

# HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS



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### HAN

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## **Field Meeting to Whitchurch, Llangrove and Glynston Chapel by Roz Lowe**

On Sunday, 24 October 2004 eight members of the Goodrich Local History Group and two ARS members met at Whitchurch Village Hall. The meeting had been re-arranged from 3 October due to bad weather - unfortunately many ARS members were unable to attend through illness.

The meeting is one of a series which set out to explore features of the Manor of Goodrich, whose boundaries extended far beyond the current parish of Goodrich. The Lord of Goodrich also owned other Manors in Herefordshire, and had lands in demesne in other local manors. Altogether the picture is complicated, and has its roots in the situation around the time of the first Norman acquisitions in the area. It is quite clear that Goodrich takes its name from Godrichescastel (various spellings), which in itself is the landholding called 'Hulla' in the Domesday survey, which was held by Godric Mapson. The later Herefordshire Domesday makes this identification clear. The early story of Goodrich is worth a whole paper to itself, but this report will confine itself to noting that the manor area covered included Whitchurch, Ganarew, and parts of Llangarren and Marstow. It included as valuable holdings with woodland and minerals the Great Doward and Little Doward; Goldsmiths Wood in Ganarew; Weare Hill & Huntsham Hill near Symonds Yat; Coppett Hill above Goodrich; Old Grove and Long Grove in Llangarren.

Extensive use has been made in earlier Goodrich field visit reports of a set of maps of Goodrich manor, surveyed by Edward Lawrence for the earl of Shrewsbury in 1718.<sup>1</sup> The maps show the earl's demesne lands, and the associated terrier gives details of tenants and freeholders. Sadly, one of the most informative maps is missing – that of the Dowards. It may have been removed when these were sold to the forerunner of the Forestry Commission in the early 19<sup>th</sup> C. Lands which remained in demesne in 1718 include those associated with iron working which the earl leased to ironmasters. The earl owned a forge at Leadbrook (Lydbrook) and a furnace at Longhope as well as sites more local to Goodrich. Although the earl owned these sites, there is no reason to believe that he became personally involved in their operation, but he leased them out. The other resource that he owned were the numerous deposits of iron-rich cinders which lie all around this part of Herefordshire, the result of iron-working from the Iron Age onwards. In particular, there were huge deposits in the valley which now contains Whitchurch village centre.

In HAN69 is the report of a field meeting I led to Goodrich, when we looked at the site of the water-driven forge at Old Forge, on the Goodrich-Whitchurch boundary where the road crosses the Garron. The water powered hammers were used to drive out impurities from 'blooms' of iron produced from the furnace at Whitchurch. Both forge and furnace were owned by the lord of the manor of Goodrich, the earl of Shrewsbury. The notebooks of John Bamforth and the White family in the John Lloyd archive in the National Library of Wales<sup>2</sup> make it clear that the Old Forge facility was constructed after rioters had destroyed that at New Weir on the Wye in 1588/9 – a mill having been set up on that site seemingly as well as that of Old Mill further upstream on the Garron. New Weir lies downstream from Whitchurch at the foot of the Doward, and Lloyd notes that it is mentioned in the Goodrich manor court of 1513. An earlier date for a 'new weir' might be postulated from the fact that the 'Old Weare' of Goodrich, upstream from New Weir near Mainoaks Farm was already called so in 1445.<sup>3</sup> The forge at New Weir was rebuilt by George White sen c1684, and his son George White jun notes that both the old buildings at New Weir, and the Old Forge buildings were constructed entirely in timber. He also notes that "Hope's" furnace supplied Old Forge with large sows – presumably Longhope.

### **Whitchurch**

Our first stop in Whitchurch at the Village Hall conveniently placed us to inspect what remains of the waterworks supplying the old Whitchurch forge. Originally, the main road between Ross and Monmouth passed in front of the Cross Keys pub in Goodrich, down the hill and over the bridge over the Garron, next to Old Forge. This stretch still remains, but now one has to cross

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<sup>1</sup> HA (Herefordshire Archives) AW87

<sup>2</sup> NLW The Lloyd archive has numerous documents concerning Old Forge, the Whitchurch furnace and the New Weare, plus the other ironworks such as Tintern run by the White family.

<sup>3</sup> HA O68/II/31

the A40 dual carriageway to reach the next section of the old road, running alongside the A40 to the NW to the main Whitchurch crossroads. A number of buildings were obliterated here, by the A40 and by new sliproads. The main village street is called 'Whitchurch Street' in old documents, often a sign of Roman origin, before it is cruelly truncated at its SW end by the A40.

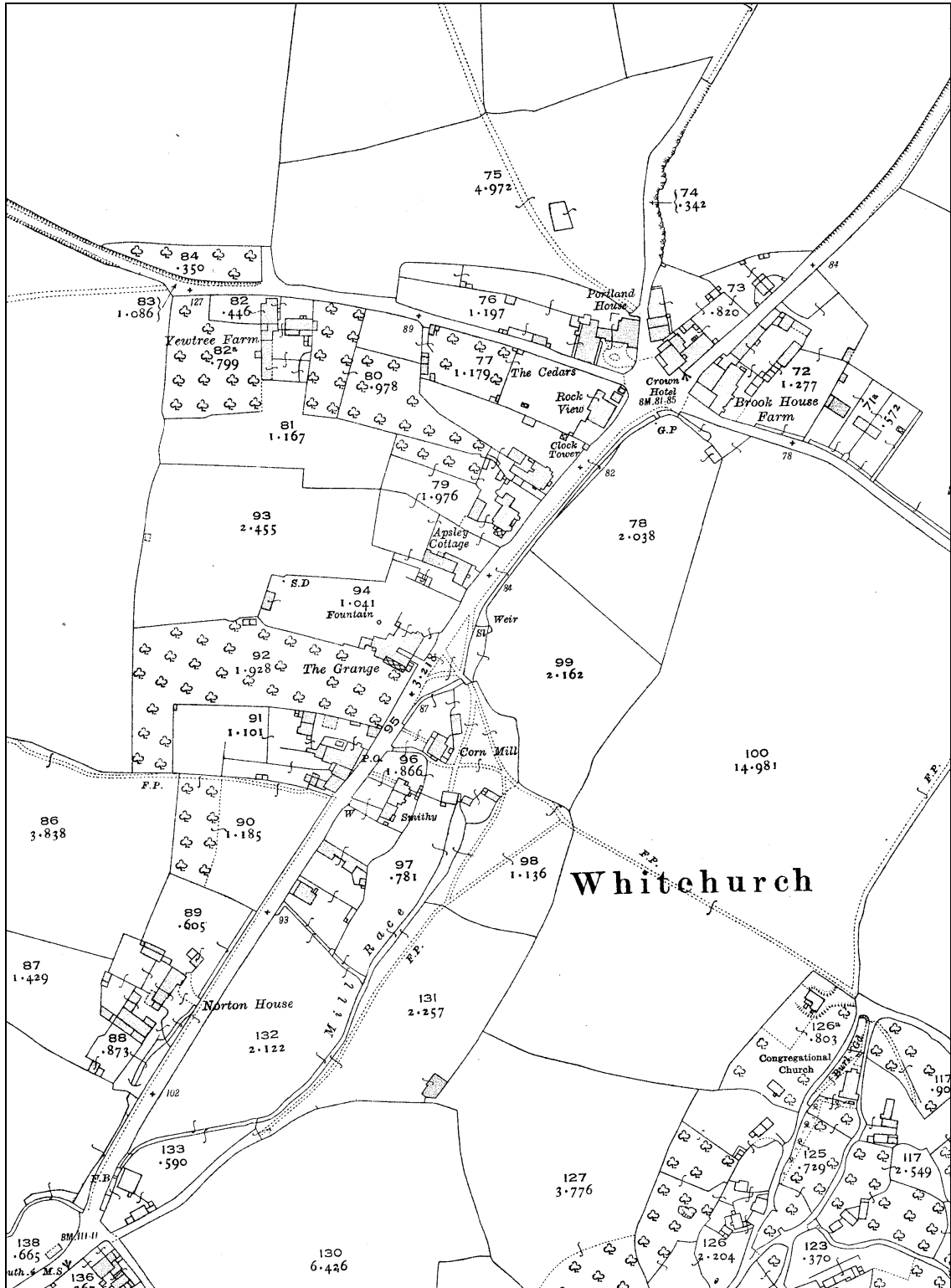


Figure 1 1921 OS Map of Whitchurch N to top

By the early 17<sup>th</sup> C when the Whitchurch furnace came into operation, water power was used to drive giant bellows to increase the temperature of the material in the furnace. The truncation of 'Whitchurch Street' by the A40 has also covered over the take-off point for the leat for the furnace. The source stream rises near Welsh Newton common, is joined by the small stream we visited later in the day at Llangrove and feeds Lewstone mill before disappearing behind the massive service area on the A40. After heavy rain, as when we saw it, it has a considerable flow. The leat supplied a small feeder pond clearly shown on the 1718 map: the leat and a bigger pond were still in existence at the time of the tithe map in 1847, though their pale colour compared to other ponds may imply that they were irregularly filled.

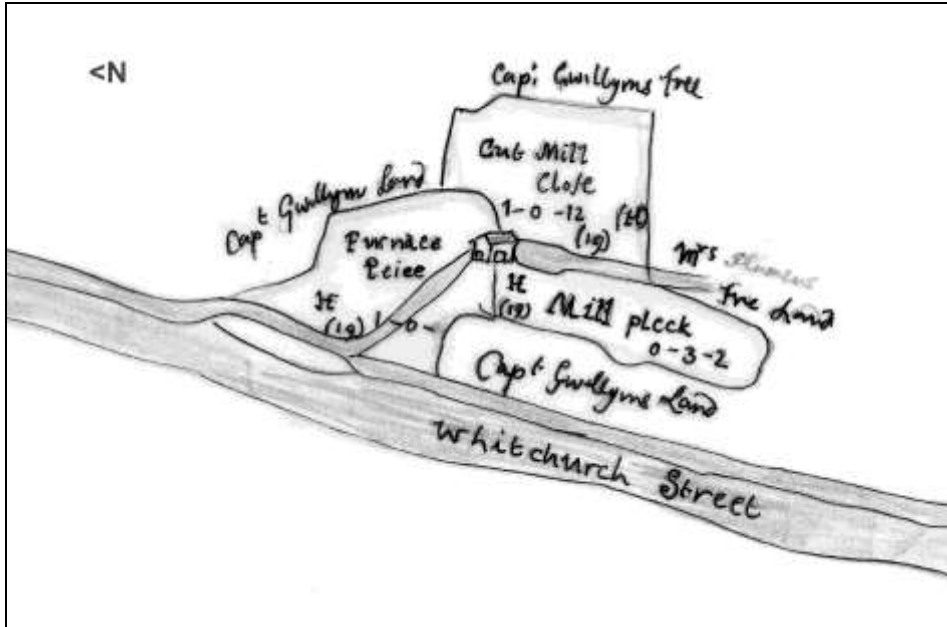


Figure 2 The site of Whitchurch Furnace in 1718 (HA AW87)



Figure 3 E end of Whitchurch Street Tithe Map 1847 © Herefordshire Archives

After the furnace went out of operation, a water corn mill or cut mill was set up on the site, probably utilising Bridge house. Before 1847 a house was built nearer to Whitchurch Street, on the old Furnace Piece (no 770 on the tithe). It is still there, called Mill Cottage. <sup>4</sup> At some time the Bridge House, Furnace Piece, Cut Mill Close and Mill Pleck (as shown on the 1718 map) were bought from the earl of Shrewsbury, probably before the sale of the Manor in the 1740's. The property was bought by George White II and passed with his heiress, along with his Goodrich lands to the Osborne family, and then again via an heiress to Osborne Yates (sometimes Yeats), who owned the four pieces 770-773 shown on the tithe map. Osborne Yates married Anne Williams, and via this marriage the White documents passed eventually to John Lloyd.

The embanking for the A40 slip road lies on top of the feeder pond, though a little overgrown path still runs alongside Mill Cottage's garden towards the site of Bridge House. Residents remember that there was some sort of a building in that location before the A40 was built. The stream supplying the leat still crosses Whitchurch Street as in the tithe map, running alongside the road though sometimes in a culvert. The site of the extensive village pond next to the road shown on the tithe map is now a grassy area of the same shape. The stream lies in a deeper channel for flood avoidance, and disappears under the A40 in the direction of the Wye. None of the extensive ponds which lay along its path in front of Old Court remain.

We have a good amount of information on the furnace, not only because of the John Lloyd material but also because there was a case in 1672 concerning the furnace.<sup>5</sup> The background to the case was that the water supplying the furnace was run in some places in a channel in the ground, and sometimes in 'troughes' or 'trowes' made of wood over the ground. These troughs led to the furnace through the land of the complainant (Thomas Nourse sen) next to his house called the 'Bridge House' – surely the house shown standing over the leat on the 1718 map.<sup>6</sup> The troughs had needed replacing about 3 years before, Thomas Powell, a 60 year old carpenter from Llangarren, and his assistant (John Phillips, 39, a labourer from Whitchurch) did the work. In most places they had no problem, but at a spot called the 'Sinder Pitt' next to the 'bridge house' the ground had been dug away to a depth of 7 feet to get at the iron-rich cinders. John Hill (40), a furnace keeper from Whitchurch, said that this had been done by Nourse's workmen about 8 or 9 years before. This was when Nourse was renting the furnace from Rudhall Gwyllym, possibly the earl's direct tenant, although there are proposals for a lease of the furnace from John Morgan of Monmouth to Captain R Gwyllym dated 1680 to 1689.<sup>7</sup>

The diggers (among them Godfrey Townsend, 36, of Whitchurch) had left the troughs propped up with 'props and stones'. When repaired by Powell, the troughs had had to be raised by a foot in the problem area. The reason for the case was that water had therefore flowed through Nourse's Bridge House, causing it to be damaged. But Gwyllym was pointing out that it had been Nourse's fault in the first place for digging the cinders. Several of the deponents mentioned that the furnace was built on an ancient furnace foundation.

### **St Dubricius, Whitchurch**

We then drove over the A40 to St Dubricius, the parish church (**SMR 6773**). The tithe map shows a number of ponds along the route (see next map), the stream running along the road (literally) before it branches into two, one going to the 'wharf' on the Wye S of the church, the other on the N of the church where it drains into the Wye – only this latter branch of the stream remains open. The road to the church leads past Old Court, which belonged to the wealthy Rudhall Gwyllym (or Gwillim) and his family. Although it is called 'Court' as I have never found any record showing that the Goodrich manorial court was held there, but the earlier court records do not give the location of the sessions.

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<sup>4</sup> Note that the original Goodrich manorial mill was at Old Mill, further upstream on the Garron from Old Forge.

<sup>5</sup> Transcription in Hereford Library, Large Pamphlet box. E.134 24/25 Ch 2

<sup>6</sup> A local resident has informed me that before the A40 obliterated it, there was a house called the 'Bridge House' which stood at the place where the leat took off from the main stream. This is some distance from the site of the furnace.

<sup>7</sup> NLW Mynde 1318-20 (not examined)

One reason for visiting the church was to inspect progress of work on restoring the Gwillim tomb. The Gwillim family came into possession of what is now called Old Court in Whitchurch in 1600 through the marriage of Thomas Gwillim (son of William Gwillim of Trepercent in St. Weonards) to Barbara Powell, a granddaughter of Sir Thomas Herbert of Raglan.<sup>8</sup> Rudhall Gwillim was Thomas's son. Incidentally, Barbara Powell was the widow of Thomas Powell, and daughter of Walter Powell and his heiress with her sister Brigid. Details of the family are given in a Star Chamber case<sup>9</sup> concerning a violent affray in the churchyard of St. Giles Goodrich on Whit Monday, 1607. Thomas Gwillim was a friend of Edward Savaker, the vicar of Goodrich whose servant was attacked.

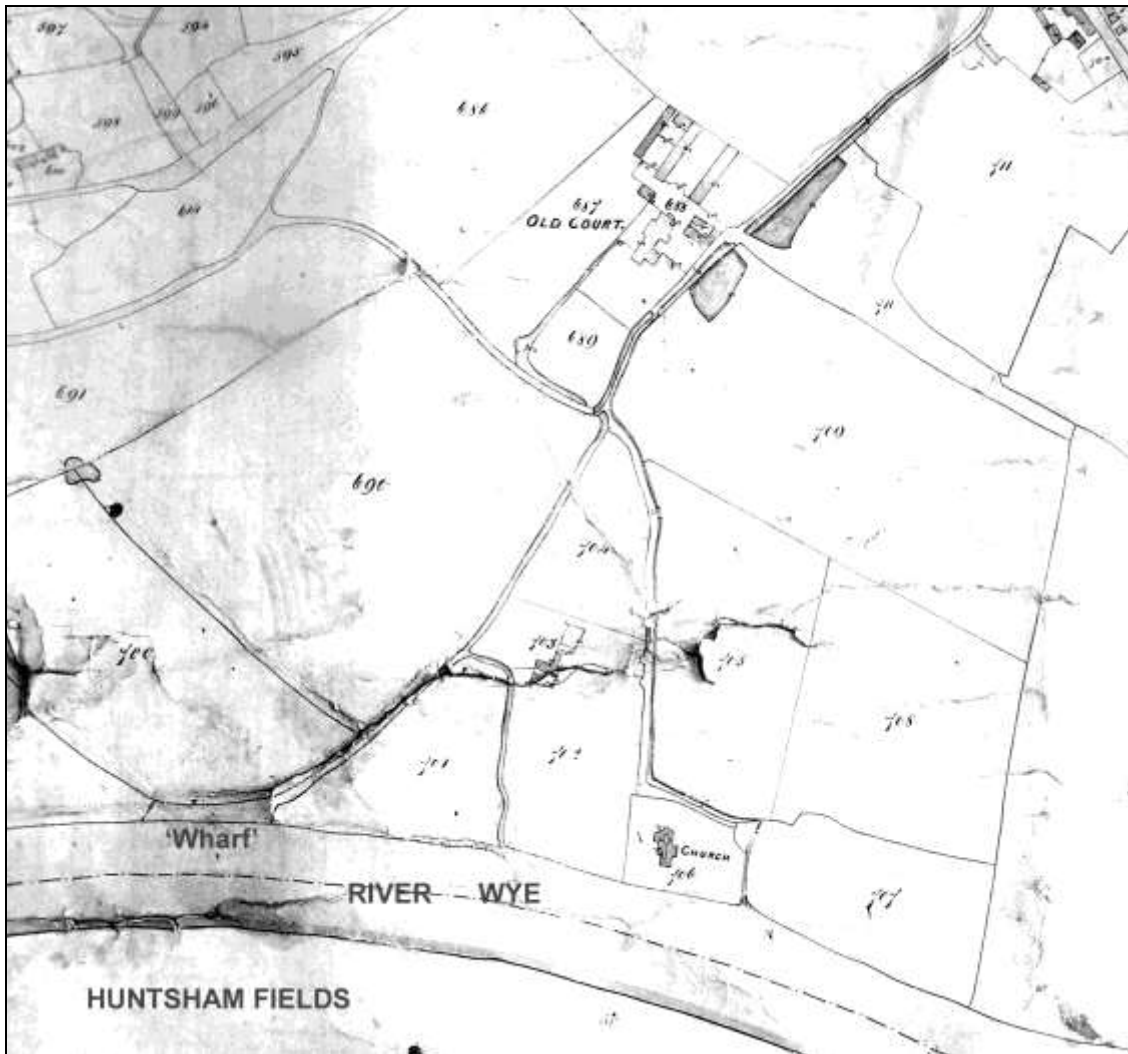


Figure 1 Whitchurch Tithe 1847 (map in poor condition) ©Herefordshire Archives

Old Court descended to a Thomas Gwillim who inherited it in 1721. His son Thomas, who married Elizabeth Spinckes in 1750, was a career soldier who saw service in Canada. During his Christmas leave in 1761 his daughter Elizabeth was conceived, but he died on the 29 January on his return to service in Germany. His wife died in childbirth, so Elizabeth Posthuma Gwillim was an orphan at the age of 1 day. She was brought up by her relatives, visiting Whitchurch frequently. She married John Graves Simcoe (another soldier) and put down roots

<sup>8</sup> The information on the Gwillims is taken from *The extraordinary lives of Elizabeth Posthuma Gwillim & John Graves Simcoe* by Ann Gwillim Parker. This booklet was published in 2003 by Whitchurch Parochial Church Council, with the aid of the Heritage Lottery Fund, who also supported the restoration of the Gwillim tomb. Also see *The History of Monmouthshire Skenfrith Hundred* by pp

<sup>9</sup> PRO STAC 8/234/10 23 Jan 1608/9



in Devon, which is why many deeds concerning property in Whitchurch are now housed in the Devon Record Office in the Simcoe collection. In 1791 John Simcoe, his wife and some of their children left Devon for him to take up a position as Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada. Ann Gwillim Parker's booklet (details below) tells a fascinating story of the adventures of the Simcoe family in Canada. Elizabeth was a prolific artist, and her sketches and paintings are an invaluable record of early Canada., where John Graves Simcoe is revered.

The Simcoes are not buried in Whitchurch, but the Gwillim grave is a handsome monument to a wealthy local family. At the time of the field meeting, only the coping of the right hand side of the grave enclosure had been replaced, funds are awaited to finish the work. The grave is well built in sandstone, with a finely carved and coloured armorial.



Figure 5 The Gwillim grave enclosure



Figure 6 Details of Gwillim coat of arms (it is coloured)

The early history of the church is open to debate. St. Dubricius (Welsh Dyfrig) lies in a position right on the banks of the Wye. It is vulnerable to flooding, in common with other early church sites mentioned in the Llandaff charters such as Dixton and Llanwarne. This western bank of the Wye is somewhat higher than the opposite bank along the Huntsham peninsula, which acts

as a considerable floodplain. In spite of this, the church has often been flooded. On the day we visited the river was in spate, and was running only about 30cm below the level of the graveyard.

Until it was ploughed out, there was evidence of a considerable holloway in the field opposite the church on the Huntsham peninsula – indeed, the field was known as the Holloway field in earlier deeds. We were unable to visit a wharf area just downstream from the church because of the floods. This is approached by another deep holloway (now called Old Wharf Lane) from the Old Court direction – this has become clogged with rubbish in places. These holloways taken in conjunction would argue for a considerable traffic between Whitchurch and Huntsham, though surprisingly the tithe map does not show a ferry at this point.

Soon after the Norman occupation of this area, various lands and the revenue from a number of churches were given to the priory of St. Mary of Monmouth. This had been founded c1080 by Gwethenoc, a Breton who as tenant to the king eventually succeeded Roger fitz Osbern after the latter's rebellion. In its turn, St. Mary's revenues were granted to St. Florent of Saumur. Owing to this connection, many of the grants to the priory survive in French archives. On his retirement to the cloister c1082 Gwethenoc was succeeded by his nephew William fitzBaderon, who thus appears in the Domesday survey.

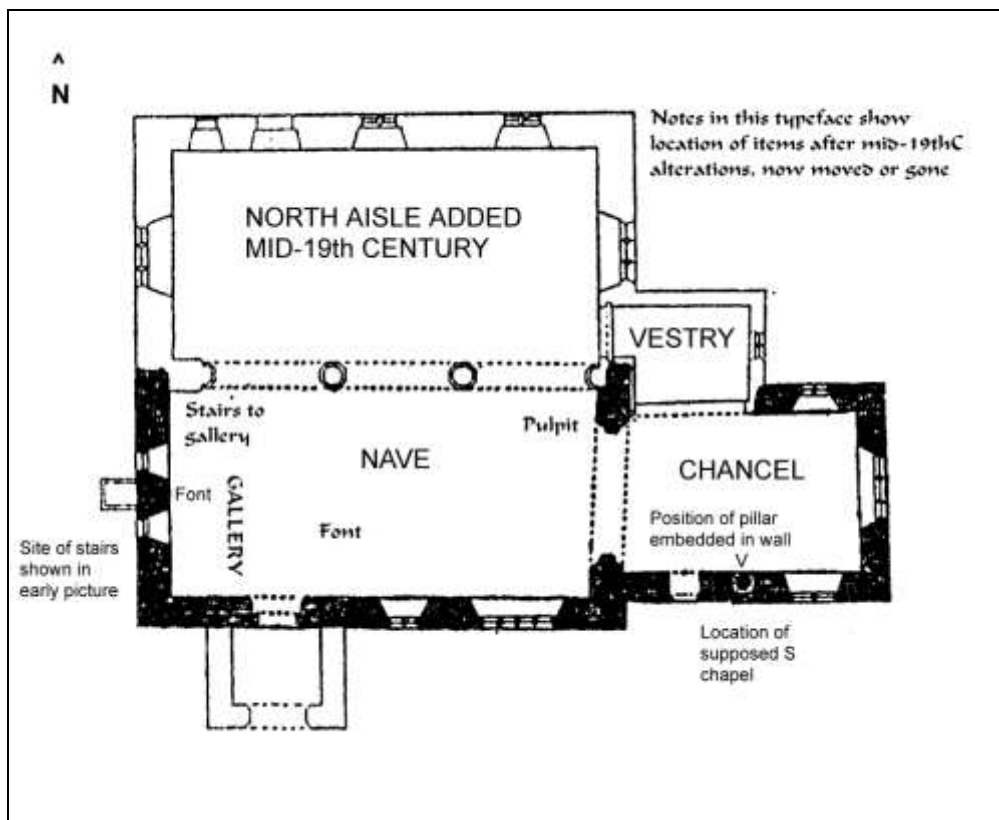


Figure 7 Plan of St Dubricius

The earliest grants by Gwethenoc to the priory include the church of Welsh Bicknor – Welsh Bicknor being in the manor of Monmouth - but not St. Giles Goodrich or Album Monasterium [Whitchurch], both lying in the geographical area of the manor belonging to Godric Mapson.<sup>10</sup> They appear somewhat later, in charters dated in the 1140's. Bruce Coplestone-Crow speculates that William fitz-Baderon's wife Hadwise was in fact Godric Mapson's heiress, or at least that Goodrich was taken into wardship on Godric Mapson's death, and later given as dowry to Hadwise.<sup>11</sup> This would explain their later appearance in grants. The name 'Album Monasterium' is interesting – it implies that the church was limewashed, for one thing. Although one should not read too much into the word 'monasterium', it can imply that the church was a

<sup>10</sup> This doesn't mean necessarily that he owned them.

<sup>11</sup> Personal communication

minster type church, in the Celtic style, with an extended area of ministry. Certainly there was no post-Conquest monastic foundation here. It must be a candidate for one of Ergyng's early church sites.



Figure 2 St Dubricius from drawing in church (from S, probably 18th C) ©Whitchurch PCC



Figure 3 S wall of the nave

The situation of the church is precariously near the river. It is quite possible that this position is getting worse as the flow of the river around the curve erodes the bank, and one could speculate on how much has gone in the past 1000 years. The plan (Figure 7 Plan of St Dubricius) indicates the position of a 13<sup>th</sup> C chapel on the south of the chancel, which according to RCHM was demolished in the 16<sup>th</sup> C, at which time the central column of a two-bay arcade leading to the chapel from the chancel was incorporated into the fabric of the wall – RCHM thinks it to be *in situ*. The nave and chancel are believed to have been largely rebuilt in the 14<sup>th</sup> C. The embedded column is somewhat low compared to the current floor level, and it is interesting to speculate that the 14<sup>th</sup> C rebuilding raised the floor in response to a disastrous flood.

A possible scar of the removed arcade into the S chapel can be seen on the outside wall, and a door now blocked – see figure above.



Figure 4 Column in chancel S wall



Figure 5 Eastmost window in S nave wall – compare with the sketch

The church was extensively altered in 1860-1. At that time, a loan was granted on condition that all pews were free. A plan can be seen on the Church Building Society's website. It allows for a new north block of the nave, and a gallery approached by an internal staircase.

The gallery has been removed but the stump of the supporting front timber remains in the wall to the N of the entrance door. The gallery may have replaced an earlier one, or perhaps a raised pew, as in the early sketch there are clearly stairs leading up on this W side of the church. There is no trace of a previous door on this wall, it has been obliterated by two new windows and a buttress.

The early sketch also shows a window above and slightly to the right of the porch, which itself is narrower and less ecclesiastical looking than the 1861 replacement. The window behind the cross in the drawing is now somewhat different. It seems possible that the roof was lowered when the church was re-roofed in 1860/1, though the earlier roof timbers were re-used. These show evidence of nails so presumably the roof timbers were not exposed.



Figure 6 12th C arcaded font

The church has a striking early circular font, which has at some time been vandalised (there is no other word) in order to fit it on to an octagonal base. RCHM considers that the original font is 12<sup>th</sup> C, cut down in the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> C.

Assuming that the font *does* belong to the church, the style is unusually plain for a church which enjoyed the patronage of William fitzBaderon. Fonts carved in a particular Romanesque style are found in Herefordshire & surrounding counties, and they have been identified as belonging to churches with a set of Norman patrons that included fitzBaderon.<sup>13</sup> However, the surviving Romanesque sculptures from Monmouth and Ruardean, another fitzBaderon church, are comparatively restrained.

The graveyard has a considerable number of attractive old stones, and an interesting cross. Some of the stones have already been illustrated in an article in the Woolhope Transactions<sup>12</sup>. One which was out of sight due to the floods on our visit has been embedded in the wall of the steps leading down from the graveyard to the river – fig. 9. The churchyard contains a fine ancient Tulip tree, supposedly planted in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> C by a member of the Gwillim family.



Figure 7 Memorial on steps

<sup>12</sup> TWNFC 1990 pp380-9 Plates XXXI-LIV

<sup>13</sup> Thurlby, *The Herefordshire School of Romanesque Sculpture*, Logaston, 1999 pp 129-134. Note that there is some confusion about the Baderon genealogy in this account.





Figure 8 Thomas Dew gravestone



Figure 9 Benjamin Dew gravestone



Figure 10 Cross



Figure 11 Niche

There is nothing that shows the original style of the top of the cross. The early (18<sup>th</sup> C?) sketch of the church can be found inside, which shows the top as a stump, but with the niche in its current position. The booklet on Elizabeth Simcoe shows a drawing of the church from the direction of the river supposedly made in 1791, but in it the replacement cross is in place, and the church has its current form of porch, windows and there is no chimney as seen in the earlier drawing.

## Llangrove

In the afternoon members reconvened at Llangrove church. The parish of Llangrove is of relatively recent formation, having been carved out of Llangarren in 1856-7. The land for the building of the church and the school was given by Mrs Marriott, the lady of the manor of Goodrich. The fact that she owned land in the centre of the village reflects the fact that the populated centre of Llangrove has been largely formed upon land which was originally a common belonging to the lord of the manor of Goodrich. Extensive encroachment settlement took place on this common, and the adjacent one of Old Grove from the 17<sup>th</sup> C onwards, though mostly in the later 18<sup>th</sup> C & 19<sup>th</sup> C. By the time of the formation of the new parish, there were many souls in need of a nearer church than the parish church at Llangarren, though there was already a non-conformist element. Long Grove and Old Grove commons were enclosed with the consent of the manor's 'meese' tenants after proposals were initiated in 1815.

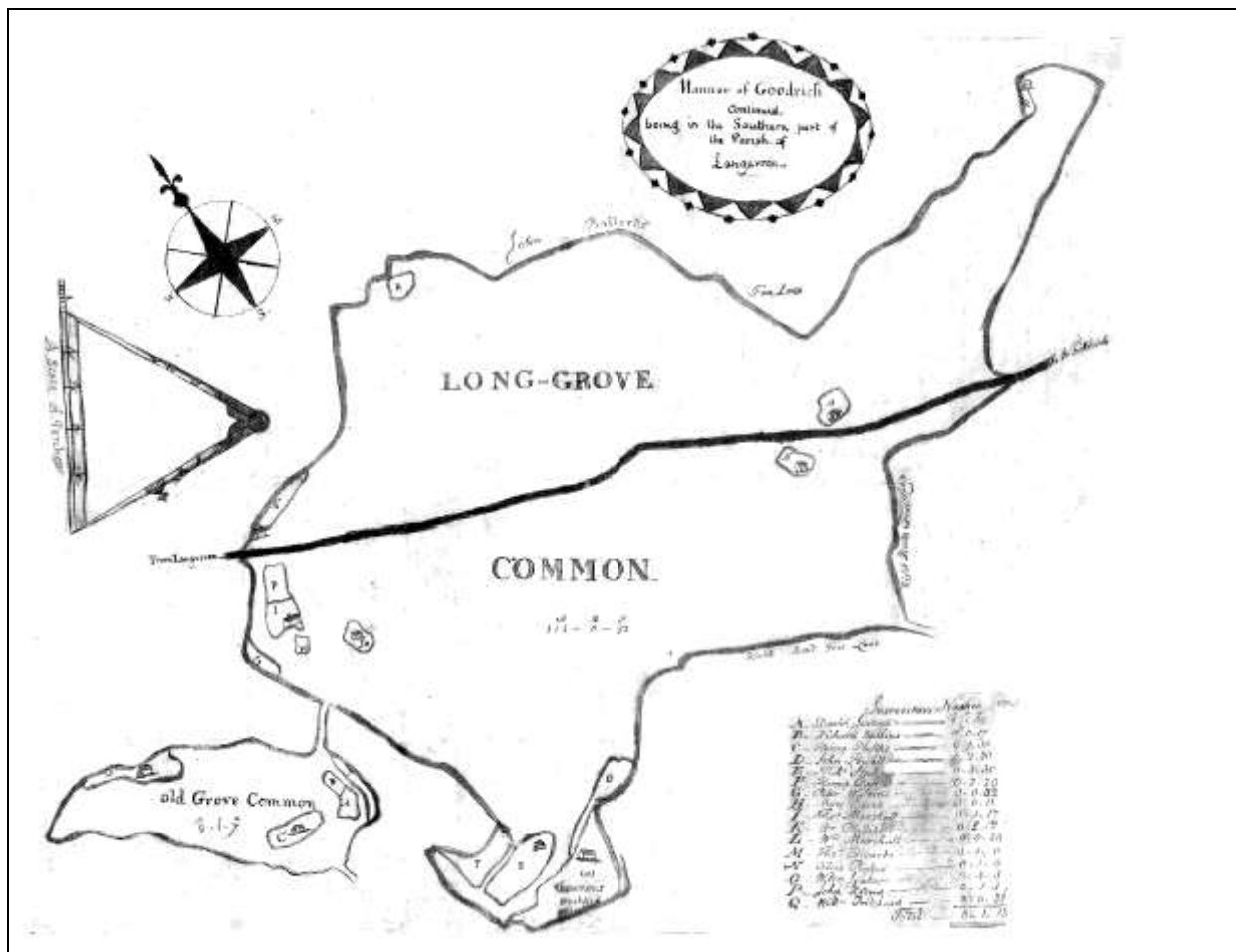


Figure 12 Old Grove & Long Grove in 1718 (HA O68/Maps/3) ©Herefordshire Archives

The original name of the common was Long Grove, and in 1372 it is mentioned as 'Longegroue' with 'Douwarth' as underwood 'containing 100 acres; it is made into charcoal every ninth year, and is then worth 10l.'<sup>14</sup> Old Grove is not mentioned separately at this early date. Old Grove is typical of the wooded commons within the manor of Goodrich, being steeply sloping uncultivable land. Long Grove is different, mostly being relatively flat land although somewhat exposed at around 140m above sea level. It bears a resemblance in situation to Garway common, which has remained largely undeveloped. Perhaps this is a reflection of the easier attitude to encroachment of Goodrich manor, provided (of course) that the encroachers paid their fines in lieu of rent. Together, Old Grove and Long Grove covered about 124 acres in 1718. We are fortunate that the 1718 survey of Goodrich manor mentioned earlier included Long Grove and Old Grove, so we have a map showing

<sup>14</sup> Duncumb, Hundred of Wormelow, p105 IPM of Elizabeth Talbot when it was held 'in her demesne as of fee, ..lordship of Goderychescastell'



encroachments at that date. Interestingly, it is the only map in the survey for which we also have the original version as drafted by Edward Laurence.<sup>15</sup> As can be seen from the map, Long Grove is not particularly *long*, rather polygonal. This field visit concentrated primarily on Old Grove, leaving Long Grove for another day. Old Grove is clearly separated from Long Grove, but what makes it *old* as opposed to *long* is not clear. The two were joined in 1718 by a strip of land - between 567 & 635 on the tithe map - still the access road to Old Grove. The shape of Old Grove common is still visible on the modern map, delineated by field and woodland boundaries.



Figure 13 Old Grove in 1718 (HA AW87) ©Herefordshire Archives

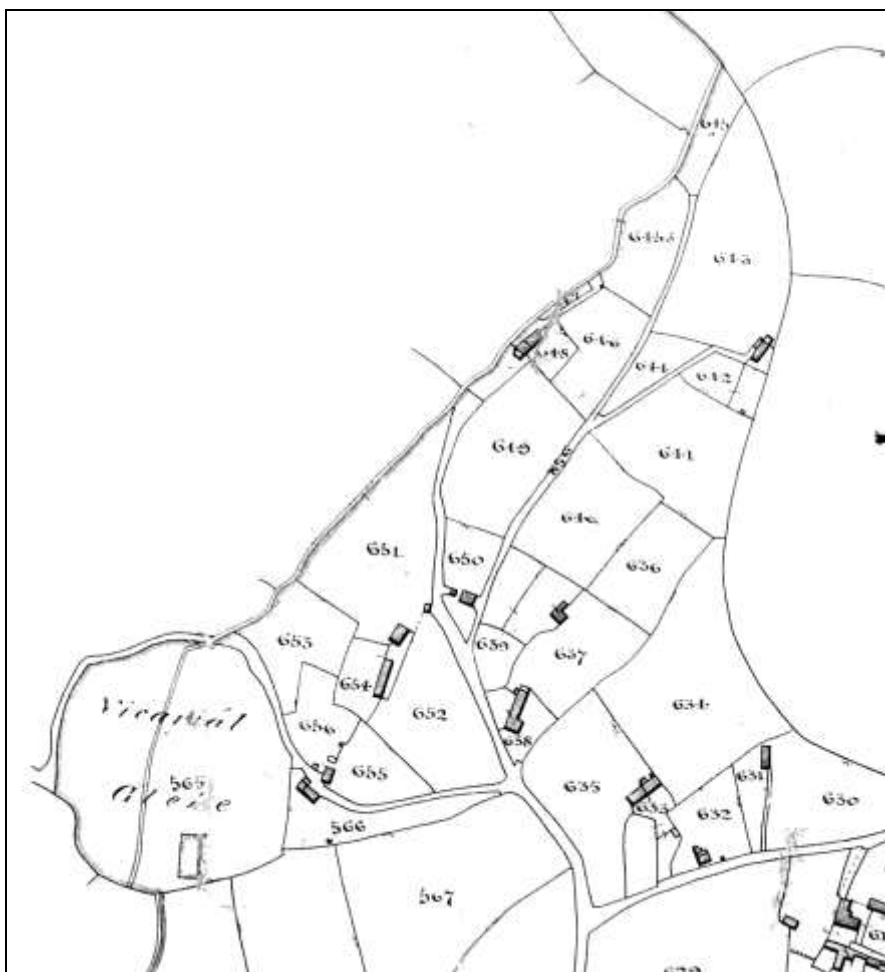


Figure 14 Old Grove in Llangarren tithe map 1840. ©Herefordshire Archives

The starting point for our field visit was Old Grove House, (SO 522 192) which appears as one of the encroachments with a house on the 1718 map – encroachment C which belonged to Henry Philips.

<sup>15</sup> HA O68/Maps/3

(Although I say belonged, the encroachers did not own their dwellings even though they had probably built them). In the draft form of the map, the house is shown without a chimney but it had acquired one in the final version. Unusually, it has been possible to link the ownership of Old Grove House right the way through from before 1718 to today, using Goodrich manor documents and copies of deeds. This is given in an appendix.

Old Grove common is bounded on the SW side by a small stream, which later joins that running into Whitchurch. The stream formed the boundary between the parishes of Welsh Newton and Llangarren before Llangrove was established, except in the SW corner, where the boundary follows the margin of a field which once contained a chapel, as is clearly shown on the tithe map. After sheltering in Old Grove House from a downpour, we made our way from the house (no. 654 on the tithe map) through the steep garden (651) to the stream. The barn adjacent to Old Grove House (shown in 651) has now been converted into a separate house. As we passed below its garden we could see some stones used as a border which were from a building (SO 5215 1925). It's believed (hearsay) that these stones were part of the ruined chapel which had been in a pile the field below, and were re-used in the 1980s.



Figure 15 Old Grove House - SW side overlooking stream



Figure 16 Dressed stones in garden next to Old Grove House

As we reached the bottom of the valley and the stream, we were joined by a track from above, which on the tithe map leads to the house in 648. The stream is a small affair, rising in the steeper ground

to the N, where the map shows ponds in Treworgan and Tredoughan farmland.<sup>16</sup> Although it can rise suddenly in the right conditions, there is no evidence on the ground that within recent times it has ever been more than the very small affair it is today, and in the summer it virtually dries up. We followed the boundary to the former house site at tithe location 648 – there was no house or encroachment indicated in 1718 (SO 521 192). There is still the evidence of the house stonework, and broken pantiles indicate the former roof covering. As there is the possibility of road access to the house and it was occupied well within living memory, it is difficult to see why it was abandoned, but it is vulnerable to flash flooding.

We followed the boundary along to the roadway between 645 and 645b, which has now been extended to provide an access road to a house in Welsh Newton parish, incidentally making the stream back up into a marshy area. We did not have time to visit the house between tithe nos. 642 and 643, which appears to be the house D on the 1718 map, occupied by John Powell.

### **Glynston Chapel**

One of the objects of the field trip was to re-visit the site of Glynston Chapel, briefly visited by the ARS some 20 years ago. (HAN47p13) (SMR 6388) The field containing the site of the chapel is no. 565 on the Llangarren tithe map, called Chapel Meadow. None of the recent accounts of the chapel mention that the tithe map in Herefordshire Archives (as shown above) indicates a large rectangular feature in the field, oriented E-W. (SE corner approx. SO 52280 19024)

One can only presume that researchers had not used the original map – it is very large and unwieldy even though split into sections after repair. The Llangarren-Welsh Newton parish boundary leaves the stream here, and encloses the roughly circular field before re-joining the stream on the other side. This site is a lesson not to read too much into circular church sites – the two halves of the ‘circle’ rise steeply from the central stream. The contours of the field have been altered a lot in recent years: older inhabitants remember when the stream seen running across the field was in a much deeper valley. This silting up may have been caused by a dam across the stream at the downstream (SE) boundary holding up more frequent flash floods. The house at 566 on the tithe – just a land encroachment in 1718 – is now called Brook House. The owners now also own Chapel Meadow, and there has been extensive earth moving in the area between their garden, and into Chapel Meadow. This can be seen on the near right of the panorama.



Figure 17 Panorama of Chapel Field from E

Using dimensions of the rectangle shown in the tithe map, and its relative position to the old established hedges, we used ranging rods to mark out the position of the rectangle on the ground. (next figure). It is surprisingly large for a chapel, some 81’ feet by 32’ (24.6m by 9.7m). It seems likely that these were the outside dimensions of the collapsed walls and the original building was somewhat smaller. The area marked is spuriously level near the stream where the original ground level was more sloping; at the side nearer the camera it is more sloping owing to recent earth moving.

From the tithe map it can be seen that the field was Vicarial Glebe in 1840. The ‘vicar’ in question was the vicar of Lugwardine, Hugh Hanmer Morgan, one of the residential canons of Hereford Cathedral and Chancellor of the cathedral. This reflects the odd position of the parish of Llangarren, for it was one of three ‘chapelries’ of Lugwardine, along with Hentland and St. Weonards. Note that this has nothing to do with chapels – it means that Lugwardine was in effect the ‘minster’ church for these parishes, which had parish churches not chapels. The vicar of Lugwardine had to supply clergy to the

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<sup>16</sup> Tredoughan or Treduchan Waylod was one of the ancient ‘suites’ of Goodrich manor, indeed, it was sometimes called a manor itself though this was not the case. It appears in the Goodrich manorial records.

chapelries to fulfil the normal duties expected of them. In Domesday the king owned Lugwardine, which had three churches belonging to it in Archenfield, and it is tempting to see these as Llangarren, Hentland and St. Weonards. By 1681 Ballingham and Little Dewchurch also gave tithes to Lugwardine.<sup>17</sup>



Figure 18 Measured rectangle from tithe map, ranging rods at corners highlighted

The parish of Llangarren is itself an enigma. The tithe apportionment maps show the bizarre shapes of the parishes in the area, not resolved until 1884 when isolated and detached parts of Whitchurch and Llangarren were exchanged. Indeed, Llangarren had a very small detached portion at the Crockers Ash crossroads, on the old Whitchurch-Monmouth road until that date. A full investigation might be able to draw interesting conclusions about the creation of parishes in this area of Eryngy, post-Conquest.

Even now, Llangarren parish is very large. It had a number of small chapels within the parish. A note was made c1840 by Samuel Garness of Llangarron, owner of Trefassey – ‘That there were 7 chapelries [sic-should be chapels] there:- of which Llangunnock was one, Llancloudy another;- another was called Llandonnog at Steep Hill Cottage, above Whitchurch – another by Llangrove [sic] Common, called Grainistone's or Grainstone's chapel, exactly on the boundary between Llangarron and Welsh Newton, so that the field in which it stood is called the Chapel meadow, & the boundary of Llangarron parish there leaves the brook to go round the meadow, - otherwise it follows the brook – that part therefore seems to have been taken out of Welsh Newton.

That he had seen an old man, who knew the person that had taken up the gravestones at Grainstone's chapel, whereas it is unusual for burials to take place at such chapels (Mr Street of Kilreague once said that a man has [sic] been prosecuted for removing stones from taking away [sic] the material that had been left in Chapel Meadow)’.<sup>18</sup>

One of the problems with ‘Glynston’ chapel is that its name is easily confused with ‘Glewston’ chapel, particularly as the latter is sometimes spelt ‘Gluiston’. The SMR entry (6388) for Glynston chapel perpetuates this mistake quoting “The chapel nr Long Grove I recollect standing - v rough walls like a badly built barn - unroofed & partly ruined. It stood in meadow called Gleny Chapel - I fear pulled down when Mrs Memett [Marriott] built the church. The E window of the chapel was taken by old Hooper & put up in his garden at Ross. The altar stone was carried away in a cart to make a salting stone but broke all to pieces by the way (HCL Mss, Notes in Rev Webb c1870). In fact, the window taken by ‘old Hooper’ was from Glewston Chapel, as I found when researching my book on Sir Samuel Meyrick as he mentions Hooper giving it to him.

<sup>17</sup> HA AW28/19/1

<sup>18</sup> HA O68/1/102

In Hereford Library<sup>19</sup> in a volume of Phillipps MSS there is a long perambulation of the bounds of Wormelow Manor, which looks from the handwriting to be 17<sup>th</sup> C

'...over the river of Wye to Strangford from thence to Inges[r]ton down the river to Ashe and so leaving the manor of Willton unto prickes cross from then leaving out the welland [?] to the common called the Lords wood leaving the said wood on the south pte unto the lane leading from the loaste? poole to the grove and from thence along the way to the cross of the hand and leaving the parrish of Pittstow to the neare [meare?] post and to Phillip Pitson's well and thence to the tree crosses and so unto Whitefield thorne and from thence to Ston? bridge and then leaving the river of Garron one the left hand from ston bridge on the north side of Garron unto Park myll and then over the sayd river crossing the lands there up the Crigga hedge from thence up to the uper end of the Pikes and then crossing the way then straight through the lands of Mr Dobbines to the way leading from Tredunnocks barne and then along the south side of a field called Mesberth? and from thence to a sheepcoate near southnam and from thence to Carwens? pade? from Thence to Glynstons chappell and so to the grove and from there to Nantygorny and hence to Coydtrage ....'

There is a transcription of a court of survey of the bounds of Wormelow manor<sup>20</sup> in 1816 of which part says '..... thence on the north side of the River Garran to Treverving mill there crossing the said river following the course up a valley to lands called the Crickets thence up the said valley to a piece of land called the pikes belonging to Tredoughan estate thence crossing the road straight through lands belonging to the Black house farme into a road leading from Tredoughan to Tredunnock thence to a place called Much birth [sic] to a sheep cot called Treworgon Cot thence leaving Treworgon on the left to a meer stone near a field called garrans oak thence crossing the road to a valley divideing the parishes of Llangarren & Welsh Newton to a place called the Glascomb thence to the ruins of a Chappel called Glinstones chappel thence down the same valley leaving Trewern on the right & Trewen on the left...'

However, in the 18C Bishop's visitation of Llangarren, in response to the question as to whether there were any chapels in the parish, the reply was 'there was one chapel but it was ruinous'. Whether this was Glynston is unknown. The chapel is marked as a ruin on Taylor's 1786 map.

According to a note by Elizabeth Taylor in the SMR file, 'the kitchen floor of the nearest cottage' has been paved with gravestones. Also, the piscina and a broken slab from the site are in the modern Llangrove church. The broken slab in the church is there, but I did not see the piscina. The nearest cottage is Brook House. I did not see grave stones on the floor, though in the oldest part there are large stones in the outer wall near the fireplace, which could have come from the chapel. The Rev. John Windle of Llangrove wrote some notes<sup>21</sup> on the chapel which may be true or not. He said that the holy water stoup was a birdbath at Mark's Farm, belonging to Mr. Fred Watkins, who also had some woodwork from the chapel. He had heard that the font was supposed to be in Pembridge castle chapel.

The question that must be asked is why was the chapel there? The road which makes a detour around the field leads from Long Grove common to Welsh Newton common, but can hardly be called a cross-country route of any significance, though Welsh Newton tithe map implies it led from Whitchurch. It is virtually impassable to wheeled traffic now because of shelving rock close to the surface, though there are minimal traces of a surface. It must have been a packhorse track or droving road of some antiquity, but it skirts Chapel Field. It's quite clear from the 1718 map that the track led between the two encroachments marked 'A' and skirted the field, then crossing the stream. To some extent, the course of the track is governed by the lie of the land, but it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that it post-dates the establishment of the Chapel meadow. The fact that the parish boundary between Welsh Newton and Llangarren also circled the field points to a very old and respected enclosure. This may just mean that originally the income from the meadow & its valuable hay supported the church – only later was a chapel built there.

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<sup>19</sup> Hereford Library: Herefordshire MSS (volume which originally belonged to James Hill, then to John Allen 1818, then to R B Phillipps of Longworth) p117 not all transcribed

<sup>20</sup> HA A2/1 volume with Wormelow manor papers

<sup>21</sup> HA AC77/34 28 March 1951

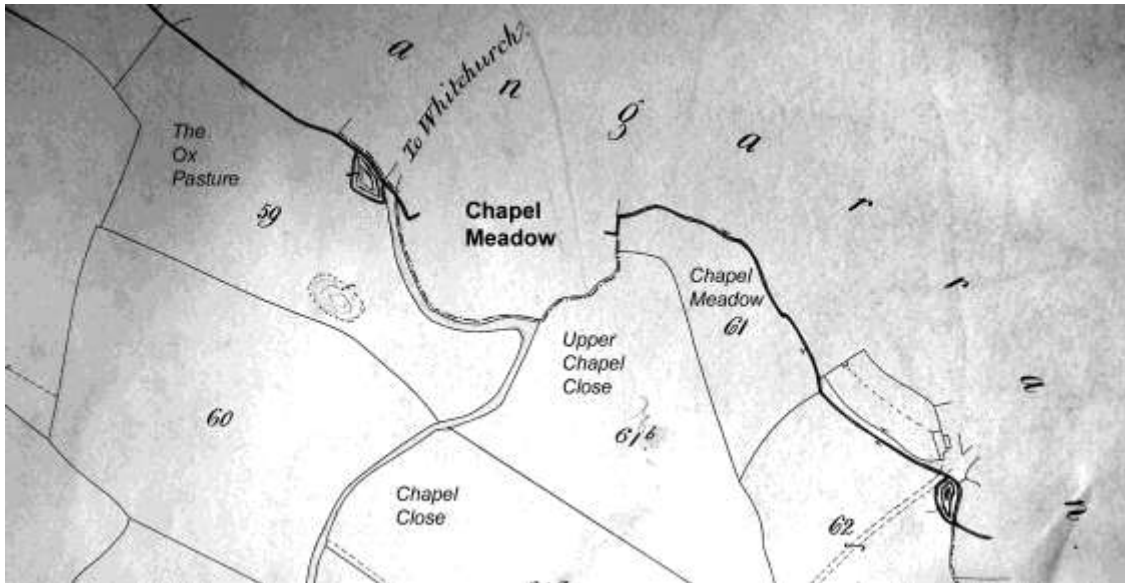


Figure 19 Welsh Newton tithe map, showing field names in W Newton & area of Chapel Meadow ©Herefordshire Archives

From both tithe maps it is noticeable that the stream running through Chapel meadow makes a pronounced kink at its lower end. The field below the meadow on both sides of the stream now belong to Tretawdy farm, of which more later. By kind permission of Mrs Cook, the owner, we were allowed to go into the fields below Chapel meadow to investigate this. Recently, the course of the stream has been straightened to cut off the kink, and the stream channel deepened here. However, it is evident that at some time a dam has been built for some 10-15m across the valley, some 0.5m to 1m high, faced with stones. (SO 52295 19031).

The top of the dam is almost the same height as the ground level in the field behind, and thus may have caused the silting up of the meadow. It's impossible to estimate the age of the dam - the stonework cannot be called properly built - but it seems likely that there was a water management system there in 1840, even though no pond is shown on the maps. The dam site is covered with nettles and the photographs are not worth reproducing. The flat-bottomed field just below the dam looks as if there may have been another dam further downstream, but we could find no evidence.

At the time of the tithe maps, Rev. Hugh Hanmer Morgan held the Church & churchyards of Bosbury, Little Dewchurch and Llangarren, plus numerous glebe lands etc. in Lugwardine & Michaelchurch Escley. As well as Chapel meadow, he held a very small piece of land on which a non-conformist chapel and schoolroom had just been built no 575 which is on the end of the field 574.. (See next map) This chapel is now a house.

For orientation, Chapel meadow is at the top middle of the map. The area below represents the area to the right of the map of Old Grove in 1718, containing incroachments E & F, plus Gammon's orchard. (the tithe map has to be rotated about 90 counter-clockwise to orientate it with the 1718 map). It is difficult to map the 1718 incroachments precisely onto the cottages shown in the 1718 map. It seems likely that incroachment F with its characteristic boot shape is represented by part of field 564, with Tretawdy farm (560) at the uphill end.

Gammons orchard with its house (1718) is represented by most of 550, plus 551, 552 and 553. In 1718 this was held as a tenant at will by Mrs Hoskyns of Trewen. Incroachment O with its tiny cottage by 544 plus a thin sliver which has been absorbed by 550.

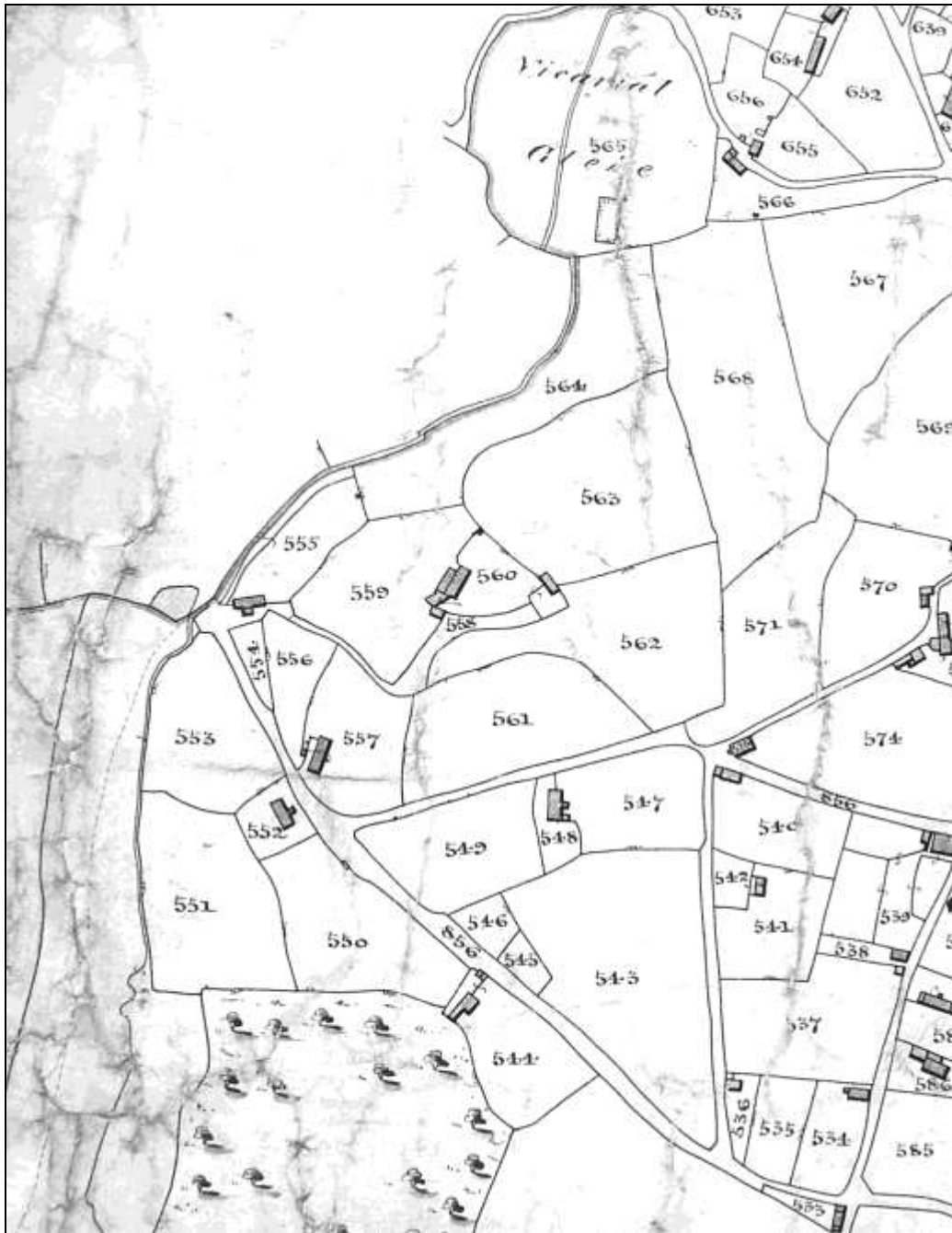


Figure 20 Llangarren tithe map 1840 ©Herefordshire Archives

More extensive research in the Cathedral archives and the National Archives may reveal more details of the chapel, but it is very elusive.

I would like to thank residents of Llangrove for their hospitality and helpfulness:

## Documentary History of Old Grove House

From the documents presented below, it is possible to give a full history of Old Grove House since 1703 at least. This could probably be extended with more research in the Goodrich Manor court rolls..

### Goodrich Manor – Incroachments in Old Grove & Long Grove. (Herefordshire Archives)

#### 1672 Manorial Court (G38/1/64)

Latin. Presentment covers Long Grove and the Doward together. (only have left of page)

Names include: Umbts Jenkyns, Robertus Prees, Umbts (Humphrey) Barrett, - Evans widow?, [space] Thomas Marshall, John Hill, William Lewys de le weare? & William Lewis?

#### 1689 Manorial Court (G38/1/65/1)

Also they doe present Richard Evans, David Jenkins, Thomas Marshall, Anne Williams, Wm Lane, Thomas Edwards, Nicholas Stock, Margaret Jowlins?, for incroaching and erecting cottages in Long Grove

#### 1689 Manorial Court (G38/1/66)

..Also they doe present R? Evans, - Jenkins, Thomas Marshall, Anne Williams, Wm Lane, Thomas Edwards, Nicholas Stock, - -, Margaret J-, for incroaching and erecting cottages in Long Grove  
also they do present Robt -, - -, - -, - Lewis and Thomas – for keeping goats 1d a peece.

#### 1703 (HRO O68/I/8)

John Powell	}	for Cottages & Incroachm <sup>ts</sup> in the
David Jenkins	}	common called Old grove
Henry Phillips	}	

Thomas Marshall	}	
Anne Williams	}	for Cottages & Incroachm <sup>ts</sup> in the
Thomas Edwards	}	common called Long grove
Nicholas Stock	}	
Margaret Prosser	}	

William Lane	}	for Incroachm <sup>ts</sup> only in
Humfry Barrett?	}	Long grove
Wm Jenkins	}	

#### 1718 Map with encroachers names (HRO AW87 & draft of map which is O68/Maps/3)

**Old Grove:** a:r:p (probably not statute)

A	David Jenkins	0:1:39	
B	Richard Watkins	0:0:17	
C	Henry Phillips	0:1:30	(House)
D	John Powell	0:2:20	(House)

#### Long Grove

E	Nichs Stock	0:3:30	(House with chimney)
F	Hump Barret	0:2:29	
G	Peter Watkins	0:0:32	
H	Mary Reeves	0:0:11	
I	Thos. Marshall	0:1:17	(House with chimney)
(no J)			
K	Wm Phillips	0:2:2	(House)
L	Wm Marshall	0:0:34	(House)
M	Thos Edwards	0:1:0	(House)
N	Alice Rogers	0:1:0	(House)
O	Willm Jenkins	0:3:3	(House)
P	John Robins	0:1:3	
Q	Willm Pritchard	0:0:26	(House)

Also Gammons Orchard with house (in hand)

#### 1756 (HRO G38/I/81) Court Leet & Court Baron

We also present:

Thomas Marshall	Matthew Prichard
Margaret Prichard	Geo, Robins
John Powell	Edwd Jones late Henry Phillips
Wm Preece late Mary Davis	Geo. Prichard
Thomas Watkins late Wm Lewis	John Griffiths late Susan Lewis
Margt Imm?	Wm Morris

for continuing & incroaching cottages on Long Grove Common and Old Grove.



### **Old Grove House, Llangrove : : information from deeds and peoples' recollections**

**1789:** First documentary evidence . Following the death of Edward Jones, a mason, who lived there, his sons mortgaged the property (described as a messuage on tenement with garden and two orchards, roughly two acres in total) to John Watkins, a yeoman, also of the parish of Llangarron for £30. House was occupied by Llewellyn Llewellyn.

**1790:** The Jones family sold the property to John Watkins for £25, who then sold it to William Hall a tiler, of St Weonards for £60. From then until 1983 the Hall family were either owners or tenants of the property apart for a few years in the 1880's.

**1829:** William Hall died, leaving two sons John and William.

**1831:** William Hall (the younger) who was, it seems, living at the property, buys out John's half share for £105, but to do this he has to mortgage the property (now described as being about three acres) to Thomas Adams, a butcher, of Goodrich for £160 at 5 per cent interest.

**1841:** Thomas Adams lends William Hall a further £64 as a mortgage on the property with the right to the freehold if William Hall does not repay the whole amount on demand.

**1846:** Thomas Adams dies. Property goes to his wife Elizabeth who threatens William Hall to sell the property if he does not pay what he owes (had paid no interest since 1842). The threat was not carried out.

**1849:** Elizabeth Adams dies. No mention of any property in her will, of which her sister, Mary Rosser, is sole executor. William Hall, tiler and plasterer, becomes Mary Rossers tenant for £13 a year (property described as dwelling house, cider mill, barn, garden and orchard).

**1873:** Mary Rosser, spinster, died in Stockeld, Yorkshire where she then appeared to be living with her sister Ann Saynor (wife of a local farmer, James Saynor). She left the property to Ann, having already (in 1860) deposited the deeds with the Yorkshire Banking Company to secure a loan to James Saynor of up to £200.

**1880:** Property conveyed to Yorkshire Banking Company who had clearly lent the Saynors (now living in Scarborough) well in excess of £200 against it. By this date, William Hall (the younger) had died, by implication recently, and a Mrs Burford was the tenant.

**1882:** Yorkshire Banking Company insures "Old Grove Cottage" (first mention of any name) for £100.

**1884:** The Yorkshire Banking Company, the Saynors having defaulted on their loan, sold the property to Robert Hall, plasterer and mason of Newton Lodge, Welsh Newton, and currently also tenant of the property, for £140. Although it is not stated whether he was William Hall's son, the similar professions and the age difference (around 32 years between their deaths) makes a close relationship a reasonable presumption in what was a small community.

**1912:** Robert Hall, then living at Old Grove, dies. He left the property ( "Old Grove Cottage or Old Grove House" with the cider mill, gardens and orchards roughly 3 acres in total) on trust for his son William Charles Henry Hall of Shepherds Bush for life, then to be divided equally between his children. (Robert Hall left other properties in Llangrove and Welsh Newton to other relatives). From the death of Robert Hall, the Hall family no longer lived at Old Grove, and it was occupied by a series of tenants.

**1942-83:** William Charles Henry Hall of Hammersmith died intestate in 1942. Incredibly, letters of administration were not granted until 1980 when Wilfred Ernest Hall of Kingston on Thames (presumably either a son or a grandson) was made administrator. Presumably, throughout the 1942-83 period the Vaughans, as sitting tenants were paying rent (apparently 7/6 or 37.5 p a week in the early 1980's) to the Halls.

**1983:** Wilfred Ernest Hall and William Robert Hall (another son of William Charles Henry Hall?) jointly sold the property to Alan Porter Ltd (the price reflected the Vaughan's status as sitting tenants).

**1983:** A Porter got planning permission for "Stable Cottage" (then a derelict barn with cider press) to be renovated as a dwelling & in an improvement grant for Old Grove, and subsequently got planning permission for a garage. He sold off the barn with planning permission to renovate plus around ¼ acre to Mr & Mrs Bradley.

**1986:** Following the deaths of John and Dorothy Vaughan, the previously sitting tenants, Alan Porter sold the now renovated "Upper Grove" to Mr & Mrs Edwards.

**Known tenants** of Old Grove between death of Robert Hall in 1912 and purchase by Anthony and Bethia Edwards in 1986.

From around 1928 to about 1933 Thomas family (incidentally previously and briefly, tenants of Quarry Cottage). Father was a joiner, son, also a joiner, born 1923,.still lives at Welsh Newton Common.

From around 1933 The Vaughan family. Mother made cider and perry, kept geese, and had stall on Monmouth market. Fathers occupation unknown. Following their deaths (in 1950s), two of their children, both of whom had been made deaf and dumb by a viral infection in their childhoods, continued to live at Old Grove. John, who had worked as a farmhand, died 1986 aged about 80. Dorothy, a little younger, died in 1985.

**The Shed in the Goodrich Vicarage Vegetable Garden by Roz Lowe**

In 1982 the vicarage at Goodrich was sold by the diocese of Hereford. The vicarage had a vegetable garden, separated from the vicarage itself by a road called locally Church Pitch, though it is also known in deeds as Frog Lane, as it leads down towards a marshy area called Frog Moor. The vegetable garden was sold separately and was bought by a local lady called Miss Rudd, who lived in a nearby house known as Whitehall. She gave the garden to Herefordshire Nature Trust as a nature reserve, and asked that it should be called 'Pool Ellocks' after the adjacent field, to preserve the name.

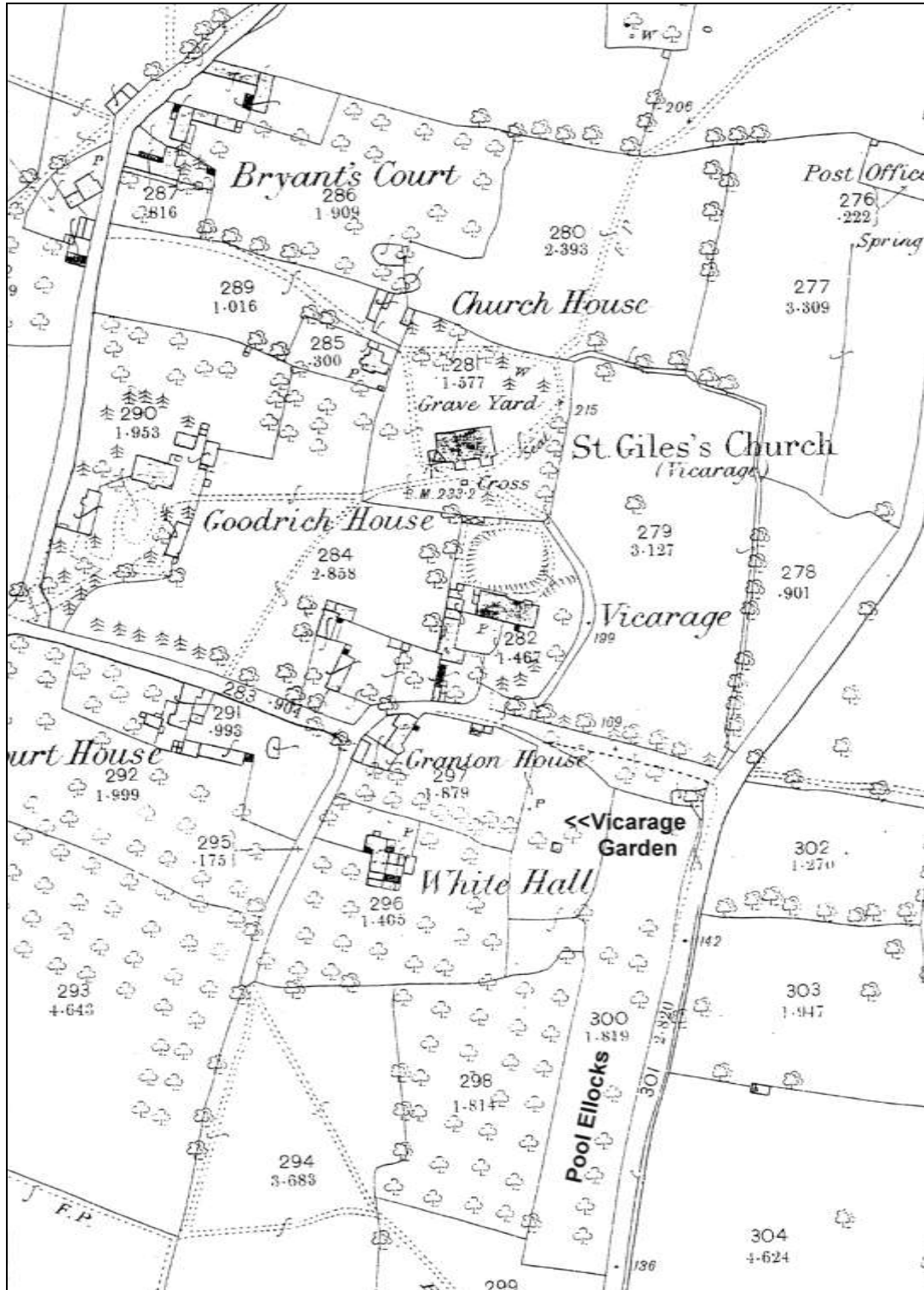


Figure 21 Goodrich from 1884 OS map showing the Vicarage Garden

In June 2005 the Goodrich Local history Group was invited to look around the nature reserve by the local voluntary warden, Matthew Hooper. In particular, he wanted our opinion on a building in the garden, as the roof had been damaged by a fallen tree. Was it worth applying for funds to restore it? Although the building is shown on the 1839 tithe map, it was in the expectation that it would be a simple garden shed that the group visited on 2 July.

It was a garden shed, but of a superior order. About 4.5m square, from the evidence of a broken tile it was originally pantiled, though now slated, but its most unusual feature was its windows



Figure 22 E wall of building



Figure 23 S wall of building

The building is somewhat sunken into the hillside on the W side, though this may be just from an accumulation of soil. The N and S walls each have a small sandstone-framed window (about 50 by 40cm and 10cm thick) with an oval aperture c28 by 23cm, with evidence of hinges for shutters inside. The two similar windows flanking the door in the E appear not to have had shutters. The original door is gone..

It is not apparent from the map, but the vicarage garden lies on a fairly steep slope running down to a valley running approximately N-S. The prevailing winds run along the valley, and so shutters in the N & S walls would be sufficient to keep out the worst of the wind.

The windows are too small for anyone to get inside, and may have been so designed to protect tools etc. The building is rendered inside and out, and painted white, though inside there are traces of dark red and blue pigments in lines on the wall, but this may just be from where fallen shelves have been.

In earlier maps of the area compiled when the crossing of the Wye at Kerne Bridge was being proposed between 1800 and 1824, it appears that the garden was a meadow. The vicar at the time was elderly, but he was replaced in 1830 and it seems possible that the field was turned into a vegetable garden at this time, and the 'shed' built.

The stone window frames could have come from another building. They are somewhat eroded, but this is usual for the local sandstone. It's possible that the vicar managed to get the stone masons working for Samuel Meyrick at Goodrich Court at that time to cut them for him. They resemble a 'window' in Y Crwys, the old manorial prison in Goodrich restored by Meyrick, though this was not done until the 1840s.



Figure 24 Gable end of Y Crwys

Y Crwys has never been a barn or similar building in which an owl hole is found – in any case, they're usually circular. The stone frame at Y Crwys appears to be somewhat larger than those in the vicarage garden building. It also appears to be original, although it is known that Meyrick had to do major repairs to the structure.

The 'PoolEllocks' name for the nature reserve is interesting. In the tithe map, the fields at the bottom of the valley are called 'Pool Ellocks', as has been added to the map. However, in the earlier manorial map of 1718 there is a long thin field there called 'Long Acre'.

The 'Pool Ellocks' name would appear to refer instead to the pool at the northern end of the field, which in fact is a pool outside the field boundary, at the bottom of a piece of waste land at the side of the road leading down from the vicarage. There is still a pool here, though littered with rubbish. According to a member of the local history group, the waste land was used by the villagers to dump their household rubbish to await the council's dust cart. The owner of Granton, Mrs Robinson, later fenced it off so that it could no longer be used as a dumping ground, but it still contains litter.

The pool is fed by a stream which rises in a spring to the N of Goodrich church, runs E and then south and under a small stone bridge no doubt built when the road from the new Kerne Bridge was improved in the 1820's. From the pool the stream has been culverted for a long distance south until it reaches the Wye. 'Pool Ellocks' is an example of corruption of the Welsh name 'Pwll helig' i.e. *willow pool*.



Figure 25 Vicarage garden from the E showing the building circa 1920 from a postcard (on left in middle)

### Field Meeting to Lingen & Pedwardine by Roger Stirling-Brown

On Sunday 4 April 2004 Roger Stirling-Brown led a field visit to Lingen & Pedwardine. Seven other ARS members attended, plus one guest.

### Lingen Castle & Deserted settlement

For a brief description plus plan, see *The Royal Commission Historic Monuments Herefordshire Vol III NW*, p.136. For a more detailed description of the castle and enigmatic earthworks associated with the probable deserted settlement site, see my articles and plans in *HAN 57*, 1992, p.22. For an air photo of Lingen, see *Herefordshire past and present, an Aerial view* by Ruth Richardson and Chris Musson.<sup>22</sup> Logaston Press. ISBN 1904396208. All of us walked the deserted settlement area confirming known features and spotting possible new ones.



Figure 1 Lingen village OS map

<sup>22</sup> Logaston Press. ISBN 1904396208

New features noted with the aid of Chris Musson's air photographs were a dam E of the castle forming a long pool or mere on the W side of the site between the castle and the deserted settlement. Other earthworks on the E side of the stream were possible fishponds. On the N side of the deserted settlement, sunken ways and platforms could be house sites or burgage plots on a failed borough site, rather than a simple village.



Figure 2 Aerial photo showing mainly field to N of castle, which lies in far left middle. © Woolhope Club

The area is sizeable and it is believed to have had a right to hold a market though I am awaiting documentary confirmation of this. In any case this was a sizeable knightly holding held in 1086 by Thurston the Fleming, by tradition the progenitor of the family taking its name from Lingen. The Lingen were considerable landholders in the county and elsewhere throughout the feudal period and into modern times.

The rounded platform in the centre of the deserted settlement is probably the site of a later manor house superseding the castle that may have been kept as a retreat in time of war. Because of later agricultural activity this is a fairly difficult site to read, our conclusions being decided over a period of years by a process of elimination. They are therefore speculative. Excavation often gives us a different result. However, I did feel that with our experience over many years of examining these sites all over the country we are probably somewhere near a true picture of their past history.

Until the great plague, apart from temporary damage due to warfare, Herefordshire was full of bustling little townships and villages overseen by their knightly holders in their castles.



## Pedwardine

There were two sites investigated during our visit – Upper Pedwardine and Lower Pedwardine. A visit to Upper Pedwardine was reported in HAN57.

Pedwardine is mentioned in the Shropshire DB, when Bernard Unspac seems to have married (c 1100) an heiress of Richard the DB holder of Brampton Bryan, Pedwardine, and Kinlet (Shrops) under Ralph de Mortimer of Wigmore (ff 260-260B). These places are later found held by his family. In 1304 Roger of Pedwardine had Walford for ½ fee (Inquisitions post mortem, iv, no. 235).

In the British Library, there is a catalogued chartulary of the family of Pedwardyn or Pedwardine, relating to lands in (inter alia) Pedwardine, co. Hereford compiled at the end of the 14th cent. At the beginning is a descent, with arms in colours, of the families of Croun and Pedwardyn, ending with the marriage of Roger, son of Walter Pedwardyn [*ob.* 1429] with the title "une remembrance fait danxien tens or renouele par Monsieur Robert Pedwardyn [*ob.* 1432, grandfather of Roger] le lundi prochin deuant la fest seint Margret lan del regne le Roy Richard le second dysnoeuisme" c1395.<sup>23</sup>

In February 1505/6, Roger Pedwardyn, lord of Pedwardyn appointed Roger Fox to the office of steward of the lordships of Pedwardyn, Boresford, and Walford in the Marches of Wales, Herefordshire.<sup>24</sup> In 1661 Richard Lucas petitioned the steward of the manor of Pedwardine and Boresford to command a jury of the court of the manor. to view a hedge separating a parcel of land in Upper Pedwardine, in the jurisdiction of the said court, called The harefurlong, in the tenure of the petitioner, from a parcel of land called The harefurlong, in the tenure of Stanwardine Rudd, which said hedge has been maintained from time immemorial by the said Stanwardine Rudd and his predecessors, but the said Stanwardine Rudd now denies his liability to do so. Order dated 30 Oct. 1661 by Thomas Davies, the steward, to the jury accordingly. The jury returns that the E side of the said hedge should be maintained by the said Richard Lucas, and the W side by Stanwardine Rudd.<sup>25</sup>

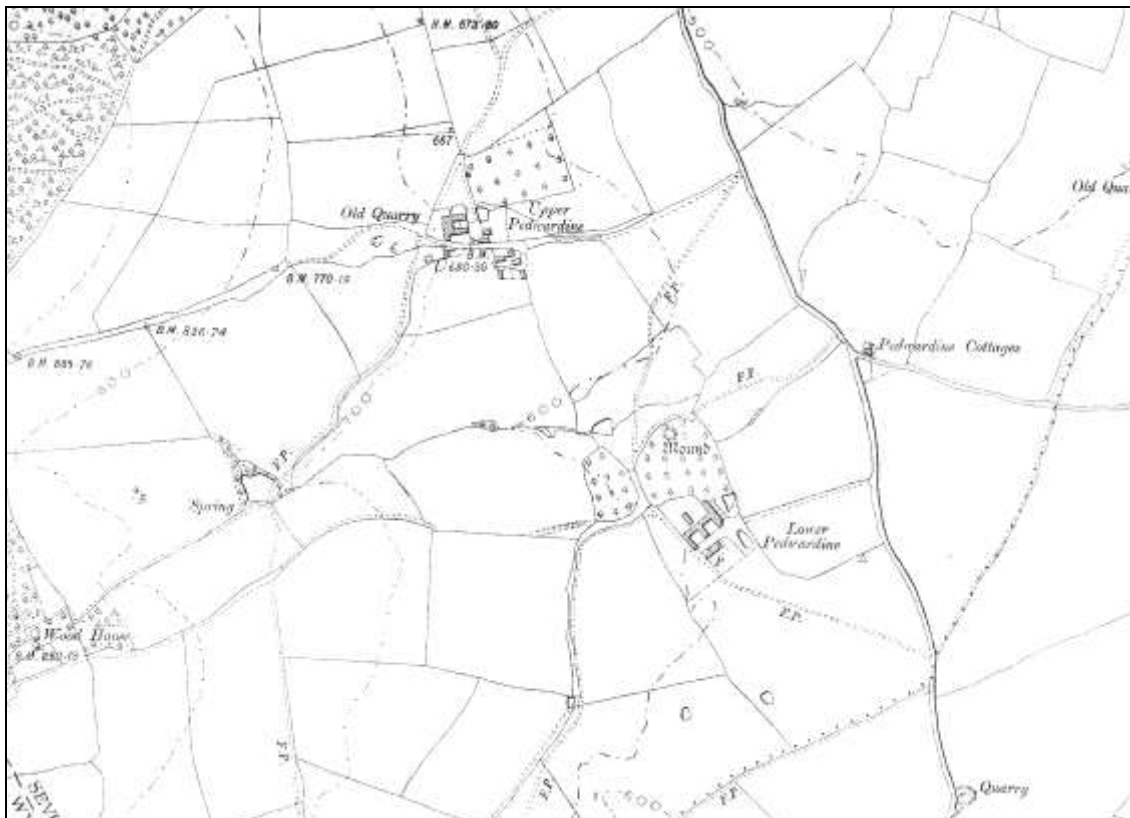


Figure 3 Pedwardine environs

There is an estreat of the proceedings at a court baron of Edward Harley, knight of the bath, held for the manor of Pedwardine and Boresford on 31 Oct. 1661 before Thomas Davies, gent., steward of

<sup>23</sup> British Library 32,101.

<sup>24</sup> Nat. Lib. Wales POWIS CASTLE DEEDS (1) 16987.

<sup>25</sup> Nat. Lib. Wales COLEMAN DEEDS D. D. 1,507.

the manor of Pedwardine and Boresford. It gives a list of 7 homagers and the names of 13 tenants of the manor, who were absent from the court. <sup>26</sup> It seems likely that there will be Pedwardine records in the Harley documents, but these have not been investigated yet, and probably do not pre-date 1500.

### Lower Pedwardine

– probable castle site. SO 367705.



Figure 4 Aerial photo of Lower Pedwardine ©Woolhope Club

This site must have been of some importance in the past as obviously old deep sunken roads approach the site from several directions. As with Upper Pedwardine our reappraisal of the evidence both historical and physical has not only increased our knowledge of this site but also raised more questions. This is a low-level site relying to a large extent on wet defences. Air photographs show very complicated earthworks and disturbance around the site. On the ground this translates into some more basic evidence



Figure 5 Lower Pedwardine detail

<sup>26</sup> Nat. Lib. Wales COLEMAN DEEDS D. D. 1,508.



The platform on which the mound is set has a double step running roughly SW to E. This step, roughly 6 – 8ft wide, is full of buried stone and 20 years ago had several courses of facing stone showing. This suggests a long section of wall foundation fronting the motte area to the S/SE. In front of that is a sunken area with a bank or dam to the E. This may have been a wide moated area: it is still wet in winter. The mound, with part of its ditch and counterscarp bank still recognizable, has buried stone in it, and there is buried stone in the ditch. This points to the possibility of a former stone structure on the mound, which it would have to have had to be seriously defensible.



Figure 26 Lower Pedwardine mound from SW

The outer bank to the N, though overgrown, shows much loose stone on its slopes. There is the possibility that this is evidence of a concentric wall around the mound or even of a revetment to the bank. Either of these combined with a dammed stream forming a wide moat would form a formidable defence on the N side of the site. This conjecture is at present lacking evidence from excavation, of course, but would be sensible on a relatively weak site.



Figure 7 Ditch around site to the NE



Figure 8 Ditch around the site to NW

A sunken track to the W of the mound platform may mark the position of a former ditch defence. However this area is difficult to read because of dumping of building waste, ash etc possibly related to the position of former farm buildings which show on an old map of the site. Amongst the buried and exposed rubble we found 2inch hand-made bricks (Tudor?) and fragments of brown-glazed Hereford ware pottery, late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century.



Figure 9 End of sunken ways leading from S & W, now a pond in wet weather

On the E side of the mound platform there is a low bank that may indicate the position of buried

foundations. Further E is the edge of the platform and a sunken track that is probably in the former ditch defending this side of the site. Further E again, in a banked enclosure, there is a rectangular platform that may mark the position of a large building, possibly a barn or even the castle hall. Yet further E is another banked enclosure showing on air photographs of the site.

Various platforms and sunken tracks to the W and around the site may indicate the presence of a deserted medieval village around the castle. In the surrounding fields there are numerous leats implying a substantial water management system.

Over 20 years ago rubble foundations were exposed by the treading of animals on top of the mound. These indicated a curved structure, possibly the foundations of a round or polygonal tower buried in the mound. Such a tower with its surrounding curtain wall would make a formidable little castle similar to others in Wales and the border area

A round, octagonal or polygonal tower would indicate a date bracket of around 1170 – 1240, but most of these castles were founded soon after the conquest of 1066. This low-level site may be a later foundation by a junior branch of the Pedwardine family of Upper Pedwardine.

### **Upper Pedwardine**

probable castle site. SO 365708.

This site has been visited several times and the general opinion is that this is probably a late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century castle site<sup>1</sup> with a damaged motte and possible round, polygonal, or octagonal tower buried in its own rubble on it. Associated with this is a section of robbed-out foundation trench for a curtain wall and a short section of buried possible curtain wall foundations enclosing what may be part of an inner bailey. There was a pond or fragment of moat (now dried out). The foundations of a round pigeon house associated with a spring-fed system of waterworks, which may have been a stock pond or header pond for a small mill are still visible in a rectangular banked and ditched outer enclosure. This is now ploughed down but discernible on air photos

On the western side of the site is what was thought to be a quarry for the site; an area of disturbed ground with much stone, loose and in situ. However our recent reappraisal of the site suggests a much more interesting possibility. Roz Lowe thought that the quarry seemed to have the outline of a former building. The writer, who should have known better as many sites of demolished castles have been called quarries, had accepted it as a quarry without examining it closely.

Looking at it now, one can make out the shape of a possible former sub-rectangular enclosure or large building with what looks like buried rubble in two parallel banks or possible walls to the East. With the eye of faith these could have formed a long gatehouse and barbican to the enclosure, very similar to Brampton Bryan (SO369726). The farm drive once directly approached this possible entrance but has now been diverted around the site on both sides in a sunken area that could have been former defensive ditches though the S side has since been filled in with tree branches, builder's rubble and brambles. This possible ditch also appears to front the possible enclosure with what appears to be a counterscarp bank to the E. There appears to be buried stone in the banks of the possible enclosure but as there is stone naturally in the soil in the Pedwardine area this is not a certain guide to buried foundations, though there is more than one would expect to find in the natural soil on this site.

If this turns out to be the main castle building it would make a more logical plan as the writer had thought the position of the possible donjon (keep) on the motte was unusual being half way down a slope with higher ground to the West. It was thought to have been in this position because of the proximity of a spring to supply water for a moat on the East and a possible water supply for the donjon. However its position makes much more sense as a large flanking tower on the bailey covering a vulnerable slope on the N side, the upper slope being controlled by the possible main structure of the castle. This possible enclosure is certainly in a very commanding position. The whole area around the baileys and the upper slopes could be controlled with archery from this position and it makes a logical position for a keep or inner ward of a castle.

There is a problem with this interpretation; the lack of a ditch on the vulnerable upper slope on the West. Of course this could have been filled in during demolition, and there has obviously been later dumping on the site. Also the gently sloping field on the West of the site could have been an outer enclosure or hornwork with the sunken road being part of the system of ditches.

If this interpretation is correct, this would be a very strong castle. What appears to be a buried wall foundation at) would flank the approach to the possible gatehouse to the inner ward making it very secure against any direct attack on the gatehouse.

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<sup>1</sup> although it could be earlier

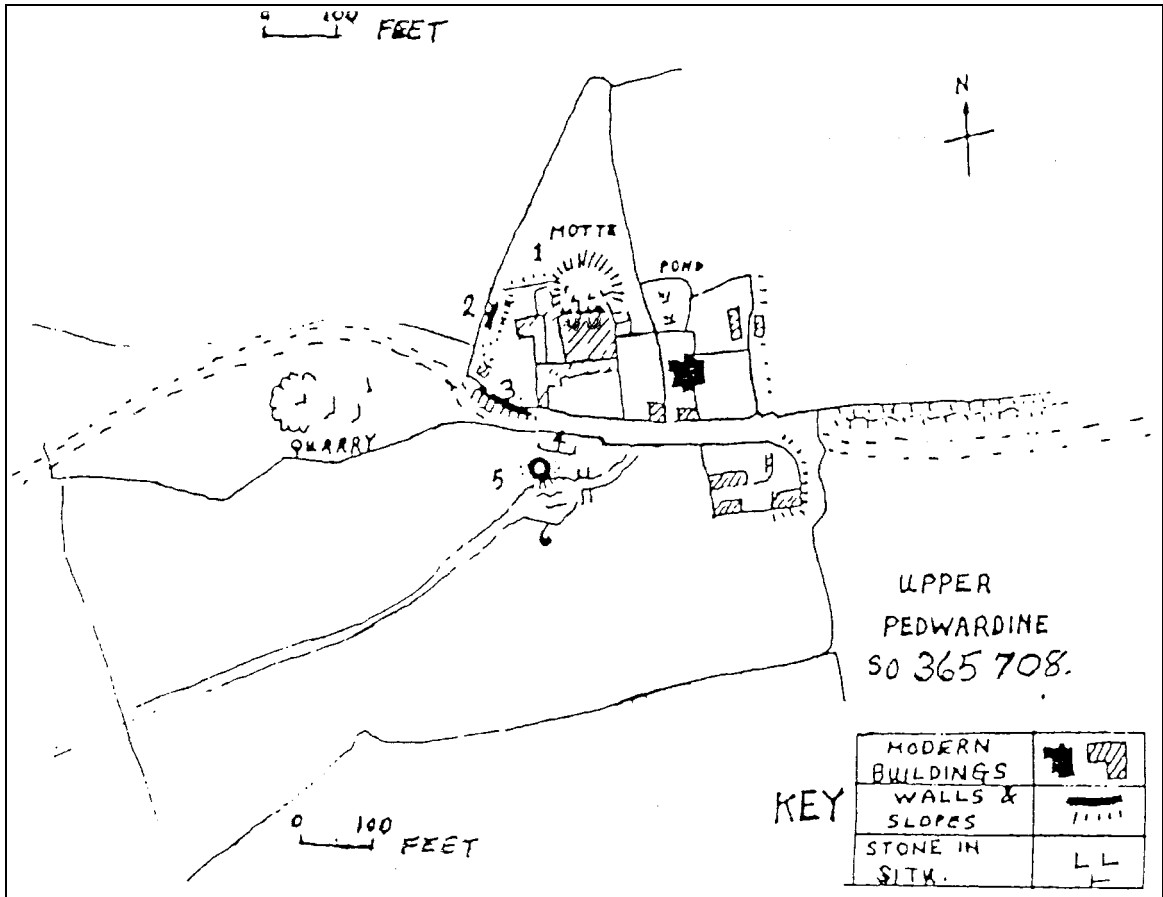


Figure 10 Plan of Upper Pedwardine



Figure 11 Aerial photo of Upper Pedwardine ©Woolhope Club Figure



Figure 12 'Quarry' from W of farm buildings, showing sunken track coming in from W

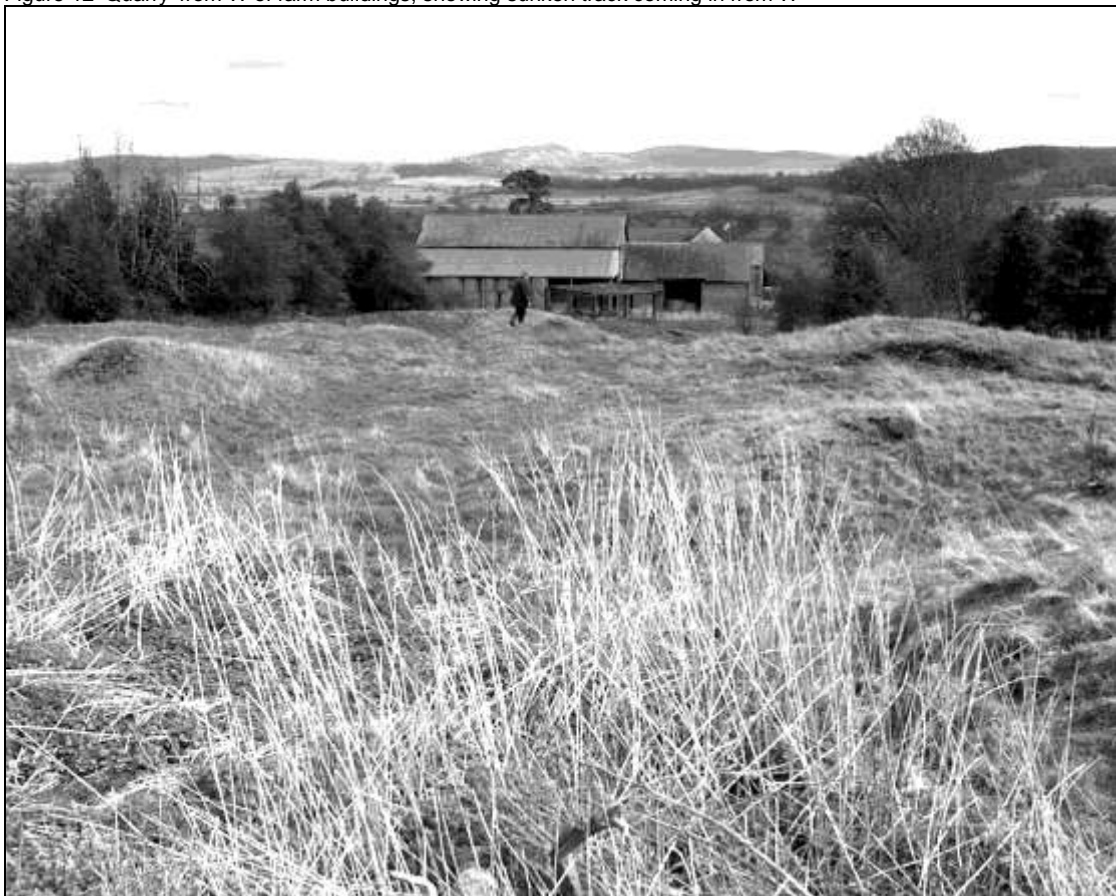


Figure 12 'Quarry' looking east from further up hill to W

### **Additional information on Upper Pedwardine**

What we thought was an exciting new discovery is now back in the melting pot because my son Andrew and I went back to Upper Pedwardine to check the orientation of the buildings on the site for the sketch plan.

Whilst I was looking at the motte/mound and associated earthworks, he looked in the cattle shed which abuts and appears to cut into the mound. He had hoped that the face of the tower buried in the mound might show in the rear wall of the cattle shed. However the rear wall had been refaced in modern times, probably post WWII, with stone and concrete blocks.



Figure 13 Motte from N

Andrew called me into the shed as he had noticed some odd stonework on the floor. Looking at it closely we realised that we could have a surprising discovery here. There are what looks like a pair of similar foundations each about 20ft (6m 10cm) wide, underlying the modern brick wall of the cattle feeder trough. These foundations are roughly 10ft (3 metres) apart, symmetrically aligned to the mound, and close to it. The western one is semi-circular, disappearing under the modern wall. The eastern one is partly removed but shows the start of a curve. Together, they give the impression of 2 semi-circular or circular towers forming a fore building to the stairway to the buried donjon.

Towers of this type 10-20ft in diameter at the upper levels, forming a gatehouse or barbican to the entrance stair or bridge to a donjon, are not uncommon. There is a similar twin tower entrance to the stair to the shell keep at Crickhowell SO218183 and evidence of a similar structure at Lingen castle SO366673. At Snodhill castle, SO 322404, in the 13th century a twin-towered entrance was added at the top of the stairs to the hall keep with a D-shaped barbican at the foot of the former stairway. There are several other examples dotted around the country though they are more common on the continent. This type of fore-building would be a very useful addition to the defences of a small castle, reducing the ability of an attacking party who had captured the bailey to quickly overrun the entrance to the donjon.

Another pointer to this possible interpretation is the sunken central floor of the cattle shed giving the appearance of having been built over a filled-in ditch in front of the possible donjon entrance.



If this interpretation is correct, we are back where we started with our original description of this site but with more corroborative evidence. This does not necessarily mean that our interpretation of the quarry is invalid. It just means that there are different options.

1. It could just be a quarry.
2. It could be an inner ward, as described above, re-orientating the main strength or dwelling of the castle to the quarry site.
3. It could be a later manor house or farmhouse used before the present farmhouse was built. This progressive building on the same site over several centuries is common all over the country. We have several examples in Herefordshire. There are many reasons for this apart from war and pestilence; the rise and fall of wealth and status of the tenants or owners of the property, changes in fashion, and needs in housing. Property decays, and it is sometimes cheaper to rebuild than to repair.

(Note that few people in Pedwardine were wealthy enough to fall foul of all Henry VIII's taxation: John Bebb (senior and junior) and the Asshehill or Ashyll family - unfortunately, the membrane for the 1543 taxation, which has more names, is damaged. Even they did not own goods meriting high taxes. In the 1660's Hearth Taxes, only Thomas Childe (2) and Thomas Rogers (3) had more than 1 hearth. Neither can be considered substantial houses.)

The above findings confirm the need for regular visits to these sites as new information can be found on almost every visit. The reason the stonework foundations had not previously been noticed was because the floor of the cattle shed had been covered with straw and muck when in use and no one had looked. Without knowledge of castle structures, such partly obscured features could easily be unrecognised.

### A 16<sup>th</sup> century leat at Old Forge, Goodrich by Monica Leat & Roz Lowe

The ARS visited Old Forge in Goodrich in 1997, and the visit was reported in HAN69. Old Forge is the site of a water-driven iron forge dating from c1580. A member of the Goodrich Local History Group, Monica Leat, has known the area since she was a child, and drew our attention to a curious feature.

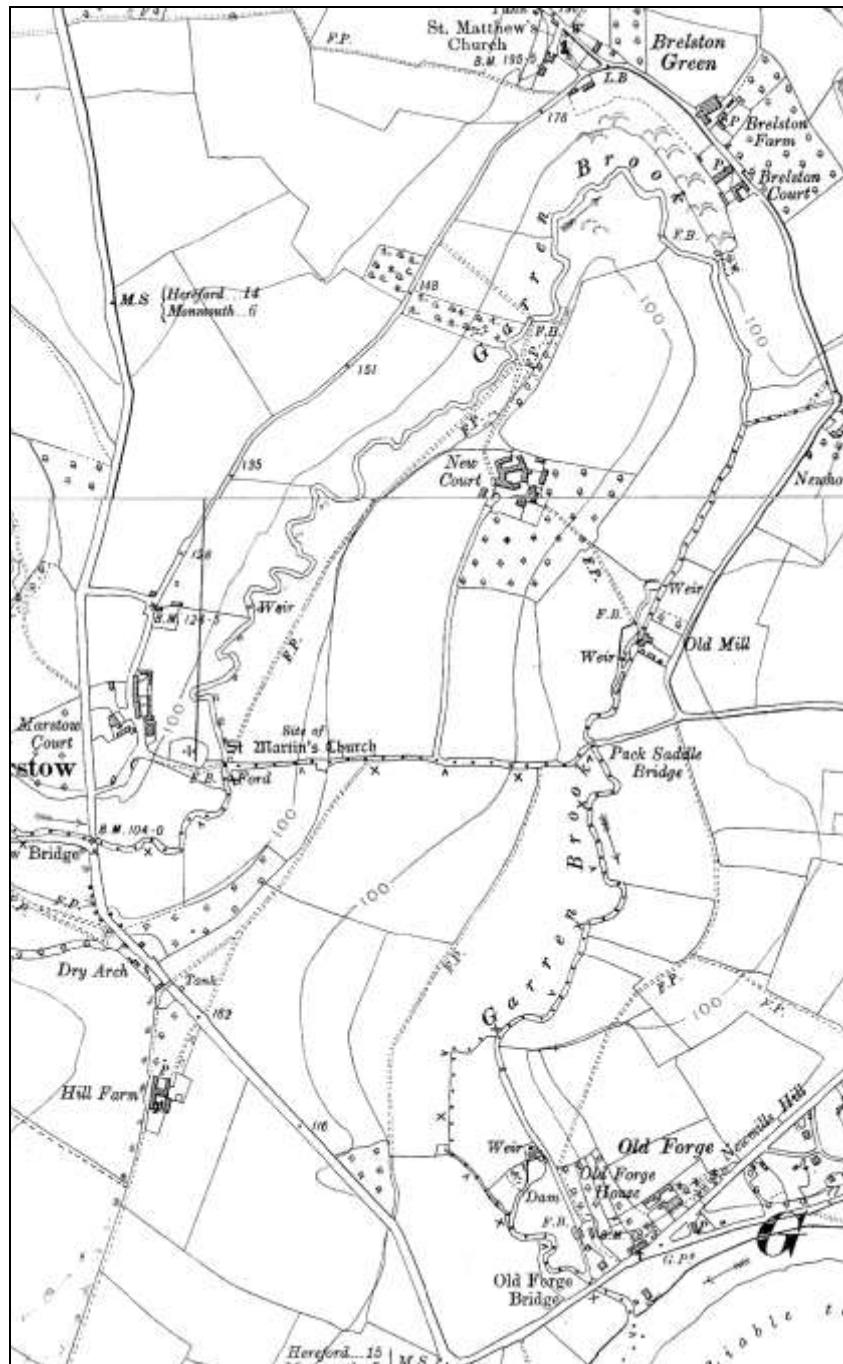


Figure 1 1930 OS map of Old Forge area showing course of Garton

The Garton brook is very sinuous, and you can trace it on its downstream course as it passes the site of Marston's old church, St. Martin's; loops north around New Court and then comes south past Old Mill. As it nears Old Forge, just by the 'G' of the word 'Garren', it suddenly straightens out and heads straight for the buildings of the Old Forge mill house. Nowadays the part S of the weir is partially covered by the embankment of the A40.

As can also be seen from the map, the Goodrich-Whitchurch parish boundary leaves the course of the Garren at the same point, and continues in a curve around to the W. you can see this more easily in the detail on the next page.



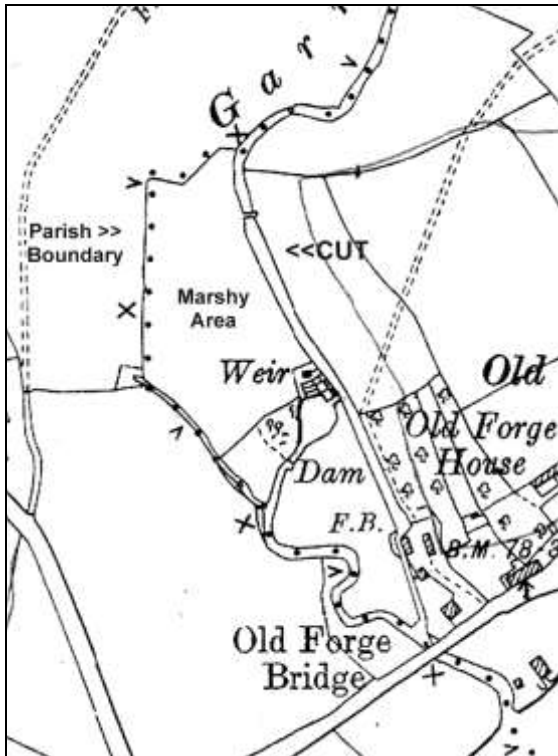


Figure 2 Detail of OS map

As the Garren approaches Old Forge, it has to pass between rising ground on both E and W. that on the E rises quite sharply, while on the W it starts rising more gently along the line of the parish boundary.

Monica noticed that at the point where the course of the river suddenly straightens that an artificial channel has been cut in the sloping rock of the eastern bank. It stretches from this point to the weir, and in addition the bank has been raised on the W side of the river at the point where the cut starts.

During a field visit it was quite obvious that the river has been diverted from its original course to give improved flow to the water-powered site at Old Forge. The parish boundary marks the previous course of the river – indeed there is an arm of it still there – and the area lying between the parish boundary and the new cut is still very marshy. Monica can remember that when she was a child there was a small bridge marooned towards the track beyond the parish boundary, but it probably marked the course some large drainage channel in this area.

What makes this discovery interesting is that the cut may be of some age. During the 1997 field visit we made use of the 1718 manorial map of Goodrich.<sup>27</sup> This shows the Old Forge building and water courses, as they were part of the demesne lands of the lord. The 'cut' was already in existence at this time.

As can be seen on the map on the previous page, the area at Old Forge is also called 'New Mill'. The 'Old Mill' of Goodrich lies upstream on the Garren, and is first mentioned in the 12<sup>th</sup> C in the Monmouth Priory charters as Goodrich's Mill. However, by 1571 it is called 'Old Milne'<sup>28</sup>, and in fact the water-driven forge came into operation c1580.<sup>29</sup>

The drop provided by the leat in the Garren at Old Mill probably did not provide enough power for the water-driven hammer used to drive the impurities out of the iron blooms provided by the furnace at Whitchurch. It was possibly at this date that the decision was made to set up a new facility at Old Forge, and to provide a new, stronger flow by making a cut for a leat to the new building. Previously the river probably lost volume flowing across the marshy area. However, it is also possible that a new corn mill was erected there earlier, as the name 'New Mill' is already in use by the early 17<sup>th</sup> C when the forge was still in operation, and the term 'mill' would probably not have been used for a forge. However, Gwilym family deeds from the 17C & 18C still mention a 'water grist mill' at Old Mill.

The leat and associated water works, though partly obliterated by the A40 and no longer maintained, have been recorded by the Goodrich LHG.

At the time of the ARS visit in 1997 the mill building was still standing complete with the water wheel from a later corn mill. Since then, it has been virtually dismantled and for a number of years was roofless. It is now being re-roofed, but the location of the water wheel is unknown.

<sup>27</sup> Herefordshire Archives AW87. Reproduced in HAN69

<sup>28</sup> Will abstract of John Herbert of Ross 1571 found in Act Books 572/8

<sup>29</sup> National Library of Wales, John Lloyd papers

### Field Meeting to Dilwyn & Little Dilwyn by Roger Stirling-Brown

On 10 April 2005 seven ARS members and five guests met at the Crown Inn at Dilwyn for an exploration of possible sites of the Feudal manors mentioned in early documents.

My grateful thanks go to Bruce Coplestone-Crow for information on the history of the Dilwyn Manors, and to Mr. A. Stirling-Brown for information on the history of Fawley Manor and also for making the compilation – in the Appendix to this report.

#### Dilwyn Castle

**SO 415 556 [SMR 2238]** Our first site visit was to Dilwyn Castle by courtesy of Mrs McGurk. For a description of the castle and its history by Roger Stirling-Brown and Bruce Coplestone-Crow see *HAN 60, 1993, pages 50 - 53*. Also refer to *The Royal Commission Historic Monuments Herefordshire Vol III NW, p.39*.

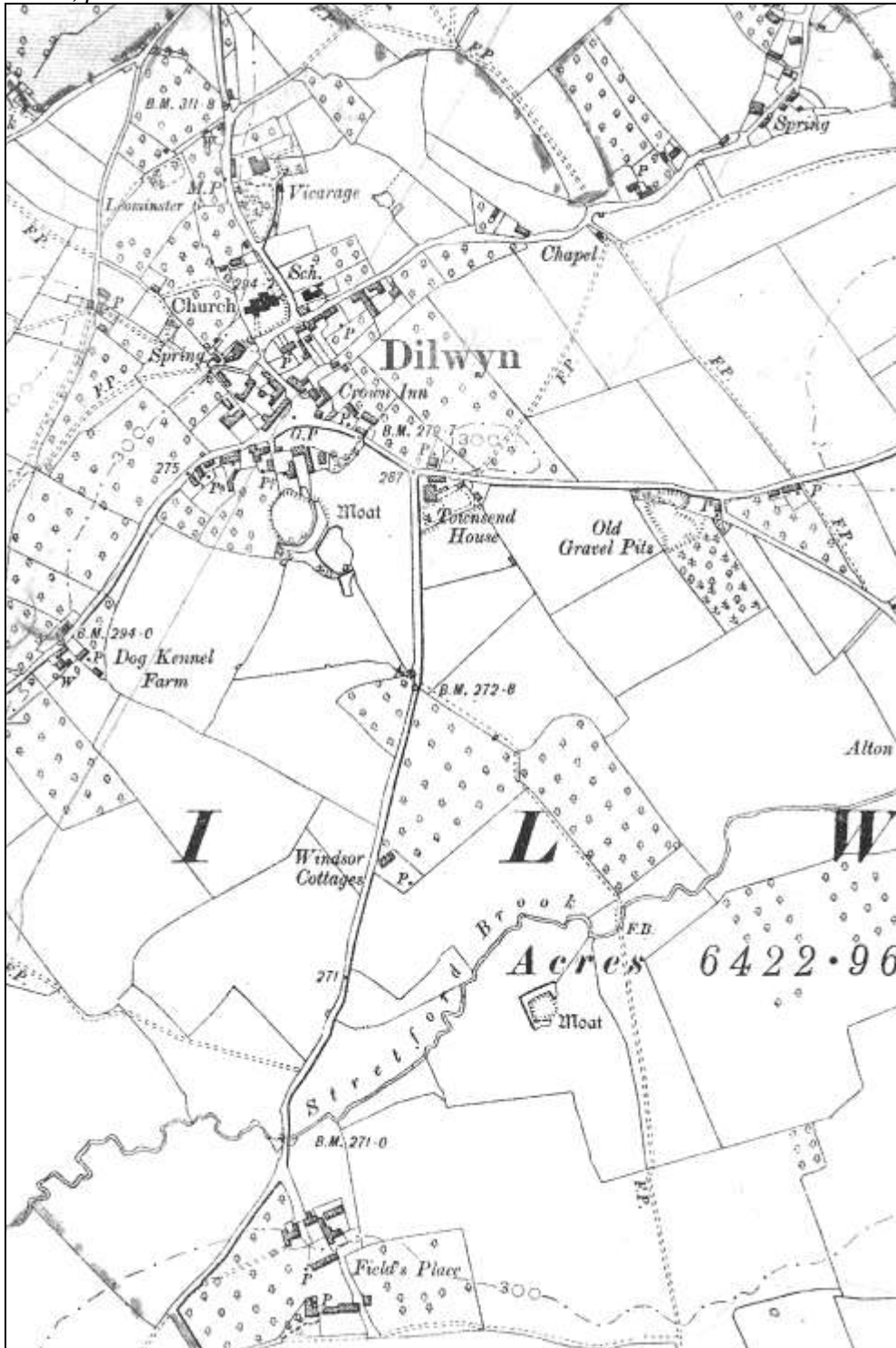


Figure 1 1904 OS map of Dilwyn

### **New information on Dilwyn Castle**

Since our last visit, houses have been built very near the base of the motte and gardens have encroached onto the motte slopes. The prominence of the platform containing the buried foundations of a probable tower keep has been reduced by soil build-up, and the platform is now covered in brambles. Otherwise the motte top does not seem to have been disturbed in any serious way. The site of the excavation trench opened in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by members of the Woolhope Club is now visible following recent clearance of undergrowth.



Figure 2 Roger Stirling Brown in moat on garden steps leading up to motte



Figure 3 Panorama of the motte top

The combination of a large bailey area (also partly built over), other outworks and the sizable church confirm the history that this was quite an important honour held in chief from the king.



Figure 4 Moat and hornwork to the E of the mound

#### **Possible ringwork, or motte and baileys**

**SO 416538** Members walked E from the village, and then turned S at Townsend Place. The road S towards Field's Place passes through a site that straddles the road. Aerial photos by Chris Musson showed earthworks and cropmarks suggestive of a motte, baileys and fishponds. This could be a sub-manor of Dilwyn or possibly an earlier site of Falle.

#### **A moated site at Fields Place**

**SO 418538** [SMR 6314] We were allowed to visit this site by courtesy of Mr Hanson. The site lies to the NW of Field's Place on the Stretford Brook. It is the writer's opinion that this site can be associated with the surviving documentary evidence for the sub-manor of Falle or Fawley (see history in appendix).

The site consists of a moated platform approximately 105 x 100 feet. The platform is reveted by a wall rising from the bottom of the surrounding moat. This wall, built with substantial blocks of sandstone, appears to be at least 5 feet thick. Part of a bridge abutment showed on this wall several years ago but this has now collapsed into the moat. There is evidence of abutments for 2 entrance bridges across the moat. The moat is wider on the South side. There doesn't seem to be any surviving evidence of flanking towers or buttresses.

This structure when complete would probably have been a lightly fortified house rather than a castle, but it may have had crenellations and looked like a small castle. There are several surviving examples around the country with the same dimensions. These vary from plain fortified houses to quite formidable little castles. (see comparison list below). A small piece of thin window glass was found in the spoil kicked out from a rabbit hole.

Air photos show a further moated platform to the SE connected to the above forming an outer enclosure or bailey. This would have contained the associated farm buildings and seems to have been the site of the farm until recent times when the present moated site was used as a garden.



Figure 5 Field's Place moat and platform from E

**Sites with similar dimensions**

Aberedw Castle, Radnorshire. A square castle with corner towers. Walls 5 – 6 ft thick.	SO 076474	105 x 105 ft
Baddesley Clinton Hall, Warwickshire. A moated lightly fortified house with walls 5 – 6 ft thick.	SP 200714	100 x 90 ft
Croft Castle, Herefordshire. In its original state probably a lightly fortified house.	SO449655	100 x 115 ft
Tretower Court, Breconshire. A lightly fortified manor house.	SH 186214	102 x 102 ft
Llangattock Hen Castle, Breconshire. A moated platform with walls rising from the bottom of the moat. Built into these walls are the foundations of a hall keep 70 x 45 feet with walls 8 feet thick.	SO 213166	70 x 70 ft

So who knows what we might find on some of these minor moated sites in the county?



## Little Dilwyn

After lunch, we visited Little Dilwyn by courtesy of Mrs Powell. [SO 438539 **SMR 6318**]

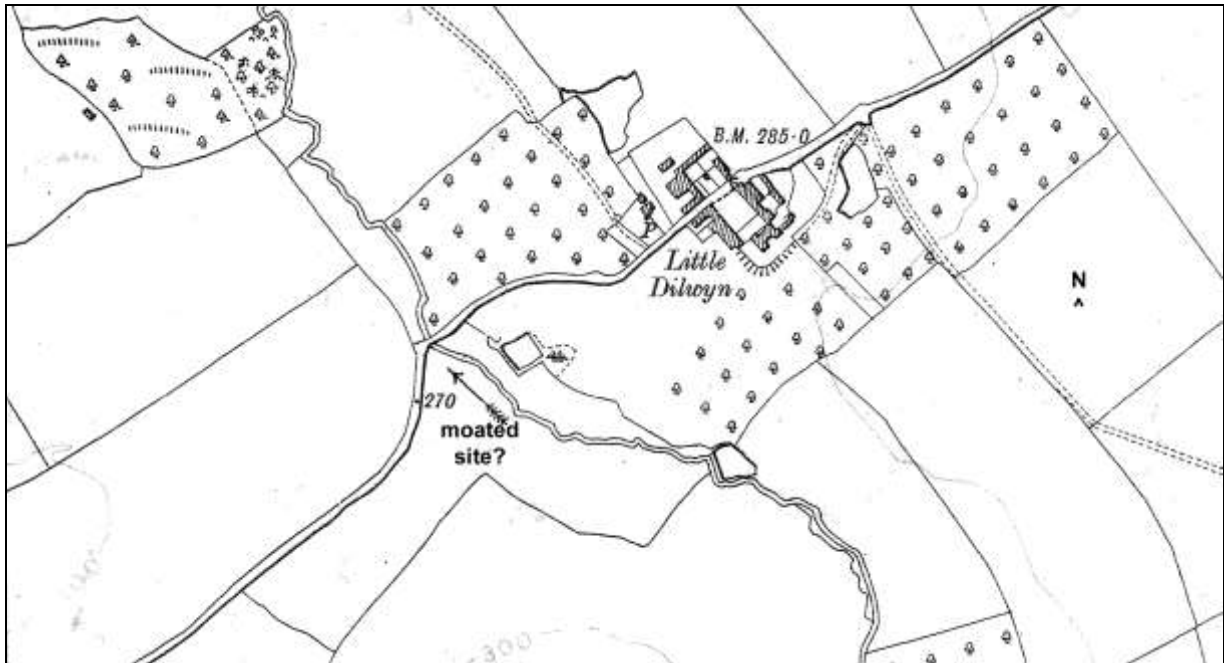


Figure 6 Little Dilwyn and environs

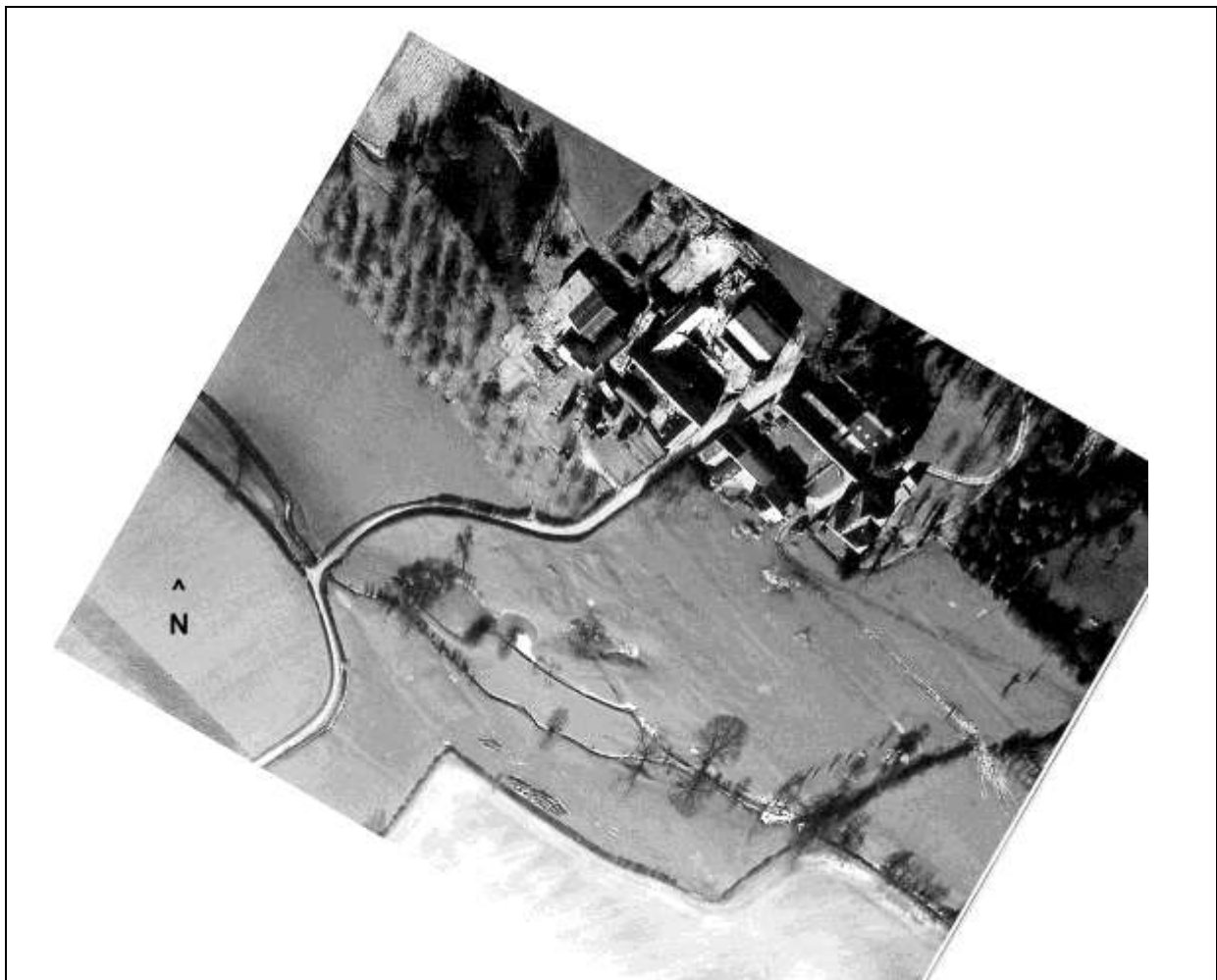


Figure 7 Aerial photo oriented to match OS map ©Herefordshire Archaeology Unit

Please refer to the detail of the OS map that follows for point A etc.



Figure 8 View of leat/holloway from point A looking SE



Figure 27 View of leat/holloway from point A looking NW



## A mill site at Little Dilwyn

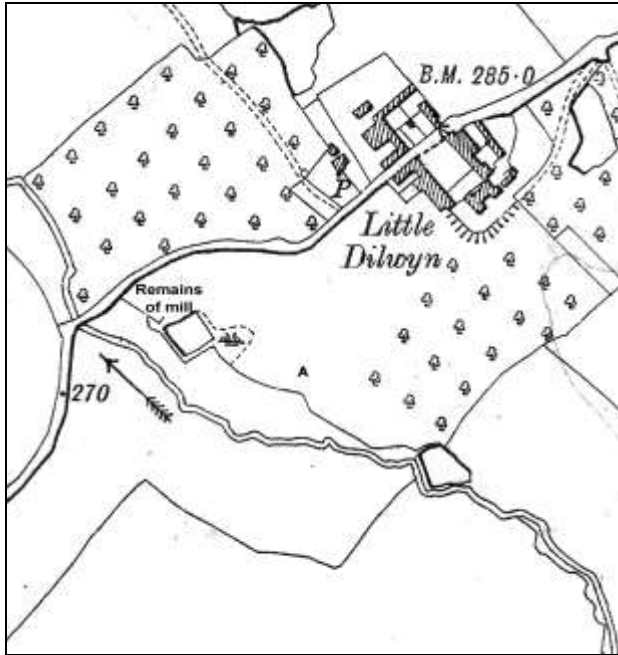


Figure 10 Detail from OS map showing locations

This complex looks like the mill mentioned in documents and confirmed by the field name. Although this site is obviously of some age the writer is not convinced on present evidence of a medieval origin, though most mill sites have a pre- or shortly post-conquest origin.

The owner, Mrs Powell, informed us that the waterwheel was used to power machinery at the farm over 150 yards away through a system of shafts and gears. Access covers for maintenance can still be seen when walking up the field towards the present field buildings.

The intrepid Roz Lowe climbed down into the brick-built entrance of the tunnel leading off the former water-wheel pit to look at the structure. A slight hollow in the field indicates where a section of the tunnel has collapsed. The outlet from the tunnel is not obvious because of the collapse, but it probably enters the brook near the road.



Figure 11 walls of 'mill' viewed from NW



Figure 12 culvert looking NW

**SO 437 538** This consists of a roughly triangular platform surrounded by a ditch that is partly water filled. It is connected on the SE to a leat running off a tributary of the Stretford Brook, and on the N to a pool with a dam and sluice and the site of an old water wheel.

The NW pond lies next to a ruined building, of which only two walls remain. On the SW side there is a deep gulley, leading NW from which is a well-built stone culvert, presumably returning the water to the brook, though we could not find the other end of it.

There was a gap of only a few inches left below the wall at the back of the culvert for the water to flow into, and it would seem likely that the gulley is very silted up, and was even deeper. This is the site of the water wheel.

### Possible DMV at Little Dilwyn

**SO 437 538 [SMR 6318]** The mill site is in a field NE of the brook. This field has several platforms and humps and bumps that may be evidence of a former DMV.

### Possible fortified house site at Little Dilwyn

**SO436537** The aerial photo shows a previously unrecorded rectangular moated site almost identical to the Fawley site at Fields Place, but slightly larger. Although the banks are still visible on the ground, accurate measurement is difficult because of the erosion of the banks. It appears to be roughly 110 x 105 feet.

A slight hollow running SW – NE down the slope towards the moat could be a track way to it, or possibly a leat feeding the moat as there is a hollow at the top of it that fills with water and may be the site of an old spring. There is a substantial ditch on the roadside and evidence of one crossing the field on an old hedge line. This may mark the position of a former outer enclosure as at Farley. There is buried and partly exposed stone on the banks of the moat but not enough for us to ascertain its structure. If there is a wall riveting it that is 5 feet or more thick, as at Farley, then I would suggest that we may have another fortified house site here.

The more we look at this border area, the more we find of these lightly fortified farm or manor houses, often surrounded by moats. Also in this class of monuments are several similar sites that were used as hunting lodges on some of the larger estates in the area. Several of them appear to date to the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### Possible castle site at Little Dilwyn

**SO 439 540** This at the moment is pure speculation, but backed up by some features on the ground. The history suggests the possibility of an early castle site here. So where is it?

If one looks at the site of the present farm buildings and their immediate surroundings, several features point to this area being the site of a former castle. As you approach the farm buildings on the road from the SE, the road goes between 2 blocks of farm buildings. At this point the road passes over a hump or rise in the ground and after about 100 feet it falls again as it passes through the farm courtyard. Just over 150 feet beyond this on the right hand side of the road is a curved long pond. On the left hand side of the road after ploughing, dark peaty soil shows of a similar curved pond, which lines up with another small pond, now dry. The writer can remember when these held water many years ago.

This layout looks very much like a possible destroyed ringwork or low motte (as at Dilwyn SO 415 544) and a possible moated bailey. There is considerable reused stone in the present farm buildings. It certainly merits further investigation.



Figure 13 OS 1930 detail of Little Dilwyn farm N to top

## APPENDIX -THE MANOR OF CHURCH DILWYN (DILVEN) –

1086 In Domesday Book we find that before 1066 this manor, the largest of the 4 Dilwyn manors mentioned, was held by the Saxon, Edwin. At the time of Domesday it was held by William D'Ecouis and consisted of 3 tax-paying hides with 1 plough in lordship. There were 8 villagers and 5 smallholders with 7 ploughs and 2 more ploughs were possible. There was a single female slave. Before the conquest the manor had a value of 25s., but was later 10s. By the time of the book's compilation it was 15s.

1088: As a result of siding with a failed Norman rebellion against King William Rufus, William D'Ecouis' lands were forfeited to the Crown.

post 1088: At some point during the reign of Rufus, Dilwyn was made the head manor of a Barony, known as the Honour of Dilwyn. Lands belonging to the Honour included Croft, Posten, Eaton hill, Risbury, Newton, Wharton, Mawfield, Hungerstone, Little Hatfield and Luntley.

1130's: Payn Fitz John, Sheriff of Hereford, granted the 4 Dilwyn manors to Godfrey de Gamages (holder of Mansell Gamage and Boughrood in Radnorshire). The honour of Dilwyn lands probably provided support to the Welsh frontier frontline castle of Boughrood.

before 1137: Gamages' sub-tenants at Dilwyn were Nicholas fitz William (holding Church Dilwyn and probably Haven), with Geoffrey Rufus (Redhead, later Roos) holding Little Dilwyn and Sollers Dilwyn.

At this time, Payn fitz John planned to marry his daughter to Roger, son of Miles of Gloucester. As part of her dower he offered: *'Dilwyn with the services of Geoffrey Rufus ...and Dilwyn of Nicholas fitz William.'* The Gamages family continued to hold the Dilwyn manors, however, after Payn's death.

1194: Godfrey de Gamages' grandson, Matthew, recorded as paying scutage (shield tax in lieu of supplying troops) on 2 knight's fees, at Dilwyn and Mansell Gamage.

1205: King Phillip of France takes Normandy from English control and Matthew Gamages decides his lands there are more important, stays in France and swears allegiance to Phillip. King John is furious and confiscates his lands here. On April 1<sup>st</sup> 1205, John grants Church Dilwyn to his favourite, William fitz Warin, Dilwyn lands are valued at £12 10s, William paying £10 annual rent. William fitz Warin was the brother of the famous Fulk, a Shropshire hero whose story influenced later Robin Hood ballads and stories.

1208: William Braose, Lord of Radnor, in rebellion against King John. Reputedly set out from Weobley, as he was related through marriage to the Lacys, with Matthew Gamages of Dilwyn, to burn Leominster.

1212: W. fitz Warin holds one knight's fee at Dilwyn (Book of Fees)

1227: W. fitz Warin granted Dilwyn *'being the land of Matthew de Gamages'* to hold *'until the heir of Matthew recovered it'*.

1232                    On Sep 18<sup>th</sup>,: W. fitz Warin was made Sheriff of Hereford.  
He'd already been Worcester's Sheriff.

1238-40:            W. fitz Warin dies. His Inquisition Post Mortem contains this reference for Dilwyn during the time of his lordship. Adam of Dilwyn held 2 and a half virgates of land at Dilwyn: *'for finding the lord yearly in time of war for fifteen days at Dilwyn or Boughrood one man with a horse, doublet, iron cap and lance at the cost of the lord, and if the horse should die or be slain in that service the lord will give him £1 for it'*  
2 and a half virgates may be a mistake for the 2 and a half hides of Church Dilwyn, or it is an unidentified sub-manor to Dilwyn.

1238-40            After fitz Warin's death, his heirs were his 3 daughters. In quick succession,  
to                    Church Dilwyn was granted to Amery de St. Edmund, Robert Walthamstead,  
1251-52:            Robert Mallory. These might well be fitz Warin's daughters husbands.

In 1242/43,        Mallory holds 2 and half hides at Dilwyn *'at a farm equivalent to the service due from a quarter knight's fee'*.

Henry III grants Dilwyn next to Peter de Geneva (de Genville), one of his foreign favourites. Ownership passes to his wife, Matilda, who is recorded as being in possession in 1251-52 (Book of Fees).

1259:                Granted to Simon de Montfort and his wife, Princess Eleanor (the king's sister, whom he married in Jan 1238). Eleanor was owed lands from her Marshal 'widows third', and Henry owed dower lands to Eleanor from Simon and her marriage. The King had until now paid a fee. Marden and Lugwardine also granted to Simon.

1263:                First barons war resulted in their brief rule from July to October, before Henry III re-asserted some control. In early December, The Dunstable Chronicle says that Henry granted de Montfort's 3 Herefordshire manors to Roger (II) Mortimer, encouraging him to take them by force, and thus securing Mortimer's support for the Crown, rather than the Barons.

1265:                After De Montfort's defeat at Evesham, Dilwyn granted to Henry III's second son, Edmund Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster. It remained in the Lancaster ownership until the Earl, Henry Bollingbroke, became King in 1399, when it became property of the Crown.

1274:                Edmund gave advowson of Dilwyn Church to Wormsley Priory.

1281:                John Giffard of Clifford had free warren in Edmund's demesnes at Dilwyn. Giffard's heir was his daughter, Catherine, who was married to Nicholas Audley of Hellens, Much Marcle. The Audley's held Dilwyn from the Duchy for most of the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

1391 – 16<sup>th</sup> C:    Last Nicholas Audley dies heirless, and the Dilwyn manorial holdings are partitioned into 3 portions. Church Dilwyn passed to the Tuchet family, who took the title of Lord Audley and continued to own Hellens, until the mid 16<sup>th</sup> C. when they granted it to the Tomkyns family of Monnington.

## THE MANOR OF FAWLEY (FALLE)-

1086: Domesday Book entry for ALTON tells us that before 1066 it was held by the Saxon, Alnoth, who could go where he would. At the time of Domesday, Osbern held it from Walter Lacy of Weobley. The manor is described as two parts of one hide which both paid tax, suggesting the one manor was made up of two, separate smaller manorial holdings. There was land for two ploughs and two slaves are recorded. The value of the manor was 10s.

before 1241?: Feudal Aids states that *Alleton* and *Falle* are members of the Honour Of Weobley. The Honour is supposed to have ended in 1241.

1733: Estate map for the Homme, shows Fawley moat as a walled garden with an L-shaped farm next to it.

19<sup>th</sup> C: Tithe map names fields around the 'Fawley' brook by the moat as Fawley Meadow, Fawley Orchard and Fawley Corner. The 1868 National Gazetteer entry for Dilwyn states '*FAWLEY, a township in the parish Of Dilwyn..*'

20<sup>th</sup> C: Clay pipe remains and 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> C. pottery found on the moat site.

## THE MANOR OF LITTLE DILWYN (DILGE)-

1086: Domesday informs us that William d'Ecouis held the manor and Richard from him. Before the compilation of the book, it was held by Aelmer. The manor was one hide and there was one plough in lordship. A Frenchman and four smallholders (who paid 25s) are mentioned, as well as a riding man with one plough, a female and two male slaves. The value of the manor had been 5s, but had increased to 20s.

1088: After the failed rebellion against King W. Rufus, it was held in the hands of the Crown.

before 1137: Payn fitz John, Sheriff of Hereford, gives Little Dilwyn to Godfrey de Gamages. His sub-tenant there and at Sollers Dilwyn was Geoffrey Rufus (Redhead).

by 1139: Geoffrey succeeded by Robert of Dilwyn (Herefordshire's later edition Domesday Book).

1193: Another Geoffrey Rufus of Dilwyn amerced a half mark for not pursuing his plea in the king's court (Pipe Roll 5 Richard I, 91)

1205-1238: While William fitz Warin holds Church Dilwyn, a man nicknamed 'Sorel' ('Redhead') held Sollers Dilwyn and Little Dilwyn.

1242/3: Robert le Rus (Robert the Redhead) succeeds Sorel. He had a 1/4 knight's fee at Little Dilwyn and Sollers Dilwyn from the King's honour of Dilwyn. After this time, Sollers Dilwyn comes into the hands of the Tyrell family, though Little Dilwyn may have continued with the Rus(Roos) family.

1371: Gilbert Talbot gives land in Little Dilwyn to the Priory of Wormsley.

## ARS Members' Visit to Courtfield, Welsh Bicknor by Roger Stirling-Brown & Roz Lowe

In February 1999 ARS members visited Courtfield, in Welsh Bicknor. [see HAN70] where we were the guests of Father Fox of the Mill Hill Missionaries, who help to spread practical skills in countries in Africa and South America. Courtfield had been the home of the Vaughans for hundreds of years before it was sold to the missionaries in the 1950s, but recently it has been bought back by the original family. They own practically all the parish of Welsh Bicknor now, as they did so long ago.

Courtfield is supposedly where the future Henry V spent his childhood away from court intrigues, though his father was not king at this stage. The site has a much longer history than that – there seems to have been a Roman building of some status there, as Samian ware has been found. Medieval pottery has also been found. There are good alluvial fields below and around the site, and it seems likely that it has been occupied continuously from the pre-Roman period.

Bruce Coplestone-Crow gave a brief history on Welsh Bicknor in HAN70. It was a sub-lordship of the lordship of Monmouth from around the time of the conquest, and the parish was a separated part of the county of Monmouth until the mid 19<sup>th</sup> C. Courtfield overlooks an important crossing of the Wye, directly opposite the mouth of the Lyd brook at Lower Lydbrook. Until Kerne bridge was built a few miles upstream in 1824-8, the ford here was used to take coal from the Forest of Dean over the hill into Goodrich and onwards.

The location of the house is strategically analogous to that of Goodrich castle, but there is an important pre-Norman distinction. Offa's Dyke runs along on the other (Gloucestershire) side of the Wye, but peters out upstream near the Welsh Bicknor – Goodrich boundary. In other words, Welsh Bicknor seems to have been allied even then more with Gwent. When we visited Courtfield in 1999 we looked at the 'motte' site, and came to the conclusion that a natural spur had probably been artificially altered to provide a mound. [SO 176 597 SMR 10671] Note that the current SMR entry for the mound is rather poor.



Figure 1 1884 OS map of Courtfield

The reason to build a motte and possible bailey (on the site of the walled garden) is a little obscure. It seems possible that the original 'bicknor' land holding was partitioned by Offa's dyke, and the Welsh half stayed very Welsh – there are a number of Welsh field names. It may have been an expression of power over the Welsh inhabitants on the part of the lord of Monmouth and his vassal. As it does not lie on any Welsh incursion route it would naturally be over-shadowed by Goodrich upstream, and would have sunk into obscurity quite quickly.

The position is complicated by the fact that in the late 18<sup>th</sup> C the top of the mound was used to erect a faux ruin, backed (and held up by) by a small chapel. In the 1884 OS map it is shown as the 'Hermitage'; no building is shown in the 1841 tithe map, but this is a straight copy of a 1792 estate map without the details. On careful examination of the 1792 map (it is behind glass and very difficult to photograph) it does look as if there is a small square in the area of the hermitage – see next figure. The Rev. Shaw is supposed to have described it in 1788. Note that in 1792 the main access road to Courtfield house was to the NE of the house itself. After a grand new block had been built in the very early 1800s to the SW of the main house a new access road was built leading to this front. The original road which had skirted the walled

garden indicated on the OS map was re-aligned. Incidentally, the field numbered 24 (top left) in the next figure over the road from the 'motte' is called 'Tump Close' in the tithe apportionment. Because Courtfield was to be put on the market in 2004, on 11 December 2003 two members (Roger Stirling-Brown and Roz Lowe) and 1 guest made another survey while we had permission to access the site.

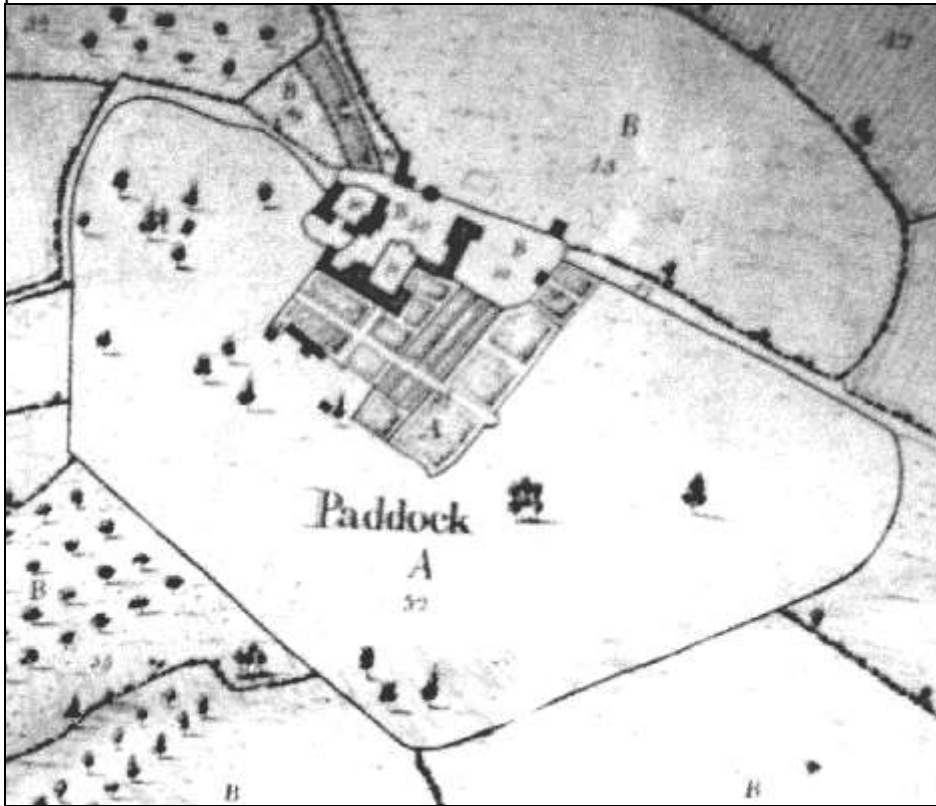


Figure 2 1792 Courtfield estate map

The mound is approached along one of the carriage drives which are a feature of the later ornamental gardens. A short flight of steps leads up to the top of the mound, and on either side of the gate are medieval carvings. The chimney of the chapel also has embedded carvings. These are possibly from Welsh Bicknor church some way away near the river. This was very dilapidated in the early 19<sup>th</sup> C, and was largely rebuilt. Many Vaughan tombs were moved from the church to the crypt of their Roman Catholic chapel which they built at Courtfield itself. Probably the carvings were moved at the same time, and even the stone work for the chapel and 'ruined' wall, which is very good quality. When the new block was added to the main house circa 1805, the builder was instructed when pulling down the 'old house' to re-use such materials as were good – an early Tudor/Jacobean stone fireplace is in the chapel.



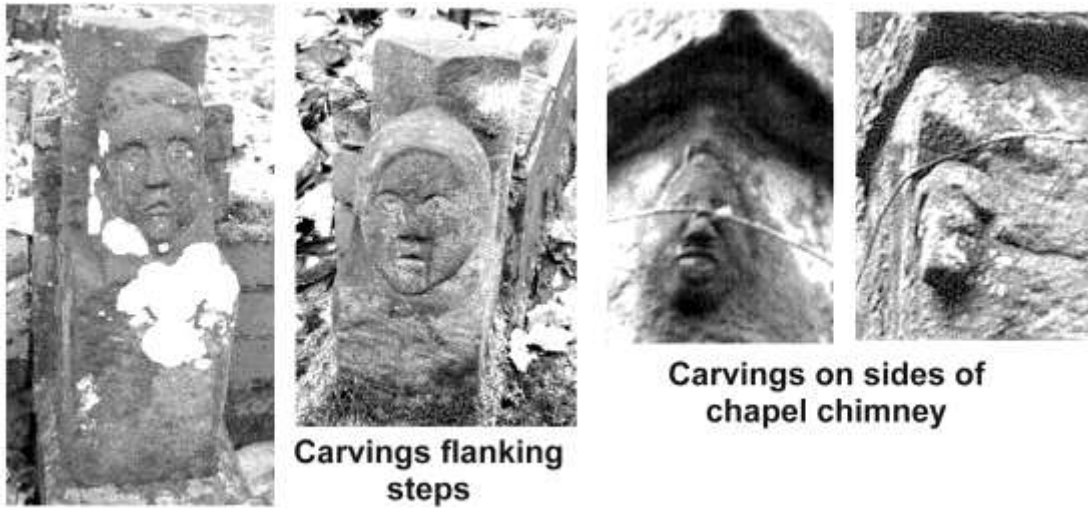


Figure 3 Medieval carvings at 'motte site'

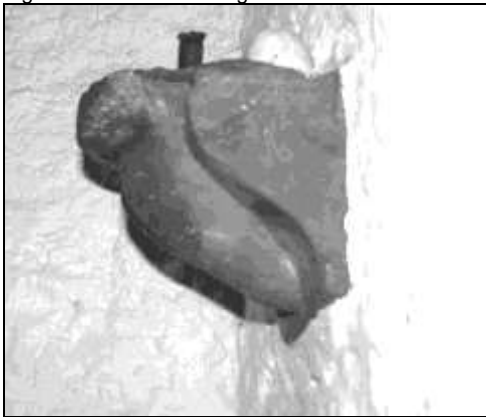


Figure 4 Stone heart in the chapel wall

An interesting object embedded into the chapel wall is a large stone carving of a heart - perhaps 20cm cubed. Roger identified it as a memorial to someone who died abroad – perhaps on crusade - and whose heart was brought back for burial.



Figure 5 Chapel and 'ruined' wall

Roger inspected the mound, and measured it, and this is his report:

*This is one of those sites that ought to be a castle if it isn't one, and the present evidence is thin on the ground. We have a large mound in a perfect position to form a motte castle controlling the area. Unfortunately garden landscaping over the last 200 – 300 years has altered the area around the mound to such an extent that it is difficult to come to any conclusions as to its original purpose.. Any evidence for a bailey area, which might be expected around a motte, would have been eliminated.*



Figure 6 Mound above natural on NW side

*At present we have an impressive mound that seems to be a boss of rock made up and leveled with clay and soil. The sides appear to have been scarped but there is some slippage of soil, and some quarrying of the rock in one side of the mound.*

*On top of the mound is an eye-catching folly giving the impression of being one side wall of a great hall block or church with gothic-style windows. Behind this and butted into it is a small chapel. On one side of the top of the mound several graves have been dug for members of the Vaughan family and for brothers of the Mill Hill Missionaries.*

*Around the edge of the mound are the foundations of a polygonal wall which looked at first glance like the remains of a medieval shell keep. However scraping away some leafmould and soil showed this foundation to be only 2ft – 2ft 6in wide. There was probably a low wall supporting the edge of the mound and forming a safe walkway for people admiring the views.*

*1ft to 1ft 6in further in from the rear of this wall we found what appeared to be mortared rubble which was over 3ft wide (we could not uncover the full width without digging). This may or may not be evidence of earlier construction of the mound.*

*Further investigation would be worthwhile as the present structures may be on top of an earlier defensive structure. This is the most likely site for a castle in the manor.*

## Field Meeting to Putley by Jean Currie & Roz Lowe

On Thursday 16 September 2005 Jean Currie led a field visit to Putley, in the east of the county. Five other ARS members attended, plus two guests. This meeting report was compiled from her notes for the visit, plus photographs and additional material by Roz Lowe.

### Summary of the history of Putley

Roman remains were found in the North wall foundations during the rebuilding of Putley church in 1875- 76, and further Roman remains were found on the West side close to Putley Court pond a few years later. Some of the church finds were used in the blocking of the North door to the church, and one purpose of the field meeting was to examine these, but the remains found a few years later were not well recorded and have been lost.

A further excavation about 1/3 of a mile to the south of Putley church took place in 1954-55, conducted by V. H. Coleman. [SMR 3228] The account appears in the 1958 Transactions of the Woolhope Club pp 84-87. A possible part of a Roman building was discovered, but they could not excavate further because orchards covered the site. No coins were found, and 24 pieces of pottery were described, dating to the 3<sup>rd</sup> & possibly 4<sup>th</sup> C.

Putley was a Saxon manor called *Poteslepe* and held by Tostin at the time of the Conquest. There is however no evidence of a Saxon church. The original Norman church on this site which covered the same area as the current church, but of which there are only modest remains, is known to have been built by William d'Evreaux, around 1100. At the time of the Domesday Book in 1086 he held the manor of Putley as a feudal tenant of Roger de Lacy who had been granted large tracts of land in Herefordshire. At the time of Domesday it had 2 ploughs, 2 slaves, 2 villagers and 1 smallholder with 2 ploughs, valued at 20 shillings. 1 hide paid tax.

Putley is listed in the Nomina Villarum of 1316. In the poll tax for Putley of 1377 28 people paid tax, but in 1428 the church did not pay tax because there were fewer than 10 people. The Abbey of St Peter's Gloucester held some land here. In 1663 14 households paid hearth tax, and 10 people were eligible for militia payments in 1665. Around 20 dwellings were recorded in the RCHM of 1931. (Note that the Parish was slightly enlarged in the late 19th century.)

### PUTLEY CHURCH

We started the field visit at Putley Church. [SMR 7463, 7465, 7466, 31102]



Figure 1 Putley church from W and SW

The church would seem to have been next to the original location of a defended site of some kind – **SMR 7464** - although a mound with stones was reported in 1952, there is apparently little to be seen today. An old inhabitant said it was known as 'Putley Castle'. There is a pond which could be the remains of a moat.

The church was heavily restored and altered in 1875/6. The website of the Church Building Society ([www.churchplansonline.org](http://www.churchplansonline.org)) has an interesting letter from the architect, Thomas Blashill dated 14 June 1875 with a drawing of the church and a window and comments on its condition.

There are also two plans – before and after restoration. Unusually, it was rebuilt in the normally urban High Anglo-Catholic style. Where there are rural examples such as Highnam near Gloucester, they are estate churches. Mr John Riley purchased Putley Court in 1872 and contributed £1000 towards the cost, compared with £ 400 from the Dean and Chapter.

The only walls which were left standing in 1875/76 were the south wall of the nave and part of the west wall. Where appropriate original features were rebuilt or restored, but Blashill's letter implies that major alterations took place.

### **Medieval features**

The North doorway, now blocked, appears to have been the original entrance to the church, Remnants of the original holy water stoop which would have been used by the congregation entering the church are visible from the inside, to the E of the blocked door. At the East end on the South side of the chancel is the remnant of the Norman piscine, used for cleaning the altar vessels. This was found at the restoration hidden in the chancel wall and replaced in the supposed original position. The nave windows nearest to the Chancel are original as is the one on the North side of the Chancel itself. The South doorway is thought to have been constructed in the 13th or 14th C.

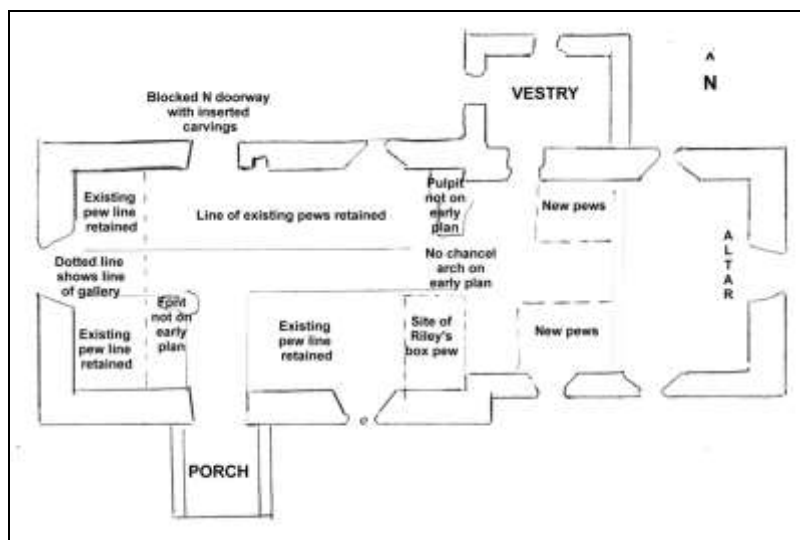


Figure 28 Putley Church sketch plan Roz Lowe

### **Rood Screen and Pulpit**

The fine Jacobean panelling was taken from the old Putley Court square pew in 1876, shown as 'the site of Riley's box pew'.



Figure 2 Panelling on Pulpit and screen



Figure 3 Piscine found in walls



Figure 4 Font



Figure 5 Outside of N Doorway



Figure 6 Inside of N doorway

The font has the symbols of the Evangelists and the Holy Ghost, together with a representation of Noah's ark and fishes for the Greek symbol XOYE. The Riley family contributed personally to the decoration. The pew ends were carved by the son and daughters and represent plants, beasts and birds to be found in the parish. The biblical scenes on the inlaid stone inner side of the Northern blocked door were worked by the daughters. Recent additions have been the working of the fine new kneelers and pew runners. This was initiated as part of the Queens Golden Jubilee and partly financed by lottery money.

We could find no evident Roman material in the fragments embedded on the outside of the N doorway. The thin reddish stones seemed to us to be natural sandstone. The fragments of carving are apparently all medieval, as is the carved head visible at the top of the photo.

### Bells.

There are three bells. The Rev Evans in his 1942 history of the church noted that the smallest was reputed to have been cast at Bristol as early as 1400. The largest bell dates from 1636, the third is dated 1722.

### Churchyard Cross

The churchyard cross [SMR 7463] is very interesting, with a niche in the base. On top of the original shaft is a [[get correct term] . The junction of the shaft and the top is rather awkward, and the stone is not the same – the carvings would hardly have survived so well if it was.



Figure 7 Churchyard cross



Figure 8 Four faces of Cross

From the E side of the church a gate leads to a footpath, leading towards Putley mill. No roadway is shown on the tithe map, though local tradition has it that a Roman road runs to the mill. We could find no trace – there was a certain amount of stone lying on the ground under the fruit trees growing in the field, but more evidence is needed.

From the church we walked west and then south along a roadway marked on the 1838 tithe map, to the east side of Front Meadow [67 on tithe map – see next page]. The roadway has disappeared, though traces remain along the E of Darlings Moor, the next field south, which we crossed to meet a new stretch of road which runs across Crab Tree Piece and Darlings Moor. On the other side of this field lie the orchards where Coleman excavated, but we were unable to find any trace of his excavations or any Roman material lying around.



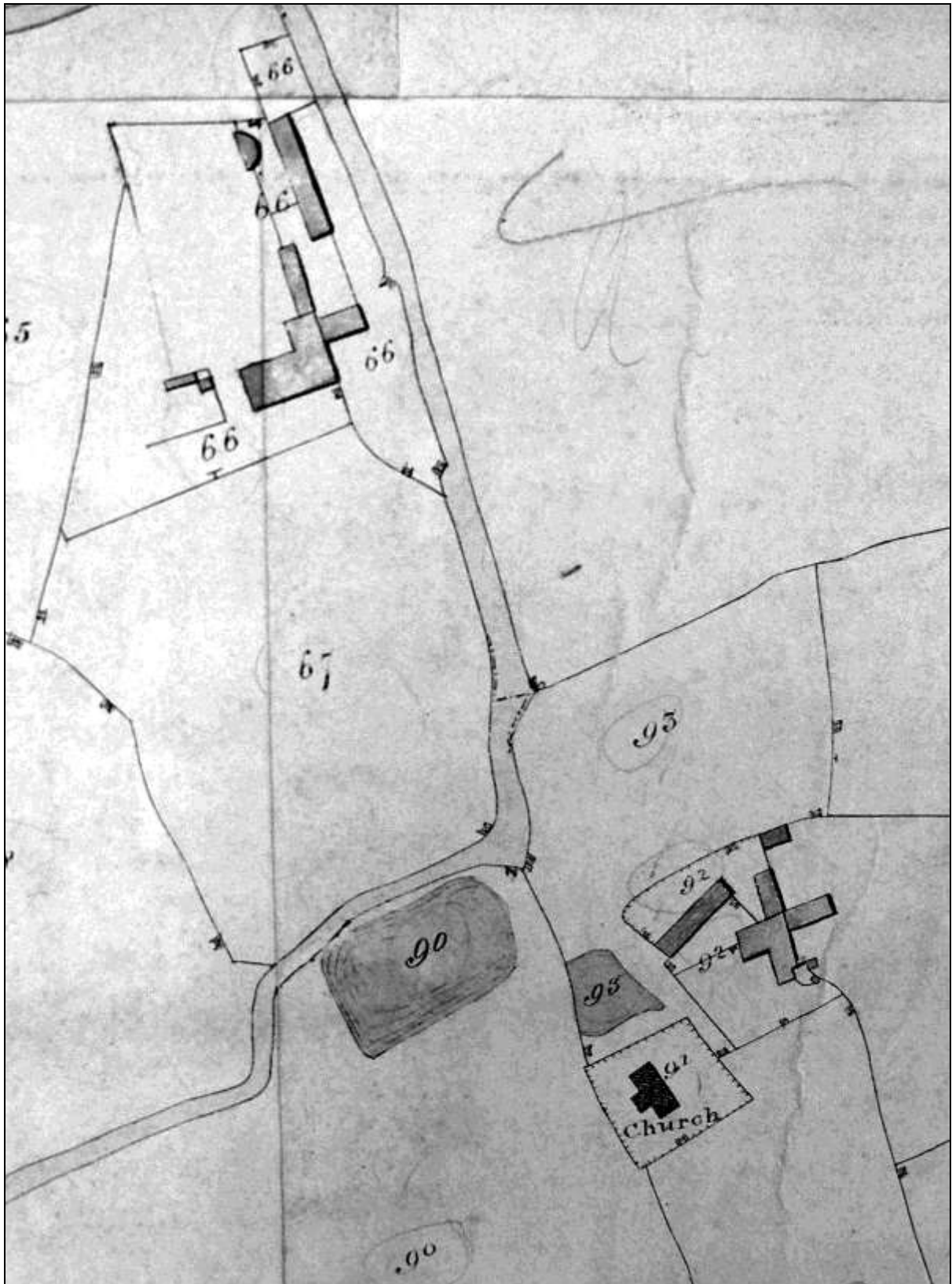


Figure 9 Putley Church and Putley Court (66) from the 1838 Tithe Map © Herefordshire Archives



## Newton's

Next we visited Newton's [SMR 24422]. This farm has a timber-framed portion to the E, and a 19<sup>th</sup> C brick portion to the W. We were told that there had been a bad fire in the 19<sup>th</sup> C – a lot of the original building must have been lost, as it had 3 hearths in the Hearth Tax.



Figure 10 N side of Newton's



Figure 11 Newton's barn

The listed barn [SMR 24422] has impressive timbers – there are more photographs available of this. We were impressed by the well-cut stones in the garden wall of the farmhouse, and were told that the stones came from in the stream to the south. [Fig. 13]



Figure 12 Newton's Farm Wall



Figure 13 Reused timbers in Newton's outbuilding



Figure 14 Newtons, Putley Mill and moated site from Tithe Map ©Herefordshire Archives

A small outbuilding lies across the road from the 'N' in Newtons on the tithe map – this is a fairly modern building, but there are two re-used posts which have evidently come from a much earlier structure – see fig 14. In the garden of the farmhouse there is a well-built brick privy and an interesting rotating summer house, though not of any great age.

We next drove down to Putley Mill, tithe no. 126, **SMR 11114**. The mill building is mainly red-brick and 18/19<sup>th</sup> C, but has an earlier timber-framed wing. The site itself is probably of some antiquity. The mill pond is very long and narrow – no. 127 on the tithe map – and lies some metres above the mill yard. What is not obvious from the tithe map is the stream feeding the mill pond, which takes the overflow from it and carries on as the boundary to field 124, and under the road to field 100. A public footpath crosses the stream by a footbridge from the mill yard, and leads directly to Putley church. We followed the stream upwards where there is evidence of alterations to the feeder water system. You will notice large ponds nos. 90 and 93 on the previous figure of the tithe map, but the contours would argue against them feeding the mill pond of Putley Mill itself. They may have been used to increase the flow in the stream further down by a buried conduit, as there is a short feeder branch leading in the direction of the church.

We returned to Putley Court itself, where we ate our sandwiches and were kindly given refreshments by Dr. Currie. Putley Court is a large red-brick house, and is divided into apartments.

The central block of the Court was built in 1712 by Edmond Phillips. There are two flanking blocks which seem to have been built before the 1770 window tax. The front of the 1712 block appears to have been built possibly of mathematical tiles – certainly there is very white raised pointing which has been infilled with stucco painted red (RCHM). The side blocks seem to be built of an inferior yellowish brick which has been painted (maybe many times) to try to match it to the 1712 block. There is another later block to the right front, and between this and the 1712 block, but behind the front block is another block – this may have been a separate building. It was altered later, possibly in 1922 when bay windows were added at the back.



Figure 15 Putley Court front (R Lowe)



Figure 16 Front door dated 1712

There are 4 windows with apparently earlier stone window frames at the front of the house in the 1712 block. However, they must have been inserted in 1712 as they are embedded in the new plinth around this block. This is clear from the outside photo.



Figure 17 Exterior cellar window



Figure 18 Internal cellar windows

There is a very decorative stable block to the NE of the main Court building. It was built for the Riley family who bought the Court in 1872. The arched doorway under the tower is framed with contrasting red and grey bricks.

The gardens and landscape park around the Court **[SMR 31191]** are shown on the 1832 OS 1" map, but one of the features, a listed classical summerhouse may very well date to the 1712 building. The rear of the summerhouse is accommodated in a specially curved section of the straight garden wall, and on the garden side it is furnished with a built-in bench. The bench is currently painted a bright blue and the rest of the 'temple' white, with a blue band on the pediment. As the garden rises in terraces away from the house, the summer house has a good perspective south westwards over the gardens.



Figure 19 Stable tower



Figure 20 Rear of the Court



Figure 21 18th C Summer house

After members had finished exploring the Court, a few hardy souls decided to investigate the source of the well-cut stones seen in the wall at Newton's farm. A site nearby had already been earmarked for exploration as it was marked as a potential moat on the OS map. [SO 607 374]

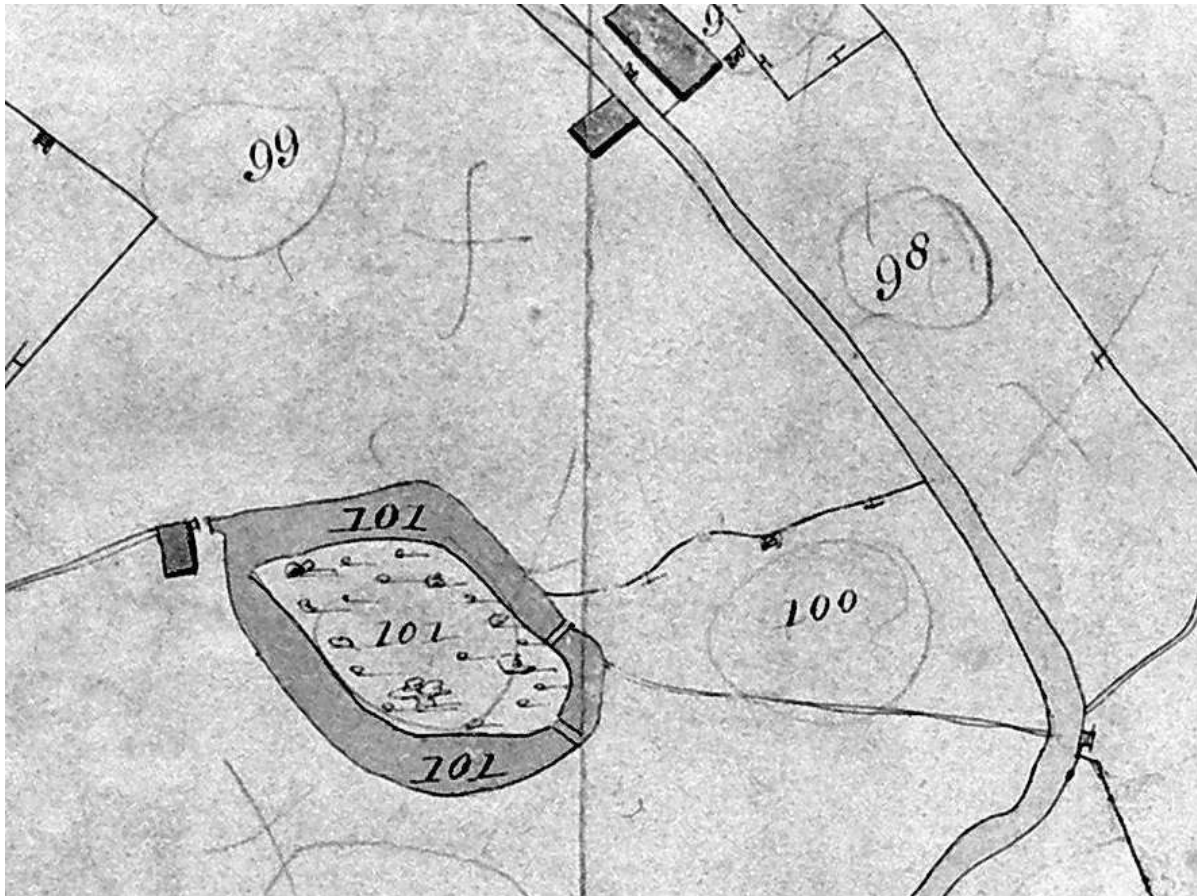


Figure 22 Detail of site from Tithe Map- N to top © Herefordshire Archives



Figure 29 'Moated site'. Members are standing at the level of the building shown in the tithe map, with the 'island' itself behind. The stream runs in the channel to the right

Although there had been speculation that the site could be some sort of defended dwelling, its low lying nature would seem to make this unlikely. The stream is really rather slight, and could easily be dammed upstream. It could of course be a moated conigree, doubling as a mill pond it is called 'Island'



with Mill Pond' on the Tithe Apportionment. The only question is whether the mill's foundation pre- or post-dates that of Putley mill upstream. There was clearly a building still in existence at the time of the tithe map which no doubt supplied the building stone for the wall at Newton's..

There is very little stone now left at the downstream end of the island, though we could see where it appeared to have been removed from. The moat itself is largely silted up, the stream mostly flowing around the south side.

The island mound (and it is quite mounded in places) is now occupied by a large badger sett. Examining soil newly kicked out by their excavations, we were lucky enough to find a clean pottery sherd – see next figures. It has been identified by Judy Stevenson at Hereford Museum as class A7b.

The material is terracotta, with a greyish core. It is clearly part of a strap handle, and in fact jugs form over 95% of the material for this ware. It has been found as far north as Richard's Castle; in Bredwardine, Lydney, Hampton Wafer and Gloucestershire S of the Severn, but our sample is the furthest E in Herefordshire. It has also been found at Grosmont, Skenfrith & White Castles. The fabric is found first in mid 13thC contexts, rising to a peak in the 14<sup>th</sup> C and is residual by the 16<sup>th</sup> C



Figure 24 Typical jug in the ware

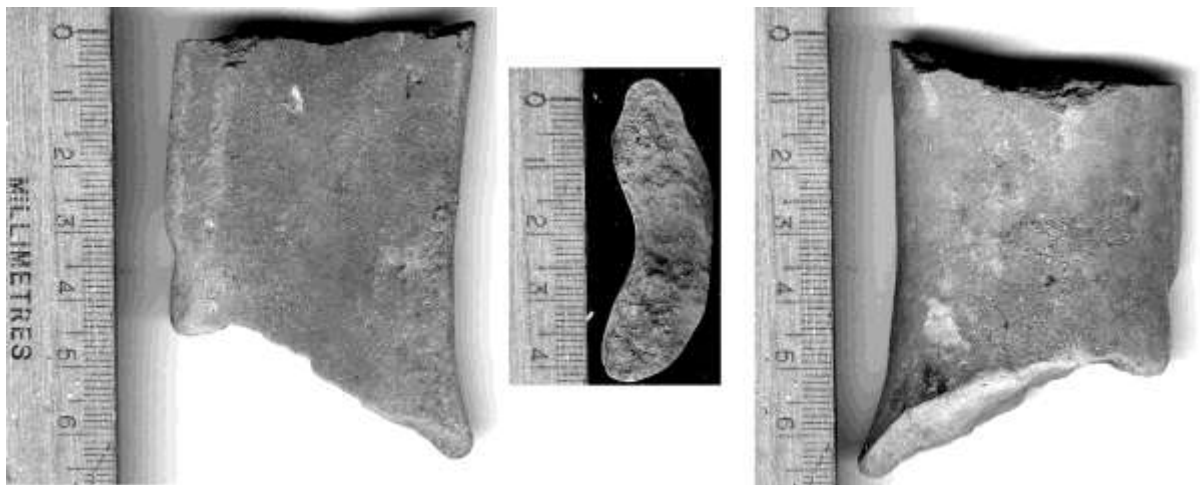


Figure 25 Sherd found in the island site

To reach the site, we had entered the field numbered 100 at the place where the feeder stream crosses under the road, and skirted the site round to the S. Field 100 is called 'Hill House Orchard', and there is still a house to the SE. However, a pronounced Holloway crosses the stream to the W of the 'moat', and this part of field 100 is very uneven, with a number of possible house platforms. It would seem that this may be another settlement site within the parish, now lost.

The authors would like to thank the owners of Newton's for allowing us to visit their farm, and their various fields.

## Field Meeting to Croose Farm, Woolhope by Heather Hurley and Roz Lowe

On Thursday, 9 June 2005 eight ARS members and three guests meet at Croose Farm, Woolhope, the guests of Mr & Mrs Malim. The meeting was led by Heather Hurley, who has written a history of the house for the owners, to whom we are indebted for permission to quote from it, and for the pictures. Prior to the ARS visit, Jim & Muriel Tonkin visited the house to look at the architectural history, and thanks are due for his notes. The purpose of the visit was also to survey the remaining farm buildings.

Croose Farm lies about 2km to the south of the village of Woolhope, along the back road which connects Woolhope and Sollers Hope. (SO 614 348). It is no longer a working farm, and the newer farm buildings were removed when it was renovated in the 1980s. The name is usually applied to places where there is a X-roads as opposed to Croose where there is a junction only. Possibly there are lost roads here, or even a lost wayside cross.

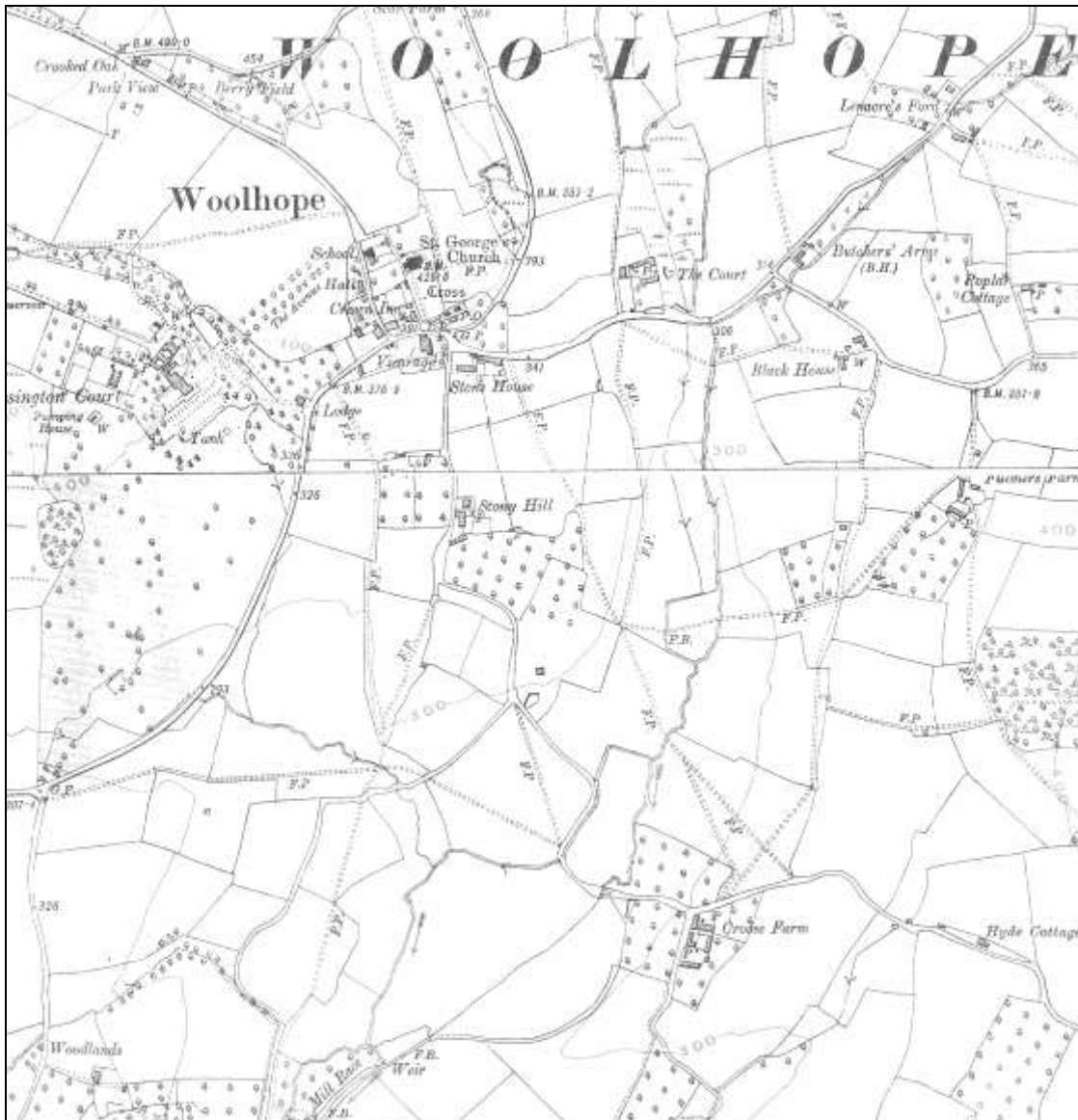


Figure 130 OS map showing Croose Farm environs

In the 11C the manor of Woolhope was given to Hereford Cathedral by Wulviva and her sister Godiva (of bareback fame), after which it was administered by the Dean and Chapter. The Cathedral archive has a good series of Court rolls. After the Dissolution various lands were granted and leased, and according to a survey of 1575 Thomas Wheeler was occupying 'freeland' and 'a meadow called the Croose'. By the late 16C 'John Whiller de Croose' is recorded in the parish registers, and the Wheeler family occupied the Croose for some time. 'John Whiller the elder of the Croose' died in 1628 after the death of his wife Alis in 1621. They



were followed successively by Thomas, John and then 'Thomas Wheeler de Crosse' in the 1640s.

The parish suffered loss and damage in the Civil War, and from 1643 the Dean & Chapter's Woolhope lands were sequestered. This may be why John Jones and his wife Mary were occupying the farm towards the end of the Civil War. In his will John Jones left the following bequest recorded in the Table of Benefactions by the Charity Commissioners:

*'John Jones, surgeon, late of the Crews, on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 1648, left, for ever, a house called the Crown, with a garden, buildings, and an acre and a half of land called Martin's Close. He also gave his house and yard called Wall-house, adjoining to the vicarage, to the use of the poor of the parish of Woolhope.'*

By 1649 the Wheelers had returned, with 'Richard Wheeler de Crosse' paying rent for 'one messuage and divers land' to the Dean & Chapter. These lands were sold between 1649 and 1651, but the Dean & Chapter remained lords of the manor. A later owner was Richard Wheeler, born in 1697. He became a surgeon and died in 1757. He had three daughters, the eldest of whom, Rebecca, married James Hooper. James's second wife advertised the farm for sale in 1817, but in the event it was not sold and passed to her son, but as he was in the army it was leased out and was sold in a poor condition to Ferdinand Beeston of Ross c1845. The Wheelers and their relatives had held the farm (barring the interregnum) since the 16C, but after this time it was to pass from hand to hand much more often. The full history is available from the owners.

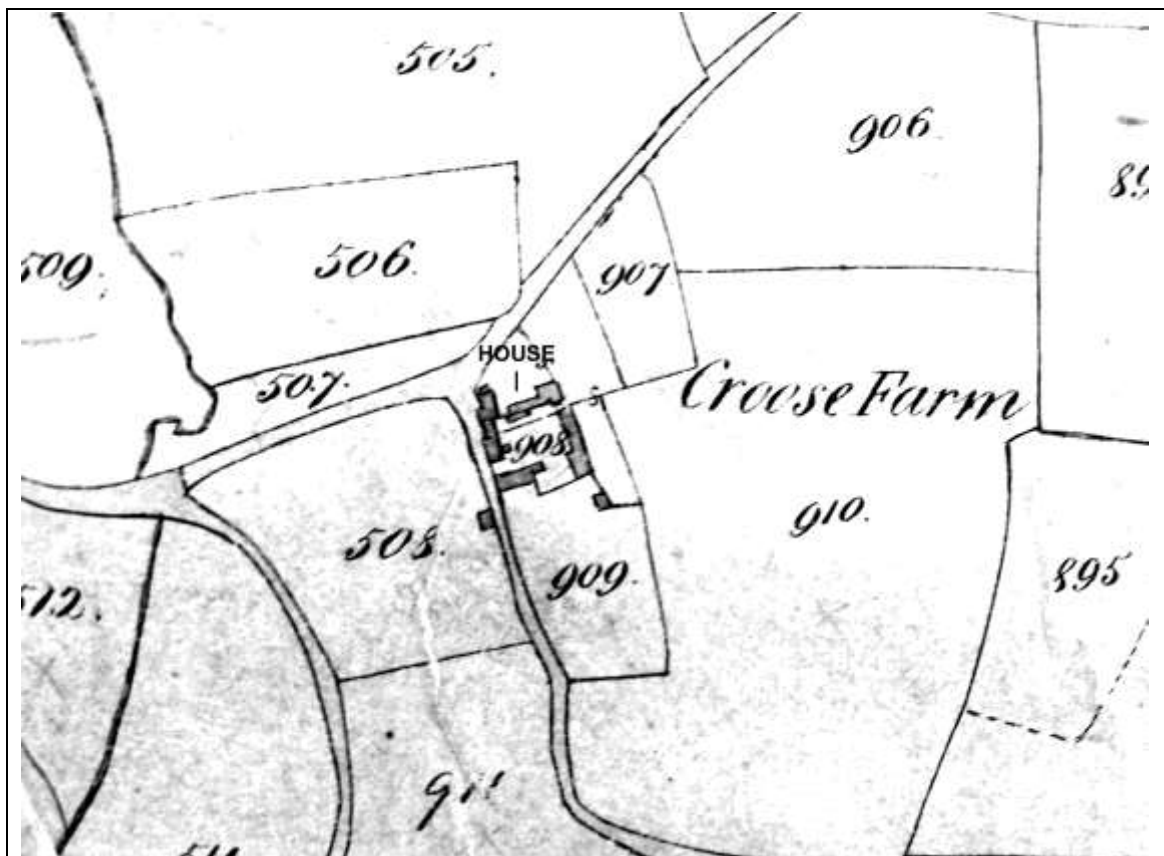


Figure 2 Woolhope Tithe Map N to top ©Herefordshire Archives

The main axis of the house (see map above) is roughly oriented E-W, and the buildings will be described as if it is exactly aligned. Although the 1817 sale particulars give details of the timber, stock and household goods being offered, a full description of the farm and farm buildings is given in the 1927 particulars.

The house comprised: 'Hall, parlour, Kitchen, Back Kitchen with copper and sink: Three Bedrooms; Box Room; Three Servants' Rooms; Tiled Dairy with fitted slabs; Two Pantries, and Cellarage and Pump.

We were fortunate that one of our guests was somebody who had lived in the farm as a child in the 1950s, and we are grateful for the use of her photographs. The farmhouse has been extensively renovated, and in the process some later additions to the outside have been removed. For example, on the N front the 'porch' to the left of the chimney stack (see below) has been removed. This gave access to the dairy which at the date of the photo occupied the N half of the E cross-wing. A number of the timbers on this side of the E cross-wing were rotten and have been replaced. Also removed is the little pentice roof on the W side of the chimney.



Figure 3 N front of farmhouse, photo probably 1950s



Figure 4 N facade with pentice and porch removed

The RCHM consider that the original entrance to the cross-passage was a door to the right of the chimney, but if this was so it would be very close to the large hearth inside.



Figure 5 S front and W side of farmhouse, photo probably late 19C or early 20C



Figure 6 S facade in 1950s

The series of photos (figures 5 to 7) of the S façade span about 100 years. The original stone facing of the central block and the E cross-wing was rendered by the 1950s, and the timber-framed W cross-wing was made a rather startling black & white. The earliest photo shows the E cross-wing with shutters on the lower windows, so probably this room backing on to the dairy was a service room too. All the windows in the central section and the E cross-wing now conform to those in the E wing originally.



Figure 31 S front today

A lean-to on the E end of the E cross-wing has gone; a chimney and lean-to on the S of the W cross-wing has gone, and the lean-to on the W of the W cross-wing has been replaced by a porch. This porch is built with old reclaimed timbers, and the entrance door in this porch is also reclaimed. The RCHM comments of some old panelling in the house, but this had disappeared by the time the current owners arrived. A new chimney has been inserted in the E wall of the W cross-wing.

By the 1950s the central section downstairs had been divided into a number of passages and small rooms, but this is now restored into one large room. It is not evident from the outside, but the ground floor level of the E cross-wing is about 75cm above the level of the rest of the building. There was a staircase leading from the central section, but it is not sure where the original staircase led – possibly there was more than one. The current (newish) staircase is in the W cross-wing. The E cross-wing is now one room on the ground floor.

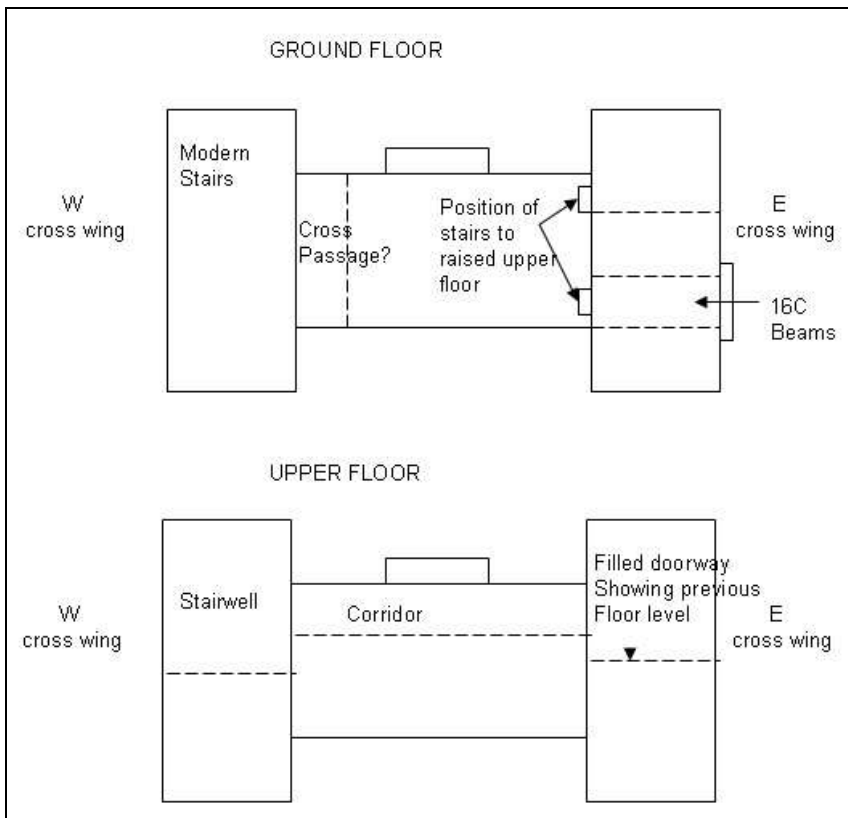


Figure 32 Outline house plan - not to scale

### Central section

RCHM considers that there was originally a cross-passage leading from N to S, at the W side of the fireplace, though the chimney breast is so close to this passage that a substantial screen would leave very little space between it and the fireplace. However, the fireplace itself has been substantially remodelled, though it is likely to be in its original position.

During the 1950s, this central section was a rabbit-warren of small rooms and a passage, with a staircase leading to the upper floor. It was in this part of the house that some 17C panelling was seen in the 1930's RCHM survey, but it has disappeared.



Figure 9 carpenter's mark on W wall of central block, and chamfer on E-W beam, both downstairs

Jim has dated this block to the Civil War period. Upstairs, a corridor now leads from the modern staircase in the W wing to the E wing. There is a series of carpenter's marks on the timbers at the E end – see fig. below.



Figure 10 carpenter's marks at E end of central block

In the roof above the central section, there is a ridge purlin which sits on three trusses, with two sunk through purlins on each side. One truss sits against a chimney, the other two trusses have raking struts from the ceiling beam to the trusses.

### East Wing

This is now 2 storeys high, but it is quite possible that it was originally 3 storeys. The ceiling of the ground floor room, beams and all, seems to have been raised. The evidence for this is that a blocked doorway between the N and S first floor rooms is now much too low, and steps have had to be built to allow access from the first floor level of the central section.

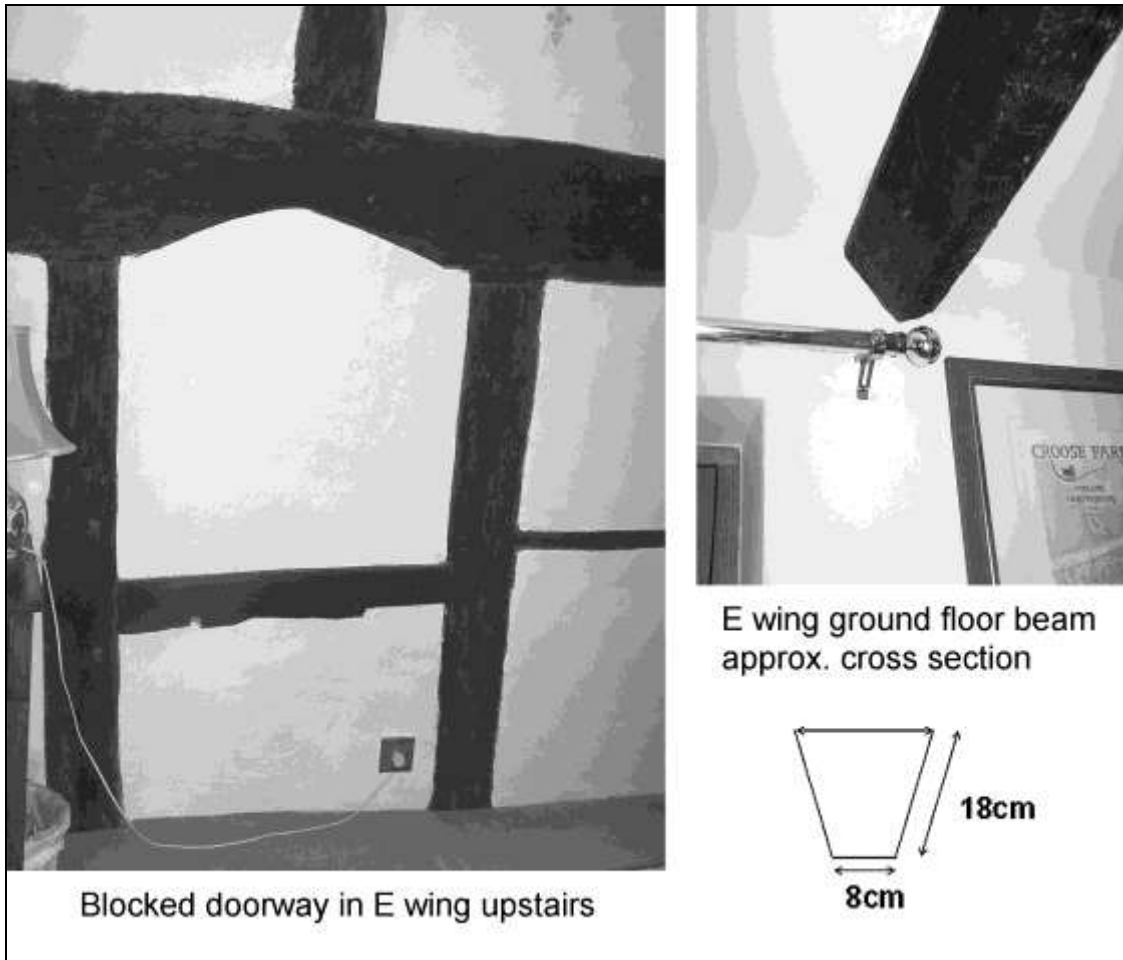


Figure 11 Details in E cross wing

The beams in the ground floor room of the E cross wing are the earliest evidence seen in the house. The cross section seen would indicate a date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 16C. One of the cross beams, mid-way along the room, has been boxed in by the current owners to protect some fragile paintings on it. From memory, the paintings include flowers, and unusually, a man on horseback.

#### West wing

The W wing seems originally to have been at the (physically) lower end of the building, and is probably early 17C in date. Whether there was an earlier service wing to complement the earlier E cross wing is unknown. It has been substantially altered and repaired in modern times, and a double-height staircase added, with a bedroom at the S end of the wing, over the current kitchen. The entrance to this wing on the W side is covered by a porch, recently built of reclaimed timbers, and a fine ancient door, again reclaimed from another building somewhere but substantial and early. Reclaimed panelling has been re-used as the door to a modern cloakroom under the stairs.

It's possible to see more clearly the timbers of the framing inside, and the following figure shows the four outer corner posts, and one middle post.

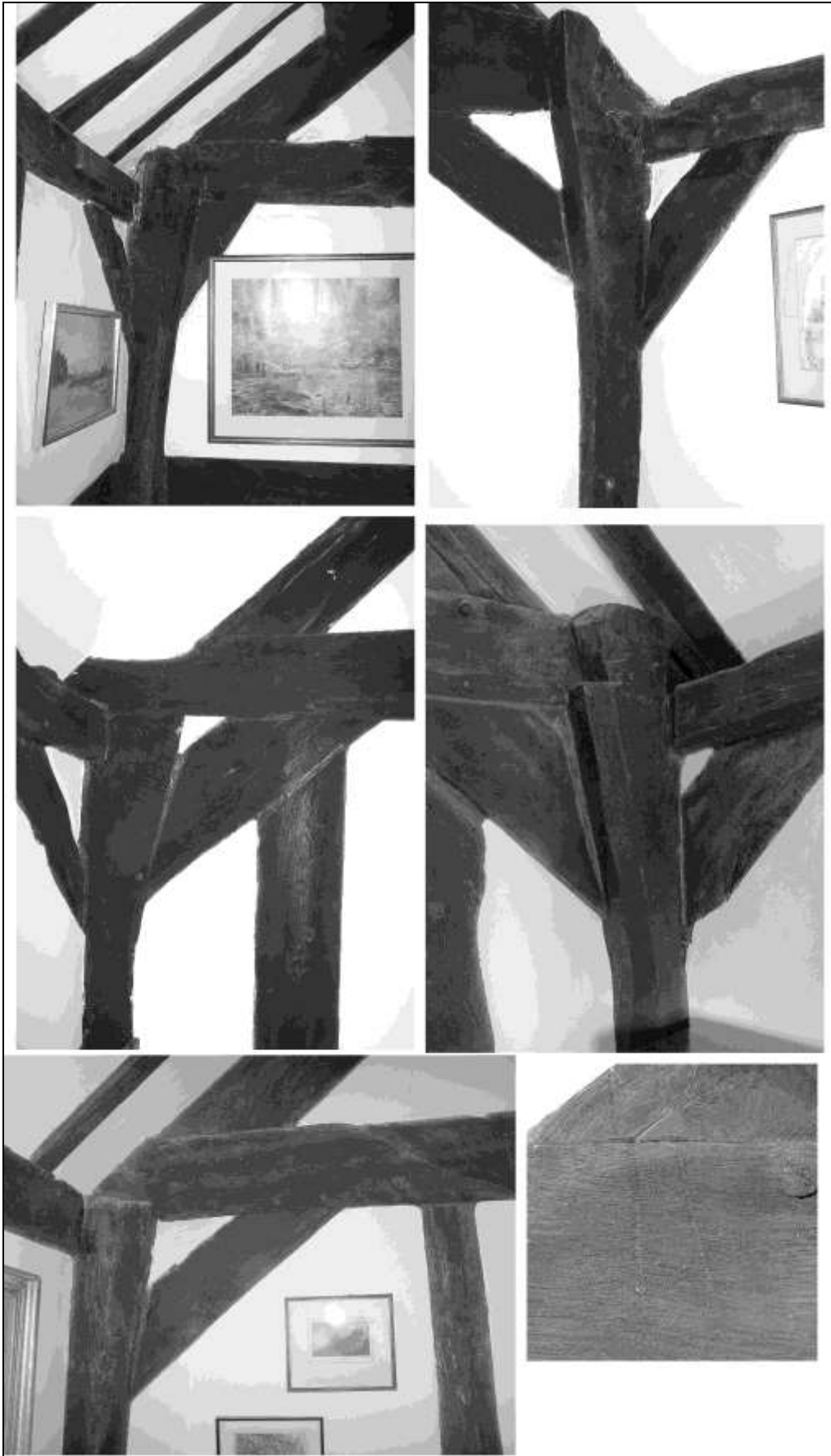


Figure 12 timbers of first floor W cross wing



## Farm Buildings

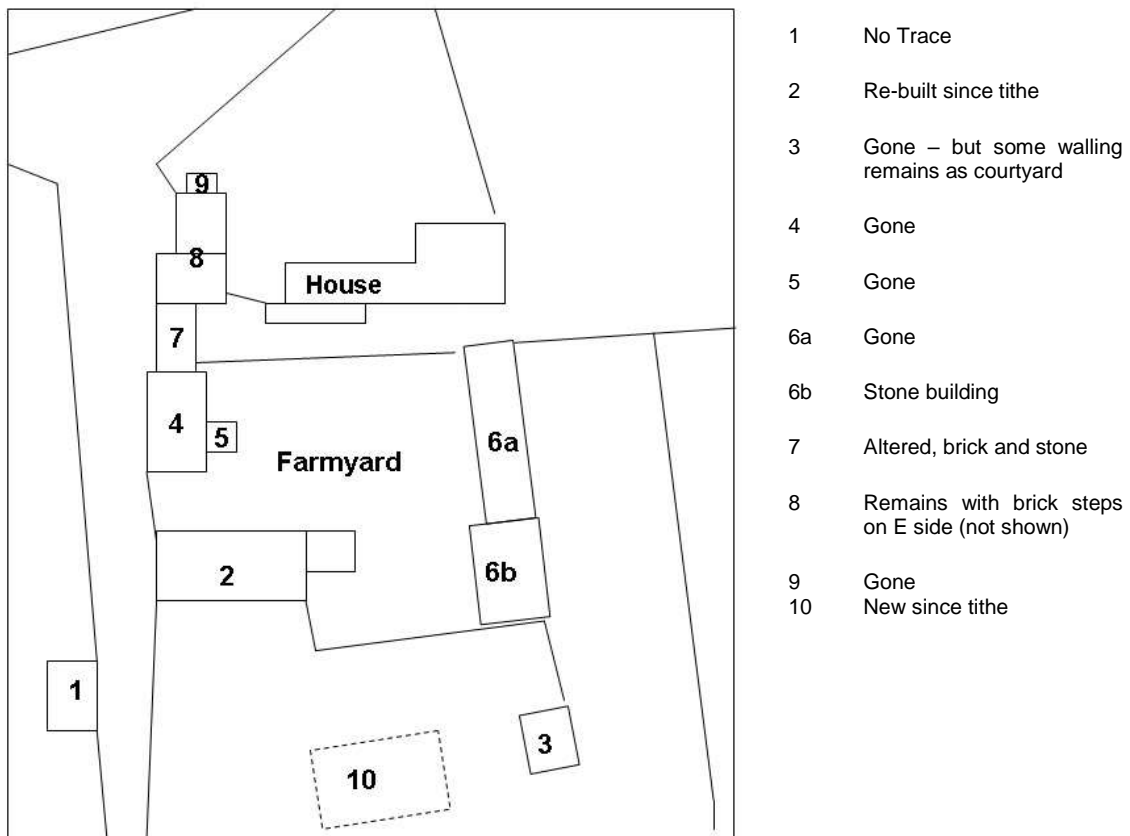


Figure 13 Rough plan of farm buildings from tithe map

No attempt has been made in the plan to show buildings erected since the time of the tithe map (1845) but no longer existing. It is roughly to scale. The house as shown on the tithe map is clearly inaccurately drawn. A selection of the extant older buildings are shown below.



Figure 14 View of S of house with farmyard

This photo from the 1950s shows the animal houses (building 6a) which have since gone. The S portion of 6, 6b, is still in existence

In 1927 the farm buildings were: 'A Brick Built and Tiled Granary; Cider Mill with Granary over; Nag Stable; Fowl House; Two Folds with Open Sheds; Cow House to tie 9, brick floor, and Calves' Cot; Cart Stable with Loft over; Chaff House; Bull Pen; Stone-built and Tiled Wainhouse; Brick-built and Tiled 2-Bay Barn, 3-Bay Dutch Barn, 3 piggeries. There was a good water supply from the pump in the fold, and there were 113.5 acres of pasture, orchards and arable.



Figure 15 Building 2 from W

Building 2 has been largely, if not totally rebuilt since the tithe map. The W end abuts the road, and it would appear that there was originally a large door between the two inserted windows. This would seem to indicate a stable.



Figure 15 W facade of building 6a

Building 6a has an upper storey accessed by a door on the S face. It would seem that the building was earlier a barn, from the ventilation slot remaining. It may have been converted to a stable when the brick barn (building 10) was built. The floor is mainly cobbled, with an inserted brick strip presumably to aid drainage. The S wall has a piece of timber from a timber framed building embedded into it, showing the peg holes. All the farm buildings are roofed with brown tiles.

The complex of buildings 7 and 8 remain, though a small extension at 9 has gone. Building 8 was the 'cider mill with granary over' – the cider mill now lies outside building 7, which has been very much altered. The N gable of 8 shows some timber framing,

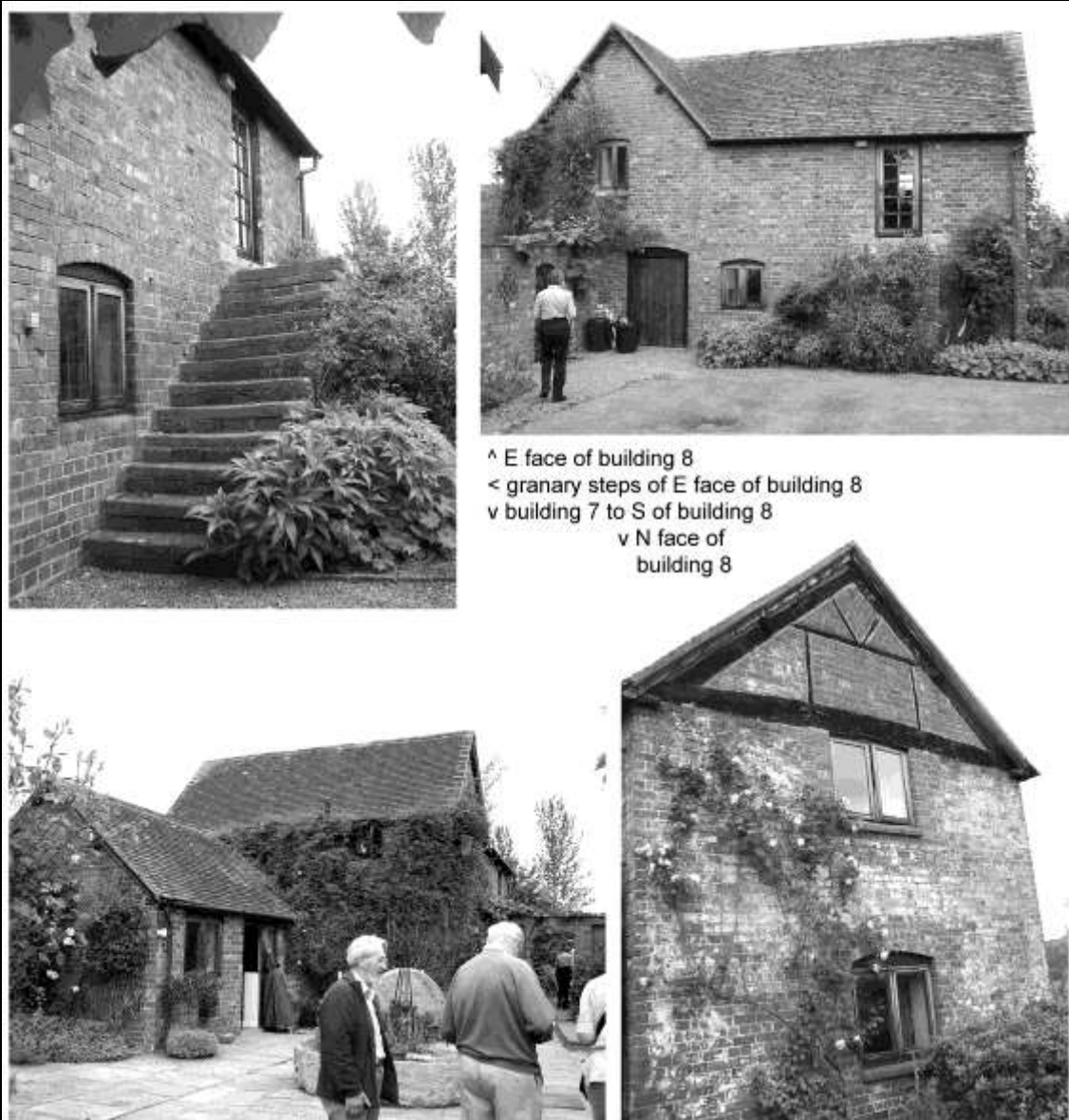


Figure 16 Buildings 8 and 9

The W gable also shows timber framing, and in this case there has been some re-use of older timbers – see next figure.



Figure 17 W wall of building 8

After the time of the tithe map, a handsome threshing barn was added – building 10.



Figure 18 Building 10

Although beautifully built of brick, economy has been practised in the re-use of older timbers for the roof timbers – see next figure. The detail shows the punched 19C carpenter's marks made when the timber was re-used.



Figure 19 Building 10 roof timbers

The ARS would like to thank the owners for their hospitality during several visits by the Club.