

Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin



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BULLETIN
OF
SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1982

Extracts from the Chairman's Report

This is the 16th A.G.M., another opportunity to record the continued growth and success of the Society.

Firstly, I would like to thank all those members who responded to our appeal for the Society's Museum Fund. Early this year Mr. Roger Tanner had set us a target of £1,500 to raise by May 1983. You will hear from the Treasurer's report what an excellent effort you made and how near we are to attaining that objective.

You helped with personal contributions (£242 so far) and by organising or supporting the various events.

The Committee had informed Mr. Tanner that the Society would do its best to reach the figure set, and it looks as though we will accomplish this without prejudicing our other commitments. This does not by any means represent the total that members have raised this year for the Museum. Mr. Stanley Broadbent, wearing his other hat as Museum Publicity Officer, has frequently and successfully and gratefully enlisted the help of Society members with other Museum efforts - the House-to-House collection, the Safari Supper, the Museum Coffee Day, the Transport Extravaganza.

We have continuously supported the Museum since we first started manning it. Today we have people involved in its management, organisation and running, and the demarcation between the Historical Society and the Museum is very blurred.

There are frustrations, of course, but perhaps one day the problems which prompt people to ring our management representative late at night will have been solved; perhaps the Museum will be making so much money that we will have no need to agitate for kitchen facilities to exploit more fully the fund-raising potential of this Gallery we are now sitting in.

Secondly, I want to thank the Committee for their work during the year, and for the responsibilities they have accepted in the discharge of their office. I am particularly grateful to them for making our committee meetings so easy to manage.

Our Treasurer, Mr. Ken Booth, has again done an excellent year's work as you will see from his report. I know that the costings on our publications provide him with some headaches, and we are fortunate that year after year he presents our accounts with such clarity. It is only because of his tight hold on our funds that the Society is able to embark on the costly printing projects which do so much to enhance our reputation.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Barbara Booth, has steered us smoothly through another year. She arranged a very interesting series of lectures for us, kept the Committee informed, dealt with the multitude of ad hoc enquiries which increase in number as the Society becomes more well-known, and she liaised as necessary with lecturers, affiliated societies, the Saddleworth Centre, local authorities and organisations. It is because of her wide-ranging interest in the Society and the knowledge acquired over the eleven years she has occupied the post of Secretary that the Society is so efficiently run.

Mr. Stanley Broadbent is Membership Secretary, and early this year was elected Chairman of the Social Committee to replace Mr. David Chadderton who resigned because of business pressures. He reports a membership of 316, eight more than last year and including 45 new members. During 1981 Society members Dr. and Mrs. Rodwell moved to the Cotswolds, and the Rev. Kenneth Tibbetts to Hebden Bridge. We hope they will be happy in their new homes and send them our good wishes for the future.

We now have five overseas members. Anew one, Mrs. Betty Dallas from New Zealand is researching the Heptonstall Wrigleys, and suspects some may have come over to Saddleworth. Mr. and Mrs. Harold C. Wrigley from North Carolina paid a visit this year, stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Parry, and found time to attend the Friarmere lecture at the Millgate Centre and to spend a pleasant evening with some of our members at the Swan, Dobcross. They returned to America well pleased with the information they had gathered on the Wrigley clan. Our other two overseas members, Mrs Esther Shaw-Lawn and Mr and Mrs L. Cavalier, made donations to the Society which were gratefully received.

I must point out that although Mr Broadbent is Membership Secretary and also Social Committee Chairman, this is really a joint undertaking shared with Mrs Elsie Broadbent.

In April, Mrs Nell Buckley's "New to You" sale supported by the ladies of the Society raised £89 for the Museum Appeal. On Bank Holiday Monday, May 3rd, a Coffee Morning and Afternoon Cream Tea at the Museum provided the magnificent sum of £240. In September, Mr and Mrs David Bellis allowed us to run a dance in their barn which added £370 to the fund, and last month Mr Jim Holden brought the Nomads Concert Party to the Millgate Centre which resulted in a further £130.

It is revealing to reflect on the amount of work which is involved in such events. For example, in the case of the Barn Dance, chairs and tables were brought from Compoflex in their van, bales of hay from Mr Geoff Sykes of Springfield farm, 50 lbs. of beef and a butcher came from Mr Stanley Ogden at Grotton and the beef was cooked on the day by four members and friends in their homes, 216 Declercqs muffins, beer brought from Oldham Brewery (and supplemented by a late emergency dash with five gallon containers to the King's Arms at Grains Bar). And 12 bands were contacted before we booked the Manchester Workshop Group to play.

Mr Broadbent also organised the annual outing in May, this time to Dunham Massey Hall, the Anderton Lift and Arley Hall, where we had a cream tea - this, incidentally, on the hottest day of the year with temperatures reaching 84.

Last Saturday (27th November) we had a most enjoyable "Saddleworth Neet" at the Swan in Dobcross when we raised over £50 towards the Woolroad Warehouse Fund. It was arranged by Mr David Chadderton, who was also responsible for the Winter Blues Party at the beginning of the year.

Mr Bernard Barnes reports that the Spring Bulletin was delayed because the Chaucer Street Centre was unable to provide us with the printing facilities when they were required. Fortunately, Mr Ken Booth was able to introduce us to a retired ex-colleague, Mr L. Lamb of Mottram, a former Society member, who very kindly agreed to print the Summer and Autumn issues, and they were very successfully produced -- on time. We are very grateful to him for this help and hope he may be able to do this for us in the future.

Mrs Barbara Butterworth's death was a terrible blow. She was a good friend to the Society and always typed our Bulletins and Newsletters superbly. She had just completed the Autumn Bulletin before her death. Mrs Ogden of Lydgate typed the Autumn Newsletter, and we hope she will do our typing in the future.

Mr Barnes has produced a new Local Interest Trail on Delph with illustrations by Mr Broadbent. It should be available in the New Year.

Early next year we hope to complete at least two small publications of sources dealing with the history of the Saddleworth textile industry, the work of Mr Neil Barrow, Mr Barnes and Mr Julian Hunt. The Pasold Research Fund will finance it. Mr Barnes is also working on a booklet dealing with the Saddleworth - Australia connection, for the festival in 1983.

Two more books which we hope to publish next year:- With Ammon Wrigley Through Saddleworth, this will include Mr Sam Seville's photograph collection together with a text which he and Mr Barnes are compiling. The other is a map book of Saddleworth prepared by Mr Michael Buckley, Mr Hunt, Mr Barnes and Mr Alan Petford. It has been accepted as the official Festival publication for 1983. It will be printed to a high standard, and will have about 50 pages of maps and 30 pages of keys and text. The maps will include the 1770 map of the Manor of Saddleworth, the 1882 Church Rate Map and the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map. It will be a major contribution to the further study of the history of our area.

The committee has looked into the possibility of obtaining a secondhand offset litho printing press and a platemaker, but after trials and consultations we decided it would not be in the Society's interests to purchase.

For the Archaeology Group, Mr Jim Carr reports that the end of the 1981 excavation of the Roman Road at old Nathan's moved the Group indoors for a winter programme at the Swan Inn, Dobcross. The series included a slide/sound sequence on the "Archaeology of the Bible", a film on dinosaurs, a quiz using Saddleworth finds and another using Roman coins and artefacts, megaliths in Ireland and elsewhere - all given by members of the Group. An evening was also spent planning our trips for 1982/3 and our excavation of the Ammon Wrigley bloomery site on Cudworth Pasture, Castleshaw.

The excavation was started in May, continued successfully through the summer, and was backfilled on 22nd July. Samples were taken, and drawings and photographs made. Members of the group also assisted on Dr Pat Stonehouse's sites on Warcock Hill and Pule Slades from time to time. Members appreciated the gift of a first aid kit from Mrs Edith Crank.

Several visits were made. On Feb 16th a minibus group visited Chester where Mr Tim Strickland led them round the latest Roman site just before the bulldozers moved in. On 13th May the Group attended the Society's joint meeting with the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society. On 3rd June a private car party visited Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet and Museum, looking specially at bloomery techniques, and returned via Carl Wark. On 12th June our coach trip to York took in both Roman remains and the "Vikings in England" Exhibition, for which we were granted private 'after hours' viewing. On Saturday, July 17th, we went to Tatton Park where Dr Nick Higham talked to us and conducted us round his latest excavations. We were sorry that we had cancelled the Bowes trip in September, and determined to go ahead in future with our planned trips despite reduced numbers. Finally, members enjoyed the Appleby weekend led by Mr Barnes with its archaeology from many periods.

Representatives from the Group attended the Greater Manchester A.G.M. when the latter decided to reorganise under a new constitution. This was to be discussed and approved on 27th November. A group also attended a briefing on the use of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit's Sites and Monuments Record Sheets. We hope to adopt this format for our records. The Group has agreed to assist in the planning of archaeological displays in the Museum.

The Group meetings have restarted at the Swan, and we have had talks with slides by three members, on Archaeology in Wales, the South West and in Spain and Portugal. Our 'dig' in 1983 will be reconnoitred during the Christmas holiday - hopefully with a resistivity survey - and will very likely be at Hill Top.

Although our Vice-Chairman, Mr David Chadderton, has very little free time, he has taken an active part in the Society's work, especially this year with regard to conservation. This is a subject which concerns him deeply, particularly as it applies to Saddleworth. If there had been more David Chaddertons about at the critical time, there would have been less of the unsightly developments which we see in many of our villages, and which many consider to be quite out of keeping. He has conducted a long drawn out campaign to save Ash Cottage, Boarshurst. An application had been made for its demolition and it looked as though this would succeed. Mr Chadderton, however, contested it, obtaining the support of Mr W.J. Smith, and pointing out to the Parish Council that Ash Cottage was a good example of a pre-Industrial Revolution dwelling. Even when all seemed lost he did not give up the struggle. Mrs Booth took photographs of the site and they were sent to the Department of the Environment in London. Mr Chadderton did a good deal of lobbying, writing to or telephoning anyone who could further his cause. The D.O.E. supported his claim, and the building was listed Grade II. He has now convinced the majority of the Parish Council that it should be preserved. This, unfortunately, is not the end of the story. The application to demolish is again on the table. To date, Mr Chadderton has obtained the backing of The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, The Georgian Society, The Ancient Monuments Society and the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, and others have been canvassed.

He has asked that we arrange an urgent extraordinary meeting of the Society to discuss and to formulate the Society's views on the Oldham Borough Plan, and this has been fixed for Wednesday, 8th Dec, at the Swan, Dobcross.

Mr Chadderton has helped Mr John Buckley with the work at the Woolroad Warehouse, and has had articles on this project published in the Pennine Magazine and in the programme of the Huddersfield Canal Society's annual festival in Ashton.

The main task facing the Industrial Archaeology Group this year was the concreting of the Woolroad Warehouse floor. This has been completed, and Mr Buckley will be calling a meeting of the team to draw up a work programme for next year.

The Industrial Archaeology Group is going to host the Twelfth North-West Regional Industrial Archaeology Conference on 16th April 1983 - in Saddleworth. We have booked Saddleworth School as the venue. It is a full day conference, and we will have to arrange the catering, outdoor excursions, indoor lectures, facilities for visiting societies to display material, and of course, we will have to provide programmes and relevant literature about the Society and Saddleworth.

Our Archivist, Rev. Canon Airne, has acquired archives from the estate of Mr Joseph Bradley. He reports that the Museum Archives Room has been insulated, decorated and wired up for heating, so we might soon, with the Management Committee's approval, be able to transfer our archives there.

A sub-committee of Museum and Historical Society archives personnel has had a discussion meeting on storage, access, usage, preservation, repairs and records. Canon Airne and Mr W. Slater reported to our General Committee on this meeting and a list of rules on the use of the archives will be drawn up.

Mr Neil Barrow, Museum Officer, refers in his report to the employment of full-time staff under the Community Enterprise Project Scheme which has enabled the Museum to be opened on weekdays, and school officers have been able to bring parties of children on visits. One of our members, Mr Slater, was appointed Archivist under this scheme, and he has completed the task of indexing the Museum and Society archives in consultation with Canon Airne. Other personnel recruited under the scheme have catalogued the exhibits, and and self-employed personnel have been responsible for structural work there. A grant has been obtained from the Gulbenkian Foundation which will provide shelving, photocopier and a microfilm reader. The textile section of the Museum is nearly complete: a replica of a weaver's cottage upstairs and machinery on the ground floor. A spinning mule is being installed and power will soon be provided for these machines.

Two further items merit inclusion in this report because, although not directly Society matters, they are sufficiently relevant to our organisation. One is the book by Mr Narnard Barnes which I referred to last year and which has been published by the Merseyside Museums and University of Liverpool, Man and the Changing Landscape. I am sure a lot of people who have attended his courses at the Saddleworth Centre will want to buy a copy. Secondly, the booklet, Saddleworth 712, which gives the results of the many years work on the Roman Road through Saddleworth undertaken by the W.E.A. and in which Society members played an important part. Mr Booth was interviewed on Radio Manchester recently on this booklet.

Finally I know that a lot of members feel grateful to the Historical Society not only for the opportunity to pursue their particular interest but because, I think it is true today, we are a friendly lot. Wendy and I have certainly found this to be so. Perhaps it is this camaraderie that holds the Society together. Long may it continue so.

John Murray.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

With regard to Brownhill, which is located on the farm track between Grotton and Lawton Fold, my grandfather was left the above property with his brothers and sisters in 1917 when his father Stephen Jpule Ashton died. I have found a copy of James Ashton MP Will Trust Distribution Accounts as at the 26th May 1922, which my grandfather received after he had taken to court the solicitor who was looking after the estate when he and his brothers were away in the First World War.

All they got was £450. The Auctioneers who sold the estate charged £17-7-7. and the solicitors charged £17-4-8. The Auctioneers were Messrs Allen Mellor & Co. and the Solicitors Messrs Walker & Harrop.

A friend sent me a copy of your Society's Bulletin, Vol 7, No. 4, which I found very interesting, containing as it did an account of Brownhill. I wonder if your Society has a photograph or picture of the above which I may purchase a copy of, and any information about the Shaw family.

105 Clarendon Road,
Hazel Grove,
Cheshire SK7 4NS.

Yours etc.,
C. Unsworth.

Sir, I am currently researching my Shaw family history in the Saddleworth area - not easy at this distance. I have written down my references to Shaws living at Hollinbank or at Ramsclough. During a recent visit to the Oldham Public Library I discovered the Bulletin of 1978 which contained "Old Saddleworth", Hollinbank, and it has made fascinating reading. Some references I already had, but not the wills or deeds, so I gained a lot.

I am enclosing a few references which are not included in that Bulletin, in case they are of any use. I wonder if you might know of anybody else who is interested in the Shaw family, and if so whether they might get in touch with me.

Baptisms at St. Thomas, Friarmere, 1774-1799.

June 3 1778 Anne, daughter of James and Mary Shaw of Hollinbank
March 11 1780 John son of James and Mary Shaw of Hollinbank
January 13 1782 Mary daughter of James and Mary Shaw of Hollinbank
December 14 1784..... daughter of James and Mary Shaw of
(no name given) Hollybank
May 14 1786 Alice daughter of James and Mary Shaw of Hollybank

Later Baptisms

March 1 1804 John son of John Shaw of Hollin Bank and Betty Gartside
of Whit.....
February 1803 James son of John and Fanny Buckley of Ramsclough
(this John was possibly the John Buckley son of Ann
mentioned in James Shaw's will of 1817)
1803 William son of Robert and Ann Buckley of Hollinbank
1810 Joseph and Benjamin sons of John and Betty Shaw of
Hollinbank, yeoman
October 17 1813 Ann daughter of John and Betty Shaw of Hollinbank,
yeoman
1816 Mary daughter of John and Betty Shaw of Hollinbank,
yeoman (this Mary appears with her father John in the
1841 Census at Hollinbank. John and Mary produced many
more children, but unfortunately a complete notebook
has been lost).

Marriage at St. Chad's

July 1827 William Shaw of Ramsclough married Ann Shaw of Boothsteads;
witnesses Jack Shaw, James Shaw.
(Your reference 1832, the Poll List, included John and
James Shaw of Hollinbank, woollen manufacturers).

West Riding Poll Book 1868 included Nelson Shaw of Ramsclough; he
voted for Lord Milton and Mr Beaumont, Tory Candidates.

Baptisms at St. Thomas, Friarmere 1835-1843.

October 16 1836 Esther Sarah daughter of James and Hannah Shaw of
Hollinbank, cotton manufacturer.
July 8 1838 Mary Hannah daughter of James and Hannah Shaw of
Hollinbank, cotton manufacturer
August 17 1840 John son of James and Hannah Shaw of Brewery, overlooker
June 5 1842 Alice Jane daughter of James and Hannah Shaw of Strines,
overlooker

Marriage Certificate at St. Chad's

January 2 1857 William Shaw of Hollinbank married Alice Travis of
Barracks.

1841 Census

At Hollinbank: James Dransfield aged 30 handlock weaver and farmer
of 6 acres (born Oldham)
** Nanny Dransfield aged 27 (born Saddleworth)
William Dransfield aged 6 (born Saddleworth)
Nelson Dransfield aged 1 (born Saddleworth)
Robert Dransfield aged 3 months (born Saddleworth)
Elizabeth Shaw aged 2 weeks (a relation, born Saddleworth)

At Ramsclough: Nelson Shaw aged 46 widower, farmer of 16 acres
Mary Shaw aged 23
Hannah Shaw aged 20 woollen mill hand
James Shaw aged 17 labourer
William Shaw aged 15 cotton mill hand
Samuel Shaw aged 14
Joseph Shaw aged 7 months (grandson)
All this family listed as born Saddleworth.

Nelson Shaw and his son William who married in 1857 are by direct
ancestors. William became a self-acting minder and then an innkeeper.
I have failed to find any of the Ramsclough Shaws' baptisms in Yorkshier
and Lancashire C.F.I.s and I have checked the registers of St. Chad's,
St. Thomas's, St. John's, Hey, Dobcross Church and Lydgate Church, Holy
Trinity, Crompton and Rochdale Parish Church.

The Coppice,
Abbots Lane,
Widford,
Near Ware,
Herts.

Yours etc,
Mrs. Freda Gardiner (formerly Shaw)

Can any readers help with either of these two queries ?
Editor.

S.H.S. PUBLICATIONS

Copies of many back numbers of the Bulletin are still available -
at reduced prices. For details apply the Editor.

Local Interest Trails: No. 1. Delph, Heights and Grange
No. 2. Uppermill and its Environs
No. 3. Greenfield Area
No. 4. Saddleworth Section of
Huddersfield Canal
No. 5. Grasscroft Area
No. 6. Denshaw Area

All these are available, price 30p each (+ postage etc. 20p),
and can be obtained from the Editor of the Bulletin.

Passage through Time: Saddleworth Roads and Trackways, a History

Copies of this illustrated book are still available, price £3-90 (+50p
postage etc.). Obtain your copy while stocks last: they can be obtained
from the Editor of the Bulletin.

Other Publications:

Saddleworth 712 -- an account of the Roman Road through Saddleworth, price £2-50 (+ postage 25p), obtainable from: Mr K. Booth, Ceann, Friezland, Greenfield, Oldham

Man and the Changing Landscape -- an account of the evidence of man in the Central Pennines (the area between Longden-dale in the south, Skipton in the north, Chorley in the west and Leeds in the east); price £6-60 (+ postage etc. £1), obtainable from the Editor of the Bulletin.

MORE LIGHT ON RADICAL SADDLEWORTH'S SECRET HISTORY

Two local contemporary writers provide a vivid background for the scattered information we can glean from the Home Office papers on the crisis years around 1800. 'Tim Bobbin', or John Collier of Milnrow, provides a colourful dialect account of discontent at this time in his radical pamphlet, Plebian Politics. Blaming the food scarcity of 1800-1801 on the war with France, he portrays a Saddleworth weaver describing his diet as "nowt boh abeawt a quart o'nettle porritch an a bit ov krust o' breawn George. Distress breeds unrest and rumour. A tale is spread of the arrival of a consignment of pikes and the magistrates make a thorough search of the area.

"...ther wur not a chimny e o Saddleworth ot wantot oather sweepink or sweelink when they'dn dun seetchink for thees pikes an sedeshon an fund'n nowt when they'dn dun boh an owd ballit printot in Sheffilt ot had a wort or two in it ot disgrunt'lt theese weak stummokt gentry" (1).

Although probably exaggerated, there is here preserved a popular tradition of a raid by the authorities. The allusion to a radical ballad sheet adds another authentic detail, especially as Sheffield was the home of Joseph Mather the political balladeer and John Cross the printer, both of Jacobin sympathies. Ballads were the main way of spreading revolutionary ideas to a wider audience. 'Tim Bobbin' therefore confirms Saddleworth's reputation as a hotbed of sedition -- a reputation which was certainly believed by the authorities.

Our other local source, the Oldham weaver, Rowbottom, substantiates both the level of economic suffering and the political unrest. An interesting detail also coincides with Home Office information. In his diary for December 3rd 1801, he records the death at the age of 32 of Tom Taylor, "one of the staunch patriots of Royton who have so manfully stepped forth in the name of Freedom" (2). In a report sent by Bent, a spy employed by Colonel Fletcher of Bolton, this man is described as a former leading delegate of the republican United Englishmen (3). Royton had been the scene of a clash between republicans and loyalists in 1795 when John Knight of Saddleworth was arrested. If the village was indeed a centre for the United Englishmen by 1800 then the organisational links with Saddleworth must have been very close.

A planned meeting of just such a group of republicans in the vicinity of Heights Chapel was brought to the notice of the Home Office and with it an anonymous threatening letter to Mr. Buckley, the minister of the chapel. This deserves quoting fully as a revealing personal testament of a Saddleworth revolutionary of 1801:

"April 10 1801

Mr Buckley this with my Eternal hatred to you for the damage you have done us upon Different ocations your life shall be very Short for you are the very hell rake of our Cuntry upon the a Count of Politicks and preaching yous the only amusement for Children and fools a wis man would Scorn your abilitis theer will come atime Emedately when you shall not keep in ignorance a Congregation of innocent Peopel you hold good that thees present rules of Government are both profitable and benefitial to our Cuntry youare a villain a rouge and a Scoundriltime is but very short when all the Nation Shall be put to the Swourd you may be preparing for your latesend for your time Shall be short you do not know how many theer are of your Neibours Starveing for the lack of bread but a fue weekes will show the Event of all....you will see me at Chapel on Sunday to hear you prate but you shal not know who I am" (4).

The writer expresses a belief in an imminent crisis which was shared by many religious millenarianists who believed that Christ was soon to return, and who sought inspiration in the prophetic books of the Bible. Some passages implied the rejection of all earthly authority, thus making millenarianists receptive to revolutionary ideas which often adopted biblical imagery.

It was widely believed, even by the House of Lords Committee investigating subversive groups, that an organisation was swearing in members with an oath prefaced by a quotation from Ezekial, Chapter 21, including the verse with the seditious lines,

"V. 26 Thus said the Lord God; Remove the diadem and take off the crown, this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low and abase him that is high" (5),

The existence of these Ezekialites was rumoured at Manchester and Huddersfield, and in January 1801 Reverend Hay of Manchester reported that this oath was being administered at a house in Saddleworth (6). He applied for authorization to conduct a search for the books and papers of this society, since being in Yorkshire it was outside his jurisdiction, but we do not know whether it went ahead. Perhaps Tim Bobbin's account is an embellished version of this event.

In 1812, Hay did not worry about exceeding his powers when Barrowclough, a Luddite suspect from Holmfirth, was arrested and conducted to Manchester. The prisoner claimed that the Luddite oath included quotations from Ezekial 21 and that the Luddites called themselves "the Godly" (7). Was there a genuine oath shared by both the Jacobin revolutionaries of 1801 and the Luddites? If there were it would reinforce the republican credentials of Luddism and require a fundamental reinterpretation of its political nature. Unfortunately most of Barrowclough's testimony about arms caches was shown to be a fabrication and he was said to suffer from "mental infirmity", and so doubt must also be cast on his story about the oath. But the question remains: was it suggested to him by Hay and his interrogators, or did he himself recollect a tradition of it? To answer this we need independent evidence of the Ezekial oath in 1812 which the very secrecy of oath swearing makes almost impossible to uncover.

In an earlier account we saw how the military spies, Todd and Tomlinson, reported that they had infiltrated the subversives at Delph in 1812. Further research in the Public Records Office has revealed the list of these suspects. A tailor, John Wrigley, allegedly said, "the time was at hand, the cause would be settled, for England was sold by most of our nobility at London and that he would lose his life in the country's cause...our parliament men were a parcel of damned rogues for there would never be peace in this country until there was fair overturn". Samuel Rhodes, a cloth dealer of Harrop Green, "Damned the King and all the Royal Family", and James Schofield, a Delph cotton manufacturer, said he was not ashamed to declare himself a Jacobin. Others mentioned are John Burgess, a shoemaker of New Delph, and Joseph Buckley, Henry Buckley and James Lawton, who were said to be disaffected but cautious (8). Todd's evidence revealed nothing more than seditious talk and was inadequate for a state prosecution. Rhodes was thought to be insane. If a revolutionary organisation existed it remained impenetrable.

In the post-war years the movement for the reform of parliament gained ground rapidly. The government reacted early in 1817 by suspending Habeas Corpus and outlawing 'Seditious Meetings'. Discontent was again forced underground. Two Saddleworth men, Joshua Ramsden and Robert Kenworthy, were signatories to a recommendation given to a delegate to a secret meeting in Lancashire in April (9), and Ben Fielding of Quick was identified as a delegate to one in March (10). It was rumoured that arms buried in Saddleworth since the Luddites were being prepared for a revolution, but infiltration and arrests discouraged the uprising except in the Holme Valley and Pentridge areas. However, a generation later, in 1848, even Saddleworth was not bypassed by the uprisings and revolutions which swept Europe from Hungary to Ireland.

Saddleworth in the Year of Revolutions

On April 10th, 1848, the Chartist leaders backed down from a mass demonstration to escort their petition to Westminster. Once more the petition called for the vote for working men was rejected by Parliament. Frustration was combined with the excitement over the revolution in France which had deposed Louis Phillipe, and sympathy for the cause of Irish independence in the aftermath of the horrific famine. Many immigrant Irish were both Chartists and 'Repealers', in favour of the repeal of the Act of Anglo-Irish union. Some organised into paramilitary 'Confederate Clubs', particularly in the Manchester area. The rejection of the Charter and the arrest of the Irish leader Mitchell led to a closer alliance of Chartists and Confederates in some towns, the Chartists also supporting the creation of armed 'National Guards' on the French model (11).

About 100 Chartists met regularly in a room at Baguley (near Brookbottom, Mossley) until a split between the moral and physical advocates led to a number of men being enrolled by a cordwainer, John ('Radical Jack') Robinson Tomkins into a National Guard. Its members were advised by Tomkins to arm themselves for the forthcoming struggle. It was rumoured that a simultaneous uprising was to take place in Britain and Ireland, and on July 30th the abortive rising of Smith O'Brien occurred at Ballingarry. On the 13th August the Baguley Chartists met, with two delegates from Ashton National Guard being present. "The time was come", it was announced. They were to march on Ashton the next evening. About 30, mostly young

men, gathered at Hurst Brook for the attack on Ashton. They included Tomkins, William Lilley, a grinder, John Kershaw, a cotton spinner, Tom Wilde, coal dealer, John Walker, spinner, James Radcliffe, John Pogson, James Nield, James Lees and Joseph Ogden, all weavers, John Farrell, a cooper, John Hurst and George Platt of Brookbottom. John Shaw was awakened at his shop near Carr Hill by the insurgents who asked him to sell them some ammunition. Armed with pikes and some guns, they approached Mossley where they were seen by two police constables. One of the rebels was reported to have said to one of the latter, "Damn him. Shoot him". A gun was levelled but the cap misfired and the police retreated safely.

The Ashton rising was a tragic failure, resulting in the death of a P.C. and the calling out of the military. Before they reached the town, the Saddleworth insurgents dispersed, leaving gunpowder, a handful of cartridges and a home-made bomb, consisting of a "ginger beer bottle filled with combustibles having a fuse attached to the neck", on the Mossley road Tomkins and Lilley were seen making their way home by a night-watchman. The following day Tomkins burned all the incriminating documents, but the arrests followed on a charge of "having on the 14th August at Quick unlawfully conspired together to levy war against Her Majesty and agreed to incite Her Majesty's subjects to rebellion" (12).

Platt and Hurst turned Crown witnesses, and their comrades were sentenced to six months to one year, except for James Nield, who was shown mercy on account of his youth and imprisoned for a month, and Lees and Radcliffe, who were acquitted. The Ashton rebels received even harsher penalties, including one capital sentence (eventually commuted) for the murder of the P.C. -- even though it emerged at the trial that a government spy and provocateur had played a leading role in the affair.

Violence in Saddleworth's History

On sentencing Tomkins and his men, the Judge expressed the generally held opinion of those in authority:

"...the best way to improve their condition was by honest industry, by cultivating religion and morality, but the sure way to bring themselves to ruin and disgrace was by open rebellion and outrage".

It was easy for a man in his social position to offer these platitudes, but the workers of Saddleworth could not afford the luxury of moral superiority. In September 1850, they again resorted to 'outrages' when, in order to enforce the ten hour day, a party of several hundred attacked the cotton factories of John Hilton & Co. at Quick Edge, William Wrigley, Son & Co. at Lydgate, Edward Lawton at Springhead and Tom Nield & Sons. Hilton's engineer, Tom Bottomley, narrowly escaped injury when stones were thrown through the engine house window (13).

Unlike the earlier cases we have examined, they were not seeking revolution. But they do share a common factor with the United Englishmen of 1801, the Luddites, and Radicals of 1817 and the Chartists of 1848. They resorted to violent solutions because there existed no effective legal channel to redress their grievances. Ignored by legislators and statesmen, the only avenue left to workers, bowed by political repression and economic uncertainty, was violent protest. From the safety of a society founded on hard won and often taken-for-granted freedoms, we should not look back on the efforts of Saddleworth's early revolutionaries with derision or condescension. Seen in the context of their times, the efforts of these men to release themselves and their class from suffering and toil is worthy of our respect as a light amidst the squalor of the Industrial Revolution.

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A.J.Brooks.

EXCAVATIONS AT PIETHORN BROOK, MILNROW

(Grid Reference SD 97451370)

Work started at Piethorn in August 1981, on what at the time was thought to be a single occupation site of the Later Mesolithic. It has since been realised that there are a number of separate Mesolithic occupations in addition to an Early Bronze Age occupation level.

The site is located on a small, south-westerly facing spur, some 20 feet above the present level of the brook. The spur was burnt over in an extensive moorland fire in the summer of 1976, the result of which was the reduction in the depth of peat cover from around a foot to a few inches of burnt peat and ash. This eased the work involved in excavation to a considerable extent.

The spur was free of any erosion patches before the fire. It can be suggested reasonably therefore that the chance of material having been removed from the site are slight. In addition, it rapidly became apparent that the main Mesolithic occupation level was extraordinarily deep within the soil, up to 40 cms below the level of the iron pan, whereas Mesolithic material is usually found in the bleached sand above the pan. It has been suggested that the site is in fact overlain by a hillwash deposit that has moved downhill from the ridge above. The Bronze Age material is being recovered from the upper layers of the hillwash deposit. This stratigraphical separation has allowed some of the smaller, or less characteristic, flint work to be assigned to the correct occupation phase.

This article will serve as an interim statement of the excavations at the date of publication. The exact nature of the Bronze Age site is imperfectly understood, although a few tentative suggestions can be made.

Readers interests in a fuller description of the periods under discussion are urged to read the recent work by Bernard Barnes (1) or the series of articles by Pat Stonehouse published in this journal (2).

EARLY MESOLITHIC OCCUPATION

The earliest use of the site was in the Early Mesolithic period. A series of early sites using a distinctive white flint originating from the Lincolnshire and Yorkshire Wolds have been known for some time.

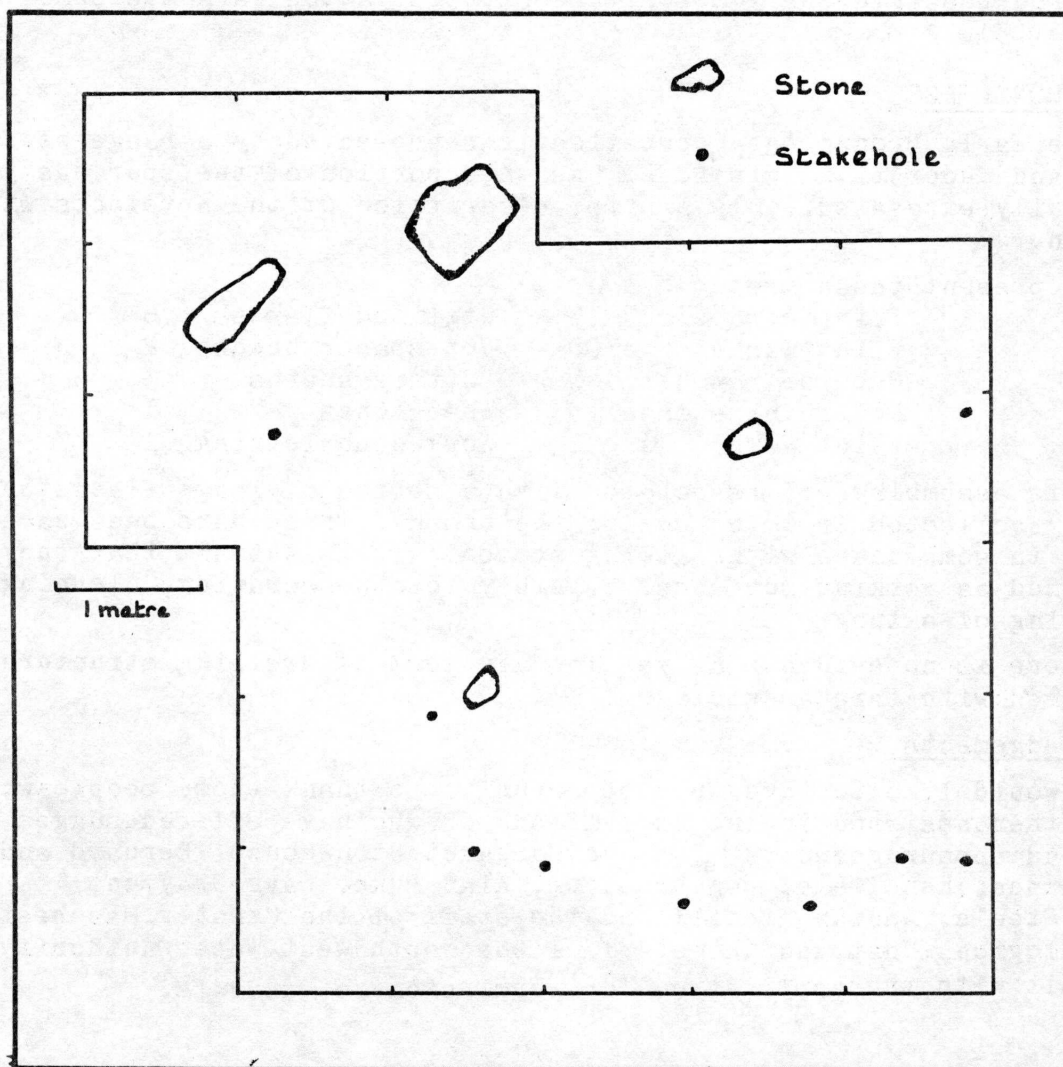
The occupation of Piethorn seems to have been very brief, possibly no more than a 'rest' on a hunting trip. Only 19 flakes of white Wold flint were recovered from a layer stratified below and sealed from the later Mesolithic occupation. Of these only 11 flakes are larger than 1 cm in any one dimension, and nine of these can be joined together.

These flakes were possibly struck from a core in an attempt to remove, step and hinge fractured surfaces, preparing the core for the subsequent removal of blades. This small assemblage was also relatively concentrated, occurring in four adjacent metre squares.

LATER MESOLITHIC OCCUPATION

The main hunter-period occupation was during the Later Mesolithic. This was associated with a stakehole setting, forming an arc. Two large slabs were found on the upslope side (see figure). The distribution of this later Mesolithic material was clearly defined by this setting, possibly the remains of a small windbreak or shelter.

A number of different raw materials were in use, including at least three different black cherts, possibly obtained from local boulder clay, and a variety of grey flint, originating in the Flamborough Head area of East Yorkshire.



The most important in numerical terms, but not in terms of finished artefacts, was rhyolite. This raw material was recognised for the first time on a Mesolithic site here, at Piethorn Brook. Two varieties are present on the site, a dark, banded material, translucent in thin section, and a blue-grey, opaque material. In the light of this identification a number of assemblages previously thought to have been worked in chert have been recognised as rhyolite assemblages. This includes one of Francic Buckley's sites at Warcock Hill (Warcock Hill 3). However, a preliminary examination of a number of local collections has revealed little material that could be re-described as rhyolite. Pat Stonehouse has collected a number of pieces of the blue-grey variety. Mr Ken teale of Milnrow has in his possession a rhyolite end-scraper, picked up as a surface find only a few hundred yards from the Piethorn Brook excavation (at SD 97151380).

LATER MESOLITHIC MATERIAL

	<u>CORES</u>	<u>MICROLITHS</u>	<u>WORKED PIECES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Rhyolite 1	7	2	2	c700
Rhyolite 2	1	3	0	c100
Flint	3	3	0	c60
Cherts	6	35	1	c300

Rhyolite apparently only appears as a raw material in assemblages on or west of the Pennine watershed, and despite its comparative rarity it is not confined to upland sites. A Mesolithic Assemblage from Frodsham, south of the Mersey in Cheshire, is worked in rhyolite, and the recently discovered possible Early Mesolithic site in Tatton Park has some rhyolite (3).

EARLY BRONZE AGE

The Early Bronze Age occupation is represented by a range of functional and decorative artefacts. As this portion of the spur has yet to be fully excavated, only a brief description of the artefacts will be given.

At present these are:

Flint scrapers	19	Utilised flakes	6
Flint waste	c100	Jet spacer beads	2
Cube of raw jet	1	Pottery sherds	13
Polishing stones	3	Whetstones	1
Flint awls	2	Worked shale ring	1

This assemblage is associated with a series of large flat stones, possibly collected from the bed of the brook. These have been carefully placed, in some cases with packing stones. It is thought that they functioned as working surfaces, possibly for the scraping, cleaning and processing of skins.

There is no evidence as yet for any form of dwelling structure associated with this assemblage.

Acknowledgements

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people who have either assisted in the excavations or who have offered suggestions and encouragement:- Pat and Margaret Stonehouse, Bernard and Jean Barnes, Ken Teale, Roger Jacobi, Alan Luke, Dave Grayson, Dianne Steels, Adrian Tindall and the staff of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, and the staff of the North West Water Authority who dealt with the application for permission to excavate.

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Stephen Poole.

Appendix: A Note on Local Occurences of Rhyolite

Rhyolite is a volcanic rock of granitic composition, generally having small phenocrysts of quartz and orthoclase in a glassy or very fine-grained groundmass. It is usually grey/light grey in colour, and frequently shows rather wavy banding which is the result of the flow of the original viscous magma.

Erratic boulders of rhyolite are fairly common in glacial drift of North-Western origin in the area west of the Pennines in Lancashire and Cheshire. These boulders originated from the widespread outcrops of the Borrowdale Volcanic Series in the Central Lake District, rhyolite occurring, for example, in Langdale.

To give an indication of the frequency of the rhyolite occurrences, some local examples might be given. Borrowdale rhyolite was recorded in the boulder clay at Valehouse Reservoir, Tintwistle, in Longdendale (1). In the bottom of the valley of Chew Brook in Greenfield, a coarse gravel, some six feet thick contained Borrowdale volcanics, including rhyolite, among other erratics. This gravel was a post-glacial terrace containing rocks washed out of boulder clay (2). Erratic boulders of rhyolite have been identified at numerous other localities in the same valley area: at Fernlee, Greenfield, at 750 feet above sea level at Delph (a banded rhyolite), at 1150 feet on Buckton Moor, and at 670 feet at Lane End, Greenfield (3).

It is reasonable to assume that rhyolite boulders will occur with a similar regularity in the boulder clays of the Rochdale and Milnrow districts. These slopes around Tunshill and in the Haugh district of New Hay.

(References to above - see following page)

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Bernard Barnes.

GILBERT'S ISLAND

The Recent Discovery of a possible Early Mesolithic Site near Marsden

(Grid Reference SE 07150765)

Wessenden Brook is one of the head waters of the River Colne and has been dammed to create four reservoirs, the uppermost of which is called Wessenden Head Reservoir. When the reservoir is low, a small peat covered island appears, lying close to the eastern shore. It is about 1275 feet O.D.

During the summer of 1982, when the water was low, Mr John Shaw of Butterley, Marsden, found flints on this 'island' and also along the eastern shore of the reservoir.

Further searching produced a total of 180 flints on the 'island', collected from an area of 100 square metres. These included two which were trowelled out of a small area where the mineral soil, in which they were found, was exposed. The section here was three inches of brown sandy soil, covered by one foot of peat and underlain by enriched orange-yellow soil. One of the flints thus excavated was a tool, a microlith in white flint.

Before the construction of the reservoir, the site would have occupied a gentle eminence about 20 metres to the north of Pudding Real Clough and quite close to its confluence with Wessenden Brook.

The material was as follows:

white flint	161 pieces
brown flint	9 pieces
grey flint	7 pieces
grey-black chert	4 pieces

The tools and worked pieces, a combined scraper-awl in transparent brown flint (2), two scrapers in brown flint (3,4), and another scraper in white flint (5).

In addition to the tools, there was a tranchet axe sharpening flake (6), identified as such by Roger Jacobi.

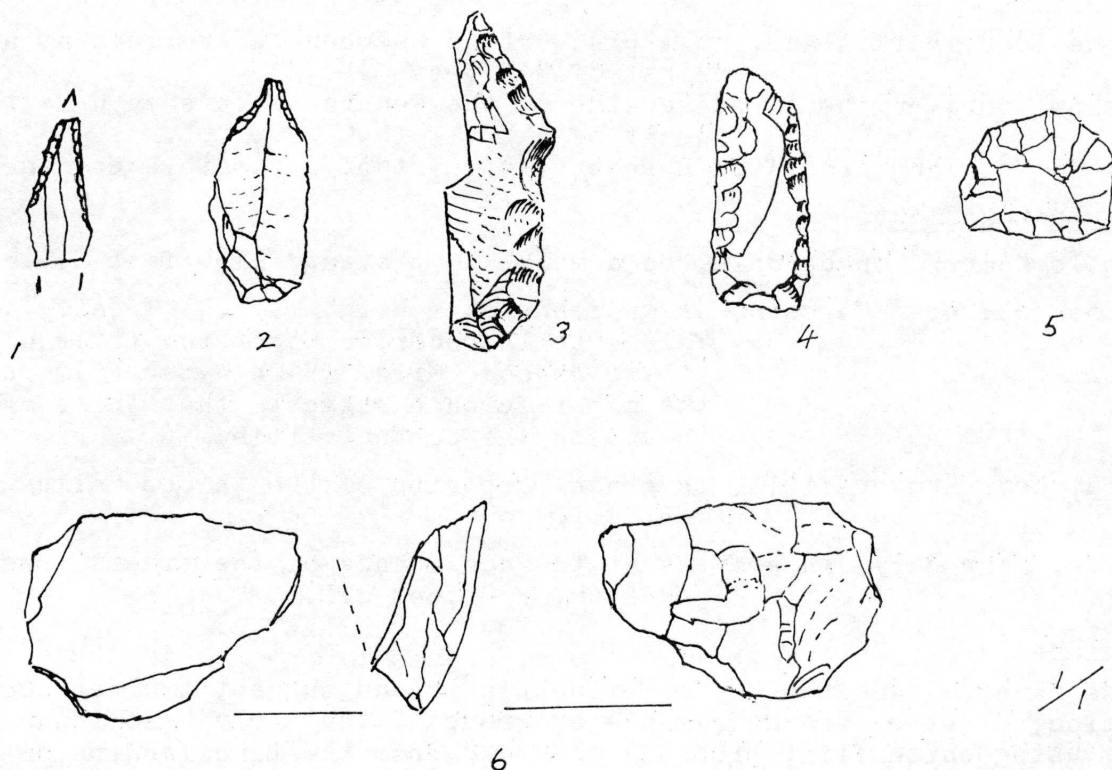


Figure 1.

The microlith point (1) in white flint belongs typologically to the Early Mesolithic (Broad Blade) industry, as does the tranche axe sharpening flake (6). The high proportion of white flint is also strongly suggestive of an Early Mesolithic date for the industry.

The three scrapers (3,4,5), on the other hand, appear to belong to the Early Bronze Age, so it would seem that this gentle rise was reoccupied at a much later date by a small group whose activities demanded the use of scrapers and knives, and which was, therefore, not just a hunting party.

The presence of a tranche axe sharpening flake is particularly interesting. Tranche axes are flint axes whose cutting edge is produced by the removal of a large transverse flake of characteristic appearance. Good quality 'fresh' flint is needed to make these comparatively large tools. Nodules from secondary geological sources such as river gravels and beach deposits are unsuitable because they almost invariably contain incipient fractures. Such axes are reasonably common in areas where there are chalk outcrops, but are rare in northern and western England and are particularly rare in upland areas. According to Wymer (1), the West Riding of Yorkshire has produced only seven tranche axes and three axe sharpening flakes, whilst the figures for the

much smaller area of Sussex, for example, are 400 and 135 respectively. They were presumably used for forestry work and carpentry.

Some finds from the area of the Central Pennines are listed below (2):

Tranchet Axes

Ringstone Edge, Barkisland, on a broad ridge between two valleys at a height of 960 feet O.D.

Ickornshaw Moor, on the Airedale side of the Pennine watershed near the summit of a hill, 1450 feet O.D.

Widdop, on Moorland near Widdop Reservoir: part of a possible tranchet axe.

Axe Sharpening Flakes

Tintwistle Knarr, Longdendale, on a moorland plateau, 1150 feet O.D.

White Hassock, near Marsden, on moorland at a height of 1450 feet.

This site is recorded under the title of "White Hanock, Milnrow" in Wymer (3), but the map reference suggests that White Hassock should be the correct title.

Mirfield, near Huddersfield, in gravel deposits of the Calder Valley, 175 feet O.D.

Radcliffe, near Bury, in gravels at the confluence of the rivers Irwell and Roch, 250 feet O.D.

Conclusions

The material and tools from Gilbert's Island suggest two periods of occupation; first by a hunter-gatherer group of the Early Mesolithic period, using white flint probably obtained from the Lincolnshire or Yorkshire Wolds, and similar to that found on other early sites in the Central Pennines, such as Francic Buckley's Marsden sites, Good Hill and Deepcar; and secondly, during the Early Bronze Age. The finding of an axe sharpening flake indicates that some forest work was carried out during the period of the first occupation.

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W.P.B. Stonehouse.

OLD SADDLEWORTH

This is part of the work being carried out on a Gazetteer of Saddleworth by Saddleworth Historical Society. As more of this work is completed, details will be published in future editions of the Bulletin.

CARRCOTE

Grid Reference: SD 982082

Location: On the right-hand side of the road from Delph to Denshaw, just beyond the Carrcote Estate.

Description: Very much altered house with outbuildings. In the past there was more than one dwelling together with a mill built around 1775 and housing in 1827 one of the first steam engines in Saddleworth. The mill was burned down in 1880, subsequently rebuilt and demolished.

History:

	1724	6 Feb. John Whitehead, junior, of Carr-Cote, clothier, married Ann Hilton, spinster. Their son John was christened Oct 18 (Registers).
1730	20 Nov.	Mary, wife of John Whitehead, clothier of Carr-Cote buried (Registers).
1732	7 Feb.	John Whitehead clothier of Carr-Cote married Catherine Wrigley of Castleshaw (Registers).
1733	30 Sept.	Daniel, son of John Whitehead clothier of Carr-Cote christened and buried the following day (Registers).
1734	Feb 14.	Josiah Buckley clothier of Barn married Ann Whitehead of Carr-Cote (Registers).
1739	21 July.	John Whitehead of Carr-Cote, clothier, buried (Registers).
1753	11 Feb.	Joseph son of John Lowe clothier and Mary his wife of Carr-Cote christened and buried 25 May (Registers).
1758	15 Oct.	Betty daughter of Johnathan Bradbury clothier and Ann his wife of Carr-Cote christened (Registers).
1760	29 June.	Benjamin son of Johnathan Broadbent clothier and Anne his wife of Carr-Cote christened. 1762 13 Apr. Matty daughter of Johnathan Broadbent clothier and Anne his wife of Carr-Cote christened (Registers). It looks as if there may have been some confusion of father's name between Bradbury and Broadbent.
1767	9 Sept.	Deborah daughter of John Buckley, yeoman, and Betty his wife of Carr-Cote christened. Their son Henry was christened 27 June 1769 and their son John on 28 Apr. 1771, both at St. Thomas's, Friarmere (Registers).

- 1775 23 Sept. James Travis of Carcote, sojourner, clothier, married Sarah Platt of Warrock Hill (Registers).
- 1778 21 March. Deed (Registry of Deeds, Wakefield, CB 315/893) refers to a Messuage called Carrcote, otherwise Carr House, and newly erected Willow Hill in the occupation of John Farrand. John Buckley and Elizabeth are also mentioned in the deed.
- 1778 19 July. Sarah daughter of Jacob Platt and Ann his wife of Carrcoat christened (Registers).
- 1784 23 Feb. Henry Buckley of Carrcote batchelor and Hannah Wrigley of Hill-End spinster, were married (Registers).
- 1787 8 March Thomas Winterbottom of Carcoat and Nanney Peaker of Delph were married (Registers).
- 1788 12 Jan. James son of Abraham and Elizabeth Whitehead, Carcoat, clothier, christened (Registers).
- 1791 6 Feb. Nanny, daughter of Mary Key by John Whitehead of Carrcoat, clothier, christened (Registers).
- 1804 June 8 Sale by Auction of "All that Messuage or Dwelling House, with barn, outbuildings and garden thereto belonging situate at Carcote, near Delph, and also the several closes or fields....now in the occupation of Abraham Whitehead, as tenant from year to year, subject to a lease granted to Mr. James Wilde of the liberty or privilege of conveying water....into the mill dam". (Manchester Mercury -- quoted S.H.S. Bulletin, Vol.4, p. 45). "The purchaser will be entitled to one eighth part of the common or waste land called Linthwaite Slack."
- 1808 Sept 17. Johnathan Clifton of Carrcote, cloth dresser, was involved in a transaction concerning Linthwaite Slack (R.D., Wakefield, FG 383/555).
- 1827 Mar. 24 Transfer of Mortgage of Carrcote (IZ 202/220).
- 1822-41 Johnathan Clifton of Carrcote listed in local directories as cloth finisher.
- 1840-44 Johnathan Clifton listed in Electoral Rolls in respect of Carcote -- Freehold House and land (West Yorkshire Record Office, Wakefield).
- 1841 June 7 Census Return: Johnathan Clifton, 65, woollen manufacturer, head of household at Carrcote. Living with him were his sons John and Joseph and four unmarried daughters and a male servant, Harry Cockcroft.
- 1844 8 Apr. Johnathan Clifton died at Carrcote and was buried at Delph Independent Chapel on the 13th (Delph Ind. Chapel Burial Register), 12 June Probate of his will was granted at Chester, the estate being valued at less than £200. His sons(above) were executors (Lancs. Record Office, Preston).
- 1851-80 Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton listed as woollen manufacturer and merchant at Carrcote in local directories.
- 1851 30 Mar. Census Return: John Clifton (47) woollen manufacturer, listed as head of household at Carrcote. His four sisters were with him. Another house there was occupied.
- 1852 October. Deed between Robert Knowles of Shaw, druggist, Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton of Carr Cote, druggist, James Stott Milne of Castleton re dwelling house at Carr Cote in the occupation of Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton, and the mill, steam engine etc. (R.D. Wakefield, RS 364/408).

- 1855-80 Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton listed in the Electoral Rolls in respect of Freehold House and tenements at Carrcote.
- 1861 30 Mar. Census Return: Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton (37) listed as head of household as wool dyer, carder, spinner. Living there were his wife Catherine and 5 children.
- 1871 2 Apr. Census Return: Johnathan Mallalieu Clifton has added millowner to occupation list. His three elder children were employed in the mill.
- 1880 Carrcote Mill was burned down. Land, house and ruin bought by D. & H. Mallalieu for £1,500 (Ammon Wrigley, Saddleworth Chronological Notes, p. 69)
- 1881 Census Return: Adam Mallalieu was head of the household at Carrcote; described as a woollen manufacturer aged 24. Living with his wife Clara Ann.

Allan Bradbury.

Spring Gardens

Grid Reference: SD 995054

Location Adjoining canal bridge, Moorgate, Uppermill.

Description: At present one house, stone slated and restored, with stone mullions. Built 1816. Originally it was one of a hamlet of 7 houses. John Wood built a small house adjoining the canal bridge attached to a larger house which was at three levels beginning at the canal bank with the first floor below the level of the street at Moorgate and the second floor at that level. These two houses were demolished in 1957. There were three cottages facing them, now converted into the present house and two houses in Moorgate, Nos. 18 and 20. The larger house contained the business premises of the cordwainer or clogger.

History: 1813 1 Mar. John Wood, cordwainer, bought plot of land of 1,000 superficial sq. yds. beyond the canal and bounded by Dark Lane and Moorgate Street from Thomas Shaw, clothier. May 16 Wood took out a mortgage for £150 from the United New Philanthropic Society (Deeds).

1825 John Wood had a shoe warehouse listed in Baines' Directory.

1839 20 May. Will of John Wood. He had married Betty Miller on 25th April 1793 (Registers). He had 5 children of whom only Radcliffe, christened 17th Apr. appears in the Registers. It seems likely that John Wood was the son of Robert Wood, shoemaker, of Heathfields, because of the similarity in the names of his children. In his will there were legacies of £2 each to 5 of his grandchildren and of £1 to the other 2. His son, Radcliffe, inherited the main house subject to the occupation by his mother and the payment to her of an annuity of 5/- per week. Wood's three younger children, John, Abel and Mary, were to be tenants of the "empty" house, so presumably the annuity of 5/- paid to the widow, Betty, would be

- from rents of the other houses (Deeds).
- 1841 30 Apr. Census Return: There were 25 people living at Spring Gardens, of whom 3 were children. Of the adult males, 5 were stonemasons or assistants, 2 wool dressers, 2 woollen weavers, 1 blacksmith and 1 beerseller. The 3 females gainfully employed were all in the cotton trade. None of John Wood's family remained.
- 1841-70 The Alehouse at Clogger Knowle Bridge was first occupied by James Woolley and catered for the canal trade. When it closed, the name was perpetuated in the Cloggers Arms at the corner of Spring Street and Lee Street (Ammon Wrigley, *The Wind Among the Heather*, p. 59).
- 1879 The property was bought by James Shaw, Uppermill, and William Shaw, Delph, who paid off the mortgage. (Deeds).
- 1903 James and Alfred Shaw sold 4 of the houses (the 3 original cottages converted to 2, and the one on the bridge and the other adjoining) to George Shaw, whose family remained in occupation until 1974.

Allan Bradbury.

The Society would welcome any further information on the houses and hamlets mentioned here, and also on any other property of possible interest in Saddleworth. The Gazetteer will also encompass turnpike roads, canals, bridges, railways etc.

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