

WHITTINGTON

Location and boundaries

The former township and later civil parish of Whittington occupied 1,581 acres¹ at the northern end of the ancient parish of Chesterfield. On the west the boundary between Whittington and Newbold was represented for most of its length by the river Whitting, apart from a short section where Whittington extended west of the river. This deviation appears to have been made to give Whittington a share of the large area of common pasture known partly as Whittington Moor and partly as Newbold Moor. In 1668 the boundary across the moor was the subject of a dispute between the two townships.² The boundary eventually settled on followed the centre of the main road from Chesterfield to Sheffield, which itself ran from south to north through the middle of the moor. On the south-east Whittington was separated by the river Rother from Brimington, and in the north and north-east the boundary with Unstone (in Dronfield ancient parish) and Staveley ran either between fields or through what appear to have remained until modern inclosure areas of common waste.

In 1911 the civil parish of Whittington, administered since 1872 by a local board, urban sanitary authority and urban district council of the same name, was combined with the portion of Newbold civil parish that then remained outside the enlarged borough of Chesterfield to form Whittington & Newbold urban district. The urban district was abolished in 1920 when its area

¹ *VCH Derby.*, II, 203.

² *DLSL*, Derby. Deeds 1701; above Newbold, intro.

was added to the borough.¹

Ecclesiastically, Whittington secured almost complete independence from Chesterfield in the 12th century, after which it was normally treated as a separate parish with a rector as incumbent and the dean of Lincoln (as rector of Chesterfield) as patron.² The boundary of the ecclesiastical parish was altered in 1861, when part of its area was transferred to the new parish of St John's, Newbold, and in 1927, when a parish of New Whittington was created.³

Geology and geography

Apart from small areas of alluvium in the Whitting and Rother valleys, the entire parish lies on the Coal Measures which here, as elsewhere in Chesterfield, were extensively exploited for small-scale mining of coal, ironstone and clay (for both brickmaking and pottery), and also quarrying, over a long period. The presence of some sandstone in the north of the parish led to the establishment of a glassworks in the 18th century.⁴

The land of the parish rises quite steeply from the south, where the confluence of the Whitting and Rother lies about 230 ft above sea level, to a maximum of about 680 ft in the north near Grasscroft Wood on the border with Unstone and Staveley.⁵

¹ Youngs, *Admin. Units*, II, 87.

² Below, religious hist.

³ Youngs, *Admin. Units*, II, 87; above Newbold, religious hist.; below, religious hist.

⁴ Below, econ. hist.

⁵ OS Map, 1:10,560, Derb. XVIII (trig. point 684 ft).

Population

There were said to be 44 households in Whittington in 1563 and in 1662 72 householders were assessed to the hearth tax. A figure of 218 returned in 1676 probably refers to the total number of adults in the parish. At the visitations of 1751 and 1772 the number of householders was returned as 85 and 96 respectively. The total of 134 houses counted by Pilkington in 1788 may reflect some growth of industry towards the end of the 18th century, although this seems to have levelled off over the next few years, since only 136 houses were recorded in 1801.¹ The total population in 1801 was 663, which rose steadily to 751 in 1841 and slightly more rapidly to 874 ten years later. There was then a huge growth of population, with the development of large-scale industry, notably the ironworks, collieries and ironstone mines of the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Company, founded in 1864 just inside Newbold township to the west of Whittington, and the parallel development of the Staveley Coal & Iron Company's works to the east, as well as Firth's steelworks at the eastern end of Whittington itself. The population of the parish increased to 2,864 in 1861; almost doubled between then and 1871, when it was 5,578; rose again to 7,271 in 1881; and continued to grow at a slower rate to reach 8,798 in 1891 and 9,416 in 1901.² Most of this increased population lived at either New Whittington in the east of the parish or Whittington Moor in the south, where there was a corresponding growth of settlement on the western side of Sheffield Road (i.e. Newbold Moor), which lay in Newbold township. There was rather less new building at Whittington itself (which became known as Old Whittington in this period), although some housing grew up along Sheffield Road and at Broomhill Park, both in the Brushes district

¹ *Derb. Pop. Stats.*

² *VCH Derb.*, II, 203.

in the north-west of the parish.¹

Communications

Until the early 19th century the main road from Chesterfield to Sheffield ran due north across Whittington Moor and over the Whitting the climb up Whittington Hill to the village of Whittington, before descending into the Drone valley to Unstone (in Dronfield). This road was turnpiked in 1756, although in the early 19th century the route between Chesterfield and Unstone was realigned to run along the Whitting valley to Unstone, bypassing Whittington to the west.² This route was itself superseded as the main road from Chesterfield to Sheffield in the 1970s, when a new Unstone and Dronfield bypass was built from the northern edge of Whittington Moor to near Norton, on the outskirts of Sheffield.

In Whittington village roads branched from the turnpike to run to Handley (in Staveley) and Hundall (in Dronfield). Another road, Newbridge Lane, ran south-east from the village to Brimington, crossing the Rother at New Bridge. This is said to have been built to replace a bridge removed by the men of Whittington in 1603 to prevent the plague spreading from Brimington to their own township. The old bridge appears to have stood near Bluebank Wood, near which there are lanes in Whittington and Brimington that end short of the river. A second road to Brimington crosses the Rother immediately upstream from its confluence with the Whitting to join the Sheffield turnpike at the northern end of Whittington Moor. This was built by the Brimington,

¹ Below, landscape and settlement.

² *Derb. Turnpike Trusts*, 000; cf. Burdett, *Map*, and Sanderson, *Map*, for the realignment of the route.

Chesterfield & High Moors turnpike trust, established in 1766.¹

The Chesterfield Canal, opened in 1777, runs just outside the parish close to the right bank of the Rother. Until the upper section of the canal was closed c.1905 following the collapse of Norwood tunnel, there were wharfs at Wheeldonmill lock (at the end of Newbridge Lane) and Bilby Lane. The latter was known as Dixon's Wharf and was served by a tramway which ran south to the canal from the collieries, ironstone pits and glasswork on Glasshouse Common.²

About a mile of the North Midland Railway, opened in 1840 between Chesterfield and Leeds via Rotherham, also followed the Rother valley on the south-eastern border of Whittington parish. A station named Whittington was opened on this stretch of line in 1861, which was replaced by another of the same name on Bilby Lane, slightly closer to New Whittington, in 1873. This second station closed to regular traffic in 1952,³ but continued to be used for excursions for some years afterwards.⁴

When the Chesterfield–Sheffield direct line of the Midland Railway was opened in 1870 a station named Sheepbridge (for a time known as Sheepbridge & Whittington Moor) was built at the northern end of Whittington Moor, which closed to most traffic in 1967 and closed completely in 1975.⁵

Short lengths of the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire (later Great Central) Railway

¹ *Derb. Turnpike Trusts*, 000.

² Below, econ. hist.

³ Butt, *Railway Stations*, 249.

⁴ Local inf.

⁵ Butt, *Railway Stations*, 209.

Chesterfield Loop ran through Whittington roughly parallel with the North Midland line of 1840. The nearest station to Whittington, named Sheepbridge & Brimington, lay in Brimington but also served Whittington Moor. The station opened in 1892, was renamed Brimington in 1956 and closed in 1956.¹

Landscape and settlement

No prehistoric or Roman discoveries have been reported from the township. The nucleus of medieval and later settlement appears to have been a hamlet which grew up on the high ground at the top of Whittington Hill on the road from Chesterfield to Sheffield.² The settlement evidently spread along the Sheffield road from the junction with the road to Handley, and along the latter road. In the angle between these two roads a church, dedicated to St Bartholomew, was built, probably in the 12th century or the very early 13th.³

At the foot of Whittington Hill, where the main road from Chesterfield crossed the Whitting, stood a seigneurial corn mill, which remained in use until the 19th century. There was a second watermill higher up the Whitting and, in the 19th century, a windmill in the south-east of the parish.⁴

¹ Butt, *Railway Station*, 209, 44; above, Brimington, intro.

² Except as indicated, this account is based on Burdett, *Map*, Sanderson, *Map*, later OS maps and the inclosure map of 1825 (DRO, D...). Since tithes were commuted at inclosure, there is no tithe award for the parish, and no estate or other early maps of the whole parish, or large parts of it, are known (Nichols, *Local Maps*, ooo).

³ Below, religious hist.

⁴ Below, econ. hist., cornmilling.

The open-field arable of the parish appears to have lain between the hamlet around the church and the valleys formed by the Whitting and Rother. The area west of Whittington Hill was known in the 18th century (and presumably before) as Rodgeholm Field; the larger area to the east seems to have been known as a whole as the Town Fields, and was divided into an Upper Field and Nether Field. In the absence of any map showing the open fields, it is difficult to decide whether land to the north of the hamlet was also farmed in common in the Middle Ages, although the shape of some of the closes to the east of Hundall Road suggests that this may have been the case. The low-lying flat land along the banks of the Whitting and Rother in the south of the parish was presumably meadow in the Middle Ages.

Much of the land in the east and north-east appears to have remained common waste, latterly known as Glasshouse Common (from a glassworks established there in the early 18th century) and Grasscroft Common, of which the latter straddled the boundary with Unstone township. The other large area of common waste lay in the extreme south, on the boundary with Newbold, which here ran along the road to Sheffield. The whole of this appears to have been known indifferently as either Whittington Moor or Newbold Moor, and on at least one occasion in the 17th century was the venue for the musters for Scarsdale hundred. After the boundary between the two townships was settled, only the area to the east of Sheffield Road was, strictly speaking, Whittington Moor, and the waste on the west was Newbold Moor, although the former remained the more widely used name for the whole district.

A race-course was laid out in the late 17th century around this area of waste, the greater part of which lay within Newbold, where a grandstand was built in the early 19th century. The course survived inclosure and the development of the built-up area on both sides of Sheffield

Road. The annual autumn meeting, which fell progressively into disrepute in the late 19th century, was finally suppressed in 1924.¹

An Act to inclose both the remaining open fields and the common waste was obtained in 1821, although the award was not signed until 1825. It provided for the inclosure of 612 acres, or just under 40 per cent of the area of the parish. There had presumably been piecemeal inclosure of both the common-field arable and the common waste at an earlier date.

Although there was small-scale coal mining on Whittington Moor in the 17th century, and probably before, major changes in the landscape resulting from the growth of industry began only in the mid 18th century, with the building of the glassworks on Grasscroft Common, and accelerated after 1777, when the opening of the Chesterfield Canal led to an expansion of mining in the same area.² In 1835 the head of the Dixon family, which had developed the glassworks and collieries, built Whittington Hall and laid out a park around the mansion, which stood on the north side of Handley Road near Glasshouse Farm. Two other houses, Elmwood and Whittington Grange, were built in the same area in this period, both set in several acres of grounds, and Whittington House was enlarged after it was purchased by Frederick Swanwick.³

After the opening of the North Midland Railway in 1840, coal mining was restarted, without much success, in the south of the parish, and old shafts on Glasshouse Common were reopened for ironstone mining. There was also some quarrying, brickmaking and pottery making

¹ Since the greater part of the course, including the grandstand and winning post, lay in Newbold, its history has been treated in the account of that parish.

² Below, econ. hist., glassmaking; coal mining.

³ Below, manors and other estates.

at the Brushes in the north-west of the parish and New Whittington in the east. A large wagon building business, blacking mills and a saw mill were also established alongside the Midland Railway line to Sheffield after 1870, and there was a second wagon works at New Whittington.¹ Coal-mining had come to an end by the turn of the century but some of the other industries survived until after the Second World War.

In the east of the parish the building of a steelworks in the mid-1850s by Thomas Firth & Son of Sheffield, close to the North Midland line,² led to the creation of a new settlement, New Whittington, made up of a grid of streets between the railway and Whittington Road. In 1857 it was said that a hundred workmen's cottages were already under construction near the works.³ The new streets included London Street, South Street (later South Street North) and Wellington Street, which ran from north to south, and Cross Wellington Street, Albert Road and Devonshire Road (later Devonshire Road North), running from west to east.⁴ Although the steelworks closed in 1887, New Whittington continued to grow down to the First World War. As well as housing, an Anglican chapel of ease, several Nonconformist chapels, a Roman Catholic church and new schools were built to serve the village.⁵

The other part of the parish which saw an extensive growth of population was

¹ Below, econ. hist.

² Below, econ. hist.

³ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), ooo.

⁴ The boundary extension of 1920 brought several streets with the same name into the enlarged borough, which were distinguished with the suffix 'north' or 'south'. South Street North was an odd outcome of this policy.

⁵ Below, religious hist.; social history.

Whittington Moor. There was little or no new building on the former common waste east of Sheffield Road immediately after inclosure,¹ but by the mid-1870s a series of roads had been laid out to run east from the main road. Working north from Pottery Lane, which here marked the boundary between Whittington township and a small portion of Newbold which lay east of Sheffield Road, the new roads were named School Road, King Street (later King Street North), Shaw Street, Foundry Street, Queen Street (later Queen Street North), Duke Street and Chapel Street. A back lane linking Pottery Lane and King Street was later widened to become Thompson Street. These streets were gradually built up in the later 19th century with terraced houses, small-scale industry and several schools. On the Whittington side of Sheffield Road itself some larger commercial buildings were erected and there was similar development on the Newbold side of the road. In addition to the potteries, foundries and other small works established on the Moor itself, the main source of employment for men living on these streets would have been Sheepbridge works, about half a mile to the north.²

Both New Whittington and Whittington Moor acquired a wider range of shops than Old Whittington, and the Moor in particular became quite a busy secondary shopping area for the northern end of the borough. Both districts appear to have been developed entirely by private enterprise and none of the housing in either community seems to have been employer-provided. The same was true of the more limited growth of settlement in Old Whittington in the period, and of building in the Brushes district on the western edge of the parish. Here the late 19th

¹ Sanderson, *Map*.

² Sheepbridge works, and the industry on the western side of Sheffield Road, lay in Newbold, and will be treated in the account of that parish.

century saw the development of terraced housing along Sheffield Road, and on some short cul-de-sac branching off the main road to the east.¹

The one exception to this pattern of growth occurred at what became known as Broomhill Park, to the west of Whittington Hill, where in 1872 the Whittington Freehold Land Society was established to acquire 25 acres of land near Broom House. This was part of a larger area acquired by the promoter of the Whittington Freehold Colliery Co. Ltd from the previous owners of Broom House and Holly House.² The colliery company collapsed within a few years, as did a successor concern. The sale of land to the society may have been part of an attempt to salvage some of the money sunk in the two ventures, since the society's secretary, John Armstead, had been involved in both companies. The society's estate lay to the north of the river Whitting and was bounded on the north by Broomhill Road. It proposed to divide the land into 179 building plots of between 366 and 1,129 square yards each, which could be bought by members through fortnightly contributions of 3s. 6d. upwards, depending on size and location.³ In 1873 the society sought tenders to make up the roads on the estate.⁴ The layout was a simple rectilinear grid, with Broomhill Road, Prospect Road and Holland Road running west from Whittington Hill, crossed by Swanwick Street, Rutland Street, Fowler Street, Victoria Street, George Street and William Street (later William Street North) on the opposite axis. Sampson Holland was the society's

¹ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.14* (1918 edn).

² Below, landownership; *econ. hist.*, coalmining.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 20 July 1872; below, *econ. hist.* for Armstead and the colliery companies.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 5 July 1873.

president and William Fowler and Frederick Swanwick were other prominent local residents.¹

The venture does not seem to have been very successful. In February 1876 there was a sale of 113 building plots, almost two thirds of the total, in one lot,² presumably because no-one had subscribed for them, and in March another 30 plots were put up for auction, when it was said that the roads on the estate were complete and the purchase money could be paid in monthly instalments.³ By this date some plots had been built up but most had not.⁴ Little more is heard of the society until 1890 when an single plot was offered for sale, with a note that the society had been wound up, leaving the purchaser with nothing more to pay than the price of the land.⁵ The following year two other plots were advertised as ‘Excellent sites for villa residence’, at the junction of Holland Road and Swanwick Street, subject to the society’s covenants and regulations.⁶ By no means all the land had been developed by 1914.⁷ Building continued after the First World War, with the result that the Broomhill Park estate acquired examples of upper working-class and lower middle-class housing of every period from the 1870s to the 1960s.

In 1918 Harry Brearley, who lived at Elmwood, offered about 15 acres of land on the south side of Handley Road to the urban district council for a public park, which was opened (as

¹ Below, landownership.

² *Derb. Courier*, 19 Feb. 1876.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 25 March 1876.

⁴ OS map 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.14* (1876 edn).

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 17 Dec. 1890.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 3 Oct. 1891.

⁷ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.14* (1918 edn).

Brearley Park) in 1920. There was some private and local authority house-building on previously unoccupied land between Old Whittington and New Whittington between the two World Wars, including Brearley Street and Brearley Avenue on either side of the park.

After the Second World War a large area of land to the east of Whittington Hill, between Station Lane in the north and Newbridge Lane in the south, and to the north of Station Lane as far as Brearley Street (adjoining the park), was released for local authority house-building. A large secondary modern school (originally named Edwin Swale) was built on Handley Road in the same part of the parish. In the 1970s and later private housing was built at New Whittington to the east of Handley Road and to the south of Brearley Avenue. In the west of the parish much of the late 19th-century housing at the Brushes was demolished in the late 20th century and replaced with a new estate of private houses. There was also some new building at the foot of Whittington Hill. In the same area land in the valley floor formerly occupied by the wagon works and other industry was redeveloped for light industry and car-retailing, while Whittington mill became a garden centre.

Whittington Hall, which became an institution for the feeble-minded in the early 20th century, closed as a hospital c.1995. The mansion, renamed Brearley Hall, was divided into flats and new houses were built in the park.¹

LANDOWNERSHIP

¹ Below, landownership.

Manor of Whittington

Tenancy in chief

In both 1066 and 1086 Whittington was a berewick of the royal manor of Newbold.¹ Between 1168–9 and 1178–9 the sheriff accounted yearly for £4 purprestures and escheats from 4 carucates of land in Whittington.² From 1179–80 the same amount was described as an increment,³ and from 1185–6 the income rose to £4 13s.⁴ In 1197–8 Whittington was tallaged 1 mark⁵ and in the following year 3 marks was received from Whittington ‘and the soke’.⁶ In 1199 the sheriff was ordered to give to the count of Bar the castle of Bolsover and Whittington and Brimington for the sum at which it could be best extended, and to report the figure achieved and the count’s willingness to accept the estates at that figure.⁷ The following year the sheriff accounted for 46s. 6d. increment for the half year before the manor was granted out,⁸ and in 1201 for £4 13s. increment.⁹ In 1202–3 he accounted for £18 of old and new increment from

¹ *VCH Derby.*, II, 000.

² *Pipe R. 15 Hen. II* (PRS, XIII, 1890), 600-1; *ibid.* 25 Hen. II (PRS, XXVIII, 1907), 87 (and all intermediate years).

³ *Ibid.* 26 Hen. II (PRS, XXIX, 1908), 137.

⁴ *Ibid.* 32 Hen. II (PRS, XXXVI, 1914), 103.

⁵ *Ibid.* 9 Ric. I (PRS, new series VIII, 1931), 145.

⁶ *Ibid.* 10 Ric. I (PRS, new series IX, 1932), 112.

⁷ *Ibid.* 1 John (PRS, new series XI, 1933), 26.

⁸ *Ibid.* 2 John (PRS, new series XII, 1934), 10.

⁹ *Ibid.* 3 John (PRS, new series XIV, 1936), 90.

Whittington.¹ The figure fell to £8 in 1204.²

In 1204 King John's grant to William Brewer included, as well as the manor of Chesterfield and the hundred of Scarsdale, the manors of Whittington and Brimington.³ After the younger William Brewer died in 1233, leaving co-heirs between whom his estates were divided, Chesterfield, together with Whittington and Brimington, passed to Hugh Wake.⁴ In 1240 Joan, the widow of the younger William Brewer, released her claim for dower of 13 marks a year from Whittington and Brimington which she had previously received from Peter of Brimington, and accepted a similar payment from Hugh out of the ovens and markets of Chesterfield.⁵ The tenancy in chief of the manor of Whittington continued to pass with Chesterfield.⁶

Mesne tenancy

In 1200 Peter of Brimington accounted for £100 for a confirmation from the king of the manor of Whittington with the soke, which he had previously rendered to the king £7 10s. Peter

¹ Ibid. 4 John (PRS, new series XV, 1937), 188; 5 John (PRS new series XVI, 1938), 165. 171.

² Ibid. 6 John (PRS, new series XVIII, 1940), 163.

³ Ibid. 7 John (PRS, new series XIX, 1941), 222.

⁴ See Chesterfield, landownership.

⁵ *Feet of Fines*, no. 187.

⁶ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, VI, 239–40; *ibid.*, 201–10; *ibid.*, IX, 392–3; *ibid.*, X, 50; *ibid.*, XVI, 227; *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XXVI, 28, 384; TNA, C 139/63/17; *Cal. Fine R.* 1430–7, 150–1; *Cal. Close* 1441–7, 105.

paid 100 marks that year and owed the remaining 50 marks.¹ He paid a further 1 mark in 1201.² In 1203 Robert son of Peter of Brimington paid 1 mark for the manor, as his father had held it by a charter from the king.³ From 1204 the Brimington family held Whittington and Brimington of William Brewer and his successors as lords of Chesterfield, and not in chief, by the service of £20 a year. In 1225 Peter of Brimington was in dispute with Brewer concerning the manor of Whittington.⁴ The matter was not resolved until 1230, when Peter son of Robert of Brimington agreed that he owed Robert of Lexington £10, part of the £20 which Brewer had granted to Lexington.⁵ The king confirmed Brewer's grant to Lexington the following year.⁶

The tenancy previously held by Brimington family had passed by 1275 to Robert le Breton, who that year was found to have the assize of ale in Brimington and Whittington from the time of King John, although the jurors did not know by what warrant.⁷ In 1322 Roger Breton of Walton died holding what was called the manor of Whittington and Brimington of Sir Thomas Wake, the lord of the manor of Chesterfield, by the service of 40s. a year. His heir was his son Robert.⁸ When Thomas died in 1349 Robert was found to be holding Whittington and

¹ *Ibid.* 2 John (PRS, new series XII, 1934), 19.

² *Ibid.* 3 John (PRS, new series XIV, 1936), 95.

³ *Ibid.* 4 John (PRS, new series XV, 1937), 188; 5 John (PRS new series XVI, 1938), 165. 171.

⁴ *Pat. R.* 1225–32, 69.

⁵ *Cur. Reg. R* 1227–30, 508; *Feet of Fines*, no. 100.

⁶ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226–57, 141.

⁷ *Rot. Hund.*, I, 61.

⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, VI, 239–40.

Brimington for half a knight's fee.¹ Robert died the following year, still seised of what was called the manor of Brimington with Whittington for the service of 100s. a year. His heir was his daughter Isabel, the wife of Sir John Lowdham,² who died in 1387, holding the manor of Brimington and Whittington for 40s. a year. His heir was his son, also John,³ who obtained seisin of his father's estates two years later.⁴ The younger Sir John Lowdham died in 1390–1, leaving two sisters as coheirs, Isabel and Margaret.⁵

Isabel married Thomas Beckering, who died in 1425 leaving as heir a daughter Alice, who married Sir Thomas Rempstone.⁶ In 1431, together with Thomas Foljambe, Thomas Rempstone kt of Bingham (Notts.) held the manors of Whittington and Brimington in demesne for a quarter of a knight's fee.⁷ Sir Thomas died in 1458, leaving three daughters and coheirs, one of whom, Elizabeth, was the wife of John Cheyne.⁸ When John died in 1489 it was found that Thomas Rempstone and Alice his wife had enfeoffed Thomas Burgoyne and John Anstey in the manor of Brimington with six messuages, 200 acres of land, 40a. of meadow, 20a. of wood and 100a. of pasture in Whittington, Brampton and Calow, worth 6 marks a year, to their own use for their lives,

¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, IX, 201–10.

² *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, IX 392–3; *ibid.*, XXVI, 28, 384.

³ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XVI, 227.

⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* 1383–91, 275–6; *Cal. Close* 1385–9, 563.

⁵ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XVI, 411.

⁶ *Notts. IPMs* 1350–1436, 180–1.

⁷ *Feudal Aids*, I, 292.

⁸ Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), III, 29, citing Esc. 37 Hen. VI.

with remainder to John Cheyne kt and Elizabeth his wife. After Thomas and Alice died, the estate passed to John and Elizabeth. John Cheyne's heir was his son Thomas, aged 40 or more.¹ In 1514 the manor of Whittington was said to be held of the heirs of Thomas Cheyne kt and Godfrey Foljambe esq.² Thomas Cheyne left an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, who in 1523 married Thomas Vaux, 2nd Lord Vaux of Harrowden. Both Thomas and Elizabeth died in 1556.³ Thomas was succeeded by his son William, Lord Vaux (1535–95),⁴ who sold the manor of Lowdham (Notts.), which he had also inherited from the Cheyne family.⁵ The estate at Brimington and Whittington appears to have passed in the same way, since the will of Sir Godfrey Foljambe of Walton, proved in 1586, referred to lands in Whittington purchased of William, Lord Vaux.⁶ When his son and heir, also Godfrey Foljambe, died in 1595, his will described what was presumably the same estate as a moiety of the manor of Brimington and Whittington, bought by his father from William Vaux, Lord Harrowden.⁷

Margaret, the other sister and coheir of Sir John Lowdham the younger,⁸ married

¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, I, 236–8. Thomas was said to be 26 in 16 Edw. IV (Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), III, 28), placing his birth *c.* 1450.

² TNA, C 142/29/50.

³ *Complete Peerage*, XII (2), 219–21.

⁴ *Complete Peerage*, XII (2), 221–2.

⁵ Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), III, 28, 29.

⁶ *Derb. Wills*, no. 153.

⁷ *Derb. Wills*, no. 209 (pp. 179, 188).

⁸ TNA, C 139/63/17.

Thomas Foljambe, the other tenant in 1431 of the manors of Whittington and Brimington.¹

Thomas Foljambe died two years later seised of what was described as a a third of the former Lowdham estate near Chesterfield, including a third of the manors of Brimington and Whittington.

His heir was his son, also Thomas Foljambe.² When the younger Thomas died in 1452, he was seised in fee tail in a moiety of the manors of Brimington and Whittington, with appurtenances in Tapton, Dunston and Temple Normanton. His heir was another Thomas Foljambe.³

The Foljambes' portion of the former Lowdham estate in Whittington, augmented it appears by the portion which initially passed to Isabel, the wife of Thomas Beckering, continued to descend with the family's home manor of Walton until their estate around Chesterfield was broken up by sale in the early 17th century.⁴ Their tenure of the manor of Whittington presumably came to an end as a result of these sales, although no deeds appear to survive to record this process.

Undertenants

The earliest identifiable undertenants of the Bretons and their successors appear to be a family named Whittington, whose heiress is said to have married a member of the Dethick family.⁵ In 1346 Geoffrey of Dethick and William le Bret were recorded as lords of Whittington and its

¹ *Feudal Aids*, I, 292.

² *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XXIV, 132–3; *Cal. Fine R.* 1430–7, 150–1, 342–4.

³ TNA, C 139/149/18.

⁴ Above, Walton, landownership.

⁵ Lysons, *Derb.*, 283.

members.¹ The latter family's interest in Whittington may have originated in a grant in 1287 by Joan, the widow of Peter of Brimington, to William le Bret and his wife Mary to a messuage and a carucate of land in Whittington, who had received them of Joan's gift.² It does not appear to have any history after 1346.

In 1426 Sir Thomas Gresley, Sir Henry Pierrepont and Peter de la Pole purchased the wardship of the two daughters and coheirs of Robert Dethick of Dethick, then lately deceased, Isabel and Alice,³ between whom the family's estates were divided.⁴ The fate of the moiety of Whittington which appears to have passed to Isabel in 1426 has not been traced. Since Alice's immediate successors were said to hold a moiety of the manor, it appears not to be the case that their father's estate was partitioned between his two daughters, with Alice taking the whole of Whittington as part of her share. Equally, the references to a moiety argue against the possibility that Isabel died unmarried or without issue, so that the whole of the manor would have passed to Alice as her next heir. On the other hand, when one of the moieties created in 1426 was later divided into two, one of these portions was described as a moiety of the manor, rather than a moiety of a moiety.

¹ *Feudal Aids*, I, 256.

² *Feet of Fines*, no. 437.

³ *Radbourne*, no. 525.

⁴ The following account, down to the sale of the Whittington estate by Sir Charles Sedley, is based, except where otherwise noted, on T.N. Ince, 'Pedigree of Pole, of Highedge (Heage), county of Derby', *The Reliquary*, 9 (1868–9), 218–19; see also the chart ped. in *Radbourne*, p. xviii.

The recipient of the moiety whose later history can be traced, Robert Dethick's daughter Alice, married Henry Pole of Heage, a younger son of Peter de la Pole of Radbourne and Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of Sir John Lawton. In 1431 Henry Pole of Radbourne gent. and Ralph Hose of Oxton (Notts.) held a free tenement in Whittington worth 100s. a year.¹ Henry and Alice had a son, Peter Pole of Chesterfield, who died in 1514, seised of half the manor of Whittington and its soke. The estate had been settled on the marriage of Philip, Peter's son and heir, to Margery the daughter of John Ireton. Philip was aged 50 or more at the time of his father's death.²

Philip appears to have died without issue.³ Peter and his wife Joan, the daughter of Ralph Leech, also had a son, John Pole of Heage, who married Joan, the daughter of Roger Foljambe of Linacre (in Brampton), a younger son of Henry Foljambe of Walton. John was succeeded by his son Godfrey Pole of Heage, who had a confirmation of arms (*argent a chevron between three crescents gules, a canton of the last*) in 1578. He married Catherine, the daughter of John Blackwall of Alton (in Idridgehay & Alton) and the widow of Gilbert Thacker of Repton. Godfrey and Catherine's eldest son German died without issue and Godfrey's heir was his second son, Godfrey Pole of Heage and Whittington, whose first wife was Elizabeth the daughter of Richard Parkyns of Bunny (Notts.). Godfrey and Elizabeth had a son, George Pole of Heage and Whittington (1604–74). In 1630 George married Mary, daughter of William Wright of Great

¹ *Feudal Aids*, I, 292.

² TNA, C 142/29/50.

³ He does not appear in Ince's pedigree.

Longstone; she died in 1639. George's son and heir, also George Pole, died in 1682.¹ In 1652 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Charlton of Chilwell (Notts.); she died in 1685.

The younger George Pole and Elizabeth had a son, a third George, born *c.* 1658, who predeceased his father, dying in 1681. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Slater (1634–99) of Nuthall (Notts.), MP for the borough of Nottingham at various dates between 1679 and 1698.² In 1678 Slater was a party, with Robert Bird, to a recovery of what was described as the manor of Whittington.³ George and Elizabeth had three daughters, who became their father's (and, it appears, both their grandfathers') coheirs. One of the three, Jane, died unmarried; her sister Elizabeth married Patricius (or Patrick) Chaworth of Annesley (Notts.), an illegitimate son of the last Lord Chaworth of Annesley; and the third, Mary (who was the granddaughter of Richard Slater and died in 1738), married William Frith of Nottingham. According to Thoroton, Jane and Mary Pole were both living in 1708 and the Poles' moiety of the manor of Whittington was divided between them and their husbands.⁴ In Elizabeth and Patricius's marriage settlement of 1698, however, her share of the Whittington estate was described as a moiety of the whole manor, rather than a quarter. Elizabeth also inherited from her father a moiety of lands in Whittington and nearby in Unstone, Apperknowle (in Unstone), Handley (in Staveley) and Dronfield, and elsewhere in

¹ MI, Duffield.

² MI, Nuthall; Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), II, 255; *Hist. Parl. Commons* 1660–90.

³ TNA, Recovery Roll, Trinity 30 Charles II, rot. 47.

⁴ Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), II, 256n. Ince and Thoroton use the English form of Chaworth's name but in the deeds cited below it is consistently given as Patricius.

Derbyshire.¹

William and Mary Frith had a daughter Elizabeth, who was both her father's and her mother's sole heir. She married Sir Charles Sedley Bt of South Fleet (Kent) and Nuthall. Sir Charles and Lady Sedley had a son, also named Charles, who succeeded to the baronetcy in 1729 and died in 1778 without legitimate issue, when the title became extinct.² The second baronet, who was MP for Nottingham in 1747–54 and again in 1774–8,³ sold his share of the manor of Whittington to the Gillett family,⁴ who are said to have been his tenants there. The sale is said to have taken place *c.* 1734.⁵ In January 1811 the sale was advertised of Richard Gillett's moiety of the manor (more accurately, it appears, a moiety of a moiety, although from this date this estate was consistently described as a moiety), together with the coal and ironstone under the commons and wastes and about 28 acres of inclosed land, and a moiety of Grasscroft Farm (70a.) and the coal and ironstone thereunder. The sale also included a freehold dwelling house standing in 13a. of land, 16a. of meadow and pasture at the Brushes, Broad Oak Close adjoining the Lower Town Field, several parcels in the town fields, and a moiety of four spring woods (a total of 43a.).⁶ Later that year Gillett, the Chesterfield banker who died in 1812,⁷ and his wife Mary sold this estate to

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/5a.

² Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), II, 256n.

³ *Hist. Parl. Commons* 1715–54.

⁴ Lysons, *Derb.*, 283.

⁵ Craven and Stanley, *Derb. Country House*, 319.

⁶ *Derby Mercury*, 31 Jan. 1811.

⁷ Buried at Whittington, 17 July 1812; Staffs. RO, B/C/11, 15 Oct. 1812.

John Dixon,¹ their tenant at Grasscroft farm, who had collieries and a glasshouse in Whittington.² He died in 1816,³ leaving the estate to his great-nephew Henry Offerton, who changed his name to Dixon.⁴ In 1825 Henry Dixon owned 562 acres of settled estate and another 17 a. in fee simple, and received an allotment of 8 acres for his manorial rights.⁵

The recipients of the other moiety of the Poles' moiety of the manor, Patricius and Elizabeth Chaworth, had eight children who survived to adulthood: Patricius, William, Charlotte, Cassandra, George, German, Mary and Charles.⁶ Under the marriage settlement of 1698, the Whittington estate (described as a moiety of the manor, not a quarter) was to pass, after the death of Patricius and Elizabeth, to their daughters and younger sons, as tenants in common, and to their issue.⁷ Two of the sons, Patricius and William, each themselves had a son, also named William, both of whom died without issue.⁸ In her will of 1723, Elizabeth Chaworth (who outlived her husband Patricius) left £250 to her son William (who had already received other money from his

¹ TNA, Feet of Fines, *Derb. Trin.* 51 Geo. III; see Chesterfield, *econ. hist.* for Gillett's bank.

² Below, *econ. hist.*

³ TNA, PROB 11/1580/480.

⁴ Lysons, *Derb.*, 283; J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4; below, *econ. hist.*

⁵ DRO, [Incl. award].

⁶ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/27. Ince, 'Pedigree of Pole', names two other children (Slater and Pole) who appear to have died in infancy, lists the children in a different order, and gives the oldest son's name as Patrick.

⁷ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/5a.

⁸ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/27.

mother) and £2,000 apiece to Charlotte and Cassandra, in return for which William and his two sisters were to give up their claim (under the settlement of 1698) to a share of the Whittington estate. In 1735 the seven younger children (William, Charlotte, Cassandra, George, German, Mary and Charles) agreed to execute a recovery of the moiety of the manor of Whittington which they had inherited from their parents. This provided that a quarter of the share left to William, Charlotte and Cassandra would pass to George and his heirs, and another quarter of German and his heirs. The other two quarters were assigned to Mary and Charles, who were then both minors, and their heirs. If either Mary or Charles died without issue, the other was to have both quarters; if neither had issue the two quarters were to pass to the right heir of their eldest brother Patricius.¹

The ensuing recovery described the estate as comprising a moiety of the manor of Whittington, 40 messuages, 40 gardens, 1,200 acres of land, 200a. of meadow, 600a. of pasture, 100a. of wood, 500a. of furze and common of pasture in Whittington, together with lands in several other parishes in Derbyshire.² The effect of this rearrangement of interests was that George, German, Mary and Charles Chaworth were each now entitled to a quarter of their mother's inheritance as the daughter and coheir of George Pole. In 1736 German and his wife made a settlement of their quarter share,³ and in 1744 Charles, then a grocer of the City of London, executed a recovery of his share.⁴

Charles Chaworth later returned to the family home at Annesley, where he was living when

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/5–6.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/7.

³ TNA, Feet of Fines, Derb. Hil. 10 Geo. II.

⁴ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/8–9.

he made his will in 1769. He left what he called his undivided four-ninths of a moiety of the manor of Whittington (and his four-ninths share of the rest of his mother's estates) to William Lowe of Nottingham, described as late steward to his late nephew William Chaworth of Anncesley, in trust. From the estate Lowe was to pay an annuity of £30 to Frances Boag, widow, the daughter of Charles's late brother German Chaworth, for her life. Subject to this charge, he left the estate to his brother William and sister Cassandra for their lives and in survivorship, then to his sister Mary for her life, and afterwards to Mrs Boag for her life. It was to pass next to his nephew William, the eldest son of his brother William, for his life and afterwards to go to the younger William's heirs. If William had no issue, there were successive remainders to Sir Charles Sedley Bt and his issue, and to the Revd Chaworth Hallowes of Glapwell and William Hallowes of Glapwell for their lives. After the death of the two last-named, the estate was to go to Charles's right heirs.¹ At the time Charles made his will, the Chaworth family were said in all to own three-quarters of a moiety of the manor.²

The complexity of these arrangements led to difficulties when Charles's brother William appears to have considered selling the Whittington estate in 1778. By that date Mrs Boag, Mary Chaworth, William Chaworth (Charles's nephew) and Sir Charles Sedley had all died without issue, leaving William and his sister Cassandra entitled to a moiety of the estate during their joint lives. William's attorney sought the advice of counsel as to whether his client could make a good title to a purchaser, subject to the rights of Cassandra, Chaworth Hallowes and William Hallowes. Counsel's opinion was that he could, and could also dispose of the estate by will, but felt that the

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/21.

² Lysons, *Derb.*, 283.

estate was of little value as long as the other three parties were living.¹ In his will of 1783 William Chaworth left what he described as an undivided sixth part of the manor of Whittington (the whole divided into 24 parts), together with his reversionary interest in another one-sixth part after the death of Chaworth and William Hallowes, to his illegitimate son George Chaworth, who was also to have the whole of his father's personal estate and to be sole executor.²

In 1788 George Chaworth and his wife Ann made a settlement of the estate, in which Joseph Outram, an Alfreton land surveyor, and John Lacock Story of Nottingham, acted as intermediaries. It was now described as comprising two undivided third parts of one undivided moiety of the manor and a similar share of 25 messuages, 25 cottages, 50 curtilages, 50 gardens, 50 orchards, 1,200 acres of land, 600a. of meadow, 600a. of pasture, 100a. of wood, 500a. of furze and heath, and all mines, delphs and quarries of coal, stone and other minerals, and common of pasture in Whittington (and all the other places where Elizabeth Pole had inherited lands from her father).³ George and his trustee Story then immediately sold to John Dixon for £2,696 the two undivided third parts of the moiety of the manor of Whittington and of various lands and other premises in Whittington and Dronfield. As well as the mines of coal, stone and other minerals in Whittington then leased to Dixon and a man named Storrs, these included (in Whittington) John Dixon's glasshouse; 40a. of woodland at Mouse Park, Grasscroft, Peasons's Spring and Thorpe Spring; four farms of between 37a. and 57a.; a smallholding of 12a.; 17a. of accommodation land; and 11 cottages. There was also 13a. of land in Staveley, 1a. in Unstone and a cottage in Dronfield.

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/22.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/23.

³ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/24–25.

The rights of Chaworth Hallows (under the will of Charles Chaworth) were reserved.¹ The following year Dixon secured a release from Hallows of his life interest in return for paying arrears of rent due to him and undertaking to continue to pay rent of £49 13s. a year. Hallows died in 1793.² Also in 1789 Dixon paid George Chaworth £600 for another 18 acres of land in Whittington, a house there lately licensed as the Harrow inn, 35a. in Apperknowle (in Unstone) and 57a. in Dronfield.³

The complexity of manorial tenure in Whittington is well illustrated by John Dixon's purchase in 1798 of two cottages in the village. A moiety of these two houses had been sold by Peter Pegge Burnell in 1790 to Sarah Naylor of Whittington.⁴ In her will of 1795 Mrs Naylor left all her estate to her children to share between them.⁵ Three years later John, Thomas and Samuel Naylor sold the undivided moiety to Dixon.⁶ A note among the deeds, however, pointed out that Dixon had purchased the whole of the cottages apart from an undivided 1/16 share which belonged to Samuel Hinde of Whittington, and a 1/24th share owned by Cornelius Launder of Nottingham, so that Dixon's estate was in fact 43/48ths of the whole. The note also referred to Dixon's purchase of Captain Hare's 1/16th share (of the cottages, apparently), G. Chaworth's one third share, and

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/26.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/28.

³ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/29.

⁴ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/30.

⁵ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/31

⁶ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/32–33.

‘Naylor’s half’, and noted that the relevant deeds should be examined.¹

Two of the names mentioned in this note can be identified as owners of part of the manor. In 1788 John Chaworth and his wife Ann made a settlement of what was described (apparently inaccurately) as two thirds of a moiety of the manor, including mines and quarries.² This estate passed to Cornelius Launder, a barrister of the Middle Temple who lived at Nottingham. In his will, proved in 1806, he left the whole of his landed estate, and his personal estate after the payment of some small legacies, to his cousins Frances and Ursula Launder, both of Basford (Notts.) as tenants in common.³ Three years later Ursula, then of Nottingham, married William Fletcher Norton Norton of Womersley (Surrey), when her undivided moiety of the real estate which she and her sister had inherited from their cousin was vested in trustees to the use of Ursula and William for their lives, with remainder to their issue in tail male.⁴ In the event, Ursula (perhaps joined by her sister), sold the Whittington property (and possibly the land in the adjoining parishes of Staveley and Dronfield, described more specifically in Cornelius’s will as lying in Unstone, Apperknowle and Handley) to John Dixon, from whom it passed to Henry Dixon. Among the tenants of the estate in 1807 was ‘Mr Dixon’, presumably meaning John.⁵

In 1817 Henry Dixon was described as the owner of seven-eighths of the manor,⁶ although

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/35.

² TNA, Feet of Fines, Derby. Trinity 28 Geo. II

³ Notts. Archives, DDM 112/65; TNA, PROB 11/1453/95.

⁴ Notts. Archives, DDM 109/7.

⁵ Notts. Archives, DDM 109/7.

⁶ Lysons, *Derb.*, 283.

neither in the will of 1804 nor the marriage settlement of 1807 was the Whittington estate said to include manorial rights. This proportion appears to include the moiety of the moiety of the medieval manor which had passed to Mary Frith (née Pole) in 1681 or 1682 (and had come to be regarded as a moiety of the entire manor) and three-quarters of the moiety of the moiety which had passed to her sister Elizabeth Chaworth (which had continued to be regarded as three-eighths of the entire manor).

The remaining one-eighth of the manor was owned in 1817 by the children of Samuel Hinde, who was said to have inherited one sixteenth and to have purchased another.¹ The Hinde family moved from Scotland during the reign of James I, living first at Warsop (Notts.) and later Bolsover,² where John son of Christopher and Elizabeth Hinde was baptised in 1642, and in 1670 Thomas Hinde was assessed on three hearths and Edward Hinde on one.³ Both were younger sons of Christopher. John, the first member of the family to live at Whittington, where he was assessed on three hearths in 1670.⁴ In the same year he and his wife Rebecca (Badsley) had a son, also named John, baptised there. John Hinde, tanner, was one of the lessees of the cornmill on the Cavendish estate in Whittington in 1691.⁵ John Hinde the elder died at Whittington in 1724, in his

¹ Lysons, *Derb.*, 283.

² *FMG*, 840–2, the source for the remainder of this paragraph, except as indicated.

³ *Hearth Tax*, 161.

⁴ *Hearth Tax*, 158.

⁵ DM, H/61/4; below, econ. hist.

early eighties. His wife died in 1683. Although a tanner by trade John was commonly called Captain Hinde. He had four children living at the time of his death: Samuel, Edward (of London), Elizabeth Smith and Rebecca, who married her cousin Edward, the son of Thomas Hinde of Bolsover. John left most of his estate, both real and personal. to Rebecca and her husband, with remainder in default of issue to her brother Samuel.¹ She and Edward did not have any children and so the family's estate passed to Samuel, born in 1673. He married Anne Salmon, with whom he had three daughters and two sons. He was succeeded by his second son Edward, who was a butcher in Sheffield. He married Mary Salmon and the couple's eldest son Samuel was born in 1746. Edward and Mary also had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married as his first wife John Dixon and died without issue in 1789.

In 1780 Samuel Hinde married Hannah, the daughter of Thomas Binney of Worksop, a carrier and maltster. The couple had five children: Elizabeth, Samuel, Mordecai, Thomas Edward and Hannah Binney. Samuel senior died in 1809, leaving his wife a life interest in his estate. After his wife died it was eventually to pass, once their youngest child Hannah came of age, to their son Samuel, who was pay out portions to his brother and sisters.² In the event, the younger Samuel died in 1811,³ and his mother in 1822.⁴ The second of these deaths may have prompted the sale, in

¹ Staffs. RO, B/C/11, 3 Sept. 1724; below, econ. hist. the John's tanyard.

² TNA, PROB 11/1500, ff. 435–436v.

³ Buried at Whittington 5 Nov. 1811.

⁴ *Derby Mercury*, 12 June 1822.

1825, of the late Samuel Hinde's one-eighth share of the manor. The estate included one sixteenth of the springwoods in the manor, as well as a 'family residence' with garden, outbuildings and a malthouse, several pews in Whittington church, and about 111 acres of land, of which 70 a. were close to the house. There was also a colliery near the Sheffield turnpike road.¹ At inclosure, also in 1825, the devisees of Samuel Hinde received an allotment of just under an acre in respect of their share of the manorial rights, to add to their 110 acre of other land.²

What appears to be the same estate (since it was said to extend to 112 acres of land and had a colliery on it, although there was no mention of a share in the lordship) was offered for sale again in 1849, when the farmhouse was occupied by Thomas Booth. The estate was said to lie between the roads from Chesterfield to Sheffield and Rotherham. The North Midland Railway passed through the land and the Chesterfield Canal ran by the side of part of the estate, through which an trout stream flowed. The coal (which with other minerals was being offered for sale separately) was said to have been worked with great success by the present owners.³

In 1862 it was said that the Hindes' one-eighth share of the manor was sold in 1856 to William and John Fowler.⁴

In September 1841 what was now called the Whittington Hall estate, including manorial rights, was advertised for sale by auction. It included 606 acres of 'superior rich Grazing and

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 2 Nov. 1825.

² DRO, [Incl. award].

³ *Derb. Courier*, 7 July 1849.

⁴ *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 742–3.

highly productive Arable land', in the hands of 'respectable yearly tenants, at very low rents', interspersed with ornamental woods and other plantations. The estate comprised a 'great part of the parish of Whittington', together with land in Staveley and Brimington. The mansion had been erected about six years earlier by the vendor. The estate's coal and ironstone resources were stressed, along with a private wharf on the Chesterfield Canal and immediate access to the North Midland Railway.¹ The sale was evidently unsuccessful, since in October 1842 the Whittington Hall estate, including the mansion, 30 acres of grounds, three farms and valuable minerals, a total of 440a., were put up for auction again. There was no reference to the lordship as such.²

In 1846 Henry Dixon continued to be named as lord of the manor and principal owner in the parish,³ and in 1851, when he was 68, Henry was resident at the Hall with his wife and two daughters.⁴ In 1850 the court of Chancery ordered the sale of the Whittington Hall estate, described in much the same terms as in 1841, in a cause listed as Dixon v. Pynor. The defendant was Captain Francis Pynor, a trustee of the estate.⁵ It was now said to extend to 568 acres of farmland, parkland and woods in Whittington, Staveley and Brimington, containing coal and ironstone. The sale included manorial rights to the coal and other minerals under seven eighths of the manor of Whittington.⁶ Once again, the estate failed to sell and Henry Dixon remained at the Hall until 1854,

¹ *The Times*, 21 Sept. 1841.

² *Derb. Courier*, 1 Oct. 1842.

³ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 274.

⁴ TNA, HO 107/2147, f. 973.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 22 Nov. 1851.

⁶ *London Gazette*, 14 June 1850.

when the remaining contents were auctioned.¹ By the end of 1855 the estate had been acquired by John and William Fowler,² who in 1857 were both said to be lords of the manor and principal owners.³ The first-named purchaser appears to be the brother (rather than the father) of William Fowler, who took up residence at Whittington Hall⁴ and in the 1860s it was he alone who was described as lord of the manor.⁵ His elder brother (later Sir John Fowler Bt), a civil engineer, never lived at Whittington. Born in 1820, William Fowler initially joined his father, John Fowler of Wadsley Hall (in Ecclesfield, Yorks. WR),⁶ in practice as a land agent,⁷ but in 1856, with his brother, established an ironworks, at Sheepbridge (in Newbold), which opened and ironstone mines in Newbold and Barlow.⁸ William Fowler was the acting partner in the Dunston & Barlow Company and became chairman and managing director after the business was incorporated as the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. Ltd in 1864. A managing director was later appointed but Fowler remained chairman until his death. He was also associated with other mining enterprises, including the Bilbao Iron & Ore Co., which he was vice-chairman. Fowler took an active part in rebuilding

¹ *Derb. Times*, 16 Sept. 1854.

² *Derb. Courier*, 29 Dec. 1855 (sale of fatstock on the Fowlers' instructions)

³ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 784.

⁴ TNA, RG 9/2532, f. 80v.

⁵ *Harrod's Dir. Derb.* (1860), 378; *ibid.* (1870), 312.

⁶ TNA, HO 107/1327/8, f. 37v.; RG 10/4658, f. 50v.

⁷ TNA, HO 107/1327/8, f. 37v.; HO 107/2342, f. 355.

⁸ TNA, RG 9/2532, f. 80v.; above, Newbold, econ. hist.

Whittington parish church and establishing the Chesterfield & North Derbyshire hospital, and supported all local charities.¹

William Fowler died in 1877, aged 56, leaving personal estate of £70,000.² The Whittington Hall estate passed to his elder son, Harry Aldam Fowler, who moved into the mansion. In marked contrast to his father and uncle, he did not pursue a profession.³ He may also have lived beyond his means, since he appears to have faced a financial crisis in 1883, when, by order of the court of Chancery, the Whittington Hall estate, said to extend to 372 acres, was put up for auction in London but failed to attract a single bid.⁴ At about the same time, Fowler closed the mansion and moved to Scarborough, his wife's native town.⁵ In 1884 a new attempt was made to sell the estate through a Sheffield auctioneer, on the instructions of the trustees, rather than the court. Now calculated to comprise 435 acres, the estate was offered either as a whole or in 14 lots. These included the mansion and 25a., Green Farm (95a.), Glasshouse Farm (175a.), another 'substantial house' in 4a., various parcels of pasture and grass, the surface buildings at West Staveley colliery (which appears to have been abandoned by this date), the site of a pottery nearby, an old quarry, a disused tramway and the canal wharf. The auctioneer noted that William and John Fowler had paid about £80,000 for the estate. The minerals had since been sold but the Hall and other property had been much improved at considerable cost. The bidding for the whole estate

¹ *Derb. Times*, 27 Jan. 1877.

² Cal. Grants (1877).

³ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 59.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 28 July 1883.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 21 April 1883; below, econ. hist. for the colliery etc.

started at £10,000 and closed at £19,500, with a sale to William Parker of Sheffield. One of the Chesterfield papers commented that it was a ‘melancholy result of the persistent depression of the coal and iron trades that this splendid residence should have to be forced into the market’ and sold for so little. It also claimed that the sale price was more than the vendors would have accepted.¹ The contents, including ‘high class oil paintings’, ‘choice old china’, and a cellar of vintage wines as well as the usual contents of a small country house, was auctioned at a three-day catalogue sale later in 1884, at which the buyers included Harry and John Fowler and William Parker.²

Parker and his family moved into Whittington Hall in May 1885.³ He died there in 1893, aged 79, leaving a widow, Lucinda, who was 27 years his junior, and a daughter Edith Mary, born in 1883.⁴ He was said to have lived very quietly at Whittington for part of each year, spending the summer at Torquay (Devon), and took no part in public life apart from sitting as a JP.⁵ His personal estate was valued at £27,776.⁶ The estate was immediately put back on the market in 18 lots, described in much the same terms as in 1884, but with no mention of West Staveley colliery or other industry. Green Farm was then let for £120; Glasshouse Farm was mostly in hand. The sale was an almost complete failure, with eight lots, including the mansion and over 400 acres of land,

¹ *Derb. Times*, 30 Aug., 20 Sept. 1884.

² *Derb. Times*, 3 and 6 Dec. 1884.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 16 May 1885.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 8 July 1893; TNA, RG 12/1705, f. 58. Edith later became the duchess of Somerset, having married in 1906 Edward Hamilton Seymour, who in 1925 was recognised by the House of Lords as the 16th duke (*Complete Peerage*, XII (1), 89n.).

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 15 July 1893.

⁶ Cal. Grants (1893).

offered for sale by private treaty afterwards. The only lots sold at auction were small parcels of building land with street frontages.¹ The Hall and grounds were bought privately by John Morton Clayton, one of the principals of Joseph Clayton & Sons, the Chesterfield tanners, who took up residence early in 1894.² The lordship of the manor, however, together it seems with most of the rest of Parker's estate, remained in his trustees' hands until after the First World War.³

In 1902 Clayton let Whittington Hall for a term of years to the Revd Harold Nelson Burden, who converted it into first a home for inebriates and later an institution for the care of feeble minded girls and women.⁴ In 1913 Burden and his wife set up a trust, the National Institutions for Persons Requiring Care and Control, to own the freehold and leases of the properties they had acquired and converted into institutions. The following year they established a limited company (the Incorporation of the NIPRCC) to run the institutions and pay rent to the trust. Towards the end of his life Burden created another private company, Great Stoke Estates Ltd, to which he transferred his real property. The company then acquired the freeholds of all the institutions still occupied under leases and many nearby farms, amounting in all to about three square miles around Bristol (where Burden was most active) and Chesterfield. Some of the company's estate was sold to the NIPRCC after Burden died in 1930, and the company was later dissolved. Burden left

¹ *Derb. Times*, 26 Aug., 23 and 30 Sept. 1893.

² *Derb. Courier*, 13 Jan. 1894.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1904), 406; *ibid* (1908), 414; *ibid.* (1922), 402.

⁴ P.K. Carpenter, 'Rev. Harold Nelson Burden and Katherine Mary Burden: pioneers of inebriate reformatories and mental deficiency institutions', *J. Royal Soc. Medicine*, 89 (1996), 205–9, on which the remainder of this paragraph is based.

personalty of almost £150,000 to his second wife, Rosa Gladys (Williams), who continued his work until her own death in 1939. After Whittington Hall and its other institutions passed to the National Health Service in 1948, the NIPRCC was remodelled as the Burden Trust, which continued at the time of writing as a grant-awarding body in support of mental healthcare in the Bristol area.

Burden's policy of acquiring the freehold of his institutions and adjoining land enabled Parker's trustees finally to dispose of the Whittington estate. Most (possibly all) of the agricultural land was sold in 1921 and the freehold of Whittington Hall in 1926.¹ Burden bought other land in Whittington from William Schofield in 1923.² The Parker trustees evidently also sold the lordship of the manor to Burden, which in 1936 was said to be in the hands of Great Stoke Estates Ltd. The company, together with E.D. Swanwick, was named as one of principal owners in the parish.³ In 1941, two years after Mrs Burden died, her executors offered for sale by auction the Whittington estate, apart from the Hall and the house named Elmwood, which had been bought for the medical superintendent. The eleven lots included Manor Farm, Glasshouse Farm and Green Farm, Grasscroft Wood, seven cottages, three parcels of accommodation land, and some building land on

¹ Bristol Archives, 40686/SPG/Ad/P/3(b), a sale cat. of 1941, in which the vendor's title is drawn mainly from a conveyance of 1921 from members of the Seymour family (including William Parker's daughter Edith) to Burden. The date of 1926 for the sale of the Hall is supplied by Carpenter, loc. cit.

² Bristol Archives, 40686/SPG/Ad/P/3(b).

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1936), 443.

Handley Road. All the lots appear to have been sold, apart from the woodland.¹ In 1957 the Burden Trust leased Whittington Hall, Grasscroft Wood and Elmwood, together with 28 Gladstone Road (in Newbold) to the Minister of Health for 21 years. The rental for the Hall and grounds (including the woodland) was £862 10s., with an option to purchase the freehold for £28,750.² No mention was made either in 1941 or 1957 of the sale of the lordship, which at the time of writing appeared to remain the property of the Burden Trust.

Manorial buildings

Although there is only limited evidence that any of the medieval or early modern lords of Whittington were resident, a large L-shaped seventeenth-century house, in coursed rubble sandstone with mullioned and transomed windows and a stone-flagged roof, of two storeys with a two-storey entrance porch in the internal angle between the two main ranges, was traditionally known as Whittington Manor. The house, which was demolished *c.* 1969, presumably dated from the late 16th century or early 17th.³ It may be the house for which Godfrey Bunting was assessed on five hearths in 1670,⁴ since his ancestor is said to have settled at Whittington as steward to the Pole family, who were then lords of the manor.⁵

¹ Bristol Archives, 40686/SPG/Ad/P/3(b). This is a priced catalogue, in which Green Farm and Grasscroft Wood are shown as sold prior to auction. Since the Burden Trust still owned the woodland in 1957, the sale of this lot must have fallen through.

² Bristol Archives, 41214/Box 4/10/3.

³ Illustrated in Craven and Stanley, *Derb. Country House*, 319.

⁴ *Hearth Tax*, 158.

⁵ *FMG*, 000.

Whittington Manor was superseded as the principal residence on the estate by Whittington Hall, which was built by Henry Dixon c.1835.¹ The new house, also of two storeys, was of ashlar sandstone beneath a slate roof. It was originally four bays wide and three deep. A wing is said to have been added c.1860, after the estate was purchased by William and Henry Fowler.²

The lessee of 1902, the Revd Harold Nelson Burden (1860–1930), was an Anglican clergyman of substantial means who was especially interested in the care of inebriates and later the mentally defective.³ Whittington Hall opened on 1 October that year as the Midland Counties Reformatory, under the auspices of the National Institutions for Inebriates, which was created by Burden and his first wife, Katherine Mary (Garton). The reformatory initially received 57 women inmates. In 1908 sentencing policy by magistrates courts changed and fewer habitual drunkards were committed to reformatories. Burden accordingly remodelled his network of institutions to care for the mentally defective. Whittington Hall reopened for this purpose in October 1912, although the last inebriates did not leave until the end of 1913. The Hall was enlarged in 1912, with the addition of a large range at the rear of the older building, and by 1916 accommodated 370 women. There were about 400 patients in 1930, cared for by over 30 staff.⁴

¹ *The Times*, 21 Sept. 1841, where the mansion is said to have been erected about six years ago.

² Craven and Stanley, *Derb. Country House*, 319.

³ P.K. Carpenter, 'Rev. Harold Nelson Burden and Katherine Mary Burden: pioneers of inebriate reformatories and mental deficiency institutions', *J. Royal Soc. Medicine*, 89 (1996), 205–9, on which the following is based, except as indicated.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 27 Dec. 1930.

After Whittington Hall hospital closed *c.* 1995,¹ the estate was sold for redevelopment. The mansion, renamed Brearley Hall (even though it has no connection with Harold Brearley, who lived at Elmwood, elsewhere in the parish), was retained and divided into flats, and a number of new houses were built in the grounds.²

Other Estates

There appear to have been a number of small freehold estates in Whittington from an early date. Only in a few cases can a continuous history be traced over any length of time.

In 1269 the prior of Lenton (Notts.) complained that he was distrained for suit of court in respect of land held by the priory in Whittington as parcel of the priory's manors of Holme and Dunston (in Newbold).³ This may have been the land included in a sale in 1545 of several former monastic estates in and around Chesterfield to Francis Leake of Sutton (in Sutton cum Duckmanton).⁴

In 1431 Ralph Bakewell of Bakewell yeoman held a free tenement in Whittington worth 10s. a year.⁵

In 1548 Robert and William Swift made a large purchase of former chantry and other lands,

¹ Carpenter, whose paper was accepted for publication in July 1995, describes its closure as 'recent'.

² *Derb. Times*, 20 April 2000; Craven and Stanley, *Derb. Country House*, 319; local inf.; below, this section, for Elmwood.

³ *Feet of Fines*, no. 323.

⁴ *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, XX (2), 221–2.

⁵ *Feudal Aids*, I, 292.

including some in Hundall (in Unstone) and Whittington in the hands of four tenants, which had formerly been given to keep a light burning before the image of St Mary in Dronfield church. The following year two London contractors made a similar purchase, which included land in Whittington that had previously belonged to Babington's chantry in Ashover church.¹ The original gift was presumably a consequence of the tenure of the manor of Whittington by the Dethick family, whose main seat at Dethick lay within the parish of Ashover.

James Hardwick of Hardwick Hall (in Ault Hucknall), probably *c.* 1570, made a grant to Charles Jackson of a meadow in Whittington.² When George Foljambe of Brimington, a younger brother of Sir Godfrey Foljambe of Walton, died in 1589, he left lands at Whittington and Brimington to his wife Ursula.³ John Stubbing died holding a tenement in Whittington in 1619.⁴ Five freeholders in Whittington were assessed to the lay subsidy in 1633.⁵

In 1670 a total of 61 men and women were assessed to the hearth tax in Whittington on 60 properties, including two mills and what appears to be the capital messuage belonging to the manorial estate. Of the remainder, 49 had only one or two hearths, four (one of them the home of John Hinde, who may have had a share of the manorial estate) were assessed on three hearths, three were assessed on four (one of which appears to have been divided into two), and only one, apart

¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1549–51, 44–5.

² *Mun. Reg.*, 87.

³ *Derb. Wills*, no. 168.

⁴ TNA, Ch. Inq. p.m. II. Misc. 519-133.

⁵ Nurse, *Whittington before its Industrial Revolution* (2003), ooo.

from the manor house, on five.¹ This suggests a parish with no more than about half a dozen freeholds of any size.

A clear picture of landownership only becomes available at inclosure in 1825.² In addition to the two owners of the lordship (Henry Dixon and the Hinde family), a further 56 freeholders received allotments, a very similar number to that of the householders assessed to the hearth tax. But even after these allotments are added to their existing holdings, only one of the freeholds amounted to more than 100 acres, that belonging to George Jenkinson, which was made up of 99a. owned in fee simple and another 40a. of settled estate. Seven others, including the 6th duke of Devonshire, had between 25 and 100 acres each, leaving 48 with less than 25 acres. Some of these freeholds consisted of a few acres of farmland, a smallholding or a small farm. Others included one of the large private houses in the parish and the grounds around the house, and in at least two cases a let farm.

Foljambe, later Cavendish, estate

In 1610 William Lord Cavendish owned about 25 acres in Whittington, most of which was let to Godfrey Platts.³ Most of this estate appears to have been acquired by William and his mother, Elizabeth dowager countess of Shrewsbury, in 1599–1601 from Hercules Foljambe of Moorhall (in

¹ *Hearth Tax*, 158–9; above, this section for the manor house; below, econ. hist., for the mill.

² DRO, [Incl. award], the source for statements dated 1825 in the following paragraphs.

³ *William Senior's Survey*, 48.

Barlow).¹ William also bought a messuage from William Kniveton, at a date which cannot apparently be established.² By 1691 the Cavendish estate in the parish also included the water cornmill on the Whitting at the foot of Whittington Hill.³ A farm of 13½ acres on the estate was leased at the same date for 21 years to John Renshaw of Whittington, husbandman, who was succeeded in 1713 by his grandson John Bower. His lease was renewed for a further 21 years in 1738.⁴ The 30 acres owned by the 6th duke of Devonshire in 1825 probably corresponds with the lands surveyed by William Senior two centuries earlier.

Newham, later Bulkeley, estate

In 1689 John Newham gent. of Whittington and Staveley, the son of William Newham of Elvaston and afterwards of Inkersall (in Staveley), married Rachael, the daughter of Robert Ashton of Bradway (in Norton).⁵ Rachel died in 1718, John in 1739, aged 75. The couple had, with other issue, none of whom continued to live at Whittington, an eldest son Roger, who was resident at Whittington in 1744 and died in 1777. His wife Jane died in 1778, aged 80.⁶ In 1742 a house at Whittington with 40 acres of land and a fishpond at the bottom of the garden, was advertised to let

¹ *Mun. Reg.*, 75.

² *Mun. Reg.*, 40.

³ Devonshire MSS, H/61/4.

⁴ Devonshire MSS, H/61/1–3.

⁵ *FMG*, 463. It is possible that ‘Elvaston’ is an error for Alvaston, the home of Roger Newham in 1632, when he was left land there by his master Sir Peter Frescheville of Staveley, whose family also had an estate at Alvaston (but not, as far as is known, at Elvaston) (*ibid.*, 464).

⁶ *FMG*, 463

by its owner, 'Mr Newham'¹ (presumably meaning Roger Newham).

Roger and Jane had a large family, several of whom died unmarried. Their estate in Whittington evidently passed to their daughter Jane, born in 1722, who in 1742 married Arthur Bulkeley (1711–71) of Whittington gent.² He was the son of another Arthur Bulkeley of Stanlowe (in Leek, Staffs.), who died in 1736, and his wife Elizabeth, the daughter of Henry Lowe of Whittington; she married Arthur in 1700 and died in 1740.³ Arthur Bulkeley the younger and his wife Jane had, with other issue, an eldest son and heir, Thomas Ashton Bulkeley, who was baptised in 1744 and in 1778 married Elizabeth Eardley of Leek (Staffs.).⁴ T.A. Bulkeley was evidently dead by 1794 when the sale of his Whittington estate, and another named the 'Horton Estate' near Leek, was advertised. What was now called the mansion house at Whittington was said to have five rooms on the ground floor, six bedrooms on the first floor and attics, extensive out-offices, a fishpond and 41 acres of land lying together adjoining the house, all in the possession of Mrs Bulkeley.⁵ T.A. Bulkeley and his wife had two daughters and a son, Henry, who was living (unmarried) at Staveley Forge in 1825.⁶ The family did not receive an allotment at the inclosure of Whittington that year.

¹ *Derby Mercury* 25 Feb. 1742.

² *FMG*, 463.

³ *FMG*, 446–7.

⁴ *FMG*, 463, 464.

⁵ *Derby Mercury*, 20 Feb. 1794.

⁶ *FMG*, 464.

Stubbing, later Green, afterwards Dixon estate

In 1749 Godfrey Watkinson of Brampton Moor (in Brampton) and Godfrey Webster of Chesterfield, as executors of the John Stubbing of Whittington, bachelor in physic, sold to Henry Green of Whittington, cooper, a house and barn, two closes of land and some open-field land, all in Whittington, for £110. Stubbing's devisees were his sisters, Susannah the wife of William Wheeler, vicar of Chesterfield, and Mary, the wife of Godfrey Webster, but his executors found that his personal estate did not 'nearly pay' his debts and legacies, and so his real estate had to be sold.¹ In 1755 Henry Green added to his property in Whittington by taking an assignment of a mortgage of another small estate in Whittington. This had belonged to the Sprentall family for at least three generations, until in 1753 William Sprentall, yeoman, son and heir of Samuel Sprentall, maltster, who was himself the son of another William Sprentall, mortgaged the property for £110 to Thomas Lowe of Loads (in Brampton). The estate included a house at Hill Top, in which William Sprentall lived, with a malthouse adjoining, about 13 acres of inclosed land and 12 selions in the town fields.² Sprentall defaulted on the mortgage, Lowe obtained judgment, and assigned the mortgage to Green for £116 12s.³

In his will of 1756 Henry Green left all his estate to his niece Elizabeth, the wife of the Revd George Lawson of Staveley, including the assigned mortgage, which was transferred to the Lawsons in 1759.⁴ Henry Lawson of Whittington made a further assignment of the estate for £250

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/10.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/11.

³ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/12.

⁴ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/13–15.

to Edward Moore of Millbank (Mddx) in 1774. The property now comprised a capital messuage occupied by William Spray, a small messuage near to it (possibly the former malthouse) occupied by William Sprentall, and the same inclosed and field land as before.¹ A year later Edward Moore sold the estate for £268 15s. to Samuel Pegge, the rector of Whittington, and Jonathan Moore of Sheffield, who were acting as the trustees of John Dixon's marriage settlement. Dixon had already conveyed 17 acres in Whittington to his trustees in advance of his marriage to Elizabeth Hinde, and this second purchase was to augment Elizabeth's jointure.² Since there were no surviving children of the marriage, this property would pass with the rest of John Dixon's estate at his death to his great-nephew Henry Offerton.³

Broom House and Hill House

This estate, which was centred on a house in the west of the parish and in the early 19th century also included Hill House at the top of Whittington Hill, was owned in 1825 by the devisees of John Green.⁴ By 1837 Broom House was the property and residence of Charles Steade,⁵ a retired Army lieutenant.⁶ In 1842 Steade entertained his 27 employees to dinner at the Sheepbridge Inn,⁷

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/16–17.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/18–20.

³ Above, this section.

⁴ DRO, [Incl. award].

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 8 April 1837 (list of supporters of George Arkwright as a parliamentary candidate); *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 274.

⁶ TNA, HO 107/2147, f. 958v.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 5 Nov. 1842.

which was on his estate, as were a water cornmill at Sheepbridge¹ and Brushes House on Sheffield Road.² He was a shareholder in the Chesterfield Canal and in 1845 a provisional director of the railway company which took the canal over two years later.³ Steade was active in local affairs in other ways: in 1837 he subscribed £10 towards the endowment of Holy Trinity, Chesterfield;⁴ in 1844 he attended a meeting opposed to the repeal of the Corn Laws;⁵ in 1846 he was a collector of subscriptions for rebuilding Whittington church (which did not go ahead until after his death);⁶ and in 1850 he gave a quantity of meat to the poor as part of the revival of the charities in the parish.⁷ When the church was finally rebuilt in 1863 an east window was given by Caroline Smith of Beauchief Hall (in Beauchief) in memory of Steade and his wife Elizabeth Mary (née Smith). This was destroyed in the fire of 1895, when he was described as a large subscriber to the rebuilding.⁸

Steade died in 1860, leaving personal estate of £8,000,⁹ and the following year Broome House was advertised to let and the contents sold.¹⁰ In 1865 the house was the home of Arthur

¹ Below, econ. hist.

² *Derb. Times*, 23 Sept. 1854

³ *Derb. Courier*, 2 March 1844; 29 March 1845.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 3 June 1837.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 9 March 1844.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 12 Sep. 1846; below, religious hist.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 28 Dec. 1850; below, social hist.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan. 1895; below, religious hist. Steade married in 1830 at Scarborough (Yorks. NR) Elizabeth Mary Smith (marr. lic. per Find my Past).

⁹ Cal. Grants (1861).

¹⁰ *Derb. Courier*, 29 June (house to let), 2 Feb. (contents sale) 1861.

Lupton (1817–81), a Unitarian minister and landed proprietor, who left at Michaelmas 1866;¹ brass fittings were stolen from the property in December that year, while it was unoccupied.² Later the same month the sale by auction was announced of the entire Broom House estate, including the mansion, farm houses, Sheepbridge Inn and meadow and pasture land, and also the Hill House estate, comprising the main residence (occupied by J.H. Fromings), seven cottages and some building land.³ This sale appears to have been partly successful: in 1870 the remainder of Steade's freehold estate, most of it described as building land on Sheffield Road, was put up for sale.⁴

Either in 1866 or a few years later the Broom Hill estate, and the adjoining Holly House estate, were acquired by John Johnson, who in 1873 was instrumental in establishing the Whittington & Sheepbridge Colliery Co. Ltd to exploit the coal, ironstone and clay under the land belonging to both houses.⁵ Broom House became the registered office and headquarters of the company, although part was to let in 1874 as a private residence.⁶ The company began to advertise

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 25 March 1865; 14 July 1866. Lupton was enumerated in 1861 at Holly House as a landed proprietor (TNA, RG 9/2532, f. 74); he was a member of the well-known Leeds business family and the father of Arnold Lupton (1846–1930), the mining engineer and MP (C.A. Lupton, *The Arnold Family in Leeds* (1965)).

² *Derb. Courier*, 1 Dec. 1866.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 22 Dec. 1866.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 9 July 1870.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 8 Nov. 1873; below, this section, for Holly House; and econ. hist. for the colliery and brickworks.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 28 Feb. (sale of contents, the house being required by the company), 7 May (part of Broom House to let) 1874.

the sale of coal, and later bricks, from Broom House in May 1874,¹ but in the summer of 1878 went into liquidation in the summer of 1878² and in May 1879 Broom House was to let again.³ Another small company restarted the colliery in 1883 for a few years,⁴ but Broom House appears to have been acquired by the much larger Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. Ltd, whose works stood on the opposite side of Sheffield Road,⁵ as a residence for senior officials. The first occupier, who was living at the house by 1889, was Watkin Davies, the works manager at Sheepbridge.⁶ He retired in 1923 because of poor health, and went to live with one of his daughters and her husband at Bridgnorth (Salop),⁷ where he died in 1927.⁸ From 1924 Broom House was the home of Thomas Edward Haslam, the secretary (and later also director) of the Sheepbridge Company.⁹ Haslam, who was a borough councillor and a justice of the peace,¹⁰ and his wife were still resident at Broom

¹ *Derb. Times*, 28 May 1874 and weekly thereafter; sales of bricks were advertised in *Derb. Courier*, from 4 March 1876.

² *Derb. Times*, 27 June 1878; below, econ. hist.

³ *Derb. Times*, 17 May 1879.

⁴ Below, econ. hist.

⁵ Above, Newbold, econ. hist.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 26 Feb. 1889; TNA, RG 12/2766, f. 102; Davies was described as the former works manager at Sheepbridge when his youngest son died in 1945 (*Derb. Times*, 2 March 1945).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 7 July 1923, when Davies was said to have been connected with Sheepbridge all his working life. A contents sale was advertised in the issue of 7 June.

⁸ Cal. Grants (1928).

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 24 May 1924 (advertisement for domestic staff).

¹⁰ *Derb. Times*, 1 Nov. 1924 (and later references to his public work).

House in 1945.¹

Sheepbridge later disposed of Broom House, which was severely damaged by fire in 1990 and rebuilt as a nursing home and care centre.²

Hill House was owned in 1879 by Willian Daniel Holford, who owned Whittington Silkstone collieries.³ He retained the Hill House estate until his death in 1918, when the estate was sold, possibly to James William Thompson, the owner in 1925. The house was later demolished and Thompson built a bakery built on the site. That in turn was demolished c.1983 to make way for a housing development.⁴

Holly House

Holly House is said to have been owned in 1780 by Joshua Webster.⁵ In 1825 it belonged to George Jenkinson, the second largest landowner in the parish.⁶ The house and 83 acres of land were advertised to let in 1845, as was the sale of the live and dead farm stock belonging to Jenkinson, who was leaving the farm.⁷ The house and land were offered to let again in 1848 and

¹ *Derb. Times*, 23 Nov. 1945.

² Nurse, *Whittington*, 27.

³ Nurse, *Whittington*, 27; below, econ. hist.

⁴ Nurse, *Whittington*, 28–9.

⁵ Nurse, *Whittington*, 29.

⁶ DRO, [Incl. award].

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 18 Jan., 15 March 1845.

1850,¹ and were put up for sale in 1854 and 1855, when there was another sale of farm stock.² Jenkinson himself died in 1857, aged 63.³ Three years later Holly House was advertised to let with 70 acres.⁴ At the start of 1861 it was the home of Arthur Lupton and his family, who later moved to Broom House.⁵ In December that year the Revd Thomas Burton Lucas was said to have recently bought the house but not yet moved in.⁶ The freehold was back on the market in 1863, when Holly House was described as a family residence with eight bedrooms and 11 acres of land, together with an adjoining farm of 58 acres which was let from year to year.⁷ Holly House, with or without 10 acres of grassland, was advertised to let throughout 1869 and the first half of 1870,⁸ and in June 1870 the freehold of the house, farm and 90 acres of land were put up for auction.⁹ This must have proved abortive, since Holly House and 10 acres of land were once again available to let a month later.¹⁰ The Revd J.S. Hill, who had evidently taken it for a couple of years, left in 1872.¹¹

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 1 Jan. 1848, 2 Feb. 1850.

² *Derb. Courier*, 9 Dec. 1854, 3 Feb. and 24 Nov. 1855.

³ *Derb. Registrars' death index*, per Find My Past.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 3 March 1860.

⁵ TNA, RG 9/2532, f. 74; above, previous subsection.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 14 Dec. 1861.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 20 June 1863.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 23 Jan. 1869 and weekly thereafter for about six months.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 4 June 1870.

¹⁰ *Derb. Times*, 23 July 1870.

¹¹ *Derb. Times*, 29 June 1872 (sale of furniture).

The Holly House estate, and the adjoining Broom House estate, next became part of a speculative coalmining venture which appears to have been the initiative of John Armstead of Sheffield, variously described as a sharebroker, estate agent and accountant. In November 1873 the flotation of the Whittington & Sheepbridge Colliery Co. Ltd was announced, with a capital of £100,000 in £10 shares. Of these, 8,000 were offered to the public and 2,000 retained by John Johnson, who had sold to the company the two estates, together with 284 acres of coal and other minerals (mainly, if not entirely, ironstone and clay), 95 acres of surface, the two principal residences, two farmhouses and a quantity of building land. The company proposed to open a colliery and a brickworks.¹ A few years later Armstead sought subscribers for the Holly House Land Society, which had acquired 20 acres fronting the road to Unstone and Hundall,² which it was presumably intended to sell in parcels to those wishing to build their own homes. The society suffered a setback in July 1877 when plans for its first eleven houses were rejected by Whittington local board since the layout of streets on the estate had not yet been approved.³ Armstead was also trying to let Holly House in these years,⁴ presumably in another attempt to generate some cash for the colliery company.

The company had collapsed by the summer of 1878, when Holly House, Broom House, the two farms, 82 acres of land, the minerals, and the colliery and brickmaking plant, including a

¹ *Derb. Times*, 8 Nov. 1873; below, econ. hist., coal etc. mining.

² *Derb. Times*, 26 Feb. 1876.

³ *Derb. Times*, 7 July 1877.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 11 April 1874, 12 June 1878.

manager's house, were offered for sale.¹ This attempt must have failed, since the mortgagees in possession announced a second sale in February 1879, when the let portion of the estate was said to be producing £257 a year.² The land society was in liquidation by May 1881.³ A month later Armstead announced the sale of 13 acres of freehold building land at Holly House, which made £900 at auction.⁴ The house itself was then let to the Revd Richard Daintree Shaw, who died there in September 1881.⁵ It was advertised to let the following April.⁶ Either then or shortly afterwards Holly House became the home of John Green, a local farmer and timber merchant, who himself died there in 1894.⁷ His widow Anne stayed on at the house until her own death, when her eldest son, John Henry Green, moved back with his family. He died in 1934.⁸ At some point the Green family presumably purchased the freehold of Holly House.

After it ceased to be a private residence, Holly House was taken over by Derbyshire county council and adapted to become a residential school for children with severe special needs, as it remained at the time of writing.

¹ *Derb. Times*, 27 July 1878.

² *Derb. Times*, 1 Feb. 1879; the figure was put at £287 in the earlier sale notice.

³ *Derb. Times*, 14 May 1881.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 29 June, 9 July 1881.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 10 Sept. 1881, 15 April 1882.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 29 April 1882.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 30 March 1887 (list of candidates in election of guardians); *Derb. Courier*, 31 March 1894.

⁸ Cal. Grants (1935). Mrs Green's death registration has not been traced. It is possible she remarried and changed her surname.

Elmwood House

In 1825 Elmwood House belonged to Charles Hughes May, who owned 57 acres in the parish. The estate was sold in 1840 and again in 1865.¹ In 1888 it was announced that John Turner, a Chesterfield auctioneer, had bought Elmwood.² He died the following year, aged about 44, leaving a widow but no children.³ The house was advertised to let in 1892,⁴ when it was taken by Thomas Gosling, a Sheffield cabinet maker and upholsterer, who died in 1897.⁵ He was followed by Mr and Mrs T.H. Watson, who were still at Elmwood in 1910.⁶ The next occupier was Harry Brearley, best remembered as the inventor of stainless steel, and his wife.⁷ In 1915 their only child, Leo Taylor Brearley, then a seaman in the Royal Naval Division, successfully escaped from internment in the Netherlands and returned home to Old Whittington.⁸ The Brearleys later moved to Walton and in 1930 Elmwood was the home of John North, a senior Staveley Company manager who was a younger son of the 8th earl of Guildford, and his family.⁹

The freehold of Elmwood House was offered for sale in 1933, with 5 acres of land, when it

¹ Nurse, *Whittington*, 31–3.

² *Derb. Courier*, 2 March 1888; *Derb. Times*, 7 July 1888.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 14 Oct. 1889.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 25 June 1892.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 3 April 1897.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 27 May 1899; *Derb. Courier*, 22 Jan. 1910.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 28 Jan. 1911; *Oxford DNB*.

⁸ *Derb. Courier*, 3 July 1915.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 25 Oct. 1930.

was said to be of interest to builders and speculators.¹ Either then or a few years later it was evidently purchased by the Burden Trust as a residence for Dr R.F. Furniss, who in 1937 gave up his practice to become full-time medical superintendent at Whittington Hall.² In 1957 Elmwood, together with Whittington Hall and 28 Gladstone Road (in Newbold), was leased by the trust to the Minister of Health with 3 acres of grounds, at a rent of £141 p.a., with an option to purchase for £4,700.³ Elmwood remained a private residence at the time of writing.

Whittington Grange

Whittington Grange was built c.1866 on land to the rear of Elmwood House.⁴ It appears to have been built for Juliet Aldam, the widow of Thomas Aldam, a Sheffield wine and spirit merchant, who died in 1858.⁵ Mrs Aldam continued the business for a time from premises in Church Street, Sheffield,⁶ but later retired to Whittington, with her younger son Alfred (who was physically disabled) and two unmarried daughters, Eliza and Sarah Catherine.⁷ Mrs Aldam died at

¹ *Derb. Times*, 28 Oct. 1933.

² *Derb. Times*, 1 Jan. 1937.

³ Bristol Archives, 41214/Box 4/10/3.

⁴ Nurse, *Whittington*, 31–3; the earliest reference to the family found in the local press is in *Derb. Times*, 23 Jan. 1869, when Mrs Aldam made a donation to Chesterfield hospital's funds.

⁵ Cal. Grants (1858).

⁶ TNA, RG 9/3479, f. 58.

⁷ TNA, RG 10/3615, f. 108.

Whittington Grange in 1875, leaving personalty of £2,000,¹ and Alfred a year later.² Her daughters, neither of whom married, continued to live at the Grange and were very active in church and charity work in Whittington.³ Catherine died in 1886, aged 56,⁴ and was commemorated in a marble reredos in St Bartholomew's church,⁵ which was badly damaged in the fire at the church in 1895.⁶ Eliza died in 1900, aged 79, when she left estate valued at £7,523.⁷

Whittington Grange, a six-bedroom house with 25 acres of land and the minerals thereunder, was offered for sale by auction, with 25 acres of land (including minerals), in November 1901, by private treaty in May 1902, and by auction again two months later.⁸ It was eventually sold privately in July 1902 to Henry Wright, the managing director of Henry Wright & Son Ltd, a firm of Sheffield iron and steel merchants and scrap dealers.⁹ Wright appears to have made his own way in life, attributing his success to 'perseverance in season and out of season', and commenting in 1909 that he owned 25 acres of land, had spent fifty years fighting for it, and could

¹ Cal. Grants (1875).

² Cal. Grants (1876).

³ Their work is widely reported in the two Chesterfield newspapers.

⁴ Chesterfield RD, 1886 Q1 (there was no grant of probate or administration).

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 13 July 1887.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan. 1895; below, religious hist.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 21 July 1900; Cal. Grants (1900).

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 2 and 9 Nov. 1901, 31 May, 12 July 1902.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 26 July 1902; *Derb. Courier*, 23 Aug. 1913.

not have succeeded without the support of the working man. A ‘sturdy Liberal’ in politics,¹ he and his family immediately associated themselves with a wide range of local organisations, including (as perhaps the Aldams had not) all branches of the Church.² In 1910 Wright remarked that he was ‘not great’ on religious sects and the differences between them; as far as he was concerned all were trying to do good.³ He spent £1,500 renovating and improving the Grange and its grounds, which he frequently opened for bazaars, garden parties and tennis and bowls matches.⁴ He was the county councillor for Whittington until he retired in March 1913, and was later briefly a county alderman.⁵ Henry Wright died in August 1913, aged 68.⁶ He left net personalty of £25,195.⁷

Mrs Wright continued to play an active part in the community, including opening the grounds of the Grange, until her own death in 1923.⁸ The house then passed to her eldest daughter, Fanny Ann, who in 1914 married Arthur Alfred Baxter Throsby.⁹ The couple kept up her family’s

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 18 Sept. 1909; 23 Aug. 1913.

² Both local newspapers report the work of both families, but the Wrights appear more often at Nonconformist functions than the Aldams.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 2 July 1910.

⁴ The figure of £1,500 is mentioned in *Derb. Courier*, 2 July 1910; both local newspapers report events in the grounds in this period.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 1 March 1913; *ibid.*, 3 Jan. 1914 for a reference to him as a county alderman.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 23 Aug. 1913.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 3 Jan. 1914.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 22 Sept. 1923; Cal. Grants (1923); reports of her charitable work appear in both local newspapers.

⁹ *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, 15 April 1914.

tradition of opening the grounds of their home for charitable events.¹ Throsby, originally from London, started at the age of 14 at Firth Vickers Stainless Steel Ltd in Sheffield, retired in 1932 as works manager, and died in 1944.² Mrs Throsby continued to live at Whittington Grange until her own death in 1959, when she left £51,307.³ The house remained a private residence at the time of writing.

Draft Derbyshire VCH text – 15 FEB 2021.

¹ *Derb. Times*, 16 July 1932, 29 Aug. 1941 (and on other occasions).

² *Derb. Times*, 4 Aug. 1944.

³ Cal. Grants (1960).

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Farming

<To follow>

Mills

In 1597 Hercules Foljambe of Moor Hall (in Barlow) mortgaged to Robert Sitwell of Staveley Netherthorpe for £115 a cornmill in Whittington, with all its buildings, tools and watercourses, two parcels of ground near the mill called the Mill Holmes (2½ acres), and four other closes called Batson Close, Dandsick, White Riddings and Burnet Piece. Hercules defaulted and Robert foreclosed. Two years later Robert sold the mill and land for the same figure of £115 to Godfrey Platts, who was said to of Ashgate (in Brampton) but was also the tenant of part of the land.¹ The mill, which stood on the river Whittington at the foot of Whittington Hill, was presumably in origin the manorial cornmill. Godfrey Platts acted on occasion as an intermediary in purchases by William, Lord Cavendish,² but he seems to have acquired the mill, at least initially, for his own use, since it does not appear in William Senior's survey of the Cavendish estate in Whittington in 1610.³

Two millers were assessed to the hearth tax in Whittington in 1670, Thomas Dowker and

¹ *Hardwick Charters*, nos. 420, 421; *Mun. Reg.*, 75.

² This is clear from references to Godfrey in *Household Accounts*.

³ *William Senior's Survey*, 000; above, landownership.

Henry Lowe, who each paid on one hearth.¹ Lowe appears to have had a mill higher up the Whitting² and so Dowker was presumably the tenant of the manorial mill, which by the late 17th century was part of the Cavendish estate. In 1691 the 3rd earl of Devonshire leased to John Hinde, tanner, Godfrey Holmesfield, yeoman, and Philip Holme, miller, the water cornmills in Whittington, with three pairs of stones and a kiln, the stream leading to the mill, and about 5 acres of meadow in small parcels in Whittington, Tapton and Newbold, all of which had previously been in the occupation of Thomas Dowker and was now in the hands of the lessees. The term was 21 years and the rent £16.³ The lease was renewed in 1713 to Hinde and Holme, both described as husbandmen of Whittington, for a further 21 years at the same rent.⁴ The mill was rebuilt in 1736, a few years after this lease would have expired., at a cost of £195 12s. 8d., including £11 for two new waterwheels, a cog wheel and two new shafts.⁵

The mill was later let to Isaac Cundy, who was born at Holymoorside in 1739.⁶ In 1789, described as a miller of Whittington, he married the widow of Samuel Bower, a tanner of

¹ *Hearth Tax*, 158.

² Below, this section for the evidence for the second mill.

³ DM, H/61/4.

⁴ DM, H/61/4.

⁵ Gifford, *Derb. Watermills*, 117, citing *Derb. Miscellany* (Now. 1962); Nurse, *Whittington*, 14–16, citing MS accounts in CLSL.

⁶ D. Hay, ‘Windmills of Derb.’ (MS in CLSL), II, 385.

Whittington.¹ Isaac took his nephew John Cundy into partnership and erected a windmill on a piece of land he purchased on the north side of Newbridge Lane Isaac lived in a house on another piece of purchased land opposite the watermill. He died in 1813, and the business was continued by his nephew, who died in 1815.² His death led to the dissolution of a partnership between John and Isaac Cundy, when it was stated that Isaac would continue the business.³ He appears to have taken another John Cundy into the business, since a partnership between John and Isaac Cundy was dissolved in 1818.⁴ Isaac Cundy of Whittington, miller, was declared bankrupt two years later.⁵ In 1835 the tenant was Joseph Thorp,⁶ who by 1846 had been succeeded by Michael Askew.⁷ 1857 the miller was Joseph Wheatcroft.⁸ In 1861 George Thorpe, miller, was resident at Windmill House.⁹ The mill is said to have been sold *c.* 1860 to the Elliott family, who were previously millers at Woodthorpe, near Clay Cross.¹⁰ In the 1890s and 1900s Thomas Elliott, a timber merchant, was

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 7 May 1789.

² Hay, 'Windmills of Derby', II, 384–5; the mill is shown on Fairbank survey of 1799–1801 in Sheffield Archives.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 16 March 1815.

⁴ Gifford, *Windmills*, 94, citing *London Gazette*, 8 Aug. 1818.

⁵ Gifford, *Windmills*, 94, citing *London Gazette*, 25 March 1820.

⁶ *Pigot's Dir.* (1835), 76.

⁷ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derby.* (1846), 677.

⁸ *White's Dir. Derby.* (1857), 786; *Harrod's Dir. Derby.* (1860), 378.

⁹ Hay, 'Windmills of Derby', II, 000.

¹⁰ Hay, 'Windmills of Derby', II, 386.

at the mill., which appears still to have been in use c.1920.¹

The windmill built by Isaac Cundy was said to be at work c.1810.² In his will, Isaac left the windmill to his nephew John and Isaac and tenants in common, so that neither could sell his share during the lifetime of the other. The mill was in any case only to be sold to a person of the name Cundy.³ The mill was advertised for sale in 1815, following the death of John Cundy, when it was described as a smock mill standing on land in Whittington Nether Town field, containing a pair of French stones and a pair of grey stones, with other plant, was advertised for sale.⁴ The mill had lately been in the occupation of the two brothers, John and Isaac Cundy, whose partnership had been dissolved by John's death.⁵ In 1819 an estate, occupied by Isaac Cundy and comprising two houses, some enclosed land, woodland and the windmill was offered for sale.⁶ The mill was occupied by another John Cundey in 1835,⁷ who was still there in 1860.⁸ The windmill is said to have worked until 1861, when it was purchased by Samuel Ibbotson.⁹

¹ OS map, 1:10,560 Derb. XVIII (1920 edn); below, this section for the timber trade in Whittington.

² Farey, *General View*, 000, 000.

³ Hay, 'Windmills of Derb.', II, 385, citing a will in Sheffield Archives.

⁴ *Derby Mercury*, 16 March 1815.

⁵ *Derby Mercury*, 16 March 1815.

⁶ *Derby Mercury*, 13 Sept. 1819 (date of advert.).

⁷ *Pigot's Dir.* (1835), 76.

⁸ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 677; *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 786; *Harrod's Dir. Derb.* (1860), 378.

⁹ Hay, 'Windmills of Derb.', II, 385.

In 1866 a freehold steam cornmill and outbuildings in the occupation of Samuel Ibbotson was advertised for sale. It had a 20 hp engine, two pairs of French stones and two pairs of grey stones, together with drying kilns, sheds, stabling and some land, all on Newbridge Lane.¹ This probably refers to the windmill after steampower had been installed. The mill appears still to have been in use in 1876² but was described as an ‘old windmill’ in 1895.³ It stood on land to the rear of 86–88 Newbridge Lane.⁴

There was a second watermill in Whittington, which stood on the Whitting upstream from the manorial mill. This is said to be referred to in 1666, when it was in the hands of the Lowe family.⁵ Henry Lowe was described as a miller in 1670, when he was assessed on a one-hearth tenement in Whittington.⁶ In 1740 an undivided moiety of two water cornmills in Whittington and Dunston, then leased to Joseph and John Browne for £23 10s. a year, was advertised for sale, together a farm (let to Henry Green for £20 4s. 3d.) and a moiety of Torr Wood, both also in Whittington.⁷ The mills were apparently owned by George Milnes of Dunston Hall (in Newbold), who left them in his will of 1755 to a member of the Eyre family.⁸ What were called two water

¹ *Derb. Times*, 10 March 1866.

² OS Map 1,2500, *Derb.* XVIII.14, where the mill is marked but not labelled.

³ Hay, ‘Windmills of *Derb.*’, II, 000.

⁴ Hay, ‘Windmills of *Derb.*’, II, 000.

⁵ Nurse, *Whittington*, 11.

⁶ *Hearth Tax*, 158; *FMG*, 1010 (see also pp. 462 and 656, where Hunter mentions the MSS of Henry Lowe as a source; these have not been located).

⁷ *Derby Mercury*, 2 Oct. 1740.

⁸ Nurse, *Whittington*, 11.

cormills named the Low Mills, with four pairs of stones, a kiln and stable, as well as a dwelling house and 8 acres of meadow, subject to a chief rent of 8d. and 4s. in lieu of tithes, all in the possession of a miller named John Brown, was for sale again in 1771.¹ They are said to have been acquired by William Froggatt at about the same date.² In 1782 two water cormills in Whittington and Dunston, ‘commonly called Sheep Bridge Mills’, with about 9 acres of land, in the tenure of Samuel Hill, were put up for auction.³ This sale may have been abortive, since in 1825 Richard Froggatt was the owner of the cormill, mill dame, the site of a bone mill, some meadow and Torr Wood.⁴

Sometime after 1825 the mill was absorbed into the Broom House estate. It is possible that it was rebuilt in the early 19th century, since it was called a ‘New Mill’ in 1835.⁵ The mill was advertised to let in 1844, together with 14 acres of grassland and a small bone mill, when the premises were occupied by Joshua Bargh.⁶ It was to let again in 1854, still with 14a. of meadow and grass, and also the Sheepbridge Inn and a cottage and garden. The mill was then worked by two wheels, and the plant included two pairs of grey stones, a pair of shelling stones, a pair of French

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 29 Nov. 1771.

² Nurse, *Whittington*, 11.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 18 March 1782.

⁴ DRO, [Incl. award], nos. 453, 457–8, 461–3. Nurse, *Whittington*, 11 appears to be in error in stating that in 1810 John Baggaley bought the mill.

⁵ Sanderson, *Map* (1835); above, landownership for the Broom House estate.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 10 Feb. 1844. Enquiries were to be directed to Charles Steade at Broom House.

stones, a corn screen and a flour-dressing machine.¹ In 1857 Henry Thornton was said to have a cornmill at ‘Sheepbridge’ (but in Whittington parish), which can apparently only be ‘New Mill’ of 1835.² It appears to have gone out of use fairly soon afterwards,³ and was not mentioned when the entire Broom House estate was put up for sale in 1866⁴ (or in later sales). The buildings were still standing c.1920 but were later demolished.⁵

Tanning

When John Hinde of Whittington died in 1724 he was described as a tanner and left most of his estate, including his dwelling house, tanyard, malthouse, stock of malt, leather (in or out of the pits) and bark, together with all the land in his own possession to his daughter Rebecca and her heirs. Rebecca was married to her cousin Edward Hinde and if the couple had no issue the estate was pass to each of them in survivorship, and then to her brother Samuel. They were also left all the corn and hay at Whittington.⁶ Edward and Rebecca did not have any children and the family’s estate in Whittington, including a small share of the manor, accordingly passed to Samuel.⁷

¹ *Derb. Times*, 11 March 1854.

² *White’s Dir. Derb.* (1857), 786; only two millers (those at the windmill and at Whittington Mill) are named in *Bagshaw’s Dir. Derb.* (1846), 677.

³ *Harrod’s Dir. Derb.* (1860), 378 lists two millers, who can be identified with the manorial cornmill and the windmill on Newbridge Lane.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 22 Dec. 1866.

⁵ OS map, 1,2500, Derb. XVIII.10 (1919); Nurse, *Whittington*, 11.

⁶ Staffs. RO, B/C/11, 3 Sept. 1724.

⁷ Above, landownership.

What may have been the same tannery was later in the hands of Pym Denton, who was baptised at Beverley (Yorks. ER) in 1761. In 1786 he married Alice Bower at Whittington, who may have been the daughter (and possibly heiress) of Samuel Bower, a tanner of Whittington, whose widow Jane married Isaac Cundy the miller in 1789.¹ By at least 1791, when he advertised for two journeymen, he was in business in the parish as a tanner.² One of his men lost both arms in an accident at his barkmill in 1797 and another was robbed on his way from Whittington to Sheffield in 1798.³ He took on apprentices in 1803 and 1805.⁴ Denton married his second wife, Sarah Harvey, at Whittington in 1812 and died in 1820, leaving estate valued at £12,000. He placed all his estate in trust for the benefit of his wife and children. This included the capital messuage in which he lived, two other houses, and a park of 10½ acres on part of which he had recently spent £1,000 building a house for his only son Thomas. The trustees were instructed to discontinue the tanning business and his farm, sell everything and invest the proceeds to provide an income for his family.⁵

The tannery may not have closed down as a result of Denton's death. In 1835 George Widdowson & Co. were recorded as tanners in Whittington.⁶ The tannery was advertised to let in 1837, when it was said to have 110 tanpits, bark mills and other buildings, to have been trading for

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 7 May 1789; *ibid.* 8 Feb. 1787 for Bower's death.

² *Derby Mercury*, 29 Sept. 1791; see also *Derb. Dirs.*, 108, 119, 146, 191.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 30 March 1797, 15 March 1798.

⁴ TNA, IR 1/71, f. 33, IR 1/72, f. 24.

⁵ Staffs. RO, B/C/11 12 Oct. 1820.

⁶ *Pigot's Dir. Derb.* (1835), 76.

over 50 years, and to lie a mile from the Chesterfield Canal.¹ The tannery appears to have no later history. Its location remains uncertain, although in view of its size and the amount of water that would have been required, it seems likely to have stood on the level ground near the River Whitting, possibly on a site later taken over by another industry.

Glassmaking

In 1704 Richard Dixon, who was probably born at Dudley (Worcs.) in 1667, came to Whittington and established a glassworks there. He had previously had charge of the glasshouse at Bolsterstone (Yorks. WR).² Richard died in 1727 and was succeeded by his eldest son, also named Richard (1691–1736), who left the glassworks to his sons William (1714–43) and Richard (1719–69) to carry on the business in partnership.³ The surviving brother, Richard, left the glassworks to another brother, Gilbert (1715–77) and his nephew John Dixon (1742–1815), again in partnership.⁴ Gilbert, a lawyer who was attorney-clerk to the Sheffield Company of Cutlers, probably took no part in the business,⁵ whereas John developed both the glassworks and coalmining at Whittington,⁶ although by 1788 John regarded himself as a glass merchant⁷ (rather

¹ *North Derby. Chronicle*, 25 Feb. 1837.

² J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4.

³ J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4.

⁴ J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4.

⁵ J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4.

⁶ Below, this section, for Dixon's collieries in Whittington.

⁷ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/26.

than glassmaker, the term used by earlier members of his family). His will of 1815 makes no reference to the glassworks, which suggests that it was then closed. He left his estate to a great-nephew, Henry Offerton, who changed his name to Dixon and became the lord of the manor and principal landowner in the parish. In 1835 Henry Dixon built Whittington Hall.¹

In the 1730s Francis Sitwell of Renishaw (in Eckington) was buying tableware and bottles from the Whittington glassworks, and in the 1790s the family were buying cut-glass decanters, a chandelier, wine glasses, tumblers, lamps and cruets.² Between 1779 and 1807 Matthew Fenton & Co., a firm of Sheffield plate makers, bought considerable quantities of glass from Whittington.³

In 1819 there was a large sale of what appears to be the stock of the works on the instruction of John Dixon's executors, including decanters, salts, cruets, bottle, jugs, ink stands, smelling bottles, bird fountains and other items. All had been removed from the glasshouse at Whittington to the Three Tuns inn in Chesterfield.⁴

In 1924 a local antiquary, Thomas Metcalfe, whose collection of Whittington glass was then on exhibition at Sheffield University, led an East Derbyshire Field Club ramble over Glasshouse Common, pointing out where he had found glassware by excavation, and stated that the buildings then standing at Glasshouse Farm been used for the 'glass cutting section' of the Dixons'

¹ J. Ellis, *Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612–2002* (2003), 293–4; above, landownership.

² G. Lewis, *The South Yorkshire Glass Industry* (Sheffield City Museum, 1964), 2.

³ G. Lewis, *The South Yorkshire Glass Industry* (Sheffield City Museum, 1964), 2.

⁴ *Derb. Mercury*, 10 Aug. 1819 (date of advert); 6 Sept. 1819

business.¹

Coal and ironstone mining

Although there may have been some earlier working of shallow seams of coal, and associated ironstone, larger-scale mining is not recorded before the 18th century. In April 1732 Edward Hinde, a farmer, and Richard Dixon (1691–1736), the glassmaker, made an agreement with William Sprentall, a cooper, concerning the mines they were working in Whittington. Both Hinde and Dixon on one hand, and Sprentall on the other, stated that they were getting great quantities of coal, some of which they had converted into coke, which had sold at a good price that answered the cost of burning. It now appeared that the price of coke was likely to fall ‘by the means and practices made use of by the purchasers’. To avoid this, the two parties agreed not to sell coke at less than 3s. 9d. a cartload, and that neither should sell more than the other. Coke used themselves (possibly for glassmaking in the case of Dixon) was excluded from the agreement.²

A month later, however, Sprentall agreed to transfer his mine at Sprentall’s Wood, adjoining the common called Whittington Upper Moor, to Hinde and Dixon in return for a payment of £20. They were to be allowed to continue getting coal from the mine, but not to sink any new shafts or pits, and could stack the coal on the pit bank, but not extend the bank. Sprentall also handed over all his tools and implements at the mine. After the existing shafts had been worked out, Sprentall agreed not to back-fill them for as long as Hinde and Dixon wished to use them to get access to other coal which they were working on Whittington Upper Moor near

¹ *Derb. Times*, 31 May 1924.

² Bristol Archives, 39910/W/1.

Sprentall's Wood. Sprentall conveyed all the coal already got from the mine and stacked on the surface, for which Hinde and Dixon were to pay 3s. a stack (of 12 corves). They were also to fence off the pit bank for as long as the existing shafts were kept open for winding. It was found that Sprentall had 250 stacks of coal on the bank, and so Dixon and Hinde paid him a further £37 10s.¹

Richard Dixon's successor, John Dixon, appears to have developed coalmining on the estate after the opening of the Chesterfield Canal in 1777. In 1779 he evidently approached the canal company committee, who agreed that a 'road' from the canal to his Glasshouse colliery would be 'of great utility', and resolved that if Dixon did not build it himself within two months the company would do so² Thirty years later there was still a colliery on Glasshouse Common, in the north-east of the parish, connected to the canal at Dixon's wharf by a tramroad nearly two miles long.³ This may well have been the successor of the 'road' of 1779, or Dixon may have built a tramroad at the outset. In 1815 Dixon left Henry Offerton, his great-nephew and heir, the 'rail road formed by me' extending from his collieries in the parishes of Whittington, Dronfield and Staveley to his wharf on the canal, together with the collieries themselves and all the horses, rails, wagons and carriages, and all the plant and tools belonging to the collieries, together with the coal seams he had bought from Sir Christopher Pegge and John Rool of Rotherham.⁴ The reference to three collieries in three parishes indicates that Dixon's activities extended over the boundary into the

¹ Bristol Archives, 39910/W/2-4.

² C. Richardson (ed.), *Minutes of the Chesterfield Canal Company 1771-80* (DRS, 24, 1996), 217.

³ Farey, *General View*, I, 197; III, 320.

⁴ Will of John Dixon (1815) <need to locate original>; above, landownership.

Hundall portion of Unstone township and into the adjoining corner of Staveley, near West Handley.

Farey mentions only one other colliery in Whittington at work *c.* 1810, which lay two thirds of a mile south-east of the church.¹ This places it near the Rother and the canal on the south-eastern edge of the parish.

Henry Dixon (as he became after he inherited the Whittington estate) did not continue his great uncle's industrial activities, and in 1825 there appears to have been no coalmining in the parish.² In the early 1830s there was only one colliery of any size, on either side of the Sheffield road to the north of Whittington Moor. There was also a solitary pit on the north side of Grasscroft Wood, but Dixon's tramroad, which might have served the colliery, had been lifted.³

The opening of the North Midland Railway, which skirted the parish to the south-east, may have prompted the opening of several new collieries in the 1850s and early 1860s, although little is known of the most of the ventures beyond the names of those who operated them: E. Marr (recorded in 1854), Wilkinson (1855–6), Sydall & Cartledge (1855–59, apparently followed by Lister & Co. in 1860), C. Wharton (1855–6), and J. Higginbottom (1858, succeeded by J.C. Plevins in 1859–61).⁴ Marr's Whittington colliery was advertising best quality coal for household and industrial use in 1854 at 6s. a ton at the pithead or 8s. 3d. delivered in Chesterfield.⁵ An

¹ Farey, *General View*, I, 214.

² DRO, [Incl. Award].

³ Sanderson, *Map*.

⁴ *Derb. Collieries*.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 1 July 1854.

advertisement of 1862 offered slack from Whittington colliery at 1s. 6d. a ton, and also Dunston or Marr's nuts at 2s. 6d. a ton at the pit, or 6d. a ton more delivered into canal boats.¹ The notices suggest that Marr's colliery (and possibly the others) were small landsale concerns, mainly selling house coal which could be carted to Chesterfield.

What seems to have been a rather larger venture was operated from 1855 (and possibly before) on freehold land at Foxley Oaks, to the north of Newbridge Lane, by Francis Rockcliffe Pierce,² a Lincolnshire landowner.³ This was connected, from the opening of the line in 1857, to the Sheepbridge branch of the Midland Railway, which ran up the Whitting valley, mainly to serve the ironworks, collieries and ironstone pits belonging to the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co.⁴ The following year the flotation of a limited company to take over Whittington Colliery was announced. The company was to have a capital of £60,000 in £10 shares and would buy the freehold estate, collieries and minerals as a going concern from Pierce for £48,000 (against a valuation of £56,745). Pierce was to be joined on the board by two London men (H.C. Chilton and W. Tuxford) and two well known local figures (John Brown of Rose Hill, Chesterfield, and Henry Rangeley, the owner of Unstone ironworks). The estate included 150 acres of land and the minerals under another 119a., two good houses, workmen's cottages and a cornmill, which was producing an income of £500 a year independent of the sale of coal, ironstone and clay. The colliery was raising 750 tons of coal a week, the greater part delivered (by rail) to the London market. The fresh

¹ *Derb. Times*, 18 Oct. 1862.

² *Derb. Collieries*.

³ TNA, RG 9/2638, f. 3.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 7 Nov. 1857.

capital was being introduced to increase the output of coal and ironstone to 2,000 tons a week. The freehold land would be disposed of for building.¹ In the summer of 1859 the company was advertising for sinkers to develop a shaft 120 yards deep and in 1860 began to sell building land on long leases.²

This company seems to have been wound up following the death, in his mid thirties, of F.R. Pierce in December 1862.³ He was unmarried and his estate, including Foxley Oaks colliery, passed to his father, the Revd William Matthews Pierce, the incumbent of West Ashby (Lincs.), the family's home.⁴ He kept the business going for a short time on his own account,⁵ and in March 1863 the colliery was advertising for 40–50 men to work the Silkstone seam, with the promise of 'constant work'.⁶ In July, however, the establishment of another limited company was announced, with a capital of £135,000 in £10 shares.⁷ Within a month it was claimed that enough shares had been taken up to allow the new company to begin work,⁸ and in October a dinner was given to the company's workmen to mark the transfer of the colliery. On this occasion Pierce, William Hawes, the chairman of the new company, and William Fowler, the principal of the Sheepbridge Company,

¹ *Derb. Times*, 20 Nov. 1858.

² *Derb. Courier*, 9 July 1859, 14 April 1860.

³ Cal. Grants (1863); Pierce gave his age as 33 in the census in 1861 (TNA, RG 9/2368, f. 3). No file survives for this first limited company in TNA, BT 31.

⁴ TNA, RG 9/3628, f. 3.

⁵ *Derb. Collieries*; *Derb. Times*, 21 March 1863.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 14 March 1863.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 25 July 1863.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 29 Aug. 1863.

all spoke enthusiastically about its prospects, which were said to be closely tied up with the fortunes of Fowler's company,¹ suggesting that much of the coal and ironstone then being raised was being sold to Sheepbridge.

More obviously than had been the case in 1858, this new company was a speculative venture promoted by outside interests and heavily over-capitalised. The estate to be transferred was described in similar terms as it had been five years earlier (farmhouses and buildings, dwelling houses and cottages, a cornmill, and 170 acres of land), and was said now to yield £700 a year. The minerals extended to 350 a. in all and the existing pits were raising 1,000 tons of coal and 300 tons of ironstone a week. Pierce had agreed to transfer this estate, recently valued at £100,500, and the business as a going concern to the new company for £85,000, of which £20,000 was represented by the assignment of a mortgage and the balance would in theory be paid in cash. In reality, Pierce was to take 3,500 ordinary shares, fully paid, as a first instalment of £35,000 and would be paid the remainder as other capital was called up. Initially £40,000 was to be called up on the 10,000 preference shares. The company's registered office was in the City of London and, perhaps most tellingly, its auditors were the Manchester firm of accountants headed by David Chadwick, who promoted numerous companies in this period, some of which failed after a few years.² His plans for the Whittington company followed this pattern. By August 1864 a total of 7,500 preference shares had been issued to about 50 individuals, mostly from Lincolnshire, Sheffield and London, rather than Chesterfield. A call of £4 had been made on each share, raising only £15,020. Pierce had agreed to reduce the purchase price of the estate by £35,000 by surrendering his entire allotment of

¹ *Derb. Times*, 10 Oct. 1863.

² TNA, BT 31/823/649C; cf. *Dict. Business Biog.* for Chadwick.

(effectively worthless) ordinary shares, but had died before this could be done.¹

In March 1866 a trade paper commented that Foxley Oaks was a modern colliery but was almost worked out. The company had three or four million tons of coal in their take but would have to sink a new shaft to get it, since the existing shaft was in the wrong place, at the top of the hill instead of in the valley, which had proved an expensive mistake.² A month later the directors held the necessary extraordinary general meetings to authorise voluntary winding-up and appoint the chairman, William Hawes, a City merchant, as liquidator, although the company was only dissolved (by the registrar) in 1882.³

Undeterred by this failure, Hawes and his associates immediately registered a new Whittington Colliery Co. Ltd, with a capital of £15,000 in £5 shares, of which Hawes took 300 and 327 were issued to others, several of whom had invested in the previous company. Indeed, shareholders in the old company were to be offered the option of taking 500 shares in the new one. The old company's property was to be conveyed to the new company for £3,750 in cash, plus an assignment of a mortgage debt which had now risen to £37,500. The principal mortgage of £20,000 to Hastings Nathaniel and Maria Middleton remained unredeemed, as were nine further advances by others. By March 1868 the promoters had managed to persuade 17 individuals to take 2,900 shares, on which £4 had been called, giving the company £9,464 working capital (and leaving them owed £2,136 in unpaid calls). By June 1870 all 3,000 shares had been issued, fully paid, raising £14,609 (with only £391 owing in unpaid calls). This was clearly not enough to both develop the

¹ TNA, BT 31/823/649C; Cal. Grants (1864).

² *Derb. Courier*, 3 March 1866 (from the *Mining Journal*).

³ TNA, BT 31/823/649C.

colliery and service a large mortgage debt. In October 1871 the company followed its predecessor into voluntary liquidation and (in 1883) dissolution by the registrar.¹ The two companies together had lost almost £30,000 of shareholders' funds.

Foxley Oaks colliery itself continued to be listed in the official returns and appears to have been worked for a few years by the mortgagees, trading as an unincorporated Whittington Colliery Co.² In 1873 a Chancery decree ordered the colliery to be sold. It was said to have 170 acres of unworked coal, of which 155a. were leasehold. The 4 ft thick Blackshale or Silkstone seam was being worked at a depth of 254 yards. The yield was estimated at 4,000 tons an acre and the present output was between 50,000 and 60,000 tons a year, although the plant could handle 300 tons a day. The estate also contained a seam of Potters coal and ironstone, together with colliery offices, houses and workmen's cottages on the surface.³ The purchaser appears to have been James Holford, a colliery proprietor of Aston Grange (in Aston cum Aughton, Yorks. WR), who in January 1874 registered the Whittington Silkstone Colliery Co. Ltd, with a capital of £100,000 in 5,000 shares of £20 each. The other subscribers were mostly local and included William Daniel Holford of Whittington, also a colliery owner, who became a director. James Holford, as vendor of the estate to the new company, accepted as consideration 1,000 shares and the promise of £50,000 in cash in three instalments during 1874. By June that year 3,000 other shares had been issued, on which £10 had been called up. James Holford had sold all but 100 of his vendor's shares in small parcels but had bought 242 other shares in the company. Five years later £16 had been called up on

¹ TNA, BT 31/1274/3157.

² *Derb. Collieries*.

³ *Derb. Times*, 12 Nov. 1873.

the 3,000 shares to give the company £67,733 in working capital, although most of this should have been paid to James Holford.

The new company lasted a little longer than its predecessors, but in April and May 1882 statutory meetings were held to authorise voluntary winding up, with W.D. Holford as liquidator.¹ The whole of the plant, including nine steam engines, was put up for auction in April 1883 on Holford's instructions.² In September 1884 the colliery itself was offered for sale, including 13 acres of freehold, on which the colliery offices and 18 cottages stood, and upwards of 1,000 acres of coal. There were now two pairs of shafts sunk: one to the Blackshale coal and the other to the Dunston seam.³ Holford seem to have continued to trade the company during these sales. Indeed, by December 1884 a further £3 had been called up on the 3,000 shares, bringing the total raised to £76,617 (with unpaid calls of £383).⁴ By this date James Holford had died intestate, leaving personal estate of £15,855,⁵ and his widow Emily was holding his 342 shares; W.D. Holford had 50 shares and there were 42 other shareholders. A further winding-up meeting was held in September 1886, when plans were made to dispose of the company's property, which were duly executed.⁶ On this occasion, no new company was registered to take over the colliery, which appears to have been abandoned. Most of the surface buildings had disappeared by 1898, and the

¹TNA, BT 31/1936/8048.

²*Derb. Times*, 14 April 1883.

³*Derb. Times*, 20 Sept. 1884.

⁴TNA, BT 31/1936/8048.

⁵Cal. Grants (1882).

⁶TNA, BT 31/1936/8048.

siding from the Midland Railway branch had been lifted.¹

On the eastern edge of the parish, sinking began in 1855 of a colliery named West Staveley. This was established by a Barnsley company which traded as Harrison & Co.,² in which the principal was Thomas Harrison;³ in 1856 the firm was described as Messrs Muschamp, Harrison & Canter. The Blackshale coal, in a seam 5 ft thick, was reached in September that year at a depth of 90 yards. The company had arranged to work more than 300 acres, which they hoped to sell in London and the South of England. The colliery was connected to the North Midland line of the Midland Railway by a short branch.⁴ In May 1856 it was said that a ‘company of gentlemen from Sheffield’ were proposing to erect two blast furnaces next to the branch,⁵ but nothing came of the plan. Some ironstone was got with the coal, which Harrisons sublet.⁶ They also let the haulage (by horses), of coal on the branch between the colliery and the Midland line.⁷

Initial prospects seemed bright: the company erected ten workmen’s cottages near the colliery⁸ and a sick club was formed by the men.⁹ The company’s position may have begun to

¹ OS map, 1:10,560, *Derb.* XVIII.14 (1898 edn).

² *Derb. Collieries.*

³ *Derb. Courier*, 10 May 1856.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 13 Sept. 1856.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 3 May 1856.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 3 May 1856.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 15 Nov. 1856.

⁸ *Derb. Courier*, 10 May 1856.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 3 Jan. 1857.

deteriorate in the summer of 1857, when ‘Muschamp and others’ were sued by their London agent (a man named Hicks) for £5,000 for breach of contract; the colliery company complained that Hicks had refused to accept their bills and for this reason they had ended the sales contract with him. The case was referred to arbitration.¹ In April 1858 the company called a meeting of creditors, which was told that it had liabilities of £25,000 and assets of £70,000, a great proportion of which could not be realised without more capital. The existing plant was valued at £35,000. Both West Staveley and the company’s colliery at Barnsley (West Silkstone) had stopped work. The meeting was sympathetic and agreed that the two should be worked by the principal creditor for 15 months, after which a joint stock company would be formed if no private arrangement could be reached.² Three months later the creditors agreed to put in £2,000 between them and noted that both collieries had good railway access (the West Silkstone stood close to the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire main line).³

The solution found was to transfer West Staveley colliery to an unincorporated company headed by Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge (1845–1911), the son of a Newcastle shopkeeper, for whom this may have been his first venture in the Derbyshire coalfield.⁴ Bainbridge was presumably

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 15 Aug. 1857.

² *Derb. Courier* and *Derb. Times*, 10 April 1858.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 17 July 1858.

⁴ *Derb. Collieries*; cf. *Dict. Business Biog.*, I, 103–5, which make no mention of Bainbridge’s work in Derbyshire prior to his establishment of the Bolsover Colliery Co. in 1890 (for which see *VCH Derb.*, III).

related to one of Harrison's partners in the old company.¹ The new owners appear to have put in fresh capital to develop the business. In April 1859 the company was reported to be erecting 30 coke ovens at West Staveley² and the following year was selling coke at 20s. a ton made from slack which had previously sold for 5s. a ton.³ In 1864 the company advertised for sinkers for a new pit at West Staveley.⁴ Two years later a locomotive had replaced horse haulage on the branch to the Midland line.⁵ In 1867 the company began sinking a new colliery to the Blackshale coal at Hundall (in Unstone), 1½ miles north of its older colliery, and built a tramway to bring the coal down to the existing branch at West Staveley.⁶ This was steeply graded and was operated by an endless chain nearly three miles long, weighing 26 tons, on which wagons could be drawn at up to 6 mph. The first coal from Hundall was taken down the tramway to be washed and screened at West Staveley in September 1868.⁷

At about this date Bainbridge began to develop other interests in Derbyshire, at Unstone, where sinking began in 1867 of his Unstone Main colliery, served by a branch of the Midland

¹ E.M. Bainbridge the younger was the son of another Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge (1817–92), whose mother's maiden name was Mary Muschamp. E.M. Bainbridge the elder was for a time in partnership as a draper with a cousin, John Bell Muschamp (*Dict. Business Biog.*, I, 102–3).

² *Derb. Times*, 9 April 1859.

³ *Derb. Times*, 17 Nov. 1860.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 11 June 1864.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 16 June 1866.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 27 July, *Derb. Courier*, 17 Aug 1867.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 5 Sept. 1868. The completed layout between Hundall and the MR main line is shown on OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.7*, 11 and 15 (1876 edn).

Railway's new Chesterfield–Sheffield direct line, opened in 1870,¹ and at Blackwell, in the Erewash valley coalfield, where the first sod of what later became A Winning and B Winning collieries was turned in November 1870.² Separate limited companies were established to work the Unstone and Blackwell pits, and from 1875 his older concern was named the Hundall Colliery Co.,³ which remained unincorporated. This change may reflect the closure of the original West Staveley colliery. In 1883 it was said that 300 men and boys would be made idle by a strike at the 'Hundow or West Staveley Colliery'.⁴ The surface buildings at West Staveley were included in the sale of the Whittington Hall estate the following year⁵ and Hundall colliery (which may include West Staveley) was last officially recorded in 1885.⁶ In 1887 the 'Hundall and New Whittington' collieries were advertised for sale.⁷ This may have led to their closure, since nothing more is heard of either. The West Staveley buildings were not mentioned when the estate was put up for sale in 1893.⁸ By 1898 only earthworks and disused shafts remained on the two sites. The branch railway to West Staveley had been lifted, as had the chain-worked incline to Hundall.⁹

¹ *Derb. Times*, 28 Oct. 1867 (and numerous later reports); *Derb. Collieries*.

² *Derb. Times*, 19 Nov. 1870.

³ *Derb. Collieries*.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 24 Nov. 1883.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 30 Aug. 1884; above landownership.

⁶ *List of Mines* (1885).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 8 Oct. 1887.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 26 Aug. 1893; above, landownership.

⁹ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII*, 7, 11 and 14 (1898 edn).

In the same part of the parish, ironstone mining started in 1858 in the same area as John Dixon's coalpits half a century earlier.¹ This prompted the laying down of a standard gauge tramway on the trackbed of his tramroad, running from Glasshouse Common down to a junction with the Midland Railway near Dixon's wharf and from there continued to the wharf.² Given the gradient, the later line must also have been worked by horses, not a locomotive. It may be the tramway on which a fatal accident occurred in 1854, when a man was uncoupling his horse from a wagon. The line was described as 'newly opened' in connection with Higginbotham & Co.'s colliery at Glasshouse Common.³ The owner was presumably the 'J. Higginbottom' recorded in 1858 as owner of a colliery said simply to be at Whittington, who was succeeded by J.C. Plevins in 1859–61.⁴

In the 1860s both Appleby & Co., the owners of ironworks at Renishaw (in Eckington), and the Sheepbridge Company were getting ironstone on Glasshouse Common, at least partly from the shafts of abandoned coal mines. This was a dangerous activity, since the Blackshale coal lay several feet beneath the ironstone, which had not been taken out when the pits had been worked for coal. There was a risk of the floor of the ironstone pit collapsing and of gas escaping from the coal workings. Matters came to head in 1866, when HM Inspector prosecuted William Fowler, as the

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 9 March 1872.

² OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII*, 11 and 14 (1876 edn). Since there is no medium- or large-scale map showing Dixon's tramroad, it is merely well established local tradition that his railway was on the same formation as that of the tramway shown by the OS in 1876, much of which can still be followed as a footpath.

³ *Derb. Times*, 18 Feb. 1854.

⁴ *Derb. Coleries*.

owner of the Sheepbridge Company, for illegal working practices.¹ He escaped with a nominal fine, but the evidence produced may explain why there were several fatal accidents at the Glasshouse Common pits (mainly, it seems those of Applebys, rather than Sheepbridge) over the previous few years.² In 1865 it was found that Applebys were using a single steam engine to work 16 ironstone shafts at both Glasshouse Common and at Grasscroft (Unstone), which was condemned as unsafe by the coroner.³ This may have been the engine from which the brass fittings were stolen (for the third time) in 1864.⁴ It is possible that Applebys took over the tramway previously said to belong to another company, since in 1861 one of their workman died after falling from a wagon on the line, said to run from the pits to Dixon's wharf.⁵ This suggests that Applebys were still using the canal to move ironstone to their furnaces at Renishaw, even though these stood alongside the North Midland line. In 1867 the workmen at the company's Whittington and Walton ironstone pits established a field club.⁶

There were either two or three small collieries at Glasshouse Common in the late 19th century, or only one, worked by a succession of short-lived concerns. In 1876–7 George Steele was listed as a colliery owner there, and in 1893 a firm named Redhead & Sellars were mining the

¹ *Derb. Times*, 9 June 1866.

² *Derb. Times*, 15 May 1858; *Derb. Courier*, 22 May 1858, 9 Nov. 1861; *Derb. Times*, 12 March 1864.

³ *Derb. Times* and *Derb. Courier*, 12 Aug. 1865.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 2 April 1864.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 14 Sept. 1861.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 27 July 1867.

Silkstone seam at Glasshouse.¹ The latter business evidently came to an end that year, since in July an auction was announced of all their colliery equipment.² A Glasshouse Colliery Co. was recorded in 1921, when it was summoned for non-payment of rates.³

At Grasscroft the Sheepbridge Company sank a shaft in 1873⁴ and between 1874 and 1879 were working a colliery there.⁵ There was a second colliery at Grasscroft Wood, whose owner was named as Knowles & Co. in 1878–9 and Israel Knowles in 1880–1.⁶ Knowles & Co. were also listed as owners of what appears to be another colliery in Whittington named Forge between 1874 and 1881.⁷ In 1879 a fatal accident occurred in some old workings on Glasshouse Common from which two men named Wilde and Knowles were getting coal,⁸ which may have been the same colliery. William Jackson of Cowley (in Dronfield) owned a colliery at Grasscroft in 1900.⁹

On the western side of the parish, an attempt was made to work the coal (and also ironstone and clay) beneath land belonging to Broom House and Holly House, two freehold properties which both came onto the market in the late 1860s. They were bought by John Johnson, who, in

¹ *List of Mines* (1893).

² *Derb. Times*, 1 July 1893.

³ *List of Mines* (1921); *Derb. Times*, 2 April 1921.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 3 May 1873.

⁵ *Derb. Collieries*.

⁶ *Derb. Collieries*.

⁷ *Derb. Collieries*.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 20 Sept. 1879.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 24 Nov. 1900.

association with John Armstead of Sheffield, variously described as an accountant, sharebroker and estate agent, floated a joint-stock company in 1873.¹ The Whittington & Sheepbridge Colliery Co. Ltd had a capital of £100,000 in £10 shares. Of these, 8,000 were offered to the public and 2,000 retained by Johnson, presumably as payment for the estate. He transferred to the company 284 acres of coal and other minerals (mainly, if not entirely, ironstone and clay), 95 acres of surface, the two principal residences, two farmhouses and a quantity of building land. The company proposed to open a colliery and a brickworks.² The *Derbyshire Courier* welcomed the venture as an attempt to raise the output of coal in the district to meet the level of demand. The directors proposed to call up half the authorised capital and were confident of paying a 20 per cent dividend.³ The *Derbyshire Times* bestowed similar praise, noting that the company was run by men of business in a substantial position.⁴

A few years later Armstead sought subscribers for the Holly House Land Society, which had acquired 20 acres fronting the road to Unstone and Hundall,⁵ which it was presumably intended to sell in parcels to those wishing to build their own homes. The society suffered a setback in July 1877 when plans for its first eleven houses were rejected by Whittington local board since the layout of streets on the estate had not yet been approved.⁶ Armstead was also trying

¹ TNA, BT 31/1911/7794.

² *Derb. Times*, 8 Nov. 1873; below, econ. hist., coal etc. mining.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 22 Nov. 1873.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 22 Nov. 1873.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 26 Feb. 1876.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 7 July 1877.

to let Holly House in these years,¹ presumably in another attempt to generate some cash for the colliery company. The other main property, Broom House, became the company's registered office and headquarters, although part was to let in 1874 as a private residence.² The company began to advertise the sale of steam and house coal from Broom House in May 1874.³ The output came from three footrills, driven to the Main, Jotto (or Silkstone) and Potters seams on land to the north of Broom House.⁴ From March 1876 the company was also selling plastic machine-pressed and hand-pressed bricks and ground mortar.⁵ A short branch was built from the Midland main line to the colliery and brickyard.⁶ The business 'was in the hands of a committee of Sheffield gentlemen', with Johnson as managing director.⁷

The company was soon in difficulties. In May 1877 the chairman, Ernest Hill, published a circular to shareholders to explain that the 'guaranteed' dividend had not been paid because money received had been used to settle trade debts.⁸ A year later the company was in liquidation, when Holly House, Broom House, the two farms, 82 acres of land, the minerals, and the colliery and

¹ *Derb. Times*, 11 April 1874, 12 June 1878.

² *Derb. Times*, 28 Feb. (sale of contents, the house being required by the company), 7 May (part of Broom House to let) 1874.

³ *Derb. Times*, 28 May 1874 and weekly thereafter.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 8 Oct. 1904.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 4 March 1876 and weekly thereafter.

⁶ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.10* (1876 edn).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 8 Oct. 1904.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 2 June 187.

brickmaking plant, including a manager's house, were offered for sale.¹ This attempt must have failed, since the mortgagees in possession announced a second sale in February 1879, when the let portion of the estate was said to be producing £257 a year.² The land society was in liquidation by May 1881.³ A month later Armstead announced the sale of 13 acres of freehold building land at Holly House, which made £900 at auction.⁴ The house itself was let.⁵ Either then or later, Broom House seems to have been acquired by the Sheepbridge Company as a residence for senior officials.⁶

There was one later attempt to continue mining on the estate: in 1883 it was announced that the Silkstone colliery, Old Whittington, formerly known as Broom House colliery, had been restarted and could supply excellent house coal to customers in Chesterfield and Whittington, with cartage charged by distance.⁷ This was clearly a small landsale business, which may not have lasted more than a few months.⁸ By 1898 both the colliery buildings and brickworks had disappeared, as had the branch railway.⁹ In 1904, when one of the seams at Broom House caught fire, it was said

¹ *Derb. Times*, 27 July 1878.

² *Derb. Times*, 1 Feb. 1879; the figure was put at £287 in the earlier sale notice.

³ *Derb. Times*, 14 May 1881.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 29 June, 9 July 1881.

⁵ Above, landownership.

⁶ Above, landownership.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 24 Nov. 1883 and weekly thereafter.

⁸ Its advertisement in the *Derb. Times* last appeared in the issue of 5 Jan. 1884.

⁹ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.10* (1898) edn.

that the colliery had closed 26 years earlier. The premises were then owned by a London firm, whose representative visited Chesterfield to supervise attempts to extinguish the fire by flooding.¹

Two other collieries operated for short periods in the 1870s, one at Hill House belonging to W.D. Holford (1873–9), and another at the Brushes, established by John Cropper in 1875, which had closed by 1883.² By 1898 all mining of coal and ironstone in the parish had come to an end.³ Some years later, a small concern trading as the Glasshouse Colliery Company worked the Silkstone seam on Glasshouse Common for a short period around 1921.⁴

Quarrying and brickmaking

In 1876 there were quarries in the Sheepbridge and Brushes district between the Sheffield road and Midland Railway main line, all of which were disused by *c.* 1920. There was also a small quarry at the northern end of Glasshouse Lane, which had likewise been abandoned by the same date.⁵

In addition to the brickworks connected with the collieries, directories from *c.* 1860 record other brickmakers in the parish.⁶ In 1860 Augustus Cupit was described as a brickmaker and Abel

¹ *Derb. Times*, 8 Oct. 1904.

² *Derb. Collieries; List of Mines* (1883).

³ OS map, 1:10,560, *Derb. XVIII* (1898 edn).

⁴ *List of Mines* (1921); *Derb. Times*, 2 April 1921 (summons for non-payment of rates).

⁵ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.10* (1876 and 1919 edns.).

⁶ None are listed in *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1860).

Lee and William Mart as brick and tilemakers.¹ Six brick and tilemakers are recorded in 1862, of which Thomas Lloyd was said to have works at the 'Common' (probably meaning Glasshouse Common) and William Mart's works was at Whittington Moor.² In 1876 there was a small brickyard on the east side of Sheffield Road at the northern end of the parish, near Brierley Bridge, and a bigger works between Sheffield Road and the railway near Sheepbridge ironworks, which had closed by 1897.³ The Brierley Bridge brickworks was established in the 1860s by Thomas Priestley, who moved to Whittington from Ardsley (Yorks. WR), where he was a winding engineman at Darfield Main colliery, initially to become engineer for the Devonshire Silkstone colliery at Sheepbridge.⁴ Ten years later he was a master brickmaker living near the Sheepbridge Inn.⁵ Thomas donated the bricks from which Ebenezer Methodist church at Sheepbridge was built c.1873, of which his family were longstanding members.⁶ By 1881 Thomas had joined his wife keeping the family grocer's and draper's shop and his son Henry had taken over the brickworks.⁷ Thomas died a few years later but in 1891 his wife still had the grocer's shop on Sheffield Road,

¹ *Harrod's Dir. Derby.* (1860), 378.

² *White's Dir. Derby.* (1857), 786; *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 742.

³ OS map, 1:2500, Derby. XVIII.10 (1876 and 1898 edns).

⁴ TNA, RG 9/3443, ff. 20v.-21; *Derb. Times*, 28 June 1944 (obit. of his daughter Annie Priestley).

⁵ TNA, RG 10/3615, f. 119.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 28 June 1944.

⁷ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 111.

and Henry was a brickmaker and farmer.¹ The family had given up the shop by 1901,² but Priestley continued to work the brickyard until at least 1922.³ It had closed by 1936.⁴ Henry Priestley died in 1939, aged 82.⁵

Other brickworks active in 1876 included one on the south side of Newbridge Lane, near Foxley Oaks colliery, which had closed by *c.* 1914, and another on Station Lane in New Whittington, which later became the Albion pottery.⁶

Potteries

Most of the potteries said in directories to be on 'Whittington Moor' were on the western side of Sheffield Road and therefore in Newbold township. So too were the works on the south side of Pottery Lane. Although this road runs east from Sheffield Road, a small portion of Newbold township lay on the eastern side of the main road, separated from Whittington by a boundary that followed the southern side of Pottery Lane. This placed the extensive works developed on that side of the road by the Pearson family in Newbold.⁷

¹ TNA, RG 12/2766, f. 86v.

² TNA, RG 13/3253, f. 102v.

³ TNA, RG 14/21108, no. 387; *Bulmer's Dir. Derby.* (1895), 266; *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 392; *ibid.* (1908), 415; *ibid.* (1922), 484; OS map, 1:2500, Derby. XVIII.10 (1919, rev. 1914–15).

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1936), 535.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 26 May 1939.

⁶ OS map, 1:2500, Derby. XVIII.14, 11 (1876 and 1919 edns); below, this section for Albion pottery.

⁷ Above, Newbold, econ. hist.

There appears to have been only one pottery on the Whittington side of the Moor, between Queen Street (later Queen Street North) and Foundry Street, active from the 1870s, if not before.¹ This may have been the pottery worked in the 1920s and 1930s² by John Bradshaw & Sons, which is said to have closed c.1957–8, and to have made coarse ware, including pancheons and garden pots, from local red clay, which was sometimes glazed inside.³

At New Whittington a pottery near West Staveley colliery is said to have been established as a brickworks c.1855–60 and in 1861 was being worked by Joseph Gadsbury. He (or a later owner) may have turned to making pots c.1870, since the work was described as a pottery a few years later.⁴ What was called West Staveley pottery was being worked by Isaac Hardy c.1880, an earthenware manufacturer who lived on Wellington Street in New Whittington.⁵ It had gone out of use by the late 1890s.⁶

The other works in New Whittington, Albion pottery, was on the north side of Station Lane, near the south-western edge of the village.⁷ The name Albion may have arisen because Thomas

¹ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1876 and 1919 edns). The pottery buildings are marked but not labelled on the earlier edn.

² *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1928), 549; *ibid.* (1932), 447; *ibid.* (1936), 570; CLSL, catalogues (nd, 1920s) in trade cat. colln.

³ Brown, 'Potteries of Derb.', no. 22.

⁴ T. Nurse, *The West Staveley Colliery and Pottery* (Author, 2002), 5; OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.11.

⁵ Nurse, *West Staveley*, 5.

⁶ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.11 (1897 edn).

⁷ Account based, except as indicated, on Brown, *Potteries of Derb.*, no. 23 (itself based on information supplied by Wallace Green), a letter (24 Oct. 1989) from Roger Shelley of Chesterfield Museum in the CLSL enquiries file; and a typescript note (CLSL, 738.3p) by

Ward of Albion works, Sheffield, owned land nearby. The pottery appears to have been built by George Senior in the early 1870s, near a brickyard which he had established a few years earlier.¹ Senior lived at Dodworth (Yorks. WR), where he described himself as a colliery owner in 1871² and a colliery and pottery owner in 1881.³ In 1878 the pottery was advertising the sale of flower pots and seed pans of every description.⁴ Three years later Senior entered into partnership with George Shaw of Sheffield and together they took over Barker pottery in Brampton.⁵ Senior was also described in 1881 as a ‘patent brickmaker’ and his large brick and tile works were said to give employment to a number of hands’.⁶ He moved to Whittington in about 1885 and later to Ashgate Road (in Brampton), where he died in 1897. As well as the Albion and Barker potteries, he was also concerned in the Dunston, Whitebank and Hasland Lane collieries (in Newbold and Hasland respectively).⁷ In 1881 the Albion pottery was being managed by Edward Senior, possibly George’s younger brother, who had previously been a railway clerk and stationmaster.⁸ Edward left

Shelley (21 July 1993) of his interview with Mr L. Bradley, 241 Handley Road, Whittington. Bradley was related to the Green family.

¹ The pottery is not listed in *Harrod’s Dir. Derby.* (1870), 312–14, or *White’s Dir. Sheffield* (1872), 684–5, but is shown on OS map, 1:2500, Derby XVIII.11 (1876).

² TNA, RG 10/4648, f. 3.

³ TNA, RG 11/4605, f 64.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 16 March 1878.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 21 June 1935 (interview with T.W. Lack, who began working for Senior c.1873 and moved with him to the Barker pottery).

⁶ *Kelly’s Dir. Derby.* (1881), 1154, which makes no mention of the pottery.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 14 Aug. 1897; TNA, RG 12/2766, f. 58.

⁸ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 24v.; RG 10/3650, f. 102; RG 9/3453, f. 77.

the district the following year.¹

The pottery may have been occupied for a short time after the Seniors gave it up by Thomas Bailey, who is said to have come from Carbrook (in Sheffield) and failed in 1882.² In 1895 the owners of the business were Thomas Turner & Son.³ In 1899 Thomas William Green was recorded as an earthenware manufacturer at the Albion works.⁴ He returned himself as a blackware manufacturer in the census in 1901 and a pot manufacturer ten years later; on both occasions he was living at the pottery.⁵ Green was Turner's stepson and took over the business from him without any payment. He had previously farmed in the Bolsover area.⁶ In 1903 Turner's own son, Albert Edward, joined Green on equal terms and the business did 'quite well', trading as Green Brothers,⁷ specialising in garden pots and black and white lined pancheons.⁸ The works had three bottle kilns, each with nine fireholes. The clay was all dug near the pottery and from 1914 a gas engine was used to blunge the clay and turn the potters' wheels.⁹ The plant was described as a brickworks and

¹ *Derb. Times*, 4 Nov. 1882.

² Brown, *Potteries of Derb.*, no. 23.

³ *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 268.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1899), 383; the works is not recorded in the 1895 edn.

⁵ TNA, RG 13/3253, ff. 37v.-38; RG 14/21119, no. 142.

⁶ Interview, L. Bradley (1993).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 21 Nov. 1925.

⁸ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1904), 409.

⁹ Interview, L. Bradley (1993).

pottery in 1914¹ and in the 1920s the business had about a dozen employees. The brothers' undoing was the purchase of a charabanc, presumably after the First World War, for £2,007, since losses on the vehicle ate up the profits of the pottery. The two men, described as pottery manufacturers and charabanc proprietors, were declared bankrupt in 1925.² Turner was granted a discharge from 1930.³

Green, with his sons Wallace and Stephen, continued to trade as Green Brothers of Albion pottery.⁴ The family had initially rented the works from Miss Senior, a member of the founder's family who lived in Whittington, but later bought the freehold.⁵ The pottery closed in 1942, when the premises were let to a light engineering firm. They were demolished in 1976. T.W. Green retired when the pottery closed, after forty years in the trade, and died in 1959, aged 87.⁶

After he left Green Brothers, Turner went to work at a pottery at the Brushes on Sheffield Road, and one reason why he applied for a discharge from his bankruptcy in 1928 was to enable him to become a partner in the business.⁷ This pottery, probably established c.1890,⁸ had two bottle

¹ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.11* (1916 edn, rev. 1914).

² *Derb. Times*, 21 Nov. 1925, 28 April 1928.

³ *Derb. Times*, 28 April 1928.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1928), 549; *ibid.* (1932), 447; *ibid.* (1936), 570; *ibid.* (1941), 438; OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.11* (1946 edn, rev. 1938).

⁵ Interview, L. Bradley (1993).

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 27 Nov. 1959; *Cal. Grants* (1960).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 28 April 1928.

⁸ It is not listed in *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1888), 371–2, and not shown on OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.10* (1876 edn) .

kilns in 1897.¹ It was being operated in the 1920s by the Brushes Pottery Company (which was not incorporated).² By 1932 Albert Turner, described as an earthenware manufacturer of the same address, had the works.³ Turner, then of 4 Devonshire Street, New Whittington, and still in business at the Brushes pottery, was declared bankrupt again in 1937.⁴ This probably led to the closure of the works. It was a small pottery, known locally as the 'Bacon Box', and made red clay pancheons and other coarse pots.⁵

Timber trade

In 1871 John Green, then aged 40, was living on London Street, Whittington, with his wife Anne (37), two sons (John Henry, aged 6, and Frederick William, aged 2) and a daughter, Mary Bertha, aged 9. He was a farmer of 40 acres.⁶ Ten years later, still on London Street, John returned himself as a farmer of 70 acres and a timber merchant, employing two men. His son John Henry was working as an apprentice ironmonger; the other children were at school.⁷ By 1891 the family had moved to Holly House, 105 Church Street, Old Whittington. John was still a farmer and timber merchant. Two of his sons, John Henry and George Herbert, gave their occupation as farmer;

¹ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.10 (1897 edn).

² *Kellys' Dir. Derb.* (1928), 549.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1932), 447; *ibid.* (1936), 570.

⁴ *London Gaz.*, 28 May 1937, p. 3487.

⁵ Brown, *Potteries of Derb.*, no. 24 (where the date of Turner's second bankruptcy is given wrongly).

⁶ TNA, RG 10/3615, f. 87v.

⁷ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 6v.

Frederick was a banker's clerk, and Arthur (18) was an ironfounder.¹

John Green died at Holly House in March 1894, aged 63. He was remembered as a former member of Whittington local board and a long-serving governor (since 1868, including several years as chairman) of Webster's Endowed schools. His loss was also regretted by his fellow Wesleyan Methodists, who recalled his 'intense and untiring interest' in the building of a new chapel at Old Whittington.² His will was proved three months later by his sons John Henry, by that date a timber merchant, and Frederick William, a 'manufacturer'. He left £4,860.³

When the 1901 census was taken, John's widow Anne, then aged 67, was living at Holly House with three of her children, all still single. Mary Bertha was then 38, John Henry was 36 and Frederick William was 32. The two men both described themselves as timber merchants and employers.⁴ Later the same year John junior married a farmer's daughter from Dalston in Cumberland, Sarah Ann Tinniswood, who was eleven years his junior.⁵ How they met is rather a mystery, unless Green was buying timber in the district. In 1911 the couple were living in another house on Church Street, with two young children, Norah Margaret, aged five, and Edward Henry Tinniswood (three), both of whom had been born in Whittington.⁶ By then John's sister Mary had

¹ TNA, RG 12/2766, ff. 61r.-v. Arthur later became the proprietor of Whittington Moor Foundry, said in 1899 to have been established some eighty years earlier (*Chesterfield Illustrated*, 38).

² *Derb. Times, Derb. Courier*, 31 March 1894.

³ Cal. Grants (1894).

⁴ TNA, RG 13/3253, f. 65.

⁵ Carlisle RD, 1901 Q4; RG 13/4872, f. 71.

⁶ TNA, RG 14/21109, no. 137.

also left home, leaving Mrs Green, her son Frederick, still unmarried, and one servant at Holly House on census night. F.W. Green returned himself as a timber merchant and employer.¹

After John Green died the business became known as Messrs J.H. & F.W. Green and in the early 1920s was incorporated under that name.² In 1899 a journalist's account of the firm described the two brothers as the fifth generation to have run it. This can hardly be correct as far as the timber merchant's business is concerned, since their father appears to have been solely a farmer until the 1870s, but it is possible that the family had been farming in Whittington for several generations. The firm then owned and ran a 200-acres farm about a mile from their works, which had a siding from the Midland Railway's Sheepbridge station near Sheepbridge station on the main line, and was also reasonably conveniently placed for the Great Central's Chesterfield goods yard. Local deliveries were made by horse-drawn vehicles. The firm described themselves as timber merchants and importers but how much direct importing they did is perhaps doubtful. The company dealt in both home and foreign timber and had its own sawmills. They did an extensive business in pitwood of all sorts, as well as supplying cabinet-makers, house builders and wagon builders. The partners were said to travel all over the country to buy home-produced timber. J.H. Green (but not apparently his brother) was involved in public life as a member of the local board and school board and as a magistrate.³

In 1925 it was announced that J.H. & F.W. Green had bought several thousand acres of land from Lord Derby in Manchester, Salford and Bury, including 5,000a. of agricultural holdings,

¹ RG 14/21109, no. 228.

² TNA, The company is described as 'Ltd' in the 1925 directory but not in 1922.

³ *Chesterfield Illustrated*, 39.

as well as ground rents of industrial and commercial property. The company proposed to sell on some of the estate, which would initially be offered to the tenants.¹ For a short period in the mid-1920s the family appear to run a second business, named Green's Timber & Joinery Co., at Whittington.²

John Henry Green later moved back to Holly House, presumably after his mother died,³ and was resident there at the time of his own death on 15 December 1934, aged 70. Probate was granted in April 1935 to his son Edward Henry Tinniswood Green and his brother Frederick William Green, both timber merchants, and Henry Charles Day, a prominent Chesterfield chartered accountant. His effects were valued at £100,131,⁴ net personalty £72,649. He left £500, the household effects and an annuity of £800 to his wife; annuities of £100 and £104 to two servants; and £100 each to Old Whittington Wesleyan chapel, Chesterfield Royal Hospital and H.C. Day. The residue was placed in trust, half for the benefit of his son E.H.T. Green and his children, half for the benefit of his daughter Norah Margaret Hooton and her children. His son was then of Summersdale and his brother of Westhampnett, both near Chichester.⁵ Frederick William Green's death has not been traced; E.H.T. Green died in 1982, still living near Chichester.⁶ J.H. Green's daughter Norah married, in 1928, George Eastwood Hooton, the second son of Mrs Hooton of Elm

¹ *Derb. Times*, 30 May 1925.

² This business appears only in the 1925 directory, not in those of 1922 or 1928.

³ Anne (or Annie) Green's death registration has not been traced, nor a probate grant.

⁴ Cal. Grants (1935).

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 12 April 1935.

⁶ Cal. Grants (1982). He left £169,007.

Lodge, Highfield Road, and a great-nephew of George Albert Eastwood of Brambling House,¹ the owner of Eastwoods' wagon works on Brimington Road, where Hooton (at any rate by 1939) was general manager. It is possible that Greens supplied timber to Eastwoods and that this is how the two families became acquainted. The couple initially lived on Brockwell Lane, but by 1939 had moved to Hemming Grove, Old Brampton.² Hooton, still resident at Hemming Grove, died in 1976, his widow two years later.³

The date at which Greens' timber merchant's business closed has not been traced. G.A. Eastwood died in 1934, leaving his interest in the wagon works to his niece Blanche Eastwood, who died in 1963, having never married. Like her uncle, Miss Eastwood was a great benefactor to the town and a supporter of a wide range of charities. The wagon works was still operational in 1963 and passed to George Hooton, who was Miss Eastwood's nephew. He liquidated the company and incorporated its remaining assets into his own business, Hooton & Green (Metals) Ltd.⁴ It is possible that the latter also absorbed J.H. & F.W. Green Ltd and that this accounts for its name.

Thomas Elliott appears to have been firstly a cornmillier and only secondly a timber merchant. He was born in 1859 at Clay Cross, the second son of John Elliott and his wife Harriet.

¹ *Derb. Times*, 29 Sept., 6 Oct. 1928; Chesterfield RD 1928 Q3.

² TNA, RG 101/59581/007/7.

³ Cal. Grant (1976, 1978). Hooton left £319,885, Mrs Hooton £403,339. Their eldest child, Ann Elizabeth, b. 1930, in 1954 married Geoffrey B. Parsons (Chesterfield RD, 1954 Q3).

⁴ C. Sambrook, *British Carriage & Wagon Builders and Repairers 1830–2006* (2007), 67 (no sources cited).

John was a master miller then working Woodthorpe mill on Ashover Road in Tupton.¹ Around 1868–70 he moved, with his family, to Whittington mill at the foot of Whittington Hill.² In 1881 John still had Whittington mill, where his son Arthur was helping in the business, but Thomas, who remained single, was working as an insurance agent.³ Both sons had left home by 1891, when one of their brothers, Henry, was working as his father's assistant.⁴ By 1901 John Elliott was dead and Thomas had taken over the business. He was then 42 and returned himself in the census as a corn miller and merchant working on his own account. He and his wife Harriett had two daughters aged 14 and six, and a son, Michael Eric (12), who were all at school.⁵ In 1904 Thomas described himself as a timber merchant and miller (by water) (in that order), at Whittington Mill, and appears to have been living at what he called the Manor House, Whittington Hill.⁶ He gave his address as 129 Whittington Hill in 1911, a seven-room house, occupied by himself, his wife of 25 years, their two sons and two daughters; a fifth child had died. Thomas gave his occupation as miller and described himself as an employer; his son Michael Eric was working with him in the business. The

¹ TNA, RG 9/2526, f. 146.

² TNA, RG 10/3615, f. 13. John and Harriett's youngest son was aged 5 months when the census was taken in April 1871; his daughter Mary, aged 4, had been born at Woodthorpe. This fixes the date of their move from Woodthorpe mill to Whittington mill fairly closely.

³ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 76.

⁴ TNA, RG 12/2766, f. 74v.

⁵ TNA, RG 13/3253, f. 79.

⁶ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1904), 407. The 1901 census suggests that there was only one Thomas Elliott in Whittington in this period. There is no property on Whittington Hill today known as the Manor House (nor any tradition of a manor house there) and this may be a rather grand name for the house next to the mill. This a much altered, three-bay, two storey house of indeterminate age, and could well have seven principal rooms.

family had no servants living in.¹ In 1922 Elliott continued to give his private address as the Manor House but on this occasion described himself (at Whittington Mills) solely as a timber merchant.²

Thomas Elliott died at Brook House, Old Whittington, on 3 November 1932. He was said to be of Whittington Mill when his will was proved in March the following year by his widow Harriett and son Michael Eric, who gave his occupation as miller. He left £1,390.³ Thomas's involvement with the timber trade seems to have ended sometime between 1922 and his death ten years later, although the mill remained in operation for longer. In 1936 the company owning the timber merchant's business was named simply as 'Elliotts' and in 1941 as Elliott & Morton, suggesting that a new partner had been introduced. It remained unincorporated. The date of closure has not been traced.

Harry Wright was described as a timber merchant and joinery manufacturer of Old Whittington (and at the Central station goods yard in Chesterfield) in 1932.⁴

Iron and steel manufacture

In 1857 it was said that Thomas Firth & Sons, the Sheffield steelmakers, were erecting extensive ironworks at Whittington, close to the North Midland branch of the Midland Railway in

¹ TNA, RG 14/21108, no. 499. 129 Whittington Hill appears to be the house adjoining the surviving mill building, now occupied by Brook Garden Centre.

² *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1922), 403.

³ Cal. Grants (1933). Brook House is probably another name for 129 Whittington Hill, since it stands close to the brook which powered the mill.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1932), 446.

the east of the parish, and a great number of cottages were in course of construction.¹ The company purchased the land in 1856 and John Firth, who acted as the company's architect for most of the buildings, was placed in control of the new works, which consisted of a forge and rolling mills, a foundry with cupola and air-melting furnaces, together pattern- and fitting-shops. Waste heat from the forge furnaces was used to raise steam in vertical boilers to drive the hammers and other plant. The works made Firth's famous 'puddled steel', which was rolled into angled sections. Whittington also made all the plant required at the main works in Sheffield, such as ingot mould and other castings for the crucible department, wrought-iron job cranes, bogies and ironwork for roofs. Other products included double-height corrugated steel railway carriages and steel telegraph poles for Indian railways. Old boilers from the rolling mill at the Norfolk works in Sheffield were replaced by new ones made of crucible cast steel ingots cast at Sheffield, rolled into plate at Whittington and then made into boilers. This was said to be the only example of steam boilers being made of crucible cast steel.²

In 1859 it was said that Firths had not yet completed the additions to their works, which had been more than doubled in size since they were established. The company were the sole proprietors in England of a German patent for making steel, the success of which had led to the enlargement of the Whittington works.³ In 1866 the company celebrated the completion of its first order for iron railway carriages for India by providing a treat for their employees. At the same time they

¹ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857),785.

² A.C. Marshall and H. Newbould, *The History of Firth's (1842–1918)* (The company, 2nd edn, 1925), 21.

³ *Derb. Times*, 3 Dec. 1859.

announced the building of 150 cottages for their workers, the lack of accommodation having had an adverse effect on the business.¹

Despite this initial success, which led to the rapid development of the village of New Whittington between High Street in the north and the railway in the south, Firths closed their Whittington works in May 1887. After standing empty for some years the site was sold in 1907² and modified a few years later to become a wagon building and repair works.³

Carriage and wagon building and repair

There were three carriage and wagon works in Chesterfield in the 19th and 20th centuries, of which the largest was that owned by the Eastwood family on Birmingham Road.⁴ The two others were in Whittington. In 1881 a company named Beatty & Blackham were proprietors of the Dunston & Barlow wagon works at Sheepbridge, who were also described that year (although not in any earlier or later directories) as timber merchants.⁵ James Beatty was then 33 and returned himself in the census that year as a railway wagon builder employing twelve men and eight boys. He had been born in Ireland but had married a local woman from Coal Aston. The family lived on Sheepbridge Lane.⁶ The other partner, John Blackham, who gave his address as the Railway

¹ *Derb. Times*, 5 May 1866.

² Marshall and Newbould, *History of Firth's*, 21.

³ Above, this section.

⁴ Above, Brimington, econ. hist.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1881), 1293–4.

⁶ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 101v.

Waggon Works and his occupation as railway wagon builder, was aged 40 in 1881 and was originally from Ambergate.¹ The works stood on the right bank of the river Whitting to the north of the storage pond serving Whittington Mill, with a connection to the Sheepbridge branch of the Midland Railway.²

After Beatty & Blackham's business closed, the site was taken over (possibly after a gap of a few years)³ by a concern known as the Chatsworth Wagon Works. By 1904 this business had been taken over by the Scottish wagon builders, Hurst, Nelson & Co. Ltd,⁴ who in turn became part of a combine, Wagon Repairs, in 1918.⁵ Before this change, Hurst, Nelson greatly enlarged the Whittington works. At some date between 1897 and 1914, a much bigger range of buildings was erected to the rear of the older sheds, and beyond a larger traverser was constructed, serving no fewer than 37 roads of varying length, running to the river Whitting, whose irregular course bounded the site to the north. Another 25 roads ran in the opposite direction from the traverser into the main works building or alongside it. There was a second traverser on the south side of this building, feeding lines into the older part of the works and the sidings running from the Midland

¹ TNA, RG 11/3436, f. 75.

² OS map 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1876 edn).

³ OS map 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1898 edn, revised in 1897) marks the works as disused.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1904), 601.

⁵ Sambrook, *Carriage & Wagon Builders*, 51 (with a photograph of Chatsworth Wagon Works when it was occupied by Hurst, Nelson), 97–102.

branch.¹

Wagon Repairs continued in business at Old Whittington after the nationalisation of the railways, manufacturing all types of rolling stock, but also (by the 1960s) other types of steel fabrication, slotted steel angle and plate for racking, and offering a steel-cutting service for pressings and stampings.² The works later closed and the site was cleared for industrial redevelopment.

The other Whittington works were established by Thomas Locker, who had begun his career with S.J. Claye, the large wagon building company in Long Eaton, where he had risen to be works manager before moving to become assistant manager at Hurst, Nelson's Chatsworth Wagon Works.³ In 1914 Locker took over the premises at New Whittington originally built by Thomas Firth & Sons.⁴ the Sheffield steelmasters, alongside the North Midland branch of the Midland Railway. The business was initially known as Locker's Wagon Works but in 1918 became the Derbyshire Carriage & Wagon Co. Ltd, although it appears never to have made any carriages. The company was granted a licence for a 'small explosives factory' at its premises in 1919.⁵ Locker remained managing director until 1923. He then set up in business on his own account again,

¹ Cf. OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII.14*, edns of 1898 (revised 1897) and 1919 (revised 1914), which confirms that Hurst, Nelson extended the works before the creation of Wagon Repairs.

² *CDMI* (1961), 23.

³ This paragraph and the next based, except as indicated, on Sambrook, *Carriage & Wagon Builders*, 113, 64–6, and an obituary of Locker in *Derb. Times*, 7 Sept. 1945.

⁴ Below, this section.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 25 Jan. 1914.

initially as T. Locker & Co. of Old Whittington, with premises at Mill Sidings on the Sheepbridge branch.¹ This concern was later incorporated as Locker's Wagons (Chesterfield) Ltd, which was the subject of a winding-up petition in 1938,² although Locker was still in business on his own account until at least 1941.³

The Derbyshire Company, which in the 1920s acquired a financial interest in Stanley Bell (Wagons) Ltd of Stockport (Ches.),⁴ considerably extended its New Whittington works at some date between 1914 and 1938. Another large workshop was erected, together with a traverser connecting the shops with the outside roads, and a fan of sidings to the west of the buildings.⁵ Locker himself died in 1945 aged 74, having served on the Newbold & Whittington urban district council and, after that was abolished, Chesterfield corporation. In 1967 the company was reconstructed as a general engineering business, with the name changed in 1969 to Whittington Engineering Ltd.⁶ This latter name had already been registered by 1961 as a trading subsidiary of the Derbyshire Carriage & Wagon Co. Ltd.⁷ An associated concern, Derbyshire Wagon Finance Co. Ltd, went into voluntary liquidation in 1948 (following the nationalisation of the railways and

¹ *Derb. Times*, 14 Sept. 1945, correcting the obituary published the previous week.

² *London Gazette*, 20 May 1938, p. 3290.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1941), 655.

⁴ Sambrook, *Carriage & Wagon Builders*, 23; *Commercial Chesterfield* (1931).

⁵ Cf. OS map 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.11, edns of 1916 (revised 1914) and 1946 (revised 1938).

⁶ *Morning Telegraph* (Sheffield), 30 Jan. 1969.

⁷ *CDMI* (1961), 11, 23.

end of private owners' wagons), although the final liquidator's meeting was not held until 1962.¹

Ironfounding and general engineering

Several small iron foundries and engineering businesses were established in the parish in the second half of the 19th century and early 20th; the last closed after the Second World War.

The longest established appears to Arthur Green's foundry on Foundry Street, Whittington Moor, which the company claimed in 1919 had been established in 1859 by Joseph Cartwright.² In the 1890s and 1900s the company were described as stone grate manufacturers and iron founders of Foundry Street.³ By 1931 the business had been incorporated as Arthur Green Ltd⁴ and were continuing to make stoves and kitchen ranges.⁵ After the Second World War, the company diversified into castings for machine tools and general engineering up to 5 tons in weight.⁶ The company later closed.

Later works included S. Sims & Sons Ltd of Britannia Works, New Whittington, established in 1895. In 1961 the company listed their products as dustbins, shovels, buckets and a range of other galvanised goods; they were also galvanisers to the trade.⁷ On Whittington Moor, R.

¹ Sambrook, *Carriage & Wagon Builders*, 66.

² *The Magnet* (1919), full page advertisement.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 382; *ibid.* (1908), 416.

⁴ *Commercial Chesterfield* (1931), p. xxxiii; *CDMI* (1961), 14 gives the company's date of establishment as 1928, which may be the date of incorporation.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1932), 447.

⁶ *CDMI* (1961), 14.

⁷ *CDMI* (1961), 21.

Wilson & Co. (Platers) Ltd of Zachrome Works, Sheffield Road, was established in 1947. In 1961 they described themselves as electro-metallurgists specialising in electro-plating and polishers in copper, nickel, chrom, cadmium, zinc, tin, silver and other metals, using most types of acid. The company claimed to have pioneered job plating in Chesterfield and to be the only platers in the district handling all types of metal.¹ Also on Whittington Moor in the 1960s the Alloy Steel & Iron Co. of the Solidus Works were making brake drums for buses, ingot moulds for the steel industry, general engineering castings up to 4 tons and jobbing castings for the steel industry up to 7 cwt, using pig iron and iron and steel scrap.² The Solidus works had been occupied in the 1930s by Frederick Village, who was made bankrupt in 1935.³

After the Derbyshire Carriage & Wagon Co. Ltd diversified its activities and in 1969 became the Whittington Engineering Co. Ltd, the company specialised in pit tubs, mine cars and other colliery and quarry engineering, conveyors and mechanical handling equipment, conveyor drums, and general steel fabrication.⁴ The works later closed.

Blackening Mills

In 1904 William Cumming & Co. Ltd were recorded as foundry furnishers in Whittington.⁵

¹ *CDMI* (1961), 23.

² *CDMI* (1961), 7.

³ *London Gazette*, 30 April 1935, p. 2876.

⁴ *CDMI* (1961), 23; above, this section.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1904), 407. There is no entry for the company in the 1888 edn. and the works are not shown on the OS map, 1:2500 Derby XVIII.14 (1898 edn), although in 1932 the company claimed to have been established in 1897 (*Derb. Times*, 6 Feb. 1932).

The company's blacking mills stood alongside the Sheepbridge branch railway off Newbridge Lane.¹ In 1925 the chairman and managing director was Harry Winterton, and the company had other at Glasgow and elsewhere.² Three years later a fire caused £3,000 worth of damage at the Whittington works.³ The company remained in business in 1961, with a head office in Glasgow and other works at Bilston (Staffs.) and Falkirk. Products included a range of foundry facings made from coal dust, plumbago, graphite, oil-impregnated cereals and sand. The company also produced pattern plates, sand mixers, electric riddles, jolt moulding machine and crucible furnaces. The Whittington works later closed and the site was cleared to make way for an industrial estate.

Other industries

In 1740 a 'very convenient Elaboratory', furnished with all utensils, with a new furnace for calcining hartshorn and 'all Materials proper for drawing its Spirit' in Whittington, was advertised to let. The premises included a large garden, lately planted, stocked with a great variety of herbs for making chemical oils, and a shop at which the products could be sold. The business had belonged until his death to William Burton, a chemist then lately deceased, and was being disposed of by his widow Elizabeth.⁴ The enterprise appears to have no later history.

In the 1890s and 1900s John Joseph Clayton was a manufacturer of mineral waters, at the

¹ OS map, 1:2500, *Derb. XVIII* (1919 edn).

² *Derb. Times*, 28 March 1925.

³ *Derb. Times*, 15 Dec. 1928.

⁴ *Derby Mercury*, 27 March 1740.

Standard Works, Foundry Street, Whittington Moor.¹ The company was still in business at the same address in 1932, manufacturing mineral waters and bottling beer and stout.²

In 1932 Samuel Thomas Rodgers was making furniture at the Victoria Cabinet Works on Brimington Road North.³ In 1961 Rodgers claimed to have been in business since 1893. His own business was associated in 1961 with Hartley Marsland Rodgers Ltd, also of Brimington Road North. The company made office and school furniture, library and shop fittings, and laboratory benches and fittings. Hartley Marsland were also sales agents for manufacturers of office equipment.⁴

The Chesterfield Toy Company was said in 1945 to have established a 'new factory' on Foundry Street in Whittington Moor.⁵

¹ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 382; *ibid.* (1908), 415.

² *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1932), 447.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1932), 448.

⁴ *CDMI* (1961), 20.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 7 Dec. 1945.

SOCIAL HISTORY

Education

Before 1903

The history of education in Whittington follows a slightly different sequence of events compared with some similar parishes, in that, right down to the introduction of the 1902 Education Act, a well-endowed charity was able to provide all the schools needed, despite the growth of population at New Whittington and Whittington Moor in the second half of the 19th century.

By his will of 1674 Peter Webster, a London clothworker who was born at Whittington, left £200 in trust to be invested in land for the maintenance of a schoolmaster. He also left a message in the parish and directed that 36s. a year be given to six poor scholars to buy them books; the residue of the rent as to be distributed to the poor. The capital was used to buy farm in Unstone, let in the 1820s for £23 2s. a year. The trust also had a piece of land in Whittington, let for 42s. a year and at inclosure was awarded two allotments which were let for £3 a year. Out of a total income of £30 6s., £25 4s. was paid to the school master, 36s. to the poor scholars, and the rest given to the poor.¹ The school was established by 1687 in a building in St Bartholomew's churchyard.²

The endowment was augmented by Peter's son Joshua Webster in 1696. He devised his message and lands for the education of ten poor children, should his own son Peter die without

¹ *White's Dir. Derby.* (1857), 785.

² *Chesterfield Education*, 78–9.

issue. Peter conveyed to trustees Plumtree farm, a holding of about 21¾ acres which was let in the 1820s for £10 10s. a year, although the Charity Commissioners felt that it was worth £35 or £40 a year. The estate also included a house, let to the schoolmaster, and some allotments. The master received £10 10s. from Joshua Webster's charity for teaching ten children.¹

In 1818 the endowed school had 20 boys and 10 girls in attendance, some of whom received shoes, books or money from the income of the Webster trust, and about 29 other children who were not on the foundation whose parents paid fees. The master received a salary of £32 12s., made up of £22 2s. for teaching 20 boys (derived from rent of a house purchased with the gift of £200) and £10 10s. for teaching 10 girls (derived from rent of another house and about 20 acres of land, which it was said would be worth £30 or £40 a year when the current lease expired).² The position of the school was the same ten years later, when the master taught the children reading, writing and arithmetic.³ In 1833 the income had risen to £35 15s.⁴ Four years later, however, the master resigned because of the smallness of his salary, the school closed for four years and the building fell into disrepair.⁵ There may have been a brief revival, but the last payment to a master for several years was made in 1841.⁶

The modernisation of the charity and the establishment of new schools in Whittington was

¹ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 785.

² *Digest of Returns* (1818), 145.

³ *Chesterfield Education*, 78–9.

⁴ *Educ. Enquiry*, 163.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 80.

⁶ J.F. Smith, *Frederick Swanwick: a sketch* (privately printed, 1888).

largely the achievement of Frederick Swanwick (1810–85), who made his name as a railway engineer when he acted as assistant to George Stephenson in the building of the North Midland line between Derby and Leeds, completed in 1840.¹ In 1837 Swanwick settled at Whittington.² After a decade of successful but very busy practice, Swanwick wound down his professional commitments and devoted much of his time to the advancement of all aspects education in both Whittington and Chesterfield. Even when he had been working full-time he established a village library at Whittington.³ He revived the Webster trust and in 1848 a new schoolhouse was erected on Church Street in Old Whittington. As a Unitarian himself, living in a community with a strong Nonconformist presence, Swanwick was anxious to keep the trust free from sectarian conflict. The struggle to achieve this delayed the issue of a new scheme for the trust until 1857.⁴

In 1864 the Schools Inquiry Commission found that about 130 pupils were attending the school in Old Whittington, mostly the children of miners who left at the age of nine, and that the accommodation was rapidly becoming insufficient.⁵ The complaint was renewed in 1868–9 and in 1870 Swanwick engaged Samuel Rollinson, the Chesterfield architect, to plan an extension to the Church Street school. The work was completed in 1871 at a cost of £523.⁶ In 1870 the staff at

¹ Smith, *Swanwick*, 9–18.

² Smith, *Swanwick*, 20–1.

³ Smith, *Swanwick*, 30–1.

⁴ Smith, *Swanwick*, 33–4; *Chesterfield Education*, 80; *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 785 gives the date of the new schoolhouse as 1850.

⁵ Smith, *Swanwick*, 33; *Chesterfield Education*, 36–7.

⁶ *Chesterfield Education*, 80.

Church Street included an assistant master, sewing mistress and infant mistress.¹

In 1874 Swanwick secured a new scheme for the Webster trust, which was to be given the capital of three eleemosynary charities in the parish (the Poor's Land, Wolstenholme's charity and the Bull Close charity) and could apply up to £5,000 from the consolidated funds of the combined charities to the building of schools at Whittington Moor and New Whittington, as well as a house for the master of the Old Whittington school. The five governors (as the trustees were henceforth to be known) were also empowered to sell surplus lands and invest the proceeds in stock. They could establish an 'Upper Department' in any of the trust's schools, which would teach a similar range of subjects to those then being introduced into the reformed secondary schools, including Latin (or a modern language) but also 'Science in its application to trade and manufactures'. The governors could award exhibitions to cover both the tuition fee of 30s. a year which was to be charged for more advanced teaching and also 'to compensate parents for the loss or expense of keeping their children at School'. The rest of the charity's funds could be used not merely to provide elementary schools in the parish but also free places at those schools; exhibitions tenable at higher grade schools elsewhere; a lending library for the pupils; maps, scientific apparatus and 'the like articles, being more expensive than could be afforded without the aid of this Endowment'; lectures and evening classes in Whittington; 'aids for Industrial Instruction', such as tools, a carpenter's shed, gardens for the boys and a kitchen or laundry for the girls; exhibitions to enable pupil teachers to go to a training college; and paying teachers extra sums for more advanced teaching. The schools were to be strictly non-denominational, and neither attendance nor non-attendance at any form of worship was to affect the eligibility of any individual to become a

¹ *Harrod's Dir. Derby.* (1870), 312.

governor.¹

Armed with this very comprehensive scheme, the governors, of which Swanwick was chairman, were able to make proper provision for elementary education at New Whittington and Whittington Moor.

At New Whittington the first schoolroom was provided by Firth's, the Sheffield steelmakers who were the main employers in the village between the establishment of their works in the 1850s and their closure in 1887.² The building, which stood on Station Lane, near the steelworks, was widely used as a meeting-place in New Whittington in the 1860s.³ This appears to have been superseded (at least a school) 1876 the Webster trust opened schools on London Street in 1876, with accommodation for 222 infants and 250 older children.⁴

Also in 1876 the governors opened an infant school at the southern end of Whittington Moor with an initial attendance of 64. Numbers rose to an average of 150, and as a result in 1882 children under five and those living in Newbold and Brimington were removed from the school.⁵ Immediately to the north a mixed school for older children was opened in 1876, where within a month numbers admitted reached 218.⁶ When the first headmaster died in 1889 he was succeeded

¹ *Scheme for the management of Webster's Whittington School Charity and Estates* (Chesterfield, [1927]); *Chesterfield Education*, 36–7.

² Above, econ. hist.

³ The building is marked (but not identified as a school) on OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII,000 (1876 edn) and is frequently referred to in the local press as a venue for meetings.

⁴ *Chesterfield Education*, 95–6.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 47–8.

⁶ *Chesterfield Education*, 37–8.

by Enoch Bell and the school became popularly known as Bell's school.¹

From 1876 the Webster trust was operating three schools in the parish, at Old Whittington, New Whittington and Whittington Moor, each with infant and mixed departments, which in 1881 had a total of 1,111 children in attendance.² By the mid 1890s each of the three schools had five or six staff. The trust also held evening continuation classes in the winter months, which were said to be amongst the best attended in the county.³

In 1899 the Old Whittington school had accommodation for 150 infants and 293 older children; the corresponding figures for the New Whittington school (which was enlarged in 1889 and 1890) were 140 infants and 300 older children; and the Whittington Moor school had places for 273 infants and 360 older children.⁴ In 1895 the Webster foundation opened a fourth school, for infants, at the Brushes on Sheffield Road between Whittington Moor and Unstone. The school was held in the Primitive Methodist schoolroom until 1902, when buildings designed by Samuel Rollinson were opened.⁵

From 1903 to 1944

In 1903 the Webster trustees transferred their schools to the Derbyshire education committee. The trust itself remained in existence, providing additional help to the schools in the

¹ *Chesterfield Education*, 38.

² Smith, *Swanwick*, 35.

³ *Bulmer's Dir. Derby.* (1895), 266.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 381.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 103; below, religious hist. for the chapel.

parish and also exhibitions for pupils from Whittington wishing to go on to secondary schools, probably mainly the boys' grammar school and girls' high school in Chesterfield.¹

The county council were immediately faced with the need to extend improve the schools they had taken over. The New Whittington school was found to be overcrowded in 1903 and later years; by 1908 the problem was so serious that additional accommodation was hired at the Wesleyan Sunday school.² Similarly, in 1907 the Board of Education reported that improvements were needed at the Old Whittington school.³ In 1911 the county council built new premises for the infants' department at Old Whittington.⁴ In the same year HMI criticised both buildings and standards of teaching at the Whittington Moor school. The infants were transferred to a new building that year and by 1918 a new girls' department had been opened.⁵ Overcrowding at the New Whittington school was eased in 1912 when a separate infant school was opened on Handley Road.⁶

All the schools in Whittington were transferred to Chesterfield education committee as a result of the extension of the borough boundary in 1920.⁷ Four years later the Old Whittington

¹ The Webster trust certainly paid the fees of boys from the parish attending the grammar school in this period (Riden, *Grammar School*, 471).

² *Chesterfield Education*, 96.

³ *Chesterfield Education*, 91.

⁴ *Chesterfield Education*, 91.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 38–40, 48.

⁶ *Chesterfield Education*, 101.

⁷ Above, intro., location and boundaries.

school was extended by the addition of another classroom and a headmaster's room.¹

Under the borough education committee's reorganisation scheme of 1928–32, the position of the schools on both sides of Sheffield Road on Whittington Moor was considered together. Until 1903 those on the eastern side of the road had been provided by the Webster trust and those on the western side by either Newbold school board or St John's church.² It was decided that all the older children from the elementary schools of the district should be transferred to either a new senior girls' school on Highfield Lane in Newbold (the Violet Markham school) or a new boys' school, which would occupy the buildings of the former Whittington Moor Endowed school, i.e. the school opened in 1876 by the Webster trust.³ Plans for the reconstruction of the Whittington Moor premises at a cost of £6,800 were drawn up by Wilcockson & Cutts in 1928–9⁴ the school was officially opened in July 1930 as the Peter Webster school. It was the first senior modern boys' school in the borough, and had particularly good facilities for handicraft and science.⁵

At the adjoining infant school on Whittington Moor numbers fell as children moved to a new junior school at Highfield Hall (in Newbold), opened in 1930, and to the Gilbert Heathcote, Cavendish and Christ Church schools elsewhere in Newbold, which were reorganised in 1931.⁶ In 1932 the Whittington Moor school had 276 pupils, including a special needs class for 22 children

¹ *Chesterfield Education*, 85.

² Above, Newbold, education.

³ *Chesterfield Education*, 39–40; above, Newbold, education.

⁴ *Chesterfield Education*, 40.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 41–2.

⁶ Above, Newbold, education.

aged between seven and fourteen, and two nursery classes.¹ During the same period the school at the Brushes was enlarged to take juniors as well as infants. Designed by Wilcockson & Cutts, the new building cost £1,300 and provided places for 282 infants and juniors.²

At the Old Whittington schools plans for extensions costing £4,313 were drawn up in 1930 for alterations to the existing buildings to create a mixed senior school.³ At the same time E.D. Swanwick presented a 2-acre field adjacent to the school for use as a recreation ground in memory of his aunt, Mary Swanwick. Miss Swanwick, the daughter of Frederick Swanwick, was herself very active in the cause of education in Chesterfield, serving as one of the first women members of the Derbyshire education committee.⁴ The new school at Old Whittington was named after her.⁵ The adjoining infant and junior schools were also extended at a cost of £1,781 and the new premises opened in 1931.⁶ Further work was carried out the same year to house a special needs class which had previously been held in a rented room at Whittington Primitive Methodist chapel.⁷ A school garden was established and also an attempt to introduce a school uniform.⁸ The first headmaster of Mary Swanwick school was Charles Clifford Handford, who devoted the rest of his

¹ *Chesterfield Education*, 48–9.

² *Chesterfield Education*, 103.

³ *Chesterfield Education*, 85, 88.

⁴ Riden, *Grammar School*, 000.

⁵ *Chesterfield Education*, 88, 91.

⁶ *Chesterfield Education*, 91.

⁷ *Chesterfield Education*, 88.

⁸ *Chesterfield Education*, 94.

career to the school and was also a noted local antiquary.

Considerable alterations were carried out at the New Whittington school, at a cost of £5,116, to create a mixed modern school, including a cookery and laundry centre, a science classroom and a handicraft centre.¹ The adjoining mixed junior school was also remodelled, at a cost of £1,376. After reorganisation, the premises had recognised accommodation for 392 children.²

After 1944

The development plan prepared by the borough education department under the 1944 Act provided for a new modern secondary school to be built at Whittington, superseding the senior departments created in 1928–32. A site was chosen on the south side of High Street, midway between Old Whittington and New Whittington, adjoining the extensive housing estates developed in the same part of the parish in this period. Work on a mixed secondary school for 600 pupils began in 1955–6.³ The school was named after Edwin Swale, the head of a Chesterfield firm of drapers and outfitters who twice won the DFC in the First World War, and went on to a long career as a councillor, alderman and ultimately honorary freeman of the borough. In 1964 he was appointed CBE for services to local government.⁴ The school admitted its first pupils in September

¹ *Chesterfield Education*, 98–101.

² *Chesterfield Education*, 101.

³ Borough Education Cttee Reports, 1955, 1956.

⁴ Riden, *Grammar School*, 631–2.

1957.¹ The official opening was performed by Sir John Wolfenden, then vice-chancellor of Reading University.² An additional CLASP unit for 90 pupils and to accommodate art and craft work was planned in 1971–2 to meet the needs of the raising of the school-leaving age.³

The opening of Edwin Swale made possible the closure of the small secondary schools at Old Whittington (i.e. Mary Swanwick) and New Whittington, both of which continued as primary schools. In the early 2000s Mary Swanwick had about 320 pupils.⁴ At Whittington Moor, Peter Webster remained open for a few years but, as pupil numbers fell, it too closed in 1968. The buildings were used for a short time as an annexe to Newbold Green school, and for remedial and adult education classes.⁵ They remained in educational use, in part for community education and as a unit for children withdrawn from other schools, at the time of writing. The unit had about a dozen pupils in the early 2000s.⁶ Whittington Moor primary school also closed, although the buildings were retained for educational use. The former infant school buildings at Handley Road remained in use, but the school itself was merged with New Whittington junior school to form a single New Whittington Community primary school, operating on two sites about half a mile apart. At the Brushes, where much of the older housing was demolished after the Second World War, the infant

¹ Borough Education Cttee Report, 1959.

² Borough Educ. Cttee Report, 1959.

³ Borough Educ. Cttee Report, 1972.

⁴ DCC Schools Organisation Plans (Chesterfield Library).

⁵ Borough Educ. Cttee Report, 1968.

⁶ DCC Schools Organisation Plan (Chesterfield Library).

school was closed and the site redeveloped. In 2017 Mary Swanwick and New Whittington closed as local authority primary schools and reopened at academies within the Leainers' Trust, which also took over two primary schools in Brimington.

Under the interim reorganisation scheme for secondary education in Chesterfield introduced in 1974, Edwin Swale became a 'junior high school', taking pupils at 11 who could either remain at the school until they left at 16 or transfer at 14 to one of the 'senior high schools' which had a sixth form.¹ Under the more sweeping scheme implemented in 1991, Edwin Swale was closed and the buildings reopened as the Meadows Community school, an 11–16 school serving its immediate neighbourhood, which included some of the poorest parts of Chesterfield. Although initially successful, with about 850 pupils in the early 2000s,² the school soon encountered serious problems, arising chiefly from the poverty of its catchment area. Numbers fell to about 400 in 2015 and all aspects of the school were heavily criticised by HMI. That year there was an attempt at a fresh start, with a new head and a new name, Whittington Green, but the problems remained. In 2017 the number of pupils had fallen to 350, a third of whom were eligible for free school meals.³ The school continued, as a county secondary school, at the time of writing.

In the early 2000s Holly House special school at Old Whittington had 40 places and about the same number on roll. In 2000 it still had 20 boarding places but the following year this figure

¹ Riden, *Grammar School*, 608.

² DCC Schools Organisation Plans (Chesterfield Library).

³ Riden, *Grammar School*, 639–40

was reduced to six.¹ It continued at the time of writing, offering the only residential special school places anywhere in Derbyshire.²

Charities for the Poor

In addition to the residue of the income from Peter Webster's charity of 1674, after payments had been made to the schoolmaster, the poor benefited from a number of other, mostly small, charities established in the 17th and 18th centuries by local freeholders.

In 1636 Nicholas Sprentall gave 20s., issuing out of a field named Hudgrove Meadow, to be distributed to the poor at Christmas. Godfrey Wolstenholme, in 1682, left £25 to buy gowns for two poor widows of Whittington. The money was invested in land and, at inclosure in 1825, 2½ acres were allotted to the charity, let for 25s. a year. The Charity Commissioners felt the land was worth 30s., but the tenant had laid out £50 in fencing and levelling, which he should be allowed to recover before the rent was increased. In 1724 John Hinde left 50s., the interest to be given to the poor; five years later George Gilberthorpe left £6 to pay for bread to be given to the poor on the six Sundays in lent; and in 1740 Elizabeth Bulkeley left a sum producing 6s. a year, which in the 1820s was said not to have been received for many years and was apparently lost. Samuel Holmes in 1753 left £10 to the poor, which in 1810 was paid by Joseph Brown to one of the overseers, who failed to account for it. In 1757 Elizabeth Burton left 6s. a year for bread, charged on three cottages and gardens, whose owner in the 1820s continued to provide bread on Sundays in Lent. The largest

¹ DCC Schools Organisation Plan (Chesterfield Library).

² Inf. from school.

gift of this sort was made by another Peter Webster in 1750, when he left £200 to the minister, churchwardens and overseers, to be invested in government stock, with the interest paid yearly to three poor men and three poor women, half in cash and half in clothes. In 1755 the capital was invested in South Sea annuities, from which £18 was received in the 1820s, usually given in money to six poor people.¹

In addition to these benefactions by named individuals, the parish also owned, before inclosure, three small parcels of land let for 34s. a year, which was given to the poor, and another piece of land, let for 10s. a year, was used to put out an apprentice, in lieu of which 11¼ acres were awarded at inclosure in 1825, which was let for £12 19s. The rents were partly reserved in the years following to meet inclosure expenses of £51 3s. 2d.² This property was collectively known as the ‘Poor’s Lands’ and, together with the Wolstenholme charity and one other, was transferred to the governors of Webster’s school charity under a scheme of 1874.³ None of the other charities reported on in the 1820s appeared still to be on the Charity Commission register at the time of writing.

¹ *White’s Dir. Derby.* (1857), 785.

² *White’s Dir. Derby.* (1857), 785.

³ Above, previous subsection.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY

Church of England

St Bartholomew

Origins and advowson

The earliest reference to a priest at Whittington occurs in a late 12th-century grant by Geoffrey son of Robert of Boythorpe to Osbert the clerk of Whittington and his heirs of the land on which Osbert's houses stood in Whittington, which lay within Geoffrey's fee, in return for a yearly payment of 4d. to Alan, Geoffrey's man, and his successors for the service and fealty which Alan did to Godfrey. Osbert was free to grant the inheritance at will.¹ An early 13th-century charter records a grant by Simon son of Osbert of Whittington to the chapel of Whittington of a toft which Osbert formerly held in Whittington, near the cemetery of the chapel on its east side.²

Whittington was one of three manors within the ancient parish of Chesterfield where a late 12th- or early 13th-century lord built a church and tried to secure for it the status of a parish church. At Brampton and Wingerworth these attempts were rebuffed by the dean of Lincoln as lay rector of Chesterfield, leaving both as parochial chapelries until the 19th century, but at Whittington they appear to have been largely (but not completely) successful. In 1563 Whittington

¹ *Reg. Ant.*, no, 727.

² *Reg. Ant.*, no. 728.

was described as a rectory of which the dean of Lincoln was patron,¹ and in 1631, when the vicar of Chesterfield, after obtaining a decree in his favour in Star Chamber, set out precisely the respective rights of the dean and the vicar in the different townships making up his parish, he noted that the inhabitants of Whittington, ‘where there is a chapel which is in the advowson of the dean’, have to make an offering on the same lines as those of Brampton and to give oblations and consecrated bread in the same way. The offering was a farthing from each inhabited house payable at All Saints, Epiphany and the Assumption, which the two ministers were to deliver to the vicar at Chesterfield. Unlike their neighbours at Brampton, however, the inhabitants of Whittington were not also obliged to deliver the body of the first person to die in their township after the feast of the Circumcision each year, to be buried at the parish church, for which the vicar received the mortuary and other customary payments.² By the nineteenth century, these payments by Whittington appeared to have long died out and the living was regarded as an independent rectory.³

The advowson remained in the hands of the dean of Lincoln until the early 19th century, when diaconal patronage was transferred by statute to the diocesan bishop.⁴ The bishop of Lichfield was recorded as patron in 1846,⁵ although because of the long tenure of George Gordon, who was instituted to the living in 1812, the first rector to be appointed by the bishop was George

¹ P. Riden, ‘The population of Derbyshire in 1563’, *DAJ*, 98 (1978), 000.

² *Chesterfield Parish Register 1601–35* (DRS, 15, 1990), 390–2.

³ Cox, *Churches*, I, 407.

⁴ Cox, *Churches*, IV, 484–5.

⁵ *Bagshaw’s Dir. Derb.* (1846), 674.

William Botham, who succeeded Gordon in 1872.¹

Property

The rectory was valued at £6 13s. 4d. in 1291.² In 1535 the rector's income was said to have a house and glebe worth 16s. a year, 16s. a year from the Easter Roll, and tithes of hay (£4), corn (12s.), wool and lambs (16s.), the mill (2s.2d.) and small tithes of 6s. With oblations of 4s. a year, this gave him a gross income of £7 12s. 4d., from which 1s. 6d. was paid to the archdeacon.³ In 1650 the living was said to be worth £60 a year. It had risen to just over £300 a year by the mid 19th century.⁴

Church life

In 1650 the minister, John Wolfendale, was regarded as 'scandalous and insufficient'.⁵

Fabric and furnishings

The medieval church consisted, at any rate by the late 18th century, of a nave, chancel,

¹ Cox, *Churches*, IV, 485.

² *Taxatio*, 000 (printed in Cox, *Churches*, I, 410).

³ *Valor Eccl.*, 000, 000 (printed in Cox, *Churches*, I, 411).

⁴ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derby.* (1846), 674 (£330); *White's Dir. Derby.* (1857), 782 (£302).

⁵ Cox, *Churches*, I, 411.

south porch and a small polygonal spire at the west end.¹ The windows at the east and west ends, and those on each side of the porch, were shown in 1789 to be filled with Perpendicular tracery, but a window by a priest's door into the chancel appears to be of the Decorated period, and there is a small Early English lancet window in the south wall of the nave. Radclyffe's drawing, published in 1839, suggests that the basic structure was 12th-century and that the windows had been later replaced. The font from the medieval church, which survived the 19th-century rebuildings, is circular at the top, but tapers into an octagonal shape. It too appears to date from the 12th century.² Samuel Pegge (1704–96), probably towards the end of his 45 years as rector of Whittington, noted that 'Some of the old windows are no better than loopholes ... There are remains of other loophole windows, two being not perfect. The front of the porch has been ornamented with pillars in the Norman manner; there still remains capital and base of that on the right hand'. In the south wall of the chancel there were both an almery and a piscina.³

Bassano, writing *c.* 1710, noted several coats of arms in the windows, which had disappeared by the end of the 18th century. These included, in the south window, a quartered coat, of which he could make out (in the third and fourth quarters) *argent three fusils in fesse gules* and *azure a chevron ermine*, which Cox identified as the arms of Montague, earls of Salisbury, and Lodebroke respectively. In the north window he noted an illegible coat impaling *argent a chevron between three escallops gules*, the arms of the Breton family of Walton. In the west window he

¹ *Gents. Mag.* (1809), 1201 (from a drawing made in 1789); Ford, *Hist. Chesterfield*, facing p. 359.

² Cox, *Churches*, I, 405.

³ Cox, *Churches*, 408 (from Pegge's Collections in the College of Arms, IV).

found the arms of their successors, the Foljambes: *sable a bend between six escallops or*.¹

In 1793 Samuel Pegge described the glass that could then be seen in some of the windows. In the east window, as well as ‘a small figure of a female saint’ he identified the arms of Dethick (*argent, a fesse vaire gules and or between three water bougets sable*) and Beckering (*chequy argent and gules, on a bend sable a martlet*). At the foot of this window Pegge found the name a former rector, Roger Crich, who died in 1413, and suggests that he installed this window, a conclusion that would match the heraldry and the tracery shown on the drawing of 1789. He was buried within the rails of the communion table, where he was commemorated by an alabaster slab.²

In the upper part of the south window of the chancel Pegge recorded a picture of Christ with five wounds, and an angel at his left hand sounding a trumpet. On a pane of the upper tier in the west window there was a portrait of St John, his right hand holding a book with the Holy Lamb on it, and the forefinger of his left hand pointing to the cross held by the lamb, as if he was uttering his confession, ‘Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world’. Also in the south window of chancel were two shields, the arms on which Pegge tricked as *barry wavy of six argent and gules, a chief argent, ermine and gules*, which Cox identified as those of the Barley family of Barlow, and *ermine, on a chief indented gules, a lozenge*, assigned by Cox to a family named Morteyne. Pegge added a note that ‘This window has been renewed; before which there

¹ Cox, *Churches*, 408.

² S. Pegge, *Curialia Miscellanea; or, Anecdotes of the Olden Times* (1818), ooo; R. Gough, *Sepulchral Monuments*, II (2), 37, 39; T. Bateman, *Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire, and the sepulchral usages of its inhabitants, from the most remote ages to the Reformation* (1848), 236; Cox, *Churches*, I, 406–7, 409–10.

were other coats and some effigies in it'.¹

Pegge also recorded (in 1793) that the north door of the church had been stopped up 'in the memory of many persons now living'. In c.1780 the chancel was 'cieled by the ringers' at a cost of 21s., 'but being ill done it cost me £2 2s. 0d. to repair it in 1786, and whitewashing cost me 5s.'² In 1785 the two bells, both of which were cracked, were recast in Lancashire and inscribed with the date and the names of the churchwardens. The old bells weighed 317 lb. and were sold at 8d. a pound; the new ones weighed 413 lb. and were bought for 1s. 4d. a pound.³

Pegge himself was buried in the chancel at Whittington, where a wall tablet of black marble was placed over the east window in his memory, recording his tenure of the living between 1751 and his death, aged 91, in 1796.⁴

The medieval church was replaced by a new building erected a few yards away, designed by Giles & Brookhouse of Derby, for which the foundation stone was laid in January 1862.⁵ The church, which cost £2,200, was opened on 10 February 1863. Described as in the 'geometrical Gothic' style, the church comprised a clerestoried nave, north and south aisles, chancel, south porch, organ chamber and vestry. The main entrance was beneath the tower in the south-west corner, from which a octagonal broach spire rose 100 ft. The main walls were of ashlar

¹ Pegge, *Curialia*, 000; Cox, *Churches*, I, 406–7.

² Cox, *Churches*, I, 408.

³ Cox, *Churches*, I, 408.

⁴ Cox, *Churches*, I, 410.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 4 Jan. 1862. Cox, *Derb. Churches*, I, 405. William Giles was an architect of 4 Market Head, Derby; his partner appears to have been Robert Brookhouse, a supplier of Roman cement etc. (*White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 127, 120).

Wingerworth stone with white stone dressing. Stained glass was installed in the east window by Miss Caroline Smith of Beauchief Hall in memory of Charles Steade of Broom House and his wife (Miss Smith's sister). Mr and Mrs Steade were largely instrumental in raising funds for the new building. The church also contained a marble reredos given by Miss Aldam of Whittington Grange in memory of her sister, Sarah Catherine.¹ The font was transferred from the old church.² In 1868 a new organ by Holditch, the gift of William Fowler of Whittington Hall, was opened at the church,³ and in 1880 a new peel of four bells, made by W. Blews & Son of Birmingham at a cost of about £200, was hung to replace those of 1785.⁴

In January 1895 the church was almost completely burnt out, leaving only the tower and bells; the rest of the walls had to be pulled down. The only monument to survive was one to John and Elizabeth Dixon of Whittington Hall. The iron safe containing the registers and records became red hot and its contents could not be saved. The east window was destroyed and it was thought unlikely at the time that the reredos could be saved.⁵ A new church built to replace that of 1863 is said to have been designed by Samuel Rollinson & Son and to contain stone carving by John Holder and a reredos by Samuel Rodgers.⁶ It was initially hoped that it could be finished in

¹ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan. 1895; *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 263–4, where the cost is stated to have been £2,610.

² *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 264.

³ *Derb. Times*, 11 July 1868; *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 264; above, landownership, for the Steade and Aldam families.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 28 Aug. 1880.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan. 1895; *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 264n.

⁶ *Buildings of England: Derbyshire* (2016 edn), 269.

time for St Bartholomew's feast in August 1896 but this proved to be impossible.¹

Mission churches

In 1874 a corrugated iron mission church was built at Sheepbridge at a cost of £543, exclusive of the site, raised chiefly by the Aldam family of Whittington Grange.²

The foundation stone of St Barnabas, New Whittington, was laid in June 1884 by Mrs C.H. Bathurst Firth of Sheffield, whose husband's company gave £250 towards the cost of the church, estimated at £1,500, of which £1,200 had been raised before building began. The architect was A. Scrivenor of Archibald R. Scrivenor & Sons of Hanley (Staffs.). The church stood at the junction of Wellington Street and a side street. It was built of red brick with stone dressings and comprised a nave and chancel (not separated by an arch) and a vestry and porch under a single roof at the west end, where there was also a turret containing a single bell. Anglicans in New Whittington had for a considerable time been holding services in Firth's schoolroom in the village and the building of the church was the culmination of a project begun 16 years earlier.³ St Barnabas was opened later in 1884 and in 1927 became a parish church.⁴

¹ *Derb. Times*, 1 Aug. 1896.

² *Bulmer's Dir. Derb.* (1895), 264.

³ *Derb. Times*, 14 June 1884.

⁴ Youngs, *Admin. Units*, II, 000.

Protestant Nonconformity

Quakers and Presbyterians

In 1676 there were said to be six Nonconformists in Whittington.¹ In 1751 there were two families of Quaker and two of Presbyterians in Whittington.² In 1772 there were no 'Sectarists' in the parish and only one Quaker, a single man who lived with his sister.³

Wesleyan Methodism

A Wesleyan Methodist chapel was built at Old Whittington in 1828, which in 1851 had 120 sittings, of which 50 were free. On Census Sunday there was a congregation of 20 at the morning and 40 in the Sunday school; in the evening the attendance was 45.⁴ A new Wesleyan chapel was built on Church Street (now Church Street North) at Old Whittington in 1895 to a design by F. Blake of Chesterfield at a cost of £1,400.⁵ Described as a 'handsome Gothic edifice' it was built of stone from the quarry of Pierce & Hurst at Darley Dale, seated 280 and had a Sunday school to the rear.⁶ The church remained in use after the reunification of Methodism and in 1960 was known as

¹ *Compton Census*, 444.

² *Visitation Returns*, 56.

³ *Visitation Returns*, 169.

⁴ *Religious Census*, 160.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derby*. (1899), 381.

⁶ *Bulmer's Dir. Derby*. (1895), 264.

Wesley Church, Old Whittington.¹ It later closed and was demolished.

A second Wesleyan chapel was opened on Wellington Street, New Whittington in 1861;² services had previously been held in the club room of the Wellington Hotel nearby.³ The chapel remained in use in 1960⁴ but later closed and was taken over by Whittington New Life Church.⁵

In 1904 the Wesleyans built Sunday schools on Whittington Moor at a cost of £1,120.⁶

Primitive Methodism

A Primitive Methodist chapel was built at Whittington in 1849, with 80 sittings, 60 of them free, and 20 standing places. In 1851 there was a congregation of 13 in the afternoon and 27 in the Sunday school; in the evening a congregation of 30 and a Sunday school of 26.⁷

In 1859 a second chapel was built at New Whittington⁸ and by 1870 a third had been opened on Whittington Moor.⁹ The chapel at Old Whittington was rebuilt in 1865,¹⁰ with sittings

¹ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), 000.

² *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), 000.

³ *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 743.

⁴ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), 000.

⁵ Below, this subsection.

⁶ <Ref. reqd>

⁷ *Religion Census*, 160.

⁸ *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 743.

⁹ *Harrod's Dir. Derby* (1870), 312.

¹⁰ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), 000.

for 160.¹ In 1895 the Primitive Methodists were said to have three churches in the district, Mount Tabor (the original church at Old Whittington), Bethel (which cannot be securely identified), and Ebenezer, which stood at the junction of Sheepbridge Lane and Sheffield Road.² A new Primitive Methodist chapel was built at Sheepbridge in 1890 with sittings for 266 and an other at Whittington Moor in 1897 with sittings for 600.³ The chapel at New Whittington was still in use in 1925.⁴

Wesleyan Reformers

A Wesleyan Reform chapel was opened at New Whittington in 1858.⁵

Free Wesleyan Church

In 1870 there were chapels belonging to the Wesleyan Free Church at Old Whittington and Whittington Moor.⁶ The chapel at New Whittington (but not apparently the one at Old Whittington) remained in use in 1881.⁷

¹ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 381.

² *Bulmer's Dir. Derby.* (1895), 264; *T.P. Wood's Alamanac* (1960), ooo; OS Map 1:10,560 (1920) edn.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1925), 430.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1925), 430.

⁵ *White's Sheffield Dir.* (1862), 743.

⁶ *Harrod's Dir. Derby.* (1870), 312.

⁷ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1881), 1153.

Free Church Methodists

In 1895 this denomination had chapels at the Brushes and Whittington Moor.¹ In 1899 what were described as the Free Methodists had chapels at Whittington Moor and New Whittington.²

United Methodists

There was a church belonging to this denomination at Old Whittington in 1908,³ which remained in use in 1925, when it was said to have been built in 1875 with sittings for 150.⁴ In 1925 there were other United Methodist chapels at Whittington Moor and New Whittington.⁵

Other Methodist churches

In 1960 there was a Methodist church on Cross Street, New Whittington, said to have been built in 1869,⁶ which cannot be identified with any of those mentioned in 19th-century sources.

Baptist Church

In 1862 the Baptists built a church on High Street in New Whittington.⁷ They had previously

¹ *Bulmer's Dir. Derby.* (1895), 264.

² *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1899), 381.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1908), 414.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1925), 430.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derby.* (1925), 430.

⁶ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), ooo.

⁷ *Harrod's Dir. Derby.* (1870), 312; *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), ooo.

met for services in a room over a blacksmith's shop in the village.¹ By 1870 they had built a chapel on High Street in the village,² said in 1925 to have sittings for 300.³ The chapel was still in use in 1960.⁴

Congregationalism

A Congregational church was built at Whittington Moor in 1878 to seat 300.⁵

Salvation Army

The Army had a barracks on Whittington Moor in 1895⁶ which remained in use in 1925.⁷

Roman Catholicism

In 1706 there was one Papist in Whittington, Edward Nettleton, described as 'sometimes a

¹ *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 743.

² <Ref reqd>

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby*. (1925), 430.

⁴ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1960), ooo.

⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Derby*. (1925), 430.

⁶ *Bulmer's Dir. Derby*. (1895), 264.

⁷ *Kelly's Dir. Derby*. (1925), 430.

journeyman to a hatter'.¹ No Papists were mentioned in 1751 or 1772.²

St Patrick's Roman Catholic church on Wellington Street was erected in 1906 with sittings for 350, and in 1925 was served from St Joseph's, Staveley.³ At an earlier date mass had been said in the club room of the Dusty Miller on High Street by priests from the church of the Annunciation at Spencer Street, Chesterfield, which was then served by the Jesuit community from Spinkhill.⁴

¹ *Papist Returns*, 27.

² *Visitation Returns*, 56, 169.

³ *Kelly's Dir. Derby*. (1925), 430.

⁴ Inf. from Miss A.M. Knowles.