

# UPPINGHAM IN 1851

## *A NIGHT IN THE LIFE OF A THRIVING TOWN*

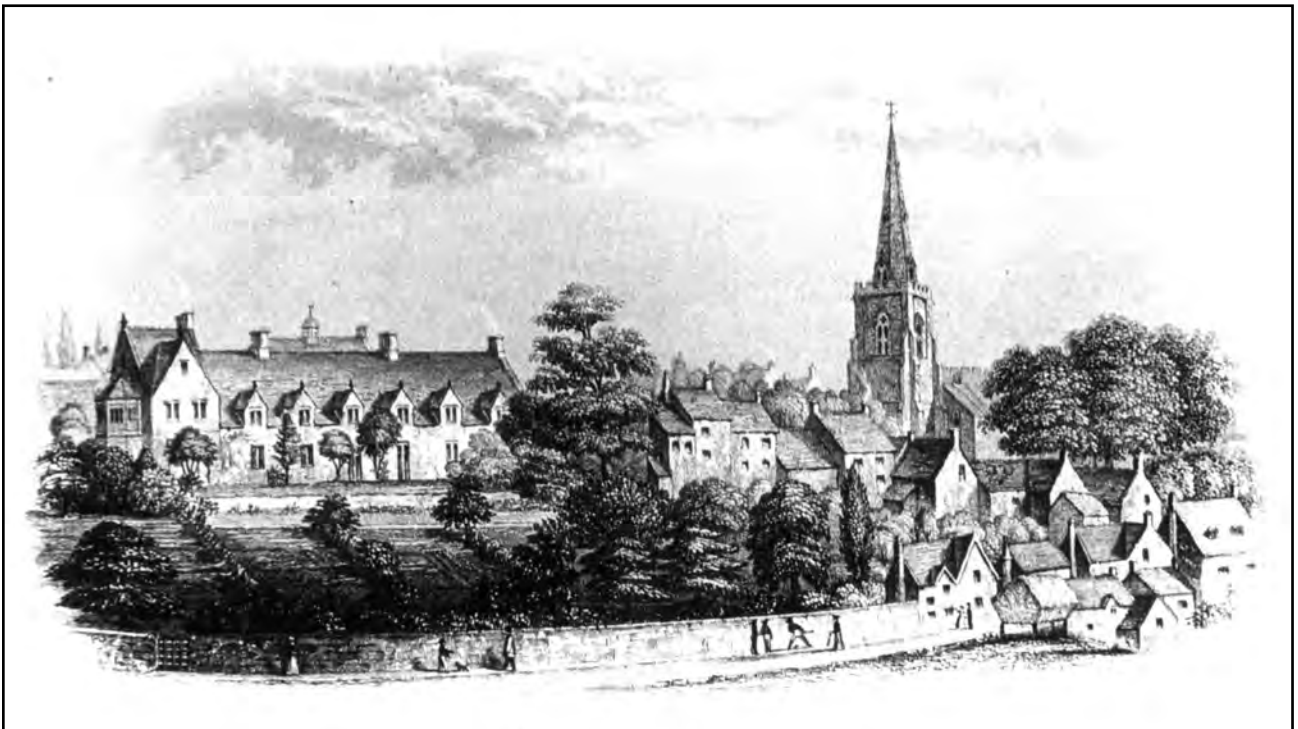
UPPINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY  
STUDY GROUP  
MARCH 2001



*Jim Easton was a fishmonger  
lodging in North Street in 1851*

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*View of Uppingham from south c1851,  
showing school as it was under Henry Holden and the south face of the houses in Leamington Terrace.  
(Uppingham School Archives)*

# CONTENTS

	Page
<b>I THE POPULATION</b>	3
<b>II RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS</b>	9
<b>III MAKING A LIVING</b>	15
<b>IV WEALTH, POWER AND POVERTY</b>	25
<b>V HOUSING THE PEOPLE</b>	35
<b>VI UPPINGHAM AND ITS AREA</b>	41
<b>VII LIVING IN UPPINGHAM IN 1851</b>	45

## Appendices

1. The Thorpe family in Uppingham in 1851
2. List of birthplaces of Uppingham residents in 1851
3. List of occupations
4. List of pupils at Uppingham Grammar School in 1851

## Index



*Jim Crowden of Horn Lane, farmer of 180 acres;  
he remained unmarried.*

## THE SOURCES

A word or two about our sources for this study.

**The census:** We obtained a print out of the microfilm of the census enumerators' books (two of them for Uppingham) from the joint Record Office in Leicester. The cost of this almost killed the group activity at the start. We made a transcript of these census books and passed copies to the local libraries, museum, and Uppingham schools in printed and/or in diskette form for their own use. We then used this as the basis of our studies.

**The 1839 map:** We are fortunate in having a town map of the period (see pages 30-31). The 1839 map of Uppingham surveyed by John Wood has been known for a long time in printed form. A hand-drawn version recently appeared but it contains some inaccuracies. The group was able to obtain photocopies of this map from one of the persons in the town holding a printed copy (to whom we are very grateful). The map is very detailed, containing names but illegible in places. It may have been drawn up for rating purposes, and thus the names on it are those of the ratepayers, not always the owners or occupiers.

**Court Rolls:** The Uppingham Local History Group has been working on the court rolls of the Manor of Preston with Uppingham and those of the Rectory Manor for many years. Copies of relevant notes from these have been made available to the 1851 Group by Peter Lane. Peter has also provided us with many other references from his vast knowledge of the records of the town. We cannot express too strongly our gratitude to him for his generous allocation of time and resources to our project.

**Churchyard:** The 1851 Group has surveyed all the relevant churchyard memorials relating to the nineteenth century, and much information has come from this source. Copies of this survey (with all our other records) are available from the Group and will be deposited in the town.

**Rate books (RB):** Peter Lane drew the attention of the Group to a rate book of 1837. We obtained a photocopy of this through the support of Hilary Crowden. Hilary was also able to make available to us a photocopy of a rate book of 1821.

**Other sources:** We have used the **Directories** for Rutland (Pigot's Directories of 1829 and 1830-31; White's Directories of 1846 and 1855; Slater's Directory of 1850 and others). A photocopy of the 1855 Directory was provided by the Rutland County Museum to whom we are grateful. We have used some material from the *Stamford Mercury* but that has not been easy to use systematically because it is not available locally. We have been able to obtain a number of old **photographs** from various sources in the town; Tony Traylen has been of great help here. In particular, a portrait gallery of older persons, most of whom are listed in the 1851 census, has been made available to us: this is a real treasure chest. We have collected much information from local residents orally but have not made a systematic effort to collect **oral history** since we are dealing with a period of 150 years ago. **Deeds** have been inspected thanks to Charles Mason, Charles Wells and Mr Marshall. **Miscellaneous material** has come from other helpers such as Auriol Thomson of Glaston, Warwick Metcalfe, Margaret Stacy (on the Methodist Chapel), and Audrey Buxton of Greetham. We need also to thank the following: Dennis Mills of Branston near Lincoln, Dr Keith Snell of Leicester University, the Archivist of the Gypsy Nation in Leicester, V Pearson of the Rutland Millennium History project (funded by the National Lottery Fund), and Roy Knight of the Rutland County Library Service (for permission to hold an exhibition in Uppingham Library).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Financial assistance came to the work of the group from the Rutland Millennium History project and the Uppingham Town Council, but most of the expenses have been met by members of the group.

Illustrations have been obtained from and are published by permission of Uppingham School Archives, Dr Ian Ryder, Dorothy Elmes, Tony Traylen, Marc Oxley, R Viney, the Congregational Church, Robert Cliff, John Pearson (the Vaults). Most of the photographs have been taken by members of the study group.

The group gratefully acknowledges the financial support of **Arnold Wills & Co. Ltd** of Uppingham towards the cost of this publication.



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# INTRODUCTION

On the night of Sunday 30 March 1851, a population census was taken throughout England, including Uppingham. The records of this census provide the first full account of the people of Uppingham in history. This small book has been prepared by a study group in the town to commemorate this event, and will be published exactly 150 years later, on 30 March 2001. In it, we try to see in what ways Uppingham in 1851 may have been different from what it is today.

The census records themselves have formed the focus of our study, but we have also used many other sources. We do not claim we have undertaken a full study of Uppingham in 1851: there is so much more to find out. Some people in the town know more about the history of Uppingham than we shall ever know. In many of the subjects we have discussed here, we are keenly aware that we have only started to uncover the past. There are other records (especially those located in the Records Office at Leicester) which need to be examined. But what we have here is a start towards a fuller history of Uppingham, which we hope others may join us to explore.

We have had much fun in writing this book. It has occupied many hours of our time (and the time of other people, for which we are very grateful). We hope that the many friends of Uppingham town will gain as much pleasure from it as we have. And that there will be more to come.

*Carolyn Cartwright*

*Caroline Crombie*

*Hilary Crowden*

*Julia Culshaw*

*Patricia Damen*

*Henry Dawe*

*Betty Howard*

*Helen Hutton*

*Phil Hutton*

*Babs Inverarity*

*Amanda Mudimer*

*Marc Oxley*

*Brian Robertson*

*Alan Rogers*

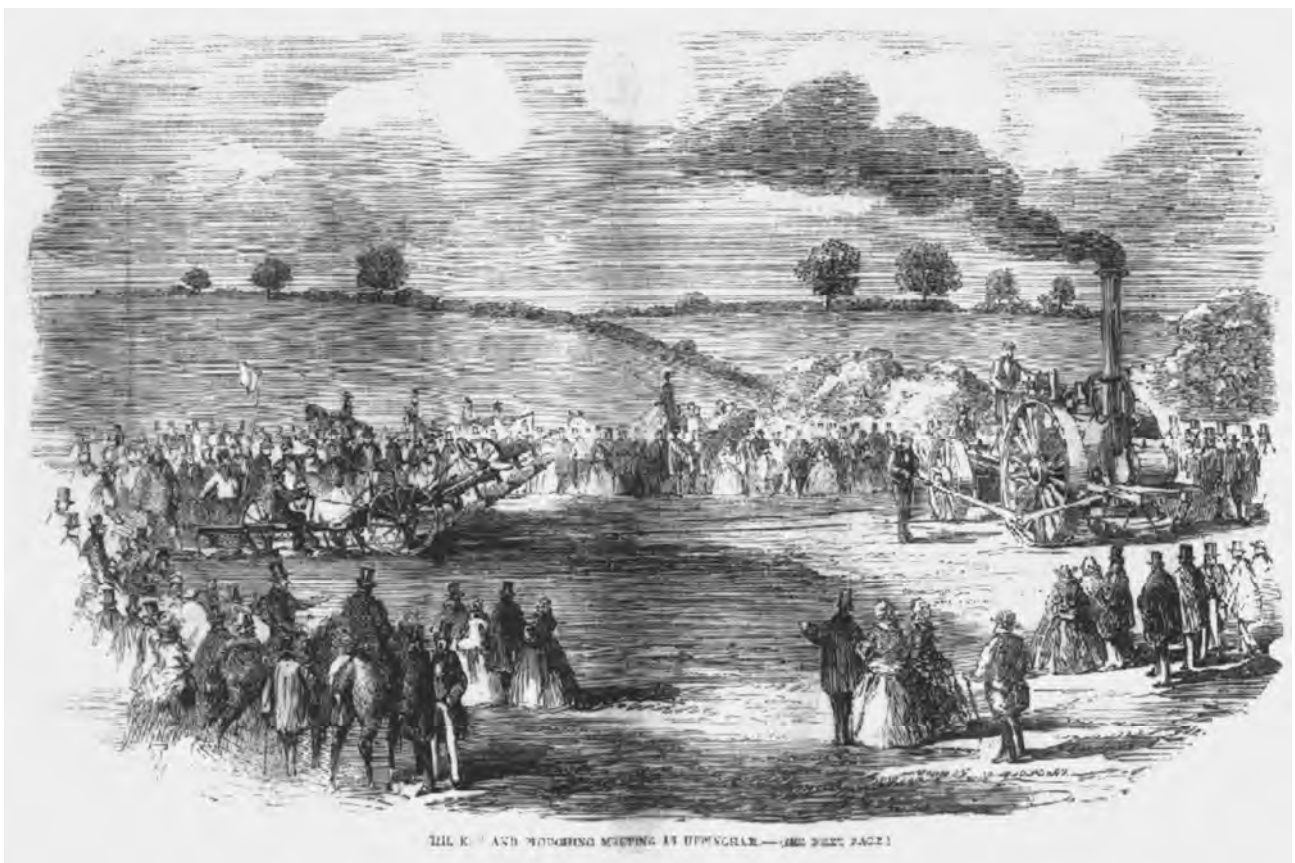
*Kate Siviter*

*Roy Stephenson*

*Charles Wells*

*Sue Westlake*

January 2001



*Ploughing match in Uppingham in 1857 (Illustrated London News)*

## LIST OF STREET NAMES USED IN THE CENSUS

We have used the place names as they are given in the census. They are listed below in the sequence they occur in the census books, with their modern equivalents:

### Book 1:

High Street (south side)	
Leamington Terrace	
Innocents Yard	now gone under Grammar School rebuilding
Union Workhouse	now Constables House, Uppingham School
Leicester Road	
Hopkins Court	behind Boots the Chemists
Horn Lane	Queen Street, sometimes Royal Oak Street
Grammar School	
School Lane	
Market Place	includes Swan Yard
Beast Market	includes South View and part of Station Road
South Backside	Spring Back Way
Stockerston Road	
Hog Hill	includes part of Station Road and Norton Street
Meeting Lane	Adderley Street; includes Mount Pleasant and all properties at end of Adderley Street, Pudding Bag End, Constitution Hill
Kettering Road	London Road

### Book 2:

North Street	
North Street Row	called Ragmans Row; now gone but on site of 30 North Street West
Morris' Buildings	block in triangle between Leicester Road and Stockerston Road
High Street (north side)	
Reeves Yard	Crown Inn Yard
Toll Gate House	on corner of Gas Hill
Mill House	beyond end of town
Todds Piece or Lanes Terrace	Tods Terrace
Bullocks Yard	almost certainly Hopes Yard
Inmans Yard	at back of Unicorn
Gambles Yard	off High Street West on north side; also known as Bennetts Entry and Sheilds Yard
Orange Lane or Workhouse	
or Chapel Lane	Orange Street
Brick Yard	on Seaton Road

## ABBREVIATIONS TO FOOTNOTES

1853	The School Before 1853, <i>Uppingham School Magazine</i> vol. 20 1888 pp 1-8
1911	Vanishing Uppingham, <i>Uppingham School Magazine</i> vol. 49 1911 pp 34-39
Aldred	Notes on the History of Uppingham compiled by Canon C C Aldred, copied by Uppingham Local History Group 1999
Bur Reg	Burial registers of Uppingham Parish Church in Records Office in Leicester
Char Comm	Report of Parliamentary Charity Commission 1839
CR	Notes drawn from Court Rolls of Manor of Preston with Uppingham and Rectory Manor, from Uppingham Local History Group
Hodgk	Mr Hodgkinson 1855-1880, <i>Uppingham School Magazine</i> vol 18 1880 pp 228-231
LRO	Joint Records Office in Leicester (official title Records Office of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland)
MI	Monumental Inscriptions from Uppingham Churchyard Survey
Parkinson	Richard Parkinson's <i>General View of Agriculture in Rutland 1808</i> , reprinted by David and Charles, Newton Abbot
Rawnsley	<i>Early Days at Uppingham under Edward Thring</i> , by an Old Boy (W F Rawnsley) 1904
RB1	1821 Rate Book (photocopy in hands of Study Group)
RB2	1837 Rate Book of Uppingham (photocopy in hands of Study Group)
Slater 1850	Slater's Directory of Rutland 1850
SM	<i>Stamford Mercury</i>
UppRut	<i>Uppingham in Rutland</i> edited by Tony Traylen 1982

# CHAPTER I: THE POPULATION OF UPPINGHAM

## THE CENSUS

On the night of Sunday 30 March 1851, a wet and windy night, if contemporaries are to be believed, a population census was taken in Uppingham and, indeed, in the whole country. During the previous few days, forms had been distributed to every household by persons chosen to be enumerators for the town. These were to be completed on the Sunday, listing all the persons sleeping in the house on that night. The forms were then collected on the Monday, checked and finally copied into books by the enumerators. For those unable to fill in the forms, the enumerators completed them on the doorsteps. They corrected errors such as the man from a nearby village, who wrote that one of his children was born 'in the parlour' and the other 'upstairs'<sup>1</sup>, or the man who handed back a blank form on the grounds that "nobody had slept in the house - my wife was confined of twins for the third time, about 10 o'clock, and nobody has ever slept since"<sup>2</sup>.

These enumerators' books present us with a snapshot of what Uppingham was like 150 years ago. There were two census areas for Uppingham, and two books. The division was not between East and West as today but along a line drawn through High Street. The south side of High Street and the parts of the town which lay to the south were distinguished from the north side of High Street and beyond (see map on page 30-31).



*Wheatsheaf Inn, North Street, where Richard Freeman was lying dead on census night.*

## What the census does not tell us

**Two weddings and a funeral:** The first thing we must notice is that the picture they paint is a static one. It does not show us the way in which Uppingham was a living town. To give three examples,

- in 22 North Street West (the inn called the Wheatsheaf), the census records Ann Freeman, widow aged 69, as the 'Keeper of Beer House'. The census does not tell us that Richard her husband had died that same day or that he was buried on 3 April at the age of 72<sup>3</sup>, so that his body was probably still lying in the house waiting for burial. The census was the first time that Ann had been called upon to describe herself as 'widow' and 'head of household' (see back of cover).
- in a house on the Stockerston Road, William Forster cabinet maker and his wife Ann were celebrating the fact that they were married that very day, Sunday 30 March<sup>4</sup>. If the census had been taken the previous night, Ann would have been recorded at her father's home, Jeremiah Sones bootmaker on High Street West.
- and in what is now 8 High Street West, the census records that the 'Head of Household is absent', but his two sisters were holding the fort. In fact, John Edwards surgeon was away on honeymoon, having married Mary Elizabeth Tomlinson<sup>5</sup> of Norton Grange only on the previous Thursday<sup>5</sup>.

These are three human stories – but they are enough to remind us that, when reading the census books, we are dealing with a government document which gives us dry facts.

**The lost family members:** Nor can we take the evidence we are given as being complete. For example, the census is often taken to paint a picture of the size of families which Victorians had. But the census does not list the full family. Some children may have grown up and left home; others were not yet born. To give one example, Thomas Bryan grocer in the Market Place is shown with his wife as having six children ranging in age from 23 to 8 years at home on census night; but in a later deed, the youngest son Edward reported that there were nine children in all, all of whom had been born before 1851 (see affidavit on next page).

4 My said Father had nine children and no more who were as I have always understood and verily believe born in the following order namely Catherine now Catherine Oliver, myself Thomas Bryan, John James, Mary Ann now Mary Ann Armstrong Robert Peach, Elizabeth now Elizabeth Watts, William, Augustus and ~~an~~ Edward who is a Surgeon residing at Idle near Leeds and the said Edward being the youngest of such children and ~~an~~ having been born as I have frequently heard from my said parents and verily believe at Uppingham aforesaid — on the twenty second day of July one thousand eight hundred and forty two And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the Session of Parliament of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the fourth intituled An Act to repeal an Act of the present Session of Parliament ~~an~~

Part of affidavit of family of Thomas Bryan Market Place, showing nine children instead of six as in census.

**Personal characteristics:** Being an official document, the census cannot tell us about the people in any detail. The census does not describe the Rev J G Dimock aged 78 as "a dear old man, but ... very aged and toothless", nor tell us that one of his sons had died shortly before the census and his wife Sarah died two weeks after the census<sup>6</sup>. We know about Thomas Dean the seedsman and Mary his wife in Market Place from the census, but not that he and "his good-looking and friendly wife were a couple who dearly loved a gossip". William Mould plasterer and Mary his wife are recorded in Leamington Terrace; but the census does not tell us that "he looked as if he belonged by right to the Quaker settlers in New England", or that "his wife had her sister's Mrs Dean's good looks in even more abundant measure". And is Thomas Bradley nutseller on Beast Market the "well-known Tom Bradley, vagrant and rag and bone collector" of later memory?<sup>7</sup>

What we have in the census is a black and white silhouette of life in Uppingham frozen on one night, with births, marriages and deaths, with missing relatives, with family members lodging further down the street, temporarily or long-term. The busy life of a rural market town is encapsulated in one document. If we want to paint a more coloured picture of Uppingham 150 years ago, we need to start with the census and then branch out to other sources to fill in the details and to give an idea of the moving times in which these people lived.

## THE POPULATION OF UPPINGHAM

How big was Uppingham? The census books show a total of 2068 persons recorded on that night. There were another 18 persons at Beaumont Chase. But three names (boys in the Grammar School) were repeated, so the true number was 2065. Today, the 1991 census recorded about 3900 persons in Uppingham, and in 2001, it is likely this will be nearer to 5000 than 4000.

### The 'normally resident' population

These totals of course list all those who were resident on that night, not all those who were normally resident in the town. We can go some way towards restoring the normally resident population of Uppingham in 1851.

**Absent residents:** First, some people were absent on the census night. The census itself records five households with absent members, including William Gilson solicitor and Union clerk and perhaps his wife, Edward Jackson chemist and chief constable, John Edwards surgeon. There were two others, one of whom may be the Methodist minister Andrew Rennard who seems to have been living in Uppingham but does not appear in the census; he may have been out on circuit. All of these lived on High Street. Ten married persons are listed without their spouse, six wives and



four husbands. William Halford farmer was at home in his farmhouse on the corner of High Street West and Spring Back Way but his wife is not recorded. Mary Suter's husband was a coachman, so he may have been away on duty. How many of these absentee partners were away temporarily and how many represent marital desertions, we cannot know.

There are others where one or other partner was absent from home on that night, but we can find them elsewhere in the town. Charlotte Thorpe, monthly nurse staying in a house in School Lane where there was an infant girl of one month, was almost certainly the missing wife of William Thorpe of Todds Piece. Mrs Colston aged 60, nurse in William Dean's house in Meeting Lane (Adderley Street today) where there was a one-week-old baby, was probably the missing wife of John Colston aged 66, pauper, further along the same street. Emma Thorpe, married, aged 27, mason's wife, staying with her parents in Stockerston Road was probably the wife of Robert Thorpe, married, aged 31, stone mason, who was staying with *his* parents on Leicester Road. Elizabeth Tilley, married, aged 72, lodging with another Tilley family may be the missing wife of William Tilley, married, agricultural labourer, aged 65, who was lodging in another house in Stockerston Road. We could build whole stories on these facts but there is no evidence.

For we do need to be careful in this - the stories can be very complex. Mary Jakes, born in Uppingham and married but without her carpenter husband being present, who is just described as daughter of the head of household Ann Freeman widow, was in fact visiting to give support to her mother who (as we have seen) had been widowed that very day. We are not dealing here with a missing husband but with a visitor to Uppingham.

We have looked at the cases carefully and suggest that some 17 persons normally resident in Uppingham were absent on census night – eight females and nine males. We need to include these in our totals if we are to see the full range of services and occupations available in Uppingham at that time.

**Non-residents:** There were however also in Uppingham on the census night a large number of persons who were not part of the community of Uppingham. Most of these were recorded as visitors (unpaying guests) and lodgers (paying guests). Some were staying short-term, others long-term. Among these were a number of itinerants. In addition, there were the 53 pupils at the School, 84 persons in the Union workhouse, and an unknown number of visiting family members who were not listed as visitors or

lodgers – like Mary Jakes above. We cannot be sure of all of these.

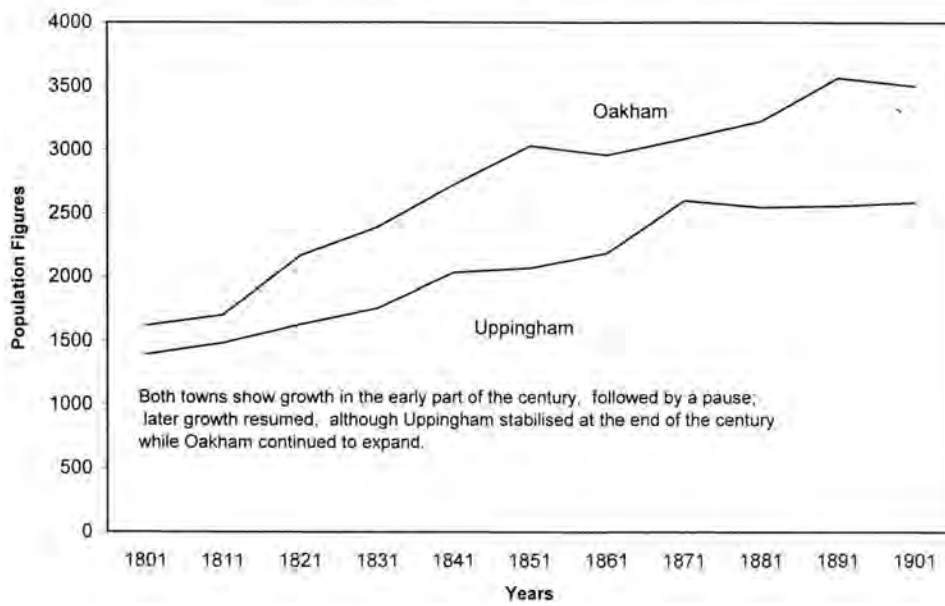
It is important to try to identify as many of these as we can and exclude them, if we are to give a reasonable account of Uppingham in 1851. The visitors and itinerants are heavily male and young, so this would distort the overall picture of the town's population. If we exclude the pupils, the itinerants, the non-Uppingham inmates of the workhouse and as many short-term visitors and lodgers as we can detect - in all, a total of 125 males and 75 females, we have on the night of the census 1865 residents. With the 17 absentees, this gives us a total of about 1882. A town of between 1800 and 1900 compares with a town of about 4000-4500 today. Uppingham then was about half the size it is today.

### A growing town?

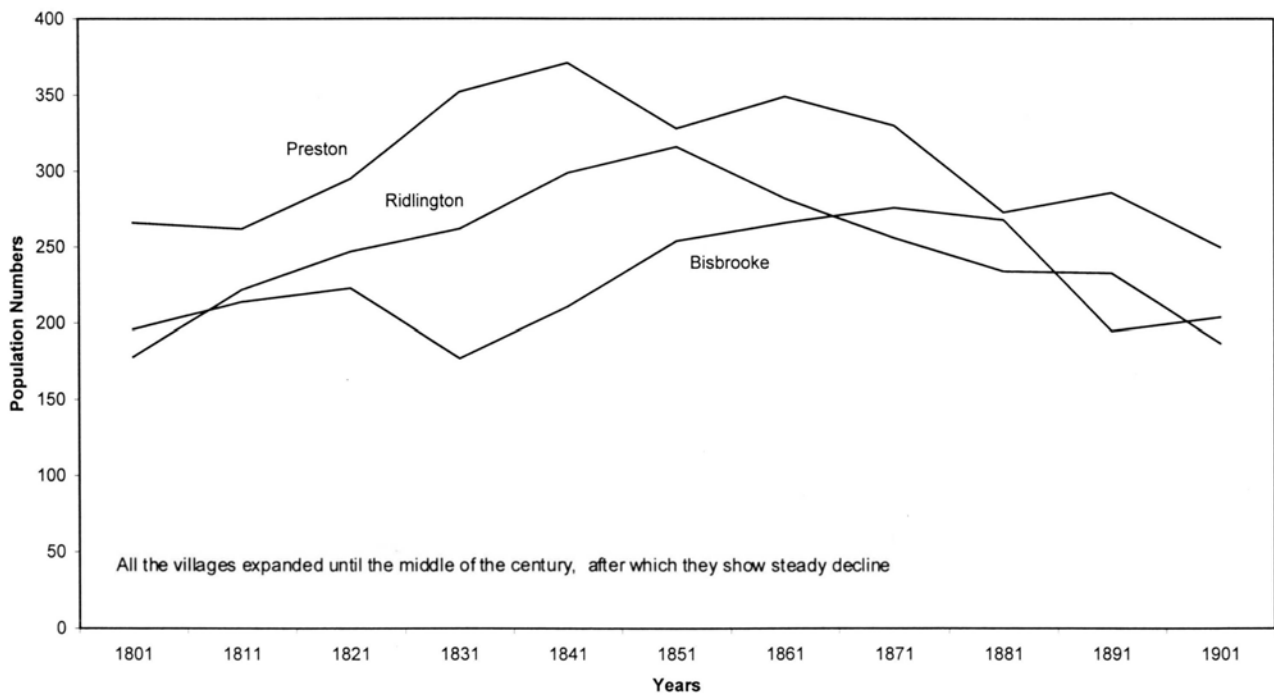
We need to place this figure of 1800-1900 people in its context in the nineteenth century, for censuses had been taken every ten years since 1801. That period was a time of great population growth in England, especially in the towns. The graph on the following page shows us the pattern of population growth in Uppingham (and Oakham for comparison) during the century. From this, we can see that there was a major period of growth in population in both towns during the first part of the century, then a respite (with 1851 in the middle), then a further period of rapid growth later in the century. In 1851, then, the town was 'resting' in terms of population growth.

This is in contrast with the villages around. The normal pattern for population growth in villages like Bisbrooke and Preston was for rapid growth up to 1851 (the increase of population being housed in the village) followed by a rapid fall in population as more and more people moved into the towns (see graph). Preston peaked in 1841, Glaston in 1851, as did Ridlington and Seaton with Thorpe by Water, all of them falling back to about the same level as they started with.

It is not easy to suggest reasons for this pause in growth in the middle of the century. One cause may be disease. There was an epidemic in Uppingham in 1853-4 ("the late severe epidemic"), and perhaps also in 1851<sup>8</sup>; but there were more severe outbreaks of disease later in the century and these did not halt the growth of population.



Graph showing growth of population in Oakham and Uppingham in nineteenth century



Graph showing growth of population in some villages near Uppingham in nineteenth century

## Birthplaces

Where did the population of Uppingham come from? The census records their places of birth but not the place of last residence, which of course may have been different.

Of the 2065 persons listed in the Uppingham census, just over a half (1127) were stated as having been born in Uppingham.

Of the remaining 938, 209 came from villages within five miles of Uppingham, and a further 252 came from centres of population within twelve miles. It is interesting that the large majority came from the

eastern side of the town, as the diagram shows: 333 as against 128. Some villages seem to have provided a considerable number of people, others very few. While it is not surprising that places very close, like Lyddington, Seaton, Ayston, and Preston, supplied the town with many residents, places further away which provided substantial numbers of residents such as Barrowden (the largest supplier after Lyddington) and centres like Great Easton, Weldon and Gretton are more striking. Beyond the twelve miles radius, the main centres were Lincolnshire (100), Yorkshire and London. Eight came from Scotland, 3 from Wales. Overseas, individuals (mainly visitors and itinerants) came from Ireland, America, and India and Portugal (carefully recorded as 'British subjects').

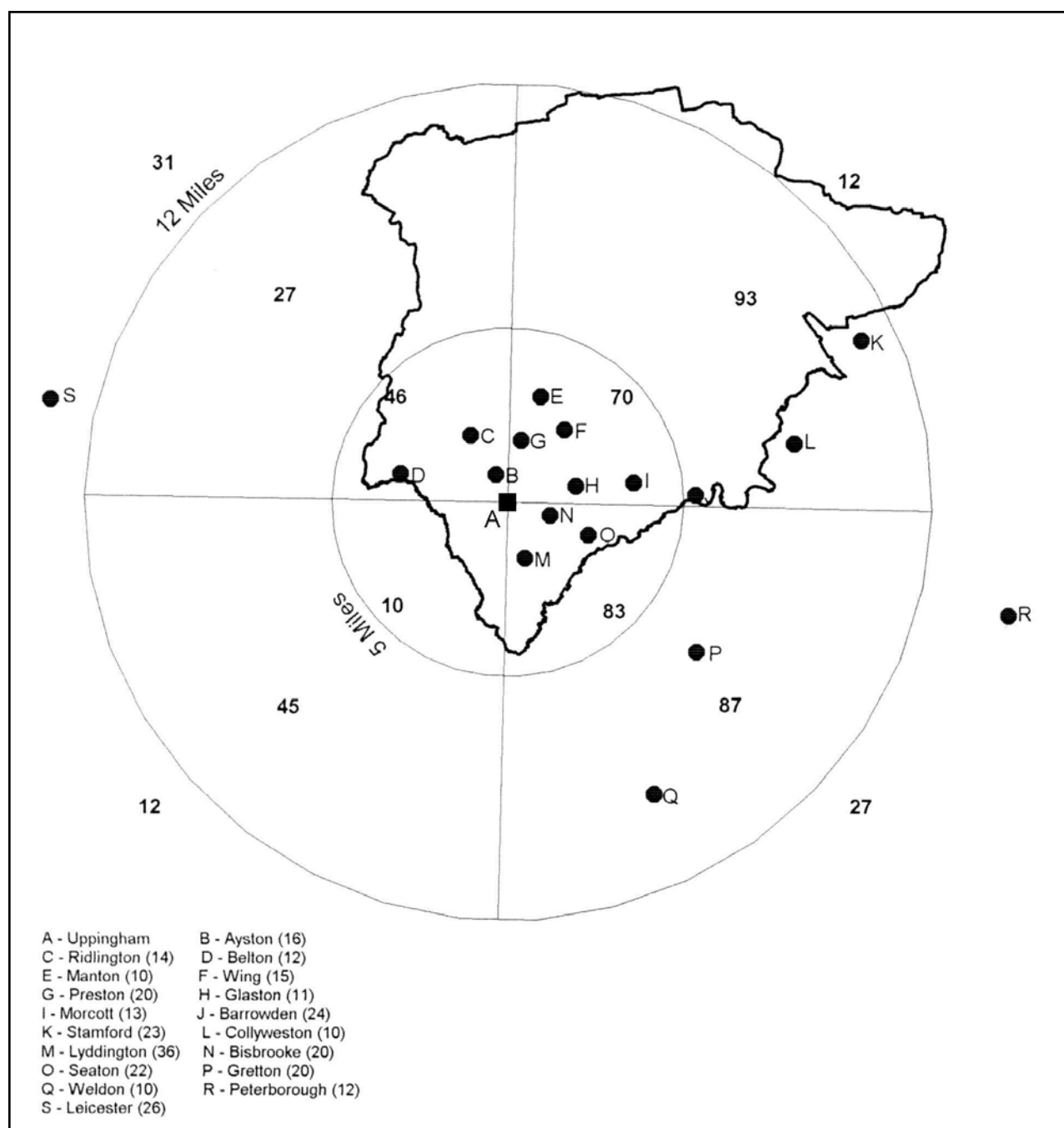


Diagram showing birthplaces of population of Uppingham in 1851; note that most came from the east rather than from the west.

If we look specifically at where the wives of Uppingham men came from, out of 151 married men who had been born in Uppingham, three-fifths (91) chose Uppingham women for their brides. Of the rest, 34 wives came from Rutland and most of the others came from the immediate neighbourhood. Some wives came from as far away as Kent, Shropshire, Norfolk, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Cornwall. Most of those who came from further away were married to wealthier tradesmen and professionals in the town.



*Sally Cort was the wife of a fishmonger; in 1851, she was described as "Wife, employed in the business". They lived in Gambles Yard (now Sheilds Yard) off High Street West (north side). Her husband came from Market Harborough; she came from Sewstern. Their children were also in the business.*

### Male and female

There were more women than men – 907 men, 958 women, 48.6% to 51.4%. The men tended to be rather older than the women, which is unusual for the time. 77 men and 75 women were over the age of sixty; the two oldest inhabitants aged over 85 were both men. There were substantially more women than men between the ages of 25 and 60, which may imply that some men went away for part of their working lives.

Age	Males	Females
0-24	504 (27%)	518 (28%)
25-59	326 (17.5%)	365 (19.6%)
60+	77 (4.1%)	75 (4%)

*Percentages of the 'normally resident' population of Uppingham in 1851*

### The elderly and people living alone

Some 152 older persons lived in Uppingham in 1851, and there were others visiting the town at that time. Some were living with their families – like Ann Cox, grandmother aged 84 (there was a granddaughter aged two months; was Ann visiting to help her daughter?) or John Knight widower. Whether these grandparents moved into the house of their sons or daughters or whether the sons and daughters moved into the house of the grandparents to ensure that its tenancy would pass to them is not known. Some older persons were lodging with other families, like William Rogers aged 63, musician, living with a family in Leamington Terrace or William Tilley, agricultural labourer aged 65, lodging with a much younger agricultural labourer in Stockerston Road. Several elderly paupers, in receipt of poor relief or charity, were lodging with other residents. Most seem to have had family members close by. Ann Hough, a widow and pauper on Hog Hill, had Susan Hough just round the corner in Meeting Lane, and Alexander and George Nutt both lived alone but close to each other in South Backside (Spring Back Way) and Meeting Lane. Out of the 414 separate households listed in the town, 18 consisted of one person. Only three of these were aged less than 50; it was the elderly who lived on their own. Ten were women, eight were men.

### CONCLUSION

The overwhelming impression of Uppingham in 1851 is of a mixed and vibrant society, with contacts throughout the country, not just locally. It clearly drew heavily on its immediate hinterland, but the farthest shores of Cornwall and Scotland, of Kent and Northumberland were not unknown to it. Its population came and went regularly, and there were many visitors. Uppingham (like other small market towns of that time) was not isolated, an unsophisticated country town. It was a thriving community with connections throughout the kingdom and indeed abroad; it was part of England's society.

<sup>1</sup> SM 25 April 1851

<sup>2</sup> SM 11 April 1851

<sup>3</sup> SM 4 April 1851

<sup>4</sup> SM 4 April 1851

<sup>5</sup> SM 4 April 1851

<sup>6</sup> Rawnsley p68; SM 25 April 1851.

<sup>7</sup> Rawnsley pp123-126, 141.

<sup>8</sup> SM Dec 1854, cited in *UppRut* p20; Jennings' notes suggest from a study of the Uppingham burial register that there were more burials that year than was normal.

## CHAPTER II: RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

### FAMILIES AND KINSHIP

A number of key families can be seen in Uppingham at that time, some of whom remain today. The names of Allen, Baines (5), Bilsdon, Cliff (4), Crowden (3), Dorman (5), Drake, Freeman, Hudson (6), Knight (11), Nutt (7), Satchell, Seaton, Southwell, Tilley and Tyers (6) are still heard in the town. Some of the clans were large.



*Neddy Cliff, agricultural labourer, was one of the numerous members of the Cliff family (most of them plumbers) in Uppingham in 1851. He lived with other members of the family on Hog Hill.*

### Thorpes

The Thorpes were by far the most numerous family in Uppingham in 1851. There were 26 separate families of Thorpe in the town at that time. In addition, there were four single Thorpes listed as living in other households. Including all the children and relatives, no

less than 109 persons (50 males and 59 females) bore the surname Thorpe in Uppingham. It would seem that there were also some absentees, for our survey of the churchyard memorials unearthed a number of Thorpes not listed in the census.

The family was close-knit, for the 26 families comprised 21 households, several families living in the same household. Five of the Thorpe households had grandsons in them (one with the surname Herrick and another with the surname Sharman). Other Thorpe families lived in other households. Thus for example, Fred and Jane Thorpe were living in the School where Jane was a servant and Fred a stone mason. William Thorpe with three children aged between 4 and 8 years lived with his mother-in-law Elizabeth Woodcock in High Street; his young wife Mary had died a few months earlier (September 1850). They had already had four children, between 1845 and 1850, all of whom had died (MI), so it is possible that Mary died in childbirth. Later, William married again, as his tombstone shows.

Two of the Thorpe households were headed by women. Mary Thorpe dressmaker with her 15 year old daughter Hannah, dress-maker's apprentice, lived in Horn Lane. Mary was called head of household but she was also married, so it appears her husband had left her. Another Mary Thorpe, a 64-year old widow, was a beerseller in Leicester Road; her husband John had died two years earlier (MI) aged 65. She lived with her 24 year old stone-mason nephew and two lodgers in her beerhouse. Other Thorpes took in lodgers, like William Thorpe of Stockerston Road who provided houseroom for Mary Cave, a wealthy 52 year old widow described as 'proprietor of houses'; some of her family property lay in Meeting Lane and Hog Hill (enclosure award). Elizabeth Thorpe was living as an unmarried mother with her son Miller aged 7 in the Union workhouse.

The Thorpes who lived alone are also interesting. Henry was a widower at the age of 27; he was assistant grocer in Thomas Bryan's grocery store in Market Place. One Thorpe served as a maid to the Hopkins family and another as a live-in helper at the Rose and Crown inn.

The Thorpe families as listed in the census were on the whole relatively small. There were three large ones, Henry Thorpe of North Street with nine children, and Daniel and Joseph Thorpe, both of Stockerston Road,

each with seven children. But the rest averaged only three. We need to remember that the census only shows us the 'current family', not the 'completed family'. The churchyard memorials remind us of the many children who died in infancy and of the further children born after the year of the census. Henry Thorpe's family of nine had indeed already suffered at least one loss, Ellen Ann who died in 1849; and Matilda, one of the twin 14 year olds in 1851, died soon after the census (MI).

**A local clan:** All the Thorpe heads of household except two were born in Uppingham. Robert Thorpe curate of Uppingham church came from Yorkshire. John Thorpe was born in Lyddington, had served in the navy at Chatham, had married a Kentish girl and had two children born in Chatham; he had been pensioned off as a Greenwich pensioner before retiring to Uppingham as a shoemaker. He lived next door to another Thorpe family. Judging by the birthplaces of the children of Thorpe families, the Uppingham families had not travelled much. One son had been born in Scotland and one grandson in Derbyshire; all the rest had been born within three or four miles of Uppingham and most (79) in Uppingham itself.

And they chose their brides from the immediate locality. Eleven of the 23 Thorpe wives were born in Uppingham, but a number came from further afield, Loughborough, Wymondham, Chester, and Dedham in Essex. Three, all aged between 53 and 65, came from Pilsgate near Peterborough – which suggests they may have met at some family gathering there.

**Thorpe Occupations:** Most of the Thorpes (15) were stone masons by trade. The churchyard contains several ornate slates signed 'Thorpe' and 'H.Thorpe' (Henry Thorpe stone mason and engraver in the census). The trade was clearly carried on from father to son – John Thorpe in Leicester Road had two sons who were also stone masons, and William Thorpe on Todds Piece lists father, married son and unmarried son all as stone masons. This situation had existed for many years. The 1829 Pigots Directory shows that the Thorpes were the most numerous of the many stone masons in Uppingham; and three Thorpes combined to operate 'The Pits' on the Stockerston Road.

Of the rest, the Thorpes carried on many trades and occupations – curate, 'Rector's Servant', English School Master, woolsorter, grocer, cabinet maker, joiners, coach trimmers, tailors, bootmaker and shoemaker etc. There was a beerseller, horsebreaker, two dressmakers, straw bonnet makers, agricultural labourer, a nurse and at least eight servants. It is interesting that in a town where there were many

paupers, there were no paupers named Thorpe except Elizabeth from Barrowden in the Union workhouse.

**Wealth and importance:** Most of the Thorpes lived on the edge of the town – Stockerston Road, Leicester Road, Todds Piece, South Backside and Hog Hill, or in back yards off High Street, School Lane and Horn Lane. They were not among the most wealthy or powerful in the town, but their large and strong family network must have given them some importance. Henry Thorpe stonemason and engraver was the parish clerk for several years. Three Thorpes kept pubs or inns including the George and Dragon in the Market Place. William Thorpe, son of the woolsorter, was a schoolmaster. Several of the Thorpes were apparently associated with one of the chapels, to judge by their burial place in the churchyard.



*Gravestone of Thorpe family member; the stone was carved by a Thorpe stonemason, Uppingham churchyard.*

Although there were some Thorpes in the town who were not members of the Uppingham-born clan, the existence of such a network tied together by a family name would have provided a powerful interest group in the town in 1851. No other family had such a strong presence as the Thorpes in mid-nineteenth century Uppingham.

## NON-RESIDENTS

In many ways, those passing through Uppingham on the night of 30 March 1851 are as interesting as those who were normally resident. But it is not easy to distinguish how many of the 97 'lodgers' and 42 'visitors' were actually long-term residents and how many were visiting the town short-term. After all, if mother-in-law comes to stay regularly and for long periods, is she a short-term visitor or a long-term resident?

### Lodgers and visitors

In some households, there was clearly a distinction between lodgers and visitors. The Scottish tea dealer, Samuel Waugh, who lived in High Street (about 46 High Street East) had in his household his apprentice (also from Scotland), a lodger (another tea dealer from Scotland) and a visitor (a girl of 16 from a neighbouring village, perhaps a relation of his wife). Benjamin Hopkins, a rich draper in High Street, had a visitor (perhaps again a relation of his wife) and a lodger (Harriet Shaw from London milliner). Small houses also held passers through. William Hudson farm labourer who lived with his four children, aged 11 to 23 years, in a small cottage in North Street Row provided accommodation to two lodgers and a visitor, all described as labourers. Was he or his wife running a lodging house? One of the inns on the Leicester Road had two visitors (a married couple; he was a silk weaver) and two lodgers (again a married couple, he being a jobbing smith). All four came from afar – Warwickshire and Staffordshire.

**Local visitors:** Some of the visitors and lodgers came from other resident families in Uppingham. Edward Edgson tailor, born in Uppingham and clearly a member of the Edgson family of the town, was staying as a visitor with Charles Greenhow at the east end of High Street. A puzzling case is Charles Holden aged 7, 'visitor' and scholar in the household of Frances Holmes widow in High Street (near Baines' Corner). Born in Uppingham two years before Henry Holden, Headmaster of the Grammar School, arrived in the town, is Charles some relation of the Headmaster? And in the household of Samuel Spencer (general labourer) in Gambles Yard was a 'lodger', William Page aged only 3 years; also staying overnight was a 'visitor' Mary Page aged 24, unmarried and a servant, born in Ridlington. Is it too fanciful to suggest that this unmarried mother's son was lodged in this household and that she was paying a visit to her son?

Some real **visitors** are clear. The civil engineer from Northumberland staying with another civil engineer, the land agent's wife aged 48 from Hertfordshire staying with the retired land agent aged 80, and Ann Hunter postmistress of Rockingham staying with Jane Leak the Uppingham postmistress in High Street (West) are clear examples. There were the Gretton sisters, Dinah Lenton aged 19 staying with Henry and Betsy Dorman on Hog Hill (Betsy aged 29 was born in Gretton) and Diana Lenton aged 20 staying with Thomas and Phoebe Frisby in Inmans Yard. Phoebe aged 24 was also born in Gretton and had named her new son (one month old) Lenton. This would seem to be a family gathering to celebrate the birth of the first offspring of these new marriages.

**Lodgers** are more difficult to identify. There was at least one lodging house in Uppingham - John Mayes, farm labourer and lodging house keeper in North Street, who had two lodgers, one from Lincolnshire and one from Uppingham. Christiana Swann, widow in High Street West, was 'Proprietor of House' containing a male visitor (printer's compositor from Lincoln) and a married couple (Inland Revenue Officer and his wife) who themselves had a 'visitor', Amelia Weston of Market Harborough aged only five years. This too looks like a lodging house. In the house of Charles Wade, schoolmaster, in North Street was an unmarried dressmaker from Pickwell, Lincolnshire. She had 'nil' relationship with the head of household but was a 'resident' in the house (the Wade family had moved round different villages in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, judging by the birthplaces of the children). John Bradley, unmarried and aged 65, schoolmaster and pauper, was an 'inmate' in the house of Thomas Liquorice in South Backside.

**Local lodgers:** Some lodgers were long-term residents coming from Uppingham families. Helen Inman, unmarried, aged 45 and annuitant in the household of William Hales tailor, Jane Tyler, unmarried, aged 49 and farmer's daughter, Elizabeth Reid aged 78, a widow, who formerly held the Rose and Crown, and Sarah Cliff, an unmarried dressmaker aged 22, were all lodging in other households. George Tilley, agricultural labourer aged 36, described Elizabeth Tilley, aged 72 and married (but without her agricultural labourer husband), and Edward Tilley (unmarried aged 34 agricultural labourer) both as lodgers. Several paupers receiving relief from the parish or one of the town's charities lodged with other families, like Elizabeth Tyler aged 61 in the household of Charles Manton in Leamington Terrace. Lodgers may have been accommodated for money or for company. Alicia Brown aged 29, pauper, and her niece Sally, a knitter aged 16, provided lodging for Jane



Tyler aged 49 in Hopkins Court. William Andrews, widower and pauper aged 67, and his son aged 26 accommodated a family of four (agricultural labourers) in Meeting Lane. Charles Freeman aged 76, whitesmith and Chelsea Pensioner, provided lodgings for a retired Inland Revenue Officer aged 80 in High Street. Stephen Bent, widower and agricultural labourer aged 64, shared his Meeting House Lane house with Mary Sumpter pauper and a lodger Alice Loveday, chairwoman.

Many lodgers were clearly working in the town. John and Mary Wade, aged 26 and 21, ostler and ostler's wife, both born in Uppingham were lodging in Innocent's Yard. William Thompson from Scotland, wine merchant's clerk, lodged in Market Place. Charles Hudson, born in Uppingham, blacksmith and lodging in Beast Market, and Mary Elizabeth Carrington, aged only 19, from Westminster, the National School mistress, lodging with a baker and his very young family in High Street, are also examples of this. Many lodgings were related to occupation: a tailor in Hopkins Court lodged with a tailor, and farm labourers hosted farm labourers.

Most of the inns and pubs were full. Out of 15 identified pubs, inns and beerhouses, 11 had guests. But how many of these guests were long-term residents and how many were passing through is not clear. Richard Brown, unmarried and aged 40, coach-wheel maker from Stratford on Avon was staying in the Chequers, and Evans Askew from Lyddington, agricultural labourer aged 43, unmarried, was in the beerhouse on Leicester Road. On the other hand, the hotels were not full. The Falcon had two guests, the Unicorn none, and the Swan and the Crown do not seem to have been operating as hotels at this time.

### Friends and relations

Many of the non-residents were friends and relations of Uppingham residents. Edward Ingram aged 49, butcher and farmer, had his brother George Ingram aged 39, described as a gentleman and born in Uppingham, staying with him; it is interesting that George and a third brother William sued Edward for their inheritance in 1853, just before Edward died in 1855<sup>1</sup>. William Hardwick, the Baptist minister from Yorkshire who lived in Todds Piece, had a visitor from Yorkshire. Thomas Reeve aged 30 had Sarah Reeve aged 29, married (but not her coal merchant husband), and almost certainly her daughter Jenny, aged 1 year and born in Wing, staying overnight. Occasionally a servant could have a visitor: Elizabeth Sargant from Ayston aged 15, in the household of the wealthy

maltster and farmer William Mould, had a visitor Katherine Sargant also from Ayston (it was recorded that her age was 'not known'). But more usually it was the wife who had the visitor. Emma wife of Benjamin Hopkins, born in Leicester, had a visitor from Leicester. The wife of William Irving grocer came from Preston (Rutland) and she had a visitor from Preston. One of the most striking examples comes from Hopes Yard. William Garner Hart grocer and seedsman married Ann [Ash?] from Stratton, Cornwall, aged 42 in 1851. The next-door neighbour William Hope chemist had also married a girl (Mary Ann, aged 50) from Stratton, Cornwall. In the household of Hart on census night was a visitor from Stratton, Cornwall, William Ash, gentleman annuitant. The networks in mid-nineteenth century small towns were close-knit.

But not all visitors can be clearly identified as family members. Joseph Ullett, retired farmer, had his young grandson William Crawley, aged 4 born in Warmington, and with him a married woman, Rebecca Baxter from Warmington. The Rev John Dimock, Rector, had staying with him Henrietta and Edward Williams aged 16 and 13, both born in Bombay. John Capp's wife came from Tugby, and one of the lodgers in their inn, the George and Dragon, also came from Tugby. We also need to note the large number of relatives described in the census, some of whom may be living permanently with the family, others of whom may simply be visiting overnight. Ann Fousham was 'sister to wife' in Morris' Buildings. Richard Morgan, who was born in Wales, was described as 'cousin' to the head of household, but he was probably related to the wife who was also born in Wales; he is not described as either visitor or lodger. We have already noted Ann Jakes staying with her mother during her time of grief, again not described as visitor or lodger. Clearly there were more visitors than are listed as such.

### Itinerants

There were a large number of travellers and itinerants in Uppingham on the night of 30 March 1851. Five groups can be seen. One group of nineteen, consisting of four small families and seven individuals, was staying on the farm of William Dodson on Leicester Road. Their occupations show the travelling nature of the group - hawkers, travellers, drover, dressmaker, two sailors (both with the same surname, but one alleged to have been born in Stamford, the other in New York), general dealer, and blacksmith. Their birthplaces included Ireland, Scotland, London and various northern and eastern counties of England. Two smaller groups camped nearby on Stockerston Road - a single family of hawkers, all five born locally, and a



46

Parish or Township of

Ecclesiastical District of

City or Borough of

Name of

Village of

Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House

Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851

Relation to Head of Family

Condition

Age of

Males Females

Rank, Profession, or Occupation

Where Born

180 *Beast market*

*Emma Sellar*

*Head*

*Uppingham*

*Charles Do*

*Wife*

2

*Do*

*Mary A Do*

*Daughter*

*Do*

*Mary Stacey*

*Widow*

*Widow*

6

*Whitewash, Widow*

*Do*

1

*Thomas Wright*

*Wife*

*Wife*

7

*ag. Lab*

*Do*

1

*Sarah Do*

*Daughter*

*Daughter*

4

*Lab. Wf.*

*Do*

*William Stiches*

*Wife*

*Wife*

2

*Lab.*

*Warwick. Warwick*

*Ellis Do*

*Daughter*

*Daughter*

10

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*George Do*

*Daughter*

*Daughter*

10

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Robert Thomas*

*Wife*

*Wife*

7

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Anna Do*

*Daughter*

*Daughter*

10

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Margaret Wright*

*Wife*

*Wife*

2

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Christopher Kilsland*

*Wife*

*Wife*

2

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*John Matthews*

*Wife*

*Wife*

2

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Levi Thomas*

*Wife*

*Wife*

7

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*John Thomas*

*Wife*

*Wife*

7

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

1

*Catherine Thomas*

*Wife*

*Wife*

7

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

180 *Beast market*

*Joseph Thomas*

*Head*

*Head*

4

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

*Elizabeth Do*

*Wife*

*Wife*

6

*Lab. Wf.*

*Hereford. Hereford*

Total of Persons

11

11

Page of census book showing German musicians in Uppingham in 1851.

group of eight, two married couples and four single men, mat makers, brazier and drover; their birthplaces are not recorded, which is unusual. A fourth group was on Beast Hill, 14 in all, probably at the Maltster's Arms: three small families, one individual and (most remarkable of all) a band of six musicians, five born in Frankfurt (the sixth was a young woman aged 17 born in Burton on Trent). The occupations of the other members of this group included rope making, agriculture and traveller, and they came from Ireland, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Norfolk, Yorkshire and some local places. A small group of four persons (collector of rags, calico weaver and hawkers) resided in two adjacent houses on North Street. Two of them were said to be married but without their wives, and their birthplaces were again 'not known'. One hawker family of five listed as visitors was staying in the house of Thomas Ireland ('late a tanner, pauper') on Stockerston Road and were clearly itinerant as the birthplaces of their children show.

**Gypsies:** Some of these groups were perhaps gypsies. There are no signs that they were agricultural gangs, and of course it is not certain that they were all travelling together. Some seem to have gypsy occupations like rag gathering and mat-making (a

gypsy family called Page was recorded as mat makers in Suffolk earlier in the century, and George Page may be a member of that family; his birthplace is not recorded). William Williams is a well known gypsy name: John Gray, the gypsy at Wansford who taught the poet John Clare to play the fiddle in about 1815, had a large family called Williams and William Williams may be a member of that family<sup>2</sup>.

The itinerants were mostly young. One fifth were under the age of 16, three fifths between 17 and 40 years, and just under one-fifth over the age of 40. Most of these groups would have been too large to be accommodated in the houses of their landlords, and since they are unlikely to have used wheeled vehicles at this time, they were probably lodged in barns. The census recorders were instructed to list people found sleeping in outbuildings at the end of the entry and to list them as lodgers. The Leicester Road site illustrates this well. The fact that the groups included two very young children, one of five months born in Leicester and the other of three months born in Northborough, suggests they had only recently arrived in Uppingham. It is unlikely that they gathered here for any social event such as a wedding or funeral, although such gatherings are known from other places, for their

surnames are all different. It is most likely that they were on their way to Stamford Mid-Lent Fair, for, as the *Stamford Mercury* reported, "The Stamford Town Fair began on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 1851 and ran for a week. The Mid-Lent Pleasure Fair began on the third day of the main fair, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, and ran for three days". The presence of German musicians supports this suggestion. Groups of itinerant musicians, in particular oompah bands, travelled the country entertaining the crowds at fairs and festivals. It is significant that the 1851 census for Stamford also included some German musicians<sup>3</sup>, and the description of Stamford Fair indicates that a large number of itinerants ("strangers of suspicious appearances") were present at the Fair. It also mentions the unfavourable weather, another reason for staying in Uppingham until the last moment.

Not all the travellers in Uppingham on census night would have been en route to Stamford. Some were probably in the town as part of their normal routes, moving from market to market. Some worked over a relatively narrow area, judging by the birthplaces of their children. The ropemaker Robert Simmons from Yarmouth, who with his Irish wife was staying on Beast Market, was probably travelling to find work or selling his wares, since there was a ropewalk in Uppingham at the time. Braziers like William King too sought work where they could find it.

## CONCLUSION

Taking all factors into account, the number of persons who can be seen to be staying in Uppingham for only a very short time and were not normally resident was some 204 – almost ten percent of the 2065 recorded population of the town on that night in 1851. And this is clearly a minimum – the total of family visitors staying for a short period of time must have been high. It is the fact that this number is so large and will distort the picture of Uppingham which suggests that we should exclude them from any analysis of the town at that time.

<sup>1</sup> CR; will of Edward Ingram 1840

<sup>2</sup> D Mayall, *Gypsy-Travellers in Nineteenth Century Society*, Cambridge 1988; A M Fraser, John Clare's Gypsies, *Northants Past and Present* vol IV 1972 pp 259-267

<sup>3</sup> Stamford Survey Group, *Stamford in 1851* Stamford 1982 p8

## STAMFORD FAIR IN 1851

Report From *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Friday, 4th April, 1851

**Stamford Midlent Pleasure Fair** - This annual mart usually commences on the third day in the fair week; but on Wednesday last (2nd April), owing partly to the unfavourable state of the weather, and probably also to the depression in this district consequent upon the condition of the agricultural interest, few people were seen in the streets, and the only indication of a fair being at hand was the long row of bazaars in Broad Street and the very few shows and other sources of amusement scattered in High Street, Broad Street and the Sheep Square. Formerly the Midlent fair was productive of respectable exhibitions of all kinds, and during three days the town was crowded with money-spending country friends, but of late years the visitors as well as the sources of amusement have decreased, and the present season, judging from the attendance yesterday, promises to be one of the worst on record, not merely to the numerous itinerant vendors of articles pertaining to bazaars, but also to the trading inhabitants. The juveniles are much disappointed by the fact that the customary visit of Wombwell's menagerie is withheld: and they are not compensated for the absence of that extraordinary travelling collection by anything of a superior class in the place of it. The bazaars as usual are stocked with every conceivable article for use and for ornament; but almost the whole of them are eclipsed by the choice and elegant display of Mrs Henry Johnson, bookseller, at her shop in the High Street, who seems to have sought novelties in all quarters, and makes her promenade more attractive by the aid of Mr Well's quadrette band. There is the usual number of stalls for gingerbread and eatables and it is probably these and the penny shows will obtain the most custom. The town abounds with strangers of suspicious appearances and it is therefore advisable that all who enter the crowded thoroughfare today (Friday) should take care of their pockets.

## CHAPTER III: MAKING A LIVING

### THE TOWN'S ECONOMY

What sort of a town was Uppingham in 1851? What strikes us most about the occupations recorded in the census in Uppingham in 1851 is their range and variety. The designated occupations or social status of about 850 persons are known. They range from 'Gentleman' through various services, trades and professions to scavenger.

Twelve persons were said to have been of **independent means** (annuitant, fund holder or other description), though not all of these were affluent. A 'proprietor of houses' may only be so in a small way. However, the census does not tell us much about status and wealth, and we cannot necessarily apply later norms to 1851. For example, not all professional men enjoyed an affluent lifestyle: much depended on the area they operated in and the affluence of their clients. Some doctors eked out a living tending the poor such as the workhouse inmates. Schoolteachers and clergy without private means often had to undertake a secondary occupation to survive<sup>1</sup>. Thus Henry Holden, Headmaster of the Grammar School, was curate of Ayston, while John Bradley, another schoolmaster, was at the age of 65 described as pauper.

Equally, there were a number of recorded '**double occupations**' – one person doing two trades at the same time. Some dovetailed nicely such as farmer and butcher or farmer and maltster, but others are suggestive of a change of trade or a mixed range of occupations, such as farmer and tailor, farmer and solicitor's clerk, farmer and coal merchant, blacksmith and innkeeper. William Ingram (in 1851 innkeeper of the Cross Keys in High Street West) was described in a long life as merchant and dealer, corn miller, horse dealer, farmer and grazier, and maltster<sup>2</sup>. It is likely that some affluent tradesmen may have invested in land to establish an aura of gentility. Thomas Bryan the grocer, for example, moved from Market Place to a large house in Preston<sup>3</sup>. But more often, it would seem that those engaged in economic activities in decline felt the need to supplement their incomes. Grocers who supplied ironmongery and the draper who doubled as a tea dealer were probably putting their premises to full use, but for the maltster who was also a brickmaker or the innkeeper who was also a plumber, it may be that neither trade was a full-time occupation. The ten insurance agents listed in the 1846 *Directory*, ranging from a bookseller to a doctor, did not record this secondary activity in the census but others did. Thus

the tea dealer who doubled as county court bailiff may have owed his official position to his standing as a well-to-do merchant. We can conclude that some persons combined occupations from necessity, some from convenience (like the auctioneer and cabinet maker) and others as a matter of status. And of course some persons changed their occupation. Thomas Ratt, for example, carpenter aged 76 on Hog Hill, was described as follows: "In the yard near the Hall garden now known as Roberts Yard lived old Ratt, the last Uppingham weaver"<sup>4</sup>.

Despite the large agricultural presence in the town, the essential picture is **urban**, with tradespeople supplying most of the region's requirements. "The business of the place is principally of a local and retail character"<sup>5</sup>. There were two banks, one in the Market Place (the current Vaults) and the other having recently moved from High Street East (Oliver's printers' shop) to the current Barclays Bank site in High Street West. What also strikes us today is the sheer weight of manual work undertaken. It is clear that, given the numbers engaged in some trades (the cloth or leather trades, for example, appropriate to a region noted for its hosiery and boot and shoe making), workers in Uppingham provided many goods and services for the surrounding area.

There was also the **market**, which took over the town every Wednesday. It was "much more important and frequented" then than in the later nineteenth century. "It was the custom of the free and independent drovers and farmers to pen up their horses, cows and sheep on the footways all along High Street" from School Lane to the Market Place, and at times even further west. One schoolboy recites with glee how a "patient cow, raising her head somewhat too suddenly, broke passage through the window of Mr Earle's classroom - Mr Earle then took his class in the room on the ground floor of Mr Bell's .. house"<sup>6</sup> in High Street West.

Most of the occupations listed were assigned to the **males** in the community. Apart from domestic service, most women did not have a recorded occupation. Of those who did, the clothing industry absorbed the majority – tailors, dressmakers, sempstresses, milliners, straw bonnet makers. There were a few teachers and nurses recorded. This is not of course to say that women did not work even when not recorded. The women listed as grocer's wife or draper's daughter as well as the women members of shopkeepers' and

innkeepers' families are very likely to have been engaged in helping with the family business.

In fact, **women** played a large part in the social and economic life of Uppingham in the middle of the nineteenth century. No less than 61 households in the town were headed by women, although 14 of these were living on their own. Some of the major businesses in the town were headed by women. Frances Holmes, widow of 45, ran a tailoring business and employed three men. Elizabeth Seaton, widow of 63, ran the town's second largest drapery store on High Street East near the Falcon. Her two sons (aged 36 and 27) and her three daughters (aged 30, 29 and 26) were all unmarried and working in the store, and she had one assistant and two apprentices living in her house as well as two domestic servants - clearly a formidable person. Several of the inns were headed by women - the Chequers, and the Horse and Trumpet among them. Jane Riddle ran a chimney sweep business from Meeting Lane, and Elizabeth Woodcock carried on her former husband's business of shoemaking.



*Jimmy Riddle was aged 12 in 1851; he was even then a chimney sweep, along with his younger brother George aged 10.*

Elizabeth Fryer ran a millinery firm, and Martha Iliffe, widow at the age of 30, described herself as a hawker of millinery. The post office was run by a woman, Jane Leak who carried on after the death of her husband in the previous year. Mary Suter, coachman's wife whose husband was away on the night of the census called herself 'Head of the Household'. It is

likely that the status of women became more depressed as the Victorian century advanced.

## THE MAIN OCCUPATIONS

### Servants

The largest group of workers were servants (214) in various categories. A few of these were outdoor servants and farm servants, but most were indoor domestic servants, an occupation of great importance at that time. In Britain as a whole, 25% of all 19-year old girls were employed as live-in servants, and 17% of 19-year old boys were employed as live-in servants and apprentices.

Some of those described as servants were clearly in their own homes rather than in the homes of their employers and went out to work. For example, the household (on South Back Way) of Thomas Hales, a young widower aged 37, and his widowed mother aged 74 contained Sarah Boothey servant, widow of 40, washerwoman, and (presumably her two children) Mary aged 13 and Thomas Boothey aged 7, all three being described as servants. It is most unlikely that they were employed in the household of Thomas Hales, who was listed as woolcomber and pauper. It would seem that some seven men and seven women were 'living-out' servants, though it is possible that a number of the women were at home because they were ill or out of work or on a home visit. The people described as servants also included workers in the inns, pubs and hotels as well as business employees who were clearly not domestic. But if we omit the four temporary nurses attending childbirth, the agricultural and business servants, the grooms who were living at home rather than living-in, and those visitors who were described as servants and presumably were on leave from their households, we can detect 115 females and 15 males as living-in servants.

Most of the servants came from Uppingham or the immediate environment. But some came from far away - from Middlesex, Kent, Wiltshire, Yorkshire and Hampshire. In some cases, the family brought servants in with them - from Peterborough, from Kent or from Yorkshire.

Most of the Uppingham servants were designated generally as house servant or general servant, but there were a number with specific titles - housekeeper, nursemaid, cook, housemaid, and lady's maid. But some of these descriptions are misleading; for example, several women were described as housekeeper but they



Map showing location of households with servants. These wealthier households were mainly in High Street and Market Place.

were in fact relations of the family (daughter, sister or aunt).

The live-in domestic servants were largely young and unmarried. Some 43% were aged under 18 years, and another 40% between 19 and 30 years of age. Few were over 31, and most of these were married or widows. It would seem that some older people preferred older servants: Cornelius Hill retired woolstapler aged 70, for example, had a housekeeper aged 62.

Only six households had more than two servants. The three doctors, Foster Stedman, John Bell and John Edwards (absent on the census night) all had three or four servants. Charles Oliver the bookseller and printer had three servants, Jonathan Gibbons, the retired landagent at the east end of High Street, had four servants, and the Headmaster of the Grammar School had nine servants to cope with his boarders, as well as a monthly nurse for his infant child. Most of the houses with servants were in High Street or the Market Place, but there were others in various parts of the town (see map on page 17).

### Agriculture and associated trades

Despite the many trades and the embryonic manufacturing in the town, Uppingham was primarily an agricultural town in 1851. Agriculture was the main occupation of Uppingham residents after domestic service. Farmhouses were scattered throughout the town, with access to their yards through the back lanes of South Backside, South View and North Street. Cattle, sheep and horses were to be seen in the town almost daily, and farm manure gathered up from the streets was regarded as of higher value than that gathered even from stables<sup>7</sup>. The weekly market ("a very large one") spread over the streets, and the two fairs (7 March and 7 July) attracted horses, cattle and sheep from far afield, as well as selling coarse homespun linen-cloth.

The census lists 21 farmers (with one retired farmer and one visiting farmer) and one grazier (Rebecca Ingram). Some 120 agricultural labourers are listed with eight farm servants. Specialisms include a shepherd (pauper), a drover and a pig jobber. In all, a total of 153 people were directly engaged in agriculture. And of course there were others: the corn merchant, the cattle dealer, the vet, some gardeners and seedsmen, and an agricultural implement maker. A number of **metal workers** (24) were largely engaged in agriculture-related trades as blacksmiths and braziers, and of course wheelwrights would engage with

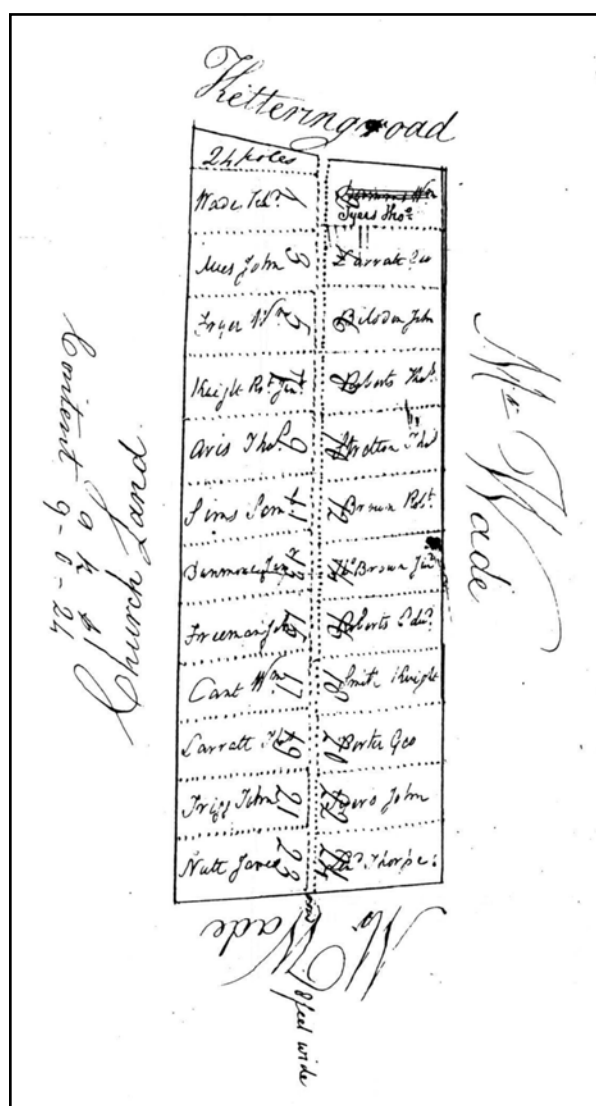
agriculture as well as the coaching industry. William Hope the chemist in High Street was the agent for a 'Cattle Insurance Company'. The town was noted for its flour-mills and maltings - the two tall windmills on Glaston Road and Leicester Road were landmarks to travellers<sup>8</sup>.

Omitting the smallholding of Thomas Southwell (three and a half acres), the farms ranged from 15 acres to 140 acres (only one farm size is not recorded in the census). It was reported in 1808 that the farms in this part of Rutland were small<sup>9</sup>. The average for all twenty farmers whose farm size is recorded was just over 56 acres but, in 1851, the families of Ingram, Sewell, Mould and Reeve held larger areas between them. We have noticed that several farmers had other occupations such as innkeeper, coal merchant, solicitor's clerk, miller and baker, maltster (2), and butcher. In 1808, it had been noted that there were many cottagers (smallholders) in Uppingham<sup>10</sup> but with the exception of Southwell they seem to have vanished by 1851, unless they are hidden behind the designation 'agricultural labourer'.

**Allotments:** It may have been this reduction in the numbers of cottagers, which led to concern to provide allotments for the poor of Uppingham. In 1841, the church laid out 24 plots and allocated them to those who attended some form of religious service. A list of 24 names survives from 1844, of whom 21 are recorded in the census. They range in age from 20 years to 49 and their occupations are not of the poorest: watchmaker, brewer's man, wood sawyer, brick-maker as well as agricultural labourer. Most of them were Uppingham born - only three were incomers into the town. They all had families to support, sometimes large families, if the census is an indicator.

**Farming:** Not a lot is known about farming in the Uppingham in the middle of the nineteenth century. For most of our information, we need to look at surveys conducted some forty years earlier. By then, the area had been modernised: the fields had been enclosed and tithes abolished in all but a small area of Beaumont Chase<sup>11</sup>. But the farmhouses had not been moved out onto the new farms created by enclosure as elsewhere: "The farmhouses are ... inconveniently situated, being mostly in towns; whereas they ought to be erected on the farms"<sup>12</sup>. Fourteen of the farmers lived on High Street and two in Horn Lane; the rest were on Beast Market or Leicester Road. None was on the Stockerston Road where the labourers lived.

About two thirds of the land in 1808 was arable, one third was pasture or meadow – and despite some



Plan of Church allotments in London Road in 1844

changes caused by the Napoleonic Wars, this is likely to have been the rough balance in 1851. There was no common land left - the inter-common area between Uppingham, Lyddington and Stoke Dry had been sorted out and enclosed during the eighteenth century. The soil of the area was recorded as "red land" with a good deal of heavy clay. Ploughing needed five horses to the plough, which was high for the area. But the land was fertile, even on the flat upland called the Brand to the south of the town: the rent per acre was the highest in Rutland. The arable farmers of the area had adopted what was called the Norfolk rotation of turnips, barley, clover and then wheat. In March 1851, a "compact small farm adjoining the market town of Uppingham on the Rectory hold, comprising 22 acres of rich Grass land, 14 acres of fine Turnip soil, 33 acres of black good Corn land, a Paddock (2 acres) with a good Orchard and Farm Cottage in the centre and convenient farm buildings" was advertised in the *Stamford Mercury* as being to let. Cattle were stocked, especially for fattening and there were many sheep,

including the modern New Leicester breed. It was noted earlier that there was one large orchard in Uppingham of 30 acres but whether it survived as late as 1851 is not known. There must have been some pigs but it is noted that there were relatively few poultry in this area<sup>13</sup>. How active the Rutland Agricultural Society was in the Uppingham area in promoting modern approaches to farming is not clear (see Ploughing Match on page 1).

## Trades, Crafts and Professions

**Cloth and leather:** Then there were the cloth and leather trades, including some 61 women dressmakers and milliners, 43 tailors and at least another six persons in associated trades such as stay and corset maker, weaver and woolcomber. Sarah Adcock, straw bonnet maker and milliner, had a shoe warehouse in 1850<sup>14</sup>. The drapers' shops on High Street were a main feature of the town at the time. 42 persons were engaged in the leather trades as cordwainers, boot and shoemakers, curriers and tanners and especially harness makers, combining their skills in leather craft with metal work to produce horse-collars, saddles and general items of harness. A tanyard lay in the valley just to the west of the London Road. A ropewalk operated in North Street with three workers; they also made sheep-nets<sup>15</sup>.

The **building trades** engaged the attention of at least 46 workers, especially stone masons. No less than 20 masons were listed in the census, and examples of their work can be found in the churchyard of Uppingham and of surrounding parishes. Builders, plumbers (13), glaziers, painters, plasterers, slaters and paviors, are all mentioned. The brick-works were reputed for their local wares. Add to this the 42 woodworkers (carpenters, joiners, sawyers, chairmakers and cabinet-makers) and the busy scene of Uppingham life becomes clearer.

Some 47 persons can be classified as occupied in the **professions**. Of these, 20 were engaged in education, 11 men and 9 women (see chapter 7 below). Of the rest, we have a Bank Manager and clerk, a civil engineer (formerly a coach proprietor), six clergy of various denominations (see chapter 7 below), five engaged in the law, five medical practitioners, an auctioneer, and a veterinary surgeon. There was the Gas Works Manager, an Inland Revenue Officer, and the Poor Law Union Relieving Officer as well as the Workhouse Master and Mistress.

Then there are the **traders**, especially the 93 persons engaged in the food and drink trades. Some 56 persons



# **RULES AND REGULATIONS** **FOR LETTING AND MANAGING** **A CLOSE OF LAND,** **IN UPPINGHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND,** **BELONGING TO THE CHURCHWARDENS OF THAT PARISH,** **ON THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM.**

1. That the Land shall be let for one year only, and possession given on the twenty-fifth day of March in each year.
2. That not more than One Pound Two Shillings is to be the Rent for each three half Roods, including all Town Dues, Rates, Taxes, and other Parochial and Parliamentary outgoings whatever, and ten shillings the Rent for the twenty-four Perches, including the like outgoings.
3. That the respective Rents shall be paid into the hands of the Churchwardens of Uppingham, or to such person as they shall appoint, half yearly, viz. ; on the twenty-fifth day of March, and the twenty-ninth day of September, in each year.
4. That the Land be occupied in the following manner, viz. ; One third and no more with Potatoes ; one third and no more with Cabbages, Feas, Beans, Onions, Carrots, or any green Crop, and the remaining third with Wheat, Barley, or any kind of Grain.
5. That if any Occupier is found neglectful in the cultivation of his Land, he shall not be permitted to hold it more than one year.
6. That no Occupier will be suffered to re-let his Land.
7. That no Occupier will be allowed to plough his Land, but cultivate it solely by spade husbandry.
8. That no Occupier who is at work for any employer shall be allowed to work upon his Land after Six o'clock in the Morning, or before Six o'clock in the Evening, without permission from his Master.
9. That each Occupier having any Fence running on the side or end of his Allotment shall keep such Fence in good and Tenantable repair, and the Hedge clipped, and the proportion of the Ditch belonging to such Fence properly cleaned and scoured.
10. Any Occupier who shall be detected in any act of dishonesty shall forfeit his Land on the following twenty-fifth day of March.
11. It is expected that every Occupier shall attend some place of Worship, at least once every Sunday, and should he neglect to do so without sufficient cause after being warned, he shall be deprived of his Land.
12. No Occupier will be allowed to trespass upon another's Land, or upon any adjoining Fields, in going to or from his own Allotment, upon pain of being discharged therefrom.
13. That no Occupier shall work on a Sunday.
14. That if any Occupier who is an habitual Drunkard or frequenter of Public Houses, shall after having been reprov'd, still persist in the same course, he shall be deprived of his Land.
15. The potatoe Crop to be manured with the whole of the Manure arising from the Cropping, and as much more as it is convenient to the Occupier to provide.
16. No person to occupy more or less than the three half Roods, except the Occupier of the twenty-four Perches, No. 25 ; the three half Roods being equally divided into three parts prior to entry.
17. That no person not paying Rent for his Dwelling-house shall be allowed to occupy any Land under these Rules.
18. That on the twenty-fifth day of March in every year, the Churchwardens shall be at liberty to take the actual possession of each Occupier's Land if they think fit, without giving any Notice of such their intention, and without resorting to any proceedings of Ejectment or otherwise for the recovery of such possession.

*Part of the rules and regulations governing the church allotments in 1844 (Marc Oxley)*



supplied food, 34 operated the pubs and inns and three were engaged in the wine trade. The food merchants included 11 bakers and five millers, two confectioners, 12 butchers, 5 fishmongers, 7 grocers with 14 assistants, apprentices and servants and four tea dealers who travelled around the region selling tea. There were no less than 10 maltsters and brewers and three coopers in the town. The 30 general traders included sellers of baskets, books, candles, china, coal, ironmongery, medicines and drugs. There were three printers and two watchmakers.



*Tom Aris 'clockie' was a watchmaker in 1851, living on the north side of High Street east near the current town hall. He had seven children at home on census night.*

The carriage trade was a significant element in a small market town like Uppingham (see chapter 6). Twenty-one persons were engaged in coach building, wheelwrighting, coach painting and coach trimming, or in acting as carrier, omnibus-driver, waggoner or horse-trainer. Among the remainder of occupations are those of higgler (a packman who exchanged some farm produce for market goods), labourers and scavengers. A mixed economy indeed.

## EMPLOYMENT

The middle of the nineteenth century was a period when industry was moving from a domestic base to a factory base. To measure this, the census enumerators were asked to obtain information about employment (apart from servants). The returns for the town show 40 persons employing a total of 115 workers (only four

women). But we know that this list is not complete: for example, the solicitor employed a clerk.

The only large-scale operation in the town was that of the Hopkins brothers, William and Benjamin (see below). They employed 14 men and 4 women in their drapery and tailoring business. Three other drapers or tailors also had employees. Daniel Slater, builder, cabinet maker, joiner, carpenter, and auctioneer and appraiser, who had in the past few months moved from Preston to Uppingham<sup>16</sup>, and Robert Watson currier in Horn Lane each employed six men. All the rest were very small scale. The grocer and ironmonger had one man, two apprentices and a boy. The bookseller, cabinet-maker, coach builder, miller and baker, cordwainer and maltster each employed three men.

Fourteen of the 16 farmers reported that they employed a total of 36 men. Only Edward Ingram, butcher and farmer, and William Mould, maltster and farmer, had six employees each. Thomas Reeve had four men, while Joseph Freestone at the Hall (coal merchant and farmer) and Christopher Sewell, farmer and maltster at the east end of the town, each had three men. Most of the 128 agricultural labourers and farm servants in the town must have earned their living by casual labour or working for farmers outside Uppingham.

The bulk of those working in Uppingham in 1851 then must have been self-employed or working on piecework (e.g. the milliners). But a precise distinction between employed and self-employed at that time cannot be made. Nor is it clear how many if any were unemployed at the time, although one or two persons 'off sick' were noted.

**Apprentices:** Most of the large businesses had apprentices. 32 apprentices are listed in the census, all male except two dressmakers. They cover all the main occupations in the town such as grocer and draper and some minor ones such as hairdresser. The youngest apprentice was aged 12, though most were aged between 15 and 20. Twelve of the 32 apprentices were born in Uppingham; the remainder came from the surrounding countryside.

**Child workers:** Acts of Parliament in 1833 and 1842 had limited the ages of working in the factories and in the mines, but work in towns was still unregulated. Taking the age of 14 as that which seems to have been acceptable to contemporaries for young people to work, we find that 10 girls below that age were at work, one as young as 12. Most were servants, but one was a dressmaker. 28 boys (omitting the boy of seven described as servant, which is probably an error on the part of the enumerator) were also at work. The

youngest was Jimmy Riddle aged 10, a chimney sweep, along with his brother aged 12. The next was a farm boy aged 11. Seven twelve year olds were working in agriculture, as errand boys or as an assistant pavior, and two as apprentice shoemaker and cabinet-maker. Ten thirteen year olds worked as servants, tailors, errand boys and agricultural workers. Ten fourteen year old boys were also working – five as apprentices, four in agriculture and one as a tailor.

### The Hopkins Family

There were four large drapery stores in Uppingham in 1851. Mrs Seaton and Mrs Kemp (later Edward Kemp) were both on the north side of High Street East. Thomas Parsons silk mercer, draper and carpet seller, was in the same part of town between the Falcon and the Unicorn. There was also a substantial tailoring firm run by Mrs Frances Holmes on the corner of High Street West and the Market Place (the dominance of women in this trade is noteworthy).

The most prominent of these in economic terms in Uppingham at the time of the census was that of the two brothers William and Benjamin Hopkins, tailors and woollen drapers, who occupied two houses in High Street East (currently Boots the chemist and the carpet shop). Behind their shop was Hopkins Court which in 1851 had 15 houses, most of them occupied by tailors, dressmakers and milliners etc.

**Origins:** The family can first be seen in Uppingham as tailors and farmers (1791) with land around Uppingham. Thomas Hopkins' son William I had established himself as a tailor and draper in High Street, Uppingham by 1821 and his father was living in an adjoining house<sup>17</sup>. Thomas died about 1835 and William inherited his land. This William was born in 1778; he married first Ann, by whom he had Joseph, died 1819 aged 10 years, William II, born 1812, and Benjamin, born 1818. On the death of Ann in 1837, William I married Mary, who inherited some of his land on his death in 1847. By 1837, William had bought the next door house on High Street and redeveloped the two properties<sup>18</sup>.

**Prosperity:** William II and Benjamin inherited the firm before the death of his father in 1847, for the brothers were named in the 1846 *Directory*. William II had married before 1839 (Sylvia E Hopkins in the census), for the first recorded child was born in that year. The census records that he had four children, but two other children, William III, who inherited the firm, and Eliza Ambrose born in 1845 and died 1865, were clearly absent on census night.



*Gravestone of member of Hopkins family: Selina does not have the additional name of Huntingdon in the census and Eliza Ann is not present in the census although born in 1845.*

William's household was large, with four resident children, three workmen and two household servants. Benjamin had married sometime before and had had two children who died in infancy; his only surviving child in 1851 was aged one. He too had two household servants and a 'visitor' (a milliner). Next door (probably in the house formerly occupied by her father) lived Susannah Hopkins, unmarried and aged 29, fundholder, with one servant<sup>19</sup>.

The brothers were wealthy. They had "a very large Tailoring business carried on in the premises now (1911) occupied by the Chemist in High Street. The Tailor owned all the cottage property behind his business premises and held them for the use of his Tailors"<sup>20</sup>. They employed fourteen men and four women. They traded widely; for example, in September 1850, the Glaston charity trustees bought a large number of goods from 'Mr Hopkins of Uppingham' to distribute to the poor. William was also an agent for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company. Both brothers were stalwart members of the Congregational Church and became trustees of the new school founded in 1851<sup>21</sup>.

[Page 37 (201)]

BURIALS in the Parish of <i>Uppingham</i> in the County of <i>Rutland</i> in the Year <i>1869</i>				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<i>1869</i> <i>William Hopkins</i> No. <i>241</i>	<i>Uppingham</i>	<i>March</i> <i>22</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>J. M. Walter</i> <i>Rector</i>
<i>1869</i> <i>William Andrews</i> No. <i>242</i>	<i>Uppingham</i>	<i>April</i> <i>4th</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>Rev. H. Richardson</i> <i>Curate</i>
<i>1869</i> <i>John Thomas Trigg</i> No. <i>243</i>	<i>Uppingham</i>	<i>April</i> <i>22</i>	<i>6</i> <i>Months</i>	<i>Rev. H. Richardson</i>
<i>1869</i> <i>Francis Caroline Riddle</i> No. <i>244</i>	<i>Uppingham</i>	<i>May</i> <i>2nd</i>	<i>1</i> <i>year</i> <i>5</i> <i>Months</i>	<i>Rev. H. Richardson</i>

Burial register entry for William Hopkins 1869 (Uppingham Parish Registers)

**Decline:** But the later history of the firm is obscure. William died in 1869. Benjamin moved into a house in Uppingham called The Views, which he may have built for himself; he died in 1870. William Hopkins III was running the firm by 1864; he had been born by 1841 but is not in the 1851 census. Towards the end of the century, he seems to have run the firm into financial difficulties, perhaps by speculation in land and property. Before 1882, he was holding farm property on Ayston Road consisting of a field and slaughterhouse, beast sheds and hovels. In 1878, he bought a shop in Printer's Yard for £560 although the property had previously (1864) been sold at auction for only £360 and insured for £400. The next year, he took out a mortgage on this for £430 at between 5% and 6% (a high rate at that time); and in 1883, he leased it for fourteen years at a rent of £30 pa, a rent which could hardly have covered the interest on the mortgage. A second mortgage of £200 on the same property was taken out in 1884, which led the original mortgagor to foreclose on the rent. By 1888 the property was settled on Elizabeth C Hopkins but in 1892 the mortgagor foreclosed on the property and sold it<sup>22</sup>.

Sometime before 1895, the firm sold its High Street premises to another drapery company, Perkins, and moved into the Market Place (just to the west of the Falcon Hotel); it ceased to trade under that name by 1900<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> G Best, *Mid-Victorian Britain* London 1971 p77

<sup>2</sup> Directories 1846-1864.

<sup>3</sup> Marshall deeds

<sup>4</sup> Rawnsley p224

<sup>5</sup> Hodgk p227

<sup>6</sup> Hodgk p229

<sup>7</sup> Parkinson 1808 p93

<sup>8</sup> Hodgk p228

<sup>9</sup> Parkinson 1808

<sup>10</sup> Parkinson 1808 p 27

<sup>11</sup> Tithe award 1851, at Rutland County Museum

<sup>12</sup> Parkinson 1808 p27

<sup>13</sup> Parkinson 1808 pp31, 42, 104,144

<sup>14</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>15</sup> Directory 1846

<sup>16</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>17</sup> RB1; Directories 1791, 1829, 1830-1

<sup>18</sup> RB2; CR 1835, 1847; MI

<sup>19</sup> Census; MI; CR.

<sup>20</sup> 1911 p36

<sup>21</sup> LRO/DE; 1846 Directory; Congregational Church Records.

<sup>22</sup> Directory 1864; MI; CR 1882; Marshall deeds.

<sup>23</sup> *UppRut* p47; Directories.



*Jack Vines sawyer was aged 22 in 1851. He lived with his father William Vines, also a sawyer, in North Street West. William was said to be married but his wife was absent on the night of the census. There was a granddaughter, Fanny Rogers aged 9, in the household; she had been born in Market Harborough.*

*Suke (Susan) Hudson was aged 20 in 1851. She was one of the four children of William and Susan Hudson, living with her parents in a larger house at the bottom of North Street Row (see pages 30-31). She was apprenticed as a dressmaker in the town. There were two lodgers and a visitor in their house on census night.*



*Jack Blunt, agricultural labourer, lived on Stockerston Road in 1851 with his young wife Mary from Seaton, and his grandfather John Knight, an agricultural labourer and pauper. They had a lodger staying with them, William Tilley from Caldecott; Tilley was also an agricultural labourer and married but his wife is not listed in the census.*

## CHAPTER IV: WEALTH, POWER AND POVERTY

It is not always easy to detect the social structure of Uppingham. The census records the occupations and sometimes the employment totals but it does not set out to describe the size of the enterprise, and the levels of income are of course unknown. Wealth and poverty are hard to see from these sources.

### WEALTH AND POWER

There are some indicators of wealth. While the size of the family is not a sign of prosperity (poor families were often large), the size of the household may be significant. Those households who employed servants give some signs of wealth and superior social status. But even here we need to be careful. Probably one of the most important families in the town was that of Joseph Freeston (farmer and coal merchant) who in the last few months had moved from Lyddington into the Hall at the east end of town. He was a stalwart supporter of the Congregational Church in Uppingham. But even in this large and imposing house, the household consisted of Joseph (unmarried), his widowed mother and his aunt Mary Hotchkin. In the census, Mary Hotchkin is called 'housekeeper' although in fact she is a member of the family who had owned the Hall and passed it to C B Adderley. In the Directory of 1850, she is listed among 'the gentry'<sup>1</sup>. They had one (male) servant, a waggoner. At first glance, this does not seem to be a wealthy family, but the 1837 rate book shows that their property carried a massive assessment of £48 per year, the highest except for the workhouse!

The rate book shows other very wealthy owners. William Hopkins with his clothing works, Thomas Bryan grocer in the Market Place, the Rev J G Dimock, the Grammar School, Cornelius Hill at the west end of High Street, Thomas Brown in High Street West, the Falcon Hotel and the Unicorn – these all paid very high rates. But the census tends to hide these distinctions rather than reveal them.

The case of Mary Hotchkin suggests that some persons were not too preoccupied with their social status. Others however showed more pretension. Samuel Thorpe (who lived in South Backside) describes his occupation as 'The Rector's Servant'. He lists in his household one 'servant', who turns out to be an 'errand boy' aged 13! The town, with its hairdressers and perfumers, no doubt catered for the tastes of those who felt themselves to be of the superior classes.

### Political power and the gentry

Politically, there were few heavyweights in the town. None of the county JPs lived in Uppingham. Charles Hall was a county coroner, and Edward Jackson was chief constable of Martinsley Hundred (the local government area in which Uppingham stood). William Gilson was clerk to the magistrates and into many other kinds of social and political activity such as the Uppingham Association for the Prosecution of Felons. The 1850 Directory listed the 'gentry' of the town, including Mrs Ann Hart (not her husband), Cornelius Hill, Mary Hotchkin, John William Jeyes, Charlotte Palmer the former headmistress of the lady's academy in Uppingham, Thomas Reeve farmer, and John Sones (gentleman and former innkeeper in the census). All except Reeve were on High Street; Reeve was described in 1846 as on South View but in the census as of Hog Hill. The Directory also lists a Mr James Burgess who lived in 'The Park'<sup>2</sup>.

**Land ownership:** The major landlords were of course absentees. The Noel family was represented by the Earl of Gainsborough of Exton (the Lord Barham of the 1839 map). In 1851, he was 70 years of age. He had been a Rutland MP from 1808 to 1814, but he was no longer politically active. His son Lord Campden (aged 33 in 1851) was however very active – a Liberal MP for Rutland 1840-1 and High Sheriff 1848. He had married a royal family offspring, a bridesmaid of Queen Victoria. The Noel family still held the position of one of the MPs for Rutland.

C B Adderley, the other major landholder in the town, lived at Hams Hall near Birmingham. He too was an MP (for Staffordshire), coming from a long-lived family in that region.



*Portrait of C B Adderley as a young man. He owned much of Uppingham, including the Hall.*

He went on to have a long and very prestigious career in government, in education and in colonial matters. He inherited his estates in Rutland (including the Hall in Uppingham) from his great uncle (also C B Adderley) who had married into the Hotchkin family of Tixover. He married the daughter of Baron Leigh of Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. In 1851, he was 36 years of age and an MP. It is interesting that Cape Town named its main street Adderley Street after C B Adderley in recognition of his work in saving that settlement from becoming a convict colony – but that was much later. He became Lord Norton (hence Norton Street) and died in 1905.

**Manor courts in Uppingham:** Such men were influential but absentees. Uppingham was largely left to run its own affairs and to settle its own quarrels. The town in 1851 was divided between two manorial lords, the family of Noel (the Manor of Preston with Uppingham) and the Rectory Manor. Both managed their estates through agents. The Noel family used William Gilson/Sheilds. The Rector's agent was at first Charles Hall of High Street West (south side), and very shortly afterwards Thomas Brown of High Street West north side, now the Thring Centre of Uppingham School.

A substantial number of properties in the town were held in freehold or copyhold of the two manors. Copyhold was slightly more limited than freehold but the owner could buy and sell property, subject to relatively small payments to the lords of the manors. The ratebooks for Uppingham thus treated freehold and copyhold as essentially the same for rating purposes. But a preliminary study of the rate book for 1837 (the nearest in date we have to the census) shows that the large majority of the properties in the town were rented from their owners. 115 properties were stated to be owner-occupied in that year and 295 were let to other members of the community. The Noel family owned a further 16 properties in the town, including the Falcon Inn, which they let out directly, and C B Adderley, who held 14 properties as freehold or copyhold, let them all out. There were 10 empty properties in 1837 out of just over 400 properties. Outside the town the Noels held substantially more agricultural land than Adderley, and the Heathcote family held six fields, all let out.

This means that a number of properties in the town area (both urban and agricultural land) came under the jurisdiction of the two lords of the manor, the Earl of Gainsborough and the Rectory Manor. Both manors held courts once or twice a year, but these meetings confined their attention almost entirely to property transactions. Most of their jurisdiction had gone to the

magistrates and the county courts, and most of their manorial responsibilities had been taken over by the town Vestry meeting. The manorial courts still appointed officers, with antique-sounding titles like deciners, thirdboroughmen and pinders but they had few duties. Some personal disputes were still heard in the manor courts such as the suit made by William and George Ingram against their eldest brother for their father's inheritance in 1853, and trespass cases such as the misappropriation of the town's water supplies by the innkeeper of the Chequers Inn<sup>3</sup>. But, on the whole, these courts would have held significance only for those on copyhold tenements, since the courts controlled the renting of their holdings. The entry fines and rents on the Noel manor had been fixed for many years, but the entry fines on the 'Rector's hold' were 'arbitrary' – that is, they could be varied at the will of the landlord and the state of the market. Within a year of the 1851 census, both courts ceased to meet, the two stewards preferring to work from their offices and to deal with manorial activities as and when they arose.

**The power of profession:** The gentry then were not the most influential people in the town. It was their stewards and men like them who really wielded power in Uppingham at that time. People like Thomas Brown solicitor, Thomas Broughton bookseller and secretary to the local Gas Works, Jonathan Gibbons land agent who occupied a large house at the east end of town, Charles Hall solicitor of High Street West (south side) who was county coroner and steward of the Rector's manor, Thomas Measures governor of the Workhouse, John Wilford the Relieving Officer, and John Wilmot deputy superintending registrar who played a large part in taking the census – these were people clearly to be reckoned with. Nine of the leading citizens had insurance agencies, a sign of influence.

One of the most important persons in the town was the solicitor William Gilson. He came from Wing and later changed his name to Sheild in order to inherit property there. He was clerk to the magistrates and to the county courts, and clerk to the Board of Guardians (the poor relief officers who ran the Union workhouse). He was Superintendent Registrar, responsible among other things for the census. He was clerk and treasurer of the Uppingham Association for the Prosecution of Felons. He was steward of the manor of the Earl of Gainsborough. He held substantial amounts of copyhold property in the town (and probably some freehold property) and he lent money in the town and acted as solicitor to property transactions. He ran his business from his home in High Street West (north side).



*The house that William Gilson built for himself on High Street West (north side) soon after 1851. It was probably the most pretentious domestic/commercial office in the town of its date. The domestic quarters were to the east (note the bay windows and the ironwork over them), and the office was to the west (note the imposing doorway and the large window to the office).*

The powerful were of course mostly men. Although women played a large part in the households of Uppingham and in the trades of the town, they did not play such a large part in public office.

**Local government:** Uppingham was not an incorporated town – that is, it did not have a charter or an elected corporation. But it did have its own form of government in the Vestry – the parish council. Officers made reports to the council and were elected by the council at its annual meeting (the Vestry) held every year about Easter time, at the end of March or in April.

Among the most important persons in the town were the parish officers – the overseers of the poor, surveyors of the highways and other officers, but pre-eminently the churchwardens. They were elected at the Vestry meeting. Henry Thorpe, the stonemason and engraver who lived in North Street, was parish clerk from 1843 (when he succeeded William Aris who held the same position for 23 years) until his death in 1856<sup>4</sup>. Just after the census, on 22 April 1851, the

Vestry met under the chairmanship of the Curate, the Rector being absent (his son had died a few weeks earlier and his wife was almost certainly seriously ill, since she died three weeks after the census). Charles Wellington Oliver, the printer and bookseller but a relative newcomer to the town, was chosen as the Rector's church warden, and John Barratt Butt, grocer and ale and porter merchant of High Street north, was elected as churchwarden by the lay members of the Vestry<sup>5</sup>. They were responsible for the collection and expenditure of the church rate, a cause of much controversy at the time, especially among the nonconformists, and they provided and ran many of the services of the town such as the parish constable and fire service. There were regular quarrels in the town, particularly between the officers and the Vestry meeting, between the Vestry and some of the town members, and even between the Vestry and the Rector, over the cost and effectiveness of these services and of new services such as the provision of gas lighting, paving, and the town's water supply. It was this which held up the provision of main street drainage in the town for many years during the nineteenth century and which eventually caused Thring to remove his pupils to Borth much later in the century<sup>6</sup>.

## THE POOR: IN AND OUT OF THE WORKHOUSE

### Poor relief in Uppingham in 1851

The poor in 1851, as now, would have comprised those people and families who found themselves with little or no regular income and no savings to fall back on. This may have been as a result of illness, disability or old age or simply the lack of sufficient suitable employment in the area. In the absence of a welfare state, such people would have to rely on help from other family members, from charity, or as a last resort the parish 'poor relief'. For the more fortunate who had paid into a Friendly Society, there could at least be the expectation of a regular sickness benefit, but there are no signs of a Friendly Society in Uppingham in 1851.

There were then in Uppingham in 1851 several sources of poor relief. There were the parish overseers of the poor. The parish "workhouse was opposite the present Wesleyan chapel and seems to have been a very primitive place, run by a committee and a caretaker - an old cobbler was caretaker for a long time"<sup>7</sup>. It would seem that this was not being used in 1851 to house paupers; "the old parish workhouse and lock-up house and engine house adjoining" were leased in 1838 to a Mr Spence<sup>8</sup>. All parish relief then would have

been outdoor relief. But the main source of 'official' poor relief was the Union poor law guardians, who offered accommodation in the Union Workhouse on the Leicester Road.

**Church Relief:** In addition, there were the churchwardens who with the overseers of the poor held some parish charities. Apart from those charities which were held for the maintenance of the church and its activities, there were several charities for the poor of Uppingham. Under the Poor Lands or Ashton Charity, rent from land in Northamptonshire was distributed (six shillings every week to 36 poor persons including widows). Secondly, a sum of about £35 from rents in Leicestershire was distributed on St Thomas' Day (7 July - the summer fair date) each year to a number of poor persons of Uppingham selected by the churchwardens (Pakeman's Charity). And thirdly, a further rent charge on the Swan Inn (Allibon's Charity) also came to the churchwardens for charitable use. There were apparently other charities such as the Hotchkin Charity, while the Independent Church also had a small charity for the poor<sup>9</sup> but these are not listed in the Charity Commission Report.

**Johnson's Charity:** Most importantly, there was the Johnson Charity. The biggest charitable relief in Uppingham came from these trustees who maintained the 'hospitals' or bedehouses in Oakham and Uppingham built in the 1580s for the relief of the poor as well as the two grammar schools. These 'governors' were receiving nearly £3000 pa in 1839 (almost certainly more by 1851) to be used for the two schools and the two hospitals. The bedehouses, however, "have been for many years given up to the use of the two masters of the schools for the accommodation of their boarders, the poor people being allowed to reside and receive their stipends at their own homes [which] is thought to be more adapted to the inclinations of the alms-people". There were at least 100 recipients of Johnson's Charity in 1851, probably more, each receiving £10 a year in quarterly payments. The poor came from the various villages in Rutland, "regard being had to the proportion directed to be chosen from Oakham and Uppingham". Those who came from Uppingham were required to bring "certificates signed by 20 householders contributing to the poor rate ... of their being honest and poor". It is not clear exactly how many persons in Uppingham were receiving relief from Johnson's Charity in 1851. Places on the Johnson Charity were clearly sought after keenly; "each new governor is allowed the privilege of filling up the two first vacancies that occur after his election. The most aged and infirm and such as appear to have brought up large families by honest and industrious means are mostly selected"<sup>10</sup>.

## Paupers Living in the Community

Although the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act was not specific, the impression was given that it was unlawful to grant parish or Union relief to an able-bodied pauper in his or her own home. If they wanted help, they must bring their family into the workhouse. Despite this official attitude, some outdoor relief was given, and this trend increased as time went on. During the 1840's and 1850's, the poor law guardians periodically relieved the unemployed outside the workhouse on the ostensible grounds of sickness or accident.

Pamela Horn, writing about life in the Victorian countryside, reports that from the introduction of the new poor law system in the mid-1830's, members of a family who could contribute to the support of an elderly relative were required to do so. For most rural workers faced with illness or unemployment, the poor law remained as a last refuge, to be appealed to when all else failed. The sums paid out were small but at least they helped to tide the family over until the breadwinner could resume employment<sup>11</sup>.

**Unemployment:** This can be seen at times in the 1851 Uppingham census. Edward Higgs points out that the census enumerator may have found difficulty in making a definite distinction between being in employment and being retired or unemployed. When work was very casual and stoppages frequent, especially in the last years of peoples' working lives, the distinction might be difficult to draw<sup>12</sup>. This is rather poignantly illustrated by the entry for Ann Knight of Todds Piece who, despite being aged 71, is described as a pauper 'but tripe dresser when able'.

A grant of outdoor relief, where the recipient was allowed to remain living in the community as opposed to the workhouse, could be augmented by small earnings and receipts from charity. Indeed, several of the younger Uppingham residents described as paupers and receiving out-relief probably still had some form of employment, for example John Sims, 43, 'agricultural labourer pauper', and Martha White, 42, 'laundress pauper'.

Poor relief, however, always carried with it a social stigma. The monetary help was grudgingly given after careful investigation of the financial circumstances of the applicant. For the able bodied, resort to the indignities of the poor law was something normally to endure on a short-term basis but, for the old, parish relief was all too often a more permanent way of life. From the beginning, outdoor relief had been paid to old people who preferred the allowance to the workhouse. The anxiety of labourers to obtain work in old age is



demonstrated by the relatively large numbers who continued in employment beyond the age of 65<sup>13</sup>.

According to the returns in the 1851 census for Uppingham, a total of 35 people (with 27 dependants) living in the community were categorised as paupers, compared with 84 people living in the workhouse. This number includes Johnson Charity beneficiaries, like the 'almshouse pensioner' Eleanor Furniss, an 81 year old spinster, Ann Spencer, a 71 year old widow 'receiving Bedehouse charity', and William Baines, an 'annuitant of Johnson's Charity'.

A further group of people, described as annuitants or fundholders, may perhaps be discounted because there is no indication that they were paupers. It is more likely that they were more comfortably off as a result of provision being made by means of paying into a pension fund or Friendly Society. Similarly, two Chelsea and one Greenwich pensioners are not included, as their pensions appear to maintain an adequate source of income for their old age supplemented by their earnings.

**Age and Status:** Who were the paupers in Uppingham in 1851? Of the 35 individuals listed as paupers, but excluding any dependent family members, nine were under 60 years of age. They were predominantly women, and all were described as the head of the household. Some had children to support. Thus two widows, both by the name of Mary Simms, each had five children living with them. Of the males, John Sims, 43, with a wife and a family of five children to support, and Thomas Ireland, 60, with a wife and two dependent children, are the only family men described as paupers. The existence of three pauper families in the town all with the surname of Simms is striking.

A quarter of these paupers lived on their own but there is no pattern to the habitation of the majority. A number had lodgers living in the house, which presumably helped to eke out their existence. Some of the older ones lived, variously, with children, grandchildren or in one case a niece. Others are shown as residing with wives who were not described as paupers, although invariably they had no occupations and must therefore have been in a similarly impecunious situation. An exception is the case of John Colston, described as a pauper living alone in Meeting Lane, but married. Mrs Colston (no first name) appears in the census return at another address in the same street working as a monthly nurse to a family with a week-old baby son.

**Occupations:** Of the nine paupers of working age, five are described simply as paupers, whilst the remainder

are variously woolcomber, laundress, agricultural labourer and washerwoman. Of the over sixties, four are listed as agricultural labourers and one as shepherd. One unmarried pauper, aged 64, is stated simply as being a 'butcher's daughter' with no other trade or profession to her name. One may speculate that she had lived most of her life on her father's savings, which had unfortunately by 1851 been spent. A most curious pauper is John Bradley, aged 65, who is listed as a schoolmaster and staying on census night with a young couple and their two children in South Backside. He is not described as a lodger but as an 'inmate'. Could he be on a visit from the workhouse?



*Eliza Turner (called Jump Liza later in the century) was a washerwoman and pauper in 1851, although aged only 33. She was living alone in Gambles Yard.*

Not all paupers were from the labouring classes. In addition to the schoolmaster mentioned above, a miller and a carpenter had fallen on hard times in their old age. Maybe this was the result of poor health or an accident which had curtailed their working life but this is pure guesswork.

**Location:** The location of the poorest people in the community is spread throughout the town, with clusters being found in Meeting Lane (9 paupers), South Backside (5), Stockerston Road (4), Hog Hill (3), North Street Row (3) and Leamington Terrace (3). In

# PLAN OF UPPINGHAM

1839.

Post miles from Uppingham.

To Oakham	7 miles.
Milton Mowbray	17 "
Leicester	20 "
Hardborough	16 "
Kettering	15 "
Thrapston	18 "
Oundle	16 "
Peterborough	23 "
Stamford	12 "

Fairs.

7<sup>th</sup> March & 7<sup>th</sup> July

No 1. Bank Clarke, Mitchell & Co.

No 2. Bank Stamford & Spalding Banking Co.

Population in 1811 was 1484.

do 1821 .. 1630.

do 1831 .. 1757.



the last street, two of the three paupers were not heads of household but were living with families where the head was gainfully employed. The other locations are: Hopkins Court (2), Gambles Yard (2), Innocent's Yard (1), High Street (1), Bullocks Yard (1) and Todds Piece (1).

**Place of Birth:** Just over 54% of those receiving outdoor relief were born in Uppingham. 56% of those born outside Uppingham were widows, and presumably a high proportion of these had come to Uppingham upon marriage. Of the remainder, three were from other Rutland settlements; two were from Northamptonshire, two from Lincolnshire and one from Huntingdonshire.

**Conclusion:** Taken as a percentage of the Uppingham population in 1851, paupers and their dependants living in the community represented about 3% of the total population or 8% of the total number of households, which reflects the relatively high proportion of elderly paupers. This probably compares favourably with the number of people receiving benefits today, although the perception of poverty in 1851 would have been very different from that of today. Then most people on relief would attempt to augment their meagre rations by cultivating a plot of land or keeping a few bees, chickens or a pig as a valuable boost to the food supply. But such occasional extras were of themselves inadequate to support life, although in this manner the day of entry to the workhouse could be postponed or avoided by the aged.

### Poor Relief in the Workhouse

The Union Workhouse was built on the Leicester Road in 1837 at a cost of £3128. It was designed to house 140 inmates, but later was extended to provide accommodation for 170 persons<sup>14</sup>. It is clear that it was intended to be imposing. Its aim was to serve as a multi-purpose building - as an unemployment centre, a hospital, an old people's home, and an orphanage. Medical services were provided by Dr John Bell and religious offices by the Rev William Purdon<sup>15</sup>.

**Inmates:** On census night in 1851, the workhouse was housing 84 inmates - as well as Thomas Measures the Master and his three children; his wife had died only recently. His two daughters, aged 27 and 23, were serving as matron and schoolmistress respectively and his son aged 11 was a scholar. No servants were listed in his household. There were more men than women in the workhouse - 47 men and 37 women. The age range is interesting. There were 40 young people in all under the age of 20, 24 under the age of ten. There



*Gravestone of Mary Measures, wife of Thomas Measures master of the Union workhouse. It indicates the death of six of their children in infancy.*

were 22 persons aged 60 and above. There were only 5 people between the ages of 20 and 30, and only 17 between the ages of 30 and 60. The workhouse was mainly for the very young and the very old.

Ages	Male	Female	Total
0-9	13	11	24
10-19	10	6	16
20-29	1	4	5
30-59	8	9	17
60+	15	7	22

Only two persons were designated as disabled, both blind, Thomas Dams aged 75, an agricultural labourer (there were several families of Dams in Uppingham, all of whom came from Seaton, but he had been born in Harringworth) and John Bagley from Wing, a weaver aged 74.

What is surprising is that four of the men were stated to be married without any sign of their spouse, whereas no married women were recorded without their partners. Perhaps the men were in the workhouse for illness rather than poverty. There was one married couple, John and Lucy Cox aged 79 and 69.

Status	Male	Female	Total
Married	4	-	4
Unmarried	8	14	22
Widowed	10	6	16
Couples	2	2	4
Children under the age of 15	23	14	37

More of the women in the workhouse were unmarried, whereas more of the men were widowed (the status of one woman is not recorded). The problem would seem to be in the majority of cases inability to cope when left on their own.

There were several family groups. Francis and Esther Ward, aged 34 and 23, had three girls with them aged between 5 years and 1 year. They seem to have come from Medbourne. Emma Staples widow aged 42 was there with her five children, the youngest being only 10 months old, having been born in Gretton like the rest of the family; clearly she had fallen on hard times very recently. So apparently had Robert Woolston, a married man of 57, who had three girls and one boy between the ages of 17 and 4 years; had his wife left him? Thomas Freer, a married man of 54, was in the workhouse with a boy Abram Freer, aged 10. Elizabeth Baines, a widow from Ridlington, was there with a boy Joseph, aged 14.

Others appear to be orphans. The Shuter brothers, four of them, aged between 10 years and one year and born

in Uppingham; Elijah and David Cliff of Preston aged 9 and 14; Matilda Sewell aged 7 and Edward Sewell aged 5 (Matilda was born in Leicestershire but Edward in Uppingham); William, George and Mary Burrows aged between 14 and 11, all of Uppingham; and Charles Freeman of Uppingham aged 6 who seems to be on his own although there was also Elizabeth Freeman of London aged 10 in the workhouse as well - all these seem to be orphans in the workhouse.

Some small groups look like unmarried mothers. Elizabeth Thorpe aged 27 with a boy of 7, Caroline Lount aged 20 with a girl aged one year, Mary Muntion aged 32 with a boy aged one year were all unmarried. But we do need to be careful - there are other possible explanations of this record. For example, Rebecca Nutt unmarried and aged 30 is with a boy aged 11 years; so is Susannah Nutt widow aged 69. It is possible that Rebecca is an unmarried aunt of the boy and the whole family group has come into the workhouse when the widowed Susannah was unable any longer to maintain the rest of the family. The same may be true of Jane Goodliffe (who is neither unmarried nor married in the census book) aged 39 accompanied by a girl and a boy aged 10 and 7 years.

There were many more boys than girls in the workhouse in Uppingham in 1851. All of the children between the ages of 5 and 14 except two boys (one aged 7 and the other 14) were called scholars.



*The Union Workhouse on Leicester Road, later used as a hospital and eventually demolished for Constables House of Uppingham School (see photograph on back of front cover)*

We cannot say for certain where these inmates came from, since the census only records their birthplaces and not the place of last residence. 17 of them were born in Uppingham, and most of the rest were born in the villages of the Poor Law Union (see map). But even those who were born in places far away, like London, may have been living in Uppingham or nearby before entering the workhouse.

The main occupation, where given, was agricultural labourer. There were two tailors and one weaver, and a chairturner, baker, and gardener. How far they practised their occupation while in the workhouse is not clear.

**Living Conditions:** Life in the workhouse may have been Spartan but clearly was not impossible. The *Stamford Mercury* for 7 March 1851 contained an advertisement from the Board of Guardians for bread

"made of the best thirds flour", "good Oxbeef fat and free of bone, good wether mutton, and legs and shins of beef". They also advertised for Scotch sheeting, blankets and for double-warped woollen diaper rugs, flannel, cotton shirting, blue and white cotton handkerchiefs, and coarse frieze cloth for women and girls. Men were provided with grey cloth coats and waistcoats, corduroy smalls, "beaverteen trowsers", felt hats and shoes and "hightops", women with stays, shoes and boots, boys with corduroy and round jackets, trousers, waistcoats, shoes and hightops and girls with socks, shoes and boots.

The Union workhouse must have been a prominent feature of Uppingham in 1851 and its officials like William Gilson important figures in the town. However much it may have been feared and hated, it was an essential part of the scene, filling an important role in the social life of the town.



Map showing the parishes which formed the Poor Law Union of Uppingham (Ian Ryder).

<sup>1</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>2</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>3</sup> CR

<sup>4</sup> Aldred

<sup>5</sup> *SM* 25 April 1851

<sup>6</sup> See Matthews 1984

<sup>7</sup> 1911 p38

<sup>8</sup> Aldred

<sup>9</sup> Charity Commission Report 1839; *UppRut* p7

<sup>10</sup> Charity Commission Report p375

<sup>11</sup> Horn P., *Labouring Life in the Victorian Countryside*, Oxford 1976

<sup>12</sup> Higgs E, *Making Sense of the Census*, PRO London 1989

<sup>13</sup> Horn 1976; see page xx above

<sup>14</sup> Directory 1863

<sup>15</sup> Slater 1850



## CHAPTER V: HOUSING THE PEOPLE

What kind of a place does the census show Uppingham to have been in 1851?

We are fortunate in that there is a detailed map of the town of 1839, close enough in date for us to be able to marry the census schedules with individual properties in the town. And the use of deeds and the manor court rolls also throws light on the shape of Uppingham at that time.

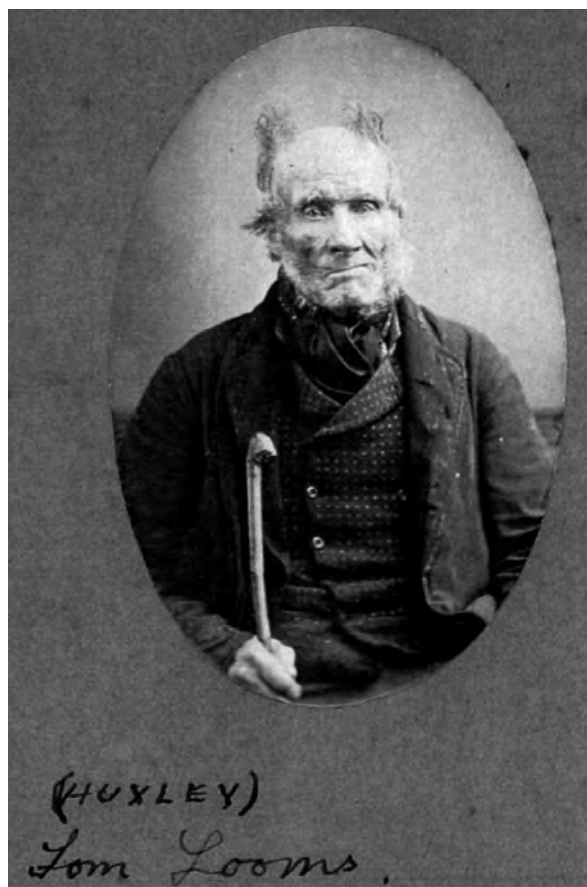
### AN EAST-WEST TOWN

First, Uppingham was then (and to some extent still is) an east-west town. The main routes go through the town from east to west, not from north to south as today. All the north-south streets at that time were very narrow, and it was not easy to get from Orange Lane to Church Street (London Road) until some buildings at Baines Corner had been demolished for the sake of cars and lorries. All the east-west roads were wide and flowed more easily. The inhabitants were not clear what to call the road which ran south from the Market Place. Church Street or Church Lane, Kettering Road, London Road all appear, as well as Scale Hill later (see map on pages 30-31).

### High Street North and High Street South

The route that the census enumerators took when collecting the census forms was also west to east. They started at the west end of High Street near Spring Back Way and went along the south side of the road, then back to Leamington Terrace, some of the courts and back yards south of High Street where the School now occupies much land. They then went eastwards along the south side of the town - Horn Lane, Beast Market, and Hog Hill (which included Norton Street), ending in Meeting Lane (i.e. Adderley Street and the buildings to the south). Having completed the south side of the town, they turned to the north side. Starting with North Street north side, they went west to what they called Morris' Buildings (the triangle opposite the Exeter Arms), then along the north side of High Street from west to east again, then back again filling in the many courts and yards which lay behind the High Street on the north side. They thus divided the town into two, not as we would today between High Street East and High Street West, but between High Street South and High Street North.

Then as now, the heart of the town was High Street from Spring Back Way to the Toll Gate on the Glaston and Seaton Roads and the Market Place. "The town .. consists chiefly of one long street with a square area forming the market place in the centre"<sup>1</sup>. The High Street had more town houses at that time than it has today; and many of these served as both domestic and commercial premises. People, especially the professional and major commercial persons, lived over their workplace, and other businesses in High Street let their upper rooms with fine oak panelling, some of which remains today, to 'more respectable' persons such as school teachers and clerics.



*Tom Looms agricultural labourer lived in the cottage at the top of South View cottages, near the pinfold.*

### HOUSING

The census-takers were asked by the government to count the houses, because there was then (as now) much concern about whether there was enough of a housing stock to meet the needs of the rapidly rising population. There were 404 occupied houses in

Uppingham in 1851, apart from the workhouse but including the two Grammar School houses, both of which were occupied by a family and their pupils. There were 15 empty houses, eleven in Uppingham south and four in Uppingham north. There were five houses in building, four of them in Meeting Lane (at the bottom end near what was called Pudding Bag End).

These 404 houses were occupied by 412 households. Eight of the houses were thus divided between two households. While we can measure the density of population per house in various parts of the town, this does not tell us much, since we do not know the size of the house or cottage concerned, and the wealthy professional classes and major traders filled their larger houses with servants and apprentices as well as family members. All we can say is that in 1851, the town seems to have been densely occupied: 2065 persons in 404 houses, an average of over five persons to a house.

This population (which had increased almost two-fold since the start of the century) was housed in the same total area as it had been in earlier times. The only suburban growth was a short stretch of Leicester Road and a rather longer but scattered stretch of Stockerston Road (which in 1850 was treated as an extension of High Street<sup>2</sup>). There was no building along Ayston Road and only one house on London Road (the census says: "Kettering Road Uninhabited"). At the east end, the Toll Gate marked the end of building.

### Back Yard Housing

The century seems to have fallen into two parts, so far as we can see. The increase of population in the first half of the century was accommodated in small cottages and shacks in the back yards, or in rows of very small terrace houses like North Street Row. This court in North Street West was called on the 1839 map Ragmans Row, "or Rag Row, [after] the dirty and ragged condition of the inhabitants .. the houses were of the poorest - mud walls with very low doors and unglazed windows"<sup>3</sup>. It housed in 1851 several paupers and labourers, a scavenger, a washerwoman, a laundress, a shoemaker, a gardener's assistant and a pauper shepherd. But at the bottom was one larger house with a farm labourer, dressmaker wife and dressmaker apprentice daughter, two children scholars, two lodgers and a visitor. Some 36 persons were living in the eight small houses. It was swept away in the improvements to the town in the 1880s and 1890s, and Allin Cottage was built on the site in 1891<sup>4</sup>.

### Spreading Out

The increase in population in the second half of the century, after the pause of the 1850s, led to a rapid expansion outwards along the Ayston Road and London Road, as well as infilling on Leicester Road and Stockerston Road. The need for new housing later in the century was increased by the Grammar School acquiring all the properties along the south side of High Street between Spring Back Way and School Lane and redeveloping that area for its own needs, thus displacing a large number of families. It was in this later phase that places like Deans Terrace and Wades Terrace were built, spreading out the built up area of the town.

In 1851, then, many of the population, especially the poorer members of the community, were housed in back yards. These were often called by the name of the owner or most prominent resident – Innocents Yard, Gambles Yard, Bullocks Yard, Reeves Yard, Hopkins Court, Inmans Yard. Innocents Yard (perhaps owned by the butcher of that name), for example, housed ten families, 24 adults and eight children, on a plot measuring only 1 rood and 6 perches (excluding the site of the main house on the street) - a density of occupation of some 112 persons per acre<sup>5</sup>. Many of the people in these yards were working for the yard owner. William Hopkins draper and tailor had tailors, dressmakers and milliners in his yard. Is this where Thimble Row gets its name? - for it was very close to Hopkins Court. The census does not show any houses on North Street to the west of Todds Terrace; all the properties along the south side of North Street in the back gardens of the High Street houses were designated as belonging to the properties which fronted onto High Street.

**48 High Street East:** We can see one example of what was going on by looking at 48 High Street East. In 1851, it was a public house called the Black Horse. Between 1841 and 1847, two small cottages were erected in the back yard; entry was gained to them either through the front door of the pub or through a side passage. The pub was occupied by William Sneath, blacksmith and innkeeper, and his family (wife and two grown up children), an apprentice, a female servant and two lodgers in the pub. One of the two new cottages at the rear was occupied by Robert Thorpe, a journeyman tailor, his wife and grown up daughter, while in the other cottage lived William Curtis (the brother of the previous owner of the pub), collar maker, and his wife and four children aged between one year and seven years. The cottages remained until the end of the century but have since



48 High Street East was the Black Horse. There were two cottages in the back yard, and entry was gained through the inn or down the side.

been demolished<sup>6</sup>. A site which today houses five persons provided accommodation in 1851 for 17.

Many other houses on High Street built cottages in their back yards, reached by narrow lanes down the side or passageways through the centre of the property. A few of these entries can still be seen today, although they are fast vanishing – a reminder of what Uppingham was like 150 years ago.



High Street West, north side. The entrance to Gambles Yard still survives.

**Sub-divisions:** Elsewhere in the town, plots were being sub-divided. Buildings were being pulled down and smaller ones built on the site. This seems to have been true especially of lower Adderley Street – Pudding Bag End, Constitution Hill with its steps down the hill, and Mount Pleasant Terrace, which was an area of considerable redevelopment and increased occupation. The 1804 map which accompanies the

enclosure of the town's fields shows a number of plots allotted to individual owners, but the rate books of 1821 and 1837 reveal several of these as being divided and sub-divided again, each occupied by different families. This area must have become very crowded indeed.

### Upper and lower class areas

While it is not possible to be precise on this, looking at such indicators as occupation, household size and the presence or absence of servants, it may be possible to indicate the upper and lower class areas of Uppingham at that time. The whole of the south side of High Street to the east end of town, Market Place and parts of Horn Lane (Queen Street) and the north side of High Street from about Barclays Bank to the east end of town were where the gentry and wealthier members of the town lived. The north side of High Street West shows a rather lower social area, although one or two residents such as Gilson were of "the superior sort" even there.

Craftsmen lived on Todds Piece, Leicester Road, Stockerston Road and South Backside. The north side of North Street West, and much of the Beast Market, Hog Hill, and Meeting Lane areas housed the poorer population. Around the edge of the town were the ropewalk (near Wades Terrace), the wagon yard which moved from School Lane in 1850 to South Backside, the Pits (Stockerston Road), the Gas Works (it was built on the Stockerston Road in 1839 and moved to Gas Hill in 1867<sup>7</sup>), the brick yards on the Seaton Road, and the Union Workhouse on Leicester Road.

### The appearance of the town

Most of the town was built of stone – and much remains today. But there were also houses of wood and thatch. In 1826, a disastrous fire led to the Shambles in the Market Place being rebuilt. The town fire engine, housed apparently in the Market Place<sup>8</sup>, was maintained by the Vestry, but in 1832, the churchwardens rebelled against this charge, although they resumed responsibility in 1838<sup>9</sup>. From 1839, the streets were lit by gas brackets; in 1860, these "old unsightly lamps which were fastened to the houses [were] removed and handsome cast iron pillars have been erected in their place"<sup>10</sup>.

But although the 1850 *Directory* could write that "the town, which is gas-lighted, altogether presents a clean and neat appearance.. the streets are well lighted", others remembered a different scene. "As for the main





*View of High Street West (south side) as it was in 1851, before the properties were demolished for School expansion.*



*View of High Street West (south side) today.*

street, ... it was certainly much worse then. No water cart, ... no Saturday sweepings, but ... the drainage of the houses conducted itself surface-wise with its various distinctive odours and its subtle-changing tints". There are many references in the school pupils' memories to "the most obnoxious cobbles" of the pavements in High Street (perhaps the boys' shoes were too fine to cope with rough cobbles).

**Slum clearance:** The Grammar School was adamant that it was surrounded by "rows of mean-looking buildings" or "small cottages and shops close to the Lodge"<sup>11</sup> and, in the light of places like Innocents Court, there clearly was need for some clearance. But the census shows that there were many more substantial and well-cared for properties belonging to doctors and solicitors and the like in the area between School Lane and Spring Back Way; these too were swept away in the imperial building scheme of extending the School under Thring.

## ONE STREET IN 1851

We can take one street to suggest what the town must have been like in 1851. Leamington Terrace (formerly Washpond Lane) seems to have grown up as part of an early 'back lane', for it links with the path through the churchyard and along the top of Beast Market which may have been the first 'Back Street' to Uppingham. How many properties were originally laid out here is not clear but most of them have been divided. Sub-divided and indeed at times parts of adjoining houses have been incorporated into their next door neighbours (John Hales later in the century owned No 2 Leamington Terrace and used part of No 3 as his workshop<sup>12</sup>).

At the corner (on the London Road rather than in Leamington Terrace) was the Chequers, run by Mary Ironman, aged 45 and recently widowed, her son John (aged 21), a 15 year old servant Mary Mould, and a lodger named Richard Brown, a coach wheelmaker from Stratford on Avon. Next door to the inn was Thomas Tyers, aged 23, a journeyman currier, perhaps working at the tannery close by on the London Road, with his young wife and their 4-month old baby son.

## Eight houses and their occupants

William Mould lived in the first house in the Terrace. He was aged 49, a slater and plasterer. His wife aged 45, their three daughters (aged 15, 12 and 6 - was the Mary Mould who was servant at the Chequers Inn almost next door a member of this family also?) and

their grandmother Elizabeth, aged 76, lived with him. They had a visitor from Nottingham, an artist. Next came the shoemaker George Knight, a young man aged 24 and his wife, his apprentice John Loomes (probably a member of the family which lived on Beast Market) and Ann Cox, grandmother of George, aged 84 and pauper (there was an aged couple called Cox in the Union workhouse in 1851). Beyond that was Charles Manton, a whitesmith aged 27, together with his wife, a year younger; they too had a lodger, an elderly 'pauper' from the Uppingham family of Tyler. Next came Mary Simms, a widow of 48, with her five children between the ages of 13 and 5 years, three of whom were 'scholars'. She too was described as pauper (there were two other pauper families of Simms in the town in 1851). John Younger, a rather more wealthy person came next; a 'working gardener and small proprietor of houses', he was a widower aged 55 and lived on his own. Finally came John Shelton, tailor; aged 64, his house was full with his wife, their sons James and John also tailors aged 40 and 36, and a grandson Richard Garner, only 4 years of age but called a scholar; he had been born in Uppingham but there is no family of Garner in the town in the census. The end house of the Terrace was uninhabited. Was this where the Rev J W Bamfield, Third Master of the Grammar School, once lived? for he was resident in the Terrace from 1849 to 1851<sup>13</sup>. Or did he lodge with one of the families, as was the custom later in the century? Polly Sellars (formerly Polly Mould) "came back as a widow to her mother's old home, where she would take a master for a lodger .. in the little stone-built cottage, past whose doors several times each day the tide of School life ebbed and flowed"<sup>14</sup>.

## Living in the terrace

Leamington Terrace must have been a lively and quite a noisy little thoroughfare. The masters and the boys dashed up and down several times a day from the headmaster's house to the schoolroom by the church<sup>15</sup>. The washpond and the Chequers Inn at the bottom of the Terrace saw people, horses and carts, wagons and coaches milling around. And it is possible that the uninhabited house at the top end was being rebuilt and extended, as John Shelton the tailor owned it later in the century<sup>16</sup>.

The Terrace was thus busy with tradesmen living and working in their own homes, with their supplies and their customers constantly coming and going. They were making good business, and they extended and enlarged their premises. With a cobbler and his apprentice, a whitesmith, and a tailor and his two sons all working, the noise of industry would have been

humming. Omitting the two houses on London Road, a total of seventeen adults lived in the street. There were also nine children, and when not helping in the house, they would be out playing in the Terrace under the feet of the traders and their customers. The Terrace had very old, active middle-aged and very young residents.

The Terrace was mixed socially too. Two of the older ladies were listed as paupers and Mary Simms with her five children were also called paupers; but her husband, who had died in the previous year, was the owner-occupier of his house in 1837<sup>17</sup>. At the other extreme, the grandmother who is described as 'formerly a milliner' in the household of William Mould owned that house along with three other dwellings in and around the Terrace<sup>18</sup>. And John Younger owned two other houses in Leamington Terrace, those rented by George Knight and Charles Manton. Indeed in 1850, he was listed as one of the gentry of the town<sup>19</sup>. He appears to have fallen on hard times later, for when he died in 1860, his houses were sold by auction at the Falcon to pay his debts.

We have then a street in which the moderately wealthy and the poorer members of the community mixed closely together - as elsewhere in the town. Although none of the households had servants in them, two of the occupiers owned most of the Terrace between them; the others rented from and lived next door to these landlords. Rawnsley leaves us with a warm description of the people of this Terrace, whom he got to know well in the later 1850s as a pupil at the School. His account shows how a number of the properties in this short street had changed in a short time; and it also shows the human dimensions, which the census record lacks. Of William Mould and his wife, he wrote, "Often would we, little boys as well as big, turn in to sit by her cosy fire whilst her bright-eyed little daughter Polly would be on her knees polishing the brass rail of the fender or tidying up the hearth". There was still a tailor (William Hales) "who trimmed our studies with green baize, made our flannels, and mended and cleaned our suits. He usually sat cross-legged on a table at the window, with a nod for all who passed by". And there was for a short time a dame school, perhaps in Mary Simms' house. Manton the whitesmith still had his locksmith's shop and forge<sup>20</sup>.

Leamington Terrace can be matched throughout the town. It is not unusual. But it does show us something of what it was like to live in Uppingham in 1851, in a way which the 'still photograph' of the census cannot.

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<sup>1</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>2</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>3</sup> 1911 p38

<sup>4</sup> Datestone on house

<sup>5</sup> Calculations by Peter Lane

<sup>6</sup> They appear on the 1904 OS map

<sup>7</sup> 1839 map; *UppRut* pp 17, 22

<sup>8</sup> *UppRut* p50

<sup>9</sup> Aldred

<sup>10</sup> *SM*, cited in *UppRut* p20

<sup>11</sup> 1853 p2; Hodgk pp228-9, 232

<sup>12</sup> CR

<sup>13</sup> B Matthews, *By God's Grace* 1984; Slater 1850

<sup>14</sup> Rawnsley p126

<sup>15</sup> Hodgk; 1911; 1853; Rawnsley

<sup>16</sup> CR

<sup>17</sup> RB2

<sup>18</sup> CR

<sup>19</sup> RB2; Slater 1850

<sup>20</sup> Rawnsley pp 126-8

## CHAPTER VI: UPPINGHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.

Uppingham of course did not stand alone; it was part of the surrounding countryside. It was at the heart of a poor law union area consisting of 35 parishes, as well as a major marketing community. All these people, in the town and around, depended (as today) on the available services. Beyond them, both as support and rivals, stood the growing market towns of Oakham, Market Harborough, Stamford and Leicester.

### CANALS, RAILWAYS AND ROADS

There was no river traffic: the nearest navigable waterway was the Leicester and Melton Mowbray canal which reached Oakham by 1802 but was slow in making a profit and was extended no further. It closed just before the census (1845) and was bought by the Midland Railway. By 1848, the fast-extending railway network was within four miles of Uppingham (at Manton), and by 1850, it had reached Seaton. However, it was not until 1894 that Uppingham had a station of its own<sup>1</sup>.

In 1851, therefore, journeys to and from Uppingham in any direction, whether domestic or commercial, were made by road or path. The Highway Act of 1835 set out to clarify traffic by the public over or through lands of any ownership and to define the responsibilities for maintenance and repair of the roads by the Parish Surveyors. The various Turnpike Trust Acts established alternative authorities for some roads. Thus in Uppingham, North Street through the town was designated a turnpike road, and the tollgate at the East end of the town collected revenues for the trust<sup>2</sup>.

### MOVING PEOPLE AND GOODS

The census records several families engaged in traffic activities.

**Carriers:** The most important of these was William Harbutt. He seems to have inherited the role of carrier from Richard Wade whose wagon yard on the corner of School Lane had been converted into Grammar School property (the Old Lodge). Carriers provided the delivery services of the 1850s both by long and short distance circuits. As well as freight, the vehicles carried passengers prepared to travel on this uncomfortable rural 'bus'. Harbutt's role as common carrier was stringently defined under the Carrier's Act of 1830. He was hired under a fixed rate and

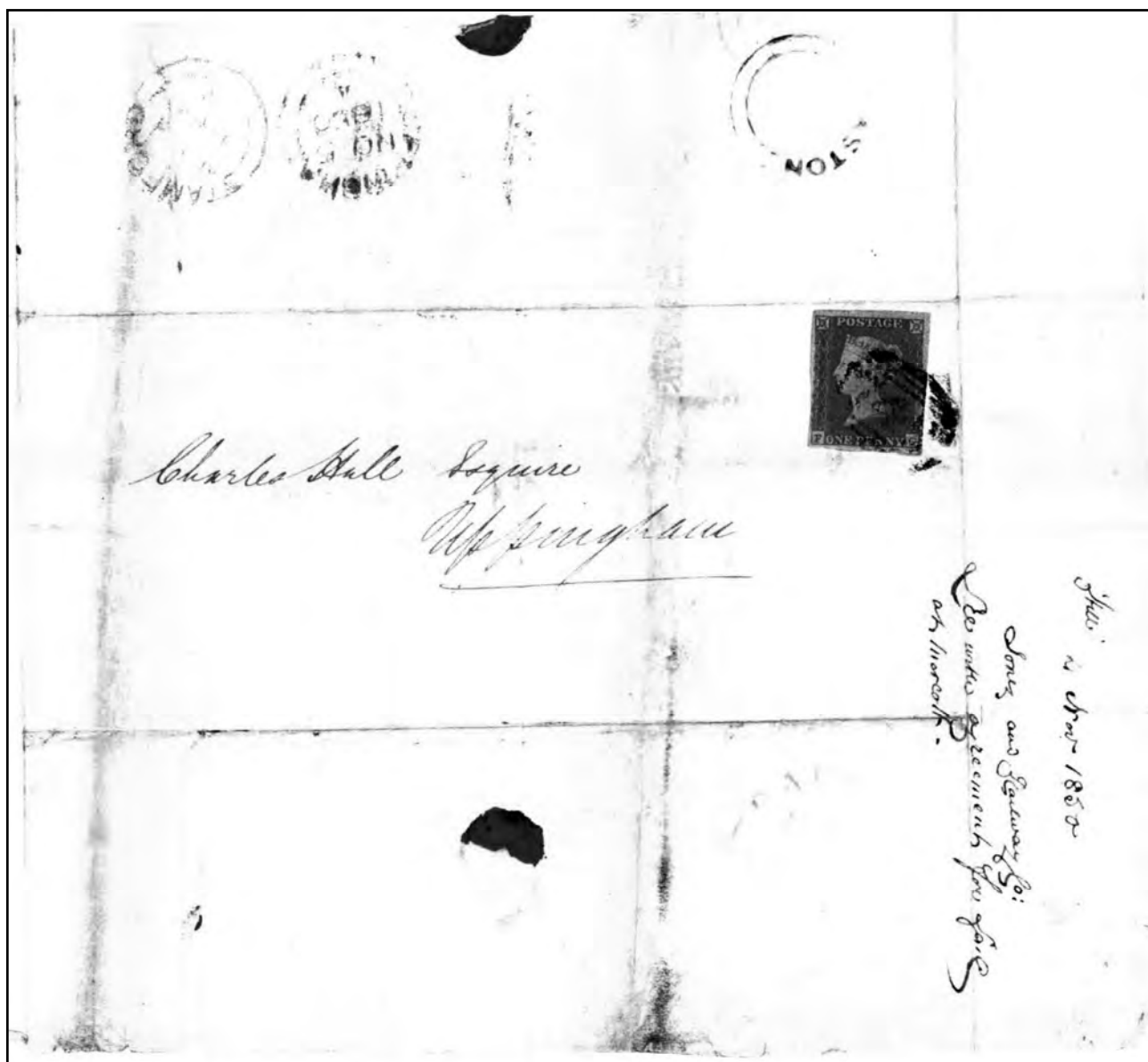
committed to carry goods and passengers, although he could refuse to carry dangerous articles; and he was responsible for all goods entrusted to him. His main vehicle of necessity would be strong and heavy, with a hooped protective canvas covering, the whole drawn by two horses. Harbutt's wagons, apart from special journeys, ran daily (except Sundays) between Leicester and Stamford through the villages. On Wednesday (market day), he travelled between the neighbouring villages and Uppingham. He ran from a site which is variously described as South Backside and Church Lane (on the corner of Spring Back Way and London Road)<sup>3</sup>.

There was another carrier, Tibbs Smith, who used his own house in Horn Lane (Queen Street) on Fridays and Saturday for a carrying service to Leicester and Stamford<sup>4</sup>. But he does not seem to be present in the 1851 census.

**The trains:** William Millard, living at Todds Piece, was the omnibus driver. He held this post for the next twenty years. Three times every day except Sundays (at 8.45am, noon, and 3.30pm), he left the Falcon Hotel for Manton station, until 1850, when he went to Seaton junction instead; and on market day, he also drove the omnibus to Cottingham. It is said that only once during all those years did he miss the train he was scheduled to meet<sup>5</sup>. The station omnibus was specially designed for passengers, who sat on each side facing each other, the door being at the rear.

**The mails:** Rowland Hill's Penny Post, introduced in 1840, increased the demand for mail. The census records no less than six persons engaged in "carrying and delivering". Thomas Chapman, foot messenger, delivered mail to Preston, Manton and Oakham. Edward Seaton letter carrier served Glaston and Morcott. (His younger son Thomas followed his father into postal service employment, but sadly in 1873 was charged with stealing letters whilst on his rounds<sup>6</sup>). George Crowden was a messenger; Joseph Knight (aged 32) and Charles Knight (aged 36) were both Post Boys, and John Freeman was another foot messenger. Richard Morgan, a Welsh boot and shoemaker who followed his sister into Uppingham just after the 1851 census, had become a Post Office Messenger by 1856<sup>7</sup>. These men were employed delivering post by chaise or on foot in and out of Uppingham.

They were under the direction of Jane Leake, Post-Mistress. The Leake family ran the Post Office in



*This letter was posted from Great Easton to Charles Hall solicitor in Uppingham on 4 November 1850; it was stamped in Stamford, Oakham and Uppingham and arrived the next day.*

Uppingham for many years. Jane's husband Walter held the post before her (he died shortly before the census) and her son Thomas took over from her afterwards<sup>8</sup>. The Post Office at that time stood in High Street north, on the site of the garden to the Garden Hotel. A daily delivery (except Sundays) left for the surrounding villages at 8.15am after the London and Leicester collections had been received (they came in at 4.50 am, according to Slater's *Directory* 1850). Mail for London, Oakham, Melton and Leicester was collected from the mailbox at 5.45pm, and the mail cart left for Oakham every day at 6.30pm. The box was emptied last thing at 10pm.

**Carriages:** Horses and gigs were available for hire from the White Hart (William Dams of School Lane was the ostler for the inn), the Falcon Inn, and from William Barret's coach firm in High Street East (by

1851, this had become Charles Randle, coach builder). "A pair of brothers, twins I believe, and so alike that we never could tell them apart" drove the dogcart for the Falcon (the census proves they were in fact twins). "Those two Falcon post-boys, Bob and Charlie Knight, were the living representatives of the immortal Sam Weller, with little wizened bodies, but alert and capable when sober"<sup>9</sup>.

### Heavy traffic

Wednesday was a hectic day in Uppingham. Three carriers arrived at and left from the Royal Oak in Horn Lane catering for the villages to the east; seven more used the Horse and Trumpet for villages westwards; and six used the George and Dragon, mainly for villages to the south. The Unicorn provided a staging



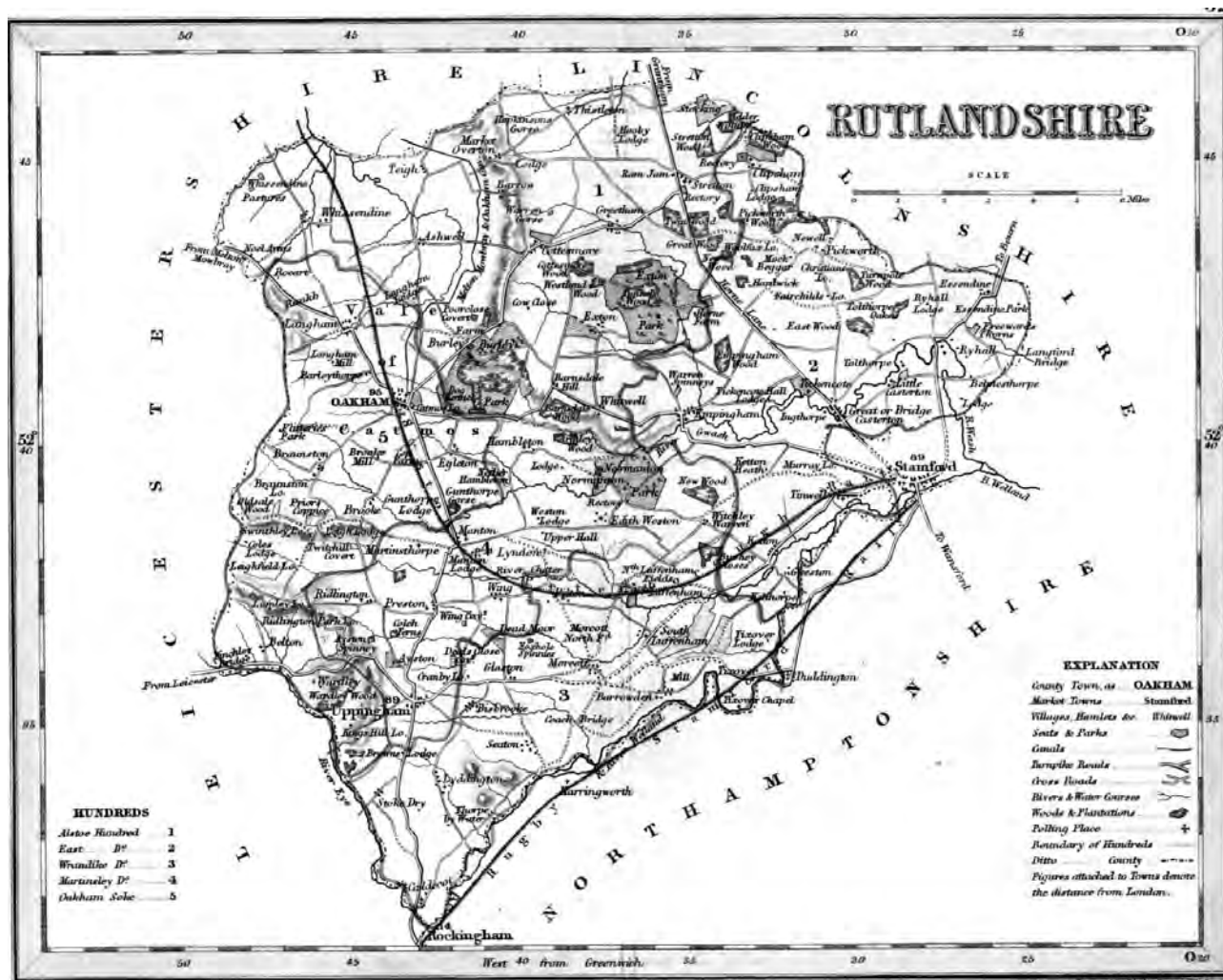
*The Falcon Hotel as it was in 1851. Here were held courts and auctions, and it was the focal point for many of the town's activities.*

post for three carriers to the north, the Chequers for another three to the Southwest. One left the Cross Keys in High Street West to Hallaton, and one left the White Hart for Tugby. No less than 24 carriers were in the streets of Uppingham on market day. For some reason or other, three carriers operated between Weldon and Uppingham on that day<sup>10</sup>.

Uppingham's streets carried a good deal of traffic. Wealthier residents maintained carriages and traps with attendant grooms. Tradesmen, farmers and journeymen owned vans, carts and drays, often hired out. The busy Wednesday market described as "a very large one" attracted buyers and sellers, "farmers and carriers from Rutland and adjoining counties". And coach making, trimming and painting were among the more important industries in Uppingham. The coachworks of Charles Randle and his three employees were located at the east end of High Street on the south side. The high-mileage long distance vehicles were those owned by the stagecoach companies and carriers, most of whom were based out of town. From the eighteenth century, Uppingham had come to be on one of the main routes from the Midlands to London, through Melton Mowbray, Oakham to Kettering where it joined the main road to Bedford, St Albans and London. The stagecoach, with seats inside and outside, much used as



*Bob Knight, one of twins with his brother Charlie, drove the fly from the Falcon. He and his brother were notorious for their driving.*



The area around Uppingham in the late 1840s. Archer's map shows the Manton railway line but not the Seaton line.

a public conveyance, came into full use in the 18th century. A vast network of regular, scheduled coach routes covered the country. Uppingham reflected passengers' demands for mobility. At least two travelling tea-dealers made Uppingham their home.

Before 1851, Uppingham had boasted its own coach to London, but there is no reference to it after 1842. Perhaps this is reflected in the census by John Reeve aged 69, "formerly a coach proprietor". At the time of the census, a mail coach left from the Falcon Hotel for Leicester at 8.15am every day except Sundays (nothing ran on Sundays), and another for Stamford at 6.15pm. Long-distance travellers could however catch the 8.30am coach to Wellingborough (the 'Railway Daily') in time to meet the London trains, or the 10.15am stagecoach to Cambridge or the 1.15pm to Leicester<sup>11</sup>.

The number of coaches and carriers declined with the advent of the speedier and safer railway system, but Uppingham, a town not yet served by its own station, retained these vehicles for longer than most other towns. The attempt in 1847 to establish a station at

Kettering, which proved to be abortive, ensured the continued coach service to Wellingborough. Eventually however the railway coach triumphed over the stagecoach and, when bicycles and the internal combustion engine arrived, horse-drawn vehicles disappeared.

<sup>1</sup> B Matthews, *Book of Rutland* 1978 pp 67-75.

<sup>2</sup> Much of the information for this chapter came from T Traylen, *Turnpikes and the Royal Mail in Rutland* 1978.

<sup>3</sup> Slater 1850 and other Directories.

<sup>4</sup> Slater 1850

<sup>5</sup> *Turnpikes* 1978

<sup>6</sup> *Turnpikes* 1978

<sup>7</sup> Wells deeds

<sup>8</sup> Directories

<sup>9</sup> Slater 1850; Rawnsley pp 140-1.

<sup>10</sup> Slater 1850, the fullest list of carriers.

<sup>11</sup> Slater 1850 and other Directories.



## CHAPTER VII: LIVING IN UPPINGHAM IN 1851

The census and the other sources examined can throw some light on one or two aspects of living in Uppingham in the middle of the nineteenth century. But more work needs to be done on this area of local history.

### GOING TO CHURCH

The year 1851 was the only occasion when a religious census has been taken at the same time as the population census. There were two causes for this. First, it was being alleged that the nonconformists had for the first time exceeded in numbers those attending the Church of England. And secondly, Parliament believed that the increase of crime was occasioned by the fact that the growing population of the country could not go to church, either because there were not enough places in church for them or because those places were rented out to the more wealthy members of the community. Thus the census asked how many people attended church (including Sunday School) on the Sunday of the census, and how many seats each place of worship had, how many of them were rented and how many were 'free'.

Given the circumstances in which these returns were collected, it is not surprising that it was alleged that the returns were not free from bias. Anglicans accused the nonconformists of taking groups of members around from chapel to chapel; nonconformists accused the Church of exaggerating their own returns.

### Church and Chapels

Anglicanism was of course the staple religion in rural areas such as Rutland, but nonconformity had been strong in the area for many years. Roman Catholicism was very weak, there being no place of formal worship nearer than Stamford. The opposition of church and chapel ran deep, and it was perhaps increased in Uppingham through the fact that the two main centres, the church and the Independent Chapel, were headed by long-serving and contemporaneous ministers, the Rev John Dimock (1817-1858) and the Rev John Green (1807-1858).

In the 1851 religious census, the churches and chapels in Uppingham claimed to have seating for at least 1591 persons, about three quarters of the population, which was well above the national average of about 45%. The

returns show that Uppingham church claimed to be able to seat 830 persons, 680 in rented pews, only 150 free. They claimed that 550 persons attended in the morning and 500 in the afternoon (there was no evening service). This figure would include the boys from the Grammar School seated in the gallery. They also recorded 101 Sunday School scholars in the morning and 100 in the afternoon - totals of 1050 adults and 201 children. The rounded figures are of course suspicious.



*The Rev. John Green, Pastor of the Congregational Church 1807-1858.*

The nonconformists in total came very close to this figure. In all, 907 adults and 156 children are said to have attended one or other of the four chapels in Uppingham on that Sunday. And John Green, the pastor of the Independent Chapel, wrote on his return, "A considerable number of the regular attendants were abroad [i.e. absent] this day", since his church could hold 400 people instead of the 119 who attended. It is interesting that Uppingham retained a traditional pattern of services, whereby the church had services in the morning and afternoon, and the chapels had services in the afternoon and evening. Taken together, over 500 persons were said to have gone to service in the morning, over 1000 in the afternoon and some 370 in the evening on that particular Sunday. How many individuals attended church more than once cannot be known.

## Church of England

The Rev John G Dimock had been the incumbent since his arrival in the town in 1817 at the age of 44. He had rebuilt the parsonage in 1818. In 1851, he was 78 years of age, and he died in 1858. 1851 was a year of tragedy for Dimock; in February his 34-year old son George died and on 24 April 1851 his wife, aged 69, also died. On census night, his married daughter (Martha Herbert) and her six-month old daughter were staying with him, together with two young visitors from India (Henrietta and Edward Williams aged 16 and 13). He had two servants to help run his large Rectory house.



*Jeremiah (Jerry) Hull, gardener in 1851 census but later gravedigger; he lived in one of the farm cottages on High Street West (north side), next door to William Gamble.*

The 14th century church building had not yet been restored in 1851 - that lay ahead in the 1860s. There were galleries, said to hold 233 adults and 64 children, and "high and dingy" box pews, which made the church very crowded, as a watercolour dated 1855 shows. Thring soon after his arrival said "the Parish Church is cramped and inconvenient". One boy remembers that "the church was all high pews with very narrow seats and galleries: and carved all over with names of our predecessors ... we followed the

service by sound; except those in the front row, none of us could see .. not one single articulated word ever [of Dimock's sermons] reached the gallery"<sup>1</sup>. Most of the pews were rented to local householders, the argument being that pew rents were a form of regular church giving which was paid even when the family was absent. They also carried social pretensions, and there were several disputes over pew rents which belonged to, and therefore were bought and sold with, different houses and shops. In 1850, a new organ had been installed in the church, perhaps played by William Rogers musician and organist<sup>2</sup>. The religious life of the church may be seen from the fact that Oliver, the bookseller and churchwarden, was the agent for the SPCK, selling tracts and religious books and magazines<sup>3</sup>.

## Dissenting chapels

But the church had a strong rival in the **Independent Chapel**, which may have been based as much on personalities as on doctrine, for Dimock and the Congregational Minister John Green had both been in the town for more than thirty years. This church had been founded in Uppingham in the late 17th or early 18th century. John Green had arrived in 1807 at the age of only 24. He came from Yorkshire to take over, as he said, a small congregation worshipping in a barn - "a morning congregation consisted of 30 adults, no church existed, no Sunday School or minister's house". His congregation increased, and in 1814-15, they built a new chapel in Adderley Street to seat 350 people at a cost of about £1000. He built up the church steadily throughout the first half of the century, so that by 1851, many of the town's more prosperous citizens were leading members. Families such as Sewell (farmer), Laxton (farmer, miller and baker), Hope (chemist), Slater (the builder employing six men), the Hopkins brothers (drapers), Kemp (draper), Mrs Seaton (draper), Irving (grocer and ironmonger), Langley (auctioneer and land agent), and Freeston of the Hall (farmer and coal merchant) were all members. Others such as the Parker family, came from Preston, and members lived in Lyddington, Stoke Dry, Ayston, Ridlington, Glaston, Bisbrooke, Stockerston and Seaton.

Like the parish church, this chapel had a morning service attended by 119 persons and an afternoon service attended by 141 persons. The return also states that 156 children attended Sunday School both in the morning and again in the afternoon. In 1851, Green was aged 68. Mary (she was his third wife) was aged 52. His unmarried daughter Eliza was a schoolmistress, and a second daughter also lived at

home, as did a young son aged only 10. They had one servant in their manse, which they had built next to the chapel.

The chapel decided in 1851 to establish a day school to rival the C of E (National) School (see below). The rivalry between the two congregations and perhaps between the two ministers may have been significant, for Green retired in 1858 (the year Dimock died). He continued to live in the town until his death in 1868<sup>4</sup>.

In terms of date, the **Baptist congregation** came next. It is significant that the Directories call this a 'place of worship' and not a chapel, as they call the other nonconformist buildings. For, located in High Street and seating a congregation of 100 (40 of which sittings were rented), the building cannot now be identified. The congregation was thus using a building which they said had been erected 'before 1800'. Very little is known about this church. A young man of 26, Thomas Stanion from Oundle, was listed in the census as the Minister. He was living on Stockerston Road with his wife (from Leicester) and a one-year old daughter. There was only one service on that Sunday, an evening service, at which a full congregation of 100 persons was said to have attended, and no Sunday School.

It was reported that a member of the Baptists who moved from Gedney Hill in Lincolnshire to Uppingham in 1845 (almost certainly William Bellamy, grocer of High Street south<sup>5</sup>) opened a **Baptist Chapel** (Bethesda) on Calvinistic (Strict

Baptist) lines. This stood in Orange Lane and housed 120 seats. It was built on "ground given by our highly respected brother" Thomas Gamble (a saddler of High Street north). In 1852, the property came to John Wade. When Wade died in 1854, he left the chapel "with an endowment towards the support of the minister and an adjoining house for his residence rent-free". The chapel was said to be small with a gallery over the entrance and along one side. The pews were "very upright and were tightly spaced"<sup>6</sup>. All the seats were free in this chapel.



Plaque to Bethesda Chapel 1845 in Orange Street

**RETURN**

[A number Return will be obtained from the Clergy of the Church of England, and also from the Ministers of every other Religious Denomination throughout Great Britain.]

I.	II.			III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.				IX.
Name or Title of Place of Worship	Where Situated: specifying the Parish or Place, District, County			Religious Denomination	When Begun	Whether a Separate and Entire Building	Whether used exclusively as a Place of Worship (Except for a Sunday School)	Space available for Public Worship	Estimated Number of Persons attending Divine Services on Sunday, March 30, 1851				REMARKS
	(1)	(2)	(3)					Number of Sittings already Provided	Free Sittings	Other Sittings	General Congregation	Sunday Scholars	
Baptist Meeting House	Uppingham		Northants.	General Baptist	Before 1800	Yes	Yes	60 40			General Congregation	Sunday Scholars	
								Free Space or Standing Room for	Average Number of Attendees during months (See Instruction VIII.)				
									General Congregation	Sunday Scholars			
									TOTAL				

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct Return to the best of my belief. Witness my hand this 21 day of March 1851.

(Signature) ..... Wm. Stanion

(Official Character) ..... Minister of the above-named Place of Worship.

(Address by Post) ..... Mr. Stanion  
Uppingham Northants

120-17-12

1851 Religious Census form for the General Baptist Chapel in High Street, Uppingham; its site cannot now be identified.

John Wade seems to have been the chief member of the chapel in 1849, for a travelling pastor reported in that year that "I travelled to Uppingham and in the house of dear John Wade, I found a comfortable abode. Never shall I forget that visit to the residence of this devoted man of God. The next day I preached three times in his chapel". John Wade was a cooper who lived in North Street very close to where Wade's Terrace now stands. He was 62 in 1851 and said to have been married, but his wife was absent on the census night. He had his son and daughter-in-law and three grandchildren staying with him. Mary Ann Peach was a servant in his house (the Peach family were strong adherents of the Congregational Church).

The history of this movement says that "The first pastor was David Lodge from Banbury who commenced ministry in 1852"<sup>7</sup> but in the 1851 census William Hardwick (aged 50) on Todds Piece was designated the Minister. Like Green, he came from Yorkshire, but his wife came from Canterbury. He lived with his wife and two children and a visitor (a milliner) who came from Hatfield Chase in Yorkshire. He had three services on that Sunday, reporting that 80 persons attended in the morning, 20 in the afternoon and 120 in the evening. There was no Sunday School.

The **Wesleyan Chapel** (as it was called) stood on the current site of the Methodist Church. It had been erected in 1819 with 130 rented sittings and 64 free sittings. It was part of the Oakham Circuit, which had two ministers. The chapel in Uppingham seems to have had no regular minister<sup>8</sup>, but Andrew Rennard, who signed the religious census return and gave as his address High Street, Uppingham, was one of the two circuit ministers. He was absent on the night of the census, perhaps away on circuit. The chapel had two services on that Sunday, a morning service with 50 adults and 30 children and an evening service with 150 attenders; there was also an afternoon Sunday School with 27 scholars.

Like the Independent Chapel, the Wesleyans could command the allegiance of several of the major traders, such as Houghton (watchmaker), the Drake family (stone masons), Geeson (whitesmith or locksmith), and Kirk (butcher). The trustees also included people living away from the town such as John Almond of Langham, C Sharman of Lyddington, and members of the Kirk family from Nottingham and Birmingham. In 1851, members of the Drake family served as Chapel Steward and Society Steward. The Class Leaders were Mr Geeson, Mr Houghton, Mr (John) Drake and a Mr Stanyon (presumably Charles Stanyon tinsmith in High Street north). John Drake the stonemason was clearly the leading light of this chapel as John Wade was of

Bethesda. He was said to have been converted in 1818 and became a Class Leader and Local Preacher for 50 years, dying in 1870 at the age of 82. At least four of his children were among the earliest Methodist baptisms in Uppingham. His son Henry was also a stonemason and prominent in the Chapel. John Houghton had been a Class Leader from at least 1827, and three of his children appear in the early Baptism Register<sup>9</sup>. Religious magazines were supplied to members of the congregation.

The religious life of Uppingham in 1851 was thus focused round several key individuals, Dimock, Green, Wade and Drake and found its expression in separate buildings. The opposite was true of the drinking life of Uppingham. This became centred round the buildings, the inns and pubs.

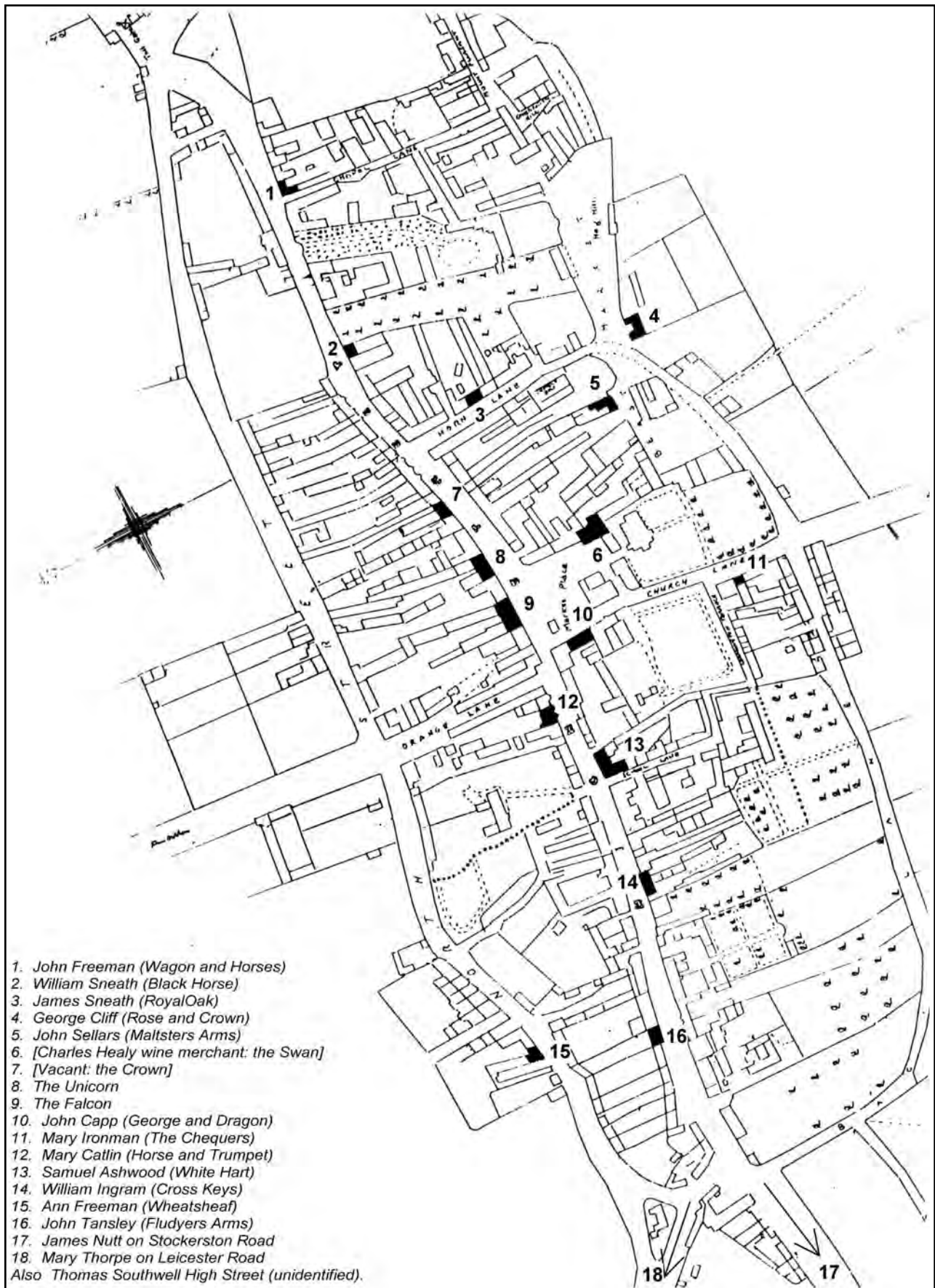
## DRINKING IN UPPINGHAM IN 1851

### Water and Ale

There were no water works in Uppingham until later in the nineteenth century. But the town was well supplied with water, including the town pump in the centre of the Market Place (erected 1818) and pumps in many of the courts and yards such as the pump which still stands in Gambles Yard with the inscription 'WG 1805'. There was also "a stone drinking trough, supplied by an ever flowing spring, which .. stood opposite the Wash Pond against the Rectory garden wall" at the bottom of Leamington Terrace<sup>10</sup>. The brook, which rose from the spring at the top of Spring Back Way and flowed through the valley, would have supplied properties at the lower end of town, and some properties like Southview had their own wells.

But in Uppingham, as in other towns, it was safer to drink beer or ale than water. At least 13 premises on which it would be possible to obtain some form of alcoholic drink are recorded in Uppingham in the census. In addition, there was a temperance outlet<sup>11</sup>. William Bellamy, the Calvinist Baptist, described in the census as grocer, baker and confectioner employing one apprentice, ran a Temperance House on High Street. We do not know if there was any coffee house in the town at this time, although there was one from the 1880s<sup>12</sup>.

Such a picture was not excessive to judge by other towns, but it was substantial. Many of these establishments were named - but the names of pubs frequently changed locations.



Map of Uppingham in 1851 showing location of the named inns and public houses. There were more drinking houses which have not yet been located.

## Drinking houses

The drinking houses of Uppingham in 1851 fell into three main categories.

**Hotels and inns:** First, there were the main hotels and inns, coaching centres and more or less fashionable places to stay. Of these, the most prominent was the **Falcon**. Here, apart from facilities for the stagecoaches, auctions were held, the county court met every month on a Saturday and the Inland Revenue and Excise had their offices. It was owned by the Noel family, and its tenants changed frequently: Eleanor Reeve in 1829-31, Thomas Fisher in 1837, George Sharp 1837, Thomas Franklin from 1846. On the night of the census, it had two visitors. The **Unicorn** almost next door was privately owned and remained with the one family during this period, first Eleanor (later Helen) and by 1846 Thomas Inman. By 1855, however, Thomas Hall (described as maltster) held the Unicorn Commercial Inn. It had no visitors on census night. Both of these had buildings in their back yards occupied by tenants. The **Crown** and the **Swan** do not seem to have been operating as hotels or inns in March 1851. The (White) Swan was recorded in 1846 in the charge of Charles Healy, but in the census Charles Healy is described as wine merchant, and there is no mention of the Swan serving as an inn after 1846. The Crown (a maltings in 1837) seems to have been unoccupied at the time of the census: "one house uninhabited" stood next door to the cottage of a 79-year old widower, John Gregory carpenter and builder, who lived on his own in "High Street Reeves Yard"<sup>13</sup>. These inns were the equivalent of the railway stations, where visitors would arrive and be met.

**Public houses:** These were places where local people met and transacted business, especially on market days. They were more or less permanently established, and were known by their names. Many of them had carriers arriving and departing from their yards.

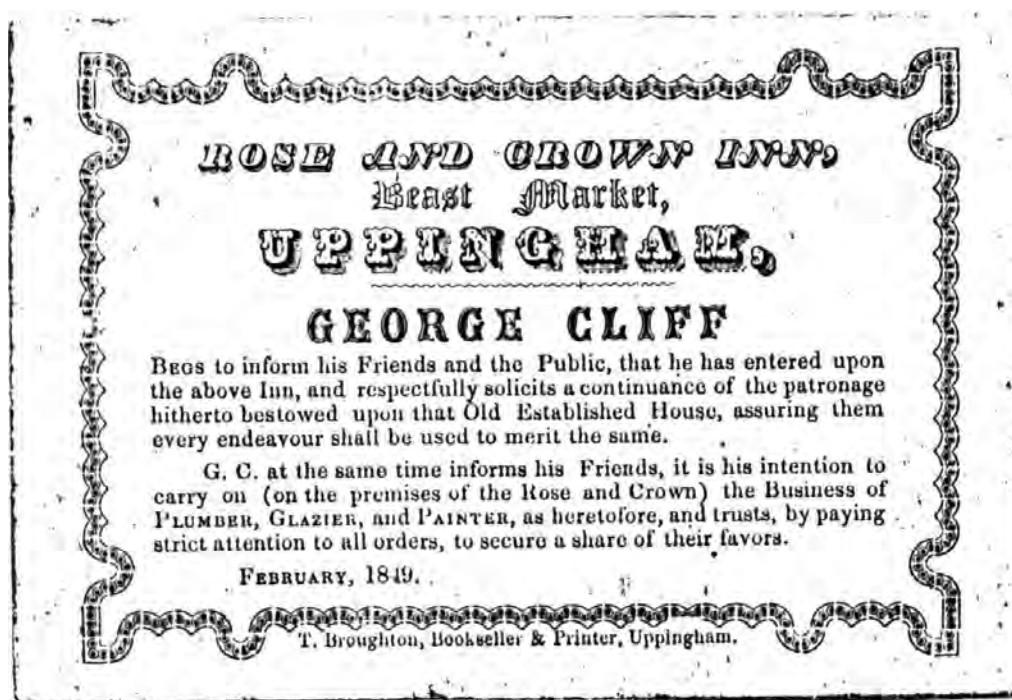
There were some eight of these. The **Chequers** Public House was on the steep part of London Road at the end of Leamington Terrace. Mary Ironman had taken it over from her husband by 1851. She had one lodger, a coach maker wheeler from Stratford on Avon. It was described by one of the Grammar School pupils as "the tramp lodging house"<sup>14</sup>. The **Cross Keys** was in High Street West but was demolished in 1862 to make way for new Grammar School buildings<sup>15</sup>. It had no overnight lodgers on census night. The **Fludyers Arms** (named after the family of Ayston Hall) was on the opposite side of the road (now 44 High Street West). It was run by John Tansley ("Carpenter, keeps



*Billy Sharpe was aged 13 in 1851; he lived in North Street and worked as an ostler in one of the inns.*

Public House"). The **George and Dragon** on the west side of Market Place was run by John Capp innkeeper; he had two lodgers, a cattle dealer from Tugby and a tailor and habit maker from Huntingdon. The **Horse and Trumpet** was in High Street West on the north side. It was in the Catlin family since at least 1829; Mary Catlin widow of 48 had been running it for several years. She had two lodgers, a relatively young widower aged 39, annuitant from Newcastle on Tyne, and a soldier also described as widower, aged 33 from Leicester (whole stories have been built on much less information than this!). The **Rose and Crown** on Hog Hill had changed hands in 1949. Elizabeth Reid, widow of David Read/Reid the former landlord, was living as a lodger in the household of William Wade gardener next door to the pub, and George Cliff plumber and innkeeper had taken over. The **Royal Oak** in Horn Lane too had recently been taken over by James Sneath blacksmith. It had been in the Harbutt family for several years; it was for a short time run by Thomas Franklin who then moved to the Falcon. In 1851, James Sneath described himself as farmer and innkeeper. He had two lodgers, one a cooper from





Corby and the second a boy of 12 years from Spalding described as scholar. Finally, the **White Hart** in High Street West was in the Ashwood family, young Samuel Ashwood succeeding his mother in 1850. Like the others, it had a carrier function; there was a postilion living in as well as an ostler nearby, but no lodgers on that night.

**Beerhouses:** These were much more local places. They often had no name, or if they did, did not use it frequently. And they did not always have beer for sale - they opened when they had brewed or bought in beer from the other local brewers. These were the tipping centres for the residents immediately around, and the places where beer or ale was bought to take home to have with the evening meal. We know of only three of these on census night. There was William Sneath, the brother of James Sneath, who had bought the **Black Horse** pub in High Street from the Curtis family just after his brother moved to the Royal Oak in Horn Lane. William was described as blacksmith and publican in 1851. He had two lodgers, both probably long-term, a tailor who came from an Uppingham family and a musician from Stamford (he was described as 'organist' in 1850 when he was living in Bullocks Yard). Mary Thorpe aged 64 and recently widowed<sup>16</sup> was described as beerseller on the Leicester Road; she had two lodgers, an agricultural labourer from Lyddington and an elderly widower, woolcomber, born in Uppingham. Finally, (as we have seen) Richard and Ann Freeman ran the **Wheatsheaf** in North Street until Richard died: Ann is called "Keeper of Beer House" in the census. She had two lodgers on that night, both men, hawkers of drapery; neither recorded his place of birth.

The census then records thirteen drinking houses in Uppingham. But we know there were more. If we look at the Directories for 1846, 1850 and 1855, we can see some persons listed in these who do not call themselves beersellers or the like in the census. For example, **James Nutt** on Stockerston Road was beerseller in 1846, 1850 and 1855; in the census he called himself agricultural labourer only, but he had eight lodgers in his house or barn, clearly itinerants from their occupation (none of their birthplaces is listed). **John Sellars** is beerseller on Beast Hill in 1846 and 1850, but he is only tailor in the census; but again there are fourteen lodgers, probably in the barns. This house was at times called the **Maltsters Arms**<sup>17</sup>.



*The former Maltsters Arms on Beast Market: it may be in this house that 14 itinerants were lodged on the night of 30 March 1851 including six German musicians.*



In 1846, **Thomas Southwell** on High Street was beerseller; in 1851, he was farmer and tailor; in 1855 he was tailor. And the site of the current **Wagon and Horses** was owned and occupied by **John Freeman** in 1837 and 1839; in 1846 and 1850, he was called beerseller; in 1851 farmer, and in 1855 beer retailer. It is possible that some persons were reluctant to describe themselves as beersellers in the census, even though they may from time to time have been carrying on the business from their homes. Thus John and Thomas Thorpe were beersellers in 1850 but they are not listed as such in the census.

So it would seem that at the time of the census, there were at least seventeen drinking places, and probably one or two more, which regularly or occasionally offered drinks for sale. This accords well with the nearest directory of the time, that of 1850, which lists one inn (the Falcon), eight taverns and public houses, and eight retailers of beer. In addition, there were at least three wine, spirits and porter merchants for the gentry to drink at home. And several persons were described in the census as retired or late innkeepers, such as John Sones of High Street West or Robert Foster of Leicester Road.

## CHILDREN AND SCHOOLING IN UPPINGHAM

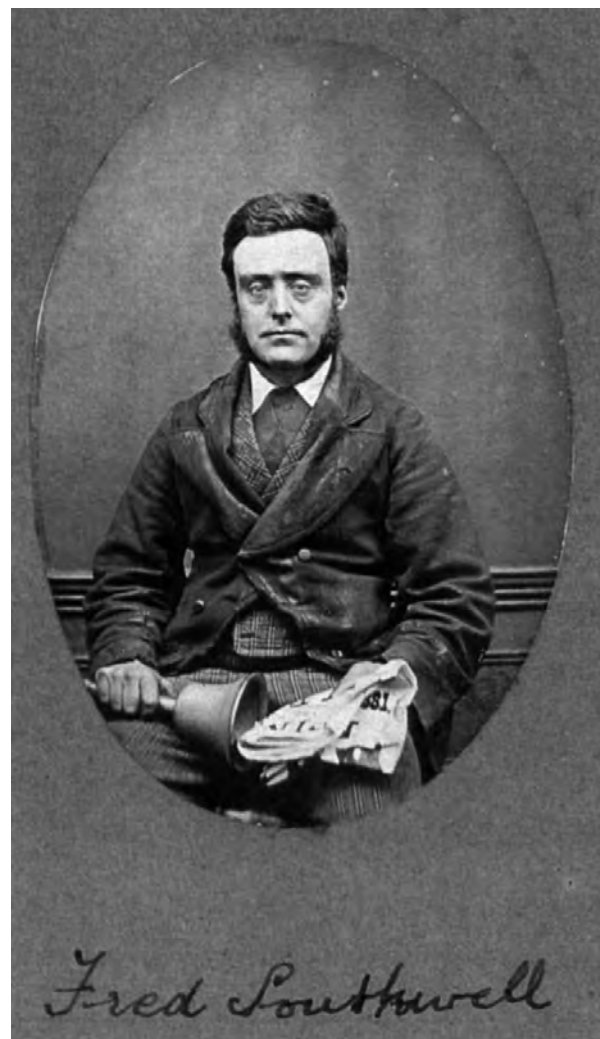
In the middle of the nineteenth century, education in England was at an interesting stage of transition, from home-based learning to school-based learning. In the first half of the nineteenth century, the state left education very largely to private individuals or charities. From 1833, however, the government gave grants to some charity schools, and it ordered first factories and later Union workhouses to provide schools for the young persons in their employment or care. But schooling was neither free nor compulsory, so that the kind of education a child received was determined by the economic and social status of the family; different kinds of education were offered to different social classes. Some parents were reluctant to keep a child at school after it became capable of earning a wage, as they thought that education scarcely improved one's prospects in life. Other parents sought for their children a Grammar School education and access to Oxford or Cambridge as opening the route to new social heights. The schools of Uppingham reflected these concerns.

### Children and schools

There were 346 children between the ages of five and twelve years in Uppingham in 1851. Of these, 265

(76%) were recorded as 'scholar' (this figure goes up if younger age groups are considered; 86% of those between six and nine years of age were called scholars). The census officially defined a scholar as a child over the age of five attending a school on a daily basis or receiving regular tuition at home. But it is clear that this definition was open to individual interpretation. Anyone at home receiving instruction in carpentry or dressmaking could be described as scholar, as could a child attending Sunday School. The daughters of Thomas Brown, solicitor, aged 6 and 7 were described as 'Scholars at Home'. His six sons were attending the Grammar School.

On the other hand, there were families where none of the children went to school. John Mould, slater and plasterer, of North Street had five children between the ages of five and thirteen; none was receiving formal education. For such a family, the costs would have been prohibitive. Others were tempted to keep their children free to take up employment. Jane Riddle, a 46-year old widow and chimney sweep, was assisted by her two younger sons George (10) and James (12).



*Fred (Alfred) Southwell was the son of John Southwell of Horn Lane; he was aged 9 and described as a scholar in 1851.*

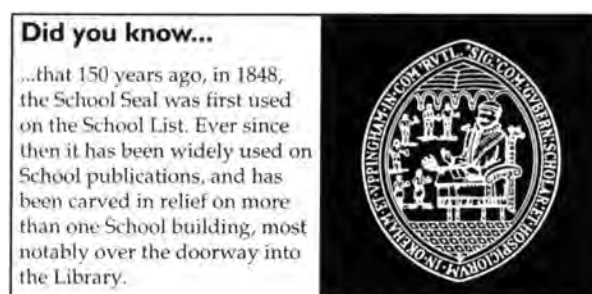
**The National School:** There were several schools available in the town in 1851. The National (Church of England) School Society was founded in 1811 with the intention of building new C of E schools. The National School in Uppingham in the 1820s was in Swan Yard in a barn belonging to Job Daniell, very close to the Grammar School and the church. In 1839, it is shown as occupying buildings on the corner of Seaton and Glaston Road, near the site of the current Uppingham School cricket pavilion, and in 1850, it is "on the Stamford Road". Two of the teachers are listed in the census, Charles Greenhow aged 31 and Mary Elizabeth Carrington aged 19. In 1850, Eliza Edgson (a local family) was the mistress in the school, but she is not in the census<sup>18</sup>.

**The British School:** In 1851, the Congregational Church, under the inspiration of the Rev John Green, established a new Independent Day School for boys and girls in a barn. Later this school was in a building on the north side of High Street East, the later Oddfellows Hall<sup>19</sup>, and it may have been in this building from 1851. Green's daughter Eliza aged 21 was already teaching (she is listed in the census as 'schoolmistress'), and this may have inspired the congregation to demand their own school independent of the Church of England. On 15 March 1851, two weeks before the census, the post of teacher was offered to a Mr Winter, and the school was opened on 19 May 1851. Several of the more prominent citizens of the town were the school trustees, and a number of ladies were co-opted to teach sewing to the girls. Mr Winter stayed for only a short time, and in 1853, Mr Drowley was appointed and stayed until 1863. The school (which was registered with the British Society and became known as the British School) then ran into problems. It was closed twice before re-opening in July 1863 under Mr Holland until June 1865, when it was converted into a boys' 'Commercial Day school' under Mr Grinstead from Lewisham. But there were few pupils (between three and thirteen in late 1865), and it closed sometime before 1881 when the site of the British school was surrendered.

**The Union School:** Apart from these two, there was a school in the Union workhouse. Under the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act, each workhouse had to provide schooling for the children in their care. In Uppingham in 1851, the Union workhouse had 26 children between the ages of five and 14 years; all except two are listed as scholars. The schoolmistress was Emma Measures, the daughter of the Master of the Workhouse. Such schools concentrated on practical subjects such as woodwork and sewing. They might produce items for sale at the same time as teaching the children a useful craft such as repairing shoes.

**Private Schools:** There were several private academies in the town. If they were typical of their time, they would have been of varied standard and quality, as there was no state supervision. Some may have been merely child-minding institutions, others may have been perceptive establishments led by inspiring teachers. Ten persons are listed in the census as being teachers in Uppingham in 1851 (apart from those teaching in the schools), although one of these, John Bradley in South Backside was described as 'inmate, schoolmaster pauper'. Joseph and Mary Pinney, aged 75 and 63 respectively, in School Lane may also have been less than active as teachers. Two girls from Ketton were staying in the High Street house of Elizabeth Tomblin, unmarried, aged 34, who described herself as 'Teacher of Youth'.

**The Grammar School** was as yet undeveloped (see view of Uppingham from the south), except in School Lane. It catered not only for some of the children from the town and surrounding area, but also for boys from a wide region and even abroad. The census shows some 63 pupils at the School. Most of them boarded in two houses. One was run by the headmaster Henry Holden (36 pupils, omitting the three boys recorded twice) and the other by David Barrymore (8 pupils) "in sundry old buildings"<sup>20</sup> on the site of Richard Wade's wagon yard on the corner of School Lane and High Street. The site was redeveloped between 1851 and 1853.



*This version of the Uppingham School seal was first used by Henry Holden on the School List in 1848.*

The boys ranged in age from 8 to 18 years: local boys tended to start at the Grammar School at an earlier age than outsiders did. The sons of prominent citizens such as Dr Bell, Thomas Brown solicitor, Thomas Bryan grocer, the Hopkins family, and the local family of Sheild all attended the school. But the majority were boarders, drawn mostly from the Midland counties but with a few from further afield (including Edinburgh) and abroad (British subjects born in Portugal and Bombay were in the school house in 1851). Pupils stayed at the school for periods ranging from only one year to eleven years. Fourteen of the pupils were sons of clergy, others came from professional or commercial

families. Such an education opened access to endowed scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge. The school had in the recent past produced an archbishop of Canterbury and a bishop of Chester, and the late Lord Manners had been a pupil; but in 1851, there were no politically important old boys still alive. Success in these terms lay in the future, with persons such as Thomas Bonney, who was a pupil in the school in 1851 and went on to win high academic awards in geology (see Appendix 4)<sup>21</sup>.

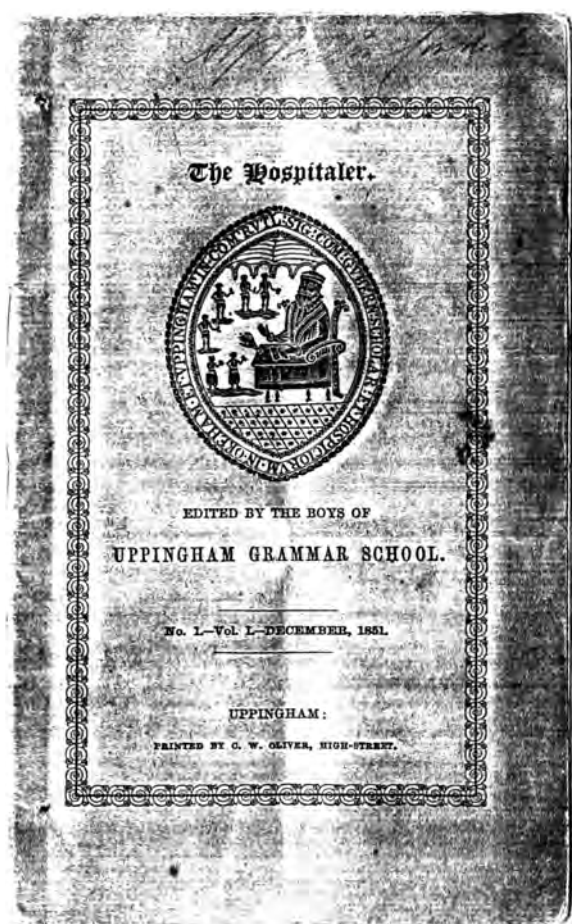
All pupils at Uppingham paid for the privilege (there was one free scholar at the twin school at Oakham). In 1839, the Charity Commissioner reported:

“The master receives children belonging to Uppingham and the adjoining villages as day scholars, on terms of three guineas entrance and half a guinea to the usher; five guineas a year for tuition for boys from Uppingham and eight guineas for those from the adjoining towns. A separate charge is made by the writing master of 5s entrance; and two guineas a year for instruction in writing and arithmetic”.

Some parents considered the charge for entrance too high, but the master claimed that he received the full amount only from “the more opulent inhabitants”. Despite this, Holden had built up the school from 28 boarders and 12 day boys in 1846 when he came to 44 boarders and 19 day boys in 1851.

There were five masters listed in the 1851 census. One master, the Rev J W L Bamfield, listed in the School records as working there from 1849 to 1851 may have left already by late March 1851 or been absent on the census night; he was lodging in Leamington Terrace in 1850<sup>22</sup>. Another, the Rev H M Williamson, 1851-52, may not yet have arrived at the Grammar School. Those listed in the census were Dr Henry Holden, the Rev William Earle, the Usher and curate of Lyndon as well (he was the son of the Vicar of Belton), David Barrymore, “teacher of ancient and modern languages”, French mainly<sup>23</sup>, Richard P Manclarke, and Edward Clark, “the writing master” who taught Latin, writing and arithmetic). None was local, the nearest being from Ashbourne in Derbyshire. Barrymore and Manclarke, both unmarried, lived in what came to be known later as the 'Old Lodge' which stood at the end of School Lane. Earle rented rooms on High Street in or near Hope's Yard, and Clark (who had married a local girl) lived in Bullocks Yard (Hope's Yard) with his wife and two children in the house of his mother in law, a ‘sempstress in receipt of parish relief’. The team was young. Holden at 36 was at the beginning of his career and soon left to become headmaster at Durham School, where he stayed for 28

years before retiring back to Rutland (Luffenham). The others were all between the ages of 22 and 32 years except for Clark who was forty. Earle was married but had no children yet; his two younger brothers (12 and 15) were staying with him as scholars at the school. Earle was described as “a firm disciplinarian and an effective teacher but a cautious man”. Later, he ran a boarding house (now the Garden Hotel). Clark was described at the time as “a most excellent and industrious man whose whole aspect spoke of respectable poverty. .. His duties were to fill the ink-pots and mend pens, and tidy up the room after school-time and in school he set copies and heard a little Latin grammar or did the multiplication table with a few backward boys”. After his dismissal by Thring in 1859 for returning late after the holidays, he ran a private academy in the High Street. Manclarke stayed for only one year and Barrymore for only two<sup>24</sup>.



*The cover of the first issue of The Hospitaler produced by the pupils of Uppingham School in December 1851.*

It is clear from some of the reminiscence articles which were written later that the school and the town mixed, at times lawfully and at times surreptitiously. The pupils of the Grammar School, on their walks from the boarding houses to the School House made friends of the inhabitants of School Lane and Leamington

Terrace. And there were at times scuffles between the 'cads' (as the Grammar School scholars called the boys of the town) and the pupils, especially when there was snow<sup>25</sup>. Some pupils said that after dark, they needed to go around in small groups for protection from loutish behaviour. Market Day and the two annual fairs were officially out of bounds, but the pupils found ways of attending both. But, on the whole, the Grammar School was its own world, inward more than outward looking. The tone of these later writings is patronising and negative to the town and population of Uppingham and its surrounding villages. Holden preached to "a small and bucolic congregation" at Ayston, for example. Rawnsley could write in 1904 about the Uppingham of the 1850s, "Oakham was a poor little place but ... Uppingham must have been a poorer"<sup>26</sup>.

## LEISURE AND CULTURE

It is very difficult to collect evidence on the quality of life in Uppingham in 1851. One or two glimpses can be seen, but because of the kind of sources available, they almost all concern the life of the well to do. Thus, for example, in 1848, John Langley, the auctioneer and cabinetmaker, launched a book club, a subscription Reading Society and a Reading and Newsroom on North Street, and, as secretary and treasurer, kept it "well supplied with London and provincial journals, periodicals etc"<sup>27</sup>. Charles Oliver ran the SPCK branch and had a circulating library at his Printers Yard premises. The town was already well equipped with bookshops. The area was adequately supplied with local news: apart from the *Stamford Mercury*, there was also the *Lincolnshire Chronicle and Northampton, Rutland and Nottingham Advertiser* and the *Grantham Journal*.

### Leisure activities

There seem to have been relatively few **pastimes**. The town band, the cricket club and the football club all came later, in the 1870s, although there was a town cricket team which played against the Grammar School at times<sup>28</sup>. One of the main annual events seems to have been a bonfire and fireworks in the Market Square for about a week before and after Guy Fawkes night, an event which regularly caused trouble, and there were several attempts to suppress it. Rather later, there is a reference to an 'annual meat display' throughout the town in December leading up to Christmas, and this may have been in existence in the 1850s<sup>29</sup>.

There must have been **public ceremonies and celebrations**. There were celebrations in the street following victory in the Crimean War in 1854. We know something of the celebrations in Uppingham for William IV in 1830 with "the sound of various musical instruments, the players were preceded [sic] by the beadle carrying a blue flag", and of Victoria's coronation in 1837 (see poster), but we have not been able to identify such events in the town in 1851. Popular festivities of this time such as the two annual fairs are usually unrecorded. The July 'Cherry Fair' as it was called, or St Thomas' Wake, was the town's 'Annual Feast'. In 1825, the Uppingham Feast was held in June with 'Fire Balloons': "Luckily, no one was burned". In 1859, a committee was formed to obtain three more annual fairs. We know that "bull baiting in the Uppingham Market Place brought the country people to the Town". Travelling players passed through from time to time and apparently a circus with bears. The racecourse on the Brand seems to have ended its races at the time when it was enclosed in the late eighteenth century, but hunting occupied the gentry<sup>30</sup>.

### Holidays

In 1850, for the first time, Saturday afternoon was assigned by Parliament as a half-day holiday for the working classes. 1851 was of course the year of the Great Exhibition, the Victorians' own 'Dome story'. It was reported in the press at the time that a mood of national pessimism attended the opening of the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1851 but, by the time that it closed in mid-October, more than 6 million people had visited the Exhibition. It was a financial success, the final profits of £165,000 being used to acquire land in South Kensington where the Victoria and Albert Museum now stands. The firm of Thomas Cook transported 165,000 people from the Midlands, and it is from the time of the Exhibition that the idea of popular excursions dates. It is likely that several Uppingham residents went up to see the Exhibition, especially since a large number of firms were exhibiting their products. In 1851, the great majority of industrial workers were employed in what today would be regarded as small factories containing not more than a hundred workers. However, the most important industry of the time was agriculture, which gave employment to nearly one and a half million men, not to mention the large number of women and children who worked in the fields, and this was particularly true of an area like Uppingham.



Poster of celebrations in Uppingham in 1837: similar celebrations may have been held in the town to mark other events during the middle of the nineteenth century.

## CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

We know little of the major and petty crimes of the town and the way they were punished, little about the violence which must have featured in Uppingham as in other towns. Trouble over bear baiting and over fireworks and bonfires in the Market Place is recorded from time to time. In 1830, the Town Vestry decided for the first time to have a paid 'street keeper' (watchman or beadle): for at that time, the duty of parish constable was undertaken by one of the tradesmen without payment. John Clapham was probably the last such constable in 1842. It took several years of controversy in the town before the Lighting and Watching Act was enforced in Uppingham, allowing the Vestry to encourage the establishment of a Gas Lighting Company and to appoint a town beadle each year at a salary of £3 pa<sup>31</sup>. The beadle does not appear in the census.

But crime continued. In 1850, some ewe lambs were stolen from a field on the Glaston Road and an advertisement offered 5 guineas for the capture of the thief with an additional 10 guineas from the Uppingham Association for the Prosecution of Felons (William Gilson was clerk and treasurer)<sup>32</sup>. In January 1851, Joseph Brown aged 16 admitted stealing in Uppingham a pair of gloves from John Perkins. Because he pleaded guilty, he was let off lightly with only four months' hard labour<sup>33</sup>. This may have occurred on market day, for neither person was listed in Uppingham on census night. There were poachers in the town: "In a little thatched cottage, ... which was pulled down to make room for the new school buildings lived a family of three brothers and one sister, Andrewes by name, notorious all over the County as poachers. They were makers of buckskin breeches and leather gloves, and expert at their trade"<sup>34</sup>. On census night, however, only William Andrews, aged 86, who described himself as "landed proprietor", was at home in this cottage. The parish workhouse was used as the lockup for drunks: "There was a house of correction [in the old workhouse], called the Round House although it consisted of two ordinary large rooms. Here were detained and left to their own devices those who had imbibed not wisely but too well"<sup>35</sup>. The stocks still stood near the pinfold<sup>36</sup>.

## CONCLUSION

What we know about the way people lived in Uppingham in the middle of the nineteenth century is at the moment thin fare for a market town in Middle England. There is much more to be found out about

life in Uppingham 150 years ago. But what we have already found out throws light on the Uppingham of today and the way it has changed and is changing, and it will encourage us to preserve what is the best from the past while building the best for the future.

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- <sup>1</sup> G Hoyland, *The Man who Made a School* SCM London 1946 p42; Rawnsley pp 67-68
- <sup>2</sup> *UppRut* p19; Slater 1850
- <sup>3</sup> Slater 1850
- <sup>4</sup> Much of this comes from chapel records and from Peter Lane's History of the Congregational Chapel; see also A Peach *Brief Account of the Uppingham Congregational Church and the Fifty Years Ministry of the Rev John Green*, Bournemouth, Richmond Hill Printing Works Ltd 1914
- <sup>5</sup> His 12 year old son Missouri was born in Gedney Hill; there are no other persons from Gedney Hill
- <sup>6</sup> Quotations from R F Chambers, *Strict Baptist Chapels* vol. 4, and from *Earthen Vessel*, the Magazine of the Strict Baptist Church, for 1849, 1852 and 1854
- <sup>7</sup> personal communication from David Woodruff, Strict Baptist Historical Society; Chambers op cit p115
- <sup>8</sup> The Directory for 1855 says 'no regular minister'
- <sup>9</sup> J Gill, *History of Wesleyan Methodism in Melton Mowbray and the Vicinity*, Melton 1909; Register of Oakham Chapel and Circuit 1816-1837 in LRO (ex inf Margaret Stacey)
- <sup>10</sup> Aldred 1818; 1911 p37
- <sup>11</sup> Slater 1850
- <sup>12</sup> *UppRut* p23
- <sup>13</sup> For the Swan, see *UppRut* p ; the above is based on RB2 and CR
- <sup>14</sup> Hodgk p1
- <sup>15</sup> *UppRut* p21
- <sup>16</sup> MI
- <sup>17</sup> CR
- <sup>18</sup> Slater 1850
- <sup>19</sup> The location of this school in what later became the Oddfellows Hall is based on the reminiscences of Mr E Wells of Uppingham reported in the *Stamford Mercury* 18 May 1979
- <sup>20</sup> 1853 p3
- <sup>21</sup> Matthews 1984
- <sup>22</sup> Slater 1850
- <sup>23</sup> Slater 1850
- <sup>24</sup> Matthews 1984; Rawnsley pp17-18
- <sup>25</sup> Rawnsley p120
- <sup>26</sup> Rawnsley p114
- <sup>27</sup> *UppRut* p19; Slater 1850
- <sup>28</sup> *UppRut* pp22-23; *The Hospitaler*
- <sup>29</sup> *UppRut*. pp 18, 19, 23
- <sup>30</sup> *SM* cited in *UppRut* pp 15-22; 1911 p38
- <sup>31</sup> *UppRut* pp 16-18; Aldred
- <sup>32</sup> LRO DE 2575/46
- <sup>33</sup> *SM* 4 April 1851
- <sup>34</sup> 1911 p35
- <sup>35</sup> 1911 p38
- <sup>36</sup> Aldred; 1911 p39

## APPENDIX 1

### THORPES IN UPPINGHAM IN 1851

#### Book 1: south side of Uppingham

**Alberic Thorpe** stone mason (see Mary Thorpe)

**Ann Thorpe** aged 17, unmarried, was house servant in the Rose and Crown on Hog Hill.

**Benjamin Thorpe\*** stone mason Stockerston Road was 61, married, with an unmarried daughter (Mason's Daughter) at home, and a married son Charles (cabinet maker) at home and their baby son (9 months), perhaps on a visit from Preston.

**Charles Thorpe\*** coach trimmer Beast Market aged 27, married with daughter of 1 year.

**Charlotte Thorpe** nurse aged 64 in household of Samuel Letts in School Lane (infant of one month in household).

**Daniel Thorpe\*** stone mason Stockerston Road; aged 38, married, with seven children at home: the oldest, Charlotte, unmarried aged 16, was described as 'servant' but this was deleted; the rest except youngest were scholars.

**Elizabeth Thorpe**, aged 27, born in Barrowden, unmarried, with probable son Miller Thorpe, in Union workhouse.

**Frederick Thorpe** stone mason aged 35, married to Mary, house servant; in household of David Barrymore of Grammar School, corner of School Lane and High Street.

**Henry Thorpe** grocer's assistant, widower aged only 27, living in with his employer Thomas Blyth grocer in Market Place.

**Henry Thorpe\*** tailor South Backside; aged 24, married and two very young children (youngest only two months).

**Jane Thorpe** servant aged 13, in household of Susannah Hopkins sister of William and Benjamin Hopkins, High Street.

**John Thorpe\*** shoemaker and Chelsea pensioner South Backside; aged 56; married wife from Kent and two children aged 15 and 14 born in Chatham. Next door to Samuel Thorpe.

**John Thorpe\*** stone mason Leicester Road aged 56, married, with adult two sons at home (both stone masons, one unmarried, the other married but without his wife present); they shared their house with Charles and Mary Tyler, painter and grainer.

**Joseph Thorpe\*** bootmaker Hog Hill, aged 30, married, with two children, youngest only 6 months.

**Joseph Thorpe\*** joiner Stockerston Road, almost next door to Daniel; aged 50, married to girl from Chester, son William aged 24 was also joiner; son Samuel aged 20 (born in Langham Scotland) was servant; daughter Hannah was dressmaker, and son Charles aged 13 was also servant. Three younger girls were scholars.

**Josiah Thorpe\*** agricultural labourer Leicester Road, close neighbour to Mary, Leonard and Thomas Thorpe; aged 32, married, three daughters between 7 years and 2 years; oldest a scholar.

**Leonard Thorpe\*** agricultural labourer Leicester Road (almost next door to Mary Thorpe); aged 33, married with two daughters (scholars).

**Mary Thorpe\*** beerseller Leicester Road; widow aged 64; her nephew Alberic Thorpe (a stone mason) and two lodgers lived with her.

**Mary Thorpe\*** dressmaker Horn Lane, aged 58, Head of household although married (husband absent), dressmaker, with Hannah Thorpe apprentice dressmaker aged 15 (is Hannah a daughter or granddaughter?).

**Robert Thorpe\*** journeyman tailor in cottage at back of Black Horse Inn, High Street south, aged 51, married with one daughter (servant at home).

**Samuel Thorpe\*** Rector's servant South Backside, aged 46, married with two small children and a servant (errand boy aged 13). Next door to John Thorpe.

**Thomas Thorpe\*** horse breaker School Lane, aged 76 with his wife.

**Thomas Thorpe\*** stone mason Leicester Road (very close to Mary and Leonard Thorpe); aged 60, married, two daughters (straw bonnet makers) and a grandson Richard Herrick.

**William Thorpe\*** stone mason Stockerston Road, aged 60. Emma Thorpe, married, aged 27, was said to be his daughter, her occupation is described as 'Mason's Daughter'. James Thorpe stonemason, was unmarried son at home. There was a 7 year old grandson William Sharman (was Emma's married name Sharman?). They provided accommodation for Mary Cave, unmarried lodger, who owned houses in Uppingham.

#### Book 2: north side of Uppingham

**Benjamin Thorpe** stone mason, see William below

**Benjamin Thorpe\*** woollorter and cottager High Street north; widower aged 78, he was Head of household in which was his married son (English School Master) and his family of wife and three children aged 16, 11 and 5, none of them listed as scholars.

**Henry Thorpe\*** mason and stone engraver North Street; the most eminent of the Thorpes, parish clerk for many years. Aged 48, married, with nine children (oldest were twins of 14, youngest was two weeks old).

**Sylvester Story Thorpe** stone mason, see William below

**William Robert Thorpe\*** curate of Uppingham High Street north; born in Braithwaite, Yorks, his wife came from Hawton, Nottinghamshire; aged 34, he had a 7 month old son of the same name and two house servants.

**William Thorpe** English schoolmaster, see Benjamin above

**William Thorpe\*** stone mason Todds Piece, aged 65 and married but wife absent (is she Charlotte? - see above), his widowed son Sylvester Story Thorpe aged 23, stonemason, and his unmarried son Benjamin, aged 18 stone mason, lived with him. Emma Thorpe granddaughter and scholar aged 13 was also in the household.

**William Thorpe** stone mason; widowed at the age of 32, with three children (two were scholars), living in house of mother in law Elizabeth Woodcock, High Street north.

Note: \* denotes Head of Household in the census.



## APPENDIX 2

### 1851 Birthplace Analysis by counties

<i>County of birth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Rutland	1428
Northamptonshire	154
Leicestershire	115
Lincolnshire	100
Yorkshire	20
Middlesex: London	19
Huntingdonshire	17
Nottinghamshire	15
Kent	13
Warwickshire	11
Norfolk	8
Essex	7
Suffolk	7
Derbyshire	6
Cheshire	5
Buckinghamshire	4
Gloucestershire	4
Northumberland	4
Staffordshire	4
Bedfordshire	3
Cornwall	3
Durham	3
Surrey	3
Devon	2
Lancashire: Manchester	2
Montgomeryshire	2
Berkshire	1
Hertfordshire	1
Isle of Wight	1
Shropshire	1
Wiltshire	1
Denbighshire	1
Scotland	8
Ireland Cork	3
Ireland Dublin	1
Bombay India	3
New York America	2
Oporto Portugal (British subject)	1

### 1851 Birthplace Analysis: Rutland

<i>Town/Village</i>	<i>Total</i>
Uppingham	1127
Lyddington	36
Barrowden	24
Seaton	22
Preston	20
Ayston	16
Wing	15
Ridlington	14
Morcott	13
Belton	12
Bisbrooke	11
Glaston	11
Manton	10
North Luffenham	8
Caldecott	7
South Luffenham	7
Thorpe by Water	7
Oakham	6
Edith Weston	4
Ketton	4
Market Overton	4
Stoke Dry	4
Wardley	4
Barleythorpe	3
Eggleton	3
Empingham	3
Greetham	3
Tinwell	3
Whissendine	2
Barrow	1
Beaumont Chase	1
Braunston	1
Burley	1
Cottesmore	1
Exton	1
Hambleton	1
Langham	1
Lyndon	1
Pilton	1
Thistleton	1
Wymondham	1

## APPENDIX 3

### OCCUPATIONS IN UPPINGHAM IN 1851

Note: these are the persons residing in Uppingham on the census night 30 March 1851. We know that some professional persons were absent on that night, and others may also have been missing from the census.

<b>Gentry</b>			4
<b>Independent means</b>		(landed proprietor, proprietor of houses etc)	8
<b>Professions</b>		Banker, Civil Engineer, Veterinary Surgeon, Surveyor and auctioneer, Gas Works Manager	5
		Clergy and Ministers	6
		Education	18
		Law	2
		Medicine	3
<b>Professional assistants</b>		Bank, Law, Auctioneer and land agent, Medical	6
<b>Education</b>			2
<b>Officials</b>		Bailiff, Inland Revenue, Poor relief	5
<b>Agriculture</b>		Farmers, Grazier,	19
		Cattle dealer, Corn merchant, Nurseryman and seedsman	3
		Labourers, Farm servants	12
			8
<b>Crafts and Trades</b>	<b>Building</b>	Drover, Pig jobber, Shepherd	3
		Brickmaker, Builders, Painters, Pavior, Plumbers, Slaters	26
	<b>Cloth</b>	Stonemasons	20
		Draper	17
		Dressmakers	29
		Tailors	45
		Miscellaneous: Calico weaver, Knitters, Milliners, Sempstress, Stay and corset maker, Strawbonnet makers, Weavers, Woolcomber, Woolsorter	32
		Matmaker, Ropemakers	4
	<b>Leather</b>	Boot and shoemakers, Collar and harness makers, Cordwainers, Curriers, Glover, Saddler, Tanner	42
	<b>Metal</b>	Agricultural implement maker, Brazier, Blacksmith, Smith, Tinman, Whitesmith	24
	<b>Wood</b>	Cabinet makers	10
		Carpenters, Chairmakers, Joiners, Sawyers	32
	<b>Carriage and Deliveries</b>	Carriers, Coachmakers, Omnibus driver, Waggoners, Wheelwrights	19
		Horse trainer/breaker	2
	<b>Food and Drink</b>	Bakers	11
		Butchers	12
		Grocers	21
		Maltsters	6
		Millers	5
		Teadealers	4
		Others: Confectioners, Fishmongers, Nutseller	8
		Pubs and Inns	28
		Wine	3
	<b>General Trades</b>	Basket makers, Booksellers and printers, Chemists, China dealer, Coal merchant, Ironmongers, Postmistress, Tallow chandler, Watchmakers	30
<b>Service</b>	<b>Domestic</b>	General servants	92
		Others: Housekeeper, Cook, Lady's maid, Nurses	26
	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Errand boys, Footmessengers, Groom, Ostler, Letter carrier, Messengers, Porter, Postboys, Stable boy	30
<b>General</b>		Charwoman, Chimneysweep, Gardeners, Hairdressers, Laundress, Washerwomen	36
		Hawkers, Higgler, Labourer, Musician, Road labourer, Scavenger	13
<b>Retired</b>		Coach proprietor, Dressmaker, Farmer, Housekeeper, Inland Revenue Officer, Milliner, Publican, Tanner, Woolstapler and widows of Auctioneer, Keeper, Lacemaker	12

Notes: People with more than one occupation are included in both categories.

## APPENDIX 4

### Scholars on the roll of Uppingham Grammar School on 30 March 1851

Name	Age	Son of	Future career
John Parr	19	J E Parr, Barrister-at Law The Inner Temple	Exeter College, Oxford Vicar of Kenton, Exeter
Carteret Henry Leathes	19	H M Leathes Herringfleet Hall, Lowestoft	St John's College, Cambridge Rector of Reedham, Norfolk
Charles John Abbey	18	J Abbey, Wellingborough	Lincoln College, Oxford Rector of Fairfield, Teignmouth
Francis Westby Bagshawe	18	W J Bagshawe, Sheffield	Trinity College, Cambridge
Henry Bell*	18	Dr John Bell, Uppingham	Clare College, Cambridge Barrister
Thomas Bentley Brown*	18	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	Emmanuel College, Cambridge Rector of Normanton and Pilton
James Cholmely	18	Reverend R Cholmely, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire	Emmanuel College, Cambridge Fellow and Lecturer at Magdalen College, Oxford; in Holy Orders
Joseph Russell Little	18	J Little, Eldernell, Cambridgeshire	St John's College, Cambridge Rector of Stansfield, Suffolk
Thomas George Bonney	17	Reverend T Bonney, Rugely	St John's College, Cambridge Fellow, Lecturer and Tutor at St John's College; Professor of Geology at University College, London; in Holy Orders
John Martin Brown*	17	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	Captain 1st Royals (Crimea)
Hugh Bryan**	17	T J Bryan, Lyddington	Clare College, Cambridge Rector of Stoke Doyle, Oundle
Francis Willis	17	Dr Willis, Shillingthorpe, Market Deeping	
Frederic Bagshawe	16	Reverend E B Bagshawe, Eyam, Derbyshire	St John's College, Cambridge MA, MD, FRC
William Henry Brown*	16	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	
Charles Halford Lucas	16	Reverend R Lucas, Edith Weston	Christ Church, Oxford Rector of Edith Weston
Charles Hayes Marriott	16	J Marriott, MD, Kibworth Harcourt	MD, Knighted 1904
Francis Sterry	16	W Sterry, Upminster, Essex	Exeter College, Oxford Rector of Washford, Taunton
George Middleton Athorpe	15	J C Athorpe, Dinnington Hall, Rotherham	Emmanuel College, Cambridge; in Holy Orders
Alfred Drake Bagshawe	15	W J Bagshawe, The Oaks, Derbyshire	To Rugby School then Emmanuel College, Cambridge Rector of Northwood, Middlesex
Frederick Warren Brown*	15	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	
George Malins Earle*	15	Reverend H J Earle, High Ongar, Essex	In Business, London
Charles Henry Fynes-Clinton	15	Reverend C J Fynes-Clinton, Cromwell, Newark	St John's College, Cambridge Rector of Blandford, Dorset
Octavius Hammond	15	C Hammond, Newmarket	Emmanuel College, Cambridge Rector of Herringwell, Mildenhall, Suffolk
Herbert John Little	15	J Little, Eldernell, Cambridgeshire	Professor of Agriculture R A College, Cirencester
Arthur Lawrence Trotman	15	Reverend F S Trotman	St Mary Hall, Oxford; in Holy Orders, Wimborne
Alfred Willis	15	Dr Willis, Shillingthorpe, Market Deeping	St John's College, Oxford Late Bishop of Honolulu, Nukualofa, Friendly Islands
John Barstow	14	T Barstow, York	
Thomas Bell*	14	Dr John Bell, Uppingham	Sanitary Officer to Uppingham School
Edward Brown*	14	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	
Fairfax Fearnley	14	T Fearnley, Bawtry	
Walter Elliott LeGeyt	14	Mrs LeGeyt, Regent's Park, London	
William Thomas Roughton	14	W G Roughton, Oporto	
William Sheild***	14	Reverend S Sheild, Preston, Rutland	Clare College, Cambridge Rector of Whittingham, Northumberland
Charles Barratt Butt*	13	J B Butt, Grocer, Uppingham	
John Lamont Davidson	13	L Davidson, Edinburgh	

Cuthbert Ellison Edwardes+	13	Hon William Edwardes, Edmondthorpe, Oakham	Lt-Col, Rifle Brigade (Indian Mutiny)
Charles Henry Greaves	13	T L Greaves, Great Easton, Leicestershire	University of St Andrews
Henry Praed Hartshorne	13	Reverend C H Hartshorne, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire	
Charles John Hinrich	13	Lady Hinrich, Hallaton	
Frederic Goulden Horn	13	H Horn, London	
Edward de Lanoy Little	13	J Little, Eldernell, Cambridgeshire	St John's College, Cambridge
Cecil George Norman	13	G Norman, Goady Marwood, Melton	
William Perkins	13	J Perkins	Solicitor, Southampton
Arthur Dickson Rawlins	13	D A Rawlins, Market Harborough	
Alfred William Rowe	13	H F Rowe, Cambridge	Trinity College, Cambridge Canon, Lincoln Cathedral
Henry C Barstow	12	T Barstow, York	St John's College, Cambridge 26th ICS, Bengal, 1860
William Bell*	12	Dr John Bell, Uppingham	MRCS, English
Charles James Brown*	12	T Brown, Solicitor, Uppingham	
John Henry Bryan**	12	T J Bryan, Lyddington	
Walter Earle*	12	Reverend H J Earle, High Ongar, Essex	St John's College, Cambridge Head Master, Bilton Grange Rector in Reigate
Charles Montague Richardson	12	Reverend H K Richardson, Leire, Lutterworth	
Langham Rokeby	12	Reverend H R Rokeby, Arthingworth, Northamptonshire	Royal Marines
Charles John Rose	12	Mrs C Rose, Repton	
William Bryan*	11	T Bryan, Corn Merchant and Grocer, Uppingham	Solicitor, Mansfield
Hyla Elkington	11	G R Elkington, Birmingham	
John Henry Green	11	C Green, Spalding	Wadham College, Oxford Rector in Mowsley, Rugby
Charles Berkeley Margetts	11	C Margetts, Huntingdon	Solicitor, Huntingdon
Theodore Bell*	10	Dr John Bell, Uppingham	Solicitor, London
Augustus Bryan*	10	T Bryan, Corn Merchant and Grocer, Uppingham	
Joshua Robert Cottam	10	G Cottam, Wisbeck	
George Herbert Holden	10	Reverend W Holden, St Oswald's, Worcester	
William Hopkinson	10	Reverend T Hopkinson, Alwalton, Peterborough	Clare College, Cambridge in Holy Orders
John Barron Saltern Jope	10	W S Jope, Gray's Inn Square, London	To Durham School

\* Living at home (NB Earles living with their brother)

\*\* Living in Lyddington?

\*\*\* Living in Preston?

+ Living in Oakham?

## INDEX OF PLACES AND SUBJECTS

- absentees 3, 4
- agriculture 18ff
- Allin Cottage 36
- allotments 18-20
- apprentices 21, 22
- Association for the Prosecution of Felons (Uppingham) 25-6, 56
- Ayston 12, 46, 50, 55
- banks 15, 19
- Baptists 12, 47-48
- Barrowden 7, 10
- bear baiting 56
- Beaumont Chase 4, 18
- beersellers 9, 51-2
- Belton 54
- Bethesda chapel 47-8
- birthplaces 6,7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 29, 32, 33, 59
- Bisbrooke 5, 6, 46
- Black Horse 36-37, 49,51
- brick yards 37
- British School 53; see schools
- building 19, 35-36
- bull baiting 55
- Bullocks Yard 29, 51, 54
- canal 41
- carriers 41
- celebrations 55, 56
- census, taking of 3
- chapels 10, 46-48
- charities 11, 22, 27, 28, 52-4
- Chatham 10
- Chelsea pensioner 29
- Chequers 12, 16, 26, 39, 43, 49, 50
- children 32, 52-3
- children at work 21
- chimney sweep 16, 22, 52
- church 46, 53
- Clare John poet 13
- coaching industry and coaches 5, 18, 21, 39, 42, 44, 50
- cobbled streets 39
- coffee house 48
- Congregational Church see Independent Chapel
- constable 4, 25, 27, 56
- copyhold, see manor courts
- Corby 50-51
- Cottingham 41
- cricket 55
- crime 56
- Cross Keys 15, 43, 49, 50
- Crown 12, 49, 50
- deaths in infancy 9, 10, 22, 32
- deeds 3,4
- disabled population 32
- disease, illness 5, 28, 29, 32
- elderly 8, 28-9
- employment 21
- enclosure 37
- fair 28, 55
- Falcon 12, 25, 26, 40, 41-44, 50, 52
- families 3, 9, 10, 33
- Feast (St Thomas Day) 28, 55
- fire 37; fireservice 27, 37
- Fludyers Arms 49, 50
- football 55
- Gambles Yard 8, 11, 29, 48 (Sheilds Yard)
- Gas Works 19, 27, 37, 56
- Gedney Hill 47
- gentry 25
- George and Dragon 10, 12, 42,49, 50
- German musicians 13, 14, 51
- Glaston 5, 22, 41, 46
- Great Easton 7, 42
- Great Exhibition 55
- Greenwich pensioner 10, 29
- Gretton 7, 11, 33
- Grammar School 4,5, 9, 11, 15, 18, 25-6, 28, 35, 36, 38, 41, 45, 50, 52-5, 61-62
- gypsies 13
- Hallaton 43
- Harringworth 32
- Hopes Yard 12, 54,
- Hopkins Court 12, 22, 36
- Horse and Trumpet 16, 42, 49, 50
- Hospitaller 54
- Independent Chapel 22, 25, 28, 45-48, 53
- India 7, 12, 46, 53
- Inland Revenue 11, 12, 19, 50
- Innocents Yard 29, 36, 39
- inns 10, 12, 15-6, 21,36-7, 42-3, 48-52
- insurance 15, 18, 22-3
- itinerants 5, 11-3, 50-52
- Ketton 53
- Langham 48
- Leamington Terrace 4, 8, 11, 29, 48, 35, 39-40, 50, 54-5
- living alone 8, 29
- local government 27; see Vestry
- lodgers 5, 11-2, 50-52
- Luffenham 54
- Lyddington 7, 10, 12, 25, 46, 48, 51
- Lyndon 54
- Maltsters Arms 13, 49, 51
- manor courts 26
- Manton 41, 44
- market 15, 18, 42-3, 55-6
- Market Harborough 8, 11, 41
- Medbourne 33
- mills 18, 21
- Morcott 41
- Morris' Buildings 12, 35
- Mount Pleasant 37
- National School 47, 53
- newspapers 55
- Noel, Earl of Gainsborough 25-6, 50
- North Street Row 36
- nurses 9, 16, 29
- Oakham 5-6, 28, 41, 43, 48, 55
- occupations 15ff, 33, 60
- Oddfellows 53
- organist, musician 8, 46, 51
- orphans 33
- birthplaces overseas 7
- parish officers 27, 41
- parish workhouse 27, 56
- paupers 5, 10-13, 16, 27-9, 32, 39
- pews 45-8
- Pilsgate 10
- pinfold 56
- poachers 56
- political power 25
- poor relief 27ff
- population growth 4, 5, 14, 36
- post office 11, 16, 41-2
- Preston 5, 6, 12, 15, 21, 33, 41, 46
- printers 11, 15, 18, 27, 55
- Printers Yard 23
- professions 19, 26
- Pudding Bag End 37
- rares 55
- Ragmans Row 36
- railway 41, 44
- Reading Room 55
- Reeves Yard 50
- religion 45-48
- religious census 45, 47
- Ridlington 5, 6, 11, 33, 46
- Rockingham 11
- Rose and Crown 9, 11, 49-50
- Royal Oak Inn 42, 49-51
- Rutland Agricultural Society 19
- school teachers 10-12,15, 19, 25, 29, 32, 39, 46-7, 53-55
- schools 22, 52-5; see Grammar
- Seaton 5, 32, 41, 46
- servants 16, 17, 22
- sports 55
- Stamford 12, 41, 44, 51
- Stamford Mercury* 14, 19, 34
- stocks 56
- Stoke Dry 46
- stone masons 9, 10, 19, 48
- Stamford Fair 14
- Stockerston 46
- Stoke Dry 46
- Stratton Cornwall 12
- streets iv, 35
- Sunday Schools 45-48, 52
- Swan 12, 28, 49-50; Swan Yard 53
- temperance 48
- the Hall 21, 46
- the Park 25
- the Pits 10, 37
- the Views 23
- Thimble Row 36
- Thorpe by Water 5
- Thring 27, 39, 46, 54
- Toll Gate 35, 41
- Tugby 43, 50
- turnpikes 41
- Unicorn 12, 25,42, 49, 50
- Union Workhouse 4, 5, 9, 19, 26-8, 32-4, 37, 39, 52-3
- Vestry 26, 27, 37, 56
- visitors 5, 11, 12, 22, 46, 48, 50-2
- Wagon and Horses 49, 52
- wagon yard 37, 41, 53
- water 26-7, 48
- Weldon 7, 43
- Wesleyan chapel 4, 48
- Wheatsheaf 2, 3, 49, 51
- White Hart 42-3, 49, 51
- Wing 12, 32
- women 8, 15, 16, 22, 26-7, 32

## INDEX OF PERSONS (surnames only)

Adcock 19  
 Adderley 25-26  
 Allen 9  
 Almond 48  
 Andrewes 12, 56  
 Aris 21, 27  
 Ash 12  
 Ashwood 49, 51  
 Askew 12  
 Bagley 32  
 Baines 9, 28, 33  
 Bamfield 39, 54  
 Barret 42  
 Barrymore 53-4  
 Baxter 12  
 Bell 15, 18, 32, 53  
 Bellamy 47-8  
 Bent 12  
 Bilsdon 9  
 Bonney 54  
 Boothey 16  
 Bradley 4, 11, 15, 29, 53  
 Broughton 26  
 Brown 11, 12, 25-6, 39, 52, 56  
 Bryan 3, 4, 9, 15, 53  
 Burgess 25  
 Burrows 33  
 Butt 27  
 Capp 12, 49, 50  
 Carrington 12, 53  
 Catlin 49, 50  
 Cave 9  
 Chapman 41  
 Clapham 56  
 Clark 54  
 Cliff 9, 11, 33, 49, 50  
 Colston 5, 29  
 Cort 8  
 Cox 8, 32, 39  
 Crawley 12  
 Crowden 9, 41  
 Curtis 36, 51  
 Dams 32, 42  
 Daniell 53  
 Dean 4, 5  
 Dimock 4, 12, 25, 45-7  
 Dodson 12  
 Dorman 9, 11,  
 Drake 9, 48  
 Earle 15, 54  
 Edgson 11, 53  
 Edwards 3, 18,  
 Fisher 50  
 Forster 3  
 Foster 52  
 Foulsum 12  
 Franklin 50  
 Freeman 3, 9, 12, 33, 41, 49, 51-2  
 Freer 33  
 Freeston 21, 25, 46  
 Frisby 11  
 Fryer 16  
 Furniss 28  
 Gamble 47  
 Garner 39  
 Geeson 48  
 Gibbons 18, 26  
 Gilson 4, 25-6, 34, 56  
 Goodliffe 33  
 Green 45, 48, 53  
 Greenhow 11, 53  
 Gregory 50  
 Grinstead 53  
 Hales 11, 16, 39, 40  
 Halford 5  
 Hall 25, 26, 42, 50  
 Harbutt 41, 50  
 Hardwick 12, 48  
 Hart 12, 25  
 Healy 49, 50  
 Herrick 9  
 Hill 18, 25  
 Holden 11, 15, 54-5  
 Holmes 11, 16, 22  
 Hope 12, 18, 46  
 Hopkins 9, 11-12, 21, 25, 36, 46, 53  
 Hotchkin 25-6  
 Hough 8  
 Houghton 48  
 Hudson 9, 11, 12  
 Hull 46  
 Hunter 11  
 Ingram 12, 15, 18, 21, 49  
 Inman 11, 50  
 Ireland 13, 29  
 Ironman 39, 49, 50  
 Irving 12, 46  
 Jackson 4, 25  
 Jakes 5, 12  
 Jeyes 25  
 Kemp 22, 46  
 King 14  
 Kirk 48  
 Knight 8, 9, 28, 39, 40-3,  
 Langley 46, 55  
 Laxton 46  
 Leak 11, 16, 41  
 Lenton 11  
 Liquorice 11  
 Lodge 48  
 Looms 35, 39  
 Lount 33  
 Loveday 12  
 Manclarke 54  
 Manton 11, 39, 40  
 Mayes 11  
 Measures 26, 32-33, 53  
 Millard 41  
 Morgan 12, 41  
 Mould 4, 12, 18, 21, 39, 40, 52  
 Munton 33  
 Nutt 8, 9, 33, 49, 51  
 Oliver 4, 15, 18, 27, 46, 55  
 Page 11, 13  
 Palmer 25  
 Parker 46  
 Parsons 22  
 Peach 4, 48  
 Perkins 56  
 Pinney 53  
 Purdon 32  
 Randle 42-3  
 Ratt 15  
 Rawnsley 40, 55  
 Reeve 12, 18, 21, 25, 44, 50  
 Reid 11, 50  
 Rennard 4, 48  
 Riddle 16, 22, 52  
 Rogers 8, 46, 51  
 Sargant 12  
 Satchell 9  
 Seaton 9, 16, 22, 41, 46  
 Sellars 39, 49, 51  
 Sewell 18, 21, 33, 46  
 Sharman 9, 48  
 Sharp 50  
 Sheild 26  
 Shelton 39  
 Shuter 33  
 Simmons 14  
 Simms 28-9, 39, 40  
 Slater 21, 46  
 Smith 41  
 Sneath 36, 49-51  
 Sones 3, 25, 52  
 Southwell 9, 18, 49, 52  
 Spencer 11, 28  
 Stanion 47  
 Stanyon 48  
 Staples 33  
 Stedman 18  
 Sumpter 12  
 Suter 5, 16  
 Swann 11  
 Tansley 49, 50  
 Thompson 12  
 Thorpe 5, 9, 25, 27, 33, 36, 49, 51,  
 58  
 Tilley 5, 8, 9, 11  
 Tomblin 53  
 Tomlinson 3  
 Tyers 9, 39  
 Tyler 11, 12  
 Ullett 12  
 Wade 11, 12, 41, 47-8, 50, 53  
 Ward 33  
 Watson 21  
 Watts 4  
 Waugh 11  
 Weston 11  
 White 28  
 Wilford 26  
 Williams 12, 13, 46  
 Williamson 54  
 Wilmot 26  
 Winter 53  
 Woodcock 9, 16  
 Woolston 33  
 Younger 39, 40