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Alan Petford

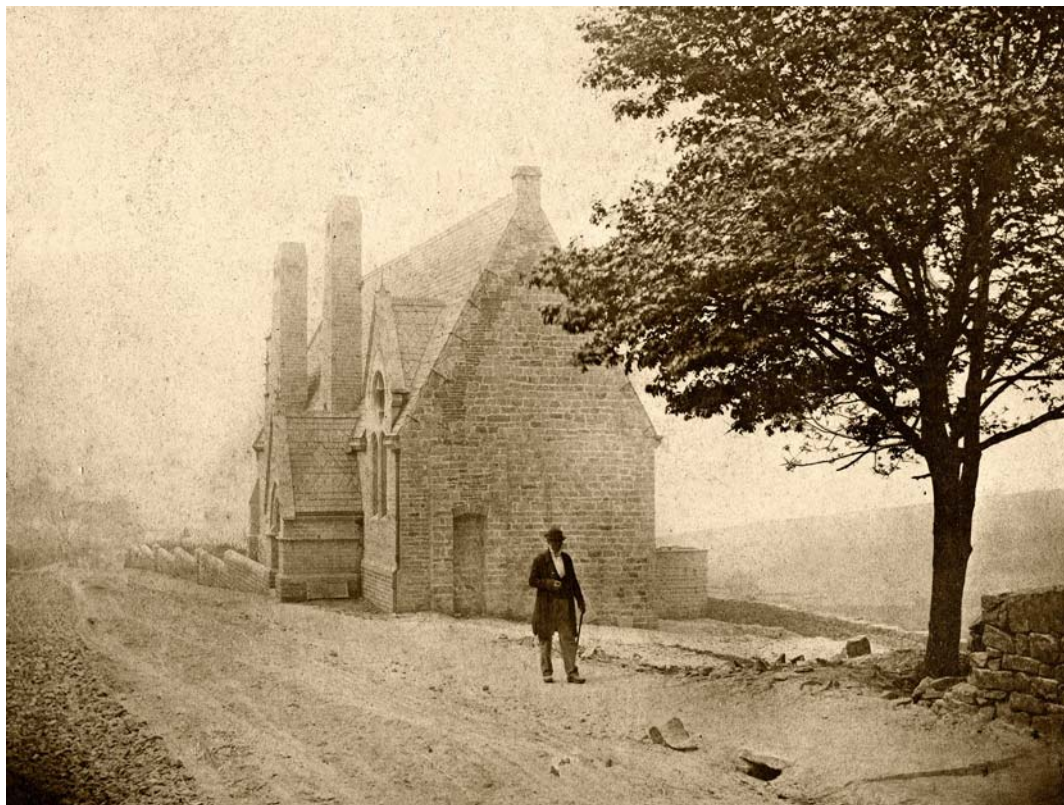
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NOTES ON THE ORIGINS OF UPPERMILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Patricia A Foster

The following notes and photographs provide information of historical interest to augment Sandra Ratcliff's most informative article on Saddleworth schools.¹

Uppermill's original primary school was in Church road. Known as St. Chad's, it was erected in 1861 and funded by a religious charity called 'The National Society for the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Church of England'. The school is now three houses.



SMA M/P/Um73

St. Chad's School, Church Road, Uppermill

The enactment of the 1870 Education Reform Act² resulted in the national reform of the education system.

¹ S. Ratcliff, 'An outline history of Saddleworth Schools', *SHS Bulletin*, Vol. 42, no.4, 2012, p.97-106.

² The 1870 Education Act stands as the very first piece of legislation to deal specifically with the provision of education in Britain. Most importantly, it demonstrated a commitment to provision on a national scale. The Act allowed voluntary schools to carry on unchanged, but established a system of 'school boards' to build and manage schools in areas where they were needed. The boards were locally elected bodies which drew their funding from the local rates. Unlike the voluntary schools, religious teaching in the board schools was to be 'non-denominational'. A separate Act extended similar provisions to Scotland in 1872.

Attendance was eventually made compulsory for all children up to the age of ten.³ Those between ten and fourteen could only be put to work if they had reached the required standard.⁴



SMA M/P/Um74

St Chad's School (far left), Lee Street, Uppermill

³ The issue of making education compulsory for children had not been settled by the Act. The 1876 Royal Commission on the Factory Acts recommended that education be made compulsory in order to stop child labour. In 1880 a further Education Act finally made school attendance compulsory between the ages of five and ten, though by the early 1890s attendance within this age group was falling short at 82 per cent.

⁴ As a consequence of these changes pupils numbers increased; which was probably one of the reasons why they built a new larger building in Lee Street; which opened around 1883 with places for 398 pupils, P. Fox and M Fox, *Victorian Saddleworth*, Uppermill, 2001, p. 28.

MEMORIES OF LIFE AT UPPERMILL PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE MID 1950s

Patricia A Foster

The following personal account describes the experiences of three people who attended Uppermill primary school during the mid-1950s.¹ Although only sixty years ago, school life has changed so much when compared to the present day.

During the 1950s Uppermill Primary School had two head teachers, Mr. Parker and Mr. Williams. Mr. Parker was the headmaster up to the summer of 1957 and Mr. Williams, his successor, remained in the post for the following ten years, finally leaving in the summer of 1967. Both used the cane on occasions. Whilst it was only a 'tap' on the hand, it would today be considered as child abuse and most certainly not allowed.²

There were separate entrances for boys and girls. If you look at the Lee Street building today, you can see 'GIRLS' carved into the stone over the entrance nearest Shaw Lane, while 'BOYS' is on the one nearest Court Street. We hung our coats and hats in those entrance areas. Unlike today, there was no reception with a secretary to welcome people. The toilets were outside in the playground and were very cold in winter; washing facilities were inside near the entrances. All pupils were given a third of a pint of milk at break time in small bottles.³

The younger pupils also received cod liver oil capsules.⁴ It was not unusual for the younger pupils to spit the capsules out in the playground. At break, conkers and marbles were played on the ledge at the back of the playground. The school dinners were delivered from outside in steel containers. They had creamy mash with everything. Memories pervade of watery cabbage, thin slices of roast meat and custard as dessert with iced cake. There were no pizzas or chicken nuggets. (Jamie Oliver would have been pleased!)

During the 1950s, the infants were housed at the Parochial Church Hall (now demolished).⁵ This was situated in the Pickhill area, behind the Old Police station, on Buckley Street. There was a big pile of coke/coal in the playground there which, during playtime, was to be avoided. At the Parochial school we learned to read, with the help of flash cards, 'Janet & John' and other missives. We used musical instruments, such as tambourines, triangles etc., with great gusto. Miss Barbara Bamforth was the infant teacher at that time. We don't know how she managed on her own.

¹ I would like to thank Barbara Beilby, (née Partington) and my brother David Rawlinson who both kindly contributed to this article.

² In state-run schools, and also in private schools where at least part of the funding came from government, corporal punishment was outlawed by Parliament with effect from 1987. In other private schools it was banned in 1999 in England and Wales, in 2000 in Scotland and, in 2003, in Northern Ireland.

³ In 1946, Ellen Wilkinson, Education Minister in the Attlee Government, persuaded Parliament to pass the School Milk Act. This act ordered the issue of one-third of a pint of milk free to all pupils under the age of eighteen. By 1951, 84 per cent of pupils drank school milk.

Miss Platt was our first class teacher in junior school; her classroom, at Lee Street, was downstairs. Here we chanted tables, played with plasticine, progressed in our reading, and continued to take the dreaded cod liver oil capsules.

After Miss Platt, we were ‘promoted’ upstairs. Upstairs would now be a ‘Health & Safety’ issue. There were long flights of stone steps up from Boys and Girls Cloakrooms. We must have been very sensible or too disciplined to be silly. Our new teacher was Mrs. Marshall. We all enjoyed her classes; although she was strict. Once when some boys were fighting in the playground, Mrs. Marshall came out with a teapot, and poured the contents all over them. We assumed it was cold!

In Mrs. Marshall’s classes we were busy with sums, writing and spelling. We also learned how to sew and to knit dishcloths. Science consisted of how many wild flowers we could find and in Geography we learned all about European countries, for example, Holland. We all enjoyed Friday afternoons when she would read Enid Blyton’s *Famous Five* stories.

After Mrs. Marshall, it was round the corner to Mr. William’s class. He used to sit on the main dais at the front and we changed the reading books very quietly in that area while he marked someone’s work. We used scratchy wooden pens with metal nibs, which we dipped into white ceramic inkpots that sat in a hole in the desk. Blotting paper was a must but the paper was still full of ink blobs. In Mr. William’s class we enjoyed ‘Singing Together’ (or some similar title) and on Tuesday afternoons we listened to a nature programme on the radio. PE was held outside in the playground; I suppose there wasn’t any room inside. History and Geography are a bit of a blur and so is Art. None of us can remember much about those lessons.

Every morning, we had assembly where we sang hymns such as ‘New Every Morning’, and ‘Holy, Holy, Holy’. We also had a prayer.

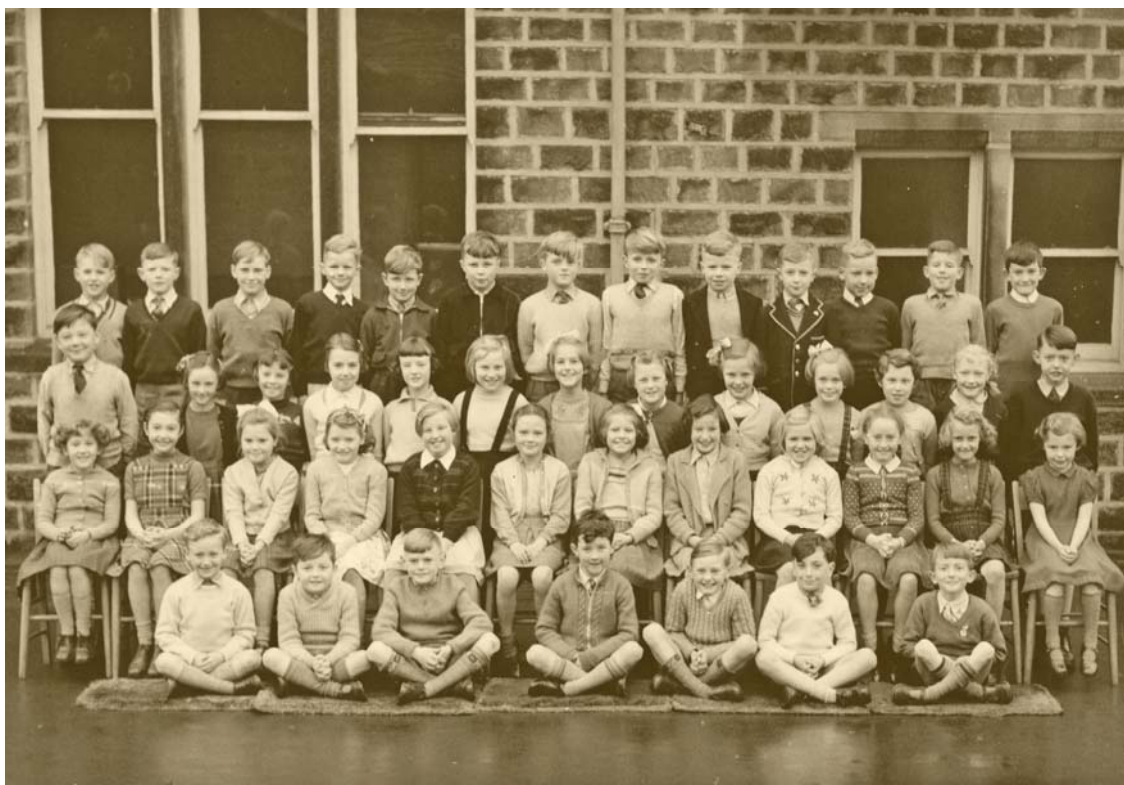
Needless to say we always sat in lines and spoke when we were spoken to. They were large classes so probably too many of us to do anything else. School uniform was non-existent but the girls never wore trousers and the boys wore shorts rather than long trousers. All in all they are very fond memories – happy days.

⁴ Cod-liver oil is a source of vitamins A and D. It was widely used in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries to treat and prevent rickets, a disease characterized by defective bone growth that is caused by a lack of vitamin D.

⁵ The Parochial Church Hall was closed in 1974 and demolished shortly afterwards.

Pupils we can recognise are:

Back row, fourth from the left, I think, is Michael Pilling; third row, second and fifth from the right are Barbara Partington and Patricia Rawlinson, respectively; second row, third from the right is Joanna Pyatt; front row first and third from the left are Duncan Kenworthy and Bernard Callaghan, respectively.



B. Bielby collection

Class photo Uppermill Parochial School c.1956

If you are in this photograph, or know someone who is, we would love to hear from you.

THE SCHOFIELDS OF HOLLINGREAVE - 2

Phil Wild

Introduction and Scope

The first part of this study examined the Schofield family's continuous occupation of Lower Hollingreave from the late sixteenth century to the end of the eighteenth. It charted the family's growth in prosperity from cloth-making as well as investigating the importance of economic and social networks with neighbours and kinsmen.¹

As the eighteenth century was nearing its close, the Schofield family occupied two adjacent tenements leased from James Farrer, lord of the manor of Saddleworth. These are depicted as numbers 122 and 123 on the manor map of 1770. At this date the other tenement at Lower Hollingreave, estate number 144, one historically held by the Whewalls, had been inherited by the sole surviving heiress, Martha Whewall.

This second part of the study here focuses on the fortunes of the Schofields following the sale of the manor in 1791, and examines their close relationship with their neighbours, the Buckleys. Newly discovered family papers have also shed light on the family's textile business in the first half of the nineteenth century, particularly in relation to the American markets; which in the first half of the nineteenth century were of vital importance to Saddleworth's domestic manufacturers.

Development and Expansion of Hollingreave following the Sale of the Manor

Both of the Schofield estates at Lower Hollingreave were sold to local entrepreneur John Harrop when the manor of Saddleworth was auctioned in 1791. Estate number 122, which had been in the tenure of James Schofield until his death in 1778, was sold for £450, with Mary Schofield, James's widow, as sitting tenant (Schofield Pedigree C). James Schofield's nephew, John Schofield (1737-1802, Schofield Pedigree B), a cordwainer, was the occupier of estate number 123, which was sold for £420.²

Although many of John Schofield's children remained in Hollingrove and pursued their livelihoods as clothiers, rather than following their father's shoe-making trade, their descendants gradually drifted away from the hamlet and are not considered further here. It was the descendants of James Schofield that left their mark on the hamlet.

In the three decades that followed the sale of the manor there was a flurry of property construction at Hollingreave to accommodate family expansion. New houses were built and improvements were made to barns and shippens. Furthermore, with the boom in the Saddleworth broadcloth industry, additions were made to integrate domestic loom-shops into dwellings. Typical architectural details illustrative of this at Lower Hollingreave are the long rows of mullioned windows and elevated third stories to accommodate 'Spinning Jennies' and hand-operated machinery (see Figures 1 & 2).

¹ Pedigrees relating to the family are published in the first part of this study in the *Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin (SHSB)*, Vol.43, No 4.

² Sale of Saddleworth Manor, Catalogue, 1791, H/DX/5, Saddleworth Historical Society Archives (SHSA).



David JW Harrison 2014

Figure 1 The Schofield/Buckley Cottages at Holly Grove; two storey in the foreground and three storey adjoining.



Figure 2 Gable-end alterations in the end cottage at Holly Grove

David JW Harrison 2014

After his acquisition of the freehold, Harrop built a new dwelling, Field Top, on estate 122.³ It was constructed on a partitioned corner of the Tenterfield, set away from the other dwellings at Hollingreave. When it was built is uncertain, but it is depicted on the Vestry Map of 1822⁴ (Figure 3), and may have been occupied as early as 1801 when there is a reference to 'Hollingreave Ridge'.⁵ Like nearby Ryefields, although large and dominant, Field Top is architecturally a backward-looking building, with no refined details such as the quoin-stones and cornices, which were at this date common features on buildings in villages such as Dobcross and Delph. The fenestration too is old fashioned - instead of classically-influenced single or double windows, there are long rows of mullioned windows. Field Top was not a statement of grandeur, but rather a practical building. The third storey would house the machinery necessary for cloth production, whilst the lower two storeys could accommodate numerous family members (Figure 6).

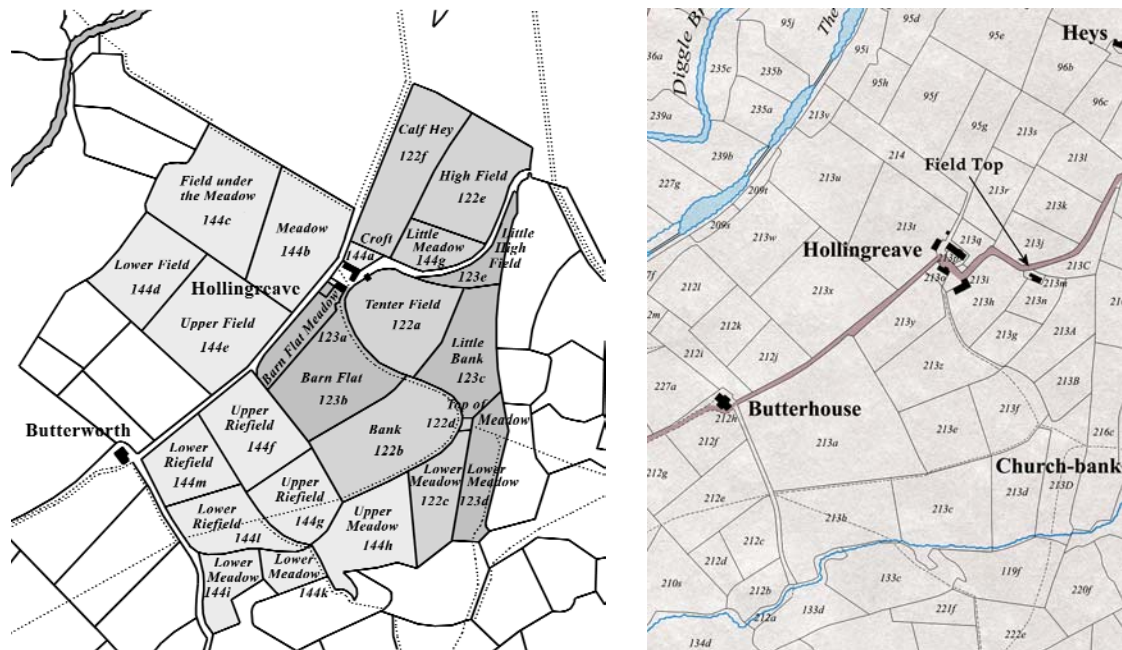


Figure 3 Hollingreave 1770 and 1822 (The manor map of 1770, left, illustrates the three separate farms, numbered 122, 123 and 144. By 1822 the Township map shows they had been amalgamated into a single holding numbered 213.

Field Top appears for the first time in 1822 .

Although it is likely that the building was financed by Harrop, the Schofields were continuous tenants at Field Top. The first occupant was probably James Schofield (1745-1829), and it may have been he who incorporated into the shippon at Field Top the date-stone of 1696 bearing the initials of his grandparents John and Anne Schofield. This must have originally come from the dwellinghouse on estate number

³ Wrigley to Schofield, 13th December 1823, HW 416 363, West Yorkshire Archive Service, Registry of Deeds (WRD).

⁴ M. Buckley, D. Harrison, V. Khadem, A. Petford and J. Widdall, *Mapping Saddleworth II*, Saddleworth Historical Society, (Uppermill, 2010), p. 194.

⁵ James Schofield of Hollingreave Ridge acted as co-executor with George and John Mallalieu of Wickens to the estate of John Schofield, Cordwainer in 1801, John Schofield WCWIntra 1802, Lancashire Archives (LA).

123 which had been occupied by John and Anne Schofield and was probably salvaged by James Schofield when the farm there was rebuilt (Figure 6).

James Schofield (1745-1829) was the eldest son of James Schofield (died 1778, Schofield Pedigree C) who, though himself a younger son, had acquired estate 122 at Hollingreave through a shrewd marriage to Mary Broadbent. Continuing the pattern, identified in the first part of this article, of consolidating relations with neighbours through marriage, James Schofield (1745-1829), married Sarah Whewall, an illegitimate daughter of Martha Whewall, who was the sole heiress to the neighbouring tenement at Lower Hollingreave, estate number 144. Sarah was the daughter of Abel Buckley, notorious for having fathered at least ten children by four different partners, and despite her birth in Hollingreave was baptised as 'base born' in Holy Trinity, Shaw. However, Sarah was legitimised on the marriage of her mother and father in 1767, and owing to this marriage, her brother, James Buckley (1752-1816), inherited estate 144 from his father, Abel Buckley, in 1775. (Buckley Pedigree A). Abel Buckley's will was witnessed by his son in law, James Schofield (1745-1829).

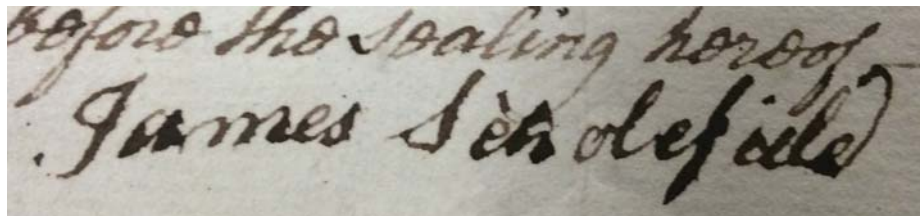


Figure 4 The signature of James Schofield (1745-1829) on the will of Abel Buckley in 1775. On his own will of 1829 he adopted the modern spelling of Schofield.

Beyond this marriage, ties between James Schofield's family and his new neighbours, the Buckleys, were further strengthened by the marriage of two of his daughters to his nephews, William Buckley and Joseph Buckley, sons of James Buckley. By aligning himself with Delph Independent Chapel, James Schofield differentiated himself from his parents and siblings who remained loyal to Saddleworth Church. It is difficult not to suppose that Schofield's non-conformity was influenced by the Buckleys who were closely associated with the Independents, possibly owing to the fact that both Abel and Martha Buckley had been excommunicated by the Anglican Church in 1756.⁶ James and Sarah Schofield retained links with the Chapel throughout their lives and were eventually both buried there. Consolidating relations with the Buckleys through marriage and religion was undoubtedly expedient to James Schofield as the Buckleys were a family in the ascendancy. Having been mired with illegitimacy in the mid-eighteenth century, James Buckley, in contrast to his Schofield neighbours, purchased the estate of his maternal ancestors on the sale of the manor in 1791 for £1,000.⁷ He conveyed equal shares of this estate to his seven sons though his eldest son, John,

⁶ Excommunicants would have been 'named' in the parish church (and also Chester Cathedral), openly during a service, and were supposed to be ostracised by parishioners. Absolution - implied by the crossing out in the registers - was usually possible within three months if recalcitrants reformed themselves; J. Radcliffe (ed.), *Parish Registers of St Chad, Saddleworth, 1613 to 1751*, (Uppermill, 1887), p. 426. The nature and timing of the excommunication probably determined the venue selection for Sarah's baptism on 9 May 1757: Shaw Chapel is six miles away in a neighbouring parish of Oldham.

⁷ Sale of Saddleworth Manor Catalogue, 1791, H/DX/5, SHSA.

reconsolidated the estate over subsequent years. Pertinently for the Schofields, John Buckley also acquired both estates 122 and 123 from John Harrop prior to 1800, so that by 1822, the Township Map depicts the whole of Lower Hollingreave in his holding (Figure 3).⁸



Peter Fox Collection c.1980

Figure 5 Field Top, Holly Grove; house and adjacent barn (where the 1696 Schofield datestone was re-located) viewed across Little Bank towards Tenterfield.



David JW Harrison 2014

Figure 6 Holly Grove: ‘Sykes’ Cottage (viewed from Butterhouse Lane). Evidence indicative of modified roof line of the Schofield ‘old barn and/or cowhouse’ mentioned in the 1770 survey; probably a later attachment to the earlier 1696 house on Tenement 123. The redevelopment of c. 1800 built on the gable of the earlier agricultural building.

⁸ M. Buckley, et al., p. 194 .

Fortune did not remain on the Buckleys' side, however. In 1816, James Buckley was found drowned at the age of 64 and John Buckley was declared bankrupt in May 1822.⁹ He had evidently been in financial difficulties for several months, for in December 1821 an advertisement relating to the sale of his estate appeared in the *Manchester Mercury*.¹⁰ John Buckley's bankruptcy would have been news that spread across Saddleworth, for not only was he a landowner and woollen manufacturer, but he had also served as Chief Constable of Saddleworth and Churchwarden. Nonetheless, the Buckleys' calamities served as an opportunity for the Schofields. Following his bankruptcy, John Buckley's estate was sold piecemeal, and in November 1823 James Schofield and his eldest son, James, purchased the freehold of estate 122, an estate the family had occupied since they acquired the lease by inheritance in the 1730s.¹¹ In the deed it was described as the 'messuage lately built by John Harrop', in the occupation of James Schofield (undoubtedly Field Top), a cottage in the occupation of his sister, Susannah, (presumably the historic dwelling associated with estate 122) and two barns and two shippens.

James Schofield, Senior, died in 1829 bequeathing his interest in the 'purchased estate' to his son, James.¹² In the same year James Schofield, the younger, also acquired several enclosures on Back o'th' Lee, which he inherited following the death of his aunt, Susannah Schofield.¹³

It is with James Schofield, the younger, and his brother, John, that a clearer picture of the family's activities emerges owing to the information provided by a newly discovered trading ledger, letter and household accounts.¹⁴ The ledger records John Schofield's account with his brother between 1829 and 1835, relating to trading in New York City. The letter (Appendix 2), of 1834, was sent from John Schofield in New York City to his widowed mother, Sarah, at Hollingreave. The documents elucidate the brothers' place in the transatlantic cloth trade in which Saddleworth was prominent during the 1820s and 1830s.

Domestic Broadcloth Manufacturing at Hollingreave

During the first quarter the nineteenth century there was a considerable growth in the number of mills erected in Saddleworth, yet it was domestic manufacture which still predominated. At the time of Buckley's bankruptcy in 1822, Baines' Directory described 'Hollin Groves' as '2 small manufacturing hamlets'.¹⁵ Baines and other contemporary directories confirm that Lower Hollingreave was then populated by woollen manufacturers, dominated by the Schofield and Buckley kinsmen (Appendix 1).

Although written two decades after James Schofield, junior, inherited the estate at Hollingreave, Angus Reach's description of Saddleworth written for the *Morning*

⁹ *London Gazette*, 25 May 1824.

¹⁰ B. Barnes, *Saddleworth Heritage*, (Uppermill, 1975), p. 57.

¹¹ Wrigley to Schofield, 13 Dec 1823, HW 416 363, WRD.

¹² James Schofield WCWSupra 1830, LA.

¹³ Susannah Schofield WCWSupra 1829, LA.

¹⁴ These unpublished documents are part of a family archive of wills and other artefacts held by Viv Fry, a descendant of James and John Schofield's sister, Mary. I am grateful to Viv for access to them.

¹⁵ Edward Baines, *History, Directory, and Gazetteer of the County of York*, Vol. III, (Leeds, 1822), pp. 263-71. Copies of this and other trade directories referenced in Appendix 1 are in the Saddleworth Museum Archives.

Chronicle is undoubtedly evocative of the dual economy practised by the Schofields of Hollingreave for generations:

“High up on the hillside... I counted from one point of view a couple of dozen cottages, in each of which the loom was going, and around each of which the kine were grazing. It was a glorious sunny afternoon, and amid the fields and by the roadside, the weavers with their wives and children were many of them stretching out their warps upon a rude apparatus of sticks to dry them in the genial air. The gay tinting of many of these outstretched meshes of thread, glancing along the green of hedges or the cold grey of stone walls, made quite a feature of the landscape.”¹⁶

Reach’s description is a reminder that Saddleworth’s hamlets, which today are quiet and quaint, were then places of work as well as domesticity. Indeed, there are still reminders of woollen manufacture in the landscape at Hollingreave today. Notably, in addition to the architectural features associated with the industry such as purpose-built third stories, there is a dedicated dry stone ‘Wool Wall’ (Figure 7). The wall is a rare survival and has been Grade II listed by English Heritage. Its origin is unknown, although the description of the wall in the listing attributes it to the early nineteenth century. The wall’s sloping, stepped face was south-west oriented for maximum sunshine exposure and would have been covered with dyed or ‘scoured’ wool or cloth for drying.¹⁷ In the nineteenth century it was probably used in conjunction with local fulling mill facilities, the nearest of which was Church Bank Mill. Being located on the boundary between the Buckleys’ field called the Croft (Number 144a on the 1770 Map) and the Schofields’ field called the Calf Hey (Number 122f on the 1770 Map), it is possible the wall was a joint investment by the two families. Such co-operation between the neighbours at Lower Hollingreave was by no means new, and should be viewed in the context of the neighbourly co-operation discussed in the first part of this study.



Alan Petford 1996



Alan Petford 1996

**Figure 7 Hollingreave’s Grade II listed Wool Wall - dimensions approximately 50m x 1.7m.
The north-east facing side of the wall is vertical**

¹⁶ A. Reach, *Manchester and the Textile Districts in 1849*, (Helmshore, 1972), p. 120.

¹⁷ D. Chadderton, ‘The Case for Listing the Wool wall to the rear of the houses at Holly Grove,’ *SHSB*, Vol. 26, No.4 Winter 1996, pp. 6-7.

John and James Schofield's Trade with America

The contrast between Saddleworth and neighbouring manufacturing districts such as Oldham, where squalid accommodation and poor working conditions were rife, was particularly striking to Reach on his visit to the north.¹⁸ This might account for his particularly bucolic description of the district, celebrating as it does the grazing kine and 'genial air.' But this somewhat romanticised picture should not give the impression that Saddleworth was a rural backwater. The district was one of the leading woollen manufacturing districts in the West Riding, and was at the centre of a busy trade with America. The transatlantic trade was so important that Professor Heaton argues there was 'an invasion' of Saddleworth men into America after 1825. Typically younger sons or younger brothers would emigrate, armed with cloth manufactured at home by their relatives, keeping 'the goods out of the clutches of mere middlemen outsiders.'¹⁹ Thus, although Saddleworth men still took their part-finished cloth to Huddersfield Cloth Hall, they were now themselves exporting directly across the globe.

By distinguishing between woollen manufacturers and merchants, the 1828/9 Pigots Directory shows that the majority of residents at Lower Hollingreave, including James Schofield and his brother, John, were engaged in mercantile activities (Appendix 1). The importance of Hollingreave in the transatlantic trade is exemplified by families who lived there in the first few decades of the nineteenth century. For example, following the foreclosure of John Buckley's estate in 1822, John Bradbury of Runninghill purchased the fields at Hollingreave called the Ryefields, building a substantial domestic manufacturing establishment here soon afterwards. His brother, Samuel Bradbury, removed to the United States, importing his brother's cloth for sale in the American markets. Similarly, both John Buckley, junior, and his brother, Charles, sons of the bankrupt John Buckley of Hollingreave, are recorded as being involved in cloth importation to America.

That the Schofields should follow a similar business model to the Buckleys and Bradburys, both of whom were their cousins and neighbours, is not surprising. A more detailed insight into their operations is afforded by the information contained in the ledger and letter. These show that from at least 1829, and probably before, John Schofield, was living in New York City, where he acted as an agent for his brother, John, who sent him bales of cloth from Saddleworth.²⁰

Owing to indebtedness, James Schofield was forced to assign his goods over to his creditors in April 1834 and it is because of this that the ledger and letter survive.²¹ The ledger, was presented as evidence as part of the proceedings. The letter (Appendix 2), dated 1st August 1834, sent by John Schofield in New York City to his widowed mother, Sarah, at Hollingreave, refers to the financial distress faced by his brother. Although incomplete, and compiled retrospectively with the intention of

¹⁸ A. Reach, p. 122.

¹⁹ Herbert Heaton, *Yorkshire Cloth Traders in the USA, 1770-1840*, in *The Thoresby Society Miscellany* v. 11 (Leeds, 1945), p. 229.

²⁰ Owing to the imprecise detail of contemporary passenger lists, it is difficult to be certain, but it seems likely that the John Schofield, aged 42, Merchant, who entered New York on 5 September 1827 and that the John Schofield who entered New York from Liverpool on 20th August 1829 can be identified with John Schofield of Hollingreave; Ancestry.com, New York, Passenger Lists (1820-97); M237/10/587 and M237/13/6/233.

²¹ *London Gazette*, 4 October 1836.

presenting as evidence, the ledger, together with the letter, help illustrate the way in which a fraternal transatlantic partnership worked at this period.

The brothers' partnership made total sales in 1829-1835 of \$23,579.59 (equivalent to over £0.25m today). John Schofield defrayed the shipping costs and import duty on bales of woven cloth, including cassimeres, sent by James for resale in New York. When the market was buoyant, John Schofield probably sold the cloth privately, but, as the letter alludes to, when conditions were less favourable, he would use the auctions, which were reliable but where goods tended to fetch a lower price. As he was not buying goods locally in US dollars to re-export, John Schofield bought bills of exchange (of differing terms and variable financing rates) to remit sterling proceeds back to his family members at Hollingreave.

The ledger indicates from the sequence of bale numbers a recurrent pattern of trading, but one which had begun to dwindle. Sales became decidedly sparse after 1831, implying that the partnership was neither the sole focus of James nor John Schofield. Yet trade was not yielding enough for James Schofield to pay his creditors so that by April 1834 he had assigned his goods to trustees for the benefit of his creditors. John Schofield's letter to his mother blames the 'careless manner that he has been in the habit of conducting himself.' He regrets having over-remitted him by £600, on receipt of which he had thought his brother 'might again turn industrious', saying that 'if I had sent him all that I had ... since I came to this country he would have spent it all.'

Although unexpected, one interpretation from his brother's candid remarks is that this James Schofield fell short of Ammon Wrigley's later anecdotal attribution of family 'shrewdness.'²² Amongst other family artefacts found with the ledgers and correspondence are sets of ornate silver spoons hallmarked 1820 and 1825, which indeed betray aspirations of grandeur (Figure 8). The provenance of the spoons coupled with the character portrayal, makes it plausible that James Schofield commissioned them, rather than his ageing father, at a time of rising local prosperity and ambition for his generation.²³



Phil Wild 2014



Phil Wild 2014

Figure 8 Silver Spoons, a Fry family heirloom, with engraved S initials; - made in London.

²² 'The Schofields have plenty of good sense and shrewdness which leads them into ways where money is to be made'; A. Wrigley, *Wind Among the Heather*, (Uppermill, 1916), p. 220.

²³ Silver spoons feature in the 1888 inventory of Hannah Shaw, affirming a probable provenance from her brother, James Schofield, whose estate passed, via his illegitimate son Samuel, entirely to her.

Whilst James Schofield's financial troubles may have been partially caused by his own negligence, there were undoubtedly other contributory factors. Indeed, the bankruptcy of his cousin John Buckley, junior, of Hollingreave in July 1834, just months after his own assignment of goods to his creditors, implies that there were wider factors at play. Certainly, if Schofield (and for that matter Buckley), were too reliant on exporting to America, then the volatile markets could prove dangerous. The timing of their bankruptcies coincides with what had evidently been a difficult economic period for Saddleworth. On 30th May 1834, the *Liverpool Mercury* reported that although the Saddleworth cloth business was improving, the 'high prices of wool, the scanty demand, and the agitated state of the Americans had almost reduced the trade to absolute distress.'²⁴ Problems had clearly continued, for the *Leeds Intelligencer* reported of the on 20th September 1834 that the trade in Saddleworth 'chiefly depends on the American markets and some manufacturers say that there is but little prospect of improvement in that quarter at present.'²⁵ An indication of the economic difficulties facing Saddleworth are indeed suggested in John Schofield's letter, in that he observed that there had 'not been many goods coming out [of Saddleworth to America] the last 3 months.'

Aside from cyclical economic difficulties there were broader structural problems faced by Saddleworth merchants in exporting their goods across the Atlantic, most notably in the form of American protectionism. Owing to the public mood, epitomised by anti-free trade campaigners such as Hezekiah Niles, as well as the lobbying of American manufacturers, there was constant pressure for import duties to be raised. Niles asserted that the importers were charged 'shamefully low tariffs', with extended payment terms; sold their wares through the auction rooms, thus 'injuring the business of reputable native merchants who tried to sell privately'; took payment in metal currency and therefore stifled local economic expansion, and, most damningly, imported goods using invoices which 'understated the real value of the goods'.²⁶ It is notable that three of these gripes are evident from Schofield's correspondence in 1834. Indeed the cash flow advantages, both from deferred duty payment terms and prompt auction house settlement terms, to an individual importer such as John Schofield, not only facilitated trading opportunities with minimal working capital but probably also enabled him (presumably inadvertently) to over-remmit to his brother, whilst foregoing his own commission of 2½%, until it was too late. As for the fourth of Niles's complaints, the nature of inter-familial transatlantic trading certainly provided opportunity for avoiding duty through undervaluing invoices, and Saddleworth men became notorious for such practice.

In 1828 Congress passed the so-called 'tariff of abominations', increasing import duty from 33⅓% to 45%. By 1829 US manufacturers were not content to just lobby democratically, but began to prejudicially interfere in the independent customs appraisal process.²⁷ In 1832, tariffs were raised to 50% and cloth importers had to pay duties in cash on arrival, rather than after 12 months' credit, as before.²⁸

²⁴ *The Liverpool Mercury*, 30st May 1834. I am grateful to Victor Khadem for this reference.

²⁵ *The Leeds Intelligencer*, 20th September 1834. I am grateful to Victor Khadem for this reference.

²⁶ Herbert Heaton, p. 265.

²⁷ George Poindexter, *New York Customs-House Report*, April 28, 1842, Report no 669, 27th US Congress, (Washington DC, 1842), p. 45.

²⁸ W.H. Chaloner, 'Saddleworth & USA,' in A. Parry (compiled), *Saddleworth America Connection*, (Uppermill, 1979), pp. 10-11.

Undoubtedly these conditions made trading less attractive in previously open markets, and may well have contributed to James Schofield's troubles in the mid-1830s.

It should be considered that the real impact of James Schofield's assignment of goods to his creditors may have been in reality limited. For example, he retained his freehold property, meaning he was enfranchised and able to cast his vote for the Whig candidate in the General Election of 1835.²⁹ An extant set of accounts between James Schofield and his spinster sister, Betty, clearly reveal his cash-flow problems in 1834, yet also show that she furnished him with a comfortable diet during the 1830s, including plenty of meat such as beef, veal neck and veal breast. Such detail indicates that the effect of his economic difficulties was not unduly detrimental to the wider family and provides ancillary evidence that animal husbandry and dairy farming continued to take place alongside weaving at Field Top, albeit probably on a modest scale, during this phase of trade-driven economic growth. James Schofield was still trading in 1838, when he was listed in Pigot's Directory, however censuses suggest he became a clothier rather than merchant, and that he soon afterwards retired.

John Schofield appears to have continued his connection with America possibly pursuing his own business interests. He may have been the John Schofield, Merchant, aged 50, who entered New York from Liverpool on 18th March 1836.³⁰ Indeed, the fact that neither the small private sale referred to in his letter to his mother, nor the two bills of exchange feature in James Schofield's trading ledger, implies that John managed his own trading activities as well as those with his brother.

In New York City John Schofield would have been one of a number of Saddleworth relatives and neighbours who were doing all they could to continue profitable business despite the increasing import duties during the 1830s. The close-knit community of Saddleworth importers became infamous in New York. They were alleged to have 'driven other importers out of the market, and secure a sort of monopoly to these parties.'³¹ The merchants' interconnectedness meant that it was always a great temptation to avoid the higher duties, by purposefully undervaluing bales of cloth imported from friends and relatives in England, so that they were charged at lower rates of duty. The New York Customs House seems to have accepted this for many years, but when Jesse Hoyt became collector, he launched a crusade against the status quo. He wrote to Manchester lawyers describing

'The 'Yorkshiremen' as they are familiarly called here, and especially those from Saddleworth, have been linked together for years in extensive efforts to practise impositions upon us and they have been in the habit for years of invoicing goods to each other at prices immensely below their value.'³²

A John Schofield was singled out in one of Hoyt's many law suits. Interpreted alongside other direct evidence of activity and movements in this study, it is just possible that he can be identified with John Schofield of Hollingreave. Schofield, like the majority of defendants at this time, appears to have been exonerated.

²⁹ S.A and M.J. Raymond (eds.), *The Yorkshire West Riding Poll Book 1835*, (Exeter, 1996), p. 199.

³⁰ New York, Passenger Lists (1820-97); M237/29/9/137 available at Ancestry.com.

³¹ William H. Crabbe, *Reports of cases argued and adjudged in the district court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from May sessions 1836 to May sessions 1846 inclusive*, (Philadelphia, 1853), p. 335.

³² George Poindexter, p. 503.

‘This was the case of John Schofield, and the invoice was raised about 25 per cent. He is one of the gentlemen from Yorkshire, whose name is very much respected in this department, as having been heretofore engaged in importing woollens invoiced much under value. The goods were appraised by merchant appraisers as well as the public appraisers. The jury, by their verdict of acquittal, awarded a certificate of good character to him, and the court a like certificate of probable cause to the collector, as it has in every case of seizure when the jury have acquitted.’³³

Hoyt blamed a lack of support from ‘hostile’ jurors, ‘prejudiced’ judges and self-interested local businessmen for undermining his strategy of seizure in counter-acting Saddleworth importers. Schofield’s neighbouring kinsmen were not so lucky. Heaton identifies John Buckley and his brother, Charles, as Saddleworth men prosecuted for duty avoidance.³⁴ Heaton does not specify timing or details, but it is likely that these defendants were the Buckleys of Hollingrove. The suit probably pre-dated 1834, when Charles Buckley died in America; only a few months after his death John Buckley, junior, was declared bankrupt.³⁵ Similarly, Samuel Bradbury of Ryefields was arrested and bailed. Hoyt extorted \$7,500 from him under duress to avoid litigation, after which he illegally impounded 12 cases of woollens ‘as a condition by which he might be permitted to enter goods at the customs house’.³⁶ James Mallalieu, who had close family links to James and John Schofield and lived at neighbouring High Stile, also suffered under the clampdown on Saddleworth merchants. He became a resident of New York in 1837 and in 1839 was found guilty of evading import duty, with evidence to show that cloth was sold at an advance of 156% on the prices quoted in the invoices used for the purposes of importation.³⁷ The conviction undoubtedly contributed to his bankruptcy in 1844.³⁸

After a succession of scandals, Hoyt’s extensive criminal connivance and defalcations were eventually exposed by a Report commissioned by the US President in 1841.³⁹ Hoyt had created a climate of fear, which led to kinship networks becoming even tighter in an attempt to continue profitable trading. However, some Saddleworth merchants were undoubtedly evasive and to some extent culpable, as is exemplified by the Philadelphia jury trying James Mallalieu’s case, which reported that

‘testimony produced under the commissions to Saddleworth, was apparently entitled to but little credit, because of the evident collusion and connexion between the witnesses. The words used, the forms of the answers, and even the method of evasion, being in many cases identical.’⁴⁰

³³ Schofield was highlighted in Appendix S of Hoyt’s correspondence with the US Treasury in 1840; George Poindexter, p. 203.

³⁴ Herbert Heaton, p. 279.

³⁵ *London Gazette*, 22 July 1834; John Buckley, junior’s, brother William also went bankrupt from Hollingrove in 1848; *London Gazette*, 10 November 1848, and the ongoing business probably passed to their youngest brother, Edward Buckley, who features in Whelan’s Trade Directory, 1852 (Appendix 1 and Buckley Pedigree C).

³⁶ George Poindexter, p. 114.

³⁷ William H. Crabbe, p. 353.

³⁸ *London Gazette*, 23 February 1844.

³⁹ George Poindexter, p. 45.

⁴⁰ William H. Crabbe, p. 353.

Heaton's conclusion that the 'the damned Yorkshiremen were certainly as much sinned against as sinning',⁴¹ is probably correct, but more important than apportioning blame is the fact that the Commission acknowledged that 'oppressive and illegal acts' waged against Saddleworth importers had had a 'deleterious effect' on duty revenues to the US Treasury.⁴² The declining opportunities in America would have been keenly felt at Hollingreave. In 1836, woollen exports to the US peaked, and by the middle of the century, the industry was controlled by American firms - in Heaton's words, 'The Saddleworth boys seem to have gone home ... the woollen business had become American.'⁴³

The Decline of Saddleworth Broadcloth and the Dénouement of the Schofields of Hollingreave

After the death of their mother, Sarah Schofield, in 1838, James and John Schofield soon retired - the latter's recorded dumbness in 1851 possibly implying he had suffered a stroke.⁴⁴ Trade Directories (Appendix 1) indicate their youngest sister Hannah Schofield (Schofield Pedigree C) briefly headed the family manufacturing business, before leaving to marry Robert Shaw, a widowed Delph grocer in 1842. By 1843, their nephew Abel Buckley (1821-1898), the orphaned son of their sister Martha (Schofield Pedigree C) was taken into the household and must have taken over the business, as Trade Directories associate him specifically with Field Top. He is described as being of Top o'th' Field in 1851. The 1851 and 1852 Directories also indicated that John Schofield briefly came out of retirement and was also trading from Field Top as a merchant until his death in 1852. His brother, James Schofield died in 1853.

With the decline in exports, manufacturing within America was one way of legitimately circumventing tariff and other import barriers. Whilst there is no evidence the Schofields of Hollingreave did this, a kinsman, another Abel Buckley, (1824-1880) removed himself from Hollingrove to Massachusetts in 1848 and 1849.⁴⁵ He stayed with Thomas Buckley, who wrote home to his son, Ralph, that 'Abel Buckley from Hollingrove is now boarding with us and working second hand in the weave room for Mr Bottomley.'⁴⁶

The tide was starting to turn against Hollingreave, which, for all the economic vicissitudes, had been a broadly prosperous hamlet since the beginning of the nineteenth century. Coupled with the increasingly inaccessible American markets was the shift away from domestic woollen manufacture to power-loom mills. These held significant cost advantages, and with niche markets turning to alternative sources, Jacquard looms enabled step-changes in design and colour capability. Saddleworth's quintessential 'superfine' broadcloth dramatically fell out of fashion.

⁴¹ Herbert Heaton, p. 285.

⁴² George Poindexter, p. 118.

⁴³ Herbert Heaton, p. 286.

⁴⁴ John Schofield, Retired Woollen Cloth Merchant, Dumb; James Schofield, Retired Woollen Weaver, 1851 Hollingrove census, HO 107/2290/399/10, TNA.

⁴⁵ Born in neighbouring High Stile, this Abel Buckley, now of Hollingrove, was a descendant of Abel Buckley and Martha Whewall of Hollingreave. He was also a grandson of Sally Mallalieu, whose nephew, James Mallalieu's exporting activities and conviction are noted above (Buckley Pedigree B).

⁴⁶ M. Dennett, (ed.), *Cherry Valley Chronicles: Letters from Thomas Buckley of Massachusetts to Ralph Buckley of Saddleworth 1845-1875*, (Uppermill, 1991), p. 45.

The descendants of James Schofield and Sarah Whewall ('alias Buckley') were the last of this long family 'dynasty' to inhabit Hollingreave. By 1861 no member of the Field Top household was still weaving. Spinster Alice Schofield, aged 63, the sister of James and John Schofield (Schofield Pedigree C), was the head of the Field Top household and had returned to dairy farming as a primary means of supporting herself and her dependents, the cousins Mary Jane and Edgar Buckley, both taken in from her sisters' families at an early age (Schofield Pedigree D). Rather than following his father's trade, James Schofield's only son, the illegitimate Samuel Schofield Campbell, also turned to the land for his living, mining stone, almost certainly from a small quarry located in their adjacent Little Bank field.⁴⁷ Another sister, Hannah, was soon widowed and returned to Field Top, where she, Alice and Samuel all died without issue. In 1888 no looms were appraised after Hannah's death, but four roan cows were valued in farming stock of £31. Death Duty on Field Top was assessed on a saleable value of only £126 on account of it 'being in an outlandish district',⁴⁸ echoing MP Edward Baines' well known observation that by 1870 Saddleworth was 'practically out of the Woollen District'.⁴⁹ Edgar and Mary Jane co-inherited Field Top from Hannah in 1888, but soon the family's 300-year Hollingreave chapter closed with Mary Jane Buckley's admission to Wadesley Asylum, Sheffield, in 1898 and Edgar Buckley's sale of his share of Field Top, his home from infancy, to John Mannock in 1900 for £475.

A Family Epilogue and Overview

Nineteenth century censuses provide evidence of deafness and muteness in the family, perhaps a consequence of generations of intermarriage. Further, the male descendant lines of James Schofield and Sarah Whewall 'alias Buckley' died out without surviving issue. Many of the female members of the family remained spinsters, spinning and weaving yarn at Hollingreave into old age. Fortunately for the existence of my own lineage, my direct ancestor, Mary Schofield (1737-1818), the aunt of James and John Schofield (Schofield Pedigree C), did not remain a spinster, but married a sojourner, Matthew Butterworth, in 1761. Butterworth was a native of Holmfirth, and undoubtedly came to Saddleworth via the old track over the moor which descended past Slades and Clerks, ultimately ending at Saddleworth Church. Following his brief 'sojourn' in Saddleworth, he returned to Cartworth with his wife, where he established his own scribbling mills and became a leading figure in West Riding Wesleyan circles. Mary's younger sister, Susy Schofield (1751-1829), remained a spinster, occupying one of the family cottages behind Tenterfield - probably the older, mid-eighteenth century 'Hollingrove Cottage' (Figure 9).

Amongst Susy's bequests were legacies to her nephews James, Betty and Edward Butterworth.⁵⁰ Thus, in an era long before public postage or telecommunications, family bonds were maintained, irrespective of differing church denominations, and despite it being nearly seventy years since newly-married Mary left the Saddleworth

⁴⁷ Census, 1851, HO 107/2290/399/10, TNA; for the quarry's location - see M. Buckley, D. Harrison & A. Petford, *Mapping Saddleworth I*, Saddleworth Historical Society, (Uppermill, 2007), p. 160.

⁴⁸ The assessment (and its qualification) was made by Samuel Bradbury of Uppermill; Inland Revenue Succession Duty on Real Property, Register S3 (1888), Folio 1429.

⁴⁹ K. G. Ponting (ed.) *Yorkshire Past and Present* by Thomas Baines, including 'An Account of the Woollen Trade of Yorkshire in 1871 by Edward Baines M.P.', (Newton Abbott, 1970), p. 114.

⁵⁰ Susannah Schofield WCWSupra 1829, LA.

neighbourhood to traverse the Pennines with Matthew Butterworth, and a decade since she had passed away.

By a striking coincidence, Mary Butterworth's great-great grandchild - Alice Kenyon (née Woodcock) came back from Austonley (via Uppermill) to settle in Holly Grove in the 1870s, with her husband Smith Kenyon, a 'Fancy Woollen Designer', and family.

Whilst these genealogical research details are essentially personal and perhaps unremarkable, they serve to illustrate both the continuing importance and scope of kinship, the ebbing and waning of family fortunes and the way in which one family adapted to the wider economic opportunities and conditions of the day. The continued occupation of Hollingreave by one family over a period of 300 years is also remarkable but not unprecedented in Saddleworth. From the leasehold farm occupied by Francis Schofield in the 1590s, then principally an agriculture unit, through the subdivision of the estate made possible by the economic diversification brought about by the 'dual economy', and during the early nineteenth century as merchants, the family were firmly rooted in the hamlet. Throughout the period they also maintained close connections through marriage with their neighbours. During the golden age of Saddleworth broadcloth, property was added to the estate to accommodate the increasing population sustained by the rise in prosperity, and to provide the infrastructure to exploit overseas markets. The adversity faced by the Schofields in America and the sudden decline in the demand for broadcloth forced a return to farming. By the end of the nineteenth century the hamlet was only a residence for the Schofields, their cottage now detached from its long associations with the land. Their prosperity, in common with the vast majority of Saddleworth's enlarged and peaking population, had now become dependent on the industrial scale power-loom mills located in the new valley-bottom villages that had grown up around these mills.

A Footnote

Researching my paternal grandmother's lineage was the initial motivation behind this piece of research. The early inter-relationships revealed between Schofields and Mallalieu in the study made it of particular personal significance, for it was here that the lineages of my paternal grandparents intersected - way back in 1680 when George Mallalieu, of Wickens married Mary Schofield, of Hollingreave.

Acknowledgements

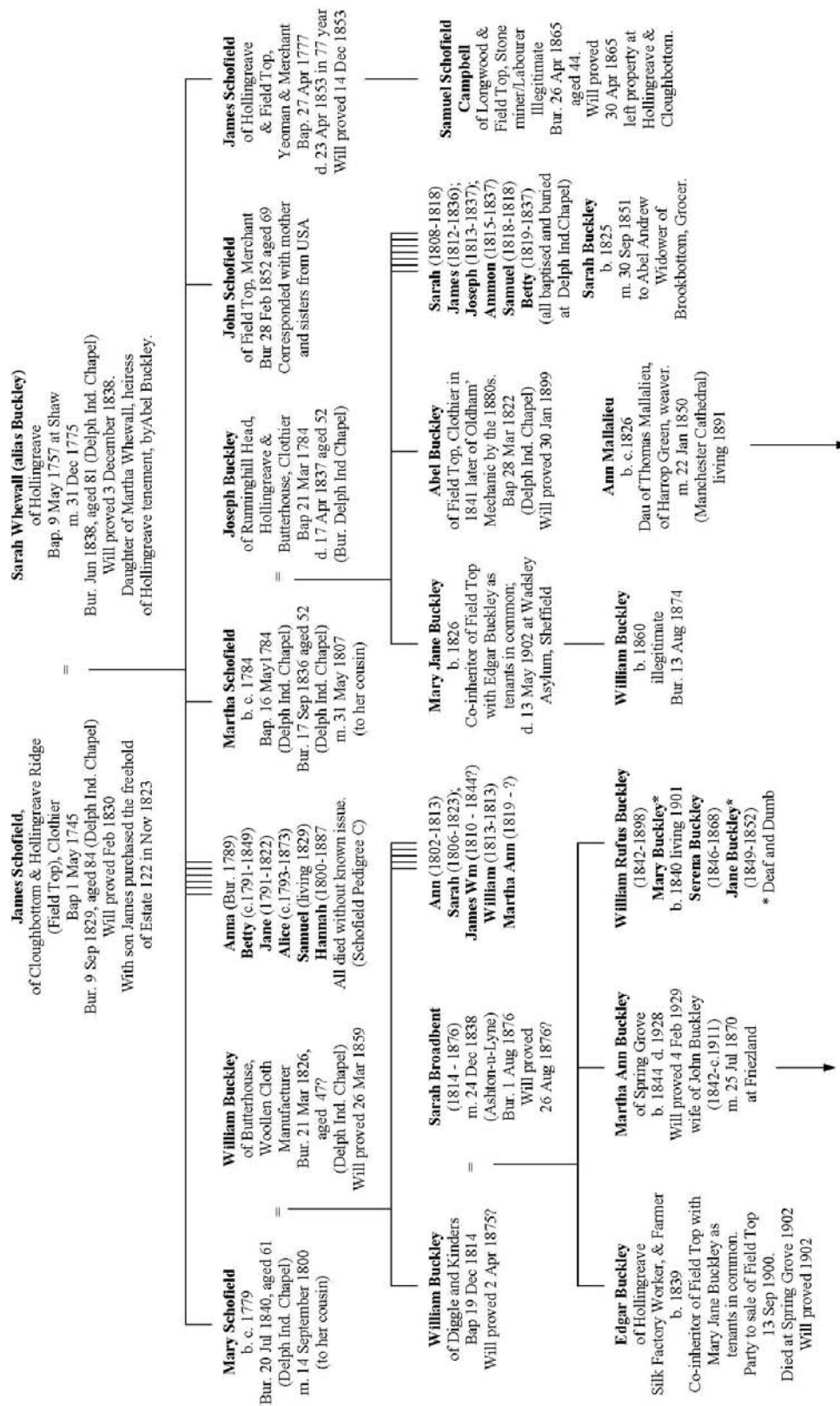
I am grateful to Viv Fry for the original source material relating to the Schofields of Field Top, which informed much of the second part of this study. I acknowledge with gratitude the contribution of Victor Khadem and Mike Buckley in editing the narrative into its published bulletin format. For additional acknowledgements, please see the first part of this study in Volume 43, Number 4.



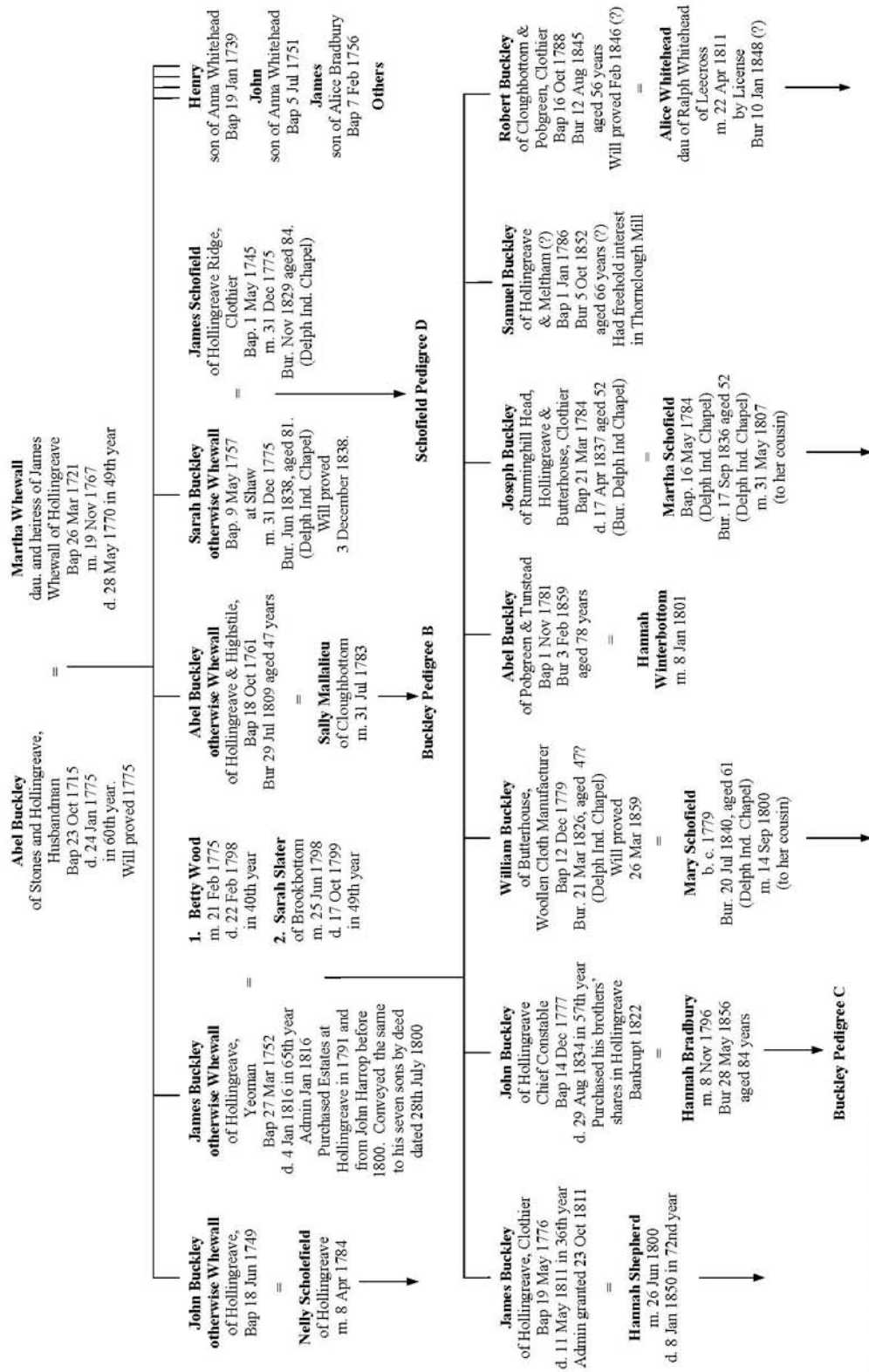
David JW Harrison 2014

Figure 9 Hollingrove Cottage

THE SCHOFIELD FAMILY OF HOLLINGREAVE, SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE (D)

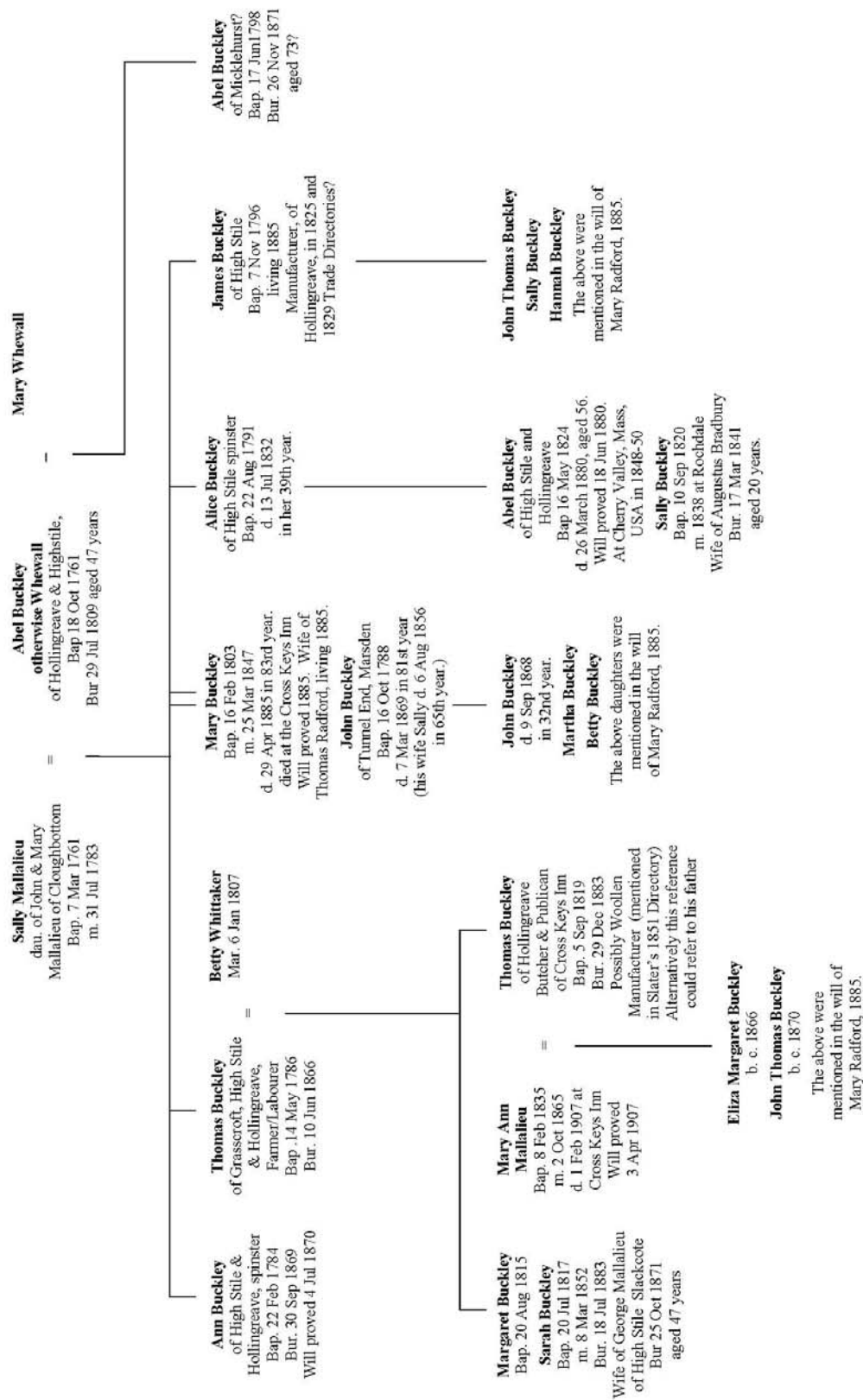


THE BUCKLEY FAMILY OF HOLLINGREAVE IN SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE (A)



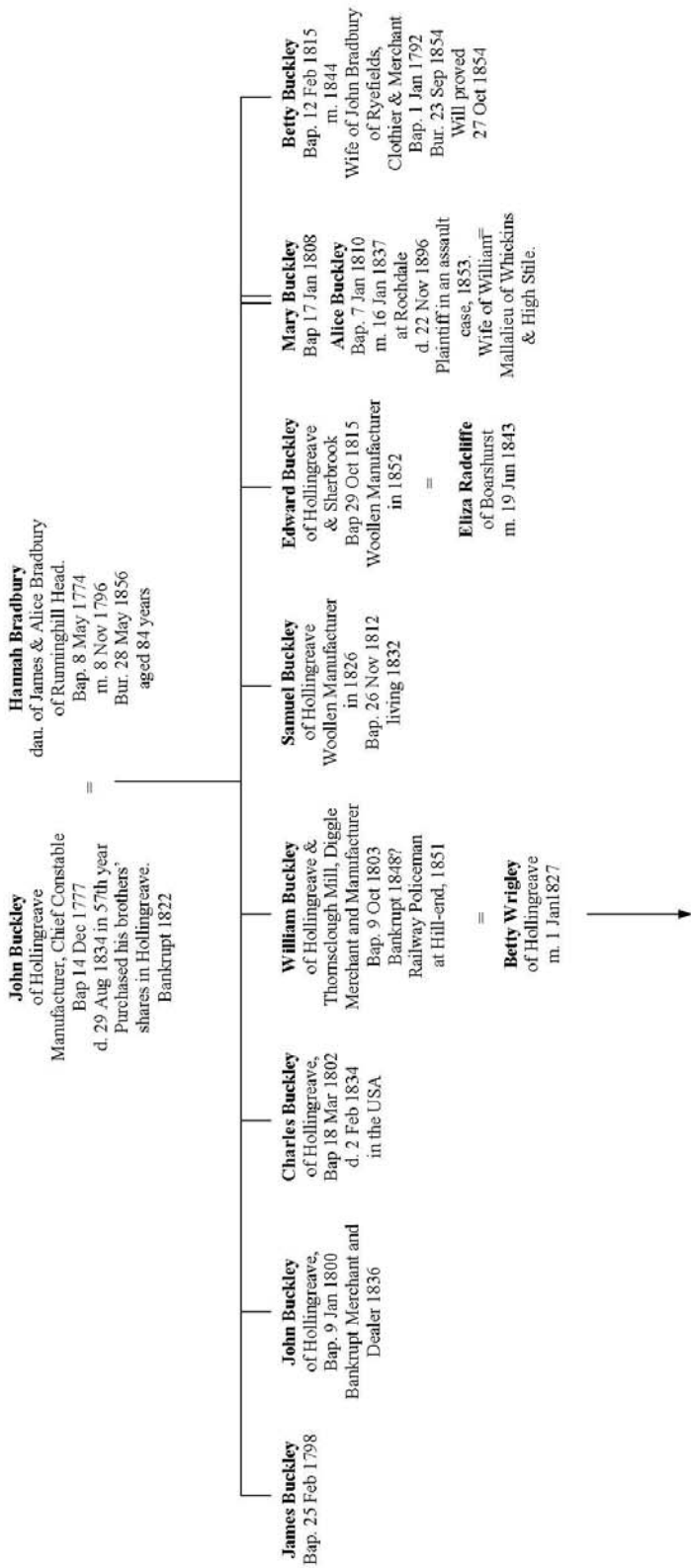
© Compiled by P.M.Buckley 2004 & 2014

THE BUCKLEY FAMILY OF HOLLINGREAVE IN SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE (B)



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THE BUCKLEY FAMILY OF HOLLINGREAVE IN SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE (C)



Appendix 1 Hollingreave Manufacturers and Merchants in Saddleworth Trade Directories¹

Woollen Manufacturer	Address	Pigot 1818	Baines 1822	Pigot 1824/5	Baines 1826	Pigot 1828/9	Pigot 1834	Pigot 1838	Pigot 1841	Slater 1843	Slater 1851	Whelan 1852	Additional description in 1828 & 1834 Pigot
Schofield, James ²	Hollingreave												Merchant
Schofield, John ³	Hollingreave / Field Top												Merchant
Schofield, Hannah ⁴	Hollingreave												
Buckley, Abel ⁵	Field Top												
Buckley, William	Butterhouse												
Buckley, Joseph ⁶	Hollingreave												
Buckley, James	Hollingreave												Merchant
Buckley, John ⁷	Hollingreave												Merchant
Buckley, William	Hollingreave												Merchant
Buckley, Edward ⁸	Hollingreave												
Buckley, Samuel ⁹	Hollingreave												
Buckley, Thomas ⁹	Hollingreave												

¹ Based on Trade Directory Entries, 1822, the year of John Buckley's bankruptcy, seems to have seen the peak of individually listed Woollen Cloth Manufacturers located at Hollingreave (although this would have included the settlements at Middle Hollingreave). The nine parties listed in Hollingreave were: John Bottomley, Nathaniel Bottomley, James Buckley, John Buckley, James Marshall, James Schofield, John Schofield, Joseph Wood, and William Wood.

² In Baines 1826, listing Woollen Manufacturers in Hollingreave, James Schofield is identified as 'Snr', alongside another entry simply noted as Schofield, J. Jun. (p.696).

³ John Schofield of Field Top (also a merchant) in Pigot 1834 and 1838, Slater 1851 and Whelan 1852.

⁴ Hannah Shaw (née Schofield), listed as Delph Grocer in Whelan 1852.

⁵ Abel Buckley (Schofield Pedigree D) of Field Top in Slater 1843 but Top o' th' Field, Hollingreave in Slater 1851 and Whelan 1852.

⁶ Joseph Buckley (Schofield Pedigree D) was listed as of Running Hill in *Manchester Commercial Directories* 1814/5 and 1816/7.

⁷ John Buckley, (1777-1834), Woollen Manufacturer and Chief Constable of Hollingreave (Buckley Pedigrees A & C). After his bankruptcy in 1822, subsequent entries probably refer to his son, John Buckley, Junior, (born 1800), (Buckley Pedigree C) mentioned in leases in 1824, and himself declared bankrupt in 1836.

⁸ Buckley Pedigree C.

⁹ Buckley Pedigree B.

Appendix 2 Letter from John Schofield to his mother, and sisters.

To Mrs Sarah Schofield, Hollingrove, Saddleworth, Manchester

New York, August 1st, 1834

Dear Mother & Sisters

By my last on the 16th July I sent 2 Bills first of exchange for £120-18-8 Sterling I also sent you a statement how I stood with my brother James and I had not the least idea that he was brought into that situation as I well knew I had over remitted him considerably thinking he might again turn industrious and that there was no danger as I knew he had property and I had no idea of him getting into debt to the amount you state is [sic] I am surprised what he could have done with the money that I have sent him but it appears to me if I had sent him all that I had what I have sent you and to others since I came to this country he would have spent it all I yesterday paid the Duties on that last Bale of cassemere S:209 which is the last I may expect from him I have not yet seen them and when I do I do not expect nothing for if James is been the weaver and our James the bobbin winder and the careless manner that he has been in the habit of conducting his business in I cannot expect much from them for to make up the sum of over 600 Sterling which I have sent him more than was due to him which I am sorry for but it is the case and it is now too late to remedy and I expect we shall have to take our turn among the other creditors if you can get hold of anything you must but as he has assigned his property over for the benefit of his creditors I do not see how you can but you must do your best I have not sold anything since I wrote you last except 7 pieces out of Bale 376 at private sale at 325 I have not tried the auctions yet this Fall as I thought it was yet too soon and expecting that prices may get up a little but when I see an opportunity will do my best and sell out there has not been many goods coming out the last 3 months and if there be any reasonable demand I think they must advance and if money gets a little more plentiful I think they will by this I send you 2 Bills of exchange seconds I hope you will have received the firsts one for £70-18-8 at three days sight for which I gave 5 per cent and the other £50 at 60 days for which I gave 4 per cent making together £120-18-8 I have no doubt but they are good though small this leaves me in good health hoping it will find you all the same I remain your affectionate Brother



PS Mr Clarkson of Wakefield is come out here and has visited me several times he has not yet met with a situation and I know not yet how he will succeed JS

NOTES

- John Schofield's evident literacy provides stark contrast to his trading brother, James, who only applied his mark to his will in 1853, also to his elder sisters, Mary and Martha Schofield, who married their neighbouring Buckley cousins at the turn of the century, yet only applied their marks to the marriage register, as inexplicably did youngest sister, Hannah, when executing her will in 1887, despite apparently signing her own marriage record in 1842.
- Bills of exchange seconds' probably reflects contemporary practice of insuring against the loss of an original bill of exchange in transit by mailing a duplicate under separate cover.
- Cassimere (also known as 'Kerseymer') : a lightweight twill-weave, worsted suiting fabric, often with a striped pattern.
- It is not known who 'our James the bobbin winder' refers to, but he could be a nephew by either sister, Martha or Mary, who both had sons called James.

Appendix 3 Inventory of John Schofield of Hollingreave dated 1st January 1709. (This was referred to as Appendix A in Part I of this study)

A true & Perfect Inventory of all the Land and Tenements Goods Chattels & Debts of John Schofield late of Hollingreave in the County of York and Diocese of Chester deceased, Valued and Appraised y^e 1st of January Anno Domini 1708 By W^m John Wild, Josuah Gorton John Hildon and Matthew Berry, of Ffelloweth.

Imp ^r imis Purse and Apparell	4-1-6
Item Two Horses	4-0-0
Item Great Chattell	21-10-0
Item In Sheep	8-10-0
Item Hay and Corn	14-0-0
Item Cart and two Sluads	02-14-0
Item Yokes Frames and Saddles	01-10-0
Item Plows & Plow Irons	0-10-0
Item Two Harrows	0-5-0
Item Yooms Combs and other materials	4-5-0
Item Wool and Spinn	5-15-0
Item Bedds and Bedding	4-12-0
Item Arks and Coffers	3-00-0
Item One Gunner	1-0-0
Item One Cutbord and Hombury	1-15-0
Item Pewter and Brass	1-11-6
Item Five Iron, Iron Potts and other Iron Goods	2-14-0
Item One Clock	1-0-0
Item Tables Chair stools Cushions	1-4-0
Item Boards and Wooden Vessells	2-5-0
Item Baulkes Potts	0-11-0
Item Rentalls of Cloath	0-18-0
Item meal wheat Groats and Beefe	1-12-0
Item Cheese	0-16-0
Item Wheelbarrows, Spinning wheels, Cards, Cheesemash, & Sacks	1-5-0
Item half a pair of yooms	0-12-6
Item Bullis	0-1-6
Item Books	0-10-0
Item Spigs and Saddees oth ^r odd Wood & maners	2-0-0
Item In Land	40-0-0
Item Tenements in Lease	26-0-0
Item One Cottage	5-0-0
Item Bonds	10-0-0
Item Debt	5-11-1
Item Other Debt	1-4-4
Item more	6-0-0
Item Rent and other Debts	1-1-1
Item Arrears for Duties	8-0-0
Item Huplement	0-5-0
	192-19-6

B-Maij

Inventory of John Schofield of Hollingreave, Clothmaker⁵¹

A true and perfect inventory of all the land and tenements, goods, cattels, chattels and debts of John Scofeild late of Hollingreave in the County of York and Diocess of Chester, Deceased, Valued and appraised ye 1st of January Anno Domini 1708, by us John Wild, Josuah Loton, John Holdin and Mathew Berry, as followeth

		£	s	d	Notes
Imprimis	Purse and Apparell	4	1	6	
Item	Two horses	4	0	0	
Item	Great Chattells	21	10	0	1
Item	In sheep	8	10	0	2
Item	Hay and Corn	14	0	0	3
Item	Cart and two Sleads	2	14	0	
Item	Yokes, Teames and Saddles	1	10	0	
Item	Plows and Plow Irons	0	10	0	
Item	Two Harrows	0	5	0	
Item	Looms, Combs and other materialls	4	5	0	4
Item	Wool and Yarn	5	15	0	
Item	Bedds and Bedding	4	12	0	
Item	Arks and Coffers	3	8	0	
Item	One Garner	1	0	0	5
Item	One Cubbord and Hombry	1	15	0	
Item	Pewter and Brass	1	11	6	
Item	Fire Iron, Iron Potts and other Iron Goods	2	14	0	
Item	One Clock	1	0	0	
Item	Tables, Chairs, Stooles, Cushions	1	4	0	
Item	Boards and Wooden Vessels	2	5	0	
Item	Earthen Potts	0	11	0	
Item	Remlants of Cloath	0	18	0	6
Item	Meal wheat Groats and Beefe	1	12	0	
Item	Cheese	0	16	0	
Item	Wheelbarrows, Spinning wheels, Cards, Cheesepress, Sacks	1	5	0	
Item	half a pair of Looms	0	12	6	
Item	Pullin	0	1	6	7
Item	Books	0	10	0	
Item	Spigs and Ladders, other odd Wood and meanor	2	0	0	
Item	In Land	40	0	0	8
Item	Tenements in Lease	26	0	0	9
Item	One Cottage	3	0	0	10
Item	Bonds	10	0	0	
Item	Debts	3	11	1	
Item	Other Debts	1	4	4	
Item	more	6	0	0	
Item	Rent and other Debts	1	1	1	
Item	Arrears for Tithes	8	0	0	11
Item	Huslement	0	5	0	
8 Mai		192	19	6	

⁵¹ Will proved at Chester 8 May 1708 (John Schofield WCWSupra 1708, LA).

Notes

1. Assume cattle, average value £4, this equates to 5-6 'beasts' (consistent with Francis Schofield's inventory in 1610).
2. Average value, say 5s each, (based on his brother-in-law, George Mallalieu's inventory valuation in 1694), this would equate to approximately 36 sheep, 2-3 times the holding of Francis Schofield's as listed in his inventory of 1610 (46s 8d in sheep).
3. Hay was livestock feed and Corn was probably oats or barley; both stocks seasonally high.
4. Specification of combing equipment suggests worsted yarn produced as well as spinning/ carding woollen cloth.
5. A chest.
6. Perhaps warp ends?
7. Hens and/or geese.
8. Four Heys Closes (see widow's Chief Rent - 5d in 1712) - purchased 1657 for £22
9. The value would probably be based on the unamortised portion of his garsome (the lease entry fine) for Hollingreave tenement no. 123 (the garsome was possibly 60 times or more the annual rent). The valuation presumably also included his recently acquired leasehold interest at Back o'th'Lee.
10. Location of cottage unidentified.
11. Itemised as money due.

OBITUARY

Clara Shaw

5th December 1912 - 7th January 2014



Clara Shaw

Clara Shaw was born at Sandbed Lane Farm, Delph on the 5th December 1912. It was on a stormy winter night and eighteen months before the start of the First World War. She was the second child of James William and Eliza Ruth (née Gartside) Shaw. In later life she was told that her father was very disappointed that she was a girl. However, he soon recovered from the disappointment and they became very fond of each other. Clara became his 'right hand man' until his death as a result of a car accident at the age of eighty-nine.

When Clara was six years old the family moved down to the house in the village - 'the shop', built by Clara's grandparents in 1889 at 36, King Street. She lived here for the next ninety years.

Clara initially attended Delph Methodist School, but her parents recognised her abilities and she went on to the Hulme Grammar School in Oldham. She travelled to Oldham on the train, the Delph Donkey. One of Clara's favourite tales was about the Hulme girls being let out of school five minutes early every day so they could catch an earlier train than the boys and if the girls were found on the later train with the boys there was big trouble!

Following school, in 1929, Clara went on to attend Loreburn Commercial College, Manchester. It was the aim of the College to find all students a job, but when she finished, there were none available. Clara got a temporary job for six months working as the Station Announcer at Piccadilly afterwards planning to go back to Loreburn. But then the book-keeper for the family business of Decorators, Plasterers and Slaters left, so Clara started work with the family firm, based in Lawton Square, Delph.

She stayed with the family firm for over nearly forty years and 'Miss Shaw', in effect, ran the business. She appears to have been quite a formidable character. Clara remained working for the firm until her father handed control of the business (when he was eighty eight) to her cousin, Albert. For many years she had combined work with looking after her mother who was riddled with arthritis, and then her father who had Parkinson's Disease. Both were too old to receive a state pension. Looking after old people wasn't made any easier by the layout of the house. A member of her family described it as a lighthouse, since you had to go up or down stairs to anywhere. It was also a very cold house. The toilet was down steep stone steps to the cellar. The cellar was unheated, and so was cold, a bit dark and often damp. The floor was stone flags. The bathroom was a relatively modern addition in the mid-1960s. Previously, the facilities consisted of a 'tippler' toilet in the back yard which was flushed by water from the kitchen sink.

Clara has been pretty fit most of her life. She always said that it was climbing up and down all those steps in the house that kept her fit. However, she did have a major disability. She became profoundly deaf when she was in her thirties. The deafness developed relatively quickly in 1947. Clara's parents had been away visiting relatives in Canada for three months. When they returned they noticed Clara was deaf, and within another six months Clara was unable to carry on a conversation around the tea-table. There were no hearing aids available, so Clara was helpless. The effect was to isolate Clara. She was able to keep working only because she was in the family business, and allowances could be made for her. In 1948 Clara managed to get an aid. It cost £60 even in those days! It had a valve amplifier and weighed 11lb 10oz. Once the NHS came into being, Clara started attending the hearing aid clinic in Oldham. She must have been their longest served customer.

Clara loved travel. As a young woman she made many trips to Scotland by train and travelled extensively there and retained a fondness for it all her life. She visited her relatives in Canada on at least three occasions. Not just to visit them but also to explore. She visited Alaska and was especially fond of Western Canada, particularly the Rockies and the Klondike.

All the Shaw family were staunch supporters of the Liberals. Indeed her father had been president of the Delph Reform club for many years, and her uncle and brother had both represented Delph & Denshaw on the old Saddleworth Urban District Council. Clara said that she was born a Liberal! Clara was asked to be secretary of the Delph Women's Liberals Association in the week of her eighteenth birthday. Over the years she played a big part in raising funds to keep the old Reform Club going and contributing to election expenses. A party was held in 1980 to celebrate fifty years of Clara being secretary. She was tickled pink that Richard Wainwright, the local MP, was there to assist the celebrations. She was a staunch supporter of Mr. Wainwright and his wife, Joyce. She was made Honorary Vice-President of Colne Valley Women's Liberal Association in 1982. Until very recently she was still an active supporter of the Liberal Democrats and distributed election leaflets around the village until well over the age of ninety. On Election Days after the reform club became unavailable, Clara allowed her home to be used as the Committee Room. There were nearly always election posters up in her windows. She believed that the Liberal Democrats were very under-represented in parliament, but believed the only way they could increase their political power would be through Proportional Representation.

Clara was very interested in the history and traditions of Saddleworth. She was a staunch supporter of local customs, especially Whit Friday and the band competitions. She also embraced newer traditions such as the Duck Race and the Beer Walk. She was a passionate supporter of anything Yorkshire and loved to visit the Holme and Colne valleys.

Clara had an absolutely amazing memory for detail. She was able to describe events and scenes from the past in the most minute detail. Along with her longevity, the fact that she had lived in the centre of Delph all her life and her amazing memory meant that knowledge of the village and its history was encyclopedic.

In 2007 Delph Bridge was closed for many weeks while extensive strengthening works took place. Delph Community Association felt that the re-opening of the bridge and road was an event to be celebrated. Clara was asked to play a key role in the ceremony; the oldest resident in Delph, she was also joined by one of the youngest, ninety years her junior. A ribbon was draped across the bridge. After speeches, it was time for Clara, scissors ready. With no more ado, she cut the ribbon and the bridge was formally declared open. Clara didn't like being the centre of attention. Before big events, she would always say she wasn't interested in them, but when they happened - she revelled in it. She didn't want to celebrate her hundredth birthday, but on the day she very much enjoyed the limelight. She looked again and again at her birthday card from the Queen - and was absolutely thrilled.

Clara had many interests. She loved embroidery and knitting, and playing whist. She was a Friend of Saddleworth Museum and an active member and strong supporter of Saddleworth Historical Society. She rarely missed a lecture and on several occasions gave illustrated talks herself drawing upon her local knowledge and her large collection of photographs of Delph. During the 1980s she was often to be seen helping her friend Bob Wheeler at the Wakefield Registry of Deeds. Her commentaries on some of the properties that Bob was researching and the people that had lived in them added local knowledge and colour to what could otherwise have been a tedious task for him. In later years she would often pass small notes on to members of the committee with recollections of Delph and its former residents, and snippets of historical information she had gleaned over the years. In honour of her hundredth birthday and her contributions to the Society she was made a life member of the Society in 2013.

The stairs in No 36 finally became too much of a challenge for her and she spend her final years in Stoneswood Care Home. She died there peacefully on 7th January 2104.

Mike Buckley

Acknowledgement

The photograph and much of the above account is based on a eulogy delivered at Clara's funeral by her niece Mrs. Muriel Downie. Permission to use both here is gratefully acknowledged.

THE WOOL WALL IN HOLLINGREAVE, DOBCROSS.



David JW Harrison 2014

Hollingreave's Grade II listed Wool Wall as it was in summer 2014.



Note changes to the wall which has been partially rebuilt since 1996 when the picture on page 42 was taken.

David JW Harrison 2014

