

Chittlehamholt

Chittlehamholt is located within North Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of South Molton Hundred. It falls within South Molton Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

A parish history file is held in South Molton Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

Maps

The image below is of the Chittlehamholt area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 31/2
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 31NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS649210
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS62SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 127
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 180
- Geological sheet 309 also covers the area

Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Chittlehamholt was formerly a hamlet of Chittlehampton, having originated as a forest-clearing (*holt*) by people from that village. In medieval times it was a park of the Courtenays, Earls of Devon, but was disparted by order of Henry VIII. The church (St. John the Baptist) was built in 1838. Snydles, now a farm, was a Domesday manor.

Chittlehampton

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The population was 1406 in 1801 1342 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 342 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in South Molton Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

Maps

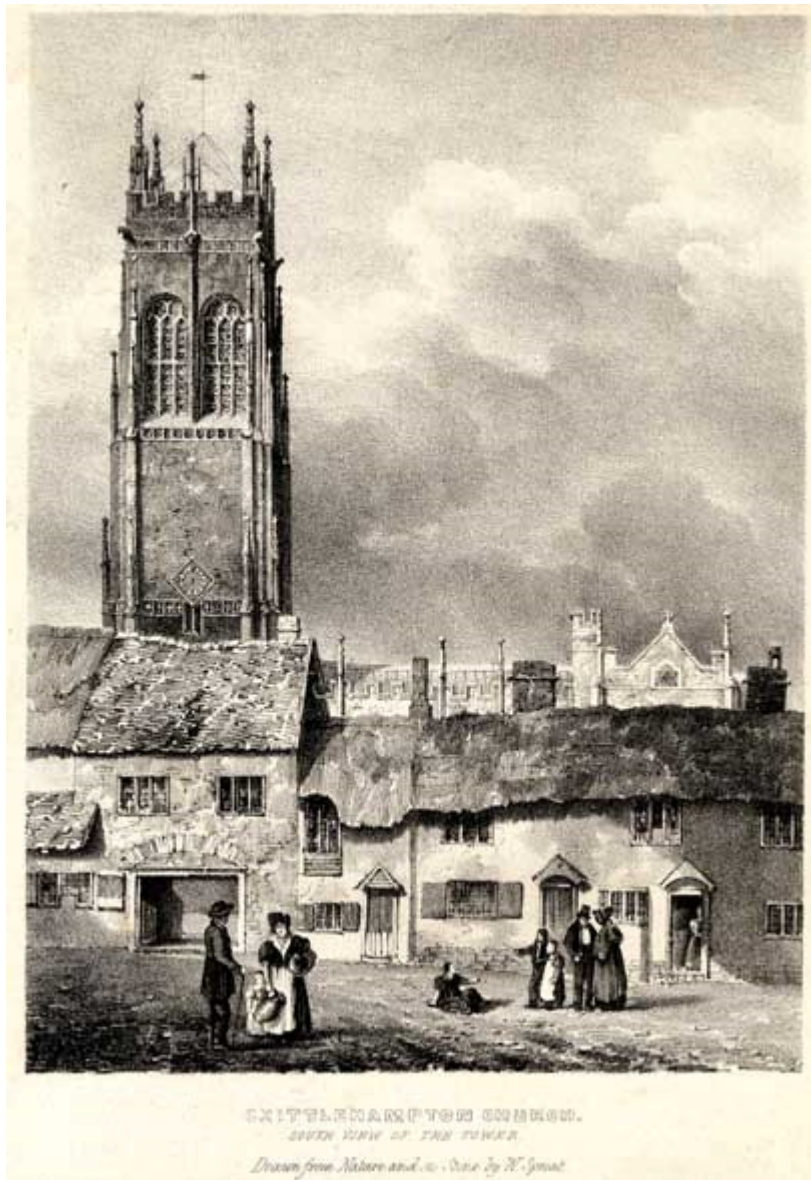
The image below is of the Chittlehampton area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 21/6
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 21NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS636255
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS62NW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 127
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 180
- Geological sheet 293 also covers the area

Illustrations

The image below is of Chittlehampton as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.



Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Chittlehampton is a large compact village, originally built around an open square with the church on one side. It was one of the early villages in the Saxon occupation, c. 700 in date. The church is one of the finest in N. Devon. It has a unique dedication, to the Celtic saint Urith or Hieritha, who was born at East Stowford (about 1 m. N. in Swimbridge parish) and was martyred by the villagers of Chittlehampton who cut her to pieces with their scythes. St. Urith's well still lies at the E. end of the village, now called by the corrupt name of Taddy Well or St. Teara's Well. The ancient wall and building that stood above and around it have been removed, the well has been covered in, and a common pump fixed: but this prosaic object takes us back to the

early days of Christianity in Devon, when an obscure Celtic maiden named Urith was slain by some heathen Saxons, probably early in the 8th century. She was buried near the site of her martyrdom, and a beautiful church was later raised above her. The exact burial place was probably in the small chapel on the N. side of the sanctuary, which originally contained an image of the saint and was the scene of a pilgrimage on her day (8 July) until 1539. The small chapel has now been made into a passage leading to a vestry. It is floored by a stone with the inscription "Orate pro anima Joan Copley," a medieval slab which there is some reason to believe may have been placed over St. Urith's relics. The removal of her image did not end her cult in Devon, for the Christian name of Urith or Hieritha was repeatedly bestowed on daughters in gentle and simple families for long afterwards, and is indeed still used in the Trevelyan and Trefusis families.

The church is entirely a rebuilding of (c. 1470 to c. 1520), the magnificent W. tower being the last part to be completed (plate I). It is unquestionably the finest church tower in Devon, combining the strength of Devon towers with the grace of Somerset. The medieval pulpit (c. 1500) survives, the figure on the N. side being that of St. Urith holding the palm branch of martyrdom and the foundation stone of the church. In the N. transept is a monument to John Giffard of Brightley with figures of his son Arthur and his grandson John (1602-66), a royalist colonel.

Brightley Barton, 2½ m. SW. of the village, occupies a medieval moated site. The park has long been given over to tillage, and the 16th century house has been considerably pulled about.

Hudscott, SE. of the village, was one of the lesser seats of the Rolles. It was rebuilt in 1677 but is unexciting. Hawkrige Barton was a seat of a branch of the Aclands from the mid-14th century until the 17th century. Externally there is nothing remarkable except a decaying avenue of ancient walnuts: so often the first indication of a 16th or 17th century "mansion." The house may have been rebuilt c. 1615 as it contains a plaster coat-of-arms of Acland impaling Tremayne: Baldwin Acland married Elizabeth, da. of Tremayne of Collacombe, in 1615.

Among the other farmsteads of the parish, Whitestone, South Bray, and North and South Newton, were all Domesday manors. There is a good medieval stone cross at Brightley Cross, possibly erected as a guide post in connection with the widespread pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Urith.

Chivelstone

Chivelstone is located within South Hams local authority area. Historically it formed part of Coleridge Hundred. It falls within Woodleigh Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 562 in 1801 385 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 116 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Kingsbridge Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

Maps

The image below is of the Chivelstone area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 137/13
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 137SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX783387
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX73NE
 - Outdoor Leisure (1:25,000) mapping sheet 20
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 202
- Geological sheet 355 also covers the area

Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Chivelstone parish has magnificent cliff scenery along its whole coastline, including the fine headland of Prawle, the most southerly point in Devon. Prawle means "look-out hill" and must have been so used in Saxon times. A Lloyds signal station reports all passing ships. There was a medieval chapel at Prawle, dedicated to the

6th century Irish saint Brendan, now quite gone. (Reg. Lacy, ii, 442, 523, The chapel existed in the 1420s.)

Chivelstone, Prawle, South Allington, and Ford were all Domesday estates and are now substantial hamlets. Much of the parish consists of a plateau of pre-Cambrian rocks, dissected by deep and beautiful combes of which Lanacombe is the best. Field-walls of grey slate on the plateau are an unusual sight for Devon.

The church, founded as a chapelry of Stokenham (q.v.), is the only one in England dedicated to St. Silvester, a 4th century Pope. It is mainly a late 15th early 16th century building in local slate, with some granite. The chancel is 14th century work (much rebuilt), as also are the tower arch and font. The altar-table and rails, and font-cover, are 17th century in date; but the richest features of the furnishings are the 15th century rood-screen and the pulpit. The richly carved pulpit, similar to that at Holne, was carved from a single block of oak.

Christow

Christow is located within Teignbridge local authority area. Historically it formed part of Wonford Hundred. It falls within Kenn Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 422 in 1801 520 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 131 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Chudleigh Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

Maps

The image below is of the Christow area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 91/10
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 91SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX833851
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX88NW,SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 031
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 339 also covers the area

Illustrations

The image below is of Christow as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.



Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Christow stands on the W. hillside of the Teign valley. To the W. it rises well over 800 ft. to moorland where the two reservoirs of Tottiford and Kennick, supplying Torquay with water, lie. These cover nearly 74 acres; and here the scenery of the parish, which is everywhere of great beauty, reaches its loveliest.

Canonteign was the original Domesday manor. It was given to the canons of St. Mary du Val in Normandy c. 1125 and so acquired its prefix. Canonteign Barton or Old Canonteign was the Tudor manor house. It is a fine example of its period, built of local stone with massive granite quoins, window-frames, mullions, and doorways, and tall granite chimney-stacks. When Sir Edward Pellew bought the two manors of Christow and Canonteign in 1812, he built a new Canonteign House, in a beautiful timbered park SW. of the old house, and the old house was occupied as a farm. Some of its internal features remain, e.g. a fine early 17th century staircase. The house was garrisoned for the King, and was taken by Fairfax in December 1645 (plate 33).

Sir Edward Pellew (1757-1833), first Viscount Exmouth, was a brilliant naval commander. Among his many exploits was the bombardment of Algiers in 1816, upon the refusal of the Dey to abolish Christian slavery, an action which brought him honours from all over Christendom and a viscountcy at home. He is buried at Christow, where a monument to him may be seen.

Christow church (prob. St. Christina) is a 15th century granite building, except the chancel, which was rebuilt in 1862. The W. tower is one of the finest granite towers in Devon. It bears the date 1630, when it was either rebuilt in its old form or substantially repaired. There are some carved 16th century bench-ends, a 15th century chancel screen too garishly coloured, and some 18th to 19th century Pellew monuments. The font is Norman.

There were formerly silver, lead, copper, and manganese mines in the parish. An abandoned lead mine may be seen near Old Canonteign. Pale Farm is of some antiquarian interest, and a farm near the church contains late medieval panelling.

Chudleigh

Chudleigh is located within Teignbridge local authority area. Historically it formed part of Exminster Hundred. It falls within Moretonhampstead Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 1786 in 1801 1820 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In the valuation of 1334 it was assessed at £01/06/08. The lay subsidy of 1524 valued the community at £14/14/04. In 1641/2 220 adult males signed the Protestation returns. It is recorded as a borough from 1308. The community had a grammar school from 1668. A market is recorded from 14c.-1822.

A parish history file is held in Chudleigh Library. You can look for other material on the community by using the place search on the main local studies database. Further historical information is also available on the Genuki website.

Maps

The image below is of the Chudleigh area on Donn's one inch to the mile survey of 1765.



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 101/8,12
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 101NE,SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX868795
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX87NE
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 031
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 339 also covers the area

Illustrations

The image below is of Chudleigh as included in the Library's illustrations collection. Other images can be searched for on the local studies catalogue.



A fair is known from: 14c.-1822. Extract from **The glove is up! Devon's historic fairs**, by **Tricia Gerrish**, by kind permission of the author.

Chudleigh LOCATION: Off A38, & B3344, South of Exeter. Northern fringes of Dartmoor

ORIGINAL CHARTER: 1309. Granted to Walter Stapledon Bishop of Exeter. St Barnabas Day (11th June) for three days.

In 1309, Walter Stapledon, Bishop of Exeter, was granted a fair on St Barnabas Day (11th June) for 3 days. Another charter from Edward III c.1330 is recorded in the Public Record Office for 'Chuddelegh'. Only one fair date is mentioned by Owen: St Barnabas, on 22th June, when lambs were sold, but in Magna Britannia Easter Tuesday and St Matthews Day, in September are also listed. Sheep, horses and bulls were traded, in the Park, adjacent to the churchyard.

An advertisement for the 1851 Easter fair gives a clue to the importance it assumed in Chudleigh life. 'Caps, bonnets and other feminine decorations of the most exquisite style are in course of perfection, and the damage in consequence is anticipated to be considerable.' It does not say whether this was to their husbands' pockets, or to the hearts of village swains! The fairs had almost certainly ceased by 1888.

Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Chudleigh is a small market town on the main road from Exeter to Plymouth, to which it owed its rise in the 13th to 14th centuries. In the 11th century it formed part of the vast episcopal manor of Bishop's Teignton, and belonged to the bishops of Exeter until 1550, when Bishop Veysey was obliged by the King to alienate it. The bishops of Exeter had a medieval palace here, of which there are slight traces to the SE. of the town.

One of the bishops (probably Stapeldon) founded a borough at Chudleigh. Almost certainly its rise from a purely agricultural village to the rank of market-town and borough was due to the rise of Plymouth, 30 m. away, which brought greatly increased traffic along the road from Exeter. By Lysons's day there was a market and three fairs. As with so many Devonshire towns, Chudleigh reached its greatest size in 1841 and thereafter declined, though not as badly as most old market towns.

The town was largely destroyed by a fire in May 1807, and afterwards rebuilt. The church (St. Martin) is interesting, despite extensive 19th century restorations. It is mostly an early 14th century building, with a 13th century W. tower of an unusual type for Devon. The S. aisle was added in the 15th century and has a good granite arcade. The rood-screen is unusual, probably of late date, and bears the arms of Courtenay. Sir Pierce (or Peter) Courtenay who died 1552 and whose tomb is in the chancel, may have had it made. There are ancient carved bench-ends, and numerous mural monuments, tablets, and floor-slabs to the 16th to 18th century gentry of the parish.

Next to the church is the old grammar school, now a private house, founded by John Pynsent in 1668. Scattered over the large parish are several interesting houses, of which the most notable is Ugbrooke, formerly the seat of Lord Clifford, in a fine deer park of 600 acres. The first mansion was built by the well-known Lord Treasurer Clifford of the Cabal, who died here (1673) before it was completed. This house was rebuilt about 1760 as a hideous "pseudo-Norman pile," but the interior decoration was by the Adam brothers. The Catholic chapel, built by the Lord Treasurer and consecrated by Bishop Sparrow of Exeter in 1671 (Clifford did not become an open Catholic until the year of his death), still remains, somewhat altered and enlarged, and magnificently decorated by the Adams. The Lord Treasurer is buried here.

The park, one of several which are claimed to be "the finest in Devon," contains a grove of beech-trees known as "Dryden's Walk." Dryden was a close friend of the 1st Lord Clifford, and often visited Ugbrooke. There is indeed a tradition that he completed his translation of Virgil here. At the topmost point of the park is an earthwork known as Castle Dyke, which commands a wide expanse of country N. and W. It is probably an Early Iron Age hill-fort.

The great limestone mass of Chudleigh Rock was a favourite place of resort for "outings" from Exeter and other towns in days when people were more contented

with the simple pleasures of life. The old quarries and lime-kilns are most picturesque. Hams Barton was the seat of the Hunts, and a good deal of their Elizabethan mansion survives. The fine banqueting- room is dated 1621. Upcott was the birthplace of the celebrated geographer Major James Rennell (1742-1830). Whiteway was acquired by the Parkers. The 1st Lord Boringdon began the present house, which was completed by his nephew.