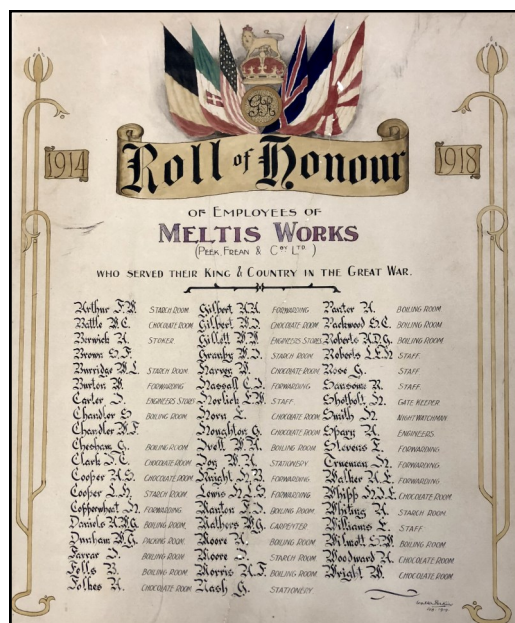


REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

For a number of years after the Armistice of November 1918 both communities and individuals dedicated time and resources to constructing permanent memorials to those who did not return from the War. Bedfordshire Archives holds a number of useful archival sources which were created as part of this movement to ensure that those who had both fought and died for their country were remembered.

After the war the Bedfordshire County Council Records Committee wished to create a roll of honour which would record all those men and women who had served their country, and would be preserved as part of the County Muniments. A circular was sent to every parish in the county requesting specific information; this included not just the names of those who died on active service, but also of those who served abroad and returned, and of those who served at home. Unfortunately not every parish responded, and those that did often failed to answer all the questions asked. Despite this, the returns which were submitted provide a valuable resource for researching the service record of many parishes. Further details of the information available for individual parishes can be found in our online catalogue under reference WW1/RH1. The Bedfordshire County Council archive also includes a bound volume of the Roll of Honour of the Diocese of St. Albans (reference WW1/RH2). This lists those who died, organised by parish, and usually gives rank, unit and medals awarded as well as the full name of the dead soldier or sailor.

A number of local rolls of honour and books of remembrance are held by the Archives, often as part of parish collections. For example, the Luton parish of Christchurch has deposited both a parochial roll of honour (reference P138/28/1) and a roll of honour commemorating officers and men connected with the Borough of Luton (reference P138/28/2). Employers also produced rolls of honour, sometimes recording just those men who were killed and others listing all those who served in the armed forces: a good example of the latter is the roll of honour for the Meltis Works in Bedford (reference X853/26/1, right). Sometimes supporting paperwork has also been deposited which provides more detailed information. A file from the Luton Hoo estate includes notes on staff serving in the forces and letters of condolence to the families of former estate workers (reference LHE466, below), and the parish of Caddington retained forms submitted by relatives giving personal details of men who were killed (reference P35/28/7).



MEMORANDUM.				
TELEGRAMS: "FARMING LUTON" FROM TELEPHONE: 43 LUTON. STATIONS: CHILTERN GREEN, M.R. LUTON HOO, B.N.		TO: Mr. F. Batchelor, Someries Rd., Luton.		
JAMES BAKER, THE ESTATE OFFICE, LUTON HOO, LUTON.		10, Dec. 1919 19		
I am compiling a permanent Roll of Honour of men who left employment on this Estate to join the Army, and shall be glad if you will fill in the following particulars and return same to me in the enclosed envelope.				
No.	Rank	Name	Regiment.	Remarks.
85331	Pte	Batchelor, F.	M.G.C.	Discharged medically unfit.
243124	Pt.	Edwards, J.	3rd Cheshire	Wounded Paris 1918

A free exhibition titled 'Remembering the Fallen', which draws on these resources among others, will be on display in the reception area at Bedfordshire Archives until 3rd April. The exhibition showcases the many different ways in which those killed in the First World War were memorialised by both their communities and their families. This is the first in a planned series of exhibitions for 2019 on the theme of War and Peace.

Kathryn Faulkner, Archivist

PIECING TURVEY 'S HISTORY BACK TOGETHER

In October we hosted a group visit by researchers from Turvey History Society. As part of their visit we discussed some of the uncatalogued material about Turvey they might wish to delve into for their research. In December we had an unconnected query about one of these uncatalogued collections and this, coupled with the benefit of a graduate doing 2-weeks work experience with us, prompted us into action.

We received our first deposit from the Longuet-Higgins family in 1952. Miss Godber catalogued the material under the reference HG. In 1967 and 1972 we received two further deposits following the death of the Rev. Henry Hugh Longuet-Higgins however, as many of the records related to very recent history, only a brief bundle list was produced. Now, nearly fifty years on, we felt the time had come to catalogue this extra material and incorporate it with the first deposit.

Piecing together the catalogue has given me a much better picture of the Turvey Manor Estate during the first half of the 20th century. It was a time of change; for the first time in 116 years no member of the family lived at Turvey Abbey, the manor house of the estate, and the Abbey was let. Then parts of the estate, including the Abbey, were gradually sold off. One item sums it up. In 1913 Henry Hugh Longuet Longuet-Higgins made notes of a conversation that he had had with his father, Henry Longuet Longuet-Higgins, during which his father said some 'Hard words about Lloyd George' and declared that it was 'Likely that future legislation will make the holding of large estates by one person intolerable, v impossible for the smaller man such as himself.' (HG9/8) The documents do record progress too. A series of cottage agreements from the late 1950s include a number of letters asking tenants whether they would like water laid on to their cottage. Perhaps not surprisingly the tenants seem happy to agree. One letter from 1959 says 'I would be very willing to pay an extra £2 per annum to my rent for the provision of a sink & water in my home & would like you to go ahead with the work as soon as possible. I am most grateful to you for all your trouble in this matter.' (HG3/28/81).

Pamela Birch
County Archivist



Above: HG1/2/3c before treatment

CONSERVATION CORNER

This 25" 1st edition Ordnance Survey was water-coloured by hand at the end of the 19th century to show the extent of Turvey Manor property in the village of Turvey. Much used, folded and refolded over the years, this paper map was now in several pieces, having torn along the folds, with further tears and crush damage apparent to each of the fragments.

The conservator's task was to clean and repair the fragments then get the map back into one piece, carefully supported in some way so that in future it may be safely presented in the Search Room for reference by interested researchers.

Repair materials include Japanese papers of a variety of weights adhered with conservation grade starch paste. Two large infills were made using Conservation by Design's Timecare Age Compatible Laid Paper to restore the rectangular shape of the map and make it safer to handle.

Left: HG1/2/3c after conservation

Alison Faden,
Conservator





WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

A group of dedicated volunteers have been trying to identify pictures from the former County Council's photographic unit. Despite their best and most diligent efforts, we need your help to work out where these pictures were taken. Please contact us if you can help.

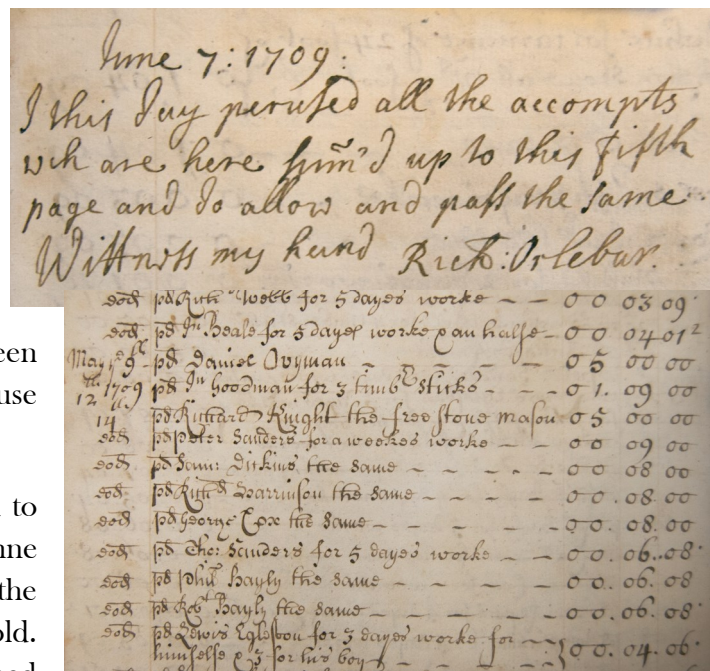


We believe these houses and cottages are/were in Bedfordshire and all are quite striking so fingers crossed, one of our readers will be able to give us some idea of their location and perhaps even a name for the property!



NEWS

We do not usually buy documents for our collections but sometimes records come up for sale that are so important that we feel that we should if we can. In October 2018 just such an item was put up for auction. After carefully checking what money was available in the donations fund and having checked with The National Archives sales advisor that I was thinking along the right lines I waited anxiously for the day of the auction. A former member of staff, Nigel Lutt, gave me lots of advice, for which I was extremely grateful, including that, if possible, I should go to the auction in person. When the day came it was one of the wettest Saturdays of the year and I set off through floods to the auction house at Stamford. Finally the lot we were interested in came up and we were the highest bidder—rarely have I been so relieved as when I made my way out of the auction house and splashed my way home to a strong cup of tea!



We had bought the ledger recording the work required to build Hinwick House, the Grade I listed Queen Anne country house in Podington. The ledger compliments the large Orlebar of Hinwick collection that we already hold. The accounts detail all the payments to individually named workers, and for stone, wood and carriage. At intervals Richard Orlebar signs off the payment. Work started in 1708 and was completed in 1713 at a total cost of £3,848 4s 9d. The ledger has been catalogued as OR2396.

Pamela Birch, County Archivist

Luton Library Events



Thank you to everyone who came to our exhibition and event at Luton Central Library in November. You did a wonderful job identifying the pictures and Carol has been busy cataloguing the photographs ever since.

Our next event is: **Women: Life and Work Thursday 7th Feb 9.30am to 4.30pm**
There will be a display highlighting the women of Bedfordshire, a talk on the theme and opportunities to ask questions about using the Archives for family history, local history or general research.

9:30am-12:00pm	Q & A with Archive staff
1:00pm-2:00pm	Q & A with Archive staff
2:30pm-3.30pm	Talk: Speaking Out: Women of Bedfordshire In Their Own Words
4:00pm-4:30pm	Q & A with Archive staff

We hope you enjoy this format but do let us know if there is anything you would like us to change. Below are the themes that we are intending to bring you in future but don't forget you can ask us about other things too.

Dates for your diary.

4 Apr—Buildings, 6 Jun—Law & Order, 1 Aug—Between the Wars, 3 Oct—World War II, 5 Dec—Leisure

We welcome ideas and material for future issues. Published by Bedfordshire Archives Service, Riverside Building, Borough Hall, Bedford MK42 9AP. Tel: (01234) 228833 E-mail: archive@bedford.gov.uk Online at: www.bedford.gov.uk/archive

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Luton

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