

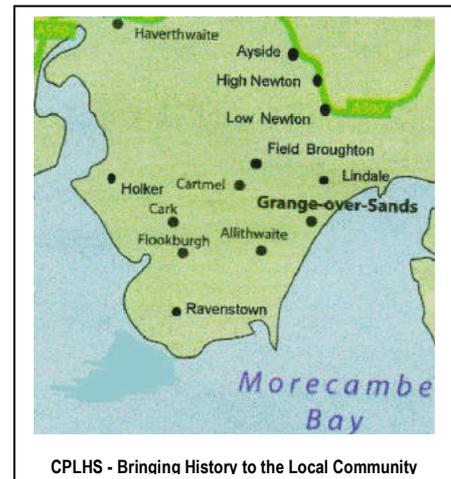
Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

Founded in 1996 with the aim of promoting an interest in local history within the area

Villages Special Newsletter : June 2017

Contents

Chairman's Message
Cark in Cartmel – on the way to somewhere
Banking in Cark in Cartmel
Middle Row at Cark
Stockdale Family Tree
Horse racing at Cartmel
Mr Watson's Hearse
Researching the Early History of Cartmel
Flookburgh Life & the Crown Inn
Flookburgh in the 2nd World War
Newton-in-Cartmel School
Henry Alfred Ransome
Allithwaite Bowling Club
A Bronze Age Cemetery in Allithwaite
Bridges in the Lindale Area
Research Group report
Lecture Summaries & Membership News
Forthcoming Lectures & Events
Contacts



Chairman's Message

A very warm welcome to this Newsletter which, as you will see, once again concentrates on a theme: this time it is the villages within our area. In recent years a considerable amount of interest has been shown by members in the history of individual villages and in Lindale a separate group was established, with many enthusiastic members, to continue research. In this newsletter we feature Cark, Cartmel, Flookburgh, Newton-in-Cartmel, Lindale and Field Broughton – hopefully showing all readers a slightly different look at each. Our two summer walks, which both start at High Newton, will reveal the fascinating and widespread flax industry as well as the interesting vernacular style of the buildings in that village. There has been such enthusiasm for these walks that, despite holding each walk twice, I fear we cannot, unfortunately, accommodate any more members. At the back of the Newsletter you will find brief details of our remaining two lectures for this season. As usual, the final meeting this year will be our Annual General Meeting in November. In addition to the formal (and brief) business we shall have other ideas which will be included in the next Newsletter. And last but, certainly, not least, we are delighted to report we now have a record number of members: thank you to all. *Stuart Harling*

Cark in Cartmel: on the way to somewhere

Cark in Cartmel is a hamlet in the Lower Holker Township in the parish of Cartmel. Much of Cark's economic and social history has been as a consequence of its geographical location in the south west of the Cartmel Peninsula. It has the Ay or Eea running through the village first as a fast flowing beck and finally entering Morecambe Bay through a winding creek. The hamlet lies irregularly in and above the chasm through which the Eea flows with housing along its bank, on the road to Haverthwaite towards Holker Hall and over Cark Bridge past the Engine Inn towards Cark and Cartmel Station towards Flookburgh. Cark Hall built in 1582 lies on the edge of the village on the road to Cartmel.

The proximity of fast flowing water has generated a number of water powered mills possibly since medieval times and at least since the seventeenth century. However, it was not until 1785 that the construction of a Cotton Mill was undertaken which would according to Stockdale in the Annals of Cartmel fundamentally change Cark from a rural idyll to a pre industrial mill village. Employing up to 400 men, women and children, at least three rows (Low, Middle and High Row and Mill Yard) of housing were built to accommodate this influx of workers. The mill was probably in decline from 1805/6 due partly to the negative impact of the Napoleonic wars, but lasted until 1815 when it and its housing were liquidated off to Stockdale's inheritors. Edward Hall became the new owner of the mill which was to be used as a corn mill until 1936 when it burnt down.

Cark's milder coastal location and the improvement to the soil through the addition of lime (Cark had a lime kiln in 1665) allowed for lucrative wheat crops to be grown instead of the more usual oats and barley. Any surpluses of these crops along with money from peat which was being cut from the reclaimed mosses created profits which were the beginnings of agrarian wealth. It has been suggested that this surplus of wealth may have contributed to local investment in coastal shipping and other investment ventures.

Cark's proximity to the sea along with the neighbouring village of Flookburgh has provided employment opportunities in fishing. According to the

census records of 1841 to 1851 there was an increase in men and women who declared their employment to be fishermen and it saw a decline in the number of men employed as agricultural labourers.

Another aspect of Cark's coastal location, which has in the past brought wealth to the village in the form of travellers, was the route to Ulverston over the Sands. There were in fact three routes across the sands, the first going through Flookburgh. Thomas Butler of Flookburgh ran a carrier service to Lancaster on Tuesdays and Fridays. However in 1810, a shorter route was established which went via Cark and John Butler of Cark was recorded as having a carrier service which ran on Mondays and Thursdays to Lancaster. The third route was via Holker and went to Braddyl's Arms in Ulverston on Mondays and Thursdays.

With the coming of the Ulverstone and Lancaster railway in 1857, the Over Sands route began to decline and by 1882, the routes had ceased to operate. However, Cark was well placed to benefit from the railways as it became the location for the Cark in Cartmel station.

Cark in Cartmel railway station owed much of its existence to the efforts of the Duke of Devonshire in the 1840's. The station was designed by Paley and Austin and was probably built in the 1870's, a superior design than other small stations on the line. It even boasted an awning which he attributed to the station being used by the Cavendish family and at times royalty. In addition to transporting people in the early years freight was also important. The Low Wood gunpowder works had a depot there until the opening of the Lakeside branch in 1869. But the General Manager of Furness Railway, Alfred Aslett, saw the potential of both the trains and steamers in attracting tourists to South Lakeland. Carriers operated locally as well as coaches to Newby Bridge.

The railways, together with clean air and fresh produce, saw Cark become a tourist destination. Several properties such as the Railway Inn, the Station Hotel, the Queens Arms, the Engine Inn and the Rose and Crown in addition to several apartments were ready to cater for day trippers

and holiday makers from the industrial Furness Peninsula. With the improvement in roads, cycling was becoming a popular pastime and ads in the 1895 Handbook welcome cycling parties to Cark.

With Cark's hinterland still predominantly agricultural, the railway provided Cark with a convenient location to set up an auction mart and photographic evidence shows a thriving auction mart operating at Cark and Cartmel station in 1908.



Cark and Cartmel railway station Auction market 1908 : Cumbria Image Archive.

The influx of animals and farmers both brought trade to the businesses in Cark and created the need for the establishment of several banks which

were sub branches of either Grange over Sands or Ulverston. By 1911, there were two banks in Cark with partial opening times probably dedicated to the operation of the auction mart: The Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Co Ltd along with the London and Joint Stock Bank Ltd on Station Rd. In addition to the usual village shops, Bulmer's also notes an agricultural seed dealer in Gainsborough House a site occupied today by Bob's hairdressers. In 1928, the third bank opened which was Martin's bank.

In 1900, there were 100 fishermen in Flookburgh and many of the cockles being harvested, passed through the station onwards to destinations in Lancashire and Yorkshire and beyond. With the establishment of the airfield at Flookburgh, known as RAF Cark, in 1941, the station catered for movements of both RAF personnel and Americans.

Finally, a mention must be made of the influence in terms of the built environment, land ownership, farm tenancies, investment and employment that the existence of Holker Hall has had on the history of Cark. Since the suppression of Cartmel Priory in 1536, the Hall was owned initially by the Preston family and through inheritance it passed firstly to a junior branch of the Lowther family and then to the Cavendish family, its present owners.

Rose Clark

Banking in Cark in Cartmel

In today's high street the bank is becoming a rarity and 2017 will see the closure of another branch; National Westminster Bank in Main Street, Grange over Sands. Banks are leaving the small market town high street but in the late nineteenth century they were part of the local landscape in not only market towns but even villages and hamlets. For over seventy years, the hamlet of Cark in Cartmel, Cumbria had three banks ; the Lancaster Banking

Co located, according to Bulmer's Directory of 1911, at Bank House, Station Rd and open initially on Fridays ; the London and Joint Stock Bank Ltd. also located in 117 Station Rd. which is Bank Cottage today ; and the Bank of Liverpool and Martin's Ltd. located opposite at 114 Station Rd. All three banks were characterised by the fact that the banking premises occupied only one room of the building that they occupied. The rest of the building

had tenants who in some cases acted as caretakers for the bank. In the case of the District Bank, the building with a date stone of 1893 is substantial and could have been built for non residential purposes but the other two banks: Martin's and the Midland were in either a semi detached house or cottage further along Station Rd.

Until 1826, banks were essentially private merchant banks but the Bank Act of 1826 permitted joint stock banks of issue with unlimited liability to be established. The Lancaster Banking Co was one such bank which was set up in 1826 and existed until 1907 when it was taken over.

The Cark in Cartmel branch of the Lancaster Banking Co. was opened in 1897, operating as a sub branch to Ulverston. Crowds of awaiting customers would form outside as only one person at a time would enter the bank. The bank was taken over by the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Co. in 1907. In the Grange and District Red book of 1953/4, it is noted that Mr. J P Capel lived at District Bank House, Cark in Cartmel with a telephone of Flookburgh 292. He was the manager of the Grange over Sands District Bank. In 1968, Westminster Bank, the National Provincial and National Provincial's subsidiary District Bank announced their intention to merge. In 1970, on January 1st they began to trade as National Westminster and it became a dependent sub branch to Grange over Sands. However, it closed on June 3rd, 1970.

The London and Joint Stock Bank Ltd according to Bulmer's of 1911 was also open on Fridays from 10-1.30pm. and was located at 119 Station Rd. which today is a semi detached cottage. The bank itself was founded in 1836 and operated until 1918 when it amalgamated with the Midland Bank. In 1992, it was taken over by HSBC.

The remaining bank also located in Station Rd at 114 and almost opposite the London and Joint Stock Bank was the Bank of Liverpool and Martin's Ltd. which opened in Cark in 1920. On the 3rd of January, 1928 it became Martin's Bank through an amalgamation of Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank Ltd. and was a sub branch to Grange over Sands.

Part of the amalgamations which resulted in the formation of Martin's bank in 1928 was the Cattle Trading Bank. According to the history of Martin's bank, it shared the same bank manager: Mr J Thornton with the Grange branch. With the onset of WW 2 it closed on 25th of July and reopened in 1946 and eventually closed in 1968.

In order to understand how a small hamlet, such as Cark in Cartmel should have had three sub branches, one has to examine the location of the banks. From the late eighteenth century, there was an auction mart operating at the Cark and Cartmel railway station which later moved at some point into the centre of the village where the children's playground is today next to what was Waller's convenience shop; the Cabin. Bulmer's of 1911 indicates that the first two banks were open on Friday's either all day or just for the morning.

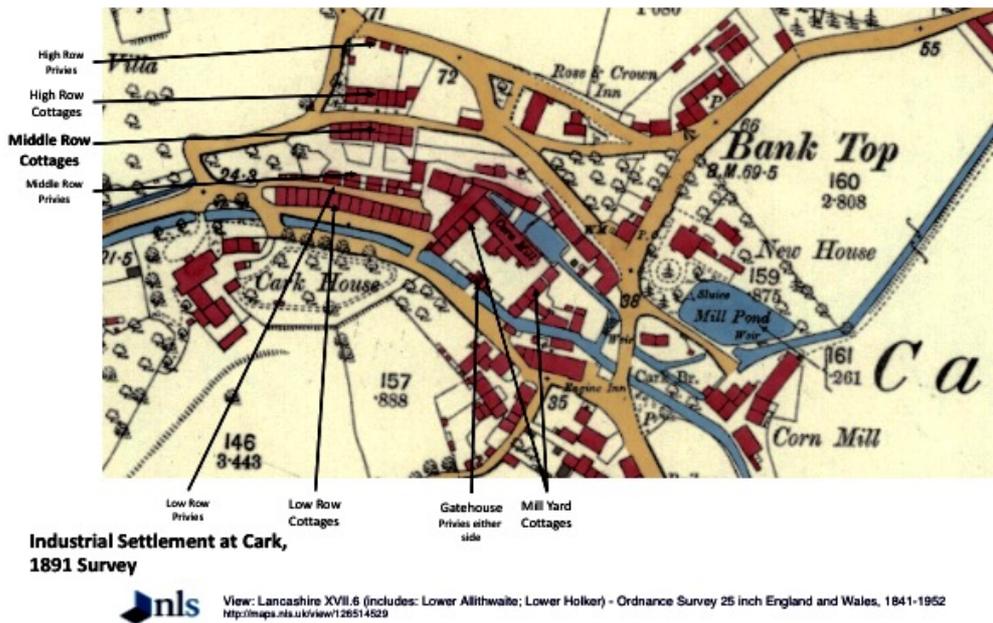


The Old Natwest Bank

With the influx of farmers for the cattle auctions, can we deduce that farmer's were the primary clients of the three banks and the limited opening hours were to facilitate the exchange of money on auction day and to pay the workers their weekly wage packets. When the auction market closed, the banks did not survive much longer. Martin's own website states that its Cark sub branch did not have a night safe.

Rose Clark

Middle Row at Cark – part of a Georgian Industrial Settlement



The Georgian rows of High Row and Low Row which sit alongside 'Cark Beck' (river Eea) are the visible evidence of Cark as former industrial settlement. With the building of the Cark Cotton Mill, also known as the Big Mill, housing was needed to accommodate the estimated 400 men, women and children who were employed there.

Low Row and High Row have survived but another two rows in Mill Yard, now Mill Close, were demolished in the early 1960s. The fifth and most intriguing row, known as Middle Row, however, was demolished between 1897 and 1901. Messrs. Francis Frith's photographer captured it in the background of a photograph taken on his first visit to Cark in 1897. Today only the floor platform and section of wall remain of Middle Row.

Middle Row's history has been established from a number of documents in the Cumbria Archives, the Library of Birmingham, census returns and the earlier large-scale Ordnance Survey maps.

Between the summer of 1783 and May 1785 James Stockdale of Cark House, merchant,

built a substantial Cotton Mill for partners from Manchester and Lancaster. By May 1785, some 32 cottages were built for the workers. These are most likely to be:

- Mill Yard two rows, each of five cottages, two storey
- Low Row fifteen cottages, two storey
- High Row six cottages, three storey (now "Sunny Bank")
- plus one other 'east of the mill', which has disappeared by 1823.

31 identified cottages from that time are shown on the 1891 25inch Ordnance Survey map. I have been unable to identify the location of the 32nd cottage. By 1795 an insurance policy describing the mill, includes a new block of 16 cottages – Middle Row. These would house the additional worker's families required when the Cotton company installed additional water frames for spinning.

The cotton mill was mothballed in 1807 or 1808. This follows the death of James Stockdale I, the bankruptcy of fellow-partner Joseph Thackeray and generally due to the difficulty in

importing cotton and exporting cotton twist during the Napoleonic Wars.

The sale of the Cotton Mill, with the ten Mill Yard cottages, finally occurred in 1816. The mill shares were by that time held by Benjamin Satterthwaite (two thirds), and the heirs of James Stockdale I (one third). It was acquired by Edward Hall, corn miller of Allithwaite. The remaining 37 cottages were retained with ownership shared by Satterthwaite and the Stockdale heirs in the same proportions. The heirs at that time were James Stockdale II (9/36 of total share) and children of his sister Mrs. Ellen Harrison (3/36 share). In 1890 ownership was between the distant cousins Rev. Dr. Henry Ross of Lancaster ($\frac{3}{4}$) and Ellen Gray Rigge of Wood Broughton ($\frac{1}{4}$). Rents were collected by the Stockdales or Riggess, who also arranged any maintenance and shared out the profits.

Little is known about Middle Row. It only appears in the background of photos and the Victorian Ordnance Survey maps, being demolished long before present memory. They could have been back-to-back cottages, as suggested by the OS map. However, it appears that half were accessed from the yard south of the row and the northern half from the adjacent lane. With the lane access being at first floor level, they were possibly apartments. Whatever the arrangement, half of the dwellings would have a room or two with little if any natural light. Today the windows and doors of the upper cottages can be found under the ivy of the boundary wall opposite High Row. The census returns suggest these to be 3 room cottages, although through the 1880s it appears two adjacent cottages were rented as a pair.

When James Stockdale II died in 1823 the estate accounts mention the income from the cottages retained by Satterthwaite and the Stockdales in 1816. Only 21 tenants are named. The rents are shown mainly as being 1 shilling per week, much of which hadn't been paid for up to six years.

A surviving rent account book for 1881 – 91 shows the amounts paid by the various ten-

ants. It gives the rents at 1/- (Low and Middle Row) 1/6d (5 houses on High Row) and 2/- (one house on High Row) per week. Where a tenant occupied the dwellings in Middle Row rented out as a pair, he also paid 2/-.

The rent account book and the census returns, show that no more than 23 of the 37 cottages were occupied at any time. The census returns for 1861 to 1891 all identify the Middle Row cottages and, where relevant, their occupants. However, it is not possible to consistently match any particular Middle Row cottage to a particular occupant. The problem is even harder with the 1841 and 1851 census returns as few individual dwellings in the village are identifiable. Only the pubs and big houses are individually named.

High Row was usually fully occupied with vacancies in the cottages in Middle and Low Rows. In the 1871 census, 14 Middle Row cottages are occupied. By the 1881 census, only five are occupied, ten are unoccupied and one not mentioned (perhaps the one rented with its adjacent cottage) By 1891 three are occupied, five unoccupied and eight not mentioned. Low Row usually appears to have some vacant cottages and in April 1871 appears to be totally empty. Perhaps they were all under renovation or some disaster such as a fire had occurred along the row. Further research in the Ulverston, Barrow or Lancaster newspapers may provide some evidence.

Given that over-supply for around eighty years, it seems surprising that it was around 1900 before Mrs. Gray Rigge and Dr. Ross finally demolished Middle Row. Older local residents may recall who owned the remaining cottages of Low Row and High Row in the 20th century before they were acquired by their occupants.

This intriguing row of cotton mill worker's cottages had a useful life through the nineteenth century. People were willing to live in them despite there being what to modern eyes might appear to be more desirable cottages vacant in Low Row. After 1891 the remaining occupants had either passed away or moved from the vil-

lage, allowing their owners to demolish what must have been the meanest dwellings in the village.

Les Gilpin

A Stockdale Family Tree

It is difficult to research the village of Cark without encountering a James Stockdale – father, son or grandson. They were dominant personalities in the village for around 120 years. James I as the merchant and industrialist, James II who, after early years working with Lancaster and Liverpool merchants, managed his father's Cark interests whilst James III lived off the estate and wrote his well-known *Annales Caermoelenses* or *Annals of Cartmel*.

In various Stockdale estate papers other names appear: Benning, Boulton, Harrison, Kirkes and Ross. Who were these people? In *Annals*, James III makes many claims for his ancestry and the descendents of his grandfather. Whilst some seems to make sense other parts, like other claims in the book, seem questionable. In order to unravel the Stockdale family, I drew up this family tree.

The immediate family of James I were reasonably straightforward to confirm. The Lancashire Online Parish Clerk website has transcripts of Cartmel Priory baptisms marriages and burials until the 1870s together with similar transcripts for other (old county of) Lancashire church records for varying periods. What has proved difficult is when a christening, marriage or funeral occurred outside the county, or indeed in dissenting chapels. Thus I have not been able to properly establish James III's claim that he was descended from the Stockdale's of Knaresborough or that his father was born at Birkland Barrow Hall at Over Kellet. In fact I have been unable to find James I's baptism record.

Stockdale is a common name in the Lune valley and nearby, in Bolton le Sands and up the Lune to Kirkby Lonsdale and Casterton, where a branch of the family had a small estate and tried to claim a pedigree around 1600, only to have it rejected in 1615. Perhaps a family trait? However, that aspect must remain a work in progress.

Similarly the link to the Knaresborough family. James III makes great play on the family investing heavily and losing their fortune in the South Sea Bubble scandal. As can be seen, that did occur, but fortune was lost around 20 years after the birth of James I. Again more work is needed to see if there was a connection.

With the heirs of James I, it is surprising what can be found. Thus as can be seen, the twice married Elizabeth Stockdale became matriarch to the Kirkes and the Boulton's. With the Kirkes dynasty, of which it appears descendents still live, we get the noted Victorian Physiologist, William Sennott Kirkes, whose discoveries have recently been re-evaluated to his credit. When her first husband, Liverpool merchant Morecroft Kirkes died, she remarried William Wilkinson, brother of the great Ironmaster, John. Her daughter married Matthew Robinson Boulton, son of the Matthew Boulton, partner of Watt, manufacturer and sometime joint investor with James I in schemes led by John Wilkinson.

James I's daughter Ellen married Ulverston surgeon William Harrison. A memorial to them is on the wall of the Piper Choir in Cartmel Priory. It is three of her children who would inherit a share of James I's estate on his death in 1807. James Harrison had part and his cousin Henry Benning another portion. James Harrison appears to have been unmarried and appears to have left his Cark interests to his nephew, Rev. Dr Henry Ross of Mauritius and Lancaster.

James Stockdale III can be seen to be accurate where people would be aware of his cousins, but work is still needed to prove his ancestry. However, enough is here to answer many questions about the Cark family.

Les Gilpin

The full family tree will appear on the website

Horse Racing on the Cartmel Peninsula up to the middle of the 19th century



Modern day Cartmel Races from CPLHS photo archive (courtesy of Marion Airey)

The only history of Cartmel Racecourse was published in 2001 and it contains this statement

It is generally agreed amongst the racing correspondents to whom I have referred that 1856 saw the start of something approaching a formal race meeting at Cartmel... In by-gone days races were held on St Andrews Moor near Broughton Lodge which is about one and a half miles north of the village.

However since this book was published, many newspapers have been digitised, I have been searching them for items of local interest and I have discovered some early references to racing taking place on the Peninsula before 1856. I have also looked at books written about the history of the area and maps of the area.

Sir Thomas Lowther was a sportsman, and fond of horse racing. The place where the horses were breathed and practised was on a rather flat piece

of ground above the gardener's house, and below the public road leading to Howbarrow. On this ground, according to tradition, village sports and races were at one time held annually. In my remembrance, there was a piece of water on Holker Bank called "The Horse Wash," made by a dam placed across "Salesbrook;" the use of it being to wash the feet and legs of Sir Thomas Lowther's horses, by riding them through it – a rather strange and idle way, it would be thought now, of doing this!

The earliest news item appeared in the Lancaster Gazette in April and May 1807 stating that at 'CARTMEL RACES, on WHITSUN MONDAY, 1807, will be run for A PURSE OF GOLD, not exceeding, FIFTY POUNDS...' £50 was a huge sum of money in those days but was a minimum requirement of an Act of 1740 which had been introduced to control the number of small horse racing events.

No mention of racing at Cartmel is found again until 1836 when the Kendal Mercury dated 28 May 1836 reported that 'Cartmel Races were held as

usual, on Whitsun Wednesday.' This suggests they were being held regularly but the fact that I cannot find reports from this remote place is indicative of the newspaper not being informed. Newspapers were not cheap and were not as well informed as they are today. Many villages had horse racing during Whit week and the local papers did not report them.

The Kendal Mercury of 20 May 1837 reported that 'Cartmel Races which took place on Monday last were numerous and respectably attended.' The 1830s news items were short, factual accounts recording that an event had taken place. The next one I have found was the Westmorland Gazette of 6 June 1846 which had a lengthy 20 line article about Cartmel Races.

These races, which annually take place on Whit-Monday, are extremely popular, drew together this year's more numerous assemblage than was ever

remembered before. The extreme fineness of the day, and the delightful scenery of Holker Hall Park, in part of which the races took place, had, no doubt, great influence in swelling the numbers...

A joyous ball in the evening, at each of the different inns in Cartmel, wound up the festivities of the day.

The 1847 report specifies the location as Holker Hall Park. Holker Hall was the home of William Cavendish, the second Earl of Burlington, who had settled at Holker Hall in the 1830s. He married Lady Blanche in 1829 and they had three sons. Sadly Lady Blanche died in 1840. William became the Seventh Duke of Devonshire in 1858. He died at Holker Hall in 1891.

Extract from the full article. ed

Pat Rowland

Mr Watson's Hearse

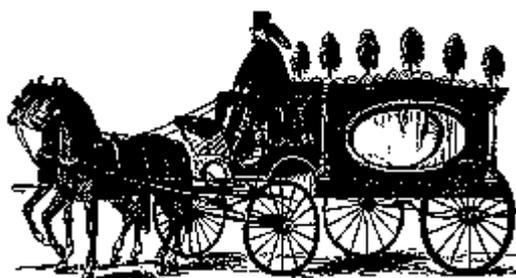


Image: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~familysoup/images/hearse.gif> accessed 1 Feb 2017

In William Field's log book Ann Field wrote her diary from about 1870 to 1890 and she included information about funerals that took place at Cartmel Priory and elsewhere. Mr Watson's hearse is frequently mentioned between 1874 and 1879 but it is never described. Above is a picture of a Victorian horse drawn hearse to illustrate what it might have looked like. She includes a count of the number of times Mr Watson's hearse is used during the two years 1874 and 1879 only but why is a mystery. My theory is that she had wanted to buy the business but her husband had not been in agreement.

The entries started with recording the sale of the hearse and its acquisition by Mr Watson.

1874 May 5th + 6th The sales of furniture at Cavendish Arms Mr Burrow leaving and going to Morecambe. Tom Brockbank bought the hearse for £91.

May 9 Tho^s Brockbank resold the hearse to Tho^s Watson.

May 11Lawrance Raven Winder interr'd at Cartmel Church the hearse out for the first time, after being in Watson's possession.

May 12 Tho^s Watson came from Carke, to the Cavendish Arms, Cartmel. Tho^s Burrow left the Cavendish Arms after being there 8 yrs.

May 18 Mrs Bell, The Slack, died in her 97th year. Mr Watson's hearse required the 2nd time.

May 22 W^m Hodgson Flookboro, interr'd at Cartmel Church,

Mr Watson's Hearse required, but being a pauper had no plumes on 3rd time out.
 May 23 *Mr Stockdale interred at Cartmel Church had Mr Watson's hearse 4th.*
 June 5 *Mrs Lomax taken to Bury, to be interr'd there, Mr Watson's hearse took her to Carke station.*
 June 6 *A man drown'd at Grange, whilst bathing, he had been billiard master, at the Hotel for a few years, the visitors got up a subscription, and got £22 he had supported a widowed mother at Milnthorp.*
 June 9 *Mr Watson's hearse took the man that was drowned to Milnthorpe to be interr'd Tho^s Durham Aged 19 yrs.*
 June 12 *Rich^d Chatterton Jameson, interr'd at Cartmel Aged 38 yrs Mr Watson's hearse went. This is the 7th time the hearse has been out.*

This count continued until this entry: 1876 March 7 *Crown Inn interr'd at Milnthorp had Mr Watson's hearse + cover'd car - 65th.* This is the last time the writer kept count that year. However Mr Watson's hearse continued to be included in the diary at every funeral where it was used but there are funerals where no mention is made of the hearse throughout the period of the diary which suggests that there were other funeral directors. This example is quite clear that she was only interested in Mr Watson's hearse.

1874 July 10 Two funerals at the Church, Mr Watson's hearse required for one of them, this is the 8th time for the hearse
 The last time Mr Watson's hearse is mentioned is March 29 1879 *Mr Nash interred at the Height, had hearse and wagonette 19th.*

Thomas Postlethwaite Watson was born in Ravensglass, Cumberland about 1830 and in 1864 had married Rachel Jane Graham who was born in Liverpool in 1839. In the 1871 census he was an innkeeper at Cark. The 1881 census records the family at the Cavendish Arms, Cavendish Street, Cartmel where both Thomas and Rachel are described as licenced victuallers. The 1891 census shows the family in Market Square, Cartmel (they had left the Cavendish Arms) and Thomas's occupation was recorded as farmer and keeper of post houses. At no time did Thomas give his occupation as funeral director or undertaker. This shows how difficult it could be to find funeral directors and undertakers from the census. Who the other funeral directors were in the Peninsula at this time has not been researched and I have not found any adverts for funeral directors in the Cartmel Peninsula during the Victorian Period in local newspapers.

Pat Rowland Feb 2017-

Researching the Early History of Cartmel

It seemed only too easy in mid-2015 to say "Yes" to a request to give a short talk on "The Impact of Magna Carta in Cartmel from 1215" as part of the celebrations to commemorate the eight hundredth anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta.

However, I soon realised that, although there are many books on Cartmel, there is nothing specifically on this subject: so very suddenly my "books to read list" became much longer !

I started (as so many do) with "The Annals of Cartmel" published by James Stockdale in 1872 and republished by Michael Moon in 1978 in a small edition of 450 copies. This did give much detail of the area from 79 AD to the mid-sixteenth century so I was under way. On the negative side, however, "The Annals" has nearly 600 pages and, although of great interest, is quite hard going.

I was privileged to have known The Reverend Dr. John Dickinson who lived in Barngarth,

Cartmel and was an eminent historian. He wrote two books which are leading authorities on Cartmel and the surrounding villages: "The Land of Cartmel" (1980), published by Titus Wilson & Son Ltd of Kendal and "The Priory of Cartmel" (1991), published by Cicerone Press of Milnthorpe. From these two fascinating books much was able to be discovered, especially about the history of the Priory.

In 1955 Titus Wilson & Son Ltd also acted as publishers of "Cartmel People and Priory" written by The Reverend Canon Sam Taylor. This, too, is a well-known authority on local history and provided further facts.

Many years ago a friend had given me a book published in 1909 by H. T. Mason of Main Street, Grange-over-Sands and written by A. M. Wakefield entitled "Cartmel Priory and Sketches of North Lonsdale". This provided some further snippets of information.

Having made notes from all these sources, I was able to put together a draft of the early history of the village, at the same time realising that when the Priory was founded in 1190 there was likely to have been nothing more than a few houses (certainly primitive and basic) in the vicinity and that the building of the Priory really established the start of the village community. It was not until roads became established that

this area was accessible to persons from further afield, the treacherous crossing of Morecambe Bay having taken the lives of many early travellers.

To complete my talk in 2015 I also researched the history leading up to the sealing of Magna Carta, its terms and the subsequent events both in the lifetime of King John and after his death in October, 1216. It was further help, by way of background, to read of the life of William Marshal who founded the Priory. My main references for these were "1215: the Year of Magna Carta" by Danny Danziger and John Gillingham (published in 2003 by Hodder & Stoughton), "Magna Carta: the True Story behind the Charter" by Dr David Starkey (published in 2015, also by Hodder & Stoughton) and "The Knight who saved England: William Marshal and The French Invasion, 1217" written by Richard Brookes and published in 2014 by Osprey Publishing.

A full transcript of my talk given in September, 2015 is on our website.

Finally, Dr Alan Crosby will be giving a talk in Cartmel Village Hall on 1st September on the history of Cartmel. This is arranged by the Cartmel Village Society.

Stuart Harling

CPLHS Transactions 2016

A selection of papers containing original historical produced by CPLHS members are collated into a booklet each year. The 2016 edition has just been received from the printers and will be distributed shortly to current members. Copies will also be available to purchase for £1 from Nigel Mills or at forthcoming lectures.

Flookburgh

A window into the Flookburgh area through the newspaper articles that refer to the Crown Inn on Market Street in the 19th century.



The Crown Inn was probably built in the early 1700s. The Crown Inn was a Hartley's public house. Hartleys Brewery was founded about 1755. 1896 the Old Brewery was conveyed from the trustees of John Booth to Robert and Peter Hartley and in 1919 Hartleys (Ulverston) Limited was incorporated. In July 1982 the company was acquired by Frederic Robinson Limited of Stockport who sold the Crown Inn in by auction in 2017. It was described in the catalogue as a substantial Grade II Listed early 18th Century former public house with extensive accommodation arranged over three floors together with an attached barn, large car park, courtyard areas, a garage and a garden. In all around 0.38 acres.

This edited article will look at the part the Crown Inn played in the Flookburgh community in the 19th century. The full article with the newspaper articles is on the website. The Crown is situated on the old over sands route from Lancaster to Ulverston and was typical of inns that grew up beside major highways in the coaching era. It would have been used by visitors using the popular Cartmel spa at Humphrey Head.

The Inn was used for many years as the venue for land, farm and buildings auctions. A few examples below give fairly comprehensive descriptions of buildings and land for sale in Flookburgh and the surrounding area. In

August 1808 the Crown was the venue for the Letting by Ticket of the Estate or Farm of William Wilkinson, deceased in Flookburgh. William was the brother of John Wilkinson, iron master. James Stockdale states "The late Mr. William Wilkinson, brother of John Wilkinson ... purchased in 1798, a considerable quantity of the common land on Winder Moor, and for the accommodation of this and other land, erected the very large farm buildings now standing in Flookburgh." Is this Mireside Farm on Winder Lane or Flookburgh Farm just off Flookburgh Square?

In 1818 the innkeeper is now John Roberts and the 3 estates or farms to let are situated at Cartlane, Birkby and Flookburgh. Notice that 2 of the farms are tithe-free – one object of the Enclosure Acts was to get rid of the obligation to pay tithes. An advert in 1815 states that the freehold land at West Plain is to be sold or let and includes the farm, land, 2 thrashing machines, part of the sea embankment, salt marsh and one sixth of the spa at Humphrey Head, here known as Cartmel Spa. And in 1820 Wyke farm is to be sold with a young wood, limestone quarry, beautiful surrounding country and fine views. It is close to Cartmel Spa and includes 2 further fields in Flookburgh, a turf moss and one share in the Lancaster canal. At this time it is freehold and tithe free.

A property now known as Jeremy Hill in the centre of Allithwaite was advertised for auction in May 1827. John Roberts is still the innkeeper at the Crown Inn. On 17 October 1829 the almost exact notice was published in the Lancaster Gazette again. Was it sold again 2 years later or was it not sold in 1827? In 1841, the innkeeper at the Crown Inn is now James Johnson and 4 lots are up for auction at the Crown. It is not clear if Lot 1 and Lot 2 are in Flookburgh or Hest Bank as the previous owner, deceased, lived in Hest Bank. As the main road to Flookburgh was across the sands

Hest Bank would have been seen to be in close vicinity to Flookburgh. Auctions and sales at the Crown Inn were not limited only to farms and estates but woods were also sold. A Coppice Wood is being sold in 1835 by James Stockdale, the owner, and is over several lots in the area of Howbarrow, Burns's and Speelbank estates.

Inquests were also held at the Crown Inn, usually for victims who had drowned in the Flookburgh sands area. It appears that 3 people had drowned in the bay in 1827, only one body had been washed up. They were crossing the Sands route but had misjudged the tide as it had not gone out completely. Two inquests were held at the Crown in 1841 before one of the Lancashire coroners, John Gardner. John Gardner lived in Garstang and was a coroner from 1803 to 1852 (almost 50 years) when he died, aged 72 years, still working as a coroner. He was coroner for the Lonsdale Hundred and he travelled from Lancaster to the Cartmel peninsula on a regular basis, crossing the sands regularly.

The Crown was first and foremost a drinking house and the newspapers would only print

anything out of the ordinary which happened at the Crown. In 1855 an assault of 'a wife' after a Ball at the Crown was reported. The guilty man and the husband of the victim were a navvy and a ganger on the railway respectively. The Ulverstone and Lancaster Railway was being built at this time and there would have been many navvies in the area.

The Crown Inn was also a registration point for local competitions, including Ploughing competitions which were advertised in 1856 and 1857. It is interesting to note that the winners have to pay a part of their prize towards the second prize and also that the boys have to produce a certificate to show they are under 18 years of age. In 1940 Emma Repton, innkeeper was fined £1 for failing to obscure lights in the Crown Inn during the blackout in World War Two

In the full article on the website there is a list of the innkeepers at the Crown Inn from the 1800s compiled from censuses, newspaper articles and Grange Red books.

Barbara Copeland

Flookburgh in the Second World War 1939-1945

We were recently asked if we had any information about the Royal Artillery Training Camp at Cark. I knew that it had been located at the end of the Mile Road, Flookburgh beyond the curiously named Cark Airfield which was occupied by the RAF from 1941 but I knew very little else about it so I carried out some research on the Internet. One of the first items I found was in a digitised newspaper of 5 August 1939 when the Barrow News reported on an open day at the camp. 600 people from Barrow and Ulverston arrived by train and many more also came from the local area. It was estimated that at least a thousand

people walked around the site on a bright Sunday afternoon. The camp was described as being in fine condition and well laid out, 'occupying a spacious site with plenty of fresh air and sea breezes, and there seems to be about 1000 men under canvas'. New buildings were under construction but the main attraction was the anti-aircraft guns. They were described as 40mm guns with a range of 2000 yards that fire a 2 pound shell at a rate of 120 rounds a minute. There were also 3.7, pom-pom and Bren guns. The target, or sleeve was towed 600 yards behind a plane, from Blackpool, flying backwards

and forwards over the Bay. The wireless station also attracted large crowds.

Amazingly people were allowed to roam at will and they visited recreation marquees and the refreshment department. It was explained that the 14th West Lothian Royal Scots (Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment) R.A (T.A.) with portions of the 18th and 19th regiments were in residence that week. 'The men are brought here for training in the engagement of low-flying aircraft and they come in fortnightly batches. They train for one week and shoot the following week (except the Territorials, for they come one week and do their shooting that week).

The camp was a permanent camp with permanent buildings under construction but currently the troops slept under canvas. During 1939 newspapers in Lancashire, Liverpool, Leeds, Falkirk, Birmingham and Edinburgh reported specific regiments departing by train from cities to train at Cark. I subsequently found references to a camp here in 1897.

A further interesting find on the Internet was an account by a local lady who had worked at the Camp during the war. Her job as baker was to provide cakes for the camp personnel. Bread was delivered to

the site. She recalls baking all day and that the camp was bigger than the Air Force camp. What I found most interesting was her description of how lively the village was because of all the extra men. The pubs were busy and dances were held in the village hall.

I discovered that the camp was called the 9th Light Anti-Aircraft practice camp and was run by the Royal Artillery. It trained many hundreds of men in the use of Bofors guns which were often used to defend airfields. Also present at Cark was No 6 Anti-Aircraft co-operation unit. After the war ended and the Royal Artillery left, the buildings were used as a resettlement camp for Polish personnel of the 21 Baon Piech.

Today there is little remaining to remind us of this important use. The land is now part of the large Lakeland Caravan Holiday Park owned by Haven at the end of the Mile Road.

Does anyone have any more information about the Camp? We do not have much information about 20th century activities on the Peninsula.

Pat Rowland Jan 2017

The History of St Pauls Church Grange-over-Sands

Sarah's Acorn - The History of St Paul's, Grange-over-Sands 1853-2016. Price £5 has recently been published and is available from Christine Harrison tel 32013, c.har45@yahoo.co.uk, or from CPLHS members Penny Ward or Mike Hornung.

Short bibliographies of those clergy serving the parish church at Grange are now mounted on the Church web page - grangepcc.co.uk/clergy.

Newton-in-Cartmel School Notes



- 1875 Newton-in-Cartmel National School was built by public subscription and opened with one teacher and 11 children on 11 Jan 1875. It closed on 25 March 1970 with 2 teachers and 25 children. A Church Day School at Newton was built by subscription during 1874 at a cost of £600. Church services were held in the schoolroom.
w/e 15/1. Newton Mixed School was opened on Monday January 11 on which day I (Elizabeth Rigg) commenced my duties as schoolmistress. During the week I examined the children and found them very backward especially in arithmetic.
- 1876 w/e 24/3. The 2nd standard commenced writing their home lessons in exercise copy books instead of on slates.
w/e 27/8. Average attendance 58 – the greatest since the school has been opened.
- 1877 w/e 27/8. Mrs Susan West took charge of the school as mistress.
- 1878 w/e 22/3. The children are tired of keeping the school clean; the little ones are very willing but are not strong enough to sweep.
w/e 29/4. Miss Mary Emma Smith took charge of the school as mistress in the place of Mrs West who left on 18 April.
- 1879 w/e 3/4. “Some lavatory facilities should be provided” – Inspector’s report.
w/e 13/6. Received wash-hand basins & other utensils for the washing of children’s hands.
- 1882 Concert at Newton-in-Cartmel School Room. Miss Smith schoolmistress. “to assist in paying off the debt incurred on behalf of the Sunday Evening Services held there”.
w/e 12/5. On Monday Miss A M Shaw commenced her duties as assistant mistress.
w/e 1/12. Miss Shaw resigns her post as assistant mistress today.

- 1883 w/e 12/1. Miss M A Suart entered upon her duties as assistant mistress.
w/e 24/8. In consequence of the builders disturbing the wall of the schoolroom in building the classroom the children are to have holiday next week.
w/e 7/9. I commenced duties as mistress. I find the attainments of the standards throughout very poor, the reading especially very indistinct. Martha Johnson.
- 1898 w/e 4/1. At a meeting of the managers ... it was proposed and seconded and unanimously agreed to that whereas no school house or house rent free is provided for the head teacher & taking into consideration the valuable services rendered by Mrs Johnson to the school during a period of 15 years her salary be increased by nine pounds p.a. to be paid in quarterly instalments the first to become due on 31 March 1898. H A Ransome, H Hibbert, W Walker, T Jackson.
- 1932 A presentation took place in the Newton-in-Cartmel C.E. School last Thursday, to Miss Mabel Thompson, who received a leather handbag from the school children. Miss Margaret Thompson handed over the gift in a speech "With love and best wishes from the school children, Miss Brandreth, and the Vicar of the Parish." Miss Thompson heartily thanked all the children for the gift, after which the Vicar, the Rev F.A.W. Kilbey made a short speech. He remarked on the excellent way in which Miss Thompson had carried out her duties as infant teacher during the nine years she had been at Newton. – Miss Thompson was educated at the Lancaster Girls' Grammar School, and the post as infant teacher at Newton, under Miss M. Brandreth, head mistress, was her first appointment. She began her new duties as infant teacher at Priest Hutton School, near Carnforth, on Tuesday.

John Beckett

Henry Alfred Ransome



Henry Alfred Ransome was born on 13th July 1860 in the vicarage at Lindale where his father

John Henry Ransome had been licensed by the Bishop of Carlisle as Perpetual Curate the previous month. Henry Alfred's mother Emily was the second daughter of Alfred Binyon who had built Merlewood at Grange following his retirement from the firm of Thomas Hoyle and Sons, calico printers in Manchester.

Henry Alfred attended the Durham Cathedral School when Dr Henry Holden was headmaster, and then was admitted to St John's College Cambridge in June 1879 where he was a Baker Exhibitioner. He achieved mathematical honours and was awarded a B.A. degree in 1883, followed by M.A. in 1886. He was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Carlisle in 1883 and appointed curate of St George's Church, Barrow-in-Furness where he was

created a priest in December 1884. He was then appointed assistant curate to the Revd Alexander Colvin Ainslie, Prebendary of Wells Cathedral, at St Mary's Church, Langport, Somerset, and the following year he was occupying a similar position to the Revd Henry Kirby at Field Broughton. On the death of Mr Kirby on 21st December 1886, Mr Ransome succeeded to the living. He soon began to make improvements, and an excellent room in which to hold a Sunday School was provided in 1889 by Mrs T. J. Hibbert of Broughton Grove and her unmarried brother-in-law H. Hibbert Esq, repairing an old room in which the former incumbent had held a school.

Served by a chapel in the ancient parish of Cartmel since 1745, Field Broughton became a separate parish in 1875. By that time the chapel was in poor condition, and in 1891 it was announced that the parish of Field Broughton was about to be provided with a new church, the structure being intended as a memorial of the late Mr Thomas Johnson Hibbert JP, with the cost of erection, upwards of £2,000, being met by his widow and his brother. The final cost was £7,500 or £8,000.



The Old Chapel

The new church was designed by Paley & Austin of Lancaster, a firm of architects with whom Henry Alfred's uncle, the Revd Frederick Binyon, had been involved when he was vicar of Burton-in-Lonsdale from 1866 -1874. He instituted the building of a new church and vicarage there in 1868-1870, with Hubert Austin

being the principal architect. Described as "one of the firm's very best village churches", St Peter's at Field Broughton is also likely to have been the work of Hubert Austin. The new church was consecrated by the Rt Revd John Wareing Bardsley, Bishop of Carlisle, on 29th June 1894. In the new church Henry Alfred Ransome did everything possible to ensure that the singing and music were at a high standard, and he established monthly Choral Eucharists and was the first to have the Three Hours' devotion service on Good Fridays.

In 1895 he married Hilda, daughter of Major John Ramsbotham, originally of Ocklye House, Crowborough, Sussex, in St Mary's Church, Primrose Hill, Hampstead, London. But the vicarage at Field Broughton was in a similar poor state as the church had been, and he then turned his attention to the raising of funds for a new vicarage. The 1901 census shows Henry Alfred alone in the old vicarage, and his wife and two children, a daughter and a son, at a property in Grange-over-Sands, where another daughter was born later that year. Paley & Austin were again employed as architects for the new vicarage, and the work was completed in 1903, although it was necessary to hold a fancy bazaar and garden fete the following year in order to raise funds for clearing off some of the expenses.

By 1911 the family were well settled into the new vicarage, with two daughters at home, their son away at school, and two domestic servants living in. On more than one occasion the Revd and Mrs Ransome were very generous hosts of social events in the village, one such following the 15th anniversary of the opening of the church when all adult parishioners and a large number of personal friends were invited to tea on the lawn, and another when about 150 adult parishioners responded to an invitation to a social evening in the parish room which, after refreshments and dancing, did not terminate until early the following morning.

Outside of his church duties, Henry Alfred Ransome was renowned as a glass-plate photographer who recorded many local people

and events, and who was invariably called upon to operate the lantern for the showing of slides at lectures held throughout the locality. In 1915, however, Mr and Mrs Ransome suffered the sad loss of their son. Edmund Henry Leigh Ransome had won a scholarship to Sherborne School which he entered in September 1913, but he died there on 13th December 1915 aged 16, and was buried in the cemetery at Sherborne two days later. Within

little more than eighteen months, Edmund's father died, on 4th July 1917. He had just recovered from an attack of pneumonia when he had a sudden seizure, but his obituary notice in the *Westmorland Gazette* also records that he had never fully recovered from the shock at the untimely death of his son.

John Beckett

Allithwaite Bowling Club

Twenty-five years ago the bowling green behind the Community Centre off Quarry Lane in Allithwaite was officially opened by Chairman of the Parish Council William Jackson Esq. on 17th April 1992.

But there was a bowling green in Allithwaite as long ago as 1909. A new Village Hall, situated across the road from

the parish cottage, was built in 1908 by Mr and Mrs Bliss of Boarbank Hall. Joseph Bliss, who bought the Boarbank Hall estate in 1902, was the son of Revd Joseph Bliss of Leyland Congregational Church, and Joseph junior intended that the Village Hall should also be used for Free Church worship, with Sunday Evening Mission Services



Photograph by Edward Sankey, reproduced in *Lancashire North of the Sands*, by John Garbutt & John Marsh, looking eastwards towards the quarry, with the shop to the right and the Lantern Shop (Green View) to the left of the entrance to Quarry Lane.

A bowling green, adjacent to the Village Hall, was opened on the 24th July 1909 by Lady Macgregor, the wife of Sir Evan MacGregor, permanent secretary to the Admiralty from 1884-1907, who spent his retirement at Aynsome, Cartmel. It was reported that some of the Lower Holker men were very pleased to be invited to play

in some of the first games at the festive little gathering, the start of a close association between the Allithwaite and Lower Holker Bowling Clubs which continues to the present day.

Allithwaite Subscription Bowling Club was formed in 1936 with the opening ceremony

taking place on the green on the evening of Monday 20th July. It was reported in the *Westmorland Gazette* that Mr J. B. Smalley, secretary of the Village Hall trustees, and Col. Robert Thompson, who lived at Fairhaven, Kents Bank, played the first game, Mrs Drinkall and Mrs Wilcock played the next game, and bowling proceeded until dusk.

The following year matches were played against Lower Holker and the Grange Promenade Club, and the Allithwaite Club continued in existence until the late 1950s. In 1957 the final round for the challenge cup presented by the Revd Joseph John Strong, vicar of Allithwaite 1955-1967, was played between Horace Nash, who lived at The Haven, and William Porter, who lived at Low Square. The secretary between

1949 and 1957 was George Herbert Nutter who lived at Langroyd, Kirkhead Road.

If anyone has more information about the old Allithwaite Bowling Club please contact John Beckett on 36388 or email beckett-post@gmail.com.

If anyone would like more information about the activities of the present Allithwaite Bowling Club please contact Bob Lear on 36528 or email lear711@btinternet.com or Jeanne Tattersall on 58531.

John Beckett

With thanks to Barbara Copeland & Phil Rowland

Another Bronze Age Cemetery discovered in Allithwaite

A benefit of developing farmland is the requirement to undertake an archaeological assessments of the site as part of the planning application. At Jack Hill, Allithwaite last year an archaeological assessment of the site considered the possibility of Bronze Age burial urns being present as had been discovered in 2001 in a site on Church Road, Allithwaite and so before building commenced Greendale Archaeology excavated 10 random trenches. The first of these contained a small group of pits, one of which contained a mostly intact prehistoric vessel containing cremated remains, and more cremated remains were found in 2 other locations. A larger area around these features was excavated to reveal a further 8 cremation vessels of varying degrees of completeness, thus making a total of 11 cremations. This cremation cemetery was dated to the Early Bronze Age (2100 - 1700 BC). Such burials are scarce in Cumbria and these

finds are significant and add to the knowledge of prehistoric settlement and burials.

An arrowhead in two pieces and a small amount of flint and other stone material was also recovered as well as a fragment of iron slag. The occurrence of the arrowhead in such cremations was deemed to be relatively rare. 6kg of bone and teeth will be analysed, the results are awaited with interest.

Extracted from "Land at Jack Hill, Allithwaite, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria. Post-Excavation, Analysis & Publication of Archaeological Fieldwork Project Design" Greendale Archaeology report to Applethwaite Ltd August 2016. The full report is available on request from myself

Phil Rowland Mar 2017

Bridges in the Lindale area: Inspired by a lecture by Andy Lowe...

Bridges in the Lindale area



1. Culvert under by-pass



2. Clapper bridge Skinner Hill



3. Garden bridge Skinner Hill



4. Lindale Beck reappears Lindale Hill



5. Stone slabs above weir



6. Stone slabs at old water intake



7. Bridge at foot of Skittergate



8. Lindale Beck lower Lindale Hill



9. Bridge near Dunkirk Farm



10. Culvert under Lindale Inn



11. Lindale Beck Back o the Fell Road



12. Ranger bridge Recreation Ground



13. Meathop New Bridge over Winster



13. Stones from old Meathop Bridge



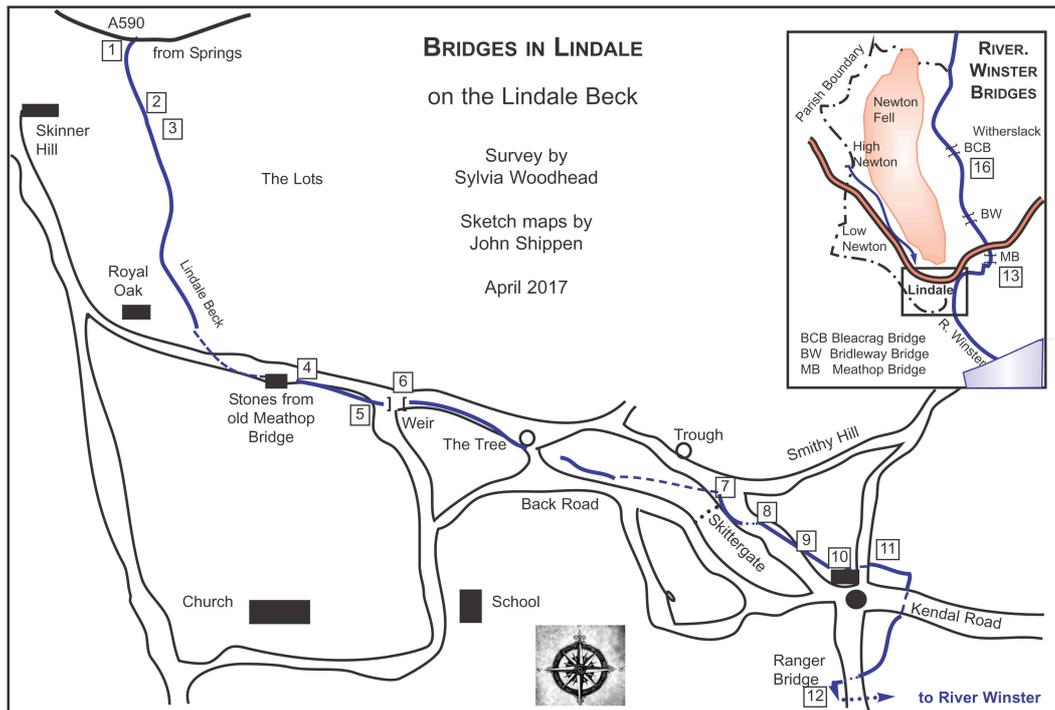
14. Mason's marks

Photos and text
Sylvia Woodhead
Design
John Shippen

March 2017



16. Blea Crag bridge over Winster



The **Lindale Beck** is very short and steep, starting from springs near High Newton. Right from its source its course has been engineered to use its water for power and washing, and to gain access to its drinking water source. It is culverted under the by-pass, under Lindale Hill, Kendal Road and the Grange Road which it crosses twice, before joining the tidal River Winster at Castle Head. It is too small to have been a barrier, and is easily bridged, and generally has no bridges of any architectural merit.

At **Skinner Hill** at the top of the village, the beck emerges from below the Lindale by-pass which was built in 1977. A public footpath leading up to The Lots, former allotments or farming areas for the village, crosses the beck over a single slate slab **clapper bridge**, possibly its most charismatic bridge. Skinner Hill, an early industrial settlement, is believed to be where John Wilkinson, Ironmaster, and his father Isaac had one of their early foundries, experimenting with water power to smelt iron, from around 1750. They used a small **water wheel** to power a grindstone to make smoothing irons, (which Isaac Wilkinson

patented). He also made iron farm implements here. A pond stored water for the water wheel. No trace of the forge or workshop remains.

The Lindale Beck has been incorporated into gardens, with small bridges. Its course continues behind The Royal Oak, then is culverted below **Lindale Hill**. This new wide straight road, cut through solid slate rock, may have been first created as part of the 1822 Turnpike Road, from Levens to Staveley, the first good road to reach Lindale. It is shown on the oldest OS maps around 1850. It is generally believed to have been blasted out in 1890, to provide employment following the Boer War, then widened again and lowered in the 1930s. At this time Lindale was important for carriers and haulage companies, and Lindale Hill became renowned as steep and dangerous.

The Lindale Beck is now confined in a narrow trench by the side of the road, and is next bridged by the minor road which leads to the infilled site of Lindale's Mill Dam where water was stored for the now demol-

ished Corn Mill. Here, at the old water intake, the road has a modern surface laid over sandstone slabs, which can be seen either side of the bridge.

The beck continues under houses and gardens, reappearing at the foot of Skittergate opposite Smithy Hill, and is again incorporated into gardens. It was used here as a source of drinking water up to the 1960s. The beck is seen again above the Lindale Inn, where access to water was provided for horses pulling wagons up Lindale Hill. The old smithy was also located on lower Lindale Hill next to the beck for access to cooling water.

The beck is culverted under the Lindale Inn extension and its car park, and under Kendal Road, where in past times there was a ford. No longer needed for water supply, for the former flax mill, now the Stonebeck

development, the beck crosses Grange Road, now at sea level. Its last bridge is a 'Ranger' bridge near the recreation ground. It once more crosses unseen under the Grange Road and under the private road to Castle Head, former mansion of John Wilkinson, to join the River Winster.

The River Winster has more significance, having been the boundary between the counties of Lancashire and Westmorland, and the parishes of Allithwaite Upper and Witherslack, as seen on the inscribed stone on the new (1970s) Meathop County Bridge. Two stones from the Old Meathop Bridge were rescued by David Birch and his father and can be seen on Lindale Hill. A modern, functional bridleway bridge over the Winster near Nicholls farm contrasts with the Grade II listed Bleacrag Bridge further up the Winster valley. The bridge is notable for having two arches.

Sylvia Woodhead, Mar 2017

CPLHS Research Group meeting 30/03/17 report

A good attendance of members heard three interesting presentations about House History recently. Pat Rowland presented ideas and hints and advice on how to start researching house history using locally available resources and information available for free on the internet. Her focus was mainly on finding out about the people who had lived in the house. Stuart Harling then recounted his experience of researching the history of the house he lives in. He explained that he was more interested in the age and architecture of the building and had not investigated the people who had lived there. He had visited Archive offices to look at maps and documents to try to establish when the house had been built. His binder of information that he had found about his house was available for people to read.

Barbara Copeland's presentation was very different. Her study had been of the Poor House in Allithwaite. She had been asked by the Parish Council to establish who owned the property (them or the Church) and she talked about the search for documents in Archive offices. When the house was being refurbished, Andy Lowe (the retired Lake District National Park Conservation Officer) had been asked to inspect and comment on its age and she showed pictures of the interior.

Ken Howarth asked for pictures of dry stone wall features for an interactive map for Cumbria that he is producing for the Dry Stone Wall Association and he showed some pictures of a feature that he had recently photographed asking if people had any ideas what it could be.

During and after the presentations questions were asked and during the refreshments people continued discussions in small groups. If anyone needs help with their house history research Pat or Barbara

can help. Please contact them. **If you would like to share your house history story with members there is a special newsletter planned for publication at the beginning of October this year.**

Pat Rowland

Lecture Summaries

An Amateur Archaeologist in Lindale

For our first lecture of 2017 the hall was packed to hear Claire Asplin talk about her explorations of Lindale Low Cave. In a light hearted but very informative talk Claire described how as a child she played in the 3 caves that were situated on her family's land, making her own cave painting which baffled the archaeologists at a later date. Claire eventually worked with the archaeologists in the caves.

Claire explained how Lindale Low cave proved to be very important in showing that people were living in the north at the last ice age which went against the academic argument of the time. Although other caves, including Kirkhead cave, had artifacts dating back to the ice age, the flints found below the stalagmite floor laid down 9000 years before present in Lindale Low proved the late Chris Salisbury and his colleagues were correct in their belief that people were here. Claire illustrated her talk with photographs and diagrams of the caves and photographs and drawings of the artefacts found and answered many audience questions.

Barbara Copeland

Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group

At the March meeting of Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society, June Hall talked about Cumbrian vernacular buildings and the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group that was set up in 2013. We heard how, in the 1950s, Dr Brunskill developed a system for recording traditional historic buildings that were not designed by architects. Subsequently a national group and affiliated local societies were established to record local buildings. The history of the development of Cumbrian buildings was covered and where the building materials came from. The key features such as window and door styles, wall thickness and layout helped to date a building. Documents can give clues to the age of the building and can help to understand how the building was used. The talk ended with a review of the wide ranging activities of the Cumbrian Group during 2016. This illustrated how the Group covers the whole county and how diverse are the styles of buildings. In the summer June will lead a walk around High Newton looking at the features of vernacular buildings in the village.

Pat Rowland

The Kent's Bank and Matchless Disasters in Morecambe Bay

Simon Williams, chairman of the Mourholme local history society which covers the Carnforth, and Silverdale area gave a lively and interesting talk about two boating disasters in Morecambe Bay. The first known as the Kent's Bank tragedy of 1850 involved the North family and their guests from Know Hill Lodge, Lindeth (the name was changed to Silverdale in 1930) The family and boatmen set off for lunch in Kent's Bank Hotel in a Lancashire Nobby but the young men and boatsmen delayed their return by visiting the bar. Tragedy struck whilst they were rowing back and a verdict of accidental death was reported.

The other accident happened in 1894 and involved members of the Riley family, mill workers from Queen St. Burnley, during their September Wakes week holiday to Morecambe : its details survive due to the daughter Fanny's diary. A thirty-three foot Lancashire Nobby called the Matchless overloaded with 34 day trippers, was being sailed single handed by Samuel Houghton from Morecambe to Grange via Jenny Brown Point. The boat was caught broadside by a gust of wind at Jenny Brown Point and it sank in seconds. Very few of them could swim and their clogs hindered them despite help from a nearby boat. Fanny Riley 9 and her brother Ben 7 and an engaged couple were amongst the 9 survivors. The King's Arms in Morecambe acted as both a mortuary and the location where the inquest was held. Identification of the bodies was left to the landladies in Morecambe. Despite the vessel being overloaded, the authorities accepted no responsibility for the inadequate licensing regulations.

Rose Clark

The History of Fell Foot

Kelly Spronston-Heath spoke about the history of Fell Foot and the National Trust's future plans for the estate. Kelly described the history through the various families that owned or rented the estate.

In the 15th century the land was owned by the Canons of Cartmel Priory. Following the reformation the land passed to the Duchy of Lancaster in 1567. By the seventeenth century Fell Foot was a productive and prosperous farm; in 1713 the land was valued at £615. In 1784 the Robinson family, yeoman farmers, sold the land and house to Jeremiah Dixon, a merchant from Leeds, as his family's second home. At the time there was probably a modest farmhouse on the site. With his wife, Mary, Jeremiah expanded the house that was then described as a substantial villa with pleasure ground and lawns sweeping down to the lake. Mary contributed to the local community, establishing a Sunday School for 12 local children and a number of heath related schemes. The next owner was Francis Duckinfield Astley a businessman from Manchester who purchased the estate in 1813. Up until this time the road to Ulverston passed through the estate, crossing two fords but in 1813 it was moved to the current line when a bridge was built. On Mr Duckinfield Astley's death the land, house and contents were put up for sale and many of the contents ended up in houses around Windermere. The estate didn't sell and was eventually rented out but in 1851 Francis Duckinfield-Astley Jr moved back with his family.

The next owner, Col John George Palmer Ridehalgh bought the estate in 1859. He and his wife extended the house further and added a gas house with gas lighting throughout the house, an

entertaining area and additional boathouses. Col Ridehalgh had two steam yachts, the largest 60' long could carry 122 passengers, and various yachts and rowing boats. The grounds were landscaped and an arboretum created. The family was immersed in the local community. He was a JP, a founder member of the Windermere Yacht Club and a Col in the Border Regiment. He also maintained a large pack of hounds that he transported to sites around the lake in one of his steam yachts. (Ms Spronston-Heath circulated some fascinating photographs of the interior of the house and the steam yachts from this period). The trust has some artifacts from the Ridehalgh period of occupance and a quilt which was made for Mrs Ridhalgh is in the Textile and Quilt museum in York and has been taken on a world exhibition tour.

In 1907 Oswald Hedley purchased the house and estate. Mrs Hedley didn't like the house and so Oswald demolished it planning to replace it with a Jacobean style building. The foundations for the new house were dug but Mrs Headley died suddenly and Oswald abandoned the project and the estate and moved to the north of Windermere. In 1948 Oswald's third wife, who survived him, gave the land to the National Trust. The Trust leased it, for 21 years, to a Mr Rhodes as a camping and caravanning ground. In 1969 the Trust took the estate back under its management as what might be best called a country park; there were also a number of chalets which could be rented.

The National Trust is now planning a major restoration and development of the estate. The gas house and boathouses, which are of architectural interest, are to be restored. A watersports centre will be developed around the boathouses. The arboretum will be restored with further planting, new gardens and footpaths added. Catering facilities will be developed on higher ground to avoid the risk of flooding, Overall access will be improved and better links to public transport developed. Interpretational material will allow visitors to engage with the history of the estate. Ms Spronston-Heath finished by encouraging people to become volunteers at the site, particularly in bringing together stories about the history of the estate.

Mike Hornung

Website News

Full versions of the Research Articles in this Newsletter will shortly appear on the Website and there will also be a new **Resources** page contained within the **Research** area. Click on the Research page and then select Resources. The Resources Page will include:

A Bibliography of useful sources for local history research by John Beckett.

Notes on researching house history (by kind permission of Rob David).

A list of resources held by CPLHS (available to members for loan) by Nigel Mills.

A list of Oral histories by Peter Roden.

On the Website, you may notice a drop-down list of categories for you to select on the Home page. These categories only refer to summaries of lectures presented to the Society.

The following research articles have recently been published on the CPLHS Website.

[The Sill family of Cartmel](#) by Barbara Copeland

[The early history of Horse Racing on the Cartmel Peninsula](#) by Pat Rowland

[Cartmel Tan Yard](#) by Pat Rowland

[Cartmel Methodist Church](#) by Pat Rowland

[Edgar Gilkes](#) by Mike Hornung

Membership News

We are delighted to report that the membership of the Society is now 119, a record. This year we welcome 25 new members and we thank you all for your continuing support.

Newsletter Articles

Members are encouraged to submit news items and summaries of research (1000 word max.) or snippets to the editor by the deadline of 20 Sept 2017. **The next newsletter is a House History special edition.** You will find some notes on researching House Histories on the Website. Future editions in 2018 will feature **Agriculture (Jan) and Pubs (June)**. Most of the articles in this edition are shortened, or extracts. For the full versions visit the website.

Forthcoming Lectures (19:30 @ Cartmel Village Hall) & Events

6th and 7th July 2017 – Walk in the High Newton Area. During the walk, David Shore and Pat Rowland will discuss the development of the Flax industry in the area. The 8th July is a reserve day in case of inclement weather. **Fully Subscribed.**

Thursday 10th August 2017 – A walk around the village of High Newton. June Hall will lead a walk looking at the vernacular architecture. **Fully subscribed.**

Thursday 7 Sept 2017 – Dr Bill Shannon – Dr Kuerden's 1685 map, and other early maps of the Cartmel Peninsula. Bill

is a popular speaker who is returning to tell us more about interesting, old, local maps and in particular about Dr Kuerden's and his local map which has just been rediscovered.

Thursday 5 October 2017 – Stuart Noon – The Finds of Furness. Stuart is the Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer for Cumbria and Lancashire with Dot Boughton. He will talk about the spectacular finds, in recent years, from the local area.

Thursday 2 November 2017 – AGM

Contacts

Committee:

Chairman: Stuart Harling, (s.w.harling@gmail.com) or Tel 36296.

Secretary: Barbara Copeland, (barbara.cland@btinternet.com)

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Nigel Mills, (nigmills@btinternet.com)

Lecture Programme: Pat Rowland, (patrowlanduk@gmail.com)

Newsletter & Website Editor: Phil Rowland, (philrowland414@gmail.com)

Mike Hornung, (michaelhornung@btinternet.com)

Catherine Bottomley, (cnblever@hotmail.co.uk)

Rose Clark, (roseclark83@gmail.com)

Lyn Prescott (lynprescott@hotmail.com)

Website <http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk>