library, as part of B&NES Heritage Week. A walk around Keynsham was planned for the same day by the Keynsham Local History Society.

Members of the Bristol Folk House Archaeological Society continue their rescue and conservation of Roman artefacts from the destroyed settlement at Cadbury's. They also maintain the Abbey site, cutting grass, tending the medieval herbs they planted some years ago and generally looking after the ruins. Without the dedicated voluntary work of members of this society, Keynsham's medieval heritage would have been entirely destroyed.

CORRESPONDENCE

In Issue 8, we printed a photograph of a First World War soldier, a Chapman, and suggested that it might be Henry Vincent, killed on the Somme in 1916, whose grave was mentioned by Ludwig's father Conrad Becker in a letter to his New Zealand cousin Philip Chapman. Phyllis Beard confirms that this cannot be so, as her great-uncle Henry Vincent was never in the South Wales Borderers. For the time being, we do not know whose the picture is or why the Hollands should have possessed it. Films like Gallipoli have portrayed the heroic efforts of members of the Commonwealth who volunteered to take part in the First World War, suffering large casualties.

A quick follow up on recent letter. Well the conundrum is back in your court! Had ascertained that the photo was of a soldier of the South Wales Borderers. The Badge is of the Sphinx over the printed Egypt with the letters S.W.B. splayed. However until the papers came from the war Archives there was just the faintest chance he [Henry Vincent] could have somehow crossed to another Regiment. This was not to be. There is a worthwhile amount of data, his age, height, colouring, etc., age of enlisting (32), where, and his calling (bushman, currently labourer on the Wellington Wharves). He was in fact in England twice, on arrival and with a wounded hand 3 mths.before going back to France again and being mortally wounded and dying in an Australian Field Hospital. Does not say where and what second wounds were. It would be tremendously interesting to track down of whom is the photo you have...but how!

Phyllis Beard, New Zealand, August 1998

PUBLICATIONS

The Survey of Old Bath's 1998 map publication is now ready, *The J.Charlton Map of Lyncombe and Widcombe 1799*, by Mike Chapman, John Hawkes and Elizabeth Holland, published with funding from B&NES. This includes a version of Charlton's map, published by permission of the Visitors of Sexey's Hospital, which owns it, and of Somerset Record Office, which holds all three original copies of the map and provided us with photographs of it. A centre spread reproduces the map with four estates hatched in - the Maltby Estate (old Lyncombe Farm), the Bennet Estate, the lands of Magdalen Hospital, and the Ralph Allen lands. The volume includes John Hawkes' plan of Lyncombe Vale done for the July 1997 walk, and his diagram of the missing numbers of the Ralph Allen Estate Map, as published in Issue 10. These various items make this a valuable companion to Mike Chapman's *Guide to the Estates of Ralph Allen*, 1996. The Maltby Estate once belonged to the Chapmans, and the Bennets were descended from Scarborough Chapman, once the owner of their property, so from this point of view the booklet provides a continuation of the history of the Chapman family. The booklet is available at Whiteman's at £4.25, or directly from the Survey (Mike) at £3.00.



We have obtained a copy of *Keynsham and Saltford Life and Work in Times Past 1539-1945*, published 1990 by the Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society at £5.95. The KSLHS is fortunate in having some very able historians and this is a first-class review of the district. Barbara Lowe writes on traffic routes and on law and order, and Elizabeth White, who spoke at one of our Stuart meetings, on housing and on the populace. She includes useful histories of the Bridges family, the Duke of Chandos, the Whitemore family, and the Lyne family, with the Flowers, the Bassets and others as well. There are also contributions by Joan Day, Michael Fitter, Eric Linfield, Pam Moore, Susan Trude and Margaret Whitehead.

Left: Arms of Hugh Sexey at Bruton Hospital.

A copy of this has been donated to B&NES Record Office. It should be particularly useful for family historians seeking information about the district. Also deposited there is *North Wansdyke Past and*

Present (No.10), the journal of the KSLHS. The Record Office displays a number of notices and publications from local history groups, which helps the interchange between these groups which has already been discussed.

Leslie Holt has an article on the history of Bath Abbey in the Mayor's Guides *Guidelines*, No.54, March 1996. Copies of *Guidelines* are available for perusal at Bath Central Library - they are presently kept in the Newspaper Room. Leslie aims to bring out a revised version of the article when the recent additional work at the Abbey is complete. This includes work at the east end (the recently formed St.Alphege Chapel, and renovations to the Prior Birde Chapel and the Norman Chapel). Also, the cleaning and restoration of parts of the exterior of the building. The article, printed on pp.14-21, provides a very valuable assessment of the 19th century restorations, i.e. in 1833 under G.P.Manners, at the Corporation's expense, and in 1864-1874 under Sir George Gilbert Scott, towards which Rector Charles Kemble and his family paid a considerable sum. It was at the time of the Manners restoration that the Corporation took down the houses around the Abbey, negotiating with the Manvers family to remove those on the south side. Irvine as Clerk of Works did his archaeological investigations during the Scott restorations.

In September Bob Allard, whose hobby is collecting old postcards, published his second volume of views of Midsomer Norton, Radstock and Peasedown St.John. This is available at £5.99 from Norton-Radstock shops, such as Radco, Martins and Reflections.

From July 28 to August 8 Barbara Holder held an exhibition of her work at the gallery in Bath Central Library, at the Podium. Barbara has brought out her own range of cards showing views of Bath.

The Bath Chronicle recently brought out a supplement on Roman Bath, which was re-issued as one item at 50p, with extra sheets for children inside. At the time of writing another on Victorian Bath is in preparation. The supplements are primarily aimed at schoolchildren and consequently have to tie in with the National Curriculum, which does not include the Georgian Period. Stuart Burroughs and Angela Marks are among the contributors, Stuart writing on industrial aspects and Angela on social and political developments, with especial reference to the south-western area. Ruth Haskins is contributing an item on the Guildhall Market. Trevor Fawcett and Graham Davis have also been asked to take part, Graham Davis on law and order.

It is now possible to buy an 82-minute video of the operations of the Somerset and Dorset railway, based on three reels of film taken before it closed in 1966. The video, *Puffed Out*, has been on sale at the Avon Valley Railway's Headquarters in Bitton station, the Somerset and Dorset Preservation Trust at Washford, and the Titfield Thunderbolt and Whiteman's bookshops, at £14.95.

Bath History VII was scheduled for publication in October, at £6.99, with articles by Christopher Woodward, Jean Manco, Trevor Fawcett, Hilary Arnold and Deirdre le Faye, Michael Forsyth, Owen Ward, Sally Festing and Angus Buchanan.

Around 100 invited guests attended the book launch of Peter Addison's book *Around Combe Down* on Friday 10 July at Combe Down Primary School. The guests, mostly Combe Downers, enjoyed a very sociable evening with wine and snacks. Live music was supplied by Mark Angus on accordion and a friend of his on guitar. Mark, better known as a stained glass artist, is also making a name for himself in local folk music circles. Peter spent most of the evening signing copies of his book, no one being allowed to leave without making a purchase! Sales of the book have been exceptionally good, even making number eight in Waterstone's' bestseller list one week. It, and the author, have received excellent coverage in the *Bath Chronicle*. To quote some of the press release, "The book intentionally has little mention of the 20th century...It comes with many black and white photographs and drawings of bygone days and examines the early life of influential people like Ralph Allen and his introduction of building activity into the community of Combe Down. It goes on to trace the development of the stone industry, full descriptions of the 41 quarries in the area and the methods used to quarry stone, not forgetting the other industries such as Fuller's Earth extraction, papermaking and cabinet making. But the working life of the community isn't the only area under scrutiny, for the book highlights the living standards of the day and the sometimes precarious occupations of those who lived in the area. William Smith and Tucking Mill get a chapter to themselves. This is a fascinating journey through a piece of Bath's History." *Around Combe Down* is published by Millstream Books at £6.99. Signed copies are available from Peter Addison, 26 Combe Road, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5HX tel.01225 832772.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Abbey Church House

Our study of Abbey Church House is the second time round in the “oldest house” stakes. It used to be said that Sally Lunn’s was built in the 1480s, the home of the Dukes of Kingston (a Dukedom not created until 1715, not long after the family acquired the Bath property). There was trouble when we first pointed out that Sally Lunn’s was built by George Parker, carpenter, in 1622, and in fact we left it to Stephen Bird to be Valiant for Truth on that occasion. It is fortunate that the history of Abbey Church House is as romantic as people believe, even if in slightly different ways. Some powerful families and leading Bath citizens have been connected with it. The Iyves were an important Wiltshire family, and Honor Savile turns out to have been a Hungerford - a gentlewoman who sat, no doubt, elegantly embroidering the Savile map. She and her husband, Dr.E.Savile, would have been quite capable of producing the drawing and its text (which certainly appears to be a pastiche). We are quite happy to believe the Savile map was the prototype for an embroidery design. (We have not made progress with the Internet yet, but will report when we have.)

Ela

The true story of Abbey Church House would make a marvellous TV series, or historical novel. It would need a connecting link from age to age, perhaps some local family, or a family of retainers, like Blackadder and Baldrick, but not quite so repellent. Another story which would make a marvellous novel (if one has not already been written) is that of Ela, Countess of Salisbury, whose husband’s arms are in the landing window at Abbey Church House, though not apparently because of any connection with the house.

Ela was the daughter of William D’Evreux, 2nd Earl of Salisbury, who died in 1196. She was made a ward of Richard Coeur de Lion (1189-1199) and in 1198, at the age of 11 or 12, she was married to his illegitimate half-brother William Longespée (reputed to be the son of Fair Rosamond of the grove at Woodstock), so that William could become Earl of Salisbury. The couple had several sons and daughters.

William died in 1226, when Ela was forty. He was buried in Salisbury Cathedral, which they had had rebuilt, each laying a foundation stone. At 46, Ela founded Hinton Charterhouse as an abbey for men and Lacock for women, in memory of William Longespée. She is said to have laid the foundation stones of both in one day, riding sixteen miles to do so. In 1238, at 52, she joined Lacock and in 1242 became its first abbess. It was a less strict community than some; inmates did not take perpetual vows, and could visit their families. She died there at 75.

Her son William had been killed in one of the crusades, and legend says that as she sat in her pew in the chapel she saw a vision of him passing into heaven, before she heard the report of his death. Lacock must have been a beautiful building, set in the countryside near what is now an old-world village. The convent was reputed to be a blessing to the neighbourhood in its care of the sick and the poor. The Commissioners later found the nuns right virtuous, and desirous to continue religious, but in spite of this the convent was suppressed in 1539. Apart from kitchens, bakeries and the like, it seems the nuns only had one fire, in the “warming room”, but life in general was less comfortable than it is now.

Deep on the convent roof the snows
Are sparkling to the moon:
My breath to heaven like vapour goes:
May my soul follow soon!

Tennyson: *St. Agnes*.

Georgian Map

The Survey has dropped from its objectives the idea of creating a reconstructed Georgian map of Bath in the same kind of detail as the Kingston map. There is no one period at which the old city could be crystallised in one photograph, as it were. As Furney Burney said in her day, Georgian Bath was a vast building site, and rang with constant change. It seems better to continue with the present programme of annotating authentic contemporary maps. People often ask what the difference is between the Survey and the Friends of the Survey. Both are part of a movement aimed at reconstructing old Bath and studying the life of its actual citizens. As paid-up members of societies,

those who join the Survey are committed to keeping its programme going, those who join the Friends are not, only to supporting its aims. So far only Mike and Elizabeth have joined the Survey and are committed to publishing a map every year, bringing out the Chapman history, producing the magazine *The Survey*, and so on. In practice members of the Friends often work just as hard at subjects of their choice. We would never have brought out the Charlton map without John Hawkes (one of the co-authors), Connie Smith, Allan Keevil, and others (whether Friends or not) who have helped us.

ON HISTORY AS FACT

In a very interesting article in *Guidelines*, the magazine for the mayor's guides, John Bulman explains how two tourists left one of his walks because of his "sexist" remarks. In discussion later, someone pointed out to him that at the Cross Bath for instance he had talked about kings bringing their queens there to cure infertility, and had not added that kings can be infertile too.

The chief king behind the story, James II, was not infertile. This is historical fact. He already had two children, Mary and Anne, both of whom later became queens. His second wife, Mary of Modena, was childless after years of marriage. After a course at the Cross Bath, she bore James Edward Stuart, the old Pretender - which cost the couple the throne as the nation did not wish for a Catholic heir. [N.B. The Bath waters were always regarded as efficacious only in curing female infertility (because they neutralised any "superfluity of cold moist humours"), whereas male infertility would have been treated elsewhere by such means as bathing in cold sea water, etc.]

John Bulman then asks humorously whether he should, for example, apologise to Asian listeners for the career of Clive of India. The facts of history might make this a tactless thing to do. It might cause offence to Italians (invading the country and building hot baths), Saxons (taking the city, probably by force), the Danes (burning down the Saxon abbey and looting the town), and French (invading the country, knocking down the second Saxon Abbey and building a new and foreign model). Also the people of Bristol, for having burnt the town apparently more than once, and possibly the Welsh and Scots, with their ancient habit of raiding lowland plains:

The mountain sheep are sweeter
But the valley sheep are fatter,
We therefore deemed it meeter
To carry off the latter.

Do tourists come to gawp, or do they come to learn? We who believe in the ability of every human being to learn, accept the latter. They must face the truth, that for most of its life Bath has been an imperial city. If they cannot accept this, then indeed they cannot stomach history, and should be directed to the nearest theme park.

Roman Bath was part of the Roman empire. The Abbey was part of a spiritual empire, which Augustine called the City of God. For a short time after the break-up of the universal nature of the Church, Bath became a mercantile city, not concerned with conquest of any kind, but only with survival. This is the age which first attracted the Survey of Old Bath. With the Georgians, it became imperial again. The buildings are not there to look pretty, but to evoke imperial seven-hilled Rome. Europe was now in a state of expansion, and although the causes were economic, culturally the leaders of Europe expressed themselves as the successors of Rome, to which all the European territories had belonged.

Roman Bath and Georgian Bath form one artistic concept, one spiritual whole. They are like the Donald Insall design for the Cross Bath, two overlapping circles; on the west of the design old Bath, the Roman, on the east new Bath, in the centre the vesica, the sacred fish of Christendom, the fountain rising to signify the waters. To the Georgians, this new Bath was meant to be a mirror of Rome.

Behind this lay the concept of the well-loved city. The city is the visible expression of inward ideals. Augustine wrote, "Shall we not say, Dear City of God?" This was over, "Christendom" was gone. The Georgians said, Shall we not say, dear city of Rome? How can people expect to look at the city, and refuse to listen to the career of Clive?

The idea of the well-loved city is very ancient, and was of course admirably expressed by the Jewish people. As the English translation says, "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion ... the city of the great King." Outside the Bible, the most famous expression of the well-loved

city in our culture is the speech Thucydides wrote for Pericles prince of Athens:

Such then is the city for whom, lest they should lose her, the men whom we celebrate died a soldier's death: and it is but natural that all of us, who survive them, should wish to spend ourselves in her service...For if I have chanted the glories of the city it was these men and their like who set hand to array her. With them, as with few among Greeks, words cannot magnify the deeds that they have done...

Such were the men who lie here and such the city that inspired them. We survivors may pray to be spared their bitter hour, but must disdain to meet the foe with a spirit less triumphant. Fix your eyes on the greatness of Athens as you have it before you day by day, fall in love with her, and when you feel her great, remember that this greatness was won by men with courage, with knowledge of their duty, and with a sense of honour in action, who, if they failed in any ordeal, disdained to deprive the city of their services, but sacrificed their lives as the best offerings on their behalf. So they gave their bodies to the commonwealth and received, each for his own memory, praise that will never die, and with it the grandest of all sepulchres, not that in which their mortal bones are laid, but a home in the minds of men...For the whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone over their native earth, but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives....

We can be absolutely certain 18th century architects had read Thucydides. Until recently, "everyone" had read him. They set out to build another Athens, another Rome. They saw themselves as the successors of Rome. This spirit amongst Europeans lived on until the Second World War. We know the Second World War was a consequence of it and a judgement on it in its excesses, but one is asking viewers to face the facts: Bath was built as it was, not to be pretty, but to express what men believed:

My father's father saw it not,
And I, belike, shall never come,
To look on that so-holy spot -
The very Rome -

Crowned by all Time, all Art, all Might,
The equal work of Gods and Man,
City beneath whose oldest height -
The Race began! ...

Strong heart with triple armour bound,
Beat strongly, for thy life-blood runs,
Age after Age, the Empire round -
In us thy Sons -

In *The Tale of Two Cities*, Dickens writes of echoes, especially in the close where his central characters live, which is full of echoes of feet, like the feet of all the years that are past and the years that are to come, intruding into their lives. In the days when everyone had read the same great works, everything that was written could echo with references to other things, which the readers would remember. So in his lines about Bath, Swinburne could still evoke all the cities:

Age and grey forgetfulness, time that shifts and veers,
Touch thee not, our fairest, whose charm no rival nears...

Dawn whereof we know not, and noon whose fruit we reap...
Sunset liker sunrise along the shining steep...
Crown at once and gird thee with grace of guardian powers.
Loved of men beloved of us, souls that fame inspheres,
All thine air hath music for him who dreams and hears,
Voices mixed of multitudes, feet of friends that pace,
Witness why for ever, if heaven's face clouds or clears,
Dawn and noon and sunset are one before thy face.

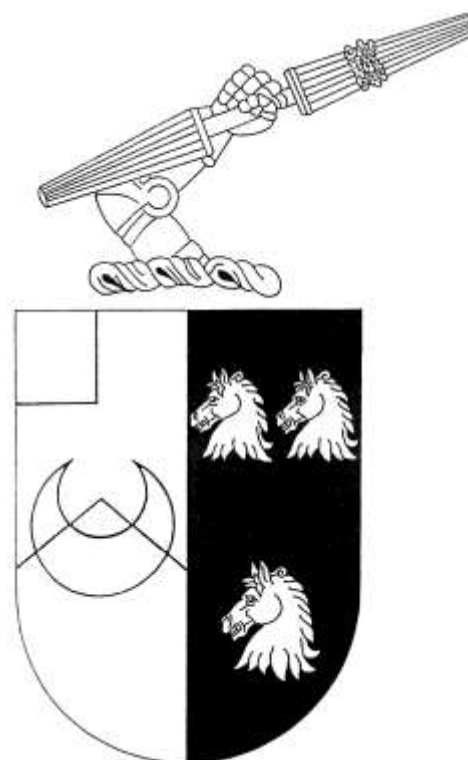
Quotations

Thomas Love Peacock (quoted from memory)/ Psalm 48:2/Thucydides: the History of the Peloponnesian War, Ed.Sir Richard Livingstone, O.U.P.1943, Bk.II, pp.114-116/Rudyard Kipling; "A British-Roman Song (A.D.406)": All the Puck Stories, MacMillan, 1935, p.163/Algernon Charles Swinburne.

CHARLES CHAPMAN'S MEMORIAL AT ST.SWITHIN'S, BATHFORD

Transcribed by Roland Symons, 1997

Sacred to the Memory
of CHARLES CHAPMAN Esq.
Son of the late
Col.Charles Chapman of Bath
and nephew of the late
Revd.JOHN CHAPMAN
Formerly Archdeacon of Bath
and Rector of Newton St.Loe.
He served the Honourable East India
Company in Bengal
with uprightness and integrity
nearly thirty years
and after a short residence in this Parish
died on the 22 March 1809
aged 56 years
Also of
Mary Shaftsbury widow of
Charles Chapman Esquire
who died at Bath on the 29th November 1823
Aged 59
PURE IN HEART
She left to her surviving friends
the bright example
of a holy and heavenly life.



The Chapman arms in St.Swithin's,
drawn by Roland Symons.

Roland Symons writes: "I haven't spelled Shaftsbury wrong - it's the way it's written on the monument! I hope the above is of some interest to you. I hope it clears up the questions of the various dates!" (Issue 6, pp.24-25, carried a discussion of the correct dates on this memorial.)



One of the silver mugs given
by the Archdeacon and
Rector of Bath, the Rev.John
Chapman, to his niece. The
mugs bore the Chapman
arms, and were reputed to
have been given by Queen
Elizabeth to Peter Chapman,
first restorer of the Abbey, as
a token of his service against
the Armada.

FROM BATH TO BRUTON

Irene Clarke

My husband, a qualified surveyor, had always travelled many miles to work in order that the children would be brought up in the country. When they were growing up and either working away from home or at university, we felt we ought to cut down on my husband's tiring journeys but return to more rural surroundings when he retired.

In 1977 we moved to 48 Lyncombe Hill, Bath, where we spent three happy years. We sold our house in 1980 to a priest of the Orthodox Church and his family who are still there. We found the ideal place for our retirement in Westcombe, Batcombe: a well-built seven-year-old bungalow with a beautiful well-maintained acre of garden and an acre paddock in which we kept a couple of sheep to keep the grass down!

Unfortunately my husband died in 1982 a few weeks before he was due to retire. I remained there till 1986 but the garden was beginning to get too much for me and I didn't want to neglect it. I found a very nice cottage in Wyke Champflower, Bruton, where I stayed for 8 1/2 years. By this time I had had a pace-maker fitted and was not getting any younger! I felt I ought to move to somewhere where there was public transport and easier communications as I might not always be able to drive my car.

This time I moved to Frome. I had only been there two years when I had a letter from the Master at Sexey's Hospital, saying that my name which had been on the waiting list for a good many years had now reached the top and was I still interested?

I have now been here a year and love it very much. It is a very happy community, so friendly and helpful. We have our own flats consisting of bedroom, sitting room/dining room, kitchen and bathroom. It is a lovely old 17th century building overlooking a large courtyard with a beautiful old chapel lit by candlelight. It is run by an Anglican priest and his wife. We have a trained nurse who acts as matron and looks after us. There is a large pleasure garden where we can sit out or walk around. A gardener looks after the vegetable and fruit garden and keeps us supplied with fruit and vegetables.

We all think how lucky we are to spend our days in such beautiful surroundings with so much loving care.



Open Day at Bruton Hospital, 1998. Photo: Mike Chapman.

PRIOR'S PARK FROM THE DISSOLUTION TO RALPH ALLEN

John Hawkes

Introduction

An examination of Ralph Allen's deeds, combined with calculating and plotting the areas of various land areas and owners indicates that many traditions about the park are based on imagination rather than facts. Details of the development and land ownership are shown on Figs.1-12.

At the end of the 16th century, when the lands of Prior's Park began to be divided up, the only existing buildings appear to have been the Lodge, possibly medieval, and the mill. Thomas Collet improved the estate within the Park which he acquired in 1676 and by 1703 his house was known as "Pryor's Park House", but there is no evidence that an old Priory building had ever stood there.

By the second decade of the 18th century the Park was held by three families, Pooles, Marchants and Colletts. Ralph Allen acquired land gradually. In 1728 he acquired the Poole estate, enabling him to develop the carriageway for use with the stone quarries, and to begin on the mansion. When he moved into Widcombe to live, it may have been to a house lately built by Thomas Poole. In 1743 he purchased the Collett's estate of 50 acres including "Pryor's Park House". He cannot therefore have carried out work in the Park House area before this date, such as the dairy. In 1751 he bought land from the Marchants: the Lodge and cottage already existed by then and therefore neither could have been created for Allen's gardener Dodsley as is sometimes suggested (at the earlier date of 1740, actually). By his death in 1764 he owned nearly the whole Park: further research is needed on a small part of the Collett's land which also seems to have passed through his hands.

Dissolution

In 1539 the Priory surrendered its lands to the Crown and by 1542 Leyland in his "Itinery" describes the park - "...a mile this syde of Bath by south est I saw 2 parks, enclosyd withe a ruinous stone wall, now witheout dere, - one longyd to the byshoppe, an other to the prior of Bathe."

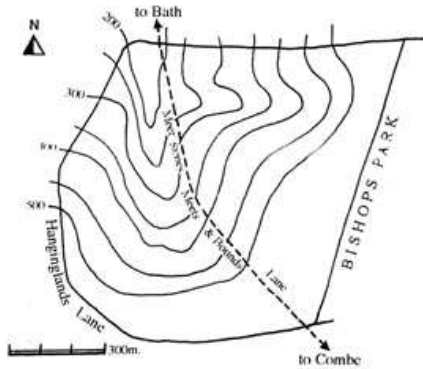
In 1543 the Priory lands including "...that wood called the parke..." were sold by the Crown to Humphrey Colles and by him almost immediately to Matthew Colthurst. Colthurst died in 1559 and was succeeded by his son Edmund, who granted Prior's Park to Robert Webb and Edward Langeford in 1582. Until this time Prior's Park had remained an entity and then its sub-division started, only to be reunited later by Ralph Allen.

In 1592 Webb granted to John Fisher 60 acres "Grod, Soyle and Woody Grod. parcell of the sd.Grod.and Soil called Prior's Park", the Mill and 37 acres of "Wood, Woody Grod.and Soil ... pcel of a Grod.called Prior's Park". He also conveyed to Richard Shute 27 acres "Wood and Woody Grod...of Prior's Park" and 67 acres "Past(ure) Grods...called the Lawnes of Prior's Park....And also one Lodge...within the Circuit of sd.Lawnes." The deeds emphasise the still overgrown and undeveloped character noted by Leland. At this time the only buildings in the park appear to have been the Lodge, which might have remained from medieval times or perhaps been built by the Colthursts, and the mill.

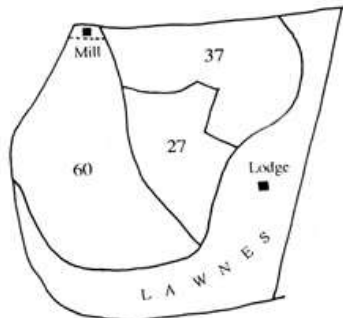
For some time after this until the latter half of the 17th century all the lands of the park were vested in a combination of groups of local people. During this period major improvements appear to have taken place - the 27 acres had been improved with a barn and cultivated closes; on the 37 acres a messuage or dwelling house, stables and other buildings had been erected; and the 60 acres had a barn, other buildings, a fishpond, orchard and hopyard at the northern end.

Then in 1646 the Western and Little Lawnes of 23 acres were assigned to Thomas Shute, and in 1685 the remaining 53 acres (7 had been sold) of the 60 acres were assigned to his son Thomas Jnr.of Monkton Combe. Shute Jnr.died c.1711 leaving Monkton Combe to his son, but the Prior's Park lands to his widow Mary, who soon remarried, Thomas Poole. Poole then erected a "Messuage or Tenemt.& Stable" on the 53 acres. In 1651 the Eastern Lawnes of the 36 acres with the Lodge and the "Eastern" halfendale of the 27 acres including half the barn, were assigned to Ann Walter and in 1711 sold by William Walter to Edward Marchant. Four years later the "Western" halfendale of the 27 acres, including half the barn (but by then a cottage and garden), which had passed through several hands, were sold by William Walter to Edward Marchant.

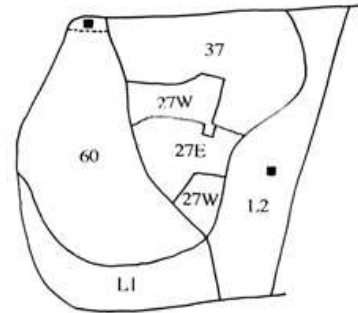
PRIOR'S PARK – SEQUENCE OF OWNERSHIP FROM THE DISSOLUTION TO THE TIME OF RALPH ALLEN.



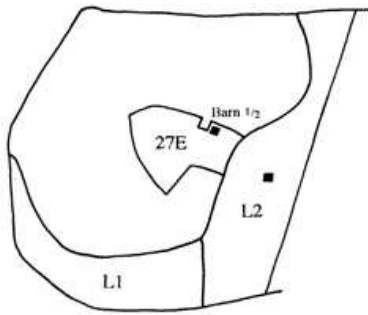
1543. Crown to H.Colles
Colles to M.Colthurst
1582. E.Colthurst to R.Webb



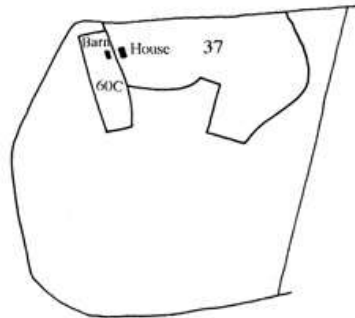
1592. 60: Webb to John Fisher
37: Webb to John Fisher
27: Webb to Richard Shute
L: Webb to Richard Shute
1606. 27+L: Shute to J.Fisher jnr.



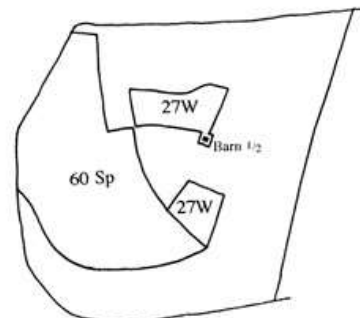
Vested in c.1620-1685 to:
L1: Wm. & Ann Shute; and Goodhind
L2: Wm, John, & Elizabeth Shute; and John Sheppard
60: John & Ann Sheppard
37: John & Ann Sheppard; and G.Morris; and F.Little
27W: Wm. & Richd. Shute
27E: Wm, John, & Elizabeth Shute; and John Sheppard



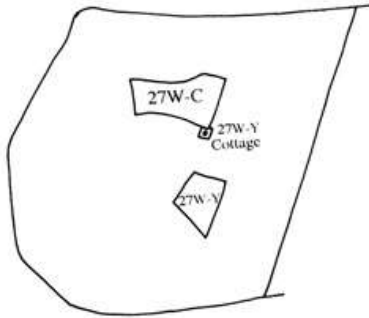
1646. L1: vested to Thos. Shute
1651. L2: vested to Ann Walter
1651. 27E: vested to Ann Walter



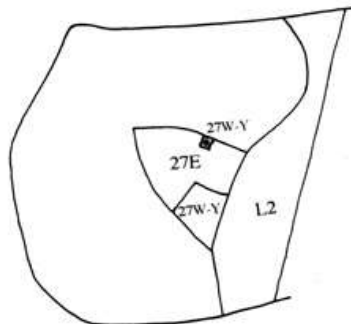
1676. 37: vested to Thos. Collett
1676. 60C: vested to Thos. Collett



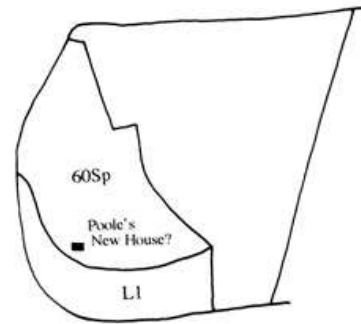
1679. 27W: vested to Wm. Atwood
1685. 60Sp: vested to Thos. Shute jnr.



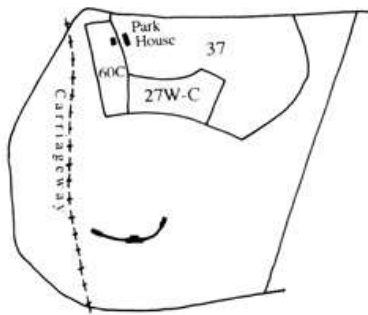
1698. 27W-C: Wm. Atwood to Thos. Collett
1703. 27W-Y: Wm. Atwood to Francis Chambery



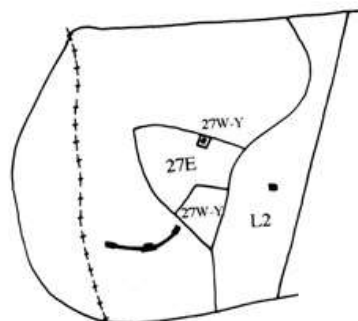
1711. L2: Wm. Walter to Ed. Marchant
27E: Wm. Walter to Ed. Marchant
1715. 27W-Y: Chambery to Ed. Marchant



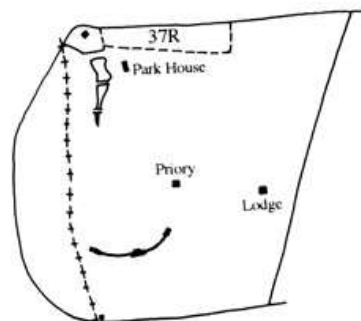
1728. 60Sp: Poole (ex Shute) to R. Allen
1728. L1: Poole (ex Shute) to R. Allen



1743. 37: S&T. Collett to R. Allen
60C: S&T. Collett to R. Allen
27W-C: S&T. Collett to R. Allen



1751 L2: E. Marchant to R. Allen
27E: E. Marchant to R. Allen
27W-Y: E. Marchant to R. Allen



c.1760. Survey of the Manors
37R: may have been sold

In 1676 Thomas Collett acquired the 37 acres including a house and stables as well as 7 acres of the 60 acres including a Barn, Oxstalls, a Fishpond, Orchard, and a close called the Hopyard, and in 1698 acquired a field part of the “Western” halfendale of the 27 acres to create an estate of over 50 acres. Collett obviously improved the estate and by 1703 the house was known as “Pryor’s Park House”. This name has probably led to the traditions that an old Priory building stood here and was used in the construction of the Lodge or Priory higher up in the park, but no building seems to have existed in 1592.

So by the second decade of the 18th century the Park was held by three families - the Pooles, Marchants and the Colletts.

Ralph Allen

Ralph Allen’s first acquisition was the Western Lawns (23 acres) and the 53 acres of the 60 acres from Mary Poole in 1728. This allowed Allen to develop the carriageway from his mines in Combe Down to the River Avon and also in about 1735 to start work on the mansion of Prior Park. At this time Allen left Bath to live in Widcombe and it is quite possible that he moved into the Poole’s newly built house (c.1720). Pictures of the house Allen is reputed to have lived in are architecturally of this period and could have provided the views over Bath described by Pope.

This was the extent of Allen’s land in Prior Park when Thorpe carried out his survey of Allen’s property in 1741 and prepared his plan of Five Miles around Bath in 1742. (Fig.13)

In 1743 Allen purchased the 50 acre estate from the Colletts, including the House, barn, stables, garden, orchards, fishpond and hopyard. Therefore, it was not possible for Allen to have carried out work, such as the dairy, in the Park House area before this date, as has been suggested.

In 1751 Allen acquired the 36 acres of the Lawns and the 27 acres (less Collett’s field) from Elizabeth Marchant (widow of John, Edward’s son). The buildings on Thorpe’s plan show the Lodge and the cottage and these could not be the house built for Allen’s gardener Dodsley in 1740 as is often supposed.

At Allen’s death in 1764 he owned the whole park except, it appears, the northern fields of Collett’s 37 acres, which are blank on the Survey of the Manor, shown on the 1799 plan as “Mr.West’s Freehold”, and not included in the 1828 sale of the estate. This land seems to have been acquired by Allen as it is in the notes of the purchase in the Thorpe reference and included in the deeds, although there is some evidence that it may have belonged to Mr.Murford before 1743. Further research may provide the answer.



SOME THOUGHTS ON THE HALLADAY & WHEELER PATENT WINDMILL INSTALLED AT THE FULLER'S EARTH WORKS, BATH

Stuart Burroughs

In June 1890¹ a consortium of Bath based Fuller's Earth extraction and processing operations announced their launch as a new concern, The Fuller's Earth Union. The merger incorporated six sites on the hills to the south and south-west of Bath, at Odd Down and Combe Down where the usable Fuller's Earth strata come near the surface, and some of the operations were simply surface extraction pits (eg. at Southstoke). The Fuller's Earth was extracted as a wet clay and although it could be supplied in this form it was normally dried, dressed and milled prior to sale and despatch. With the formation of the Fuller's Earth Union (FEU) and the pooling of funds it was felt appropriate to construct a brand new processing installation above the extensive underground workings on the Fosse Way at Odd Down in the parish of Combe Hay.²

There had in fact been some form of works on this site after 1887 although its extent is unknown. This may have been some drying and processing plant on a small scale later incorporated into the later works, although it may simply have been a storage facility. No plans exist of this facility although it would appear that the later buildings occupied the same site. The new works included up to 4 coke fired kilns for the drying of the Fuller's Earth in flat pans with hypocaust heating, dressing equipment and milling equipment. There were extensive storage facilities and offices. The clay was extracted below this works via adit entrances into the hill to the south of the works itself and the clay was then winched up via two tracked 'ways' directly to the drying kilns. (See diagram).

The new works site was remote and some distance from the village of Combe Hay and the Odd Down district of Bath. There was no gas or electricity supply or corporation water supply and its location at the top of the long hill of Wells Road and Wells Way from the city would have incurred considerable expense and effort to transport coal in quantity to drive the works exclusively by steam. It would appear that the provision of a windmill to power the grinding equipment was undertaken when the site was being planned. Evidence of this is shown in an early photograph which shows the windmill as an intrinsic part of the structure as opposed to something added at a later date.

The milling equipment was relatively light to work (2 mills were provided)³ and the hilltop location took advantage of the brisk prevailing south-westerly winds. The FEU engaged The U.S. Wind Engine and Pumping Co. of Batavia, Illinois to supply the most sophisticated type of large annular windmill of 36ft. in diameter to power the works. Windmill design had been perfected in the United States by this period and this company, supplying "wind engines" of up to 60ft. in diameter had acquired a reputation amongst those requiring water pumping or milling in remote locations. It is possible that the suppliers may have been commissioned to supply the milling equipment as well as the power plant.

The demand for Fuller's Earth had in part been stimulated by the needs of the U.S. oil extraction and processing industry which used the clay as a filter and decolouriser. In addition Fuller's Earth reserves were being exploited in Arkansas and in fact these reserves were later acquired by the FEU in 1897. It may well have been by word of mouth recommendation through contacts in the USA that this company was engaged to install a wind engine at Bath.

If they did manage to insure the site the insurance company may have insisted on the building being laid out with any possible fire risks minimised. The layout of the works certainly recognised the need to separate the milling operation and the kilns and boiler, however in such a small operation practical considerations would have had these installations relatively close together. Premiums would have been quite high and there is always the possibility that the works had no fire insurance at all⁴. This was by no means unusual even in modern milling installations at this time. The nearest fire engine was based in the city of Bath behind the Guildhall. On the 17 January 1909⁵ the Bath Chronicle reported on the difficulties in dealing with fires on the hills around Bath due to the two horses stabled (and only on immediate call between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.) having to haul a 2½ ton fire engine up the long roads to the hilltops.

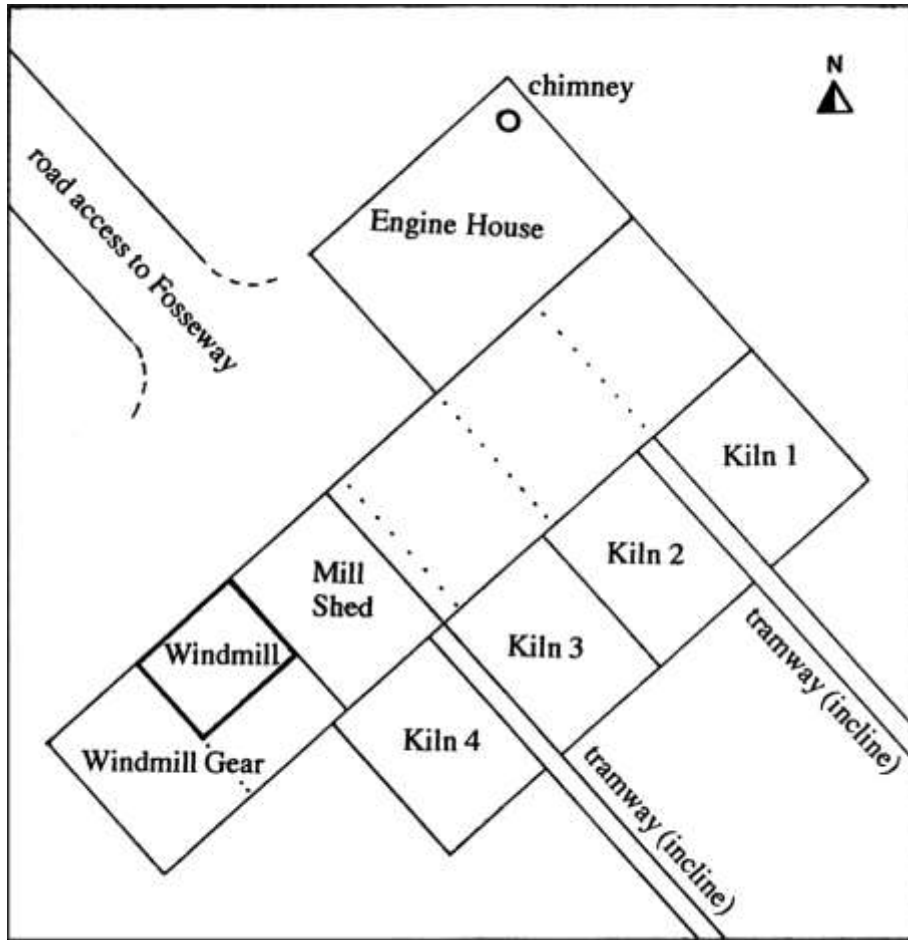
The works seems to have prospered between the mid 1890s and the mid 1900s with a staff of around 10 or 12. As the most sophisticated plant in the FEU at this time it is possible that the Fuller's Earth extracted from other sites nearby was brought here for processing and despatch, and the works became known colloquially as the "Windmill Works".



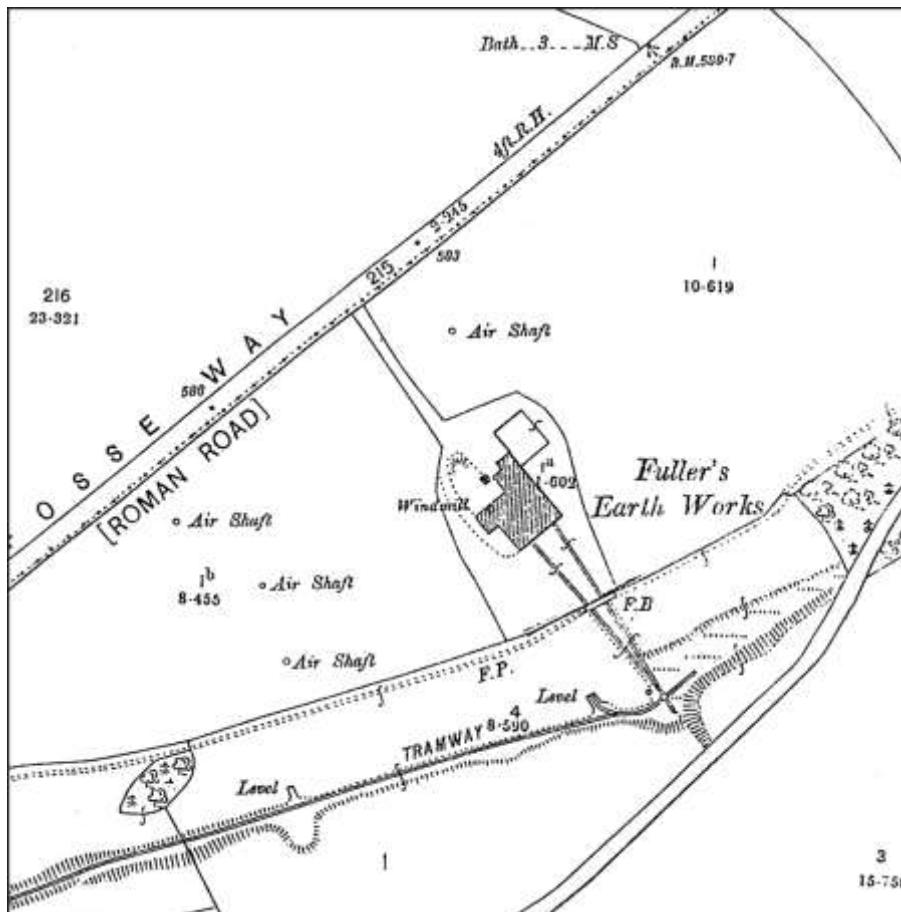
At some time 1908-1910 the windmill and parts of the works were destroyed by fire⁶. We have no information as to when or how the fire started as the incident was not reported in the local press(!), however Laporte Industries who absorbed the FEU in the 1940s reported in their staff magazine of Summer 1942 that the "Bath windmill was destroyed by fire around 1908". Laporte are unable to provide the documents which show this was the date, however Surrey Record Office hold some records concerning the Bath FEU operation from 1911. It has not been possible to view these records due to local government reorganisation at Surrey but the author hopes to examine the papers in 1999. It may be they will shed some light onto the fire.

It may be that these records date from the re-establishment of the processing at Bath, which may suggest the fire occurred nearer to 1910. The fire may have been caused by any number of things at the works described above, oil lamps, coke or coal fired equipment, the windmill being struck by lightning (being the highest metal object in the vicinity), etc, etc. Was the fire brigade called? If so how did the message get to them? There was no telephone and the engine miles away. If they were called (and one must assume so) did they get there to do any good? In a stiff breeze the fire could have been transferred to the wooden cladding of the tower and brought down the wheel. In the dusty environment of the mill friction sparks from the equipment or hot oil may have started a conflagration. Until the Surrey papers are examined there is no way of knowing the extent of the blaze but it must certainly have looked dramatic and visible from some distance. Although the present derelict buildings had been considerably altered during the 20th century some rubble walling from the original building survives with evidence of scorching of the Bath Stone.

It is not known how long the works were out of action but some parts may still have been operating almost as soon as the fire was out. It is conceivable that although milling was no longer possible the kilns may have been operating and the dried Fuller's Earth could be transported to other milling plant (for example the installation at Tucking Mill, Midford). Records exist for the Combe Hay works from 1915 and refer to the installation of a "new" stationary steam engine and boiler as power plant supplied by Griffin Engineering Co.Ltd.of Bath⁷.



Sketch plan of the Fuller's Earth works and Windmill, c.1900.



Location of the Fuller's Earth works beside the Wells Road, c.1900.

This plant would have completely replaced the former windmill and back-up engine and is likely to have been more powerful than the former Fowler engine. At least one of the mills was replaced around 1910 as evidence in later business correspondence suggests the milling equipment was damaged if not completely destroyed.

Research is being conducted in Batavia, Illinois to determine whether any information regarding the despatch of the Bath windmill exists and this can be reported at a later date. Laporte Industries claim that the windmill was the largest in England at the time, whether this was simply promotional hype is unknown until further information is forthcoming.

Only two photographs confirmed as the Bath works exist, one of which appears to show the works in construction and which shows the complete extent of the works with the windmill without sails. The other shows the works complete and in operation (smoke issues from a chimney) taken around 1904. In order that processing of the Fuller's Earth could continue at times of low wind or very high wind when the engine was "locked", a steam plant of boiler and engine was provided by Fuller & Son of Leeds⁸. Coal would need to have been supplied for the boiler and coke for the kilns, this appears to have come from Bath Gas Light & Coke Co.Ltd.⁹, while the coal may have been supplied by the collieries of the North Somerset Coalfield nearby.

In an 18 m.p.h. wind a 36ft. diameter windmill was capable of developing 12 horse power, quite sufficient for the equipment installed here. The advantage of the annular type lay not in the number of sails providing more power but in the lightness of the components, with cheaper shipping costs and the ease of construction. The wind wheel pivoted atop a light steel tower, clad with wood barge boarding and the speed of the wheel was automatically governed by equipment which in times of higher winds could turn the sails or vanes "out of the wind". Power was transmitted to the machinery below directly via a vertical shaft and taken off by countershafting below. The speed was governed directly from the wind vanes¹⁰.

It is most likely that roller milling was undertaken here as a roller mill certainly replaced the original large mill some time later.

Construction of the new works would probably not have started much before the end of 1890 even if they decided, planned, designed and contracted out the construction work almost straight away. It may well have been several years after the formation of the Union before the works was "under way". By 1891 post was being received from the Combe Hay site by J.B.Bowler of Bath, engineer and brass founder¹¹, however this may have been from the construction site or from the smaller installation the FEU had taken over in 1890.

The question of insurance against fire is an interesting point. Given the remoteness and the propensity of milling operations, particularly those lit by oil lamps like this one with steam powered back-up, coke fire kilns, etc.to burst into flames, the FEU may have found securing fire insurance difficult.

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5. *Bath Chronicle*, 17 January 1909
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8. *ibid.*
9. Bath Gas Light & Coke Co.Archive Collection, Bath Industrial Heritage Centre
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My great thanks to Owen Ward and Alison Smith

THE CITY WALL OF BATH. A CURRENT OVERVIEW OF ITS SURVIVAL

Marek Lewcun

The City Wall is one of the most important features of Bath's historical landscape. The standing portion of wall opposite the Mineral Water Hospital on Upper Borough Walls, much repaired as it is, still stands today very much as it would have done many centuries ago, affording the defender ample opportunity to repel any that considered invading the city. Here alone does the City Wall still stand in all its former glory, a familiar sight to historians, visitors and citizens alike.

Several investigations into its origins have been undertaken in the second half of this century. The first study of the wall was published by Bill Wedlake in 1966, in consequence of excavations undertaken by the Bath & Camerton Archaeological Society in 1951 and 1962 on the wall at the south-east corner of the circuit. The wall had been exposed as a result of bombing during the Second World War, and the face of the wall could be seen for a length of over 160ft. A few years later, in 1965, and not far to the north, Professor Barry Cunliffe was able to examine more of the wall at the back of the former Fernley Hotel, and more was learned of the nature of its construction. It was to be another 15 years before the defences were once again examined.

In 1979 development was commenced to refurbish Nos. 1-4 Upper Borough Walls and Nos. 6-9 New Bond Street, alongside the demolition of the remainder of the site and the construction of a new block. For the first time this made it possible, in May 1980, to examine scientifically the broader spectrum of the defensive network beyond the wall itself. The excavations were carried out by Tim O'Leary, and the results were published in *Medieval Archaeology* Volume XXV (1980), the journal of the Society for Medieval Archaeology. It was only possible, in the circumstances, to excavate physically two relatively small trenches, but staggered and aligned in such a way as to retrieve a considerable amount of information regarding the wall and the development of the defences outside it.

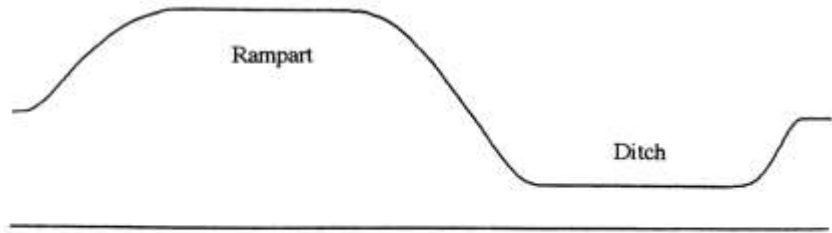
This paper does not seek to repeat previous findings any further than necessary, and the present author recommends a reading of the reports by William Wedlake and Tim O'Leary for fuller discussions of the defences and excavations up to 1980. In summary, the excavations at Upper Borough Walls recovered evidence of a 2nd century rampart and a ditch beyond it as the first defence of the city. In the early part of the 3rd century the rampart was terraced away on its outer side to receive the construction of a wall, with a crude metalling along the berm at its foot and the ditch possibly widened to approximately 20m. During the Saxon period the ditch was re-cut and new breastwork added torevet the berm, and there were similar additions either during the latter years of this period or soon after the Norman Conquest. This general arrangement of wall, metalled way and ditch continued throughout medieval and post-medieval times, with periodic repairs and appropriate measures at times of unrest.

It has been widely assumed that the developing peacetime obsolescence of the wall led to its almost total demolition during the 18th century, it serving as a valuable source of building materials for the rapidly developing townscape, and with only the portion at Upper Borough Walls left as a small reminder of its existence. Excavations and observations by Bath Archaeological Trust in recent years, however, have proved this not to be the case. Certainly parts of the wall are documented to have been broken through to accommodate cellars, but the robbing and demolition was certainly not as wholesale as had been previously thought. The work over many years by Elizabeth Holland and Marta Inskip has recorded many references to encroachment around and upon it, and now physical examination in certain areas, at least, gives a clearer picture of the wall today.

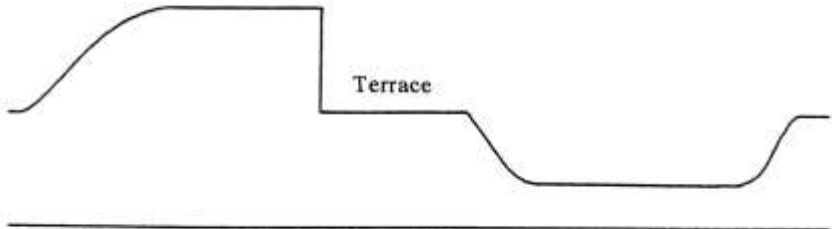
In 1987 the opportunity arose to carry out excavations in the cellars of Broadleys Public House, west of the surviving portion of the wall at Upper Borough Walls. Here, the berm and inner side of the ditch were found to have been abandoned in a state of disrepair prior to the structural development of the site. The footings of the City Wall were discovered surviving to a few feet beyond the pavement at this point. Its outer face, at least, had been stripped away prior to the construction of the cellar wall that stands there today. Around the corner, excavations prior to the development of the Seven Dials site in 1990 exposed a continuation of the ditch and Roman surface outside the wall, which itself was only briefly exposed in a service trench below the street.

DIAGRAMMATIC DETAILS OF CITY DEFENCES

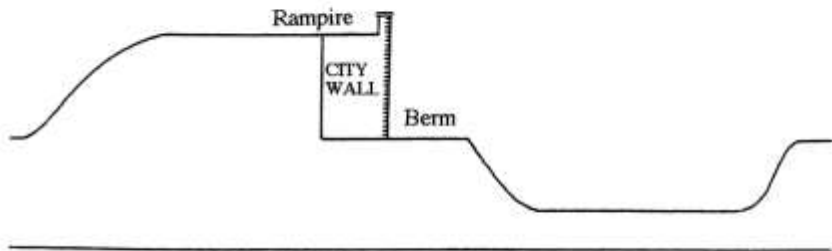
Cutting of ditch and casting up of rampart on inside edge.



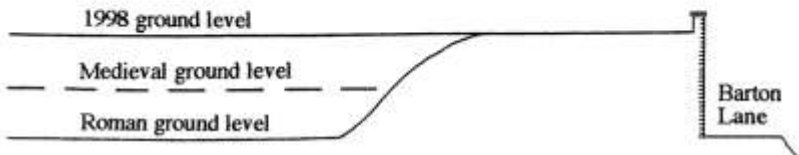
Terrace cut into rampart, ready for construction of city wall.



Wall construction on terrace, leaving berm between it and the ditch.



Development of city over time, and levelling of demolition sites, gradually brings city ground surface level with the rampires and city wall.



The city wall in a cellar beneath Terrace Walk. The opening on the right appears to be the result of an unsuccessful attempt to break through the wall.

Photo: Bath Archaeological Trust.

It was as a result of excavations and observations behind the Empire Hotel that a full reassessment was made of the potential for the wall's survival elsewhere. Below the south tea terrace and extending under the pavement, a short stretch of wall was seen to survive to a height of 2.68m when the Admiralty vacated the hotel in 1989. Work to replace rusting girders supporting the pavement revealed that the wall reached right up to virtually the underside of the paving slabs, while trenches for new supporting pillars showed the face of the wall carrying on to the remains of Lot Lane a further 2.22m down. This gives a total surviving height of 4.90m, or 16ft.1in., a satisfactory post-script to O'Leary's report that a wall of 5m. would have been necessary to climb above the rampart.

The face of the wall below the south side of the hotel had been very much repaired, as would have become necessary during its former long-term exposure to the elements. Part of the inner width had been broken through after 1787 (information courtesy of Marta Inskip) to extend the 1740 cellars of Thomas Atwood's lodging house annexe. Here, in the mid-19th century, a tank for the production of carbon dioxide gas was cut through the floor, serving an aerated water manufactory on the site. None of these activities, however, had succeeded in destroying the core of the wall, which was distinctly Roman in its construction of concreted lime-rich gravel and small stones between the two faces, or *diamicton*, as Vitruvius called it. The wall at this point was found to have been in excess of 2.5m (8ft.2in.) wide.

Below the remainder of the hotel, Major Davis had all but destroyed the wall, leaving only the very base of its footing in just one small area. At this point the footing of the wall had been 2.7m. (8ft.10in.), a mere 0.20m. (8in.) short of the 2.9m. (9ft.6in.) recorded at the Upper Borough Walls excavation. One feature common to both sites was that, after the rampart had been cut back to receive it, the wall had been constructed from the level of the original pre-Roman ground surface. At the Empire the defensive Roman ditch was set 8m. away from the wall face, compared to 5m. at Upper Borough Walls. The combination of wall, broad ditch and slippery clay bank adjoining the river would have together proved a most formidable barrier to any army foolish enough to attempt a breach of the defences at this point. The only obvious addition to the defensive circuit here had been a narrow ditch close to the foot of the wall, either late Saxon or early Norman in origin and deliberately filled in during the second half of the 12th century.

Immediately north of the Empire at the time of the excavations, access had been made into a rank of three long and unusually tall cellars on the opposite side of Boatstall Lane, below the Guildhall Market. Here, the opportunity was taken to see if the wall had survived any further north of the East Gate. Remarkably, the wall was seen to survive for some considerable length and height, adopted as the west wall of the cellars and with the battlements clearly visible at one point. This prompted an examination, further south, of the cellars belonging to the shops in Terrace Walk to see if there too the wall had been incorporated. Most were not long enough to reach the wall, but in front of the bakery at the south-east end of the terrace the cellar had been extended. Here, once more, the wall had been left fully exposed and its back adopted as the east cellar wall. An attempt had been made at some point in the past to break through the wall, and the Roman style of solid mortaring had clearly been met with as a determined obstacle.

It was by this point clear that a substantial portion of the City Wall survived hidden below the streets. A re-examination of a short length of the rear wall of Galloway's Buildings, almost directly above Professor Cunliffe's excavations in the small garden at the rear of the Fernley Hotel in 1965, suggested that here too the wall had been adopted up to battlements height. Even one of the cellars below the hotel itself had been constructed at such an angle that its west wall could utilise the City Wall from which to spring its vault.

More recently, in 1996, an excavation was made possible in the cellars of No.9 Lower Borough Walls, on the south side of the circuit. Here again, the outer face of the wall was found to survive in a similar fashion to that at the Empire Hotel, from the offset of its foundations and through the roof of the vault and upwards towards a point not far short of the road surface. Unlike its continuation elsewhere, the coursework of the face at this point appeared to be of Roman work and mortar. If such a date is correct then its survival through the Saxon period could perhaps have been as a result of its dry south-facing aspect, where destructive parasitic flora would not have flourished in the mortar joints as well as it would have done on other more sheltered parts of the circuit. Its continued survival through the Medieval period could be attributed to its close proximity to the guarded South Gate, where it would have been less vulnerable to attack from stone robbers.

The degree of survival of the City Wall around Bath is now far more evident than it has been before, and so too is the understanding of its structure and exactly why it has survived. Recent excavations have added considerable weight to the results of previous work. Governor Pownall's description of the nature of the wall's core when investigating in Upper Borough Walls in 1795, as "harder than any stone of this country; the workmen could not break it without sledgehammers", was no exaggeration. It is this very nature that led 18th century developers to build up and over the outside of the wall rather than waste time breaking it down to accommodate cellars. Pownall himself stated that "The workmen could easily separate and take away the outward face...but the breaking up of the cemented rocky part was a work of too much labour and expense to be of practicable use".

The wall served as a good and particularly solid foundation on which to build, there having been no point in taking it down, at some expense, only to build another. In places, such as at Orange Court for example and visible in the Lockey calotype view of the City Walls fronting Lot Lane, recently deposited at the City Archives, the castellations were found to be ideal apertures in which to set windows. Once the land developed immediately outside the wall, only its parapet and castellations were strictly obstructions, and "breaches" of the wall to improve 18th century access referred only to this in the vast majority of cases rather than the wall as a whole. The city has merely built up, around, and over the wall, encasing it within its many cellars, and in doing so preserving a potentially large part of it for many more years to come.

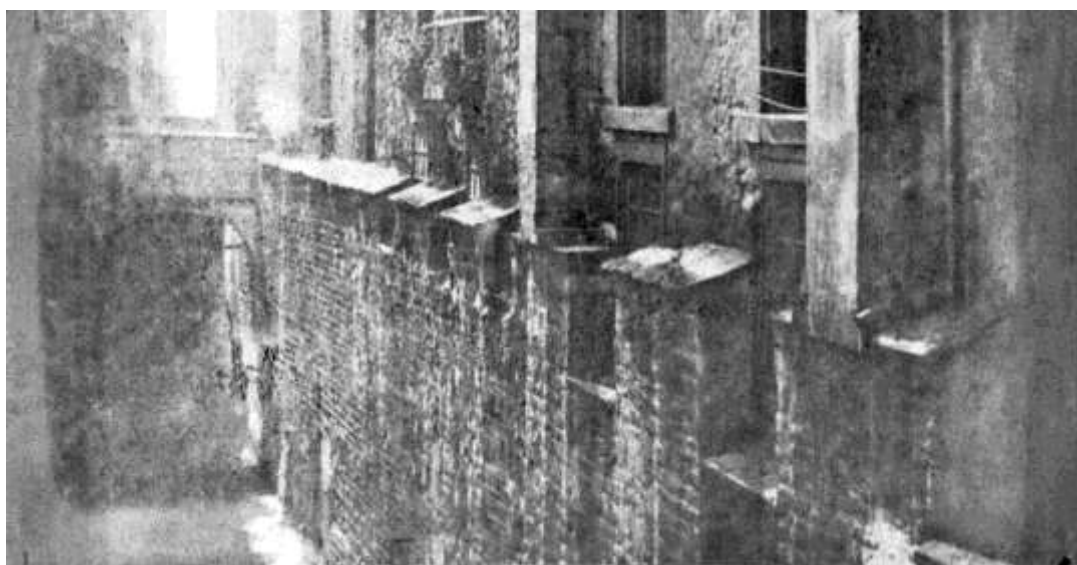
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The construction of the wall was without any doubt a massive undertaking in its day, and it is important that this is considered. The cutting back of the ramparts would have been very labour intensive, and involved moving large quantities of spoil away. This may have been either used to create additional earthworks, or perhaps moved to a temporary location before being used as infill material once the stone for the wall had been quarried. Certainly somewhere on the slopes around Bath, there would have been one very large hole in the ground in order to quarry a sufficient amount of stone to create the wall. Given the wall's length of circa 1,150m., multiplied by the requisite 5m to reach the top of the rampart and an average width of 2.8m., a volume of 16,100 cubic metres of stone would have been required, to which the battlements might have added a further 1,150 cubes, bringing a total of 17,600 cubic metres. In real terms this equates to enough stone to fill the Pump Room more than seven and a half times, or to dig a hole as deep as the Pump Room for almost the entire length of Stall Street. In terms of weight, at 2.5 tons per cubic metre, this is 44,000 tons.



The city wall on the south side of East Gate in the 1840s, from a calotype in the Becker collection held by the Bath Record Office. Note the windows showing through the crenellations of the parapet. Just visible, below left, is Lot Lane together with the arch of the bridge joining Orange Court to Winchester House.

THE HETLING HOUSE AND HETLING PUMP ROOM SITES

UPDATE

Elizabeth Holland

In Issue 9, we summed up the material Mike Chapman and I had been collecting on the Hetling sites. The object was to define what buildings were being discussed, at what period and on what exact spots, and to state what was currently known about them. From time to time we appealed for further information, especially about the families said to have been connected with the sites. This produced a wonderful response. Some of our principal helpers are listed in the following section on the heraldry and families of Abbey Church House. We have also collected further details ourselves and have visited several sites here and elsewhere.

This study has now passed beyond the scope of voluntary research, and we have been holding talks on the possibility of raising some kind of grant to cover expenses and to commission expert advice on certain points. Until then we are not planning to continue it, certainly not at the pace sustained so far.

This article offers some corrections and emendations to the report in Issue 9. Some of these are due to errors in typing, for which I must apologise. The report was very difficult to assemble in time and there was no opportunity for a final proof-reading. It is a wonder Mike managed to put all the sheets and diagrams into the correct order. Other items are due to further reflection and discussion. The article stated that it was not definitive, but part of the ongoing effort to assemble the history of the sites.

[ftt = from the top. ftb = from the bottom.]

The Great Hall. P.21, line 5 ftb. Although it is sometimes referred to as the Great Hall, even in print, this room is officially known as the Great Room, the name painted on its door. It runs across the north side of the Tudor section of the house, looking north towards St.John's.

Risden. P.21, line 3 ftb. Would usually be spelt Risdon or Risedon. (Quarterings 2 and 3 are painted as Risdon, but students of the Clarke family prefer Bolton.)

1571. P.22, line 7 ftt. Should be 1572 as in line 4.

Footnote. Halfway down p.22. In his text on his 1735 map, John Wood states that the Master of St.John's actually lived on the site of the old church called Little St.Michael's, St.Michael's Within, or St.Michael's by the Baths. "22, St.Michael's Chapel, now a House for the Master of St.John's Hospital."

Robert Ward. P.26, line 19 ftt. The date should read 1626.

Wine trade. P.28, line 13 ftb. We have not found confirmation that Ernest Hetling engaged in the wine trade. An article by Alan Mason in *Guidelines* 28, states that William ran a distillery in Bristol, traded in wines and spirits and advertised in the *Chronicle*.

The black doors. P.30, line 3 ftt. When they were photographed for the Baths exhibition, such paint as was on these doors was black. They are now a very dark green.

The demolished St.John's tenement. P.30, line 16 ftt. This was south of the St.Mary Magdalen property, not east.

Deed Packet, west side of Hot Bath Street. P.30, line 2 ftb. Should be 2554.

Anstice's shop. P.32, lines 21-22 ftt. Although photographs show the upper storey of Anstice's shop near Hot Bath Street still standing after the bombing, later photographs show this storey demolished during the clearing-up.

Charles Davis. P.32, first line of the Abbey Church House section. Charles Davis first acquired an interest in Abbey Church House through buying up Matthews' property at auction in 1817. Bath and West Minutes, BRO.

Lease to the Abbey. Line following the above. Should read 1889 as in the footnote.

FAMILIES AND HERALDRY OF ABBEY CHURCH HOUSE

Elizabeth Holland, Mike Chapman and others

We have to thank all those who have assisted us in our study following the article in Issue 9, especially John Ede, Stephen Slater and Roland Symons on heraldry; Joan Hasler and Brian Luker on the Clarkes; John Macdonald and John Wroughton on the Hungerfords. Also Gus Astley of Built Heritage for showing us round the Hetling Pump House, Pete Addison for showing us Hetling House (No.2 Hetling Court), and Barry Gay and George Perrett for their reception at different times at Abbey Church House. Also the staffs of the various libraries and record offices which have assisted us in finding material.

Different families have been associated with Abbey Church House. In more than one case the suggested connection has been heraldic. This article reviews some of the coats of arms and families concerned.

Our study has confirmed a connection between the Clarke and Hungerford families and Abbey Church House, but has suggested different dates and different arrangements from those given by the old Bath writers. Those modern writers who have quoted Edward Clarke of Chipley and Sir Edward Hungerford, M.P. for Bath in 1625 as primary leaseholders from St.John's - which neither of them was - are not to be blamed. The quotations from the older writers were made in good faith. This present study has involved a number of people in a great deal of work: writers in general cannot be expected to do intensive research on every sentence they write.

Longespée

A panel displaying a coat of arms is inset in the landing window of the grand staircase at Abbey Church House. It is not, as sometimes suggested, connected with the Hungerfords, nor does it seem to have any other connection with Abbey Church House. The shield portrays six gold lions on a blue background: azure six lioncels rampant or 3,2,1.

Besides the Longespées, Papworth mentions two early users of this shield, Sir Roger Morteyn, and de la Forde of Devon. It has been suggested that the panel should be examined by experts to place the glass. If it is an 18th or 19th century collectors' piece, it is likely to represent Longespée.

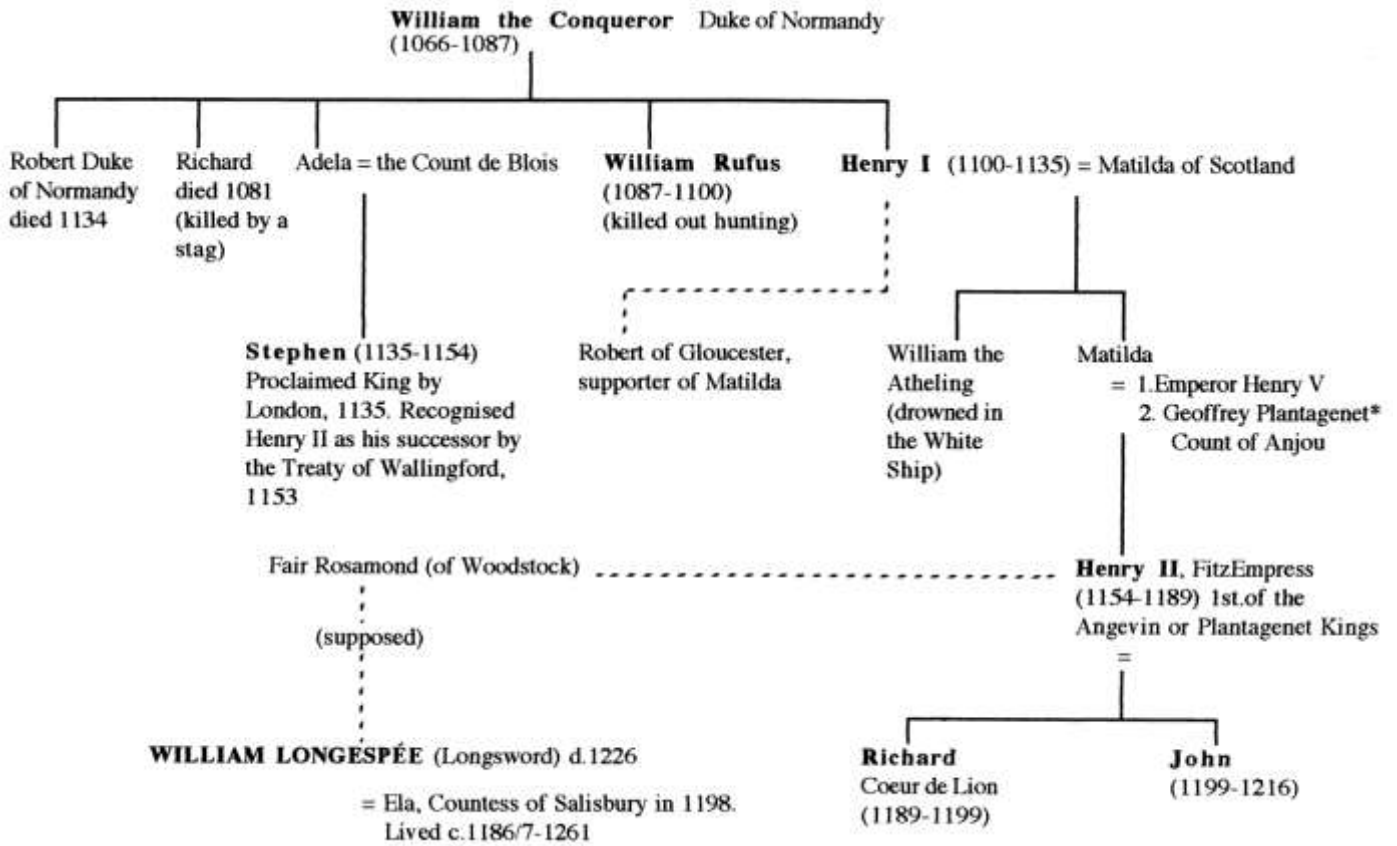
The shield was used by William Longespée, 3rd Earl of Salisbury, who died in 1226. It is shown on his tomb chest in Salisbury Cathedral - he is said to have been the first person to be buried in the new-built cathedral. Illegitimate, he used the arms of his grandfather Geoffrey Plantagenet, stated to have been given Geoffrey by his father-in-law Henry I. The shield of Geoffrey Plantagenet is cited as the first grant of arms known to have been inherited.

William became Earl of Salisbury on his marriage to Ela, Countess, ward of his halfbrother Richard Coeur de Lion, in 1198, when she was about eleven or twelve. After his death she founded two abbeys in his memory, Lacock for women and Hinton Charterhouse for men (from 1238 until her death in 1261 she was a member of the community at Lacock herself). Inside the 18th century Hall at Lacock Abbey, the Longespée shield is displayed over one of the doorways, amidst a collection of other shields, including Hungerford. Lacock also has heraldic glass in some of the windows.

Clarke

A total achievement, or set of heraldic symbols, shield, helm, crest and mantling appears over the fireplace in the Great Room of Abbey Church House. Heraldic experts confirm that where one achievement is displayed in a prominent place such as a door or overmantel - rather than in a collection such as at Bath Abbey, the Hall at Lacock, Montacute, the Hall of Longleat, and so on - it is likely to be that of builders or major owners of a house.

Expert advice in architectural history confirms that the overmantel is Elizabethan (Elizabeth I 1558-1603) in style but could be as early as 1550. It has already been pointed out, in George Perrett's booklet, for instance, that the whole fire surround appears to be a composite piece. Further study is needed on how it was put together. It seems extremely unlikely that the overmantel, which is very elaborate, came from elsewhere. A word on its composition, whether plaster, wood, or whatever, would be valuable.



* From his badge, broom, planta genesta.

In the Grail romances, Geoffrey, the Angevin, is associated with leopards. Medieval thinking did not distinguish closely between lions and leopards. In fact lion cubs are born spotted.



Left: William Longespée, 3rd. Earl of Salisbury, from Stothard's *Monumental Effigies*.

Peter Davenport also comments that the Tudor section of Abbey Church House is in a conservative Cotswold style which could be as early as 1550 or as late as 1600. One can compare it for instance with the stable yard at Lacock, built by William Sharrington after 1539.

The achievement in the Great Room certainly belongs to the Clarkes of Somerset, though unfortunately the reputed builder of the house, Edward Clarke of Chipley, is a non-starter. The first of that name (his father came from Bradford-on-Avon and his grandfather from Pitminster) died by 1679, aged about 62, is not known to have had any connection with Bath, except the tenuous one of his daughter Ursula marrying someone called Venner in 1670, and according to the reference in the published version of the Visitation of 1672, did not use the quartered shield.

Rightly, the achievement belongs to the descendants of Thomas Clarke, brother of John Clarke, Bishop of Bath and Wells 1523-1541. This could be outlined in full in a future report. The tomb chest of Thomas Clarke makes it plain that he is the font of this achievement. It would not have been used by him personally, as he would not have quartered his wife's arms (in Somerset the wife's shield is regarded as Bolton, not Risdon as painted in the Great Room).

One seeks someone who belonged to the Tudor age, was descended from Thomas Clarke, had a motive to build a grand house in Bath, and the means. Such a person has emerged, and conversely, since he seems to fit all the requirements, he appears to be an ideal candidate. This is a figure who is reputed to be the same person as Thomas Clarke's eldest son John:

Proposed builder of Abbey Church House, Tudor section: John Clarke, M.P. for Bath in the reign of Edward VI. Elected 1547.

Proposed date of building: 1550-1552, while Parliament was prorogued.

John Clarke is listed in the *History of Parliament*, where it is suggested that for various reasons he was probably the same person as the son John Thomas Clarke definitely possessed at one stage. He is omitted by Warner, who leaves a gap at that period. This seems to have led to Bath antiquarians' not even considering him as a candidate. As far as we know this is the first time his name has been put forward as a possible builder of the Tudor section of Abbey Church House. There is scope for exploring the new suggestion thoroughly.

A mass of contemporary material needs to be studied in order to affirm that there is no contra-indication. A negative result would naturally be very disappointing, after the work everyone has done, but at least in this new emphasis on the Clarke family and their connection with Bath at that time, we can now answer the question of what turned Bath around in the 1540s, after it had lost both the Priory and a great deal of the wool trade, and had been named as a ruined town.

We begin to see outlined the Spa Project team of 450 years ago, the men who saved Bath - the Clarkes, Dr. Turner*, Dean of Wells, and the Aldermen of Bath. A whole new field of study opens up. Meanwhile confirmation on Abbey Church House is needed, and in the meantime it seems best not to refer to John Clarke as the proven builder yet!

*It is interesting, again, that the Clarkes knew more than one person called Turner. Another possibility to be explored is that Alderman Turner of Bath held the Great House in 1584 because he had been made a life in the lease. Alderman Turner was a member of the Corporation by 1550 and certainly would have known John Clarke, which, supposing that he was the builder, would be relevant to the ownership of the house.

Unknown

A further coat of arms, or heraldic shield, appears in the corners of the fireplace, of which the blazon is:

gules two chevronels between three annulets or
[on a red field, two small gold chevrons surrounded by three gold rings.]

It seems possible that this coat of arms is extinct. The nearest existing design seems to be that of the Scottish family Spaxman. At the moment it is not known why this shield is displayed.

Ivy or Ivey

As mentioned in Issue 9, the Ivy or Ivey family are known leaseholders of the site, listed in the Corporation Survey of 1641. They were described as "of Bath", and several were buried in the Abbey.

It is strange that this family, who obviously lived in the house in the reign of Charles I, should have been passed by, but it is presumably because of the emphasis placed on heraldry in interpreting its history.

The Ivys or Iveys were a distinguished Wiltshire family, somewhat complicated like so many of the others. We have not yet determined what coat of arms Sir George Ivey of Bath or his son Thomas would have borne.

Corsham possesses a house called "Ivy House". Can anyone tell us if this house had anything to do with the family?

Hungerford

The Hungerfords have been brought forward as rival builders of Abbey Church House, chiefly through confusion over the coat of arms in the Great Room. Peach remarked that this coat of arms had always been described as Hungerford, whereas, he stated, it was actually Clarke. This means that the paint must have worn off: the silver "plates" of the Hungerfords could not be confused with the red escallops of the Clarks.

As it rapidly turned out after the publication of Issue 9, Honor Savile was born a Hungerford. This has in fact long been recognised - she is mentioned by Major Davis for one. These two points together have generated a total Hungerford "history" for Abbey Church House.

In his study of Hungerford possessions, Canon Jackson concluded that Abbey Church House was never part of their estates. It does seem unlikely that any Hungerford before Honor ever held a main lease from St.John's. Summarising his recent research on the Hungerfords, John Macdonald, one of the Friends, advised us to find the will of Sir Giles Hungerford, proved 1685. Discovered, this turned out indeed to be the will which left Honor £100, or the choice of a house in Bath if her uncle Sir Giles should have bought one.

Robert Sutton, Lord Lexington or Lexington, was not one of the executors. To bring him into the story, it would be necessary to presume that as John Wood suggested he owned Abbey Church House, and that Honor and her parents had perhaps been living in it. Lord Lexington would then say, "Keep the house, and give me the £100". Later, in 1691, he married Sir Giles' daughter Margaret.

The Iveys still seem to have held the lease in 1652. The Lexington ownership would originate between that date and 1685. Unfortunately most of this period lies in the time when St.John's had passed out of Corporation control.

Meanwhile, the legendary "history" of Abbey Church House has combined three Sir Edwards into one. Firstly the M.P. for Bath in 1625 and leader of Parliamentary forces, Sir Edward, died 1648. He must have known the George Ivy who was also a Parliamentary leader in Wiltshire, and it is very likely that Sir Edward was quartered in Abbey Church House early in 1643. It was open to the Iveys to invite him there at other times, though we have no proof of this.

Secondly, Sir Edward the Spendthrift, the M.P.'s nephew. Thirdly, Edward Hungerford of Cadenham, with whom John Evelyn stayed in 1654. Although John Evelyn reports that they did visit Bath, he does not mention a lodging-house.

Skrine

Honor Savile, born a Hungerford and later the widow of (apparently) Dr.E.Savile, married William Skrine the apothecary in 1697. She was buried in Bath Abbey in 1704. He then married Ann Spurstow and they had two children, William and Elizabeth. His coat of arms is described as Skrine impaling Hungerford, with Spurstow as an escutcheon of pretence (Vert three mullets or pierced sable).

William Skrine died in 1725 and was buried at Claverton. His widow Ann married James Cooke, who held the lease of 1736. Alan Mason mentions that in the mid 18th century the lodging-house was actually kept by Rachel Humphries, and that she married Ernst von Hetling, or Ernest Hetling. The lease of 1749 was taken out by him. All the leaseholders since Hetling are known.

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