

THE MOURHOLME MAGAZINE OF
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The Mourholme Magazine of Local History



Mourholme Local History Society (Charity Reg. No. 512765 covers the Old Parish of Warton containing the Townships of Warton-with-Lindeth, Silverdale, Borwick, Priest Hutton, Carnforth, Yealand Conyers and Yealand Redmayne.

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The History of Eaves Wood, Silverdale

Michael Wright

Eaves Wood forms a beautiful backdrop to the northern edge of Silverdale and is part of a ridge of higher ground that extends round two sides of the ancient cultivated fields of the village. There is very little documentary evidence concerning its history, but changes over the last two hundred years can be traced from maps. The earlier history of the area, and the assessment of the extent of woodland cover at different times can only be inferred from general historical information. This article puts together the information at present available and sets out a broad historical framework into which it is hoped more detailed information can be slotted as it comes to light. In particular it would be of great interest to estimate the age of the older trees in the wood and to try to determine which are self-sown and which are part of the planting scheme of Thomas Inman, who owned much of the area in the first half of the nineteenth century and who transformed the appearance of this part of Silverdale.

Eaves Wood is the name loosely applied to the whole hillside which extends for one kilometre from Castlebarrow in the west through King William's Hill and Eaves Wood proper to Waterslack Woods in the east. These separate sections originated in the divisions set up when Silverdale common land was allocated to private owners at the time of the Enclosure Award in 1817. Eaves Wood extends downslope to the edge of Silverdale's medieval arable fields, and upslope as far as the crest of the slope

The hill is formed of Urswick Limestone, part of the Carboniferous Limestone Series. At the time of its formation as banks of shelly debris in shallow tropical seas 340 million years ago the deposition of the Urswick Limestone was interrupted from time to time by falls in sea level. These exposed the shelly material to weathering, which dissolved and re-deposited the calcium carbonate of the shells, forming an extremely hard crust. Rising sea level submerged this crust, and the muddy sediment that later washed into the area formed a thin shale layer on top. Repeated oscillation of sea-level led to the formation of dozens of hard layers within the Urswick Limestone. Later weathering and erosion by glacial ice has uncovered these layers which now form areas of limestone pavement. Most have been tilted from the horizontal by earth movements so that they form inclined terraces in many places up the hillside. The thin shale layers that were sandwiched between the thick limestones at intervals of ten metres or so have an important effect on groundwater. They impede the downward seepage of groundwater through cracks in the limestone, and give rise to small springs on the hillsides.

Since so much of the weaker and softer material has been scraped and plucked away from the hill by glacial erosion, it follows that the soil cover is generally very thin or absent, except where pockets of sediment have been washed down the slope after the ice melted, or where windblown silts from Morecambe Bay have settled in hollows on the hill. Consequently our hillside has always been a fairly barren place, and was never suitable for arable cultivation. We do know, however, that a thick woodland cover grew over the whole area after the ice had finally melted and the climate had warmed to something close to the present

temperature. Shrubs and trees can establish themselves in the least hospitable environments, including the clefts or grikes in the limestone pavements. Only the broader areas of rock pavement would remain uncolonised by trees.

Pollen preserved in the successive layers of sediment in nearby Haweswater Moss tells us that the early woodland cover included hazel, oak, birch, holly, yew, elm and small-leaved lime, among other species. This assemblage resembles the woodland cover that develops at the present day when the ground is left to revert to nature, but there are some recent introductions such as beech and sycamore. This post-glacial forest could be regarded as the "natural" state of Eaves Wood. However, ever since the Ice Age man has made his presence felt, and the subsequent history of the woodlands can be viewed as a balance between natural regeneration of woodland and man's interventions for farming, hunting and tree-cutting for timber, wood and forage. We know that Neolithic man lived in the Silverdale area and had an impact on the vegetation, and though we do not yet have certain evidence it is very likely that in the Bronze Age, when climatic conditions were favourable and population rose, there was a considerable demand for ground that could be cultivated. One such area was the low ground south of the Eaves Wood hillside.

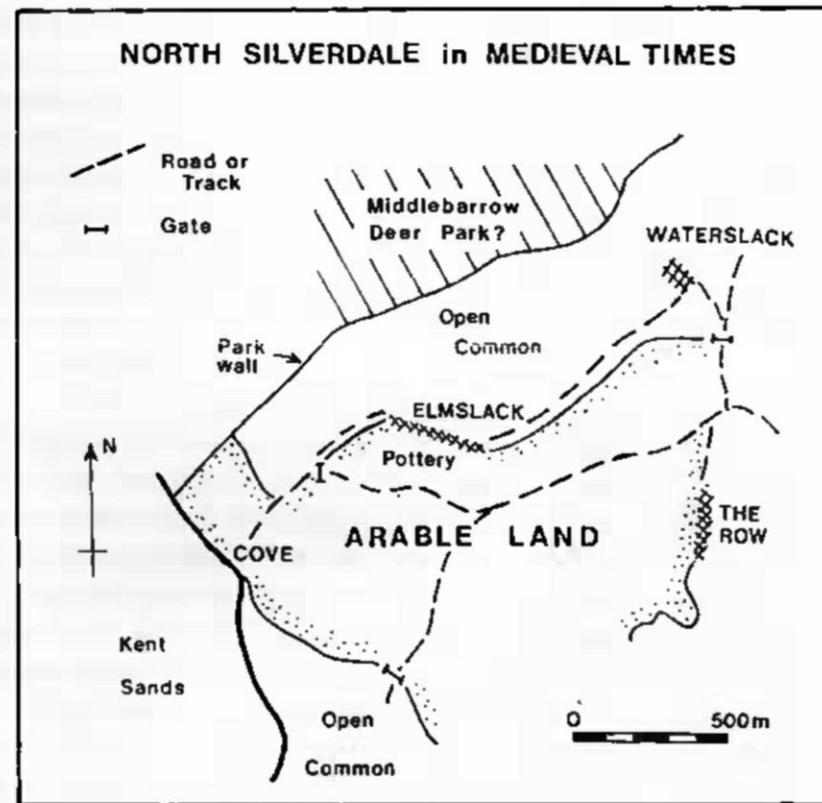
The area in medieval times.

We have a little more information when we come to medieval times. At the end of the 11th century the area had a low population density, and our hillside may well have been extensively forest covered at this time. All land was controlled

by the Lord of the Manor. Areas such as Eaves Wood hillside could not be cultivated and were termed "waste", though in fact they were exploited extensively for wood and timber, hunting and, as time went on, for grazing animals. As in other parts of England the population would have risen during early medieval times, and this led to more and more land being brought into cultivation. It is very likely that by the 14th century this forest had thinned markedly as the demands on its resources had grown. The establishment of the Silverdale pottery, situated in the area north of Cove Road, will have further depleted the woodland for fuel supplies. Was it fuel shortage that led to the pottery's closure (possibly as early as about 1600) while rival coal-fuelled potteries such as that at Burton-in-Lonsdale continued to prosper?

The first of the two accompanying plans shows the likely distribution of arable land, roads and tracks in medieval times. The Eaves Wood area was open commonland, probably with some trees that were lopped for small wood and winter forage for farm animals. Along the foot of the slope, skirting the northern edge of the cultivated fields, was the ancient track that linked the Cove to Elmslack and which went on to Waterslack and beyond. This track could have been used by those on foot, or on horseback, and perhaps also by packhorses. Wheeled traffic, if any, was probably limited to two-wheeled farm-carts.

By far the most impressive relic of medieval times in the Eaves Wood area is the wall that now forms the boundary between Lancashire and Cumbria. It is up to six feet high, four wide at the base and three feet wide at the top. The most



likely explanation for the width of this wall is that it was originally eight or nine feet high, and that the top has been robbed for use elsewhere. There is good evidence that this was the wall of a medieval deer park, since it is named as Middlebarrow Park Wall in the Silverdale Enclosure Award document of 1817. The northerly extent of the park has not yet been worked out, but no doubt it reached as far as Arnside

Tower, or a predecessor of that structure. Walls on the other sides may have been removed for use elsewhere or these sides may have been protected by wooden palings. This park and the well-known Arnside Park northwest of Far Arnside, must be the two referred to by Hutton in his Beetham Repository [p.103]. While the main purpose of the wall was to keep deer in, it would also serve to ensure that grazing animals from the Silverdale side were kept out. It may also have served to discourage Silverdale inhabitants from collecting timber and wood from the north side of the hill.

The seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

The setbacks caused by a deterioration in the climate, the arrival of the Black Death, and the effects of Scots' raids into the area led to a sharp drop in the population in the 14th century. Pressure on land resources eased, and the woodland cover of our hillside may have had a chance to regenerate. But by the 17th century the population had risen again and was once more straining resources. The number of people striving to make a livelihood from the land was even higher than at the start of the 14th century, but the climate remained poor and unreliable. Silverdale and Warton Manor Court records contain many references to overgrazing of the commons, and records of Customs of the Manor show that collection of wood from the commons was strictly controlled. Wood burning had long before given way to peat burning, and the local mosses were dug up and steadily consumed on hundreds of domestic hearths, at least by those fortunate to have both hearth and peat.

In the 1630s the 120 or so residents of Silverdale had to grow food for themselves and also had to find grazing and fodder

for well over 700 sheep and more than 100 cattle and horses, and more than 100 cattle and horses, and this in the days before artificial fertilizers. Arable land was scarce, and there is no doubt that the local husbandry was very dependent on salt-marsh grazing and browsing on the commons. It is very likely that the woodlands were severely depleted, and only scattered individual large trees survived, even these being lopped for fodder. The hillside remained open commonland until the Enclosure Award of 1817. But before the changes brought about by enclosure are described there is some information from the earliest maps of the area to consider.

Yates' map of Lancashire (1786) on the scale of one inch to the mile, is the first map of the area that shows any detail. It is much less accurate than the later Ordnance Survey maps, but it does give us a glimpse of pre-Enclosure Silverdale. It appears to show open unwooded land over the whole Eaves Wood hillside, but thick woodland over the county wall on the north (Arnside) side of the hill. The only other map of similar date, the Greenwood map of Lancashire of 1818, was published immediately after enclosure. In contradiction to the Yates map it shows woodland on the central and eastern part of the Eaves Wood hillside, though it is of course separated from Yates by over 30 years, time enough for considerable changes. Since the extent of woodland cover at the time of enclosure is of some interest it would be useful in future to search for the oldest trees in Eaves wood to see whether any were growing when the area was still open commonland.

Enclosure. Thomas Inman and Hill House

The enclosure of the commons came about in response to a need for farmers to have greater control over their livestock

and over the exploitation of the grasslands and woods. The commonlands which had stretched all the way from Castlebarrow to Waterslack and beyond were finally allocated to individuals and walled off, the amount allocated to each individual being proportional to that individual's grazing rights on the common, held by virtue of tenancies in the manor. It is at this time that Thomas Inman enters the story. He was from a prosperous family of merchants based in Lancaster. Directories describe his father, Robert, as a merchant in the late eighteenth century, and in all probability Robert had interests in shipping. His son Thomas was born in about 1780, and is listed in directories as a timber merchant, an occupation that may well have evolved from shipping interests. His business premises were at Green Ayre, and he had a house in Fenton Street in Lancaster. But he also clearly aspired to being a country gentleman and set up house in Silverdale at Hill House (later re-built and re-named Woodlands). A sale catalogue of 1851 [Lancaster Public Library Reference Dept.] refers to Hill House as Thomas Inman's summer residence. He also bought a great deal of land in Silverdale and by the time of the Tithe Award in 1845 he was the largest landowner with 240 acres. About 80 acres of this was commonland that had been allocated to him at the time of enclosure. In fact he was allocated all the hillside behind Hill House, while the common further west (Castlebarrow) was allocated to William Machell, and the common near Waterslack was allocated to Thomas Kellett.

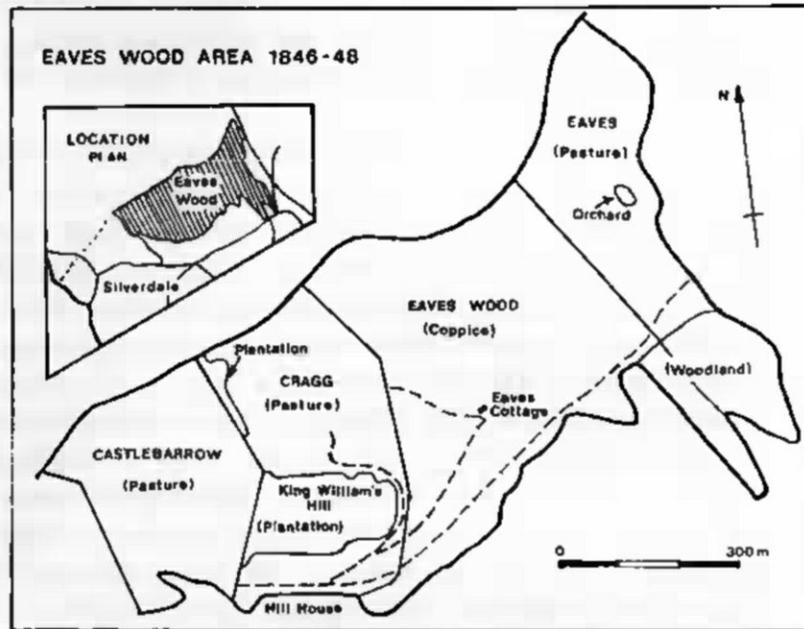
It is quite evident from his subsequent work on his "estate" that he was determined to establish a rather grand country seat with associated gardens and ornamental grounds.

Even before the Enclosure Award of 1817 he had owned the fields that lay along the foot of the Eaves Wood hillside. Now that he owned the whole hillside down to the road from Silverdale chapel to the Row he removed and rebuilt walls, reshaping the fields on the lowest ground. Small areas of woodland that had been in the fields were now incorporated into plantations higher up the hill, and the fields were enlarged. The field closest to Hill House was designated The Park.

As to his 80 acres of allocated commonland, he built a wall to divide this into two sections. The eastern section, Eaves Wood, he used for coppiced woodland, but he evidently planted specimen trees here as there are still many mature beeches, including beech circles. The small cottage in Eaves Wood was built for a gamekeeper. It is now in ruins, and was ruined as early as 1872 when it was described in an item in the Lancaster Guardian [issue of June 22]. It must have been used at some time by a fisherman, for the ground around is full of cockle-shell fragments. The western section of Inman's allocation of commonland (Cragg) was left as pasture, but Inman made two plantations within this pastureland. The larger of these is on King William's Hill, the ridge of ground just behind Hill House. The name of the hill is thought to commemorate the accession of King William IV in 1830 and there are remnants of the foundations of a hexagonal gazebo on the western end of the hill, probably of the same date [David Peter, "In and Around Silverdale", p.64]. The first edition Ordnance Survey map (1848) shows a flagstaff on the slope of the hill.

The second plan drawn to accompany this article has been compiled from the Tithe Apportionment plan of 1846 and

the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848. The walls shown enclosing the two plantations have now almost disappeared, and apart from a large number of beech trees in the plantation on King William's Hill, the original plantings are now difficult to determine.



Presumably the gazebo, when built, had clear views over the trees in the plantation, but now, its site is deeply buried in Woodland. At the present day the main legacy of Inman's landscaping work is the pattern of tracks along and up the hillside. One of these, known as Inman's Road, follows roughly the same line as the medieval route along the lower part of the hillside, to Waterslack.

A note added to the Mourholme Society archive copy of the Silverdale Enclosure Award claims that Thomas Inman illegally stopped this right of way in about 1830.

Eaves Wood from 1851 to the present day

Thomas Inman died in 1851, leaving the estate to his wife but giving his gardener, William Williams, the property known as Green Close, on Silverdale Green. The estate was put up for auction in June 1851, when the sales literature remarked on the drives and walks in the plantations and other parts of the estate and the views from the house. The timber and coppice wood were said to be thriving, so it is evident that Thomas Inman had maintained his interest in tree growing. Despite the glowing description of the estate "in the Romantic District of Silverdale" it appears that the reserve price was not reached at auction. The estate was offered for auction again in 1857, after being more widely advertised in Manchester and London. Silverdale railway station was about to be built, and this time the possibility of building villas on parts of the estate was raised. By 1858 Hill House and its adjoining land were in the ownership of Christopher Wood. He rebuilt the house and named it Woodlands. Subsequent changes in ownership are described by David Peter ["In and Around Silverdale", p.60]. In 1873 the property was bought by a cotton spinner from Bolton, John Hebden, and after his death his wife lived at the house till 1905. The 1905 sale catalogue for the house and grounds [Lancaster Public Library Reference Department] shows that the extent of the estate around the house was still much the same as when Inman owned it. Ordnance Survey maps of 1891 and 1913 show the same hillside features as were shown on the 1848 edition.

and it seems very likely that little of Inman's original landscaping was altered by any of the later owners. But the change that does become apparent by comparing the maps is the gradual spread of woodland over the whole hill. By 1891 woodland had spread over the former pasture on the Cragg, and had absorbed Inman's plantations. Woodland had also spread over the eastern end of the hillside, in the area above Waterslack. In 1891 Castlebarrow is shown as still remaining as open pasture (and this is confirmed in some early photographs of this end of the hill). By the time the 1956 Ordnance Survey map was published there were patches of woodland on Castlebarrow, and in the last few decades the whole area has become wooded. This inexorable advance of woodland has recently been checked and in some places reversed by the present owners of the land, the National Trust.

Two other features of the hill remain to be mentioned. In 1887 the Jubilee Memorial ("the Pepper Pot") was built on Castlebarrow, and the 1891 Ordnance Survey map shows a flagstaff downslope to the southwest, on what was then still open ground. And a memorial of a different sort, the huge water-storage tanks that lie at the lower edge of the woods, just behind Woodlands, are testimony to Silverdale's problems with water supply in the years before mains water arrived in 1938. These tanks, with estimated capacity of 40,000 gallons, were probably built by Mr Pratt, who had bought Woodlands in 1905. In 1907 he opposed the introduction of mains supply to the village claiming that small springs on the hillsides could be tapped. He had just invested some hundreds of pounds in such a system for Woodlands and some nearby cottages [Lancaster Guardian 14 December, 1907]. Remains of this system of pipes

and tanks can be seen extending right up the hillside almost to the crest of the hill, collecting the very small flows from those shale bands within the layers of Urswick Limestone. Mr Pratt cannot have built all this, however, because there is a reference to one of the tanks up the hillside in a Lancaster Guardian article of 1872 [June 22]. Whether Mr Inman had installed some of this collection system is not known. He may have relied on roofwater as did others who had slate roofs. The size of Mr Pratt's tanks indicates the problem of storing enough water to keep a supply flowing in drought years.

This review of the history of Faves wood shows that we owe a great deal to Thomas Inman's landscaping work which transformed the open commonland into a pleasing mixture of open pasture and commercial and ornamental woodlands. Much of the design that he brought to the hillside has been blurred and swallowed up by the natural spread of woodland cover over the whole area, but features that survive are his plantings of beech trees, and the network of tracks that give access to all parts of the hill. Owners since Inman's day seem to have made few modifications to his design, and the spread of woodland remained unchecked as livestock grazing diminished. In 1929 Mr F.J. Dickens gave Castlebarrow to the National Trust, and after Mr Dickens died in 1949 the Trust acquired King William's Hill, Eaves Wood and Waterslack Wood. Later acquisitions by the Trust near Woodlands and opposite the Row give ready public access from Park Road. Recently the National Trust has been clearing some of the natural woodland to create open areas which will provide more varied habitats for plant and animal life. In other parts of the wood a coppicing cycle has been

started. These activities have been criticised by some who had become fond of the wild, spreading woodland. But some cutting and coppicing seems quite reasonable when viewed in the context of the changes that have taken place over the last two hundred years. In any event, it is clear that Eaves Wood will remain a very valuable recreational asset for Silverdale.

Maps and Plans Consulted

- 1786 Yates' Map of Lancashire
- 1817 Silverdale Enclosure Award Plan [Lancashire Record Office]
- 1818 Greenwood's Map of Lancashire
- 1846 Silverdale Tithe Apportionment Award Plan [Lancashire Record Office]

And Ordnance Survey maps and plans dated 1848 (six-inch to the mile), 1891 (1:2500), 1913 (1:2500) and 1956 (six-inch to the mile).

Post-script:

Since writing the above I have found evidence that it was Robert Inman who bought Hill House and the surrounding land in 1808. At the Enclosure Award of 1817 he was allocated the area of common above Hill House, and all this property was passed on to his son Thomas when Robert died in 1823.

Further considerations of the Wills of Lord Mouteagle of Hornby By Neil Stobbs

The first will written in 1513 and the transcript, done by Col. Chippindall in 1939 is printed, as previously stated in the Transactions of the Chetham Society Vol. 102.

It is printed in the form of the original will and consists of three pages of close print, 46 lines x 10 words x3 = 1380 words.

The second will of 1523, consists of nine pages giving a total of 9x46x10 = 4140 words

The first part of this will is dealt with in some detail later in the study.

The second part of the will consists of detailed bequests which fill five pages of continuous text averaging 10 words per line and 46 lines per page, so 5x 10x 46 = 2300 words.

There is no punctuation at all in either will, and the words follow on with occasional capitals on words which may or may not be at the beginning of a sentence, or statement of intent. It does become clear on further study the appearance of an upper case letter on the beginning of "*And*" tends to indicate the beginning of a statement.

Both the wills are taken from the post mortem

"Inquisition taken at Preston in Amounderness, co. Lancaster, 16 September 15 Henry VIII [1523] before James Worseley Esq. the King's escheator there by virtue of the King's writ to him directed"

The preamble of the first will appoints James Bishop of Ely and Randall Poole clerk amongst others to carry out the requirements of the will.

He says

It is the last will of me the said Edward never to be changed

Yet within ten years he made a second one!

"to the heire male of my body lawfully begotten"

is quoted, in the second will he admits the existence of a bastard son! Things change in ten years.

The reason for making the will follows:

"And for as moche as by the Kings Highe comandmet I am assigned and appoynted to attende upon the honorabill Lorde the Erly of Surrey the Kings lieutenant in the Northe parties to serve the King in his warres for the defence of knowlege that the King of Scotts is entred in to this Realme intending to make Batill and Warr ayenst our sovereign lords subjects For the Restistence of whose Malicious purpose I the said Edward with all the power that I can make am setting forthwards towards my said lord lieutenant ayenst the said King of Scotts and therefor by my writing I make my Will that if it fortune me to dye in Battaile or other wise in this tyme of warr wiche godd defend"

The next part of the will tends to cause some confusion in my mind. It continues after the last quotation without and break or indication of change

"that then the said Reverend Father my right kind and loving Brother shall have the Rule and Custodie of Thomas Stanley my son and heir appuraunt hym to marry after his discrecion whar it shall seme hym to be to my said son Honorabull and profitable"

On further reading it becomes obvious that the Lord Bishop is the only one addressed in the salutation and not the presence of another relative. It is noticeable that the wish is that any marriage shall be profitable, as well as honorable.

He then goes on to command that any money spent on the marriage

of his son, an equal amount shall be spent on the marriage of his daughter Jane Stanley.

"According to an acte made in the last parliament holdyn at Westminster for suche persons as served the King in his Warres"

He makes provision for the facts that the Lord Bishop may not make a marriage for the son, and hence not spend any money, or the son may die before he is married.

The provision is as follows:-

"I will that my said Feoffs [Tennants with obligation of military service] suffer myne executor yerly duryng the time of xvj yeres [16 years] next after the makyng of this my will to take and purceyve of the revenue of my said lands the summe of xlvli [£40] wiche amountithe to the somme of Sevyn hundreth and forty pounds wiche I will that my said daughter Jane shall have to her marriage or toward her fynding [funding] and leving [living] if she be not disposed to Marriage"

Jane is not mentioned in the second will so presumably she had already married and received her portion of the estate.

The Lord Bishop is granted the sum of 40 marks [£13/3/4d] a year as long as he was in charge.

The settlement on his wife Anne, the co heiress of the Harringtons of Hornby whom his father married off to him, includes the right to live and enjoy the castle at Hornby. He ties it up in the following manner:-

"Also I will that my said wif shall have the keepyng of Horneby Castell during the term of xvj yers after the makyng of this my will if she lye so long and also be sole and not married during that time and that my said foeffs shall delyver her yerly the Revenues of my said lands towards the Charge of the House and payments of Constabull Wages and other offices there Fourty pounds so that she dwell in it and kepc house in it or ells that myn executors se it kept"

The first part of the bequests to his wife indicates that there was a Marriage Settlement drawn up at their marriage presumably in 1485/6.

It says that she shall have a life interest in his father's lands and his to the value of 200 marks, but they are let for £100 or thereabouts.

Again there is the stricture "*so long as she live the Soole and not married*"

If she married she was to have a yearly income of £40, in settlement of the rents etc.

She was also to have

"hir Reasonable dowe owt of all my said lands without sute at suche tyme as she shall resonable require them".

He also makes provision for the marriage portion for his bastard daughter Mary in the terms :-

Yerly, Fourty marks till the somme of Six hundreth Marks shall be had--

He also acknowledges the existence of a bastard son Edward Stanley by the bequest of

"the clere yerly value of ten pounds over al charges --- for terme of his lif"

Edward is mentioned in the second will, where his annuity rises to 10s and 6d.

There is no mention of his daughter Mary. Presumably married off!

There follows without any break after the entry regarding Edward the words

"the remayndre to my right heirs".

There is reference in the latter part of the will of his son being

"during his said Nonage"

indicating that he was not of age to assume the titles and etc.

He was born in 1508, and was therefor only 16 in 1524 when the examination "*post mortem*" took place, but would have been only 5, when his father's first will was made in 1513.

Hence the references to '16 years next following', this would bring him up to the age of majority, and all the bequests would cease to be effective because the control of the source of income for the bequests had passed into the hands of the son, unless of course they were for term of life of the recipient, when they would be honoured, at least it would be presumed so, by the testator.

The final part of the will recognises the various debts which Sir Edward has to various people:-

'And wher I the said Sr Edward stand bounded in divers Recognisance's and other writings to the use of the late King Henry the vijth and to other in divers greet somas of Money It is my will that men Executors shall take and perceive yearly the Revenue and profits of the Residue of all my lands and tents during the space of xvj yes next after the Making of this will for payments of my detest discharge of my friends that he bounded for me defence of my Lands and of my sons inheritance and the yearly shall give accept thereof to my said lord of Elie.

He seems to have been heavily in debt to the previous King Henry VII, who was responsible for the advancement of the Stanley family in the form of his father, in previous times.

The second will of Sir Edward Stanley was made in 1523 after he was advanced to the Peerage as Lord Mouteagle after the Battle of Flodden Field in 1513.

It was before his departure for this battle he made his previous will

This is my Translation from the words written therein, and rearrangement of the words into paragraphs to make them more readable.

In the name of god Amen. For as much as the life of man is in these wretched World short uncertain unstable and transitory it is necessary and requisite for every good true christian to provide foresee and to ordain for the life ever lasting in heaven

I therefore Edward Stanley Knight. Lord Mounteagle of the order of the Garter being in whole and good deliberate and perfect Memory and of clear understanding laudes thanks and prayer be to almighty God my maker and redeemer remembering the good and sweet intellect of this sentence

"Memento homo quod Cinis es et in Cinerem reverteris" and of this

"dispone domus tue quia morieris"

Willing while reason ruleth my mind and quietness in the Member of my Body of the temporal goods somewhat for the health of my soul to dispose order make and establish this my present testament and last will the 5th day of April in the year of our Lord god a 1523 and in the 14th year of the reign of our sovereign lord King Henry the 8th, in manner and form as hereafter is expressed and written

First and principally I give and bequeath my soul to almighty god the glorious and holy trinity, to our lady Saint Mary mother of Mercy, Saint Margaret and to all the saints of heaven my body to be buried in the new Chancel to be made at my costs and charges in and with all convenient haste at the east end of the Chapel of Saint Margeret at Hornby and I will that my Executors undernamed bestow and expend in and about the Walls, Buildings, Ironwork, Glasse and covering

the same new Chancel the Sum of 100 marks [£68.] and more if it shall be seen requisite to my said executors

and Moreover for the hallowing of the same Chapel yard as shall be requisite The same Chapel to be dedicated in the honour of God and of the blessed Saint Margaret.

And in case I depart this present life before the hallowing of the same chapel and chapelyard then my body to be for the time humate within the Priory church at Hornby.

And further more will that on the next day after the dedication of the same Chapel my body be exhumate and transfered with the consent and assent of the prior there which has granted me the same the case happening in his days and of other having the interest and so to be brought and buried within the new Chapel aforesaid

Also I will that my said Executors order and cause a convenient Marble Stone to be laid upon me with an Image of Copper and Gilt graven in the same and with six Scottchans{?} of my arms with scriptur[?] thereunto necessary or else to lay my body in a standing tomb there with an Image in Grose Copper and Gilte thereupon as shall be most agreeable and seeming Chancel. and my my helms and arms to be set upon or else this otherwise to be devised and ordered by my said executors and at their decision and in as much as they may avoid the pomp of this wretched world

And for the same to bestow the sum of 100 marks more or less as shall be seen to my Executors convenient.

And also I will that my said executors cause my funeral to be ordered and done after and in like manner and form as other Barons of England being of the order of the Garter have be used and accustomed to be used

That is to say in avoiding pomp and vainglorie of this world with Black Gowns to my servants in my children, and my friends as shall by

my executors appointed and devised the day of my burial with dole and distributions among poor folk and other in alms the said day of my Burial and for the same to be stawe[?] the sum of £100 and more shall be seen to my said Executors.

Also I will in case my body be first humate at the priory that then the day of Removing of the same my executors cause mass and dirge to be done for my Soul at Saint Margaret Chapel

And then to give in Alms to priest Clerks and poorer folks as to them shall be thought expedient.

Also I will that 24 white Gowns be given to 24 honest poor men to bare torches and to do other service the day of my said Burial.

Also I bequeath to every priest saying Mass and doing service the day of my Burial for his labour 8d.

and to every Clerk 4d.

And further I will that Master Richard Beverley Prior of the Black Friars in Lancaster or in his absence, another Doctor of Divinity be provided to make a sermon and to have for his pains and labour

20/-.

Item I bequeath to the Abbot of Croxton 40/-

and to the Convent there other 40/- to pray for me

Item to the Abbot and Convent of Crista[Kirkstal,Leeds?] other 40/-

Item to the Abbot and Convent of of Jervaux 26/8d.

Item to the Abbot and Convent of Fouernes[Furness?] 5 mark.[33/8d.]

Item to the Abbot and Convent of Walley 40/-

and a Crimson Gown of my wife's and ladies to make a vestment.

Item to the Abbot and Convent of Cockersand

5mark [33/8d]

Item to the Prior and Convent of Lancaster 40/-

They all to pray for my Soul.

Also I bequeath to the' Prior of Horneby Capelyn within the Castle Chapel of Horneby' for my Corperisaunt and Mortuarie and for my wife's mortuary £6/13/4d.

Item I bequeath to every one of my four mother churches, that is to say:

Saint Peter at York

Saint John at Beverley

Saint Wilfred at Ripon

6/8d.[1mark]

Also I bequeath to the High Awter[?] of my parish Church of Melling for my 'Tethis oblations' and offerings unpaid and negligently forgotten 20/-

Also I bequeath to the Prior of Hornby for a general absolution of me and to pray for my Soul, my wife's soul and the souls of my Children 40/-

Also I bequeath to the most excellent prince and my sovereign good lord King Henry the 8th. a small gold ring with a tabill[?] of a diamond 8th sware[square?] set in the same

and a hundred pounds in Gold [£100] beseeching his grace to pray for my soul and to be good and gracious good lord unto my son and heir, to my servants and my executors for performance of my will.

Also I bequeath unto my Lord Cardinal his grace a gold ring with a point of a diamond set in the same and £20 in gold beseeching his grace to be good to my executors and favourable for the confirmation of my 'Chauntre Bedehouse Free Scole'[Bedehouse= Almshouse,?] to be had according to the tenor the foundation [fundacione] thereof

Also I will that the same foundation be inviolate in every part kept and performed as though it were in this my present testament and last will wholly insert and written and according to the tenor thereof.

Also I bequeath to these parish churches hereafter following and named 20/- and a Cow

to go to their church works for their Ornaments and lights as shall be thought most needful and necessary by the Church wardens and Ministers of the same that is to say:

Lancaster, Bolton in Lonsdale, Halton, Melling, Tunstall, Thornton, Warton, Whittington, Ingleton, Bentham, Clapham, Horton, Tateham, Sladeburn and Claghton.

[It is interesting to note the inclusion of Warton in the above list showing the extent of his influence in the local area, and also York, Beverley and Ripon previously, and of Preston and Warrington following, giving some indication of the extent of his influence in the North]

Also I bequeath to the Friars of Preston to pray for my soul and all Christian souls 13/4d[2 marks]

Also to the friars of Warrington for like prayers 13/4d.

Also I will that Yearly my 'obiet'[Death] be kept with dirge and Mass on the day of my departing from this present life at which obiet I will that the Prior of Hornby for the time being and there present have for his labour 12d. and 12 other priests, every one of them 4d.

And that yearly there be new lights made and set about my Grave and Tomb the day of my obiet to the value of xij li of wax

[value of £12 or 12lbs weight?]

And this obiet to be made according to the tenor of the foundation of my Chantry with distribution to poor people and that at

the same obiet to expend yearly

26/8d.

{Obiet is the date of death}

It is interesting to note that Col Chippindall says:

'His death took place on 6 or 7 April 1523, whilst engaged in rebuilding the church at Hornby. He was buried temporarily in the graveyard of Hornby Prior with a view of being translated to a vault in Hornby Church when the alterations to that church should be completed: but this intention, it is said, was never carried out and the place of his burial has been lost.'

After all the trouble that was taken in laying down the conditions and requirements for his burial in his will, and providing for his soul to be prayed for, that his body was lost seems to have been to say the least careless and in the most to have been a neglect of the duties willed by their Lord.

The concluding part of the article will consider various bequests and the ways in which they are worded.

Warton Parish Charities (Part 3)

John Findlater

Charities in Other Townships**Borwick**

Sherlock's Charity - Dr. Sherlock gave £30 to the poor - stated in the Parliamentary Returns 1786. According to the 1826 report it was in the hands of Mr Thomas Harris a landowner; it paid £1-5s yearly. This was distributed to the poor, along with produce from the two following; Kilner's Gift and Poor's Land.

Kilner's Gift Thomas Kilner gave a rentcharge of 8s4d on a close in Borwick called Chapel Field (held by Thomas Harris in 1826), paid annually to the poor.

Poor's Land A piece of land was supposed to have been taken off a common in the dim past, producing 11s annually for the poor. This was presumed to be the piece, three roods (customary measure) possessed by the township, not known how. Upon enclosure of Borwick Moor, an allotment was set out in respect of this land containing 1 rood. The whole was then held by Richard Morland upon a parol (?) agreement for 3 years from Candlemas 1825 at a rent of £3-19s. This letting, in the same manner as long as could be remembered, took place at a public meeting. It been let previous to 1805 at a rent of £2-2s but the tenant had become insolvent when he quitted with £5-1s arrears due. This sum was advanced by the then overseer Thomas Jackson, who agreed he retain the increased rent beyond £2-2s until the debt to him discharged. An additional allotment in Over Kellet was sold for £6 This money was in the hands of James Hodgson who paid 5s interest yearly. These two sums £2-2s and 5s were passed to the overseer.

Out of this total, received by the overseer, sums varying from 4s to £2 were distributed at Easter to such poor as do not receive weekly relief. However, as stated by the assistant overseers of Borwick in 1863 to the Charity Commissioners, Thomas Harris who held £30 in 1826 had died in receipt of poor law relief himself, and possessed no property so that the Sherlock Charity was lost. Killner's Gift had continued: the rent-charge of 8s4d from Chapel Field (6½ statute acres) owned by Thomas Jackson of Hall Gowan, Carnforth was passed to the two overseers and the churchwarden representing the township at Warton Church by whom it was distributed with the Poor's Land Charity. This latter charity, received the yearly tenancy rent of £3 for Bull Close, (2a1r statute measure) let by the overseers to Col Marton of Capernwray Hall (presumably the Poor's Land described in 1826). Of the additional allotment nothing was known and James Hodgson mentioned before had no known representative.

Until 1896 this combined income was for 12 years through misapprehension, paid into the funds of the Lancaster Union in relief of the poor rates. At Christmas of that year it was divided between the two former recipients and since then it had been distributed about Easter when the payments were received equally among five poor persons, of whom the churchwarden above mentioned (one of the acting trustees) was one.

Carnforth

Poor's Land Charity - In 1862 the overseers of Carnforth obtained a deed of feoffment, dated 25 January 1737 (no trace of this was found by the Inquiry), whereby Henry Hadwin granted to James Lucas, Jonathan Peel and Francis Bainbridge to permit and suffer the churchwarden and overseers to lease to best advantage for the benefit of the poor, the land called

Hollowgate (1a2r) and a parcel called Myers (½ acre statute measure). In 1826 it had been reported that the land which had previously been vested in Thomas Lawrence, John Peel and Francis Bainbridge, producing annually £1-17s, had been under the management of John Peel, supposed to have been the survivor of the trustees. Since his death the land had been let by the churchwarden and overseer to the highest bidder at a meeting of the township. It was in the occupation of John Whormby for seven years from 14 February 1825, at rent of £3-17s paid yearly on the 24th December to poor persons not in receipt of constant relief. In 1861 Hollowgate had been let to James Stockdale Harrison for 999 years, yearly rent £4-4s and with permission sold to him 19 June 1868 for £167 invested in £178-5s Consols in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds. The annual dividends £4-18s had been remitted through the Lancaster Banking Company to the churchwardens and overseers who after consultation divided the money among the recipients, taking it to their homes on Christmas Eve. The previous Christmas there were 29 then on the list, some in receipt of poor law relief. The sums to each from 5s to 2s6d

Greenbank's Charity According to the 1826 findings, a gift to the poor from the will of William Greenbank, produced £2-10s yearly from land then vested in James Ainslie. This sum had formerly been paid by Mrs Ainslie and Miss Elizabeth Wilson, then distributed under their direction. Since the death of Miss Wilson in 1818 nothing had been paid. There appeared to be no legal foundation for the charity which had lapsed.

The School - Early in the nineteenth century the Presbyterian Chapel, the congregation of which had been

dissolved, was converted into a township school and used until 1849. There was no evidence to show under whose management it had been nor in whom the site was vested. Then by indenture, 30 August 1849 and enrolled in Chancery 9 February 1850, the Dean and Chapter of Worcester and the Lord of the Manor of Carnforth granted to Rev. Thomas Dean, Vicar of the parish of Warton, and to John Thompson Kew and Joseph Caley yeomen, churchwardens, and their successors, a school for the education of children and adults or children only of the labouring manufacturing or poorer classes in Carnforth, in union with the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church. On the site a school and a master's house were erected by subscriptions of £273-10s raised by the vicar, and a grant of £60 from the National Society. The old schoolroom then converted into a cottage, was appropriated by the trustees of the new school and annexed to the latter as an endowment. In 1861 a bazaar realised £650. The promoters proposed to hand over £564 to the school trustees to be used at their discretion and application was made in 1862 to appoint additional trustees. The Charity Commissioners established an order 4 July 1862 vesting management in a committee consisting of the principal minister, curate or curates, if appointed by the former; the churchwardens of Carnforth; and 15 contributors to the school. This scheme had been ignored after 1875 (there was a new church in Carnforth in 1873) but the anomalous position was settled after the report on the Inquiry by the Vicar of Warton formally surrendering claim to fees arising from church offices at Carnforth. In 1871 the Trustees had purchased (from money handed over in 1861) a £500 bond of Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, interest at 4%, redeemable in 1907 and transferred in 1892 to the Finance Board

of Diocese of Manchester in trust for the Carnforth School Endowment therefore, consisted of the above bond producing £20 annually and £2 rent from the cottage, let as a builder's store to Thomas Pool. The £22 was paid to the master of the National School conducted as a public elementary school.

Priest Hutton

Sherlock's Charity In the 1826 report it was said that Dr Sherlock had given £9 for the poor of the township, yearly. However £10 (whether from this or not) had been placed by the late William Dawson of Priest Hutton in the Bank of Worswick & Co in Lancaster. The bank had failed in 1822 and though a small dividend had been declared no application had been made by August 1825. This charity appeared to have been lost.

It was also stated that there was a house and garden which had been given to the poor which had produced a rent of £1-5s per annum. There was a house occupied by paupers, who were placed by overseers, but it does not appear from whom the house derived or that any rent was ever distributed in charity to the poor in respect of these premises. The Vicar stated to the Inquiry that he knew of no house in the township answering to the description of the paupers' house mentioned in the 1826 report.

Mourholme Society News

Future Meetings - The *Annual General Meeting* of the Society will be on 8 April. After the business meeting Arthur Penn will talk entitled "Border Market Town: Brampton".

On Monday 14 June 1999 Michael Wright will lead an evening walk in Eaves Wood, Silverdale, to look at the remains of the landscaping and tree-planting carried out by Thomas Inman in the first half of the nineteenth century. Meet at the junction of Elmslack Lane and Cove Rd. at 7 pm. The walk will last about 1 ½ hours. Non-members £1. NB. Michael's article on page 1 of this issue is highly relevant.

Programme for 1999-2000 Next year's programme has been arranged:

- 9 September 1999 Prof. Maurice Beresford - "My Coincidences"
- 14 October Dr. David Shotton - "Hadrian's Wall"
- 11 November Lizzie Jones of "Living History" will visit the Society to perform a cameo of Margaret Fell, the Privileged Prisoner
- 9 December Joint Christmas/Millennium Meeting with Holme and District Local History Society. Identify the Artefact Quiz and Jacob's Join
- 13 January 2000 Dr Michael Mullet - "Survival and Revival in Early Modern Northern Catholicism"
- 10 February Anne Hillman - "James Erving of Carnforth and Warton"
- 9 March Prof. John Walton - "Visions of Blackpool: the 1930s"
- 13 April Annual General Meeting - speaker to be arranged.

Research on 19th Century History in the Mourholme Area - that is to say the Townships of the ancient Parish of Warton - with Lindeth. A group of 10 or 11 members, have started to meet regularly, under the guidance of Dr. J.D.Marshall (our President and eminent Local Historian). The ultimate objective is to write a book incorporating our work. Having had such demoralising experiences in getting our 17th Century Group's book into print we hope to avoid some of the pitfalls.

We have been discussing in a general way, the size of the book, how to split the century up into sensible sections, the topics to cover, what original and secondary sources might be used. If any society member has material that might be of use please let us know.

Various members have different interests, different expertise and live in different parts of the parish and by taking account of this the work can be gradually farmed out amongst the group.

Are You A Philatelist?

The family of the late Dick Burnham has passed on to me a small package of stamps. It has been suggested to me that these be passed in turn to a keen stamp collector in exchange for a modest donation to the charity with which I work, namely, the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Interested? Please get in touch -tel. 01524 735990 [Jean Chatterley]

An Important Book : "John Marsden's Will: The Hornby Castle Dispute" by Emmaline Garnett r.r.p.£35. Publishers say only a few left; John Hicks at the Bentham Bookshop (tel. 015242 61191) is offering them at £17-50 - early response advisable (or let Jean Chatterley know at MLHS meeting or by phone).

NB Bentham Bookshop offers 10% discount on to books bought by members of the Mourholme Society.