

THE WYKE FARM



The Wyke farm taken in the early 20th century.

(With thanks to David Wood)

The Wyke farm is situated on the coast of Morecambe Bay, just north of Humphrey Head and south of the village of Allithwaite. The farm building is undated but a building is shown on Kuerden's map of 1684.¹ The farm appeared at one time to be part of the Wraysholme estate. Then, for approximately 250 years, from 1729, the farm and its land, which included Humphrey Head, was sold as a complete entity. In the late 19th century, in the ownership of the Cavendish family, the Wyke farm gained more land on Kirkhead when Laneside Farm, also owned by the Cavendish family, ceased to exist as a working farm. The Wyke farm now has no arable land in contrast to previous centuries when it was more diverse with arable, meadowland and pastureland.

This research focuses on the owners and the tenants of the Wyke farm, and shows very few changes in the immediate surrounding area over the last three centuries.

The Owners

The farmhouse is the centre of the Wyke estate so when was the farmhouse built? Reference to holding a messuage in Humphrey Head by Richard Dicconson, of Wraysholme at his death in 1576 of the queen as of her manor of Cartmel in socage² could maybe be a building at the Wyke. It was mentioned again in 1637 when Hugh Dicconson died and it was stated that he also held the

¹ www.regionalheritage.omeka.net

² *Socage* meaning a feudal duty, a farmer held the land in exchange for a fixed payment, supplying produce or cash, that is rent.

message called Humphrey Head of the king in socage by a rent of 4s. 5d. This does not refer to Wraysholme as seen in the same passage.³

Although we are unable to date when the farm was built the first definite mention of the Wyke farm is in 1729 when William Bare of Wraysholme gave or sold to his son, Robert Bare, the Wyke house tenement and all those closes and inclosures of land including Wyke fields or Humphrey Head fields on the north side of the Way leading between Winder Moor and Kents Bank, plus arable land, Kiln Croft and land lying on the south side of the said Way...and also Allithwaite Mill.⁴

It is worth mentioning the Way here. This appears to be a route from Kents Bank to the Wyke prior to the building of the railway but not across the sands, "...fields on the north side of the Way leading between Winder Moor and Kents Bank...and land lying on the south side of the said Way..." (1729), also mentioned again in 1755.⁵ Bill Shannon in his recent article *The Landscape and People of the Cartmel Peninsula in 1685: the Kuerden/Townley maps* shows that there was a road between Kents Bank and the Wyke from Kuerden's Cartmel Road Survey and Bill also states that on Kuerden's map ..."the main road is marked 'To Kents Bank Sands' while a turn-off reads 'To the Wyke Crick (creek)". Bill believes that waggoners took this route, coming ashore at the Wyke and following a route via Wraysholme and Willow Lane to Flookburgh thus avoiding the hills.⁶ So was there a building there in 1685 to maybe cater for travellers?

From the documents at Wraysholme and Preston archives in 1755 it appears that Robert Bare, now a woollen draper in Cartmel had to sell his assets including the Wyke as he was declared bankrupt. The lands still included Allithwaite Mill. John Carter of Cart Lane bought both Wraysholme and the Wyke for £1200 and then sold the Wyke to Nicholas Bell, also from Cart Lane, for £750. Nicholas Bell died in 1761 and in 1787 it appears that William Carter sold the Wyke to William Dover, Flaxman of Flookburgh. In the document that shows this it states that Jane Carter is the descendant and inheritor of Nicholas Bell, so is William Carter, Jane's husband?⁷ In a document of 1782 Allithwaite Mill does not appear to be included in the Wyke estate.⁸

William Dover was a flaxman from Flookburgh. Prior to buying the Wyke in 1773 he had bought at auction a piece of peatings in Low Ellerside Moss for £24⁹ and in 1777 insured both his business and private house for £800 in Flookburgh. He had a warehouse of stock and it appears he bought cloth from domestic weavers which he supplied to merchants.¹⁰ In 1778 William Dover had single pew on the ground floor in Flookburgh Chapel.¹¹

William Dover died in 1794 and his descendants inherited the estate through his brother's family, who lived in Skipton. In 1816 the Wyke was Leased and Released from the Dover family to Thomas Pepper Thompson, who lived in Liverpool. Lease and Release was a mode of conveyance of freehold estates for tax avoidance and speed.¹² The lease was normally for one year. Thomas Pepper

³ Victoria County History pp 265-268

⁴ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box36/325 1736-1799

⁵ *ibid*

⁶ C&WAAS Transactions CW3 Vol 18, 2018, pp201-222

⁷ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box36/325 1736-1799, Wraysholme Papers

⁸ *Ibid*

⁹ *Ibid* (Preston Archives)

¹⁰ 'A History of Linen in the North-West' ed. by Elizabeth Roberts, Lancaster University p.53

¹¹ 'Annals of Cartmel' by James Stockdale, pub 1872 p. 290

¹² For further information see <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/researchguidance/deedsindepth/freehold/leaserelease.aspx>

Thompson was the son of James Thompson of Lancaster and Margaret (nee Pepper). Margaret was the daughter of Thomas Pepper of Cark Beck, who was a local landowner in 1715.¹³

(Previous to 1820 there are documents relating the Thompson/Pepper family to the Wyke. In 1760/1763 there is no mention of the Wyke but the land around it and messages relating to James and Margaret Thompson. In 1773 Margaret, now a widow, leaves Humphrey Head and Roughholme to her son James Thompson, who lives in Jamaica and to her daughter, Dorothy Thompson. Dorothy appears to have inherited Roughholme. In 1773 James leaves all his land to his brother Thomas Pepper Thompson, also of Jamaica, and advises him to sell them.)¹⁴

In 1820 Ann Dover, William Dover's sister-in-law died (buried at Skipton) and The Wyke was put up for auction at the Crown Inn in Flookburgh. Thomas Pepper Thompson also died in 1820 in Liverpool.

All that COMPACT, FREEHOLD and TITHE-FREE ESTATE, called and known by the name of WYKE, in the parish of Cartmel and county of Lancaster; consisting of a good Dwelling-house and suitable Outhousing, and about fifty acres (statute measure) of Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Ground, and about four acres of Wood, of nine years growth.

This estate is pleasantly situated on the shore of Lancaster Sands, about half a mile below the road leading from Lancaster to Ulverston (where coaches pass daily) and is well adapted for building upon, having a fine view of Morecambe Bay and the beautiful surrounding country; and had plenty of Game upon the estate, and large quantities of Sea Fowl and Fish upon the coast. – There is a good Limestone Quarry upon the premises; and as coals may be brought by shipping so near the estate, it may be improved and tilled at a very easy expense. The premises are distant from the market-town of Lancaster sixteen miles, Ulverston seven, and Cartmel three, and only about half a mile from that salutiferous Cartmel Spa, where there is fine sea-bathing.

Also, TWO FIELDS, situated at Flookburgh aforesaid, containing about 3a. 1r.20p. (statute measure) of rich Meadow Ground. Also a TURF MOSS, in Ellerside; and ONE SHARE in the LANCASTER CANAL

Lancaster Gazette 18 November 1820

It appears that the property did not sell because the Lease and Release relationship between the Dover family and the Thompson family continued. In 1827 there was a Lease and Release from the inheritors of Ann Dover to the inheritors of Thomas Pepper Thompson.¹⁵ It is interesting to note here that the owners of the Wyke at that time did not live in the area, although their ancestors had been from the local area. The Wyke was tenanted and we will consider the tenants later.

¹³Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box36/325 1736-1799

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box4/172 1810-1846

In 1842 the trustees of the will of Thomas Pepper Thompson conveyed the Wyke property to Thomas James Thompson. ¹⁶It is not certain if this Thomas is a relation but he lived in London and by 1846 was living in Rome. ¹⁷

It appears in April 1845 that Thomas James Thompson then sold, through mortgage, part of the property to Robert Spofforth from Appleton le Street in the county of York. But in August 1845 the property was up for auction at the Crown hotel in Grange.

All that Valuable FREEHOLD ESTATE, comprising a Farm called WYKE, WITH HUMPHREY HEAD, and ROUGH HOLME, situate in the said Parish of Cartmel, containing 148a. 1r. 11p, of excellent Arable, Meadow, Pasture, and Wood Land, (be the same more or less) divided into convenient Inclosures with substantial Homesteads and Outbuildings, in a good state of repair, likewise a PEW in Flookburgh Church.

Upon the Estate, and issuing from a projecting Limestone Rock, called Humphrey Head, there is a Medicinal Spring known as "HOLY WELL", celebrated for its beneficial properties. The Water, upon analysis, is found to contain 18 Grains of Sulphate of Lime. 2 Grains of Muriate of Soda, in each Pint.

The whole of the Estate is well watered and Timbered (there being about 24 Acres of wood Land) and is situate on the beautiful Estuary of Morecambe Bay, within ten miles of Windermere Lake, 2 from Cartmel, and eight from the Market Town of Ulverston.

The above very desirable Property affords an excellent opportunity for investment and speculation, the Farm being in a high state of Cultivation, whilst the "Holy Well Spa", in the hands of parties desirous of affording accommodation to Visitors, by the erection of a convenient Hotel, it is confidently submitted would be found to possess attraction for the Valetudinarian, that would speedily lead to its becoming a Spa of great resort, and be found a source of considerable profit to the Proprietor. The Estate is exonerated from Tithes and Land Tax, and has, in addition to its other advantages, a right of Turbary upon 4a. 2r. Op of Ellerside Moss. Mr. John Bell, the Tenant, will shew the Estate¹.

Lancaster Gazette August 1845

It is interesting to note here how the "tourist industry" was becoming prominent in the area, with the mention of Lake Windermere and the promotion of the Spa with a possible Hotel for Visitors. Lancaster, mentioned in the 1820 sale details is not mentioned here.

In 1846 George Atkinson Gelderd bought the property, paying £3000 to Robert Spofforth and £1500 to Thomas James Thompson. ¹⁸ George Gelderd, listed on the 1841 census as living at Aikrigg End, Kendal, (now 109 Burneside Road), and of independent means, was from a family who had made their money in the tanning industry in Kendal. He dedicated a window in Kendal Parish church to his parents, representing Faith, Hope and Charity.¹⁹ This sale was an example of that period whereby an industrialist wanted to be seen as moving up the social class ladder bought property to show they were landowners. George Gelderd had no children and no nephews so after his death in 1863, the Wyke was inherited by his niece's daughter (Mary Agnes Airey) when she reached the age of 21 years which was in 1875. Mary Agnes married Frederick Somerville in early 1876 and they lived at

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910

¹⁸ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910

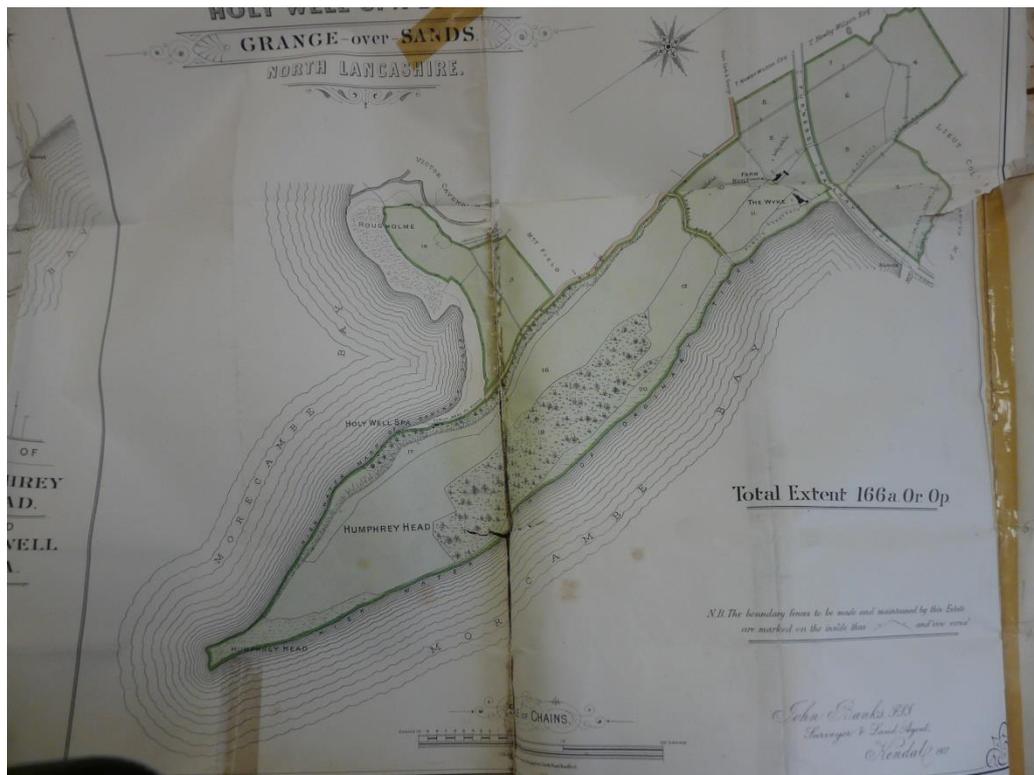
¹⁹ www.kendalparishchurch.co.uk

Hund Howe, Burneside. According to George Atkinson Gelderd's will if the female line inherited his estates, their husbands had to take the name of Gelderd.²⁰ Mary Agnes gave birth to a daughter, Maud Mary Somerville Gelderd in December 1876 and Mary Agnes died in childbirth. So Maud Mary then inherited the Wyke estate when she was 21 years old in 1897. From 1863 to 1897 although the mother and daughter in turn had both inherited the estate they were under the age of 21. George Atkinson Gelderd had 4 trustees who must have managed the land until his great nieces in turn had reached adulthood.

Reading through the 1907 sale documents the assumption is that the Gelderd's owned the Wyke from 1846 to 1907. But other documents show that James Simpson Young of Abbot Hall had an interest in the Wyke Farm from 1876 to 1879. Young was buying land in the Allithwaite area and the London Gazette in 1876 states that there was a notice of transfer of the Wyke to Young.²¹ But did this sale go through, we have no documents to prove this. However in 1879 the Young's executors are selling farm stock and implements of the late Young at the Wyke farm, but the farm and land does not appear to be for sale.²²

Whatever Young's interest in the Wyke had been, in 1907 Maud Mary Somerville Gelderd, who was now living in Oxfordshire, sold the Wyke to the Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) for £4000 and it has remained the property of the Cavendish family of Holker Hall since that time.

The photo below shows the plan of the farm in 1907.²³



²⁰ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910

²¹ London Gazette 14 January 1876

²² Westmorland Gazette 29 March 1879

²³ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910 (permission of Preston Archives)

In the sales notes of 1907 the majority of the farmland was grass, 80 acres with arable at 43 acres. Today there is no arable farming and as the Cavendish family also own Kirkhead the Wyke also farm the fields on Kirkhead.

The Tenants

Above we have seen that the majority of the owners of the Wyke did not live there so now we can turn to the tenants of the Wyke or the people who were living there. In 1729 Robert Bare owned the property and appears to be living there for a time because the records of his children's baptisms in 1728 – 1730 shows the Wyke as their home. By 1733 Robert and his family were living in Cartmel. It is difficult to see who was living there between 1730s and 1770s but when William Dover bought the Wyke in 1787, it appears William Gibson, farmer was living there.²⁴

It is uncertain whether William Dover lived at the Wyke as the owner, but the following may give an indication that he did at one time. In 1802 as part of the Cartmel Enclosures, Mr Gibson, surveyor of the roads, was ordered by the commissioners to "...let the stoning and completing of the road from Raisholme over Bank Moor to the lands of the heirs of Wm. Dover, at Wyke, and from thence along the west side of Humphrey Head, over and by certain allotments...and to the ancient estate of Miss Thompson at Rougham; the road to be of the width of 12 feet, with 9 inches of broken stone on the crown, and three to four inches at the sides."²⁵

Dover died in 1794 and in 1796 Philip Prickett was described as husbandman at the Wyke, aged 21 he married Nanny Marshall described as from the Wyke and Kents Bank.²⁶

The Bell family appear to have lived at the farm from maybe 1790 at the earliest (see below, John Bell appears to have been born in Wyke farmhouse) through to 1874.

*Dec 16, 1801 John Bell Child A6 wike.*²⁷

There is mention of a late John Bell of the Wyke in the Lancaster Gazette²⁸ Presumably it was his widow, Dorothy, who was a tenant in 1817. *TO BE LET, BY TICKET. All that TITHE-FREE ESTATE, commonly called and known by the name of WYKE, situated at Flookburgh aforesaid; consisting of a good Dwelling-house, with suitable Outhouses, and about 57a, 3r. 30p of Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Ground, all well watered and fenced, and now in the occupation of Dorothy Bell, as farmer thereof ---Also TWO FIELDS, at Flookburgh...*²⁹

Dorothy died in 1841 , *at the advanced age of 80, much respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintance.*³⁰

Was it John and Dorothy's son who continued as tenant because in May 1818 John Bell, aged 28 and described as yeoman at the Wyke, married Alice Benson of Cartmel.³¹ (In 1817, July, James Bell,

²⁴ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box36/325 1736-1799

²⁵ "Annals of Cartmel" James Stockdale pub. 1872 p.347

²⁶ Preston Archives ARR 11

²⁷ William Field's Log book

²⁸ Lancaster Gazette May 2, 1818

²⁹ Lancaster Gazette August 23, 1817

³⁰ Lancaster Gazette April 10 1841

³¹ Preston Archives ARR 11

aged 23 and husbandman from the Wyke had married Mary Anne Preston of Cartmel.³² This was before the advert for the tenancy). Were John and James both sons of Dorothy?

From the censuses John died in the 1849 (aged 59), *He died in the same room in which he was born.*³³ and left £900 to his widow, Alice,³⁴ who ran the farm until 1874 when she died, aged 78. This shows that John was born in 1790 at the Wyke farm house.

*December 14 1874 M^{rs} Bell of Wyke interr'd at Cartmel Church. Aged 78 yrs. Had M^r Watson's hearse*³⁵

1876 to 1879 is the period when James Young of Abbot Hall had an interest in the Wyke farm but in 1881 from the census we know that the tenant is James Wood, aged 64, farming 120 acres, and by 1891 his nephew, Joseph Wood, aged 38, has taken over the tenancy, still farming 120 acres. He married Mary Agnes Jackson in 1883 and she took over the tenancy when Joseph died in 1894, aged 42.

Mary Agnes Wood had the tenancy when the property was sold to the Duke of Devonshire in 1907. *Mrs. Agnes Wood is the tenant of the farm, from year to year, at the annual rent of £140, under an agreement dated 8th June 1901. She is under obligation to spend £10 a year upon artificial manure for the grass land. The Horse Machine at the farm belongs to the tenant.*³⁶

In the 1911 census Mary Agnes is living at the Wyke with her 3 sons, James, Joseph and Samuel and daughter, Mary, who are all working on the farm. The house is described as having 9 rooms. In the sales particulars of 1907 the house is described as containing a kitchen, dairy, larder, 3 parlours, 5 bedrooms and several cupboards. The present tenant explained that there was an extension at the back of the house, probably built in the 19th century and the farm house rooms were beamed. The buildings around the house comprised of stable and loft, cart shed, carriage house, calf hull for 10, and 2 piggeries. The main buildings, a little detached from the main building, comprised of 2 shippons for milk cows (8 stall each), shippon for young cattle hulls (4 each) with implement store over, bull hull, cart shed with granary and hen house over, and a lean to Dutch barn.³⁷ In Bulmer's Directory Mary Agnes is also stated as being the keeper of Holywell.³⁸

Harry Wilson also said that there was a well in the yard of the farm, which was discovered when the ground underneath a tractor collapsed. This was when his father John was tenant in the mid 20th century.

Below are some photographs with permission from David Wood. These are of the Wood family, who farmed at the Wyke for approximately 50 years, from around 1880 to around 1930. The photographs are therefore taken in the early 20th century but unfortunately the people in the photographs are not able to be identified but will no doubt be the Wood family.

³² ibid

³³ Kendal Mercury August 18 1849

³⁴ Preston Archives W/RW/F/R396a/45

³⁵ William Field's Log book

³⁶ Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910

³⁷ ibid

³⁸ Bulmer's History and Directory of Furness and Cartmel pub. 1911 p.216





In 1912 Mary Wood, daughter of Mary Agnes, married Ernest George Burton. In 1928 the Grange Red book shows a J. Wood as being tenant of the Wyke, this was possibly James or Joseph, but by 1932 Ernest George Burton, son-in-law of Mary Agnes who died in 1933, was the tenant. Ernest George was tenant up until at least 1949 according to the 1939 Register and Grange Red books.

The following information on the succeeding tenants has been taken from the Grange Red books. From 1949 to 1955 there is no reference to anyone at the Wyke but Tom Gordon farmed there for a short period and from 1956 to 1960 there is an A. Proctor. In 1960 John Wilson took over the tenancy and his son, Harry, then Harry's son, Stuart, have tenanted the Wyke since that date. According to Harry Wilson, his father, John, paid £450 annual rent in 1960.

The Land

Looking back at the last 300 years of the owners and tenants of the Wyke, the land itself has hardly changed, apart from the railway being built right across the land in 1857 and the sewage works built north of the railway line. A limekiln stands near the farmhouse and this was probably built in the 18th century for the production of quicklime for land fertilisation or building material.

There is a limestone quarry mentioned in the 1820 sales details. This quarry, now unused, is situated under Humphrey Head on the left hand side of the road between Pigeoncoat lane and the shore.

There is a sea marsh there now and although a sea marsh is shown on an old mid 19th century map it is north of the farm and under Kirkhead.

Roughholme is mentioned throughout the documents, I find it first mentioned in a document of 1740 and by 1773 it appears to have been given to Dorothy Thompson, mentioned above. In 1802 as seen above James Stockdale mentions Miss Thompson's estate, called Roughholme. It is not part of the Wyke estate and it does not appear in the sales particulars in 1820. By 1845 it is part of the Wyke estate, as shown in the sales particulars, as can be seen above in the sales particulars. Dorothy Thompson was the sister of Thomas Pepper Thompson, who had the Wyke in the 1820s and 1830s so this may be why Roughholme became part of the Wyke estate.

Another interesting field is called Torpott, there are various spellings. This field is north of the house and is very small, 1 acre, 1 rood and 9 perches. (4 roods in an acre and 40 perches in a rood). This meadow was used as a means of providing relief to the poor of Lindale and Hampsfield and to

apprenticing children of those hamlets and of Churchtown and Aynsome through Richard Taylor's charity.

*Richard Taylor (1729) for apprenticing and the poor, £3 10s 130. This charity is applied to the relief of the poor of Lindale and Hampsfield, and to apprenticing children of those hamlets and of Churchtown and Aynsome. The money is derived from Turpotts Meadow in Lower Allithwaite, and is distributed in small doles.*³⁹

In 1801 this meadow is sold for £92 to Dr Courts from Seate's estate.⁴⁰ John Seate had continued to use the money from the meadow for the above poor.⁴¹

Field names

³⁹ Victoria County History p254-265

⁴⁰ William Field's Log book Sept 15 1801

⁴¹ Kendal Archives WPR 89/PR/2706/7



This is an old map of the estate, not dated.⁴² It is obviously before the railway, before Roughholme became part of the estate and before Torpot meadow was sold. So it could be dated from 1800 to 1845. The field names are very clear, the interesting ones being Torpot, Kilncroft and Pigeon Coat meadow, next to pigeon coat lane. Others are more straightforward, Long meadow and Round meadow. Some of the fields have the word Tillage written on them.

Kilncroft may refer to the presence of a kiln or kilns, probably a potash kiln in which small wood was burnt or green bracken to make pot ash which was mixed with burnt lime and tallow and burnt to make soap for the clothing industry.

⁴² Preston Archives DDCA/ACC12005/Box 20/154 1906-1910

In both 1859⁴³ and 1862⁴⁴ there was an auction to sell 24 acres of coppice wood, of 14 years' growth, growing on the Humphrey Head and Wyke estates. It is not sure whether Gelderd, owner at the time, sold the wood second time round.

Pigeoncoat meadow or lane may refer to a small cottage or hut but not necessarily for human habitation, eg sheepcote.⁴⁵ Angus Winchester in his book *Lake District Field Names*⁴⁶ shows that the word Pigeon (as in a field in Finsthwaite) originally derived from Pynshowe showing that the name originally derived from 'shaw', a copse, with an unidentified first element, Pyn.

Below are a couple of newspaper articles relating to the Wyke.

Description of a terrible storm on Christmas Day in 1853. *High and Low Meathop were completely surrounded with water, and appeared as an island, as also did the Wyke and Humphrey head Hill. The sheep stock on these farms, and on Wilson house farm, escaped only by a few minutes.*⁴⁷

The present tenant said there was a flood in the time of the Wood family being there when the sea came in through the front door, facing the sea. The door was then removed and replaced by a window. Although there has been no flooding in recent years the present tenant described one year when the sea was hitting the wall and sending stones and spray up to the top windows of the house.

In the Lancaster Gazette 1862 there was an article about the committal for trial at the assizes of William Hutton, a labourer from Flookburgh, who stole a gun from Percival Bell, grandson of Mrs. Bell of the Wyke. The gun was stolen from the granary at the Wyke and after seeing Hutton with a gun the local PC asked to see it. Hutton denied he had a gun but after a search the PC found a gun stock hidden under hay and the barrel at a short distance. Percival Bell informed them that the gun was his.⁴⁸

⁴³ Kendal Mercury October 22, 1859

⁴⁴ Kendal Mercury 18 October 1862

⁴⁵ 'Lake District Field Names' Angus Winchester, pub Regional Heritage Centre, Lancaster University 2017

⁴⁶ ibid

⁴⁷ Kendal Mercury 1 January 1853

⁴⁸ Lancaster Gazette 11 January 1862

In conclusion the landowners passed the land down through the generations of their families. This was to sustain their wealth and power, ensuring their eldest sons (or female descendants in the case of Gelderd) continued to benefit from the estate. Trustees were appointed for inheritors aged under 21, to ensure the land continued in the family. Some of the owners lived at a distance from the estate, Thompsons overseas and Gelderd in Kendal, so they relied on the tenants keeping the land and farm in a good and profitable state.

It appears that the tenants did look after the farm and lands, the Wyke farm was always very marketable and a number of families tenanted the farm through generations, the Bells, the Woods and the present tenants, the Wilsons. This meant the tenants also had a significant investment in keeping the farm productive to provide for their own family and their future generations and appeared as tenacious as the landowners. In this case the Wyke farm proved a successful estate for both owner and tenant, each needing the other to sustain the farm.

DATES	TENANTS	OWNERS
1576-1637	?	Richard and Hugh Dicconson of Wraysholme
1728 - ?	Robert Bare	Robert Bare (son of William Bare of Wraysholme)
1755-1787	William Gibson there in 1787	John Carter, then Nicholas Bell, then William Carter
1787 – 1827?	1796 Philip Prickett It appears Bell family already there in 1790. John Bell, then his widow Dorothy (1817)	William Dover (died 1794) and his descendants (maybe to 1827) Lease and Release with Thompson family below for a few years.
1820? - 1845	Dorothy Bell (died in 1841) John Bell, son (died in 1849) Alice Bell, widow of John	Thomas Pepper Thompson (died 1820) and his descendants
1845 - 1874	Alice Bell (died 1874)	George Atkinson Gelderd (died 1863) and his descendants
1876 -1879		James Young of Abbot Hall appears to have had some interest in the Wyke.
1881	James Wood	1875 Mary Agnes Airey, great niece of Gelderd, inherited when reached 21 years (died 1876 in childbirth)
1891	Joseph Wood, nephew(d 1894)	In trust until Maud reached 21
1894	Mary Agnes Wood, widow of Joseph	1897 Maud Mary Somerville Gelderd, daughter of Mary above, inherited when reached 21 years in 1897
1907	Mary Agnes Wood (died 1833)	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants
1928	J. Wood (son of Mary Agnes)	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants
1932 – 1949?	Ernest George Burton	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants
?	Tom Gordon	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants
1956 - 1960	A. Proctor	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants
1960 – to date	John Wilson Harry Wilson, son of John Stuart Wilson, son of Harry	Duke of Devonshire (Victor Cavendish) and his descendants

My thanks go to Harry and Stuart Wilson (present tenant) for their information and to Pat Rowland for added research.

Barbara Copeland
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