

## CLUMBER

There was a Bronze Age settlement at Clumber. In 1960 two beakers dating back to 1800 BC were discovered in the park.

The Bronze Age Beakers



In Saxon times Adhluvol and Vichil had two manors at Clumber, which passed to Roger de Busli after the Norman Conquest. Vichil had a mill, some land and wood, together valued in Edward the Confessor's time at 20 shillings, and in the Domesday Book at 4 shillings under de Busli. Part of Clumber, extending to the cross at Worksop, was of the soc or sokage of the royal fee of the manor of Mansfield and Woodhouse, and held for the King by Thomas de Hayton, Peter de Clumber and Adam de Hayton.

In the reign of Henry VI, Robert Hekeling held the third part of a knight's fee in Lound and Clumber. In 1544 Henry VIII granted to Roger and Robert Taverner 'a messuage and lands in Clumber, lately belonging to Newstead Abbey at 11 shillings per annum'. In 1546 it was sold to John Bellowe and Robert Pigott including 'one messuage and certain lands in Clumber in the parish of Worksop in the tenure of John Chamber. Item, there be growing upon the said lands and tenements 28 oaks and ashes valued at 38 shillings'.

The neighbouring manor and estates of Haughton after 1066 had been given to Roger Pictavensis and passed from him to the families of Maresey, Monboucher, Longvilliers, Mallovell Lord of Rampton, Stanhope and by marriage with Stanhope's daughter, to John Babington. Babington sold Haughton to Sir William Holles, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1537. The Holles family eventually also became the owners of Clumber.



Haughton Hall

Sir William Holles, the purchaser of Haughton, died in 1542. His eldest son squandered a large fortune left to him by his father, and died in prison. His other son, another Sir William, inherited his father's large estates at Haughton, and lived there for forty years. He attended the coronation of Edward VI attended by a retinue of fifty followers, in blue coats and badges. He built the old hall at Haughton, with his emblem, a man's hand bearing a vine branch and his initials, carved on each side of the entrance door

Edwin Eddison writes about his hospitality: 'He began his Christmas at All Hallows tide, and continued it until Candlemas [November to February]; during which time any man was permitted to stay three days, without question as to whence he came or what he was. Twelve days at this festive season of the year, he had an ox served at his table, with sheep etc in proportion'. He died in 1590 at 83 years of age.

William's son, Denzil Holles, was Member of Parliament for East Retford in 1585. He was described as a 'sad and wise man'. Denzil was the father of John Holles, the 1st Earl of Clare who paid the Duke of Buckingham £15,000 for the Barony of Haughton and the Earldom of Clare. His son John Holles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Clare, could not decide which side to choose in the Civil War. Mrs Hutchinson wrote: 'He is often of both parties and I think, never advantaged either'. He fought for the King at the Battle of Newbury but then returned to Westminster and supported Parliament so that his estates were not sequestered. Clarendon wrote 'He was a man of honour and courage and would have been an excellent person if his heart had not been set too much upon the keeping and improving of his estate'.

His brother, another Denzil Holles, was born at Haughton and entered parliament in 1624. In 1629 he spoke out against unjust taxation and religious innovations and was imprisoned in the Tower of London until 1630. He was one of the 'five members' whom Charles I charged with treason in 1642. After the civil war he was made a Privy Councillor by Charles II in 1661 and became Baron Holles.



Left: John Holles,  
Duke of Newcastle  
Right: His wife,  
Margaret Cavendish



John Holles, the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Clare, was born in 1663. His parents were Gilbert Holles of Haughton Hall and his wife Grace Pierrepont from Thoresby Hall. John married Margaret Cavendish, the daughter and heir of Henry Cavendish, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne, of Welbeck. Holles paid his father-in-law's debts of £80,000 in return for a formal indenture dated January 17th 1693 creating him Marquis of Clare and Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The Royal Patent creating John Holles  
Duke of Newcastle

The document is a handwritten record, possibly a financial account or a list of transactions, written in cursive. It features several columns of text and numbers. The top right corner has the number '230'. The text is dense and difficult to read due to the handwriting, but it appears to be a formal document related to the creation of John Holles as Duke of Newcastle.

After John and Margaret married they lived at Welbeck, and the Hall at Haughton was abandoned and later demolished. The chapel, which had been founded in 1191, was a ruin by 1790. However, the estate was still farmed and a letter written by the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Clare in 1709 to Denman, his land steward at Haughton, shows the Duke's overbearing nature:

'If any of the servants ride the Lord's horses without leave, they are to be mulcted in the penalty of five shillings each time. When the weather is bad they are to saw billets, and other business ...that they not eat idle bread. The springs to be kept free from deer. The sets planted in the decoy. Nothing to go with the brood mares but the fillies. Every carter out of the house after dark, to pay 12 pence. You must see that Roger Tuckney works hard, and if he does not you must not pay him his board wages, 2 shillings per week when good, and not a farthing when bad and idle, but in the room of his board you must thrash him. If he is but one hour bad, you must stop his board a whole week.'



Haughton Chapel

John Holles was made Steward, Keeper and Warden of Sherwood Forest. In August 1707 he received a licence from the crown to enclose 3,000 acres of 'his own land of inheritance' at Clumber, to make a park for Queen Anne's use; and in January 1709 he received permission to sell timber from the cutting of a riding 80 yards wide through Birkland to pay towards the expenses of enclosing the park. He was also given a salary of £1,000 per year for bearing the expense of the park and the office of Ranger, 'with the herbage of the same, and free chase and free warren during her Majesty's life'. Below is a survey of the deer in 1713:

Number of deer in Clumber Park		Number of deer in Haughton Park	
Fallow deer of antler	247	Fallow deer, buck and deer of antler	109
Does and other rascally deer	809	Does and other rascally deer	303
Red deer of antler	7	Red deer of antler	12
Hinds and other rascally deer	<u>6</u>	Hinds and other rascally deer	<u>21</u>
	1069		446

Creating and maintaining deer parks was a very expensive venture which only the wealthiest could afford. The accounts for the parks a few years later show that the costs continued to be a problem:

	£	s	d
The clear yearly rental from Haughton Estate from 34 tenants	340	00	00
But the charges in the two parks greatly exceed this rent			
Haughton Park and decoy there for repairs of the lodge and fences and draining and for the hay for the deer and salaries to the keepers has one year with another cost yearly	220	00	00
In Clumber Park there are two lodges the repairs of which and for some new buildings has amounted to yearly one year with another	80	00	00
The maintaining of the park fences, draining and hay for the deer and salaries to the keepers cost yearly one year with another	<u>254</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>00</u>
Total yearly charge	£554	00	00

To estimate these costs in present day values, the sum should be multiplied by 100.

The Duke died by a fall from his horse while hunting at Welbeck on July 15<sup>th</sup> 1711. John Holles left his estates to his nephew Thomas Pelham, the oldest son of Lord Pelham and John's sister, Grace Holles who owned large estates in Sussex.

Thomas Pelham was aged 17 and still a student at Clare Hall, Cambridge when he inherited from his uncle. Under the terms of the will he had to take the name of Holles. John Holles' wife Margaret, the Duchess of Newcastle, fought to have the will overturned as it disinherited her daughter Henrietta Cavendish Holles. She turned to lawyer Robert Harley, 1st Earl of Oxford, for legal help. Robert Molesworth reported to his wife 'The Duchess of Newcastle has lost her cause in the House of Lords. It was so bad a one that not one Lord, Whig or Tory, opened his lips for her.'



Henrietta Countess of Oxford with her daughter

In his will, John Holles left his wife Orton House and land in Huntingdonshire, and the family jewels, gold and silver plate for life, which on her death was to go to Thomas Pelham.



Thomas Pelham Holles

Thomas Pelham Holles received all the remaining property free from any debt and held estates in 11 counties including Sussex, Dorset, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex and Wiltshire; the Clare Market estate in London and Newcastle House in Lincoln Inn Fields. His annual income was £24,421, equivalent to over £2.5 million today. He also became Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne.

On his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday on 27 July 1714, The London Newsletter reported: 'On Wednesday last came of age the Lord Pelham... he made them a noble entertainment, where were dressed seven oxen, fifteen sheep, six calves, eight bucks and so proportionable of fowls etc. There were eighty hogsheads of strong beer, seven hogsheads of claret, besides champagne, burgundy etc ... the aforesaid feast cost two thousand pounds'. Lady Mary Montagu described him in 1714 as 'very silly but very good natured'.

Although the Duke had a large income he spent rashly. At the election in Nottingham in 1715 he paid the expenses of his candidates Mr Gregory and Mr Plumtree amounting to £864 19s 8d, which covered one shilling to every man in the town, various sums in meat and drink and £20 in transporting voters. Between July 1714 and February 1716, £28,351 6 shillings 5 pence had gone through his bank account. The legal costs for the inheritance court case were also very expensive.

Thomas Pelham Holles married Henrietta Godolphin, grand-daughter of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, arranged the marriage and insisted that the honour of marrying into their family outweighed the need for her grand-daughter to have a large marriage settlement. Thomas felt that 'the hopes of having a posterity descend from the Duke of Marlborough had an extraordinary weight with him'. Sir John Vanbrugh wrote to Thomas 'I need make no remarks to your Grace upon this Abominable Woman's proceedings which shall not however lessen my regard to my Lord Duke, nor good opinion of this grand-daughter who I do not think has one grain of this wicked woman's temper in her, if I did, I would not advise you to take her, though with the allay of a million'. A settlement of £30,000 was decided upon but Sarah haggled over the amount from 1716 to the spring of 1717. Vanbrugh wrote to Thomas, 'As in all her other traffic, so in a husband for her grand-daughter, she would fain have him good and cheap'. In March 1717 Thomas accepted £20,000 for Henrietta's portion. They were married for 50 years, living at Clarmont and London. On April 14 1717 Thomas became Lord Chamberlain of the Royal household.

Sir John Vanbrugh supervised the remodelling of several of Newcastle's properties. Very large sums of money were spent on Newcastle House, Clarmont, Halland, Bishopstone and Nottingham Castle. Thomas was at Nottingham at Christmas 1718 and wrote to his wife: 'I have taken better care of my dearest in her absence than you could expect, for we shall have the best and snuggest bed chamber that I ever saw. Besides, there will be to our apartment a large waiting room for the servants and you will have a dressing room, very pleasant with two large windows and twenty foot square.' By the time of his marriage the Duke of Newcastle was already heavily in debt, but this did not prevent him living an extravagant and luxurious life.

The Duke owned 8,332 ounces of silver dishes, plates, salvers, ladles, salt cellars, candlesticks, knives, forks, spoons and a chamber pot. He also inherited the family silver on the death of Margaret, Duchess of Newcastle which amounted to another 15,944 ounces. As most of this was entailed to the estate he could only use it as collateral for raising money. By 1721 he owed £88,572. Much of his land was already mortgaged and over the years was sold off to pay some of the debts. Horace Walpole wrote: 'There was no expense to which he was not addicted, but generosity. His houses, gardens, table and equipage, swallowed immense treasures: the sums he owed were only exceed by those he wasted'.

The Duke was Secretary of State for 30 years, and Lord of the Treasury for nearly 10 years. He was Prime Minister three times between 1754 and 1762. As the title of Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne could only pass through the male line from father to son, he was also created Duke of Newcastle under Lyme in 1756 which allowed the title to be passed down to other relatives.

Thomas Pelham Holles died childless in 1768. The Cambridge Journal stated: 'There died the Prince of English Whigs and the most staunch enemy of the Tories'. He left an estate of £9,000. However, his funeral was lavish and reported in the press: 'The funeral procession of the Duke of Newcastle left Lincoln Inn Fields to travel to Sussex on November 27. Two porters mounted on milk-white horses led the van; next came eight domestics in mourning cloaks, riding grey horses; then a gentleman on horseback, uncovered, bearing the gilt ducal coronet laid on a crimson cushion, who had two men leading his horse, then the corpse in a hearse drawn by six horse. Next came four mourning coaches, each drawn by four horses, which carried the duke's principal gentleman. A gentleman, followed by six livery servants in mourning cloaks, all on horseback, closed the procession. The cost was £622 4 shillings 3 ¼ pence'.

Thomas Pelham Holles' brother Henry Pelham had helped the Duke financially several times although Henry and his sister Lucy had only inherited £5,000 each from their father. When Lucy wished to marry Henry Clinton, the 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Lincoln, there was not enough for her marriage settlement. Thomas promised £7,000 towards the agreed sum of £12,000 but could never afford to pay it. Instead he left his estate to Lucy's son, Henry Fiennes Clinton, who took the name of Pelham and became the Duke of Newcastle under Lyme. Henry married Catherine Pelham, eldest daughter of his uncle, Henry Pelham.



Clumber House, built by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Newcastle under Lyme

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke created Clumber as the family seat. Like his uncle, the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke, he was an extravagant man and drained his resources by selling off some of his estates in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Surrey. Although there had originally been a manor house at Clumber, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke built a large country house there between 1768 and 1778, designed by Stephen Wright. Edwin Eddison described Clumber park about 1750: 'it seems to have been one of the wildest portions of Sherwood Forest, and nothing more than a black heath full of rabbits, having a narrow river running through it with a small boagv close or two'.



Extract from Chapman's map of 1776

Robert White also described Clumber: 'Clumber Park contains about 4,000 acres, 87 of which, being covered by the lake. This was begun in 1774 and finished in 1789 at a total cost of £6,612 8s 9d. The house which was built about 1770 occupies a central position on the north side of the lake, has been said to 'embrace more magnificence and comfort than any other nobleman's seat in England.' It is certainly not so large as many others, but the taste displayed in and about this mansion is of a very high order'.

The new house was described by Sir Harbottle Grimstone in his 'Northern Tour' written in 1768: 'The house is situated rather low in a very extensive park, near a noble piece of water over which is a very handsome bridge on cycloidal arches. The house is not yet finished, but by the present appearance seems as if it would be magnificent. There are 19 windows, the middle one a bow, with two wings projecting forwards.'

Arthur Young, in 'The Farmer's Tour Through the East of England' wrote in 1771: 'The house is almost new built, of a stone from the Duke of Norfolk's quarry, the whiteness of which is uncommonly beautiful. The building has three handsome fronts, one of them to the river. The Ionic colonnade against the centre is pleasing, the pillars remarkably light'.

The Duke also landscaped the parks at Clumber and Haughton, building roads and bridges as the accounts for 1776-7 show:

<u>Bridges across the new river in and about Haughton Park, 1776-7</u>				
		£	s	d
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Paid George Marr for bricks from Bothamsall for the Wilderness and Cottage Close bridges	35	02	09
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Paid William Ashton for carriage of deals and timber for the bridges	2	10	00
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Paid Messrs Handly and Sketchley for timber and deals for the different bridges	20	00	02 ½
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Paid Matthew Marr for bricks from Gamston Common for the coach road bridge upon Drayton Common and for arches over the drains in Haughton Park	25	09	06
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Paid to Thomas Holton for Carpenters work at the different bridges	8	19	02
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Paid to Robert Hawksley for painting the Wilderness and Cottage Close bridges	00	16	08
Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	Paid George Merrills for iron work for the bridges	04	17	11
Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Paid John Nock for bricklayer's work for the bridges	35	06	04
Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Paid William Battersby for stone for the the bridges.	14	13	04
	Paid him for stone mason work	07	06	02
	Paid him for stone coping for the coach Bridges across the new river in and about Haughton Parkroad bridge	05	06	00
	Paid William and John Allison for the carriage of stone for the bridges	21	16	00
Nov 10 <sup>th</sup>	Paid Gamston tenants for loading bricks to the coach road bridge	04	02	06
Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	Paid William Wood for lime and stone	15	00	00
Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	Paid Benjamin Johnson for timber and deals	00	18	06 ½
	Paid to Elksley tenants for loading bricks and stone	02	16	00
Jan 25 <sup>th</sup>	Paid to Mr Smithson what he had paid for loading sand to the coach road bridges	00	05	00
Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	Paid to Will Padley for stopping the water and working at the different bridges upon the new river in 1776.	52	07	06
	Paid to him for coursing Cottage Close Bridge	07	04	06
		£ 264	17	11





Clumber Bridges



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke died in 1794. His son the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke, Thomas Pelham Clinton was an army officer in the American wars. He married Anna Maria Stanhope, youngest daughter of the Earl of Harrington against his father's wishes and was disinherited. He was Duke for only one year before his death in 1795 when his son, Henry Pelham Clinton, became the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle under Lyme at the age of ten. The 4<sup>th</sup> Duke remained at school at Eton until 1802. He then went with his mother and stepfather, Sir Charles Crauford, to the South of France. England was at war with France and he became separated from his parents and interned as a prisoner of war until 1806. This produced a lifelong dislike of foreigners and Catholics.

In 1807 he married wealthy heiress Georgiana, daughter of Edward Miller Munday, at Lambeth Palace.



Left: The 4<sup>th</sup>  
Duke of  
Newcastle

Right:  
His wife  
Georgiana



Over the next fifteen years Georgiana bore the Duke fourteen children of which ten survived childhood. The Duchess died in 1822 aged thirty-three after giving birth to twins. The Duke built the Milton Mausoleum as her burial place.

Milton Mausoleum



The monument in Milton Mausoleum to the 4<sup>th</sup> Duchess of Newcastle

The 4<sup>th</sup> Duke had a large income from timber and rents even after many of the Newcastle properties had been sold off to pay the debts of his predecessors. By 1823 he had already added £100,000 worth of land to the estate, and a house in Portman Square, London. However, Clumber was his principal home.

The Duke spent many years improving the grounds by building terraces and roads, and planting the Lime Tree Avenue in 1838

Lime Tree Avenue  
In 1905



In 1814 'The Lincoln', a one-third scale frigate, was built for Clumber Lake to join the smaller craft owned by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke. When The Lincoln became rotten 25 years later, a replacement ship was constructed by Mr Spencer, who had helped his father to build the original.



The 40-ton ship  
'The Lincoln'



John Holland wrote in 1826: 'Besides the appropriate decorations of its banks, and the great number of swans which may be seen on its bosom, the lake exhibits a handsome frigate called the Lincoln in honour of the heir-apparent; the Clumber Yacht and other craft. The larger vessel has been most elegantly and expensively fitted up, and presents, when fully rigged, a pleasing adjunct to the imposing effect of Clumber park scenery.'

The 4<sup>th</sup> Duke sat in the House of Lords as a Tory, but was too extreme in his views for the government to give him cabinet responsibility. He had control of six parliamentary constituencies, and when in 1830 his Newark tenants refused to vote for his chosen candidate, he had them evicted from their homes. When asked to explain this behaviour in parliament, he replied 'Is it not lawful for me to do what I please with mine own?'

Members of Parliament from the Duke's constituencies were expected to follow the Duke's political preferences and so the Duke was strongly against the Reform bills of 1830 and 1831 which would deprive him of this power. When the 1831 bill was voted out by the House of Lords there were riots. In Nottingham the Castle, which was owned by the Duke, was set on fire causing damage of £21,000. The Duke rushed from London to Clumber to defend his estate. He noted: 'In the house there were 200 men, and out of it a great many more, including a Troop of Yeomanry of 70 men and horses'. Their weapons included '10 3-pounders and 14 little ship guns and fire arms, muskets and pistols and sabres'. A barrack was made for the men in offices adjoining the house. In his diary the Duke wrote: 'At night I went to see that all my arrangements were carried properly into execution and found them well done – on my return home, from not knowing the countersign, I was taken prisoner by one of my own sentries'.

The Stamford News in October 1831 reported: 'The Duke of Newcastle has, we are informed, 400 yeomanry stationed at Clumber Castle. These, in a very little time, consumed 15 sheep, besides other eatables in proportion, and emptied his Grace's cellar of strong beer. How delightfully easy must the ducal coronet sit upon his brow! He will not find it quite so easy to 'do as he liked with his own' as he imagined'. He was also labelled in the press 'The most hated man in England' and 'Enemy of the People'. In 1839 he was dismissed as Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire for rudeness to the Lord Chancellor and was replaced by Lord Scarborough from Rufford.



The 4<sup>th</sup> Duke in coronation robes

Following a serious fire at the Houses of Parliament, in 1839 Newcastle successfully tendered for the interior to be built in stone from his Steetley quarry at 1½ pence per cubic foot. North Anston stone was used for the exterior. The stone was carried via the Chesterfield Canal and the Trent.

Although he was very wealthy the Duke was financially reckless, continually adding to his estate by buying property which did not bring in good returns. In 1835 he purchased Hafod and other property in Wales totalling nearly £100,000. In 1838 he wrote that he had spent 'altogether in Nottinghamshire £450,000 in 2 years which is pretty well for one who has no capital to command'. This included £370,000 for Worksop Manor, situated three miles from Clumber. Newcastle had always been an enemy of the Duke of Norfolk, the owner of Worksop Manor, because he was a Catholic. In 1825 Newcastle had presented a petition to parliament against Catholic emancipation, to prevent Norfolk being able to sit in the House of Lords. The high price for the property was due to Norfolk's reluctance to sell to Newcastle who was, however, determined to buy the property at any cost. Worksop Manor contained a great palace, built only seventy years previously. However, Newcastle had no intention of living in his enemy's house and immediately began stripping out and selling the fittings. In 1843 he recorded its demolition in his diary:



Worksop Manor

'19<sup>th</sup> September 1843. I am taking down the magnificent house at Worksop Manor and in order to do this in the shortest and best manner with least expense it was proposed to blow up one of the back walls... The weight of the wall to be thrown was computed at 400 ton weight, and the quantity of powder used was 42 lbs. All being ready the signal was given and 3 men lighted the trains which ignited the fuses... The first explosion took place, then the others in succession which had an extremely fine effect and must have resembled the bombardment of the town – the whole of the bottom of the wall was burst through and split to pieces but yet the wall stood. The experiment failed – it was really extraordinary how the superstructure of the wall could remain upright with scarcely anything except a few loose stones to rest upon. We determined to try more explosions in the soundest parts – 7 push holes were drilled, charged etc, all but one were successfully exploded, but still the wall stood and we were obliged to give it up.

20<sup>th</sup> September. The attempt to explode the building which failed yesterday was this morning attended with complete success – it was blown up finely and all came down with a grand crash and without incident.'

The Park at Worksop Manor was stripped of its trees, the timber being sold off. The Duke sold 60,000 larch trees to the railway companies at 1 shilling 8 pence a foot and a similar quantity of oak at 2 shillings 6 pence to 3 shillings 6 pence a foot. Much of the land was sold off for building plots including 254 acres to Mr Machin for £28,000; 300 acres adjoining Osberton to Mr Foljambe for £45,000; and an additional 400 acres allotted to accommodation land to be let at £3 or £4 per acre. However, Newcastle found this did very little to pay off his huge debts and he made a huge loss on the venture. In 1843 he sold his Welsh estates for less than he had spent on them, but continued to buy other property. He died on 12 January 1851 and his son Henry inherited both the title and his father's debts.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Duke was born in 1811 and in December 1832 he married Susan, daughter of the 10<sup>th</sup> Duke of Hamilton. In celebration, there was a wedding feast on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1833 for the 3,000 villagers. When dinner was over there were fireworks and dancing. It was reported in the press:

'The band continued playing and the cannons firing till the hour of dinner, when as many as could be conveniently accommodated were regaled in the true spirit of baronial hospitality. Some idea of the immense provision may be formed when we state that it included 9 oxen, 600 head of game, a cartload of hams, 25 sheep, 50 stone of bacon, a similar supply of veal, 500 loaves of bread, 200 plum puddings, a suitable quantity of pies, tarts, and 167 gallons of punch, and 13 hogsheads of strong ale. A flourish of trumpets obtained silence, and grace being said by the chaplain, upwards of 1,500 persons immediately commenced operations upon the abundant store set before them.'

However, the marriage was unhappy from the start, with Lady Susan being unfaithful a number of times. Finally in 1849 she had a child by Lord Walpole in Italy, and Henry's divorce bill was passed in the House of Lords in 1850.



Above: Clumber House in 1854

Right: The 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle



The 5<sup>th</sup> Duke was a Member of Parliament from 1831. He was a close friend of Robert Peel and William Gladstone and became Lord of the Treasury in 1834, and Secretary of State to Ireland in 1846. His father disapproved of his support of Free Trade and Catholic emancipation, refusing to speak to him for several years and refusing to allow him to stand for his constituency at Newark. Henry became head of the War and Colonial Office at the start of the Crimean War when he was in charge of organising the forces and supplies, with disastrous results and was forced to resign. He became ill and died in 1864. He was also unlucky in his eldest son who inherited the estate.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Duke, Henry Pelham Alexander Pelham Clinton, was born in 1834. He was a compulsive gambler, and an article in a satirical magazine of 1869 stated that he: 'did nothing particular in the House of Lords, but a good deal peculiar on the Turf, 1864-69. Figured in the Bankruptcy Court June 1869 in connection with various enormous claims upon his estate. Owed £90,000 to a Mr Padwick, and was further charged by a Mr Robert Morris ... of having borrowed, on a joint and promissory note with another peer, £10,000, at the soundly financial and ducal rate of thirty percent per annum'.

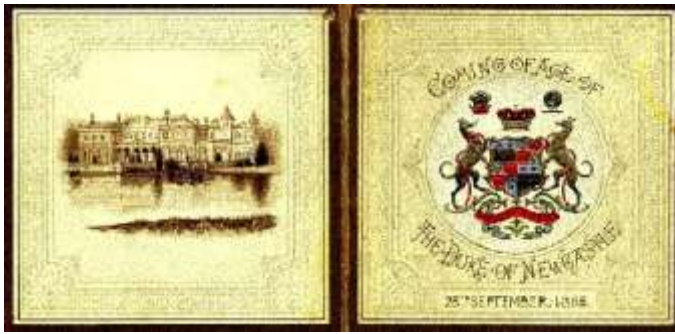
The 5<sup>th</sup> Duke had been aware of his son's gambling problems and had set up a trust, leaving his estates to his grandson so that the property could not be touched by the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke. One of the trustees was Gladstone. The 6<sup>th</sup> Duke married Henrietta Adele Hope, daughter of Henry Thomas Hope, owner of the Hope Diamond. Many of Henry's debts were paid by his wife's family. The couple had two sons and three daughters. The 6<sup>th</sup> Duke died at the age of 45 in 1879.

On 26 March 1879, shortly after the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke's death, Clumber House caught fire. The Illustrated London News on 5 April 1879 reported: 'Clumber House was partly destroyed by fire on Wednesday week, early in the morning. The fire brigade from Worksop was summoned, but the whole of the central portion of the mansion was in flames. Very soon that part of the building from the west front to the south front was on fire, including the entrance hall. The fire spread to the large dining-hall, and forced its way towards the library and into one of the reception rooms



Clumber House on fire from the Illustrated London News

'The lawn and terraces in front of the house were covered with books, furniture, pictures and many treasures, carpets and hangings strewn loosely over the furniture and books, and speedily these became covered in a coat of snow. The damage done is very great. The entire central portion is burnt, only the bare walls standing. Eighteen rooms and a noble staircase which ran from the entrance hall to the top of the building, and was surmounted by a dome, have been destroyed'. There was a second fire at Clumber in 1912, causing damage of £3,820 to the roof and upper floors.



A memento of the coming of age of the 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle

The 7<sup>th</sup> Duke, Henry Pelham Archibald Douglas Pelham-Clinton, was born in 1864, and inherited the title at the age of 15. He was educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford. After the fire of 1879, his trustees commissioned architect Charles Barry to rebuild the house in the Italianate style.



Left: The new Clumber House

Below: The Fountain

Below Left: The Terrace

Below Right: The steps to the lake

Robert White described Clumber: 'The terrace, which extends to the lake, is connected with the latter by two flights of steps. It is in the Italian style, and the vases and figures are arranged in a very effective manner. The very fine white marble fountain in the centre came from Italy. The lower or large basin is twelve feet six inches in diameter; above this is a smaller basin, four feet in diameter, supported by four dolphins; from the top of this basin a fountain throws up its crystal sprays, and has a very beautiful effect. The block of marble from which this basin was made weighed 50 tons when got from the quarry...'







The Salamanca

White continues: 'On the lake are two fine vessels, one named 'Salamanca' and the other, of forty tons burden, is called the 'Lincoln'. The kitchen gardens are situated to the north east at some distance from the mansion, and extend over six or seven acres of ground, with about 18 hot and other houses.'

'In the house the State Dining Room is a magnificent apartment. The rich gilding of the cornices, the white and gold Corinthian columns and capitals, contrasting with the light blue ground of the walls, and the satin curtains of the same hue, the chaste pure white marble chimney piece, and the steel grate, profusely engraved, are exceedingly elegant.'

'The Entrance Hall is supported by pillars, and contains many gems of art, foremost of which is the colossal statue of Napoleon, which is by Emanuelle Fronzoni.'



Above: The Drawing Room

Above Right: The Entrance Hall

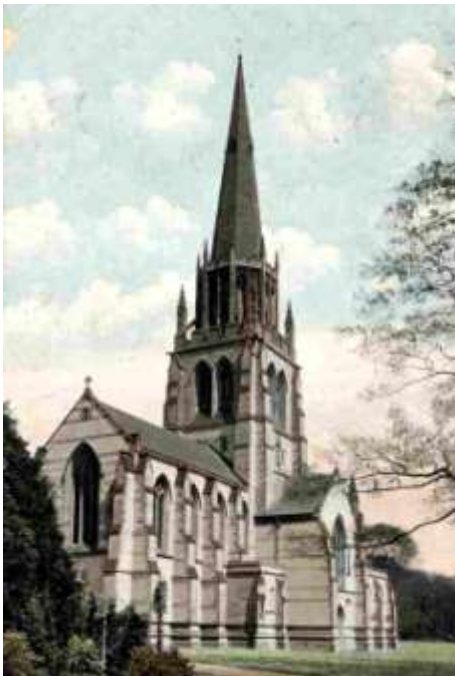
'The large Drawing Room is an elegant apartment, with beautifully enriched ceiling and fine gilded chandelier, surmounted by the ducal coronet. The walls are hung with rich drab satin damask, the furniture being gilded and upholstered in blue satin damask. This room contains a choice selection of articles of vertu worthy of great admiration, amongst which we may enumerate five very beautiful ormolu mounted black ebony cabinets, inlaid with brass and tortoiseshell and four most elegant pedestals, surmounted with crystal chandeliers. These most costly articles were obtained from the Doge's Palace, Venice. Two Indian marble tables, inlaid with precious stones, and an Egyptian statuette on a malachite table will equally command the attention of the connoisseur, as will also a beautiful French clock, two vases of Indian filigree work, vases of exquisite design, and jewelled with precious stones, and a choice collection of Sevres, Dresden, and other china.'

'The Library which is 45 feet long, 30 feet wide and 21 feet high, is a beautiful room fitted with rich Spanish mahogany, and contains a fine collection of English and foreign classical literature, including many rare editions by Caxton and other early printers, and some choice manuscripts. A beautiful gallery, with rich gilded railings, surrounds it. The marble chimney piece is of the same colour as the dark mahogany fittings; the panelling of the ceiling is painted white, lilac and fawn, richly gilt and admirably harmonised... A Corinthian arch, the fluted columns of which are of jasper, opens into a reading room 30 feet by 22 feet, which has an octagonal front, and this opens into the east part of the terrace, from which there is a charming view of the lake and pleasure ground'.



The Library

The 6<sup>th</sup> Duke had begun to build a chapel at Clumber in memory of his father, but it was never finished, and in 1886 the 7<sup>th</sup> Duke took the building down and re-used the stone in a new chapel designed by George Frederick Bodley. The 7<sup>th</sup> Duke was 'a devout High Churchman' and supported the Anglo-Catholic wing in the Church of England. His mother became a Roman Catholic and devoted the last twenty years of her life to charitable work in the East End of London.



The Chapel

The Chapel of St Mary the Virgin was designed in the Gothic Revival style with a 180 foot spire. The fabric is white Steetley stone with architectural details in red sandstone. Above the South door are the statues of the Recording Angel and the Guardian Angel with St Michael above. The altar is of white alabaster with a relief of the Nativity in the centre. The cost of the chapel was over £40,000.



A statue of the Virgin and Child in the Chapel



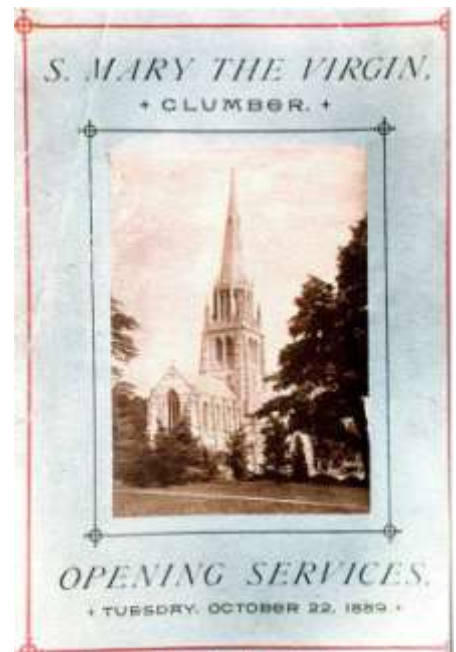
Above left: The Nave. Above right: The Choir.  
Below: The Altar



The chapel was consecrated on 23 October 1889, and became renowned for its splendour and music. The Duke also founded the choir school in Hardwick Village to provide choristers for the new church.



The Choir School with the boys and the Headmaster, Mr Treadaway, about 1910



The Commemorative Programme

The 7<sup>th</sup> Duke married Kathleen Candy in 1889. His health was always poor but he lived for 64 years and restored the estate into a working proposition.

In 1904 the estate employed 30 servants in the house and another 170 outdoors, including 29 gardeners, 49 in the forestry department, 36 on the farms and 6 gamekeepers. The total staff wages were £9,000 a year.



Left: The 7th Duke and Duchess at the time of their marriage



The Duchess presenting the prizes at Clumber Show in 1906



Laying the foundation stone of St Cuthbert's College, Worksop, in 1890



The 7<sup>th</sup> Duke and Duchess at their silver wedding anniversary in 1914 with their nephew Henry Pelham Archibald Douglas, later the 9<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle under Lyme, and his sisters, Doria and Mary

The Duke was a major benefactor of St Cuthbert's College in Worksop, giving 90 acres of land to the school 'for the education of the lower and middle classes enabling young boys to go to university and enter holy orders.'

The park was open to the public on special occasions such as Clumber Show which began in 1900 and continued until 1914. There were judged classes for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, butter and eggs.

Ornamental kennels were built in 1896 in which the Duchess bred dogs. At one time the kennels housed 20 Clumber Spaniels, 30 Borzois, 25 fox terriers and an American wolf.

High taxation after the First World War meant that the 7th Duke transferred much of his property, including Clumber, to the London and Fort George Land Company. When he died in 1928 the title passed to his brother, Francis Pelham Clinton Hope. The 7<sup>th</sup> Duke was the last member of the family to make his home in Clumber House. To avoid taxation, Clumber House was now designated a 'store house' and the building gradually deteriorated.



The 8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle



The Earl of Lincoln at the coronation of George VI, to the left, in Auxiliary Air Force uniform.

In 1894 the 8<sup>th</sup> Duke had married Mary Augusta Yohe, an American actress and singer. He was a gambler like his father, and also lost money from sponsoring theatrical productions and was declared bankrupt a number of times. In 1901 his mother sold the Hope diamond, the famous 45 ½ carat sapphire blue jewel, to pay off his debts. The diamond is now owned by the Smithsonian Museum in Washington.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Duke divorced Mary in 1902 and married Olive Muriel Owen in 1904. This marriage produced three children before Olive died in 1912: Henry Pelham Archibald Douglas, Doria and Mary. Henry, the Earl of Lincoln, later the 9<sup>th</sup> Duke, represented his father by presenting the coronation glove at the coronation of George VI in 1937. The

The Earl of Lincoln married American Jean Banks Gimbernath in 1931 and the couple lived in various houses on the estate, but Clumber House remained empty for tax reasons. He joined the Auxiliary Air Force in 1936. In the Second World War he became a Wing Commander, and was later Sector Controller at Henley and Biggin Hill.

In 1938 the remaining contents and fixtures of Clumber House were sold and it was demolished. The 8<sup>th</sup> Duke died in 1941. After the war the 9<sup>th</sup> Duke moved to Wiltshire.



The demolition of Clumber House

During the Second World War, Clumber Park was used by the army as an ammunition store with 60,000 tons kept in hundreds of stacks, each of about 400 cubic feet and covered by corrugated iron. They were spaced around the park including Lime Tree Avenue. The ammunition included metre-long naval shells. Rail tracks were laid and ammunition trucks were manoeuvred by hand by the Army Pioneer Corps and prisoners of war.

In 1941 Clumber was used for the secret trials of a trench-digging tank code-named Naval Land Equipment or 'Nellie'. The machine was 77 feet long, weighed 130 tons, and was capable of moving 100 tons of earth per minute.

In November 1941 Winston Churchill, travelling under the alias of 'Colonel Warden', visited Clumber to inspect the machine. The project was later abandoned.



Winston Churchill at Clumber in November 1941 inspecting 'Nellie'. MH956 Imperial War Museum copyright.



The 9th Duke of Newcastle died on 4th November 1988 and was succeeded by his cousin the 10<sup>th</sup> Duke, Edward Pelham Clinton, who was a retired curator of lepidoptery at the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh. He was the 10<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle for only a few weeks as he died on 25th December 1988 when the title became extinct.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle

The public had been admitted to the park for a number years before the war on open days and in 1946 it was purchased by the National Trust for £75,000, of which £45,000 was raised by public subscription. The National Trust opened 300 acres to the public in 1948 and the rest was added when the Army finally vacated the park in 1955.

Since that time there have been many improvements to the park and its facilities and today 700,000 visitors each year enjoy walks through the parkland and attend special events and concerts. There are 20 miles of marked cycle routes within the park and a four-acre walled kitchen garden, with a 450 feet long glasshouse.



Clumber Park in Left: 1926. Right: 1975

Clumber Park is open to the public every day. There is a visitor centre and restaurant and a number of organised events. Contact Clumber Park Estates Office, Worksop, Notts, S80 3AZ. 01909 544917. [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk).

With thanks to John Fletcher at the staff at Clumber Park for their help in compiling this material.

Source material

*Ornament of Sherwood Forest* by John Fletcher, published by Country Books, 2005. ISBN 1 898941 95 5.

*Where Truth Abides* by John Fletcher, published by Country Books, 2001

*Nottinghamshire in the Civil War* by Alfred C. Wood, published by SR publishers Ltd, 1971, first published 1937

*Newcastle, a duke without money, Thomas Pelham Holles 1693 – 1768* by Ray A. Kelch, published by Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1974

*Clumber* by David J. Bradbury, published by Wheel Publications, 144 Leeming Lane South, Mansfield, Notts, 1988. ISBN 0 9510634 5 6

*Dukeries Records* by Robert White, published 1906

*Worksop, the Dukeries and Sherwood Forest* by Robert White, published 1875

*The History of Worksop* by Edwin Eddison, published in 1854 by Longman and Co

*History, Antiquities and Description of Worksop* by John Holland published 1826

*Clumber Chapel* published by the National Trust, 1982

*Nottinghamshire Families* by Keith Train, published by Nottinghamshire Local History Council, 1969.