

LANGLEY BURRELL

LANDSCAPE, SETTLEMENT AND BUILDINGS

The modern civil parish of Langley Burrell Without is situated on the (Bristol) Avon immediately north of Chippenham and comprises the village of Langley Burrell located centrally and hamlets of Kellaways (formerly Tytherton Kellaways) to the east and Peckingell to the south-east. To the west is Barrow Farm. The parish is approximately 6.5 kilometres south of the M4. The main access to the village is provided by the B4069 that runs north from Chippenham towards Kington Langley, and is known as the Swindon road.

Prior to major boundary changes during the 1880s, the area of Langley Burrell ancient parish was 1,720 a. in 1859. Kellaways, a separate parish, contained 140 a.¹ In 1903, the parish of Langley Burrell Without covered 1,812 a. and Kellaways 333 a. respectively.² In 2011, the parish of Langley Burrell Without (united with Kellaways) was 1,915 a.³

The name Langley refers to a 'long clearing or wood.' The suffix 'Burrell' distinguishes Langley Burrell from Kington Langley and derives from the family name of Borel or Burel, who owned the estate *c.*1086-1300.⁴ The name 'Tytherton' is shared by three adjoining settlements, Tytherton Kellaways, Tytherton Lucas (formerly in Chippenham) and East Tytherton (in Bremhill). 'Kellaways' refers to the family in whose possession the small manor and advowson were held from at least 1226.⁵ The origin of the prefix Tytherton is ambiguous. It may derive from a personal name, or from the Old English *tīdre*, 'fragile, weak'.⁶ More recently it has been suggested that Tytherton derives from the Old English verb *tydrian* 'to propagate' and *-tun* 'farm, village' a possible reference to the settlement's agricultural fertility.⁷

Boundaries

The ancient parish of Langley Burrell as mapped in 1820 and 1842,⁸ bordered four other parishes - Kington St Michael to the north, Bremhill to the east, Chippenham to the south and Hardenhuish to the west, although the pattern of boundaries was complicated and confusing because of many detached portions of these and other parishes within Langley Burrell, and detached portions of Langley Burrell within its neighbours. The long northern boundary with Kington St Michael and its tithing (and later civil parish) Kington Langley, appears to have been established by 940, when it was described in the

¹ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1859 edn.), 437, 440.

² *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1903 edn.), 122, 127.

³ Langley Burrell Parish Council, *Langley Burrell Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016 – 2026* (Sep 2017), 9.

⁴ *PN Wilts.* (EPNS), 105. See also landownership section below.

⁵ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 115. Fn states the possession was already in its third generation by 1226.

⁶ *PN Wilts.* (EPNS), 91-2.

⁷ R. Coates, 'Tyther- as a Place Name Element', *Jnl. of the English Place Name Society* 43 (2011), 35-42.

⁸ *Printed Maps of Wilts.* (WRS 52), 108; WSA, T/A Langley Burrell.

Langley charter.⁹ For much of its length it followed watercourses, Stein Brook and Chissell Brook, although at the north-western corner it was defined by field boundaries and a lane (Jacksom's Lane). Part of the western boundary with Hardenhuish followed an ancient routeway, *Ergespath* in 940,¹⁰ the later Malmesbury Road. The river Avon formed the eastern boundary. The irregular southern border followed no natural features and was exceptionally irregular, extending almost to Chippenham bridge. A likely explanation for this is that a territory known as Cocklebury by the late Saxon period, which never achieved parochial status, was partitioned at an early date between Langley Burrell and Chippenham, the boundary drawn to respect then existing field boundaries.¹¹ One consequence of this irregularity was that until the later 19th century portions of urban Chippenham north of the Avon, including most of the railway station and engineering works, actually lay in Langley Burrell parish.

The profusion of detached parcels of land within other parishes may have originated from tithe obligations by neighbouring landowners,¹² and was causing complications by the 17th century.¹³ As elsewhere, Victorian administrators strove to remove these anomalies, and to take account of Chippenham's suburban expansion.¹⁴ In 1882 part of Slaughterford civil parish (comprising Barrow Farm and cottages with 14 inhabitants in 1891) was transferred to Langley Burrell.¹⁵ In 1884, a portion of Chippenham civil parish (population 267 in 1891) was also reassigned to Langley Burrell, while part of Langley Burrell civil parish (population 132 in 1891) was moved into Chippenham.¹⁶ In 1884, part of Bremhill (Kellaway's Farm, 4 inhabitants in 1881) was transferred to the parish of Tytherton Kellaways.¹⁷ In 1895, its boundaries were extended to include the adjacent settlement of Avon, to form the parish of Kellaways.¹⁸

In 1894, the civil parish of Langley Burrell was abolished and divided in two. The parish of Langley Burrell Within was created in the Chippenham municipal borough, and Langley Burrell Without was formed from the rural part of the parish.¹⁹ The civil parish of Kellaways was created in 1895.²⁰ In 1934, Kellaways was absorbed along with Hardenhuish into the parish of Langley Burrell Without.²¹ In 1914, part of the parish of Langley Burrell Without (population 358 in 1921) and part of Hardenhuish were transferred into Langley Burrell Within.²² In 1934, the parish of Langley Burrell Within was abolished and united with Chippenham Within to form a new parish.²³ The boundary of Langley Burrell Without was adjusted again in 1952 to allow for the expansion of Chippenham borough.²⁴

⁹ WAM 77, 68-9.

¹⁰ WAM 77, 69.

¹¹ A. Wilson, *Cocklebury: A Farming Area and its People in the Vale of Wilts.* (Chichester, Phillimore, 1983), 12-14.

¹² Discussed below, ??? [to be considered further with KSM and KL]

¹³ *Wilts. Quarter Session Order Book 1642-1654* (WRS 67), 286-7.

¹⁴ Above, Chippenham, origin, growth, etc ...

¹⁵ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. FN l.

¹⁶ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 344. FN f.

¹⁷ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 359. FN j.

¹⁸ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. FN a, 340.

¹⁹ LGB order 31682 30 Sep 1894; Youngs, *Admin.Units*, 542.

²⁰ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. FN a.

²¹ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. FN o.

²² *VCH Wilts*, iv, 344. FN g.

²³ Youngs, *Admin.Units*, 542; *VCH Wilts*, iv, 344. FN e.

²⁴ Youngs, *Admin.Units*, 542; Statutory Instruments, 1984, no. 387, N. Wilts. (Parishes) Order.

This article describes the history of the ancient parish until the later 19th century. The recent history of the places transferred elsewhere is treated with the relevant civil parishes.

Landscape

The bedrock geology across most of Langley Burrell parish is Kellaways sandstone, with Kellaways clay mudstone along its north-western and south-western edges.²⁵ Around Thornhill farm in the north-east of the parish is an area of Oxford clay mudstone, and embracing Jacksom's farm, at the north-western corner, the parish extends on to the Cornbrash limestone. Superficial deposits of alluvial sands and gravels occur along the meadows fringing the Avon, but not elsewhere. The Kellaways formation, which extends from Dorset to Yorkshire, takes its name from Kellaways, now within Langley Burrell.²⁶

Across most of the parish slightly acid loamy and clayey soils prevail with impeded drainage. Lime-rich loamy soils occur around Peckingell. In the northern and western parish edges the soils are slowly permeable and seasonally wet.²⁷

West of the Swindon road the terrain is 75 m. or more above Ordnance Datum, rising to around 100 m. west of Bird's Marsh.²⁸ East of the main road the land falls away, to 52 m. at Thornhill farm and 46 m. at the confluence of the Avon and Marden rivers. Streams and minor watercourses flow eastwards and south-eastwards into the Avon, draining the entire parish.

Communications

The parish is bisected by a main road running northward from Chippenham towards Malmesbury and Wootton Bassett, known at its southern end since the 1880s or earlier as Langley Road.²⁹ The road is referred to in 1257,³⁰ and in 1653 was called Tetbury or Malmesbury Way, when it was part of an agreement mapped and agreed jointly by Langley Burrell, Chippenham and Hardenhuish parish officers in order to discharge their statute highway responsibilities.³¹ The road was turnpiked in 1768 by the Chippenham roads trust, and disturnpiked a century later.³² It was classified in 1922 as A420, part of the principal route between Oxford and Bristol, but downgraded to B4069 (also known as the Swindon road) after the M4 motorway was built parallel to it in 1971.³³

A second ancient road is followed by part of the western parish boundary. This is recorded as *Ergespath*, a landmark in the 940 Langley charter, and was included in the 1653 agreement.³⁴ It was turnpiked by the Malmesbury trust in 1756, and disturnpiked between 1873 and 1876.³⁵ It was classified as part of the A429 road between

²⁵ This para: <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/> (accessed 4 Aug. 2022).

²⁶ <https://webapps.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=KLB> (accessed 4 Aug. 2022).

²⁷ <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/> (accessed 4 Aug. 2022).

²⁸ This para: OS 1:25.000 Explorer map, sheet 156 (1999 edn.).

²⁹ OS 25" sheet Wilts XX. 14 (1886 edn.).

³⁰ *Reg. Malm.* ii, 202.

³¹ *Wilts. Quarter Session Order Book 1642-1654* (WRS 67), 286; WSA, 118/53.

³² Above, Chippenham, communications; *VCH Wilts*, iv, 257 etc.

³³ <https://www.sabre-roads.org.uk/wiki/index.php?title=B4069> (accessed 4 Aug. 2022).

³⁴ *WAM* 77, 68-9; *Wilts. Quarter Session Order Book 1642-1654* (WRS 67), 286; WSA, 118/53.

³⁵ Above, Chippenham, communications; *VCH Wilts*, iv, 257 etc.

Chippenham and Warwick. It was widened to a dual carriageway and renumbered A350 to connect Chippenham with the M4 motorway, constructed in 1971.³⁶

The B4069 and A350 are connected by Jacksom's Lane which runs eastwards from the B4069 slightly north of the St Peter's Church. It existed in 1773, when it was described as Checkstoms Lane, and probably much earlier.³⁷

The best known of local routes was supported from 1474 by an endowment made by a Kellaways woman, Maud Heath, to maintain a causeway across the floodplain from Bremhill to Chippenham. The route, some of it elevated on stone arches, remained in use in 2023 and was maintained by the Maud Heath Trust. It begins at Wick Hill, Bremhill before passing westwards through East Tytherton and Kellaways and across Kellaways Bridge, under the railway line and along the Common through the main settlement at Langley Burrell. Running south from the Causeway at this point towards Peckingell is Crossing Lane, formerly called Silver Street.³⁸ From its junction with the Chippenham road, the causeway follows the line of the B4069 south towards Chippenham.³⁹

Kellaway's bridge over the (Bristol) Avon is referred to in 1542, and in 1584 when it was out of repair.⁴⁰ The Maud Heath trustees contributed £50 of the £65 cost to restore and widen the bridge in 1794. This work was carried out under the direction of the parish surveyors of Kellaways and Langley Burrell.⁴¹ Further repairs were carried out in 1825.⁴² In 1905 the trustees claimed that the county surveyor had approved these, and that from that date the structure was a county bridge, and thus the county was liable to keep it in repair.⁴³

However, quarter sessions did not acknowledge it as a county bridge in 1849, when it was apparently again in a state of disrepair.⁴⁴ In January 1852, it was described as 'in such a bad state as to be dangerous to persons passing' and a committee of magistrates was formed to decide responsibility.⁴⁵ There followed further discussion over the liability of the county in the cost of its renovation or the creation of a new structure. The old bridge had three broad piers and was traversed by low-lying arches, a design which, according to residents, prevented the free flow of water and contributed to flooding.⁴⁶ This crossing was augmented by 'additions' which had been constructed in four different periods and included a footway over the river.⁴⁷ In 1853/4, a new bridge with a span of iron was constructed by the Maud Heath Trustees.⁴⁸ The county

³⁶ <https://www.sabre-roads.org.uk/wiki/index.php?title=A350> (accessed 4 Aug. 2022).

³⁷ *Andrews' and Dury's Map 1773*.

³⁸ This name is noted on WSA, T/A Langley Burrell.

³⁹ WSA, 3448/1/1; *Coms. Of Inquiry into Charities in England and Wales: Twenty-Eighth Report* (London: House of Commons Papers, 1834), 307-309; *Endowed Charities, 1908*, 267-269. See also K. Taylor, *Dry Shod to Chippenham: A Hist. of Maud Heath's Ancient Causeway in North Wilts.* (ELSP, 2012).

⁴⁰ Leland, *Itin.* i, 135; *WAM* 21, 87-8; *Wilts. County Recs.*, ed. H.C. Johnson (WRS 3), 97.

⁴¹ WSA, 3448/2/1. 23 Jun 1794.

⁴² WSA, 3448/2/4. 5 Aug 1825.

⁴³ WSA, 3448/4/1. Letter dated 12 Apr 1905.

⁴⁴ *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz.*, 5 Jul 1849.

⁴⁵ *Wilts. Independent*, 8 Jan 1852.

⁴⁶ *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz.*, 21 Oct 1852; *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 10 Apr 1852.

⁴⁷ *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 10 Apr 1852. See also J.E. Jackson, *Maud Heath's Causeway* (Devizes: H. Bull, 1854), 14.

⁴⁸ The opening of the bridge was announced in Dec 1853 but later reported complete in Oct 1854. It was designed by Henry Law and constructed by Messrs Rigby: Jackson, *Maud Heath's Causeway*, 14; *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz.*, 10 Feb 1853, 19 Oct 1854; *Bath Chronicle*, 15 Dec 1853.

contributed just £65 of the cost of £1,068,⁴⁹ the Maud Heath Trustees having raised £1,000 by mortgaging some of the property they held in trust.⁵⁰ Discussions over the designation of Kellaways Bridge as a county bridge continued.⁵¹

The Maud Heath Trustees carried out repairs in 1885. The county contributed to the cost, and the work was carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor. Discussions again took place over the liability of the county to bridge repairs in 1905.⁵²

After extensive cracking in the bridge's structure, a replacement was completed in August 1961 at a cost of £10,000 (the beams accounting for £3,000). The new bridge, which preserved the listed abutments at either end of the causeway, was the first structure in the country to use preflex steel beams; they were manufactured by Boulton & Paul Group and attracted interest from the trade press at home and abroad.⁵³

The Great Western Railway (linking London, Swindon and Bristol) was completed in 1841 and crosses the parish north-east to south-west. The nearest station is Chippenham to the south-west.

Population

In 1086 20 peasant households were recorded in Langley Burrell and 9 in Tytherton Kellaways with two and four enslaved people respectively.⁵⁴ Using a multiplier of 4.5 for households but regarding slaves as individuals gives an approximate population of 137 for the parish. In 1332 12 taxpayers were recorded in Langley Burrell, who paid between 2s. and 5s., and four taxpayers in Cocklebury who paid between 12d. and 5s. Taxpayers for the hamlet of Tytherton Kellaways were probably noted in the return for Tytherton (*Tudryntone*) along with the adjoining settlements of East Tytherton (in Bremhill) and Tytherton Lucas (formerly in Chippenham).⁵⁵ The 1377 poll tax recorded 79 adult taxpayers for Langley Burrell and an additional 10 for Cocklebury. There were 43 for *Tyteryngton Cayleweye*, possibly referring explicitly to Tytherton Kellaways, as Tytherton Lucas was listed separately.⁵⁶ There were four taxpayers for Langley Burrell in 1545 and 10 in 1576, of which four were from the Wasterfelde family of yeomen.⁵⁷ During the 16th century Kellaways was not separately listed in returns for 1545 but in 1576 *Keyleweyes* was listed along with Tytherton Lucas;⁵⁸ Cocklebury was not listed separately in 1576.⁵⁹ In 1676 a total of 157 adult conformists and nonconformists was reported for Langley Burrell and 12 for Kellaways, suggesting a combined total population of approximately 250.⁶⁰

In the first national census of 1801, the population of Langley Burrell was 333. It rose to 364 in 1821 and 626 by 1841; this included 18 people living in barns and tents.⁶¹ The population continued to climb through the 19th century to 1,100 in 1861,

⁴⁹ WSA, F2/250/20.

⁵⁰ WSA, 3448/1/3.

⁵¹ e.g. *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 3 Jul 1869; WSA, F2/250/20.

⁵² WSA, F2/250/20. *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz.* 22 Oct 1885

⁵³ WSA, F4/150/65. See also F4/180HC/52?

⁵⁴ *Domesday*, 177, 189.

⁵⁵ *Wilts. Tax list of 1332* (WRS 45), 98, 99.

⁵⁶ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 307-8.

⁵⁷ *Two Sixteenth Century Tax Lists*, (WRS 10), 28, 56.

⁵⁸ *Two Sixteenth Century Tax Lists*, (WRS 10), 55.

⁵⁹ *Two Sixteenth Century Tax Lists*, (WRS 10), 55.

⁶⁰ *Compton Census*, ed. Whiteman, 128.

⁶¹ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 319, 351

the sharp rise in the population being attributable to the growth in housing in the area adjoining Chippenham.⁶² Boundary changes during the 1880s further contributed to the increase in population to 1,445 in 1891.⁶³

The civil parishes of Langley Burrell Without and Langley Burrell Within were created in 1894. In 1901, their respective populations were 496 and 1,419, an increase ascribed to the opening of the signal works in Chippenham.⁶⁴ The population of Langley Burrell Without rose to 713 in 1911, but the transfer of part of the parish to Langley Burrell Within meant that the population fell to 361 in 1921.⁶⁵ In 1934, the populations of Hardenhuish and Kellaways were transferred to the parish and its population increased sharply to 1,158.⁶⁶ However, the expansion of the Chippenham boundary northwards in 1952 reduced the number of inhabitants within the parish to 473 in 1961.⁶⁷ In 2011, the population was 375. After its creation, the parish of Langley Burrell Within grew rapidly to 1,914 in 1911 and, following boundary changes, to 2,628 in 1921, before peaking at 3,086 in 1931.⁶⁸ In 1934, the parish of Langley Burrell Within was merged with Chippenham Within and its population was no longer recorded separately.⁶⁹

The population of Tytherton Kellaways rose from 12 in 1801 to 35 in 1841, before falling sharply to 15 in 1851. Thereafter it grew to 26 in 1881, and after boundary changes in 1884 had added 4 to the population of the settlement, to 29 in 1891.⁷⁰ In 1901 the population of Kellaways parish (created in 1895) was 46, after which it fell to 37 in 1931.⁷¹ In 1934, the parish was abolished, and its population figures were added to those of Langley Burrell Without.

Settlement

Mesolithic worked flint tools found to the west of Bird's Marsh are among the earliest indication of human activity in the parish.⁷² A Bronze Age barrow (now ploughed over) has been identified south of Bird's Marsh and west of Barrow Farm.⁷³ This barrow may be the *funtan hlaew* named in the 854 charter of Hardenhuish.⁷⁴ There is further evidence of the occupation of the Barrow Farm area in the Roman and medieval periods outlined below. Elsewhere in the parish there is evidence of occupation during the Iron Age east of Kellaways, in the form of a 'banjo' enclosure settlement (a feature which typically dates from 400-100 BC). It consists of three adjoining, sub-rectangular, banked enclosures, the northernmost of which may be a 'banjo' enclosure.⁷⁵

⁶² *VCH Wilts*, iv, 322, 351.

⁶³ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351.

⁶⁴ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 325, 344, 351.

⁶⁵ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. See also FN, n.

⁶⁶ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351. See also FN, o.

⁶⁷ [Langley Burrell Without CP through time | Population Statistics | Total Population \(visionofbritain.org.uk\)](https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk) [accessed 4 August 2022].

⁶⁸ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 344. See also FNs, e, g.

⁶⁹ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 344. FN e.

⁷⁰ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 359.

⁷¹ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 351.

⁷² HER, ST97NW063. Mesolithic Flint Finds have also been made at Kellaways, HER ST97NW050.

⁷³ HER, ST97NW600.

⁷⁴ BL, Cotton Ch. viii. 35; eSawyer, S. 308. As suggested *Arch. Jnl.*, 2nd ser. xxvi (1919), 170-1. Accepted by the Ordnance Survey, it was marked on OS 25" sheet Wilts XX.10 (1923 edn.). See also *VCH Wilts* i (1), 180.

⁷⁵ HER, ST97NE610.

There is some evidence of Roman occupation in the parish, suggested by the discovery of a rotary quern north-east of St Peter's church (south of Stein Brook) and Romano-British pottery finds south-east of Kellaways Farm.⁷⁶ The strongest indication of Roman occupation in the parish lies in the area around Bird's Marsh, where evaluation trenches, geophysical and LiDAR survey have revealed a probable native Romano-British farmstead south of the woodland, consisting of a co-axial settlement with enclosure and drainage ditches, and a possible round house. Local coarseware pottery from the site dates principally to the later 1st and 3rd centuries AD.⁷⁷ South and adjacent three linear ditches containing Iron Age and Romano-British pottery sherds were also recorded and Roman pottery and a whetstone was found to the west.⁷⁸

Some documentary and archaeological evidence⁷⁹ suggests the possibility of an additional small medieval settlement within the parish at Barrow Farm, which, prior to 1882, was administratively detached from Langley Burrell and formed an enclave of land (about 90 a.) belonging to Slaughterford.⁸⁰

Adjacent to Kilvert's Parsonage is an imperfect stone ellipse or enclosure currently undated. Suggestions concerning the likely use of the site include a pagan shrine or a hut circle.⁸¹

The present settlement of Langley Burrell dates from the medieval period and is centred on the linear line of 'The Common', the route of Maud Heath's Causeway to the east of the B4069 Chippenham-Swindon Road, towards Kellaways. The parish church and Langley House, the former home of the Ashe family, owners of the Langley Burrell estate, are located further north of the main settlement, east of and adjacent to the B4069 road. Medieval earthworks to the south of the church and house indicate a shrunken medieval village.⁸² To the north and east of the settlement towards Kellaways, and to the south-east around Peckingell medieval and post-medieval ridge and furrow have been noted, part of a large area of ridge and furrow which extended across the historic parishes around Chippenham.⁸³

The hamlet of Kellaways lies to the east of the main settlement, on the east bank of the Avon, along the route of Maud Heath's Causeway towards Bremhill. It has

⁷⁶ HER, MWI64436, ST97NE302, ST97NW305.

⁷⁷ HER, MWI31361.

⁷⁸ HER, MWI75346, ST97NW310.

⁷⁹ See also landownership section. Archaeological evidence includes: - a settlement of medieval date identified by a geophysical survey in 2014 northeast of Barrow Farm (HER, MWI74503). Further south to the east of Barrow Farm (which has medieval origins HER, MWI34977, ST97NW472, MWI66169), a possible medieval and post-medieval settlement with ridge and furrow was visible as earthworks on aerial photographs taken during the 1940s and 50s (HER, ST97NW463). Slightly south of Barrow Farm, possible medieval settlement features were logged similarly in 1977 (probably outside the former Slaughterford enclave, HER, ST97NW621). Finds included floor tiles and medieval and post-medieval pottery. See also HER, MWI74502 (medieval ditches N&E Barrow Farm), HER, MWI74504 (undated pits, N&E Barrow Farm), HER, MWI74505 (field boundaries of an unknown date N&E Barrow Farm). Recent? geophysical survey and trial trenching has not revealed any surviving evidence of a structure associated with the moat, which is no longer extant. Information from Wilts. Archaeology Service [2022]. [Some of this will be rewritten and incorporated into the main text here or in landownership once an imminent archaeological report becomes available]

⁸⁰ Slaughterford parish lies to the west between Castle Combe and Box.

⁸¹ *WAM* 23, 68-70; *VCH Wilts*, i (1), 266; HER, ST97SW600.

⁸² HER, ST97NW458, MWI73842.

⁸³ HER, MWI73840, MWI73841, MWI73842, MWI73843, MWI73850.

medieval origins and has been little developed since the construction of St Giles church in the early 1800s.⁸⁴

During the 20th and 21st centuries there was some limited development along the line of the Common at Langley Burrell, including, on the north side, the Oakhurst cul-de-sac, the playing field and village hall and, several houses on the south side and on Crossing Way Lane. More recently the expansion of Chippenham northwards resulted by 2023 in several large planned or on-going developments largely within the southern part of Langley Burrell parish. These include a 123-acre, 650-home residential development at Rawlings Farm (Rawlings Green)⁸⁵ and a 750-home development, Bird Marsh View, south of Bird's Marsh.⁸⁶

Built Character

Local buildings were typically built of rubble stone under stone slate roofs, but a number have timber frames. Lying to the north of the main settlement on the B4069, the church of St Peter's is the only building of grade I listed status in the parish.⁸⁷ A number of chest tombs within the graveyard of the church are also listed.⁸⁸ The 18th-century former home of the Langley Burrell estate owner is grade II* and lies to the east and adjacent to the church.⁸⁹ It has been proposed that its construction was as early as 1711.⁹⁰ However, the architecture of the present structure belies this and suggests a later date. The listing by Historic England proposes that construction was c.1780, although the papers of the Ashe family, owners of Langley Burrell Manor from the 17th century, suggest that the house was built between 1766 and 1769.⁹¹ Also lying on this road (but to the west) are the former village pound, Pound Cottages and a Victorian school house.⁹²

Several farmhouses also isolated from the main settlement are listed. These include to the west of the B4069, the 17th-century and subsequently altered Jacksom's Farm on Jacksom's Lane, and the timber-framed Barrow Farm, which lies slightly south-east of Bird's Marsh.⁹³ It may be the house noted as 'lately built' by James Hulbert at Barrow in 1626.⁹⁴ The 18th-century former farmhouse and subsequent rectory, now

⁸⁴ HER, ST97NW454.

⁸⁵ Planning application including N/15/12351/OUT; <https://summix.com/projects/rawlings-green/> [accessed 12 Aug 2022]; Langley Burrell Parish Council, *Langley Burrell Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016–2026* (Sep 2017).

⁸⁶ Planning application including N/12/00560/OUT. Langley Burrell Parish Council, *Langley Burrell Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016 – 2026* (Sep 2017); <https://www.gazetteandherald.co.uk/news/19771332.next-phase-bird-marsh-view-chippenham-begin-2022/> (Accessed 12 Aug 2022).

⁸⁷ NHLE, 1199423.

⁸⁸ These include: - NHLE, 1283311 (five monuments west and south-west of the porch); NHLE, 1022359 and 1022360 (monument to John Eddolls north-east of the chancel and three Eddolls family monuments south-south west of porch); NHLE, 1199537 Buy Monument in the churchyard by the north wall of the chancel.

⁸⁹ NHLE, 1199409.

⁹⁰ As suggested by J. Badeni, *Past People in Wilts. and Glos.* (Norton Manor, 1992), 73. Badeni gives references (WSA, 118/140, 118/145) which have been examined.

⁹¹ WSA, 118/172. This reference does not appear to have been examined by Badeni.

⁹² NHLE, 1199574, 1363839, 1022361.

⁹³ For Jacksom's Farm see NHLE, 1022349 and 1022350. For Barrow Farm NHLE, 1022348. See also HER, MWI66169.

⁹⁴ WSA, 473/224.

known as Kilvert's Parsonage (from its association with the Victorian diarist Francis Kilvert) lies to the south of the main village, to the east of the B4069. It is grade II*.⁹⁵ It was acquired by Robert Ashe in 1835 and subsequently became the parsonage in 1853.⁹⁶ To the north of the main village and west of Langley Park is the 17th-century Manor Farm.⁹⁷ Another 17th-century farm, Common Farm, is located immediately adjacent to Maud Heath's Causeway and the main settlement, and is dated 1626.⁹⁸ Other notable listed properties in this immediate area are the Old Brewery and Langley Green House, located along Crossing Lane. The latter has origins in the 15th century and has purportedly an association with Maud Heath.⁹⁹

Two structures connected with Maud Heath's Causeway at Kellaways are listed: the raised section of the Causeway lying on either side of Kellaways Bridge, which is grade II*;¹⁰⁰ and the Maud Heath Monument dated 1698, also situated by Kellaways Bridge.¹⁰¹ The nearby 19th-century church of St Giles, Kellaways along with its churchyard wall are grade II.¹⁰² The listed former Kellaways Mill (now house), dating from the 17th century and adjacent Mill House c.1800 are positioned on the opposite side of the lane.¹⁰³ Within the hamlet, the 17th-century Kellaways Farm (likely a former manor house) is grade II*, the only farmhouse in the parish with this grading.

At Peckingell are Lower Peckingell Farmhouse, built in the 15th century and altered subsequently, and the later Upper Peckingell Farmhouse, whose origins lie in the 17th century.¹⁰⁴ Both are grade II.

LANDOWNERSHIP

Langley Burrell

In 940 a charter by King Edmund to Wulfric granted 30 hides at Langley (*Langelegh*).¹⁰⁵ This has been interpreted as referring to Langley Burrell, although the bounds have more recently been shown to relate to Kington St Michael and Kington Langley.¹⁰⁶ By the Norman conquest Langley Burrell was clearly in lay hands. The manor was granted to Edward, earl of Salisbury, but held by Borel. The land was enough for six plough teams. There were in addition 8 a. of meadow and 6 a. of woodland.

In 1242/3, Peter Burel held one fee of the earl of Salisbury at Langley and Thomas Burel two.¹⁰⁷ A 'Sir Thomas Burel' appears as a landholder and witness to

⁹⁵ NHLE, 1022357.

⁹⁶ WSA, 568/10, 118/169. NHLE, 1022357 is inaccurate in stating that the house was purchased by the 'squire', Ashe, in 1855 to become the new rectory.

⁹⁷ NHLE, 1283447, 1022344.

⁹⁸ NHLE, 1199298

⁹⁹ NHLE, 1199310, 1363832; *Historic Building Assessment in Respect of Langley Green House, Langley Burrell*, prepared by Emma Milton Heritage and Planning Ltd (Unpublished, 2018). Report kindly provided (2022) by James Burrell.

¹⁰⁰ NHLE, 1022351.

¹⁰¹ NHLE, 1022352.

¹⁰² NHLE, 1022353, 1022354.

¹⁰³ NHLE, 1022355, 1363835.

¹⁰⁴ NHLE, 1022356, 1283416.

¹⁰⁵ eSawyer, S. 473.

¹⁰⁶ *WAM* 4, 38, 47-8; *Arch. Jnl.* 2nd series 26 (1919), 253-5; *WAM* 77, 67-70.

¹⁰⁷ *Book of Fees*, 710, 720.

several gifts and sales of land in Langley Burrell by Nicolas of Cocklebury in 1232 and 1240.¹⁰⁸ Undated 13th-century deeds record that Thomas Burel, lord of *Langeleg* (Langley Burrell) son of Thomas Burel, granted land to the monks of *Ferleg* (Farleigh), lying between the land of Langley and Cocklebury.¹⁰⁹

Peckingell, referred to in the 930 charter, and so perhaps then associated with the Kingtons,¹¹⁰ was by the 13th century part of the manor of Langley Burrell. However, in 1223 the abbot of Glastonbury, who owned Langley Fitzurse (and possibly dissatisfied with the amount of his pasture), purchased 115 a. of rich pasture known as Penicroft (Peckingell) from John Burel and attached it to his manor and the parish of Kington St Michael. He paid an annual fee of 6*d.* for the new possession.¹¹¹ In 1250 this was given as a grant in alms by John Burel for the soul of his wife.¹¹² This realignment of Langley Burrell parish boundaries continued until 1884, when it re-joined the parish.¹¹³ A mill in Peckingell was in existence in 1189 and a possession of nearby Stanley abbey.¹¹⁴ In 1234-6 the mill was leased by Stanley abbey to Thomas Burel for 8*s.* and a 'stick' of eels (or 6*d.*) a year.¹¹⁵

In 1303, John of Cerne, brother of Reynold Burel, gave 16*s.* rent in Langley to the abbot of Bradenstoke.¹¹⁶ Hereafter, the connection between the manor and the Burel family appears to cease. In 1304 the manor was in the possession of Sir John Delamare.¹¹⁷ In c.1320 Delamare built a tower for Langley Burrell church and was subsequently buried to the south of the edifice alongside his wife.

Around 1343 Delamare sold the manor of Langley Burrell for £2,000 to Thomas, Lord Berkeley.¹¹⁸ Berkeley's daughter Joan married Sir Reynold de Cobham who held the manor from the earl of Salisbury, by service of two knights' fees, in joint feoffment with Joan. In 1361 Cobham died, leaving his son Reynold his heir.¹¹⁹ Joan held the manor for her life (from the duke of Lancaster by knight's service), and died in 1369, when Reynold came into the inheritance.¹²⁰

Reynold Cobham, 2nd lord Cobham of Sterborough, Kent (d.1403), thereafter held the manor of Langley Burrell from the duchy of Lancaster in the honour of the manor of Trowbridge by knight service. After his death, his widow, Eleanor, possessed the manor until her death in 1405. Their successor, a son also called Reynold, was an adult at her death.¹²¹ In 1428 Reynold, 3rd Lord Cobham of Sterborough (d. after 1446), held lands in Tytherton as well as Langley.¹²²

The estate worth £20 was retained by Thomas Cobham, 5th Lord Cobham of Sterborough on his death in 1471, and again held from the earl of Salisbury by the service of two knights' fees. He was succeeded by his daughter, Anne, wife of Edward de

¹⁰⁸ *Cart. Bradenstoke Priory* (WRS 35), 60-61.

¹⁰⁹ *Cart. Bradenstoke Priory* (WRS 35), 61.

¹¹⁰ *WAM* 77, 67-70.

¹¹¹ *Cart. Glastonbury*, iii, pp. 662-3.

¹¹² *Cart. Bradenstoke Priory* (WRS 35), 61.

¹¹³ *VCH Wilts* iv, 351. This needs to be verified.

¹¹⁴ G. Brown, *Stanley Abbey* 154.

¹¹⁵ *VCH Wilts* iii, 269-75.

¹¹⁶ *Cart. Bradenstoke Priory* (WRS 35), 162.

¹¹⁷ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 97; *WSA*, 2682/20.

¹¹⁸ As outlined in *Cal Inq. p. m.*, ii, no.59, p.40. See also Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 97.

¹¹⁹ *Cal Inq. p. m.*, ii, 40 (no.59).

¹²⁰ *Cal Inq. p. m.*, xii, 326 (no. 335).

¹²¹ *Cal Inq. p. m.*, xviii, nos. 763, 1115.

¹²² *Feud. Aids* vol. 5, 1316, p.252.

Burgh, 2nd Baron Borough of Gainsborough, in whose name the living of the parish church was awarded in 1489/90.¹²³ However, patronage was with the king in 1505 because Edward de Burgh's land was then forfeit. Burgh's heir was his son Thomas, 3rd Baron Borough (d.1552), who was succeeded by son Thomas, the 4th baron and followed by William, 5th baron.¹²⁴ William Burgh sat as a peer at the trial of Thomas, duke of Norfolk in 1572.¹²⁵

In 1569, the manor of Langley Burrell was sold by William Burgh to John Reade.¹²⁶ Later, in 1592/3, a clothier, Henry White, purchased the manor from Edward Reade of Chisbury for £2,300.¹²⁷

White later purchased the manor of Grittleton.¹²⁸ In his will (proved 1605) White named his eldest son, Henry, heir of Langley, Grittleton instead passing to his younger son, Walter.¹²⁹ In 1623, Henry White of Langley Burrell was named on the list of 'Gentlemen without authoritie [*sic*] who have disclaimed at Salisbury in the County of Wiltshire'.¹³⁰ Henry White (2) died in 1642, and the Langley Burrell estate was settled on his son, also Henry.¹³¹ After a public scandal surrounding his wife's affair with the Langley Burrell church minister, who was ejected from the parish in 1651, Henry White (3) leased the estate in 1652, at first for three years and subsequently for 51 to John Wildman of the Middle Temple, London.¹³² Wildman was a noted land-speculator (leveller and conspirator, among other schemes he had planned to assassinate Oliver Cromwell).¹³³ In 1653, Wildman sub-leased the estate and purchased woodland in Langley Burrell from White's sister, before an agreement was made for him to buy the entire estate in 1654.¹³⁴ The estate was described as containing 30 messuages, 2 dovehouses, 30 gardens, 30 orchards, together with 1000 acres of land, 200 acres meadow one thousand acres of pasture 50 acres of woods, 200 acres furze and heath. £12 of rent and common pasture. It also included the advowson. The estate was in Langley Burrell, 'Langley Kington St Michael', Hardenhuish and Chippenham.¹³⁵

In 1657, the Langley Burrell estate was sold by John Wildman, Henry White and John Richmond to Samuel Ashe.¹³⁶ Ashe was succeeded by his son Joseph (1685-1725); and thereafter the manor descended to son, Joseph (1711-58) and his brother, Rev. Robert Ashe (1718-74). Robert Ashe left the estate to his son, also Robert (d.1829).¹³⁷

¹²³ *Cal Inq. p. m., Hen VII*, iii, 1111; Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 173; Burke, *Ext. & Dorm. Peerages*, 90.

¹²⁴ Burke, *Ext. & Dorm. Peerages*, 90; A. Stark, *Hist. and Antiquities of Gainsburgh* (London: Longman, Orme & Co., 1843), 369.

¹²⁵ Stark, *Hist. and Antiquities of Gainsburgh*, 446.

¹²⁶ There is some confusion over the date as it is reported in Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 98 to be 1565. A purchase date of 1569 is indicated by WSA, 118/92; 118/125a.

¹²⁷ WSA, 118/125.

¹²⁸ J.E. Jackson, *Hist. of the Parish of Grittleton, in the County of Wilts* (London: J.B. Nichols, 1843), 7.

¹²⁹ TNA, PROB 11/105/145. See also *Wilts. Visitation Pedigrees, 1623*, ed. G.D. Squibb vol ii, 214-5; Jackson, *The Hist. of Grittleton*, 7.

¹³⁰ *Visitation of Wilts. 1623*, Ed. G.W. Marshall, vol I, 103.

¹³¹ WSA, 118/125a. Death of Henry White is noted in parish registers for 1642. WSA, 1487/1. See also *Wilts. Visitation Pedigrees, 1623*, ed. G.D. Squibb Vol ii, 214-5.

¹³² WSA, 118/125, 118/95; below, Langley Burrell Religious History.

¹³³ *ODNB* John Wildman.

¹³⁴ WSA, 118/50/2, 118/50/3, 118/95, 118/92, 118/125b.

¹³⁵ WSA, 118/125b.

¹³⁶ WSA, 118/92 lists receipts for £2500 and £1000. Money was received by John Wildman. However, the indenture agreement between Samuel Ashe and John Wildman and his wife, Henry White and John Richmond indicates £520 had already been paid to the four vendors. See also WSA, 118/50/3.

¹³⁷ TNA, PROB 11/994/323. See also *Burke's Landed Gentry*, i, 29. [which edn.]

The extent of the estate was given as 607 a. (including 29 a. of Birch (Bird's) Marsh and 87 a. of Common) in 1779.¹³⁸ Land tax returns suggest Robert Ashe did not farm any of the estate but rather tenanted it out. The only type of commercial property indicated in the returns in 1798 were farms.¹³⁹ The estate subsequently passed from Rev. Robert Ashe (1781-1855) to Rev. Robert Martyn Ashe (1807-85) who was survived by a daughter, Thermuthis Mary Ashe (1856-1935).¹⁴⁰ The family remained the principal landowners and in 1935 owned 1,303 a. largely within the parish.¹⁴¹ Thermuthis Ashe was unmarried and was succeeded by her nephew Maj. Charles Richard Leslie Scott (later Scott-Ashe) (1898-1978) who passed the estate to his nephew, Robert Edward Arthur Scott-Ashe (b. 1939).¹⁴²

Tytherton Kellaways

The name Tytherton belongs to three adjoining settlements (Tytherton Kellaways, Tytherton Lucas and East Tytherton) in the environs of Chippenham. Tytherton Kellaways with Tytherton Lucas was the property of the Giffard family from the Conquest.¹⁴³ The prefix 'Kellaways' refers to the family in whose possession the small manor and advowson were held from at least 1226.¹⁴⁴ In their patronage the church living was awarded by John in 1304 and 1312, William (son and heir of John) in 1336 and thereafter by Edmund Kayleway (or Caylleway) in 1376 and 1380. In 1392, Edmund and Joan Kayleway quitclaimed the manor and advowson to Robert Cherlton. However, the church later reverted to family patronage.¹⁴⁵ By 1428, the advowson was with Robert Russell in whose family the living was granted until 1465.¹⁴⁶

In 1484, the manor was granted to Edward Redmayne (or Redman), probably from John Bagot, by Richard III for good service against rebels.¹⁴⁷ Bagot may have been John Bagot (later Sir John) of Blythfield, Staffordshire, whose family fought in support of Henry Tudor at Bosworth Field in 1485.¹⁴⁸ After the accession of Henry VII, the advowson of Kellaways, and likely the manor, was again in possession of John Bagot.¹⁴⁹

Around 1500 the manor was purchased by Sir Thomas Long of Draycot Cerne and South Wraxall (d. c.1508) who left the estate to his second son, William and his

¹³⁸ From an estate survey, the map to which has not survived. WSA, 118/59.

¹³⁹ The type of premises charged was indicated in 1798. In other years it was largely unspecified.

¹⁴⁰ *Burke's Landed Gentry*, i, 29.

¹⁴¹ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1915, edn.), 134; Full breakdown of the estate of Thermuthis Ashe in 1935 kindly provided by Richard Colthorpe (2022).

¹⁴² https://landedfamilies.blogspot.com/2016/01/204-ashe-of-freshford-heytesbury_29.html (accessed 10 Jan 2023).

¹⁴³ *Domesday*, 189.

¹⁴⁴ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 115. Fn states the possession was already in its third generation by 1226.

¹⁴⁵ *Cal. Chart.* 1392-1396, 283. Phillipps lists the Kayleweys as patrons from 1304. In addition to the names listed above it records Wmus Cailleway as patron in 1348 and Joan de Kayleway in 1405. Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 5, 11, 311, 48, 60, 64, 92. Note, Jackson (Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 115) quotes the advowson in the family's hands until 1424 although this is not reflected in Phillipps.

¹⁴⁶ *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 219.

¹⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. Richard III*, 501. 5 December 1484. John Bagot awarded the living in 1474. Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 166. See also, W. Greenwood, *The Redmans of Levens and Harewood: a contribution to the history of the Levens family of Redman and Redmayne in many of its branches* (Kendal, T. Wilson, 1905), 98-99.

¹⁴⁸ <https://www.thepeerage.com/p6175.htm#i61746> (accessed 10 Jan 2023).

¹⁴⁹ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 176.

heirs; and two younger sons, with remainder to his eldest son, Henry.¹⁵⁰ It is likely that William died young as the advowson was in possession of his older brother, Sir Henry Long (d. 1556) in 1526.¹⁵¹ Henry's heir was son Robert, later Sir Robert, Long (d.1581), manorial owner at his death when it was left to his son, Walter (d.1610).¹⁵² The Longs held major estates elsewhere and were non-resident.¹⁵³ It was subsequently indentured to Walter's sons Thomas and Robert.¹⁵⁴ The manor was sequestered during the Civil War, and in 1651 John Long of Monkton petitioned for the return of Kellaways, his uncles Thomas and Robert Long having been delinquents in arms.¹⁵⁵

In 1655 Walter Long of South Wraxall (d.1669) sold a corn and two fulling mills at Kellaways with meadows adjoining, and the site of the capital messuage or farm with a moat about to George Knight, miller of Kellaways.¹⁵⁶ In the next two years, Long sold other property and significantly the manorial rights of Kellaways and the advowson of the parsonage to Mary Long of Locking (Som.), the widow of his brother William Long of South Wraxall.¹⁵⁷ Sometime later Long leased other property within the parish.¹⁵⁸

In 1724, a deed of covenant was drawn up by Walter Long of South Wraxall (d.1731) that gave legal possession of the manor of Tytherton Kellaways to the successive use of the Revd. John Long of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and his younger brother, Thomas Long of Melksham, sons of Long's cousin Catherine Long of Rowden in Chippenham, the widow of John Long of South Wraxall (d.1705).¹⁵⁹ These provisions were reflected in Walter Long's will of 1730 (proved 1731).¹⁶⁰ In 1741 Revd. John Long of South Wraxall (described late of Meysey Hampton, Glos) (d.1748) attempted to make William Mason the tenant of the freehold of the manor.¹⁶¹

Later, Walter Long (d.1807) entailed the manor of Kellaways for 99 years for the use of his sister Katherine Long (d.1808) with the remainder to Richard Godolphin Long (d.1835), John Long (1833), and Daniel Jones (later Daniel Jones Long) (d.1827), in whose names the living of Kellaways was awarded in 1819.¹⁶² Land tax returns from 1806 and a manorial survey from 1807 suggest that, on his death, Walter Long's Kellaways estate comprised little more than rights of the manor and fishery, and fishing

¹⁵⁰ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 116; TNA, PROB 11/16/134.

¹⁵¹ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 194. For further information on his career as a MP and family background see <http://www.histparl.ac.uk/volume/1509-1558/member/long-sir-henry-1487-1556> [accessed 24 Apr 2022].

¹⁵² TNA, PROB 11/63/502.; <http://www.histparl.ac.uk/volume/1509-1558/member/long-robert-151516-81>.

¹⁵³ As well as the holding of estates elsewhere, non-residency is also implied in the lack of the Long name on the taxation list for Tytherton Lucas and 'Keyleweyes' in 1576 unlike Stokes and Barrett families who possessed the manor of Tytherton Lucas and were resident. *Two Sixteenth Century Taxation Lists*, (WRS 10), 55.

¹⁵⁴ WSA, 947/1370. Deed dated 1622.

¹⁵⁵ *Calendar Cttee. for Money*, i, 550.

¹⁵⁶ WSA, 947/1620. George Knight left the majority of his estate to son George, but no specific mention is made of the mill in his will (proved 1711). WSA, P1/K/138.

¹⁵⁷ WSA, 947/1621. According to Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson these were the 'manorial rights' and advowson. Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 115-6. Familial connection revealed in Mary's will TNA, PROB 11/319/415. For other property sales see WSA, 1305/291.

¹⁵⁸ WSA, 947/1622, 1623.

¹⁵⁹ WSA, 947/927. See also WSA, 1305/29, abs. of title.

¹⁶⁰ WSA, 1305/29, abs. of title.

¹⁶¹ WSA, 1305/29, abs. of title. See also WSA, 947/930.

¹⁶² WSA, 947/930; 1711/8.

rights on the River Avon.¹⁶³ The contingent remainder was given to the use of Walter Long the elder of Rood Ashton and to the use of his first-born son.¹⁶⁴ Walter Long the elder and his son, Walter, subsequently acquired the freehold rights to the manor with the advowson and fishing rights, and sold them in 1844 for £400 to Rev. Robert Ashe of Langley Burrell.¹⁶⁵ Ashe sold the estate, minus the fishing rights, to Joseph Neeld, Chippenham MP and local benefactor, in 1845 for £300.¹⁶⁶ Sir John Neeld, brother and successor to Joseph Neeld, was not listed as lord of the manor in a directory of 1867 although he was listed as holding the advowson.¹⁶⁷

By 1780, Kellaways mill was owned by Sir James Long and tenanted by Hugh Beames (in whose occupancy the mill remained until 1807).¹⁶⁸ On Long's death in 1794, the mill passed to his son who died in 1805, aged 11. It then passed to Sir James's older sister Catherine (d. 1826), who married William Pole-Tylney-Long-Wellesley, earl of Mornington, and was succeeded by son William, 5th earl of Mornington (d. 1863).¹⁶⁹ On his death his estates were left to his cousin, Henry Wellesley, Earl Cowley.

Kellaways House and farm, of which c.68 a. was in Tytherton Kellaways, was owned by Sir John Eyles of Southbroom House (Devizes) in 1737.¹⁷⁰ It was subsequently purchased by local landowner and noted agriculturalist, Thomas Crook, in 1797.¹⁷¹ The farm was the most expensive property in Kellaways assessed for the land tax in 1806, at over £10.¹⁷² On Crook's death it was farmed by his widow.¹⁷³ In 1834, the farm (within Kellaways, Bremhill and Kington St Michael) of meadow, pasture and arable of approx. 125 a. and 'considered to comprise some of the best land in the county' was sold to William Stancombe.¹⁷⁴

By the time of the tithe apportionment in 1839 the main landowners of Kellaways were William Stancombe (64 a.) and, William Pole-Tylney-Long-Wellesley (55 a.).¹⁷⁵

In 1860 Tytherton (Kellaways) farm, a dairy farm of 142a. worth annually £350, was put up for sale.¹⁷⁶ It was advertised again four years later on the death of its owner, Bryan Rumboll.¹⁷⁷

Between 1875 and 1915 the principal landowners of Kellaways were listed in directories as Earl Cowley. These were Henry Wellesley (d. 1884) (who had succeeded William Pole-Tylney-Long-Wellesley), William (d. 1895) and Henry (d. 1919).¹⁷⁸ In 1918, Kellaways farm of 69 a. of rich pasture together with Kellaways water mill was

¹⁶³ WSA, 947/959; A1/345/238. Land tax returns in 1806 show Walter land owned land with a taxable value of only 6s. 6d. Of the 21 taxpayers 16 were paying more tax.

¹⁶⁴ WSA,1305/291.

¹⁶⁵ WSA,1305/291.

¹⁶⁶ WSA, 1305/291

¹⁶⁷ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1867, edn.), 361.

¹⁶⁸ WSA, 2062/11; A1/345/110; A1/345/238; *Burke's Commoners*, iii, 218.

¹⁶⁹ WSA, A1/345/238; *Wilts. Tithe Apportionments* (WRS 30), 99; *Burke's Commoners*, iii, 218.

¹⁷⁰ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 116.

¹⁷¹ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 116.

¹⁷² WSA, A1/345/254.

¹⁷³ As suggested by land tax return indicating it was owned by Walter Crook and occupied by Mrs Crook.

¹⁷⁴ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 116; *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz*, 3 July 1834, 1, 21 Aug 1834, 1.

¹⁷⁵ *Wilts. Tithe Apportionments* (WRS 30), 99.

¹⁷⁶ *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz*, 24 May 1860, 2.

¹⁷⁷ *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz*, 25 Feb 1864 2; WSA, 137/125/93.

¹⁷⁸ *Complete Peerage*, iii. 480–2; ix. 240–1; *Burke, Peerage* (1959 edn.). 560–1; *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.*

put up for sale.¹⁷⁹ Later in 1920, the Draycot Cerne estate of Henry Wellesley, Earl Cowley, were also put up for sale, it included lots in Langley Burrell and Kellaways.¹⁸⁰

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Langley Burrell's farming economy was typical of the cheese country of the north Wiltshire claylands, which saw tillage in open fields converted to permanent grassland pasture during the early modern period.¹⁸¹ Apart from mostly small detached parcels of nearby parishes, the largest being Barrow Farm (formerly in Slaughterford), agriculture was organised separately around the three settlements, Langley Burrell itself, Kellaways and Peckingell. Much of the south-western portion of the parish was overtaken by suburban and industrial Chippenham during the 19th and 20th centuries, and its economic history is discussed elsewhere.¹⁸²

Agriculture

In 1066 Langley Burrell paid tax for 7 hides, it was valued at 40s. In 1086 it had land for 6 ploughs, 8 a. meadow and 6 a. of woodland and its valued had increased to £4. Kellaways comprised land enough for 6 ploughs and 10 a. of meadow. Its worth had increased from £4 to 100s.¹⁸³ In 1361, the manor of Langley Burrell comprised a capital messuage and garden, a mill valued at 40*d.* and 300 a. of land worth 3*d.* an acre, 20 a. of meadow, common of pasture for 300 sheep, 20 oxen and 6 working cattle and an unspecified acreage of woods and pasture worth 16s. There were seven free tenants.¹⁸⁴ By 1369, the manor was worth £10 per year.¹⁸⁵

In 1223 the Abbot of Glastonbury purchased 115 a. of rich pasture known as Penicroft (in Peckingell) from John Burel which was added to his estate of Kington St Michael.¹⁸⁶ A terrier of Glastonbury estates in 1517 further mentions 20 acres in Peckingell mead.¹⁸⁷ Amongst the customary tenants of Glastonbury Abbey in 1517 was Thomas Stockman for Peckingell, who also possessed some land in Kellaways, and John Bullock for Peckingell and Penicroft, who additionally paid 6*d.* to the Prior of Bradenstoke and had a bed of hay allowed him.¹⁸⁸ The terrier further mentions Langley Heath of 310 a., where the farmer of the lord of Langley Burrell and the rector claimed rights of common that were unknown to the prior.¹⁸⁹ A Langley Burrell manor survey in 1586 makes specific reference to common in Langley Heath, alongside land in Burchen Marsh (Birds' Marsh). It is thus likely that the wastes of Kington St Michael and Langley Burrell were at the time intercommoned. Langley Common, 84 a. when enclosed in

¹⁷⁹ *N. Wilts Herald*, 8 Feb 1918, 1.

¹⁸⁰ *Wilts. Times*, 6, 17 July 1920.

¹⁸¹ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 43.

¹⁸² Above, Chippenham, econ. hist.

¹⁸³ *Domesday Book*, 177, 189.

¹⁸⁴ *Wilts Inq. p. m. 1327-77*, 281-2.

¹⁸⁵ *Wilts Inq. p. m. 1327-77*, 351.

¹⁸⁶ *Cart. Glastonbury*, iii, 662-3.

¹⁸⁷ *WAM*, 4, 41; BL. Harl. MS No. 3961.

¹⁸⁸ *WAM*, 4, 41; BL. Harl. MS No. 3961.

¹⁸⁹ *WAM*, 4, 41; BL. Harl. MS No. 3961.

1838,¹⁹⁰ occupied an irregular area in the centre of the parish, on either side of Maud Heath's Causeway.

In 1586, the parish was farmed in common. The common fields included East Field, West Field, Great Field, Home Field and Little Field. The locations of the former open fields are not known, although later field-name evidence suggests that the east field may have occupied an area east of Sutton Lane, later crossed by the railway line,¹⁹¹ and the west field lay east of Bird's Marsh.¹⁹² Common pasture comprised Langley Heath and Birds' Marsh. The common fields were also used for grazing when they lay fallow. The partial survey refers to an area of marsh in Great Field.¹⁹³ Four freeholders were listed. A late 16th-century glebe terrier included over 70 a. of arable divided between Home Field (25 a.), Farre Field (15 a.), North Field (7 a.), East Field (21 a.), and a further 2.5 a. around the parsonage. An additional 31 a. were unspecified closes pasture or meadow, of which 4a. was in the East Field. The glebe also included common pasture for cattle and sheep. In 1608, the terrier of William Berry, rector of Langley Burrell, included enclosures in Home Field, East Field and North Field suggesting an erosion of communal regulation. In addition, glebe also included 3 a. of coppiced woodland and an orchard.¹⁹⁴ At his death in 1638, Berry's probate inventory suggested he kept cattle, sheep and hens.¹⁹⁵ The wood stored was valued at £13. An apple loft contained a quantity of apples, wool and yarn. The malt loft had no malt, but items therein and in a separate cheese loft implied that cheese was being made.¹⁹⁶

In 1654, Langley Burrell manor contained what was described as 1,000 a. of land, 200 a. of meadow, 1000 a. of pasture, 50 a. of woods and 200 a. 'furze and heath' in Langley Burrell, 'Langley Kington St Michael', Hardenhuish and Chippenham.¹⁹⁷ In 1779 the estate of Robert Ashe comprised 607 a. It included 116 a. of waste, of which 29 a. was Birds' Marsh and 87 a. common. The reference additionally recorded 1 a. of withy and less than an acre of orchard. Only 4 a. was explicitly noted as arable. However, field names such as the 11 a. Barley Ground suggests that the total acreage under cultivation was likely to be larger.¹⁹⁸ Some substantial areas of pasture were still subdivided, including Blick Mead, Allington Mead and Black Pool.¹⁹⁹ Birds' Marsh and the common were later enclosed in 1838.²⁰⁰

Although within the bounds of Langley Burrell, Barrow Farm was part of the parish of Slaughterford. In 1626 Barrow, comprising a single close of pasture of c.60 a., was leased to James Hulbert, who subsequently purchased the farm. An indenture for Barrow in 1647 recorded it had previously encompassed one close of land but that it had been lately divided.²⁰¹ In 1729, the farm was leased to Charles Aland by which time it contained land or pasture divided into several closes:- Common Mead (11 a.), Pryor's Close (3 a. purchased by Hulbert from the Chantry of St John's Chippenham in 1649),

¹⁹⁰ WSA, EA 151, 118/26, 118/61, 568/9; WRS 25, 92.

¹⁹¹ WSA, T/A Langley Burrell, parcels 118-22, 130.

¹⁹² WSA, T/A Langley Burrell, parcels 347a, 347b

¹⁹³ WSA, 118/50/1.

¹⁹⁴ *Wilts. Glebe Terriers* (WRS 56), 242.

¹⁹⁵ Although cattle were designated on his inventory, there was a reference to a hen house and a sheep house.

¹⁹⁶ WSA, P1/B/278.

¹⁹⁷ WSA, 118/50/1.

¹⁹⁸ WSA, 118/59.

¹⁹⁹ WSA, 118/59.

²⁰⁰ *Wilts. Inclosure Awards* (WRS 25), 92. WSA, 118/26, 118/61, 568/9.

²⁰¹ WSA, 473/224.

Moat Mead (4 a.), Moat Ground (7 a.), Rudgy Barrow (7 a.), Pond Leaze (7 a.), Church Mead (6 a.), Moore Mead (4 a.), Cole Pit Ground (14 a.), Great Barrow (19 a.), Barn Ground (4 a.) and Furzy Mead (6 a) described as arable or pasture lands.²⁰² The farm was tenanted by the Matthews family from 1773 until the death of John Matthews in 1844, when it was principally a dairy farm. The subsequent farm sale included utensils required for making butter and cheese, along with a cider mill, press and 200 gallons of capital cider.²⁰³ Barrow Farm was sold to Robert Ashe, owner of the manor of Langley Burrell, in 1845, one of a number of properties purchased in the expansion of their estate during the 19th century.²⁰⁴ Barrow Farm, along with several others featured in the writings of the 19th-century diarist, Francis Kilvert.²⁰⁵

Local farming was generally mixed. In 1817 the Manor Farm (sometimes called Home Farm) was tenanted by Thomas Knight. Of the farm's 281 a., 47 a. was arable. At Jacksom's Farm tenanted by Mrs Angel from John Lea, of the 100 a, 38 a. was arable.²⁰⁶ The whole farm sale of Jacksom's in 1824 shows the farm had a dairy herd and possessed all the utensils necessary to produce butter and cheese. Indeed, the farm had such a large amount of cheese at the time of the sale that it was divided into several small lots. Probate inventories from the 17th and 18th century suggest local farms often had dairy houses or white houses or at least the utensils for cheese production, and cheese stored in cheese lofts and cocklofts.²⁰⁷ At Jacksom's, pigs were bred, fattened and seemingly slaughtered on the farm for ham and bacon. The herd of Southdown sheep probably supplied wool for the local woollen cloth trade, then in decline. However, the mutton they produced was noted for being well-flavoured and, therefore, the sheep may have been farmed for meat. Livestock also included turkeys, geese and 'Corsican fowl', a miniature type of chicken that produced fine eggs. Possibly unusually, peafowl was also listed in sale items. The 18th-century listed barn possesses dove holes for pigeons which are arranged in 4-tiers in the east gable end.²⁰⁸ Local dairy production generally went hand in hand with arable on local farms. Jacksom's farm typically possessed horses, three ploughs, 'drags and harrows' and other items necessary for crop cultivation amongst the farm stock. The barn is hipped at one end to allow the entry of carts and unsurprisingly the farm sale included seven carts and waggons.²⁰⁹ By 1840 the acreage of the farm was primarily given to pasture. However, approximately 20 % of the land listed in the Langley Burrell tithe award for Jacksom's was arable.²¹⁰ During the Second World War, the then 82 a. farm was tenanted by a part-time farmer Albert Hicks who also ran a retail milk business. In common with several other local farms, during 1940 and 1941, over 15 a. of pasture were ploughed up for crop production.²¹¹

²⁰² WSA, 473/224.

²⁰³ WSA, 473/224, 947/960.

²⁰⁴ WSA, 568/10.

²⁰⁵ These include Rawlings Farm, Avon (now Manor) Farm, Manor Farm, Home Farm, Common Farm and Peckingell (now Lower Peckingell) Farm.

²⁰⁶ WSA, 118/59. Note that in 2022 there were two farms called Manor Farm within the parish of Langley Burrell. This reference refers to Manor Farm, The Common, Langley Burrell. During the 1870s, Manor Farm was sometimes referred to by Francis Kilvert as Home Farm. Home Farm is also the name used for a separate farm on the Common.

²⁰⁷ E.g., WSA, 1666, P1/C/279; 1684, P3/D/193; 1704, P3/E/173. Cheese production was not exclusive to farmers. For instance, in 1688 broad weaver Thomas Hiscock had a whitehouse, cheese press etc. WSA, P3/H/655.

²⁰⁸ NHLE 1022350.

²⁰⁹ NHLE 1022349 and 1022350

²¹⁰ WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Langley Burrell.

²¹¹ TNA, MAF 32/39/37.

At the commutation of the tithes (awarded 1840, confirmed 1841), Langley Burrell comprised 151 a. of arable, 1,384 a. of meadow and 59 a. of woodland (including Birds' Marsh, 30 a. of common land). In the 1866 crop returns, Langley Burrell had 27 a. of wheat, 14 a. of barley, 10 a. of beans and 4 a. of peas. Vegetable crops included 15 a. of turnips or swedes and small acreages of potatoes and mangolds. A further 974 a. was permanent pasture.²¹² Livestock comprised 248 milk cows and 71 other cattle, 586 sheep and 195 pigs.²¹³ The following year the parish was described as chiefly pasture. Its principal landowner was Robert Martin Ashe.²¹⁴

By 1880, the acreage of arable land had increased. The most important crops were wheat, barley and turnips. However, a further 1,229 a. was permanent pasture. Livestock comprised 323 milk cows and 172 other cattle; 213 sheep and 236 pigs.²¹⁵

In 1935, the Langley Burrell estate owned by Thermuthis Ashe comprised 1,303 a. including Manor Farm (336 a.), Grove Farm (72 a.), Rawlings Farm (110 a.), Barrow Farm (184 a.), Common Farm (118 a.), Marsh Farm (52 a.) and Greenway Lane Farm (135 a.).²¹⁶

During the 1930s virtually all agricultural land in the parish was classified as meadowland and permanent grass.²¹⁷ Exceptions were small areas of arable adjoining Greenway Lane, west of Langley House, and on either side of Sutton Lane close to the railway line. Apart from Birds' Marsh, woodland was restricted to small compartments in the north-east of the parish. During the Second World War the National Farm Survey 1941-3 assessed the quality of pasture and arable land on farms in Langley Burrell and Kellaways as fair or good. Although primarily pasture for cattle, arable production on local farms increased, with Manor Farm, for example, expanding production by 39.5 a. in 1940 and 1941. Crops on local farms noted by the survey included cereals (wheat, barley and oats) and vegetables (such as potatoes, kale, mangold and turnips). Livestock included chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese.²¹⁸

In 2022, notable farming businesses included Manor Farm, a dairy farm run by the Spencer family with approximately 1000 heads of cattle; and an intensive poultry farm operated by Devonshire Poultry Limited.²¹⁹

Kellaways, like Langley Burrell, was predominantly pasture. The 1711 wills and inventory of George Knight, baker, who occupied Kellaways mill and farmed the land adjacent (including land in Langley Burrell, Hardenhuish and Chippenham) showed that his estate was primarily meadow and pasture but also included 2 a. wheat and 1 a. of oats.²²⁰ By 1780 the mill and farm were owned by Sir James Long (from 1784 named Tylney-Long) and leased to Hugh Beames.²²¹ When surveyed in 1796, land lying within

²¹² TNA, MAF 68/74.

²¹³ TNA, MAF 68/73.

²¹⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1867, edn.), 290-1.

²¹⁵ TNA, MAF 68/721.

²¹⁶ Full breakdown of the estate of Thermuthis Ashe in 1935 kindly provided by Richard Colthorpe (2022).

²¹⁷ Land Utilisation Survey map, Bristol and Bath sheet, 1931-5.

²¹⁸ TNA, MAF 32/39/37.

²¹⁹ *Western Morning News*, 29 Jan 2003; *Wilts. Gaz. and Herald*, 14 Oct 2003, 31 Oct 2013, 1 May 2014. 20092009; <https://local.standard.co.uk/company/437900514361344> [accessed 31 Dec 2022].

Additional information provided by Rosemary Waterkeyn 2022. For Devonshire Poultry Ltd see <https://transparentfarms.org.uk/facilities/cp3907st-langley-burrell-farm> [accessed 31 Dec 2022].

²²⁰ WSA, P1/K/138, WSA, P1/5Reg/82.

²²¹ WSA, 2062/11; 1001/3; 2062.11; A1/345/238.

Kellaways was laid to grass, but also included 1 a. of withy bed adjacent to the river Avon.²²²

At the time of the tithe award in 1840 all 130 a. of Kellaways parish was recorded as meadow. Of this, 119 a. was split between Kellaways Mill Farm and Kellaways Farm. Between 1889 and 1939, Kelly's Directory noted that wheat and beans were being cultivated in Kellaways, but it was chiefly made up of pasture.²²³ Arable cultivation is likely to have increased during the war. In 1941 the 120 a. Kellaways Mill Farm comprised 4 a. wheat, 6.5 a. oats, 0.25 potatoes, 1.5 turnips, 0.5 mangolds with the rest laid to pasture. Livestock included 200 chickens, 45 ducks and 43 cattle.²²⁴

Forestry

The name Langley refers to a 'long clearing or wood' and suggests that the parish was once more densely wooded.²²⁵ However, only 6 a. of woodland was noted in the Domesday survey.

No mention was made of woodland in the partial manor survey of 1586, although the glebe included 3 a. of coppice in the 16th century.²²⁶ A conveyance of Langley Burrell manor in 1654 described it as containing 50 a. of woodland. However, the estate had land in Langley Burrell, Chippenham, Hardenhuish and Kington St Michael (called 'Langley Kington St Michael').²²⁷ In 1817, the Langley Burrell estate directly managed c.36 a. of woodland. It comprised Butt Hayes and Beale Tree Ground of 27 a. and 6 a. of Laines coppice and 30 perches of ash plantation. This excluded Birds' Marsh, an unenclosed area of waste utilised for shooting game by the Ashe family and who probably encouraged the development of tree cover.²²⁸ Birds' Marsh was later enclosed along with Langley Burrell Common in 1838. The Marsh was thereafter in full control of the Ashe family.²²⁹ The woodland area was enlarged by 6 a., following their acquisition of Barrow Farm in 1845 when an area of pasture called the Grove adjacent was added to Birds' Marsh.²³⁰

The parish had 75 a. of woodland, coppice and plantation, according to agricultural returns in 1880.²³¹ The most extensive area was Birds' Marsh, which survived in 2023.

Quarries

²²² WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Kellaways; WRS 30, 99.

²²³ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889, edn.), 935; *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1903, edn.), 122; (1939, edn.), 129.

²²⁴ TNA, MAF 32/39/37.

²²⁵ *PN Wilts.* (EPNS), 105.

²²⁶ *Wilts. Glebe Terriers* (WRS 56), 242. Note, Birds' Marsh is not [2022] identified as ancient woodland <https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/Defra::ancient-woodland-england/>.

²²⁷ WSA, 118/125b.

²²⁸ WSA, 118/59. A cottage was built for their gamekeeper in Birds' Marsh by 1817.

²²⁹ *Wilts. Inclosure Awards* (WRS 25), 92. WSA, 118/26, 118/61, 568/9.

²³⁰ The Grove pasture was leased by John Matthews of Barrow farm in 1816 (WSA, 118/26). It appeared on the tithe award in 1840 as an area of pasture owned and occupied by John Matthews (plot 362 WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Langley Burrell) and in the first edition OS Map. However, it appeared as woodland by the date of the second edition OS Map. The Ashe estate purchased Barrow farm in 1845 (WSA, 568/10).

²³¹ TNA, MAF 68/721.

Field names such as 'great quarry ground', suggest some quarrying was being carried out on the Langley Burrell estate in the 18th century.²³² A quarry south of Birds' Marsh was noted in the tithe award in 1840. However, quarrying activity was absent within the parish by the first edition OS map in the 1880s.²³³

Mills

No mill was listed for Langley Burrell in the Domesday survey. However, in 1361 a water mill worth 40d. was part of the estate.²³⁴ No mill was listed in a manor survey of 1586.²³⁵ A mill was also absent from subsequent conveyances, parish or manor surveys for Langley Burrell during the 16th to the 19th century.²³⁶ Grain was presumably taken to neighbouring parishes, such as Kellaways and Bremhill, or the mill at Peckingell which was within the boundaries of Langley Burrell but part of Kington St Michael.

Among gifts to Stanley Abbey listed in 1189 was a moiety of a mill at *Pechinhill* (Peckingell). In 1234-6, presumably after they acquired the other moiety, Stanley Abbey leased the mill to Thomas Burel for 8s. and a 'stick' of eels (or 6d.) a year.²³⁷ In 1655, a mill at Peckingell was part of the demesne of the manor of Kington St Michael.²³⁸ The estate was partitioned in 1656 between sisters Barbara Stokes, Penelope Newman and Mary Gastrell. Peckingell 'mills' were granted to Barbara's son, Thomas.²³⁹ The 1667 will of Thomas Stokes (gentleman) of the mansion house, Kington St Michael, listed Peckingell Mead amongst his property but did not refer to Peckingell Mills.²⁴⁰ A mill at Peckingell was not recorded by the tithe apportionment in 1842.²⁴¹ The mill no longer survives, but the mill leat remains.²⁴²

The first mention of a possible mill at Kellaways is in 1249, in a dispute over a dog taken from the mill of Elias de Calewey (whose family owned the manor).²⁴³ In 1654, George Knight, miller of Kellaways, acquired Kellaways mills, comprising one corn and two fulling mills, from Walter Long.²⁴⁴ In the will of George Knight of Kellaways in 1695, his occupation was listed as a miller.²⁴⁵ The Knight family retained the mills after 1695. However, given their profession as bakers within probate documents of 1711 and 1741, the mill was probably no longer used for fulling cloth.²⁴⁶ In 1760, Kellaways mill was made up of two grist or corn mills and was leased by George Knight to Henry Singer, ironmonger of Chippenham.²⁴⁷ By 1780, the mill was owned by Sir James Long

²³² WSA, 118/59.

²³³ WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Langley Burrell.

²³⁴ *Wilts Inq. p. m. 1327-77*, 282.

²³⁵ WSA, 118/50/1; *Wilts. Farming in 17th cent.* (WRS 57), 278.

²³⁶ e.g., WSA, 118/50/1, 118/125b, 118/59.

²³⁷ *VCH Wilts*, iii, 269-275; *WAM* 15, 282. In 1223 John Burel gifted a close of land in Langley Burrell to Glastonbury Abbey that lay between the crofts owned by John de la Yate and John the Miller. This latter John may have had the other moiety of the mill owned by Stanley Abbey.

²³⁸ WSA, 873/140.

²³⁹ WSA, 473/196.

²⁴⁰ TNA, PROB 11/324/157.

²⁴¹ WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Kington St. Michael.

²⁴² WBR file no: B6096.

²⁴³ *Crown Pleas of Wilts. Eyre, 1249* (WRS 16), 260.

²⁴⁴ WSA, 947/1620.

²⁴⁵ WSA, P3/K/126.

²⁴⁶ WSA, P1/5/Reg/82, P1/K/138; P3/K/195. George Knight of Tytherton Kellaways was listed as a miller in a probate document from 1757. WSA, P3/A/405.

²⁴⁷ WSA, 2504/7.

(from 1784 named Tylney-Long) and leased to Hugh Beames.²⁴⁸ The Bethell family later occupied Kellaways mill between 1811 and 1867.²⁴⁹ In 1870, the mill (with dwelling house and closes of land) was let to John Curtis by Earl Cowley and the trustees of William, 5th earl of Mornington, for £250 per annum.²⁵⁰ The lease was renewed, and the family occupied Kellaways Mill Farm until 1939. However, by the early 20th century, a separate miller was also listed.²⁵¹ In 1939, the profession of Walter Curtis of 'Mill Farm' was given as a dairy farmer.²⁵² In 1975, the mill building was converted to residential use.²⁵³

According to an 1885 directory, Kellaways mill was at the time powered by both water and steam.²⁵⁴ By 1889, it was again listed as a water mill only.²⁵⁵

Textiles

Stanley Abbey possessed a fulling mill at Peckingell from at least 1189, significant as one of the earliest known to have existed in England.²⁵⁶ In 1656 Thomas Stokes was given the liberty to set up fulling racks on the lower half of the 10 a. close, Peckingell Meads, next to Peckingell mills.²⁵⁷ The mill workings had been dismantled by 1840, but the name Rack Close (by 1681) to the north of Peckingell and south of the river Avon likely marked the location of the fulling racks.²⁵⁸ Kellaways mill was fulling cloth in 1654 but had ceased doing so by the early 18th century.²⁵⁹

The inventory of Richard Billet of Langley Burrell, who died intestate in 1664, suggests that he leased an unnamed tucking (fulling) mill.²⁶⁰ There is some evidence within probate inventories of cloth manufacture during the 16th and 17th centuries.²⁶¹ 10 a. of woad was cultivated on the Langley Burrell estate by William Eyrris in 1585.²⁶² Only 338 a. of woad, a new crop cultivated to meet the needs of dyers, was being grown in the county at the time. Identified as exhausting the soil, woad was only cultivated for short periods of 2-3 years in any one place.²⁶³

In 1773, the freehold of a weaver's shop in Langley Burrell was advertised in the London Press.²⁶⁴

²⁴⁸ WSA, 2062/11; 1001/3; 2062.11; A1/345/238.

²⁴⁹ Samuel Bethell is listed in land tax returns from 1811. In his 1821 will Samuel Bethell was listed as Mealman of Kellaways Mill (TNA, PROB 11/1641/320), likewise John Bethell in 1861 (WSA, P31/1/4/229). Land tax WSA, A1/345/238. The Bethells were described as millers and farmers in various editions of *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1859 edn.), 437; (1848 edn.), 2784; (1855 edn.), 66; (1867 edn.), 287.

²⁵⁰ WSA, 969/5.

²⁵¹ WSA, 969/5; *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1885, 1889, 1920, 1927, 1939 edns.).

²⁵² 1939 England & Wales Register. RD. Calne & Chippenham. ED. WSEG. RD & S/D 243/2.

²⁵³ *Country Life*, 17 July 1975; WBR file B6329.

²⁵⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1885, edn.), 102.

²⁵⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889, edn.), 935.

²⁵⁶ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 119. G. Brown, 64, 153-4 [check?]. Graham Brown, 'Stanley Abbey and its estates, 1151-c.1640.' PhD Thesis, Univ of Leicester 2011.

²⁵⁷ WSA, 473/196.

²⁵⁸ WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Kington St Michael. Name in use in late 17th cent.: see WSA, 542/37.

²⁵⁹ WSA, 947/1620.

²⁶⁰ WSA, P3.B.492

²⁶¹ Weaver, 1569. WSA, P1/1Reg/52C. Weaver, 1624. WSA, P3/C/133. Broad weaver, 1676. WSA, P3/B/660. Broad weaver, 1688. WSA, P3/H/655.

²⁶² *Wilts. Farming in 17th cent.* (WRS 57), 278.

²⁶³ *Wilts. Farming in 17th cent.* (WRS 57), xxviii.

²⁶⁴ *Lloyds Evening Post*, 6-8 Dec 1773.

Inns and Brewing

The earliest reference to an alehouse at Langley Burrell is in 1249, when Ralph, the carter of Godfrey de Escudemor, was accused of murdering William de Caudel in a dispute that arose at the 'tavern' of Langley.²⁶⁵

Langley brewery at Langley Burrell was established by 1817, when it was run by John Shepherd whose premises included a small hop ground.²⁶⁶ After Shepherd died, George Frederick Giller ran the business until his retirement in 1862.²⁶⁷ The subsequent advertisement for the sale of Langley brewery 'in which an excellent trade has been carried on for many years' included a residence, brewing plant, stock (that included 14,000 gallons of strong beer and 7,000 of ale and harvest beer), and the George and Dragon and White Hart public houses in Chippenham.²⁶⁸ The business was again advertised in 1865 when sales particulars list an 8-quarter brewing plant worked by horse-power with an attached 'Tap with good retail beer trade'.²⁶⁹ It was purchased by Henry Collett for £2,090.²⁷⁰ In 1877, Collett bought a third share in the Rose and Crown Inn, at the Market Place in Chippenham.²⁷¹ He died in 1896 and Langley Brewery was sold to Ralph Pearce of Ampthill brewery (Beds.).²⁷² Langley brewery was closed in the early 20th century. The Langley Tap public house remained open in 2023.

In a parish survey of 1817 is a listing for 'Black Horse Public House, offices stable and garden' occupied by Edward Belcher. The premises were built across the boundary of Langley Burrell and Chippenham at the foot of Monkton Hill with the kitchen chimney dividing the two parishes.²⁷³ The Black Horse was also listed on the tithe award for Langley Burrell in 1840, occupied by Thomas Knight.²⁷⁴ Other drinking establishments in Langley Burrell parish included the Little George Inn and Great Western Inn (demolished, on Marshfield Road), both also within the environs of Chippenham but listed in Kelly's directory for Langley Burrell between 1848 and 1875. These Inns were later incorporated into Chippenham parish.²⁷⁵

SOCIAL HISTORY

Social Character

By 1332 Langley Burrell had 12 taxpayers, none paying more than 6s. 8d., making it a poorer settlement than the adjacent parishes of Bremhill, Kington St Michael and Tytherton. Tytherton is likely to have included Kellaways, which contained the name John Calewei, presumably John Cayllewey who held the manor of Kellaways and paid

²⁶⁵ *Crown Pleas of the Wilts. Eyre, 1249* (WRS, 16), 260.

²⁶⁶ WSA, 118/59. Its origins are likely to date back to the 18th century. See WSA, 568/33.

²⁶⁷ *Bristol Mercury*, 17 May 1862.

²⁶⁸ *Bristol Mercury*, 17 May 1862.

²⁶⁹ *Wilts. and Glos. Standard*, 7 Oct 1865.

²⁷⁰ [check]

²⁷¹ WSA, 884/1.

²⁷² [check]

²⁷³ WSA, 118/59.

²⁷⁴ WSA, D/1/25/T/A/Langley Burrell.

²⁷⁵ Above, Chippenham, Economic History (Hospitality).

4s.²⁷⁶ The list of taxpayers for the benevolence of 1545 contained four names from Langley Burrell including the rector.²⁷⁷ Later, in 1576, ten people including two women paid tax; the largest contributor, John Reade, owned the manor of Langley Burrell and paid 13s. 4d. Reade was not designated a gentleman or esquire. Four other payers bore the surname Wastefeld(e), and a family of that name had also been listed in 1545. All except one 1576 taxpayer were based in lands.²⁷⁸ Two households were exempt from paying hearth tax on the grounds of poverty in 1671.²⁷⁹ In 1736 only two names were listed as qualified to serve on a jury, fewer than the numbers recorded for the surrounding parishes including Kellaways.²⁸⁰

The parish of Langley Burrell occupied an area of 1,704 a. in 1842 and its population was centred on the village of Langley Burrell.²⁸¹ Until the 20th century, the parish was primarily owned by members of one principal, largely resident, landowning family. These often took an active interest in supporting the community, such as the successive generations of the Ashe family who supported the school. A member of the Ashe family often served as parish rector during the 18th and 19th centuries which, in view of their interest in parochial government and economic importance, meant that the family dominated most aspects of village life. Francis Kilvert's diary contains numerous anecdotes that reflect this pre-eminence. In one entry, he recorded that when one of the children was asked 'Who made the world?' they replied, 'Mr. Ashe'.²⁸² The adjacent parish of Kellaways was 130 a. in 1842.²⁸³ Unlike Langley Burrell, its principal landowners were largely non-resident.

There is little evidence of Swing rioting during 1830 or anti-corn law agitation during the early 1840s as in neighbouring parishes. Entries in Kilvert's diary record that the estate owner organised local nightly patrols to watch and guard against machine-breakers in 1830.²⁸⁴ These efforts may have helped stop riotous behaviour, as anecdotal evidence from the diary also suggests that there was local deprivation over the period.²⁸⁵ Kilvert's record of the reminiscences of older people elucidates some of the strategies employed by the poor. These include farmers allowing the planting of potatoes by 'the shepherd or carter' after crops had been threshed or stored, and the necessity to plant produce on 'every foot of the garden ground so precious that people could not spare room for flowerbeds.'²⁸⁶ The worst effects of un- and under-employment may have been offset, however, by the expansion of Chippenham nearby.

Although there was no rioting for economic or political reasons during the 19th century, local men were associated with what was described in contemporary newsprint as a 'barbarous and blood-thirsty conflict' that occurred on 7 September 1822 when a fight broke out between the men of 'Langley' [Kington Langley and Langley Burrell] and the men of Chippenham. The affray occurred several weeks after the Kington Langley revel, at which newspapers suggested Langley men took offence at

²⁷⁶ *Wilts. Tax List of 1332* (WRS 45), 98, 99. Cocklebury is listed separately, of which the highest taxpayer contributed 5s.

²⁷⁷ *Two Sixteenth Century Taxation Lists* (WRS 10), 28.

²⁷⁸ *Two Sixteenth Century Taxation Lists* (WRS 10), 55.

²⁷⁹ TNA, E 179/199/434.

²⁸⁰ *Wilts. Quarter Sessions and Assizes* (WRS 11), 135.

²⁸¹ WSA, T/A Langley Burrell.

²⁸² F. Kilvert, *Kilvert's Diaries* (ed. W. Plomer, London: Vintage, 2019),

²⁸³ WSA, T/A Langley Burrell.

²⁸⁴ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 358-9.

²⁸⁵ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 317, 380.

²⁸⁶ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 380.

the conduct of individuals from Chippenham.²⁸⁷ During the evening of 7 September, approximately 20-30 Langley men (40 in some reports) entered Chippenham 'armed with bludgeons and other weapons, when they assaulted and most dreadfully beat all persons they met without distinction.'²⁸⁸ Two men died and 31 were injured in the affray.²⁸⁹ Twenty assailants, including two identified as ringleaders, were taken into custody. Those arrested were all men 'of Langley'.²⁹⁰

Writing five decades later Kilvert recorded a version of events, informed by the testimony of Hannah and John Hatherall. His synopsis blamed the events on the habitual ill-treatment of local people on market days by inhabitants of Chippenham. According to Kilvert the events were not planned, but local men had decided to attend the market that day in numbers to avenge the usual insults. After some fighting, the Langley men withdrew as far as the Little George Inn, next to the turnpike, where men from Chippenham taunted them. 'The Langley men, having gained their purpose and having drawn their enemies out of the town, now turned fiercely and charged upon them down the hill.' Between 30 and 40 Langley men drove the 200-strong Chippenham mob 'before them like sheep.' Kilvert continued, 'The scene in the streets was fearful. But unhappily [alluding to the deaths of two men] innocent men suffered with the guilty. A day later, the courtyard at the brewery in Langley Burrell was filled with people from Chippenham while constables combed the cottages for those suspected of being part of the riot. Kilvert noted that scarcely anyone from Chippenham was arrested, and thus 'most of the blackguards got off scot-free'.²⁹¹ Whether the animosity between Langley Burrell and Chippenham was isolated or long-lived is unknown.

Communal Life

Langley brewery was established c.1822 on the site of the Langley Tap public house by John Sheppard, who died in 1846.²⁹² George Frederick Giller thereafter ran it until his retirement in 1862, the premises including a 'genteel residence' and buildings fitted 'in every respect for a large and lucrative trade.'²⁹³ Sales particulars in 1865 list an 8-quarter brewing plant worked by horse-power with an attached 'Tap with good retail beer trade' from which the present name comes.²⁹⁴ The Little George inn stood at the end of Maud Heath's Causeway on the site occupied in 2023 by La Passione restaurant, Chippenham. Established by 1784, it was remembered in the autobiography of the Wiltshire antiquarian John Britton published in 1850, as 'a house famed for its strong and fine beer.'²⁹⁵ The structure burned down with the loss of one life in 1903.²⁹⁶ With the development of the railway further hospitality venues were established in the St Paul's area of the parish, including the Great Western inn by 1859.²⁹⁷

²⁸⁷ *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 12 Sep 1822; *Morning Post* 13 Sep 1822; *Taunton Courier*, 18 Sep 1822 and others.

²⁸⁸ *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 12 Sep 1822; *Morning Post* 13 Sep 1822, and others.

²⁸⁹ *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 12 Sep 1822.

²⁹⁰ *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 12 Sep 1822. See also *Taunton Courier*, 18 Sep 1822.

²⁹¹ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 282-284.

²⁹² *Kilvert's Diaries*, 284; *Early Trade Directories* (WRS 47), 68; *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 26 Nov 1846.

²⁹³ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1859 edn.), 440; *Wilts. Independent*, 22 May 1862.

²⁹⁴ *Wilts. and Glos. Standard*, 7 Oct 1865.

²⁹⁵ WSA, G19/1/53L; Chamberlain, *Chippenham*, 130; J. Britton, *Autobiography*, (London: 1851), 58.

²⁹⁶ *Bath Chronicle*, 31 Dec 1903.

²⁹⁷ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1859 edn.), 440.

There was a village cricket team from 1867.²⁹⁸ The team played on a pitch rented from Jacob Knight of Langley Common Farm.²⁹⁹ During the 1870s Francis Kilvert played, scored, collected subscriptions, and paid the rent of the pitch for the village team.³⁰⁰ By contrast, he recorded that a former rector of Langley Burrell, Samuel Ashe, who died in 1807, tried to stop the playing of football and other ball games being played on the common on a Sunday by puncturing the ball.³⁰¹ Cricket, which had not been played since 1996 in the village, resumed in 2022.³⁰²

The duke of Beaufort's foxhounds met and regularly hunted through the parish of Langley Burrell in the 19th and 20th centuries.³⁰³ The Avon was also renowned for coarse fishing, although few anglers fished its waters in Langley Burrell in 1938.³⁰⁴

Village fetes that were regularly held in the grounds of Langley House from the 1900s until the mid-1950s,³⁰⁵ and in the village hall in 1956.³⁰⁶ The hall was opened in 1954 on a site (that included a recreation ground?) given by Major Scott-Ashe, after ten years of fundraising which began with 'the one penny profit on meat pies distributed in the villages during the 1939-45 war.' Further efforts increased the funds to £1,500, although additional resources were required for furnishing and equipping the hall on its opening.³⁰⁷ Newspaper reports on the opening of the structure emphasised that 'all sections' of the community had joined the fundraising efforts. The committee formed to realise the objective was likewise 'representative of every section of village life.' Major Scott-Ashe expressed the hope, on its opening, that the building, which could accommodate whist drives and dances, would negate the necessity of villagers to travel into Chippenham for entertainment.³⁰⁸ A month after its opening, the village hall committee promised visitors it would ensure that the building was adequately heated.³⁰⁹

Little is recorded of the social life of Kellaways. Within this small settlement, it was likely focused on the church, the hamlet's sole communal building. However, given the proximity of Langley Burrell, East Tytherton and the larger settlement of Chippenham much of the social and cultural life enjoyed by residents is likely to have taken place outside its confines.

Charities and Friendly Societies

The Maud Heath trustees, established under the 1474 endowment, were traditionally made up of the principal landowners and clergy resident in Langley Burrell and

²⁹⁸ e.g. *Wilts and Glos Standard*, 28 Sep 1867. See also *Wilts Independent*, 19 Sep 1867, *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 23 Jul 1868, 4 Aug 1870.

²⁹⁹ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 351.

³⁰⁰ e.g. *Kilvert's Diaries*, 345, 351,

³⁰¹ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 285, 358.

³⁰² <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2047460835533526/> (accessed 3 Jan. 2023).

³⁰³ *Times*, 15 Nov 1841, 1 Jan 1924, 4 Apr 1925, 29 Nov 1927, 25 Nov 1932,

³⁰⁴ *Times*, 'Pollution of the Bristol Avon', 3 Oct 1938; *VCH Wilts*, iv, 363.

³⁰⁵ E.g. *Warminster & Westbury Jnl.*, 30 Jun 1900; *Wilts. Times*, 12 June 1926, 4 Aug 1945, 29 May 1954, 9 Jul 1955.

³⁰⁶ *Wilts. Times*, 14 Jul 1956.

³⁰⁷ *Wilts. Times*, 20 Nov 1954.

³⁰⁸ *Wilts. Times*, 20 Nov 1954.

³⁰⁹ *Wilts. Times*, 18 Dec 1954.

Bremhill.³¹⁰ These included generations of the Ashe family.³¹¹ The route was still in 2023 maintained by the trustees.

Aside from the Maud Heath charity, the only endowed charity in the parish in government returns was the church piece or church lands, c.2.5 a. of land, which from the second half of the 18th century (and possibly earlier) was allotted for the repair of the church at Langley Burrell.³¹²

In 1803 one friendly society with 28 members was noted in poor law returns.³¹³ In subsequent returns published in 1818, no friendly societies were recorded, and no charities were noted under the management of parochial officers in Langley Burrell or Kellaways.³¹⁴ However, a benefits society (reportedly unregistered) was based at the Little George inn by 1832, when the publican and his wife were accused of stealing funds.³¹⁵

Education

No public school was reported in the parish of Langley Burrell by the rector, Samuel Ashe, in his response to the bishop's visitation queries in 1783.³¹⁶ Later, the diarist Francis Kilvert recorded that his mother, Thermuthis Kilvert née Coleman (b. 1805) attended a school in Langley Burrell at the ages of 3 and 4, c.1809.³¹⁷ Kilvert remarked that the teacher 'was one of those really old-fashioned dames severe and respectable with rod and glasses.'³¹⁸

In a later account given by the incumbent and later lord of the manor, Robert Ashe, in 1818 there were two un-endowed day schools that accommodated 25 poor children 'chiefly paid by their more opulent neighbours'. He also noted. 'The poor are very desirous of educating their children.' A room for a Sunday school was under construction. Kellaways had no provision for the education of local children.³¹⁹ By 1835 a day school in Langley Burrell was attended by 10 boys and 20 girls. It was partly supported by charity and partly by subscriptions by the children. A Sunday school with 20 boys and 25 girls was paid for by voluntary contributions.³²⁰

A school was built in 1844 at the instigation of Robert Ashe and was supported by successive generations of the family. It displays the Ashe coat of arms and a date of 1844 above the entrance gable. Because of family support there was probably no need to seek state funding for several decades. Substantially built, the single-storey T-plan

³¹⁰ WSA, 3448/1/1; *Coms. Of Inquiry into Charities in England and Wales: Twenty-Eighth Report* (London: House of Commons Papers, 1834), 307-309; *Endowed Charities, 1908*, 267-269. Assertion concerning trustees given in W.L. Bowles, *Parochial Hist. of Bremhill* (London: John Murray, 1828), 159; *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889 edn.), 939. For a history of the Causeway see also K. Taylor, *Dry Shod to Chippenham: A Hist. of Maud Heath's Ancient Causeway in North Wilts.* (ELSP, 2012).

³¹¹ *Coms. Of Inquiry into Charities in England and Wales: Twenty-Eighth Report* (London: House of Commons Papers, 1834), 308.

³¹² WSA, D1/24/127/5; 1487/7; *Endowed Charities, 1908*, 607.

³¹³ *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 561.

³¹⁴ *Poor Law Abstract, 1818*, 494-5.

³¹⁵ *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 2 Aug 1832; *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 4 Mar 1833; *St James's Chronicle*, 9 Mar 1833; *Morning Post*, 9 Mar 1833; *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 14 Mar 1833.

³¹⁶ *Bishop's Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 137.

³¹⁷ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 381.

³¹⁸ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 381.

³¹⁹ *Educ. of the Poor Digest*, 1031, 1055.

³²⁰ *Educ. in England Abstract, 1835*, 1041.

building included a teacher's house.³²¹ Children were taught in one room 40 ft. x 13 ft. 9 ins., divided into two classes. In the 20th century the classes were separated by a freestanding screen. School grounds were organised into one playground and gardens, which were tended by children, to the front and rear of the building.³²² In 1957 the grounds were extended by the lease of land adjacent to the school, which was used as a playing field from Maj. Scott-Ashe.³²³

Fifteen years after its creation, the school accommodated 30-40 boys and girls. According to an early school inspection the teacher was 'capable of teaching the Bible, catechism and reading and writing and needlework.' Aspiration for the pupils is likely to have been low, given the observation by the inspector that the school manager 'disapproves of more advanced study.' Although there remained no educational provision for children in Kellaways, due to its small population, it was noted that children from the village were in easy reach of the schools at Foxham, Christian Malford, Bremhill and Langley Burrell.³²⁴ It was reported in 1889 and 1903 that children from Kellaways attended the elementary school in East Tytherton within Bremhill parish.³²⁵

The school was not listed as an 'efficient' school in 1872, although it was noted it could be made good for 49 pupils if provided with a wooden floor and 'separate approaches to offices.'³²⁶ According to a later government report, in 1886, the capacity of the school accommodation was 43 pupils, and the average attendance was 41.³²⁷

Francis Kilvert made regular visits to the school when he was in Langley Burrell during the 1870s. In December 1874 he accompanied 21 schoolchildren into Chippenham to see a panorama of the African travels of Dr Livingstone.³²⁸ Kilvert's anecdotes imply that attainment was basic. In 1875 he recorded that he asked them what beautiful image and picture was depicted in Psalm 23. "'The Good Shepherd,'" said I, "leading his children to - ? "To the slaughter" said Frederick Herriman promptly.'³²⁹ His entries also suggest that the Ashe family provided not only financial support but also direction in the administration of the school, Robert Martyn Ashe describing it as 'my school' in 1874.³³⁰ An entry in November 1874 noted 'a few days ago Mr. Ashe came angrily into Miss Bland the schoolmistress and ordered her always to keep all three windows and the door of the schoolroom open during schooltime, except in very cold weather when one window might be shut.' It was an act that Kilvert branded 'cruel'.³³¹

³²¹ NHLE 1363839. The support continued into the 20th century. *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1915 edn.), 134; WSA, F8/500/165/1/1. No parliamentary contribution is noted in 1867. However, by 1896/7, despite support by the Ashe family an annual government grant of £31 was being paid. *Return of Parishes of England and Wales, Starting Area, Population, Gross Estimated Rental, Rate to Relief of Poor and Accommodation and Attendance of Schools aided by Parliamentary Grants* (Parl. Papers, 1867 (201, lv), 420-1; *Statement of Schools in Receipt of Parliamentary Grants, Grants Paid to School Boards under Section 97, Elementary Education Act, School Board Accounts and Lists of Loans, 1896-97* (Parl. Papers 1897 (C. 8546), lxix), 608.

³²² WSA, F8/320/137. A description of the school during the late forties and early fifties is given by a former pupil: WSA, F8/600/165/1/6/1. The school log book illustrates the extensive cultivation of the school gardens by attending children: WSA, F8/500/165/1/1.

³²³ WSA, F2/600/120/1.

³²⁴ *Account of Wilts. Schools*, 1859, 28, 30.

³²⁵ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889, 1903 edns.), 122, 935.

³²⁶ TNA, ED 21/18458.

³²⁷ *Report of the Committee of Council on Education (England and Wales); with appendix. 1885-86* (Parl. Papers, 1886 (C. 4849-I), xxiv), 608.

³²⁸ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 371.

³²⁹ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 378.

³³⁰ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 371.

³³¹ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 371.

In 1970, the school and several pupils were used in a television adaptation of Kilvert's diaries.³³²

The school logbook survives from 1919-1974 and records the outcomes of both diocesan and HM inspections which were largely positive. In 1932 an HM inspector recorded, 'This is a happy and well conducted little school. The children are bright and industrious and self-reliant.' However, there were occasional breaches of discipline. In 1922 nine pupils were caned in one day for bad behaviour when left to work alone. The teacher stated in the log that he had used corporal punishment as a last resort. As they had during the tenure of Francis Kilvert, children received regular religious instruction from the local clergy and occasionally attended religious services, including Ascension Day. Pupils also cultivated the garden to the front and rear of the school and were regularly taken on nature walks.³³³

The school was enlarged in 1902 and increased its capacity from 50 to 70 pupils. In 1903 average attendance was recorded as 55.³³⁴ However, by 1920 43 pupils were on the school roll.³³⁵ Children were accommodated between the ages of 4 and 14. During the Second World War school attendance was boosted by c.50 evacuees, largely from the London area (especially Enfield) and Bristol. Although many children stayed several years, some attended for a only a few weeks.³³⁶ By 1965, there were just 36 children on the school roll.³³⁷

The school was officially closed on 27 August 1974 (although the last date children attended was 12 July 1974). However, pending the extension and remodelling of the school in East Tytherton the pupils of both schools were temporarily accommodated at Langley Burrell which was extended by a mobile classroom. The school was finally vacated on 17 October 1975 when all pupils were transferred to Maud Heath County Primary in East Tytherton.³³⁸

The former school building is grade II listed and has been converted for residential use.³³⁹

Social Welfare

Parochial welfare provision was in place in Langley Burrell by at least 1666.³⁴⁰ In 1776 payments to cover rents of the poor made up one-quarter of money spent on relief, the highest proportion of any parish in the Chippenham hundred, save Slaughterford (which spent the least amount overall).³⁴¹

In 1803 it was claimed that 6 adults and 11 children received relief for the parish of Kellaways. These figures are suspect as those in receipt of relief almost equalled the

³³² WSA, F8/500/165/1/1, 247 5-6 May 1970.

³³³ WSA, F8/600/165/1/6/1. See also the description of the school by a former pupil: WSA, F8/600/165/1/6/1.

³³⁴ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889 edn.), 50; (1903 edn.), 127. TNA, ED 21/18458. The capacity of the school accommodation was given as 43 in 1900. *Statement of Schools in receipt of Parliamentary Grants, Grants Paid to School Boards Under Section 97, Elementary Education Act, School Board Accounts and Lists of Loans, 1899-1900* (Parl. Papers, 1900 (Cd.332), lxiv), 258.

³³⁵ WSA, F8/500/165/1/1. 5, 6.

³³⁶ WSA, F8/600/165/1/6/1

³³⁷ WSA, F8/500/165/1/1, 229. Jan 5 1965.

³³⁸ WSA, F2/600/120/1; F8/600/165/1/6/1; F8/500/165/1/1.

³³⁹ NHLE 1363839.

³⁴⁰ WSA, 118/149/1.

³⁴¹ *Poor Law Abstract, 1777, 484.*

total population of Kellaways (19) recorded in the census in 1811.³⁴² In 1835 the parish joined the Chippenham Poor Law Union.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY

Church Origins and Parochial Organization

St Peter's church, Langley Burrell, has Norman origins. The suffix 'Burrell' distinguishes Langley Burrell from Kington Langley and derives from the family name of Borel or Burel, who owned the estate c.1086-1300 and were the likely founders of the church. The manor was acquired by John Delamare c.1304 from which time the names of rectors are recorded.

Until 1450, the original church of Kellaways was described in the diocesan register as the chantry chapel of Keylways.³⁴³ It is likely that the chapel, which was built by 1304, was constructed and endowed by the family of Keylways, owners of the estate from 1269.³⁴⁴ The family's dedication to St Giles dates from at least 1336.³⁴⁵

By 1650, St Giles church had fallen into decay, and there had been no minister for four years, although the absence may have been longer.³⁴⁶ According to the church survey of Wiltshire, 1649-50, Kellaways inhabitants desired to be united with Tytherton Lucas as one parish, with the parish church at Tytherton Lucas.³⁴⁷ This ambition was not realised. In 1680, the parishes of Langley Burrell and Kellaways were in plurality with Chippenham, when Jonathan Giare was made rector of Kellaways.³⁴⁸ It is likely given Giare's workload that his officiating at St Giles was rare. The living of Kellaways continued to be held in plurality.³⁴⁹ The original church, which was described in 1803 by the diocese registrar 'in its present state is more like a hovel than anything else', was demolished and replaced in 1805.³⁵⁰

Langley Burrell was in the deanery of Malmesbury until 1887 when it was transferred to Chippenham, although Kellaways remained in Malmesbury deanery.³⁵¹ A new ecclesiastical parish of St Paul's Langley Burrell was created in 1855 from areas of Langley Burrell contiguous with Chippenham, together with portions of Chippenham near the newly constructed railway, and parts of Hardenhuish and Kington St Michael.³⁵² In 1965 St Peter's at Langley Burrell was united with St Paul's Chippenham (formerly Langley Burrell) to form the ecclesiastical parish of St Paul's Chippenham

³⁴² *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 561. *VCH Wilts*, iv,- check page number.

³⁴³ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 116.

³⁴⁴ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 115; Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 5. The first rector was listed in 1304.

³⁴⁵ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 31.

³⁴⁶ *WAM* 19, 205. There was no minister for Kellaways recorded after the death of Christopher French in 1621.

³⁴⁷ *WAM* 41, 1.

³⁴⁸ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 118212.

³⁴⁹ E.g., The rector of Kellaways was Richard Humphreys 1681-98, also possessed of the livings of Kington St Michael and Draycot Cerne. From 1698- 1742, its incumbent was Thomas Thompson who also had the living of Sutton Benger. He was also the curate of Highway: Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 37; *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 51005, 91396.

³⁵⁰ WSA, D/1/61/4/47; D/1/60/1/9; D/1/61/4/47.

³⁵¹ Youngs, *Admin Units*, I, 542, 551, 529.

³⁵² Youngs, *Admin Units*, I, 534.

with Langley Burrell. The incumbent resided at St Paul's rectory.³⁵³ Later in 1979, a united benefice was created from the parishes of St Paul's Chippenham with Langley Burrell and Hardenhuish. It was held in plurality with the benefice of Kington St Michael.³⁵⁴

By 1967 Kellaways was joined with All Saints Sutton Benger and All Saints Christian Malford. The incumbent lived in Christian Malford.³⁵⁵ In 2022, Tytherton Kellaways was part of the benefice of Draycot along with Christian Malford, Kington Langley and Draycot Cerne, Seagry and Sutton Benger.³⁵⁶

Advowson and Church Endowment

Langley Burrell

The living of Langley Burrell was in the gift of the holders of the manor. The advowson was acquired with the estate by Sir Reginald Cobham in 1343, and held by his widow, Joan, in 1361.³⁵⁷ The king presented in 1391 during the minority of Reginald Cobham, who was later burned at the stake as a heretic.³⁵⁸ His son, also Reginald, presented in 1429, 1440 and 1446.³⁵⁹ Patronage was again with the monarch in 1505 owing to the forfeiture of Edward de Burgh's land.³⁶⁰ In 1637 the manor and advowson of Langley Burrell was under the patronage of Henry White.³⁶¹ After sequestration in 1647 the advowson was acquired, with the manor, by Samuel Ashe in 1657, and it remained in the Ashe family for three hundred years.

In the church survey of 1649-50, the value of the living of Langley Burrell was £100, although the incumbent, Thomas Webbe, was only recorded as 'doth or maybe receiving' its profits, a probable reference to the fact Webbe refused to collect the tithes.³⁶² In 1711 the value of Langley Burrell in the Queen's books was recorded as £12.³⁶³ Between 1742 and 1788 the living was worth £160.³⁶⁴

A glebe terrier of 1608 recorded glebe lands of approximately 111.5 a.³⁶⁵ In 1723, the rector, Thomas Read, likely trying to improve income from the land exchanged two parcels of it for arable plots adjacent to the glebe.³⁶⁶ In 1783 the tithes were worth £90. Two moduses were covered by annual payment of £10 on grounds in possession of Robert Ashe (probably the former demesne of Stanley abbey, 398 a.) and

³⁵³ *Crockford*, (1967 ed.), 1281, 1528; Youngs, *Admin Units*, I, 542.

³⁵⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 47987, 25 Oct. 1979.

³⁵⁵ *Crockford*, (1967 edn.), 1529.

³⁵⁶ *Crockford*, (2022-23 edn.), 996.

³⁵⁷ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 54. Cobham had acquired the Langley Burrell estate through his marriage to Joan, daughter of

³⁵⁸ *Cal Pat. 1388-1392*, Register of John Waltham, no 608. - Referencing needs correcting

³⁵⁹ [check Phillipps]

³⁶⁰ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 183.

³⁶¹ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 19.

³⁶² *WAM* 41, 2; *ODNB*, ID 67373; E. Stokes, *The Wiltshire Rant . . . evil speakings of Thomas Webb, late pretended minister of Langley Burrell* (London: Ralph Smith at the Sign of the Bible, 1652), 3.

³⁶³ J. Ecton, *Liber Valorum and Decimarum* (London, 1711), 315.

³⁶⁴ J. Ecton, *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticorum* (1742 edn.), 524; (1754 edn.), 403; J. Ecton and J. Lloyd, *Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus: An Improved Edition of the Liber Valorum; containing an account of the valuation of all the livings in England and Wales* (London, 1788), 313.

³⁶⁵ *WSA*, D1/24/127/2.

³⁶⁶ *Gleanings from Wilts. Parish Registers* (WRS 63), 140; *WSA*, 118/92. The latter also contains details of another possible exchange in 1711.

3s. 4d. on lands owned by John Fast.³⁶⁷ Land tax returns for Tytherton Kellaways show that the vicars of neighbouring Bremhill as well as the parish rector were collecting tithes from property within the parish.³⁶⁸ In 1840 tithes were commuted to a rent-charge of £285 to the rector (Robert Ashe) and £35 for tithes on the 110 a. glebe. Those covered by the real composition were substituted by an allotment of 4 a. to the rector.³⁶⁹ In 1856 the living of Langley Burrell (with its newly installed rector of Robert Kilvert) and new rectory was worth £386 net.³⁷⁰ In 1915 the living was worth £300 net, including 111 a. glebe.³⁷¹

From the second half of the 18th century (and possibly earlier) c.2.5 a. of glebe land was allotted for the repair of the church at Langley Burrell.³⁷² During the 19th and early 20th century income from the rental of this land was combined with church rates (later 'voluntary contributions' after their abolition) in churchwarden's accounts to provide a fund from which general disbursements, including salaries for the clerk and sexton, were also drawn.³⁷³ This may have helped to partially offset the need for church rates, which were often in deficit, although in 1862 the collector of the rates was instructed to bring legal action against those who had not paid.³⁷⁴ In 1874, possibly indicative of continued problems, timber, bark and faggots from trees felled on church land were sold to provide additional funds. In 1887 money raised from a similar sale was used specifically to offset expenses associated with the gift of a parcel of land as a new church yard.³⁷⁵

Kellaways

The Keyways family remained patrons of the church until 1405.³⁷⁶ The living then remained in the gift of estate owners, including generations of the Long family, under whose patronage it was awarded between 1526 and 1819,³⁷⁷ although the Crown presented in 1785.³⁷⁸

In 1711, the value of the benefice of Kellaways was £7.³⁷⁹ As it was worth under £50, it was discharged from first fruits and tenths and eligible for assistance from Queen Anne's Bounty.³⁸⁰ Under the bounty, the benefice received three payments of £200 (in 1740, 1767, 1788). These payments were 'by lot' and awarded through luck.³⁸¹ At the time, the population of the parish was c.12,³⁸² Its incumbents were non-resident and generally held the living in plurality with others. The church was also listed as

³⁶⁷ WSA, D1/24/127/5. The moduses were in place when the tithes were apportioned. Also see *Abstracts Wilts. Tithe Apportionments* (WRS 30), 69

³⁶⁸ WSA, A1/345/238.

³⁶⁹ *Abstracts Wilts. Tithe Apportionments* (WRS 30), 69.

³⁷⁰ *Crockford*, (1856 edn.), 120.

³⁷¹ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1915 edn.), 133.

³⁷² WSA, D1/24/127/5; 1487/7; *Endowed Charities, 1908*, 607.

³⁷³ WSA, 1487/7.

³⁷⁴ WSA, 1487/7.

³⁷⁵ WSA, 1487/7.

³⁷⁶ When Johanna de Kayleweys was the patron of Johannes Pedewell: Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 92.

Phillipps lists the Kayleweys as patrons from 1304. Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 5, 11, 311, 48, 60, 64, 86.

³⁷⁷ Note this needs verification as by 1859, and possibly before, the advowson and manor were separated.

³⁷⁸ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 194, 224, 228; ii, 9, 37; *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 10178, 9560, 95348.

³⁷⁹ J. Ecton, *Liber Valorum*, 315.

³⁸⁰ W.R. Le Fanu, *Queen Anne's Bounty* (1921), 12. Living shown as discharged by J. Ecton, *Liber Valorum*, 315 and J. Ecton, *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum* (1742 edn.), 525.

³⁸¹ Hodgson, *Queen Anne's Bounty* (1826 edn.), 415.

³⁸² Population from 1801 census.

destroyed, although more likely in a dilapidated state, by 1754.³⁸³ Despite the initial augmentations, the living was still worth £7 in 1786.³⁸⁴ While the use of the bounty may have been legal, it probably failed to meet the fund's object, to relieve poor clergy.

By 1788 and 1796 the value of the living at Kellaways had risen to £30.³⁸⁵ According to a Royal Commission set up to enquire into ecclesiastical revenues, the living was worth £82, both gross and net in 1835. Four years later under tithe commutation it was agreed that the rector of Kellaways, Walter Long, would receive the whole of the tithe rent-charge of £46 for great and small tithes.³⁸⁶ In 1851 the church was endowed with £50 from glebe land and £46 by tithe. There were no pew rents.³⁸⁷ The glebe lands comprised of c.22a in Melksham.³⁸⁸ In 1915 the living (with only 21 residents within the ecclesiastical parish) was worth £70 net.³⁸⁹

Clergy Houses

Although no parsonage was listed in glebe terriers for Langley Burrell until the 18th century, a tenement or cottage was recorded in the property. However, a parsonage house with an orchard and garden was documented in the glebe terrier for 1704.³⁹⁰ It was taken down in 1776-8, and a new clergy house built adjacent to the church.³⁹¹ This was described five years later as a modern tiled stone building that contained 12 rooms, garrets and cellars. 'The rooms are in general papered: the parlours half wainscoted and floored with oak, the rest are floored with deal or elm, the outhouses are a barn and stable tiled.' Although the terrier states that the house was constructed at the expense of the incumbent, Samuel Ashe, account books and an account of monies received suggest much of the cost was borne by his father, John Ashe, and the construction overseen by the patron of the living, Robert Ashe.³⁹²

In 1853 Robert Ashe arranged through the Tithe Commissioners (with the cognisance of the bishop) to exchange the parsonage and certain glebe lands for another house and lands in his ownership. The reason given was that the new building in the area of Langley Common a half mile from the church would be 'a more central location'.³⁹³ The old parsonage was subsequently demolished.³⁹⁴ The new structure, in 2023 known as Kilvert's Parsonage House, was built c.1739 for Adam Tuck, probably on an older core. The grade II* listed structure was enlarged c.1840 before its use as a rectory.³⁹⁵ It was sold in 1964 and reported neglected and overgrown by ivy in 1986.³⁹⁶

Incumbents generally held the living of Kellaways in plurality with others and resided outside the parish. Henry Brindley, who encouraged the creation of the new

³⁸³ J. Ecton, *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum* (1754 edn.), 404.

³⁸⁴ J. Ecton and J. Bacon, *Liber Regis* (1786), 887.

³⁸⁵ Ecton and Lloyd, *Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus* (1788 edn.), 314; J. Ecton and J. Lloyd, *Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus: an Improved Edition of the Liber Valorum; containing an account of the valuation of all the livings in England and Wales* (London: Longman, 1796), 314.

³⁸⁶ *Abstracts of Wilts. Tithe Apportionments* (WRS 30), 99.

³⁸⁷ TNA, HO 129/253.

³⁸⁸ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1915 edn.), 128.

³⁸⁹ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1915 edn.), 128.

³⁹⁰ WSA, D1/24/127/1-2, D1/24/127/4.

³⁹¹ WSA, 118/152.

³⁹² WSA, D1/24/127/5; 118/152.

³⁹³ WSA, 118/169.

³⁹⁴ J. Badeni, *Wilts. Forefathers* (Malmesbury: J. Badeni, 1960), 98.

³⁹⁵ HER, 1022357; Orbach and Pevsner, *Wilts*, 395.

³⁹⁶ HER, 1022357.

church in 1805, lived in Lacock.³⁹⁷ There was no parsonage house in the terrier of 1704.³⁹⁸ Although a glebe house was recorded in 1835, it was noted as being unfit for a residence.³⁹⁹ Instead, Walter Long, the incumbent from 1819-57, lived in Tytherton.⁴⁰⁰ John Richard who held the living from 1884 until 1913 lived in Chippenham.⁴⁰¹

Religious Life

In 1332 Sir John Delamare and his wife Alice obtained a licence for a private chapel at their manor of 'Langley and Lye'.⁴⁰² The estate was acquired by Sir Reginald Cobham in 1343 during whose tenure a chapel of St Peter at Langley Burrell was reportedly converted to a dwelling house.⁴⁰³ Cobham's widow, Joan, directed that on her death two priests should be provided to do divine service at the church of Langley Burrell to pray for the souls of John Delamare, Reginald Cobham and Thomas, Lord Berkley (her father), all previous patrons of the living.⁴⁰⁴

In 1637 the manorial lord, Henry White, presented Henry Norborne to the living,⁴⁰⁵ but it was sequestered in 1647.⁴⁰⁶ Local tradition holds that a subsequent incumbent, Thomas Webbe, defaced the tablet in the chancel that commemorates the death of Norborne's first wife, Rebekah, in 1641, by erasing the word 'Reverend' and altering 'Bat. in divinite' to 'Bad in divinite'. Another alleges that Norborne broke into the church to baptise his child (no one was recorded as having been buried, baptised or married during the period). In 1907 the then rector suggested that, despite being forbidden, there was an entry of a baptism in Norborne's hands for his daughter Margaret in 1647.⁴⁰⁷

After Norborne's ejection from the living, it was given by the Committee for Plundered Ministers to a Mr Martyn in 1647. Martyn was denied access to the living by parishioners and Thomas Webbe, who had established himself as the new minister.⁴⁰⁸ The career of Thomas Webbe as minister of Langley Burrell is notable. According to the testimony of his former friend, Edward Stokes, in a pamphlet titled *The Wiltshire Rant* published in 1652, Webbe 'came as an Angel of Light, into those parts, with a great form of godliness, in sheeps clothing', through which he secured the living, cementing his affections with parishioners by further refusing to collect tithes (the glebe lands being worth £70).⁴⁰⁹ The church survey of 1649-50 described Webbe as a minister 'whome

³⁹⁷ *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 12 April 1819 4; TNA, PROB 11/616/364.

³⁹⁸ WSA, D/1/24/11.

³⁹⁹ *Royal Com. to Inquire into Ecclesiastical Revenues and Patronage of the Established Church of England and Wales. Report.* (Parl. Papers, 1835 (cd. 67), xxii), 826.

⁴⁰⁰ TNA, HO 129/253; *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 95348.

⁴⁰¹ *N. Wilts Herald*, 21 Mar 1913, 5.

⁴⁰² Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 97; *Wilts. N&Q*, iii, 411.

⁴⁰³ WSA, 3623/1, 42. As communicated by James Montague, Adleston Wilts from manuscripts in his possession to the incumbent, undated 1776-1807. There was a chapel at Kington Langley dedicated to St Peter which was converted into a house see *WAM* 4, 47-49.

⁴⁰⁴ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 97; Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 19; A.B. Mynors and H. Brakspear, *Notes on Hist. of St Peter's Langley Burrell* (Frome, 1907).

⁴⁰⁵ Phillipps, *Institutions*, i, 19.

⁴⁰⁶ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 86520.

⁴⁰⁷ Mynors and Brakspear, *Notes on Hist. of St Peter's*. See also WSA, 2682/20; *Memorial Inscriptions of Wilts.* (WRS 53), 9.

⁴⁰⁸ BL, Add. MS 15671, fols, 58, 79; Stokes, *The Wiltshire Rant*, 51-2.

⁴⁰⁹ Stokes, *The Wiltshire Rant*, 3.

wee cannot find free from scandal [*sic*].⁴¹⁰ Webbe's preaching rejected the trappings of organised religion and emphasised the primacy of personal spiritual experience. However, it was not his teachings but rather his sexual conduct, particularly his affair with Mary White, the wife of his patron, which brought him to the attention of Parliament and the courts.⁴¹¹ Although acquitted for the capital offence of adultery, Webbe was successfully ejected from the living in 1651.⁴¹²

The first rector to be presented after Samuel Ashe acquired the advowson was Jonathan Giare in 1660. Given that Giare was also vicar of Chippenham with Tytherton Lucas, his officiating at St Peter's was sporadic. Giare held the prebend of Winterbourne Earls in Salisbury Cathedral (1660-75). From 1680 he was also rector of Kellaways but died a few months later in 1681.⁴¹³

Giare was replaced by Aylmer Lynch, grandson of John Ailmer, bishop of London. Lynch was already over 80 when appointed.⁴¹⁴ Formerly prebendary of Welton Westhall (Lincoln diocese) and vicar of Preshute, his Wiltshire living had been sequestered in 1647.⁴¹⁵ At the restoration, Lynch was prebendary of Stratford, which he held until his death (will pr. 1692).⁴¹⁶ Lynch is memorialised by a plaque in St Peter's, Langley Burrell. He left £5 in his will to the poor of the parish.⁴¹⁷

The patronage of one incumbent, Thomas Petty, was with Samuel Ashe's son-in-law, Lionel Duckett, in 1693.⁴¹⁸ Petty died the following year to be replaced by Thomas Stamp, one of only four nonjuring clergy within Wiltshire (those who refused to swear an oath of allegiance to William and Mary). He was deprived of the living in 1702. Stamp was replaced by Thomas Read, who was rector of Langley Burrell for 40 years until his death in 1743.⁴¹⁹ Read is commemorated in the church.

Thereafter, until the late 19th century, the association between the living and its patronage was brought closer by the rectors being successively the patron or a member of the Ashe family (except 1774-7). Samuel Ashe was presented two weeks after being ordained as a priest in 1777. It followed the resignation of the former incumbent, Robert Boyer, who had held it since the death of Ashe's uncle, Robert Ashe, in 1774 on the understanding that he would quit the living in 1777.⁴²⁰ Samuel Ashe is mentioned in Francis Kilvert's diary from the testimony of an old parishioner, John Hatherall, who

⁴¹⁰ *WAM* 41, 2. See also *VCH Wilts*, iv, 102.

⁴¹¹ The allegations against Webbe are made in great detail in Stokes, *The Wiltshire Rant*. cf. Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 99-100.

⁴¹² *ODNB*, ID 67373, Stokes, *The Wiltshire Rant*, 57

⁴¹³ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 118212. Will proved 1681. WSA, P3/G/280.

⁴¹⁴ He was born in 1600 according to his memorial in St Peter's church; *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 52063; *Memorial Inscriptions of Wilts.* (WRS 53), 9. Note according *Alumni Cantab.* i, pt 3, 120, he gained the living of Langley Burrell in 1663.

⁴¹⁵ *Alumni Cantab.* i, pt 3, 120; 'Prebendaries: Welton Westhall', in *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1541-1857: vol. 9, Lincoln Diocese*, ed. Joyce M Horn and David M Smith (London, 1999), 130-132.

⁴¹⁶ *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1541-1857: vol. 6, Salisbury Diocese*, ed. Joyce M Horn (London: Institute of Historical Research, 1986), 73-75.

⁴¹⁷ TNA, PROB 11/409/22; *Alumni Cantab.* i, pt 3, 120; *Memorial Inscriptions of Wilts.* (WRS 53), 9. There is some discrepancy in dates between sources.

⁴¹⁸ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 83374. The familial connection is recorded in the Duckett family memorial within the church. *Memorial Inscriptions of Wilts.* (WRS 53), 10.

⁴¹⁹ TNA, PROB 11/729/15. See also memorial in the church.

⁴²⁰ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 44999; ID 8398, ID 9374; Phillipps, *Institutions*, ii, 88; WSA, 118/92. Save for a period Samuel Ashe gave the dates of his ordination and institution to the living in his responses to the bishop's visitation queries in 1783. Earlier correspondence between Samuel Ashe's father and the patron suggest he may have been preaching in the church as early as July 1775 (see WSA, 118/92, letter dated 27 Jul 1775). *Wilts. Returns to the Bishop's Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 137.

recalled that he had tried to stop village boys playing football, hockey and other ball games on a Sunday by puncturing their ball.⁴²¹ During his tenure, the parsonage house was replaced.

On Samuel's death in 1807, Robert Ashe, who held the advowson, became rector, having been curate of Hardenhuish since 1803.⁴²² Despite seemingly resigning in 1825, Robert remained the incumbent until his death in 1855.⁴²³ During his tenure he facilitated the construction of the church of St Paul's, Langley Burrell, through his gift of land for the new edifice and churchyard and an annual £50 endowment.⁴²⁴ He died shortly before the consecration of the new church. The sermon preached at its dedication marked his role as its chief benefactor.⁴²⁵ Between 1825 and at least 1833 (he is noted as incumbent in 1835), Ashe was also incumbent of Harnhill (Glos.), where he was also patron.⁴²⁶

Robert Ashe was replaced as incumbent by Robert Kilvert, whose wife Thermuthis had a familial connection with the Ashe family.⁴²⁷ Kilvert's son (Robert) Francis was appointed his curate in 1872.⁴²⁸ Francis Kilvert's diary, published several decades after his early death in 1879, depicts a nuanced picture of the life of mid-Victorian rural society that incorporates his descriptions of Langley Burrell during the 1870s, including the sometimes strained relations between the Kilverts and their patron, Robert Martyn Ashe.⁴²⁹

According to the diary, 'Squire' Ashe (owner of Langley Burrell estate 1855-85) disapproved of church music apart from singing. The issue was forced in 1874 when he dismissed the leader of the church singers. The rector Robert Kilvert (who, according to his son, Francis, was prepared to give up the living over the issue) took the opportunity to raise a subscription to purchase a harmonium. Once acquired the instrument met with approval by the congregation.⁴³⁰ However, this was not the first instrument used by a choir. A bassoon was given to 'the singers of the parish of Langley Burrell' by the incumbent, Samuel Ashe, in 1796 particularly for use in the parish church. Ashe specified, 'I would have it clearly understood that it is intended for the use of the parish church of Langley Burrell, and never to become the property of any individual.'⁴³¹

Francis Kilvert 'won for himself by his piety and unostentatious manner the esteem and respect of the whole population' of Langley Burrell. His father resigned in

⁴²¹ F. Kilvert, W. Plomer (ed.) *Kilvert's Diaries* (London: Vintage, 2019), 358.

⁴²² *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 137434; Phillips, *Institutions*, ii, 105.

⁴²³ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 137434. Ashe is consistently recorded as incumbent in the churchwardens' accounts through the period (WSA, 1487/7). He is also recorded as incumbent in government reports and on his death the *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.* (17 Feb 1855, 3), *Devizes and Wilts. Gaz* (22 Feb 1855, 3), *Morning Advertiser* (19 Feb 1855, 3) etc. reference him as being incumbent for nearly fifty years.

⁴²⁴ *Morning Chronicle*, 15 Aug 1853; *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 23 Feb 1854, 3.

⁴²⁵ *Morning Chronicle*, 19 Feb 1855, 3; *Devizes and Wilts. Gazette*, 19 April 1855, 3; *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.* 17 Feb 1855, 3.

⁴²⁶ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 137434. His tenure in 1835 is noted in *Royal Com. to Inquire into Ecclesiastical Revenues and Patronage of the Established Church of England And Wales. Report.* (Parl. Papers, 1835 (cd. 67), xxii), 414.

⁴²⁷ F. Kilvert, W. Plomer (ed.) *Kilvert's Diaries* (London: Vintage, 2019), ix.

⁴²⁸ *Kilvert's Diaries*, xiv.

⁴²⁹ For more information on the life of Francis Kilvert, see *ODNB*, 37634. *Kilvert's Diaries*.

⁴³⁰ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 359-60, 365-66, 367-68.

⁴³¹ *Gleanings from Wilts. Parish Registers* (WRS 63), 141.

the year of Kilvert's death and was replaced by John Jeremiah Daniell, an author whose works later included *The History of Chippenham*.⁴³²

In 1754 (and again in 1786), the church of St Giles Kellaways was recorded as having been destroyed.⁴³³ Nonetheless, in 1754, it was awarded to John Copson (vicar of Malmesbury and after 1765, vicar of Kemble). However, according to Copson, in 1783, the congregation was actually 'served by some neighbouring clergy', namely the vicar of Dauntsey.⁴³⁴ Copson stated he held St Giles' under sequestration with the patronage of Sir Robert Long 'for the benefit of the widow, who receives £4 per annum from the Queen's [Queen Anne's] Bounty.'⁴³⁵

From 1785, under the ministry of Henry Brindley,⁴³⁶ Kellaway's monthly church services became weekly, and through his 'zeal and interest,' the church was rebuilt. Brindley instituted an annual lecture on the sin of cruelty to animals. He died in 1819 and is buried in the church. His memorial against the east end records that 'he was as pious, generous, and affectionate as he was humane'.⁴³⁷ Several curates were employed from 1808 during Brindley's old age.⁴³⁸

Despite the creation of a new church in Kellaways in 1805, its organisation was small and included only one churchwarden. Church rates were collected from three or four people. Despite this the parish retained a salaried clerk.⁴³⁹ The new church had 85 sittings, 45 of them free according to the incumbent in 1851, although later directories suggest that there was seating for only 55.⁴⁴⁰ On census Sunday (30 March) 1851, rector Walter Long stated there had been 26 congregants attending morning service and 21 in the afternoon. At the time, the population of the hamlet was 35. There was no Sunday school due to the small size of the parish.⁴⁴¹

In 1676 the church at Langley Burrell had 150 communicants, while Kellaways had ten.⁴⁴² According to the Langley Burrell rector, Samuel Ashe, in 1783, religious services were conducted at the church twice on Sundays throughout the year and on Christmas Day, St Stephen's (Boxing Day), Easter and Whitsun. Holy Communion was celebrated on Christmas Day, Easter Sunday and Whitsunday. The congregation was between 7 and 8 (the church had 246 sittings).⁴⁴³ Under Ashe's successor, Robert Ashe, also patron of the living and owner of the manor, the congregation was seemingly far more numerous, 'about 100' and the sittings 200, according to the brief return given for

⁴³² *Wilts. Times*, 27 Sep 1879, 8.

⁴³³ Ecton, *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum* (1754 edn.), 404; Ecton and Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 887.

⁴³⁴ *Bishop's Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 82, 131.

⁴³⁵ *Bishop's Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 131.

⁴³⁶ *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 9560; Phillipps, *Institutions*, ii, 93; Land tax returns for Kellaways show that prior to Brindley's incumbency parish tithes were being collected by a Rev Dr West (as well as by the Bremhill vicar as was the norm). WSA, A1/345/238.

⁴³⁷ Regularity of church services according to the memorial to Henry Brindley in St Giles'. *Memorial Inscriptions of Wilts.* (WRS 53), 11; TNA, PROB 11/616/364; *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 12 April 1819, 4.

⁴³⁸ They were William Marsh 1808-1816 employed at a cost of £30 p.a. and Timothy Conyers from 1816 at £40, who it was specified was required to live within a 5-mile radius of the parish. *Clergy of the C of E Database*, ID 87242, 91809.

⁴³⁹ WSA, 1711/3.

⁴⁴⁰ TNA, HO 129/253; *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1889 edn.), 935.

⁴⁴¹ TNA HO 129/253.

⁴⁴² *Compton Census*, ed. Whiteman, 128.

⁴⁴³ *Bishop's Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 66-7.

census Sunday in 1851.⁴⁴⁴ In 1874 the rural dean remarked that the church was ‘a singular instance of the morning congregation being larger than the afternoon one.’⁴⁴⁵

No Sunday school was noted in 1783; in 1818, however, a room was under construction for a Sunday school.⁴⁴⁶

Nonconformity

In 1667 Sir Edward Bayntun was alleged to have suppressed evidence concerning a religious ‘fanatic’ in Langley Burrell.⁴⁴⁷ In 1676 it was reported that Kellaways had two nonconformists and Langley Burrell seven. Neither parish had any Catholics.⁴⁴⁸ Several Quaker marriages and burials are recorded for residents of Langley Burrell and Kellaways during the 17th century.⁴⁴⁹ One hundred years later, in 1783, there were no nonconformists or Catholics in Langley Burrell, according to the incumbent, although a few individuals commonly absented themselves from all public worship.⁴⁵⁰ No dissenting chapels were recorded in 1851. However, four dwellings were registered as meeting houses between 1700 and 1744, a period when (except for several months during 1744) the rector was not a member of the Ashe family, who both held Langley Burrell manor and dominated the incumbency throughout the 18th and 19th centuries.⁴⁵¹

Church architecture

The impressive church of St Peter’s, Langley Burrell, consists of a chancel with chantry, nave of three bays with north aisle and to the south the porch and tower. It is grade I listed.⁴⁵² It incorporates elements from before 1200 (the north aisle and blocked windows in the chancel) but otherwise dates predominantly from the mid-13th to the mid-14th century. The south tower dates from the 14th century, possibly built by John Delamare, whose tomb lies in the church yard. The Cobham arms (a chevron with three stars) are located on a wooden boss in the nave roof. The family (owners of the estate from the mid 14th century) are likely to have enlarged or renovated the church. A battlemented chapel to the south-east dates from the late 15th century.⁴⁵³

In 1716 it was noted that the tower was askew and had ‘sunk’ at the north-east corner.⁴⁵⁴ Samuel Ashe, incumbent 1777-1807, described the church prior to subsequent renovations: it ‘seems to have been of very ancient date, from the nature of the pillars which support the nave and side isle [*sic*] both of which are decently pewed, it has a neat gallery for the singer under which is the font and vestry. The tower contains four bells... the chancel is light and spacious, to which on the south is attached a small building or chapel, which is the burial place of the lord of the manor.’⁴⁵⁵

⁴⁴⁴ TNA, HO 129/253.

⁴⁴⁵ *Kilvert’s Diaries*, 335.

⁴⁴⁶ *Bishop’s Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 66-7; *Educ. of the Poor. Digest*, 1031.

⁴⁴⁷ *VCH Wilts*, iv, 120.

⁴⁴⁸ *Compton Census*, ed. Whiteman, 128; *Wilts. N&Q*, iii, 536; iv, 224, 305.

⁴⁴⁹ *Wilts. N&Q*, ii, 343.

⁴⁵⁰ *Bishop’s Visitation Queries 1783* (WRS 27), 136.

⁴⁵¹ *Wilts. Dissenters Meeting House Certificates* (WRS 40), 9, 15, 21, 25.

⁴⁵² HER, ID 1199423.

⁴⁵³ Orbach and Pevsner, *Wilts*, 393-5; Mynors and Brakspear, *Notes on Hist. of St Peter’s*.

⁴⁵⁴ WSA, 118/140.

⁴⁵⁵ WSA, 3623/1.

In 1859, St Peter's church was reported to be in good repair.⁴⁵⁶ Later, according to Kilvert, the structure of the building was examined by the rural dean 'within and without narrowly' in 1874 and found to have no fault.⁴⁵⁷ However, in 1891, C.E. Ponting, the diocesan architect, reported to the vestry that there were unmistakable signs of 'insecurity' in every part of the structure of the church and warned 'it is impossible to exaggerate the risk of total collapse.' Ponting blamed soft and yielding soil leading to inadequate foundations. The works were put under a committee which included the rector (John Jeremiah Daniell), churchwardens, and Thermuthis Ashe, owner of the Langley Burrell estate.⁴⁵⁸ Renovations were made to the chancel and the tower was underpinned to Ponting's specification. However, the nave remained untouched. In 1897, it was discovered that extensive repairs were again required, this time to the central nave and north aisle, including underpinning and a new roof which was in 'a dangerous state'. Works were again put in the care of a committee that included Ashe, churchwardens and the rector.⁴⁵⁹ The careful renovations were executed to the plans of Harold Brakspear and carried out by Downing and Rudman. The work estimated to cost £750 rose to £898 during the renovation, which also involved a new wooden floor and the seating 'reconstructed and modernised.' Thermuthis Ashe made a liberal subscription, alongside several others. Fundraising included a bazaar in the grounds of Langley House. The church was re-opened in April 1899 after its closure for several months while the works were carried out.⁴⁶⁰ However, a note in churchwarden's accounts suggests that the refurbishment was only finally completed by the restoration of a stone parapet and carved pinnacles on the north aisle wall in February 1905.⁴⁶¹

During renovations 1898-9 the remains of three fonts were found, including one Norman font treated as an scalloped capital. A Latin inscription was also discovered in the north wall of the nave.⁴⁶² Subsequent newspaper reporting suggested that fragments of two further fonts had previously been found in repairs during the 1870s.⁴⁶³ John Aubrey suggested that a 14th-century trefoiled squint or 'hole' on the south side of the chancel arch may have been used as a confessional.⁴⁶⁴

In 1887, the graveyard was extended by 11 perches through the gift of land adjacent to it by Thermuthis Ashe.⁴⁶⁵

The original chapel of St Giles, Kellaways, was constructed by 1304. A floor plan made before its demolition shows it to have been a simple structure of a nave of 31 x 21 ft. with a single doorway and two windows.⁴⁶⁶ In 1803 the condition of the church was described as 'very ruinous.' Allegedly because of its proximity to a water grist mill (the east wall was contiguous to the dwelling house adjoining the mill), it was also infested with vermin and prone to flooding, which rendered it damp and 'dangerous to the health of parishioners to attend.' The bishop of Salisbury was petitioned and gave licence for the construction of a new structure. A new site on the opposite side of the road from the mill that ran between Kellaways and Langley Burrell was purchased from

⁴⁵⁶ *Kelly's Dir. Wilts.* (1859 edn.), 440.

⁴⁵⁷ *Kilvert's Diaries*, 335.

⁴⁵⁸ WSA, 1487/7. 5 Mar 1891.

⁴⁵⁹ WSA, 1487/7. 5 May 1898.

⁴⁶⁰ *Wilts. Times*, 21 Aug 1897, 5, 22 April 1899, 7; WSA, 1487/7. 5 May 1898. See also undated particulars.

⁴⁶¹ WSA, 1487/7. Undated note Easter 1905.

⁴⁶² WSA, 1487/7. Undated [1898?]; Mynors and Brakspear, *Notes on Hist. of St Peter's*.

⁴⁶³ *Wilts. Times*, 22 April 1899, 7

⁴⁶⁴ Aubrey, *Topog. Colln.* ed. Jackson, 96.

⁴⁶⁵ WSA, 1487/7. 11 Apr 1887.

⁴⁶⁶ WSA, D/1/61/4/47.

Thomas Crook (the churchwarden and parish overseer) by Walter Long of South Wraxall, Hugh Beames of Avon and William Crook of Tytherton. The land was put in trust for Henry Brindley, rector, Thomas Crook and Hugh Beames and William Crook (as the principal inhabitants of Kellaways) for the construction of a new church and churchyard. The new edifice funded by donations and built to the same size as the former church was completed by February 1805. The old structure was taken down, and the materials were used to create a wall around the new churchyard.⁴⁶⁷ A licence was granted to allow worship in the new church of St Giles before it was consecrated by the bishop on 21 July 1808.⁴⁶⁸

The small ashlar church comprises a simply furnished nave of 3 bays with pointed windows. The pointed west door has an ogee-headed surround, and the edifice has an octagonal wooden bellcote.⁴⁶⁹ The structure is little altered since its original construction. It is likely that the font predates the church.⁴⁷⁰ The building is Grade II listed.⁴⁷¹

The parish registers for christenings, burials and marriages at St Peter's survive from 1607 and for St Giles from 1815.⁴⁷²

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Manorial Government

Court books have survived for Langley Burrell for 1586-1639 and 1682-1706. These indicate that the court baron was held twice in 1685, but otherwise annually or less frequently with gaps including between 1618 and 1630. There is an incomplete manor survey from 1586 and accounts from 1682.⁴⁷³

Lists of the annually selected tithingman for Langley Burrell have survived 1643-1749 within overseers' papers.⁴⁷⁴ The names of the tithingmen are also recorded in highway surveyors' accounts as one of their duties appears to have been auditing the surveyors.⁴⁷⁵

Those entitled to beast leazes on Langley Burrell Common and in Bird's Marsh formed a committee of commoners with responsibility for the upkeep and management of the wastes. Annually the body selected a hayward, agreed on levies to be charged (which were used to mark the bounds and make repairs) and the date at which the common and marsh were to be stocked. Accounts of the commoners were inspected

⁴⁶⁷ WSA, D/1/4/2/1, D/1/61/4/47.

⁴⁶⁸ WSA, D/1/60/1/9, D/1/4/2/1.

⁴⁶⁹ Orbach and Pevsner, *Wilts*, 376; HER, ID 1022353; WSA, D/1/61/4/47; D/1/60/1/9.

⁴⁷⁰ WSA, 2512/170/85. Orbach and Pevsner, *Wilts*, 376.

⁴⁷¹ HER, ID 1022353.

⁴⁷² St Peter's: WSA, 1487/1-6; WSA, 2682/1-2. St Giles: WSA, 1711/1, 10-12. Note: Baptisms 1815-1988, marriages 1818-1831 and 1839-1994 and burials 1816-1981.

⁴⁷³ WSA, 118/50/1; WSA, 118/156/1. There are also stewards' papers from 1698-1705 contained in WSA, 118/156/1. Other manorial records are a manor valuation with rental, 1843 (WSA, 2526/1); Manor rentals 1721-1748 (WSA, 118/156/3); Minute book of commoners, 1744-1810, with receipts 1803-14 (WSA, 118/156/2) and articles of agreement concerning common grazing rights, 1715 (WSA, 568/9).

⁴⁷⁴ WSA, 118/149/1.

⁴⁷⁵ WSA, 416/16.

annually and one member often acted as a treasurer. A minute book survives for the period 1744-1831.⁴⁷⁶ In 1838 the common was enclosed.⁴⁷⁷

A court book has survived for the manor of Tytherton Kellaways only for the year 1640 when two admissions were made.⁴⁷⁸

Parish Government

No separate vestry minutes for Langley Burrell have survived, although there are lists of overseers and churchwardens or records of their selection from 1665.⁴⁷⁹ Lists of poor rate assessments exist for the parish for 1666-1708, 1714-44, 1765-1811, 1812-17, 1817-30.⁴⁸⁰ Accounts or disbursements of overseers are also available 1705-29, 1765-1811, 1812-35 and the accounts for surveyors of the highways 1757-1815.⁴⁸¹ Boundary changes in 1882 and 1884 affected the area governed by the vestry.⁴⁸²

After their purchase of the Langley Burrell estate in the 17th century successive generations of the Ashe family took a keen interest in local government. They attended meetings, acted as auditors of accounts (seemingly as principal inhabitant rather than magistrate) and fulfilled the role of a parish officer

Despite its diminutive physical size and small population, the hamlet of Tytherton Kellaways formed a civil parish until 1934. There are vestry minutes for the period 1846-84,⁴⁸³ which witness the selection of a churchwarden, passing of accounts, and setting of rates. Although there are no surviving overseers or highway surveyors accounts, it appears that administratively during the 18th and 19th centuries Kellaways was fulfilling all the statutory requirements expected of a civil parish, such as providing poor relief and maintaining local highways.⁴⁸⁴

Two overseers were selected annually for Langley Burrell. In 1666 they raised £54 6s. 9 ½d. and disbursed £53 12s. 3d. to the poor.⁴⁸⁵ In 1736 a number of individuals and their families without legal settlement were told to return to their respective parishes (pending legal action) or produce certificates that would indemnify Langley Burrell from the responsibility of their relief. In 1776 the cost of relief for Langley Burrell was £61 4s. 6d. This thereafter rose to £123 9s. 8d. by the mid-1780s, and by the year ending Easter 1803, £200 8s. 4d. was expended by the parish of Langley Burrell on relief for the poor, including £1 18s. 4d. for the cost of removals.⁴⁸⁶ By 1813 the cost had risen to £380 before falling two years later, in 1815, to £203.⁴⁸⁷ The number of adults

⁴⁷⁶ WSA, 118/156/2. Lists exist of the holders of beast leazes and the number of leazes they possess, including those created in 1695 and 1714: WSA, 118/156/2; 568/9.

⁴⁷⁷ WSA, 118/26. The Langley Burrell rector, J.J. Daniell later called the enclosure illegal. Daniell, *Hist. of Chippenham*, 39-40.

⁴⁷⁸ WSA, 947/1628.

⁴⁷⁹ WSA, 118/149/1, 415/15.

⁴⁸⁰ WSA, 118/149/1, 3-4, 118/150/1-2.

⁴⁸¹ WSA, 118/149/2-4, 118/150/2, 415/16. See also WSA, 118/154, which includes removal orders and examinations, and indexed receipts and papers for the churchwardens, overseers of the poor and surveyors of the highways, 1785-1819.

⁴⁸² See above: intro, boundaries.

⁴⁸³ WSA, 1711/6.

⁴⁸⁴ Above, communicatrons, and religious history.

⁴⁸⁵ WSA, 118/149/1.

⁴⁸⁶ *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 560.

⁴⁸⁷ *Poor Law Abstract, 1818*, 494.

receiving permanent relief was between 22 and 25 in the period 1813-15, with between 7 and 11 receiving it occasionally. There was no parish workhouse.⁴⁸⁸

Relief provision was based on outdoor relief predominantly in the form of cash payments and house rents. Medical relief for the poor was provided from 1768.⁴⁸⁹ Langley Burrell joined the Chippenham Poor Law Union in 1835.

There was no listing in poor law returns for Kellaways in 1776.⁴⁹⁰ Subsequent returns record a nil cost for the year. Given the population of the parish was 19 in 1811, it is likely that there had been no necessity for anyone to receive relief in 1776. The average for 1783-5 was £15 1s. 1d., and in 1803 the total for relieving the parish poor was £33 4s. 9d.⁴⁹¹ Confusingly while Kellaways is listed as a parish within the 1803 returns, a separate tithing called 'Tytherton-Kelways' is also noted as being part of Bremhill parish. This is likely to refer to the hamlet now known as East Tytherton.⁴⁹² The presence of an overseer is indicated by their occasional signature in vestry minutes 1846-84, and the noted selection of one in 1883 and 1884 when a waywarden was also selected.⁴⁹³

In 1803 6 adults and 11 children were recorded as receiving relief in Kellaways, but the figures are suspect, as the total population in 1811 was only 19.⁴⁹⁴ During the French Wars between 1813 and 1815 the parish was subject to swings in the cost of relief. The total fell from £41 in 1814 to £22 in 1815, despite the number in receipt of relief remaining static at four adults.⁴⁹⁵ The parish joined the Chippenham Poor Law Union in 1835.

Two highway surveyors were selected for Langley Burrell from 1651, if not before. In 1651 the highway surveyors of Langley Burrell, Richard Alland and Edmund Hort and several principal inhabitants made an agreement with Chippenham and Hardenhuish that apportioned parochial responsibility for roads leading into Chippenham.⁴⁹⁶ During the 18th century surveyors were annually selected from up to 10 nominees. In 1760-8 Robert Ashe (lord of the manor) was selected each year except one when Revd. Ashe was selected instead.⁴⁹⁷

Maud Heath's Causeway intersects Kellaways and Langley Burrell, requiring the collaboration of both parishes with the Maud Heath trustees (who were often prominent members of the community).⁴⁹⁸ In 1794 surveyors from both parishes joined in repairing and widening Kellaways bridge to which the trust contributed £50 of the projected £65 cost.⁴⁹⁹ Other works conducted independently by the trust relieved the

⁴⁸⁸ *Poor Law Abstract, 1818*, 494-5.

⁴⁸⁹ WSA, 118/149/3.

⁴⁹⁰ *Poor Law Abstract, 1777*, 484.

⁴⁹¹ *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 560.

⁴⁹² *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 560, fn q; cf. *Andrews' and Dury's Map 1773*, where East Tytherton is named Tytherton-Kelways.

⁴⁹³ WSA, 1711/6.

⁴⁹⁴ *Poor Law Abstract, 1804*, 561. *VCH Wilts*, iv, 359.

⁴⁹⁵ *Poor Law Abstract, 1818*, 494-5. No one received occasional relief. These returns do not record the number of children.

⁴⁹⁶ WSA, 118/149/1; 415/16; 118/53. See also *Wilts. Quarter Sessions Order Book 1642-1654* (WRS 67), 285-7.

⁴⁹⁷ WSA, 415/16.

⁴⁹⁸ WSA, 3448/2/1; 415/16. For a list of trustees which included local estate owner Robert Ashe see WSA, 1769/67.

⁴⁹⁹ WSA, 3448/2/1. 1794. WSA, 415/16. 2 July 1794.

parish authorities of some of the responsibility and financial burden of maintaining the thoroughfares which may otherwise have fallen to them.⁵⁰⁰

After 1894

The first election to the parish council of Langley Burrell Without returned nine councillors including, notably, two women, Thermuthis Ashe (owner of the Langley Burrell estate) and Lucy Ashe.⁵⁰¹ In 1895 Thermuthis Ashe chaired the annual parish meeting in the school room. However, as there was no parish council election and no one raised any discussion the meeting was closed.⁵⁰² She also acted as chair in 1901 and 1902.⁵⁰³ Minutes of Langley Burrell Without parish are available from 1894 to 1968. Until the 1930s they mainly recorded the annual parish meetings only, and discussion was often limited to the selection of councillors and appointment of parish officers.⁵⁰⁴ In 1905 the council petitioned against the inclusion of the parish in the rateable area for new schools in Chippenham.⁵⁰⁵ In 1938 and earlier the council was concerned to preserve the picturesque nature of the environment, and campaigned to prevent the felling of trees at the north end of Hardenhuish park and elsewhere for road widening.⁵⁰⁶

⁵⁰⁰ WSA, 3448/2/1-2: Maud Heath Trust minute books.

⁵⁰¹ *Wilts Times*, 22 Dec 1894, 7; *Bristol Times and Mirror*, 17 Dec 1894, 3.

⁵⁰² WSA, 1746/1, 29 Mar 1895.

⁵⁰³ WSA, 1746/1, 4 Mar 1901, 27 Mar 1902.

⁵⁰⁴ WSA, 1746/1.

⁵⁰⁵ WSA, 1746/1, 26 Sep 1905.

⁵⁰⁶ WSA, 1746/1, 27 Oct 1937, 5 Oct 1938.