
THE BATH SURVEY

The Newsletter of the Survey of Old Bath

No.2, November 1994

Editors: Mike Chapman

Elizabeth Holland

NEWS FROM THE SURVEY

The article prepared on the Bishops' premises has been studied by a national journal, who commended it but felt it was not sufficiently archaeological for their particular publication. They suggested another national outlet, but Mike felt that he would rather look closer home next. We will report on this when anything has been decided.

We continue to look into sponsorship for a major project. Mike has held discussions with the proposed spa restorers on the idea of historical input from the Survey. As we all know, their contract has not been finalised yet and once more we must report again later.

With the assistance of Mike Chapman and a number of others, Elizabeth Holland has been making a study this last year of the Warwick Book of Hours. Bath antiquarian Reginald Wright (Bath Librarian and then Curator of the Victoria Art Gallery) believed this contained a picture of medieval Bath. A report on this study is being typed out and will be available separately to anyone who is interested. A summary of the report appears in this newsletter.

Elizabeth has also prepared an essay on the so-called "Savile" map of Bath (see Notes and Queries). This essay expresses her own opinions and not those of the Survey. As there are so many conflicting opinions on this drawing, Elizabeth has set out on a correspondence aimed at discovering something of its history. Whatever else this correspondence achieves, it seems likely to put us in touch with both new friends and old.

In 1986, when spa restoration was also in the news, the Survey held an exhibition on the Baths of Bath at Bath Reference Library, attended by over 500 people. It dealt with the history of the baths as buildings rather than their medical or social aspects, though medical items were included. The exhibition, with some smaller ones which followed, was donated to Bath Record Office (all the displays were done by Jeff Clark). Elizabeth has now created an album on the buildings of the baths, as a check-list of the exhibitions and also a quick guide to the history of the baths in itself. Material has been created for a number of files, providing extra detail. It is planned to donate the album and files to Bath Record Office, preferably at the November 11 Friends' meeting. Half the cost of the photograph album used in this donation has been met by the kind assistance of the **Friends of the Survey**.

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Secretary-Treasurer: Elizabeth Holland, 16 Prior Park Buildings, Bath BA2 4NP. Bath 313581.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

The first **Annual General Meeting** of the Friends of the Survey of Old Bath was held at Abbey Church House on Friday 8 July, 1994 at 7.30 p.m. **Dr. John Wroughton**, Chairman, welcomed those present. **Mrs. June Hodkinson**, Secretary, reported that the group was now well-established, with a talented range of membership. In deference to the wishes of the Friends it was planned to alternate evening and lunch-time meetings. **Mrs. Ann Cridland**, Treasurer, presented the audited accounts. Some changes in the Constitution were approved. **Peter Addison** was appointed Press Officer and **Mrs. Alison Hannay** and **Mrs. Denise Walker** were also elected to the Committee.

Peter Addison is also the Chronicle Community representative for Combe Down. Mrs. Denise Walker was hostess at the group's coffee morning in April, and Mrs. Alison Hannay has long been a supporter of the Survey of Old Bath, having attended the Stuart conference at King Edward's and the subsequent Stuart evenings and Tudor evening, often with members of her family.

Mike Chapman spoke for the Survey and distributed the first issue of the newsletter. The audience then enjoyed a talk by **Marek Lewcun** on his research into clay pipes, displaying his knowledge of the many sources for local history research and how better to follow them up; and also a careful and detailed account by **Allan Keevil** on his work on tracing the Fosseyway at Bath. An article by him appears later in this newsletter. Considerable discussion followed the talks.

Files on the Empire Hotel were then presented to **Colin Johnston**, Bath City Archivist, who was thanked by Dr. Wroughton for his support of the Friends.

Several new members have now joined the Friends. These include **District Judge and Mrs. Mark Rutherford**. District Judge Rutherford is Chairman of the Governors of King Edward's School at Bath and attended all the Stuart functions there, chairing the final meeting. Other new members include **Mr. and Mrs. Kilpatrick**, who have not long moved to Bath, **Mr. and Mrs. Jackson**, of Saltford, **Mrs. P.G.R. Graham**, who has also recently arrived here, and **Dr. Nonny Tiffany**, of Headington, Oxford. Dr. Tiffany has followed the Survey with interest since Elizabeth Holland first made a Stuart map in the 1970's.

Concerning his own local research, **Peter Addison** writes that he hopes in the not too distant future to produce a series of booklets on various aspects of Combe Down history. He has been looking at some very interesting deeds, and would be glad to hear from anyone who has information on the area now known as Combe Down, especially concerning deeds or land ownership. Peter has amassed a computer database which can yield a wealth of information regarding nineteenth century Combe Down, and would be useful to genealogists. The only drawback is his aged computer which has lost the sparkle of youth.

Over the past two months he has run a series of guided walks around Combe Down, consisting of three different walks, each repeated once. Two of them looked at the built environment and traced the history of the village since the coming of Ralph Allen. The third was a circular industrial walk from Combe Down via De Montalt Mill, Tucking Mill, the Somersetshire Coal Canal to Midford and then back along the track of the Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway. The walks seemed very successful, with an average of 10-12 persons per walk. Peter may decide to prepare another series for next year.

Any enquiries about joining the Friends or about their programme should go to:
Mrs. J. Hodkinson, Secretary, 55 Connaught Mansions, Great Pulteney Street, Bath BA2 4BP.

OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

We expect to be typing the next newsletter out at the end of April 1995. We shall not be sending out individual reminders, except of course for items of City News. We hope members of the Friends will feel free to send contributions by that date to any of the different categories (posting them to Elizabeth), such as News from the Friends, Correspondence, Notes and Queries, together with shorter items and pictures. For articles longer than any one of our pages (approximately 500 words) please contact one of the editors in advance.

The newsletter is compiled by the editors but the cost of running-off is met by the Friends of the Survey. It is planned to distribute **The Bath Survey** free to individual members of the Friends. Extra copies of No.2 will be available from 11 November at a price to be decided. Extra copies of No.1 are still available from the editors at 50p.



Above: At Odd Down, looking north along the present Old Fosse Road, the route of the Fosse, still showing signs of embankment for much of its length.



Below: The Englishcombe Inn, in Englishcombe Lane. In "Tracing the Fosseway at Bath" Allan Keevil suggests that the line of the Fosse probably ran through the site of the present Inn and across the Lane, where a slight rise in the level of that road and of gardens on its northern side is indicative of the ridge which carried the Roman route.

Photographs by Allan Keevil, 1994.

BOOK NEWS

Whiteman's Bookshop, the Orange Grove, have no new studies of Bath to report since our last Book Page. They have an interesting selection of transport volumes in stock. Colin Maggs has brought out a new edition of **Bath Tramways** at £5.95, published by Oakwood. There is also Steve Chislett's **Buses and Trams of Bath**, Millstream Books, £10.95. Slightly farther afield, they have Tony Haskell's **By Waterway to Taunton**, published by Somerset Books, £12.95. This is beautifully produced with a variety of illustrations, some of them by the author. Tony Haskell formerly worked with Somerset County Council. He has been closely involved in the revitalisation of the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal.

Members of the Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society have supported the Survey of Old Bath's activities in the past, attending such functions as the Manvers Street seminar on the Saxon Abbey, and the Civil War evening at King Edward's School. Two of the members, Margaret Whitehead and Barbara Lowe, have now brought out a book called **The Changing Face of Keynsham**, published by Alan Sutton at £7.99. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Society. The book criticises some of the changes which have taken place in Keynsham in recent years, and shows pictures of former shops and homes, and will be fascinating to anyone concerned with this area.

MAGAZINES

David Smith, "The Earliest Printed Maps of British Towns", **SUC Bulletin** Vol.27 No.2 (Society of University Cartographers).

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Someone has posted Editor Elizabeth Holland some pages from this article, in which David Smith deals with the so-called "Savile" map of Bath.

David Smith was told in advance of writing this article that serious objections had been raised to this map. He deals with these objections in footnotes, and in his text deals with the "Savile" map as if it were a well-accepted Stuart document.

We do not find this treatment of the subject adequate. A note about the "Savile" map has been included under "Notes and Queries", and a longer essay has been made available, for anyone who is interested.

We feel that any editor who is considering publishing on the "Savile" map should at least ask Dr. John Wroughton to act as referee. Dr. Wroughton would be able to point out any imbalance in the argument. However enthusiastic members of the map world may feel at the sight of a "new" document, with something novel to discuss, they should remember that the most serious objections to this map have come from those who have studied Stuart Bath the longest.

We would mention to David Smith, in passing, that all genuinely antique maps, to the best of our knowledge, show all trees in full leaf. This is of no more significance, than the prevalence of dolphins, sea-serpents, lions swimming in the sea carrying the flag of England, visions of Neptune rising from the waves, galleons in full sail, and other ornaments. To comment that the trees in "Savile" are in full leaf (except of course those which some fell hand has pollarded) makes one wonder if he has actually studied many antique maps?????

CITY NEWS

CONSERVATION

The City Council's conservation team is dedicated to the care of the historic fabric of Bath. It can help owners care for their historic buildings, by the provision of free information, expert advice and guidance on grant aid. The team took part in a Bath Building Surgery at the Empire Hotel, Bath, from Friday 21 October to Sunday 23 October 1994. The display brought together over thirty exhibitors to consider building defects and problems commonly experienced by owners of local buildings. Pegasus Retirement Homes were represented and Colin Johnston, City Archivist, was also present with a display.

The City Council received the written confirmation from English Heritage on Monday 19 September 1994 that they had agreed the new Bath Conservation Area Partnership for the 1994/95 financial year.

The Bath Conservation Area Partnership is an arrangement between English Heritage and Bath City Council for making joint grants towards the cost of repairing selected historic buildings within target areas in the Bath Conservation Area.

The four target areas are Lower Lansdown, London Road, the Station Approach (centred on Manvers Street and Pierrepont Street) and Bathwick (from Sydney Gardens to Pulteney Bridge). These have been identified following a survey of the external condition of all the listed buildings in the city. Eligible works of repair together with professional fees and VAT (where applicable) will be considered for grant aid at the rate of 40%.

Telephone **David McLaughlin, Principal Conservation Officer**, on Bath 461111, extension 2583 or 2547, for further information on grants and the Bath Conservation Area Partnership.

David McLaughlin, Conservation Officer, has also forwarded this information on the recent problems connected with the East baths. On Tuesday 20 September, 1994, the guides at the Roman Baths reported a fall of masonry and subsequent damage to the **pilae** of the Roman hypocaust floor within the East baths of the Roman Baths complex. An investigation revealed that movement had occurred to a pier at the end of one of vaults supporting a section of both York Street and Kingston Parade. As a result, a section of masonry was dislodged. Outward movement had also occurred to a panel of ashlar masonry between the supports and the next vault. This masonry is all of Georgian or later origin.

Immediate action was taken to cordon off the area of the East baths and a section of York Street above to safeguard the public and remove any vehicular loading on the relevant section of road. The weakened pier and ashlar panel were of uncertain construction, and in order to investigate this and remove the burden of soil behind the wall, a section of road in York Street was removed and excavated to a depth of approximately 3m. Following excavation, the weakened wall was found to be constructed from rubble stonework with an ashlar face on the side of the East baths, varying in thickness from 450-600mm. A beam and slab construction will now support the reinstated section of road. This solution will provide a benefit, in that there will be an opportunity for further archaeological investigations in the future.

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Bath City Council's **Annual Report 1994** records that in February this year an Europa Nostra Diploma was awarded for the Council's restoration work to the Old Royal Bath and the Cross Bath between 1987 and 1990.

THE EMPIRE HOTEL

The Council have accepted a proposal by **Pegasus Retirement Homes Plc** to turn the **Empire Hotel** into retirement flats. A lease for 125 years is planned, while the price of restoration and redevelopment has been estimated at around £4 million. At the same time **Whitbread Plc** is to create a major new family restaurant for local people (under the trade name **Brewer's Fayre**) and to restore the fortunes of the old Empire Bar, once a popular meeting place in central Bath.

Speaking to the **Chronicle**, Managing Director **Dr. Michael McCarthy** is quoted as saying:

We want to restore the building to its original look and gleaming presentation. We see ourselves as trustees of a magnificent building in a strategic position.

We have some first class developments around the country and we have won a lot of design awards. We could rapidly make this our flagship and the best retirement development in the U.K.

Artist's impressions of what the hotel would look like, including a sketch of a residents' garden on the flat roof to the north, were published in the paper on 10 September. At the time of typing this newsletter, detailed proposals for planning permission are being submitted and will be publicly displayed.

Further information is available from Ms. Saxby, 105-107 Bath Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 7LE. 42 one, two and three bed luxury apartments are planned, with residents' own dining salon, library, lounges, guest suite, craft studio and laundry. Pegasus Retirement Homes aim at "Concept Retirement". They also have developments in such towns as Oxford and Bournemouth, as well as Keynsham. Each development has a full-time resident trained Administrator. The option of Assisted Living is available, currently at £6 an hour, for shopping, cleaning, companionship and other services.

BATH RECORD OFFICE

Colin Johnston, City Archivist, reports that owing to public demand, the Record Office will now stay open every Monday evening. It will remain open the whole time from 2-8 p.m.

The Record Office has now embarked on publications of its own. It has produced a publicity leaflet outlining the contents of the office and giving the hours of opening, and as well two pamphlets, one on tracing your family history, and the other on tracing the history of your house. The publications were prepared by the Archivist.

BATH ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Peter Davenport, Director of Excavations, reports that the partial collapse of eighteenth and nineteenth century masonry at the East baths, and recognition of further structural instability (as recorded by David McLaughlin above), has required much input from the Trust to ensure that the engineering solutions do not damage the Roman remains.

The Trust has been discussing the archaeological implications of their proposals for the Empire Hotel with Pegasus Retirement Homes. They hope to be able to carry out excavation work on the line of the city wall and under the Grand Parade.

CORRESPONDENCE

Congratulations on your Bath Survey newsletter. I was very impressed with Elizabeth's erudite account of the early Chapmans - is it a forerunner of more in lieu of a book? Splendid mix of news. Thank you for including my notes. I had never seen the print of the gas works before.

Pity I did not know you were going to criticize **The English Spa** by Hembry. She did a lot of research but I agree her detail is faulty - she was wrong on "The Lyncombe Spaw" too.

Connie Smith, August 1994.

Your article in the Cheltenham News struck a very nostalgic chord...Your reference to old maps of the city took me back to my school days at King Edward's, then in Lansdown at the top of Guinea Lane, and in Broad Street. Our school caps and ties came from a shop at the top of Union Street, called the "Don". I believe that the shop closed some years ago. On the staircase wall to the upper sales floor was a map of Bath. It was a "pictorial" map, but from memory, different to that shown in your article. The sales staff had a supply of these prints, which were distributed, on request, fairly freely. I used to have one, but it was lost several moves ago.

Brian Regan, Cheltenham, September 1994.

We think this may have been Gilmore's map. Payne's Shoeshop in Broad Street once published a version with historical notes on the back, which seems to have circulated widely. There have been other modern editions. Whiteman's have Gilmore available now for £4.95, plus 50p. postage and packing for postal orders.

Does anyone else remember the "Don"?

BATH ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST Continued

The Trust continues to work on the gardens at Prior Park, investigating the area for the National Trust. Data from the excavations is necessary to allow accurate restoration work to go ahead.

The Archaeological Trust continues the work of recording the archaeology of the Batheaston Bypass, and in particular, excavating an iron age/Roman and later site at Bathampton Meadows and near Mill Lane. An Open Day was held on 11 September and an informative brochure produced. The brochure revealed that the dig has provided evidence of continuous occupation for well over two thousand years, showing the ways in which people have lived and farmed on the valley bottom over that time. Although other such valley sites must exist, with very few exceptions the only known sites around Bath from this era are hillforts such as Little Solsbury.

The site contains at least one iron age roundhouse, a classic form of prehistoric British dwelling. Evidence includes signs of paddocks and of yards, remains of sheep or goats and cattle, handmill fragments confirming the use of grain and flour, and samples of pottery.

NOTES AND QUERIES

"TEMPLE OF THE WINDS"

Connie Smith, Mike Chapman

In Combe Down to the east and north-east of Prior Park mansion lies the Monument Field, or as more nostalgically called by the locals, the "Monny Field". The name arose on account of the strange monument which stood there from probably the eighteenth century until 1953, when, because of decay, it was demolished. It was sometimes called the "Pepper Box", as it consisted of a circular stone tower which stood on a broad triangular base with eighteenth century Gothic embellishments.

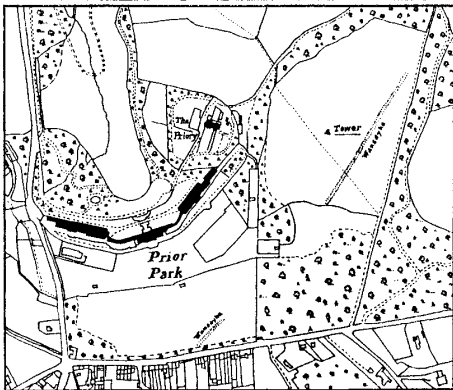
A whimsy, one might think, especially as popular tradition said it was built to commemorate an Anglo-French duel. But those who knew it well said that the triangular section at the foot represented the Holy Trinity, and further, it bore an inscription. Inside was a circular staircase, and over the entrance was the message - "Sacred to the memory of a most excellent man, Ralph Allen. Thou who dost cultivate true and simple virtue venerate this stone."

It is believed by many that it was erected by the Rev. William Warburton (died 1779, Bishop of Gloucester) to the memory of Ralph Allen, that worthy man of Bath who died in 1764 at his great mansion of Prior Park. (To jog the memory - the Rev. Warburton was an intimate of Ralph Allen and married his niece and beneficiary, Gertrude Tucker.)

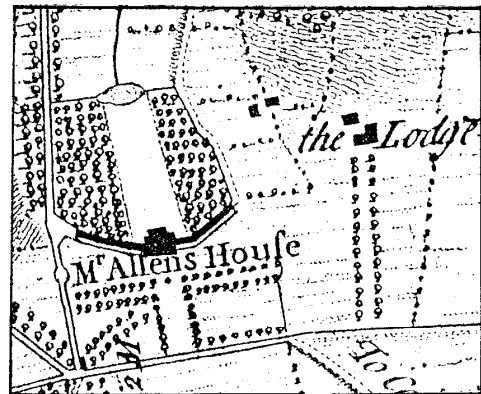
A query surrounds the monument. Pierce Egan wrote in 1819 that the curious free-stone building was erected by Ralph Allen and used in his lifetime as a lookout over Bath and the surrounding countryside. Also it has strikingly similar features to the tower in front of or attached to the Gothic Lodge in Prior Park which was drawn by Thomas Robins (died 1770). There is another representation of the Lodge on the border of a large estate map called "Survey of the Manours of Hampton, Claverton and Widcombe belonging to Ralph Allen, Esq.", executed by Thomas Thorpe, 1761.

It is a bizarre dwelling-house, evidently the one called "the Lodge" on Thorpe's 1742 map of Bath and five miles around. In this map of 1742, it has its own tree-lined entrance from what is today North Road, on the eastern side of "Mr. Allen's house". At that time it was in the occupation of clothier John Marchant of the eighteenth century Quaker family. In 1748, the year following his death, the house was advertised "To be lett or sold". Ralph Allen purchased the Lodge in 1750, a few years after completing the building of his mansion house. What was then the history of it and its tower? The mystery remains unsolved.

C.S.



Thorpe's 1742 map (right) showing the Lodge, compared with the 1939 OS 25" map (left) showing the Tower.



It is Mrs. Connie Smith who has pointed out, apparently for the first time, the close resemblance of the monument in the "Monny Field" to the tower of the Gothic Lodge, with the obvious inference, also observed by her, that they were created from the same stonework. (Gillian Clarke's recent work, **Prior Park, a Compleat Landscape**, does not note the likeness, but simply mentions that the monument is supposed to have been built by Bishop Warburton.) There is an intriguing possibility that the Bishop, or Ralph Allen himself, had the tower moved. However Mike Chapman, surveyor, having had recourse to various maps and plans, points out that the monument stood more or less in the same position as "the Lodge", allowing for the fact that Thorpe's map is not Ordnance Survey.

In **Prior Park Its History and Description** (1975) Bryan Little mistakenly writes that "on the plateau south-east of the mansion, Bishop Warburton and his wife put up a curiously designed, but picturesque monument to Ralph Allen". "The Observatory", as the little triangular shape is called in the 1852 map by Cotterell, lies towards the east, perhaps slightly to the north, and the monument has been described by others as being 100 yards east of Prior Park mansion. This is roughly where Thorpe shows "the Lodge" in his map of 1742, perhaps slightly farther north again. "South" does not enter into it. (Little p.23.)

Thorpe 1742 shows an L-shaped building, and so does Robins' picture. North of it Thorpe 1742 also shows a smaller square shape, its purpose unknown. Robins' picture is somewhat confused, and does not make clear whether the tower is to be seen as attached to the house or as separate. Thorpe 1761 definitely suggests it was attached.

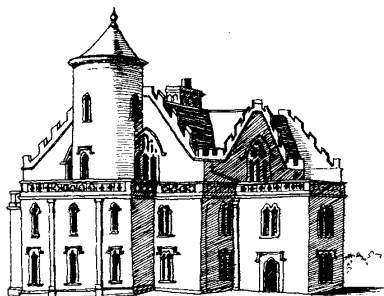
Who first built the tower of the Gothic Lodge we do not yet know, but there definitely seems to be a possibility that the well-loved monument, around which so many children have played, was the original tower, still standing on its old site. We may well imagine Ralph Allen using it as a lookout. It is also possible that it was Bishop Warburton who converted it to a memorial after Ralph Allen's death, adding the inscription, and possibly the pinnacles.

Any assistance will be welcome for a further study of this building and of the Lodge, in the way of documents or personal recollections and perhaps photographs. Widcombe and Lyncombe History Study Group own a photograph of the monument, and two further pictures appear in **Bath As It Was**, nos.120 and 121.

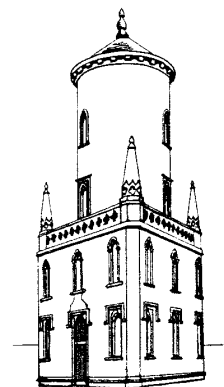
Eventually, there remains the exciting prospect of an archaeological dig to recover both Lodge and monument, if such can be arranged. At present restoration work is concentrating on the gardens north of the mansion, which looks out over them northwards. (Maps of Prior Park mansion are often inverted.)

M.C. & E.A.H.

"Temple of the Winds": this title is taken from Gibbs's **Bath Visitant**, 1845.



Left: **The Gothic Lodge**, copied from Thomas Robins' drawing.
Right: **The Monument**, copied from photographs.



NOTES AND QUERIES

Continued

THE "SAVILE" MAP

In June 1992 an unknown map of Bath, engraved "He:Savile desc:", was displayed in Bayntun's. As it had no history attached to it, a number of people decided to do nothing about it until more was known. On the other hand, some were enthusiastic. Certain publications have now appeared in favour of the map, and it has begun to be said that "most authorities" now accept it as genuine.

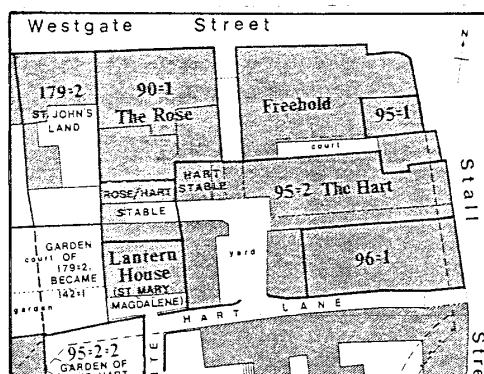
It must be put on record that all - or even "most" - authorities on pre-Georgian Bath most emphatically do **not** accept this map. The leading writer on Stuart Bath is Dr. John Wroughton. He remarks that in over twenty years of looking into sources on Bath history he has seen no reference to a map by "H.Savile" and he prefers to make no use of the drawing until more is known about it.

Mrs. Marta Inskip and Elizabeth Holland have between them spent over thirty years studying the topography of pre-Georgian Bath. They do not feel able to explain the topography of this map if the artist was seventeenth century. For instance the plan of the Hart Inn below can be compared with Speed and "Savile". Whoever drew Speed's map had a knowledge, from some source, of the layout of the Hart Inn. That source certainly was not "Savile", who did not have this knowledge. How could anyone who studied Bath in the seventeenth century, and drew what purports to be a detailed survey of it, miss the town's leading inn?

Some people, in fact, think the map "looks" eighteenth century. Elizabeth Holland and Marta Inskip have suggested instead that it was done by Reginald Wright, twentieth century Bath antiquarian, as a charming Christmas calendar for his friends and relations (the only known copy turned up not in Bath but in Cheltenham). If not by Reggie Wright, they suggest it was done by the nineteenth century artist H.V. Lansdown.

Elizabeth Holland has started to write to libraries and newspapers around England to see if anyone has heard of it. So far there has been a very interesting response, though not from anyone who has heard of "Savile". If the eventual reply is that it has been in someone's stately home for the last 350 years, that will at any rate be fact, and as Dr. Wroughton feels, what is needed on this document is solid information.

Meanwhile the arguments here rehearsed have been written out at greater length in an essay of 3½ pages by Elizabeth Holland. Copies may be obtained by sending 3 x 25p. stamps to the address on page one. Even this essay is only a digest of what could be said, but it seems that the time to analyse this document will be when we know something about its history.



Left: Properties and reference numbers from the Survey of 1641 placed on an eighteenth century base map. (Note: the street corner has been set back from its original line.)

Graphics by Mike Chapman.

Copies of Speed and "Savile" are available in the Library and Record Office.

SHOPPING IN MILSOM STREET

Ruth Haskins

Milsom Street has been the "Mecca" of quality shopping in Bath from its first inception. The **Bath Chronicle and Gazette** of 14 January 1762 states that shops were opened in the street on condition they could be assumed to be of the finest character and repute, as befitted the handsomest business thoroughfare in Europe.

Its origins in the eighteenth century and its architecture are already well documented, so this article concentrates on its shops. The banks which dominated the three corners of the street are also of some significance. They were splendid edifices, the interiors were equally impressive and their services essential to both shopkeepers and their wealthy customers. They issued their own decorative bank-notes for local circulation - some of these can still be seen in the Sydenham Collection (Bath Library).

Research into the Coward family has revealed they were prominent traders there in the eighteenth century, as silk mercers and drapers, with a discreet funeral department, trading well into the nineteenth century when Jolly's took over the premises.

My personal recollections of shopping in Milsom Street go back to the thirties, as it was a favourite shopping street of my mother's, and so it became familiar to me. My mother and grandmother regaled me with stories of the street in the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

My grandmother insisted her grandparents were wine merchants there in the Victorian period. She recalled staying with her widowed grandmother, when her paid companion went on holiday. (Not proven to date.) My mother was apprenticed as a bodice maker to Eyers Ltd., the Court dressmakers, for three years about 1909. She described the opulent interior - customers were greeted by suave shop walkers, escorted to small well-appointed dressing-rooms for fittings. Each customer had a toile of her own. Beautiful evening dresses and court dresses with hand embroidery and beading were their speciality. The vendeuse Miss Elley was described as tall with a fine figure, blond hair in a chignon. She always wore black dresses with a slight train which she swept over her arm in one graceful movement, when making her entrance into the show-room. The bodices of the dresses were almost moulded to the figure then, so fittings were tedious. Ready-made clothes certainly changed all this.

In the thirties dress shops abounded. Walker and Ling, one of the local firms, were known for their fine blouses and lingerie. Eyers were still there but used by an older clientele, with the odd duchess or titled lady among them. Jolly's were by far the most popular and excelled in all departments because of their high standard. Customers were greeted by name, purchases delivered. Clothes were often sent on approval - my mother often used this service.

The shoe shops like Abbotts, Randalls, Charles and Charles with hand-made shoes - oh the smell of leather! Jewellers, gold and silversmiths like Mallett and Co. at the Octagon. Gentlemen's tailors, photographers, hairdressers. Fine antique shops like Charles Angell's. Household names like W.H. Smith's and Boots Ltd. Fortts the restaurateurs, the place for that special meal, dances and receptions held in the ballroom. Superb confectionary department, a joy at Christmas time.



SKETCH OF MILSOM STREET (A.D. 1800).

(From a Drawing of the Period taken from Natta's Collection of Plates.)

THE first change from the old-fashioned shops shown in the above sketch was made by JOLLY & SON, when, about 30 years later they erected the front (considered in its day something very much out of the common), which in its turn was demolished in 1879 to make way for their present handsome premises.

Keeping always a little in advance of their time, Messrs. JOLLY & SON's business has shown a steady increase from year to year; each succeeding season has placed them on a better footing with manufacturers and merchants, and they have been able to place orders to greater advantage.

"Buy Cheaply, Sell Cheaply" has been from the outset the principle on which Messrs. JOLLY & SON have conducted their business, and they believe that they in a great measure owe their success to the fact of their having at all times given their customers the benefit of any concessions that they have been able to obtain.

They beg to subjoin a list of their various Departments.

FLAX FOR SHEETINGS,
TOWELLING, and
UNDER LINEN.


**ROYAL
FLEMISH
LINEN**

Resembles the old-fashioned Homespun in make and appearance. Are very beautiful goods, and most moderate in price.—*Visit The Queen.*
Direct from the Manufactory. Handspun and Handmade. Cheaper, Finer, Better and more Durable than any other make.

Pattern Books Post Free. **SOLE AGENTS,
JOLLY & SON, BATH.**

LIST OF DEPARTMENTS.

SILK, Satins Moirés, Velvet and Brocades.
RIBBONS, Sunshades, Umbrellas, Fichus.
HOSIERY for Ladies, Gentlemen and Children.
LACE and Ball Dresses, Fête Dresses, Bridesmaids' Dresses.
MILLINERY, Flowers, Caps, and Head-dresses.
MANTLES, Furs of all kinds, Fichus.
SHAWLS, Travelling and Evening Wraps.
OUTFITTING, Ladies' Underwear, Children's Dresses.
DRESSES, Materials of all kinds, both costly and inexpensive.
LINENS, Sheetings, Blankets, Flannels, Table Linen.
GLOVES, and Scents of all kinds.
TRIMMINGS of all kinds, Haberdashery, &c., &c.
COSTUMES, any Material in the latest style at the shortest notice.

JOLLY & SON, MILSOM STREET, BATH.

Advertisement from *The Mineral Baths of Bath*, by Charles Davis, 1883.

Last but not least the corner shop of Huntley's, the grocers, of finest quality, the quick efficient service, the tasting of cheese, choosing the width of slices of bacon.

One would like to think that this excellence will be continued in the future, for other generations to enjoy shopping in Milsom Street. I leave you with a poem on Milsom Street in 1836 from "The Fusselton of Bath".

And now down Milsom Street we went
On various purchases intent;
'Twas just that fashionable minute
When the Bath world were walking in it.
Smart belles were tripping side by side,
With beaux in spurs - who never ride -
Old dames, more rouged than is discreet,
Led little dogs about the street.
Whilst chairs so long the pride of Bath,
Did all but push one off the path.
Papa met many former friends,
Whom gout or vapour hither sends,
And chose with them awhile to stop,
While we went into Jolly's shop.
But oh! Louise should I recite
The various things that greet one's sight,
The dresses sold for next to naught,
The work by skilful fingers wrought,
The jewell'ry so much like gold,
That scarce the difference can be told.
'Twould take more time than I can spare
If half these wonders I declare;
But if you come to Bath, 'twere folly
Not to buy all you can from Jolly.



UNDER THE CLIFFS.

Illustration from *The Girl's Own Paper*, 1891-2.

BATH AND THE WARWICK BOOK OF HOURS

Elizabeth Holland

About sixty-five years ago a Bath antiquarian, Reginald Wright, identified as Bath a city in the illustration to Psalm 68/69 in the medieval MS. known as the Warwick Book of Hours. The picture shows a circular city with one gate, with a short path to an arched bridge over a river, all set in a rural landscape with sheep. King David is standing in the river, and two figures stand on the bank. Wright stated that these were the prior and bishop of Bath and that King David represented St. David of Wales, one of the legendary founders of the baths of Bath. He added that the king was also depicted as if King Edward III, while the MS. dated to c.1372.

This has been widely accepted in Bath, and the picture may be seen in publications, exhibitions etc. However it is not accepted by international art experts. The church depicted within the city is not an abbey or priory with transepts, but an ordinary church seen from the north, since its tower would be at its west end. The bridge and river are therefore outside the north wall of the city in the picture, whereas in Bath they are on the south (as in Warwick). The critics also point out that old Bath was not circular but had a straight north wall.

Art critics also stress that the cityscape shown appears to be a standard medieval device, which appears in other medieval MSS. For instance in an illustration to the same psalm in an MS. held by the National Art Library, the Victoria and Albert Museum (known as Reid 42), an almost identical city is shown.

In this case the subject of the picture is Jonah. Psalm 68/69 (69 in the modern Bible) opens with the words "Save me, O God", and refers in verse 2 to the flood of deep waters which is overflowing the psalmist. It has been said that the standard **Salvum** picture (**Salvum me fac**) of the Middle Ages would be one depicting Jonah. In this picture Jonah and the whale replace King David in the river. The bridge across the river is flat. In the background there is a seascape with the masts of ships. The whole setting is different and there is nothing in the picture to make one think it is Bath.

Experts also add that ecclesiastical persons are always shown in such medieval pictures wearing ecclesiastical dress. Bathonians know that our clerics were fond of hunting or of riding around with bands of liveried retainers, but it would not be medieval practice to depict them as such. The two figures in the Warwick picture (Morgan MS.893) are dressed as noblemen of the mid or early mid-fifteenth century. Dr. Kathleen Scott of Massachusetts University, author of a new survey (**Illuminated Manuscripts in the British Isles**) dates the MS. from c.1430 to before 1446 (the death of Henry Beauchamp).

An extended study on the Warwick picture has been prepared by Elizabeth Holland. This points out that in this particular picture a cross crosslet appears at each end of the church, a device from the shield of the Beauchamp family. The central figure in the composition is wearing the Beauchamp heraldic colours, **gules** and **or**, as he is dressed in a red tunic trimmed with gold-coloured fur. He stands out in the picture, which is chiefly in pink and blue, with green foliage and yellow flowers, just as the Donne family do in the Donne triptych. Elizabeth Holland suggests that he might be Henry Beauchamp (died 1446), already regarded as an owner of the MS. because of a signature and motto written on folio 12. The

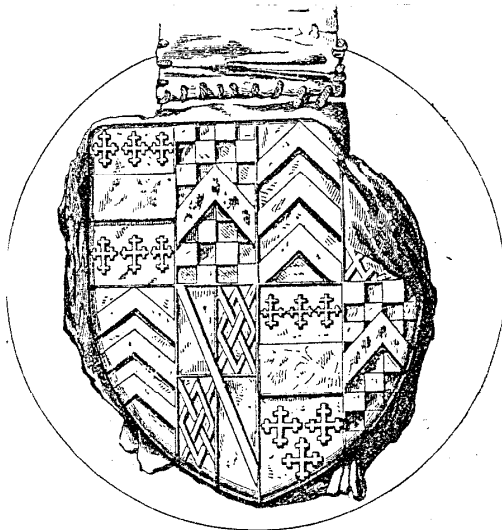
figure on the left might be his father Richard, Earl of Warwick (died 1439), known as the "flower of chivalry", pilgrim to Jerusalem and benefactor of the Church. Psalm 69, as interpreted by the Christian Church, would be particularly relevant to his character. Further study by art historians would be needed to confirm this idea, however, since richly dressed figures also appear in other illustrations to the psalms in this prayerbook, as in other prayerbooks.

The Jonah picture and the Warwick picture are illustrated here. In the monograph they are compared with an abstract illustration opening the Book of Psalms in the Kennicott Bible (Jewish, Hebrew), and it is suggested that all three pictures stem from the ancient world of abstract and mystical patterns. The psalm makes it clear that the two Christian pictures must refer to the temple, the house of God. The city must therefore in the first place be Jerusalem.

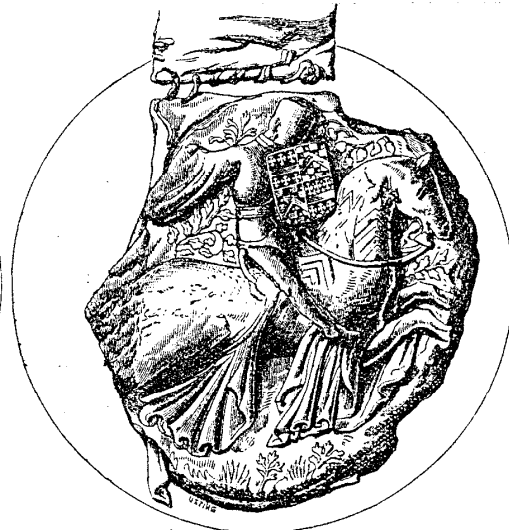
With the arched bridge of the picture in Morgan 893, the rural landscape with a shepherd and his sheep, and the hills in the background (done in conventional medieval style), the city in this illustration does begin to have a "look" of old Bath. It does not resemble the real Jerusalem, or Warwick, which was dominated by its castle (though the housing resembles old Warwick cottages). The question of whether the artist intended it to evoke Bath depends on whether the medieval world saw Bath as a fitting image of the holy city, the temple, and the ministry of Jesus (referred to in the New Testament as the true and eternal temple). The study raises but does not attempt to answer this question.

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To obtain a copy of the essay mentioned, please contact Elizabeth Holland at the address on p.1. The document will be quite long, and the price of running off individual copies has not yet been decided.



Seal of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.



Counterseal of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.

Beauchamp: gules, a fess between six cross crosslets or.

Above: the Great Seal and Counterseal of Richard (de) Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (died 1439). Richard seems to have been born in 1381. By October 1397 he had been married to Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas (de) Berkeley, who would then have been about twelve. They had three daughters. She died in 1422 and in 1423 he married the widow of one of his cousins, formerly Isabel le Despenser. Their son Henry (1425-1446) was created Duke of Warwick in 1445 in recognition of his father's achievements. The dukedom died with him.

Henry is thought to have been the owner of Morgan 893, and the presence of what seems to be his signature on it has given rise to the name "the Warwick Book of Hours". After his death the earldom devolved on his daughter Anne as Countess. She died in 1449 aged about five.

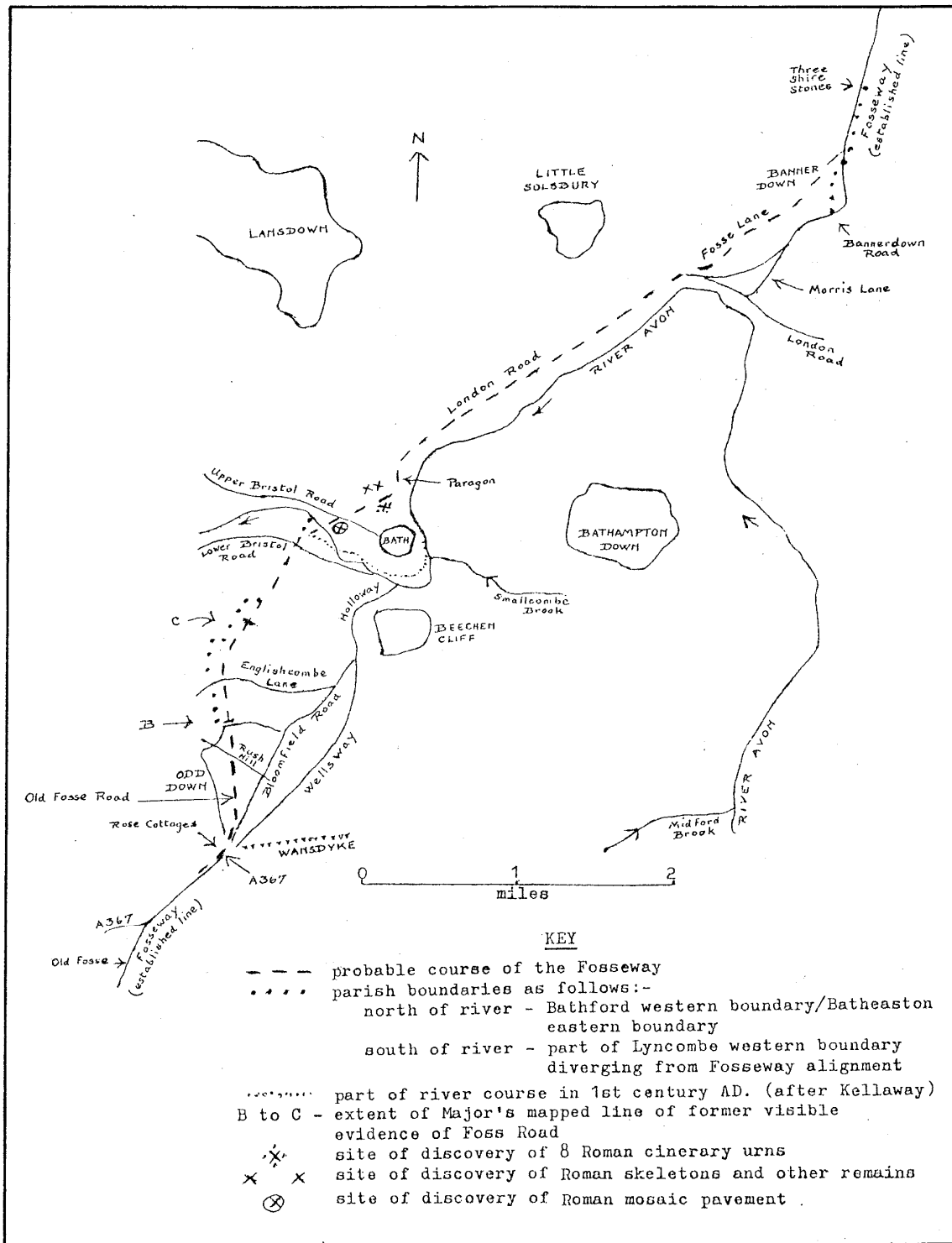


Saluum me fac deus:
qm̄ intrauerunt aque
usq; ad aīam meam.
Inficus sum in li-
mo profundi: et non
est substantia. **Q**ui
in altitudinem maris: et tempestas de-
mergit me. **E**t alviani clamans rauce
facte sunt fauces mee: defecerunt oculi
mei dum spero in deum meum. **Q**ui
multiplicati super capillos capitis mei: qui



Opposite: Illustration to Psalm 68/69 from a medieval Book of Hours once in the possession of the Beauchamp family, Warwick. Published by permission of the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York (M.893, f.158v).

Above: Illustration to Psalm 68/69 from a medieval MS. known as the "Plantagenet Psalter". Published by courtesy of the Board of Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum [Reid MS.42 (A.D. 1684-1902) Fol.77R].
 Photograph reproduced by permission of the Conway Library, Courtauld Institute of Art (Negative 642/12(29)).



Allan Keevil, 1994.

TRACING THE FOSSEWAY AT BATH

Allan Keevil

Although it has generally been assumed, since at least the early eighteenth century, that the Fosseway ran through Aquae Sulis, there is, in fact, evidence to show that this was not the case, but that, instead, it bypassed to the west of the subsequently walled city, and crossed the river in the vicinity of the present Victoria Bridge.

A most important part of that evidence is contained in a Crown charter of 970 A.D. (1), granting to the Abbey the area now known as "Lyncombe and Widcombe". Along three sides of the Saxon bounds, key landmarks given in the charter are recognisably identical with those of today (shown on 1903/4 O.S. maps) - the northern (along the River Avon), the eastern (beginning on the now largely culverted Smallcombe Brook), and the southern (along Horsecombe Brook and the Wansdyke). The whole of the Saxon western boundary is given as being "on Fosse Street" (i.e. the Fosseway), and although most of this route no longer exists, the present western boundary of Lyncombe certainly begins by running along the embanked, 800-yard, almost completely straight stretch of the present Old Fosse Road, which strikes out on a bearing of about 5 degrees west of north, along the western edge of Odd Down - a totally different direction from the way to the walled city.

The original turn into the Old Fosse Road alignment, from the established line of the Fosseway from the south, would appear to have begun where a small parking bay now exists above Rose Cottages (a narrow pathway indicating the original direction of the turn), about 250 yards farther back along the present A367 from its present awkward junction with that road - compare the current O.S. map with Thorpe's Survey of 1742. (2)

A manuscript survey of Lyncombe, dated 1590, describes the western boundary thus:

after a way called the Fosse, being a high bank, until we come to Twerton's lordship, and thence to the waterside, to the lower end of Sydenham Mead...

Twerton and Lyncombe meet at Englishcombe Lane, and share a common boundary from there to the river (see the Tithe maps), so that it would appear that, in 1590, the Fosse was still recognisable, at least as far as Englishcombe Lane. "Sydenham Mead" was the most westerly riverside meadow of Lyncombe (3) and the modern boundary runs along its former "lower end", meeting the river about 70 yards east of the present Victoria Bridge. This part of the boundary has, therefore, remained unchanged since at least 1590.

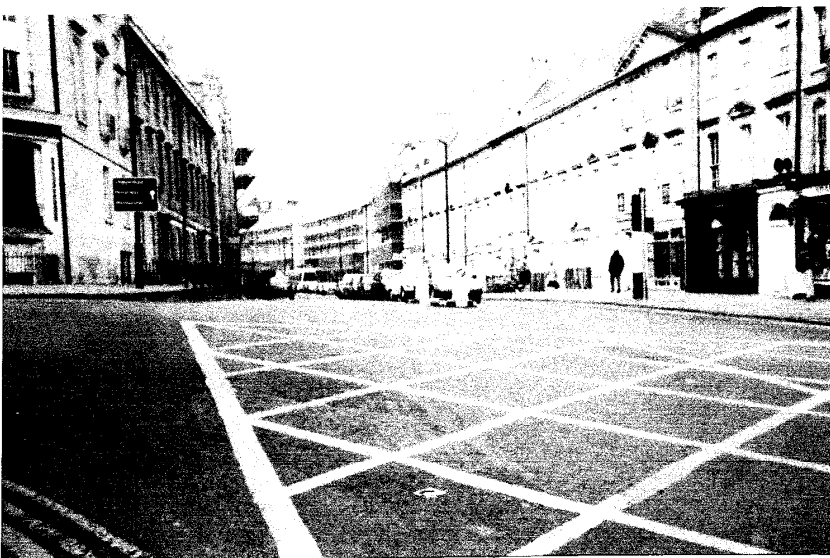
The close correlation along three limits suggests that the present western boundary also is unlikely to have strayed very far from its Saxon line, which was marked by the Fosseway. Nevertheless, from at least the time of the earliest known mapped survey of Lyncombe (Bruton Hospital 1799), the boundary appears to have made, about midway between Odd Down and the river, a slight westerly and somewhat erratic detour from the alignment for about 1150 yards, where it could not have been following the Roman road. This detour begins about 300 yards south of Englishcombe Lane, by following the course of a brook, which wriggles and bends a little way to the west of the former alignment. However after crossing Englishcombe Lane, the modern boundary then gradually kinks and bends back eastwards again, to resume a direct course (and presumably regain the line of the Fosse) once more, to the river.



Above: Norfolk Buildings at the rear of Norfolk Crescent (southern end just showing in the middle background). In 1818 a mosaic pavement was discovered "behind Norfolk Crescent" (*Bath Chronicle* 15 October 1818). Allan Keevil suggests the route of the Fosse ran across the present course of the river, and through the northern segment of Norfolk Crescent.



Centre: "In digging the new road at the entrance of the Park from Queen Square" (shown here viewed from inside gateway) "eight sepulchral urns were found, together with lachrymatories, several pieces of armour, beads, and portions of a Cestus" (Scarth, 1864, *Aquae Solis* p.110.) The probable route of the Fosse crossed this approach road near the Park entrance.



Below: Looking north along the probable route of the Fosse in the present Paragon, with Fountain Buildings, site of the former ancient St. Werburgh's Chapel, shown on the left at the Lansdown Road corner. The Paragon has been authenticated as a line of former Roman road (Norton in Cunliffe, 1969, *Roman Bath* p.211: see also Wood, 1765, *Essay Towards a Description of Bath*, p.255.)

Photographs by Allan Keevil, 1994.

Before housing developments of the 1920's in the area, there had apparently been "visible evidence" of a fragment of former road, picking up the Fosseway alignment, in that part where the erratic course of the modern boundary clearly fails to do so. Fortunately, its mapped line was superimposed on a reproduction of a 6" O.S. map by Albany Major (4), although he labelled it "British Foss Road" (besides adding the word "British" in brackets to the name of the Old Fosse Road at Odd Down), mistakenly, as no "Fosse" road was built in ancient British times. The line evidently marks a missing portion of the Roman Fosseway.

It begins in alignment with the end of the Old Fosse Road, but at the point where the modern boundary begins to follow the course of a brook. It then crosses Englishcombe Lane (from what would now be the centre of the Englishcombe Inn), at a distance of about 80 yards east of the modern boundary. North of Englishcombe Lane, it turns eastwards through about 30 degrees (closely matched today by the turn formed by the western end of The Oval).

The line of Major's "Foss Road" then continues straight, along what is now the wide ridge in the Moorfields allotments (the distance between this route and the modern boundary having already considerably decreased by this stage), and in alignment with the final direct course of the modern boundary (beyond the limits of Major's map) to the river. Today, this final part of the modern boundary would take the route down the western rear of St.Kilda's Road, along the inside of the Scala car-park wall, and down the line of Brougham Hayes, to reach the river through the now empty ground of the former Stothert's Victoria Works.

Dr.Kellaway's map, showing the probable course of the river around Bath in the first century A.D. (5), suggests that it would have met the line of the present Lyncombe boundary about 190 yards south of its present course. This point would presumably mark the approximate position of the Fosseway river crossing in early Roman times.

From the northern side of the river crossing, the first leg of the route north-eastwards, towards the well-established line of the Fosseway above Bannerdown, is likely to have led directly to the western end of the present Paragon (well-authenticated as the line of a Roman road).(6) The alignment (between river and Paragon) would account for the position of certain Roman remains not previously attributable to the line of any known Roman road.(7)

Today, the Paragon forms an S-bend, as it runs to the London Road, but its Roman equivalent would no doubt have followed a zigzag pattern, along this high, but gradually descending terrace on the side of Lansdown hill. The London Road, from the number of Roman burials found beside it, is well-established as a Roman route (almost certainly carrying the London to Sea-Mills road as well as the Fosseway). It runs practically straight, along a terrace, roughly parallel with the river, for two miles as far as Batheaston. There, both road and river make a south-eastward turn towards Bathford, the western boundary of which was defined in a charter of 957 A.D. (8) as being "along the Street" (evidently a Roman road). In this century, it has generally been assumed that the Fosseway followed the London Road along this south-eastward alignment for about a quarter of a mile, before turning into Morris Lane, for there the western boundary of Bathford begins to climb towards Bannerdown. (9)

However in 1821 Colt Hoare, having traced the Fosseway towards Bath from Cirencester, explained that on entering Bannerdown, "the Fosse quits the turnpike road and at this point is destroyed by large stone quarries, so that no part of the causeway is visible on the Down, but we soon recognise its course in descending the hill to Batheaston, on a road which bears the name Fosse Lane."

(10)

There appears to be corroborative evidence for this route (11) (lacking in the case of Morris Lane), which may therefore have been the line of "the Street" of 957 A.D. The present parish boundary on Morris Lane may have arisen from circumstances connected with the Batheaston/Bathford overlapping of the former tithing of "Easton and Amorel".(12)

The present track from the top of Fosse Lane meets the established course of the Fosseway at the north-eastern corner of Bannerdown, just beyond the fourth milestone from Bath, but the extent of former quarrying and consequent absence of causeway on the Down makes its original position there a little uncertain. Nevertheless, from the present junction (involving an approximately 20-degree change of direction, just above the 600 ft. contour, where ground on either side of the turn descends to deep valleys) the well-established line of the Fosseway follows a practically straight section of the modern roadway (accompanied for about a mile by a continuation of the parish boundary) which is raised by about 5 ft. generally, suggesting an impressive "agger" in this part, as it runs along a gently rising ridge.

This then completes the tracing of the Fosseway at Bath, between its well-established lines at Combe Hay to the south and at Bannerdown to the north, a distance of about six miles altogether.(13)



Postscript

In setting out the argument for the probable route of the Fosseway in 1989, the present writer nevertheless at that time felt unable fully to accept the evidence of the Lyncombe boundary alignment for the position of the river-crossing, because of possible implications of two recently published items. One of these was Kellaway's study of the change in river-pattern since the first century A.D., which seemed to call into question the choice of a Fosseway crossing where the river course was subsequently to prove unstable. The other was the discovery in 1985, beneath the buildings on the north side of Bath Street, of "a massively constructed Roman road, pre-dating the layout of the Temple in the 60's A.D.", which as Cunliffe suggested, "raised another interesting possibility as to the route of the Fosseway.(14)

Now, however, after considerable re-appraisal of the available information, the present writer is convinced that the doubts initially raised by the two items are unfounded, and is satisfied that the Fosseway river-crossing was indeed located in the vicinity of the present Victoria Bridge, as described above.

Firstly, the subsequent change in the course of the river there does not imply that its position in the first century A.D. would have appeared unsatisfactory to the Roman surveyors laying out the Fosseway, especially as it had almost certainly already become well-established as a crossing in pre-Roman times.

(15)

As to the early Roman road beneath the north side of Bath Street, its precise dating has not apparently been established. It may in fact have post-dated the Fosseway, and been massively constructed especially for the transportation to the site of the necessarily large quantities of heavy building materials, to be brought by river as well as by road (possibly via a diversion from the Fosseway) for the erection of the great temple and bathing complex - a possibility to which Davenport has alluded.

Finally, although there is evidence of diversions having developed (some probably in the Roman period) from various positions along the Fosseway towards the walled area of the city, it seems obvious that only the original route of that early Roman frontier road could have been known as the Fosseway (or "Fosse Street") to the Saxons - otherwise it would have led to endless confusion over the line of the Saxon western boundary of Lyncombe, as defined in the charter of 970 A.D. All the evidence suggests that the modern boundary, apart from comparatively minor deviations, approximates fairly closely to that line. (For **Notes and References** to this article, supplied by the author, please see the back page)



Above: Looking northwards up the lower, macadamised portion of Fosse Lane at Batheaston, the probable route of the Fosse.



Below: Looking north along the route of the established course of the Fosseway above Bannerdown. The small parking bay on the left, beside the area of a large, former quarry, is near the spot where the probable southward course of the Fosseway left the present main road to cross Bannerdown and join Fosse Lane at Batheaston.

Photographs by Allan Keevil, 1994.

Notes.

1. Hunt (ed.), 1893, i, No. 25. Also Birch, 1885-93, No. 1257
2. Part of the turn also served to take the eighteenth century turnpike route from the present A367 into Bloomfield Road, and thence via Holloway, to the city. It became redundant when the new turnpike route of the present Wellsway (mistakenly labelled as the Fosseway on OS. maps) was constructed in the 1820s (where no road had previously existed) between the present Entry Hill junction and the A367.
3. See Lyncombe Tithe map, ground No. 1, and OS. 1903/4.
4. Major & Burrow, 1926, map, p. 62.
5. in Cunliffe & Davenport, 1985, I (i), p. 6.
6. Norton in Cunliffe, 1969, p. 211.
7. Haverfield in Page (ed.), 1906, p. 263. Scarth, 1864, p. 110.
8. Hunt (ed.), 1893, i, No. 18. Also Birch, No. 1001.
9. Haverfield in Page (ed.), 1906, p. 345. Margary, 1973, p. 142.
10. Hoare, 1821, II, pp. 103-4. The name "Bannerdown" applies only to the southern extremity of the high ground south of the Three Shire Stones.
11. Early name of Fosse Lane (c. 1291) was 'Grenestrete' - see Dobbie, 1969, Fig. 7. Name indicates former Roman road - see Margary, 1973, pp. 26 & 507.
12. See Dobbie, 1969, pp. 16 & 55.
13. See Cunliffe, 1986, p. 16, for these two well-established positions of the line.
14. As Note 13.
15. Davenport (ed.), 1991, p. 143.

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- Wood, J., Essay towards a Description of Bath, 1765 (1st pub'd. 1749), London.

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- 970 A.D. Saxon bounds of Clifton (now Lyncombe with Widcombe) in grant by King Edgar to St. Peter's (the Abbey) of Bath - No. 1257 in Birch's Cartularium Saxonicum.
- 1590 M.S. survey of the Manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe - Somerset Record Office, DD/SE 22.
- 1724, Stukeley, W., Plan of the City of Bath.
- 1740, Thorpe, T., Plan of the Parish of Walcot.
- 1742, Thorpe, T., Survey of a Five-mile radius of the City of Bath.
- 1799, Bruton Hospital Survey of the Manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe - Somerset Record Office, DD/SAS C/212
- 1839-42, Tithe maps of Lyncombe with Widcombe, Twerton, Walcot, Batheaston, and Bathford - Somerset Record Office.
- 1:2500 OS. Som. Sheets VIII, 15, 1886 & 1904 and XIV, 5 & 13, 1888 & 1904.
current 1:2500 OS. Plan ST. 7361.
- 1:10,000 OS. Som. Sheet XIV, SW. & NW., 1903/4.
current 1:10,000 OS. Sheets ST. 76 SW., SE., NW., NE.