

Alba Street, Holcombe

A courthouse was built in Holcombe in 1664 by the Duke of Albermarle (after whom Alba Street is probably named) who had been given the land by Charles II after the Restoration; this was also used as a school. The building was below the church on the site of the "Old Rectory" and was not demolished until 1864. There is a small stone walled area between the gardens of 1 Lumb Carr Road and 1 Alba Street which is known as the Drying Ground (originally for residents of 2 and 4 Lumb Carr Road which had no gardens).

1891 Census lists it as Albert Street, but it comes between The Shoulder of Mutton and 1 Lumb Carr Road, so presuming it's a mistake.

1 Alba Street – Grade 2 Listed Building. Down the side of The Shoulder of Mutton.

1891 – Burial of Sarah Benson (59) on 16th January 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Village.

1891 Census – 1 Albert Street?, Daniel Benson, widow (59) Gardener and his daughter, Mary A. (34) Cotton Warper, both born in Bury.

1895 – Burial of Daniel Benson (62) on 24th April 1895 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Village.

1901 Census – 1 Alba Street, John Hurst (42) Iron and Steel Merchant, his wife, Julia (42) and their daughter, Annie (11), all born in Ramsbottom. Sister-in-Law, Annie Barlow (39) Maker Up at Bleach Works, born in Ramsbottom.

1911 – Baptism of Barbara Kay (born 13th July 1911) on 6th August 1911 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Kay & Emily. Abode: Alba Street. Occupation: Engineer.

1911 Census – 1 Alba Street, Mr. Kay, Away From Home.

1916 – Burial of Ethel Mary Empsall (35) on 22nd January 1916 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 1 Alba Street.

1919 – Marriage of Charles Southworth Empsall (50) Clerk, Alba Street to Amy Ainsworth (30) Weaver, Higher Summerseat on 23rd April 1919 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: John Southworth, Clerk. Bride's father: John Ainsworth, Overlooker. Witness: James Willie White, Josephine? Southworth Empsall, Florence May White and Annie Hall.

1920 – Burial of Samuel Empsall (69) on 16th January 1920 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 1 Alba Street.

1930 – Burial of Amy Empsall (41) registered in Ramsbottom.

1931 – Burial of Jane Empsall (86) on 4th February 1931 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 1 Alba Street.

1934 Electoral Register – 1 Alba Street, Charles Southworth Empsall and Annie Southworth.

1939 Register – Charles S. Empsall (70) and Jo? Annie S. Empsall, 1 Alba Street.

1954 – Burial of Charles Southworth Empsall (85) on 12th June 1954 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 1 Alba Street.

1958 – Burial of Joannie Southworth Empsall (87) on 29th December 1958 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 1 Alba Street.

3 Alba Street – Grade 2 Listed Building.

1891 Census – 3 Albert Street?, William Baron (33) Cotton Tape Sizer, born in Bircle, Lancashire.

1901 Census – 3 Alba Street, Richard Crawshaw (53) born in Tottington and his wife, Matilda (49) born in Edgeworth.

1905 Electoral Register – 3 Alba Street, Richard Crawshaw.

1908 – Burial of Herbert Greenwood (22 Months) on 28th May 1908 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 3 Alba Cottages, Holcombe.

1909 – Baptism of Ralph Greenwood (born 23rd October 1909) on 5th December 1909 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Aaron Greenwood and Ellen (nee Poole). Abode: 3 Alba Cottage. Occupation: Steward. Gardener, crossed out.

1911 Census – 3 Alba Street, Aaron Greenwood (56) Stone Mason, born in Chatburn, Yorkshire and his wife, Ellen (34) born in Bury. Their children, Fred (9) born in Bury, Ralph (7) born in Holcombe, Noel (6) born in Bury.

1931 – Burial of Aaron Greenwood (82) on 11th July 1931 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 3 Alba Street.

1934 Electoral Register – 3 Alba Street, Ellen, Ralph, Fred, Noel and Ada Greenwood.

1939 Register – Ellen Greenwood (65) and Fred Greenwood, 3 Alba Street.

1939 – Marriage of Ralph Greenwood (30) Builder's Labourer, 3 Alba Street, Holcombe to Elizabeth Rowley (34) Domestic Servant, 57 Marsh Road, Little Lever on 18th November 1939 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Aaron Greenwood, deceased, Property Repairer. Bride's father: William Rowley, deceased, Basket Maker. Witness: Fred Greenwood and Ada Eliza May.

1952 – Burial of Ellen Greenwood (78) on 31st May 1952 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 3 Alba Street, Holcombe.

For more information on Ramsbottom and how to join the RHS:

www.ramsbottomheritage.org.uk

Emmanuel Church, Holcombe - Clock

1874 – Burial of William Bates (55) on 13th September 1874 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Ardwick, Chorlton on Medlock, Manchester.

“The church tower is furnished with a goodly gas-lit clock, which, day and night, looks benignly along the village. A marble tablet, placed by the parishioners inside the church, to an honoured native, is inscribed thus -

‘In Loving Memory of WILLIAM BATES, M.D., Of Manchester, Whose body lies in the family vault in the adjoining churchyard. THE CLOCK was placed in the Tower of this Church, by His Widow and Children, As a tribute of respect to His Noble character and most useful life.

This tablet is inscribed on behalf of The parishioners of Holcombe, in thankful appreciation of the gift. Henry Dowsett, Rector. J. Meadowcroft and J. Renshaw, Wardens. G. Thorpe and R. Bramley, Sidesmen. Decr. 1877’.

The clock forms a meet memorial ; and, in its practical utility, is worthy of the widowed lady — nee Hill — a niece of Sir Rowland Hill, who — as his statue in the heart of London records, and all the world knows — “Founded Uniform Penny Postage, 1840.”.”

“The Country & Church of the Cheeryble Brothers” by Rev William Hume Elliot, published in 1893. Page 66.

“And the cold and gusty wind, while driving a sombre cavalcade of clouds along above the hill, like a great funereal train of the departed day, moaned round the buttressed tower of the church, and whisked and sighed with plaintive eeriness among the silent stones and lone leafless trees, as if in quest of some loved one who had fled like the vanished day, and gone to the realm of silence among the sleeping forms beneath. But, as we stood by the triple step of the darkened sun-dial, a glowing planet shone through the rifted clouds, and stars from the depths beyond; the church clock told out its tale of fleeting time, and its illumined face beamed along the upland village, as we left the impressive spot, thinking how strangely linked are the now and the then, the here and the yonder — the lowly graves of time and the glories of eternity”

“The Country & Church of the Cheeryble Brothers” by Rev William Hume Elliot, published in 1893. Page 69.

Emmanuel Church, Holcombe - Sundial Grade 2 listed.

The sundial is situated on the South side of Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Dated 1753 on side of square top, which is also inscribed 'IW' and which bears metal dial. Octagonal pier. Large plinth with 3 steps to one side.

THE REVEREND HENRY DOWSETT AND THE TERPSICHOREAN ART

“Today, the Rev Henry Dowsett, vicar of Holcombe from 1875 to 1905, is chiefly remembered for his two books, ‘Notes on Holcombe’ (1901) and ‘Holcombe Long Ago’ (1902) published at the turn of the century. These collections of short historical articles are liberally laced with poetic quotations and flights of fancy and perhaps tell us as much about the author's character as they do about the history of Holcombe. A few years before his books were published, Dowsett was involved in an amusing incident which throws even more light on the character of this Victorian clergyman. In the 1890s, there was a hut on Holcombe Hill known as ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’, which, in the words of the Ramsbottom Observer was ‘principally used by lovers of the terpsichorean art.’ On Whit Friday 1892, a dancing class was being taught there, while at the same time the field day following Holcombe Church Sunday School's Whitsuntide procession took place in an adjoining field. Refreshments were provided and games were played, but dancing was strictly forbidden, ‘this form of recreation by no means finding favour in the eyes of the Vicar.’ Many of the older scholars felt that this was unfair and when evening came they made their way to Uncle Tom’s Cabin ‘All thoughts of the Sunday School and the Rev H. Dowsett’s declarations against the evils of dancing were forgotten for the nonce, and the truants were just beginning to enjoy themselves when they were awe-stricken by the appearance on the scene of the Vicar himself.’ Mr Dowsett burst into the Cabin, told the musician to stop, denounced the dancers for their sinful foity and ordered his scholars to leave immediately, ‘all the time wildly flourishing his umbrella.’ Some of the scholars prepared to leave, but others stood their ground and even had the temerity to ask whether the Vicar had paid to enter the hut. Naturally Mr Dowsett hadn't and was asked by Mr Booth, the proprietor, either to leave or to pay up. Mr Dowsett refused on both accounts, so Mr Booth threatened to carry him out. The ‘Observer’ reported that ‘The parson dared him to lay hands on him, but Mr Booth apparently does not stand in awe of the Church, as finding persuasion was useless, he

caught hold of the intruder and bodily carried him outside. 'Threats of a summons for assault were made, but in fact Dowsett appears to have taken no action, perhaps realising that he was as much in the wrong as those who had 'enjoyed themselves to the giddy strains of a concertina'. "

Written by John Simpson in the RHS News Magazine No 6 Winter 1992.

Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Grade 2 Listed.

1651 - Rev. Henry Pendlebury.

The chapel was only small measuring 50 x 24 feet.

There is no name recorded for a Rector between 1662 and 1733.

"The chapel stands well up the slope above Ramsbottom, to the west, and just below the prominent and picturesque height on which Holcombe Church is built. From its proximity to Holcombe, and also, perhaps, because its congregation was originally the ejected congregation of Holcombe in 1662, it was also called 'Holcom,' and 'Holcombe Lower Chapel.'

Its graveyard and manse garden abut on Nuttall Lane — now in part "Dundee Lane" — which links the old village of Nuttall with that of Holcombe ; hence it was likewise known as Nuttall, and Nuttall Lane Chapel."

From "The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers" by Rev W. H. Elliott, 1893. Page 19.

"In front of the Chancel in Holcombe Church, two stones bear the following inscriptions : —

Here resteth the Body of Mary Rothwell, The Daughter of Edward Rothwell of Holcome, who departed this Life, May the 27th 1726, And in the 10th year of her age. "Short was her life. The longer is her rest ; God takes them soonest, Whom He loveth best." Also the Body of Thomas Rothwell of Harpers in Holcome, Who departed this Life the 22nd day of July 1781, In the 46th year of his age. Also, of Martha, his Wife, Who died February 5, 18 14. Aged 84 Years. Here resteth the Body of Richard Rothwell of Ramsbottom, who departed this Life, December 4th 1745, In the 43rd year of his age."

From "The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers" by Rev W H Elliott. Page 399, 1893.

1726 – First recorded baptism in the original Parish Register. Baptism of Alice Grenehalgh on 7th August

1726 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Adam Grenehalgh.

1730 - First recorded burial in the original Parish Register. Burial of Thomas Duckworth (died 7th April

1730) on 9th April 1730 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe.

1733 - Rev. John Boardman, appointed.

1738 – Rev. John Lowe, appointed.

1753 - The sundial is situated on the South side of Emmanuel Church. Dated 1753 on side of square top (JBT), which is also inscribed 'IW' and which bears metal dial (Present – missing). Octagonal pier on a large plinth with 3 steps to one side. **Grade 2 Listed.**

1757 – Rev. William Harrison, appointed.

1760 – Rev. Richard Thickstone, appointed.

1764 – Rev. John Smith, appointed.

1774 – The church was enlarged.

1810 – Burial of The Rev. John Smith (70) (Died 3rd March 1810) on 8th March 1810 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcome. Occupation: Minister of Holcombe. Buried by William Holt, Minister of Holcombe.

1810 – Rev. William Holt, appointed.

1821/22 Pigot & Dean Directory – Rev. William Holt, Holcome.

1824/25 Pigot & Dean Directory – Rev. William Holt, M.A., Parsonage House, Holcome.

1828/29 Pigot & Co Directory – Rev. William Holt, M.A., Parsonage House, Holcome.

1849 – Rev. George Nightingale, appointed.

1850 Heap's Directory – Parochial Chapel, Holcombe – Rev. George Nightingale, M.A., Minister – James Holt, Clerk.

1851 Census – Holcombe, George Nightingale (39) born in Great Ayton, Yorkshire. Servant – Sarah Parry (47) born in Holywell, Flintshire. Visitor – William Whitworth (47) born in Rochdale.

1851 – *"The old chapel of Holcombe was pulled down in 1851, and the present handsome structure, erected on the grand old site, was consecrated in 1853, during the incumbency of the late Mr Nightingale".*

From "The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers" by Rev W H Elliott. Page 54, 1893.

1853 - Holcombe Church, Date stone "1853" replacing chapels dating back to 1400.

1853 Worrall's Directory - Emmanuel Church, Holcombe, is a handsome edifice, built in 1852 at an expense of £3,000, of which sum £500 was bequeathed by Mrs. Sanderford, of Bolton, £100 given by the church building society and the remainder raised by subscription. The living attached to this church is a

perpetual curacy to which the rector of Bury presents, and the Rev. George Nightingale, M.A., is the incumbent.

1866 – *“Commodious new premises for day and Sunday schools were opened in 1866, in lieu of the grim old courthouse removed in 1864”.*

From “The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers” by Rev W H Elliott. Page 55, 1893.

1866 – Formally became a Parish Church.

“It was, we believe, Mr Nightingale who was instrumental in suppressing the cruel practice of cock-fighting, which long prevailed in the village, where it was countenanced in person by peers sometimes, as well as by commoners.”

From “The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers” by Rev W H Elliott. Page 54, 1893.

1871 Worrall’s Directory - The ancient chapel erected in the 16th century, was taken down in 1853, and the present beautiful edifice erected. It is dedicated to Emanuel, and is built of stone in the Gothic style of architecture, surmounted with a lofty spire. It contains 540 sittings, all of which are free. The living is a rectory in the patronage of the incumbent of Bury, and is held by the Rev. George Nightingale, M.A. A commodious school is attached to the Church.

1875 – Rector Henry Dowsett, M.A.. appointed.

1877 - *“The church tower is furnished with a goodly gas-lit clock, which, day and night, looks benignly along the village. A marble tablet, placed by the parishioners inside the church, to an honoured native, is inscribed thus — In Loving Memory of WILLIAM BATES, M.D., of Manchester, Whose body lies in the family vault in the adjoining churchyard. THE CLOCK was placed in the Tower of this Church, by His Widow and Children, As a tribute of respect to His Noble character and most useful life. This tablet is inscribed on behalf of the parishioners of Holcombe, in thankful appreciation of the gift. Henry Dowsett, Rector. J. Meadowcroft and J. Renshaw, Wardens. G. Thorpe and R. Bramley, Sidesmen. Decr. 1877.”*

From “The Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers” by Rev W H Elliott. Page 66, 1893.

1880 Barrett’s Directory - The ancient parochial chapel, which existed in 1552, was taken down several years ago, and the present handsome church was opened on the 8th of April, 1853, the cost of its erection being £2,226. It is dedicated to Emmanuel, and consists of nave, chancel, and north transept, with a lofty spire at the west end. There are 350 sittings, of which 140 are free. The benefice is a rectory of the annual value of £175, with residence, in the patronage of the rector of Bury, and held by the Rev. Henry Dowsett. The population of the parish in 1871, was 2,981.

1881 Census – The Vicarage, Holcombe, Henry Dowsett (42), born in Bishopsbourne, Kent and his wife, Lydia (37) born in St. Helier, Jersey. Niece – Alice Eveline Luce (8) born in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Servant – Mary Norley (24) born in Sheepsheds, Leicestershire.

1883 Barrett’s Directory - The ancient parochial chapel which existed in 1552, was taken down several years ago, and the present handsome church was opened on the 8th of April, 1853, the cost of its erection being £2,226. It is dedicated to Emmanuel, and consists of nave, chancel, and north transept, with a lofty spire at the west end. There are 350 sittings, of which 140 are free. The benefice is a rectory of the annual value of £185, with residence, in the patronage of the Rector of Bury, and held by the Rev. Henry Dowsett. The population of the parish in 1881 was 4,453.

1888 Slater’s Directory - The church, which existed in 1660, and was dedicated to Emanuel, was taken down and another built on its site in 1853, by subscription and a grant from the Church Building Society. The benefice is a rectory, of the annual value of £185, in the gift of the rector of Bury.

1891 Census – Holcombe Rectory, Henry Dowsett (52) Clerk in Holy Orders, born in Bishopsbourne, Kent and his wife, Lydia (47) born in St. Helier, Jersey. Servant, Emma Marriott (17) Housemaid, born in Edmundthorpe, Leicestershire.

1893 – Burial of Lydia Dowsett (49) on 16th June 1893 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Rectory. Notes: My beloved wife died 11th June. H.D.

1897 – Marriage of Henry Dowsett, widow (full), Clerk in Holy Orders, Holcombe to Betsy Emily Nuttall Shaw (full) Holcombe on 17th May 1897 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom’s father: Charles Finch Dowsett, deceased, Yeoman. Bride’s father: John Shaw, deceased, Tradesman. Witness: Jeffrey Pybus Nuttall, Emily May Nuttall and Eliza Shaw.

1898 – Baptism of Francis Henry Dowsett (born 17th May 1898) on 16th June 1898 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Dowsett and Betsy Emily Nuttall. Abode: Holcombe Rectory. Occupation; Clerk in Holy Orders. Baptised by Henry Dowsett, Rector.

1900 – “Notes on Holcombe”(1900) and “Holcombe Long Ago” (1901) published by Rev Henry Dowsett. These collections of short historical articles are liberally laced with poetic quotations and flights of fancy and perhaps tell us as much about the author's character as they do about the history of Holcombe.

1900 – Baptism of Mabel Dowsett (born 24th May 1900) on 22nd June 1900 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Henry Dowsett and Betsy Emily Nuttall. Abode: Holcombe Rectory. Occupation; Clerk in Holy Orders. Baptised by Henry Dowsett, Rector.

1901 Census – Holcombe Rectory – Henry Dowsett (62) Clergyman – Church of England, born in Bishopbourne, Kent and his wife, Bessie (36) born in Bury. Their children, Francis Henry (2) and Mabel (10 months) both born in Ramsbottom. Servants – Mary Swales (16) Nurse, born in Sheffield, Yorkshire and Annie Turner (15) Domestic Servant, born in Bury.

1905 - G.L. Merchant, appointed.

1911 Census - Emmanuel's Church & Vicarage, Rev. George Lawson Merchant (42) Clergyman CofE, born in Bury and his wife, Gertrude Mary (26) born in Waltham S. Lawrence, Berks. Servants – Mary Westhead (39) Cook, born in Blackpool, Annie Eva Owen (35) Housemaid, born in King's Cliff, Northamptonshire and Mary Ellen Jackson (41) Maternity Nurse, born in County Limerick, Ireland.

1911 – Baptism of Elizabeth Merchant, Mother's maiden name: Whinney, (born 4th April 1911) on 4th May 1911 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of George Lawson Merchant and Gertrude Mary. Abode: The Rectory, Holcombe. Occupation: Clerk in Holy Orders. Baptised by G.L. Merchant.

1915 - A. Gibbons, appointed.

1916 - Robert G. Stanley, appointed.

1917 – Burial of Henry Dowsett (78) on 13th January 1917 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe, Abode: 53 Denmark Road, Southport. Buried by Robert G. Stanley.

1920s – The Lych-gate was built as a memorial after the First World War. See photos.

1922 - Rector T. E. Floyd, appointed.

1927 – Rector W. J. Cyril Scarlin, appointed.

1939 Register – Holcombe Rectory, Dundee Lane, William J. C. Scarlin (65) Clerk in Holy Orders and his wife, Alice C. Scarlin (54) Unpaid Domestic Duties.

1944 - Rector J. D. Driver, appointed.

1953 Coronation RUDC Official Programme of Celebrations – Historical Tableaux including 1759 Wolfe at Quebec, Holcombe Church. Sunday School took place in the walk as well.

1954 – Death of Betsy Dowsett (89) - Rev. Henry Dowsett's second wife.

1974 – Rector C. W. Lewis, appointed.

1975 – Rector R. M. F. Haigh, appointed.

1985 – John E. Boaden, Officiating Minister.

1986 – Rector Frank Bowyer, appointed.

1994/2001 - Rector C. R. Horner.

2001 - John G. Armstrong and R.W. Airey.

2005 - R. W. Airey.

For more info:

www.ramsbottomheritage.org.uk

Cross Lane (Left Hand Side)

Junction of Moor Road/Lumb Carr Road

1 Cross Lane

Stumps Cottage, 1 Cross Lane Once the Black Bull Beer House, this stone cottage has two-storeys to the rear on Cross Lane but three to the Lumb Carr Road.

1891 Census – 1 Cross Lane, Mary Marsland, single (62) Housekeeper, born in Lyme Park, Cheshire and her niece, Fanny Gaskell (30) Cotton Weaver, born in Windlehurst, Cheshire.

1900 Electoral Register – 1 Cross Lane, Elizabeth Anderton.

1911 Census – 1 Cross Lane, Elizabeth Anderton, widow (83) born in Ramsbottom.

1921 Census – 1 Cross Lane, James and Jane.

1939 Register – 1 Cross Lane, Mary E. Dewhurst (47), Cotton Weaver.

1947 – Marriage of Thomas Beetson, widow (full) Weaver, 8 Rosehill, Ramsbottom to Mary Elizabeth Dewhurst (full) Weaver, 1 Cross Lane, Holcombe on 11th July 1942 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Thomas Beetson, deceased, Mason. Bride's father: William James Dewhurst, deceased, Fire Beater. Witness: Walter Entwistle and Ann Entwistle.

3 Cross Lane

1869 - Baptism of Peter Jackson (born 11th April 1869) on 11th April 1869 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Jackson and Hannah (nee Marsland). Abode: Holcombe. Occupation: Huntsman.

1870 - Baptism of Mary Ellen Jackson (born 6th May 1870) on 3rd July 1870 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Jackson and Hannah (nee Marsland). Abode: Holcombe. Occupation: Huntsman.

1871 Census – Holcombe, John Jackson (36) and his wife, Hannah (38). Their children, Jacob (13), James (12), Samuel (10), Elizabeth Ann (6), Peter (1) and Mary Ellen (11 months) all born in Lancashire.

1875 – Baptism of John Jackson (born 13th April 1875) on 6th June 1875 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Jackson and Hannah (nee Marsland). Abode: Holcombe. Occupation: Huntsman.

1881 Census – Holcombe, John Jackson (46) born in Ashton, Lancashire and his wife, Hannah (48) born in Disley, Cheshire. Their children, James (22) born in Disley, Lancashire, Elizabeth Ann (17) born in Stockport, Cheshire, Peter (12), Mary Ellen (11) and John (6) all born in Ramsbottom, Lancashire. Niece, Fanny Gaskell (21) born in Marple.

1884 – Marriage of James Jackson (26) Gardener, Holcombe to Eleanor Rhodes (24) Holcombe on 3rd July 1884 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: John Jackson, Huntsman. Bride's father: Benjamin Rhodes, deceased, Publican. Witness: Robert Turner and Esther Smith.

1891 Census – 3 Cross Lane, John Jackson (56) Huntsman (Groom), born in Lancashire and his wife, Hannah (58) born in Cheshire. Their children, Peter (21) Huntsman's Whipper In, Mary E. (20) Cotton Weaver and John (15) Curriers Assistant, all three born in Lancashire.

1891 – Burial of Hannah Jackson (58) on 30th May 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Village.

1896 – Marriage of John Jackson to Victoria Maria Wilson at St. Mary's Church, Bury.

1901 Census – 3 Cross Lane, John Jackson (66) born in Ashton under Lyne, Lancashire and his wife, Maria (64) born in Birmingham, Warwickshire.

1905 Electoral Register – 3 Cross Lane, John Jackson.

1905 – Burial of Maria Jackson (68) on 18th November 1905 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 3 Cross Lane, Holcombe.

1905 – Burial of John Jackson (70) on 28th November 1905 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Cross Lane, Holcombe.

1911 Census – 3 Cross Lane, Henry Jones (44) Carter, General Carrier, born in Hulme and his wife, Mary (39), born in Unsworth. Their children, Linnie (14) Cotton Weaver, born in Whitefield, Harry (11) Scholar and George (7) both born in Ramsbottom.

1917 – Baptism of Jean Jackson (born 5th April 1917) on 2nd May 1917 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Will Jackson and Jean. Abode 3 Cross Lane. Occupation: Soldier.

1920 – Baptism of John Jackson (born 4th September 1920) on 3rd October 1920 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Will Jackson and Jean. Abode 3 Cross Lane. Occupation: Huntsman.

1921 Census – 3 Cross Lane, William, Jane, Sam and 2 others.

1939 Register – 3 Cross Lane, William Jackson (54) Croft Hand in Khaki Dye Works and his wife, Jane (52) Unpaid Domestic Duties. Their son, Sam (25) Chauffeur and Groom.

1940 – Burial of William Jackson (54) on 18th January 1940 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 3 Cross Lane, Holcombe.

Gap

5 Cross Lane - 18th Century detached Cottage. **Grade 2 Listed Building.**

1882 – Baptism of Martha Alice Mallery, registered in Holcombe. Mother’s maiden name: Minshull.

1891 – Baptism of Ethel Mallery, registered in Holcombe. Mother’s maiden name: Minshell.

1891 Census – Cross Lane, Harper Mallery (43) Gardener Domestic, born in Bridlington, Yorkshire and his wife, Eliza (42) born in Wenn, Shropshire. Their children, John (19) Stone Quarryman, Mary A. (16) Paper Sorter?, Edwin (13) Cotton Weaver, all born in Bury, George H. (10) Scholar, Martha A. (8) Scholar and Ethel (under 1 month) all born in Holcombe.

1891 – Burial of Edith Jackson (1 year and 3 months)(died 10th October 1891) on 15th October 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: The Gate House at Hey House. See photo of headstone.

1901 Census – 5 Cross Lane, Jacob Jackson (43) born in Disley, Lancashire and his wife, Elizabeth (41) born in Ramsbottom. Their children, Frank (15), Peter (13), Wilfred (10) and Percy (3) all born in Ramsbottom.

1905 Electoral Register – 5 Cross Lane, Jacob Jackson.

1911 Census – 5 Cross Lane, Samuel Jackson (49) Huntsman, Holcombe Hunt, born in Stockport and his wife, Sylvia Ann (49) born in Colne. Their children, William (25) Whip to Huntsman, born in Ramsbottom, Elizabeth A. (23) Cotton Weaver and Lucy (18) Dress Maker, both born in Holcombe.

1914-1918 – Private Spencer Gissing 26349, East Lancashire Regiment.

1916 – Marriage of Spencer Gissing (29) Private in Army, Church Road, Heberton Leiston, Suffolk to Elizabeth Hannah Jackson (28) 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe on 24th June 1916 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom’s father: William Gissing, Farm Labourer. Bride’s father: Samuel Jackson, Huntsman. Witness: Samuel Jackson and Lucy Jackson.

1918 - Marriage of Charles Harold Sims (28) Motor Driver, Hillside House, Hawkshaw to Lucy Jackson (28) Dressmaker, 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe on 21st January 1918 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom’s father: Joseph Sims, Gardener. Bride’s father: Samuel Jackson, Huntsman. Witness: Samuel Jackson and May Fort.

1921 Census – 5 Cross Lane, Samuel and Sylvia.

1939 Register – 5 Cross Lane, Samuel Jackson (78) Retired Kennel Huntsman and his wife, Sylvia A. (79) Retired Woollen Weaver. Ledy, widow (47) Seamstress Institutional (??) and Jean Jackson (22) Textile Bleaching ??.

1939 – Marriage of Austin Benson Greenwood (21) Cinema Operative, 49 Longsight Road, Holcombe Brook to Jean Jackson (22) Textile Stamper, 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe on 15th October 1939 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom’s father: Robert Henry Greenwood, Cinema Proprietor. Bride’s father: William Jackson, Bleacher (sic) Witness: Jack Goring and Joan Margaret Greenwood.

1947 – Burial of Samuel Jackson (85) (died 14th January) on 18th January 1947 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe. See photo of headstone.

1947 – Burial of Sylvia Ann Jackson (85) (died 27th January 1947) on 30th January 1947 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe. See photo of headstone.

1992 – Burial of Jean Greenwood (75) (died 14th May 1991) on 2nd June 1992 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 5 Cross Lane, Holcombe Village. See photo of headstone.

1995 – Burial of Austin Greenwood (77) (died 24th September 1995) on 2nd October 1995 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Harrier Cottage, Holcombe. See photo of headstone.

Gap

Plant Farm (opposite Plant House)

1739 Date stone (JBT) “P/WA/1739” (referring to William Plant)

Grade 2 listed.

Barn 11 metres south of Plant Farm. Date stone “HW 1828”.

Grade 2 listed.

1861 Census – Plant Farm, Holcombe, James Starkie (41) Farmer, born in Barley, Lancashire and his wife, Maria (40) born in Wiswell, Lancashire Their children, Mary (14) born in Church Kirk, Lancashire, John (11) born in Blackburn, Isabella (6) and William (4) both born in Bury.

1871 Census - Holcombe, James Starkie (51) Farmer (15 Acres), born in Barley, Lancashire and his wife, Maria (50) born in Billington, Lancashire Their children, Mary (24) Stitcher of Grey Calico, born in Church,

Lancashire, John (21) Stone Mason, born in Billington, Isabella (17) Stitcher of Grays (Bleachers), born in Elton and William (14) Stone Mason, born in Bury.
1889 – Baptism of John Nuttall (born 25th March 1889) on 7th July 1889 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Samuel Nuttall and Hannah. Abode: Plant Farm, Holcombe. Occupation: Farmer.
1891 Census – Plant Farm, Holcombe, Samuel Nuttall (30) Farmer, born in Kearsley, Lancashire and his wife, Hannah (25) born in Farnworth, Lancashire. Their son, John (3) born in Holcombe.
1891 – Baptism of May Nuttall (born 14th April 1891) on 7th June 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Samuel Nuttall and Hannah. Abode: Plant Farm. Occupation: Farmer.
1897 - Marriage of Richard Holt (24) Farmer, Dundee Farm, Holcombe to Mary Eden Oldfield (22) 11 Cliff Mount on 29^h May 1897 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Henry Holt, deceased, Farmer. Bride's father: William Oldfield, deceased, Farmer. Witness: Joseph Oldfield and Betsy Holt.
1898 – Birth of Henry Holt, registered in Ramsbottom. Mother's maiden name: Oldfield.
1900 – Birth of Mary Ellen Holt, registered in Ramsbottom. Mother's maiden name: Oldfield.
1901 Census – Plant Tenement (Farm), Richard Holt (28) Farmer, born in Ramsbottom and his wife, Mary E. (26) born in Walmersley. Their children, Henry (2) and Mary E. (11 months) both born in Ramsbottom.
1902 – Birth of Herbert Holt, registered in Ramsbottom. Mother's maiden name: Oldfield.
1905 Electoral Register - Plant Tenement, Richard Holt.
1921 Census – Plant Farm, Holcombe, Joseph Parker, Hannah, Walter and 3 others.
1939 Register – Plant Farm, Cross Lane, Fred W. Layborrow (68) Dairy Farmer and his wife, Layborrow (59) Unpaid Domestic Duties. Their daughter, Annie E. (24) Dairy Work and Household Duties. William K. Stubbs (57) Draughtsman Engineering, Mechanical and Electrical and ARP Warden (Ramsbottom).

Gap

43 Cross Lane

1882 – Birth of Mary Ann Entwistle, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Entwistle.
1884 – Birth of Walter Entwistle, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Entwistle.
1886 – Birth of Jacob Entwistle, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Entwistle.
1889 – Birth of Elizabeth Entwistle, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Entwistle.
1891 Census – Cross Lane, John Entwistle (38) Quarryman Stone, born in Tottington and his wife, Ann (37) born in Edgeworth. Their children, Charles (11) Scholar, Mary A. (8) Scholar, Walter (6) Scholar, Jacob (5) Scholar and Elizabeth (2), all born in Ramsbottom.
1902 – Death of Ann Entwistle (48) registered in Ramsbottom.
1905 Electoral Register – 43 Cross Lane, John Entwistle.
1911 Census – 43 Cross Lane, John Entwistle, widow (58) Delver in Stone Quarry. His children, Charles (31) Cotton Weaver, Mary Ann (28), Walter (26) Cotton Spinner, Jacob (25) Cotton Loom Overlooker and Elizabeth (22) Cotton Weaver, all born in Holcombe.
1913 – Marriage of Geoffrey Taylor (full) Farmer, Tops Farm to Mary Ann Entwistle (full) 43 Cross Lane on 28th June 1913 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: John Taylor, Farmer. Bride's father: John Entwistle, Quarryman. Witness: Elizabeth Entwistle, Howarth Taylor and W. H. Atkinson.
1920 – Marriage of Walter Entwistle (35) Spinner, 43 Cross Lane to Ann Irving (23) Domestic Servant, Holcombe Rectory on 28th May 1920 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: John Entwistle, Quarryman. Bride's father: William Irving, Miner. Witness: Charles Entwistle and Effie Willets.
1921 Census – 43 Cross Lane, John, Charles, Elizabeth and 1 other.
1922 – Marriage of James Earnshaw (31) Warehouseman, 8 Annie Street to Elizabeth Entwistle (33) Weaver, 43 Cross Lane on 16th December 1922 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: William Earnshaw, Slater. Bride's father: John Entwistle, Quarryman. Witness: Charles Entwistle and Florence Houghton.
1923 – Baptism of John Earnshaw (born 1st October 1923) on 11th November 1923 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of James Earnshaw and Elizabeth. Abode: 43 Cross Lane. Occupation: Warehouseman.
1926 – Baptism of Charles Earnshaw (born 21st August 1926) on 12th September 1926 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of James Earnshaw and Elizabeth. Abode: 43 Cross Lane. Occupation: Warehouseman.
1929 – Baptism of Frank Earnshaw (born 23rd December 1928) on 10th February 1929 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of James Earnshaw and Elizabeth. Abode: 43 Cross Lane, Holcombe. Occupation: Labourer.

1939 Register – 43 Cross Lane, James Earnshaw (47) ?? Dept RUDC and Elizabeth Earnshaw (50) Unpaid Domestic Duties. Their children, John (16) Apprentice Grocer Ramsbottom Coop Society, Charles (13) Scholar and 1 blacked out record.

1941 – Marriage of Norman Booth (28) Gunner, 249 Bolton Road North, Stubbins to Mary Entwistle (23) Aircraft Inspector, 43 Cross Lane, Holcombe on 26th August 1941 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: John Henry Booth, deceased, Tradesman. Bride's father: James William Earnshaw, Corporation Workman. Witness: James Booth, Ivy Anker and J. Earnshaw.

1943 – Marriage of John Earnshaw (20) Sailor, 43 Cross Lane, Holcombe to Olive Butterworth (20) Shop Assistant, 30 Tanner's Street, Ramsbottom on 1st April 1943 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: James Earnshaw, Corporation Employee. Bride's father: Malcolm Butterworth, Engraver. Witness: Geoffrey Hulton and Irene Margaret Raynerd.

45 Cross Lane

1900 Electoral Register – 45 Cross Lane, Mary Ann Smith.

1911 Census – 45 Cross Lane, Susannah Smith (62) Cop Winder, born in Ramsbottom.

1921 Census – 45 Cross Lane, Adam, Margaret Ellen, William and 6 others.

1925 - Marriage of John Gregg (25) Bleacher, 45 Cross Lane to Lily Price (27) Domestic Service, Holcombe Bank on 11th April 1925 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Adam Gregg, Labourer. Bride's father: Thomas Price, Miner. Witness: Fred Gregg and Jessie Barnes.

1929 – Burial of Adam Gregg (70) on 26th March 1929 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Cross Lane, Holcombe.

1939 Register – 45 Cross Lane. Margaret E. Gregg, widow (75) Unpaid Domestic Duties and Thomas White, widow (71) Retired Fireman Bleachworks.

1951 – Burial of Margaret Ellen Gregg (86) on 14th April 1951 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Cross Lane, Holcombe.

Long Gap

Junction of Holcombe Old Road/Moorbottom Road

Cross Lane (Right Hand Side)

Junction of Moor Road/Lumb Carr Road

Long Gap

22 Cross Lane

1881 Census – Holcombe, Robert Entwistle (45) Quarryman and his wife, Mary A. (45). Their children, James (19) Calico Loom, Mary A. (17) Maker Up Bleachworks, Jane (11) Scholar, Robert (9) Scholar, all born in Holcombe and Annie (4) Scholar, born in Walmersley, Lancashire.

1891 Census – 22 Cross Lane, Robert Entwistle (56) Quarryman Stone and his wife, Mary A. (56). Their children, Mary A. (27) Bleachworks Operative, Jane (21) Cotton Weaver, Robert (19) Labourer at Stone Quarry, Annie (14) Cotton Weaver and Ernest (7) all born in Lancashire.

1900 – Burial of Robert Entwistle (64) on 11th May 1900 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 22 Cross Lane, Holcombe Village.

1911 Census – 22 Cross Lane, Mary Ann Entwistle, widow (75) born in Helmshore. Son in Law – Felix William Duckworth (33) Cotton Spinner, born in Eccles and his wife Annie (34) born in Bank Lane.

1912 – Burial of Mary Ann Entwistle (76) on 27th February 1912 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: 22 Cross Lane, Holcombe Village.

1921 Census – 22 Cross Lane, John and Mary.

1935 – Death of John Whittaker (75) registered in Ramsbottom.

1939 Register – 22 Cross Lane, Mary Whittaker, widow (77) Unpaid Domestic Duties.

1948 – Marriage of Edward Castle (22) Joiner, 118 Nuttall Lane to Brenda Howker (19) Typist, 22 Cross Lane on 18th December 1948 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Sydney Arthur Castle, Works Manager. Bride's father: James Enoch Bowker, Farm Bailiff. Witness: Alan Isherwood and Mary Hamer.

24 Cross Lane

1881 Census – Holcombe, Mary Kay, widow (68), born in Musbury. Her son, William Yates, widow (35) Dresser (Woollen), born in Ramsbottom and his son, William H. (6) Scholar, born in Helmshore.

1891 Census – 24 Cross Lane, William Yates (46) Woollen Dresser, born in Ramsbottom. His son, William H. Yates (16) Cotton Weaver, born in Helmshore and his mother, Mary Kay (78) Living On Own Means, born in Musbury, Lancashire.

1894 – Burial of Mary Kay (82) on 16th November 1894 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Village.

1894 – Marriage of Alfred Ware to Jane Entwistle at Bury Register Office or Registrar attended.

1897 – Birth of Gladys Ware, registered in Ramsbottom. Mother's maiden name: Entwistle.

1905 Electoral Register - 24 Cross Lane, Alfred Ware.

1911 Census – 24 Cross Lane, Alfred Ware (47) Reeler Man Paper Mill, born in Reigate, Surrey and his wife, Jane (41) Cotton Weaver, born in Holcombe. Their daughter, Gladys (14) Cotton Weaver, born in Holcombe.

1913 – Marriage of Ernest George (24) Stoker, 24 Cross Lane to Elsie May Norcliffe (20) Ring Spinner, 13 Hope Street on 9th August 1913 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Bride's father: David Norcliffe, Labourer. Witness: Frank Crossley and Gertrude Norcliffe.

1921 Census – 24 Cross Lane, Robert, Lily and Laura.

1939 Register – 24 Cross Lane, Thomas H. Ashcroft (50) Warehouseman Cotton Textile Printing and his wife, Minnie (49) Unpaid Domestic Duties. Their son, Derek (9) Scholar.

Gap

Plant House (opposite Plant Farm) 40 Cross Lane

1759 – Birth of William Woodcock on 3rd June 1759.

1769 – Baptism of Mary Elton (born 27th March 1769) on 23rd April 1769 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Elton. Abode: Low.

1793 Date stone (JBT) "WM/W/1793" on Door lintel at rear.

1787 – Marriage of William Woodcock, Gentleman to Mary Elton on 15th May 1787 at St. Mary the Virgin, Bury. Witness: James Rostron and Ralph Crompton.

1816 – Date stone on wall and outbuilding North side "J.E. 1816" John Elton, his sister Mary married William Woodcock.

1827 – Death of William Woodcock on 14th January 1827.

1841 Pigot & Slater's Directory - Mary Woodcock, Farmer, Holcombe.

1841 Census – Plant ??, Mary Woodcock (72). Her children, Rachel (48), Mary (35) and Hannah (26). Servant – Alice Riscanit? (19).

1849 – Death of Mary Woodcock (79) on 26th February 1849, registered in Holcombe,

1850 Heap's Directory - Misses Rachel, Mary and Hannah Woodcock, Holcombe.

1851 Census – Holcombe, Rachel Woodcock (58) Landed Proprietor and her siblings, Mary (45) Landed Proprietor and Hannah (36) Landed Proprietor, all born in Holcombe. Servant – Mary Kay (20) House Servant, born in Holcombe.

1861 Census – Holcombe, Hannah Woodcock (46) Landed Proprietor, born in Bury, her sisters, Rachel Woodcock (68) Landed Proprietor, born in Bury and Mary Woodcock (55) Landed Proprietor, born in Bury.

1871 Census – Plant House, Hannah Woodcock (56), her sisters, Rachel Woodcock (78) and Mary Woodcock (65), all born in Bury. Servant – Mary Taylor (24) born in Lancashire.

1876 - Burial of Rachel Woodcock (83) on 10th August 1876 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe.

1880 Barrett's Directory - Mrs Hannah Woodcock, Plant House, Holcombe.

1881 Census – Plant House, Holcombe, Hannah Woodcock (66) and her sister, Mary Woodcock (75) both born in Holcombe. Servants – Emma Wright (19) born in Wydbun and Annie Tilley (18) born in Warrington, Lancashire.

1883 Barrett's Directory - Mrs Hannah Woodcock, Plant House, Holcombe.

1888 Slate's Directory – Miss Mary and Hannah Woodcock, Plant House, Holcombe.

1888 - Burial of Mary Woodcock (82) on 25th June 1888 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Plant House, Holcombe.

1891 Census – Plant House, Holcombe, Hannah Woodcock (76) Living on Own Means, and her niece, Mary Woodcock (52) Living on Own Means, both born in Holcombe. Servants – Emma Roberts (36) Housemaid, born in Overton, Flintshire and Ann Sutton (34) Cook, born in Leek.

1900 Electoral Register – Plant House, Cross Lane, Hannah Woodcock.

1901 Census – Plant House, Hannah Woodcock (86) and her niece, Mary Woodcock (62), both born in Holcombe. Grand Nephew – Frank Woodcock (21) born in Knutsford, Cheshire. Servants – Mary Townsend (43) born in Brighouse, Yorkshire, Emma Roberts (47) born in Overton, Flintshire, Sarah Ann Diggle (54) and Ellen Hutchinson (36) both born in Ramsbottom.

1907 – Burial of Hannah Woodcock on 8th March 1907 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Plant House, Holcombe.

1911 Census - Plant House, Holcombe, Edith Mary Rothwell (47) Private Means, born in Elton. Her children, John (23) Medical Student, Edith Eileen (16) Scholar, Mary Dorothy (12) Scholar, all born in Holcombe.

Servant – Emma Day (23) General Servant, born in Manchester.

1921 Census - Plant House, Holcombe, Curtis Brassey, Margaret Allen Wilson, Margaret Maurice and 3 others.

1939 Register – Plant House, Cross Lane, Henry D. Crompton (50) Managing Director of Paper Mill and RAF Emergency Auxiliary and Bessie Crompton (37) Unpaid Domestic Duties and WVS. 1 record blacked out.

Gap

Manor House

1788 – Baptism of Betty Rostron (born 8th April 1788) on 4th May 1788 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of James Rostron and Deborah. Abode: Top.

Manor House early 19thC including outbuilding. [Grade 2 listed](#). Built by the Rostron family about 1794.

1841 Census – Holcombe, Rachel Rostron (60) Ind., her sister Alice Rostron (55) Ind. and her sister, Betty Rostron (45?) Ind., all born in Lancashire.

1851 Census – Holcombe, Rachel Rostron (74) Landed Proprietor and her sister, Betty Rostron (62) Landed Proprietor, both born in Tottington. Servant – Margaret Haynes (19) Domestic Servant, born in Tipperary, Ireland.

1858 – Burial of Rachel Rostron (82) on 29th March 1858 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of James Rostron. Abode: Manor House, Holcombe.

1861 Census – Holcombe, Betty Rostron (72) Farmer and Landed Proprietor. Servant – Ellen Gregory (28) Housekeeper, both born in Lancashire.

1871 Census – Manor House, Holcombe, Betty Rostron (82) Property Owner. Servant – Ellen Gregory (38) both born in Lancashire.

1871 – Burial of Betty Rostron (83) on 1st September 1871 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of James Rostron & Deborah. Abode: Manor House, Holcombe.

1881 Census – Manor House, Holcombe, Thomas Knowles (64) Retired Publican and his wife, Jane (71) born in Tottington. Servant – Ellen R. Waters (43) born in Pendleton, Lancashire.

1884 – Marriage of Joseph Thomas Openshaw (full) Gentleman, Crow Lane, Ramsbottom to May Sainte Clare Openshaw (full) Hey Mount, Holcombe on 30th July 1884 at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. Groom's father: Thomas Lomax Openshaw, deceased, Cotton Spinner. Bride's father: Thomas Openshaw, deceased, Clerk in Holy Orders. Witness: Oliver Openshaw, Edith Mary Openshaw, Amy Beatrice Charley, Ansal? Bamford Openshaw and Jane Openshaw.

1885 – Birth of Dorothy Openshaw, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Openshaw.

1886 – Birth of Olive Openshaw, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Openshaw.

1887 – Birth of Humphrey Algernon Openshaw, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Openshaw.

1888 – Birth of Joseph Cecil Openshaw, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Openshaw.

1888 Slater's Directory – Mr. Joseph T. Openshaw, Manor House, Holcombe.

1891 Census – Manor House, Holcombe, Joseph T. Openshaw (27) Solicitor, born in Bury and his wife, May S.C. (27) born in Delph, Yorkshire. Their children, Dorothy (6), Olive (5), Humphrey A. (4) and Joseph C. (2) all born in Holcombe. Governess – Emma S. Rideal (27) Nursery Governess, born in Blackburn.

1901 Census – Manor House, William Horrocks (71) House Keeper, born in Ramsbottom and his wife, Agatha A. (56) born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

1904 – Death of William Horrocks (74) registered in Ramsbottom.

1904 – Death of Agatha Ann Horrocks (59) registered in Ramsbottom.

1911 Census - Manor House, Holcombe, George Yates? Hazlitt (40) Cotton Cloth Merchant, Employer, born in Higher Woodhill, Bury and his wife, Rebecca (38) born in Old Trafford, Manchester. Their children, Ida

(14) Scholar, born in Bury, Marie (12) Scholar, Neville (8) Scholar, Grenville A. (6), Arline (4) and Vernon (2) all born in Holcombe. Servant – Mary Yarell (19) General Servant, born in Kirton Lindsay, Lincolnshire.

1922 – Marriage of Thomas Philip Downey (30) Solicitor, 32 Drasscroft Road, Huddersfield to Ida Hazlitt (25) The Manor House, Holcombe on 14th July 1922 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: William James Downey, Corporation Officer. Bride's father: George Yates Hazlitt, Master Calico Printer. Witness: W.E. Downey, Marie Hazlitt, William James Downey and Rebecca Hazlitt.

1931 – Baptism of Nigel Anthony Haylitt (born 18^h March 1931) on 17th May 1931 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Neville Haylitt and Muriel. Abode: Manor House, Holcombe. Occupation: Cotton Finisher.

1934 – Baptism of Basil Rodney Haylitt (born 4th April 1934) on 10th June 1934 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Neville Haylitt and Muriel. Abode: Manor House, Holcombe. Occupation: Director.

Gap

50 Cross Lane

52 Cross Lane

Holcombe Bank, Cross Lane.

1871 Census – Holcombe Bank, George Atherton (58) No Business and his wife, Sarah (57) No Business. Their son, James (26) No Business, all born in Lancashire. Visitor – Jane Coulborne (60) No Business, born in Derbyshire. Servants – Ann Jones (20), Thomas Kay (61) born in Dorsetshire and his wife, Mary Kay (59) born in Lancashire.

1881 Census – Holcombe Bank, Edward Chadwick (38) Coachman and his wife, Isabella (36), both born in Bury. Their children, Herbert (13) Groom, Mary (11) Scholar Half Time, both born in Bury, Charles E. (8) Scholar, William (6) Scholar and John (4) Scholar, all born in Manchester.

1888 Slater's Directory - Holcombe Bank, Holcombe, Mr. William Gregory.

1891 Census – Holcombe Bank, Harry Noble (19) Groom Domestic Servant, born in Underbarrow, Westmorland.

1891 – Death of William Gregory (62) registered in Holcombe.

1900 Electoral Register – Holcombe Bank, Cross Lane, Miriam Gregory.

1911 Census – Holcombe Bank, Mary Gregory, widow (84) born in Farnworth. Servant – Alice Wolstencroft (35) Domestic, born in Bury.

Junction of Holcombe Old Road/Moorbottom Road

For more information on Ramsbottom and how to join the RHS:

www.ramsbottomheritage.co.uk

MOOR ROAD - An old packhorse route, known as Holcombe Ancient Highway.

Cross Lane

28 Moor Road

1901 Census – 28 Moor Road, Uninhabited.

1911 Census – 28 Moor Road, Margaret Wallwork, widow (64) born in Ramsbottom.

1939 Register – 28 Moor Road, Frank Taylor (32) and Mary W. Taylor and 2 other people,

30 Moor Road

1901 Census – 30 Moor Road, John Greenhalgh (63) Cotton Weaver, born in Ramsbottom.

1905 Electoral Register – 30 Moor Road, John Greenhalgh.

1911 Census – 30 Moor Road, Thomas Edward Martindale (49) Bricklayer, born in Bouth, Lancashire.

1917 – Marriage of Edward Martindale, widow (55) Mason, 30 Moor Road, Holcombe to Priscilla Clough, widow (52) Cardroom Worker, 54 Stubbins Fold on 1st December 1917 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe.

Groom's father: Edward Martindale, deceased, Tailor. Bride's father: William Newman, deceased, Labourer. Witness: David Greenwood and Mary Ann Greenwood.

1921 Census – 30 Moor Road, Thomas Edward and Priscilla.

1932 – Burial of Priscilla Martindale (66) on 9th March 1932 at Emmanuel Church Holcombe. Abode: 30 Moor Road, Holcombe.

1935 – Burial of Thomas Edward Martindale (73) on 26th December 1935 at Emmanuel Church Holcombe. Abode: 30 Moor Road, Village.

1939 Register – 30 Moor Road, William Stonier (58) and Phyllis M. Fallows (Stonier) and 2 other people,

32 Moor Road

1901 Census – 32 Moor Road, William Booth (62) Woollen Weaver, born in Walmersley and his brother, Samuel (54) Labourer in Calico Print Works, born in Ramsbottom

1905 Electoral Register – 32 Moor Road, William Booth.

1911 Census – 32 Moor Road, Vacant.

1939 Register – 32 Moor Road, Cyril Gall (41) and Mary Gall,

White Hart Inn or Higher House, Moor Road Grade 2 Listed.

Sometimes called Higher House – The Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe was called Lower House.

Marriage of John Rostron and Mary Kay.

1784 – Baptism of Samuel Rostron (born 10th April 1784) on 5th May 1784 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of John Rostron and Mary. Abode: Highhouse? Is this Higher House?

1787 – Baptism of Thomas Rostron (born 17th March 1787) on 21st April 1787 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Edgworth.

1818 Rogerson Directory - Thomas Rostron, Victualler, White Hart, Houlkham.

1820 – Built in 1820. Date stone (JBT) 'John & Mary Rostron 1820'.

John Rostron owned several houses in Holcombe Village.

1821/22 Pigot & Dean Directory - Thomas Rostron, Victualler, White Hart, Holcome.

1824/25 Pigot & Dean Directory - Thomas Rostron, Victualler, White Hart Inn, Holcome.

1828/29 Pigot and Co. Directory - Thomas Rostron, Victualler, White Hart Inn, Holcome.

1832 – Burial of Mary Rostron (47) on 11th December 1832 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Woodside.

1842 – Baptism of William Wood (Born 16th July 1842) on 25th September 1842 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Richard Wood & Maria. Occupation: Jobber. Abode: Tanners.

1845 – Burial of John Rostron (67) on 10th January 1845 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Woodside, Holcombe.

1847 – Baptism of Martha Ann Wood (Born 23rd Apr 1846) on 12th Jan 1847 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Richard Wood & Maria, Innkeeper, Holcombe.

1849 – Baptism of Tom Wood (Born 16th March 1849) on 5th May 1849 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Richard Wood & Maria, Innkeeper, Holcombe.

1849 – Burial of Tom Wood (Infant) on 30th November 1849 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe.

1850 Heap's Directory - Richard Wood, White Hart, Holcombe.

1850— Baptism of Catharine Wood (Born 20th Jun 1850) on 28th July 1850 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Richard & Maria Wood, Innkeeper, Holcombe.

1851 Census – Holcombe, Richard Wood (35) born in Edenfield and his wife, Maria (32) born in Ramsbottom. Their children, Elizabeth (10), William (9), Martha (5) and Catherine (9 months) all born in Holcombe.

1853 Worrall's Directory – Richard Wood, Roebuck, Public House, Holcombe. @@@Check

1853 History & Directory of Mid-Lancashire - Richard Wood, White Hart, Holcombe.

1854 Directory of Mid-Lancashire - Richard Wood, White Hart, Holcombe.

1861 Drake Directory – John Stott, White Hart, Holcombe.

1861 Census – White Hart, Holcombe, John Stott (44) Victualler, born in Littleborough, Lancashire and his wife, Mary (42) born in Bury.

1871 - William Hewitson, former editor of the Bury Times in conversation with "an old grey-haired villager" which took place on August 26th 1871 during a visit to Holcombe.

"Mr Hewitson states that about one hundred years previously there stood an old thatched cottage at Holcombe on the rising side of the present highway and on a level with the Old Pack Horse route: some years later the old tenement was pulled down and the White Hart public house erected there. He told him that in the top storey of an outbuilding on the left side of and connected with the White Hart was a room, approached by a flight of steps from the rear, where the cockpit was located. Cockfighting also took place on the floor of a barn which formed part of the same building, but the principal matches took place in the aforementioned room. The birds that were to do battle were penned and fed in two places, one party would use the top storey of a building on the right of the White Hart approached by a flight of steps and in later times used as a joiner's shop; the other party would use a small outbuilding at the rear of and connected with the Shoulder of Mutton."

1871 Census – White Hart Public House, Holcombe, Lydia Alexander (49) born in Herefordshire. Nieces – Martha Crouch (21) and Kate Crouch (19) both born in Staffordshire. Servant Hannah Hartley (13) born in Warwickshire. Boarders – Richard Bentley (43) and Robert Yates (67) both born in Lancashire.

1871 Worrall's Directory - White Hart, Lydia Alexander, Holcombe.

1879 - Baptism of Thomas Edward Howarth (Born 11th Oct 1879) on 7th Dec 1879 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of John & Mary Howarth, Publican, Holcombe.

1880 Barratt's Directory – John Haworth, Victualler, White Hart, Holcombe.

1881 Census – White Hart Inn, Holcombe, John Howarth (38) Publican & Farmer and his wife, Mary (38) both born in Haslingden. Their children, Jane (8) born in Haslingden and Thomas (1) born in Ramsbottom. Servants – Henry Hoyle, widow (65) Farm Servant, born in Haslingden, James Harnes, widow (24) Farm Servant, born in Ramsbottom, Harriet Ann Chapman (22) Domestic Servant, born in Holland Northfolk and her daughter, Alice Hurst Chapman (5 months) born in Ramsbottom.

1883 Barratt's Directory – John Haworth, Farmer and Victualler, White Hart, Holcombe.

1884 - The White Hart Inn, lost or gave up its license in 1884 and became a private house.

1888 Slater's Directory – Mr. James Thorpe, Higher House, Holcombe.

1889 – Baptism of Mary Taylor (born 23rd June 1889) on 4th August 1889 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Higher House, Holcombe. Occupation: Farmer.

1889 – Burial of Mary Taylor (1 ½ months) on 10th August 1889 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe.

1890 – Baptism of Fred Taylor (born 1st May 1890) on 6th July 1890 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe Village. Occupation: Quarryman.

1891 Census – 8 Moor Road, Henry Taylor (35) Farmer, born in Holcombe and his wife, Margaret (32) born in Musbury, Lancashire. Their children, Ann (9) Scholar, Giles (7) Scholar, Zechariah (6) Scholar and Fred (11 months) all born in Holcombe.

1891 Census – Higher House, Sarah A. Johnson (57) Housekeeper, born in Manchester.

1891 – Baptism of Walter Taylor (born 8th June 1891) on 6th September 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe. Occupation: Farmer.

1892 – Baptism of James Taylor (born 23rd October 1892) on 4th December 1892 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe Village. Occupation: Farmer.

1893 - *"I found myself in the centre of the village of Holcombe , and directly opposite Mr T. A. Crook's residence. Many years ago, this building was a celebrated public house under the name of the White Hart, but was better known as Higher House, a name it retains at the present day. In the old days of cockfighting and other barbarous customs, which found much favour at Holcombe, Higher House was a well-known resort. On the green opposite its entrance competitors used to grin through horse collars for prizes, and it not infrequently happened that an onlooker who was not a competitor, but merely stood by and grinned at the gridders, was unexpectedly awarded the prize. About ten years ago the licence of the house was sold and removed to the Waterloo Inn near Holcombe Brook. The external appearance of Higher House has been greatly altered since Mr Crook became its tenant, but its association with the wakes of olden days will not soon be forgotten. At the North gable end is an inscription which speaks of former ownership: John and Mary Rostron, 1820. On the right of Higher House stands a three-storey building. Once upon a time the top floor used to be open to the sky, and it was retained for the purpose of cockfighting. In those days a flight of stone steps led up to it from the rear, and hundreds of mains have been fought there."*
Bury Times dated 20th May 1893

1901 Census – Holcombe House, 8 Moor Road, Mark Maddison (37) Gardener Domestic, born in Bamber, Lincolnshire and his wife, Mary Jane (33) born in Ingoldmells, Lincolnshire.

1902 – On 24th May 1902, two large stones were transported from Fletcher Bank Quarry, Shuttleworth to Holcombe Moor, and erected as a monument to commemorate the medieval Pilgrim's Cross. The photograph shows one of two teams of horses, owned by Whittaker's, wheelwrights and blacksmiths of Edenfield, outside Higher House on Moor Road.

1907 – Baptism of Charles Middlemost Ainsworth (born 24th March 1907) on 1st September 1907 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Charles Ainsworth & Clara Harriette. Abode: The Higher House, Holcombe. Occupation: Master Bleacher.

1911 – Baptism of Margaret Mary Ainsworth (born 24th February 1911) on 28th April 1911 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Charles Ainsworth & Clara Harriet. Abode: The Higher House, Holcombe. Occupation: Bleacher.

1911 Census - Holcombe Village, "Higher House", Private House, Charles Ainsworth (37) Master Bleacher and Dyer, born in Ingol, Lancashire and his wife, Clara Harriet (41) born in Huddersfield, Yorkshire. Their children, Roger Middlemost (7) born in Walmersley, Charles Middlemost (4) and Margaret Mary (1 month) both born in Holcombe. Servants – S. Donegani (49) Nurse, Maternity, born in Cunale, Northamptonshire, Katherine McCrimman (30) Cook and May McCrimman (20) Housemaid, both born in Liverpool.

1913 NW Counties of England Trade Directory – Charles Ainsworth & Co., Ltd., Bleachers & Dyers, Holcombe Brook; Goods to L&Y Railway, Holcombe Brook. Telephone No 36 (Ramsbottom).

1917 – Marriage of Fred Taylor (26) Farmer, Chatterton Close Farm to Fanny Stewardson (18) Domestic Servant, The Higher House, Holcombe on 14th February 1917 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Henry Taylor, Farmer. Bride's father: Matthew Stewardson, Labourer. Witness: William Hoggarth and Jane Ann Hoggarth.

1920s – Photograph of horse drawn carriage, driven by Albert Dunlevy, outside Higher House, Holcombe. Passengers were local gentry being taken to the races at Harwood.

1930s – Col. Charles Ainsworth (1874 – 1956), Master of Holcombe Hunt (1927 - 1931), MP for Bury (1918 - 1935).

Stanley Baldwin stayed here when he was Prime Minister (1923–1924, 1924-1929 & 1935 –1937).

1934 Electoral Register – Higher House, Moor Road, Charles Ainsworth, Clara Harriet Ainsworth, Roger Middlemost Ainsworth, Charles Middlemost Ainsworth, Margaret Mary Ainsworth, Louie Riding and Julie Cannon.

1935 – Marriage of Lawrence John Haes to Margaret Whitehead at St. Mary's Church, Bury. Mrs Margaret Haes is given the house as a wedding present.

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1939 Register – Lawrence J. Haes (36), Higher House, Holcombe.

1967 - Mrs Margaret Haes set up a new riding centre for disabled children. Princess Anne supported Peggy's 'pony riding for the disabled' movement.

In her honour it is now named Margaret Haes Riding Centre.

1994 – Burial of Lawrence John Haes (91) on 20th December 1994 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Died: 14th December 1994. Abode: Higher House.

2008 – Burial of Margaret (Peggy) Haes at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe.

Present – Private House.

For more information on Ramsbottom and how to join the RHS:

www.ramsbottomheritage.org.uk

8 Moor Road

1889 – Baptism of Mary Taylor (born 23rd June 1889) on 4th August 1889 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Higher House, Holcombe. Occupation: Farmer.

1889 – Burial of Mary Taylor (1 ½ months) on 10th August 1889 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe.

1890 – Baptism of Fred Taylor (born 1st May 1890) on 6th July 1890 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe Village. Occupation: Quarryman.

1891 Census – 8 Moor Road, Henry Taylor (35) Farmer, born in Holcombe and his wife, Margaret (32) born in Musbury, Lancashire. Their children, Ann (9) Scholar, Giles (7) Scholar, Zechariah (6) Scholar and Fred (11 months) all born in Holcombe.

1891 – Baptism of Walter Taylor (born 8th June 1891) on 6th September 1891 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe. Occupation: Farmer.

1892 – Baptism of James Taylor (born 23rd October 1892) on 4th December 1892 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Son of Henry Taylor and Margaret. Abode: Holcombe Village. Occupation: Farmer.

1901 Census – 8 Moor Road, Mark Maddison (37) Gardener Domestic, born in Bamber, Lincolnshire and his wife, Mary Jane (33) born in Ingoldmells, Lincolnshire.

1905 Electoral Register – 8 Moor Road, William Bowery.

1921 Census – 8 Moor Road, Ashton, Florence, Jack and 2 others.

Higher Barn House

1891 Census - Higher Barn Farm, Eliza Pickup,

Higher Tops Barn

Barn. Date stone (JBT) "1751".

High Tops Farm

No number

1927 – Marriage of Charles Henry Kirby (25) Incorporated Accountant, Village Holcombe to Margaret Brandwood Fletcher (23) 20 Caryl Road, St. Anne's on the Sea on 9th March 1927 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Thomas Kirby, House Decorator. Bride's father: William Brook Fletcher, Yarn Agent. Witness: Charles Grey? Nattress?, Mary Brandwood Fletcher and William Brook Fletcher.

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Peel Monument or Holcombe Tower, Bury - Grade 2 listed.

Robert Peel is best known for his creation of the London police force in 1829. To avoid any confusion or association with the army, the police were dressed in blue tail coats and top hats, and carried truncheons. Ten years later, his police force model was rolled out to the rest of the country.

The second thing Peel is remembered for, is abolishing the much-hated Corn Laws. Bread was a staple food of most of the population and was of particular importance to the poor. The Corn Laws imposed tariffs on grain imported from abroad, and these tariffs kept the price of bread artificially high. This benefitted the landowners, who had a guaranteed price for their grain.

Many of his Conservative MPs represented the land-owning class and were keen defenders of the Corn Laws. Peel however was very interested in tariff-free trade with other countries, and this may have been the main motive for his decision to repeal the Corn Laws. The decision split his Conservative Party and led to the downfall of his government.

Peel died in 1850 and almost immediately a campaign was started to raise a statue to him in Bury, and place a large monument on the top of Holcombe Hill. Local industrialists were quick to form a Monuments Committee headed by William Grant, part of the wealthy and influential Grant family of Ramsbottom. Designed by the members of the Monument Committee: Grant, Ashton, Joshua Knowles, Gorton and possibly Cunliffe. In an article in the Blackburn Standard (15th September 1852) it stated "This monument consists of a massive square tower, on Holcombe Hill, at the cost of Mr. Joshua Knowles." William Grant as chairman, he insisted that the tower be built in line with St Andrews Church (which he had constructed in 1832) when viewed from the front door of his own Nuttall Hall.

The tower cost £1000 to build and the stone to construct it was quarried from the top of the hill, right next to the tower. You can still see the hole left behind. The monument stands at 128 feet tall. In the middle of its large base section is the entrance, with the word "PEEL" above the door. The base supports the tower, which has four stages of mullioned windows. Both the base and the top of the tower have battlements.

1852 - On 8th September 1852, Edward Hodges Bailey's statue of Peel was unveiled in Bury town centre. The next day, a separate ceremony took place on top of the hill for the opening of the tower. Joshua Knowles, owner of Tottington calico works gave a speech, as did Peel's son Frederick, who was guest of honour. Frederick stated that the tower was a splendid memorial both to his father and to free trade.

1854 History & Directory of Mid-Lancashire – Samuel Taylor, Keeper of Peel's Tower, Holcombe.

1871 Worrall's Trade Directory - On Holcombe hill stands a square stone tower, erected in 1851-2, at a cost of £800 to the memory of the late Sir R. Peel, the 2nd Baronet. An excellent view of the surrounding country being obtainable from the tower, is much frequented by pleasure parties in the summer season.

1880 Barrett's Directory - Holcombe stands on an eminence, and from the tower erected on its summit in 1851-2, at a cost of £900, to the memory of the late Sir Robert Peel (second baronet), are obtained some extensive and pleasing views of the surrounding country.

1888 Slater's Trade Directory – The village stands on an eminence, and there was erected in 1852, on the summit of Holcombe Moor a handsome square tower of stone, 120 feet high, to the memory of the late Sir Robert Peel, from the top of which an extensive view of the surrounding neighbourhood may be enjoyed. Peel Tower, Holcombe Hill – James Booth, Jun., Keeper.

1929 – "27th May 1929 Fire at Peel Tower, Holcombe Hill. Estimated damage £20."

From The Diary of Richard Barlow. A Ramsbottom Postman 1882 to 1925.

By 1929, the monument needed to be repaired. As well as general renovations, the rotten wooden internal stair case was replaced with an iron one. Part of Peel's resignation speech which had already featured on his town centre statue was now replicated on carved marble and placed within the base of the tower. It states "*It may be that I shall leave a name sometime remembered with expressions of goodwill in the abode of those, whose lot it is to labour, and to earn their daily bread with the sweat of their brow – when they shall recruit their exhausted strength with abundant and untaxed food the sweeter, because it is no longer leavened with a sense of injustice.*"

1930s - A local farmer named Percy Vickers took over the running of the monument, charging an entrance fee to all those who went inside for the climb.

1939 to 1945 - During the Second World War the tower was used as a look-out post.

"The area that was the responsibility of (Home Guard) D Company was covering most of the moorlands in the area as well as the town and the surrounding villages. Holcombe Tower, Grants Tower and Owd Betts pub were outposts of the Company."

From a larger article written by Fred Entwistle in RHS News Magazine No 10 Winter 1994
1947 - The iron stairs were so badly rusted they were judged to be unsafe and so the tower was closed to the public. Ownership passed to Ramsbottom Borough Council and although external repairs were done from time to time over the next few decades.

1985 - Thirty eight years after it was closed, it was finally reopened when a new concrete staircase was put in place. The reopening ceremony 12th November 1985 the photograph shows Sir Derek Barber, R.U.D.C. and Albert Little.

1999 – Millennium celebrations, a beacon constructed near Peel Tower and lit to commemorate the Millennium.

"My brother and I this time were the only family members to set out on that gloomy, drizzle-soaked last evening of the 1900s to attend the so-called Millennium Bonfire. The powerful illuminating lights around Emmanuel Church struggled to make any impression against that all-pervading low cloud. More cars in Holcombe Village than I had ever seen, stretching way down Lumb Carr Road. Chapel Lane snarled up. A refreshments van and a great pile of cardboard boxes by the Shoulder of Mutton car park, soggy and disintegrating - had contained hundreds of wax candle-torches. A great throng on Cross Lane, all very good humoured - most going up, but many struggling against the human tide to come down. Pinpoints of candle light and beams from every size of torch moved up the hillside track, churned into yellowy brown liquid mud by the rain and thousands of feet. Mud splattered trousers, everyone in anoraks, many under every type of umbrella, and lots of toddlers cocooned in polythene as their parents struggled with buggies. Discarded cans and bottles at every few paces. Snatches of mobile phone conversation. As many people pushing past each other as on the busiest Saturday morning on Bridge Street. An ocean of people standing on the banks near the Tower, faces glinting in the drizzle and its huge lights, though only its great plinth visible, the rest lost in cloud. Impossible to get within 30 yards of the massive bonfire stack, which had been visible all day from the town centre. Easily two thousand up there, when it was lit soon after 9:00pm. Orange tongues licking intermittently up out of the smoke, reflecting in the gloom. Red diddy-men hats with 2000 digits in white. Just two hours of the 1900s left - we slurried back down, against the still oncoming crowds, the fire was lost in the cloud, and the first firework went off, as intense as a quarry being dynamited. The air and ground quivered. Wire fence by the path, flashes, it tat tats and booms of further explosions, lighting up parts of the hillside - I could believe we were back at the other end of the century, near Ypres."

Written by Andrew Todd in RHS News Magazine No 19 Spring 2000

2002 – Celebrations for the 150th year anniversary. See photos.

"This turned out to be a great success, the weather being fine with enough breeze to make the flags and bunting on the Tower flutter. The banner hanging down its front proclaimed: '150 years, Happy Birthday Peel Tower' and featured half way down a head and shoulders portrait of Sir Robert. The Brass Band and Punch and Judy took it in turns to entertain the ever growing crowd until 2 o'clock when the main ceremony commenced. The Summerseat Players and ladies in all their finery cut an impressive sight on the brightly decorated stage erected immediately in front of the Tower. Following a brief introduction and synopsis on the life, times and achievements of Sir Robert by our Master of Ceremonies they commenced the re-enactment using a script written by Louise FITZWALTER and Margaret CARRUTHERS, based, in the absence of any details of the original speeches, on what had been said by the same individuals at the unveiling of PEEL's statue in Bury the day before. The re-enactment ceremony closed with three hearty cheers for Sir Robert PEEL, general and hearty applause and a rousing chorus of 'Rule Britannia' being sung by all present. The Helmsshore and Rossendale Brass Band and Punch and Judy played on and the Tower was open to all comers. And a good day was had by all!"

Written by John Ireland in RHS News Magazine No 23 Spring 2002

The monument is now owned by Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and once a month volunteers are on hand to open the doors so that people may enter in and trek to the top. A flag is flown from the tower to let people know it is open.

2022 – A CCTV camera installed on the flag pole, relaying live pictures to the Bury Tourist Information Centre in the Fusilier Museum, Bury.

2022 – “Peel Tower flag hoisted as part of £6,000 project. A new flag has been proudly hoisted on top of Peel Tower as a £6,000 community project opens up - with visitors to Bury town centre now able to enjoy spectacular views of the borough. Semi-retired businessman Trevor Davies has finally completed his project to showcase the beauty of Bury from the top of the historic Holcombe Hill building. Initially only intending to repair the flag pole, Trevor developed the ambitious idea to have two cameras atop the tower, live streaming straight into the tourist information centre on Moss Street in Bury. The 360 and zoom cameras can only be seen from the information centre as Trevor encourages more people to go and make the most of what Bury has to offer. Joined by helping hands from Lancashire Home Interiors on Tuesday, the Bury Times and ITV were taken on a bumpy ride up Holcombe Hill, along with tools and a huge flagpole. Once at the top of the hill and bottom of the tower, we began the steep walk up the stone steps with the flag and pole in tow. From the top, the views are spectacular, and it is no wonder that Trevor was enticed to embark on the expensive project, as the view is something to be marvelled. His project involved a lot of hard work, technology, money and public liability insurance, but Trevor has been determined to get the job done. Ahead of the cameras being fitted, he said: ‘The whole job has taken months of planning and hard work to get ready for the big day on Tuesday, August 30, when we plan to fit the flagpole, flag and install the large tv monitor and housing unit in tourist info.’ The tourist information office in Bury has access to the cameras so members of the public can zoom in and around the landscape in real-time.”

From Bury Times

2027 – 1852 to 2027, the 175th year anniversary of the opening of Peel Tower.

For more information on Ramsbottom and how to join the RHS:

www.ramsbottomheritage.org.uk

Shoulder of Mutton, Helmshore Road/Alba Street/Lumb Carr Road, Holcombe. Grade 2 Listed Building. Sometimes called Lower House.

1751 - Date stone and inscription "1751 JPA", on the wall of the car park, originally lintel of outbuilding.

1760's – There is some evidence to suggest it may have been called the "The Swan and Dog".

1812 - Elton & Blackburn Trust's Turnpike (Lumb Carr Road) was built.

1818 Rogerson Directory - Anne Wood, Victualler, Shoulder of Mutton, Houlkham.

1821/22 Pigot & Dean Directory of Manchester - John Buckley, Victualler and Flour Dealer and Ann Buckley, Victualler, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcome.

1828/29 Pigot & Co National Commercial Directory - Ann Buckley, Victualler, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcome.

1838 Pigot's Manchester & District Directory - Robert Raby, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcome.

1841 Pigot & Slater - Robert Raby, victualler, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcome.

1841 Census – Residence 1402, Robert Raby (65) and his wife, Mary (65). Their son, Samuel (25), all born in Lancashire.

1850 Heap Directory - Thomas Hoyle, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1851 Census – Holcombe, Thomas Hoyle (44) Innkeeper, born in Musbury and his wife, Jane (36) born in Holcombe. Servant – Hannah Low (21) born in Bowland, Lancashire. Visitors – Henry Hoyle (38)

Cordwainer, born in Shuttleworth, George Pickup (38) Quarryman, born in Lancashire, John Whittaker (46) Cotton Spinner, born in Summerseat and Buckley Junr Yates (13) Cotton Rover, born in Summerseat. Lodger – James Mawdesley (45) Carter, born in Musbury.

1853 Whelan & Co Manchester & Salford Directory - Thomas Hoyle, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1854 Directory of Mid-Lancashire - Thomas Hoyle, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1861 Drake's Directory - Shoulder of Mutton, James Ashworth, Holcombe.

1861 Census - Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe, Thomas Kay (46) Victualler, born in Bury and his wife Elizabeth (42), born in Edgeworth. Their children, Mary (22) House Servant, William (24) House Servant, James (16) Joiner, all born in Bury. Stepson, Ely Entwistle (16) Shoemaker, born in Edgeworth and brother, Thomas Kay (49) Stone Quarryman, born in Bury.

1861 – Marriage of William Holt (26) Engineer, Ramsbottom to Mary Kay (22) Holcombe on 26th September 1861 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Brown Holt, Block Printer. Bride's father: Thomas Kay, Innkeeper. Witness: Brown Holt and Elizabeth Dixon.

1871 Worrall's Directory - Thomas Kay, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1871 Census – Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe, Thomas Kay (66) Publican, born in Tottington and his wife, Elizabeth (52) born in Edgeworth. Their children, William (34) Carter, born in Tottington and Eli (26) Shoemaker, born in Edgeworth. Brother, Robert Kay (58) Servant, born in Tottington. Servants – William Hutchinson (26) born in Tottington and Mary Wilcock (26) born in Alston, Lancashire.

1880 Barrett's Directory - Thomas Kay, Victualler, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1881 Census – Shoulder of Mutton, Public House, Ramsbottom, Samuel Wilson (38) Innkeeper and his wife, Elizabeth (37) both born in Tottington Higher End. Their children, Samuel (15), Eliza J. (13) Scholar, Sarah (11) Scholar, Joshua (8) Scholar, Elizabeth (5) and Annie (3). Servant – Isabella Madden (17) born in Bury.

1881 – Birth of Walter Wilson, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Garsden.

1883 Barrett's Directory - Samuel Wilson, Farmer and Victualer, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1885 – Birth of John Wilson, registered in Holcombe. Mother's maiden name: Garsden.

1888 Slater's Directory - Joseph Walmsley, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1891 Census – 15 Helmshore Road, Shoulder of Mutton, Sidney Pilkington (49) Publican and Farmer, born in Ramsbottom. His wife, Mary (43) born in Bury. Their children, Sarah Ann (21) Domestic Servant, William Henry (20) Farmers Son, Mary (17) Cotton Weaver and John (12) Scholar, all born in Holcombe.

1895 – Burial of Sydney Pilkington (54) on 12th December 1895 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Holcombe Village.

1896 – Marriage of John Thomas Kay to Hannah Sefton at St. Bartholomew, Chipping.

1901 Census – Lower House Farm, Ann Kay (49) Publican and Farmer, born in Goosnargh, Lancashire. Her children, Ellen (28) Barmaid and John (26) Farmer's son, both born in Chipping, Lancashire. Servants -

James Walter (22) Farm Labourer, born in Ramsbottom and James Brennan, widow (54) Labourer, born in Skipton, Yorkshire.

1904 – Birth of Phyllis Sefton Kay, Registered in Gisburn, Lancashire. Mother's maiden name: Sefton.

1905 – Death of Ann Kay (53) registered in Ramsbottom.

1905 – Marriage of Robert Melling Scott (28) Loom Jobber of Ivy House, Holcombe to Eliza Jane Carter, widow (44) Domestic Servant, Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Holcombe on 25th October 1905 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: Martin Scott, deceased, Weaver. Bride's father: Samuel Simpson, deceased, Machine Printer. Witness: Edward Nuttall and Maria Melling.

1906 - Baptism of Josephine Sefton Kay (born 8th November 1906) on 20th December 1906 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Daughter of John Thomas Kay & Hannah. Abode: Lower House, Holcombe. Occupation: Licensed Victualler.

1911 Census - Shoulder of Mutton, Public House, Alba Street, Mr. Howarth, 1 man and 2 women.

1916 – *"14th February 1916, St. Valentine's Day. Commencement of new order of closing of Public Houses. 12 o'clock noon to 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. 5 1/s half hours per day."*

From The Diary of Richard Barlow. A Ramsbottom Postman 1882 to 1925.

1916 - On 25 September 1916, Zeppelin airship LZ 61, commanded by Oberleutnant Kurt Frankenburg, dropped five bombs. One fell between the Shoulder of Mutton car park and the Post Office opposite. Shrapnel damage can still be seen on the window lintels, of the former Post Office, today and twenty of the pub's windows were shattered and the front door was broken in half.

1920 – Burial of Ann Parkinson (44) on 1st April 1920 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode: Lower House, Holcombe.

1921 – Marriage of William Parkinson, widow (47) Licenced Victualler, Shoulder of Mutton Inn and Sarah Ellen Entwistle, widow (43) Hare & Hounds Inn, Holcombe Brook on 9th March 1921 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: William Parkinson, deceased, Fitter. Bride's father: Jesse Kay, deceased, Bleacher. Witness: James Kay and Emma Jane Sharples.

1922 – Marriage of James Yates to Hilda Greenhalgh (Duckworth), St Paul Church, Bury.

1928 – Marriage of Harry Warburton Hamer (35) Assistant Manager, Bachelor, Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe to Enid Elizabeth Entwistle (29) 305 Brandlesome Road, Elton on 26th April 1928 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Groom's father: James Hamer, Woollen Manager. Bride's father: James Entwistle, Cotton Waste Merchant. Witness: Sydney Fildes Hardman, Emmie Baker, James Entwistle and James Hamer.

1937 - Burial of James Yates (43) on 29th May 1937 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode - Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1939 Register – Hotel, 15 Holcombe Village, Hilda Yates, widow (55) Hotel Licensee. Russell D. Greenhalgh (24) Gas Works Clerk and his wife, Marjorie S. (19) Slipper Works Typist.

1950 - Burial of Alexander Berry (73) on 12th May 1950 at Emmanuel Church, Holcombe. Abode - Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe.

1965 – Saw the last Holcombe Old English Game Fowl Show, which had been held since at least 1843. It moved from the Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe in 1965 and stayed at the Rose & Crown until 1975. Then it moved to the Old Dun Horse Public House, Bolton Street from 1977 until 2010 when it moved to the Royal British Legion, Central Street, Ramsbottom. The birds are judged on different characteristics e.g., beak, comb, wings, tail etc, to find the overall winner.

2020/21 – Closed for most of the year because of the Covid pandemic.

2023 – Shoulder of Mutton, Holcombe, closed looking for a new landlord.

Breweries

Owned by **Crown Brewing Co. Ltd**, Rochdale Road, Bury. Registered January 1861 as the Bury Co-operative Brewing & Distilling Co. Ltd. Name changed February 1866. (See Crown tiles in porch).

Acquired by **Dutton's Blackburn Brewery Ltd**. 1959 with 127 public houses and brewing ceased.

Dutton's Blackburn Brewery Ltd, Salford Brewery, Bow Street, Blackburn. Founded by 1799. Registered in November 1897 with 92 public houses. Acquired by **Whitbread & Co Ltd** in 1964 with 784 tied houses.

Name changed to Dutton's Brewery Ltd in 1966 and was operated as Whitbread West Pennines Ltd. until closed in 1978.

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www.ramsbottomheritage.org.uk