The
Mourholme
Magazine
of Local History

MOURHOLME LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION

With this issue the Mourholme Local History Society introduces its new publication, The Mourholme Magazine of Local History.

Four times a year we will try to fill its pages with interesting material relating to the history of the old ecclesiastical parish of Warton.

We hope, of course, that we will be successful and that our members will eagerly look forward to reading each issue, cover to cover, glad they are members of an active and productive local history society. But our intention goes even further. We want to provide our local history enthusiasts with a medium for communicating their ideas and sharing their knowledge with us and with each other. Their contributions will be the keystone of the magazine's success. We also hope our magazine may provide the nudge that pushes 'interest' over into 'enthusiasm' and transforms the passive local historian into the active one.

In short, we hope our members will not only read our magazine but also write it. We will be pleased to receive all contributions. Articles may be any reasonable length and on any aspect of the history of our area. Subsequent issues of the magazine will include a 'Notes and Queries' section for comments or questions.

Our goal is a magazine that is interesting, stimulating, readable, and good. During this first year, we would be very grateful for any criticisms or suggestions that would help us to that end.

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THE ANCIENT PARISH OF WARTON, A Background View

Margaret Clarke

England was already an old country in 1066 when Duke William of Normandy invaded these shores. A thousand years earlier the Romans had conquered what was then a prosperous, well settled country.

Evidence of settlement in many periods throughout the last five thousand years has been found in our local villages. Axe heads, flint tools, 'a lozenge shaped arrow head, beautifully worked on both faces' and fragments of pottery, all from the neolithic period have been found in Carnforth, Warton, on the Crag, in Silverdale and the Yealands.[1]

The tumulus on Summer House Hill in Yealand Conyers erected sometime in the Bronze Age is evidence of strong political administration and substantial numbers of people. Burial urns probably dating from the same period were found in the Crag Foot area in 1785 by John Jenkinson of Yealand when he was bringing new land into cultivation. Thirteen years later he was still locating archaeological evidence. Romaine Hervey recorded in his diary on 2 July 1798, 'John Jenkinson and I dug up some Roman bones on Warton Crag, they expected me to find an urn but were disappointed.[2] Perhaps he was mistaken in thinking they were Roman.

The Iron Age is perhaps best known for the large number of hill forts, although they range in date from the late Bronze Age to the Roman conquest, and in some areas they appear to have been occupied throughout the Roman period and into the Dark Ages. The fort on Warton Crag is a fine example of an Iron Age Hill Fort 'in a perfect position on a prominent limestone hill, naturally defended on three sides by rock terraces and overlooking the sea to the west...a long slope on the north defensively reinforced by three curving but parallel stone wall ramparts'.[3] A hill fort can be compared to a medieval castle; both were important focal points, serving a military and an administrative purpose and acting as a refuge in times of need.

'In the labour demands and agricultural surpluses implied by hill fort construction we glimpse something of the interactions between the component parts of a complex system of settlement.'[4]

Although the first written record of our villages appears in Domesday Book in 1086, their names tell us a little about their earlier history. All our village names are Old English or Anglian, but we have no means of knowing whether older Celtic or British settlements were given new names by incoming Anglians. Only the river names, Kent and Keer, are Celtic names. Lancaster was an important Roman centre, but has an Anglian name. In Lancashire there are more than fifty Celtic or British place names; most of them are south of the Ribble, several are in the Fylde, but there are none in the Lune Valley.[5] Warton means the 'guard settlement' and probably was given that name by the Anglians because of the hill fort on the Crag. The ending '-ton' signifies a settlement and the prefix gives it its own identity. Hutton is the 'settlement on a spur of land'. Carnforth means 'heron (or crane) ford'. The word 'berewick' meaning an 'outlying part of a lord's estate' in time became Borwick. There appears to be some doubt about the meaning of Yealand, and two alternatives are postulated, either 'high land' or 'land by a stream'. Silverdale may mean 'silver valley' because of the light coloured limestone rocks there. Other Old English names within our villages are Hilderston from the personal name Hild or 'Hildered's settlement', Leighton from the word leactun meaning 'garden', and Lindeth meaning 'lime tree headland'. All these settlement names seem to date from the later part of the 7th century. The nearest village to us with a name indicating that it dates from the earliest phase of Anglian settlement, c570, is Helling.

In the 9th century Norsemen from Ireland and the Isle of Man came to the West coast and settled among the Anglian communities. Hyning is a Norse name meaning 'enclosure' from the Old Norse word hygna 'to fence', and Nourholme means the 'island in the marshes'. The villages of Kellet have a Norse name meaning 'slope on which there is a spring', and Arnside means Arni's saetr or 'shieling', a 'summer pasture'.[6]

In 1066 the villages which came to form the ecclesiastical parish of Warton, although existing close together geographically, were administered from widely scattered centres. Yealand, at that time not divided into two separate entities, covered a large area, including Silverdale it is thought, and was part of an estate administered from Beetham. Borwick belonged to this estate, which also included Farleton, Preston Richard, Heversham, Hincaster and Levens. This estate was one of many held by Tostig, Earl of Northumberland and brother of King Harold.

Warton and (Priest) Hutton were part of a larger estate administered from Austwick, which included Burton (in Kendal), Holme, Lupton, Preston Patrick, Mansergh, Middleton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Caton, Claughton, Heldetun (an unidentified place - could it be Hilderstone?), and Clapham, and was held by Torfin, an Englishman.

Carnforth was administered from Halton, the centre of the most dominant estate, which included both Kellets, Bolton (le Sands), Slyne, Stapleton Terne (now a lost name), Bare, Poulton, Torrisholme, Oxcliffe, Heaton, Skerton, Lancaster and Kirk Lancaster, Aldcliffe, Thurnham, Hillham (in Cockerham), Hutton and Newton (both in Bulk, near Halton), Overton, Middleton, and Heysham. It was also held by Earl Tostig.[7]

It is unfortunate that the entries in Domesday Book for this part of the country are so brief. They consist only of the names of the holders of the estates, the component parts of each estate and the area liable to pay geld or tax. However these administrative areas had probably been in existence long before 1066. Professor Glanville Jones argues, many think very convincingly, that these estates, which he calls multiple estates, had their origin in the Iron Age and were often associated with hill forts or fortified places. The estate of Torfin, with its centre at Austwick could well have been a multiple estate as described by Professor Jones.[8]

The Norman Conquest had far reaching effects on our part of the country. Between 1066 and 1086 each of the three estates to which our villages belonged received a different lord. Roger of Poitou, the son of a Norman, was granted the estate of Beetham. King William acquired Torfin's estate of Austwick and Earl Tostig's many estates including Halton.

A great reorganisation of land and estates subsequently occurred. In 1066 this area was in the West Riding of Yorkshire, within Northumbria, which stretched across the country from coast to coast and extended from the Humber and the Ribble over the whole of the north of England. King William granted out much of the land which came into his possession to his Norman supporters. Amounderness and the land between the Mersey and the Ribble, he granted to Roger of Poitou. Later William Rufus added Lonsdale, Cartmel, and Furness to Roger's possessions. Furness and Cartmel form a geographical unit with Cumberland and Westmorland, but the route over the sands of Morecambe Bay was strategically important and so Roger of Poitou was given jurisdiction over these separated areas. Roger made Lancaster the administrative centre of his large estates, which became known as the 'Honour of Lancaster'. In course of time this became recognised as a county. In fact this year, 1982, is the 800th anniversary of this recognition.

This reorganisation of land had a direct effect on our villages. The former English estates were broken up. Some time after William the Conqueror's death all our villages received the same lord when they were granted to Gilbert, 1st Baron of Kendal.[9] The Barony of Kendal had lands from Garstang in the south to Barton, near Ullswater, in the north, and as far west as Ulverston. During the later part of the 12th century the Baron of Kendal built two castles as his administrative centres, one at Kendal and the other, Mourholme Castle, at Warton. Thus Warton became the administrative centre of the southern part of this huge Barony. That Warton had achieved a position of some economic importance is indicated by the granting of a charter by King John in 1200 for a weekly market to be held on Wednesdays.[10]

We do not know precisely when the ecclesiastical parish of Warton came into being, but it seems very probable that the Baron of Kendal established the church at Warton some time between 1160 and 1180. He endowed the church with land at Hutton, which gave that place the new name of

Priest Hutton. There may have been a chapelry there before
1160. We know that originally Carnforth was not part of
the parish of Warton. A document dated c1320 says

Carnforth which is now in the parish of Warton was in
the parish of Bolton before the interdict in England
and the men of that township partook of all the sacra-
ments of the church in Bolton church and their bodies
were buried in the churchyard of the church of Bolton,
and they paid all manner of tithes both small and
great to the church of Bolton. And there is still a
path between Bolton and that township called, as it
is believed, Bolton 'KIRKSTY' by which the men used
to go from that township to the parish church of Bolton;
the truth may be fully sought from the older men of the
Township of Bolton.[11]

In 1246 William de Lancaster III, Baron of Kendal,
died, leaving his two sisters as co-heiresses. The Barony
was therefore divided between them, Heloise Bruce receiving
Kendal Castle and Alice Lindsay receiving Mourholme Castle.
As a result Warton was detached from the Barony of Kendal,
and its development thereafter was as the centre of an
independent lordship. After it was granted borough status[12]
by Alice's son, Walter Lindsay, it was replanned as a
village, evidence of which is visible today.

The division of the Barony affected our other villages
also. Borwick, like Warton, was assigned to the Lindsays.
Yealand had been divided during the 12th century when one
part was granted to Adam de Avranches, who was eventually
succeeded by his great-granddaughter who married Robert de
Conyers. The other part was granted to Norman de Yealand
whose son adopted the name Redman or Redmayne. Yealand
Redmayne was assigned to the Lindsays, but Yealand Conyers
was assigned to the other heiress. Carnforth had been
divided into several moieties and granted to various people,
and so in 1246 some parts were assigned to the Lindsays
and others to the Bruces.

The Barons of Kendal, by granting out land to tenants,
received from these tenants allegiance and services. The
tenants became the lords of the estates or manors they had
been granted and received from their tenants, the people

living and working in our villages, rents in money or
kind and services. By the end of the medieval period we
find that our villages have developed in quite distinct
ways and their customs show a great variation as a result
of these many partitions of land.

NOTES

1 The Cumbria and Lancashire Archaeological Unit is in
the process of listing all known archaeological sites
in these counties. Its records are kept at the Univer-
sity of Lancaster.
2 Printed in Cumbria Family History Society Newsletter 15
(May 1980).
3 C.L.A.U.
4 B. Roberts, Rural Settlement in Britain (1979).
5 J.J. Bagley, A History of Lancashire (1976).
6 E. Ekwall, The Place Names of Lancashire (1922).
7 Domesday Book transcriptions are available in the ap-
propriate volumes of the Victoria County Histories, also
in Domesday Book-Cheshire: including Lancs, Cumbria, and
N. Wales (1978).
8 G.R.J. Jones, 'The Multiple Estate as a Model Framework
for Tracing the Early Stages in the Evolution of Rural
Settlement'
9 Victoria County History of Lancashire VIII, pp. 151ff
for history of Barony of Kendal.
10 T. Duffus Hardy (ed.), Rotuli Chartarum, Record Com-
mission 1837, I, 1, p.50.
11 From an Extent of the Manor of the Rector of Bolton le
Sands, c1320, in Lancashire Inquests, Extents and Feudal
Aids, W. Farrer (ed.). The interdict of 1208 occurred
as a result of a quarrel between King John and the Pope.
England was excommunicated and religious services
throughout the country were suspended for some years.
12 M. Bateson, 'The Creation of Boroughs', English Historical
Review XVII, pp286-95.

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INVENTORIES: 'The Iren Stuffe in the Howse'

Nancy Thomas

Wills and Inventories[1] are a fascinating source of material for local historians, and challenging as well, especially to those of us who may be just starting actually to 'do' local history. After we have struggled through the difficulties of early handwriting and the subtle blurrings wrought by time and the Xerox machine, it would seem only fair that the Inventories should then yield up to us a clear picture of how our predecessors in Warton lived.

Far from doing that, however, they set us still other tasks: to discover what the words we have extracted actually meant when they were written and to try to piece together from the details given, as well as from those not given, the 'picture of life' we are looking for.

There are many ways Wills and Inventories may be used by local historians, and doubtless the pages of The Mourholme Magazine will carry articles inspired and informed by them for many issues to come. In this article, however, I propose to describe some of the kitchen or cooking equipment listed in the Inventories for the Warton area from about 1580 to 1650.

Almost every Inventory lists some articles that have to do with cooking. One of the short cuts used by the 'praysers' who made the Inventories was to list 'All the Iren stuffe in the howse'. This, of course, is not very helpful to us. But some Inventories name a number of items before lumping the rest under 'other Iren geere', and others give very detailed lists. Thus, although it is impossible to say precisely what every house contained, we can get a good idea of the iron hardware and utensils in use in Warton parish at the time.

We know from studies of the vernacular architecture of the area[2] that the fire would probably have been an open fire on a floor-level hearth at one end of the main room, the room referred to in several of our Wills as the 'fire-

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MLHS THURSDAY EVENING LECTURES

11 Nov 1982   Place Names of the North West
              Mr J. Hughes, President, Cumberland & West-
              morland Antiquarian & Archaeological Associ-
              ation

2 Dec 1982   Literacy in the North West in the 19th C. Why
              were our Standards so High?
              Dr J.D. Marshall, President, MLHS

      7:30 at Hyning Hall, Warton
      Non-member admission 40p

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A COURSE IN REGIONAL HISTORY
      Offered by the Centre for North West Regional Studies,
      Lancaster University:

Technology and Industry in the North West; its History and
      Archaeology

Lecturer: Dr J.D. Marshall (with guest speakers)

      This course draws on Lancashire and the Lake District to illustrate the effects of engineering and crafts on landscape and society from medieval to modern times. Students will be introduced to some archaeological techniques and will be encouraged to look at documentary sources and to use camera or drawing board.

      1982-3 Lancaster University academic terms
      Dr Marshall's classes: Mon 4-5; Wed 10-11
      Guest speakers classes: Mon 4-6
      All meetings in A.32 Engineering Bldg

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COURSES IN LOCAL HISTORY

Offered by The Institute of Extension Studies, University of Liverpool in collaboration with the MLHS:

Local History Sources

Mr Paul Booth will lead 4 Saturday sessions, each examining one type of documentary source material for its importance to the study of local history.

20 Nov 1982   Quarter Session Records
 4 Dec 1982   Manor Court Records
22 Jan 1983   Parish and Township Records
19 Feb 1983   Medieval Records

10:30-4:30 at Hyning Hall
Bring lunch. Coffee and tea provided
Fee to be announced. Enrol at first meeting

The Rural Landscape of Lonsdale: An Historical Investigation

Dr Angus Winchester will look at how historical geographers have approached the task of unravelling the history of rural settlement patterns, patterns of parish and township boundaries, and field patterns. Specific examples of the techniques discussed will be drawn from our area.

Monday evenings, 7:30-9:00, starting 10 Jan 1983
Warton Village Hall
10 Meetings including 2 field trips
Fee: £8.50 (concessionary rates for pensioners and
  students). Enrol at first meeting

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LANCASHIRE'S 800th BIRTHDAY

A full day Conference, sponsored by The Federation of Local History Societies in the County Palatine of Lancaster, will be held in the

SHIRE HALL, LANCASTER CASTLE

on

SATURDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 1982

to commemorate the 800th Anniversary of the emergence of Lancashire as an administrative unit.

Programme

10:00-10:30   Assemble: light refreshments

10:30-11:30   John Champness. Lancaster Castle and its
              surroundings

11:30-12:30   J.J. Bagley. The Medieval Lords of Lancaster

12:30-2:00   Lunch. (Delegates make their own arrangements)

2:00-3:00   Paul Booth. From County to County Palatine

3:00-4:00   Hugh Sherdley. The Heraldry of Lancashire

Fee £1, to include light refreshments.
Please send remittance with name, address, and telephone number to Mr H. Bromley, 7 Lavender Road, Farnworth, Bolton, by 30 October 1982.

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LOCAL HISTORY RESEARCH NOTES

The Manor of Silverdale

Documents relating to the Manor of Silverdale are among the Dallam papers deposited with the Cumbria Record Office and held at Kendal.

Help with research into the history of the Manor of Silverdale using those documents is needed. Experience is not necessary. Beginners welcome.

County Record Office Visits

The Lancashire Record Office and the Cumbria Record Office branch at Kendal are both important sources of material for local history research. The MLHS would be glad to arrange visits to either or both Record Offices to introduce newcomers to local history to some of the sources available to them and to familiarize them with Record Office procedures.

Anyone interested in either of the above should contact Mrs Margaret Clarke, Tel 732602.

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house'. From our Inventories we can be quite sure that the chief fuel for the fire was turves or peats, cut with turf spades from the local mosses. Occasional references to fire-wood establish it as a supplementary fuel.

Among the iron gear frequently identified is a racken-crook. The term combines the words 'racken', a chain originally, and 'crook', a hook, and describes a device used to suspend cooking utensils over the fire. Racken-crooks in use in Lakeland farmhouses in the 19th C[3] were fairly complex arrangements of two iron bars held together in such a way that one could be moved up or down along the length of the other, the moveable bar having a hook at the lower end. The rackencrooks of our Inventories may have been simpler devices, but similar in allowing the height of the utensil to be adjusted. Examples from 19th C Lakeland were generally suspended from cranes, iron bars or brackets hinged to the wall so that they could swing across the fire. Cranes do not appear in our Inventories, however, so the rackencrooks of our houses probably were hung from the more ancient 'rannel-balk' or 'randle-tree'. This was an iron bar or wooden beam laid across beams fixed under the chimney hood.[4] The rackencrook could be moved along the bar and the bar along the beams, allowing the cook an added degree of temperature control for her boiling pot. Neither rannel-balk nor randle-tree appears in our Inventories because they would have been considered part of the fabric of the house rather than 'goods and chattels'.

The piece of iron equipment most commonly listed is the brandreth. The word is derived from a Scandinavian word which described a grate on three legs, a kind of portable fire. In our period it was a trivet used to support utensils over or beside the fire. Examples from Lakeland farmhouses and elsewhere have round tops with three metal prongs forming the grid and stand from 8" to 15" high.[5] 'Brandreth' is a word used in other contexts in the Lake District. In Cumbrian dialect 'brandreth steann' means a boundary stone at the meeting of three townships or parishes.[6] Brandreth, one of the Western fells, is divided into thirds by three different watersheds, and a feature on High Seat is called Threefooted Brandreth. It seems an inescapable conclusion that the little trivet with

its top resembling a pie cut into three pieces was a familiar fixture of Lakeland hearths from very early times.

A third cooking device frequently listed is a spit. The spit is an easy enough term for us today, but what the Warton appraisers meant by it is something of a puzzle. Roasting with a spit requires a rather complex apparatus: the skewer or spit rod to pierce and hold the meat and some sort of hardware to support the ends of the rod so that the meat can be held over the fire and rotated. Inventories from other parts of the country clearly identify the parts of the spit: 'spit' or 'broache' for the skewer and 'cobiron' or 'andiron' for the supporting parts.[7] Cobirons were iron bars fitted with rows of hooks and were simply leaned from the front of the hearth to the back wall at a suitable angle. Andirons were similar to modern andirons but for spit use were fitted with hooks along the vertical member. The 19 C Troutbeck spit, illustrated by Dr. Rollinson, was supported at each end by what might be described as cobirons hinged in the middle to allow them to take the shape of an inverted 'V'. Our Inventories, however, tell us tantalizingly little about the design of the Warton spit. Andirons do appear, but infrequently, always in the singular, and never in conjunction with a spit. They were presumably used simply to support logs or to keep them from rolling away from the fire. Of the 25 or so Inventories that include a spit, only one records any support hardware specifically. Richard Hadwen's Inventory (Carnforth, 1604) lists a spit with racks. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, racks were 'sets of bars of iron or wood', and the illustrating quotation (1617) describes a rack as made of iron with 'a long ranke of barres on it'. In other words, racks must have been very like cobirons. It seems strange, however, that iron supports of the complexity of those described, if they were in general use, would have been relegated so regularly to the 'other iron gear' department. The answer may be simply that the term 'spit' was used to cover the whole complicated apparatus. Or it may be that a simpler and cruder mechanism was used in our area, and that we have yet to identify it.

The cooking utensils listed include cauldrons, kettles,

cressets, frying pans, girdles, skillets, tongs, pots, and pans. Cauldrons and kettles were large, deep, wide-mouthed vessels with half hoop handles or bails by which they could be suspended from the rackencrook. Frying pans also had bail handles but were wide, low-sided vessels.

Regularly listed with the frying pan is the cresset, an iron vessel used to hold grease or fat. The rendered fat or tallow collected in the cresset, in addition to any culinary uses, was the ingredient that rushes were dipped into to produce the rushlights that provided domestic lighting.

A girdle was a round, flat, iron plate, with either a bail or two dog-ear handles, used for open-fire baking. It is almost always coupled with the brandreth in the Inventories, and the two together occur not only more frequently than any other item but also where no other cooking equipment is listed. A reasonable inference seems to be that the girdle was customarily used on the brandreth, not suspended, and that the combination formed the basic minimum of equipment required for the kitchen hearth. Girdle and brandreth, in fact, would have been the means of producing that staple of Lakeland and N. Lancashire diet, the oatcake – the traditional bread of the region.

Gridiron and brandiron are occasionally listed, but the way they occur suggests that 'gridiron' was used to mean 'girdle' and 'brandiron' to mean 'brandreth'.

Of the remaining iron utensils, skillet appears infrequently. It was something like a modern saucepan but with a very long handle and three short legs and was designed to sit in the embers of the fire. Tongs then were probably like tongs today.

Last of all come pots and pans. They are such a large and interesting subject in themselves, however, that they will have to have an article on their own.

NOTES

1 Inventories were required for probate. Shortly after a person's death, 'four honest men', usually neighbours, were appointed by the Court to make a list of all the

deceased's 'goods and chattels', together with an appraisal of the market value of each item or group of items. A MLHS research group is currently transcribing the 16th/17th C Wills and Inventories of Warton Parish. Words appearing in the Inventories are underlined; the spelling is modernized.

2 R.W. Brunskill, Vernacular Architecture of the Lake Counties (1978), pp. 50-53.

3 W. Rollinson, Life and Tradition in the Lake District, (1981), fig. 8, p. 33. See Ch. 2, 'Hearth and Home - Some Farmhouse Equipment', for descriptions and illustrations of other implements mentioned in this article.

4 J. Wright (ed.), The English Dialect Dictionary (1961).

5 Esp. the Museum of English Rural Life, Reading University.

6 W. Dickinson, A Glossary of the Dialect of Cumberland (1899).

7 B. Trinder and J. Cox (eds.), Yeoman and Colliers in Telford (1980), Salop; J. Moore (ed.), The Goods and Chattels of our Forfathers (1976), Gloucs ; F.W. Steer, Farm and Cottage Inventories of Mid-Essex, 1635-1749 (1950); J. Woodall, From Hroca to Anne (1974), Ch. 17, Warks.

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CROSS KENT SANDS - DROVERS' ROAD

David Peter

The cross sands traffic, from Kent's Bank on the west side of the Kent estuary to Hest Bank on the east, is well authenticated, and for hundreds of years this 'road' was followed by travellers on foot, on horse back, or in carts, carriages, and coaches between Lancaster and the north west of England. They preferred the risks attached to this eight mile crossing of the sands to the thirty mile, and often quite hazardous, alternative route via Kendal. The cross Bay 'road' was widely used until the opening of the Ulverston-Lancaster railway, which bridged the river Kent at Arnside in 1857.

Throughout this period the shorter crossing from Kent's Bank to Silverdale was used by local traffic and by fishermen, but it also served as an escape route when the longer sands journey became impossible to use, due to adverse tidal or weather conditions. On such occasions landfalls would be made at Silverdale, either at Cow's Mouth or at the Shore, and refreshment and shelter would be available at the Britannia Hotel (now the Silverdale Hotel). The Britannia Hotel was built in 1826 to replace an earlier hostelry, the Blue Anchor (sited nearby, but on the opposite side of the road), which was established in 1744.

The origin of the name 'Cow's Mouth' is somewhat obscure. It represents a significant break in the line of low cliffs which form the western edge of the Silverdale peninsula. As such it would obviously be utilised by travellers, including Drovers and their cattle, who had forded the river Kent. The main route for cattle droving (which flourished from approximately 1650 to 1850) was from farms in northern Ireland, by boat to ports in South west Scotland. Here the Irish cattle linked up with the Scottish herds of black cattle, to be driven southwards to pastures and ultimately to markets in England.

Irish cattle were also landed at ports on the Cumberland coast, even as far south as Roa Island (near present

day Barrow). They were destined for markets in Lancashire
such as Lancaster, Garstang, Preston, Wigen, etc., after
crossing the Leven and Kent sands. They provided food for
the rapidly developing industrial communities in Southeast
Lancashire.

No doubt many of the herds would make the shorter
crossing of the Kent estuary to Silverdale. Could it be
that the break in the line of cliffs bore some slight re-
semblance to a cow's mouth? Could it be that the pasture
nearby, called Cow Close, was the place where the cattle
were accommodated overnight to continue their journey the
next day? A number of other facts lend support to this
theory. Near to Cow's Mouth is one of the oldest houses
in the area, known as Waithman's House. It once belonged
to a well known Quaker business man and banker of that
name, who was concerned with flax growing and linen manu-
facture in the Yealand and Holme districts. It is more
than probable that his financial resources were placed at
the disposal of the drovers, from his base at Silverdale.

The cattle were moved inland from Silverdale. It is
interesting to note that both the Warton with Lindeth and
the Silverdale Enclosure Awards of 1811-17 established
officially what had no doubt been, for some considerable
time, watering places for animals. There were four of
these. First, the 'Dripping' well (Woodwell) at Lindeth.
Two others were sited at points where 'roads' crossed the
Myers Dyke (draining Haweswater). The fourth was at
Haweswater itself.

The next logical stopping place for the cattle would
appear to be somewhere in the Warton area. The existence
in the village of an ancient hostelry called the 'Black
Bull' suggests proximity to a Droving road. Inn names
such as 'Highland Laddie', 'Drovers Arms', 'Black Bull',
are usually an indication that they included Drovers
amongst their clients. Incidentally, there is another
'Black Bull' (and also a 'Brown Cow') on this same line,
but in the reverse direction at Dalton in Furness. Nor
was the 'traffic' restricted to cattle. Sheep, pigs, and
even geese were also driven in this way _en masse_ to
market.

One of the main purposes behind the new _Mourholme_

Magazine is to try to involve as many of the members as
possible in actively enquiring into local history. The
above article has been written by way of illustration and
encouragement. It does not claim to be complete or even
necessarily accurate in every detail. If it inspires
members to point out errors or suggest additional support-
ing detail it will have served a purpose. Any letters to
the Editor or to the writer direct will be welcome. If
in addition it inspires members to put pen to paper, and
to describe aspects of their own locality which may interest
other members, so much the better.

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DOCUMENTS

THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MANOR OF WARTON

In 1609 a Rental and Survey of the Manor of Warton*
was made for the then Lord of the Manor, King James 1.
It listed the Lord's tenants, the nature of their tenures,
the extent of their holdings, and the amount of their
rents. In addition, an attempt was made to define the
boundaries of the Manor. In the apparent absence of any
fixed official boundary, depositions were taken from four
of the oldest inhabitants as to their understanding of the
boundaries.

The following is the record of the deposition
proceedings:

Examinations taken the 26th Daye of June, A.D. 1609
and of the reign of our lord King James the seventh by
the Jurye of Warton, Charged by Mr. John Woodwarde, his
Ma(jest)ies surveyor of the Lordshipp of Warton afore-
said, as follows:-

Thomas Wawen being of the age of foureschore yeares and
tenn or thereaboute, sworne and examined deposeth and
saith, that the bounders of Warton begineth at Meares
becke upp Kear to over Kear bridge and so to the highe
Crosse in Barwicke loone, from theare to Juett Well,
then to Shawe Wodd from Shawe Wodd to Weates Bower, from
thence over the Mosse betwixte Yealand 'Moss and warton
Moss to the Stonye Foorde, then to the Troughe of Trowe.

Robert Weathman of the age of 60 yeares or thereabouts
beinge sworne and examined deposeth and saith, that the
bounders of Warton be these followinge viz:- It
beginneth at the midd streame of Kent, from the midd
streame of Kent it goeth to Bearte Well, from thence to
the Butt in Timber Slacke, from thence to the topp of
the Burnte Hall, from thence to the hareapple tree,
from thence to the healding stone above the holte pott
head, from thence to the rydinge stone, from thence to
the Topp of Burn barrowe.

Robert Houseman of the age of 80 yeares or thereabouts
being sworne and examined deposeth and saith, that the
bounders of Warton begyn at Meares becke, from thence
goinge upp midd K(ear) to Over Keer bridge, from thence
to Juitt-Well, from thence to Pearson's house and
thence to the Troughe of Trowbarrowe, from thence to
the stonye Forde from thence to ( ) Mill from thence
to Bearte Well.

We have also (had) shewed unto us by a vardit of a
Jurye bearinge date the 6th day of Maye in the 25th
yeare of the reigne of our Queen Elizabeth that there
was a Bonderye of the Lordshippe of Warton delivered
unto Gervase Kytson, by Robert Kytson, worde by worde
as followeth, viz:- Firsts it beginneth at Juitt Well
and so upp alonge rawehedge betwixt Juitt Fields and
Yealand Fields, and soe to Dawes Parke a little from
Holmes 'hiers Yate, from thence to Waynbreake stoone
beneath Pearsons from thence to the greate stoone be-
twixt Haddes house sonn of Hues the Leech, and nowe
one Mawes of Yeallande from thence to the highe Lynde,
from thence to the roughe glade, from thence over-
thwarte the Moss i( ) the Stonye Forde juste upon
Trowe from thence to the rydinge stone of Burnebar( )
from thence to the Hareappletree, from thence to the
three stoones of sand bancke from thence to Bearte
Well, and so to the middstreame of Kent.

Leonard Washington	Robert Watson
Robert Hudson	John Borrow Junr.
John Jackeson	Robert Heste
Robert S( )ann	Edmund Dawson
Robert Croft	Wyllyame Borrow
Willm Browne	Bryan Whorubye
John Pleasington	Robert gryn Wode
John Borrowe Senr.	Wyll Wallin
Mathew Makerell	Wyll Waythmane
Robart Robinson	Anthonie Masone

* PRO LR2/220 fo. 27-65. Transcribed by M. Clarke.

It is interesting to note that Robert Weathman's recollections are confined to the Lindeth-Silverdale boundary. He was, of course, a Lindeth man, an early member of a long line of recorded Lindeth Waithmans.

It is even more interesting to compare his description of the boundary given in 1609 with the description of the perambulation of the same boundary made some 200 years later in 1811 by the Commissioners for the Inclosure of the Wastes & Commons of Silverdale.* Starting at 'Bardwell' they proceeded

> in a south easterly direction to Timberslack and from Timberslack to the north westerly corner of Holefield and to a Yew tree on the south side of the road leading to Lindeth thence in an easterly direction over Hall Close to Stone Cross and to a large stone called Hall Pot and thence in a north easterly direction across the last mentioned Road to the Riding stones and then over the Common in a direct line down to the north westerly end of Slackwood Barn.

Editor's note:

These extracts are presented without further comment or explanation for the time being in the expectation that some of our readers may want to contribute both.

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* Cumbria Record Office, Kendal, WD/D/S2(17).