

Living History

NEWSLETTER October 2011

Nature Notes

Is it one or is it two? This photograph, taken by Tony Mears, shows a Willow tree in the parish with an Elder tree growing through it but with the foliage so intertwined that it might make you look twice.



Record Office visit

Eleven members of the Living History Group visited Hereford Record Office on Thursday 6th October for a guided tour by Archivist Rhys Griffiths. It was a fascinating insight – especially the glimpse into the strong room! Rhys had thoughtfully prepared a range of documents and maps relating to Yarpole for the Group to look at. These, along with his very knowledgeable talk on the range of records available, whetted the appetite of everyone for future visits to follow up research.

AGM

The AGM was held at the beginning of the October meeting of the Yarpole Living History Group on Tuesday 4th October 2011. The minutes of the 2010 AGM were read and agreed; there were no new nominations for Chair, Secretary or Treasurer but the current post holders agreed to continue in office; the Treasurer reported that the Groups current funds stand at £383.16 and Group membership at 41.

Articles

The following article accompanies this edition of the *Newsletter*:

Yarpole 1841 by Ian Mortimer and Tony Mears

We have an expanding programme of articles for future issues and we always welcome proposals for articles. Please contact the *Newsletter* editor - John Turrell on 01568 780677 if you would like to discuss possible articles or if you have contributions for the Newsletter.

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Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in the Committee room of the Village Hall on **Thursday 24th November at 7.30pm.**

Yarpole 1841:

The Tithe Commutation Act was passed in 1836, following years of complaint by farmers who had to pay one tenth of their produce to support the Church. The Act allowed for a payment in money rather than in produce, and in order to work out who should pay what, tithe Commissioners collected information on every field subject to tithe.

The Commissioners needed to know who owned the field, who was the tenant, what was grown, what it was worth and what the tithe payment would be in cash terms. All this information was called 'The Apportionment', and accompanied the actual Tithe Map. These documents date to the period 1838 to 1845, and, for Herefordshire, are held at the County Record Office.

For the purpose of this Article, the portion of the Tithe Map, covering the centre of Yarpole, was re-traced from a copy of the original Tithe Map, to identify those numbered plots in which there was a property; each plot was cross-referenced with the relevant entry in the Apportionment which gave the names of the landowner and tenant, and, in the case of properties, 'tenant' has been equated to 'occupier'.

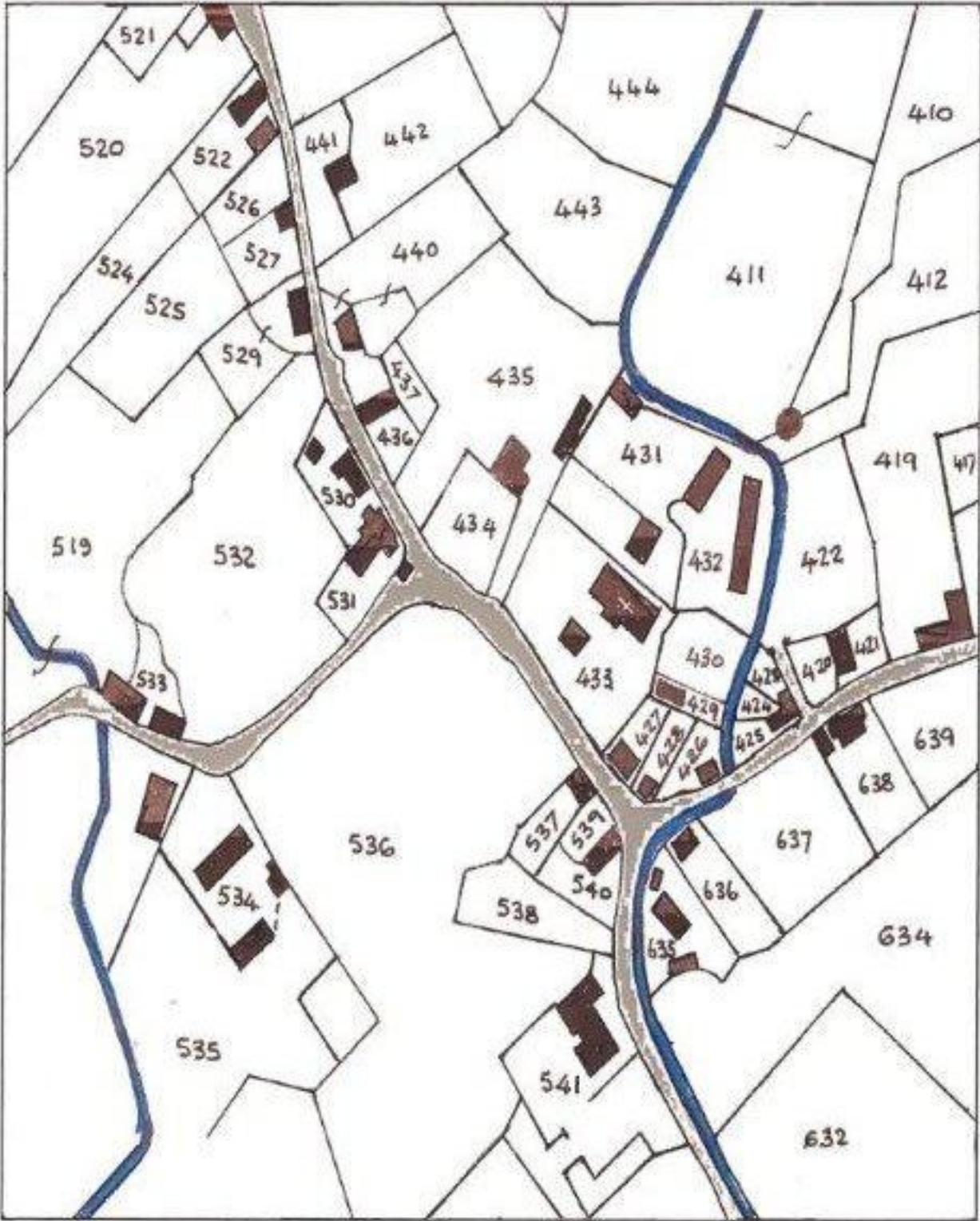
Of the 28 properties identified on the Map (see overleaf), five were 'in hand' i.e. either occupied by the landowner or waiting for a tenant, one was 'void' i.e. not occupied, and 18 were occupied by named tenants, 17 of them were cross-matched with names in the 1841 census; the one exception (plot 636) could be explained by a change in tenancy between the time when the 'Apportionment' was compiled and the census.

The remaining four properties (two of which are farms and two are linked cottages) were all 'tenanted' by a William Taylor who may have sublet some of these properties or may have been acting as an 'Agent'.

This data is set out on page three of this Article and gives an historical snap-shot of the identified properties.

The coloured map on page four of this Article gives an over-view of the distribution of land ownership, in 1841, in the area of the map.

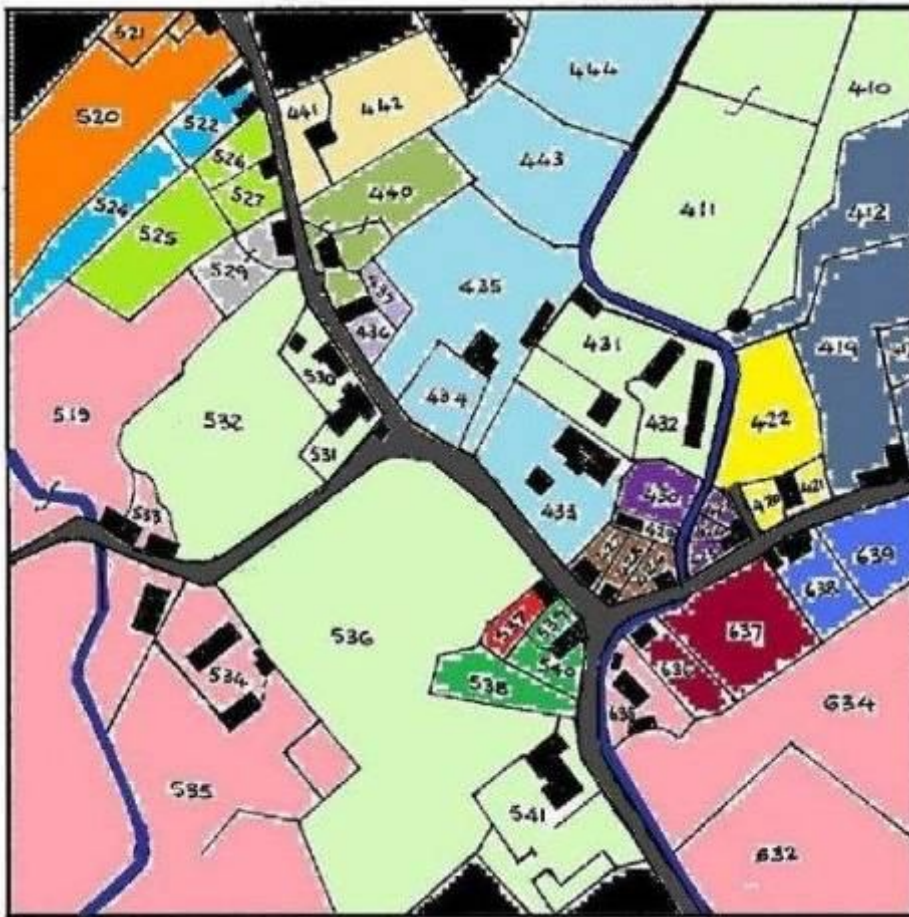
Yarpole 1841 - The Tithe Map:



Yarpole 1841

Plot No.	Landowner	Occupier	Now known as
419	John JONES	in hand/owner	Sunny Bank
421	Mary RIDGELEY	John Baynham Richard	Now the site of Red Oak
423	Richard BEAVAN	Baldwin	Stoneybrook
424	Richard BEAVAN	in hand/owner	Stoneybrook
425	Richard BEAVAN	in hand/owner Richard	Stoneybrook
426	William MASON	Watkins	Garage/Church Cottage
427	William MASON	in hand/owner	The Old Stores
428	William MASON	Thomas James	(The Chapel)
429	Mary LEWIS	in hand/owner	Church Cottage
431	Arthur Henry WALL	William Taylor	Church House Farm
434	Rev. Jos. EDWARDS	John Stanton	Vicarage Farm
436	Thomas BERRY	Edward Griffiths	Southbank
440	Thomas LANE	in hand/owner William	The Bell
441	Henry CONNOP	Everall	Demolished
520	Henry William DAVIES	William Preece	Phillips Acre
522	James PRICE	William Preece William	Upper House Farm
526	Joseph HUXLEY	Edwards Rich'd	The old House
527	Joseph HUXLEY	Chamberlain	The Old House
529	John BIRD	William Lloyd	Dingle Dell /Orchard Cottage
530	Arthur Henry WALL	William Taylor	Tudor House
531	Arthur Henry WALL	William Taylor	Tudor House
534	Edward H. KEVILL- DAVIES	George George	Brook House Farm
537	William ROSS	John Rolands	Virginia Cottage Westend Cottage/South
540	David WILLIAMS	void	view/Spring Cottage
544	Arthur Henry WALL	William Taylor	Lower House Farm
635	E. H. KEVILL-DAVIES	John Prichard Thomas	The Manor House
636	John STANTON	Downes owner/ Anne	Brook Cottage
638	Thos. CHAMBERLAIN	Meredith	The Forge

Yarpole 1841 - Land Ownership:



landowner	plots owned in the area within this map
Richard BEAVAN	423; 424; 425; 430.
Thomas BERRY	436; 437.
John BIRD	529
Thomas CHAMBERLAIN	638; 639.
Henry CONNOP	441; 442.
Henry William DAVIES	520; 521.
Joseph HUXLEY	525; 526; 527.
John JONES	412; 417; 419.
Edward H KEVILL-DAVIES	519; 533; 534; 535; 632; 634; 635.
Rev Joseph EDWARDS	433; 434; 435; 443; 444.
Thomas LANE	440
Mary LEWIS	429
William MASON	426; 427; 428.
James PRICE	522, 524.
Mary RIDGELEY	420; 421; 422.
William ROSS	537
John STANTON	636; 637.
Arthur Henry WALL	410; 411; 431; 432; 530; 531; 532; 536; 541.
David WILLIAMS	538; 539; 540.

Compiled by Ian Mortimer and Tony Mears who traced the maps (Sept 2011).