

LANCASHIRE PLACE NAME SURVEY

Newsletter

July 2015

www.lpns.org.uk

Pausing for thought

It seems likely that many of us are told the 'meaning' of particular place names and mentally respond with - "ummmm - not sure I can go along with that!"

Rochdale is famous for its 'Toad Lane' and many the time have I heard that the speaker's forefathers always called it 'T'owd Lane' to indicate the antiquity of the route. In the time before 'Rochdale' became the formal name of the area, Toad Lane lay in Wardleworth. The extant Land Tax Returns for that township start in 1780 and, amongst the other standard spellings of 'Ringloes' [now Ringlows] and 'Cronkeyshaw' is 'Toad Lane'.

(Wardleworth Land Tax Returns, Lancashire Archives, ref. QDL/S/99)

On the other hand

One of the places we went for picnics as children was Nangreaves north of Bury. The small mills around there were either ruins or converted into houses and there were lots of places to run about - but I never thought about its name. More recently the place name entered my consciousness and the 'greave' part attracted my attention as this often comes from 'graving' or digging. But not, it seems, in this case. Well, there is no clear evidence of the place-name before 1800 (though we are still looking). However, what has turned up is one Nangreaves Wareing esq. who, in 1815, exchanged lands in Walmersley with the Earl of Derby. That made us look at where the surname might come from and the nearest we could find was 'Nangrave' - this is a rare surname but relatively common in Flintshire in 1881. [Sorry we cannot provide a map in this instance - but Google should bring up the places mentioned.]

Hole (or whole) House

This is a plea for locations. This is a surprisingly common name and **may** indicate something special about the locations. The one on the boundary between Caton and Claughton in Lonsdale was there by the 16th century. The same is true of the one in Tatham.

If you know of other examples - particularly if you could supply locations, some information about the landscape/topography and/or dating evidence and so forth it would be most helpful.

2015 Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday 27th October 2015 at Lancashire Archives.

Subsequent to the AGM, Dr Fiona Edmond of Cambridge University will give our Annual Lecture when she will discuss:

Brittonic and Welsh influence in Lancashire: history and place-names

The Annual Lecture (for which there is a modest charge) will be given immediately after the LPNS AGM - please note that the Lecture is open to all.

Society for Name Studies in Britain & Ireland

The Society's latest newsletter is now available on line at:

<http://www.snsbi.org.uk/newsletter.html>

LANCASHIRE PLACE NAME SURVEY

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