

Notes on Horton and Burton Bounds and Ass docs etc.

From Phil Hudson

Notes made at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, from Dr John Burton's six volumes of transcripts of medieval monastic charters for Yorkshire.

Burton's notes and transcripts are in a mixture of Latin and English; I translated part, and abbreviated part.

Vol. 4, page 120.

13thc.

1. Uctred of Stodelay gave to his son William etc 2 carucates in Horton in Ribblesdale yielding annually 5s for all services, and also his mill at Malham. Charter no-237.

2. William son of Richard the Clerk of Horton gave us two acres in Horton. Charter 238.

3. He also gave us 3 acres in Horton. Charter 239.

4. William Aleman gave us 2 carucates in Horton, 5s for all services.

5. He also gave us 2 carucates yielding to William de Mowbray and his heirs 5s annually.

6. Walter Aleman confirmed to us the 2 carucates which his brother William gave us, reserving to himself and his heirs the services for the said land.

7. Beatrix daughter of Helias Suane of Staynford, widow of Hugh de Calton, gave us all the land in Horton, both the ownership and the services, with the Lodge called Birkwith, doing forinsec service.

(= services due elsewhere)

8. Richard de Normanville and Johanne his wife quitclaimed all their rights in no-7 above, doing forinsec service.

9. Richard the Clerk of Horton released to us all right in 3 bovates in Horton which lie 'remotiores a sole' (distant from the sun?) and with a messuage at Stodfald.

10. Roger de Stapylton gave us 1 bovat in Horton with Yvo his villein tenant of the land and with all his family. This is the same bovat that Beatrix widow of Hugh de Calton gave to him for homage and service doing forinsec service.

11. Thomas son of Walter de Sicling of Masham confirmed ye same.

12. William de Mowbray agreed and confirmed to us all the lands, rents and possessions and whatsoever we held in his Fee on the day of St Barnabus the apostle in the year of the Incarnation 1220 in Wynkesley, Swetton, Karlesmore, Kirkeby Malassart and in Horton.

And the eleven bovates of land that we hold in service, reserving what is owed to him and his heirs which they ought to have, and paying 5s annually out of Horton.

13. AD 1224, the dispute betwixt ye abbot and convent of Fountains and ye abbot and convent of Joreval were compounded when ye last was to grant to ye first 14 bovates which William Aleman gave 'em in Horton. They also granted to Fountains ye lodge called Birkwid which formerly belonged to Beatrix de Calton with a close of meadow surrounding the said lodge; they also granted to Fountains yt they should have in the said lodge pasture for 8 score sheep and a hundred beasts counting by the great hundred (i.e. 120) but so that the monks of Fountains might not move them out of Horton or take them to any other of their lands or possessions below (?) the aforesaid lands howsoever acquired or received without the licence and agreement of the abbot and convent of Joreval. Let it be known that by this pact the said Fountains monks will divide and confirm by charter to the said Jervaulx monks six bovates of land which they had by the gift of the said Beatrix in the land of Horton with the tofts and crofts and men and all that pertains to them both within and without the vill, and with the homage and service of Richard Clerk and his heirs for the lands of Falbergh (Fawber) for 20s rent to Fountains annually payable at the abbey and doing forinsec service to the same Fountains for all services etc.

Vol 3 page 316 charter 210 begins:

Richard by the grace of God etc. We have examined the Letters Patent of John de Mowbray lately lord of the Isle of Axholme and the Honour of Bramham etc . . .

(page 318 cont.) requiring homage to me and my heirs for it and paying 5s annually in rent for Horton in Ribblesdale for all secular services.

Vol 3 page 324 charter 238 deleted and 385 substituted.

William son of Richard Clerk of Horton salutes all present and future sons of holy Church. You have moved me to grant, donate, resign and yield all claim for myself and my heirs for ever to God and the monks of the church of the blessed Maria of Fountains two acres of land in the territory of Horton

which lies in these places: 3 roods in Withberg abutting at one end on Roskylmyre and the other end on the rocks towards the west; and one half acre of land in the same field extending across the river of Bulegile and over le Sike de Machum (Bull gill, Mason's syke) and three roods on the far side of the water abutting at one end on the road to Stainberg and on the other end on the rock, holding and having the same in pure alms free of any services.

And I William and my heirs guarantee the said two acres of land to the monks of Fountains etc.

Witnessed by Henry Percy of Settle, lord John de Cauncefeld, Nigel de Burton, Henry de Staynford, Hugh de Mirwra, William de Clapham, Ranulf de Settle, William son of Robert of Staynford and others.

Vol 3 page 325 corrected to 177, charter 239 corrected to 291 corrected again to 386.

William son of Richard Clerk salutes you in eternal God. I confirm . . . in pure and perpetual alms to God and the monks of blessed Maria of Fountains . . . 3 acres of land in the territory of Horton, namely one lying in a place called Raysesit abutting on the water of Ribbel and one acre and a half of land lying in a place called Crokesholm abutting on the water of Ribbel towards the south end of the land and extending to the middle of the sike abutting on Craggeshil towards the north end; and half an acre of land lying in a place called Wythstan abutting on Crakeldsyke towards the south and extending to Hubert's house to the north. Holding and having the same in quiet and free of all services etc.

. . day of the seven holy brothers AD1267. Witnessed Lord John de Kauncefeld, Lord Henry Percy in Settle, Nigel de Burton, Henry de Staynforthe, Hugh de Mirwra, Adam son of Richard Clerk of Horton and many others.

Vol 3 page 324 charter 237.

Uctred of Stodleia having seen all the writings and heard everything greets all present and future people. Know ye that I confirm by this my present charter to William my son and his heirs for his homage two carucates of land in Horton in Ribelesdale with all that belongs to them in wood and field, in meadow and pasture, in waters and ponds, in moors and marshes and in all places and liberties and with free rights of access to the said two carucates of land and what belongs to them; holding of me and my heirs in fee and free inheritance and peaceably and honourably rendering 5s annually for all services and customs and exactions

for everything that pertains to the said land. And furthermore I have given to him and his heirs my mill of Malghum (Malham) with everything belonging to it, holding of me and my heirs etc for 2s annually.

Witnessed Radulf son of Aldelinus, Roger son of Walter, John and Austin Roy of Hewyk, Gamel son of Tokkil, Gocelin son of Jocelin, Gamel son of William of Markington, Helia of Stivexton and many more.

Note: the other charters referred to in Vol 4 are nowhere transcribed in full.

Barbara Hutton, Feb 1984.

Vol 4, appendix, charter 292.

Bounds of Horton, namely Merebek between Staynford and thence by the road of Longdalegates and from Longdalegate up to penigente by ye Hergerige and thence by the edge of penigente and up to Skargile (or Swartgile) and from Skargile as far as Grenefeld knot and thence as far as Stangregrene Stangeran beyond Myddeltonge as far as Lunebek (Lin gill??) and so east along Lunebek as far as Kaldekeldsike whence Lunebek rises, and then to Aldkeld (Cold Keld) on Came and so by the kings highway (= Roman road) as far as Axeltre and thence to Flemyngsty and far as the Rybel and from the Rybel below Hardegyle and from as Crembochowe and from crembokhow to Solberg by Solbergryge as far as Holgyle and from Hot yll

(thieves' path) and thence again to Swartmore as far as Symundwate at the south end of the Hardegyle up as far (Sulber) and thence head up to Thevesty and from Swartemore bridge of Helwath.

unfortunately there is no date to this bounds.

UNDATED BOUNDS OF HORTON, from Burton's transcription in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (MSS Top Yorks e 7-12, vol 4)

Bounds of Horton, namely, Merebek between Horton and Stainforth and thence to the road of Longdalegate and from Longdalegate as far as Penyghent by the Hergerige and thence as far as Penyghent divides and goes up to Scargyll (or Swartgyll) and from Scargyll as far as Greenfield Knot and thence as far as Stangregrene Stangeran beyond Myddeltonge as far as Lunebek and thus by Lunebek towards the east as far as Kaldekeldsyke whence Lunebek issues forth and thence to Aldekelde (Kaldekeld?) above Cam and thus by the Kings road

(Kungsgate) as far as Axeltre and thence to Flemyngsty and from Flmyngsty as far as the Ribble and from the Ribble under Hardegyle and from Hardegyle upwards to Crembochowe and from Crembokhow to Solberg and from there by Solbergryge as far as Holgyle and from Holgyllheved as far as Thevesty and thence back to Swarthmore and from Swartemore as far as Symundwate at the southern side of Helwath bridge etc.

Merebek means a boundary stream; is it at SD811690 or at SD 815695?

Hergerige - the last element is ridge, so perhaps what is now Gavel Rigg?

Longdalegate must therefore be Long Lane, which suggests that the bounds were closer in than they are now.

Stangregrene - probably stone green, but the clerk evidently wasn't sure. This must be the same place as was called Stanpapan in 1190, i.e. SD 815789.

Lunebek must be Cam Beck as that is the only one running from the east. In that case again the line has changed.

Kaldekeldsyke must be the stream that runs along the parish boundary south from Cold Keld to Cam Beck.

Kungsgate –(Kings Road) this is the 'via regia' or Roman road.

Axletree Gill is at SD 7980

Hardegyle - perhaps Ashes Gill which joins the Ribble at SD 785779.

Crembokhow - a howe or mound recognisable by being crooked, not necessarily Crummock because the word is said to be very common. There are, I believe, plenty of howes between Colt Park and (say) Simon Fell.

Solberg is Sulber, so Solbergryge means Sulber Rigg.

Holgyle - any ideas? 'heved' means the head of Holgill.

Thevesty - 'thieves' path', c.f. Thieves Moss at SD 777731.

Symundwate sounds like Simon's ford; it could be a ford just where the present boundary turns away from the Ribble.

DEEDS AT YAS, CLAREMONT, LEEDS.

Dd 104

(n.d., deed William Howsone of Brackenbottom, parish Horton.

1587 will of George Clarke of Horton 1601 Deed Bryan Taylor and his son to John Taylor Fountainscale (A)

1606 Deed Earl of Cumberland and William Ingilby to Peter Watson Fountainscale (B)

1615 Deed Earl of Cumberland and Henry Clifford his son to Philip Sedgwick Fountainscale (B)

1616 Deed Earl of Cumberland to Philip Sedgwick of Came for 6,000 years owing suit and service to Manor of Litton, as Crembochowe and from crembokhow to Solberg by Solbergryge as far as Holgyle and from Hot yll (thieves' path) and thence again to Swartmore as far as Symundwate at the south end of the Hardegyle up as far (Sulber) and thence head up to Thevesty and from Swartemore bridge of Helwath.

unfortunately there is no date to this bounds.

The Metes and Bounds of Burton Chase'

..... The metes and bounds of the chases of Burton in Lonsdale begin at Langbreg' towards the west, between the county of Loncaster and the county of York and so horn Langbreg' to Douuegil', and so from the head of DouuejC to le Pyk' of Gragret', and so through Ulfstokwald and the boundaries (divisas) of Dent between the land of the said John [de Moubray] and the land of Henry son of Hugh to Cirkestanes, and from Cirkestanes to Gemmesyke, and from Gemmesyke to Caldekelde above Camb, and so from Caldekelde above Camb to the top of the hill (cacumen montis) of Penegent, between the fees of the said John de Moubray and Henry de Percy, and from Penegent to DurlayMege, and so by the boundaries between the fees of the said John and Henry de Percy to Youcrosse, and from Youcrosse to Whettyngstanj and from Whettyngstan' to a place called Langemangrave, and so by Knot to Caldestan', between the fees of the said John and the earl of Lincoln, and from Caldestan' by a place called Harlaw to le Tong of Brounmore between the county of Lancaster and the county of York; and so by Fourstanes to Kirkebek', and from Khkebek' to the water calied Whenyg' and to Littlewath, and from Littlewath below Ravencros, to Aid Weryn ton and Gr a d ythawe to Langbrig'.

Brown (ed), Yorkshire Inquests, Vol. IV, (YAS Vol. MVII, 1906),148/9.

The Identification of the-Medieval Boundaries of the Honors of Hornby and Burton-in-Lonsdale

The use of boundary perambulations to identify territories is nothing new. In his work on the Anglo~Saxon estate boundaries in Devon, W.G.Hoskins' showed what can be deduced from a copy of a Saxon charter and the 21/2-inch maps', and there have been many people who have 'followed in his footsteps' and used the Anglo-Saxon charters to identify pre-Conquest estates in other parts of the country. This option is not open

to workers in the North West, however. There are less than thirty early charters listed by Hart which relate to the 'Northern Counties', with just two relating to estates in the North West². These are Tospatrick's Writ', (c.1041 X 1064) which relates to the northern part of Cumberland, and Athelstan's grant dated AD934 of the lands he had purchased in Amounderness to the church of StMeter, York. The first, although informative, is not directly relevant to this work and the Amounderness grant, which gives only sketchy details of the area - 'bounded to the west by the sea, north by the River Cocker, east by the River Hodder below Dunsop Bridge and south by the River Ribble does not lend itself to closer study.

Bearing the above in mind it will be clear that, considering the virtual absence of Anglo-Saxon charters, the identification of medieval boundaries of multi-settlement estates may have to be used 'to fill the gap'. What is much more difficult actually carrying out such an identification. As noted in the introduction, documentary evidence of any kind for Northern England is comparatively rare before the fourteenth century, so the survival of boundary perambulations for such large medieval estates is improbable, but not impossible. There are, in fact, no boundary perambulations surviving for the whole of the Honor of Hornby. The late-sixteenth century Survey of Hornby Castle Estates⁴ includes details of 'The Boundarie of Robrondale' and 'The Boundaries of Tatham's, which would enable the eastern, southern and western boundaries of the hill land, formerly Roeburndale Forest 'which had just been inclosed',⁶ to be identified. There are problems, however, not least that the boundaries stated relate to the position in the mid-sixteenth century. Although it is very probable that both the Roeburndale and Tatham boundaries at that date were similar, if not identical, to those of the medieval period through much of their length, any conclusions reached as a result of such an assumption might be considered 'suspect'. For example, even though the Roeburndale boundaries follow natural features such as watersheds - 'as the Heaven Waters falls' - they also are said to go along man-made features such as 'the same old ditch dividing Roborondale[sic] and Botton to Brown Hill'. In this context, how old is 'old?', Lying as it does on the edge of a former forest, this could well be a boundary ditch constructed well after the Conquest, but up to four hundred years earlier than the Survey!

It might be considered equally suspect to use the 1307 perambulation of the boundaries of Burton Chase for the purpose of determining whether the post-Conquest Honor of Burton was an 'invention' of Henry I, or a pre-Conquest territorial unit. However, it has several factors in its favour - the most important being its availability and completeness. It was recorded some two hundred and seventy years earlier than the Hornby material, and relates to a boundary already in existence in 1296. This could mean that any changes resulting from the activities of the Mowbray family would have been incorporated by this date. However, that large sections of the boundary can be checked against evidence taken from monastic charters relating to grants of land within the Honor, some of which date back to the mid-twelfth century, would suggest that the information contained within this perambulation is as 'contemporary' with the immediate post-Conquest period as is likely to be available for anywhere in the North West.

At an Inquest held at Boroughbridge in 1307, two of the King's Commissioners sat with a jury of 12 men, six of whom appear from their surnames to have been local to the Burton-in-Lonsdale area, to consider 'by what metes and bounds' the ancestor of Sir John de Mowbray held the free chase of Burton-in-Lonsdale (which seem to have been identical with those of the southern half of the Honor) and the free chase of Nidderdale. The Burton bounds are set out first and follow a predictable pattern (Fig.1:4). The boundary points are taken in a clockwise sequence, beginning (and ending) at the caput of Burton, with the linear distance covered

by the boundary in excess of 100km. Because of the length of the boundary, it cannot be said that the most arduous section is done first, as often happens with township boundary perambulations, as any 'beating of the bounds' of Burton Chase would have taken considerably longer than one day⁸.

What is surprising, is the relative brevity of the description. There are only 25 separate points mentioned which, considering the distances involved, seems quite low. They do, however, seem almost excessive when compared with the four mentioned in the Quo Warranto proceedings of 1293 which enquired by what right John's father, Roger held the Chasel That much of the area was upland, which Kapelle sees as 'an area that was normally beyond the control of local forces of law and order ...the refuge for the wolf and the outlaw'¹⁰ might be thought to explain the relative lack of boundary markers - there might seem to be little point in defining boundaries if the people living in the area would not, and could not, be compelled to respect them. There could, however, be another explanation - that the boundary was so well known in 1307 (and even in 1293) that there was little need to define it more precisely - the points mentioned being sufficient to set the parameters within which the complete detailed boundary might be placed.

As stated earlier, the Honor of Burton had been designated comparatively recently, in the early post-Conquest period, and, as might be expected, the boundary of the Chase begins at Burton, the caput of the Honor. The location of the first point is clearly given from the site of the motte at Burton, as the Metes and Bounds are said to begin:

'At Langebreg' towards the west, between the county of Loncaster and the county of York;'

Langber (SD644728) is a low drumlinoid hill which lies towards the west of the motte. When viewed from the motte it has a much 'longer' profile than other hills in the vicinity, hence its name.

*From Langber a hollow-way, with a very high number of species of trees and shrubs in the hedgebanks alongside it, provides easy access to the county boundary, which is crossed by the hollow-way which continues through to Scaleber in Lancashire. The boundary itself is marked by a small stream which follows a rather indeterminate course through the low-lying ground between the hills in this area of glacial deposition.

'And so from Langbreg' to Douuegil,'

This implies that the boundary continues upstream to Dowill. This poses problems, not least that there is no stream of this name on modern maps. The next section of the bounds, however, give some clue as to the likely location:

'land so from the head of Douugill to Le Pyk' of Gragret'

Gragret must be Gragareth, so the 'head of might well be on the western slopes of the hill. When I discussed the problem with Dr Gelling, she made a not altogether serious suggestion that 'douuJill' might be a 'diving stream', (that is, one which disappears underground, which would not be completely unexpected in an area with limestone outcrops, where streams disappear down swallow holes)¹², The existence of Low Douk

Cave at SD677768, not far from the modern county boundary, suggested a possible Doullill, which perhaps 'dived' into Douk Cave, and issued further down the hill to become the beck which was the boundary of Burton Chase. A stream does dive into Douk Cave, and there is evidence for a former stream course, now dry, which continues down the hill towards Ireby. This dry stream course joins one fed from an underground source lower down the slopes, which is used in parts of its course¹³ as the eastern boundary of the township of Ireby, eventually becoming the county boundary beck close to Burton.

This might be thought to militate against the identification of this stream with Doulpill, as it leaves the Burton boundary for part of its course. However, there is evidence to suggest that this might not always have been so. As noted earlier, Ireby has been regarded as part of Lancashire from the early medieval period. When the lands were re-allocated in post-Conquest times, it went with Tatham, and was never part of the Honor of Burton, and yet ecclesiastically it has always been in the parish of Thornton-in-Lonsdale, within the Honor. That it went neither to Tatham (with a recorded pre-Conquest church) nor to Whittington (with an early post-Conquest foundation) would seem to imply that Ireby's ecclesiastical connection might well be an ancient one¹⁴. There is a farm name in Ireby, Anems (name ON land detached from an estate) which might indicate that the area may originally have been part of Thornton, being detached from there, possibly in the tenth-century, to create a separate administrative unit known as Ireby¹⁶ which still retained its former ecclesiastical links. Further investigation has suggested that, even though the identification of DouJill with the stream which disappears underground at Low Douk Pot is highly likely, the fact that it is a 'diving stream' may just be coincidental. Dr Gelling noted that several instances of the river name 'Dove', contain the British river name *dubo meaning 'black'. When told that the head of the stream was above Marble Pot, where an outcrop of black limestone was quarried for decorative purposes, she suggested that in this instance, too, 'Douupill' might well contain 'the British river name' Ion on The Mys of Gragareth would probably be close to the summit, which is now marked by a triangulation pillar.

Immediately to the east of this are the eroded remains of a burial cist of Bronze Age type. It is possible to speculate that the site of the boundary was the tumulus which probably originally covered this cist, and which would have been clearly visible over a wide area it is certainly possible to see the triangulation pillar from some distance away. The modern boundary wall follows the watershed CC along the long ridge of Gragareth, until it turns east (SD701813) to cross Kingsdale (Elnesdale in 1293) north of the Wold (SD713807) to the top of Whernside, one of the three other boundary points of 1293, and there is no reason to believe the -century boundary deviated far from this as the next fourteenth boundary point states: land so through Ulfstocwold and the boundaries of Dent between the lands of the said John and the land of Henry son of Hugh to Cirkestanes' The early fourteenth-century 'Nomina Villarum' records that 'Henricus filius Hugonis' held Dent and Sedbergh as part of Honor of Burton, and it is probable that the boundaries here the were quite well known. They can, however, be identified with a little more certainty, at least from the top of Whernside, by an early thirteenth-century grant to Furness Abbey of an estate alled Souterscales¹⁹, the bounds of which include a section 'et per supercilium de Quernsyde ad Kirkestanes', which would appear to be co-terminus with the Burton

boundary, but which includes the definition of an intermediate point as well. The relevant clauses state: A et ic per supercilium de Quernside usque ad Pikedhow de S Cravenshalsewath et inde per directum usque ad Kirkstanes 1k, 'Sri That is, along the summit ridge of Wherside, to its highest Point, (where the Burton boundary and the Souterscales boundary first coincide), and then eastwards, possibly to cross the Math' or ford close to the ancient route, Craven Way, which linked the valley of the Ribble (and hence Craven) with Dentdale.

The modern route of the Craven Way uses a crossing provided by the Settle-Carlisle railway at SD761816 but it seems probable that Cravenshalswath - a ford in the path to Craven - is the one marked clearly as 'Wath or Ford' on the 1st. Series O.S. 025,000 sheet SD78 across Little Dale Beck below Force Gill Ridge (SD763826). Even today, if the railway crossing was not available, this would appear to be the best spot to cross the valley. Upstream of the wath is what appears to be a former lake bed, partly drained, but still extremely boggy, which effectively prevents access from one side of the valley to the other. The identification of the Pikedhow at the wath poses some problems. There is no cairn or hillock immediately adjacent to the ford. However, some sixty metres upstream, on the western bank of the beck, there is a scatter of large stones, and what appears to be the remains of a burial cist of Bronze Age type. From the somewhat circumstantial evidence of a length of 'tramway rail' stuck into the centre, it is possible the cist was disturbed by workers constructing the tunnel under Blea Moor during the nineteenth-century, when the Settle-Carlisle Railway was being built. They possibly recognized it as a burial cairn and investigated its interior. In consequence, any cairn which had been raised over the cist in antiquity (the Piked How) would have been largely destroyed.

That a sheep fold 'Cold sheep fold' on the 1st. edn. O.S. 1:10560 map) was located very close to the ford is another pointer to the line of the boundary, because on an unfenced intercommoned moor stock would need to be divided and returned to their respective owners at certain times of the year, and a fold for this purpose, on a boundary between territories (as here, in the early fourteenth-century, between the Chase of John de Mowbray and the lands of his tenant, Henry son of Hugh), close to a way such as the Craven way, would have been essential. Although Kirkstanes is not a place-name on modern maps, there are three names marked on the 1st. edn. O.S. 1:10560 map which it is tempting to suggest may have some connection - Christain [sic] Way Foot (actually at the ford), Christain Way, and Christain Way Top, just below the 'Crag of Blea Moor' to which the term 'Tirkstanes' would appear to have been applied²². This is a distinctive outcrop, particularly when viewed from the west (as it would have been in both the Burton and Souterscales boundary perambulations). Limestone outcrops here above a largely gritstone moor (the Blemor of 1293), giving white rocks and good quality green grass which contrast vividly with the darker rocks, and the distinctive vegetation, largely *nardus* and *juncus* of the gritstone. This would make Eirkstanes a very visible point to make for, even without the modern triangulation pillar, which is set on a mound close to the western edge of the crag (SD773826), and which may well sit on or close to the remains of a prehistoric cairn, to which Smith²³ suggests the term 'Airkstanes' might possibly refer. The next entry in the Burton boundary states: 'and from Orkestanes to

Gemme Syke'. To illuminate the rather sparse details given for this section of the early fourteenth-century Burton boundary, it is necessary to interpolate both the bounds stated in the thirteenth-century grant of land at Souterscales to the Abbey of Furness,²⁴ and the bounds of an earlier grant of land made to the same House in Selside²⁵. The three boundaries, together with the Percy bounds discussed later, are summarized in Fig.04. It can be seen that, as Kirkstones and Caldeld are common to both the Burton bounds and the abbey grants, Rarun, Mosdalebek and Gemme Syke must lie between. Again, the 1st.edn.O.S. 1:10560 map provides evidence for the location of Rarun. . Raram Rigg - is shown on this map alongside the boundary of the enclosure 'Newby Head Field' (SD791838), and occurs in the correct section of the boundary. hosdalebek is rather more elusive. There are several 'moss' names on modern maps - Blea Moor Moss, Stoops Moss and Newby Head Moss and it is possible that Mosdalebek refers to this area. In any case the ancient boundaries in this section of the perambulation might well be difficult to locate precisely, because new ones were defined in this area following a Commission held to sort out the boundaries following a dispute over the bounds of Newby and Dent in 1527..... identification of Gemme Syke is much more straightforward. It still appears on modern maps, but with a much more prosaic name - Jam Syke (SD808836). It is in fact the source of the Ribble, rising as it does at a much greater height (c.570m) than the usually accepted spot near Ribblehead. A bridle path follows close to what would have been the line of the ancient boundary via Little Wold and High Wold to Gavel Gap - a very obvious 'nick-point' on the skyline for most of the way up Jam Syke. From Gavel Gap there is a series of boundary cairns across the limestone pavement above Cam West End, which marks the line of the boundary to Cold Keld Gate (SD826833), the Caldekeld above Cam of the Burton and Selside bounds. It should be noted that, rather surprisingly, the boundary ignores the Roman road from Ingleton to Bainbridge which crosses Cam Fell on an almost parallel alignment less than 150m. away from the line of cairns. It is only at Cold Keld Gate, just above the spring which gives the place its name, that the Roman road and the Burton boundary coincide. This would seem to suggest that the line of cairns (and by implication, this part of the boundary) pre-dates the construction of the Roman road, for, in other areas, a Roman road is often used for boundaries of post-Roman date. Caldekelde is a point specifically mentioned in an Indenture between the Abbot and Convent of Jervaulx and John de Pudesay. It was agreed that the Abbey would find 'sufficient wood for the buildings in the said manor [of Horton] with the appurtenances', and that they would cart the said wood at their own cost to Caldekelde de Cambe' but no further than this point, where the road from Wensleydale crosses into the Chase. Another feature of this boundary point, like that of Clavenhalswath, is the presence of a large complex of sheep folds to facilitate the sorting out of stock. The next point on the Burton boundary, the top of the hill of Penyghent, is clearly visible from Cold Keld, and it could be thought that, because of the poor quality, badly drained land of the 'drumlin swarm' at the head of Oughtershaw Moss, there had been little need to define this part of the boundary as early as 1307. This assumption is not, however, supported by a comparison of the Burton boundary both with a further section of the Selside bounds, and with a 'fragment of a very curious and ancient Perambulation of the Percy Fee, which' Whitaker says 'from the wild and romantic district it traverses and the singular as well as obsolete names by which the several boundaries are described, cannot but be gratifying to an antiquarian ear. As stated

earlier, a summary of this information, with the relevant points in the Perambulation of the Percy Fee quoted in 'reverse order' so that the bounds can be compared more easily. Because of the difficult nature of the terrain, the boundary appears to take a 'line of sight' across Oughtershaw to a prominent hill at SD838808 (marked by a triangulation pillar), where it turns westwards to Round Hill (SD824800). This name is significant, for as mentioned previously it can be demonstrated that, certainly in the North West, hills with the name 'Round Hill' are those which have been man-made or man-adapted – often tumuli. Even though this part of the boundary was checked on foot, because of forestry plantations it was not possible to *certain the nature of this particular 'Round Hill'. From Round Hill the boundary is marked by a massive earthen bank on the edge of the forestry plantations, until it turns sharply back on itself at SD816789, where a right of way from Langstrothdale to Lingill crosses the boundary. Although the crossing point is now marked by a stile, the gateposts for a cart-gate are still in position. As some of the previous boundary points had been located where an early route bisects the boundary, it is not unreasonable to suggest this point is probably where Stanepapan was located. Smith³³ notes that 'Professor Janzen interprets the name as "the stone press in allusion to some standing stone'. From this point, the boundary bank cuts through the forestry plantations, and continues to the middle of Greenfield, where a bridle path from Langstrothdale to Birkwith and Horton crosses the boundary. Just off the bridle path (now a forestry road) the modern map shows a small area of deciduous woodland, this in an area of large-scale coniferous plantings. When checked out, the area was obviously planted quite recently. However, on the western bank of Mere Syke, very close to the road, there is a tiny area with a few ancient stunted trees surviving within a small earth-banked enclosure. Situated as they are at the correct place on the boundary it is tempting to speculate that these are the direct descendants of those trees which made up Toghwoodshaw. Mere Syke rises at the western end of High Greenfield Knott, and the boundary follows it upstream to its source and then takes what must have been a 'watershed' boundary (now somewhat straightened) between those streams which flow into Cosh and Foxup Becks to the east, and those which drain into the Ribble on the west. Swarth Gill (now Swarth Gill Gate) is located where a bridle crosses the boundary (SD838757). This path, too, is probably of some antiquity, linking as it does the Fountains Abbey lands in Foxup with Fountains holdings in Horton. From Swarth Gill Gate the boundary snakes up the side of Plover Hill to its summit, and then along the ridge of Penyghent to cacumen montis - the head of the mountain, 'by the boundaries between the fees of the said John [de Mowbray] and Henry de Percy'³⁶ all the way from Caldekeld to the summit of Penyghent. This boundary point is significant, not only because it refers to an extremely prominent hill which dominates the area, but also because the name Penyghent is made up of two British place-name elements which together mean 'the top of the boundary'³⁷. This would seem to suggest that, as at Caldekeld above Camb, this 1307 boundary point was in existence several centuries earlier, when British was the language of the local people. From the top of Penyghent, the boundary is said to go: to Durlaykege, and so by the boundaries between the fees of the said John and Henry de Percy to Youcrosse. The boundary is now marked by a dry-stone wall which clings on to the steep face of the hill and then continues southwards along the ridge between Fawcett Moor in Stainforth and Gavel Rigg in Horton. The boundary wall continues along the ridge, turning more to the southwest to SD824693, where the boundary is bisected by a track

from Sannat Hall. This track, which is a continuation of Henside Road, was used by the monks of Fountains Abbey to reach their ---properties on Malham Moor in Ribblesdale, and indeed their Lake *strict holds, and appears to be 'the road into Lonsdale' mentioned in the records of a dispute between Fountains and the monks of Sawley^{3B}. This being so, it seems likely that Youcrosse would have been located at the point on the boundary where an important routeway crosses from one territorial area to another³⁹. and from Youcrosse to Whettyngstan' From this suggested location for Youcrosse, which gave its name to Ewcross Wapentake, the boundary follows a stream which flows almost due west to join the Ribble at SD812691. Just wntstream of the suggested line there is Sherwood (the wood belonging to the 'shire' or territory - often at its boundary. There has been large-scale exploitation of the local fine gritstones in this area, chiefly for roadstone, and there is a large quarry on the west bank of the Ribble at the point where the boundary probably crossed. There are no extant field names to help all identify klettynstan, but Smith suggests that Whetstone Bank, a lost name mentioned in the late seventeenth-century was probably identical with 'Whettyngstan' - 'for it [Whetstone Bank] was in the south of the parish [of Hortonj, and possibly in or near the River Ribble, where at one place good whetstones could even lately be found'. From Whettyngstan to a place called Langemangrave', Once the quarry area has been left behind, the boundary follows a 'wiggly' dry-stone wall whose alignment probably owes a great deal to initial field clearance to a coll to the west of the summit of Smearsett Scar (SD803678), From this point it follows a wall to the floor of the valley - where the boundary 'bends' to ensure that a water supply was available for stock on both sides of the boundary. Again, as at Cravenhalswath and Caldekelde above Cam, there is a sheep fold almost on the boundary. The boundary runs between Feizor Thwaite and Little Stainforth, with the modern boundary marked by a dry-stone wall, and an earlier boundary possibly marked by a widely-spaced series of large Silurian erratic boulders, which are placed in a roughly parallel line to that of the modern boundary, but generally several metres to the east of it. At SD801674 what is referred to locally as the 'Celtic Wall' lies quite close to the early boundary line. Wainwright⁴² describes it as 'a strong limestone wall approximately 65ft in length, 5ft in height and 5ft wide at the base' and notes that '60 yds east is a smaller fragment of the wall with adjacent foundations from which the stones have been removed'. He suggests that this might have been 'a defensive shield for an ancient encampment in the valley' (which still survives as earthworks). Wainwright goes on to note that 'excavation of the sites of similar walls has revealed them to be places of burial', but unfortunately gives no further information in support of this statement. It has to be accepted that the idea of the 'Celtic Wall' as a burial site may well have been a tradition over many Centuries and this may have led to its inclusion in the Burton bounds as Langemangrave even though, archaeologically, the identification of the 'Celtic Wall' as a burial site does not seem to be entirely convincing, it is located much closer to the line of the modern boundary, Smith's suggestion of Dead Man's Cave⁴⁴ (SD801671) is also rather unsatisfactory. This is a small cave in a low limestone scar, of no great length or depth, and would not fit the description of a Langemangrave. There is, however, a large tumulus a little closer to the boundary immediately to the west of Dead Man's Cave, which is a much stronger contender. From here, the 1307 Burton boundary is said to go 'between the fees of John de Abwbray and Blenry de Fercy, and so by Knot to Caldestan'. This is a distance of some 10 'as the crow flies'. Using the modern boundary

as a starting-point, however, it is possible to attempt to define the earlier boundary more precisely. From Langemangrave the boundary takes a south-westerly alignment to Giggleswick Scar on the edge of the Mid-Craven Fault aim- with this line 'collecting' yet another tumulus (SD796662). At Giggleswick Scar the old boundary probably took a line much closer to the watershed than does the modern one, taking a convenient route through the scar at SD797658 (opposite what is now Scar Top Garage~, hot, to fangmangrave, between the fees of John de Slowbray and Henry de Percy, and so by Knot From Giggleswick Scar, the modern boundary separates the township of Lawkland (which was in Burton Chase) from the township of Giggleswick, a Percy hold, which was in Craven. It is unlikely that the alignment it takes from the Scar as far as Routster Green AD768633 is identical with that of 1307, for it lies some distance to the north of names like Craven Bank Lane (SD795645), and Craven Ridge Syke (SD787641), with a farm called Craven Ridge, and Craven Ridge Lane Ends also in the same area. It would seem possible that these names commemorate the ancient division between Craven and the area which was part of Lonsdale in the pre-Conquest period. This would mean that High Paley Green and Armistead for example, lying as they do on the Mowbray ' side of the area with the concentration of 'Craven' names, were originally in Lawkland rather than, as now, in Giggleswick. There is little doubt, however, that Restyngstanes, mentioned in a Sawley charter of 1205-1147, is on the ancient Soundary. Here five townships meet - Lawkland (part of the Mowbray fee), Rathmell, Giggleswick, Gisburn Forest (all part of the Percy. Fee) and Easington (part of the Lacy hold in Bowland). Restyngstanes is a prominent group of sandstone tors which is visible over a wide area (even from Giggleswick Scar on a clear day). One of the rocks has a large 'chair-shaped' cleft in it the original 'Restyngstane'? From Restyngstanes, (SD757615) the boundary follows the watershed westwards towards Bowland Knotts (the knote of the bounds). The present line is marked by a dry-stone wall, which in Places also acts as the boundary of coniferous plantations. It is only in the area of White Swan (SD749614) that the boundary deviates from this line. This is presumably because the head of wash Clough Swamp (a glacial meltwater channel) would have been impossible to cross in earlier times. In the White Swan area, the boundary is marked by what appears to be a series of small cairns. As the boundary wall continues in a westerly direction it links a series of enormous sandstone boulders, such as Rock Cat Knott, which are presumably the original boundary markers. Knotteranum (SD735608), although not in the 1307 bounds, is lit Rowencumnothes mentioned in an early thirteenth-century Lacy of lands in Bowland to Kirkstall Abbey48. Smith suggests that this name should be interpreted as Mnotts [rocky hill~tops] near a place called Raunum [mountain ashes]. When checked out, as might have been anticipated, the area of Knotteranum was certainly rocky. What was quite unexpected was one solitary rowan tree, of some considerable age, growing at a height of c.400m, quite close to a prominent rock pillar. Knotteranum the wall continues to link enormous alluders such as Hanging Stone until it comes to the point at which the road from Bowland (part of the fee of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln) crosses the watershed at Bowland Knotts, the Knote of the boundaary, into Keasden (part of the Mowbray fee). On checking the top of a very large sandstone Culder overlooking the road on the western side it was noticed that a quite deep square hole had been cut into the top. This would indicate that here too, at other points on the Burton boundary, where routeways crossed one territory into another there was often some form of mark - possibly a stone cross.

From Bowland Knotts the watershed boundary is still marked by a dry-stone wall, which continues to link a series of large sandstone boulders of which Caldestan, SD711608) is just one. by a place called Harlaw to le Tong ' of Brounmore between Lancaster and the county of York is a tumulus some 75m to the north of the line of the Modern boundary, and clearly visible from it. It shows up very clearly because the vegetation cover on top of the mound is much better than that of the surrounding area, this Possibly for the use of the element 'har' to describe it. This element commonly used in boundary names, and, although its strict meaning is grey or light-coloured or textured, it often has a transferred meaning of 'boundary'.

NOTES ON BURTON AND NEWBY VILLS.

Ex MCH p65.

“Tatham became a single township parish, with which Ireby seems to have become linked in secular lordship (but not ecclesiastically) sometime in the twelfth century.

A charter dated 1189-93 was witnessed by one Richard, ‘son of Walthef, Lord of Tatham and Ireby’(chip Vol 95, 1935, p3). Orms vill of Thornton, Thorfinns vills of Austwick, Clapham and Burton, together with Thorfins vills of Horton in Ribblesdale and Selside listed under Roger de Poitou’s ‘Craven holdings’, were amalgamated. To this group were added Barnoldswick, Ingleton and Sedbergh from the Whittington lordship, to make up a compact estate based upon Burton-in-Lonsdale (Map 1:I), aspects of which like the manor of Hornby, will be examined later in this research. “

Greenaway details post-conquest decent of Burton, (GreenawayD E. (ed) Charters of the honour of Mowbray, 1107-1191, Rec of Soc and Econ Hist NS Vol 1, oxford 1972, xxii.). oRDER iVO tAILLEBOIS AFTER HIS D.C1094 Lordship of B and Dependent estates poss granted to Robert de Stuteville some time after 1106 itwas given to Nigel d’ Aubigny, his son Roger de Mowbray succ held in de Mowbray family with a few losses when on wrong side in power struggles thro medieval period.

p89.

Ex 1307 permambulation of Burton Chase bounds, Ref to an enclosure Newby Head Field adj Raram Ridge on the boundary of Burton Bounds at SD 791 838. nearby is Newby Head Moss, [PJH both are possible outlying farms or sheilings of Newby].

Ment again in 1592 in commission into a boundary dispute between Newby and Dent (see Smith A.H. PN WRY 6, 260 and PN WRY 7, 97.)

p146.

Before 1177 Avice de Lancaster, w of Richard de Morevill confirmed gift of Newby (within the bounds of Burton Forest) to Furness Abbey, but held stag, hind and sparrow haws were for herself and her heirs Furn 2 (1916) p312.

p149.

Cawood forest arae has Salter field\ name close to bounds of Locka possibly a small park held by the Abbot of Croxton in 1292.(Cantle A, Pleas of Quo Wan Cht Soc NS v98, (1937) p139.)

p150.

Burton has laund name now Lawna Brow NE of Old\Burton lands YASR, BD 56.

Burton Park was between Motte and R Greta south of the bailey, no record of it in use in medieval period, John Mowbray P.Mort at York in 1369 has 'a waste called le parke' obv not in use at this time or keeping any stock... also no evid of a vivary for fish. (PRO Cal Inq P.Mort Ed III, HMSO 1912, 384.).

No evidence of warrens or coney names, sug that the park was never exploited as were others in the arae, possibly only used as arable and grass farming later in med period.

p164.

Furness Abbey Lands in Clapham and Newby. P.J.Hudson

To write about the land attached to the Furness Abbey Grange at Newby Cote has always been in my thoughts since the days in the early 1960's when I lived on the site at 'Balderstones' a 17th century cottage adjoining the main "Cote House". It was not only the ever present evidence of the buildings which reminded me of the past occupants, but the sherds of medieval pottery and other fragments which ranged from an old coin or two, clay pipe stems, more recent pottery and old bits of unidentifiable iron, the refuse of the previous occupants, which I dug up in the garden on a regular basis. Items of a similar nature were also turned up in the fields and in the limestone built wall bottoms. One feature which certainly can be directly related to the monastic period was the massive but rather battered, fell boundary wall which seemed to need, at that time, constant emergency gap walling in winter, and in better weather my time was often spent rebuilding several stretches. I remember that some of the footing stones and the lower throughs were so massive that it was all that two strong, fit, young men could handle.

At that time there were, and still are today, many other features to be seen and recorded in the landscape which can be attributed to the monastic and other periods of occupation. My comments on what I found then and what my research has discovered since will be the topic of this short paper.

A brief history to start; Furness, a Cistercian Abbey was founded as a Savigniac House in 1124 by Stephen of Mortain, later King, who was a grandson of William I.

It is thought that original site of house was at Tulketh, near Preston, Lancs. In 1227 the house was transferred to Bekansgill in Furness, where, in what is an isolated location the monks could "concentrate on their worship" and develop the areas arable and pastoral agriculture and minerals, particularly the iron ore.

The Savigniac and the Cistercians were amalgamated into one order in 1246 which made Furness Abbey Cistercian.

Apart from its lands in Furness the Abbey became the recipient of many land gifts and grants outside Lancashire, and later when the house became wealthy it is known to have purchased land.

It became common practice in the 12th century for wealthy landowners to grant lands to monastic houses and Furness gained from this, particularly in the Yorkshire Honor of Burton, which includes Clapham cum Newby, Ingleton, and Horton in Ribblesdale.

Furness was not the only house to receive lands in Burton Honor, some parcels have been granted to the Abbeys of Fountains, Cockersands, Sawley and Riveaux.

Most of the following information is extracted from the Furness Chartulary and Coucher Books, other primary sources and some recent published works, these references, with the exception of the aforementioned monastic records, will be given credit when used as sources.

The reader will find that if they wish to explore the areas I mention in the text a pre 1950 edition 1:25000 Ordnance Survey map will meet their requirements.

The monastic records give details of the early land grants in the area, some of the early ones listed below were given before the move to the Furness Peninsula site for example:

In 1180 Ellis, son of Gamel of Steeton gave the monastery four bovates in Clapham with all rights and appurtenances.

Two of these bovates were held by Alan, son of Uctred the parson of Clapham the other two by Robert of Gretehill.

These grants and others were confirmed in about 1200 by William son of Ellis of Steeton. This confirmation also mentioned two dwelling houses. The tenants of these dwellings are Alan son of Uctred and one called Ithun.

There was a proviso, the grantor and one of his sons were to be received at one of the Abbeys Granges. The word 'received' is of interest, this is possibly Uctred's attempt to get his son or grandson into the order by accepting them as lay brothers (*conversi*) to work for the monks on land this family once owned and may also have been a way of staffing the newly acquired monastic lands in an area which was not so well populated.

The general opinion is that monastic houses recruited cottars, small freeholders, sons of local landowners to work as lay brethren, partly to overcome labour recruitment for the hard and often skilled agricultural work, and partly to bring outsiders in the local community into some form of religious life from which they might have been excluded due to status, or a way in which the sons of local clergy could gain entrance to a monastic community at a time when married and hereditary priests were being discouraged by the church.

Joining as lay brethren is a way that allows men to take up a new calling, with some status, when the old tradition is being eroded.

The Ellis grant does not state which grange the two are to join, if it was local it could well have been Newby.

There are many grants and gifts listed under Newby, most of these refer to moieties of land previously given by one Edmund.

One Newby grant appears to be a new gift given by the De Gretegills who also gave land in Clapham Vill. This grant dated about 1200 states,

"Matilda, Agnes and Gunhilda, daughters and heirs of Robert de Gretegill confirm to the monks a bovate of land in Newby which their father had given..."

These grants to Furness were for large areas of land, not the odd furlong so commonly seen in monastic gifts, as were so many of those given to Cockersands at Caton. In contrast the Newby grants consisted of a considerable part of the village land, attached to them would be right of common, grazing stints, heaf stock and other valuable items and privileges.

The grants suggest that there was a main administration centre or "Grangia" in Newby, for by 1165 there were large areas of land in the possession of the monks.

Later when these grants are confirmed as the Furness Abbey lands, are all listed in the abbey records under Newby, and at the suppression of the monasteries as in "The Lordship of Newby".

Newby Cote at SD 732 706 is thought to be the "Grange", with its large long plan but much altered and added to "Cote House", some of which must be much older than the main present exterior and fenestration suggests, viz: 17th century. There would be several smaller dwellings, possibly the one now named Balderstones is on the site of an earlier dwelling,

There would be several farm buildings, and today there is what is considered a medieval barn survival, a long rectangular in plan, bank type barn with a threshing floor and an integrated dwelling at its north end. Now re-roofed in local sandstone slate but once known to be thatched by its ancient, though altered steep roof line, best seen on the rubble built south gable, and lower walls built of two types of freestone intermixed with field clearance glacials, are set on massive foundation stones. The upper last phase walls are built from square cut limestone blocks. The north gable is much altered and now boasts pigeon or dove holes. The lower quoins, the lintels and door jambs appear to be of one date and are made from good quality cut sandstone, possibly dating from the early 16th century and are perhaps contemporary with the renovations and the slate roofing

This is the barn so well photographed and presented by Ingleby and Hartley in their volume on Dales Buildings, and considered by the writer to be one of the few survivals of this period to be found in the general area. Fortunately its importance is now recognised and it has listed status, a situation which is appreciated, so it is now well protected by its present owners, the Farrer Family. The other buildings now on the site reflect the changing agricultural systems over the past few hundred years and date through to the present time. Some buildings have recently been renovated and the present early 19th century farmhouse and farm is tenanted by the second generation Townley family. The Cote House was until 1991, occupied by the late Hon. Miss Anne Farrer.

Over the past two hundred years, some of the old farm buildings and two cottages have been demolished, but there are still two other occupied dwellings on the site.

Newby Cote Grange is sited well up on the scarpland on the spring line of the limestones and gritstone joint, on the line of a possible Roman Road, the Old Road from Clapham to Ingleton.

The Furness grants are not reproduced here in full, the reader can consult them and an English translation in the volumes of published Furness Chartulary and Coucher Books.

Most of the charters which date from 1165 to c1280, give details of local names, the rights given and the bounds, which do in some instances give place names, but as is so often in these documents not enough information for the researcher to be able to map all these accurately in the present day landscape.

The Furness estate in Newby was quite extensive, the monks appear to have possession of the entire vill by 1177, except the corn mill and possibly the fulling mill and tannery.

Niether do they do not have full common pasture rights on Ingleborough Common and Fell, but most possessions with a monastic connection are mentioned in the boundary document "The Bounds of Newby 1165 to 1177".

The right to the corn mill at Crook Beck SD 728 688, was not a gift, it was bought by the monks in 1241/2, when Sarah prioress of Arthington and the nuns there released to the monks of Furness Abbey their right to a messuage, mill site and about 20 acres customary of land in Newby in return for five marks and five cows.

There is some problem with the site of the original vill, one would expect it to be around the mill and the beck, especially, if, as it is presumed, that there was a fulling mill and tannery near the corn mill site.

A Field survey has not found anything to indicate any abandoned village site at this place. The same problems arise if one examines the site named 'Old Newby' at SD 727 690. On some early maps, e.g. Jeffry's of 1767, there are several buildings situated around Green Close, which could also be a contender. However, it must also be noted that there is just to the north of Newby Cote adjoining the present fell boundary wall, in Cote Gill, the site of what is thought to be a pre-medieval settlement, possibly Romano-British.

This could suggest that the settlement migrated further to the south and to a lower altitude, possibly as the climate deteriorated in the early medieval period, and the soils became eroded and impoverished, or perhaps it was once part of the Grange enclosures before Newby Cote was made the main administration centre and the massive fell boundary wall was built behind the Cote Grange.

However there is in the general area the mill site adjoining Crook Beck, the foundations of the mill buildings, remains of the mill race, a mill dam and an adjoining 'Mill Field' at SD 731 689.

The site is shown on the map by Thomas Jeffry dated 1767, with buildings set out on both sides of the beck, the west one in a close called 'new mill field', so there could be two mills, one possibly for fulling, and there is also the record of a tannery in 1292. FC 3.p635.

The estate would need a tannery, even though monastic houses were forbidden to trade or deal in hides and skins since an edict of 1237.

The monks were operating a large estate with many needs for leather, leather products from cow hides and the production of vellum from calf, sheep skins, even coney skins, would be needed to meet the demand of the keepers of the records and for manuscripts and other scriptorium uses in their houses. This need could legally be met by processing their own hides and skins, and those of others for a fee, in their own tannery which employed a tanner and probably a pelterer, to make the finer vellums for the 13th century bibles and books.

Unfortunately, these sites are badly disturbed by recent tipping, field improvements, the modern road network and the railway works.

Little remains of the buildings, only one wall foundation and a sluice on the corn mill site, the line of race is well defined running over Newby Moor.

The Corn Mill site is situated on the edge of Newby Moor between Newby and Clapham Station Road and a field boundary wall enclosing Crook Beck. Very little remains of the mill building except the race inlet in a hollow and a few courses of cut walling stone.

Rest of site is just grass covered wall footings, mounds and hollows. The mill head race is well preserved to the north, running for a mile or so on a line just above the course of Crook Beck up as far as Bolderber Road at approximately SD 723 698. The line of the head race is broken by the present Bentham-Clapham road.

The surviving records give further early period information.

In 1270 Henry III confirmed the gift of Newby to the monks of Furness Abbey.

Later at the dissolution of the monasteries from 1536 to 1540 Newby passed into the hands of the crown.

There is one well documented dispute related to the common pasture rights when William de Twyselton (in Ingleton) recovered his right to common pasture on Ingleborough Fell, by winning a court case in 1303, (Fur 2 p330). This is possibly the right to common on land near Newby Moss and Ingleborough Fell where William had common pasture here and also next to Southerscales, a vaccary bought by Furness from the de Staveleys in 1253. It seems the monks were loathe to give up any common pasture they had been used to enjoy, so, as it was an essential part of their sheep farming enterprise, they settled the matter and granted William in exchange, a close called Cotgillis, for his lifetime.

This close is present day Cote Gill a parcel of land north of Newby Cote and west of Clapdale Scars, the land includes Hagg, is well drained on limestone which was possibly the land of the abandoned so called Romano-British site. This parcel of land still has evidence circular and 'long-house' type building remains and of several relict fields seen as stone wall foundations some of which bear some similarities with the remains of the 9th and 10th century and possibly later steadings near another monastic grange Colt Park in Horton Parish.

From the abbey rentals c.1537; under Newby in Lonsdale, Humphrey Procter 1 tenancy; 40 acres land and meadow 13s.4d. and a corn mill worth 16s.0d.

There must be more information still to be found as this mill is known to have operated until the end of the 19th century, in fact local sources, as yet not backed up by any primary references, indicates it worked until about 1920.

If the monks of Furness Abbey went to the expense of buying the mill this suggests it was always profitable and that the local holdings in the vill produced enough grain to keep it going. It must also be remembered that there are other corn mills in the area at Clapham, Austwick and Ingleton, but the moieties of these were in different hands.

A survey of the surrounding fields found that there are still the remains of medieval lynchets, the arable strips of the vill. Some of these are very well preserved with the best examples seen next to the main road towards Laithbutts and north of the vill towards Goat Gap and generally in the fields around the north of present day Newby Village and up towards the limestone scarplands at Bleak Bank, which adjoins Ingleborough Common.

The soils in the area are mixed, there are some glacials which appear quite light compared with the general boulder clays which abound in the area, and some of the sloping land is better drained. Most of the village lands in this part of Yorkshire show a wealth of ancient arable strips, lynchets, ranes and ridge and furrow, which suggests a high population and the lands ability to grow the crops to support them.

Generally the land types in the vill are mixed, limestones for sheep to the north and larger animal grazings on the grits to the south, especially in Keasden where there are known vaccary sites producing milk and cheese. There is a Keasden Grainge mentioned in the Clapham Parish Register. The monks also obtained the extensive common grazing on the surrounding fells with the potential for 'heaf' sheep farming to produce wool on a large scale.

Why the village migrated up to its present site is a mystery as it is not on any modern road being well to the south of the old coach road from Clapham to Ingleton, though the Newby Cote Grange does adjoin this once important highway. The new, new in the late 18th century and constantly being improved since this time, now the Keighthly-Kendal A65, turnpike road passes by the present village two fields width to the south. However there is what might be a more ancient way which runs right through the middle of the present village. This branches of the Old Coach Road as it leaves Clapham before it rises to Crosshaw Brow, this ancient way takes the more level course past Laithbutts Farm, from which it takes its name 'Laithbutts Lane', comes into Newby Village just above Town Head, runs through the village core when it becomes the main street, past the ancient Newby Hall and then branches off across the fields to Goat Gap where it is named Winney Mire Lane, then it joins the present A 65 just before Cold Coats Beck. It is possible that this ancient way once carried on across the A65 and under the railway to reach Botton and then on to Moorgarth and Ingleton.

Thomas Jeffry.s map of 1767 shows the line of Laithbutts Lane as the main road into Newby Village it runs out to north almost parallel with the old coach road until it reaches the hamlet of Cold Coates it then runs towards Moorgarth but branches to north to meet the old coach road between 'Holy Plat' and Yarl'sber.

There are some further grants in the Furness Coucher Book which mention Newby in with gifts in Birkwith and Selside. One dated 1220 given by William de Mowbray confirms the Newby grant given by Richard de Morvill and Avice his wife through who he gained the Honor of Burton, Avice was one of three daughters of William of Lancaster, Baron of Kendal, lord of south Westmorland. Another document of Roger de Mowbray dated 1260 confirms it again the whole are then confirmed in June 1341 by John , son of Sir John de Mowbray, lord of Axholme, the foregoing Honor of Burton charters given by his ancestor William in 1220. Actually, Richard de Morville sold his rights at Selside and Birkwith to Furness Abbey for 300 marks, possibly just redeeming a mortgage, but later records show most of this amount was never paid by Furness and could therefore be considered as an example of paying earthly debts whilst storing wealth in heaven.

The bounds of Newby in the mid 12th century are given as follows:

"From the cross next to the water between Clapham and Newby the syke or cut falling into Crook Beck". This syke is now called White Syke and flows below the road from Clapham at Cross Haw at SD 739 701 and its confluence with Crook Beck is at SD 736 683.

"from the syke or cut of Crook Beck falling into the Wenning" at SD 728 677. "Then to the syke of Keasden when it falls into the Wenning and then up Keasden to the Wythgranefoote, possibly White or Wye Grain Foot, "and so upwards by this syke as far as Red Rake," at SD 703 616., At this point there is some confusion in the bounds as the early charter bounds of Waltheof's grant given in 1165 possibly differs from the bounds of the later grant of Margaret de Boivill, boundaries which are not clearly stated, but confirmed by bounds in the later c1177 de Morevill grant confirmation.

It is possible that there was another moiety of Newby which still held the land between Keasden Beck and the Frere Dyke at SD 729 616., and this land was later acquired by the monks as their holdings in Keasden moved further to the east.

From this last mentioned boundary point the bounds run up to Harlow at SD 694 613 'over the brown moor' and the watershed of the Wenning and Hodder and then due north along the ridge of Burn Moor until it angles to a north west direction to near the "Standard" at SD 694 645 then veers to the north east and following the course of Alder Gill Beck into Blake, now Bloe Beck and into the river Wenning at SD 705 676.

Next place name mentioned is "Westrephou", West Threap How, which appears to be lost, then but interpreted as a 'disputed hill', possibly Green Hill or Butt Hill as the natural line of the boundary would be the small syke that run into the Wenning from Thin Oaks Tarn, "then by a stone ditch and the three Fotherscales to the middle of Greyskerres." The names Fotherscales 'three feeding shielings' and 'Standik' appear to be lost so one has to assume that the bounds ran with those of Mewith northwards to Goat Gap Syke up a disused holloway, which has had a wall built on it in places, near to Scale Mire Farm and Moor Bank, east of Cold Coats, where there is evidence of some old fields set in a circular "ring fence" pattern, on slightly raised land, which could be the Fotherscales feeding sites, then the bounds run across the old coach road near Blind Field Well and up the fellside to the Grey Scars boundary stone at SD 728 723. The bounds are then considered to take in that part of Ingleborough Common called Newby Moss.

There are some boundary stones shown on the early maps marked on the Newby side of Goat Gap Syke and the tithe award map shows an 'Abbots Hole' an old pond where the old lane crosses at SD 723 707. (wyas bd45.)

It would seem that if the monks took over this area of land they would improve it and run it as a large estate would operate today, mainly for profit. What effect this would have on the local population is not documented, but we can assume that there would be disruptions to the previous arrangements, even some hardship, but one can only speculate on these matters. What one can be reasonably sure of is the foundation of new dwellings, farm buildings and new field enclosures made to fit into the new schemes.

For example the Furness monks are also credited with the setting up of a new enclosure or farm for grazing animals, it might have been a vaccary, at a place called Thynockes, (Thin Oaks) at SD 707 685, at place just inside the Newby bounds. It is also very near to the lost place name site of Threaphow which was possibly on common lands prior to the monks taking over, this might therefore be the origins of the dispute name, as the monks would have by enclosing for the new farmland, taken an area which was considered common lands and used by the communities of Bentham, Mewith, Keasden, Newby and Clapham.