

JUNE 2013

Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

What happened....

Death in Cartmel

On Tuesday Robert McWilliam died following a fight with William Smith.

In the afternoon three men - Robert McWilliam, William Smith (from Scotland, masons) and another, a joiner, met at the Nag's Head, Cartmel. McWilliam and Smith, who had been drinking, agreed to wrestle, and went to the orchard of the public house to do so. During the fight they fell with Smith underneath but McWilliam's head hit the ground hard, either injuring or dislocating his neck. When he got up he complained his neck was hurting. He was put to bed and Mr Lomax, a surgeon, was immediately sent for, but before he arrived McWilliam had died. McWilliam's was fifty-four years of age and leaves a widow and four children who are living near Glasgow.

What became of the Nags Head?

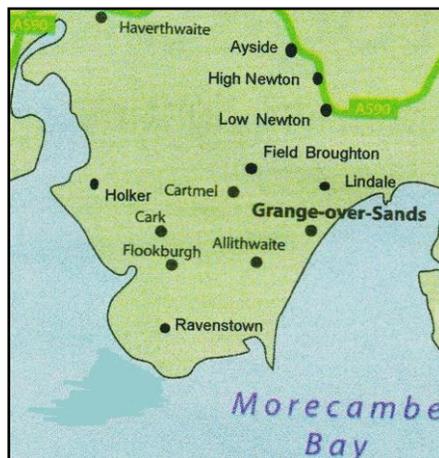
Based on the report in Soulby's Ulverston Advertiser, 30th September 1858

What might have.....

Meathop Park - Westmorland Garden City

Almost forgotten today is a scheme for building a garden city on the reclaimed land beyond Meathop Marsh. Detailed plans were made in 1899 for some 666 houses to be built by Bolton and Paul, on an estate that was to be served by a new railway station and to have its own Marine parade. The gas-works was conveniently near to supply light and heat. A six-roomed wood-framed house was to cost £730. Alas, an abnormal high tide in 1902 flooded the meadows all around for several weeks. The bold plan had to be abandoned. (Grange-over-Sands The story of a gentle township, WE Swale, page 63)

The advertisement for the development, which appeared in the Grange & Arnside Red Book in 1905, has been abbreviated.



The above estate of over 400 acres in extent, is being laid mostly in ¼ acre plots, as shown on the Estate Sale Plan, which is now being offered for Sale by private treaty.

.... A magnificent panorama... of the Westmorland Hills, and both sea and mountain air abound.it possesses some of the most beautiful scenery in England and is in easy reach of the large centres of population of in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Avenues and Groves 60 feet wide with a building line on either side of 30 feet. No back boundary walls to keep up the country aspect. Not more than one house to be erected on a plot 17 yards wide by 71 yards deep.

Plan, price and full particulars from Bexon & Son, Meathop Park, Grange-over-Sands.

The site is now the golf course! Does anyone know when the Golf Club was established? The course was designed by the famous golf course architect Dr Alister MacKenzie in the 1920's but was still being used for farming in 1929. *More will follow.....*

Newsletter, June 2013

Villages History Group

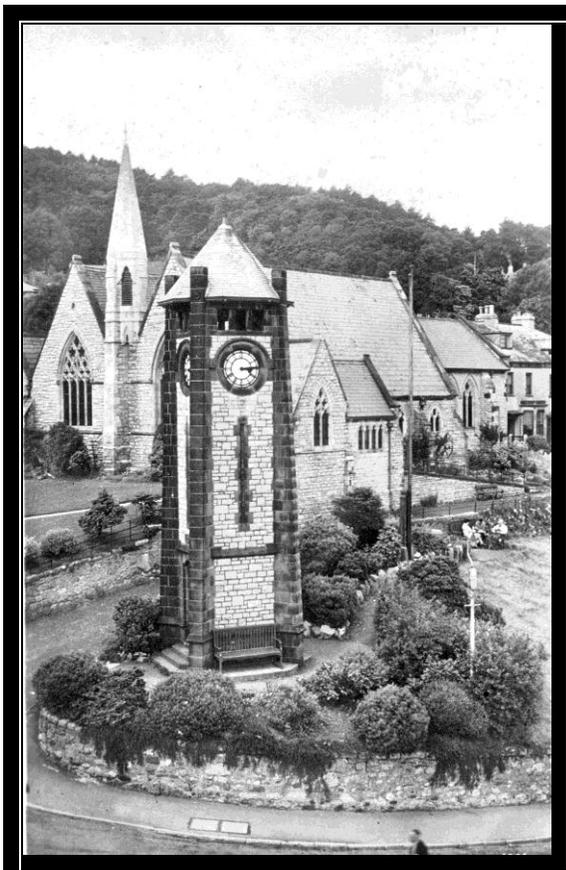
Building on the research so far published on the web site (<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>) the group is about to expand to include the local history of Lindale, Allithwaite and Flookburgh.

If you would like to be involved in any of these projects, please contact Nigel Mills on 015395-36603 or nigelmills@btinternet.com.

Grange Clock Tower

One of Grange's landmarks is without doubt the clock tower standing on the corner of Crown Hill in front of the Parish Church.

On 4th December 1912, 250 people assembled in front of the new clock and tower to witness the starting of the clock by Mrs Dearden, together with the presentation ceremony.



At exactly 12 o'clock she cut the ribbon attached to the pendulum setting the works in motion and the clock proceeded to strike. Someone called for three cheers for Mrs Dearden as the last stroke died away after which she formally presented the clock and tower to Grange Urban District Council. One hundred years later on 2nd December 2012 the centenary of the clock tower was celebrated by the chairman of the Civic Society, Mike Hornung, presenting a new plaque to the Mayor, Councillor Elizabeth Lewis, watched by a large crowd. Again, three cheers were called for Mrs Dearden, this time by Robin Webster who also read out the report from the Westmorland Gazette of 1912.

But who was Mrs Dearden?

Mrs Sophia Dearden was born Sophia Kimber in Abingdon, Berkshire in 1834. Her father was a coal merchant and she was one of seven children. By 1861 she was the "proprietress" of a school and the following year she married John Dearden in Abingdon. John was born in Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire in 1833 into a working class family – his father being employed in the cotton industry as a calico print cutter. In 1851 John was working as a factory warehouseman in Oswaldtwistle but it is unknown what the circumstances were that were to change his life.

In 1857 he is recorded as training to be a doctor at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He left in 1858 having been accepted as a member of the Royal College of Surgeons and a Licensed Apothecary.

It is recorded in the Dundee Courier of [1879] "*John Dearden of Church, near Accrington, has graduated for the degree of MD*".

After their marriage in December 1862 Sophia and John moved north and he took a position as a medical practitioner in Church, near Accrington. Their only child – Leonora Edith – was born in 1864. Church Local Board was formed in 1880 and John became its' first chairman – he remained a member for many years. Sophia was a member of the British Women's Temperance Campaign and she is mentioned in many reports in the East Lancashire newspapers.

The family remained in the same house in Church for all of John's working life. He died in 1897, aged only 64 years.

Sophia and Leonora stayed in Church for several years after John's death and moved to Grange sometime between 1901 – 1911. They lived at "Lyndhurst" on Fernleigh Road, with one servant, in an eight roomed house. Their reason for coming here is unclear (had they been for holidays, wanted a healthier environment or had acquaintances here?) John Dearden had left the family well provided for with assets around £17,000. (£1,871,172 today)

Mother and daughter were obviously very happy living in Grange and wanted to help to improve the town. On hearing that the Councillors had wanted to build a clock tower to celebrate Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897 and years later still longed for one, Sophia decided in 1912 to give £300 to the Urban District Council to build one with the promise of another £50 if it was needed to complete the work. In 1897 there was a more pressing need for a steam roller. In 1912 she also purchased Yewbarrow Crag for the recreation of the people of Grange when the Yewbarrow Estate came up for auction. Many lots did not sell but she gave her purchase of the Crag to the UDC with three Councillors named as trustees. Another act of generosity was her annual treat for the council workmen.

She also thought it would be a good idea to have another town clock near the railway station. The Furness Railway Company was approached in 1914 and they appeared to be agreeable to the idea.

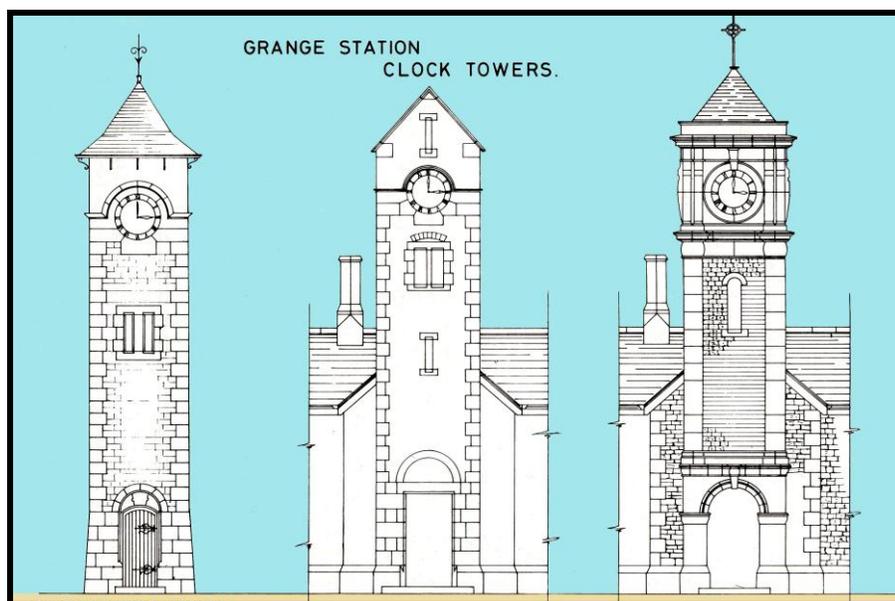
Three alternative designs were prepared for this second clock, one to be free standing and the other two to be incorporated into the porch of the existing station building. At this time the First World War was looming and the project came to an end.

Perhaps we should be very grateful as Mrs Dearden intended to impose a condition that the clock should have a carillon and should play a different hymn every hour!

Sophia and Leonora Dearden only lived in Grange for a short time and Sophia died on 16th March 1915 at the age of 81 years. In the 1911 census she states that she is 68 but each census during her life she has quoted a different age so we must accept that it is a lady's prerogative not to divulge her true age. Her daughter Leonora had been her mother's lifelong companion but on 6th April 1915, only three weeks after her mother's death (!) she married William Kellaway, a twice widower, at St Paul's Church.

This marriage, sadly, didn't last long as after only twenty months her new husband died on 12th December 1916. Leonora remained at Lyndhurst until her death on 23rd March 1937.

Sophia, Leonora and William Kellaway are buried in a family plot in Grange Cemetery. She left assets of just over £35,000 (£2,019,036 today) and in her will she left money for yet another clock tower to be built. This is in Church, Oswaldtwistle, and is in memory of "The Dearden Family". It appears that both Sophia and Leonora had a great liking for clock towers.



Picture courtesy Mike Peascod, Cumbrian Railways Association based on an original in Barrow Record Office

The site was carefully chosen by the Council, in conjunction with Mrs Dearden, as being the most central position, seen from the most populated points. The tower is built of red sandstone and is forty feet high, square shaped and with a blue slated roof over the clock at the top. It bears the inscription "Donum Amoris – A gift of love" but no reference to the benefactress.

The clock, which was supplied and installed by Mr C E Court, of Ulverston and Grange, was made to his order by the firm of W B Joyce and Co, of Whitchurch (famous for their railway clocks, as at Carnforth) who guaranteed that it would keep time to within three seconds a week. There are four dials, which are three feet six inches in diameter, built of cast iron and glazed with opal glass. The tower was built by William Blair of Allithwaite and designed by Thomas Huddleston, the surveyor for Grange Urban District Council.

Margaret Robinson

Bee boles in the Cartmel Peninsula

A note by Peter Le Mare

Before the wooden bee-hives we know today were introduced by bee-keepers in northern Europe in the 19th century, bees were kept in skeps, usually made of coils of grass or straw. They had the disadvantages that the bees could not be inspected and the honey was not easily extracted, there being the possibility of destroying the colony of bees.

For protection from the weather the skeps containing the bees were often kept in bee boles, recesses in walls, which usually faced a southerly direction for warmth from the sun.

Often the boles were in orchards and gardens so that the bees had plenty of flowers to produce good yields of honey and at the same time pollinate the flowers and fruit blossom.

There are bee boles throughout the country and the International Bee Research Association maintains a register of them; it can be seen at <http://www.ibra.beeboles.org.uk/>. Each entry of the register is numbered, gives information on location, possible access to view, date of construction and a description of the boles including dimensions.

The easiest way to find boles in our area is go to the Search page of the IBRA website and put Cumbria into the first box for our county and Lancashire into the second box for the traditional county; then press Search. This selects the sites in the old Furness District of Lancashire from which one can select the sites in our area.

I have done this for the Cartmel Peninsula, shown in the table below. Our oldest bee boles date from the 18th century but a bee shelter at Hampsfell Hall is from the 16th century.

There are many more entries for the rest of Furness.

IBRA No	Structure	Location	Access	Century
0156	L-bee shelter	Well Know, Cartmel	Demolished	1701-1800
0601	B-bee hole(s)	Orchard Rise, Cartmel	Private	1801-1900
0797	B-bee hole(s)	Beckside House, Cartmel	Private	1801-1900
1079	B-bee hole(s)	Stone Croft, Priest Lane, Cartmel	Private	Not known
1213	B-bee hole(s)	Greenfield House, Lower Allithwaite	Private	1801-1900
1215	L-Bee shelter	Hampsfell Hall, Field Broughton, Cartmel	Private	1501-1600
1257	B-bee hole(s)	Cornbrook House, Glogger Beck, Cartmel	Private	1801-1900
1258	B-bee hole(s)	Greenfield House, Station Road, Flookburgh	Private	1701-1800
1267	B-bee hole(s)	Holly Cottage, Cartmel	Private	1701-1800
1268	B-bee hole(s)	1 Fern Cottages, Back Road, Lindale	Private	1701-1800
1304	W-winter storage	Witherslack Hall Farm, Grange-over-Sands	Private	Not known
1312	B-bee hole(s)	Waingate, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands	Private	Not known
1339	B-bee hole(s)	Aynesome Mill, Cartmel	Private	Not known

I have been in correspondence with Penny Walker, Voluntary Curator of the IBRA Bee Boles Register, about my own bee boles (No 1213). She has asked me to inform her of any bee boles in the area that are not registered so I shall be grateful for help from members of CPLHS. If anyone is aware of bee boles or shelters in our area, or elsewhere in Furness, that are not registered, or of which records can be updated, please let me know at Greenfield House, Flookburgh Road, Allithwaite; telephone 015395 32174; or by e mail at phl@phonecoop.coop.

For more detail see 'Bee Shelters and Bee Boles in Cumbria' by Penelope Walker and Eva Crane: Transactions Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, **XCI**, 1991, 237-262.

A History of Greenfield House, and parts of Lower Allithwaite

By Peter H. Le Mare, March 2011

The house, built in 1842, is of the type described by R.W. Brunskill in *Vernacular architecture of the Lake Counties* [London: Faber & Faber 1974] as a small house of double pile plan with four rooms on each floor. Many houses of this type were built throughout the Lake District between 1770 and 1850, many later modified so that the common design may not be obvious.

Other houses of this type in Allithwaite include that to which the village shop is attached, Kirkhead View, and Laburnum House on The Square.



Greenfield House ca 1955.
Photo: H.E. Spencer

A schedule (see appendix 1) attached to the deeds shows ownership of the land between 1730 and 1841 when 483 sq. yds. was purchased for £7.7s.0d by Samuel Hudson, described as a waller, from John and Jane Storey of Wraysholme; a further 1069 sq. yds was purchased in 1845 for £26.14s.6d.. Presumably the land had been in agricultural production until the purchase but

E. Abercrombie, in her book *Grange and the Cartmel Fells* [Clapham: The Dalesman Publishing Company, 1960], stated (p47) "Cartmel Priory had one of its tithe barns in the village, situated where Greenfield House now stands, on the Flookburgh road, a little beyond the *Royal Oak*¹. The house, built on the site of the great barn, was at one time known as the *Tithe Barn Inn*, where carriers put up for the night." Ronald Stevens, in *The History of the Parish of Allithwaite*² wrote "After an arduous crossing of the bay many travellers would make for the old toll house which still proudly stands at the top of the hill from the Pheasant Inn³. Now a private residence and known as 'Greenfield House', the occupant probably provided much-needed stabling and maybe, refreshment, before the travellers resumed their journey. Standing by the toll house one is looking directly at the ancient highway which passed in front of Hillside Farm before it was by-passed by a more suitable approach road." Neither author quoted sources of their information, nor was able to provide sources when I spoke to them.

I have found nothing to support the comments of Stevens, especially that concerning a toll house; nor of Abercrombie that the house was once known as Tithe Barn Inn. However, Mr W. Jackson, of Hillside Farm next to Greenfield House, told me that the farm is mentioned in his deeds as Tithe Barn Farm. In the 1901 census the farm is recorded as Tithe Barn; the head of the household then was William Jackson, aged 31, farmer. When I spoke to the late J C Dickinson, author of *The Land of Cartmel* [Kendal: Titus Wilson, 1980], in 1990 he did not know where the tithe barns were and he was sceptical of unreferenced reports by amateur historians. However he considered that references in deeds are probably valid.

Stockdale, in *Annals of Cartmel* [Ulverston: William Kitchen, 1872] reported (p130) that in 1609 George, Bishop of Chester, granted to George Preston, of Holker, "all that the Rectory, Parish Church and Parsonage of Cartmel, to the late dissolved Priory of Cartmel aforesaid, sometime belonging and appertaining, together with the tithe barns called or known by the names Godderside³, Flookburgh and Alithwaite, with appurtenances and all manner of tithes....". Thus there was a tithe barn in Allithwaite but none of the barns is still standing although at Godderside some stone-work remains. Sam. Taylor in *Cartmel, People and Priory* (Appendix G) [Kendal: Titus Wilson, 1955] recorded the will, dated 4th March 1691/2, of Thomas Preston of Holker. Inter alia it states "I devise and give the Lordship of Cartmel to my daughter Katherine and her heirs for life, then to my niece Elizabeth Preston and her heirs, and then to my right heirs, also the Rectory and Tithe Barns of Cartmel to the said two in succession, ...".

Thus Greenfield House and the farm are very likely on the site of a tithe barn.

The censuses of 1851 and 1861 did not record house names but in 1851 Samuel Hudson, 50, his wife Ann, 46, and a nephew John Heavyside, a pauper aged 7 born at Birkby, are recorded, presumably living in the house Samuel built.

J. Mannex, in his *History, Topography and Directory of Westmorland and Lonsdale North of the Sands 1851* [Michael Moon, 1978 facsimile of Mannex & Co. 1851]; records on page 384, Samuel Hudson as 'grocer (and stonemason)'. In 1861 only Samuel Hudson, grocer, and Ann are shown. The census of 1871 records Samuel, retired grocer, and Ann living at Rose Villa.

As the neighbours were the same as in 1861 and 1881 I infer that the house was originally known as Rose Villa. That the house was occupied by a grocer is supported by the memory of Mrs Sarah Ellen Allen who lived at Maychells, 50 metres north of Greenfield House and died there on 8 July 1961 in her 99th year; she recalled that as a child she was sent there by her mother to buy treacle.

Samuel Hudson died in 1876. The 1881 census which did not record house names so the house cannot be located. However, it may be inferred by reference to occupants of neighbouring houses. On this basis Rose Villa was occupied by Matthew Hudson, 33, farmer and coal merchant, born in Millom, his wife, Mary, 33, and two sons born in Cartmel. I do not know if he was a son or other relation of Samuel and Ann.

The census of 1891 was the first to record the name Greenfield House. The head of the household then was John Airey Ray, 47, agent for seed, spice manure &c; with him lived his wife, Catherine Agnes, 39, four sons and a daughter. Catherine's maiden name was Storey, born in Allithwaite; possibly she was the daughter of John and Jane Storey from whom Samuel Hudson bought the land on which he built Rose Villa, later renamed Greenfield House.

In 1901 the occupants were William J. Lamb, 53, teacher of music, his wife Elizabeth, 49, a son, a daughter and a boarder, George Attwood, 89, retired mining engineer. Kelly's Directory for Lancashire 1909 records under Allithwaite: Lamb, Ethel (Mrs) apartments and Lamb, Wm Joseph apartments Greenfield.

Although I have found nothing to support Abercrombie's comment that the house was once known as Tithe Barn Inn it did at times accommodate lodgers as the 1901 census shows – the number "1", although painted over, can still be seen on one of the first floor doors! Possibly during 1851 and 1861 when only Samuel and Ann Hudson, and for a time a nephew, are recorded in the censuses they may have taken lodgers but none was present on the days of recording.

During much of the period between Samuel Hudson's death and purchase by Murielle Owen in 1945 the house seems not to have been occupied by its owners. It was occupied by Wm J Lamb in 1903 when Eliz. Dixon bought the house. Bulmer & Co's History of Furness and Cartmel [Second edition, Preston: T Snape, no date, about 1911] records on p215 William Joseph Lamb as the occupant. He was recorded as a rate collector but was active in many other ways in the village: captain of the fire brigade; secretary of the Allithwaite Church Institute, the Cartmel Parish Horticultural Society, and of the Cartmel Sheep Dog Trials but in this entry, on p 212, his address is given as Lambert House Allithwaite. The 1891 census records William J Lamb, schoolmaster, of School House, then aged 43 born in West Derby, Liverpool; Lambert House may have been the School House, which was built by Miss Lambert. Lamb was also a member for Allithwaite Lower of the Divisional Committee for Highways and Public Health of Cartmel parish Council. He was Guardian of the Poor, for the Period Ending 15th April 1913, for Allithwaite Lower (p371). A brass plaque in St Mary's Church Allithwaite records 'The electric installation to the east of this tablet was provided by public subscription in grateful memory of William Joseph Lamb for 47 years the devoted organist and lay reader of this church'. Electric lighting was installed in 1932.

Other occupants of Greenfield House are listed in the annual Grange Red Books: 1928-35 Miss A A Burbage; 1936-37 Mr Wm Sturzaker; 1938-39?; 1940-41 W B Lindley, whose son and daughter visited Allithwaite on 5 May 1996.

The Red Book was not published during 1941 to 1945, when Mrs Owen bought the house.

In 1956 the Grange News reported: "At the April meeting of the Allithwaite Women's Institute, over which Mrs H Wells presided, special thanks were accorded to Mrs E. Le Mare and her husband for keeping a light burning outside their house near the centre of the village until late at night, as there are no street lamps in the village". My father used to wait until a few minutes after the last bus had left before switching off the light.

During 1945-47 Mrs Owen altered the house. She added a bay to the front and incorporated the central hall into the room with the bay. This entailed closing the front door, the lower half of which was bricked up leaving the glazed upper half as a window; the door into the lean-to on the north wall became the front door.

The house is built into rising ground so in 1986-87 it was altered to provide living area on the first floor, enabling direct access to the garden via doors from the kitchen and from a new sitting room with a garage below it. On the ground floor the central front door was reopened and a wall built to create the hall as it was originally. The door into the lean-to was replaced by a wall and the lean-to converted to a shower and toilet room. In January 1991 the roof was renovated: slates removed; insulation, roofing felt and new laths laid; good slates replaced; second hand slates used instead of faulty original slates; sandstone ridging replaced.

Solar water heating panels were fitted in June 2009. Former stable and privy re-roofed 2010.

A feature of the orchard is the north wall. It is topped by water worn stones from a limestone pavement and at the west end has four bee boles, which sheltered bee skeps before wooden hives were introduced about 1860.



End notes

- 1 Later the Guide Over Sands.
- 2 1990, published to commemorate the 125th anniversary of St Mary's Church, Allithwaite.
- 3 Formerly The Farmers Arms. On Holker estate, see 6 inch OS map, ref. SD355774

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to John Beckett and Nigel Mills for their interest, comments and suggestions, and to the Grange-over-Sands branch of Cumbria County Libraries for free access to census data on the internet.

March, 2011

Appendix 1: the schedule appended to the deeds states:

19th January 1730	Thomas Atkinson to John Punder: Feoffment
3rd February 1752	John Punder to Thomas Ashburner: Mortgage by demise
20th May 1780	Thomas Ashburner to Robert Atkinson: Assignment of Mortgage
15th February 1803	Thomas Barrow to Miss Pedder: Mortgage by demise
14 th /15th February 1814	Thomas Barrow & an: to John Cragg & an: Mortgage in fee
54 Geo: 3rd 31 August	Chirograph of Fine
14th February 1815	Thomas Barrow to John Cragg: Further Charge
17 th /18th February 1817	Thomas Barrow & an: to James Greaves Barton: Lease and Release
13 th /14th February 1819	James Greaves Barton & ors to Mary Holliday: Lease and Release
15th July 1825	Draft Copy of Will of said Mary Holliday
9 th /10th October 1840	Mr William Spencer Barrow to Mr John Storey: Lease and Release
28th November 1841	The Plot Piece or Parcel of Ground and Hereditaments (483 sq.yds) was sold by John and Jane Storey of Wraysholme to Samuel Hudson for £7.7s.0d
14th February 1845	John and Jane Storey sold a further 1069 sq.yds to Samuel Hudson for £26.14s.6d
5th July 1875	By his will Samuel Hudson "gave and devised to John Orr the dwelling house buildings orchard garden and premises" to John Orr
2nd August 1876	Samuel Hudson died
8th May 1902	John Orr appointed his brother Thomas Orr and his nephew John Burrow both of Cartmel to be his exors. He left the house and grounds to his exors.

Appendix 1: cont'd

17th November 1902	John Orr died
20th January 1903	John Orr's will proved. House occupied at the time by Wm Lamb
12th May 1903	Exors sold the "freehold messuage or dwelling house and premises known as Greenfield House" to Miss Elizabeth Lawrence Dixon of Aynsome Mill daughter of George Dixon, farmer, for £441
26th April 1921	Eliz. Dixon married Nathan Halhead of Kents Bank
11th August 1928	Eliz. Halhead married R.D. Livesey of Winnipeg Canada, in Winnipeg
6th September 1945	Eliz. Livesey sold Greenfield House to Murielle Audrey Owen for £1410
24th November 1947	Murielle Owen sold by auction to Ernest Bristow Le Mare for £3275
29th January 1955	By his will E.B. Le Mare left the property to his wife Helen Jane Le Mare for her lifetime and thereafter to his sons Peter Hotson and Procter Stanway Le Mare
18th April 1963	Ernest Le Mare died
10th February 1978	Helen Le Mare died
16th October 1978	Procter Le Mare sold his share to Peter Le Mare

Appendix 2: Notes on visit to Cumbria Records Office, Kendal, 30 October 1991.

WPR/89/Z3 a volume entitled Cartmell Award includes the Plan of the Division of Lower Alithwaite and part of the Allotments in the Parish of Cartmel, drawn by T Hornor 1807. The text of the Award refers to "a Public carriageway called Alithwaite Road from Templand Lane over Templand Bank southwards to the village of Alithwaite". The plan shows the road continuing past the site of Greenfield House and Hillside Farm towards Flookburgh. The plan does not show any Allotments near G H, but field boundaries are shown. There appears to be no building where G H now stands but buildings on the site of Hillside Farm. Quarry Road is described as a private road. Wartbarrow Lane is shown as Birch Road, over Wart Barrow Fell; it was a private road for a John Birch. The Award refers to "Lancaster Road (from Cartmel) from the estate called Yew Tree belonging to John Birch over Grange Fell eastwards and southwards to a place called Fell Gate"

PR2716/15 is a Plan of Holker, Allithwaite, Broughton, Staveley and Cartmel Fell, not dated. It is similar to Hornor's plan but has detail of ownership of land and field numbers. G H is on a plot marked 487 (or possibly 488). There are no buildings on 487 but there are on 488; the field opposite G H is numbered 476. The road at Humphrey Head is shown as Holywell Road and the lane to Wike (sic) House as Pigeon Cote Road. Kirkhead is shown as Kirket. By the building at Humphrey Head is shown "Spaw" (spa) on both plans. Much of the land is shown as belonging to Lord Frederick Cavendish; this is presumably Field Marshal Lord Frederick Cavendish (who owned Holker until 1803 - see two editions of Holker Hall - An illustrated survey of the Lancashire home of the Cavendish family). The later Lord Frederick (1836-1882) did not own the hall; during his life-time it was owned by his father 7th Duke of Devonshire. The date of the plan seems to be between that of Hornor (1807) and the construction of Greenfield House, about 1842.

Malcolm Arthurton, WWII reminiscences

At the start of the war I was a medical student at Westminster Hospital in London. Like many of my friends I volunteered to help in the Casualty Department to deal with the large numbers of injured and fatal casualties resulting from bombed air-raid shelters in the neighbourhood. After qualifying as a doctor in 1941 I did 6 months Resident duties combining general medicine, paediatrics, orthopaedics and obstetrics. At this time I was living at the hospital and remember well returning to my room one evening after an air raid warning and being unable to open the room door. It turned out that the ceiling had collapsed in a blast and the room was full of debris & rubble. This was followed by 6 months as Senior Casualty Officer dealing with members of the general public who came in off the street.

In January 1942 I was called up and joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve as a Medical Officer, with the rank of Flying Officer. After a year I was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and finished my RAF career in 1946 as Acting Squadron Leader.

I was initially posted to Cardington, a barrage balloon station doing medical examinations to certify aircrew fit for service. It was a somewhat dull routine examining and taking histories to see if they had been knocked unconscious, had concussion, suffered fits or were colour blind as all these conditions meant exclusion from aircrew duties.

The next posting was to Honnington in Suffolk. The RAF was pulling out of the station and it was being handed over to the American Air Force. It was a different sort of life here. They were so used to getting unlimited medical supplies and they brought in their own Pharmacist who soon showed his inexperience when diluting linctus with wood alcohol (meths). This error, which can cause blindness, was fortunately discovered before it harmed anyone, by one of their staff whose father regularly brewed 'hooch' in the backwoods back home in America. In a discussion, I described some broken equipment as U/S and greatly offended the Americans as they thought I was implying everything American was useless rather than our usage meaning unserviceable.

In April 1943 I was posted to Scampton as Squadron Medical Officer to the newly formed 617 Dam Buster Squadron. On the 14th May I was privileged to accompany S/L Maudslay DFC in ED 937 on a practice run to Margate where we bombed the beach. This turned out to be the last practice run before the actual raid on 16/17 May. Sadly S/L Maudslay and his crew were casualties of the raid.

Later on I vividly remember going out on practice flights in the rear gunner's seat (tail end Charlie) in a Lancaster bomber to experience what they had to put up with. The M.U.G. (mid upper gun) position was not much better. My aircrew patients on station suffered from hearing and other audiology problems as a result of pressure damage during the flights in the un-pressurised planes and I went on these trips to try out various drugs to combat the air sickness. I am filled with admiration for their courage being in that dangerous, cold, isolated & sick making seat.

I was posted to overseas duties in May 1944 to Bari, (just north of Brindisi) southern Italy to a Dakota Transport squadron. There were 2 flights, one ferried VIPs to & from Cairo while the other was used for flights to the Balkans involving Special Operations and evacuation of personnel, wounded servicemen & children from Yugoslavia. These flights were carried out using a flight of 4 Dakotas. The first plane to land, and the last to leave, carried a spare wheel and jack in case of a puncture. The flights to & from Yugoslavia used small airstrips and often just fields with familiar code names such as Piccadilly Lights and we flew without fighter cover and in radio silence. Airfields were located using coded ground-to-air light signals and the Yugoslavs lit straw at intervals to indicate the landing flight path in the field. I was lucky enough to be taken along on several of the trips to treat patients if required on the return journey. The journeys lasted up to 3 hours and I and others were often airsick because of the conditions.

I spent some time in N Africa at Sirte (Libya), a refuelling post for the Cairo to Tripoli run. It was named RAF Marble Arch as it was near Mussolini's comic arch built in 1942 which was demolished by Sadam Hussein in 1970. It was a very mixed station, with Italian PoW's being used as sanitary squad cleaners and being guarded by a Sudanese platoon. Their officer was very intelligent and had been awarded an MC & OBE. He was rudely awakened one night by his soldiers shouting and screaming at the top of their voice. They were playing like children with pieces of ice they had found in a water butt. It was their first experience of the effect of freezing on water. One of my last tasks was to medically examine airmen due for de-mobilisation at Luxor, where the temperature was 120°F in the shade.

I did various locums around the eastern Mediterranean bases. My Flying Log Book shows I visited Algiers, Naples, Malta, Brindisi, Benghazi, Luxor, Aswan, Rhodes, Khartoum, Wadi Halfa, Cyprus, Lydda (Lod, Israel), Heliopolis & Istes. Many of these would just be for changing planes, refuelling or overnight stops.

In June 1946 I was lucky to meet up with my father Gp. Captain F. W. Arthurton who was returning home to the UK after his overseas service with the RAF.

I flew back to Lyneham on 19th August 1946 on a flight with repatriated injured from the eastern Mediterranean. I was demobbed in Nov 1946 and returned to complete my paediatric training at Great Ormond Street, the Post Graduate Medical School and Westminster Children's Hospital. I spend many happy years in Bradford as a Consultant Paediatrician and retired in April 1983, eventually moving to Cartmel in 1994.

Dictated to David Hugget and published with his kind permission

Help explore the 19th & 20th Century history of Allithwaite and Kents Bank.

2015 sees the 150th Anniversary of the consecration of St Mary's Church Allithwaite. In 1865 Allithwaite was a small cluster of houses occupied by fishermen and farm labourers and boasted a corn mill, an active quarry together with two Inns and a brewery. Access to the railway at Kents Bank station provided commercial and passenger link to Lancashire and beyond, Barrow-in-Furness and the west coast of Cumbria. Kents Bank was developed as a healthy place to holiday or educate children as houses were built and several private schools were established in the hamlet. In the 20th century, the private schools were replaced by Christian group holiday accommodation.

The Society is keen to hear from anyone with an interest in finding out more about the people and development of Allithwaite and Kents Bank and who would like to help us develop a written history to celebrate the two villages.

If you have any information to share or any items such as old photographs or other documents that illustrate life in the area in the 19th and 20th centuries we would be pleased to hear from you. Examples could include family or house histories, history and records of local organisations such as the football club, playing fields committee, carnival, and buildings including the school, public houses etc.

For further information, contact Pat Rowland on 015395-32234 or patrowland_uk@yahoo.co.uk.

The following publications have been added to the Cartmel Peninsula bibliography on the website:

Andrews, M. 2012. **The Furness Railway: a history**. Barrow in Furness: Barrai Books. **B K U**

Brandwood, G. 2012. **The architecture of Sharpe, Paley and Austin**. English Heritage, **B K U**

Information on buildings in Allithwaite, Cark-in-Cartmel, Cartmel, Field Broughton, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Holker, Lindale & Staveley-in-Cartmel.

Gilby, G.W. 2012. **The hatchments of Cartmel Priory**. Upleatham: Gilby. 15pp.

Mosley, M. 2010. **The metalliferous mines of Cartmel and South Lonsdale**. (British mining no. 89). Nelson: Northern Mine Research Society. 104pp. **K**

Forthcoming lectures

- 19th September, Andy Lowe, Building on Tradition (Lake District Vernacular Buildings)
- 17th October, Professor Brian Wilson, Only half a story: historical letters with an emphasis on local material
- 21st November, AGM and members night, Free for non-members

Website and contacts, <http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

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