

An  
illustrated guide to



## **LITTLE HINTON**

By

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## INTRODUCTION

LITTLE HINTON or HINTON PARVA is situated on the western edge of the "Vale of the White Horse" stretching from Lyddington Hill to Streatley near Wantage.

In all there are some twenty villages and hamlets nestling composedly along the slopes under the hills, some entirely concealed amongst the dense trees and others scattered about more plainly visible, with Hinton located to the western end of the vale.

The meaning of the word Hinton is often, the tun of the hinds. When Hinton occurs in the Domesday Book, as *Han-tone* or *Hen-tone*, it is derived from A.S. *hedn*, *heah*, high. Hence the high enclosure or village. Probably it is the Higna-tun rather than the Hind's tun, "farm of the (monastic) community". The word Parva is synonymous to something which is small (L. *Parvus* being small or little).

In its earliest days, Hinton was part of the estate of Wanborough. About the 10<sup>th</sup> century it acquired its own name and in the 12<sup>th</sup> century became a separate parish. Until the 14<sup>th</sup> century Hinton had two distinct areas, one being West Hinton Hamlet and the other East Hinton. From the 15<sup>th</sup> century it was often known as Little Hinton. Parva came into use during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Today the name of the village is generally known as Hinton Parva.

In times past, communication was undertaken by a verbal process, groups of people in settlements developed their own dialects from region to region. In each community only those who had means of large estates were able to send their children for education in reading and writing during their childhood. It was from these pupils, that the written evidence of their history was recorded for the future generations. Obviously down through the ages the spelling was interpreted as according to the way the dialect was spoken. Over the years, dialects developed as people changed, thus creating variations in the spelling. This resulted with the name of the HINTON changing over the centuries. Listed below are the variation of spellings found of the village name recorded in ancient manuscripts which still survive today in archives of museums and county record offices.

### HINTON PARVA OR LITTLE HINTON.

HYNYTON, HYNETON, HYNETUNE: AD 854	HANTONE: AD 1086
HINETON(E)-Y-: AD 1242, 1332	HINNETON: AD 1205
HYNITON: AD 1244	HYNYNTON: AD 1279, 1279, 1300
HYNIN-: AD 1285	LITTLE HYNYGTON: AD 1311
HYNTON: AD 1280	LYTTLE HYNTON: AD 1545
LETTELL HENTUNE: AD 1663	LITTELL HINTON: AD 1676

The Latinised name of Hinton Parva dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and distinguishes the village from either Hinton, Great or Broad Hinton.

### EARLS COURT FARM.

ARDESCOTE: AD 1086, 1204	ERDESCOTE: AD 1196, 1242, 1356
HERDESCOTE: AD 1428	ERLESCOTE : AD 1542
ERLESCOTTE: AD 1558-79	EARLESCOTT: AD 1639

The Domesday Book form of Ardescote may be from an earlier name of EARDULFESCOTE, "the cottage(s) of EARD(W)ULF", or may contain a shortened form of that name, hence "EARDS cottages."

### WEST HINTON.

WESTHYNETON: AD 1334	WEST TOWN: AD 1773
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Other regionalised names found in the parish of Hinton Parva are: GREEN CORNER, HASSOCK'S COPSE (HASSOCK COPPICE), HINTON MARSH (LOWER MARSH), MOUNT PLEASANT, THORN. No major variations of spelling differences have been traced.



Map of Little Hinton 1880

PLAN OF LITTLE HINTON SHOWING PLACES OF INTEREST.

## HISTORY OF LITTLE HINTON.

There is little evidence of prehistoric activity revealing the existence of the village. In the south east area is a narrow coomb known as "Cowtail" next to Hatchet Hill. Here Roman coins have been found and identified, stretching from the period of AD 244 to AD 357. In this area, man-made ridges can be seen where primitive agricultural work was undertaken. A bowl-barrow has been uncovered on Hinton downs which contained a primary cist-cremation and a extended burial intruded in pagan Saxon times. A Roman brooch and an ancient spearhead have also been found on Hinton downs.

In its earliest days, the land of Hinton was under the ownership of the Monks. As the meaning of Hinton is given to be "of the farming (monastic) community", this supports the evidence of its name. It acquired its own separate identity in the 10<sup>th</sup> century.

From the 13<sup>th</sup> century until at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century sheep and corn husbandry prevailed on both demesne and tenantry lands. The heavy clay soils in the northern end of the parish supported herds of cows and calves.

In 1273 it is recorded that there were 537 sheep and 144 lamb fleeces. 38 winter and 173 summer cheeses produced.

Flocks and wool yields on the demesne were substantial throughout the Middle Ages, but nothing is known as to the economy of the tenantry lands.

Cereal crop growing can be dated back to the early middle ages and continues unto the present day. In 2002 cereal crop production is now the prime source of agricultural work carried out on the farms.

Back in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Manor was the principle landowner with the remainder of the parish given over to the tenantry lands. About 1280 there were 27 estate copyholders farming under terms as tenantry land with the majority having a holding of around 30 acres or one virgator. The Tithing agreement of 1649 revealed that the Manor held 386 acres. The West Hinton tithing of 576 acres was shared among 12 copyholders, of whom over half held farms over 60 acres each. Moving onto the 1839 Tithing agreement, the Manor now held 522 acres and only 7 copyholders existed as result of the larger estates buying up the smaller farms. In 1847 West Hinton farm was enfranchised in favour of John Brown. As lessee of Manor farm John Brown acquired its reversion in 1853. Both farms were bought by Henry Tucker in 1871. In 1896 Tuckers Hinton estate of 929 acres was sold in lots. In 2002 only four farms are still operating: a) Charlbury Farms Ltd, b) Home Farm, c) Hinton Marsh, d) Mount Pleasant.

Assessing the census returns of 1841, some 25 % of the inhabitants were employed as agricultural labourers on the farms in the village and surrounding areas. In 1901 the ratio had fallen to some 17%. Today in 2002, only a handful continue working due to the introduction of mechanisation and labour-saving methods, for example, milking parlours, threshers, tractors and combine harvesters.

At one time two mills operated in the parish. Records indicate that in 1248, there was a mill on the Manorial demesne. This is thought to be Cuttle Mill, which stood near Hinton Marsh Farm on the north east boundary stream of the parish. A second mill was in East Hinton attached to the Manorial estate in 1419. It is identifiable with Berry Mill. It was then and remained a copyhold of Hinton Manor. It stood on the north east boundary stream some distance south of Hinton Marsh Farm. Although the precise sites of the mills are not known, earthworks, including a leat and embankments, still survive in the meadows south of Hinton Marsh Farm.

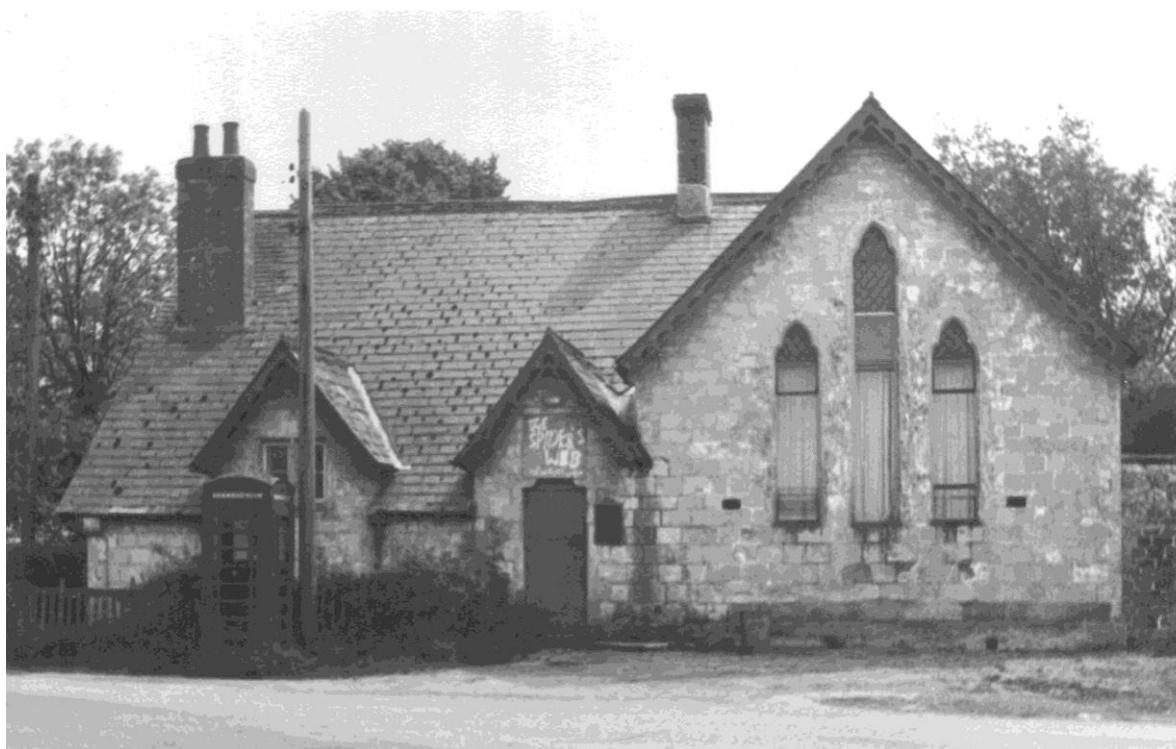
Other occupations which provided employment for the people in the village were, house servants/maids, blacksmiths, tailors, shopkeeper, carpenters and builders etc. Many of these occupations disappeared during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, other than the farming industry, the only other employment is at the Water Garden Nurseries. Until recent years, there was a village grocery store and post office situated nearby the village hall. The village today has only the services of a post office, run on a part time basis. For the majority of the population, many commutes daily out to Swindon and other towns and cities.

The population of the village has always been very small. The earliest record is in 1377 which revealed that there were 71 people assessed for the poll-tax. In 1700 there were 143 inhabitants. The 1801 census return recorded there were 239 living in Hinton. From 1841 the census returns the population details can be analysed as follows:

1841:	324	1851:	354	1861:	298	1871:	294	1881:	247
1891:	273	1901:	210	1911:	245	1921:	241	1931:	208

It is hoped that the following guided tour through the hamlet many may pick up something of the gleanings of the rich history of "time" that Hinton has been through, that it brings a sense of appreciation of how our forebears, in times past, kept their faith in Little Hinton so that today we are able to continue to enjoy the fruits of their labours.

## 1) The Village School



Starting the walk, we commence at the village school of Little Hinton. The school was founded by the Rev Thomas Coker. His father was the vicar of Hinton Parva from 1684 - 1740. In 1777 Thomas Coker drew up a legal document giving the foundational basis of the education for the children of the village. At the outset, the maximum number of pupils was set at 10, later as finances was able, the size of the school increased. The income for running of the school came from the rent of land at "COW LEAZE" in the parish of Shrivvenham and "BOURTON CLOSES", a meadow also in the same parish.

Early details of the records are sparse. In 1809 the school mistress was Mrs Sarah Pearce who was paid a stipend of £9 per annum. From 1811 Thomas Hancock was appointed the new Headmaster. The children were educated at his house, possibly next to the existing village hall (the site of "Parvenue"). He continued until 1819, when the trustees dismissed him for not abiding to the tenures of the Statutes. Dec 1819 saw the sale of a quantity of elm timber from the land of "COW LEAZE" fetching £84.15.0d. There was no school for two years between 1819 and 1821. In the summer of 1821, a grant of land was obtained from the Dean & Chapter of Winchester at "COOMBS BANK" costing £112.12.1d. The new extension to the school was completed in December 1821. Miss Mary Ann Ricks (Sept 1822, she married Mr Thatcher) was nominated to act as the new School Mistress with a salary of £2.15.0d a quarter. She faithfully taught the village children for 27 years.

In 1839 the land belonging to the school was sold to the Great Western Railway for the sum of £820.05.7d. The proceeds were administered by the Court of Chancery until 1865, when it was transferred to the Charity Commissioners and provided income for the running of the school. In 1841 John Tucker gave to the trustees of the Thomas Coker School a piece of land known as "KEEPS CLOSE" for the purpose of a further extension. It was not until 1849/50 that the extension work was undertaken costing £250. This was funded by means of subscriptions from various benefactors.

After the completion of the extension, listed below are the schoolmasters/mistresses who served educating the village children:

1849-51 : Mr & Mrs Frederick Mills	1853-55 : Jane Coultard
1856-57 : Mrs Hedgcock	1857-65 : Miss Jane Hugo
1865-68 : Mrs Stanley	1869-73 :
1874-75 : Miss Dukes & Miss Knight	1876-79 : Miss Dukes
1880-97 : Miss Elizabeth Saunders	1898- 01: Miss Hocking
1901-01 : Miss Howard	1901-03 : Miss Brown
1905-06 : Miss Wrigley	1907-11 : Miss Watts
1915 : Miss Hida B Saunders	1920-23 : Miss E Harvey

From late 1903 to early 1904, the school was closed due an epidemic of "whooping cough".

William Jeans, farmer of Hill Manor Farm donated a piece of land to the school in 1905, as a result of his

wife's death, to be used as a playground.

Up to 1821 the maximum number of children taught at school was 10, after this date with the new school house now erected and a further extension in 1849, the number of children taught increased. In 1834 it averaged 23, 1885: 70, 1889: 50, 1895: 35, 1899: 30, 1907: 27, 1911: 42. Thereafter the attendance remained steady until after the first world war when it continued to decline until 1927 when the average was 17. The school closed in 1927 and the children of Hinton were transferred to the school at Wanborough.

## **2) The Blacksmith's Forge**

Next to the old school, was a Blacksmith Forge built alongside the school playground. The Forge was built by John Johnson or more popularly known as Young John@. The Forge was constructed of iron. The ground was given to him by a Farmer, free of rent, who appreciated in having a regular smithy in the village. At playtime the children from the school came out to watch him working, listening to the roaring bellows and tinkling anvil and to watch the sparks whizzing out through the doorway.

The smithy was very fond of the children and they loved him in return. John was responsible for small repairs to the machinery and implements, shoes of the horses and settling up with the patrons every 3 months. All his hammers were given names for example: "Slogger" the sledge, "Dragon" the intermediate one, and "Useful" the hand hammer. When he wanted either of them, he cried aloud: 'Now, Useful!' 'Come yer, Dragon!' 'Stop ther, Slogger, till I whant tha agyen!' Where 'Useful' is not big enough, and 'Slogger' to mighty, he 'goes at it, an' 'its into't wi' Dragon, an' yarns mi bit o'rooty' (bread).

In manner, he was extremely gentle and agreeable, a lovable man with a playful, yet serious mind, full of quaint sayings and sparks of wit, able to converse on matters of deepest import and to make rhymes while he beats out the fizzing metal on the anvil. His voice was soft and mellow, and he sang the tenor part in the choir at the tiny church; he has been a chorister all his life, from early childhood. He was ripe for a chat at any time, whenever one cared to call upon him. When able, he took visitors around the Coombs to see the ancient dwellings, telling them the names of the hills and stories of past incidents.

## **3) The Village Inn**

Immediately across the road is the site of what is believed to have been the only public house to have existed in the village. The public house was known as the New Inn@ or later possibly called The Harrow. It is known to have stood in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and continued until about 1845, when it changed hands and probably closed shortly afterwards. An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain an "Of Licence" in 1893. This property is now a residential house known as "Shukran".

## **4) The Post Office**



The location of where the Post office began operating in the village is unclear. One possibility is that it may have started at what was the New Inn after its closure. The cottage next door most certainly was used as a Post Office for many years. In 1855 it was operated by James Thatcher. In 1880 saw David Lawrence acting as the receiver. The Post Office in 1907 was ran by Ernest Hacker. In 1933 it became the responsibility of Mrs Johnson. Just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War the Post office moved to another location situated slightly further up on the other side. In 1939 Mrs Dawson ran the post office until the late 1960's. Today the Post office operates on a part time basis from Holly Cottage.

## **5) The Coombs**

Coming back down to the old school, one can undertake a walk into the Coombs. Looking south, following the tracks, one can see the sharpness of the ridges that have been worn by the weather over the many centuries. It continues upwards in a south/south easterly direction towards Fox Hill. In ancient times past there were believed to have been small groups of people dwelling amongst the ridges, surviving by tilling of the land around the Coombs. Some of the pit dwellings were still inhabited back in the 18<sup>th</sup> century in particular by a family named Clargo. Mary Clargo, an old woman was counted as a witch by the villagers, lived there alone, with the pit thatched over, to protect her from the rain and cold. In years past folklore from the villagers said that the place haunted by witches and goblins.

Leaving the Coombs and turning right progressing eastward along the Bishopstone road, a number of houses come into sight. On the left just before the junction is an old thatched cottage known as Little Thatch. Just past the junction is the largest farm in Little Hinton.

## **6) Charlbury Farmhouse**

The existence of the farm can be traced back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century for it is recorded that in 1643, it was sold by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester. From the road, looking to the left of the house, this was part of the original cottage built around 1640. When later rebuilt, the tablet was placed on the wall facing the road. The tablet was originally on the east gable end wall. To the right is the later modern red bricked large gabled extension built during the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is of two storeys with roof built of slate tiles. There is one blind window panel in the upper storey. Theory has it, that this was blocked to avoid the Window tax which was applied to buildings which had more than eight windows. This tax was abolished in 1851. A "British" Fire Insurance mark can be seen over the right hand first floor window to the left of the red brick extension. There is a large hall, two good sitting rooms, four bedrooms. Three attics, kitchens and domestic offices. Outside are a range of buildings comprising Coal and Wood House, Boot House etc. Nearby is a Nag Stabling together with a number of farm buildings.

## **7 Povey's Cottage**



Opposite the Farmhouse is Povey's cottage built probably during the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. A one & half storey thatched cottage with a hipped roof and one brick chimney. There are two eyebrow dormers. The walls are painted chalk rubble with a brick gable end to the lane. There is a L plan extension to the east. There are two 3 light eyebrow dormers to east and a thatched porch. The cottages name originated from Richard Povey who lived here from about the 1880's until his death in 1931. His wife continued living here until her death in 1936. Richard Povey was a tailor specialising in the making of Riding habits.

### **8) Orchard House (formerly The Rectory)**



Next door to Povey's cottage is the old Rectory. Mention is made of a Rectory-house in the later part of the 17th century. In 1783 it was described as being thatched, built of various materials and contained 13 rooms. It was replaced in 1810 by a house built south of the church by Richard Pace of Lechlade. It has undergone a number of changes particularly after being sold by the Church Commissioners in 1946. It is built of chalk stone and brick and is rendered. The roof is covered with slate tiles. Inside there are 3 sitting rooms, kitchen, scullery, china pantry, 6 bedrooms, bathroom etc. To the east is a double garage and playroom (it is believed that this was the site of the old Church School).

### **9) St Swithun's Church**



The Parish Church of Little Hinton is dedicated to St Swithun's dating back to the mid 12<sup>th</sup> Century. It has stood upon the same site throughout its long history in the centre of the eastern end of the village.

The Church is generally built of rubble and ashlar dressings, comprising a chancel, aisled and clerestoried nave with south porch and a west tower. The tower is probably of Saxon origin with the windows being inserted later. The

pillars and arches on the north side date early 1100's, those on the south side from about 1200. The chancel arch dates from around 1220 with the chancel itself rebuilt a century later. There is a priest door in the south wall. The door into the church dates back to Norman times. The clerestory windows porch and roof go back to the 15th century.

Since the middle ages the church building continued to deteriorate until it underwent a major restoration in 1860-61, costing £658. The funds were raised by the Church Rate, collections at the door and also by Subscription. Further extensive works have been carried out in 1899, 1939 and 1961-63.

Inside the Church there is an ancient font, Norman or even Saxon and is elaborately and mysteriously carved. Whether the birds and beasts on it have any Christian meaning is unknown, but perhaps the animal biting the tail of the snake could represent the victory over sin, which is the theme of the Baptismal Sacrament, or it may be the stone mason's fancy, having no interpretation.

The current pulpit which was rebuilt in 1905 made from the wood of the Sounding Board. It was based on the design of the original pulpit given by Martha Hinton in 1637. The carvings are typical of the early 17th century.

The Pews were made in 1861 when the old ones were removed. They are of simple character and adequate for their purpose.

The Alter was given in 1892 in memory of the wife of the Rev R.E.Richards, who was Rector from 1890-98. It has since been lengthened and raised. A red velvet frontal given together with a pair of fine old Italian candlesticks. The Altar rails made in 1861, were moved forward in 1963 to give a larger Sanctuary and enable the Altar to stand away from the east wall. The Priest therefore could celebrate facing the congregation and give worshippers the feeling that they are gathered round the Lord's table, the Altar. In the Sanctuary are two fine carved chairs of Charles 11 style.

There are three bells and a ting tang in the church tower. The oldest bell dates from around 1500 and was made at the Bristol Foundry. It contains the letters S.A.T. & R and placed inverted. The next bell is dated 1698 and has the inscription "ROB COR MADE ME IN THE YEAR 1698". After "ME" there are seven-coin impressions dated of the reign of Charles 11. It was probably made at the Aldbourne Foundry. The latest bell dates from around 1730, again probably made by John Cor at the Aldbourne Foundry. The date of the ting tang is unknown and is hung in the west window with lever, double moulding round shoulder.

The graves around the Church contain a number of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century headstones and tomb chests. It was closed in the mid 1870's after running out of space. A new burial ground was acquired and consecrated on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1876 on a piece of land adjoining to Cannons cottage.

The records of Vicars who served the Parish Church of St Swithun's, date back to 1301. The first Vicar listed was John de Bristol, today in 2002 Robin Cardwell is the current Vicar. The Vicar today has to serve three other neighbouring churches namely Bishopstone, Lyddington and Wanborough. Over the centuries a total of 54 Vicars have served the Parish Church in caring for the people and providing spiritual worship.

#### **10) The Little Cottage, Threeways and Greystones.**



Looking across the village green from the Church are three thatched cottages built during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. A One and a half storey thatched row with three bricked chimneys interlaced by traditional thatch. There are three eyebrow dormers. The front is roughcast with the exception of Greystones to the left. The windows have small 2, 3, and 4 light casements, still retaining the 19<sup>th</sup> century openings with cambered heads, mostly found on the ground floor.

There are two doors facing the village green, in front of Threeways, there was once was a hand drawn pump well which supplied water for the cottages. Greystones has a catside modern box porch with a stunted chimney. To the left below Little Cottage, is an old barn once belonging to Somerset Farm, now converted into a open garage and with store rooms on either side.

### **11) Somerset Farm House**



North of Little Cottage is Somerset Farm House. It is believed to have been built in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is two storeys with an end gable lit attic. The side and front walls built of rubble, with the back rendered. There are three windows with modern casements, timber lintels on the first floor. The front door has a central modern gabled porch. Slate roof with gable end brick chimneys. A single storey red brick extension was built in 1910 to the north. A mechanical water pump feeding from the well is set on the east gable end and still in use. Back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century it was a small farm holding of some 30 acres, and was once farmed by William Somerset.

### **12) Hinton Manor**

Coming down Church Road, below the Church is Hinton Manor. Records indicate that a Manor existed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, this has since been replaced by the existing building which was constructed during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, with further work carried out in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is of two and half storeys with 4 bays. The walls are built mainly of brick especially above the ground with parts in rubble. The roof has stone tiles with mid 19<sup>th</sup> century diagonal shafts to brick chimneys. There is a mid 19<sup>th</sup> century stable wing to the north with two gabled dormers and a wide through coachway. Attached are stables with outbuildings to the east which include a small mid 19<sup>th</sup> century thatched and weather-boarded barn.

Around 1280, the whole Manor was reported to have been farmed, although it may have been the demesne alone which was let. In 1445 the demesne was totally farmed. Throughout most of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Walrond family were principle farmers. In 1624 William Keate became farmer in the parish, after his death the estate was succeeded by his daughter Elizabeth and her husband Francis Hungerford. In 1649 Hungerford's demesne farm of 386 acres, comprised of 240 acres, as arable, 44 acres as meadow, 100 acres of down and 2 acres of coppice. In 1791 the farm's 471 acres comprised of 2/3rd's arable and 1/3rd pasture. In 1820 Manor Farm had now increased to 522 acres being farmed by Thomas Brown. The 1839 Tithe Agreement, revealed that it still held the same acreage. In 1896 a large portion of Manor farm was sold by auction.

There was a mill attached to the manorial estate in 1419. It is identifiable with Berry Mill and was then and remained a copyhold of Hinton Manor. It stood on the north east boundary stream some distance south of Hinton Marsh Farm. Today Hinton Manor is only a small estate, currently owned by Mr M C Talbot-Ponsonby.

Leaving the Manor travelling down the Alane@, on approaching a sharp right bend, to the left stands the Mission Hall.

### 13) Mission Hall



During the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there were a small group of Non-Conformist worshippers, who met together in a room at Batts Farmhouse kindly lent by Thomas Anger who was a staunch supporter of the cause. After his death, the property was sold to the Keable's who continued to allow the worshippers to meet in the room. After a few years, Miss Keable of Bath, who had much interest in the work, died and left money which to enable a Chapel to be erected. It was built in 1911 by Richard Payne, builders from Wanborough. The names of the Keable family can be found on the four stone tablets below the windows. It is a single storey building of brick with a modern porch. The roof is tiled, and was renewed in 1971. Originally the porch door entrance was on the side facing west. In the 1980's it was changed to a front entrance facing north. At the time of the Mission being built, Charles Archer labourer for Farmer Keable who was instrumental in building the "Devil's Retreat" otherwise the Mission Hall, recorded that this building offended the eye of Major Nickisson who lived at the Manor. Major Nickisson instructed that trees should be planted around the Chapel, so to blot it out of his sight. When the trees grew and began blotting out light, he relented his opposition and allowed them to be trimmed. A campaign was held in 1947 by 5 Evangelist known as the Triumphant News Team and on one evening over 100 were packed into the Hall to hear the Gospel Message. Services still continue to be held each Sunday evening by the faithful attenders of the Chapel.

### 14) City Corner



Leaving the Chapel, walking along the path through Orchard field to the gate midway, here to the left lies an old spring. Progressing on through this gate the path crosses Revelands reaching City Corner. To the left, once stood the original Blacksmith's Forge which was owned by John Johnson's father, Farmer Johnson. The forge disappeared around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The houses seen around City Corner junction were built from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The origination of the name City Corner@ remains a mystery.

### **15) West Hinton Farmhouse**



Travelling along the narrow main road, upon approaching the bottom of the hill, to the left is West Hinton Farmhouse. It was built in the early 18th century, and later extended at the end of the 18th century when a slate roof was put on. It is of two and half storeys with a chalk front, the rest of sarsen and mixed rubble and ashlar quoins. The sides and rear have chalk bands at ground floor lintel level. A slate roof with two brick chimneys and 2 gabled dormers. A roughly central modern porch with an arched entrance. On the first floor to left of centre is a date stone.

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1 \* A  
1727

In the 1839 Tithe Agreement records show that West Hinton had a farm of 335 acres formed from seven small copyhold estates, and farmed by Thomas Brown. In 1896 West Hinton Farm was reduced to 20 acres as result of the auction. The barns and sheds still standing next to the farmhouse are now owned by Charlbury Farm.

### **16) The Grove**

On the other side of the main road is a long driveway which leads to the Grove. It is an early-mid 19th century detached villa. At one time it was attached to the Manorial copyhold. It is of two storeys, rendered with a hipped slate roof. There are two large chimney stacks with moulding capping. The building is built in the shape of an "L" plan. The frontage contains 5 windows with glazing bar sashes with moulded architraves. The entrance is of a central portico with Doric columns and gabled pediment. The entrance is a half glazed 6 panel door with radiating fanlight.

### **17) Pendower Cottage**

Coming back down the main road passing through City Corner towards the Village Hall, halfway along on the right is an old cottage dating back some 300 years that has been greatly modernised. It was originally thatched, with the roof pitching down almost to the level of the road. Sometime during the 1930's the roof was replaced by tiles. The land of the property stretches from City Corner bend and down to Shukran near the Village Hall.

This is the end of the organised walk around the village of Little Hinton. I hope that you have enjoyed it and found it interesting and maybe encourage you to come back again and explore more of the life in this small village.

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