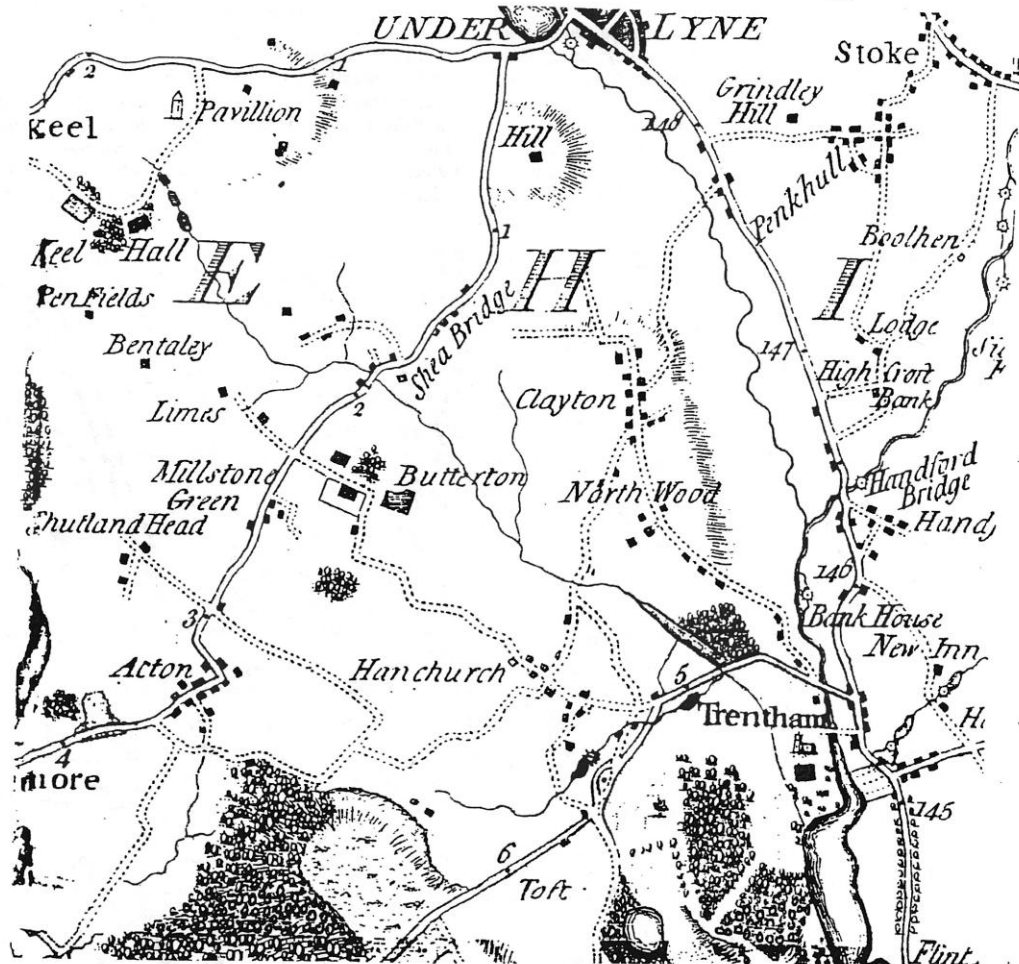


# SOCIAL HISTORY WALKS 2011

## Andrew Dobraszczyk

### Hanchurch: An Estate Village

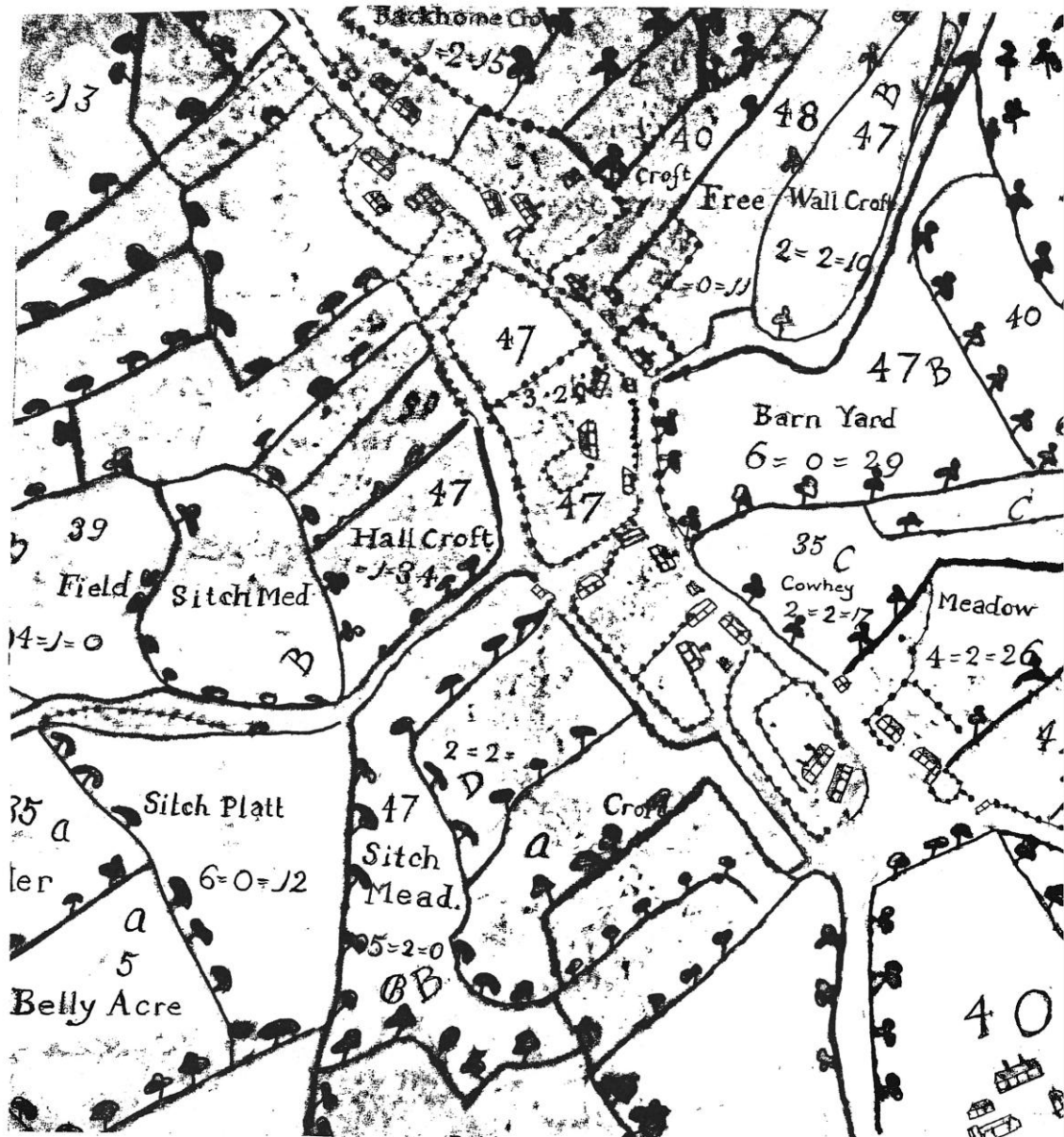


These notes have been produced for a history walk around Hanchurch village. The purpose of the walk is to examine the relationship between the village and the Leveson-Gower family of Trentham Hall (better known as the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland) between the 17<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. By the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century Hanchurch was a "closed" village in the sense that all the land and every building in the village belonged to the owners of Trentham Hall and, as the walk will show, the policies they pursued had a dramatic impact not only on the topography of the village but also on its social composition.

The extract from William Yates' Map of Staffordshire, published in 1775, shows the location of Hanchurch three miles south of Newcastle-under-Lyme and one mile west of Trentham. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century the main road from Newcastle apparently ran up Hanchurch Lane and along Ridding Bank. However, the new turnpike roads of the following century by-passed the village leaving Hanchurch as a quite rural backwater. These roads, shown on the map by a continuous black edged line, were the main post road from London to Liverpool (the present A34), the Newcastle to Shrewsbury Road, via Seabridge and Whitmore, and the Trentham to Market Drayton Road. Part of the road to Eccleshall was turnpiked in the early 1790s and a new road from Trentham to Whitmore was built in the late 1830s. Yates' map provides us with a very simplified picture of Hanchurch in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A more detailed illustration is provided by the map on the next page.

2.

The extract below, from Thomas Burton's map of "Trentham to the west of the River Trent," shows Hanchurch village and surrounding fields in about 1714. The road coming in at the top right hand corner is Hanchurch Lane. At that time it joined Peacock Lane just south of the garden occupied by the chapel of ease. In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the road was realigned to form the present cross roads. The road coming in from the top left is Peacock Lane which continues south east as Ridding Bank before dividing into the road to Trentham and the road to Swynnerton. At the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century there was also another lane which ran from Hanchurch yews parallel to Peacock Lane, which had disappeared by the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These changes in road layout were associated with the purchase of land in the village and its vicinity in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by the Leveson Gower family of Trentham Hall. After purchase, many old cottages and farmhouses in the village were demolished only some of which were replaced by new buildings. This was done in order to reduce the number of small holdings which were amalgamated to form large new farms. Thomas Whitehurst was a typical example of the former smallholders renting land from Earl Gower in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A transcript of part of his will and the accompanying inventory, which is in Lichfield Record Office, is on the next page.



## EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL OF THOMAS WHITEHURST, YEOMAN, HANCHURCH, 1750

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Whitehurst of Hanchurch in the parish of Trentham in the county of Stafford Yeoman.... do make this my last will and Testament... I give devise and bequeath All that my Messuage and Tenement situate and being in Hanchurch aforesaid wherein James Sargeant doth now inhabit and dwell together with the Honey butt and backside thereunto belonging unto my dear and loving wife Jane Whitehurst... together with the several closes pieces and parcels of land hereunto mentioned lying and being in Hanchurch aforesaid and which I formerly purchased together with the said Messuage or Tenement of and from the Right Honorable the Earl Gower That is to say the Two Townsends and a piece of land called the Land and one half of the Broad Meadow (upon trust for his granddaughters Jane Walker and Jane Adams)... Also I give and bequeath unto my loving wife Jane Whitehurst... all my ready money my best bed and furniture thereunto belonging the chest which she calls her chest together with two cows to dispose of as she shall think proper she my said wife paying and defraying the Expenses of my funeral... And I also Give and bequeath to her for her use all and singular other my Household Goods, Chattels Cattle Stock and personall Estate... Also I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Walker my silver Tankard my Jack and six new Chairs in the Parlour to be delivered to her immediately after my sd wifes decease but not before Also I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Ann Knight from and after the decease of my said wife my silver salver my chest and six chairs in the best Room... Also I give and bequeath unto Mr Hassels One Guinea and to the Ringers twelve shillings to ring at my Funerall...

(will made on the 9th December 1749, signed by Thomas Whitehurst with a cross, and proved at Lichfield on the 19th of June 1750.)

## INVENTORY OF THOMAS WHITEHURST'S GOODS

A true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods and personal estate of Thomas Whitehurst of the parish of Trentham in the county of Stafford taken and appaised the eighth day of June in the year of our Lord 1750.

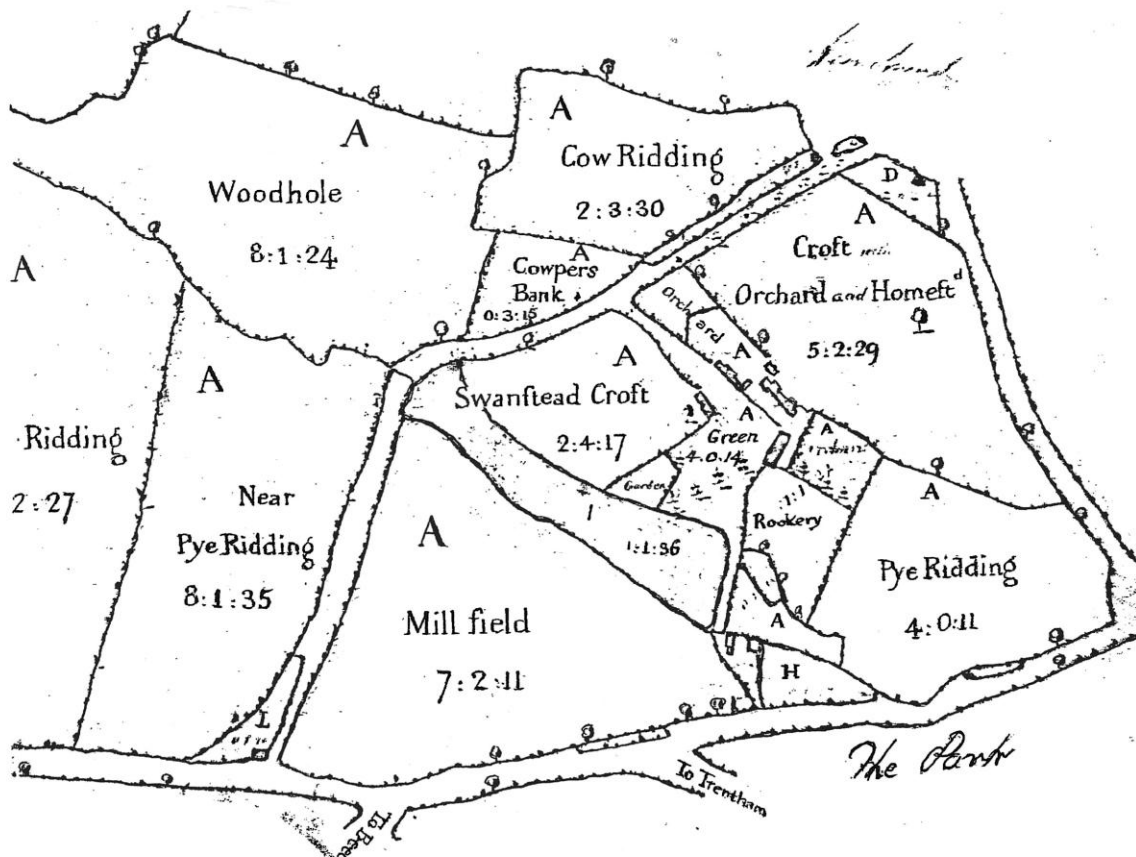
	£	s	d
That is to say in the house place one clock and case and other goods valued to	3	10	0
In one parlour and the passage goods to	0	15	0
In another parlour two tables and other goods to	4	10	0
In the chamber goods to	1	3	0
In two other chambers two beds one pair of bedstides and some other goods	2	0	0
In the buttery and cellar goods to	0	15	0
In the brewhouse a furnace and some other od things	0	17	0
A pig two cows and eight sheep	7	10	0
One mare	0	15	0
Other lumber and goods not appraised before	0	15	0
Wareing apparel and money	5	0	0
	£27	0	0

John Collier and Joseph furnifall - appraisers

4.

## THE HASSELLS FAMILY AND HANCHURCH MANOR HOUSE

The most important house in the village was Hanchurch Manor House, parts of which go back to at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Its construction was associated with the increase in the wealth and the rise in the social status of its owners, the Hassells family. They are described in various 17<sup>th</sup> century documents as yeomen farmers and "Richard Hasells" is recorded in the Staffordshire Hearth Tax returns for 1666 as the occupier of a house in Hanchurch with 3 hearths. It was clearly then a modest farmhouse compared with the substantial residence at Whitmore, occupied by Edward Mainwaring Esq., which contained 19 hearths. However, by 1695 the head of the household is described as "Mr Rich. Hassells" in the Trentham parish registers and as "Rich. Hassells, Gent" by 1715. It is likely that the house occupied by the family was rebuilt or extended in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century or early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The estate attached to the house occupied the valley on the north west side of the Drayton Road between the Eccleshall Road and Hanchurch Hills. The map, below, shows part of the estate around the Manor House. The Drayton Road runs along the bottom of the map with the edge of Hanchurch village at the top right hand corner. In the centre are the buildings of the Manor House, cottages and thatched barn on the right laid out around the "Green". Below is the fishpond and the mill above the Mill field. The mill was erected shortly after March 1753 when Richard Hassells, of Hanchurch, entered into a partnership with William & John Hassells, potters, of Shelton, who presumably were his relatives, and Samuel Boyer, an attorney in Newcastle-under-Lyme. From this it would appear that at least part of the income and wealth of the family in the 18<sup>th</sup> century was derived from their involvement in the rapidly expanding pottery industry in the neighbouring parish of Stoke-upon-Trent. A transcript of part of the agreement, now in Staffordshire Record Office, is on the next page.



## HANCHURCH FLINT MILL

"This Indenture of three parts made the Eighth Day of March In the 26<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Second over Great Britain and so forth And in the Year of our Lord 1753 Between Richard Hassells of Hanchurch in the Parish of Trentham in the County of Stafford Gentleman of the First part Samuel Boyer of Newcastle under Lyme in the said County Gentleman William Hassells and John Hassells both of Shelton in the County of Stafford aforesaid Brothers and Copartners in the Business Art or Occupation of a potter of the Second part And Arthur Allcock of Newcastle under Lyme aforesaid Gentleman of the Third part Witnesseth That the sd Richard Hassells & Samuel Boyer [have leased] ... All that peece or parcel of Ground Situate at Hanchurch aforesaid near to the Pond on Pool in the Close next to the Common and Highway leading down to Trentham aforesaid from the Dwelling House of the said Richard Hassells and which said parcell of Ground in now meeted or measured and Staked out (and **upon which said peece of Ground or some part thereof is intend'd a Flint mill to be Erected and Built**) Together with the said pond or pool lying near to the said parcel of Ground and all other ponds pools & watercourses which Supply the said pool with water ways and passages as well going from as Coming to the said parcel of Ground and pool lying near thereto and each of them and which is now the Inheritance or property of the said Richard Hassells And also free Liberty at all times during the Demise to Come with Horses Teams Carts and Carriages to the said Demised premises to bring and lay down flint Stones and whatsoever also the Occupier of the said Mill so intended to be Erected as aforesaid shall want or have Occasion for To Have and to Hold the said [premises]... for the term of Ninety and nine years from henceforth next Ensuing... The whole in three Equal parts to be Divided To and for the proper use and benefit of the said Richard Hassells and Samuel Boyer... And as to for and Concerning the other third part and Share of the said premises to and for the proper use and benefits of the said William Haxsalls and John Hassalls... And the said Samuel Boyer William Hassells and John Hassells do hereby for themselves their Heirs Executors and Admors Covenant Promise and Agree to and with the said Richard Hassells his Heirs Executors Admors and Assigns by these presents **That they the said Samuel Boyer William Hassells and John Hassells shall and will at their equal Expence in proportion to their Shares Erect and build upon the said Demised premises One flint Mill with a water wheel Going Gears and all other things proper and Convenient for Grinding Calcined flint Stones into powder Suitable for the potters use and finish and Compleat the Same in the Space of Eight months next Ensuing the date hereof ... That they the said Richard Hassells Samuel Boyer William Hassells and John Hassells shall and will Carry on the said Business of Grinding Calcined flint Stones** And buy in and Sell out Materials in the best manner they Can for the benefit of the said partnership And Carry on and promote the said Business without fraud or Collusion and be just and true to each other in all their Buying Sellings and Dealings And that the said Partners shall once in every three months during the said Partnership or oftener if required by any of the said Partners Deliver to each other a true plain & perfect Account and Reckoning of all his and their Buyings Sellings Tradings and Dealings relating to the Carrying on and working of the said flint Mill As well of the Gain Profit and Increase thereof As of the Charges Damages Losses and Expences that shall and may happen in the Carrying on the said Business As also of all Debts as well those which shall be owing to as those which shall be owing from the said Partnership in respect of Such Dealings..."

In 1779 Earl Gower of Trentham Hall bought the Hanchurch Manor estate "of the late Mr Richard Hassells". Then, the flint mill and mill pool, were still in the possession of "Richard Hassells & Co." Three years later, in October 1782, for £300, Earl Gower bought out the three partners in the flint mill who were now Samuel Boyer of Newcastle under Lyme, Gent, Charles Hassells, "of the same place," Grocer, and John Hassells of Shelton, Potter. Some time after that date the Leveson-Gower family had the flint mill converted into a saw mill. They let Hanchurch Manor to "widow Bloore" who also rented most of the land formerly owned by the Hassells family. The Bloore family was still in occupation in the 1830s but by 1841 the house had been let to William Henny who was accountant to the Duke of Sutherland c.1841 to 1872. During his occupation the manor house was remodelled in the picturesque neo-Tudor style and the pair of adjacent cottages built in a similar style on the site of earlier buildings. In 1851 one was let to George Hewitt, gardener at the Manor House, and the other to Thomas Broad, a labourer, who, with Thomas Birchall, his brother-in-Law, must have been employed by Henny to work on the 11½ acres of land around the house which he rented from the Duke of Sutherland. (See the 1851 census returns on page 10 and the survey of the Trentham estate on page 7.) Between c.1888 and c.1912 Hanchurch Manor was let to George Menzies, the Duke's agent, and then for a short period afterwards, to John Menzies. By 1916, Frederick Todd, the new agent, was in occupation and he was still living in the house in 1940.



# 6.

## SMALL HOLDINGS AND FARMS

Seventeenth and eighteenth century estate records in Staffordshire Record Office indicate that a substantial part of the land around the village was let to a large number of small-holders who rarely had more than 15 acres on which they grazed a few cows. Entries made in the Trentham parish registers by the Rev Jeffrey Williams include not only addresses but also the occupations of many of the residents between 1718 and 1731. They comprised: Four yeomen, who were the more substantial tenant farmers: Thomas Fox, senior; John Johnson; Thomas Whitehurst; and John Whitehurst. However, they were outnumbered by 14 people recorded as "husbandman," occupiers of small holdings in Hanchurch: John Collier, jr; John Collier, sr; Ralph Fenton; William Fenton; Thomas (& Elizabeth) Fox; Thomas (& Margaret) Fox; Thomas Heath; William Heath; Walter Middleton; James Palin; Thomas Tittensor; and Samuel Vernon. There were also 11 people described as "labourer": John Anderson; Richard Ball; Joseph Butterson; Samuel Ellis; William Hall; William Maiden; James Mitchell; William Powner; James Sargeant; William Smith; and Richard Williams. Finally there were also four tradesmen: John Baddeley, a locksmith; Joseph Hall, a tailor; John Bramwer, a carpenter; and Thomas Heath, a "wood collier". There was a single entry for a servant, Mary White, who was probably working for one of the more substantial tenant farmers.

### HANCHURCH VILLAGE FARM

At the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the largest farm in the village (after Hanchurch Manor estate) was the present Hanchurch Village Farm. This timber frame farm house with brick infill was probably erected in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Originally the house had a thatched roof (still extant in 1919) but this had been replaced by the present tiled roof in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The building can be identified on Burton's map on page 2. "Widow Collier" then occupied the farm, and the John Collier of Hanchurch whose burial was recorded in Trentham parish register in 1711 was probably her husband. Later on in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Earl Gower let the farm to the Bloore family who also occupied Hanchurch Manor Farm. When James Loch, the chief agent to the Marquis of Stafford at Trentham Hall, wrote "An Account of the Improvements on the Estates of the Marquess of Stafford," published in 1820, he praised the way in which the tenant, James Bloore, ran the farm: "The soil is somewhat similar to the last [Hanchurch Hill Farm: a good dry arable farm] a proper proportion of this farm is in grass. The tenant is remarkably industrious; he is bringing it fast into a good state of cultivation; having received it from his father and others in a very bad state, he has done, and is now doing, much underground draining and ditching. A small quantity of water meadow. There is an old thatched half-timbered house on good repair. The buildings are brick, and tiled, modern, and in a good state of repair." The last reference is to the agricultural buildings, a two story brick barn erected on the Peacock Lane side of the farm yard and cowhouses on the north east side of the farm yard. All of these buildings had been constructed by 1809. They are still extant and are now occupied as private residences. A member of the Bloore family, Samuel Bloore, was still living at the farm in 1851 when it comprised 112 acres. He ran this with the assistance three labourers, two of whom were living with him in the farm house along with a dairy maid. (See census returns page 12). Robert Dodd was his successor. By 1871 the agent had let the farm to the Barker family who were recorded as follows in the 1881 census returns:

						PLACE OF BIRTH
John Barker	Head	Single	48	Farmer		Staffs, Wetton
Elizabeth Barker	Mother	Widow	75			Staffs, Wetton
Francis Barker	Brother	Single	45	Saddler		Staffs, Wetton
William Barker	Brother	Married	28	Farmer		Staffs, Wetton
Sarah Barker	Sister-in-Law	Married	22			Staffs, Knutton
Elizabeth Barker	Sister-in-Law	Married	32			Staffs, Trentham
Frank Barker	Nephew	Single	4			Staffs, Trentham
Eleanor Barker	Niece	Single	2			Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Barker	Niece	Single	2			Staffs, Trentham
William Alcock	Uncle	Single	73	Agricultural Labourer		Staffs, Wetton
Thomas Potts	Servant	Single	23	Agricultural Labourer		Staffs, Burslem
Thomas Taylor	Servant	Single	18	Agricultural Labourer		Staffs, Wolstanton
Martha Barker	Cousin	Single	27	Annuitant		Cheshire, Congleton

By 1896 the farm was in the hands of a new tenant, Edward J Leighton. In 1919 he was paying a rent of £120 7s 9d a year for 91 acres of land, 25 arable and 66 in pasture. The cowhouse had tieings for 26 animals. He must have bought the farm in 1919 because he was still in occupation in 1940.

## THE TRANSFORMATION OF HANCHURCH VILLAGE

There were still a number of smallholders living in the village in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but they were then vastly outnumbered by agricultural labourers. The transformation of the village is apparent from a survey of the Trentham Hall Estate carried out between 1857 and 1859. The map on page 9 is an extract from that survey. It shows the area between Hanchurch Manor House on the left and Peacock Lane on the right. The road along the bottom of the map is the Eccleshall Road (A519). Below is an extract from the schedule which accompanies the map. The entries have been arranged so that they can be followed on the map from left to right (or from west to east). Properties described as "In Hand" were under the direct control of the Trentham agent and not let out to tenants. "A R P" under the heading "Quantity" is acres, roods and perches. The survey is in the Sutherland Collection in Staffordshire Record Office – catalogue reference number D593/H/14/3/18A.

The 1851 census returns for Hanchurch are reproduced on pages 10, 11 and 12. Entries have been re-arranged so that they can be compared with the estate survey of 1859, and have been renumbered from 1 to 25.

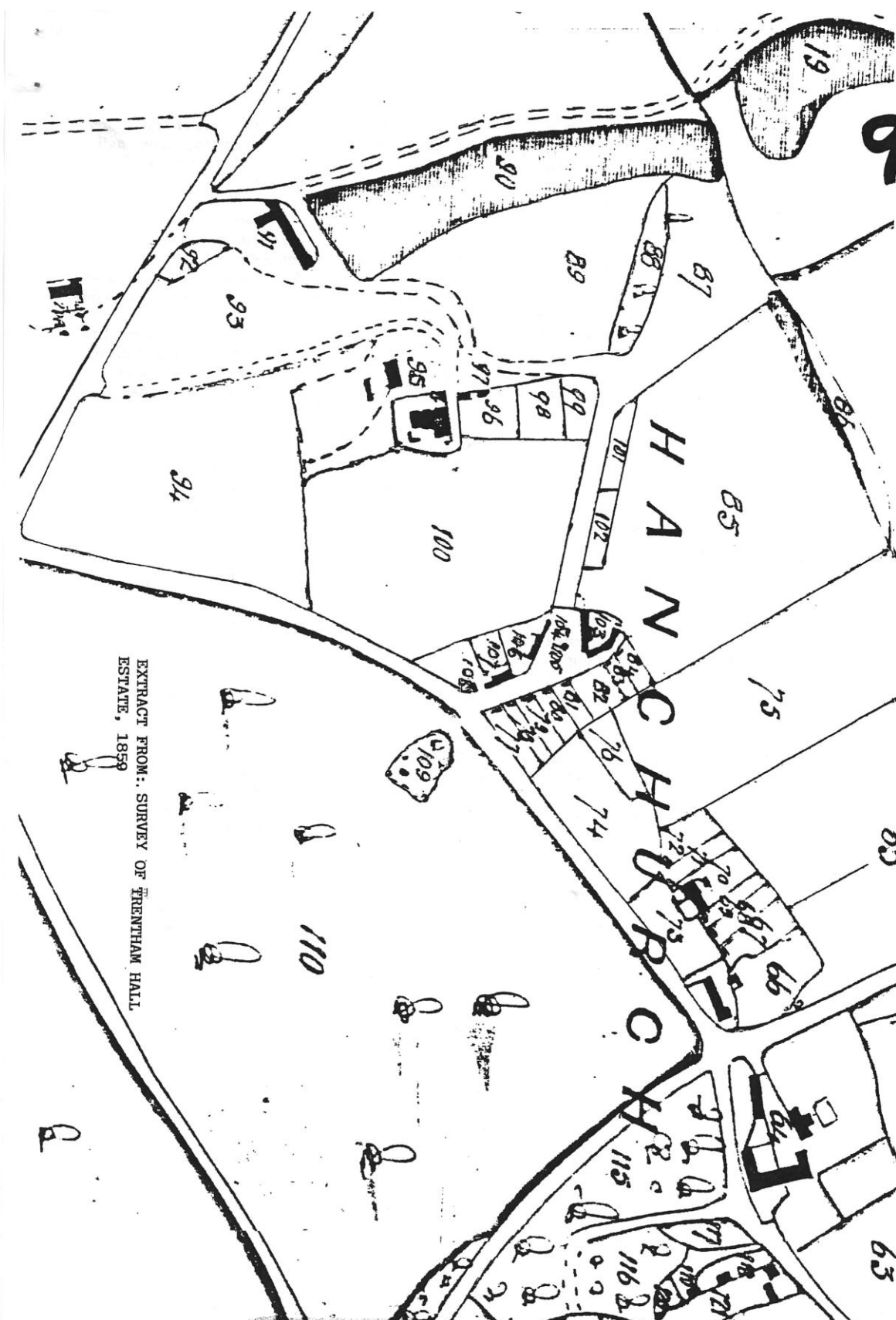
## SURVEY OF THE TRENTHAM HALL ESTATE, 1859

No	OCCUPIER	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY		
			A	R	P
93	William Henny	Riddings & Lower Pasture	02	0	00
94	Ditto	Riddings & Middle Pasture	03	3	16
95	Ditto	House, Orchard, Garden, Roads, &c.	01	1	20
97	Ditto	House & Garden	00	0	20
98	Ditto	House & Garden	00	0	27
98a	Ditto	Garden	00	0	31
99	Ditto	Garden	00	1	24
100	Ditto	Upper Meadow	03	1	29
			<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>07</u>
19	In Hand	Wood Hole New Pool	00	2	03
86	Ditto	Plantation & Pool	00	1	37
88	Ditto	Plantation & Rubbish Holes	00	1	35
89	Ditto	Orchard & Road	02	2	31
90	Ditto	Mill Pond	02	0	36
91	Ditto	Saw Mill	00	2	16
109	Ditto	Plantation in Hanchurch Meadow	00	1	00
115	Ditto	Plantation	01	3	31
116	Ditto	Plantation & Road	00	3	06
96	Mrs Marsh	House & Garden	00	1	14
101	John Downings	House & Garden	00	0	21
102	Richard Middleton	House & Garden	00	0	24
82	Mary Bennison	Garden	00	0	20
85	Ditto	Long Croft	05	0	23
87	Ditto	Cowpers	01	2	05
103	Ditto	House & Garden	00	0	10
104	Ditto	Outbuildings	00	0	05
			<u>06</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>23</u>
105	John Webb	House & Garden	00	0	07
106	Charles Anderson	House & Garden	00	0	19

8.

74	Richard Brammer	Croft	00	3	23
75	Ditto	Long Croft	03	1	25
76	Ditto	Garden	00	0	29
107	Ditto	House & Garden	00	0	18
108	Ditto	Croft	00	0	36
			04	3	11
84	Joseph Snape	House & Garden	00	0	14
83	William Powner	House & Garden	00	0	12
81	George Craddock	House & Garden	00	0	16
80	Thomas James	House & Garden	00	0	15
79	Daniel Cliff	House & Garden	00	0	16
78	Thomas Boulton	House & Garden	00	0	16
77	John Banks	House & Garden	00	0	20
72	William Cliff	House & Garden	00	0	14
71	William Pilsbury	House & Garden	00	0	27
65	George Penson	Lay Croft	05	0	03
70	Ditto	House, Garden, &c.	00	0	24
73	Ditto	Croft	00	1	15
			05	2	02
69	George Fallows	House & Garden	00	0	25
68	James Biddulph	House & Garden	00	0	29
58	William Sheldon	Sitch Field	05	2	02
59	Ditto	Slang	00	1	38
66	Ditto	Croft	00	1	32
67	Ditto	House & Garden	00	1	01
			06	2	33
64	Robert Dodd	Messuage, Buildings, Garden, &c.	02	0	17
60	Ditto	Hall Croft	03	0	12
63	Ditto	Charlton's Croft	01	0	31
122	Ditto	Croft	01	2	19
	Ditto	12 other fields	103	1	08
			111	1	07
54	Ann Penson		02	1	25
62	Ditto		02	3	14
117	Ditto	Garden	00	0	35
118	Ditto	House & Garden	00	0	20
120	Ditto	Buildings, &c.	00	0	08
			05	2	22
55	Sarah James	Balls Croft	03	0	33
56	Ditto	Sitch Field	02	2	15
57	Ditto	Sitch Meadow	01	2	21
61	Ditto	Hall Croft	02	1	30
121	Ditto	House, Garden, &c.	00	1	29
			10	1	08





EXTRACT FROM: SURVEY OF TRENTIAM HALL  
ESTATE, 1859

In 1851 most of the male residents worked as agricultural labourers. Samuel Bloore at Hanchurch Village Farm only employed three labourers, two of whom were living with him, and the other small holders, only rented between five and ten acres each, which they would have worked with the assistance of their families, so that virtually all the labourers in Hanchurch must have walked out of the village on each working day to other local farms.

The change in the social composition of the village was accompanied by a change in the families living in Hanchurch. Very few of the families whose names appear in the parish register in the first quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (page 6) were still living in the village by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The new residents did not come from far away. Entries under "Place of Birth," below, show that most of the heads of household living in the village in 1851 were born in the parish of Trentham, though five of them came from elsewhere in Staffordshire and one from Cheshire.

Numbers in the left hand column have been added for ease of identification. Houses numbered 1 to 3 were at Hanchurch Manor. Houses 4 to 17 were at the end of Ridding Bank in the vicinity of the post office. (See map page 16.) Numbers 18 to 20 were by the school house, and 21 to 23 in the row at the end of Ridding Bank. Samuel Bloore was living at Hanchurch Village Farm and houses numbered 25 and 26 were in Peacock Lane.

						PLACE OF BIRTH
1.	William Henny	Head	Widower	54	Accountant	Staffs, Trentham
	Mary E Henny	Neice	Single	36	Housekeeper	Middlesex
	Hannah Birkin	St	Single	20	House Servant	Staffs, Trentham
	Margaret Hi	St	Single	15	House Servant	Staffs, Trentham
2.	George Hewitt	Head	Married	44	Gardener	Chesh, Calveley
	Elizabeth Hewitt	Wife	Married	45		Chesh, Peckforton
	George Hewitt	Son	Single	12	At Home	Chesh, Calveley
	Ann Hewitt	Dau	Single	10	Scholar	Chesh, Calveley
	Charlotte Hewitt	Dau	Single	6	At Home	Chesh, Calveley
3.	Thomas Broad	Head	Married	27	Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
	Mary Broad	Wife	Married	25		Staffs, Trentham
	Thomas Birchall Bro-in-Law	Single	17	Labourer		Staffs, Trentham
<u>4. One House Building</u>						
5.	John Downing	Head	Married	35	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
	Rachael Downing	Wife	Married	33		Staffs, Trentham
	Elizabeth Johnson	Dau	Single	14	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
	Joseph Grascott	Lodger	Widower	79	Grenwich Pensioner	Salop, Market Drayton
6.	Richard Middleton	Head	Married	40	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Hopton
	Mary Middleton	Wife	Married	38		Staffs, Salt
	Hannah Middleton	Dau	Single	9	Scholar	Staffs, Henson
	George Middleton	Son	Single	5	Scholar	Staffs, Newcastle
	Ann Middleton	Dau	Single	2		Staffs, Trentham
	Edward Pilsbury	Lodger	Single	24	Cordwainer (Master)	Staffs, Trentham
7.	Mary Bennison	Head	Single	71	Provision Dealer	Staffs, Trentham
	Jane Heath	Sister	Widow	65		Staffs, Trentham
	Jane Shaw	St	Single	13	Servant	Staffs, Ipstones
8.	George Simpson	Head	Married	43	Labourer	Staffs, Leek
	Hannah Simpson	Wife	Married	42		Staffs, Trentham
	Sarah Simpson	Dau	Single	11	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
	Ann Simpson	Dau	Single	7	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
	Emma Simpson	Dau	Single	5	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
9.	Shadrach Ashley	Head	Married	50	Shepherd	Staffs, Standon
	Elizabeth Ashley	Wife	Married	46		Staffs, Leek
	Joshua Ashley	Son	Single	20	Shepherd	Staffs, Leek
	Alfred Ashley	Son	Single	17	Gardener	Staffs, Standon
	Marinda Ashley	Dau	Single	15	At Home	Staffs, Standon
	Deborah Ashley	Dau	Single	11	Scholar	Staffs, Standon
	Silas Ashley	Son	Single	7	Scholar	Staffs, Betley
10.	Richard Brammer	Head	Married	59	Carpenter	Staffs, Trentham
	Elizabeth Brammer	Wife	Married	44		Staffs, Trentham
	Ellen Brammer	Dau	Single	15	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
	Elizab. Withington	GdDau	Single	2		Staffs, Trentham

11. Edward Johnson	Head	Married	40	Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Johnson	Wife	Married	40		Staffs, Trentham
Mary Johnson	Dau	Single	9	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Johnson	Dau	Single	1		Staffs, Trentham
12. William Powner	Head	Married	38	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
Mary Powner	Wife	Married	44		Staffs, Trentham
Louisa Hughes	StepDau	Single	14	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Jane Hughes	StepDau	Single	11	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Maria Powner	Dau	Single	9	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Ann Powner	Dau	Single	7	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
13. James Tyson	Head	Married	46	Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
Jane Tyson	Wife	Married	42		Staffs, Trentham
Jane Tyson	Dau	Single	16	At Home	Staffs, Trentham
Arthur Tyson	Son	Single	10	At Home	Staffs, Trentham
Amer Tyson	Son	Single	8	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Sarah Ann Tyson	Dau	Single	6	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Tyson	Dau	Single	3		Staffs, Trentham
Harriet Tyson	Dau	Single	1		Staffs, Trentham
14. Ellen James	Head	Widow	54	Duke of Sutherland's	Staffs, Trentham
Thomas James	Son	Single	13	Labourer Pensioner	Staffs, Trentham
James Tooth	Lodger	Single	15	Gardener	Salop, Heath Hill
15. Daniel Cliff	Head	Widower	57	Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
William Cliff	Son	Single	18	Blacksmith	Staffs, Trentham
16. Elizabeth Bolton	Head	Widow	40	Pauper	Staffs, Stoke-upon-Trent
Thomas Bolton	Son	Single	17	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Hanley
Sarah Ann Bolton	Dau	Single	12	At Home	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Bolton	Dau	Single	8	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Eliza Bolton	Dau	Single	6	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
James Bolton	Son	Single	4		Staffs, Trentham
John Bolton	Son	Single	2		Staffs, Trentham
17. Edward Hughes	Head	Married	37	Bricklayer	Staffs, Trentham
Hannah Hughes	Wife	Married	45		Salop, Lilleshall
Thomas Hughes	Son	Single	12	At Home	Staffs, Stoke
Edward Hughes	Son	Single	9	Scholar	Staffs, Stoke-upon-Trent
Joseph Hughes	Son	Single	5	Scholar	Staffs, Stoke-upon-Trent
George Hughes	Son	Single	2		Staffs, Trentham
18. William Cliff	Head	Married	59	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
Jane Cliff	Wife	Married	58		Staffs, Stone
19. William Pilsbury	Head	Married	30	Blacksmith	Staffs, Trentham
Julia Pilsbury	Wife	Married	36		Staffs, Stoke-upon-Trent
20. George Penson	Head	Married	35	Lodge Porter	Staffs, Trentham
Jane Penson	Wife	Married	37	Schoolmistress	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Penson	Dau	Single	1		Staffs, Trentham
William Peake	Bro-in-Law	Single	54	Stone Mason	Staffs, Trentham
Richard Peake	Bro-in-Law	Single	47	Blacksmith	Staffs, Trentham
Emma Tyson	St	Single	18	Servant	Staffs, Trentham
21. George Fallows	Head	Married	30	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Stone
Mary Fallows	Wife	Married	38		Staffs, Trentham
Ann Fallows	Dau	Single	5		Staffs, Trentham
Mary Fallows	Dau	Single	1		Staffs, Trentham
22. James Biddulph	Head	Married	42	Labourer	Staffs, Newcastle
Martha Biddulph	Wife	Married	52		Staffs, Trentham
William Biddulph	Son	Single	18	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Trentham
Joseph Biddulph	Son	Single	10	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
23. Jane Sheldon	Head	Widow	74	Farmer of 5 Acres of Land	Staffs, Trentham
William Sheldon	Son	Married	33	Joiner	Staffs, Trentham
Eliza Sheldon	Dau-in-Law	Married	33		Salop, Market Drayton
Mary Sheldon	GdDau	Single	7	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
James Sheldon	GdSon	Single	4	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Mary Goodwin	GdDau	Single	14	House Servant	Staffs, Trentham
Jane Highfield	Dau	Married	47	Visitor	Staffs, Trentham

12.

24. Samuel Bloore	Head	Married	37	Farmer of 112 Acres	Staffs, Trentham
Hannah Bloore	Wife	Married	41	Employing 3 Labourers	Staffs, Stone
James Bloore	Son	Single	10	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
William Bloore	Son	Single	8	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Samuel Bloore	Son	Single	7	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Elizabeth Bloore	Dau	Single	3		Staffs, Trentham
Ann Bloore	Sister	Single	29		Staffs, Trentham
Ann Rushton	St	Single	35	Dairy Maid	Staffs, Swynnerton
Sarah Hemmings	St	Single	16	House Servant	Staffs, Trentham
John Ward	St	Single	74	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Stone
John Cartlidge	St	Single	21	Waggoner	Staffs, Stone
25. William Penson	Head	Married	75	Farmer	Staffs, Trentham
Ann Penson	Wife	Married	76		Gloucs, Cheltenham
26. Sarah James	Head	Widow	49	Annuitant	Staffs, Trentham
Sarah James	Dau	Single	18		Staffs, Trentham
Mary James	Dau	Single	11	Scholar	Staffs, Trentham
Mary Rowland	St	Single	20	House Servant	Ireland

#### HANCHURCH MANOR

William Henny, the estate accountant, is living in Hanchuch Manor in 1851. The two adjacent ornamental cottages are occupied by George Hewitt, gardener, and Thomas Broad, labourer. (See entries 1-3, page 10.)

From the mid 1880s onwards Hanchurch Manor became the residence of the agents to the Duke of Sutherland in Trentham. The first of these George Menzies, came from Scotland and took over the management of the Trentham estate in the late 1860s. Initially he lived in Heyfield House in Barlaston where his children were born. He is living in Tittensor Chase House in 1881 and five years' later moved to Hanchurch Manor. Before his arrival a number of improvements were made to Hanchurch Manor and other buildings in the vicinity. These improvements included the rebuilding of the cottages in the lane above Hanchurch Manor (Lot 83 on the map on page 19) which had originally formed part of the Hassells estate.

When George Menzies moved to Hanchurch he took one of his servants, George Salter, with him. He had employed George Salter as his gardener since the mid 1870s, first at Heyfield, then at Tittensor Manor House, and finally at Hanchurch Manor. George was responsible for improving the garden around the house under the direction of the Trentham head gardener. The 1891 census returns for George Menzies, *Land Agent*, and George Salter and William Thorley, who are living in the adjacent ornamental cottages, is reproduced below. George Salter is here recorded as a coachman – his other duty – but in all the other census returns including that of 1901, he is recorded as a gardener. In about 1905 George Salter retired as the gardener of Hanchurch Manor and became an estate pensioner. He then moved into Post Office in the lane above Hanchurch Manor (see map page 16) where he is recorded as the sub-postmaster in the 1911 census returns.

#### 1891 CENSUS: Hanchurch, Trentham

Manor House	George Menzies	Head	Married	54	Land Agent	Scotland
	Helen Do	Wife	Married	52		Scotland
	John H Do	Son	Single	20	Student of Law	Staffs, Barlaston
	Evelyn Do	Dau	Single	17		Staffs, Barlaston
	Mary Ann Chesters	Srvnt	Single	22	Cook – Domestic Srvt	Chesh, Nantwich
	Mary E Lowe	Srvnt	Single	22	Housemaid – Domestic	Staffs, S-O-T
Hanchurch	George Salter	Head	Widower	45	Coachman	Staffs, S-O-T
	Edith M Do	Dau	Single	15		Staffs, Barlaston
	Emily J Do	Dau	Single	14		Staffs, Barlaston
	Henry A Do	Son	Single	13	Scholar	Staffs, Barlaston
	Percy R Do	Son	Single	9	Scholar	Staffs, Barlaston
	Helen L Do	Dau	Single	8	Scholar	Staffs, Barlaston
	Frank Do	Son	Single	6	Scholar	Staffs, Barlaston
Hanchurch	William Thorley	Head	Married	39	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Swinnerton
	Mary A Do	Wife	Married	38		Staffs, Standon
	George Do	Son	Single	15	Agricultural Labourer	Staffs, Eccleshall
	Henry Do	Son	Single	10	Scholar	Staffs, Stone
	Mary A Do	Dau	Single	1		Staffs, Trentham

# THE CHAPEL OF EASE AND HANCHURCH SCHOOL

Hanchurch is mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086. The name of the village is supposed to mean "High Church" but despite the antiquity of the name there is no mention of a church in the settlement in the Domesday Book. The village does contain a square plot of land just over one acre in extent by Peacock Lane surrounded by ancient yews and it has been suggested that this was the site of an ancient church or religious house. However, there is no archaeological or documentary evidence to support this statement. The photograph below shows the yews in 1934. The site is now occupied by a house and garden.



The township of Hanchurch lies within the parish of Trentham and in the 1850s, on the initiative of the Rev E J Edwards, the minister at Trentham, a chapel of ease was opened in the village and services were held in the village every Sunday which were probably taken by the curate resident in the village in 1861. The chapel is a simple brick structure, still standing at the back of a house in Peacock Lane, and is marked on the Ordnance Survey maps on pages 15 and 16.

Jane and Mary Peake were running a school in Hanchurch by 1834. This was probably a "dame school" providing a very basic education for local children. By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the schoolmistress was Jane Penson, the wife of George Penson, one of the lodge porters employed at Trentham Hall. (See census returns page 12, No 20.) By 1861 she had been succeeded by Ann Penson, wife of Reuban Penson, who ran the school until 1877. During this period the school known as "Hanchurch Boys' and Girls' Day School" was supported by the Duchess of Sutherland. A note in the estate accounts in 1863 records that in addition to £19 paid by the estate every year towards clothing for the pupils, the "Dowger Duchess has in addition been in the habit of paying the education fees and for the making of the clothing of 12 children amounting to £9 12s 0d per annum." In 1877 a new school was built next to the schoolmistresses house at the expense of the Duke of Sutherland. This was a simple brick and tile structure which could accommodate 40 children, though the average attendance was only 25. Hanchurch School was closed shortly after a new school was built at Trentham in 1896 and the building converted into a laundry. (See auction particulars on page 20.) The school is marked on the Ordnance Survey map on page 16. The plan on the next page is of the adjacent house formerly occupied by the schoolmistress.

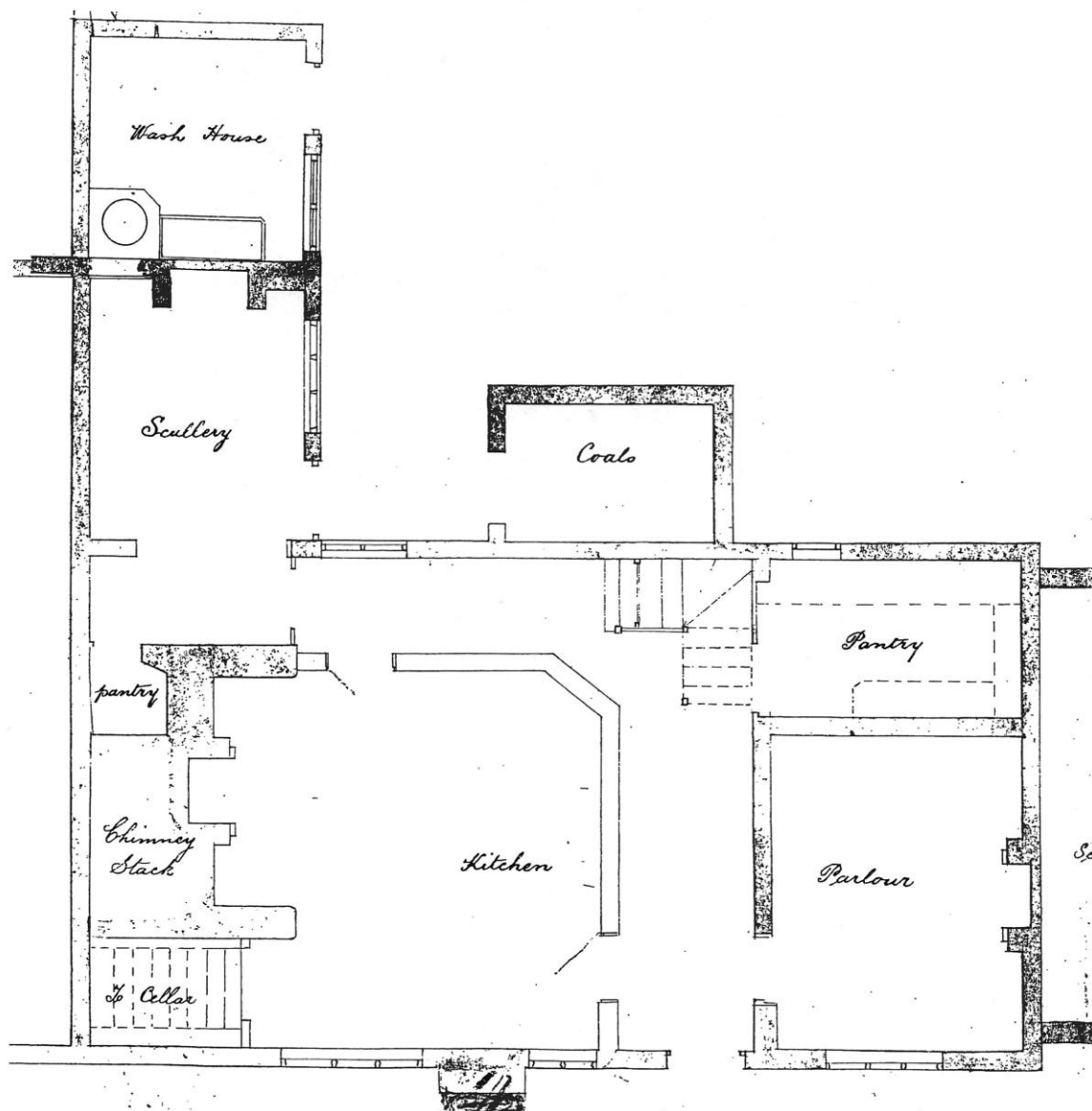
There is no public house in the village. James Doody, a small holder, opened his house as a beerhouse between 1833 and 1841. The estate disapproved of the sale of alcohol from its premises and the house was closed soon afterwards.

14.

PLAN OF THE HOUSE OCCUPIED BY THE SCHOOL MISTRESS IN HANCHURCH VILLAGE

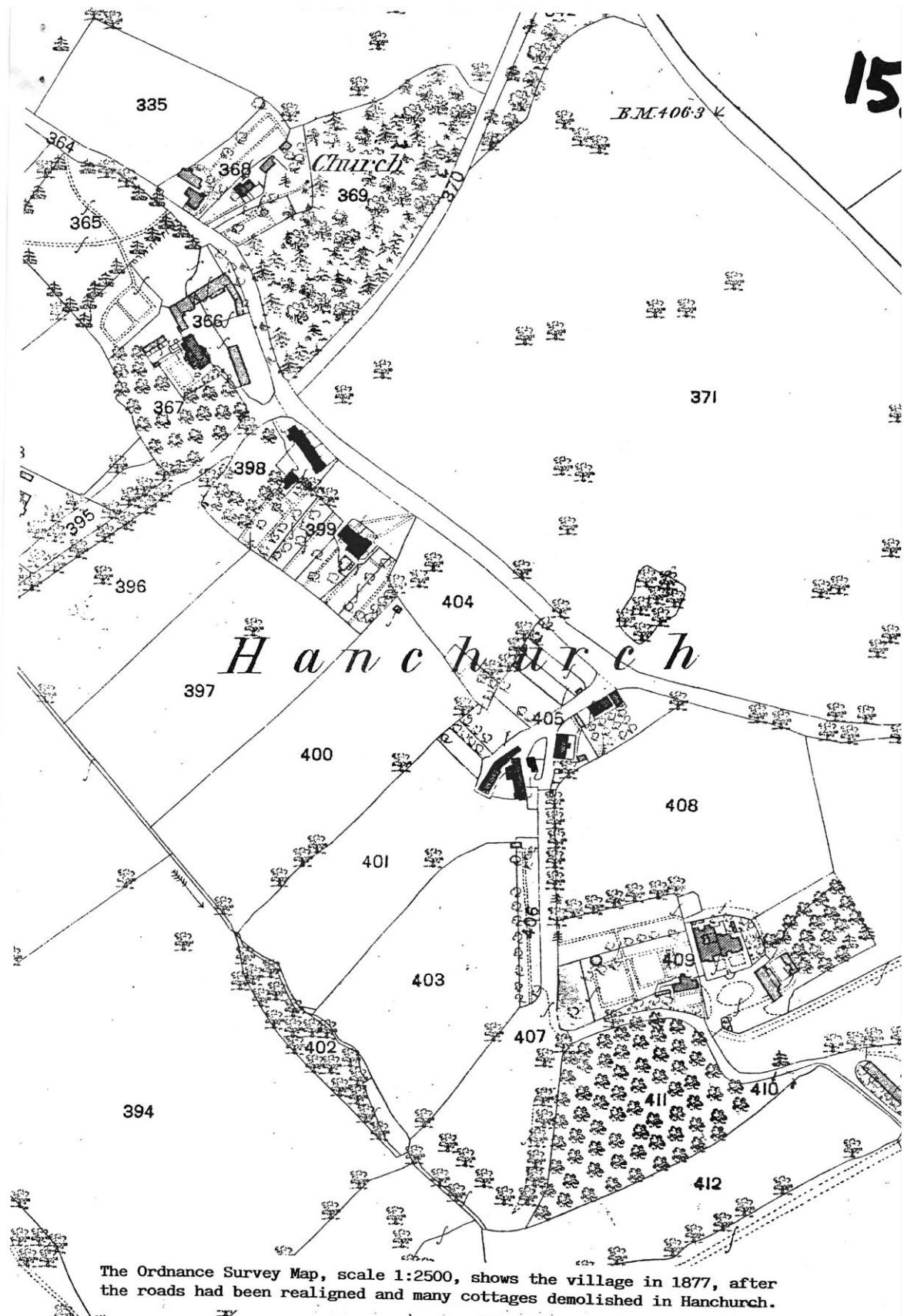
This is catalogued in the Sutherland Collection in Staffordshire Record Office as "Plan of Mr James Kirkby's 'Late Miss Johnsons' Cottage, Hanchurch" and can be found under ref: D593/H/12/2/163/3.

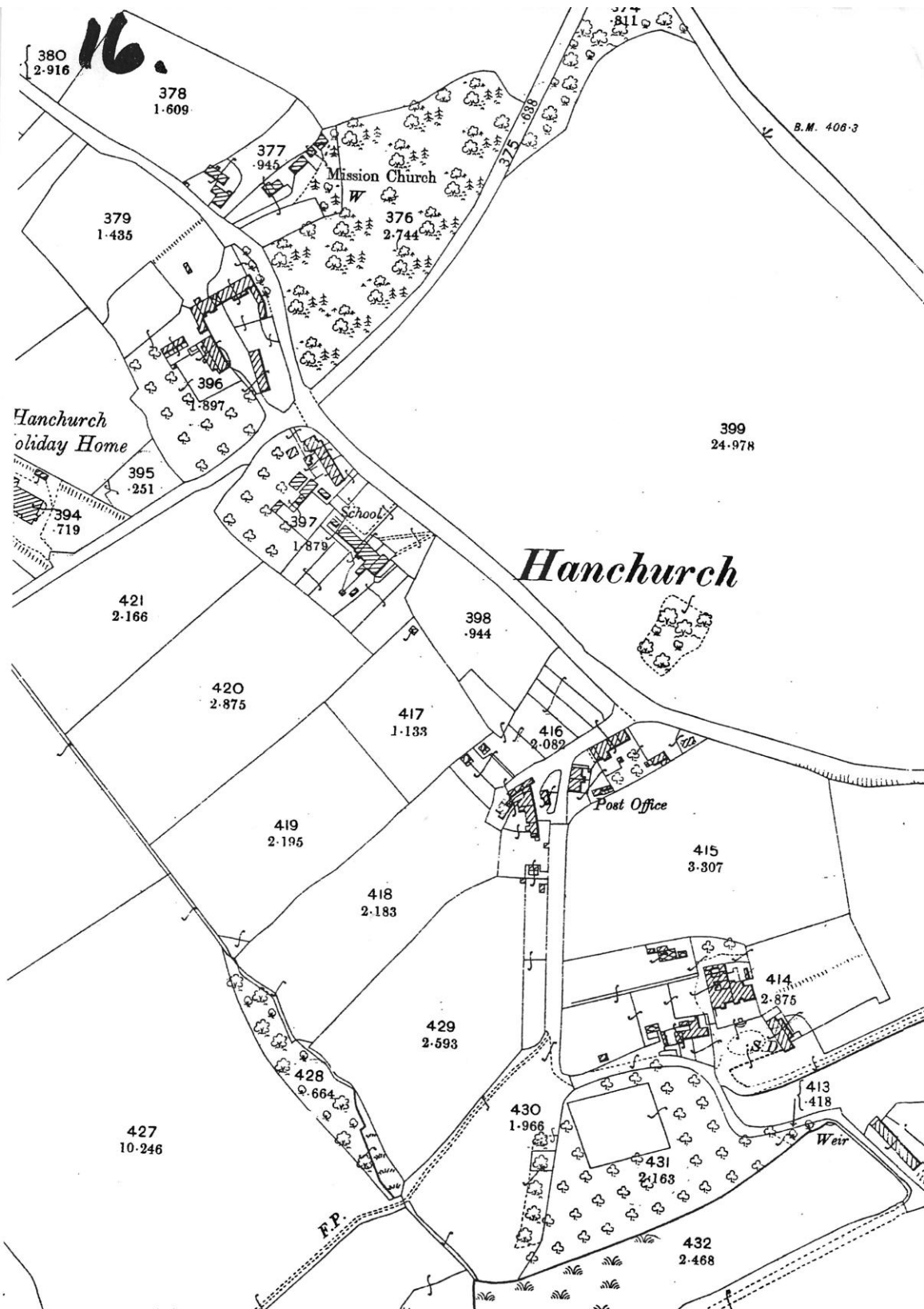
This building is now Ivy House, or School House, a cross wing added in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century to the adjacent house on the left, a late medieval timber frame house of cruck construction, now called Mayfield Farm or Cottage. In 1919 both buildings were still thatched. (See auction particulars page 20). The thatch was replaced with tiles later in the twentieth century. The two houses are grade II listed buildings.



Ground plan







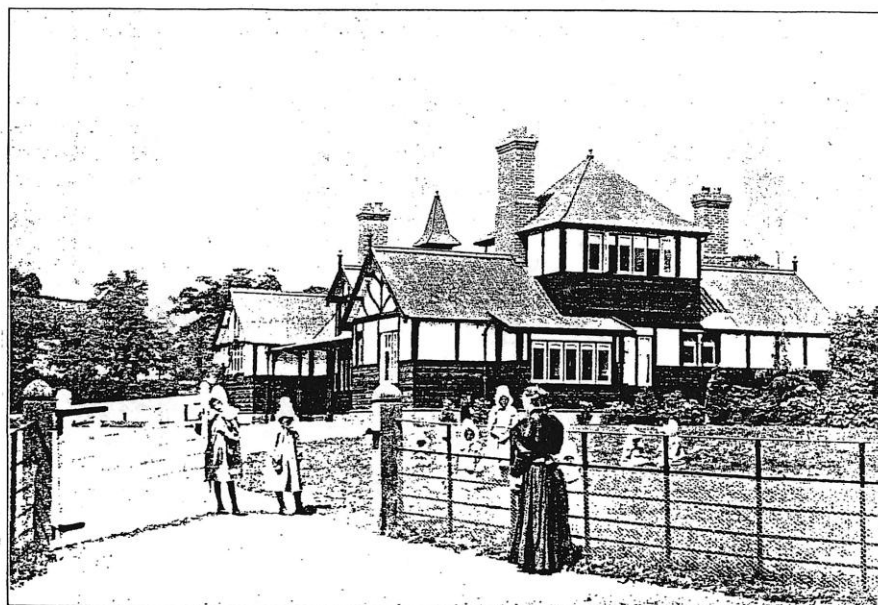
1899 Ordnance Survey Map, scale 1:2500. The school mentioned on the previous page is marked on the map.

# HANCHURCH HOLIDAY HOME

In 1897, Millicent, Duchess of Sutherland, conceived the idea of establishing a holiday home for poor children on the Trentham estate. The Duke met the cost of building a house and paying the matron's salary. Local pottery manufacturers were also persuaded to contribute to the initial cost. The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland officially opened the home in January 1898. A contemporary account records that "it has been erected by Messrs Boulton and Paul of Norwich, and furnished by the well-known firm of Messrs Edwards and Son, of Newcastle. The exterior is on the model of an American villa with verandah, and everything presents an appearance of the greatest neatness and cleanliness, with a full measure of light and air. Day and dining rooms, matron's rooms, dormitories, bathroom, kitchen, larders, &c., are all well arranged." The home had 16 beds and provided a fortnight's summer holiday for boys from four to twelve years of age, and girls from four to fourteen years of age. The costs of running the establishment were raised by local committees established in each Pottery town and Newcastle-under-Lyme. At the time of opening the home was in the charge of Sister Elsie and there were ten children - all girls - in residence, two from Longton, two from Fenton, two from Burslem, two from Stoke and one from Wolstanton. There was no mixing of the sexes, with the girls and boys coming in turn. The rules stipulated that "every child must come clean, and have a doctor's certificate of freedom from any trace of infectious disease or any affection requiring surgical treatment; and have been vaccinated."

In 1911 a new wing was opened containing 16 beds which were devoted to crippled children, the other great cause promoted by the Duchess of Sutherland. In 1919 the home, like the other buildings in Hanchurch, was put up for sale and bought by Stoke-on-Trent Council which opened it as a school for "delicate boys and girls" under the title of Hanchurch Open-Air School. Following the reorganisation of local government in 1974 the building was taken over by Staffordshire County Council which closed the school in 1985. The building is now occupied by United Christian Broadcasters who have extended the premises and laid out a new garden around the building.

The photograph below shows the home in 1899 shortly after it was opened.

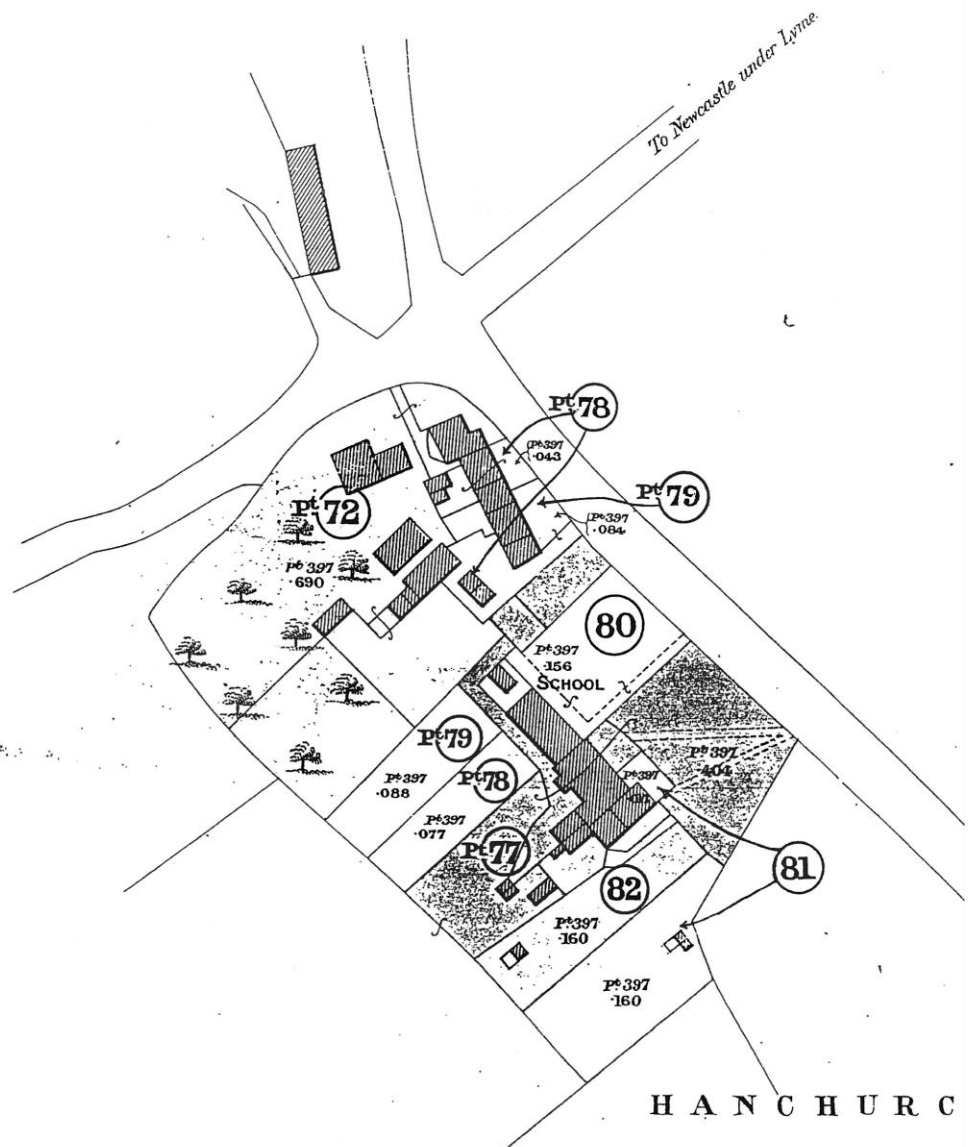


THE HANCHURCH HOLIDAY HOME.

18.

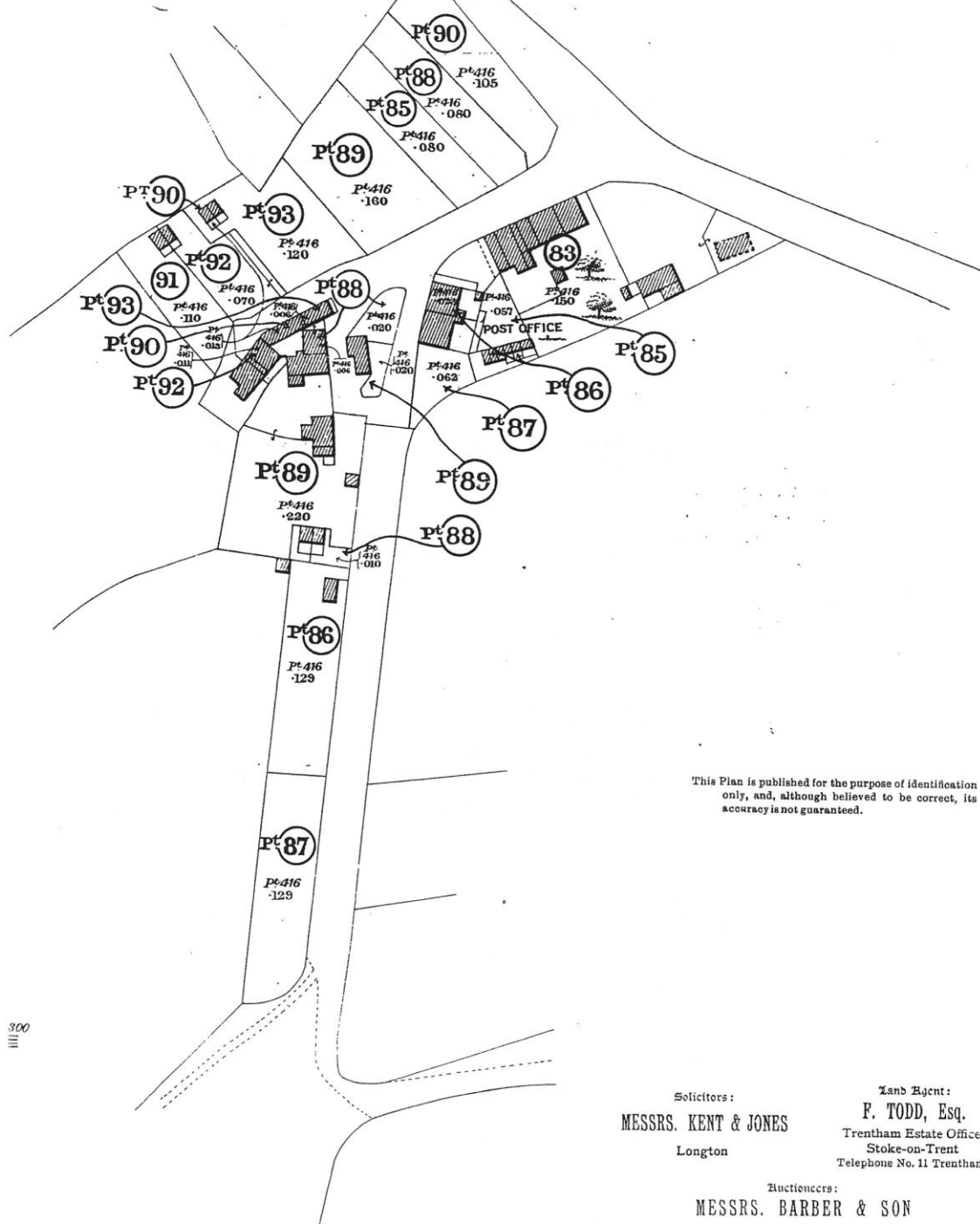
# THE SALE OF THE TRENTHAM HALL ESTATE

In 1905 the Leveson-Gower family abandoned Trentham Hall and the house was demolished in 1911-12. The first major sale of their land took place in 1914. The outbreak of the First World War halted the disposal of their property and the rest and greater part of the estate was offered for sale at the Kings Hall in Stoke-on-Trent in 1919. This sale included the houses in Hanchurch village and most of the surrounding farm land. Hanchurch Manor, the home of the Duke's agent, was not included in this auction. Some of the auction particulars for houses in Hanchurch village are reproduced on the last page and the accompanying map below and on the next page. After 350 years the Trentham Estate had ceased to exist and Hanchurch was no longer a "closed" village.



19.

# HANCHURCH



This Plan is published for the purpose of identification only, and, although believed to be correct, its accuracy is not guaranteed.

Solicitors:  
MESSRS. KENT & JONES  
Longton

Land Agent:  
F. TODD, Esq.  
Trentham Estate Office,  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Telephone No. 11 Trentham.

Auctioneers:  
MESSRS. BARBER & SON  
Wellington, Salop

20.

EXTRACT FROM THE AUCTION PARTICULARS, 1919

**LOT 80.**

A roomy structure—Brick-built and Tiled—fitted for use as a

**LAUNDRY**

and having Drying Ground attached.

The accommodation consists of Laundry, Coal House and Two E.C.'s.

The Premises are attached to the Hanchurch Village Private Water Supply.

*Tenants* :—IN HAND.

**Present Annual Rental Nil.**

**LOT 81.**

A roomy and picturesque

**Cottage with Garden**

situate in the centre of Hanchurch Village and having extensive and very pleasant views.

THE COTTAGE—Brick-built, Tiled and Thatched—has Porch and contains Living Room, Pantry, Two Bedrooms Pig Sty and E.C.

Good Garden.

The Cottage is connected with the Hanchurch Village Private Water Supply.

This lot is sold with the benefit of its reservation to the existing occupier—Mrs. Harriet Sheldon, for the remainder of her lifetime, she paying the same rent as heretofore.

**Present Yearly Rental £2 0s. 0d.**

**LOT 82.**

Another roomy and comfortable

**Cottage with Garden**

situate immediately adjacent to that previously described.

THE COTTAGE—Brick-built, Tiled and Thatched—contains Living Room, Back Kitchen, Pantry and three Bedrooms.

Pig Sty and E.C.

Good Garden.

The Cottage is connected with the Hanchurch Village Private Water Supply.

*Tenant* :—MR. THOMAS HUGHES.

**Present Yearly Rental £4 0s. 0d.**