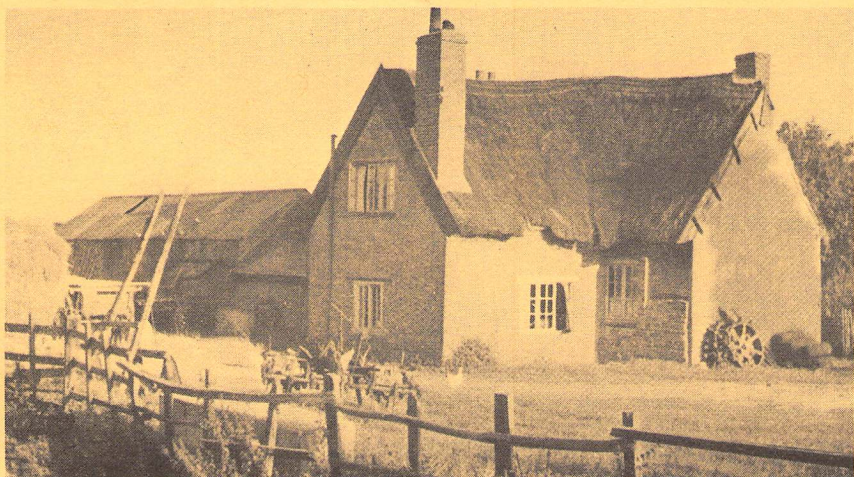


A Short History of **Leicester Forest East and West**

by
Jonathan Wilshire



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The illustrations from *Leicester Forest* by Levi Fox and Percy Russell (1948) are from photographs by Donald McClellan.

The drawing of the *Bull's Head* by Brian Hollingshead (1970), formed part of that artist's series on the A47, published in the *Leicester Mercury*.

Additional Captions:

Forest Edge. Photographed in the late 1920s, when occupied by George Ernest Ellis and family. Probably the best known occupier of the house, at the turn of the century, was Joseph Johnson (1843–1906), the Leicester draper. Forest Rise was then a cinder-track leading to "Forest Edge". The house was demolished in the 1960s, but Ellis Drive perpetuates a link with its past.

The Grange. Also known as Grange House, Forest Grange, or even Leicester Grange. Very little information exists about the house or its occupants, and this is one of the few known surviving photographs. The house was built before 1825 and one of its earliest-known occupiers (until about 1861) was William Kenworthy Walker. Then followed Thomas Atkinson, Major Chester, Dr. James H. Lillie and George Bidlake, who was there from before 1880 to about 1890. Later occupants included* Thomas Grosvenor Lee, Lt. Col. John Arthur Winstanley, Captain Thomas Calvert Dawson (1911 to 1918), Stephen Hilton and J. Eric Thorneloe. During the second World War, immediately prior to its demolition, the house was reputed to be a cache for "black market" goods. An ignoble end to a chequered career.

Ashby Shrubs. The existing 18th century farmhouse stands back from the road, but on its left front, at right angles to the road, are foundations of a stone built house, presumably Heathley's Lodge, where the Forest court was held and where the receiver lived. Ashby Shrubs (or Scrubs) was originally the name attached to the land on the opposite (Leicester) side of the Enderby Lane.

Boyer's Lodge. A thatched timber-framed Elizabethan farmhouse with renewed windows.

The Bull's Head. Also known as "Halfway House" — halfway between Leicester and Hinckley. It was very much a cattle drovers' pub; an unofficial cattle market was often held in the field at the back. Indeed on the night of the 1851 census (30 March) two Welsh-born cattle drovers were staying there. Richard May, the landlord, was then farming 120 acres so the Bull's Head was very much a farmhouse as well.

* Not a full list.

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Forest Edge in the 1920s.

Seventy-Five
Pence

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Leicester, LE2 1EB.*

PREFACE

This pamphlet is issued to coincide with the Exhibition held in St. Andrew's Hall, Leicester Forest East, on October 3rd and 4th, 1980, as part of the celebrations of Kirby Muxloe on attaining its fiftieth anniversary as a separate parish.

Some of the information in this brief history is taken from the booklet published in 1966, to mark the consecration of St. Andrew's church. Much of that booklet was written by the late Eric C. Healey, and the present writer has also made use of Mr. Healey's miscellaneous manuscript notes.

The kind assistance of Dr. Levi Fox in agreeing to the use of the map and three photographs from *Leicester Forest* (published in 1948), of which he is surviving co-author, is gratefully acknowledged. Mr. Shirley Ellis kindly provided the photograph of "Forest Edge" and Mrs. Peggy Bedingfield (née Dawson) that of the Grange.

The bulk of documents relating to Leicester Forest are in the Duchy of Lancaster's papers in the Public Record Office. Some deeds and other papers are in various Estate papers in the Leicestershire Record Office, notably those relating to the Winstanley and Wollaston families. Other documents are in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, whilst the Hastings papers at the Huntingdon Library, San Marino, California, U.S.A. also contain items of interest.

This publication is supported by a number of small donations, including one from Mr. W. Hobill (Grange Farm Dairy).

July 1980

Jonathan Wilshere



The Grange, (before 1918).

LEICESTER FOREST EAST and WEST

What is known to-day as Leicester Forest East and Leicester Forest West stretches over three miles from Braunstone Cross Roads towards Hinckley along each side of the A47 road, which derives from the Turnpike Trust set up in 1754. It is only since the 1930s and especially since the late 'fifties and 'sixties that the Leicester Forest East area has seen large-scale residential development. Its population probably now exceeds that of Kirby Muxloe itself.

It is worth remembering that the settlement of Kirby (originally Carbi) was in the midst of Hereswode, the wood or forest of the (Danish) settlers, where the townspeople of Leicester enjoyed valuable rights. These forest rights of commoners were regularised early in the twelfth century, but were, at all times, designed to protect "vert and venison", aimed at the preservation of a forest hunting environment. The customary limited rights mainly applied to firebote (gathering of wood for fuel), but forest tenants and a few others could take husbote (wood for house repair) and heybote (wood for hedge or fence maintenance). The main "unreserved" parts of the forest became known as the Frith, but the King's New Park took in all the Frith on Leicester's side. A belt of the old Frith, about a mile wide, was divided into four parts comprising the Friths known as Glenfield, Braunstone and Kirby and the King's Wood (with Meynell's Gorse the only remaining part of the latter).

Hereswode forest is described in Domesday Book in 1086 as measuring four leagues in length by one league in width. Although old measurements are often unreliable an area of 36 square miles does accord well with the known size of the forest at its most extensive, when it was approximately 14 miles long and 3 to 4 miles wide. It would then have stretched from Bagworth to Enderby and from Desford and Thurlaston to Anstey Gorse. Leicester Forest (not to be confused with Charnwood Forest), as the area became known, descended from Hugo de Grantmaisnil to his son Ivo (died 1101) and thence to the Norman earls of Leicester. On the death of Simon de Montfort at the battle of Evesham in 1265, it passed to Edmund Crouchback, fourth and youngest, but second surviving son of Henry III. It then became a royal deer-hunting forest containing also much valuable timber. The Forest was part of the large, important administrative unit of the Duke of Lancaster, known as the Honor of Leicester, which had its headquarters at Leicester Castle. It was conferred on Henry IV, previously earl of Lancaster and Derby, in 1399.

Forests were an important part of the national economy and it is easy to understand why they were so jealously preserved. From them timber was obtained for house building and repairs, honey for sweetening and preserving, oak bark for tanning, acorns and beech mast for pig feed, fresh meat for empty winter larders, fuel for winter fireplaces and grazing for cattle.

The owners of Forest wanted deer mainly for the pleasure of the chase, but also for the satisfaction of bringing home a welcome change of diet from salt-

beef and reasty bacon.

It is fair to suppose that the men who did not own a Forest, and who also wanted a change of winter diet, went poaching, not only for fresh meat for their families, but also, surely, for the sheer devil of it. Offences against the Forest Laws were harshly punished, and "Operation Venison" must have been carefully planned indeed to find, kill, cart away and dispose of one large deer without detection.

It is not quite true to say that our forebears had no fresh meat in winter. There were the rabbits (conies) and special warrens (coneries) reserved for them. The remains of one may be seen right as one travels towards Enderby along Moll's (Nell's or Beggar's Lane); and surely Old Warren Farm was not so called without reason. There were also doves (pigeons) which only the Lord of the Manor might keep, and many dovecotes of great architectural beauty are to be seen near manor houses around the countryside. There must have been one by Kirby Castle, for there is a field there called Dove Close. The peasant might not be too pleased that his crops should be raided by his Lord's pigeons but it may well have been that the birds let out in the morning did not all return safely to the dovecote in the evening.

Although Leicester Forest was a major source of winter fuel, it is possible that charcoal may have been available at a price. More certain it is that coal was being dug at Swannington as early as 1193 and carried from there in pack horses panniers for sale in Leicester. The exact route of these early coal convoys is not known, but our guess is, if old place names are any clue, that it went through Kirby, fording the old water splash at the bottom of Blood's Hill, and up to the Braunstone Crossroads. From there the coalpit men had a choice of route. They went either down the Hinckley Road, outspanning for the night in Coalpit Close — where Marconi now is — or they went along Coalpit Lane — now Braunstone Lane — via Aylestone to Coal Hill outside the East Gate of Leicester Town.

After the owner, whether Earl or King, had taken from his Forest all that he required for his various households: given his hunting parties, sent gifts of deer to his friends, firewood to his favourite charities and timber for the repair of his churches, there was an annual cash revenue for himself. A profit and loss account dated 1313 shows that, after deducting all expenses of maintenance and management, there was a surplus for that year of £7. 14s. 1½d. — no small sum in those days.

We can thus understand why Leicester Forest should have been administered as a separate entity under a Master Forester. He was the chief executive officer, and one of his duties was to preside over the Forest Court and fine offenders for petty offences against the Forest Laws. Major offenders — poachers of venison and the like — were remanded in custody to the Earl's prison at Leicester Castle to be dealt with by a higher court.

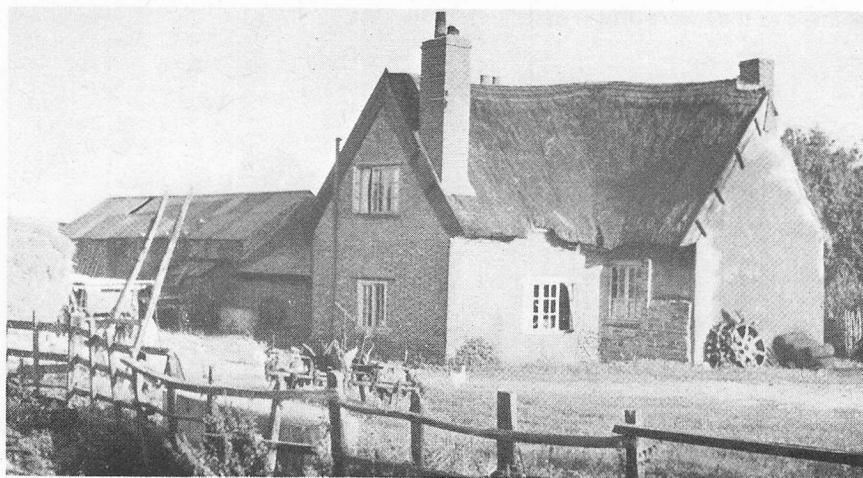
It is reasonably certain that the Forest Court was held at Heathley Lodge. We may thus assume that the Forest Receiver sat at the receipt of custom at the same place. It was his duty to collect and account for all monies paid to him



3. *Ashby Scrubs, formerly Heathley Lodge and Court House, (c. 1947).*

such as fines, rents from tenants and sales of forest produce, and to pay staff wages. The residue, if any, after paying himself his annual salary of 6s. 8d. was handed over to his lord with a duly audited balance sheet.

The staff consisted of a number of foresters or gamekeepers, together with a gang of fencers, ditchers and part-time woodsmen. Wages were largely paid in kind, and the foresters were entitled to free houses which were called lodges — of which Boyer's Lodge was certainly one. Two of the five foresters were



4. *The Lodge of Thomas Boyer, a keeper of the forest, (c. 1947).*

probably responsible for "our" area.

All this sounds very orderly and precise: and so it was — with occasional lapses — for very many years. One such lapse was caused by the bitter rivalry between two important local families: the Hastings and the Greys. For centuries they were implacable enemies and anything that one had, the other at once desired. Hastings began building his Kirby Castle of the newly fashionable brick, so Grey of Groby had to build a new house of the same material in Bradgate Park.

These families quarrelled over everything including the offices of profit in the Forest administration.

Both being too powerful to be brought before any local court of justice, a commission of enquiry consisting of local gentry was set up in 1523 to find out, if it were possible, who had a right to what in the Forest.

In due course, they forwarded their findings to the Star Chamber. Cardinal Wolsey read the report, and realised at once that his lord and master King Henry VIII who, after all, owned the Forest and was entitled to something from it, was not receiving his dues. So he intervened and suggested a proper settlement. A suggestion from the Cardinal was a stern word of command to lesser folk.

In spite of this, encroachments continued, and it was not only the lords of the manor who were the offenders. Foresters, warreners and others "of whom there appeared to be a very great number, all unable to show any rights thereto" were keeping their sheep on Forest land. So, in 1605, there was an investigation of Abuses.

Reading between the lines, we may assume that as a result of this the Crown had to be content with the rents from the chief farmers who had already appropriated the land, provided that a separate place be retained in which the Royal deer might safely be harboured. This is the origin of the King's Stand, so called because it was intended that the king should stand there and shoot at the animals as they were driven past.

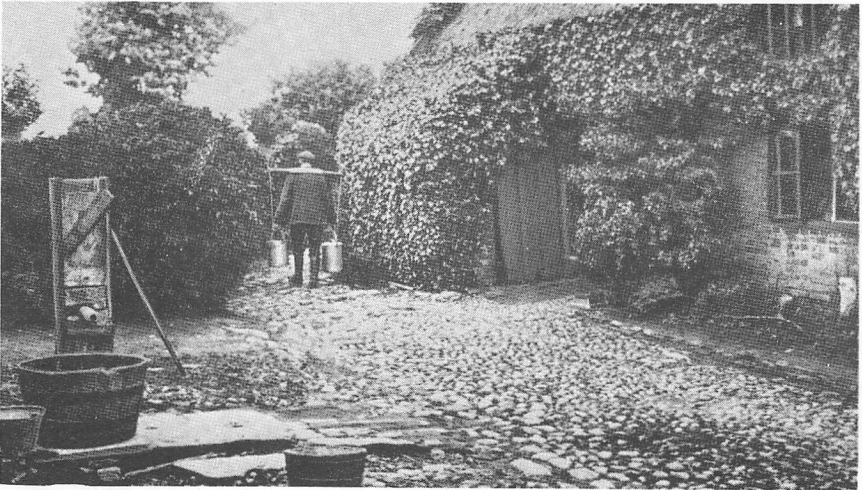


5. *King's Stand, (c. 1947).*

In 1612, King James made his first visit to Leicester, and he and his eldest son Henry were lodged at Lord's Place in High Street. The lord at that time was the Earl of Huntingdon, head of the Hastings family, which had prospered to the detriment of the Greys of Groby, Dukes of Suffolk, who had put their money on Lady Jane Grey of Bradgate Park as a possible Queen of England. This she became in name if not in fact, for nine days.

The royal party rode out to inspect the Stand and must have been dissatisfied with what they saw for further instructions were given for its improvement. The King went on to Dingley, and Prince Henry journeyed to Coventry where he was taken ill. He died later that same year.

Within the next two years King James again visited Leicester, but he did not visit his Stand. Perhaps he did not wish it, remembering that when he was last there, his son, the popular and accomplished Prince Henry was with him, or it may have been that it was not politic to do so as the whole project was strongly opposed by the people who claimed that their rights were being ignored.



6. Boyer's Lodge, now a farmhouse, (c. 1900).

There was a further enquiry dealing with all these matters in 1623. The usual abuses were unearthed and the usual reprimands were recorded. One of the chief offenders was Thomas Boyer, forester, of Boyer's Lodge, accused of putting his pigs in the Forest out of season.

In any event, it was becoming abundantly clear that Leicester Forest had become more of a liability than an asset for the Crown. So, in 1628, Charles I being desperately in need of money as usual, it was sold. We read rather sadly, that "it was therefore on 7th February in the second year of the reign of his Sovereign Majesty King Charles the First, ordered, adjudged, and deemed, that the said Forest of Chase of Leicester, according to His Majesty's intent and

LEICESTER FOREST

Conjectural Boundary, 1628

Parish Boundaries, 1628-1925

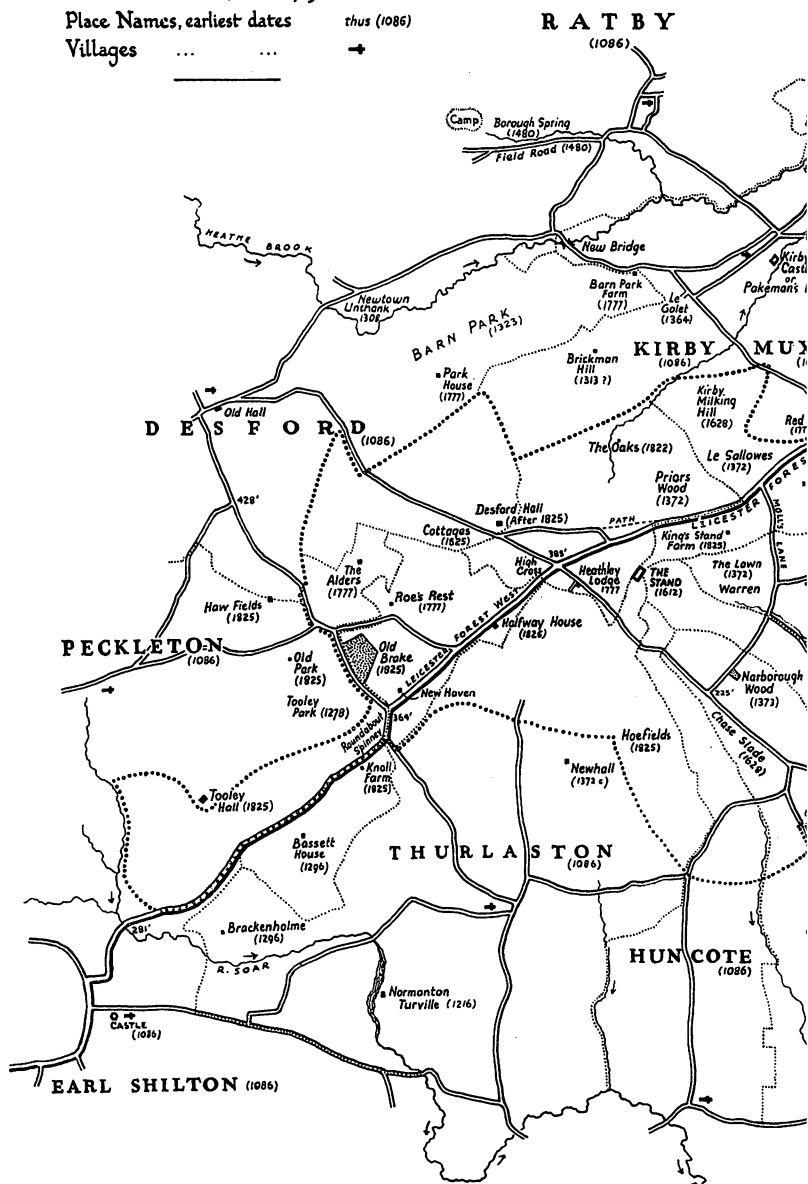
Place Names, earliest dates

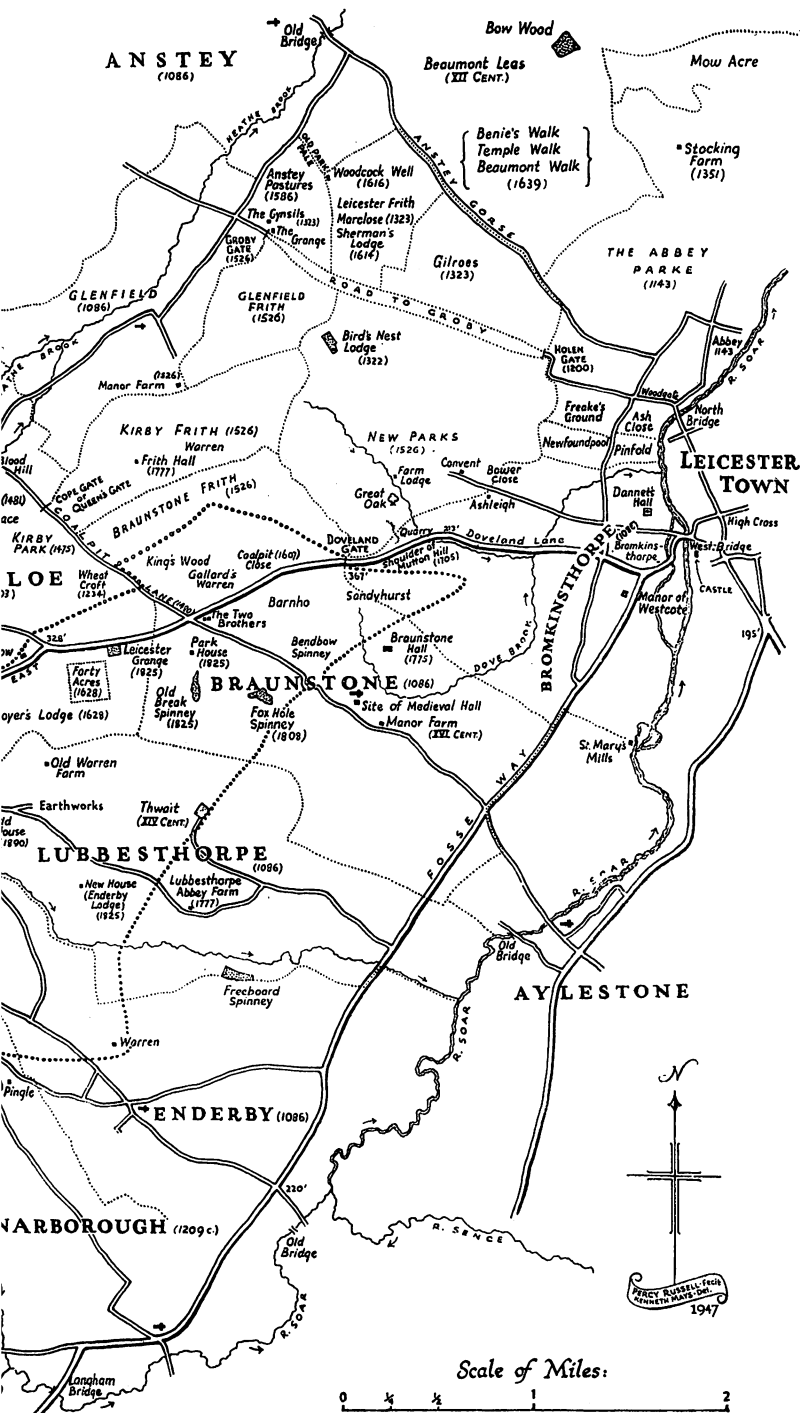
Villages

.....

thus (1086)

→





meaning should be disafforested: and that the same henceforth should never be reputed, taken, or esteemed as forest or chase, and that his Majesty's game of deer therefore ever after should be destroyed".

So it was that the said Forest or Chase was, very fairly, parcelled out into lots which were offered to those who had some sort of claim to them. The apportionment by Sir Miles Fleetwood, receiver of the Court of Wards and Liveries, was authorised by King Charles I, on 11 July 1626, under the Great Seal of England and under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster. It seems that, for the purpose of sharing out the land, the King's Stand was taken as the centre of the area to be divided. Among the allotments of relevance to Kirby and Leicester Forest East, 340 acres went to Sir Henry Hastings, with sub-allotments of 30 acres to Francis King and 6 acres to Thomas Somerfield. This Francis King, who was a citizen, merchant and tailor of the City of London, paid £1,420 for 150 acres known as The Milking Hill and Sallows. John Conway of Braunstone purchased from Hastings 78 acres (Kirby Little Common) at a price of £409.



7. *The Red Cow Inn, before 1928, showing Mr. Fisher's bus. (Note the mounting block by the pub entrance).*

Swine Hill, bordering on Le Sallows, Milking Hill, and Kirby Little Common feature in many deeds of the period. These places lay at the back of the *Red Cow*, Kirby villagers having access by the footpath from Kirby Lane, now built over. In 1772, this footpath passed through an orchard, shown on a map of that date.

Forty acres were marked out from the western boundary of the Grange to nearly opposite the *Red Cow*. This was to be for the benefit of the poor of Leicester for the loss of their wood-gathering rights. The land was let and 5s. 4d. was provided half-yearly for each of thirty poor people with which to buy fuel. This procedure continued until the land was sold in 1921.

Thomas Boyer, described as a keeper, paid £500 for an estimated 100 acres, and presumably continued to live in the Elizabethan farmhouse, known as Boyer's Lodge. From this time onwards, many of the still surviving farms and

houses were built. Others have disappeared, their fields built over. The *Red Cow*, originally a very small inn, in a row of cottages, probably dates from the 1650s. From the 1750s until early in this century, the Hitchcock family were the main occupiers, apart from thirty or so years when the Brewins or Charles Moseley had it.*

Of one thing we can be certain; to live in the district at the turn of the century was to live in the countryside. In those days Leicester Forest East consisted of only 18 houses and three farms. The houses, with one exception, looked out onto the main Hinckley Road, between the Braunstone Cross Roads and the Old Red Cow Inn. One farm was the white house, which stood close to the corner of Charnwood Drive. Another was Boyer's Farm, which does have its roots a little deeper in history, and the third was Grange Farm, situated in Cow Lane, now Baines Lane, which now leads down to the M1 service station.

The only house on the south side of Hinckley Road was a spacious residence known as Grange House. Demolished in the 1940s, this stood in a spinney between Cow Lane and what is now the motorway.

Tree lined lanes led off the Hinckley Road to the villages of Braunstone, Ratby, Kirby Muxloe and Desford. Hinckley Road itself was only half the width it is today; dusty, without kerbing or drainage and full of unwelcome potholes. The installation of street lamps, too, was several years into the future.

One familiar landmark however, was the horse chestnut trees which, now grown to giant size, beautify the main road in Spring and Summer. We are told that these were kindly given by a gentleman who resided at The Towers in Kirby Lane; that they cost ninepence each and sixpence each to plant.

No Midland Red buses plied to and from Leicester and a motor car was a rare sight. There was public transport though, in the shape of a converted Model T Ford, which carried twelve passengers. Affectionately known as Mrs. Fisher's bus, this provided an alternative to walking into Leicester. The driver recalls that on the last journey from Leicester on Saturday night the bus was invariably overloaded and passengers were forced to dismount and give a helping push up the Shoulder of Mutton Hill. If by mischance you missed this last bus, at least it was a quiet walk home from the Newarkes to the Red Cow – straight down the middle of the road if you wished, since it was most unlikely that another vehicle would be seen.

The Leicester Forest East children of the early 1900s, had to walk to school at Vicarage House, now known as "Parson's Farewell", the big half-timbered dwelling which stands in Kirby Muxloe village the junction of Ratby Lane and Glenfield Road. A lonely footpath took them from Kirby Lane, just beyond the

* *An old rhyme relating to the Red Cow reads:*

*"The old red cow
Which never did low,
With coat as soft as silk;
Come in, if you please,
And sit down at your ease,
And taste of her nut brown milk."*

Red Cow inn, across the fields, over the hill behind Kirby Castle and on to the school-room.

By the outbreak of the First World War, a few of the houses in Holmfield Avenue had just been built and the growth of Leicester Forest East as to-day's thriving community had begun. Four young men, walking to Wigston Barracks to join the armed forces, took a route through a leafy country lane, passing via the old village of Braunstone. A few years were yet to pass before the huge Braunstone Estate was to encircle the village which gives it its name.

Parishioners in those early days trod rough roads and uneven footpaths to attend St. Bartholomews in Kirby Muxloe. So far and rough was the journey that the then Vicar, Canon Whorlow, began holding a Sunday service in a wooden hut opposite the Post Office in Holmfield Avenue West. Known as Kirk's Hut, this became the headquarters of the Sunday School which was founded for the children of Leicester Forest East and we are told that their Summer outings and Christmas Parties were invariably well attended.

Having fulfilled a useful function for some years, Kirk's Hut became too small to accommodate the ever-growing congregation and a kind offer to use the Main Hall of the new Junior School, which had been built in Holmfield Avenue, was accepted.

One major event of the year, many recall, used to be the Rogation Sunday procession. Led by the Sunday School children carrying bunches of wild flowers this procession assembled outside the Church of the Holy Name, winding its way along Hinckley Road and via the footpath at the top of Kirby Lane, to the hill above the Castle. Here it was met by the choir and congregation of St. Bartholomew's who had themselves made their way from Kirby Muxloe village. An open air service was then held looking across the countryside towards Charnwood Forest and Old John.

The Church of the Holy Name (of Jesus) had been consecrated on Easter Day, 1948. Basically, it was a hut, which was offered, free of charge, subject to conditions, by an Anglican sisterhood (now at St. Margaret's, East Grinstead, Surrey), who had been evacuated during the Second World War to the parish of St. Mark, Leicester. A site for it was found in Charnwood Drive at a cost of £238, and the re-erection of the hut, with additions, cost £1,109.

Due to the population growth, the building quickly became inadequate and the building of a permanent church became essential. Negotiations took place in 1956 for the purchase of land near the Red Cow/Kirby Lane corner on the Leicester side, but was only made possible by the generosity of Mr. Charles Frears, who was later to lay the foundation stone of St. Andrew's Church on 3 October 1965. An appeal for £15,000 was launched in April 1956. Due to escalating prices, a building envisaged for 300 had to be restricted to a church designed to seat 180. The architects were Pick, Everard, Keay and Gimson and the builders, H. Herbert and Sons Ltd. St. Andrew's church, built at a cost of £34,000 was consecrated by the Bishop of Leicester, The Rt. Rev. Ronald Williams, on 21 September 1966. With the completion of the adjoining church hall in the late 1970s, the Church of the Holy Name became redundant and was

A black and white photograph of a large, two-story brick building, likely a schoolhouse, with a prominent gabled roof and a large multi-paned window on the upper level. The building is surrounded by trees and a grassy field.

A detailed black and white pen and ink sketch of a two-story building, likely a pub or restaurant, with a tiled roof, multiple chimneys, and a large bay window. The building is surrounded by trees and has outdoor seating with umbrellas in the foreground. The style is a fine-lined architectural drawing. The building features a complex roofline with several chimneys and a large bay window on the right side. The foreground shows a paved area with outdoor seating and umbrellas. The background is filled with dense foliage and trees. The overall impression is of a traditional, perhaps historic, establishment.

13

APPENDIX I

1871 CENSUS

Heads of Households

LEICESTER FOREST EAST

19 Households, population 89 (males 39 + female 50)

			Age	Occupation	No. in Household Birthplace	
1. King's Stand	Richard PORTER	M	36	Farmer of 150 acres employg. 1 man and 1 boy	Birstall	5
2. Cottage No. 1	Edward ELLIOTT	M	40	Agricultural labourer	East Leake Notts	5
3. Pool House	Richard Isaac SMITH	M	47	Agricultural labourer	Weston by Welland, Northants	2
4. Cottage No.2	John WARD	M	24	Agricultural labourer	Whatton	4
5. Forest House	Benjamin GOODMAN	M	47	Farmer of 104 acres	Thurmaston	10
6. Boyer's Lodge	John NEAL	W	72	Shepherd	Ilstock	4
7. Forest House	Caleb BROWN	M	60	Farmer of 40 acres	Thornton	6
8. Grange Farm	William ASHBY	M	42	Farmer of 65 acres employg 1 man and 1 boy	South Croxton	5
9. Forest Grange	James H LILLEY	M	46	Doctor of Medicine	Tydd S.Giles- Cambs	7
10. The Lodge	William SHARPE	M	53	Gardener	Belton	2
11. Cottage No.1	Joseph HUTCHINSON	M	40	Agricultural labourer	Kirby Muxloe	7
12. Red Cow Inn	Robt. W. HITCHCOCK	M	53	Innkeeper and Landowner	L.F.E.	7
13. Cottage No.3	John SPIERS	M	50	Agricultural labourer	Coventry Warwks.	2
14. Cottage No.4	John SMITH	M	35	Agricultural Smith (Implement maker)	Osbaston	2
15. Cottage No.5	Mary WESTON	U	50	(None)	Cosby	2
16. Railway Station	Thomas BRIGSTOCK	M	48	Station master	Humberstone	6
17. Forest Farm	George TEALBY	M	67	Farmer of 206 acres employg. 4 men and 2 boys	Walcote	5
18. Mount Pleasant	John WHYKES	M	75	Retired Farmer	Grobby	2
19. Cottage No.6	James TURNER	M	64	Agricultural labourer	Lubbesthorpe	6

LEICESTER FOREST WEST

8 Households, population 34 (male 19 + female 15)

20. Bulls Head Inn	Mary MAY	W	78	Inn keeper	Desford	6
21. Cottage	Dorothy HOLBECH	W	47	Farmer of 20 acres	Stoke Golding	2
22. Farm House	William BURDETT	W	78	Farmer of 47 acres	Stretton Baskerville, Warwks.	4
23. Roe's Rest	Albert GOODACRE	U	26	Farmer of 200 acres employg 3 men and 3 boys	Roe's Rest	4
24. Mount Pleasant	Charles FREASON	M	53	Agricultural labourer	Sharnford	8
25. Yew Tree Cottage	William ARNOLD	M	53	Landowner	Market Bosworth	4
26. New Haven Cottage	Willm. TUNNICLIFF	U	52	Farmer of 40 acres	L.F.W.	3
27. New Haven	William POUGHIER	M	40	Farmer of 40 acres	L.F.W.	3

M = Married; U = Unmarried; W = Widowed.

Note:

The returns for Ashby Shrubs, Toll Gate, Forest Edge and Blue Pots were included in the main Kirby Muxloe Schedule.

Basset House and The Knoll, though ecclesiastically extra-parochial to Kirby Muxloe, were regarded as extra-parochial to Thurlaston civil parish.

The population of Leicester Forest West in 1971 was only 45, so that area has changed little in a century. The acreages usually given in the 19th century are — Leicester Forest East 620, Leicester Forest West 309. The whole of Leicester Forest East (excepting a small part already transferred in 1885) was combined with Kirby Muxloe in 1935.

Some entries dealt with under KIRBY MUXLOE that were sometimes considered as appertaining to Leicester Forest.

		<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>No. in Household Birthplace</i>
Brickman Hill	Amos YORK	M 36	Farm labourer	Countesthorpe 1
The Oaks	James ASTILL	M 31	Farmer 205 acres employ 4 men and 2 boys	Rothley 6
The Oaks Ctg.	Thomas H. SMALLEY	M 29	Waggoner	Rothley 4
The Oaks Ctg.	Henry TWIGGS	M 52	Farm labourer	Peckleton 3
Ashby Shrubs	Simeon STRETTON	U 48	Farmer 230 acres employ 4 men 4 boys	Leicester 6
Ashby Shrubs	William BRADBURY	M 47	Agricultural labourer	Aylestone 5
Ashby Shrubs	John GIBSON	M 43	Farm labourer	Sibbertoft 2 Northants.
Toll Gate	Michael HARRISON	M 38	Agricultural labourer	Earl Shilton 9
Forest Edge	Samuel HARRISON	M 32	Wheelwright	Glenfield 12
Forest Edge	Edward ASTILL	U 60	Farmer 170 acres employ 3 men	Anstey 6
Blue Pots	Henry PICK	M 30	Coal Agent	Barkby Thorpe 5
Blue Pots	George CARVER	M 35	Agricultural labourer	Kirby Muxloe 7

APPENDIX II

Two Probate Inventories

(Transcribed with modern spelling; originals in Leicestershire Record Office).

1. Thomas OLIVE buried at Kirby Muxloe 5 July 1724.

Appraisal and Inventory of the lately deceased Tho: Olives at the King's Stand in Leicester Forest of his goods and chattels (4 August 1724).

	£.	s.	d.
His purse and apparel	1	10	—
In the House Close : 8 cows	15	—	—
In the Far Close : 3 mares	11	—	—
One piece of oats in the Far Close	9	—	—
In the Far Close : 6 heifers	10	—	—
In the Far Close : 20 sheep	8	—	—
In the Back Close one rick of hay	3	—	—
In the Long Close : 22 sheep	8	—	—
In the Long Close : 5 calves	2	10	—
Grass unmowed in Pen Hills	2	10	—
One piece of wheat in the House Close	6	—	—
In the house: one table, one dresser, 4 chairs and pewter, trenchers with the rest of the other lumber	1	5	—

(continued)

	£.	s.	d.
In the parlour: one bed, one parcel of wool	2	10	—
In the dairy: two barrels, one cheese tub and some puncheons, two brass pans, one pot, one cheese press	1	10	—
In the chamber over the house: A parcel of cheese	3	—	—
In the chamber over the parlour: one bed and 4 chairs and one chest	1	10	—
In the yard: 2 pigs		16	—
In the yard: one cart, one plough and harrow and some gears	1	10	—
Total	88	11	—

Appraised by us, Tho: Hurst, Michael Kemp

2. Mary WIGHT died 8 August 1754 aged 82 years and buried at Kirby Muxloe 10 August. (Boyer's Lodge).

An Inventory of Mary Wight's effects of Leicester Forest. (12 August 1754)

	£.	s.	d.
Purse and apparel	1	10	—
4 young cows	17	—	—
4 old cows	10	10	—
2 ewes and one lamb	1	13	—
Mare and foal	8	8	—
Filly	5	—	—
2 yearling calves	4	12	6
3 rearing calves	2	12	6
2 pigs	2	2	—
Waggon	2	2	—
Harrow		10	—
1 Ladder		5	—
2 pairs of iron gears		5	—
2 collars and harness		4	—
2 hayricks	7	—	—
4 acres of wheat	12	12	—
3 acres of oats	7	—	—
Household goods. In the house, one clock, one table, six chairs and pewter dishes, one dozen pewter plates, grate and fender, brass ladle, two pairs of pot-hooks, one skimmer, pair of bellows and hanging iron	5	—	—
In the great parlour, 2 tables, 6 chairs		10	—
In the new parlour, one bed, chest of drawers, 3 tables, 6 chairs, 1 looking glass	6	—	—
In the kitchen, brass, tubs and barrels and other odd things	2	—	—
In the great chamber, 2 beds, one chest and coffer	4	—	—
In the cheese chamber, for cheese	10	10	—
Chamber over the house, 1 bed, corn and cheese	2	10	—
Seen and unseen and forgot		5	—
Total	* £114	1	—

Taken by us, Henry Hitchcock, Richard Kirke.

* Incorrect total of £100.15s. given in Inventory itself.

The KIRBY MUXLOE BUS.

Proprietor : H. FISHER.

Leaves Castle Kirby Muxloe	Barwell Road Kirby Muxloe	"Red Cow" Corner	Arrives at the Newarkes.	Leaves Newarkes
<i>a.m.</i>	<i>a.m.</i>	<i>a.m.</i>	<i>a.m.</i>	<i>a.m.</i>
8-15	8-20	8-25	8-40	9-15
9-50	9-55	10-0	10-15	10-25
10-50	10-55	11-0	11-15	12-45
<i>p.m.</i>	<i>p.m.</i>	<i>p.m.</i>	<i>p.m.</i>	<i>p.m.</i>
1-40	1-45	1-50	2-5	3-0
3-35	3-40	3-45	4-0	4-45
5-40	5-45	5-50	6-5	6-15
6-40	6-45	6-50	7-5	7-15

KIRBY CASTLE. BARWELL ROAD. "RED COW" CORNER

Fares	7d. 1/-	6d. 10d.	5d. Single 9d. Return
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The Bus will leave the Newarkes on Monday Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 10-45 p.m. for Kirby Muxloe.

An extra Bus will leave the Newarkes at 9.15 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays for Kirby Muxloe.

SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE

A MINERVA LANDAULET FOR HIRE.

Terms Moderate

Phone : KIRBY 32

Harold Fisher was Landlord of the Red Cow for over 20 years, but the 'bus is invariably referred to as "Mrs. Fisher's". This timetable is probably c.1928. The Fisher bus service, running by 1925, probably pre-dated the Forman's Kirby service by about two years.