

Combeinteignhead with Harcombe

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

The population was 505 in 1801 415 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 122 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

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

Maps

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



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 110/9
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 110SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX902716
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX97SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 031
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 202
- Geological sheet 339 also covers the area

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

Combeinteignhead (to give it its full name) [in the parish of HACCOMBE WITH COMBE] is a village lying where a long valley (*combe*) opens out on to the estuary of the Teign. Coombe Cellars is one of those attractive old "riverside inns (there are several in Devon) of which many townspeople have happy memories, of carefree

summer evenings long ago. It was also a noted smuggling centre in the early 19th century. Combe church (dedication unknown) is a 14th to 15th century church with transepts, too vigorously restored by Medley Fulford in 1887-8. There is a fine rood-screen, a notable 12th century font, and some remarkable carved bench-ends (16th century) in the N. transept. In this transept also are the tombs and memorials of the Hockmore family of Buckland Barton. The chancel is small and dark, and looks rebuilt. Near the church are the almshouses, in red sandstone, given by William Bouchier, 3rd Earl of Bath, in 1620.

Combpyne

Combpyne is located within East Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Axminster Hundred. It falls within Honiton Vol 1 Deanery for ecclesiastical purposes. The Deaneries are used to arrange the typescript Church Notes of B.F.Cresswell which are held in the Westcountry Studies Library.

The population was 141 in 1801 101 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. The lay subsidy of 1524 valued the community at £01/16/02.

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

Maps

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



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 84/5
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 84NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SY290924
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SY29SE
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 029
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 193
- Geological sheet 326 also covers the area

Illustrations

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



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

Combyne has an interesting church (St. Mary the Virgin), mainly 13th century, with a saddle-back tower. Some changes were made in the early 14th cent., and again in the 15th century when new windows were inserted in the nave. The fittings and glass are the result of the restoration of 1878. The church retains a chalice and paten of pre-Reformation date (c. 1500), still in regular use.

Rousdon, now united with Combyne for all purposes, was a small parish on the cliff edge. The ancient church of St. Pancras having fallen into ruin, it was rebuilt at the cost of Sir H. W. Peek in 1872. It has nothing to commend it. The mansion of Rousdon was built for Sir H. W. Peek, and is a rich man's Tudor. Since 1937 it has been occupied by Allhallows School, who came here from Honiton. The cliff scenery is fine, with great landslips.

Mr. G.B.Jones, a Combyne resident who taught at Allhallows from 1966-92, added the following update in 2005: Allhallows School bought the Rousdon Estate in 1937 and moved there from Honiton in 1938. However the School (by then retitled Allhallows College) closed in December 1998. After a period in Receivership the Estate was bought by a Developer and is now private housing.

Cookbury

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

The population was 261 in 1801 146 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 62 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

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

Maps

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



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 50/12
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 50SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS407060
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS40NW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 112
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 190
- Geological sheet 307 also covers the area

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

Cookbury is a pleasant little village in remote country. The church has an unusual dedication to St. John the Baptist and the Seven Maccabees. It consists of a nave and chancel of 13th century date; a small N. aisle c. 1500, which replaced one of 14th century date of which there are traces; and a small S. transept added early in the 16th century. Though the church has been restored, much interesting early work is

left, including a floor of late medieval tiles in the chancel and a number of ancient benches in the nave.

Stapeldon, now a farmhouse, was the mansion of the Stapeldons in the 13th and 14th centuries. and the birthplace of Walter de Stapeldon (1261-1326). He was professor of canon law at Oxford, chaplain to Pope Clement V, bishop of Exeter 1307-26, where he did much towards the rebuilding of the cathedral, founder of Stapeldon Hall (afterwards Exeter College) at Oxford, and Lord High Treasurer to Edward II. He was murdered by a London mob in 1326. The bishop stayed at Stapeldon for a few days in August 1315, when he dedicated Cookbury church.

Copplestone

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

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

Maps

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



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 54/15,16
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 54SE
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS771026
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS70SE
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 113
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 138 also covers the area

Copplestone is a village, partly in Colebrooke, partly in Down St. Mary and partly in Crediton. Copplestone Cross, which stands at the junction of Crediton parish with the parishes of Colebrook and Down St. Mary, is a massive shaft of granite, 10 feet and 6 inches high and about 1 foot and 6 inches thick; the sides are ornamented with interlaced work, but the head is lost; [it] is mentioned in a Saxon charter of A.D. 974. Copplestone was the residence of the family of that name [until] 1659. (Kelly's directory of Devonshire, 1935)

Cornwood

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

The population was 745 in 1801 1115 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 228 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

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

Maps

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



- On the County Series Ordnance Survey mapping the area is to be found on 1:2,500 sheet 119/9
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 119SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX605598
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX65NW
 - Outdoor Leisure (1:25,000) mapping sheet 28
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 202
- Geological sheet 349 also covers the area

Illustrations

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



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

Cornwood is a large parish running far into the Moor. Of its total area of 10,000 acres, more than 6,000 are moorland and wood. The high moorlands of the parish are intersected by the wooded valley of the Yealm, which is particularly beautiful at Haws and Dendles where the river begins to leave the Moor. From here northwards to the parish boundary at Erme Head, the ground is studded with prehistoric, and later, antiquities of the highest interest. The detailed sites of these antiquities will be found on the 2½" inch Ordnance map, sheet 20/66. Around the headwaters of the Yealm we find the greatest concentration of hut-circles on Dartmoor - some 27 to the square mile - together with stone circles, and large and small enclosures or pounds. There is a particularly large pound about ½ m. NE. of Dendles Wood. Another fairly dense concentration of hut-circles and pounds is to be found all along the W. side of the upper Erme valley. Here also is the longest known stone row in the world, beginning at a stone circle near Erme Plains and running for 2¼ m. almost due N. to a barrow on the summit of Green Hill. For the possible significance of this monument, see Part I. There are barrows (Bronze Age burial mounds) on the top of Stall Down, and also a short stone row. At the very head of the Yealm are two blowing-houses of the old tanners, and another beside the upper Erme in Erme Plains. (For the Dartmoor blowing houses in general, see D.A. 72 (1940), 201-50 and D.A. 78 (1946), 281-4.)

The domestic architecture of Cornwood parish is also exceedingly interesting. Much of the parish was "waste" in Domesday, and was colonised by free peasants in the 12th and 13th centuries whose farmsteads, from which they took their family names, will be found scattered about below the moorland edge. Best of these is Cholwich Town, where the Cholwiches began soon after 1200 and which remained in their possession until the last of the family died in 1835. The farmstead itself is one of the best examples of a moorland yeoman's house that one can find anywhere round Dartmoor, a rock-like structure of moor-stone dating from the late 15th century to early 16th century. Other farmsteads of this type which gave their names to medieval freeholders were Hanger, Stert, Wisdome, and Hele. Hanger today is a solid granite farmhouse of 17th century date, Great Stert is late 17th century, Little Stert early 17th century, Wisdome and South Hele have some remains of 17th century work.

Hele was the fountain-head of an important South Devon family, the Heles, who were considerable landowners in the 16th and 17th centuries. Pole says they originated here in Henry III's time. The last Hele of Cornwood died in 1741. South Hele, now a farmhouse, was their mansion. Like so many of the old Devon freeholders, they owed their rise from yeoman obscurity to a successful lawyer, in this instance Sir John Hele (1565-1608). Other notable houses in the parish are Blachford, a Domesday manor, which became the seat of the Rogers family, who rebuilt the house on a grander scale in the 17th century and made a park.

Slade belonged to the Slades in the 13th century, and then to the Coles from the time of Richard II until the early 17th century. The present house is a composite structure of various periods from the 13th century to the 19th, with traces of quadrangular planning. It has a splendid great hall, with beautiful panelling of a Flemish character, and an open-timber roof with 60 well carved bosses, a minstrel's gallery over the panelled screen, and a large granite fireplace. The entrance porch is 16th century there are other internal features of 17th to 18th century date. NW. of the house is a handsome old barn which retains its original doors. (D.A. 75 (1943), 94.) Delamore House was rebuilt about 1819-20, but there are traces of the older mansion near Delamore Farm.

Architecturally, the most interesting house in the parish is Fardel, which was a Saxon estate and a Domesday manor. It came to the Raleighs (of Smallridge in East Devon) by marriage with an heiress early in the 14th century and continued in the family until Carew Raleigh, son of the great Sir Walter, sold it to the Heles. The house is a medieval mansion of 15th to 16th century date, with a well-preserved chapel and solar. The chapel was licensed by Bishop Lacy in 1432 and this is probably the date of the existing building. Near Fardel was found, in 1860, the first stone with an Ogham inscription to be discovered in England." This stone is now in the British Museum.

Cornwood church (St. Michael) is of no great interest. It is mainly a 15th century church, much restored, with a chancel and W. tower of c. 1300. There is a 17th century pulpit, and there are a few mural monuments to local families, including one

to Robert Bellmaine of Delamore (1627) and his wife Dorothy with a curious epitaph:
Here's rest and peace Within this grave, Which we in life Could never have.