



R. Schumann Lithography.
SALCOMBE VILLAGE NEAR SIDMOUTH.
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Extract from Devon by W.G.Hoskins (1954), included by kind permission of the copyright holder:

Salcombe Regis is a delightful little place. The coastal scenery of the parish is very striking, with red sandstone cliffs rising to more than 500 ft. on either side of the Salcombe valley. The Norman Lockyer Observatory, opened in 1913, stands on the top of the W. hill. It is a privately endowed observatory, and is mainly concerned with the chemistry of the stars and their classification.

The village is situated in a warm and fertile combe facing S., about a mile back from the sea. The church (St. Peter) was originally a 12th century building with a N. aisle. About 1300 the chancel was lengthened, a S. aisle added, and the arches of the N. arcade remodelled, leaving the Norman pillars. About 1430 the aisles were widened, and given new windows, and the W. tower added. The church possesses an eagle lectern of 15th century date, carved from a single block of wood.

Thorn is an interesting old farmhouse, possibly 15th century in part, and was farmed by the Hoopers for about 400 years from 1355. At Dunscombe are the remains of a former mansion, occupied by a branch of the Drakes of Ashe, and disused quarries of good building stone, some of which went to Exeter Cathedral in the 14th and 15th centuries.

Sampford Courtenay

Sampford Courtenay is located within West Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Black Torrington Hundred. It falls within Okehampton 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 960 in 1801 758 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 254 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Okehampton 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 Sampford Courtenay 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 65/2
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 65NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS632012
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS60SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 113
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 324 also covers the area

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

Sampford Courtenay is a large parish on the N. side of Dartmoor, of which there are fine views. It now includes the ancient ecclesiastical parish of Honeychurch, about 1½ m. N.

The village is cheerful, neat, and clean with much whitewashed cob and good thatching. It was the scene of the beginning of the Western or Prayer Book Rebellion of 1549. The 16th century Church House, at the entrance to the churchyard, has been rebuilt.

The church (St. Andrew) is exceedingly attractive both inside and out: granite building at its most elegant. The lofty pinnacles of the W. tower are stained by an orange lichen, so that they glow perpetually with colour. The interior is spacious and light and well kept, with graceful arcades. The S. arcade is of two dates and two different stones: the four W. bays are of polyphant, a singularly beautiful dove-grey stone from Cornwall, and the two bays beyond the screen are early 16th century granite. The carved bosses and wall plates of the roofs should be studied. The font is Norman, on a modern stem.

Honeychurch church (St. Mary) is charming: very small, very remote, and completely unsophisticated. It is an almost untouched 12th century building, to which a W. tower and S. porch were added late in the 15th century. In the tower are the three medieval bells in their original cage. The chancel arch was also re-made at that date, the roof renewed, and Perpendicular windows inserted in the old walls. The fittings are in keeping with the building: an excellent Norman font beneath a rustic Jacobean cover, a rustic Elizabethan pulpit, a complete set of late medieval benches (some with carved ends, but most of plain unvarnished oak), a crude wall painting in the nave (possibly the Royal Arms of Elizabeth), altar rails of simple country carpentry: all as well kept as the mother-church at Sampford. Honeychurch has one of the simplest and most appealing interiors of all English country churches. It lives up to its delightful name in a way that so rarely happens, and just to see it on a fine morning puts one in a good humour for the rest of the day.

There are a number of ancient farmsteads in this very attractive parish, of which Reddaway is particularly interesting. It was held by the Reddaways before 1240, and a Reddaway still owns and farms it. Halford and Rowden are also worth visiting. Sticklepath is a small village on the main Exeter to Okehampton road. The good old blacksmith's forge here gets its power from a waterwheel behind.

Sampford Peverell

Sampford Peverell is located within Mid Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Halberton Hundred. It falls within Cullompton 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 763 in 1801 612 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. The lay subsidy of 1524 valued the community at £05/00/04. In 1641/2 210 adult males signed the Protestation returns. It is recorded as a borough from 1300. A market is recorded from 14 cent..

A parish history file is held in Tiverton 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 Sampford Peverell 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 35/14,46/2
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 35SW,46NW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is ST030144
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet ST01SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 128
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 181
- Geological sheet 310 also covers the area

A fair is known from: 14c.-1935. [It is intended to include the local section from The glove is up! Devon's historic fairs, by Tricia Gerrish, by kind permission of the author].

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

Sampford Peverell was formerly regarded as a "borough" on the strength of its two-day fair and weekly market.

The church (St. John the Baptist) is mainly 15th century but was badly over-restored in 1863-4. The font is late 12th century; there are considerable traces of 13th century work in the nave and chancel.

Sampford Spiney

Sampford Spiney is located within West Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Roborough Hundred. It falls within Tavistock 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 205 in 1801 478 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 75 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

A parish history file is held in Tavistock 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 Sampford Spiney 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 106/10
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 106SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SX533725
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SX57SW
 - Outdoor Leisure (1:25,000) mapping sheet 28
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 201
- Geological sheet 338 also covers the area

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

Sampford Spiney is a moorland hamlet. The church (St. Mary) was probably a 14th century cruciform building, enlarged to its present size in the early 16th century. Hall Farm, beside the church, was the manor house. It was rebuilt in 1607 and is a good example of its kind. The whole scene is remote and boulder-strewn. Easton Town is a

17th century farmhouse, and behind it is Warne's Kitchen, c. 1600 in date, one of the best examples to be found of the old Dartmoor type of farmhouse in which there was direct communication between the living-room and the cattle-shippen. It retains its primitive porch and original circular stone staircase in a curious "turret." Wood town, in the picturesque valley of the Walkham, is a 17th century farmhouse. Huckworthy bridge over the Walkham is of uncertain age.

Sandford

Sandford is located within Mid Devon local authority area. Historically it formed part of Crediton Hundred. It falls within Crediton/Sandford 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 1742 in 1801 1248 in 1901. Figures for other years are available on the local studies website. In 1641/2 383 adult males signed the Protestation returns.

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 Sandford 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 55/14
- Six inch (1:10560) sheet 55SW
- The National Grid reference for the centre of the area is SS828025
- On the post 1945 National Grid Ordnance Survey mapping the sheets are:
 - Six inch to a mile (1:10,000) sheet SS80SW
 - Explorer (1:25,000) mapping sheet 114
 - Landranger (1:50,000) mapping sheet 191
- Geological sheet 325 also covers the area

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

Sandford is a large, unspoiled village, with some good farmhouse and cottage architecture, of which Town Barton (late 16th century) is a fine example. Sandford School (1825) is a large classical building, erected by Sir Humphrey Phineas Davie, 10th and last baronet, of Creedy Park.

The church (St. Swithin) is disappointing externally, but has much to commend it within. It was largely rebuilt in 1523-4, and was restored and enlarged in 1847-8, when the clear story was added. There is a fine W. gallery (1657) with an elaborately carved front, erected by the second Sir John Davie of Creedy; and many vigorously carved bench-ends, with medallion busts of men and women, which are probably contemporary with the rebuilding of the fabric. There are various monuments and mural tablets to the Davies, from 1627 to 1846; and a fine brass in the N. aisle to Mary Carew, sister of George Carew (first and only Earl of Totnes) and widow of Walter Dowrich of Dowrich in this parish (1604).

The parish is exceptionally interesting for its houses. Creedy Park is still the seat of the Davies, who descend from John Davie, a successful Exeter merchant. He built the first house here about 1600, which was called Newhouse alias Creedy. This house, much altered since it was first built, was entirely burnt down in 1915, and has been rebuilt in the Tudor style. It stands in a fine park of 370 acres.

Dowrich is a far older house, though much restored in part. It was the home of the Dowrich family from c. 1200 until 1717. There are substantial remains of a 15th century gatehouse, which formerly opened into a courtyard. The house itself has some 15th century work, but was much restored early in the 19th century. Dodderidge was the home of the family of that name from the 13th century until 1746. Prowse, formerly called Higher Dodderidge, appears an ordinary thatched farmhouse, but internally it keeps much of its ancient plan. The central passage has a fine carved oak roof (c. 1500) with a coat-of-arms, probably that of the builder, and a contemporary oak screen to the hall. Bremridge, now a farmhouse also, was the home of the Bremridges from about the time of King John until the late 18th century.

Ruxford Barton is mentioned in a charter of 930, granting a large estate in Sandford to the canons of Crediton. The present farmhouse was largely rebuilt c. 1608, the date given on the plaster coat-of-arms in the principal bedroom.