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Front cover: Saint Chad, by Christopher Whall. England, early 20th century © Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

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Studies in Regional and Local History

Series Editor: Professor Jane Whittle, Exeter

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"University of Hertfordshire Press is to be congratulated on publishing its series of Studies in Regional and Local History" – Dr Gillian Draper



Studies in Regional and Local History

Peasant Perspectives on the Medieval Landscape A study of three communities

Susan Kilby

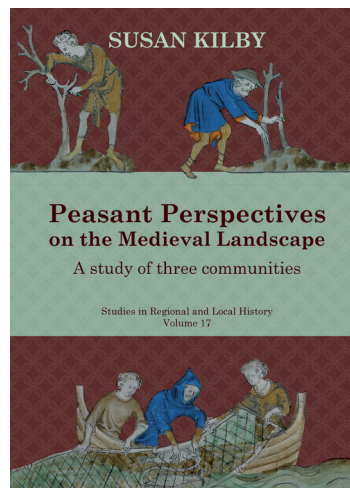
This compelling new study forms part of a new wave of scholarship on the medieval rural environment in which the focus moves beyond purely socio-economic concerns to incorporate the lived experience of peasants.

For too long, the principal intellectual approach has been to consider both subject and evidence from a modern, rationalist perspective and to afford greater importance to the social elite. New perspectives are needed.

By re-evaluating the source material from the perspective of the peasant worldview, it is possible to build a far more detailed representation of rural peasant experience. Susan Kilby seeks to reconstruct the physical and socio-cultural environment of three contrasting English villages – Lakenheath in Suffolk, Castor in Northamptonshire and Elton in Huntingdonshire – between c.1086 and c.1348 and to use this as the basis for determining how peasants perceived their natural surroundings. In so doing she draws upon a vast array of sources including documents, material culture, place-names and family names, and the landscape itself. At the same time, she explores the approaches adopted by a wide variety of academic disciplines, including onomastics, anthropology, ethnography, landscape archaeology and historical geography.

This new approach augments our comprehension of subjects such as social status, peasant agency, peasants' economic experiences and the construction of communal and individual memory and enables us to reclaim significant elements of the environment inhabited and traversed by English people over 700 years ago.

Susan Kilby is a Research Fellow in the Institute for Name-Studies at the University of Nottingham and a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for English Local History at the University of Leicester. She is also the Hon. Secretary for the Medieval Settlement Research Group.



ISBN 978-1-912260-20-1

March 2020, 240pp

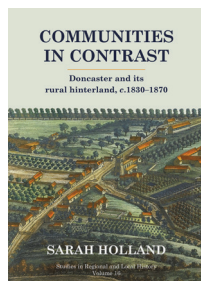
Hardback; £35/\$79.95

ISBN 978-1-912260-21-8

September 2020

Paperback; £18.99/\$37.95

PDF | ePub | Kindle



Communities in Contrast

Doncaster and its rural hinterland, c.1830–1870

Sarah Holland

ISBN 978-1-912260-12-6; Feb 2019; 160pp; Hardback £35/\$79.95

ISBN 978-1-912260-13-3; Sep 2019; 160pp; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

This book investigates what a case study of a northern market town and its rural hinterland can tell us about village differentiation, exploring how and why rural communities developed in what was chiefly an industrial region and, notably, how the relationship between town and

country influenced rural communities.

It looks at six villages close to Doncaster — Sprotbrough, Warmsworth, Rossington, Fishlake, Stainforth and Braithwell — chosen to represent the diversity of landownership and land type of the Doncaster district.

Communities in Contrast will appeal to all those interested in rural life and economy in the nineteenth century, the relationship between town and country, as well as the history of Yorkshire.

“[I]t is to be recommended as an excellent village study based in the under-researched north of England rather than the over-researched south” – Northern History

Forthcoming in Studies in Regional and Local History

People, Placenames and Pennines

Essays in history and landscape in memory of David Hey

Edited by R.W. Hoyle

March 2021

David Hey (1938–2016) was one of the leading local and regional historians of our age and the author of a succession of highly regarded books on the practice of local history. His work on surnames was pioneering and he was amongst the first to identify the potential of DNA in historical studies. He was also an active and popular figure in the world of local history generally.

In this collection of essays in David’s memory, friends and colleagues celebrate his commitment to the landscape, economy and society of south Yorkshire – especially Sheffield – and Derbyshire which together make up ‘Hey country’, the area in which he grew up and to which he returned to work.

Whilst intended to be a book that David himself would have enjoyed, this lively volume will be of interest to anyone who shares his curiosity for the people, economies and landscapes of ‘Hey country’ as well as local historians further afield who are interested in seeking out parallels to their own work.

Shaping the Past

Theme, Time and Place in Local History

Essays in honour of David Dymond

Edited by Evelyn Lord and Nicholas R. Amor

Dr David Dymond is one of Britain's most highly respected local historians. He is a Vice President of the British Association for Local History and of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, President of the Suffolk Records Society, and an honorary fellow of the University of East Anglia. The author of several valued books about the practice of local history, notably *Researching and Writing History*, his contribution to the study of local history generally, and in his adopted county of Suffolk in particular, has been immensely influential.

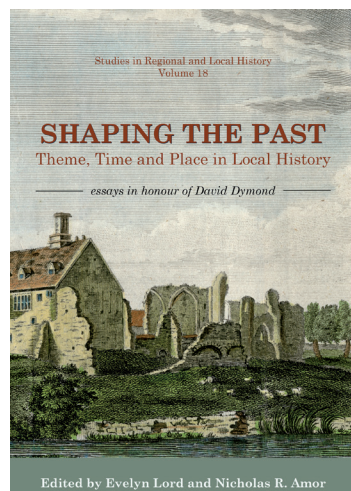
The essays in this Festschrift are offered as a token of esteem and affection by colleagues, friends and students of David. They consist of new research on aspects of local history from the medieval period to the twentieth century, with a particular focus on Eastern England. Taken together, they illustrate David's philosophy of local history (that it should be 'wide ranging, inclusive, integrating and interdisciplinary').

From papers exploring aspects of medieval religion, the contributors move on to medieval trade and industry in Norfolk, Suffolk and Lincolnshire. Two studies of the structures of local elites provide fresh insights into communities at later periods, while the final selection of essays consider fascinating and wide-ranging aspects of nineteenth- and twentieth-century commerce, society and culture.

The very varied contributions to this collection aptly reflect the breadth and depth of David Dymond's own scholarship whilst offering a rich choice of material to anyone with an interest in local history.

Evelyn Lord was the course director for the University of Cambridge's Master of Studies in Local History and tutor for local history at the University of Cambridge, Institute for Continuing Education. She is an Emeritus Fellow of Wolfson College, Cambridge.

Nicholas R. Amor is an honorary fellow of the University of East Anglia and the University of Suffolk and chairman of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.



ISBN 978-1-912260-22-5

Sep 2020

Hardback; £35/\$79.95

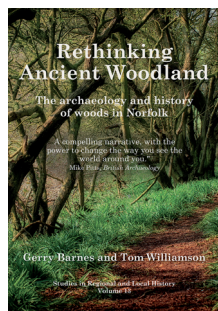
ISBN 978-1-912260-23-2

Jan 2021

Paperback; £18.99/\$37.95

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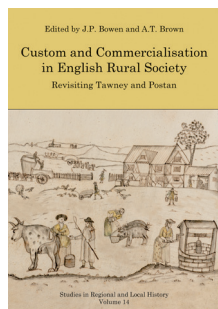
Rethinking Ancient Woodland: The archaeology and history of woods in Norfolk

Gerry Barnes and Tom Williamson

ISBN 978-1-909291-58-4; Jan 2016; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95 €

This important volume is essential reading for all those interested in the history of the English countryside, nature conservation and environmental history.

“A compelling narrative, with the power to change the way you see the world around you” – British Archaeology



Custom and Commercialisation in English Rural Society: Revisiting Tawney and Postan

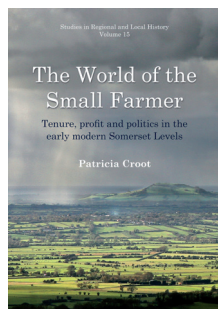
Edited by J.P. Bowen and A.T. Brown

ISBN 978-1-909291-44-7; Feb 2016; Hardback £35/\$79.95

ISBN 978-1-909291-45-4; Jun 2016; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95 €

This collection of essays reconsiders the role of custom in medieval and early-modern England by arguing that it often facilitated the commercialisation of rural society in this period rather than hindering it.

“In a real sense this book announces the arrival of a new generation of economic and agricultural historians” – Agricultural History Review



The World of the Small Farmer: Tenure, profit and politics in the early-modern Somerset Levels

Patricia Croot

ISBN 978-1-909291-86-7; May 2017; Hardback £35/\$79.95

ISBN 978-1-909291-87-4; Nov 2017; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95 €

This detailed and original study of early-modern agrarian society in the Somerset Levels examines the small landholders in a group of sixteen contiguous parishes in the area known as Brent Marsh.

“This is another valuable addition to a very fine series on regional and local history” – The Seventeenth Century Journal

Lichfield and the Lands of St Chad

Creating community in early medieval Mercia

Andrew Sargent

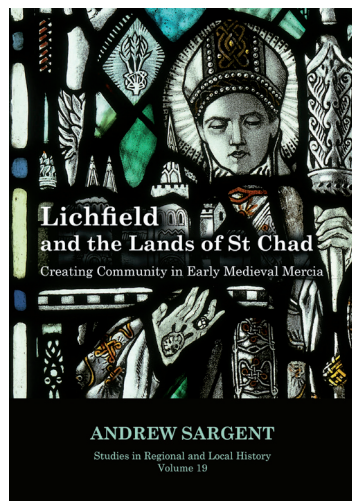
This book focuses on the period from the seventh to eleventh centuries that witnessed the rise and fall of Mercia, the great Midland kingdom, and, later, the formation of England. Specifically, it explores the relationship between the bishops of Lichfield and the multiple communities of their diocese.

Andrew Sargent tackles the challenge posed by the evidential ‘hole’ at the heart of Mercia by synthesising different kinds of evidence – archaeological, textual, topographical and toponymical – to reconstruct the landscapes inhabited by these communities, which intersected at cathedrals and minsters and other less formal meeting-places. Most such communities were engaged in the construction of hierarchies, and Sargent assigns spiritual lordship a dominant role in this.

How the bishops shaped and promoted spiritual discourse to establish their own authority within society is key. This is traced through the meagre textual sources, which hint at the bishops’ involvement in the wider flow of ecclesiastical politics in Britain, and through the archaeological and landscape evidence for churches and minsters held not only by bishops, but also by kings and aristocrats within the diocese. Saints’ cults offer a particularly effective medium through which to study these developments: St Chad, the Mercian bishop who established the see at Lichfield, became an influential spiritual patron for subsequent bishops of the diocese, but other lesser known saints also focused claims to spiritual authority on behalf of their own communities.

Ultimately, Sargent takes issue with the dominance of the ‘minster narrative’ in much recent scholarship, proposing that episcopal communities be recognised as far more proactive than is often credited, and that the notion of spiritual lordship offers a more effective way of framing the developments of the period, both ecclesiastical and lay.

Andrew Sargent lectures in Medieval History at Keele University and is Editor of the Staffordshire Victoria County History.



ISBN 978-1-912260-24-9

Date tbc

Hardback; £35/\$79.95

ISBN 978-1-912260-25-6

Jan 2021

Paperback; £18.99/\$37.95

PDF | ePub | Kindle; May 2020

Explorations in Local and Regional History

Series Editors: Dr Katrina Navickas, Hertfordshire and Dr Angela Muir, Leicester
Explorations in Local and Regional History is a continuation and development of the 'Occasional Papers' of the University of Leicester's Department of English Local History, a series started by Herbert Finberg in 1952.

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Princely Ambition: Ideology, castle-building and landscape in Gwynedd, 1194–1283

Craig Owen Jones

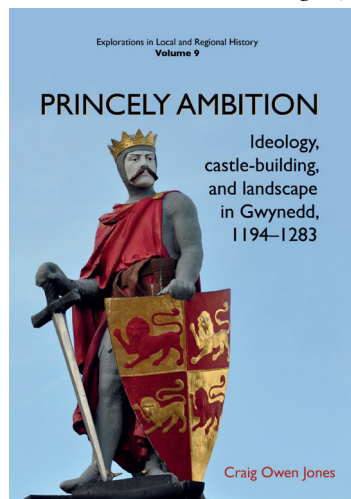
While the Edwardian castles of Conwy, Beaumaris, Harlech and Caernarfon are rightly hailed as outstanding examples of castle architecture, the castles of the native Welsh princes are far more enigmatic. Where some dominate their surroundings as completely as any castle of Edward I, others are concealed in the depths of forests, or tucked away in the corners of valleys, their relationship with the landscape of which they are a part far more difficult to discern than their English counterparts.

This ground-breaking book seeks to analyse the castle-building activities of the native princes of Wales in the thirteenth century. Whereas early castles were built to delimit territory and as an expression of Llywelyn I ab Iorwerth's will to power following his violent assumption of the throne of Gwynedd in the 1190s, by the time of his grandson Llywelyn II ap Gruffudd's later reign in the 1260s and 1270s, the castles' prestige value had been superseded in importance by an understanding of the need to make the polity he created – the Principality of Wales – defensible.

Employing a probing analysis of the topographical settings and defensive dispositions of almost a dozen native Welsh masonry castles, Craig Owen Jones interrogates the long-held theory that the native princes' approach to castle-building in medieval Wales was characterised by ignorance of basic architectural principles, disregard for the castle's relationship to the landscape, and whimsy, in order to arrive at a new understanding of the castles' significance in Welsh society.

Princely Ambition also advances a timeline that synthesises various strands of evidence to arrive at a chronology of native Welsh castle-building. This exciting new account fills a crucial gap in scholarship on Wales' built heritage prior to the Edwardian conquest and establishes a nuanced understanding of important military sites in the context of native Welsh politics.

Craig Owen Jones is an Honorary Research Associate at Bangor University, Wales, and currently works as a lecturer at San Jose State University, California.

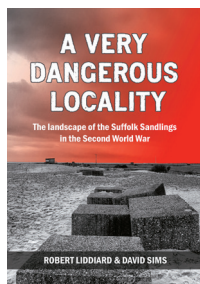


ISBN 978-1-912260-27-0

Spring 2021

Paperback; £16.99/\$33.95

📖 PDF | ePub | Kindle



A Very Dangerous Locality The Landscape of the Suffolk Sandlings in the Second World War

Rob Liddiard and David Sims

ISBN 978-1-912260-08-9; Nov 2018; 384pp; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

This book examines the landscape archaeology of the Second World War on the section of the east coast of England known as the Suffolk Sandlings (the coastal strip from Lowestoft to Felixstowe), an area unusually rich in military archaeology. It was in the front line of

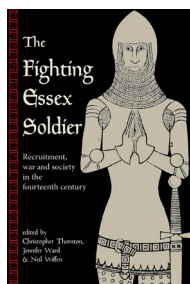
Britain's defences against invasion throughout the war and as a training ground it was the setting for nationally important exercises in the lead-up to the D-Day landings.

Richly illustrated with plans, maps and wartime photographs – many published for the first time – the book presents a vivid picture of a landscape in a crucial period in its history and will be of great interest to military historians, landscape archaeologists and all those with an interest in the area.

“Dangerous Locality offers a sophisticated yet accessible analysis – better than anything else I’ve read – of the frantic scramble as Britain faced invasion in 1940–41” – British Archaeology

Essex Publications

This series aims to publish important scholarly studies on the historic county of Essex in attractive and well-illustrated volumes. The history of Essex is both long and intricately patterned, and the series will reflect that complexity by addressing both a chronologically long timespan, from the prehistoric to the twentieth century, and a wide variety of themes, social, economic, cultural, environmental, architectural and military.



The Fighting Essex Soldier

Recruitment, war and society in the fourteenth century

Edited by Christopher Thornton, Jennifer Ward and Neil Wiffen

ISBN 978-1-909291-88-1; May 2017; 192pp; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

From the raising of forces to serve the king, through a study of aristocratic lawlessness which may have been linked to violent experiences on the battlefield, to new ways of analysing data to give insights into men recruited as archers and mariners, and a consideration of military aspects of the Peasants' Revolt, this is a rewarding examination of medieval fighting men which affords much new insight into Essex history.

“The book overall is a model of a local study set within a national context and should serve as an example for others” – The English Historical Review

Dr Thomas Plume, 1630–1704

His life and legacies in Essex, Kent and Cambridge

Edited by Tony Doe and Christopher Thornton

ISBN 978-1-912260-16-4; November 2020; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

Dr Thomas Plume, born in Maldon in Essex in 1630, is remembered today for the many bequests he left which established important scientific, religious and cultural charities. Still operational today are the Plumian Professorship of Astronomy at Cambridge University, the Plume Library at Maldon and the Plume Trust for poor clergy in the Diocese of Rochester.



This volume provides the first comprehensive account of the life, work and philanthropy of Plume. Educated at Chelmsford Grammar School and Christ's College, Cambridge, Plume was vicar of Greenwich from 1658 and archdeacon of Rochester from 1679, holding both posts until his death in 1704. At Greenwich he was noted favourably for his preaching by Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn on more than one occasion. He died a wealthy man and his will contained 79 bequests.

Tony Doe is a Trustee of the Plume Library with a particular interest in the churchmanship of Thomas Plume.

Christopher Thornton is the County Editor of the Victoria County History of Essex, an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, and the Chairman of the Friends of Historic Essex.

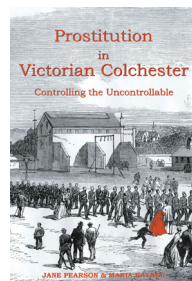
Prostitution in Victorian Colchester

Controlling the uncontrollable

Jane Pearson and Maria Rayner

ISBN 978-1-909291-97-3; March 2018; 224pp; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

The decision to build a new army camp in the small market town of Colchester in 1856 was well received and helped to stimulate the local economy after a prolonged period of economic stagnation. Before long the Colchester garrison was one of the largest in the country and the town experienced an economic upturn as well as benefiting from the many social events organised by officers. But there was a downside: some of the soldiers' behaviour was highly disruptive and, since very few private soldiers were allowed to marry, prostitution flourished. As a result the number of cases of venereal disease soared. As well as providing a vivid portrait of nineteenth-century Colchester, this book will appeal to all those interested in the history of women's work, policing and society more widely.

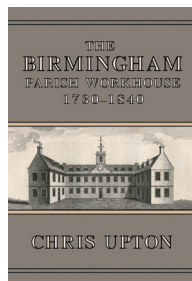


"This is a highly original local study... Pearson and Rayner are to be commended for opening up the uncharted territory of gender relations in Victorian Colchester" – Urban History

This series aims to publish scholarly, attractive, well-illustrated and accessible studies on the history of the English West Midlands, a region which broadly encompasses the historic counties of Derbyshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire. The history of the area cannot only be understood within the confines of county boundaries, so placing local and regional studies, where relevant, within the histories of other regions, Great Britain and the wider world is also important.

The West Midlands has a rich and varied past from prehistoric and medieval times to the twenty-first century. We are keen to encourage publications which explore, for example, aspects of rural and urban history, agriculture and industry, intellectual and cultural themes and the study of women, children, ethnic communities, politics, social classes, landscapes and buildings.

Books in the series will include individual monographs, collected essays and conference proceedings. They will be written by specialist researchers who are experts in their field. The publications will focus on aspects of regional history which are not only of interest to local people, but also engage with debates, subjects and themes which are relevant to the wider community of historians within and outside universities and heritage organisations.



The Birmingham Parish Workhouse, 1730–1840

Chris Upton

ISBN 978-1-912260-14-0; May 2019; 272pp; Paperback £16.99/\$33.95

This book is the first history of Birmingham's workhouse and the ancillary welfare provision for the city, frequently referred to as the 'Old Poor Law'. The records of the Overseers and the Poor Law Guardians reveal a complex balancing act between maintaining standards of care and controlling spending. Although there was mismanagement, most famously in 1818 when George Edmonds exposed embezzlement by

workhouse officials, the picture which emerges will be familiar to our age when welfare services struggle to meet public needs with limited budgets.

"The depth of research is exemplary... Chris will be fondly remembered as the local historian who worked hard to make local history accessible and relevant to everyone" – Library of Birmingham



Gardens and Green Spaces in the West Midlands since 1700

Edited by Malcolm Dick and Elaine Mitchell

ISBN 978-1-909291-55-3; May 2018; 240pp; Paperback £16.99/\$33.95

"Serves as a welcome introduction to the history and development of both private and public gardens and landscapes within the West Midlands" – Landscape History

Music-making in the Hertfordshire Parish 1760–1870

Maggie Kilbey

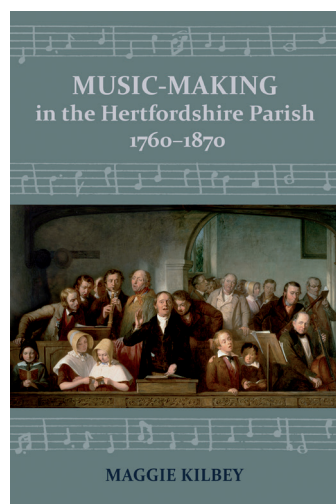
The standard of congregational singing in mid-eighteenth-century parish churches was often in a parlous state, a situation viewed with alarm by many influential clergy and social commentators. In this authoritative study, Maggie Kilbey explores attempts to improve parochial music-making over the following century and the factors that played a part in their success or failure.

Using Hertfordshire as a basis, original research by this respected author and historian uses a wide range of documentary evidence to reveal a complicated picture of influence and interaction between the gentry, clergymen and their parishioners. Her innovative approach to the social history of church music-making sheds light on interactions between militia and church bands, singers, organists, the role of charity school children and the use of barrel organs. Because of its proximity to London, Hertfordshire was particularly attractive to elites with an interest in the capital, and fell under the influence of metropolitan music-making more readily than less accessible parts of England. The involvement of both fashion-conscious and socially aware gentry was mirrored by those further down the social scale, and formed part of a complex pattern of support for church music-making.

Unsurprisingly, this support was not universal, and often short-lived once initial enthusiasm or funding ran out. Consequently, although many attempts were made to 'improve' music-making in parish churches, sooner or later these were considered to be failures, swiftly forgotten – and then tried again. To make matters worse, church rate disputes hampered efforts to improve or sustain parish music-making during the nineteenth century, resulting in financial hardship for organists and other church musicians. Yet this was followed by an 1850s 'singing craze' which led to the formation of many church choirs, alterations to the church fabric, and installation of organs.

This investigation into patterns of parochial music-making will appeal to both those with an interest in the history of music-making, and also those with a general interest in the social history of Hertfordshire.

Maggie Kilbey has a doctorate from the University of Oxford and lives in Hertfordshire.



ISBN 978-1-912260-26-3
October 2020
Paperback; £16.99/\$33.95

Hertfordshire Publications

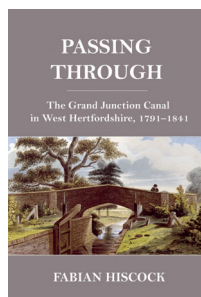
At University of Hertfordshire Press we are proud of our relationship with historians, societies and communities within our own county's borders. We have a long-running partnership with the Hertfordshire Association for Local History to produce monographs and essay collections with a focus on Hertfordshire. This long-running series is called Hertfordshire Publications and it continues to produce attractive books, crafted out of high-quality research into the county, its landscape, archaeology, community and culture, but which also resonate and connect with research across the UK.

Passing Through

The Grand Junction Canal in West Hertfordshire, 1791–1841

Fabian Hiscock

ISBN 978-1-912260-15-7; Sep 2019; 256pp; Paperback £16.99/\$33.95



The fifty years from the last decade of the eighteenth century saw great changes in Britain. Significant technological and economic change, not to mention wars, affected great swathes of the population and profoundly changed many aspects of life. In this book Fabian Hiscock considers this dramatic upheaval as it played out in western Hertfordshire, focusing in particular on just one of the many innovations of the time: the Grand Junction Canal, created to connect the Midlands with London.

Having described the complex process of creating the Canal itself, the author turns to how western Hertfordshire experienced, and responded to, the new trade route that now traversed its fields and settlements.

In the area's towns and villages – particularly Rickmansworth, Watford, Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted and Tring – the Canal made an impact, but to what extent did it live up to the promises made by its promoters? And what were the impacts on trade and transport, on work and home life? Did it create jobs and wealth for local people? Or did it simply pass through, leaving those living on either side relatively unaffected? Whether and in what way western Hertfordshire changed as a result of the Grand Junction Canal is the focus of this work.

1841 is the chosen end date for the study period because of the coincidence of the Census undertaken that year, which sheds some light on the industrial make-up of the area, the tithe awards made between 1838 and 1844, allowing study of the Canal's effect on land ownership and usage across the area, and the start of the London and Birmingham Railway's real economic effect.

In combining canal history with a detailed social and economic study of a part of the county that is not much written about, Fabian Hiscock has written a superbly researched and wide-reaching book that will be of interest to a broad range of readers.

After careers in the Royal Navy and in industry, **Fabian Hiscock** added local history to his long-standing interest in the history of the waterways, completing his MA by Research in History at the University of Hertfordshire in 2016.

Industrial Letchworth

The first garden city, 1903–1920

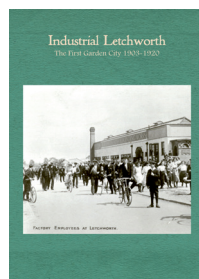
Letchworth Local History Research Group

ISBN 978-1-912260-28-7; Sep 2020; 120pp; Paperback £14.99

In spite of being named the first ‘Garden City’, Letchworth was conceived as a model industrial town built on enterprise. Never intended to be merely a pleasant place to live, it needed to be large enough to encourage the mass movement of manufacturers and their employees from overcrowded cities and to function as a self-supporting new town.

In this richly illustrated account, Letchworth Local History Research Group look in detail at the town’s foundation in the early 1900s and the energetic organisation and administration that enabled it to get off the ground quickly and successfully. Based on new research into a wealth of source material, the book puts to rest some of the enduring myths about the garden city, revealing a nuanced picture of the founding of a working community. The collaborative efforts of First Garden City Ltd (FGC), the development company for the new town, are a key focus. Naturally there were challenges and the need for capital to maintain momentum posed considerable difficulties. But strong leadership saw the fledgling town through some tough periods, including the first world war.

The second part of the book comprises a detailed gazetteer of the industries that established themselves in Letchworth in its early years, with rare archive photographs showing both premises and workers. From printing and publishing, to motor manufacture, foundries, clothing and pioneering cinematic companies, the story of Letchworth’s early industry is lively and unique.



Letchworth Settlement, 1920–2020

A century of creative learning

Kate Thompson

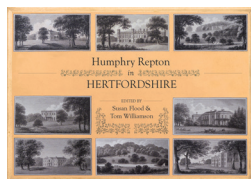
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Letchworth Settlement, an independent adult education centre, is one of the treasures of the world’s first garden city. Starting life as Letchworth Adult Education Settlement, it soon became part of the wider Educational Settlement Association, following the example of Toynbee Hall in London, and is now one of few such institutions still up and running. In its early days, the Settlement embodied the ideals of the young garden city with its ethos of self-help. There was a strong belief that everyone was entitled to an education and to fulfil their potential; the unemployed in the town were regularly helped with free classes and meals.



In this lively history, former Hertfordshire County Archivist Kate Thompson looks at the wider context in which the organisation flourished, as well as notable members of staff and key events in its century of sharing knowledge.

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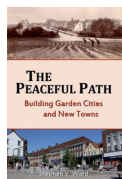
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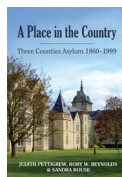
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ISBN 978-1-912260-11-9; Mar 2019; 304pp; Paperback £18.99/\$39.95

This book forms a continuation of the research published in *Medieval Parks*, Anne Rowe's highly regarded volume of 2009. Now she turns her attention to the deer parks that existed in Hertfordshire during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

Drawing on the earliest county maps, most notably those produced by Saxton in 1577 and Norden in 1598, and both State papers and estate records, Anne Rowe builds a detailed picture of Hertfordshire's Tudor and early Stuart parks.

At least 70 parks existed in Hertfordshire at various times between 1485 and 1642, but for only 46 of those parks is there evidence that they contained deer at some point during the period. These confirmed or probable deer parks form the focus of this study.

Based, like the first volume, on an enormous amount of original work, this meticulously researched book opens a window onto Tudor and early Stuart Hertfordshire and once again illuminates a significant aspect of the county's landscape history.

"This continues Rowe's 2009 volume on Hertfordshire's medieval parks, maintaining its excellence" – British Archaeology



Medieval Parks of Hertfordshire

Anne Rowe

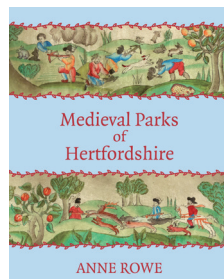
ISBN 978-1-912260-10-2; Mar 2019; 272pp; Paperback £18.99/\$37.95

In this ground-breaking study of parks created in Hertfordshire between the eleventh and the fifteenth centuries, author Anne Rowe has adopted a holistic approach to landscape history.

The geographical locations of the parks have been determined and, in most cases, mapped using a combination of field- and place-name evidence, old maps and detailed fieldwork.

The documentary history for each park has been compiled, including, where available, details from manorial accounts, which provide an insight into park management in medieval times.

"To create such a comprehensive regional overview based on evidence at the individual site level and gleaned from enquiries into local, regional and even national archives, requires patience, inspiration, dedication, and tenacity" – Journal of Rural History



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Tom Williamson and Gerry Barnes

Although the history of orchards and fruit varieties is of great popular interest, there have been few academic treatments of the subject. This book presents the results of a three-year project investigating the history and ecology of orchards in the east of England. The eastern counties of Hertfordshire, Essex, Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk have a tradition of fruit cultivation comparable in scale to that of the better-known west of England, and by the 1960s orchards were extensive in many districts. Since then, orchards have disappeared wholesale, with significant impacts on landscape character and biodiversity. Involving exhaustive archival research, an extensive survey of surviving orchards, oral history and biodiversity surveys, this book tells the fascinating story of orchards in the east since the late Middle Ages, while at the same time investigating what attitudes towards this aspect of our heritage tell us about our more general engagements with the past, with nature, and with place.

Saving the People's Forest

Open spaces, enclosure and popular protest in mid-Victorian London

Mark Gorman

The history of the preservation of open spaces in and around mid-Victorian London is usually presented as that of metropolitan upper-middle-class campaigners, who appointed themselves as spokespeople for all Londoners and fought their battles mainly in parliament and in the law courts. In this book Mark Gorman tells a different story – of the part played by popular protest in the campaigns for Epping Forest and other open spaces in and near London. He shows how throughout the nineteenth century metropolitan open spaces were venues for both radical politics and popular leisure, helping to create a sense of public right of access. This is a largely hidden history, since ordinary Victorian Londoners left few records behind, but Gorman's new research reveals how distinctive popular protest by ordinary Londoners influenced the campaigns of the more visible elite groups.

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