

# VICTORIAN HISTORY OF MOSTON



Title	Plant Lane Bungalows
Type	Land Only
Date Produced	10 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2024
Internal Reference	E06P - A
1840 Owner	Lord Crewe
1840 Occupier	Thomas Hassall (Crabmill Farm)
Tithe Map Apportionments	88
1840 Area	4 Acres



Plant Lane Bungalows c1955



Plant Lane Bungalows 2024



# Plant Lane Bungalows – Origins



Samuel Wyatt – Survey of Elton 1766-67

The 1766 survey of Elton commissioned by Lord Crewe shows that some 250 years ago, the land around Plant Lane was hardly developed. The area being dominated by Elton Great Moss (Ref 79, 23 acres) and the Little Moss (Ref 82, 7 acres).

By the time of the 1840 Tithe Map, all the moss had been Inclosed but at this time, the process was in mid progress with Plant Lane gradually being extended to give access to the Moss Pieces.

Within 10 years of this map, the canal was opened and Plant Lane was probably extended around this time to join up the road and give access to Moss Lane and beyond

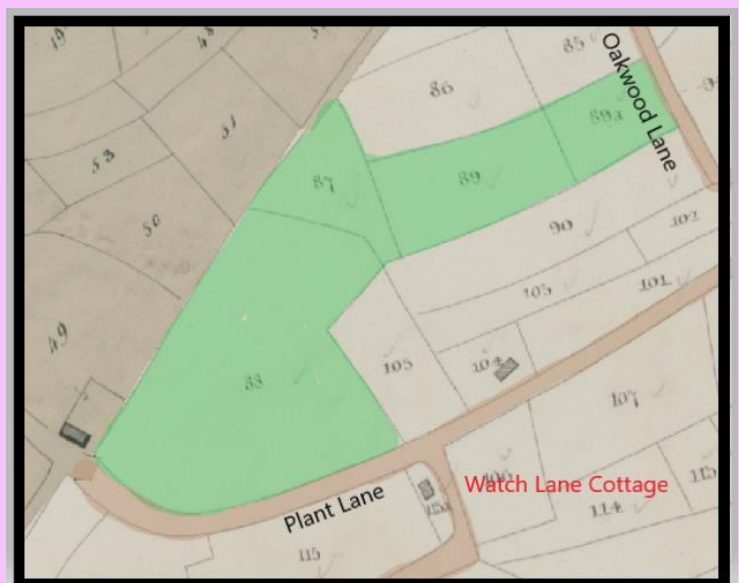
The four acre plot 88 on the above map shows that by 1766, this land had been “made good” and as it lay next to the Great Moss, this work would have been done in the mid 1750s. On this map the land was apportioned to William Hassall (1700-1790). William was the tenant at Crabmill Farm which at the time held 67 acres of land straddling the Elton and Warmingham townships.

This particular plot was isolated from the farm which was about a mile away but this was not uncommon because such land would be offered to the local farmers and apportionments shows a pretty even spread between those farmers. The farmers were quite keen to take the land as although substandard to their adjacent land, it could be used to supply the church with their tithe obligations allowing them to keep the better local crops for themselves.

Moving forward to 1840, after the Moss had been fully Inclosed, the land (and more) was apportioned to Thomas Hassall (1798-1880) again of Crabmill Farm though not a direct descendant of William.

In 1867, there was a change of tenancy at Crabmill Farm and when Robert Oulton took over, the land off Plant Lane was released to new tenants on a Rack (annual) rent basis.

The land was split amongst new tenants with Plot 88 being taken by John Smallwood at an annual rent of £8 rising to £10 in 1870.



Plant Lane – Tithe Map 1840



31 <sup>2</sup> John Smallwood for two			
pieces of moss land part of the Cabimill		1868	8
Farm - No. 6. from Lady day 1868. -			
Contents 4 acres. . . . .		1869	8
		1870	10
		1871	10
		1872	10
		1873	10

**Crewe Estate Rentals (2<sup>nd</sup> Series) DCR 59-2-25 1856-1873**

John Smallwood lived at Moss House, down a short lane on the opposite side of the road so this was a useful and adjacent addition to his farm. John Smallwood ended up at Moss House having married Ann Cookson, the daughter of Edward Cookson (1776-1859) who had a life tenancy there from the early 1800s

When John Smallwood died in 1878, the tenancy of the land passed to Thomas Brereton his son in law. Despite moving to farm at Elton Crossings, Thomas retained this land until 1902 when it passed to George Hodgson. George Hodgson (1865-1952) lived at a long since demolished cottage on Moss Bridge and would walk each morning to his work in the salt industry at Rookery Bridge. He later moved to Rangatira (now Pear Tree Cottage) further up Plant Lane just past the Moston/Elton boundary.

**LOT 95**

Coloured Yellow on Plan No. 3.

**TWO VALUABLE**

**Freehold Accommodation Fields**

In the occupation of Messrs. Hodgson, situate in Moss Lane, Elton,  
and opposite Watch Lane Cottage

Comprising an Area of

**4 acres 3 roods 1 perch**

Or thereabouts.

**SCHEDULE**

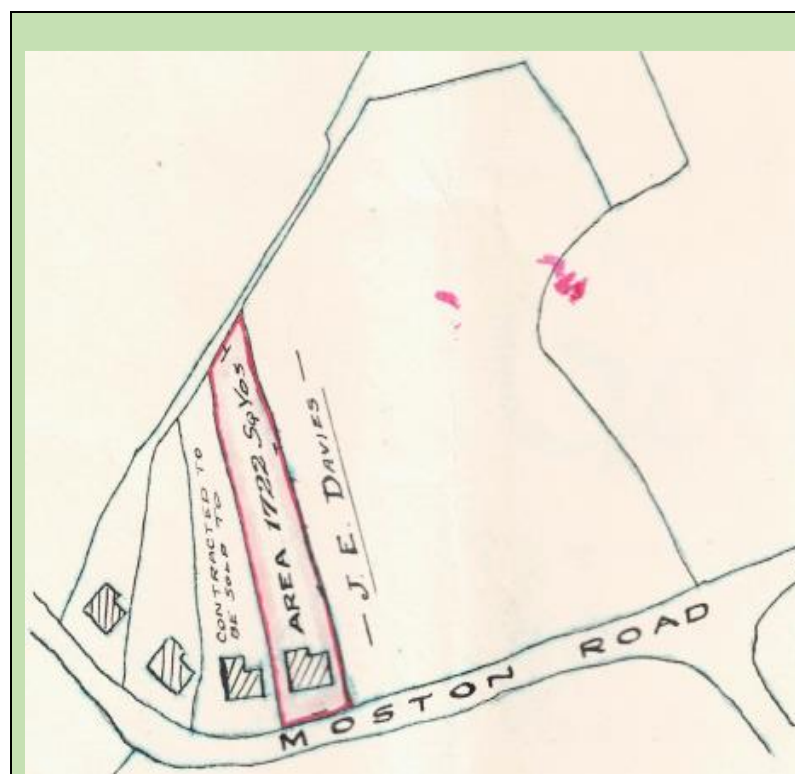
No. on Ordnance Survey.	Description.	Acres
141	Field.	4.055
114	do.	.791
	Total Acres ...	4.846

The land failed to sell at the 1915 Elton Estate Sale but by the time of the residual sale in 1918 it did not feature, having been sold privately at the end of 1918. In the meantime, the land continued to be leased out to George Hodgson.

As with most of the other land in the Elton Moss area, the purchaser was the solicitor Francis Joseph Poole. He had also obtained the land on Watch lane on which more bungalows were built in the early 1930s and in due course, the same plan prevailed on Plant Lane.

				Francis J. Poole, "Boothville", Elworth -			
124	1	3	19	Part of Cottage Holding "Watch Lane		6	5
126	1	2	30	Cottage, Elton. - (Lot 26, Elton		5	4
	3	2	9	Moss Sale 1918)		11	9
				REDEEMED 24 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1926			
88	4	0	0	Two Fields in Moss Lane, Elton - (Lot		11	2
87	0	1	38	28, Elton Moss Sale, 1918)		1	4
	4	1	38			12	6
				REDEEMED 24 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1926			

#### Elton Tithe Redemptions c1927



No 4 Ingleton - Conveyance Map 15<sup>th</sup> July 1932

The plot of land was sold to James Davies a builder on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1932 for a sum of £250. By this time, building had already commenced as the sale of No 4 on the plan opposite was conveyed the next day.

Newspaper articles from 1935 onwards also make the first reference to "Plant Lane" so again named at around the same time (Previously it had been known as "Moston Lane/Road").

The road would have almost certainly taken its inspiration from those properties found along it (Ivy House, Cherry Tree, Yew Tree, Pear Tree, Walnut Tree, The Willows, Laburnum, Rose)

The map would suggest the properties were built one at a time in numerical order rather than all at once.

Whereas the properties on Watch Lane took names with a Scottish connection, those on Plant Lane generally looked to the Lake District for inspiration though in the early days, both house number and name were used to a greater or lesser extent. In a similar manner to Watch Lane, the size of the original plot of land allowed each bungalow to have an elongated garden/orchard with a generous average 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of an acre of land as well as a road frontage.

A review of the local electors roll shows that in the first 40 years of existence, there was very little change in ownership/occupation in the bungalows which will have greatly helped to develop a small community. Indeed, for the five bungalows numbers 8-12 nearest to Watch Lane, the same families resided at the properties throughout.

The table below demonstrates the continuity during the period.

## Plant Lane Bungalows - Occupation from 1939 to 1970

Number	Name	1939	1939 Register	1945	1950	1960	1970	Occupants to 1970
1	Glengarry	William & Lilian Newton	William Newton	William Newton	David & Barbara Robinson	David & Barbara Robinson	David & Barbara Robinson	2
2	St Helens	Henry Whittle	Herbert & Nellie Broad	Herbert & Nellie Broad	Herbert & Nellie Broad	Herbert & Nellie Broad	Herbert & Nellie Broad	2
3	Coniston	Wilfred & Maud Bowers	Maud Bowers	Thomas & Gladys Warburton	Thomas & Gladys Warburton	Thomas & Gladys Warburton	Thomas & Gladys Warburton	2
4	Ingleton	Gerald & Mary Schofield	Gerald & Mary Schofield	Gerald & Mary Schofield	Gerald & Mary Schofield	Albert & Edna Hulme	Mary Barlow	3
5	Skiddaw/Elbury	Ebenezer & Gertrude Glover	Ebenezer Glover	Harry & Caroline Russell	Harry & Caroline Russell	Alan & Bertha Hargreaves	Lilian Dosoer	4
6	Langdale	Mary Till & Harry Toft	Mary Till & Harry Toft	Mary Till & Harry Toft	Bert & Sarah Ellson	Cyril & Laura Wood	Sarah Vickers	4
7	Patterdale/ Dun-Ro-Min	Amy Mellor	Alan & Katie Brown	Alan & Katie Brown	Vincent & Annie Bayley	Bert & Sarah Ellson	Bert & Sarah Ellson	4
8	Lynwood	Francis & Florence Smith	William & Ethel Smith	William & Ethel Smith	William & Ethel Smith	William & Ethel Smith	William Smith	1
9	Rydal	Thomas & Rachel Hough	Thomas & Rachel Hough	Thomas & Rachel Hough	Thomas & Rachel Hough	Thomas & Rachel Hough	Thomas & Rachel Hough	1
10	Grasmere	Caroline Buckley	Caroline Buckley	Caroline Buckley	Caroline Buckley	Caroline Buckley	Caroline Buckley	1
11	Blencartha	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	Arthur & Clara Hibbert	1
12	Glenrosa	Agnes Cort	Agnes Cort	Agnes Cort	Agnes Cort	Agnes Cort	Agnes Cort	1



## Plant Lane – Local Authority Services

### DRAINAGE OF ELTON MOSS.

The Engineer reported that during the past five years a large number of complaints had been received regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the drainage of an area of land known as Elton Moss, near Sandbach. The run-off from the land in question was conveyed to the River Wheelock by a small brook. This brook requires regrading, which would in turn necessitate the lowering of certain culverts. The rectification of the drainage of the area was complicated by reason of the considerable amount of subsidence which had occurred during recent years. At the instance of the Land Drainage Department of the County Council the occupiers of the land had carried out a considerable amount of work, but as the outfall brook had not been dealt with, the improvement which the work in question had occasioned had never been permanent. Main river powers over the outfall brook were undoubtedly necessary if the area was to be prevented from becoming totally derelict. It was felt, therefore, that the Board might consider the inclusion of this main watercourse in any future request to the Ministry for main river extension.

The Board decided to request the Ministry to include the brook draining Elton Moss as "main river"; but that the application for such variation should be deferred pending the submission of other similar proposals as might be considered necessary. The Engineer was instructed to report further to the next meeting.

Crewe Chronicle 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 1936

Elton Moss was not developed until the mid nineteenth century and the only houses were those on the periphery. Into the twentieth century there was a much bigger demand for housing to support the local industrial infrastructure. Poor quality land was an enduring issue in the area.

In the 1930s, in Elton, this resulted in the building of two rows of Bungalows along Watch Lane and Plant Lane. With this development came the need for local services.

On Plant Lane, a water main was installed in 1922 and the bungalows would have tapped into this main. At the same time, mains sewerage was declined and the properties had to rely on septic tanks.

Electricity lines were also in place by the late 1930s (in 1939 a resident of Watch Lane was fined for fiddling his meter).

Elton can consider itself lucky as electricity supplies weren't made to Warrington until the late 1950s.

Telephone lines came to the road in 1938.

### Elton Water Scheme

"We consider the offer of the owners of the houses occupied by Messrs. A. Lowe, J. Cooke Mrs. Kelly, & J. Maddock to contribute £5 each to the excavating fee towards laying the service pipe at Moss Bridge as satisfactory, recommend that the work be carried out."

### Extension of Sewer in Moss Lane

"That owing to the high cost of material & unemployment in the district, we revert to our former decision, that we do not consider the time opportune for the carrying out of this work."

Elton Parish Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 1922

### POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** pursuant to the provisions of the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1926, that His Majesty's Postmaster General, having obtained the consent in that behalf of the body having the control of the public road described below, intends to place a **TELEGRAPHIC LINE** over, along, and across the said public road and for that purpose to erect and maintain posts in and upon the same under the powers conferred on him by the said Telegraph Acts.

**OAKWOOD ROAD, MOSTON, FROM MOSS CANAL BRIDGE TO YEW TREE FARM.**

**H. FAULKNER M.I.E.E.,**  
Shrewsbury. Suptg. Engr., G.P.O.

Crewe Chronicle 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 1938



# Plant Lane Bungalows – Early Residents

## 1 Plant Lane - Glengarry

At number 1 lived the widowed William Newton with his daughter Lilian. Whilst William earned a living as a gardener, his daughter would walk or more probably cycle down to the salt factory “Sifta Salts” found near Rookery Bridge (Now part of Milbuck Way industrial estate). There were at least 6 people from these bungalows making the daily trip to the salt works.

From the outset, the property was called “Glengarry” but this name seems to have been dropped very early on.



Both William and his daughter appear in the Sandbach “Petty Sessions” a local court set up to deal with trivial offences such as below or not keeping control of ones dog, not having a dog licence and so on.

I should imagine Lilian as a nineteen year old got a good roasting from her father for breaking the law, perhaps in a dangerous manner, but he will have had egg on his face nearly three years later..... The Newtons moved on soon after the end of the war.

**CYCLISTS AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS.**  
The following cyclists were fined for not conforming to traffic signals: Lilian Newton. 1. Plant-lane, Elton

Crewe Chronicle 16<sup>th</sup> Sep 1939

**BICYCLE LIGHTS.**  
For riding a bicycle without front and rear lights William Newton, Plant-lane, Elton, was fined 35s.

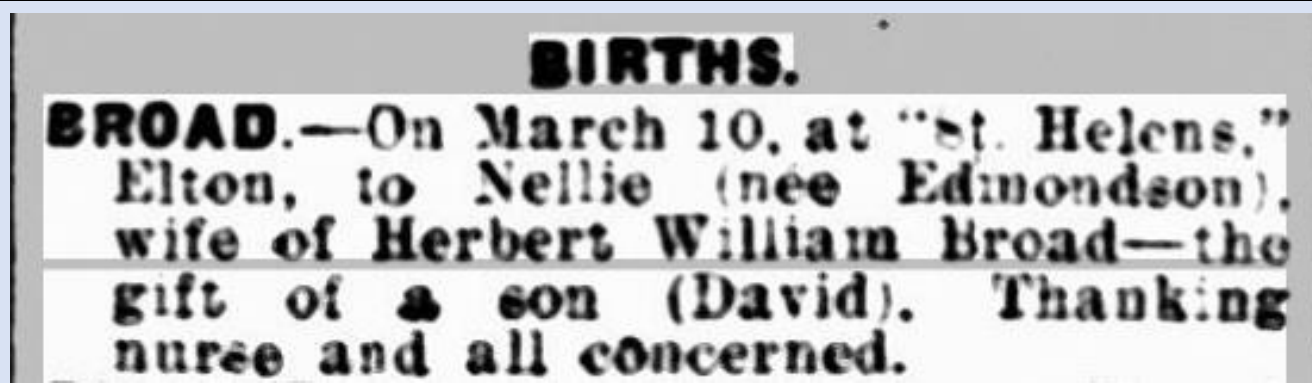
Crewe Chronicle 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1942

## 2 Plant Lane – St Helens

The National Register was taken on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1939 as a way of recording the human resources available for the war effort which broke out on 1<sup>st</sup> September a month earlier. Everyone besides those who had already been mobilised were recorded.

In all likelihood, Herbert William Broad (1917-2004) had just moved into the property as the register was taken having married his wife only three weeks earlier and the property becoming available following the departure of Henry Whittle. His wife Nellie was the daughter of Seeva Edmondson who lived at Willowbank on Watch Lane, a property that succumbed to salt subsidence a few years later.

The move to Plant Lane allowed Nellie to remain close to her family as was often the case in those days. As a farm labourer Herbert was in a reserved occupation so will not have been called up for active service. Herbert and Nellie spent their whole lives in the local area and are buried at St Peter's church in Elworth.



Crewe Chronicle 24<sup>th</sup> March 1945

## 3 Plant Lane – Coniston

The original occupiers of Coniston were Wilfred Bower and his wife Maud but they had moved on by the late 1930s to make way for Thomas Warburton & his wife Gladys. Thomas originated from Wheelock but married Gladys Ollerhead of Yew Tree Farm, Plant Lane, Moston in 1932. Thomas was a coal merchant but I guess as he had a lorry, he would turn his attentions to whatever needed delivery.

1932. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church of Warrington in the County of Chester								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
40	December 28 <sup>th</sup> 1932	Thomas Warburton	23	Bachelor	Coal Merchant	Wheelock	Allen Warburton	Coal Merchant
		Gladys Ollerhead	28	Spinster	—	Warrington	Harry Ollerhead	Farmer

Married in the Church of Warrington according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Anglican Church by me, Richard Hargreaves after Banns by me, Richard Hargreaves

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Thomas Warburton and Gladys Ollerhead in the Presence of us, Harry Ollerhead and John Warburton

WARBURTON Thomas - M 27 Jan 09 M. Coal Merchant, Wheelock & Co. Produce Carrier (Private)

After his marriage he lived with the Ollerheads before moving over the road to Laburnum Cottage before finally settling further up Plant Lane at Coniston shortly before the war. They were long term residents on Plant Lane, still residing there in the 1970s.



## 4 Plant Lane – Ingleton

The original purchaser of this property was Mrs Annie Martin Young, residing on Watch Lane at the time. The total area including garden was some 1,700 square yards (4,840 in an acre) for a purchase price of £500 with a private mortgage of £300.

A year later, Annie sold the property back to James Ernest Davies the builder for £450. The reason is unknown but all payments had been made under the mortgage.

Gerald Scholfield (1904-1976) was a tenant for his 20 years at the property and suffered the terrible heartache of losing his son at a very young age to an accident which I guess could happen to any young lad.

Despite being warned against it, he took a boat belonging to The British Soda Company and paid with his life. William Thornhill received an award from the Liverpool Lifeboat Human Society for his gallant effort to save the boy

The property was first resold in 1954 and then again in 1963.

### FATAL SEARCH FOR NESTS Boy Fell From Raft, Drowned

Using an improvised raft to go in search of water hens' nests on the Elton Flashes on Wednesday last week, Gerald Jos. Schofield, aged 11, son of Mr and Mrs G. Schofield, Plant Lane, Elton, fell into the water and was drowned.

The inquest was held in the Sandbach Literary Institution on Saturday by the Coroner, Mr R. A. Daniel, who recorded an accidental death verdict.

James Barry Edmondson, aged 9, of Plant Lane, stated that when Gerald boarded the raft and had pushed off with a pole, he began to take off his shorts. While doing this he overbalanced and fell into the water. Gerald was holding on to the raft when he (witness) went for help.

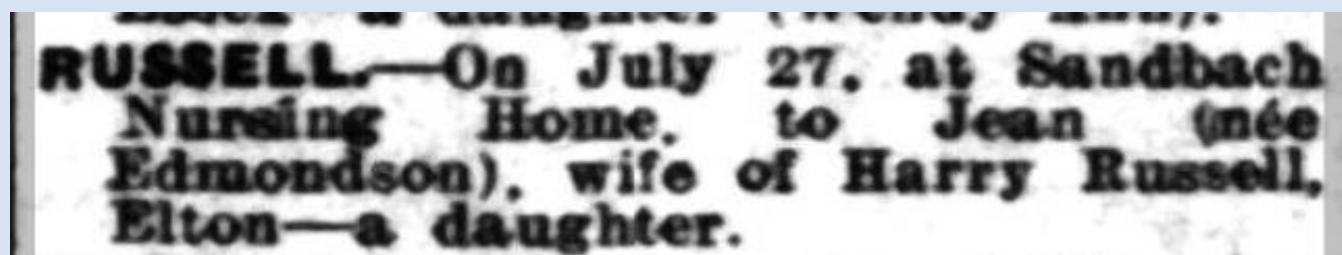
Wm. Henry Thornhill, Flash Farm, Elton, said he swam about for half-an-hour but failed to find the body. The water was seven feet deep.

Crewe Chronicle 19<sup>th</sup> Jun 1941

## 5 Plant Lane – Skiddaw/Elbury

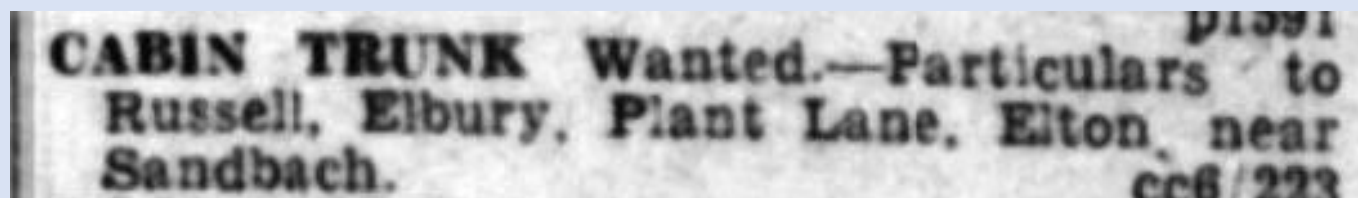
Skiddaw was named after the 6<sup>th</sup> highest mountain in the UK (931m) but changed to Elbury by its second occupier Harry Russell perhaps soon after the war. Relative to many of the other properties on Plant Lane, it had a reasonable turnover of occupiers though the Russells were probably the longest standing.

Jean Edmondson was the younger sister of Nellie Broad who lived at No 2 St Helens. Their father Seeva was born in Burnley but served in Australia during the war from 1915. He married in 1918 and his children were born there. Another brother James lived at Rose Cottage, Plant Lane.



Crewe Chronicle 31<sup>st</sup> July 1943

Seeva died at Brereton in 1958 but his body was returned to Warrington for burial. The baby Caroline unfortunately died an infant but two further children were born. After her father's death and I guess on Jean's longing, Harry, Jean and family emigrated to Victoria in Australia and hence the need for a cabin trunk!



Crewe Chronicle 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 1958

## 6 Plant Lane – Langdale

### Man died 16 years after accident

A 77-years-old man died as a result of an accident he had at work 16 years ago, an inquest jury at Stoke decided yesterday.

The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death" on Mr. Harry Toft, of 35, Bethesda-street, Hanley, after pathologist Dr. John Brown told them: "I think his death was closely linked with the accident."

### Thrombosis

Cause of death, he added was coronary thrombosis.

Earlier, the City Coroner, Mr. F. G. Hails, said that Mr. Toft,—who died on May 12th—strained his heart in 1952 when he was lifting heavy sacks of bonemeal at a Sandbach firm.

Asked the Coroner: "Do you think that condition in 1952 could have been in any way relative to his cause of death?"

Dr. Brown replied: "Yes. From the history I have heard, he probably had the coronary thrombosis then."

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Till, of 35, Bethesda-street, Hanley, said Mr. Toft took up lodgings with her in 1934. After his accident he was unable to work and had an industrial disability pension.

Evening Sentinel 5<sup>th</sup> June 1968

The first owner of number 6 was Mary Till a widower who resided at the bungalow until circa 1950.

Mary had a "lodger" and there is no evidence to suggest the relationship was any more than this beyond the fact that when Mary moved in 1945 (To Rose Cottage on Plant Lane, and later to Stoke), Harry always moved with her despite the fact he was married with four children. His wife was living in Stoke with her mother and children.

Harry came from Longton and would have been surrounded by potters. The skill he acquired could put to use when he came to Elton. There is little doubt that he worked for the Rookery Bridge Refining company which was set up by Thomas Vickers in 1857



Rookery Bone Mill

**Lot 2.—With Vacant Possession. Freehold Brick-built Detached BUNGALOW. "LANGDALE," with plot of Land containing 1,733 square yards or thereabouts, No. 6, Plant Lane, Elton, near Sandbach, about 15 minutes from Station and Bus Route. Accommodation: 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom, H. and C., Living Room, Kitchen, Electric Light. Rateable Value £7. District Rate, £4/11/-; Water, 17/6—£5/8/6 D.A.**

**For key to view apply to Mrs. Bayley next door.**

Crewe Chronicle - 27<sup>th</sup> October 1945

### THE ROOKERY BRIDGE REFINING Co. Ltd. Sandbach

*Established over a Century*



MANUFACTURERS OF EDIBLE  
AND TECHNICAL GLUES AND  
GELATINES

DEGELATINISED AND CALCINED  
BONE FOR CHINA MANUFACTURING

GREASES AND TALLOWES

FERTILISERS AND ANIMAL  
FEEDING STUFFS



### SPECIALITY

Acid and Grease Free

Glues and Gelatines



## 7 Plant Lane – Patterdale/Dun-Ro-Min

Amy Mellor came from Crewe where she had married her husband in 1929.

They had a difficult relationship with her husband who had been sent to prison for 14 days for steadfastly refusing to pay her maintenance income for their new born child on the basis that she was receiving money from her sister.

I think the judiciary had eventually had enough of this man after many court appearances and they were only left with one option.

the magistrates had decided to give the defendant a chance. He would be committed to prison for 14 days, but the sentence would be suspended until Saturday, in order to give him an opportunity of changing his mind.—“I shall not pay,” exclaimed Mellor, and the Chairman said “Then you must go down.”

Crewe Chronicle 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1933

### SEPARATION ORDER.

Amy Mellor, 7, Plant-lane, Elton, applied for a separation order against her husband, Enoch Mellor, 13, Farchams-row, Nantwich-road, Crewe, on the grounds of desertion.

She told the Court that they were married in 1929, and there were two children, aged three and four months respectively. For four years she had been parted from her husband, but in November last she took him back. He left her again in April.

Mr. Hetherington: Why are you not living together? What's the matter with you both?

Applicant: He is living with another woman.

An order was made, defendant to pay 25s. a week.

Defendant: I cannot pay.

Mr. Hetherington: Well, that's the order.

Crewe Chronicle 25<sup>th</sup> July 1936

The property first appeared on the market in 1944. At the time, It was recorded as a two bedroomed bungalow and garden with a total area of some 1,500 square yards.

It was put to the market again in 1951 presumably by Vincent and Annie Bayley who had decided to rename the property as Dun-ro-min then again in 1951 by the executors of Frank H Waterworth.

In 1956 it was again sold by Peter Ellson, a footballing goalkeeper who had played over 230 games for Crewe Alexander, so a property which had considerable change in the 1950s. The new name didn't stick and it reverted back to Patterdale.

**T**O be sold by private treaty with vacant possession, freehold Bungalow, "Patterdale," No 7, Plant Lane, Elton Sandbach, containing 1,491 square yards or thereabouts: price £450; mortgage can be arranged.—To view and for further particulars apply Poole, Alcock & Co., Solicitors, Sandbach (Tel. 19).

Crewe Chronicle 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1944

**£1,650, Small Modern Country Bungalow;** lawns, about ½ acre good land, electric, 2 double bedrooms, dining room, kitchen, half-tiled, bathroom and toilet half-tiled, pantry, conservatory, garden shed, central heated; ¼ mile Sandbach Station.—Dun-ro-min, 7, Plant Lane, Elton, Sandbach. p1188a

Nantwich Chronicle 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1951

## 8 Plant Lane – Lynwood

Lynwood was one of the bungalows that had the same occupants from its original building to the 1970s being the Smith family. It appears that the first occupier was Francis Smith and his wife Florence but they moved out shortly before the National Register of 1939 was taken.

At the time of the register, the occupant was his son William and his wife Ethel. William and Ethel had married in the summer of 1939 and their son Harry's birth was recorded shortly afterwards.

Is it safe to assume that William had "done the right thing" by Ethel and his parents had possibly moved away to allow them to have the privacy that any young couple with a new baby would strive for? On her marriage, as with many young couples, they didn't move far from supportive families and Ethel's parents lived perhaps 100m away on Watch Lane.

On the 1939 register, William was recorded as a "Motor Fitter - Diesel Engine"

The Foden company had been formed in the 1870s by Edwin Foden and continued by his sons William and Edwin.



Edwin Foden  
1841-1911



William Foden  
1868-1964



Edwin R Foden  
1870-1950

Disagreement over the company's strategy came to a head in the early 1930's when Edwin was removed from the board due to his favouring the new diesel powered engines as opposed to steam.

As a result, Edwin left the company and set up his own company ERF at the Sun Works on Middlewich Road. By 1935, Fodens were also producing diesel powered engines with the brothers in direct competition.



At its height, some 4,000 personnel were employed by the two factories (3,000 Foden, 1,000 ERF). The 1939 register is unhelpful just stating that he was a "diesel engine fitter"

As such, it is not possible to say which company he was employed by. Motor Vehicle Production was a protected industry due to the war effort, so William as an employee will have been exempted from active war duty.



## 9 Plant Lane – Rydal

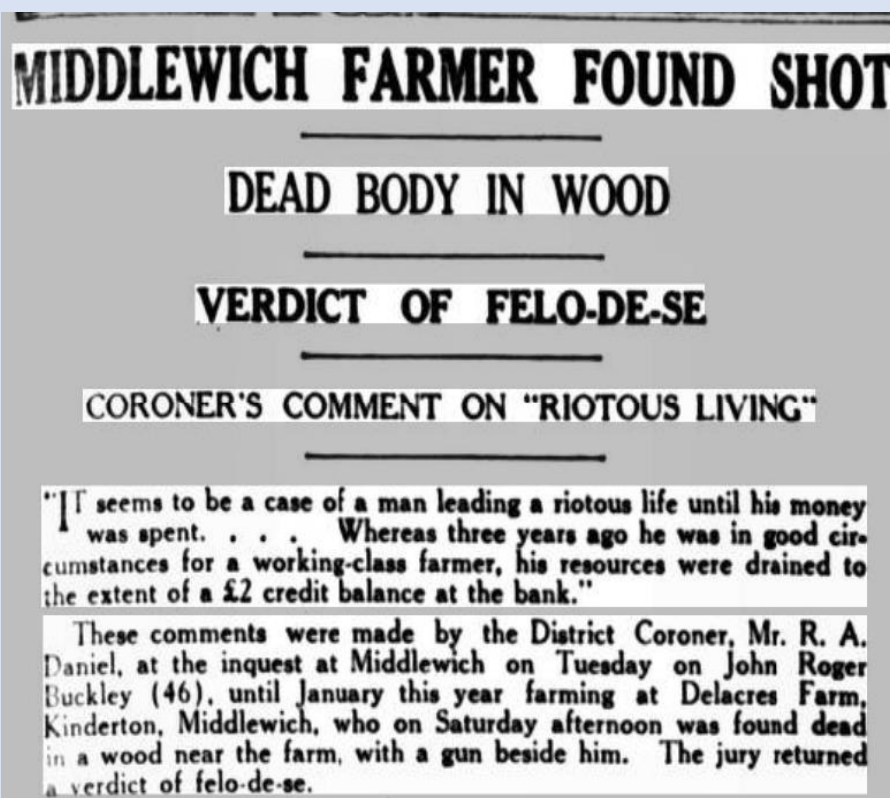
As with their next door neighbours, Thomas & Rachel Hough were married just before the war and were the first occupants of their property. Both Thomas and Rachel came from Middlewich where Thomas's father and grandfather were both (perhaps not unsurprisingly) employed at one of the local salt works.

They will almost certainly have moved to Plant Lane after their marriage which took place at the parish church in Middlewich, St Michaels in 1938.

19 <u>38</u> . Marriage solemnized at <u>St. Michael's &amp; All Angels Church</u> in the Parish of <u>Middlewich</u> in the County of <u>Cheshire</u>								
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
4	<u>April 18<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Thomas William Hough</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>Bachelor</u>	<u>Labourer</u>	<u>22. Miller Lane</u> <u>Middlewich</u>	<u>Isaac Hough</u>	<u>Labourer</u>
	<u>19 38.</u>	<u>Rachel Horsfield.</u>	<u>21.</u>	<u>Spinster.</u>	<u>Sweet</u> <u>Baker.</u>	<u>3. St. Ann's Lane</u> <u>Middlewich</u>	<u>Robert Horsfield.</u>	<u>Pensioner</u>
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Established Church</u> by <u>Gyill Frank Foster</u> or after <u>Banns</u> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Rachel Horsfield</u> <u>Thomas William Hough</u>	in the Presence of us,		<u>Gyill Frank Foster</u> <u>Isaac Hough</u>	<u>Rev. H. Harlow</u>		

Rather than following his father's footsteps Thomas was recorded as a "General Cheese Maker – Heavy Worker" probably working out of one of the local farms so famed for producing Cheshire Cheese.

## 10 Plant Lane – Grasmere



Caroline Buckley (1896-1987) was recorded as "widow housewife" in the National Register who had suffered the tragedy of losing her husband.

John, her husband had recently given up Delacres Farm on Booth Lane and shot himself at Union Gorse Wood near to the farm. In his pocket was his Life Assurance renewal letter. Perhaps he felt this was the only way he could financially support for his family?

With her husband dying penniless, it must have been a real challenge for Caroline to bring up her six children.

It is unclear whether this policy paid out the sum assured or not.

## 11 Plant Lane – Blencathra

### A CYCLING FATALITY.

#### COLLISION WITH TELEGRAPH POST.

When cycling home along Middlewich-road at noon on Saturday, Colin Geo. Weaver (14), employed by the North Wales Power Co. at Sandbach, and the son of Mr. Geo. Wm. Weaver, 11, Plant-lane, Moston, Sandbach, collided with a telegraph post. Unconscious, and with a fracture of the base of the skull, he was taken home in Mr. Ernest Ford's motor car, and later to Manchester Infirmary, where he died in the evening following an operation.

The inquest was held by Mr. C. W. W. Surridge, the Manchester City Coroner, on Wednesday. He was assisted by a jury. Mr. C. O. Hockin, solicitor, represented the G.P.O.

George Wm. Weaver said his son remained unconscious, and was not able to give any account of the accident.

Crewe Chronicle 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1935

Although Arthur Hibbert (1910-1972) was recorded at this property in the 1939 register, the first owner was George William Weaver b1896.

He seemed to move away shortly afterwards and at short notice. Was this move to get away from bad memory surrounding the tragic death of his son? He became a railway engine fitter living in Basford, Crewe.

**FOR SALE, 24 R.I.R. PULLETS, March, 1935** hatched from third and fourth season hens, in full lay and perfect health; 16ft. x 10ft. Poultry Cabin, sectional, 1in. floor boards; "Ellis" 125 Chick Brooder, new; 6ft. x 3ft. Night Ark, new; 1 100 Egg Gloucester Incubator; no reasonable offer refused.—Apply 11, Plant-lane, Elton Moss, Sandbach. p315

Crewe Chronicle 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1935

## 12 Plant Lane – Glenrosa

### PTE. E. H. CORT WOUNDED

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Cort, Plant-lane, Elton, have been informed that their third son, Pte. Edward H. Cort (18), has been wounded in the North-West European theatre of operations and is recovering in hospital in this country. He was employed at the Rookery Refining Company when he enlisted eight months ago. His brother, Fusilier Harold Cort, enlisted four years ago and has seen service in North Africa, Sicily, and South France. Another brother, Pte. Arthur Cort, Pioneer Corps, has had over four years' service. Mrs. Cort and her daughter are employed on munitions. Mr. Cort served three years and nine months in The Cheshire Regiment in the last war.

Crewe Chronicle 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 1944

Glenrosa is another property with a single owner family up to the 1970s with Agnes Cort (1899-1976) seemingly at the head.

She had married her husband a First World War veteran in 1918 but her husband never appears in any records with her. In 1939 he was at Parkfield Hospital, a mental health facility in Macclesfield and died at The Cedars nursing home in Holmes Chapel. Perhaps his illness was war related?

Despite the above, in the Second World War, his family had a most proud record of war service only marred by some pre-war petty felonies conducted by the eldest son

### BRITISH LEGION TRIBUTE

Col. F. J. Finlow led the British Legion to the Elworth War Memorial on Sunday morning for the Two Minutes' Silence. Mr. Harold Cort, an ex-Serviceman of the recent war, laid the branch wreath and Mr. B. Stokes sounded the Last Post and Reveille.

Crewe Chronicle 17th November 1945



# Plant Lane Bungalows – 1939 National Register

Address	Now	Surname	First Name	Other Name	Sex	Day	Year	SMWD	Occupation
No 1	1	Newton	William		M	21-Dec	1873	W	Gardening, Own Account
No 1	1	Newton	Lilian	M	F	02-Jun	1916	S	Salt Packer
St Helens	2	Broad	Herbert	William	M	02-Dec	1917	M	General Farm Labourer, Land Worker
St Helens	2	Broad	Nellie		F	17-Sep	1917	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Coniston	3	Bower	Marcia		F	24-Apr	1909	M	Salt Packer
Coniston	3	CLOSED							
Ingleton	4	Schofield	Gerald		M	02-Oct	1904	M	General Labourer Salt Works, Heavy Worker
Ingleton	4	Schofield	Mary	Ann	F	04-Nov	1904	M	Housewife Domestic Duties
Ingleton	4	Schofield	Mary	Emma	F	28-Feb	1928	S	At School
Ingleton	4	Schofield	Gerald	J	M	02-Jun	1930	S	At School
Ingleton	4	CLOSED							
Skiddaw	5	Glover	Ebenezer	T	M	17-Dec	1910	M	Poultry Farmer
Skiddaw	5	Glover	Gertrude		F	19-Mar	1916	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Langdale	6	Till	Mary	E	F	01-Nov	1899	W	Pottery Transfixer
Langdale	6	Toft	Harold	H	M	10-May	1891	M	Pottery Manager, China and Earthenware
Patterdale	7	Mellor	Amy		F	21-Mar	1906	M	Daily Domestic Work
Patterdale	7	CLOSED							
Patterdale	7	Mellor	Jean		F	18-Mar	1933	S	At School
Patterdale	7	Mellor	Enock		M	28-Feb	1936	S	Under School Age
Patterdale	7	Antrobus	Harold		M	12-Dec	1899	M	Semi-Skilled Labourer Motor Works

Lynwood	8	Smith	William	H	M	03-Jul	1912	M	Motor Fitter Diesel Engine
Lynwood	8	Smith	Ethel		F	25-Nov	1916	M	Unpaid Domestic
Lynwood	8	CLOSED							
Rydal	9	Hough	Thomas	W	M	08-Sep	1911	M	General Cheese Maker, Heavy Worker
Rydal	9	Hough	Rachel		F	31-Jan	1917	M	Salt Packer
Grasmere	10	Buckley	Caroline		F	28-Sep	1896	W	Domestic Duties
Grasmere	10	Buckley	Millicent		F	13-Jan	1920	S	Domestic Servant
Grasmere	10	Buckley	William		M	25-Mar	1921	S	Apprentice Machinist, Diesel Works
Grasmere	10	Buckley	Alan		M	25-Jun	1929	S	At School
Grasmere	10	CLOSED							
Grasmere	10	CLOSED							
Blencathra	11	Hibbert	Arthur	S	M	12-Aug	1910	M	Boiler Foreman at Salt Works
Blencathra	11	Hibbert	Clare	M	F	29-Jun	1913	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Blencathra	11	Hibbert	Ellis	M	M	17-Oct	1934	S	At School
Blencathra	11	CLOSED							
Blencathra	11	CLOSED							
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Agnes		F	14-Aug	1899	M	Housewife
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Arthur J		M	25-Feb	1920	S	Sawman at Salt Works
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Harold		M	11-Jul	1923	S	Wood Machinist
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Edward	H	M	19-Mar	1926	S	At School
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Ethel	B	F	19-Mar	1926	S	At School
Glenrosa	12	CLOSED							
Glenrosa	12	Cort	Joan		F	14-Nov	1932	S	At School
Glenrosa	12	CLOSED							



## Plant Lane Bungalows – Place Names

Name	Description
<b>Glengarry</b>	One of the most beautiful rivers in Scotland for on the Fort William to Inverness road some 370 miles from Moston.
<b>St Helens</b>	Small village on the western side of the Lake District near to Ennerdale Water. Has a beautiful medieval church dating back to the 12 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>Coniston</b>	Village of circa 1,000 inhabitants in the South West of the district dominated by its 5 mile long lake and at the foot of the “Old Man” mountaint. A very popular tourist areas in the Lakes.
<b>Ingleton</b>	Village about 17 miles from Kendal, officially in the Yorkshire Dales. Famed for its caves and waterfalls being a popular tourist attraction.
<b>Skiddaw</b>	A mountain in the North Lakes being not far from Keswick. At 931 metres, it is the 6 <sup>th</sup> tallest mountain in the UK, but nevertheless is described as a simple gentle climb.
<b>Langdale</b>	A specific area and huge estate of the lake district which became an important area for making wool with mills utilising water power. An area of outstanding natural beauty.
<b>Patterdale</b>	A small village with a population of about 500 on the Eastern side of the Lake District. Popular for a number of hill walks including the very popular walk to Hellvelyn.
<b>Lynwood</b>	There is a Lynwood holiday cottage in the Lake District between Coniston and Windermere. No other real references to the name.
<b>Rydal</b>	Small village in the Lake District between Ambleside and Grasmere famed for being the home of the poet William Wordsworth. The 1.2km long Rydal Water is found nearby.
<b>Grasmere</b>	Village nearby to Rydal situated at the foot of the fells. Has grown to a tourist area with shops and eateries. Famed for its gingerbread men.
<b>Blencathra</b>	A mountain range in the North Lakes which has 6 separate peaks, the tallest of which is 858 metres above sea level. Also known as Saddleback.
<b>Glenrosa</b>	A glen near to Goat Fell on the Isle of Aonach in Western Scotland. The area is fairly sparse rising only 200 metres