

Perambulation 1855 and a copy

Oct 24 1855 Perambulation of the Parish of Steeple Barton containing the Liberties of Steeple Barton proper Sesswells Barton and Middle Barton... by William Green MA the Vicar George Barnard and William Luing the Churchwardens and John Haynes the younger, Joseph Hollier, Caleb Nicholls, John Savery, Jonathan Strainge, William Wing and Thomas Grantham substantial men of the said parish...they do say firstly that there are twelve detached portions of the said parish that is to say one portion of land locally situate in the parish of Westcott Barton containing 3r 2p or thereabouts in the occupation of James Parsons or his tenant, another 15a 3r 4p in occ Richard Townsend, another 22a 11p in occ Simon Huggins, another, 6a 1r 29p in occ Trustees of Sandford Church, another with erections thereon locally situate adjoining the Heyford and Enstone Turnpike road in the parish of WB 3r 15p in occ Nathaniel Ivens or his tenants, another 7a 1r 16p in occ Thomas Grantham, another 22a 3r 31p late in occ Richard Simmons a cottage in occ Robert Cato, another portion of land with farm buildings 78a 1r in occ Richard Hawkes there being a Cottage erected on part thereof now or late in occ Thomas Gibbard, another portion of land adjoining parish of Over Worton 15a 1r 22p in occ Trustees of the Poor's Plot, another portion of land adjoining last named 7a 10p in occ Richard Hawkes, another portion of land intersected by the Dun's Tew Road situate between that part of the parish of WB called Horse-Hay Farm and the parish of Dun's Tew 19a 32p in occ Joseph Painter, and the said Vicar Churchwardens and substantial men do further say that there are six detached portions of the parish of WB within but not parcel of the circuit of the perambulation herein recorded such portions being in respective occs of James Allen, Thomas Tims, John Young, Joseph Stratford, John Neal and another and Henry Agar Lord Viscount Clifden. The perambulation commenced at a point on the Heyford and Enstone Turnpike Road where the property of William Luing adjoins but is undivided from other land in his occ in the parish of WB that thence proceeding northwards the boundary of the parish of SB against the parish of WB runs in part through and in other part is identical with the boundary of lands in the occ of William Luing of lands now or late in occ of Richard Simmons and of lands in occ Joseph Hollier partly defined by a public bridleway and afterwards by the boundary of other lands in occ Joseph Hollier and Thomas Tims, the boundary against the parish of Steeple Aston is identical with the boundaries of lands in occ of Thomas Tims, William Edginton, Jonathan Strainge, a covert in the occ Henry Hall, other lands in the occ of Jonathan Strainge and of a small plantation opposite Hopcrofts Holt Inn in occ of Henry Hall, that against the parish of Rousham is identical in part with the eastern side of the Kidlington and Deddington turnpike road until a point defined by an ancient mere stone in the parish of Rousham and thence runs on the west side of the said turnpike road being identical with the boundary of lands in occ Robert Price and Henry Atkins Bowyer, that against the parish of Tackley is identical with the south side of the Rousham and Wootton parish road, that against the parish of Wootton is also in part identical with the south side of the same road and in other parts with the boundary of lands in the occ of Henry Atkins Bowyer with the

north side of the same road and west of the River Dorn with that of a covert in the occ of Henry Agar Lord Viscount Clifden and of other lands in the same occ, that against that detached part of the parish of WB called Twenty-acres is identical with that of certain lands called Wootton Downs piece and Purgatory Great Ground in the occ of Viscount Clifden passing from the side of certain demolished buildings through a field called Ten acres till the corner of a certain coppice, that against that part of the parish of Wootton called Ludwell farm is identical with those of coppices and lands in occ of Viscount Clifden, that against the parish of Glympton is identical with the boundaries of lands and coppices in the occ of Viscount Clifden and of land in occ of John Haynes, that against the parish of Kiddington is identical with the west side of the Worton and Kiddington parish road, that against the remaining part of the parish of WB is identical with the west side of the same road until the River Dorn that from the said river the boundary is identical with that of land in occ of John Soden and John Soden the younger until it reaches the Heyford and Enstone turnpike road near the point where the perambulation started....The liberty of Steeple Barton proper consists of such lands ways watercourses and hereditaments as are described in the Tithe Commutation Map on the west side of the River Dorn, that the liberty of Sesswells Barton ... on the east side of the River Dorn and the liberty of Middle Barton is the part not in the parish of Westcott Barton as described in the Inclosure Map.

The documents which had been tucked away in a chest in Steeple Barton Church are the records kept by these officials - the Churchwardens and Overseers

The parish used to administer local government through officials (unpaid) chosen from local inhabitants.

Churchwardens saw to the upkeep of church and churchyard, the extermination of vermin etc, and they kept an eye on religious and moral welfare

The Overseers looked after highways,
bridges and poor people

THE POOR:

sick

aged

widows, deserted women and their children

orphans

unemployed and destitute

Widows and children were given allowances

Medicines were provided for the poor

1729

John Oppon of Hanwell, near Banbury, offers to take care of the two children of Mary Tolot of Middle Barton in return for three shillings a week

Nothing to indicate whether this offer was taken up

1737

Page from a book kept by Overseers 1737-1787

Assessment, for rates, 1790

The money to pay for these things was collected by the Overseers from local inhabitants in proportion to the assessed value of their property, and accounts were kept of money raised and money spent.

1860 Purchase by the Overseers of a Deposit and Collecting Book

W Luing, Jun was the son of William Luing who built 17/19 North Street and ran a general stores there. Son William, in 1871, was described as a clothier employing 7 men, 7 women and 1 boy

BARTON CLOTHING AND SHOE WAREHOUSE,

M. C. Nichols 4 May 1860

Bought of W. LUIING, JUN.,

WOOLLEN DRAPER, TAILOR, CLOTHIER, BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER,
PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, AND BOOK AND NEWS AGENT.

All Goods sold at Cash Prices.

Overseers Collecting Book 2/6
Wm. Luing

SETTLEMENT CERTIFICATES

If people did not have a 'certificate of settlement' and were likely to become a charge on that parish they could be 'removed'.

Local people who were unemployed or sick were given some support. It was however regarded as unfair to have to support someone who did not belong to the parish but had come in and then needed help.

1698 Francis Fletcher

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed (being Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Stratton Audly in the County of Oxon) do hereby Certifie all persons whom it may concern that Francis Fletcher Labourer is an Inhabitant of our Said Parish And that if at any time or times hereafter the said Francis Fletcher Returnes or comes to our Said Parish to Inhabit We do hereby promise to receive him as an Inhabitant again Witnes our hands & Seals the Seventh day of November In the Tenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William the Third over England Annoq Dni 1698

The mark of Wm Baily
Churchwarden

Memorandum that on the
Ninth day of November 1698
this Certificate was signed by us
two of His Majesty's Justices of the
Peace for this County; Pursuant to
ye Act of Parliament for ye better
Releife of ye Poore of ye Kingdom

Robert Dashwood
Edw: Norreys

John Paine
Borlace Tugwood
Overseers of the Poor

1709

The Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of Westcot Barton acknowledge John Bowler as an Inhabitant legally settled in Westcot Barton

Signed: Robert Buswell Junr, William Loe, Edmund Buswell, mark of William Rogers

Witnessed: William Martin, mark of Thomas Luin

Signed by Justices of the Peace: J Wheate, Thomas Napier

The Buswells were Lords of the Manor of Westcote Barton. They built several houses including the manor house (now Manor Farm)

REMOVAL ORDERS

Some people were removed from Steeple Barton to other parishes; some from other parishes to Steeple Barton

1744 John Tillard

Complaint has been made from the Parish of Northmymms

that John Tillard, Elizabeth his wife and George aged about 9 and John aged about 8

"have lately intruded themselves into the Parish of Northmymms ... and are there like to become chargeable, if not timely prevented"

The Justices of the Peace order that they are to be removed from Northmymms, County of Hertford, to the Parish of Steeple Barton

**Removal Orders, Complaint of
Steeple Barton
4 Jan 1840**

**This includes a copy of an
examination of Edward Artess
in which he gives an account of
his life and employment.**

**In 1860 William Cheves, his wife and
their two children were removed to Chilton
Candover, Southampton. William Cheves
had been ill and his sickness was likely to
result in permanent disability.**

Bills were kept of the costs of the removal.

See also original documents

Expences incurred in removing 11th Cheever &
Family from Steeple Barton Oxon to Chilton Candover
Hants

Horse & fly to Keyport Station	✓	"	4	"
Man & Toll Gate	✓		2	
Railway Fare	✓	1	10	1/2
Cab Hire from Basingstoke to Chilton Candover 11 Miles	✓	"	15	"
Toll gates Man & Horse	✓	"	5	"
Breakfast for paupers	✓	"	5	"
Dinner do	✓	"	5	6
Supper Bed Breakfast Winton & Apt answered	✓	"	7	6
1/2 pint of Brandy for paupers	✓		2	
Went over two days work & for paupers			8	
Refreshments & incidentals	✓	4	4	1/2

Settled to Nicholls

1861
paid

1819

11 December

Robert Profit and Sarah his wife and their children William aged 6, Mary aged 4, and James aged 5 weeks are a charge on the parish of Steeple Barton. They are judged to be inhabitants of Over Worton and are to be removed there.

11 December

Suspension order

Sarah is too ill to travel

1 January 1820

Order put into execution, Sarah having died

Robert Profit and Sarah (formerly Hayward) are described as paupers. Later on, when Robert was with Sarah Mole, he is described in census returns as a thatcher and she was his housekeeper.

(See also Bastardy 1826 Thomas Finch and Sarah Mole.)

BASTARDY ORDERS

Arrangements could also be made for the care of illegitimate children.

1696 William Busby

An order was made with a bond or obligation to come into force if he did not maintain the child, and the child became a charge on the parish of Steeple Barton

(he shall alsoe henceforth save and keepe harmlesse and indemnified the said parish of Steeple Barton ... of all charges which shall happen to be laid upon the said parish or any of the Inhabitants thereof for the maintenance of the said Child)

The order was made by Sir Thomas Wheate, Thomas Crisp and Robert Perrott, Justices of the Peace

It was signed with the marks of William Busby and Thomas Busby and witnessed by Thomas Clark and George Ryves

Thomas Finch, a local farmer, was said to be the father of Sarah Mole's illegitimate daughter, and was required to contribute to the expenses while the child was a charge on the parish

Thomas - forty shillings + two shillings a week
Sarah - one shilling a week

Sarah Mole had three children by Thomas Finch. Thomas died and Sarah moved in with Robert Profit, a widower (see Removal Orders 1819). She and Robert had five children. Two years after the birth of the last child, they got married! Sarah died in 1903, aged 95, and was buried in Steeple Barton Churchyard.

Life was never easy for poor people, or paupers as they were called. By 1800 the situation was much worse. Wages were low, food was expensive, machinery was being introduced and jobs were scarce. Crime was on the increase (and men went poaching to get food).

In 1834 the system was changed. Parishes were amalgamated into 'Unions' whose Guardians provided for the poor. Many of the poor now had to go into the workhouse, though some out relief was given.

**Photocopies of other
documents are in the
yellow binder**

**Steeple Barton
Church
Documents I**

**A list and photocopies of
Certificates and Orders are
in the yellow binder**

**Steeple Barton
Church
Documents II**
