

The Parish of Englishcombe



R Burrows
1992

A HISTORY



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by
JEAN MANCO

Englishcombe Parish Council
1995

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DUCHY *of* CORNWALL

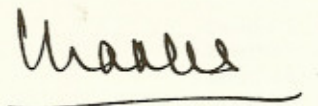
FOREWORD BY
**HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
DUKE OF CORNWALL**



I warmly applaud the initiative of the Parish Council in preparing this history of the parish of Englishcombe to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the formation of Parish Councils.

Within the Manor of Inglescombe the village has formed part of the Duchy of Cornwall since the first half of the 15th century and perhaps this continuity of stewardship has, in some small way, contributed towards the story that can be told and also the lessons that can be learned from the past.

It is always heartening to see a Parish Council fulfilling its duties with energy and enthusiasm, and I am sure that an initiative like this plays an invaluable role in drawing together local people and interests and thereby strengthening the feeling of community within the village, and the sense of belonging that people have to a particular place.



December 1995

Preface

In 1894 an Act of Parliament created the parish councils we have today. It seems appropriate to mark this centenary with a history of the parish. This has been a community project. Residents of long standing have contributed pictures, documents and valuable recollections of Englishcombe in the early decades of this century. More recent arrivals have guided the author round their historic buildings with great good will and helped with research, photography and art work.

Thanks are due particularly to Simon Adams, Rita Ashdown, Jan Bale, Edward Biggs, Barry Cox, Bill Davies, Veronica Dell, Liz Hall, Anne Hancock, Malcolm Hartley, Kathleen Harwood, David Lye, Carole Marjot, Bob Marjot, Ann Mounty, Angela Overton, Mike Overton, Hester Peach, Arthur Poole, Norman Pounds, Gerald Pow, Michael Pow, Norah Pow, Wendy Pow, Jane Rees, Mark Rees, Desmond Salter, Tony Salter, Ashton Scurlock, Ian Timmis, Jennie Walker, John Wroughton, Jill Wyatt, Leslie Wyatt and Richard Wyatt. We are also grateful for the interest and support of Avon County Council and the Duchy of Cornwall.

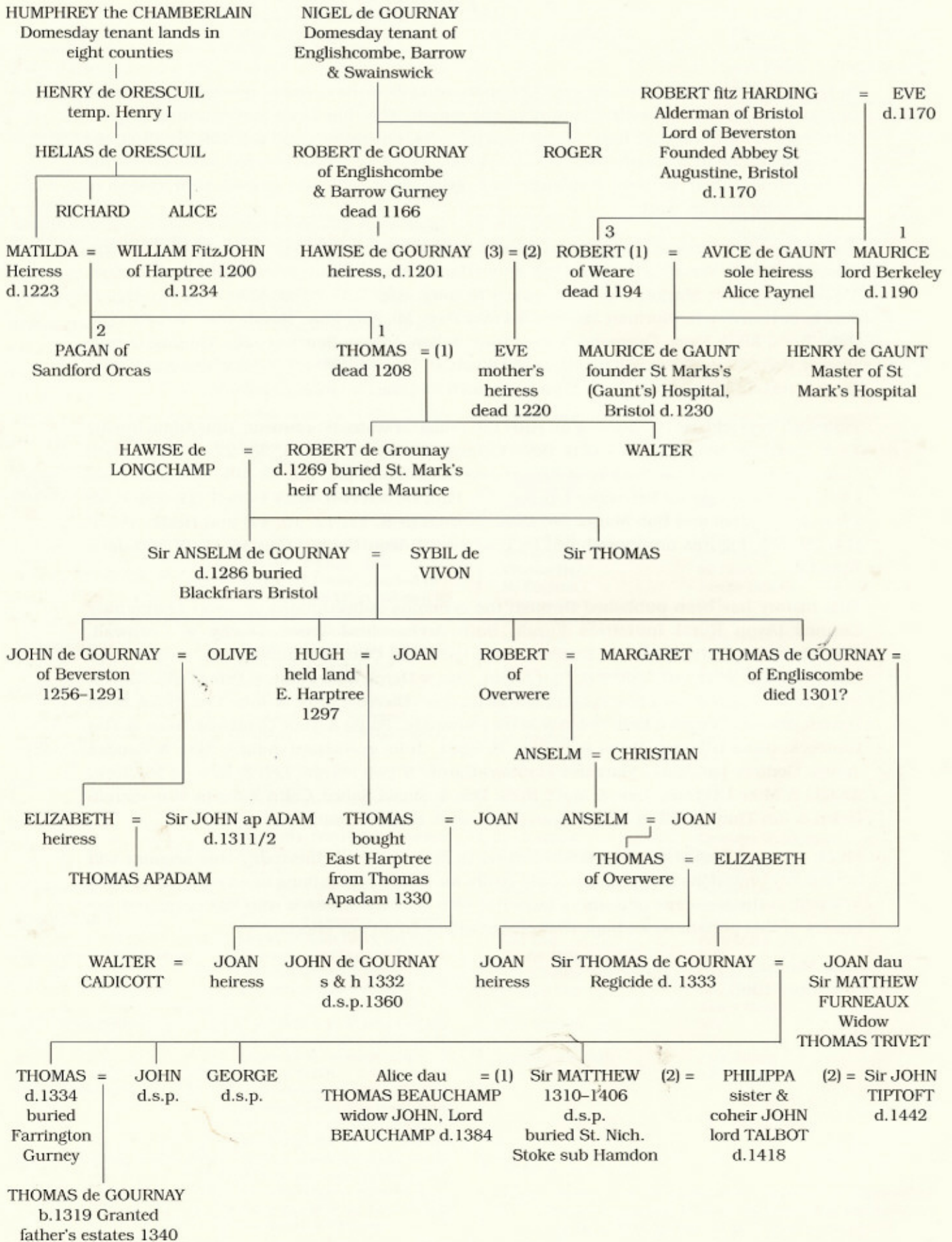
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Much more of Englishcombe's past remains to be uncovered. Inevitably this account will have many omissions and perhaps some errors for future generations to correct. As we have followed in the footsteps of authors from the 18th century onwards who have explored the history of this parish, so we hope that others will build on our efforts.

Jean Manco
November 1995

GOURNAYS OF ENGLISHCOMBE



Englishcombe and the Gournays

Englishcombe now is part of the wide estates of the Duchy of Cornwall, held by the Prince of Wales, but it was not always a royal manor. When William the Conqueror ordered the Domesday survey in 1086, Englishcombe was held by Nigel de Gournay from the Bishop of Coutances.¹ Nigel must have come from Gournay, half-way between Paris and Dieppe, and his lands in Englishcombe, Twerton, Swainswick and Barrow Gurney had almost certainly been earned by fighting for William.

The next member of the family to appear in the records is Robert de Gournay, who held his lands from the Earl of Gloucester.² It was probably Robert who built the church at Englishcombe, parts of which are Norman. We may guess that he had a house close by. Robert was dead by 1166, leaving only a daughter Hawise to inherit his lands.³ The turbulent years of civil war between King Stephen and the Empress Maud (1136-53) had taken a heavy toll. Perhaps Hawise had brothers who died fighting for Maud's half-brother and staunch supporter, Earl Robert of Gloucester.

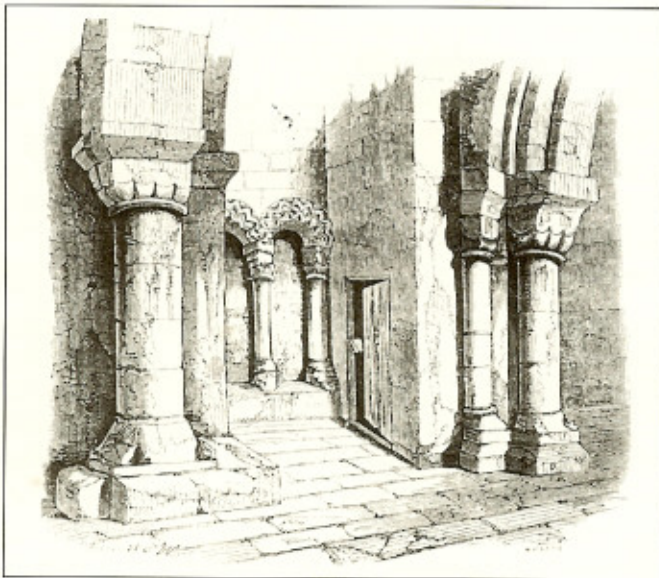


Plate 1 - Norman arches in Englishcombe Church. Engraving by E. Evans from Record of the House of Gournay (1848).

Hawise certainly lost her husband Roger de Baalun and their son Roger in Stephen's reign. For their souls she granted the church of Englishcombe in 1166 to the Priory of St Saviour in Bermondsey, Surrey.⁴ The de Baalun family had been benefactors to Bermondsey from 1092, but so distant a priory would find it difficult to collect the

tithes and in 1239 the Bishop of Bath decreed that Bath Priory should hold the church of Englishcombe, paying a cash rent to Bermondsey.⁵ Hawise probably also founded the convent at Barrow Gurney.⁶

Hawise re-married twice. Her third husband was Robert of Weare, who was clearly fond of hunting for around 1190 he created parks at Englishcombe and Barrow Gurney surrounded by deer leaps.⁷ He was a son of Robert fitz Harding, Gloucester's chief supporter in Bristol. This city was a stronghold of the Empress Maud, where her son, the future Henry II, spent his boyhood. When he came to the throne, Henry rewarded fitz Harding with Berkeley Castle, confiscated from a supporter of Stephen. Fitz Harding's eldest son was the first of a long line of lords Berkeley, while his third son, Robert of Weare, married two heiresses in succession. Robert's first wife, Alice de Gaunt, gave him two sons who took her surname.⁸

By Hawise de Gournay Robert had a daughter, Eve, heiress to the Gournay lands. She married the heir to greater estates. Eve's husband Thomas was the son of William fitz John of Harptree⁹ and Maud de Orescuil, the co-heiress of manors in Gloucestershire, Somerset and Dorset.¹⁰ Thomas died before his parents, so it was his son Robert de Gournay II who was the eventual heir to estates which gave him baronial rank.

Robert de Gournay II inherited Englishcombe and Barrow Gurney from his mother before 1220, while he was still under age.¹¹ Then in 1230 his uncle Maurice de Gaunt died, leaving Robert heir to Weare, Somerset and Beverston, Gloucestershire, among other manors. Maurice had earlier built St Mark's (Gaunt's) Hospital at Bristol, as a charity run by the nearby Abbey of St Augustine. He intended it to feed 100 of the poor every day. Maurice was buried in the chapel of St Mark's and Robert promptly confirmed his uncle's endowment. Shortly afterwards he made St Mark's an independent foundation and appointed his uncle Henry de Gaunt its first master.¹²

The greatest increase in Robert's estates came on the death in 1234 of his grandfather William of Harptree. Along with Harptree came a large part of the Orescuil inheritance, including Farrington,

which became known as Farrington Gurney.¹³ Most of Robert's newly-acquired manors were knight's fees; they had been granted at various times to fighting men in return for service to their lord in war and castleguard in peace-time. Robert de Gournay II therefore had a force at his command, which could be used to garrison his castles at Beverston and East Harptree. It was probably he who built a stone castle at Englishcombe.¹⁴

When Robert de Gournay died in 1269, he was holding 23 knight's fees from the Earl of Gloucester, as well as two manors from the Earl of Warwick, one from the bishop of Worcester and four directly from the king.¹⁵ He chose to be buried alongside his uncle Maurice in the chapel of St Mark's Hospital (now the Lord Mayor's Chapel, College Green, Bristol). Their tomb can still be seen there with effigies of them both in chain mail.

Robert's heart was buried in another family foundation, the Dominican Friary at Bristol.¹⁶ The zealous Dominican Order was gaining favour with benefactors at this time. Founded by St Dominic,



Plate 2 – Effigies of Robert de Gournay and Maurice de Gaunt on their monument in the Lord Mayor's Chapel, College Green, Bristol. Engraving by E. Evans from Record of the House of Gournay (1848).

they first settled in England in 1221, with the aim of teaching and preaching. Their house in Bristol (now Quakers Friars) was founded around 1227 by Matthew de Gournay.¹⁷ Matthew appears as a witness on charters of Hawise de Gournay and was probably her cousin.¹⁸

Robert's heir was his eldest son, Anselm. Sir Anselm de Gournay was summoned in July 1277 by Edward I to serve in his invasion of Wales, but was permitted a respite until Michaelmas (29 September), by which time Prince Llywelyn had surrendered. When the Welsh rose against Edward in 1282, Sir Anselm was summoned again, but chose to commute his obligations to the cash



Plate 3 – Seal of Sybil de Gournay, wife of Sir Anselm. Engraving by E. Evans from Record of the House of Gournay (1848).

equivalent.¹⁹ He may have already been ailing and unable to fight personally, for he died in 1286. In his will he asked to be buried in the church of Friars Preachers (the Dominican Friary), Bristol. Beverston Castle with the major part of his lands went to his eldest son John, aged 30, but Anselm made provision in his lifetime for his younger sons Hugh, William, Robert and Thomas.²⁰ Thomas was granted West Harptree for a rent of a dozen quarrels (cross-bow bolts) and the manors of Englishcombe and Farrington Gurney each for a rose rent.²¹

Sir Thomas de Gournay was summoned almost continuously to fight in Edward I's wars against the Welsh (1295), the French (1297) and the Scots (1300, 1301.) The fact that he was not summoned when Edward invaded Scotland again in 1303 suggests that he had died in the previous campaign.²²

His son and heir, another Sir Thomas, was the most notorious of the Gournays of Englishcombe. Already in 1314 he was showing the streak of ruthlessness that brought about his downfall. He and his cousin Anselm de Gournay raided a farm at Langridge, near Bath, knowing the owner to be a prisoner in Scotland, and stole his horses and farm animals.²³ Like his father, he fought the Scots, being summoned by Edward II in 1316. He went to Ireland the following year, but in 1318 he was in

trouble again, this time for hunting in the Earl of Pembroke's park at Painswick, Gloucestershire.²⁴

Pembroke was the head of a moderate party trying to keep the peace between the king and his over-mighty cousin Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. Edward II's pampering of favourites was making him increasingly unpopular. In the spring of 1321, the greed and arrogance of Edward's adored Hugh Despenser provoked a rebellion backed by the Earl of Lancaster. Thomas de Gournay took part and in December his lands were confiscated and there was a warrant for his imprisonment.²⁵ By February 1323 he was a prisoner in the Tower of London, but he bought his life and his release with a bond for £100 on 1 July 1324. His lands were restored later the same month.²⁶ Roger Mortimer, one of the rebel leaders, had managed to escape from the Tower and flee to France.

Queen Isabella bitterly resented her husband's devotion to Despenser and by 1325 had turned to Roger Mortimer for consolation. In September 1326 she and Mortimer invaded England. Despenser was hanged and the king imprisoned. Edward II was deposed in January 1327; Isabella ruled in the name of her son, the young Edward III. But while the former king lived, there could be no real security for Isabella and Mortimer and they resolved on desperate measures. Edward II was moved to Berkeley Castle and placed in the custody of Sir Thomas de Berkeley. Berkeley, perhaps fearing to be implicated in regicide, pleaded illness to remove himself to a safe distance, leaving Sir Thomas de Gournay and William de Ocle in charge of the former king. In September 1327 Edward II was murdered.

Sir Thomas de Gournay had powerful motives. He was deeply in debt, having still not redeemed the £100 bond for his release in 1324, or another £100 bond extorted from him by Hugh Despenser the elder, father of Edward's favourite. In October 1328, both debts were pardoned.²⁷ Around the same time Isabella appointed Thomas constable of Bristol Castle, where the Despenser heir was in custody.²⁸ But the tide of de Gournay's fortunes changed dramatically after Edward III wrested power from his mother and Mortimer in October 1330. Already in September 1330 Parliament had judged Thomas de Gournay and William de Ocle guilty of regicide; the king offered £100 for the capture of Thomas alive or 100 marks for his head.²⁹ In December warrants were issued for the arrest of Thomas de Gournay and his accomplices before they could escape abroad, but Thomas slipped through the

net. He seems to have sailed secretly from Mousehole in Cornwall to Spain, but he was arrested in Burgos in May 1331.

The king sent his servant Giles de Ispannia to bring de Gournay back to England. The name 'de Ispannia' suggests that Giles was of Spanish ancestry, but this evidently cut no ice at the Spanish Court. While Giles was being delayed for months with polite evasions, de Gournay escaped. But his luck was not to last. News reached Edward III in January 1333 that the fugitive had been arrested at Naples. This time the king sent a Yorkshire knight, Sir William de Thweng. When Sir William reached Naples he must have found de Gournay in tatters; he had to buy new clothes and shoes for him. Clearly Edward III's instructions were to bring de Gournay back alive, but the rigors of the journey were severe. Sir William sailed from Naples to the neighbourhood of Perpignan, where he set out to English-held Bayonne on horseback. Perhaps he strayed too close to the Spanish border, for they were captured by some Aragonese. There was a forced detour to Montblanch north of Tarragona, where de Gournay needed physicians and medicine. The King of Aragon mercifully had them set free and escorted safely to the border; once over the Pyrenees they travelled by boat down river to Bayonne. By then de Gournay was seriously ill. He was treated by two physicians, but he was beyond their help. It was his body that Sir William finally bore back to England in July 1333.³⁰

Meanwhile Sir Thomas's lands were taken into the king's hands, but his wife Joan was granted West Harptree for the support of herself and her children and Englishcombe and Farrington at a yearly rent of £24.³¹ On 30 December 1334, Sir Thomas's eldest son was summoned to join Edward III's forces at Roxburgh. Having the same name as his father, it seems he was killed by some hot-heads on his own side, who thought he was the regicide.³² His tomb stood in the old church at Farrington Gurney, which was demolished in 1843.³³ In November 1339 his son and heir, another Thomas, who was nearly of age, petitioned for the return of the forfeit estates. Perhaps the king felt the family had suffered enough, for he consented.³⁴

In 1340 Matthew, the youngest son of Thomas the regicide, was at the battle of Sluys. It was the start of a glorious career as a soldier of fortune. He joined the siege of Moorish Algeciras by Alfonso XI of Castile (1342-4); he was at Crecy (1346) and Poitiers (1356); joining the Black Prince he fought at Najara (1367) and was made a baron of Guienne.

In 1378 he came under siege while governor of Bayonne and in 1388, aged 78, he was constable of the forces of Edward, Earl of Cambridge in his expedition to Portugal. His sword and armour were treasured relics to later generations of fighting men, but the greatest testimonial to his strength and skill on the battlefield is that he died in his bed aged 96.³⁵

Sir Matthew outlived his nephew Thomas de Gournay and his brothers John and George, who all died without surviving issue, so the manors of Englishcombe, Farrington Gurney and West Harptree descended to him. He also acquired another ten manors in Somerset and one in Dorset, five of them on his marriage in 1374 to Alice, sister of Thomas, Earl of Warwick.³⁶ Perhaps his favourite of these was Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset, where he chose to be buried.³⁷ Though 74 years old when Alice died in 1384, Sir Matthew took as his second wife Philippa, one of the daughters of Sir John

Talbot of Richard's Castle, a girl of 15 at that time but already a widow.

The old warrior had no children, so he arranged for all his properties in England and Aquitaine to be held by Philippa for life.³⁸ His death in August 1406 left her a wealthy widow -- a prize in whose disposal the king had an interest. By May 1407, Philippa was the wife of Sir John Tiptoft, an able but landless man. In 1406 Tiptoft was elected Speaker of the House of Commons and pressed the king tactfully towards reforms. From 1408-9 he was Treasurer of the Exchequer. His marriage brought him great estates and changed the course of his career. In February 1408 he was appointed Seneschal of the Landes and Constable of Dax, Aquitaine, both posts previously held by Sir Matthew Gournay.³⁹ After Philippa died in 1418, Tiptoft continued to hold Sir Matthew's former estate, but sold the inheritance of it to the Crown for £4,000.⁴⁰

Barrow, Haycombe and Inglesbatch

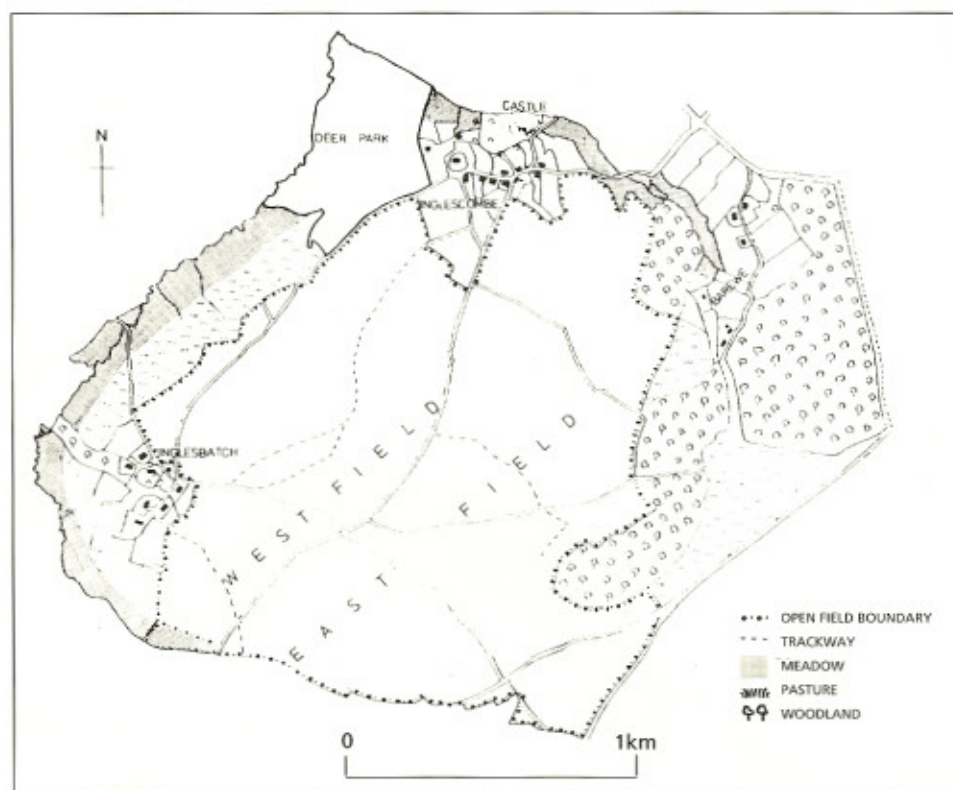


Fig 1 - Reconstruction of Englishcombe in the medieval period (by Avon County Council planning department.)

Englishcombe was typical of the villages that developed in the late Saxon period over a large part of England. The arable land of the manor was in two large open fields, which were cultivated in rotation.⁴¹ Each field was divided into strips allocated by the lord to himself and his tenants. As a rule with this type of farming, the tenants lived in cottages clustered around the manor house and church. Most of them were copyholders, who held their land in return for work on the lord's. They could not sell it or bequeath it, though in practice, lands often did pass from father to son. A freehold tenant was more secure, holding land from the manorial lord for a fixed rent, and free to dispose of it by deed or will. Naturally it was the less profitable marginal land that was most likely to be granted to freeholders. The pattern of early deeds for Englishcombe is interesting, showing clusters of freehold land in Barrow, Haycombe and Inglesbatch. These outlying farms or hamlets have their own history.

The field-name Brightwick in Haycombe probably records a Saxon dairy-farm. Barrow has all but

vanished, but archaeologists have uncovered the remains of a medieval settlement. It stretched from the site of Culverhay School south to the Wansdyke.⁴² By the time Englishcombe was first mapped in 1742 (pl. 4), all that remained was Barrow House (close to the present Barrow Castle). Haycombe and a large part of Barrow lay outside Englishcombe originally; in 1316 'Bergh' was considered a hamlet of Twerton.⁴³ Early boundaries often followed streams; Newton and Widdlecombe Brooks mark the western limit of Englishcombe. To the north and north-east the natural boundary between Englishcombe and Twerton would be Padley Brook. Beyond Padley Brook, a strip of freehold land on the margin of Twerton evolved into Barrow,

Haycombe and Claysend Farms. Originally their lands were much intermixed and included strips in the open fields of Englishcombe and Twerton. By 1611 Englishcombe manor included Barrow land east of Padley Brook and by the 18th century the parish of Englishcombe had absorbed Barrow and Haycombe Farms.⁴⁴ Since they both had land at Stirlingale in Twerton, that too came into the parish.

In 1452 Richard (later Sir Richard) Choke bought Barrow Farm for £100; the property was described as two houses and 180 acres in Twerton, Englishcombe and 'Berewe near Bath', and owed an annual rent of a pound of pepper to the lord of Twerton. Two years later Choke bought the manor of Long Ashton near Bristol, which became the chief house of his widespread estate. The wealth that he poured into property was made as a justice of the common pleas, perhaps not entirely honestly. Sir Richard certainly seemed anxious to provide for the welfare of his soul. Before he died in 1483, he founded a chantry in the church of Long Ashton, where his tomb still stands, and endowed it with



Plate 4 – Detail from Bath and Five Miles Round surveyed in 1742 by Thomas Thorpe.

lands including Barrow Farm.⁴⁵ After the dissolution of the chantries, Barrow Farm was bought from the Crown by John Smythe, the Bristol merchant who had purchased Ashton Court. His son Hugh sold it to John Gay of Englishcombe in 1568. Barrow Farm belonged to Richard Gay of Newton St Loc by 1626.⁴⁶

Haycombe was farmed by Richard Gay of Englishcombe at this time, probably a cousin. Claysend and Haycombe Farms were one property in 1442, leased to John Cleye, with land in Newton St Loc, Twerton and Barrow. It was sold in 1550 to David Baber of Twerton and Richard Gay of Englishcombe. The Babers lived at Claysend in Newton St Loc, while the Gay family farmed Haycombe, but the two farms were not formally divided until 1672.⁴⁷ After the deaths of John Gay in 1729 and his young son Richard in 1736, Haycombe Farm went out of the Gay family and was owned by Sarah Hallet in 1840.⁴⁸

Richard Gay sold Barrow Farm in 1641 to Thomas Cox; his son Richard sold it in 1695 to Joseph Langton of Newton Park, whose descendants held it until the late 19th century. Since Barrow Farm had land at Haycombe and vice-versa, there was an exchange in 1705 between Langton and Richard Gay of Haycombe to simplify the process of enclosure. This still left their land much intermixed, so it is not surprising that in the 19th century Haycombe and Barrow were farmed together, although still in separate ownership. The tenant farmer in 1840 was James Harris, who lived at (old) Haycombe Farm; Barrow House was deserted sometime after 1792.⁴⁹

Medieval deeds survive for three Inglesbatch properties. William de St Loc had a house at Inglesbatch c1290, which was sold shortly afterwards to Henry de Littleton. The heir of the Littletons sold it to Sir James Hussey of Bathampton in 1357 and it then descended to the



Plate 5 – The old Haycombe Farm was rebuilt in 1766, as recorded on the date stone. It is now divided into Haycombe House and Inglescombe House

land in 'Inglescumb' in 1287; later deeds make it clear that this was in Inglesbatch. By 1359 his son Thomas had also acquired Inglesbatch mill, first mentioned around 1250.⁵⁵ The mill seems to have gone by the time the Farrington property descended to William Tomkins, who was dead in 1580. It seems he had no sons, for his farm was divided in that year between Thomas Raynes, John Evans and Roger Hunt alias Baggridge, probably his sons-in-law. Presumably Raynes had the bulk of the house, since it became known by his name (app.3). Baggridge took the wellhouse and kitchen, with lofts over the kitchen and entry.⁵⁶ By 1626 Richard Lane had land at Inglesbatch, probably Raynes's, since in 1700 Peter Lane possessed the

entry, the hall and the buttery of a large house at Inglesbatch long since partitioned.⁵⁷ Baggridge's property passed to Samuel Day, who in 1792 owned a house and farm buildings on the site of Allandale.⁵⁸

Blount family.⁵⁰ Meanwhile another property found its way into the same hands by another route. William Cherm held a house and land in Inglesbatch in 1305, which descended through the Forde family to the Blounts.⁵¹ In 1445 Willelma Blount leased the first of these properties to Walter Collins; then in 1448 she leased the other to Thomas Gravell.⁵² The Collins and Gravell families were still leasing these lands in 1611 (app.3), long after the Blount property had been sold to William Button.⁵³ By 1717 the two Button tenements were leased by Robert and Benjamin Wyatt (app.7). The Button lands descended to the Walker-Heneage family. In 1792 John Walker Heneage owned two farms in Inglesbatch; one is now known as the Home Farm, while the other had a farmhouse (since demolished) on the left-hand side of the road to Wilmington.⁵⁴

The Clement family were the most prosperous of the tenant farmers of Inglesbatch in the 16th and

the 17th century.



Plate 6 – Allandale with Sarah Adams and her daughter Daisy in 1995. The carpenter George Milsom lived here in the 19th century.

Another series of deeds is for a smallholding with a mill. Robert of Farrington gave a sparrow hawk for a house and

17th centuries. They must have lived at the house now called the Close, tenanted by their descendants the Halls in the 18th century.⁵⁹ Thomas Clement leased Barrow Farm in 1572, presumably to provide for his son Richard, who was included in the lease.⁶⁰ It is clear that he also leased the Rectory Farm and the tithes, since his will in 1586



Plate 7 – The Close – the home of the Clements in the 17th century, now part of Inglesbatch Farm. The house is of mixed dates, the rear being probably 17th-century and the front Georgian.

left certain tithes to his son William. Thomas's other bequests illustrate the living standards of a successful Elizabethan yeoman. Apart from farm stock and implements, he owned a bedstead with curtains, a cupboard, a great crock, a pair of hand-irons, a great and lesser coffer and silver spoons. The Clements could afford to educate a younger son for the church. Thomas's grandson William studied at Oxford and became vicar of Englishcombe in July 1588. Sadly he and his father John both fell ill and died the following year. John also bequeathed tithes, so he had evidently taken over the Rectory Farm. William Clement's will demonstrates a cleric's love of books. He had spent

the then considerable sum of £4 on a bible and other works. Another bible was left to his sister-in-law Alice.⁶¹

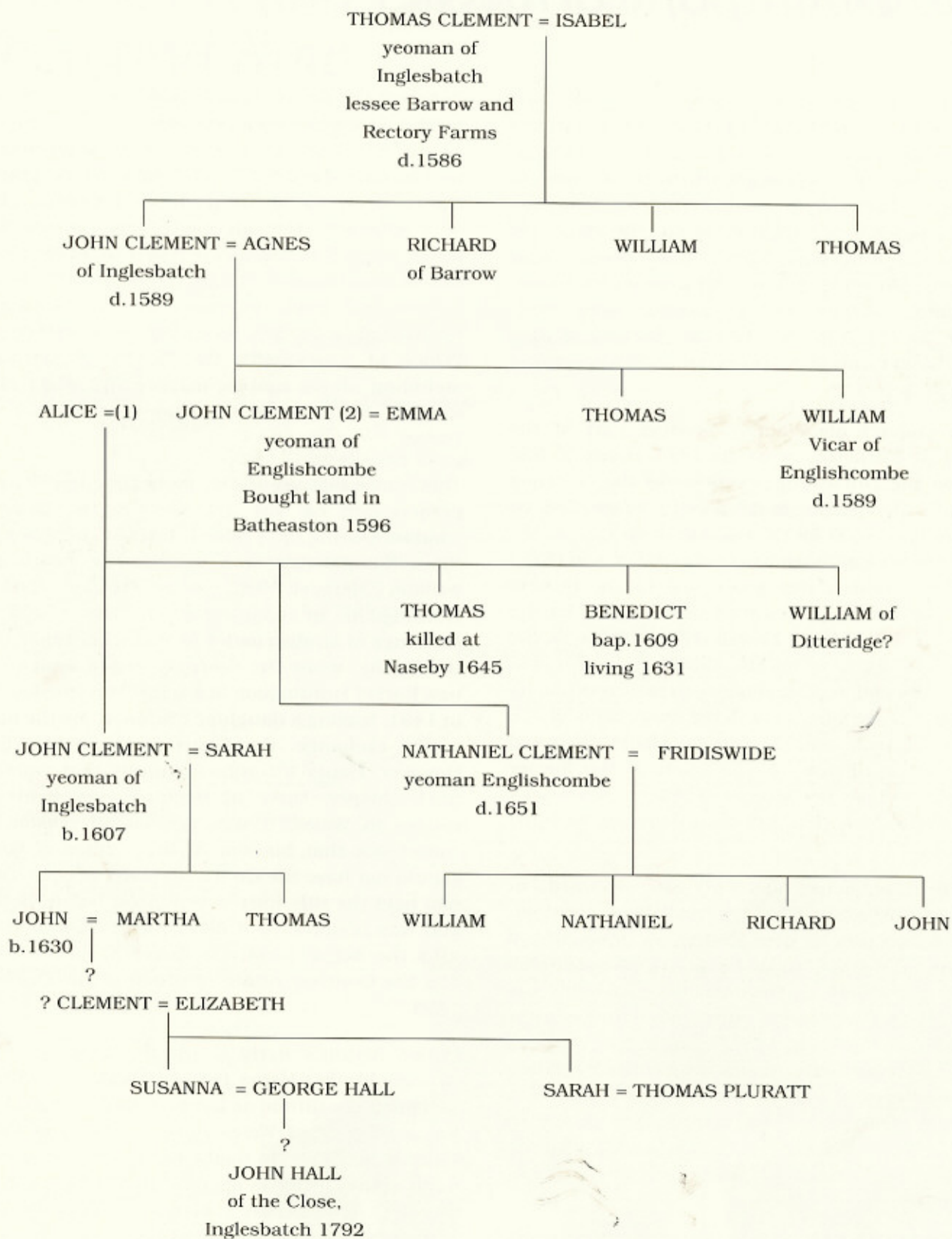
From 1674 the small copyhold properties in Inglesbatch were gradually amassed by the Day family. John Day first acquired the Beene's Upper House and Lower House and later Elford's farm. All three houses have now been demolished but can be seen on Greenwood's map to the north-west of Inglesbatch (pl.10). Thomas Day built a mansion c1790 between the roads to Wilmington and



Plate 8 – Inglesbatch Farm, built by Thomas Day in the late 18th century. It was extended and re-fronted in 1869, as shown by a datestone with the crest of the Prince of Wales.

Englishcombe, while Thomas Day jr took over what had been Evans's farm, with a house in the corner of the road turning to Priston Mill.⁶² In the 19th century Thomas Day also took over the Close. The Days had built up a sizable property, now known as Inglesbatch Farm. At least one member of the family was Roman Catholic -- Capt. John Day of the 49th foot. His son John, born in 1826 at the Hague and educated partly at Downside, became a judge of the Queen's Bench.⁶³

THE CLEMENTS OF ENGLISHCOMBE



The Duchy of Cornwall

It will be remembered that Henry V had purchased the reversion (inheritance) of the estate of Matthew de Gournay in 1418, so on the death in January 1443 of Sir John Tiptoft, it fell to the Crown. In February Henry VI appointed Thomas Young as steward of his newly acquired estate: the manors of Stoke sub Hamdon, Milton Fauconberg (near Martock), Midsomer Norton, Stratton on the Fosse, Farrington Gurney, Welton, Englishcombe, Widcombe (near Harptree), Laverton, Shepton Mallet, Curry Mallet and West Harptree in Somerset and Ryme in Dorset.⁶⁴

These manors immediately became part of the Duchy of Cornwall, since in 1421 Henry V had granted the Duchy the reversion of the Gournay estate.⁶⁵ The Duchy of Cornwall was created by Edward III in 1337 for the support of his eldest son, the Black Prince. Since then every eldest son of the reigning monarch has succeeded to the Duchy. When the sovereign has no son, it is held by the Crown. In 1443 Henry VI was still childless, so the estate was in Crown hands. In fact the question of the succession had become a pressing problem, with factions forming around the rival claims of the Dukes of York and Somerset. Henry favoured Somerset, as shown by the grant of the former Gournay estate in October 1444 to Somerset's brother and male heir, Edmund Beaufort, Marquis of Dorset.⁶⁶

The birth of Henry VI's only son, Edward, in October 1453 should have settled the succession, but the king was by then insane and incapable of governing. In the struggle for power that followed, Edmund Beaufort, by then Duke of Somerset, was killed. His widow Eleanor surrendered the Gournay estate to the Crown in 1457.⁶⁷ The Prince of Wales had little opportunity to oversee his Duchy. When Prince Edward was only 7 years old, his father was deposed. Henry VI's restoration to the throne in 1470 lasted only a few months and ended with the death of the Prince of Wales at the battle of Tewksbury.

Meanwhile in Englishcombe, these stirring events probably produced only faint ripples. When Edward

IV seized the throne from Henry VI in 1461, he lost no time in appointing a new steward to the Gournay estate.⁶⁸ He also rented the farm of Englishcombe to his own men.⁶⁹ In 1464 Edward IV granted the Gournay estate to his brother George, Duke of Clarence,⁷⁰ but all Clarence's estates were forfeit when Edward was deposed in 1470. By the time Edward returned to the throne in 1471, he had a son and heir, another Edward. By Act of Parliament in 1472-3, Edward IV invested the new Prince of Wales with the Duchy of Cornwall, including 'all the castles, manors and lands which were of Matthew de Gournay in Somerset and Dorset'.⁷¹

This Prince Edward was no more fortunate than his predecessor; he was murdered in the Tower of London. During the prince's brief life he was given the additional title Earl of Pembroke, taken from William Herbert, who was created Earl of Huntingdon in compensation. There was an exchange of lands; castles in Wales became part of the Duchy, while the Gournay estate went to the new Earl of Huntingdon in 1482.⁷² Huntingdon died in 1491, leaving a daughter Elizabeth. By the terms of the exchange, the Gournay estate was hers. However, Henry VII argued cannily that since his uncle Jasper, Duke of Bedford, now held said castles in Wales, it was against all reason and conscience that his son Arthur, Prince of Wales, should not have the Gournay estate. (Jasper Tudor had held the title Earl of Pembroke before Herbert and was restored to it on the accession of Henry VII.) The Act of 1482 was therefore declared void and the Gournay estate returned to the Duchy in 1495.⁷³

Prince Arthur's early death in 1502 made his younger brother Henry Prince of Wales; in 1509 he ascended the throne as Henry VIII. After that there was no Prince of Wales until the birth of Prince Edward in 1537. No doubt Henry became used to treating the Duchy as his own. In 1543 he sold four of the ex-Gournay manors: Englishcombe, Widcombe, Laverton and West Harptree.⁷⁴ It was 66 years before the Duchy clawed them back.

William Crouch MP

It was while Englishcombe was still in the hands of the Crown that William Crouch made his home there. Crouch was a quarrelsome, grasping, ruthless man, who disrupted the economy of Bath and yet became its MP. He first appears as a Crown servant. In 1524 he was appointed bailiff of Sherston, Wilts. The following year he was granted a 21-year lease of the Duchy manor of Laverton.⁷⁵ In June 1527, Henry Norris, squire of the body to Henry VIII, was granted a lease of the lordship of Englishcombe.⁷⁶ It was around this time that Crouch settled at Englishcombe;⁷⁷ probably Norris, a permanent member of the royal household, employed Crouch as his steward.

Crouch was taken into the service of the Prior of Bath, William Holloway, where he cast an acquisitive eye over priory property. The rectory of Englishcombe had been let, but Crouch was able to buy the reversion (inheritance) of the lease.⁷⁸ He also bought the reversion of the lease of Wellow rectory from the Abbot of Cirencester. Shortly afterwards the lessee of Wellow rectory died in suspicious circumstances. His widow was convinced that Crouch, learning that her husband was being treated for a leg disease, had bribed a Bath doctor to poison his medicine. The doctor left town on a fast horse, but it seems that nothing could be proved.⁷⁹

Crouch's arrival in Englishcombe coincided with the renovation of St John's Hospital, Bath. This was so dilapidated that in 1527, the Bishop of Bath and Wells amalgamated it with Bath Priory. Prior Holloway then rebuilt the hospital and its properties. Crouch saw an opportunity; he had a clerical kinsman, John Simons. With subtlety and guile he persuaded the prior to appoint Simons as Master of St John's in 1532.⁸⁰ Crouch then became steward of the hospital.⁸¹

But this was not enough for him. He also wanted the reversion of the hospital, which he claimed the prior had promised him, and he resorted to the law. Tempers became frayed. When on 2 June 1533 a servant of Crouch's attempted to serve Prior Holloway with a subpoena in Bath Cathedral, he was frogmarched out by two of the priory servants, Thomas Horner and Thomas Batten. On 10 June Horner and an armed band waylaid Crouch and put

him in the stocks. After three days of imprisonment, Crouch was brought to sign a £200 bond for his good behaviour. Crouch retaliated in August, imprisoning Horner in his house at Englishcombe. A mass of priory servants and tenants then besieged the house and attacked the doors with hatchets. Crouch tried to hold them off with arrows, but released Horner when the mob threatened to burn the house down.

It became clear at the trial that years of friction lay behind this explosion of local feeling. Crouch was habitually abusive and threatening. Two mayors of Bath, both clothmakers and major employers, had been so oppressed by him that they left for other cities, to the great impoverishment of Bath. A third former mayor testified to the difficulty of keeping the peace, with Crouch coming to Bath night and day with a band of armed rowdies and causing constant quarrels and affrays.⁸² It is all too credible. Crouch seemed to provoke trouble. He purchased a lease from Bath Priory of the parsonage of Castle Cary and then declined to pay the rent. When the prior evicted him in February 1534, once again Crouch took the matter to court.⁸³

National events were shortly to touch Englishcombe. Henry VIII had become unhappy with his queen, Ann Boleyn, and interested in Jane Seymour. Those who disliked Ann were ready with charges that she had committed adultery with, among others, the chief gentleman of the privy chamber, Henry Norris. This was the same Henry who had taken a lease of Englishcombe.⁸⁴ Henry and Ann were executed in May 1536, along with her four other alleged lovers. Henry VIII's marriage to Jane Seymour followed hard upon the executions and brought her family to national prominence. Her brother Edward was created Earl of Hertford. William Crouch was acting as steward for the Earl of Hertford's manor of Monkton Farleigh by the autumn of 1538.⁸⁵

Crouch was also the Crown escheator for Somerset and Dorset in 1538-9.⁸⁶ This appointment cannot have been popular locally, which may explain a 'clamour in the country against Crouch'. There were shrewd attempts to bias the king. John Pereman, a painter of Englishcombe, reported

overhearing treason; Crouch had remarked cynically that a man with money enough might buy and sell the crown of England.⁸⁷ But Crouch's old enemy, Prior Holloway, was a spent force after the surrender of Bath Priory to the Crown in January 1539,⁸⁸ while Hertford remained friendly. In 1541 Hertford purchased a house and land on behalf of Crouch at Baggridge in Wellow.⁸⁹ By the following year Crouch was Hertford's rent collector in Somerset.⁹⁰

Then the blow fell. In September 1543 Henry VIII granted Englishcombe, Laverton, Widcombe (near Harptree) and West Harptree to John lord Russell, Keeper of the Privy Seal.⁹¹ Crouch was soon engaged in a fierce dispute with Russell over a lease of Laverton. Crouch's 21-year lease was due to expire in July 1546 and a new lease to follow on from it had been granted to John Richbell, one of the king's footmen.⁹² Crouch bought it from Richbell, evidently without official sanction. He was committed to the Fleet Prison in April 1544 and

remained there until he was prepared in June the following year to admit humbly that he had no title to the property.⁹³

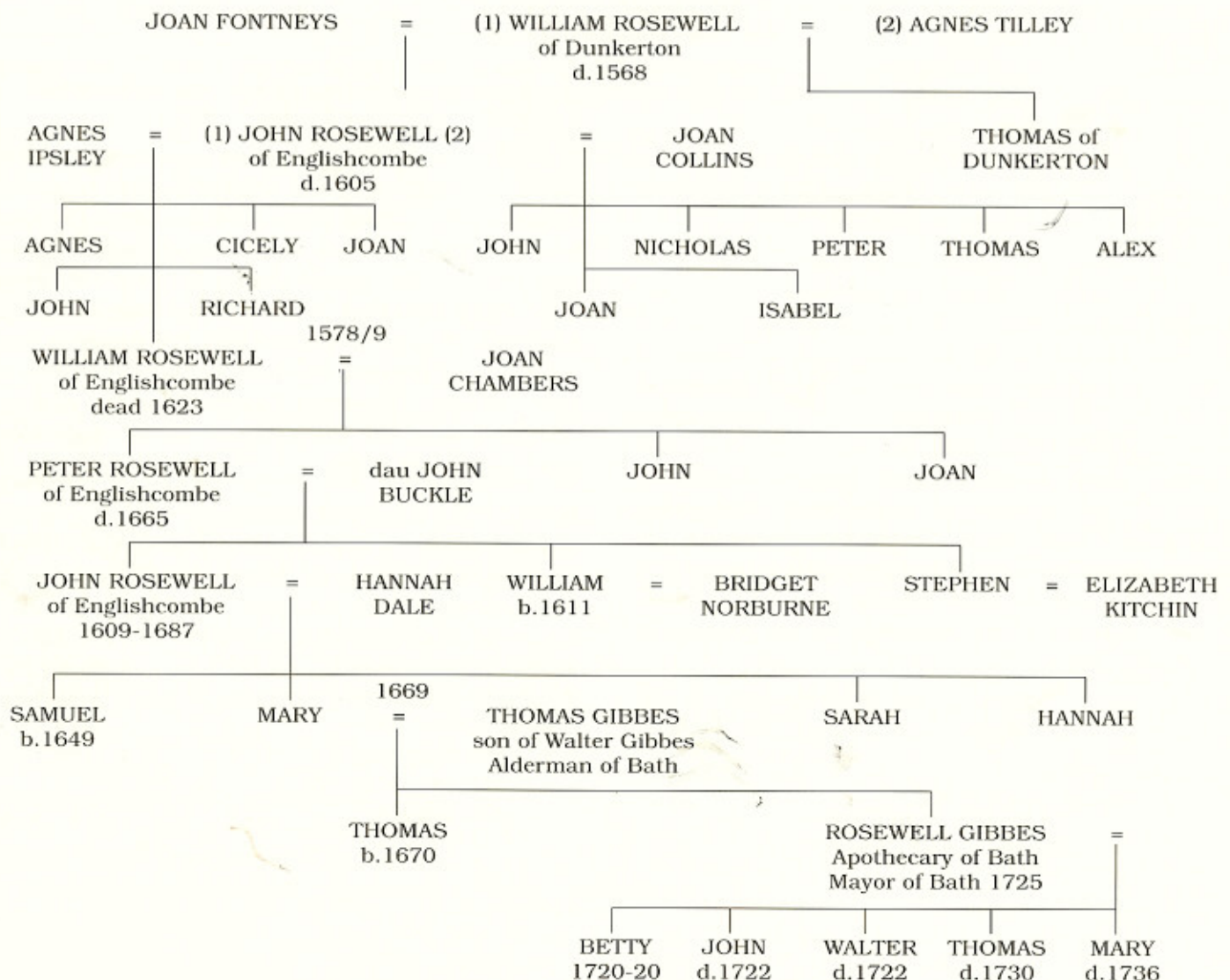
On the accession of the young Edward VI in 1547, his uncle, the Earl of Hertford, was created Duke of Somerset and governed in his name. Probably it was not difficult for Crouch, still in the new duke's service, to become MP for Leominster. Even after the execution of Somerset in 1552, Crouch was MP for Bath (1554) and Melcombe Regis (1555), but he was out of sympathy with Queen Mary's government. Early in 1556 he was again committed to the Fleet and then ordered 'to stand in the pillory with a paper on his head for slandering the Queen's Council'. He had implied that money could buy the loyalty of Privy Councillors. It was a characteristic note on which to end his public career. His later life was one long history of lawsuits over property, but he seemed to thrive on it. He died at a ripe age on 2 April 1586 at his house at Baggridge.⁹⁴

The Bisse and Rosewell Families

Lord Russell purchased the manor of Englishcombe on 5 September 1543 only to sell it again within 5 days. Clearly he was acting for the real purchasers. He was the Crown rent receiver for the former Gournay estate and had probably been approached with offers. Half the manor was bought by John Raynes and the other half by James Bisse of Stoke St Michael and his younger brother John.⁹⁵ James Bisse also bought the rectory of Englishcombe from the Crown in July 1544; the grant describes him as a cloth-maker.⁹⁶ Raynes and the Bisses jointly leased the manor of Englishcombe to William Rosewell of Dunkerton, with remainder (inheritance) to his sons John and Thomas.⁹⁷

This lease could have been more carefully worded; it later caused problems. Was the farm to be divided between the sons on the death of William? Or was John to inherit the farm as the eldest, with Thomas as his heir if he died childless? William seems to have tried to settle the matter just before he died by releasing his own right in the manor and persuading Thomas to do likewise so that a new lease could be granted to John Rosewell and his sons William and John. Thomas clearly felt that he had a grievance. He took the matter to the Chancery Court after William's death, but gained nothing by it.⁹⁸

THE ROSEWELLS OF ENGLISHCOMBE



Later dissension arose among the children of John. He had a huge brood -- eight sons and five daughters -- by two wives.⁹⁹ It seems there was jealousy between the offspring of different mothers. The eldest son was William and in 1578 or 1579 he married Joan, the daughter of Humphrey Chambers of Tresham, Gloucestershire. Humphrey paid £80 for John Rosewell's contract to give half of Englishcombe farm to William immediately and the other half after John's death. John reneged. For years he permitted William and Joan to share the farmhouse but not the profits. Then around 1594 he expelled them from the farm and they went to live at Twerton; William saw in this the influence of his half-brothers.¹⁰⁰ William had a good case and it was heard in Chancery in May 1600. The verdict is not recorded, but it clearly went in his favour. It was William who took on the manor farm after his father's death in 1605.¹⁰¹

Lord Russell's transgression in selling off Duchy of Cornwall lands, which by law were inalienable, went unpunished until James I came to the throne. Once again England had a Prince of Wales in his sadly short-lived son Henry Frederick. On 27 July 1609 a writ was issued 'calling upon the heirs of John lord Russell and on James Bisse, John Bamfield and Francis Buckland, holding the manors of Inglescomb, Widcombe, Laverton and West Harptree, Somerset to show cause why the grant thereof by Henry VIII to said Lord Russell should not be revoked, these manors being annexed to the Duchy of Cornwall'.¹⁰²

This James Bisse was the great-nephew of the James who had bought half of Englishcombe.¹⁰³ It

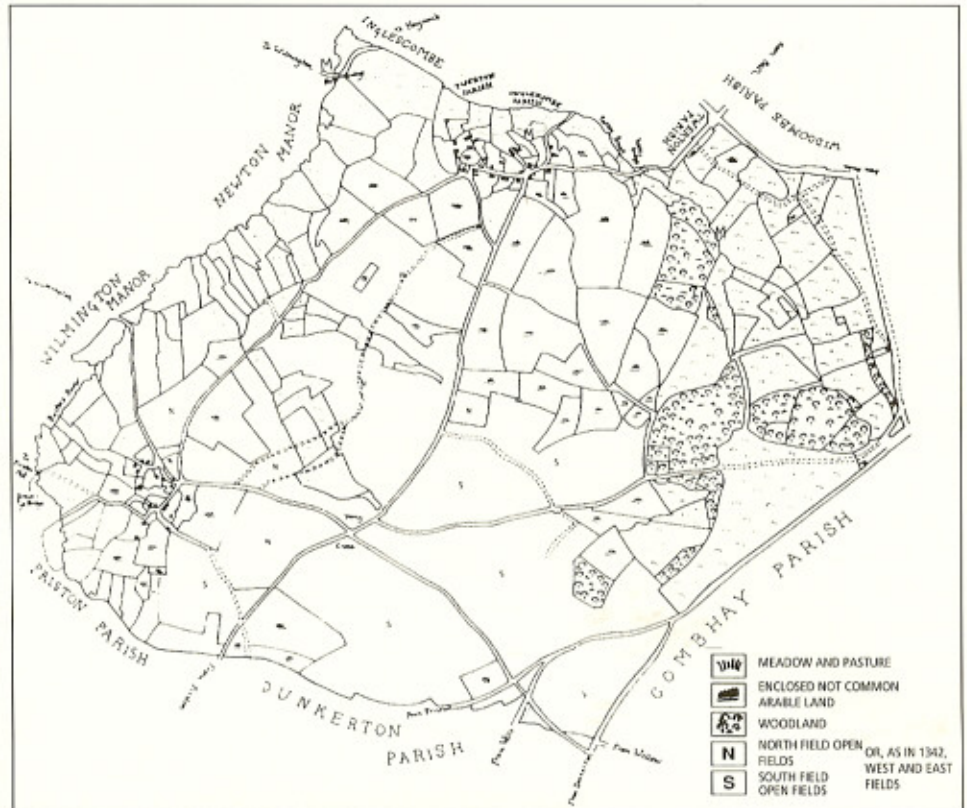
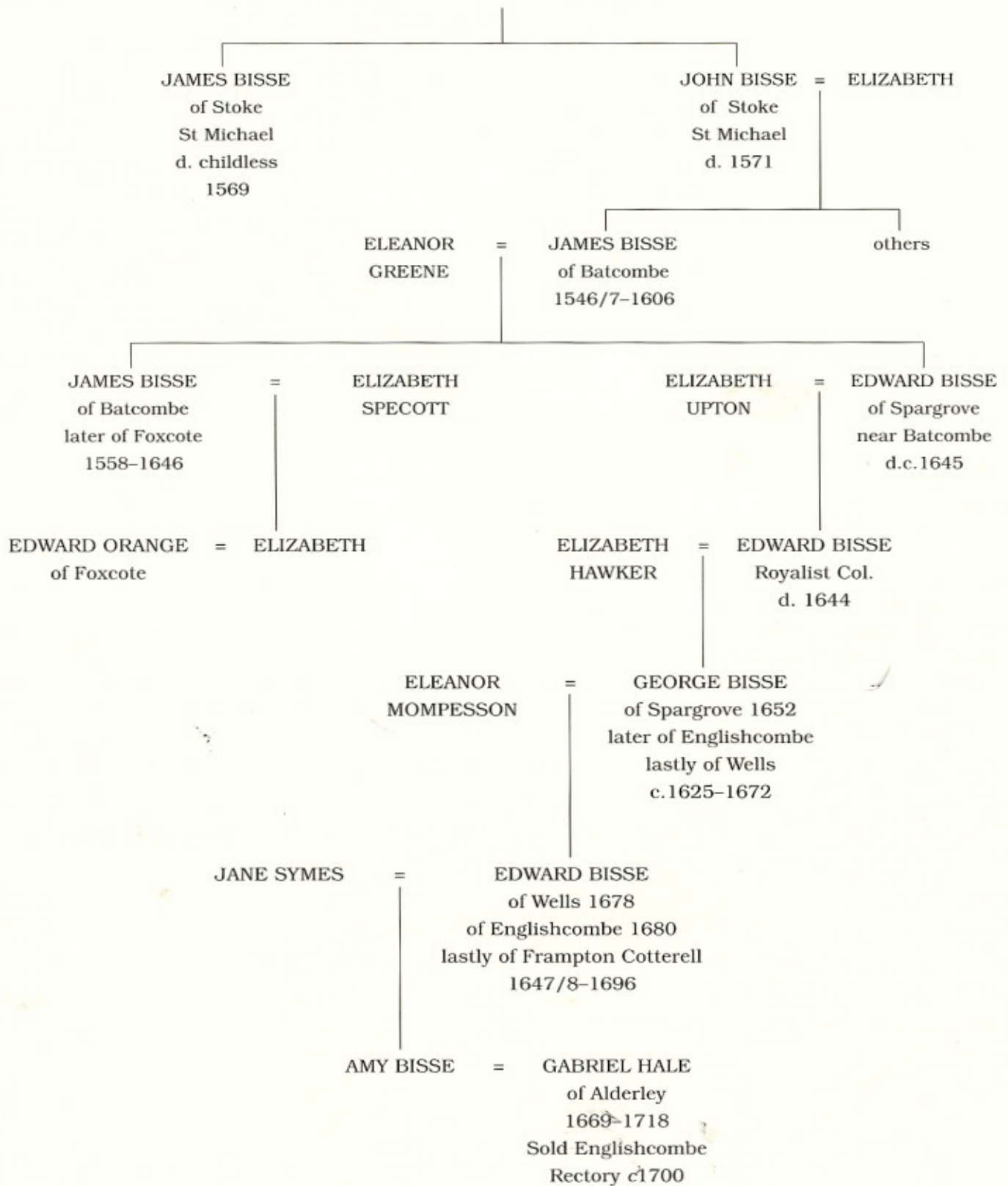


Fig 2 – Working from John Norden's written survey of 1611 and later maps, Avon County Council Planning Department produced a reconstruction plan of Englishcombe in 1611.

is unclear how the whole manor came to him, but it was now irretrievably lost; all four manors returned to the Duchy. James Bisse never accepted the loss and his will of 1643 left 'my manor of Englishcombe and Inlebatche, which manor is (as I conceive) wrongfully detained from me' to his daughter Elizabeth Orange 'to whom I give full power to sue recover and possess the said manor'.¹⁰⁴ It was a pipe dream. However, Englishcombe rectory remained with the Bisse family for several more generations (see p.33).

In 1611 the Duchy of Cornwall's surveyor, John Norden, made a written survey of all the former Gournay manors (fig 2). Most of the meadow and common land was enclosed by that time and enclosures had also nibbled into the two great open fields.¹⁰⁵ The manor house called 'le ferme' and the demesne lands were held by William Rosewell (app.3).

THE BISSE FAMILY



The Civil War and its Aftermath

Prince Henry -- a youth of brilliant promise -- died aged 16 just over a year after Norden's survey was made. His younger brother Charles was now now Prince of Wales and in 1625 ascended the throne as Charles I. Charles was a man of charm and talent, but little ability to compromise. From 1629 he ruled without parliament and imposed taxes which were deeply unpopular. When he finally called two parliaments in 1640, the MPs passed act after act to curb royal powers. When Charles tried to arrest five MPs in January 1642, the breach between king and parliament was complete and preparations began for war. Both sides recruited men in Somerset, but the area around Bath was a Puritan stronghold and came out strongly for parliament.¹⁰⁶

Thomas Clement of Englishcombe joined the parliamentary army. Duchy tenants might have been expected to fight for the king and perhaps some did, but Thomas was not himself a Duchy tenant. He was a younger son of John Clement, yeoman farmer of Englishcombe (see p.10), who had a house where the former school now stands.¹⁰⁷ However, John Clement had bought some land in Batheaston in trust for Thomas and his brother Benedict, so Thomas was independent of the Duchy. Thomas mortgaged his land in 1642 and joined up. Stationed at Worcester before the battle of Edgehill, he wrote his will in the house there of one Will Goffe on 10 October 1642 'being neither sick nor weak of body' yet 'apprehending danger'. Thomas survived Edgehill, but died at the battle of Naseby on 14 June 1645.¹⁰⁸

Meanwhile those at home were contributing to the parliamentary army, willingly or not. Parliament held the area until July 1643 and were in control of the trained bands, the groups of part-time soldiers who were England's defence until the formation of the regular army. Englishcombe supplied two trained men and their weapons. In addition, a horse and musket were requisitioned. Parliamentary troops were billeted in Englishcombe eight times for

periods between a day and seven weeks. They and their horses had to be fed, which must have made great demands on the resources of the community. One can imagine John Clement's feelings when Captain Butler's troop of 80 horses was let loose to graze in his meadow about mowing time. Also taxes were levied for the war and Englishcombe contributed towards the improvement of Bath's defences and the support of the Bristol garrison (app.5). The cost of war was high, as always. However onerous Charles I's taxes had appeared at the time, when local people looked back on the subsidy they had paid to the Crown in 1641 (app.4), it must have almost faded into insignificance. The total paid by Englishcombe then was £6 10s 8d, whereas they paid £48 18s 12d in 1643 and £66 8s 0d in 1645-6 in war taxes.¹⁰⁹

Charles I was executed in January 1649 and parliament took control of Crown lands, including those of the Duchy of Cornwall. In December 1650 the manor and farm of Englishcombe were surveyed (app.6) and in February John Warre of London contracted to purchase.¹¹⁰ It is not clear whether the sale was ever made, but it was in any case a comparatively short break from Duchy ownership. With the Restoration in May 1660, Englishcombe returned to the Crown.

The parliamentary survey, together with the hearth tax returns for 1664-5, provide some insight into the standard of living of the farming community. There were 22 houses assessed for hearth tax, with an average of 3 hearths per household, indicating comfortable homes for that time. There was little or no substandard housing.¹¹¹ Neither were there any great houses. Englishcombe manor house, near the church, had been the home of stewards and tenant farmers for around three centuries. In 1650 it was held by Peter Rosewell and had a hall, parlour and kitchen on the ground floor with 'other necessary rooms', probably food stores. Above were four bedrooms with garrets above them (app.6).

A Divided Manor

John Rosewell, son of Peter, died 1 December 1687, aged 79. His grave-stone read 'This grave's a bed of Roses: Here doth ly John Rosewell, gent. His wife, nine children by.'¹¹² John had outlived most of his family. His son Samuel was still living in 1672¹¹³ and may have succeeded his father, but it seems he had no children, for in 1699 the manor farm was divided. One half was leased to John Rosewell's son-in-law Thomas Gibbs.¹¹⁴ The Gibbs were a prominent family in Bath; Thomas's father Walter was mayor three times. This half of the farm descended in 1722 to Thomas's son Rosewell Gibbs, apothecary of Bath, who became mayor in 1725.¹¹⁵ The other half was leased to Joseph Damer, John England and John Elderton. It was John England who paid the rent and presumably was the actual farmer.¹¹⁶ John Rosewell had also bought one third of the manor of Twerton, which was similarly divided after his death between Gibbs and England, who may have been another son-in-law.¹¹⁷

When the manor was surveyed by William Simpson in 1792, he was scathing in his comments. 'The Manor House and Demesnes were some years ago

divided into two Farms, and the House being much decay'd was entirely taken down and rebuilt. This Division of the Demesnes was executed without any taste or judgement ...the Gardens, Orchards and Fields are much intermixed with each other, though nothing was more easy than to have drawn a line between them.' Simpson continued 'In Norden's time and also when the Parliament Survey was taken, much the greater part of the Copyhold lands was in Common Field, but they have since been nearly all Inclosed ... The mode of Inclosing was the worst possible. Fences were made round the various pieces just as lay, without any regard to convenience ... hence they are all intermixed ... and almost every Tenant has a Road thro' his neighbour's Field ... It is not by any means a pleasant place to reside at, nor at all famed for sociality.' By this time half the manor farm was leased to the Rev. William England and the other half to Matthew Brickdale, who held adjoining houses north of the church.¹¹⁸ Their respective sub-tenants were Joseph Deans and John Cottle (app.8).



Plate 9 – The Manor House of Englishcombe.

Nailwell, Kilkenny and Padleigh

The population of Englishcombe was at its height around 1860 and had spilled out to the fringes of the parish. In 1664-5 Englishcombe's 22 dwellings would have housed around 126 people.¹¹⁹ The population had nearly doubled by the time of the first census in 1801 and it climbed to 559 in 1861.¹²⁰ In 1792 there were 40 houses in the parish and about 70 in 1840.¹²¹

A cluster of houses appeared at Nailwell, where there were only fields in the 18th century. 'Well' in the name reflects the spring there, the source of Widdlecombe Brook, which would have made it a good place to build in the days before mains water. Two fields at Nailwell were part of the farm once owned by the Baggridges, which was fragmented in the 19th century. By 1840 Peter Wyatt owned Widdlecombe field with four cottages west of the lane.¹²² They can be seen on the map of 1822



Plate 11 – Westvale as it is now.

(pl.10). By 1939 they had been converted into a single house known as Westvale and occupied by Sholto Ernest Hassell, butter merchant.¹²³ His meadows were later amalgamated with the Home Farm and Westvale is now a private residence (pl.11).

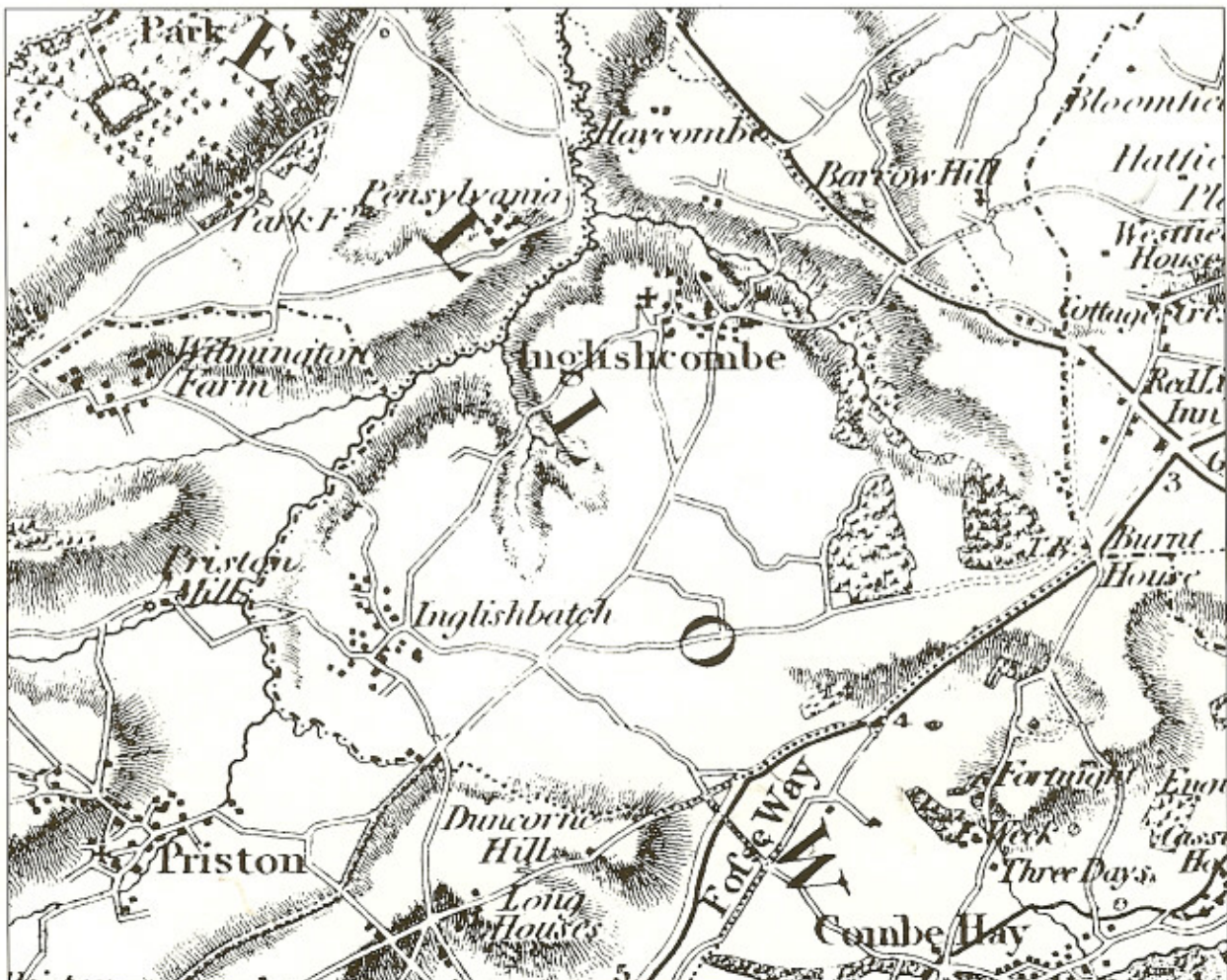


Plate 10 – Detail from the map of Somerset in 1822 by Christopher Greenwood.

The smaller ex-Baggridge field lay in a rough triangle between two lanes and the parish boundary. This was clearly purchased specifically for building. By 1840 the Malt and Hops Inn was prominently placed at the crossroad. Ten cottages on the rest of the plot were owned by three men: William Green, Benjamin Gay and John Jacobs. Gay lived in one, but all the others were rented out; they were presumably purpose-built for rental.¹²⁴ Benjamin Gay seems to have been an odd character. In 1820 he bought a wife for five shillings from her husband David Hawkins of Dunkerton, who gave her away at the altar. When Gay got home he beat his daughters and threw them out to make way for his new purchase.¹²⁵

Another group of houses grew up along Kilkenny Lane, which probably takes its name from a field called Kilkensey on the corner where this lane met the way to the reservoir. In the 18th century there was a long triangle of waste ground between

Kilkenny Lane, the Wells Road and the Old Fosse Road. This was leased to the parish. The crossroad where the Wells and Old Fosse Roads met was known as Burnt House. Between 1792 and 1804 a turnpike house was built at Burnt House Gate, where Bristol View now stands (pl.12), with two cottages nearby called the Poor House. Another cottage was built in 1804 close to the entrance of Vernham Wood.¹²⁶ This could have been the first of Woodside Cottages or perhaps the earliest of Rose Cottages, owned by Edward Dutton in 1840.¹²⁷

Other enterprising persons built cottages on waste land beside the road at Padleigh in the 18th century. The Duchy surveyor noted indignantly that George Evans had built a cottage just above Padleigh Bridge in about 1750 and had never paid anything to anyone! What is now Woodland Cottage, a little further up the hill, was owned by Rev. England of the Manor Farm.¹²⁸



Plate 12 – Bristol View, Kilkenny Lane.

The Victorian Period: An Era of Change

By 1840 Jacob Cottle was running half of the manor farm (app.9), and on 15 September 1846 there was a serious fire in his farmyard (pl.13). The West of England and Sun fire-engines raced to the scene. It took them only half an hour to reach Englishcombe from Bath. (These were of course horse-drawn engines.) They found all Cottle's ricks and barns ablaze. A cottage in front of the farmyard, home of the crippled Thomas Butler, was speedily destroyed, along with the barns and ricks. A servant girl confessed to starting the fire. Cottle was fortunately insured, so the cottager was the chief sufferer.¹²⁹

No doubt Jacob Cottle built himself a new barn and more renewal followed the reunification of the manor farm. Simpson's survey had been made just a few years after long leases had been granted for both halves of the manor farm. As they ran out, the

Duchy granted new ones for shorter terms.¹³⁰ Finally the two halves were vacant together and the farm was reunited in 1864 under Alfred and Frederick Stone.¹³¹ A new farmhouse and barn were built in 1869 to the south-west of the church.¹³²

Building work created a need for stone. Quarrying had begun by the late 18th century on the waste ground near Burnt House. It was noted in 1804 that 'many loads of stone are still dug here'.¹³³ In 1840 there was a quarry in the southern tip of the parish, south of the road to Combe Hay; by 1849 there were several quarries for building stone and repair of roads.¹³⁴ The Victorian period was a great era for road-building; poor country roads had hard surfaces laid down for the first time. One of Englishcombe's oldest residents recalled his father saying that the road from Englishcombe to Bath



Plate 13 – Fire in Englishcombe destroying Jacob Cottle's barn and ricks north of the church. Engraving by E. Evans from The Pictorial Times 26 Sept 1846.



Plate 14 – Thomas Barnes's steamroller crashed into an outhouse by the Grove Tavern, Padleigh Bottom, on 15 March 1909. It was being driven to Englishcombe to carry out work for the Rural District Council.

was little better than a cart-track at the start of this century.¹³⁵ No doubt the steamroller (pl.14) had come to mend matters but it ended up doing unforeseen damage.¹³⁶ Englishcombe had another useful raw material. Around 1800 Charles Hall began to dig fuller's earth from a field above West Wood and send it to Bristol.¹³⁷

Otherwise the parish was entirely agricultural and a large part of the population worked on the land. In 1883 a specialist business was established which became a major employer for local people.¹³⁸ Walter T.Ware had acquired Haycombe farm and in 1890 he bought Barrow Castle (pl.15).¹³⁹ Ware started Inglescombe Nursery at the old Haycombe farmhouse.¹⁴⁰ A new farmhouse was built to the north (pl.17) where there had been a barn in 1840. At first it was known as Haycombe Barn Farm.¹⁴¹ A visitor noted in 1899 that Ware's hothouses were 'well worth a visit, especially when the lilies are in bloom. He sends away daily cut flowers, chiefly daffodils, roses, tulips, lilies of the valley and others.'¹⁴² The business was labour-intensive; land for bulb-planting was all dug by hand. The nursery

employed between 60 and 100 people on a regular basis well into the present century. Tied houses for permanent staff were built along Whiteway Road, but seasonal workers came in from all the villages around.¹⁴³

Englishcombe had always had a fragmented community. Now, with new hamlets springing up on the edges of the parish, the population was even more scattered. In past centuries, the church provided a focus for community life, but Englishcombe had dissenters from

early days. Thomas Culverhouse was fined for non-attendance at church around 1600, while Katherine Evans of Inglesbatch went as far as Keynsham in 1670 to attend an illegal conventicle.¹⁴⁴ The Act of Toleration in 1689 permitted freedom of worship and non-conformists often held meetings in their own homes at first, but as numbers grew, so chapels sprang up. There was a dissenting meeting house in Englishcombe in 1804, a Baptist chapel was built at Inglesbatch in 1813 and another chapel at Rush Hill in 1832.¹⁴⁵ In 1845 the Salem Congregational Chapel was built in Englishcombe village by William Jay.¹⁴⁶



Plate 15 – Barrow Castle, built in 1851, with the present owner Elizabeth Hall. Nearby is Barrowmead Cottage, an older building in appearance, presumably part of Barrow Farm.

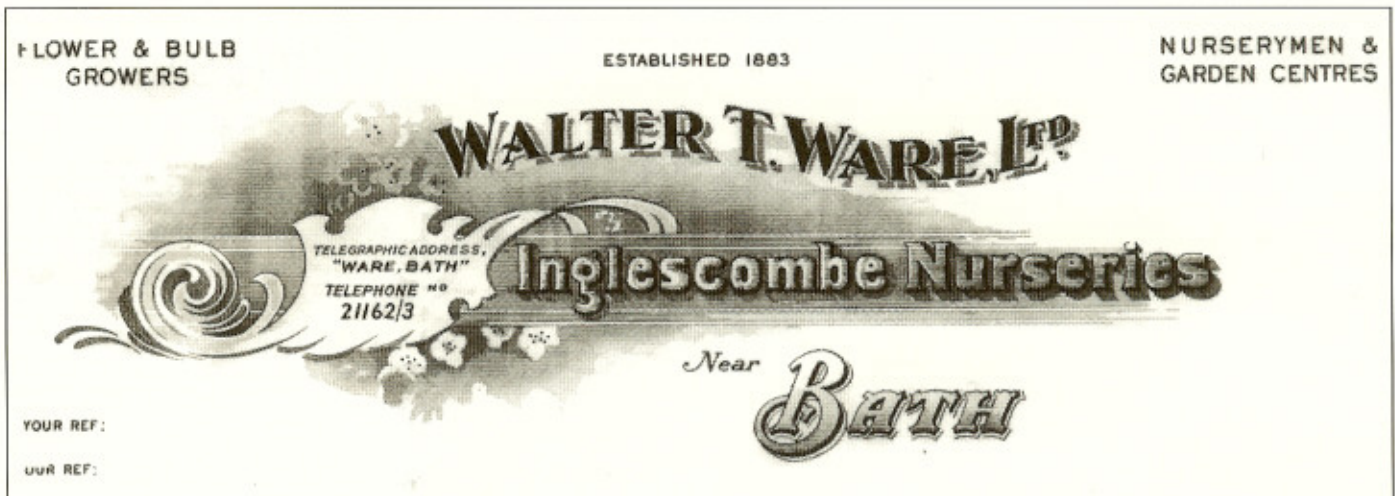


Plate 16 - Letterhead of Inglescombe Nurseries.

The chapel-goers held sway in Englishcombe. While the Salem Chapel was packed with worshippers, the vicar could scarcely summon up a congregation of 10 adults. Harold Lewis commented in 1876 'Such a woe-begone miserable church it has never been my lot to attend.' The fabric was decaying, there was no vestry, so the vicar had to change behind a buttress, 'for some inscrutable reason the pews all face westwards, so unless you kneel upon your seat you have your back to the minister throughout the Communion Service' and above all it was empty. Lewis recognised that some parishioners lived in scattered hamlets, but commented 'if they can come to the alehouse, they are not too far off to come to the Church.'¹⁴⁷

By that time the old manor house had been converted into an ale-house.¹⁴⁸ Earlier there had been a 'beer house' opposite the vicarage, run by Joseph Perrin (app.9). However Englishcombe village seems to have lost its pub by the 1890s. A more lasting institution was the Board School, built in 1872 to replace the parochial school supported by the vicar in the 1860s.¹⁴⁹ The village also acquired a post office, which moved as different villagers took on the responsibility. The map of Englishcombe in 1885 (pl.18) shows the post office on the site of Inglescombe Cottage. William Cox was the Duchy tenant of this

property in 1840. George Cox was Parish Clerk in 1885 and he was also sub-postmaster by 1889, so probably he was the first to run the post-office in Englishcombe.¹⁵⁰

Any rural community needed horses shoeing, farm carts and implements mending and other carpentry and metalwork. Charles Flower was the blacksmith in Englishcombe village in the middle decades of the 19th century, with a forge where the old schoolyard now is. He branched out into making iron chair and sofa backs. Meanwhile Inglesbatch had its own blacksmith in Joseph Miles, with George Milsom in a carpenter's shop conveniently next door.¹⁵¹ In the 1870s and 1880s Englishcombe supported three carpenters: Milsom, John Phillips and James Charles with Henry 'Donkey' Wise taking over from Charles in the 1880s. But when



Plate 17 - Haycombe Farm in 1995, with Richard G. Wyatt, the farmer (no relation to the Wyatts of Manor Farm) and his mother, the former farmer's wife.

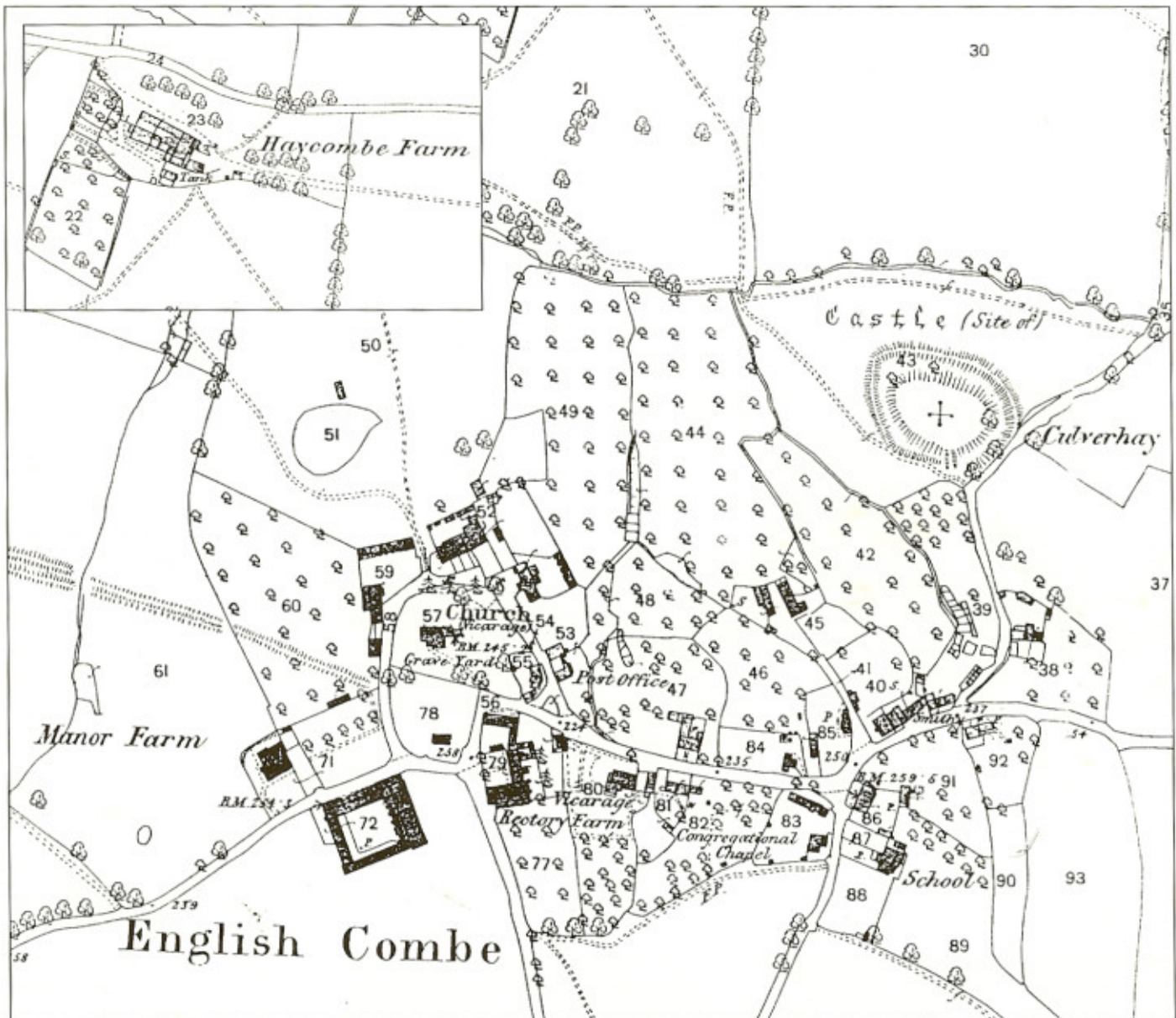


Plate 18 – Detail from the Ordnance Survey map of Englishcombe in 1885.

Milsom retired Inglesbatch lost its carpenter; the smithy there seems to have closed down some years earlier.¹⁵² Edward Short became the blacksmith in Englishcombe village after the school was built on the site of the old forge. A sketch made on 5 December 1874 shows a new smithy on the north side of the road to Bath.¹⁵³ The wheelwright from around 1900 was Richard Seaman, with whom the last wheelwright of Englishcombe, George Salter, finished his apprenticeship. His workshop was near the village green. George's son Desmond perfectly recalls the traditional method of making wheels; when the carpentry was complete, they would be rolled down to the smithy to be ringed with iron.

In 1894 the Local Government Act established parish councils. Parishes, originally concerned only with church matters, had gradually taken on functions of local administration. For example in Englishcombe the parish officers were in charge of the parish pound in 1840.¹⁵⁴ The Act regularised the position, stipulating that parish councils should meet at least once a year and should be elected in parishes with a population over 300. Englishcombe's population declined gradually from the high point of 559 (1861) to 524 (1881) and then there was a marked fall to 398 in 1891. This was presumably the result of an exchange of land with Twerton on 25 March 1885, under the Divided Parishes Act of 1882.¹⁵⁵

In Our Own Time

As the 20th century opened, enough visitors were coming to Englishcombe to encourage the wife of Richard Chave of Blakes Farm to open a tea-garden (pl.19). 'Mrs Chave sometimes has tea-parties of



Plate 19 – Blakes Farm in use around 1906 as a tea-garden. The farmhouse still has these delightful 17th-century mullioned windows. The name derives from the 19th-century tenant, Francis Blake, but in the 17th century the Masters family were the farmers here.

over 100, such as one would hardly expect in a country village', wrote a dedicated rambler in 1899. Her teas were much praised 'with Devonshire cream, the cheeriest hostess and brightest of gardens.'¹⁵⁶ Perhaps Mrs Chave also sold the

postcards of Englishcombe which started to appear around this time and include at least three views of the tea-garden.¹⁵⁷ It was English-combe's only real brush with the tourist industry.

Blakes Farm also served as an off-licence. Englishcombe village had lost its pub in the 19th century, but by 1909 the Grove Tavern was serving beer at Paddleigh Bottom. The licensee was Thomas Davis at least until the second world war. But in the 1950s lack of trade forced the subsequent owner to convert the Grove Tavern into kennels. The closure of the only pub in the parish was much lamented.¹⁵⁸ In the 1920s the village gained a new meeting place; the Prince of Wales gave a site adjoining the old forge to the church for a parish hall. The hall is a simple metal structure, but for many years it served its purpose as a focus for community life. Before the war it was the scene of lively events like the performance of 'Princess Ju Ju' (pl.20).¹⁵⁹

The economy of the parish has remained agricultural, though the numbers employed on the land have fallen with the increasing mechanization of agriculture. When William Wyatt arrived in Englishcombe in September 1934 to take over the Manor Farm, he had probably a dozen or more workers. 'Half the cottages in the village housed these workers' writes Jill Wyatt in her account of the family's 60-year tenure. Today William's grandsons Leslie and Richard employ no one outside the family. As tied cottages became vacant, they were sold by the Duchy and have been enlarged and modernized.¹⁶⁰



Plate 20 – The cast of 'Princess Ju Ju' performed by the Englishcombe Choral Society at the parish hall c1936. Cast: Princess Ju Ju – Pamela Salter, her two handmaidens – Mrs Salter, Miss Sally Frayling, Lunar Goddess – Evelyn Clarke, Shee Ma Guin and his aide – Alma and Kate Vaughan. Others: Douglas Hawkins, H.J. (Ben) Derrick, Fred Weaver, Alli Vaughan. Children front row left to right: Douglas Salter, Jean Padfield, Desmond Salter, Audrey Moddick, Rita Cox.

At Inglesbatch, the picture was probably similar. Benjamin Woolley had taken over from Thomas Day by 1861, living at what he called 'The Manor House, English Batch'. By 1889 George Tucker Date held Inglesbatch Farm and his



Plate 21 – Frederick 'Shep' Hallett, the shepherd who came with William Wyatt from Dorset in 1934, pictured here c.1945 with his son and his flock in the lane outside the Manor Farm.

family continued there until 1955, when it was taken over by Laurence Stocker Pow, whose sons Michael and Gerald are the present farmers.¹⁶¹ Meanwhile Robert Scurlock had bought the freehold Home Farm by 1923 and his family are still farming the land there.¹⁶²

Inglescombe Nurseries continued to employ the same numbers until the 1960s, since flowers have to be cut and packed by hand (pl.22). After Walter Ware's death his son-in-law, Cyril Titchmarsh, took over Inglescombe Nurseries. Mrs Titchmarsh née Ware bred a daffodil called 'Inglescombe' and another called 'Fortune', which remains a best-seller.¹⁶³ Mr Titchmarsh served on the parish council, for some time as chairman, and took a keen interest in local history. In

1937 he wrote a guide to the parish church, with notes on the history of the manor.¹⁶⁴ He was generally acknowledged as the village squire and played Father Christmas to the schoolchildren. Mrs Titchmarsh would collect the children's letters to Father Christmas with requests for gifts, nothing to be over 10 shillings in value.¹⁶⁵ During the second world war, Titchmarsh 'dug for victory', turning bulb land over to potatoes, but after the war, it was business as usual. After he sold Inglescombe Nurseries to Bryan Meering around 1970, Titchmarsh retired to Barrowmead Cottage in the grounds of Barrow Castle, where he died. By 1972 with the increasing popularity of the potted plant rather than cut flowers, together with the rising running costs of Victorian coalfired greenhouses, the decision was made to concentrate on a new venture. This was a garden centre built on land at Whiteway Road and providing continuity of employment for a few of the staff of the former nursery. Whiteway Garden Centre was purchased by Hilliers in 1993.¹⁶⁶

The second world war touched Inglescombe as everywhere in Britain, although as a rural area it escaped heavy bombing. Two unexploded bombs fell in the fields, one of which was detonated without damage. The most dramatic incident from the air war came in 1941, when two British Whirlwinds collided in mid-air and one crash-landed on the barn of the Manor Farm. The pilot baled out too late; possibly he had stayed at the controls struggling to keep the aircraft clear of the village. He too fell through the barn roof and was



Plate 22 – Three long-serving nurserymen at Inglescombe Nurseries in the 1960s. From left: Walter Whatton, Ernest Densley, Edwin Williams.



Plate 23 – The Englishcombe Home Guard and other war-time local services. Top row left to right: Tom Smith, Len Harding, Peter Lane, Bill Butler, Peter Date, George Barrett, Bob Purnell, Fred Knott, Fred Peach, Alfie Legg. Middle row left to right: Geoff Rowe, Sid Dyer, Des Salter, Fred Rose, Bill Sawyer, Roy Meddick, Bob Lane, Bill Bax. Bottom Row left to right: Fred ‘Shep’ Hallett, Harold Bambury, Kate Vaughan (now Mrs Brooks), Captain of the Home Guard Walter Burden, Rita Cox (now Mrs Ashdown), Taffy Ashman, Bill Cox, Sam Lane, Ivor Harding.

killed.¹⁶⁷ The war affected lives more than property in the parish. The people of Englishcombe played their full part in the war effort. Of those who joined the armed forces, some never returned (app.10.) Others served in the Home Guard and local services (pl.23).

The population of the parish has fallen from around 350 to around 300 since 1901 and the parish has shrunk. Areas have been absorbed by land-hungry Bath City Council for Haycombe Cemetery (1937) and Culverhay School (c.1953). In 1948 Bath City Council Housing Committee proposed to buy 11 acres at Stirlingdale Farm for 50 houses.¹⁶⁸ This

area north of Rush Hill was in Englishcombe Parish and it too is now part of Bath.

Innox Grove was built by Bathavon Council in the post-war period and apparently named after a nearby field.¹⁶⁹ Otherwise only a very few new houses have been built in the parish in this century. Between the visits of two successive Princes of Wales (pls. 24 and 25), Englishcombe gained mains water and electricity, but remained a rural community. The comparatively unspoilt nature of Englishcombe village was recognised in 1986 by Wansdyke District Council, who designated it a conservation area.



Plate 24 – HRH Edward, Prince of Wales, visiting Englishcombe on 18 July 1923.



Plate 25 – HRH Charles, Prince of Wales, visiting Englishcombe in 1970.

A Walk around Englishcombe Village: Then and Now

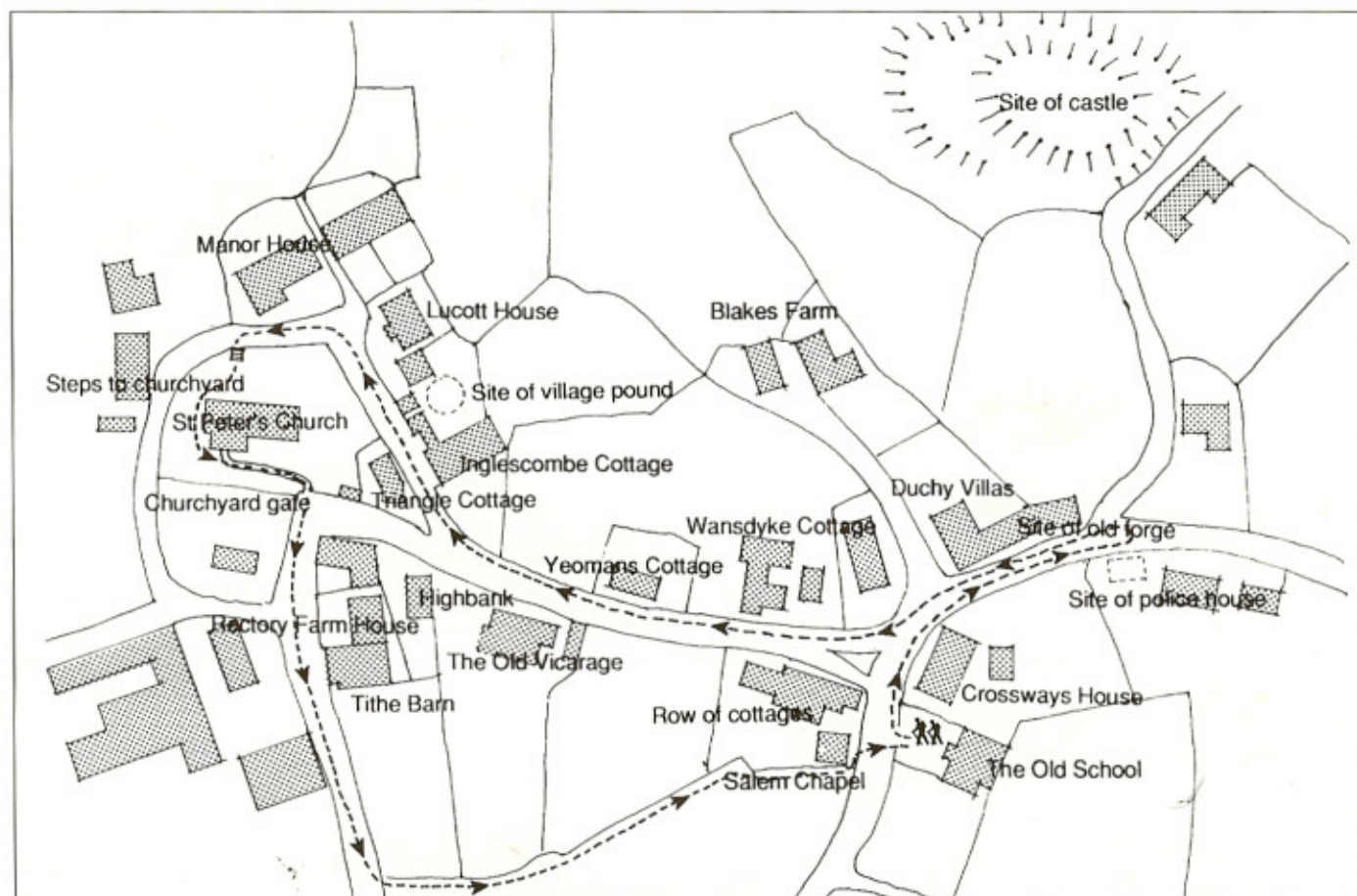


Fig 3 – Walk around Englishcombe Village.

Walking round the old centre of Englishcombe, you can see how much remains from the past and what has changed with the help of old sketches and photographs.

Start in the old school yard. The school was built in 1872. In its early years it would have provided the whole education for most of the children of Englishcombe. Few children stayed at school after the age of 12 in those days. The photograph (pl.26) must have been taken in the early part of this century, when the school catered for between



Plate 26 – Postcard photograph of the Englishcombe School in the early 20th century.

60 and 90 children.¹⁷⁰ Later it served the community equally well as a primary school. The school was closed because of falling rolls in 1985, despite a determined attempt by local residents to save it.

Opposite the school is the Salem Chapel, built in 1845. Services here were crowded to the point of discomfort in the 1870s while the church was almost empty. Harold Lewis rather blamed the vicar. Could he not manage to interest a congregation, when he had nothing to do all week but prepare his sermon? By contrast, the lay preachers in the chapel worked six days a week and came out on the seventh to save souls.¹⁷¹

Reaching the village green you see on your left a row of cottages. There was a single house there in the late 18th century, built on glebe land. In 1845



Plate 28 – Postcard photograph of Crossways House, then the post office and baker's shop, in about 1906.

One was still thatched when the photograph was taken (pl.27).

On the right of the village green is Crossways House. This is an older house than one might realise from the front. Internal features suggest that it is 16th or 17th century. The Culverhouse

family lived here in the 17th century, probably including the recusant Thomas Culverhouse (see p.22). It was a farm then, but by the mid-19th century the land once worked by the Culverhouses had been absorbed into the manor farm. When the photograph (pl.28) was taken, Crossways was the village post office and baker's shop. John Weeks was the baker in the late 19th century. His daughter Maria succeeded him and took on the role of sub-postmistress as well. She married into the Love family, long-established in the parish. Maria Love ran

the post office into the 1920s, but the shop closed when she left Crossways.¹⁷⁴

Walk past Crossways towards Bath. On the left you see Duchy Villas (pl.29). The post office was transferred here when William Vaughan the blacksmith took over as sub-postmaster in 1927.



Plate 27 – Postcard showing the row of cottages by the village green in around 1915. The figures standing outside are Gertrude Peach née Densley and her son Leslie.

the house was owned by a devout Christian, William Robins, who gave part of his garden as the site of the Salem Chapel.¹⁷² The cottages are of different dates. Early in this century Albany House was owned by Mr West, who built the extension for his daughter when she married.¹⁷³ Perhaps the smaller cottages preserve part of the earlier house.

Next door is the old forge (pl.30). Opposite the forge used to stand a heavily-buttressed old house now demolished (pl.31). Turn and compare the view with the Irvine sketch (pl.32). A delightful old gabled house stood on the site of Duchy Villas. Isaac Love lived there in 1840 and, although it went through other families in between, the tenant in 1611 was Elizabeth Love.¹⁷⁵

Retrace your steps to the village green and take the lane to the church. On your right you will pass Wansdyke Cottage, a former tied cottage. Next is Yeomans Cottage, formerly the Thatched Cottage. In the 17th and



Plate 29 – Duchy Villas in the early part of this century. This pair of houses was built sometime between 1875 and 1885, when it appears on the Ordnance Survey map (pl.18).



Plate 30 – Englishcombe village forge in the early 20th century. Edward Short (left) and his assistant Walter Clarke are working at the anvil.

18th centuries, the miller's house was on this plot.¹⁷⁶ From here you can compare the view with the photograph (pl.33). The vicarage, built in 1877, is still there, though privately owned. Englishcombe no longer has a resident vicar.¹⁷⁷ Opposite the vicarage a brooklet emerges from under the road and runs down the side of what was the miller's land to join Padley Brook. This presumably powered the water-mill. The mill had gone by the time of the first mapped survey, so its site is unknown, but it is grouped with the miller's house in earlier written surveys (apps.3.6,7).

As you reach the fork in the road, on your left is a cottage called Highbank.

This was built on glebe land and was at one time used as a school. Turning right at the fork, you pass Triangle Cottage on the left (pl.34). This was owned by Thomas Bruncker in 1792 and he created a triangular garden for himself out of waste ground at the fork in the road.¹⁷⁸ On the right after Inglescombe Cottage you pass the site of the village pound and then Lucott House, converted from a 19th-century barn. In living memory the village thatcher, George 'Granfer' Tuck (pl.35), used the entrance of this barn to work in.¹⁷⁹ Turning left you come to the old manor house. Three cottages used to stand to the left of the

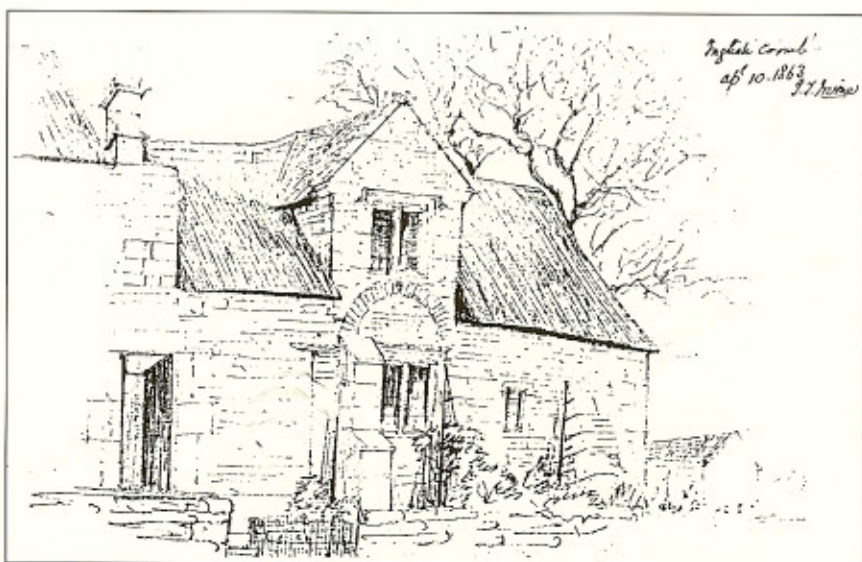


Plate 31 – Sketch by James Irvine on 10 April 1863 of an old house which stood opposite the forge. Before the second world war, this was the house of the village policeman and had a prison cell.

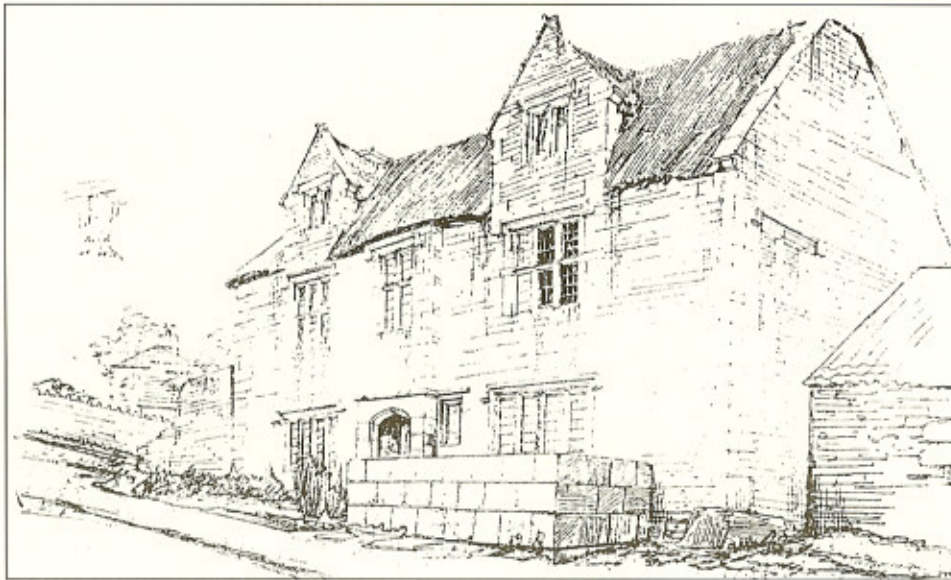


Plate 32 – Sketch by James Irvine on 17 August 1867 of the house on the site of the present Duchy Villas.



Plate 33 – Postcard of Englishcombe in about 1915 showing the vicarage on the left and Triangle Cottage in the right background.



Plate 34 – Triangle Cottage in around 1924, with Samuel and Mary Jane Watts.

house. When Englishcombe received mains water in 1939, it was not piped into these cottages because of the expense; they had a single tap outside. In the 1960s the manor house, by then very dilapidated, was renovated. The cottages and farm buildings were demolished and the materials used to build the present houses adjacent.

Now climb the steps into the churchyard. From here you may catch a glimpse through the trees of the ring-mounds that mark the site of the castle of the de Gournays (pl.36). Moving round the church you have a good view of the Wansdyke to the west. The line of the Wansdyke continues along the churchyard wall. When the church was built, this post-Roman earthwork would have been a more prominent feature and used as a convenient boundary; the lane through the village no doubt follows the line of the Wansdyke.

The church is open on Sunday afternoons in the summer. At other times you can apply to one of the keyholders listed in the window. The dedication is

unknown, but as the church belonged to Bath Priory for so many years, the patron saint is taken to be St Peter, the same as the priory. The church has excellent examples of the architecture of different periods. The earliest work -- mainly the lower part of the tower -- is Norman. The fine Romanesque arcading with a zig-zag pattern is the most notable feature of the church. On the floor of the tower is an effigy of a priest c.1300. The chancel is in the Decorated style (1250-1360), but looking closely at the tooling of the masonry, you will see the diagonal scratches typical of Norman masons. Clearly the chancel was thriftily rebuilt using as much of the old masonry as possible. The chapel is a later addition, as is the west window, both perhaps the work of one of the late 14th-century de Gournays. The soffit of the chapel



Plate 35 – George Tuck, the village thatcher, seated in front of his son Fred Tuck (right) and Frederick Watts (left). To the left is a bundle of the lathes or spars that he made for keying in thatch on roofs or ricks.



Plate 36 – Site of the castle of the Gournays at Englishcombe. Engraving by E. Evans from Record of the House of Gournay (1848).

window is carved with the emblems of the stations of the cross and the arms of Bath Priory: the key and sword. The west window has intriguing carvings: a rose and a quiver of cross-bow shot. These were the rents of the de Gournay lands. James Irvine sketched the interior of the church in 1868, with the perverse box pews which all faced backwards (pl.38). After criticism of the state of the church in 1876, the vicar commissioned an architect's report, but it was not until 1885 that funds were found for a new roof and seats. Further restoration and re-roofing was carried out in 1937-8 and 1991-4.¹⁸⁰

From the church door follow the path to the churchyard gate and turn right to the Rectory Farm. The farmhouse and barn are little changed from the time they were sketched by Irvine (pls.39, 40). The house with its stone-mullioned windows is probably 17th century, while the barn is 14th century.¹⁸¹ The rectory was held by Bath Priory until 1539. This meant that the priory had the advowson (right to nominate the vicar) and the greater tithes (one tenth of the corn, grain and hay) of the parish. In addition certain lands belonged to the rectory. In 1341 Bath Priory leased out these lands to William the Shepherd of South Stoke.¹⁸² This grant did not include the right to collect tithes, so

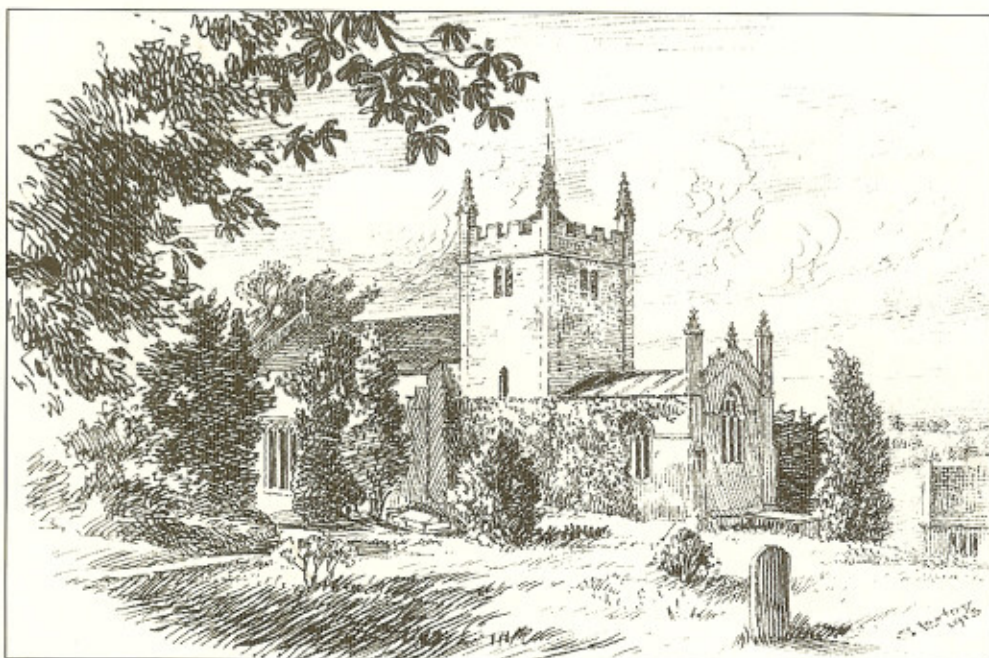


Plate 37 – Sketch of Englishcombe Church by Samuel Loxton in 1913.

it was probably the prior who had the barn built. In 1514 Prior William Bird leased the mansion, rectory and tithes of Englishcombe for 38 years to three members of the Collins family, one of whom was still living in 1539, when Bath Priory was surrendered to the Crown.¹⁸³ Perhaps the last Collins died shortly afterwards, for in July 1544 Henry VIII granted the rectory and advowson of Englishcombe to James Bisse.¹⁸⁴ From then until 1808 the owner of the Rectory Farm had the right to select the vicar. The rectory remained in the Bisse family until around 1700 (see p.16 and app.12).¹⁸⁵ The barn was restored in 1993-4 with the aid of English Heritage and is open on Sundays and Bank Holidays from April to September from 2-6 p.m.

You now have a choice of routes to return to your starting point. Either retrace your steps along the lane or walk 50 yards past the barn, then turn left into the footpath through the field which emerges at a stile by the Salem Chapel.



Plate 38 – Sketch of the interior of Englishcombe Church by James Irvine.

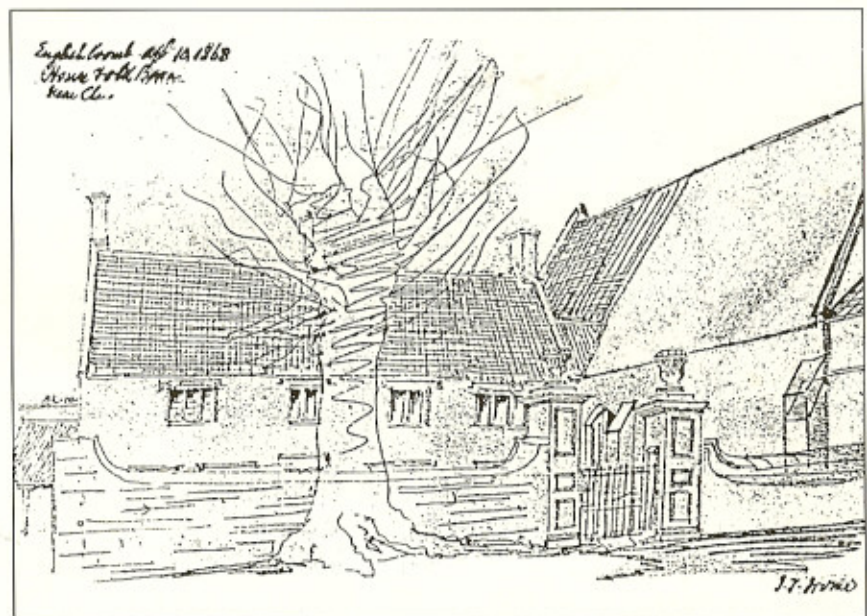


Plate 39 – Sketch of the Rectory Farm House by James Irvine on 10 April 1868.

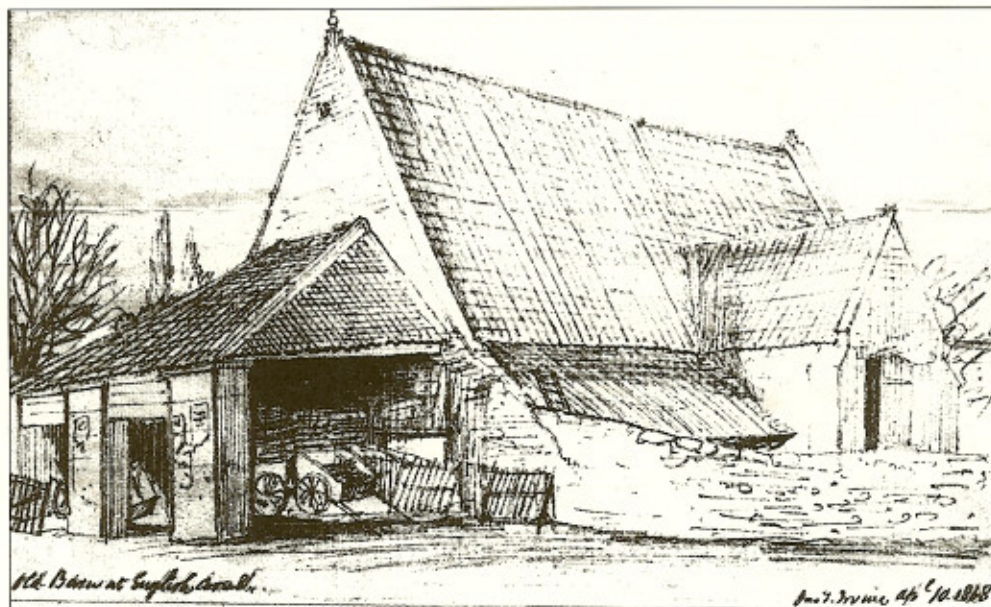


Plate 40 – Sketch of the Rectory Barn by James Irvine on 10 April 1868.

Notes

Abbreviations used in references:

Avon	County of Avon Planning Department, <i>Historic Landscape Study of the Manor of Englishcombe</i> , (Bristol 1983)
BGAS	<i>Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society</i>
BL	British Library
BRO	Bristol Record Office
BRS	Bristol Record Society
CC	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
CF	<i>Calendar of Fine Rolls</i>
CP	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls</i>
Gurney	Daniel Gurney, <i>Record of the House of Gournay, part 4: The Gournays of Somerset</i> (Privately printed 1848)
HMC	Historical Manuscripts Commission
HS	Harleian Society
IPM	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem</i>
LPH	<i>Letters and Papers Foreign and Domestic of the Reign of Henry VIII</i>
NRA	National Register of Archives
NS	New series
PR	<i>Parliamentary Rolls</i>
PRO	Public Record Office
Rolls	<i>Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages, published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls</i>
SANHS	<i>Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society</i>
SRO	Somerset Record Office
SRS	Somerset Record Society

- Domesday* (Gen.ed.) J Morris; vol.8: *Somerset* ed C.& F.Thorn (Chichester 1980), 5.44. Nigel also held Barrow [Gurney], Swainswick & part Twerton from the Bishop: 5.32, 38, 45.
- Red Book of the Exchequer* Rolls 99, p.288.
- Hawise states that Robert de Gournay was her father in a charter: see Gurney p.608, App.CV. Robert must have been dead by 1166, when Hawise granted the church of Englishcombe to Bermondsey Priory: see next note.
- The date of the gift to Bermondsey is given as 1112 in the Annals of Bermondsey (Rolls 36, vol.3, p.431). This was written in the fifteenth century and the monastic scribe evidently misread a date of 12 Henry II (1166) as 12 Henry I (1112). Gurney, p.600, transcribes the grant as recorded in the Bermondsey chartulary (BL Cotton MS Claud A viii f.115.). It is undated but witnessed by Patrick, Earl of Salisbury (1152-67).
- Two Chartularies of the Priory of St Peter at Bath*, SRS 7, ii 652.
- Victoria County History of Somerset* vol.2, p.107.
- R.B.Patterson (ed), *Earldom of Gloucester Charters .. to 1217* (Oxford 1973), no.73. The park has long since been converted to other uses, but the fields named Great Park and Park Corner to the west of Englishcombe village give an idea of its extent. See Avon, pp.8, 24.
- Sir Charles Clay, 'The marriages of Robert son of Robert son of Harding', *BGAS* 80, pp.90-92.
- Gurney, p.609.
- The Great Roll of the Pipe .. for 1206* Pipe Roll Society NS 20, p.20.
- In January 1220, Robert de Gournay, under age, tried to reclaim the patronage of Englishcombe Church from Bermondsey Priory, granted to them by his grandmother Hawise and confirmed by his mother Eve; see *Curia Regis Rolls* vol.8, pp.189-9; vol.9, pp.28-9.
- Cartulary of St Mark's Hospital, Bristol* BRS 21, pp.xii-xiii, charters 2-5.
- In Feb 1223 William fitzJohn acknowledged the manor of Farrington and all other lands inherited by his late wife Matilda to be the right of Robert, eldest son of Thomas, the son of the said William and Matilda. Robert granted these to William for life. In June 1234, Robert de Gurney confirmed to the Knights Templar 20 acres of land in Harptree, which had been granted to them by William fitzJohn, grandfather of said Robert, whose heir he is. See *Feet of Fines for Somerset 1196-1307*, SRS 6, pp.77-8,361-2.
- Excavation of Englishcombe Castle under the direction of Norman Pounds dated the castle to probably the early 13th century: see *SANHS Bath Branch* 1934-8, pp.226-230; plans and TS held by the Clerk of the Parish of Englishcombe.
- IPM*, vol.1, no.710.
- William Worcester: Itineraries* ed J.H.Harvey (Oxford 1969), p.321.
- Ibid*: Wilfred Leighton, 'The Black Friars, now Quakers Friars, Bristol', *BGAS* 55, p.152. Note that among the other benefactors was Maurice de Berkeley, whom Leighton confuses with Maurice de Gaunt.
- Gurney, pp.600, 604, 608. Gurney assumes him to be Matthew de Gournay of the Norfolk family, but it is far more likely that he was of a cadet branch of the Somerset Gournays, a son perhaps of Roger, the only documented brother of Robert de Gournay I. (Roger appears as witness to a charter: Gurney p.604.)
- Knights of Edward I* HS 81, p.162
- The Register of Bishop Godfrey Giffard* vol.2, Worcestershire Historical Society (1902), pp.295-96; *IPM*, vol.2, no.600.
- IPM*, vol.8, no.239.
- HS 81, p.163.
- HS 81, p.162.
- Parliamentary Writs*, vol.3, p.961; HS 81, p.163.
- CF vol.3, p.85; Accounts of possessions late Thomas de Gournay: PRO Ministers Accounts 1145/9; 1148/2; 1148/8.
- Parliamentary Writs* vol.3, p.691; CF vol.3, p.280; CP Edward II vol.5, pp.202-3.
- CP Edward III vol.1, p.328.
- Accounts of the Constables of Bristol Castle*, BRS 34, p.84 and note 144.
- PR, vol.2, p.54. One mark = 13s 4d.
- J.Hunter, 'On the measures taken for the apprehension of Sir Thomas de Gournay, one of the murderers of King Edward the Second', *Archaeologia* 27, pp.274-287.
- Archaeologia* 27, p.278; CP Edward III, vol.2, p.89; CF vol.4, p.410, vol.5, p.143.
- Rotuli Scotiae in Turri Londinensi*, vol.1, p.306; *Lelandi Collectanea* ed T.Hearne (2nd edn London 1770), vol.1 pt 2, p.555.
- J.Collinson, *History and Antiquities of Somerset* (1791), vol.2, p.140.
- CP Edward III, vol.4, p.369; *IPM*, vol.8, no.239; CC, Edward III, vol.5, p.378.
- Dictionary of National Biography*.
- Matthew de Gournay acquired the manors of Welton, Midsomer Norton and South Widcombe and half the manor of Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset and 1/3 of the manor of Sellings, Kent outright on his marriage to Alice. The other half of Stoke was granted to Matthew and Alice for the life of Alice. See CP Edward III, vol.16, p.35.

- 37 After the death of Alice, Matthew bought the reversion of Stoke sub Hamdon from the heirs of her first husband before November 1389 and inherited it by 1402. See *IPM* vol.15, nos. 980-81; *CP* Richard II, vol.4, p.158; *SRS* 22, p.108. He was buried in the collegiate chapel of St Nicholas, attached to the manor house of Stoke sub Hamdon. An inscription in brass giving his major battles and age at death was recorded by Leland before the demolition of the chapel. See *Itinerary of John Leland* ed.L.Toulmin Smith (1907-10), vol.1, p.159.
- 38 *SRS* 22, pp.168, 171; *CC* Henry IV, vol.3, p.165; *CP* Henry IV, vol.2, p.412.
- 39 L.Clark, C.Rawcliffe and J.S.Roskell, *History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1386-1421* (London 1992).
- 40 *IPM* (Record Commissioners edn), vol.4, p.30; *PR* vol.4, p.373.
- 41 Avon, p.8, 11 and see appendix 6 for note in 1650 that the town fields were ploughed only every second year.
- 42 P.Rahtz, 'Barrow Mead, Bath, Somerset', *SANHS* 105, pp. 61-71; *Medieval Archaeology* vol.1, p.169 and fig.35; vol.2, p.205; J.Woodhouse, *Barrowmead, Bath 1964 Excavation* British Archaeological Reports 28 (1976).
- 43 *SRS* 3, p.62.
- 44 *SRO* T/PH/VCH 8: Survey of Englishcombe in 1611 by John Norden; Avon, figs. 9, 10.
- 45 *SRS* 22, 115; *BRO* AC/D1/74; *SRS* 16, 238; *SRS* 2, 274.
- 46 *SRS* 77, 42; *BRO* AC/D1/163; *SRO* D/D/Rg 6/1 (transcript supplied to the author by M.Beacham).
- 47 *SRO* D/D/Rg 6/1 (transcript supplied to the author by M.Beacham); Bath Record Office, Furman, p.570 and bundle 19; *SRS* 22, 105; *SRO* DD/GL/63/1; *SRO* DD/GL/47; *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries* 5, 176.
- 48 *Visitation of Somerset in 1672* HS NS 11, pp.5-6; J.Collinson, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* (1791), vol.3, p.341; *SRO* Englishcombe tithe map and award.
- 49 *SRO* DD/GL/63/3, 14, 15; *SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11: Survey of Englishcombe in 1792; *SRO* Tithe map and award for Englishcombe 1840.
- 50 *SRS* 7, ii, 485; *Medieval Deeds of Bath and District*, *SRS* 73, ii, 28, 148, 152-3, 156-8, 160 and p.100; *SRS* 17, p.166.
- 51 *SRS* 73, ii, 148, 150-1, 159, 163.
- 52 *SRS* 73, ii 161, 162.
- 53 *SRS* 73, p.89.
- 54 *SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 55 *SRS* 6, p.270.
- 56 *SRO* DD/RG/27.
- 57 *SRO* D/D/Rg 6/1: glebe terrier of Englishcombe 1626 (transcript supplied to the author by M.Beacham); *SRO* DD/OB/111.
- 58 Appendix 7; *SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 59 *SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 60 *SRO* DD/GL/63/1.
- 61 J.Goulstone, 'The Clements of Englishcombe', *Journal of the Bristol and Avon Family History Society* no.51, pp.26-29; *SRO* D/D/Ct C72, 75.
- 62 *SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 63 *Dictionary of National Biography*
- 64 *CC* Henry VI, vol.3, p.165. Court rolls for Englishcombe 1440-3; *PRO* Court rolls 200/47, 200/52-3; receiver's and overseers accounts lands at Englishcombe late of Sir John Tiptoft; *PRO* Mininster's Accounts 974/9, 1123/1.
- 65 *PR*, vol.4, p.141.
- 66 *CP* Henry VI vol.4, p.324. This may have been a lease. The Gournay estate was included in an Act of Parliament in 1450, listing the Crown manors which were to be used to support the Royal Household. (*PR*, vol.5, pp.174-5.) The estate was then re-granted to Edmund (Beaufort), by this time Duke of Somerset in 1452 (*CP* Henry VI, pp.18-19.)
- 67 *CP* Henry VI, vol.6, p.390.
- 68 *CP* Edward IV, p.23.
- 69 *CP* Edward IV, pp.272, 358.
- 70 *CP* Edward IV, p.358.
- 71 *PR*, vol.6, pp.12-13.
- 72 *Calendar of Charter Rolls* vol.6, p.250; *PR*, vol.6, p.203.
- 73 *PR*, vol.6, p.468.
- 74 *PRO* C66/722, mm.29-30; *LPH*, vol.18, no.241(5).
- 75 *LPH* vol. 4.1, nos.86(22), 1533(4).
- 76 *LPH*, vol.4.2, no.3213(5).
- 77 *SRS* 27, pp.145.
- 78 *SRS* 27, p.161.
- 79 *SRS* 27, pp.149-50.
- 80 *SRS* 27, pp.129-161.
- 81 *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, vol.1, p..
- 82 *SRS* 27, 129-161.
- 83 *SRS* 27, pp.162-70.
- 84 The list of Norris's property at the time of his execution did not include the lease of Englishcombe. It may have been surrendered previously. See *LPH*, vol.10, no.878.
- 85 *HMC* 58, vol.4, p.333.
- 86 S.T.Bindoff, *The History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1509-1558* (London 1982), vol.2, pp.735-6.
- 87 *LPH* vol.15, no.689.
- 88 *LPH* vol.14.1, no.148.
- 89 *LPH* vol.16, nos.779(7), 947(45).
- 90 *HMC* 58, vol.4, pp.124-5, 127-9.
- 91 *LPH* vol.18, nos.241(5,15).
- 92 *LPH* vol.18.2, no.107(30).
- 93 *HMC* 58, vol.4, pp.91, 96-8, 101, 103, 119; *Acts of the Privy Council*, vol.3, pp.440, 469, 510; vol.4, p.16.
- 94 Bindoff, *ibid*.
- 95 *LPH* vol.18, nos.241(5,15). Note that *LPH* gives **Robert** and John Bisse, in error. The original patent roll gives **James** and John Bisse: *PRO* C66/733, m.20.
- 96 *LPH* vol.19, no.1035.
- 97 *PRO* C2 Eliz R3/52; C3 149/39.
- 98 *PRO* C3 149/39
- 99 *The Visitations of the County of Somerset in 1531 and 1573* ed.F.W.Weaver (Exeter 1885), p.71.
- 100 *PRO* C2 Eliz R3/52.
- 101 *Somerset Wills* vol.1, p.31.
- 102 *Calendar of State Papers Domestic* 1603-10, p.532.
- 103 *The Visitation of Somerset in 1623* HS 11, p.8; Francis Grigson, *Genealogical Memoranda Relating to the Family of Bisse* (London 1886).
- 104 *PRO* PROB 11/198 f.177
- 105 Avon, fig.8.
- 106 J.Wroughton, *A Community at War: The Civil War in Bath and North Somerset, 1642-1650* (Bath 1992), pp.69-72.
- 107 The Clement's home can be identified by field names. In 1611 John Clement held (among other lands) West Mead, Padley and a croft with a barn on it (*SRO* T/PH/VCH 8, f.106). In 1792 Richard Attwood held the site of the school and a barn on the adjoining field called Croft, along with West Mead and Padley (*SRO* T/PH/dcl 10, 11). By 1806 the property had been taken over by John Cottle (*SRO* A/Aur G/2241). In 1840 Ann Attwood was the copyholder and Jacob Cottle the occupier (*SRO* Tithe map and award for Englishcombe).
- 108 J.Goulstone, *The Clements of Englishcombe*, *Journal of the Bristol and Avon Family History Society* no.51 (Spring 1988), pp.26-29.
- 109 Wroughton, *op.cit*, p.139.
- 110 *PRO* E320/P12, P15.
- 111 *PRO* E179/256/16. This data was supplied by Dr John Wroughton and see Wroughton *op.cit.*, pp.5-8 for an assessment of the Hearth Tax returns for North Somerset.
- 112 J.Collinson, *History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* (1791), vol.3, p.341.
- 113 *The Visitation of Somerset and the City of Bristol 1672* HS NS vol.2, pp.9-10.
- 114 Bodleian Library MS Gough Som 4: survey of Englishcombe in 1717; HS NS 11, p.12; *Palaeography, Genealogy and Topography: Selections from the Collection of H.R.Moulton* (London 1930), p.234, no.C1075: Marriage settlement of Thomas Gibbs and Mary Rosewell.

- 115 NRA report on the Duchy of Cornwall archive, item 123.
- 116 Bodleian Library MS Gough Som 4: survey of Englishcombe in 1717; NRA report on the Duchy of Cornwall archive, item 114.
- 117 T.L.Stoate, *Somerset Protestation Returns and Lay Subsidy Rolls 1641/2* (Bristol 1975), p.271; J.Collinson, *History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* (1791), vol.3,p.
- 118 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 119 From the hearth tax returns, using the formula of an average 5 persons per household plus 15% for servants and apprentices. Personal communication from John Wroughton and see Wroughton, op.cit., p.9.
- 120 *Victoria County History of Somerset*, vol.2, pp.340-352; Census Returns for Somerset.
- 121 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11; appendix 9.
- 122 SRO D/P/eng 3/2/1.
- 123 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 124 SRO Tithe award for Englishcombe.
- 125 *Bristol Mirror* 8 July 1820; (reference located by Brian Austin, *Bristol and Avon Family History Society Journal* 78 and supplied to the present author by Desmond Salter).
- 126 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11: notes by Davis in 1804 added to the survey of 1792.
- 127 SRO Tithe map and award for Englishcombe.
- 128 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 129 *Pictorial Times* 26 September 1846.
- 130 The earlier leases quoted in Simpson's survey, the later one noted by another hand: SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 131 Date supplied by Mr Leslie Wyatt, Manor Farm, Englishcombe; farmers' names from *Kelly's Directory of Somerset 1866*
- 132 Datestone over the door of the barn.
- 133 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 134 SRO Tithe map; S.Lewis, *Topographical Dictionary of England* (London 1849).
- 135 Information supplied by Arthur Poole.
- 136 *Bath Chronicle* 18 March 1909.
- 137 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 138 Date from Ware's business letterhead.
- 139 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*; Auction catalogue for Barrow in the possession of the present owner, Mrs Elizabeth Hall.
- 140 Now Haycombe House and Inglescombe House.
- 141 Charles Henry Davis Napper, farmer Haycombe Barn Farm, *Kelly's Directory of Somerset* 1889-1906.
- 142 L.Wheatcroft, 'Picturesque Village Rambles No.29 -- Englishcombe', *Bath and County Graphic* May 1899; reprinted in L.Wheatcroft, *Picturesque Village Rambles Round Bath* part 2. (1901), pp.48-51.
- 143 Recollections of: Mrs Rita Ashdown nee Cox, whose grandfather lived at 155 (formerly 24) Whiteway and worked at the nursery for 50 years; Arthur Poole, whose father worked at the nursery; a former nursery worker, whose father also worked at the nursery.
- 144 *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries* vol.5, p.114; SRO QS/1/125/2(17).
- 145 SRO Diocesan records.
- 146 Datestone on building; H.Lewis, *Church Rambler*, vol.1, p.244.
- 147 H.Lewis, *Church Rambler*, vol.1, pp.241-44.
- 148 H.Lewis, *Church Rambler*, vol.1, p.238.
- 149 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 150 SRO Tithe award for Englishcombe; *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 151 SRO Tithe map and award for Englishcombe 1840; *Kelly's Directory of Somerset* 1861, 1866.
- 152 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*; nickname of Henry Wise supplied by Desmond Salter.
- 153 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*; Sketch by J.Sainsbury in the possession of Anthony Salter; SRO Tithe map and award for Englishcombe 1840.
- 154 SRO Tithe award for Englishcombe.
- 155 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 156 Wheatcroft, op.cit, p.48.
- 157 *Around Bath in Old Photographs* collected by Peter Jones (Stroud 1991), p.148; Bath Central Library Photographs 21.
- 158 *Bath Chronicle* 18 March 1909: report on steamroller accident; *Kelly's Directory* 1914-39; *Daily Sketch* 17 July 1967.
- 159 Scrapbook in the possession of William Davies, Clerk of Englishcombe Parish, newspaper cutting.
- 160 The tied cottages were: The four red-brick cottages called Nursery View (the only remaining tied cottages), Spring Cottage, Wansdyke Cottage, Yeomans (formerly the Thatched Cottage), Triangle Cottage (then two cottages), Inglescombe Cottage, three cottages where now stands Locksleigh, a cottage where now stands Fairhaven and two cottages at Kilkenny. [Jill Wyatt], 'Manor of Inglescombe (Duchy of Cornwall) 1934-94', *The Link* September 1994, pp.28-29. Since this was published, the Wyatts have ceased to employ anyone outside the family: information Leslie and Jill Wyatt.
- 161 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*; Information from Mr Michael Pow and Mrs Wendy Pow.
- 162 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*; Information from Mr Simon Adams.
- 163 Information from Mrs Elizabeth Hall.
- 164 C.C.Titchmarsh, *A Short Guide to Englishcombe Parish Church with some notes on its history and that of the manor* 1937; 2nd edn 1939.
- 165 Recollections Miss Hester C.Peach.
- 166 Information from Mrs Elizabeth Hall and others.
- 167 The incident was witnessed by Desmond Salter and Mrs Cis Wyatt; information supplied by Desmond Salter and Leslie Wyatt, son of Cis.
- 168 *Bath Weekly Chronicle and Herald* 2.10.1948, p.5, col.2
- 169 SRO Tithe map and award for Englishcombe.
- 170 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 171 Lewis, *Church Rambler* vol.1 (1876), p.244.
- 172 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11; SRO Tithe map and award for Englishcombe.
- 173 Recollections of Mrs Rita Ashdown nee Cox, long-time occupant of Rose Cottage.
- 174 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11; *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 175 Appendices 3 and 6; SRO Tithe map of Englishcombe; T/PH/dcl 10, 11: The survey of 1792 shows Mary Barnes Smith occupying this house, previously Widow Biggs's.
- 176 Appendices 3, 6, 7; SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 177 SRO DD/CE E.1959; D/D/Bbm 233.
- 178 SRO T/PH/dcl 10, 11.
- 179 Recollections of Mrs Ann Mountey and Desmond Salter.
- 180 R.Knill Freeman, *Restoration of Englishcombe Church* (architect's report December 1876); *Bath and County Graphic* May 1899; *Kelly's Directory of Somerset* 1899, 1939; C.C.Titchmarsh, *A Short Guide to Englishcombe Parish Church* (2nd edn 1939); SRO D/D/Cf 1885/9: plans of restoration 1855.
- 181 Dated by dendrochronology; information from the present owner Mrs Jennie Walker.
- 182 SRS 7, ii, 821.
- 183 Bodleian Library Rawl B419, f.1; PRO SC6/Henry VIII/3144, m.28
- 184 *Letters and Papers of Henry VIII* vol.19, no.1035 (1115).
- 185 J.Collinson, *History and Antiquities of Somerset* (1791), vol.3, p.340; Francis Grigson, *Genealogical Memoranda Relating to the Family of Bisse* (London 1886); and see appendix 12.

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: LAY SUBSIDY RETURN FOR ENGLISHCOMBE IN 1327

De Thoma de Gornay	vs	
Thoma Brid		xiid
Rogero le Muleward		ixd
Willelmo de Crofton	iis	
Willelmo de Herphram		xviiiid
Willelmo de Fareton	iis	
Johanne atte Selme		xiid
Johanne le Rotour	vs	
Galfrido de Dorsete		vid
Waltero Saundres		xiid
Rogero Reynard		xiid
Johanne Herphram		xiid
Nicholas de Donkerton		[[i]id
Adam Niwma[n]	[torn off]	
Johanne [torn off]		
Th [torn off]		
Ga [torn off]		

From: *Kirby's Quest for Somerset*, Somerset Record Society vol.3, p.87

APPENDIX 2: CERTIFICATE OF MUSTERS FOR ENGLISHCOMBE IN 1569

Ablemen
John Love pekeman
John Clement archer
Richard Lipyate pekeman
John Lannsdon billman

Armour
One tithing corslet furnished, one pair of almain rivets furnished
John Rosewell, a corslet furnished

From: *Certificate of Musters in the County of Somerset 1569*, Somerset Record Society vol.20, p.304

APPENDIX 3: TENANTS OF ENGLISHCOMBE MANOR IN 1611

Freehold:

Sir William Button	2 tenements, 1 occupied by John Collins, the other by John Gravell
William Martin	2/3 tenement called Raines
John Hunt alias Baggeridge	1/3 tenement called Rainess (total Raines 70 acres)
John Clement	Land called Bulforde, 7 acres

Leasehold

William Roswell	Capital messuage of Inglescombe called 'Le ferme' with barns, stables, etc and all or most part demesne lands
Richard Clarke	Cottage built on waste land
Richard Gaye	1/3 Vernham's Wood, 1/5 Middle Copse

Copyhold:

Joanna Beene	The 'Lower House' in Inglesbatch and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to sons John and Giles
Same Joanna Beene	The 'Upper House' in Inglesbatch & lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to John and William

John Collins	Brown's tenement in village of Inglescombe and lands, some in the common fields. Also 1/2 West Wood by leasehold
William Culverhouse	House and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to John and Grace. Also 1/3 Vernham's Wood by leasehold
John Clement	House in village of Inglescombe and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to Nathaniel & John Clement. Also 1/2 West Wood, 1/3 Vernham's Wood, 1/4 Middle Wood by leasehold.
John Clark	House in Inglescombe village and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to his son William.
William Collins in right of his wife	Cottage in Inglescombe and lands
Agnes Clement	House in Inglesbatch and lands. Reversion to John Clement and his son John
Richard Evans	House in Inglesbatch, with cottage and lands. Reversion to his son John Evans
John Elford	House in Inglescombe and lands. Reversion to his sons John and Walter. Also 1/5 Middle Copse by leasehold
Anne Gaye	House in Inglescombe and lands. Reversion to her son Richard, then to her son John and John, son of Richard.
William Lipyat	House in the village of Inglescombe, with watermill, garden and croft, 1/2 West Mead, meadow called the Ham and lands in the common fields
Elizabeth Love	House and cottage in Inglescombe and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to Richard Bigge. Also 1/5 Middle Copse by leasehold
John Masters	House in Inglescombe and lands, some in the common fields. Reversion to his sons John and Thomas.

From: Survey of Englishcombe manor 3 October 1611 by John Norden: on microfilm SRO T/PH/VCH 8 c/1760, vol.2, f.92.

APPENDIX 4: LAY SUBSIDY RETURN FOR ENGLISHCOMBE IN 1641

	Property	Value in £
	G = Goods	
	L = Land	
Peter Roswell	G	5
Occupiers of the parsonage lands	L	1 1/2
Occupiers of land of Wm Collins gent	L	1
Nathaniel Clement	L	1
William Lipeat	L	1
John Masters	L	1
Richard Bigge	L	1
John Elvord	L	1
Rich Evans	L	1
John Collins	L	1
John Beene	L	1 1/2
John Clement	L	2
Total		£6.10s.8d.

From: *The Protestation Returns and Lay Subsidy Rolls 1641/2* Transcribed by A.J.Howard, ed. and pub. T.L.Stoate (Bristol 1975)

APPENDIX 5: THE COST TO ENGLISHCOMBE OF THE CIVIL WAR

What has been given or taken .. to the use of parliament since the beginning of this unhappy war.

	£	s	d
<i>Wellow Hundred: Englishcombe</i>			
One light horse with his arms and furniture	20	0	0
One musket	1	2	0
Delivered by John Been, then Tithingman, in the name of dragoon money	3	13	0
About the number of four score horses, the troupe of Capt. Butler, had freequarter in one meadow of John Clement for one whole day about mowing time	2	0	0
2 trained soldiers delivered to Capt. Hipplesley with sum of 2 swords, 2 musketts with furniture	3	0	0
Capt. Kyteley and Capt. Cooke, under the command of Sir William Waller, with 45 of their men and horses were all of them freequartered within our Tithing about the space of one month together	65	16	0
14 men and horses under the command of Col. Rich 2 days and nights	1	8	0
8 men and horses under Col. Butler 2 days and nights	0	16	0
The latter took about 2 part of one load of hay and the like quantities of oats carried to their country near Bath	1	0	0
Capt. [?] with 11 of his men and horses with 24 footmen -- 2 days and nights	2	8	0
Capt. Hawkins 60 men 1 day and night	3	1	0
27 of the life guard of Sir Thomas Fairfax with 24 of their men and 54 horses 10 days and nights	27	0	0
22 men of Capt Coggins Company 7 weeks	23	0	0
47 men of Maj. Blakemores Company 17 days and nights	19	19	0
Paid to the Tythingmen for Farley Castle in money and provisions	1	10	0
Paid towards the bulwarks in Bath	14	0	
Paid to the Constable for the contribution money	30	9	4
Paid for the British Army in Ireland	16	10	
Paid for the British Army in Ireland	2	11	0
Paid contribution money	2	16	0
	1	9	12
	6	0	0
	4	14	4
Englishcombe paid for the use of the Garrison of Bristol by John Gay and Mr Kirk, constables of the hundred of Wellow for nine months contribution money	63	8	0
Paid more at several times to the Bristol Garrison to Mr Kirk	4	0	0

From: PRO SP28/175. Transcribed by Dr John Wroughton.

APPENDIX 6: TENANTS OF ENGLISHCOMBE MANOR IN 1650

14 Dec 1650 [Parliamentary] survey of the Manor of Inglescombe Somerset late parcell of the possessions of Charles Stewart late Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall and parcell of the possessions of the Duchy of Cornwall

Inglescombe Farm

Peter Rosewell holds by indenture 1 November 1623: Prince Charles for £1000 leased to Peter Rosewell the property below for 90 years on the lives of John, William and Peter Rosewell, sons of said Peter, paying £12 p.a. rent.

Capital messuage called Inglescombe Farme in the parish of Inglescombe, near the parish church, consisting of hall, parlour, kitchen and other necessary rooms below stairs with four chambers besides garrets above stairs, with a convenient house for brewing, baking and making malt, 2 fair barns, an old hay house, a stable and cowhouse with yards, gardens and 2 orchards adjoining, containing by estimation 2¹/₂ acres.

Memorandum that the said capital messuage, barns, stables and other buildings are in very good repair.

Home Grounds, Parke Close, Rye Close, Overleas, Dicker Meade (with 10 trees), Sheepphouse Leas (with 15 oaks and some ash), Broad Meade (with c.10 oaks), High Meere, Hoggin Closes, Breach Wood, Church Furlong, New Yate, Henbreach Close, Breach Close, Wordless Close, Oddwood Down, Knowle Close, Knowle Furlong, part of Knowle, Whitty Furlong, Dunkhorne Peccc, Dunkhorne Acrc, Dunkhorne Furlong, Inglesbatch Peece, Field Acre.

Memorandum that all lands in the towne fields are ploughed only every second year.

Woods

Indenture 7 Nov 1624: Prince Charles granted Richard Gaye Middlewood, in occupation Richard Biggs, John Clement, Mary [?] widow and John Elner, and Westwood and ¹/₂ Varnams Wood, in occupation John Clement, William Collins, for 90 years on the lives of the sons of John Masters: James, John and Richard. Memorandum: James Masters is 42, John 36 and Richard 30

Order 22 June 1624 for lease of other ¹/₂ Varnams Wood to William Culverhouse for 90 years on lives John, William and Robert, sons said William. Memo: only Robert Culverhouse living

Copyholders:

John Clement (43) and son John (20)	Cottage, 76a land, ¹ / ₄ herbage Oddwood
Nathaniel Clement and son John	50 ¹ / ₄ a land
Julian, widow Richard Evans	Cottage called the Culverhouse, 64a land, ¹ / ₄ herbage Oddwood. Reversion to her son John (44)
Alice, widow of Richard Gaye	32a land. Reversion to John Gay (55)
Richard Bigg (45) and son Thomas (26)	Cottage, close of pasture called Thornetts, 37 ¹ / ₂ a other land, ¹ / ₄ herbage Oddwood
Elizabeth, widow of John Culverhouse	Holding of 30a meadow, pasture and arable. Also 1 close pasture called the parsons, 1 close at Clay Pitts, 1 at Lincombe called the Cribbs, 44a arable in north and south fields, 2a woody ground on Splotts Land. Reversion to Grace wife Thomas Haslewood, sister of John Culverhouse
John Beene (35)	Cottage called the Overhouse, 16a land
Same John and wife Elizabeth (30)	The Lower House and land
John Collins (50) and son William (21)	Cottage and land
John Elvord (60) and brother Walter	Land
Ann (45), widow William Clarke	House and land. Reversion to Mary Clarke, their daughter.
James Smyth and son-in-law Richard Lipiat	Mansion house, barn, backhouse, watermill and 1a pasture adjoining, 2 closes pasture called Cribbs, 1 rood of meadow, ¹ / ₂ close called Horsecroft, 12 ¹ / ₂ a arable in Upper and Lower Fields

THE PARISH OF ENGLISHCOMBE: A HISTORY

John Masters
William Collins
Land
Holding called Browns with yard and lands. Reversion to his children William Collins and sister Ann.
Cottage at Inglesbatch
Cottage

Margaret Clark
Richard Lake
From: PRO E317 SOM 21, 22.

APPENDIX 7: TENANTS OF ENGLISHCOMBE MANOR IN 1717

Freehold
Peter Lane,
George Baggaridge,
Elizabeth Savage, widow
Robert and Benjamin Wyatt
Tenement called Rings house
2 tenements by lease from Sir John Button

Leasehold
John Clarke
Thomas Gibbs
Middlewood, West Wood and 2/3 Vernhams Wood
Half capital message of the manor of Inglescombe called the Farm, with barn stable and other buildings and lands, some in the common fields, formerly in tenure John Rosewell, granted to Thomas Gibbs in 1699 on life of his son Rosewell Gibbs.

Joseph Damer, John
England, John Elderton
Half capital message, etc.

Copyhold
Thomas Day
2 tenements and lands formerly William and Nathaniel Beene, granted to John Day 1674 on his own life and those of sons Thomas, Robert and John
John Robbins
Tenement and lands formerly Grace Haslewood and Elizabeth Culverhouse, granted to his father John Robbins 1671. Reversion to William, son John Robbins jr 1/3 Vernhams Wood.
William Culverhouse
Elizabeth Clement
Reversion to Richard Atwood
Tenement and cottage with lands formerly John Clement. On lives of her daughters Susanna, married to George Hall, and Sarah, wife Thomas Pluratt

John Smith
Tenement and watermill, formerly John Smith sr
John Clarke jr
Tenement formerly William Luton in right Mary his wife
Batholomew Deeke, clerk
Tenement, cottage and lands formerly Thomas Biggs, gentleman. Lives of sons Thomas and William
Mary Davis, widow John
Tenement late in tenure Lady Ann Stevens, granted to John Davis 1708. Reversion to William Davis.

Walsingham King
Tenement containing 30 acres formerly John Gay gentleman, granted to his father John King 1671 for life Walsingham
Martha Clement, widow John
Tenement and lands formerly in tenure Sarah Clement for her widowhood, granted to John Clement on lives himself and brother Thomas

Katherine Collins, widow
Richard
Part of tenement containing 26 acres. Lives her children Richard and Katherine

Thomas Holbrooke
Tenement containing 45 acres formerly Peter Rosewell. Lives said Thomas and his brother Joseph

William Powell
Lands formerly Richard Compton. His own life and lives James and Sarah Powell

Thomas Phelps
Tenement and cottage called the Culverhouse with lands formerly John Evans, granted to Thomas 1698 on own life and lives James Davis and Thomas son John Phelps

Thomas Salmon
Tenement and 47 acres land formerly John Gibbs alias Sheppard. Lives Thomas Salmon and son John

William Blake
Small cottage on lives Mary Flower and Grace Gay

From: Bodleian Library MS Gough Som 4: Book of surveys of Duchy of Cornwall manors

APPENDIX 8: LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS IN ENGLISHCOMBE IN 1797

OWNER	OCCUPIER	QUANTITY		
		A	R	P
Mr Brickdale	Self	16		
Brickdale	Giles Bane	1	2	
Brickdale	John Cottle	258	3	
Mr Attwood	John Cottle	56		
Mrs Read	John Cottle	15	1	
Thomas Day	Mr Clark	3		
Mr England	Joseph Deans	213	3	
Thomas Day	Self	198	2	10
Miss Susan Day	Self	7		
Mr Winsor	John Davis	1		
John Davis	Self	7	2	
William Gore Langton, Esq	John Daster	12	1	1
Mr Woodham	Edward Dunnell	54		
Thomas Collins	Edward Dunnell	73		
Parsonage Glebe Lands	James Dutton	80		
Mr England	Self	16		
William Fowles	Self	2		
Philip James Gibbs	Self	4		
John Hall	Self	81	1	
Charles Hall	Self	37		
Mary Hall	Self	2		
Mr England	Llewellyn Walsingham	29		
Llewellyn Walsingham	Self	29	2	20
Mrs Read	Llewellyn Walsingham	14		
Mary Hall	Richard Love	22	3	
Mrs Smith	George Love	53	1	
Peter Miles	Self	19	1	
Day Esq	Peter Miles	2	2	
George Miles	Self	25	2	
John Walker Heneage Esq	George Miles	34	2	
William Day	George Miles	38		
Day Esq	James Maggs	82	2	
Mrs Masters	Self	19		
James Smith	Self	42	4	
Corporation Bath	John Young	9		
Mrs Smith	John Young	17	3	
		1685	1	30*
	vicarial glebe	1		
		1686	1	30

*Total as given in MS

From: Survey and valuation of the vicarage of Englishcombe, Somerset made in 1797 for the Revd. John Batchellor vicar by Richard Richardson of Bath: SRO D/P/eng 3/2/1

APPENDIX 9: LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS IN ENGLISHCOMBE PARISH IN 1840

OWNER	OCCUPIER	BUILDINGS
<i>Vicarial Glebe</i>		
Charles Radford, vicar	himself	parsonage house cottage
	William Carter John Watts	
<i>Rectorial Glebe</i>		
Frances Salisbury	William Carter	homestead
<i>Duchy of Cornwall Tenants:</i>		
Ann Attwood	Mary Ponting Jacob Cottle	2 cottages cottage barn & barton
Bath Roads Commissioners	themselves	
Francis Blake	Thomas Day Thomas Fisher George Crewe William Weeks Isaac Love	house
William Carter	himself James Hort James Grist Elizabeth England	cottage cottage cottage cottage
William Clark	Joseph Perrin	beer house, cottage, blds farmhouse & homestead
John Cottle	Jacob Cottle Charles Flower Thomas Day John Cottle John Hill George Brown William Perrin	smith's shop cottage house with malthouse cottage
William Cox Capt. John Day	himself Jacob Cottle Thomas Day	3 cottages dwelling house cottage
Samuel Edward Day	Mary Miles Daniel Chambers Thomas Day himself	cottage, house
Thomas Day	Jacob Cottle himself	blds & court
Rev William England	Daniel Chambers	farmhouse & homestead
Englishcombe Parish	Thomas Day John Smith James Ashford George Dutton various	[parish pound] house houses
George Hall	Thomas Day	dwelling house barton, blds
Rev. David Hughes	George Cox Henry Hayes James Short Giles White himself	cottage with stable & barn cottage
Lady Ann Powers William Evans Pritchard Charles Benjamin Tucker Samuel Ward	Jacob Cottle Isaac Love Giles White George Crewe Jacob Cottle	cottage & barn house & barn house buildings
<i>Freeholders:</i>		
Bath City Council George Bush Thomas Bush John Cottle	John Elms himself himself John Hill	house 2 houses house cottage

Thomas M. Cruttwell	Charles & John Tanner	house
Catherine Masters, lifeholder under Thomas Macauley Cruttwell	Thomas Day	house
Samuel Edward Day	James Lambert	cottage
Thomas Day	himself	
Edward Dutton	himself	2 houses
John, Isaac & Daniel Fowler	Isaac Fowler	dwelling houses & malt house
William Green	various	3 tenements
Benjamin Gay	various	3 tenements
	himself	cottage
Edward Gay	himself	
Giles Gay	John West	
Sarah Hallett	James Harris	Haycombe farmhouse & homestead
Charles Hannabus	himself	
Betsy Higgins	herself	
John Jacobs	John Penny	cottage
	Job Snook	cottage
	Francis Milles	cottage
John Jaques	Charles & John Tanner	
William Gore Langton	James Harris William Robins	barn & barton
James Love & others	various	4 houses
Job Love	himself	cottage
Joseph Mills	himself	cottage
Joseph Mills & Robert Oxenham	various	cottage &
George Milsom	smith's shop himself carpenter's	house
		shop
Joseph Mitchell	Catherine Masters	cottage
	himself	
Joseph Perrin	himself	
Richard Robbins	himself	
William Robbins	himself	cottage
John Roddick	himself	
Charles & John Tanner	themselves	farmhouse & buildings
Mrs Deborah Tarrant	Christiana Fowler	Malt and Hops Inn
Peter Wyatt	himself	4 cottages
Giles White	himself	

From: SRO Tithe award for Englishcombe 1840. Extracts by William Davies and Jean Manco

APPENDIX 10: MEN OF ENGLISHCOMBE WHO FELL IN TWO WORLD WARS

1914-1918

Arthur John Fletcher
Sydney John Howe
Ernest George Humphris
William Henry Ingram
Arthur Poole
Arthur William Stamp
George Henry Thick

1939-1945

Harold John Derrick
Victor Norman Derrick
Howard Ross Hughes
Charles Ware
Albert Ronald Windmill

From: Memorials in Englishcombe parish church

APPENDIX 11: ELECTORS OF ENGLISHCOMBE IN 1995

Adam, Mary J.	Gannaway, Liza E.	Macey, Jesse R.
Adam, Thomas	Gannaway, Mandy L.	Macey, Marion J.
Adams, Simon	Garrett, Allan C.	Marjot, Carole
Adams, Veronica S.	Garrett, Shane	Marjot, Robert
Ashdown, John C.	Gay, Douglas H.S.	McCourt, Alexander C.
Ashdown, Rita M.	Gay, Gladys	McCourt, Marion K.
Aubrey, Anne C.	Goodchild, Nina C.	Meddick, Vernon W.
Aukland, Christopher J.D.	Goodyear, Anthony M.	Meering, Ruth B.
Baker, Ann	Goodyear, Pauline	Mounty, Ann L.
Baker, Derek A.	Gray, Colin P.D.	Mounty, Jacqueline C.
Baker, Samantha L.	Gray, Margaret E.	Mounty, Thomas
Bale, Janet V.	Hall, Daniel B.	Mounty, William G.
Bale, Peter J.	Hall, Elizabeth F.	Newland, Diane E.
Bale, Susannah	Hall, Josephine	Oborne, Amanda C.
Barber, Bertram G.	Hallett, Hilda M.	Oborne, Bronwyn
Barber, Elizabeth S.	Hampden-Smith, Amanda R.	Oborne, Nicholas S.
Barber, Samuel D.	Hancock, Anne	Oborne, Stephen J.
Bayntun, Charles H.P.	Hancock, Daniel	Oldall, Antony G.
Bayntun, Eileen M.	Hancock, Joanna	Oldall, Sara J.
Beaven, David	Hancock, Timothy C.R.	Overton, Angela M.
Biggs, Betty M.	Harrison, Kathleen J.	Overton, Michael J.
Biggs, Edward T.	Harwood, Eric	Parham, Colin P.
Black, Ian	Harwood, Kathleen M.	Parham, Florence
Black, Judieth R.	Harwood, Linda A.	Peach, Hester C.
Blathwayt, Alexandra J.	Henry, James	Pillinger, Clive J.
Blathwayt, Mark H.	Hewitt, Hester R.	Pillinger, Eileen
Bond, Clare J.	Hill, Maurice W.	Pilton, Donald W.
Bradley, Ian L.	Hill, Phyllis J.	Pilton, Susan M.
Bradley, Philip I.	Hole, Derek J.	Poole, Arthur K.
Bradley, Sharon L.	Huggett, Brian J.T.	Porter, Alan E.
Bradley, Sheila M.	Huggett, Jeffrey D.	Porter, Michael J.
Bridges, Ann G.	Huggett, Philip J.	Pow, Deborah J.
Bridges, Barbara J.	Huggett, Winifred M.	Pow, Diane W.
Bridges, Ivor F.	Hughes, Jean M.V.	Pow, Gerald S.
Bridges, Marcus I.	Humphries, Derek J.	Pow, Michael L.
Comer, Julia A.	Humphries, Linda E.	Pow, Norah E.
Cooke, Olga J.	Hunter, Patricia H.	Pow, Stuart A.
Copperman, Robert M.	Jackson, Samantha J.	Pow, William L.
Copperman, Susan H.	James, Julia A.	Reay, Desmond H.
Cossey, Stephen F.	James, Richard G.	Reay, Peggy J.
Cox, Carole L.	Jefferies, Andrew R.	Rees, Jocelyn J.
Cox, David W.	Jefferies, Brenda C.	Rees, Russell M.S.
Cox, Jean L.	Jefferies, Denise V.	Richards, Bryan W.
Cox, Reginald L.	Jefferies, Jean M.	Richard, Clare
Cox, Ronald E.	Jefferies, Linda	Richards, Ian
Cox, Sarah L.	Jefferies, Lisa M.	Richards, Janet M.
Cox, William J.	Jefferies, Nicola J.	Salter, Anthony E.
Craigmyle, Anthea E.C.	Jefferies, Peter	Salter, Colin D.
Davies, Sybil J.	Jefferies, Robert T.	Salter, Desmond E.
Davies, William A.C.	Jefferies, Rodney	Salter, Hazel M.
Davis, Frank	Jefferies, Ronald	Salter, Sheila M.Y.
Davis, Gaythorne E.	Jefferies, Shirley A.	Samler, Charles T.
Davis, Mary E.	Jefferies, Trevor J.	Samler, Henrietta F.
Davis, May R.	Jefferies, Wayne M.	Sanders, Christine D.
Davis, Sarah L.	Jefferies, Wendy P.	Sanders, Nicholas C.
Dell, Christopher R.	Jenkins, Angela J.	Scurlock, Andrew J.G.
Dell, Oliver R.	Jenkins, David H.	Scurlock, Ashton P.
Dell, Richard F.	Jenkins, Philip J.	Scurlock, Brian F.
Dell, Veronica S.	Jenkins, Shirley A.	Scurlock, David A.
Devonald, Rosemary P.	Jones, Alan J.	Scurlock, Geoffrey L.
Dickenson, Lee S.	Jones, Huw S.	Scurlock, Jane A.
Dinwoodie, Helen M.	Jones, Sandra S.	Scurlock, Jacqueline F.
Dinwoodie, John M.	Jones, Sian S.	Scurlock, Jennifer A.
Edmondson, Jane	King, Robert J.	Scurlock, Judith E.
Fenton, Diana M.	King, Teresa K.	Scurlock, Pauline
Fenton, John R.K.	Knott, Kenneth W.T.	Scurlock, Richard C.
Fenton, Kevin J.	Knott, Rita M.	Scurlock, Ruby M.
Fenton, Valerie J.	Lane, Dorothy M.	Scurlock, Susan P.
Fletcher, Andrew J.	Lane, Peter A.	Seek, Albert W.D.
Fry, Dean M.	Lindsay, Margaret E.	Sparkes, Frederick J.
Fry, Denise A.	Lye, David	Sparkes, Jenifer P.
Fry, Michael S.	Lye, Lynn	Sparkes, Nicola J.

Sparkes, Sylvia P.
 Summerell, Colin J.
 Summerell, Jennifer A.
 Sumsion, Joyce L.
 Syph, Kevin
 Timmis, Helen R.
 Timmis, Kenneth P.I.
 Tyler-Batt, Trevor H.
 Tyler-Batt, Wendy J.
 Vernon, Anthony
 Vernon, Gloria J.
 Vincent, Robert

Vincent, Tracy
 Walker, Jennifer M.
 Walshaw, Debbie K.
 Walshaw, Gilbert A.
 Walshaw, Pamela D.
 Walter, Mary C.
 Webb, Joan R.
 Webb, Terry S.
 Webb, William E.
 Weeks, Reginald J.
 Weeks, Shirley B.
 Wyatt, Cheryl

Wyatt, Diana R.
 Wyatt, Jill D.
 Wyatt, John M.
 Wyatt, Leslie W.
 Wyatt, Phillip W.
 Wyatt, Richard G.
 Wyatt, Richard J.
 Wyatt, Rosalie V.
 Wyatt, Victoria R.
 Wynne, Anna J.

From the Parish of Englishcombe Register of Electors (qualifying date 10 October 1994)

APPENDIX 12: VICARS OF ENGLISHCOMBE

DATE	VICAR	PATRON	SOURCE
c.1166	Ralph de Lichefel	Hawise de Gourney	1
c.1275	Robert de Bosevile	Bath Priory	2
1315	William de Stabler	Bath Priory	3
1346	William de Axebrigge	Bath Priory	4
	John Bigg		3
1416	Richard Pavy	Bath Priory	3
1428	Thomas Wode	Bath Priory	3
1429	Thomas Gall	Bath Priory	3
1431	Henry Wyse	Bath Priory	3
1457	Richard Young	Bath Priory	3
1480	John Clyfton	Bath Priory	3
1493	William Regilerne	Bath Priory	3
1536+	William Sherwood	Bath Priory	5
1541	Thomas Beye	John Quarre, Archdeacon of Litchfield	6
1559	John Golley	James Bisse of Stoke Lane	3
1576	Edward Vaughan	James Bisse of Batcombe	3
1588	William Clement	James Bisse of Batcombe	3
1590	Thomas Thackam	James Bisse of Batcombe	3
1592	Walter Mason BA	James Bisse of Batcombe	3
by 1662	Richard Masters MA		3
1678	Thomas Hall		3
1679	Alexander Randolph BA	Eleanora Bisse, widow	3
1687	William Keat BA		3
1693	Hugo Davis	Edward Bisse	3
1714	Benjamin Wilding MA	Samuel Catherall, rector of Priston	3
1722	Samuel Catherall jr MA	Samuel Catherall, his father	3
1764	J.Johnson BL		7
1766	John Martin BA		7
1786	Robert Pitcairn BA	Philip James Gibbs of Trowbridge	8
1792	John Batchellor		7
1808	David Hughes MA	David Hughes MA	9
1828	Charles Radford BA	Charles Radford BA	10
1867	Charles Lloyd BA	Thomas Washbourne Gibbs	11
1876	J.Smart MA		7
1881	L.T.Pennington		7
1882	J.M.Vaughan		7
1882	Francis D.Dymock MA	Col.Griffiths RA	12
1904	Harvey J.Lewis MA	Mrs Harvey James Lewis	12
1911	George H.Lawrence MA	Bishop of Bath and Wells	12
1916	C.M.Becker MA	Bishop of Bath and Wells	7
1919	G.E.Hillyard	Bishop of Bath and Wells	7
1922	Pryce Davies AKC	Bishop of Bath and Wells	12
1928	William T.Quinn	Bishop of Bath and Wells	12
1936	Everhard J.Rowe	Bishop of Bath and Wells	12
1947	J.C.Ford MA	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1950	R.L.Dewe	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1952	H.L.Walker MA	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1955	A.F.Bell, rector of Priston	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1962	J.C.Cunningham	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1963	J.S.Barker, BA, rector of Priston	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1970	R.P.A.Lankester BA, rector of Priston	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1974	J.Johnson MA, vicar of Twerton	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1976	Michael Lowe BA AKC, vicar of St Barnabas, Southdown	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1980	A.J.Radford, vicar St Barnabas	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13
1986	Timothy R.Boniwell, AKC, vicar St Barnabas	Bishop of Bath and Wells	13

- 1 *Curia Regis Rolls* vol.8, 189-9; vol.9, 28-9. This date has often been taken to be 1112, but see main text, note 4.
- 2 SRO DD/RG/27
- 3 F.W.Weaver (ed), *Somerset Incumbents* (Bristol 1889), p.271.
- 4 SRS 10, no.1940.
- 5 William Ryglyn (Regilerne) was still vicar of Englishcombe in 1536; see *Valor Ecclesiasticus Henricus VIII*, vol.1, p.180. See note 6 below for William Sherwood.
- 6 In 1538 Prior William Holloway granted the next presentation of Englishcombe Church to John Quarre, Archdeacon of Llandaff. See Rev.Richard Warner, *History of Bath* (1801), appendix LXVII. For institution of Thomas Beye on resignation William Sherwood see Weaver, *ibid.*
- 7 C.Titchmarsh, *A Short Guide to Englishcombe Parish Church with some notes on its history and that of the manor* (1939)
- 8 Titchmarsh op. cit.; J.Collinson, *History and Antiquities of Somerset* vol.3, p.340-41; SRO T/PH/dcl/10.
- 9 Titchmarsh op. cit.; C.and J.Greenwood, *Somersetshire Delineated* (1822)
- 10 Titchmarsh op.cit.; *Kelly's Directory of Somerset* 1861.
- 11 Titchmarsh op.cit., H.Lewis, *Church Rambler* vol.1, pp.236-44.
- 12 *Kelly's Directory of Somerset*.
- 13 List of vicars in Englishcombe Church porch.



The Parish Council of Englishcombe 1995. Back row left to right: Des Salter, Vice-chairman Richard J. Wyatt, Simon Adams, Clerk Bill Davies. Seated left to right: District Councillor Bill Bedborough, Chairman Mike Overton, Jan Bale.

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THE AUTHOR

Jean Manco is a professional historian, who writes and lectures on historic buildings and sites. She has a particular interest in the area around Bath, where she lived for 14 years, and has published studies of pre-Georgian Bath, Bath Abbey, the Cross Bath and Pulteney Bridge. She has also published on Lulworth Castle, Dorset and has publications forthcoming on Acton Court near Bristol and Berry Pomeroy Castle in Devon.

