LOOKBACK AT ANDOVER

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EDITORIAL

A year ago the first number of *Lookback at Andover* was published by the Andover Local History Society. It was well received and the sales have encouraged us to produce this second number. Earlier this year the name of the society was changed to reflect its amalgamation with the Andover Archaeological Society. Now, as the Andover History and Archaeology Society, it continues to encourage the study of the past in Andover and its surrounding area.

D.K.C.

Cover illustration: Interior of the Pharmacy at 6 Bridge Street, Andover. c.1920's

LOOKBACK AT ANDOVER

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THE EXCAVATION AT BURY HILL, UPPER CLATFORD, 1990

by Cynthia Poole.

The excavation at Bury Hill was carried out during August 1990 as part of the Danebury Environs Project being undertaken by the Danebury Trust to take a regional view of Iron Age settlement in the area around Danebury and to assess for English Heritage the effect of modern farming methods on archaeological sites.

Bury Hill is an Iron Age hillfort occupying the summit of a low hill rising to 100m OD, commanding the confluence of the rivers Anna and Anton 1.5 miles southwest of Andover. The hill is of chalk with a thick capping of clay with flints, while the river valleys are floored with alluvium flanked by narrow gravel terraces. Permanent water is readily accessible in the valleys, the nearest spring being barely 200m away. Thus the fort is well sited to exploit both the enriched upland chalk and the pasture and hay meadows of the river flood plain.

Bury Hill was first examined in a programme of trial excavations in 1939 by Christopher Hawkes. He was able to demonstrate that the fort was of two principal phases. The earlier defensive circuit enclosed an area of nearly 10ha and was defended by a single rampart and ditch. The later enclosure was smaller with an internal area of 4.7ha, but was more massively defended with two concentric ramparts separated by a single deep V-shaped ditch. The main entrance in both phases lay to the east. Hawkes argued that the gaps in the western defences of both enclosures were of recent origin.

The principal threat to the archaeology of Bury Hill is ploughing. The interior of both early and late forts has been under plough for many years and the inner field is particularly stony suggesting that the surface of the underlying clay with flints is being continually disturbed. The prime aim of our work was to evaluate the extent of damage to archaeological levels and features by the agricultural regime. To assess this it was necessary to obtain sufficient cultural data to allow the archaeological value of Bury Hill to be considered in relation to other hillforts in the region.

Given these constraints the programme of work included a magnetometer survey of areas within the early and late forts and two area excavations within them. The magnetometer survey (carried out by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory of English Heritage) showed the early fort was likely to be largely devoid of features, while the later fort had a dense scatter of pits with possible roads apparent as blank areas between them, one apparently heading for the western gap in the defences, hitherto thought modern.

The area excavations were initially stripped of topsoil or ploughsoil by machine to the top of the natural clay, with the exception of areas where stratified deposits survived. Within the early fort an area of 10 x 40m was stripped, exposing an area in which only three small postholes were found. On the west side the early rampart was

exposed. It sealed a thin clayey soil, which pre-dated the construction of the fort. The rampart measured 9m wide at the base, but because of severe truncation resulting from ploughing it survived only to a maximum height of one metre. It was composed entirely of tips of chalk rubble derived from the digging of the ditch. In front of the rampart, in an area much disturbed by tree roots, two substantial postholes were discovered with a wide shallow slit between them. The postholes measured 0.7m in diameter and in excess of 1.1m deep. It is likely that these postholes formed a revetment to retain the bank of chalk behind.

Inside the later fort an area 35 x 40m was laid out immediately behind the rampart on the west side. Apart from a narrow strip behind the rampart, it was evident that most of the centre of the fort had been constantly eroded by ploughing and the deeper ruts of steam ploughing from earlier this century were visible scouring the clay surface. Having cleaned the surface exposed and defined the extent of features and stratified deposits, it was decided to excavate samples of the stratigraphy to ascertain its character and depth and to cut a 2m wide section into the rampart tail to relate it to the stratified sequence. The features cut into the natural clay consisted of pits, postholes and gullies. All postholes were totally excavated, while sample sections of the gullies were dug. Of the 52 pits, 27 were half sectioned and 13 excavated completely.

The trial section cut into the rampart showed it was built in a single process of successive tips of clay and chalk dumped on the original ground surface. A shallow quarry trench had been dug to the rear of the rampart and no doubt contributed material to the bank. Finally, chalk from the ditch was dumped to form the back of the rampart and spread down over the tail of the quarry. This area gradually silted up with material washed down from the rampart and from within the fort. Meanwhile on the uphill edge of the enclosure various activities took place including the construction of a circular ditched enclosure, various lengths of gullies, postholes and occasional pits. Subsequently elongated dumps of chalk were spread across the area. The overall impression from the sequence is that the occupation was shortlived and non-intensive.

In the southern part of the excavation an enclosure defined by a shallow gully, probably truncated by ploughing, was exposed. An entrance gap lay on the east side and in the centre an arc of six postholes possibly formed part of a circular post built structure. In addition there were stakeholes, lengths of gullies, other postholes (several possibly forming linear two-post structures) and a number of pits including a small one packed with a broken quern, a demolished clay oven and chalk and clay weights.

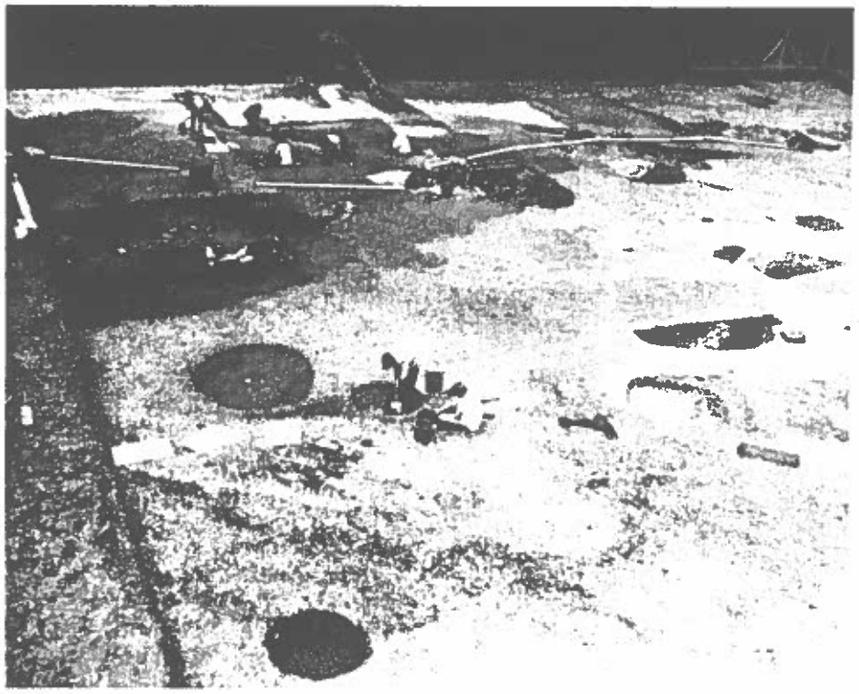
Outside this area virtually all the remaining features were pits, fairly evenly scattered with little intercutting. They conform closely in structure and size to those at Danebury. They can be divided into four main groups: conical clay mixing pits, small cylindrical pits, small beehive pits largely uneroded and large beehive pits, which can be subdivided into eroded and mostly uneroded. The one form that is missing, although normally present on Iron Age sites, is the sub-rectangular pit.

The conical clay mixing pits were generally about 0.5m deep and up 1.5m wide at the top; usually they have a large stone on the base with remnants of clay around it

and up the sides. They were probably used for preparing the clay prior to constructing ovens and hearths.

The cylindrical pits were up to 0.65m deep and about 1m in diameter. The small beehive pits were generally slightly larger, up to 1.05m deep and 1.72m in diameter. Both these pit groups had suffered little erosion and had fills of dumped occupation material, including much charcoal, occasionally dumps of bone, and tips of soil and chalk.

The large beehive pits can be subdivided into mainly uneroded, which tend to fall at the smaller end of the size range, whilst the eroded pits are generally larger. Base diameters ranged from 1.5 to 2.66m and depths from 1.14 to 2.48m. The mouths of the uneroded pits measured c.0.75-1.2m. The fills of the pits were not dissimilar to the smaller examples except that the eroded pits had large quantities of clay and flints collapsed in from the pit walls.



Excavations in progress inside the late fort at Bury Hill, looking towards the rampart. Pits and postholes are in the foreground with the stratified deposits beyond.

Certain patterns in the fills are beginning to emerge with deposits of charcoal close to the pit base, often associated with metalwork such as nave bindings, bridle bits and other horse gear. Another common feature recurring in the upper halves of several pits was dumps of bone, mainly horse and cattle, and to a lesser extent deposits of other objects including whole pots, metalwork, stone and daub objects. The pottery and other dated features indicate a date for the majority of the pits of the end of the Middle Iron Age and the beginning of the Late Iron Age, roughly the first half of the first century BC.

The excavation has shown that the early hillfort is likely to date from the beginning of the Early Iron Age and that occupation was slight. After a long period of abandonment the later fort was built defended by a massive ditch flanked inside and out by ramparts, an unusual arrangement significantly different from a typical Early and Middle Iron Age fort such as Danebury. This, along with the dating evidence, suggests a short lived occupation in the early 1st century BC when it is possible that Bury Hill replaced Danebury as the focal site of the region. A preliminary study of the archaeological material suggests the economy may differ from typical Middle Iron Age sites with an emphasis on cattle and horse, rather than sheep, possible reflecting the nearby riverine environment. The unusually large collection of fine quality horse gear is a further indication of the high social standing of the occupants.

Clearly, Bury Hill is a rare site type and of considerable archaeological value. However, ploughing has been destroying archaeological evidence and is a serious threat, especially in the later fort with its high density of archaeological features. In view of this the owner, Mr. Elderfield, who has taken an enthusiastic interest in excavations, has agreed to turn the area over to permanent pasture as part of a management agreement arranged with English Heritage.

THE MANOR AND COURT OF QUARLEY
1646 - 1741

by Diana K. Coldicott.

In the autumn of 1990 the earliest known court roll for the manor of Quarley came to light and the owner kindly allowed me to examine it. The manuscript, which covers the years 1646 - 1741, had not previously been studied. It has now been microfilmed by the County Record Office at Winchester, where the two succeeding court rolls were already deposited [1].

The Manor of Quarley

Since 1441 the manor of Quarley had belonged to the Royal Foundation of St.

Katherine-by-the-Tower in the city of London. It is not known when the manor was first leased out, since the earliest surviving register of St. Katherine's leases only starts in 1681 [2]. However, the resident farmer by the last half of the 16th century was John Pitman [3]. At his death in 1604 the lease of the manor and other local properties passed to his son, Hugh, whose grandson, John, is first mentioned in the court roll as 'farmer of the manor' in 1651 [4]. John was evidently resident in Quarley since the baptisms of most of his children are recorded in the parish register. After his death in March 1680 the manor court was held twice for his widow, Elizabeth [5], but the following year their son, Samuel, took over [6]. He apparently continued as lord of the manor for the next 20 years, since the courts were held in his name. However, the lease of the manor had been assigned in 1694 to a Southampton merchant, James Cross, whose son - another James - inherited it five years later [7]. The name of James Cross first occurs in the court roll in 1702 but for the next 16 years few courts were actually held. It seems unlikely that either man spent much time at Quarley.

In November 1719 the lease of the manor was transferred to the London banker, Henry Hoare [8]. He had paid £50 to St. Katherine's Hospital the previous month for the renewal of the lease, and thereafter regular half yearly payments of £15-1-0 rent were noted in his account books [9]. His name is still recorded in Quarley church below the Venetian window which he and his brother-in-law, William Benson, erected at the east end in 1723. Two years later Henry Hoare died, leaving the lease of the manor and other local property to his younger son, Henry, subject to his widow being allowed the free use 'of that part of the Farmhouse and Outhouses at Quarley which I reserve from the Tenant for my own use, and of the Furniture there' [10]. He also directed his executors to complete the alterations that he had in hand at Quarley. But the codicil referring to Quarley is but a small part of the will as a whole.

HENRY HOARE
1677-1725

HENRY HOARE
1705-1782

Today Mr. Hoare is remembered for his purchase of the manor of Stourton, Wilts., in 1720 on which he built Stourhead where his son (known to posterity as Henry the Magnificent) slowly developed the famous gardens. On a more humble level, he continued to lease Quarley manor, where the court was held in his name, until 1774. In that year the family's connection with the village came to an end when Richard Cox, who already lived there, paid him £7,000 for the lease of the manor and Quarley House, as the former farmhouse was then called [11].

The Court Roll, 1646 - 1741

The court roll is in the form of a book with 65 paper pages which have been numbered 1 - 129 in a later hand. The pages have been bound together within a parchment cover made from a mid-17th century deed. (The deed concerns members of the Blake family of Andover and leasehold lands in Knights Enham, which suggests that the cover may have been sewn on between 1673-8 when Robert Blake was steward of the manor of Quarley).

The roll is generally in good condition. Most of the pre-1731 records are in Latin, apart from those made during the period of the Commonwealth, but occasionally the steward would start the record of a court in Latin and then move into English if anything unusual needed to be set down and understood. Two courts were held on the manor: the court baron and the court leet, which was referred to by its ancient name of 'view of frankpledge' until 1728. Both were recorded in the order of their dates on the same roll.

Every lord of a manor had his own court baron which all his tenants were bound to attend; in fact the existence of such a court helped to define a property as a manor. Its jurisdiction was limited to the manor and the law it administered was based entirely on the customs of the particular manor rather than on any external legislation. By contrast, a court leet had wider powers of jurisdiction which belonged to the Crown but had been given to the local lord to administer [12].

Courts were held much more often during the last half of the 17th century than they were during the next 40 years, when the lord of the manor was no longer normally resident in Quarley [13]. In 1646, when the court roll was started, three courts baron were held between October and December and a court leet the following April. But soon the steward settled into a routine of holding a combined court leet with court baron around Easter each year (though not on any particular day in relation to Easter) and other occasional courts baron as they were needed. This pattern continued without a break until 1695 (the year after James Cross became lessee) but thereafter the holding of courts became increasingly erratic. None was apparently held after 1705 until 1717. Manorial courts had declined in importance generally by then, but at Quarley the first court leet with court baron was held for Henry Hoare in November 1719 without any delay. Perhaps the court roll had been temporarily mislaid since his steward, Thomas Francis, started a fresh court book; however, until 1741 the records of the court were generally entered on both the old and the new rolls [14].

Court procedure did not vary much during the century covered by the first court

roll, and indeed it was similar from one manor to another since the stewards who took the courts used printed treatises to assist them. Altogether seven stewards held office in Quarley between 1646-1741 [15]. Since every tenant was liable to attend the court the first business was to record those who were excused (*essoynes*) but this practice slowly dropped out and was discontinued after 1728. Afterwards the tenants who were to serve on the jury were sworn in. At a court baron there might be as few as five jurymen (or 'homagers') but 12 was the usual number at a combined court, though there could be more. A minimum number was evidently needed, for in both 1734 and 1735 Mr. Francis recorded that he had attended at Quarley to call a court baron in order to receive the quit rents but was unable to do so because he lacked two homagers. The main functions of the jury were to make presentments to the court and, when needed, to state the custom of the manor.

At a combined court one of the tenants would then be sworn in as tithingman of the manor for the following year. By the 17th century the duties of this ancient office had become those of a constable. It seems to have been held in a rotation based on property because in 1652 the jury presented to the court:

> .. that the Tenement in the occupation of Mary Pitman, widow (according unto the ordinary course) is to provide a Tithingman for this Tithing henceforth the year now ensuing to bear the said office until lawfully discharged. (f.14)

Accordingly the widow Pitman's son, Gilbert, became tithingman until his discharge the following year, after paying the usual fine of 6s8d 'lawday silver'. (f.16)

The main business that was recorded on the court roll was administrative. Rents paid to the steward were recorded elsewhere but every change in the circumstances of a copyholder's tenancy had to be enrolled. Each time a copyhold property on the manor was granted or surrendered the terms would be set out, including the heriot that had to be paid to the lord on the surrender or death of the tenant. Usually the heriot was the tenant's best beast, such as Edward Yalden's grey horse (f.17) but at the court held in 1652 the best goods of two recently deceased copyholders were taken: a featherbed valued at 26s8d and a cupboard valued at 8 shillings (ff.14-15). The payment of such heriots may have been resented by a surviving widow, but at least it was the custom of the manor that she should be re-admitted to the copyhold in her own name 'while she liveth sole and chaste' (f.15). As for rents, in the mid-17th century a typical example would be the 24s8d a year, plus five days labour for the lord at harvest time, which John Symons paid for his copyhold house and 2 $^1/_2$ yardlands (f.23). (A yardland, or virgate, varied in size in different areas but is likely to have been about 30 acres.)

Then there was the general administration of the manor. There are several entries about the regulation of the common fields, concerning both the animals grazed and the crops grown. An early item reminded tenants of the limited number of sheep that could be grazed on Quarley Down and of the number of hurdles that each tenant was liable to provide for them (f.9). No numbers were given then, but a few years later it was stated that each tenant could graze 60 sheep for each yardland of property that was included in his copyhold (f.20). Similarly they all had to contribute to the wages of the manorial shepherd in proportion to the number of yardlands that they held (f.22). A tenant could be fined for grazing too many animals, as William Dench found in 1653 when he had

to pay a fine of 6d for 'keeping two great beasts on ye Common at Quarley, more than he hath common for' (f.16). Stray animals that had wandered onto the manor and been impounded were occasionally recorded. In 1654 there was a white mare, 'a wayfe', valued at 30s (f.19), and a few years later a stray ram was found; like all such strays it was 'delivered up to the possession of the Lord of this manor' (f.27).

Fewer orders were made, or at least recorded, for the management of crops, but in 1653 it was stipulated that wheat was not to be sown before the feast of All Saints or barley until May 1st. Of much greater importance was the agreement between the lord of the manor and the tenants in 1698 to enclose the east common field and turn part of Quarley Down over to arable. This resulted in other field changes as well, all of them set down together with the arrangement for Richard Crouch of Appleshaw to be employed to measure the new fields; any disagreements were to be decided by the lord, Samuel Pitman. The various clauses, written in English, occupy five pages of the roll, finishing with the signatures or marks of Mr. Pitman and 12 of his tenants (ff.85-9).

Presentments were made to the court concerning roads running through the manor and boundaries within it. Clearly they were watched carefully. Several people were presented for ploughing or even digging ditches in the highway, particularly between Quarley and Thruxton. In 1653 John Pitman was presented in his own court for ploughing up and sowing part of the highway to Stockbridge which lay through one of his fields; he was in court and promised to make enquiries 'and cause right to be done in the case' (f.16). Boundary disputes were sometimes heard. When Christopher Gale and four parishoners were in contention the court directed the retiring tithingman and two other tenants to decide on the correct bounds by May 1st (10 days later) and their findings were to be accepted in perpetuity (f.22).

One record concerns the water supply. At the court held in 1660 the steward recorded an agreement between John Pitman and his tenants over a village well that had recently been dug. It was evidently a real community effort. The tenants had met the cost of digging it, Mr. Pitman provided the timber and labour to build 'a house to keep the rope dry in' and agreed to maintain it in the future, while the churchwardens would be responsible for the rope and bucket, although they would be reimbursed for any expenses that they incurred (f.29).

All these snippets of local history have come from the earlier part of the court roll. By the end of the 17th century the records are much less informative, undoubtedly reflecting a court that was less involved with village administration. But it still had its uses, for the tenants as well as the lord of the manor. At the first court held for Henry Hoare in 1719 the 12 jurors (surely after much preliminary discussion) grasped the opportunity to present five of their grievances to the new lord. He was asked to repair the manor's pound and stocks; to put up a gate at Townsend, next to Francis Miles; to provide a dinner for his tenants on St. Stephen's day according to the old custom; to make a hedge from Pear Tree Cross up to the Hampshire Gap; and for the bounds to be set out (f.109). However, neither Mr. Hoare nor his son appear to have acted on these requests for they were to be repeated at one court after another for the next quarter of a century. Some variations and additions were made to the list over the years. The idea of a gate

at Townsend was dropped in favour of a road running from there 'to Peeisy Gap and thence to London Road', while concern over the boundaries prompted the request that the tenants should 'go a processioning at the time appointed as usual' (f.114).

The 18th century tenants may have made their requests in vain, but the court roll in which they are recorded provides a unique record of life on the manor of Quarley, particularly in the mid-17th century when John Pitman was the farmer and lord - and surely the provider of that dinner on St. Stephen's day, December 26th.

* * * * *

The author would like to thank Messrs. C. Hoare & Co. for permission to reproduce the two portraits and Mrs. V. Moger, their museum curator, for all her assistance.

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2. Guildhall Library MS.9688/1-5 cover 1681-1735, 1776-1842.
3. Family tree 'Pitman of Quarley and North Tidworth' in *Misc. Gen. et Her.*, June 1926; copy at HRO: 33M76/P26/7.
4. Quarley Court Roll 1646-1741, f.12. John Pitman (1620-1680) studied at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford and was later enrolled as a student of Middle Temple. (*Alumni Oxonienses*)
5. QCR 1646-1741, ff.62-3. Elizabeth Pitman (1619-1699) was the daughter of Samuel Dunch of North Baddesley, Hants. (who was MP for Wallingford, Berks. 1620-2). Her tombstone remains in Quarley church at the entrance to the vestry.
6. Samuel Pitman (c.1655-1708) became Governor of Hurst Castle, Hants. in 1696; he then lived at Milford nearby where he was buried.
7. Guildhall MS.9688/1, ff.139r-142v, 176r-179v.
8. *ibid.* 9688/2, ff.391r-394v.
9. Hoare's Bank archives, Partners' private ledgers.
10. Will of Henry Hoare, 1725 (P.C.C.) The tenant at the time was William James.
11. Hoare's Bank archives. Private Accounts of Henry Hoare, 30 Nov. 1774. No picture of Quarley House has yet been found but the house and outbuildings are described in the Sun Fire Office insurance policy no. 89502, which is dated 3 December 1741 (Guildhall Library MS.11936/61).
12. P. D. A. Harvey, *Manorial Records*. (British Records Assocn. 1984) chapter 4 - Court Records.
13. Between 1646-1699, 53 courts leet with court baron were held, 11 simple courts baron were held. Between 1700-1741, 11 courts leet with court baron were held, 8 simple courts baron were held.
14. The two rolls tally with four exceptions: two courts recorded on the new roll (1719-1805) for 1737 and 1738 were not entered on the old roll (1646-1741); and two courts held in 1741 were entered on the old roll but not on the new one.
15. William Moody, 1646-1659; John Thornton, 1660-1669; Robert Blake, 1673-1678; John Jacob, 1679-1699; Stephen Barton, 1701-1705; William Swanton, 1717; Thomas Francis, 1719-1741.

150 YEARS OF PHARMACY IN ANDOVER

by David Kennedy, M.R.Pharm.S. and Jane Kennedy

One hundred and fifty years ago, the Pharmaceutical Society was founded by two pharmacists, William Allen and John Bell of London. The earliest records available show that there was already an established druggist in Andover in 1784, namely Thomas Langstaff [1].

During the 18th century, chemists and druggists emerged as a separate profession, as apothecaries were devoting more time to their medical practice, visiting patients, than to the dispensing of medicines, which they had previously undertaken in a dual role. In 1784, there were four apothecaries in Andover: Richard Child, William Poor, Richard Pugh, Charles Taplin and Mr. Jay, a physician [2].

After several attempts to form a professional body, the Pharmaceutical Society emerged in 1841 with the aim of protecting 'the permanent interests and increasing the respect of chemists and druggists' [3]. The main role of a chemist and druggist was to dispense prescriptions from apothecaries, physicians and customers' recipes, known as 'nostrums'.

Pharmacy practice in the 19th century was very different from that of the present day. Drugs for use in dispensing were almost all prepared in the pharmacy. The first job of the pharmacist or his apprentice each morning would have been to prepare the fresh infusions. These were made in the same way as a pot of tea, using an infusion jug. There would have been an infusion of gentian, senega, buchu and others used in the preparation of compound mixtures, according to the prescription of the doctor.

A bottle of mixture was the most commonly prescribed medicine. Tablets, now the most used, were not invented until late in the century, when the use of the Tabloid brand made by Burroughs Wellcome started to become popular. External applications were either ointments mixed on a marble slab or lotions and liniments.

Drugs which were not suitable to be made into liquid medicines were made into pills. These were often coated with silver using silver leaf or were varnished using a shellac varnish. The various ingredients were carefully weighed and mixed in a mortar using a pestle. Other powders were added to increase the bulk to make a suitable sized pill, e.g. lactose or liquorice powder. The ingredients were 'massed' together using a substance like liquid glucose. The mass was then rolled, cut and rounded.

Unpleasant tasting medicines were sometimes put into cachets, which were made from rice paper. The ingredient was put on the lower half of the cachet and the top was then pressed against the moistened lip of the lower half. The cachet was dipped in water before swallowing.

Copies of all prescriptions were made in leather bound books, some of which

survive to this day. This practice is still undertaken for private (not NHS) prescriptions.

Proprietary medicines were being advertised and sold by pharmacists and some other shops from the mid-19th century. From examination of the advertisements, it appears that many of these preparations were laxatives, which were alleged to cure almost all ailments. One preparation which still survives is Dinneford's Magnesia but the formulation has no doubt changed.

Thomas Langstaff, probably the son of Thomas Langstaff mentioned above, acquired newly built premises for his shop and living accommodation at Bridge Street, Andover, in 1824 [4] where a pharmacy has existed ever since. The premises remained unchanged until circa 1924 when the living accommodation was converted to the offices of the Andover Lighting and Power Company. Thomas Langstaff was still in business in 1851 as the census entry for that year shows:

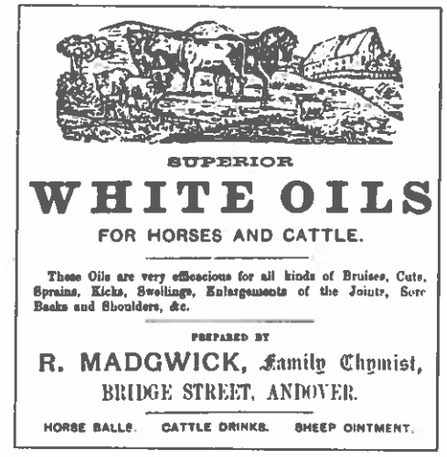
NAME	AGE	PROFESSION	PLACE OF BIRTH
Thomas Langstaff	65	Druggist	Andover
Louisa Langstaff	53 (wife)		St. Ann's, Mddx
Louisa Ann	20 (daughter)	Professor of music	Andover
Charles	17 (son)	Apprentice to medical man	Andover
Ann Field	60 (sister-in-law)	Landed proprietor	St. Ann's, Mddx

Outside his professional life, Thomas Langstaff was a burgess of the Corporation, and in 1837 he was made a freeman of the Borough [5]. William Langstaff, who was in business as a chemist in the High Street, Market Place, was one of the elected guardians of the notorious Andover Workhouse at the time of the scandal in 1835 [6]. William Langstaff's business later became Browne and Gradidge by 1851 and eventually Pontings the Chemist. By 1851 competition was increasing for chemist's business - William Sincock, from Redruth, Cornwall, had also established a business in the High Street (he was also an actuary of a savings bank) and John Dyson had a business [7].

In the mid 1850s, the business at 6 Bridge Street was taken over for a brief period by Richard Hunt, before William Butler Madgwick, originally from Otterbourne, Hants., established himself as the first 'pharmaceutical chemist' in Andover. At the time of the 1861 census, he was only twenty two years old, and employed Alfred Rumbold as a chemist's assistant. Mr. Rumbold had previously worked for Mr. T. Langstaff and resided at 6 Bridge Street. William Madgwick employed a housekeeper, Sarah Kennedy, from Marylebone, Middlesex, before he married Mary, from Longparish. [8] William Butler Madgwick continued the public-spirited tradition of the Langstaff family and was a trustee of the Grammar School in 1888 (his name appears on the foundation stone of the former Grammar School building in Church Close). The

Madgwick Award was still being presented to sixth formers in the 1970s.

Full details of business premises, including the precise addresses for the first time, are given in the 1881 census. In addition to William Madgwick, who was well-established by then, there were several new young proprietors in Andover including Robert Gould, aged thirty, from Fowey, Cornwall, who had taken over the business at 27 High Street. He employed an assistant, George Hanley. At 14 High Street, William Gradidge, aged twenty six, had taken the business over from his mother and employed one boy and a messenger.



Bottle label of liniment used for horses and cattle

By 1895, Rufus Madgwick [9] had taken the business over from William at 6 Bridge Street, and in keeping with other chemists of that era, was manufacturing his own remedies for animals as well as for humans, as illustrated by the label shown. The Kelly's Directory of 1895 shows that John Bienvenu combined his practice as a dentist with that of a chemist at 27 High Street; he advertised his products in the Andover Advertiser. Wride and Co. had also established a business at 68 High Street.

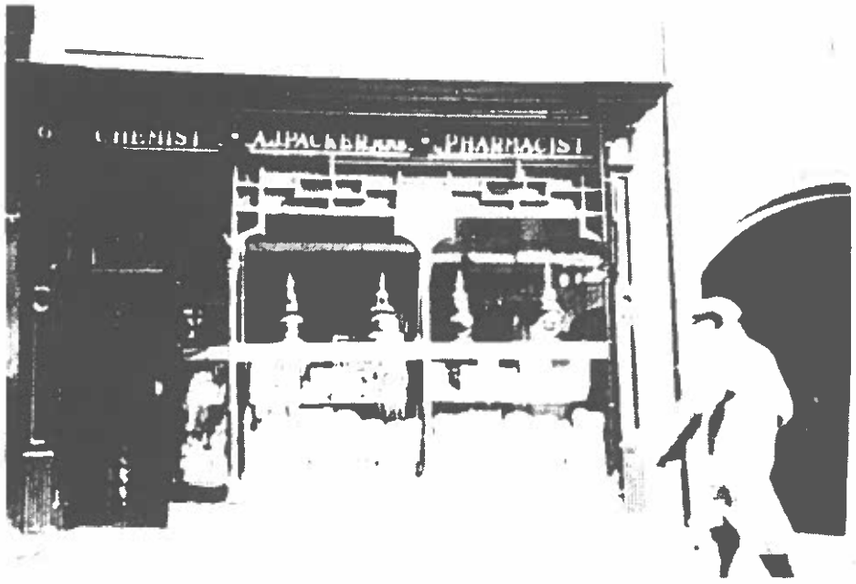
Pharmacy practice continued throughout the 19th century with little change until the arrival of modern drugs such as aspirin. With respect to the development of the professional body, the Pharmaceutical Society was firmly established by the end of the century. Two Pharmacy Acts (1852 and 1868) were passed due to the perseverance of Jacob Bell, MP for St. Albans, one of the founding members of the Society. These two Acts created the statutory registers of Chemists and Druggists and Pharmaceutical Chemists respectively.

In 1911, the National Health Insurance Act came into force, enabling certain medicines to be prescribed by doctors, free of charge to the patient. [10] The National Health Insurance Act continued until the National Health Service came into being in 1948, when initially all medicines were available on prescription free of charge. Pharmacies had to modernise to cope with the vast increase in the number of prescriptions. New medicines were being marketed in ever increasing numbers by the international drug firms, for example, Tyrozets, antihistamines, new antiseptics, and antibiotics such as Penicillin, which became available for the first time in 1948-9 for oral use.

There were changes of ownership of all the independent pharmacies in Andover except for that of Browne and Gradidge Ltd., which continued until it was closed in the

late sixties, although it traded latterly as Pontings the Chemist. The pharmacy at 27 High Street, which had been operated by Mr. W. Dale, was taken over by Arnold M. Gee Ltd. in 1949, with Mr. W. Stangroom as manager.

A branch of the multiple chemist 'Boots' had been opened in Andover by 1931[11]. The first branch of this firm was opened in the Goosegate, Nottingham, in 1877, by Jesse Boot.



6 Bridge Street, Andover c.1920's *Photograph: Mr. D. Packer*

Mr. C. Polgreen owned the business at 6 Bridge Street from 1906. Mr. A. J. Packer had acquired this pharmacy in 1923 and continued in business until 1959 when it was sold to Mr. Withnall Wain of Christchurch. It has been under the management of Mr. D. G. Kennedy ever since.

Labels are now printed, usually by computers, and orders are transmitted automatically by telephone and modem to a remote computer in London. Tremendous advances have thus taken place in the course of the 150 years since the establishment of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

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NEW STREET RAGGED SCHOOL

By H. W. Paris.

The story of the New Street Ragged School started for me in 1919 when I was playing in the Close Meadow. I joined a group of boys who were kicking a ball about on a mound just inside the entrance to the meadow, on the left of the path which led to Shepherd Springs. One of the boys gave a sharp cry as he kicked at the ball. An elderly resident of the street was passing at the time, and hearing the boy's cry, he stopped and said in a gravelly voice "What's s'matter boy?" The boy stood up and said "I kicked a brack Buffer." Removing his old clay pipe 'Buffer' Rolfe approached the boy and asked him quizzically "Kicked a brick?" The boy replied "Yes" and picking up half a building brick which had been partly buried in the earth and concealed in the grass, he said "Yer tis." Buffer examined the brick in the boy's hand and looked around the mound as though he was getting his bearings. Suddenly he remarked "Course, this is where the Ragged School was." By this time he was surrounded by a group of boys, one of them asking "What Ragged School?" Buffer grinned as he said "I reckon as how that was afore your time youngster, when kids paid to go to school up the top of the street, if they was lucky. If um couldn't pay, they went to school down yer for nothing."

Later, when the boys left the meadow I stayed behind and leaned on the fence studying the mound. Thinking back to what Buffer had said about the Ragged School, I asked myself "I wonder when it was built? How many children attended and were they really ragged?" Hoping to find answers, I asked the older folk of the street what they knew about the Ragged School, but their answers were very vague. As the years passed I never forgot old Buffer's remarks, but I never heard or read anything about the school until 50 years later when I was examining a series of old maps of Andover on display in the Library and I saw, tucked away on a map showing New Street, a small oblong marked 'Ragged School'. So old Buffer was right after all.

As I began to search for any record of the school I tried the files of the Andover Advertiser. There on 6 May 1866 was an article headed

'The Condition of New Street':

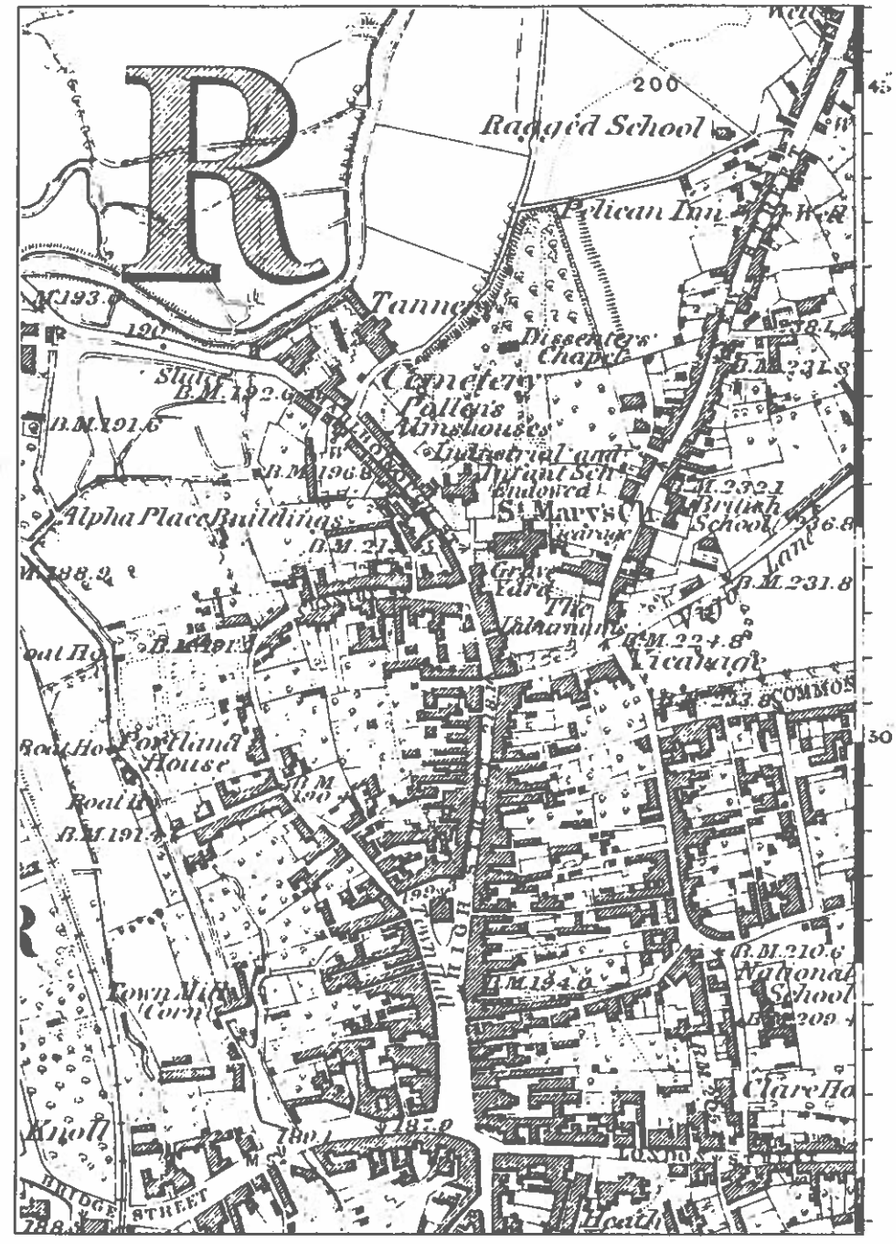
Our attention has been directed to the moral condition of that unfortunate and unhealthy suburb, New Street. No one passing through it can fail to remark on the great number of children, many of them girls, who are idling around and playing about, without any education except in vice and depravity, and with no other prospect in life than misery and ruin. Our correspondent suggests that by bringing these facts prominently under the notice of the charitable and philanthropically disposed, something may be done to preserve young lives from contamination, and add to society a number of useful members....

New Street in 1866 was indeed a suburb rather than a part of the town. It was the area that housed the main working class population but it was parted from the town at the top of the street by Etwall House, the Grammar School garden and Church Cottage on one side, while on the other side were two big houses, the Grammar School and the British School. The other exits were a gated road through New Street Farm into Vigo Road, known as Farm Close, while a narrow lane called the Gullet led to the Tan Yard and Church Hill. At the lower end of the street, just beyond the Broad River, the road was closed by the Andover Marsh turnpike toll gate, complete with its walled cottage. The Newstreeters, as they were called, were thus isolated and so formed their own community, served by four public houses, several retailers of beer and five shops.

The law was not yet respected in the street. The police in their handling of the inhabitants were often brutal, perhaps understandably so, for Newstreeters in the main had little or nothing to lose, and the fear of going to prison meant little to some of them. There was no hall or meeting place in the street, but following some major disturbances there in 1866 a committee led by Mr. J. Phillips decided to try to help the unfortunate children of New Street. They canvassed the street below the Pelican Inn and as a result started a Sunday School attended by some 40 children in a cottage adjoining the lane leading to the Tan Yard.

At this time, at the top of the street there was a school founded by The British and Foreign School Society. It was unsectarian and had moved to New Street in 1862 from its original site in Lardy Cake Lane. Two hundred boys and girls attended it, paying fees from 2d to 9d a week according to the number of subjects studied, but there were no vacancies. Moreover a standard of dress and hygiene was called for which children from the large, poor families found very difficult to reach. There was another school in East Street founded by The National Society, but that was also fee paying.

Nearly a year elapsed before any progress towards a free school for the poor children of Andover was reported. Then in the Andover Advertiser for July 7th 1867 it was announced that a deputation had waited on the Earl of Portsmouth, told him of their aim to provide free education for the poor children of Andover and requested his help. Lord Portsmouth had expressed warm interest and promised a gift of land and a donation from the Countess. It was agreed that the land would be vested in trustees, and that the building would be under the control of a committee representing the established



Andover in 1870, showing the position of the Ragged School. (6" O.S. map)

church and the non-conformists. Lord Portsmouth expressed strong views that any religious instruction given, or any services held in the building, should be unsectarian.

A further article dated July 19th 1867 reported that the committee had thankfully accepted Lord and Lady Portsmouth's gifts. It was announced that although some religious instruction would be given in the school, and the building could be used for religious services, the main objective would be to give the children some free education. The building was to be known as The New Street School and Lecture Hall.

Following this announcement the committee set about the task of raising the money to finance the building and equiping of the school. Various events were organised throughout the town and this appeal was made by the Andover Advertiser on November 1st:

> **The contemplated school and lecture hall in New Street.**
> A short time ago we referred to a movement on foot for the instruction of the poor in New Street. We have much pleasure in announcing the active measures now being taken to carry the movement into effect.
> Religious services and a Sunday school have been for some time carried out in a cottage in New Street, and during last winter a night school was established and attended by upwards of seventy boys and girls. Finding the accommodation insufficient, a committee of gentlemen, representing various sections of the churches as a guaranty of the unsectarian character of the work, has been formed with a view to making an effort to obtain a more suitable building. An application made some time since to the Earl Portsmouth was nobly responded to by a grant of land and a donation of £20 towards the erection of the building.
> The members of the committee intend shortly to wait upon the inhabitants of the town and district, and request their aid in so desirable a work....

This appeal had the desired effect. Contributions came from all classes and the work of building the school - a substantial brick and slate building - was put in hand. As it progressed in the Close Meadow a sense of anticipation ran through the street, particularly among those who attended the night school in the cottage. By the end of November it was nearing completion and parents who wished to send their children to school were asked to submit their names to the committee.

It was announced that the grand opening would take place on December 4th 1868. On that day the parents of the future scholars, accompanied by the children with clean hands and shining faces, sat down to a tea provided by the school committee. The hall was decorated with evergreen and bunting, and the warm glow of the lamps and the heat from the stove created a cosy and relaxed atmosphere. What a contrast to a lot of their homes. After tea the meeting was opened to the public; Mr. H. Bratcher took the chair and welcomed the visitors, among them a number of the gentry of the town. Mr. J. Marriot, the school secretary, introduced the committee responsible for the founding of the school, and went on to announce that the night school would start its winter session in the school on January 11th 1869. The Sunday School would move there from the cottage and during the evenings various events would be staged in the hall.

On April 2nd 1869 the night school completed its first winter session in the New Street Lecture Hall and then ceased its activities for the summer months, when most of the children were employed in their usual seasonal jobs on the farms and in other industries. Miss Hillier, assisted by Mrs. Mason of the British School and Mr. King, had provided instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic and singing for 127 boys and girls whose ages ranged from five to twenty years. The space provided by the hall gave encouragement to teachers and scholars alike - a far cry from the cramped quarters of the cottage in New Street. This was borne out by the improvements in the children's learning.

The annual meeting of the School and Lecture Hall was held on October 26th 1869. A report read by Mr. Marriott disclosed that the total of boys and girls on the school register was 100. The average attendance was 69 and there was a Sunday School of about 55. Mr. W. Bratcher presented a balance sheet which showed that sufficient money had been donated by the people of Andover and district to clear the cost of building the school, furnishing it and paying for the first year's working. The Rev. McOwan and others expressed the hope that more children would be encouraged by their parents to go to school and take advantage of the excellent opportunity offered to them by the teachers and workers of the school who had their welfare at heart, and who wanted them to share in the benefits which education afforded. An appeal was made for young men to help as teachers, as the number of scholars was expected to increase.

During the spring of 1870 the day school was opened and carried on through the summer, while the night school restarted in October. That year Parliament passed the Elementary Education Act of 1870. One of the provisions of the Act was that a census should be taken of all schools in which the ordinary fee was 9d or under a week. The Educational Return made on behalf of the New Street Ragged School on November 25th 1870 gave the following information: the school was not connected with any religious denomination; the dimensions of the school were 30ft long, 20ft wide and 18ft high, with separate offices for boys and girls; it was not used exclusively for education as short religious services were held on Sundays and Tuesdays, and occasionally a Band of Hope meeting; the main room was used for a night school; the principal teacher was Mary Maton who was 24 years old and had been teaching for seven years but did not hold a certificate; the day school was open 5 days a week, 5 hours a day and for 46 weeks a year; the night school was open for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours per night on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from October to May; the numbers of scholars attending were noted, and the subjects they studied; no scholars paid fees.

For the next five years the secretary was able to give encouraging reports of the schools at the annual tea and public meeting. In March 1873, when the mayor took the chair for the first time, the average attendance at the day school was 48, with 75 names on the school register. At the night school there was an attendance of 18 boys and 13 girls, and up to 40 children went to the Sunday School.

In July 1875 the school was visited by a Government Inspector. It was an apprehensive committee that awaited his report. When it came it read:

This school is making a good beginning, the discipline and attainments are creditable for a first inspection, especially considering the very rough material which the mistress has had to deal with. Infant instruction is scarcely enough at present; it will be improved by the addition of a monitor. The ventilation seems to want looking to.

A grant of £28-11s-1d accompanied the report. The school committee decided to carry out the recommendations to employ an efficient monitor to help with the infants and to put in hand the remedial work regarding the ventilation. It was felt that this problem was likely to remain with the school until washing facilities were improved in the children's homes.

But in January 1877 the school was inspected again and in the report it was observed:

The Managers are most praiseworthy attempting to teach a Ragged School with children of all ages in one room which is to my mind a hopeless task. More desks and better books and apparatus are absolutely necessary. I am to request your prompt attention to the subject of the offices. The government insists as a condition for the continuation of the school there must be separate accommodation for the infants and separate approaches to the offices.

The committee estimated that the alterations would cost £50, so it was agreed to make a special appeal to the public for money.

The staff of the school carried on their work during 1877, the day school and the night school both maintaining their attendance. The trustees carried out the alterations required by the Government, but as a result they ran into debt. Eventually they made this announcement in the Andover Advertiser of May 10th 1878:

The New Street School and Lecture Hall.

The committee of this institution announces that they are compelled to discontinue the day school hitherto carried on in the building, for want of funds, and not only so but a debt of £45 incurred in the past weeks remains unpaid; to defray this they solicit subscriptions. The discontinuance of the day school is much to be regretted as it has been doing a really good work. Anything which tends to check the demoralizing influence of the particular neighbourhood is worthy of encouragement. The building will still be used for Sunday School and other occasional and educational purposes.

During the 1880's the school was used for a variety of activities and was included in the list of night schools in the town. Entertainments, or concerts as the Newstreeters called them, were very popular particularly with the children who would often have a sing-song under the street lamps, singing the songs they had learned at the concerts. It was noticeable that the school buildings were badly in need of repair, but finances were at a very low ebb. This was the state of affairs when the Rev. P. P. Braithwaite became vicar of Andover in 1887.

The story of the end of the New Street Ragged School was told in the Andover Advertiser in July 1891:

July 10th: A correspondent enquires by what authority it is proposed to pull down the Ragged School in New Street, which was built by public subscriptions for non-sectarian purposes, and erect it on land that is either private or belongs to the church, thus bringing it under the control of one denomination.

July 17th: In reply to a question put through our columns last week, ... we have received the following information. The site for the Ragged School was given by the Earl of Portsmouth on the condition that the building erected thereon should be used for the purposes intended, and that in the event of a period of five years elapsing without this condition being complied with, the site should revert to the donor. It is stated that this condition was not complied with and, therefore, the Earl of Portsmouth could claim the land and the buildings thereon. The building, we are told, was going to decay and the rising generation in the neighbourhood were beginning to carry it away piecemeal until the present Vicar, Rev. P. P. Braithwaite, came into residence, and seeing that it was not otherwise used, he had it repaired and used it as a Sunday School. The Committee of Management, we are told, have been called together and told that Lord Portsmouth's Agent objected to so delapidated a building remaining on the estate, but the committee had no funds with which to repair the building. Upon this, Lord Portsmouth gave the Vicar permission to repair, extend or remove the building, and the Vicar decided on the latter course, erecting a school close to the Mission Hall on land acquired by him from the late Canon Collier, who purchased it to serve the church by securing the use of the Mission Hall. This we understand is to be vested in the Trustees, but will naturally be conducted on the lines of the Established Church.

This was eventually what happened to the building. It became part of the New Street Mission Room, and as it had served the Newstreeters in the past, so it would continue to serve them and their children, and play a vital part in the development of a community whose memory would live long with those who lived and worked with 'the Newstreeters'.

* * * * *

This is an abridgement of a longer article by Mr. Paris on the New Street Ragged School. Copies of the original version are in the archives of the society and at the Hampshire Record Office. Editor.

ELECTRICITY COMES TO ANDOVER

by Erica Tinsley.

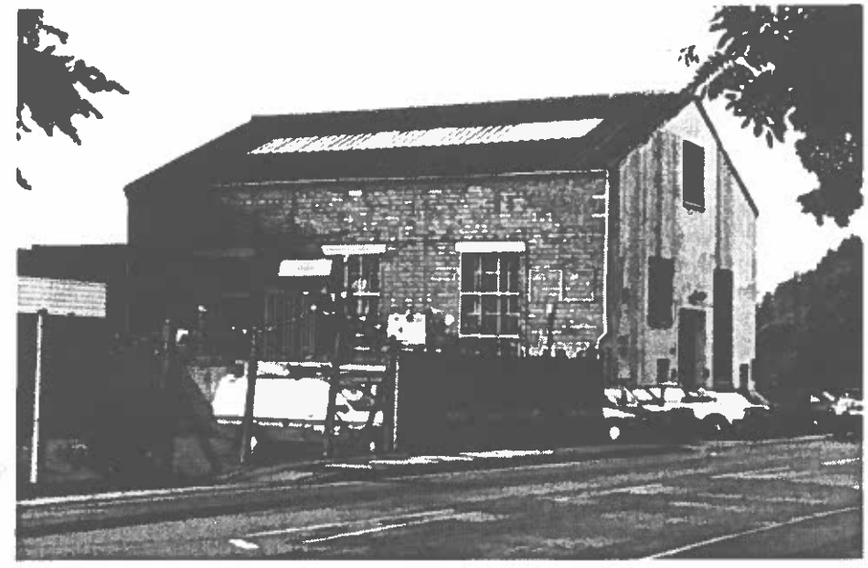
In Anton Mill Road, opposite Keen's House, stands a plain, shed-like building used as a paper store by the TSB Trust Co. Although apparently unremarkable, this unlovely building has an interesting history because it was built in 1926 to house Andover's first and only electricity power station.

The towns of Victorian England, including Andover, had their streets lit by coal gas, their houses and workplaces lit by gas or paraffin lamps, and their workshops powered by steam engines. By the 1880's things had begun to change. Electricity was entering the scene as scientific and technical advances meant that it could be produced with sufficient power and at a price to be competitive. Companies were set up in the major cities to offer customers electricity supplied from a central generating station via public mains. After 1890 companies were appearing all over the country.

The Salisbury Electric Light & Supply Co. was formed in 1894 [1] with its power station in Bishop's Mill opposite the hospital. DC electricity was produced from a turbine driven by the river and from a steam engine, and was stored in batteries until needed. In 1898 the Winchester Electric Light & Power Co. opened its power station in Hyde Abbey Road [2]. Steam engines were used to general DC electricity which was stored in batteries until needed for supply through the company's four miles of mains cables. When performing the opening ceremony the Mayor of Winchester remarked that 'it was quite necessary for Winchester to have an electric light station where electricity was generated not only for the advantage of the light, which many citizens required, but also for educational purposes. It would be a great advantage for people to come and see how it was generated when they were not busy and he hoped facilities would be given to them' [3]. In 1904 the Urban Electric Supply Co. of Newbury opened its power station at Greenham Mill, Newbury.

Why then did Andover have to wait until 1926 for the arrival of electricity? In part it was because Andover was a smaller town and thus a less profitable enterprise for electricity companies. But a major factor was the existence of the efficient, prosperous and influential Andover Gas & Coke Co. which had supplied gas to the town since 1838.

At the turn of the century Andover Gas & Coke Co. was becoming aware of the threat a rival electricity company could pose to its business and was taking action to protect itself. For example, in 1903 the Andover Borough Council had discussed electric lighting and in December that year the Chairman of the gas company is seen suggesting to his Board that 'in view of the probability of an Electric Light Co. being established in Andover at an early date, a deputation from the company should wait on the London & South Western Railway to consult with them as to the supply of gas at the Junction and Town Stations and to offer them more favourable terms'. The resulting letter sent in January 1904 offered the replacement of existing burners with more efficient incandescent burners and 'should the L&SWR desire an installation of the Electric Light



Andover Power Station as it is today (1991)

for their station, platforms and buildings during the 5 year period of the agreement, the Gas & Coke Co. to have the first option of supplying energy on the terms to be arranged' [4].

The gas company also sought to protect its monopoly by acquiring the Electric Lighting Order for the town. The public supply of electricity required the breaking up of streets or the erection of poles for the mains. Clearly it was not in the public interest for several companies to operate in one town so the Government legislation provided for companies or local authorities to bid for an Electric Lighting Order from the Board of Trade which gave them authority to supply electricity for that town or area.

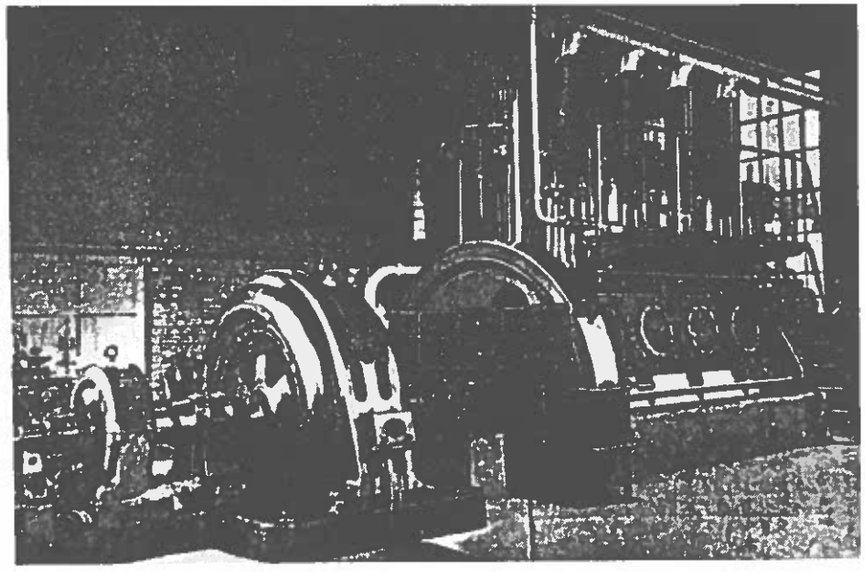
By 1905 Andover Borough Council held the Provisional Electric Lighting Order. In that year the gas company changed its name from the Andover Gas & Coke Co. to the Andover Lighting & Power Co. The new company purchased the Electric Lighting Order from Andover BC for £397, but the company's minute books indicate that the members of the board had very little idea of what was involved in supplying electricity to the town, either technically or financially [5]. They did nothing. By July 1907 they had still done nothing, but nevertheless they applied for and got an extension of the Order. Still they did nothing, so in 1909 the Board of Trade revoked the Order and other companies were free to bid.

In 1914 Crompton & Co. applied for the Order. R. E. B. Crompton had been an early electric light pioneer and his company was one of the major British electrical companies. They had been involved with successful power station ventures in various

places such as Kensington and Knightsbridge in London. But in the years that followed, during the First World War, Crompton's had difficulty in raising sufficient capital to start the scheme.

In 1922 the gas company again considered applying for the Order and engaged the services of a consulting electrical engineer, Mr. C. H. Wordingham of 7 Victoria Street, London, for a report on what was involved. It chose to do nothing. In 1923 Crompton's offered to transfer to it the Order and the contracts that would go with it but the gas company unanimously rejected the idea. Crompton's pulled out and other companies were free to bid.

Andover Power Station was finally built in 1926 by Edwards & Armstrong, a company which had its head office in Stroud and which during the 1920's had installed generating equipment all over the West Country. Mr. Williams, who subsequently lived in Mylen Road, was the Engineer sent from Stroud by Edwards & Armstrong to oversee the erection of the power station and the installation of the generating and supply equipment. Most new power stations being built in the 1920's used steam turbines for generation but Andover was a very small station thus the engine chosen was of a type being installed in many ocean liners of the day. It was a 4 cylinder heavy oil engine of 320bhp [6] made by W. H. Allen Sons & Co Ltd. of Bedford and had previously been an exhibit on Allen's stand in the Palace of Engineering at the British Empire Exhibition, Wembley in 1924 [7].



Interior of Andover Power Station in 1926, showing diesel engine and alternator.

The engine was installed in the power station by staff from Allen's. It was large, being approx. 10' high x 20' long, and weighed 36 tons. A modern Allen engine of the same weight would produce more than 10 times the power. Diesel oil to fuel the engine was brought by rail tanker and pumped out into the power station. The engine was started using compressed air and ran at 200rpm. It was connected to an alternator made by the Electric Construction Co. of Wolverhampton and produced AC current at 50 cycles, the frequency we use today. When running, the engine was cooled by a water jacket circulating water to an open, wooden cooling tower next to the engine house.

Also in the power station was a twin cylinder Mather & Platt gas engine which ran on gas made on the premises from anthracite. The gas producing plant was taken down in the 1930's and a garage built on the site. The Mather & Platt engine was only used to supplement the main engine and keep voltage up when demand was heavy, especially in the winter. It is interesting to note that the electricity company produced its own gas. (In 1928 when the gas company needed electricity it decided to generate its own and bought a second hand generating set - gas powered of course.)

The electricity company opened a one roomed office at 36 Bridge Street with Mr. Orchard as Manager and the power station started operation, all with little ceremony. Electricity was supplied by underground cables to the High Street, Bridge Street and London Street but outside the town centre the supply cables were carried on poles because of the cost of laying underground cables. There was considerable public outcry and debate on the Borough Council about the unsightliness of the poles but to no avail. By 1929 supply had extended up Weyhill Road as far as the railway bridge, up Salisbury Road as far as Mead Road, along the length of Junction Road, up Winchester Road to the top of the hill and up London Road as far as the cricket ground. Supply on poles is still with us today in large parts of the town because of cost.

Amongst the earliest connections were the Anton Steam Laundry, the Palace cinema and the White Hart Hotel, whose original underground cable was only replaced in the 1960's. The Andover Borough Council had 10 year agreements for the supply of electricity to pumping equipment, also installed by Edwards & Armstrong, at Andover Sewage Pumping Station and at the Millway Road Waterworks. The first major industrial consumer was MacDougal's flourmill in Millway Road. This had been largely destroyed by fire in 1926 and the rebuilding of the mill provided the opportunity to re-equip with electrically powered machinery. Electric motors were clean, efficient and moveable.

Householders were persuaded to take an electricity supply by the company's door-to-door salesmen. They offered free connection, three lights and a 5 amp power socket intended for a wireless or electric iron if the consumer agreed to take electricity for 12 months. A wireman and his mate were allowed one day to complete such an installation. By March 1930 there were approx. 200 domestic consumers in the town. The company, now under Manager John Howard, needed larger offices and moved to 10 Junction Road.

The name of the electricity company in these early years is a problem as parent

companies often created separate companies for generation, work and supply, and this seems to have happened in Andover. Edwards & Armstrong built the power station but it was run by the Western Electricity Supply Company which later became Westco. Westco generated the supply but its subsidiary The Andover Electricity Company did the necessary work to provide electricity to the customer. Consumers bought their electricity and accounts were rendered in the name of The Andover & District Electricity Supply Company. Around 1930 all three companies were taken over by Wessex Electricity which was part of the large Edmundsons Group. Salisbury and Newbury were older members of the Group.

From its opening in 1926, the days of Andover Power Station were numbered. Supply undertakings had grown up piecemeal all over the country, some providing DC and others providing AC in a variety of voltages and frequencies [8]. This created problems, especially for manufacturers of electrical goods and equipment. For example, a DC vacuum cleaner bought for use in Salisbury would not work in Wilton where the supply was AC. Since 1910 governments had given incentives to standardise but the cost to companies was too high - not only the generating plant had to be changed but users equipment down to the smallest electric motor. Thus the 1926 Electricity Act was passed.

This Act set up a state financed Central Electricity Board to construct and run a national grid of high voltage 132Kv transmission lines. The Board would purchase electricity for the grid from the most efficient selected stations and resell it to the undertakings wholesale, at cost price. Andover's gas company was unhappy about this legislation and wrote to Col. Sir A. Holbrook MP in April 1926 to protest against the powers proposed to be conferred on the new CEB. It received a sympathetic reply but the legislation was passed.

The creation of the CEB made no changes to the operation of Wessex Electricity in Andover but in 1931 Andover was linked to the National Grid by a 33Kv line, known to the staff as the 'Ratfyn Line'. Ratfyn was a War Office diesel power station which supplied the Bulford/Tidworth garrisons. The War Office also required power from the Grid, thus the line connecting Andover to the Grid from the west came through Ratfyn. Another 33Kv line connected Andover with Newbury and later a connection was made with Nursling in the south. All lines came into Charlton sub-station which has grown in size as the town's demand for electricity has grown.

The CEB had powers to close small, inefficient power stations but in practice the availability of cheap electricity induced undertakings to take supply from the Grid. Andover Power Station ceased to generate the town's main power supply in 1931 with the arrival of the 'Ratfyn' line but its engine continued to be used until c.1950 to supplement the Grid supply when necessary [9].

As soon as Grid connections were made the spread of electricity to surrounding villages was very swift. It was a very easy matter to run a wire on poles across fields to bring electricity. The earliest connections were villages adjacent to the lines, for example Hurstbourne Tarrant and St. Mary Bourne.

In 1926 the arrival of a public electricity supply in Andover was not considered an event of particular importance. Then, the extent to which electricity was to change our whole way of life could not have been foreseen. No records of the early electricity companies were preserved and the knowledge we have has been pieced together from a variety of sources. There are still gaps in the story.

* * * * *

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Mr. A. Ball, Mr. C. Wiggett and the late Mr. A. McNish of Wessex Electricity

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4. Minutes of monthly Board meetings of Andover Gas & Coke Co. 1900-1905. HRO.
5. Minutes of monthly Board meetings of Andover Lighting & Power Co. 1905-1923. HRO.
6. One of a range of engines of the Burmeister & Wain design. Burmeister & Wain was a Danish company based in Copenhagen. Licence to manufacture in UK and the British Empire was held by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Belfast. In 1921 Allen's obtained a sub-licence 'since this was the type of engine which had been most thoroughly tried out in service and would best suit our policy'. The mid 1920s were difficult years and Messrs. Harland & Wolff agreed to a reduction in royalty from £1 to 10/- per bhp on diesel engines from 1 January 1924 until further notice 'due to a diminution in trade'.
7. *The Queen's Engineering Works Magazine*, various editions 1925-1928 published by W. H. Allen Sons & Co., Bedford.
8. In 1924 there were still 17 different frequencies of AC in use:
   50Hz Andover and many others - now standard
   25Hz Birmingham, Midlands, Clydeside, parts of S. Wales
   40Hz Manchester, all NE England
   100Hz + 85Hz in some parts of London and the S. Coast.
9. Service records held at W. H. Allen Sons & Co., Bedford show that spare parts were supplied for the engine until January 1950.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF LOCAL INTEREST

BRAMSON, Alan *Pure Luck - The biography of Sir Thomas Sopwith 1888-1989.* (Patrick Stephens, 1991). £15.99

HEWARD, Edmund *Lord Denning* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1990) £15

HOWARD, Anthony *Country Ways - a taste of the country in Hampshire and Dorset. (1990)*

LEVELL, Eric *Country days, Country ways* (Holmes & Sons, 1990) £3.75

LUNN, Mick and RANGER, Clive Graham *A Particular Lunn - one hundred glorious years on the Test* (Unwin Hyman, 1990) £14.99

MITCHELL, Vic and SMITH, Keith
Andover to Southampton, including the Branch Line to Longparish (Middleton Press, 1990).
Basingstoke to Salisbury, including the Bulford Branch (Middleton Press 1991)
£8.95 each

PERKS, Victor *Enham Village Centre: the first seventy years 1918-1988* (Enham Village Centre, n.d.) £3.50

PARR, Robert and SEWTER, Baron *Broughton in Hampshire* (Broughton Local History Group, 1990) £3.

VINE, Paul *Hampshire Waterways* (Middleton Press, 1990) £8.95.

WILSON, Betty (Ed) *Hampshire Village Book* (Countryside Books and Hampshire Federation of Women's Institutes, 1990) £7.95

NOTES

George Brickell Memorial Prize
The Andover History and Archaeology Society invites entries for this Essay Prize which is open to all ages. A book token and certificate will be awarded to the winner. Essays of any length, but not more than 5000 words, may be submitted by individuals or groups on any aspect of the history of the Andover area. They should be received by 31st August 1992. Further details from the secretary of the society, c/o Andover Public Library, Chantry Centre, Andover, SP10 1LT.

Information wanted by family historians on:

JOHN BARTER, a schoolmaster, aged 26 in 1851, lodging at Woolton Hill, East Woodhay. Which school? Any other details?
replies to: Mr A.J. Barter, 44 Ashley Road, Farnborough, GU14 7HB.

JAMES LAISHLEY who married MARY FOSTER on 5th March 1813 at St. Mary's Church, Andover. Did they live in a local village afterwards?
replies to: Mrs. E.M. Dixon, 21 Brookway Drive, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 8AJ.

BALL family of Longparish. Is anything known about them?
replies to: Mr. A.A. Ball, 2 Barrow Cottages, Barrow Lane, Charlton Musgrove, Wincanton, Somerset.

WILLIAM PRESTOE, an inkeeper in Bridge Street in 1841, but at which inn?
replies to: Mrs. P.H. Purslow, 1 Elm Close, Bedford, MK41 8BZ.