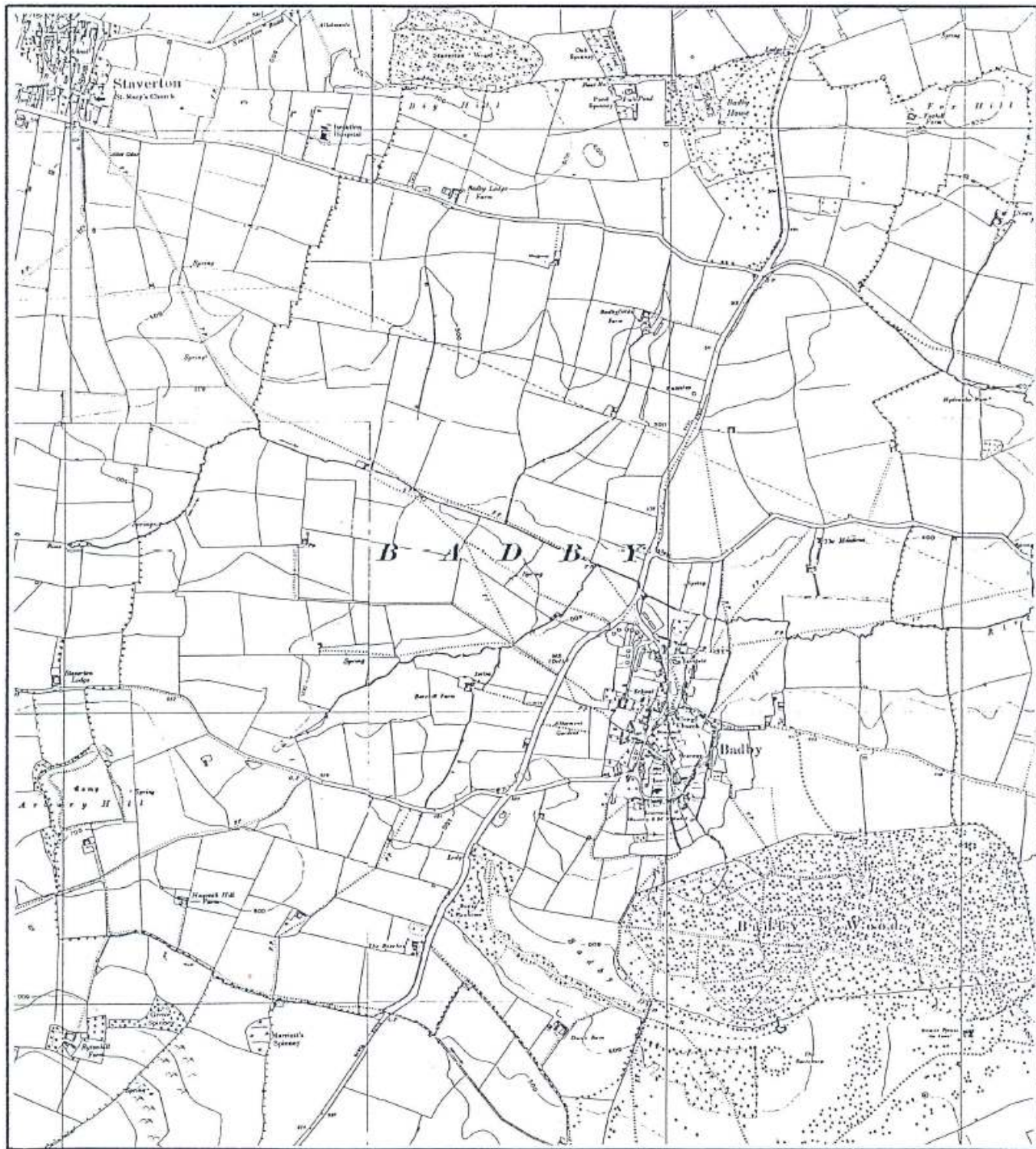


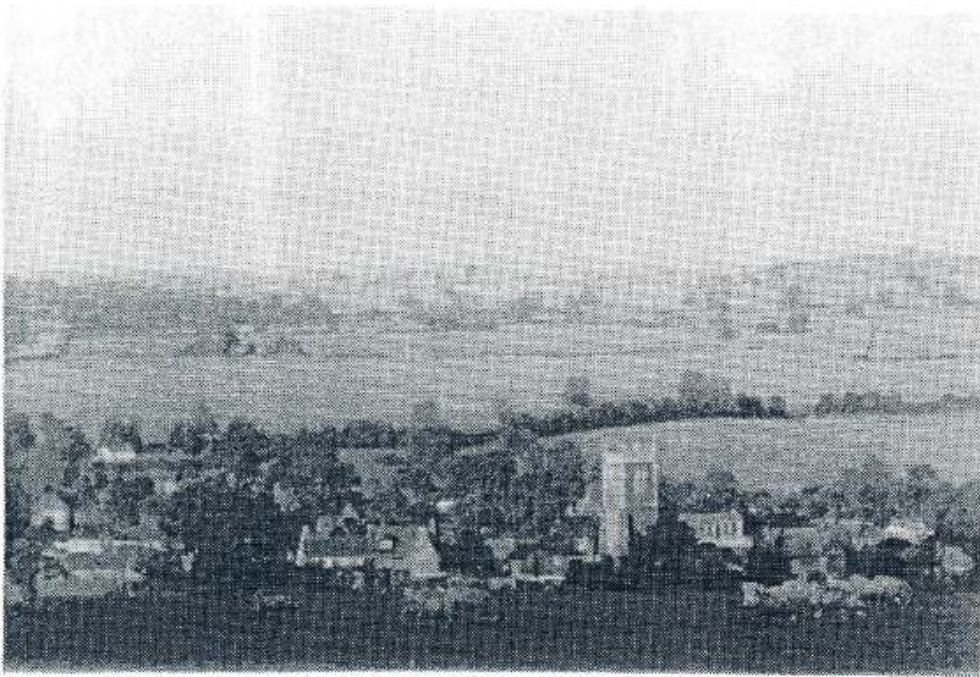
Parish 2000 BADBY APPRAISAL



Badby

Parish Appraisal

1991–1993



'The village nestles in a valley surrounded by hills, and for the most part stands on an expansive slope. At one glance the eye takes the thatched cottages interspersed with a few red brick and slate roofed dwellings, and numerous farm houses built of warm red sandstone. Here and there a green meadow shows between. Beyond these we see the church and to the left are sloping corn fields of red sandy soil. As a background is Badby Wood with its immense stretch of trees – masses of green in varied shades. At the foot of the hill run the beginnings of the river Nene not far from its source. The entrance to the village is certainly pretty. Some writers have called the place the "Garden of Eden".'

Miss A.E. Ivens. *A Short History of Badby and Fawsley* (1933)

Acknowledgements

Special thanks are due to the volunteers who helped in the production of this booklet by photocopying, distributing and collecting the original Questionnaire, and to those who made all the fund raising activities run so successfully.

Thanks, also, are due to the administrative staff at the Hunsbury Hill Centre who have given unstintingly of their time, advising us at every stage of the production.

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Introduction



As the end of the 20th Century approaches, it is an appropriate time to make an up to date survey of villages and assess plans for their future development. This document, therefore, is the result of a community project designed to record the origins of the Parish of Badby, aspects of village life and expectations for the future.

The material in the document has been researched by a group of volunteers. The production costs have been met by several fund raising activities, based on themes reflecting village life through the ages, and also a grant from the Northamptonshire Rural Community Council Village Initiatives Fund, sponsored by Northamptonshire County Council, the Rural Development Commission and the Countryside Commission.

Additional material is being archived for posterity and any further contributions will always be welcome.



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GEOLOGY

The beautiful Northamptonshire countryside around Badby, with its valleys and wooded hills, was created during the Jurassic Period, halfway through the Mesozoic Era in Geological time.

Badby itself rests on Lias strata, which was deposited during the early part of the Jurassic Period in a shallow sea, disturbed by changing currents, with plenty of marine life. This sea extended from the south of England right up to the Scottish Borders. Around its edges were islands of high land in places such as the Mendips, with larger land masses in Devon/Cornwall, Wales and Cumberland/Scotland.

That was 120 to 150 million years ago. It was a time when the dinosaurs were at their peak, but they did not live at Badby because the whole area was covered by the Liassic sea. This sea, over many millions of years, deposited sedimentary rocks consisting of sands, limestones and clays, containing many shelly fossils. The type of sediment depended on the variations in the sea conditions – clays off large estuaries, limestone in deeper clear water and sandstone where harder materials such as igneous rocks were eroded.

Earth movement continued throughout the period, as they do now, and as deposits rose above the sea new land would itself be eroded by the waves, leaving little pockets of harder rocks which may now form the tops of hills. A good example of this is seen at Badby, where the hard Northampton Sandstone survives at the tops of hills at Hazley Knob (in Badby Wood), Badby Down and Arbury Hill.

Badby has examples of all levels of Liassic strata – Lower Lias clays, Middle Lias silts and clays, the Marlstones, Upper Lias mudstones with thin limestones and shales, capped by the Northampton Sandstones.

When the land at Badby rose above the sea for a short (geologically speaking, but still many

millions of years) time towards the middle of the Jurassic Period, the Upper Lias (being of softer material) was easily eroded by waves, the Marlstone (being harder) resisted the effects of the sea, but not entirely, revealing sections of Lower Lias in places – such as in the Nene valley.

At Badby our scenery is determined entirely by the Liassic rocks. We have Lower Lias in the River Nene valley, covered in places with Pleistocene (recent deposits of the Quaternary Era) river gravels and alluvium. Tongues of Lower Lias extend into the main valley of the village itself and into the valley to the West of the A361. Above this we have the harder Marlstone, which forms the hills on the West side of the village (Bunkers Hill) and to the East (on the edge of Badby Wood). There is a geological fault (a sliding of one block of rocks against its neighbour) running East/West from the North edge of Badby Wood to the valley just to the South of Bunkers Hill, where the Marlstone is displaced against the Upper Lias. The Upper Lias to the South of Badby is capped by the hard Northampton Sandstone forming the hilltops at Hazley Knob, Badby Down and Arbury Hill as mentioned earlier.

Of especial interest to us at Badby is the Marlstone, because this hard shelly limestone containing iron is the rock from which most Badby houses are built. Marlstone beds extend from south of Banbury to Badby, with further bands from Melton Mowbray to North of Grantham. It has the deep mellow brownish colour, full of fossils, which is so characteristic of the villages from Banbury to Grantham.

None of the local quarries for Marlstone still operates. Hardly any are still visible, but records show that old quarries used to be at the following sites: Badby Lodge Farm to the west of Badby, half a mile east of Newnham and to the N.E. of the Manor House at Preston Capes, S.W. of Globe Farm, near Weedon. These quarries sites are the origins of Badby as we see it now.


- Glossary:**
- Mesozoic: from the Greek for “middle” Era (of rock containing fossil remains).
 - Jurassic: from the Jura Mountains in the Alps, which have very extensive beds of rocks of this period.
 - Lias: from the Greek for “whitish blue” clay – suitable for making pots. The cliffs on the Dorset coast contain deep beds of blue Lias clay, famous for their ammonite fossils.
 - Pleistocene: from the Greek for “most new”.



Bunkers Hill: formed from hard Marlstone.



GEOLOGICAL MAP

 NS: Northampton Sandstone
 MRB: Marlstone Rock Bed

HISTORY

Much new information about Badby has been unearthed in the last thirty years. It has been exciting to see the link up between old documentary evidence and the archaeological excavation and field work. Stress, here, is laid on more recent and less accessible findings rather than the older traditional sources: J. Bridges, 1791, G. Baker, 1822 – Histories of Antiquities, and The Victoria County History.

Early documents, three Saxon Boundary Charters from 944–1021 AD, describe Badby estate boundaries. It is possible to follow on the ground details of each Charter and to show that many of the details correspond with the present Parish boundaries of Badby and Newnham.

Saxon Boundary Points

The following is a sample of descriptive points mentioned in the Charters:

Fox Hill, Deer's Leap, Hart's Walling Place, Old Fortress (Borough Hill), Black Rushes, Old Mill (Dodford), Thorn Covered Slope, Stone Bridge, Old Salt Way, Hazel Thicket (Hazely Knob), The Dirty Brook, The Cloven Hill and Old Fortress (Arbury Hill) (Brown A.E., *et al.* Northamptonshire Archaeology. *Journal of Archaeology* 12, 1977, 155–176)

Maybe, these names and the boundaries they mark, now certainly over a thousand years old, have an even longer history? High quality Roman Samian pottery 100–200 AD, occurs near the village, and this suggests that a Roman villa and estate was here sometime during the 400 years of Roman occupation. Pre-Roman evidence is scarce: a pebble mace head, a tumulus and an Iron Age hill fort on Arbury Hill. More field work is needed to fill this gap in knowledge.

The interpretation of the Domesday documents, drawn up by William the Conqueror in 1086, is highly technical. The Badby entry reads:

II Land of Crowland Church.

...in Budby 4 hides. Landfor 10 ploughs; 8

male and 5 female slaves; 12 villagers and 8 smallholders with 6 ploughs. A mill at 2s; meadow 28 acres; woodland 4 furlongs long and 2 furlongs wide. Value was and is £8

The £8 value for Badby in the Domesday Book is high compared with other entries for the County. While King William held estates of high value (Fawsley £15), only 1 in 20/25 other estates had a value of £8 or over.

The Woodland, from its measurement, is likely, but not certainly, Badby Wood. (More analysis is given in Early Daventry by A. E. Brown, 1991, p 72. Leicester University and Daventry District Council.)

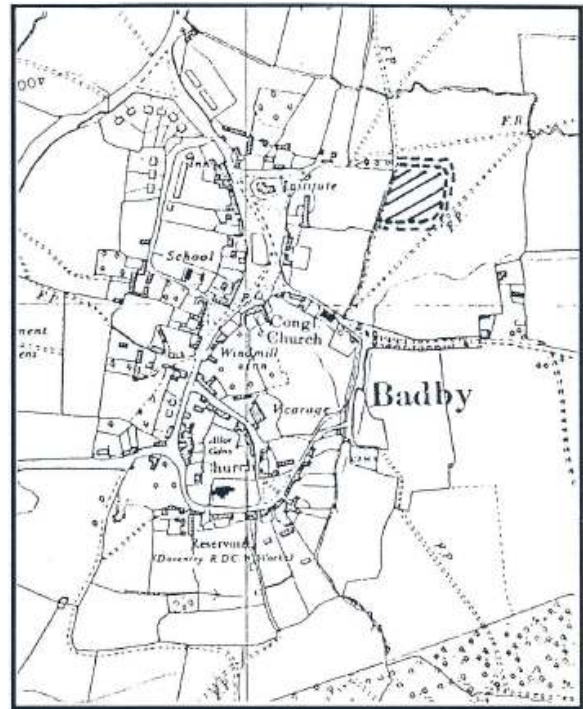
From the twelfth century to 1539 Evesham Abbey was the greatest influence in Badby. The Abbot of Evesham held the Lordship of the Manor and built a moated grange on land to the east of the present Park Close.

Two good sources of evidence exist for this period – The Evesham Chronicle, and the findings of the archaeological excavations from 1965–69. Among references to Badby in the Evesham Chronicle, those about Abbot Roger Norreys occupy many pages. Roger built noble, almost regal, houses **“at Badby, where he feasted on delicacies with some of his brethren, and sometimes for a quarter of the year, and sometimes longer he would be staying”**. Excavations showed that a large “hall” existed. Oyster shells were also found! The Chronicles had worse to report: **“He lived in a most courtly and sumptuous style, with a magnificent table, overflowing with food and drink in plenty, which he lavished liberally and generously, for he was more drunken and excessive than any other English monk, and did not consider simple fornication to be a deadly sin, thus seducing women, unless adultery and incest were added, and it is said he showed no moderation in either of these.”**

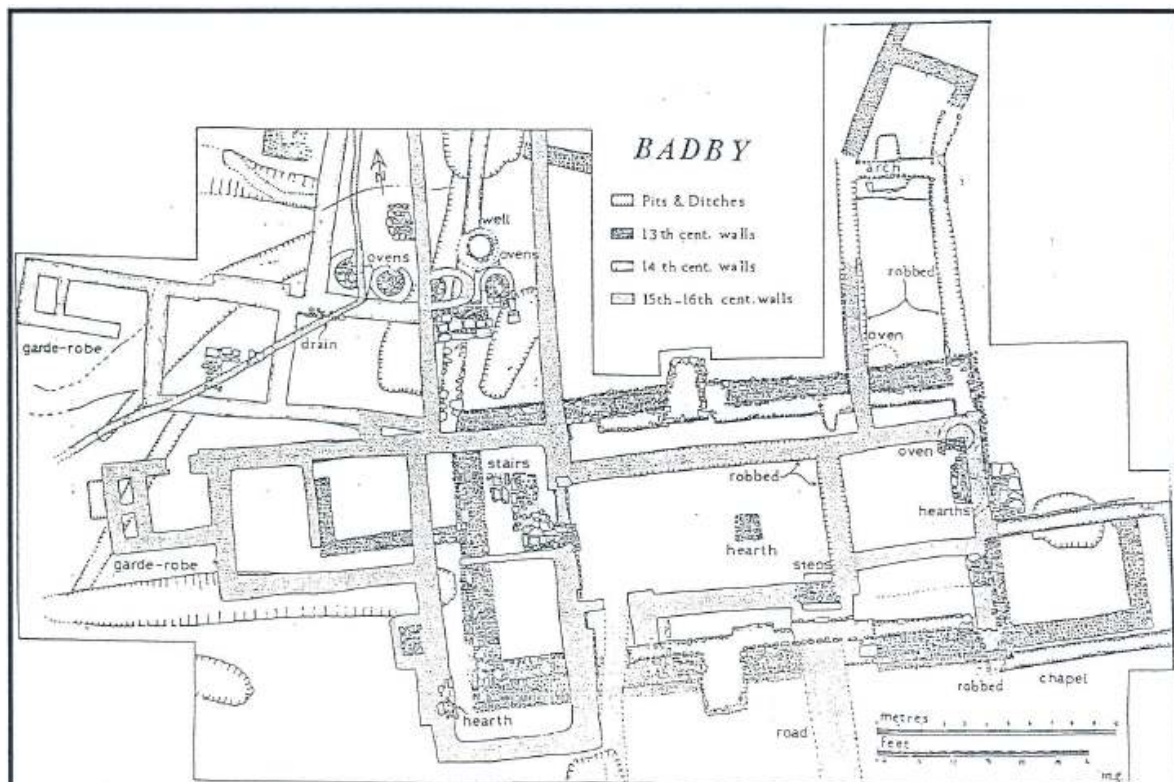
Deer hunting was another monastic recreation and in 1246 the King sanctioned the emparkment of Badby Wood. The banks and

ditches of the Deer Park can still be traced. The Evesham Chronicle also mentions other periods of building at the moated site, which can be matched with other levels of the excavation. But, most importantly, the pottery from here is one of the major chronological dating series in the County.

With the decline of the Monastic life in the 14th century it became the practice for Evesham Abbey to lease out land in Badby. The Spencer family rented the "Manor" from 1451–71 and may well have carried out renovations marked on the plan. In 1530 they still held a lease on part of the Manor lands. This family is now associated with Althorpe. The second family, the Knightleys, which purchased Fawsley in 1416, were to influence Badby for the next five hundred years; they took over land in Badby and the use of the Deer Park which they joined to Fawsley.



 Site of Moated Grange

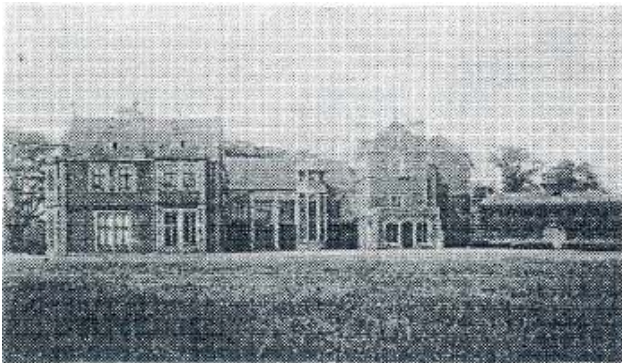


The Moated Site. The first hall was built in 1189 AD measuring 75 x 45ft. It had a stone tiled roof and pitched stone fittings; there were separate stables and kitchens. A dovecote was present after 1214 and fishponds and a mill were in use. In 1345 two new bake ovens and a chapel were built. In 1379 the Hall was rebuilt, but smaller - 60 x 40ft. Another rebuilding in the 15th and 16th centuries was with a red tiled roof. In the 17th century it became an inn, "The Courthouse". Bridges records that some buildings still existed in 1722 but none was standing by 1779.



Fifteenth Century Tiles from the Chapel Floor of the Monastic Grange.

From 1539, Henry VIII carried through the Dissolution of the Monasteries. A Royal Commissioners document from 1540 lists the tenants of both Badby and Newnham and gives the values of rents for: houses, cottages, wind and water mills, meadows, strips of land in the open fields and bake houses. It shows that the Knightley family rented Badby Wood at £6 per annum before the Dissolution. By 1542 the Lordship of the Manor of Badby has been granted to the Knightley family and the long dominance of this family began.



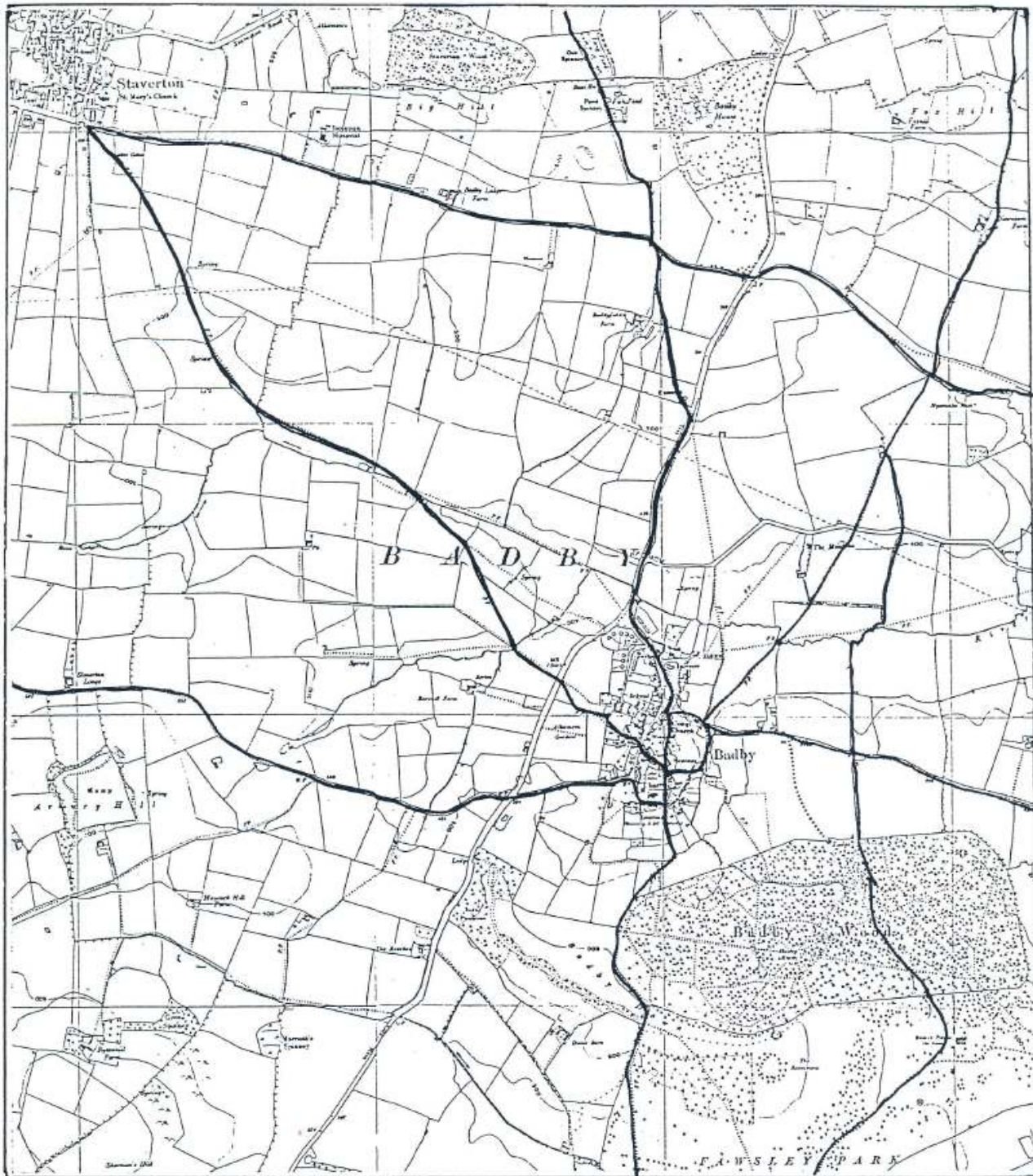
The early Church Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths are held in the County Records Office and are an exceptional series from 1559. There is a handwritten copy in the village, which helps to solve the reading of difficult writing. Some village names go back to 1560. A number of wills can be linked to register entries and houses with date stones and initials. R and J S – 1728, is Robert and Joan Shakespeare. Robert left a will in 1746 for the building called Boyd Cottage.

Another commission visited Badby to formalise the change from the old Open Field System to the new Enclosed Fields. This ended

the practice of a holder working a number of strips of land, often widely separated in the Open Fields. The details collected by the Commission led to the Parliamentary Enclosure Act of 1779 for Badby. It included a map and lists of properties with names and other details. The change in the landscape following enclosure is of interest to local historians, as is the working out of the old field system, ridge and furrow, of which much is still easily seen in the fields that have remained under grass.

Documentary evidence is much more plentiful for the last two centuries. For insight into the mid-nineteenth century village life, the notebook kept by the Vicar of Badby and Newnham, Rev. T. Green, M.A., from 1816 to 1871, is a fine source. He numbered all the houses, entered family details and returned over the years to add more and more: dates of death, details of marriages, places of work and wages, and indiscretions! Those classed as gentry had no entry but their names! The notebooks are in the County Record Office.

Detailed work on census records from 1801 is being linked with the register of baptisms, marriages and deaths, and the Vicar's notebook. An index of names of those who lived in Badby, from all sources, is being made to help in tracing family histories. Results already illustrate many national trends, such as the movement of people to towns. Published in 1933, *A Short History of Badby* by A.E. Ivens gives the feel of the village in the early part of this century, as does Russel Key's book on nearby Newnham.



— Old Saxon Routes as accurately as records show.

Superimposed on Ordnance Survey map: © Crown Copyright, All rights reserved, licence number 100052155.

HIGHWAYS OLD AND NEW

The Parish has roads and footpaths that are very old and provide clues to how the village developed.

Expert opinion is that Saxon Badby started in a clearing around the site of the present Church. A continuous bank runs from the present cemetery, in the field boundaries, round to the bottom of Bunkers Hill, forming a circular southern and eastern boundary. The western and northern boundary is lost during later growth, but the name “banks” remains. The routes into this early settlement are: the sunken road up Bunkers Hill to Catesby, Honey Lane to Fawsley and Church Charwelton, and the Vicarage Hill road to join footpath EB10 to Staverton. These can all claim to be eleven or twelve centuries old. Many details of local highways are in A.E. Brown, “Early Daventry”. 1991.

The present north–south road in the Parish, the A361 to Daventry, is a comparative newcomer dating after 1200 AD. Probably older than this is the east–west road from Newnham to Staverton, known as the “**Porte Way**”; it connected the castles of Warwick and Northampton.

There is documentary and field evidence for an earlier north south road dating from at least 800 AD. From Daventry this road passed between Fox Hill and Newnham Hill across the valley to the east of Badby to enter the Woods along the hedgerow east of the Arch Gate, passing then under Cherry Walk and on at a lower level to it, to exit from the Woods opposite the Dower House, and then on to Fawsley. Fawsley was a Saxon Royal Estate and centre of the Hundred, more important at this time than Daventry.

Saxons travelling from Badby to Daventry could have joined this old road by following the sunken road from Chapel Lane to Everdon. Where this road crosses the old road, there is a tell-tale curve just off the present alignment. An alternative and shorter way to join this old road to Daventry persisted and is shown on the 1779 Enclosure Map, approximating and extending beyond EB17. The same map shows the route to Drayton extending beyond EB15. Both cross a field called Highway meadow.

The exact details of how the routes from Daventry and Drayton entered the centre of the village is not certain, but aerial photographs show a mark up through The Glebe which, together with a gravel layer exposed when building new houses, could indicate a route that could have passed between the new Vicarage and Underwood Cottage and explain why this cottage, following its predecessors, faced as if on a “T” junction.

The expansion of the village after the Norman Conquest was to the north, under the influence of the Lordship of the Manor granted to Evesham Abbey. Like the plots in Daventry there are signs of an orderly layout, still visible in the 1779 map. Most boundaries, such as roads and footpaths are remarkably persistent, at least in our history so far. More details are given in the 1992 Annual Report of the Medieval Research Group, Badby, Northamptonshire, by A.E. Brown. This suggests that about 20 holdings were set out around the large green in the late 12th Century by Evesham Abbey which, together with land allocated between Badby and Newnham, were rented out by the Abbey.

POPULATION, HOUSING AND WORK

The more reliable figures for population come from the census returns from 1801 onwards and are set out below, together with the more fragmentary and indirect evidence from before

1801. House numbers are given where possible but are not judged to be totally trustworthy, although they do allow an estimate of the average number of persons per household.

| Year | | Population | Numbers per House | Housing | Ref. |
|-------------|-----|---|-------------------|--|--------|
| 1104 | 250 | 43 Heads of Household and 6 tenants (x 5 for population?) Total will include Newnham. | | 50 houses (?) between Badby and Newnham. | 1 |
| 1124 | 400 | General rise in England up to the Plagues of 1348, 1361, 1362, 1369. | | 1301: 60 Poll Tax payers | 8 |
| 1349 | | | | Badby and Newnham. | |
| 1540 | 280 | 56 houses x 5 | | 37 out of 56 listed as messuages. | 2 |
| 1559 | | Registers of Badby Baptisms and Burials. | | | 3 |
| 1676 | | 420 Conformist, 0 Papist, 0 Non-conformist. Badby recorded 9 Baptisms and 5 Deaths (1676) with a 10 year average of 12.2 Baptisms and 7.7 Deaths per annum. | | Figures include Newnham. | 4 3 |
| 1720 | | | | 86 houses | 10 |
| 1779 | | Registers 18 Baptisms and 9 Deaths in the year | | 134 (90 houses and 44 homesteads) | 5/3 |
| 1801 | 462 | | | | 6 |
| 1811 | 447 | | | | 6 |
| 1821 | 547 | Males 294 Females 253 | 4.56 | 126 (6 unoccupied) | 6/7 |
| 1831 | 583 | | | | 6 |
| 1841 | 624 | | | 133 (3 vacant) | 6 |
| 1851 | 596 | | 4.69 | | 6 |
| 1861 | 618 | | | | 6 |
| 1871 | 608 | | | | 6 |
| 1881 | 530 | | 3.7 | 131 | 6 |
| 1891 | 519 | | | | 6 |
| 1901 | 408 | | | | 6 |
| 1911 | 423 | | | | 6 |
| 1921 | 468 | | | | 6 |
| 1931 | 444 | | | | 6 |
| 1941 | | No Census | | 6 | |
| 1951 | 478 | | | | 6 |
| 1961 | 483 | | | | 6 |
| 1971 | 580 | | | | 6 |
| 1981 | 652 | 52% Females | 2.86 | 228 | 6 |
| 1986 | 715 | | | | 6 |
| 1991 | 720 | | 2.76 | 251 Parish 260 | 6 |

References:

1. 1104 document Evesham D in Brit. Museum
2. Dissolution of Monasteries valuation Thornton Manuscripts, 1631 (a) County Records Office.
3. 1559–1801 Church Registers, Baptisms and Burials. C.R.O.
4. 1676 A Religious Survey of Peterborough Diocese. C.R.O.

5. 1779 Details based on the Enclosure Act and maps. C.R.O.
6. 1801–Present day. Official Census Results. C.R.O.
7. Notebooks of Rev. T. Green. 1816–1871.
8. Details from Mr Herne's Research. C. Orr.

200 Years of Baptisms and Burials from Badby Parish Registers.

| Years | Baptisms | Burials | Notes: |
|---------|----------|---------|--|
| 1561–70 | 79 | 37 | Evidence suggests that few babies were not baptised. |
| 1571–80 | 84 | 33 | |
| 1581–90 | 58 | 24 | |
| 1591–00 | 82 | 47 | Burials include many babies and children. |
| 1601–10 | 104 | 61 | |
| 1611–20 | 87 | 68 | |
| 1621–30 | 125 | 73 | It can be argued that the excess of baptisms over burials show that more left the village than came to it. |
| 1631–40 | 117 | 100 | |
| 1641–50 | 90 | 63 | |
| 1651–60 | 117 | 65 | Assuming that the numbers of baptisms and burials are related to the total village population, then the late 17th and early 18th centuries could indicate a growth to a new level of population. The dates of many existing stone buildings support this view. |
| 1661–70 | 122 | 77 | |
| 1671–80 | 118 | 76 | |
| 1681–90 | 130 | 102 | |
| 1691–00 | 129 | 109 | |
| 1701–10 | 145 | 89 | |
| 1711–20 | 125 | 105 | |
| 1721–30 | 162 | 94 | |
| 1731–40 | 135 | 99 | |
| 1741–50 | 87 | 97 * | |
| 1751–60 | 104 | 71 | *In only one decade did the number of deaths exceed baptisms. |
| 1761–70 | 120 | 98 | |
| 1771–80 | 111 | 100 | |

Two periods when the population fell are: after 1349 with repeated outbreaks of plague and in the years 1861 to 1931. For the early times there is only a folk memory of a village plague pit but national estimates put a third of the population dying. The later fall, also by about one third, was a movement of people to town with the decline in agriculture, starting in the last half of the nineteenth century with the end of the Corn Laws, cheap American grain and the beginnings of mechanisation. While in England and Wales from 1851 to 1871 the total population rose by 27%, in Badby the rise was 2%. In 1851 in England, for the first time in the World, the town populations exceeded those living in the countryside. It was also the richest country in the world, with the rising town populations fed by the sharp rise in rural numbers in the late 1700s and early 1800s. The Militia List of 1771 noted the following occupations of males between the ages of 18 and 45.

| | |
|------------|----|
| Farmer | 8 |
| Dealer | 2 |
| Servant | 9 |
| Taylor | 2 |
| Labourer | 11 |
| Weaver | 1 |
| Carpenter | 2 |
| Shepherd | 1 |
| Shoemaker | 1 |
| Blacksmith | 1 |
| Baker | 2 |
| Glover | 1 |
| Chandler | 1 |

By 1841, when there were 130 houses with a population of 324, the Census listed the following occupations.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Servants (11 male, 20 female) | 31 |
| Agricultural labourers | 74 |
| Farmers | 14 |
| Shepherd | 1 |
| Groom | 1 |

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Drover | 1 |
| Grazier | 1 |
| Cattle dealer | 1 |
| Masons | 4 |
| Carpenters | 7 |
| Brick maker | 1 |
| Shoemaker | 10 |
| Tailors | 2 |
| Lace makers | 7 |
| Maltster | 1 |
| Publican | 1 |
| Shopkeeper | 1 |
| Butchers | 2 |
| Millers and Bakers | 5 |
| Carriers | 2 |
| Lawyer | 1 |
| Schoolteachers | 3 |
| Timber merchant | 1 |
| Wood turners | 2 |
| Gardener | 1 |
| Labourer | 1 |
| Blacksmiths | 3 |
| Wheelwrights | 3 |

The 1851 Census was the first to record where people in the village on census day were born. In Badby 53% of those over eighteen had not been born in the village. Many who came to the village were born within twenty miles but some wives came from: Warwickshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. There was a schoolmistress from Nottinghamshire, a nurse from Brighton, a gardener from Derbyshire, blacksmiths from the four counties, an army pensioner from Middlesex and an Inland Revenue officer from Norfolk. Leaving home to find work then, as now, was usual. The 1851 Census also gives occupations. The most numerous were:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Agricultural labourers | 114 |
| Farm and domestic servants | 31 |
| Shoemakers | 14 |
| Dressmakers, milliners etc. | 11 |
| Woodmen and sawyers | 8 |
| Carpenters | 6 |
| Bricklayers and masons | 6 |
| Blacksmiths | 6 |
| 12 paupers were also listed. | |

Of the fifteen farmers in the same census, William Phillips farmed 200 acres and had 14 farmworkers. Less than 50 such workers seem to have had permanent work on farms. A larger number must have been subject to casual hire for seasonal work like haymaking, harvesting, shearing and root or potato lifting.

The fastest ever documented growth in Badby village population is from 1951–1991, when the population increased by half. The new housing needed used paddocks, orchards and nearby fields – a consequence of a policy to protect agricultural land. Small adjacent cottages were joined to make larger houses. Most people ended up with more space in the house and less outside it.

Farm houses and buildings once formed a major feature of the village. Cattle grazed the greens, so front gardens had substantial walls and gates. Some will regret the change to open frontages as a drift towards urban conventions. Something of the countryside is also lost when farmers, their animals, machinery and smells depart. Only one full time farmer now lives in the village and farm workers would qualify as an endangered species.

The trades associated with agriculture – blacksmith, wheelwright and farrier, along with their workplaces, have also gone. The butcher, the baker, the tailor and the shoemaker no longer work here

Kelly's Directory for 1910 lists three inns: The Windmill, The Maltsters Arms and The White Lion. The survival of two out of the three pleases the thirsty!

The closure of one of the two village shops in 1992 ended ninety years of trading at this site, opened first as a branch of the Co-operative Society in 1902.

The following is a list of job descriptions entered in the **1992 Questionnaire**.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Accountant | Electronics engineer | Nursery nurse |
| Accounts manager | Engineering manager | Occupational sister |
| Administrator | Examiner | Office administrator |
| Airline pilot | Farmer | Painter / decorator |
| Architect | Farm manager | Party demonstrator |
| Area transport manager | Farm worker | Personal assistant |
| Artist | F.E. lecturer | Personnel director |
| Auditor | Financial adviser | Pharmacist |
| Author | Financial controller | Physiotherapist |
| Bank executive | Fork-lift driver | Plastering contractor |
| Bank manager | General manager | Plumbing/heating engineer |
| Branch manager | General practitioner Postmistress | Police constable |
| Builder | Geriatric social worker | Primary headmistress |
| Building contractor | Graphic designer | Printer |
| Building maintenance supervisor | Group leader | Production manager |
| Bursar | H.G.V. mechanic | Proprietor |
| Cabinet maker | H.G.V. driver | Publican |
| Care assistant | Hair stylist | Publisher |
| Carpenter | Haulage contractor Queen's Counsel | Radio engineer |
| Carter | Head of Field Study Centre | Receptionist |
| Cashier | Health visitor | Royal Navy officer |
| Caterer | Home Office employee | Sales |
| Chef | Hotel manager | Sales director |
| Chief health executive | Hotel operations director | Sales and marketing manager |
| Childminder | Housewife | Scaffolder |
| Civil service | Illustrator | School assistant |
| Civil engineer | Inspector of schools | School cleaner |
| Clerk | Insurance broker | Secretary |
| Clerk in Holy Orders | Insurance clerk | Self-employed |
| Clinical librarian | Interior designer | Senior cardiac technician |
| College lecturer | Labourer | Senior executive |
| Commercial manager | Language consultant | Senior vehicle engineer |
| Company directors | Local Government Officer | Shop assistant |
| Company secretary | Local health | Showroom manageress |
| Company treasurer | Machine operator | Social worker |
| Computer analyst | Machine setter | Software consultant |
| Computer programmer | Management consultant | Solicitor |
| Computer software designer | Management development Head | Student |
| Computer systems manager | Manager | Supervisor |
| Contracts director | Managing director | Surveyor |
| Cook | Market research director | Systems analyst |
| Course director | Marketing consultant | Systems manager |
| Craft worker | Marketing director | Tax officer |
| Credit controller | Masseuse | Teacher |
| Customer service representative | Materials manager | Technical manager |
| Cutting room supervisor | Mechanical engineer | Technician |
| Dentil nurse | Medical representative | Telesales |
| Department manager | Medical practitioner | Training consultant |
| Design development | Midwife | Transport manager |
| Diesel fitter | Milk recorder | Transport officer |
| Director | Mother | University professor |
| District nursing sister | Motor technician | Vehicle engineer |
| Domestic | Musician | Veterinary surgeon |
| Dress designer | Novelist | Wages representative |
| Driver | Nun | Waitress |
| Education officer | Nurse – R.G.N. R.M.N. S.R.N. | Warehouse manager |
| Electrical engineer | S.C.M. | Warehouse operator |
| Electrical fitter | Nursery assistant | Welfare worker |
| Electrician | Nursery manager | Wood cutting machinist |



Using estimates based on the 1841, 1881, 1971 and 1981 censuses and the sample from the 1992 questionnaire, the age structure has changed from mostly under twenty years to mostly over forty.

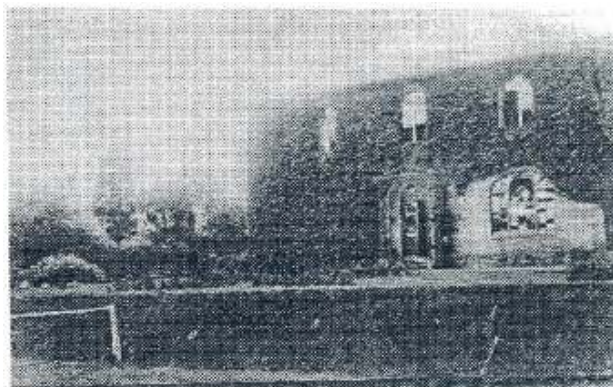
Population Structure

| Age Group | 1841 | 1881 | 1971 | 1981 | 1992 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Under 20 | 55% | 44% | 32% | 32% | 25% |
| 20-40 | 25% | 21% | 25% | 25% | 21% |
| Over 40 | 20% | 35% | 43% | 43% | 54% |

In 1992 about 25% of the over forty group are estimated as retired, as many retired as there are under 20s! In 1971 lady pensioners outnumbered the gentlemen by 2:1. The ladies remained 3:2 ahead in both '81 and '92.

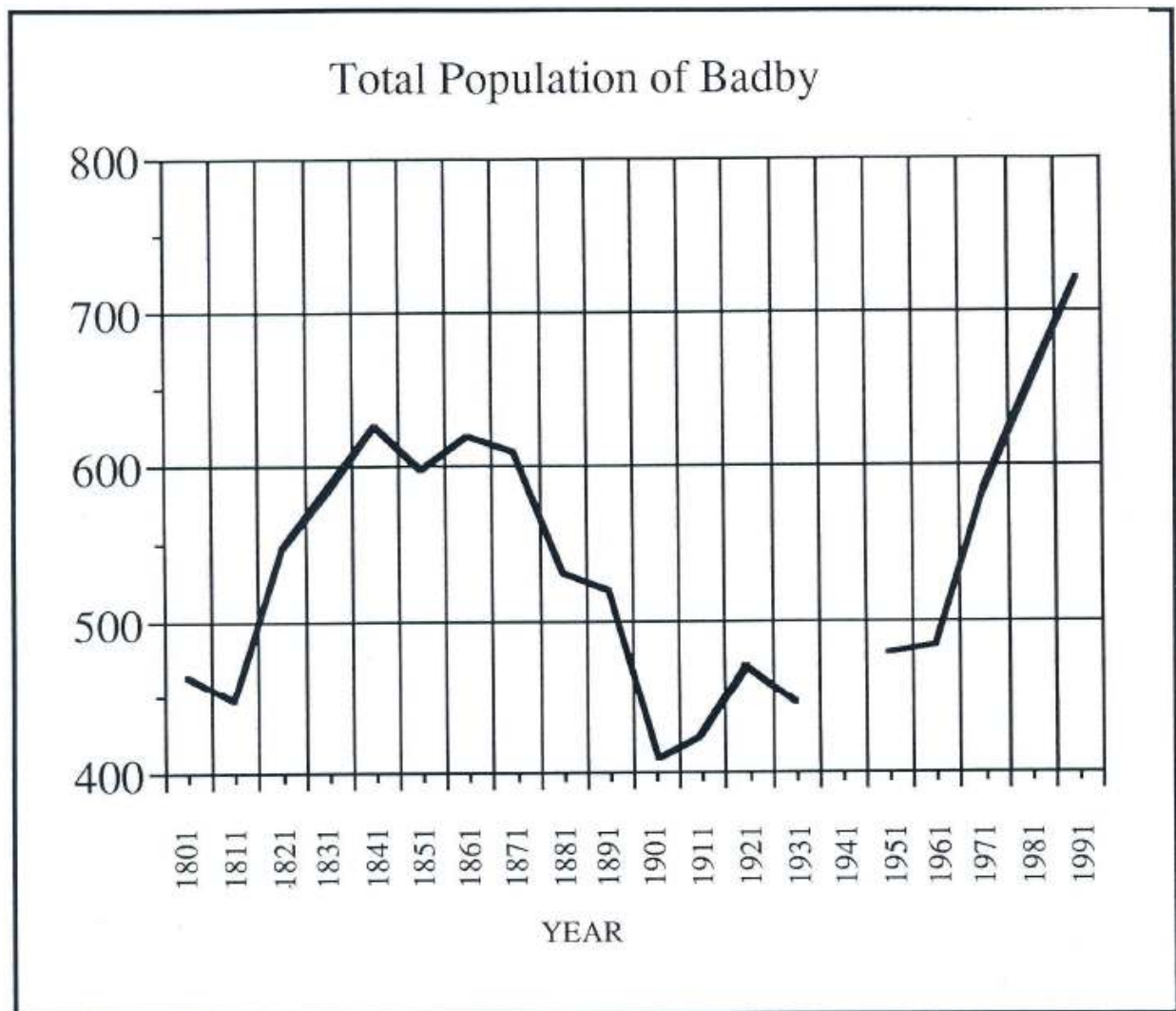
Early village photographs do not show a tidy village, but signs of poverty and dereliction. Stone was not fashionable in the mid nineteenth century. The old Vicarage had its old stone frontage smartened up with brick facing.

Additions to stone houses also often used brick, probably from the village brickyard which used paupers for labour. An exceptional number of stone buildings, mostly from the late seventeenth century, are still standing.



The Youth Hostel remains with the least altered interior of the listed buildings, and the best example of the vernacular building in the Parish. Sadly, there has been little importance attached to preserving old interior features in other old buildings over the last thirty years.

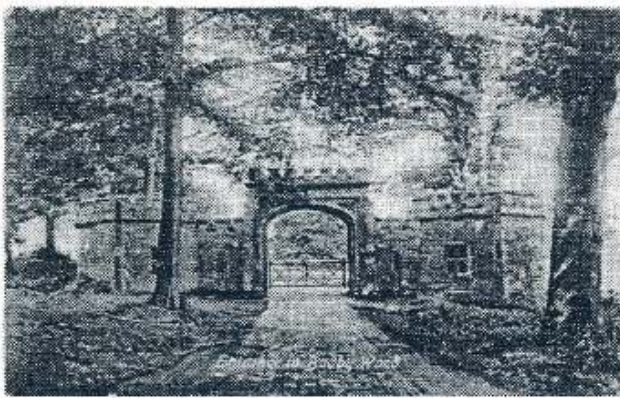




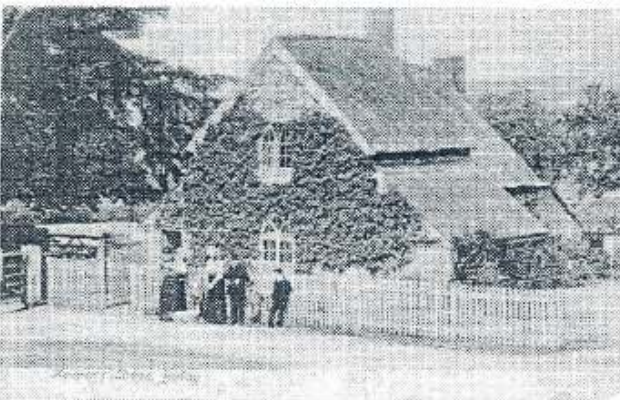
ARCHITECTURE

Badby has a rich architectural heritage – both in listed and unlisted buildings. 29 houses were listed in 1988, but many very valuable features in other buildings went unrecorded; hopefully these will also be preserved. The Church, some tombstones and the Arch Gate to the Woods were also listed.

1. Arch Gate. Probably built in the early 1800's; originally had a single room on either side for the gate keeper and in 1841 two families lived there – one on either side.



2. Gate Cottage. At the top of Chapel Lane, formerly called Clarke's Lane or 'Clerk's Lane'; built of coursed ironstone to a one room plan, with later extensions; gabled centre has a two light window with pointed arches and 'Y' tracery; inglenook and the main beam are chamfered. This house did not exist in 1779.



3. Badby House. Built in 1826 for Charles Watkins J.P.

4. Bridge House. Formerly The White Lion public house and The Bridge; built in the 18th century of coursed stone to a two unit through passage plan with additions at either end; originally thatched with chamfered spine beams and fitted settles in the bay window; roof has a collar truss.

5. The Lantern House. Built after 1779 – possibly 1812 – at the same time as School House. Restored and extended in 1981 following a school project carried out by local pupils which won a National Heritage Award, it is a two storey building of octagonal shape with single mullion and diamond shaped leaded windows.



6. The Cottage, Bunkers Hill. Built in the eighteenth century in coursed ironstone to a two roomed plan with later extensions; formerly thatched, it has an inglenook and stop chamfered spine beam.

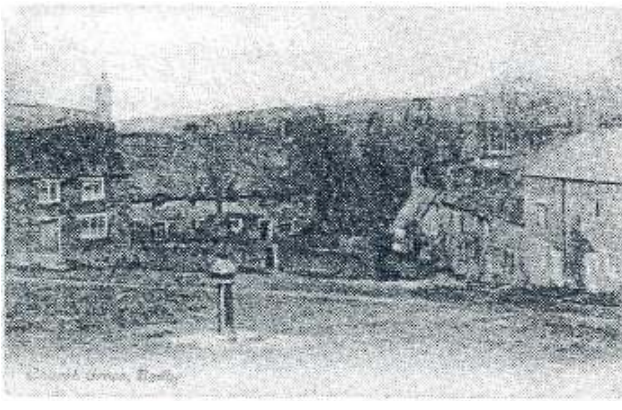
7. Pennywick. One of the earliest houses, with remains of a medieval open hall and smoke stained cruck timbers in the roof; the two eastern bays have crucks and purlins, saddles and collars, the two west bays have a cruck truss with rounded blades crossed at the top with a ridge piece and collar. Much of this is earlier than 1500, with the west extension added around that date. Externally it appears late 17th century and is built of coursed ironstone with a through passage which is stone flagged,

inglenook, spine beams and a bread oven since removed.

8. The Cottage, Chapel Lane. Built in 1696 of coursed ironstone with an inscription 'E.A.H. 1696': has inglenook with stop-chamfered spine beam and stone coped gables with kneelers.

9. Wardens Cottage, Church Green. Late 17th century building of coursed ironstone formerly thatched; built to a one room plan with inglenook and winder staircase with plank door.

10. Y.H.A. 17th century building of coursed ironstone and originally thatched; built to a three unit plan with extensions at either end; contains stud partitioned wall and roof with king post collar trusses. This is thought to be the best preserved building in the village, as many original features remain.



11. Woodcroft. Built of coursed squared ironstone to a three unit plan with through passage; has stone coped gable with kneelers, spine beams and inscription – 'T.C. 1722'.

12. The Cottage, Church Green. Built in the early 18th century of coursed ironstone to a two unit plan and formerly thatched; has a central door and open fireplace with beam and stop chamfered spine beams.

13. Boyd Cottage and barn. 18th century cottage of coursed ironstone with the inscription 'S/R.J. 1728' after Robert and Joyce Shakespeare; originally thatched and considerably rebuilt in 1980s.

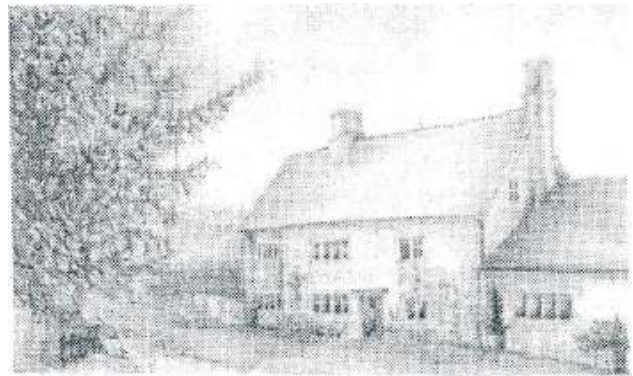
14. The Cottage, Church Hill. Inscribed 'W.T. 1774' for William Turner; built in coursed ironstone with inglenook, bread oven and stop chamfered beams; the roof has a central collar truss.

15. The Church.

16. Tomb.

17. Tomb.

18. The Old House. Tradition makes this house older than most but no features remain to date it earlier than 17th century; built of coursed and squared ironstone to a three unit, through passage plan and originally thatched; has mullion windows with the centre mullions enlarged in the 20th century and mullioned bay windows on two storeys.



19. Jasmine Cottage, Courtyard Lane. Built in 1697 of coursed squared ironstone; formerly thatched with stone coped gables with kneelers; many original features left including two inglenooks with stop-chamfered beams, winder stair and collar truss roof.

20. Wayside. Early 18th century building of coursed squared ironstone with a collar truss roof and originally thatched; the two unit plan with central staircase, dog legged with turned balusters has a 19th century extension to the rear.

21. Appletrees. One house with a 1631 date stone, divided at one time into two cottages but returned to one in the 1980s; built of coursed squared ironstone with coping stones and kneelers and originally thatched; has one stone

mullion in gable at west end, spine beams and ingle nook.

22. Home Farm. Bears two date stones – 1631 and 1685; built of coursed ironstone with stone coping, kneelers and a collar truss roof, originally thatched; has small leaded window with hood mould, stop chamfered spine beams and two inglenooks.

23. Marriotts House, Stoneway. A four unit plan built in 18th century of coursed, squared ironstone with slate roof, stone coping, kneelers and twelve pane sash windows; interior features include an eight panelled door with semi-circular dummy overlight, pilasters and open pediment, open fireplace, dog leg staircase with stick balusters to first floor and fat turned balusters to upper floor, and spine beams

24. Ronkswood, Stoneway. Originally two cottages built in the early 18th century of coursed ironstone and formerly thatched; contains two open fireplaces with beams, spine beams and stop chamfered joists.

25. The Manor House. Built to an L-shaped plan with coursed ironstone, quoins, stone coping, kneelers and a tiled roof; constructed in stages, the earliest in 16th century, with stone fireplace on first floor and roof timbers resembling an 'A' frame – massive beams; part of the roof was reconstructed in the 18th century. It contains a 16th to 17th century staircase and half timbered corridor, stone floors, inglenook, ogee stop chamfered beams and a cellar with spring. The dining room has an 18th century fitted "shell cabinet".



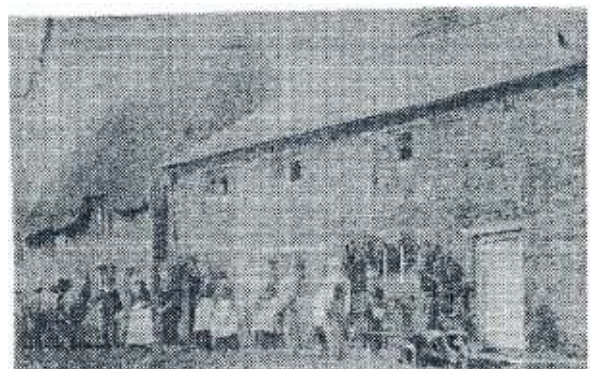
26. Old School House. Built of coursed ironstone with slate roof; erected by James Wyatt in 1812 for Lady Knightley as a school for girls.

27. Greystones. Constructed in 1706 of coursed squared ironstone with mansard roof which was added in the late 1800s to make extra dormitory space for a girls' school; features include sixteen-pane sash windows, spine beams, dog leg staircase with barley sugar balusters and one panelled room.

28. Park House. A mid 18th century building of coursed squared ironstone with a tiled roof, moulded stone eaves, stone coping and kneelers; contains stone flagged floor, beams, inglenook with bread oven and moulded beam – possibly medieval and re-used and a fine open well staircase with turned balusters.



29. Casanene. Formerly six cottages; the 17th century house to the north has some stone mullioned windows with hood moulds, stone coping and kneelers; interior contains ogee stop chamfered spine beam and two inglenooks, one with bread oven.



30. Park View. Built in 1674 of coursed squared ironstone, originally thatched with quoins and stone coped gables with kneelers; windows have stone hood moulds; has fine moulded spine beams and inglenook with bread oven.



31. The Hollies. A two unit plan constructed in the late 17th century of coursed squared ironstone, originally thatched with collar truss roof, and with 19th century brick extension; external features include mullion windows in south gable end and west side as well as a sixteen pane sash window; internal features include bar stop chamfered spine beams, inglenook and old plank doors, one with chamfered wood surround. Outside there is a well with pump.

32. Barn. 17th century.

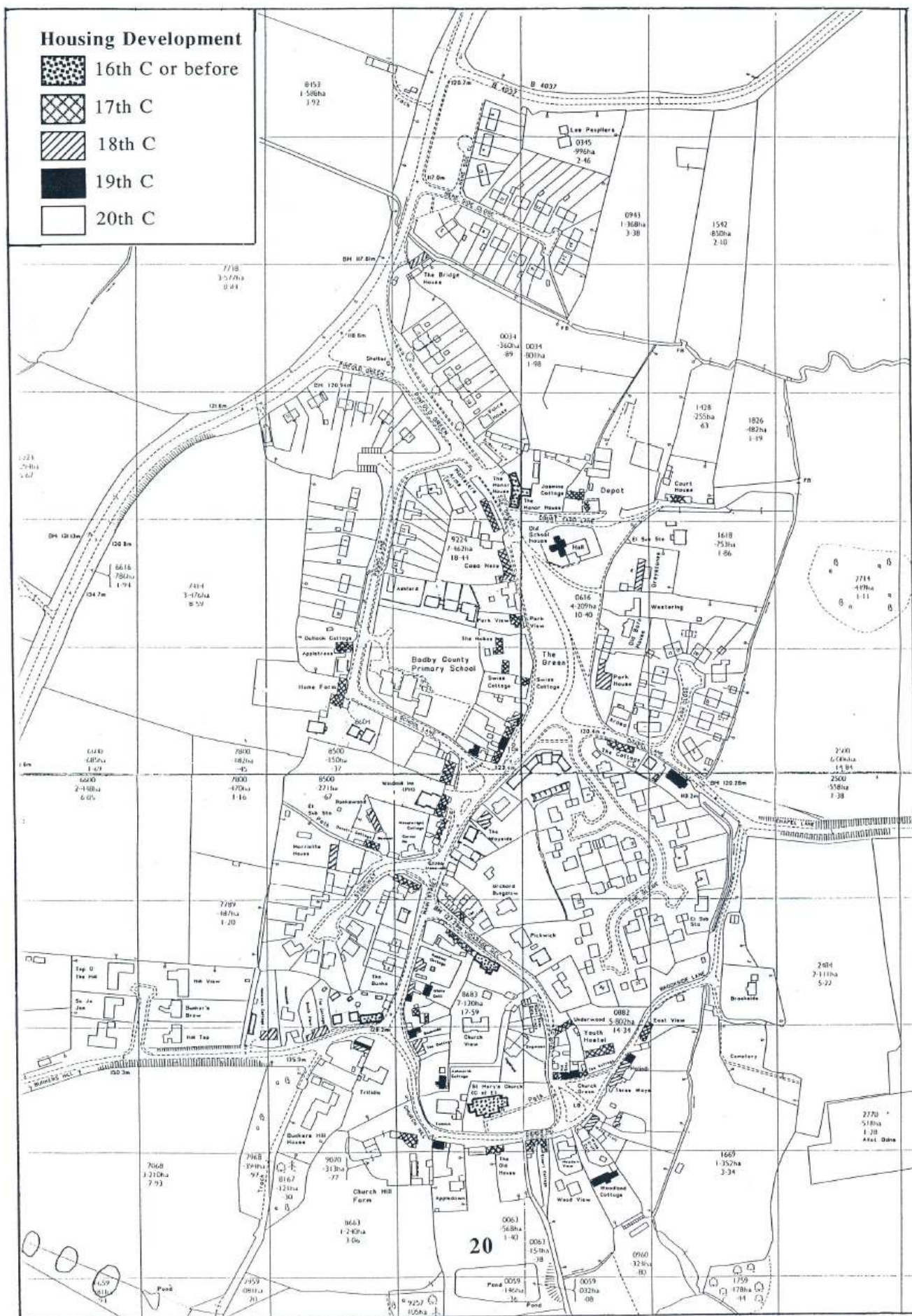
33. Cottage. One unit plan with inglenook.

34. Underwood, Vicarage Hill. Date stone "A.D. 1611/T.C.", (Thomas Cattell) above the door; a thatched one unit plan, built with alternate large and thin courses of squared ironstone and quoins; contains stop chamfered spine beams, inglenook and newel stair.

35. 5, Vicarage Hill. Built in 1736 for Edward Piddinton but with very early origins; one single cruck truss remains reaching almost to ground level and the top of the cruck, joined by a very wide saddle, is chamfered and soot stained suggesting an open hall of medieval date about 1450; the later building, a three unit plan, is late 17th century of coursed ironstone with a thatched roof; the rear extension has a 1736 date. Inside there are spine beams and two open fireplaces with chamfered beams.

Although not listed and much altered, The Windmill Inn also shows evidence of a very early date.





EXTRACTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES AND OTHER NOTABLE DATES

- 1564** John G. broke into the Pound and took away cattle. The Pound was at the bottom of Pound Lane and stray animals were placed there and their owners fined.
Everyman was to remove his dunghills out of the highway by Midsummer or be fined 12d.
- 1610** The common Stocks were in decay.
- 1628** People were fined for having ‘inmates’. Could this mean lodgers?
- 1629** The Targets at Badby are in need of repair and the inhabitants do NOT practise with their bows and arrows contrary to the Statute.
- 1636** A change to the Three-Field system in agriculture. Also, all the routes out of Badby are to have gates including ways to fields.
- 1663** 107 hearths in the Hearth Tax.
- 1674** 116 hearths in the Hearth Tax.
- 1704** A Causeway the length of “the town” up to the Church Gate was made by Mr Stevens and Richard Marriott.
- 1705** The Church steeple fell down and rebuilding began in 1707 and was completed in 1709.
- 1779** A house and field existed on a green owned by Robert Bucknell. This green later became known as Bodkin Park.
- 1897** It was proposed that the Parish Council take over the village greens from Sir Charles Knightley at a rent of 10/- per annum.
- 1911–12** Four red Chestnut trees planted to commemorate the Coronation of King George V in 1911.
- 1912** Aeroplane came down in Council Dump – a field off Bridge Hill.
- 1927** The first Council houses built on Pinfold Green.
- 1930** Four more Council houses recommended. New ground was bought to extend the Cemetery.
- 1932** Electricity in the village.
- 1933** Bodkin Park, a walled green in the centre of the village, came up for sale. Northamptonshire County Council were recommended to buy it.
- 1941** Badby Post Office listed as 187 and Northampton Police as 121 in the Telephone Directory.
- 1947** New council houses to be built behind The Maltsters Arms on old allotments.
- 1948** Main drains.
- 1949** Plans for street lighting.
- 1953** Requests to have the greens mown twice a year.
- 1954** A seat placed on the centre green, given by the Women’s Institute.
- 1956** Eight houses built in Neneside Close.
- 1957** Six more houses recommended.
- 1961** One chestnut tree felled outside Challis’s yard.
- 1963** Houses built in Park Close.
- 1973** Houses built in Stone Way.
- 1974** Building on The Glebe begun.
- 1975** New chestnut trees planted to replace existing ones as they are now showing signs of great age.
- 1992** One dead chestnut felled on the village green.
Mains Gas to the village.

LIFE AND DEATH

A True Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of John Smallbone of Badby deceased the 29th Aprill 1661 taken and prized the 27th day of May in the same yeare By us whose names are here under written

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Impris the crop upon the ground prized | 12 - 10 - 0 |
| It. a horse prized at | 2 - 0 - 0 |
| It. for a cow prized | 2 - 0 - 0 |
| It. a cart plow harrows and goods | 0 - 12 - 0 |
| It. for corne and malt prized at | 1 - 0 - 0 |
| It. for three bedsteeds prized at | 0 - 12 - 0 |
| It. for the bedding prized at | 1 - 0 - 0 |
| It. for a chest and 3 old coffers prized at | 0 - 8 - 0 |
| It. for all Cowperly now taken and prized at | 0 - 10 - 0 |
| It. for Brase and pewter prized at | 1 - 3 - 0 |
| It. one table and frame with a forme and stole | 0 - 6 - 0 |
| It. for all the Iron about the house with all implements not before appraised | 0 - 5 - 0 |
| It. for his wearing apparrell taken and prized at | 1 - 10 - 0 |
| It. for bacon taken and prized at | 0 - 10 - 0 |

The summe is **£24 - 16 - 0**

Thomas Smyth
the marke of
Thomas F Toby
Henry Cox John Smalbone

There is a record of another villager leaving about the same amount seventy years later.

An Inventory of the Goods and Chatels of John Barnes Farrier – Lately deceased.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | £. | s. | d. |
| Pocket money wareing aparill and desprate debts | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Furniture of the kitchen putter and brass and other goods | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| In the kitchen chamber a table and other goods | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| In the shop chamber a bedstead and beding and other goods | 1 | 17 | 6 |
| The brewing vesells and other lumber | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| A hayrick and a crop upon the ground | 7 | 12 | 0 |
| A little nag and a cow | 4 | 5 | 0 |
| | <u>24</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>6</u> |

Aprized by us –
William Marriott
– Goodman

The Cost of Dying, 1719–1753

Some disputes having arisen concerning Grave Stones in the Church Yards (and a verdict given upon assize trial for the incumbent). The Following Fees are expected by the Vicar before their erection for the interment of the Party, if not of ye Parish.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|
| For a monument in the Church | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| For burying in the Church | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| For erecting a tomb in the yard | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| For a Flat Stone | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| For an Upright Stone | - | 10 | 0 |
| For burying a Non-Parishioner | - | 6 | 8 |

Monuments, Tombs or Grave Stones for Non-Parishioners double or as the pleasure of the Minister.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|----|
| For burying a Non-Parishioner in Church | 1 | 11 | 6 |
| For a Brick Grave in Church | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| For a Brick Grave in Church Yard | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mortuaries are due and have always been paid exclusive of the above if the Party was worth £40 | - | 10 | 6 |

Thomas Coxse – Vicar.

Report on Badby Cemetery

The Churchyard was closed in 1889–1890 and the Cemetery opened in 1890.

No record of the purchase of the land has been discovered and it is possible that it was donated to Badby people by a local farmer or the Knightley family. In the 1930s the cemetery was extended by a purchase of land from Mrs Newport of Badby who was unable to remember details of the sale or of the solicitors involved.

There is one reference to the Cemetery in the Parish Council Minute books of that time as to the provision of a barbed wire fence around the boundary for the sum of Two Pounds.

Badby Parish Council – Cemetery Charges, 1992

Interments

A. In graves for which no exclusive right of burial has been granted:–

For any interment of the body of

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (i) A still born child, or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month. | £1.10 |
| (ii) A person whose age at the time of death exceeded one month but did not exceed 12 years. | £3.30 |
| (iii) A person whose age at the time of death exceeded 12 years. | £7.70 |

B. In graves for which an exclusive right of burial has been granted:–

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (i) For any interment at a depth not exceeding 6 feet. | £7.70 |
| (ii) For any interment at a depth exceeding 6 feet – each additional foot. | £1.10 |

C. For the interment of cremated remains:–

- | | |
|---|-------|
| (a) Where no exclusive right of burial has been granted. | £3.85 |
| (b) Where an exclusive right of burial has been granted at a depth of not more than 3 feet. | £3.85 |

Exclusive Rights of Burial in Earthen Graves

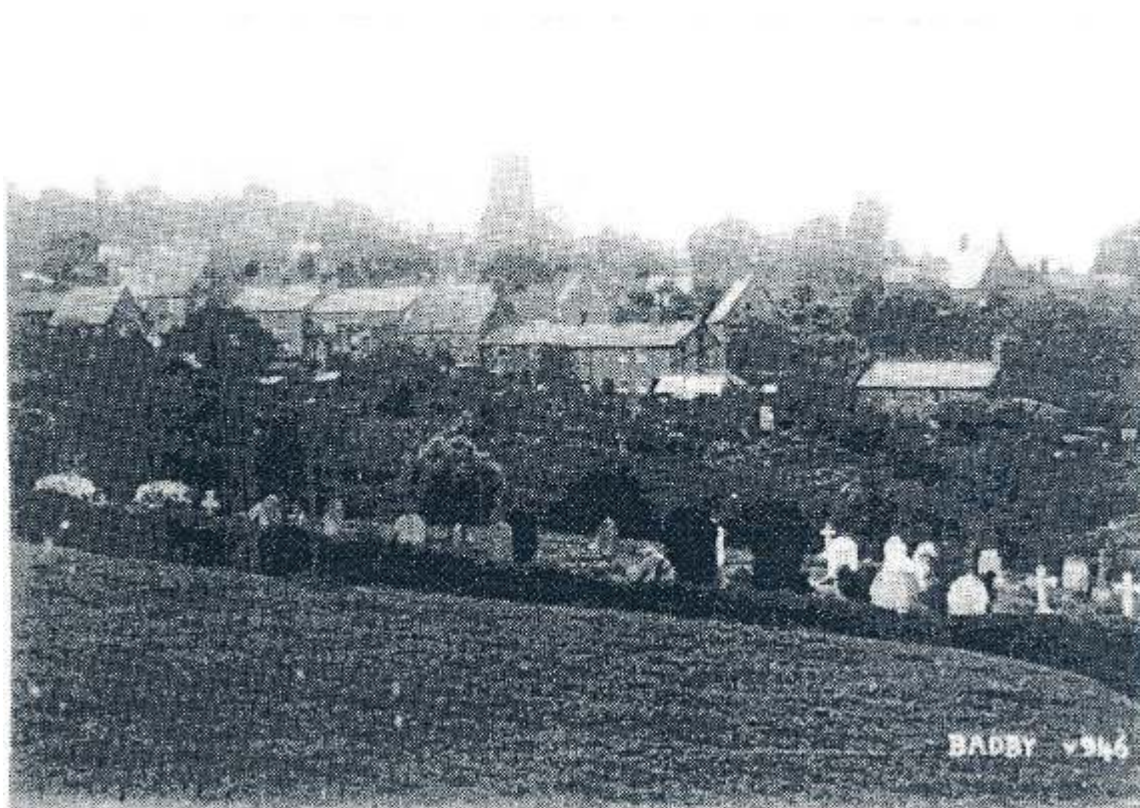
- | | |
|---|--------|
| (a) For exclusive right of burial for a period of 30 years in an earthen grave 9ft x 4 ft. | £16.50 |
| (b) For exclusive right of burial of cremated remains for a period of 30 years in an earthen grave 3ft x 2ft. | £8.25 |

Headstone and Monumental Inscriptions

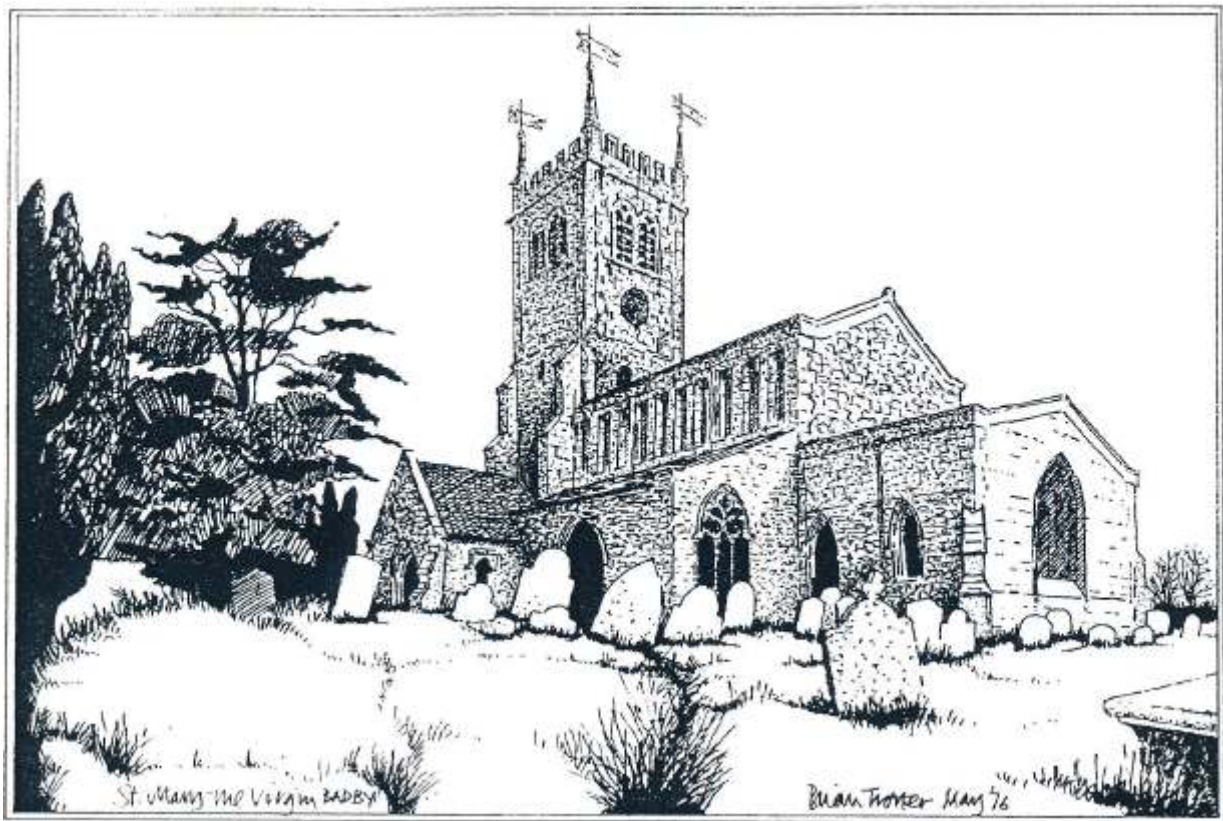
- | | |
|---|-------|
| (a) Erection of headstone not more than 3ft high and base not more than 2'6" x 1'6". | £4.95 |
| (b) Erection of headstone for cremated remains not more than 1ft high and base not more than 1'6" x 1'. | £2.50 |
| (c) Subsequent inscription(s) on any headstone. | £2.20 |

NOTE: No curb stones allowed after approval of Badby Parish Council – difficulty in mowing between graves.

For anyone from outside Badby the fee is doubled.



SACRED AND SECULAR AFFAIRS



Church Survey 1637

Badbye 29th August in presence of Mr Farmer.

The Chancel wants a seat**** of Scripture.

The seats at the neither end of the church are broken and allsoe some of them want boarding in parte and some of the said seates are not boarded nor paved at all.

Their is allsoe rubbidge lyeth at the niether end of the church very unseemely.

The belfry wants decent paving which the churchwardens doe intend shortlye to doe having some stone already provided for the same.

The steeple is crazye cracked soe much that it is concaved and thought it will be great danger of falling if it be not carefully looked into very speedily.

Their wants a new linen communion clothe.

Their wants a poore man's box.

Their wants a plate for the holy bread.

The North Church Door somewhat defective.

The Mynister reading seates in the church is not placed convenientlye.

The church in some places wants paving.

The Mynister and one of the Churchwardens have promised to have all theese things in order and reformed betwixt this and the nativitye.

Inscriptions on Badby Church Bells.

In 1552 Badbye possessed IIII great bells in ye steple and a sanctuary bell.

1. Celorum Chrste platiat tibi rex sonus ISTE 1623.
2. IHS : NAZARENUS REX: IUDEORUM FILI DEI MISERERE: MEI 1623
3. Samuel Goodman John Kibbell Church Wardens. Mathew Bagley made mee 1754.
4. Richard Hyne Vickar of Badby gave this bell 1623
5. John Hodson of London Lee made mee 1653.

(This was recast in 1822 by Taylor and Sons founders of Oxford and St. Neots.)

St. Mary The Virgin

The Parish Church of St. Mary The Virgin dates from the early years of the 14th century. The design of the windows and the mouldings round the top of the pillars point to a time just before 1348 when the Black Death swept the country. However, the church was not then ‘finished’. Like many old buildings it has been changed and altered, through the centuries, to suit different needs and fashions.

The impressive clerestory windows were added in the 15th century and are said to be among the finest in the County. Inside the church, above the Chancel Arch, the line of the original pitched roof can be clearly seen. The ‘new’ windows must have brought about a dramatic change in the feel of the interior by giving a greater sense of light and space.

The screen that would once have separated the nave from the chancel, dividing the secular activities of the nave from the sacred activities of the chancel and sanctuary, was removed at the Reformation (1540); part of it now forms a backing for the altar. With the

removal of the screens from churches there arose a need to prevent dogs profaning the altar. Altar Rails, with narrowly spaced posts to stop dogs squeezing through, were the answer to this particular problem. The altar rails in Badby date from the early 18th century.

The organ chamber and vestry is a relatively modern construction and before it was built the north aisle would have ended with a wall rather than the arch that now leads through to the vestry. The Piscina (a bowl used for ceremonial washing) built into the half pillar here, indicates that there used to be an altar against this wall, probably dedicated to the saint whose figure would have stood in the niche nearby in the north wall. Very close to the niche is a square recess which used to be an aumbry, a safe for the reserved sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine kept from the mass or holy communion.

About midway along the wall of the north aisle is a blocked up door. Many churches have doors in this position, now often blocked up.

These doors were generally supposed to have been used at funerals. The body was brought in through this door for the service and out through the south door for burial, thus symbolising the dead person's journey through life (that is, through the church).

The original tower of the church, which had a spire, collapsed in 1705 and was rebuilt in 1709.

The church, both interior and exterior, was much restored in 1880 by E.F. Law. Most of the tie beam roof timbers, the tower arch, the stained glass in the chancel, south aisle and west tower, and organ chamber date from the nineteenth century.

An interesting exception to the late date of most of the glass can be found in the east window of the north wall of the north aisle. Two portions of glass are heraldic shields; one is the Arms of Evesham Abbey and the other the Royal Arms of England between the reign of Henry IV and Elizabeth I. The other portion of glass is a roundel displaying an Abbot's mitre and the letters T.N., the initials of Thomas Newbould who was Abbot of Evesham in 1491. These portions of glass demonstrate the patronage of Badby by Evesham Abbey before the dissolution of the monasteries. The two shields were previously situated in the clerestory windows and the roundel in the war memorial window. All three were restored and placed in their present position in 1983.

Just as the church building has changed through the years so the worshipping congregation at Badby has changed, reflecting the changing social patterns of the village. A brief glance through the Baptism Register shows that the social make up of the village has altered quite dramatically during the last few decades. At the beginning of this century the predominant occupation of the parents of those being baptised was labourer, railway worker or

servant. During the two world wars the occupations changed to the military titles of soldier, sailor or airman. It is only from the early 1970s to the present that the professional occupations, such as solicitor, company executive and doctor, begin to dominate.

The Parish of Badby, as a part of the Church of England, has also been part of the liturgical reforms of recent decades. The Parish Church now tries to offer a variety of styles of worship, using Rite 'B' of the Alternative Services Book 1980 for Holy Communion and the Book of Common Prayer for Evensong. The style varies from the quiet, reflective 8.00 am Holy Communion to the informal 11.00 am Family Service, together with the traditional 9.30 am Parish Communion and the 6.00 pm Evensong.

Change has been evident too in the deployment of clergy to rural parishes such as Badby. For many centuries Badby and Newnham have been linked as a single benefice. However, in this latter part of the twentieth century, with the reduction in number of those coming forward for ordination and increasingly stretched financial resources, Badby is now part of a benefice of five parishes: Badby with Newnham and Fawsley with Charwelton and Preston Capes.

Today the Church seeks to adapt to the changing needs of rural village life in 1993 whilst remaining true to the traditions of our Anglican past. The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in its beautiful setting in the village, and in the people who worship there, seeks to be a landmark pointing to all that is good and beautiful and true; pointing to the God revealed in the face of Jesus Christ.

(Much of the description of the building is taken from "An Archaeological Survey of The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Badby" by the Rev. E. Murray Witham.)



The Chapel.

The Chapel was opened as a Congregational Church in 1873 by Mr Edwin Ashworth Briggs of Ashwell House, Badby. Prior to this, services were held on the village greens, weather permitting, or at Ashwell House. The Briggs family was also involved in the erection of Newnham and Flore Chapels.

Little is known of the Briggs family. Although it is said that many of the Chapels built around this period cost less than two hundred pounds, to be involved in the building of three Chapels suggests that they were a family of some means. The Chapel was renovated in 1929 by Mr Charles Rodhouse, J.P., of Daventry.



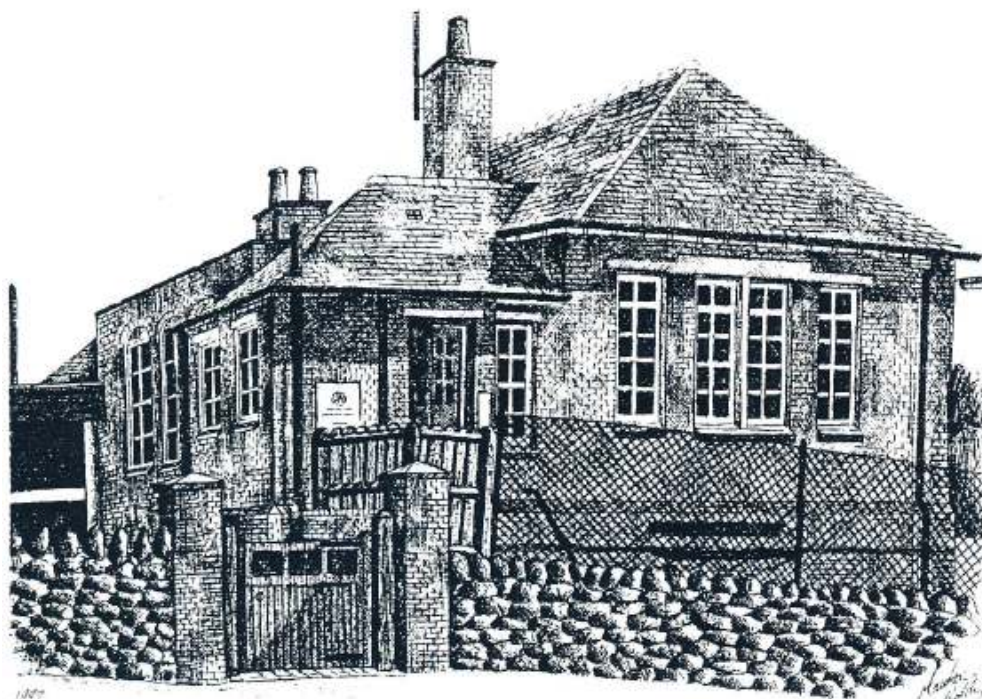
The Youth Hostel

The building dates from 1686 and was originally three cottages which were probably accommodation for workmen on the Fawsley Estate. It stands near the Church, with its frontage to Church Green, a delightful spot in the village.

The Youth Hostel Association acquired the site in 1945 at which time it was lived in by two families. It was converted into a Youth Hostel

and opened as such in 1946, remaining basically the same until the recent major improvements completed around Easter 1992.

Customer usage has varied over the years, but a recent average overnight figure would be 2000 per annum, including individuals, families, school groups and cyclists, from Britain and abroad.



Schools

The first school in Badby was a charity school supported by the Knightleys of Fawsley and built from a design by Wyatt in a Gothic and Cruciform shape. Baker's History states that the school was erected by the Lady Mary Knightley, daughter of John Baines Esq. and niece of the Bishop of Worcester, who married Sir John Knightley in 1779.

The Lady Knightley, whose name the school bore, provided everything for the education of twelve poor girls. The six younger girls were boarded and had clothing provided, including boots, shawls and bonnets. They were known as Sir Charles Girls and were taught chiefly domestic work by a person from the village; this included the spinning and weaving of sheets. The six older girls were taught in much the same way and were known as Lady Knightley Girls.

The older girls went to Fawsley each day to be taught by the housekeeper how to cook and clean, make beds, set tables, feed fowl, etc. They, too, were provided with all their clothes and at the age of twelve took a Labour Certificate examination. If they passed they could leave school, starting in situations with a

good knowledge of household work. Otherwise, they stayed until they were fourteen.

The school building was used in later years as an infant school, supported by the Knightleys until the County Council took over the education of the village children. It has now been listed as a building of historic interest.

The National School was started by Mrs. Green, wife of the Rev. T. Green. It was used by the older children and controlled by church managers for about sixty years.

Initially, Mrs Green gathered a number of church-going girls in the Vicarage on Sunday afternoons to learn poetry and hymns. She began to teach the girls to read and write and then decided to take a cottage for the purpose. The Parish had formerly kept its own poor in a workhouse opposite the Vicarage, but this building was later converted into three cottages to be disposed of by the Vicar at his discretion; when one of these cottages became vacant the school for girls was started.

As soon as the next cottage became vacant it was taken for a school for boys and the poor were repaid for the loss of the cottages by so

BADBY,

March 1904.

SIR,

We desire to draw your attention to the existing state of affairs with regard to the Schools at Badby.

The Board of Education have condemned the building, known as "Mary Lady Knightley's School" which has served as an Infant School since 1870. It therefore becomes necessary to provide accommodation for the 27 infants who are now taught there.

The only possible way of doing this is by adding a class-room to the existing school near the Church. For this purpose it will be necessary to buy a small piece of ground, so as to be able to ~~make~~ ^{provide} the offices and enlarge the playground at an estimated cost of £150.

The alternative to this scheme will be to place the matter in the hands of the County Council, who will be compelled to build entirely new Schools at a probable cost of £10 per child—£700—exclusive of the cost of the site. The existing school, being vested in the Vicar and

Churchwardens as a Church of England School, cannot be made available as a provided School, in which, under the Cowper-Temple clause, no Church or other denominational teaching can be given. The majority of the parishioners are members of the Church of England.

It is hoped therefore that an effort may be made to raise the sum required, and that everyone will contribute, as they will be compelled to do on a much larger scale if new schools are built.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM SCRATTON, *Chairman.*

LOUISA M. KNIGHTLEY,

C. V. KNIGHTLEY,

WILLIAM BIRD,

T. KEENE.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received by

To avoid confusion, please address
in full:
THE LADY KNIGHTLEY OF FAWLEY,
Fawsley Park,
DAVENTRY.

Letter asking for subscriptions towards a new school.

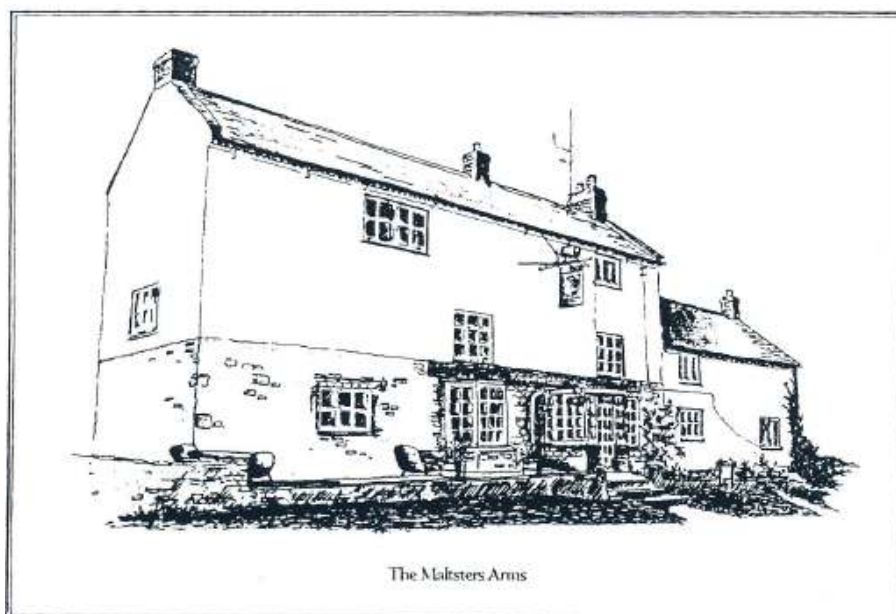
much coal each year. The third cottage was finally added to the school and the range of buildings became The National School. When repairs were needed to bring the buildings up to acceptable standards; insufficient money could be found to do these; the school was therefore closed and the present school was built by the Council, opening in January 1913, on the site already used by the school children for gardening lessons.

The National School was used for Sunday School and Mothers' Union meetings for several years. A Harvest Festival Sale was also

held there until 1965. The Sunday School then moved to the Church and after about 1955 the Mothers' Union meetings were held in the Lady Mary School building which had become the Village Hall.

In 1966 the National School building was finally declared unsafe and was pulled down; the site is now used as a car park.

For some years the Council had the meadow behind the Hollies earmarked for a school playing field. When the Hollies was sold in 1965 the Council purchased the field and the playing area was completed in 1967.



The Maltsters Arms – Licensees

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1772 | Barwich Brayfield | First documented Landlord of the Alehouse. |
| 1789 | William Goodwin | Succeeded Brayfield, with a surety of £10 for his tenure provided by William Douglas, who was Landlord of The Windmill Public House, in a licence witnessed by magistrates Knightley and Clarke at Daventry Division Recognizance Hearings. |
| 1828 | | A 19 year gap in the history of the Inn possibly as a result of the withdrawal of its licence in a period of chronic over indulgence! |
| 1847 | William Bromwich | Landlord, farmer and maltster who brewed his own ale to be sold on the premises. |
| 1866 | Mary Bromwich | William's wife. The licence included a clause that stated that she would not " <i>knowingly introduce, permit or suffer any Bull, Bear or Badger bating, Cock fighting or offer such amusements in any part of her premises.....not keep open during late hours of the night or early morning, for any purpose other than the reception of travellers.</i> " |
| 1869 | Hannah Bromwich | Wife of Bede, a farmer. |
| 1885 | Oliver Avery | A farmer. |
| 1894 | Thomas Keene | A carpenter. |
| 1914 | Thomas Lenton | |
| 1939 | William James Webb | The first Phipps Brewery tenant. |
| 1940 | Frederick Joseph F. Mortimer | |
| 1954 | Arthur Watts | |
| 1959 | Arthur Firton | |
| 1968 | Cecil Denton | |
| 1975 | Derek Arch | The 14th recorded Landlord in 203 years. |

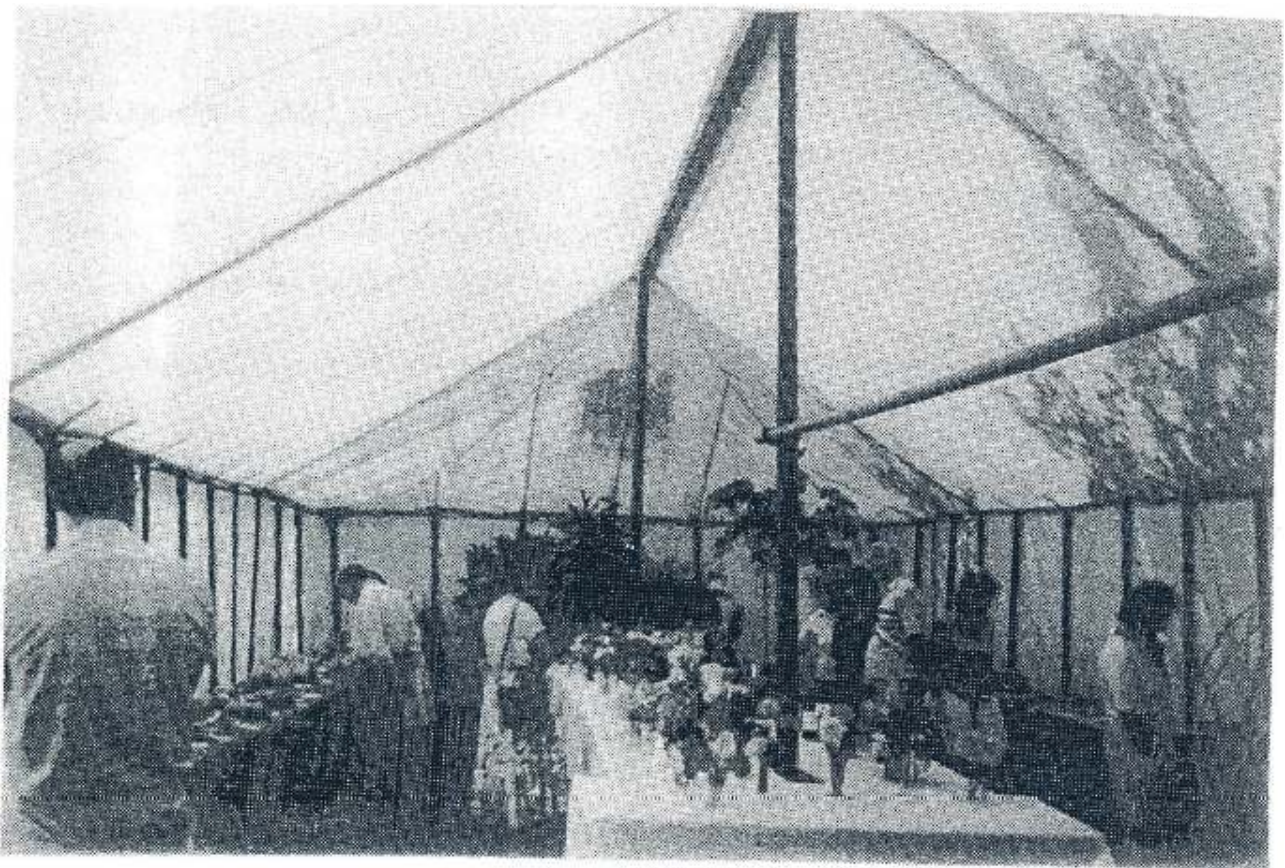


The Windmill Inn – Licensees

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1766 | Simon Marriott | |
| 1772 | Thomas Tarry | |
| 1801 | William Douglas | |
| 1850 | Richard and Elizabeth Yeomans | Richard was also a farmer. Although still owned by the Yeomans, Thomas Smith and Edward Coppell were briefly Landlords in 1863. |
| 1867 | Thomas Hall | |
| 1869 | Rebecca Coppell | |
| 1885 | James Frost | |
| 1890 | Egbert Hoare | He bought the Inn for £400. |
| 1894 | Edmund Jobbins | He was the first tenant of the Inn bought by Messrs Hunt Edmunds and Co., Brewers for £1260. |
| 1903 | Thomas Warner | |
| 1914 | William Blundell | |
| 1920 | John Mellors | |
| 1924 | John Pauley | Lunches, Teas and Accommodation. Loose boxes available for horses. |
| 1939 | Frederick Borton | |
| 1956 | Tom and Alice Baseley | |
| 1965 | Mrs G. Cox | |
| 1968 | | Hunt Edmunds sold the Inn to Mitchell and Butler, Brewers. |
| 1976 | Gavin Baxter | It became a Free House and following his tenancy was converted into Hotel status. |

Village Clubs and Societies

Allotment Society
Bell Ringers
Cricket Club
Friends of Badby School
Girl Guides
Horticultural Society
Mothers' Union
Music Club
Photographic Society
Women's Institute



ROUND AND ABOUT THE VILLAGE

Orchards

Most of the old orchards in the village have been lost to development in the last 50 years. There are, however, remnants of old orchards, if only solitary trees, at the School, The Youth Hostel, Greystones, The Maltsters Arms, The Lilacs, Appletrees, Nonesuch Cottage, The Orchard Bungalow and The Meadows. While this is sad news, there is cause for satisfaction in the enormous interest in creating new mini orchards within the village.

On October 25th 1992 we organised a celebration of Apple Sunday in the Village Hall with, despite torrential rain, great success. A visiting expert from the R.H.S. Wisley identified apples and their problems non-stop for three hours.

In that time he identified many varieties including three very old 16th and 17th century apples still growing in the district. They are **Cat's Head** – a cooker from Shakespeare's time, **Mere de Menage** – a cooker from the continent, and **Doctor Harvey** – another early cooker.

Varieties of apples growing in the village today, with the year of their introduction where possible, are shown below.

The following pears have been found: **Beth, Beurre Hardy, Conference, Clapham's Favourite, Doyenne de Comice, Jargonelle, Josephine de Malines** and **Williams' Bon Chrétien**.

Hazelnuts, walnuts and **Kent Cob** nuts are also grown.

Types of cherry include **Early Rivers, Stella** and **Morello**.

In addition to the above, several gardens grow **quinces, figs** and **medlars** and some even try **peaches** and **apricots**. The village can certainly take a pride in its fruit trees.

Perhaps we should celebrate Apple Day again at some time in the future to help the young people of the village realise that there is more to an apple than a Granny Smith from the supermarket!

APPLES.

Annie Elizabeth 1857
Ashmead Kernall
Arthur Turner 1912
Bismark 1890
Blenheim Orange 1818
Bramley 1876
Crispin
Discovery
Duke of Devonshire 1835
Doctor Harvey 1700
Ellison's Orange
Cox's Orange Pippen
Holland Bury 1779
James Grieve 1890
Golden Noble 1820
Joy Bells 1920
Jupiter

Kidd's Orange
Lane's Prince Albert 1857
May Queen 1920
Mere de Menage 16th Century
Grenadier 1850
Newton Wonder 1880
Orleans' Reinette 1776
Rosemary's Russet 1831
Sun set
Scarlet Pimpernel
Sturmer Pippen 1840
Tydeman's Early Worcester
Tydeman's Late Orange
Worcester Pearmain 1875
White Transparent 1800
Wyken Pippen 1720
Warner's King 1820

Bread Ovens

In 1966, with Mrs Gwen Brown, we investigated the site of the Monastic Grange of the Abbot of Evesham in Courtyard meadow. To the north of the 13th Century building were the remains of the Abbots bake houses. They had entrances on two levels with two series of bake ovens. In medieval times the inhabitants of the village would have baked their bread there.

Following the Dissolution, when monastic buildings were destroyed, village houses and cottages built their own ovens. Many of these still remain.

A villager, who lived in the bottom cottage of what is now called Malindi in

Brookside Lane, remembers men in the row of cottages taking turns to cut faggots and place them in rows to dry. Children would have been sent up to 'The Squitch' to collect beech wood for the faggots and on Sunday would put them in the communal oven and light them. When the stone turned white the oven was hot enough to roast joints and batter puddings. Afterwards, the stone changed colour and the oven was the correct temperature to bake the week's large cakes.

The following is a list of houses and cottages with existing bread ovens and the remains of old ovens.

| | |
|--|---|
| Courtyard Cottage: | behive oven; door and oven plastered over. |
| Jasmine Cottage: | oven in inglenook in shed; door missing. |
| Manor House: | beehive oven opened and rebuilt. |
| Old School House: | complete oven with door. |
| Maltsters Arms: | complete oven with door. |
| Casanene: | complete oven with door; used to be a bread house with oven for adjoining cottages. |
| Park View: | complete oven with door and a Victorian damper. |
| The Hollies: | complete oven with door in shed. |
| Park House: | complete oven with door. |
| Wayside: | complete oven with door. |
| Stockwell House: | remains in cottage as back door safe. |
| Marriots House: | complete oven in brewhouse. |
| Pennywick: | door but beehive oven removed. |
| Nonesuch Cottage: | just the outline of the beehive oven remains on the outside wall. |
| Stuart Cottage: | complete oven and door. |
| Rose House: | remains in cottage at back. |
| The Old House: | complete with door. |
| North View Cottage: | complete with door. |
| Honey Lane Cottage: | oven bricked over. |
| Demolished row of cottages at the top of Vicarage Hill: | bake house in yard where turkeys were roasted at Christmas |
| Dogwood: | oven covered by brick and wallpaper. |
| Woodyards: | complete oven and door. |
| Malindi: | bakehouse once stood in the yard. |
| Church Hill Farm: | complete oven and door in barn. |
| Appletree Cottage: | hollow where the oven used to be. |
| The Youth Hostel: | oven door with oven bricked in. |
| The Old Vicarage: | used to have a bread oven. |
| Old Bake House: | remains of oven and flue |

Rights of Way

Badby Rights of Way are numbered EB1 to EB21 on the Definitive Map.

Ancient roads and paths, some over 1000 years old, are still evident today as mentioned in the 'Highways Old and New' section in this Appraisal. The 1779 Enclosure Awards map shows many more paths in and around Badby in use than the 21 recorded today. An interesting footnote on the Enclosure Awards referring to the paths states that footpaths should be *"4 foot wide as near as possible on same tracks as present footways, having sufficient stiles across public footways with planks where necessary."* By studying the Ordnance Survey maps of this area, a picture can be built up showing how the paths evolved. Most journeys would be by foot, from village to village or home to place of work, i.e. the Fawsley Estate and local farms.

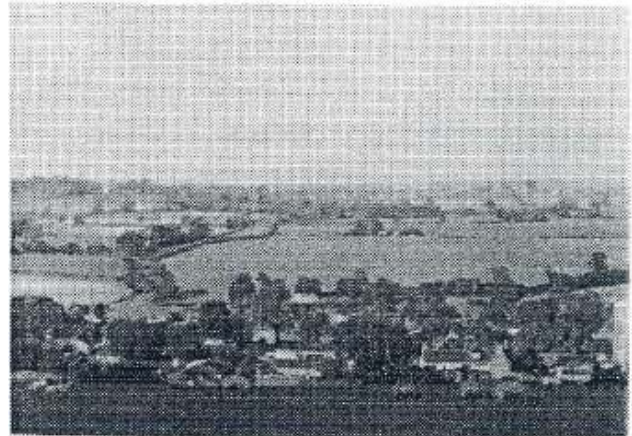
In 1949 the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was passed requiring County Councils to survey and map reference all public rights of way. This is referred to as the Definitive Map, so called because it can be produced in court as conclusive evidence of the existence of a right of way. Further Acts in 1959, 1968, 1980, 1981 and 1990 have been passed to strengthen the original act, due largely to the efforts of such bodies as the Open Space Society and the Ramblers' Association.

The 1968 Countryside Act Survey of Public Rights of Way within the Badby boundary showed 20 footpaths and one bridleway. The bridleway was clear but only 4 of the 20 footpaths were free from obstructions. Some were without stiles and bridges, others had almost "disappeared".

In recent years paths have been used more and more for recreational purposes and less for getting from A to B. In Badby they have helped to form the village as we know it today and, as an important part of our heritage, must be preserved at all costs.

The Highways Authority is the Local Government body responsible for public rights of way, to assist and protect the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment, and to prevent

the stopping up and obstruction, of their highways. The Authority has requested the help of the Parish Council in their task over a number of years now. Badby Parish Council has just a few minor problems to clear up and hopes to have all its Rights of Ways open by 1993.



The Countryside Commission has set a target, endorsed by the Government in its White Paper "This Common Inheritance", of having all 140 000 miles network of legally defined rights of way properly maintained and kept free from obstruction and well publicised by the year 2000.

The following passage attributed to Lord Justice Scott in 1938 and taken from the publication "Rights of Way – Guide to Law and Practice", 2nd Edition, shows how important it is today, as then, to preserve our rights.

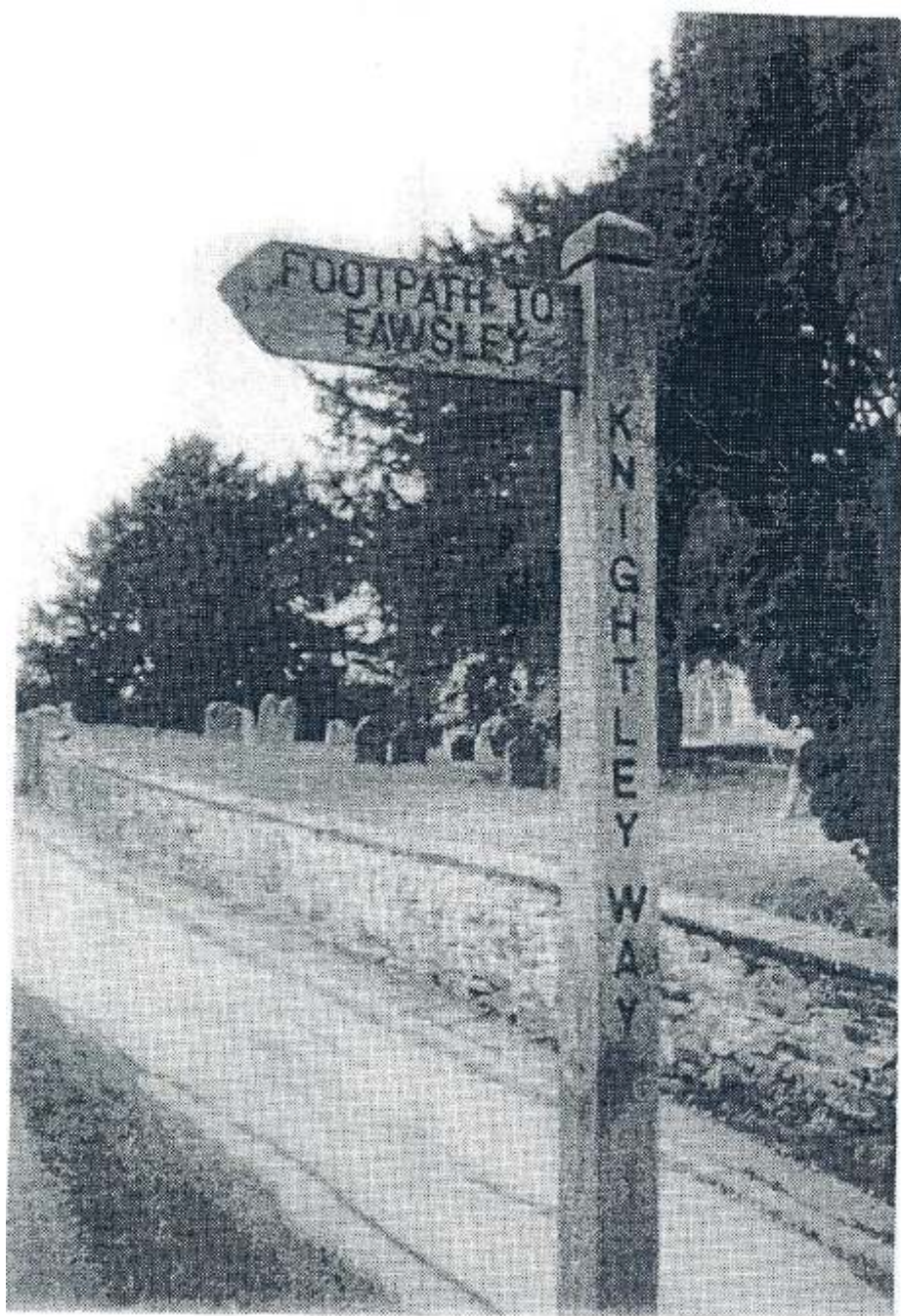
"In these days when buses, cars and motor cycles transport so many into the countryside, both for business and pleasure, and when practically all agricultural workers and indeed most of the rural population, have their bicycles, footpaths.....are infinitely less frequented and it becomes easier and easier for the real public rights of way to disappear. Yet the rambler, sometimes called the hiker, needs the footpath more than ever. To the real lover of the countryside, who knows that to see it properly he must go on foot, but who is driven off all main roads by the din and bustle of motor traffic, the footpath is everything. In short, it is of real public

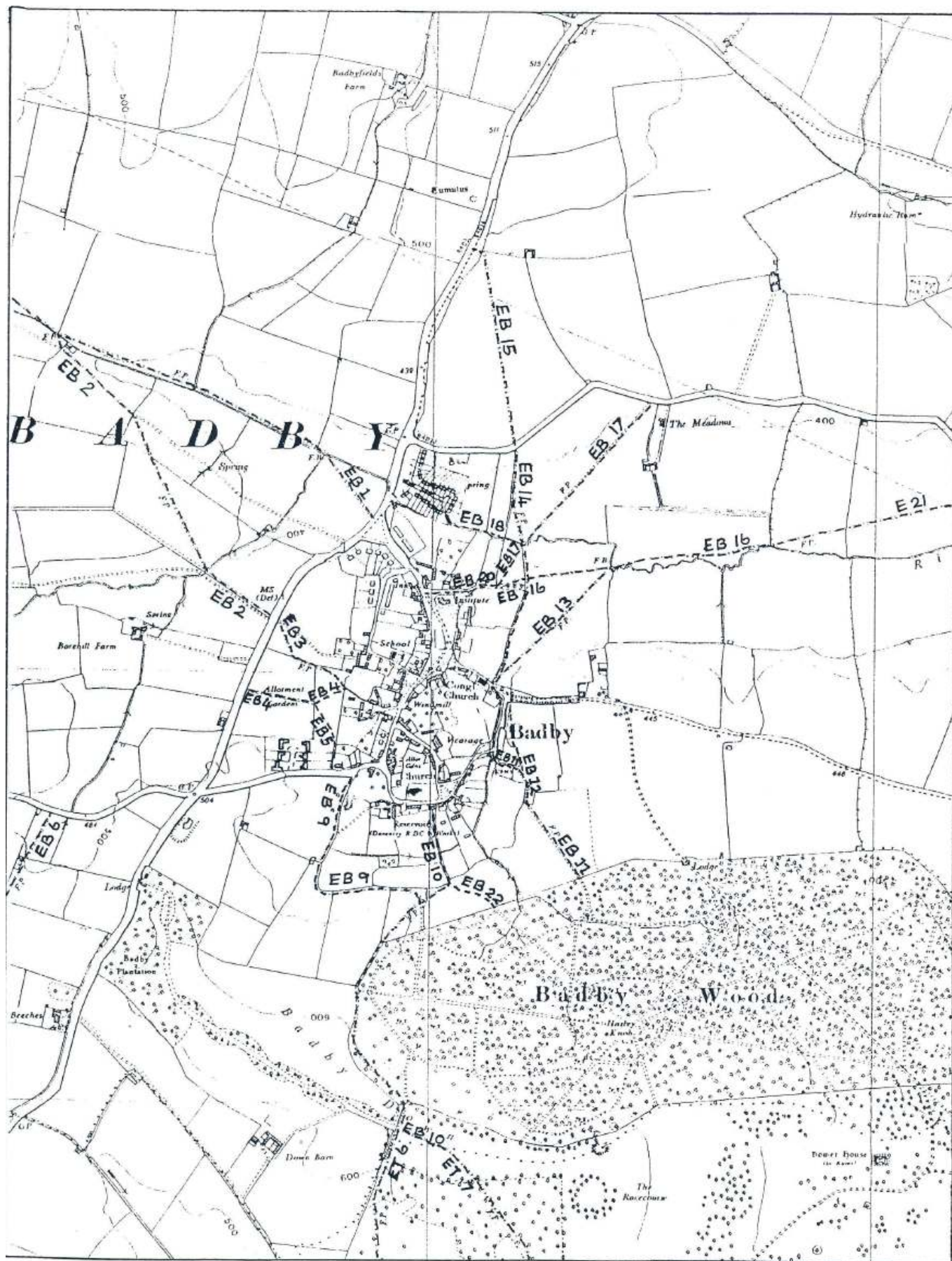
movement that no genuine public footpath should be lost”.

Long Distance Footpaths

Badby also has three long distance footpaths, the Knightley Way, the Nene Way and the

Three Rivers' Walk, either starting from, or coming through, the village and because of this Badby is fast becoming a well known walking centre. Visitors from abroad, along with our own nationals, regularly use our beautiful Youth Hostel, now the only remaining hostel in Northamptonshire.





Map of Rights of Way.

Superimposed on Ordnance Survey map: © Crown Copyright, All rights reserved, licence number 100052155

Badby Field Names

In 1933 the children of Badby School, under the guidance of the Head Teacher Mr Jacquest, compiled a list of Field Names for the Parish.

Section A. Fields

1. Home Close
2. Harborough Furlong
3. Broken Back So named because of the shape.
4. Hartland
5. Barn Ground
6. Bottom Meadow
7. Top Meadow
8. Brook Furlong
9. Own Hill
10. Goan
11. Crabtree Meadow
12. Second Shetlands
13. Shetlands
14. Ditch Hill
15. Manuel
16. Bridge Field Close to small bridge over River Nene.
17. Bancroft Probably should be Bank Croft.
18. Burnt Walls
19. Fox Hole
20. The Meadow
21. Slades

Greens

- M. Mortar Pit A pit used to be there years ago.

Lanes

- Pound Lane The site of the old pound.

Hills

- Bridge Hill Hill leading to Daventry named after bridge over River Nene.

Section B. Fields

1. Barn Ground
2. Middle Barn Ground
3. Far Barn Ground
4. Sixteen Acres
5. Big Deep Slade
6. Little Deep Slade
7. Ivy Meadow
8. Thorny Meadow
9. Bliss's Meadow
10. Cottage Meadow
11. Long Meadow

Section C. Fields

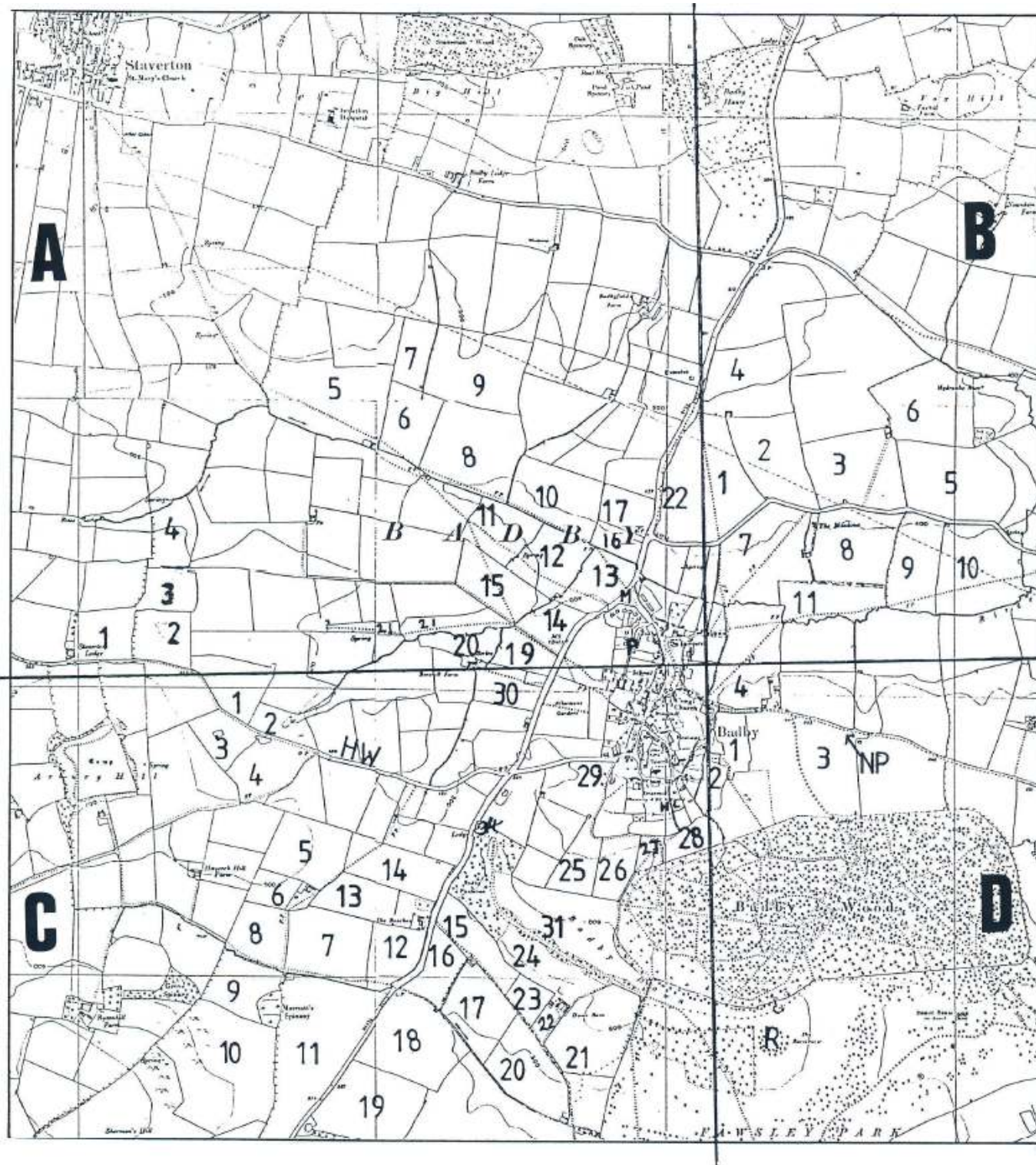
1. Grave's Ground
2. Grave's Ground
3. Barn Ground
4. Frindle
5. Round Hill
6. Little Hill
7. First Seeds
8. Second Seeds
9. Grove Meadow
10. Rough Hill
11. Mere Ground
12. Dairy Ground
13. Meadow Ground
14. Seed Ground
15. Turnpike Piece
16. Little Hind's Piece Probably an owner's name.
17. Big Hind's Piece
18. First Mere Ground
19. Second Mere Ground
20. Big Dog Horse
21. Parkside
22. Two Acres
23. Four Acres
24. Seeds
25. Wearmoor
26. Red Lunch
27. Lye
28. Warner's Bretch..... 'Bretch' is probably a corruption of breach.
29. Wetherdy
30. Mill Field There was a disused windmill here.

Lanes

- HL Honey Lane
31. The Race A long 'ride' bordered by trees.
 32. The Squich..... A small wood of beech trees.
 33. Bodkin Park About a quarter of an acre of walled enclosure, now used for growing roots. Once the site of a tailor's house, hence the name "Bodkin".
 34. Lanthorn House A lodge so named because of its shape.
- HW Hason's Way..... A road which later develops into a field road to Catesby. The name is probably a corruption of "Harrison's Way".

Section D. Fields

1. Escruft..... Probably should be East Croft.
 2. Woodcroft..... Possibly Woodcroft or Woadcroft.
 3. Long Roods
 4. Court Yard
- R The Roundabouts A circle of trees.
- N.P. Nelson's Pool



Map of Field Names.

Superimposed on Ordnance Survey map: © Crown Copyright, All rights reserved, licence number 100052155

THE WOOD, FLORA AND FAUNA

Badby Wood

Badby Wood is situated on the south eastern side of the village, adjacent to the Parish boundary. It comprises 180 acres of glorious, largely ancient, woodland. And this is truly ancient woodland. The first documentary evidence of a named wood in Badby is to be found in the Assize Rolls of 1247 for Fawsley Hundred, thus making the wood at least 700 years old. Delving further into the past reveals the following reference for Badby in Folio 222v of the Domesday Book:

“.....woodland 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth.”

According to English Nature (formerly the Nature Conservancy Council), there is clear ecological evidence to indicate that the site on which the wood stands has never been used for agricultural purposes, so linking the wood directly with the primeval forests which at one time covered most of our land.

It must surely come as no surprise to the many enthusiasts of the wood that, in 1985, a large part of it (116 acres), together with an area of marshland, were designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by the then Nature Conservancy Council – a rarity in Northamptonshire, where only 56 such sites have been notified, totalling less than 1% of the county's land area as against a national average of 4%. Two plantations, one conifer and one beech, have been excluded from the SSSI.

Amongst the reasons for selecting the wood for SSSI notification are listed: its great age, the wide variety of native species of trees and ground flora, a rich diversity of fauna, early medieval wood banks, a stream which feeds the river Nene very close to its source and an area of marshland surrounding the stream as it leaves the wood to descend into the village below.

The wood and its adjoining marsh boast an impressive list of flora;

– 87 species recorded in the woodland SSSI survey in 1980,

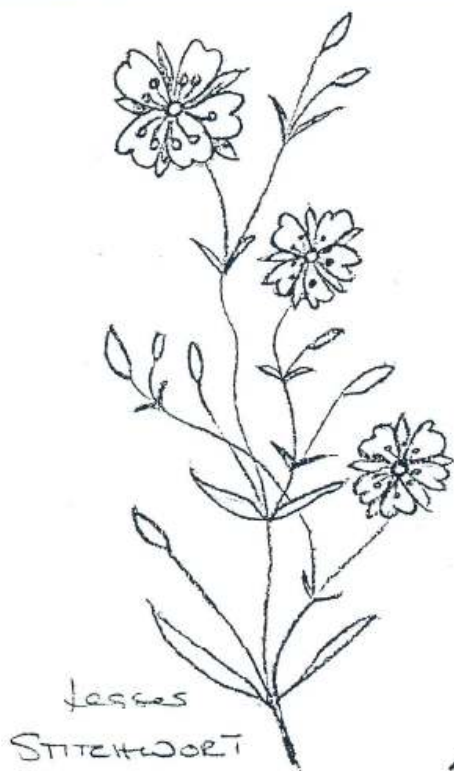
– 47 species recorded in the marsh area of the SSSI survey,

– 26 species recorded prior to the 1980 survey.

Throughout a large part of the SSSI area the wood comprises mainly Pedunculate Oak, a native of Britain. Other native species also to be found are Ash and Birch. This dominance by the native trees has been supplanted in many areas by the Victorians' favourites Sweet Chestnut and, often present in the form of overgrown coppice, the invasive Sycamore. Coppiced Hazel abounds in the shrub layer, together with Hawthorn and Elder. It is particularly pleasing to see Honeysuckle climbing high up into the canopy.



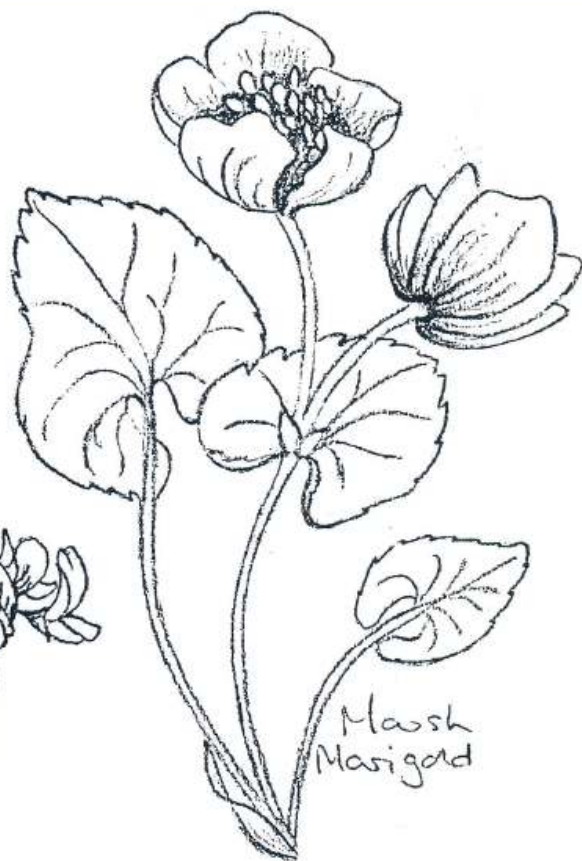
The ground flora is just as remarkable, containing Wood Anemone and, rare in the County, Wood Horsetail, Hairy Woodrush and Wood Melick amongst many others. Of course, the most noteworthy and spectacular sight has attracted visitors for many years and, no doubt, will continue to do so for many years to come. Enter the Woods on a sunny day in May and you will be greeted by a magnificent carpet of blue reaching far into the undergrowth – a sight never to be forgotten.



Lesser
STITCHWORT



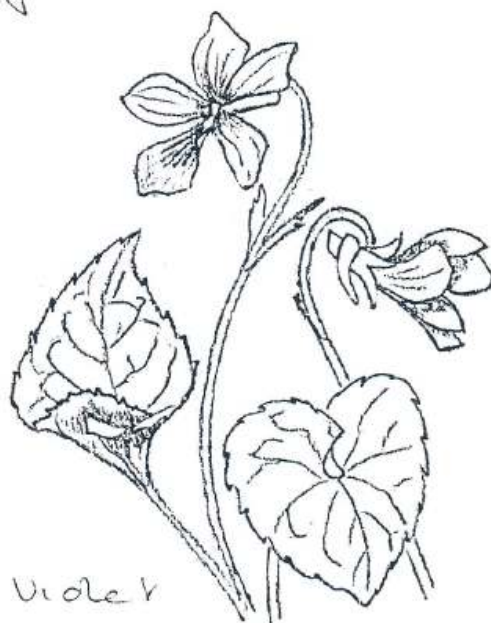
Bird's
Foot
Trefail



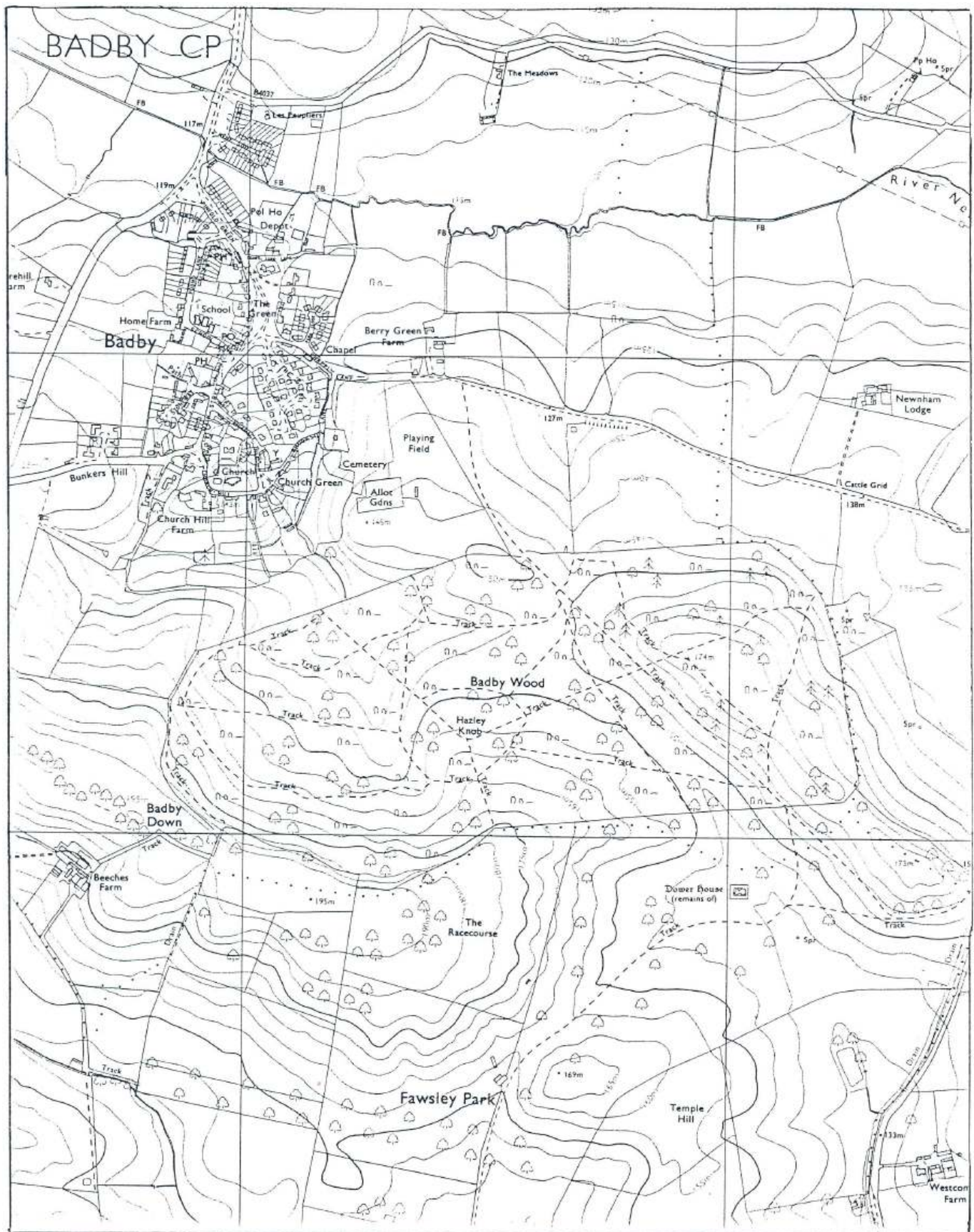
Marsh
Marigold



Dog
Rose



Violet



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As for the woodland fauna, the 1980 SSSI survey revealed 38 species of breeding birds – some rare within the county. Active badger sets and fox earths are common within the wood, as are grey squirrels (there are no longer any red squirrels to be seen.), pheasants and all the common woodland animals. In unguarded moments it can be quite startling to hear a crashing through the undergrowth and then, with relief, to be treated to the sight of the diminutive Muntjac deer racing past. In recent years, we have even had a reported sighting of a bear.

The wood seems to have everything. A closer look into the bushes exposes the remains of an old gun carriage; this was used for training exercises in Fawsley Park during the last War and rolled into the wood by mischievous local boys.

During the reign of Henry VIII, at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, Badby and its wood, which had been held by the Abbot of Evesham, was granted by the King to Sir Edmund Knightley. The Knightleys retained ownership of the wood up until the middle of this century and were responsible for creating the network of rides in the wood which radiate out from the hill, hitherto variously called “Hastle Nob”, “Eastly Nob”, “Hazel Thicket” and “Hazely Nob”; “Hazley Knob” is the accepted name today. This point of the wood is a popular spot for stopping to play on the “seesaw” and the makeshift rope swings, to have a picnic, or merely to rest and admire the beauty of the wood from its highest point (about 600 feet above sea level).

The main entrance to the wood is from the north on a path crossing the field known as Long Roods. This leads to The Arch Gate and beyond into Cherry Drive. In earlier times The Arch would house the gatekeeper in rooms built on either side of the gate. These living quarters are no longer to be seen and there now remains only the arch itself. Cherry Drive, dissecting the wood from north to south, was lined with wild cherry trees at the turn of the century at the request of Lady Knightley, so that birds could

feed on the cherries without being shot at.



Another influence of the Knightley family can be seen on the western side, where the much trodden Knightley Way skirts the edge of the wood before leaving at the bottom corner to cross Fawsley Park.

In days gone by, the Estate used to employ a full time woodsman. The last incumbent of this enviable position was a Mr E. Hickman, who took up the post in the 1920s and finally retired in the mid 1950s. His duties included: maintaining the fences and gates around the perimeter in order to keep out deer from Fawsley Park, hedge cutting and laying, coppicing to provide the necessary posts for fence repairs, felling trees when timber was needed for use on the estate – this was only done occasionally since, in those days, the wood was not used commercially – and any general repair work. It was also an important part of his work to keep Cherry Drive and all the other rides clear so that Sir Charles and Lady Knightley could ride unhindered through the wood. Indeed, the well maintained rides and paths of 60 or 70 years ago looked very different to their rather unkempt appearance of today but perhaps we prefer it that way nowadays.

There used to be gates leading into the wood where now there are stiles and it also fell to the woodman to ensure that for one day in every year all the gates were locked for the whole 24 hours. In this way, the privacy of the wood was retained. The wood was an enormously popular attraction (even more so than now) and people would flock to it from far and wide during the summer months –

especially on Bank Holidays and Bluebell Sunday. Parking in the wood was allowed but a charge was made: charabancs – 2/6d, cars – 1/- and motor cycles – 6d. One penny of every shilling received was given to each worker at the gates and the remainder was donated by Sir Charles to the Northampton General Hospital.

As one can imagine, fox hunting in the 20s and 30s was a major part of the way of life for country folk, and Badby was no exception. Mr Hickman loved fox hunting and for 40 years was earth stopper in Badby Wood for the Pytchley Hunt. Paradoxically, however, his son relates the woodman's immense fondness for

his foxes. In bad weather he would often take dead fowl, bones and other food and deposit them by the earths in the wood. Father and son would frequently go together into the wood and sit motionless for up to two hours in the hope of seeing a new litter at play outside the earth.

Spare a thought for the Last Woodman next time you are standing up on Hazley Knob. His final wish was to be cremated and for the ashes to be scattered over the fox earths up on the Knob (so that he could be at rest with his foxes); in his son's words: "This I was proud to do. It was what he wanted."

With acknowledgments to English Nature.



The Last Woodman (far right) with his Family.

Bats

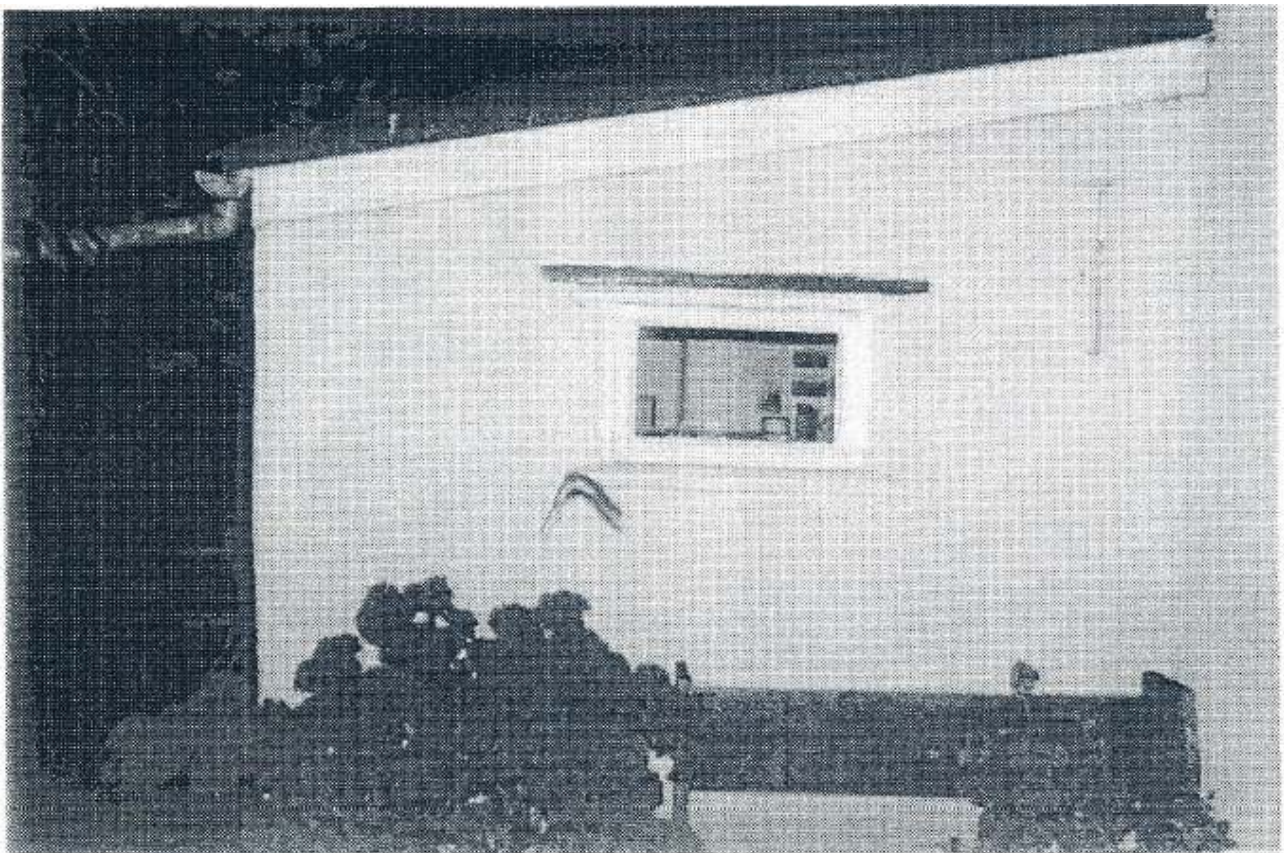
When I was asked to carry out a bat survey for the Village Appraisal, I did not fully appreciate the problems I would encounter. However, having ventured forth at dusk and satisfied the local law of my good intentions, I did get some results.

The most common bat in the Parish is the Pipistrelle. They have taken up holiday lets at both 6 and 8 The Stoneway. The Old Barn House appears to be a temporary stopover, with maximum accommodation for 4. However, the two main hotels and maternity wards are at Nonesuch Cottage, Bunkers Hill, (maximum 48), and somewhere in the vicinity of Pinfold Green or Courtyard Lane – the exact address proved to be elusive. But the 5 star rating appears to be reserved for 28 The Glebe, where

154 and 174 residents were recorded. Of the other species, Daubenton's bats were seen feeding over the lake at Barehill Farm, but I have no idea where they roost.

When contacted, a representative of the County Bat Group said, "Ah! let me see, Badby's Bats." I don't think I agree, but he went on to say that Pipistrelles used to be at 15 The Glebe, but this now seems to be out of favour. He also said that Long-eared bats had been recorded at The Maltsters Arms. I was unable to trace them but this species is difficult to observe, or perhaps they have gone teetotal!

Finally, I am happy to report that this Parish which enjoys its roots in the country, has bats in the belfry (Pipistrelles), or at least in the Church.



Bat leaving nursery roost at an undisclosed address

Birds

The village, and in particular Badby Wood, enjoys an abundance of species, many of which visit local gardens with regularity throughout the year.

The Wood

The wood, which cover some 200 acres of deciduous and coniferous trees, sustains the following:

Warblers: Blackcap
Garden
Willow
Chiffchaff



The Wood Warbler is sometimes seen; Whitethroat and Lesser Whitethroat are occasional birds. These are all summer visitors although, due to the mild winters of late, the Blackcap is resident all year.

Titmice: Great
Blue
Coal
Marsh
Long-Tailed



These mass in great numbers during the winter, foraging through the oaks, both on the floor and in the canopy, and of course, many are drawn to our bird tables. The Great and Blue tits can be persuaded to breed in our gardens.

Woodpeckers

The wood supports all three resident birds, the commonest being the Great Spotted and the Green; the Lesser Spotted is less regularly seen. The Green is also an open land bird seen in large numbers in nearby Fawsley Park



Finches: Green
Gold
Redpoll
Bull
Linnet
Chaffinch

In nesting terms the Goldfinch enjoys the local Horse Chestnut trees in the village, choosing to build on the very tips of low lying branches. The Finch family are, indeed, more likely to breed in hedgerows, with the Linnet preferring the local gorse clumps.

Thrushes: Song
Mistle
Blackbird

During the winter months, Fieldfares and Redwings arrive here from Scandinavia to swell the numbers. These feed voraciously on berries, mostly hawthorn. The Robin is everyone's favourite and is very territorial, with the cocks fighting to maintain their patch. The Redstart is not common but is a regular visitor and breeder in the wood.



Crows: Jackdaw
Jay

The Jay numbers rise quite sharply during the winter with the influx of European birds. The wood, with its large distribution of oaks, provides welcome food for this bird.

Doves and Pigeons:

Turtle
Collared
Wood

Owls: Tawny
Little
Barn

The Little Owl is more of an open field bird, as is the less conspicuous Barn Owl.



Tawny Owl

Miscellaneous:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Nuthatch | Tree Creeper |
| Tree Pipit | Starling |
| Hedge Accentor | Wren |
| Spotted Flycatcher | Cuckoo |
| Pied Flycatcher | Goldcrest |
| Tree Sparrow | |

The Nuthatch is very often seen during severe weather, feeding with tits on nut bags. Tree Pipits prefer an open canopy and at present there are several in the wood. The Hedge Accentor is the mis-named Hedge Sparrow and is widespread. Due to coniferous planting in the last 30 years, the Goldcrest is now easily seen. The Pied Flycatcher is a hole nester and the wood, with their abundance of dead trees with suitable nesting sites, is much favoured; the

Spotted Flycatcher is a more conventional nest builder.



Tree Creeper

There has been little change in woodland species during the last 30 years, although loss of habitat has added to the decline of some numbers.

Garden and Open Field

Swallows
House Martin
Swift

Although Swifts are still seen, the colony at Vicarage Hill, sadly, no longer exists. The House Martin and Swallow both breed locally.

Thrushes

As mentioned under woodland birds, they are all fairly widespread.

Falcons: Kestrel
Hobby
Sparrowhawk

The Kestrel, in particular, has increased in recent years.



Kestrel

Pheasants and Partridges

Due to “shoots” being established in the last twenty years, many birds, particularly pheasants, are artificially bred so they have become very common. The Red-legged (or French) Partridge is more numerous than the Grey (or English) bird, mostly due to changes in agriculture.

Plovers

Lapwings are our only resident and these gather in large flocks during the winter.



Lapwing

Crows: Rook
Carrion
Magpie

The magpie has increased in quite large numbers in recent years, although the reason is still unclear.

Wagtails: Pied
Yellow

The Pied is strictly a ‘house’ garden bird; whereas the Yellow prefers more open ground, particularly by water.



Pied Wagtail

Larks

The Skylark has become less numerous, but with the new farm policy called ‘Set aside’ we may see an increase.

Doves

The Collared Dove, a relative newcomer which has spread across Europe from the Middle East, breeds quite readily. It prefers single coniferous trees in the village.

Waterfowl

Many artificial lakes and ponds have been created around the village periphery. These attract Coot, Moorhen, Heron and Canada Geese, which are newcomers to the Badby scene and are breeding on almost every conceivable site.



Heron

Miscellaneous:

Robin
Hedge Accentor
Titmice including the Coal Tit not previously mentioned.

All the finches under Woodland birds.

Many of the warblers especially the Willow.

The Great Spotted Woodpecker is also seen in winter gardens.

LOOKING BACK

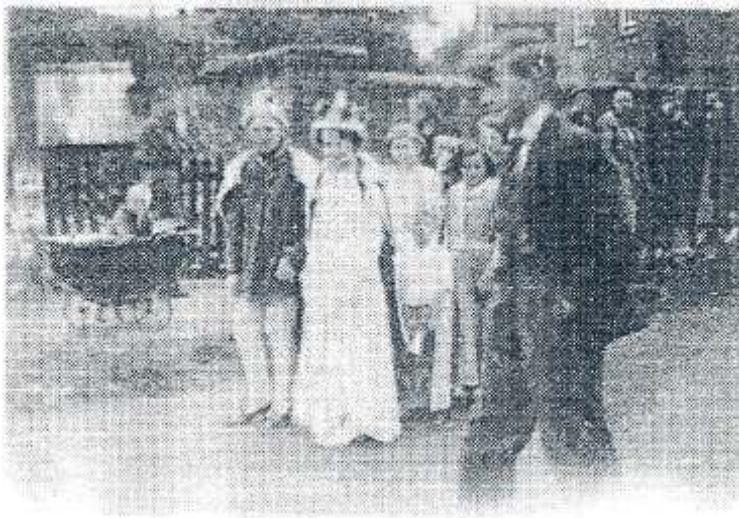
A.E. Ivens wrote about life during the last century and it would be a shame to miss out some recollections of life in the village during this century, especially as many were recorded during the years that the village ran a Tuesday Club for the older residents. There were tough times but a lot of 'armless fun took place as well!

Early Days

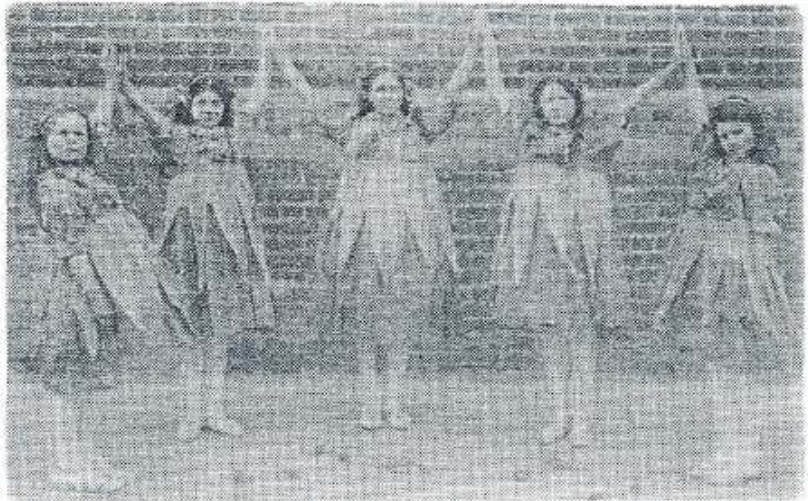
At the turn of the century, school-life was considered strict but enjoyable. Children used to take cake for their morning break, carrying it in cambric bags tied with draw strings, and they always went home for lunch. One teacher at The Lady Knightley School had a maid who brought her warm milk in a white fluted cup and she would give sips of her milk to any delicate children. Old boys of the National School recall being taught to knit and getting their stitches so tight that they couldn't get them off the needle; others particularly remember the big black stove of the new school on which the free milk was warmed. The children were supposed to walk straight home from school but if the vinegar seller was in the village the temptation to stop and turn on the taps of his barrel, while his back was turned, was great. Another game of dare was to tie together the adjacent door handles on the long rows of cottages which edged the greens, knock on the doors and await the chaos as neighbours tried to open them in vain!

On special occasions, such as Coronations and Jubilees, and annually on 19th April – which was Primrose League Day, everyone went to Fawsley Hall for a big party and games of 'hide and seek' became legend. (The place for games of 'hide and seek' in the village was along the Vicar's Walk which ran down from the old Vicarage and along the brook.) Another special occasion was May Day, usually held on

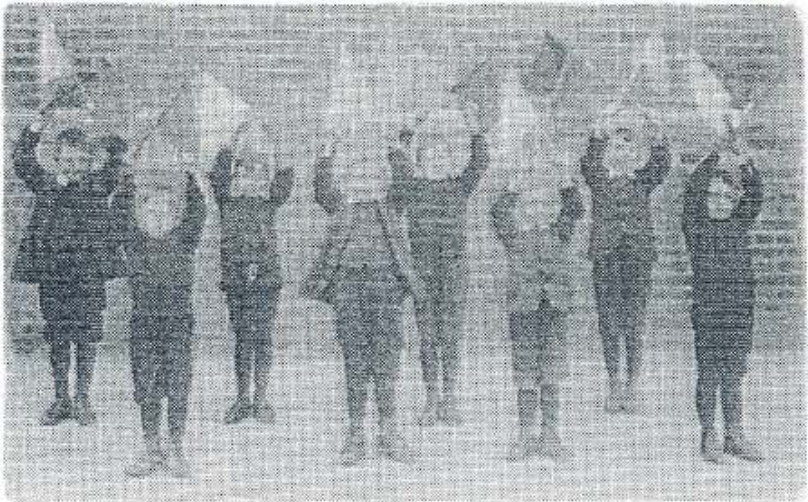
May 1st. The children would take the garland round the village in the morning, singing at each house and making a collection, and in the afternoon celebrations and dancing were followed by a tea party with everyone getting a currant bun to take home. The School has continued a May Day celebration with a parade of the traditional garland followed by country dancing.



There were also Sunday School and Choir treats with treasure hunts and tea parties to be looked forward to as well as the Club Holiday festivities at Whitsuntide and Feast Sunday in September. A little fair came to the village for this event and up to about ten years ago a small fair still set up on the green at least once a year. Various bands entertained on the greens and the village also had two sets of Morris and Folk Dancers; there is even a dance called 'The Badby Dance'. And from 1855 there was the cricket to watch.



Many children enjoyed following the hunt, particularly on the day the fox went down the chimney in the cottage next to the present Post Office – the Post Office has moved around a bit between Church Green, Wheelwright Cottage and the cottages now called Casa Nene. One headmaster returned after the lunch break to an empty classroom and eventually discovered that the whole class had 'hopped the wag' to watch the hunt. There was a great deal of excitement when an



aeroplane landed in Council Dump, a field off Bridge Hill.

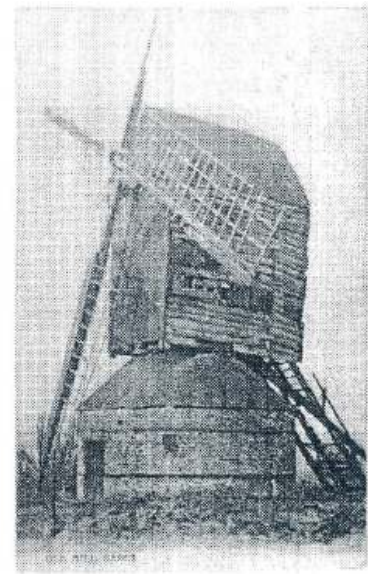
Youngsters could earn a penny taking post for the mail van; it stopped on its journey between Byfield and Daventry at Bridge Hill, just by The White Lion, where the driver could call in for a drink. Children also liked to meet the postman, who came out from Daventry on a bicycle. Another popular pedalling visitor was the ice-cream seller; the ice-cream was kept in a box full of dry ice which the children were told was deadly poisonous, so ensuring that any light fingers were kept out of the box! The gated road between Badby and Newham presented further money making possibilities and earnings were bumped up by getting the gates closed quickly between vehicles, a matter of some skill.



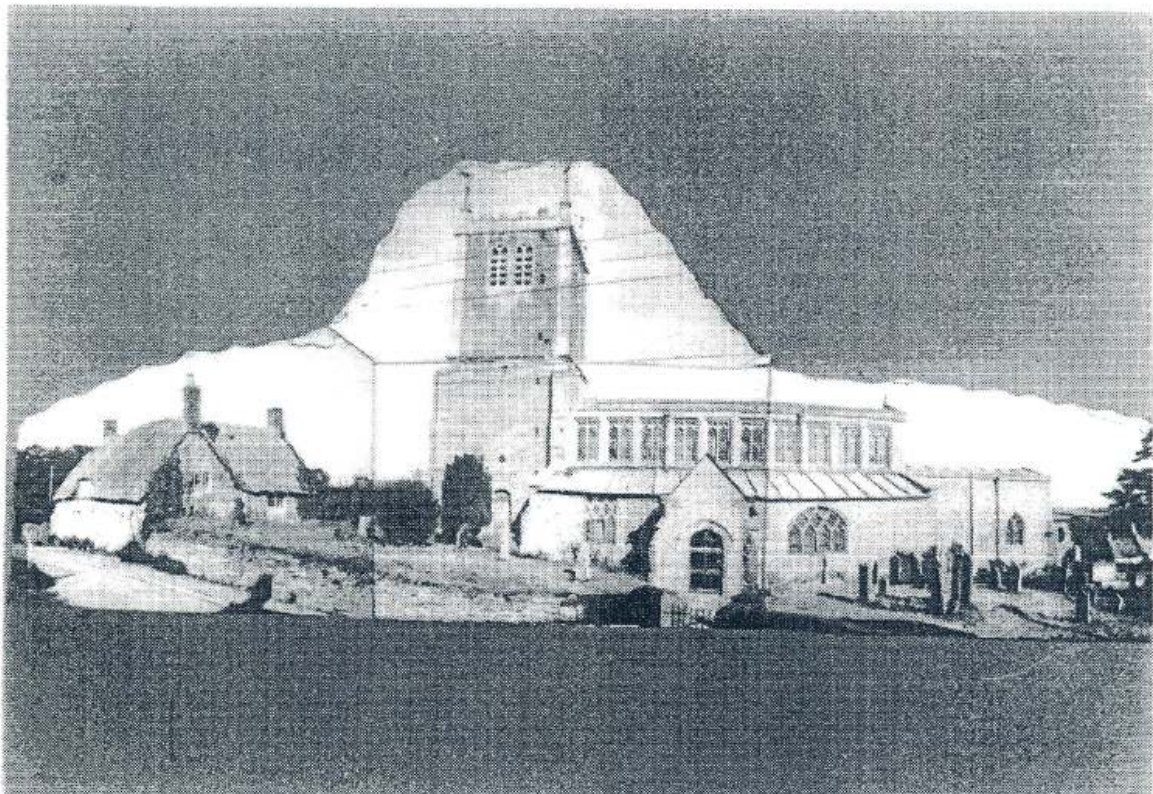
Children went stone picking in the spring and got paid for removing stones which would dull the blades of the mowing machines; some would then buy a tin horn and go crowscaring. In the autumn a few bob could be made at potato picking.



Aeroplane in Council Dump.



The Old Mill



This panoramic view no longer exists

Gathering leaves to make bedding for the pigs (nearly every family had some) was done in autumn too. There was generally a lot of minding of pigs going on and there was even a Pig Club at one time. There is a delightful story about some piglets escaping from their sty one Sunday morning and arriving in the Church in search of the hand that fed them.

When the snow came Bunkers Hill was a firm favourite for sledging and as the hurdle maker lived at the bottom of the hill the children often used the piled up hurdles for sledges.



The following piece was written by an old villager and relates the events of one summer holiday:

Following the Binder.

My first visit to the harvest field was with a stick about four feet long on my shoulder to run and kill if possible any rabbits that might be in the corn; this was because the sheaves barred them when they came out of the uncut corn. The farmer asked me to chuck the corner sheaf aside so that the lead horse, Dragon by name, did not trample it thus knocking the corn out and doing this job, which was tiring at about 3p.m. in the afternoon, the pay was 6 pence a day and, I would add, some days were long.

Telling my Mother of this offer of a job during the five weeks holiday from school it was agreed by doing so I should have a new suit. Having worked for three weeks I received the sum of nine shillings which to me was a lot of money and with it in my pocket I walked to Daventry and bought my suit which was a brown Norfolk suit costing eight shillings. This left me with one shilling of my earnings from The August Holidays so I bought a cap price six pence, also it had lines inside it to put the owners' s name and address in it. Of the remaining six pence I went to Newnham Flower Show which had a fair at that time so I had spent out. But never mind. I had to look after the pigs in the Bean Field after it had been harvested so that is how I followed The Binder round in my Holidays.

When the prisoners of war billeted locally came over ditch clearing, they were very popular with the village children because they were always making little toys. A villager remembers being given a ring fashioned from the perspex of a crashed aircraft's window; it was set with a "jewel" made from the shiny end of a toothbrush. One child was certainly a character to remember. He would sit up in his pram smoking a pipe!

Children could leave school at thirteen and the first job they started would often mean a twelve hour working day. Apprentices frequently received no pay for the first year or two and others recall a wage of 9d (or 4p) a week. This is probably why school days were called the best years of one's life!

Everyday Life

Several villagers remember buying milk from the farms in the village; few could afford fresh unskimmed milk so most bought a pint can of skimmed milk for ½d. The farmers sold butter too; it was usually cream coloured but a little 'Danish Colouring' turned it a rich gold. Eggs were charged for by colour, brown being the most expensive. The villagers could buy venison dripping from the Hall and, perhaps once a year, some had the great treat of fried velvet from the antlers of a deer.

'Penny' Sutton fetched and carried produce in his wagonette between the village and Daventry for a penny – hence the name; for 1/6d and a mug of beer he would also kill a pig. Another carrier was Elizabeth Billingham who walked into Daventry, often twice a day, pushing a pram.

When the Great Central Railway was being constructed, navvies came down from Yorkshire and nearly everyone in the village had a lodger. The workmen would walk to Woodford Halse and back along the bridle path.

A great number of people were employed at Fawsley Hall in service, on the estate or as laundrywomen, walking there daily; the footpaths were well trodden. For a long time in the village there was the custom of the Fawsley Bundle. Anyone who had a baby could borrow the bundle which contained everything the baby would need in the first six weeks of life – clothes, binders, etc.



One man was responsible for taking water from Redlunch Spring up to the hall for Sir Charles who wouldn't drink from anywhere else. Water at that time came from springs until a windmill was installed in the field down Honey Lane, supplying an underground tank which fed, by gravity, all but the few houses higher than the tank; these had to supply their own pump. It cost 5/- to have the water laid on. One of the oldest village events was the Court Leet held every five years until 1923. Nine jurors and a solicitor from Daventry walked

round the village and anything found left on the village green had to be paid for. It seems that a few pranks were played and various articles were secretly dumped in front of the gates of unsuspecting villagers – a forerunner of the T.V. show 'Game for A Laugh'. At the end of the day there was usually a meal served with punch.

Villagers could rent an allotment in the Road Gardens between Staverton crossroads and Newnham crossroads. The rent was a shilling a year and keeping the hedges trimmed was a condition of tenure. Dues were paid at The Maltsters Arms and tenants took along a pint jar to collect the free pint available on payment.

In the White House there used to be a Reading Room and once a week a musical evening was arranged, an activity organized for the village youth. A branch of the Women's Institute was started by Lady Knightley in 1919; she built a large room for the Institute meetings onto the end of The Lady Knightley School and this is now the Village Hall. Currently the Horticultural Society holds an annual show and the Church Fête is a biennial event.

Storm, Fire and Flood

Gales, floods and fires have been rare occurrences but well remembered. A severe gale in 1916 brought down the larch trees in the woods in such quantities that they lay across one another; they were eventually taken to be used as pit props. Another gale in 1930 brought down trees in Badby Wood and several men who were out of work because of The Depression asked if they could have some of the fallen timber. They hired a horse and cart and paid the hiring fee when they were earning again! In November 1917 the house where Corner House stands burnt down.



The owners had had a chimney fire the previous day which was supposed to have been put out but it seems that a beam continued to smoulder and eventually the thatch caught fire. The fire brigade came from Daventry with manual pumps, but the house couldn't be saved.

The Windmill Inn was luckier.

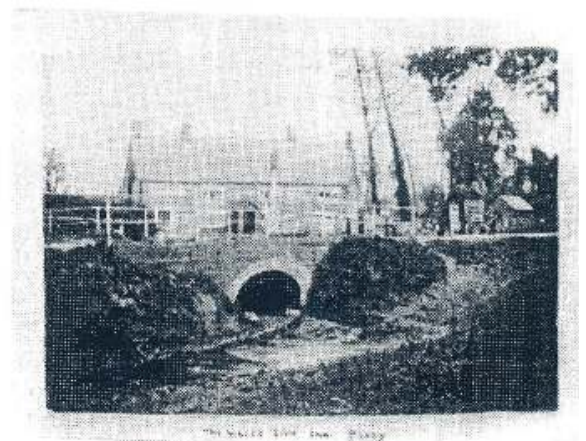
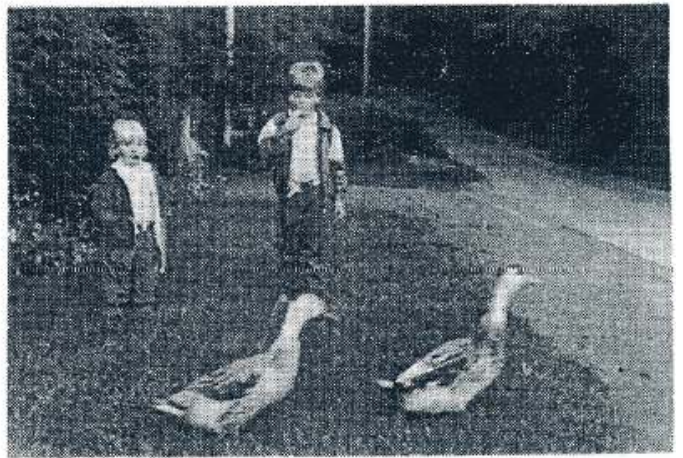
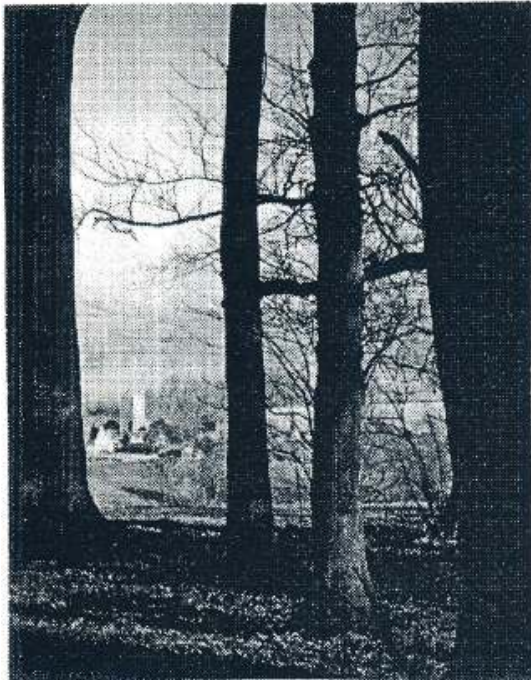
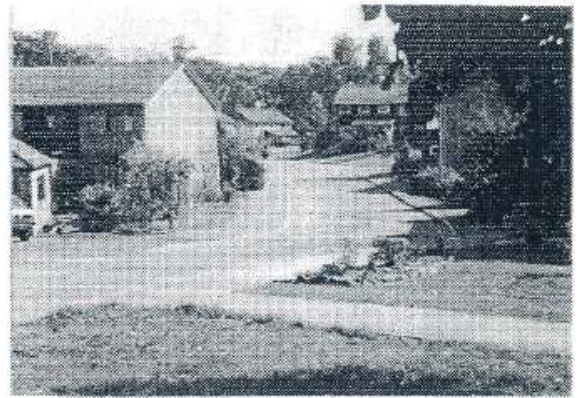
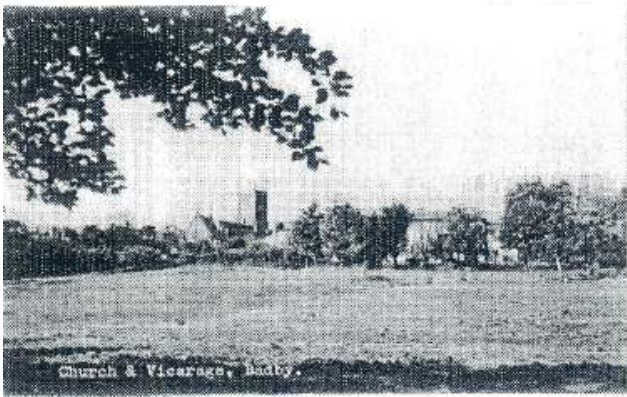


In March 1948 a flood down on the Banbury Road marooned the occupants of Bridge House where an ailing ninety year old had taken to her bed. She refused to move, even when the roof blew off as the gale became more severe, and kept to her bed while workmen came to repair the gaping hole.

Nature study and conservation have always been taken seriously at Badby Primary School and during the 1970s and 1980s the school pioneered many Nature Trails around the district, for which they received several awards. One of the Nature Trail leaflets included this verse from a poem which sums up the charm of Badby and its villagers:

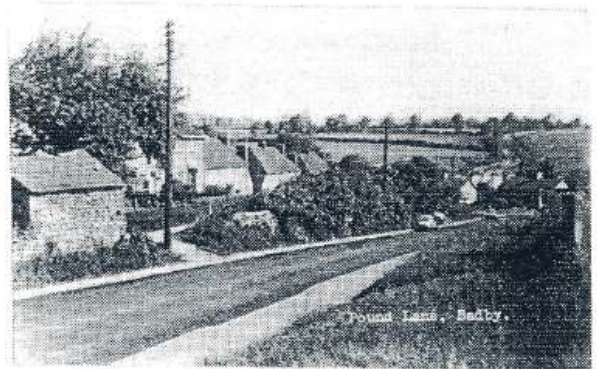
“This land of ours is also yours
To visit as you please.
To walk, to roam, to play, to sit
In our garden lined with trees.”

Views of the Village

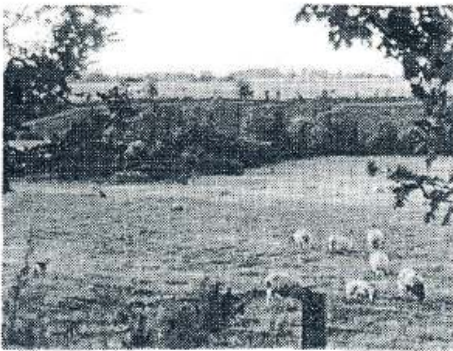




18872 THE DRIVE, BERRY WITH RIVER DARTMOUTH



18873 LANE, BERRY



THE QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

The questionnaire was hand delivered to the 259 houses in the Parish of Badby during April and May, 1992. Nine houses were found to be unoccupied at the time and 210 questionnaires were completed on collection. This means 84% of the village responded to the survey which was very pleasing. However, it must be pointed out that not all questions were answered on all questionnaires.

Population and Employment

The numbers of male and female inhabitants registered on the questionnaire are very close – 284 males and 291 females. The greatest number of inhabitants overall is in the 40–60 years old age group (185), followed by the 61–80 years old group (108) and then the 30–40 years old group (72). There are at least 17 octogenarians in the village and the four younger age groups average 48 inhabitants each.

85 of these villagers had parents resident in Badby at the time of their birth. Indeed, several families go back four and five generations with two families tracing six generations, while one family of seven generations and one of eight can also be traced.

The number of years that present families have been residing in the village supports the popular view that Badby is considered to be a very pleasant place in which to live; at least 90 families moved to Badby primarily because they liked the village. 131 families have resided here for over twenty years, 90 for over ten while 105 have passed the five year mark.

As is to be expected with a large number of residents of mature years, the retired population exceeds 100.

Those of butcher, baker and candlestick maker seem to be the only occupations missing from the list of jobs in which members of the village are currently employed; oh yes, and undertaker. The variety of occupations has certainly changed from records of a century ago when the village was primarily a farming community. The distance travelled to work has altered radically too. Whereas about 40 people are working within the village at least 250 travel elsewhere to work, well over 100 journeying up to twenty miles with another 80 travelling further afield; this latter group includes a band of world wide commuters! The public bus service is obviously of no use to the Badby workforce and it is quite apparent that the car is the most important means of transport to work.

Roads, pavements and public rights of way

There are over 300 cars in the village and at least 24 vans. 56 of these vehicles are parked on the streets or the verges but only 18 people expressed difficulty in parking. However, 139 households are concerned that street parking causes potentially dangerous situations. Main Street, especially outside the Post Office, the pubs, the bottom of School Lane and at the A361 junction, is cited as the road causing most concern. Neneside Close, Church Hill, Vicarage Hill and Bunkers Hill are also considered to be problematic. It is questionable whether a fire engine or ambulance would have the speedy access required in an emergency.

Considerable concern has been expressed about the danger to pedestrians, especially children and the elderly, of cars parked over pavements, and the comment passed that the pavements are certainly not ‘wheelchair friendly’. Nevertheless, opinion is divided as to a need for parking restrictions, with 76 households for their introduction and 84 against.

The suggestions for ways in which to overcome parking problems can be listed under broad headings:

1. Parking bays for residents only. (The District Council is pledged to look into parking for Council house tenants in the villages.)
2. A village/visitors' car park.
3. No parking in Main Street or parking on one side only. Restrictions to be imposed on the hills (Vicarage, Church and Bunkers), around all the greens and at the bottom of School Lane
4. An appeal to be made to all householders to use their drives/garages. Kerbs to be adjusted if causing difficulties of access.
5. Lock up garages to be erected.
6. Yellow lines.
7. Pub users to be encouraged to use pub parking facilities. (Signs have been erected.)

The Government is currently committed to looking into traffic calming measures and the District Council will be informed of the survey.

Three times as many households (153) are satisfied with the upkeep of the roads than dissatisfied (47) but the winter gritting service comes in for more criticism, with 120 satisfied and 80 not. 137 feel that the pavements are satisfactorily maintained, while 57 disagree; there were several comments about the unsuitability of laying loose pea gravel on the footpath up School Lane. Several comments were also passed that the parking of cars on the pavements contributes to unnecessary wear.

Pedestrians crossing the bridge adjacent to the A361 are definitely thought to be at risk and implementing further safety measures at this point should be considered. Some suggestions were put forward:

1. Double lines should be continuous from the top of Bridge Hill to Barehill Farm.
2. Speed limit to be introduced for vehicles passing the village.
3. A railing to be erected.
4. A by-pass to be constructed.
5. Alternative hard path to be negotiated.

An overwhelming number of households (179) expressed concern at the fouling of footpaths by dogs and just marginally fewer at the fouling of verges. This problem is undoubtedly viewed as a major source of discontent and 132 households are of the opinion that dog owners should be prosecuted; 50 disagree.

Dog bins, use of scoopers and better education of dog owners were all put forward as possible ideas for improving the situation.

The lighting system generally seems to be adequate but complaints about certain areas, such as around the central greens, Vicarage Hill and Brookside Lane could be investigated.

The upkeep of the network of public footpaths around the village meets the approval of 113 households but 63 have ideas for improvements. These can be listed under the following broad categories:

1. More sign posting and country code instructions. (Costs met by sponsoring?)
2. Cutting back of nettles, etc. and clearance of rubble.
3. Rectifying drainage problems.
4. Removal of obstructions with land owners' co-operation.
5. Stiles to be altered to accommodate children, the disabled and dogs.
6. Maps of footpaths to be displayed on noticeboard. (Already organized.)

Housing, Development and Conservation

Three times as many households are against further development of residential housing than for it. 47 households are prepared to approve building development within the existing boundaries, but only 23 support development outside them; just 8 households would be happy to see any industrial development. Building sites proposed were: Banbury Road (for industrial units), back of Pound Lane, Shetlands, Courtyard Lane, the sandpit, the green opposite Neneside Close, Challis' yard, Pinfold Green, north of the Newnham Road, Bunkers Hill and infill locations – the latter proposed by the greatest number of households (4).

Low cost starter homes (the choice of 40 households) and sheltered housing for the elderly (35) are viewed as the most acceptable type of development, with rented property coming third choice (23). 10 was the most popular number suggested for the number of houses to be built in the low cost category, 10–15 for sheltered accommodation and 10 for rented property.

It was mentioned that The Village Housing Association could be approached if plans for starter homes came under discussion and that those born in the village should be given priority on any application list.

Households voted 158 to 6 for strict control of building style and materials, a very clear indicator that inhabitants are concerned about the overall appearance of the village.

158 households responded that they were aware that the greens are registered but considerably fewer that there are preservation orders on trees.

The general opinion is that there are not enough litter bins around the village and sites near the woods and school are considered to be in need of a bin. The dumping of garden rubbish on the roadside has been criticized but it is encouraging to know that 135 households would help in a 'Clean up the Village Day'.

It is definitely felt that there are not enough seats in the village and the most popular sites for additional benches centred on the greens, especially Church Green, and the cemetery.

There are at least thirty attributes of the village that people feel should remain unchanged. High on the list are the greens, the chestnut trees, the green belt between the village and the woods, the present housing density, the school, a village shop and the church and chapel.

Education

The school is considered to be very important to village life. At the time of the survey at least 38 village children were at the village school, while 24 had moved on to Daventry secondary schools and 5 to Daventry Tertiary College. 29 or more children were at school elsewhere.

Members of only 27 households have attended Adult Education classes but 55 have expressed a wish for more classes, 5 volunteering to run one. The greatest demand seems to be for language classes, followed by activities such as keep fit, cookery, art and crafts, and the study of local history and the environment.

Mums and Toddlers is attended by at least 16 village children and 11 children go to the village Playgroup sessions. Support for a fee-paying nursery school was positively indicated by 22 households.

Amenities, Leisure and Social Life

The public bus service comes in for some criticism and was commented on earlier. Only 3 households use the bus daily and 21 weekly, the majority of responses to the question asking for an answer to frequency of use being in the 'never' column. It must also be mentioned here that not everyone is happy with the bus coming through the village.

The figures for use of the Post Office are more encouraging, with 26 households making daily use, 99 weekly use and only 7 households making no use, of its facilities.

The village telephone is getting minimal wear with only 2 affirmatives for daily use, 2 for both weekly and monthly use, and 102 for 'never'.

The post boxes, however, are bulging with at least 112 households using them weekly.

It has been requested that a telephone and additional letter box is placed in Neneside Close. As the housing for the elderly is sited here, these are fair requests.

The mobile library is not oversubscribed with 9 households using it as weekly customers, 13 as monthly customers and 110 making no use of it at all.

The village pubs are well attended by local people.

The majority of households do their main shopping in Daventry.

There are problems for about a dozen households in getting to a doctor or hospital and then collecting prescriptions, but the vast majority of villagers are coping satisfactorily.

There are at least 95 households using the Leisure Centre, but 12 have difficulty with transport.

Transport to railway stations also causes problems for around 18 households.

There is a voluntary service already existing for help with hospital visits and assistance with transporting villagers to other activities will always be welcomed.

Facilities need to be made available for advertising any offers of help.

Popular suggestions for additional amenities are as follows:

- Children's play area
- Improved bus/minibus service making connections and a timetable display
- Shop with longer opening hours
- Village surgery
- Youth club

There were many more individual suggestions to do with requests for sporting facilities, a police constable, public toilets, a parking warden, a hairdresser, a butcher and a pet minder.

About a quarter of village households regularly support the Church or Chapel, but three quarters say that they would contribute to the maintenance of their fabric.

The noticeboard is definitely well read, with 166 households perusing its information.

The village newsletter is also a most acceptable institution with 184 households appreciating its publication. A leaflet detailing village amenities, societies, timetables etc. is also considered to be a very good idea.

The Horticultural Society is supported by about 100 villagers and most of the other societies have a membership of between 5 and 35 persons.

87 households express no desire for further leisure activities in the village but 59 have put forward a selection of ideas not already covered in the requests for Adult Education Classes or elsewhere.

These are broadly grouped below:

- Orienteering/Rambling
- Whist drives
- Swimming pool at school for public use
- Sunday school
- First Aid classes
- Dramatic Society
- Dancing – Scottish, Tea, Tap and Morris
- European village twinning
- Church Choir

- Bingo
- Luncheon Club
- Over 60s' Club and clubs for sporting activities such as riding, badminton, tennis, table tennis, bowling, netball, golf, clay pigeon shooting and aerobics, with bowling being the most popular request on the list. A snooker hall has not been requested!

29 offers of assistance in running an activity were made which hopefully will be followed up.

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme was in operation before the questionnaire was distributed and at least 157 households have taken advantage of its introduction.

108 households are in agreement that there is a need for a toddlers' play area, whereas 59 disagree.

Members of 86 households are intending to take their final rest in the village cemetery but not all at the same time!

Senior Citizens

There were 21 replies to this section.

The transport system is the biggest bone of contention; the times and route are problematic and the quota of bus tokens is felt to be inadequate considering the cost of a return journey.

An Age Concern representative would be appreciated and Meals on Wheels welcomed by some or a reduced rate luncheon offered, say once a week, in the Village Hall.

Trips to the coast and places of interest have been suggested as well as a Christmas Party. Bingo and a Social Club were proposed.

Help in the house and garden are also requested.

It is certainly considered important that the village always has a shop.

Under-18s

There were 32 replies to this section.

Top of the list of suggestions are the need for a playground for racquet sports and a Youth Club.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, football and cricket teams were all requested as well as a bike park, a social area in, say, a pub and a greater sheltered area when waiting for the school bus. Entertainment is felt to be lacking and discos might help.

Activities in the holidays were proposed as well as a Christmas party.

24 young villagers are thinking about buying a house in the village at a later date.

In any further questionnaires some villagers would like the opportunity to comment on shopping in the village, schools, the state of farming in the Parish, the woods, local flora and fauna and the removal of overhead cables and wires to underground. (The latter is currently in hand.)

A section for comments by the 18–65s has been proposed and members of two households suggested individual questionnaires so that they can air their differing opinions. (This idea was originally considered but proved too costly to implement.)

And so to finish

The final questions asked villagers to comment on the things they both liked and disliked about the village. 139 households listed their likes, fewer (101) commented on their dislikes.

Likes listed in order of popularity:

- The general tranquillity, peace and quiet (42 households)
- The Wood (33)
- Friendly, caring attitude to neighbours and newcomers (30)
- Picturesque, attractive appearance, with lovely views of undulating farmland (26)
- The greens (24)
- The chestnut trees, especially in bloom (24)
- Location – convenient and environmentally good (18) and off a main road (14)
- Surrounding countryside (17)
- Opportunities to walk (17) ride and cycle
- The pubs (9)
- The history, character and architecture of the old ironstone houses and general mixture of housing (9)
- Small, compact size but unique layout with not too much development (8)
- The school (7)
- The post office (6)
- General cleanliness and tidiness of the village (6)
- Ducks and goats on greens (5)
- Community spirit (4)
- The church and bells (4)

Appreciation was shown for village amenities, societies, customs and events, for the absence of commercialization and mod cons., and for Old Peculiar. In this section the village is not felt to be a suburb of Daventry nor a retreat for ‘weekenders’. Thanks were expressed for the maintenance of the cemetery.

But there were some villagers who would like to turn the clock back twenty years for things to be really perfect.

It isn’t really pleasant to end with the adverse comments but some of these aspects of village life are going to be the ones that might need attention and must to be kept in the forefront of the mind. The complaints are listed in order of greatest unpopularity and were about:

- Fast traffic through village (19)
- Poor car parking, too much congestion (15)
- Too much dog dirt (12)
- Nothing for the young, nothing for the old (8)
- Lack of community feeling and civil pride, hostility to newcomers (8)
- Lorry depot (6)
- Closure of a shop (6)
- Damage to pavements and verges (5)
- Lack of planning resulting in unattractive buildings (4)
- Rubbish (4)
- Bonfires (4)
- Street gangs! (4)

Concern was expressed about disappearing footpaths and old gatehouses, pollution in the brook and smoky chimneys, noise – especially from scrambling bikes, lawnmowers and birdscarers, lack of bridleways and in-filling. In this section some householders express feelings that Daventry is fast

approaching and fear suburbanization and yuppies whereas others find the village somewhat dormitory and a paradise for the elderly.

There were comments that the lighting is not in keeping with the style of the village, that green areas lacked wild flower conservation plans and some were untidy, that some use could be made of the greens, that there is no playground and too few social evenings; here, too, the bus service was berated.

However, the dislikes certainly did not outnumber the good aspects and were generally expressed in such a way as to offer points for future consideration rather than as outright complaints. The overall impression is one of a pleasant, friendly community and the Parish Council now have a body of opinion on which to base future plans.



THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Badby 1992

As we approach the end of the 20th Century, villages nationwide are being encouraged to make an up to date survey of their Parish and to produce a record of its development so far as well as opinions about possible plans for the future. A large group of people has volunteered to look at various aspects of Badby village but YOUR help is needed to make a successful appraisal and we would greatly appreciate the time taken to complete this questionnaire. The opinions of EVERYONE in the village are important and we are aiming for 100% return!

The questionnaire is entirely anonymous so do not put your name and address on it. Please seal it in the envelope provided and it will be collected one week from today. The results will be made available for all to read. Thank you.

A. Population and Employment.

How many people are living in your household at the present time?.....
(please give numbers in each group)

| Male | Female | Years | Were parents resident in Badby at birth? |
|------|--------|--------|--|
| | | 0-4 | |
| | | 5-11 | |
| | | 12-18 | |
| | | 19-29 | |
| | | 30-39 | |
| | | 40-60 | |
| | | 61-80 | |
| | | Over80 | |



How many of your household are retired?.....

How many are housebound ?.....

How many adults in your household have lived in the Parish for the following number of years?

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 1-2 years | |
| 3-5 years | |
| 6-11 years | |
| 11-20 years | |
| 20-40 years | |
| Over 40 years | |

How many generations of the family, including your own, have lived in Badby Parish?

| | |
|-------|-----------|
| One | |
| Two | |
| Three | |
| Four | |
| more | How many? |

Please state occupations of adults in the household.

| | Occupation | Full-time | Part-time | Voluntary | Retired |
|----|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | | | | | |
| 2. | | | | | |
| 3. | | | | | |
| 4. | | | | | |
| 5. | | | | | |
| 6. | | | | | |

Where does each member work? Please give numbers in each category.

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|
| In the village | | |
| In Daventry | | |
| Within twenty miles | | |
| Further afield | | How far? |

How do they travel to work? Please give numbers in each category.

| | | | |
|-------|--|---------------|--|
| Walk | | Works' bus | |
| Cycle | | Public bus | |
| Car | | Car and train | |

Has everyone in the household always lived in Badby?
If not, have you moved here

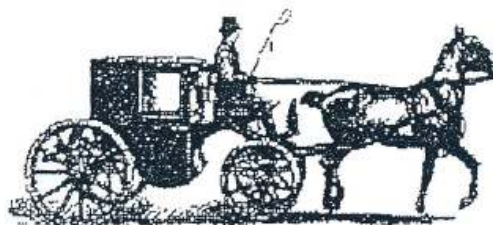
Yes No

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. To be near family? | 6. After marriage? |
| 2. On retirement? | 7. To be near work? |
| 3. For the school? | 8. To be near friends? |
| 4. Because you liked the village? | 9. To get out of a town? |
| 5. For a special house? | 10. For easy access to motorways? |

B. Roads , pavements and public rights of way

How many vehicles are there at your address ?

| | Cars | Vans | Lorries | Motor-cycles |
|-----|------|------|---------|--------------|
| No. | | | | |



How many vehicles are parked in/on:?

| | Garage | Driveway | Verge | Street |
|-----|--------|----------|-------|--------|
| No. | | | | |

Please ring one answer per household to the following questions:

Do you have difficulty parking?

Yes No

If Yes, do you have any ideas for alleviating the problem?

Idea

Do you think the roads are adequately maintained?

Yes No

Do you think the winter gritting is adequate?

Yes No

Is there anywhere where you think street parking causes a dangerous situation ?

No Yes Where?.....

Would you like to see any parking restrictions?

No Yes Where?.....

Do you think the pavements are adequately maintained?

Yes No

Due to the continually increasing traffic on the Banbury/Daventry road, concern is still being expressed about the safety of pedestrians crossing the bridge. Do you agree that further safety measures should be implemented?

Yes No

Are you concerned about dogs fouling on the pavements?

Yes No

on verges and greens?

Yes No

and do you think offending dog owners should be prosecuted?

Yes No

Do you think pavements are adequately lit?

Yes No If not, where not?.....

Do you feel the excellent network of public footpaths around the village could be improved in any way? Yes No

If Yes, how?.....

C. Housing, Development and Conservation



Do you think there should be further development in Badby?

Residential Yes No Within existing boundaries Yes No
Industrial Yes No Outside existing boundaries Yes No

If Yes give possible sites.....

.....

If Yes to development, state which of the following: Max. No.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Low cost starter/single accommodation | |
| Sheltered housing for elderly | |
| Bungalows | |
| Executive homes | |
| Rented property | |
| Small industrial units | |

Do you think building style and materials should be controlled? Yes No

Do you know the Greens are preserved? Yes No

Do you know many trees have preservation orders on them? Yes No

Are there enough litter bins? Yes No

Would you help in a Clean Up the Village Day? Yes No

Are there enough seats around the village? Yes No

If not, where would you like to have one placed?

Please state anything your household feels should remain unchanged in the village

D. Education.

How important is the village school to village life?

Extremely Fairly Not very

How many children have you at...?

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| The village school | |
| Other primary schools | |
| Daventry secondary schools | |
| Other secondary schools | |
| Tertiary College | |



When there are Adult Education classes in Badby do you attend them? Yes No

Are there any Adult Education classes you would like to have in Badby? Yes No

If Yes, which?.....

and when? Daytime..... Evening..... Either.....

Could you offer to run a course? Yes No

If Yes, please contact a Parish Councillor.

If you have pre-school children do you take them to
Mums and Toddlers in the village? No Yes
or elsewhere? No Yes
Playgroup in the village? No Yes
or elsewhere? No Yes
Would you send your pre-school children to a fee-paying
Nursery School in the village?

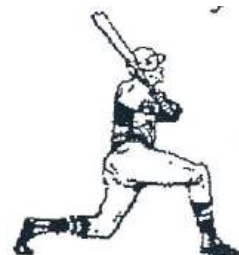
How many?.....
How many?.....
How many?
How many?

Yes No

E. Amenities, Leisure and Social Life.

How often do members of your family use/visit?

| | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Rarely | Never |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| Public bus service | | | | | |
| Badby Post Office | | | | | |
| Village public telephone | | | | | |
| Village postboxes | | | | | |
| Mobile Library | | | | | |
| A village pub | | | | | |



Where do you do your main shopping?

| | |
|----------------|--|
| in the village | |
| Daventry | |
| elsewhere | |

Do you have problems getting to a doctor? Yes No
a hospital? Yes No
collecting prescriptions? Yes No
Do you use Daventry Leisure Centre? Yes No
Do you have problems using Daventry Leisure centre? Yes No
Do you have problems using rail services? Yes No

Can you suggest any further services needed in the village?

.....

Do you regularly support either the Church? Yes No
or the Chapel? Yes No
Whether you are a regular churchgoer or not, would you contribute to
the maintenance of the fabric of the Church/Chapel ? Yes No
Do you read the village notice-board? Yes No
Do you appreciate the Parish Council Newsletter? Yes No
As a newcomer, would you have appreciated a leaflet detailing village
amenities, societies, timetables etc.? Yes No

How many of your household belong to any of the following village organisations?

| | No. | | No. |
|-----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Girl Guides | | Music Club | |
| Women's Institute | | Cricket Club | |
| Horticultural Society | | Photographic Society | |
| Allotment Society | | Bellringers | |
| Mothers' Union | | F.O.B.s | |

Are there any other leisure activities or organizations you would like to have in the village?
Yes No

If Yes, please detail.....

Would you volunteer to organize an activity of any sort? Yes No
If Yes, please contact a Parish Councillor.

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| Would you like a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? | Yes | No |
| Do you think there is a need for a toddlers' play area? | Yes | No |
| Are you intending to make use of the village cemetery at a later date? | Yes | No |

Senior Citizens

Is there anything that you feel should be looked into on your behalf?

Suggestions.....

Under-18s

What do you think the village needs most and has not got?

.....

Do you think you would like to buy a house in the village when you are older?

| | | | |
|-----|-----|----|-----|
| | No. | | No. |
| Yes | | No | |

For future reference, do you think that anything has been omitted from this survey? If Yes, regarding what?

Now that you have reached the end, thank you again for completing this questionnaire. If you have any comments, ideas, suggestions, queries etc., please use the reverse side of this sheet to let us know.

If you have anything in the way of photographs, anecdotes, folk tales, old maps, letters etc. relevant to by-gone days in the village and which could possibly be used in the final report and display, please contact anyone listed on the accompanying sheet.

Finally, we would like you to tell us what you like the most/least about the village.

Likes.....

.....

Dislikes

.....

