

The Survey

of Bath and District

The Magazine of the Survey of Old Bath and Its Associates

No.16, November 2001

Editors: Mike Chapman

Elizabeth Holland



Above (back cover): The bearded head, now in the Roman Baths Museum, Bath.

Left: View from Walter Lewis's photographic studio in Seymour Street, recording the floods behind Green Park Station in 1882

Included in this issue:

- Report on this season's work by the Bath Archaeological Trust
- Ingle Brook in Englishcombe *Allan Keevil*
- A Brief Social History of a late Georgian Terrace: Prior Park Cottages

Marek Lewcun

Guy Whitmarsh

- Bladud and Bath. A Personal Discussion
- Further notes on Bath's Early Photographic Studios

Elizabeth Holland
Mike Chapman

NEWS FROM THE SURVEY

The Survey's booklet on Bimbery, the south-western part of the old walled city, is now out, with two reconstructed maps of the area drawn by Mike. On pages 10-11 is also shown the area from Speed's map, marked up as in Elizabeth's Stuart map of the mid-1970s.

Elizabeth took Speed, the 1641 Survey, and lease plans, and worked out the place of each item in the Survey on Speed. This exercise showed that Speed's plan is based on a survey of the city - in 1575, has always been our suggestion. Its mistakes in alignment are probably due to the processing.

Elizabeth showed her Stuart map to John Wroughton, who became the first supporter of our venture. John and Elizabeth were satisfied with the effort as the basis of social history, as they knew many of the different citizens and could picture them living in the different houses. However as we have recounted, when Tim O'Leary arrived in 1979 on digs for Bath Archaeological Trust, looking at it from his own point of view as an archaeologist, he said he would like to see a scientific mapping venture. The name the Survey of Old Bath was adopted then.

Although Elizabeth did a great deal of research, the mapping venture did not really take off at first, as map-making requires a cartographer. In 1988 Mike Chapman joined the enterprise, and things began to look up. We hope that the two Bimbery maps fulfil Tim's ideal. From them it is possible to create earlier maps, though we have not published these at this stage.

The Survey would like to create a pair of matching maps for the King's Bath area. As we have said, this will depend on the arrival of relevant grants or commissions, as work of this kind is not a 'hobby'! Elizabeth has been continuing with indexing tasks at the Record Office. Her history of Prior Park Buildings is ready and only needs typing out, for circulation on a limited scale. Guy Whitmarsh's companion piece on Prior Park Cottages is published in this issue of the magazine, where it is bound to arouse interest.

We wish also to mention the death earlier this year of Peter Addison, who was a member of the Friends and served as their PR representative for a while. Earlier on, he was Mike's supervisor when they both worked for the research department of Avon Industrial Buildings Trust in the 1980s. His specialist study was the ochre industry in North Somerset, but he was probably better known for his book on the history of his own neighbourhood, *Around Combe Down*. Although Peter was not a local man, he made a significant contribution to the study of local history in our area.



Looking towards the Parade Gardens during the floods last autumn. Photo: Priscilla Olver (see Issue 15, ...)

Chairman of the Survey: Mike Chapman, 51 Newton Road, Bath BA2 1RW tel: 01225 426948, email: mike@chapman76.fsnet.co.uk

Secretary-Treasurer: Elizabeth Holland, 16 Prior Park Buildings, Bath BA2 4NP tel: 01225 313581

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

It is proposed that the next AGM be held on Friday 26 April 2002, at 7.30 p.m. at the URC Halls at Grove Street. This is the publication day of Dr. John Wroughton's new book on Colston School, Bristol. John plans to attend the publication launch in Bristol at lunchtime, and address the Friends in the evening.

We hope that this move, in compliment to Dr. Wroughton, will prove acceptable to the Friends. The first AGM was held in July 1994, after June Hodgkinson had founded the group in 1993. The next seven AGMs, 1995-2001, were held in June each year. April 2002 should be a convenient date for John's new topic, when fewer people are away than in June, so we hope the group will accept this change, of which we hereby notify them. (The constitution lays down no set procedure on this subject.)

It will not be possible to have the next issue of the magazine ready by April 2002. There will probably simply be a newsheet. The next issue is therefore planned for November 2002. It will be an extended publication, by comparison with our more customary 32 pages or so. Issue No.15, with Dr. Kellaway's article was also a bumper one, 44 pages, at no extra cost to the Friends. We hope therefore that none of the Friends will feel they are losing out by this change of programme!

The lunchtime lecture in November 2001 is being held on Thursday 8 November, at the URC Halls. Edward Barrett, Clerk to the Charter Trustees, will be speaking on 'Options for Bath', which should make for a lively meeting.

The Friends are still seeking a general Secretary. There is also room for a new Programme Secretary. The need here is for someone to arrange for speakers and to type and circulate invitations to meetings. Perhaps someone may come forward who would like to combine both the posts!

The following report has been received on the AGM, June 2001. Our Chairman, Mrs. Ruth Haskins, has also sent a personal account of the evening to the Letters Page.

AGM 8 June 2001

Owing to an unavoidable last minute change of plans the Annual General Meeting of the Friends was held on 8 June 2001 in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, instead of the URC Halls, Grove Street. This was a splendid and appropriate venue for the Society, and the Chairman, Ruth Haskins, expressed most grateful thanks on behalf of the Friends to Edward Barrett, Clerk to the Charter Trustees, for allowing us to use the room at short notice, and to Clive Coath-Wilson, Mayor's Officer, for assisting with organisation. During the evening the Friends and guests were given a most interesting tour of the Mayor's Parlour, and refreshments were served on the landing.

Following the business proceedings two slide presentations were given, the first by Marek Lewcun on the recent work of the Bath Archaeological Trust. The work at the Aldridges site, now named St. Swithin's Yard, the subject of the TV programme 'Meet the Ancestors' in January 2001, was concluded in late 2000, and the Tramsheds project was now nearly completed. New excavations have been undertaken in the East Baths prior to major improvements in presentation and visitor circulation. These have brought to light new information on how the eastern area of the Roman Baths developed, and have added to earlier finds in the same corner of the East Baths in 1995, when burials and part of a substantial Saxon wall, almost certainly belonging to the Abbey, were found.

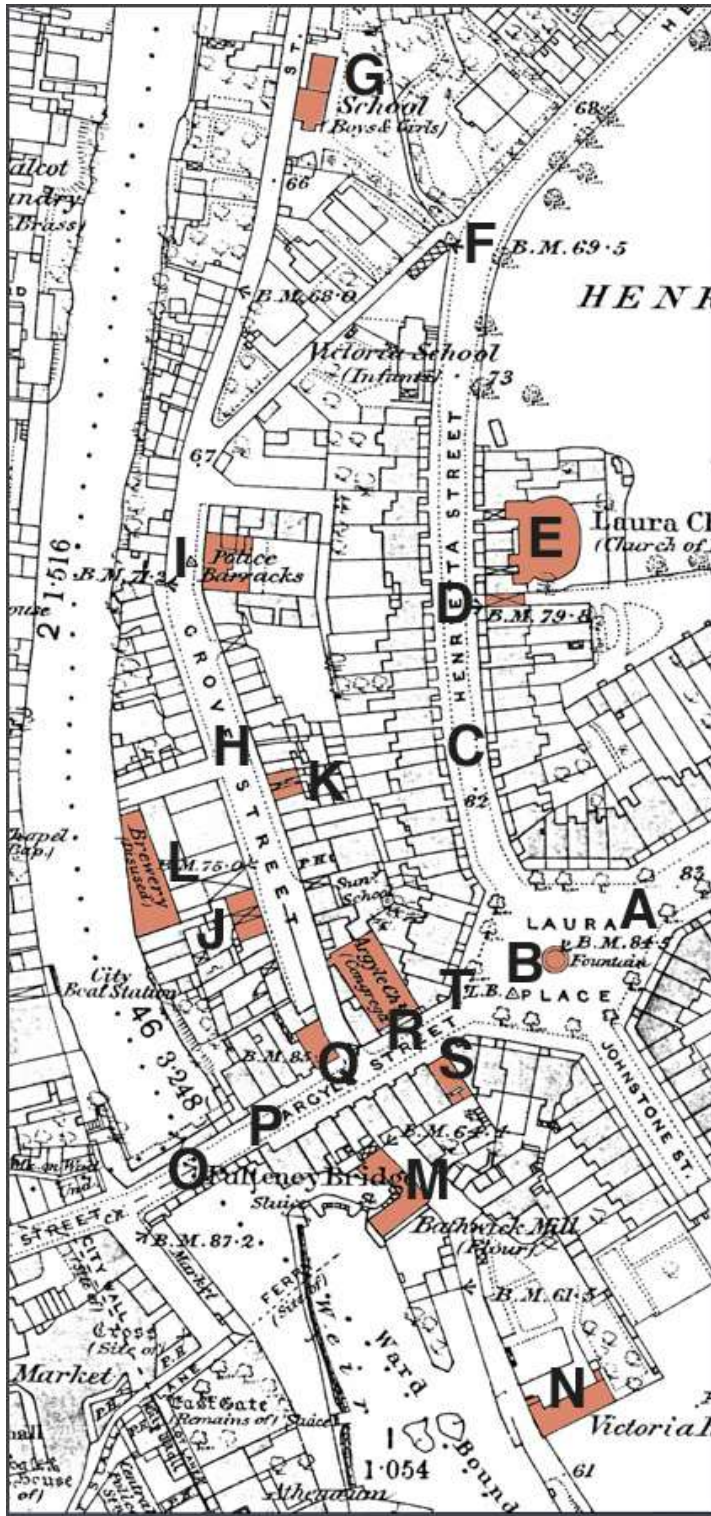
Excavation work is now being carried out in various sites on the Lower Bristol Road, on premises formerly occupied in parts by Bishops Move and Drainage Systems. A surprise find from a borehole sunk near the gas holders was a considerable amount of Roman pottery. The Trust is also acting as archaeological consultants for the University of Bath prior to major development on the campus. A comprehensive report on the subjects of Marek's talk appeared in the last Magazine, No.15.

Stuart Burroughs of the Museum of Bath at Work continued with a most interesting illustrated talk concerning the Museum. Its title had originally been devised in 1978 with the single aim in mind of displaying the Bowler collection. However, in the Millennium year the time had come to have a new name which now reflects the work and lives of ordinary citizens in Bath.

In the early 1900s Bath pioneered the development of a sewerage system and during this year the Museum is holding an exhibition by Wessex Water describing the supply of water in the city from Roman times to the present day, including the history of the private water companies. Other industries which were to be found in Bath in the last century included paper-making, generating electricity, world-wide export of cranes (Stothert and Pitt) and Harbutt's plasticine, to name but a few. Even cars were manufactured here by the Hortsmann Car Company and Mr. Burroughs had some interesting slides of these together with people connected with the production. The Museum offers exhibition and lecture facilities and is always interested to learn more about the City.

Priscilla Olver, July 2001

Mrs. Sheila Edwards very kindly led some of the Friends on a walk in Bathwick on 16 May, with Arthur Green also in attendance. The actual tour of the area was done fairly speedily, as it was pouring with rain and the party had to shelter in the porch of the Argyle Street Chapel. Below are Mrs. Edwards' background notes for the walk, with a plan showing the location of each special site.



Detail taken from the OS map of the 1880s.

A Walk taken in Bathwick on Wednesday evening 16 May 2001

- A.** Laura Place - once Bathwick Meadows, begun in 1788. Designed by Thomas Baldwin, named after Henrietta Laura Pulteney who inherited the Manor of Bathwick on the death of her mother Frances Pulteney in 1782.
- B.** Fountain - erected to mark the Royal Bath & West Centenary in 1877. Designed by Alfred Samuel Goodridge. Near here stood the first Fly Stand in Bath, in 1830. The Fly was a light carriage designed for speed and invented by a man called Ewens who had a business of Tinman in the Sawclose, Bath. The first trials of this machine took place in Pulteney Street. In 1805 there was a plan to erect a statue of Nelson here commemorating his death, the costs to be raised by public subscriptions. These were not forthcoming, so the idea was abandoned!
- C.** Henrietta Street - ground leases first granted in 1788 by Henrietta Laura, the street was constructed in 1791. Moses Pickwick lived at No.8 in 1871. Sir Charles Napier a distinguished military figure lived at No.9 in 1837. John Pinch (the Younger) lived at No 21.
- D.** The small wooden board high on the right in the archway dated 1859.
- E.** Laura Chapel – Episcopal. Only the two entrances remain. Built as a Proprietary Chapel, designed by Thomas Baldwin and opened for Divine Service in 1795. Date of demolition unknown. Said to seat a thousand people. It was comfortable and had fireplaces and in cold weather the fires were well stoked. Mrs. Thrale (later Piozzi) friend of Dr. Johnson was known to have attended here.
- F.** Flood level mark (about 3ft. from ground) on the wall to left of the lane leading to Grove Street. No date on this one but there was a particularly high flood on 1 November 1823.
- G.** Bathwick Schools - Parochial, Boys and Girls. Built in 1840 to a design by John Pinch the Younger at a cost of £1000. Victoria Infants School built the previous year.
- H.** Grove Street - Bathwick Mead, construction finished 1791, but has been altered extensively several times since then. Originally housing the poor and working classes, it was known as a slum area in Victorian and Edwardian periods, however over the years it has had a very interesting mix of both people and buildings. There were four known Public Houses/Inns/Beerhouses - *The Rising Sun* (the only one now existing 2001), *The Duke of Cambridge*, *The Ostrich*, *The Dog and Gun* (this might have been previously named *The Sun & Lark*).
- I.** The old Prison – city gaol/lock-up/debtors gaol. Now No.16 Grove Street. The Foundation stone was laid on 3 May 1772 by John Horton, Mayor of Bath. Designed by Thomas Attwood Warr, it was built by Richard Jones at the expense of the Pulteneys and was said to be part of a deal for land originally required for the construction of the Pulteney Bridge to enable the development of the ‘New Town’ on the Manor of Bathwick. The prison became a Police Barracks from 1850 until 1903. In the 1970s the old building was upgraded and adapted into self-contained flats.
- J.** John Eveleigh’s house – No.22. Constructed c.1788. Said also to be once a coaching station. John Eveleigh City Architect and Builder once had a wharf here. There are several theories for the numbers over the window of the first floor – 5792; Masonic, the Freeman’s calendar dates from 4000 BC, deduct this figure from 5792 and you get 1792, perhaps the date of final completion; or Bishop Usher’s belief that the world was created in 4004 (deducted from 5792 = 1788).
- K.** Scouts Hall - dated 1887. This rank of dwellings was built around this time to replace the original slum dwellings demolished prior to this date.
- L.** Northgate Brewery - Grove Street, frontage was in Northgate Street. Said to be at one time the largest brewery in Bath, it was in operation from before 1840 until about 1884. There was once a metal bridge on the riverside of the building that spanned the Avon over to roughly where the Podium building is now. This was used for the transporting of the casks of ale on a steam-driven railcar and track, there were also steps down to the river. There is an archway there now.

M. Bathwick Mills site - through the tunnel to Spring Gardens. Note the painted sign 'Wills & Sons Builders' on the right adjacent to the archway. Families once lived in the cellars within this tunnel that supports Argyle Street. The Mills date from the medieval age, firstly as flour mills, but later also used for fulling, a process of the cloth industry. They ceased to function as working mills around 1888 and the ruins were finally demolished and cleared during the flood prevention scheme of 1971.

N. Victoria Brass & Ironworks 1884 – stood just about where the entrance to the Bath Rugby Club ground is now situated. Here Joseph Day, Ironfounder, developed a two-stroke engine which was the forerunner to that used in early lawnmowers and motorbikes. In 1780 Spring Gardens, a pleasure resort, was situated here. By the late 1780s-1790 a wharf was created on the river edge for the unloading of stone and other materials brought up river from Mr.Allen's wharf at Widcombe, for the Georgian development of Bathwick.

O. Pulteney Bridge – built to a design by Robert Adam, a friend of William Pulteney. Started in 1769, construction took until 1774 to complete.

P. Argyle Street - Argyle Buildings. No.17 was a Coffee-house from 1792 until 1808, when it became the *Argyle Tap* (licensed).

Q. Gregory's Bookshop - painted window high on the wall at the corner of Grove/Argyle Street. Gregory's occupied No.5 in 1845 for several years before moving to Green Street. Reported to have had one of the finest and largest stocks of books in the world at that time, (it was advertised that all were contained in 30 rooms), Gregory's eventually sold to George Bayntun.

R. Argyle United Reform Church - formerly Argyle Chapel. Built 1789, designed by Thomas Baldwin, it was enlarged and the Ionic façade designed and added in 1821 by Henry E.Goodridge, including iron railings and gates (since removed). The preacher William Jay is said to have preached a thousand sermons by the age of 21.

S. Chemist at No.8 – 'An officially protected Bath Pharmacy'. Established 1826, there has been a chemist/druggist here continuously since 1840, and apothecaries present in the street from 1800. The Queen Charlotte Arms above this shop are modelled in Coade stone, and in 1950 were found in a poor state in the basement of 36 Milsom Street. After repainting they were displayed for many years at the Guildhall, but then ended up in yet another basement! Saved once more, the Arms were sent for restoration, finally after the removal of about sixteen coats of paint and evidence of being in a fire long ago, they now sit regally on top this Georgian shopfront.

T. Penfold Letterbox - Victorian 1876. Designed by John Penfold. There are reported to be just four in the country. Two in Bathwick, one in a village in Somerset, and the fourth (painted green) is in a museum in Bristol.

This walk also explored some of the social and economic differences that made up the early history of Argyle Street and Grove Street. For example from 1790s onwards in Argyle Street there lived and worked - Wigmakers, Hairdresser & Perfumers, Jewellers, Chinese painter, Landscape painter, Apothecaries, Portrait painter, Milliner, High Class Grocer, Wine Merchant, Staymaker, Teacher of painting, Music teacher, Dancing master, Embroidress, Bookseller Stationer & Librarian. In Grove Street - from 1790s onwards were found the grooms, ostlers, millers, carter, nailman, carpenters, wheelwrights, brightsmith, strawbonnet-maker, nurse, butchers, brewerymen, coopers, slaughterhousemen, laundresses, charwomen, washerwomen, chairmen, chimneysweeps.

Sheila Edwards
May 2001

CITY NEWS

B&NES Record Office

Colin Johnston has acquired a fresh document to do with Widcombe Manor, through the Lesley Aitchison Local History Catalogue. This is entitled 'Particulars and Conditions of Sale of a Classic Abode called Widcomb House', 1839. There is a flowery text, a very valuable map, and two attractive illustrations. We have asked John Hawkes to write an appreciation of it for us, which we hope will follow soon in this magazine.

Cataloguing of the resources as a result of the Lottery Grant is going forward well.

The Museum of Bath at Work

The Museum is holding an appeal for funds to replace signposts directing visitors to it. It also has plans to improve its display area and there are hopes of bringing back to Bath a Bath Chair manufactured by James Heath of 4, Broad Street for the Great Exhibition of 1851. It was called the Four Seasons Chair from the paintings on the panels, and Prince Albert, instigator of the Exhibition, bought it as a gift for Empress Eugenie who attended the Exhibition with Emperor Napoleon III of France.

Another item to be returned to Bath is the 'Samuel Griffin' gas engine. In April the Museum also plans a display on the wartime bombing of Bath. If anyone has anything to contribute to this or wishes to become otherwise involved they should contact Francis Joy on 01225 423915.

The Museum continues to run information on local society programmes on the back page of its Newsletter, which for non-members can be seen at the Central Library and the Record Office at the Guildhall.

The Widcombe Association

The Association is celebrating its 20th birthday. Its latest newsletter reports:

What many people will probably not remember is that the Association was set up largely for the purpose of removing through traffic from using Claverton Street, caused by the original construction of Rossiter Road being made one-way West to East; with Claverton Street forming the reverse flow from East to West. At that time the destruction of housing alongside the canal and the deletion of a lock were simply an extension of the wholesale demolishing of old but often still elegant period housing all over the city during the 1960s by the then Bath City Council.

Our aim has always been to restore Claverton Street to its original role as a local high street and, as our speaker on 23 October will outline, the inclusion of a scheme to achieve this by making Rossiter Road two-way was included in the Local Transport Plan (LTP) for 2001-2005. Members will recall that, thanks to the good offices of Engineering consultants Buro Happold and Professor Mike Barnes and the Bath University School of Architecture and Civil Engineering, a detailed plan was submitted to B&NES in December 1998, and forwarded to Government in the LTP.

B&NES Engineering Consultancy is setting out a similar, but different, proposal and Senior Project Manager Steve Froggatt will outline this scheme to us at the meeting.

On page 2 the Newsletter records the death of Peter Coard, well-known illustrator of Bath's vanishing buildings, and includes a sketch by him of the rear of 43 Claverton Street. Peter died in Gloucester on 3 September 2001.

Mayor's Guides

The Mayor's Guides held another series of special walks, which once again were a great success. Malcolm Hitchcock has described the walk he led around Lyncombe and Widcombe in an epistle in our Letters Page.

The BRLSI

Three public meetings chaired by the Mayor of Bath, under the heading 'A Vision for Bath' have already been held, and a third will take place on 7 December. The venue at 16 Queen Square will be open at 7 p.m. for a start at 7.30 p.m., with the subject, 'Bath - How to Change the City', with three speakers.

The three previous titles were -

14 September - 'Bath in the 21st Century'

5 October - 'Bath - A Place to Live, Work and Play'

2 November - 'Bath - A Cultural City'

The Widcombe and Lyncombe History Study Group

In April Elizabeth Devon, Secretary of the Bath Geological Society, told 'A Jurassic Story' to members of the group. Elizabeth explained, in simple terms, the geological strata. She then superimposed the position of the various layers, on photographs she had taken locally. It was a fascinating evening.

Fay Briddon gave a talk about John C. Loudon and his other cemeteries besides the Bath Abbey site, a well-researched comparison, which followed the business meeting in May. Elizabeth Holland and Doreen Collyer also reported on the street and garden recording projects. Connie Smith concluded the evening with her 'Researches into the tything of the Widcombe and Lyncombe area'. With the help of copies of some really old maps, Connie made this a very interesting talk.

Bathwick Local History Society invited members of the Widcombe society to join them at their June meeting for a visit to Smallcombe Cemetery. Those who were able to attend enjoyed looking around this quiet corner of Horseshoe Walk.

Members met at Widcombe Crescent in July. Continuing last year's walk they went to Cambridge Terrace, wound around the Tynings and looked down over the canal. Finishing back at Widcombe Crescent they learned about some of the former occupants. The afternoon ended with a delightful tea in the gardens of No. 11, Margaret Burrows' home.

The simplicity and intricacies of heraldry were explained to members at the September meeting. Steve Slater, ably assisted by Roland Symons, illustrated his talk with slides. Roland is Chairman and Steve Vice-Chairman of Bath Heraldry Society.

Steve said heraldry was used to show people who could not read, where their Lord and Master was in the field of battle. More splendid coats of arms came about when knights jousting in tournaments. These were mostly in the Low Countries, hence heraldic terms are in Norman French. For tournaments, not only the combatant's shield showed his 'Arms' but he, and his horse, would wear an overcoat (surcoat) covered with his colours.

Apart from the well-known lions, unicorns and bears which support the Arms, there are many other beasts. Steve proudly showed the Wiltshire County Arms which have a bustard (bird) above. He was warmly thanked by Doreen Collyer, Chairman. Doreen suggested that as Steve had shown a few local examples of heraldry, perhaps members of the Society could research and find more local examples.

Lyn Coles,
October 2001

BATH ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

The Trust held a day school at the University of Bath on 19 May, where four illustrated talks were given and several display panels highlighting the archaeology of the area were on show. The speakers were Peter Davenport on the work of the Trust, Rob Bell on garden archaeology, Mark Beaton on recent archaeological work in Bath, including the Roman villa on Wells Road and the latest findings in Walcot Street, and Marek Lewcun on the city walls and defences.

In July the Trust mounted a very successful week-long exhibition at Bath Central Library. Information and photographs on a variety of topics and individual sites were on display, including recent discoveries at the Tramsheds and former Aldridges sites on Walcot Street, Roman villas in the Bath area, standing building surveys, the city defences, historic gardens, and a slide show on the spa excavations. Centre stage was the cast of the reconstructed head of the Syrian man found in a lead coffin at the Aldridges site, which was accompanied at the display by a showing of the 'Meet the Ancestors' television programme in which he featured.

Excavations at the site of River Place, New Road Buildings and the adjoining malthouse on Lower Bristol Road (see the June 2001 issue) have been concluded, with a good record of the properties which once stood there having been possible. A number of new projects have also been completed recently. At the Bath Cricket Club on North Parade Road two trenches were excavated to investigate if there were any archaeological remains which might affect proposals to build a new club house, but none were found.

Further afield, a watching brief was carried out at Moreton-in-Marsh on building works for an extension to a school in the High Street, but despite its location adjacent to the Fosse Way and the proximity of neolithic pits, an Iron Age camp and a Roman military camp, no remains were found on the site. Slightly closer to home, the Radstock and Midsomer Norton Streetscape Survey, covering the history of a broad area of the town centre, with research input from Mike Chapman and Jane Root, has also been finished. Elsewhere in B&NES a small watching brief was carried out to observe deposits on the banks of the River Chew at Woollard, upstream from the packhorse bridge and nearby former grist mill converted to a tin plate rolling mill in 1760, prior to the construction of a new footbridge.

Several new projects are ongoing at the time of writing. In Bath, the Trust is monitoring excavations for a new swimming pool at the rear of No.7 Circus, currently being renovated with No.8, both of which were occupied by the Circus Nursing Home until recently. The property was first owned by William Pitt, once MP for Bath and later Prime Minister, when the house was completed in 1755. From surviving family papers it is known that the Pitts preferred the kitchens of their properties to be located in a detached annexe, rather than in the basement as was customary, and they refer to such a detached kitchen at the Circus. The new swimming pool will be located within the outline of the kitchen, the remains of which had been demolished and converted to a courtyard garden by 1946. Excavations so far have revealed previously unknown vaults.

Outside Bath, the Trust is carrying out standing building surveys at the former gas works at Dapp's Hill, built in 1858, and at the Stag & Hounds public house in Old Market Bristol. The Trust continues to be the archaeological consultant to the University of Bath. The results of all these projects will be announced in due course.

Marek Lewcun

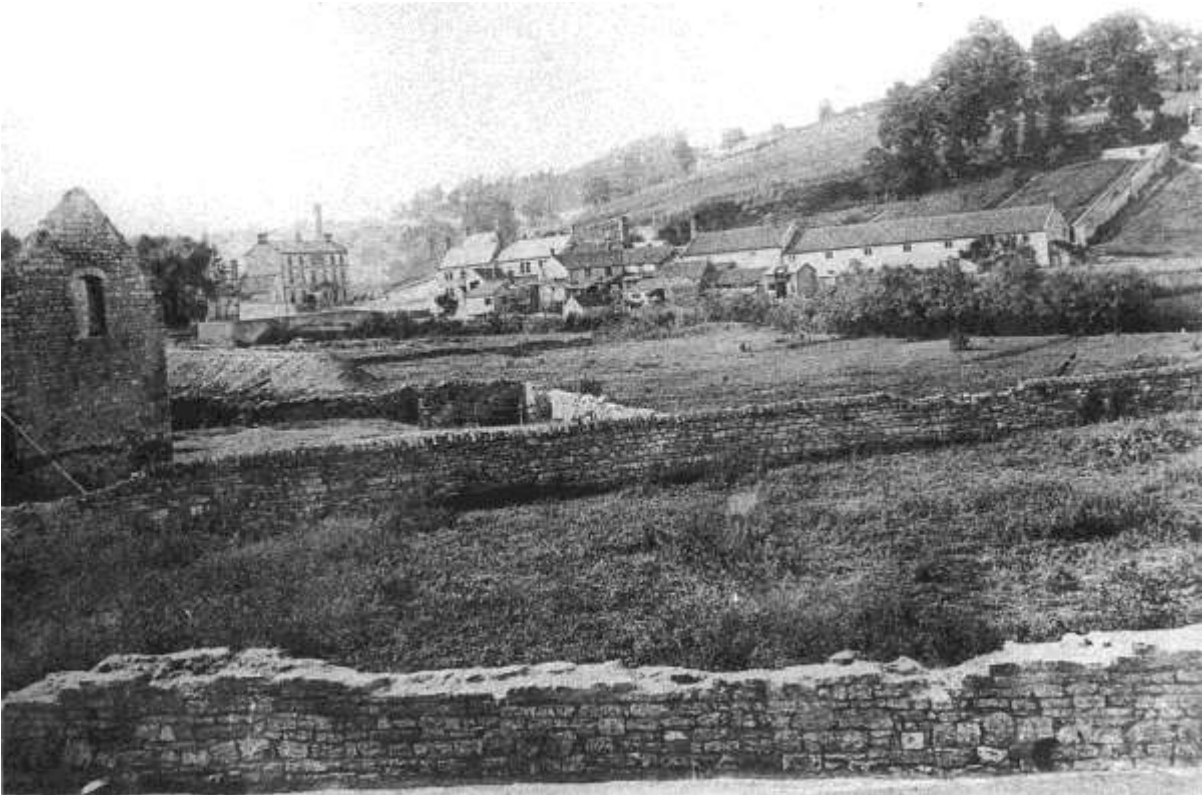
DISTRICT NEWS

B&NES Local Plan

Bath & North East Somerset Council is preparing a District-wide Local Plan which will form the basis for determining planning applications until 2011. It is anticipated that the Local Plan will be placed on Deposit in January 2002 for a period of six weeks. This will be the opportunity formally to object to or support the Local Plan's policies and proposals.

In the meantime, reference copies of the Committee Report and Draft Local Plan (including the Written Statement and Proposals Maps) can be viewed at Council office receptions at Trimbridge House, Trim Street, Bath; The Hollies, Midsomer Norton; or Riverside, Keynsham. Copies of the Written Statement only can be seen at any library or mobile library; the Environment Centre, Green Park, Bath; and the Guildhall, Bath reception. It is also intended to make the draft Local Plan available on the Internet. If you have any queries on the procedures relating to the above please contact a member of the Planning Policy Team at Trimbridge House on telephone 01225 477548 or e-mail Anne_Vowles@bathnes.gov.uk.

Mike Chapman, in collaboration with Jane Root and Bath Archaeological Trust, has just recently completed an Historic Streetscape Survey of Norton-Radstock for B&NES. This is something of a continuation of the Bath Streetscape Survey which was carried out for the CITE team for B&NES, and continues to provide some interesting insights into the topographical urban development of our area.



Radstock village about 1860 – before the coming of the railways

LETTERS PAGE

Letters Editor: Leslie Holt

Kington, 20 July 2001

Dear Elizabeth,

Many thanks indeed for the copy of your excellent magazine. I read with interest Dr.Kellaway's fascinating theory regarding the prophecies of Merlin, and like the beautiful illustrations of King Vortigern. But who needs illustrations when you can have real life earthquakes to make a point.

Enjoyed Mike Chapman's carefully researched piece on Bath's first photographic studio, and very much look forward to reading about the hospital, and the Chapmans' arrival in Bath.

Best Regards,

Tim

Bath, 26 July 2001

Dear Leslie,

Re the letter regarding John Pinch from Robert Bennett (Issue No 15, June 2001). John Pinch and his family appear to have been very much local people. I thought readers might be interested to know that he, his wife Martha, also sons John and Charles are buried in a family grave in Bathwick Mortuary Chapel Graveyard, Henrietta Road. The graveyard itself is not generally open to the public due to its fragile state, but the Bathwick Local History Society have been fortunate in obtaining permission to record and photograph some of the historic items there.

The Pinch Tomb is the righthand one of two placed directly in front of the chapel wall (now a ruin) facing the wrought iron gate into Henrietta Road. It can just be glimpsed from outside the gate, though increased vegetation is making this more difficult now. Made of Bath stone, the tomb is absolutely plain and square with no relief or carving. The top slab is broken and the inscription is worn but reads:

*To the Memory of
Mr JOHN PINCH
of the City of Bath
ARCHITECT
who died March 11[?] 1827
aged 57 years*

*Also
to the Memory of
MARTHA wife of the above JOHN PINCH
died February 1st 1830 aged 59*

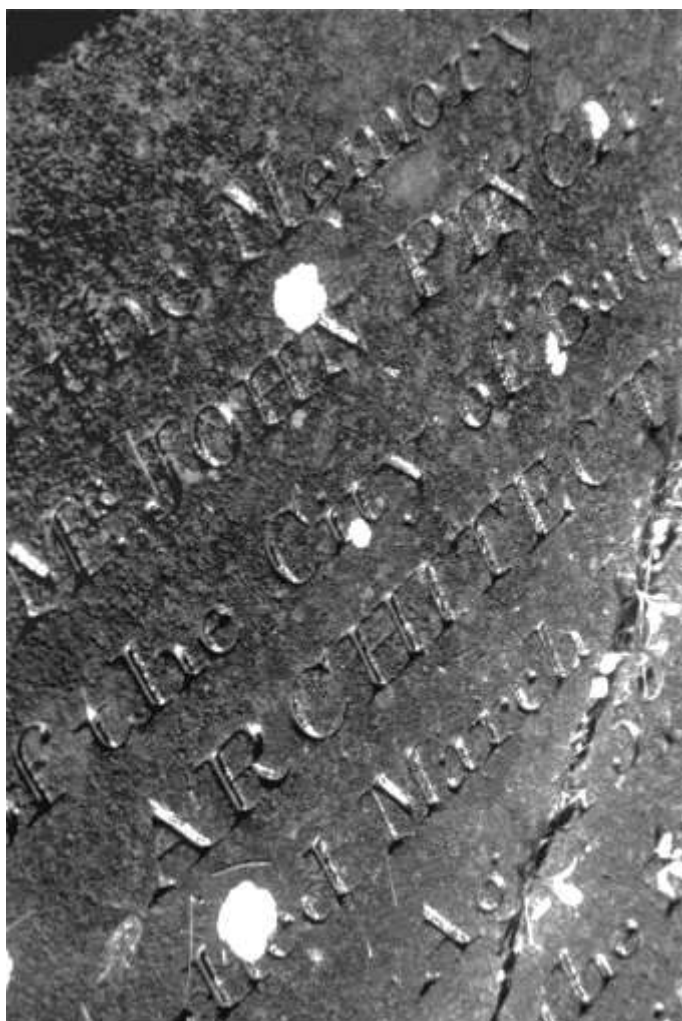
Also

*John eldest son of the above
JOHN and MARTHA PINCH
who died December 23 1849
aged 54*

*Also
Charles second son of the above
who died 18 July 1854
aged 52*

I enclose two photographs taken earlier this year.

Yours sincerely
Sheila Edwards



Bath, August 2001

Dear Leslie

The Local Historian - A Vote of Thanks

As part of the Local Community Summer Walk series put on by the Mayor's Guides at the end of July, I volunteered to lead the one which covered the Lyncombe and Widcombe area. As I started to piece the walk together I came to realise the great debt I owed to local historians who had carried out the research and thoroughly written it up in such a way that all I had to do was to string it all together and quote from it as we went along.

Starting at St Mark's Church, one of the three in Bath funded under the £1.5 million granted to the Church Commissioners to build 600 churches in 1818-1824, we went to St.Mary Magdalene where the caretaker kindly received us, and talked through its chequered history. Travelling always with the Thorpe map, I was indebted to John Hawkes et al for info on Lyncombe Hall and the Chapmans, and then a little further on to Trevor Fawcett for Lyncombe Spa and St James' Palace (was this Bath's first Garden Centre?). After a few wistful words about the Somerset & Dorset - is there anything better than Mac Hawkins here? - back along the only road not on the 1742 map to hear more from Trevor about Wicksteed's machines and bagatelles.

From here into J.C.Loudon's beautiful Abbey Cemetery, and extemporising upon the excellent info board written by Andrew Ellis, then spending some time at the Crimea Memorial recalling the haunting tragedies as set out by William Hannah, after which there was still time to examine some of the graves highlighted in a provisional copy of Andrew's Tombstone Trail which I am very pleased to hear is to be published shortly.

But how untidy and unkempt the Abbey Cemetery is at the moment! I suppose one's suspicions are aroused when the information board talks about 'wildlife refuges' - one should be prepared to see some sycamore and elder growing like weeds, but not in such profusion. There's also too much ivy, obscuring the inscriptions. Beckford's cemetery on Lansdown (also a wildlife refuge) is much tidier. Enquiries to B&NES, please, who took over management when former Rector Richard Askew declared the cemetery 'full'.

And so round to Widcombe Manor and talk of Scarborough Chapman and Horace Vachell - I could only find one of his novels on the shelf in Bath Library, a story of schoolboy days at Harrow dated 1902, although the computer listed another dozen. Then back to the start noting that Pevsner - couldn't leave him out - had only one word for Manners' St.Matthew's Church - 'dull' - grateful for all the assistance I had from those dedicated researchers who make history come alive,

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Hitchcock

Bath, September 2001

Dear Leslie,

What an interesting and unusual meeting we had in June. After the trauma of finding the hall at Grove Street locked and being unable to contact the caretaker, Edward Barrett appeared on the scene, coming to his first meeting of the 'Friends'. He promptly came to the rescue by offering to unlock the Guildhall and provide a venue.

Everyone rallied round and carried the equipment, boxes of magazines, books, wineglasses, food and wine, etc. All busy chatting, we made our way en masse over the Pulteney Bridge to the Guildhall, up the marble staircase to the Council Chamber - what an august venue!

We started our meeting only about 20 minutes late. In a relaxed mood we sailed through the business, and went on to enjoy our two excellent speakers. Stuart Burroughs and Marek Lewcun, both experts in their subjects, stood facing the Friends who sat in a semi-circle of councillors' seats. I could see how they were enjoying the experience. Glancing towards the seat where my late father-in-law Councillor Ted Haskins sat in the 1940s-1950s, I wondered what he would have thought of this impromptu meeting and the casual manner of the Chairman!

We had our usual interval, when committee members nobly poured wine and soft drinks, and served light refreshments in the corridor. Edward kindly opened the Mayor's Parlour to view and took the Friends around. Photographs taken by local members and put in albums were on display, and books and magazines were sold from the Chairman's rostrum. So we ended our evening on a happy note, thanks to all who saved the evening - especially Edward Barrett, who has now agreed to talk to us in November, Elizabeth Holland, Mike Chapman, John Wroughton, all the Committee and you the Friends. My heartfelt gratitude, as Chairman, to you all.


Yours,

Ruth Haskins

Bath, 18 August 2001

Dear Leslie

During the course of indexing Registers of Baptism at the Record Office, a copy was found of the Explanatory notice detailed below, of 1837 – the year that Victoria became Queen at the age of 18. It may be of interest to mention the change in the Wesleyan Methodists' Registers of Baptism, whereby each printed heading of 'Age when Baptised' was altered in manuscript to read 'Date of Birth'.



EXPLANATORY NOTICE
RESPECTING REGISTRATION OF
BIRTHS,
UNDER THE
NEW REGISTRATION ACT.
[6 & 7 *Gulielmi IV.*, c. 86.]

BY THE NEW REGISTRATION ACT the Parent of every Child born after June 1837, may obtain for it the advantage of a legal Registry of its BIRTH, *without payment of any fee*, provided it be registered by the Registrar of the District in which the Child was born, within *six weeks* after the birth. A birth may be registered at any time within *six months* after the birth; but after *six weeks* the expence of registering it will be *7s. 6d.*, and after *six months* it cannot be registered at all.

The new Register of Births is the *only legal Register* which is evidence of the *time* of a birth, and consequently of the *precise age* of the Child, and which is also evidence of the *place* where the birth occurred.

It is of importance to all classes of persons to be able to *prove when and where* they were born—which may be done in future by means of the Register of Births. To the wealthier classes such a Register is especially useful for proof of pedigree, and for various legal purposes connected with the disposition of property, and for settlement of claims thereto, and also for Life Insurance. To the poorer classes it is useful for the same purposes, and for others also, particularly such as *Apprenticeship, employment in Factories, and admission to endowed Schools and Charities*. There are many *Schools, Societies, and Asylums*, and other *Charitable Institutions*, very desirable for the Children of the poorer classes, for which a proof of the *age* is required before the Child can be admitted.

Many

Many Trading Companies will not take an Apprentice without a Certificate of the *age*; and this is also sometimes necessary in order to obtain employment in the Dock Yards, and other Public Establishments.

Those who live in Manufacturing Districts know how desirable it is to be able to prove the *age* of Children seeking to be employed in Factories.

Registration is also of great importance to all Members of Friendly and Benefit Societies.

The new system of Registration not only gives a Register of the *Age*, which *could not be obtained before*, but makes it easier to obtain the proof when wanted. Persons in the Country may obtain a Certified Copy of any entry of a Birth or Death registered in the District, from the Registrar or the Superintendent Registrar. Or by applying at the General Register Office in Somerset Place, London, or causing a friend or agent to apply for them, they may have a Certified Copy of any entry of Birth, Death, or Marriage, that has been registered in any part of England or Wales: and this Certified Copy will be sufficient evidence, *without requiring an Affidavit* that the entry is correctly copied, which is often required for the confirmation of extracts given from Church Registers.

The difference between the new Registers of Births and the Church Registers of Baptisms, and the effect of the Registration Act, having been much misunderstood, it is right to explain—

That the one is not a substitute for the other, but that they are entirely different, the new Register being a Register *only of Births*, the Church Register being a Register *only of Baptisms*;

That Registry of Birth does not warrant neglect of the sacred rite of Baptism, nor is the fact that the child has been baptized a sufficient reason for neglecting to register the Birth;

That the Church Register of Baptisms is *not* affected by the new Act, but remains *as before*, a legal record of Baptisms, *but not of Births*; for though Births are sometimes entered in the Church Registers, it has been decided by Judges in Courts of Law, "That an entry of " a birth made by a Clergyman in the Register of Baptisms is not " evidence of the time or place of birth."

By Authority—J. Harpell, Printer, Wine Office Court, London.

Perhaps it was a precautionary measure so that if nowhere else, the Date of Birth was included in the legal record of Baptism. In those days, 7s.6d. would have been a large sum for so many of the poorer classes to have paid, if the time had elapsed for Free District Registration within the first six weeks from the birth of a child. However, it was not classified as a legal record of birth. As we know the first Census of Population took place in 1841.

Thank you for all your help,

Barbara Holt

Bath, 17 September 2001

Dear Leslie,

Visiting Prior Park Gardens on an early September morning, I was overwhelmed by the glorious view of Bath. The path gently emerged from between trees and shrubs to an open area just below the house. From here I looked down through a sweeping green valley, past the Palladian Bridge and three lakes, over trees surrounding Widcombe – scarcely visible on that morning – and on to the city below, bathed in a misty blue light with the promise of sunshine to come. The view continued beyond Camden Crescent with more trees, and upwards towards Little Solsbury.

It was breathtaking, tranquil and lovely with a sense of peace and timelessness. Forget the hustle and bustle of shoppers, crowded streets, bus gates and traffic. Go up into the hills and see Bath in all its beauty!

Yours sincerely,

Priscilla Olver

Auckland, New Zealand, 11 September 2001

Dear Elizabeth

I photocopied the six pages of ‘This Famous City, the Story of the Chapmans of Bath’ [from issue 15 of the *Survey* for June 2001, pp.30-36] and sent the *Survey* to my son Murray in Wellington. Other copies I have given to my children – David in England and Glenda in Auckland. I also posted a photocopy to John Chapman who lives in Southern France.

John’s Great Grandfather was John James Chapman the younger, brother of my Grandfather Richard John Chapman who was 28 years of age when he was married at the Catholic Church in Carterton. His bride was Augusta Lepinski, 18 years of age (she was 9 years when she arrived in New Zealand from Poland). Her father Franz Lepinski purchased 10 acres of rural land in South end, Carterton, for Ten Pounds Sterling in 1876. Richard Chapman was 22 years old when he arrived in New Zealand, and he paid Ten Pounds Sterling for a ‘Town acre’ he bought in Bannister Street, Masterton – a larger town next to Carterton.

John James Chapman was 22 years of age when he arrived by sailing ship into Wellington – he paid Ten Pounds Sterling for 10 acres of rural land in Masterton. After five years of hard work clearing the bush and swampland and stocking it with cows, sheep and pigs as a farm, and building a house for his Masterton bride Jane Bennington, and the birth of their first two of twelve children, John James had a visit from a man from the Land Survey Dept. in Wellington who gave him the bad news that he had paid Ten Pounds Sterling to what had become known as a ‘money shark’, and he would have to give the land to a Maori Tribe known as the *te ore ore* tribe. John James Chapman was granted a 10 acre block of land by the Wellington based Government to create a farm in New Plymouth about 200 miles from Wellington on the west coast of the North Island.

Yours sincerely,

Phyllis Thomas

Sincere thanks to each of our above contributors for their interesting and wide-ranging letters. Would everyone else please seriously consider writing a letter now, however short or informal, on any relevant subject. Please send to me at: **Leslie Holt, "Westwinds", Hayesfield Park, Bath BA2 4QE.** Thank you.

PUBLICATIONS

Our booklet entitled *'Bimbery' and the South-Western Baths of Bath* is now available from Mike at £3.30, slightly more in bookshops such as Whiteman's where we hope to place it. This has two detailed maps of the area, one for the 1770s and the other for c.1805. There is an outline history of the district, and also copies of the relevant calotypes from the Ludwig Becker collection, with modern photos of the same spots taken by Mike.

A very bad habit has sprung up lately, of bringing forward well-worn subjects as 'new' ideas. Elizabeth nearly had apoplexy the other day, on finding that a BBC2 programme on Minoan Crete was bringing forward the 'new' theory that it was overthrown by an explosion on Thera/Santorini. On 31 July 2001 *The Chronicle* ran an extraordinary review (p.20) on a new book about William Smith, *The Map that Changed the World*, by Simon Winchester, Penguin Viking, £12.99. The sub-heading described geologist Smith as 'a largely forgotten Victorian hero'. Apart from the fact that every educated person has heard of him, Smith died in 1839 and Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837, which does not give him much time in which to become Victorian. The review also states that he started the Industrial Revolution. To list here all the people who *did* start the Industrial Revolution would obviously be a waste of space.

Geologist Geoffrey Kellaway expressed himself to us concerning this work, so we are leaving the task of actually reading it to him, and look forward to receiving his summing-up.

One hopes that the new *Bath Scientific Heritage Trail* map is on a more scholarly standard. It is an attractive product, backed by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, with help from the BRLSI. Credits to the creators are given on the map. We understand it is obtainable at such venues as the Museum of Bath at Work, and the Building of Bath Museum. The Record Office also has a copy, for researchers who wish to consult it.

Trevor Fawcett has brought out *Bath Administer'd Corporation Affairs at the 18th-century Spa*, published by the Ruton Press, price £8 (ISBN 0-9526326-2-4). The flier describes it as follows:

If anyone ran Georgian Bath it was the Corporation. Private enterprise, it is true, provided many of the amenities that visitors needed, but only within a framework of local government that reached back centuries to Bath's origins as a chartered borough. This book traces every aspect of the Guildhall's involvement in everyday spa life from managing the vital hot springs to preserving law and order. Headed by the Mayor, a narrow self-elected Council took all the key decisions, chose the Bath MPs, appointed the town officials, leased out properties, supervised the market, filled the magistrates' bench, and at different times largely rebuilt central Bath. All this is covered in over a hundred entries, which also treat the wider context of parliament and county, trade interests and social issues, environment and justice, and the Corporation's interest in a variety of local institutions.

Packed with fresh information and based on new research, this handy compilation can be read straight through, casually dipped into, or used for quick reference and as a springboard for

further enquiry. Like its companion volume, *Bath Entertain'd*, it is arranged in dictionary format.

The author is a well-known local historian and former Editor of *Bath History*. His books include *Bath: History and Guide* (written jointly with Stephen Bird), *Voices of Eighteenth-Century Bath*, and *Bath Entertain'd*.

David and Jonathan Falconer have now brought out *Bath at War – The Home Front*, £10.99, published by Sutton Publishing, with many previously unpublished photographs.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Great Discoveries

Apropos of Bladud and his pigs, Somerfield's magazine had a similar story about coffee. It is supposed to have originated in Ethiopia, and it is said that a goatherd noticed that after his goats had fed on these bushes, they became extremely alert and could not sleep at night, and so he discovered coffee. Other benefits to mankind must have been discovered in the same way. It is reported that both badgers and birds can be seen getting drunk on fallen apples in the winter. If one has a pile of rotten apples in one's own garden, one can in fact see the blackbirds staggering round it, unable to conceal their merriment.

Corrections

As we have said, no matter how one toils, one still has to make corrections, or additions. However our spirits were raised during the recent crisis. Elizabeth bought a national paper and noticed that it had a whole section for corrections. At least any errors we might make are questions of dates and names and the like, and not major pieces of misinformation liable to put nations at war, or bankrupt whole companies.

In Issue No.15, June 2001, p.41, line 4 should read, 'although the two inventions of the first photographic processes...'

In Issue 14, November 2000, p.30, we say that the house pictured on p.31 could be the Lamb. This was a view held by someone else, but we no longer subscribe to it. Following our Bimberly study, we believe the Lamb is shown on Gilmore's border as 'Mr.Slopers Lodgings in Stauls Street'. 'Alderman Chapmans Lodgings in Stauls Street' could be the house north of the Lamb, or the Hulls' house. It seems most likely that it was the latter, rather than what seems to have been a rather obscure property by the Lamb.

Streetlore Project

Albums containing photographs from the Streetlore Project were on show at the AGM, though with all the excitements of that evening not everyone had the time to study them they would have liked. More photographs have come in since then, for instance from Leslie Holt, and Bill Hanna of the WLHSG. Eventually the albums will be donated to B&NES Record Office, with a second set of Widcombe and Lyncombe pictures to the WLHSG. Meanwhile we shall be glad to receive any further street photos anyone cares to take.

Format

Our ideas on format have evolved. We shall be glad if contributors will adhere to them. Some journals reject contributions which are not laid out in the correct style. We don't plan to do that, as the *Survey* is a joint product in which we hope everyone will take part. However if people can use our 'house style' it will help keep the magazine going in face of competition from other commitments.

MSS should if possible be typed, using a clear typeface, though not necessarily the same print as the magazine.

Quote marks - as contributors have refused to use double quotes, we now use single ones.

Abbreviations - acronyms, which are usually printed in *capitals*, should be without stops, eg. AD, TV, B&NES, MP, OE (this is not an acronym as one reads it as 'Old English', but never mind).

Lower case abbreviations should have stops as this helps spacing - Rev., Dr., p.m., ff., etc., and so on. As we have already suggested, 'Rev.Dr.W.Chapman' is much easier to space than it would be without stops.

Dates are written thus -

8 November 2001

1824-1825

1724/5 if referring to Old Style/New Style, or later on, quoting a Post Office Directory

Footnotes - we like as few footnotes as possible. They should be laid out as ours are:

Author of the reference, exactly as on the title page: article or chapter in ordinary case, in single quotes; title of the book, exactly as on the title page, in italics (underlining will indicate italics); volume number exactly as on the title page, i.e. Vol.IX or Vol.9 as published; place of publication if known; date of publication; pages quoted.

Brief references are best included within the text, in brackets, for example '(Davenport p.160)' with the full title of the book in the footnotes.

Book titles - these used to be in bold, but are now printed in italics.

Quotations - short quotations should usually be contained within the text. Longer quotations should be inset, with a brief reference as to source at the end.

Please check all quotations letter by letter. A quotation is incorrect if a single comma or capital letter or stop is different from the source. Please indicate if the quotation comes from the original or a transcript copy.

Checking - please send us your *final* draft. It is a good idea to put the MS in a drawer for a few days, or give it to a friend to read. We don't really have the staff to typeset a new version. Giving us the new version typed out is not a solution. Every letter in it still has to be checked again because a computer can drop letters at random!

Incidentally, as Elizabeth does the copy-editing and proof-reading, please give MSS to her. Elizabeth does not accept contributions on disk.

We are grateful for the wonderful way in which everyone has supported the *Survey*, but there are so many other things going on these days that it is a question of whether we can keep the magazine running. Of course if someone has no typewriter, that can't be helped, but it *will* help if people observe our house style, and that will be an aid in keeping the magazine to its usual standard.



The course of Padley Brook in Englishcombe from Odd Down, looking towards Odd Down from the fields at the back of Rush Hill. The course is under the trees. Photo:

INGLE BROOK

Allan Keevil

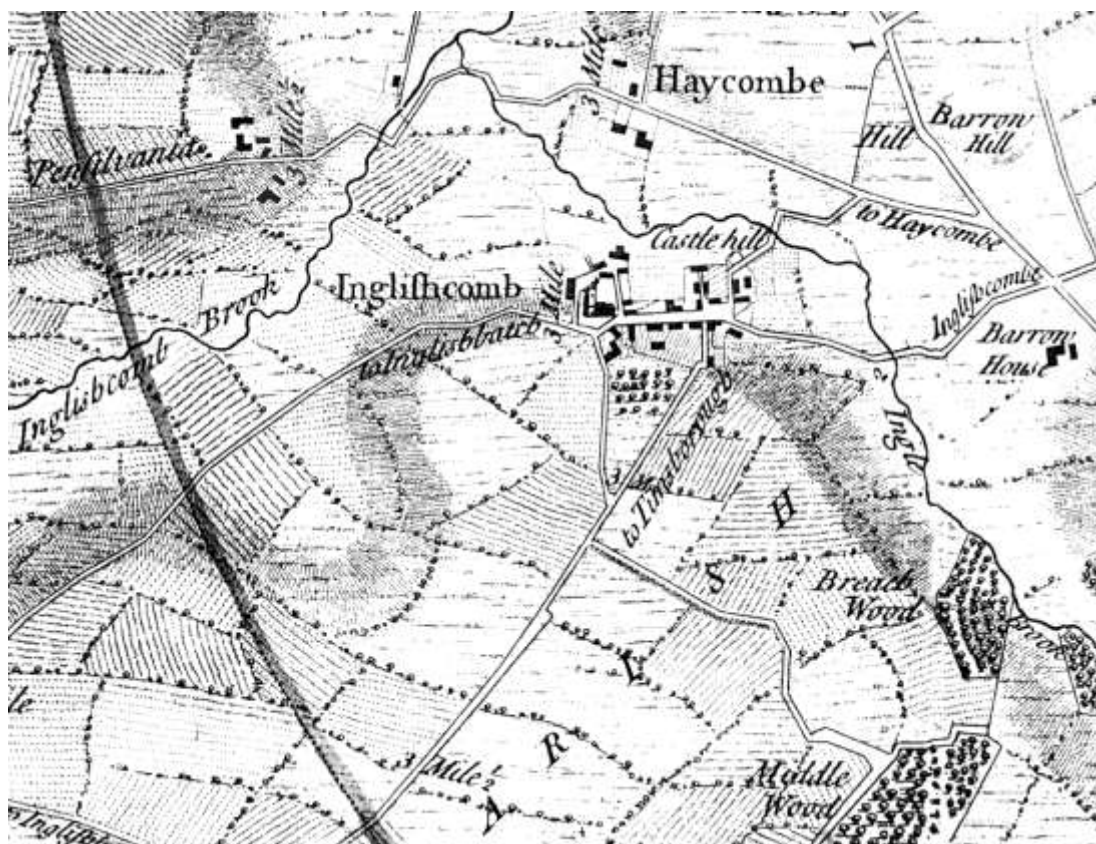
In the *Exchequer Domesday*, Englishcombe was given as ‘Engliscome’, and as ‘Ingeliscuma’, in the *Exon* version of that survey¹. It appears as ‘Ynglescomb’ (‘Inglescumba’ once) in 13th and 14th century Bath Priory cartulary entries². In certain other documents of the 14th, 15th and 17th centuries, it is given as ‘Inglescomb(e)’ (occasionally ‘Ingel(e)scumbe’), but by the 18th century, ‘Englishcomb(e)’ had become usual³. The forms ‘Inscoomb’ and ‘Inkscomb’ have also appeared, but seem likely to have resulted from attempts to spell it as pronounced at the time. John Collinson, while stating that the name was of uncertain origin, suggested that it might have been derived from the Saxon *inga* plus *comb*, signifying ‘the pastures in the valley’, or from *Engla* and *comb*, ‘the valley of the English’, so-named, perhaps, after some special local Saxon victory over the Danes or other hostile intruders⁴. More recent place-name etymologists suggest the Ingle-/Engle- prefix in other place-names signifies ‘of the Angles’/‘English’, or is derived from Old English personal names ‘Ingeld’ or ‘Inga’⁵.

There seems a much stronger possibility, however, that Englishcombe took its name from the Ingle Brook (unless the latter is a mere back-formation from ‘Englishcombe’, although such back-formations are far less common in Somerset and Dorset than in Devon⁶). It flows through the valley

or combe of Englishcombe that runs closest to the settlement area, and was known by the name of 'Ingle Brook' in the mid-18th century, when it was clearly labelled as such on a map of the period⁷. Unfortunately that is the only documented reference to it so far discovered. Today, that name has long since been forgotten. It is a tributary of the present Newton Brook. It rises in a 'spout', on the north-eastern side of Vernham Wood at Odd Down⁸; two or three other neighbouring springs where water 'issues' contribute to it. As its course takes it down through a deep, narrow, steep-sided ravine, gorge or combe in Englishcombe, which includes the part called Padley (or Padleigh) Bottom, it has generally been referred to locally, in recent times, as Padley Brook. It continues past the site of the former Culverhay Castle, and below the village and its church, on the heights above. It receives other small tributaries, before joining the present Newton Brook, at a point about 150 yards north-west of the foot of the track continuing from Haycombe Lane⁹. The present Newton Brook (also in a deep combe¹⁰), which forms part of the western boundary of the manor, is much wider than the Ingle/Padley Brook (unnamed on modern OS maps). Originally, Padley Brook probably formed the northern and north-eastern boundaries of Englishcombe¹¹. A boundary of the Duchy of Cornwall estate still follows parts of it¹². Unfortunately, unlike a number of other parishes/manors in the vicinity of Bath, no Saxon grant has been found of either Englishcombe or neighbouring Twerton, which might have confirmed both the early name of the brook, and whether it had indeed been the boundary between them.

Although in recent times the whole of the course of the larger brook, from a point north-west of Inglesbatch to the River Avon, has been called 'Newton Brook'¹³, in 1742 that part of its course north-west of Inglesbatch, to the point where it was joined by the Ingle, was called 'Ingliscomb Brook', but from there to the river was labelled 'Newton Brook'¹⁴. However, the earliest name of the present Newton Brook (which, from its junction with the Ingle/Padley Brook to the river, forms the boundary between Newton St.Loe and Twerton) was 'Eden'¹⁵. The name (of British, i.e. Celtic, origin; cf. River Eden in Cumbria¹⁶) appears in a Saxon grant of 931 AD, and persists also in much later documents, until at least the beginning of the 18th century¹⁷.

Many English water courses, brooks as well as rivers, in this locality, carried their Celtic (British)



name into the Saxon period¹⁸, and quite a number still retain a name of Celtic origin (e.g. Avon, Lyn, Cam, Corsa, Lox, etc), some, often combined with the Old English *tun* or *cumb*, also provide the local place-name (e.g. Lyncombe, Camerton, Corston). The present writer believes that 'Ingle', like 'Eden', may have been from a British (Celtic) name, and, if so, that its original form was probably akin to the modern Welsh adjective *ying*, meaning 'narrow' or 'strait', a description most apt, not only of the brook itself, but also of the deep, narrow, steep-sided combe (itself a word of Celtic origin - cf. modern Welsh *cwm*), which forms the channel of the brook throughout much of its course.

It seems surprising that the now long-forgotten name of 'Ingle Brook' at Englishcombe, although clearly shown on Thorpe's *Survey* of 1742, has apparently not previously been considered as a possible derivation of the name of the combe, and of the settlement which developed there. In fact, as far as can be ascertained, no previous writer on the area (including Collinson) has even mentioned the mid-18th century reference to 'Ingle Brook', so that it has seemed worth drawing attention to it, in the hope that future research may discover much earlier, perhaps Saxon, references to the brook, by whatever name it was originally known.

References

1. Wm. Page, ed., *Victoria County History of Somerset*, I, 1906, p.451
2. W. Hunt, *Somerset Record Society*, Vol. VII, 1893, ii, Nos.327, 650, 652, 821, 828
3. A.L. Humphreys, *Somersetshire Parishes*, 1905, pp.299-300
4. J. Collinson, *The History and Antiquities of Somerset*, 1791, III, p. 339
5. J. Field, *Place-names of Gt. Britain & Ireland*, 1980;
K. Cameron, *English Place-names*, revised 1988 edn.
6. E. Ekwall, *English River-Names*, 1928, p.1
7. Thorpe's *Survey of a Five-mile radius of Bath*, 1742
8. *OS. 1:1250, Superplan, ST 7361 N.W.*, 1997, at NGR 73226184
9. *OS. 1:10,000, ST 76 S.W.*, 1983, at NGR 71116342
10. Avon Planning Department, *Historic Landscape Survey of the Manor of Englishcombe*, 1983, relief map, Fig. 3
11. J. Manco, *The Parish of Englishcombe: a history*, Englishcombe Parish Council, 1995, p.6
12. Mike Chapman, pers.comm.
13. *OS. 1:10,000, ST 76 S.W.*, 1983
14. see Thorpe's *Survey*, as above
15. Mike Chapman, discovered at **From Thorpe's map of 1742, showing 'Ingle Brook' on the right.** 'Eden re-Twerton', p.63
16. A.M. Armstrong et al., *English Place-Name Society*, Vol. XX, 1950, p. 12
17. Chapman, *op.cit.*
18. K. Cameron, *op.cit.*, p.44 and map

A BRIEF SOCIAL HISTORY OF A LATE GEORGIAN TERRACE: PRIOR PARK COTTAGES

Guy Whitmarsh

The origins of the two late Regency terraces in Bath now known as Prior Park Buildings and Prior Park Cottages lay in a common scheme of property development whose features - social, architectural and financial - were typical of Bath at the time. The attention of most histories of Bath is focussed upon the glories of the 18th century neo-classical buildings, yet most of the buildings in that style, some of them very fine, were products of the first half of the 19th century. After the brief slump following the close of the Napoleonic War there was a strong economic stimulus for a building boom. The population of Bath grew by 21% between 1811 and 1821, but more particularly that of

Lyncombe and Widcombe grew by 57% in spite of the high rates of mortality. Its population was then some 5,900 and it grew to nearly 9,000 in the next decade, aided undoubtedly by this and other property developments.

A significant proportion of the Bath population consisted of leisured and professional gentry, upwardly mobile tradesmen and skilled artisans, who constituted a range of clients able and willing to purchase or rent new property. Coincidentally they also were the very people likely to pool their resources in a joint enterprise to build and market new houses. It was an opportunity for a person of ambition, energy and skill, typically a substantial tradesman. Moreover trade was an established mode of social ascent especially the property development business. In Bath there also a rich institutional foreground of financial experience well able to supply the required lines of credit, and a substantial reservoir of cheap labour. Landowners were often biddable, wishing to realise the urban development value of agricultural and horticultural land, offering a lease to an entrepreneur in exchange for cash and income. A related and dependent practice was for lessees or their partners to raise mortgages on security of underleases.



From Cotterell's map of Bath, 1852, showing Prior Park Place, the earlier name of Prior Park Cottages.

Before relating the events leading to the building of the terraces on two and a half acres taken from adjacent parcels of land - a close of meadow and a garden-ground, called respectively Forefield and Forefield Orchard - a brief sketch will be offered of the long and complex history of the location. The parish of Lyncombe and Widcombe takes its origins from a 20 hide Saxon estate that was held throughout the Middle Ages by the Priors of the abbey church in Bath. At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539, the estate, largely leased out, escheated to the Crown, passing to a series of grant-holders until it came into the hand of Hugh Sexey, a royal auditor whose trustees used it, among

other properties, as the means of founding Sexey's Hospital at Bruton in 1638. In effect the land was freehold, a situation legalised after the Restoration (1660) when feudal tenures were abolished, though it had for long been the case that heritable leasehold lands had been sold and bought as if they were freehold, with or without rental obligations.

A classic example is that of the 17th century ex-mayor of Bath, Robert Fisher, who had acquired from Sexey's as part of a larger holding the two pieces of land, referred to above, upon which the terraces were built. An inquest into what he held and what it produced is evidence of the extent to which land close to the city was intensively cultivated to produce apples, pears, plums, gooseberries, cabbages, carrots, and notably, strawberries. In 1655 Anne Longe of 'Witcombe' deposed that Robert Fisher had two gardens and that the one in Forefield produced each year 80 quarts of strawberries. There are also references from the Middle Ages onwards to the existence of a mill or mills and millpond. An example is the site of the 16th century brook mill against the Avon. The partial diversion and canalisation of the stream was an element in the development of the terraces. Its location is indicated on the 1799 Charlton Map of Lyncombe and Widcombe published 1998 for the Survey of Old Bath.

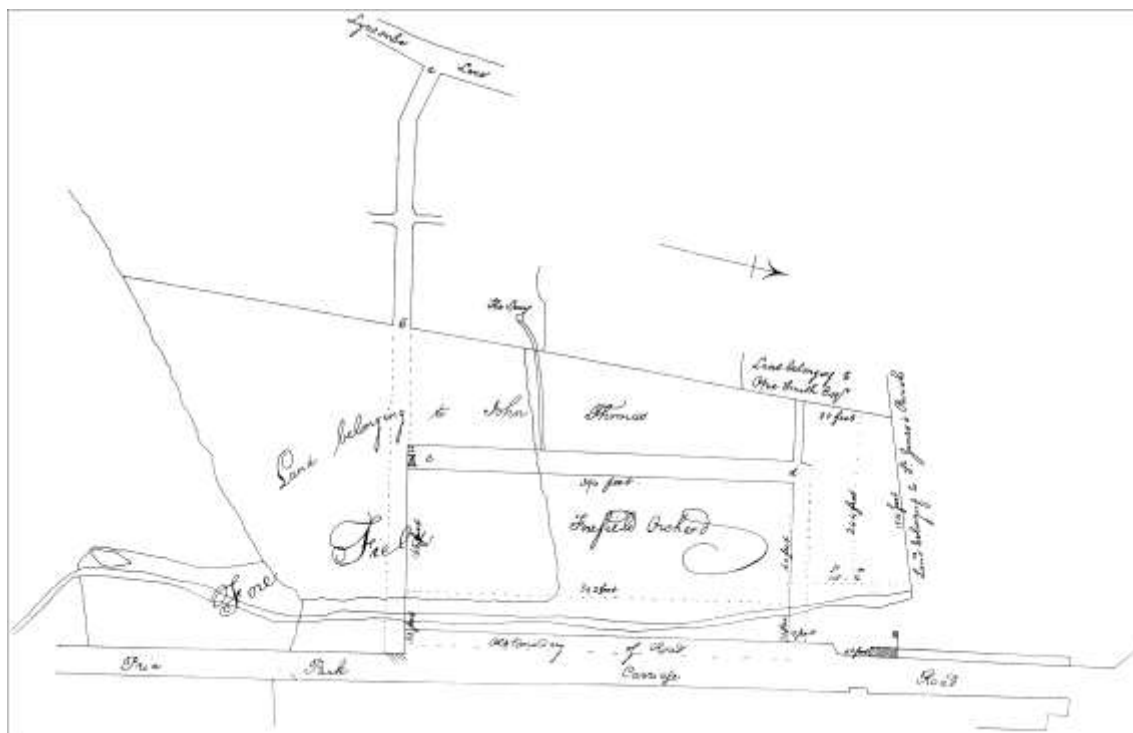
Forefield and Forefield Orchard by the beginning of the 18th century were located in the estate of what had once been called 'the farm at Widcombe' which, with associated buildings, was owned by Scarborough Chapman, a Bristol merchant. He probably extended there or built a new residence for himself which his grandson Philip Bennet re-fronted and improved and which came to be known as Widcombe House (called from the beginning of the 20th century Widcombe Manor). By the middle of the 18th century Ralph Allen's tramway ran from his Combe Down quarries down the valley, passing through the property of Philip Bennet, and via a gate by his (Allen's) workmen's cottages to a wharf on the Avon. This is of some importance, since the vigorous economic activity of riverside Lyncombe and Widcombe with its labouring population was complemented by the fashionably picturesque attractions for the affluent visitors to Bath of the nearby hillsides and springs.

The building boom of the 1780s and 1790s had established property development appetites with the result that there was sporadic property development during the French and Napoleonic Wars. Lands bought in 1801 for £1400 by a brewer and fervent Baptist, Opie Smith, later became the site of substantial residences on Lyncombe Hill above the poorhouse. He used the services of the architect John Pinch for at least one of them. In 1811 he contracted to build a house, released in 1814, subject to a ground rent of £24, to James Stillman, ironmonger. Other examples (see Ison) are Widcombe Crescent and Terrace (1805) and Caroline Buildings (1808). By this time the sense of revolutionary threat to the economic, political and social order in Bath of the 1790s had faded. Respectability, deference and self-improvement were the powerfully promoted values, albeit mingled with a strong dash in the 1830s and 1840s of constitutional reform radicalism.

There was nothing innovative in the organisation, design and development of these two terraces, which in the event followed a pattern well established in Bath by the early 19th century, and locally as in the case of Widcombe Crescent and Terrace. Granted that, each development is bound to have its own unique features. Early post-war examples are Waterloo Buildings, built between 1818 and 1822 and Southcot Place. Historically the specific starting point has to be the availability of land and the revival of the property market after 1815. The two parcels of land came to be available for development here in 1819 in the following ways. Very much earlier, in 1770, Philip Bennet raised a loan on the surety of his Widcombe estate from his sister Mary. His son, another Philip Bennet, baptised at Widcombe in 1773, put the estate up for auction in 1813. John Thomas, a Quaker businessman from Bristol who had superintended the building of the Kennet & Avon canal, bought most of it including Forefield and Forefield Orchard.

There seems then to have been a substantial wrangle over the status of the land; was it freehold or not? The subsequent rehearsal of the 1770 transaction in later deeds was no doubt legal prudence, nevertheless the matter was settled by 1817 since it has to be presumed a property development exercise was being worked up at this time which would enable John Thomas to add to his wealth. Matthias Harris, a silversmith and jeweller with his partners thereupon set out to achieve financial and social ascent through a property development scheme negotiated with John Thomas. In 1818, for a 'consideration', the latter offered a 999-year lease of part of the two plots of land at an annual rent of £62.10s to Matthias Harris. In 1820 this was changed to £85 for 1000 years (the Harris descendants redeemed the charge in 1896 for £2,090). A deed of the following year reiterates this obligation, but proposes the selling of plots with houses upon them.

From the deed of 20 September, 1820.



The preparation of the building plans was in hand, but the details have not survived. It is thought that the architect for Prior Park Row, now Buildings, if not for the whole development, was John Pinch. He started his career as a builder with an office in Chatham Row, Walcot. He became bankrupt soon after 1800 and then went into business as architect and surveyor located in Henrietta Street. He was responsible for the excellent Cavendish Crescent (begun in 1817) and Sion Hill Place (1818). A ground plan of 1820 (see Fig.1) shows that a careful survey was made on the basis of building two terraces, one for the upper level of the market and one for the middling level, maximising the exploitation of the area available. In Georgian Bath the building of smaller scale terraces often on the hillside at right angles to the contour was an established convention and the Cottages followed it. The structural details and the arrangement of rooms were absolutely classical in the Bath of that time. The market expectation would be that the houses would be either occupied or rented out by partners in the development, or sold to third parties for occupation or rental. The current Nos.1 & 2 Prior Park Cottages were not part of the scheme and were built later, No.1 about 1825 and No.2, in Gothic Revival style, about 1835. The current numbering of the houses under consideration here is therefore 3 to 11.

Site preparation included the preparation of a spring water supply in cast iron pipes and the building of slate lined cisterns for each house. They and the common sewer were laid along what would be the

rear of the terrace. Arrangements for their later maintenance and the costs thereof were included in all the deeds. A feature of the design was the absence of basements; there is no evidence as to whether this was because of site problems or in the interests of cheapness, or indeed both. Essential was the question of access. Matthias Harris secured (1820) from John Thomas the use of the then private Prior Park Carriage Way which ran parallel to the west side of Ralph Allen's 1731-1756 tramway to the 'Dolemeads Gate'. In 1822 it was agreed that owners and those who had business to transact should have common rights of way along the 15-foot lanes set up to provide access to the development on the west and north sides. Where the north side lane issued into Prior Park Road, to use its modern name, it was surfaced with 'hunched' (inclined) stone setts to enable horses to obtain purchase on a very steep rise which spanned the canalised mill brook. Responsibility for upkeep originally proposed as common, became an obligation of each householder. An implication of the change could be that at this point the houses had been built and 'covered in', therefore ready for a sale transaction. The actual building process took place in a largely intermittent fashion over two years, depending on the potential or actual availability of a buyer and a tranche of capital. By 1823 most of the Cottages were sold and were passing out of the hands of the development partnership.



Prior Park Cottages from below, looking westward, 2001. Photo: Guy Whitmarsh.

The 'pile' or 'Buildings' terrace, alternatively called Prior Park Place in the 1840s and 1850s, now called Prior Park Cottages, was built 1821-1822, probably in a downhill sequence. They are unevenly stepped down and exhibit minor internal and external structural variations although at a casual glance they appear to be basically uniform. In general each was on a plot of ground 19 feet wide and 87 feet deep. On the south side was the 15-foot roadway and the north side abutted on the precinct wall of the 1784 St. James' Poorhouse. In 1839 this became the site of the Lyncombe and Widcombe National Schools whose later enlarged building was recently (1999) redeveloped as Millbrook Court apartments. There was a small garden at the front of each of the houses and a larger one at the rear. At the rear also was on one side a scullery and coal store and on the other a lavatory.

There were restrictive covenants covering the scale of trees or shrubs - nothing over 10 feet - together with a prohibition, not widely respected, on the addition of extra extensions. Each house was constructed of stone with ashlar walls at the front and ashlar or rough cut blocks at the rear. There were two major variations. One was the topmost house which needed to accommodate the splay of the site boundary and is wider at the front, possessing the distinction of a stone staircase and cloakroom to the left of the front door. The other was the bottom house, No.3, which had two ground floor front windows because the entrance door could be located at the lower side. Also it came to possess half of the rear garden of No.4 for most of the period to 1900 having been acquired by the Trustees of the adjacent National School. A door in the garden wall provided direct access.

Each house had to be insured for 3/5 of its market value and each was built under the aegis of a collaborative partnership. There were sometimes variations among the membership which came together to build each house. In general there were three classes of member. Matthew Harris who was a silversmith and jeweller, Samuel Saunders a dancing master, Solomon Manley a tailor, Thomas Briscoe a hatter and undertaker, were leisure traders who acted in concert with building trades artisans. These included Courtney Babbage and James Pearce, carpenters, William Hoare and James May, plumbers, Abel Vivian a brightsmith, William Cripps and William Gould masons. Since the Cottages and the Buildings were constructed within the same time frame, there was a necessary involvement from a much wider third group of other building tradesmen, whose names appear in different deeds. For examples, John and William Terry, ironmongers, John Burgess, quarryman, John Palmer, timber merchant, Thomas Greenway, plasterer. The partnership system also had the virtue of distributing the element of risk.

Ownership as well as profit was an ambition and the earliest Cottages deeds that have survived are proof. All of the five surviving and available relate to first ownership by one of these men. In general individuals took responsibility for the actual construction of a house or houses, which were often built in groups of two or three. In the case of the Terry brothers it seems that they constructed three of the Buildings and two of the Cottages. At least two other men were involved in similar multiple undertakings. Financial details are scarce and no financial source documentation has been found, but money to pay for the building and 'covering in' of each house would have been borrowed against the collateral of a sublease and repaid from the sale price in most, but not all cases. The sources of finance were not just or even mainly banks, one must suppose. There were plenty of gentry resident in Bath, not to say lawyers with money to invest, who regarded property loans as a good risk producing a higher return than government stock.

The sad experience of Courtney Babbage one of the partners and owner of No.6 the Cottages and No.8 the Buildings, is instructive. He borrowed £300 in 1821, which may have been to cover his overall building costs. This loan disappears from the record and is replaced by a £200 mortgage at 5% from John Bull, gentleman. Courtney was never able to pay off the mortgage which was passed on twice to increasingly irritated successive owners. Eventually he lost the house, which was also his place of work with a workshop and outbuildings, in 1844. A similar fate befell William Gould who owned No.8 the Cottages and No.12 the Buildings. When the moment came for the houses to be released, borrowed money had to be repaid or, as was the case with both these artisans, neither of whom could write, an extension negotiated with a house as collateral. William Gould lost No.8 the Cottages in 1832 and reappears as a resident at No.3 Belmont in 1833. In his case it looks as though the debt originated with or had been acquired later by Matthias Harris.

Most of the partners prospered, especially Matthias Harris and Samuel Saunders, his senior associate. The former, though designated as a silversmith in the early deeds - he had a business in Southgate Street - is by 1826 a builder of 11, Forefield Place. He achieves elevation to gentility in the 1830 Directory for Bath. When he died in 1874 most of his substantial estate, including No.9, passed to the related Stone family of solicitors in Bath. Samuel Saunders, styled professor of dancing and deportment, maintained an establishment in Milsom Street and taught dancing at the Theatre Royal.

He also becomes a gentleman, living at Ivy Cottage, Lyncombe Hill. He was reported to have accumulated in his lifetime considerable wealth in land and property and his son became a lawyer, ending up as Recorder of Bath. It was a common feature of the partnership that they do not seem to have moved away from Bath in later years.

The Cottages were in elevation just three floors under a mansard roof; in effect a scaled down utilitarian version, inside and out, of the classic 18th century Georgian townhouse. The Buildings were similarly a larger yet still scaled down version. The ground floor front parlour had a wooden floor, but all the rest, hallways and kitchen, were of pennant stone or oolitic limestone. On each floor, served by a wooden staircase, there were two rooms, each with a fireplace flanked by alcoves on the ground and first floors, cupboards on the second, though not every house was the same. The fireplaces were of cast iron with a wooden surround (see illustration) but a stone surround for the kitchen range.

On the upper floors the rear fireplaces were hob-grates, known at the time as a 'Bath stove' (see illustration). In accordance with the conventions of the day both the drawing-room on the first floor, with its access doorway to the room behind, and the main bedroom above, were the full width of the house. Often the rear rooms on the first and second floors were later subdivided. On the façade at first floor level there was a wrought iron balconette and the parapets were topped off with decorative finials. There was to be an extreme contrast between the cultural formality of the design and layout of the rooms and the exigencies of the people who came to occupy them, a suggestive profile of whom are sketched below. The ground rent was £3.10s. in comparison with £5.10s. for the Buildings, the relative plot sizes being 19ft. x 87ft. as against 20ft.6in. x 160ft. in the Buildings.

**'Bath Stove' grates
in Prior Park
Cottages. Photos:
Guv Whitmarsh.**



Despite the standard design, this housing development took place in a setting with its own special characteristics, broadly hinted at in the 1825 register of baptisms in Lyncombe and Widcombe which records the occupation of the head of each family. Of these 38 were labourers, 22 servants, 14 gardeners, 20 masons and another 25 in the building trade. Nearly all the remainder were employed in a wide variety of artisan service and leisure trades; for example, 6 butchers, 6 shoemakers, 7 tailors, 1 coach maker, 1 coach painter and 1 coachman. The only women listed were 2 cho(a)rwomen. The social summit was 6 gentry. There was almost a total absence as yet of a middling stratum. An implication is that socially the characteristics of 18th century Bath still predominate even if they were changing when this development was launched. Importantly these characteristics explain why the partnership in this development represented an aspiring and arriving middle stratum, building housing well within the conventions that were classical. Big changes were on the way; Bath was characterised in 1850 as being 'at peace within itself'. Between the 1840s and the 1860s it was becoming a city with permanent residents, a majority of whom were women, whose suburb of Widcombe and Lyncombe was well supplied with churches (St.Marks 1832, St. Matthews 1847) and a chapel, Widcombe Chapel for Independents (1820-1821). The latter was built by a partnership which included one of the Matthias Harris partners, John Burgess. By 1846 as well as private schools there were locally three free Church schools including the Widcombe Day Schools in Millbrook Place, founded by the promotional 'Bath General Instruction Society in accordance with the precepts of the Church of England'. It had bought in 1839 the Widcombe Poorhouse and adjacent parcels of ground, on which the school actually seems to have been erected.

The Cottages were, in the period up to the end of the century, rented out from time to time by their successive owners, though there were episodes when they were vacant. In addition the tenants themselves often took in lodgers or even second families, creating a situation that by modern standards was one of gross overcrowding. The average number of occupants in 1841 was 8 per house. They included two smiths, a carpenter, a cabinetmaker, a tailor, a shoemaker, a printer and a meat salesman. Adolescent males were usually apprentices to the trades associated with their father. Wives, if they had employment, were a dressmaker, staymaker or laundress.

This was typical of the army of employees that serviced the Bath of fashion and leisure. There were some 10 agencies for servants and a cohort of more than 250 milliners and dressmakers and 70 tailors. A category that was a special characteristic of the era and the specific location, was the independent person of modest or very modest means, of which there were ten. Three of them were in No.11, and only they possessed a resident servant. At this time there was adequate employment yet there were more than 10 charities in Bath aimed at the rescue of the poor. The Society for Improving the Conditions of the Working Classes maintained a soup kitchen in Widcombe and there was a Wesleyan Temperance Hall (1847).

In contrast to the difficult 1840s the easier times of the mid-century saw a mutation in the social pattern whose characteristics were mirrored in a wider range of housing. Gas was piped to the area as early as 1836 and a local gasholder was built 1865-1866. As the Victorian era progressed the vogue for building terraced houses in the restrained Georgian mode faded. Considerable numbers of detached and semi-detached villas in mixed styles were built in Widcombe responding to the requirements of the middling classes, as well as elsewhere in outer Bath.

No longer were there second families and apprentices in any of the Cottages. Middle class professionals with servants made their appearance - a city missionary, a Baptist minister, a railway manager, an engraver, an accountant, a solicitor, a confectioner, a bookseller, a schoolmaster, a lodging house keeper as well as 'gentlemen' all make their appearance. The young adults are themselves aiming for professional careers as a bookbinder, schoolmaster or bank clerk and the wives do not take employment. As in the past the overwhelming majority of the heads of families came from the Bath region or from the neighbouring counties. A parallel mutation affected the Buildings; in the directory of 1876/7 12 of the 19 head occupants were women, of whom 3 were lodging house keepers.

The social pattern developed marginally in the same directions into the early 1880s. The average number of occupants (4) was half what it had been in the 1840s. Six of the nine heads of household were retired or otherwise living off investments, of the remaining three two were teachers, one a mason. There seems to have been nevertheless a public health problem, since the Sanitary Committee of the City Council ordered (March 1883) an inspection of accommodation and water supply. Apparently some houses had wells to supplement the spring water supply and subsequently proceedings were taken against the owner of No.8 who presumably had failed to close her well when asked (the capped stone-lined wellhead was discovered recently). The working-class poor throughout the century were housed elsewhere south of the river, in the two districts of Holloway and Dolemeads. The last named, the location of fourteen terraces, was characterised in 1834 as 'that reproach to the [Bath] neighbourhood - the filthy odious Dolemeads'.

By 1891 there were marked changes. Bath was developing into 'a predominantly working-class, small-scale, industrial city' (Davis and Bonsall 1996) though its image was different. The number of occupants went up from 37 to 58, of these only one head of house was living off investments. There were four teachers including, at No.3, Thomas Horseman, headteacher of the Widcombe Boys Elementary School. In most houses there was at least one person other than family contributing to costs and occupation could be dense; 11 in No.8 and 10 in No.4, for example. A possible explanation might be the pull of expansion of commercial and industrial employment particularly along the Avon coupled with the push of declining agrarian employment. A complementary factor was the speedy access to and from Bath provided by the Great Western and Midland railways.

The 1881 census had listed as head of house at No.6 an elderly widow, Susanna Turner. She lived off investments. Her two daughters were 'fancy workers' which may have meant that they were working from home, a common feature up to 1914. It was a rented property, owned by a very successful local grocer, William Bidmead who had bought it for £260 in 1870. He was widely known for his polishing paste; 'celebrated, economical and important to servants'. When he died in 1883, his trustees put up for sale his three shops in Claverton Street - No.2 a baker's, No.4 a pork butcher's and No.6 a draper's, all with living accommodation - as well as the house. It was bought by one of the daughters for £250, yet when it came to be sold on her death in 1913, it fetched only £150. The comparable prices for No.10 of £480 (1878) and £220 (1911) indicate similar rates of decline. An even lower price was fetched by No.6 in 1913, namely £150. (The 1924-1925 price levels recovered to £475 and £500.) These severe declines may be evidence for a relatively general economic crisis strongly affecting Bath. A straw in the wind was the tragic story of Albert Weston, the owner of No.10. He was a tobacconist trading in Broad Street under the name of Gillard. When the Charing Cross Bank went into liquidation all his capital was lost and he was unable to cover his debts. On the evening of 7 December 1910 he went out to get a newspaper, and didn't return. On Christmas Day his body was recovered from the Avon at Bitton. His widow sold the house to a retired schoolmaster three months later for £220.

This same episode has also links to examples of the mobility of residents within the development. No.11 was probably rented by Albert Weston before he moved to No. 10 in 1900, having bought it from Albert Turvey, a monumental mason who owned No.11 and had been a resident in No.9. The new resident of No.11 was Frederick Morris, a schoolmaster who had been living in No.3. His daughter, Mrs. Dora Wedge, remembers vividly the cold marble bathroom of No.11 which subsisted, albeit in a parlous state, until 1998. It was an embellishment, together with doubling the size of the scullery, added by Albert Turvey in 1900. In 1928 Frederick Morris bought No.18 the Buildings. Mr.Turvey wished to sell No.11 the Cottages, but Frederick Morris did not wish to purchase it.

A link with the origins of the Cottages (and the Buildings) was retained by No.9 until 1901. Then a descendant of Matthias Harris, the solicitor Henry Charles Stone, sold to Walter Tuckett, who still had to pay the £3.10s. ground rent even though the chief rent for all the houses had been redeemed in 1896, as has been mentioned above. The ground rent in this case was redeemed by the Department of

the Environment in 1989. Walter Tuckett's widow sold the house in 1913 to Victor Self, sometime tram driver and resident of 5, Prior Park Buildings and also the licensed victualler of the Hadleigh Arms, Combe Down. It remained in local ownership until 1978. Some Cottage owners still (2001) pay – in one case to the Hampshire County Cricket Club.

The availability and accessibility of urban employment in Bath and its region in the early 20th century meant that the Cottages and the Buildings were a good location for working people to buy, rent or lodge at a modest cost, and the same applied to the retired. Services were modernised in the late 1920s with the transfer of water supply to Bath Corporation and the provision of electricity. A further attraction was the extensive neighbourhood shopping centre of Claverton Street, where could be found, up to the 1930s, a wide array of shops among which were a butcher, baker, greengrocer, fishmonger, dairy, jeweller, hairdresser, plumber, newsagent, and at least three public houses. These were complemented by local elementary schools and churches.

The outcome was a strongly marked community atmosphere within which, the anecdotal evidence suggests, Prior Park Cottages and Buildings constituted an attractive location. A continued feature was movement between the Buildings and the Cottages of the development as families matured or experienced changed economic circumstances. High rates of occupancy were sustained in the later 1930s through the direction of the unemployed to Bath and prolonged by the wartime direction of labour. Throughout this period Bath experienced a wave of full employment and provincial prosperity aided by the arrival of government offices.

After 1945 the pattern of high occupancy involving lodging or renting, withered away in the Cottages in the post-war house building vigorously promoted by Bath City Council. Purchase through a mortgage from the Council or a building society later became more common and a more diverse range of owner-occupiers appeared among the 5,590 inhabitants of Widcombe. Of them only 450 lived in Georgian houses - about half as many as in Larkhall. As an outcome of the wave of enthusiasm for post-war reconstruction two major plans for Bath emerged, Abercrombie (1945) and Buchanan (1965). These had an effect on Widcombe, characterised at the time as shabby and derelict, as a dying suburb. 'If something is not done very soon, Widcombe as a trading centre will die', said a councillor. Perhaps it was really no different from the central area of Bath, described by a Cottage resident as dominated by drab sooty buildings, second-hand bookshops, antiques shops, yet possessing a relaxing charm. As one of the supplementary elements in the tunnel scheme which was the core of the Buchanan plan, it was proposed (1970) to revise the district road system south of the river. Among the changes, which eventually included a new bridge and the drastic modernisation of Holloway, was the creation of a relief road (Rossiter Road) behind Claverton Street, the obstructing Georgian terraces having now been necessarily demolished.

Interest in Georgian Bath in the 1930s-1960s focussed upon the city's élite terraces, crescents and squares and conservation was restricted to them. Between 1950 and 1973 some 2000 buildings disappeared. The lesser Georgian landscape of artisan and tradesman housing was generally regarded as inessential by architectural critics and town planners and in guides. Hence the 1960s 'sack of Bath' particularly affected those buildings, although Avon Street, built in the late 1720s, had been demolished as early as the 1930s. The official opinion (1967) of the Eldon Place terrace of similar age and design to the Cottages, was that 'it was not possible to modernise or bring up to today's standards'. Locally, Waterloo Buildings came to be demolished, as did the early Georgian (1704) Cold Bath House. Prior Park Buildings and Cottages were untouched, though the condition of some houses deteriorated considerably.

It was touch and go, as the Architectural Review noted in 1973, 'two delightful buildings (Nos. 1 & 2) as well as other houses in Prior Park Cottages are in the curious position of being included in one of the conservation areas ... and also being earmarked for clearance'. This comment refers to the fact that whereas the adjacent Ralph Allen Cottages and Prior Park Buildings were categorised by Bath Corporation as being of architectural or historic interest, until 1969 the Cottages were only of 'local

interest'. The Ralph Allen Cottages were nevertheless bought by the City Council in the late 1960s to facilitate a proposed but never implemented road widening. They fell vacant and became derelict, eventually being bought by a developer for £1, so a resident remembers, in 1980 or 1981. Later in a substantially refurbished state they fetched £25,000 or more. Less dramatic but parallel changes were experienced by the Cottages properties as attitudes and values changed and more favourable policies towards conservation prevailed.

The substantial increase from the 1970s in the numbers and relative affluence of the members of the mobile strata of service and new industry professionals, whether active or retired, counterbalanced the decline and fall of old established industry. They could afford to buy and refurbish what had become classified (1969) as listed Grade 2 Georgian houses in a desirable conservation area. Sometimes grants were available in aid of improvement or conservation, reaching a peak 1972-1982. The facades remained unmodified except for No.3, which was extended when the house was converted into three flats. Rear extensions were added to several houses in order to make possible modern kitchen/dining rooms. The movement of prices and the relative absence of equivalent quality in contemporary housing as well as the image of Bath, had encouraged these processes, which have been dismissively labelled gentrification. It has to be remembered that net of inflation house prices rose nationally by 51% 1970-1974, by 56% 1979-1990 and Bath was well above these averages. The price of one of the Cottages advanced from £700 (1952) to £6,000 (1979) and another fetched £150,000 in 1990. At the end of the century that valuation had doubled.

Inevitably some regret the decline in the older neighbourhood pattern of living, which was still dominant in the 30s and 40s. Others have emphasised renewal and the possibility of adaptation to contemporary living, although there is no resolution yet to the problem of car parking. It is certainly true that Prior Park Buildings and Cottages in particular and Widcombe in general exemplify economic and social trends of the late 20th century. These include the establishment of an effective pressure group, the Widcombe Association, to monitor the evolution of changes to Bath's architectural heritage of which Prior Park Cottages and Building are a recognised part.

A Note on Resources

This narrative makes no claim whatsoever to be definitive. There is much more material waiting to be consulted in private possession as well as in public archives and collections; B&NES Record Office and Bath Central Library and the Somerset Record Office are obvious examples of the latter. A full history of property development and people in Widcombe and Lyncombe awaits its historians.

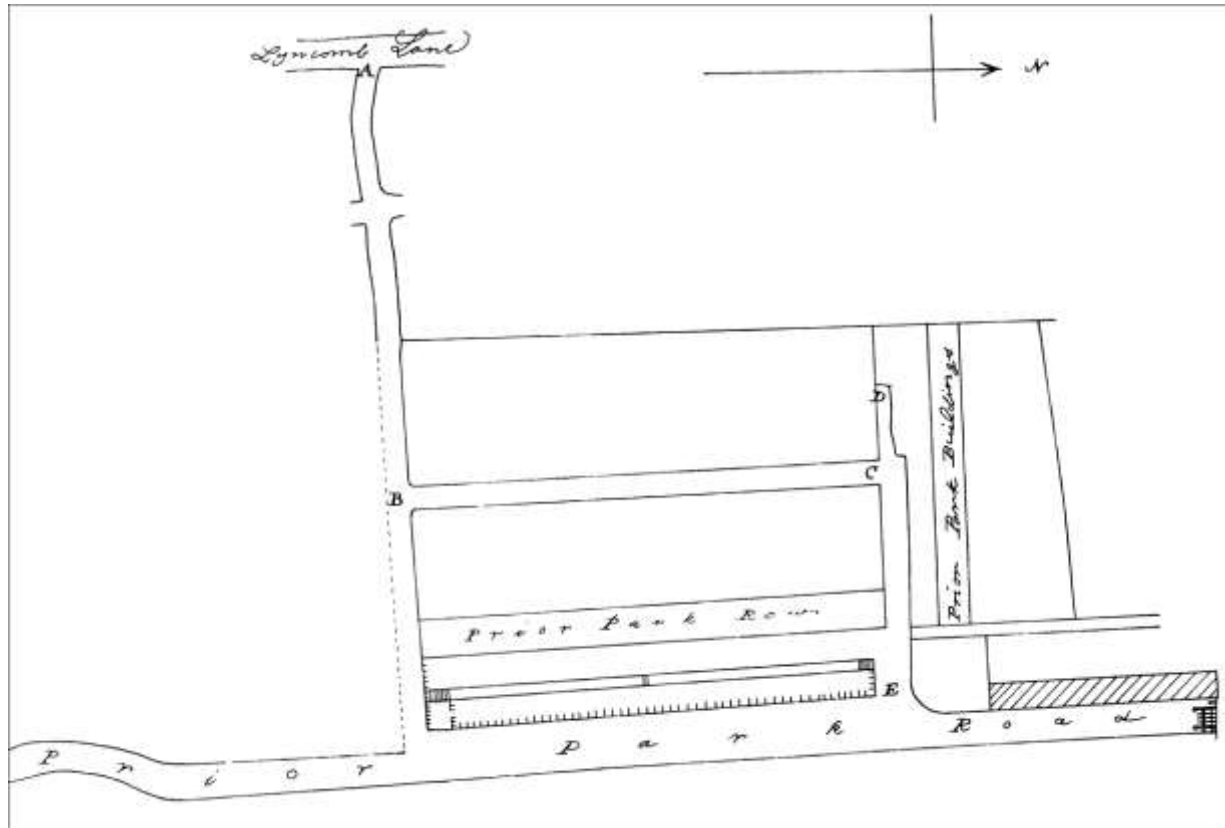
The most useful introductory surveys are: Davis and Bonsall, *Bath: A New History*, (1996); Neale, *Bath 1680-1850: A Social History*, (1981); Scott, *Discovering Widcombe and Lyncombe, Bath* (rev.2nd.ed., 1993).

Acknowledgements

Elizabeth Holland suggested and has vigorously promoted a two-part history of Prior Park Buildings and Cottages. The text above is the Cottages section; in due course she will publish a balancing account of the Buildings.

The following also made particular suggestions, which I gratefully acknowledge: Doreen Collyer, David McLaughlin and Colin Johnston.

Also acknowledged is the support and active co-operation of residents. Offers of deeds and other material are gratefully acknowledged in respect of the owners of Cottages Nos.4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.



The deed plan of 1822.

BLADUD AND BATH

A Personal Discussion

Elizabeth Holland

From time to time people ask me what I think of Bladud, the supposed founder of Bath Spa. My reply is that I have no dynamic views of my own on Bladud. This legend lies outside the territory of the Survey, which is concerned with the topography of old Bath and the lives of its actual citizens.

Also, it hardly seems necessary to analyse this story in search of clues, as it is something almost predictable. We imagine a traveller arriving at Bath in the days of the last English kings or the first Normans, and looking at the steaming springs with the Abbey nearby, and seeing everywhere buildings patched up with stones depicting strange scenes of old times. Even if these pictures are known to be Roman, they will seem to be connected with magic and witchcraft. Leland described some of them in the reign of Henry VIII, e.g.:

There be divers notable antiquitees engravid in stone that yet be sene yn the walles of Bathe ... The first was an antique hed of a man made al flat and having great lokkes of here as I have in a coine of C.Antius. The secunde that I did se bytwene the south and north gate was an image, as I tooke it, of Hercules: for he held yn eche hand a serpent...

Leland: *Itinerary*, part II, p.140.

As he relaxes in an inglenook with his stoup of ale, our visitor enquires, ‘Who founded this city in days of yore?’; and his host replies, ‘Some great magician and necromancer’.

O brother, had you known our mighty hall,
Which Merlin built for Arthur long ago!
For all the sacred mount of Camelot,
And all the dim rich city, roof by roof,
Tower after tower, spire beyond spire,
By grove, and garden-lawn, and rushing brook,
Climbs to the mighty hall that Merlin built.
Tennyson: *The Holy Grail*

The Icarus story would be attracted as if by a magnet, to illustrate how the pride of magicians, who emulate God, must come to a nasty end. This story seems to have originated with Garuda, the giant eagle in the *Ramayana* who flew too near the sun:

G A R U D A
I C A R U S

In the *Shahnameh*, a version of the legend is given to Kai-Kaus. Kai is apparently a title allied to ‘Caesar’, while ‘Kaus’ must be the Persians’ version of Icarus:

I C A R U S
K A - U S

Kaus was another being deluded by pride. Iblis persuaded one of the Demons to address him thus:

Thou art great as king can be,
Boundless in thy majesty;
What is all this earth to thee,
All beneath the sky?

Péris, mortals, demons, hear
Thy commanding voice with fear;
Thou art lord of all things here,
But, thou canst not fly!

That remains for thee; to know
Things above, as things below,
How the planets roll;

How the sun his light displays,
How the moon darts forth her rays;
How the nights succeed the days;
What the secret cause betrays,
And who directs the whole!
Firdausi: *Shahnameh*

Kaus achieved his ambition with the aid of four eagles, just as in the story told of Alexander and the griffins, depicted in medieval European carvings. After his flight was grounded, Kaus’s chief ministers sent a band of Demons to locate him, while one of the ministers, Gudarz, remarked that the king was justly punished for attempting to discover the secrets of the Heavens. They managed to catch up with Kaus in the wilderness of Chin, and Gudarz told him frankly that he was more fitted for

a madhouse than the throne of Iran. The repentant king returned home and did penance, and resumed the affairs of the kingdom in a chastened state of mind.



The Flight of Alexander, from a misericord at Wells.

Simon Magus, the New Testament magician, was also supposed to have tried to fly. There is an inevitable progression of thought in the Bladud story: magic rites were carried on in Bath - a great magician founded the city - his learning was stupendous and he travelled far and wide - inevitably, like so many proud people, he tried to fly.

Howard Levis tried to collect all the important past references to Bladud. According to him, the first known reference to Bladud's pigs appears in Robert Peirce (published 1713, with a note of 1697 – Levis, pp.90-91). This story again has an inevitable air. Some pigs are rooting in mud, as pigs do, and they follow it to the source of a hot spring. The swineherd demonstrates the healing values of the spring in the best possible way, by trying them on himself. To make the story interesting, he is an exiled Prince; and this is tied up with Geoffrey of Monmouth's Bladud. There are also Otherworld connotations of pigs and also swineherds which could make such a tale surface anywhere.

As for 'Bladud', it is just a person's name. What does Garuda mean? What does Alexander mean? (The dictionary actually says that Alexander means 'defender of men'.) 'Wolf-lord' has been suggested, which seems well enough. We have stated elsewhere that we do *not* believe that Alaron, the name Geoffrey of Monmouth gave to Bladud's wife, is associated with 'Old Runes', and we do believe that it could be derived from *alerion*, a winged heraldic motif such as one sees in the arms of Lorraine.

Bob Stewart, local folk-singer and folklorist, made a considerable analysis of the name Bladud in *The Waters of the Gap*. This is an interesting book and worth reading, but not sufficiently accurate to be suitable for a general source. He refers (p.69) to the missionary visit of Augustine 'the reformed rake and libertine' in 597 AD. Presumably he means to allude to Augustine of Hippo, author of *The City of God*. This Augustine was born in 354 AD and would have been 'aetat 243' in 597. *Aquae*, to take another example, does not mean 'the waters of'. It does not even mean 'of the waters', which is *aquarum*.

Stewart brings forward the theory that the bearded head is Bladud, is a sun-god, and is the Celtic patron of the springs. He cites Professor Sayce in support of the last two points. However it has been suggested that to some of the Celts the sun was female and the moon male, and the idea that this was a local Celtic sun-god needs more examination before one brings it forward as a theory. Besides, Stewart himself has admitted that in the Celtic world female deities were often associated with wells and springs, as Brigid or Brigidda, who became St. Brigit.

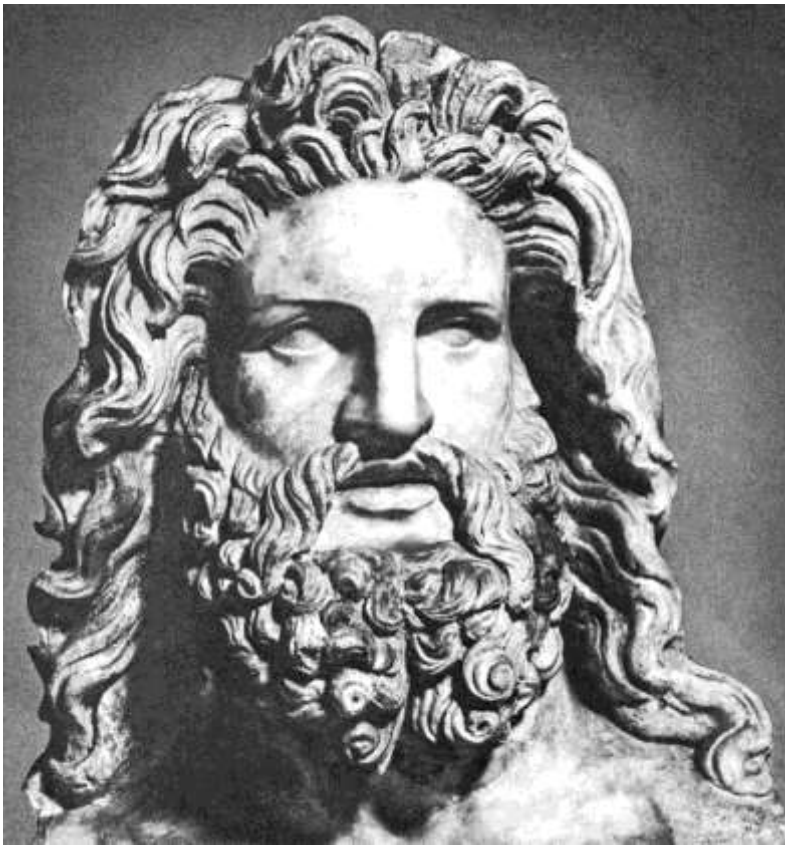
It is time to be politically correct and stand up for the fact that Bath Spa was founded by a female, the goddess Sul (who may also have had something to do with the sun) and that the rival candidacy of Bladud is due to male chauvinism. Thus, referring to female river-nymphs Milton addresses the nearby Severn:

Sabrina fair
Listen where thou art sitting
Under the glassie, cool, translucent wave,
In twisted braids of Lillies knitting
The loose train of thy amber-dropping hair
John Milton: *Comus*

These watery goddesses were revered throughout the Indo-European world. Donald Mackenzie, who wrote several popular books on myth and legend, said (p.152), 'All the Indian rivers are female, with the exception of the Sona and Brahmaputra, the spirits of which are male'. Central in Indian belief is the Ganges. Mackenzie called it the 'most sacred of all Indian rivers, the cleanser of sins and the giver of immortality'. He related that it once flowed in the Celestial regions, issuing from the toe of Vishnu. As a boon it was granted that it should descend from the Himalayas. Siva, whose wife Parvati was associated with the Himalayas, allowed the water to flow through his hair whence it issued in seven streams, which can be seen in pictures of Siva rising like a fountain from his head. In the *Ramayana* Rama's wife Sita, an avatar of Vishnu's consort the goddess Lakshmi, invokes the spirit of the Ganges:

'Goddess of the mighty Ganga!' so the pious Sita prayed,
'Exiled by his father's mandate, Rama seeks the forest shade,
Ganga! O'er the three worlds rolling, bride and empress of the sea,
And from Brahma's sphere descended! banished Sita bows to thee,
May my lord return in safety, and a thousand fattened kine,
Gold and gifts and gorgeous garments, pure libations shall be thine,
And with flesh and corn I worship unseen dwellers on thy shore,
May my lord return in safety, fourteen years of exile o'er.'
The Ramayana

The question of what the bearded head does represent could depend on where it belongs. Modern archaeology has placed it on the pediment of the postulated Temple of Sul-Minerva. In that case it is presumably Jupiter, Minerva's father. Minerva, an Etruscan/Roman goddess, took on the attributes of Athene, who emerged fully-armed from the head of Zeus just as Ganga rises through the hair of Siva in pictures. The head does look Jove-like, with the wavy hair and beard evoking Jupiter the Thunderer, overlord of the waters of sky and earth. The arrow-shape on his forehead would be the trident of Jupiter, developed from the lightning flash. The snakes in the hair are not really easy to see. Bob Stewart has called the snakes around the neck a Celtic snake-headed torque. There was a snake form of Jupiter. Jupiter's brother Neptune was also a trident-bearer.



Zeus, as portrayed in a 4th century Greek sculpture.

The wreath is said to be of oak leaves, with acorns. This would be likely to refer to Jupiter. To myself, they look, in pictures, like stylised palms. A somewhat similar design appears round a statue in relief of a Celtic god Caesar called *dis pater* and equated with Saturn. Palms would suit the concept of the Victories. A rival school of thought claimed that the bearded head came from the entrance to the baths. In this case it could be Hercules, the brother of Minerva and patron of baths. Other representations of Hercules have also been found in Bath. Major Davis listed the writers who had dealt with the relevant pieces of stone, and wrote:

I am satisfied that they were not the remains of a Temple, but a portion of the central Portico and grand Vestibule of the Baths.

Major Chas.E.Davis: 'On the Excavations of Roman Baths at Bath', *Transactions of the Bristol & Gloucester Archaeological Society for 1883-84*, Vol.VIII, p.99.

In another place, I recollect, he suggested that the different pieces did not belong to one pediment. Glancing at them, they do not seem to be of the same character. They were apparently at one time on display in the RLSI of the time, and presumably Major Davis felt that they had simply been put together to make the display. Another suggestion made was that they did belong together, but that the deity in the centre had been defaced, and a Romano-British sculptor had supplied a replacement, in a more vigorous style than the classic features around.

Bob Stewart also quotes Professor Sayce as believing that the bearded head presided over the baths:

But the flaming face of which I have spoken proves that there was such a god by the side of the goddess, and it further shows that while the goddess was worshipped in a separate temple, the hot springs themselves and the baths that stood above them were under the protection of the

god. The baths, in fact, were his temple. He must, therefore, have been the god of the hot springs, the heat of which would explain his identification with the solar orb.

Rev.Professor Sayce, in *Y Cymmrodor*, Vol.X, 1890, pp.207-221, cited in *The Waters of the Gap*, p.49.

Bob Stewart comments that the piece of stone bearing the head is so heavy that 'it is accepted that' it must have fallen directly downwards. The reconstructed entrance to the Temple is shown as being in the middle of Stall Street. The head was found in the excavations of around 1790, to create the enlarged Pump Room and the baths south of it (already begun by 1790). If it fell directly on its site under the Pump Room and would therefore seem to be from the baths, where is the central motif of the entrance to the Temple? The answer would be, Recycled. Dr.Kellaway has suggested that the King's Bath buildings, being over a fault, may have fallen in an earthquake. Presumably the Temple was partly standing when the Saxons arrived. Irvine found a great layer of stone dust alongside the Temple site, which may well have come from reworking the stone to use in the Saxon Abbey, while the King's Bath site fragments remained covered over with marshy debris, eventually surfaced over, until the enlargement of the Pump Room.

The Survey does not have to decide whether the moderns are right, or the earlier commentators, in speculating where this carving originated. One simply poses the question, *If* this head was over the entrance to the baths, what would one make of it?

Medusa was female, and as she represented the evil eye, she is not suitable for either the chief Temple in the city or the entrance to the baths. Also there seems some doubt as to whether the hair ever really had snakes in it: people may have seen snakes because they believed it was Medusa. On the other hand, looking at the Florentine gem here reproduced, some may still hold with the old idea of Medusa. It has wings on its head, and Bob Stewart's snake-torque round its neck.



**The Gorgon Medusa
(Florentine Gem).**

The first point is the V on the forehead of the bearded head. Abstractly, a V placed on the forehead is the sign of Vishnu. Although there were very early Indian influences in Europe, such as in the Gundestrup Cauldron, we have no evidence that the worship of Vishnu had reached Bath. The trident of Jupiter has already been suggested. The symbol could represent the arrows of Hercules, or the rays of the sun.

Let us suppose it is Hercules. The Romans usually showed Hercules as beardless, but the Greeks did portray him as bearded. Snakes are part of the legend of Hercules; he strangled snakes even in the cradle. The wings show deity, and his flight to heaven after his death on a pyre. Presumably the figure would be both Hercules the Saviour, and Hercules Invictus, Hercules the Invincible Sun, a cult overshadowed by Sol Invictus. In the sun-cult of Hercules, he travelled sun-like through the signs of the Zodiac just as he had proceeded through his twelve labours. The large eyes and ears would show the sun as all-seeing and all-hearing, a kind of divine spy-satellite.

This would lead one to assemble the following thoughts:

Hercules, - Was the son of Jupiter and brother of Minerva.
He was the patron of baths.
Various snakes appear in his story.
So does a great boar, the Erymanthian boar. A carved boar's head was found in Bath.
He was a great traveller and took part in many magic events.
He suffered from skin disease, through a poisoned shirt. When he tried to take off the shirt, it tore his skin with it.
He was cured by heat, in his case fire – Philoctetes lit a pyre and Hercules lay down on it, and it burnt away his mortal part, leaving only his immortal self.
The snake-ring on the carving is a sign of immortality. He was last seen making off into heaven in the chariot of his father.

How to make this into 'Bladud'? Bob Stewart has various suggestions for naming the head 'Bladud', not entirely accurate. Bel in the Middle East, Baal in Phoenicia, did not mean 'bright', as far as one understands, but 'Lord'. Bel-Marduk was the Lord Marduk. Anyway, given this head and told to make it into 'Bladud', I would say, 'Zeus Baal-Hadad'. Adad was a storm-god, bearing the triple lightning flash. The Greeks and Romans were fond of composite divinities, just as in Sul-Minerva. Jupiter Doliche was one, showing Jupiter riding a bull like Adad, though more closely allied to the Hittite Teshub. It could be possible that someone from the Levant could call the head 'Baal-Hadad' – seeing it as Jupiter and making it composite.

Does this mean that I believe that this head is probably the source of the Bladud legend, as Icarus seems to be of the story of Kai-Kraus? No. I do believe the bearded head is probably Jupiter or Hercules, with a Medusa-like touch from the snakes, insofar as there actually are snakes present. 'Baal-Hadad' is suggested here simply for argument's sake. To become Bladud, the lore of the head would have to have bridged a gap of hundreds of years. It seems to me that new people came to the city, and created a new personality out of the same universal elements. Otherworld pigs from one place, the hero who suffers and recovers and is re-instated, from another, the magician who tries to fly, from another.

As to what 'Bladud' actually means, that is best left to Welsh scholars. And in the meantime Melwas King of the Otherworld had reigned with his headquarters at Bath and his chief fortifications at Glastonbury. Make 'Melwas' into 'Bladud' if we can! However if other people believe the legend of Bladud is very ancient, perhaps pre-Roman, possibly written down in the kind of 'Welsh book' used by Geoffrey of Monmouth and probably Tysilio before him, that of course is their point of view.

Note:

'Globes... are often associated with Zeus-Hadad or Jupiter in his capacity as the Baalshamin or master of the heavens. The normal significance of such globes is cosmic; but some... may symbolise sacred mountain tops, where such deities as Zeus-Hadad loved to live.' (Lindsay, p.380)

I do not know how 'v' is written in Sanskrit – one can see the 'v' on statues and on the foreheads of priests.

References

- James Atkinson, Ed.: Firdausi, *The Shahnameh*, London, 1892, pp.118-119.
Romesch C.Dutt, Ed.: *The Ramayana, Epic of Rama, Prince of India*, condensed in English Verse, Bombay, reprinted 1975, p.49. (Fourth Edition, epilogue dated 1899.)
Mary M.Innes, Ed., *The Metamorphoses of Ovid*, Penguin, reprinted 1968. Death of Hercules, pp.207-210.
Howard C.Leavis, *Bladud of Bath, The British King who tried to Fly*, reprinted Bath, 1973.
Jack Lindsay, *Origins of Astrology*, New York and London, 1971, reprinted 1972.
Bob Stewart, *The Waters of the Gap, The Mythology of Aquae Sulis*, Bath, 1981.

FURTHER NOTES ON BATH'S EARLY PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS

Mike Chapman

I am grateful to David McLaughlin for bringing to my attention a short article on page 9 of the *Bath and County Graphic* for June 1899 which provides additional insight into the development of the earliest photographic studios in Bath. The article describes, with illustrations, the studio which then existed at Nos.1 and 2 Seymour Street belonging to Walter G.Lewis who carried on the business there for many years, and is effectively an advertisement for his photographs, some of which were included elsewhere in the same publication, as follows:

MR.W.G.LEWIS'S STUDIOS

Mr.Walter G.Lewis's studio [sic] are said to be the oldest devoted to the photographic art in Bath. At the same time, they are also, as far as their productions go, the most modern, for the very latest specimens of the art may be inspected in the spacious reception and showrooms attached to the establishment. The premises, which are situate opposite to the Midland railway station, are all upon the Ground-floor, thus affording excellent facilities for invalids.

Photographs of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Bath, Opening of the Monkswood Reservoir, Children's Carnival in Victoria Park, Gas Institute Conference, Group at Longleat, etc., are now ready.

The views in this number of the Jubilee Decorations, Festivities, etc., in Bath, have been all taken by Mr.W.G.Lewis, of Seymour Street, to whom our thanks are, in an especial manner, due, not merely for the excellence of the work, but for the despatch with which it was carried out, under, too, very considerable difficulties.

The reference to the oldest studio in Bath appears to confirm the suspicion that No.1 Seymour Street was in use for this purpose from as early as 1850, when a 'photographer' (previously listed as an 'artist'), William Whaite, is recorded in the directories as living at that address. As mentioned in our last issue, a daguerreotype studio had already been established in Gravel Walk some years earlier, but this had been closed and demolished in about 1851, and any studio remaining at Seymour Street could therefore claim to be the oldest.

However, Whaite himself disappears from Seymour Street in 1851, only to reappear about a year or so later with a new studio at the rear of No.7 the Corridor, presumably using the new 'wet collodion' process (the precursor of the photographic 'film' we use today) which did not require a patent. This new studio, which still survives, went on to become well known for its association with Friese

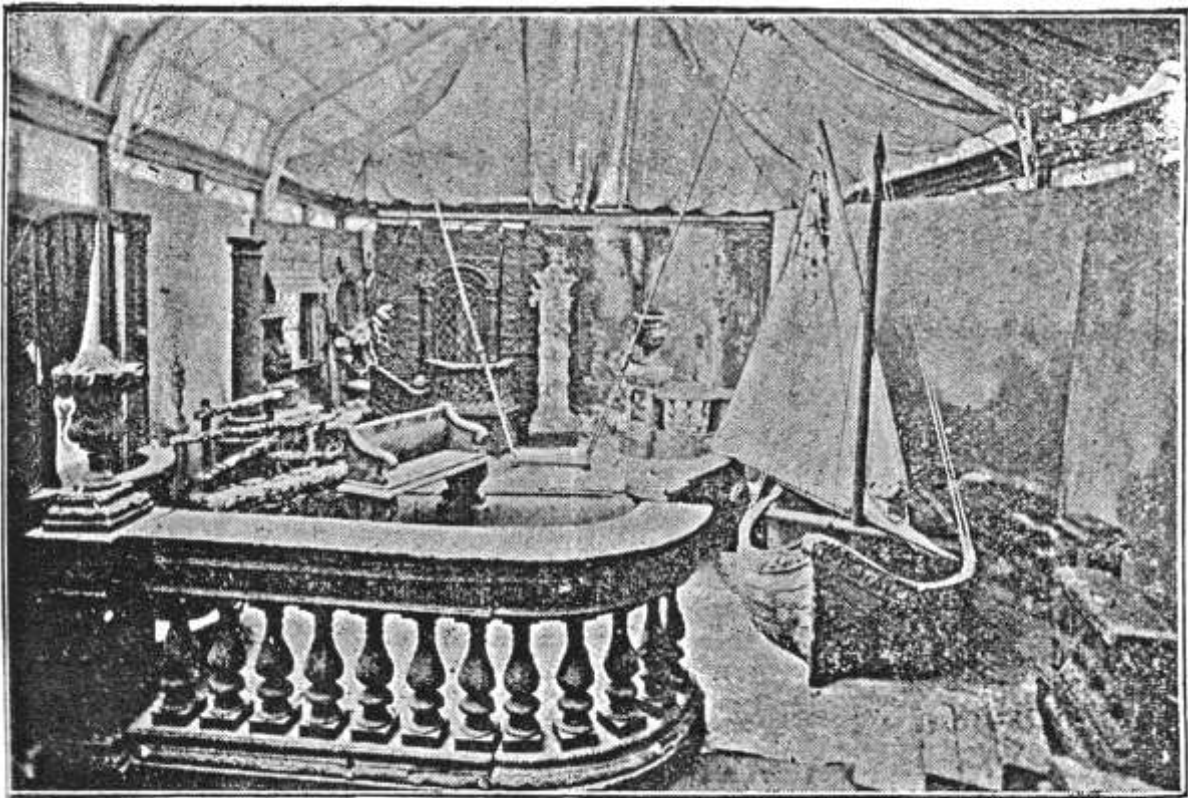
Greene, but no studios in Seymour Street are mentioned in the directories until Walter Lewis first advertises his services there, at No.2, in about 1872.

W. G. LEWIS'S
PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS,
44, MILSOM STREET
AND
2, SEYMOUR STREET,
GREEN PARK, BATH.

Walter Lewis's
advertisement of
1872.



MR. W. G. LEWIS'S STUDIO.



MR. W. G. LEWIS'S STUDIO.

From the *Bath & County Graphic*, June 1899.

The later success of Lewis's studio possibly depended on various factors. In 1868 the houses on the opposite side of Seymour Street were taken down to make way for the new Midland Railway station which was first opened to traffic in August 1869. Lewis, who had already acquired premises at 44 Milsom Street in 1870, may also have sought to exploit the commercial potential of a site directly opposite a busy railway station. It is noticeable that by 1882 he had given up the Milsom Street site and enlarged his studio in No.2 Seymour Street by the acquisition of No.1.

More importantly perhaps, he seems to have been the first photographer in Bath to use the term 'studio', instead of 'rooms', as appears in his advertisement of 1872. This aspect of his business was evidently important. The two illustrations in the *Bath and County Graphic* show a large and elaborate collection of stage 'props' as a background to portrait photographs, all of which are contained in a spacious 'glass-house' (the two shots are presumably looking each way from the centre) with adjustable blinds to control the sunlight. Since the studio is stated to be all at ground-floor level, the glasshouse was presumably sited in the back garden, with the rest of the reception and showrooms being inside the main building.

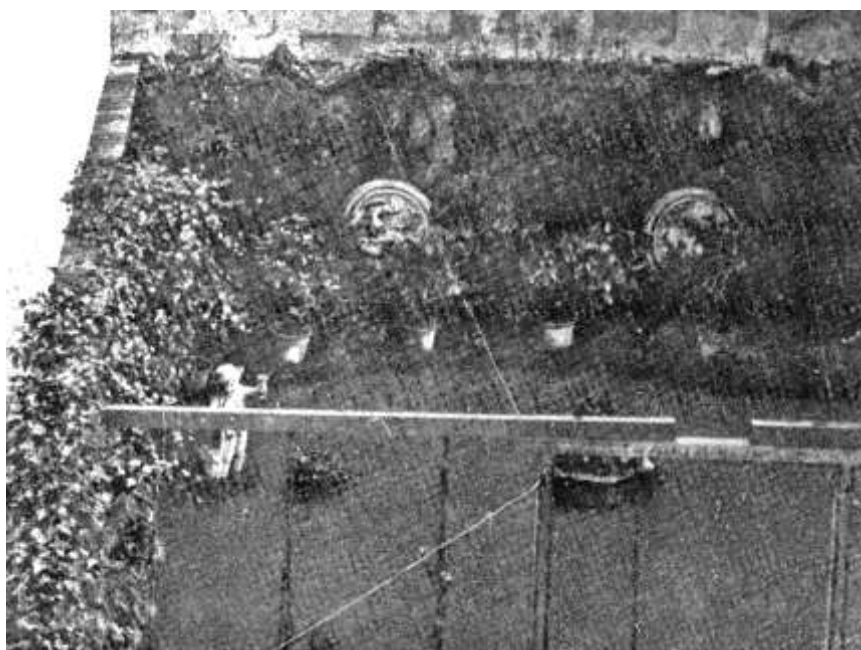
This is possibly confirmed by one of the well-known photographs taken from this building in 1882 to record the floods in James Street West. The first, shown on our cover, is presumably taken from the first floor window of No.1 Seymour Street, looking towards the station on the left, whilst the other is taken from the rear first floor window looking in the opposite direction towards the Midland Hotel. In the latter photograph the back garden, which can just be seen to the right, not only appears to contain

the usual garden ornaments, but also various frameworks and paraphernalia which suggest that photographs with appropriate props were set up outdoors.



The 1882 floods in James Street West. The garden at the rear of No.1 Seymour Street is visible on the right.

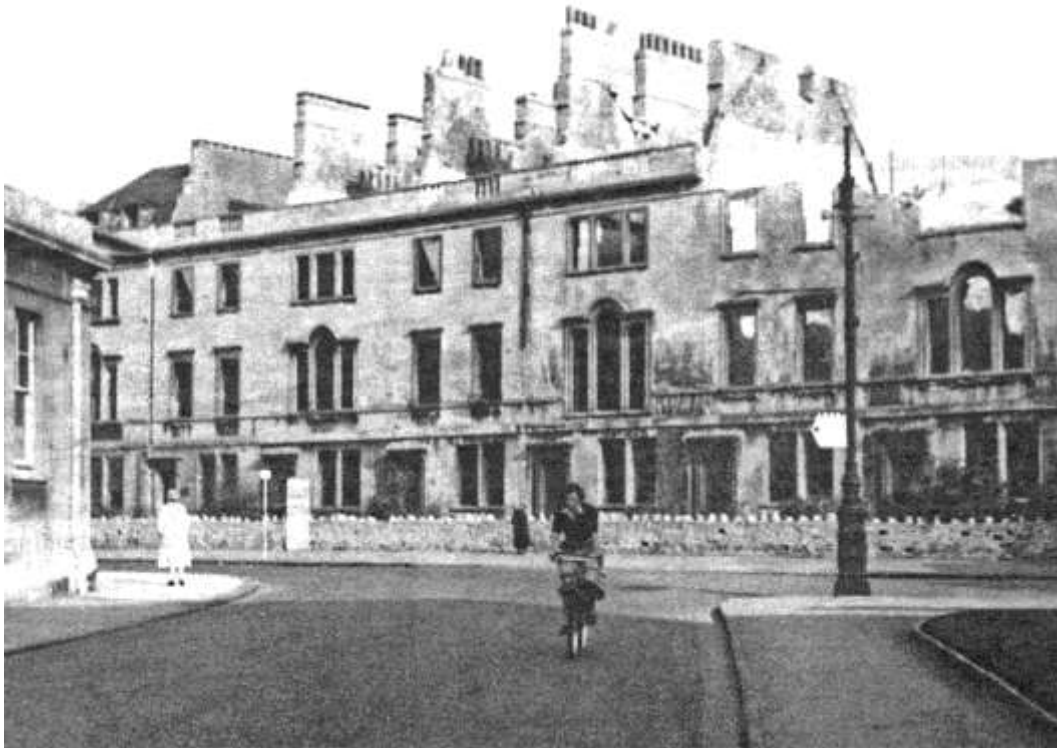
An enlarged view of the garden in the previous photograph.



However,

the work

complimented by the *Graphic*, of the Jubilee celebrations, etc., was evidently not taken in the studio. We are told of the ‘modernity’ of the productions, presumably referring to the processing of the photographs which was no doubt carried out somewhere on the premises. Nor are we told of the nature of the ‘difficulties’ under which they were produced – perhaps something to do with the photolithographic processes used in their publication. It is perhaps a pity that the houses in Seymour Street have not survived. Although the damage they received during the Bath Blitz in 1942 was relatively light, the delay in their repair eventually led to their demolition in the 1960s.



Seymour Street in the 1940s. Nos.1 and 2 are on the extreme left, disappearing behind the Midland Railway station. The site is now occupied by the Salvation Army building.

FRIENDS OF THE SURVEY OF OLD BATH

President:	Dr. John Wroughton	Mrs. P. G. R. Graham
Chairman:	Mrs. Ruth Haskins	Mr. A. J. Green
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. Denise Walker	Mrs. A. Hannay, Yatesbury
Treasurer:	Mrs. Ann Cridland	Mr. I. R. C. Harris
Secretaries:	see below	Mr. & Mrs. E. C. & F. M. Harrison
Committee:	Mrs. Gillian Cope	Mr. J. Hawkes
	Mr. M. C. Hitchcock	Mr. & Mrs. K. & R. Hills
	Mr. Leslie Holt	Miss. B. Holt
	Mr. Marek Lewcun	Mr. & Mrs. P. A. H. Jackson, Saltford
	Mrs. Priscilla Olver	
	Mrs. Hazel Symons	
Members:		Mr. C. Johnston, B&NES Archivist
Mr. and Mrs. M. A. E. Adams		Mr. A. J. Keevil
Col. J. S. Agar		Dr. G. A. Kellaway (Consultant Geologist to Bath & N.E. Somerset)
Professor R. Alexander, U.S.A.		Mrs. B. E. M. Kondrat
Bath and N.E. Somerset, Built Heritage (Mrs. M. Stacey)		Dr. R. A. Lambert, France
Bath Preservation Trust (Ms. Jesca Verdon-Smith)		Mr. W. Leigh
Herr L. Becker, Germany		Mr. D. R. Lovell
Mr. D. Bernhardt		Mrs. B. Lowe, Keynsham
Rev. K. J. Birch, Cheltenham		Mr. J. G. Macdonald, Freshford
Mr. P. Blackmore		Mr. D. McLaughlin, Principal Conservation Officer
Mr. D. Brown		Mrs. A. Marks
Mr. J. M. Brushfield		Mr. R. Mimmack
Building of Bath Museum		Dr. Roger Rolls
Mr. S. L. Burroughs, Curator, Museum of Bath at Work		Dr. L. Rutherford, Archivist, Bath Abbey
Mr. R. V. Chapman, Australia		Distr. Judge & Mrs. M. Rutherford
Mrs. M. R. Chislett		Mr. L. J. Scott
Mr. S. Clews, Roman Baths Museum		Dr. S. Sloman
Mrs. J. Coates		Mrs. P. Thomas, New Zealand
Mrs. D. Collyer		Dr. N. Tiffany, Oxford
Mr. K. Cookes		Mr. M. Walker
Mr. A. Cowan		Mrs. D. Wedge
Mr. N. J. Cridland		
Mr. P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust		
Mr. M. Davis		
Mrs. S. Edwards		
Dr. M. Forsyth, University of Bath		

Membership Secretary of the Friends of the Survey: Mrs. Ann Cridland, "Pippins", 4 Upper Farm Close, Norton St. Philip, Bath, Somerset BA3 6NA tel: 01373 834396. Subscription to the Friends: £6 a year
Minutes Secretary (acting): Priscilla Olver.