

# **HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS**



**HAN 75      2004**

**WOOLHOPE CLUB  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION**



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### HAN

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## **WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS FIELD CLUB**

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION**

At the A.G.M. held on 20th January, 2003, it was proposed and agreed that the Constitution drawn up in 1965 and the Resolution of 1998 should both be slightly altered to that written below to relate to present day requirements.

'At the Special General Meeting of the Club\*, held on 20th May, 1965, it was agreed that members could form Sections to pursue particular interests. An inaugural meeting of the Archaeological Section was held on 8th July and the following constitution was adopted.'

\*Woolhope Naturalists Field Club

### **CONSTITUTION**

1. The Section shall be called the Archaeological Research Section.
2. It shall arrange its own programme, but remain subordinate to the central committee in all matters relating to the general welfare of the Club. [Under Section VIII of the Club constitution members finding rare or interesting specimens or observing any remarkable phenomenon relating to any branch of natural history, or making or becoming acquainted with any archaeological discovery in the district, shall immediately forward a statement thereof to the honorary secretary or to the appropriate sectional editor.]
3. Membership shall be open to all members of the Club prepared to take an active part in the work of the Section.
4. The Section shall have its own Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and at least four elected committee members with the power to co-opt others when necessary.
5. The annual subscription shall be determined by the committee of the Section, payable on the 1st January of each year.
6. The A.G.M. shall be held before June 30th.
7. Monthly meetings shall be arranged by the officers and chairman.

1997 Annual General Meeting held on 14th January, 1998.

A resolution was passed that the Chairman and officers would be re-elected at each A.G.M. to serve for not more than three consecutive years and in rotation to each other. Also that there should be an Editorial Sub-Committee for the moment rather than an Editor.

At the Committee Meeting held on 30th January, 1998, it was also agreed that 'we encourage new and younger members to join the Archaeological Section, as we are the only archaeological society within the county.' [Under Section II of the Club's constitution, junior members are admitted until the age of 18. Such junior members may become full members at the latter age, but those that are bon-fide full-time students may remain junior members until the age of 21.']

### Field Meeting to Goodrich & Marstow by Roz Lowe

On Sunday, 14 September 2003 6 members joined Roz Lowe for a field meeting in Goodrich and Marstow. The day was very hot and sunny. In the morning members were guests of the owners of 'Giddis', called Gyddies on the map below, which lies to the north-west of Goodrich Castle. In the afternoon we were the guests of the owners of Little Ashe Farm, called Ash Farm on the map, which lies NNW of Giddis.

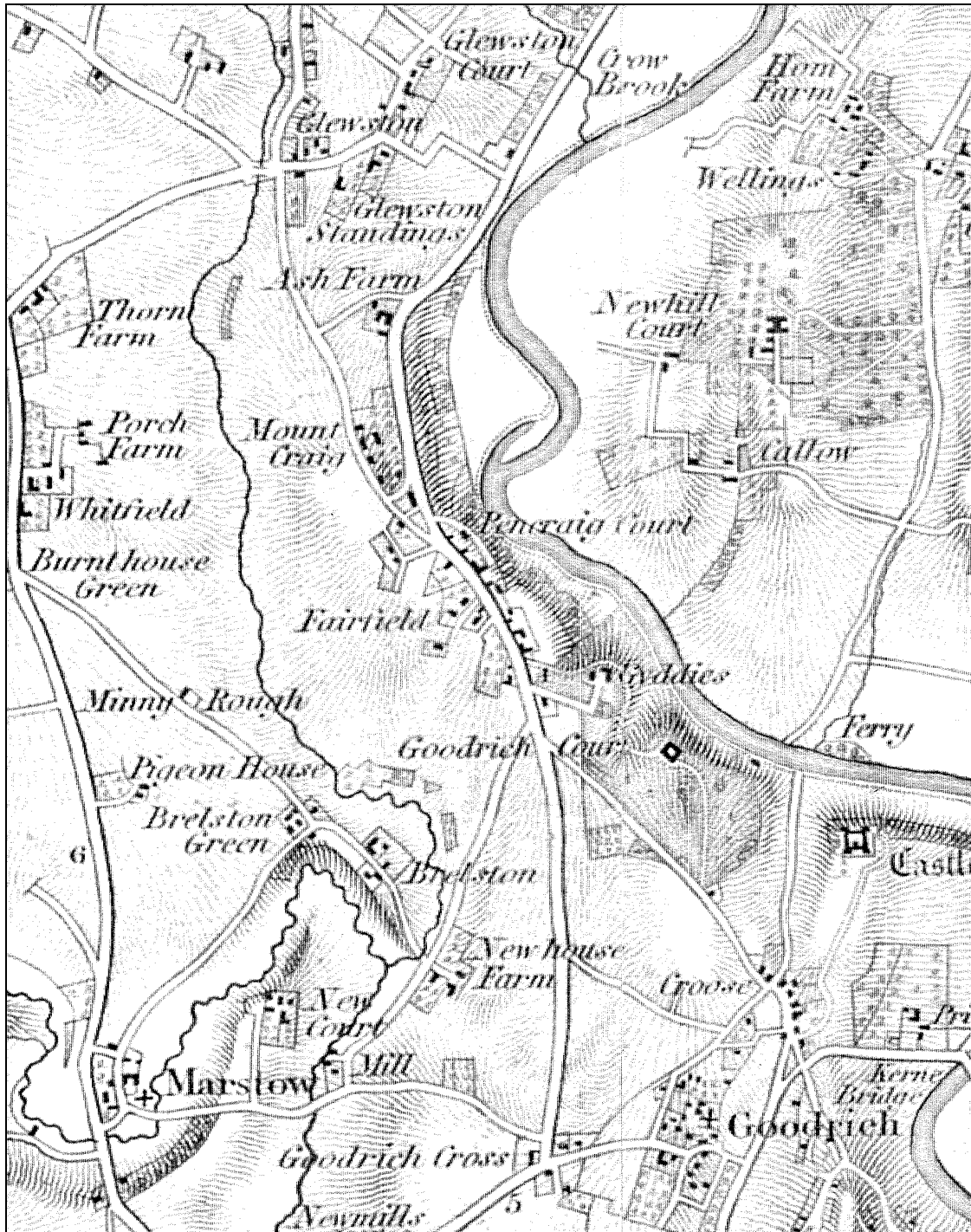


Figure 1 Pencraig & Marstow in 1832 (N at top)

[illegible]<sup>1</sup> RTR 17

It is possible that this complexity reflects ancient ecclesiastical grants, as Pencraig is first mentioned in the Llandaff Charters. This particular charter (229a) gave an estate at 'Penncreic in Ercig super Gui' to Bishop Nudd of Llandaff.<sup>1</sup> The charter is considered to be genuine, and to date from c 874.

Incidentally, this version of the name of the hamlet, and all pre-1800 spellings give a pronunciation of Pen-creek, rather than the current spelling of Pen-craig. This means that the derivation of the (Welsh) name should be 'at the head of the rise' rather than 'at the head of the rocks' as given in all place-name dictionaries. This makes much more sense topographically. Pencraig's situation commanding the ancient road into Wales means that it must have been one of the most important settlements in Goodrich from early times, and indeed substantial scatters of Roman pottery and a lead loom weight were found there by the late Elizabeth Taylor.

The integrity of the settlement has been damaged by the A40 dual carriageway which roars through it. The house called 'Fairfields' on the 1832 map was one of the casualties of the road building programme, but the 'Arbour Elm' and the 'Turnpike House' had disappeared long before. The Arbour farmhouse is mentioned in deeds back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and the Roman pottery was found in the field behind it. There are several examples of the name 'Arbour' being used where there is evidence of Roman occupation.

### **Giddis**

A number of the farms in Goodrich seem to have acquired their names in the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. Giddis is no exception, as there is a document<sup>2</sup> dating from 1445 when John, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Talbot of Furnyvall [and Lord of Goodrich] gifted to William Gydies and Edith his wife 'All those lands and tenements with appurtenances ...called Gydies, within the lordship of Castle Goderic' for a rent of 3s 4½d p.a. paid in equal portions at the terms usual within the lordship; also 15d in lieu of – hens, and for all sums due as of old, and 4d in lieu of 12 sheaves of oats. With free suit of court at 3 leets each year, and heriot when it is due. Witnesses: John Marky, Nicholas Smyth, John Nicoll, Thomas Phelyp, Roger Gardyner "and many others". The many freeholders of the manor provided a substantial revenue.

The document above was found with others in an old farmhouse in Pencraig, the collection having been separated somehow from the main collection of Giddis deeds which were acquired by Samuel Meyrick when he bought the Giddis estate in 1828 as the basis for the Goodrich Court estate. The Goodrich Court deeds are now in a private collection, but have been catalogued & abstracted to some extent. A copy of the catalogue is in Herefordshire Record Office. The earliest deed in this collection concerning Giddis dates from 1611<sup>3</sup>, when Roger White of Giddis bought some land 'enclosed out of Giddis field' from the long-established Gardiner family.

There are a few earlier mentions of the Whites – a William White was the executor of the will of Walter Hannies of Goodrich in 1514. The Roger White above was possibly the Roger son of John White baptised 24 May 1559, one of the earliest entries in the Goodrich parish register. John had another son, Thomas baptised in 1563; another Thomas in 1568; William White married Katherine Gardener in 1577, and their son William was baptised in 1580; Edward in 1583. The family fortunes were no doubt improved when Roger married Elinor Phelpott in 1590. In 1604 Thomas White the elder of Gyddys leased land at Blacknorle in Bridstow.<sup>4</sup> The White family held Giddis until the early years of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when John White's daughter Eleanor married Thomas Weare of Mainoaks, and the estate passed to their family.<sup>5</sup> The Whites of Giddis have no known connection with the White family who built Goodrich House, and ran the iron forges at New Weir and Tintern.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wendy Davies *The Llandaff Charters* NLW 1979 p122

<sup>2</sup> Herefordshire Record Office M25/1

<sup>3</sup> RTR 384

<sup>4</sup> NLW Courtfield monuments no 814 (from card index)

<sup>5</sup> A detailed list of the White documents ids available from Roz Lowe

<sup>6</sup> See HAN72



Figure 3 Giddis from W [R Lowe]

The sequence of building on the Giddis site is difficult to unravel. Mr & Mrs Coggins have commissioned an architectural survey of the house, but this raises as many questions as it answers. By their kind permission, and that of the author John B Benson, we have been allowed to use the plans and information from the survey. Sadly, John Benson has died since the day of our visit, when he accompanied us around the house.

As it stands today, the residential building is roughly U-shaped, but it seems that originally separate elements have been joined together to make this whole. It is quite usual for farms such as Giddis to have a number of separate dwellings within the same site. In Mainoaks in Goodrich, for example, they even appear to have been bought and sold separately from the main farmhouse. When the Giddis estate was bought by Meyrick in 1828, there were a number of agricultural buildings to the south and west of the house which no longer exist – see the plan below which is taken from a land exchange map made that year.<sup>1</sup> By the time of the tithe map in 1839, Meyrick had erected his towered gatehouse on the Monmouth road, and the carriage drive wound behind Giddis. The barns as shown in Fig. 4 may have been partially cleared by Meyrick as they seem less in the tithe map – by the 1930 OS map only one remained.

Giddis lies on an exposed site with far reaching views over the Wye below – not so obvious now that the trees on the steep land leading to the river have re-generated. The fields which belonged to the farm spread over the undulating ground to the SW and SE. The land to the SE was taken by Meyrick to form the park of Goodrich Court, and there are still a number of specimen trees dotting the fields, though their roots have been damaged by ploughing. The road which runs SE to Goodrich bisects a handsome double-avenue of lime trees, planted by later owners of Goodrich Court. The obvious difference in the health of the two parts of the avenue has been caused by ploughing inside the avenue in the northernmost half only. This has now ceased and hopefully the trees will recover.

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<sup>1</sup> RTR 358



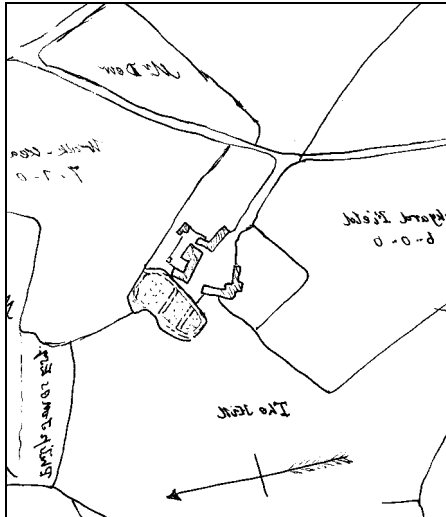


Figure 4 1828 plan of Goodrich [RTR 358]. The house is the U-shaped block,

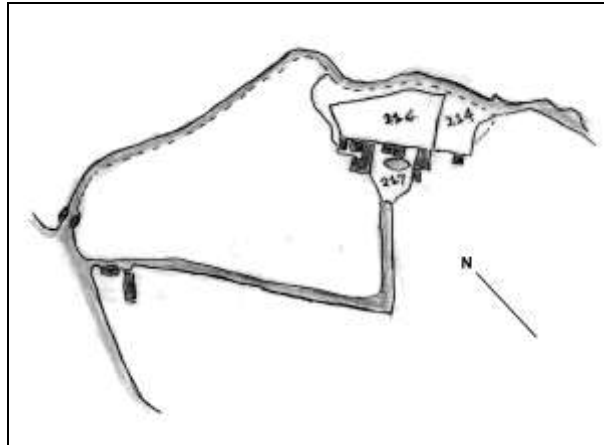


Figure 5 Giddis from the Tithe map. Note Goodrich Court gatehouse on left

In 1828 the access track to Giddis led off the old road which ran between the Ross-Monmouth road and Goodrich village. Meyrick altered the Goodrich road so that it left the Monmouth road on the other side of Mr Dew's field in fig. 4. (HRO Q/SR/117)

Mr Benson was convinced that a carved gateway in a wall next to Giddis farmhouse was a survivor from the 12<sup>th</sup> century which enclosed the curtilage of the farm – see it at the top left of his impression of Giddis in 1450 below in Fig.6, and a photograph of it in Fig 7. Although the archway is probably not in its original position, the wear on its sides is not indicative of great age, as at my house we have an entrance porch dating from 1840 which is similarly eroded – both are in a position where they will be wind-scoured by grit. He postulated a high-sided stone enclosure wall which pre-dated any of the existing buildings on the site. I do not agree with this conclusion, and believe the stone wall to be very much later. In fact, owing to the exposed position it is dangerous to postulate age here from the condition of any of the stonework.

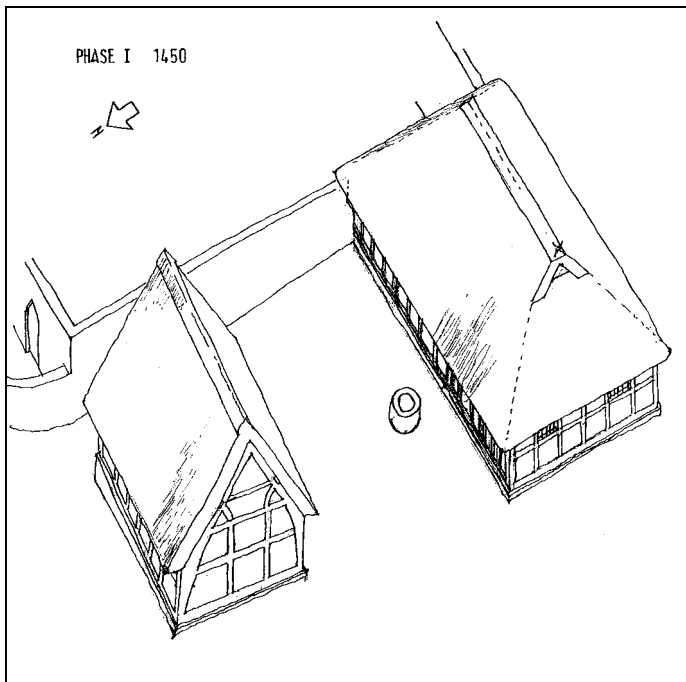


Figure 6 Postulated layout of Giddis in 1450 (Benson)

We both believe that the oldest building *still standing* on the site is the small cruck-framed block at the bottom left (N) of fig. 6. It has been completely skinned in

sandstone, and the remaining parts of the crucks are only obvious from inside. One of the reasons that Mr Benson postulated that the early buildings c1450 at Giddis were separated in this way is that the cruck-framed building does not run exactly parallel to the postulated main hall on the right of the figure, which he supposes to have been replaced by the current main house block. Mr Benson's report contains a number of plans of the house, but for the sake of brevity figs 9, 10 & 11 show his version of the house circa 1650 – the ground plan of the house is similar today ).



Figure 7 12th century style doorway in wall

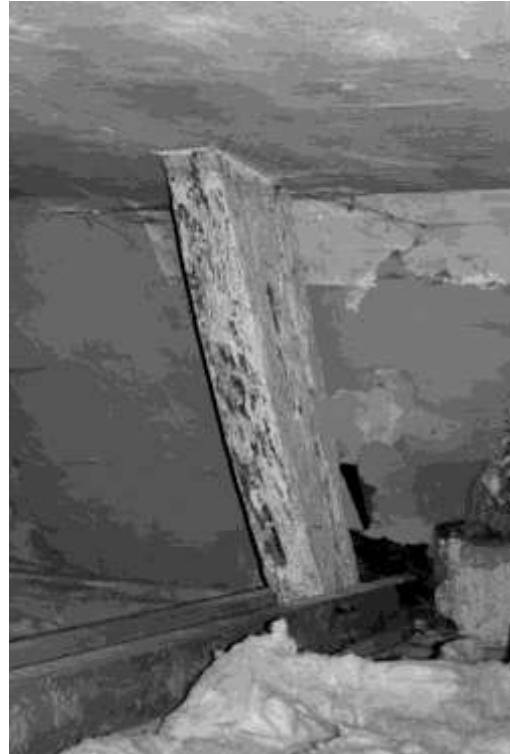


Figure 8 Cruck blade in loft of N building

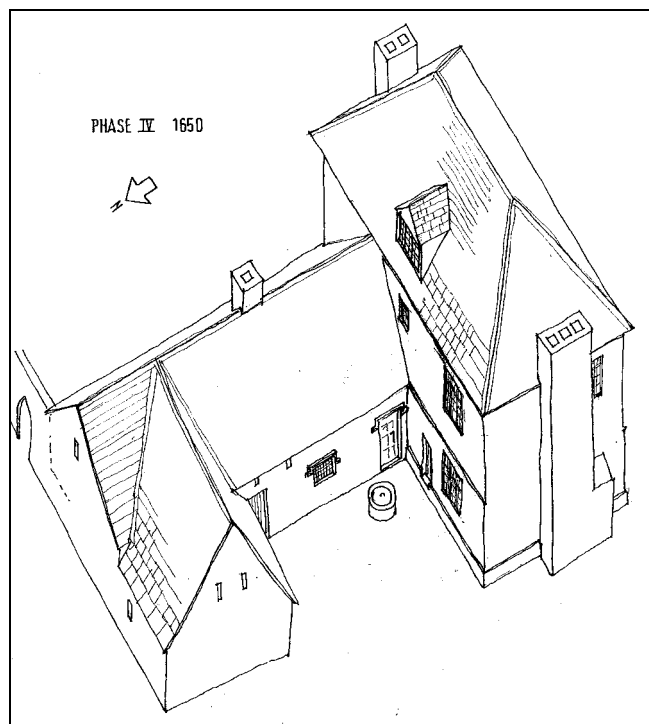


Figure 9 Giddis by 1650 (Benson)

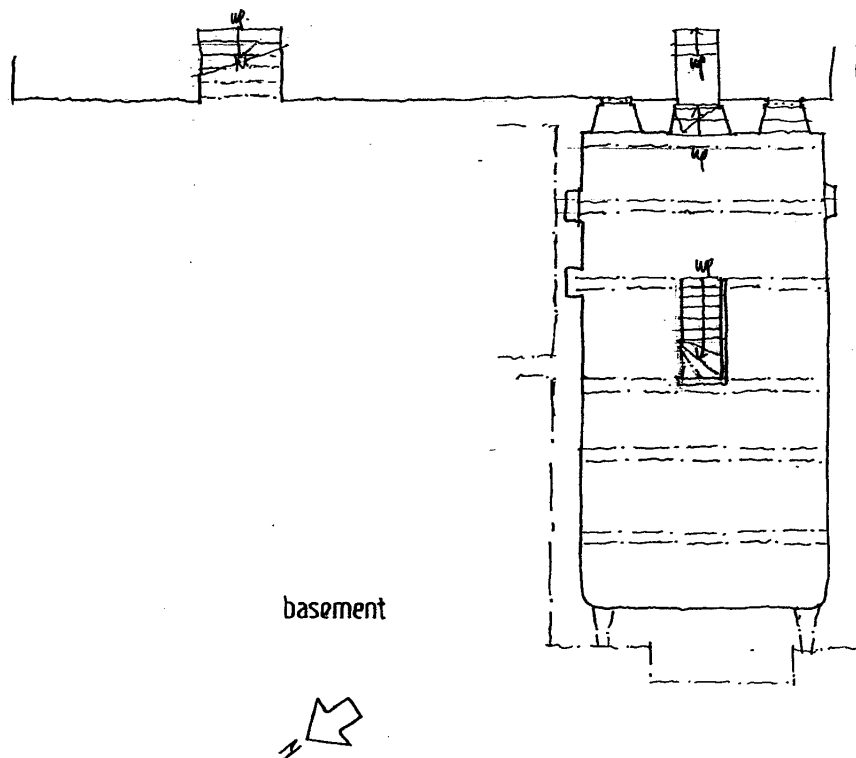
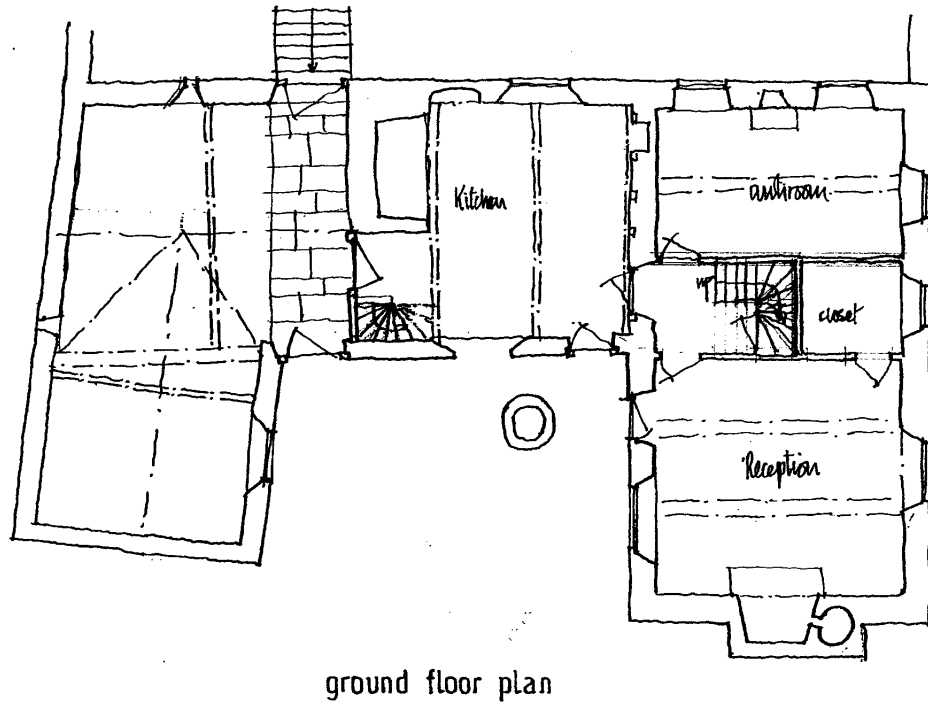
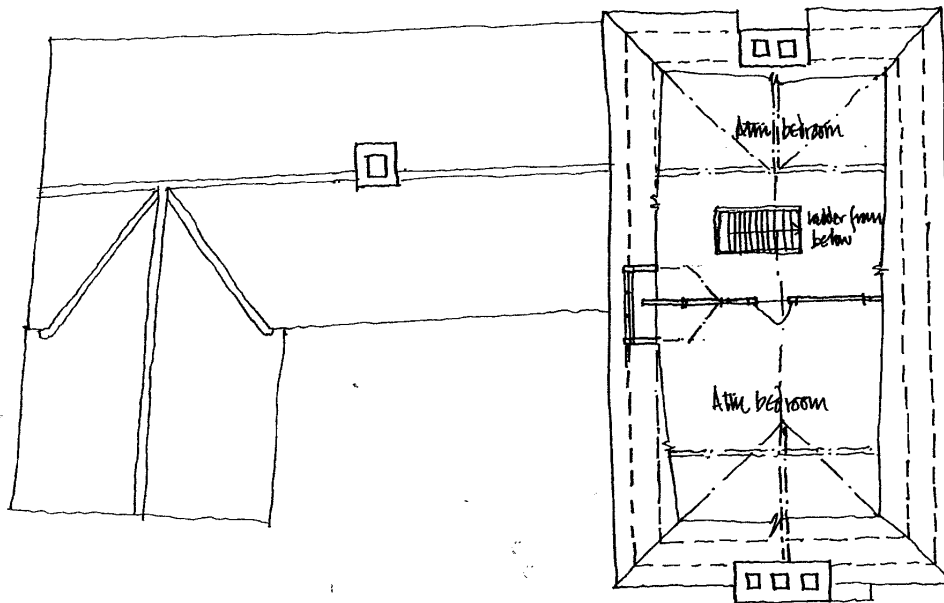
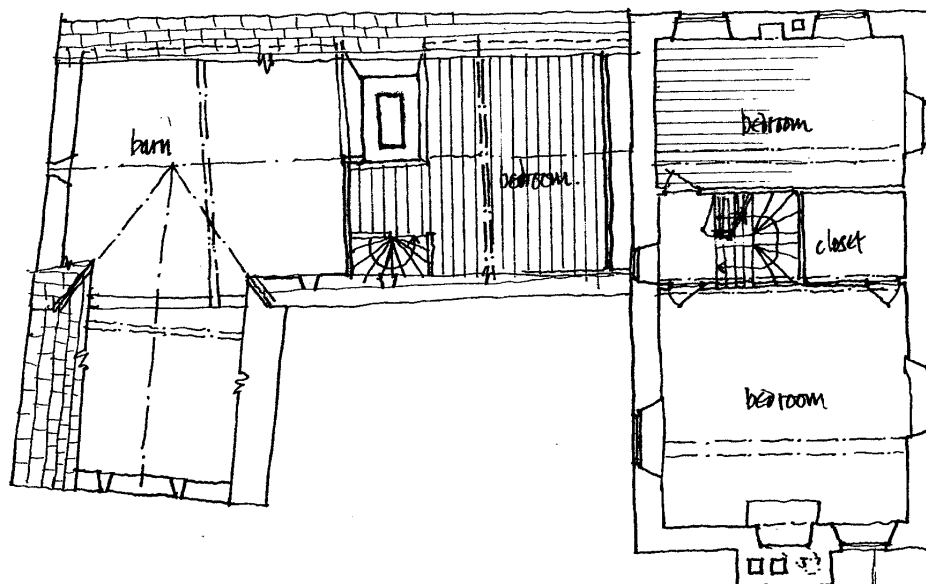


Figure 10 Proposed plan of Giddis in 1650 with joining wing inserted (ground floor & cellar)

PHASE IV 1650



second floor plan



first floor plan



Figure 11 Proposed plan of Giddis in 1650 with joining wing inserted (first & second floor)

There is little evidence today of an earlier open hall which may have been replaced by the current front block which was built circa 1630-40 (RCHM). One would not expect a cellar under such a ground-floor hall – indeed, early maps show a pond in the yard outside which would have made it very damp. However, the central block (kitchen in fig. 10 - built about the mid-16<sup>th</sup> C) lies at an awkward angle to the cruck-framed building, which made for a very difficult join between them, and it's difficult to see why it would have been built at this angle unless it was aligned at right angles to another building where the front block now stands.



Figure 12 Re-used timber in cellar

The 'kitchen' in Fig. 10 must once have been a more important room – on two panels within the timber framing there are wall paintings, and traces on another panel. More may be under plaster.



Figure 13 Wall painting with arms



Figure 14 Wall painting

The figures in Fig. 13 are carrying arms – one a sword, one a longbow. There appears to be some sort of wheel behind them. The right hand figure in Fig. 14 also appears to be carrying a longbow, and appears to be clad in a padded surcoat and hose parti-coloured a reddish-brown and buff. One wonders if the paintings were exposed when Meyrick was at Giddis in 1828. They are under enough later layers for one to be confident they are genuine, otherwise Meyrick or his son Llewelyn could be suspected of concocting them! The fireplace in the kitchen may have been inserted after this section was built, and it's possible that originally it went further N on the other side of the fireplace where there is a cross-passage. The join between this N part and the 'barn' is most awkward. The angle between the two has been filled in, possibly in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, to make a square room. It now has a modern staircase leading to an open first floor, which allows the timber-framing to be seen, which is totally skinned with stone. The door to the cross-passage can be seen in Fig. 15, on the right. The 16<sup>th</sup> C block lies to the left of the door, and the possibly late 17<sup>th</sup> C infill block on the right of the door.

In the 1665 Hearth Tax John White had 2 hearths, and he was assessed at £17.6.9 in the 1663 Militia Assessment – about the same as the vicar for the glebe, and the 4<sup>th</sup> wealthiest inhabitant.



Figure 15 Giddis from E in the 1960s



Figure 16 Corner of NE block showing roof timbers

There are many more puzzling features about the house – removed and moved staircases, re-used timber framing and so on. It has a number of examples of interesting door furniture. The house has never been surveyed by Jim Tonkin, and he will be visiting soon. If members know of similar wall-paintings please let me know.

I would like to thank Mr & Mrs Coggins for their hospitality.

## Appendix – Inventory attached to will of John White of Giddis 1672

A true and perfect Inventory of All and singular the Goods cattle and chattells of John White the elder Late of Gyddys in the parish of Goodrich in the Countie and Diocese of Hereford yeoman Late deceased taken and Apprized the seaventh day of May In the yeare of our Lord God One thousand six hundred seaventy and Toe By Richard Scudamore of Goodrich aforesaid Gent. And Thomas Weare of Goodrich aforesaid Gent. as followeth

	£	s	d
Item The testtrs weareing Apparell prized at	06	13	04
Item the Brasse in the kitchen	06	00	00
Item pewter of all sorts prized at	02	00	00
Item Three Feather Bedds, bolsters coverlidds, curtains, pillows, and other appurtenances thereunto be- longing prized and valued at	10	00	00
Item Foure Bedsteeds [...] and twoe trundle Bedsteeds prized at	07	00	00
Item Twelve paire of Sheetes, Twoe dozen of Napkins: foure Table Clothes, Towells & other linin prized at	08	04	00
Item Three spitts, one Iron dripping pan Three paire of Andirons & cob?irons and other small implmts of household of iron prized and valued t	01	10	00
Item Three table boards, And Three presses or cupboards	03	00	00
Item Three chaires Six benches Stooles and other such Trumpy	01	00	00
Item Twenty Hoggshedes pips and Barrells prized at	05	00	00
Item one Wetting Fat (Vat?)	00	06	00
Item Two great vessells to hold corn and six coffers values and prized at	00	13	04
Item Tenn Flitches of Bacon B.. Cheese and other provisions prized at	05	00	00
Item Twenty Bushells of Mault	02	00	00
Item Wheate Rye Barley and Hay in the Barne prized at	13	05	00
Item Six Oxen prized at	30	00	00
It: Six cowes & three calves prized at	24	00	00
It: Twoe Two yearold Bullocks one heyfer and Foure yearlings	12	00	00
It: Sheep and Lambes prized at	18	00	00
It: Two Waynes and Two plowes Three Harrows Yoakes Chaynes and other implmnts of Husbandry	10	00	00
It: One Must or Syder Mill	02	00	00
It: One horse and one colt	04	15	00
It: Sixteene piggs	05	10	00
It: Wheat Rye Barley and pease now growing on the ground prized at	55	00	00
Sumd	232	16	08

Richard Scudamore  
Thomas Weare prizr

## Little Ash

In the afternoon we visited Little Ash, now in Marstow parish, by kind permission of Megan Williams and Jeremy Jehane. The main purpose of the visit was to survey the farm buildings, but also to see what traces we could find of the earliest buildings on the site.

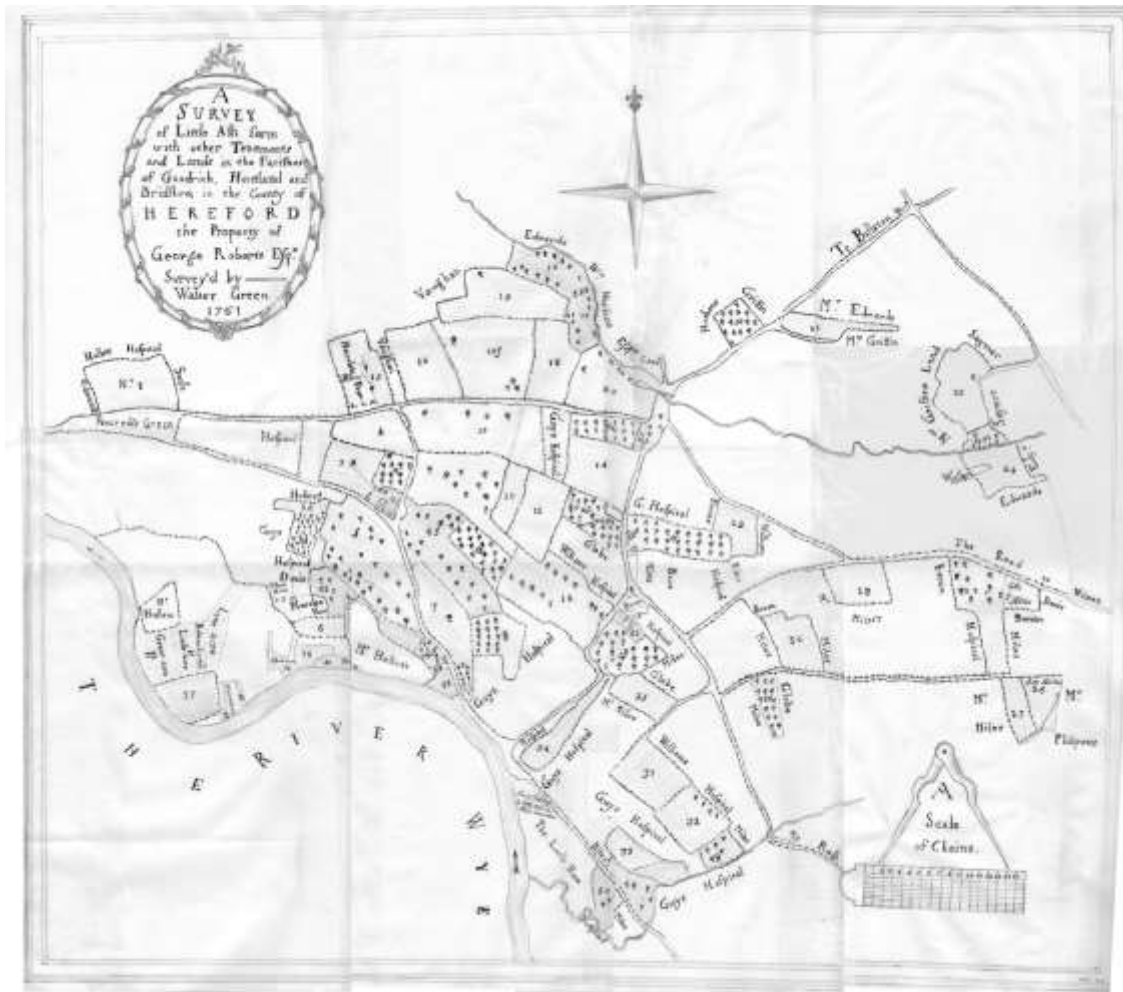


Figure 17 Survey of Little Ash Farm 1761 – the compass on this map is incorrect – Fig. 19 has N to top



Figure 18 Detail - Little Ash farmhouse in 1761

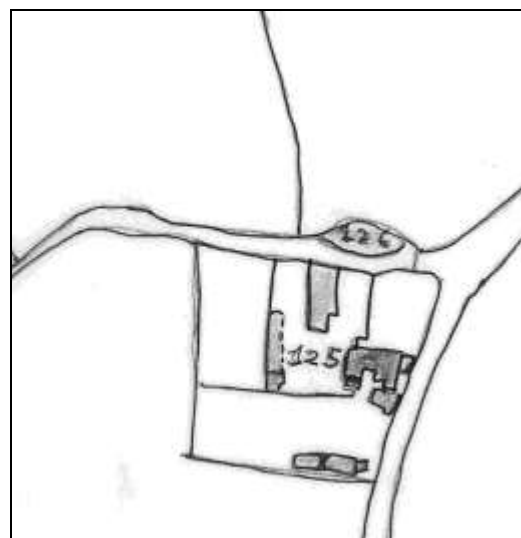


Figure 19 Little Ash from the tithe map 1840. N to top. The house is the building next to the road



The Goodrich Court collection of deeds contains a magnificent survey of the Little Ash estate in 1761 – Figure 17 above. The illustration gives an impression of the style, but as the map is fairly large the detail of Little Ash farm is shown in figure 18.

Robert Asshe witnessed a grant of the manor of Gillow in 1417 and again in 1422. (Nat Lib Wales Mynde 346 (iv) 347 (i))

Reginald Asshe was a mercer of London who sued the Skidmores or Scudamores of Irchyngfeld over a debt from 1486, and this may be where the Asshe family depart from the area. (PRO C1/205/25 C1/225/7)

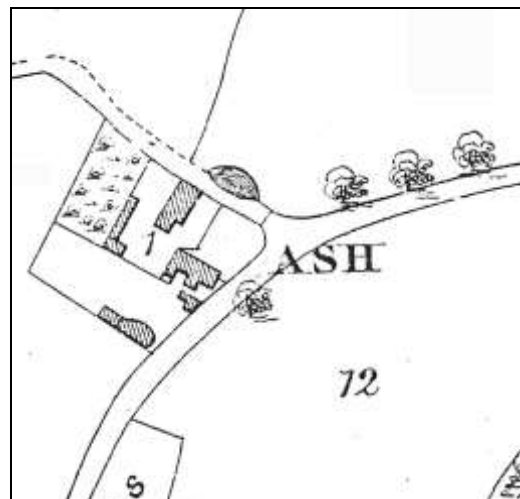


Figure 20 Little Ash from 1869 Sales Particulars for Goodrich court

The name appears at an early date in association with a large meadow lying in a bend of the river Wye below the farm. In a document dated 1454<sup>1</sup> are details of the rentals from Goodrich manor of various fishtraps (?) each called an 'upmouth' along the course of the Wye within the manor. This word 'upmouth' is unknown to Keith Kissack and Cyril Hart, both of whom have considerable knowledge of early documents concerning the river, nor is it in the OED. An annual rental of 13d was charged for fishing in the Wye at 'Ash meadow'. Ash meadow is interesting in its own right, and an appendix about its history is attached to this article.

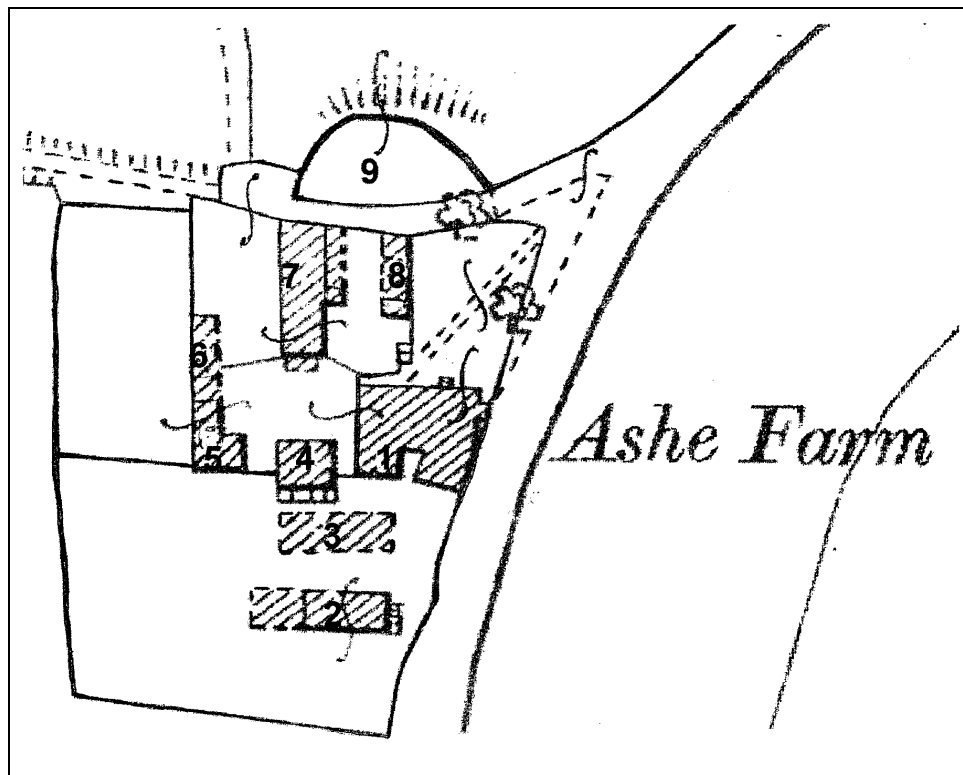


Figure 21 Plan of Ash Farm from 1891 OS with added building numbers. The house is the large squarish block and faces N, with attached barn 1. N to top

<sup>1</sup> HRO O68/II/31

The part of Goodrich parish which includes Little Ash is often described in documents as in the 'township' of Little Ash. It's therefore difficult to know whether someone described as 'of Little Ash' or 'of Ash' lived at the farmhouse itself. Roger Smythe of Little Ashe died in 1574, and apart from his bequests of household items he left his daughters 21 sheep and 'all the rye in my barne..', so was obviously more than a cottager. In the 1663 Militia assessments William Boughan of Ash was assessed at £4.15.0 (not particularly wealthy, and he is probably the William Boughan with 2 hearths.

Originally Little Ash Farm lay alongside the main A40 Ross-Monmouth road, but when the A40 was turned into a dual carriageway it was straightened, and a stretch of the old portion of the A40 remains as a large layby to the W of the dual carriageway. The old A40 passes under the embanked dual carriageway, and re-emerges on the eastern side next to the Wye, where it passes the old ferry inn at Glewston Tenders – itself a miracle of survival. The plan of the farm is essentially the same as it was in 1891. Building 3 has been completely demolished, and building 5 is ruinous. There are modern farm buildings to the NW of building 7 & SW of building 5.



Figure 22 Front of house from NW



Figure 23 Staircase turret at rear

The 'entrance front' of the house block now faces due N, and has a complex history rather difficult to disentangle. It consists of a symmetrical block to the E, on the left in Fig. 22, and a lower block to the W, which projects forward about 25cm from the plane of the E building. At the back this W block projects backwards, the rear S end apparently a barn. The rear wing behind the main E block is taken up with service buildings. A pentice roof spans part of the open courtyard between the rear wings, joining to a handsome brick-built turret (Fig. 23) which carries a staircase leading from cellars to upper floors of the E block.

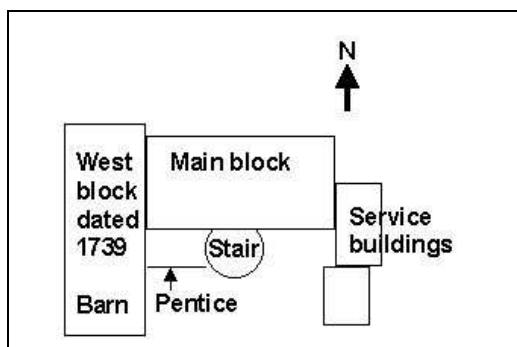


Figure 24 Simplified plan of Little Ash farmhouse (not to scale)

The west block of the house bears a date stone over the door on the north front

**George Roberts**  
**Nov 17 1739**

but there are a number of odd things about this north façade. An inspection of the join between the west block and the main block would seem to indicate that the west block predates the main block, and the look of the west block

supports the feeling that it is earlier than 1739. The date stone is set above an entrance into the lower, less prestigious west block, so perhaps it is not in its original location. Additionally, the façade of the main block is not of one build as it appears at first glance.



Figure 25 Front door on N facade

There is a definite join immediately to the left of the front door – this is not just a consequence of lighter repointing. Also, there seems to be the ghost of earlier, squarer windows to the right of the front door. The 1761 map shows the block to the left of the front door projecting forward some distance. The conclusion must be that the north façade of the main block has been re-arranged, and the date stone possibly moved to be replaced by the rustication now around the front door, with the neat light above. The stones making up the façade of the basement seem to be different from the stones above, and could be relics of an earlier build, with new apertures cut for a door and window. The cellar itself has been brick-vaulted and no earlier information was gained from it. On the E side next to the road is an attached stone-built privy with the seats still in place.

The interior of the main house has some pretty features:



Figure 26 Early 19thC fireplace



Figure 27 Foot of circular staircase

The roof of the main block is difficult to access, and the lower, possibly older, block has had its roof altered, so no extra information was gained at our visit.

Referring to Fig 21, the various farm buildings were survey and numbered. There are ancillary domestic buildings lying in a wing to the south of the main building, alongside the road on the east. These seem to have been made from earlier buildings shown on the 1761 map and later.



Figure 28 Window at ground level



Figure 29 Inserted door in SW barn

Barn 1 is attached to the main farmhouse as a wing on the south, but to the west side. From the evidence of filled-in doorways and windows it was once used as living accommodation. The bottom of these features lie below the level of the yard at the back of the house (see Fig.28), which is level with the main E front block. A door at this level has been inserted which leads to a steep flight of steps down to the lower W building (Fig. 29). The door is not new, and this is further evidence that this block may be older. The southern end of block 1 was certainly a barn, as can be seen in Fig. 30.



Figure 30 S end of barn 1



Figure 31 W side of barn 1

Farm building 2 is a very handsome stone built granary: a building in that position is shown *outside* the curtilage on the 1761 map, but inside from then on. (Fig 32)



Figure 32 Granary

The first floor is reached by an external staircase with a kennel underneath, and the windows are louvred. There are 4 animal stalls on the ground floor. There is a basement with an inserted support for the floor above, possibly for heavy machinery which rested there.



Figure 33 Support in basement of granary



Figure 34 Piggery

To the W of the granary is an open-fronted shed which has a modern roof – it may be a replacement for the building originally shown on the earlier maps, but in any case has been altered.

Building 3 has disappeared; building 4 is a stone-built piggery with 4 separate compartments on one side, and stables on the other facing into the farmyard.(Fig. 34). Buildings 5 & 6 are ruinous.



Figure 35 Inside N wall of S part of building 7



Figure 36 Inside E wall of N part of building 7

Building 7 is a two-part barn, with an open-front lean-to on the E side of the N part. The S part was evidently built first, as the N wall has the typical air vents designed to be on an outside wall (Fig. 35). A large opening has been cut in this wall. The outside lean-to has rounded stone-built columns supporting the roof. (Fig. 37)

Some of the walls of building 8 survive, and at least part of it was open-fronted though it has been altered.



Figure 37 Lean-to on building 7

Fig. 38 shows the neat stone-walling around the pond labelled 9 on the plan. From the maps there has been a pond here since before 1761. It is spring-fed.



Figure 38 Stone walling of pond

At one time the road from the old A40 running to the S of the pond carried on westwards up the slope to the road between Pencraig and Glewstone.

## Appendix 1: 1761 Terrier Little Ash estate

Arable		St.	Ac	
1	The Six Acres adjoining Penkreec green	1	2	36
2	The two acres adjoining Well? Close	1	3	38
3	Well? Close this and the above Close would be best together	2	3	36
4	Upper Field adjoining the above Do	2	3	25
5	The Hill which have been a Barn thereon and several other parcels now layd together sum part Orchard	8	0	38
6	Farther Wheatham	1	0	5
7	Hacker hill or Banut tree close about 1 acre orchard	4	1	7
8	Slad Orchard late Vaughans the one half Arable	2	2	0
9	Ash wall? And Alice Hay & part of the Jacketts	6	0	32
10	Pease Close Adjoyning the above Do	1	2	23
11	Squire piece adjoining the above Do	3	2	32
12	Lower Ash Field or the Flax Close	6	1	3
13	New Tindings and part of the Jacketts	8	2	31
14	Upper Ash Field	4	3	7
15	The Acre in the Witches	0	3	24
16	Farther Brincourt	4	0	32
17	Brincourt which have been a house thereon	7	1	8
18	Madge Lands	3	3	26
19	The Hare Acre	5	0	24
20	Uper Mill Close & the sallens now together	5	0	36
21	Blacknorle in the parish of Hentland	1	3	22
22	The Vargates the One half in Hentland the other in Bridstow	3	1	38
23	The Ors adjoining the above Do and Pinstone	0	2	11
24	Pinstone in the parish of Hentland	2	2	35
25	The Doles near to Coldwell Fields	5	2	5
26	Uper Coldwell adjoining Mr Philpotts Land & Coldwell field	1	2	33
67	Lower Coldwell field	0	0	23
27	Hither Coldwell field	1	1	39
28	Greenway	2	1	13
29	Brook piece	1	3	16
30	Lukes field	3	0	23
31	Hill field	3	2	4
32	New Leasow	3	0	33
33	The Longlands	2	2	24
34	The well close late Vaughans	1	3	33
35	Seysell adjoining the Orchard at the Lower House	2	0	6
Arable Total		124	3	31
Meadow and Pastures				
36	The piece of Rough Pasture on the top of Ash Wood	0	2	27
37	Little Ash Meadow	2	2	20
38	The Broad Acre by Wye in great Ash Meadow	0	2	27
39	At the Hither end of Ash Meadow late Ruffords	0	0	17
40	Leying between the Above two parcels wch ye one half belongs to Ash Estate	0	1	2
41	Jn. Mr Hullets Meadow adjoining to Great Ash Meadow	0	0	6
42	Hither Wheatham Meadow	1	2	17
43	The Foxholes Pasture	0	3	17
44	The Plock adjoining the River Wye now a timber yard	0	1	39
45	The Slad and Alice Hay now laid together	6	1	0
46	Lower Mill Close Pasture	3	1	5
47	Adjoyning Do pasture	1	2	36
48	Hollywell Pasture	1	0	20



49	Burge Acre Pasture	1	3	23
50	Rudges Meadow	1	3	5
	Meadow Total	23	1	21
	<b>Orchard</b>			
51	The Orchard on the west side of ye Fould at Little Ash	1	2	10
52	The Little Do adjoyning the Tenement near Wye	0	2	13
53	The Slad Orchard or Alice Hay	2	0	23
54	Barn Hay orchard adjoyning Mr Powell's Land including the fould	1	2	17
55	Kedistone Orchard in the parish of Hentland	1	1	23
56	Bradlyntree Orchard	1	1	32
57	The Orchard behind Havards house Do on the west side thereof called the piece over the way now used with Havards orchard	3	1	13
58	The Orchard adjoyning the Lower House	2	3	30
	Orchard Total	15	0	1
	<b>Gardens and folds &amp; Wast Lands &amp;c</b>			
59	The Grove of Oaks	1	1	25
60	Little Ash Garden and Foulds	0	3	10
61	Gardens and Fold at the Uper House late Havards	0	1	3
62	Garden Fold & plack adjoyning the Barn at ye Lower House	0	2	10
63	Garden & Tenement now in the possession of Widow Evans	0	0	23
66	The Sheeps Cott and fould near the Old Chapel	0	0	2
	Total	3	0	33
64	The Orchard adjoyning Uper Ash field now in the possession of Stephen Weale	2	0	4
65	The house Garden & Shop & the bach lying before it	0	1	31
	Total	2	1	35
	The Several sums now added together	124	3	31

Note that 66 refers to Glewston chapel, and unfortunately this was not put on the map.

## Appendix 2: Ash Meadow

Ash Meadow lies to the north-east of Pencraig, delineated on one side by a curve in the Wye, and on the other by the steep, wooded ground rising towards Pencraig. Although it is now used as normal grazing by the tenant of Ashe farm, in the past it was probably managed in exactly the same way as Lugg Meadow. The meadow would be cleared of grazing animals from Candlemas (February 2<sup>nd</sup>); in June or July hay would be cut for or by different owners of parcels of the land; on August 1<sup>st</sup> (Lammas Day) commoners' animals were allowed back on to the meadow to graze until flooding forced them off. There is a full description of the system in *The History & Natural History of Lugg Meadow* by Anthea Brian and Peter Thomson.<sup>1</sup>



Figure 39 Detail from 1832 map



Figure 40 Little Ash Meadow from map of the Pencraig estate in 1844. Note the faint marking of squares on the meadow.

The meadow has a curious feature which is still apparent today in spite of considerable infilling, and that is the channel which almost separates off an 'island' from the main bulk of Ash Meadow. It is quite clear in the 1832 map, where the towpath runs along the side of the inlet. The channel has vanished, but there is still a dip in the ground, and rushes grow along its track. It is possibly an entirely natural feature, as the river is still depositing pebbles on the outer bank of the island. In *The History & Natural History of the Lugg Meadow*, ditches or channels which may be the result of ancient parish boundaries on the Lugg meadow are described, and there is speculation that the river was originally much more braided than it is now, giving rise to 'eyots' of meadow. In figure 40 the straight line of the Marstow-Goodrich parish boundary in 1844 can be seen running diagonally from middle left and then making a turn down to the Wye. The boundary is unnaturally straight (as can be seen from figure 2) and pays no regard to field boundaries – it's possible, therefore, that an a more sinuous earlier boundary existed.

In the summer months the channel seems to have been grassed over, as there is no trace of it on the 1761 plan of Little Ash estate. It is possible that the disastrous flood of the Wye in 1795 opened up the channel again. One could speculate that at some time an artificial channel was made across the bend of the river to accommodate a fishery. The main fishery in Goodrich Manor before the construction of New Weir was Old Weir, just upstream from Huntsham bridge, which is probably the fishery mentioned in Domesday.

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<sup>1</sup> Published by Anthea Brian & Logaston Press 2002

However, there is a reference<sup>11</sup> in the Patent Rolls in 1337 where Richard & Elizabeth Talbot enfeoff Thomas Talebot of the castle & manor of Goodrich except '....a fishery in the river Weye from the new dyke to the wood of Bekenore [Bicknor] within the manor...'. The river fishing of Goodrich has always been split in two by length of Welsh Bicknor riverbank between Whittal brook downstream from Kerne Bridge, and the parish (and former county boundary) at the southernmost end of Coppet Hill.

Ash Meadow features in many deeds of properties in Goodrich manor, as most of the older properties seem to have had rights to one or more small acreages there, even though some of them lie over the other side of the parish. For example, in **January 1536** Elbryght Gardyner of Goodreryche leased a meese place called Brygwynne [Bryngwyn] along with ½ a acre of meadow ground in 'Hasshe Medo'.<sup>12</sup>

The position is complicated by the fact that the terms 'Ash meadow', 'Little Ash Meadow' and 'Great Ash Meadow' are used. For example, in 1715 William Leech the younger of Goodrich bought from James, the Earl of Carnarvon of Wilton '3 Parcels of meadow ground, ¾ acre in common meadow called Great Ash Meadow. Moving and changeable as falleth out by Lott.'<sup>13</sup> From the Goodrich Court collection of deeds there is information on how these small open allotments of meadow were managed. One<sup>14</sup> gives the Ash Meadow custom for Giddis:

'The year 1730 – Had all the moon acre, half the Lyne acre  
1731 – had all the line acre, half the kee acre  
1732 Had all the moon acre, half the brick acre  
1733 Had all the brick acre, half the kee acre  
then begin above and round again  
Half the hatched area every year wch never moves. There is half one of the half acres below the Ditch every year, one year half that next the ditch, and the next year half that from the Ditch, and so changes backwards and forwards.'

The map which went with this document is missing, but note the mention of the 'Ditch'. In 1773 Elizabeth Tamplin bought from Thomas Wood a number of properties, including '2 quarters of meadow in the occupation of Edwards, in the common meadow called Great Ash meadow. 1 moving yearly sometimes in the Britch acre sometimes in the Bye acre sometimes in the Lyne acre, the other quarter being in the Lake in like manner moveable'.<sup>15</sup> Almost contemporary with this document is one in 1770 recording an enquiry<sup>16</sup> into the customs of Ash Meadow:

Edwd Etheridge first knew Ash Common Meadow about 24 or 25 years ago: he says 'there are 4 acres changeable yearly & divided in the following manner & order:

The Britch Acre	
Mr Roberts's Tent (tenant)	¾
John Davis	¼
The Moon Acre	
Mr Dew of Giddis	the whole
The acre behind the Hawthorn	
Mr Dew of Giddis	½
Mr Roberts's Tent	¼
John Davis	¼
The Line Acre	
Tho. Miles of Glewston	3/8
Mrs Tamplin	2/8
Wm. Watkins of Glewston	1/8
Wm. Vaughan of Pencreck	1/8
Mrs Halletts tent Edwards	1/8

<sup>11</sup> Cal. Pat. Rolls. 12 March 1337

<sup>12</sup> HRO M25/2

<sup>13</sup> HRO AW28/13/23

<sup>14</sup> RTR 58

<sup>15</sup> RTR 36

<sup>16</sup> RTR 182

Those whose shares are in the Britch acre this year go into the Moon acre next year. Into the acre behind the Hawthorn next & into the Line acre next And then into the Britch acre again.'

From these documents it would appear that although the owners of the 'quarters' of meadow knew in which named acre their quarter would lie in any one year, the actual position in the named acre was determined by lot.

In July 17 1806 there was a sale of property formerly in the Weare family.<sup>17</sup> Lot 28 was 'a small piece of meadow land in Great Ash Meadow in the corner, at the east end of Little Ash meadow'; lot 29 was 'a small piece of meadow land in Great Ash meadow in the corner at the west end of Little Ash Meadow. NB the fourth cock of hay is taken by custom from this lot.'

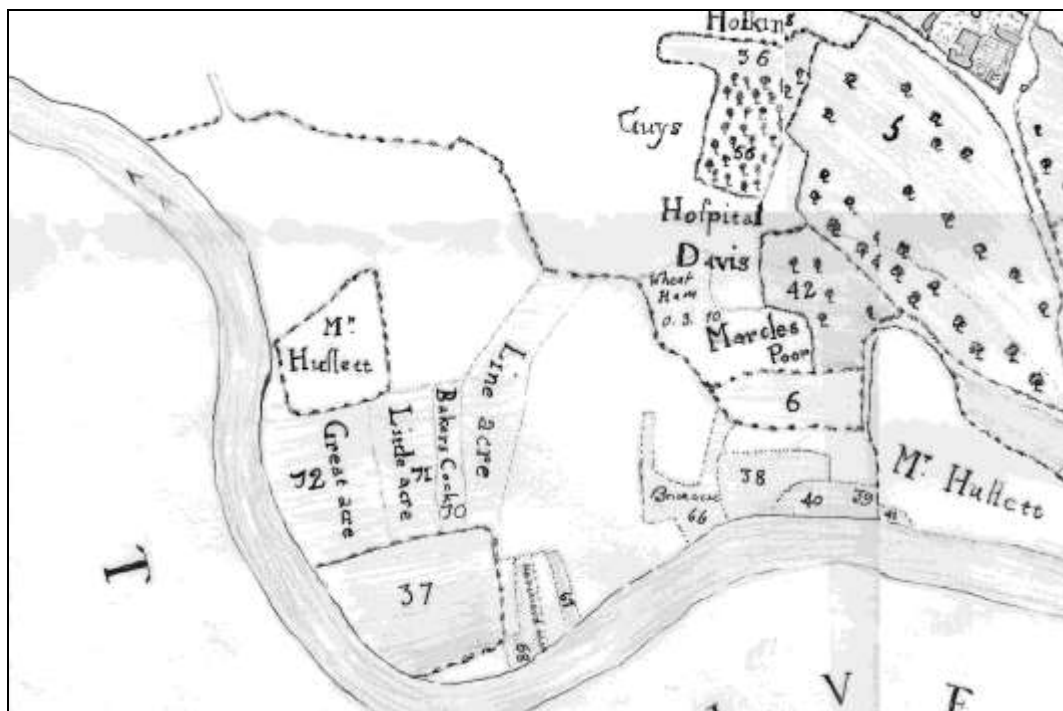


Figure 41 Detail from 1761 map of Little Ash

The 1761 Little Ash estate has a written terrier to accompany the map, and from this we can find on the map:

- 37 Little Ash Meadow
- 38 The Broad Acre by Wye in Great Ash Meadow
- 39 At the Hither end of Ash Meadow late Ruffords
- 40 Lying between the Above two parcels wch ye one half belongs to Ash Estate
- 41 Jn. Mr Hulletts Meadow adjoining to Great Ash Meadow
- 50 Ridges Meadow

Note that some figures are later additions. At the time of the tithe map, no 37 on the map above was part of 'Ash Common Meadow', and 'Little Ash Meadow' was 'Mr Hulletts' above no. 37. Perhaps one could say that 'Little Ash Meadow' was the part of the Ash Meadow which belonged to Little Ash Farm'. The conclusion must be that the system of management of the Ash meadows is ancient, and linked to the manorial (or earlier) rights of the different homesteads within Goodrich.

<sup>17</sup> Nat Lib Wales Leonard Twiston Davies (2) 3845

## **The Plowden 'Herse' by Ian Mortimer**

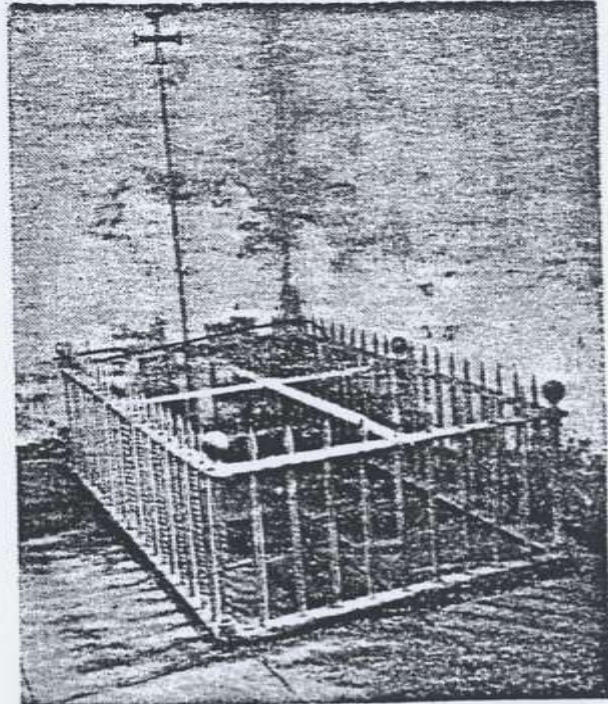
On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 1922, the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club visited Plowden Hall, Lydbury North Church and the district around More, in Shropshire. At Lydbury North Church they inspected the private chapel of the Plowden family which, in the words of their report, "Still retains its medieval altar *in situ*. There is a curious iron framework in this chapel, probably used, on the occasion of the celebration of the obits of the family, as a hearse for supporting the pall" <sup>(1)</sup>.

Described by Cranage, as a large iron frame, dating probably from the 17<sup>th</sup> century; it is 7ft long by 4ft 2ins broad and 2ft 1in high. In the middle of one end is a 7ft high cross. The cresting all round the frame takes the form of balls and spikes <sup>(2)</sup>.

Rather than being a 'hearse' for the support of a pall, the photograph and description would suggest that it was more probably used as a 'mort-safe', - a fence to a grave after interment.

In the 1980s, the 'Herse' was given to the Acton Scott Museum but enquires in 2003 failed to reveal its present whereabouts.

I am therefore grateful to Mr. Tony Lewis, churchwarden of Lydbury North Church, for tracing the photograph and related description.



In the Plowden Chapel — a "Herse" for covering graves.

(1) *Trans. Woolhope Natur. Fld. Club*, vol. for 1921, 22 and 23, part II page LXIV.

(2) *Churches of Shropshire*, D.H.S. Cranage, 1901. page 407.

**Compiled by Ian Mortimer of Yarpole, Hfds. 2003**

## Field Meeting to Garway by George Wells

Four members met in front of the Moon Inn at Garway on the morning of 19 August 2004 for a half-day field meeting led by George Wells. The day was warm but cloudy with intermittent showers.



Figure 1 Moon Inn, Garway

At the date of the meeting, the inn (SO E46496 N22713) had been closed for some months, and had failed to sell at auction. As can be seen from the sign, the inn has had a number of previous names. It was called “Webb’s” in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century after owner Henry Webb. In the 1880’s it became “The Full Moon” and “Garway Inn” in the 1890s. By the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century a further change took place to “The Garway Moon”, being a combination of “Full Moon” and “Garway Inn”. Facing south over the open common, it enjoys the moon’s nightly traverse to the full. The village does not have street lighting, and ‘moonshine’ has probably helped customers find their way home, as it did for “The Lunar Society”. I understand that prior to D-Day, vehicles and tanks assembled on the common.

Garway belonged to Archenfield before 1066. There were 4 carucates of land there, which in 1086 were held by Hermon. 3 smallholders had 3 oxen. The name ‘Garway’ appears in early documents in a number of forms: Lann Guorboe (c615); Garou (1137/8); Garwi (1160-70); Garewi (1185-9); Langarewi (1189 or 1199); Garwy (1230); Gareway (1428) – just a sample. The name is thought to derive from a priest, Guoroue, installed there c615 according to the Llandaff Charter no. 162a.

As can be seen in Figure 2, the name was ‘Garaway’ when a parish boundary marker was set out in 1720.



Figure 2 Parish Stone (G Wells)

Garway Common is large, and unlike many other commons part of the ground seems to be relatively flat and suitable for agriculture. It is high - 560 ft above sea level, and exposed. As with many other Herefordshire commons, there has been encroachment settlement around the edge and on some island sites, which has obscured the original outline. The common originally belonged to the manor of Garway. In 1858 Lord Southwell was lord of the manor and chief landowner. By 1890 there was a "Southwell Arms Inn" at Broad Oak (a hamlet of the parish), and the manor was then held by Ambrose More O'Ferrall Esq., who built Glan Monnow House in 1881.

To the SW of the common, there is a field adjoining the original common boundary which slopes down in the direction of Garway church, ending in a very long 'funnel' typical of grazing commons. Most probably this was originally part of the common. Henry II made a grant to the Knights Templar c1187, when they were given some 2000 acres to assart in Llangarwy. This would imply extensive woodlands at that time.



Figure 3 Tapering field probably part of Garway Common. The church roof is on the right

The members looked at a number of interesting cottages. At SO E46583 N22699 the cottage was at one time the post office, and there is still a VR post box in the wall outside.



Figure 4 VR Postbox



Figure 5 Yew Tree Cottage

The small building to the right was used as the doctor's surgery on his weekly visits until relatively recently. Yew Tree Cottage (SO E46711 N22730) is an island site completely surrounded by the common. It is probably named from Yew Tree Farm nearby.

Yew Tree Farm (SO E46900 N22776) has an elegant but much altered 17<sup>th</sup> C farmhouse with interesting outbuildings.



Figure 6 Yew Tree farmhouse

Yew Tree Farm is run by the Jones family, and their Kelsmor herd of pedigree Guernseys provides high-quality milk. Sadly the farm lost its previous fine herd during the last F&M out-break. The farmhouse is believed to date back to 1664. The N parish boundary lies a few tens of yards away, with Broad Oak a mile to the east. Close by Ash Cottage (SO E46849 N22542) shows some timber framing but has been much altered over time.

The road facing Yew Tree Farm leads to St. Weonards, passing Glasshouse Farm (an early glass-making site), Treago Castle and Treago Farm which has a massive tithe barn dated 1664 on a sundial.

Across the Pontrilas-Monmouth road is Newlands Farm, no longer active as a farm, and with modern gothicised windows. The previous farmer had a small light aircraft on show, which he used to fly.



Figure 7 Clock at Yew Tree Farm



The road leading across the common from Broad Oak to Kentchurch was turnpiked in 1833, and there are still cast-iron mileposts remaining (SO E46933 N22647). From there members returned to the inn. On the way we passed a large pond bisected by the road, but were unable to visit the site of the well nearby as this has now been totally lost to vegetation. At one time the good grass on the common was grazed by Hereford cattle belonging to Newlands Farm, but now it is mowed.

There was a cricket pitch opposite the Moon, but this is no longer used. From the Moon members took to a car for the rest of the visit.

The next port of call was a house now called 'Watercolours', but for many years called the 'Black House', as it is still known locally (SO E45760 E22652;SMR 6263). RCHM considers that it dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> C. It seems that the Black House is yet another encroachment property, for next to it is a small triangle (or gore) of common land, and this joins on to the field with the 'funnel' mentioned above. At one time it was a beer and cider house called the Boot.



Figure 8 Milepost with leader George Wells



Figure 9 Black House



Figure 10 Cheese press base at Black House



Figure 11 Cross base near Black House

Lying on the gore of land, which marks an old crossroads, is what appears to be the base socket of a cross (SO E45773 22676; SMR 7366 ). It was photographed by Alfred Watkins for his book on the crosses of Herefordshire, and appears not to have changed since – fortunately it is protected by trees and out of sight of the road. Watkins' photograph does not show any further steps to the base, and it is possible that the socket held a wooden shaft – the socket hole is about 8 to 10" deep. It could be the base of a gibbet, but more likely a sanctuary cross as they were often erected to mark the boundaries of ecclesiastical liberty, and the Knights Hospitaller of St. John enjoyed a particularly high reputation in this respect. In 1547 in the reign of King Edward VI orders were given for the destruction of preaching crosses. I fancy that the cross may have been a stopping place for bodies being carried for burial at the church from the upper village, and from White Rocks – a tiring business.

Although the ARS has visited Garway Church before, we took the opportunity to look at the various carvings embedded in the outside walls of the church. (SMR for church: 1064, 7160, 33722, 33791. HAN60, 62)

The first item we passed on entering the churchyard was the base of another cross, also described by Watkins (SO E45471 N22496). The SMR for the cross is 7365, but it is rather confusing because it is also the SMR for the other cross base in the churchyard (see below), and it is not clear that 2 crosses are referred to in the entry. The sundial referred to in the SMR entry has been stolen. It is possible that the shaft belonged to the wayside cross above, but it is set in an apparently old base in the churchyard.



Figure 12 Cross base & shaft in Garway churchyard

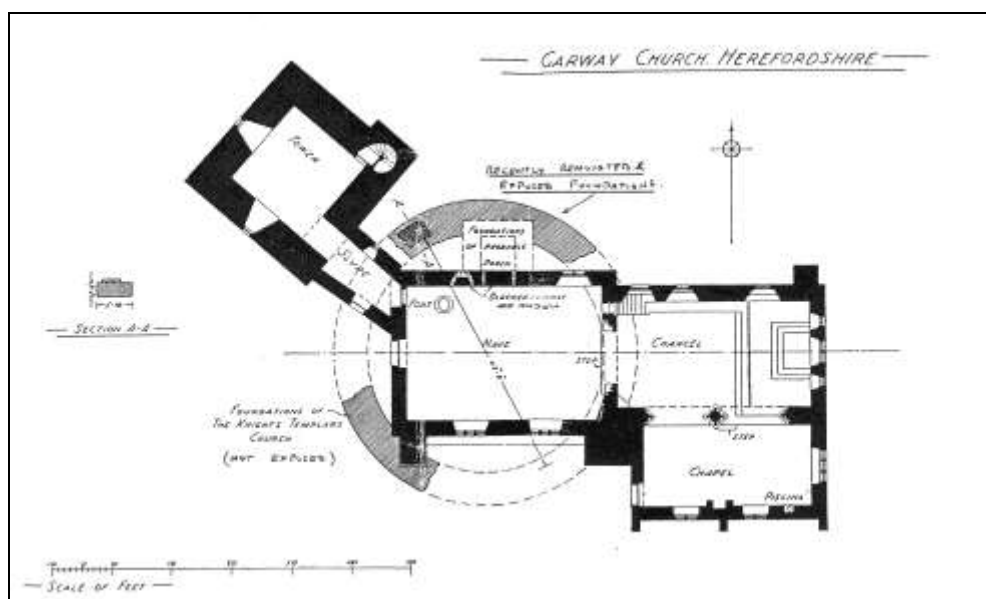


Figure 13 Plan of Garway Church



Figure 14 Cross base at SO E45517 N22445



Figure 15 Blocked doorway in N wall

The other cross base has been used as the foot of a memorial (SO E45517 N22445). The memorial is to Elizabeth Minors, the wife of the vicar. She died in 1897. The upper part of the cross carries the emblem adopted by the Hospitallers – the Agnus Dei or 'Lamb of God'. There is a stone relief high above the chapel door – see later photograph.

There have been a number of articles on the church at Garway, though there does not seem to have been a comprehensive architectural history. The church was restored in 1895, and it may be that at that time the numerous carved stones set into the outside wall of the main building were moved from the inside of the church, or were dug up. Certainly the good condition of many of them would preclude their having been exposed to the elements for many centuries. There is a suspicion that some of them are rather more modern, and if there is any documentary evidence of this it would be useful to know.

The tower walls are very thick at the lower levels, and there is evidence in the stonework that it has been raised at least once. Curiously, the south corner is neatly chamfered on one of these different levels. The base has a pronounced batter.

As well as the foundation of the earlier circular church, the wall of the main part of the church shows a number of scars of earlier windows and doorways. The doorway shown in the last photo was blocked before the steps to the rood screen were built i.e. at an early date. It is clear that there has been a considerable build up of earth on the N side of the main building. Only by scrambling down into the ditch next to the wall can a benchmark be seen carved into the wall. Incidentally, members were amazed at the number of benchmarks scattered on buildings, walls and odd stones along the main road through Garway.



Figure 16 'Hand of God' on N wall



Figure 17 Templar Cross on E wall



Figure 18 Cross and Symbol on S wall

Figure 16 shows the 'Dextra Dei' – 'the right-hand of God'. Within a wheel-cross on the N wall inside the church will be found the same symbol but pointing upwards. This is another indication that the stone outside has been moved, and inserted upside down.



Figure 19 Lettering on S wall

**Can anyone name the animal shown in Figure 21?**

Figure 17 shows a Patriarchal Cross-Crosslet, very similar to the Primatial consecration cross (1121) near the N door at Tewkesbury Abbey.



Figure 20 Lamb & flag on W wall



Figure 21 Dragon-like bird on W wall

We also looked at a well in the NE corner of the churchyard (SOE45544 N22486; SMR 9956). Water used to flow out of a hole in the wall above a stone-lined basin, which has small steps leading into it. Unfortunately the spring channel which used to feed it has been diverted, and it becomes easily overgrown. The photo below was taken in January 2000. The niche on the left was possibly used for a light or a vessel. The well was used into the 1940's.



Figure 22 Well at Garway churchyard

Members then went to look at the Malt Shovel, which lies up the hill from church, now The Old Vicarage. (SO E45251 22557) The Malt Shovel now consists of three blocks lying parallel to the road, but it seems likely that the middle block is an infill between the original cottage and the original outbuilding. This outbuilding has some interesting carvings inset into the W wall. Above the doorway in a carving of what appears to be an angel in a carriage. A date stone of I\*M 1839 to the left of the door may not be in its original location. The house was called the "Malthouse Inn" in 1840 when it was occupied by John Morgan referred to in the date stone. It became the Malt Shovel in 1857.



Figure 23 Malt Shovel doorway



Figure 24 Detail of angel in carriage

There is a tombstone near the S side of the church which gives more details of the Morgan family of the Malthouse – given in an Appendix.



Figure 25 Angel to left of date stone

The angel in the carriage, which could be contemporary with the date stone, seems to have been based on another stone embedded in the wall to the left of the date stone. This is more worn, and definitely shows an angel with two wings and a medieval trumpet. Could this be the Archangel Gabriel? It seems very likely that this angel came from Garway church. If anyone has seen similar stones or could add any information I would be very grateful.

The vicar of Garway (Rev. J. P. Richards) lived at the house in 1900 while the new vicarage was being built.

There is another interesting stone with a woven grid pattern high on the E side of the building currently obscured by vegetation.

On the north side of the barn is an unusual stone trough. Made from one piece of stone, it has a flat back, but the front is curved. The trough itself varies in depth from 8 inches in the middle to nothing at the outer edges.

There are scars of metal uprights along the front of the trough, so maybe it was used as an easily-cleaned animal feeder. There is the possibility that it was used for quenching - John Morgan was, amongst other things, an agricultural implement maker. A wheel could have been rolled along the trough, but there is no trace of a support on the top of the trough at the rear.





Figure 26 Trough at the Malt Shovel

After looking around the interesting garden at Chapel Cottage (George's home), we drove around the parish looking at various landmarks (and more benchmarks). We passed Lodge Farm and Demesne Farm. In 1890-1905 the farmer in the latter was John Williams, listed in Kelly's Directory as a farmer & hop grower. The hedgerows around are still full of wild hops. We then passed Trewadoc Farm, Upper and Lower Towns and Lower Common, possibly another hamlet forming part of the parish. Finally we returned to the Moon via Court Farm, which has late Elizabethan connections and lovely old stone barns, one dated 1779; the entrance to Glan Monnow and Oaklands Farm.

#### Appendix 1 – Interesting Garway Field Names

There are some field names in Welsh e.g. 'Cae Prosser' which means 'Prosser's field', and 'Coed Lanc' which means 'Young Man's Wood'.

Workhouse Wood	Cae Pender	Brake Field (means bracken field)
Ox meadow	Hop-yard Orchard	Quarry Field
Saint's Meadow	Burnt House Wood	Swabs Court
Bums Meadow (?Burns)	Yat Field (Yat=Gate)	Orles (small island in river
Orles Lime Kiln Close	Lanks Hole	by the mill –means
Great Meadow	Lower Sawpit	'boundary' – here the English-
Welsh		

#### Appendix 2 – Morgan of the Malthouse

Family names from the tombstone of the Morgan family of the Malthouse:

John Morgan died 20 Jan 1786 aged 40  
 Eliz. Wife of Thomas Morgan d 6 Mar 1796 aged 74  
 Wm Morgan d 25 May 1801 aged 59  
 Margt relict of Wm Morgan d 11 Apr 1837 aged 72  
 Wm their son d 19 Aug 1798 aged 9m  
 Sindonia their dau d 20 Jul 1815 aged 20  
 Eliz Morgan d 13 Nov 1832 aged 22  
 James Morgan d 4 Feb 1837 aged 77

### Field Trip in the Pontrilas area *by Graham Sprackling*

Seven members met at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall on Thursday, 13 May 2004. A planned visit to Great Walkmill Farm in Ewyas Harold had to be cancelled due to illness in the owners' family. As a result the schedule had to be re-arranged at short notice.

We walked the short distance from the hall and crossed the A465 to the bridge at Pontrilas. It was pointed out that this spot marked the confluence of three streams, the Dulas, the Dore, and just upstream, the Worm. From this point the Dore flows on to join the River Monnow near Monmouth Cap. At Pontrilas the Dore also marks the parish boundary between Kentchurch and Ewyas Harold. Thus Pontrilas is in Kentchurch parish. This large sparsely populated parish is in Webtree and Wormelow Hundreds. There was some discussion about the origin of the name Pontrilas. Canon Bannister in *The Place Names of Hereford-shire* gives the following early spellings :

1086 Elwiston	Domesday
1194 Helyston	E.H. Cart.
1206 Heliston	E.H. Cart.
1300 Elston	Inq. p.m.
1550 Ailstone Bridge	Leland
1577 Elstones Bridge	Saxton's Map
1611 Elston Bridge	Speed's Map
1670 Elston Bridge	Blomes Map
1750 Pontrilas	Bowen's Map
1786 Pontrilas	Taylor's Map

The name Pontrilas seems to have appeared after the Baskerville family arrived in the parish. Their residence is referred to in successive Directories since 1851, as Pontrilas House and was probably so called a long time before that date.

By 1885 when Benjamin St. John Attwood-Mathews was living there it had become Pontrilas Court. It is reasonable to suppose that the Baskervilles were responsible for the construction of the first bridge in the 16th. century.

Bannister thought that the explanation as ' Bridge over three streams' sounded too contrived a translation. But members thought that his own speculation that it may have come from an earlier lost Welsh name *Pont tref Helas* sounds equally contrived. The Baskervilles may have given their house this romanticised Welsh name which was later transferred to the whole hamlet. The Woolhope Naturalist's Field Club when they visited in 1869 equally couldn't decide on the origin of the name.

#### **Pontrilas Court (SO 396 276 SMR 1476)**

Observed from the road. Details in RCHM. A short talk was given on its connections with a branch of the Baskerville family. Stone built and dating from the 17th. century, there is a timber framed dovecote behind the house .



Figure 42 Two views of Pontrilas Court



**Earthwork ( SO 395 276)**

While on the bridge a small mound was noted in the junction where the Dulas and Dore streams meet. From its uniform shape, height and position it was suspected that it could be a small tumulus or burial mound. The writer has seen it marked as 'mound' on an earlier OS map. It can be seen in Fig. 2. Further investigation is needed.



Figure 43 Mound at SO 395 276

**Pontrilas Court Farm ( SO 396 277 )**

Until 1860s this was called was Pontrilas Farm. An Estate Map of 1740 shows it as 'Pontrilas Farm Estate' with lands stretching up the Dulas valley and across to the Elm Green area .



Figure 44 Pontrilas Court Farm

This is a substantial house with cellars built of local sandstone and dating from the early to mid 1800s. There is evidence inside and at the rear of the house of an earlier timber framed dwelling. Near the road are two large red brick barns one of which has some small earlier brick walls.

Across the yard at the rear of the house is a substantial timber framed building on a stone plinth, whether domestic or industrial in origin was not certain (Fig 4). Permission would have to be gained from the owners to investigate further as the farm is on the Kentchurch Estate .



Figure 45 Timber framed outbuilding at Pontrilas Court Farm called the Malt House



Figure 46 Dovecote at Pontrilas Court Farm

Close to the above building, in a corner of the yard, is a square timber framed dovecote probably of a contemporary date - a stone lean-to is attached to it (Fig 5). While the stone part is accessible from the farmyard the dovecote is not, as it is on the other side of a stone wall and thus in the garden of Pontrilas Court. It is included in RCHM and **SMR 1475**.

#### **Site of Pontrilas Mill ( SO 397 277 SMR 11013 )**

Described as a mill and fishery in the cartulary of the Priory of Ewyas. References to the mill at Heliston (Elistone):

No. 114: Charter of Peter de Pontint to the monks of St Peter's, Gloucester at Ewyas, confirming the gift of the mill at Heliston ( Elstone ) and a fishery there which Geoffrey de Pontint made to the monks and confirmed by his charter. He warrants the gift. The monks must pay (vnas botas} each year, and are to be quit of all service due to the king or the Lord of the fee. When he made the grant the monks gave him a palfrey worth 5 marks for his confirmation. Witnesses Robert Cotele, seneschal of the Lord, Robert de Tregoz at Ewyas and others (1213/14 ).

So, where was the fishery? On the other side of the Dore from Pontrilas in Ewyas Harold parish, and south of Callow Hill Wood is a field called Weir Meadow (Tithe Map 447). A weir in this area must have related to the mill on the other side of the river. It is possible that it supplied the mill in some manner obliterated by changes in the landscape and creation of a new road bypassing Pontrilas. There is also a possibility that it held back water for a fishery on or near the main river. There would have been a rich supply of eels and other fish in the river Dore.

Perhaps some-one will research this more thoroughly some day.

A stone dwelling, once the old Dore and Bredwardine District Offices now covers the millsite near the banks of the Dore River. All traces of the original mill have gone but to the west of the house a marked depression can be seen. This enters a strip of woodland and exits 70 yards downstream near the bridge. This was probably the tailrace of the mill. For a long time the writer was puzzled about the source of water power to feed the mill. The tithe map for Kentchurch parish shows a long straight leat running parallel to the road on the line of the present Mill Terrace, but some distance from the Dore River.

It was only when builders were constructing a new housing development further up the road that an answer presented itself. Foundation trenches mysteriously filled up with water. Then a stone culvert was uncovered with a strong flow of clear water coming from the direction of the railway embankment on the other side of the road. The local tithe-map (1839 and pre-railway) shows what was formerly an open stream coming down the hillside from its source between Pen-y-lan Farm and Mill Wood. In its lower course this had obviously been culverted and completely buried during the building of the railway in the early 1850' s. In the vicinity of the mill itself, the tithe map shows Mill Field, Mill Meadow and Mill orchard.

### **Other Industrial Activities**

There was no time to discuss Pontrilas Station and the coming of the Great Western Railway to Pontrilas or the opening of the Golden Valley Railway in 1881. Most of the houses from the former Coles Shop and Doyer House to Mill Terrace and the Old Post Office are of local brick, evidence of a flourishing brickworks. In Jakeman & Carver's Directory of Herefordshire, 1890, G.J.Wilson, brick, tile, and drainpipe manufacturer, was living at Doyre House. He was also in business at Hampton Park, Hereford. The material came from clay pits in the area now occupied by Pontrilas Garden Centre. Brick Terrace is only a few yards away. Also in Pontrilas was a bakery, removed during recent building work, and a Coffee and Reading Room now used as a store room by the local garage. Just up the road is a house once known as 'The Mopstick'. Near the junction with the A465 where Downey's Blacksmith's Shop now stands was the local sawpit.



Figure 47 Pontrilas Coffee & Reading Room



Figure 48 Coles Shop, Pontrilas 1917

### **Pontrilas Chemical Works (SO 396 276 )**

We then walked through a tunnel beneath the railway line and signal box. This 9 acre site on a hillside was previously a field called 'Lantinam'. By 1860 it was an important industrial complex. These Chemical Works, of which there were several in the Forest of Dean, produced a highly volatile gas called Naphtha, a distillation product from coal tar. It burns with a bright flaring light as used on fairgrounds. There was a wood alcohol derivative. Acetate of lime, pitch, tar, solvents, dyes and charcoal products, also mothballs, were other uses.

The works' proximity to Pontrilas Station and the railway line to which it was connected with its own sidings was also important. As its first lease runs from 1858 it very much came in with the railway. A notable feature was a very tall brick chimney which can be seen on some old photo-

graphs of 1907. It was pulled down in the 1930's. The row of six workers cottages can still be seen, although partly modernised. Other buildings have been destroyed or modernised. Also on the site was The Golden Valley Ciderworks, still in existence until just before the 2nd. World War.

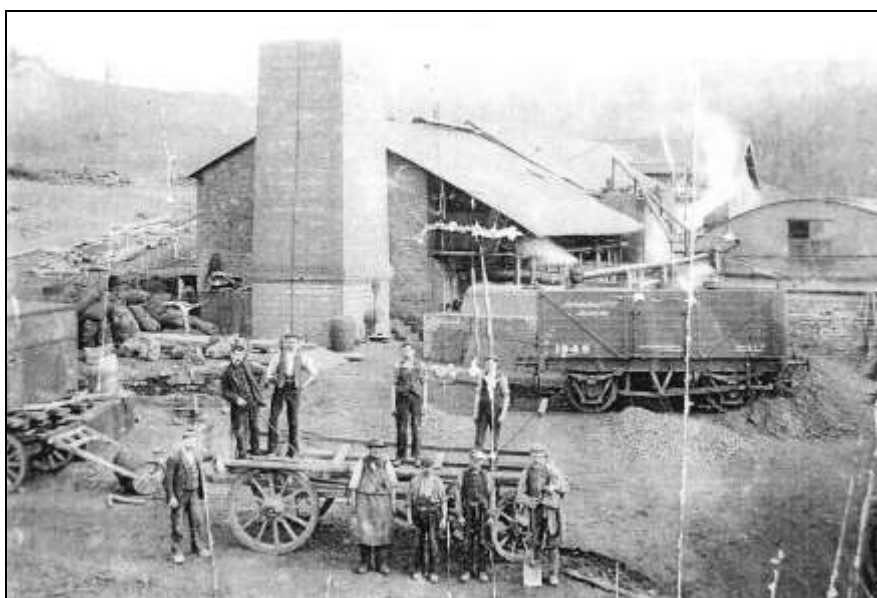


Figure 49 View of Chemical Works 1907

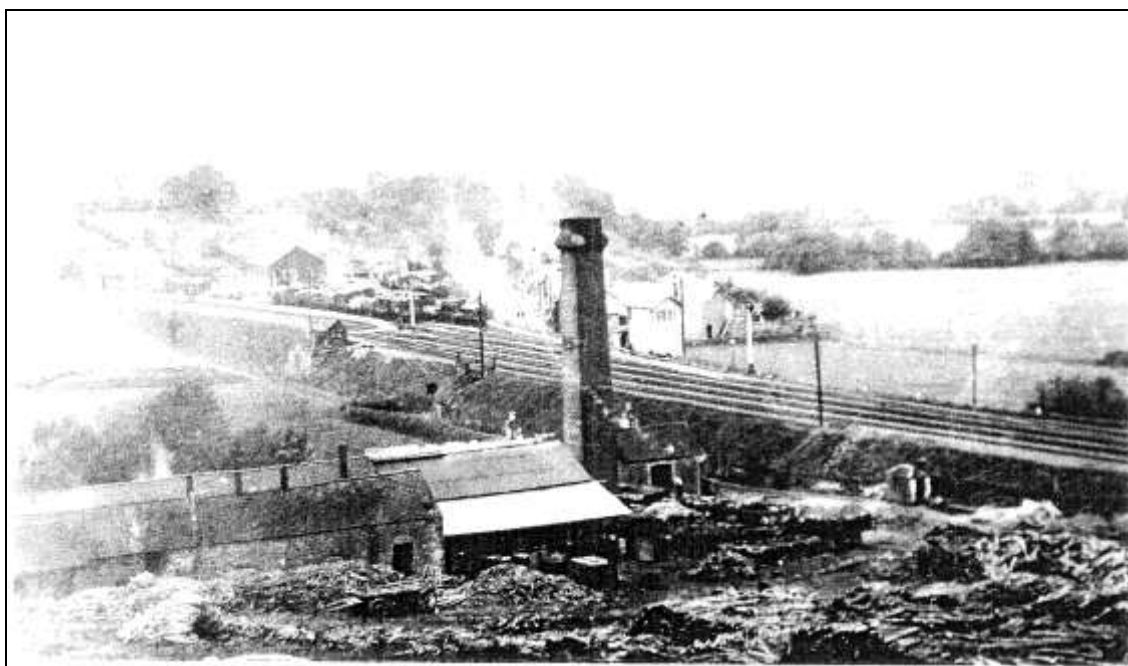


Figure 50 View of Chemical Works 1901



Figure 51 Pontrilas Station 1920 Chemical Works in background (Station SMR 22139)

As we had made our way out of the tunnel and up the track to the site entrance we noticed on the left, at the foot of the embankment a large chimney like a pillar, built of dark industrial brick. Puzzled as to its purpose, we were told by a local inhabitant that it was built over a channel of water which came down the bank along the edge of the site, before entering a culvert under the embankment.



Figure 52 Pillar above culvert, directly below signal box

It was the same stream which caused problems on the building development on the other side of the line, as it made its way towards the mill leat and Pontrilas Mill. Water from this stream must have been abstracted for the Chemical Works. Large tanks and the chimney were very close to the stream. Considering the toxic nature of the product, there was almost bound to have been pollution of this water course. Also there must have been interference with the supply to the mill. Is it just a co-incidence that Cassey's Directory of 1858 shows Edward Preece at Pontrilas Mill, but in subsequent Directories there is no further mention of it. Did the coming of the Chemical Works herald the end of Pontrilas Mill ? .

We then returned to our cars at the Memorial Hall and drove to the Castle Tump at Ewyas Harold. After taking a picnic lunch members departed for home .

Appendix: Sale Particulars for the Chemical Works 1872

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE  
OF THE  
**Pontrilas Chemical Works,**  
SITUATED IN THE  
PARISH OF KENTCHURCH,  
IN THE  
**COUNTY OF HEREFORD,**  
CLOSE TO THE PONTRILAS STATION  
ON THE NEWPORT, ABERGAVENNY AND HEREFORD BRANCH  
OF THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY,  
Which, in consequence of the death of the Resident Partner, will be  
OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION,  
IN ONE LOT,  
BY  

---

**Messrs. BARNARD, THOMAS & CO.,**  

---

AT  
**THE KING'S HEAD HOTEL,**  
NEWPORT, MON.,  
ON  
**THURSDAY, the 17th day of OCTOBER, 1872,**  
AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON PRECISELY.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale, ~~with Plan~~, may be obtained of Mr. SAMUEL DAVIS, at the Works;  
of Mr. WILLIAM HARRIS, Clydach Iron Works; of the Auctioneers; of Mr. CLEAVE or Mr. SIMMONDS, *Symonds*  
Solicitors, 15, Bridge Street, Hereford; or of Messrs. WALFORD and GARR, Solicitors, Abergavenny.

(60443-17-16-72)

## PARTICULARS.

The valuable Works, in full working order,

CALLED

### THE "PONTRILAS CHEMICAL WORKS,"

CONTAINING

TWELVE OVENS OR RETORTS,

WITH ALL THE

PLANT AND MACHINERY NECESSARY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF NAPHTHA,  
ACETATE OF LIME, CHARCOAL, &c.,

Situated close to the Pontilas Station on the Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford  
Branch of the Great Western Railway,

IN THE PARISH OF KENTCHURCH, IN THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD,

TOGETHER WITH THE

BUILDINGS, SIX COTTAGES, OFFICES, WAREHOUSES, & STABLING  
THEREBY BELONGING.

### THE PLANT AND MACHINERY

CONSISTS OF

- 12 Ovens with their Copper condensing pipes.
- 24 Iron Charcoal Boxes and 12 Lids for same.
- 6 Wooden and 2 Stone Water Tanks.
- 3 Large Iron Still with Copper Condensers.
- 1 Large Stone and 1 Wooden Water Tank to receive Condensers.
- 2 Large and 3 smaller Limesalt Pans.
- 8 Large Wooden Strainers and 1 small ditto.
- 3 Large Wooden Mixing Vats.
- 3 Large Round and 2 large oblong Wooden Receiving Vats.
- 1 Tar Still with Copper Condensers.
- 1 Wooden Tank.
- 1 Large Copper Still (capable of holding about 400 gallons) and 3 smaller ditto, with Copper Condensers.
- 1 Iron Still with Copper Condensers.
- 1 Steam Boiler for working Still.
- 2 Wooden Water Tanks.
- 2 Large Wooden Receiving Vats.
- 6 Puncteons sunk in the ground in Still Room.
- 1 Tar and 1 Oil Cask.
- 1 Tub.
- Troughs for conveying Acid Liquor.
- 1 Wooden Receiving Vat.
- 2 Large Acid Pumps.
- 1 Iron Safe in Office.
- And also a valuable Weighing Machine, for weighing Carts and Wagons.

The works and buildings, which stand upon 9 acres of ground, are most advantageously situated in the midst of a thickly Wooded District, and are abundantly supplied with water. They are held under lease for 21 years, from the 2nd February, 1858, at the rent of £40 per annum, with a right of renewal for a further period of 21 years at the rent of £40 per annum.

Two Farms called "Little Pennelard Farm" and "New House Lands," containing together about 311 acres, and also a small field, adjoin the works, and of these the Purchaser will have the option of becoming a yearly tenant, from the 2nd February, 1873, or sooner, as may be arranged, at the rent of £154. 15s. 6d. for the farms and £4 for the field.

The Lease under which the property is held may be inspected at the office of Messrs. Walford and Gabb, Solicitors, Abergavenny, and (a copy) at the office of Mr. J. P. Symonds, Solicitor, Hereford, and the purchaser shall be deemed to have Notice of all covenants, clauses, and provisions contained in such Lease.

A Plan, showing the land comprised in the Lease, is ~~herein enclosed~~; and a Plan of the farms and field occupied with the works, may be seen at the office of Mr. J. P. Symonds.



## Field Trip to Clifford 14 April 2004 by Rosamund Skelton

This visit was a farm building recording session, attended by 5 members.

### Green Lane Farm

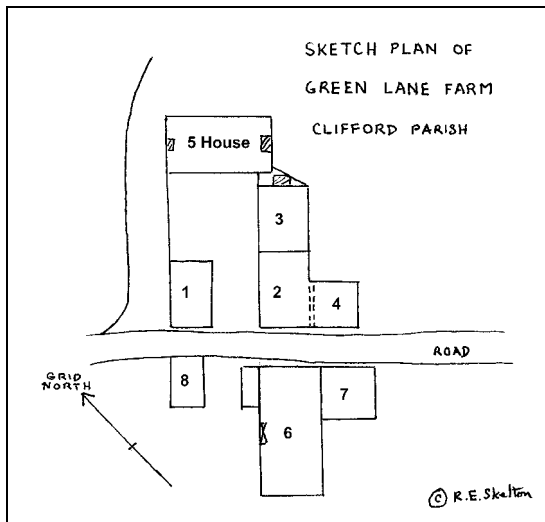


Figure 1 Green Lane Farm today



Figure 2 Green Lane Farm in Tithe Map. N to top



Figure 3 Green Lane farm in 1798



Figure 4 Building 1

**Building 1** on the plan is a two-storey cartshed with round stone pillars on the yard side going the full height of the two storeys. The pillars are made from thin stone slabs finely carved in the round. Partly timber-framed with a granary on the upper floor accessed now from the lane at the back which is nearly level with the upper floor. There are indications of a door in the north wall of the upper floor to the yard but no steps giving access.

The farmyard and the inside of (1) are well cobbled.

**Building 2** is a single storey barn attached to 3. 2 large horse stalls/bull pens(?) adjacent to 3 with south part being storage and leading through to 4 which is timber-framed and converted to provide livestock pens.



Figure 5 Building 2 looking towards 4



Figure 6 Green Lane farmyard with house (5) facing camera. Next to the house on the right is (3), and next to the road on the right is (2)

Building 3. is currently residential and probably was earlier too, but it has only recently been directly connected to the house (5). It's possible to access the loft area of building 3 from the NE side of building 2, from where can be seen the timber framing not evident from outside. From fig. 6 one can see the chimney belonging to the large chimney stack inside.



Figure 7 Looking from (2) to (3)

The passage from building 3 to the house (5) has been made by cutting through the back of the fireplace and chimney breast in 3's NE wall. The ceiling timbers in 3 are chamfered.

The house (5) has exposed timber beams – it is 2-storey with attics. It may have been timber- framed and later cased in stone.



Figure 8 Timber framing in house loft



Figure 9 Door furniture & panelled door

**Building 6**, across the road from Green Lane farmhouse and yard, has been converted to a house and is separately owned. Originally it was a large grain storage barn for the farm with a threshing floor. Projection to NW wall of the barn is probably a modern addition as it is not shown on the 1886 O.S. map – the projection on the SE side was on the 1886 map. Buildings 7 & 8 were not examined.

We would like to thank the owner for allowing us to visit and survey the farm.

### Hardwick Court Farm

The farmhouse is of two periods, the later large west cross-wing being of the 18th century. The earlier part has a large external chimney on the north side. Details of the farmhouse can be obtained from RCHM. We would like to thank the owner for allowing us to carry out the survey.

The prosperity of the farm can be judged from the extensive farm buildings which remain. The buildings are laid out in two parallel lines with two very tall barns presenting a matching set of end gables to the south (where the village was).

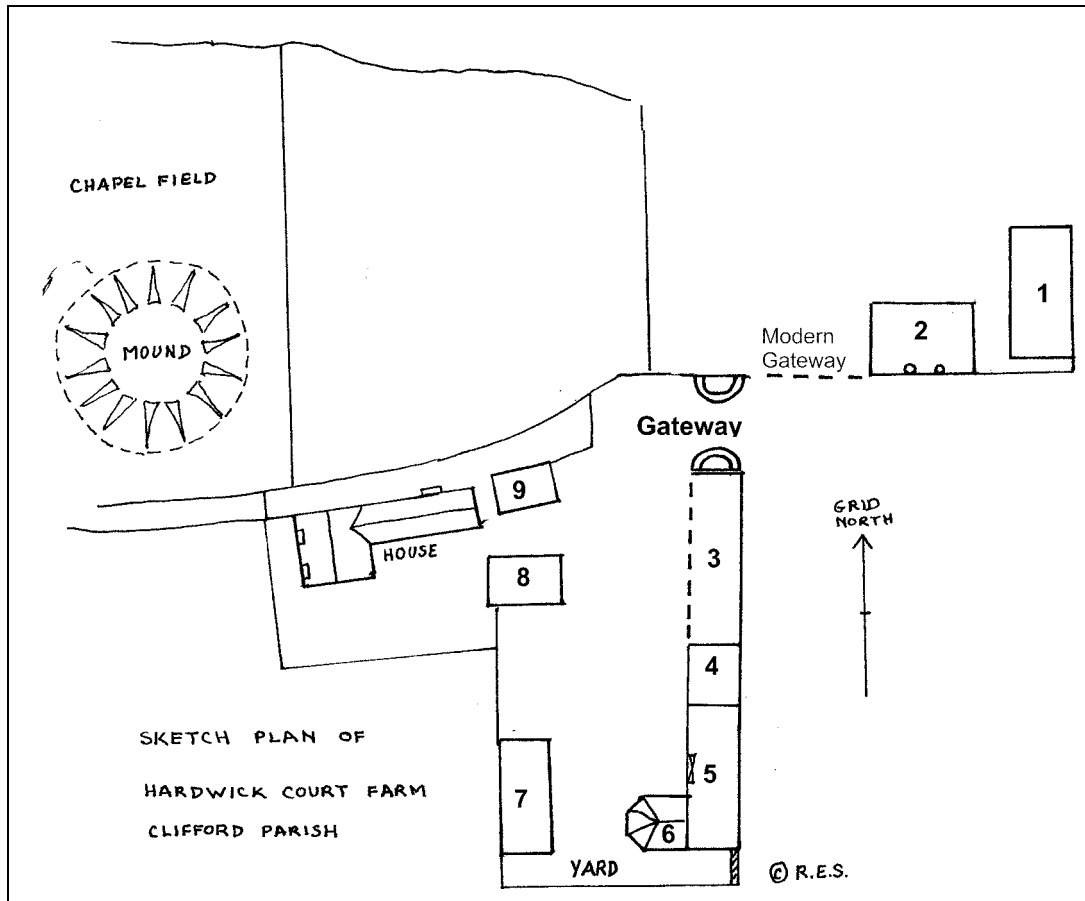


Figure 10 Plan of Hardwick Court Farm

Building 1 is a modern barn, though partly built on the foundations of an earlier stone building. Building 2 is an open-fronted cart shed, with built-up stone pillars similar to those at Green Lane Farm but not quite so finely done. There are traces of another building to the S of Building 2 across the road. There was a building east of building 1 - shown on the 1886 map - now demolished.



Figure 11 Hardwick Court Farm building 2 from S



Figure 12 Hardwick Court Farm Yard from N.

The access road to the farm eastwards from building 2 runs between two curious semi-circular buildings. This road used to be a proper road which ran along behind the farmhouse westwards towards Hardwick Mill.

The semi-circular buildings appear to be largely ornamental, and both are topped with a platform surrounded by a waist-high wall, accessed from the flat side by steps up. The one to the S has a low opening to the platform with steps, suggesting that it might have housed chickens, ducks or geese, but there do not appear to be any signs of a roof. The walls adjoining to these buildings abut them so are later. Probably they were built to provide an impressive entrance to the farm.



Figure 13 Back of semi-circular building



Figure 14 The N side of the house, and N & E faces of granary (building 9)

Building 3 remains as a shell only, with only footings for a wall on the W side. Building 4 may have been built by covering over the space between buildings 3 and 5, as there is an enormous threshing arch on the E side with only a tenuous grip on the walls on either side.



Figure 15 Ginny (building 6) and W wall of building 5

Building 5 is a very well built barn, with an elegant threshing arch. Its southern gable formed a matching pair with that of building 7 – see Fig. 16, though the two buildings are different in the rest of their construction and use. The attractive ginny ring (6) is a later attachment. The uprights supporting the roof on the open sides are made from re-used timber framing, and the padstones supporting them are large dressed pieces of stone, again re-used. Building 7 also has re-used timber-framing built into the walls.

Both buildings 7 and 8 have been used for animal housing, as well as fodder storage.

### Chapel Field

To the NW of Hardwick Court Farm house lies a field, still an orchard, called in the tithe map 'Chapel Orchard'. (**SMR 1411** SO 26168 44191). Isaac Taylor shows the site with his ruined chapel symbol on his 1786 map. Without this evidence one would have to consider that there had been a motte on the site, as the mound is very pronounced, and there is a lower but still elevated area which could have been a bailey. (See Fig 17). The road to the mill mentioned earlier circles around the site to the south. A small stream runs to the west of site between the gate and tree shown in Fig. 17.

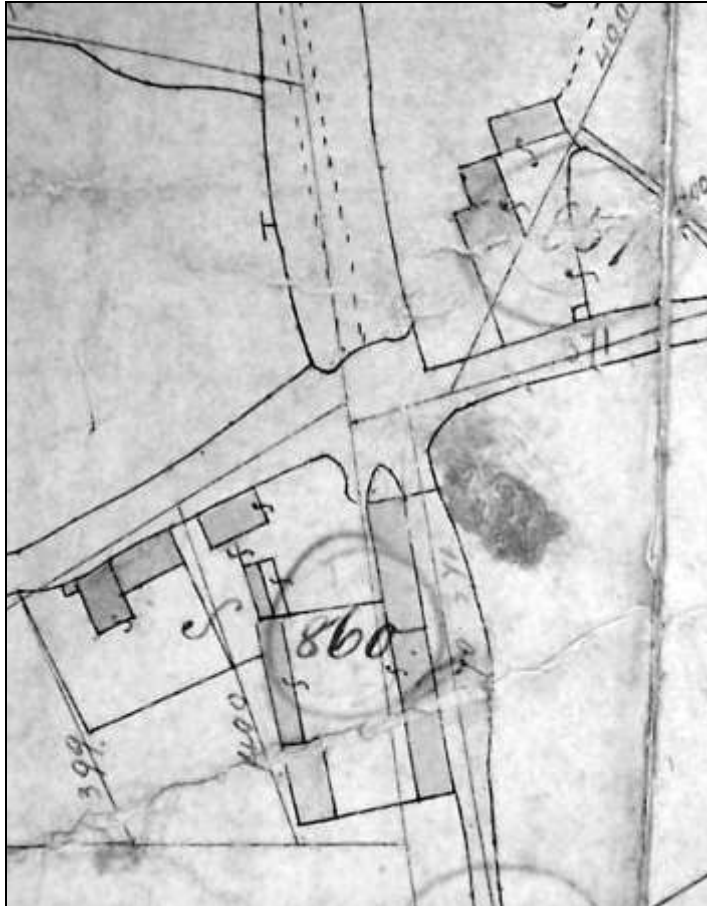


Figure 16 Hardwick Court Farm on the tithe map. Note there are possibly two semicircular features on either side of the N gateway.

### Hardwick Mill

Two members followed the old road until it reached Hardwick Mill, and then retraced their steps along the stream towards Hardwick Court. We were looking for traces of the leat, or of an older mill building, but were unsuccessful.





Figure 17 S gable of building 5 at Hardwick Court Farm



Figure 18 Chapel Orchard mound from the west. farm visible to top right. Old road comes through gate and past tree.



### Unicorn Inn, Hardwick



Figure 19 The Unicorn Inn, Hardwick

Figure 19 shows the road from the S from Hay leading over the river at Hardwick, when it branches to Bredwardine north-eastwards & Dorstone eastwards. From a Hardwick estate map. Note the drive leading to Hardwick Court Farm northwards.

### Llanerch-y-coed Farm

We were told during our visit that there was an open-fronted cartshed similar to those at Green Lane Farm and Hardwick Court Farm at another local farm – Llanerch-y-Coed. (SO 27521 42566). It has sometimes been called Llan-y-coed.

This farm lies high up on the edge of Little Mountain common. It consists of an interesting series of buildings around the farmyard, as well as the cartshed, but we had no time to explore.



Figure 20 Cartshed at Llan-y-Coed Farm

### Field Trip to Penyard Castle 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004 by Rosamund Skelton

A group of five turned out on a sunny day to take a look at the remains of Penyard Castle, which lies in Ross Rural parish but is approached from Weston-under-Penyard.

The first stop was at Lawns Farm to look at various carved stones embedded in walls. The first stone was in the garden wall and had a circle about 2 cms deep carved into it. It was suggested that this might be the bottom stone of a small cheese press and therefore more likely to be related to the farm rather than the castle. The other stones were embedded in the barn walls; first a small ornamental pillar on the right hand side of a window in the northeast wall; second the top (or bottom) of an arrow loop set together with two other carved stones in the southeast wall of the barn one of which was a piece of curved window tracery with a recess for glass.



Figure 1 Lawn Farm: cheese press?



Figure 2 Lawn Farm: column



Figure 3 Lawn Farm: tracery

Following the track westwards from the farm, some chunks of worked stone had been abandoned by the gate into the field. The remains of the castle were located partly in this field and partly in the adjoining woodland east of the field at Grid Reference SO 618225 There is an extensive record on **SMR 919**. The field is crossed from NW to SE by a dip which leads down into a valley forming the NE boundary of the castle site.

SE of the dip are some quite well marked banks and hollows, but these are not very easy to interpret – see Fig. 4 which has been enhanced to show field markings more clearly. It has to be borne in mind that documents record the robbing of this castle site for stone for the new Rectory and barn in Weston-under-Penyard in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, there was also the building of the gamekeepers cottage in the ruins of the castle and the building of Lawns Farm in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It may well have been used for other buildings in the area once it became ruinous and the systematic robbing will mean that the removal of well dressed stones will have left only the rubble cores of walls which may have been used to fill in ditches and other features.



Figure 4 Penyard Castle - field banks and hollows. Castle to right of picture

Apart from the identifiable stone walls the most significant features are a large strong bank on the NE side of the site shown on the map and running from north of the cottage walls out into the field for a number of metres. This bank can also be traced southeastwards to a right angle corner where it turns southwestwards still forming a very steeply sloping bank about 11/2 metres high, enclosing the site of the castle on this side; where it runs out into the field again it then begins to fade out into a marked hollow to the SW of the standing fragments of castle walls. There is also a large level platform visible in the foreground of Fig. 6 with bare patches of soil showing on its level top. It is quite distant from the other castle buildings but could be the site of a storage barn if this was as we suspect, more of a hunting lodge than a military castle.

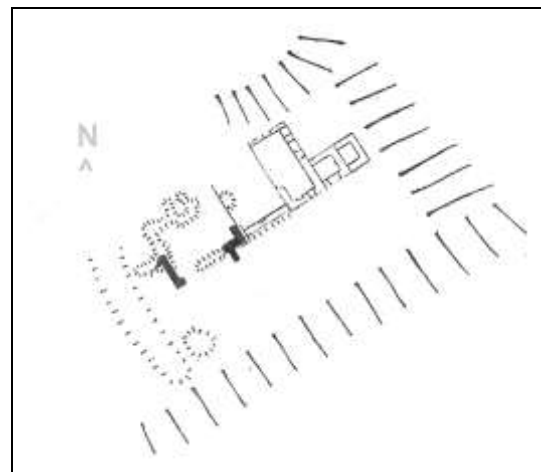


Figure 5 Penyard Castle plan. (HAN60 p27) The black blocks are the remaining upstanding portions



Figure 6 Showing SE part of castle wall and platform in foreground

The growth of the trees up to the SE side of the castle obscures the fact that the site over looks both the Castlebrook valley giving access eastwards to Gloucester and westwards to Walford and Goodrich, and the Hope Mansell valley which leads into the Forest of Dean. A good strategic location to see what was going on locally.

In HAN 60 September 1993 Elizabeth Taylor gives a comprehensive account of the documentary evidence relating to the castle and the medieval park within which it sits. The first reference to a park is in 1334 when "Sir John Inge holds and has enclosed it" and as a result of the inquisition the king took the park into his own hands "for defects of enclosure". The first reference to a building in the park is in 1372 when in an Inquisition Post Mortem Elizabeth wife of Richard Talbot knight held "Penyard Park in which there is a tower worth nothing beyond reprises".

As to the date of the first building on this site it may be as early as the 12<sup>th</sup> century, judging by the substantial red sandstone blocks with diagonal tooling (at Tewkesbury Abbey diagonal tooling was considered 12<sup>th</sup> century) forming a three foot wide northeast wall of the later gamekeeper's cottage. (Fig. 7)

The later castle buildings added on to the southwest and ascribed by Elizabeth Taylor to work by Aylmer de Valencia, Earl of Pembroke and Lord of Goodrich are built of Tintern Sandstone of very fine ashlar work. The quarry for the stone is nearby on the same hilltop, to the west.



Figure 7 Doorway in 'gamekeeper's cottage'



Figure 8 SW portion looking NW



Figure 9 SW portion looking NE

One of these still shows the springing for a large archway (figures 8 & 9) but there are no other distinguishing features. Note that this SW portion of wall seems to be

somewhat smaller than shown in the plan from HAN60, possibly based on the RCHM plan. When the ARS visited in 1979 it was pointed out that considerable collapse had taken place since the RCHM visit. There are good articles in HAN37 pp3-6 (1979) and HAN60 pp23-24 (1993).

Owing to the growth of vegetation it was not possible to approach close to the cottage walls in the wood, except on the northeast side. Both gable walls of the cottage are still standing.

### Fishponds

In the afternoon those remaining struggled through the undergrowth of the thinned out wood (lots of brambles) to locate and get a GPS fix on the series of three fishponds created by diverting the spring to the SW of the castle at GR SO 616.225.

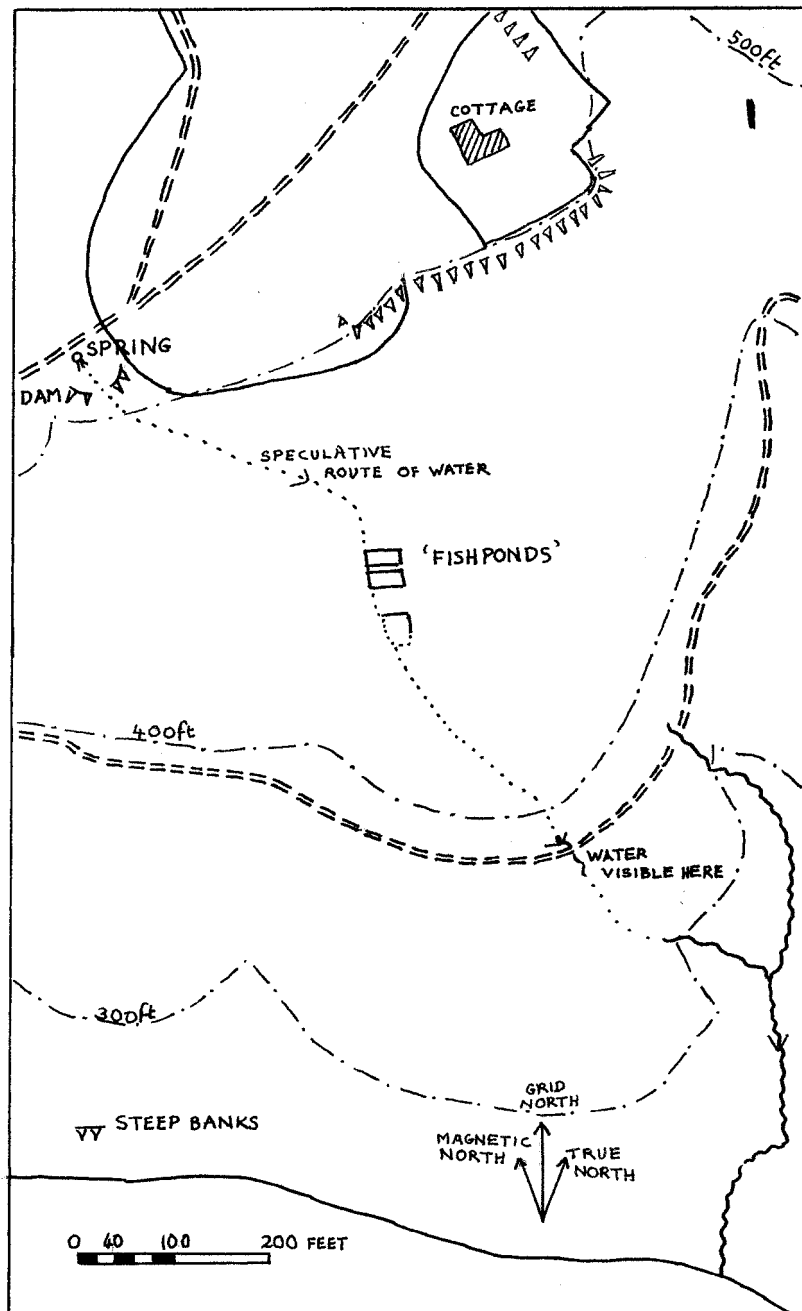


Figure 10 Plan of location of 'fishponds'. Cottage located in remains of castle

There is an earlier fishpond with a curved dam immediately below the spring, the outlet from this is diverted sideways down the hillside to feed a series of three

rectangular ponds 2 to 3 m deep, two being 40m wide along the contours by 20m wide down the slope with a berm 2 to 3 m wide between them while the third pond is further down the slope and has its long axis also down the slope and is rather squarer in shape than the other two. Because the wood has so much undergrowth it is impossible to detect differences in the age of these features. The rectangularity and proximity of these three ponds compared with the curved dam of the topmost pond suggests that they may have been created at a different time as one unit. The outlet from the ponds leads down to an enormous waste tip beside a large deep open mine shaft lower down the hillside. It is possible that the purpose of the ponds was to supply water for washing ore or providing power for the mine working rather than fishponds for the castle. This mine shaft 6ft x 8ft is referred to by David Bick in his book 'The Mines of Newent and Ross' as being possibly 19<sup>th</sup> century because of its oblong shape and the evidence of boreholes for blasting in the sides of the shaft. This seems very late for the use of water power unless the water was used by some of the earlier mines in the vicinity referred to under the general name of 'Penyard Castle Mine'. There are SMR entries for the mines in Penyard Park on SMR 15699 and 15703.

### **GPS readings for some features**

Corners of **platform shown** in fig. 6: E61758 N22563; E61748 N22571; E61723 N22546; E61733 N22543

#### **Ponds**

The readings here were very difficult to take owing to high brambles and tree cover.

Topmost pond: E61767 N22432 – taken 5.20m from the NE corner along the topmost bank.

Reading of E61809 N22415 was taken half way across the bank between the middle & lower (N) pond along the eastern boundary of the ponds

Reading E61807 N22411 was taken 2m from NE corner of bottom pond.