

An Introduction to Lincolnshire Parish History

by Dennis Mills

This booklet is aimed at Lincolnshire beginners in local history who wish to get together some notes to form the outline of a village or parish history, perhaps as a preliminary stage towards selecting topics for deeper study. It concentrates upon 'standard' printed sources that should be consulted before plunging into the detail, often technical and relatively obscure, to be found in many of the original documents which can be used in the context of parish history. Some of the books recommended are transcriptions of documents accompanied by editorial introductions explaining them: most of these are arranged on a gazetteer principle making it easy to look up any particular parish. Other books are recognised reference works on the history of Lincolnshire. Included in the titles are printed maps, and an historical atlas of the county. 'What to read' in the title of the booklet refers only to one person's choice, but many historians would probably agree with the writer about many of the titles.

The booklet is divided into two parts. First, there is a set of notes on Branston, representing the 'what to write' in the title. The notes are only an example of what can be done with the information contained in the sources listed in the second part. Woven into the text are interpretations based on the author's wider reading and experience of teaching local history over many years. As in any other subject, 'facts' do not speak for themselves. They need to be regarded as problematical, open to differing interpretations, to be seen against many important general historical trends. Beginners will find this process much more difficult than the collection of information. At first it may seem daunting to attempt critical analysis, but practice takes one nearer perfection, and practice in setting up arguments about historical 'facts' is far more important than the 'facts' themselves.

Also woven into the notes on Branston are observations made on the ground and local knowledge of the kind that most residents can put into notes on a village in which they either live or know well from visits. Numbers in brackets in the text refer to the books, etc, listed in the second part of the booklet, which contains the list of selected 'standard' sources. In most cases the reference is under a Branston heading, but where an index has been used page numbers are given.

(Fig 1 will be a simple parish outline of Branston and its neighbours - Canwick, Washingborough, Heighington, Mere, and Potterhanworth.

Fig 2 will be Branston only - physical features, roads, and other items mentioned in the text).

Public House. The booths may have been shelters for shepherds keeping watch over flocks in the Fen. Between the Car Dyke and Spelligate (Fig. 2) is an area of mixed soils, much of it gravel and referred to as Branston Moor, but some of it clayey especially the area overlooking the Fen, on which Branston Wood stood until it was felled in 1859 (9).

Westward from Spelligate, around and under the village and continuing to the western limits of the parish, sandy soil is underlain by Lincolnshire Limestone. There are signs of quarrying on both sides of Sleaford Road just east of the Post Office cross-roads; behind houses on the east side of Silver Street; behind 'The Bothy' in Waterwheel Lane; and at the western end of the park. Some old OS maps mark limekilns as well as quarries. The western part of the parish contains three streams coming down from Mere and the Heath to meet near the village, forming one stream which carries on down a quite steep-sided valley to Heighington. The old village is mostly situated on the east side of this valley, around the parish church of All Saints and a considerable number of the houses are built of limestone, with pantile roofs.

Early Days

There are signs of human activity in the parish in prehistoric times and of actual settlement at least as far back as Roman times. A Roman funerary monument now in the care of the City and County Museum was found in Folly Lane near Ashfield Farm (Fig. 2), suggesting the possibility of a villa site to the west of the village (12, endpaper map). This monument bears an inscription, which can be translated as 'In this estate (lie buried the bones) of Aurelia Concessa, a very holy girl' (12, p132). It is very unusual to have the name of a village inhabitant at such a distant point in the past. One interpretation of the phrase 'very holy girl' is that she was a Christian, and this is again unusual for a period long before the general conversion of the population to Christianity.

What happened to the Romano-British population when the Anglo-Saxons started to settle in large numbers in the fifth century is very unclear from the evidence available in most parts of the country. It is also a matter of controversy as to when the Anglo-Saxons (or the English) began to live in nucleated villages, rather than scattered farms and hamlets. However, it is generally accepted that there would be continuous occupation of at least some of the land in a parish such as Branston. Indeed the parish boundaries may represent those of a pre-existing Roman estate. This would help to account for the survival of place-names from quite early times, before there may have been nucleated villages. In other words the name may have referred originally to the estate and/or to just one of the settlements within it.

As a name, Branston is quite interesting and instructive. Ekwall (25) gives its probable meaning as Brand's-tun, the first element being an Old Scandinavian personal name, the second the Anglo-Saxon word which eventually became the modern word 'town', but for long meant simply a homestead or a nucleated settlement. So Branston is a hybrid Danish-English name and demonstrates the view that the Danes when they settled in an English landscape often merged with the English population to the extent that changes in the names of places could occur, as well as in the dialect more generally.

Domesday Book

The earliest recorded spelling of the name is Branztune or Branztone and occurs in the Domesday Book (26). This is the most difficult of the sources described in the booklet and is included only on the grounds that it is the subject of a considerable amount of curiosity and not a little misunderstanding. In particular, there are many texts in which it is possible to find a phrase such as 'X village can be found in Domesday Book'. For counties such as Lincolnshire and many others in East Anglia and the Midlands surprise should only be registered if a village is **not** mentioned in William the Conqueror's tax survey. A dangerous assertion is to say that because there was a Domesday manor in a particular village belonging to, say, Gilbert of Ghent, or Walter D'Aincourt, that this is physically the lineal ancestor of say,

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Table 1 Entries in Domesday Book for Branston and Potterhanworth

Entry	Geld	Teams	HOUSEHOLDS			Total	Other items
			(1)	(2)	(3)		
BRANSTON 31/11 Manor Walter de Aincurt	12 caru- cates, land for 10 teams	13	2	48	23	73	Church, priest, 4 mills, 3 fisheries, 60 acs meadow, woodland for pannage (for pigs to forage in) = 7.5 x 5.5 furlongs
POTTER- -HANWORTH 31/17 3 manors Walter de Aincurt	12 caru- cates, land for 6 teams	11.5	9	24	11	44	Church, priest, 150 acs meadow, 150 acs woodland for pannage, 2 carucates held of Walter by a knight

Source: (26) C W Foster and T Longley (eds), *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, Lincoln Record Society, vol 19, 1921.

Notes:

Entries: the reference numbers are those used in the translation, the first number indicating the land holder from the the king, the second the position of the property within his list.

Geld: the taxation assessment measured in land units, one carucate = approx. 120 acres, or the notional amount ploughed by 8 oxen in a winter, hence one bovat = about 15 acres. In the geld column is also indicated the **actual** amount of arable land, rather than the amount assessed. How the 11.5 teams at Potterhanworth shared the land for six teams is obviously problematical.

Teams: the actual plough teams reported in 1086.

Households of the peasantry:

- (1) Sokemen were personally free, but the land they held was subject to manorial dues, usually in kind or in work-days.
- (2) Villeins, not able to leave the manor, are assumed to have had heavier dues than the sokemen, and probably held about 30 acres, plus common rights.
- (3) Bordars, servile men who had half the standard holding, some being craftsmen, others labourers on the larger holdings.

Other items: not all existing churches (and priests) were reported; priests have not been counted as having households. The acreages and other measures were very approximate.

a seventeenth century manor house. A Domesday manor was a legal parcel of property held of the king in return for military services. There may or may not have been a manor house on the property, and there may have been other manors in the same parish. Domesday Book was written in a very simple style, often disguising very complex situations.

It shows Branston as already a substantial community of 73 households (Table 1). To estimate population, historians generally multiply the number of households by five. Therefore the population of Branston was about 365, at a time when many villages had no more than a dozen or score of households, or a population of 60-100. Potterhanworth was smaller than Branston, but still a large village, with perhaps 220 people. Comparison in Table 1 is limited to Potterhanworth because the entries for Branston's other neighbours are subject to technical problems: Canwick cannot be separated from Bracebridge; Washingborough and Heighington cannot be separated from each other, or from Coleby, the three being royal manors taxed together. Mere is not mentioned, and this may indicate that it was taxed with Branston, or it was too small to be taxed, or did not exist in 1086.

Branston had about 1,200 acres under the plough (land for ten teams = $120 \times 10 = 1,200$ acres). Ignoring any land that may have been in Mere, this left about 4,400 acres of the modern parish to be accounted for. The 60 acres of meadow may have been a token amount for taxation purposes - this was grassland mown for hay. The woodland was measured at about a half a square mile, or in other words about 320 acres. This may have been a deliberate under-estimate, but it is approximately the size of Branston Wood and Mere Oaks Wood as shown on (1). We are left with the possibility that as much as three to four thousand acres were common grazings on the Heath (suitable for winter grazing), and elsewhere such as in the Fen and on the Moor. The Fen was almost certainly too wet for cultivation and would be a source of bedding for animals, peat for fuel, and a place in which to fish and catch wild fowl, as well as summer grazing. It may have extended over about 2,000 acres, judging by the total of 5,850 acres in Nocton, Potterhanworth and Branston Fens in 1789 at the time of the first serious drainage works (30).

The three Branston fisheries recorded in 1086 are most likely to have been places in the Witham where fish were caught in significant numbers. The beck must have powered the four mills (or at least four wheels, if not actually four separate buildings). Possible sites are Dyehouse Farm and Waterwheel Lane, and more certainly no 1 Lincoln Road, which is listed as a former watermill (38).

The Middle Ages

Walter de Aincurt (later spelt D'Eyncourt) was a kinsman of Remigius, the first Norman bishop of Lincoln. He had considerable properties in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire, as well as Lincolnshire. Branston was his chief 'seat' and he may have built the church tower here, since the blind arcading on its west side looks very much like a small imitation of some of Remigius' work on the west front of the cathedral (21, p51). The oldest parts of the church are Saxon and Saxo-Norman, the latter description relating to the period of transition from about 1160, when the Normans had to rely on Saxon workmen, who continued to some extent in their old-fashioned ways. The SW corner of the nave is the oldest part, followed by the tower. Most of the rest of the building is medieval, except for the Victorian restorations and alterations of 1864, 1876 and 1895 (9, 10); and the rather more drastic restoration following a fire on Christmas Day 1962, recorded on a tablet in the church.

Little more can be written about Branston in the middle ages from printed sources, a not unusual problem in village history. The archaeological record is a little more helpful, as it includes a moated site, still with water in the moat, on the hill overlooking Branston and Potterhanworth Booths (Fig 2). Its medieval origin was confirmed by Mr W Bailey's excavation in the early 1960s when large quantities of medieval tiles were found (38). The site was once wooded, and its function is obscure.

We are left to suppose that the village shared in the general population growth to a level perhaps two or three times that of 1086, with a steep decline after the Black Deaths of the fourteenth century. The next opportunity to obtain a population estimate is in 1563, when the number of families (households) is recorded as 72, which, if multiplied by five as before, gives a total of about 360 people, or much the same as in 1086. For comparison, Canwick had a population of about 105 and Potterhanworth 225, the figures for Washingborough, Heighington and Mere being missing (15). In the early years of the eighteenth century another estimate puts Branston at about 300 people; Canwick at 110; Potterhanworth at 280; and Washingborough and Heighington together at 470 (28).

Some Important Families

The male line of the D'Eyncourt family came to an end with the death of William in 1422 (34) and there is then a gap in the record of important people until the time of the Winches, of which family two significant members are buried in the centre of the nave of the church: Sir Humphrey Winche, Baronet, died 5 December 1703; and Sir Richard Winche, who died 22 January 1716. At least for Sir Richard the inscription makes clear that he lived at Branston, probably in a manor house that was a forerunner of the Old Hall.

Next comes Sir Cecil Wray of the Glentworth family, whose memorial can be found on the north wall of the church, erected sometime before his death on 9 May 1736, when he was in his 58th year. The Wrays had had connections with the parish long before this date, since they were patrons of the living from at least 1568 to at least 1638, according to the List of Rectors in the church.

Lord Vere Bertie (pron. Bartie) is remembered on a monument giving 14 September 1768 as his date of death, when he also was in his 58th year. Although the 'standard' sources do not make this clear, it is generally thought that he built Branston Old Hall, domestic buildings of which survive near its site in Hall Lane, the Old Hall itself having been burned down early this century. As he was a younger son of the first duke of Ancaster and had little prospect of ever being lord of Grimsthorpe Castle, a suitable residence elsewhere was obviously a necessity. He took part in polite society in Lincoln and was a patron of cock-fighting. For a time there were cockpits at the Reindeer Inn near the Stonebow and at the King's Arms uphill. When Vere Bertie died, Peregrine Curtois, rector of Branston, 'succeeded to the breed' (23, especially p17).

Much more important, Vere Bertie was chairman of a committee which worked in 1761-62 for the passing of the Witham Navigation Act in the later year (23, p131). This Act not only revolutionised the effectiveness of river navigation, but also opened the way for the draining of the Fens downstream from Lincoln, including Branston Fen, as noted above.

One of the newspaper references listed in the appendix provides details of the Old Hall at the time it was sold in 1817, but by whom and to whom is not clear (indeed a sale might not have been achieved). It was described in the advertisement in the *Stamford Mercury* for 18 July 1817 as a capital mansion house with a park of 100 acres 'beautifully timbered and watered and adorned with thriving plantations' and a farm of 350 acres 'in the highest state of ornamental cultivation'. There was stabling at the Hall for eleven horses, a coach house and good gardens. The estate also possessed fourteen cottages and a public house, the latter almost certainly the Bertie Arms, a cottage standing in Hall Lane near the park boundary. With the property was also sold a half of the manorial rights. The shape of the park as shown on the 1824 OS map (1) was much as it is to-day, with the stream coming down from the Heath widening out into an ornamental lake. Hall Farm was on the south side of Hall Lane, opposite the Old Hall, on a site cleared of buildings in the 1970s.

It was during Bertie's time at Branston that the open fields and commons were enclosed, 1766 being the date of the award. The enclosure commissioners and others concerned with the award, according to a plaque on the Bertie Arms, met in that hostelry to conduct their

business, as was the usual practice in the days before village schools and halls could perform the same function. The amount of land enclosed to form the fields we now know was 4,357 acres (29). Subtracting this figure from the total acreage indicates that about 1,200 acres of land was already enclosed, including the 50 acres or so on which the village stood. In 1682 500 acres, representing a quarter of the total arable had been enclosed and converted to pasture because the Fen was so flooded in wet years that there was insufficient grazing for the plough-oxen (31, p183-84).

Table 1: 'Principal' Residents in Branston Parish, 1842, 1892 and 1937

White's Lincs 1842	White's Lincs 1892	Kelly's Lincs 1937
Rev Atwell Curtois, <i>Longhills</i> Rev Peregrine Curtois, <i>Longhills</i> Hon Alexander Leslie Melville, <i>Branston Hall</i>	Rev F S H Adams, rector, <i>The Rectory</i> Mr Joseph Bingley Mr Robert Kettleborough Thomas Kettleborough Alexander Samuel Leslie Melville, Esq, JP, DL, <i>The Hall</i> Mrs May, Sydney House Eustace Abel Smith, banker, Lincoln h <i>Longhills</i> Herbert Peters Wild, maltster, Lincoln	Leonard Rd Grantham, <i>The Poplars</i> Mrs Hankey, <i>Ashfield</i> Rev James J R Pells, rector, <i>The Rectory</i> Eustace Abel Smith, JP, <i>Longhills</i>

The first of the Melville monuments in the church is to the Hon. Alexander Leslie Melville of Branston Hall, youngest son of the seventh Earl of Leven and Melville, born 18 June 1800, died 19 November 1881. He came to Lincoln in 1830 to be a partner in the Smith Ellison Bank: this was started in 1775 by Abel Smith of Nottingham, and Richard Ellison and John Brown of Lincoln (19, p67), now the NatWest on the corner of Mint Street and High Street. Alexander's wife Charlotte was the daughter of Samuel Smith of Woodhall Park, Herts, a principal in the bank. Charlotte's brother Abel was already a partner and was looking for a suitable house for the Melvilles in 1830 (23, p204, 299). Melville played the part in Lincoln life that one would expect from a banker who was also a member of an aristocratic family. He was foreman of the grand jury (of the county) in 1846; he was active in promoting railway construction; and was chairman (1836-70) of the Lincoln Poor Law Union created in 1836, whose catchment area included large numbers of villages (24, pp71, 107, 113, 132). Alexander was succeeded by Alexander Samuel Leslie Melville, presumably his son, and it was he who built the present Branston Hall in 1886 (9). In an article in *The Builder* in 1899 it was described as a 'gentleman's moderate-sized country house'. Nevertheless, it had 38 bedrooms! The builders were E Lawrance and Sons of London and the architect Mr J MacVicar Anderson (39).

The Curtois family were prominent in the parish for a rather different reason: six of them were rectors in a continuous succession from 1680 to 1891, and were patrons (ie, owners) of the living from 1719 until a point between 1868 and 1891, when the Melvilles took over (List of Rectors in the church). As rectors, the Curtois were owners of the tithe and when this was converted to several hundred acres of land in 1765 they found themselves to be almost landed gentry. This accounts for their building a very large new Rectory in 1765, not used as such since 1945 and now known as Hainton House (36). In 1842 the Curtois income from the living was the considerable sum of £677 per annum and in 1891 the figure was £680 (8, 9). In 1836 the Rev Peregrine Curtois, according to a plaque, erected an extension on the north side of the church chancel (now used as the vestry) 'for the sole purpose of educating children of the parish of Branston in the principles of the Established Church', ie, a Sunday School.

In 1838 Peregrine also built Longhills 'an elegant and spacious stone mansion about a mile east of the village on the site of an ancient house at the head of a woody vale' (8). The word 'ancient' is open to challenge, since the area of Longhills was probably open field until 1765, but the first OS map (1) shows that the park had already been set out by 1824. The origin of Longhills is seen differently in the Listed Building Notes (37), which state that the house is mid-eighteenth century, with *alterations* by George Basevi in 1836. By at least 1891 this house was the home of Eustace Abel Smith, the banker, bought for him by R Smith, esq (9).

The nineteenth century

The nineteenth century was a period of rapid population increase in Branston, partly no doubt the result of the ploughing up of much land after the enclosure of 1765 and of fen drainage about 1790. The increase was over threefold between 1801 and 1861, when the demand for agricultural labour was beginning to slacken, with a steady decline in the figures to 1901 (Table 2). Potterhanworth, Washingborough and Heighington showed the same rise, but much less steeply, and in the case of the latter two there was the same decline at the end of the century. Canwick was different from the other four, not only in having a much smaller population, but also because the corrected figures show there was little change over the century. The figures for Washingborough and Heighington in 1901 show that they have expanded more in population than Branston during the present century. By the time of the last census in 1991 Branston was a considerable village of 3,655 people (including the small population at Mere), compared with 336 at Canwick, 2,271 at Heighington, 3,728 at Washingborough and 562 at Potterhanworth.

Table 2: Nineteenth-century population of Branston parish and its neighbours

Parish	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901
Branston	445	527	702	859	1122	1325	1469	1337	1431	1221	1216
Canwick	215	211	223	201	190	213	228	241	488	602	711
Washingbro	324	352	478	572	573	597	589	580	729	621	612
Heighingtn	321	323	396	552	526	583	624	574	747	633	640
Potter H	303	364	374	402	439	458	413	447	435	430	480

Source: G Minchin, Table of Population, W Page (ed) *Victoria History of the County of Lincoln*, Vol II, 1906.

Note: The figures for Canwick after 1871 are spurious, as they include that part of Lincoln in the extra-parochial area of South Common. By reference to the original census reports, they can be corrected to 1881 - 269; 1891 - 269; 1901 - 266.

Farmers in the trade directories

In the nineteenth century county trade directories begin to tell us something about the occupations of the people, but they have to be used with care. They do not include labourers or workmen, being confined to those who were in business on their own account, plus a few officials and professionals. Table 4 lists the names of all those who were farming at Branston at three dates spaced out over a period of nearly a century. Many more farmers appeared in the 1892 directory than in the other two directories used, but this does not necessarily mean that the actual numbers rose between 1842 and 1892 and fell between 1892 and 1937. It may simply mean that the 1892 directory was prepared more carefully than the other two - the greater amount of detail elsewhere suggests that this may well have been true.

The lists are perhaps more reliable in giving us an indication as to whether Branston Fen was an area of much smaller farms than the upland parts of the parish. Thus using an estimated acreage of 2,000 acres of Fen (less 100 for water bodies and roads) and 18 farms in 1892, the average acreage of Fen farms was about 105 acres. The remaining 18 farms had about 3,600 acres between them - or an average of about 200 acres each. There is a clear difference, but

Table 4: Branston farmers in 1842, 1892, 1937

White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1842	White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1892	Kelly's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1937
Richard Ashlin (F) John Auckland Thomas Bavin (F) Sewel Dawson (F) Wm Dewhirst (F) Jno Featherby (H) John Giles (M) Wm Giles Wm Goulding Wm Graham (M) Joseph Green (M) Robert Gresham (F) Henry Grimes Lionel Harland Robert Herd Wm Herd John Kirton John Knott (F) Francis Marshall (M) John Neave (H) Ann Paddison Jno Prestwood (M) David Thacker (F) Charles Tonge George Towler Joseph Travis (F) George Wright (M)	Mrs Alcock, <i>Dye House</i> Samuel Alcock (F) Miss G Allenby (F) <i>h Felixstowe, Suffolk</i> Wm Broughton (M) Richard Wm Burchnall, <i>Rectory Fm</i> Frederick Clarke, <i>Branston</i> <i>Island, h Barlings</i> George Clarke (F) Charles Sampson Dickinson, <i>Ashfield House</i> John Dorman (F) John Dowlman (F) Samuel Dowlman (F) John Flintham (F) Mrs Eliz Forman (F) John Goulding (F) Joseph Green (M) Timothy Green (exors) (F) Wm R Green (F) Hy Grimes & landowner John Wm Hunt Frank Moss (M) Robert Nelstrop (H) John Newton (M) Charles Odling, <i>Branston Wood</i> Henry Oliver, <i>Branston Island</i> John Oxby (F) Alfred Pacey (F) Henry Paddison, <i>Hall Farm</i> Charles Salter, <i>Woodlands</i> Thomas Skeppers John Metcalfe Smith (exors), <i>Lodge</i> Joseph Taylor Varlow & Blanchard (F) James and Ralph Wilkinson (F) John Wilkinson (F) Wm Wilkinson (F) Wm Wrench (F)	Mrs Sarah Ann Bailey (F) Frederick Bates, smallholder *Geo Trevor Branston Gregory Brown (M) Charles Capps (M) Cyril Arth Clark, poultry breeder, <i>Claremont</i> Stanley Hinch (B) *W Meanwell (F) Geo Haywood Mundy *Stanley C Neesham, <i>Ashfield</i> <i>Farm</i> *Rt Nelstrop, <i>Westfield Farm</i> Ernest Selby Owen, <i>Moorlands</i> *Ernest Pacey (F) Jn Hy Pacey (F) *Joseph S Platt, <i>Branston Wood</i> Herbert Smith John Smith Taylor Bros, <i>Dyehouse</i> Wm Hy Taylor, poultry breeder *Ernest Varlow (F) *Fred L Waterhouse, <i>Branston</i> <i>Lodge</i> Joseph White Frank Wilkinson (F) Jas Wilkinson (F) Jn Rt Wilkinson, <i>White Ho Fm</i> *Percy J Wilkinson, <i>Field</i> <i>House Farm</i> (F) Wm Wilkinson (F) Willey Bros, <i>Hall Farm</i>
Total = 27		Total = 28
Total 1892 = 36		
	Farm bailiffs Wm Bailey, <i>Branston Lodge</i> John P Bee (F) George Mills (F) Wm Vacey (F)	Farm foremen Rt A Baker, foreman to G T Branston John Taylor, to Arthur Pears (probably at Mere)
	Land steward Joseph Gardiner	

Notes: B = Booths; F = Fen; H = Heath; M = Moor; h = house; * = farmer of over 150 acres.

both averages were quite high by national standards at that date. Another observation on the names themselves is that not a single one of those present in 1841 survived (in the male line at least) until 1937, and very few names are found in two consecutive lists. At least as far as farmers were concerned, there is no evidence of the supposed stability of the rural population.

Tradesmen and craftsmen in the directories

Table 5 is subject to the same rider as the lists of farmers, but there is plenty of solid evidence for changes in the self-sufficiency of the village and changes in the way of life of its people. Although a few occupations such as corn milling disappeared between 1842 and 1892, there was a bigger range of services at the later date. For instance the occupations of baker, brewer, glass and china dealer, market gardener, patent medicine vendor, Post Office, and seed agent appeared at the later date for the first time. One can understand that home-baking was on the decline during the Victorian period, but there is always the possibility that some occupations (or services) did not get recorded. For instance, it is very unlikely that the village did not have at least one undertaker, but that word nowhere appears in the table - the usual explanation is that joiners or carpenters provided undertaking services on a casual basis.

By 1937 change was in the opposite direction, as factory made goods and the influence of motor transport eroded the rural economy. By that date delivery vans could easily come out from Lincoln, and the regular bus service was long established. Trades to disappear between 1892 and 1937 included baker, brewer, boot and shoemakers, carrier (replaced by the buses), draper and saddler, and the numbers of practitioners in other categories fell significantly. It is true that some new entries appeared, such as coal merchant, cycle dealer, fried fish dealer, ladies' hairdresser, haulage contractor, plumber and shopkeeper. The description 'shopkeeper' may almost simply be a change in terminology from, eg, grocer and draper. The disappearance of teachers only reflects an editorial decision by Kelly's to discontinue the recording of village schools. The sanatorium was set up in Branston Hall in 1924 (6, p129). The appearance of an egg merchant relates to the increased production of eggs for market on many farms during the first half of the century, as does the fact that Table 4 includes two poultry breeders in 1937. Notable 'absentees' from all three lists are surgeons and later on GPs, and policemen - presumably Branston was serviced from Washingborough or Heighington. For banking and legal services one had to go to Lincoln.

Table 5: Branston tradesmen, craftsmen, etc, in 1842, 1892, 1937

White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1842	White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1892	Kelly's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1937
	Agricultural machine owner John Taylor	
	Assistant overseer Wm Grimes	
	Baker Miss Mary Elizabeth Alcock	
	Beer retailer Robert Newton	
Blacksmiths John Russell Wm Sands	Blacksmiths John Atkin Henry Harvey (B) Charles Pearson & Son Charles Sparrow, and implement makers	Blacksmiths Garrill and Son (F) Jesse Leversedge Wltr Pearson
Boot & shoemakers Wm Cooling Wm Knott Wm Thompson Wm Ward	Boot & shoemakers Thomas Knott Thomas Spurr	
	Brewer & maltster Alfred Healey, & Horncastle	
Brickmaker Thomas Horner (F)		
	Builder & contractor John Willmott Cook	Builder Arth Barker
Butcher Wm Day	Butchers John Drayton Thomas Taylor	Butcher Edwd Lintin
Carrier John Baker, to Lincoln on Fridays	Carriers Joseph Rose Green (B), to Lincoln on Fridays John Wm Hunt, to Lincoln on Monday, Friday & Saturdays	
		Coal merchants Wm Clarke & Son Ltd Arth Kemp
Corn millers Wm Linn Wm Prestley Wm Salter		
		Cycle dealer James Chaloner
	Drapers Wm Marshall, and milliner Henry Williams	
Druggist John Chaloner		
		Egg merchants Lincoln Egg Packing Station (CWS Ltd)
		Fried fish dealer Fincham's

White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1842	White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1892	Kelly's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1937
	Glass and china dealer Henry Williams	
Grocers Evelyn Arnold Jonathan Sharpe Jane Shaw	Grocers Wm Applewhite Wm Green Marshall, Robert Newton Henry Williams	Grocers Miss Mary E Alcock Lincoln Co-operative Society Wm E Young <i>See also shopkeepers</i>
		Hairdressers E M Hutchinson (ladies)
		Haulage contractors Forman Bros Ltd
	Head gardener Edward Hewitt, The Hall	
Inns and taverns James Barker, <i>Crown</i> Rd., Bringeman, <i>Plough and</i> <i>Horses</i> Wm Fletcher, <i>Waggon & Horses</i> Joseph Foster, <i>Green Tree</i> Joseph Ramsden, <i>Anchor (F)</i> Joseph Woodhead, <i>Plough (F)</i>	Victuallers Mrs Eliz Forman, <i>Anchor (F)</i> John Drayton, <i>Plough and</i> <i>Horses</i> Mrs Jane Pepper, <i>Green Tree</i> <i>(F)</i> Thomas Taylor, <i>Waggon and</i> <i>Horses</i> Robert Wooldridge, <i>Plough (F)</i>	Public houses Geo Ernest Bedford, <i>Waggon</i> <i>and Horses</i> David Cawton, <i>Plough and</i> <i>Horses</i> Incedon P Colman, <i>Plough (F)</i> Samuel Forman, <i>Anchor</i> Jn Vinter, <i>Green Tree</i>
		Insurance agents Alfd Brummitt, secretary, Oddfellows (Manchester Unity) Benj Hunt
Joiners, etc Richard Brown Robert Brown Thomas Calvert John Elvin	Joiners, carpenters, builders, etc John Canham Joseph Canham Joseph Dickson George Taylor (B)	Joiners, carpenters Joseph Canham Harry Ingle
Lime burners J Cooke Sharpe & Wilson		
Lock-keeper Wm Hall, <i>Horsley Beach</i>		
	Market gardeners Edward Cram Henry Rossington	
Mason J Cooke		
		Motor omnibus proprietor Jn Hy Gelsthorpe
Parish clerk Wm Newstead	Parish clerk John Pearson	
		Plumber Wltr Sparrow
	Patent medicine vendor Wm Green Marshall	
	Post office Wm Green Marshall	Post office Geo Sylvester Applewhite

White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1842	White's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1892	Kelly's <i>Lincolnshire</i> 1937
		Refreshment rooms Jn Herbert
Saddler John Chaloner	Saddlers and harness makers John Thomas Chaloner Fred Taylor	
		Sanatorium Lindsey CC Sanatorium, Geo Wm Hughes Townsend, resident medical supt; Miss Margaret Winstanley, matron, <i>Branston Hall</i>
School mistress Lucinda Riby	School teachers Miss E M Gopsell, <i>National Infant School</i> Miss Ann Elizabeth Green, <i>National School (F)</i> John R Sharpe, <i>National School</i>	
	Seed agent Wm Grimes	
		Shopkeepers Sidney F Clarricoates Mrs Annie Jessop Wm Martin Tom Wltr Speed
	Skin dealer Wm Broughton	
	Stone and lime merchant Enoch Cook John Willmott Cook	
Tailors and drapers Joseph Graham Richard Hardy John Kirk Thomas Weaver (H)	Tailors and drapers Wm Applewhite George Green	Tailor Geo Sylvester Applewhite
Tea dealer Wm Knott		
	Waterproof Cover Manufacturers E Flint & Co, and Lincoln	
Wheelwrights Frederick Pearson Edw Woolridge	Wheelwrights John Pearson & Son, and implement makers	Wheelwright Herbert Pearson

Notes:

Apart from common combinations, such as tailor and draper, where a person has more than one occupation he is listed two or more times, ie, under each occupation.

B = Booths; F = Fen; H = Heath.

Herbert Green's contribution

This outline history of Branston can be rounded off nicely by drawing on the article published by Herbert Green in the *Lincoln Leader* of 10 May 1902 (33). He described the entrance to the village from the Lincoln direction as being a downhill slope, with 'the busy throb of a wheelwright's shop on the left' (now gone), and the pump erected by public subscription next to the Coffee House and Reading Room (all surviving) a little further on to the right. 'Further along the beck purls over the pebbles and the road divides at a public house corner, rising steeply to the right past the church, and more gently inclined upward to the left past the old *Plough Inn* and the schools'. In 1902 he could afford to ignore this murderous corner between the *Waggon and Horses* (surviving in a new building set back) and the *Plough* (demolished for road improvements). He commented favourably on the Coffee Palace and Reading Room, which now look like an ordinary semi-detached pair of estate cottages. They were intended as temperance alternatives to the *Plough* and *Waggon* and were presided over by Melville, Abel Smith and the Vicar and a committee of twelve, whose paternalism extended to a rota for regular and frequent visiting. The average attendance at the Reading Room was 28, with games played as well as the reading. Dominoes, darts and draughts were permissible, but ping pong was not allowed!

Green then went on to describe the schools, repeating the information already found in the directories. Apparently a notable feature of the National School was the movable screen to divide the biggest room, the best between Lincoln and Sleaford. This school had recently been extended at the cost of £450 in order to make room for the infants, who had still been attending the old school since the National School had opened in 1873.

The Parish Council met in the National School under the chairmanship of Melville, whose place was taken by the vice-chairman Abel Smith when Melville was on holiday for the winter in Italy. The Parish Council had recently taken over the duties of the Burial Board, presumably the body which had opened the burial ground on the north side of High Street sometime before 1892 (9).

Green's account of Branston Hall is somewhat confused. He states that it dates from about 1700, but this must have been a reference to the Old Hall, which soon after his visit in 1902 was destroyed by fire, an event still talked about in the village. (The present Old Hall apparently represents the original service wing). 'Perhaps the most interesting part of the large, rambling old house is the ballroom, 40ft x 20ft, which faces the north, and was built at the request of two daughters of the house'. The park was used annually for Branston Flower Show and Melville munificence also extended to the use by the Cricket Club of a field opposite the present Park entrance. Melville gave the field to the club on the occasion of Victoria's Diamond Jubilee (1897). The 'capital' pavilion had been built in 1900 at a cost of £45 and there was space for two cricket teams or two football teams. The headmaster was secretary and treasurer of the Cricket Club, with Mr Burchnall, probably a farmer, as captain.

Conclusion

Information given in the 'standard' sources on Branston has not been exhausted in the above account. In particular, little use has been made of the Listed Building Notes (37), in which no less than 17 buildings and groups of buildings are described. The Notes could form the basis of a topographical study of the old village, but it needs to be appreciated that they are based mainly on external observation, unsupported by documentary evidence. The OS 25-inch plans could be used to supplement any such study, since a few buildings are named and more could be identified if the 1910 Domesday copies of these plans were used (see below).

A number of unresolved questions have been raised in the outline of Branston's history, and these together with many topics skimmed over can be studied more deeply from documentary sources. The section below mentions a few 'standard' documents and some further reading which could take the enquiry a stage further. Perhaps the most important

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A number of unresolved questions have been raised in the outline of Branston's history, and these together with many topics skimmed over can be studied more deeply from documentary sources. The section below mentions a few 'standard' documents and some further reading which could take the enquiry a stage further. Perhaps the most important

conclusion the reader may have reached is that a 'comprehensive' parish history from pre-historic times to the present day would be a very tough assignment, so tough, in fact, that it is hardly ever attempted by professional historians! One is more likely to write something worthwhile by concentrating on a few topics especially appropriate in a particular parish, either by virtue of the availability of documents, or by dint of distinctive characteristics of the history of the chosen parish.

Some 'standard' documents

These 'standard' documents have been chosen because most parishes figure in most of the choices offered here. The Ross Manuscripts held on microfilm in Lincoln Central Library are a series of quotations from mostly medieval sources collected in the last century, often in Latin, not always reliable, and sources not always given. However, for those bent on medieval studies they do form a useful starting point, particularly as they are organised on a parish-by-parish basis. In Branston, Ross gives some clues as to the extent of monastic properties and who held the church living (advowson).

Enclosure Acts and Awards (mostly between 1760 and 1820): there are many of these for Lincolnshire parishes and they are listed by Tate and Turner (29). A map on p83 of (6) is also helpful. Kept in the Lincolnshire Archives Office, they describe individual parishes and the owners of land at the time when the open fields and commons were enclosed; for many of them a contemporary map survives. There is sometimes a separate drainage award.

Also useful on the ownership and occupation of property in a similar period are the land tax assessments (LAO) - Branston and other parishes once in the County of the City have no surviving assessments except presumably for those of 1798 in the Public Record Office (the 1798 set is thought to be complete). On this subject see Jeremy Gibson, Mervyn Medlycott and Dennis Mills (eds), *Land and Window Tax Assessments*, Federation of Family History Societies, 1993. This incorporates and revises various editions of *Land Tax Assessments c. 1690 - c. 1950*, ed. Jeremy Gibson and Dennis Mills, 1983.

Tithe Surveys and Awards (LAO) under the Tithe Commutation Act exist for many of the parishes in which enclosure took place before parliamentary Acts came into use. Some parishes have both an Enclosure Award and a Tithe Award, and Branston is one such case. However, as only a relatively small part of the land was involved, the Tithe Award map shows only part of the parish. Tithe Surveys list occupiers as well as owners.

Census Enumerators' Books, familiar to family historians, give personal details of the whole population at the censuses every tenth year from 1841 to 1891. They are available on microfilm at LCL - book in advance. A useful introduction to and bibliography of census work is: Dennis R Mills, 'A Lincolnshire guide to the nineteenth century censuses', *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*, vol 22 (1987), pp25-29.

The so-called 1910 Domesday at LAO gives particulars of owners and occupiers of property at that date collected in connection with the introduction of Estate Duty. They have survived for most parishes complete with OS 25-inch maps marked up with information - the latter can be copied from microfiche.

Finally under documentary sources of a 'standard' kind can be mentioned Parish Council Minutes from 1894. Most of these will be held by parish clerks, but some early volumes have been deposited in LAO. It is perhaps worth saying that by 1894 very few administrative functions were left to individual parishes. All those parishes not already in Poor Law Unions in 1834 were soon grouped into such institutions. The work of the village constable had been completely superseded by professional police forces by 1856 (18, p123) and the parochial surveyors of highways were overtaken by the new County Councils in 1889. In some rural areas there were sanitary authorities as forerunners to the rural district councils set up by an Act of 1894, and from the 1870s some parish schools were the subject of specialist School

Boards, which gave way to the County Councils when they gained general oversight of state-funded schools under an Act of 1902. The traditional parish vestries of 1894 were, therefore, almost limited to the ecclesiastical matters which were then transferred to their successors the Parochial Church Councils. Their remaining civic functions were inherited by the completely new Parish Councils (in the larger villages, Parish Meetings in the smaller ones). Street lighting and recreation grounds were their chief formal responsibilities for many years, although a few took initiatives over piped water supplies and other matters. Parish Councils have, however, always represented the perceived needs of their parishes to higher authorities - hence a complete record of the building of council housing in a village, among other subjects, can sometimes be found in their Minutes. In post-1945 decades, Parish Councils have been deeply immersed in planning matters and in the most recent period have had a statutory right to be consulted by the planning authorities.

SOME FURTHER READING

Branston appendix

(39) Articles and books on Branston listed at, and held at LCL:

M W and L B Barley, 'Plough Monday play from Branston near Lincoln', *Lincolnshire Historian*, vol 2 (4), 1957, pp36-43.

'Branston barn, Rectory Lane', in *Industrial Archaeology Notes, Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*, vol 16, 1981, pp48-49.

'Branston Hall, Lincoln', *The Builder*, 30 December 1899, LCL ref - UP 105.

A F Deverill, *A History of the Parish Church of All Saints, Branston*, 1966. A useful collection of notes on various aspects of village history.

L Elvin, 'Branston', *Fireside Magazine*, April 1966, pp7-10.

G Gough, *Branston Footpaths. Why not take a walk?*, (Branston Parish Council?), 1977.

Ross Manuscripts, vol XIII, Langoe Wapentake.

Rev T Smith, *The Blind Girl of Branston: a memoir of Rebecca King*, (not dated).

A Watmough, *A History of Methodism in Lincoln*, 1829, p67.

(40) Newspaper index entries at LCL: *Stamford Mercury* from 1800-79, and *Lincolnshire Chronicle* XXXX-XX?:

Stamford Mercury:

24.5.1811	Threshing machine manufacture
18.7.1817	Branston Hall for sale
11.11.1831	Fen drainage
29.8.1845	Ancient boat uncovered in fen
10.3.1848	Statement by Rev A Curtois on the late Dr Willis
10.1.1868	Dissolved partnership of Branston Brewery Co
7.7.1876	Restoration of All Saints Church
2.12.1881	Funeral of Hon. Alexander Leslie Melville
1.6.1883	Description of new Wesleyan Chapel
19.10.1883	Chapel opened
14.9.1894	First annual flower show of Branston and Mere Horticultural Society
11.1.1895	First meeting of Branston Rural District Council.

Lincolnshire Chronicle:

22.3.1930	Water supply proposed by Branston RDC
21.3.1931	Last meeting of Branston RDC
10.9.1932	Death of Margaret Ann Curtois, novelist

(41) Summary of photo collection at LCL - dates given where photos are pre-1945. The entries given first tend to have numerous photos, many of the later ones are single photos:

General village scenes, including aerial view
Branston Hall, including as a hospital
Church, interior and exterior, one of latter pre-1900
Saddler's shop in 1920s
Steam threshing c1908
Station (in Heighington parish but carrying name of Branston)
Moor Lodge Hotel
Plough and Horses, since demolished
Longhills House
Barn in Rectory Lane
Field W/T 1929
Shire horses and ploughboys in 1920s
Leading hay by cart, 1940
Two gardeners in world war I soldier's uniforms
School play
Branston Booths, five photos, one in 1914-18 war
Branston Fen

General references

There could be scores of titles under such a heading, but the following seven might be a useful selection of what is available. First are the titles of three volumes of essays on a wide range of topics:

N Field and A White (eds), *A Prospect of Lincolnshire, being collected articles on the history and traditions of Lincolnshire in honour of Ethel H Rudkin*, 1984.

D Tyszka, K Miller and G Bryant (eds), *Land, People and Landscapes: essays on the history of the Lincolnshire region written in honour of Rex C Russell*, 1991.

C Sturman (ed), *Lincolnshire People and Places: essays in memory of Terence R Leach (1937-1994)*, 1996.

Equally you would find it rewarding to browse in any of the following journals and magazines:

Lincolnshire Historian, 1947-65 (check).

Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, from 1966.

Lincolnshire Past and Present, from 1990.

Lincolnshire Life, from 1961. This is much more journalistic than the other three publications, but has the advantage that good indexes of its contents have been published.

All these titles are available in LCL, where there are many other books on the open shelves for you to browse in.

PART II: LIST OF SELECTED 'STANDARD' SOURCES

This list of 'standard' sources has been drawn up to assist beginners and students in local history to prepare outline notes on the history of individual villages and parishes in historic Lincolnshire. It is designed on the well-established principle that the student should start with printed (secondary) sources before attempting to make serious use of documentary (primary) sources. Very few parishes, if any, will be mentioned in all of the sources listed, but the compiler believes that it is worth checking the indexes of all the references given here. Some of the books listed are obviously comprehensive in coverage, such as the county directories, whilst others such as the History of Lincolnshire Series are less likely to mention any particular village. However, all the sources are useful in giving good background information of the kind that needs to be understood in order to write outline village histories in an informed way.

Most of the sources can be studied in the Lincolnshire Collection section of the Lincoln Central Library (LCL) and there are lending copies of some of them. Other main libraries contain a proportion of the same material. It would be necessary to visit the Lincolnshire Archives Office (LAO) for a few of the sources, and the Office contains copies of many of the others. (Ring up in advance to ask about booking a place). However, its principal role is to conserve original documents, which are more suitably approached after a preliminary study of secondary sources such as those listed.

Printed maps

The first task should be to establish the extent of the parish and its principal geographical features at various dates - although for periods before 1824 maps are less and less detailed and less reliable.

- 1 Ordnance Survey, First Edition One-Inch Map, c1824, with some later additions, mainly confined to railways, David and Charles edition.
- 2 Bryant's One-Inch Map of Lincolnshire (LAO, LCL) including microfiche copies from LAO.
- 3 Ordnance Survey, early editions of Six-Inch maps, c1890, 1905, c1930 (LAO, LCL), including microfiche copies from LAO. The first two give acreages of parishes.
- 4 Ordnance Survey, early editions of 25-Inch maps, c1890, 1905, c1930 (LAO, LCL), including microfiche copies from LAO.
- 5 OS 1: 25,000 maps, various dates, but modern, provisional edition based on Six-Inch maps, c1930.
- 6 S Bennett and N Bennett, *An Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire*, 1993. This includes maps on a wide range of topics, based on parish boundary outlines, for which there are keys that are useful for other purposes.

Population and areas

- 7 G S Minchin, Table of Population in W Page (ed), *Victoria History of the County of Lincoln*, vol II (only volume published), 1906. The acreage figures given herein are much more reliable than the directories, especially early directories, as they are based on actual surveys by the Ordnance Survey in the late nineteenth century. For census figures since the 1901 census consult census volumes in LCL and LAO. See also nos 15, 26 and 28.

A selection of county directories:

Directories provide a mixture of historical, administrative and geographical information, followed by a list of the principal residents, farmers, tradesmen, etc. County directories were published every few years between c1840 and c1940 and there is a complete set in LCL, with a large number in LAO (see appendix below for complete list of county and Lincoln City directories). There were directories or almanacs for some of the market towns, such as Horncastle and Sleaford, and these usually contain similar information for villages within their market areas.

8 W White, *Directory of Lincolnshire*, 1842. This is the first directory of Lincolnshire to contain all places.

9 W White, *Directory of Lincolnshire*, 1892. This is one of the best, with very good detail and comes conveniently about half way between the other two.

10 Kelly's *Directory of Lincolnshire*, 1937. The last directory to contain every village.

The History of Lincolnshire

This is the standard history of the county published by the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology and should be consulted for background to any parish history. It is well indexed, so that references in the text to individual parishes can be easily checked, but the many maps should be studied separately, since places marked on them are not mentioned in the indexes.

11 J May, *Prehistoric Lincolnshire*, Vol I, 1976.

12 J B Whitwell, *Roman Lincolnshire*, Vol II, 1970, revised edition, 1992.

13 G Platts, *Land and People in Medieval Lincolnshire*, Vol IV, 1985. This contains a complete list of medieval markets and fairs.

14 D M Owen, *Church and Society in Medieval Lincolnshire*, Vol V, 1971. This volume contains a list of religious houses, with dates of foundation (see also Page, VCH, II).

15 G Hodgett, *Tudor Lincolnshire*, Vol VI, 1975. Contains population figures by households taken from a Diocesan Return of 1563.

16 C Holmes, *Seventeenth-Century Lincolnshire*, Vol VII, 1980.

17 T W Beastall, *Agricultural Revolution in Lincolnshire*, Vol VIII, 1978.

18 R J Olney, *Rural Society and County Government in Nineteenth Century Lincolnshire*, Vol X, 1979.

19 N R Wright, *Lincolnshire Towns and Industry 1700-1914*, Vol XI, 1982. Whilst this has little to say on rural parishes, many of the topics covered illuminate rural life. There are useful appendices on the setting up of turnpikes and the opening of railways.

20. D R Mills (ed), *Twentieth Century Lincolnshire*, Vol XII, 1989. Includes some useful figures of RAF population by stations in 1944; and a case study of one particular parish - Welbourn.

History of Lincoln by Sir Francis Hill

These books are worth consulting for the considerable background of county history, and to check the many specific references to country parishes.

- 21 J W F Hill, *Medieval Lincoln*, 1948.
- 22 J W F Hill, *Tudor and Stuart Lincoln*, 1956.
- 23 J W F Hill, *Georgian Lincoln*, 1966.
- 24 Sir Francis Hill, *Victorian Lincoln*, 1974.

Other references

- 25 E Ekwall (ed), *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names*, 4th ed, 1960. This book uses a large number of abbreviations which are explained in the long introduction, some relating to the sources used and some to the interpretation.
- 26 C W Foster and T Longley (eds), *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, Lincoln Record Society, vol 19, 1921. This edition is preferred to the more modern edition, which in my view is less user-friendly and has one or two misleading quirks in its translation from the Latin (eg, freemen instead of sokemen). Most Lincolnshire villages can be found in the Domesday Book.
- 27 W Page (ed), *Victoria History of the County of Lincoln*, Vol II, 1906, contains potted histories of monastic houses.
- 28 R E G Cole (ed), *Speculum Dioceseos Lincolnensis, Part I, 1705-23*, Lincoln Record Society, Vol 4, 1913. Gives population figures by 'families' (i.e. households).
- 29 W E Tate and M E Turner (eds), *A Domesday of English Enclosure Acts and Awards*, 1978 (LAO). Useful in establishing the dates of parliamentary enclosure of open fields and commons and the approximate areas involved. The absence of an entry almost certainly means that the parish was enclosed by private agreement at a date earlier than c1750. The awards themselves are mostly to be found in LAO, but their study belongs to the second stage of general village history.
- 30 W H Wheeler, *A History of the Fens of South Lincolnshire*, 1868, enlarged edition 1896, latter reprinted 1990. Is excellently organised for use on a topographical basis and has not been surpassed.
- 31 J Thirsk, *English Peasant Farming: the agrarian history of Lincolnshire from Tudor to recent times*, 1957 and later reprint.
- 32 R W Ambler (ed), *Lincolnshire Returns of the Census of Religious Worship 1851*, Lincoln Record Society, Vol 72, 1979. Interpretation of the numbers attending places of worship is a subject of controversy, but the figures give a rough indication of size of denominations in each village in 1851 and often the date of establishment (see also directories).
- 33 Herbert Green's *Lincolnshire Village Life*, Press cuttings c1900, often known as Green's Village Notes (LCL). These appeared in the *Lincoln Gazette and Times*, when Green was a reporter on that newspaper and visited a large proportion of villages in the county. His articles include both historical and contemporary information. Green was subsequently editor of the *Lincoln Leader*.
- 34 V Gibbs (ed), *The Complete Peerage*, numerous volumes, 1910-59 (LCL)
- 35 A R Maddison (ed), *Lincolnshire Pedigrees*, four volumes, 1902-06.

36 N Pevsner and J Harris, *The Buildings of England, Lincolnshire*, 2nd edn revised by N Antram, 1989. Describes all Anglican churches, as well as some of the other interesting buildings in most villages. Good background.

37 Listed Building Notes, more properly known as *Lists of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historical Interest*, published by the Department of National Heritage. The distribution of these Lists is erratic, but many are available in LCL or in the planning departments of local authorities - they are public documents and may therefore be consulted by the public. The information is not uniformly reliable, since it is largely based on visual impressions of properties from the road frontage, without back-up from literary sources. However, the Lists make a useful addition to no 36, and the two together may act as a starting point for more detailed local studies.

38 Sites and Monuments Record, City and County Museum, includes Schedules of Ancient Monuments and much else besides. Students new to archaeology are advised to concentrate their attention on significant sites, such as moats, burial places, ruined buildings, etc, and to leave stray 'finds' for later study. (12 Friars Lane, Lincoln, LN2 5AL, telephone 01522 530401 for appointment). (I have to check with Mark Bennett that it would be OK to print this!).

39 E Nannestad, 'Lincolnshire Places - Source Materials', a series of bibliographical articles on groups of parishes, published in *Lincolnshire Past and Present*, in alphabetical order. The series is by no means complete, but the same information is available on cards in LCL. The books and articles listed are of extremely variable quality, but should nevertheless be consulted. Furthermore, the lists do not include every book or article that may be relevant to a particular parish - only those which concentrate on it. See the Branston appendix (above) for the Branston titles.

40 Newspaper index entries at LCL: Stamford Mercury from 1800-79 and Lincolnshire Chronicle XXXX-XX (see the Branston appendix for titles for Branston). Copies of the *Stamford Mercury* are held at LCL for 1716, when the newspaper started, to 1908; and of the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* for the period 1833 onwards. There are also news cuttings files for the post-war period, which are fuller from c1970.

41 Photo collection at LCL is indexed by place and copies of the photos are easily accessible to the public. If the copyright is held by the Library, copies may be purchased - allow four-six weeks for orders to be processed. See the Branston appendix for the Branston titles.

Appendix: Directories

Lincolnshire:

White: 1826, 1842, 1856, 1872, 1882, 1892. Also a manuscript of 407pp for 1842 in LCL.

Kelly: 1826?, 1849, 1855, 1861, 1868, 1876, 1885, 1889, 1892, 1896, 1900, 1905, 1909, 1913, 1919, 1922m, 1926, 1930, 1933, 1937.

Slater: 1844; Hagar: 1849.

City of Lincoln:

Akrill: 1877, 1881, 1885.

Cook: 1895.

Ruddock: 1894, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1919, 1922, 1928, 1932.

Kelly: 1937, 1939, and other post-war - check if any include nearby villages.