

HISTORY PROJECT

MARK BARDER

THE HISTORY OF "CALLOW". A HEREFORDSHIRE
VILLAGE.

This is something very special: a history of Callow written as a school project by Mark Barber. It is undated but is probably from the mid-1980s. Mark was born in 1971, and his family lived with his mother's Evans family at no. 3 Hillcrest. He went to Herefordshire College of Technology, and then graduated from the University of Glamorgan with a first class honours degree in building and construction, and moved to St Albans, where he married and had two children.

Mark then died, tragically young, of kidney-related illness, aged only 33, in 2004, and he is buried in the churchyard here in Callow. His mother Christine showed Jan Nash Mark's project and she recognised its importance as an eye-witness account of Callow and its history. She kindly showed it to me and in 2023 Mark's mother very kindly allowed me to make this scanned copy of it, so that it could be read and enjoyed on the Callow Parish Hall website. Hopefully, it will also inspire other young people out there to make a similar record, which will be similarly treasured for many years.

Mark wrote about the village's history, and made a very job of it, and he also recorded what older people told him and what he could see for himself, so, through his words and photographs, we can see and hear what Callow was like in the mid-1980s. (AA., 2023)

MARK DARDER

HISTORY PROJECT

THE HISTORY OF CALLOW A HEREFORDSHIRE
VILLAGE

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Introduction

This project is based on a rural village in Herefordshire. Its name is Callow. The people and the buildings which are involved in the village. Its main objective is to make people outside the village learn about Callow. This project is based on 1700 onwards but some dates refer to before 1700. I thank all the people who enabled me to write this project. And I hope whoever reads this project enjoys it.

CHAPTER ONE

Information About Callow

Information about Callow

The position

The village of Callow lies to the west of the main road leading from Hereford to Ross-on-Wye the A49 and is just four and a half miles from the Agricultural and Educational centre of Hereford. Many people from Hereford know it because it used to be an extremely steep hill but now it is a two up one down busy main road.

A photograph of the road as it used to look



LRB

the building at the end of the road is now a privately owned home but then was "the local" pub called the Angel. It was very popular with the people from the Callow.

The surroundings of Callow

lying to the west the vast hilly areas of Wales

and the border at the nearest point just twelve miles away. Callow lies in a green belt area consisting of heavy woodland and hills and is typical of Herefordshire countryside.

The Antiquity of the Area

Looking towards the East from Callow you will see Dinedor Hill "Swift" and if you look towards the South East is Aconbury Hill "903 ft". Both of these are ancient British camps eg. a military stronghold.

The church of St Mary's Callow stands on an ancient site. The font has dates dating back into 600 AD or thereabouts. Like many other areas in England in the 1500's and onwards the area of Callow was owned by A Dr Wegg Prosser, he was the main landowner in the area of Callow. Also the parson owned some land and he lived at Farmore which is later in the text. After the Doctor died he split his estate between his two sons, Major John Wegg Prosser and Captain Charles Wegg Prosser. Many of the buildings in Callow belonged to the Prossers and have been rented off them for many years.

The Origins of the Words or Names of Callow and Dewesall

Firstly Callow, The church's original building was dedicated to St Michael and the church was once called Llanmichegal Cil Luch and it was identified in parish registers and various other religious notes. The word Callow was first referred to in the Book of Llandaff written in 1132. This was the first reliable information

about Callow and was called in the Book *Llanfithangel* Caluch, shortly after it was abbreviated again to *Llanalcuch* and after a few years simply *Caluch*. These references place the parish in the Deanery of Archenfield which records a tradition which places the founding of the church in Callow at the beginning of the 6th century AD.

Dewsall

Dewsall probably started off as *ffynon dewi* which means David's well which eventually became to be known as Dewsall. This is because the original site was constructed on or near to the site of some springs of running water. The area was in fact reserved for the worship of the spirits of wells and streams.

CHAPTER TWO

Callow Proper

Callow proper

Callow proper is shown on the Ordnance Survey map as the area enclosed by the circle. Like most villages Callow was built because of and around the church; at the higher end of the village. The buildings which are built here are the church itself, the old school (now the parish hall) the school house (where the teacher stayed) and Callow house or farm. This was once a travelling inn. All these houses are grouped in a bunch.

The Church

The church is dedicated to a saint like all Christian churches, Callow to "St Mary". The church was built on an ancient site believed to be 600 A.D. - the actual date given to the age of the font. The church has been altered severely but it did survive the destruction of the civil war in which many churches were ransacked. There are a few records on the church but they are very patchy before the date 1573. Because the records were needed after the reformation of the church in the 16th century during Elizabethan rule. Registers of Births, marriages and Burials previous to 1813 are kept in the public records office Hereford. After the date 1813, the records are now kept at the parish office of St. Martins. The central church of the present grouping, or pastoral reorganization - similarly the visitors books, but these are always available.

The fabric

lately the fabric has been watched carefully

and has been the subject of much attention but the age and the weather have caused extensive damage.

The Stone Crosses.

Are placed on the apex of Both Nave and chancel, have both disintegrated in recent years. Talking to the treasurer of the church he says "the cost of modern day labour prohibits the restoration of the pieces".

Rebuilding and Enlarging.

It was certainly rebuilt and enlarged in 1837. The grave of the Rector who was largely responsible for the development was found recently under the old yew tree on the north side. The Reverend Bichendon died 1838.

The church is of the classical period 1600-1830 built either by trading gentry or rich farmers. There was a priest's vestry added in the late 19th century and the door giving easy access to the nave, installed in 1967. It was proposed by the church warden.

The organ.

The organ was built by a Sheffield organ builder firm and was installed in 1887. It has been described as probably the best county organ for a church in the area of Herefordshire.

Yet in the year of 1920 it was literally rebuilt at the cost of £3250. It was expensive to repair. But it was worth it. Yet before 1959 when an electric motor was installed the organ was manually pumped by boys.

St. Mary's Callow

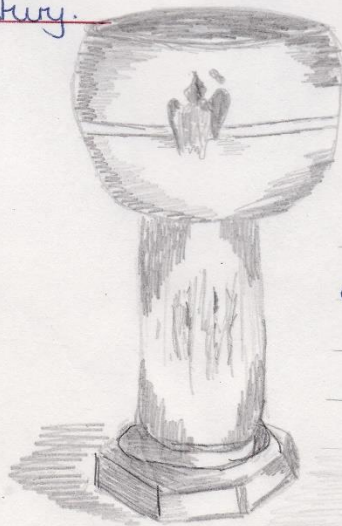


LRC

Callow font constructed

in the 13th century.

LRD



Surprisingly the font is claimed by some people to be pre-Christian religion. According to this view when people from the area became christian they carved the font from a mysterious stone. Other people think it was constructed during christianity, because the marks indicate that

it was carved from a stone cross.

and nearly all of these carved their initials in the piece of wood at the back of the organ. Quite a few of my relatives have installed carvings in the piece of wood.

The Windows.

These were installed in 1894 and were given to the church by the priest in charge in the 1800's. In remembrance of his children who died in infancy.

The figures depict bible characters, Christ on the cross (the large east window) this is said to be the most natural (human like) picture of Christ in the church of England. Also there is a picture of Christ receiving the children; holding the symbols of the sacrament e.g. the grapes (the wines) and also the corn (the bread).

A photograph of the windows.



LRE

The Vestry

was built on at the west end in the late 19th century. After the organ had been installed in the original vestry in the North side of the church.

However until 1967! the clergy and the choir had an indirect route to the Nave, around the church

But in the year 1967 the church saw the church warden have a door installed giving a direct easy access route to the nave, now the door is just taken for granted!

The Village School

was built in the Victorian era. It is made of brick and stone, it was firstly owned by the church but they sold it to the village for a hundred pounds. Before world war one education cost money, it cost twopence "tuppence" each week. Many of the village occupants still remember their school days. My mother and her sister and brother also went to the school before they went to secondary education at was that time "Grafton" school. It is now called Haywood Lower school.

Two of the former teachers at the village school still live in the village. Mrs May Brown lived at the forge and then the shop. Mrs E Lloyd worked at the school before it closed in 1953 her monthly payment for teaching was £14. Mrs Lloyd now lives at the school house next to the village school.

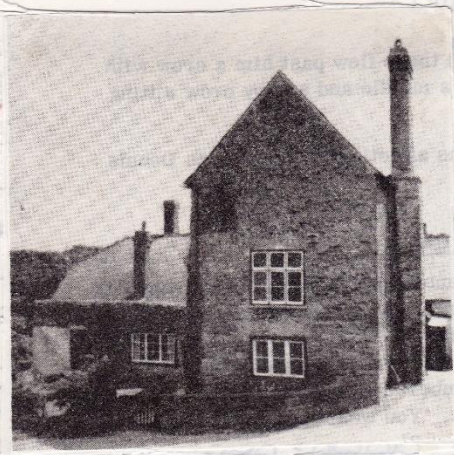
For the last thirty years or so it has been used as the parish or village hall. It has been used for several organisations the WI (now 60 yrs old) and until recently a local playgroup. There were not sufficient children to run it properly. The parochial church council

the pcc and other things. Sometimes the whole village meets here at a harvest supper. The working committee is responsible for the maintenance, cleaning and safety control of its use.

It has a well maintained interior and has a modern kitchen built on it. The kitchen is fully electrified with emergency lighting. Quite different from the heating system of an open grate. When classes would sit around the fire listening to the teacher. One fire still remains in the building.

When the village hall was used as a school it added a certain liveliness to the village and somebody said "when the school closed the village died". Well not quite but it was a great loss for the community.

Callow farm



Callow farm how it used to look.

This house was once the first coach house on the Gloucester - Abergawenny route. There are many mysterious stories about this building. One of the most notable characters who

occupied the farm in the last century was Daniel Dimory. A tablet can be seen in the church, saying Daniel Dimory was church warden for 57 years. Now the occupant of the same house who is also church warden unexpectedly discovered that

LRF

Daniel Dimoy is an ancestor of his.

A photograph of the house as it stands now.



W.B. Reverend
Bickendon died
1838 and his
grave was
recently dis-
covered under
his yew tree.

LRG

Callow farm as it stands now.

Ghost stories of Callow.

Callow farm (shown above) is at the centre of two of the following stories. It lies at the junction between Callow and Ross on Wye.

The ghost house.

The "ghost house" as it is locally known has been seen by several inhabitants of Callow. It stood on the left side of Callow Hill as you travel towards Ross. Supposedly murdered coach travellers were dumped at this house over night. It has long since been knocked down. But a few people have seen it when travelling up Callow Hill at Dusk.

The ghost of Callow farm.

In the earlier part of the century the people living at the house would see a figure of a little girl entering a certain bedroom in the house.

⑥

she always looked distressed, she was dressed in blue and always had a slipper missing. The slipper obviously accounting for the distress.

About 1920 when the buildings were needing structural alterations the wall of the Bedroom in which she was seen was demolished. Behind the wall they found a small powder chest and inside was a little blue slipper.

The Huntsmen Legend.

The legend of the huntsmen is well known in Callow especially by the older inhabitants. The huntsmen lived in a large house along tram inn road. Tram inn road leads to a T-junction which leads to several other rural villages.

The huntsmen's house which did belong to Ray for a local farmer, who had to knock it down for structural reasons.



LRH

Anyway all his hounds loved him like any dogs to their owner. One night mysteriously though the

dogs were somehow disturbed. And the huntsmen went out to see what was wrong but without wearing his red coat. As he entered the dog kennels. He was never seen again. He was eaten alive by the hounds all that remained was just a few rags.

His body was supposedly buried at St Mary's church Callow. Soon it was to be realized that it was not a legend. One day my grandfather's brother Roy Evans was going to school when he noticed that a grave in the churchyard was caving in. Being a child he was intrigued and from then on he noticed the grave gradually collapsing. And when it had totally collapsed he looked into the hole and there lay a huntsmen's red coat and a huntsmen's horn on top of it. He said to me "I used to throw stones at it to hear the ring as the stone hit it" well one day he climbed into the grave to get the horn but somebody stopped him. There still remains a neatly folded red coat or suit and a "huntsmen's horn".

CHAPTER THREE

The Villages Lower End

The lower end of the Village.

this part of the village is known as Haywood certainly for rating purposes. eg the application of rates.

Dewasall lodge.

lies on a steep bend off the hill that connects Callow proper or the top of the hill and Hillcrest (lower end). It is affectionately known to the "little round house" to those in the village. It was built by a Mr Wade who built the Hereford prison. He was supposed to build it as a joke for some reason. It was built in 1573, 15 yrs before the Armada! And then it was used as a shooting lodge the several occupiers have lasted 414 years the present being a milkman.

A Black and white photograph.



taken in 1964
The samuels
who owned it
were in Egypt
on holiday
at the time.

Hillcrest

Hillcrest is undoubtedly the main feature of Haywood. They are a row of red bricked semi-detached houses standing in three lots. There are quite big dwellings with large gardens. No. six is just opposite the now closed shop and post office.

They were built in the 1920's and were originally known as "Agricultural cottages". One of the present occupants Harold Evans (my grandfather) moved there as a child when they were first built. In fact when they moved there they were quite a large family as were most at the time.

An Article from a local Newspaper shows them As a family.



L.R.J

The Article depicts several of the sons, each one of them is a relative. The most well travelled is Roy Evans shown here as a petty officer. He joined the Navy without even seeing the sea. He survived many disasters and was actually one of the crew who rendezvoused with the American ship carrying President Roosevelt, he himself host to Winston Churchill on the Prince of Wales. This meeting probably altered the History of the world.

He is now writing an autobiography and it will be published not so far in the future.

Hillcrest is appropriately named being a "hill crest" in Callow.

DA

8

A photograph showing a view which can be seen from Hill crest:



The view being Acornbury hill. 1003' ft, the Oak trees on top were planted in 1835.

The forge

The forge was built in the 1500's and was owned by Dr Wegg Prosser, the main land owner in the area at that time. In fact the building was rented from the Prossers until 1946.

In the 1700's a family named Portleus lived at the forge and one of their daughters married a young blacksmith named Symonds, these lived at the forge. Then Wilcox lived at the forge and finally Howells lived there, ancestors still occupying the premises. And in 1946 the year the rent stopped they converted the forge into a general shop and it was the year 1964 the post office became an additional part to the building.

The forge was then the centre of the village and information about the village could be read off a board attached to an ash tree outside the forge. Parish meetings were held at Haywood farm three people always attended these meetings. Mr

Howell's the owner of the forge. Mr for the owner of Haywood farm and Mrs Hopkins who owned the house next to St Mary's church.

The position of the forge.

The forge is placed at the junction between Knockerhill and the road leading to Belmont and Abergawenny and Hillcrest, Dewisall, and Callow "proper".

The Howell's family..

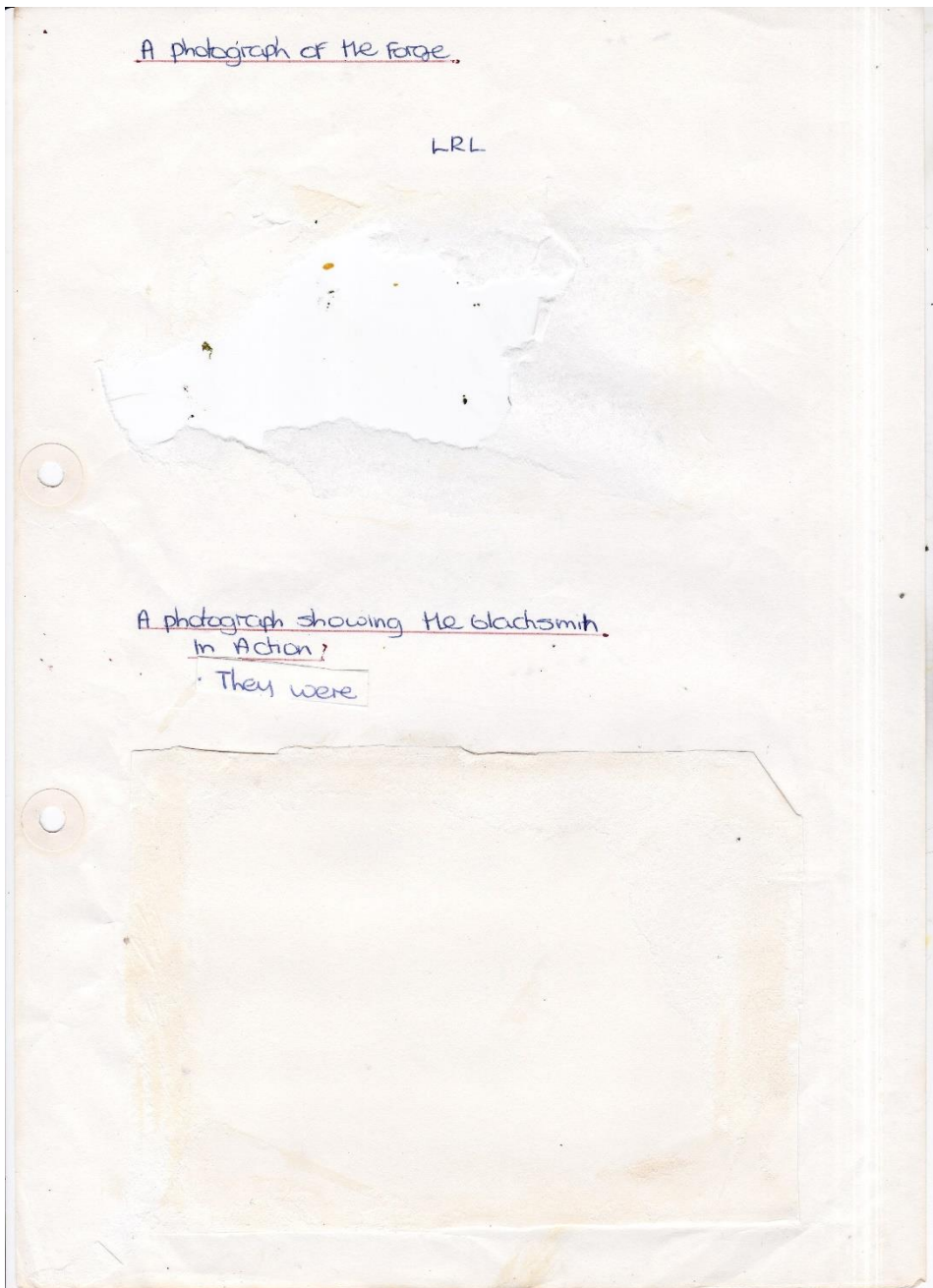
The Howell's family have been blacksmiths for several generations and have occupied the present site for over 400 years.

The Best remembered blacksmith was undoubtedly Frank Howell's, he was born in 1903 and died in 1977. I can barely remember him being only six when he passed on. He was taught the skills by his father Richard Howell's. ^{They} These were very skilled craftsmen for many years. An example of their skill can be seen in St Mary's church for they forged all the fittings required e.g the work which supported the pews and hinges for the various doors in the church. Obviously shoeing was their main trade and one of the older inhabitants of the village remembers "after shoeing a horse they would quickly smack it on the rump and watch it walk home on itself".

Many of the occupants in the village seemed to know that a horse regularly shod by the Howell's was killed on the Titanic.

The age of the "Smithy" dies..

Because transportation was changing from horse to motor car the smithy was unfortunately



Nb Mark's mother told me that the photographs on this page had been borrowed for the project, and had to be taken out and given back afterwards – AA 2023

was closed in 1950.

The shop and post office

In the same year 1950 the shop was built and the post office was added in 1964. The shop served the nearby community with groceries and because many of the inhabitants were getting older. The post office was used as a pension obtaining place. The manual skills of the "smithy" had gone and had made Frank howell's unemployed. Yet he regained Employment by serving the community with provisions. His sisters (twins) helped him Daisy Howell's then, now Daisy powell helped in the post office. And violet Howell's helped Frank in the shop.

They took over in 1977 when Frank died. And eventually violet and Daisy also became too old to handle the shop and after a life time working at a buisness they "shut shop" for the last time at the end of October 1985.



A photograph of me at the shop.

LRW

The photograph on the previous page shows me with Daisy Powell outside the shop. I was the last customer ever.

forge land:

land belonging to the forge includes acres of woodland, there were three woods altogether but two have gone.

The lane behind:

The lane leads to Belmont and its ancient abbey. It was a track which ran through the Royal forest and this one forest was the forest where King Charles I rode in a royal hunt.

The road linking the garage to the forge known now as the Tunocroft Hill. Was once called "Red Squirrel walk". Because it was dominated by Red squirrels.

In the land just behind the forge building you can see a cider mill once used to make traditional rural cider or scrumpy. Yet recently the Howell's family has handed their cider fruit to one of Herefordshire's leading drink manufacturers.



A picture showing the type of cider making apparatus in the Howell's land.

LRO

An Article from the Hereford Times about the
closure of the shop and post office.

The house mentioned in the article was
called 'The Forge' it belonged to Roy Lacy
and his family for present occupiers (Lacy family)
it was built in 17th century (17th century)

LRM

please turn over

... finally the door

... family has run a business at the Old Forge,



The Callow Post Office of village store which has been in the Howells family for the past 400 years.

... line since the 16th century and the current owners are Mrs May Brown and her twin sisters, Mrs Daisy Powell and Miss Violet Howells.

The building is virtually unchanged from the days when it was built as part of the Belmont Estate and it was bought by the present owners only 40 years ago.

Although only four miles from Hereford, the Old Forge stands on a crossroads in the middle of farmland, with scarcely a rooftop in sight.

So it has stood throughout four centuries of Herefordshire history and it must have witnessed many turbulent scenes during all those years.

But the final decades of the 20th century have produced an extra menace which the sisters are reluctant to face any longer.

The brother who converted the smithy into a general store was held up

... left home, although she married and has a son living in Macheater. Her twin, Miss Howells

By Jean Simon

... lived with an aunt in Holme Lacy for seven years after leaving school, but then she too returned to the Forge.

Mrs Brown moved to Hereford when she married and she has a daughter in Surrey, a son in New Zealand and a second son, Eric, who lives in Ross Road, Hereford.

She flew to New Zealand in 1983 to visit her son and his family and to meet her two great-grandchildren.

The Old Forge has always been a centre of activity and the sisters can recall the days of their childhood in the early part of the century.

Callow school is now

... the village hall and it was there earlier this month that the three sisters were presented with gifts from the parishioners at a harvest supper.

Mrs Powell is the gardener in the family and she was given a grass trimmer and coil; there was a Royal Worcester plate for her twin and a Worcester birds ornament for Mrs Brown.

They also received a cheque for £24 each, all given with the love and

... respect of their many friends in the village.

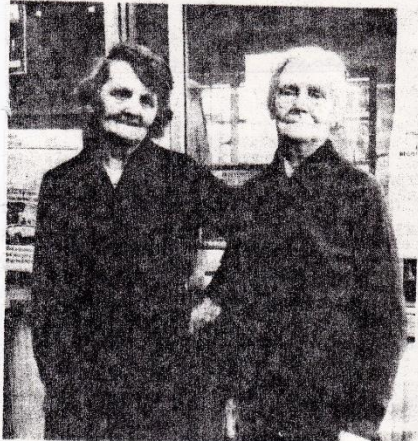
The sisters will continue to live at the Old Forge, but the shop door, which hardly ever closed, will now remain shut.

Neighbours will now have to travel to Kingsthorpe or Allensmore for their pensions and to Much Birch or Hereford for shopping.

The four centuries of occupation is coming to an end and the county's oldest established business is closing down.

An Article from the Hereford Times about the
closure of the shop and post office:

LRM



Mrs May Brown and Mrs Daisy Powell (right) who with their sister Violet Howells, are retiring after 21 years at Callow Post Office.

Old Forge finally closes the doors

FOR more than 400 years, the same family has run a business at Haywood.

Today when the last customer has been served, the doors will be bolted and the Old Forge will go out of business.

It was converted into a general store 36 years ago when the blacksmith became too frail to cope with manual work, and 15 years later, a post office was added to the shop.

The property has passed down the female line since the 16th century and the current owners are Mrs May Brown and her twin sisters, Mrs Daisy Powell and Miss Violet Howells.

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But the final decades of the 20th century have produced an extra menace which the sisters are reluctant to face any longer.

The brother who converted the smithy into a general store was held up

by a man with a gun seven years ago and there have been three further attacks and an attempted break-in since then.

Mrs Brown is now 80 and the twins are 76, so they feel it is time to close down the business.

They are the only survivors of the eight children born to the blacksmith and his wife at the Old Forge.

Mrs Powell has never left home, although she married and has a son living in Manchester.

Her twin, Miss Howells

**By Jean
Simon**

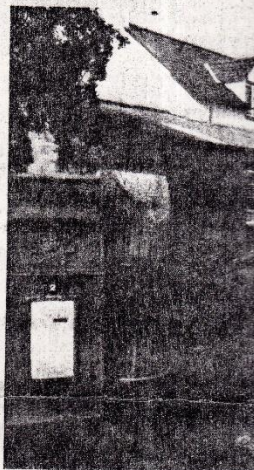
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Callow school is now



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the village hall and it was there earlier this month, that the three sisters were presented with gifts from the parishioners at a harvest supper.

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Extra Information:

The horse mentioned in the large part was called "Bonnie" it belonged to Ray far's grandfather (Ray far present occupant of Callow farm) it was chestnut in colour, 16 hands high, (64 inches) and was a suffolk punch or Draft horse. It was sold to an American and died on the Titanic in 1912.

Foerst Gate

The house named forest Gate lies on the lane leading to Belmont. It is an extremely well built house with spacious gardens, and lies opposite Howell's woodland. It was built in the early 1900s. It has a familiar look. Its name forest gate is apt due to where it stands now. Here used to be a Royal forest full of Royal game.

The historical point is in the reign of King Charles 1st many of his friends and himself had hunted in this forest. The present occupant has lived here for at least 34 years. Miss Tattershall has lived here since she moved here from Hereford. She has been very popular and well known in the community.



Two photographs showing forest gate.

LRP

This photograph showing the tram inn road - Belmont junction.



CHAPTER FOUR

The Hamlet Of Dewsall

Farmore hall

Farmore hall was originally the old rectory for the parson of Dewesall church. It was up for sale when the rector was no longer needed, do not worry! The rector was quite wealthy. He was paid £400 an annum which was sufficient to hire gardeners, cooks, kitchen staff and a coachman. After the parson had gone the property was bought by a Mr Holt who was the owner of the Blue Funnel shipping establishment. The firm was based at Liverpool. Apparently it was named Farmore because Mr Holt paid "far more" than it was worth.

There is a tablet in Dewesall church in memory of Mr Holt and his wife. Before Mrs Holt died she had done a lot of work towards the church and the orphans society. The present owners are Mr and Mrs Champion. Mrs Champion was Mr Holt's daughter. In the garden adjacent to the building resides two peculiar objects. One is a bell, taken off one of the Blue Funnel shipping lines original vessels. The other item is a wooden object which can best be described as a "totum pole" was brought back by Mr Champion when he was abroad. He obtained it from a witch Doctor who is now serving 20 years imprisonment for murder. A metal flag stands upon the chimney which has the initials of Mr Holt upon it.

The building was originally an oblong shape but because of large expenditure it has made the house into a large desirable house.

The Dame school

once stood on the Dewesall road just below Farmore hall. In the late 1800's and the early 1900's children in the village were able for the first time to

⑩
receive an education. Mrs May Brown says "we were given a slate and pencil to try to form letters and numbers. But before we had a slate we had a tray of sand and a sharp stick. All a child had to do was shake the tray and start all over again." She also explained that the discipline was strict, "each morning children had to get into line, if you were early you had a red mark if you were late you had a black mark if you were more than two minutes late you were marked absent but never sent home. It cost a penny a week for education.

The Ark



shown here in a picture. was originally an "ale house" because Dewsall ^{road} was a fairly busy road at one time. It was built in the 17th century and also sold drink made at Monkham.

Dewsall church

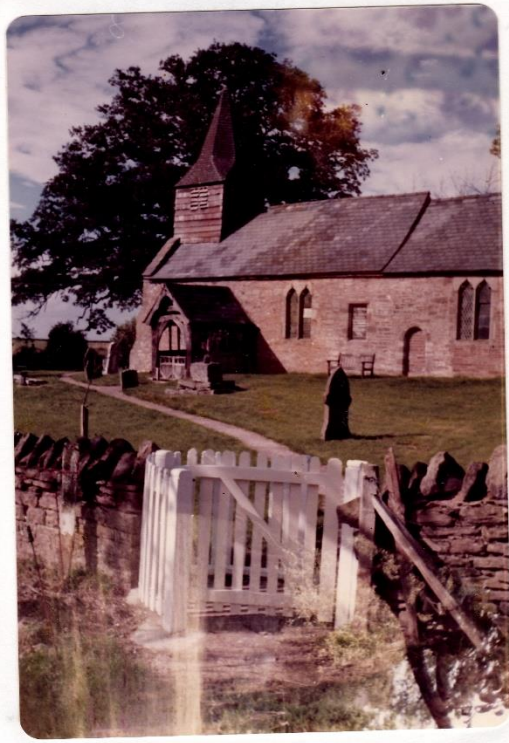
is dedicated to St Michael and All Angels. It was originally the private worshipping place of the squire or Baron of Dewsall Court. There is evidence of a moat which surrounded the area enclosing Dewsall Court and church. Inside the church there is a board listing

A picture of
Dewsall South
Dorch
constructed
from 14th
century pews



LRQ

A photograph of Dewsall church.



(2)

all the priests and rectors. The first recorded of these are the two saxon names of Hedlin and seflin and the date 1067 one year after the norman conquest.

A photograph showing the pulpit in Dewsal church.



LRR

Monkhall

The name of the building refers to that before 1100 A.D. the building was a monastery. There is supposed to be a tunnel between Monkhall and Dewsal court. The entrance was located in the kitchen of Monkhall and before it was blocked off for safety reasons you could crawl along the tunnel a certain distance. The monks were meant to build the tunnel so they could escape when non-believers attacked the monastery.

and the monks:

A photograph of manthall:

LRS

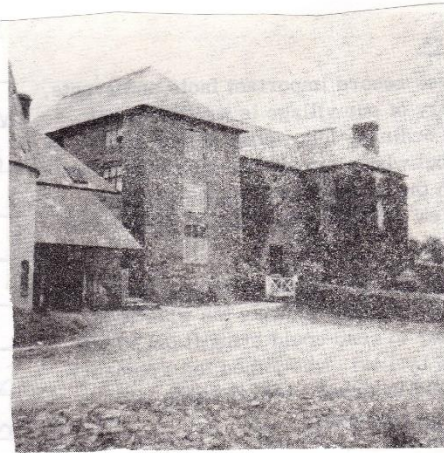


Dewsalt Court

Until 1967 had been used as a farmhouse and for 17yrs had been left derelict, empty and vacant until recently it had been bought and the fabric repaired.

Dewsalt court
as it was, empty
and decaying.

LRT



(13)

A photograph
of Dewsall
Court as it
stands now.



LRT

The most important point about Dewsall court is that it is recorded in William the conquerors survey of peoples belongings the tax book or more commonly known as the "Domesday Book of 1084 making Dewsall Court over 900 yrs old.

The building below is a "listed" building,

LRT



meaning it cannot be pulled down because of its antiquity. it lies in the grounds of Dewsall court.

①
This building is like the other, registered of historical importance.

LRT



LRT

is that it is included in William the Conqueror's survey of English holdings: the tax book or more commonly known as the "Domesday Book" of 1086 making it one of the oldest documents in the world.

The building below is a listed building meaning it cannot be pulled down because of its architectural interest. It lies in the grounds of the person's court.

LRT

CHAPTER FIVE

Life In Callow Through The
Ages

Life in Callow through The Ages

Like many other villages Callow probably started by building buildings e.g houses around the church thus starting a little community. Callow started off as an Agricultural settlement. Through the 1700 and 1800's there is no records or person available to explain the life.

But from 1900 there are people available to speak to. These people said there were no roads just grass cut outs and there were also "triangles of grass where the roads met".

The Blacksmith shop was obviously the place where everybody met and talked to each other. Especially the young men, they drank cider out of barrels from the orchards of the people who lived in the area, most of these men were farm labours. These were working for the farmers in the summer to relieve the excess load. The farmer placed a Barrel of cider in the corner and they drank this "scrumpy" to quench their thirst. Often by night they were quite drunk. In the 1700's the whole area was owned by a wealthy land owner or gentry called Patherus but gradually the land was bought of him.

In Hereford Traditionally Wednesday is livestock market day and All the farmers in the area would meet on the corner outside

The Blacksmith. Then they would all travel 3-4 miles into Hereford.

Like many other villages, Callow became a very close community. And there used to be quite a few children playing around about the village and there used to be various clubs

around one of these is "Callow Rat club". This was just a group of children armed with sticks and a faithful terrier. Here shown in a photograph in the early 1900's.



LRU

Machines come to Callow

At the turn of the century, the only means of transport was the horse and cart. The arrival of the first bus in Callow in 1919 was not welcomed by all and Mrs Addis one of Callow's residence is no longer living in the village was remembered by many of the inhabitants because she tried to persuade them not to travel on the bus "You would go with that nasty smelly thing would you" was heard many times at the corner where the bus stopped.

But agriculture benefitted mostly ^{from} machines about 1910 all they used was horses for pulling ploughs etc. The first person to get a mechanical farming instrument was Mr Read, he lived at Haywood lodge and the machine was

15

a 12-furrowed plough with two traction steam engines one each end of the field, strong wire ran from a plough to a spindle on each engine. one engine unwound the wire while the other wound it, thus pulling the plough up and down the field.

The first tractor was bought by Mr Lilwall of Callow farm in 1920 and these were the machines that revolutionized farming in the area until the present day. They took over all primitive farming methods. The only machine now that is of more use especially at harvest is the combine harvester but before the combine was the mechanical reaper. But before that the farmers cut it and the woman used to make them into stacks by standing them head up in sixes.

Since then Callow has come along with technology as well as any other agricultural dwelling. Callow is now a country dwelling inside the "green belt" and is a place where people are privileged to live. especially those who adore the countryside. People cannot build houses here without a consent from the proper authorities. The only time people move out is when something drastic happens so houses for sale are hard to come by in this rural village.

Conclusion to the project.

While doing the project especially when I was finding information. I found many interesting things I did not know about the Callow. I expect there are other villages around that have just as much history about them. I hope you enjoyed this account of the village of Callow.