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# Levyland

The Journal of  
THE LEVYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
(Founded 1968)

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To promote an interest in History generally and that  
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Held on the first Monday of each month  
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AT

PROSPECT HOUSE, SANDY LANE, LEYLAND

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THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

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#### EDITORIAL

In presenting this issue of the Leyland Chronicle (No.37) to the membership I must first of all record with sadness the passing of Dorothy Deacon, a founder member and tireless worker for the Society : A tribute appears in the following pages.

May I take the opportunity of welcoming new members of the Society and hope that they find much of interest in the lecture programme and this issue of the Chronicle which contains much original material. Thanks are due, as usual, to the contributors, Mrs M. Courtney for the typing and South Ribble Borough Council for the printing.

Since many members have joined the Society in recent years, perhaps a short account of the Lailand Chronicle and its development may be of interest.

The journal first appeared in November 1970 - albeit described simply as 'Bulletin No.1' - and three issues a year were produced in the early years reducing to two a year by 1978. The increasing cost of paper and printing has meant that, since 1983, one issue a year has been produced but with the format increased in size to A4 and the number of pages to around forty.

The Chronicle is issued free to the membership, nowadays at the December meeting: back numbers contain many 'classic' articles on Leyland and District and are a tribute to the writers and compilers. The first thirty issues are bound in two volumes and are on the shelves in the Local History room at Leyland Library.

During the past year many of our members have used the facilities at the Lancashire Record Office and the Leyland, Chorley and Preston Libraries; our thanks are due to the staffs of the above for their kind assistance.

The dead-line for the next issue is the September 1992 meeting at Prospect House.

W. E WARING

#### NOTE

Any opinions expressed in the contents of this journal are those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily represent the views of the Society.

MRS. DOROTHY DEACON

In February this year, Leyland Historical Society lost one of its most keen and active members. Dorothy was a founder member of the Society and a committee member from the start. She was largely responsible for the smooth organisation of many social events - especially the annual trips to such places as Tewkesbury, Ludlow, York and Shrewsbury and also the Annual Dinners.

An avid reader, with a wide knowledge of History both local and general, she was a mine of information on all aspects of the Hundred. Born and bred in Leyland, whose early life was spent in banking, she witnessed many changes in the area.

As an extremely busy housewife and mother of four, she was a School Governor of St. Catherine's and a member of Inner Wheel. Remarkably, she also found time to help at South Ribble Museum, attend evening courses organised by the W.E.A and enjoy French Conversation classes at Runshaw College, Chorley. Many sick people benefited from her visits made as a representative of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Her active participation and lively contribution to discussion, with her unfailing sense of humour, will long be remembered.

Dorothy, a gentle, kind and thoughtful person, a wonderful friend, will be sadly missed.

M WILSON



## THE FIRE AT FARINGTON MILL

"What will my poor workpeople do now?"

Mill-master William Boardman was reported to cry as flames destroyed Farington Mill.

The mill was built by William Bashall and Co. and began running in July 1836. In 1867 the main building was 30 windows long and 7 windows wide (about 100 yards in length), making it one of the largest in the area. It consisted of 5 storeys. The 1st contained about 470 looms, the 2nd, 3rd and 5th were spinning rooms and the 4th for roving. Note: Roving - the process of drawing out slivers of cotton before spinning into thread. In the spinning department there were about 45 pairs of mules comprising over 50,000 spindles.

The fire broke out a few minutes after 9 a.m on Wednesday July 3rd 1867 just as the engines had started after breakfast. It began in the south-east corner of the top storey probably by a shaft over-heating and combusting near-by materials. This location was furthest from the staircase and far from a water supply which made early control of the fire very difficult. The flames spread rapidly from mule to mule as these were very combustible.

The alarm was given by a spinner and the machinery was stopped. Buckets of water were kept on all floors and these were quickly utilized. The operatives formed a human chain to the mill lodges but the rapid spread of the fire and dense black smoke soon forced them down the stairs.

The firm had two fire engines on the premises, one was sent to the east lodge the other to the west, with 16 men working at each. A donkey engine was also brought into service. Word was sent to Bashalls other mill in Cuerden for assistance and a machine with men was quickly dispatched. A messenger was also sent to the Fire Brigade Station at Preston, who lost valuable time acquiring horses, forcing 2 engines to follow on later.

The roof timbers quickly caught light prompting two of the firms employees, John Seed and Thomas Barnes, to climb the 60 ft long fire escape ladder on the north side with a hosepipe. However, over excited men at the pumps turned on the water before the two had reached the top almost throwing them from the ladder. The roof flames were fanned by a stiff east wind and could not be contained. The roof fell in and crashed to the floor below. Fortunately the men had time to reach the escape ladder but were showered with molten lead from the gutter on the way down.

The flames, which rose to a great height, could be seen for miles around and indeed a large crowd of people gathered in Avenham, Preston to watch.

The order was given to remove from the mill anything of value that could be got out and as much cloth as time would allow was cut from the looms in the lower storey.

A little after 10 am the Preston Fire Brigade arrived and Superin-

tendant Marriott took charge of the fire fighting operation but by this time the building was well alight.

Strenuous efforts were made to save the ancillary buildings near-by which were in danger from burning pieces of timber that were being blown from the blaze. The mixing room caught fire twice but was extinguished on both occasions. The weaving sheds had jets of water continuously played on their roofs to prevent them catching light.

The most important of these buildings was the engine-house which contained two beam engines compounded with a horizontal one. This was the only part of the mill that was fire-proof. However, a room above it, and opening to the upper storey of the east end of the main building, caught fire. A reward of £20 was offered by the firm if the engine-house could be saved which indeed the fire fighters were able to do.

As floor after floor in the mill gave way, sending down burning machinery and rubble, it was obvious the building could not be saved. Soon after one o'clock the fire had done its worst and at about three o'clock the Preston Fire Brigade were able to leave. The firms engines remained on hand to ensure no further outbreak of fire occurred.

The mill employed about 900 workers at the time, mostly from Farington, who were immediately thrown out of work which caused great hardship as there was little work locally. Some were making enquiries about jobs at Preston factories even while the mill was still ablaze.

The cost of the damage was between £70,000 to £80,000 of which £53,000 was covered by insurance. About 800 tons of scrap iron was taken away by Hicks of Bolton and the heat from the blaze burned the grass for 40 yards around.

Although the main building was destroyed and the joiners shop buried under rubble, a section called the 'new end', the weaving sheds, cloth warehouse, mixing room and engine-house were saved. Miraculously no lives were lost and there were no serious injuries.

Farington Mill was re-built and working again within 2 years and ran until its closure in the 1960's.

MICHAEL PARK

SOURCES:

Preston Chronicle  
Preston Guardian  
'The History of Farington' - C Townson  
'The History of Leyland and District' - David Hunt.

### LEYLAND DECODED

"There be of them, that have left a name behind them" - Apocrypha, Ecclesiasticus, 24;8.

To be strictly accurate the above reference is to the eulogy of ancestors but I feel that it is appropriate to a discussion of the meaning of the place-name of our township:- LEYLAND.

The scientific study of the meaning of place-names is now about 100 years old and as might be expected the literature is extensive. I do not propose to dwell on the methods of study but merely to endorse the interest of the subject and to comment that the literature is organised on both national and county levels. In any name study it is imperative to note the earliest spellings recorded.

Early books on the names of Lancashire were by Wyld and Hirst (Ref. Wyld 1911) and J Sephton (Sephton 1913). At this point it should be mentioned that all authorities seem agreed that the name Leyland is composed of two elements - LEY an adjective and LAND a noun.

Wyld did not go further than offering the suggestion that the first element was derived from the Old English (OE) "leah" a meadow pasture, a clearing or an open space. This derivation is now generally discounted especially as "leah" is very rarely used as a first element as it is more properly a noun than an adjective

Sephton introduced the concept that the first element might be derived from the OE adjective "laege" meaning fallow or lying untilled, and this will be discussed later.

In 1922, after 12 years of study the Swedish Professor Eilert Ekwall produced his "Place Names of Lancashire" (Ekwall 1922) and later after many other monographs his "Dictionary of English Place Names" (Ekwall 1936). Incidentally in 1920 and 1921 he spent more than two months in Lancashire mainly in the north rather than the industrial south. In his Lancashire volume he reiterated the derivation of the first element of Leyland as from OE (i.e. pre-Conquest) "laeg", fallow land, land laid down to grass. (Compare with modern usage - "to lie fallow").

Ekwall's analysis of the name Leyland has obviously influenced many of the later writers on place-name derivations, of whom I only mention at this point Margaret Gellings "Place Names in the Landscape" (Gelling 1984) where in a glossary she extends the analysis to "an estate with a high proportion of non-arable ground".

To facilitate discussion I now list the early spellings of Leyland, and it is necessary to remember that the name covers both the vill or township and the hundred, this is important.

1086	Lailand Hund'(red)
1086	Lailand
1160	Leilandia
1160	Lailanda
1188	Lailand Wapentachio
1200	Serjanteria de Leiland
1212	Lailand
1212	Leiland
1226	Leilondesire
1229	Wapentake of Leiland



1243	Leylandsire
1243	Leyland
1246	Leylond
1246	Leylaundschyre
1284	Laylond
1321	Leylond
1327	Leylond
1327	Leilondshire
1332	Leylond
1332	Wapentach' de Leylondshir'
1391	Leyland

In passing it may be noted that "Lai" and "Lei" seem to be used indifferently until 1243 when "Ley" makes its appearance, and later becomes the dominant spelling, (Out of 21 - Lei 6, Lai 5, Ley 9). Similar analysis of the second element gives (Land 12, Lond 8, Laund 1). It seems fairly clear that this element is OE or Old Norse (ON) "land" which can have its normal meaning but can be applied to anything from a field to a large tract or estate of land.

So far so good, and at first sight there would seem to be no reason to question Ekwall's derivation of Leyland as "fallow land" applied to the location by Anglo-Saxon or perhaps Scandinavian settlers at some time prior to 1086, proved by the use of the name in the Domesday Book. It seems legitimate to ask the question "to what was the name applied, the vill or the hundred?".

Normal principles suggest that it must have been the vill as all the south Lancashire hundreds are named after the principal vill in the hundred, in this case Leyland itself. Such being the case, it is then appropriate to apply the golden rule of place name study : is the tentative derivation of a place name valid in topographical or other considerations of the location itself at the time the name was bestowed by the settlers?

Here it seems legitimate to question the aptness of the derived name - Fallow Land, which somehow seems bland or insipid. The vill would certainly need arable land to support the concentration of population, however small that was, and we have specific later evidence of the existence of town fields. These fields would need fallow periods but on a temporary and intermittent basis. The idea that this led to the settlers singling out this temporary fallow phase as a principal characteristic giving rise to the vill name does not seem to ring true.

Examining Ekwall's derivation in more detail it will be seen that in either his county or national volumes he does not cite any other parallel and comparable place-name derived from the same root "laege". It is true however that later workers, e.g., A H Smith (Smith 1956) quote other similar minor place-names, Laylands and Lealands, derived in the same way. These seem to be Middle English (ME) of at least as late as the 15th century, when "laege" and mutated to "leye" or "laye", and are thus not strictly comparable.

Whilst paying tribute to the tremendous expertise of his knowledge

of Scandinavian place-name philology, in which he was a leading scholar at the time of his publications, I feel it is necessary to comment on what seems to be an unusual feature in his analysis of the name Leyland in his county publication (Ekwall 1922 p.133), where he states that the derivation may be compared with that of Fallowfield (Lancs).

Turning to the relevant entry on page 30 of the same volume and page 165 of his national volume we find that his derivations for places of this name in both Lancs., and Northum., are in fact late, 1296-1417 and derived from a totally different root, either OE "fealu" = fallow (yellowish) or OE "fealg" = newly cultivated, seemingly with no connection with the root used in the Leyland case. I feel that this does not lend support to his Leyland derivation.

I feel that some support for my thesis may be drawn from a more recent book on interpreting the landscape (Aston 1985). In a chapter on early estates, the author is referring to the principal place (or caput) of an estate, often with an aula (Lords Hall) and which by 1086 often was in royal ownership as the head of a hundred, a hundredal manor, all of which applies to Leyland. He describes the name, common to both the place and the estate as often being topographical in nature. It is of interest to note that the names of the ancient hundreds adjacent to Leyland all seem to have this feature (or other strong element), Amounderness, Blackburn, Salford, Neweton, Walintune and Derbei. Not so poor old Lailand and one must ask why.

#### Summary and Conclusions

1. The literature derivations of the place-name Leyland have been described.
2. Although 1086 may be thought of as early, an even earlier form of the name would have been most helpful.
3. There seems to be no reason to doubt that the second element of the name - "land" has its normal meaning, the only question is the area of land to which it was originally applied.
4. Doubt has been cast on the derivation of the first element as being "laeg" = fallow, this being thought to lack specific descriptive qualities such as might be expected for a leading vill of the period.
5. As the area was of alternate Anglian and Scandinavian domination, a knowledge of their philology, which the present writer does not possess, might suggest an alternative noun, personal name, or adjective from these languages which could have given rise to the first element of the name LEYLAND.
6. It may well be that no new suggestion can be made and that the present derivation must stand. It is ironic that the failure (at the time of writing) to develop the cleared centre of the old Leyland Town Fields might justify the

notion that the land is once again "lying fallow".

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G L BOLTON



## A POSTSCRIPT ON WORDEN MAZE

"A Maze of path, of old designed  
to tire the feet, perplex the mind,  
Yet pleasure heart and head".

Bradfield, Sentans Wells, 1864

As so much has already been said over the years in these pages about mazes in general and Worden Maze in particular, its to be hoped that I shall be forgiven in this Year of the Maze for returning to the subject one last time.

Readers may remember a rather long article that appeared in 'The Lailand Chronicle' a couple of years ago concerning the rebuilding of Worden Hall in the mid-nineteenth century. It was explained how the young squire, James Nowell Ffarington, chose Anthony Salvin, a leading architect of the day, to carry out this important work. It was suggested that whilst Salvin was working on the hall itself, his brother-in-law, William Andrews Nesfield, a well-known landscape architect, was engaged to construct the formal gardens at Worden and to design a maze there.

Evidence was produced to support this theory. It was pointed out that the two men frequently collaborated on a project, that the Worden Maze was almost identical to the maze Nesfield was known to have designed at Somerleyton Hall in Suffolk, that the parterre was very similar to one he had planted at Stoke Edith in Herefordshire etc. Nevertheless in the final paragraph, I had to admit reluctantly that, despite all the strong circumstantial evidence, there was not one shred of direct proof to confirm Nesfield's involvement at Worden. Whilst references to Salvin abounded there was no mention of Nesfield in the ffarington archives, nor in any of the local newspapers of the time.

As for any hope of confirmation coming from Nesfield's own papers, upon enquiry, I was assured that, following his death, the bulk of his work-records had been shipped out to Australia and subsequently lost at sea. To be so convinced of Nesfield's involvement at Worden but to lack the actual proof was very frustrating.

Following the publication of the Chronicle I was contacted, in the November of 1988 by Mrs Shirley Evans of Wistaston in Cheshire who, with a biography in mind, had been engaged in Nesfield research for some time. The missing papers had of course made her task incredibly difficult, though she had managed to accumulate an amazing amount of documentation from other sources; nothing however regarding Worden. Nevertheless she did promise to get in touch in the unlikely event of further evidence coming to light. I reflected somewhat ruefully that the whole quest appeared to have as many dead ends as Worden Maze itself.

And as many twists and turns too for Mrs Evans did indeed make contact again just over a year later in the spring of 1990 and this time she was in jubilant mood. Painstaking research had eventually led her to a descendant of Nesfield's in Australia and he had all the missing papers; letters, diaries, workbooks, everything.

So far from being lost at sea, they had actually been in this country until comparatively recently when the family had emigrated to Australia.

In April 1990, Mrs Evans made the journey to Australia to see the papers. She found there all she'd hoped for and more beside. On her return she was able to tell me that, amongst everything else, was a letter from Nesfield to Mrs ffarrington at Worden (James Nowell's young widow) discussing the work he'd carried out there - the missing proof at last!

Later that summer Mrs Evans and her husband came to Leyland to see Nesfield's gardens at Worden. They were delighted because, although the parterre had been replaced by a sunken lawn and the newly formed mound in its centre was described as "unfortunate" the original layout of the gardens was intact. Everything; the ballustrade, the formal flower beds, the beautiful gates, the fountain, the maze, had the authentic Nesfield touch.

A biography of William Andrews Nesfield will undoubtedly appear ere long which, in the light of the Australian evidence, must put him amongst the highest ranks of landscape architects. There is also an exhibition planned for 1994 to celebrate the bicentenary of Nesfield's birth. It is to take place at Brancepeth Castle in Northumberland and the organisers are hoping that Prince Charles may be persuaded to speak as Nesfield at one time worked on the gardens at Highgrove.

Turning now finally to mazes in general. Following considerable publicity in the media, there can be few people still unaware that 1991 was officially designated "The Year of the Maze" by the English Tourist Board. It seemed an appropriate way to commemorate the planting of Hampton Court Maze three hundred years ago this year. Throughout the year at least fifteen new labyrinths and mazes have been opened to the public. This brings the total number in this country to well over a hundred twice as many as a decade ago. In fact Britain now has more mazes than any other country in Europe.

It mustn't be imagined, however, that the fifteen new mazes opened in 1991 are all of the high-hedge variety of our own Worden Maze. They include a keyhole shaped turf maze at Leighton Hall north of Lancaster, a Magic Mirror maze at Wookey Hole cavern in Somerset, a quarter mile of brick spirals based on an Elizabethan bedspread pattern at Pafham Park in Sussex and even a computer-designed plastic tiles trail at Flambards Theme park in Cornwall. More bizarre still, a Japanese slat maze, popular we are told in Tokyo in the 1980's, looms on the horizon. This evidently is like a massive rat-cage with movable partitions spread out over acres and the contestants dash round punching time-cards with prizes for the first out. Perhaps the ancient Minotaur of Knossos could be reintroduced to hasten the contestants on their way. Anything is possible in games shows - and mazes!

E SHORROCK

#### Acknowledgements

My grateful thanks to Mrs Shirley Evans for all her help and kindness.

#### Bibliography

As listed following the 1988 article and also Mazes and Labyrinths, Nigel Pennick (Robert Hale London 1990).  
Article in the Daily Telegraph Monday March 18th 1991 by John Harlow.

FARINGTON LAKE (1666-1704)

- Benedictine and Trappist -

Farington Lake was born in 1666, the only child of David Lake and Mary his wife, and was christened at the Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas which, at that time, was a chapelry of Walton-on-the-Hill the parish church of Liverpool (Ref.1). Mary was the daughter of William Farington (1612-1673) of Worden, Esquire and Katherine Fleetwood his wife.

David Lake was of Wavertree, Liverpool but little is known of this gentleman and, in fact, his marriage to Mary Farington is not recorded in the Farington pedigree or in the registers of Leyland or Liverpool. He appears as a witness in several deeds in the Farington family muniments and was also enrolled in the Preston Guild of 1662 as 'of Worden' (Ref.2).

Certainly by 1670 David Lake had died as the Leyland Register records the second marriage of Mary : Mr William Anderton of Euxton, to Mary Lake, of Worden; married July 6th, 1670 -Ref.3 - (The spelling of the name Lake or Leake seems to be quite indiscriminate).

The first mention of Farington Lake locally occurs in the will of his grandfather William Farington of Worden, Esquire, (Ref.4) of February 20th, 1672/3 who bequeathed to his grandson £60 to be paid by his heirs or executors at such time when Farington Lake should be fit to be bound apprentice to an Attorney-at-Law in one of the Inns of Chancery, or to any other 'which should be thought most requisite'. Also, a further £40 to be paid at his attaining the age of twenty-two years. William Farington died shortly after making this will and was buried at Leyland on February 27th, 1672/3 at which time Farington Lake was just short of his seventh birthday so the settlement of the bequest was some years away.

On the second marriage of Mary, Farington Lake appears to have been brought up with her second family at Euxton (an undated Amsterdam edition of Caesar which belonged to him in 1676 and 1677 was in the Euxton library, and in the possession of Sir Francis Anderton in London in 1929 - Ref.5). The marriage of William Anderton and Mary produced seven children - four boys and three girls - but, strangely, their marriage does not appear in the printed family pedigrees. Possibly there was family opposition to the union but, if so, they seem to have relented as there is what seems to be a draft or copy of a post-nuptial marriage settlement in the Anderton papers (Ref.6). This 38 page deed is unsigned and undated but, from the information it contains, it appears to have been executed late in 1671 after the birth of William and Mary's first child.

The Andertons of Euxton were staunch Roman Catholics so perhaps it is not surprising that Farington Lake decided when 19 years of age, to enter the religious life joining the English Benedictine Congregation at the Priory of St. Edmund the King and Martyr at Paris where he was professed a monk November 11th 1685 taking in religion the name Dunstan, and was in due course ordained priest (It is interesting to note that on the same day November 11th - Martin Stone of Euxton was professed also. And again, on July 11th 1696 Farington's half brother William Anderton - later to be Prior of St. Edmunds 1713 to 1717 - was professed along with yet another Euxton man John Farnworth

of Runshaw Hall). Just three days earlier on Nov. 8th he had left, as sole heir of the late David Lake, his house and lands in Wavertree, Liverpool and also his monetary bequest from his grandfather William Farington to the Priory of St. Edmund (Ref.5).

In 1689 he appears to have taken steps to obtain the money left to him by his grandfather. In a deed of November 30th, 1689 he appointed John Gelibrond (sic) of Chorley, Gent, to be his attorney in an attempt to recover the sums of £60 and £40 which were due to him. The attempt was not immediately successful - perhaps with Farington having become a Catholic priest, the family felt that he had not carried out the wishes of his grandfather, but a second deed dated April 27th, 1700 shows that, with John Gillibrand still his agent, Farington Lake accepted £50 as discharging the obligation.

After almost twelve years as a Monk of St. Edmunds, Fr Dunstan, as he was then known, decided that he wished to lead a life of stricter observance and, with the agreement of his superiors, he transferred to the Trappists at the Abbey of La Trappe where he took the name Bede. 'Though other Englishmen tried, or thought of trying, the Cistercian reform introduced at La Trappe by the famous Abbe de Rancé the professions and necrology in the Rouen Library show that though a Scot and a few Irishmen persevered he was the only Englishman to be professed there' (Ref.5).

The death of Farington Lake at La Trappe was reported at the 24th Chapter of the English Congregation held in 1705 at London. The report and eulogy is given in Weldon's 'Chronological Notes' thus:

"Last year I had the honour of a letter from the Most Reverend Abbot of La Trappe, Dom Jacques de la Cour, wherein his Reverence assured me that Rev. Fr. Dunstan, otherwise Farington Lake, who with leave of his Superiors in the beginning of October, 1697, was withdrawn thither, had exchanged his life for a better on the 30th March, which is the solemnity of St. John Climachus, a particular patron of La Trappe, in the year 1704. They called him there Dom Bede, and in the fervourous community he appeared a Saint, and his last end answered his life. Paris house is much indebted to him for he was a fortune to it and a blessing, sparing no pains to serve his house; but dreading the functions of the Apostolic Mission, he thought his salvation would be most secure in a retired life". (Ref.7).

The community of St Edmund's, Paris is now at Douai Abbey, Woolhampton, near Reading, Berkshire. This abbey is responsible for St. Anne's, Ormskirk and St. Elizabeth's, Scarisbrick among other parishes where the monks engage in the work of the Apostolic Mission which Farington Lake dreaded so much.

W E WARING

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Cheshire (R.S.L.C) Vol. 9.

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4. Wills at Chester, Lancashire Record Office (L.R.O) : WCW
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7. Weldon, Dom Bennet " Chronological Notes of the English Benedictine Congregation".

W. E WARING

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PRESTON CHRONICLE 30TH JANUARY 1875 - MEDICAL

On the 25th ult., Mr F S Pilkington, of Leyland, passed the preliminary examination at the Royal College of Surgeons, London. He was educated at the Grammar School, Preston. At the same time and place, Mr Edmund Berry, son of Dr. Berry, Leyland, passed the same examination. He was for some time a pupil at Burgh Hall, near Chorley and subsequently at the College, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

P.C. 17th July 1875 : Mr T W Jackson, son of Mr William Jackson, Leyland, passed his examination on the 7th inst. at the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, and was admitted a member. We are also glad to notice that this young gentleman received a diploma as L.M. at the same college.

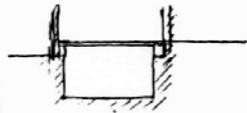
PRESTON CHRONICLE 20TH FEB 1875 - TEMPERANCE MEETING

A temperance meeting was held in the Independant Schoolroom, Leyland, on Saturday evening last, when there was a good attendance. Messrs Duthie, Jos. Smith and Jos. Shaw addressed the meeting, each dwelling upon different aspects of the Temperance question. The Sunday School scholars sang several temperance melodies during the evening, and at the close a Band of Hope was formed. The proceedings terminated with the customary vote of thanks.

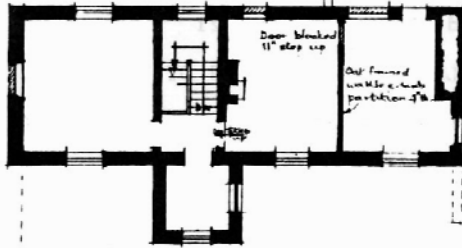
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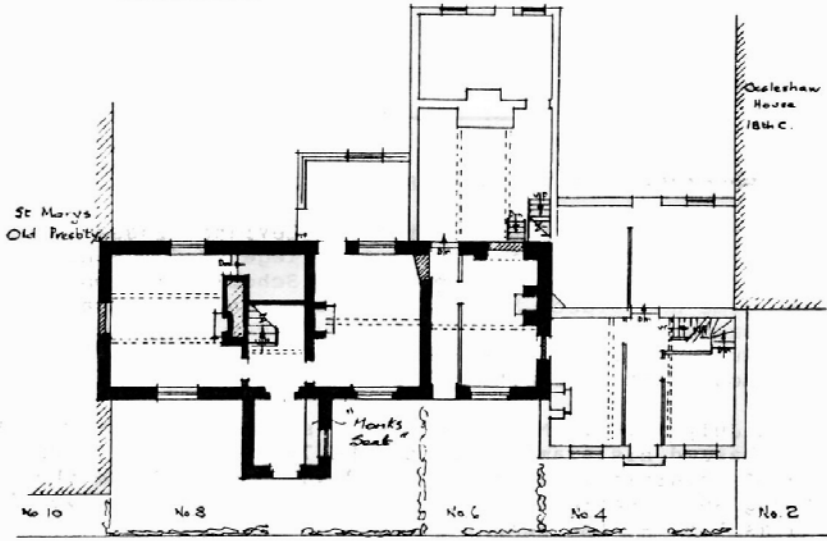
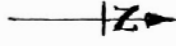
Pollard (?) Hall, Leyland  
 Listed Building Gr. II. Destroyed 1969  
 Datestone decayed. Late 17th C.  
 over earlier building.



Section through cellar  
 of No 6 showing raised floor  
 joist to provide headroom  
 6'-3" to utility floor level

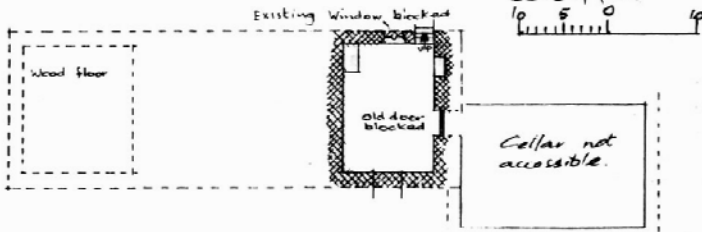


1st floor plan

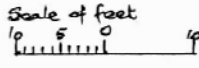


Worden Lane

Ground Floor plan



Plan at Cellar Level



Surveyed 1968 A.K. Barron  
 Drawn P.F.P. 28/11/68

POLLARD HALL - NOS 4, 6 & 8 WORDEN LANE

The three cottages originally numbered 4, 6 and 8 Worden Lane, Leyland filled the space between Occleshaw House (c.1710) and the old St. Mary's Pres bytery (Leyland House c.1780).

No. 4 was an infill cottage with a cellar between Occleshaw and Pollards probably built towards the end of the 18th century, or maybe later, originally two up and two down with a later extension at the rear, possibly for a handloom weaver.

The north end of Pollard Hall had been split at a convenient partition wall to provide a very small one up and one down cottage, possibly with a rear extension at the same time. This part of the Hall had a small basement too shallow originally to provide adequate headroom, so the ground floor was raised to improve this. The result was a very low ceiling in the cottage living room and corridor.

The Hall itself was a three bay building with a smaller bay for the stairway. Total hearths were probably five in number. The front entrance was through a porch - two storeys high - containing an oak seat or bench, traditionally believed to have come from a Monastery or religious house and preserved by Gerry Dunne (deceased) who lived in the old pres bytery next door. The date stone over the front door had been badly eroded for many years but the construction fits the later 17th century, basically brick with irregular stones to the quoins. The windows had been enlarged and altered but evidence uncovered years later indicated that the original windows were small with typical brick shaped mullions probably rendered externally. The front elevation had been rendered during the 19th century obscuring many original details.

The roof construction was mostly purlins supported by the internal partition walls although some form of truss must have been necessary over the first floor oak stud partition. It was unfortunately not possible to verify this.

It is still possible to see the outline of the south gable of Pollard Hall in the gable of the old Pres bytery.

P F BARROW

Editorial Note: The planning application referred to in the introduction to the following article, was withdrawn. However, whilst this issue of the "Chronicle" was being compiled a new application was made for permission under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Area) Act 1990 to carry out a development in the area described in the above and following article.

## POLLARD HALL, LEYLAND - A SIGNIFICANT SITE

### INTRODUCTION

The recent submission of a planning application for the development of an area on the western side of Worden Lane, Leyland has stimulated interest in the historical aspects of the site concerned. The application relates to the conversion of the disused St. Mary's R.C. church into dwellings and the erection of other dwellings on open ground on the north-east corner of the site.

The whole area lies within the Leyland Cross Conservation Area. The open ground, referred to above is the site of some former dwellings known as "Pollard Hall", a name which in the historical time scale of the area is of no great antiquity, and which disappeared along with the dwellings when they were demolished in 1969.

The present authors have, for some years past, both collectively and individually (references 1 and 2) made an intensive study of the general area in which the planning application is located and especially of the plots of land which lie on the western side of Worden Lane between Fox Lane end and the stream which passes under the road on the approach to Worden Park Lodge Gates.

Because of the proximity of the northern end of these plots to the ancient core of the town of Leyland they must of necessity be of high historical and/or archaeological significance and the following notes are offered to indicate the documentary history of the particular plot in which the application is located.

### INFORMATION SOURCES

The principal sources of information used were the Lancashire Record Office deposits of the muniments of the Farington of Worden family (DDF) and the related and complementary Huddleston of Sawston papers (DDX 102/--). Other sources used will be referred to in the text as appropriate.

A sketch is appended to show the location of the planning application in relation to the adjacent plots of land which are known to have existed at least from the 16th century (this sketch is a composite from References land 2 and will be used to identify the points made in the discussion).

### THE EARLY EVIDENCE

Leyland is not fortunate in the possession of really early charters and the first relevant documentation available dates from the early decades of the 13th century. The first mention of the "Pollard Hall" plot is an indirect one but valid nevertheless. The land relating to the adjacent plot on the corner of the present Fox Lane (that is Plot A on sketch A) was defined in a charter dated to circa 1230 (DDF 1542). In this Robert Bussel (sometimes styled as Lord of Leyland) is granting, in two portions, an acre of land (customary measure of 9000 square yards) "which lies between the land of Richard Bossel and the land of Avice Bossel". Now it is well known that the Bossel family held the Barony of Penwortham at this period and had considerable interests in the township of Leyland. The genealogy and the

chronology of the Bussel family over the period 1130-1330 are difficult but the three members mentioned in the charter above have been identified. Robert, as indicated was Lord of Leyland, Richard is frequently mentioned in Leyland charters and Avice or Avicia is of particular interest. She was a daughter of the above Robert and with her sister Margaret became his co-heiresses explaining the fact that subsequently the Manor of Leyland was held in moieties, and importantly she married John de Farington son of William de Meles and thus founded the Farington dynasty, later Farington of Worden. This latter event is usually understood to have taken place in 1229/30 (with some reservations as to the exact date).

The relevance of all this is that retrospective evidence proves that Plot B, the "Pollard" plot, was held by Avice, not Richard Bussel and that as she is referred to as Avice Bussel not Avice de Farington it suggests that the charter predates her marriage and was thus earlier than 1229.

In reviewing this early period, it is clear that the plots on the western side of Worden Lane are of considerable antiquity and may well be part of the early settlement of Leyland. The north-south strip of land immediately to the west of them is variously referred to as a selion, an acre or a dowlle (dole) all terms confirming that it was part of the open field (the Lower Town Field) and suggests an early expansion phase in Leyland agriculture. These crofts, with open fields immediately behind are similar to the crofts on the east side of Towngate which had the Upper Town Field behind.

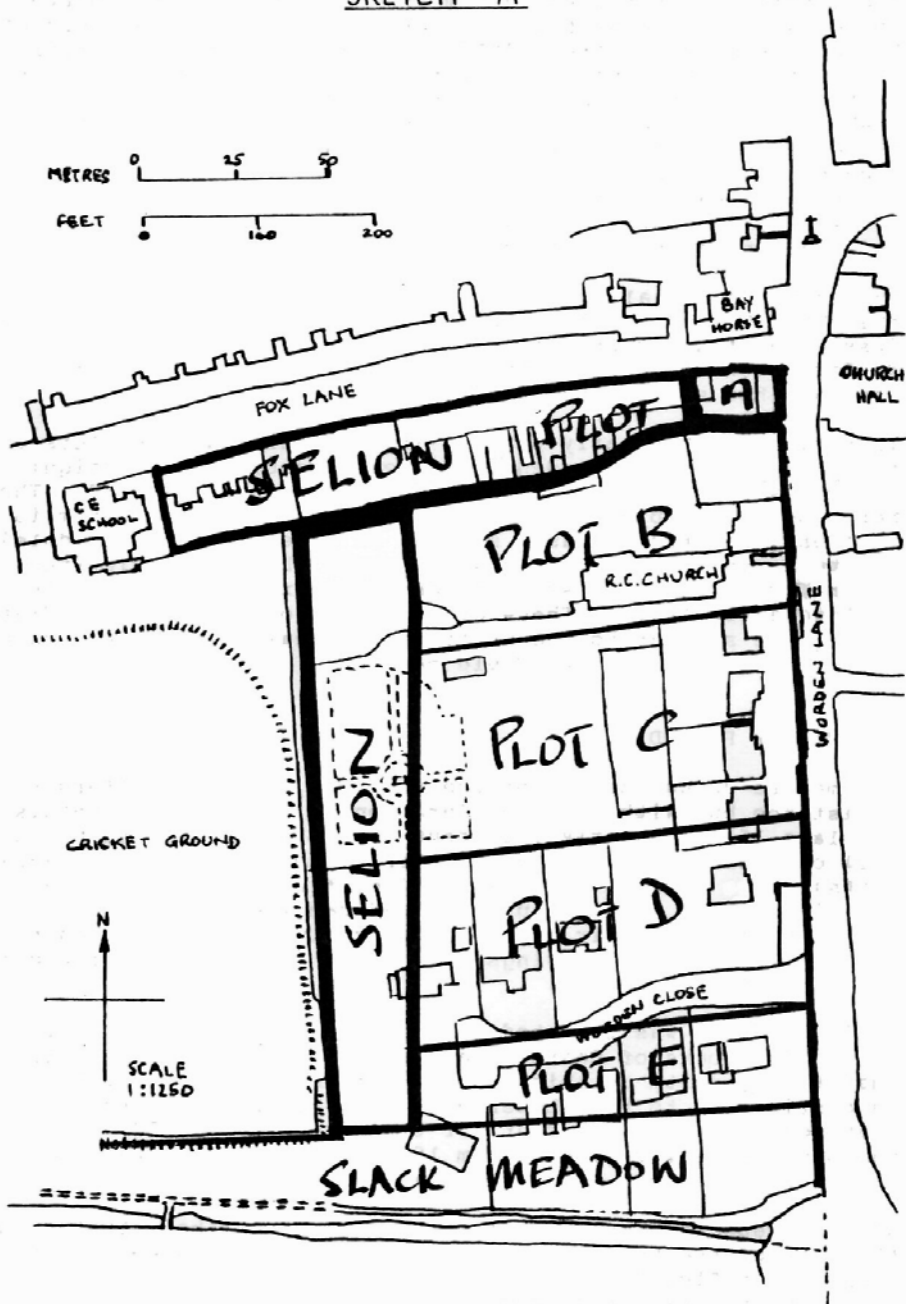
#### THE MIDDLE PERIOD

The meagre documentation of the next two centuries offers no assistance but with the proliferation of surveys and rentals of the late 16th and early 17th century it is possible to begin to fill out some detail of the "Pollard" plot (and of the adjacent plots). The data on Plots A and C confirms that Plot B was held by Avice in the 13th century and had remained in Farington hands as part of their inheritance, unlike A and C, which had originally been freeholdings, and which were only later acquired by the Farington family.

In 1570 Plot B was tenanted by one Thomas Charnock of a branch of the Charnocks of Charnock and there is a strong indication that the property on this plot was known as "The Upper House" in distinction to the "Lower House" on Fox Lane, another Charnock holding. The rent for this property and 32 acres in the Low Fields was 53/4. From 1626 to 1648 Plot B was still held by William Charnock, son of Thomas.

Although specific proof is lacking, it seems likely that about the time of the Restoration (1660) the Faringtons rebuilt the property on Plot B and sold it and the land, or else sold the land and the new owners rebuilt the property. Once again the documentation at and after the Commonwealth period is difficult. The farmstead, for that is what it was, probably at the very least was 150 years old and in poor condition. With this, we

SKETCH A



enter the final phase of the history.

#### THE LATER PERIOD

New names now appear. In 1692 the persons named as contributing to the upkeep of Whittaker Lane (now Worden Lane) are named as Mr Thomas Nowell and Mr. (Christopher) Preston, both were "Incomers", Nowell from an important Preston (Lancs) family and who had links with the Faringtons, and Preston from Long Preston (Yorks). Their detailed (? joint) ownership and occupation is uncertain.

In any case by 1725 only Mr Christopher Preston is shown in the evidences for Plot B but soon after in December 1728, he died and was buried at Leyland Church on the 31st. A road upkeep document dated 1st January 1728/29 mentions a Roger Mawdesley but it is assumed that he was a feoffee of the estate of Preston, whose name then passes out of the story. The surname Nowell however persists in association with Plot B for some years longer, importantly in a reference of 1779.

On 9 October 1764 a William Pollard and a Margaret Nowell were married at Leyland church so at last the name has appeared on the scene. Pollard was another incomer, from Lytham (he was the son of the vicar there) and in his mother's will of 1785 William is described as a "cotton manufacturer". He illustrates the changes which were taking place in Leyland at the period. In 1768 the birth of a son, William, to the Pollards is recorded and the family continues occupation of the property, through the turn of the 19th century.

They had in c.1775 reputedly (authority - B Morris, "Memories of Old Leyland") built on the plot the large house known as Leyland House. It is not clear what, if anything, had to be demolished to make way for this but it seems that at this time there also existed a cottage and what became known as Pollard Hall

An important town survey, of 1819, unfortunately not accompanied by a map, describes Mr Pollard as occupying "a house and a house, warehouse and garden adjoining the above house". In any study of the site this entry is considered to be of importance. In 1824 William Pollard the Elder died aged 86, but the son continued in ownership.

The divided nature of the property is illustrated by the Tithe Award of 1837, where the owner is listed as William Pollard with occupiers as "the house - Mrs Spencer, the houses - Thomas Addison and William Fair", which seems to support the diagnosis of the buildings existing in c.1775 mentioned above.

William Pollard the younger died in 1840, and the events which followed were to completely transform the nature and purpose of this ancient plot of land. The 1841 census shows that the Pollards had gone and one of the houses (? which) was unoccupied, possibly it was Leyland House. Events followed swiftly; in 1844 a Dr John Smith of Leyland bought Plot B and the whole of the buildings which stood on it, with the eventual object of its use as a place of Roman Catholic worship, culminating in the building of St. Mary's church in 1854.

Census returns every ten years from 1841 show the occupancy of the various dwellings on the plot, there is however a little difficulty in recognising the dates when one cottage was pulled down and so-called "infill" cottage was built, these points may not seem of importance but have relevance to any examination of the site.

With the demolition in 1969 of the buildings known as Pollard Hall this account of the history of "Plot B" is at an end. The cleared site which lies between Worden Lane Surgery and Leyland House is, before any development takes place, in essentially the condition it was in before habitation occupation began some time, possibly several centuries, prior to c.1230.

#### SUMMARY

The documented history of a site in Worden Lane, Leyland has been described. Though of necessity not fully continuous, the validity of its early identification has been confirmed by retrospective evidence, thanks to the valuable surveys and rentals in the Farington of Worden muniments.

No attempt has been made to define the dimensions of the buildings located at various times on the plot, as this lies in the domain of a separate map examination and site survey. The plot itself was of a slightly irregular shape constrained by the shape of the next more northerly plot and the western field strip, both ancient open field "selions". Its maximum length is estimated to have been some 120 yards and its frontage some 45 yards tapering somewhat to the rear.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The joint authors wish to thank the Record Office staff for production, over a long period, of the very many documents used in the studies forming the basis for this and other articles on allied topics.

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G L BOLTON and W E WARING

## EUXTON PARK AND PINCOCK

The area once known as Euxton Burgh is steeped in history, being the seat of the Anderton family who lived at Euxton Hall for centuries.

One of the hamlets in Euxton is Pincock. An important industrial area from an early age and relying on the River Yarrow for its power, the settlement grew around the crossing of the river by the Wigan to Preston highway - now the A49.

A walk of approximately three miles starts at the Euxton Mills Hotel, and takes in the Pincock Valley returning through Euxton Park.

The starting place is apt because the Euxton Mills Hotel, built in 1820, got its name from the surrounding industry. The Yarrow Valley had two corn mills, weaving and spinning mills, a paper mill and a nail factory.

Walk along the A49 down Daisy Brow, then fork right down Pincock Brow to the old bridge over the Yarrow. Pincock hamlet stood here and would have been self contained having its own shop and public house. The older turnpike road turned down stream from the more obvious straight route and, in so doing, lessened the steep gradient to the river which must have been a great help to the horse-drawn traffic of yester-year.

Pincock Mill stood on land between the original and the modern bridge: Signs of mill races can still be seen. The end of the mill came suddenly when a dam upstream burst its banks, this dam had been constructed when the North Union Railway was being built in 1837. The flooding of the Yarrow caused damage downstream as far as Croston.

Walk down Pincock Street - this is the site of two rows of millworkers cottages. An old wall of red sandstone on the right hides a now overgrown quarry. It was owned by a Colonel Peter Priestley in the 1800's, who lived at Glead Hill, a large house still standing on Dawber Lane: Glead Hill Farm stands just above the quarry. The Priestleys were an important family in the area, some of whom are buried in Leyland Parish churchyard. A directory of 1820 shows that the occupant of Glead Hill at that time was a John Harrison, Muslin manufacturer.

Continue on to two cottages on the left, 'Riverside' and 'Waterside'; these were originally a paper mill. Riverside, a 17th century building made the paper and Waterside dried it. A waterwheel once stood behind the buildings and would have driven the paper making machinery.

The path continues through the now overgrown valley and 'Xelflex' Mill soon appears on the right - this was the original Euxton Mill. Old maps show a mill pond or reservoir on the site of the present car-park and more buildings are shown sited closer to the river.



Follow the path downstream noticing echoes of the past in the form of overgrown mill races and sluice gates. The valley opens out with the busy M6 motorway ahead. Armetriding cottages soon appear over on the right. A datestone, now hidden by a modern porch, indicates they were built in 1570.

Pass under the motorway bridge to admire the restored Bobbin Mill. It was touch and go whether this structure was to be demolished but its new owner must be congratulated on restoring it. A mill race can be seen passing under the path: it would have driven a water-wheel, housed at the western end of the mill, before flowing back into the Yarrow.

The way is now across a footbridge spanning the Yarrow and climb up an overgrown track. This is the ancient highway known as Mill Lane, connecting Back Lane to the south with Dawbers Lane to the north. When the track levels out, an orchard on the left is all that remains of Commissary Farm. Demolished in 1973, this 17th century farmhouse was supposedly used to store arms for government troops marching to suppress the 1715 Jacobite rebellion: this area is reputedly haunted. Two beams from the farmhouse have been re-assembled in the County Museum, London Road, Preston.

Retrace your steps back to the footbridge over the Yarrow. Here continue straight on up a track that passes Armetriding Farm, but first admire a new wall of red sandstone on the right: these stones have come from the Bobbin Mill, and a date-stone has been preserved in the wall. Did this also come from the Mill? Notice the inscription "Richard Johns 1662" - the I being the Roman J.

Continue on up Mill Lane and pause to look back at Armetriding Farm: a fine Elizabethan structure. The date-stone high up on the northern aspect indicates it was built in 1570 and has the letters "H.A" - possibly a Hugh Armetriding. The original walls have been hidden by a modern rendering, but the mullion windows and drip sills still remain; also, a fine flight of stone steps lead up to the farmhouse from the lane. The Armetridings were an influential family owning land in the area, including cottages and two cotton mills. A William Armetriding owned land here in 1294, and a Thomas Armetriding was a Vicar of Leyland 1689-1719.

Continue up Mill Lane to Dawbers Lane and then turn right. Just after crossing the M6 motorway - a stile leads into Euxton Park. A second such stile can be found further along at the entrance to Old Dawbers Lane. In recent years a housing estate has been built inside the park and footpaths have been created, and by following yellow markers you are able to enjoy the relative freedom of this private parkland.

Eventually the new building complex of Euxton Hall Private Hospital can be seen with the older building next to it. Built in 1850 this was originally a two storeyed building but was reduced to a single storey when it became structurally unsafe. Successive buildings on this site have been the home of the Anderton family for centuries.

By keeping to the Dawbers Lane end of the park Glead House is passed from the rear. The path ends suddenly at a stile in a gap in the wall coming out onto the A49 with Dawbers Lane and the Euxton Mills Hotel just to the right.

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The Victoria County History, Lancashire, Vol. 6  
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GRAHAM THOMAS

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THE ADDISON GRAVE IN LEYLAND CHURCHYARD

Close by the south door of Leyland Parish Church stands the 'box' tombstone of the Addison family of Leyland. The inscriptions on the top and four sides enable one to construct a basic pedigree of the family.

The three Thomas Addisons (father, son and grandson) all made their mark in the history of Leyland. The memorial to the first Thomas Addison is given here as an illustration of how informative memorial inscriptions can be:

To the memory of Thos Addison who departed this life May the 2nd, 1780 in the 60th year of his age, nearly 38 years of which he lived at Shaw Hall where with the strictest justice and Honesty he discharged the Duties of his Station in the Trusts reposed in him.

He married Margery the daughter of Thos and Susan Sumner by whom he had four children two of them now living, Thos and James. Margaret his only daughter died an infant; William his eldest son, a youth of great goodness, was born the 21st of August 1746 - he died at Shaw Hall the 25th of February 1760.

Sir Wm Farington in gratitude to the memory of a most valuable servant has placed here this Stone.

PRESTON CHRONICLE 27TH MARCH 1875 - LEYLAND SPRING FAIR

On Wednesday last the fair for horned cattle was held here. There was but a slender show of stock exhibited, composed principally of young things, which met a dragging sale, the farmers being unwilling to accept the very low prices offered by the dealers, so that little business was done.

## DAVID GRANT - A BIOGRAPHY

### Introduction

In the Autumn of last year, members of the Historical Society will remember that we took part in a local history exhibition at the museum in Church Road. Our contribution was based on a number of pen and ink drawings that featured old Leyland. The artist was a local architect, David Grant, and the eight drawings were all executed by him between the years 1880 and 1881. Because of the interest the exhibition generated and the fact that further information has since come to light both about the artist and some of the buildings he portrayed, we felt the following article might prove acceptable to readers of the Lalland Chronicle.

Our subject matter here, however, is to be limited to just four of the buildings portrayed by Grant; Fleetwood Hall, the old cottage in Church Road, further cottages this time in Towngate, and Langs Hall. Other buildings in the series; Leyland Parish Church, Peacock Hall, the old Grammar School and Old Hall have been excluded because they have already been well documented elsewhere. It should perhaps be mentioned however, that all eight drawings were lithographed in the journal "The British Architect" in 1881, made a second appearance in one of the Preston newspapers in 1896 and eventually were reproduced in postcard form and sold at the cost of one shilling a set at a bazaar held in the Public Hall to raise funds for the benefit of the Parish Church roof.

### David Grant

Any description of David Grant's life would be very bare-boned indeed were it not for work done previously by the late Mr Bert Morris. At the end of an excellent short piece on Grant produced for the Chronicle in 1972, he wrote that "there is much to be discovered yet about David Grant". That is still true today. Nevertheless new and interesting information has come to light recently, largely thanks to the kindness of Mr Colin Stansfield who has revealed the hitherto unknown extent of Grant's achievements as an architect in Preston and district. Consequently a fresh look at the man and his work would appear merited.

David Grant was born in Scotland in 1846. His father was one Matthew Grant a merchant. Unfortunately we still know nothing of his early life or what brought him to Leyland, though Mr Morris had been told that it was at the request of Mr James Quin who owned a rubber manufacturing business on Golden Hill. Certainly what today would be termed 'top executives' from the rubber works lived on either side of the Grants in Grant designed houses in Hough Lane, which would appear to support this theory.

What is certain is that by 1873 David Grant was actually living in Leyland and had an office in Preston initially at 1, Winckley Street, later at 7 Guild Hall Street. In 1874 he married, at Leyland Parish Church, a Preston girl, Elizabeth Hannah Anderson,

the eldest of four children whose father, Joseph, owned a prosperous cabinet and upholstery business in Fishergate employing as many as thirty people.

Over the next few years the Grants had three children, Hector born 1876, David 1878 and Agnes Lilian, known affectionately as "little Dolly", who was born in August 1879. Business was prospering and the young architect had already begun to make a name for himself both in Preston and Leyland.

As early as 1874 he had been commissioned to design a new Congregational Church in Hough Lane Leyland, now, of course, the United Reformed Church. Like many of his subsequent buildings this was constructed in stone quarried at Padiham. The style was early Gothic and when finished the building could seat a congregation of over four hundred. Inside, the choir and gallery front were also built to Grant's design by the local firm of Andrew Tomlinson. Being a strong Congregationalist himself, Grant was made secretary of the building society set up to raise the four thousand pounds required to complete the church. It was opened for worship in 1877 and was much admired. Grant's strong religious views plus his undoubted talent soon made him the chosen architect of the con-conformist denominations and he went on to design the Methodist Chapel in Bamber Bridge and the Community Hall of Ashton Methodist Church.

In 1880 David Grant and his family moved to 'Lily Bank' one of a pair of rather attractive semi-detached houses, designed by Grant himself, and built on the opposite corner of Quin Street to the Congregational Church. 'Lily Bank' and its partner, 'Spring Bank' still exist today but by some quirk of fate, both houses have now been converted into commercial banks and as such, are almost unrecognisable. For a short while Joseph Anderson, Elizabeth's father and his family moved to Leyland. They lived at 'Springfield' which may well have been one of another pair of houses designed by their son-in-law.

Sadly, just at the point when David Grant's career was at its most successful tragedy struck. He and Elizabeth lost their baby daughter. She died not long after they moved to Lilybank and is buried in Leyland Churchyard, adjacent to the vestry door. A small white 'needle' obelisk bears the inscription; "In memory of Little Dolly who died 22nd April 1881 aged twenty months. And Jesus called a little child unto him".

David Grant continued as a practising architect in Preston and district for another five years (Sometimes working in collaboration with a fellow architect John Fish). He was responsible for many of the houses in Ashton and was also a speculative architect on the Fulwood Freehold Estate. Perhaps his best known public building in Preston itself, however, is the imposing Forester's Hall, off Friargate. The fact that this too was built of stone was only revealed recently when it was extensively refurbished.

In 1886 however, at the age of forty, David Grant and his family emigrated to Western Australia and settled in Fremantle. What persuaded them to go so far away remains a mystery though it has been suggested by Mr Morris that Grant's strongly held

religious and political views may ultimately have had a detrimental effect on his career here. It should also be mentioned that there were serious differences in 1884 between the Minister of the Congregational Church in Hough Lane and some members of his flock. Evidently this resulted in three people actually leaving the congregation completely. If Grant was one of those opposing the Minister this too could have precipitated his departure for Australia but all is conjecture. It looks as if Elizabeth's parents may have accompanied the Grants on their travels for their name too disappears from the directories after that date. If so, their presence would have been a great comfort to their daughter, for we are told that David Grant died within a short while of settling in Fremantle.

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Preston Newspapers of the time.

#### ELIZABETH SHORROCK



## THE DRAWINGS OF DAVID GRANT

Whilst general research on Leyland has provided much information about six of David Grants drawings, two - the Old Cottage on Church Road and the old cottages in Towngate - have never been described, even their locations being uncertain.

In the mid-1960's member Peter Barrow examining the site of 'Westfield' and 'Leyland Grove' on Church Road - which had been pulled down prior to the building of Stokes Hall - realized that outbuildings on the site were from a much earlier period than either the late 19th century 'Westfield' or the 18th century 'Leyland Grove'. He concluded that this was possibly the site of David Grants old thatched cottage.

Close examination of the drawing of the Towngate cottages and of Thomas Addison's map of 1769 suggested their likeliest location as being close by the George the Fourth public house. In the absence of further evidence these two sites on Church Road and Towngate were featured in the October 1990 Exhibition.

In August this year Peter Barrow produced three cuttings from a Preston newspaper of 1896 : the articles were headed 'Views of Old Leyland' and were the drawings of David Grant with an historical description of each building! The Preston Herald had run this series in March, April and May 1896, and, whilst information on Fleetwood Hall and Langs Hall was scanty, the location of the Church Road Cottage and the Towngate Cottages was known exactly.

### THE OLD COTTAGE, CHURCH ROAD

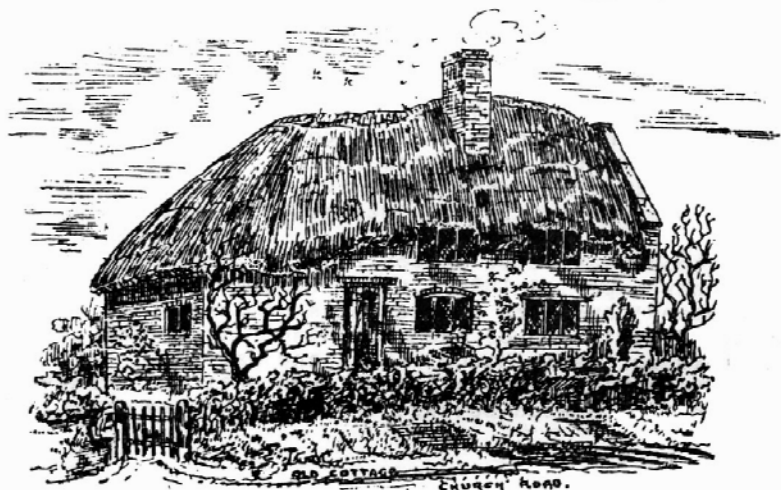
PRESTON HERALD, SATURDAY APRIL 4TH, 1896:

"The view we give this week at first sight, in all probability, will not be recognised even by the majority of Leyland folks. The rapid changes, architectural and otherwise, which have taken place within most of our villages during the last few years, and which are such a feature of the progressive life of this 19th century, are resulting in the demolition of many interesting old structures round which may cluster happy memories, and to which may attach some historical importance, but which when once razed to the ground are quickly forgotten.

Such a place is the one of which we give a faithful representation. Though it is only about five years since the comfortable thatched cottage depicted in the drawing was demolished in order to make room for an up-to-date and handsome residence, doubtless many Leyland folks who were wont to pass the venerable structure on their way to and from the Parish Church will have forgotten that it ever existed, and its reproduction above will probably revive many a pleasant recollection of the days gone by.

It is said that the late Miss Farington of Worden Hall used to say the cottage was one of the oldest buildings in Leyland. It has disappeared however, and nothing definite or distinct is traceable as regards its history. All that can be gathered is that for several generations it was occupied by the sextons

of Leyland Church. One of these, Mr Richard Bannister, whose tombstone is to be found in the churchyard, and Mr Reynold Bannister were members of the family from which Mrs Peter Barrow, a well known Leyland lady, descends. Mrs Barrow formerly lived in the old cottage and says it was one of the real old-fashioned type of thatched houses, thoroughly snug and cosy, with two rooms above and two below, with a little place under the roof for storing apples and similar fruit. Downstairs, not many years ago, the merry clickety-clack of a pair of the old fashioned handlooms enlivened the air. That was in the dawning of the



cotton industry in Lancashire, when Leyland was a comparatively unimportant place. Some of the old cloth woven used to be taken to Whittle-le-Woods Print Works, whilst other lots were taken by Mr Haslam, a Preston cotton manufacturer.

For 26 years the cottage was occupied by Mr John Culshaw, an old gentleman, who, through stress of circumstances, had had to seek friendly shelter for his last years in one of the alm-houses erected through the generosity of the Faringtons. In his younger days the cottage was owned by Mr John Bateson, who lived in the Clayton district, but the residence which has risen upon its ashes is the property of Mrs Berry, mother of Dr Berry a highly respected Leyland practitioner, and is occupied by Mr Elias Berry, son of Andrew Berry, cotton manufacturer, Leyland. The last tenant of the old cottage was Mr Harry Bridge, formerly coachman to Dr Berry....".

#### OLD COTTAGES - TOWNGATE

PRESTON HERALD SAT. MAY 9TH, 1896

"The sketch we give today will probably not be recognised by the majority of Leyland folks. We had some difficulty in discovering the former location of the buildings presented, but eventually we found out that they originally stood opposite the old Police Station in Towngate, but were demolished a good few years since. As far as could be gathered from those living in the immediate

neighbourhood the property used to belong to a Miss Sergeant, and it consisted of a "Jerry Shop" (a low ale-house), and then a farm the last tenant of which was stated to have been a Walmsley. Miss Sergeant died about 21 years ago at an advanced age, and the property was purchased by Mr John Stanning, who pulled the farm down and erected on the site there of three substantial cottages of a thoroughly modern type.

Thus was swept away another link which bound Leyland to the years of long ago, but structured fabrics, however venerable and however fascinating to the antiquary, have to give way to the insatiable grasp of this progressive 19th century, when sentiment is at a discount, and commercialism reigns supreme.

In Leyland the community have the advantage of being governed by a number of gentlemen thoroughly capable of advancing the best interests of the district, and it is undoubtedly owing in a large measure to the manner in which they have performed their administrative work that the place is in so flourishing condition. That the future holds great possibilities for Leyland is self evident when we consider the forward steps of the last few years.



Opposite the cottages erected on the site formerly occupied by the property sketched above, a new road is being opened into Sandy Lane. This will not only open out a pleasant neighbourhood, but will make a useful connection to the general public".

With the information contained in the above article the Survey Book of Leyland in 1819 (Lancashire Record Office (LRO) Ref: PR2797) was examined and Mr William Sergeant (father of Miss Sergeant in the above excerpt) is shown as owning 'Two houses and gardens adjoining the Grapes Inn'. The Grapes was the original name for the George the Fourth and seems to have been built c.1790 from a study of the 'Alehouse Recognizances' (LRO Ref. QSB/3) and the 'Land Tax' returns (LRO Ref. QDL) for Leyland. So the assumption made as to the location of these cottages for the



museum exhibit was correct.

The Sergeants were a well-known family in Leyland living in the fine 18th century house which stood at the junction of Cow Lane with Towngate, and which later became the District Bank and, finally, the National Westminster Bank. This whole area is now cleared and awaiting re-development.

The old cottages of David Grant's drawing seem to be a much altered late 17th century house of some substance but, by the time of this sketch, the condition seems ruinous. The site is now occupied by one of the terrace that John Stanning built, the other two being demolished and replaced by the new Conservative Club.

#### FLEETWOOD HALL, CHAPEL BROW

This 17th century house which stood on the east side of Chapel Brow close to where the present day Trustee Savings Bank now stands, was, traditionally, the home of the Fleetwood family of Leyland, and documentary evidence strongly supports this claim.

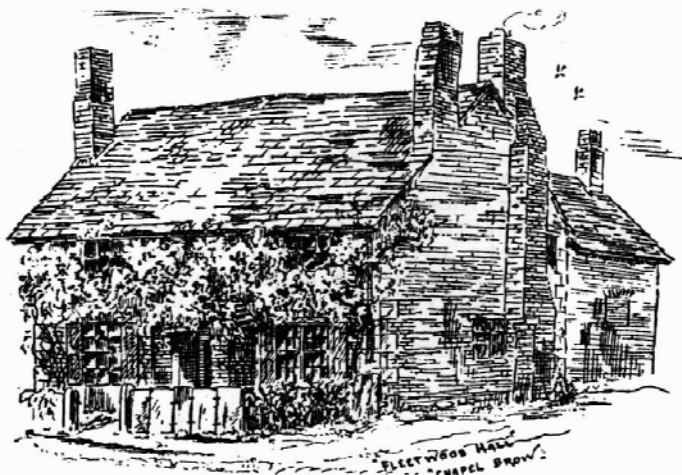
In the Visitation of Lancashire by Sir William Dugdale in 1664 and 1665 (Chetham Society Vol.85) the Fleetwood of Penwortham pedigree shows Edward Fleetwood of Leyland as the third son of Edward Fleetwood of Penwortham, aged 46 years at the Visitation Sept.19th, 1664, i.e. Born c.1618. The first mention of Edwards name in local sources is in the Protestation Return of 1642 (LRO Ref :MF1/25) when 'Edward Fleetwood, Gent' refused to take the Oath : in 1642 he would be some 24 years of age and possibly newly married.

The Rev. Stuart White in his numerous notes on the Fleetwood family in the printed volume of the Leyland Register (Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, Vol.21) states, that Edward's eldest brother John married Anne daughter of William Farington of Worden, Esq., and that Edward married Margaret another daughter of the Lord of the Manor. Whilst John and Anne's marriage appears in the Farington pedigree, that of Edward does not, but Edwards will (LRO Ref:WCW) of 1667 shows that he left a wife Elizabeth and a daughter Margaret. Elizabeth could, of course, have been a second wife but no marriages have been found in local registers so the question of whether Edward married a Margaret Farington is still unanswered.

Margaret, daughter of Edward Fleetwood, married on June 16th, 1674 at Leyland Mr Richard Fleetwood, of Manchester, Son of Francis Fleetwood of Hackensall, and grandson of Sir Paul Fleetwood of Rossall (R.S.L.C. Vol 21, P.143).

Their eldest son, Edward, was a Lt. Colonel in the 1st Royal Lancashire Militia and fought against the Jacobites under Lt. General Wills at the Siege of Preston in November 1715 (Fleetwood Family Records, Collected and edited by Robert Woodward Bass. Privately printed in 1920). Just when the Fleetwood family left Leyland is unclear but they are recorded as having 'afterwards removed to Rossall' (Fishwick, 'History of Poulton-le-Fylde', Chet.Soc.Vol.8) and certainly, their daughter Mary died there and was buried at Poulton-le-Fylde Nov. 24th 1698.

The probate inventory with the will of Edward Fleetwood (c.1618-1667) being room-by-room, tells us something about the house. Eight rooms are named - five of which contained beds -



having the usual mixture of domestic articles : tables, chairs, stools, chests etc. and, less usual, one Fowling piece 12 shillings, Books £1, and 2 Swarms of bees (no value given). The general part of the inventory gives an idea of the family's relative prosperity : One horse and one Mare £8; Four cows and one Stirk £12; 2 acres of wheat on the ground £7; 2 acres of barley, beans and oats £4; also, 'In turf, coals, and cannell' £1.10.0. The inventory was not totalled but came to approximately £130. For the mid-late 17th century in Leyland - a sizeable house and a prosperous family.

The Fleetwood Hall estate passed into the hands of the Wilbraham Bootle family of Lathom who put up the whole estate for sale in 1804 (LRO Ref: DDLm Box 3 Bundle 7a). By this time the estate consisted of virtually all the land bounded by Chapel Brow (to use the present day names), Golden Hill Lane, Moss Lane, Bow Lane and Turpin Green Lane. The house, outhousing, and two of the adjoining fields were bought by Mr William Pollard of Leyland House, Worden Lane; the rest of the estate was divided between several purchasers.

In 1838 the character of this interesting area - which has been tentatively identified as an early assart in Leyland - was changed for ever with the building of the North Union Railway which ran north/south through the middle of the old estate. By the time of the Preston Herald articles in 1896 Fleetwood Hall was owned by Mr Wall of Reade and Wall Ltd - who owned Brook Mill - and had been unoccupied for some years; it is believed to have been pulled down around the turn of the century.

LANGS HALL FARM, LEYLAND LANE

PRESTON HERALD SAT. MARCH 21ST, 1896.

"Probably not all Leyland folks are aware that this interesting relic of a bygone age is situated nearly opposite the residence of Mr Thomas Fowler Hutchinson, a gentleman who is recognized as occupying a foremost position in the ranks of local veterinary.

surgeons. Particulars as to the past of this ancient building are but meagre; could a full account be provided we feel sure the story would be one of no ordinary interest. There are no documents of a former ownership, and we have to rely on tradition for the knowledge that it formerly belonged to two old maiden ladies named Lang, from whom it takes its name. One of the last descendants of this family is stated to have been Bishop Lang, who perished in South Africa.

Eventually the property passed into the hands of the Faringtons, of Worden Hall, the present owners. Nearly 100 years ago, it was occupied by Mr Thomas Hutchinson, V.S, the father of Mr T F Hutchinson, but for the last 31 years it has been tenanted by the family of the late Mr Robert Turner, whose death took place four years ago, and who succeeded his father on the farm. Mrs Turner will shortly leave the premises, and take up residence at a private house, but for some time back the buildings and the land, covering about 22 acres, have been in the occupation of Mr Hutchinson.

As will be seen from the illustration the buildings have a most ancient appearance. In the garden stand laurels, hollies, and yews that may have been planted by the tenants of more than centuries ago, whilst in the flower beds the harbingers of spring are just again making their appearance. The walls of the porch with its seat and old-fashioned door of sturdy oak, have an appearance of solidity and strength and the windows and structure afford an excellent study for those interested in the architecture of bygone times.

One remarkable feature about the walls is that they are hollow and are filled with chaff, which bursts into the house whenever any displacement of a stone takes place. This 'chaffing' of the walls was probably done with the idea of keeping the house warm. As regards the date of this venerable pile it may be stated that the barn bears dates 1700 and 1755, but the dwelling-house displays evidence of an even remoter date".

The outward appearance of the property belies its origins : the house with porch to the right of the drawing is certainly 17th century, if not earlier, but the left hand portion - possibly



in origin a farm building, but later converted to enlarge the house - has had an obviously 18th century two-storeyed bay added which gives the whole a somewhat odd but interesting appearance.

The property is now two dwellings, and in August 1990 when asking for permission to photograph the building for the October 1990 exhibition, Mr and Mrs Minshall, who live in the older portion of the house, kindly invited the writer and Mr Bolton to look round the ground floor rooms and a pleasant half hour was spent discussing its various features. Although they knew the earlier 20th and late 19th century occupiers they did not know who the Lang was who gave his name to the farm. They were interested to learn that Robert Lang had been the Steward of the Farington family at Shaw Hall (later Worden) and his long occupancy in the 18th century had given the building its name.

Surprisingly, the Herald writers informants had not known that it was Robert Langs name that was commemorated by the house but, on second thoughts, perhaps it was not surprising as Robert Lang had died in 1790 some 106 years earlier. His name appears for the first time in deeds in the Farington Muniments (LRO Ref: DDF) in 1741 but who he was and where he came from we do not know. His gravestone by the south-east corner of the nave in Leyland churchyard tells us that he was married three times - the stone was placed there by his third wife Mary, daughter of John Tennant, of Chapel House, Yorkshire, Esq.

The marriage of Robert and Mary appears in the International Genealogical Index (LRO: IGI on Microfiche): Robert Lang married Mary Tennant May 13th, 1767 at Linton-in-Craven, Yorks (Chapel House is some 3 miles north of Linton which is 6 miles north of Skipton), and what could be Roberts first marriage : Robert Lang married Jane Gibson at Garstang Feb.22nd, 1730 - and baptisms to Robert and Jane Lang appear in the Leyland Register from 1733 to 1744. Between 1752 and 1756 three baptisms occur to Robert and Henrietta Lang but this marriage, possibly Robert's second, has not been found in the IGI in Lancashire, Yorkshire, or Cheshire - lack of time precluded more extensive search.

Robert Lang appears to have been a surveyor, as, in a deed concerning enclosure in 1748 the land was 'to be surveyed by Robert Lang of Leyland, Yeoman....' Also, in a letter of Dec. 6th, 1772 (LRO REF: DDF 412 2nd Box, No.71) commending young Thomas Addison (1749-1800), son of Thomas Addison (1721-1780), to a Mr Heber of Marton (?), William Farington Esq. describes his ability and steadiness of character pointing out that he has already successfully undertaken numerous Commissions for surveying and mapping estates and, also, the Selby-Leeds and Leeds-Liverpool waterways. William Farington goes on to say that 'this young man was taught to survey by my steward Lang who was his god-father and, through gratitude, he is now teaching a young son of Langs'.

Just when Robert's stewardship at Shaw Hall ended is unclear, but he lived on in Leyland his name appearing as a trustee of the Workhouse in 1780 (LRO Ref: DDF1,880) and also as one of the original trustees of Richard Balshaw's School at Golden Hill in 1782. His burial is recorded in the Leyland Register Feb.15th 1790 and his gravestone tells us he was 87 years of age.

Thomas Addison followed in his old tutors footsteps : he is noted as Steward to the Faringtons in 1787 and he appears to have bought Langs Hall from Roberts widow. In the Land Tax returns of 1790 (LRO :QDL) the property is shown as 'Owned by Mr Thomas Addison and occupied by Mrs Lang. By 1819 however "Langs" was back in Farington hands.

The week following the Preston Herald article on Langs Hall Farm, the paper printed the following letter:

"Sir, having formerly resided close by Langs Hall Farm, I was interested with the excellent view and description which appeared in the 'Herald' on Saturday last.

The writer has made one mistake. The Mr Thomas Hutchinson, V.S, who is said to have resided at Langs Hall Farm 'nearly a hundred years ago' was the grandfather and not the father of the present Mr T F Hutchinson, V.S. In his young days he was in the employ of Mr Lang. He used to relate an incident which took place while in his service.

The Lord Chancellor Eldon came on a visit to Mr Lang, and on his return he was conveyed from Leyland to Preston in a cart, young Hutchinson being the driver. When relating this circumstance in after life (sic) he said he thought few could say they had driven a Lord Chancellor in a cart!

The two bow windows at the north end are said to have been built by this same Mr Lang on his marriage with a Yorkshire lady, the daughter of a clergyman, who probably became the mother of the 'Bishop', who is said to have died in Africa".

Perhaps the correction by the above correspondent, who wrote under the nom-de-plume of "Leyland", is somewhat pedantic but his story of Lord Chancellor Eldon's visit to Mr Lang is intriguing. Why would the Lord Chancellor visit Mr Lang, and when was the visit? - we are not told. "Young Hutchinson's" memories of the occasion are obviously his brief acquaintance with the nobility and not the purpose of the Lord Chancellors visit.

John Scott (1751-1838), first Earl of Eldon, Lord Chancellor, and third son of William Scott of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Dictionary of National Biography). Nothing in the Earl of Eldon's biography gives a clue to a Leyland or Lang connection. One cannot help but feel that there is still much to be found out about Robert Lang himself and the old building in which he lived.

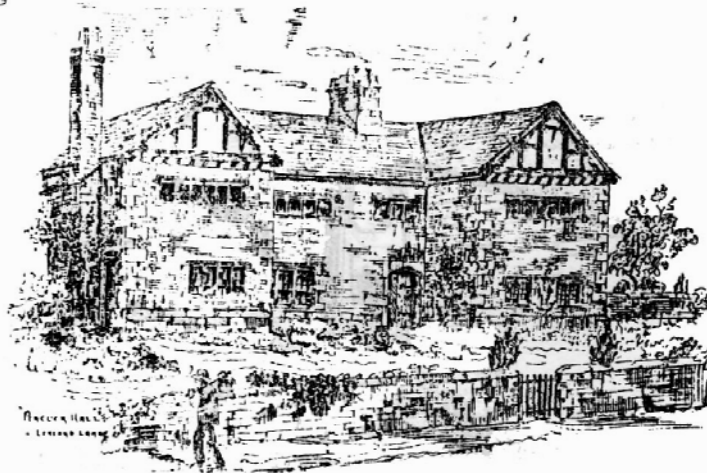
#### Note

The Society members involved with the production of the Museum exhibit were George Bolton, Gwen Buckley, Elizabeth Shorrock and Bill Waring. Thanks are due to the Custodian of the South Ribble Museum, member David Hunt, for his assistance and encouragement with this project which is now on permanent display at the museum.

## REFERENCES

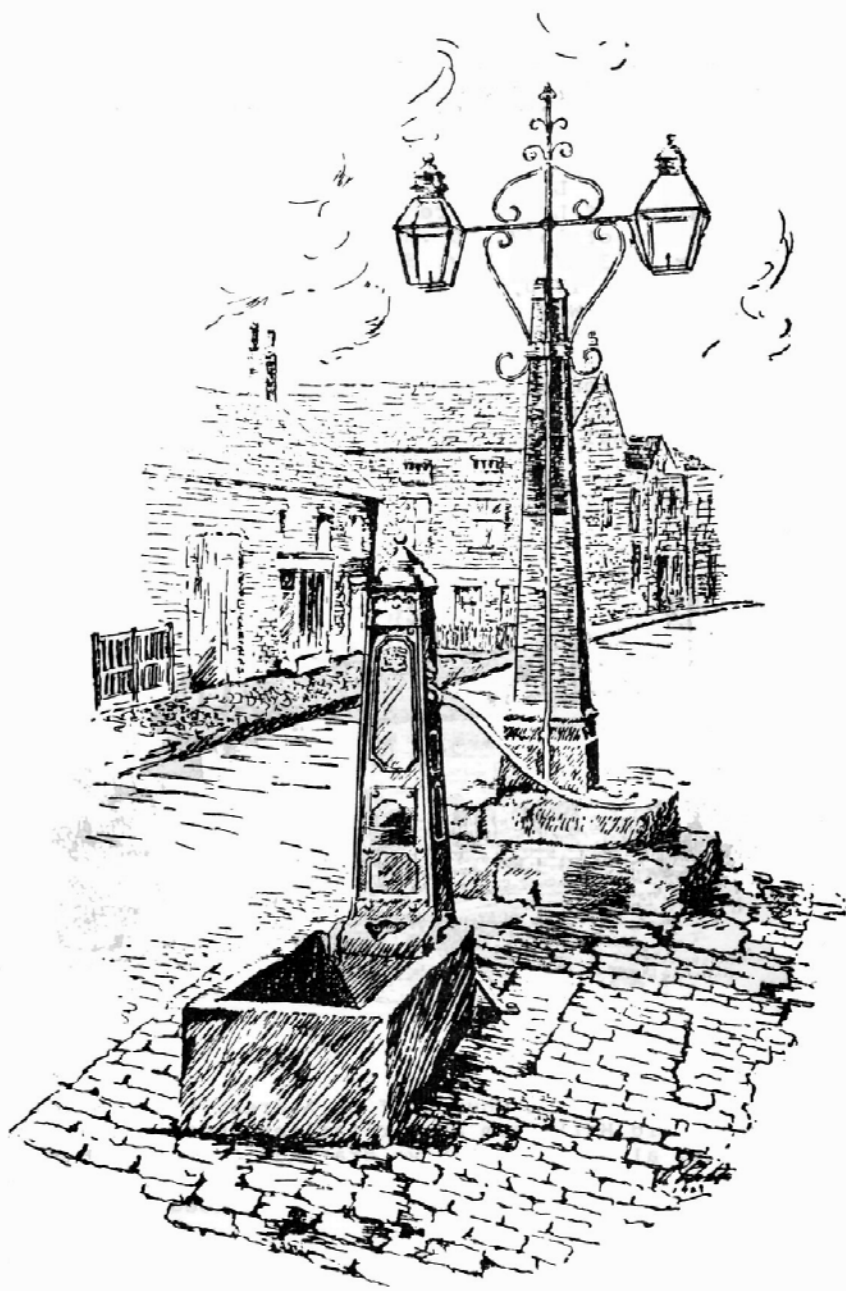
Thomas Addison's Map of Leyland 1769  
Preston Herald March-May 1896  
Survey Book of Leyland 1819. Lancashire Record Office (LRO)  
LRO : PR2797  
Alehouse Recognizances LRO : QSB/3  
Land Tax Returns LRO : ODL  
Dugdales Visitation of Lancashire 1664/5 Chet.Soc.85  
Protestation Return of 1642 LRO :MF1/25  
Leyland Register 1653-1710, Rev. Stuart White RS Vol 21  
Leyland Register Post 1710, LRO : See handlist  
Wills at Chester LRO :WCW  
'Fleetwood Family Records', Robert Woodward Bass, 1920  
'History of Poulton-le-Fylde', Fishwick, Chet.Soc.8  
Farington of Worden Muniments, LRO : DDF  
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Dictionary of National Biography .

W E WARING



The drawings of the Parish Church of St Andrew, the old Grammar School and the Old Hall Farm appear earlier where space has permitted, and, although the above drawing of Peacock Hall was included in last years journal it is shown again so that all eight of David Grant's drawings are presented in one issue.

The drawing of Leyland Cross on the next page has often been included with David Grant's - implying it was done by him : this is not so. It is believed to have been drawn c.1923 and is a copy of a well-known early photograph of the Cross : certainly, it was included in the set of postcards sold at the bazaar to raise money for the Church roof.



LEYLAND CROSS - PRE 1887

WELLINGTON PLACE, LEYLAND

- PRESTON CHRONICLE DEC. 12TH 1822 -

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION

At the house of MR Robert Gornall, the Golden Cross Inn, within Preston, in the County of Lancaster on Tuesday the 7th day of January next, at six o'clock in the evening (subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced).

The fee simple and inheritance of and in all that beautiful Mansion called Wellington Place, in the occupation of Richard Prescott German, Esq., comprising eight Bedrooms, Kitchens, Wash-house, Laundry, good Cellars, Stables, Shippon, Barn, with productive Gardens and Orchards, an extensive Shrubbery tastefully laid out and 19 acres of rich Meadow and Pasture Land, of the customary measure of eight yards to the perch, more or less

The above Premises are pleasantly situated in the township of and near to the Village of Leyland; are distant about 6 miles from the market town of Preston, and 4 from Chorley, and form a very desirable residence for a genteel family.

The Estate is covered with a considerable quantity of handsome and ornamental Timber, of many years growth, and in an improving condition.

Also, all that front Pew or seat in the south gallery in Leyland church, belonging to the said Estate.

Possession of the Land may be had at Candlemas next, and the House and Outbuildings in May following.

The present occupant R. P German Esq., will permit the House and Grounds to be inspected, and further particulars may be had at the office of Messrs. Troughton, Haydock and Troughton, Solicitors Preston.

\* \* \* \*

Standing on Church Road and one of the largest houses in Leyland, Wellington House, as it became known after a re-build in 1861, is perhaps best known to old Leylanders as the house of residence of the Leyland Motors premium apprentices.

After Stokes Hall - the new hall of residence - was built in the early 1960's, Wellington House stood empty for several years and was finally demolished, yet another of Leyland's old buildings swept away in the name of progress.

The site is now occupied by the new Masonic Hall, built in 1989 and called Wellington Park; also, a small estate of some fifteen houses still in building and known as Burlington Gardens.

The stone wall on Church Road and the mature trees behind it, thankfully, were saved from destruction and are now the only reminder of the old estates former glory.



PRESTON CHRONICLE 1ST MAY 1875

- Improvements in Places of Worship in Leyland -

The alterations being made and in contemplation in the places of worship at Leyland are something quite unparalleled in that particular part. The Parish Church is being thoroughly renovated; the Wesleyans have in contemplation the erecting of a new chapel, at a cost of £3,000; and the Independants of the village have also decided to erect a new place of worship. It is expected that when these new changes are made Leyland will drop its love of ale, gossip, and currant cakes, and pale in propriety the New Atlantis of Bacon or the Utopia of More.

PRESTON CHRONICLE 15TH MAY 1875 - RENT AUDIT

The May rent audit for the Leyland and neighbouring estates belonging to the Messrs Farington of Worden Hall, was held at the Roe Buck Inn, Leyland, on Monday. After the transaction of business the tenantry sat down to an excellent dinner prepared by Mrs Greenall and Miss Hoghton, the hostesses. The proceedings after dinner, which were of a most enjoyable kind, were presided over by the worthy agent, William Forrester, Esq., the vice chairman being ably filled by the much respected late agent, John Morrell, Esq. The usual loyal toasts, the healths of the Misses Farington, the agent of the estate, and the ex agent, etc, were duly proposed and most heartily received, whilst at intervals the proceedings were agreeably varied with songs.

PRESTON CHRONICLE 17TH APRIL 1875

- British and Foreign Bible Society, Leyland Branch -

The annual meeting of the above association was held on Tuesday evening, in the Parish Church mixed school, Leyland, Mr Frederick Hackforth, in the chair. The Right Reverend Bishop Alford, D.D., late Bishop of Victoria, China, attended as a deputation from the Parent Society, and, gave a very interesting address on that country and Japan. The other speakers were: the Revs Canon Rawstorne, Penwortham; J T Fowler, Whittle-le-Woods; and William Ford, Preston. The attendance was good, and the collection amounted to £6.11s.6d.

PRESTON CHRONICLE 13th march 1875 - ST MARYS, LEYLAND

On Sunday, sermons were preached in the above church in support of the School, by the Rev. Father Barnett, O.M.I, of Holy Cross Church, Liverpool. The collections for the day amounted to £22.

## SOCIETY AFFAIRS

The Annual General Meeting of the Leyland Historical Society was held at Prospect House on 1st July, 1991 before a good attendance of the membership. Two members of the Committee had intimated their wish to stand down; Mrs E Chaloner, who had completed her agreed year as Chairman, and Mr F Cumpstey, Vice-Chairman for the last two years. Mr A Seguss was elected Chairman - his second term in this office - and Mr G Thomas Vice-Chairman.

The Society was involved in several activities during the course of season 1990/1991. On Saturday 8th September 1990 the Lancashire Local History Federation held a Local History Fair at the Lowther Pavillion, Lytham which attracted upwards of 2,000 visitors. The Leyland Historical Society stand featured the Leyland Cross Heritage Walk and, although hard work, it was pronounced a success by the many members who took part.

The October 1990 Exhibition at the South Ribble Museum and Exhibition Centre at Church Road, Leyland was shared by a 'History of Farington' and the Societies exhibit 'David Grant and his drawings of Leyland'. The latter has been well covered elsewhere in this issue but for those who did not see the exhibit at the time, it is still on view in an upstairs room at the museum.

Some forty members and guests visited Alston Hall on Sunday 17th March, 1991. An enjoyable evening meal was followed by a lecture on 'Edwardian England'. Alston Hall has been visited many times by the Society; always a thoroughly enjoyable outing, a visit is planned in March 1992.

For the first time in several years the Society was involved with the Leyland Festival. A stand in the 'Craft and Local Activities' tent gave members the chance to 'meet the people' and much interest was shown in the various items on display. A pleasing result of this participation was the enrolment of several new members.

Just too late to appear in last years 'Chronicle' was the news that Dr J D Marshall had accepted our invitation to become an Honorary Life Member of the Society. Dr Marshall has adjudicated our award 'Historian of the Year' ever since its inception and has always shown a keen interest in the Society. Thanks are due to him once again for his choice as winner of the Award for 1990 - Michael Park for his article in **Issue** No.36, 'Pub Signs'.

EDITOR



## Occasional Papers of The Society

For some time the Committee have been giving thought to the possibility of presenting papers. Several members have been engaged in research in recent years which has resulted in articles too long for inclusion in the *Lancashire Chronicle*. Much of this material is of such interest to students of the history of Lancashire and District that it has been decided that 'Occasional Papers' will be produced by the Society with the first 'paper' appearing about the same time that this issue of the *Chronicle* is presented to the membership.

"The Silent Mills; Preston and the Lancashire Cotton Famine" by David Hunt will be the first in the series, and includes chapters on Fawcotton, Walton-le-Dale and Bamber Bridge. The format is A4 and the price £3-95.

