



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 100 - 'AUTUMN' 2006



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Welcome to a special edition of the Newsletter. A colour cover and a change of format. If this format is well received it may well be that we will continue in this mode. With this issue is an updated version of the very first issue written under the editorship of Geoffrey way back in 1980. Whilst the look of it is not the same the content is. I personally thoroughly enjoyed recreating it and through the next issues of our Newsletter hope to bring you more 'gems' from the past. Geoffrey tells us a little bit more about the inception of the quarterly newsletter before we get to the nitty, gritty reports of the summer visits.

I have to say that it was some glee that I heard about the loss of a £15million lottery bid by Daventry District Council to build the suggested canal arm from the Grand Union into Daventry. Glee because DDC had dismissed a paltry £250,000 bid for an upgrade to Daventry's museum a couple of years ago. No doubt they will try again for a scheme that no-one really wants at this end of the county and especially when they are not listening to the locals campaigning to keep the Open Air Swimming Pool open, that battle sadly seems to have been lost, and it was confirmed recently in the Daventry Express that the District Council has no intent to include a swimming pool in their so called 'Vision' even though there was an outline of one in the first consultation drafts of plans.

As I write this the evenings are drawing in and with it an autumnal feel. The warmth of the months of June and July, or should that be HEAT, seem a distant memory and still the authorities wangle on about the water, or lack of it, the rivers which in many parts are drying up and haven't we heard it all before. London in 1976 did not get any rain from the last Bank Holiday in May through to the first week of October - so at least we have had some wet intermissions this year - and hasn't September been glorious in between the showers.

The summer walks ended with a most enjoyable evening at Geoffrey and Judith's on a balmy pleasant night. Thank you to both of you for hosting this drinks evening and opening your gardens and home to NIAG.

Onwards to the Winter programme which has some excellent talks arranged by the Committee - we kick off with Geoffrey who takes us into the realms of Open Air Museums. Hope to see you at the meetings.

Jane Waterfield



That First edition and how it all came into being

This appeared when it was decided to formalise NIAG after it had been active, informally since before 1965. Although in those informal years NIAG had no Newsletter of its own, it did contribute to the Bulletin of Industrial Archaeology in CBA (*Council for British Archaeology*) Group 9, which covered Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire. Northamptonshire was always the major contributor, possibly due to a certain NIAG member being editor! CBA Group 9's IA panel was formed around 1966 and publication of its Newsletter ended about the same time as NIAG became a more formal organisation. During its life, besides covering the current IA activities of NIAG the CBA 9 IA Bulletin carried some weighty surveys from Northamptonshire: Breweries (23 pages); Brickworks (19 pages); Foundries (21 pages); Ironworks (*Blast furnaces*) (18 pages) and Wind and watermills (27 pages). From 1967 and into the 1970s NIAG had reports of its recording of particular industrial sites in the Bulletin of the Northamptonshire Federation of Archaeological Societies which later became "Northamptonshire Archaeology". Although at various times there have been proposals for NIAG to publish a Journal, with the results of research on particular topics in the county, as a complement to the Newsletter, it is regretted that this has never come about. Thank goodness we have a lively Newsletter.

Geoffrey Starmer



SUMMER STROLLS & VISITS CONTINUE

Kings Cliffe - Friday 26th May

A pleasant but cool evening saw some 20 members and friends gather in King's Cliffe in the north-east of the county. Originally one of the largest villages in Rockingham Forest, King's Cliffe had had long associations with the Crown since William the Conqueror made it a royal manor. The Domesday Book records the hamlet of 'Clive' 'standing in four acres of meadow, with a wood a mile long by half a mile broad.

King's Cliffe was an important centre for woodturning and was known as the 'wooden spoon' village. The major output was domestic woodware. The earliest recorded wood turner was Nicolas Bailey in 1597 and there was an unbroken succession of Baileys as woodturners right through to the 1940s!

Wood turning reached its height around the mid 1800s but by 1900 only 6 woodturners remained. Pole lathes and wheel lathes were used and some gas & steam engines are said to have been used in the late 19th century. There is little to see now relating to woodturning but the former 'Turners Arms' still stands as a private house in West Street.

Our walk commenced at the site of King's Cliffe station on the former LNWR Market Harborough to Peterborough line. The station opened in 1879 and closed in 1966. Only the station house remains. Proceeding along the trackbed eastwards we crossed over the road to Wansford via the still existing over-bridge and continued until reaching an accommodation under-bridge where the footpath crosses.

Heading south across the fields towards Bridge Street, we crossed an area of meadow which had clearly been excavated at some time. In view of the occasional outcrop of limestone we assumed that building stone had been quarried for the village. Diana Sutherland's excellent book on Northamptonshire Stone tells us that not only was King's Cliffe's golden Lincolnshire limestone extensively used in the village, it was also used at Burghley House and even at King's College Chapel in Cambridge in the 15th century!

Walking through King's Cliffe, we admired the variety of houses constructed of the aforementioned stone and the numerous narrow lanes. The village shows signs of the past affluence we associate with places like Oundle.

Specific buildings/features included:

- The former water watermill, being used as a workshop to restore old vehicles and several were being worked on in adjacent open garages, although the restorer was temporarily elsewhere.
- The fire engine house erected by subscription in 1831 - its once red doors are now painted green.
- The former Eagle Brewery which was once owned by the Cunnington family who were associated with brewing in the first half of 19th century. The brewery closed in 1919 and is now a studio.

However, the canal soon lost traffic to the railways, the last commercial use being to Cadbury's at Bourneville in the 1960's, and now is part of the West Midlands pleasure boating "ring".

The walk continued down the canal to the unfortunately closed pub, where it was intended to picnic. However a chance encounter with a lady and gentleman who were staying at a canalside Landmark Trust property resulted in an invitation to use their garden for our break, and after testing the NIAG groups ability to erect traditional canvas deckchairs a very pleasant hour was spent there consuming the contents of our varied picnic bags, which despite the absence of licensed premises still managed in one case to feature alcohol.

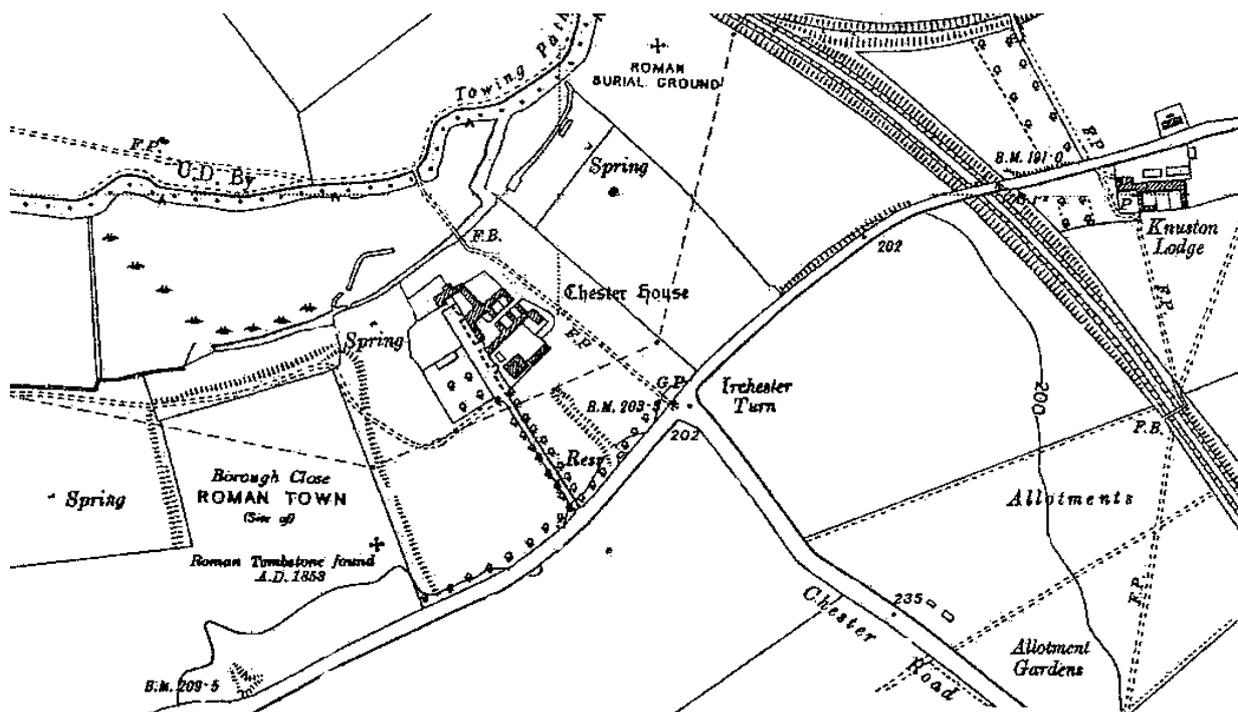
Thereafter, the canal was crossed and the walk continued across very pleasant countryside with distant views of the Malvern Hills, until our starting point was reached again.

After summoning their final reserves of energy, on what had become a very hot day, the group then continued to the nearby Avoncroft Museum, where after an abortive search for further alcoholic refreshment, tea was taken, and a rather slower progress was made around the site examining the growing collection of West Midlands buildings and artefacts, which included much of IA interest.

Barry & Liz Taylor

Chester Farm, Irchester, 9th June

Twenty four members gathered at Chester Farm on a beautiful early June evening for a tour by member Graham Cadman. Graham has recently been appointed Heritage Assets Officer at Northamptonshire County Council and is currently in the process of assuming responsibility for the running of this site.



The focus of this evening perambulation were the 30 hectares of fields with their abundance of archaeological features spanning over 2000 years of activity. The site was acquired by the County Council in 2004 with support from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and as one of the project's being developed by the River Nene Regional Park along the Nene valley. Under its previous owners, Chester Farm had been recognised as being uneconomic as a farm unit and was facing an increased level of urban fringe pressures with the expansion of nearby Wellingborough. The construction of enormous new warehouses immediately to the west alongside the A45 bears witness to this expansion. In acquiring the site, the County Council's objective is to rescue it from this spiral of decline and ensure its long term protection. By any standards Chester Farm represents a remarkable piece of historic landscape with a wide variety and range of archaeological and built features. These comprise both visible and hidden

(buried) archaeological remains. Exactly how the site will be managed in the future is currently subject to a detailed review by the County Council.



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Most of the site is scheduled as an Ancient Monument, the main components of which were visited during the course of the evening. We commenced in the new car park, just outside the western walls of the Roman town. This was once the location for suburban Roman and earlier settlement and a cemetery. We then ascended the western ramparts of the town, still clearly visible as earthworks and entered the town's interior. Irchester (Roman name unknown) was one of three walled towns in Northamptonshire during the Roman period, the others being at Towcester and Bannaventa. Now under pasture the complex array of buildings and streets within the town is discernible on aerial photographs in the form of grass and crop marks. We examined the great sweep of the eastern ramparts of the town and the line of one of the Roman roads that passed along its eastern side before crossing the floodplain to the north atop a causeway, part of which remains as a visible feature despite the depredations wrought by modern gravel extraction. Speculating on the reason for the town's presence and its function, we learnt about the discovery of an inscribed stone in 1853 which has been suggested to indicate the town was a centre of an imperial region for horse-breeding. Whether true or not it is clear that the town lay within a prosperous agricultural hinterland, with villas, farmsteads and even vineyards extending along the Nene valley. To the north in Rockingham Forest was intensive Roman iron production, the subject of a previous NIAG tour.

Moving on we heard about the site of Chester by the Water, a hamlet established north east of the Roman town, probably in the late Saxon era if not before. The hamlet declined in size in the late Medieval or early Post Medieval era and by the 18th century only 1 or 2 houses and a water mill survived. The present Chester House and farm mark represent the only surviving standing buildings from that settlement.

During the 17/18th centuries Chester House became the centre piece of a small landscape park with a gazebo or 'temple' being built on one corner of the Roman town defences. Walled and terraced gardens were also laid out along with a walled kitchen garden and an orchard - remains of which we inspected. The present Chester House may have origins going back into the 16th century. It was improved and expanded to become the residence of a lesser Northants gentleman. The house and the associated ranges of farm buildings form an important group of Listed buildings dating from the 16th/17th century through to the 20th century. The main characteristic of the latter are three fine courtyards. Chester House and its northern courtyard surrounded by 17th century barns, represents a typical farm and residence of one of the lesser gentry prior to the Agricultural Revolution, with a focus on sheep farming. The adjoining 19th century courtyard represents the Victorian 'high farming' era with a focus on cattle farming. The third 'Old Hog Yard' largely developed over the course of the 20th century.



Old machinery

© T J Waterfield

During the first half of the 20th century the site experienced some ironstone extraction which has left tramway and other extraction industry features of interest. Finally we noted the wider industrial era

context of Chester Farm with the adjoining canalized River Nene and the viaduct of the London to Sheffield railway representing major 19th century communications developments.

Graham Cadman



Railway, Nene and the Addingtons - Friday 16th June

Sixteen members and friends joined Ron Whittaker on a warm summer evening at the site of the former LNWR Ringstead and Addington station on the old Northampton to Peterborough railway. The site of the rather remote station by the side of the River Nene served three villages, Great Addington, Little Addington and Ringstead. A special roadway was put in from Ringstead to serve the station but the Addingtons were linked by footpaths across the fields. Of great delight to the group was to see the railway track 42 years after closure, reinstated as a cycleway and footpath between Irthlingborough and Thrapston. This is part of the Stanwick Lakes restoration project in the newly described Nene Regional Park.

Before commencing the walk, the group examined an old photograph of the station in an attempt to locate the site of the actual platforms. The area between the station and the Nene was subject to much flooding in earlier days and the footpath to the Addingtons was undertaken over a number of stone sleeper blocks. The area had been much altered since the last NIAG visit some 20 years ago with new paths and leisure lakes for wildfowl and fishing. However, the group was delighted to find in long grass the line of stone sleeper blocks still in position and in some cases a walking plank across the top of the blocks. As reported in the 'NIAG Guide to Industrial Archaeology in Northants' the blocks came from the former London and Birmingham railway and were reputedly transported along the LNWR to the station site to improve the footpath when the L & B track was re-laid. In a couple of cases holes were present in the block indicating their previous use as a railway support.

The party then made their way back to the Station site and were able to walk for the first time along the track bed towards Thrapston. The viaduct over the Nene, close to the Willy Watt Marina site, had been completely restored using the old brickwork and steel girders. Apparently six bridges and viaducts were restored along the whole length of the track at a cost of £300K. The group then walked under the Addington to Ringstead roadbridge and on to the second restored viaduct over the Nene. This was a very peaceful setting with the birds singing in the summer air and a distant view towards the Church and village of Woodford. Reluctantly the group retraced their steps back along the track and diverted off the railway to walk by the Willy Watt Mill and Marina. The remains of the two waterwheels can still be seen at the Mill. It was then a walk along the road by the large number of boats on the Marina and the fishing lake back to the cars at about 9.30 p.m.

It was interesting to see the restored trackway being well used by local cyclists and walkers on a Friday evening. For once the party agreed that it was a good use of everyone's Council Tax payments!

The evening walk also had a special significance for our Chairman, Peter Perkins, as he had retired earlier that day after 43 years service with SATRA Technology Centre in Kettering.

Ron Whittaker



Towcester - Friday 23rd June

On a warm evening eight of us met with Brian Giggins for a figure of eight walk around Towcester. Stopping for a quick resume of the town's industry by Silverstone brook, we then went to the 'bottom' end of the High Street, this was the area where the poorest lived and it was also known that those at the 'top' end of the High Street did sometimes fall from grace and ended up in the poorer quality houses which were prone to floods. Criss crossing over the A5, a never ending ceaseless line of traffic, making it difficult to hear Brian, we looked at the last building which was left from Phipps Brewery and now part of a small housing estate. Back again we walked into 'little London' and circled back to our starting point. On and across through the courtyard and arches belonging to a long gone hostelry - did we hear the sound of the horn, the horse's harness and feel the rumble of the coach wheels as we passed through this arch? I wonder.

Walking up the A5 Brian spoke about the florists which, with careful peering through the main windows we could still see the original frontage. Once more we crossed over the road and down towards the oldest dwelling of Towcester. As we could not get up to the Mound from this direction



The remaining building of the Brewery. Now a dwelling

we walked back down towards the Church and momentarily passed along the original Towcester to Northampton road.

Approaching it by the Mill we ambled up its circular path to the top. From here we could see the Church and parts of the town's burgess plots. Back to the Church yard to hear about the houses which once stood alongside the River and near the Mill race. Noting that the river was somewhat low we walked through the Churchyard to view the only surviving house from [date].

This was a very pleasant evening and Brian is to be thanked for giving us such an informative evening.

Terry Waterfield

NB: The Brackley & Towcester Advertiser (July 28th) reported that the Historic Site of the Mound is to be restored. It says that this will "form the central part of the Moat Lane development". Work was to begin on Monday 30th July to make way for an archaeological dig on the site in September. The report goes on to say that "It is expected to be a main focal point for Towcester and would include a riverside walk, cultural facilities and a mixed use development of houses and businesses." Apparently South Northants Council bought the site from the Hesketh family in 2004 with funding from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. The report also says that the WNDC (West Northants Development Corporation) has allocated £1.7 million for the development.



Dingley Park - Friday 30th June

A glorious warm Friday evening saw nearly 30 NIAG members assemble at Dingley for a walk around the church, historic Hall, and surrounding parkland.

Dingley village dates back to Saxon and Celtic times, although the original village site was abandoned around 1800 when the then owner moved the dwellings and road leading to Sutton Bassett in order to extend the Hall and parkland. Some traces of the old site can still be found close to the starting point of the walk, just to the north of the church.

The church yard of All Saints was briefly visited, with a look at some of the tombstones, including that of one of the better known residents, Lady Beatty, who died in 1932. This rather cryptically describes her as a "good friend to all sailors", her husband Admiral Beatty having been First Sea Lord and a naval hero at the Battle of Jutland in 1916. The small church itself dates originally from the 11th century, and is mainly constructed in Norman and Perpendicular styles, with many later additions.

After leaving the churchyard, the walk continued along the south face of Dingley Hall itself, maintaining a reasonable distance from the building as the Hall and the surrounding gardens are nowadays privately owned as ten separate houses or apartments .

The Hall originated in the 12th century as a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of the order of St John, who stayed until 1538 when their lands were forcibly confiscated by Henry VIII. The property then passed into the hands of the Griffin family, who also had a main residence at nearby Braybrooke, and passed down the Griffin family line until 1742. During this period, around 1558, the Porch and arcade and south gatehouse ranges were built, although at that time the Porch faced to the south and was enclosed in a courtyard arrangement by a west range of buildings. In the 1630's the south Pediment House was constructed during extensive rebuilding of the Hall

The property then passed into the hands of Thomas Peach, and then on his death in 1770, to his stepson John Hungerford, who then took on the family name of Peach. John Peach Hungerford as he then became, made considerable alterations to Dingley, including moving the old village, rerouting the lane to Sutton Bassett so that it no longer passed the Hall, removing the western range of buildings and realigning the porch to its present west facing position, and also constructing the coach house and stables, and acquiring the Maidwell and Draughton estates.

On the death of John Peach Hungerford in 1872, the property passed to the son of the parson at Maidwell, Henry Holdich, who was also required to take on the family name of his benefactor, so becoming Henry Hungerford Holdich Hungerford. He added a servants wing and further extensions to the Hall on the eastern side, involving demolition of some of the original Knights Hospitallers buildings including the chapel. Harry, as he was known, died in 1872 and was followed by Henry Vane Forester Holdich Hungerford, whose style of living included playing cards with the Prince of Wales, and Dingley was then let out from 1872 to 1883.

In 1883 the property was purchased by Major General Hugh Richard Dawnay, eighth Viscount Downe, and he enlarged the park by a further 60 acres, and built the two entrance lodges, and on his death in 1924 Dingley was again sold to a Colonel Wilson from Hull, who made some alterations, principally to the porch and baronial hall, where he removed the Minstrel gallery, and inserted a false floor to create two more bedrooms.

In 1929 the Hall was sold to Admiral Beatty, the First Sea Lord, who had been a national naval hero at the Battle of Jutland in 1916 where he led the British battle cruisers against the German Navy. Lord and Lady Beatty, a daughter of Marshall Field of Chicago the chain-store pioneer, owned property in Grosvenor Square, Regents Park, Grantully Castle, Reigate Priory and Brooksby Hall. The Beatty's remodelled Dingley gardens, but only made minor changes to the buildings. The countess died in 1932 and is buried in the churchyard, and the Admiral in 1936, and as a national hero he was interred in St Paul's cathedral.

Captain Bertram Currie purchased Dingley in 1932 and his family were the last to utilise the Hall as a complete family home. He died in 1957 and the estate was then subject to a piece-meal sale when the Hall itself and 8 acres were sold for £4300. The rest was sold in 29 separate lots, including the lodges, coach house, adjacent buildings, the Park, Dingley Lodge farm, 14 cottages and the kitchen gardens

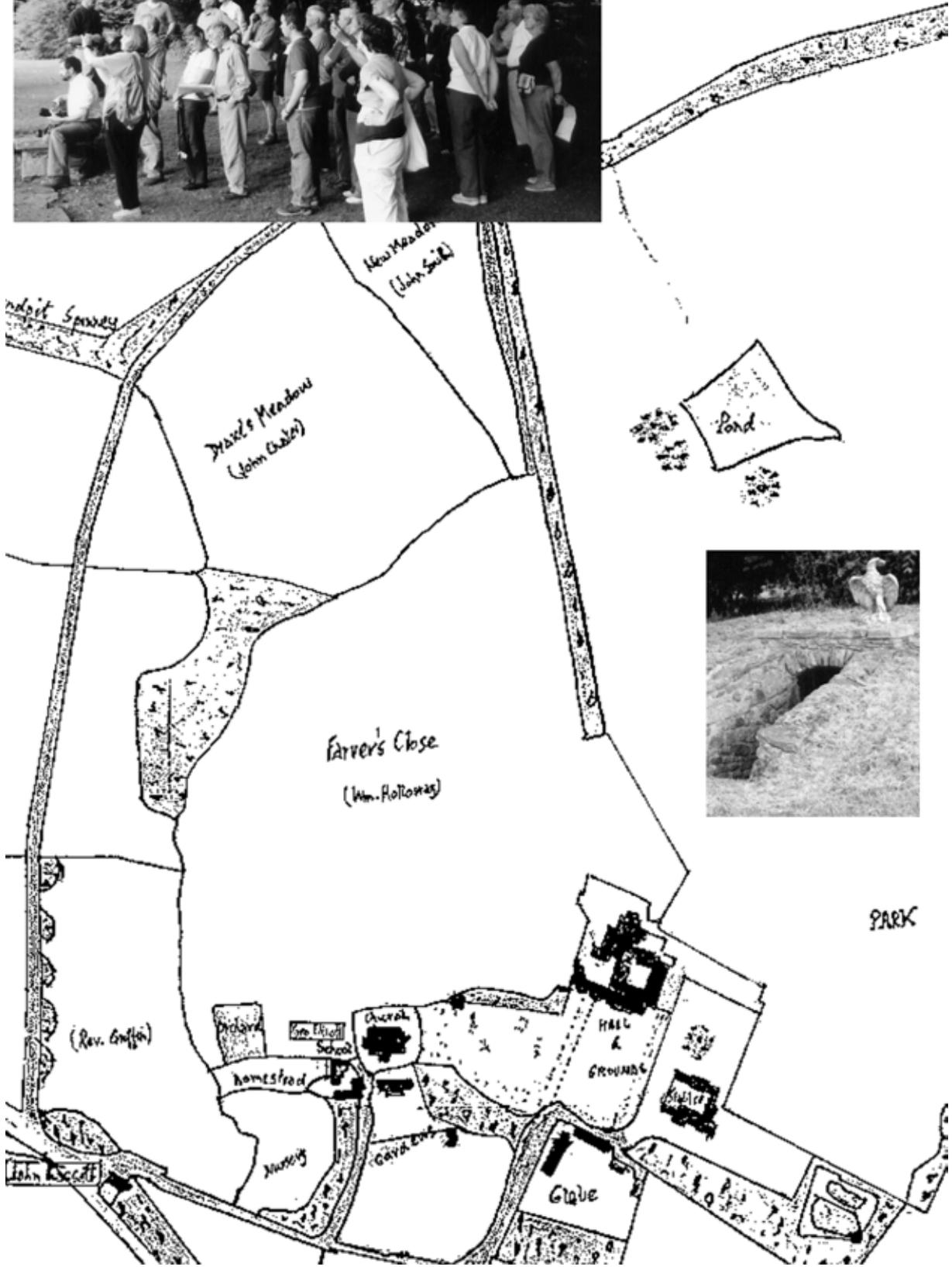
After the break up of the estate, the main Hall was adapted as a nursing home, but using the ground floor only as the remainder was not heated. The Hall was sold again, the interior stripped and it became a wreck, starting to collapse where timbers had been removed, and by the early 1970's the gardens had become a wilderness. The house then owed its survival to a local farmer Bob Skelton, who had purchased the Park, and together with a band of villagers kept the Hall from further decay. In 1975 the ruins were seen by Kit Martin, and he decided to restore it as 11 separate properties. The work proceeded in stages and as each apartment was sold the proceeds were used to finance further restoration and development. The "Victorian" extensions were completely removed and the former internal walls on that side revealed and reconstructed as new external walls, this including some of the earliest remains of the original buildings (c. 1135).

The Hall now comprises of ten individual properties of varying sizes, with communal formal gardens and surrounding areas run by a committee of residents. The oldest portion of the present structure is a small part of the Tower House on the north-east corner (c 1135), followed by the Porch House and Cloisters (1550's) and then the Pediment House / South Front (1680's). Apart from a small part (now known as the Dairy) the Victorian wing has completely disappeared, but it is still possible to visualise the former courtyard appearance of the western side, although the Porch now faces west instead of south.

After viewing the Hall from the south and continuing via Church Lane and past the former coach house and stables, and site of the gasworks, the walk continued into the present courtyard on the eastern side of the Hall where the oldest part of the building, now known as the Tower House, could be seen.

Leaving the immediate area of the Hall the walk then continued down into Dingley Park, which slopes away northwards into the Welland Valley. The Park consists of approximately 150 acres of traditional English parkland, largely created in the 19th century by the Hungerford family, when it became fashionable to have landscaped surroundings. Some of the original ridge-and-furrow landscape is still apparent, and many old hedges, trees, and earthworks still survive. Before the decline of the Hall the park had much fine woodland including old Walnuts, Beech, Oak and Ash, but many were felled for timber, and a herd of deer also sold off. However, since the redevelopment of the Hall, the park has been nurtured and gradually reinstated by Ron Haylock, who has planted many trees, re-establishing many species including specimen fruit varieties, and it is also let for the grazing of sheep and cattle.

After entering the Park, the Icehouse was inspected, being situated to the north of the Hall under a tree covered mound. Ice was taken from the lake below, and snow added to create a permanent supply of



Map of Dingley - circa 1837

Photographs show (top) the group listening to Barry & Liz Taylor (Leaders) and (side) the Ice House with its Griffin guarding the entrance.
 © Jane Waterfield 2006.

ice for the Hall. The lake itself is reputed to be an original fish pond of the Knights Hospitallers, and today contains many fine large carp and is the home of much other wildlife. Alongside the lake is the disused pump house, which was used to pump water into oak tanks in the Hall roof for the household plumbing system.

The tour of the park then continued across rolling fields and past many different examples of trees including some in traditional Victorian fenced enclosures, and several new plantations, and across to the orchards of apples, plums, pears, and cherries, near to the Sutton Bassett lane, after which the main driveway to the Hall was regained after passing another large pond, and examining the remaining stump of a huge Wellingtonia tree which unfortunately was felled recently after becoming dangerous, but will eventually be replaced by a new specimen planted alongside.

Barry & Liz Taylor



AIA Conference on the Isle of Man

(which any member of NIAG could attend since we are an affiliated society of the Association for Industrial Archaeology)

Four members of NIAG (Mike Constable, Judith Hodgkinson, Stephen Miles and Geoffrey Starmer) were amongst the 94 attending the conference, based in Douglas, from Friday 8 September until 14 September. There were lectures, the AGM, a civic reception at the Manx Museum, and a variety of visits including the 70 ft dia. waterwheel at Laxey, remains of metal mines, ports and harbours, lighthouses, limekilns, cemeteries (with tomb stones of a variety of crafts from shipwrights to coach maker), the Gaiety Theatre, a kipper smoking factory at work, a watermill without water, water works and power stations, and a tractor hauled reaper-binder (Reminiscent of our late member, Oliver Ranson's demonstrations for NIAG) working for its living. Although several of the visits were by coach for some we used the horse tram, or the steam train on 3ft gauge rails to Port Erin, or the Manx Electric Railway using wonderful old motor coaches and open sided trailers (out of which you could fall if you wish - no tedious Health & Safety regulations since the Isle of Man is not part of the UK or the EEC!). At Laxey in the MER's depot, we had a glimpse of the Irchester Narrow Gauge Trust's Ruston 0-6-0 diesel on loan and re-liveried for use on track relaying work. However, for one of our group (Guess who?) amongst the highlights were seeing a seal surfacing near a beach and a real Manx cat. Hopefully there will be an illustrated report, probably not including the seal or cat, at NIAG's Members evening next January.

Geoffrey Starmer

This sounds wonderful and I only wish that T and I could have got there - shall certainly book my place at the January meeting.. (Ed)



Of This and That

Correction to caption

The caption on page 3 in the last issue, below the second photograph should read 'One generator set' and not *Gas Turbines!* Quite what I was thinking of at the time I don't know so will put it down to a 'senior moment' and the heat. (Ed)

Thanks for information sought

Readers may recall a plea made in an earlier edition of the newsletter for information on surviving physical remains of WW1 and WW2 Prisoner of War camps in Northamptonshire. I am very grateful to all those who generously provided information. I had hoped by now to have pulled together a short report for the Newsletter summarising the results of these endeavours, but am afraid that events have rather overtaken me - principally pressure of other work. I do hope to complete at a future date - in the meantime thanks again to all those who provided information.

Graham Cadman - 25th July 2006.

Winter Programme 2006/07: Meetings are held at *The Garden Room, St Matthews Church Hall, off Kettering Road, Northampton* and start at 7.30 pm. Look forward to seeing you then.

Talks up to Christmas are:-

13th October : Old Crafts & Industries in Open Air Museums - Geoffrey Starmer

10th November : AGM followed by The Ashby Canal - Past, Present & Future - Geoff Pursglove

1st December : The History of Clockwork Toys - John Bishop

Dates for the Diary:

Oct 14th A Heritage Day (EMIAC 72) - Wandering around Warksworth. Please see the flyer enclosed.

More on the Blisworth Hill Railway (See NIAG Newsletter 98. Spring 2006)

From the Northampton Mercury, 4 May 1805:

By order of the Committee of the Grand Junction Canal Company.

To be sold by auction on Wednesday 22 May 1805, and the following day, at Blisworth and Stoke Plains on the said canal, the undermentioned effects, viz.

Upwards of 150 tons of new and old wrought iron, in bars etc (amongst the old iron will be found many very useful articles;

200 tons of cast iron for Rail-Roads, Tunnel Work and other Purposes;

Six Wrought-Iron Rail-Road Waggons;

Five Cast-Iron Mills for grinding Lime, Clay for Bricks &c; also well adapted for grinding Bones for Manure &c;

30 Pit-Ropes for Gins &c from 25 to 100 yards in length and from two to three inches in diameter;

20 Pit-chains, from 30 to 50 Yards in Length;

14 Pit-Gins, with Iron Work, Pullies, Skips, Buckets &c. complete;

Upwards of 200,000 new Building Bricks

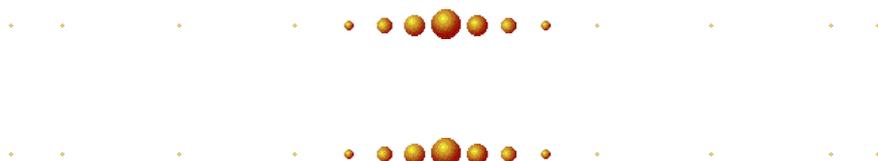
Comments welcome on this.

Early water works at Daventry

From Northampton Mercury 6, 13 & 20 May 1786

Notice re the auction of land at Duston and Little Houghton and "Also the Remainder for a Lease of ninety-nine years of DAVENTRY WATERWORKS, lett at the neat yearly Rent of £21, forty-one years of which Lease were unexpired at Michalmas last. Enquire of Attorneys, Mr. Russell or Mr. Abbey, Northampton"

Has anyone more information on these early waterworks?



Lastly

NIAG Committee

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Newsletter:

Next Issue: **January 2007**

Deadline for all articles and information 20th December 2006. Anything received after this date will be held over to the next issue.

Article guidelines: No more than 1½ pages long please. Photographs will be inserted if submitted.

Please submit by e-mail, fax or mail. Where possible photographs are encouraged to illustrate all articles. When submitting photographs it would be appreciated that they are not sent via e-mail as this can take a very long time to download the quality is not always good. Preferably send photographs/slides by post (first class) and these will be returned to you the same way. Please also include your name and address so that you can be credited with taking those photographs and don't forget to put a caption with them.

Photographs on the back page:

1. The Old Barclaycard Building at Grayfriars, Northampton
2. The new bridge over the River near the ??? estate
3. Canal Locks at Becket Park, Northampton
4. Tracks in the ground at Finedon Ironstone Railway
5. Overflow Channel at Sywell
6. Pumping Station at Sywell
7. Rooftops of Towcester
8. Dingley Park House
9. Detail of Shop front in Towcester
10. Window detail showing the extension of an internal room. Darley Abbey.
11. Brick detail on a barn in Norton, Daventry
12. Oil Lubricators, Brindley Park Pumping Station
13. Spanners, Brindley Park Pumping Station
14. Collyweston 'slate' mine



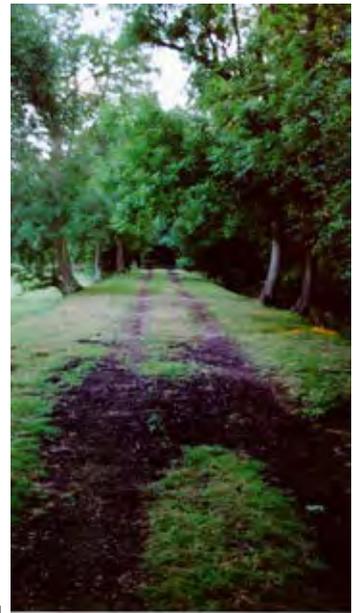
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