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Unravelling the mystery of a ruin: revealing the Medieval Grange at Castleshaw
Interim excavation report 65
Norman Redhead

Denshaw War Memorial– A Community Tribute 82
Mike Buckley

Additions to *Saddleworth 1914-1919* Part 3 90
Neil Barrow

Saddleworth Notices and Reports from The Leeds Intelligencer: Part 5, 1979 - 1800 97
Howard Lambert

Cover Illustration:
Ruin at Waters Clough
Norman Redhead

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UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERY OF A RUIN: REVEALING THE MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

Interim Excavation Report

Norman Redhead

Background

As part of the Castleshaw Roman Forts Hinterland Survey, the Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts carried out an archaeological evaluation of an area of land adjacent to the south bank of Waters Clough and to the north-west of the Castleshaw Centre, Waterworks Lane, Castleshaw, near Delph, Saddleworth, located at SD99470921. The land is owned by United Utilities who gave permission to carry out the archaeological investigations and kindly provided a small grant towards running the project.

Archaeologically, the tranquil Castleshaw valley in Saddleworth is known for its spectacular remains of the Roman road that once connected Chester to York, and the Roman fort guarding that road. However, recent excavations have found yet another remarkable archaeological site – this time of medieval date. On the floor of the valley and overlooking the steep bank of Water’s Clough are the remains of a substantial stone building which is believed to have been part of a 13th century monastic grange. A series of test pits and small trenches were dug by the Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts between 2016 and 2018, together with a week-long excavation in late May 2018, as part of their survey of the valley’s archaeology.

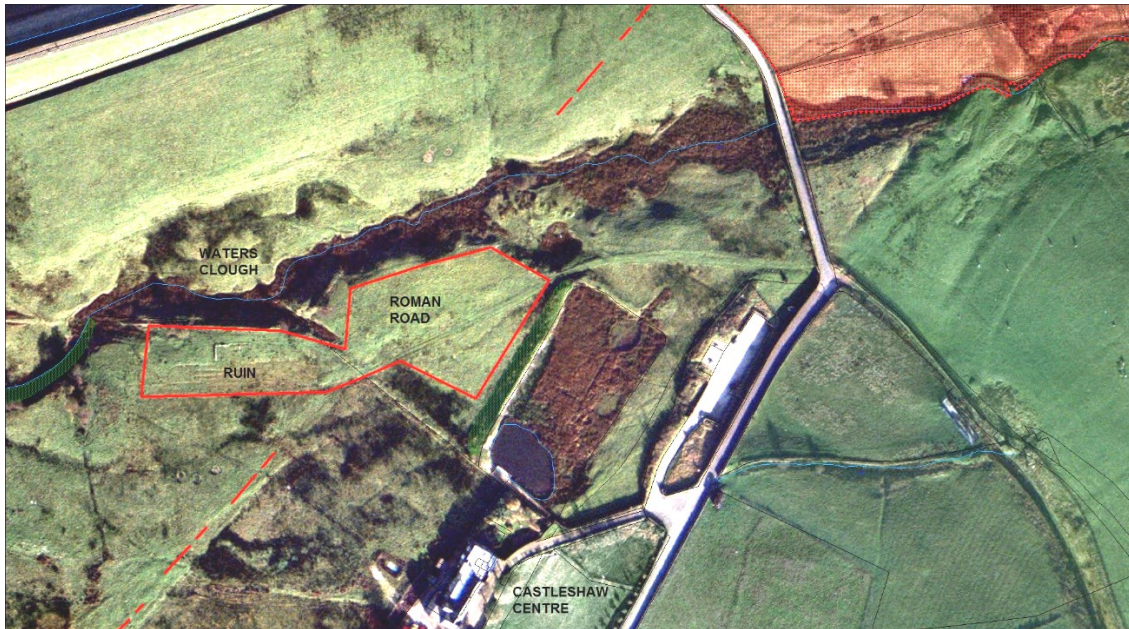


Norman Redhead

The ruin beside Waters Clough

Initial archaeological interest in the site at Waters Clough was sparked by the presence of several low walls representing a building that is not shown on any historic maps, which date back to 1822. It was thought that the walls may have belonged to an early post medieval field barn that had been too small and ruinous for cartographers to record. Further site investigations would help to provide artifactual dating evidence as well as enable a better understanding of the building’s function, internal layout, and the nature and extent of associated walls and yards.

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Norman Redhead

Aerial photo of the location of the ruin to the north-west of the Castleshaw Centre and south of the Lower Reservoir - the red line shows the area of archaeological investigations and the Roman road is shown as a dashed line

Investigations commenced in 2016 with a resistivity survey and a couple of one metre square test pits excavated either side of the northern wall of the ruin to examine the depth of the wall foundation and evidence for a floor surface. The external test pit revealed two courses of stone representing a wall depth at this point of 40cm. A deposit of mid-grey silty clay loam with frequent pieces of mid orange-yellow mortar was encountered level with the base of the first course of stonework, at a depth of 30 cm beneath the turf line. This deposit was c 15 cm deep against the wall and tapered away from it, being the construction phase material. It was evident that the foundation trench was cut very neatly and very close to the foundation stonework. The wall itself was 50 cm wide and well built in coursed gritstone with a thin rubble core and occasional larger stones spanning the full width. The interior test pit was located next to an internal return wall. This found stiff, natural clay (white or light yellow in colour) at a shallow depth of around 10 cm, with no evidence for a floor. The internal wall butted up against the external but was of similar construction. The natural clay is an excellent material for building on. The foundations were robust and well-constructed, which is consistent with the high quality of walling seen elsewhere in the structure. A further, small test pit was excavated against the inside of the western wall and found to have an offset at foundation level. This could have been used to support a timber floor.



Norman Redhead

Test pit against wall interior showing offset foundation

The internal wall butted up against the external but was of similar construction. The natural clay is an excellent material for building on. The foundations were robust and well-constructed, which is consistent with the high quality of walling seen elsewhere in the structure. A further, small test pit was excavated against the inside of the western wall and found to have an offset at foundation level. This could have been used to support a timber floor.

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

Central Range

Further test pits were used to trace the full extent of the structure represented by the ruined walls, which were found to be only a fragment of a much larger structure forming a rectangle of 20 x 10 metres. The walls were consistently 50 cm wide and of high-quality construction, with the same well-made gritstone walls set in a hard, dark yellow-orange gritty mortar. There was evidence for internal wall divisions but no flooring survived, nor was there any dating evidence.



This test pit dug by Mark and Jack shows the character of the wall foundation

Norman Redhead

Southern corner of building with the furthest figure standing beside the far side of the return wall 20 metres away



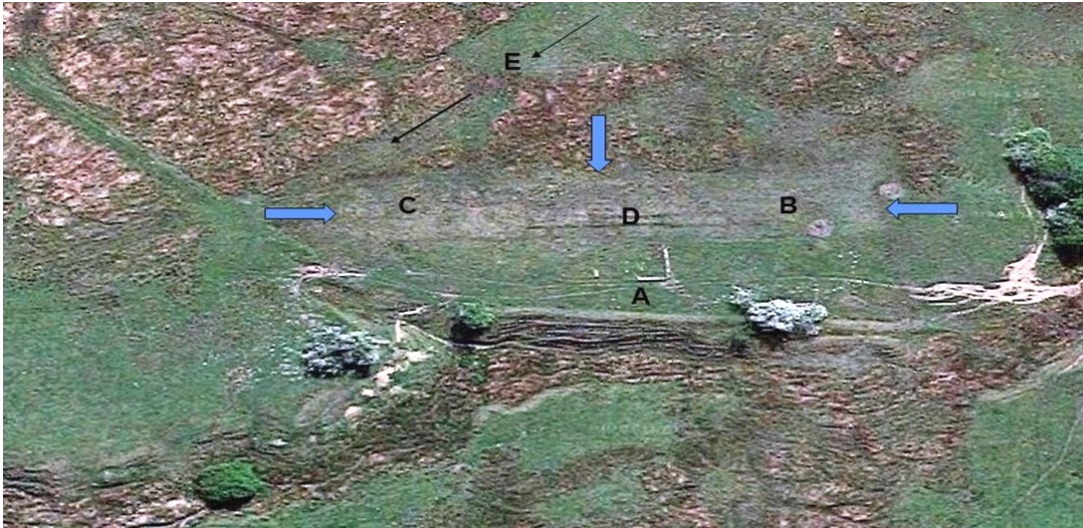
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Evidence for an internal corridor flanked by two walls.

Norman Redhead

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Norman Redhead & Google Earth

Google Earth view showing the suggested building platform which is indicated by blue arrows. A = ruined, visible walls B = western wing C = eastern wing D = central range E = Roman road

Geophysical survey and analysis of aerial photographs indicated that this structure was the central part of a much larger building. This central range was orientated on a south to north axis but appeared to have projecting west and east wings. The platform for the latter appeared on the photos to cut into the line of the Roman road as shown below. There were also what appeared to be a series of parallel lines running east to west through the central area of the former building site; these looked like drainage gullies or track wheel ruts but required excavation to determine their true nature. Geophysics suggested a range of anomalies consistent with buried wall lines and cut features. When undertaking the survey, it was noted that the probes hit a hard buried surface along the south side of the former structure; this was apparent as a linear anomaly on the geophysics plot. Armed with this interesting information, the Friends set out to establish the full extent of the building site, focusing firstly on the possible west range then on the east range and also the linear anomaly.

Western Range

On close inspection of the ground in the possible western range area it became apparent that other potential walls existed, along with the lines of what appeared to be linear depressions. Test pits were excavated to reveal the corners of the western range and the line and character of the south and north walls. Some sections of wall survived to two courses deep. It was 50 cm wide comprising roughly dressed facing stones with a narrow rubble core, set in a dark orange-yellow mortar, being the same construction as the central range walls. However, another test pit only a few metres away found only the vestiges of the wall foundation trench had survived, with all the stone work having been removed and only orange mortar and grey silt left in the base of the trench.

The north west corner of the western range survived as intact wall foundations, with a projecting wall that initially was thought to be a buttress foundation. Interestingly, there was a spread of 20th century concrete running up to and partly overlapping the earlier wall. It is not known what the function of this is, but a modern water pipe trench is known to cut through the wall near this corner; the pipeline is on a United Utilities map provided to the Friends and shows clearly on the geophysics survey plot. The south west corner had remains of the south wall but the western return wall had been mostly removed and survived only as a robbed-out trench with a few disturbed stones in the fill. Again, there was a projecting wall running southwards from the corner; this was explored further and was found to be a small chamber, with internal dimensions of 2.4 x 1.6 metres, set against the south of the western range corner. It is suggested this is replicated at the north west corner.

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Well-preserved section of the south wall of the western range

Norman Redhead



'Robbed-out' foundation trench

Norman Redhead



North west corner of the western range with projecting wall and concrete visible

Norman Redhead



South west corner

Norman Redhead

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

The northern wall had a mixed level of survival as with the south wall. Its course was traced all the way up the central range, where a test pit showed it abutting the western wall of that range. Having established the location and extent of the western range it was possible to determine that it was 8.4 metres wide by an astonishing 31.8 metres long. This was a very substantial building footprint indeed.



South-west corner looking north, showing wall trench to left and surviving wall foundation to right, which indicate the location of a projecting chamber

Norman Redhead

The north west corner of the western range is seen at the bottom of this photo, with the photographic scales marking the line of the wall up to the central range, which is visible in the far distance before the tree on the left



Norman Redhead

Attention now turned to the linear depressions apparent in the aerial photographs within the central range and eastern part of the western range. Rather than being drains or wheel ruts, they were found to be further wall foundations where the stonework had been removed as part of the demolition process. The wall lines were evident as linear cuts into the natural clay and were filled with the orange mortar.



Former wall lines within the western range, looking west

Norman Redhead

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

Two wall lines ran parallel with the north and south external walls of the western range but there were also walls at right angles creating small chambers or rooms. There appeared to be five of these, a set of three occupying the full width of the building, measuring 3.4 by 2.1 metres internally, and a further two adjacent to the central range which were the same width but longer at 5.1 metres. It was anticipated that there would be a third room next to the central range, on the southern side of the building, but a test pit found no evidence for a wall foundation trench. This area needs further investigation to confirm the layout.

Drone vertical photo of the western range with dashed blue lines indicating wall foundations. The projecting corner chambers can be seen on the right, with the internal rooms on the left at the east end by the central range



Norman Redhead & SUAVE Aerial Photos

The central range was revisited to determine the character of the linear depressions appearing as 'tram lines' on aerial photos. Test pitting along the east and west wall lines revealed in both cases staggered wall junctions. These suggested a narrow corridor 1.5 metres wide running east to west through the central range linking chambers on either side, within the adjacent wings.



Staggered wall junctions on the east side wall of the central range

Norman Redhead

Staggered wall junctions on the west side wall of the central range



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MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Drone photo showing the corridor arrangement

Norman Redhead & SUAVE Aerial Photos

Eastern Range

Initially several one metre square test pits were excavated to establish the east wing gable wall. As expected, this was 31.8 metres from the central range, exactly replicating the western range dimensions. The north eastern corner was first encountered as a deposit of stones which had clearly been dumped, as they had no structure or mortar and lay at odd angles. The test pit was enlarged to show that this deposit overlay the corner of the building, with heavily robbed out walls running south and west. Another test pit was excavated to demonstrate that, as with the west wing, there was a chamber projecting from the corner of the building. The external east wall was also found in the test pit near the south east corner of the east range. This also revealed part of a return wall running westwards towards the central range. This provided the focus of a larger area excavation, undertaken over 8 days from the end of May 2018.

North eastern corner of eastern range



Norman Redhead



South eastern corner of eastern range with projecting wall to right

Norman Redhead

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Norman Redhead

Excavation of a 5 x 5 metre trench across the south-eastern corner of building in late May 2018, looking north

Exposing a larger area in plan allowed confirmation of the existence of a chamber projecting from the south east corner. It was 2.4 x 1.6 metres wide and constructed in the same way as the main building ie. 0.5 metre wide with some foundation stones surviving but much evidence of wall removal where only the orange mortar was left. There was no evidence for a floor and close-up against the outside of the chamber were remains of crude stone track. Some of this appeared to spill out into the open area between the chamber and the south wall of the range, as though giving access to the walls.



Norman Redhead

An open area excavation, looking south and showing the projecting small rectangular chamber with photographic scales along the inside of its walls. The end wall of the eastern range is on the left, with the wall base in the foreground being part of the 31.8 metre long south wall of the range. The stone trackway is at the top of the photo

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

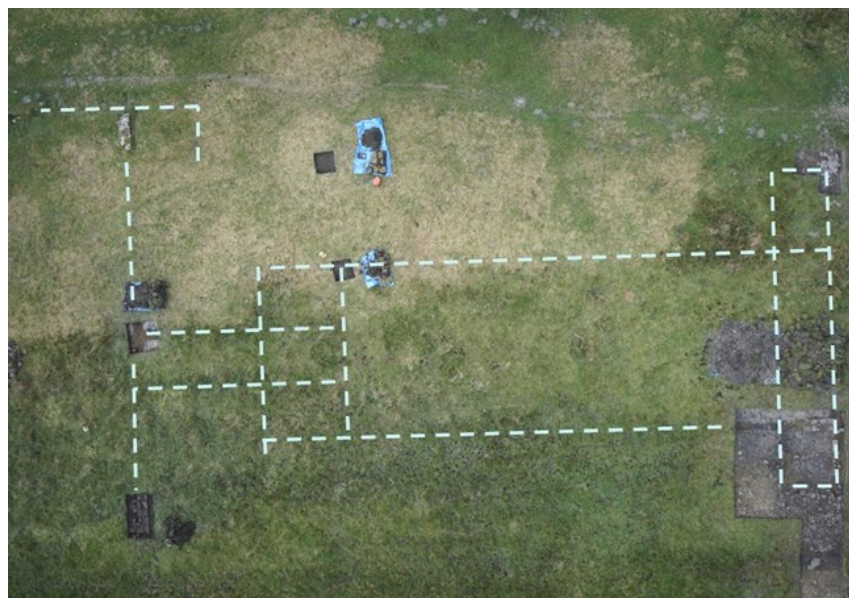
The west end of the eastern range was investigated towards the central range to see if it matched that of the western range internal layout. Carefully located test pits showed that generally this was the case. One test pit was enlarged to reveal what appears to be a wall terminus with a section projecting a little way past the internal return wall (perhaps for the door to be fitted to). Embedded in the mortar on top of the wall came a single iron nail, the sole stratified artefact from all the excavated areas within the building! However, there was one difference in the plan form of this part of the eastern range; this was the extension of the north east corner of the central range with a room added similar in size to the two internal rooms within the northern part of the central range. A test pit was used to confirm the wall alignments which appeared as robbed-out foundation trenches. It is not clear why this part of the plan form varies; is this room a later addition or part of the original arrangement? Further investigations may shed more light on this, although the heavily truncated foundation trenches may preclude obtaining definitive evidence. Elsewhere, the north wall of the range was located on the same alignment as that for the western grange. Internally, carefully placed test pits targeting wall junctions confirmed the same room arrangement as seen in the western range.



Terminus of southern wall of the eastern range, probably for an entrance into the building

Norman Redhead

Drone image of the eastern range showing suggested wall alignments, with the additional room indicated top left of the picture



Norman Redhead & SUAVE Aerial Photos

The Stone Track

At the south east corner of the central range, a small trench was located running south from the building corner across the linear geophysics anomaly to determine its character. The excavation revealed a crude stone surface with what appeared to be ruts at 1.2 metres apart, probably caused by wagon/cart wheels. Sealed by silt within one of the ruts were two sherds of Pennine Gritty Ware. This pottery can be dated to the 12th to 15th centuries. The road was hard up against the wall of the central range to the north, whilst its southern edge was formed by a kerb.

Further east the track continued right up to and across the line of the Roman road. As noted above, the track metalling was tight up against outside wall of the projecting chamber at the south eastern corner of the grange building, but here there appeared to be a roadside drain on the south side. To the south of this drain, where the Roman road should exist, there was only clay make-up deposits and a scatter of fine pebbles. Another open area, a 5 metre square trench, was excavated to the east on the projected line of the track. It had been anticipated that the track would run up on to the Roman road which would then be utilised for transport; however, the track was found to continue at right angles across the Roman road earthwork and indeed could be seen to be cut into it. This was a surprise and suggests that the Roman road had been so truncated and denuded that it was not thought worthwhile to re-use it in the medieval period. Where the medieval trackway goes beyond the Roman road crossing is not clear; this is due to the altered nature of the landscape, with the late 18th century mill site and mill lodge and a modern trackway obscuring the terrain.



Crudely metalled trackway beside the south east corner of the central range

Norman Redhead

The two Pennine Gritty Ware sherds that came from the rut visible to the left of the photographic scale above



Norman Redhead

The site has been very poor in finds with only two stratified sherds of medieval pottery, and a small number of post medieval finds from the topsoil. The lack of decorative architectural fragments, floor or roof materials, as well as demolition material, is remarkable and indicates that the building may have never been completed (perhaps due to changing economic circumstances). An alternative explanation is that after abandonment it was heavily recycled, with materials being re-used for new buildings in the local area or further afield. The pile of stones at the north-east corner of the east range may be from this process of dismantling and carting away the materials, with the stones not being collected for some reason. The probable cart track appears to be of medieval date, to judge by the associated pottery. It cuts through the Roman road and runs tight up to the building's southern side and could be interpreted as giving access during and after construction or for the demolition and recycling process. Where the track goes to the east of the site is not currently determined; the landscape was much changed in this area in the late 18th century when Waters Mill and its reservoir were constructed, but it is likely that the track linked up to the medieval road running on the east side of the Castleshaw Centre only 100 metres from the site.

The investigations have demonstrated the presence of a remarkably large and well-built structure that would have taken considerable resources to erect and which would have dominated the valley floor. Associated with the building site are a series of substantial earth bank field boundaries. One of these runs at an angle across the Roman road to the east of the building and then along the edge of Waters Clough only around 10 metres north of the building. To the west this impressive field boundary continues across the clough and then separates into two. Analysis of aerial photographs and historic maps, along with field walking, shows other similarly constructed field boundaries crossing the valley floor and sides. It is clear that at one time a significant investment in time and resources was made to subdivide the valley into parcels of land for animal grazing.

Given the large scale and quality of construction, landscape management evidence, the historical framework and medieval pottery finds, the building foundations are interpreted as belonging to the medieval grange of Friarmere. The name first appears in 1452 but was previously known as 'Hilbrihthope'¹. This was held by the Cistercian Roche Abbey (near Rotherham) from the end of the 12th century to the Dissolution of 1538. Medieval granges were outlying estate farms established to provide food and other materials for the use of the mother abbey and for wider distribution. Granges were essential for the self-sufficiency of the Cistercian order. Intensive farming was undertaken by labourers under the supervision of lay brothers who would have had accommodation at the grange building. It is possible the small internal rooms and projecting corner chambers were cells for the lay brothers and visiting monks.

There were a great many monastic granges across the Pennines in medieval times. As these were granted in perpetuity to abbeys it was worth their while making an initial heavy investment to transform what were often marginal lands in to highly productive agricultural estates. These provided for the abbey's food needs, with surpluses being sold at local markets for profit. Evidence suggests that the grange at Castleshaw may have been involved with intensive cattle ranching, operating as a vaccary (essentially a large medieval cattle farm). Buckley and Khadem have identified the widespread occurrence of large fields named 'hey' within Friarmere, their nomenclature suggesting they were of medieval origin and once formed a single cattle farming estate.² The boundaries of the 'heys' are reflected in later

¹ M. Buckley, 'Seeing through a glass darkly', *An Outline of the Early History of Saddleworth*, *Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin (SHSB)*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (2009). pp. 45-60; The earliest reference to Friarmere is in a sixteenth century transcript of a 1452 deposition, Manchester Central Library Archives, Evidence of tithes paid in Denshaw in Friarmere, Chapelry of Saddleworth, 26 September 1452, Townley MSS, L1/47 2/1, p. 652.

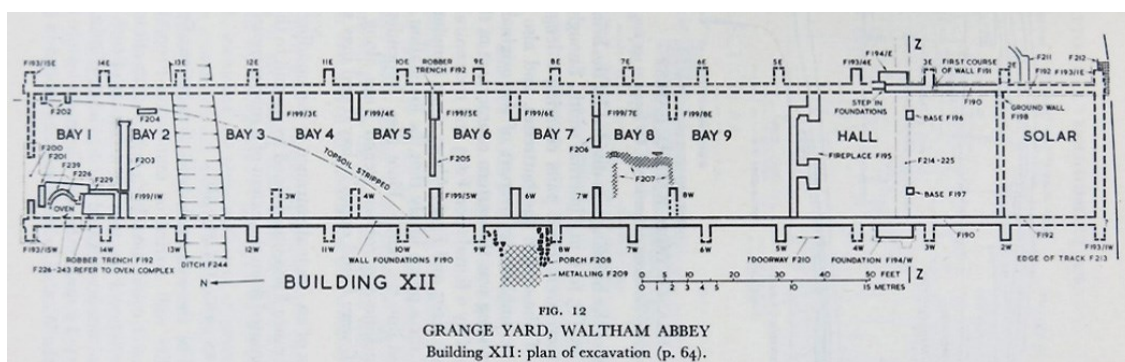
³ M. Buckley, 'The origins and the evolution of a Pennine township: medieval and early modern settlement in Saddleworth' in N. Smith (ed) *History in the South Pennines: the Legacy of Alan Petford*, (South Pennine History Group, 2017), p. 240.

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

historic mapping and field boundaries, although subdivided. It is likely that many of the substantial earth bank field boundaries still evident in the landscape can be matched to the original medieval fields.

Other economic activities to exploit the land were probably taking place as well as stock management. We know from previous archaeological excavations that iron smelting was being undertaken at the head of the valley, with archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon dating suggesting a 13th century date for this activity. The grange also had the rights for land cultivation, stone quarrying, mining, hunting, and perhaps fish ponds and there might even have been a water powered mill.

By the early to mid-14th century the structure and organisation of granges appears to change. Many Pennine grange estates were divided up into smaller plots of land under tenant farmers; this was the case at Friarmere. In the 1297 Lay Subsidy Grange had only 6 oxen and 10 cows, although it is thought that the assessment is unreliable.³ Five farms are listed in the monastery's possession at the Dissolution in 1538. It is interesting to note one of these was called Grange and can be identified as the present hamlet named Grange high up on the western slopes of Castleshaw Valley, some 800 metres away from the Waters Clough site. This is known to have an early building dating back to the 16th century and is almost certainly the site of the original farm recorded in 1297. This has long been thought to be the location of the medieval grange buildings, and if the new site at Water's Clough had been simply a large barn then it might be reasonable to postulate that the lay brothers were living at Grange Farm higher up the valley side. However, the archaeological evidence clearly shows a multi-roomed building which almost certainly provided living accommodation. The task of comparative research has only just commenced, but it is already apparent that the Castleshaw grange building is unusual in its large scale and plan form. One similarly sized structure has been identified at the monastic grange at Grange Yard, close to Waltham Abbey. This is a similar length, at 72 metres long, and about 9.4 metres wide, with walls 0.61 metres thick. However, it does not have the projecting central range seen at Castleshaw; it also of a later date (15th century) and made of brick. Interestingly, the excavation at Grange Yard has shown internal functions such as a solar (private chamber), hall, and kitchen, with other bays being used perhaps for farm labourer accommodation or animal stalls.⁴ Could similar functions have applied to the grange building at Castleshaw?



P. Huggins 1972

Excavation plan of Building XII of the grange at Waltham Abbey

³ V. Khadem, 'Early Saddleworth Records - 5, The Lay Subsidy of 1297', *SHSB*, Vol. 40, No. 4, (2102), pp. 104-116; also M. Buckley, 'The origins and the evolution of a Pennine township: medieval and early modern settlement in Saddleworth' p. 243.

⁴ P.J. Huggins, 'Waltham Abbey: Monastic Grange and Outer Close Excavations 1970-72', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeology Society*, (1972), pp.64-73.

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW



Norman Redhead

The medieval trackway is in the foreground and cuts through the line of the Roman road before continuing alongside the south side of the former building towards the copse of trees in the distance

Finally, another trench was excavated at right angles to the southern wall of the western grange. This was found to be of similar material to the other excavated road sections, although perhaps with smaller stone metalling. It ran further away from the building wall, being separated by a gap of 2.5 metres. Excavation of a section through the track showed it to be shallow, of no more than two stones deep and sealing natural. No further finds came from this deposit.

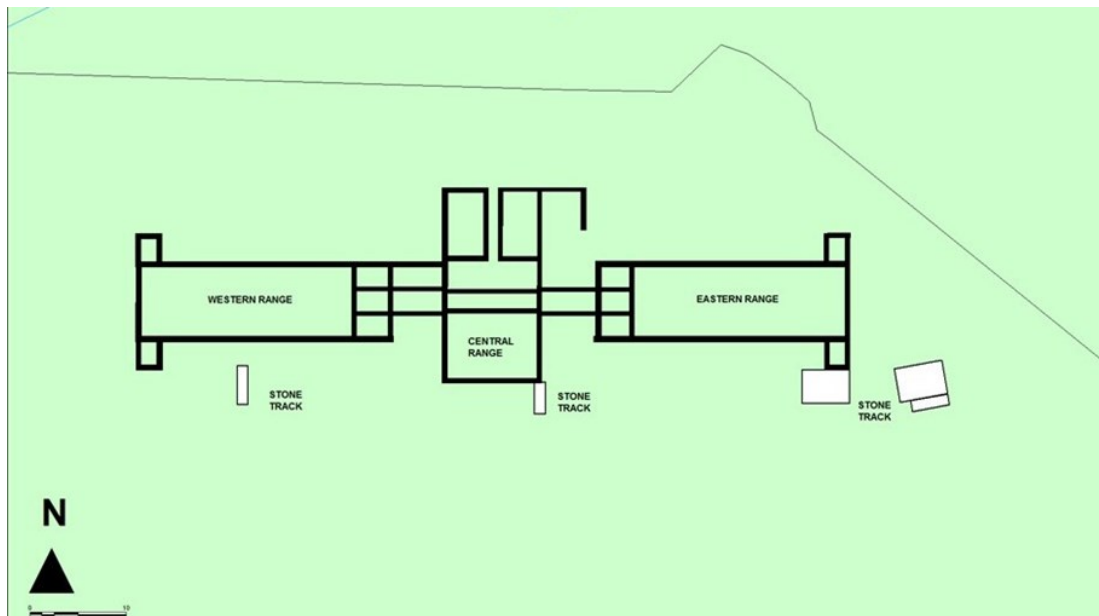


Norman Redhead

Sue and Margaret excavate the trackway which can be seen to be some distance from the western range wall

Conclusion

The investigations of 2016-2018 have demonstrated that the ruined walls beside Waters Clough that sparked our interest are part of a massive building. It comprises a long narrow central range 20 metres long by 10 metres wide, flanked by a west and east range, each being 31.8 metres in length and 8.4 metres wide. The total building length is an astonishing 73.6 metres (including the central range). Each corner has a projecting small chamber. Most of the plan form has been established, including a series of internal rooms and a central corridor. The west and east wings appear to be symmetrical, although there is an additional room added to the north east side of the east wing where further investigation is required to confirm wall alignments. There is a remarkable uniformity of wall construction suggesting one phase of building.



Norman Redhead

Interpretive plan of the grange building, based on test pits and trenches 2016-18



Norman Redhead

Location of the grange building within its landscape context, with former banked field boundaries showing clearly

MEDIEVAL GRANGE AT CASTLESHAW

At the moment the best guess for the date of construction for the building beside Waters Clough is the 13th century with abandonment and demolition either late in that century or the first half of the 14th century. But what caused this demise? It is known that by the 14th century granges generally had gone into serious decline, due to economic depression brought on by extremes of weather, pestilence and famine set against political instability. A sequence of disasters, such as successive bad harvests from 1314 to 1316, would have forced many religious houses to reorganise their estates. Castleshaw was one of the furthest removed of Roche Abbey's granges at around 40 miles away. Most of the granges were within a 20 mile radius of the mother house, and the long distance, together with the marginal nature of the farming landscape may have made it vulnerable. Sadly, most of Roche Abbey's records were lost in a fire during the Civil War siege of York in the 17th century so archaeology may provide the best clues if future investigations continue.

It is entirely possible that construction began on the grange building at Water's Clough but was abandoned not long after the foundations were laid, with the stones being taken for building work elsewhere or even offered to the tenant farmers. Colin Platt in his authoritative study of granges describes the abandonment process:

'In general terms the significance of partition in the decay of the grange establishment is obvious. The buildings of the grange, if there was no special reason to preserve them, emerged from the process totally unsuited to the purpose of the reorganised estate. A tenant farmer might for some years have taken up residence in a part of the former establishment. The remaining buildings could conceivably have been used by the tenants together as a store. But clearly the monastery itself could have felt no further obligation to maintain the disused buildings in adequate repair; and if this was true of the monastery, it was still more true of its successors. In the circumstances there could have been nothing unusual in the total destruction of many grange buildings even before the dissolution of the monasteries; after it, the sequence of abandonment and demolition was rarely less than complete.'⁵

The 2016-18 archaeological investigations at Waters Clough, undertaken by the Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts, have formed part of the Hinterland Survey, which sets out to answer research questions and fill in gaps in our understanding of not only the Roman forts but also other periods of archaeology in the valley. In the conservation management plan for the Castleshaw Roman Forts, which was published in 2011, there is a specific reference to the medieval grange in relation to gaps in our knowledge of the medieval period:

'Nature of the medieval grange: little is known about the operation of the medieval grange in the Castleshaw Valley. Documentary evidence would indicate the grange might have been operating primarily as a vaccary – a large medieval cattle farm – and it would be interesting to understand how this fitted in with the broader infrastructure of the abbey. A wide survey may identify features that survive in the landscape and which relate to this period of use. In particular, there may be further evidence of agricultural and industrial activity, including additional smelting sites and evidence of mineral ore extraction and quarrying.'⁶

The Hinterland Survey is beginning to improve our understanding of the character and function of the medieval grange at Castleshaw. Future work will focus on further investigations of the newly discovered grange building by Water's Clough, together with landscape survey to record associated landscape features. This remarkable discovery is transforming our understanding of medieval Castleshaw and will stimulate new research for years to come.

⁵ C. Platt, *The Monastic Grange in Medieval England*, (Macmillan Press, 1969), p.107.

⁶ P. Middleton, *Castleshaw Roman Forts, Saddleworth, Greater Manchester: Conservation Management Plan*, (Northern Archaeological Associates, 2011), p.58.

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C. Platt, *The Monastic Grange in Medieval England*, Macmillan Press, (1969).

Further information on recent archaeological surveys and excavations in Castleshaw valley can be accessed on the Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts website: www.castleshawarchaeology.co.uk. This also contains details of upcoming events and membership.

Acknowledgements

We are indebted to the following Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts who took part in the investigations:

Phil Barrett led the resistivity survey.

The test pitting/trenching was carried out by the following volunteers under the supervision of Norman Redhead. Their efforts and enthusiasm have made this exciting discovery possible.

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The Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts are grateful to United Utilities and the tenant farmer for allowing the work to take place on their land, and to the Castleshaw Centre for providing toilet and washing facilities.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL - A COMMUNITY TRIBUTE

Mike Buckley

In Denshaw, at the end of a war that had taken such a terrible toll on the lives of so many families in the village, there was strong feeling that there should be some kind of long lasting memorial as a tribute to the young men that would never return. By September 1919 these feelings had coalesced into a public meeting that had endorsed the idea and appointed a committee to organise fund raising for the project. The subsequent events were told in a newspaper article that appeared following the success of this fund raising exercise.¹

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL Monument to be Erected in the Churchyard

Some time ago at a public meeting it was decided that a memorial should be established to those men from Denshaw parish who had fallen and in remembrance of those who had served in the war. A committee was formed to organise a fund to carry out this object. Those appointed were Mrs Schofield, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Jones, Mrs H. Heggibottom, Miss S. Brierley, and Miss M. Cocking, Messrs B. Buckley, S. Wrigley, I. Gartside, M. McLintock, S. Pollard, and F. Horsfield, along with the Rev S.J. Fleming (chairman), Mr James H. Marsden (secretary) and Mr Clarence Turner (treasurer).

Circulars were issued to all residents and friends setting forth the object, and the committee set to work to solicit subscriptions. The appeal met with the most generous support, and when the list closed the substantial total of £383 9s was announced.

A public meeting was held in the Co-operative Hall on Thursday evening last week, and it was well attended. The Rev S.J. Fleming occupied the chair, and after the secretary had given a report on the financial position, an opportunity was given for discussion as to what form the memorial should take. Two proposals were considered: That a lych gate be provided at the entrance to the churchyard, and the other that a monument be erected. The proposal of a monument was carried by a good majority. It was further decided to seek the privilege to place it in the grounds of the church, in the lower portion, to the right of the path.

The following were appointed a committee to carry out the scheme: Messrs Brandon T. Brierley, Bennett Buckley, William Turner, Seth Wrigley, Sewell Pollard, John Ogden, and William McLintock.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the committee for their work in organising the fund, and also to the chairman for presiding.

Beyond the account of the meeting, in the same edition, a correspondent indicated that there had been a third options discussed, a monument in Junction Fold as an alternative to one in the churchyard. He strongly criticised the lychgate proposal, which had apparently been 'foolishly' suggested by the vicar as part of a scheme to augment his salary. This provoked an equally strong response the next week from the Vicar, defending his proposal and lamenting his low stipend. The row continued in the *Oldham Chronicle* columns over the next few weeks with Brandon T. Brierley, apparently the correspondent that had started the row, responding with a vicious attack on the vicar. 'The vicar says there was no pleading - his whole speech was a special plea. It had been thoroughly matured; many outside people had

¹ *Oldham Chronicle*, 24 January 1920.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL

been consulted, and even a design for the lychgate was produced and handed to the audience.’ An equally vitriolic attack on Mr Brierley followed from the vicar. After tempers had calmed down peace was restored with a short apology from the vicar to Mr Brierley.

As we have seen Mr Brierley had been appointed to the committee to progress the monument proposal. He was a local man, an architect, son of Morgan Brierley, historian and philanthropist, and had himself been brought up in the village.² His strong opposition to the vicar’s lychgate proposal no doubt had stemmed, at least in part, from a desire to design and oversee the building of the war memorial. The committee quite properly invited designs to be submitted. By mid March the *Oldham Chronicle* announced that a design had been selected out of more than 20 other designs.³ Mr Brierley’s had been chosen. It was also stated in the announcement was that ‘It is proposed to engrave upon it the names of those who died for their country **and also the names of those who served**’. This latter proposal, however, appears to have been quickly abandoned on cost grounds. It was also proposed that the panels were to be in granite to contrast with the rest of the monument in sandstone.

The next step was to seek tenders for the construction. The invitations to tender were issued and on the 4th March the work was awarded to Thomas Corner of Uppermill. The initial specification is given below.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL⁴ **Preliminary Specification**

Tender to be delivered to the Architect not later than March 4 1920. Sealed and endorsed.

The monument to be erected in Denshaw (Delph) Churchyard.

The Contractor to supply all tools, scaffolding, etc. and to protect the work from the weather during construction.

The whole structure to be erected of best Yorkshire ashlar in 3 4 1 cement mortar - to be fine tooled and rubbed to a fine even surface and left clean and perfect on completion to the entire satisfaction of the Architect. All stone to be laid upon its natural quarry bed and to have fine beds and joints. The whole to be carried out according to the drawings herewith and to any further detail drawings which may be supplied by the Architect. The Contractor is to execute the engraving of the lettering where directed and must allow for No. 1500 1¼in. v-sunk letters. The Latin Cross on the cap of the monument to be of selected white marble, free from all flaws, stop-chamfered as shown. The Memorial Committee will execute the whole of the foundations at their own expense, providing all material and labour. The contractor is requested to state the extra cost in case the Committee decides to have the 12 parts (3 in each elevation) which are Marked X (and tinted on the Elevation) of selected, polished Aberdeen granite, to be supplied by the Contractor, and the Contractor is to include for the extra cost the mouldings, cuspings and lettering in this material and this latter is to be not less than 9 inches on bed to be securely fixed.

The Committee is in possession of all the above Ashlar stone, which has come from a mansion recently taken down, and is to a large extent dressed. They will deposit this stone upon the site for the use of the Contractor at the Committee’s own expense.

The Contractor will, therefore, have to provide only for squaring, cutting, tooling, moulding and other labour where necessary.

² For more information on B. T. Brierley see N. Barrow, ‘The Architects of two Saddleworth War Memorials: G.B. Howcroft and Brandon T. Brierley’, *SHSB*, vol. 40, no. 1, (2010) pp. 7-9.

³ *Oldham Chronicle*, 13 March 1920.

⁴ Saddleworth Historical Society Archives (SHSA), H/GX/102.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL

The Contractor is strongly advised to see this Ashlar stone before tendering and may do so any afternoon by appointment with the Architect.

Lowest or other tender not necessarily accepted.

This is the Specification referred to in my contract dated March 4 1920.

Witness Brandon T. Brierley

Signed Thomas Corner

A number of interesting points emerge from the specification. Firstly, it was preliminary; several factors had not yet been decided, particularly whether to use granite rather than sandstone for the memorial panels, also the number of letters required, indicating that the number of names to be commemorated had yet to be decided. The stone had been donated, reused from the ruins of Dowry Castle, a mansion acquired in the 1890 as part of the Oldham Water Works Scheme and subsequently taken down by the Corporation.

Further discussions with the contractor resulted in a final specification agreed on April 8th. A date for the completion of the project was set as September 1920. The architect agreed to modify the design in minor detail 'to allow the Dowry stone to be used to the best advantage and to the interests of the Committee and the Contractor'. Some of the stone was also to be supplied by the contractor at his own expense. The stone from Dowry was to be delivered by the committee to the contractor's works (in Uppermill) and the contractor, after dressing the stone, was to pay for its transport and the erection of the monument at Denshaw. The exact number of letters, hence names, had apparently still yet to be agreed. The committee agree to pay the contractor the sum of Three hundred and fifty pounds for the complete structure and by instalments. The final architects drawing is shown in Figure 1.⁵

Among the surviving records of the committee is a letter from a Manchester architect, Mr Ernest Gunson, addressed to the committee, assessing the design of the monument. The committee had apparently sought this independent assessment, perhaps to allay any concerns of nepotism in appointing Mr Brierley. Ernest Gunson's assessment was most complimentary:-

'I have seen many War Memorials lately and examined a number of designs for the same, and I am of opinion that Mr Brierley's design is one of the best I have seen, and I have no hesitation in saying that, if erected in the form it is designed, it will give complete satisfaction to everyone concerned.'⁶

The project appears to have run smoothly and to time. A faculty had to be obtained to erect the monument in the churchyard and four grave spaces purchased. This was the source of some bad feeling, The income from the sale of grave spaces was a part of the vicar's perquisites and the cost of £20 was payable directly to him. With the villagers having contributed generously to the fund there was a great deal of resentment that the vicar was expecting to receive this payment. In the end he waved it but the ill feeling remained. He had left the parish by the end of 1920.

The erection of the monument was completed according to plan and the unveiling took place on 30th October 1920. Captain Joel Buckley, MC, who was invited to carry out the unveiling, had himself experienced bereavement. The son of committee member Bennet Buckley, his younger brother, Percy Buckley, had been the last of the Denshaw men to be killed in the war.⁷ Although present, the Reverend Fleming did not perform the dedication, the vicar of Friarmere, the Rev Thomas Storey-Bates having been asked to perform the ceremony. Whether this snub was a result of the incident over the payment for the grave space is not

⁵ SHSA, H/GX/103.

⁶ SHSA, H/GX/102.

⁷ For a brief biography of Joel Buckley see Mike Buckley, 'Captain Joel Buckley, MC', *SHSB*, (2005), vol. 35, no. 3, pp. 21-23.

clear, but it seems a possibility. An account of the ceremony and the speeches appeared in the *Oldham Chronicle*.⁸

WAR MEMORIAL
Denshaw Unveiling Ceremony by Captain Buckley
TRIBUTES TO THE DEAD

Denshaw's war memorial was unveiled on Saturday afternoon in the presence of practically every resident of the picturesque little village. The memorial is of Yorkshire stone, worked by Councillor T. Corner to the fine designs of Mr B.T. Brierley F.R.A.S., and stands near the entrance gate of Denshaw Church and within a few yards of the main road. It has cost over £400, which was subscribed by the residents to whom only one appeal was necessary. The stone was given by the Oldham Corporation from the ruins of what was once Dowry Castle. The monument is a Gothic pillar surmounted by a marble cross.

The unveiling ceremony was preceded by a procession, which started at the village school, headed by the brass band. The Rev. V.S. Fleming, the vicar, and the Rev. T. Storey Bates, the vicar of the adjoining parish of Friar mere, walked at the head, and were followed by members of the Odd Fellows' Lodge in their regalia, relatives of the fallen, ex-service men, and the general public. The proceedings opened with the singing of the hymn 'How Bright These Glorious Spirits Shine'. Prayer and the lesson Rev. xxi, 1, followed, the reader being the vicar.

Denshaw's War Record

Mr Sewell Pollard, as a member of the Memorial Committee, requested Captain Joel Buckley, MC, to unveil the memorial, and in doing so said it had been erected to perpetuate the memories of the fallen and those who served in the great war.

At a public meeting held in September of last year it was decided that a memorial should be erected and a committee was appointed to carry out the work. There was a spontaneous response to their appeal on the part of the residents so that £400 was quickly realised. It was then decided that the memorial should take the form of a monument and be erected in the churchyard.

The monument was 16ft 9in from the base to the top of the cross and the material employed weight 7 tons. It was intended to surround the monument by an iron railing. He was told by an authority that the stone of which the monument was made would withstand any weather or atmospheric conditions, and in that case it would bear testimony to generations yet unborn that there were men in the Denshaw district who were not afraid of sacrificing their all in the hour of their country's need. Altogether 143 residents left the village and of that number 23 had failed to return. Their names were inscribed on the panel next the road, to be read by all passers-by, but their bodies lay on the battlefields of France and Flanders and in the regions of far away Salonika.

For the Honour of the Country

Captain Joel Buckley, in unveiling the memorial, said that throughout the length and breadth of the land memorials were being erected to perpetuate the memories of the men who had made the supreme sacrifice. It was for their country that these men went out and formed a wall of fire against the greatest military machine that the world had ever known. They faced death for the honour of the country, and where they lay was now really and truly British ground. But they had also to think of the living. There were thousands of men who fought for their country maimed or in want of employment. All these ought to have their care. It was even needed in Denshaw. He

⁸ *Oldham Chronicle*, 6 November 1920.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL

ventured to suggest that there be an annual meeting on that ground to pay tribute to the fallen - men who faced horrors increased by all that science and ingenuity could invent, high explosives, liquid fire, and poisonous gas, and only those who had been could realise what the men had gone through. With the relatives of the fallen their hearts were in full sympathy, and he would like to tell them that the graves of their loved one were in fields of flowers carefully tended by British soldiers, and he trusted that their memories would never die.

The monument was unveiled with the Union Jack of the West Riding active service force, kindly lent by Dr Brusaud, and this Captain Buckley withdrew. On the front panel are the words: "In Memoriam. Fallen" and underneath are the names of the fallen - Frank Bradbury, Hilton Bradbury, Charles Bradbury, Joe Biltcliffe, John Buckley, Edgar Buckley, Percy Buckley, Willie Buxton, James W. R. Clegg, Joseph Davies, Robert Gartside, Sim Gartside, Brandon Goddard, Thomas A. Hill, Purslow Jones, Walter Jones, Harry Matthews, Brandon Platt, Frank Read, John Turner, Jim Widdop, John F. Womersley, Robert A. Williams.

On the south panel is the inscription: "This monument was erected by public subscription to the Glory of God, and in honour of the men of the Denshaw district who fell and served in the Great War, 1914-1919."

A Sacrifice For Ideals

The Rev. T. Storey Bates dedicated the memorial, after a short pause for silence and remembrance, gave an appropriate address. He spoke of the hardship the soldiers endured; and said 'They died for us; they died that we might live. Where should we have been to-day but for them? What would have become of our mothers, our sisters, our wives and sweethearts but for these gallant gentlemen? Never can we forget the duty we owe them, but it is not sufficient to cherish their memories only. We must see to it that we carry out the ideals for which they died. Are we doing so now? We have only to look at the great industrial unrest and at the greed of gain and the lives of pure selfishness to realise that we are not. There was selfishness before the war, but no selfishness on the part of those that faced the foe.'

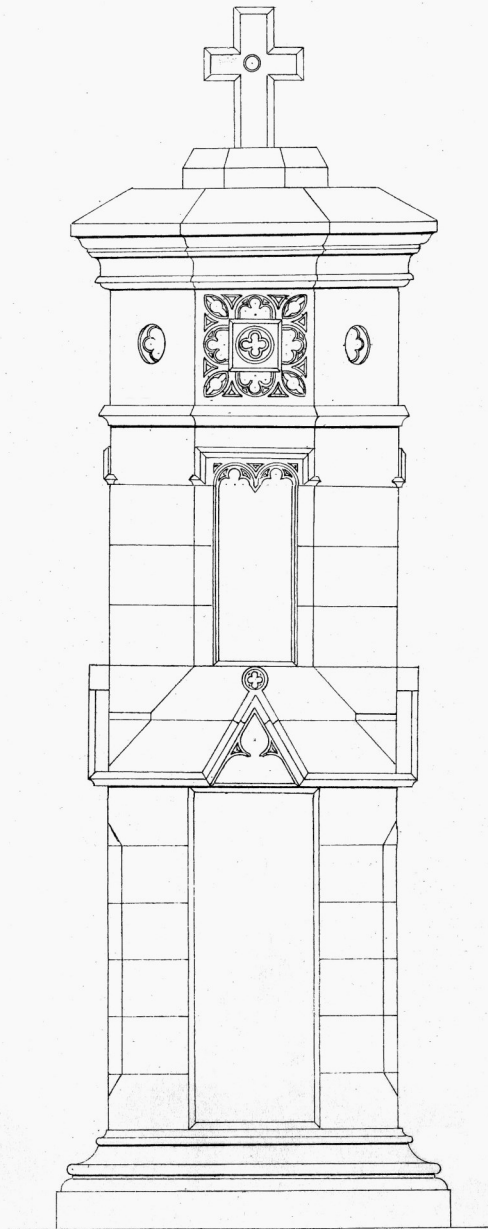
He was glad such a memorial had been erected in Denshaw. He urged all never to pass by without thinking for what the memorial stood - the sacrifice of blood, - and renewing the determination to stand for the ideals for which they fought. Their prayers were for the relatives that day, and he trusted that they would find consolation from a knowledge that their loved ones had gone to a higher service. That splendid monument would perpetuate their memories; might it also free their hearts from the greed of gain that was the outcome of selfishness.

The 'Last Post' was sounded by the cornets of the band. There were many wreaths round the base of the monument, one being of laurels from ex-servicemen of the district; also brethren of the Loyal Clothiers' Lodge, Oddfellows, Manchester Unity; [thirty three other tributes are listed].

The two brief addresses were a stark contrast. The Rev. Storey-Bates, after paying tribute to the patriotism and the ideals for which the fallen had died, castigated industrial unrest and greed while Captain Buckley, having himself lived through the horrors of trench warfare, was less chauvinistic; instead highlighting the plight of many of those that had returned wounded and unemployed and the need for their ongoing care.

DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL

- DENSHAW -
- WAR MEMORIAL -



SCALE 2 1/2 FEET TO ONE INCH.

B.T. BRIERLEY, AMICE,
ARCHITECT,
GELPH, 1920.

SHSA, H/DX/103

DENSHAW DISTRICT
WAR MEMORIAL

Ceremony of Unveiling

BY

Captain JOEL BUCKLEY, M.C.

AND

Dedication

BY THE

Rev. THOMAS STOREY BATES,

Vicar of Friarmere, Delph,

IN DENSHAW CHURCHYARD,

On Saturday, October 30th, 1920, at 3 p.m.

The Relatives of the Fallen, Ex-Service Men of
Denshaw district, and the Public
generally, are invited to attend.

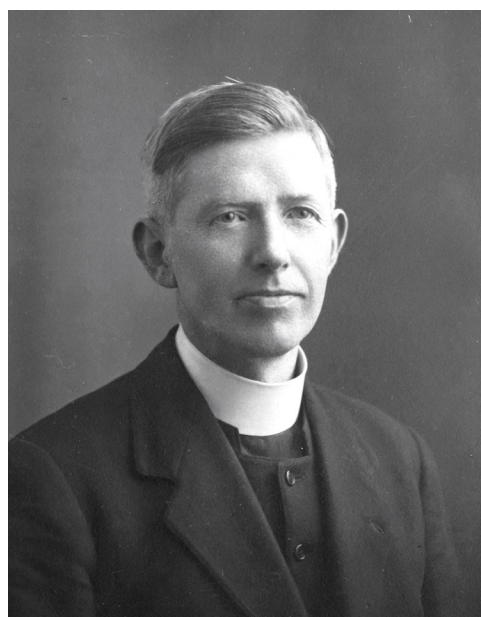
Assemble at the Schools at 2-30 p.m., where a
Procession will be formed, headed
by the

DENSHAW BRASS BAND.

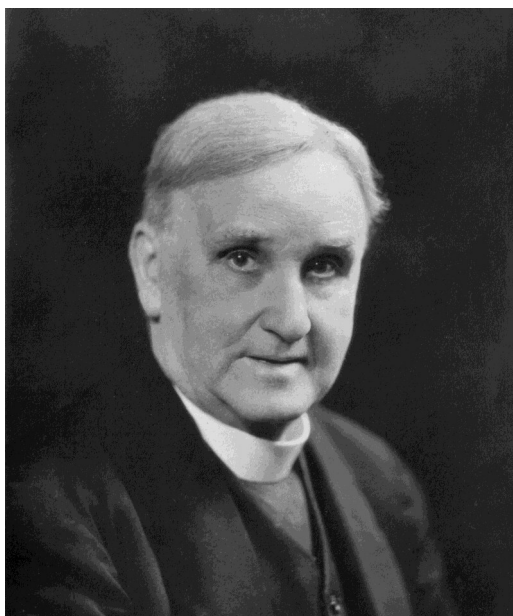
DENSHAW WAR MEMORIAL



Captain Joel Buckley MC



Rev. S.J. Fleming



Rev. T. Storey-Bates

ADDITIONS TO *SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919*, PART 3

Neil Barrow

Two previous issues of the *Bulletin* have added casualties and the decorated not listed in Bill Mitchinson's *Saddleworth 1914-1919*. More records are becoming available and more Saddleworth people are being identified. They all have links with Saddleworth either through birth, residence family or employment.

- Cocking, Albert Henry**¹ Private 976th MT Coy Army Service Corps
 Service No. DM/2155488 killed in action (kia) 30 September 1918. *Age 28.*
 Born 1890 in Denshaw.
 Son of Walter & Alice Ann (née Marsden) Cocking.
 The family lived briefly at Delph and Denshaw but moved to Shaw shortly after his birth.
 In 1901 in Penistone, Yorkshire.
 In 1911 a woollen tenter, of 24 Hard End, Marsden.
 In 1915 a horse driver at Towngate, Marsden.
 Interred in Tehran War Cemetery VD14.
- Connelly, John Edward** Private 1/Manchester Regiment
 Service No. 24258 kia 2 February 1916. *Age 26.*
 Born 1889 in Saddleworth.
 Son of Martin and Bridget Connelly, Springhead.
 In 1911 an iron grinder, of 4 Cartwright St, Oldham.
 Enlisted at Southport, Lancashire.
 Commemorated on Basra Memorial Panel 31 and 64.
- Cooper, Fred**² Private 19/Australian Infantry, A.I.F.
 Service No. 3070 died 14 November 1916. *Age 24.*
 Born 1892 in Saddleworth.
 Son of the late Thomas and Mary Cooper.
 Commemorated on Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Australian War Memorial, Canberra.
- Escott, John**³ Corporal KOYLI, 8/York & Lancs. Regiment
 Service No. 40114 died of wounds (dow) 9 July 1917. *Age 40.*
 Born 1876 in Uppermill.
 Son of Richard and Mary Jane Escott, and husband of Mary Ann (née Newton, separated).
 In 1911 a coalminer in Castleford, living with Margaret Hewitt.
 Enlisted at Castleford, Yorkshire.
 Interred in St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, P. II. G. 12B.
- Firth, William** Private 2/Lincolnshire Regiment
 Service No. 41605 kia 31 July 1917. *Age 33.*
 Formerly Service No. 34334 Leicester Regiment.
 Born 1884 in Saddleworth.
 Son of John and Caroline Firth.
 In 1911 of Elland, Yorkshire.
 Enlisted at Huddersfield.
 Commemorated on Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 21.

¹ Births, Marriages and Deaths, Census, and Soldier's Records file at Ancestry <https://www.ancestry.co.uk>, Commonwealth War Graves Commission at <https://www.cwgc.org>. These sources have been used for all the following men.

² There is further information at Australian War Memorial <https://www.awm.gov.au>.

³ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry.

SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919

- Hague, Thomas James** Private 1/10 Manchester Regiment
 Service No. 2925 died 30th September 1915. *Age 34.*
 Born 1881 in Middleton, Derbyshire.
 Husband of Beatrice Mary Hague, of Alvie Terrace, Greenfield.
 In 1910 and 1911 a glazer in Oldham.
 Interred at Twelve Tree Copse Cemetery, Gallipoli.
 Commemorated on St John's, Hey.⁴
- Hart, James Richard** Private RAMC (HMHS *Asturias*)
 Service No. 393109(1532) died 21 March 1917. *Age 24.*
 Born 1893 in Saddleworth.
 Son of William and Elizabeth Hart, of 2 South Cross St, Leadgate, Co. Durham.
 In 1911 a grocer's assistant.
 Interred at St Ives's churchyard, Leadgate.
- Holland, Thomas Rimmer** Private 1/5 Manchester Regiment
 Service No. 202150 kia 2 September 1918. *Age 40.*
 Born 1878 in Saddleworth.
 Husband of Annie Lowe.
 In 1911 a galvaniser at Globe Iron works in Stalybridge.
 Interred at Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery.
- Jones, Edward**⁵ Private 15/Canadian Infantry
 Service No. 1087090 died 30 August 1918. *Age 23.*
 Born 1895 at Wade Row, Uppermill.
 Son of Annie Jones.
 Enlisted: Omemee, Ontario, 1 November 1917, then a farmer of Janetville, Ontario.
 Awarded Military Medal.
 Interred in Sun Quarry Cemetery, Pas de Calais, Plot A5.
 Commemorated in *First World War Book of Remembrance*, Peace Tower, Ottawa.
- Kenworthy, Harold**⁶ Private A Coy 8/Seaforth Highlanders
 Service Number S/11853 died 22 August 1917. *Age 27.*
 Born 1889 in Greenfield.
 In 1911 of 3 Berry St., Greenfield, a labourer in an iron foundry,
 and living with mother Jane Hannah (née Blacker) and brother Harry Kenworthy.
 Commemorated on Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 132 to 135 and 162A.
- Longley, Elliot** Private X Coy 1/10 The King's (Liverpool) Regiment
 Service No. 359417 died 12 April 1918. *Age 36.*
 Born 1882 in Delph.
 Son of Joe and Beatrice Longley, of Stones, Delph and husband of
 Isabella Richardson Longley (formerly Gregson), of 3 Burleigh Rd North,
 Everton, Liverpool.
 In 1901 a labourer of Tamewater.
 In 1911 a County Court bailiff in Liverpool.
 Commemorated on Loos Memorial Panel 27 to 30.

⁴ More information on the Hey men is at <https://st-john-hey.org/remembrance/>

⁵ There is further information at Canada Soldier's Records summarised at <http://canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?>

⁶ This entry amends *Saddleworth 1914-1919*, p. 202. Family information at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/remembrance/wall/record/8794>.

SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919

- Mayall, James**⁷ Corporal. 7/Canadian Infantry (British Columbia) Regiment
 Service No. 761011 kia 2 September 1918. *Age 39.*
 Born 1879 in Springhead.
 Son of the both late Miles and Betty Mayall, of Springhead.
 In 1901 a packer in a cotton mill at Lawton Fold.
 Emigrated 1912.
 Enlisted Vancouver.
 Interred in Upton Wood Cemetery, Hendecourt-les-Cagnicourt, C.8 CI.
 Commemorated in *First World War Book of Remembrance*, Peace Tower, Ottawa.
- Monks, Ralph** Private 2/Prince of Wales South Lancashire Regiment
 Service No. 36312 died 11 April 1918. *Age 32.*
 Born 1886 in Oldham.
 Son of Ralph and Rachel Monks, of 4 Platt St, Springhead,
 husband of Betsy Monks, of 14 Sunny Bank Rd, Lees.
 In 1901 and 1911 a packer in a cotton mill at John St, Springhead.
 Commemorated on Ploegsteert Memorial Panel 6 and 7.
- Ogden, James** Private 8/Duke of Wellington's (WR) Regiment
 Service No. 18059 kia 27 August 1917. *Age 21.*
 Born 1896 in Saddleworth.
 Son of the late Richard and Jane Ogden, of 6 Top o' th' Meadows, Strinesdale.
 In 1911 a piecer in a cotton mill.
 Enlisted Springhead.
 Commemorated on Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 82 to 85 and 162A.
- Oswald, Thomas Wardle** Sapper 68th Field Coy Royal Engineers
 Service No. 40793 dow 1 June 1918. *Age 35.*
 Born 1883 in Talk o' the Hill, Staffs.
 Husband of Mary A. Oswald (née Gilbert) of 22 Hey Top, Greenfield.
 In 1901 a mechanic apprentice.
 In 1911 a mechanic at Dobcross Loomworks.
 Enlisted Huddersfield.
 Interred in Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe IV. D. 2.
- Robinson, Charles** Private 7th Service Battalion South Staffordshire
 Service No. 26732 kia 11 January 1917. *Age 26.*
 Born 1881 in Saddleworth.
 Son of John & Angelina (née Carter) of Stonebreaks.
 In 1901 a piecer in a cotton mill.
 Enlisted Burton-on-Trent, Staffs.
 Interred in Connaught Cemetery, Thiepval VII. B. 6.
- Thompson, Edgar** Private 22/Manchester Regiment
 Service No. 28079 dow 27 October 1918. *Age 25.*
 Born 1893 in Austerlands.
 Son of John Edward and Esther Mary of 79 Turner St, Waterhead, Oldham.
 In 1911 a cotton mill worker.
 Enlisted Oldham.
 Interred in Tezze British Cemetery Plot 2. Row A. Grave 6.

⁷ Canada Soldier's Records.

SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919

- Turner, Ernest Arthur**⁸ Private 2/Suffolk Regiment
 Service No. 24874 dow 11 April 1917. *Age 32.*
 Born 1886 in Newmarket, Suffolk.
 Son of John and Elizabeth Turner, of 10 Turf Terrace, Newmarket;
 husband of Gertrude Maud Turner, of Springhead.
 Interred in Etables Military Cemetery XXII. F. 17A.
 Commemorated on Newmarket War Memorial.
- Twidale, Walter Edwin** 11/Lancashire Fusiliers
 Service No 20095 died 7 June 1917. *Age 31.*
 Born 1886 in York.
 Son of Edwin James Twidale, of 11 Balfour St, Oldham, husband of
 Ethel May (née Hilbert) Twidale, of Low Bank Cottage, Castleshaw, Delph.
 Enlisted Bury.
 In 1901 a shop assistant in Rochdale.
 In 1911 a shop manager at Preston.
 Interred in Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery IV. D. 10.
- Williamson, Robert**⁹ Lance Corporal 5th Field Survey Coy Royal Engineers
 Service No 246349 died 13/09/1918 *Age 27.*
 Born 1891 in Carrbrook, Stalybridge.
 Husband of Edith (née Taylor) Williamson, of Laburnum Cottage,
 Well-i-hole, Greenfield.
 A printer at Carrbrook printworks.
 Enlisted Hyde.
 Interred: St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen R. III. E. 3.
 Commemorated on St James', Millbrook, Church Memorial;
 Carrbrook Sunday School Roll of Honour; Carrbrook Memorial.
- Woolley, James Slater** Sergeant 2/ & 12/Manchester Regiment
 Service No. 8928 kia 4 August 1916. *Age 31.*
 Born 1885 in Saddleworth.
 Husband of Annie (née Whitehead) Woolley.
 In 1901 a piecer.
 In 1911 a general labourer at Springhead.
 Enlisted Fleetwood, Lancs.
 Commemorated on Thiepval Memorial Pier and Face 13 A and 14 C.
- Wood, John**¹⁰ Private 2/Cheshire Regiment
 Service No. 8482 kia 17 February 2015. *Age 29.*
 Born 1886 in Saddleworth.
 Son of James Wood and husband of Annie Elizabeth (née Howe) Wood.
 In 1907 a clerk.
 Enlisted Ashton-under-Lyne.
 Commemorated on Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial V.

⁸ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry.

⁹ Kathryn A. Booth, *The Missing Men of Stalybridge*, (Tameside MBC and the University of Manchester Archaeology Unit, 2006).

¹⁰ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry.

AWARDS

Beesley, Edward Raymond (1899-1974) Lieutenant 277 Infantry Bn Royal Flying Corps
Service No. 94321.
Greenfield, brother of Victor.
Croix de Guerre, Mentioned in despatches, 1919¹¹

Beesley, Victor (1897-1949) Private
Greenfield.
Mentioned in despatches 1918¹²

Howarth, Robert Jones (1890-1960) Corporal (later Sergeant) Lancashire Fusiliers
Service No.42118.
Born Newhey.
Commemorated on Denshaw Oddfellows Roll of Honour.
Military Medal, 1917¹³

Hughes, George Reginald (1892-1928) Sergeant. 2/ & 16/Lancashire Fusiliers.
Service No. 11348.
Of Diggle, moved to Salford.
Military Medal, 1917¹⁴

Mallalieu, Vernon (1886-1923) Secretary of the Lancashire Anti-Submarine
Committee
of Brownhill, Dobcross, member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers.
MBE¹⁵

Read, John Willie (b. 1888) Lance Corporal. 36/Northumberland Fusiliers.
Service No. 33191.
In 1911 of Bowkhouse, Denshaw.
Commemorated on Denshaw Oddfellows Roll of Honour.
Military Medal, 1919¹⁶

¹¹ Information from David Beesley, Saddleworth Museum Archives (SMA), M/GX/KB/Bee1.

¹² *Oldham Chronicle*, 18 January 1919.

¹³ *London Gazette*, 11 January 1918, (misspelt Howorth).

¹⁴ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry.

¹⁵ Obituary in *Journal of the Textile Institute Proceedings*, volume 14, 1923, Issue 11, p. 274 available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/19447012308660785?journalCode=jtip20>.

¹⁶ *London Gazette*, 18 December 1919, and family letters, SMA, M/GX/KB/Rea1.

PRISONERS OF WAR

- Broadbent, Norman**¹⁷ (b.1891) 1/6 Duke of Wellington's (WR) Regiment
 Service No. 241458.
 Son of John Stanley and Eliza Broadbent, Bell Building, Delph.
 In 1911 a weaver.
 Captured at Nieppe 2 April 1918, repatriated 29 November 1918.
- Buckley, Ernest**¹⁸ (b.1893) Private 2/Duke of Wellington's (WR) Regiment
 Service No. 23782.
 Son of the late Fred and Hannah Buckley of Grains Rd, Delph, and brother of
 Clayton Buckley who died 3 November 1918.
 In 1911 an apprentice at an iron works.
 Captured at Arras 3 May 1917, POW (wounded) at Cassel camp, repatriated
 5 May 1918 and discharged.
- Buckley, Joe**¹⁹ (b.1895) Private 2/Duke of Wellington's (WR) Regiment
 Service No. 18132.
 Son of Ada Maria Buckley of Austerlands.
 A piecer in 1916.
 Captured at Rouex 3 May 1917.
- Cardwell, Samuel Leigh**²⁰ (b.1886) Private RFA (Northumberland Fusillers)
 Service No. 141118.
 Son of Jonathan and Mary Elizabeth Cardwell of Woods Lane, Dobcross.
 In 1911 a carter, and a barber in 1915.
 Captured at Nieuport 10 July 1917, POW at Dulmen, Limberg and Lechfeld
 camps, repatriated 3 January 1919.
- Carter, Joseph Schofield**²¹ (1892-1967) Lance Corporal 2/South Lanes Regiment.
 Son of Edward and the late Sarah Carter of Lee St, Uppermill.
 In 1911 a shawl finisher at Gatehead mill.
 Captured at Fianies, Aisne 27 May 1918, POW at Darmstadt camp.
- Cawson, Harold**²² (1897-1980) Lance Corporal 3/7 Duke of Wellingtons &
 33/Machine Gun Corps
 Service No. 42022.
 Son of Broadbent and Mary Ann Cawson, of 2 Clayton's Place, Austerlands.
 In 1911 a piecer and a spinner in 1915.
 Captured 16 April 1918 and repatriated 20 November 1918.
- Charlesworth, Herbert Stanley**²³ (1899-1964) Private 1/8 Durham Light Infantry
 Service No. 80890.
 Son of the late Herbert and Mary Ann (now Lee) Charlesworth, of 7 Industrial
 Terr., Delph.
 Captured at Levantie 19 April 1918 and repatriated 29 November 1918.

¹⁷ File at International Committee of the Red Cross Historical Archives, Prisoners of the First World War: <https://grandeguerrre.icrc.org> (ICRC), Soldier's Records file at Ancestry.

¹⁸ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry and file at ICRC.

¹⁹ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry and file at ICRC.

²⁰ Soldier's Records file at Ancestry and file at ICRC.

²¹ File at ICRC.

²² Soldier's Records file at Ancestry and file at ICRC.

²³ File at ICRC.

SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919

Wrigley, Fred¹² (b.1882) Rifleman Kings Royal Rifles

Service No. R/19059.

Son of the late John Hall and Jane Wrigley, of Bankfield Terrace, Dobcross.

In 1911 a woollen twister.

Captured at Nieuport 10 July 1917, POW at Dulmen camp.

Wrigley, George²⁵ (b.1894) Private 1/10 Kings Lancs. Regiment

Service No. 498499.

Born in Denshaw.

Son of the late Joseph and Esther Ann Wrigley, 19 Horton St, Shaw, brother of Ezra Wrigley who died of wounds 14 April 1917.

In 1911 a cotton mule piecer.

Captured Epehy 13 November 1917.



Harold Kenworthy
A Coy 8/Seaforth
Highlanders
Died, August 1918



Vernon Mallalieu, MBE
Secretary, Lancashire Anti-Submarine
Committee

²⁴ File at ICRC.

²⁵ File at ICRC.

SADDLEWORTH NOTICES AND REPORTS FROM THE LEEDS INTELLIGENCER: PART 5, 1797 - 1798

Howard Lambert

20th February 1797

SADDLEWORTH, To be SOLD by AUCTION,

TOGETHER or in the following LOTS, as shall be agreed on at the Time of Sale, if not in the mean Time disposed of by private Contract, of which public Notice will be given, At the House of Mr. William Bell, The New Inn, at Delph, within Saddleworth in the County of York, on Thursday the twenty-third Day of February Instant, betwixt the hours of two and six o'clock in the Afternoon of the same day, subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced, THE following valuable FREEHOLD ESTATES :

Lot I. All that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, Outbuildings and Premises with the Appurtenances, situate and being at Marled Earth, within New Tame, in Saddleworth aforesaid, with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the New Meadow, the Croft, the Marled Earth, (in two Closes) containing together 5A. 2R. 37P. or thereabouts, now in the Occupation of John Garside. Also One-Third Part (the whole into Three equal Parts to be divided) of the South East End of the Rough Summer-Hill, which contains 6A. 1R. 35P. or thereabouts, now in the Occupation (with other Lands and Premises) of Abraham Whitehead, or his Undertenants.

Lot II. All that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, at Summer-Hill aforesaid, with the Outbuildings, Premises, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, together with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture land, viz. the Fleak, containing 1A. 1R 4P. the Cloaths Hedge Field, 1A. 3R. 32P. the Little Meadow, 2R. 22P. the New House Field, 2A. 2R. 16P. the Clod Field, 2A. 31P. the Limed Field, 1A. 3R. 6P. the Nearer Meadow, 3A. 1R. 39P. and the Further Meadow, 3A. 2R. 8P. – Also one other Third Part (the same to be divided into Three equal Parts as aforesaid) of the South-Westerly End of the Rough Summer-Hill, and now in the Occupation of the said Abraham Whitehead. Note. The Purchaser of this Lot is to be allowed by the Purchaser of the Third Lot, Liberty to fetch water from the Spring in the Rough Summer-Hill, or have the same conveyed into some convenient Part of his Premises, by and at the expense of the Purchaser of such Third Lot.

Lot III. All those several CLOSES of Arable and Pasture LAND, called the Summer- Hill, containing 13A. 2R. 37P. the New Field, 2A 3R 16P. Also one other Third Part of the North End of the Rough Summer-Hill, (to be divided as aforesaid) now also in the Occupation of the said Abraham Whitehead. Note. The Purchaser of this Lot is to be allowed by the Purchaser of the Second Lot, a convenient Road through his Part of Summer-Hill.

Lot IV. All that Ancient MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, with an equal share or Half Part (to be divided) of the Barn, Stables, Shippons, Outbuildings, and other Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in New Tame aforesaid, with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the Nearer Kill Field, containing 3A.1R. 38P. the Nearer Side of Great Meadow, 3A. 1R. 35P. now in the Possession of James Hall. Also all that Close of Pasture Land, called the Slack, containing 9A. 7P. now in the Possession of John Maladue.

Lot V. All that other Ancient MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, and an equal share (to be divided) with the Purchaser of the Fourth Lot, of the Barn, Stables, Shippons, Outbuildings, and other Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in New Tame aforesaid, with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the Ley, containing 1A. 2R. Back of Barn, 1A. 3P. the Barn Field, 4A. 37P. and the New Field, 2A. 2R. 2P. now in the Occupation of James Brierley.

Lot VI. All that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, with the Outbuildings and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate at Slack Cote, in New Tame aforesaid, with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the Brow and Lower Holm, containing 2A.

SADDLEWORTH NOTICES AND REPORTS

3R. 3P. the Upper Holm, 1A. 3R. 13P. the Clay Butts, 1A. 7P. and the New Close, 2A. 2R. 39P. now in the Possession of Peter Low. Also the Bottom or South Easterly End of a Close or Field called the Hoarest (to be divided by a Line from a Thorn at the corner of the Lane to an old Withy Tree at the Southerly side thereof, which is supposed to be 1A. 2R. or thereabouts, now in the Occupation of the said John Maladue.

Lot VII. All that new-erected MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE situate at Slack Cote aforesaid, now in the Possession of James Maladue. Also three-sixth Shares of and in a large, commodious, well-accustomed Woollen Cloth Mill, about Eighteen Yards long by Eight broad, situate near thereto, with the Machinery therein contained. It is remarkably well supplied with Water, and contains on the Ground or First Floor, Three Fulling Stocks, (two of them Falters and the other a Driver) one Willow and one Pit Wheel. On the Second Floor, Three Scribbling Engines. On the Third Floor, Two Slubbing Billies and one Carding Engine. – Together with the Dams, Banks, Goits, Weirs, Feeders, Floodgates, Ways, Waters, Water-courses, Privileges, Advantages and Appurtenances thereunto belonging. – Likewise the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the Furthest Field, containing 2A. 2R. 22P. the Far Side of Great Meadow, 3A. 1R. 35P. in Possession of the said James Maladue ; and the Further Kill Field, 2A. 3R. 23P. now in the Possession of the said James Hall.

Note. The Premises whereon the Mill, &c. stands are subject to the yearly Ground Rent of Six Pounds, payable to the Owner of the Inheritance, which will be sold therewith.

Lot VIII. All that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, with the Barns, Stables, Shippons, Outbuildings and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate at Old Tame aforesaid, together with the following Closes of Meadow and Pasture Land, viz. the Croft, containing 2A. 2R. 30P. the Green Holes, 4A 1R. 7P. the Calf Croft 2A. 2R. 16P. the Little Field, 1A. 1R. 13P. the Rough, 8A. 17P. the Nearer New Field, 2A. 3R. 31P. the Further New Field, 2A. 31P. the Riding, 2A. 2R. 10P. the Further Field. 3A. 3R. 6P. the Hoarest, 3A. 22P. (except about 1A. 2R. which is intended to be taken off the South-East Part thereof, to go with the Sixth Lot) the Wall Heads, 6A. 3R. 30P. and the Great Shaw, 2A. 22P. now in the Occupation of the said John Maladue or his Undertenants.

Lot IX. TWO PEWS, in Heights Chapel ; the one contains Ten Sitting Places, on the South side thereof; the other Five Sitting Places, on the North side of the Gallery.

There is a very extensive Common Right belonging to the Premises ; they are well supplied with Water, and abound with Stone, Flag and Slate ; there is also a Coal Mine near the Centre of the Premises, which it is supposed, might be worked at an easy expence ; likewise a new Turnpike Road through a great Part, and very near most Part of the Premises. They are commodiously situated for the Huddersfield Market, and carrying on the Clothing Business ; are capable of great Improvement, and the Tenants are all from year to Year. John Maladue will shew the several Estates ; and for further Particulars apply to Mr. Taylor, Attorney, at Dukinfield-Hall, near Manchester, Feb. 11, 1797.

Author's Note: Abraham Whitehead christened 15th December 1757 at Saddleworth Church, the son of John Whitehead, a clothier of Ramsclough, and his wife Hannah (née Gartside). He married Esther, daughter of Abraham & Rebecca Lees of Roebucklow in 1776, at Saddleworth, and they had six sons and four daughters. Abraham Whitehead evidently retained a portion of the New Tame estate. He died 1st March 1837 and was buried at Delph Independent Chapel. In his will⁷² and his entry in the Estate Duty Register⁷³, he is described as a yeoman of New Tame, but he also held land and houses at Delph, Roebucklow and Shaw. His property at New Tame passed to his eldest son, James Whitehead (1779-1858), a farmer and woollen weaver.

Editorial Note: This large estate at NewTame and Old Tame had been the home of a branch of the Buckley family from the sixteenth century. Originally held by lease from the Holt

⁷² Lancashire Archives, WCW Supra 1837.

⁷³ The National Archives: IR26/1471 Folio 588.

family of Ashworth, the freehold was purchased by the Buckleys in 1649. By the early seventeenth century the heir to the estate, James Buckley, had settled at Alt in Ashton Parish with the estate let to tenants. It is clear from a mortgage deed of 1734 that by then the estate consisted of several separate farms.⁷⁴ James Buckley, then described as fustian-weaver, died in 1757 and the estate was granted by the court to his creditors. It passed to Ellen, James Buckley's only daughter and heir, and wife of Thomas Taylor of Ashton, gent. A mortgage of 1772 describes the estate as three messuages at Old Tame, New Tame and Summerhill.⁷⁶ In 1781 he granted a lease for three plots of land on which was 'a nearly completed mill at Slackcote'.⁷⁷ The auction describes the extent of the estate at the time, the various tenanted farms and their occupants. What had been a single farm in the seventeenth century by 1797 had been sub-divided into eight smaller farms. Three farms were centred on the fold at New Tame, one at Old Tame and sub-settlements had appeared at Marled Earth and Slack Cote as well as Summer Hill. Following the auction the entire estate, eight out of the of nine lots (excluding the pews in Heights chapel) was sold by Taylor to Isaac Worthington of Altrincham, gent.⁷⁸ The estate subsequently passed to Eli Walsh of Over Darwen in 1863⁷⁹ and in 1881 to Robert Byron of Green Ash.⁸⁰ It remained tenanted until recent times when the heirs of the Byron estate sold the individual farms to the tenants and others.

15th May 1797

IN Buckley's Bankruptcy. THE Commissioner in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded and issued against HENRY BUCKLEY, of Grasscroft, within Saddleworth, in the County of York, Clothier, Dealer and Chapman, intend to meet at the House of Mr. Patterson, known by the Sign of the Bridgewater Arms, in Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, on Friday the Second Day of June next, in order to make a Dividend of the Estate and Effects of the said Bankrupt ; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, are to come prepared to prove the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend ; and all Claims not then substantiated will be disallowed. JOHN RIDGWAY, Jun. Solicitor. Manchester, 6th May 1797.

Editorial Note: See entry 6th July 1795.⁸¹

26th June 1797

George Dodson's Creditors. THE Creditors of GEORGE DODSON, late of Dob Cross, in Saddleworth, in the County of York, Horse Dealer and Woolstapler, are desired to meet at the House of Mr. Abraham Beaumont, the Pack Horse Inn, in Huddersfield, on Monday the Third day of July next, at three o'clock in the Afternoon, in order to take into Consideration a proper

⁷⁴ West Riding Registry of Deeds (WRRD), Mortgage, 13 March 1734, James Buckley of Alt, yeoman to John Beswick of Birchen Bower, Oldham, gent., messuages and tenements in Tame alais New Tame containing 84 acres, heretofore the inheritance of Richard Holt of Ashworth, deceased, and now in the occupation of Isaac Hall and John Whitehead, GG 419 587.

⁷⁵ Lancashire Archives (LA), Administration of James Buckley of Alt, fustian weaver, granted 13 January 1757 to James Buckley of Alt, yeoman, Edmund Buckley of Saddleworth, innholder, and Josiah Andrew of Saddleworth, clothier, his creditors, WCW Supra 1757 .

⁷⁶ WRRD, 1 January 1772, Thomas Taylor of Ashton-under-Lyne, Gent and Ellen, his wife, to James Brown of Ashton-under-Lyne, gent.

⁷⁷ WRRD, Lease for 999 years, 1 January 1781, Thomas Taylor of Ashton, gent. to Robert Ellison of Stayleybridge drysalter, Robert Buckley of Boarshurst, clothier, Isaac Platt of Mantley Yate, clothier, John Mallalieu of Old Tame, clothier and John Wrigley of Fox Hall, Oldham, clothier. Nearly completed mill at Slackcote, built in two fields called the Upper Holme, the Lower Holme and part of a field called the Further Side of the Great Meadow, CL 117 159.

⁷⁸ WRRD, 16 March 1798, (1) Thomas Taylor, late of Ashton under Lyne, but now of Duckinfield, gent; (2) Isaac Worthington of Altrincham, gent; (3) Rev Robert Harrop, late of Altrincham, but now of Hale Lodge, clerk; (4) William Barlow Worthington of Stockport, mercer.

⁷⁹ SHS Archives, Deed with Estate Map, Robert and James Worthington to Eli Walsh, 19 October 1863, H/JH/CAB/New Tame.

⁸⁰ WRRD, 12 November 1881, Walsh's Trustees to Robert Hunter Byron, 1881 856 271 325.

⁸¹ *SHS Bulletin*, vol 47, no 4, p. 120.

Statement of his Affairs ; and also to take into Consideration such Proposals as will be then made to the said Creditors by the Friends of the said GEORGE DODSON on his Behalf.

JUNE 20th, 1797.

Editorial Note: George Dodson, of Kirkheaton Parish and Esther Harrop were married at Saddleworth by license, 19 January 1797. Esther was the daughter of John Harrop of Woods House, Dobcross, gent., and Sarah his wife. The children of George and Esther Dobson of Dobcross were baptised at Dobcross, 1798, 1800 and 1813.

21st August 1797

Alexander Radcliffe's Creditors. WHEREAS ALEXANDER RADCLIFFE, of Den, in Saddleworth, in the County of York, Clothier, hath by Indenture bearing date the twenty-eighth day of July last, assigned over all his Estate and Effects to William Close, of Leeds, in the said County, Woolstapler; and Abraham Rhodes, of Uppermill, in Saddleworth aforesaid, Clothier, IN TRUST for the equal Benefit of all the Creditors of the said Alexander Radcliffe, who shall execute the said Indenture on or before the twenty-eighth day of October next, and prove their Debts as therein is mentioned, if thereto required. NOTICE is therefore hereby given, that the said Indenture will be left with Mr. Ingham of Dobcross, in Saddleworth aforesaid, at all times till the twenty-eighth day of October next, (except Tuesdays) and on Tuesdays Mr. Abraham Rhodes, one of the said Assignees, will have the same at Mr. Beaumont's, the Packhorse Inn, in Huddersfield, in the said County, for the Inspection and Execution of the Creditors of the said Alexander Radcliffe ; And that such of them as do not execute the said Indenture on or before the said twenty-eighth day of October next, will be excluded the Benefit thereof. All Persons who stand indebted to the said Alexander Radcliffe, must pay their respective Debts to the said Abraham Rhodes within the space of one Month from the date hereof, or Actions will be commenced and prosecuted for the Recovery thereof. Dated the Fourteenth Day of August 1797.

Editorial Note: Sarah, daughter of Alexander and Hannah Radcliffe of Den, was baptised at Holy Trinity, Dobcross, 5 May 1796. Alexander Radcliffe, then of Boargreave, and Hannah Harrop of Shaws were married 16 March 1786. When Hannah Radcliffe died 20 May 1831 she was described as wife of Alexander Radcliffe of Knowlsley.

4th September 1797

Saturday se'nnight was married at Saddleworth, Mr. W. Burton, of Dobcross, to Miss Jenny Kenworthy, of the same place.

Editorial Note: William Burton and Jenny Travis [sic] were married at Saddleworth 22 August 1797. Sadly, their marriage was cut short by Jenny's early death: Jane, the wife of William Burton of Dobcross was buried at St Chad's, Saddleworth, 18 June 1799.

11th September 1797

James Kenworthy's Bankruptcy. The Commissioners named and appointed in and by a Commission of Bankruptcy awarded and issued and now in Prosecution against James Kenworthy, of Quick, in the Parish of Saddleworth, in the County of York, Dyer, Clothier, Dealer and Chapman, intend to meet on Monday the ninth Day of October next, at the House of Mrs. Sarah Johnson, the Pack Horse Inn, in Robert-Town, in the said County of York, in order to make a First and Final Dividend of the Estate and Effects of the said Bankrupt ; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts under the said Commission are hereby required to come prepared to prove the same, otherwise they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend. HENRY STABLES, Solicitor under the said Commission. N.B. The Dividend will not be paid on that Day, but on the Tuesday following, at the House of Mr. Brooke, in Huddersfield, one of the Assignees.

Editorial Note: See entry 27th April 1795.⁸²

⁸² SHS Bulletin, vol 47, no 4, p. 119.

25th September 1797

To Dry Salters and Woolstaplers. A Person who is thoroughly acquainted with the Saddleworth, Yorkshire, and Derbyshire Clothiers, (having been in a Public Line of Business in the Neighbourhood upwards of Twenty Years) wishes to sell Wool or Dry Saltry Goods by Commission, for any Person in the above Branches. For Particulars apply by Letter, addressed to A.B. left with Mr. Brook, Printer in Huddersfield, and it will be immediately attended to.

9th October 1797

JOHN LEES' ASSIGNMENT. OCTOBER 4th, 1797.

WHEREAS JOHN LEES of Austerlands, in the Parish of Ashton-under-Line, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, Cloth Manufacturer, hath by Indenture bearing date the Fourth Day of October Instant, assigned over his Estate and Effects to Mr. James Lees, of Austerlands, in the Parish of Saddleworth, in the County of York, Manufacturer ; Mr. William Lees of Strines, in the Parish of Saddleworth aforesaid, Manufacturer ; Mr. John Roberts of Kidderminster, in the County of York, Woolstapler, and Mr. Charles Simpson of Leeds, in the said County of York, Woolstapler, IN TRUST for the equal Benefit of the Creditors of the said John Lees, who shall execute such Assignment on or before the Fourth Day of November next. NOTICE is hereby given, that the said Assignment is left in the hands of the said Mr. Charles Simpson, who will attend with the same at the House of Mr. Thomas Green, the Queen's Head Inn, in Huddersfield, in the said County of York, every Tuesday until the said Fourth day of November next, for the Perusal and Execution of the Creditors of the said John Lees. All Persons indebted to the said John Lees, are required to pay their respective Debts to the said Trustees, some or one of them, otherwise Actions will be immediately commenced for the Recovery thereof. By Order of the Trustees, EDWARD BROOK, Solicitor.

16th October 1797

LYDIATE. To be SOLD by AUCTION, At the House of Mr. Thomas Winterbottom, Innholder, at Lydiate in Saddleworth, in the County of York, on Thursday the Twenty-sixth Day of October Instant, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon, pursuant to such Conditions as will be then and there produced. A NEW and spacious-built DWELLING-HOUSE, with the Outbuildings and Appurtenances to the same belonging, occupied as a PUBLIC-HOUSE or INN, and in the Occupation of the said Thomas Winterbottom. ALSO a FREEHOLD CLOSE of LAND, called the PIKELOW, lately divided into several small Closes, containing together near Two Acres, also in the Occupation of the said Thomas Winterbottom. The Estate is very eligibly situated for Improvement; the Dwelling-House and Buildings are held under Two several Leases for the Term of Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine Years, under small Ground Rents, commencing the Sixteenth Day of May, 1787, and the First Day of May, 1790. Further Particulars may be had at the office of Mr. Clarkson, Attorney at Law, in Wakefield.

Editorial Note: The Public House in question was the White Hart Inn at Lydgate. It had been built seven or eight years earlier on the new Ashton to Doctor Lane Head Turnpike Road by John Buckley of Lydgate. But the scale of the project was too great and, heavily in debt, he let the property and moved to Mossley. Following the auction, the inn and land were sold on 26th October 1798 to one of John Buckley's principal creditors, John Harrison, mercer of Wakefield.⁸³

25th December 1797

SADDLEWORTH. To be SOLD by AUCTION, In the following LOTS: (By the Assignees of the Estate and Effects of JOHN WOOD the Younger, a Bankrupt), At the House of Mr. Joseph Lawton, Innkeeper, at Delph in Saddleworth, in the County of York, on Thursday the Fourth Day of January next, between the Hours of three and six of the clock in the Afternoon, subject to such Conditions as shall be then and there produced,

⁸³ For a full account see J.M. Hunt & R. Perroni, 'Pikelow, Lydgate', *SHS Bulletin*, vol. 4, no. 4, pp. 53-57.

SADDLEWORTH NOTICES AND REPORTS

Lot I. ALL that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, and Barn, situate at Cole Hill, in Saddleworth aforesaid, together with Two Closes of Land occupied therewith, and called or commonly known by the several Names of the Great Cole Hill Meadow, and the Little Cole Hill Meadow, containing together Two Acres and a Half, or thereabouts, and now in the Tenure or Occupation of James Rhodes, his Assigns or Undertenants.

Lot II. All that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, and a Garden adjoining the same, situate and being at Castleshaw, in Saddleworth aforesaid, and in the Occupation of Mark Scholefield, and James Wood, their Assigns or Undertenants.

The above Premises are Freehold, and situate in a populous and trading Part of the Country. For further Particulars apply to Mr. Hirst, of Huddersfield, Woolstapler; Mr. Scott, of Shrewsbury, in the County of Salop (Assignees of the Estate and Effects of the said Bankrupt) or Mr. J. Ainley, Attorney at Law, at Delph, in Saddleworth aforesaid.

Editorial Note: No trace of Cole Hill now exists; it had disappeared off the maps by 1890. This small farm was an early Lordsmere freehold adjoined the Friarmere/Lordsmere boundary at Standedge Foot. It was probably part of '5½ acres of land of the waste, commons and moors in Saddleworth, not as yet inclosed lying upon Winberleebent' included in the sale of Warrockhill by Sir John Ramsden, lord of the manor to William Rhodes in 1637.⁸⁴

13th August 1798

SADDLEWORTH.

To be SOLD by AUCTION, by EDWARD NORRIS, at the House of William Lawson, the Angel Inn, in Oldham, in the County of Lancaster, on Friday the Seventeenth of August Inst. between the Hours of Ten and Twelve o'clock in the Forenoon, subject to such Conditions of Sale as will be then and there produced, THE BENEFICIAL or LEASEHOLD INTEREST of and in all those Two Messuages or Dwelling Houses, Fulling Mills and Water Wheels, Apparatus and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, standing and being in Saddleworth in the County of York, commonly called or known by the name of the QUICK or WRIGHT'S MILLS. ALSO, of and in all those several CLOSES, FIELDS and PARCELS of LAND thereto also belonging and therewith occupied, situate, lying and being in Saddleworth aforesaid, and commonly called or known by the Names of the Mill Green, and the Shrogg, the Short Ley, the Old Limed Field, the Wood above the Barn, the Tenter Field, the Thick Three Lands, the Gib Knowl, the Mill Meadow, and the further Meadow, containing in the whole about Fifteen Acres of Land, of the Measure there used, or thereabouts, more or less. The Premises are held by three several Leases heretofore granted by James Farrar, Esq, Lord of the Manor of Saddleworth, and are lett to Mr. William Shaw, of Grass Croft, in Saddleworth aforesaid, Clothier, for a Term of Years, whereof Twenty (being the Residue of the Term demised by the original Leases) were unexpired on the Twelfth Day of May last, the net annual Rent of the Premises payable by Mr. Shaw for the next Seven Years of the said Term, will be One Hundred and Seventy-three Pounds, and for the Remainder of such Term, Two Hundred and Twenty-three Pounds per Annum. The above Mills and Premises are esteemed the best in Point of Situation of any in that Neighbourhood, and are in constant and abundant Employ, and lett to a good Tenant. For further Particulars apply at the office of Mr. Thomas Milne, Attorney at Law, in Palace-Street, Manchester.

Editorial Note: The freehold of the fields associated with the mills was held by John Gould who was then in financial difficulties. See 15th April 1799 entry and editorial note. However there is probably no connection between Gould's difficulties and the eventual sale of his land and the sale of these leases.

⁸⁴ SHS Archives.

