

BLANCHLAND 1969

Returned to Blandford
3 August 2009
Peter Jelser
c/o P.O. Box 101
Sharjah
UAE

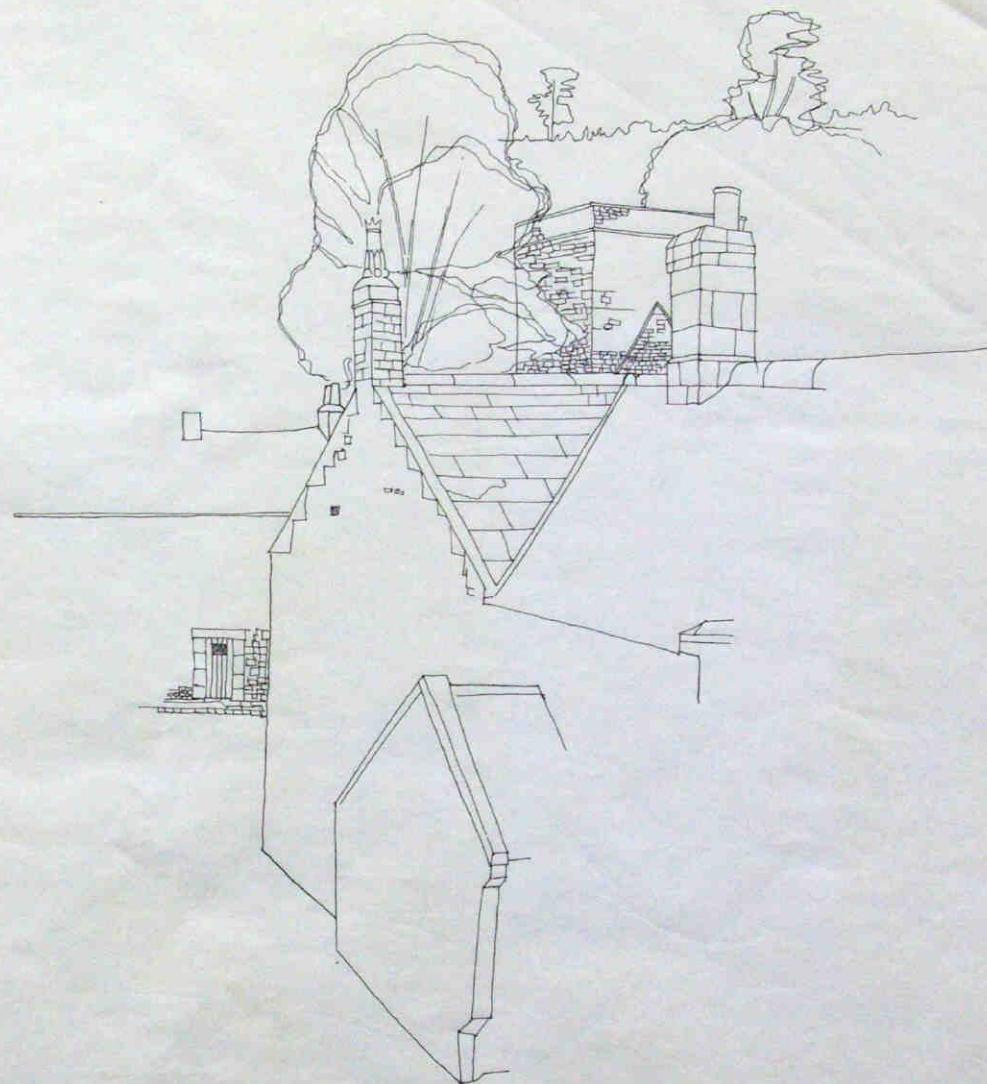
In memory of Bobby Flynn, who died 1970;
without whose memory and experience, this
study would be more incomplete.

P.J.



BLANCHLAND

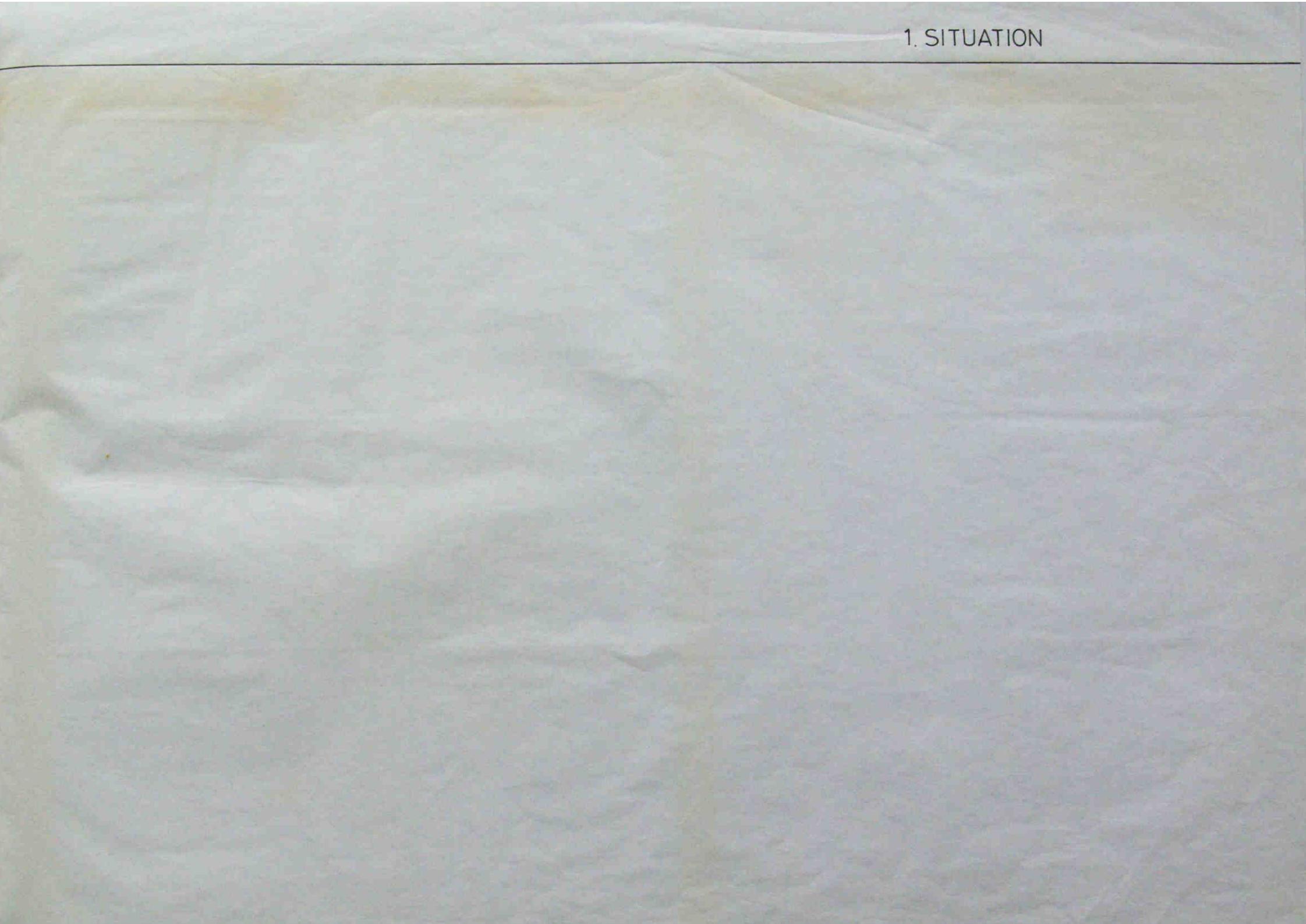
analysis -
summer 1969
by
peter jackson



bartlett school of architecture
university college
london

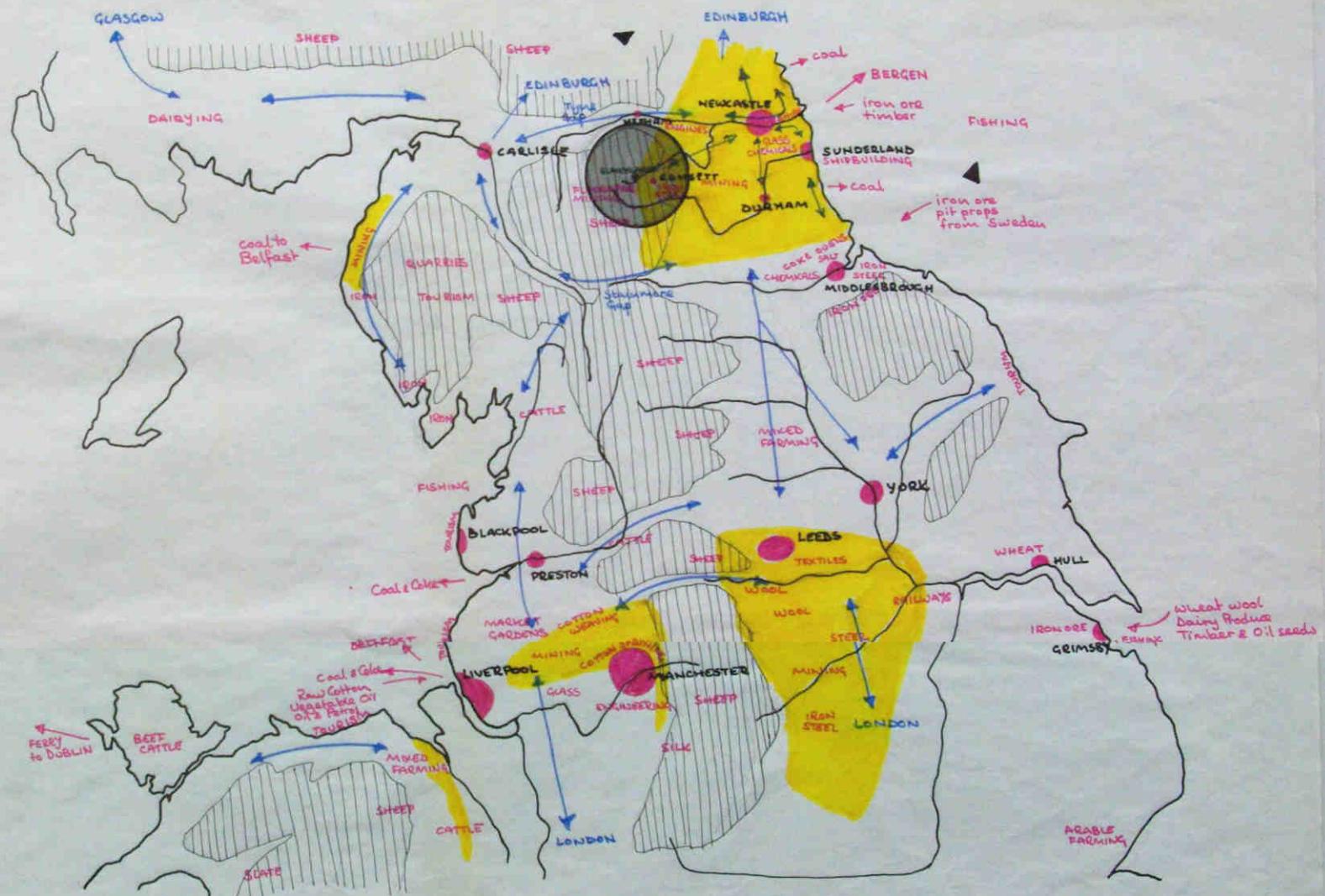
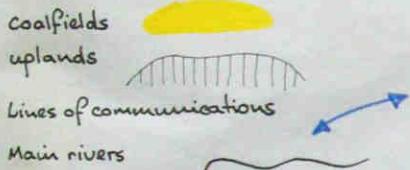
- 1 SITUATION
- 2 DEVELOPMENT
- 3 1969
 - village
 - dependance
 - industry
 - agriculture
- 4 CONCLUSION

1. SITUATION



POSITION: THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

key:



POSITION: LOCAL: COMMUNICATIONS

scale half inch to one mile



BLANCHLAND

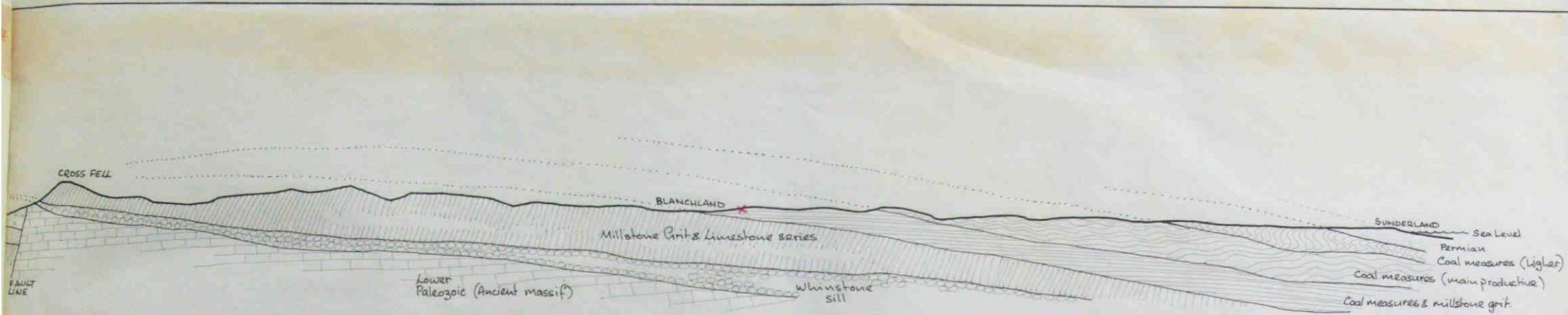
scale 1 : 2500

GEOLOGY

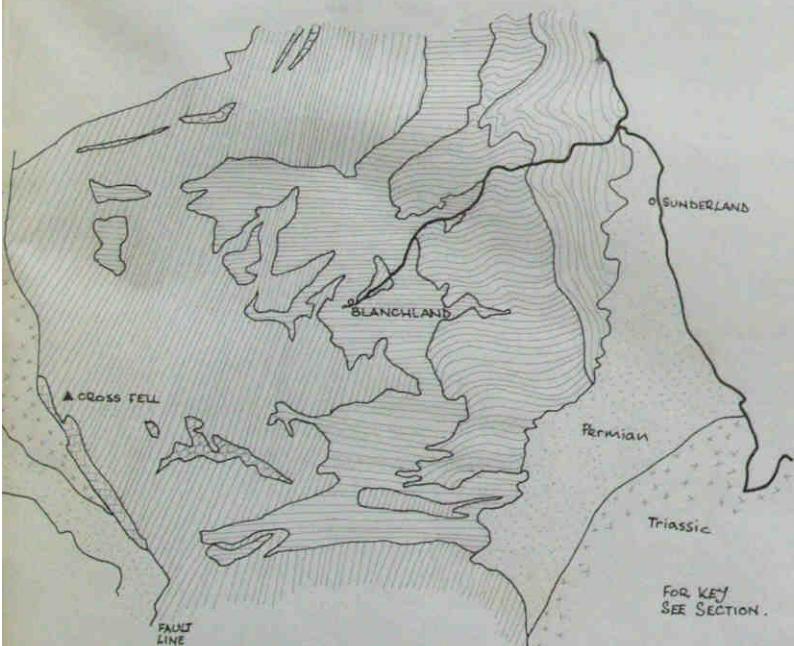
scale one inch to four miles



GEOLOGY



section across north east England
→ e.n.e.



north east England geology

The overall geology of the north east is of the carboniferous period ; a period when the lower paleozoic rocks of the Pennine massif were submerged, and sedimentary deposits of sandstones, limestone, shales, coal, "millstone" grit, and an infinite variety of these rocks, found their foundation on this massif, in varying thicknesses at different places. The depth of the massif under water was an important governor in the type of sedimentation. Under estuary and shallow conditions, the coal measures were formed, whilst in deeper waters, the limestone measures developed.

After the Third great earth movement the Pennine massif was lifted clear of sea level, and by erosion, the action of water, wind and ice, many of the sedimentary series previously buried, became exposed.

The whin sill is a layer of volcanic material, extruded through the lower paleozoic rocks of the more ancient massif, and it has forced its way between the ancient rock and the carboniferous series.

The metals and spars of the Pennines, are derived from the minerals in spring water that has found its way through fissures and faults and joints in the sedimentary rocks. Lead, iron, silver, fluorspar, and silica are products of the crystallisation of these minerals.

The younger Pennian and Triassic rocks are limestones and slates, marls and sandstones, deposited in inland salt lakes.

The river valleys contain deposits of alluvial gravels, sands and grits.

GEOLOGY 2

table of the strata at shildon

	fthms.	ft.	ins.
Hipple - shale with marine fossils	7	0	0
Plate - earthy shale, no bond	7	0	0
High Grit - hard sandstone-millstone grit	8	3	6
Plate & coal	0	3	3
Plate & white sill	1	1	9
Plate, coal & Plate	3	0	6
Low Grit	11	0	6
Plate	1	4	9
Pebbles	1	0	0
Plate, lime, posthazel	1	4	0
Crag sill	4	2	0
Plate	4	3	6
Pattinson's sill - hazle very productive of lead ore,	6	4	6
Hazle - type of sandstone	4	5	0
Plate	4	0	0
Hazle	0	3	0
Plate	2	1	0
Hazle	0	4	0
Plate	5	2	0
White sill	2	0	0
Little limestone - tolerably hard & very productive lead	2	1	0
Plate & coal	0	5	0
Coal & Sill	1	1	3
Plate	2	0	0
Coal	0	3	0
Low coal sill	1	2	0
White sill	3	4	0
Grey beds	0	0	8
Plate	1	0	0
Great Limestone - most productive lead ore	-	-	-

91 fthms 0 ft 2 ins.

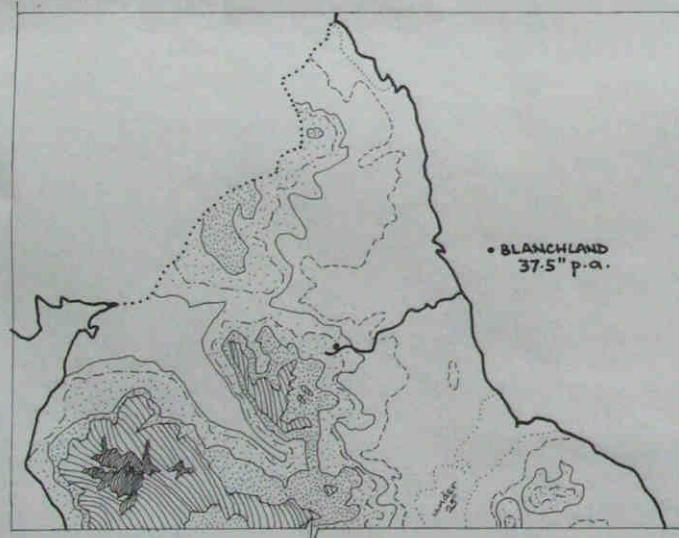
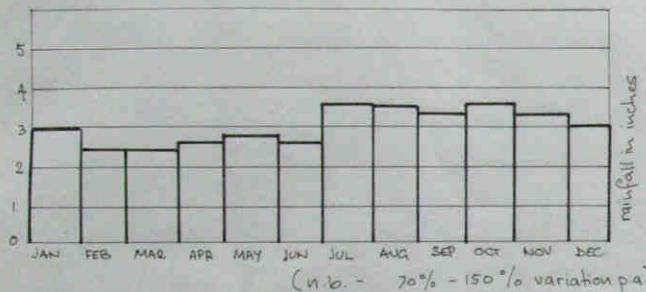
CLIMATE

Rainfall in the north east of England is influenced by the Cumbrian Mountains, the Pennine Chain, and by the North Sea.

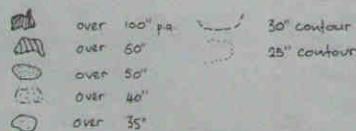
Rain falls, on the average, about 200 days p.a., but there is considerable annual variation.

The Derwent Valley is known for its sheltered position (see winds).

Hail/mist combinations are not uncommon during the winter.



rainfall



snow falls for about 80 days in the year and lies up to about 40 days. The roads are often made impassable, but are cleared by local men in a couple of days.

Most of the days with snow occur between December and March, the last 3 months have the highest frequency.

Snow is known in September however, and has been known to fall in July. In most years there are falls of 2-3 feet, but especially severe drifting occurs on the lower and higher falls. The Derwent often floods its banks at the thaw.

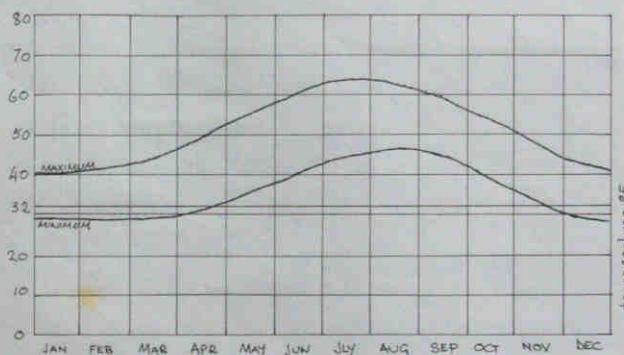
Snowfall

winds

The prevailing winds are from the east to north east, but in years that are wetter than usual, it can be seen that very often the winds were predominantly westerly; their velocities are often increased by the funnel effects of the east-west Pennine Valleys.

Blanchland is well sheltered from all but the east winds, but is known as a point often missed by very violent storms, even though they range all around.

temperatures & sunshine



Again there is considerable variation, and temperatures can drop below 0°F in winter although they have never been recorded below 27°F in August.

The growing period is about 190 days in the valleys, but is considerably less on the fells. Oats cannot be ripened above 1200 feet.

Frosts are very severe in the valley during the winter months, but decrease in intensity up the valley sides and up to the fells.

Sunshine varies by 400-500 hours or more per annum, but an average of 1000 hours are to be expected.

UPLAND LANDSCAPE



Peat soils on fells north of Blanchland



Burning off Bracken and Gorse to attempt to make pastures



Peat soils



Sandy soils - Newbiggin Hall



Peat fells south of Elanvland



Remains of medieval Forest August of peat fell



Remains of medieval forest



Shooting butt on fells



Sandy hillocks at Cawdys Pasture



Horseshoe Hill Post Office Unit



Copse on clay soils in sandy pastures on hillside



Bentley Reservoir



Bentley Reservoir & Coombett on horizon



Upper Derwent Reservoir



Barrage and lower Derwent Reservoir

VALLEY LANDSCAPE



Haxham road just above the village. Sandy Soiled hillsides.



Shildon Valley, showing sandy pastures, newly planted forest, and deciduous forest being felled off, to be replaced by conifers.



Road into Blandland from Rose Barn.



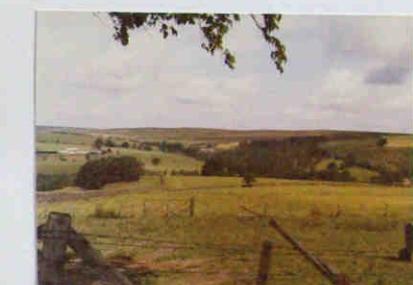
Gibraltar pool - head of Berwent



Berwent at Baylondige looking towards Blandland.
Note flat alluvial pastures.



Below deciduous forest at Baylondige on lower
sides of the valley.



View from Bucklewell to Coalhouse and Blandland
Blandland in hollow surrounded by woodland.



Blandland hidden seen
when close by.
Ashley



Snowplough at Baylondige



Winter snow drifts



Berwent valley looking south, below Blandland.

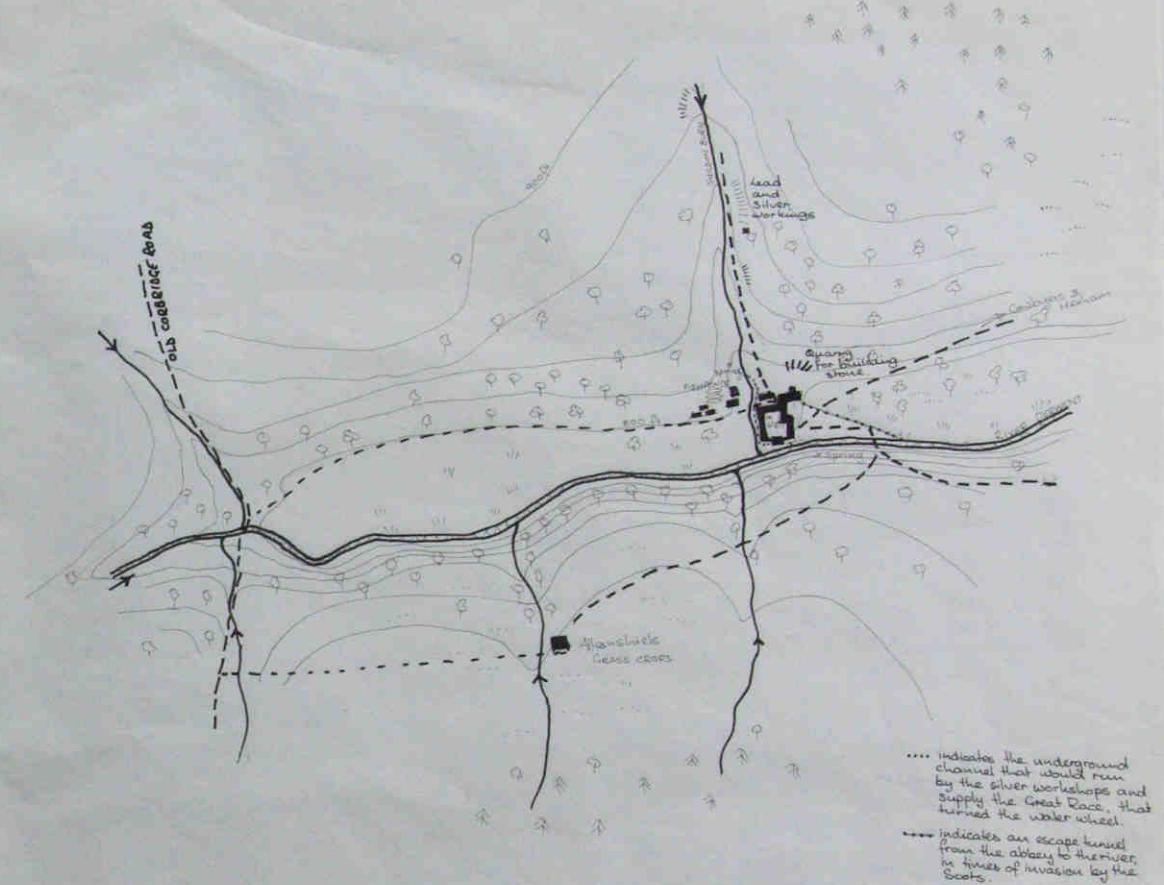
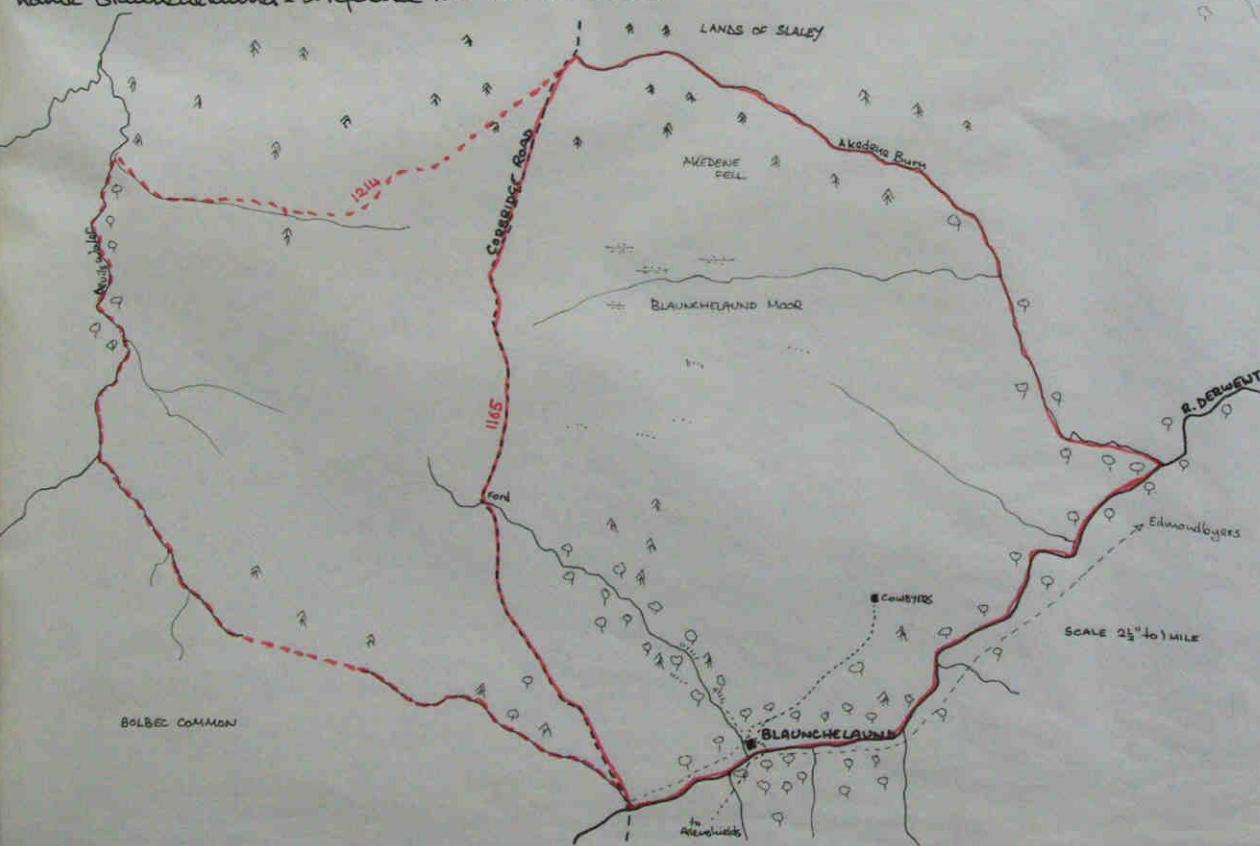
2. DEVELOPMENT

ABBEY SITE

The Premontrean Order of Canons Regular:

The order was formed in north eastern France at Premontré in 1120 by a German canon, Norbert. Within their abbeys their chief function was the celebration of the services of the Church with as much splendour and solemnity as possible, and the time left over was spent on the administration of the monastic estates. At the same time they lived the monastic life in one of its strictest forms. It was a life which meant great self-denial and personal hardship; little food, and coarse at that; long hours of silence and constant disciplining of the thoughts and emotions. They also worked amongst the people in their parish as preachers and priests of great spiritual ability. Each abbey was ruled by an abbot and the canons wore a white cassock.

In 1165, from the abbey of Croxton in Leicestershire, the white canons came to Blanchland. At this time all the land along the north side of the Derwent was part of the Barony of Bolbec, which had been created by Henry I for the Bolbec family, out of estates belonging to the earldom of Northumbria. The family were Norman, and the son of the de Bolbec to whom Henry gave the Barony gave to God and St Mary the Virgin and a house of twelve canons of the Order of Premontré, lands on the North side of the Derwent, between the Old Corbridge Road and the Acton Burn, two miles east of Blanchland; the north west boundary being the ford over the Shildon Burn at Pennypie, plus the church of Hare, and Bywell St Andrew with the dependent chapels of Styford, Shotley, and Appletree. In 1214 the de Bolbec family gave the canons additional land to the west of the Corbridge Road. It is at this time that we find the name Blancheland - a reference to the white canons.



SITE:

1. Totally hidden in the forest of the Derwent. Off the main routes; a protection from the frequent raids of the Scots. The forest also provided timber for the buildings, deer, rabbits, hares and birds for food for the canons and the farmers, mines and other families of the estate.
2. Situated at nearly the highest 'flat' area in the valley, but on a slight rise, away from flood level. At that time, the surrounding fields may well have been marshy, and well wooded.
3. Sheltered from the storms of the Pennines.
4. Local minerals: stone for building, and the lead mines; silver was then extracted from the lead. The workings are some of the oldest in the country.
5. The river was a source of fish, rainbow and brown trout, and Shildon Burn was a source of power for the water wheels of the mills, and the porous rocks were ideal for digging a well. Many springs abound in the area.
6. The estate was able to support both dairy and meat cattle, and sheep, and various grass crops; hay, oats, corn, barley. Cowbyers was the monastery farm, but grass crops were grown at Allenheads,

THE ABBEY

The abbey was built on the typical Premonstratensian plan, until in 1327 when it failed to escape the attention of the marauding Scots, and the church and many of the buildings were burnt down. The re-building included the addition of a tower on to the north transept. The nave was aisle-less.

In February 1535, Henry VIII dissolved the monastery, but in 1536 it was refounded in order "that the abbot and monks may devoutly attend worship and exercise hospitality and other works of piety." However it was finally dissolved in December 1539, as its income was less than £200 p.a.

During the years of its existence, the monastery suffered greatly from lack of funds. It was administered from Newcastle, and the tri-annual visitation to the abbey was reversed - one of the canons would have to ride to give a report to the Bishop, as it was so remote. The Plague hit the abbey late in the 14th century, and caused great financial loss. Many farms became unoccupied, resulting in a loss of rent. At the end of the 15th century the number of canons seldom reached 12, and was sometimes as small as 8, which would mean that there would be no more than 3 or 4 canons resident in the abbey, to carry out repairs, lead in hay, administration, with little time left for prayer, quietness and seclusion. But from 1165 to 1539, through times of hardship, starvation, and debt, the canons of Blanchland were noted for their devoutness and faithfulness to their calling.

key:

[Hatched] indicates buildings, or incuse of labourers dwellings, vicinity of buildings.

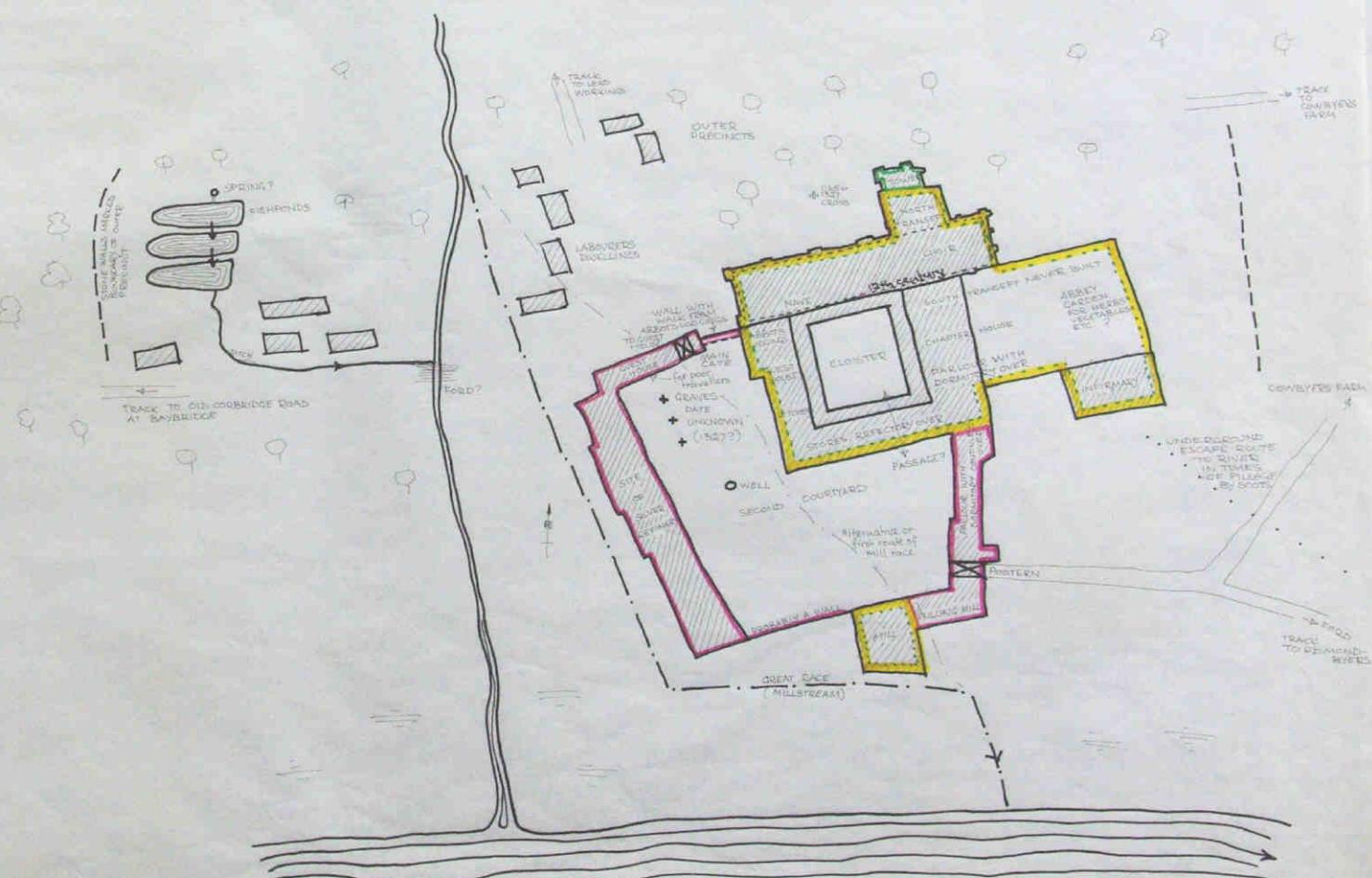
[Yellow] indicates buildings up to the end of the 13th century

[Green] indicates buildings of the 14th century

[Hatched] indicates rebuilding after 1327

[Red] indicates building of the 15th century

The South Transept was never built - the canons failed to allot a sufficient area within the Premonstratensian Plan for it to be constructed.



On July 4th 1545, Blanchland and its demesnes were granted to John Bellow and John Broxholme. They sold the land on July 6th to William Farewell for the sum of £200 - 14 - 8½d. His widow became the second wife of Anthony Radcliffe, and his daughter and co-heiress Margery Farewell became wife to Anthony Radcliffe's son, Cuthbert. The estates remained in the hands of the Radcliffes until 1606, when a Jane Radcliffe, married to Nicholas Forster, died, and was succeeded by her son, Sir Claudius Forster. The estates were then owned by the Forsters until 1704.

During this period the church became a ruin, and the other abbey buildings similarly, except the abbot's lodging, guest house and kitchen, which became the manor house. It was more of a hunting lodge than a permanent home. The mills would probably be still in use, and the silver refinery for part of the period, and there was also a mill on the Shildon Burn, just above the village in connection with the lead workings. Most of the local population, excepting that on the farms, was engaged in lead mining, and lived at Shildon. It is known that there was a chapel against the west side of the abbey tower, but Blanchland was in a state of decay and disrepair.

In 1704, the estates were bought by Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham, who was married to Dorothy Forster, Lord Crewe. On his death in 1721, it was discovered that he had left his Bamburgh and Blanchland estates to trustees. (The Forsters lived at Bamburgh, and they were purchased with the Blanchland estates in 1704). Also, sometime during the Radcliffe period probably, the Blanchland estates had been extended to the south to take in Buckshot Fell and Buckshot Moor.

In 1747 John Wesley visited the village, and gives us the following account in his diary:

"I rode to Blanchland about 20 miles from Newcastle, the rough mountains round were still white with snow. In the midst of them is a small winding valley through which the Derwent runs. On the edge of this the little town of Blanchland stands which is indeed little more than a heap of ruins. There seems to have been a large Cathedral Church by the vast walls that still remain. I stood in the churchyard under one side of the building upon a large flat stone, around which, while I was at prayers, all the congregation knelt down on the grass. They were gathered out of the lead mines from all parts, many from Allendale, six miles off.

A row of little children sat under the opposite wall, all quiet and still. The whole congregation drank in every word with such earnestness in their looks, I could but hope that God will make this wilderness sing for joy."

Then in 1752 Blanchland was made into a separate Parish (from being in the Parish of Bywell St Andrew until 1723, and after that in the Parish of Shotley) with its own Parish Priest, and at the same time the Trustees initiated the rebuilding of the village.

EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL OF NATHANIEL LORD CREWE, BARON OF STEANE IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, AND LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM:

.... I do hereby give devise and bequeath unto the said John Mountagu, John Dolben, John Morley, William Lupton and Thomas Eden, their heirs and assigns (whom I do hereby make, appoint and nominate my Trustees for the performing of all and every trust and confidence in this my last will contained) all those my manors of Bambrough and Blanchland with their rights - members and appurtenances in the county of Northumberland and in the County of Durham or in either of them. And also my Adiutorious Baronies and right of Patronage and Presentation of and to the Churches of Bambrough and Shotley and to either of them in the said Counties of Northumberland and Durham or in one of them, and all and every other my Manors, Advicures, Massuages, Cottages, Mills, Mies, Quarries, Meadows, Pastures, Close, Woods, Underwoods, Fishings, Fisheries, Tythes, Rectories, Rents, Services, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments whatsoever with them and every of their Rights, Members, Royalties, Privileges and Appurtenances situate lying and being or now being or to be had received or taken in or within the several Towns Fields Liberties, Parishes, Precincts or territories of Bambrough, Blanchland, Thornton, Sunderland, Shorstan, Heathers, Beadnell, Berwick, Burton, Newham, Bradford, Fryer, Lucken, Waringford, Mousie, Warington, Figgles, Budle, Shildon, Haddery Burn, Shotley, Westhaugh Head, Easthaugh Foot, Thornton, Edmund Hill, Henshaworth, Holy Island, and Norham, and in every or any of them, in the said Counties whatsoever now is or are seized in Trust for me, my Heirs or assigns in the said Counties of Northumberland and Durham or in either of them which I lately purchased and one of the yearly value of Thirteen hundred and twelve pounds thirtean shillings or thereabouts, to have and to hold my same manors Hereditaments and Possessions with their Rights, Members and Appurtenances unto the said John Mountagu, John Dolben, John Morley, William Lupton and Thomas Eden their heirs and assigns upon and under such Trusts and to own for such uses, lands, intents and Purposes as I shall hereafter by this my last will, direct and appoint.

.... I do hereby order and direct that when any one or two of the most of my said Trustees or of any other Person or Persons to be hereafter elected Trustee or Trustees for the purposes in this my last will contained shall happen to die that then the survivors of them shall within three months after such Death or Deaths elect one or more Clergymen or Clergywomen (and no other Person or Persons whatsoever) to be Trustee or Trustees in the Room of him or them so dying as they in their discretion think fit (so as such Trustees do never exceed five in number) and which said Person or Persons so to be elected Trustee or Trustees shall have the same powers and authorities to all intents and Purposes whatsoever as the Trustees appointed by this my last Will and Testament and shall also after three months after such election grant and convey all my said manors, Lands and Hereditaments in the said Counties of Northumberland and Durham by me before devised for the purposes aforesaid to the use of the surviving Trustees of such Person or Persons so to be elected and chosen Trustee or Trustees and of their Heirs and Assigns To and for the uses and purposes and under and subject to the Trusts and Confidences by me herein before directed and appointed as aforesaid the Charges of which Conveyances I direct shall be paid out of the rents of my Hereditaments devised to my Trustees as aforesaid.

.... 17th September 1721
N. D.C.



THE MINING OF LEAD

THE DISCOVERY OF MINES:

- signs - pieces of ore, or vein stone on surface
- mineral water
- discolouration of the leaves of trees or of the blades of grass.
- warm exhalations
- estimation from knowledge of strata.

THE WORKING OF MINES:

Sinking shaft or opening drift along vein. Drift preferable. Shaft must have enough room for ladders, any machinery for renewing air or pumping out water, and for deads and BOUSE - the ore. At the bottom of the shaft, galleries follow the veins. If rock is soft, a circular wall of brick or stone or a wooden frame was built to support shaft. For air circulation, a 2nd shaft must be dug at end of gallery, not equal in depth to first, unless a furnace is lighted at the bottom of a shaft to destroy the equilibrium of the air. The average rate of digging was 1 fathom (6 feet) per day, and entailed digging, blasting, arching & railing.

When a level is driven to 50-60 fathoms, a current of fresh air is required where a stream is allowed to fall down the shaft, carrying down air, into a cistern. The water is then pumped out. Horses drag out the debris in tubs.

vein stone, mineral soils, spars and ores = bouse.

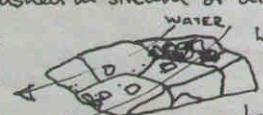
bouse	50% ore	= very rich
20%	"	= rich
10%	"	= very good
5%	"	= good
2%	"	= not despised.

THE DRESSING OF LEAD ORES:

1st method - ore just picked out of streams by deer hunters.

2nd method - bouse washed in stream or artificial stream, and the ore picked out.

3rd method - bubble - washed to bottom with current of water. Clean stones taken to the dead heap, and ore taken to ore heap. The mixed pieces then crushed and sifted by sieves, over tube, just in the water.



Heavy ore stays at top, lighter material

current of water. Clean stones taken to the

dead heap, and ore

taken to ore heap. The mixed pieces then

4th method - grate - a small apparatus of iron bars and flat stones, which rake the bouse. Left on the grate are pieces of spar & ore. When this has been sorted on the picking boards, the mixed ore is taken to the Brake Sieve of iron and wires which grinds and sifts the ore to the bottom of the sieve. Many variations.

Smelting:

1st method - on fires surrounded by piles of stones, with various gaps providing draughts.

2nd method - blast hearth where sulphur and oxygen are extracted.

3rd method - reverberatory furnace - more advanced blast hearth.

First the ore is roasted to dissipate some of the sulphur present. Heat must be dissipated evenly through furnace.

Secondly the smelting takes place on a hearth or in a furnace where a melting pot receives molten lead from the pan of ore, followed by a second firing in a furnace for refining, where only the flame is allowed to act upon the lead, without charcoal or coal.

REDUCING:

Conducted on hearth or in a furnace where litharge is converted into lead by being burnt with charcoal or coal and oxygen is extracted, the lead freed and cast into moulds.

ASSAYING:

The lead ore is melted in a crucible with a flux, and the impurities, e.g. the silver compounds are floated off, and these are refined and weighed.

HISTORY OF THE LEAD MINES

The earliest record of the mines is in 1462 when they were worked by the Derwent Leadmines. They were worked by this Company until 1720 when they were worked by Stoddart of South Shields until 1735, when they came under the Incorporated Lead Company. In 1810 the Derwent Mining Company took over until the early 1900's when it became uneconomical to mine lead due to the drop in value. Alston was the collecting centre for all lead in the area.

extracts from HISTORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND VOL 2 1825.

"The Derwent mines are divided into five parts:-

1. Shildon mine, one mile north of Blanchland, which is held by John Skottowe, Esq. and consists of four principal veins, besides a few others of inferior note. On old Shildon vein a steam engine of great power was erected, the cylinder being 6½ inches in diameter, and the main beam weighing upwards of nine tons. It is now employed at Backworth Colliery. A small steam engine, which stood upon New Shildon vein, was burnt down in 1810. This mine is now wrought with much skill and economy.
2. Beldon Mine lies to the westward of the former, and is the property of George Silvertop, Esq. It consists of Beldon Shields, and Tellgrove vein, with a variety of other veins that intersect each other in Beldon Burn.
3. Jeffrey's mine, which lies 2½ miles south west from Blanchland, is also the property of John Skottowe, Esq. It is wrought down to the great limestone, and is drained by a steam engine and a water wheel engine.
4. Ramshaw mine, which is only separated from Jeffrey's by a rivulet called Bolt's Burn, stands on which the steam engine stands which drains both this and the preceding mine. It belongs to the heir of the late John Ord, Esq.
5. Whiteheaps mine, further west is partly the property of Mr Skottowe and partly the property of G. Capper, Esq. It consists of a number of intersecting veins, which were formerly worked to great advantage. The last three mines are in the county of Durham. There are, at various parts of these mines machines for crushing and separating the ore from the rider. The business of smelting and refining is conducted at Jeffrey's Mill."

from the great improvements made in water wheels, they have found to be nearly as effective and far less expensive, than steam engines. Formerly the supply of water was divided amongst a number of wheels, and thus rendered of little power; but it is now collected, and by an admirable arrangement, the whole body of water available is made to pass over and supply, first, a pressure engine at Whiteheaps, next a water wheel 44 feet in diameter at Ramshaw, and afterwards supplying several wheels for the crushing mills and smelting mills. John Skottowe, Esq. is now dead and is succeeded by his nephew of the same name, a ward in chancery. The upper strata of Shildon mines are now drained by a level, without any pumping apparatus. The working of Beldon mines is at present suspended, though it is confidently anticipated that they will prove amongst the most productive in this district."

Despite this picture of the industrial revolution at work - change, employment and productivity, the description fails to show the filthy tenements, slums built on the hillsides, built onto the pump houses, the filth and damp of the tunnels, silicosis, death, accidents.

Addenda:

"Water engines have again superseded the use of steam engines in the lead mines, as

RECONSTRUCTION 1752



In 1752 the Trustees began the rebuilding of the village, with the addition of a wooden bridge across the Derwent, to house the lead miners of the area. At the time, Shildon was the main village, with a population of well over 200, with shops and works.

THE ABBEY:

The existing abbey consisted of the tower, and north and south wall of the choir. The reconstruction included the west wall, a roof, and part of the south wall. The floor level was also built up by 3 ft. The chapel which had been previously built on to the tower, remained until 1829.

THE MANOR HOUSE:

The Abbot's lodging probably became an inn.

THE GATEHOUSE:

The Old Gateway was used by all pedestrian and equestrian traffic as the foundations of a wall blocked the gap between the gatehouse and the manor house. Crenellations were added to this and the manor house.

THE SQUARE:

Miners cottages were rebuilt from the ruins of the old monastery buildings.

THE VICARAGE:

The first vicarage was built on the hill above the Church, with a cottage for a coachman.

The stone for the village was obtained largely from the ruined abbey. The quarry above the village may have been opened at this time, but is more likely to have existed for the 19th century rebuilding. There were probably many peripheral cottages, which have been rebuilt, or all traces lost.

In 1782 the Trustees ordered stocks to be erected in the churchyard in front of the church.

key:

B indicates site of blacksmith's workshop

M indicates site of mine buildings

— indicates extent of building and reconstruction

19TH CENTURY



The stone for the building of this period came from the quarry indicated on the map. It - like the rest of the building before, was a type of sandstone.

SCHOOL:

Until the school was built, a school was held in an upper storey of the North Transept of the Abbey, between 1828 and 1851. The schoolmaster lived in a house that existed on the site of the chapel by the tower.

CHURCH:

The east wall, with 3 lancet windows was built in 1881, with a new ceiling, and an organ was installed in 1890. At some time there was an extension on the east wall of the tower. On the west wall of the tower are now to be seen 2 roof lines: the top is of the chapel, and the second is of the schoolmaster's house. When in 1829 the Old chapel was ordered to be taken down, it had been used for a year

BRIDGE:

The wooden bridge was replaced by one of stone, with a stone and timber 'raft' at its base to prevent the spring floods washing the foundations and bed support from the bridge.

MEMORIAL:

The memorial in the centre of the square was built on the site of the monastery well, and was built in 1887, Victoria's Jubilee Year. It is probable that it was built around the village pump - the water supply for the square.

VICARAGE:

A second vicarage was built on the site of the first - in Victorian Gothic style, in the middle of the century.

COTTAGES:

The cottages built out from the gatehouse were demolished around the turn of the century, and rebuilt as the row opposite the school. (c.1900)

POPULATION:

The first figures available are 1801.

1801 : 366	1831 : 454	1861 : 474
1811 : 518	1841 : 476	1871 : 407
1821 : 412	1851 : 491	1881 : 293
		1891 : 276

These figures reflect the importance of the lead industry. Most of the population lived at Shildon, and Blanchland was the church, the inn, and probably the traders were there, near the old Corbridge road, rather than up the little valley of Shildon.

key:

- P site of lost livestock pound
- 2 first police house (includes cell)
- extent of 19th century building

THE ANGEL:

The second inn of the village, and dances were held. Opened during the century.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



COTTAGES:

The row opposite the school built from cottages by gate. (see 19th cent. sheet). c.1900.

VICARAGE:

The second vicarage was burnt down, and rebuilt on the same site in 1939. Owned by Church of England, as is the Abbey Church.

CHURCH HALL:

In 1935 the Church Hall was built with cooperation between villagers & trustees (based at Durham), and all dances were held there on Saturday nights, and the Angel became an annexe to the Lord Crewe Arms. In the 'sixties, the hall was virtually rebuilt, and given a new roof and stone walls.

HOTEL:

Tennis court and fuel tanks have been installed behind the hotel for hotel use, but local children use tennis court for tennis and football.

POLICE:

The new Police House was built in 1966, and cost £7,000, the stone being brought from Westmoreland, and the house being designed in cottage style. Owned by Northumberland Constabulary.

CAR PARK:

Built in 1967 on site of allotment gardens on site of cattle pound. Gravel on clay finish. Trust-the-Motorist, 6d per day (reduced from 1/- per day) scheme. Holds over 70 cars.

LAUNATORIES:

Built c. 1965 for visitors use. Ladies - 2 bowls. Gents - 1 bowl & double urinal.

GARAGES:

Many outbuildings have been converted into garages and workshops. (see property use & occupations).

SCHOOL:

A small kitchen extension has been added to the school. Playground tarmaced.

SURFACES:

Roads tarmaced, though side roads gravelled, or gritted. Due to parking problems & heavy tourist traffic, squares defined from road by stone blocks, & squares gravelled, similarly outside school.

key:

□ 20th Century activity

T Television mast for village

G Garage/Workshop for Derwent Valley Lime Co. Ltd.

† Water tank 1965 collects & filters water from spring $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to north (Replaces 1935 tank)

G garage

E telephone exchange - automatic. 58 lines to village and local farms and mine. The main exchange is at Newcastle.

3. 1969

key:

monastic



1752



19th century



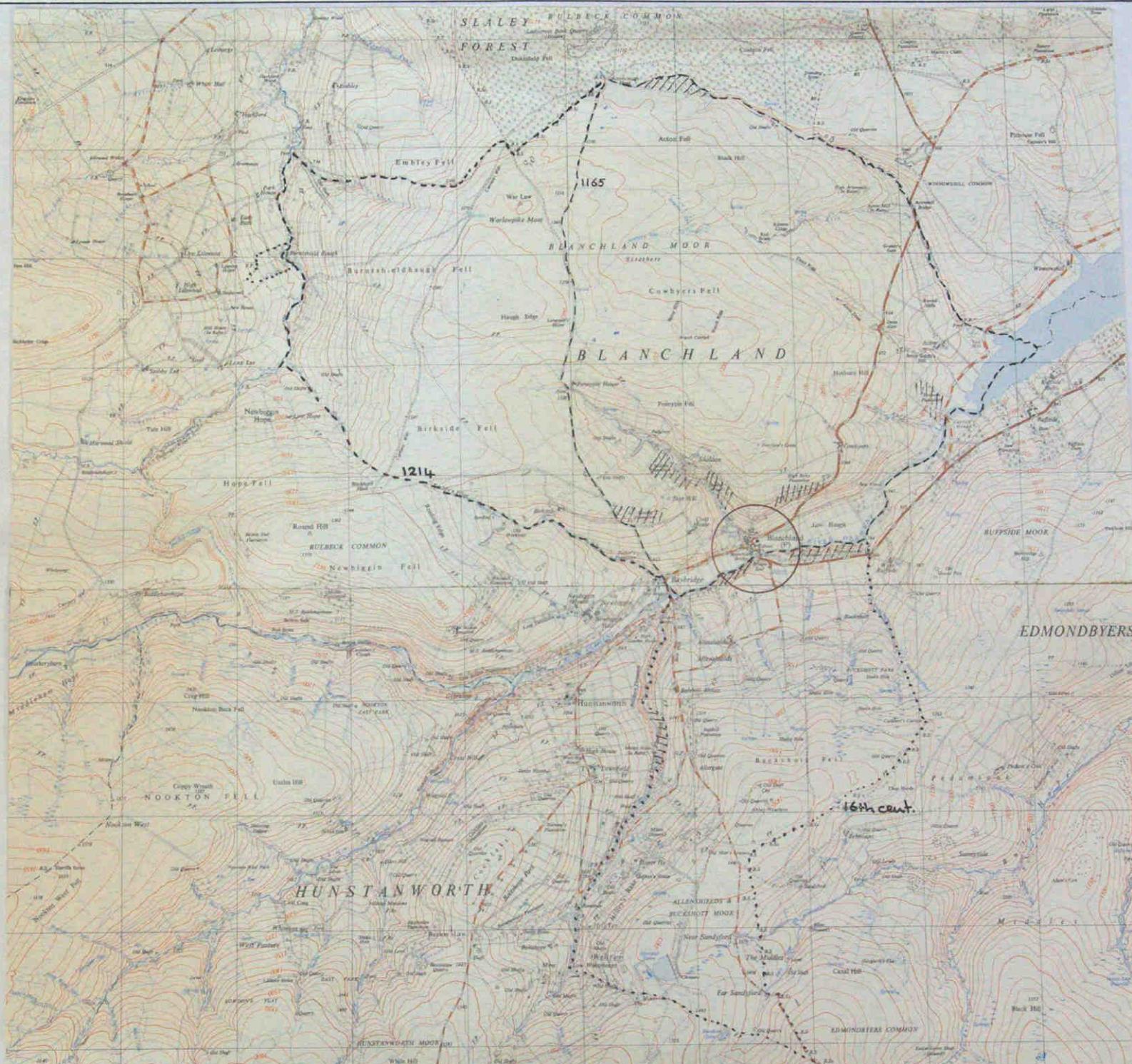
20th century



THE UPPER DERWENT VALLEY

showing mines, quarries,
the estate boundaries,
Crewe land sold to the
Forestry Commission (||||),
farms, physical features, etc.

scale: $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 1 mile



20TH CENTURY cont.

FARMING:

This has become the backbone of the economic structure since the decline of the lead industry. About a third of the population on the estate is involved in farming, or associated industries, e.g. haulage. Most grass crops are hay for fodder; and livestock is sheep, dairy cows, beef cows, suckling cows, and chickens.

POPULATION:

1901	232
1911	
1921	217
1931	207
1941	no census due to war.
1951	170 79 male 91 Female
1961	190

61 dwellings.

HOME PRODUCE:

From the abundance of wild fruit, many kitchens make jams and bottle fruit.
- The cottagers often have allotment patches of vegetables, herbs & flowers.

1969. The population within the village alone is 98.

MINING:

The fall of lead prices at the beginning of the century killed the lead industry, and villages and townships disappeared overnight - Shildon for example. However some mines are being reworked (Whiteheaps) to extract the fluorspar for use as a catalyst in steel manufacture.

QUARRYING:

Sandstone is quarried to the north for use as facings, fireplaces and crazy paving.

FORESTRY:

This is gaining in importance, as more land is put under timber, and the associative trade of gamekeeping continues, with partridge, grouse and pheasant, and control of rabbits and foxes, stoats and weasels.

TOURISTS:

Tourists to the village and countryside are obviously economically welcome, but on a hot summer afternoon they can triple the population of the village.

PROPERTY USE



key:

- dwellings
- 15 village stores
- garages & workshops
1 garage, P.O. van garage, estate's handymen's workshop above.
- hotel
- 9 office
- stores, barns etc.
- 4 hotel byres
- 5 hotel stores & garages
- 6 hotel kennels
- 7 hotel fuel tanks
- 8 pig houses now sheds
- 10 sheds
- 11 shop stores
- 12 stables & haysheds
- 16 dairy
- 'community' buildings
14 telephone exchange - automatic.
- disused
- 2 cottage being renovated
- 3 ex-vicar's-coachman's cottage
- 18 ex-privys
- 13 old billiard room above arch
- others
- 17 lavatories for cottages adjacent to hotel, and refuse point for hotel.

POPULATION & OCCUPATIONS

No.	NUMBER OF MALES & EMPLOYMENT	NO. OF FEMALES & EMPLOYMENT	DEPENDANT CHILDREN M F	No.	NO. OF MALES & EMPLOYMENT	NO. OF FEMALES & EMPLOYMENT	DEPENDANT CHILDREN M F
1	1 Ladycross Quarry	1		23	1 shop	1 shop	college 2
2	1 Whitelands Mine	1	1 1	24		1 schoolteacher	
3	1 Farm contractor	1	1	25	2 Retired Consett Iron Co.	3 telephone exchange solicitors office	
4	1 Parish Priest	1 Housekeeper		26		1 retired	
5	1 Farm labourer	1		27		1 retired	
6	1 Whitelands Mine			28	1 retired	1 retired	1 1
7		1 cooks school dinners		29	-	1 retired	
8	1 Water Board	1	2	30	1 retired	1 retired	
9		1 retired		31	1 Mine	1	2
10*		1 retired		32	1 civil engineer	1	1 1
11	1 Estates handyman	1	2	33	1 farmer		
12+	1 manager	1		34	1 Mine	1 runs youth club	1 3
13	1 Postmaster	1 Assistant in P.O.	1 2	35	1 demolition at Consett	2 secretary Consett I.C	1
14	1 Haulage Contractor & Partner in Mine	1		36	1 Haulage Contractor	1 Landlady	1 2
15		1 retired		37		1 retired	
16		1 secretary at mine		38		1 retired	
17	1 invalid	1 Postlady		39	1 retired	1 teas	
18	1 retired	1 retired		40	1 retired	2 retired	
19	2 retired			41*			
20°		2 chambermaids		42	1 Mine	1 School Caretaker teas	
21	1 retired	1 retired	college	Total	31	43	18 14
22	1 Policeman	1	1 1				

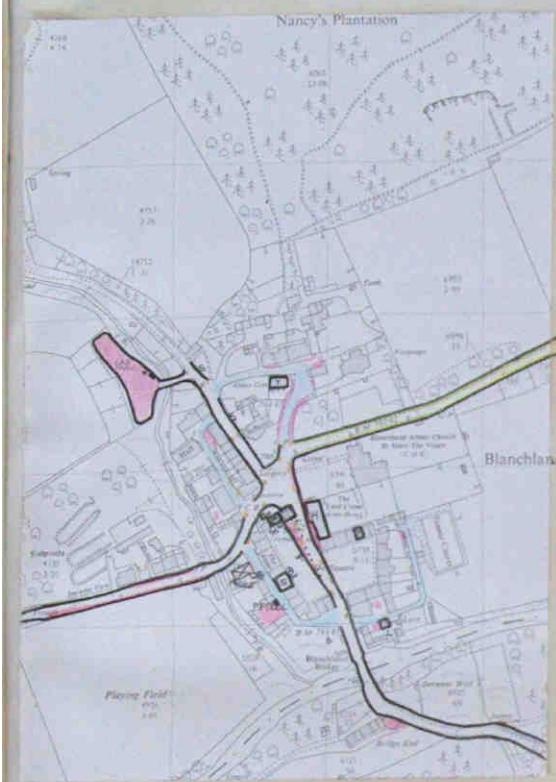
* Cottage still used as surgery by visiting doctor

+ Hotel

° Hotel annexe: + 2 Fem. chambermaids @ weekends in summer

" Hotel office

TRAFFIC, PARKING & TOURISTS

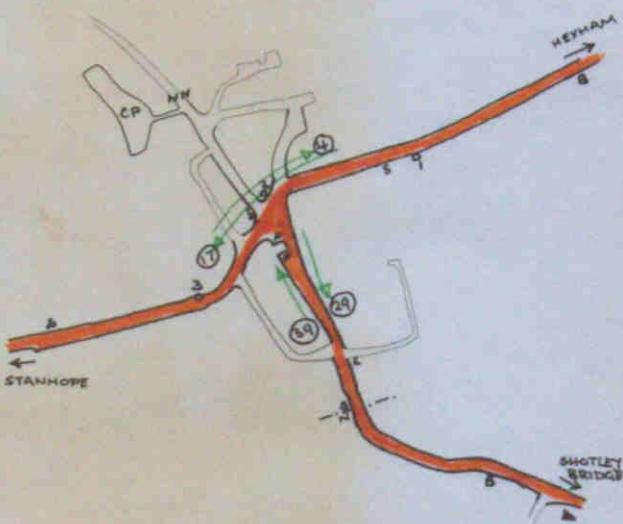


signs and facilities:

key:

- [] Afternoon teas served during the summer. // indicates facilities for eating outside.
- [] Hotel serving lunches & dinners, bed & breakfast, with public bar, saloon bar & cocktail bar.
- [] Grocery shop - sweets, soft drinks, ice creams.
- [W] Waste Paper Bins. Effective due to their positions.
- [L] Lavatory, 2 women, 1 man + double urinal. Used a great deal on hot summer afternoons, to the extent that queues form.
- [P] Post Office, + ices, sweets, souvenirs, postcards, cacti (local grown!) etc.
- [S] Public seats.
- [TB] Telephone Call Box.
- [PR] Private Roads.
- [Y] No waiting at any time, indicated by yellow lines & signs.
- [N] No waiting bollards put out on Saturdays & Sundays in summer/Bank Holidays by the policemen at 19.00 a.m. & collected the following morning.
- [P] Petrol Two Esso pumps, advertised at [B]. Nearest Garage at Stanhope & Heslam.

indicates places where cars are consistently parked. Cars travelling north across the bridge would be more likely to park in the square, as they do not pass any directions to a car park. Also motorists who have no idea how far away the car park is when they see the sign, might still rather park in the village or on a road just outside, out of laziness. This is especially so when the 'no waiting' bollards are not up.



Through Roads
01 Guideposts: Stanhope + Shotley Bridge
02 Stanhope Car Park
03 Stanhope to Hexham (of Corbridge II)
04 CP on side of house: Car Park
B BLANCHLAND

— N Northumberland Indicator

N No Through Road

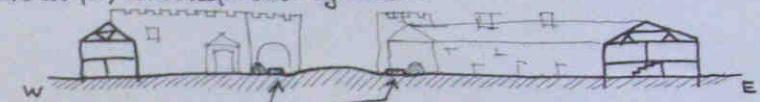
S School warning

n.b. there is no speed limit through the village.

Tourists visit Blanchland throughout the year, but obviously it is during the summer months, July to September, that they visibly alter the village.

On a warm dry summer afternoon there are up to 250 extra people in the village, as opposed to the 100 in situ population. Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays see the maximum tourists.

The maps show in what ways the vehicular tourists are catered for, and defended against.



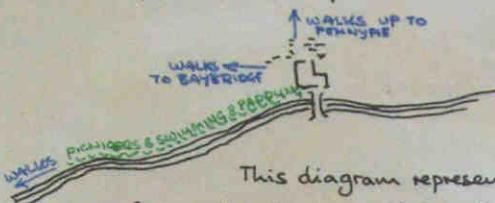
The road through the square has been defined by stone kerbs recently, with large rough hewn stones behind (to act as a guide when kerbs covered with snow), as tourists were driving up to the cottages and causing jams, and litter, and causing irritation to the inhabitants. The car park was provided, and 'no parking' enforced.

The central diagram displays green arrows: these represent a survey on an August Sunday afternoon, when all the through traffic over the period 3.00 pm - 3.30 pm was recorded, to compare to the parked traffic. The figures in circles show how many cars passed along that direction without stopping. At the time the car park contained 23 cars at 3.00, and 45 at 3.30, and it would probably be fair to say that from these and other observations, that on the 'tourist' days, half of the visitors during the afternoon, do not stop, or do not stop for longer than a few minutes. They come from all over the north of England, Scotland, and the U.S.A., especially, though it would be reasonable to say that the foreign guests usually remain at least one night in the hotel.

The maximum number of tourists occurs between 4.00pm and 5.30pm, but builds up from 11.00 a.m.

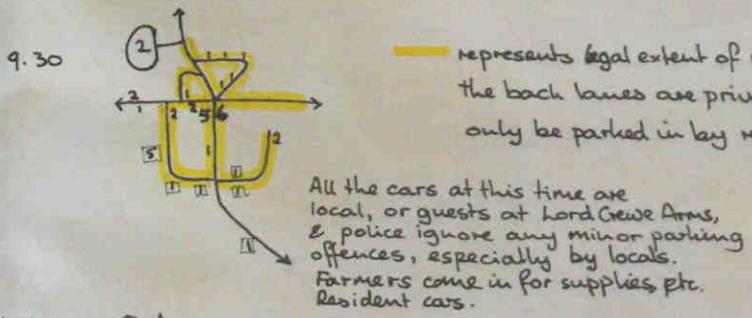
TRAFFIC, PARKING & TOURISTS cont.

The greatest menace to the tourist/inhabitant village's balance are the coach trips - these can land up to 60 tourists in the village at any one time. On 'tourist' days there are up to about half a dozen such coaches over the afternoon.

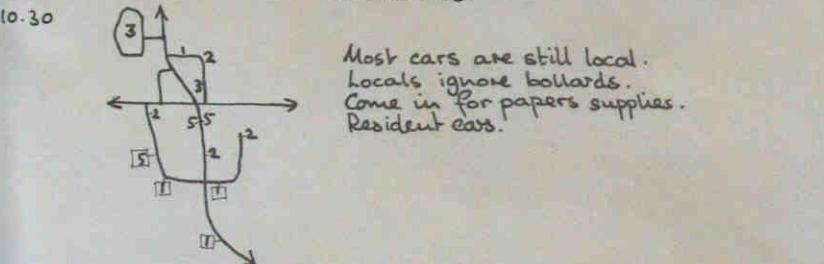


This diagram represents the major activities of tourists who leave their vehicles in the village, and move out from the village.

PARKING OVER THE DAY ON AN AUGUST SUNDAY - WITH COMPARISONS WHEN NO PARKING BOLLARDS ARE AWAY:

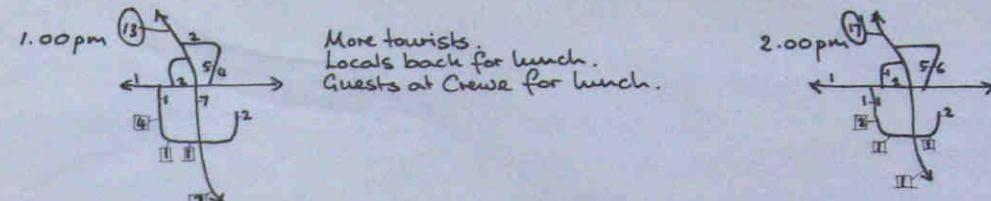
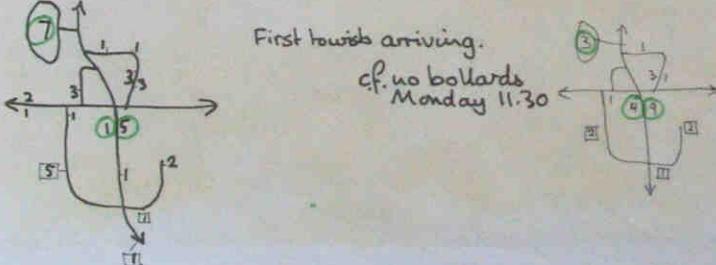


Most cars are still local. Locals ignore bollards. Come in for papers supplies. Resident cars.

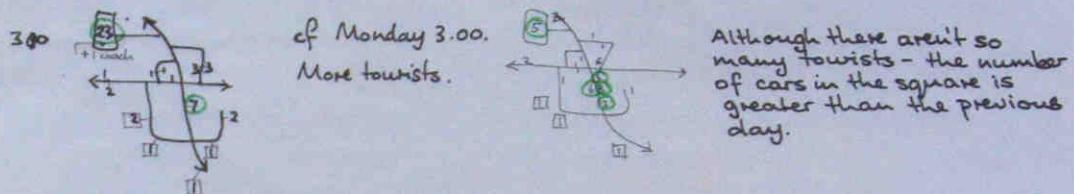


First tourists arriving.

c.f. no bollards Monday 11.30

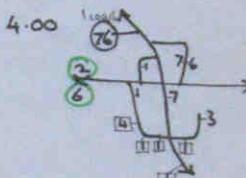


More tourists. Locals back for lunch. Guests at Crewe for lunch.

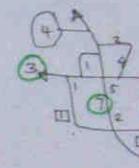


c.f. Monday 3.00. More tourists.

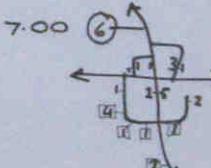
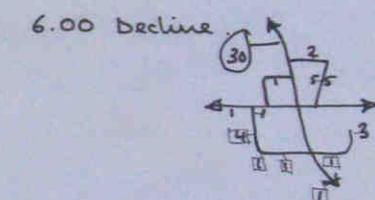
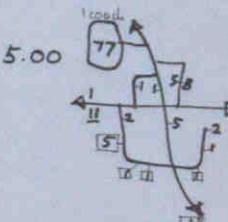
Although there aren't so many tourists - the number of cars in the square is greater than the previous day.



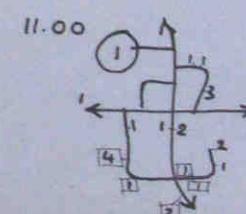
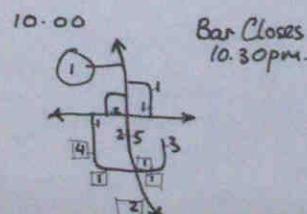
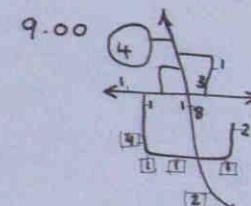
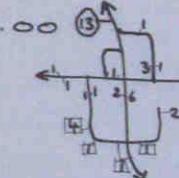
c.f. Monday 4.00. Many tourists. Beginning to look for more parking space



Continuation of existing trends.



Only village activity at Lord Crewe Arms. Influx of locals.



Although these figures are only taken over one day, they confirm trends observed over 1 month.



key:

S chemical purification plant

— 1752 drains

— 1966 sewer. Very necessary when flush lavatories replaced dry privy's, in 1964. Until 1966 privy's emptied at night by horse & cart.

SERVICES 2



key:

- main telephone line
- T automatic telephone switchboard. 58 Blanchland lines - including farms, mines, Shildon etc.
- t telephone kiosk
- electricity line, above and below ground.
- x transformer
- water pipe from spring
- W settling tank
- 1935 tank
- Lord Prewe Arms oil tanks.
- H Commercial T.V. line and aerial

refuse collection:

9.30 a.m.-10.30 a.m. Thursday.

The wagon drives from Hexham empty, and then returns, tipping at Staley. It returns on Monday p.m. to make a special collection from the Lord Crewe Arms.



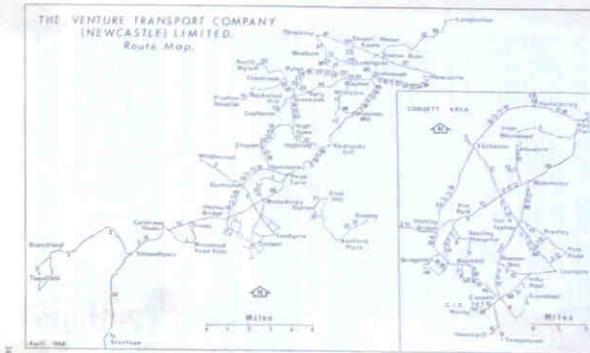
bus service:

CONSET-

TAR (1843)		The Traction Transport Co. (Hemel Hempstead) Ltd.						via Edmundbyers		Services	
CONSETT - BLANCHLAND - TOWNFIELD										3	
Daily	N&B	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm
CONSETT, Box Station	7 15	11/2	7 15	8 15	9 30						
Hawthorn, C. & G. Woods	7	15	7	15	8 30						
Moorwood, Box Ends	7	35	7	35	8 30						
Carterway Heads, Pleaser House	8	45	8	45	8 45						
Edmundbyers, Box Office	9	50	11/2	9 50	10 50						
Edmundbyers, Post Office	9	50	11/2	9 50	10 50						
Blanchland, Box Office	10 05	12/2	10 05	11 05	12 05						
Blanchland, Lord Crewe	10 05	12/2	10 05	12 05	13 05						
TOWNFIELD, School											
Blanchland, Lord Crewe	10 10	12/2	10 10	12 10	13 10						
Kirkley, Box Station	10 15	12/2	10 15	12 15	13 15						
Edmundbyers, Post Office	10 25	12/2	10 25	12 25	13 25						
Carterway Heads, Pleaser House	10 25	12/2	10 25	12 25	13 25						
Moorwood, Box Ends	10 30	12/2	10 30	12 30	13 30						
CONSETT, Box Station	10 45	12/2	10 45	12 45	13 45						
EDMUNDBYERS, Box Office	11 04	12/2	11 04	12 04	13 04						

CODE: F38—Not Sunday
On Tuesdays the 9, 15 a.m. and 2, 15 p.m. journeys from Caversham are diverted between Blundell and Yatefield via Yatefield

CODE: NSau-Nst Sundays



TEXTUAL

Saturday - Hexham bus arrives 10.00 am from Hocham & immediately returns.
Repeated at 3.00 pm.

Tuesday - Similar

COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

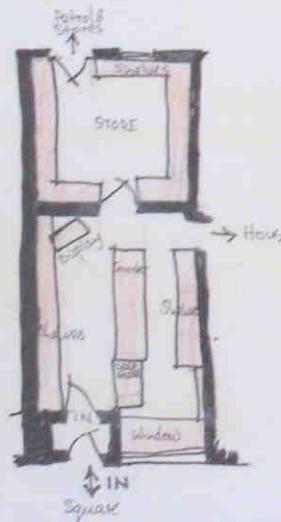
shop:

Open - 9.00am - 5.30pm, Winter; 1.00 - 2.00 lunch. Monday p.m. closed.
9.00am - 7.30-8.00pm. Summer.

Sells - Groceries, sweets, ices, soft drinks, small household objects in winter.
In winter main trade, provisions, but in summer the profit comes from sweets, ices & pop.

Deliveries - ice cream each Thursday in summer from Blaydon.
Friday, once monthly, lemonade from Gateshead.
Monday, Wednesday & Friday, during the summer, takes bread
from travelling baker for visitors.
Pies & cakes every other Thursday from Newcastle.
Frozen food from South Shields every Monday.
Petrol every 10 days from North Shields.

Daily Timetable - 9.00 am open. After removing bacon from freezer 8.00.
9.00. cut bacon.
Manager visits Hexham in van for gen. provisions on
Monday, and vegetables Tuesdays & Thursdays.
11.00 am in summer trade builds up from tourists.
Closed 1.00pm - 2.00pm.
Closes 7.30pm.



post office:

G.P.O.: Mail increases in August to May, when football packs form majority of post.

Sorting & Collecting office at Consett - from where 1st van arrives with post at 8.55am & post delivered around village by postlady.

2nd post van arrives at 2.10, and collects mail from Box, for Consett sorting.
First van remains in village until next morning.

Open 6½ days a week 8.30 a.m. - 8.30pm in summer close 12.30-1.40pm.
Half day Tuesday. 8.30 a.m. - 6.00pm in winter, or dusk on Sundays.

Deliveries to 3 farms are by the postlady, but a postvan delivers to the further farms.

Retail:

Cigarettes, novelties, toys, sweets, soft drinks, papers, magazines, postcards, cachette.
Papers arrive on the bus at 10.00am, and they are bought from the shop. Collected by P.O. car on Sundays from Consett.

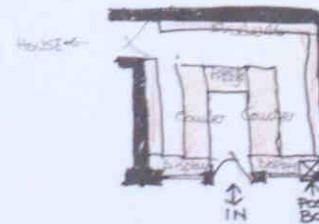
Deliveries:

Cigarettes - once in 5 weeks from Newcastle.

Novelties - order at beginning of year and repeat as necessary; come from Newcastle.

Sweets - travellers every 5 weeks.

Holidays: A relief from Ebchester is supplied once a year for 2 weeks.



COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

Lord Crewe Arms

Facilities:

- a) Bars -
 - Crypt Bar - the Public Bar. - capacity 35. Darts.
 - Derwentwater Bar - Lounge Bar - capacity 20 - chess & dominoes.
 - Cocktail Bar - capacity 20.
- b) Rooms -
 - 4 doubles 1 single
 - 7½ doubles 2 single at Angel Annex + t.v. room.
 - Dining Room.

Licensing hours:

10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

6.00 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. with extensions in the dining room.

On Friday nights and Saturday nights there is often singing to guitars and the bar has been known regularly to be serving at 12.00 p.m. The hotel is leased to Vaux breweries at Newcastle.

Employees:

There are 4-5 local employees, but during the summer students work, their accommodation being at Baybridge. There is accommodation for 2 staff at the Angel.

Guests:

March → September, tourists and business visits } full. 20% U.S. tourists.
August → September, shooting parties.

October → March, businessmen, some tourists, - half full.

Provisions:

Thursday mornings the brewers wagon arrives.

Monday & Friday am the vegetables collected by the manager from Hexham, & on Tuesday from Newcastle.

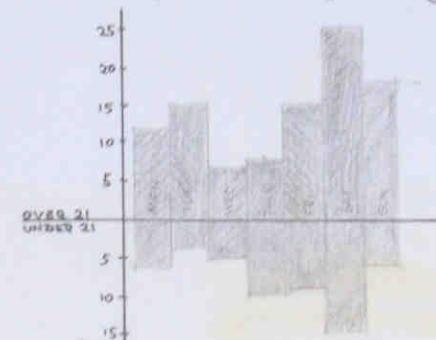
Monday & Thursday, bread from Hexham.

Wednesday & Saturdays the laundry van collects & delivers washing.

The Bars:

These are the only evening activity in the village.

The lounge is used generally by those wishing to play dominoes and chess. The former being a very popular game.



Average weekly contents of the Public Bar at 9.30 p.m. (taken over 1 month).

There is considerable variation, although Saturday & Friday are generally full.

Random sample taken on a Saturday night showing where the place of departure, and means of arrival, of the population in the bar on a Saturday night.

male

+ Blanchland	11 walk 1 car!
Bardon Mill	1 car
+ Bay bridge	1 walk 1 car
Gateshead	4 car
Durham	1 car
Blaydon	3 car
Roxburghe	1 car
+ Hunsdaleworth	1 scooter 1 bus 1 car
Slaley	1 car
+ Rockhope	1 car
Townfield	1 bus
Manchester	1 car

female

+ Townfield	2 bus
+ Baybridge	2 walk
+ Blanchland	2 walk
Burham	1 car
Blaydon	1 car
Roxburghe	1 car
+ Hunsdaleworth	1 scooter 1 car
Carlisle	1 car

This gives an impression of the bar's draw of locals⁽⁴⁾ and of the range of other visitors. The couple from Manchester & Carlisle were using the hotel as a rendezvous.

COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

Derwent Valley Lime Co. Ltd:

This haulage company based in the village, and with a garage at the top of the bank on the south side of the bridge, has 3 lorries, which collect, deliver, and spread fertilizers, etc. to the local farms.

Spring. 1 lorry on animal Feeds.

1 lorry on lime & slag.

1 lorry on Manure.

Summer: 2 lorries on lime & slag & manure.

1 lorry on straw from Nottingham.

Autumn. 3 on slag and feed.

Winter. Foodstuffs, Hay & Meal.

The Lime comes from Durham.

The Slag is from Scunthorpe

The Manure is from Goole.

The Feed is from Scarborough and Thornton-le-bale.

afternoon teas:

Two cottages in the village (see Occupations) serve afternoon teas to tourists during the summer months. They are very popular, being cheap, good food, and 'cottagey'!

milkman:

Village milk comes from the herd of cows at Rope Barn. The herd is 21 cows, and what is left goes to the Newcastle Co-operative Society. The milk is brought down to the village each morning about 10.00, in the boot of the farmer's car, bottled, and extra in a churn. Houses delivered to.

annual local show:

1969
BLANCHLAND AND
HUNSTANWORTH SHOW
THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION
of
FLOWERS, FRUIT, VEGETABLES, INDUSTRIAL
CHILDREN'S WORK, etc.
will be held at Blanchland
On SATURDAY, 30th AUGUST, 1969

SPECIAL FIELD ATTRACTIONS:

PIGEON SHOOT at 2.30 p.m.
(Open and Novice Classes)

TRACTOR HANDLING BLOCK CONTEST

CHILDREN'S SPORTS
(Fancy Dress Contest at 3.0 p.m.)

SHEEP CLASSES

VARIOUS OTHER EVENTS and SIDESHOWS

Whist Drive and Dance at Night

takes place in the recreation ground

education

Hexham School & Hexham Secondary School.

A minibus arrives in the village at 8.00 a.m. & leaves 8.05, and returns at 4.15 p.m., and parks by the primary school.

Consett Grammar School & Consett Secondary Modern School.

A coach drives through Blanchland at 7.45, to Townfield, and returns through village at 8.10. It returns through the village at 4.30 p.m. & 4.50 p.m.

shopping

Hexham: market days Tuesday and Saturday, and a bus leaves Blanchland at 10.00 am on those days. More pleasant than Consett, and those with cars use it more regularly. It is a day out.

Consett: very cheap - there are big supermarkets, and more buses. Also a swimming pool, used by children on a Saturday morning while the parents shop.

stock markets

Hexham: Every Tuesday - cattle mart - dairy, sucklers & beef. Begins 10.00 a.m.
Every Friday - sheep, pigs, poultry. Begins 10.00 a.m.

St. John's Chapel (Weardale): Large sheep show & sales, first week of October.

Stanley: as St John's Chapel.

health

Surgery: Every Monday afternoon a doctor from Consett is available for surgery in the village. There is a rota of doctors at Hexham, available for emergency calls.

Dentist: Dentists are at Hexham, Shotley Bridge, Consett & Newcastle.

Hospitals: Hexham General, Newcastle - Royal Victoria Infirmary, & General, & Shotley Bridge General.

Mental Hospitals: Newcastle & Spannington, near Morpeth.

Old People's Home & Sanatorium: Wooley - near Hexham.

police

The local policeman belongs to the Northumberland Constabulary, and the recent change to 8 hour shift means that he travels all round the county in a minivan, answering calls, accidents etc, and only twice a day does a car pass through Blanchland. Previously, and possibly in the future, there was a 24 hour discretionary beat - the policeman covering a local beat, once a day, at his discretion. His main duties in the village are legal advise, and setting out No Waiting signs at weekends, unless he is off duty, and a car is sent out to do it from his station at Corbridge.

authorities & facilities

The local council is at Hexham, and the Councillor for Blanchland lives at Shildon. Registrar, Library, Administrative, Taxation etc are all at Hexham. There is one nightclub at Hexham, a club at Consett, and a swimming pool at Consett. The nearest railway station is Hexham. Pubs at Edmundbyers (Punchbowl), Travellers Rest, Slaley, & Rose & Crown, Slaley.

travelling shops

Baker: from Consett, arrives about 12.00 noon on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, delivering to each house. Parks in square & by Abbeyview Cottage.

Butcher: from Newcastle, at 9.00pm parks around the village back streets, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays.

hairdressing

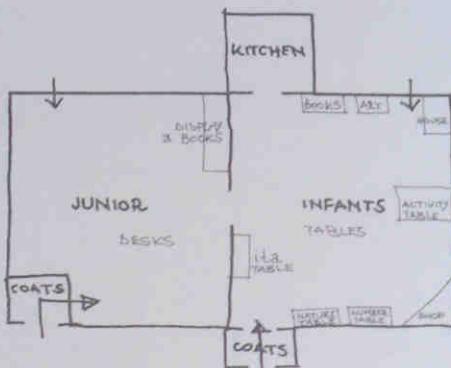
Salons at Consett & Hexham, but a lady from Hunstanton does ladies hairdressing around the village all day Friday, doing about 16 sets.

window cleaner

Window cleaner from Rudhoe about once a month weather permitting.

SCHOOL

The Primary school takes all the local children between the ages of 4 & 11. There are 22 children in two classes, with 2 teachers, both female, one living in the village, one in Edmundbyers. 12 children are in the infant class, and they will go into the junior class at the age of 7 or 8. In each class the children are grouped according to age, friends or ability. There are 3 terms of 12 weeks each.



The school uses up-to-date teaching methods and concepts, i.e. English, colour and shapes and materials, do-your-own thing encouraged. Very personal teaching.

There is a Board of 6 Governors + a Chairman, and is responsible to the County Council Education Committee, even though a Church School.

In 1969, 4 sat the 11+, and two passed to Hexham Grammar School, and two went to Hexham Sec. Mod. School.

DAILY TIMETABLE:

9.00am Morning assembly
 9.15 { news time - encourages conversation
 scripture - C of E school.
 9.35 English - discussions & help.
 listening to each other reading
 work - story & language activities - each day introducing
 more words and sounds.
 Group work.
 Matching.
 Booktime.

10.45 Break

11.00 P.E. in playground if warm.

11.15 number work & arithmetic - set & discuss work.
 groups.
 introducing new ideas.
 revision.

12.00 Social training and lunch. - teachers & children serve themselves, all taking their turn to serve.

1.00 JUNIOR

Mon, Tues, Fri. history of great explorers
 geography - Kou Tiki, boats,
 life in hot & temperate climates,
 commodities, lands etc.
 Projects.

INFANTS

Free activities - weighing, balancing,
 shop, paints, clay, cutting out,
 paper-mâché, tissue paper, number
 apparatus, shuttles, lego.

Wed. Thurs.

one combined open happening
 music appreciation.
 percussion band
 singing
 poetry
 drama.

3.00 stories, drama, poems, talking etc.

3.30 end of school day.

COMMUNITY

Church:

Services: Sunday 9.30 Parish Communion (c. 12 attendance)
6.30 Evensong (c. 10 ")
+ 11.00 am Parish communion at Hunsaworth.
Daily 8.00 am & 6.00pm. Matins and Evensong.
+ Wednesday 9.00am schoolchildren's service, when school in session.

The Parish of Blanchland is a joint parish, with that of Hunsaworth, under one vicar. See 2½" O.S. map for boundary. The Blanchland Parish Boundary follows very nearly the Estate Boundary, north of the river.

The main part of the Church is not heated, and so between Harvest Festival and Whitsun, the Lady Chapel is used for services, except at Christmas, when everyone brings mugs and hot water bottles, and at Easter; times when the Church is full. Choirs sometimes visit from other parishes, as the Church has no choir itself.

village hall:

Whist Drive - every other Saturday night.
Women's Institute; last Wednesday in the month.
A.T.C.; first Wednesday in the month.
Youth Club; every Tuesday 6-7.30 pm, about 16 people, 7-16 age group.

townfield youth club:

Meets every Friday, 7.00 pm. - 10.30 p.m.

tuffly club

Meets every Tuesday at 3.30 p.m. at the school. It is concerned with road safety and is attended by about 20 children between 3 and 7.

METHODISM

Methodism grew up in the area at the time of John Wesley's first visit to Newcastle in 1742. Among those converted under his preaching was John Brown, a farmer from Tanfield Lea, later moving to Low Spenn. The following year this now zealous preacher made his way up the Derwent Valley holding services as he went, until he reached Blanchland. Here he preached in a house and established the first Methodist congregation in the neighbourhood.

The cottage meetings, begun over two hundred years ago, are today the most prominent feature of Methodist life in the area. The round of homes open to the meeting follows the same pattern as two hundred years ago. Allenheads Farm, Shildon, Baybridge, and Blanchland. The only place mentioned years ago, but no longer frequented by Methodists, is the Lord Crewe Arms.

In 1747 John Wesley visited Blanchland, and sat on a tombstone in front of the abbey ruins, preaching to, and praying with, a very large congregation of lead miners. (see sheet 1539-1752).

The chapel was opened at Baybridge in 1867, its siting was witness to the wariness of the Church Commissioners who kept enthusiastic Methodists at arm's length from the village.

The present services are held there at 6.00pm on a Sunday, occasionally 2.30 p.m., and the chapel is on the Consett circuit of preachers.

Present membership:

Bay Bridge	2
BLANCHLAND	2
ALLENHEADS	4
SHILDON	2
TOWNFIELD	3
RAMSHAW	3
<hr/>	16 total

THE HEXHAM COURANT 1867 "Opening of Baybridge Chapel."

*Messrs. Joicey gave the land and a handsome donation of £50 besides. Ten months ago the foundation stone was laid by E. Joicey Esq., Whinney House, Gateshead, on the 19th October, 1866. Cost of building £1,000. Only £250 pounds was required to pay off this debt when the chapel was opened. Amongst the most prominent promoters were:

Mr Jasper Stephenson, Newbiggin House.

Mr Johnston, Cote House.

Mr Simpson, Bay Bridge.

Mr Bell, Blanchland.

The architect was Mr Wardle of Newcastle.

The Chapel was built entirely of white stone in the pointed Gothic style. The dressed portion of stone was from a quarry at Edmundbyers and the undressed stone was from Backstone Low quarry.

The chapel was built to seat 300 people.

The dedication sermons were preached by the Rev. Thomas McCullagh of Sheffield, a former minister of the Shotley Bridge Circuit."



3 playing field

When weather fine is used for football, but often is too muddy. The swings are not used too much by local children, but are very popular with tourists. 3 small swings, a slide and a rope hung from a tree, are provided. A Playing Fields Committee exists to be responsible for them. The swings are fenced in to protect them from the beasts which graze in the field.

5 winter

tobogganing takes place on the hillsides, and on the lane leading to the vicarage. Sledges are pulled all round the village.

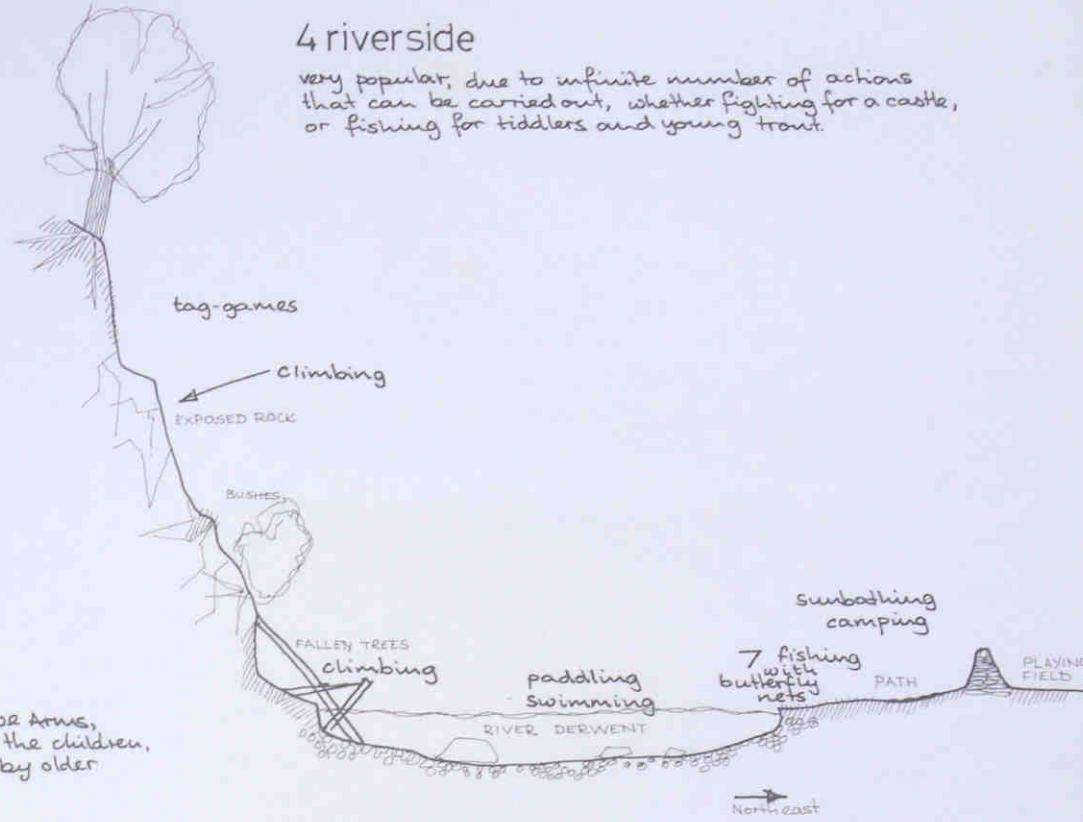
6 tennis court

for the use of residents at the Lord Crewe Arms, but rarely used by them, and used by the children, and adults for tennis, and football by older children.



Crewe stores

Although private, no objection is made to the younger children using the yards.



7 fishing

smaller children spend hours fishing for tiddlers and tiny trout in the bays and in the river

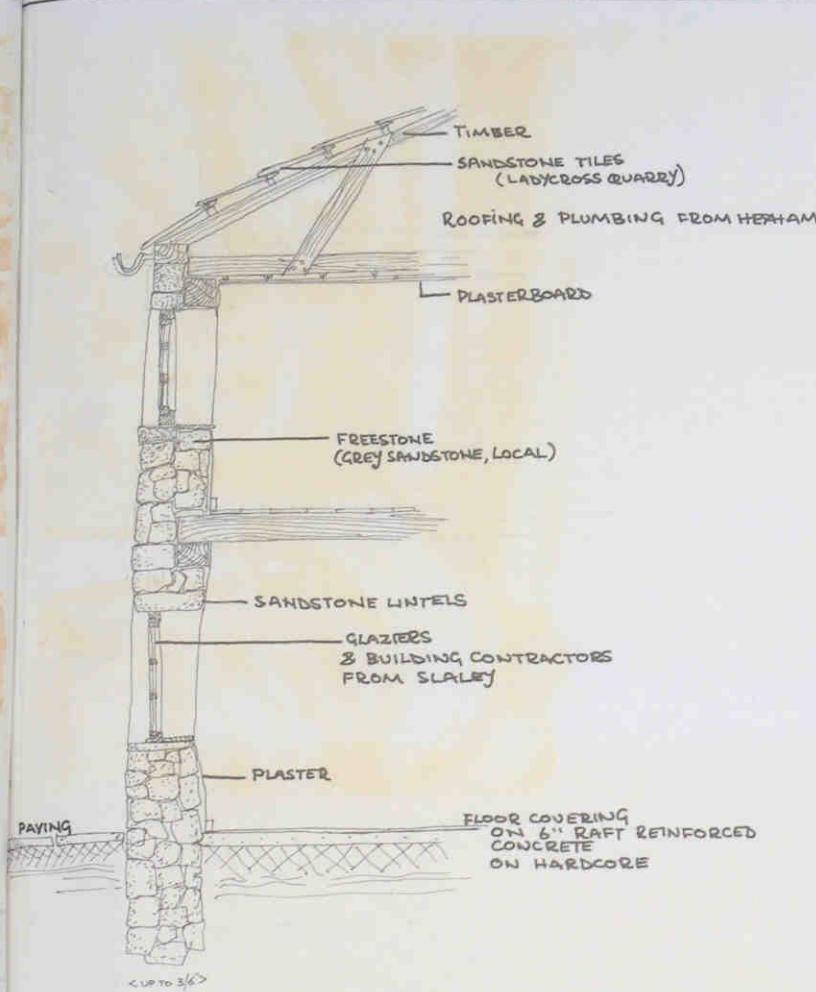
cycling

small children cycle around the villages, but older boys cycle within a 3 mile radius of the village.

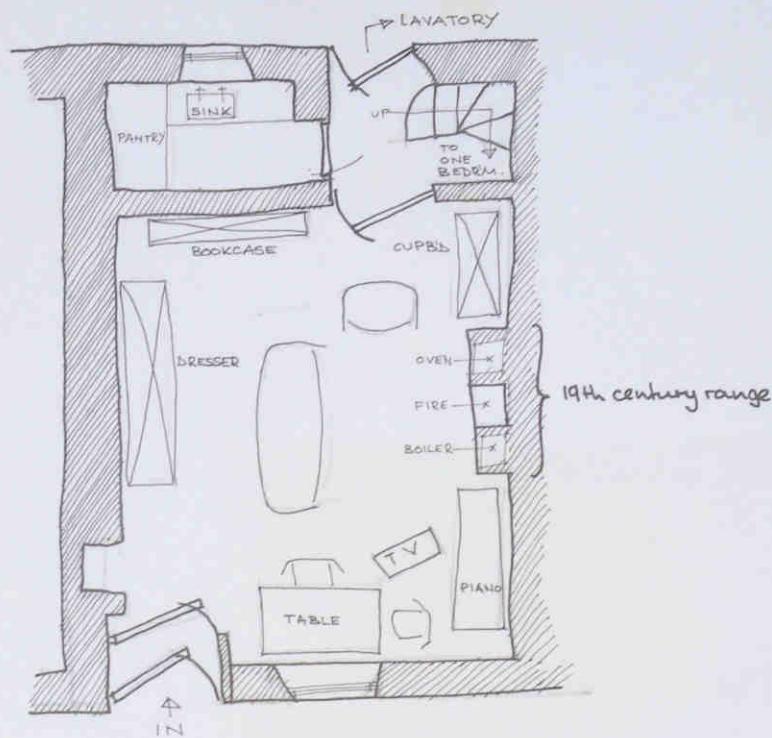
miscellaneous

farms are popular, to help groom horses or help generally, to hide in the hayfields behind the bales, fights, chases. Swimming at Gibraltar Pool, Hunsdonworth, or at Consett Baths, Friday nights & Saturday mornings. Hunt the Hare - a team game of hunting and tracking, all over the village & woods & fields. Picnics by the river, or behind the cottages in yards, fields, gardens.

CONSTRUCTION & SPACE ORGANISATION:



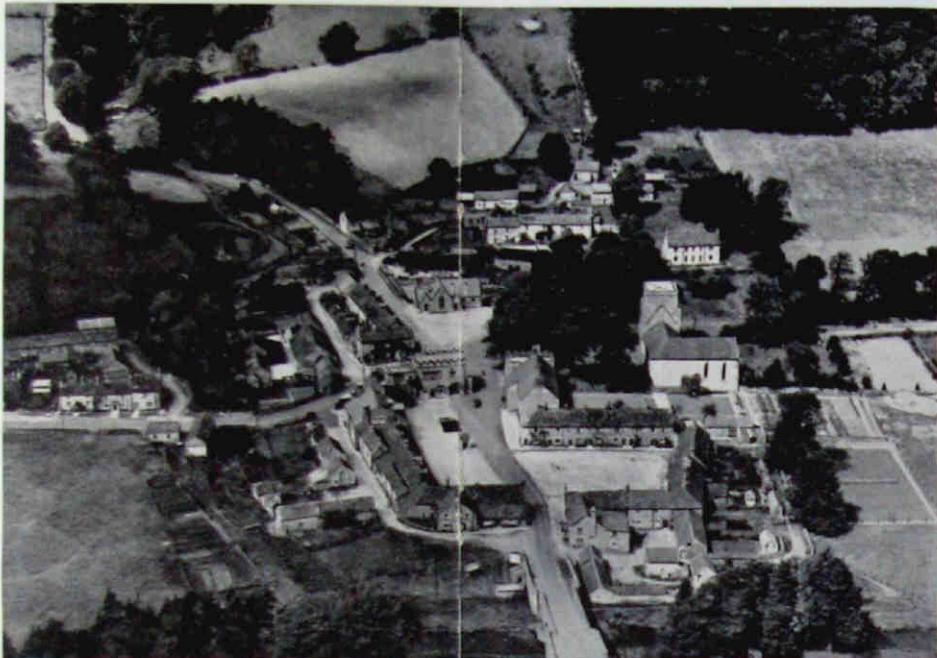
section to show materials & construction, typical of building in the village.



plan to demonstrate typical multi-purpose space

This plan, drawn from a cottage on the south side of the cloisters of the integrated living-cooking-eating-storage-entertainment space, is representative of the type found throughout the village. Many cottages now have bathrooms and lavatories within them, but even when there is a 2nd ground floor room, the activities are not divided up as indicated above, but the 2nd room becomes a 'special' room, where one takes one's boots off beforehand, or uses only on Sundays, or to watch television. This is a phenomena to be found through much of the north of England.

VILLAGE



view from south



view from the southward



Aerial view from the east



view from the south



view from the south

VILLAGE



Squareton



School



School

Abbot's Cott



South side of small square



village from bridge, showing small square



Village from the east
bridge

↑
square
↑
Old Crown Hotel
↑
Abbot's



East side, small square



South side, small square



The Angel & Mitre Inn, west & north corner of large square



large square from the north



School and Abbot's Cott from south, between gate & hotel



Huts on each side of 'long' square

VILLAGE



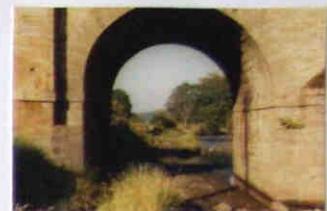
back street round small square and Buttercup, phone Nidderdale.



Linton's gateway - deepest lane indicating land of old wool



police station, back bank of post office



bridge, e. Derwent looking east



small, low, north end bank of bridge



old mill/agent's stores, limestone buildings



Ravens & Bridge End Cottages



Bridge End



water course



bottom end of village from back path



yard off back street behind sunnyside terrace



cottages on terrace home



steep buildings, rock end of terrace



hotel store, and dissolved buildings from south



yard behind south side, small square

VILLAGE



School

Alberley Cott.



Derwent View & cottages on Shrawlope Road from south.



Church Hall, from north east.



Telephone on north side of post office.



Telephone exchange, south side of village.



Unusual ridge of roof on Alberley Cott.



Church Hall, from yard on south side.



Interior of cottage in square.



Cottage gardens on east side of square.



Vehicles of the haulage company in the car park.



Derelict vehicles, next to the garage of the haulage company to south of village.



Cottage in corner at north of small square.



Light on corner of cottage, north east of bridge.



Light on corner of Alberleyview Cottage.



Materials in the square.



Ancient mill flywheel, against cottage next east of bridge.

VILLAGE - SERVICES



YORKSHIRE PETROLEUM



VILLAGE STORE



POST OFFICE



POST VAN ON THE ROAD TO WHITBY



VILLAGE STREET LINE WITH VILLAGE SHOP



VILLAGE SHOP



POST OFFICE



NEWSPAPERS ON DOUBLE DECKER



DELIVERY VAN



CYLINDRICAL GASOLINE TANKS



POWER SUPPLY TO NORTH OF BLANCHLAND



ANTENNA ON HILL NORTH OF BLANCHLAND



DELIVERY TRUCK



MILK DELIVERY FROM DAIRY FARMER

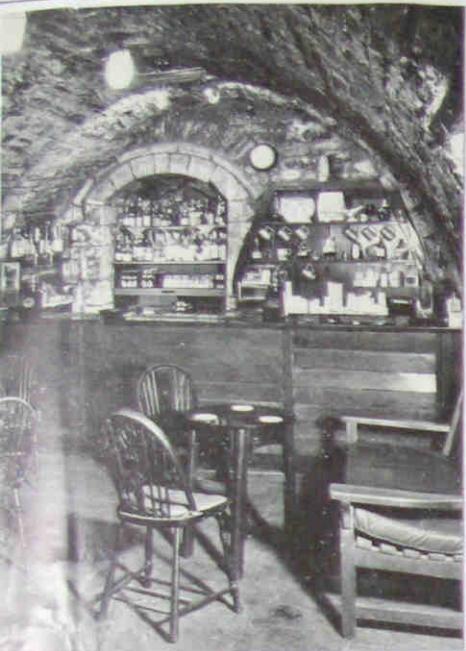


PUBLIC WATER FOUNTAIN



TREATMENT BUILDING BY RIVER

VILLAGE – HOTEL & TOURISM



Kitchen, small shop, matlock, gallery and no waiting

No waiting, boulders corrected by policeman, by goldstone

VILLAGE — PLAY



Hopeton Green



recreation field



recreation field



Holdgate north west corner of border.



Hill area - fine air park.



Climbing south side of Benfleet



The bendent



Hill, location of the bendent



Kilburn Barns behind Church Hall



picnic in a back street

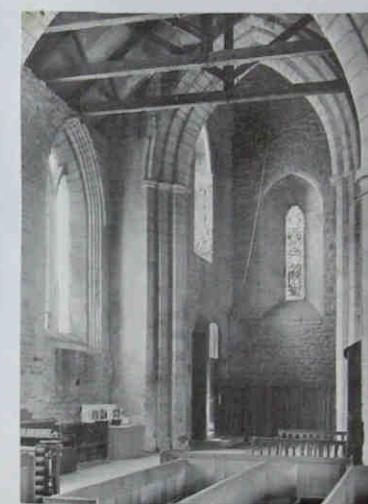


football in yard of hotel stores

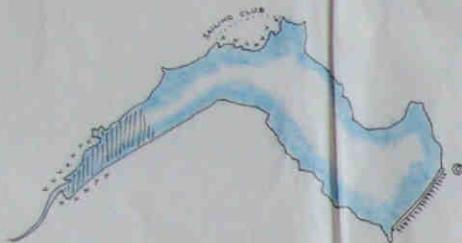


hotel kennels corner

PARISH



DERWENT RESERVOIR



KEY:

- x angling prohibited
- // no boats
- © off

FISHING

Licence available from reservoir offices at dam.

Licence for fishing in upper Derwent from Blanchland Post Office.

1968

11,023 anglers.

12,134 fish caught.

Best fish : Rainbow Trout 4lb 1oz
Brown Trout 2lb 9oz.

Statistics

Catchment and Yield

Direct catchment area	21,550 acres
Indirect catchment area	5,650 acres
Total	27,200 acres
Pipeline from indirect catchment area	
Length	1.8 miles
Diameter	48 in.
Average annual rainfall	37.5 in.
Average annual run-off	21.5 in.
Gross yield	32 m.g.d.
Average compensation water	9.75 m.g.d.
Yield for supply	26.25 m.g.d.

Reservoir

Length	5.5 miles
Maximum width	1 mile
Area of water surface	1,000 acres
Capacity	11,000 million gallons
Top water level (crest of overflow wall)	765 ft O.D.

Dam and Ancillary Works

Embankment	
Length at top water level	3,000 ft.
Level of top of embankment	765 ft. O.D.
Maximum height	115 ft.
Maximum width of base	1,100 ft.
Volumes of fill	2,600,000 cu.yd
River Diversion Tunnel	
Diameter	17 ft.
Length	1,900 ft.
Valve Shaft	
Diameter	19.5 ft.
Depth	115 ft.
Number of draw-offs	4
Overflow Weir	
Length	230 ft.
Discharge with water level at 730 ft.	9,400 cu.yds
Costs	£
Dam and ancillary works (tender price)	5,381,666
Road diversions (tender price)	291,325
Untreated water pipeline (estimated)	300,000
Total cost of works (estimated)	5,973,091
Building and civil engineering work	1,061,433
Plant and machinery (excluding the Board's pumping plant)	246,406

Built 1966

Abbreviations		British Unit	Metric Equivalent
ft.	foot, feet	1 ft.	0.305 m
in.	inch, inches	1 in.	2.54 cm
mi.		1 mile	1.61 km
acres		1 acre	0.405 ha
cu.yd.	cubic yard	1 yd ³	0.765 m ³
lb per sq.yd	pounds per square yard	1 lb/yd ²	0.543 kg/m ²
lb per sq.in.	pounds per square inch	1 lb/in. ²	0.0703 kg/cm ²
m.g.d.	million gallons per day	1 m.g.d.	4500 m ³ /day
cusecs	cubic feet per second	1 cusec.	0.0003 m ³ /sec.
ft.O.D.	feet above Ordnance Datum (mean sea level)		

CODE: HAMMOND & KELL LTD., MICHAEL AVENUE, WESTMINSTER

LADYCROSS QUARRY

Situated in Slaley Forest, at a point where the sandstone beds run horizontally. A section through the strata would show

- a) topsoil
- b) sandstone - block mass type
- c) boulder clay
- d) Coal - this was worked out mainly 1935-40, but it is still available in smaller quantities.
- e) fireclay
- f) plate - type of shale
- quarried { g) sandstone - thick strata
- h) sandstone - series of wafer strata.
- i) sand

The thicker sandstone is used for facing and fireplaces, and goes to Newcastle.

The wafer sandstone is used for crazy paving.

Stone is transported both by customers and by haulage contractors at Mickley.

There are five employees under a manager, and they rotas the tasks;

3 cutting, fracturing & dressing.

1 cutting & picking.

1 driving the digger.

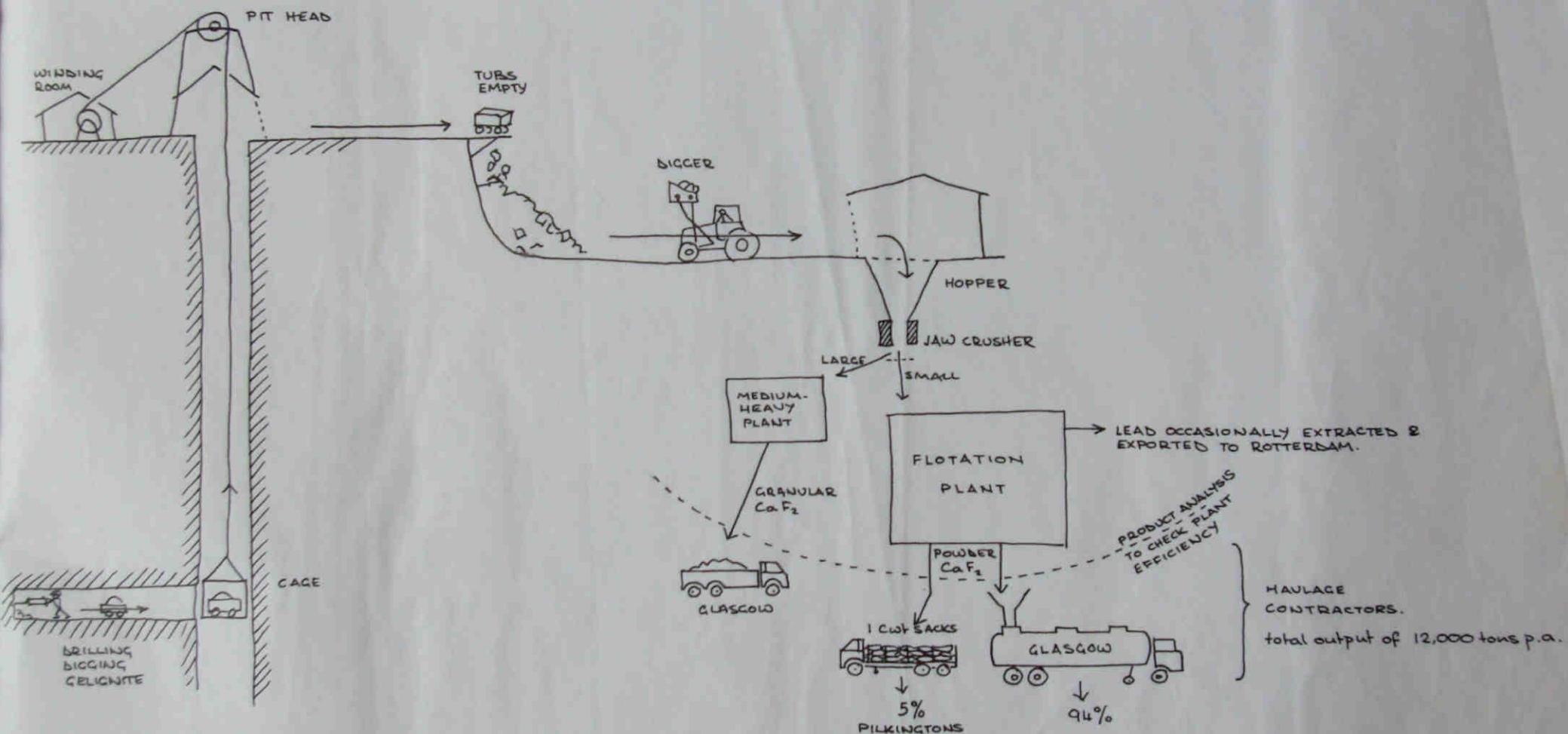
The stone is cut-out - sawn into lengths - fractured under pressure into blocks, which are then dressed with a chisel, and then sent away by lorry.

BLANCHLAND FLUOR MINES LTD — WHITEHEAPS MINE

Six men are collected in the village at 8.45 am, by a minibus from the mine, and are returned at 4.45 pm.

The Company have re-worked the lead mines, and extended them, to obtain fluorspar - calcium fluoride.

The spar is used in Glasgow blast furnaces as a flux in the manufacture of steel; and in the manufacture of glass, in the form of fluoric acid.



LADYCROSS QUARRY



MINING



FORESTRY WILDLIFE GAMEKEEPING

trees:

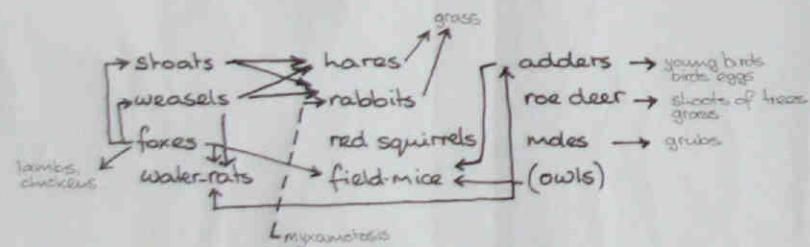
In the valley there are many deciduous tree-types - the most predominant being birch, oak, beech, ash, chestnuts, but as one climbs out of the valley, up the hillsides, first, rowan and beech become more common, and lastly the pines; mainly the Scots Pine and the Douglas Fir. The transition is due to the change in climatic conditions, and the worsening of the soils.

forestry:

The Forestry Commission have been buying land from the Estate over sixteen to seventeen years. They kill off the deciduous planting and replace with plantations of spruce, sauga and larch. The local office is at Hexham.

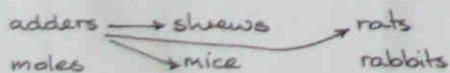
wildlife:

VALLEY;



birds - starlings, blackbirds, sparrows, tits, common, & earring crows, & jackdaws.

FELLS;



birds - curlews, golden plovers, fieldfares, larks, grouse.

FORESTRY PLANTATIONS; wood pigeons, no blackbirds, starlings, crows, jackdaws, pheasant.

gamekeeping:

The gamekeeper is responsible for the shooting tenants, and it is his responsibility to promote the quantity of game.

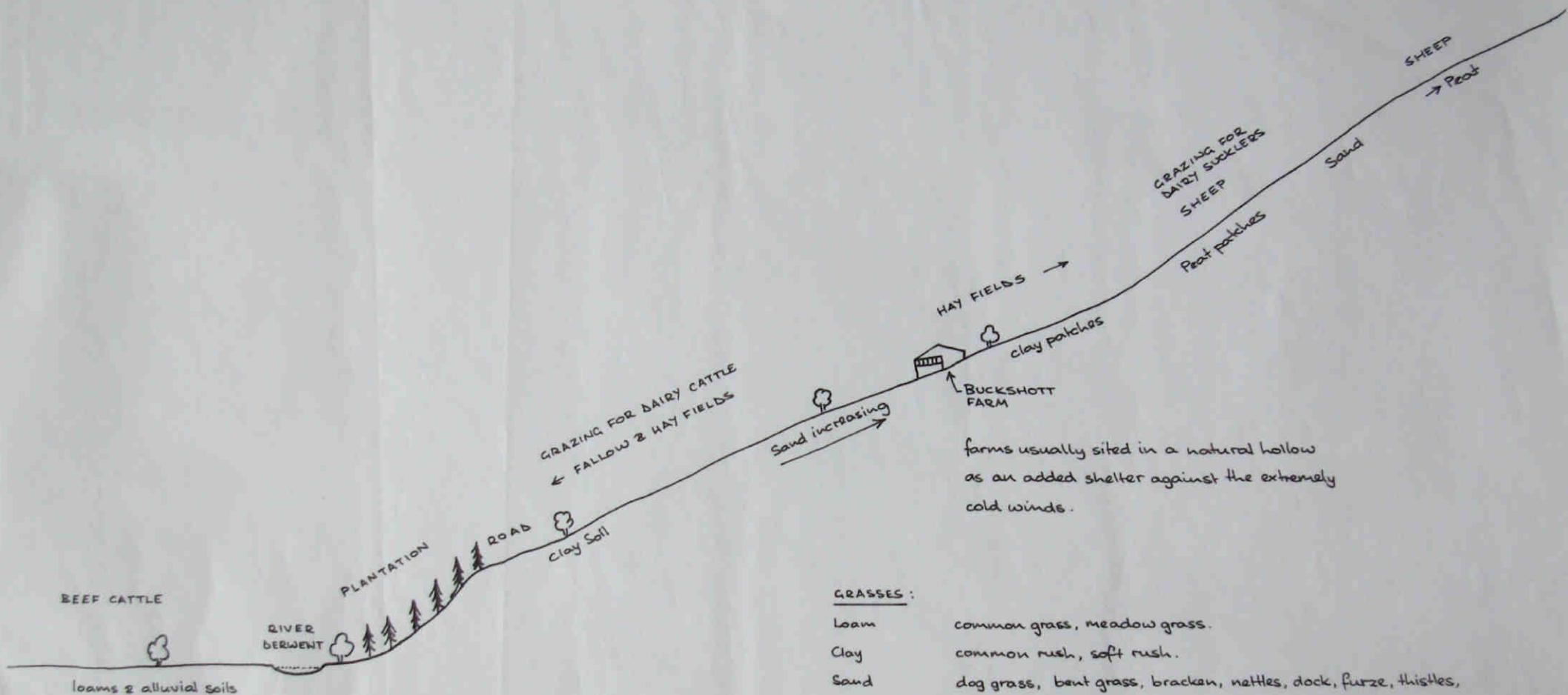
GROUSE - breed and live naturally. Eggs laid mid-April, hatch after three weeks. Shooting Season begins August 12th.

PHEASANTS - breed both naturally and controlled. First two weeks of June, the Keeper buys day old chicks from a game farm, and puts them onto broody hens. They are penned for six weeks before being put into the woods with the hens in moveable pens for three weeks. After this they are kept feeding, until shooting time in mid-November, on mixed grain.

PARTRIDGE - breed and live naturally. Feed themselves through the winter, but many die. Eggs are laid mid-June. Three weeks later they hatch and grow quickly. Shooting begins on 1st September.

Grouse like heather, partridge are found in the fields, and pheasants are woodland birds.

SOILS & GRASSES



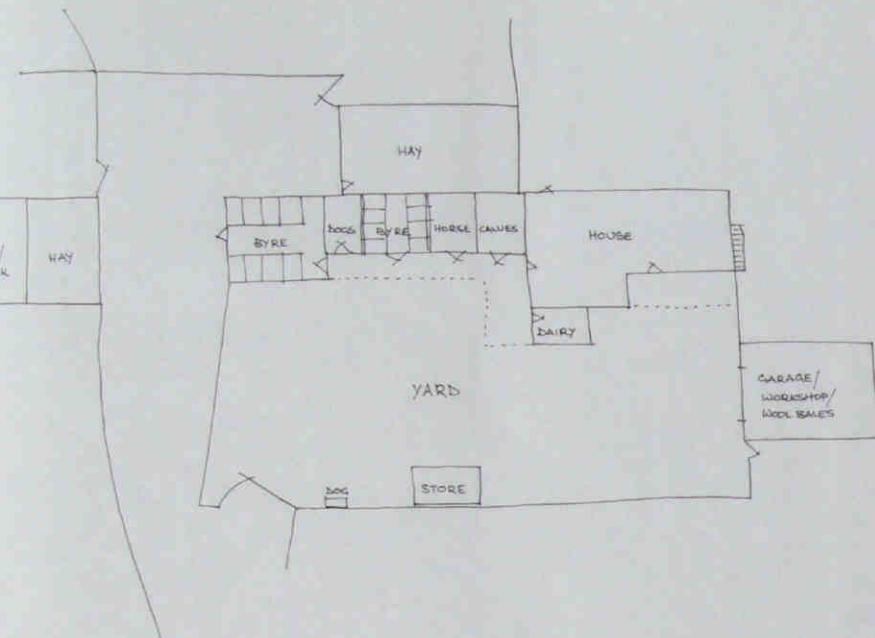
GRASSES :

Loam	common grass, meadow grass.
Clay	common rush, soft rush.
Sand	dog grass, bent grass, bracken, nettles, dock, furze, thistles, common grass, red clover, white clover.
Peat	heather, bracken.

GRASSES ON CULTIVATED FIELDS :

Hay grasses	rye grass, cocksfoot, timothy, meadow fescue, clovers.
Weeds	couchgrass, fathen, henbane, redshank, wild oat, thistles, wild coltsfoot, yorkshire fog, thistles, and on the higher pastures, common cotton grass.

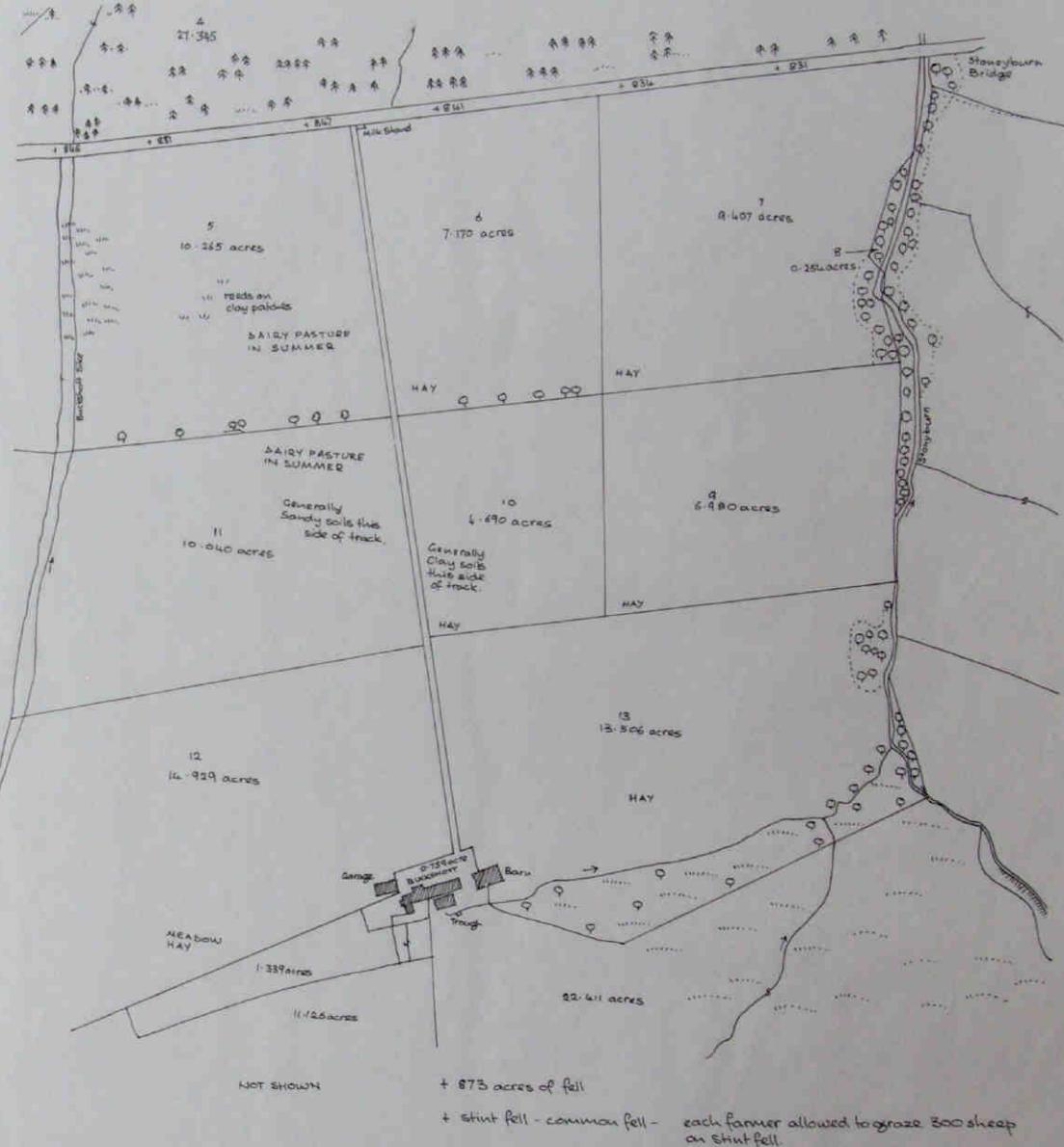
BUCKSHOTT FARM



Buckshot is fairly typical of the farms in the area, and as such most of the information herein, is derived from that source.

Variations: Cowbyers - no dairy cattle; an experimental farm run by "Farmer's Weekly". All beef cattle and sheep. Polythene barns are used for hay storage, and winter quarters for sheep. West Ruffside - specialises in horse breeding.

Buckshot hens provide eggs for farm consumption and for half a dozen orders in the village. It used to grow corn, but for a successful crop, the end of the year had to be mild, and as this was unreliable, the crop ceased to be sown. See over for cattle and sheep.



SHEEP

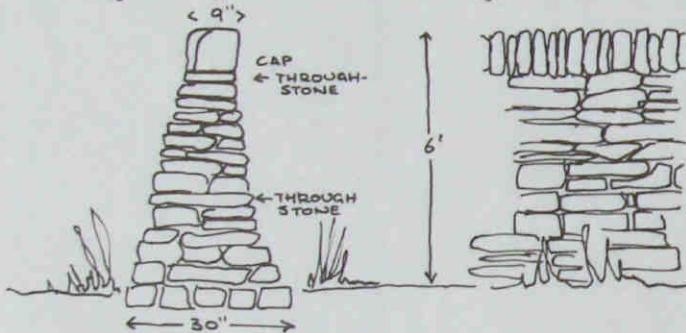
Buckshot possess 300 breeding ewes - swaledale sheep.

Lambing occurs between the end of March and the second week of May. The best ewes are kept, the rest sold. Weather lambs - the rams are castrated and sold for mutton in October.

In June to August the sheep are clipped, dipped & spooned (taken from the ewes). In September the sheep are inoculated with 2 c.c. broxy.

Serving: White-faced Leicester put on Black-faced Swaledale produces mule lambs. These are sold for mutton, but for the ewes, which are put with Suffolks, and these lambs are of a type suitable to the land and the weather. During the winter the sheep are kept inside for as long as possible.

The sheep wander about large areas of fell, walled in or fenced in. The walls are of the drystone type - i.e. without any mortar.



The sheep are often put onto the hay fields after the hay has been cut, baled and led-in for winter-fodder, even down to the fields by the River Derwent, at the end of the summer. The fields then have muck spread on them, and this is ploughed-in with the seeds for the next year's crop.

Prize Swaledale Ram

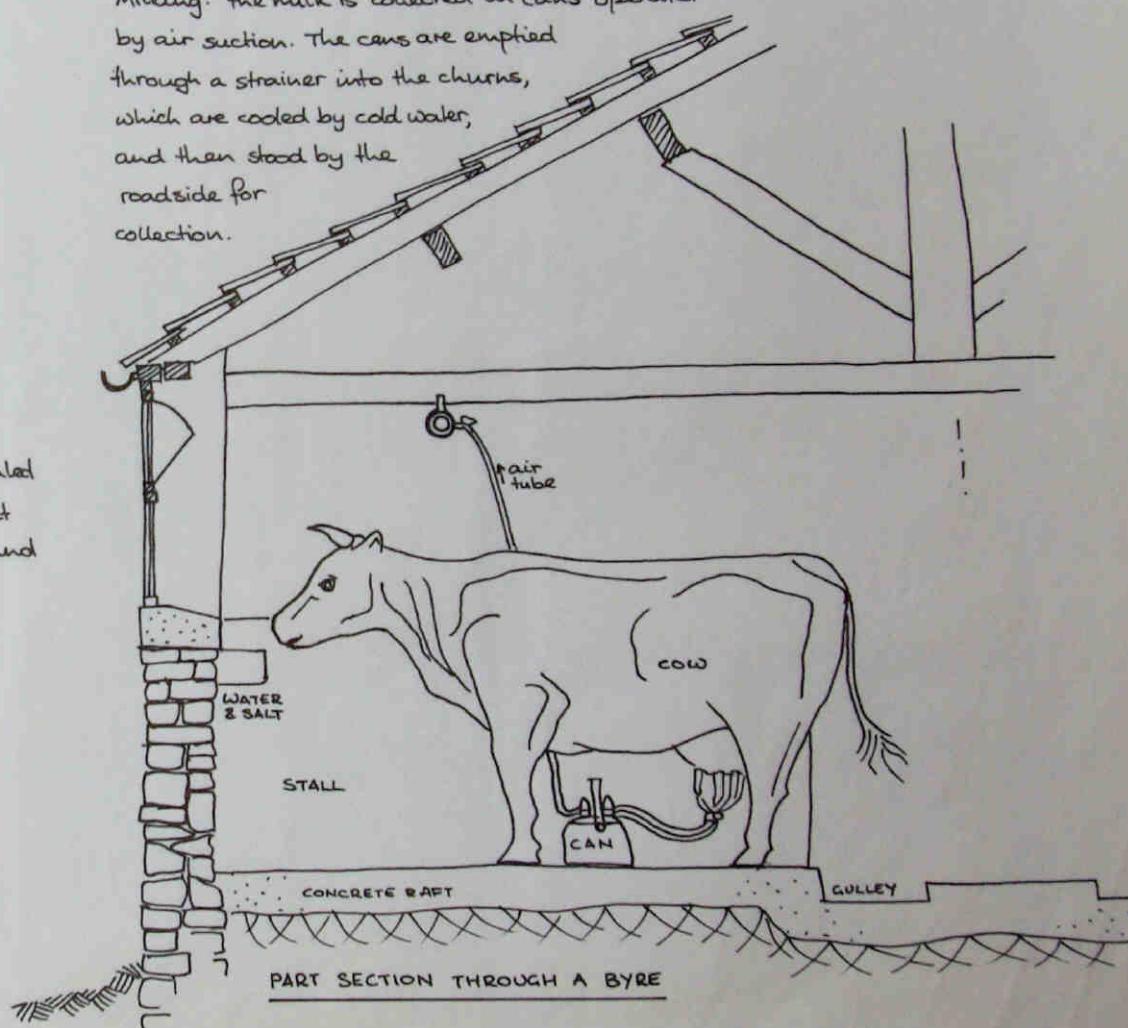


CATTLE

The farm has 30 dairy cows - crosses of, and, Ayrshire, Shorthorn, & Friesian. The Ayrshires are superseding the others - although some farms prefer the Herefords. There are also 4 suckling cows - Galloway/Shorthorn crosses, which rear their own, and the dairy, calves.

The dairy's are milked first thing in the morning, and at 5.00 pm. The milk is collected about 9.00 a.m. every morning, by the Newcastle Co-operative Society. During the day and at night, they are put out on the pastures. Between November and May, the cows are all in the byres, continuously.

Milking: the milk is collected in cans operated by air suction. The cans are emptied through a strainer into the churns, which are cooled by cold water, and then stood by the roadside for collection.



F FARMS



Buckdenfoot Farm



Buckdenfoot Farm



Caudwells Farm House



Caudwells polytunnel farm



Caudwells byres



Caudwells Hayloft



Caudwells corrugated barns



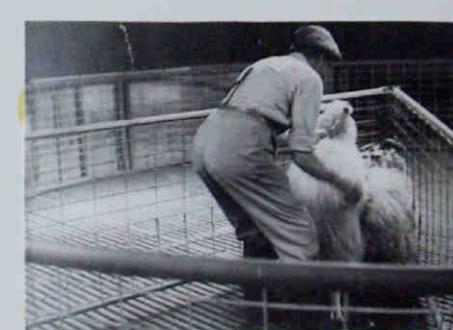
Caudwells sheep dip



Caudwells sheep dip



dip pens



dip pen



The tip



Coathouse byres



Coathouse byres



Coathouse



Coathouse farm house

FARMING



Barley and ryegrass field



Sheep on scrubby land on the hill



Sheep on part sown on the hill



Cultivated scrubby land. Hay being harvested



Dairy cows in valley pasture



Hereford bulls in a track pasture



Black and white cattle in a field



Woman harvesting oilseed rape



Farm quarry for walling



Chickens in a pen



Farm gate for vehicles, Murchison



Vegetation and flowers in a garden in the village



Dry stone wall



Farm pony in a field

HEXHAM



Railway Station



Market



Hexham across the water



Cobble Street



Auction Ring



Sheep pens



Food shop



Auction bays



Transportation

4. CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION : FROM NOW

When the road through the village square was defined by large stone kerbs, the effect created, in the monastery form, and 1752 village form, of a large, open, multi-use space, was destroyed. The new square consisted of functionally differentiated spaces, and differentiated activities. Two factors only, had been considered; the privacy of the inhabitants, and the look of the village as it had been. In my opinion the latter was considered inadequately and irresponsibly, otherwise the visual and behavioural implications of the stone kerbs would have been clear to the designer of the scheme.

The car park has, very starkly, attempted to answer the present parking problem, but with no flexibility for future growth, with no sympathy to the environment, and with inadequate indication of its existence to potential users.

These two examples are enough to show that the general idea of preserving the village with as little change as possible, is in fact destroying the effect of what is being preserved. The village must continue to change, as it has been doing since 1165, and it must change with regard to the past, present and the future - not only the past.

Possibly a more successful solution to creating a viable rural sub-system, would be one that replaces inadequate solutions, rather than patching them; by providing answers that are as evolutionary in nature and are a stimulus within the environment, as was the 1752 rebuilding programme in 1752, rather than considering the 1752 plan as the model village, into which 1969 is an unwelcome intruder.

Peter Jackson