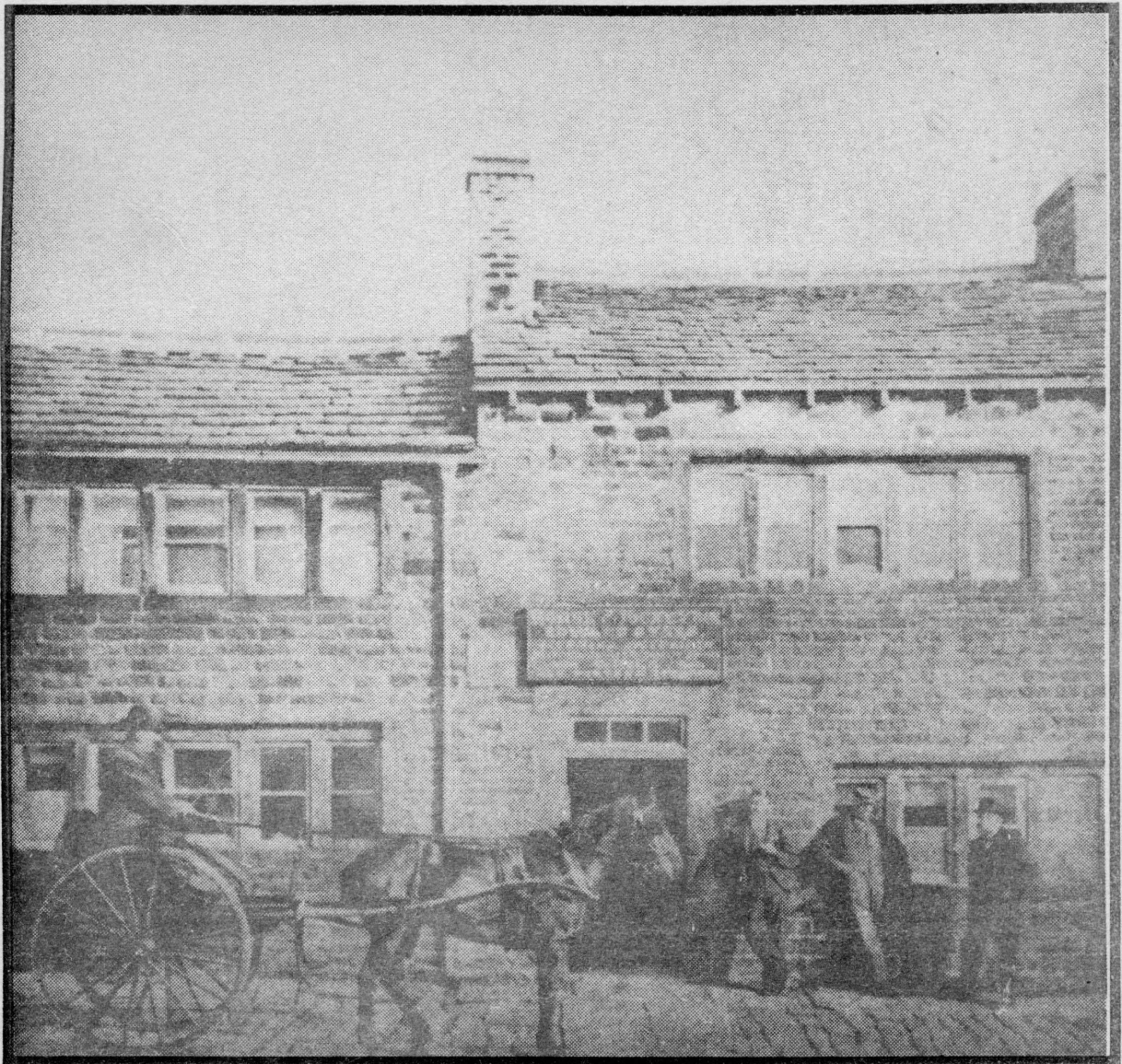


Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin



Volume 8 Number 1

Spring 1978

BULLETIN
OF
THE SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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WHITE HASOCK: PREHISTORIC ARROWHEADS?

The chance find of a small triangular flint implement by Mr. Alan Luke in September 1973 led to the discovery of 45 further implements as described in this article.

Mr. Luke found the flint in a denudation patch on the moors to the north-east of Denshaw at SD999132, at a height of 1525 feet O.D. on the moor called White Hasock, about one kilometre from March Hill with a view extending down Dean Clough to the west. Both March Hill and Dean Clough are well known for their flint sites.

Such triangles appear to have been used as barbs, inset into a wooden arrow shaft. Cases have been reported where such implements have been found arranged at intervals in a straight line, suggesting that the weapon had rotted away on the ground leaving the almost indestructable flint barbs still neatly in line. James Petch, in "Early Man in the District of Huddersfield", described how Francis Buckley found 35 such flints on White Hill close by "in a straight line (like the teeth of a saw) and occurring at intervals of $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 inches".

Mr. Luke gave me the flint and we marked its position on the ground. During the next few days, having found four more implements, three by excavation, the area was marked out in square yards and carefully excavated, the position of the flints being plotted to the nearest quarter inch.

The distribution of the flints is shown in Fig. 1, but no very significant pattern is obvious, although the distribution does not look entirely random.

The denudation patch appeared to be of fairly recent origin with peat still present to a depth of seven inches at the western end of the excavation. The demarcation between the denuded area and the peat is shown in the plan. The ground sloped gently from NNW to SSE. All the flints excavated were in a layer of sand, 1 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep which also contained many small stones.

The flints, mainly scalene triangles, are illustrated in Fig. 2. The majority had been carefully shaped from minute blades, but owing to their small size it was sometimes difficult to decide which was the proximal and which the distal end of the blade. In the 20 cases where this could be determined, eight had their shortest edge at the proximal and twelve at the distal. Three implements were made from irregular fragments of flint, perhaps suggesting a shortage of material, or an opportunist streak in the maker. Some of the flints still retain the bulb of percussion.

The triangles were very small, the longest (1, Fig. 2) being 1.6 cms long, and the average of the 30 unbroken examples only 1.14 cms. The average width was 0.42 cms.

They varied in shape; some being thin and long, others short and thick. Three were subtriangles (26, 35, 36, Fig. 2) with a rounded angle between the two shortest sides, and one (42, Fig. 2) may have been a broken point.

The material was a good quality brown flint, presumably obtained from the Scandinavian boulder clay of the Yorkshire-Lincolnshire coast.

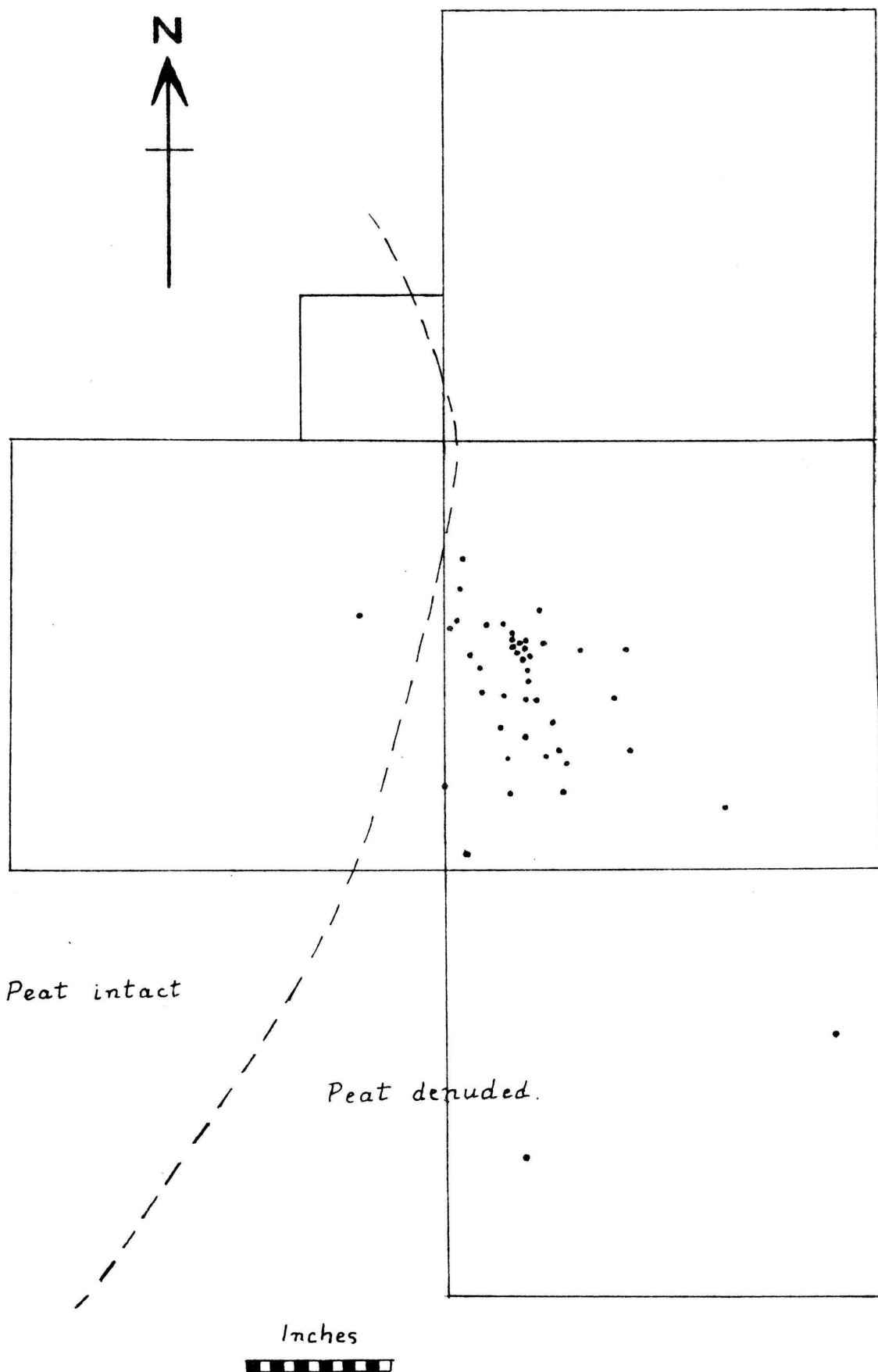


Fig. 1. White Hassock : distribution of microliths.

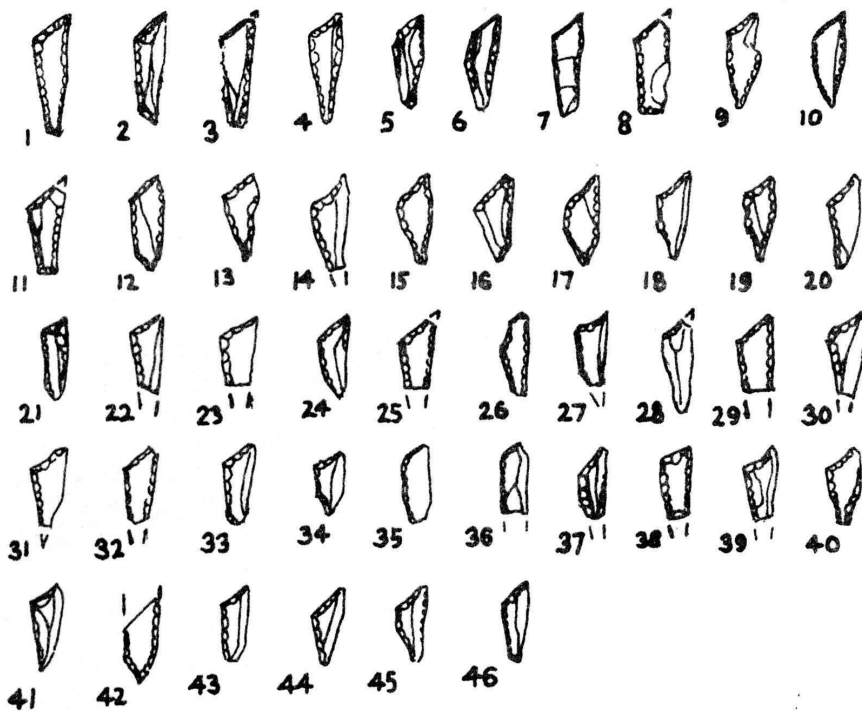


Fig.2. White Haddock: microliths-actual size.

Chronology

Such minute implements are called microliths and are characteristic of the Mesolithic (or Middle Stone Age) peoples - the hunter/gatherers, who in summer months ranged the heathlands and woodlands of our hills after the end of the last Ice-Age and before the advent of the Neolithic or New Stone Age farmers, whose flint industry was quite different. It is, therefore, possible to assign the flints to a date somewhere between 8300 b.c., when the last Ice-Age ended, and 3500 b.c., by which time the Neolithic techniques were established. Moreover, in the Pennines it seems possible to divide the Mesolithic into an Earlier and a Later period, and small triangles of this type belong to the Later period, whose earliest sites have been dated by radio-carbon methods to about 6500 b.c. Warcock Hill III, a triangle site near Marsden, excavated by Francis Buckley in the 1920s, has recently been found to have a C14 date of 6660 ± 110 b.c., and Broomhead Moor V, a site on the moors to the north-west of Sheffield, had a C14 of 6620 ± 110 b.c. (Switsur and Jacobi 1975, 33), so it would seem that these implements can be dated to somewhere between 6500 and 3500 b.c.

Conclusion

These 46 implements, fashioned sometime between 6500 and 3500 b.c., are probably the barbs surviving from one or more arrows whose shaft or shafts have long since rotted away. The absence of any waste material shows that they were not made on the spot. Perhaps a wounded animal crept here to die, concealed in a thicket; perhaps the hunter himself had an accident; perhaps the flints were hidden or lost.

References

- Petch, J. A. (1924) "Early Man in the District of Huddersfield"
Tolson Memorial Museum Publication 3, Huddersfield.
- Switsur, V. R. & "Radiocarbon Dates for the Pennine Mesolithic"
Jacobi, R. M. (1975) Nature, 256, 32-34.

MR. E. L. EDWARDS

It was with the profoundest sorrow that we learned of the death of Mr. E. L. Edwards, recent donor to the Society of a fine collection of material relating to the history of Saddleworth (see Bulletin V. 7, 1977, p. 17).

Mr. Edward Laurence Edwards of 82 Greenhill, Evesham, died in his sleep in Evesham General Hospital in the early hours of Monday morning, 27th February 1978, aged 93. He was a Dobcross man by birth. His father (Rev. H. P. Edwards) and grandfather (Rev. Simpson) were both vicars of Holy Trinity, and between them held the living there for more than 70 successive years. He moved to Evesham with his brother (Arthur Clement Edwards) around 1909 to start up as a fruit farmer. First they worked on local market gardens there, and in 1912 Mr. Edwards started his own holding on Cook's Hill, growing mainly plums and gooseberries. An expert horticultural chemist, he and the late Mr. Francis Bent, son of Buckley Bent of Dobcross, went into partnership as "Edwent", bringing out winter washes for fruit trees. Later he and his brother invented and installed their own central heating system, which was later to cause no little consternation to local plumbers when Evesham was converted to natural gas.

The two brothers (who never married) were joined by their father when he retired his living in Dobcross. Arthur Clement Edwards died in 1926.

After his retirement, Mr. Edwards was able to indulge in his passion for Saddleworth history - in particular that of the Dobcross area - and he accumulated a very large amount of material, both from his own knowledge and connections with the area, and by dint of corresponding with many Saddleworth people and research in libraries throughout the north (again by "remote control"). This material formed the basis for the several large volumes on local history which he collected together. First there was his Dobcross Book, donated to Saddleworth several years ago, and then last year he granted the Historical Society custody of most of the remainder of his work, the fruit of more than a quarter of a century's research.

The late Mr. Fred Battye was one who corresponded with Mr. Edwards for many years, and the Battye Collection in the Society's archives includes a great number of their letters. Mr. Battye, together with other Saddleworth people in touch with Mr. Edwards, would receive each year a box of fruit from the orchards of the Vale of Evesham.

A Saddleworth visitor to Mr. Edwards' home would be shown the enormous collection of material he had accumulated relating to his birthplace, and would be amazed at his detailed knowledge of the Saddleworth landscape and of current events there, despite his 70 years' exile. The same visitor would be shown with pride the almost "Heath Robinson" central heating system and be regaled with wry humour the tale of its "conversion".

MANOR RECORDS

Part 12: 1807 - 1810

26 February 1807

At a General Meeting of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick...called by publick Hand Bills printed for that purpose held at the House of John Wrigley Dobcross...for the purpose of determining on the propriety of referring to arbitration a Matter in Dispute respecting the Boundary Line between the said Manor and the adjoining Manor of Marsden, and if a reference be thought eligible for the purpose of choosing an Arbitrator or a Committee with power to do that and to settle the Bonds and any other Business that may arise relative to these and arbitration. John Radcliffe in the Chair (15 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED that it appears to this Meeting that an Arbitration respecting the Boundary of the Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick cannot at present be legally entered into with...the Manor of Marsden unless all the Proprietors of the said Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick can and will severally and respectively execute a Bond for that purpose, which cannot profitably be the Case as some of them are Infants and others are Married Women, and that there does not appear any Legal Way of submitting the same to arbitration without the Authority of Parliament.

18 May 1809

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick...called by public Advertisement and held at the House of James Andrew of Uppermill...for the purpose of appointing a Pinder or Keeper of the Pinfold lately erected near Midge Greave within the said Manor, and for other purposes. Present Mr. John Radcliffe in the Chair (17 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED that Mr. John Radcliffe the Chairman be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a person to be the Pinder or Keeper of the Pinfold lately erected at Midge Greave aforesaid.

RESOLVED that Messrs. James Whitehead of Shaws and Thomas Shaw of Shepherds Green be requested to search for and value such encroachments as have been made by inclosures within the said Manor since they viewed and valued encroachments before in 1806 and to deliver a list thereof to Mr. Mellor and give the respective person having made such encroachments Notice to pay the respective sums charged upon them into the Hands of the said Mr. Mellor.

RESOLVED that Mr. Radcliffe the Chairman be requested to settle Mr. Rooth's Bill for erecting the said Pinfold out of the rents of the Stone Quarry on Harrop Edge.

RESOLVED that Mr. Mellor be and he is hereby directed to write to the several and respective persons whose encroachments were valued in 1806 to pay such sums into his Hands within one Month, otherwise their respective fences will be pulled down, and also to write to such persons as have made such encroachments since 1806 to pay the respective sums to be charged upon them by the said James Whitehead and Thomas Shaw into his Hands within one Month from the time of writing, to wit as soon as the Valuation shall be received by him.

RESOLVED that this Meeting is adjourned subject to the called of the said Mr. Mellor.

2 September 1809

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth at the House of James Andrew of Uppermill (called by public advertisement) to take into Consideration the Encroachments of the Lands of the neighbouring Manors, and any other Business that may be proposed relative to the Interests of the said Manor of Saddleworth. John Buckley in the Chair (14 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED that an advertisement be prepared and put upon the Door of the Parish Church of Saddleworth that it is intended to present a Petition to the House of Commons the ensuing Session of Parliament for leave to bring in a Bill for obtaining an Act of Parliament for dividing, allotting and inclosing the several Commons, Moors and other wastelands or grounds within the parish of Saddleworth aforesaid, that such Notice be put upon the Church Door three Sundays within the present month of September.

RESOLVED that Mr. Radcliffe the Treasurer do pay Mr. Rooth the Balance of his Bill for erecting a Pinfold and Mr. Brown's Bill for surveying, amounting to £12-3-0 as soon as he shall have Money belonging to the said Proprietors sufficient for that purpose.

RESOLVED that a general Meeting of the Proprietors of the said Manor and also of the owners and proprietors of Lands and Hereditaments within the said Parish of Saddleworth be called to be held at this House on Thursday the 19th day of October next at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon to consider the propriety of applying to Parliament for power to divide, allot and inclose the said Commons, Moors and other Waste Lands and Grounds within the said parish and that Printed Handbills thereof be put up in public places and dispersed announcing the same.

RESOLVED that the Thanks of the Meeting be given to the Chairman for his very upright Conduct in the Chair.

30 June 1810

At a Meeting of the Proprietors...(called by public Advertisement) held at the House of Mr. John Wrigley, Innkeeper of Dobcross...in order to appoint a Committee or Agent to have the Management of their Interests in the Concern during the time of the Inclosure Act being put into Execution and to deliberate on any other Business that may occur relative thereto. Mr. John Lees in the Chair (17 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED unanimously that five persons be appointed as a Committee to attend the Commissioner at any Meeting to be called respecting the said Inclosure, to watch over the Interests of the Proprietors, and that the following Gentlemen be appointed such Committee viz - Mr. Henry Whitehead, John Rooth, Joseph Harrop, Edward Brown and Joseph Lees, any three of whom shall be competent to Act at any of the said Meetings.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to the Commissioner to set out four Acres of Land at proper and convenient places upon Harrop Edge for the purpose of opening Quarries to get stone.

RESOLVED that the Commissioner be requested to cause Harrop Edge to be surveyed and allotted out for Sale in small Allotments not exceeding 8 Acres, that the same may be disposed of as soon as conveniently may be.

20 September 1810

At a public Meeting of the Proprietors...called at the request of the Committee appointed...to watch over the Interest of the said Manor, held at the House of Mr. John Wrigley, Innkeeper Dobcross...for the purpose of Receiving the report of the said Committee, and for other special purposes. Mr. John Radcliffe in the Chair (32 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED unanimously that the Committee already appointed are empowered and be requested to prosecute the Claims made by them on behalf of the Lords of the Manor and to resist all Claims which may interfere with the Rights of the said Lords, and that the Committee are empowered to call in the aid of Counsel to further the Object of the said Lords, and may draw upon the Treasurers of the said Lords to defray any Expences which may be incurred in prosecuting and resisting the aforesaid Claims.

A REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Appointed by the proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick on the 30th Day of June last to watch over the Interest of the said Manor. YOUR COMMITTEE have considered it necessary to make a claim for one-tenth share of the Commons Moors and Waste Lands of Saddleworth as Lords of the Manor in lieu of Soil.

AND ALSO an Allotment in respect of the several Mines Minerals Waters and Watercourses within the said Commons, and likewise in respect of the several Incroachments made thereon.

AND ALSO an Allotment in respect of several Freehold Estates which when sold, your Committee conceive that the Right of Common belonging thereto was reserved to the Lord or Lords of the said Manor (the particulars of which Claims will appear in the Book of proceedings of the said Committee now before you). (N.B.: these details will appear in future Bulletins - Editor).

YOUR COMMITTEE in examining and looking over the different Claims delivered in to the said Commissioner, beg leave to suggest that it appears that several Objectionable Claims have been made, and which ought to be resisted. In the first place, your Committee beg the attention of this Meeting to a Claim delivered in to the said Commissioner for an Estate upon Frier Mere to the extent of about 172 Acres. In the second place your Committee think it necessary to draw your attention to a Number of Claims made for Estates upon Quick Mere, to the extent of 450 Acres. In the third place your Committee wish to draw your attention to sundry Claims made for Estates upon Lords Mere and Shaw Mere, and which they conceive the Common Right claimed for those Estates is reserved to the Lord or Lords of the said Manor. In the fourth place your Committee also wish to draw your particular Attention to sundry Claims made for Sheep Walks and for several Parcels of Land upon the said Commons to the Extent of several Thousand Acres, as also

to Claims for Beast Gates, right of Turbary, Privilege of Getting Stone and Doles of Hollins. In the fifth place your Committee likewise wish to remark to you that in looking over the different Claims for Manor Shares delivered in to the Commissioner, they find that Claims have been delivered in to the Amount of 937 Shares, and that your Committee understand the whole Amount of Shares to be only 828.

IF this Meeting should coincide with the Opinion of the Committee that the Claims pointed out should be resisted, the Committee wait for the further instructions of this Meeting and beg particularly to suggest the propriety of their being empowered to call in the aid of Counsel to their Assistance should it be found necessary.

27 October 1810

At a Meeting of the proprietors...held at the House of Mr. John Wrigley Innkeeper Dobcross, for the purpose of taking into Consideration the propriety of altering amending or revoking the Resolution at the last Meeting of the Proprietors empowering the Committee to draw for or expend Money on Account of the proprietors, and for other purposes relating to the said Manor. Mr. John Radcliffe in the Chair (32 other proprietors present).

RESOLVED that the Committee do and they are hereby appointed to inspect and examine the Accounts now produced before this Meeting by Mr. John Radcliffe the Treasurer for the Lords of the said Manor.

RESOLVED that it appears to the Meeting that Ralph Fletcher Esq. the Commissioner appointed by the Act of Parliament for inclosing Lands within the Parish of Saddleworth is a proper person to fill the situation and in every way qualified to carry the same into Effect. And that the Resolutions entered into at the last Meeting held at this Place the 20th September last be approved by this Meeting and that the proceedings of the Committee of the Proprietors of the Manor appointed the 30th June last be made public on every proper occasion. (N.B.: these proceedings will appear in future editions of the Bulletin - Editor).

To be continued.

SADDLEWORTH MUSEUM

Attendance Figures 1977

	1976 <u>Total</u>	1977 <u>Total</u>	<u>Exhibitions</u>	<u>Average</u>		
				<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Wed.</u>
January	475	540		53	82	-
February	678	929		35	155	7
March	622	964	Costumes	63	153	20
April	919	1,178		83	131	59
May	1,479	1,371	Postcards	71	182	44
June	717	913		68	154	47
July	1,255	1,605	Cricket	92	187	53
August	1,355	1,888		100	237	135
September	781	1,213	Fabric Pictures (Ada			
October	942	1,440	Eastwood)	76	194	45
November	536	740		92	168	35
December	<u>214</u>	<u>311</u>	Refuse All Substitutes	34	128	19
	9,973	13,092	Photographs (T. Farmer)			
			Education	34	65	6

A small group of volunteers meets regularly in the Museum every Tuesday evening at about 8.00 p.m. They have set themselves the tasks of organising and re-arranging exhibits, recording etc. The Historical Society has undertaken the operation of the Museum, and more workers would be greatly appreciated.

As this year is likely to be even busier than 1977, and as next year will see the Saddleworth Festival, there is also a need for more volunteers to help in the manning of the Museum at weekends. Ideally, two or even three members should be on duty at the same time to assist each other with the varied (but not onerous) duties.

People interested (no experience needed) should contact the Society's Museum Officer, Tony Burke, either at the Museum on Tuesday evenings, or telephone Saddleworth 3884.

HEATHFIELDS MILL, UPPERMILL

(Grid Ref. SE 002058)

The lower mill at Heathfields was demolished in the 1950s, but the main parts of the waterwheel were left buried under the rubble. Members of the Historical Society carried out excavations in 1976 and 1977 to uncover the wheel pit and the remaining parts of the wheel. The sketch shows how the mill is thought to have appeared, no photographs or drawings having so far come to light. The wheel was housed in the lean-to building, and there were taking-in doors at the opposite gable end with a hand-operated hoist serving the upper floors.

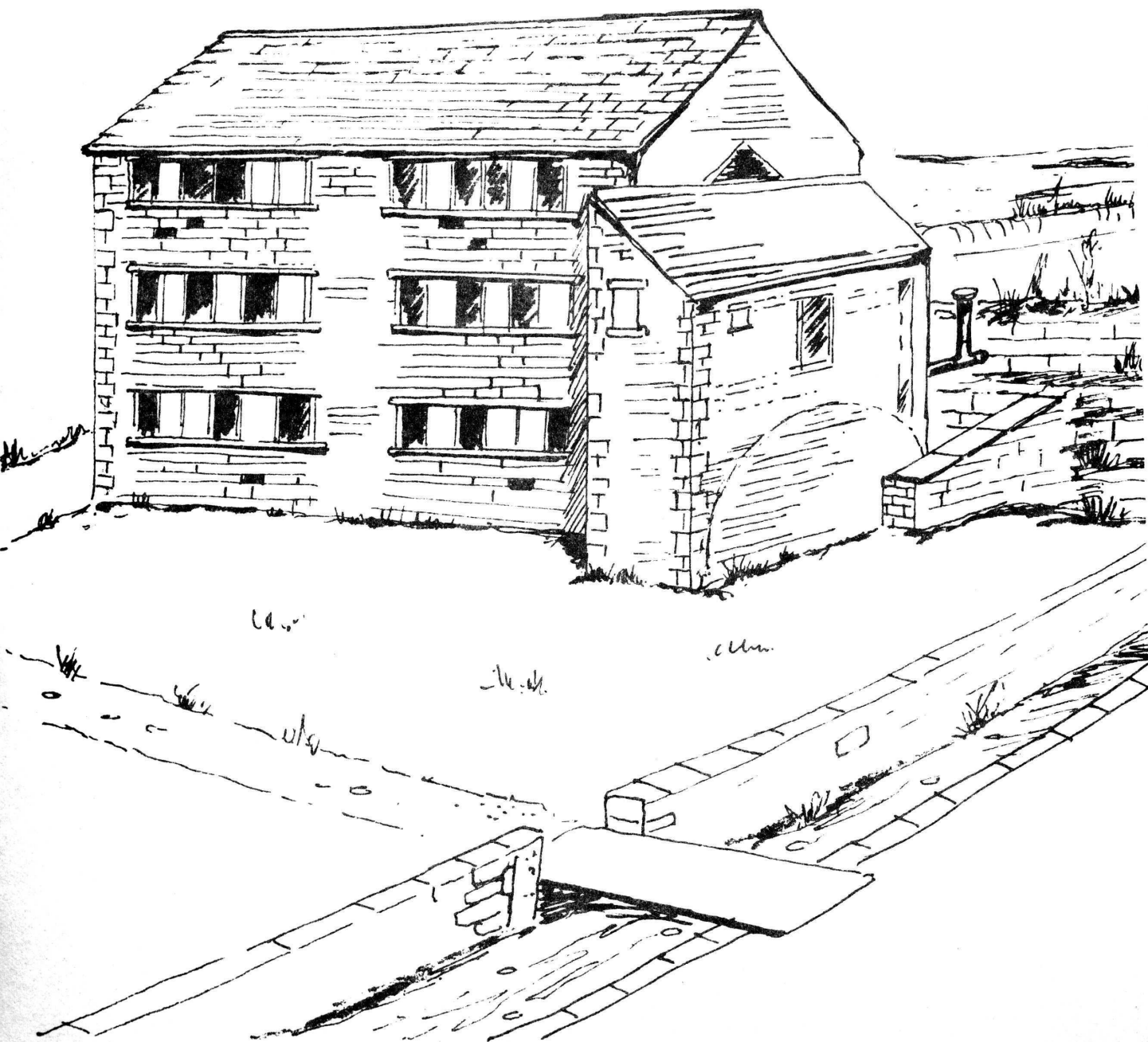
The mill was built in the late eighteenth century, and at the time it had for driving power what was probably the largest water wheel in the Saddleworth area. This consisted of a 36 feet diameter pitchback wheel: the water fell on to the wheel near the highest point and the top of the wheel turned towards the direction of the water supply.

Advantage was taken of the slope of the hillside, so that it was possible to site the mill dam high and still have the tail race low enough to allow the water leaving the wheel to flow away freely. Apart from problems of construction, these were the conditions limiting the size of the wheel which could be built. The power of this type of water wheel is dependant on its width and diameter, the width being determined by the amount of water available. Hence for a given flow of water, the greater the diameter the greater the power produced.

The stream which supplied the mill originates at Whitebrook Head (SE 00750557). Known locally as Rogue Hole, this is a spring where water gushes from the hillside. The stream was used to drive a smaller mill (originally a dyeworks) before reaching the lower mill at Heathfields. Continuing its way down to the river Tame, it turned a water wheel at the corn mill which stood on the site now occupied by the Hare and Hounds car park in Uppermill. Later the Old Factory was built on the site of the corn mill, and this also had a water wheel. In the days of steam power, some of the water from Rogue Hole was diverted by way of Higher Cross to supply the mill dam at Spring Meadow, then returning to the main stream above Heathfields. Steam engines at Damhead (Albion Mill) and the Old Factory also made use of the Whitebrook water.

The manufacturing of woollen cloth in the Saddleworth cottages was at its height when Heathfields Mill was built. Hand operated jennies were used for spinning and the cloth was woven on hand looms, but by this period power driven machines were available for the scribbling process. Scribbling machines were a primitive form of the carding engines in use today, and before their introduction the process had to be carried out by hand cards. Another process mechanised at this time was the brushing of the cloth to raise the nap. Dried natural teazles attached to revolving drums were used for this process, and this was followed by cropping with hand shears. A smooth cloth of very high quality was the outcome. A mill such as Heathfields - probably a scribbling mill, though cloth finishing may also have been carried on - would be able to serve the needs of many cottage weavers, so that more cloth could be produced by the total number of people involved. In a future article a full description of the wheel, together with drawings, will be given.

John Buckley.



SOCIETY SCRAPBOOK

This section of the Bulletin is to record items of general interest, discoveries, sources of reference etc., which, although of no direct connection with any project being undertaken by the Society at the present time, may be relevant in the future.

Saddleworth Sales advertised in the Manchester Newspapers

"Manchester Mercury" April 8 1783. To be sold by Auction:

At the House of Mrs. Whitehead, the Angel Inn in Ashton-under-Line, in the County of Lancaster, on Wednesday the 7th Day of May 1783 (if not disposed of in the mean time by private Contract, of which Notice will be given in this Paper) subject to the Terms and Conditions to be then and there produced. The Fee Simple and Inheritance of and in all that Messuage, Dwellinghouse or Tenement, with the Shops, Warehouses, Cottages, Out-buildings, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, commonly called and known by the name of LIDYATE, situate and being in Saddleworth in the West Riding of the County of York, late in the possession of Mr. Edward Costurd and now of Benjamin Wrigley the younger, Joseph Wrigley, Miles Wrigley, James Wrigley, Richard Chadwick, and Lambert Deplich, as Under-tenants to the said Benjamin Wrigley the Elder. And also all those several Closes, Inclosures, Pieces or Parcels of Land or Ground to the said Messuage or Tenement belonging, called by the several Names of the Nearer Field, the Further Field, the Higher Field, the Bent, the Kenworthy Meadow and the two Lower Meadows, containing together by Estimation 18 Acres 3 Roods and 5 Perches of Land or Ground, or thereabouts, now also in the Possession of the said Benjamin Wrigley and his Under-tenants. The above Premises are very advantageously situated in the populous manufacturing Part of Saddleworth, contiguous to the Turnpike Road from Ashton-under-Line to Huddersfield, are well supplied with Water, and very convenient for a Person in the Woollen or Cotton Manufactory being about 12 miles from Manchester, 4 miles from Ashton-under-Line, 4 from Oldham, and 14 miles from Huddersfield.

"Manchester Mercury" June 16 1789. To be Let, and Entered on immediately:

A Large and commodious Messuage or Dwelling House, with suitable Outhousing to the same belonging, situate at LYDGATE, in Saddleworth, and 14 Days Work of rich Meadow and Pasture Land, adjoining thereto, late in the Occupation of James Lees, and his Under-tenants.

Lydgate, being a Central Place for Public Meetings, and the Turnpike Road to Stockport going through the same, render the Situation of the said Dwelling House very convenient for an Inn, for which purpose only, at the Request of the Inhabitants, it will be Lett.

Particulars may be had by applying to Mr. Buckley, Quickwood, or J. Brook, Bookseller, Huddersfield.

"Manchester Guardian" April 11 1849 Sale by Auction:

By Mr. Joseph Buckley, at the Queen's Head Inn, Shaw within Crompton, in the County of Lancaster, on Friday the 13th day of April 1849 at 6 o'clock in the evening...

All that very valuable Freehold Estate, known by the name of HIGHER MANTELOW GATE, situate in Saddleworth, in the County of York, consisting of several closes of meadow and pasture land, and containing in the whole 12 acres 2 roods 6 perches or thereabouts, statute measure. And also, all that Leasehold Plot

of Pasture Land, in Crompton aforesaid, containing 4 acres 2 roods 34 perches or thereabouts, statute measure, and occupied along with the said farm. The dwelling house, barn, stable and shippon are well and substantially stone built, and have within a very short period undergone a thorough and complete repair. The above estate is situate on the extreme eastern boundary of the township of Crompton, and to which there are two good approaches: one out of the turnpike road at Burn, and the other out of the turnpike road immediately below Grain's Bar. The land is in a high state of cultivation, and there are therein several excellent springs of water. The leasehold plot of land is held for a term of 999 years, which commenced the 14th day of May 1764, is well fenced with 6 feet walls, and is only subject to a nominal rent. The owner and occupier Mr. Robert Buckley will show the premises and further information can be had from the auctioneer, or from Mr. John Milne, solicitor, Shaw.

"Manchester Guardian" July 21 1849. Sale by Auction:

By Mr. William Henry Fletcher, at the house of Richard Steel, the Bell Inn at New Delph, in Saddleworth in the county of York, on Wednesday the 8th day of August 1849, at six o'clock in the evening... The Fee Simple and Inheritance of and in all that Messuage and Dwelling House, with the Barn, Shippon, Outbuildings, Conveniences and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at HOLLINBANK, near Junction, within Saddleworth, in the County of York, now in the occupation of John Wild. And also all that other Messuage or Dwelling House now occupied as a beerhouse, and known by the sign of the COTTON TREE, with a barn, shippon, stable, outbuildings and appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Hollinbank aforesaid, now in the possession of William Dransfield. And also all those Two Cottages or Dwelling Houses situate at HOLLINBANK aforesaid, now in the occupation of Alice Dransfield and John Shaw. And also all those several Closes, Fields or Parcels of Meadow and Pasture Land situate at or near Hollinbank aforesaid, to the said Messuages or Dwellinghouses belonging and appertaining, and therewith occupied and enjoyed, containing by estimation 14 acres 3 roods 33 perches or thereabouts, be the same more or less, and which said closes of land are now in the occupations of the said John Wild and William Dransfield. The respective tenants will shew the premises, and further particulars may be had on application to the Auctioneer, or Mr. Radcliffe, solicitor, Oldham.

(For further details of Hollin Bank see the Gazetteer Section).

Bernard Barnes.

COW CLUB

On January 4, 1838, a meeting was held at the New Inn, now the Church Inn, where John Andrew was the landlord, with the aim of forming a Cow Club. The articles of the club were published later that year by C. Schofield of Spring House. The preamble read as follows:

Declaration

Whereas it hath been a custom both ancient and modern for men to form themselves into Societies for the aid and assistance of each other, and we willing to imitate them

in such laudable ties of friendship, have mutually agreed to form ourselves into a Society, in order to raise a Stock or Fund of Money, to assist each other in any loss we may at any time sustain in our Neat Cattle.

Briefly, the articles included the following: four meetings to be held each year - April, July, October, January. In January, a Master and 2 Stewards to be appointed to serve for one year, together with a Clerk who shall receive 4 shillings annually. Annual Committee of 5 members to assist the above in the valuation of cattle. The master and stewards to be provided with a marking iron and shall mark the cattle upon the horn with the letters S. C. (Saddleworth Club). Members to pay 3d. a cow for marking and this to be recorded. Society to consist of 2 classes: those who choose to enter their cows in the first class to pay at their entrance 3/- per cow; and those who enter their cows in the second class to pay 2/6 each cow; and at every meeting those in the first class to pay 1/- and those in the second class 9d., for the use of the Society, and 3d. each member for liquor. If a member's cow is afflicted with sickness, he shall apply to the master or steward who will immediately view the cow, and if all efforts to relieve the cow prove vain and she die, then the cow will be valued at a fair and just valuation as if alive and in health (but no cow shall be valued at more than £9 and those in the second class not more than £7), and the stewards will dispose of the carcass for the benefit of the Society. Right of appeal if the owner considers the valuation too low. Any treatment of a sick cow to be done at the expense of the Society. Money to be paid for losses when demanded - 1/6 each cow on those in the first class, and 1/1 $\frac{1}{2}$ each cow on those in the second class. The master shall have it in his power on each meeting the right to keep order and command silence: and if any member shall refuse to be silent or shall swear or use any indecent or abusive language or any way interrupt or disturb the business of this Society, he shall for every such offence forfeit 2d. to the fund.

"When you are call'd a cow to prize,
First view her well, then mark her size;
Think of her note, and things like these,
But never strive your friends to please;
Do what's your duty in your lot,
Whoe'er is pleas'd, or who is not".

1838 Master Ralph Whitehead

Stewards John Schofield and Robert Buckley.

John Buckley.

OLD SADDLEWORTH

This is part of the work being carried out on a Gazetteer of Saddleworth by the Historical Society. As more of this work is completed details will be published in future editions of the Bulletin. The information given below has been extracted from record cards held by the Society, which are available for reference.

HOLLIN BANK

Grid Ref: SD 966091

Location: Just below Oldham Road between Old Tame and Grains Bar, 1,000 feet above sea level on the south-eastward facing slopes of the Tame valley above Slackcote Mills.

Description: Two storey, stone farmhouse with barn and outbuildings. Nearby stone cottage, at present unoccupied.

History: 1731 Dec. 18. Sarah wife of James Whitehead of Hollinbank buried. Dec. 28 1733 Old James Whitehead of Hollinbank clothier married Ann Buckley widow of Brimmycroft. She was buried Jan. 29 1737. James Whitehead clothier of Hollinbank was buried Jan. 25 1738 (Registers).

1738 Apr. 20 Abraham son of James Platt clothier of Hollinbank buried. Sept. 2 1739 Abraham son of James Platt and Joanna his wife of Hollinbank christened (Registers).

1743 Oct. 27 John Shaw of Grotton clothier married Mary Wrigley of Holling-bank. Apr. 5 1752 their daughter Mary was christened. Their son Joseph was christened Apr. 28 1754 and buried Mar. 6 1755. Another son Joseph was christened Jan. 25 1756 (Joseph Shaw of Heights died 16 Feb. 1808 aged 53 and Mary his wife died 8 Feb. 1840 aged 84). Their son Thomas was christened Apr. 9 1758, and their son Hugh on Jan. 3 1764. Mary Shaw widow was buried July 12 1792 (Registers).

1747 Jan. 14 Joseph and Benjamin sons of Alice Wrigley of Hollinbank spinster by George Travis of Hey-side in Oldham Parish clothier christened. Alice Wrigley was buried Jan. 18 1747 (Registers).

1749 Oct. 25 Henry Buckley of New Tame yeoman married Jane Wrigley of Hollinbank (Registers).

1751 Nov. 20 Sale for £400 to John Shaw of Hollinbank clothier by James Wrigley and Elizabeth his wife of or near Old Tame yeoman - "all those two messuages, that is one messuage or dwellinghouse with barns, shippons...belonging and in the occupation of James Wrigley being near Old Tame and also one other messuage...in the occupation of John Shaw...together with closes called Nearer Hollinbank, Further Hollinbank, Hollinbank Meadow, Heathehill (now divided into two), Little Meadow at the Door, New Meadow and Little Rough, Longfield and Intack, Intack Meadow now divided into two, and Mantley Yate Field, containing by estimation 28 acres of land...late the estate of John Wrigley of Saddleworth yeoman and now the

estate of James Wrigley of Saddleworth son and heir of John, together with the liberty for Jeremy Wrigley of Old Tame yeoman, John Buckley of Linthwaite yeoman, Edmund Buckley of Old Tame yeoman, John Buckley of Castleshaw yeoman, and Edmund Buckley of Castleshaw yeoman (brother of John) to take and get turves from the close called the Intack so long as the turbary thereof lasteth according to agreements with the last mentioned persons made 2 April 1649 (Deeds).

- 1755 Oct. 18 Mary daughter of John Buckley clothier and Hannah his wife of Hollinbank buried (Registers).
- 1760 May 26 James Wrigley of Hollinbank buried (Registers).
- 1765 John Shaw of Hollinbank yeoman was a trustee for the building of Heights Church.
- 1774 The deeds mention the fact that John Shaw of Hollinbank clothier was brother and heir of James Shaw of Wellhead yeoman, deceased.
- 1784 Nov. 29 Will of John Shaw of Hollinbank yeoman. Gave his eldest son James the messuage or dwellinghouse at Hollinbank with the outhousing and fields - Meadow under the Barn, Lower Meadow, Claybutts, Tenterfield, Barn Brow, New Field, Westerly End of the Old Hey as the same was then marked and set out from the Easterly end thereof, Clover Knowl, Meadow above the Door, Lower Field and Rams Clough Meadow plus one third being $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of a certain dole of common waste upon High Moor within Crompton, charging his son James with the payment of £100 to his daughter Mary wife of Rev. Lancelot Bellas, Clerk, within 12 months after his decease (Deeds).
- 1787 Dec. 30 Betty daughter of Thomas Shaw clothier and Mally his wife of Hollinbank christened. In 1801 Thomas Shaw of Hollinbank was a Warden of Saddleworth Church (Registers).
- 1796 Hugh Shaw of Hollin Bank sent wool for scribbling to John Mellor at Rasping Mill (Ammon Wrigley, "Those were the Days").
- 1814 Wardle & Bentham's Directory listed John Shaw, woollen manufacturer of Hollin Bank.
- 1817 Last will of James Shaw of Hollinbank yeoman, March 13. To son John, freehold messuage etc. at Hollinbank in the occupation of himself and Miles Scholefield, with leasehold land called the Rough in Crompton. To his daughter Mary, wife of Joseph Seville messuage etc. at Heathy Hill now in the occupation of John Brierley. To John Buckley, James Buckley, William Buckley and Mary Buckley, sons and daughter of his late daughter Ann, equally to be divided amongst them, the messuage etc. situated at Greenlane in Saddleworth in the occupation of his said son John Shaw (Deeds). James Shaw of Hollinbank died Mar. 14 1817 aged 67 and Mary his wife died 20 Jan. 1787 aged 33 (Registers).
- 1822 Baines' Directory listed John Shaw woollen manufacturer of Hollinbank.

- 1832 The Poll List included John and James Shaw, woollen manufacturers of Hollin Bank.
- 1835 The Saddleworth Church Rate Book indicated that the owner of the Hollin Bank estate was John Shaw, and it was occupied by John Shaw and Frank Brierley.
- 1841 Under Hollin Bank the Census listed William Dransfield publican, John Buckley woollen weaver, Mary Ann Mallalieu woollen weaver and John Shaw farmer.
- 1846 The deeds indicate that the Hollin Bank estate consisted of (a) messuage, barn, shippon etc. at Hollinbank in the occupation of John Wild (b) messuage occupied as a beerhouse called the Cotton Tree with barn, shippon etc. in the occupation of William Dransfield (c) two cottages at Hollinbank in the occupation of Alice Dransfield and John Shaw, with fields at Hollinbank containing 14 acres 3 roods and 33 perches. (By this time, by various mortgages, the estate was owned by John Lees, cotton spinner of Spring Hill, Waterhead).
- 1849 Sale of Hollinbank Estate, Manchester Guardian July 21 (See "Society Scrapbook" in this issue of the Bulletin).
- 1851 The Census listed the following under Hollin Bank: John Burdham, mechanic, with his wife and son. James Dransfield, farmer of 6 acres, with three males and two females, one of whom was a woollen hand-loom weaver. Alice Dransfield, with three males and three females: of these one was a woollen hand-loom weaver, one a woollen carder, and one a woollen mill hand.
- 1852 The Church Rate Book indicated that John Shaw was the owner of the estate, and the occupiers were James, William and Alice Dransfield.
- 1871 The Census included the following: James Parkin, woollen sizer of Hollin Bank; James Dransfield, farmer of 12 acres of Hollin Bank; one house unoccupied at Hollin Bank; John Brierley, unoccupied, of Hollin Bank Side; Henry Brierley woollen weaver of Hollin Bank Side.
- 1900 Conveyance for £350 dated 14 March. Between Charles Percy Lees of Iffley near Oxford and Robert Dransfield of Grains Bar cattle dealer; concerning the messuage etc. at Hollinbank in the occupation of Robert Dransfield; two messuages or dwellinghouses formerly one dwellinghouse and occupied as a beerhouse called the Cotton Tree, in the occupation of James Whitehead and John Evans; and two cottages at Hollinbank; and closes containing 14 acres 3 roods 33 perches. (Deeds).

ERRATUM

BELL INN: page 78 of Volume 7 of the Bulletin.

Mr. W. J. Smith has kindly pointed out that the original building is on the right hand side of the arch, and not as stated in the description.

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, railways, bridges etc. Information should be sent to the Editor of the

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Grasscroft,
OLDHAM.

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