

Lorton &

Derwent Fells Local History Society

Brackenthwaite

Buttermere

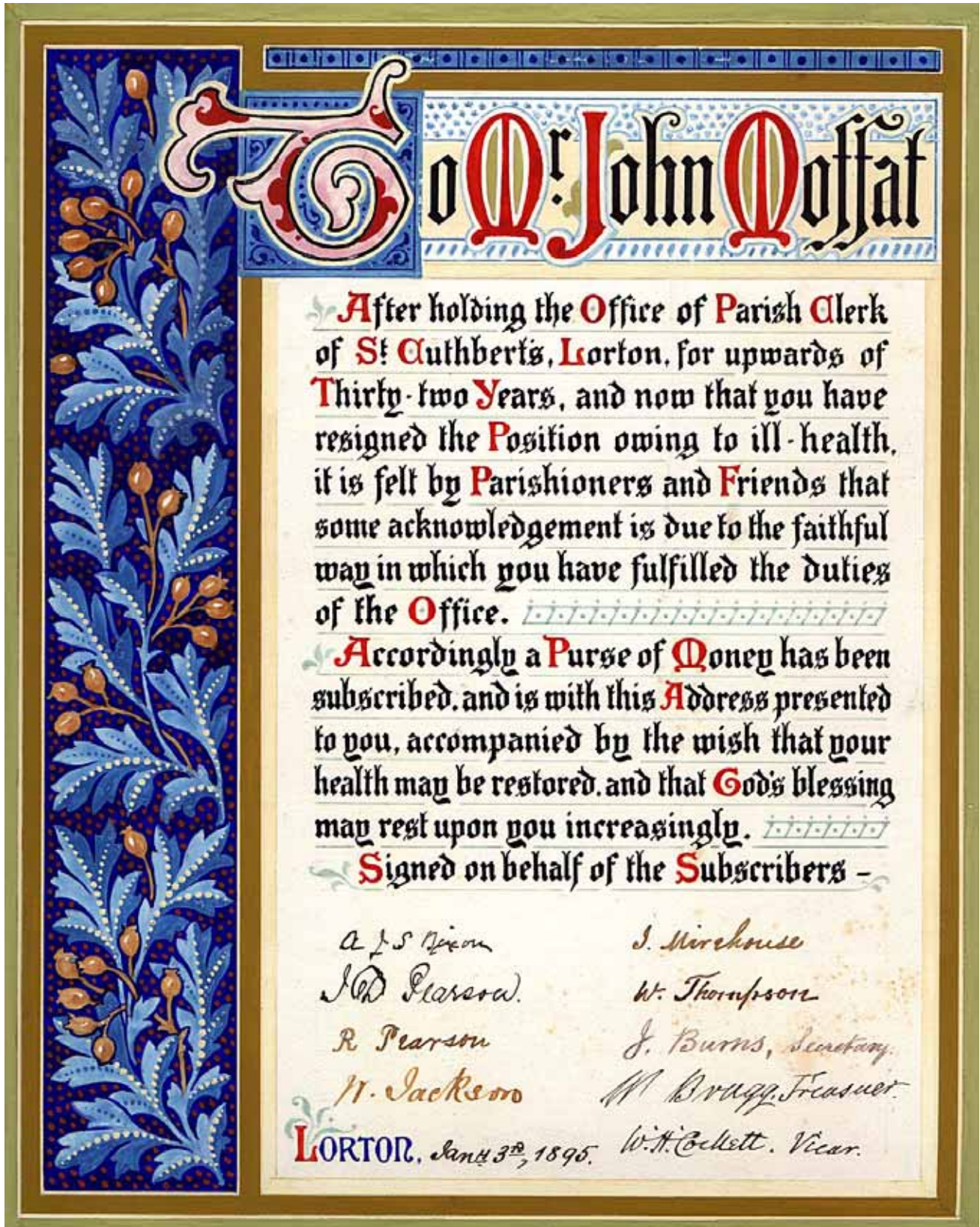
Embleton

Loweswater

Mockerkin

Pardshaw

Wythop



Secretary's letter

First of all, may I wish all our members, who now live all over the place (including Canada!), a very happy new year. And for the society it is a rather special year as it is our 10th anniversary - Derek talks about that a bit further down.

You might have noticed that we haven't issued membership cards this year. We're trying it because they are time consuming to produce and they are not used for meetings. But they did list the Committee members so you will find a list of them at the end of this Newsletter.

We now have a website - www.derwentfells.com - which has been set up by Derek Denman. In fact, 'set up' included learning how to use the software, so it is quite an achievement to have got it looking so good already. It's well worth a look and there's a bit more about it later in the Newsletter.

The third and final part of Ron George's article on family history research appears in this issue and covers the use of the internet for research; he also gives you some perhaps-needed encouragement and he lists some useful addresses. Many thanks Ron for an interesting and practical survey of the family history research scene. I also welcome Sally Birch's piece which describes her research on her house history; this is the first 'report' from the House History Group. I think that you can tell that the work was interesting, although it does almost seem to raise more questions than have been asked! Chris Bower's piece on the pinfold near Loweswater (lake) was an eye-opener to me because I have walked along there many times and had never seen the pinfold! To follow on from all that, if anyone has anything they would like to put into the Newsletter, please contact me - it doesn't matter how short it is and, remember, what is interesting to you should be interesting to many of our members. Could be useful too.

The Society's Tenth Anniversary

It was in October 1993 that Ron George called a meeting of interested people at which the Lorton and Derwent Fells Local History Society was formed. The Committee has been discussing how the tenth anniversary should be marked and is planning to do this in two ways. Firstly, the talk in May by our President, Dr Angus Winchester, will be the Tenth Anniversary Lecture and will no doubt involve some celebration. Secondly, we have ambitious plans for a public exhibition in September, which will aim to present the activities of the Society and promote local history to our members and local people generally. It is early days and the content, dates and venues of the exhibition(s) have not yet been fixed. Nearer the time requests will be made for help with the event, but in the meantime anyone who is keen to be involved in planning or content would be welcome to contact me or any Committee member.

It has also been noticed that our Secretary, Michael Grieve, will also complete his first ten years both as Secretary and as editor (except for this part), printer and distributor of the Newsletter, which has been continuously and consistently produced to such a high standard. On behalf of the Committee and members I wish to use this opportunity to thank Michael for doing so much of the work in such a conscientious manner and for creating harmony where otherwise there might be discord.

Derek Denman, 01900 85551



A request for photographs

On our 10th Anniversary, we are hoping to develop our photographic collection in the Archive and create an album which can be made available to all in the area showing some of our history.

To do this we need to expand our collection of photographs and we are asking for help. We are looking for photos of the distant past and recent past and current photos of your homes, outbuildings and people, including any interesting internal or external historical features: but ALL local buildings and activities are part of its history. Also any photos of farming and industrial activities in our area would be welcome.

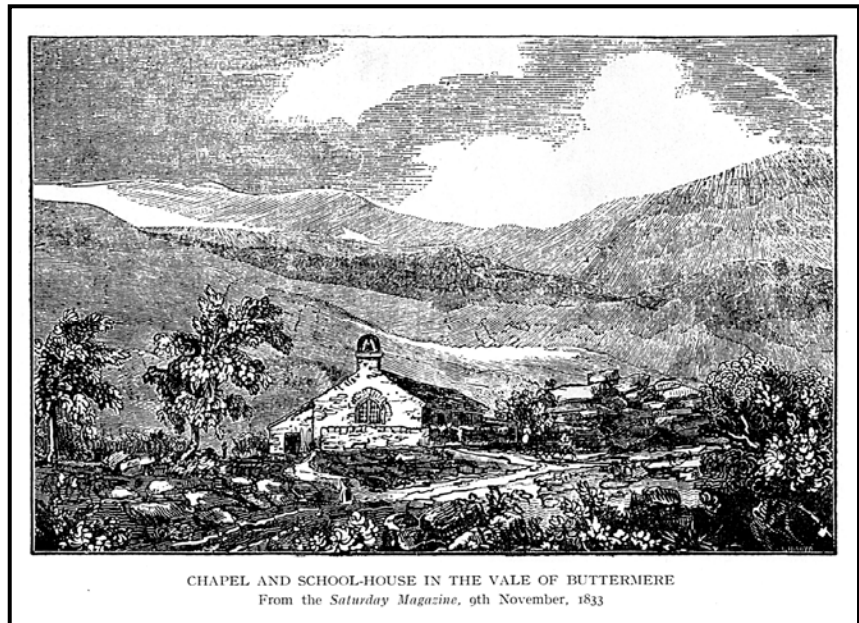
However, please ensure that no personal valuables or security features are shown, for your security reasons. We would not need to keep the photos, only to borrow them and scan them with your permission to use them.

If you feel able to help, please contact Chris and Jacqui Bower on 01900 827811, or speak to any member of the Committee.

According to the Custom of the Manor – Some Reflections on Customary Tenure by Derek Denman

‘There are probably few counties, where property in land is divided into such small parcels as in Cumberland, and those small properties are so universally occupied by the owners’ said Bailey and Culley in 1805 when surveying agriculture. ‘By far the greatest part of this county is held under lords of manors, by that species of vassalage called *customary tenure*; subject to the payment of fines and heriots*, on alienation**, death of the lord, or death of the tenant, and the payment of certain annual rents, and performance of various services, called boon-days; such as getting and leading the lord’s peats, ploughing and harrowing his land, reaping his corn, hay-making, carrying letters, etc. etc. whenever summoned by the lord.’ Compare this with the county of owner-occupiers first described and you would think it a much older description, or a more backward feudal land. But no; this is the same report, the same page even, and the ‘vassals’ are both owner-occupiers and customary tenants. In reality they own neither their land, nor house nor rights on the commons – but at the same time they can effectively sell that property and associated rights. These yeomen or statesmen are tenants at the will of the lord of the manor, their tenure being held ‘according to the custom of the manor’. It is the rights established over time, enshrined in the custom of the manor, which produced the statesman-vassal described above.

Cumberland’s special tenurial arrangements derive from its position as a border county. Perhaps the mindset was formed from AD75 to AD405 when the protection of the Pax Romana was granted to the Carvetii of the occupied Solway plain, who in return were presumably required to feed and service the garrison. But after the Norman occupation by William I, customary tenure in our valleys developed in such a way that tenants were granted considerable security of tenure and low rents in exchange for service in fighting the Scots, in the wars which lasted for centuries. The lord would gain his main income from the demesne



CHAPEL AND SCHOOL-HOUSE IN THE VALE OF BUTTERMERE
From the *Saturday Magazine*, 9th November, 1833

land, farmed directly or through an agent. During the C14th, the combination of the Black Death, crop failures, animal disease and the worst ever Scots raids, further limited the lords’ ability to obtain rents from those tenants who survived. Low rents then assisted population recovery. Later, in 1603, the Union of the English and Scottish Crowns under James I or VI (according to your nationality) naturally removed the need for military service; barring accidents, the odd civil war or Jacobite rebellion. This was seen, by landowners, as altering further the balance of tenancy benefits in the favour of the tenants. Some landowners responded by attempting to force leases on customary tenants, as is the pattern in the great estates elsewhere, but the terms of the customary tenancies were upheld in law and the tenants held on to their property rights and low ancient rents - but also their vassalage. It is no coincidence that the great rebuilding of farmsteads started around 1650 with the confidence which came from settled times and secure property rights.

So when a local history anorak receives a bundle of long lost documents deriving the title to property, as has recently happened with the title to the Bowe ‘Lorton industrial estate’ focussed on Tenters, then there are numerous illustrations of how these tenancies worked and the effects on people’s livelihoods. A customary tenancy had no time limit or term, as has a lease, and the ancient rent is not revised, we believe, unless a tenement has been ‘improved’. John Bowe’s fulling mill, which preceded the threadmill, had a rent payable of 6d per annum, traceable back to 1569 at least. As a customary tenant of the lord of the manor of Derwentfells, he could install a subtenant at an economic rent, sell (alienate) the fulling mill or leave it to his heirs. Much of this required the lord’s permission; but the lord could not refuse if the appropriate fine was paid. We have a conveyance for the purchase of the mill from John Waite (a mariner) in 1741 for £45 12s 6d which gives a true market value of the property as a customary tenancy.

The supervision of the customary tenancies was a task of a manor court, which collected rents and fines and handled disputes or complaints. The customary tenancy was a person-to-person agreement between the lord and the tenant, and any change occasioned a fine or heriot, which was anciently a man’s best beast and not a fixed sum. These fines could be considerable and were paid at the manor court on change of

tenancy, by the surrender of one tenant and the admittance of another. John Bowe paid a fine of 7s 6d (fifteen years' rent!) on admittance to the fulling mill. He would have been prepared for this cost, but there was another opportunity for a fine totally outside of the tenant's control; namely a fine on the death of the lord of the manor, when all tenants were readmitted under the new lord. One can see how this would seem a good idea to the medieval lord, whose good health became the business of every tenant and whose skirmishes with the Scots would be well supported. But by the C18th this would have been a painful random event for the tenants.

In 1748, Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset, died. This was unfortunate for John Bowe because Charles was the third husband of Elizabeth Percy and had inherited her estate, including the manor of Derwentfells. Macaulay commented of Charles that his pride of birth and rank 'amounted almost to a disease' and it is unlikely that John Bowe would have been invited to the funeral tea. The death of the Duke of Somerset cost John Bowe £4 5s and his father in law, John Skinner, £5 10s. (John Skinner had sold Stockdale, the land past Tenters along Whitbeck, to John Bowe in 1746 for £90 10s but had not transferred the tenancy, thus cannily deferring a fine). Charles Seymour was succeeded as Duke of Somerset by Algernon Seymour who, to the disappointment of Lorton folk, died in 1750. This cost John Bowe another £9 9s just a year after the previous fine. He must have regretted being just outside of the High Lorton manor of the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral, where the lord, not being a person, never died.

The new lord of the manor of Derwentfells, Sir Charles Wyndham, 2nd Earl of Egremont, embarked on a more enlightened policy of systematically enfranchising (i.e. selling the freehold to) those tenants who wished to buy and who could afford the price. Consequently John Bowe, a successful man, was enfranchised of his Tenters estate in 1760. This freed him of fines and of customary restrictions and duties. But he still had to pay the ancient rent as a 'free rent'. For enfranchising customary property with an ancient rent of 6s 11d, he paid £103, plus a further £4 13s 8d for the timber trees on the property. Why extra for the trees? 'If a customary tenant plants wood, he cannot cut it without leave of the lord; in some cases the lord claims it as his own; which sufficiently explains why the occupiers do not plant wood.' For many of the smaller tenants their freedom from the manor courts would not take place until the implementation of the 1922 Law of Property Act. The bill in 1939 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England given to John Stoddart of White Ash in Lorton for extinguishing manorial rights was £3 13s 5d (plus 15s stamp duty) for property with an ancient and current rent of 3d per annum!

It would be interesting to examine the importance of the confirmation of customary tenure in the C17th, in terms of the economic development of agriculture, or lack of it, and of the traditional culture of the yeoman or statesman maintained by handing down small parcels of land through the generations. Bailey and Culley in 1805 were clear. 'One obstacle to improvement, seems to arise from a laudable anxiety in the customary tenants to have their little patrimony descend to their children. These small properties (loaded with fines, heriots and boon days, joined to the necessary expense of bringing up and educating a numerous family), can only be handed down from father to son by the utmost thrift, hard labour and penurious living; and every little saving being hoarded up for the *eventful fine*, leaves nothing for the expenses of travelling, to see improved modes of culture, and to gain knowledge of the management and profits of different breeds of stock, and be convinced, by ocular proofs, that their situations are capable of producing similar advantages; and even should they be half inclined to adopt a new practice, prudence whispers, that, should the experiment fail, it would require the savings of many years to make good the deficiency. The *customary tenure* is allowed, on all hands, to be a great grievance, and check to improvement.' The young Wordsworth also illustrated the statesman's plight in the sad tale of 'Michael', composed 1800; a poem written mainly to lobby the government for support. But 'Michael', of course, had no vote!

On the other hand, many people are now attracted to Lakeland by the difference in the landscape, farmscape and traditional culture, and might this not have disappeared without the continuation of a twelfth century system into the twentieth?

All references: 'Agriculture of Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmorland' by J Bailey and G Culley, 1805

*heriot – tribute to lord of best live beast on decease of tenant. ** alienation – transfer of ownership.

The Society's Website – www.derwentfells.com

At last the waiting is over and the Society's website is up and running. On it you will find information on the Society and its activities including up to date information on the programme of events for 2003. A gallery of old Lorton photographs is currently showing and we hope to extend this to other townships where we have the material. Naturally this is just a start and we can display material and articles, request information for members' projects and link into other relevant sites. Please take a look and make suggestions by email to the webmonkey.

A report from the House History Group by Sally Birch

When we bought No.3 Park Cottages (alias Wayside Cottage), I was puzzled by its mid-nineteenth century listing and felt sure that the three cottages had originally been a house and byer. Imagine my delight when the Deeds revealed a 1751 document featuring a single customary-held “messuage and garth” and one of 1781 incorporating a byer and barn. However it was obvious that the story did not start there, so what should my next step be? The House Detectives on TV inspired me, not least because in our youth my husband and I had been friendly with one of them, Dan Cruickshank. I was fortunate in that my burgeoning interest coincided with a visit to the Society by Chris Craghill, Cumbria’s own House Detective, whose services I promptly commissioned. Then came the opportune formation of a House History Group within the Society and the encouraging news that the Society’s archive, painstakingly compiled by Ron George, the founding Chairman and ably managed and expanded by Derek Denman the present incumbent, was brimming with useful information. It was all being done for me! Chris Craghill had confirmed that the facade of Park Cottages was indeed misleading and her opinion was that the oldest part of our house was “originally part of the house/living end of a farmstead, dating from at least the 17th century”, its Estate Gothick look having been the result of a makeover by the Harbords, who built Lorton Park. No.1 has remains of arrow-slit windows showing it would have been a byer, its fire surround dated 1700 with the initials PHA being a red herring. It probably originated elsewhere – possibly even No. 3. Whatever its provenance, the initials could arguably represent members of the Pearson family which would fit in with the theory that the original house may have been built as a cottage by one Richard Pearson for his tenants and that it was extended at the end of the seventeenth century and again in the nineteenth century. Richard was introduced into the story by Ron George on the grounds that the field behind the cottage, is styled “Boonhouse” indicating that it was associated with a dwelling-house and that Richard Pearson owned freehold land in the vicinity. This possible scenario gave rise to much debate because the Parliamentary Survey of 1649 listing customary held property, mentions no dwelling-house which, unless it stood on freehold land, must have been built post 1649. I felt that by the latter half of the seventeenth century (the Age of the Statesmen or Great Re-building), whoever built Park Cottages would not have been content with a 2-room cottage but would have had his sights set on a state-of-the-art farmstead so it seemed more logical for an existing cottage to have been extended at that time and not built from scratch. Chris sent me a couple of pages from “Vernacular Architecture of the Lake Counties” by R W Brunskill, according to which: “In the Lake Counties, Small Houses... emerge fully developed in permanent materials about the middle of the 17C...”. So that meant they might have been still building two-unit cottages after 1649. However, referring to these Small Houses prior to 1650 he goes on: “In the northern Lake District, the two-unit house would probably have enclosing walls of [inter alia] roughly piled fieldstones. Now according to Ron George, when he inspected No.2 (and by extension that means Wayside Cottage also) and here I am quoting from his draft history of Lorton : “Plaster was stripped, revealing random stone walls that were very random indeed, very very poorly constructed and not typical of a dwelling-house wall”. So was the original cottage built in the first or second half of the seventeenth century?



Left to right, numbers 1, 2 and 3

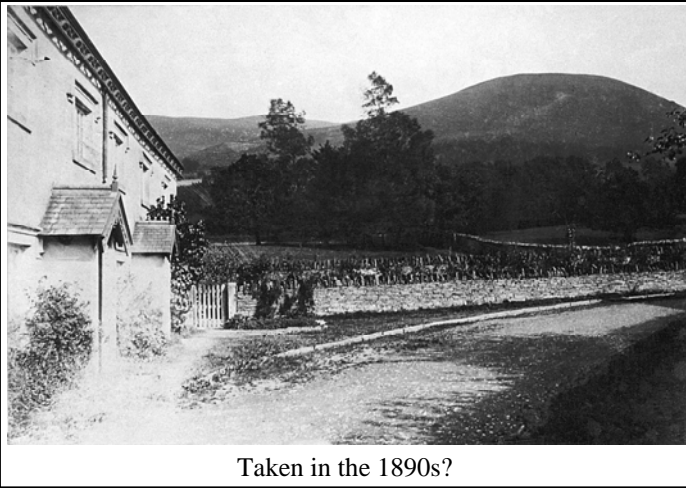
For a while, I felt vindicated in my theories about the house. Derek and Ron, however, did not let me rest for long on my laurels. Doubts emerged in the form of the Carlisle version of the 1841 Tithe Map which seemed to omit our terrace in its present configuration. The problem lay in the fact that the numerals indicating the plot reference obscured the outlines. So, I was having to face the possibility that the house was, after all, built in its present form sometime after 1841, i.e. in the mid-nineteenth century!

I had read that only a fraction of all the Tithe Maps had been sealed by the Tithe Commissioners and could be accepted as accurate. To my mind, the Carlisle map was very sketchily drawn and so, living as we do at present in the borough of Richmond, I visited the Kew Public Record Office to see whether their version was any clearer than the Kew photocopy on the Society’s archive which was well nigh illegible. I was relieved to see the outline of our plot emerging from the photocopier much as it is today so Wayside Cottage had not done a disappearing act after all!

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The next conundrum - again the subject of friendly debate between Ron and Derek, both of whom have spent ages working out the jig-saw puzzle of seventeenth century field patterns in Lorton - led me back to the questions when was it built and by whom.

I was pleased that Richard Pearson had been implicated because, according to our deeds, at the top end of High Flatts, part of his freehold, sat our very own Dunghillstead - no doubt in the seventeenth century, as desirable as an en-suite! It seemed logical to me that our house and the Dunghillstead should both have been owned by the same person. Incidentally, I used to have a theory that this Dunghillstead could have been on top of what some say is a Bronze Age barrow on land belonging to Lorton Park corresponding to the area where High Flatts was located according to the 1841 Tithe Map. Apparently it was common to site middens on areas which could not otherwise be ploughed by reason of their elevation. However, Derek soon put paid to my romancing. He is none-too-sure that the mound is a Bronze Age Barrow (although it is the right shape) and furthermore he suspects that the Tithe Map got High and Low Flatts the wrong way round, but I still like to think of my now discredited theory every time I pass it!



Taken in the 1890s?

Another possible reason why the house is not on the Survey is the excuse offered by some customary tenants to Oliver Cromwell's Surveyor for not producing their deeds - "they had been destroyed by marauders" - not, I trust any of the Elliott clan, border reivers from whom I myself am descended!

A further complication is that if the house had been freehold in 1649 and therefore not listed in the Survey, how come by 1751 it was back in the hands of the Lords of the Manor, the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle?

Chris Craghill cited instances of freehold property being re-appropriated by the Lord of the Manor and she also thought the paltry rent, more in keeping with some cottages in High Lorton in 1649 which according to Ron, were owned and not rented, may be accounted for by such change in title, unless perhaps the house was at one time occupied by a Steward of the Manor in return for a peppercorn rent. This she felt could possibly explain our mysteriously wide dog-leg staircase which could indicate that "the house was at some time the property of a substantial member of the community". She asked Andy Lowe, the Buildings Conservation Officer of the Lake District National Park Authority, to inspect the staircase and after he had confirmed the likely age of the oldest part of the house (the living-rooms of numbers 2 + 3) I asked him why the baronial proportions. His answer cut me down to size. He suggested that it may, in fact, be purely utilitarian, built to accommodate barrels of apples or bales of hay being stored in the loft. (Beware of hubris when house detecting!).

The rest of the investigation is really down to me. I have a gap of up to 100 years or more to fill and unless I can unearth documentary evidence in the form of requests for admittance to and surrender of the property pre-dating 1751 from the manorial records in Carlisle Castle, the origins of Park Cottages will remain shrouded in the mists of time.

Letting the genie out of the bottle, part 3 by Ron George

I have tried to suggest a 'modus operandi' for someone who is toying with the idea of tracing a family tree and co-incidentally drawing up a family history. The sources I have mentioned do not constitute an exhaustive list. There are many others such as newspapers and trade directories. Both of these go back to at least the beginning of the 19th century. Remember that entries in trade directories were paid for, and the entries are therefore biased and incomplete. Some sources will be local to a particular area. Consult your local CRO and, as I said before, I have found the staff of the CROs to be extremely helpful, although sometimes overworked and short on time to be given to people like me. One thing I have not mentioned is that, although you are unlikely to come across documents in Latin in a family history, you may do so if you get into early Probate documents, occasional wills before 1733 and earlier Manorial Records - but don't let that possibility put you off - perhaps you had all the fun of learning Latin in those wonderful schooldays! As you go back to the 17th century, you may well find documents very difficult to read as they are written using the then current 'Secretary' hand. It is possible to find handbooks dealing with this, labelled 'Palaeontology' or some such phrase. A little practice with this will take you a long way, but if you first encounter this in the parish registers you have the benefit of knowing beforehand approximately what you are reading. Another thing to be aware of is that in reading Wills, words of relationships often do not have their 20th century meaning, for example, brother can also mean brother-in-law, or step-brother, cousin can mean nephew or niece, or possibly any other than a direct relation.

Being twenty first century readers, you will say “and what of the internet?” and “How can I use it to further my family research?” My answer is “Try it”. There are many, many web sites offering genealogical data, with or without a fee. As a newcomer to internet activity I initially found the result extremely disappointing and got nothing useful from it. Most of the genealogy data banks seem to be heavily biased to the USA, where family research is rampant, half the population seeking their European or African roots. However, being stubborn I kept browsing and eventually found a site through Cindy’s List, which provided offers of assistance, and was free to ‘subscribers’. That, I eventually discovered, just means ‘those who have put their name on the list of interested persons’. The immediate result of my request for information and help was one of those references which I mentioned earlier. Edward Wood’s marriage to Susan Furzer is found in the March quarter of 1884, at Brentford (Middlesex) 3a, page 68 and that is the reference for which I must now apply by post to the Family Records Centre.

Of course, in these days of equal opportunity, we must not forget our spouses and their families. Some of my colleagues, like I did, married ladies from countries other than the British Isles. Tracing their families provides a wonderful excuse for visiting distant places, and who knows where that may take you. In my case, to date, it led to a tiny village in Traz os Montes on the northern Portuguese border with Spain. What more excuses do you need to take on the challenge of creating a family tree?

To round off my own family example, I have produced a tree which provisionally traces my forbears back to Thomas who died at St Columb Major in 1622. If I can do it, so can you, it just needs persistence and patience.

To those of you whom I have now inspired to ‘have a go’, I wish “Happy hunting and have fun” but do not take my word for it - there are many excellent books available to help you on your way. For example “Further Steps in Family History” by Eve McLaughlin, Countryside Books, 1990, and publications by the Federation of Family History Societies.

The principal addresses in London are: for Vital Events (Birth, Marriage, Death) and Census: the Family Record Centre at 1 Myddleton Street, Islington, London, EC1R 1UV; for wills after 1st January 1858: Probate Search Room 42/49 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP.

For more details of the above and much more, see www.familyrecords.gov.uk, www.cyndislist.com, www.genuki.org.uk, www.oz.net/~markhow/englishros.htm and there are many others.

A submission from your Loweswater reporter.....

‘Archaeology in the Lake District - recent fieldwork and conservation’ - was the title of a packed one day conference in Ambleside on 30th November organised by the National Park Authority and the National Trust. Timely, too, with the news that there may be the outline of a stone circle at High Nook, just off the route of the permissive path to Watergate. So it may be true, even for us, that the landscape is rich in archaeological remains. Burial sites, rock carvings, stone circles, hut circles, Roman vestiges, are beginning to appear as a result of surveys and research as the English Heritage Monument Protection Programme, initiated in 1986, continues its review of the landscape. On the ground, GPS equipment gets placings down to a metre and, soon, to a centimetre. And with geophysical survey instruments, one day, given men and resources, the whole of the Lake District will be mapped. That was the thrust of the opening paper by the Park’s Senior Archaeologist, John Thornton - but the 6298 sites identified only cover 20% of the land area. However, there are project funds available from the new Lake District National Park Sustainability Fund for field surveys. There will be more finds. ‘One can be sure of that’ was the message introducing a mixed offering of papers from experts and budding experts - the PhD students. So it was a morning and an afternoon (sadly with no time for questions and discussion due to a temperamental projector) that began with the discovery that a Romano-British settlement at Ullswater was built on an even older site, took us down the mines at Raughton Gill (Caldbeck) and out into Southern Cumbria’s prehistory, and then an update on various projects from Oxford Archaeology North. The latter included investigations at Buttermere when the new pipeline was laid but yielded nothing more than the line of a very old stone wall - no Norman swords or Celtic bones.

Moving into ‘modern’ times, a well illustrated talk on the once busy and profitable gunpowder industry prompted a fantasy of archaeologists a hundred years hence poking in the ruins of Sellafield. I fell asleep during the exposure of a pit for burning wood on the beach at Drigg only to wake up for more about the Caldbeck mines, and became rapt as Clifford Jones from Muncaster with patience and wit (otherwise wholly lacking from the talks) showed how the study of a crack in a wall at Muncaster Castle led him to locate the outline of the Roman fort that once stood on the castle site. The fort guarded the Esk as the Ravenglass fort guarded the sea. That fort is being cleared of trees to become more visible.

On or back to stone circles - they are everywhere it seems if one looks (even in Loweswater) - more prehistory, with the ubiquitous bloomerics bringing the conference to an end. A full day - things are happening slowly - the surface of the landscape is being scratched to reveal a Lake District that was never, except in time out of memory 4000 years ago or more, a no-mans land. Next year the Park and the Trust expect to repeat the day - maybe by then they will have a decent projector, more jokes and your reporter will be beady eyed and bushy tailed throughout.

Michael Baron

Forthcoming events in 2003

For latest information watch for posters or visit www.derwentfells.com

9 January	Talk by Stephen Greenwood on "Mardale - the Drowned Valley".
13 February	Talk by Derek Denman and discussion on "The Parliamentary Inclosures of North West Lakeland".
13 March	Talk by Janet Niepokojczycka on "Those Mysterious Stones" with special reference to the stone circles of Cumbria.
8 May	Tenth Anniversary talk by Dr Angus Winchester, our President, on "Thomas Denton's Tour of Cumberland in 1687".
17 May	Provisional guided visit to the English Heritage iron works in Furness and the Stott Park Bobbin Mill.
12 June	AGM, followed by a presentation by Michael and Hetty Baron on the 1597 Decree following the dispute between Anthony Patrickson and his tenants.
10 July	Talk by Ian Tyler on "The German Miners in Cumbria".
August	Historical walks in Lorton and Loweswater.
11 September	Talk by Martin Tweedie on "Steel Bonnets" - the Border Reivers.
September/October	Provisional Tenth Anniversary Exhibition.
13 November	Talk by Alan Gane on "Arms and the Man" - heraldry and chivalry in the Middle Ages.
11 December	(Activity to be arranged)

The talks start at 7.30pm, normally in the Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton.

Committee members for 2002-2003

Derek Denman (Chairman) 01900 85551; Walter Head (Vice Chairman); Michael Grieve (Secretary) 01900 85259; Chris Bower (Treasurer); Michael Baron (Talks) 01900 85289; Hetty Baron (Oral History); Dorothy Graves; Danny Leck; Alan Norris; John Scrivens (House History Group).