

Pampeswyrde ~ a history



Compiled by O.C. Mayo

part I

The Pamphlets have been compiled in the hope that there will be something of interest in them for the present and future residents of Pampisford. The six volumes should be seen, not as a conclusion, but rather, as a starting point from which other researches might be made. A great deal still lies waiting to be discovered.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks are due to Mrs Valerie Linden of the High Street, Pampisford who transformed my rough notes into such a beautifully typed script. Without her consistent help, the Pamphlets may never have come into being.

Further grateful acknowledgements are due to the following individuals and organisations who gave their support to this enterprise.

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And all those Villagers and Old Pampisfordians who have taken such an interest in the project and for supplying information and photographs.

I hope no-one has been forgotten!

The collection of photographs of Pampisford is now housed in the Central Library's "Cambridgeshire Collection" and is available to public view.

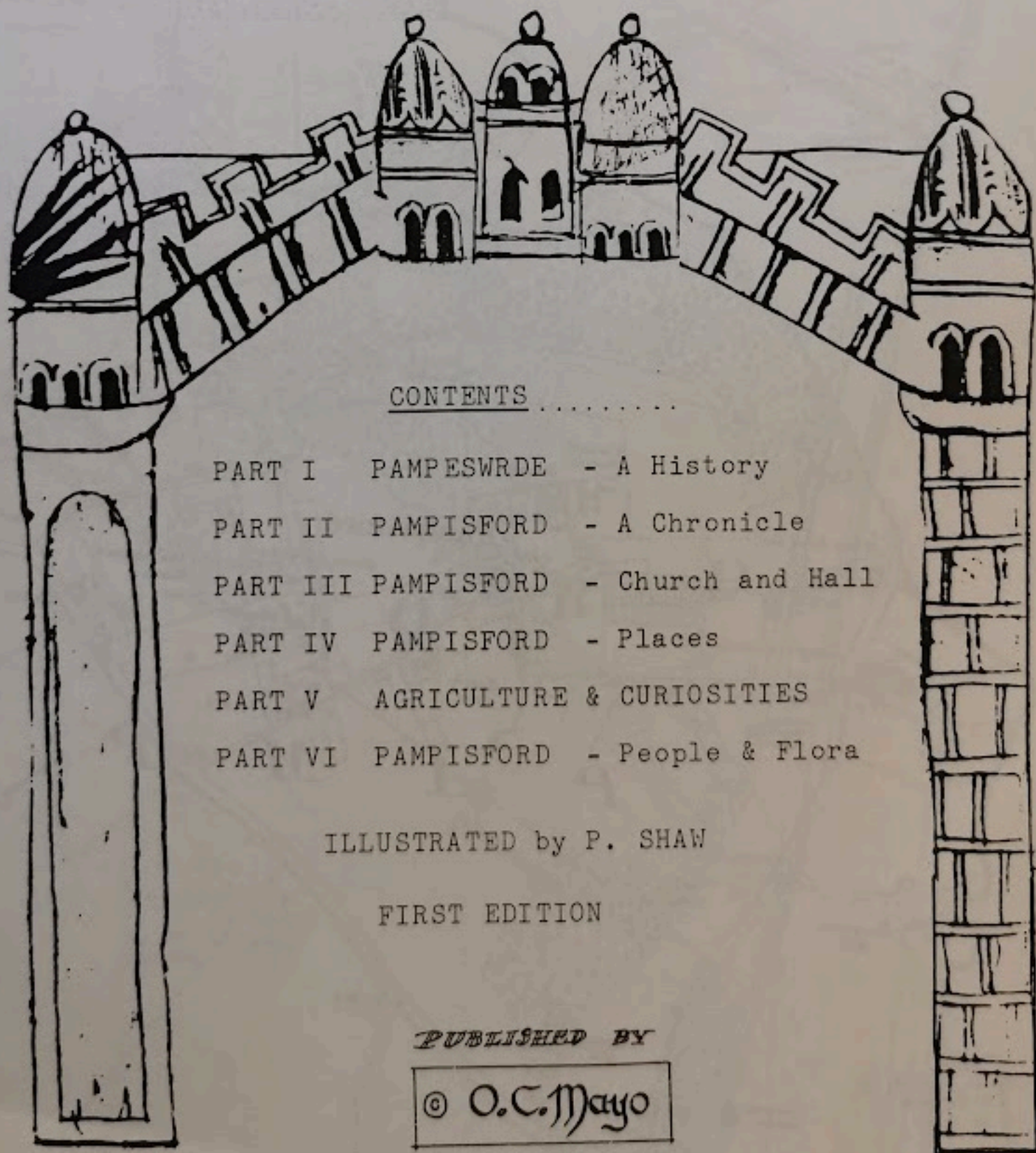
O.C. MAYO 1985

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(Due to the poor quality of some of the Original Documents difficulties have arisen in their reproduction).

'Pampisford'

Compiled by O.C. Mayo
in VI parts



CONTENTS

- PART I PAMPESWRDE - A History
PART II PAMPISFORD - A Chronicle
PART III PAMPISFORD - Church and Hall
PART IV PAMPISFORD - Places
PART V AGRICULTURE & CURIOSITIES
PART VI PAMPISFORD - People & Flora

ILLUSTRATED by P. SHAW

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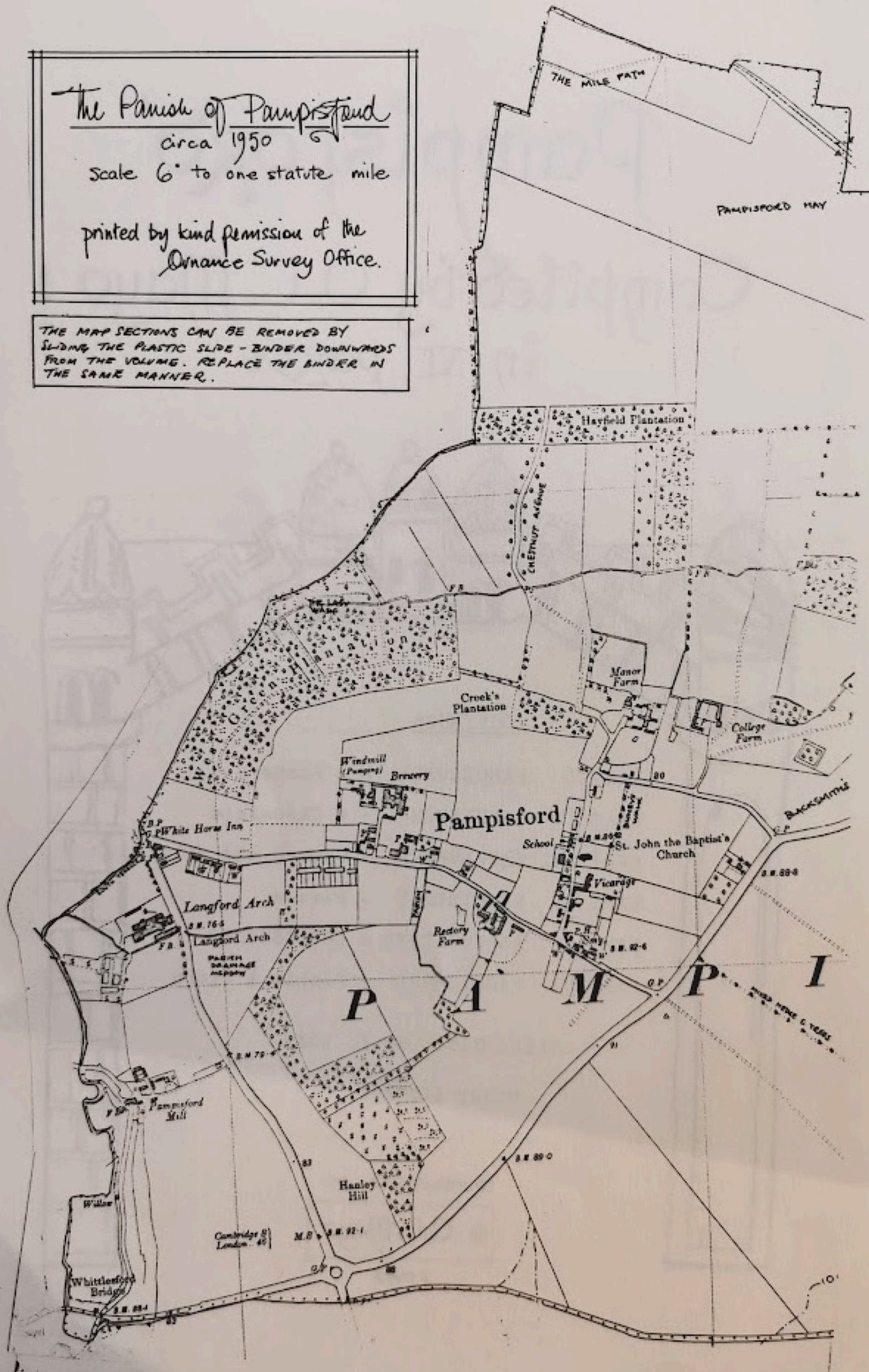
1985

The Parish of Pampisford
circa 1950

Scale 6" to one statute mile

printed by kind permission of the
Ordnance Survey Office.

THE MAP SECTIONS CAN BE REMOVED BY
SLIDING THE PLASTIC SLIDE-BINDER DOWNWARDS
FROM THE VOLUME. REPLACE THE BINDER IN
THE SAME MANNER.





* GERMAN BOMBS.
DROPPED IN
W.W. II



THE PARISH OF PAMPISFORD - AN INTRODUCTION

The village of Pampisford lies 7 miles south-east of Cambridge. The Parish, which covers 1,607 acres, lies between two rivers; the River Cam, flowing through a small section of the Parish in the south-west and the River Granta, which forms a small stretch of the Parish boundary in the north-east. The eastern boundary of the Parish follows the Roman road running north from Stump Cross with the remaining boundary following the irregular pattern of the field edges.

The western part of the Parish is less than 100 feet above sea level, but in the east the land rises towards the edge of the Essex uplands to 175 feet. Light soils overlay a subsoil of middle chalk throughout the Parish, although an overlay of glacial gravel exists around the area of Pampisford Hall and river gravel deposits occur in the Pampisford Mill area and near the River Cam.

The land in the Parish is predominantly agricultural and despite ever-increasing pressure from the larger neighbouring village of Sawston, Pampisford has so far managed to retain its own rural identity.

A prominent feature of the local landscape is the Brent Ditch, thought to belong to the 5th century; the purpose of the ditch is still something of a mystery, although recent excavations suggest it had a defensive purpose. Brent Ditch can most clearly be seen where it passes through the grounds of Pampisford Hall. It is one of 4 dykes blocking access along the pre-historic Icknield Way.

Habitation in Pampisford grew up along the street now known as the High Street. At one end stood the Old Vicarage (now called Fiddler's Folly) and at the other end stood Lordship Farm (now called Manor Farm). In the middle was the church, which today is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The half of the Parish lying north-east of the Royston-Newmarket (A505) road, was largely uninhabited until the 19th Century, when Pampisford Hall was built and the gardens and parkland developed. Generally population settlement has been fairly dispersed throughout the Parish. In 1086 Pampisford's population boasted 137 inhabitants, in 1728 there were 40 families and by 1851 the population rose to a peak at 359. The population of 1851 was described as "being almost entirely composed of poor people" - a fact which had been the case throughout Pampisford's history.

The Old Vicarage, Rectory Farm and the Chequers Public House are all that remain of a number of 16th and 17th Century farm houses. Cottages on the High Street and Beech Lane also date from this period. The church is the only remaining medieval building which has however, undergone a series of alterations and additions dating from the 12th, 13th and 14th Centuries and later alterations during the 19th Century (in 1850 and 1876-91). The church exterior is built of flint and pebble rubble and part of the structure dates from Norman times.

A Parish Charity has existed as far back as 1604 at least. In 1677 its main purpose was for repair of the church, any money remaining was to be distributed among the poor of the Parish. At the time of inclosure in 1801 the Charity was allotted 16 acres 2 roods and 34 perches. Also 3 Alms Houses belonging to the Charity, were set aside for the needs of the Parish poor. During the 19th Century between £5 and £7 was spent annually on coal for the needy. A new structure for Charity expenditure was formulated in 1905. This is under review at the present time.

Today Pampisford's Pensioners and disabled receive help from the Charity with transport expenses and an annual Christmas Gift. A similar Charity exists in Sawston, but payments appear not to have been made since 1786.

According to the Doomesday (Surveys), Pampisford consisted of two Manors and from the 17th Century, at least, the land has been held by only a small number of owners. The Marsh family held both Manors in the 17th Century, both eventually passing, by marriage, into the Parker family. The Parker-Hamonds were the first Lords of the Manor to live in the village since the 15th Century. Their family brought about several improvements in the Parish, by supporting the church, the school and other institutions including a Workmen's Institute. Pampisford Hall was built during the 1820's and the grounds developed to include a fine arboretum of conifers containing specimens from all over the world.

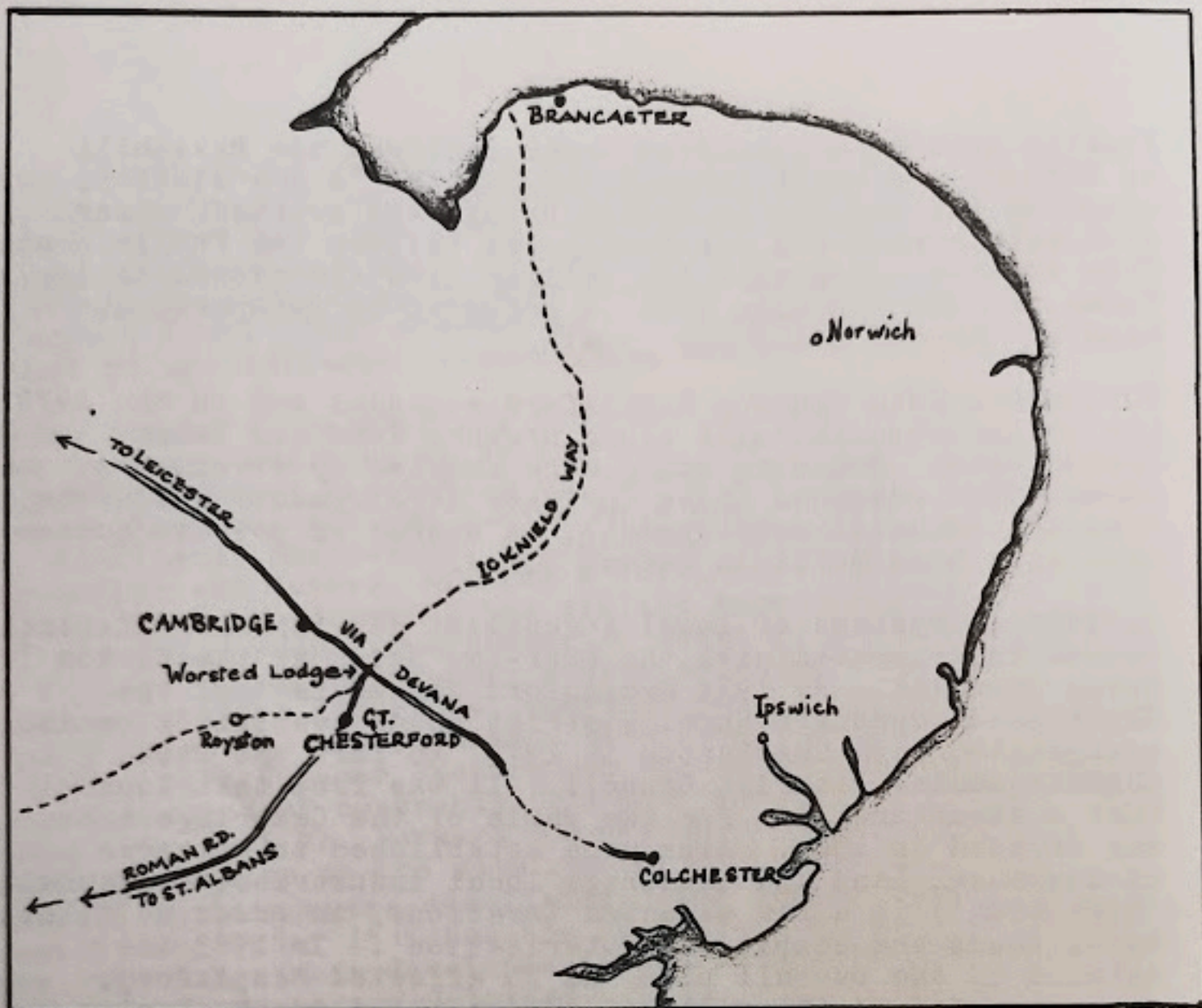
Finally in 1865 a line from Great Shelford via Haverhill to Sudbury was built through the Parish. A new station, close by the old one at Bourne Bridge was erected, along with cattle pens and eventually the Railway Inn Public House. This station along with the railway line was closed in 1967. Today the station site area is occupied by Solopark, but some of the old buildings remain.

During the 20th Century Pampisford expanded and in the 1930's the council houses^{were} built along Brewery Road and later Church Lane. Two more roads were created by developers, circa 1970 - Hammond Close (private development) and Glebe Crescent (Council development). A number of private houses have also been built in recent times.

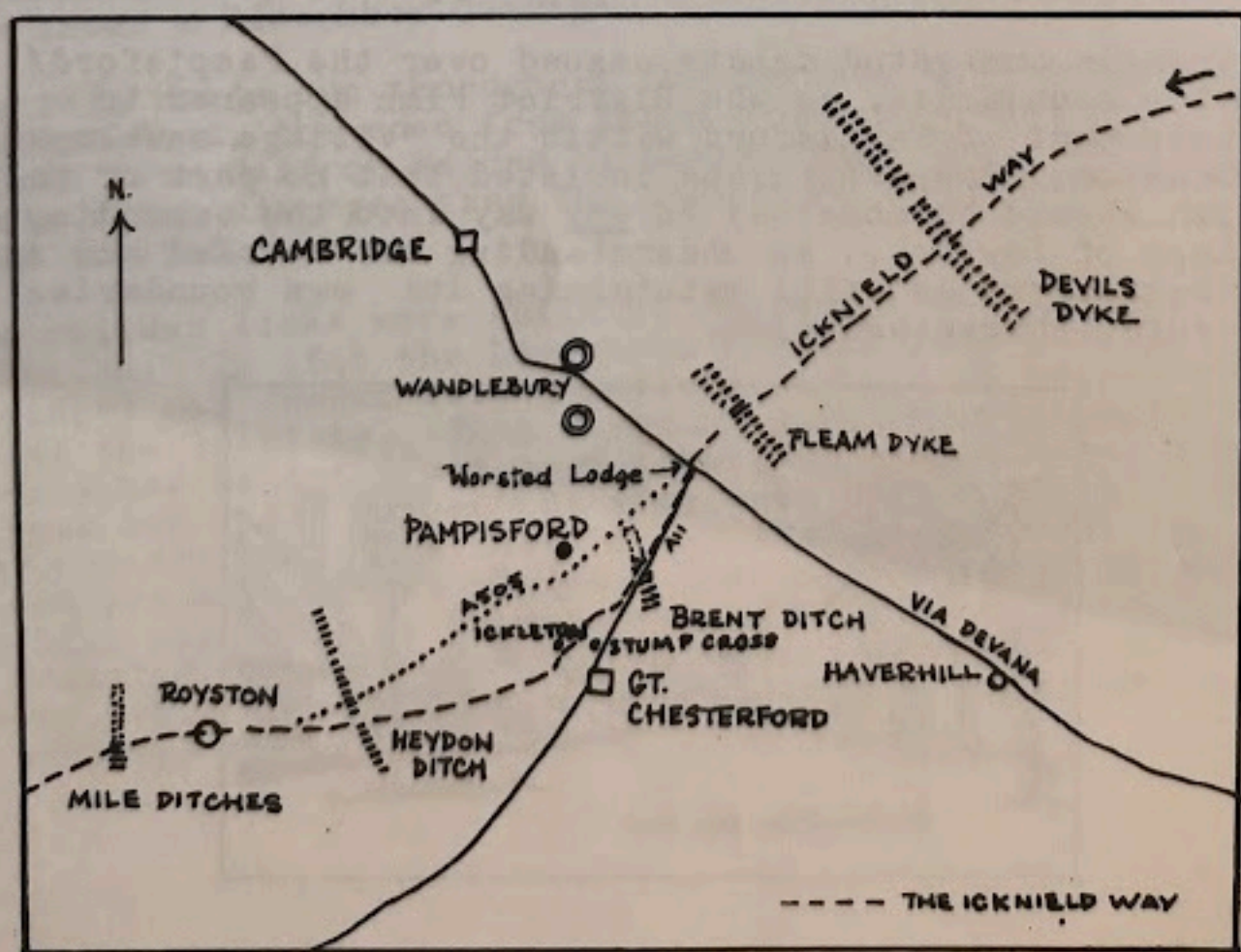
In 1835, as systems of local government developed, Pampisford became incorporated with the Poor-Law Union at the Linton Rural District. By 1934 Pampisford became part of the South Cambridgeshire Rural District which eventually became amalgamated with Chesterton in 1974 to form the South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was from this Council that a structure plan for the whole of the Cambridge area was devised in 1981. Aims were established to preserve agricultural land and encourage local industries, (especially 'high tech') in a few selected locations, in order to fulfil local needs and combat 'commuterisation'. In 1983 the details of the overall plan, as it affected Pampisford, was presented to the village. Under the plan the Parish was designated as an area where housing and industrial development were to be restrained and agricultural land preserved. Protected frontages were suggested as a way of conserving Pampisford's historic buildings and views across open countryside within the village. In this way, the characteristics of the village might be maintained.

A strongly contested debate ensued over the Pampisford/Sawston boundaries, as the District Plan appeared to include part of Pampisford within the "village envelope" of Sawston. Pampisfordians insisted that no part of the Parish should be absorbed in any way into the expanding village of Sawston. An understanding was reached and so far Pampisford is still maintaining its own boundaries and rural characteristics.





MAPS SHOWING THE COURSE OF THE ICKNIELD WAY, WITH ITS ANCIENT DYKES, AND THE ROMAN ROADS NEAR THE VILLAGE OF PAMPISFORD.



Pampisford lies $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of an old crossing point at Worsted Lodge, where the Roman road, the Via Devana, crosses the pre-historic track known as the Ickniel Way.

Long before the birth of Christ or the coming of the Romans to Britain one feature of the landscape which passed through the old kingdom of Iceni in East Anglia was the Ickniel Way. This pre-historic track-way traversed the country from Brancaster on the north Norfolk coast, south-west along the chalkbelt to Avebury in Wiltshire. The course of this ancient and enduring way passes through the Parish of Pampisford. Opinions differ, however, on the particular line the Ickniel Way takes through the Parish. In any case the Ickniel wasn't a roadway with a regular and standardised width characteristic of today's roads. At certain points in its long journey the Ickniel broadened into a very wide swathe and no precise line can be traced - needless to say it passed through Pampisford. Whilst one opinion favours the road from Royston to Newmarket (A505), another favours the road from Great Chesterford to Newmarket (All). It could be that the Ickniel encompassed both roads at some point. The ancient Brent Ditch has always been associated with the Ickniel Way, and if the position of the Brent Ditch is taken into consideration, then at least this area of the All could be regarded as part of the Ickniel. The way then leaves the All, north of Stump Cross, taking a westerly direction towards Ickleton and Heydon Ditch.

Of the five earthworks associated with the Ickniel Way, three are considered to be defensive in purpose; Devils Dyke, Fleam Dyke and Heydon Ditch. The remaining two, Brent Ditch and Mile Ditch remain obscure in origin. Brent Ditch runs from the uplands of Abington Park to the spring-head at Dickman's Grove, Pampisford. It is between 27 and 30 feet wide and up to 7 feet in height and can best be seen along a stretch running through the grounds of Pampisford Hall. During the medieval period it was known as Branke Ditch or Green Ditch. In the Hundred Rolls of Chilford, two tenants were recorded as living there, described as "Thomas at Ditch" and "Maud in Ditch".

Numerous Roman Roads exist in this locality. The Via Devana is of course, truly Roman but its present name only dates back to the 18th Century when the notion arose that the road led on north-west to Chester (Deva). Whilst this may have some validity, Ivan Margary in his book on "Roman Roads in Britain" suggests that the name Worsted Lodge gives us a clue to the road's original name - Wool Street. From this crossing point south, the (All) Roman road was of importance as it led to the Roman town of Great Chesterford and then onwards to St. Albans.

Although the local population in Roman times is supposed to have been as high as any other area in south-eastern England,

DESCENT OF THE PRINCIPAL MANOR OF PAMPISFORD

991 A.D. BEORHTNOTH gave the principle manor to the ABBEY of ELY

1066 THE NORMAN-FRENCH HARDUIN DE SCALERS 'held' the land from the Abbey

1135 BISHOP NEIL for the Abbey

1166 granted to WALTER of PAMPISFORD as one knight's fee

1212 WALTER of ELY

1271 by marriage HENRY SON of AUCHER & HEIRS

1346 via marriage SIR JOHN SHARDLOWE

1353 released to JOHN CLOVILLE & HEIRS
his wife related to AUCHER

1428 BOTH MANORS NOW HELD BY THE CLOVILLE FAMILY

1584 sold to SIR THOMAS MARSH & HEIRS

1701 via stepchild to WILLIAM PARKER & HEIRS

1789 WILLIAM PARKER-HAMOND I

1812 WILLIAM PARKER-HAMOND II

1873 WILLIAM PARKER-HAMOND III

1884 via cousin COLONEL R.T. HAMOND

1893 sold to JAMES BINNEY (Nottinghamshire)

1935 Son R.C.C.T. BINNEY

1966 half-sister H.D. BINNEY

DESCENT OF THE SECOND MANOR OF PAMPISFORD

PRIOR TO 1066 AD. held by ALMAR from QUEEN EDDAVA the FAIR

1066 given to NORMAN FRENCH COUNT ALAN of BRITTANY

1086 on ALAN'S behalf by 2 knights RALPH de BANKS & HEIRS & RALPH de BRITO

1271 SIR HUGH de BROK & ISOBEL

1281 granted to ROBERT LUDHAM for life

1293 granted via ISOBEL to JOHN parson of long Itchington, WARWS.

SIR RICHARD WELLS

1302 granted to RICHARD le BRETON & JOAN who later married JOHN de CREEK

1309 JOHN HINTON

1319 AUCHER son of HENRY

Both manors descend together under the CLOVILLES

FROM PRE-CONQUEST TIMES PAMPISFORD CONSISTED OF TWO MANORS. IN THE 15th CENTURY HOWEVER THE MANORS COMBINED & THEY SUBSEQUENTLY DESCENDED TOGETHER.



FIELD MARKINGS NEAR HANLEY'S HILL-RECTORY FARM
 Photograph by courtesy of Graeme Price

Roman remains recovered so far, are few. Crop markings, many of which only appeared in the drought years of the 1970's, sometimes appear in the field near the A505 roundabout. These indicate previous land uses but of what nature or size is at yet unknown.

Two moated earthworks lie close to each other in the Grove area of College Farm. Both are rectangular and have sides measuring between 150 - 200 feet. One has a raised enclosure and both are surrounded by ditch or moat. Their precise age is not known but they may have been defended dwelling places, forts or even the remains of an early Manor House.

The Vikings annexed East Anglia after their invasion of 856 AD, but as in other parts of the country, old Anglo-Saxon Kings and Earls fought to re-establish themselves. The Earl of Brithnoth (Ealdorman Beorhtnoth), who owned lands in Cambridgeshire, sought to restore the lands which had been seized by local magnates after the death of King Edgar. He succeeded and presented the lands, including Pampisford, to the Abbey of Ely in 991 AD, just prior to his own death, fighting the Vikings, at the forlorn Battle of Maldon.

Two Manors existed in Pampisford and with the Abbey of Ely's ownership of the principal Manor, the Abbey became the largest land owner in the Parish. The second Manor was held by Almar from Queen Edith (Eddeva) the Fair.

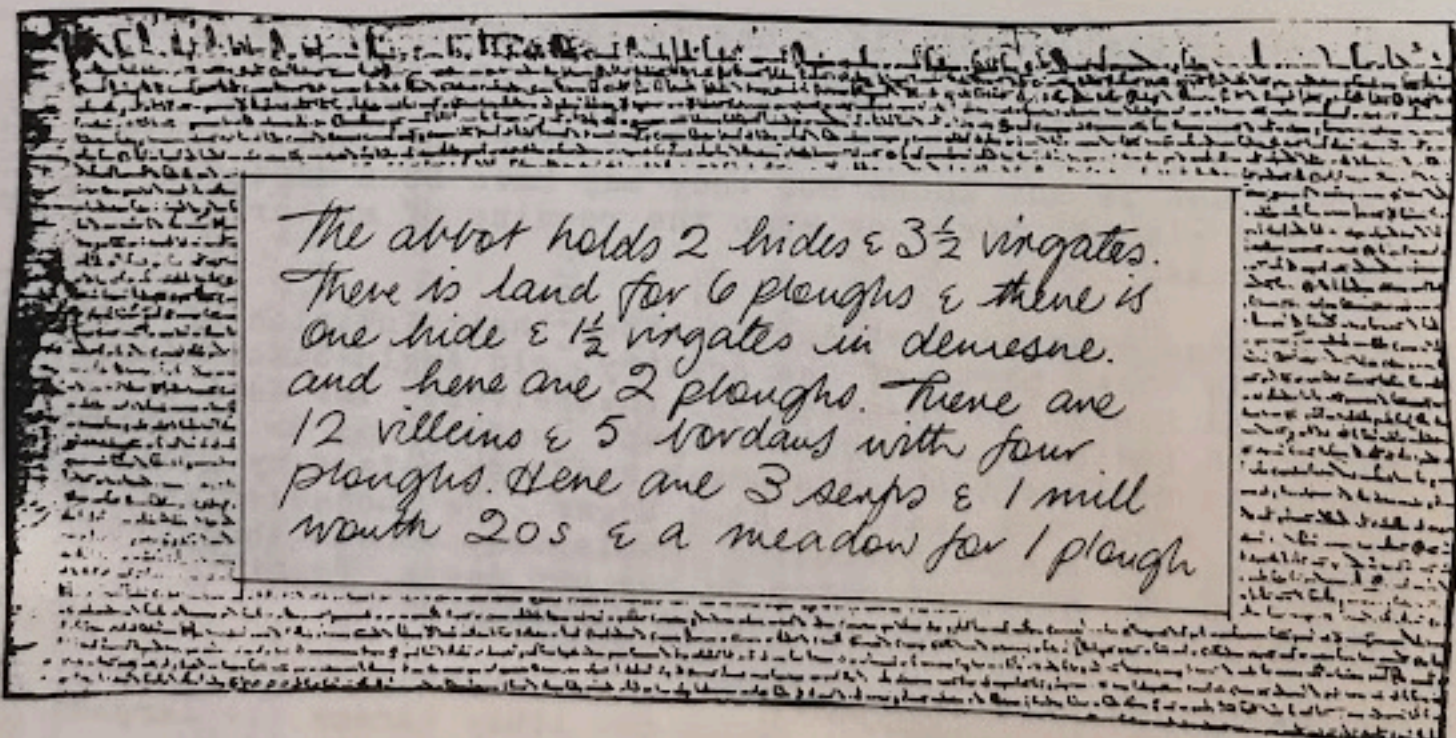


After the Norman Conquest, the land - in theory at least, belonged to King William and although the Normans dominated the population, they did not entirely displace the old Anglo-Saxon Lords.

After William's victory, he repaid his generals and supporters by granting them lands which they and their sub-tenants "held" in return for military service, rents, or labour in kind. It was this system that gave rise to growth and development of feudalism.

In the Domesday Survey of Pampisford the principal Manor, which of course belonged to the Abbey of Ely, was "held" by Hardwin de Scalers. Picot of Cambridge also held land in Pampisford. Both men were Norman-French and notorious for the despoiling of land in the area. Picot was particularly disliked by the monks at Ely who described him as "A Roving Wolf" and "A Greedy Hog" who feared not God or St. Etheldreda. Countess Judith also held land in Pampisford at this time, as did Count Alan of Brittany who held the Second Manor from Queen Eddeva the Fair.

The lands of the Abbot of Ely covered $\frac{1}{5}$ th of the County of Cambridgeshire and therefore he was the most important Ecclesiastical Tenant of the King; part of these lands were cultivated as Vineyards. In Pampisford the Abbot's holdings were described thus in the Domesday Survey:-



The units of assessment of land were in hides. Each Hide contained 4 Virgates each of 30 acres. These terms however all refer to geld liabilities and not actual dimensions.

Plough: = this referred to a full plough team which included 6 oxen.

By the 12th Century the Ely lands in Pampisford came into secular ownership, when they were granted to Walter of Pampisford. Sir John Crek or Creek, Sherriff of Cambridgeshire, became Lord of Pampisford's principal Manor in the 14th Century. Two exceptional brasses commemorating Sir John and his wife can be seen in the Church of Westley Waterless.* It is interesting to speculate whether Creek's Plantation in Pampisford has any connection here.

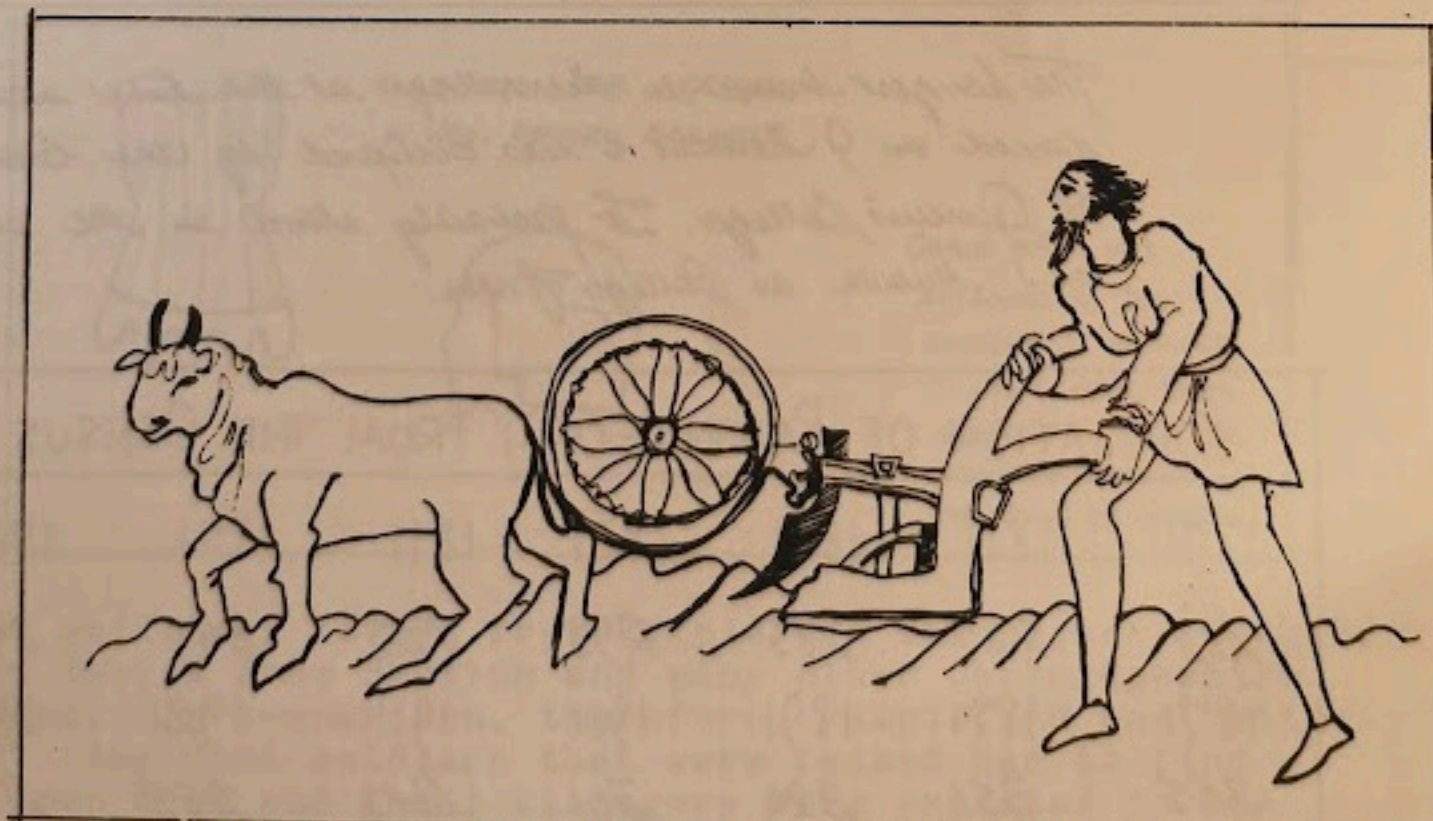
The actual name of the Village has changed and developed throughout history. The present name of Pampisford could be considered mis-leading, as no ford exists in the Village. However, the Norman place-name of Langford (i.e., Langford Arch) meaning long ford gives rise to speculation that a ford existed sometime in Pampisford's history.

The Domesday Survey of 1086 gives the Village name as Pampesworde or Pampeswrde. Pampesworth continued to be used throughout the 13th and 14th Centuries at least. This particular version does describe its Anglo-Saxon origins i.e., "pampe's Worth" or Pampe's enclosure after an early settler of that name. Other early names associated with the Parish are Petfeld i.e., Pit field, probably a chalk or claypit and Pampesworthay i.e., Pampisford Hay.

Two very local versions of the Village name have survived through history, but via the spoken rather than the written word, namely "Panser" or "Pansay".

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* See Cover



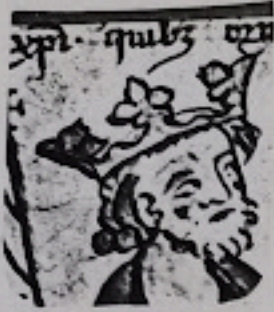
LOCAL POPULATION FIGURES TAKEN FROM VARIOUS SURVEYS
CARRIED OUT BETWEEN THE YEARS 1085 & 1664 A. D.

DATE	PAMPISFORD	SAWSTON																
1085	25 men 137 total pop.	38 men 209 total pop.																
1327	42 men 252 total pop.	35 men 210 total pop.																
1377	No figures are available for Pampisford or Sawston in this survey but the population would be about half the previous figure following the ravages of the Black Death																	
1563	31 households. 155 total	64 households 320 total																
1664	<p>During the reign of Charles II a new tax was introduced based on the number of hearths that existed in each house (one very large house in Combs had 28!)</p> <p>The following figures offer a glimpse into the kind of households that existed in Pampisford and Sawston</p> <p>A - The overall number of houses B - Newly built houses C - Number of houses with over 8 hearths D - number of houses with 1 hearth</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>A</th> <th>B</th> <th>C</th> <th>D</th> <th>A</th> <th>B</th> <th>C</th> <th>D</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>46</td> <td>10</td> <td>1</td> <td>16</td> <td>171</td> <td>18</td> <td>2</td> <td>22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>POPULATION 230 TOTAL</p> <p>POPULATION 870 TOTAL</p>		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	46	10	1	16	171	18	2	22
A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D											
46	10	1	16	171	18	2	22											

The largest house in the village at this time was taxed on 9 hearths & was occupied by the lessees of Queen's College. It probably stood in the area now known as College Farm.

POPULATION OF PAMPISFORD FROM THE CENSUS

1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861
202	237	285	293	333	359	347
1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931
355	351	329	301	243	255	237



THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

By 1307 Edward II was on the throne. Feckless and extravagant by nature, he was quite unfit for the role of monarch. Threats from the powerful baronial families were ever-present during this era and the country's rulers needed to be watchful. Stung and humiliated after Robert Bruce's victory at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, England and the King felt the need to absolve themselves from disgrace. A survey of the country was carried out in order to raise men and arms "for the Scotch War".

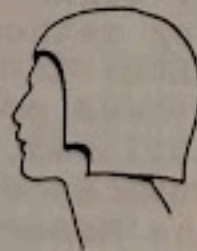
An inquisition was taken in Cambridgeshire and the following entry appears for Pampisford detailing the monies levied and their use.

36 shillings raised: of which was used in the
 purpose of 1 aketon with bacinet 6s. 8d
 1 sword 2s. 0d
 1 hatchet 1s. 0d
 1 knife 6d

All are in the hands of Pampisford's constables:
 Henry Mantyn & Richard Folinet, together
 with the best of the money



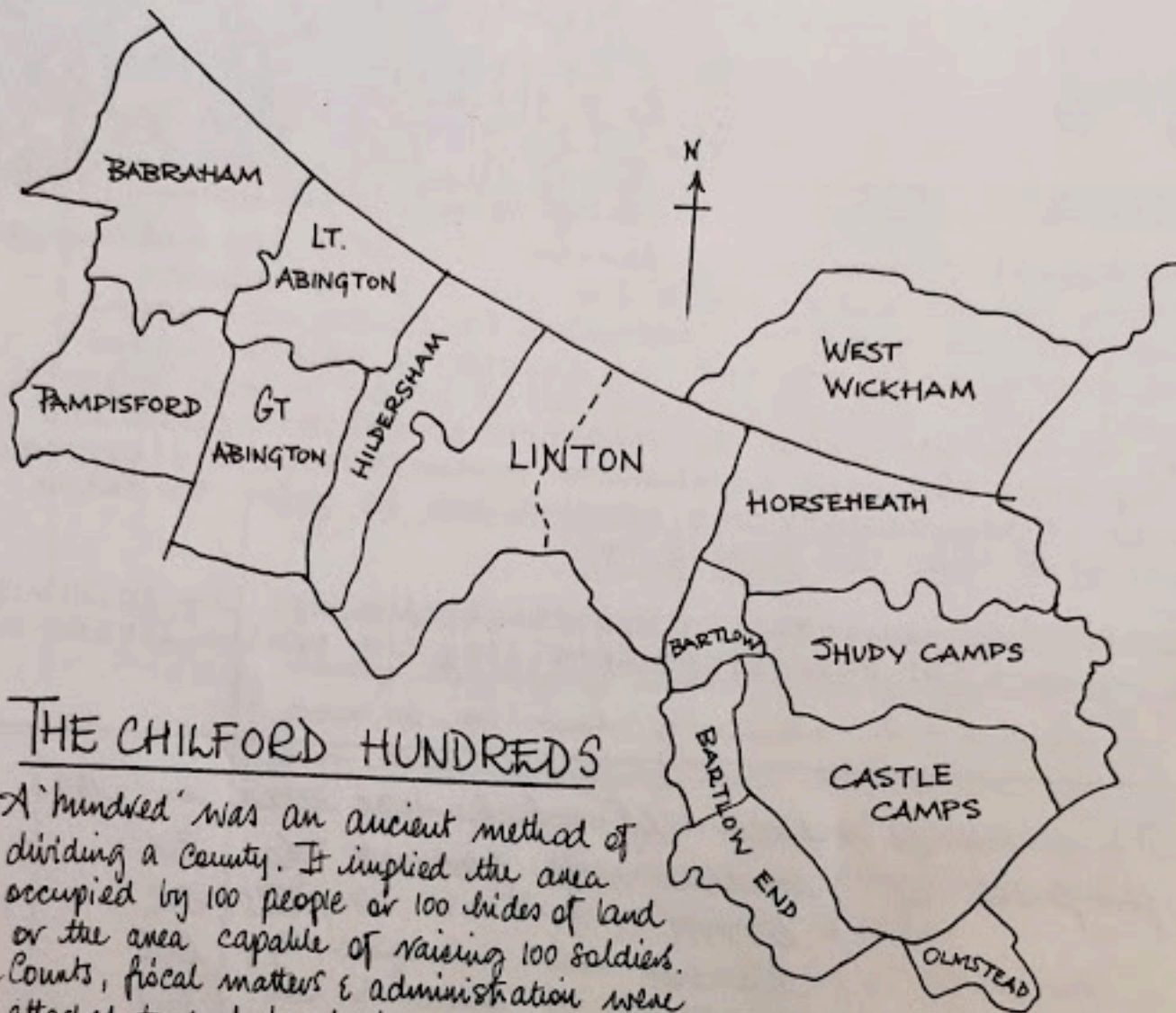
HAQUETON OR AKETON
 A WOOL PADDED GARMENT



METAL
 BACINET

CHAIN MAIL WAS
 ATTACHED TO THE
 BACINET & ALLOWED
 TO HANG OVER THE
 AKETON. (SEE THE
 ILLUSTRATION OF
 SIR JOHN DE CREEK.)

The 36 shillings levied from Pampisford was higher than the amount levied from Sawston and many other Cambridgeshire villages. In comparison, therefore, Pampisford was better armed. Any foot soldiers that were raised had to find their own arms and local villagers were expected to use their own imagination when the time came to do battle. Aucher, son of Henry and grandson of John de Creek, was Lord of Pampisford's principal Manor and it was he who mustered the men of Pampisford on behalf of the Chilford Hundreds and King Edward in readiness for war.



THE CHILFORD HUNDREDS

A 'hundred' was an ancient method of dividing a county. It implied the area occupied by 100 people or 100 hides of land or the area capable of raising 100 soldiers. Courts, fiscal matters & administration were attached to each hundred.

Every day life in the feudal society of this time was harsh and concerned simply with survival. Individual villages would be largely self-sufficient with their own Lords, labourers and craftsmen supplying all the local needs. Populations in the Bourne valley began to flourish, as elsewhere in the country, but farming methods remained primitive and yields very low. This resulted in the opening up of more land for agriculture. Even less productive land such as woodland and moorland was utilised. Life for the ordinary villager remained at subsistence level, he had his food-rents to pay the Lord of the Manor and tythes to the Parish Priest. The results of the annual harvest were crucial to everyone in the village but could mean the difference between survival and starvation for the labourer and his family in particular.

The institutions of feudalism were beginning to show signs of decay in the 14th Century and social changes seemed inevitable. In 1349 however, an event occurred that would dramatically accelerate these changes.

During the fateful summer of 1349 bubonic plague spread from Europe and swept through the British Isles. Quite apart from the horror and suffering caused, one of the most dramatic effects was the enormous loss of life. The population was reduced by between 1/3rd to 1/2 and this was to leave significant consequences for the future. How Pampisford was effected cannot be fully known. A rather sparse entry from the records of the Manorial Courts of Sawston however, reveals the fate of one Pampisford family.

*Died: John Lorkyn, Julia & Alicia Lorkyn
all of the Wyche Pampisworth*

The records then reveal Hodierna Lorkyn, John's wife, took over the property at the Wyche after paying the Court & doing fealty. At the same Court Session Hodierna was fined along with others, probably for damaging the Lord's meadow. She was also fined one penny for not taking part in the haymaking. Fines for absence from work were imposed despite the fact that many of the population were sick and dying from the Black Death. Hodierna may have escaped the awful malady, but the rest of her family were victims, whom she no doubt was forced to nurse.

Hodierna herself survived, at least until the next Court Session at Michaelmas 1349 when she paid 2 shillings for a licence to let 4 acres and a messuage to Walter Almar for 3 years. It may well be that she let her property at Wyche to Walter and then left the area. Very many more people at Pampisford would have lost their lives. Only the deaths of the most notable appear in the records and it is very difficult to imagine the horror such a great loss of life would bring, especially to very small communities.

With such a reduction in population people were no longer land-hungry, infact the situation was reversed as land-owners had great difficulty finding labour to farm their estates. A considerable amount of land previously used for farming was consequently abandoned.

Sir John Shardelowe, who had married Joan the Widow of Aucher, was Lord of Pampisford's principal Manor at this time. The name of the Parish Priest is uncertain during the time of the Black Death but in 1357 Hugo de Burre was the Priest and remained so for the next 20 years.

A SERIES OF EXTRACTS ILLUSTRATING 14th CENTURY LIFE

- An extract from the Commoners Rolls of 1357 reveals the following

*John Gilbert of Pampeswouth, about the hour
of compline had words with John & Stephen
Wright of Pampeswouth & Stephen took a knife
called a brooch - price 4d - & hit Gilbert on
the head & so that he died*

The incident is recorded because a deodand was granted. A deodand was literally 'A Gift to God'. When a person met a sudden or violent death before a Priest could shrive him, the object that caused the death was given to God via the Church for charitable purposes or for prayers for the person killed. In reality most deodands went to the King - at this time Edward III.

- A further scrap of information about Pampisford appears in the Sawston Manorial records of 1360. It concerns a member of the family who were destined to become the Lords of Pampisford's Manor.

*John Clovell (Cloville) for damage in the
fields at Pampeswouthay Fined 6d*

- Towards the latter part of the 14th Century the country was beginning to feel the economic effects of the costly and burdensome Hundred Years Wars with France. In 1381 during the reign of Richard II a Poll-Tax was introduced to pay for the War and levied against rich and poor alike.

The tax was universally unpopular, resulting in numerous scattered revolts. The most serious being the rebellion headed by Watt Tyler, whose rebels marched on London and murdered the Archbishop of Canterbury and other prominent people. Various areas of the country were affected, over 200 rebels were hanged.

In Cambridgeshire a revolt was led by John Webbe of Pampisford. He played a leading part in the sacking of the Manor at Steeple Morden and was beheaded at Royston on July 6th, 1381.*

- In 1391 the death of "Richard at Wych" is recorded.

* See pamphlet on People

• *Bailiffs Harvesting accounts 1390 Lamston*

1 man corn-cutting for 14 days at 3d per day	3s..6d
Bailiffs expenses for supplying 60 gallons of beer for the lord's servants during the 4 weeks of harvesting	5s..0d
Meat for the same	2s..0d
Fish & herrings	20d
Meat for 11 copyholders at harvest feast	5½d
Cheese for the same	1½d
Meal for porridge	2d
For copyhold reapers to be shored among 5 acres of wheat, cutting etc 5 acres of peas at 6d an acre	2s..6d
Mowing, heaping & binding 45½ acres of wheat & rye at 8d an acre	30s..4d

Total Harvest Expenses 106s..10½d

Men were usually paid 7d per day for reaping



EXTRACTS FROM EARLY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO PAMPISFORD

(The following list has been extracted from a collection of deeds, rentals and terriers, belonging to Queens College Cambridge. I am grateful for the help I received from the University Library Cambridge in researching this section)

- mid / late
13th Century Thos. de Pampesworth to W^m Saffrey & Margery
his wife a grant - messuage and land.
- King Edward II
1323 A A Quitclaim of right 2½ acres -
Brankedich, Lpenedich, Middelfeld
- King Edward III
1329 A Grant - Henry Stegeyn to his son
Stephen, messuage in Brankedichstrete
abutting Brankedichmore and land in
Middelfeld and Le Hay feld.
- Ponetwey, Aldeshate, Holeway, Lintonwey, Le Relil
- 1351 A Grant - John de Lungepend chaplain to
John Penkyn 2 acres a Mellefeld
Melleweye
- 1354 A Grant - William Tallemach knight and
Juliana his wife to Thos. Saffrey 2½ acres
in Boneys Medow abutting on Pampesford
Mill Pond.
- 1355 Henry Perkin to William his brother
Denefeld, Holdemede, Pirichesil 3 woods
in Denefeld (Lyttlehouslade)
- King Richard II
1381 2 plots in Overcroft off Brandich
(Londonwey)
- 1399 A Grant - Thos. Seman granted lands
to John Montelake and all other
lands

73

Balance from ex-
change
6-0-0

Alotment Ser. 11

Henry VIII
1520

A Grant - to John Tunnings the president of Queens College and Fellows 3 acres of arable in ----- field beyond Londonwey and abutting on a little wood called Saffneys Grove and east on chalk pit furlong.

1526

a later acquisition 6 acres arable Brangedichfeld, le meene Common, Midelfeld, Le Gladefeld.

1526

A Grant - to Robert Thynntboge vicar of Pampisford and others Pampesford wiche Londonweye, Brangedichfeld, Lyntonweye, Le Greene dyche, Le Myddilfeld, le Town land, woodweye, Le Westlonde, Penefeld, le Lyttlyllome Stade, Hinton Path.

Elizabeth I
1560

Leased from Queens College to John Symonds of Pampesford and others. The wood crop in Pampesford including trees growing about the messuage let to Thos. Hinton and thought to be necessary as a wind-break

1574

Leased from Queens College to Robert Turkyllge - Saffneys and Fraunceys

Cromwell
1652

Leased from Queens College to Robert Gell clerk - Saffneys and Fraunceys.

36-3-2

ev. I can

Alotmt.

glebe

to right

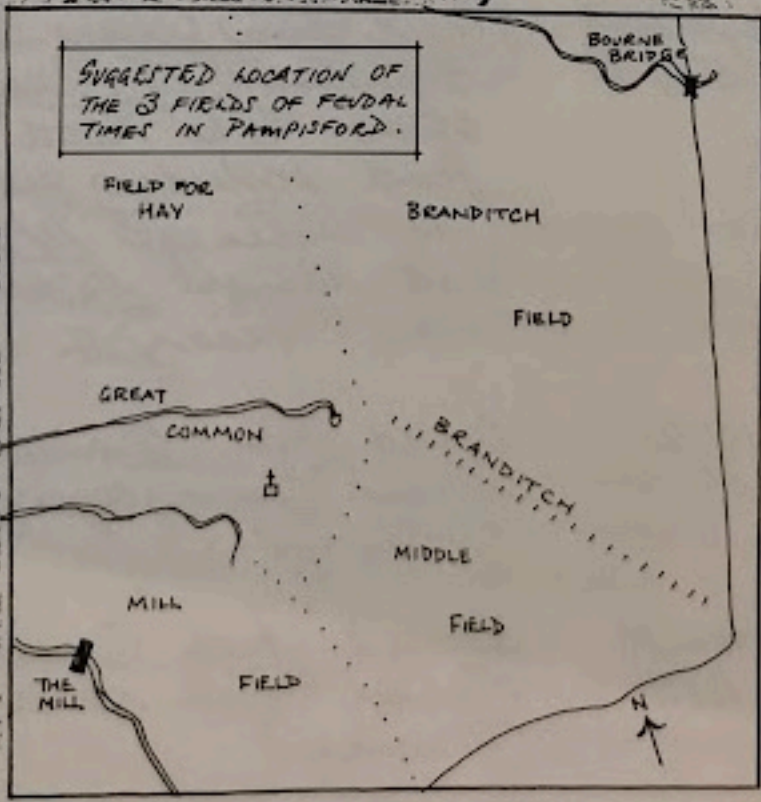
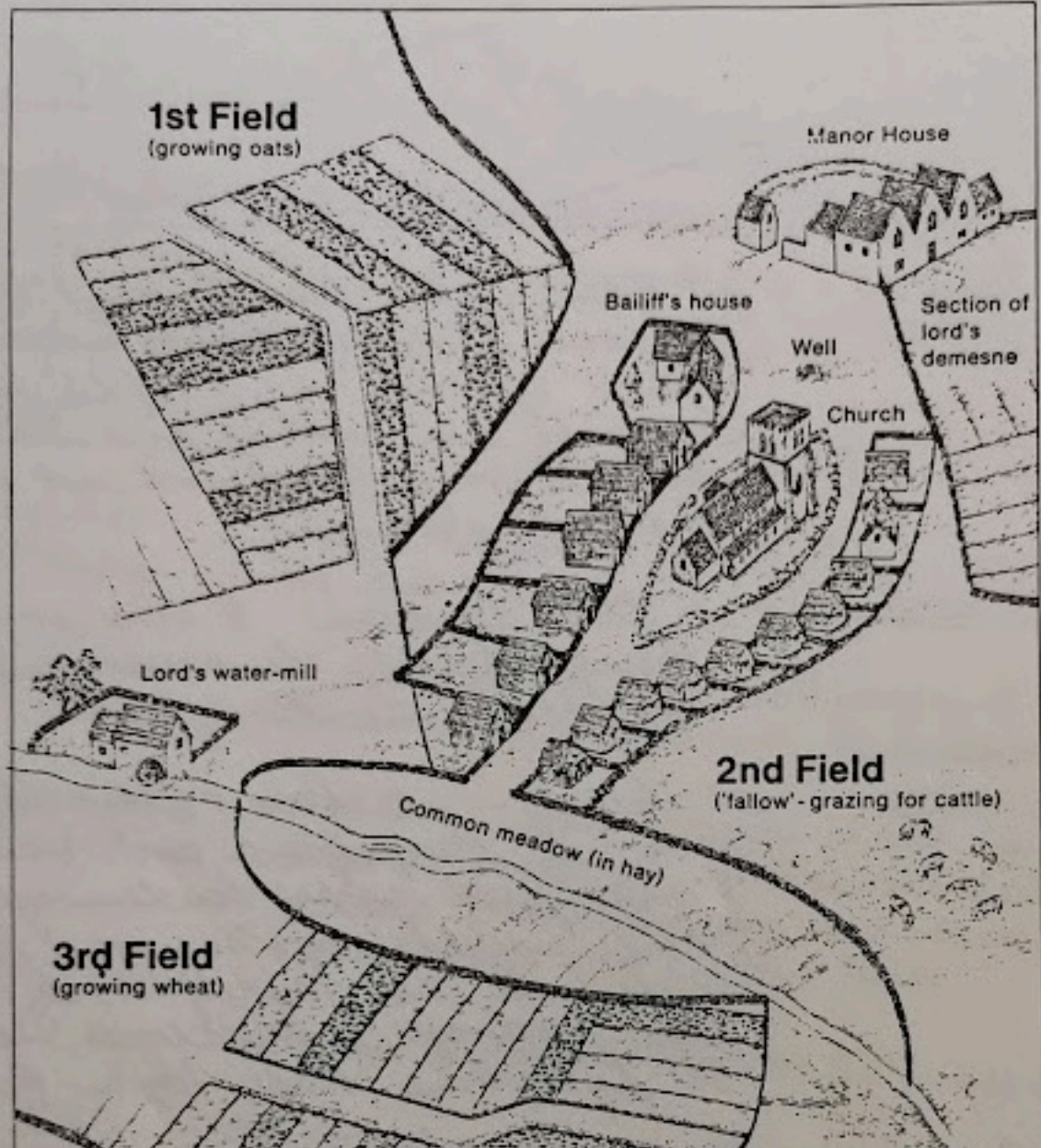
of Com-

mon

near

73

P. 3.



This illustration shows the main features of an average village in feudal England. The village, with the main street as its spine, is surrounded by huge open fields, all divided into individual strips. Each field, in rotation, grows a different crop each year, and one of them always "lies fallow", producing grazing for cows. Each of the lord's tenants holds a different number of strips; for the sake of clarity, an imaginary holding is indicated here with dark strips

THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY

By the early 15th Century the Cloville family owned both the Manors of Pampisford. Feudalism had been weakened by the effect of the Black Death and the Peasants' Revolt. Most notably in the 15th Century was the bloody internal strife of the baronial wars, culminating in the Wars of the Roses, which led to the weakening of the baronial families. So many of them perished on the battlefield or by execution. Towards the end of the 15th Century, no Lord held the power to hold bond-slaves and a new order of resident squirearchy and tenant began to emerge.

The three field system of farming was established and the field patterns settled. Four fields were recorded at Pampisford - not unusual in the Bourne Valley area - Brand Ditch, Middle, Mill and Dean or Down Field. It appears that Dean Field was rather small and probably only cultivated intermittently. Although arable farming dominated the Pampisford scene, the wool trade also began to develop and as in other areas of the country, East Anglia flourished. Many fine houses were built, and although sheep flocks remained rather small in Pampisford, it is possible that the Dower House was built at this time, as a result of the wealth created by wool. As many of the landed - aristocracy continued to destroy themselves in battle, the fortunes made by the Wool Merchants gave rise to an emergent middle class who prospered.

John Martyn was a prominent person at this time in Pampisford. He held Saffrey's Estate (near College Farm), - his name appears in numerous local documents during the mid 15th Century. His financial account, along with the others illustrated here, gives a glimpse into the local life of Sawston and Pampisford during this era.

John Martyn's Account 1453

dated the Sunday after St. Bartholomew's Day

<i>arrens for 1452</i>	<i>8s. 0d</i>
<i>rent of 2 acres at 16^p</i>	<i>2s. 8d</i>
<i>per acre</i>	<i>10s 8d</i>

Payments & allowances

<i>Cash paid to bailiff</i>	<i>3s. 4d</i>
<i>for ploughing 2 acres for the bailiff</i>	<i>1s. 4d</i>
	<i>4s. 8d</i>

*Martyn owed 6s of which he paid 3s on this
account. John Hamond became pledge to
pay the outstanding 3s on St. Mark's.*

• The Account of Ralph Relf 1453

John Aleyn for thatching & ridging the dove house & granary	13s..8d
To a man named Patch of Swaffham for sedge	11s..8d
John Aleyn for thatching Murre's tenement	2s..0d
The wife of W ^m Parrys for yelming (wetting & drawing), straw for the thatch for 2½ days	7½d
Carrying hay from the meadow to the manor on 3 occasions	1s..0d
Carrying thatching spits from Bouley wood to the manor	1s..0d
Reed bought at Camb. & carrying it to Sawston	3s..0d
Thos. Hozon & his mates for repairing the fence around Barnedi's grove	1s..0d
A carpenter for making a bench & putting a circ- ular wooden fence around the well at Murre's	7d
John Overall for 100 nails	4d
John Aleyn for bundle lathes	2d
W ^m Murre for a threshold & 2 studs for the wheat barn	6d
Haymaking expenses	8d
Total	£1. 16s.. 2½d

• Annual Rents 1461

Elena Campyon for ½ acre at Hayfield ... 1 penny
 John Wabulton in the right of his wife
 for land & tenements called Cuxteylonds,
 Wethensfeldlonds in Sawston, Pampisford
 & Barwahan 23 shillings

• Extracts from Sanston Estate Accounts 1433/34

2 cows bought for the lord's dairy stock	14s.. 5d
22 yards of woden cloth for the lord's household	21s.. 3d
Roger Pangs for an iron rein & nails for the other iron necessities bought for repairs at the lord's threshing mill	4s.. 7d
Richard Prat & his son John hired for 3 days at 9d a day, between them for repair of defects at the mill	2s.. 3d
8 best tow ropes for mill work this year	3s.. 4d
For enclosing a pightle for cultivating willows for fishing baskets (lepys) & other things done for the mill fisheries	2s.. 9d

(Acknowledgements are due to Canon Bircham for permission to publish the accounts in this section)

Labourers at this time would have worked for the local Manor or the up and coming tenant farmers.

An ordinary village family would have lived on a diet of pork, (often salted), wheat, rye, oat cakes and ale, in vast quantities, to make up for the sugar shortage. They would be allowed to fish in the local rivers for eels with the permission of the Lord of the Manor. Vegetables, fruit and herbs were grown in their own "closes" or gardens and a goat, kept for milk, would be grazed on the common.

A family like the Clovilles would feed on game such as pigeons, partridges and hares along with a variety of fish from the local rivers, such as roach, dace and pike. Lamb would also be available to the Lord of the Manor.

As the 15th Century closed, the old aristocracy of England were finally defeated to be replaced by the powerful Tudor family, whose influence dominated the succeeding Century.

THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

In the 16th Century the Cloville Family were still the principal landowners in Pampisford. History records that they were no longer resident in the Parish at this time. Nevertheless in 1513 the name of Henry Cloville-Esquire of Pampisford, along with Alicia Pott, appears in the Sawston Court Rolls. They were both fined for encroachment on the Lord's (i.e., Huddleston's) lands at Lynton Way in the fields at Pampisworthay near the Wych.

Absentee or otherwise, the Clovilles controlled the land in Pampisford almost entirely. Queen's College had acquired Saffrey's Estate (near College Farm) in 1519 and by 1524 held 232 acres. They also owned Cock Farm or Cock Farnhams, another small estate (on 18th Century maps "Cockfarnhams" is shown-opposite the new recreation ground). Queen's College and the Clovilles leased out the lands to yeoman farmers, often from neighbouring parishes. They worked the land, creating considerable wealth for themselves based on saffron, arable crops and sheep. Livestock was pastured on Pampisford's 150 acres of common land.

The yeoman farmers were to become a powerful social force. In Pampisford, with the prolonged absence of the Lord's of the Manor from their lands, the yeomanry were ready and willing to fill the roll of the local Squire. Only two such yeoman families came to dominate the scene in Pampisford, the Mortlocks and the Turtlebys. The Mortlock family in particular were to rise in prominence in Cambridge during the succeeding generation, to influence local life and events.

Once more it is in the local Court Rolls that we are able to gain an impression of ordinary life in the 16th Century.

- 1528 Robert Hockton gentleman was fined 3s. 4d for leaving a ditch unscoured & for taking in a hedge, he was ordered to replace it
- 1554 The leet made an order that anyone throwing dead pigs into Church Lane Sawston would be fined 3s. 4d per pig
- 1556 John Campyon was fined 3s. 4d for assaulting & drawing blood on Robert Monday
- 1575 A Court Order:
We do order that every pore man shall have at All Saints Day, 2 lode of wood
- 1594 Various tenants were ordered to fence in the Saffron garden at Sunderlands.

1526 A Charter

John Moutlak (Moutlock) eldest son
& heir of John Moutlak senior. of
Pampisford, grants to William
Tuntillbe (Tuntelby), John Pryst
senior, George Mylwade & Robert
Hogon of the same place, a
messuage with acroft adjoining
the aforesaid town.
..... Dated May (15) 26 Henry VIII

1544

Lord of Pampisford Manor paid
to Robert Tylney of Whittlesford
Manor for Bouys meadow 20 pence
& suit of court

It was however, during this century that a most dramatic episode occurred in the local area.

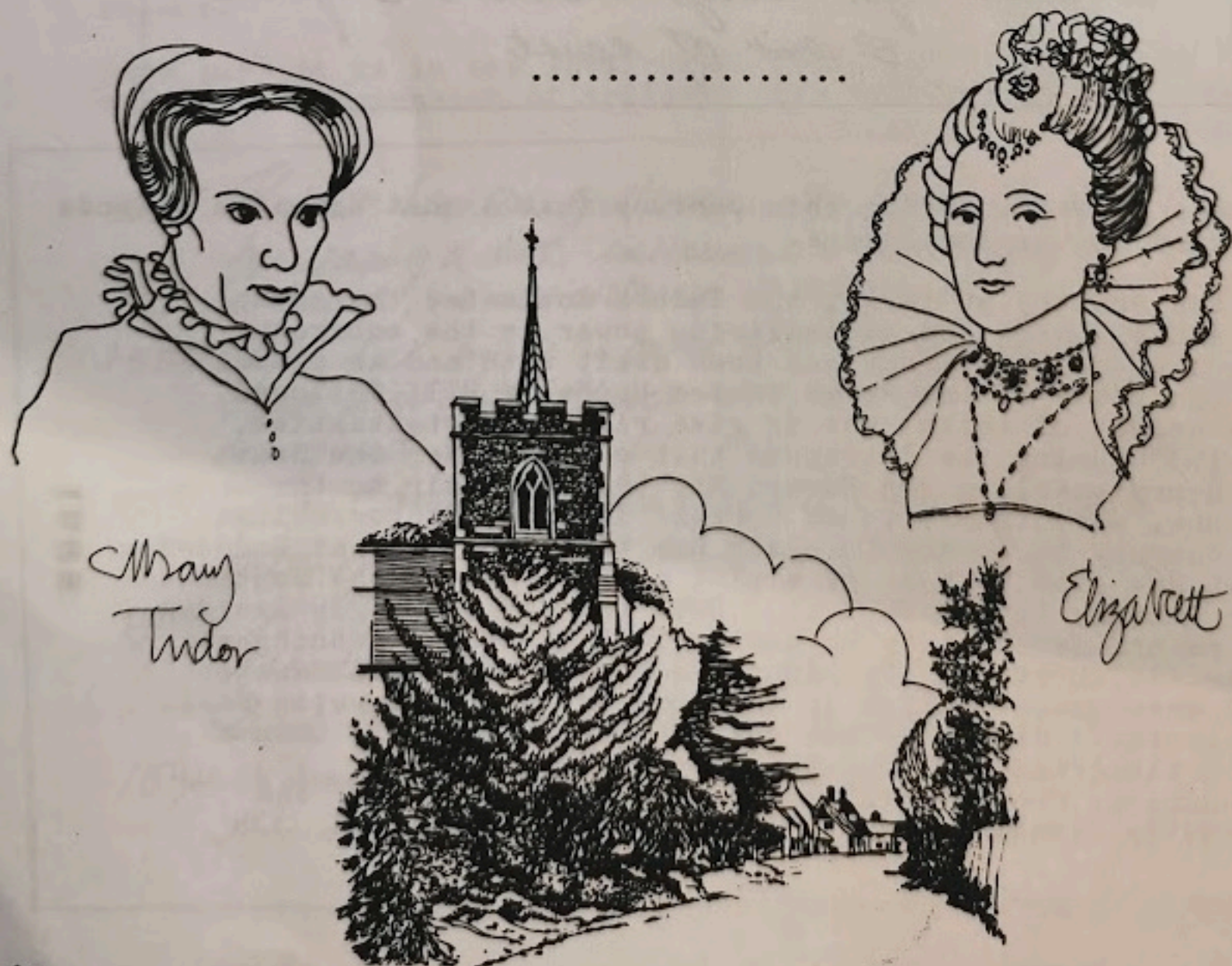
In the country at large, the Tudors dominated the scene by establishing and centralising power in the monarchy. The over-mighty barons had been dealt with and an attack on the power of the Roman Church by Henry VIII followed, the effect of which was to give rise to Protestantism. In 1553, during the intrigues that ensued after the death of Henry's ailing son Edward VI, the next heir to the throne, Mary Tudor, found herself in great danger whilst on the way to London to claim her title. It was at Hoddesdon that she came to hear of a plot against her if she continued her journey to the capital. Both she and her party decided to return immediately to her Norfolk Estate at Kenninghall near Attleborough. By nightfall they had reached Sawston and were given shelter by the Huddlestons at Sawston Hall. After their departure the next morning, the hall, then a half timbered mansion, was set alight by 'A Mob'. Presumably Protestants outraged by the presence of the devoutly Catholic Mary.

Traditionally several colourful versions of this story exist. Travis Teversham in his "History of Sawston" describes in some detail his opinion of these events. He also plots the route east which Mary and her party were most likely to take from Sawston to Kenninghall, on that particular July morning of 1553.

"From the back of the house, over the moat, past two-pond Grove and the Lady Wash, straight through Hayfield Planten and Pampisford Woods to Brent Ditch End and then over Pampisford Hill to Bourne Bridge and the Newmarket Road. It would have been from near the top of Pampisford Hill, that the Party looked westwards to see the smoke and flames rising from the burning Mansion".

We can never be certain that Mary Tudor passed through Pampisford during her escape from Sawston. It wouldn't have been an easy journey for her if she had, for although the Huddleston family were staunchly Catholic, the influential Turtleby family of Pampisford had other sympathies.

The horror and religious persecution wrought upon Protestants of all social classes during Mary's reign mitigated against the Roman Catholic cause, leaving fear, hatred and mistrust between the two main factions of the Church - a legacy that would reverberate through the Centuries to come.



THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

Towards the end of the 16th Century Eustace Cloville sold his Pampisford Estate to Thomas Marsh, an official of the Star Chamber. The Manor was owned by the Marsh family throughout the 17th Century and two members of the family were destined to become Sheriffs of Cambridge. Even so they did not reside in Pampisford.

A dominating theme in the 17th Century was that of religious strife. Non-conformism in religious affairs began to threaten the Church of England. Puritanism in its various forms grew, especially in East Anglia.

In Pampisford Robert Turtleby, a known non-conformist, had left the Parish before the beginning of the 17th Century and no strong individual dissenters were recorded until the 18th Century. However, puritanical sympathies were in evidence.

In 1605 the Vicar of Pampisford did not use a cross in Baptism nor did he wear a surplice. In 1638 Matthew Wren, the Archbishop of Ely, who was disposed towards Catholicism, visited the area to encourage more sacramental forms of worship. In Pampisford the following comments were made with regard to the Church.

Michael Selby, vicar, for the decay of the church, he is admonished; repair by October 5th.
William Turtleby, George Sealbrook, churchwardens to buy a bible of the largest translation, to turn the reading desk, to buy a new table of marriages, to repair the tiling of the church & helper, to board the seats, to lease door to the chancel, the reading desk to be placed more conveniently out of the middle alley.
— by order of the Consistory Court.

The arrangements inside the Church as found by Wren's visitation suggest non-conformist sympathies. The corrigenda continues with further admonishments and directives.

Robert Mencer for standing excommunicate a whole year. Robert Fuller for account of monies belonging to the church. Nath. London - his seat to be made uniform. Mr. Lawrence, a Farmer of the Rectory, for the chancel decayed, in the tiling, & windows & for allowance for straw twice a year - each time of 50 sheaves.

Despite the effort made by Bishop Wren to bring about conformism in the local Churches, the discussions in society during the 17th Century were not only concerned with religious affairs. The rise of parliamentary power brought Members of Parliament into conflict with the power of the monarchy. A contest of ideals developed and during the winter of 1641/42 a polarisation of loyalties between King and Parliament took place. By August 1642 Civil War broke out in England.

In Cambridgeshire, feeling moved towards non-conformity and parliamentarianism Cromwell recruited locally and founded the military league with "Eastern Association" in the opening years of the War. Cambridgeshire, though isolated from direct battlefield confrontation, was nevertheless heavily garrisoned.

Religious reforms were also taking place in Cambridgeshire under the control of the fanatical Suffolk puritan William Dowsing. He had been appointed by the Duke of Manchester to clear local Churches of "idolatrous images, pictures and popish objects and stained glass". Witchburning followed and Churchmen were persecuted. The Royalists in Cambridgeshire suffered greatly under the imposition of heavy fines and the sequestrations of goods and property.

William Dowsing visited Pampisford on March 19th, 1643 - the following is recorded in his journal:

We gave orders for 2 crosses to be taken off the steeple & two from the side thereof. 16 superstitious pictures we break down, with one in the chancel; and in the windows to be put up & the steps to be levelled by Theophilus Turner the parson - Received 3s. 4d.

The steps referred to would be the Chancel steps. The reference to "put up" the windows could have been better described as "put out" in today's language. It is possible that some of the parishioners joined in the destruction of the windows, even though it was they, in their extreme poverty, who would be expected to pay for the replacement of non-offending glass.

How much destruction of the medieval windows took place at this time is, however, difficult to judge as much of the irreplaceable medieval stained glass disappeared in later centuries. Sometimes this was due to sheer in-difference and neglect, but removal by dishonest glaziers was also a factor.

Originally two carved figures representing St. John baptising Christ had graced the top of the wooden font cover in Pampisford Church. In the 18th Century they were described as being 'decapitated'. This damage may well have been carried out during Dowsing's visit of 1643.

The Civil War took place against a background of continual plague outbreaks (such outbreaks occurred regularly in Cambridgeshire from 1597-1774 - at least every five years). Vagrants, wanderers and gypsies were blamed for carrying the plague around the country. After a violent outbreak of the plague in Cambridge in 1630 a strong campaign was waged against such people. Parishes were warned not to take wanderers in, as they become reliant on the Parish and also spread disease. This policy towards vagrants however, broke down during the Civil War and many Parish Constables were hard pressed in dealing with vagrants and camp followers.

Margaret Dowall with her two children had her passport made 7th Sept. 1599 to go to Great Wankwouth in Northumberland. Margaret Masse had her passport to go to Little Wankwouth in Northumberland - same the same day.

Elizabeth Stridge had her passport to go to Bournemouth in the County of Southampton and had thirty days limited her 14th Jan 1600.

Elizabeth Clarke had her passport to go to Nuneaton in the County of Warwick and had 20 days limited her, and to be conveyed from constable to constable. 15th March 1601

Anne Beck with two of her children viz: John & Sarah had their passport made 23rd April 1664 to go to St. James parish in London, and had twelve days allowed for their journey.

Robert Huet had his passport made 23rd May 1664 to go to Reading in the County of Berk. & had 5 weeks allowed for his journey.

Thos. Lowe with his wife & child had their passport made 31st May 1664 to go to Castle Camps in the County of Cambridge & had two days allowed for their journey.

Margaret Smith with her child were taken as vagrants & had their passport made 13th June 1664 to go to Yermouth in the County of Newfok & had a fortnight allowed them for their journey. (1665 was the year of the Great Plague)

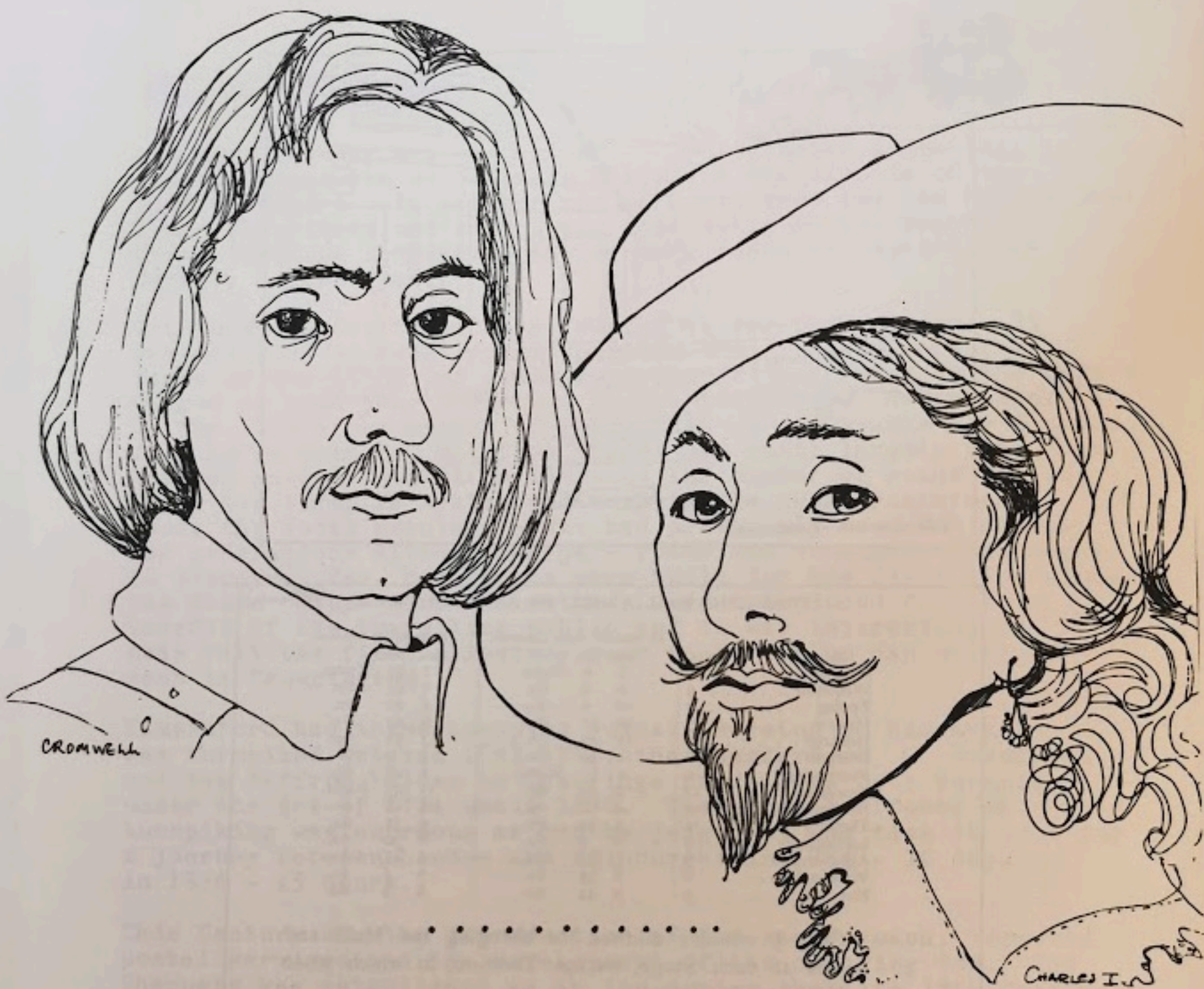
Among his many other duties concerned with vagrancy, the Parish Constable for Whittlesford records that he received 8 pence for "caring (carrying) a great bulky (burly) woman to Panser". This was during the time that Cromwell's army was encamped on Thriplow Heath. Many vagrants were whipped and even branded before being sent back to their own Parishes. Despite the suspicion and fear that people harboured against vagrants and travellers they were an extremely common phenomenon. Various recorded incidents suggest they were tolerated in Pampisford and traditionally lived in and around the Parish. Upon death some were buried in the churchyard and in later years vagrant families had their children christened in the Church.

In 1649, three years after the Civil War ended, Charles I was beheaded and Cromwell established the "Commonwealth and Protectorate". The new order lasted only 11 years and by 1660 the monarchy was re-established when Charles II was restored to the throne. Church conformity was imposed by law and High Anglicanism returned with a vengeance. The churches were purged of their puritan ministers and non-conformists were arrested. Scores of people in East Anglia were imprisoned for their beliefs. Puritanism after the restoration survived but mainly among the poor sections of the population. The split between Church and Chapel had begun.

Despite the return of High Anglicanism, churches in the area remained in a deplorable state. Most church fonts were described as "foul and nasty"; a simple basin was generally used when baptisms were performed. From 1685 onwards for nearly two centuries, ruinous and neglected churches were a common feature of the local landscape. Although many people in this region were slow to abandon their puritan customs, church neglect was not entirely due to puritan excesses. The sheer spiritual exhaustion of parishioners who had suffered the vicissitudes of religious strife was also a factor, especially in a parish as poor as Pampisford.

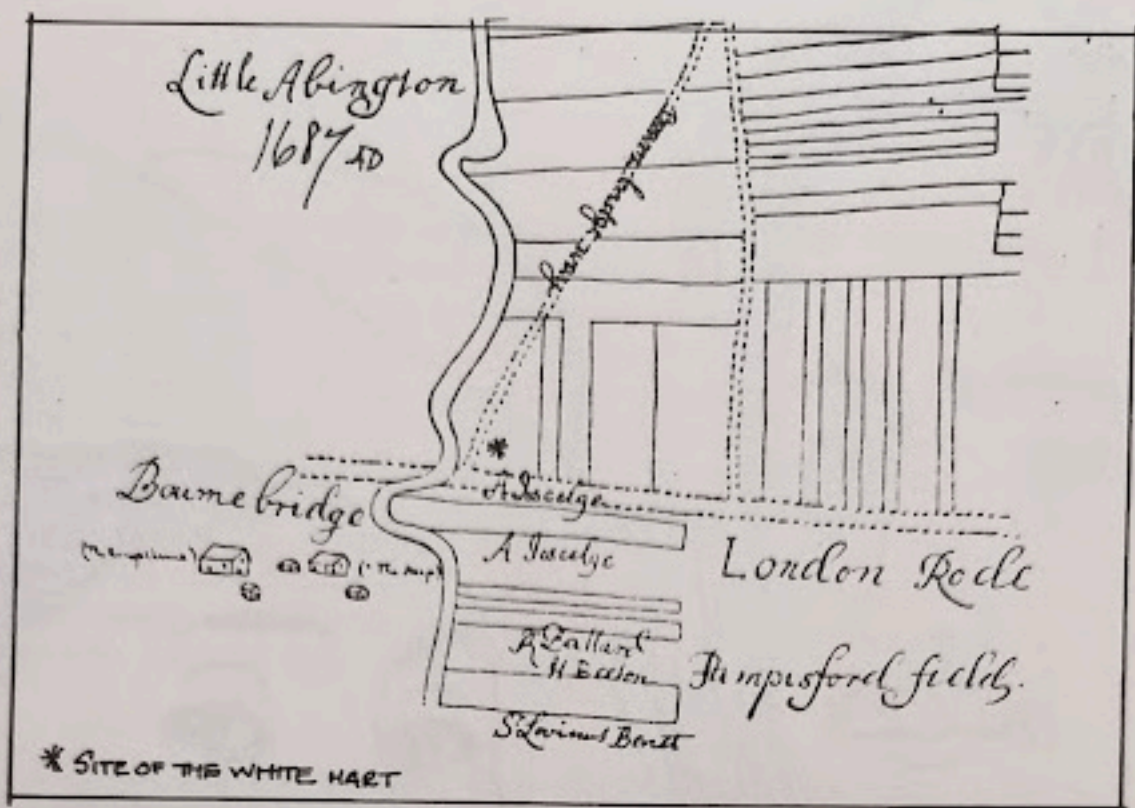
In Pampisford church, altar rails remained unreplaced for years and the Church lacked even the most basic books. Old hymn and prayer books that had suffered reformist mutilation during the Civil War were all that existed and these were still in use sometime after the restoration of the monarchy. One concerned parishioner, named Henry Baeton, did however leave two written works to the church in his will in 1695. One work was by Erasmus - (the humanist writer who was said to have laid the egg Luther was to hatch) and the other a work by Bishop Jewel whose "treatise" was regarded as the best 16th Century defence of the Anglican claims.

As the 17th Century closed, a new era began. An Act of Parliament removed the penalties imposed on non-conformist worshippers and a degree of toleration was allowed in religious affairs. (Catholics however were not granted freedom of worship until 1828).



Extract from a deed of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of Pasture

from Blake to Thomas
Cooper. This indenture (King W^m III)
1695 between Christopher Blake of
Pampisford & Thomas Cooper for
consideration of the sum of 5
shillings of lawful English money
to him is paid by the said
Thomas



TIME THE MAIL WILL BE AT EACH PLACE. (18th cent.)

Stages.	Miles.	IN COMING FROM LONDON.			IN GOING TO LONDON.		
		hrs.	min.		hrs.	min.	
London		8	0	Night.	7	50	Mornng.
Woodford	9	9	0	do.	6	45	do.
Epping	7	10	0	do.	5	40	do.
Harlow	7	10	51	do.	4	49	do.
Hockrell	7	11	42	do.	3	58	do.
Newport	8	12	39	do.	3	0	do.
Bournebridge	10	1	51	Mornng.	1	48	do.
Newmarket	12	3	16	do.	11	23	Night.
Barton Mills	9	4	21	do.	11	18	do.
Thetford	11	5	39	do.	9	35	do.
Larlingford	9	7	9	do.	8	30	do.
Attleborough	6	7	34	do.	7	45	do.
Wymondham	6	8	35	do.	7	5	do.
Norwich	9	9	44	do.	6	0	do.

Only 5 minutes allowed for changing the Maill and horses at each Stage, except Thetford, at which place half-an-hour is allowed.

The Cambridge bags to and from London, and all parts of Norfolk and Suffolk, are left at Bournebridge.

BOURNEBRIDGE (circa 1915) LOOKING NORTH FROM THE SITE OF THE WHITE HART. A REMARKABLY QUIET SPOT IN 1915!



THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY



The 18th Century was the age of enlightened despotism; it saw the expansion of overseas trade and the dawning of the British Empire. It was the age of Queen Anne and the Hanoverians. Trade flourished and many towns, especially ports, expanded. Communications throughout the century began to improve; most notably on the roads.

The Turnpike Trust had been founded as far back as 1663. It was designed to build roads and keep them in good repair. Users of the turnpiked roads were charged according to the type of waggon or load they presented at the Tollhouse. Nevertheless by the 1720's the number of roads that were passable for a coach or a horse were few and foot travel was still largely used. An Act was passed in 1794 to increase the number of roads falling under the turnpike system and despite the great resentment among the local populace - who had previously used the routes for generations without charge - roads and communications began to improve. New, hard roads were built for the first time since the Roman occupation! Milestones were introduced for the benefit of the travelling public and it was interesting to note that the first milestone ever to be set up can still be seen in Trumpington.

Pampisford had three turnpike roads: Royston to Newmarket was turnpiked between 1769-1874; the Chesterford to Newmarket and the Saffron Walden to Cambridge roads were both turnpiked under the Act of 1724 until 1870. The general effects of turnpiking was enormous as can be judged by the time it took for a journey between London and Edinburgh: in 1754 - 10 days, in 1836 - 45 hours..

This Century saw the introduction of the stage coach, improved postal services and the development of the coaching inn. The Chequers was established as an inn during the late 18th Century and even in Pampisford traffic increased sufficiently to necessitate the erection of fences and posts around property as protection against "travelling horses". By far the busiest area in the locality was Bourne Bridge just over Pampisford's northern parish boundary. The turnpike road between Great Chesterford and Newmarket, which formed Pampisford's eastern boundary, was particularly busy. It was part of the Norwich to London route and traffic was so heavy that upkeep of the road became almost impossible. Frances Nunn, a local carrier, complained that it took him three hours to get from Bourne Bridge to Chesterford because of the poor condition of the road.

There had been an inn at Bournebridge for generations but in the 18th Century, the Kings Arms Inn, lying just north of the Bourne river boundary, was to become one of the most important nodal points in the area. Even in 1714 it was described as being "full of bustle".

As the general traffic developed so did the Kings Arms and eventually all manner of business was transacted there. It was surrounded by pleasant gardens where archery and bowls contests

were greatly enjoyed. It became famous for its dinners and many university people and local notaries dined there. Apart from sports, dancing and dinners, the inn became a centre for the local fox-hunters and, in time of war, a base for mustering the militia. All kinds of weighty business took place at the Kings Arms. Along with the collection of tolls, it was responsible for the post and all manner of coaching. Over 30 horses were kept to service mail coaches and travellers. Bourne Bridge cottages, which still stand, were once the stables belonging to the Kings Arms inn. Commissioners of Tax, the Turnpike Trustees and later, when John Phipps was landlord, the Commissioners for the inclosure of the common land in Pampisford met at the Kings Arms.

With so much activity it is not surprising that a second inn, the White Hart, opened on the opposite side of the road. William Cole, the celebrated Antiquary who was born at the Kings Arms in 1714, later described the White Hart " a simple thatched cottage used by a toll keeper". It was enlarged later and when the Lagden family ran the inn, various rumours and scandals became associated with it. Could it be that highwaymen operated from the White Hart ?

Naturally Bourne Bridge became a focus for the opportunist and in 1792 the postboy, bringing the mail in a cart from Cambridge to Bourne Bridge, was attacked and robbed. Three men from London, one disguised in a smock, tied up the boy and left him in a wood. They seized the mail bag and robbed them of all bank notes. Reputedly, they took between £5,000 and £10,000 from the Cambridge mail.

In 1799 Mr. Adeane of Babraham was attacked by a man with a pistol who was dressed in blue with a slouched hat and crepe over his face. These highway attacks created considerable public concern and speculation grew that the Lagden family were involved*

During the 18th Century the violent strife previously experienced in religious affairs had abated. An Act of Parliament, passed in the late 17th Century, removed the penalties imposed on non-conformists, thus allowing a degree of religious toleration around the various Protestant factions. A rebirth of the old puritanical cause emerged in the shape of John Wesley (1703-1791) and the Methodist movement. John Wesley toured the country gaining converts despite the hostility of the Church of England. Eventually Chapel as well as Church was to become an established part of Christian worship in Britain. No chapel was built in Pampisford but in the last decade of the 18th Century, two houses in the Village were licensed for non-conformist worship.

* See pamphlet on 'People'

The following varied extracts help illustrate local life in the 18th century

Extracts from the Overseer's Accounts Stanston 18th cent.

1778	Paid Sarah Guiner for anointing Bungay's wife for the itch & musing her a month	3s.. 6d
1779	Thos. Hopwood for thatching the necessary at the workhouse - spits, rods & withes	3s.. 2d
1785	For looking after Bridget Runham airing her things & laying her out	7s.. 0d
1786	Sarah Banker for 2+3 treacle for Osborne's leg	10d
	For a horse & cart to carry him to Cambridge	2s.. 6d
1787	A pair of shoes for widow Fuller's gal	1s.. 6d
1788	Howe's boy for a hedgehog	2d
1789	H. Monley for ditching at Blackes Ditch - (the old name for Spring Ditch)	4s.. 0d
1790	Paid Adcocks for musing their daughter with Smallpox	£1 .. 0s.. 5d
1792	Paid Elizabeth Prior for making 3 shifts & 5 aprons	2s.. 10d
1794	Tosh Cooper for stocks & lock to the Town Csum	9s.. 6d

The town gun was used by a field keeper to scare birds from the ripening corn & crops.

- Servants employed in the 18th Century by Mr Wale of Shetford.

JAMES WEBB - Taken on as coachman; began service Sunday 4th of 4^{ber} 1766 at the rate of 4s per week, he to find himself clothes, victuals, drink & lodging. (absent all day - left 22nd 4^{ber})

MOLLY - by recommendation of my tenant Mr Haycock, came into our service as a girl or under maid, to milk cows, feed hogs, poultry & to do all sorts of work. Came 8^{ber} at ye rate of £2.10s.0d per annum.

29th 8^{ber} 1766 THOM CHESTER - has lived 8 years from his infancy with & is recommended by Revd. Mr Robinson of Hammerton, where he served as footman, gardener & took care of 2 houses in which he delighted. Hired him this day to serve me as footman, to do however all works occasionally, particularly in the garden at ye rate of £7 per annum. if without vails or £5 with vails; a complete frock suit of livery with buckskin breeches yearly & a full trim suit of livery every 2 years & he agrees to come into service on Saturday ye 15th of 9^{ber}. NB. I forgot to give him his earnest money (except a mug of ale). He came Sunday evening 2nd 9^{ber} & left service - say sent away for misbehaviour ye 19th May 1767 paid 6 mths. £3.16s.3d

JOHN BOWEN - hired him as a footman; a frock suit every year, a complete livery every 2 years, £5.0.0 per annum; wages £2.0.0 per annum instead of vails; Came into service ye 16th 7^{ber} 1766. NB gave warning to leave after a month from this time 8^{ber}. Discharged & paid of

COOK/MAID JOHANNA - arrived after a 10 day stay with Cpt. Bonner in London, came down to us by ye stage August 13th 1766 NB. paid Bonner NB. paid 4 weeks passage for her little boy. NB. Nurse's child's passage 7 qns. Left my service 29th 4^{ber} 1766

Account of the Baptist Church Dec 2nd 1825

Church of the Baptist Church are distributed
 in the year
1825-1826

1/2 of Dept. road to side of lake
 Church

1/2 of Dept. of Religion

1/2 of Dept. of Agriculture

1/2 of Dept. of Education

1/2 of Dept. of Health

1/2 of Dept. of Commerce

1/2 of Dept. of Justice

1/2 of Dept. of Peace

1/2 of Dept. of War

1/2 of Dept. of Navy

1/2 of Dept. of State

1/2 of Dept. of Treasury

1/2 of Dept. of War, Navy & State

1/2 of Dept. of Army

1/2 of Dept. of War

1/2 of Dept. of War

1/2 of Dept. of War

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Despite the expansion of farms and the great improvements in communication and travel, transportation in the 18th century, along with many other villages in the area, still practiced the common of farming methods that was in the middle ages. These open fields, enclosed up 150 acres of common for growing corn, hay and wheat, helped to support the village which consisted of about 15 families. In the end of the century, however, this way of life began to be abandoned. In fact English Lord Thomas, Duke of Devon, introduced experimentally with the farming methods, many of which had been introduced from the continent. The Devon deep rotation was introduced by Lord Thomas in his baronial estate. This involved the planting of turnips, along with various crops for sheep - which allowed regular mowing of the land - prior to the planting of winter crops such as barley and wheat. The success of this farming policy with the Devon rotation proved an efficiency sought a revolution in agricultural practice and production. A revolution which was necessary to feed an ever-growing and flourishing population.

As the 18th Century closed the new era in agricultural practice began in Pampisford with the general Inclosure Act of 1801. Although a certain amount of inclosure had been taking place for many years, the coming of the general (and final) Act, meant that farming, land ownership and the landscape of England were to change profoundly.

A small snippet of information concerning Pampisford in the late 18th Century can be found in the "Estates Trespass" of 1772. A complaint was lodged by William Keane of Pampisford against ejection by force from lands he still held in tenancy, not yet expired, by Edmund Salsbury late of Royston and his yeoman of Royston. Precisely why this forced eviction took place and by whom it was initiated, is open to speculation. It may, however, act as a presage of the changes that were to come for the small farmer in the succeeding century.

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D *Substance of the Bill for preservation of the public roads, by limiting the tire of the wheels of waggons and other carriages to eight inches, &c.*

THE preamble sets forth, That whereas the laws hitherto made for the preservation of the publick roads have not answered the intention thereof, by reason of the excessive weights carry'd by waggons, caravans, and carts passing thereon; be it therefore enacted: That from and after the 29th of September, 1745, no waggon passing on any publick turnpike road, shall be drawn with more horses than four, either in length, pairs, or side-ways; and no cart passing on such road shall be drawn with more horses than three; every horse, above the said numbers respectively to be forfeited, with all geers, bridles, halters, and accoutrements: And the collectors of toll at every turnpike are required to seize such horses in the manner herein after directed.

G That any other person, as well as the collectors of toll, may seize the horses drawing in any waggon or cart above the number prescribed.

H That after the said 29th of September 1745, any five or more of the respective trustees appointed to put in execution the laws for repairing any road or roads, shall cause to be erected at some convenient place on every such road, an engine for weighing waggons, or carts, laden with goods or merchandize; and by writing under their hands, shall order the collectors of toll to weigh all such waggons or carts, and to take 20 s. for every 100 weight which any waggon or cart, with the loading thereof, shall weigh over and above 60 hundred. The money so forfeited to be apply'd to the repair of roads respectively.

That in case the trustees of any turnpike road shall neglect to erect such engine for the weighing of goods, within six months after the said 29th of September; then the justices of the peace at their next general quarter sessions shall cause the same to be done, and the treasurer or receiver of the toll to defray the expence thereof out of the monies collected upon such road.

That where the expence of erecting an engine may be too great a charge upon the tolls collected upon roads where heavy carriages do frequently pass, the justices may order the same to be dispensed with.

That if the collectors of toll shall neglect to seize every horse drawing in any waggon above four, or in any cart above three; or if the said collectors shall, after such engine is erected, neglect to weigh any waggon or cart as aforesaid, such collectors shall forfeit 5 l. besides their offices, and be deem'd incapable for ever after of being employed by the trustees in any office whatsoever relating to their respective roads.

That collectors or others, making seizures, shall deliver the same into the custody of some parish officer of the town or parish, or of the next adjacent town or parish where they are made, who is hereby required to receive and keep the same, till the seizers shall make proof upon oath before a justice of the peace, of the offence committed: And then the justice is to issue his warrant to the parish officer to deliver the horse or horses, with their accoutrements, to the parties who seized the same, to be disposed of as herein after directed, on paying such reasonable charges for keeping as the said justice shall direct.

That if any person shall obstruct the collectors or others, in the execution of this act, or use any violence to any person concern'd in any seizure made by virtue thereof, such person upon proof thereof made upon oath before a justice of the peace by one credible witness, shall be sent to the common goal or house of correction of the county or place where the offence shall be committed, for three months, and shall forfeit 50 l. half to the informer, and half towards repairing the highways. The penalty to be levied by distress.

That in cases where seizures of horses, &c. are made by the collectors of toll, the trustees aforesaid are directed to sell the same, and to pay half to the collector, and apply the other half towards repairing the highways; but where the seizure is made by any other person, then the trustees are to pay the whole money, after the deduction of reasonable charges, to the person who made the seizure.

A That for the more easy discovery of the offenders against this act, the name and place of abode of the owner or owner's of every such waggon or cart as aforesaid, shall, upon the cover, or some other conspicuous part of the outside thereof, be wrote in words at length, upon pain of the forfeiture of one shilling at every turnpike through which such waggon or cart shall pass.

That nothing in this act shall extend to carriages employ'd about husbandry, or in carrying coals, hay, straw, corn unthresh'd, lime, chalk, or any block of stone or marble, tree or piece of timber, or artillery for his majesty's service, or to the caravans or cover'd carriages of noblemen and gentlemen for their private use.

C That if any action or suit shall be hereafter commenced against any person, for any thing done by virtue of this act, the defendant may plead the general issue, and give this act in evidence at the trial. And if the plaintiff discontinue his action, or is nonsuited, or has judgment given against him, the defendant shall recover treble costs.

D That offenders against this act shall be liable to the penalties thereof, if convicted upon oath within the space of three days next after the offence is committed; and their horses, &c. shall remain liable to be seized for the same place in the same manner as they would or might have been, had they been seized in the fact.

F That the justices shall have power at their respective general quarter sessions, to license any waggon or cart to be drawn with one or more horses above the number before limited by this act, in any roads above 30 measured miles from London or Westminster, so as the whole number for a waggon do not exceed six, and for a cart four, which license the driver is to produce at every turnpike, through which he is to pass.

G Nothing in this act to extend to roads leading from the Red Lion inn at Egham, to the town of Basingstoke; nor from the turnpike-gate at Hartley Wintney to the town of Odiam.

H That the justices of the peace at their next quarter sessions after Easter day yearly shall rate the prices of all land carriage to and from London, within their several jurisdictions; and no carrier shall presume to take more of any person than is allowed by the said rates, on the forfeiture of 5 l. to be levied on the offender's goods, for the use of the party grieved.

That nothing in this act shall extend to any waggons or other carriages having wheels bound with streaks or tire of the breadth of eight inches at least when worn, and not set on with rose-headed nails.

It is objected by multitudes, that this bill will greatly enhance the price of carriage of goods, and probably it ought for a time, because of the charge to carriers of altering the present make of their carriages. But if the roads are preserved, the price may be reduced, since it is owned by an objector that the turnpikes (tho' they do not effectually preserve the roads) have reduced the price of carriage from Cambridge a full half. As the least waggon weighs 2400, it is urged, that carts or light waggons may be used, and the horses draw double, as in rabbit waggons from Norfolk, which improves the road and contributes to expedition, all which will compensate for the restraints laid, and help to reduce instead of increasing the price of carriage.