

NEWBOLD

Location and boundaries

The former township of Newbold (sometimes known as Newbold & Dunston) occupied some 2,900 acres immediately to the north-west of the pre-1892 borough of Chesterfield. The boundary between the two ran west from a point on the Rother near Wharf Lane about a quarter of a mile downstream from Tapton Bridge along the course of an unnamed stream to Highfield Road, then turned south to follow Highfield Road, Newbold Road, Gladstone Road, West Street and Foljambe Road to the Hipper at Wheat Bridge, where the townships of Newbold, Brampton, Walton, Hasland and Chesterfield met. Newbold was separated on the south from Brampton by Holme Brook from its confluence with the Hipper to its source; from there the boundary between the two ran north, mostly through fields, to Sud Brook near Cutthorpe Common. The boundary between Newbold and Great Barlow (a detached township of Staveley parish, small portions of which, known as Little Barlow, formed detached portions of Dronfield parish) followed Sud Brook north-eastwards almost to its confluence with Barlow Brook, before turning first north and then east to include within Newbold land to the north of Barlow Brook. The eastern boundary of Newbold, separating the township from Whittington, was formed by the River Drone from Brierley Bridge to its confluence with Barlow Brook near Sheep Bridge, but from shortly below this point (at which the two streams become known as the River Whitting) the boundary between the two townships ran through fields and then along the modern Station Road and Sheffield Road to a stream at the corner of Pottery Lane, which it followed back to the Rother near Brimington Road. From there the river formed the boundary between Newbold to the west and Brimington and Tapton to the east south as far as the point at which the boundary with

Chesterfield left the river at Wharf Lane.¹

Much of the township boundary follows three watercourses (Holme Brook, Sud Brook and the Rother) but in the south-east the irregular boundary with Chesterfield has an artificial appearance, suggesting that it represents a relatively late separation of the settlement at Chesterfield from its natural hinterland to create a new unit, hence the name Newbold ('New Building') used in 1086.² In the north, the area beyond Sud Brook, which remained wooded until modern times, appears to have been colonised by Newbold from land that should by rights have belonged to Barlow or Unstone, as if to ensure that Newbold had an adequate share of the woodland west of the Drone; and in the north-east the boundary between Newbold and Whittington is clearly contrived, since the natural division between the two would follow the river Whitting. The modern boundary here crosses what was until the early 19th century a large area of common waste, divided to give each township a share. The area west of the main road, enclosed in 1839, was known as Newbold Great Moor and the land to the east, inclosed in 1821, as Whittington Moor, although in 1668 (and no doubt at other times) the men of Newbold claimed that the entire common belonged to them.³

A portion of Newbold adjoining Chesterfield, stretching from Ashgate Road in the south-west to Stonegravels in the north-east, was added to the borough in 1892, and a further strip of land was taken at the boundary extension of 1910.⁴ When the borough was enlarged in 1920 almost the whole of Newbold was incorporated, apart from a small area near Cutthorpe, which was transferred to Brampton civil parish, and the civil parish of Newbold

¹ This description is based on OS Map 1:10,560, Derb. XVIII and XXV (1920 edn).

² Above, Chesterfield, introduction, for a fuller discussion of this point.

³ DLSL, DD 1701.

⁴ Cf. OS Map, 10:1560, Derb. XVIII and XXV, 1900 and 1920 edns.

was abolished. The township was administered by Newbold & Dunston local board from 1875 and from 1894 to 1911 the part not transferred to the borough formed Newbold & Dunston urban district. In 1911 the portion which remained outside the borough was combined with Whittington urban district (created in 1894) to form Whittington & Newbold urban district, which was in turn abolished in 1920.¹

Newbold remained part of the ecclesiastical parish of Chesterfield until 1861, when St John's, consecrated in 1857, was assigned a parish that included the whole of the township and parts of Holy Trinity, Chesterfield, and St Thomas's, Brampton. Part of St John's was ceded to Christ Church, Stonegravel, when that parish was created in 1914.²

Geology and geography

The land of the township rises somewhat irregularly from about 250 ft above sea level in the Rother valley in the south-east to a maximum of around 500 ft at Cutthorpe Common in the west. In the north the land reaches about 400 ft at Dunston. The parish is drained by the Barlow brook in the north and Holme brook in the south, both of which flow into the Rother at the eastern end of the parish.

Apart from alluvium in the valleys formed by Barlow brook, Holme brook and the Rother, the whole of the township lies on the Coal Measures, which were extensively exploited for small-scale mining from at least the 16th century, ending in a phase of opencast working in the 20th century. Ironstone and clay in the Coal Measures have also been worked

¹ Youngs, *Admin. Units*, II, 81, 87; below, local govt; and see under Whittington.

² Youngs, *Admin. Units*, II, 81; below, religious life; and see Chesterfield and Brampton, religious life.

for ironsmelting and pottery and brickmaking.¹

Population

A total of 102 households (81 in Newbold and 21 in Dunston) were either assessed to the hearth tax or discharged from payment in the township in 1664. The population appears to have grown only slightly until the end of the 18th century: in the 1780s there were 119 houses in the township, a figure which had risen to 163 by 1801,² when the total population was 781. The increase continued during the first half of the 19th century to 2,035 in 1851; this was followed by a period of more rapid growth to 6,158 in 1881. The rate of growth then slowed and in 1901 the population of the township was 7,815.³ Later figures were affected by boundary changes, although in 1921 the population of the township was said to be 9,575.⁴

Communications

The medieval road from Chesterfield to Sheffield ran north from the old market place to the north of the parish church through the eastern side of Newbold township and over Newbold Great Moor before crossing the Whitting and continuing through Whittington and Unstone. Turnpiked under an Act of 1756,⁵ this route was superseded between Newbold Moor and Unstone by a new alignment (the modern Sheffield Road) which followed the

¹ Geol Surv. Map 1:63,360, sheets 100 and 112; below, econ. hist.

² *Derb. Pop. Stat.*

³ *VCH Derb.*, ii. 202.

⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1928), 363.

⁵ [Batty, Unstone, 98: check Act].

valley floor, for which plans were prepared in 1797.¹

By the early 1830s another new road (the modern Brimington Road North and Dunston Road) had been built from Brimington across Newbold Moor to Key Green, near Dunston, which skirted the grounds of Dunston Hall to the north to join Dunston Lane, which was turnpiked between there to Four Lane Ends, from where the route continued west through Cutthorpe. Pottery Lane, on the southern edge of Newbold Moor, had also been turnpiked, as had Newbold Road between its junction with Sheffield Road on the outskirts of Chesterfield and Four Lane Ends. There was a tollbar at Four Lane Ends, another on Newbold Road midway between there and the borough boundary, one on Sheffield Road near the junction with Dark Lane (the modern Peveril Road), and a fourth at Key Green.²

After the former Great Central Railway Chesterfield Loop was closed,³ part of the alignment was used for the construction of the Chesterfield Inner Relief Road, which runs north through Newbold township to the east of Sheffield Road, before swinging north-west to follow the valley of the Whitting and Drone towards Unstone. Junctions with Sheffield Road were installed at Whittington Moor and Sheepbridge, and a new link road (Rother Way) built between Sheffield Road and Chesterfield Road, Brimington, which provided a third means of access to the Inner Relief Road. The scheme was completed in 19--.

As originally built, the Chesterfield Canal, authorised by an Act of 1771⁴ and opened

¹ [Batty, Unstone, 99, citing SA, Fairbank].

² Sanderson, *Map*.

³ Below, this section.

⁴ 11 Geo. III, c. lxxv.

throughout in 1777,¹ began at a wharf to the east of Sheffield Road just inside Newbold township, linked to the main road by Wharf Lane.² The wharf stood on an arm which ran into the Rother, which was canalised for a short distance before the canal proper began.

Warehouses were built at what became known as the Canal Head, including one carried over the canal on an arch, similar to the surviving example at Worksop (Notts.).³ A short-lived blast furnace was built near the wharf c.1780, near a foundry opened shortly before the canal was built, which was still in use in the 1830s, when it had been joined by a brickyard.⁴

When the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway built its line from Beighton to Chesterfield, authorised in 1890, the original layout at the head of the canal (which the railway had owned since 1846) was swept away and a new wharf built on the Rother between the site of the old arm and Tapton Bridge, which lay in Chesterfield, rather than Newbold.⁵

A short length of the North Midland Railway, opened in 1840, crossed the eastern edge of Newbold near Whittington Moor, as did a small section of the Midland Railway's direct line from Chesterfield to Sheffield, authorised in 1864 and completed six years later, which branched from the older line north of Chesterfield station.⁶ A station on the Sheffield line named Sheepbridge was opened in 1870 where it crossed what became Station Road, Whittington Moor. Renamed Sheepbridge & Whittington Moor in 1897, the station reverted

¹ C. Hadfield, *Canals of the East Midlands (including part of London)* (Newton Abbot, 1966), 36.

² Sanderson, *Map*.

³ [Photo. in CLSL on front of Canal Mins.].

⁴ Below, econ. hist.

⁵ Hadfield, *Canals of the East Midlands*, 196–8; [MSLR dep. plan].

⁶ DRO, Q/RP 2/83; [check Act].

to its older name in 1951, closed to regular passenger traffic in 1967, and closed completely in 1975.¹

In 1865 the Midland Railway deposited plans for a branch to run from the North Midland line near Whittington Moor to the recently opened ironworks at Sheepbridge,² which was extended under a scheme promoted three years later to the Sheepbridge company's Nesfield and Monkwood collieries in Barlow.³

In 1889 the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway secured approval for a branch from Beighton to Chesterfield, part of which ran through Newbold between Sheffield Road and the Rother and involved the diversion of the Chesterfield Canal in the township.⁴ The following year the scheme was extended south to become a loop, rejoining the main line at Heath. A station at Chesterfield was opened in 1892, as was another, named Sheepbridge & Brimington, where the line passed beneath Brimington Road North, just outside Newbold township. The latter closed in 1951; Chesterfield Central (as it became in 1907) survived until the whole of the Chesterfield Loop closed in 1963.⁵

About a mile north of Chesterfield station, the MS&L built Sheepbridge Siding, which was connected to the Midland Railway's Dunston & Barlow Sidings, the two serving as exchange sidings for traffic from the Sheepbridge company's branch. The MS&L siding also had a spur into Pearson's pottery on Pottery Lane and the adjoining brickyard.⁶

¹ Butt, *Railway Stations*, 209.

² DRO, Q/RP 2/66 and 92; below, econ. hist.

³ DRO, Q/RP 2/92, 133.

⁴ DRO, Q/RP 2/206; above, previous sub-section.

⁵ Butt, *Railway Stations*, 59, 209.

⁶ OS Map, 1:10,560, Derb. XVIII, XXV (1921 edn); below, econ. hist.

Landscape and settlement

The growth of settlement in Newbold in the 19th century had four separate roots, which only coalesced into a single built-up area in the 20th century.

The most rapid growth, resulting essentially from the building of Sheepbridge works in the north-east corner of the parish, occurred to the west of Sheffield Road, on what was until it was inclosed in 1837 Newbold Moor. Similar development took place on the eastern side of the main road, in Whittington township, after Whittington Moor was inclosed in 1825. By the mid 1870s houses, pubs, schools and chapels had been erected on the Newbold side of Sheffield Road and Station Road (which led to Old Whittington). Several side roads had been built branching off the older roads across the Common, including Albert Street, Scarsdale Road, Mountcastle Street and Occupation Road, which had been developed with terraced houses; in addition Avenue Road (originally named Queen's Avenue Road) had been laid out but not built-up. The race-course, including the grandstand, survived among this growth of new streets, enclosing them within a roughly oval shape. The only large detached property in this part of the parish was Grove House.¹ There were also several potteries and brickyards in this area.

By the 1890s some new streets had been laid out on Newbold Moor, including Edmund Street (on which large schools had been built), Arundel Street and Devonshire Street; Mountcastle Street had been extended. There had been further building on Sheffield Road itself. The potteries remained in use and a jam factory had been built on Avenue Road.² Limited development continued up to the start of the First World War, by which date the

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

² OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1898 edn).

pottery on the western edge of the Moor had closed, but those on Pottery Lane on the southern edge, and of Sheffield Road near the junction with Pottery Lane, remained in use, as did the jam factory. Grove Road had been built, off Sheffield Road near the southern side of the race-course¹

The smaller area inclosed in 1837, Littlemoor, saw very little growth between then and the First World War, apart from the building in the 1850 of St John's church and the Rectory and schools alongside it. By the 1870s a large private house, Grove Hill, had been built on the same side of the road to the east of the church, but there was no general development of housing on St John's Road.²

In the south-east of the parish, on the boundary with the borough of Chesterfield as it existed until 1892, the built-up area had extended slightly into Newbold by the 1870s. Houses on the west side of Kent Lane (later Highfield Road), known as Hampden View, lay inside Newbold, as did those on the west side of Gladstone Road. By the 1890s, after this part of Newbold had been added to the borough, Avondale Road and Cromwell Road had been laid out parallel with Gladstone Road. By 1914 another 12 houses had been built adjacent to the east side of Highfield Road just inside the former township of Newbold.³ A small part of the West Park development, i.e. Spring Bank Road and Alexandra Road (later Alexandra Road West), lay within Newbold township, and to the north of Ashgate Road this period also saw the building of Fairfield Road.⁴

There was also piecemeal development on both sides of Sheffield Road between the

¹ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1918 edn, rev. 1914).

² OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1876, 1898 and 1918 edns).

³ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XXV.2 (1876, 1898 and 1918 edns).

⁴ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XXV.2 (1918 edn).

edge of the pre-1892 borough boundary in the south and Newbold Moor in the north, in the district known as Stonegravels. In addition to Thornfield, a large detached house in several acres of grounds near the canal wharf, by the 1870s Christ Church, with its adjoining parsonage and school, had been built on the same side of Sheffield Road. On the opposite side of Sheffield Road, a street of terraced houses, named Prospect Street, had been built. Further north again Sanforth Street had been laid out between Sheffield Road and what was then Dark Lane (the modern Peveril Road) and partly built up, mainly with terraced cottages.¹ There was limited further development in Stonegravels in the 1880s and 1890s, including the building of Nelson Street south of and parallel with Sanforth Street; a brickyard had opened and closed between 1876 and 1898 between Sheffield Road and the railway south of Lockoford Lane.²

There was extensive residential development in Newbold between the two World Wars, partly as a result of the purchase of the Highfield Hall estate by Chesterfield corporation in 1920. The mansion was initially divided into tenements to house families waiting for other accommodation but in 1928–9 was converted into a school. The parkland adjoining the Hall to the east became a recreation ground but the rest of the estate was used for a mixture of local authority and private house-building. Before the First World War four new streets, Gloucester Road, Tapton View Road, Crown Road and Bank Road, were laid out west of Sheffield Road and south-east of Highfield Hall park. After the war Gloucester Road and Tapton View Road were extended westward, the latter to Newbold Road and the former to near Highfield Hall. Land to the west of the Hall between Newbold Road and Highfield

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

² OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XXV.2 (1898 edn).

Lane was built up with a grid of streets, Newbold Avenue, Newbold Drive, Highfield Avenue, Mansfeldt Road, Lucas Road, Morris Avenue and Rhodes Avenue; during the same period Highfield Road was extended beyond the house named Highfield to the park around Highfield Hall.¹ Between Tapton View Road and Highfield Road this period saw the building of Selhurst Road, Craven Road, Enfield Road and Highbury Road. To the north of Highfield Lane, which was itself built up in this period, Dukes Drive was laid out. A new senior school, Violet Markham, was opened on Highfield Lane.²

At Littlemoor, there was new housing at Littlemoor Crescent; further north there were small developments at the southern end of Dunston Lane and to the east of St John's church (Levens Way, Kendal Road and Lancaster Road); and after the race-course was closed down, Racecourse Road and Stand Road were built-up with local authority housing, as was Dark Lane (later Peveril Road), extending the built-up on Newbold Road beyond the point it had reached by 1914. Salisbury Crescent was laid out to the west of Dark Lane.³

To the south-west of Newbold Road, Hawkesley Avenue was built to provide a connection with Newbold Back Lane and West Street. Darwin Road was built roughly parallel with Cromwell Road and Darwin Avenue connected Darwin Road to Newbold Road. Some new houses were built on Newbold Back Lane and others to the south on Malvern Road, which ran through to Brockwell Lane. In Brockwell itself, Holmbank, Franklyn Road, Brooklyn Drive and Brookbank Avenue were laid out in this period, the three latter branching

¹ OS map, 1:10,560, SK 37 SE (1955 edn).

² OS map, 1:10,560, SK 37 SE (1955 edn), on which Dukes Drive is named Dukes Rise, apparently in error.

³ OS map, 1:10,560, SK 37 SE.

off Ashgate Valley Road.¹

Alongside the growth of the built-up area, other changes to the landscape between two World Wars and immediately after 1945 included the closure of most of the small collieries, the enlargement of the jam factory on Avenue Road, the survival of potteries on both sides of Sheffield Road, and the building of some new industrial buildings south of Pottery Lane and east of Sheffield Road, of which Dema Glass was the most important. At Four Lane Ends an ordnance factory was opened during the Second World War, which by the 1960s had become a bakery.²

Between the mid 1950s and the end of the 1960s development in Newbold proceeded very rapidly, still with a mixture of local authority and private housing. Much of the new housing stood on the Newbold Hall estate of some 200 acres, which the corporation purchased in 1943. The Hall itself was demolished and blocks of local authority flats built on the site. The land to the north-west of the mansion, bounded by Newbold Road in the south and Dunston Lane in the east, extending almost as far as Dunston Grange and Dunston Farm, was fully developed with a large estate in which the main roads were Keswick Drive, Windermere Road, Thirlmere Road, Ulverston Road, Kirkstone Road and Cordwell Avenue. New primary schools were built on Dunston Lane and Windermere Road, and a small secondary school, Newbold Green, at the junction of Newbold Road and Newbold Back Lane. In the same period Newbold Church of England school moved to new premises on Cranborne Road.³

East of Dunston Lane the built-up area was extended northwards with the laying out

¹ OS map, 1:10560, SK 37 SE.

² Below, econ. hist.

³ OS map, 1:10560, SK 37 SE (1968 edn).

of Coniston Road and smaller side-roads. Between Peveril Road and Stand Road recreation ground a small estate centred on Greenside Avenue dates from this period, and does Chantry Avenue and roads branching from it on the west side of Peveril Road. Between Peveril Road in the east, Littlemoor in the west, St John's Road in the north and Dukes Drive in the south, another very large estate was laid out in the late 1950s and 1960s, on which the main streets were Ringwood Avenue, Lansdowne Avenue, Salisbury Avenue and Cranborne Road.¹

To the south of Newbold Road and north of Brockwell Lane, Aspley Close, Larch Way and Cedar Avenue date from the same period. Much more important was the Loundsley Green estate built in the early 1960s to house families who came to work at the AGD in Chesterfield. Most of this development lay south of Holme Brook in what had once been Brampton township, where the farm from which the estate took its name stood. A small portion extended north of the brook into Newbold, including Purbeck Avenue and Peak View Road. The northern part of Loundsley Green Road, which bounded the western edge of the estate and ran between Newbold Road and Ashgate Road, also lay within Newbold. The first phase of Brockwell primary school was built to serve the new housing in this area.²

In the 1970s Brockwell Lane was extended to join Newbold Back Lane and beyond, off which was developed a further phase of the Loundsley Green estate bounded by Loundsley Green Road on the north-west, including Cheedale Avenue and cul-de-sacs off it. At Dunston there was further building east of Dunston Lane as far as Dunston Farm, including Lindale Road and Cartmel Crescent.³

The 1980s saw the start of the last major housing scheme in Newbold, with the

¹ OS map, 1:10560, SK 37 SE (1968 edn).

² OS map, 1:10,560, SK 37 SE (1968 edn).

³ OS map, 1:10,000, SK 37 SE (1978 edn).

development of land south of Newbold Road and west of Loundsley Green Road, as far as Over Newbold Farm, where a small estate on the site of the former bakery was built in this period. By 1992 Green Farm Close and Barn Close had been laid out at the opposite end of this area, where St Mary's Catholic high school had also opened.¹ Over the next ten years the small developments east of the school merged into one, and the former Green Farm became the Old House public house. At Over Newbold, Holme Park Road formed the basis of an extension of the earlier estate to the edge of St Mary's playing fields.² By 2005 these two estates had been combined, with the extension of Holme Park Avenue and the building of Ashopton Road on the south-west side of the playing fields.³ During the same period land closer to Holme Brook, which had been subject to opencast working for coal and clay in the 1960s and later, was remediated to become Holmebrook Valley Park, including a large lake.⁴

The last years of the 20th century saw the closure of the pottery industry on Newbold Road and of the glassworks nearby.

¹ OS map, 1:10,000, SK 37 SE (1992 edn).

² OS map, 1:10,000, SK37SE (c.2000).

³ OS map, 1:10,000, SK37SE (c.2005).

⁴ OS map, 1:10,000, SK37SE (c.2000); active workings are shown on the 1968 and 1992 edns of the same sheet.

LANDOWNERSHIP

Tenancy in chief

In 1086 the king held a manor named Newbold, to which were attached had six berewicks, listed as Whittington, Brimington, Tapton, Chesterfield, Boythorpe in Eckington, and sokeland in Wingerworth, Greyhirst, Padington, Normanton, Unstone, Dronfield, Ravensholm, Upton, Tupton and Norton. The estate was assessed at six carucates and one bovate; in King Edward's time it had been worth £6 but in 1086 was worth £10.¹ The apparent reversal of the relative importance of Newbold and Chesterfield (the name by which the same estate is known in all later references) remains unexplained, although it is possible that the odd bovate, added to what would otherwise be a regular duodecimal assessment, represents the 'new building' which gives its name to Newbold. The substantial increase in value between 1066 and 1086 may also be the result of development at Newbold, rather than in Chesterfield, which was presumably the largest settlement on the estate.

The manor remained in Crown hands until 1204, when it was granted to William Brewer the elder, who died in 1226. It then passed to his son, also William, who died in 1232 or 1233. After his death the estate was divided between his two daughters, Isabella the wife of Baldwin Wake and Joan wife of Ralph son of Ranulph. Isabella and Baldwin received the manor of Chesterfield and the Domesday berewicks; Joan and Ralph had what remained of the sokeland.² By this date manors had been created in the outlying villis, and henceforth the

¹ *VCH Derby*, I, 329.

² *Leake*, no. 520. A fuller account of the manor of Chesterfield and its members is reserved for treatment in a volume on the borough of Chesterfield.

‘manor of Chesterfield’ means the small area comprising the borough first mentioned in 1204. Two manors were established in the township of Newbold. One was consistently called Newbold, the other was generally known as Holme and Dunston, or occasionally Dunston and Holme. Both were regarded as being held in chief, rather than of the manor of Chesterfield.

Manor of Newbold

The later medieval and modern manor named Newbold (as distinct from the Domesday estate of the same name, which thereafter was known as Chesterfield) appears to have come into existence through a grant by William Brewer the elder, lord of Chesterfield between 1204 and 1226, to William Basset of all his land of Newbold and Barlow, in return for a yearly rent of 6d.¹ The younger William Brewer made a further grant to William Basset of specified tenements in Newbold and Barlow, and also 65 acres of Brewer’s demesne in Chesterfield which the brethren of St Leonard’s hospital held of him.² Henry III confirmed this second gift in 1230.³

Ralph son of William Basset gave the estate his father had received from the Brewers to Welbeck abbey (Notts.), subject to the same rent of 6d.⁴ Hugh Wake, the son of Baldwin Wake, who married Isabella daughter and coheir of William Brewer the younger and thereby acquired the manor of Chesterfield and its berewicks (including Newbold), released the abbey

¹ *Leake*, nos. 53, 503.

² *Leake*, no. 751.

³ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226–57, 116.

⁴ *Leake*, nos. 53, 503.

from the payment of 6d.¹ He also confirmed the elder William Brewer's grant to Ralph and Ralph's grant to Welbeck,² and undertook to distrain any of Ralph's heirs if they failed to do the service due for the land which he had given to the abbey.³ William Brewer the elder released the canons from suit of his court for the hundred of Scarsdale and made them free of toll at the market and fair in Chesterfield.⁴ His son William confirmed these privileges.⁵ In 1291 Edward I granted Welbeck free warren in their lands in Newbold⁶ and in 1328 Edward III confirmed to the abbey the gifts made by Ralph and Hugh.⁷

Others augmented Ralph's initial gift of the manor. William Basset (who was perhaps Ralph's son) and his own son, another Ralph, appear each to have given Welbeck half a mark of rent in Newbold, the service of Robert son of Robert of Newbold.⁸ Stephen son of Peter the Rich of Newbold gave the abbey all his land in Newbold and Chesterfield;⁹ John of Langley made a similar gift;¹⁰ Ralph Fenkelspire gave 10d. yearly rent from meadow in the fields of Newbold;¹¹ and Thomas son of John of Newbold gave half an acre of land in exchange for

¹ *Leake*, nos. 53, 506.

² *Leake*, nos. 508, 510.

³ *Leake*, no. 507.

⁴ *Leake*, no. 731.

⁵ *Leake*, no. 732.

⁶ *Leake*, nos. 56, 278, 727; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1257–1300, 388.

⁷ *Leake*, no. 55; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1327–41, 69–76.

⁸ *Leake*, nos. 504, 505.

⁹ *Leake*, no. 511.

¹⁰ *Leake*, nos. 512–516.

¹¹ *Leake*, nos. 517, 518.

another half acre.¹ The canons also received (c.1313) a messuage and 2 bovates of land from Michael of Rissenden;² 6 acres of arable on Hallflat in Newbold from Susanna daughter of Gervase of Newbold;³ 8d. yearly rent from Thomas son of Adam of Newbold;⁴ 6½ acres and a third of a rood from Philip son of Walter of Newbold;⁵ 2 bovates from Robert son of Alice of Newbold;⁶ and a gift by a clerk named William of Langley of the rents and services due from all his tenants in Newbold and Chesterfield.⁷

A series of deeds in the abbey's cartulary marginated 'Staveley' (rather than 'Brewer', as the other Newbold deeds are, referring to the fee to which they belonged) record a gift by Matthew of Hathersage of the rent which Richard Breton (also described as Richard son of Robert Brito) use to pay for the tenements he held of Matthew.⁸ It appears to be impossible to say whether the donor was the elder Matthew (who died sometime between 1212 and 1216), or his son Matthew, who died in 1258 or 1259.⁹ The tenements in question may have been in Barlow (a manor which was held of Staveley), rather than either Newbold or Staveley. Another member of the Breton family, Robert, gave the abbey all his holdings in Newbold

¹ *Leake*, 519.

² *Leake*, nos. 521, 537, 539–543, 725, 754–756; *Cal. Pat.* 1307–13, 520.

³ *Leake*, no. 522.

⁴ *Leake*, no. 523.

⁵ *Leake*, no. 524.

⁶ *Leake*, nos. 534, 753.

⁷ *Leake*, no. 536.

⁸ *Leake*, nos. 525–529, 759.

⁹ *VCH Derby.*, III, 16.

and also 8d. rent for two bovates of land in Whittington.¹ Two other substantial local figures, Geoffrey of Boythorpe and Walter Deincourt, gave land which Walter held of Geoffrey within the Brewer fee in Newbold.² William son of Thomas the Eyre made a gift of his land in Newbold, with the tofts and buildings, and also the rent from land which eight named men of Chesterfield held of him in Newbold, who paid a yearly total of 2s. 6d. and a fighting cock.³

After the Dissolution the manor of Newbold was granted in 1540 to Sir William West,⁴ who in 1557 was granted licence to convey the estate to his son Edmund.⁵ In 1571 Edmund West and Jane his wife had a similar licence to sell the manor, with lands in Langley, Over Newbold and Nether Newbold, to Anthony Eyre and his son Gervase.⁶ Anthony (c.1537–c.1575) was the son of Edward Eyre of Holme (in Newbold) with his first wife Elizabeth daughter of Ralph Resesby of Thrybergh (Yorks. WR). He married Elizabeth, daughter of German Pole of Radbourne. His son Gervase (c.1597–1625) was succeeded by his only son, Anthony Eyre of Rampton (Notts.) (c.1576–1658),⁷ who in 1634, with his own son and heir Gervase, sold Newbold to William Cavendish, 1st earl of Newcastle.⁸ Thereafter

¹ *Leake*, no. 535.

² *Leake*, nos. 530, 531, 532.

³ *Leake*, no. 533. This deed may mark the first appearance of the Eyre family in Newbold.

⁴ *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, XV, 507.

⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1557–8, 241–2.

⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1569–72, 314.

⁷ *FMG*, 555, 557–8

⁸ Notts. Archives, DD/P/90/5, 5a.

the manor passed with the Cavendishes' home estate of Welbeck (Notts.) until 1792, when Newbold was included in the exchange by which the 3rd duke of Portland conveyed certain estates in Derbyshire to the 5th duke of Devonshire, in return for some Devonshire lands in Nottinghamshire.¹ Newbold afterwards descended with the Devonshires' home manor of Chatsworth and at the time of writing the 12th duke of Devonshire was lord of the manor.

The early medieval manor of Newbold was probably administered from a capital messuage which stood near the junction of Newbold Road and Littlemoor Road. Its site may be represented by the later Manor Farm, to the north-east of the junction. Since from the early 13th century until the 16th century the manor was in the hands of a religious house, and was later owned by families who mostly lived elsewhere, Newbold has probably never had a 'manor house' as such.

Manors of Holme and Dunston

At some date between the death of his father Matthew in 1212–16 and his own death in 1258–9,² the younger Matthew of Hathersage gave Lenton priory (Notts.) the manors of Holme and Dunston, a gift which was confirmed by Edward II in 1316.³ In 1291 Lenton was said to hold one carucate of land in Dunston, worth £8 a year,⁴ and in 1390–1 to have a

¹ Lysons, *Derb.*, 83.

² *VCH Derb.*, III, 16.

³ Dugd., *Mon. Angl.*, V, 113. The idea that the spurious 'foundation charter' of Lenton included a gift by William Peverel of two thirds of the demesne tithes in Holme and Newbold (*VCH Notts.*, II, 91) is mistaken. The place named there as 'Hulme' is Holme (in Great Longstone), near Bakewell, and 'Neubot' is Newbottle (Northants.); see Dugd., *Mon. Angl.*, V, 117 for the same tithes in a minister's account of 1537–8.

⁴ *Tax. Eccl.*, 264.

capital messuage there, with the same annual value.¹ In 1535 the estate comprised rents and farms in Holme, Dunston, Birley (in Brampton) and Whitwell, demised to Edward Eyre, still for £8 a year, out of which 10s. a year was payable to the cell of St James in Derby.² After the Dissolution, what was called the manor of Holme and Dunston, together with Birley Grange, three parcels of land within the manor (two named as Monksfield and Robert Flat), 3s. rent from land in Whitwell, and the tithes of lead ore got in the High Peak, were included in a large grant of former monastic lands in 1545 to Sir Francis Leake of Sutton (in Sutton cum Duckmanton). The whole of this estate remained in the tenure of Edward Eyre. The manor and appurtenances had a yearly value of £10, the tithes of lead ore £6 13s. 4d.³ In 1574 Anthony Eyre (who had then recently purchased the manor of Newbold) was Leake's tenant of what was called the manor of Holme, still let for £10 a year, and the tithes were let to George Heathcote for £6 13s. 4d.⁴

The first member of the Eyre family to settle at Holme appears to have been Roger, the fourth son of Robert Eyre of Padley (in Hathersage) and his wife Joan Padley, daughter and heir of Robert Padley. Robert Eyre died in 1459 and his wife in 1463.⁵ Roger married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Robert Whittington of Whittington, said to be the heir of Henry Bakewell. Roger and Elizabeth's eldest son Thomas Eyre was of Dunston and married Margaret, daughter of Alvery Beswick of Bulcoats (Notts.). Thomas was said to be a great benefactor to Chesterfield church. He was succeeded by his son Roger Eyre of Holme Hall,

¹ Dugd., *Mon. Angl.*, VI, 114 (from BL, Add. MS 6164, f. 502).

² *Valor Eccl.*, V, 149.

³ *Leake*, no. 374; *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, XX (1), 221–2.

⁴ *Leake*, no. 432.

⁵ *FMG*, 549, 551.

who died in 1516, when he asked to be buried at Chesterfield, unless he died at Lenton, when he wished to be buried in the priory. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Barley of Barlow.¹

Roger's son and heir was Edward Eyre (c.1486–1558), the tenant mentioned in 1545, whose son from his first marriage, Anthony, was the purchaser of the manor of Newbold in 1571.² Edward's second wife was Alice, sister of Robert Pursglove. With Alice he had a son John Eyre, who was of Dunston and Holme Hall, 'a zealous Catholic & great sufferer in the reign of Elizabeth'. He died in 1595, having sold his estates in Whittington, Dunston, Holme Hall and elsewhere.³ He is said to have sold Holme Hall to the Leakes, who already held the manor under the grant of 1545.⁴ When the Sutton estate was broken up by sale after the death of the 4th and last earl of Scarsdale in 1736,⁵ it is possible that Holme Hall (if it was then still in the Leakes' hands) was sold separately, since in 1846 it was said to be the property of J.H. Barker.⁶ He remained a principal owner in the parish a decade later.⁷

In 1817 it was said that the manor of Dunston and Holme was then regarded as parcel of the manor of Newbold, which the 5th duke of Devonshire acquired from the 3rd duke of

¹ *FMG*, 555.

² Above, this section.

³ *FMG*, 555.

⁴ Lysons, *Derb.*, 83, where the vendor is said to have been 'Thomas Eyre' (d. 1595). If the date of death is correct, Holme Hall must have been sold by John.

⁵ P. Kettle, *The Leakes of Sutton*, ooo.

⁶ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 615.

⁷ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 716.

Portland in the exchange of 1792.¹ This implies that the Welbeck branch of the Cavendish family had in turn acquired the manor from the Leakes, possibly during the sales that followed the death of the 4th earl of Scarsdale in 1736.²

Whilst it seems safe to identify Holme Hall as the chief house within that portion of the medieval estate, the position at Dunston is less clear. Neither of the houses known in modern times as Dunston Hall and Dunston Grange appears ever to have been called a ‘manor house’, whereas a much smaller house nearby, on Dunston Lane, was named as such in the later 19th century and early 20th.³ Nothing seems to be known of the history of this house (nor does any illustration survive), which was demolished after the Second World War.

Dunston Hall

The Cavendish family’s interest in Dunston appears to originate in the purchase of a freehold estate from the Barley family of Barlow. In 1578 Peter Barley granted a 21-year lease to Henry Berisford of Nottingham gent. of a capital messuage and a number of named closes and woods in Dunston, reserving to himself the woods, the right to make charcoal from them (including taking turfs to do so), ironstone for his smithies in Barlow, and sea-coal for his house there. Berisford covenanted to erect a dwelling-house on the demised lands within three years of the death of Elizabeth, countess of Shrewsbury, which was in turn the date at which the lease was to begin.⁴ This last provision may reflect the fact that the Barlow estate

¹ Lysons, *Derb.*, 83; above, this section.

² Kettle, *The Leakes of Sutton*, ooo.

³ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XVIII.14 (1898 and 1918 edns). The house is marked but not named by Sanderson, *Map*, and the Ordnance Survey (1:63,360, Old Series).

⁴ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/1.

was charged with the payment of dower to the countess under the terms of her brief first marriage in the 1540s to Robert Barley.¹ Berisford was acting as an intermediary for Charles Cavendish, then of Chatsworth, who was Elizabeth's third son from her second marriage to Sir William Cavendish: in 1579 he assigned the lease to Charles, including the covenant to build a house.² The entire transaction appears to have been part of a device to enable Charles to acquire the freehold of the estate, which by 1630 was owned by his son William, 1st earl of Newcastle.³

Among several 21-year leases of premises within the estate granted by Newcastle that year was one to William Allen of Dunston, husbandman, of a messuage named Dunston Hall and two closes, Hall Pasture and Mill Green.⁴ In 1654, shortly after this lease would have expired, Newcastle's sons, Charles Viscount Mansfield and Henry Cavendish, together with four of his officers, sold to George Milnes of Dunston for £310 a messuage in Dunston occupied by Widow Drabble, various parcels of land occupied by Milnes, and a second messuage named Dunston Old Hall (with 7 acres of land) and the close called Mill Green, which were still occupied by Allen.⁵ The Cavendishes may have made other sales in Dunston around this date: *c.* 1660 Anne Bullock of Dunster petitioned Newcastle seeking continued peaceful enjoyment of a small farm in Dunston which her late father George Bullock had bought in 1656 for £130.⁶ In 1678–82 Mary, the widow of William Clayton of Whitwell, one

¹ Riden, 'The Hardwicks of Hardwick Hall'.

² Notts. Archives, DDP 73/2.

³ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/3–11.

⁴ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/8.

⁵ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/12.

⁶ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/13.

of the 1st duke of Newcastle's officers, granted at least four leases for between seven and eleven years of land in Dunston, which appears to have formed part of the Cavendish estate.¹ It is possible that this land had been leased to Clayton for a longer term, with power to sub-let.

The supposed sales of 1654 were declared void at the Restoration, when the marquess (later duke) of Newcastle was able to recover his estates. In 1661 granted a lease for three lives to George Milnes of Holmesfield gent. of a messuage in Dunston (which appears to be Dunston Hall), another messuage named Dunston Old Hall, about 40 acres of land, all in Dunston, together with other land in Dronfield Woodhouse, Stubley and Shercliffe.²

The sale of 1654 and the resumption in 1660 appear to cast doubt on Hunter's statement that what became the Dunston Hall estate was purchased (from whom he did not state) by Richard Milnes (*c.* 1586–1629), a Chesterfield ironmonger and lead merchant, who was the son of William Milnes of Ashford.³ Alternatively, Richard may have bought another piece of land, to which the family later added. Richard's eldest son and heir William died in 1638; his only child had predeceased him in infancy in 1634 and so Dunston passed to his brother Richard, who died without issue in 1650. Richard's heir was a third brother, George (1621–71), also a Chesterfield ironmonger, who was the purchaser from the Cavendishes in 1654. The estate then passed from father to son for four generations: to George's son Richard, who died in 1729, his grandson George (1689–1755), great-grandson Richard (*c.* 1714–73), and great-great-grandson George (1745–87), who died unmarried in 1787. There was a major

¹ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/14–17.

² Notts. Archives, DDP 71/15.

³ *FMG*, 43–7, on which this paragraph is based, except as indicated.

sale of the contents of Dunston Hall in July that year.¹

After George Milnes's death the Hall was the home, until at least 1794, of one of his executors, John Nodder.² By 1797 the estate had passed to Thomas Smith.³ He was the husband of Elizabeth Mary Mower (1771–1829), the daughter of George Milnes's sister Elizabeth (1754–79) and her husband Robert Mower (1747–1811) of Barlow Woodseats (in Barlow).⁴ Smith died at Dunston Hall in 1811⁵ and in 1817 his widow was living there.⁶ Shortly after Mrs Smith died in 1829 the trustees of her will sold off some outlying land (in Newbold, Whittington, Dronfield and Holmesfield), but not the Dunston Hall estate itself.⁷ Thomas and Elizabeth had, with other issue, a son, Thomas Milnes Smith, who in 1830 married Mary, daughter of Godfrey Watts of Barlow. Thomas inherited Dunston Hall, whereupon he adopted by royal licence the name and arms of Milnes.⁸ He appears to have let the estate to his brother, the Revd William Smith, who was resident at the Hall in 1832.⁹ Smith died at Dunston in 1842 and was buried at Barlow.¹⁰ His widow, Mary Millicent, the daughter of Benjamin Broughton Steade (later Pegge Burnell) of Beauchief Abbey and of

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 5 July 1787.

² *Derby Mercury*, 2 Aug. 1787; 1 Oct. 1789; 17 July 1794.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 2 Nov. 1797.

⁴ *FMG*, 222, 225.

⁵ *FMG*, 47.

⁶ Lysons, *Derb.*, 83.

⁷ *Derby Mercury*, 25 Nov, 1829.

⁸ *FMG*, 47.

⁹ *Derby Mercury*, 25 July 1832.

¹⁰ *Derb. Courier*, 9 July 1842.

Winkburn Hall (Notts.), whom he married in 1831, was still at Dunston Hall in 1846¹ but later moved to Beauchief.²

After Mrs Smith left, Dunston remained in the hands of tenants for several years. In 1851 the Hall was the home of Thomas Langhorn, a landed proprietor aged 73, and his wife Maria, who was 66. They appear to have been followed by Bernard Lucas, who was there in the mid 1850s,³ but in 1859 the Hall, gardens and 16 acres of grounds were advertised to let.⁴ By 1862 Charles Henry Plevins, a Northamptonshire entrepreneur who for a few years owned the ironworks at Upper Newbold, was living at the Hall.⁵ In 1868 he opened the grounds for a treat for the children of the combined Whittington Primitive Methodist and Baptist Sunday schools.⁶ In February 1874 it was announced that Plevins was leaving Dunston to move to his Northamptonshire residence.⁷ Shortly before, in August 1873, Thomas Milnes Smith Milnes died, aged 78.⁸ The estate passed next to William Broughton Smith, the son of the Revd William Smith, who in January 1874 obtained royal licence (as required under the will of

¹ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 628.

² *Derb. Courier*, 24 Oct. 1857; and see *FMG*, 333–4 and an obit. of E.V.P. Pegge Burnell (*Derb. Courier*, 20 July 1878) for the connection between the Smiths of Dunston and the Pegge Burnells.

³ *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 730; *Derb. Courier*, 26 Dec. 1857; *Derb. Times*, 29 Jan. 1859.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 25 June 1859.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 16 Aug. 1862; below, econ. hist.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 6 June 1868.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 7 Feb. 1874.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 6 Sept. 1873, where it is stated that Thomas died at Dunston Hall; Cal. Grants (1873), describes him as formerly of Dronfield but late of Lawrence House, York, where he died on 29 Aug. The latter appears to be correct, since Plevins was still at Dunston early the following year.

Elizabeth Mary Smith) to add the name Milnes after Smith and to quarter the arms of Milnes with those of Smith.¹

Mr and Mrs Smith Milnes played an active part in the life of the local community. They opened the grounds of the Hall for Sunday school treats;² he became chairman of the Newbold & Dunston local board;³ and his wife supported bazaars, concerts and other fund-raising events.⁴ Smith Milnes died at Dunston Hall in 1883, aged only 50, leaving a widow, Clara Emma, but no children.⁵ His personal estate was sworn at £19,000.⁶ Mrs Smith Milnes stayed on at Dunston for some years,⁷ continuing to appear in the local press as a supporters of churches and charities. In 1895 she married Charles Henry Lowe,⁸ who had previously been her agent at Dunston,⁹ and died in 1905.¹⁰

By 1896 Dunston Hall had been let to Oscar Edwin Mason, one of two brothers who had for some years owned Chesterfield's only tobacco manufactory. He died at Dunston in 1903, aged 45,¹¹ and the Hall was immediately advertised to let with 18 acres of land.¹² The

¹ *Derb. Times*, 10 Jan. 1874.

² *Derb. Times*, 25 Aug. 1877 (and other years).

³ *Derb. Times*, 31 March, 14 April 1877; below, local govt.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 5 May 1875 (and on other occasions).

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 11 Aug. 1883.

⁶ Cal. Grants (1883).

⁷ TNA, RG 12/2762, f. 47v.

⁸ Chapel en le Firth RD, 1895 Q3.

⁹ TNA, RG 12/2762, f. 47v.

¹⁰ *Derb. Times*, 21 Jan. 1905.

¹¹ *Derb. Times*, 26 Dec. 1896; 26 Sept., 28 Nov., 12 Dec. 1903. See also an obit. of his brother, Charles L. Mason (*ibid.*, 22 Feb. 1935); Oscar's widow Ann died in 1936 (*ibid.*, 18

next tenants were Mr and Mrs G.L. Davies, who were resident at the Hall by September 1905.¹ They had been succeeded by 1910 by Mr and Mrs E.D. Fawcett, who also owned (or tenanted) Unstone Grange.² In the 1920s and early 1930s Mr and Mrs Leslie Creswick lived at Dunston.³ They later moved to Grindleford.⁴ Dunston Hall was advertised to let or for sale, with shooting over 480 acres, in 1933.⁵ Either then or later the house became the home of Samuel Johnson, a retired farmer who had for 40 years farmed at Dunston Hall Farm. He died at the Hall, aged 88, in 1943.⁶

Dunston Hall remained a private residence at the time of writing, set in about 4 acres of gardens and a small park. The core of the building appears to date from the 17th century, but it is difficult to deduce its original appearance because of later alterations. George Milnes was assessed on six hearths at Dunston in 1670.⁷ The House is traditionally said to have been enlarged c.1826 by Elizabeth Smith in 1826.⁸ The 19th-century extension comprised a range, facing east, containing three principal reception rooms on the ground floor, either side of a main entrance, with a kitchen and other service rooms in a wing to the rear, and bedrooms

Sept. 1936).

¹² *Derb. Times*, 17 Oct. 1903.

¹ *Derb. Times*, 23 Sept. 1905.

² *Derb. Times*, 20 Aug. 1910, 5 Sept. 1914.

³ *Derb. Times*, 1 Nov. 1924, 31 March 1928, 16 Jan. 1932.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 24 May 1935.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 5 Aug. 1933.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 23 April 1943.

⁷ *Hearth Tax*, 150.

⁸ This date and attribution appeared in estate agent's particulars (Eadon, Lockwood, & Riddle, Sheffield) in 2018, when the property was on the market.

over. This two-storey block was connected to what appears to be the older, three-storey portion of the house by a new frontage, carried up to a shared eaves line and with a single roof above, although inside the northern end of the house remained on three levels. It may have been at this date also that the roughly triangular area of parkland, extending east from the house and bounded by Dunston Road in the north and Dunston Lane in the south, was laid out in its modern form.

Dunston Grange

The sale of 1654 included two messuages, one of which was called Dunston Old Hall. This may have been the house, part of which dates from the 17th century (the remainder is the product of late 18th-century or early 19th-century modernisation),¹ which stands immediately to the south of Dunston Hall. The house became known in the later 19th century as Dunston Grange, but was previously simply ‘Dunston’.² In the mid 19th century it was the home of William Luke Lancaster, who was farming 100 acres there in the 1850s and 1860s.³ In 1871, still called ‘Dunston’, the holding had grown to 250 acres and was in the hands of Samuel Lancaster,⁴ who was also a colliery owner and had previously lived at Grove House on Newbold Moor.⁵ He later returned to Grove House, where he he died in 1876, leaving

¹ Historic England, list entry no. 1052309.

² Sanderson, *Map*; OS map, 1:63,360 (Old Series).

³ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 628; TNA, HO 107/2147, f. 630; *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 730; TNA, RG 9/2530, f. 15.

⁴ TNA, RG 10/3612, f. 17v.

⁵ TNA, RG 9/2530, f. 47; *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 730; below, econ. hist.

personal estate of £3,000.¹ It may have been his son John Henry Lancaster who renamed the family's other house Dunston Grange, as it was called in 1874, when he opened the grounds for a Sunday school treat.² His father's executors disposed of the live and dead farmstock and household effects at Dunston Grange in 1877–8.³

After Lancaster left, the Grange seems to have been let (rather than sold) to the Derbyshire Silkstone Coal Co. Ltd, who in 1886 advertised both a sale of sheep there and 100 acres of pasture and arable, with a cottage and farm buildings, to re-let, for which applications were to be addressed to Edmund Taylor at Albert colliery, Newbold.⁴ Taylor, the company's secretary and agent, was in fact living at the Grange.⁵ He and his wife stayed there until at least 1894, during which time Taylor was chairman of Newbold school board and a member of the newly formed urban district council.⁶ By 1901 J.H. Lancaster had taken the estate back in hand.⁷ Lancaster died in 1905, aged 53, when it was stated that until about ten years before he had continued to live with his widowed mother at Newbold Grove. After she died he moved to Dunston Grange, where he farmed about 200 acres. His only contribution to public life was to act as election agent for his neighbour W.B. Smith Milnes of Dunston Hall. Lancaster left a widow, Mary Mallard, the eldest daughter of Samuel Wilcockson of Old

¹ Cal. Grants (1876).

² *Derb. Courier*, 30 May 1874.

³ *Derb. Times*, 20 Oct. 1877; *Derb. Times*, 9 March 1878.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan., 6 March 1886 (the term 're-let' suggests that the company were tenants, not freeholders).

⁵ TNA, RG 11/3433, f. 39.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 20 Feb. 1892; 22 Dec. 1894.

⁷ TNA, RG 13/3250, f. 108v.

Brampton, and an adopted child.¹ By 1911 Dunston Grange Farm had passed to Edwin Durham.² The family were still there in the early 1930s,³ but by 1939 had moved to Furnace farm in Upper Newbold,⁴ where he died in 1960.⁵ Dunston Grange remained a private residence at the time of writing but was no longer a farm.

Other estates

Foljambe family

In 1382 Avena, late the wife of Godfrey Foljambe kt, died seised of a messuage and four bovates of land in Newbold, held of the abbot of Welbeck. Her heir was Godfrey son of Godfrey Foljambe kt, who was then 15.⁶ The young Godfrey himself died in 1388, when he was described as Godfrey son of Godfrey Foljambe son of Godfrey Foljambe, kinsman and heir of the last-named Godfrey, who died a minor in the king's wardship, seised of the messuage and four bovates, held of the abbot for 16s. a year. His heir was his daughter Alice, aged one.⁷

¹ *Derb. Times*, 25 March 1905. The 'adopted child' was perhaps Mary Lancaster, enumerated as John's 16-year-old niece in 1901.

² TNA, RG 14/21112, no. 15.

³ *Derb. Times*, 5 Aug., 16 Dec. 1933.

⁴ TNA, RG 101/5894A/016/36.

⁵ *Cal. Grants* (1961).

⁶ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XV, 304–5.

⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.*, XVI, 261–2.

‘Mr Foljambe’ appears frequently as an abutting owner in the survey of the earl of Shrewsbury’s farm in Newbold of 1561¹ and in 1671 Henry Foljambe was assessed on a house with six hearths in the township.²

Earl of Shrewsbury’s estate

In 1561 George Talbot, 6th earl of Shrewsbury, who had succeeded his father the previous year as lord of the manor of Chesterfield, had a survey made of quite a substantial farm in Newbold, on which stood a house with a cross-chamber and parlour, a four-bay stone-built barn, ‘thacked in evil repair’, a cow-house of three bays and an outshut, a kiln and a dovecote, let for £4 a year. The land belonging to the farm includes arable, pasture and meadow, mostly it seems near Newbold Green and St Martin’s chapel, and a parcel of Brierley Wood, which belonged to the manor of Chesterfield, not Newbold.³ This may be the farm called Nether Newbold in a lease of 1562, made by the earl to Eleanor Britten as security for payment to her of 30s.⁴ The farm surveyed in 1561 presumably passed with the manor of Chesterfield from the Talbots to William Cavendish, 1st earl of Devonshire, who in 1634 also acquired the manor of Newbold. The farm would therefore have been absorbed into the manorial estate.⁵

¹ Notts. Archives, DDP 90/3.

² *Hearth Tax*, 150.

³ Notts. Archives, DD/P 90/3. The owner of the estate is not named in the survey but ‘my lord’ appears frequently in abuttals to the various parcels of land.

⁴ Notts. Archives, DD/P 90/4.

⁵ Above, this section; and see the account of the manor of Chesterfield in this period.

Highfield Hall

Despite the sale of Holme Hall and apparently also land at Dunston in the 16th century,¹ the Eyres retained a connection with Newbold and eventually acquired one of the larger freehold estates in the parish. Like his father, John Eyre, who died in 1595, also married twice, first to Faith, daughter of Sir John Chaworth of Wiverton (Notts.), and second to Jane, daughter of heir of John Fitzherbert, son of Sir Thomas Fitzherbert. John had two daughters with his first wife and his heir was his elder son from his second marriage, Edward Eyre, who was said to be of Dunston and Holme, even though his grandfather is supposed to have sold those estates. Edward ‘suffered much in the Civil Wars, & sold much of his land’. He died in 1649 and was buried at St Martin’s chapel in Newbold, which his family had acquired by this date.²

Edward and his second wife, Helen, daughter of Thomas Lowick of Osmotherley (Yorks.), whom he married in 1610 (and who was also buried at the chapel in Newbold), had a son, Thomas Eyre of Dronfield Woodhouse. He was wounded ‘soon after the fight at Naseby’ and died in 1645, predeceasing his father by four years. With his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Robert Owtram of Dronfield Woodhouse, he had a son and heir Thomas Eyre of Newbold, who was born in 1641, would have inherited his grandfather’s estate as a child of about eight, and died in 1682, when he too was buried at the chapel. Thomas married Isabella, daughter and coheir of John Catterick of Carlton.³

Thomas Eyre was succeeded by his eldest son Vincent Eyre of Dronfield Woodhouse (1671–1758), who married Ann daughter of Nathaniel Bostock, with whom he had three sons.

¹ Above, this section.

² *FMG*, 555–6; below, religious hist. for St Martin’s chapel.

³ *FMG*, 556.

The oldest, Vincent Eyre of Sheffield and of Highfield (in Newbold), was born in 1704 and died without issue in 1771; he married Pieria, daughter and heir of Thomas Milnes of Highfield and the relict of Richard Pyott, a barrister of Streethay (Staffs.).¹ Vincent and Ann's second son, Edward Eyre, born in 1706, was a London silk mercer who also had an estate at Newbold. Their third son (and eventual heir), Nathaniel Eyre of Dronfield Woodhouse and of Glossop, married Jane, daughter of John Broomhead of Lidyate (near Sheffield). Nathaniel and Jane had a son, Vincent Eyre of Sheffield, who died in 1801, having for many years been the duke of Norfolk's principal man of business in the town. His father and uncle had both been in the service of Edward duke of Norfolk. Vincent was succeeded by his eldest son Vincent Henry Eyre, who settled at Highfield Hall and also had a town house in Belgrave Square.²

The first house at Highfield appears to have been built by John Woodward, the son of another John Woodward, a mercer and alderman of Chesterfield who died in 1599. The younger John married a woman named Lobley, with whom he had a son, also named John, who married a member of the Milward family. Their son Richard died in 1699, leaving as heir a sister Sarah, who married Thomas Milnes of Turnditch. Thomas and Sarah had two daughters, who died unmarried; a son Thomas, who died unmarried in 1732; and a daughter (and eventual heiress) Pieria (or Pyarea), who was born in 1717. It was through her second marriage, to Vincent Eyre, that Highfield Hall passed to his family. After Vincent died in 1771 Pieria moved to Sheffield and let Highfield for 11 years to Godfrey Heathcote.³ It may have been Vincent Henry Eyre, the grandson of her brother-in-law Nathaniel Eyre, who was

¹ *FMG*, 557, 1024.

² *FMG*, 557.

³ *FMG*, 1024.

the next member of the family to live at the Hall. He was certainly resident there in 1817.¹ Although the present house cannot apparently be closely dated (nor is it clear whether it incorporates any structure from an earlier building), it appears to belong to the period when V.H. Eyre was living at Highfield.² Eyre died in 1847,³ having previously sold Highfield to Bernard Maynard Lucas,⁴ a Chesterfield solicitor, who remained resident there until his own death in 1863.⁵

The estate passed to Lucas's widow Eliza, who died in 1880.⁶ Her executors sold the contents of the Hall later that year⁷ and in 1881 tried to sell the estate, including the mansion and park; a farm of 31 acres between the park and Sheffield Road, with a considerable frontage to the main road suitable for building; three lots of grassland; and 11 perches of woodland. The Blackshale coal beneath the estate and what remained of the Potters coal was leased until 1891; the Piper and Tupton seams were included in the sale.⁸ None of the reserves were achieved and the entire estate was withdrawn.⁹ Some of the grassland was

¹ Lysons, *Derb.*, 83,

² Historic England, list entry no. 1088285.

³ Ecclesall Bierlow RD, 1847 Q3.

⁴ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derb.* (1846), 615.

⁵ TNA, HO 107/2147, 642; RG 9/2530, f. 12; *White's Dir. Derb.* (1857), 730.

⁶ Cal. Grants (1881).

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 13 Nov. 1880.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 8 June 1881.

⁹ *Derb. Times*, 25 June 1881.

advertised to let in 1883¹ and by 1886 the Hall had been let to S. Outram Manlove.² The following year a councillor noted that the estate was again on sale and jokingly suggested that the corporation buy the Hall to become a museum.³ Mrs Lucas's trustees tried again in 1890 to sell the entire estate, when it was described in the same terms as in 1881. There was no bid for the Hall with 70 acres of parkland, and the farm was withdrawn at £2,200. Once again, not a single lot was disposed of.⁴ In 1897 Highfield Hall Farm at Stonegravels, now with 62 acres (of which 19a. was arable and the rest grass), was advertised to let.⁵ The farm had become a separate freehold by 1906, when it was offered for sale with 25 acres of land.⁶ In 1913 Mrs Lucas's trustees offered for sale 32 'exceptionally fine building sites' fronting Newbold Road between Newbold village and Highfield Lodge, taken out of the remaining Highfield Hall estate.⁷

Meanwhile, after Manlove left the mansion in 1898,⁸ it was let to Major John Lawrence Benthall, said some years later to be 'associated with Vickers Ltd of Sheffield', the

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 7 April 1883.

² *Derb. Times*, 3 July 1886.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 23 July 1887.

⁴ *Derb. Courier* and *Derb. Times*, 28 June 1890.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 24 Nov. 1897.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 13 Nov. 1906. The vendor's solicitors were Jones & Middleton, whereas Shipton, Hallewell & Co. acted for Mrs Lucas's trustees; this demonstrates that the farm had been sold off at an earlier date.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 22 April 1913.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 16 March 1898.

armaments manufacturers.¹ He appears to have left at the start of the First World War, and for a short period in 1915 about 300 officers and men of the Army Service Corps were billeted at the Hall.² It then stood empty until November 1917, when it was announced Philip and the Hon. Mrs Lyttelton Gell had taken the house.³ They returned to the Gell family's home at Hopton Hall in May 1920.⁴ By this date both Whittington & Newbold urban district council (in whose area part of the estate lay until the boundary extension of 1920) and Chesterfield corporation were discussing purchasing the property. The estate was acquired from Mrs Lucas's trustees by the borough in 1920, mainly for housing. There was briefly some talk of using the Hall as an art gallery and museum⁵ but it was in fact in let in tenements to families to ease the housing shortage.⁶ This continued until 1927 and the following year discussions began to convert the mansion into a primary school, a scheme which went ahead in 1929.⁷ Highfield Hall remained a school at the time of writing.⁸

Newbold House

In her will of 1779, proved the following year, Elizaebth Tomlinson of Newbold,

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 24 Nov. 1917; the Benthalls were in residence by Oct. 1898, when they began advertising for servants (*Derb. Times*, 29 Oct. 1898, 28 July 1900).

² *Derb. Courier*, 13 March, 8 June 1915.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 24 Nov. 1917.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 8 May 1920.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 12 July 1919.

⁶ *Derb. Courier*, 26 Feb., 12 March 1921.

⁷ *Chesterfield Education*, 66.

⁸ Below, social hist., education.

spinster, left the residue of her real and personal estate (and also three houses she had lately built on land called Flowery Croft in Newbold) to her cousin Jonathan Bromehead of Eckington, who was her sole executor.¹ Bromehead's own will was proved in 1791. In it he left all his estate at Newbold which previously belonged to Miss Tomlinson, and most of the rest of his real and personal estate, to his nephew Joseph Bromehead of Hoxton (Mddx), subject to his making a payment of £4,700 to his trustees (of whom Joseph was one).² Joseph appears later to have taken Anglican orders and to have died at Eckington in 1826.³

Between c.1820 and c.1844 Newbold House was let to Margaret Stovin (c.1756–1846), a botanist, who was the daughter of James Stovin and his first wife Margaret (Whitaker) of Doncaster (Yorks. WR). Her connection with the Chesterfield area appears to originate with her mother's family: her maternal grandmother died at the home of Edmund Cartwright in Brampton. Margaret herself moved from Newbold to Ashgate House (in Brampton), where she died in 1846.⁴

By the mid 1840s Newbold House was the property of Alexander Crawford Bromehead,⁵ who appears to have been baptised Alexander Crawford at St Peter upon Cornhill (London) in 1784, the son of Nathaniel and Mary Crawford; among the smaller bequests in Jonathan Bromehead's will was one of £200 to his niece Mary Crawford. Alexander presumably inherited Newbold as Joseph Bromehead's nearest relative and to have

¹ Staffs. RO, B/C/11, 18 Nov. 1780.

² Staffs. RO, B/C/11, 25 April 1791.

³ TNA, PROB 11/1709/408.

⁴ D.E. Allen and D.W. Lousley, 'Some letters to Margaret Stovin (1756?–1846), botanist of Chesterfield', *Naturalist*, 104 (1979), 155–63; P. Skidmore, 'Some biographical notes on Margaret Stovin (1756–1846) and her associated', *Sorby Record*, 21 (1983), 21–3.

⁵ *Bagshaw's Dir. Derby.* (1846), 628; TNA, HO 107/2147, f. 632v.

changed his name to meet the requirements of his will. A.C. Bromehead died in 1875, aged 91, leaving personal estate of £8,000.¹ Newbold House appears then to have been let: in 1884 it was taken by John James Barrow, the Conservative parliamentary candidate for East Derbyshire,² and two years later it was advertised furnished or unfurnished, with seven bedrooms, and gardens but no other land.³

By 1889 A.C. Bromehead's son Joseph Crawford Bromehead and his family had taken up residence, and bazaars to raise funds for the church were being held in the grounds.⁴ J.C. Bromehead, who a barrister of Lincoln's Inn with a London residence at Burrough's Lodge, Hendon, died in 1902, aged 90, leaving effects valued at £6,226.⁵ The Newbold House estate passed to John Edward Orange of Leamington, a retired lieutenant-colonel in the Army, who adopted the name Orange-Bromehead,⁶ presumably in accordance with J.C. Bromehead's will. Orange-Bromehead was born at Kilkenny (Ireland)⁷ but baptised at Eckington in 1842, the son of John Edward Orange and his wife Mary. He appears to have been a nephew of A.C. Bromehead, one of whose daughters named at the time of his death as as 'Mrs Orange'.⁸ There was a contents sale at Newbold House in 1902, including 1,500

¹ Chesterfield RD, 1875 Q2; *Derb. Times*, 24 April 1875; Cal. Grants (1875).

² *Derb. Times*, 1 March 1884.

³ *Derb. Times*, 14 July 1886.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 21 Sept. 1889, 30 Aug. 1890; *Derb. Times*, 13 Sept. 1890.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 8 March 1902; Cal. Grants (1902).

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 5 July 1902.

⁷ TNA, RG 14/21112, no. 141.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 24 April 1875.

books and a nearly new billiard table,¹ before Orange-Bromehead, his wife and three unmarried daughters moved in. The family were still at Newbold when the census was taken in 1911,² but immediately afterwards the house was advertised to let.³ In 1915 E.M. Longden was living there.⁴ When Orange-Bromehead died in 1919, leaving personal estate of £13,266, he was resident at Hollam House (in Titchfield, Hants.). Probate was granted to his son Francis Edward Orange-Bromehead, then a captain in the Royal Engineers.⁵ Newbold House appears to have continued to have been let. Only in 1928 was it announced that Lieut.-Col. John Wildman Orange-Bromehead MC, an older brother of Francis,⁶ was to take up residence, when a lease to J.H.L. Trevorrow of Chesterfield Tube Works expired.⁷ The Orange-Bromeheads had certainly moved in by the beginning of 1932.⁸

The family remained at Newbold House until 1943, when the entire estate, including the mansion, said to date from the 17th century, grounds, three cottages, five modern houses, five small mixed farms of between 20 and 60 acres at Newbold and Newbold Moor (207 a. in all, let for £542 a year, including long main road frontages suitable for development), with sporting and mineral rights, was put up for auction as a single lot. The sale was advertised to ‘investors, speculators and others’, and attracted considerable interest. Bidding opened at

¹ *Derb. Times*, 19 July 1902.

² TNA, RG 14/21112, no. 141.

³ *Derb. Times*, 15 April 1911.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 31 July 1915.

⁵ Cal. Grants (1920); TNA, RG 13/2933, f. 175v.

⁶ TNA, RG 12/4570, f. 135.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 31 March, 15 Sept. 1928.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 30 Jan. 1932; *Kelly's Dir. Derb.* (1932), 380.

£7,000 and closed at £16,300, when the entire property was sold to Metropolitan Railway Country Estates Ltd of Rickmansworth (Herts.). The auctioneer commented that this was the first time a complete estate of this size had been offered in Chesterfield, and claimed that it would have fetched more had it been divided.¹ The contents of Newbold House was sold a month later and Col. Orange-Bromehead left the district.² He died in Devon in 1961 but was buried at St John's, Newbold.³

Metropolitan had clearly bought the property as a speculation, although they appear to have been outmanoeuvred by Chesterfield corporation. They immediately resold the five modern houses (8–16 St John's Road),⁴ and in November it was announced that the corporation (the underbidder at the auction), had bought the five farms (204 acres) for £13,050 and Newbold House for £2,800, a total of £15,850. This was £350 less than the figure at which they had stopped bidding at the sale, as the *Derbyshire Times* noted approvingly.⁵ The council had secured enough land for 1,000 houses and in the meantime, until the estate could be developed, let Newbold House for £100 a year for three years and thereafter at six months' notice.⁶ The mansion, which stood on the north side of the main road in Newbold village opposite the junction with Newbold Back Lane,⁷ was still standing in

¹ *Derb. Times*, 9 July, 20 Aug., 17 Sept 1943.

² *Derb. Times*, 15 Oct. 1943.

³ Cal. Grants (1961); gravestone in St John's churchyard.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 22 Oct. 1943.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 12 Nov. 1943.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 31 March, 7 April 1944.

⁷ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. XXV.2.

1950¹ but was later demolished.

Newbold Fields

This estate appears to originate in a lease granted in 1629 for a term of 1,000 years of an area of land lying partly in Newbold and partly in Brampton.² In 1760 the sale was advertised of a farm of 60 acres in the two townships, let for £30 a year to Godfrey Booker, named Newbold Fields, with right of common in an adjoining common and a good quantity of coal beneath.³ The following year 30 acres of leasehold land at Newbold Fields, let for £16 a year to Gilbert Booker, also with a colliery on the premises, were advertised, which appear to have been part of the same estate.⁴ In 1762 Gilbert Booker was named as the tenant of a 45 a. leasehold farm at Newbold Fields, of which two undivided third parts were offered for sale. The rent for the two thirds was also £16 a year and the coal resources of the land were once more emphasised.⁵ Two years later the 30 acres of leasehold land in the occupation of Booker were advertised again.⁶

By 1770 the two or more separate estates mentioned in the earlier advertisements seem to have been consolidated into one farm of 73 acres, let to two tenants for £50 a year, on which there was a newly built farmhouse, with right of common on part of Whittington

¹ *Derb. Times*, 21 July 1950.

² *Derb. Courier*, 8 Jan. 1859; earlier sale notices cited here give unexpired terms that imply slightly different starting dates, but this is the only one to quote an exact date.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 6 June 1760; below, econ. hist. for coalmining on the estate.

⁴ *Derby Mercury*, 4 Sept. 1761.

⁵ *Derby Mercury*, 23 April 1762.

⁶ *Derby Mercury*, 1 June 1764.

Common. Oak timber as well as coal were mentioned as assets, as was proximity to the Brimington to Baslow turnpike (i.e. Dunston Road). The tenure was described as leasehold for 1,000 years from 1625.¹ This sale may have been unsuccessful, since the estate was advertised again in 1775 in largely identical terms, apart from describing the rent as ‘old’, mentioning ironstone as well as coal, and claiming that as well as standing on the turnpike road, the farm was little more than a mile from the Chesterfield Canal (it was in fact more than two miles to the nearest wharf).² It may have been at this date that Newbold Fields was purchased by Thomas Fox of Sheffield, who in 1778 advertised the farm to let, with 61 acres available immediately and another 14 acres and a barn to be entered in 1781.³ The coal was offered for sale separately in 1782.⁴

Richard Milnes appears to have taken Newbold Fields either from 1778 or later, since he was resident there in 1787.⁵ By 1801 the farm was the home of Edward Fox, as it remained until he died there in 1840, aged 62.⁶ This lengthy period of occupation means that Fox was probably the builder of the present house at Newbold Fields, which is an early 19th-century three-bay, two-storey structure of local ashlar beneath a hipped slated roof, with sash windows. There is a central portico with a pedimented stone hood over the main entrance.⁷

¹ *Derby Mercury*, 12 Oct. 1770.

² *Derby Mercury*, 30 June 1775.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 25 Sept. 1778.

⁴ *Derby Mercury*, 5 Sept. 1782.

⁵ *Derby Mercury*, 11 Oct, 1787 (game cert.).

⁶ *Derby Mercury*, 10 Sept. 1801 (game cert.; and similar entries down to 5 Oct. 1839); 7 Oct. 1840 (death notice). His age at death is supplied from his burial registration at Barlow, 9 Oct. 1840.

⁷ Historic England, list entry no. 1052318.

From Edward Fox senior the estate passed to his grandson Edward Ward Fox (1833–79),¹ who inherited as a minor. He was resident there in 1846 with his mother Lucy, the widow of Edward Dickinson Fox,² the son of Edward and his wife Thirza, who was baptised at Chesterfield Wesleyan church in 1807.³ In 1856 Edward Ward Fox, said to be of Newbold Fields, married Eleanor, the daughter of Edmund Bellfour of Lincoln's Inn Fields,⁴ and appears thereafter to have lived at Haddon House, near Bakewell, and in London, where he died in 1879, leaving personal estate of £35,000.⁵ In 1861 his mother Lucy was farming 73 acres at Newbold Fields but no other member of her family was resident at the house.⁶

In 1859 the executors of J.G. Barnes of Ashgate House (in Brampton) broke up his estate by auction, including 41 acres at Newbold Fields held under a lease for 1,000 years from 1629 at a nominal rent, occupied by John Crookes. The land failed to sell but was disposed of privately afterwards for £2,000 for 'Mr Dixon of Sheffield'.⁷ This may have been the portion of the estate offered for sale in 1760 which lay in Brampton.

Mrs Fox (who died in 1879, aged 67)⁸ left Newbold Fields c.1869, to be succeeded by John Hallewell (1828–92), a Chesterfield solicitor who in 1851 joined Joseph Shipton to

¹ E.W. Fox was baptised at Chesterfield 16 Oct. 1833, the son of E.D. Fox and his wife Lucy, and buried at Barlow 28 March 1879.

² *Bagshaw's Dir. Derby.* (1846), 615.

³ TNA, RG 4/605, 21 March 1807.

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 23 Feb. 1856.

⁵ Cal. Grants (1880).

⁶ TNA, RG 9/2530, f. 14v.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 12 Feb. 1859.

⁸ *Derb. Times*, 19 July 1879.

form the firm of Shipton & Hallwellwell of West Bars.¹ He had previously lived at Walton Cottage (in Walton) and remained at Newbold Fields until he died in 1892.² His wife Eliza Catherine, the daughter of William Brodhurst of Newark upon Trent (Notts.), whom he had married in 1851, continued to live at Newbold Fields until her own death in 1902.³ The last member of the family to live locally, John and Eliza's daughter Fanny Evelyn Hallwell, moved to live on Cromwell Road after her mother died.⁴

The Hallelwells were followed at Newbold Fields by Walter John Wilkinson, the managing director of Brampton Brewery Co. Ltd, who died at the house in 1927, leaving £66,706.⁵ Mrs Wilkinson moved after her husband's death to Orchard Cottage, Old Road,⁶ and Newbold Fields, still with 75 acres, was put up for auction. It failed to sell but was bought privately by Edmund Thomas White, the owner of White's Music Ltd of High Street, Chesterfield, for £5,000, which had been the reserve. He and his family moved to Newbold Fields from Abercrombie House, where they had lived since 1916. Wilkinson's executors offered for sale separately a house and some building land near Four Lane Ends in Upper Newbold.⁷ The Whites were still living at Newbold Fields in 1944, when their daughter

¹ Mrs Fox lent plants to exhibit at Cutthorpe show in 1868, as did MajorHallewell in 1870 (*Derb. Courier*, 15 Aug, 1868; *Derb. Times*, 20 Aug. 1870).

² *Derb. Courier*, 31 Dec. 1892.

³ *Derb. Courier* and *Derb. Times*, 31 May 1902.

⁴ *Derb. Times*, 5 June 1936; 13 Aug. 1937.

⁵ *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, 26, 29 Sept. 1927; Cal. Grants (1928).

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 23 July 1932.

⁷ *Derb. Times*, 12 May, 9 June 1928; live and dead farmstock from Newbold Fields had been sold previously (*ibid.*, 11 Feb. 1928).

Cecilia was married from the house.¹ Her father died three years later, leaving personal estate of £21,181.²

Newbold Fields remained a private residence at the time of writing.

¹ *Derb. Times*, 10 Nov. 1944.

² Cal. Grants (1947).

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Farming and estate management

In 1630 the earl of Newcastle's Dunston estate was re-leased on the same 21-year terms as adjoining manors, but with slightly more onerous covenants. Possibly because of the quantity of woodland on the estate, tenants had to agree not to pasture stock on land for four years after wood was felled on it, and the earl reserved the right to get sods and turf from the land for weirs, goits, charcoal pits, and also a right of way over the demised premises for conveying iron, ironstone and charcoal to and from the blast furnace on the Newcastle estate at Barlow.¹ A lease granted by Mary Clayton in 1678 reserved to the lessor wood for making charcoal and turf needed to make pits, as well as the coal and ironstone beneath the land, and a right of way to cart the minerals. There was also a penalty of £5 an acre if certain land was ploughed in the last three years of the lease, or the lessee was to lay 25 horse-loads of lime each acre. The lessee was also to put 200 horse-loads of lime on a specified meadow, and was not to plough more than 3 acres of another meadow in the first seven years of the lease, or pay a penalty of 40s. an acre.² Other leases of 1682 included similar covenants limiting how much of the land was to be ploughed or how much lime was to be applied.³

The woodlands on the Dunston estate were sufficiently important to be surveyed, with a plan, in 1696. They were found to extend to 193 acres, of which about 7 acres had to be deducted as 'plains' which had been recently felled. Several woods were named – Dods Wood, Rough Carr, Crabtree Spring and Hemppit – but essentially the area was that known in

¹ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/3–11.

² Notts. Archives, DDP 73/14.

³ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/15–17.

other sources as Brierley Wood.¹ This was regarded as an appurtenance of the manor of Chesterfield in the Middle Ages (even though Brierley was separated from the rest of the manor by the township of Newbold), but by the 17th century, when both Chesterfield and Newbold were in the hands of the dukes of Newcastle, the woods were regarded as part of the manor of Dunston.

Corn mills

A reference in a 13th-century deed to the ‘mill of Newbold’ is probably to the watermill on the Rother in the eastern end of the township.²

A deed, probably of the early 13th century, relating to half an acre of land in Hasshefurlong in the fields of Newbold, mentions a windmill belonging to Welbeck abbey nearby.³

Ironsmelting, ironfounding and engineering

In 1501 Thomas Leake, the bailiff of the Crown manor in Chesterfield, had ironworks known as Bailey Smithies near Newbold mill,⁴ when he was accused of diverting the water from the mill to power his smithies.⁵ In *c.*1513 the smithies were in the hands of the Foljambe

¹ Notts. Archives, DDP 73/18.

² *Leake*, no. 530

³ *Leake*, no. 519.

⁴ *Hist. Chesterfield*, II (1), 52.

⁵ *Hist. Chesterfield*, II (1), 149.

family of Walton.¹

Two men named William Webster and a third, Hamlet Worsley, were described as cutlers of Newbold in the later 16th century or early 17th.² In 1671 John Webster of Littlemoor, cutler, died leaving personal estate of £20 13s. 4d.³

In 1780, three years after the Chesterfield Canal was completed, an ironworks was established near the canal wharf at Stonegravels. In 1794 the works were in the hands of Barnes & Co., a firm established by David Barnes (1741–1805) in partnership with Richard Milnes and Thomas Slater.⁴ They had two coke-fired blast furnaces, blown by steam power, and a forge comprising a chafery, two melting furnaces and a balling furnace. In 1796 the output of pig iron was said to be 940 tons a year; in 1805, by which date the works had passed to a firm named Top & Co., a figure of 700 tons was returned. On both occasions only one of the two furnaces was in blast. The works was still in use in 1810⁵ and in 1813 George Armitage was described as one of the proprietors of the Wharf iron furnace.⁶ The works appears to have been a victim of the slump after 1815, and in 1819 the 'Entirety of the Wharf furnace' was advertised for sale by auction, including a steam engine, casting houses, several tenements, and ironstone which had been contracted for but not mined. The furnace's position close to the canal basis was emphasised. By this date Armitage had moved to the Mousehold

¹ *Hist. Chesterfield*, II (1), 44.

² *Hist. Chesterfield*, ii (1), 154–5.

³ CWI, no. 110.

⁴ Riden and Owen, *British Blast Furnace Statistics*, 115; F.J. Stephens, 'The Barnes of Ashgate. A study of a family of the lesser gentry in north-east Derbyshire' (Unpub. Nottingham Univ. M.Phil. thesis, 1980), 1–2, 111.

⁵ Riden and Owen, *British Blast Furnace Statistics*, 115.

⁶ *Derby Mercury*, 21 Sept. 1813.

forge in Sheffield .¹ No evidence has been found to suggest that the works restarted.

During much the same period as Wharf furnace was active, Joseph Butler, who had blast furnaces at Wingerworth and a forge at Killamarsh, also had an iron foundry in the Stonegravels district of Newbold.² This was probably the ‘Stone Gravels Foundry’ mentioned in 1786, near the Navigation Inn.³

Many years later a new Stonegravels Foundry Co. was established in 1898 by D. Mellor, said to be the owner of patent for a fuel economiser and furnace fire bars. The company made both fine and heavy castings.⁴ The business seems to have come to an end by 1914.⁵

A small ironworks with a single blast furnace was built at Upper Newbold in about 1847 by Scholefield & Co., the owners of other works at Park Gate near Rotherham (Yorks.),⁶ at a site previously occupied by farm buildings.⁷ From about 1854 Scholefield’s business was taken over by Samuel Beale & Co.⁸ By 1866 the furnace at Newbold had been acquired by Charles Henry Plevins,⁹ born in 1824, the son of Joseph Plevins, a Birmingham

¹ *Derby Mercury*, [check date] 1819.

² P. Riden, ‘Joseph Butler, coal and iron master...’, ooo.

³ *Derby Mercury*, 13 April 1786.

⁴ *Guide to Chesterfield* (1899).

⁵ OS map, 1:2500, Derb. ooo (1918 edn; rev. 1914).

⁶ Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 118, 131.

⁷ DRO, [Newbold incl. award]

⁸ Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 118, 131.

⁹ DRO, D 3808/1/2/1, 15 Oct. 1866 (which corrects the chronology in Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 119).

architect.¹ C.H. Plevins briefly operated Windmill Hill ironworks, Dudley (Worcs.), in the mid 1850s² and a furnace at Harrington (Cumb.) between 1856 and 1862,³ although by the latter year he was living at Dunston Hall.⁴ In 1868 Plevins was considering leasing ironstone pits at Hady which the Staveley company had given up.⁵ Plevins was still living at Dunston early in 1871⁶ but moved shortly afterwards to Woodford (Northants.), where he built up extensive interests in ironstone mining in that county and in blast furnaces at Heyford and Islip.⁷ He died in 1899, leaving estate valued at £765,000.⁸

The Newbold Iron Company (sometimes known as the Newbold Iron & Coal Co.) remained in existence until about 1885, although the blast furnace, for which an output of 80 tons a week was claimed in 1847, last operated in 1873.⁹ Both coal and ironstone appear to have been obtained from land immediately to the north of the works and presumably from other pits operated by Plevins in the Chesterfield area. For both the assembly of raw materials and the despatch of pig the furnace relied entirely on road transport. After the works went out

¹ Staffs. RO, Tettenhall BTs, 6 June 1824.

² Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 91.

³ Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 142.

⁴ *White's Dir. Sheffield* (1862), 665; Plevin's eldest son's birth was registered in Eccleshall Bierlow district, Sheffield, in 1861 Q1.

⁵ DRO, D3808/1/2/1, 18 May 1868.

⁶ TNA, RG 10/3612, f. 17v.

⁷ Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 102, 104; E. and M. Humphreys, *Woodford juxta Thrapston. The History of a Northamptonshire Parish* (Rushden, 1985), 136–41.

⁸ Cal. Grants (1899).

⁹ Riden and Owen, *Blast Furnace Statistics*, 119.

of use the buildings reverted to their previous use and were known as Furnace Farm. They were later demolished and the site occupied by houses.

By far the most important coal, iron and engineering business on the northern side of Chesterfield was founded in 1857 by John and William Fowler, the sons of a south Yorkshire land surveyor named John Fowler. Of the two brothers, John continued his career as a civil engineer while William became the acting partner at Sheepbridge, moving to live at Whittington Hall, which he purchased from Henry Dixon.¹ In 1864 the company was incorporated as the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. Ltd, mainly through the initiative of David Chadwick, the Manchester accountant, and H.D. Pochin, with whom Chadwick worked closely on many company flotations in this period, including the Staveley Coal & Iron Co. Ltd. The banker Arthur Hankey (who died in 1866) was also associated with the flotation.² The business was valued at incorporation at £250,744. The new company initially issued 3,812 shares of £100 each to 62 shareholders, but called up only £10.³

After incorporation William Fowler became chairman and managing director. John Stores Smith was appointed managing director in 1868,⁴ but Fowler remained chairman until he died in 1877.⁵ He was succeeded by Pochin, who held the office until his death in 1895.⁶

¹ Below, Whittington, landownership.

² Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 4; S.D. Chapman, *Stanton & Staveley: a business history* (1982), 000.

³ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 4.

⁴ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 19.

⁵ [obit of WF].

⁶ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 19.

Stores Smith retired in 1885 but remained on the board until he died in 1892.¹ In 1887 Watkin Davies was appointed general manager, who was succeeded in 1896 by Maurice Deacon. When Deacon joined the board as managing director in 1906, W.B. Mather Jackson became general manager. Soon after Pochin became chairman, his son-in-law C.B. McLaren was made a director. McLaren was later elevated to become 1st Lord Aberconway and succeeded Fred Fowler as chairman towards the end of the First World War.²

The company's ironworks were built on the right bank of Barlow brook near the main road from Chesterfield to Sheffield. The name Sheepbridge derived from the bridge carrying a minor road over the brook. The foundation stone for the first two blast furnaces was laid in November 1857.³ A third furnace was added in 1858 and a fourth in 1862. They were put into blast in 1860. In 1863 it was said that a large proportion of the make was cold blast. A fifth furnace was built in 1871, a sixth in 1875, and two more in 1881 and 1884. The number was reduced to seven in 1900 and to four in 1906. No more than five were in blast at any one time and by 1913 generally only three were in use. Another two furnaces were dismantled in 1930.⁴ In 1951–2 two large modern blast furnaces replaced the older plant, each with a capacity of 350 tons a day, which were used to produce foundry and basic pig. At the same modern methods of ore preparation were introduced with the installation of ore-crushing, screening and sinter plants, gas cleaning plant and pig casting machinery.⁵ Despite this

¹ *T.P. Wood's Almanac* (1893), 272.

² Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 20.

³ *Derb. Courier*, 6 Nov. 1857.

⁴ Riden and Owen, *British Blast Furnaces*, 121.

⁵ *Industry in the East Midlands*, 98, 101.

expenditure, the two furnaces were blown out in 1961.¹

In 1895 Sheepbridge had eight puddling furnaces and two rolling mills at their forge.² After the Second World War the forge had a 20-inch and 10-inch mill. The larger mill produced light rails and roofing bars for collieries; the small mill made bars and sections from wrought iron.³

The company was renamed Sheepbridge Co. Ltd in 1951,⁴ after its collieries were vested in the National Coal Board. In 1948 Sheepbridge Engineering Ltd was incorporated, with its headquarters at Chesterfield, and became the administrative hub of the business. The company's activities were reorganised into twelve main production units, three of which were also based in Chesterfield. Sheepbridge Equipment Ltd concentrated on the production of plant for the mining industry, including mine cars, pit tubs and pit-head gear, but also made quarry plant, crushers and screens, structural steelwork, foundry products and pulverised fuel equipment for boiling firing. Sheepbridge Stokes Ltd (previously Sheepbridge Stokes Centrifugal Castings Co. Ltd) specialised in centrifugal castings and machining of grey and alloy iron for use as cylinder liners for all types of engine, including motor vehicles. Finally, British Van Der Horst Ltd made chrome-hardened cylinders by the Van Der Horst system, and also operated the Mahle process of chrome hardening light alloy castings.⁵ The business known from 1951 as the Sheepbridge Co. Ltd, in addition to operating the blast furnaces, made fencing, reinforced bars and fabricated products, and undertook railway wagon repairs.

¹ Riden, and Owen, *British Blast Furnace Statistics*, 120–1.

² *Bulmer's Dir. Derby*. (1895), 91.

³ *Industry in the East Midlands*, 98, 101.

⁴ Riden and Owen, *British Blast Furnace Statistics*, 121.

⁵ *Industry in the East Midlands* (c.1960), 98, 101 (copy in CLSL).

The company had its own electricity generating plant, which also supplied the East Midlands Electricity Board.¹

The company initially obtained coal and ironstone from local pits, including some on the Whittington Hall estate,² and others near the ironworks.³ The works were served by a branch of the Midland Railway which ran from the North Midland line up the valley of river Whitting. Beyond the works the line divided and ran to two collieries at Monkwood and Nesfield (in Barlow). The Fowlers leased large areas of coal and iron from the duke of Devonshire, duke of Rutland and John Boyer of Spital House.⁴ At incorporation in 1864 the company had three collieries (Nesfield, Dunston and Sheepbridge) and 28 ironstone pits at Whittington and Barlow, as well as 23 coke ovens. The company had also built 48 workers' cottages at Cavendish Square, adjoining the ironworks.⁵ By the 1860s supplies of local ironstone were coming to an end and Sheepbridge joined several other Derbyshire iron companies in promoting the Midland Counties Iron Ore Co. Ltd to develop ironstone mines in Northamptonshire.⁶ In 1883 Sheepbridge leased ironstone at Frodingham in north Lincolnshire.⁷ From the 1870s until the First World War the company developed several large

¹ *Industry in the East Midlands*, 98, 101.

² Below, Whittington, econ. hist.

³ OS map, 1:2500

⁴ CLSL, SHE 59, 61; [obit of WF].

⁵ D.E. Jenkins, *History of the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. Ltd* (1995) 4 (copy in CLSL).

⁶ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 11.

⁷ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 12.

collieries on the coalfield of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, and also in south Yorkshire.¹

Brickmaking

Brockwell Brickworks

Charles James Saunders (1853–1925) was born at Lillings Ambo (Yorks. NR) and grew up in Darlington, where his father was a colliery agent.² He later moved to Chesterfield and in 1881 described himself as a colliery proprietor and brick manufacturer employing 22 men, three boys and one woman.³ In July 1884 he married Mary Ellen, the daughter of the late John Bower, a farmer, at Holy Trinity, Chesterfield, a church with which he and his family remained associated for the rest of their lives.⁴ Charles Saunders was also, intermittently from 1882, a member of Newbold & Dunston local board and the urban district council which succeeded it,⁵ of the Chesterfield & Derbyshire Institute of Engineers,⁶ and of the Association for the Promotion of University Education in Chesterfield.⁷ In the 1880s he

¹ Jenkins, *Sheepbridge*, 6–10.

² Birth regn York RD, 1851 Q1; TNA, RG 10.4884, f. 46v.

³ TNA, RG 11/3432, f. 65v.

⁴ Both Chesterfield newspapers contain numerous reports of Mr and Mrs Saunders's work for the church from the time of their marriage until shortly before their deaths.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 9 Sept. 1882 (and thereafter); below, local govt.

⁶ *Derb. Times*, 21 April 1883. The history of the institute will be treated in Chesterfield.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 29 Sept. 1888; the history of this movement will be treated in Chesterfield.

had a colliery in Newbold¹ and was also interested in the Barlow Colliery Co., which worked Monkwood colliery (in Barlow).² He remained a colliery owner as well as a brickmaker in 1891, when he and his wife were living at Brockwell House on Brockwell Lane,³ where they resided until their deaths.⁴

Saunders appears to have given up his colliery interests in the 1890s and instead developed his brickworks. In 1898 he incorporated his business as C.J. Saunders Ltd, with capital of £14,000 in 1,400 £10 shares, all of which were placed privately. He became managing director and the other directors were P.H. Chandler and John Saunders; the other subscribers were Reuben Wragg (slater), Edward Mitchell and his son Arthur Edward Mitchell (chartered accountants), F.A. Walker (solicitor) and C.W.Rollinson (architect). The company was set up to take over as a going concern Saunders's brickworks at Brockwell Lane and to build a brick- and tile-works at Storforth Lane (in Hasland).⁵ Some of the promoters were also concerned in the development of building land near Storforth Lane and the second works may have been started to supply the demand for bricks and tiles for the estate.⁶

In 1903 shares in the company were advertised for sale with the comment that the previous a dividend of 6 per cent had been paid, with 7½ per cent carried forward.⁷

¹ *Derb. Times*, 28 April 1883; above, this section.

² *Derb. Courier*, 25 May 1889, 18 July 1890.

³ TNA, RG 12/2762, f. 33v.

⁴ TNA, RG 14/21096, no. 5.

⁵ *Derb. Courier*, 12 Feb. 1898.

⁶ See Hasland, econ. hist., for the Storforth Lane brickworks.

⁷ *Derb. Courier*, 1 July, 29 Aug. 1903.

Saunders showed Chesterfield Scouts round the Brockwell brickworks in 1910¹ but in 1914, when the company was fined for using a potentially dangerous old boiler, he stated that it had not been used for brickmaking for the last month and that he had decided to dismantle the works.² It was described as disused (but appears to have been largely intact) when the large-scale Ordnance Survey map of the district was revised that year.³ During the coal strikes of 1912 and 1921 Saunders allowed men to get poor quality coal from a clay hole and a tip at Brockwell, and only stopped them when there was a risk of collapse or danger from a fire in the tip; in 1921 the police warned the men against selling the coal.⁴ The brickworks had been demolished by 1924, when only a large chimney, 125 ft high, remained to be taken down; it collapsed of its own accord the day before it was due to be demolished, without causing injury or damaging property.⁵

Brockwell brickworks stood on Brockwell Lane near Clubmill Terrace, Reservoir Terrace and Brockwell Terrace. The clay workings eventually extended north-east as far as Newbold Back Lane. Brockwell House adjoined the works at its south-eastern corner.⁶ The works was never rail-connected and so presumably used only clay got from pits on the site and sold most, if not all, its output locally. The site was used for housing some years after the

¹ *Derb. Courier*, 29 Jan. 1910.

² *Derb. Courier*, 18 July 1914.

³ OS map 1:2500, *Derb. XXV.2* (1918).

⁴ *Derb. Courier*, 16 March 1912, 23 April, 20 Aug. 1921.

⁵ *Derb. Times*, 1 March 1924.

⁶ OS map 1:2500, *Derb. XXV.2* (1898 and 1918 edns).

works was demolished.¹

C.J. Saunders died at Brockwell House in October 1925, leaving effects valued at £9,649.² Some house property he and his wife owned on Clubmill Terrace and Prospect Terrace was not sold until 1945.³

¹ 59–77 (odd) Brockwell Lane and Fair View; Brockwell House appears to survive as 57 Brockwell Lane.

² Cal. Grants (1926).

³ *Derb. Times*, 7 and 28 Sept. 1945.