

A SHORT HISTORY OF INGESTRE



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By Anne Andrews



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INTRODUCTION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 2013, Ingestre Festival Association celebrated the 400th anniversary of the building of Ingestre Hall in 1613. As part of those celebrations we wanted to inspire visitors to find out more about the rich heritage of Ingestre. With the support of the National Lottery through a Sharing Heritage Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and Sandwell Council who own the Hall, we have produced this history of Ingestre, which was previously unrecorded. We hope that in future people will enjoy finding out more about the history of Ingestre.

We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that this publication is accurate and all reference material and photographs used have been authorised by the correct copyright owner and attributed accurately. If you find an error or have other information to add, please contact Dr. Anne Andrews, at Tixandrews@hotmail.co.uk so that they can be amended or included in any future editions.

We hope that everyone who visits Ingestre in the future will enjoy finding out more about this fascinating village and it's history.

We would also like to acknowledge the following sources of information and pictures:

Aaron Chetwynd (Picture of Ingestre New Stables); James Fack (Pictures and information on Talbot Cars); Trevor Field Williams (Picture of Church Lights); Diane Fitzgerald (Picture of Hall Staff); Valerie Foss (Pictures & Information on Donald Macdonald); Helen Frost (Pictures and information on White family); John Howard (Information on Stone Ax); Stephen Lally (Pictures and information from "Celebrating 100 years of the Invincible Talbot 1903 -2003"); Landmark Trust (Information on Ingestre Pavilion); Peter Mynors (William Mynors Diaries and photographs); Sue Paris (Picture of Mr & Mrs Mosedale); Mrs C.Shannon (Old Lion Lodges Photograph); Staffs CC – Past Track (Various pictures); Staffordshire County Record Office/William Salt Library; Trish Wright (Pictures of Ingestre Gardens)

Anne Andrews & Gill Broadbent

INDEX

	Page
1. EARLY HISTORY	4
2. THE INGESTRE CHETWYNDS	6
3. THE SHREWSBURY TALBOTS OF INGESTRE	14
4. INGESTRE HALL.....	17
5. INGESTRE HALL SERVANTS	32
6. INGESTRE HALL GARDENS & GROUNDS.....	43
7. INGESTRE CHURCH	63
8. INGESTRE OLD & NEW STABLES.....	66
9. INGESTRE HOME FARM	75
10. BIRCH HALL & TRENT DRIVE	79
11. INGESTRE RECTORY & VILLAGE.....	82
12. LITTLE INGESTRE.....	85
13. HOO MILL & LION LODGES	89
14. THE 20 th EARL OF SHREWSBURY & HIS COMMERCIAL INTERESTS	94
15. OTHER PEOPLE ON THE ESTATE	113
16. THE VISIT OF EDWARD VII IN 1907.....	129

1. EARLY HISTORY

Aerial photography and recent investigations show Bronze Age activity in Ingestre with two Round Barrows and a Ring Ditch to the west and a complex of cropmarks including an enclosure and two concentric ring ditches to the east in the river valley. This early activity is confirmed by the fine polished ax found by John Howard in the fields near Hoo Mill Lane.



Polished Stone Ax found in field near Hoo Mill

It has been suggested that the name Ingestre comes from the Ings or flat meadows, by the River Trent.

Domesday, in 1086 records Robert of Stafford having 3 hides at Ingestre valued at 15s. It had previously been held by Godwin and Wilgrip, freemen, and was held by Hugh in 1086. There was land for 4 ploughs, 9 villagers and 2 smallholders with 2 ploughs; 6 acres of meadow; one part of a mill valued at 10d; and woodland 1 league long by 3 furlongs wide. Ingestre is the only instance in Staffordshire where a part of a mill is listed. The mill is most likely to have been at Hoo Mill.

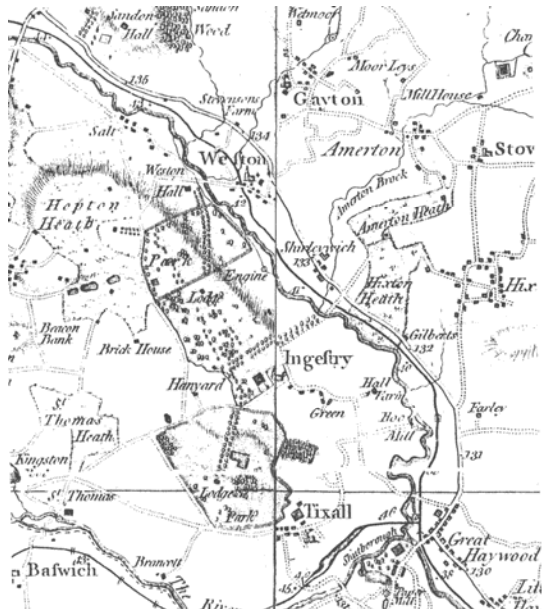
From at least 1086 until 1960, Ingestre was in the hands of a single landowner which has had a significant effect on the specific character of the Ingestre we see today.

Early maps show the deer parks at Ingestre and the adjacent parish of Tixall:



1695 Morden Map of Staffordshire showing enclosed Deer Park at Ingestre with Hall and Church

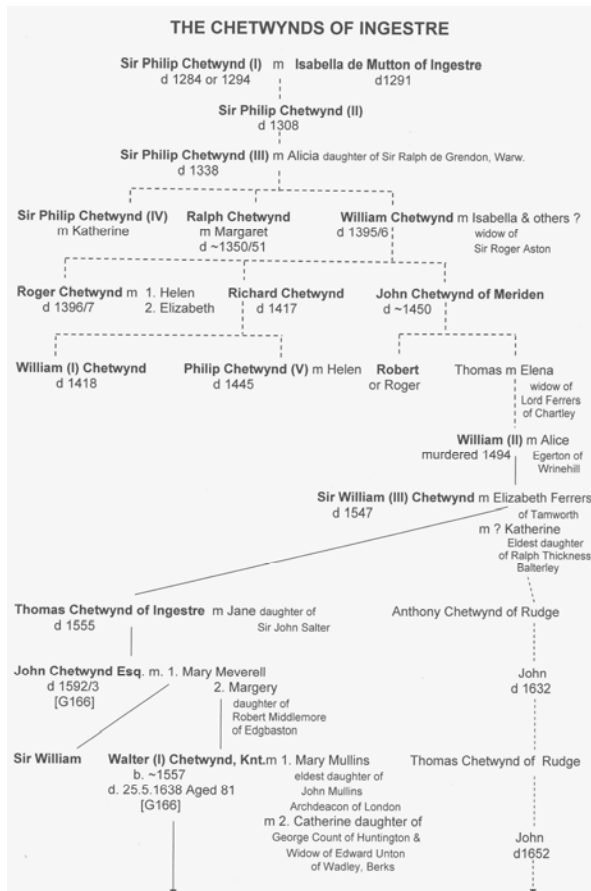
Yates Map of Staffordshire of 1775 shows the Ingestre Park in two sections with a separate Deer Park to the north, which is now in the adjacent parish of Hopton.



1775 Yates Map of Staffordshire showing Deer Park in two sections

2. THE INGESTRE CHETWYNDS

In 1166 it was held by another Hugh or Hugo, probably a descendant of the original Hugh, in 1086. This Hugh's daughter, Alina, inherited the estates as he had no sons. She married Ivo de Mutton who died c1184. Their family continued until in 1242 when Sir Adam de Mutton died leaving Isabella his sole surviving child, Alina's great-great-grand-daughter. She had a guardian appointed who arranged her marriage to Sir Philip de Chetwynd in 1256, and she died in 1291. Ingestre then continued in the hands of the Chetwyns:



Sir Philip Chetwynd (V) died 1445/6, leaving William his grandchild as his heir. This William (II) became one of the gentlemen-ushers of the bedchamber to King Henry VII, and was much envied by Sir Humphrey Stanley of Pipe, Staffordshire, one of the knights of the body to the same king and sheriff for Staffordshire in 1493/4.

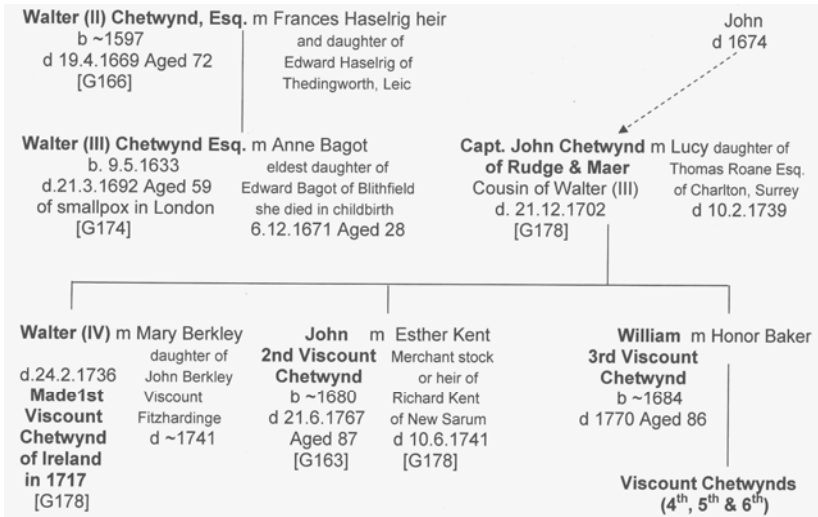
A counterfeit letter was sent in the name of Randolf Brereton, Esq. delivered on Friday night before the Feast of St John the Baptists Nativity, requesting a meeting with Sir William at Stafford next morning by 5 o'clock. Sir William left his house at Ingestre with his son, William and two servants and was waylaid on Tixall Heath, by no less than 20 persons – seven from Sir Humphrey Stanley's own family, some with bows and others with spears, all armed with brigandines and coats of mail; They came out from a sheep-cote, and a deep dry pit, furiously assaulting and killing Sir William. The said Sir Humphrey at that time passing by, with at least 24 persons on horseback, upon pretence of hunting a deer.

Alice his widow, petitioned the King that Sir Humphrey and his servants might answer for this, but to no avail as Sir Humphrey had too much influence at Court. No redress was ever given to Alice nor any notice taken of the assassination of her husband. Alice is buried at Grendon Church, nr Atherstone, another of the Chetwynd Estates at that time.



Tomb of Alice at Grendon

William III's Great Grandson, Sir Walter Chetwynd, built a rose brick Jacobean Ingestre Hall in 1613 on the site of an earlier manor house which he completely pulled down.



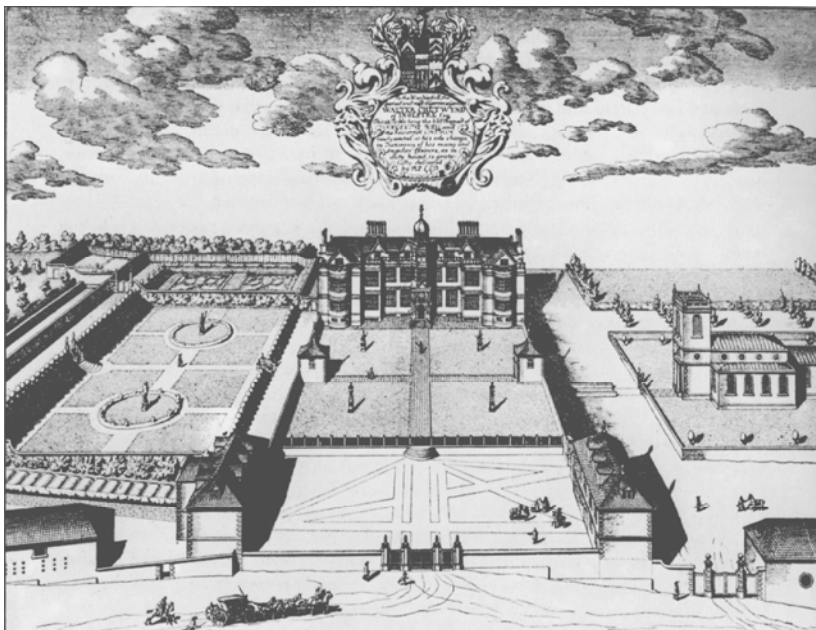
Sir Walter's grandson, another Walter (III), was known as the Antiquarian as he was well read, a historian and a mathematician. He was MP for Stafford from 1634 to 1693, and was also a patron of architecture, commissioning the rebuilding of Ingestre Church in 1673-6 following the death of his wife in childbirth. He also altered the Hall's interior in 1675. In 1688 Formal Gardens were laid out. Walter became a Fellow of the Royal Society, alongwith Sir Christopher Wren In 1678

Walter III Chetwynd in 1691



Walter III Chetwynd c1655

Ingestre Hall & Church are shown in 1685 in Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire:



Ingestre Hall and Church in 1685



John Chetwynd of Ingestre, Rudge & Maer

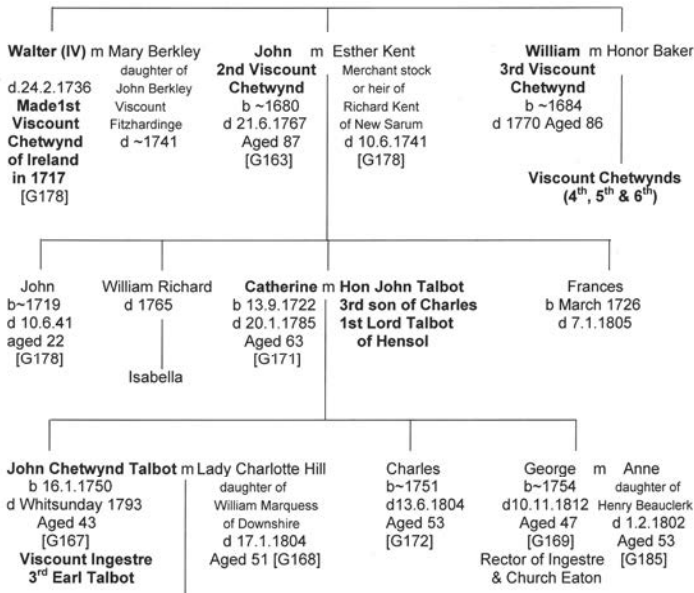
Sir Walter Chetwynd (III) died in 1692 of smallpox leaving no children. Ingestre then passed to the descendants of a younger son of William Chetwynd (III) Capt. John Chetwynd of Rudge & Maer, who died in 1702, leaving Ingestre to his son, Walter (IV).



Walter (IV) was made 1st Viscount Chetwynd of Ireland in 1717, but left no heirs when he died in 1736. Ingestre and the title then passed to his younger brother, John, who became the 2nd Viscount Chetwynd.

John 2nd Viscount Chetwynd in 1705

Sadly, John's two sons died before him leaving no male heirs, so Ingestre passed to his daughter, Catherine on his death in 1767. However, his younger brother, William became 3rd Viscount Chetwynd, and this title then passed down to his descendants.



Catherine Chetwynd married John Talbot the third son of Charles, 1st Baron Talbot.



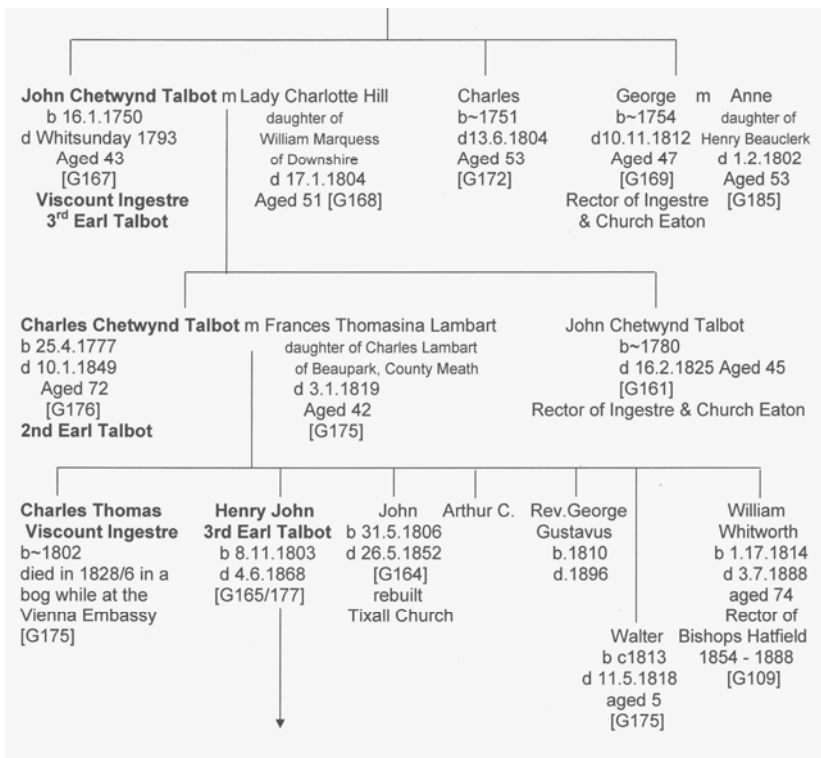
Hon. Mrs CATHERINE TALBOT

Her son, John Chetwynd succeeded his uncle William, as Baron Talbot in 1782, and was created Viscount Ingestre, county of Stafford and 1st Earl Talbot of of Hensol (3 miles south of Llantrisant in Glamorgan Llantrisant in Glamorgan) in 1784. In 1785, when his mother died, he inherited Ingestre and took the name Chetwynd Talbot.

John Chetwynd as he then was, in 1773



Lady Ingestre, wife of John Chetwynd Talbot, who died in 1793, was painted by Joshua Reynolds in 1789.



Charles, 2nd Earl Talbot was Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum (Keeper of the County Records) of the County of Stafford and Lieutenant General and Governor of Ireland from 1817 until 1821. His eldest son died in an accident before him in 1828 while at the Viennese Embassy.

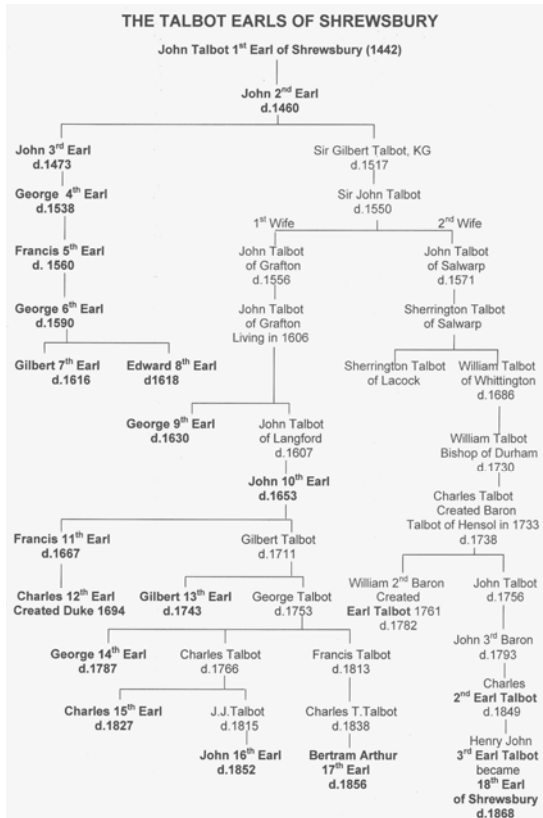
He had the North and West fronts of Ingestre Hall rebuilt to the designs of John Nash 1808-1813. They also replaced the Jacobean cupola on the South Front by an open lantern standing on an observation platform. this was copying one at Hatfield House, the much admired seat of Earl Talbot's uncle, the Marquess of Salisbury. So the building, became a mix of Jacobean and John Nash architecture.



Charles 2nd Earl Talbot in 1837

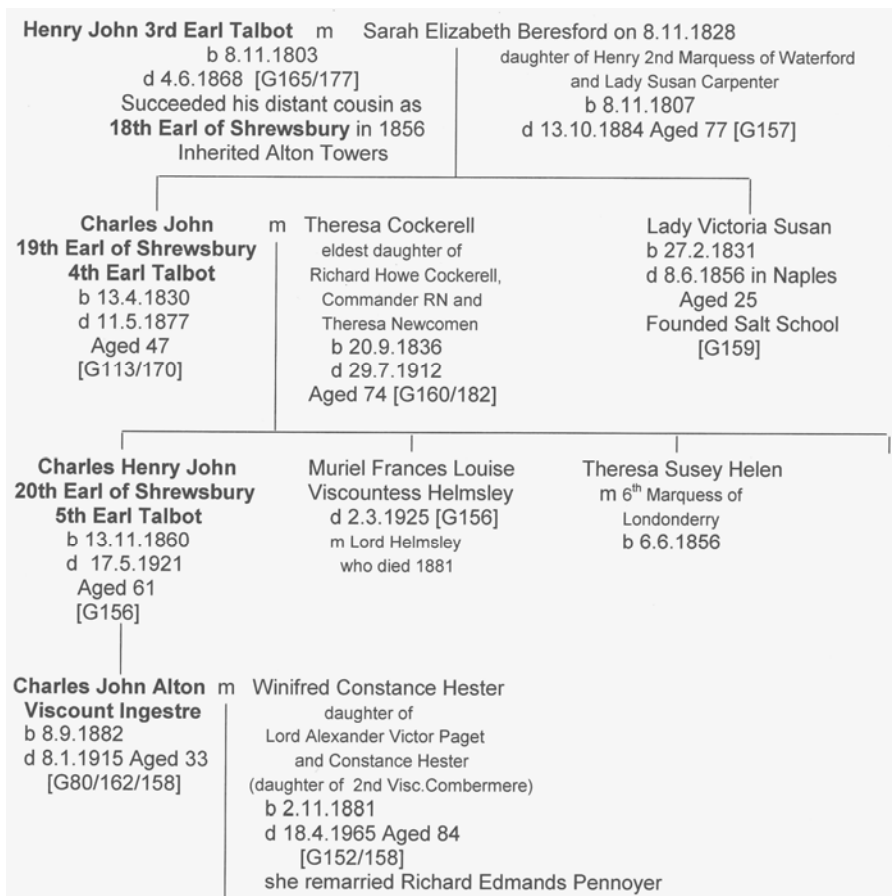
His second son, became the 3rd Earl Talbot, and was an Admiral and Lord in Waiting to Queen Victoria. He succeeded his distant cousin as the 18th Earl of Shrewsbury & Waterford - Premier Earl of England and Ireland after a lengthy court case against the Roman Catholic son of the Duke of Norfolk, and two others in 1860. The Earls of Shrewsbury had been Roman Catholics up till then, living at Alton Towers and building St Giles Catholic Church at Cheadle with Pugin. The 17th Earl of Shrewsbury had left his estate to the son of the Duke of Norfolk in his will when he died on 1856.

The Talbots were a Normandy family who also held lands at the time of the Domesday Survey. John the 6th Lord Talbot was made Earl of Shrewsbury for his services to the Crown in 1442 and was also created Earle of Waterford in Ireland in 1446. It is from this John that all subsequent Earls of Shrewsbury have been descended.



3. THE SHREWSBURY TALBOTS OF INGESTRE

Ingestre passed down from the 18th Earl of Shrewsbury to his son, the 19th Earl and grandson, the 20th Earl. Sadly the 20th Earl's son, Viscount Ingestre, died of pneumonia before his father.



The 20th Earl separated from his wife in 1895 and subsequently divorced her. She continued to live at Alton Towers with her daughter, Lady Viola, while her son, Lord Ingestre lived with his father.

Lady Shrewsbury's occupancy of Alton Towers was not without problems. William Mynors records:

10.7.02 Lady Shrewsbury, having been told by Lord Shrewsbury that it would not be convenient to him for her to stay at Alton Towers this summer, arrived there today with Lady Viola and eight servants, and (the doors having been locked by Lord Shrewsbury's orders) Lady Viola who was with Lady S., got in the house by a trick and then opened the doors to the others ! The housemaid telegraphed the news to Lord Shrewsbury in London, who ordered that nothing be done for Lady Shrewsbury, no carpets to be laid, no horses for errands, no Vegetables from the Gardens etc. A bad job !

Viscount Ingestre died of pneumonia in 1915 aged only 33, leaving a young family.

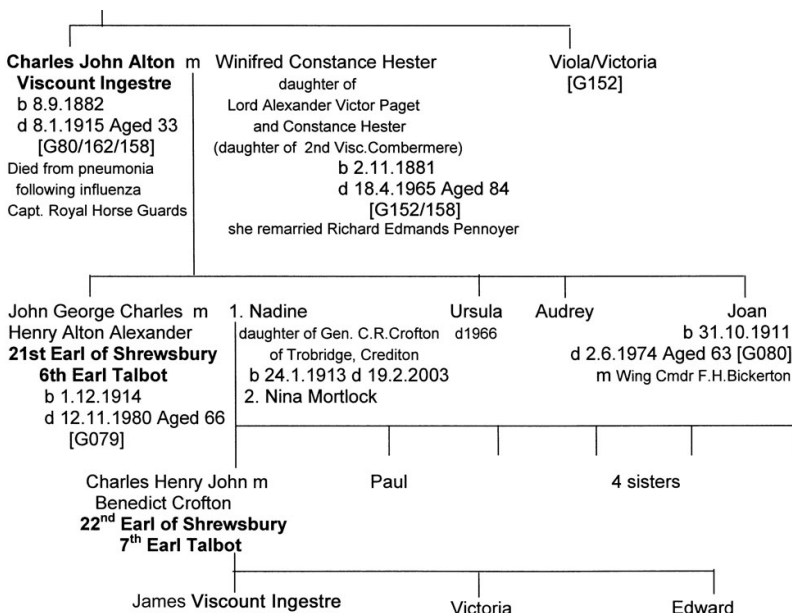


CHARLES JOHN ALTON
CHETWYND (Chetwynd-Talbot),
Viscount Ingestre M.V.O. Captain
Royal Horse Guards. Dressed in
the full dress uniform of his
regiment.

When the 20th Earl died in 1921 he left Ingestre to his companion, Mrs Brownlee. His grandson was only 7 and Viscountess Ingestre, his mother, aided by her brother the Marquess of Anglesey successfully challenged the will.



The current Lord Shrewsbury in 2013 is the 22nd Earl of Shrewsbury and Waterford and the 7th Earl Talbot. He is the premier Earl on the rolls of England and Ireland, and hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland. Hence he does homage for all the Earls and carries a white wand at the Coronation of the monarch:



4. INGESTRE HALL

Ingestre Hall in 1831 showing Nash's open cupola and observation platform:



Ingestre Hall in 1821

Careful inspection of a later postcard shows small changes to the roof of the central cupola.



Ingestre Hall c1900

This is because the Hall was largely rebuilt over 3 years after fire in 1882 on the original lines and using the old bricks and stone. During this time the Shrewsburys lived at Tixall Hall,

having bought the Tixall Estate for £240,000 in 1844 after the Estate failed to reach the reserve price of £320,000 in 1833.



Ingestre Hall on fire on October 12th 1882



The extensive damage is shown in this painting after the fire.

A contemporary account in *Picture World* describes the event as follows: “ Immense volumes of water were poured on the burning mass, and willing helpers dashed through the smoke and fire to rescue the furniture, paintings and other

valuables, which were removed to the church closeby, to the stables, and to the cottages near. Some valuable paintings and old oak furniture were saved. The grand historical paintings on the staircase, however, were all destroyed. The total loss is estimated at £100,000 which is partly covered by insurance in the Guardian Office.”

The Hall is of brick with stone dressings, ornamental brick stacks and stone mullioned windows. The front has large two storied bays and an imposing Jacobean porch.



Aerial view of Ingestre Hall and Church in 1947

This aerial view from Staffordshire Life in 1947 shows the Hall, Church, corner of the Old Stables and a large building to the east of the Hall which has since been demolished.

According to Pevsner(1974) the front built by Walter Chetwynd in 1638 is the foremost display of Jacobean grandeur in the county. Considerable alterations were made by the second Earl Talbot in 1821. He demolished the north

front and rebuilt it to match the south front. Behind the south front lie rooms reinstated by John Birch after being gutted by the 1882 fire. The late 1950s Hall Guide gives a description of the rooms then opened to the public as they were at that time:

Visitors enter through the finely carved doorway in the South front, and immediately enter the 66ft long GREAT HALL.

Main entrance in 1957



Great Hall
in 1957

This room has 8ft high Oak panelling and a massive carved mantelpiece bearing the arms of the Talbot family.



On the right is the Grand Staircase which divides and circles round to the first floor. There is a minstrels gallery at this end of the Hall.

The Grand Staircase in 1957

Immediately to the right and left of the main door were two Sedan chairs made for the 1st Earl Talbot in c.1785. Above the main door is a smaller minstrel's gallery. Above the right hand Sedan chair was a portrait of George, 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, K.G., Earl Marshal of England, who was for 15 years the 'Keeper' of Mary Queen of Scots. This picture is still in the Great Hall.



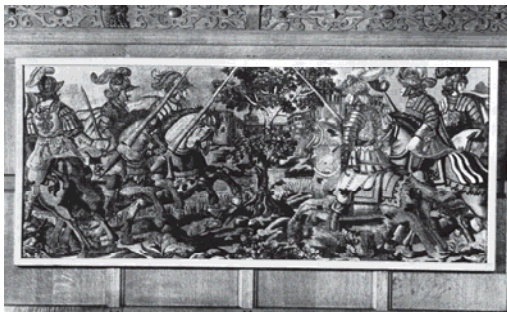
Main entrance door with small gallery above

The second picture on the wall opposite the main doors is of The Duke and 12th Earl of Shrewsbury, Marquess of Alton, dressed in full Garter robes, his wand of office as Lord Chamberlain held in his right hand, by Kneller.

CHARLES TALBOT
Duke and 12th Earl c1711



At the end of each sofa was a pair of very fine George II chairs in rose damask and on either side of the fireplace was a set of very rare 17th century battle scenes embroidered in silk. These were thought to be of Italian origin, based on a 15th century motif and probably came from the collection of Napoleon I. They were discovered by the 21st Countess of Shrewsbury rolled up and tucked away in an unfrequented corner of an attic where they had evidently been since their removal from Alton Towers.



Tapestry Panel in Great Hall

On the West wall was a large 18th century tapestry of the Conversion of St. Paul, and to the left of it, over the writing desk, was a portrait of the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Peel, the founder of the police force, and the firm friend and supporter of the 2nd Earl Talbot, who was made a K.G. at his recommendation.



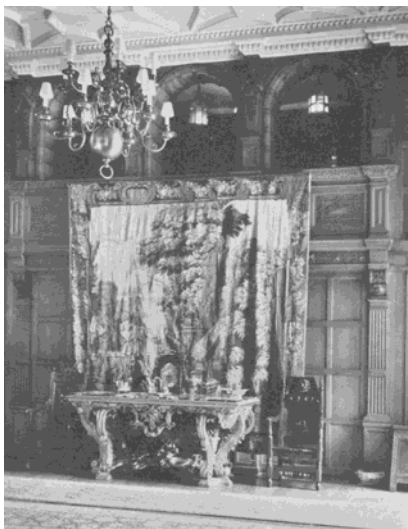
In 1907 there was a large orchestration with upwards of a thousand pipes at this end of the Hall.

The following were in the Hall, but were better seen on re-entering the Hall from the Dining or Red Room.

Far end of main hall showing tapestry on the end wall

At the foot of the Grand Staircase was a very rare pair of Charles II chairs.

On the East wall hung two magnificent Mortlake tapestries, depicting classical scenes, and below one of these tapestries stood a really lovely Louis XIV console table on which was an 18th century clock by Daniel Quare. Above was the Minstrels Gallery.



Minstrels Gallery and Mortlake Tapestry

The YELLOW DRAWING ROOM is the only truly Victorian room in the house; it was completely redecorated at the end of the 19th century and was upholstered in rich, yellow satin. On the left of the entrance door was a picture of John, 1st Earl Talbot, Viscount Ingestre and 3rd Baron Talbot of Hensol, by Pompeo Girolamo Batoni. He was depicted standing amidst the ruins of a classical Roman scene; the portrait was painted in Rome in 1773.



Yellow Drawing Room showing double doors to Library

To the right of the bay window, under the Still Life, was a most interesting picture by Charles Phillips of a tea and card party in Lord Harrington's house in St. James' (c.1732).



Yellow Drawing Room showing bay window

On the right of the double doors into the Library was a full-length portrait of Elizabeth, Lady Price, the younger sister of Francis Thomasine, Countess Talbot. This was painted when she was 17 years old (c.1798) by John Opie, R.A. To the left of the doorway was one of the most valuable pictures in the house; it is of Sarah Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury and Waterford by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A., painted in 1829-30.

Displayed in the Yellow Drawing Room were pieces from the family china. On the tables in the centre of the room were examples of Berlin and Bloor Derby dinner services; in the first cabinet beside the fireplace were specimens of Bow, Chelsea, Meissen, Berlin and Staffordshire china. Of particular interest among these were: the Bow group of two children symbolising Liberty and Matrimony by Mr. Tebo (c.1755); the Bow 'Scratting Pug' of which there are only two other examples in existence (c.1751) and a very rare Derby tureen in the form of a partridge (c.1755). These were all pieces from the 21st Earl of Shrewsbury's private collection. In the second cabinet were some pieces from a dinner service by H. & R. Daniels which was made specially for the family.

Also on show in this room was the family's most treasured possession: the little carved leather Marriage Casket belonging to the 1st Earl of Shrewsbury. The outside represented scenes from "The Creation and The Fall", and inside the lid "The Annunciation" was exquisitely worked in bas-relief. On the bottom of the Casket was depicted The Crucifixion with the Earl of Shrewsbury and his wife kneeling at the foot of the Cross. Behind the Crucifix could be seen a view of Rouen, where the Casket was made in 1427.

Amongst the furniture of particular interest were four early Georgian gilt arm chairs (c.1732), and a Sheraton dressing table, said to have been the property of Mrs. Fitz Herbert, the morganatic wife of George IV. There were also two small display cabinets containing the Order of the Garter and the Order of St. Patrick, and several gold Freedom Boxes presented to the 2nd Earl Talbot by various Irish towns during his Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland.



On the mantelpiece were two very fine gilt ormolu candelabra and a pair of Crown Derby tureens, as well as some more examples of china by H. & R Daniels.

Yellow Drawing Room
Fireplace

The floor was covered by one of the most valuable carpets in existence. It was made for the family by the famous carpet factory at Moorfields, to the design of the Adams brothers. The only other carpet of comparable interest is the pair to this which was made at the same date (1740) for the Duke of Northumberland. This can be seen by visitors to Syon House, Brentwood, Middlesex.



Immediately through the double door to the LIBRARY were two fine marble busts. One is of the 2nd Earl Talbot and the other of Frances his wife. These were made by the well-known sculptor Kirk, who also designed the Nelson Column in Dublin. The Library has carved Oak panelling.

The Library looking to Yellow Drawing Room

Amongst the china on the mantelpiece was a pair of H. & R. Daniel tureens, made for the family. Above the mantelpiece was a Still Life painted by Jan Fyt in the first half of the 17th century, and to the right of the large bay window was a half-length portrait of the 21st Earl of Shrewsbury, painted by Colin Colahan.



The Library

By far the most outstanding furniture in the Library was the set of three William and Mary chairs in contemporary needlework, besides which there was a small Queen Anne walnut escritoire, and a large early Georgian writing desk.

On tables in the bow window were selections from the 21st Countess of Shrewsbury's collection of Victorian Bristol and Nailsea End-of-day glass. This glass was so called because the craftsmen at the end of the day would gather up the fragments of coloured glass and mould them into ornaments which delighted the Victorian heart. Also on these tables was a very rare Charles II bracket clock and a small collection of early English and Irish glass.

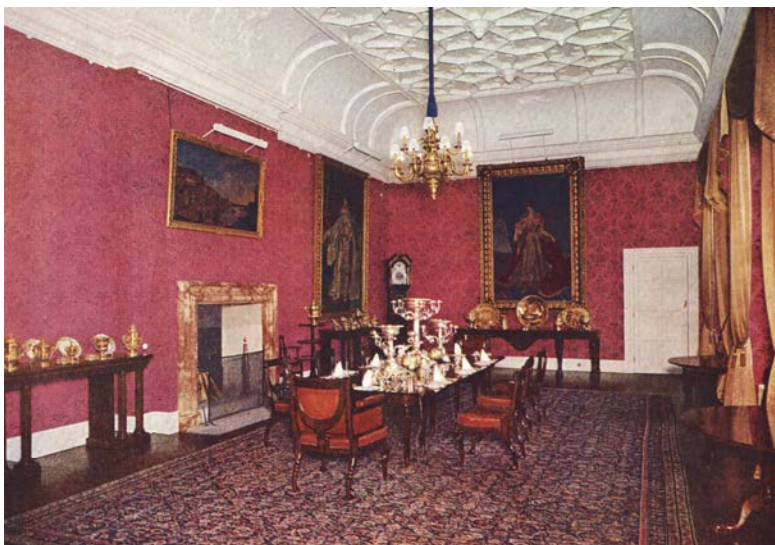
Passing through to the DINING or RED ROOM, on the East and West walls there was a pair of full-length portraits, the one of the 16th Earl of Shrewsbury in coronation robes, with a view of Alton Towers as a background, and the other of his wife Maria Teresa. They were painted by Johan Konrad Hamburger, who was more generally known as a miniaturist.



The 16th Earl of Shrewsbury and his wife

The Gothic ceiling has a deep cornice with the Chetywnd family crest, a goat's head in the centre and their family motto: "Quod Deus vult fiet" or what God wills will be. This room was also previously panelled to 8 ft.

On the left of the chimney piece was a full length portrait of Queen Adelaide, consort to William IV, by Ferdinand Flor (c.1831). When Queen Mary visited Ingestre in 1939, she showed considerable interest in this picture and said that she still had some of the personal jewellery worn in it by Queen Adelaide, including the diamond bow at her waist, and that the small 'buttons' down the front of the dress were in fact diamonds.



The Red Dining Room

To the right of the fireplace was another full-length portrait by Thomas Clement Thompson of Charles, 2nd Earl Talbot, standing in robes as the Grand Master of the Order of St. Patrick, with his fourth son beside him.

Much of the very fine collection of silver and silver-gilt in the family's possession, part of which was displayed in this room, was collected by the 2nd Earl Talbot.



Display of family silver

On the right of the door from the Library there were: a massive silver-gilt centre piece (1818), and a gilt tankard surmounted by a greyhound, by the famous silver-smith Paul Storr, also by the same craftsman were the three magnificent epergnes down the centre of the dining table, and the honey pot. On both the smaller sideboards on either side of the chimneypiece were silver-gilt grape, vine leaf and wire pattern wine coasters by William Bateman. Also worthy of note were the two exquisite Charles II caudle cups and covers (1677) on the sideboard to the right of the chimneypiece.

In May 1903 when the Dowager Lady Shrewsbury made her annual visit to the late 19th Earl's grave, William Mynors (private secretary to the 20th Earl) had to fetch some silver plate from home for use at luncheon and tea at Ingestre Hall as the Hall Plate closet was locked. Again in December 1917, Gardner, the Estate Agent, and William Mynors opened the Plate Closet and took out a silver two-light Candelabra, to send to the 20th Lord Shrewsbury at 67, Portland Place. They then locked up the door and sealed up the keys with their respective seals.

The silver was also checked when a butler left as in June 1915: "McManus (the Butler) with the Silversmith's man, came down to Ingestre to check the Plate Inventory preparatory to the Under Butler's leaving"

The very fine set of Regency mahogany chairs and the three sideboards in the Library, were undoubtedly made for the 2nd Earl Talbot during his Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland. The dessert plates were part of a dessert service made for the family by the famous French factory of Sevres, and which was later added to and copied by Spode (c.1780).

5. INGESTRE HALL SERVANTS

There is little documentary evidence about the servants at the Hall apart from in the Census returns for 1841-1901, and occasional references in the diaries of William Mynors, Private Secretary to the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury from 1890 until the Earl died in 1921.

There was a significant turnover of servants over the years, with the young maids in their twenties no doubt leaving to get married, or to seek better positions. There appears to have been little opportunity for job progression in the same household.

In 1731 Samuel Swan was buried at Ingestre, described as a Servant to Viscount Chetwynd. This must have been Walter Chetwynd of Ingestre who was made the 1st Viscount Chetwynd in 1717 and died in 1736.

The 1841 census does not give any details of the servants but just lists the 11 female servants aged 20 to 35 and 5 male servants aged 15 to 30. Earl Talbot and his 6 year old son were the only members of the family present. Charles Chetwynd 2nd Earl Talbot died in 1849 aged 72.

In 1851 the Earl and Countess and their 6 children aged 2 to 20 were present when the census was taken. Louise Pradey, 29, was the Swiss Governess for the Talbot children. Mary Beache, aged 50, was the oldest female House Servant, while the remaining 10 females were aged 22 to 26. Mary was probably the Housekeeper. In addition there were 5 male House servants, including Richard Beache, 44, a widower. Richard was most likely Mary's brother as they both came from Newcastle and could have been the Butler. The other males were aged 19 to 35.

Earl Talbot was absent for the 1861 census, but his son, Walter, 27, a Captain in the Royal Navy and MP was present with his 3 daughters and son, aged 1½, to 4.

Charles Tempest, 27, from Lancashire was visiting with his 20 year old Valet. There were three nurses for the young Talbot children: Ann Sheene, 42, from London; Mary Ryan, 24 from Limerick; and Ann Kidd, 23 from Kings Bromley. In addition there were four Housemaids aged 22 to 27; two Laundry Maids aged 23 & 25; Sarah Ward, 25 from Weston, Kitchenmaid and Cook, and Myra Hawkins, 26, from Stafford, Kitchenmaid and Scullerymaid; and two Stillroom Maids aged 23 & 25. The stillroom maid answered to both the cook and the housekeeper and helped the cook to make confectionary, preserves, jams, chutney and pickles, and also concocted kitchen cleaners, soaps, candles and cosmetics and toilet waters for the Countess.

It is strange that there was no Housekeeper or older Cook present, but these may have been away serving at one of the Earl's other houses. The four male servants aged 23 to 35 included, Richard Beech the House Steward, 35, Henry Hudson, Underbutler; and two young footmen aged 23 and 24. Richard Beech, the House Steward came from Newcastle, and was possibly the son of the previous Richard Beache, who would have been 54 in 1861. The House Steward was the most important servant and was in overall charge of running the Hall.

Henry John 3rd Earl Talbot who had become the 18th Earl of Shrewsbury died in 1868 aged 65.

In 1871 the new Earl and Countess were absent when the census was taken, with only their 3 youngest daughters aged 11 to 14 and 10 year old son, Viscount Ingestre present, alongwith a 27 year old cousin from Ceylon. There were three

teachers for the children: Clementina Danby, 40, from Dublin; Augusta Thure, 36 from Hanover; and Frederick Danby, 20, also from Ireland.

The Hall servants included Sarah Brown, 56, the Housekeeper from Herefordshire; a Nurse, aged 51 from London; one Ladies Maid aged 20; three Housemaids aged 21 to 35; a Schoolroom Maid, 23; two Laundry Maids aged 18 & 22; two Kitchen maids aged 21 & 23; and two Stillroom Maids aged 21 & 28.

The male servants included William Cates, 37, the House Steward from Winchester, who was married; Henry Castel, 50, the Chef; Charles Holmes, 30, the Underbutler from Warwickshire; a 24 year old Footman; a 30 year old Usher; and an 18 year old Stewards Room Boy. The Footmen waited at table, polished the silver plate and supervised the rooms and activities of the Countess, cleaning her boots and shoes, etc.

Charles John the 4th Earl Talbot and 19th Earl of Shrewsbury died in 1877 aged only 47.

The Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury, aged 44, was the only family member present for the 1881 census. The female servants included the Housekeeper, Sarah Spendlove, 58, from Derbyshire; Agnes Esterett, 58, Ladies Maid no doubt to the Countess; and Ann Kyurce, 61, Nurse from London who was probably the same family nurse present in 1861 and 1871, as the surname was very difficult to read on the census forms. In addition there were two Housemaids aged 23 and 39; a Laundry Maid, 26; a Kitchen Maid, 17 and a Stillroom Maid, 16. The male servants were the Butler, Alfred Shepherd, 31 from Wiltshire; Coneel Parade, 29 the Chef from Paris; a Footman, 19 and a Porter, 23.

The 20th Earl of Shrewsbury was in residence when the 1891 census was taken with his wife, the Countess, Viscount Ingestre aged 8 and his sister aged 5. There were two visitors from London; Frederick Woodward, 18 a Solicitors Articled Pupil and Mary Tomlinson, 38 a Nurse.

There were two School Governesses: Margaret Wright, 30 from Stafford and Emma Richard, 49 from Paris and a Nurse, 30 from Scotland for the Earl's children. Florence Benwell, 21, was the undernurse from Buckinghamshire.

There was a Housekeeper, 48 from Perthshire; Eliza Boodle, 29 from Ludlow Lady's Maid; six Housemaids aged 20 to 35 including 4 from Scotland; Ann Kennedy, 35 and Elizabeth Patterson, 22 were the Laundresses; and there were two Stillroom Maids aged 16 and 23. The male servants were the House Steward William Lanesdale, 48 from Nottinghamshire; William Gardener, 32, Valet from Portsea, Hampshire probably to the Earl; James Raby, 28 Under Butler; two Footmen aged 22 and 26; A Steward's Room Boy, 17 from Enfield; a Hall Porter, 18 from Alton; and four Cooks, three from France aged 18 to 21 and one from Preston, 23.

Ladies Maid was the highest status maid and could be asked to carry out a variety of task for her mistress, as William Mynors records:

14.2.00 Walked to the Office at 9am, & thence up to Ingestre Hall, to send off a box to Alton, for Lady Shrewsbury's Maid to take to Heart Villa Lembeye, Anglel, Bayonne. At the Office rest of day till 5.15pm, when I received telegram from Lady Viola Talbot, asking me to send her Boot Trees from Ingestre Hall to Alton today, for Lady S's Maid also to take to France; so I walked up there again at 5.45pm & arranged it. Then walked across the fields (snow many feet deep in places) to Milford Station

We only have one undated photograph showing some of the servants at the Hall, thought to be c1900.



Ingestre Hall Staff

In 1901 there were only three young maids at the Hall: Emma Vernon, 19, from Newborough Laundrymaid; and two Housemaids: Clara Adams, 25 from Warwickshire and Sophia Williams , 29 from Brierly Hill. The Earl and family were obviously elsewhere.

It is interesting that Lord Shrewsbury wanted two more laundry-maids ready for when Lady Ingestre's baby arrived in 1907.

The wine and silver were often checked when there was a staff change, e.g.:

30.3.03 The Hall servants having returned from Shavington last Saturday, I went through the Wine Bins with Wilson today.

14.7.03 Wilson and the Under Butler came down from London to Ingestre , with the silversmiths, to make a new inventory of the silver plate at the Hall.

17.1.11 Went through the plate with the Under Butler, who is leaving.

William Mynors gave the Butler a Christmas present:

25.07.06 Paid Army & Navy Stores for Stick and Umbrella for Wilson, the Ingestre butler, £2.4.6.

When King Edward VII visited Ingestre in 1907, the Local press recorded:

“His Majesty also presented the Medal of the Order to Mr. T. Wilson, his Lordship's butler, who is a native of Alton, and has been eighteen years in Lord Shrewsbury's service, i.e. since 1989.” Six years later William Mynors records:

9.9.13 Thos. Wilson (our old Butler) walked into my Office at 2pm to see how I fared, & said he was on his way from his home at Alton, to Stafford.

Staff were often appointed in London. In 1911 William records:

16.8.11 Went to London by 8.20am .. Engaged new Under Butler and second Footman.

25.8.11 New Butler, Under Butler, Footman & Boy at Ingestre.

William Mynors was also sometimes asked to discharge staff:

20.2.00 Received telegram from Lord Shrewsbury at 8.15am, telling me to go to Shavington at once. Received a letter from him at the Station, telling me to discharge a housemaid for bad conduct.

William Mynors records the process of appointing a new butler in 1913 which also only took 9 days:

16.9.13 Spent the morning interviewing applicants for Lord Shrewsbury's Butler's place. In the afternoon I wrote to four, asking them to go to Prince's Hotel on Friday to see him.

20.9.13 Sat Went first thing to Peals' shop, to ascertain whether Lord Shrewsbury had given dress pumps to his butler's in the past, and found that he had not. Then I met McManus (the new Butler) at Stratton's the livery tailor and ordered for him a blue coat & breeches with white waistcoats etc; then with him to Piercy's Register to enquire for a job Room boy for Ingestre.

24.9.13 McManus (the new Butler) arrived at Ingestre in the evening.

25.9.13 Spent the morning with the new Butler, & gave him the keys.

Most of the servants moved round with the family from there various houses. William Mynors went to Ingestre Station

to hand the Alton Keys over each June from 1907 to 1910 and in 1912, presumably to the Housekeeper, going there, e.g.:

2.6.10 Bicycled to Ingestre Station at 4.45 to take the Alton Towers keys to Mrs Jenkins, who went there by train passing through at that time.

Servants also moved as the family moved between their various houses, in 1890 exchanging with Alton Towers:

21.07.1890 Servants moved from here to Alton Towers & that set came here.

25.10.1890 Servants changed from Alton to Ingestre, & vice versa.

More usually the servants just moved with the family in an annual rotation, with a skeleton staff remaining at Ingestre on reduced wages:

27.12.01 The servants for Shavington went there from Ingestre; and the Ingestre remaining lot went on board wages; so I no longer have lunch and tea there.

Lord Shrewsbury was usually at Shavington near Crewe for the hunting at the beginning of the year in the early 1900s.



Shavington Hall near Crewe

Sometimes just a few of the servants went to serve the family:

18.05.05 The Cook went from Ingestre to London, to cook for Lord Ingestre & Kitchenmaid goes there tomorrow..

On at least one occasion the servants came to Ingestre from Lord Shrewsbury's London house, 12a George Street.



3.08.07 Sat Servants arrived at Ingestre from London at 5.45pm, and Lord Shrewsbury came there, on Motor Car at 8pm.

12a George Street

Lord Shrewsbury had a new house, Cariad, at Goring, near Reading in 1911, and in August 1912 the Ingestre servants went to Goring, returning in October 1912. This became the home of Mrs Brownlee, Lord Shrewsbury's companion.



Cariad at Goring

In 1912 Lord Shrewsbury was paying workmen's insurance for 39 Indoor Servants and for £100 Wages on his Electric Light-Boatman at Goring.

The servants also received occasional bonuses such as when King Edward VII visited in 1907 and those involved were given presents from a total of £22.

Servants health costs were a further expense:

23.10.12 Spent all afternoon, from 2 till 7pm, making up the Wages Book – so tiresome are the calculations of the Servants and Employers contributions to the National Health insurance.

24.10.12 Dr Bull called in morning about Medical Benefits for the Servants under the National Insurance Act.

There were less orthodox methods of dealing with servant illness as recorded by William Mynors:

20.1.03 At 6pm, Mrs Stevenson returned from Alton, bringing the news that the housemaids at Alton now have bad throats, which Dr Hall says is only one stage removed from Diptheria.

21.1.03 Sent Port Wine by 11 train to Alton, for sick servants.

24.1.03 (Sat) Mrs Stevenson returned by 10 train from Alton, and said the housemaids there are better.

Workers Insurance also covered servants medical treatment:

17.7.09 Sat Paid Dr Hall, for Guardian Co., his a/c for doctoring Lady S's Maid, 2/6.

20.5.10. Went to Milford Convalescent Home in the afternoon, to see how Frank (the Ingestre 1st Footman) was getting on.

30.5.10 Bicycled to Haywood in the afternoon, to see Dr Bull about the 1st Footman

16.6.10 .. called at Milford Convalescent Home on my way back, to see the Ingestre footman as to his going to Rhyl home.

Ingestre was also used as a Honeymoon Destination for family friends and relations, with accompanying servant movements:

Lord Stavordale and Lady Helen Stewart Jan.25th –Feb.17th 1902

18.2.02 The Ingestre servants who have been waiting on Lord and Lady Stavordale, returned to Shavington.

18.1.04 Servants from Shavington and Alton came to Ingestre to get ready for Lord Helmsley tomorrow.

19.1.04 Lord Helmsley and Lady Marjorie Greville married at Warwick; and came to Ingestre to spend honeymoon.

There was a an annual servants dance at Christmas time

1.01.06 The Servants' Dance taking place at night, I slept at Ingestre, and the two Joneses (Parsons) and Capt. & Mrs Anson & their son dined there. We danced till 2 o'clock in the morning, and smoked till 4 o/c, when we went to bed; but the servants had not then finished dancing.

30.12.08 Servants dance took place at Ingestre. I dined and slept there. Danced till 12.30 midnight, and went to bed at 2am.

29.12.10 Servants dance in evening.

The Servants Hall at Ingestre was also used for the annual Sunday School or Children's Treat:

21.4.08 Sunday School Treat given in Servants Hall at 4.30, which lasted till 6pm

10.4.09 Sat Sunday School Children's tea held in the Servants' Hall at 3.30pm.

28.12.09 Ingestre Schoolchildren's Treat held in the Servants Hall in afternoon.

28.12.11 Lord Shrewsbury & party shooting till 4pm, then the Sunday School children's Christmas Tree party was held in the Servants Hall.

William Mynors regularly tipped the underbutler and/or the stillroom maid for waiting and feeding him when the family was not in residence at the Hall.

18.06.06 To Ingestre Hall at 9am. Gave present to the Under Butler there, for waiting on me, 5/-.

9.02.07 Sat ...Gave under-butler and the Stillroommaid, at Ingestre, 7/6.

1.7.08 Gave present to the Odd Man at Ingestre, 2/-, and to the Stillroom maid, 2/6, for waiting on me.

5.7.09 Gave present to Stillroom maid at Ingestre for cooking my luncheons, 2/6.

The Odd man did a variety of odd jobs for the household.

8.7.13 The oddman from Ingestre came at 9am just as I was starting after breakfast, to say the 5th Laundrymaid had been missing since 6am & had

last been seen running towards the river, dressed in a print dress & lace cap. I had a hard mornings work over her but at length the Police found her. She said she could not get the fire to burn, so feared she was not giving satisfaction!

In 1907 Lady Shrewsbury had the following staff: Miss Wright, Butler, Boy, Footman, Ladymaid, Cook, Kitchenmaid, Scullerymaid, 2 Laudrymaids, 2 Housemaids, and Charwoman, Odd Man, & Groom.

Miss Wright had been the children's Scholl Governess in 1891 and was retained as servant and companion to Lady Shrewsbury.

Miss Wright in 1915



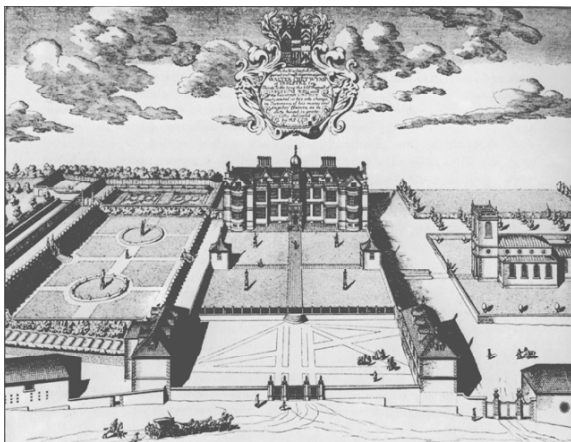
Lady Viola and Lord Ingestre both sent their laundry to Ingestre to be washed, etc.

9.3.01 (Sat) Went up to the Hall in morning, to see the Laundrymaid about Lord Ingestre's washing. Went down the town in the afternoon, and fetched Lady Shrewsbury's jewellery from the Bank, to send them to her by Miss Wright.

6. INGESTRE HALL GARDENS & GROUNDS

The 1664-6¹ notebook of Walter Chetwynd c1597-1669, lists 223 fruit trees planted in a new orchard; a garden next to the original parish church; the best garden; and against a terrace wall, where 21 cherry trees of 9 different varieties were planted.

Walter Chetwynd the Antiquary, 1633-92, continued the work of his father, with gardens laid out in 1688 in square patterns with walls and terraced walks to the west of the Hall. In order to do this he removed part of the hill to the west of the Hall, called the Mounts. The formal gardens also extended in front of the Hall to the south as shown in Burghers 1686 engraving in Plot:



Ingestre Hall
Gardens in 1685

This shows the enclosed forecourt with wide brick paths dividing it into four grass lawns. In the centre of the outer two were complex obelisks, and in the centre of the two nearest the Hall were statues of warriors. In 1682 Celia Fiennes described it as follows: "there is a crosse paved walke in the Court which leads to a little house on each end like summer

¹ Staffordshire Record Office D649/5/1

houses with towers and balls on the top, the one leads through to the Church yard which is planted with rows of Ewe trees very uniforme and cut neatly.”²

A wide gravel, walled walk ran alongside the western side of the Hall to the north garden. It lead up to the west gardens by steps. Here were two circular beds with central statues on plinths, surrounded by grass lawns. The terrace retaining walls were topped with clipped box balls, with more fruit trees along the ends of the terrace.³ To the north of this terrace is another garden with two geometric parterres or knot gardens.

Beyond the Church the engraving shows an orchard, possibly more of the trees planted by Walter Chetwynd ‘s father in 1664-6.

Celia Fiennes description of Ingestre also includes a summer house through which you enter a good bowling-green on the western terraces. She continues: “This bowling-green leads to a place designed for ponds to keep fish in”. However, the only water supply was through pipes from the River Trent a mile away.

“Just by the bowling-green was a very fine wilderness with many large walks of a great length, full of all sorts of trees scycamores, willows, hazel, chesnutts, walnuts, set very thicke and so shorn smooth to the top which is left as a tuff or crown, they are very lofty in growth which makes the length of a walke look nobly; there is also a row on the outside of firrs round every grove 2 yards or 3 distant some silver firrs some Norraway some Scotts and pine trees; these hold their beauty

2 The Illustrated Journies of Celia Fiennes Webb & Bower 1982 (ISBN 0-356-10543-1) “Part of my great journey to Newcastle and to Cornwall in 1698”, p154-156

³ Timothy Mowl & Dianne Barre “The Historic Gardens of England: Staffordshire” Redcliffe 2009

round the groves in the winter when the others cast their leaves.” This wilderness is shown in the 1685 engraving to the north of the west gardens.

Celia also recorded a fine pomegranate tree as tall as herself, and a mile walk of trees through the park to a lodge or summer house at the end on rising ground up to the park. The deer park to the north stretched as far as Weston Hall, 2km away, and there was a circular ride around the park boundaries.

Walter Chetwynd, Viscount Ingestre, who succeeded to the Ingestre Estate on the death of his father in 1702 “walled the park with ashlar stone, made water works and lay’d the grounds near the House in a regular and agreeable manner.”⁴ This still survives in places such as alongside the bridlepath from Upper Hanyards to Fiddlers Lodge near the County Showground. This Walter also built the Lion Gate entrance to the park.



The Old Lion Gate

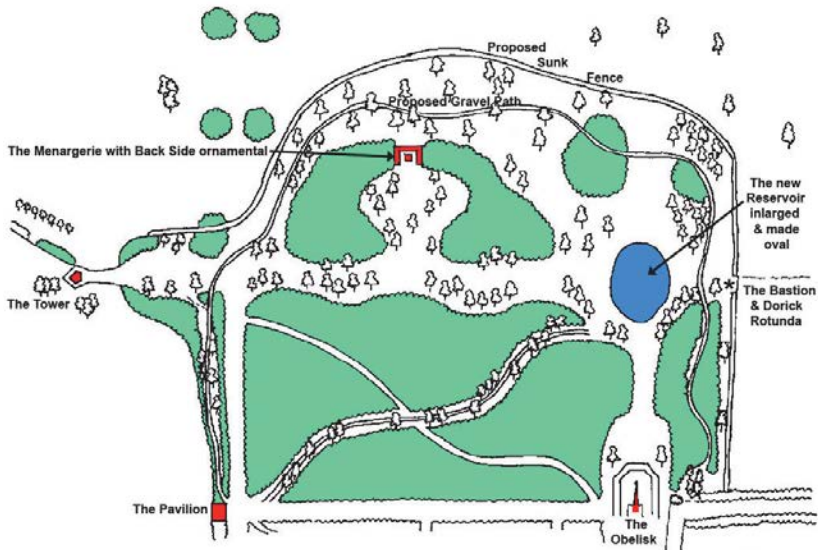
By 1724 there was a handsome Canal at the end of the garden.⁵ This was aligned on the Lodge in the distance and by

⁴ WSL, SMS 422, bundle 422/22 undated

⁵ Macky, Journey, p147

1743 there was an obelisk in the middle of the canal at the end of the Bowling Green. When Walter died in 1736, the estate went to his brother John, 2nd Viscount Ingestre. A visitor in 1743 noted that the walled forecourt garden and terraced walks had been removed giving views out into the countryside with a large slope from the bowling green and courtyard up to a long broad terrace.⁶ John started to improve the grounds of Ingestre Hall after his retirement from politics in 1747 and employed the well-known landscape gardener Capability Brown.

John probably built the Pavilion to close off a long vista down to the vale of the Trent. The Pavilion is shown on the map by Capability Brown in 1756, when he was planning further changes to the park and gardens.

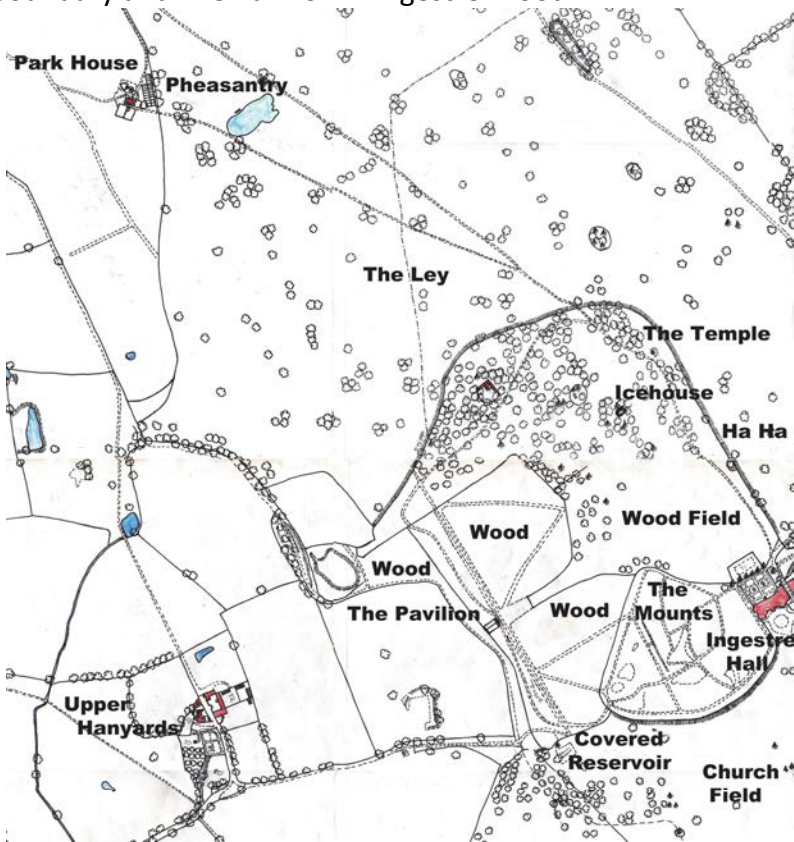


Capability Brown's 1756 Plan for the grounds of Ingestre Hall

⁶ Anne Rowe "Garden Making and the Freman Family: A Memoir of Hamels 1713-1733 (Hertfordshire Record Society 201) pp74-5

The earlier garden had been heavily wooded, with rides radiating from an axial point. Three of the original rides were retained including those to Weston Hall and Hopton. The obelisk in an octagonal pool, and a 'bastion' on which was set a doric rotunda, were also retained from the earlier garden. Brown added the Tower, whose foundations remain, and the Menagerie now gone, with belts of trees to screen existing farm buildings

The large scale Estate Map c1840 shows the Park House, which was the Gamekeepers House in Hopton Parish, the Haha boundary and The Pavilion in Ingestre Wood:-



c1840 Map showing area to west and north of Ingestre Hall

The Temple or Dorik Rotunda was moved to Tixall when the estate was broken up in the 1960s. In 1958 the Wood Field behind the Hall still retained much of Capability Brown's landscape of trees.

The road from Ingestre to Stafford in front of the Hall and down Hanyards Lane was stopped in 1802 and the route from Hixon to Stafford was diverted via Birch Hall and Fiddlers Lodge to the Weston Road.



The Wood Field from the Hall grounds in 1958

The stone Haha is still visible around the eastern and northern boundaries of the Wood Field (although there is no public access to it):



The Haha around the Wood Field

Only the Grade II Listed Pavilion remains in situ from the buildings shown in Capability Brown's plan.



Restored Ingestre Pavilion

The Pavilion was built by Charles Trubshaw, a skilled local mason who was working at Ingestre in 1752. The architect is not known, but a drawing in the RIBAs collection shows a similar design attributed to William Kent with different proportions and detail, and the Pavilion is in the manner of a structure by Kent at Stowe.

The building is stone faced with a broad pediment and rusticated masonry. The subdivision of the facade formed by slight projections and recessions. There is a central recess with a screen of Ionic columns. Originally there was a rectangular rear section shown on Capability Brown's plan, and confirmed by excavations in 1989. These showed a large central saloon forming an 18 ft cube, with other rooms on two floors around it. There was a cellar, but no evidence of chimneys or fireplaces for heating or cooking, suggesting that it was only used in summer. The building backed onto the Park Wall.

Estate maps of 1789 and 1802 show that the main rear portion of the building was demolished between these dates - probably in the 1790s when the estate was in the care of trustees after the death of the 1st Earl Talbot in 1793.

The building is Grade II Listed and was restored and enlarged in 1990 by the Landmark Trust, having been granted to them on a peppercorn lease by Mr D.G. and A.M.Harrison in memory of their father. Mr Harrison senior had purchased the Pavilion and surrounding woods some years earlier when it was in a sorry state, as shown by this photograph taken in 1984.

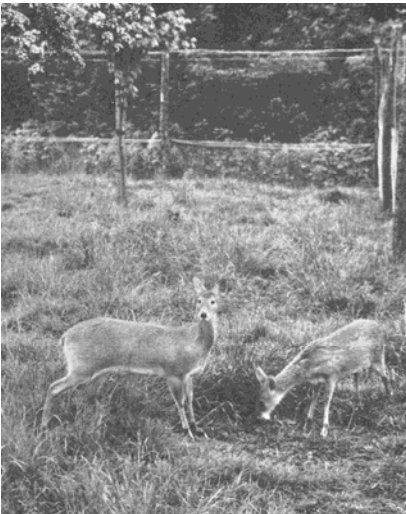


Ingestre Pavilion in 1984 before restoration

The late Philip Jebb designed new rooms to be added behind the facade. As originally, these were built in brick with one large main room running through the two stories, and the upstairs rooms linked by a gallery running through this salon. Major repairs were also carried out to the main facade and plaster vault, with work completed in 1991. The restoration won the Stafford Borough Council Conservation Award in 1992. The Pavilion is now available as holiday self-catering accommodation throughout the year with booking through the Landmark Trust. (www.landmarktrust.org.uk)

All the formal gardens had been removed by 1789 and by 1815 The Mounts to the west was an ornamental shrubbery with winding paths; with ornamental and kitchen gardens to the east and a raised terrace to the north.

By the late 1950s The Mounts had a high boundary fence and contained the 21st Lord Shrewsbury's large collection of foreign and ornamental birds. At the birth of the 22nd Lord Shrewsbury in 1952, the tenants on the estate presented him with a number of ornamental trees which were planted on two strips of grass on the Mounts. The lower of these strips was wired round to make twenty two large grass pens to hold the collection of bantams and pheasants. The pheasants were bred and gradually released about the grounds so that visitors would see them at liberty amongst natural surroundings. Also at liberty were a pair of Chinese Water Deer bought from Woburn, as day-old fauns, and raised on a bottle.



Chinese Water Deer



Bennets Wallaby

In the late 1950s a pair of Bennets Wallabies were added to the collection from Whipsnade Zoo, they also roamed

freely; and in addition there were several varieties of Shelduck and a Demoiselle Crane from India wandering free.

Partly hidden by rhododendron bushes were three aviaries where several varieties of smaller foreign birds could be seen including a pair of rare Albino Peacocks during the summer. This was done to prevent them from interbreeding with the large number of Common Peafowl roaming the grounds.

In the upper half of the Mounts were six huge beds of Azaleas; these were amongst the first Azaleas to be brought into this country from the Himalayas in 1860.

The approach to the Long Walk from the Mounts is through the formal North Garden; this garden at one time contained yew trees, which, with those in the Long Walk, were brought from Ireland in 1810 by the 2nd Earl Talbot. Those in the North Garden were removed by the 21st Countess of Shrewsbury to allow more light to the North Front, and were replaced by flower beds and fountains.



1898 view of North Gardens

The next important feature of Ingestre Gardens is the Long Walk, a terraced walk previously bordered by magnificent herbaceous beds and overshadowed by huge yew arches.

Looking down the Long Walk to the Orangery in 1958



Half way down the Long Walk stands the Orangery, an exquisite example of 18th century architecture and Grade II Listed. It is reached down the Long Walk through two large arches of Irish Yew.



This sketch is taken from below the Orangery and includes the third yew arches.

The Yews have now grown much larger.

Looking up the Long Walk past the Orangery



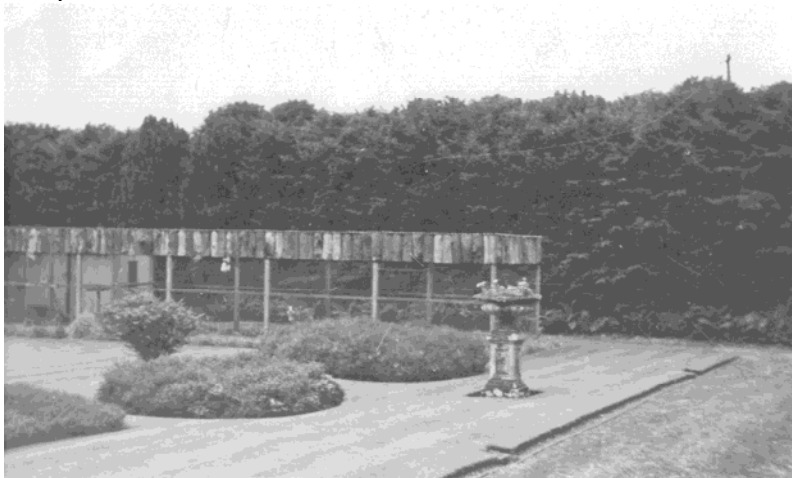
Looking up the Long walk in 2012

The main part of the Orangery has a glass roof and large glass panels divided by Doric pilasters along the front. The entrances at each end are in pedimented facades with niches on either side of the door. It was built from a design by James "Athenian" Stuart by Samuel & James Wyatt c1770. At the same time the same design was used for the Orangery at Blithfield. According to Pevsner it is "a fine, unostentatious design."



The Orangery in 2013

Opposite the Orangery was a c1960 Heath Garden with a Homing Budgerigar aviary behind. The strain of budgerigars originated from a previous Duke of Bedford. In the mornings their ladder was put into position and the exit hole opened. Thus visitors saw a flock of budgerigars on the wing, or a little colony of them settled in the copper beech at the side of their aviary.



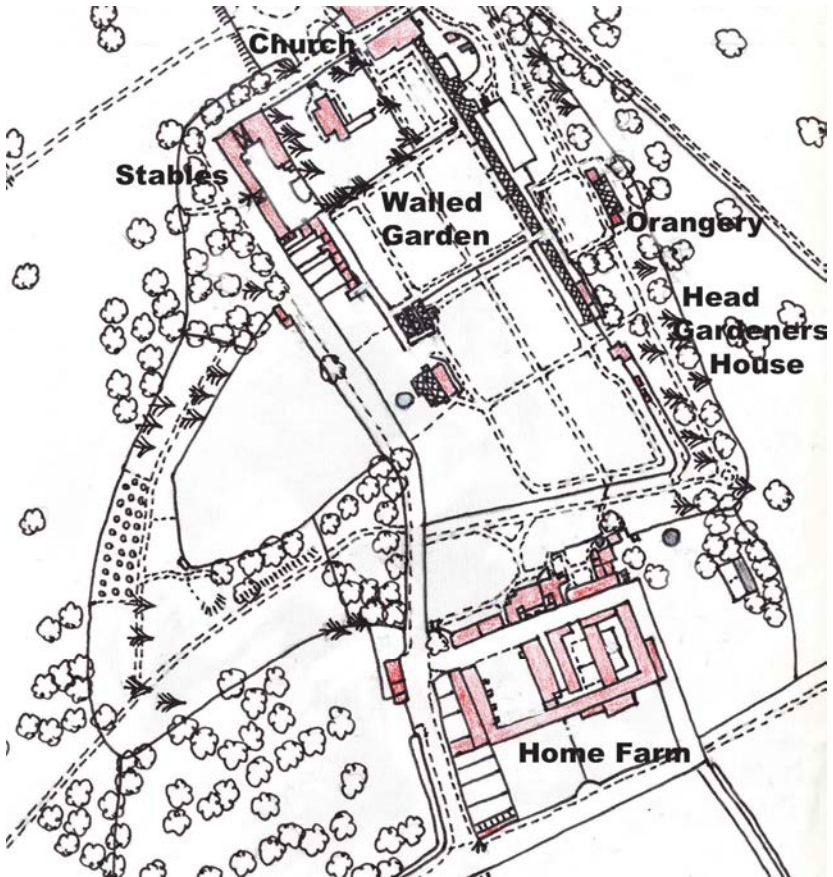
The Aviary Garden in front of The Orangery

At the far end of the Long Walk was a little artificial pool, surrounded by rhododendron bushes and rambler roses, on which there is a small collection of the more colourful ornamental ducks.



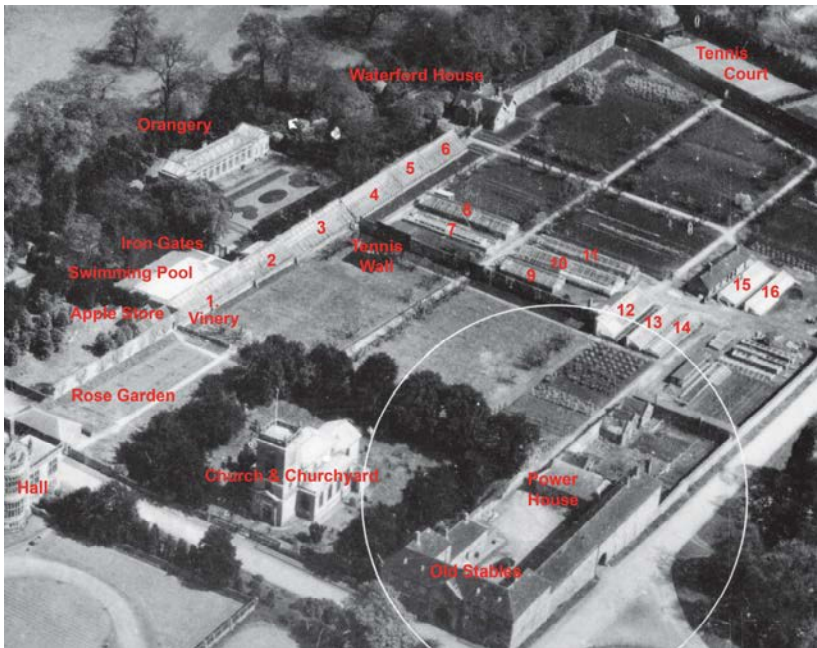
The Duckpond below the Orangery

The Walled Gardens are shown in some detail with the accompanying glasshouses running along the boundary wall and the Head Gardeners house in the 19th century Estate Map.



c1840 Estate Map showing the Walled Garden Area

The gardens and Orangery are also shown in aerial photograph c1950, along with the Hall, Church and Old Stables. This has been labelled to show the 16 glasshouses and other features.



Aerial photograph labelled to show the area around the Walled Gardens c 1950

The walled gardens covered an area of some seven acres and were latterly used as a market garden for vegetable and fruit cultivation, flowers and greenhouses. There was an immense area of glass including the vinery and stone-fruit houses, the carnation house and the stove house shown on the aerial photograph above. Pot plants and cut flowers, and some fresh vegetables, used to be on sale.

A large number of gardeners were employed at Ingestre, many apprentices who moved around the different estates learning different skills.

Three burials of gardeners are recorded at Ingestre in the 18th century. In 1736 James Sopp, and in 1757 William

Donn both described as “late Gardiner of Ingestrey”; and in 1766 William Taplin, gardener was buried at Ingestre.

Three gardeners are listed in the 1841 census, one aged 36 living at the Rectory and two aged 20 & 45 at Garden House.

In 1851 James Taylor, 59, was probably the Head Gardener living at Ingestre Gardens with his wife, a 14 year old female servant from Hopton, and an under gardener or apprentice from Liverpool aged 21. John Venables, 78, a retired gardener was living in the village.

In 1861 William Phipps, 31, Gardener, is living at Garden House with his wife and three young apprentices aged 20, 21 and 22. In addition two more gardeners were living in the village and a 14 year old gardener was living at Hoo Mill. John Fisher, 43, was living at Rectory Garden House with his wife and daughter.

In 1871 and 1872, William Phipps was the Head Gardener living at Garden House. In 1871 William Stevenson, 50, Gardener, was living at Rectory Cottage with his wife described as a Gardeners Wife, his son, 15, described as a Gardeners Boy, and five younger children. In addition three Garden Apprentices aged 17 to 19 were living at Ingestre Hall with a 24 year old from Nuneaton described as a Gardeners Foreman. They were probably living in some of the outhouses adjacent to the Hall.

The Head Gardener continued to live at Garden House, so in 1881 Edward Gilman, 32, was living there with a 72 year old as housekeeper and his young niece. Edwin Farmer, 19, was a journeyman gardener living at the Bothey.

By 1891 Edward had moved to Ingestre Village with his niece, now 14. George Smith, 49 from Northampton was a gardener living in Hoo Mill Lane, and Thomas Jones, 40, was an under-gardener from Shropshire living at Trent Walk. In addition there were six young gardeners aged 20 to 29 living in the Garden rooms, and coming from Dorset, North Wales, Suffolk, Ireland, Leicester and Warwickshire.

In 1901 the seven listed gardeners were: Frank Somerford, 44, from Kent living at the Gardens with his wife and three children; James Williams, 75, living at the Paddocks; and 5 young gardeners aged 20 to 26, from Tardebigge, Margate, Liverpool, Chester and Lancashire, living in the Bothy. Charlie Greatholder, 38, a Garden Labourer was living in the village.

William Mynor's records on July 30th 1903: "Much difficulty with Somerford, about Gilman being ordered to see to re-planting the flower beds at Ingestre."

William also records various small payments to Gilman:

26.12.05 Paid E.Gilman for flowers for Gena to wear tonight, 1/-.

2.08.07 Paid E.Gilman for fruit, 1/6.

12.8.09 Paid E.Gilman for a peach and a nectarine for Mrs Fourdrinier, 9d.

When King Edward VII visited Ingestre in 1907, the press reported:

"The park, which consists of about 300 acres, surrounded by 800 acres of pasture land and plantations, is heavily timbered, mainly with oak and beech. The gardens and grounds adjoining the Hall are well laid out."

"The trees planted by H.M. the King at Alton Towers and Ingestre last week were both cedars, selected from the nurseries of Messrs. John Hill and Son, Spot Acre, near Stone.

At both the above places Mr. Gilman, the head gardener, handed the King the silver spade which his Majesty used."

Mr Gilman was responsible for all the gardens belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury including Alton Towers, and subsequently Goring, nr Reading in 1912.

On Christmas Eve 1910, William Mynors records: "Old Gilman came to the Office in morning to bring a letter from his Doctor and to tell me that his health had broken down his heart being weak." He must have been 61 then. However, in March 1911 William went to Tixall Churchyard where Gilman started his men pruning the shrubs.

Edward Gilman was still listed as the Head Gardener in 1912, and in March 1912 William was instructing Gilman on managing Lord Shrewsbury's poultry.



View of Walled Gardens from near Head Gardeners House looking towards Church and Hall on right and New Stables on left

Jonathon Chilcott was the Head Gardener in 1940 and Mr Ferguson in 1957, when John Spink was described as Pleasure Grounds Foreman at Ingestre.



Mr Ferguson the Head Gardener in the 1960s by the sprouts with his house in the background:

In the 1950s visitors were invited to wander at their leisure through the majority of the glasshouses, and the gardeners on duty were always ready to give information or advice.

Ingestre Glasshouse in 1950s



A particular feature of these gardens was the enormous Michaelmas daisy bed, balanced by an equally large Dahlia bed. Beside the churchyard, but approached only through the market gardens, is the new Rose Garden.



The Dahlia fields in the Walled gardens in the 1960s

Only the walls of the walled gardens remain, adjacent to the Listed Orangery and the Head Gardener's House, now called Waterford House just outside the SE corner of the walled gardens.

7. INGESTRE CHURCH



Ingestre Church

The present building replaces an earlier 13th century church, probably sited somewhere to the west of the Hall, although its location has never been confirmed. The large field in front of the Hall, now Ingestre Golf Club was known as the Church Field, but this could be because it belonged to the Old Church, and was used to fund it. This was a Chapel of Ease, established by the Lord of the Manor as Ingestre was too far from St Mary's Stafford for people to walk there regularly for services.

Some stained glass from the Old Church has been reused in the side windows of the current, 1676 Church.



Old Stained Glass in nave

In addition to the Old Church there was a Holy Well with healing properties dedicated to St Erasmus maintained by local monks, with its own Chapel built between 1485 and 1509 on the waste of Ingestre. The chapel was endowed with lands to maintain a priest and was famous for its medicinal salt springs. The visiting lame and diseased hung their crutches on the walls of the chapel, covering them.

In 1671 Walter Chetwynd petitioned the Archbishop of Canterbury to declare the existing Old Church derelict, and to grant him permission to replace it with a new building at his expense. The Archbishop nominated a commission to examine the state of the Old Church. Significantly the Commission included three members connected with the family and one representative of the diocese.

The present Church was subsequently built to a design by Sir Christopher Wren, and the date of 1671 recorded above the entrance:

Deo.Opt.Max. Templum HocA Fundamentis Extractum
Walterus Chetywnd (Walt.fil.Walt.Equ.Aur.nepos) L.M. D.D.D.
Anno Aerae Christianae 1676

or

Walter Chetwynd (Son of Walter and Grandson of Sir Walter Knt.) built this Church from its foundations and gave, presented and dedicated it to Almighty God as his own monument in the year 1676

Although the Church is adjacent to the Hall and built and used by the family it has always been used as the Parish Church. On the day of its Consecration, there were services for The Churching of Women, Holy Baptism, a Marriage and a Funeral.

Described as "a City church in miniature", it was consecrated in 1677 and exhibits Wren's impeccable flair as an architect, and the supreme skill of the contemporary craftsmen. This craftsmanship is particularly evident in the plaster-work of the ceilings and in the carving of the chancel screen and font and pulpit. Among the few later additions are monuments by Chantrey, 1826 Westmacott, 1849; Gleichen, 1918 and Oliver Hill.

Electric lighting was installed in 1886, one of the earliest churches to be lit by electricity.

Further information about the church is available in the Church Booklet available in the Church.



Ingestre Church Nave lights from the Chancel

8. INGESTRE OLD & NEW STABLES

Yates Estate Map of 1789 shows Ingestre Hall, Church and Old Stables, but no New Stables or Home Farm. At that time the road to Stafford passed straight in front of the Hall and down Hanyards Lane:



Central part of Yates Estate Map of 1789

The Old Stables were built in the late 17th century of brick with rusticated quoins and tiled roofs with round headed archways on the west and south sides leading to an internal courtyard, although the arch on the west side is now blocked up.

The 1841 Census does not list any grooms or coachmen in Ingestre.

In 1851 there were two coachmen aged 39 and 23 living in the Stableyard with a 22 year old groom, and a 19 year hold

helper in the stables. This would have been at the Old Stables as the New Stables were not built until 1885. There were also grooms at Little Ingestre and the Rectory in 1851 and 1861.

In 1861 there were 6 grooms or helpers in Stables, aged 19 to 50 listed at Ingestre Hall, with a further two grooms living in the village: James Dainty, 40 and family, George Jervis, 30 and family.

In 1871, William Jolliffes, 34, Stud Groom was living at Birch Hall with his wife and young family. Ten Grooms are listed at Ingestre Hall, aged 15 to 85, and a further two, who were married lodging in the village without their wives. Interestingly there are no coachmen listed in 1861 or 1871.

By 1881 there were 6 Stable Helpers at Ingestre Stables aged 15 to 27, and a Stud Groom, Thomas Bramley, 50, living there with his wife and 12 year old nephew, a scholar. Henry Read, 26, was a groom living in the village, with his wife and one year old son. There were three Coachmen: William Wagstaff, 30, at Lion Lodges with his wife; James Williams, 25, at Stables Rooms with his wife; and Frederick Klipper, 26, in the village with his wife and son. The Old Stables were converted to 7 residential properties in the 1970s.



Ingestre Old Stables

The new stables were designed by John Birch and built in 1885 by the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury to house his large collection of polo ponies and carriage horses.



Architects drawing of Ingestre New Stables

The impressive entrance gateway under the north entrance tower with domed top, leads to an internal courtyard.



New Stables

The south side was originally the coach house. Many of the fine collection of coaches and carriages were given to the County Museum at Shugborough. These included the large collection of Broughams, Phaetons and Wagonettes, and the State Coach, more correctly called the Dress Chariot, made in 1890 by Hooper Bros. for the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury. This was used at the coronation of King Edward VII, at the state visit to Ireland in 1911 and by the 21st Earl and Countess at the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



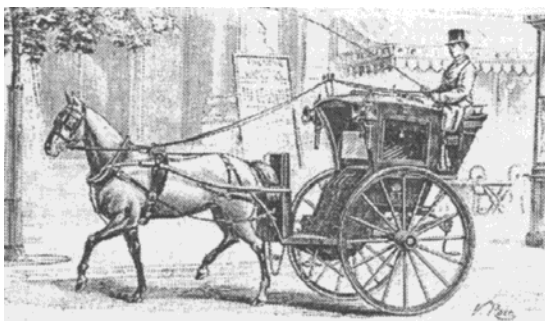
1952 State Carriage at Ingestre

Next in importance was the Stage or Road Coach, believed to be one of the oldest in the country, and used by the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury for a journey that he loved to drive himself, from Ingestre to Alton and Buxton and back, picking up passengers on the way.



Ingestre Omnibus 1900-1901

Also in the collection was a Goat Carriage which was a faithful copy in miniature of the rubber-tired 'Shrewsbury and Talbot' Hansom cabs which were to be seen drawn by thoroughbred horses in London before the 1914-18 war. They were the property of the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury whose invention they were.



One of the first S & T Hansom Cabs in 1885

The collection also included the Russian Sleigh for use in snowy weather, when the horses would be specially shod for the icy roads; the light Norwegian Curricle and the Ladies' Phaeton made in 1900 and used constantly during the war and

in the subsequent years of petrol rationing by the 21st Countess of Shrewsbury.

In May 1890 Lord Shrewsbury sent 56 horses to Tattersall's by special train from Colwich. Four days later Lord Shrewsbury attended the sale of the 56 horses at Tattersalls in London.

The 1891 census was the first census after the New Stables had been built. There were 16 grooms at the New Stable Rooms, aged from 19 to 40, and coming from Dublin, Liverpool, Sussex, Shropshire, Devonport, Northants and Cheshire, as well as from various places in Staffordshire. A 19 year old groom was living at Poultry House (probably at the top of the Wood Field) with his mother and four young siblings. Two more grooms aged 16 and 26 were living in the village with their families. Fred Snelgrove, 25, the Stud Groom from London was living at the Farmyard with his wife and 6 month old son born at Sandon. Two Coachmen: Matthias Payree, 28, from London and Harry Hancox, 20, from Wellington, were also living at the New Stable Rooms.

There was also a Coachman and Assistant Coachman at Little Ingestre in 1891, and just a coachman in 1901.

In 1900 William Mynors gave Fred orders about meeting the Dowager when she visited the late Earl's grave the following day. Fred usually took William to Stafford Station when he had to go to London or elsewhere on Lord Shrewsbury's business. On June 11th 1901 William went to see Fred about the Stables Corn Cleaner.

In 1901 there were only 2 grooms at the New Stables, Fred Wright, 16, and Ernest Plant, 22. Marthias Payne, 38 was listed as a Stud Groom, married and living in the village with

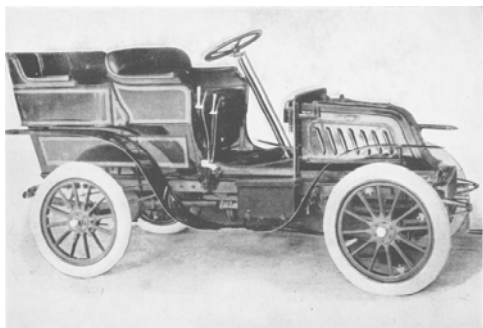
his wife. Henry Hancox, 31, was now a Coachman/Groom living in the village with his young wife. John Wright, 78, a retired groom, was also living in the village, with his wife and grown up children. Possibly young Fred. was a relative. In 1900 and 1912 Fred Snelgrove is listed as Stud Groom to the Earl in the Trade Directories. The relatively low number of grooms in the 1901 census maybe because other grooms were away looking after the Earl's Polo or Hunting horses. A photo in 1903 shows a full stable staff and around 46 horses.



Ingestre Polo Ponies 8th September 1903

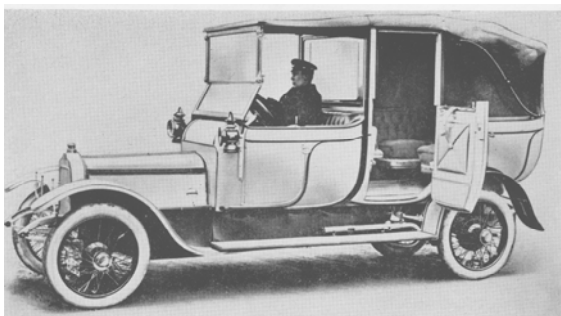
In August 1904 Harry drove William Mynors to Stafford in afternoon, to settle with Mr Bradley for writing a book for Lord Shrewsbury- and on the way back noticed Harry was drunk. So he took the reins of him, & drove back myself. The next day William "Talked hard to Harry Hancox, before Mat and Fred, about his being drunk yesterday."

n 1907 when King Edward VII visited Ingestre, the local press reported: “the new stables built after the fire are quadrangular in shape and well fitted up. Accommodation is provided for fifty horses, the stalls being tiled, lighted by electricity, and heated by steam. The stables today are occupied only by hunters and polo ponies. Lord Shrewsbury having installed a magnificent stud of 25-h.p " Talbot " motor-cars, painted and upholstered in his lordships colours—dark claret. The collection of cars needed but slight augmentation for the Royal visit, and consisted of two limousines, two broughams, and three touring cars; also a runabout car, which acted as pilot throughout the week. The stud was increased by Lord Burton having kindly placed his cars at Lord Shrewsbury's disposal.”

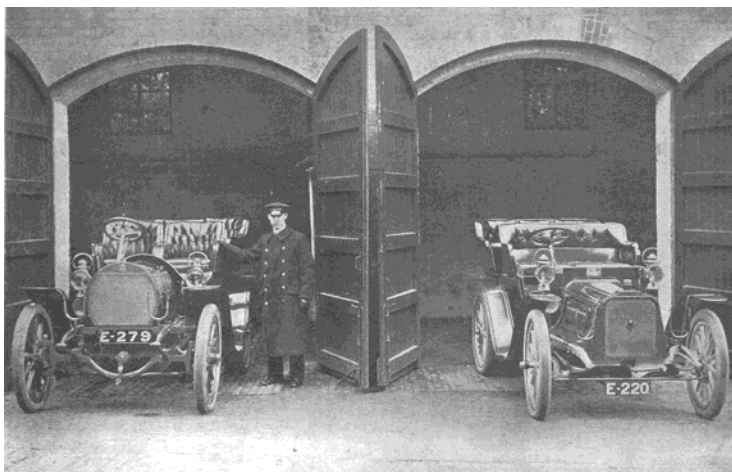


1904 8hp Talbot

1913 20hp Talbot



The use of part of the stables as garages is shown below with the chauffeur:



The 20th Earl's cars at Ingestre Stables (A Talbot & a Hotchkiss)

In the 1950s the stables were used as tearooms for visiting tourists, while retaining most of their original features:

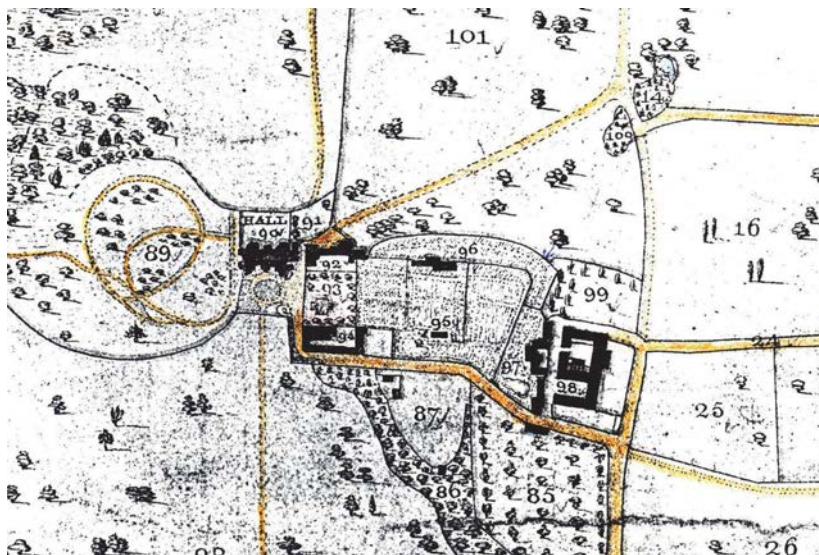


Ingestre Stables Tearoom

The New Stables are currently the home of Ingestre Riding Stables.

9. INGESTRE HOME FARM

Ingestre Home Farm is not shown on Thomas Sykes Survey of 1789, and a map of 1802 only lists Dog Kennel Gate at this site, although a building is shown on the farm site. At this time the Home Farm was on the site now occupied by Ingestre Barns, previously the Sawmill and Estate Yard, behind the Dower House and Little Ingestre.



Central section of 1839 Ingestre Tithe Map

This map shows the Church (92), Old Stables (94), Home Farm (96), and Home Farmhouse (97), but no New Stables, which was not built until built 1885.

The Census returns show that Farmworkers and Agricultural labourers were the predominant occupation in Ingestre from 1841 to 1881, although it steadily decreased, no doubt as more horse drawn machinery was introduced.

In 1841 there were 19 Agricultural Labourers living around Ingestre and two female servants at the Farmhouse, probably mother, 40 and daughter, 15.

By 1851 George Gibbs, 45, the Farm Bailiff was living at Birch Hall with his wife and eight children aged 2 to 17, the four youngest all born at Ingestre from 1843. There were two young female house servants at the Farmhouse aged 17 and 19; James Murray, 11, the shot Gamekeepers widow was an Agricultural Labourer's Boy; there were 12 Agricultural Labourers including Stephen Venables, 34, and James Wright, 38; a Shepherd, (Sheepheard) Joseph Wilson, 50, living in the village with his family; and a Plowman, John Keeling, 41 also living in the village with his family.

In 1861 Robert Smith, 32, the Farm Bailiff was living in the Farmhouse with his wife; two young daughters born at Ingestre from 1857; a female house servant, 14; a Dairy-maid, 20; and 4 Irish Farm Labourers from Roscommin aged 20 to 26. Another two Farm Labourers from Roscommin aged 24 and 30 were living at the Machine House.

A further two Agricultural Labourers Stephen Venables, 45, born in Ingestre, and James Wright, 47, were living in the village.

John Keeling, 52, and his son George, 20, were both Waggoners and Labourers in the village

Joseph Wilson, 60, was still the Shepherd living in the village with his wife and 13 year old grandson; Leonard Tamms, 74, was the cowman living alone in the village;

Hannah Betts, 55, widow was a Poultry Attendant living at Hoo Mill.

By 1871 Richard Barratt, 41, was an Agricultural Bailiff living in a Cottage with his wife, possibly near Hoo Mill. Joseph

Wilson, 70, was still the Shepherd living in the village with his wife, he died in December 1878 and was buried at Ingestre with his wife, who died the following year. The seven Agricultural Labourers included James Wright, 58; John Keeling, 62; John Keeling, 31; and Charles Greatholder, 40. Hannah Betts, 64, was employed on the farm and living in the Gas House with her 9 year old granddaughter. William Bishop, 37, from Bucks. was a Sportsmans Dog Breaker living at the Farmhouse with his wife and family, and Charles Smith 19, a Kennelman. Henry Aisthorpe, 28, from Lincolnshire was described as A Dog Breaker, living with his wife in the village.

In January 1912 Thomas Pritchard aged 46 died at Stafford Infirmary, and William Mynors attended his funeral. Thomas had been a Cattleman living at Trent Lodge and is buried at Ingestre.

In the early 20th century a chimney was demolished at the Home Farm, presumably it had been part of a steam engine used for farm machinery.



Felling the chimney at Ingestre Home Farm

A picture c1948 shows the Ayrshire cattle walking from the farm along the wide grass verge then bordering Ingestre Road.



Cattle returning from Ingestre Home Farm

Ingestre Home Farm has the typical roof slopes and brickbuilt design of the period as found at Shugborough Home Farm nearby. The farm buildings were converted to residential use in 2003.



Home Farm in 2000 before conversion

10. BIRCH HALL & TRENT DRIVE

The whole 1789 estate map includes Birch Hall, Little Ingestre and Hoo Mill.



Yates 1789 Ingestre Estate Map

Birch Hall and Trent Lodge lie to the north. Birch Hall was always an important house in Ingestre along with the Rectory and Little Ingestre they all usually had a number of servants.

In 1841 it was occupied by the Land Agent, Samuel Ginders, his wife and one year old son, his assistant aged 14, and two female servants aged 19 and 21.

In 1851 it was occupied by the Farm Bailiff, his wife, 8 children aged 2 to 17, and one 19 year old female house servant.

In 1861 two retired governesses from Rugeley, aged 51 and 55, were living there with their 19 year old nephew and 12 year old niece from Sydney, Australia. They had one female

servant, 25, and one outdoor servant, 22, both also from Rugeley.

William Cates the Ingestre House Steward, 26, and his wife were living there in 1871, with William Jolliffes?, the Stud Groom, his wife, young daughter and son, William's sister and one female servant, 19.

In 1881, George Marriott, the Land Agent was living there with his wife and daughter, a 15 year old housemaid and a 27 year old cook.

By 1891 Constance Grang, a 43 year old widow living on her own means, was living there with her son, 21; daughters, aged 20 and 16, and a 14 year old son who was a cadet on H.M.S.Worcester. The two eldest children had been born in India, and the younger two in South Kensington, London. They had a nurse, 26, a cook, 24 and a Ladies Maid, 23.

In 1901 James Bull, 59, a Wine Agent and JP was living there with his wife, 60, daughter, 25, and sister in law, 61. They had a cook,25,; a Parlourmaid, 26; and a Housemaid, 23.

Trent Lodge guarded the eastern approach to Ingestre from Hixon, but is not shown on the earlier maps.

In 1775 Yates showed an avenue of trees along the drive, sometimes known as Trent Walk, from the River Trent, and then continuing up to Ingestre Pavilion. Although the 1789 and 1839 maps do not show the avenues, they were subsequently replanted along Trent Drive with Wellingtonias and other specimen trees.



Looking up Trent Drive from Trent Lodge

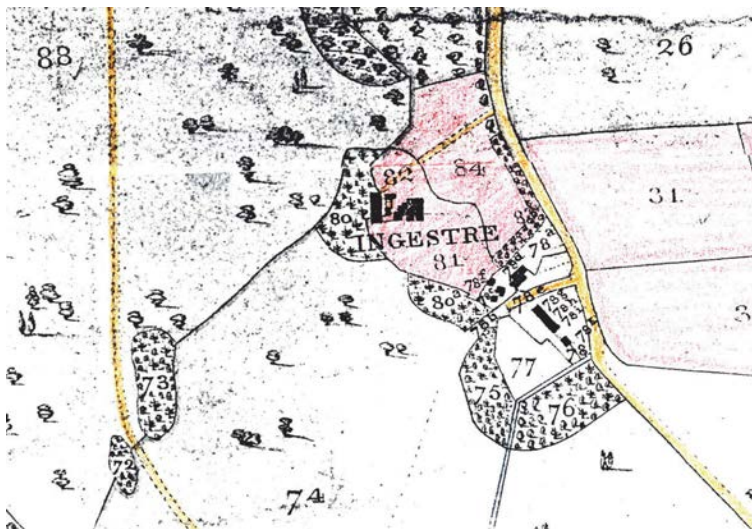
The centre of the River Trent forms the Parish boundary, so only half of Trent River Bridge is within the parish of Ingestre. There is currently no public right of way across this half of the bridge, and it's ownership is unclear.



Trent River Bridge from the far side

11. INGESTRE RECTORY & VILLAGE

This area is shown in the 1839 Tithe Map, which shows The Rectory, Willow & Acorn Cottage, and the Schoolhouse and/or the Old Post Office and Little Acre. On the left is part of the main drive from Lion Lodges to the Hall.



Ingestre Rectory and Village on the 1839 Tithe Map

In 1841, Thomas Well, 36, a gardener was living at The Rectory House with his wife and four children. At this time the Hon. Arthur Chetwynd Talbot was the Rector until 1884 and was living at Church Eaton.

By 1851 the Parsonage House was occupied by the Curate, John Hillyard, 46, with his wife and an 82 year old widow lodger, possibly his mother in law. They had three female servants and a young groom.

In 1861 the Rev. Chetwynd Talbot, 56, had moved from Church Eaton and was living at the Rectory House, with his 17 year old daughter, Frances as the “young lady of the house”.

They had a housekeeper, 30; Ladies Maid, 23; Housemaid, 23; Kitchenmaid, 19 and a Groom, 31.

In 1871 only Rectory Cottage was occupied, no one appeared to be living at the Rectory House. By 1881 there was a visiting Clerk, probably a Curate, John Marriott, 24, from Stow in Bucks. with a 27 year old housekeeper.

In 1891 again there is no one listed as living at the rectory, although James Bradshaw, 75, the Rector was living in Ingestre Village with his wife, 73. This could have been at the Rectory as he listed at the Rectory in 1900 and in the 1901 census at St Mary's Rectory. By 1901 he was a widower, aged 85, and was living there with a sick nurse/housekeeper; a housemaid; and a cook.

Ingestre Rectory was enlarged in the 19th century to accommodate a younger son of Lord Shrewsbury and is shown in this early 20th century postcard with an unknown boy and dog.



Postcard of Ingestre Rectory c1900

The Rectory was damaged during WWII when a plane from nearby Hixon crashed into the south end of the building. This truncated the left hand side of the building. The Rectory has a large walled garden.



Ingestre Rectory in 2013

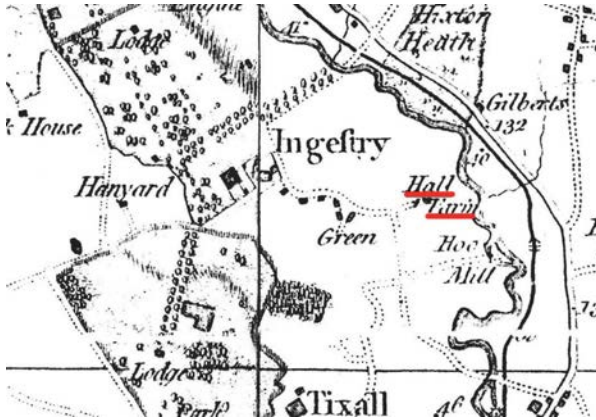
In the Village are the Old Post Office and the Old Schoolhouse, which presumably closed in the early 19th Century.

In 1881 Emma Smith, 37, and unmarried was a Schoolmistress living in the village. However, this is the only reference to a school in Ingestre. The census returns show an average of 13 children aged 6 to 10 with a range of from 8 in 1881 to 18 in 1851, most of these are shown as scholars on the census returns.

Nearby is a Grade II Listed K6 type telephone kiosk, designed in 1935 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and made by various contractors in cast iron. It is a square kiosk with a domed roof, decorated with unperforated crowns at the top of the panels.

12. LITTLE INGESTRE

Little Ingestre is the original site of the Home Farm as shown on Yates Map of 1775:



In Yates estate map of 1789 it is shown as a homestead:

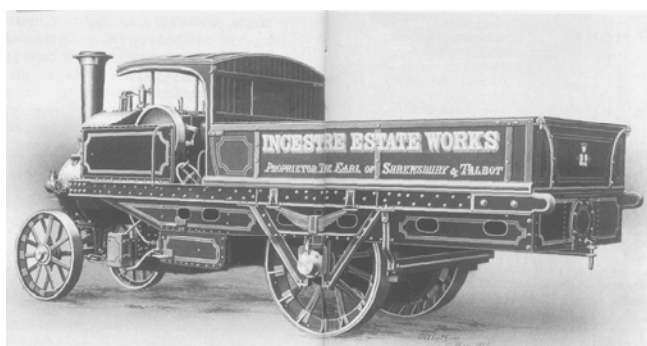


1789 Yates Estate Map showing Little Ingestre

There is no reference to Little Ingestre in the 1841 census, when Samuel Ginders, the Land Agent was living at Birch Hall. Maybe it was being done up as by 1851 Samuel had moved there with his wife and two daughters aged 6 and 9, and Samuel's sister. They must have had a full house as James MacMunn, 40, a doctor from Ireland was visiting with his wife and three young daughters. The staff were a nurse, 19; a housemaid, 27; a general servant, 19; a married groom, 38 (without his wife). Nearby in a separate household were three woodmen from Scotland, one with a 4 year old son.

Samuel Ginders was still at Little Ingestre in 1861 with his wife, son and two daughters, now aged 16 & 19. They had a cook, housemaid and groom, but all different from those in 1851. By 1871 it was described as the Steward's House, and Samuel was still there with his wife and one daughter, now aged 29. They had a housemaid and cook.

Little Ingestre must have been undergoing further work in 1881, as the Agent, George Marriott was living at Birch Hall, and there is no mention of Little Ingestre in the census.



Ingestre Estate Steam Waggon⁷

⁷ Old Glory March 2005

By 1891 Little Ingestre was being used as the Estate Office as well as the home of the Estate Agent, Walter Mynors, with the Estate Yard behind. Walter, 50, and his wife Martha, 59, was living there with his niece, Edith, 19 (William Mynor's sister – William had been told to find alternative accommodation when he reached 21). There were two female servants at Little Ingestre.

Walter and Martha Mynors were still there in 1901, with a 32 year old female visitor of independent means, and a housemaid, House Parlourmaid and Cook.



Little Ingestre in the early 20th century

Little Ingestre was run as a Country Club called The Balmoral from 1965, and is now The Dower House, with Little Ingestre Home for the Physically Handicapped next door.

Some of the original farm buildings have been converted to residential use as North, South and West Barns.

The Sawmill behind closed in 2004 and was then converted to 10 residential units:



Sawmill in 2004



Sawmill Bandsaw in 2004

13. HOO MILL & LION LODGES

Hoo Mill is probably the site of the part of mill recorded at Ingestre in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Interestingly there is no record of the ownership of the rest of the mill at that time.

The mill is clearly shown on the 1789 Estate Map.



Hoo Mill as shown on the 1789 Estate Map by Yates

The Mill and nearest cottages are also shown on Weston & Heaton's map of 1813, but not those nearest the crossroads.



Hoo Mill area in 1813

Hoo Mill was initially a Corn Mill, but probably from the late 18th Century when the Trent & Mersey Canal was opened, and the Stoke on Trent Pottery Industry expanded, it became a Flint Mill, producing ground flint for “china”.

In 1841, John Walklet was the Flint Grinder living at Hoo Mill with two male servants and one female servant aged 13, probably his daughter. It appears he had been there since at least 1816 when one of his children was buried at Ingestre. In a Trade Directory of 1851 John Walklet is described as Manager, Hoo Mill, and in the 1851 Census as a Flint Miller, aged 62, employing two men. Also living in the cottages at Hoo Mill in 1851 was Thomas Atkins, 28, a wheelwright, and Charles Cockershele, 34, a carrier, probably for the Flint Mill, his wife, and four young children. John was buried at Ingestre in 1857 aged 68.

By 1861 George Walklate, 48 was the Flint Grinder living at Hoo Mill with his wife, their four children and two young male labourers aged 15 and 18. Another labourer, Joseph Timinis, aged 46 was living in one of the Hoo Mill Cottages, with his wife, and 11 year old son & nephew. Hannah Betts a 55 year old widow described as a poultry attendant was living at another cottage, with her son, 14, a labourer and two daughters, 11 & 12 both scholars. Charles Cokersole, 43, carrier, living with his wife, 2 sons and 3 young daughters. The eldest son, 14, was a gardener. The younger son, 12, and two eldest daughters, 9 and 4, were all scholars.

In 1871, George Walklet, 58, was still the Flint Grinder at Hoo Mill House, with his wife and three children aged 13 to 20. The 20 year old son was a labourer, and the 18 year old daughter was described as a domestic servant. The household also included another labourer, 23 and a bricklayer, 23. There

were two Hoo Mill Cottages: one housing an agricultural labourer and his family; and the other a 43 year old labourer and family. In addition there were two further households at Hoo Mill. Charles Cockersole, the carrier and his family, with his 22 year old son a woodman, 19 year daughter a dressmaker, and 3 younger daughters aged 8 to 14, all scholars; and John Keeling, 31, an agricultural labourer, with his wife and four children aged 10months to 10 years.

George Walklate, was buried at Ingestre in 1872 aged 59.

In 1881 William Huntback ? (difficult to read) was a Flint Grinder at Hoo Mill aged 56, with his grandson aged 14, born at Burslem in the Potteries, also described as a Flint Grinder.

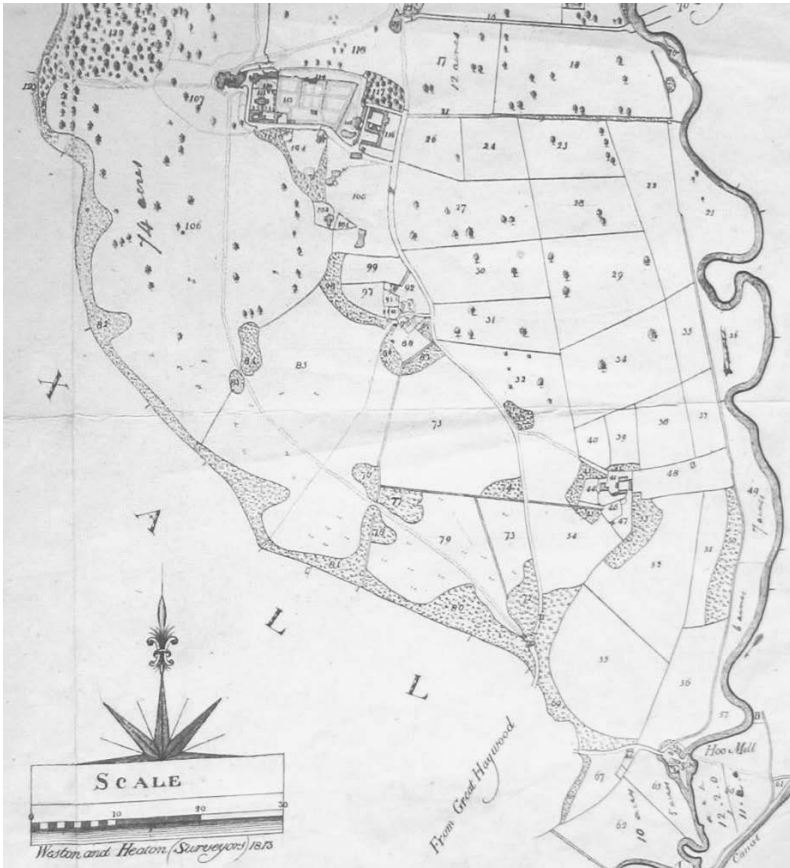
Charles Cockuscle, 61, carrier is living at 4 Hoo Mill, with his wife daughter and young granddaughter. (The different spellings of his name reflect difficulties reading the census returns.) There are no Flint Grinders at Hoo Mill in the 1891 or 1901 census returns.

The Mill was connected to the canal by a plateway with some of the original stone sleepers still in situ on the track:



Stone sleeper in track from Hoo Mill to the canal

By 1813, following closure of the road in front of the Hall in 1802, a new approach to the Hall is shown across the Church Field from the present site of Lion Lodges, and the Home Farm has been built adjacent to the walled gardens.



The 1839 Tithe Map and a further 1842 Map show similar features.

In 1841 two agricultural labourers were living in the lodges with their wives. After this they seemed to have been used for the Gamekeepers in 1851, Henry Brandfield and his

family. In 1861 and 1871 Thomas Johnson and family, and in 1881 George Allcroft and family, with William Wagstaff, Coachman and his wife living next door.

The Lion Lodges were rebuilt in the 1930s near the old lodges.



The Old Lion Lodges and Gate

Charles Dawson, Gamekeeper and his family were living there in 1891, and James White and family in 1901.

This tradition is maintained with Ernie Mosedale and his wife living there in 2013, although he is long since retired.



Ernie and Elsie Mosedale at Lion Lodges in 2008

14. THE 20th EARL OF SHREWSBURY & HIS COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

It is interesting to see how the 20th Earl's life changed over the years as recorded in the diary of his private Secretary, William Mynors in 1891, 1901 and 1911. Then we will consider his commercial interests.

1891

In 1891 when he was still living with Lady Shrewsbury, he had at least 17 days shooting from Ingestre in January, September and November; and at least 14 days hunting in Derbyshire in January, February, and December – probably staying at Doveridge Hall since demolished, and also at Melton Mowbray, with a further 3 days hunting in Cheshire, Sandon and Chartley.

They also spent time at their London House at Upper Brook Street which was enlarged and improved that year. They stayed there for over 33 days, as well as at least 10 visits for a day and staying en route to France via Folkestone. In April, May to June, and October to November a total of 66 days; and a further 18 days at Deauville in August.

While in London July they attended the opera, and had a dinner dance and a ball at their house there. While at Ingestre in January they went skating, and attended concerts and dances there, one with Mr Aubrey Coventry – “a very amusing Negro” in January.

Lord Shrewsbury attended County Council meetings on four occasions.

Lord Shrewsbury also spent a considerable amount of time at the Races and at horse sales. He attended the Races at Liverpool, Doncaster, Manchester (twice), Warwick, Wolverhampton, Plumpton and spent a week at the Newmarket Races, often travelling with his party by special train or coach. He also attended horse sales at Shrewsbury in

March where he bought 9 horses, Leicester in April, Calwich Abbey in September, Leicester and Banbury in October where he bought another race horse for £700. He had bought his first race horse on October 7th and registered his colours. His horse Masai won at Plumpton in December. In August Lord Shrewsbury judged the Hoar Cross Horse Show.

The children had mostly separate lives joining their parents for a month in Paris in June and then remaining in Folkestone for 3 weeks on the way back. On July 17th they were taken to see the Torpedo Fight at the Naval Exhibition with William Mynors, Miss Wright and the Nurse, and on July 18th they all went to the matinee of "The Nanch Girl" at the Savoy Theatre. Lady Shrewsbury and the children also spent time at Alton in May. In November the children were staying in Llandudno and were joined by Lord & Lady Shrewsbury to celebrate his birthday.

1901

By 1901 Lord and Lady Shrewsbury had separated and were living separate lives. Lord Ingestre staying most of the time with his father and Lady Viola with her mother at Alton.

Lord Shrewsbury spent most of the January to April at Shavington, where he rented Shavington Hall and enjoyed the hunting in Cheshire.

He also spent time at his house in London at 12A George Street, attending to his commercial interests including Masion Talbot and the Shrewsbury Talbot Tyre Works. In October he had a short visit to Paris to see to his business interests there. He visited Manchester on several occasions to the works of Challinor and Mackintosh & Co. for his tyre business. In August he visited his Collieries at Brereton.

In February he attended the State Opening of Parliament by Edward VII wearing his robes.

In March and April William Mynors was seeing various Bank Managers on behalf of Lord Shrewsbury and at the end of March Lord Shrewsbury paid off his loan from his agent, Walter Mynors, known as Watty.

He paid brief visits to Ingestre in the first half of the year, staying a night at Little Ingestre in July, but at the beginning of August he returned to live at Ingestre Hall after 5 years absence.

In the Autumn he had several shooting parties at Ingestre.

25.9.01 Lord Shrewsbury and party have been having extraordinarily good sport shooting Partridges; and have averaged nearly a hundred brace per day.

And again in October, November and December shooting Pheasants. William Mynors often had to make up the numbers for Dinner at Ingestre if they were a man short or if the numbers would otherwise make unlucky 13 !

13.11.01 Lord Shrewsbury's birthday, and he had many nice presents. Good shoot at Lion lodge, the bag being over 1400 head. I lunched with the party at the house again, and had talk with the Duchess of Teck, who is a pleasant woman; but if her face was her fortune, she would not be "passing rich". The Duke of Roxburghe decidedly the handsomest man, and Lady Londonderry the best looking woman of the party.

In October he went hunting at Doveridge and on the 14th of December the North Staffs Hounds met at Ingestre. In November he went to Northampton to buy a horse.

Lord Shrewsbury was also a guest at other house parties: at Alvaston Hall nr Nantwich in April to attend the Hunt Races and later that month at Spring Hill, Rugby.

He visited his sister, Lady Londonderry at Wynyard Park nr, Stockton, Durham on a couple of occasions. He usually drove around by motor car, although this was not always without incident:

24.8.01 (Sat) Lord Shrewsbury drove Motor Car to Stafford in morning, and in returning about 1.30, almost opposite our house, his car caused a horse to shy, & finally turn over the high dog cart he was pulling: in the dog cart was Mrs Shaw, the M.P.'s wife, who was badly cut and shaken, & lay in Hall's house for some hours – Lord S. walking to & fro in the road, till the Doctor had been !

On October 4th he attended his aunt's funeral at Belmore, Gareloch, Dumbartonshire. William Mynors having recorded:

3.10.01 The Dowager's eccentric sister died.

1911

Lord Shrewsbury was still spending the first part of the year at Shavington and was considering an offer to buy his Cheshire Estates at Barnston. He came from Shavington to join Lord Ingestre and party shooting Cock Pheasants at Ingestre on January 11th.

Lord Shrewsbury was entertaining Mrs Brownlee at Shavington, and brought her and three others over to lunch and tea at Ingestre on February 11th and again on the 25th.

Lady Ingestre had to have an operation for Appendicitis in London in March, remaining in bed for a couple of weeks. She and Lord Ingestre were living at Waldershare Park, Dover. In December her three children arrived at Ingestre for Christmas with their three nurses.

Lord Ingestre visited London to attend to his business matters there, and Ingestre to visit Brereton Collieries.

In April 1911 he went to the South of France for a couple of weeks, returning from Monte Carlo on April 25th to stay at Alvaston, Nantwich for a few days.

At the end of April he attended the races at Ludlow, and after spending a few days at Ingestre he went to London for the season on May 1st.

In July he came up from London for the day to attend the Stafford Agricultural Show.

He returned to Ingestre at the beginning of August and then had to go to Eglington Castle, Irvine, Scotland, where his mother was very ill at the home of Lord Eglington. She improved in a few days and Lord Shrewsbury went to Eaton Hall, Chester to be joined by his valet from Ingestre.

He returned to Ingestre on August 12th, having been delayed by a Railway Strike. The next day he went to Belmore, Gareloch, Dumbartonshire, returning to London on the 23rd. The Dowager Lady Shrewsbury with her daughter, Lady Gwendolen Little, a Nurse, Maid, Doctor and Footman arrived at Ingestre from Eglington Castle, N.Ayrshire on August 22nd. The doctor returned to Scotland by the night mail. The Dowager stayed at Ingestre until the end of October.

Lord Shrewsbury returned from London on the 26th and visited Brereton Collieries before leaving for Eaton Hall to shoot with the Duke of Westminster on August 28th, returning to London on the 30th.

He spent a few days at Ingestre at the beginning of September before leaving again to spend five days at Belmore in Dumbartonshire. This unsettled pattern continued with a few days at Ingestre alternating with a couple of days in London, and then a return to Eaton Hall. Meanwhile the Dowager was still at Ingestre steadily recovering her health

and visited by her other daughter, Lady Londonderry on September 19th to stay until the 25th.

In September Lord Shrewsbury had a days shooting at Salt, and after a short visit to his son, Lord Ingestre in Dover and then on to Paris, he was back at Ingestre for four days shooting on October 2nd.

In October he was insuring two gardeners and two Cottages at Goring on Thames where he had a new house with Mrs Brownlee, and then went to Paris for four days.

In November Lord Shrewsbury had another couple of days shooting with the Duke of Westminster at Eaton Hall, and then three days shooting at Ingestre later in the month with a party including Lady Londonderry:

14.11.11..... Lady Londonderry dictated to me a tremendous lot of political matter, to type for her by Friday, which will keep me well occupied on the top of my work. Stuck to it till 8.20pm; then home. Very big shooting bag today.

18.11.11 Sat Saw off Lady Londonderry at 9o/c, who was profuse with her thanks for the work I had done for her. All the rest of the party went away during the morning, except Lords Shrewsbury and Ingestre, who went by 4.55 train to town.

Lord Shrewsbury then went to spend a few days with his sister, Lady Londonderry at Wynyard Park, before returning to Ingestre via Lowther for another 3 days shooting at Ingestre. He went back to London and then had a couple of days shooting at Ashridge Park, nr Berkhamstead, in December. On December 20th he was shooting at Newmarket for three days, before returning to Ingestre for Christmas with the rest of his family.

24.12.11 Sun Lady Ingestre's baby was Christened "Joan" at Ingestre at noon, when a man from the "Daily Mirror" Office attended, to take "snap shots". He got one of the 4 generations including the Dowager and the baby.

On December 26th he went shooting at Newton, and the following day he was hunting at Great Bridgeford. On December 28th he was shooting at Ingestre and then the Sunday School Children's Christmas Tree party was held in the Servants Hall. One of the Christmas House Party, Lady Clare Annesley, was confirmed as having Diphtheria, but returned to London by rail the following day with her mother.

THE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF THE 20th EARL OF SHREWSBURY⁸

Charles Henry John Chetwynd-Talbot became the 20th Earl in 1877 aged 17, on the death of his father. At this time his family owned over 35,000 acres in Stafford, Chester, Worcester, Salop and Derby worth over £60,000 a year. This did not include the minerals under 2,000 acres in Glamorgan.

On the death of the 19th Earl the family's finances were in disarray, and a receiver was appointed to collect income from the estate to pay off a list of admitted debts. The 20th Earl was a good manager and expended large sums on the estate farms and cottages during the 1880s and early 1890s, to keep them in good order. He funded the work by taking out mortgages on various properties:

In 1894 he applied to the Royal Insurance Co. for a £200,000 loan on the security of his Ingestre Estate. They showed that the 8,000 acres was producing a net income of ~£13,000. The property was valued at ~£330,000, although it was noted the property market was depressed and it was unlikely to reach that amount then.

However, this loan was not taken up. Instead the Earl took out a mortgage of £260,000 with the Loan Trustees of the Life Association of Scotland; £35,000 with the Legal & General Society and £30,000 with others, on the security of Ingestre

⁸ Dr Gerry Black "Lender to the Lords, Giver to the Poor" London 1992

and other properties. Both the Earl and his wife had also taken out loans from their solicitors at 6% from time to time.

In 1898 he combined all his mortgages to try and reduce the amount of interest he was paying. He approached Sam Lewis, a Jewish moneylender and financier, who had previously lent him small amounts from 1893 or earlier. The Earl now wanted £325,000 and this was agreed on 18th Jan 1898 for 10 years at only 3%. In 1901 the Earl owed Sam's estate £367,911, an enormous sum and his largest debtor.

The main commercial interests of the Earl included Stone Quarries, Salt Works, Coal Mines, S & T Hansom Cabs, Shrewsbury & Challiner Co., Maison Talbot Tyres, Rothschild Père et Fils, British Commercial Automobile Syndicate (BACS) and Clement Talbot Cars.

1. STONE QUARRIES

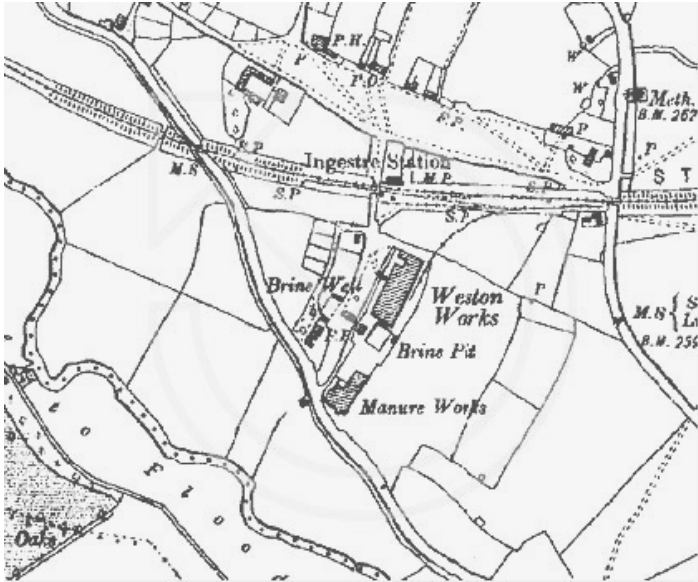
Lord Shrewsbury had the three stone quarries at Tixall in addition to the two at Weston Bank. In 1854 1177 tons of stone value £717-14-9½ was produced from the Weston quarries and 638 tons valued at £382-12-11¼ from Tixall. In April 1830, 24 men were working in the quarries which were run jointly and this increased to 35 in April 1847, but numbers then decreased with only 4 workers in 1870.

2. SALT WORKS

Earl Ferrers had been exploiting his salt deposits at Shirley which since the 17th century and were making around £320 a year by the 18th century.

In 1820 Earl Talbot, the 20th Earl's father, had plans drawn up for his saltworks at Weston, and these were built in 1821.

The high pressure winding engine was used for general purposes at the Saltworks until they closed in 1882 is now in the Kensington Science Museum, having been donated by Lord Shrewsbury in 1911. The saltworks were between the railway from Stafford to Uttoxeter, and the canal.



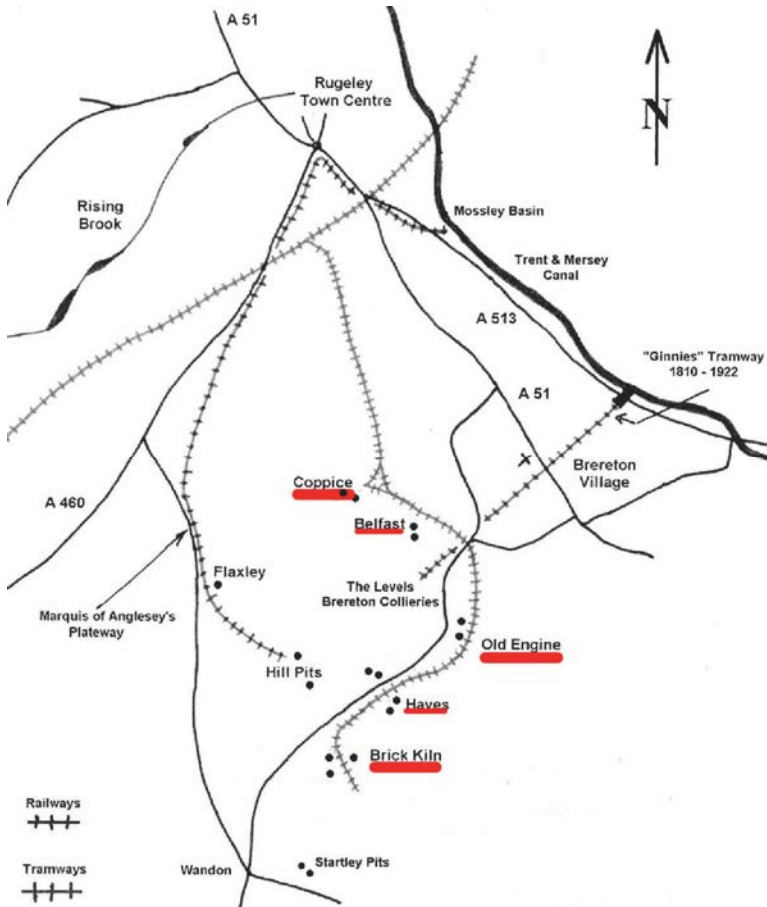
Weston Saltworks c1900

3. COAL MINES

The Chetwynd-Talbots of Ingestre were Lords of the Manor of Brereton and exploited the coal deposits alongside the Pagets of Beaudesert. From the late 18th century deep coal mines were sunk by both landowners, and they were in competition with each other until 1854.

In 1854 the 19th Earl leased the Hayes Colliery, associated shafts and a mineral area of 2,000 acres from the Marquis of Anglesey. This was then combined to form his Brereton & Hayes Colliery Co.

More land was gradually leased until in 1895 the 20th Earl had control of the whole area, then known as The Earl of Shrewsbury's Brereton Collieries. The deep coal was of excellent quality and at one time they had the Royal Warrant to supply fuel to the royal palaces. In the early 1900s 5 collieries were operating: Coppice; Belfast; Old Engine; Hayes; and Brick Kiln



Location Brereton Colliery Pits, Railways and Tramways

In 1878 Harry Bolam was Mineral & Estate Agent to the Trustees & Guardians of the young Earl of Shrewsbury, and

said that Brereton Collieries had 1,800 acres and produced more than 200,000 tons of coal per annum.

In September 1906 The Brereton Collieries were registered as a Limited Company so that additional capital could be raised to modernise the collieries. They were valued at £100,000 and £1 shares were issued, equivalent to around £6.5 million today.

To continue with the expansion & modernisation £100,000 was raised in October 1906 by the issue of debentures, principally to the Legal & General Life Assurance Society and the Law Fire Office.

On Feb 15th 1908 The Coppice Pit at Brereton Colliery flooded itself, and drowned three men (and 5 ponies). The next day Lord Shrewsbury came to Ingestre from London at 4pm, having first been Brereton Collieries to see the flooded mine. (From this time the Coppice, Belfast & Flaxley Pits closed.)

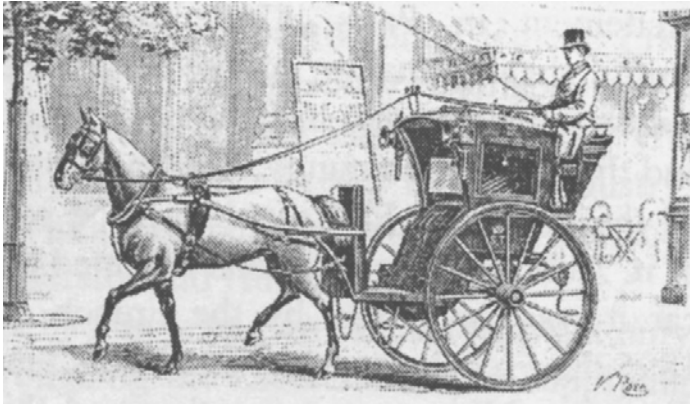
In March 1908 the Brereton Colliery Co. became a private limited company, paying its first dividend of 14% in June 1908. The first directors of the company were the 20th Earl, his son Viscount Ingestre and George Robinson, the Colliery Manager.

In 1920 James Cadman & his brother Sir John purchased shares in the collieries, gained overall control and set about modernising the collieries.

4. S& T HANSOM CABS

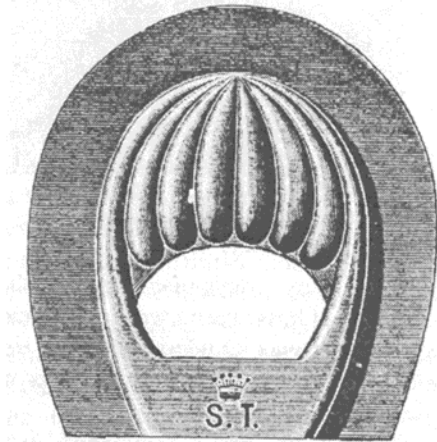
In 1883 aged 23, the Earl started a Hansom Cab business in London. By 1885 he had 450 cabs in London and a similar number in Paris. He was the biggest cab operator in both cities

and his cabs were the very best.⁹



One of the first S & T Hansom Cabs in 1885

The cabs had full springing, air cushion seats, real Russian leather upholstery and ivory fittings. Most importantly they had special rubber tyres designed and manufactured by another of the Earl's companies.



S & T Rubber Horseshoe

⁹ With acknowledgement to Stephen Lally & the Booklet celebrating 100 years of the Invincible Talbot 1903- 2003

The Earl's horses were fit & healthy, unlike those of many of his competitors. They were well turned out with black leather harness and shining brass mountings. The rubber tyres and horse shoes gave his passengers a much smoother and quieter ride, and the horses were less prone to slipping on the cobbled streets. In fact the hansom cabs were so quiet that the horses had to be fitted with bells to warn pedestrians of their approach.

5. GREYHOUND COACHES

This company ran mail and passenger coaches, mainly between London and Stafford, but with a Summer service from Stafford to Buxton.

They were nicknamed the "Phantom Coaches" as they were totally silent on their rubber tyres and horse shoes.



c1900 Ingestre Omnibus with Coachmen

In 1892 on Saturday Sept 17th Lord Shrewsbury drove the Coach from Ingestre, as far as Leek, with load of servants, and on Sept 19th he drove the Coach from Buxton.

Nov 30th 1910 Lords Shrewsbury & Ingestre put horses in the Coach in afternoon to try them in readiness for work at Stafford for Polling on Saturday

6. SHREWSBURY & CHALLINOR COMPANY

On January 22nd 1900 William Mynors went to see Lord Shrewsbury at Shavington and sat up till very late, making out a scheme of amalgamation of the S.T.Coy. with Challiner's Tyre Company.

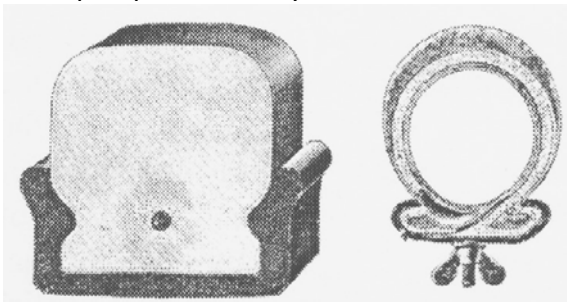
On January 31st 1900 Lord Shrewsbury had an interview at the Crewe Arms Hotel with Challiner, during which I wrote some letters for him, & we went to Shavington by Motor Car at 7pm.

Lord Shrewsbury had a meeting of S.T.Co. and Challiner Co. Directors as to the amalgamation on Sept 7th 1900, and at 9pm he had an interview with Ichenhauser who came to London on purpose.

On October 12th 1902 William lunched with Challiner at Ingestre, who had come from Manchester to see Lord S. but had to return disappointed as he was showing a party of Frenchmen around, no doubt regarding his Clement Talbot car business.

7. MAISON TALBOT TYRES

This company started as distributors of the solid rubber tyres produced by the Earl's North British Rubber Company. He then developed pneumatic tyres under licence.



The Cup Tyre and the Talbot Pneumatique

They had factories in Paris and London, and offices there and in Manchester, Nice, Brussels, Florence and Milan.

On May 18th 1900 William saw Lord Shrewsbury for 4 hours in London as to an increase of Maison Talbot Capital and other things. This message was obviously ignored as on November 18th William writes to Lord Shrewsbury to point out again that more capital is required for Maison Talbot. Cash was always a problem as we shall see in 1902.

There were problems with their agent in Brussels, Frank Woodward embezzling the funds, leading eventually to his discharge in 1902. The overseas business was also curtailed during the First World War.



Maison Talbot Pneumatic Tyre distributor in Florence, Italy



Maison Talbot Pump advertisement

8. ROTHSCHILD PÉRE ET FILS

This coachbuilding company built bodies for the Talbot cars. Lord Shrewsbury was Chairman of the company. However, Lord Shrewsbury's Coronation Coach was built by Hooper of St James's Street in 1902.

Feb 1st 1910 Issued Guardian Fire Policy No.4280336 for £500 on Stock Fixtures, Fittings, fixed and moveable utensils & loose tools own & in trust on 2 floors at 46 Page Street, Westminster in coach trimming shop, for Péré & Fils of 30 Page Street, Annual Premium 17/6; first to Lady Day 1911, £1.0.9. They owe me for it.

9. BRITISH COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE SYNDICATE (BACS)

The 20th Earl was equally at home in London and Paris. The French nobility took to the new motor cars with enthusiasm and from 1895 to 1908 the French produced more cars than the whole of the rest of Europe.

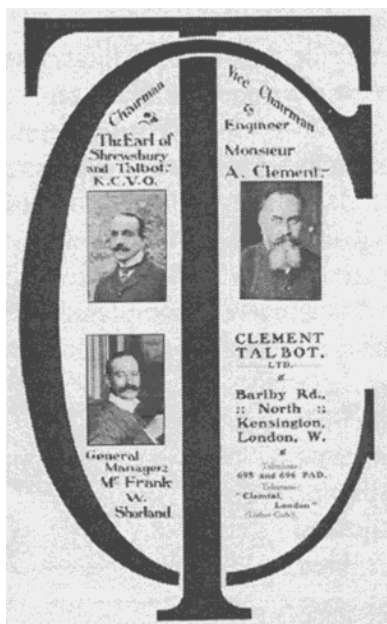
In 1900 The Automobile Club of Great Britain (later the RAC) organised a thousand miles trial. Entrants would drive a circular 1000 mile route from London via Edinburgh over 2 weeks. It aimed to test the reliability and performance of the cars and demonstrate them to the public. At this time the maximum speed limit was 12mph in England and 10mph in Scotland. The need for the red flag man had also been abolished in 1896. Sixty five cars started, half from British Manufacturers, and 49 officially finished. The Gold medal going to C.S.Rolls and his Panhard 12hp.

The Earl realised that there were big profits to be made in this new industry and started the BACS syndicate to import motor cars to London, mainly Panhard, Hotchkiss, Mors and Clement cars. He took on the agency for Clement cars in April 1902.

BACS continued to import French Cars as well as subsequently distributing his Talbot Cars. He attended the Paris Motor Show in 1903 and 1908. In 1903 he imported cars worth more than £2,000,000 from France to England.

10. CLEMENT TALBOT¹⁰

The Earl soon realised that just importing cars was not enough. Most French companies had started by buying in technology and experience, initially from Daimler and Benz. So he approached Adolphe Clement a businessman rather than an engineer who had started in the Bicycle Industry and retained directorships in Darracq, Gladiator and Humber Bicycles. He had two car factories producing the Clement Car and also supplying chassis frames to other manufacturers such as Panhard Levassor, where he was Chairman of the Board. He was also on the board of the French Dunlop Company. A very useful business partner for Lord Shrewsbury.



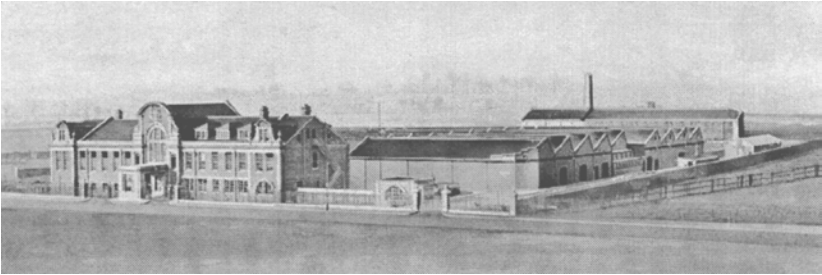
The new Clement Talbot Company was formed in October 1902 and 5 acres of land were purchased at Ladbroke Grove, North Kensington, bordered by the Edinburgh Road soon to be renamed Barby Road. Lord Shrewsbury was chairman of the company, with Monsieur Clement as Vice-Chairman & Engineer, & Mr Frank Shorland as General Manager.

Company Logo

A new factory was built at Ladbroke Grove with all the latest machinery and technology to produce a state-of-the-art

¹⁰ With acknowledgement to Stephen Lally & the Booklet celebrating 100 years of the Invincible Talbot 1903- 2003

British motor car. The factory was virtually complete by September 1904.



Clement Talbot Factory at Ladbrooke Grove

The factory was employing 500-600 men, often working 11 hour days starting at 6.30am, with a half day off on Saturday.



Car leaving Clement Talbot works

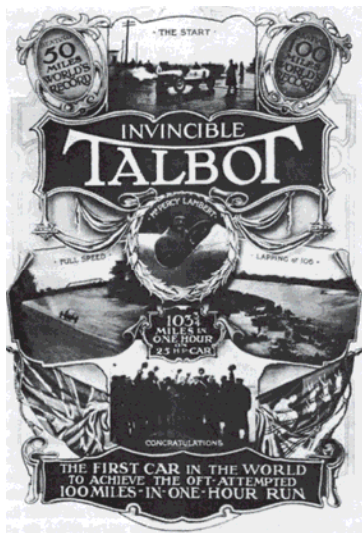
On September 30th 1903 the following notice appeared:
The well known factories at Levallois and Mezieres, France, and the Clement Talbot factories in London will be reserved for the production of Talbot Cars made from the designs and

under the direct supervision of the famous engineer, Monsieur Clement, whose previous productions under the title of "Clement Cars" have gained a reputation for Reliability, Speed and Hillclimbing unsurpassed throughout the world."

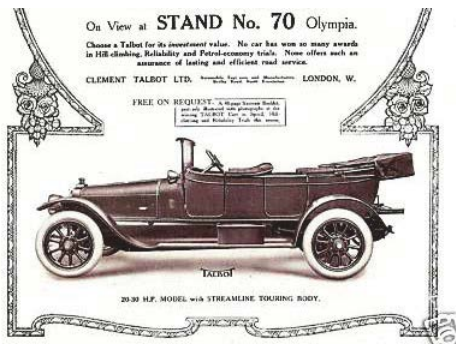
On June 27th 1904 Weigel completed 2000 miles non-stop run on a Talbot Motor Car. In 1910 a 25 h.p. Talbot successfully completed the first 2,100 mile journey across Australia from south to north in a little over a month.

The 20th Earl was a regular attendee at Motor Shows in London and Paris.

Nov 13th 1912 Heard from Lady Shrewsbury that she and Lord Shrewsbury had "shaken hands" yesterday at Olympia Motor Car Show, after 17 years estrangement.



The Invincible Talbot



1913 Olympia Advertisement

In Britain the Talbot was establishing the name "The Invincible Talbot" for racing and record breaking, and achieved the record for 100 miles in an hour at Brooklands on February 8th 1913.

15. OTHER PEOPLE ON THE ESTATE

CENSUS RETURNS	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901
Land/Estate Agents, Surveyor, & Estate Office Clerks							
	2	2	1	1	1	4	1
<u>Ingestre Hall</u>							
Female Servants	11	12	13	16	8	17	3
Male Servants	5	4	6	6	4	12	0
<u>Gardeners, etc.</u>							
	2	2	8	6	2	8	8
<u>Grooms & Coachmen for Hall Stables</u>							
	0	4	6	14	11	22	5
<u>Carpenters & Woodmen</u>							
	1	9	3	5	2	5	4
<u>Other Estate Craftsmen</u>							
	1	3	3	3	0	4	3
<u>Gamekeepers, etc.</u>							
	1	4	1	1	4	1	6
<u>Farm Workers & Servants</u>							
	22	18	16	15	12	13	8
<u>Gas & Electricity Workers</u>							
	0	0	1	1	1	4	0
<u>Flint Grinding at Hoo Mill</u>							
	4	4	5	6	6	0	0
<u>Other Occupations, etc.</u>							
	2	7	5	5	6	13	4
<u>Little Ingestre Servants</u>							
	0	4	9	2	0	4	4
<u>Rectory/Parsonage House Servants</u>							
	1	3	5	2	1	0	3
<u>Birch Hall Servants</u>							
	2	2	4	3	2	4	4
TOTAL excluding wives and children							
	54	78	86	86	60	111	53

The available Census Returns from 1841 to 1901 show significant changes in the occupations of Ingestre residents, and give some details of the variety of different indoor and outdoor occupations on the estate. However, estate workers living in adjacent parishes, would not have been included in the census for Ingestre. We also have limited information from other sources such as Church burials and the Diaries of William Towers Mynors, Private Secretary to the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury in the early 1900s.

1. LAND OR ESTATE AGENT

This was the most important employee responsible for running the whole estate.

In 1841, the Land Agent, Samuel Ginders, aged 28, was living at Birch Hall. Samuel Ginders had been born in Ingestre and succeeded his father, Jeremiah who was the Land Agent from at least 1812 when Samuel was baptised. Jeremiah later moved to Sandon to manage the Flint Mill there, died in 1843 and was buried at Ingestre.

By 1851, Samuel Ginders had moved to Little Ingestre, which became the Estate Offices, probably following the move of the Home Farm from there. Samuel Shelley a land surveyor was living in the village. In 1871 Samuel Ginders was described as living at the "Steward's House". He is still shown in Trade Directories as the Land Agent till 1880.

The 1881 Census has George Muston, 27, as Land Agent living at Birch Hall with his wife and daughter.

Walter C.T.Mynors was a Church Warden at Tixall in 1875, living at Tixall Farm. In 1881 he was living at Brancote, farming 2,200 acres at Tixall Farm and Brancote with 41 men. By 1891, aged 50 he was the Estate Agent living at Little Ingestre, with his wife and niece. Walter had initially provided a home to his nephew, William, and niece Edith, following the

death of the mother in 1888. Their father, John Mynors, had died in 1877, and they had been living with their mother at Tixall Farm. Walter must have found young William his job as Private Secretary to Lord Shrewsbury, but as soon as William was 21 in 1890, he had been told to find his own lodgings. William then boarded at Trent Lodge.

In 1891 there was also James Bisgood, 25, Secretary Herbert Clarke, 21 Estate Clerk and William Ducie, 24, Clerk at the Estate Offices – all living in the Village.

Walter Mynors was described in the Trade Directories of 1901 and 1912 as Agent and Steward to the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury. In 1901 the Little Ingestre household had a Housemaid aged 17, a House Parlourmaid aged 29, a cook aged 41 and a coachman aged 29.

In January 1912 H.Cecil Gardner started work at Ingestre as Sub-Agent.

Walter Mynors had no children, and after his wife died in 1902 he remarried and went to live at Tixall Hall, dying there in 1913.

Walter was in poor health towards the end of his life and his signature was forged on cheques by Grattan in the Estate Office. In February 1912 Lord Shrewsbury informed Walter's executors that he had large claims for things or services had by Watty but not paid for. A week later Walter resigned and was replaced by Cecil Gardner as Agent.

Following the death of the 20th Earl, Mr Burroughes, was appointed as the Estate Agent in November 1921 by the solicitor. In December 1921, Capt. Reginald Maitland Wilson, was appointed Sub-Estate Agent.

By 1932 Wilson was the Resident Agent, living at Little Ingestre, having married Monica Mynors, William Mynors's daughter in 1923. He died in 1945.



Wedding photograph of
Monica and Reginald Maitland Wilson

2. GAMEKEEPERS

On December 21st 1831, William Parker, aged 64 and many years a gamekeeper, was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun. Charles Chetwynd, Earl Talbot erected the gravestone in his memory.

In 1841 Thomas Parker, 40, was the Gamekeeper living at Park Lodge with his wife and 6 year old daughter.

On July 5th 1850, Mr Parker, the head gamekeeper, who was recovering from an acute episode of delirium usually caused by withdrawal from alcohol, was attended by Walter Murray, who had been placed in charge of him on the advice of his medical adviser, with strict instructions that any weapon with which he could possibly do any injury should be kept from him, and that he should be strictly watched.

However, Murray, an underkeeper, allowed Parker to take out a gun, in company with him, for the purpose of

shooting jackdaws. After they had proceeded about a mile from the house, Parker shot Murray with a bullet; Parker then returned home, leaving his victim dead in the tower in Ingestre Wood.

When Parker arrived home, the servant girl was in the kitchen taking tea, with an infant in her arms. He shot her dead through the head, the child falling unhurt to the ground. He then tried to shoot his widowed sister, but she moved and escaped with two shots in the face.

Parker then ran from the house and escaped into the wood with his gun unloaded, followed by his wife. Two gunshots were heard and on the arrival of Mr Waddell, the surgeon, from Stafford, they found Mrs Parker shot through the heart, and the upper part of Parker's head entirely blown off, taking with it nearly the whole of the contents of the skull. Murray left seven young children to mourn his fate. In 1851 his widow, an annuitant, was living at Wetreins Coppice 1, with her son, 11, an Agricultural Labourer's Boy, and three daughters aged 2 to 6.

Henry Branfield, aged 31, was listed as a Gamekeeper living at Lion Lodges with his wife and family. Henry Walkens, 23 was a Park & Gamekeeper from Lincolnshire living at Wetreins Coppice 2, with his brother Algeanon Walkens, 15 as his assistant . The 1851 White's Directory also listed John Ballance and John Gooch as Gamekeepers at Ingestre, but they did not appear in the census so must have lived outside Ingestre.

In 1861 and 1871 Thomas Johnson, was the only Gamekeeper shown in the Ingestre Census, living at Lion Lodge with his wife and aged 50 in 1871.

Gamekeepers must have moved around quite a bit, as by 1881, John White, 42, was the Head Gamekeeper living in Ingestre with his son, George, 20, as an Assistant Gamekeeper, and 15 year old son as a Kennel Boy. There were two other Gamekeepers, John Dean, 45 living at Fiddlers Lodge and George Allcroft, 45 living at Lion Lodge.

Charles Dawson, 36, living at Lion Lodges, was the only Gamekeeper listed in the 1891 Ingestre census. However, in 1900 John White was described as Head Gamekeeper to the Earl.

In September 1891 the Stafford Advertiser records: "...the head gamekeeper left his house with the intention of shooting a stag, taking with him a double-barrelled gun, one chamber of which was loaded with an explosive cartridge and the other with powder and shot. While passing through a wood, he saw a rabbit and shot it, firing by mistake the barrel containing the cartridge. On proceeding a little further, he was astonished to find that by mistake he had shot his own son, a young man of about 20, of whose whereabouts in the neighbourhood he had no previous knowledge.

It appears that the young man, who is in service in London and was home for the holiday, and was returning from a nearby village, was struck by the bullet in the instep of his foot.

Under the care of the local doctor he is progressing favourably."

In 1901, John White, 61, was living in Cow Lane, Ingestre, and was described as a Park-keeper. In addition there were 4 Gamekeepers: James Short, 54 living at Ingestre Farm; Frederick Stewart, 24, and Alexander McClauchlan, 23 from Scotland living at the Poultry House; and James White, 42 living at Lion Lodge.

In 1904 Donald Macdonald was listed in a Trade Directory as Head Gamekeeper, and this continued until 1934.



Donald Macdonald at Park House

Donald Macdonald bred a leading strain of Golden Retrievers having previously established a line of flat coated retrievers. In July 1908 he registered the “Ingestre” affix and Ingestre Scamp was 3rd in the Golden Retriever class the following year. His Golden's were very dark and wavy coated.



Park House Dogs

William Mynors's diary has many entries of payments to Donald:

May 1902 Paid D.M. for Wood-pigeons and Rooks, 2/6;

Oct 1902 Paid D.M. for a brace of pheasants, 3/-;

June 1903 Paid D.M. for a couple of little rabbits, 1/-;

Sept 1908 Paid D.M. for 3 brace of partridges for F.Bradley, 7/6, and for 2 wild ducks for ourselves, 2/6;

Dec 1906 Paid D.M. for 7 headless pheasants, 7/- and 2 good ones for Mrs Symonds, 4/-.

In August 1904, William records : "Saw Macdonald the keeper, and advised him to drive some of the hares off Brancote Farm – for the safety of the hares."

Donald's 5 year old son was buried at Ingestre in February 1906, and Donald was responsible for organising the shooting when King Edward VII visited in 1907.

June 23rd 1914 "stray dogs attacked the hens in coops, with young pheasants at Ingestre last night, killing some scores of hens, and 800 little pheasants out of 1300 on the ground.



Donald in the centre of his young gamekeepers including Harry Poole in 1914 before they went off to join the army many acting as snipers.

The Gamekeepers also acted as coffin bearers for family funerals at Ingestre including Mrs McDonald, the Earl's cousin in 1907, the Dowager Lady Shrewsbury in 1912, Lord Ingestre in 1915 and the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury in 1921. Donald Macdonald was buried at Ingestre in 1956 aged 92.

Richard Williams, who was a gamekeeper at Shugborough in 1911 aged 28, had previously been a gamekeeper at Ingestre, where his son had been born in 1910. He enlisted in the N.Staffs Regiment in 1916, and was then transferred to the Sherwood Foresters, and was killed in action at Flanders in 1917.

In May 1919, Donald Macdonald wrote to Poole's commanding officer at Penpole Veterinary Hospital, Shirehampton, Bristol, that he was prepared to employ Poole as under gamekeeper again as soon as he was released from the army, to deal with rabbits that were getting too numerous on parts of the estate. In January 1920 Poole was offered 35/- a week, with a suit of clothes each year and Bothy fire and light, which he accepted.

In 1935 and 1936 Walter Foulger was shown as Head Gamekeeper at Ingestre.

3. WOODWORKERS AND WOODMEN

In 1841 William Newbold, 30, was a carpenter living in the village with his wife and young son. By 1851 he also had a daughter.

In 1851 William Bridgeford, 52, is listed as a Joiner, living in the Parsonage House Garden with his wife and family, including his 18 year old son, an apprentice carpenter. William Broadhurst, 30, is described as a sawyer living in the village

with his widowed aunt. Charles Ramsay, 34, from Scotland was a Wood Ranger living next door with his three children, sister, Mother in law and an 18 year old general servant. Charles was also described as a Wood Ranger in the 1851 Trade Directory. Three Woodmen: John McQuie, 22, and his brother Thomas, 20, from Scotland were living at Little Ingestre with Richard Croxton, 46, a married lodger and 4 year old Thomas Croxton, also described as a lodger.

In 1871 only one Joiner/Carpenter is listed living at Ingestre Hall.

In 1881 John Taylor, 53, was the Sawmill Foreman living at Trent Lodge with his wife and a 16 year old female servant. William Stewart, 50, from Scotland was the Forrester or Woodman, living in the village with his wife and three children aged 10 to 13, all born in Scotland.

Taylor and Stewart appear to have left by 1891, when there were two carpenters living in the village, as well as Thomas Durose, the House Carpenter, 50, living with his wife and three teenage children. In addition John Dean, 55, was a timber yard labourer living in Hoo Mill Lane with his wife, and William Ducie, 54, from Ireland was a Forester living in the village with his wife and 6 children aged 10 to 24, 3 of the boys also working on the estate. In 1894 William Ducie acted as an Overseer at the Election, and in 1900 he was still described as a Woodman and Post Office Shopkeeper living at Ingestre Post Office, although he had died in December 1899 and been buried at Ingestre.

In 1901 William Horobin, 39, was a carpenter living at the Gas House, and Sydney Flude, 22, was another carpenter living in the village. Thomas Durose, 60, was still the House

Carpenter living at 16 Cow Lane – the old name for Ingestre road by the Home Farm. William Greatholder, 36 and born in Ingestre, was the Estate Woodman living in the village.



William Greatholder
and John Spink

Timber Lorry
with John Spink
& another man

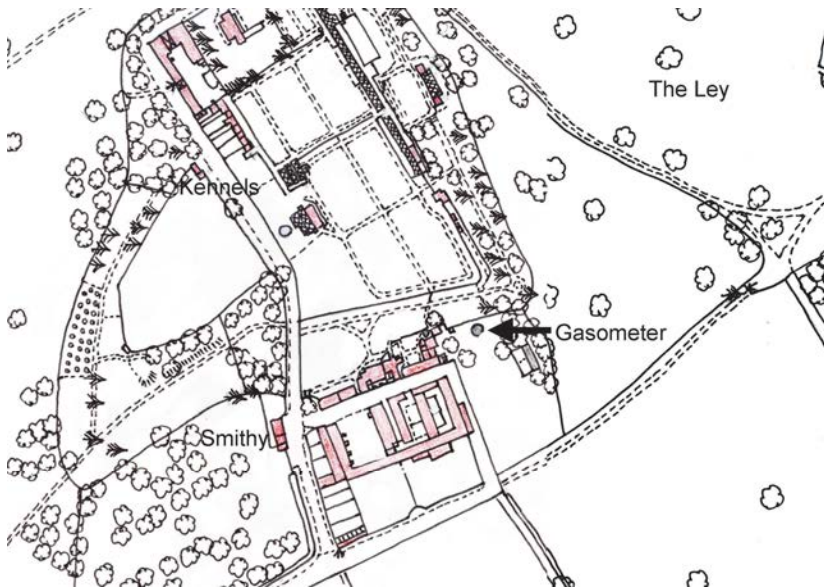


By 1957 Colin Astle was the Estate Carpenter and Ronald Dugmore was his assistant, both involved in the production of the Opera “Dido & Aneas” at Ingestre.

4 GAS & ELECTRICITY WORKERS

In 1861 Daniel Bayliss, 28, from Bilston was an engineer living at the Gas House with his wife. In 1871, Thomas Walker, 31, is shown as a Gas Maker and in the 1881 Census John Parker, 27 was a Gasmaker and Fitter living at Gas House,

Ingestre. Gas Cottage was adjacent to the Gasometer – now No.16 Home Farm Court.



Gasometer shown on Estate Map c1840

Following the installation of electricity in 1886, no doubt following the fire in 1882, in 1891 Thomas Brickell, 41 from Wolverhampton is shown as an Electrician living at Stable House with his wife and three young children. Two of the Ducie boys, Edgar, 19 and Charles, 14 were described as Electric Machine Fitters living with their father, the estate forester.

On February 17th 1890 the boiler of the Electric Engine burst at the Hall. In 1901 2 loads of Coal were sent from Haywood Wharf, presumably from the Earl's collieries at Brereton, up to Electric Light Engine. This shows that electricity was being generated using a steam engine.

The wiring for electric lighting was carried out under the direction of Mr Selator from May 1902, with scaffolding being needed in June, and in July a meeting with Selator and Walter Mynors, the Estate Agent, about altering the electric-engine house, which appears to have been undertaken in the following year when work on the electric lights was still in progress..

Mr Selator continued to be a regular visitor to Ingestre:

13.7.03 Mr Selator at Ingestre all day, on Electric Light job.

7.06.06 To Ingestre Hall at 9am. Mr Selator there all morning, as to the Electric Light Battery.

9.03.07 Sat To Ingestre Hall at 8.30am. Mr Selator there all morning seeing about necessary repairs to Electric Light Plant. He left at 2.

Electricity was generated on site and stored in batteries for use for lighting. These continued to cause problems:

28.5.09 Mr Selator and a man from Manchester at Ingestre seeing defects in the Electric Light Batteries.

7.9.09 Walked to Ingestre at 9am. Chloride people and Mr Selators man there, testing the Electric Light Battery.

14.12.09 Electric Light broke down at Ingestre at 4pm, and we were in darkness until 7.30pm.

17.6.10 Mr Selator there from 9.15 to 12.30, seeing about the fixing of new Electric Light Battery.

During the first world war, the estate electricians were called up and the Brereton Colliery Electrician was called out when the electricity failed.

5. OTHER ESTATE WORKERS, ETC.

The census returns from 1841 to 1901 show an interesting age distribution in Ingestre, significantly biased to the under 30 year olds, and usually with a large number of under 5 year olds.

In 1841 there were 19 under 5s; 14 aged 6 to 10; 10 aged 11 to 15; 13 aged 16 to 20; 12 aged 21 to 25 and 14 aged 26 to 30. In contrast there were only 7 aged 61 to 90. The older

people either did not survive, or were moved out of their tied cottages when their husbands died.

The number of under 5 children is not reflected by the number of 10 to 15 year olds in the next census. The younger children were more vulnerable to dying from diseases such as diphtheria, measles, etc. and in addition families moved on as new job opportunities arose.

The 21 to 30 age group was also usually significant as it included the young maids and footmen at the Hall, young grooms at the Stables and Garden Apprentices. Thus in the 1861 census they formed 28% of the total.

In 1769 John Bates, Blacksmith was buried at Ingestre. From 1841 to 1871, each census had a Blacksmith living in the village, with an additional apprentice blacksmith in 1851, and two blacksmiths in 1861 – the second living at Trent Lodge. Although there was none in 1881, there was in 1891 and 1901. However, they were never the same person.

The Smithy is shown on the c1840 estate map showing the Gasometer. It was near the site subsequently occupied by the New Stables.

In 1851, Thomas Atkens, 28, Widower, was a wheelwright living in Hoo Mill with the Walklet family. There are no other references to wheelwright's in Ingestre.

In 1891, George Astle, 37, was a painter living in Hoo Mill Lane with his wife and young family.

In 1861 George Davis, 24, was a Bricklayer lodging in the village and in 1871 Richard Thomason, 23, was a Bricklayer attached to Hoo Mill House. In addition Andrew Venables, 18, was a Bricklayers Labourer living in the village with his family.

Again in 1891, Charlie Greatholder, 28, was a Bricklayers Labourer living in Ingestre with his family. In 1901 Isaac Morrey was a Bricklayers Labourer living in the village as was James Morris, 42, living in the Mill Field near Hoo Mill. Apart from Morris, Bricklayers Labourer seems to have been an occupation for sons of other estate workers.

In 1891 William Morris, 27, was a Salt Labourer living with his mother and sister in Hoo Mill Lane, and probably working at Shirleywich.

In 1851 William Baker, 18, was an Apprentice Shoemaker living at Fiddlers Lodge with his family, and in 1861 Charles Ivall, 27 was a Shoemaker living at Poultry House with his mother and grandparents. These shoemakers were probably working in the Shoe Factories in Stafford.

In 1891 Alfred Bates, 15, living at Poultry House with his mother and siblings was a Grate Cleaner.

Interestingly in 1901, Stephen Venables, 83, is an Ingestre Estate Pensioner, living with his wife in the village. However, when an estate worker died, his widow was required to leave their cottage.

There were three other occupations for daughters, wives and widows:

i) Dressmaker: Two in 1851 Emma Bridgeford, 20, at the Parsonage House Garden, possibly Rectory Cottage; and Jane Ramsay, 36 from Scotland living with her brother's family in the village. Harriet Ellsmore, 25, wife of the Blacksmith living at Trent Cottage in 1861; Elizabeth Cockersol, 19 at Hoo Mill and Eliza Johnson, 20 at Lion Lodges in 1871; In 1881, Ann Green, 33, the Shepherd's wife living at Hoo Mill described as

a seamstress; Three in 1891: Lizzie Mann, 21, Dressmaker and her sister Thomasina, 19, Dressmaker's Apprentice living in the village with their widowed mother, and Annie Greatholder, 21, living near the Stables with her family; Two in 1901: Florence Fenton, 20 at the Post Office with her family, and Annie Short, 23, at Ingestre Farm with her family.

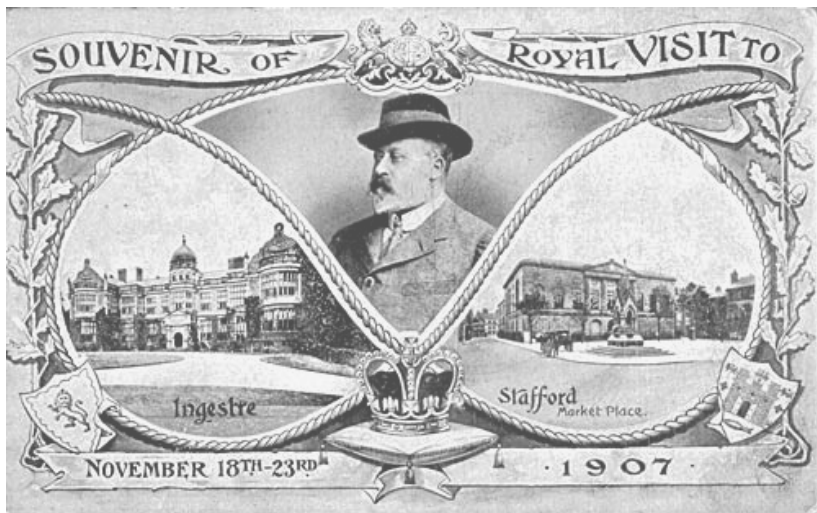
In 1841 Joseph Broadhurst, 32, was a Tailor living in the village with his parents, and in 1861

ii) Laundress: Mary Ivale, 44 at Poultry House in 1851; Elizabeth Mann, 33 at Hoo Mill in 1871; Jane Morris, 61, at Hoo Mill and Agnes Coleman, 33, in the village in 1881; Four in 1891: Jane Morris, 71, and her daughter, Emma, 35 at Hoo Mill Lane, Mary Adam, 40 in the village, and Elizabeth Mann, 54, widow, in the village. By 1901 only Emma Morris, 45 living at Mill Field was a laundress.

iii) Charwoman: Like Laundress another hard manual job, usually for older wives and widows. Margaret Broadhurst, 65 in the village in 1841; Javes Reeves, 32, widow, living with her parents in the village in 1851; Martha Venables, 48, living in the village with her husband in 1871; and Mary Smith, 67, widow, at Lion Lodges in 1901.

There were 19 Agricultural Labourers and one labourer, aged 20 to 70, and living in the Poultry House (probably at the top of the Wood Field), the Village, the Machine House, Lion Lodge, and Hoo Mill. Two female servants were living in the farmhouse aged 15 and 40, probably mother and daughter.

16. THE VISIT OF KING EDWARD VII IN 1907



Commemorative Postcard for King Edward VII's visit to Ingestre & Stafford in November 1907

On October 22nd 1907 Lord Shrewsbury went 'on' Motor Car to Rangemore (5 miles W of Burton) in the morning, to see Lady Burton and to invite her to bring the King to Ingestre to luncheon when he stays at Rangemore next month. However at the beginning of November Lord Burton was ill and so unable to entertain the King.

On November 5th Lord Shrewsbury telegraphed to Lord Knollys, to invite the King to stay three or four days at Ingestre the week after next. At 8pm that night Lord Shrewsbury telegraphed that the King had accepted his invitation.

William Mynors was left with 12 days to make the arrangements for the King's visit. A telephone operator came from Stafford to do the telephone work on November 8th.

On November 11th Lord Shrewsbury had a shooting party at Ingestre for the rest of the week. William was told by Lord Shrewsbury that he must live at Ingestre all the next week for the King's visit there.

On November 13th Robinson from the Estate Offices went to help him till the King's visit was over. William had a hard day with many interviews including one with two Police sergeants re the King's visit.

Upon hearing that the King would visit Alton Towers during his stay at Ingestre, Lady Shrewsbury & Lady Viola Talbot returned there, getting into the house through a window on November 14th. Lord Shrewsbury went there and the next day told William that after a long talk with Lady Shrewsbury's companion, Miss Wright, he had arranged for Lady Shrewsbury to leave there again before the King visited – subject to her lawyers agreeing.

On Sunday November 17th Lord Shrewsbury took the team of Motor Cars over the roads they would have to pass along; viz. to Rangemore and Alton. The local press reported on the Ingestre cars available for the Royal visit:

“The collection of cars needed but slight augmentation for the Royal visit, and consisted of two limousines, two broughams, and three touring cars; also a runabout car, which acted as pilot throughout the week.

The stud was increased by Lord Burton having kindly placed his cars at Lord Shrewsbury's disposal.”

The King arrived the next day, November 18th at 5.40pm at Hixon Station from Windsor via Euston. Lord Shrewsbury met him there. The Royal train consisted of four saloons, including the King's saloon, two brake-vans, and a horse box.

Extensive preparations had been made by the North Stafford Railway Company for the King's reception. The down platform at which the Royal train arrived was festooned with

flags, and a crimson baize carpet stretched the whole length, whilst above for a considerable length ran a red-and-white awning. The decorations were carried out by Mr.G.J.Crosbie-Dawson, engineer, under the superintendence of Mr.J.Egerton, clerk of the works at Stoke. A special installation of electric light had been set up with current supplied by a battery of accumulators from the company's plant at Stoke station. Some forty electric lamps were employed to illuminate the down platform and the station precincts.

Hixon had been made a special telegraph section for the day to signal the approach of the Royal train. Special telegraph instruments and clerical staff were provided for the use of Press representatives. Various officials from Stoke were involved and workmen were stationed at all the bridges and level crossings on the line between Colwich and Hixon.

The King was wearing a dark overcoat and a black bowler hat and had a red carnation in his buttonhole. He was attended by his Equerries—Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke, G.C.V.O. and Col. Sir Arthur Davidson, K.C.V.O. and the Royal party also included the Hon.Sidney Greville, Sir Archibald Edmondstone, Bart., Groom-in-waiting, Sir Charles and Lady Hardinge, and Mons.Poklewski-Koziell (Councillor of the Russian Embassy).

The King drove away with Lord Shrewsbury in a 25 h.p.Talbot limousine motor-car, the interior of which was electrically illuminated. It was a fine, bright moonlight evening, and this fact, together with the electric lights outside the station premises, enabled the public to have an excellent view of his Majesty, who was cheered by numbers of people who lined the long approach to the railway station.

A large quantity of luggage and the King's favourite terrier "Caesar " were taken off the Royal train, which

proceeded down the line as far as Weston, where, the engine being turned, the train was taken back to Wolverton, the depot of the L. and N.W. Railway Company.

A large force of police were on duty in the vicinity of Ingestre and Hixon during the evening, the arrangements having been made by the Chief Constable (Capt. the Hon.G.A.Ansen).

The Church Bells at Ingestre rang a peal as the Motor Cars came up to the house; and the whole of the party arrived about the same time, including (with Lord & Lady Ingestre – already there) the Duchess of Sutherland, Hon.Mrs G.Keppel, Lady Sarah Wilson, Miss Jane Thornewill, Hon. Percy Thellusson, Lady Londonderry.

Lord Shrewsbury presented William Mynors to the King, on his coming down to dinner, and he shook hands heartily, having previously assented to my being one of the party for the week. After dinner the King played Bridge till midnight.

During his stay at Ingestre Hall, the King has used the apartments usually occupied by Lord Shrewsbury, including two sitting-rooms, bedroom, dressing room, and bathroom *ensuite*.

The Programme for the Royal visit, arranged to suit the wishes of the King, was as follows:- Tuesday, shooting over the Ingestre estate; Wednesday, visit to Rangemore; Thursday, visit to Alton Towers; Friday shoot at Ingestre; Saturday, King leaves Ingestre for Lilleshall and passes through Stafford.

On the next day, Tuesday, Just before eleven a.m, the King, accompanied by Lord Shrewsbury, was driven close to Brick Lawn covert; near Tixall Hall. His Majesty, wearing a grey

tweed shooting costume and Trilby hat, then mounted a pony and rode to the covert, attended by his own loader, Mr. W. B. Pugh. Three "guns" had gone on in advance by motor to drive up the wood, viz, Viscount Ingestre, the Hon. Percy Thellusson and Mr Baille of Dochfour.

Lord Shrewsbury did not take any part in the shooting, but placed the "guns". Owing to the fog, the pheasants, which when driven by the beaters usually fly towards the Lion Lodge, were rather inclined to return to the wood, with the result that the King did not have quite as much sport as had been hoped for. A change of station was made, and his Majesty walked down to the Lion Lodge where he took the centre stand, the birds in the covert being driven each way over his head. Much better sport was experienced here, a clearing having been effected by the removal of some beech trees.

Shortly before one o'clock, the motor-cars met the Royal party about three-quarters of a mile from the house, and the King returned with Lord Shrewsbury to the Hall, where luncheon was served.

After luncheon, the King with his well-known punctuality—the church clock was just striking two o'clock—again mounted his pony and rode off to the Ingestre Wood. The ladies of the, house party went out to witness the shooting after luncheon. Lady Londonderry, who was indisposed being wheeled in a bath-chair.

At Ingestre Wood there were three "rises" and the birds flew very well, the bag being heavier than in the forenoon. The shooting ceased about a quarter to four o'clock, and the King walked back to the house through the Mounts, having had an excellent day's sport.

A large number of keepers, beaters, &c. was employed in connection with the day's shooting under Mr. D. Macdonald, the head gamekeeper.

William sat next to Sir Charles Hardinge (very nice man) at dinner; and Lady Shrewsbury's lawyers having telegraphed that she would remain at Alton, & they would publish the correspondence, William started at 11pm to copy the correspondence to Sir Edward Carson for his advice, finishing at 2.30am, tired out.

The next day, Wednesday, the King, and all the party except the Dowager Lady Shrewsbury & Lady Londonderry went at 10 o/c, on 8 Motor Cars via Haywood, Rugeley and Yoxall to Rangemore to shoot.

Meanwhile William Mynors was busy arranging payment of £3100 to Lady Shrewsbury's account, for Lord Shrewsbury, the arrears of her Allowance. Lady Shrewsbury would then go away from Alton, when the King went there the following day.

The Royal Party returned to Ingestre about 6pm. William noted that the King invariably played Bridge after dinner with Mrs George Keppel, Mr Poklewski and Lady Sarah Wilson.

The following day, Thursday, was foggy and the King and most of the party left at 11.20am on Motor Cars for Alton Towers, going via Stone, Blyth Bridge, & Cheadle; and returning via Alton, Rocester, Uttoxeter, Loxley and Hixon. The King planted a tree on the lawn at Alton .

On the way back the King's motor had a mishap just before entering Uttoxeter by the bursting of a tyre, which necessitated his changing to another car, but in a short time the damage was put right and the motor followed on to Ingestre. They returned to Ingestre at 2.40, & after luncheon his Majesty and the whole of the party now at Ingestre, as well as Captain Anson (the Chief Constable, who had been to Alton)

and I were photographed on the front door steps Messrs. Weiss and Fowke, of Stafford.



Front row (left to right) the Hon. Lady Harding, Mrs. Willie James, the Hon. Mrs Keppel, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury, Viscountess Ingestre, Lady Sarah Wilson, and Miss Jane Thornewill;
second row, Viscount Ingestre, the Hon. P. Thellusson, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, his Majesty the King, Sir Archibald Edmonstone, Bart, Mons. Poklewski-Koziell, Col. Sir Arthur Davidson;
back row, the Right. Hon. Sir Chas. Hardinge, Capt. the Hon. G. A. Anson, Mr. W. Towers Mynors, the Hon. Sidney Greville, Mr. Willie James, and Major-Gen. Sir Stanley Clarke.

Then the King visited Ingestre Church being received at the entrance by the Rev. H. S. and Mrs. Oriel, who were presented to him by Lord Shrewsbury. His Majesty greatly admired the fine oak carving and plaster work; and took much interest in the monuments and windows erected to the

memory of members of the Chetwynd and Talbot families, and also in seeing the church plate and registers.



Before leaving, he went to see the Talbot family vault, where the cross in memory of Lord Shrewsbury's father stands.

Subsequently, the King planted a cedar tree at the Mounts and strolled through the charming grounds around the house.

Memorial to the 19th Earl of Shrewsbury

On Friday, the King, Lord Shrewsbury and party went shooting at Salt Heath in morning.

Viscount Ingestre and the Hon.P.Thellusson, motored some distance and then proceeded to their stations near the Old Fox covert. There were five "rises", in the morning and some capital sport was enjoyed, the King exhibiting deadly marksmanship.

Shooting ceased at one o'clock, and his Majesty, mounting his chestnut pony, rode to where the motor-cars were in readiness to convey the party to the Hall for lunch. Lord Shrewsbury was mounted on a black pony kindly lent to him by the King.



Edward VII shooting at Sandringham in 1907

After lunch, the " guns " went in the direction of Lambert's Coppice, the King driving in a carriage to a stand outside the Park wall, where there were two "rises" without his Majesty having occasion to move his station.

Thence the King walked, as the air was rather cool to the Hopton coverts, where there were two more " rises.". The afternoon's sport was witnessed by a considerable number of people from Stafford and the neighbourhood, who had excellent opportunities of seeing the King.

The day's shoot terminated at Hopton Pool about half-past three o'clock, the total "bag" (including Tuesday's) being 1,385 pheasants and 62 hares.

At tea time, the King made Lord Shrewsbury a K.C.V.O., (*Knight Commander of the Victorian Order*) and Lord Ingestre and Captain Anson, M.V.O. (*Member of the Victorian Order*) He

also gave the medal of the Victorian Order to Wilson, the Butler; so was obviously pleased with his entertainment. Casano's Band played in the Minstrel's Gallery every evening, very nicely.

On Saturday the King and all the party left at 12.15o/c, in motor cars, for Stafford. There the King received welcome by the Mayor and Corporation.

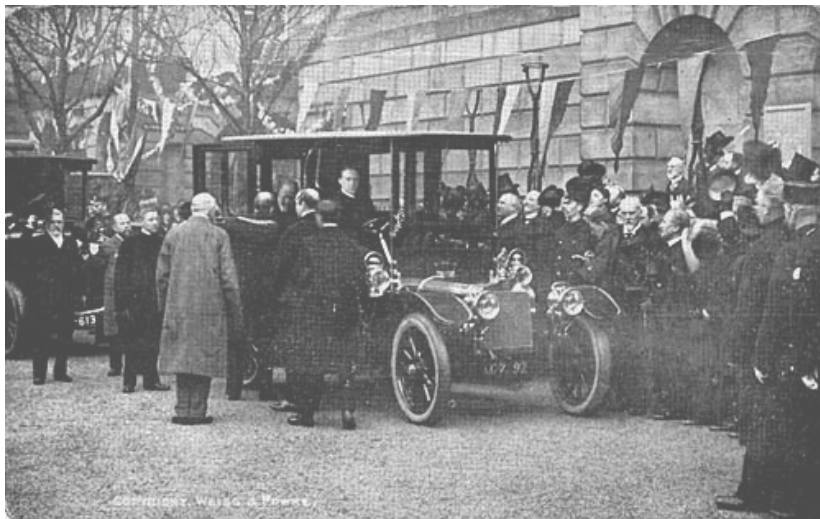
The Volunteer band, under Bandmaster Hebbert, were stationed in an enclosure, to which tickets of admission had been issued solely to the wives and lady friends of member of the Corporation, borough justices, and the principal officials. The Mayor, with the macebearers, were at the entrance to the Shire Hall, with the members of the Town Council and borough magistrates to the right and left of the steps. A space had been reserved between the barricade and the Shire Hall, where the King's car stopped, while in the rear of the enclosure the general public were allowed to assemble.

Stafford Corporation had been photographed outside the Borough Hall at the request of Lord Shrewsbury to present to the King during his visit

It had originally been the Kings intention to motor from Ingestre to Stafford Railway Station, passing through Eastgate street, Market street, Greengate street, and Newport road, and to receive the civic authorities at the station, where a guard of honour, consisting of the local Volunteers and the band, were to have been in attendance.

The arrangements, however, for the civic reception at the station, where an elaborate scheme of decoration was being prepared by the railway authorities, were cancelled on Wednesday in a letter received by the Mayor from Lord Shrewsbury intimating the changes which the King wished to

be made in the programme - namely, to drive from Ingestre through Stafford as far as the Grammar School, but instead of turning off for the station to proceed by road to Lilleshall to lunch with the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland and depart from a wayside station.



Edward VII with the Mayor in Market Sq Stafford 21 Nov1907

The King & party returned to London by train from Newport, in the afternoon, and Lord Shrewsbury and Lord & Lady Ingestre returned to Ingestre at 6.30pm. Little Miss Ursula Talbot & her nurse came back from Beaudesert, where they have been sent for the week to be out of the way.

In 1960 the 21st Earl of Shrewsbury sold the Estate, with different lots going to different buyers including local tenant farmers and West Bromwich now Sandwell Metropolitan Council.

The 22nd Earl of Shrewsbury no longer owns any land or property in Ingestre.



Entering Ingestre

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