



1800-1893 PEOPLE OF THE FARM

Significant developments took place in Bradford, with the coming of the Canal in 1810 and then shortly after in 1857 the Railway. In 1841 the Hobhouse family bought the Lordship of the Manor, still including Barton Farm. As we approach the present day it becomes easier to discover what is going on. Now the buildings of Barton Farm itself begin to appear in paintings and drawings.



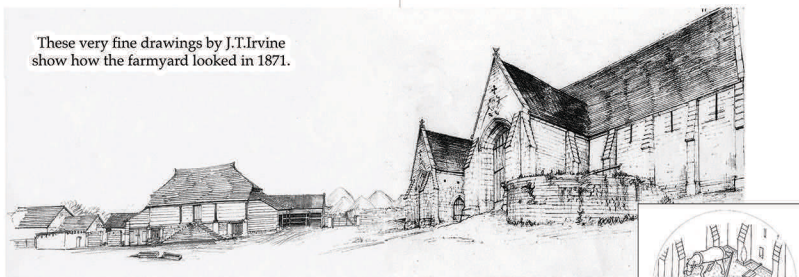
Samuel Giddings leased the farm in 1866 aged 30 and in 1868 married Harriet Kinton Fulford. They had ten children, eight of whom survived. Little is known of their time at Barton Farm. Although he died in 1910 he must have left Barton Farm around 1893.

A resident of Bradford, Mrs Elizabeth Tackle, painted Bradford from Jones Hill in the 1850s. The canal and Barton Farm are in the foreground. The north south range of cow byres is not there yet but it was by 1877, when it appears on Ordinance Survey maps, implying an increase in dairy farming.



The opening of the Canal in 1810 and the completion of the Railway in 1857 made the transport of farm products easier and made people more aware of the outside world and the opportunities it offered.

These very fine drawings by J.T. Irvine show how the farmyard looked in 1871.



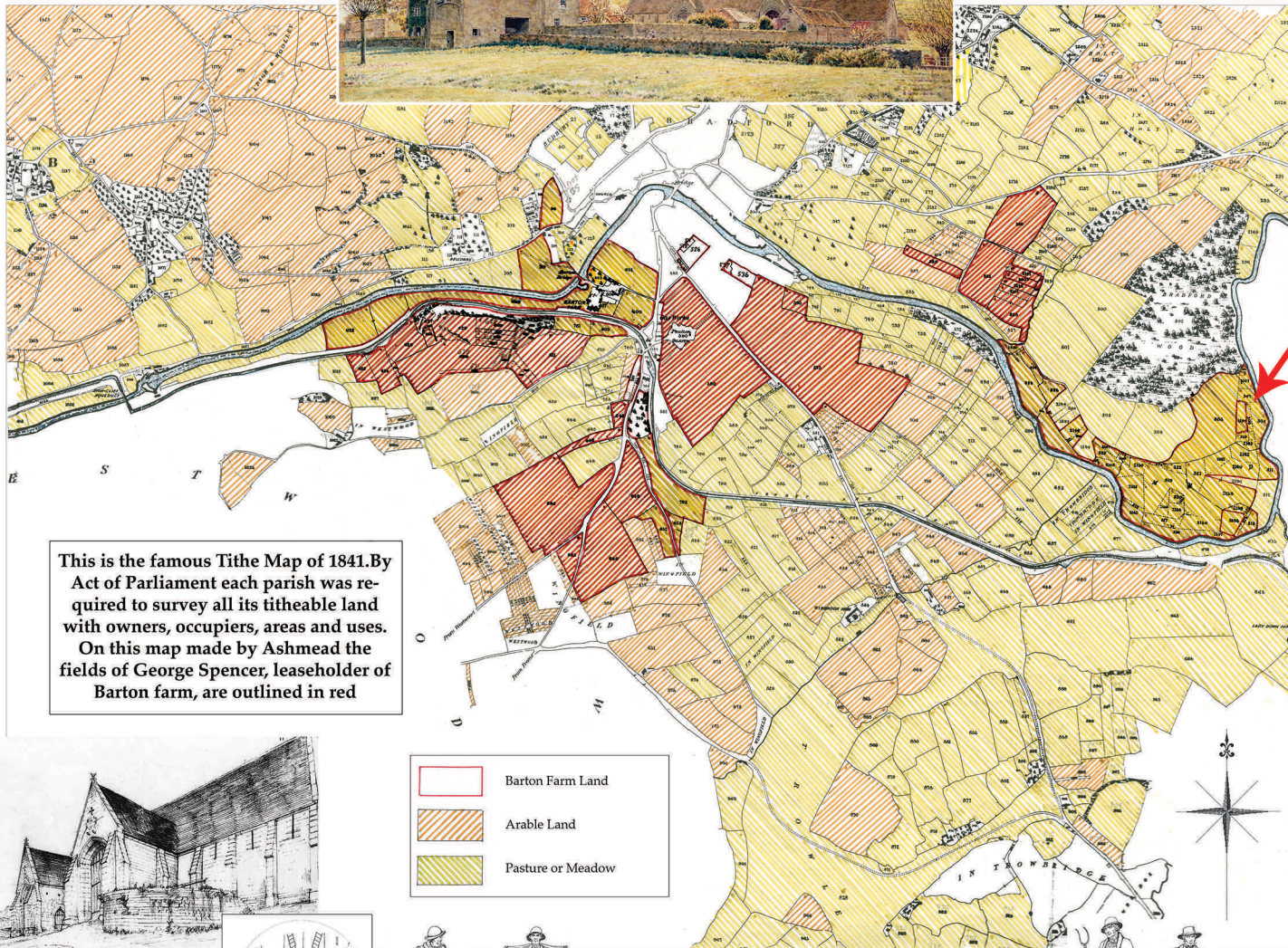
In the 19th century a platform was built for a horse-gin. The horse pulled on a shaft fixed to a pivot which rotated a crown wheel. That worked a machine (e.g. chaff cutter, turnip cutter) inside the barn.



Four figures of 19th century farm folk which seem to have direct parallels with those from medieval times.

Stephen Moulton introduced rubber manufacture to Bradford 1848 AD |

Great Exhibition gave an impetus to developments in agricultural machinery, including a machine for threshing, winnowing and sifting grain 1851 AD



This is the famous Tithe Map of 1841. By Act of Parliament each parish was required to survey all its titheable land with owners, occupiers, areas and uses. On this map made by Ashmead the fields of George Spencer, leaseholder of Barton farm, are outlined in red

- Barton Farm Land
- Arable Land
- Pasture or Meadow

This painting of the Farm Complex in 1877 by George Price Boyce is now in the V&A collection. A copy of it hangs in Priory Barn.



Irvine's drawing of the Granary shows the lean to recently reinstated by the Trust.

In 1841, in addition to Barton Farm, George Spencer had 106 other holdings scattered across Bradford. One large pasture, Yea Mead, was held in 33 blocks and not only from Sir John Cam Hobhouse, but several other owners too. Not all of the blocks in Yea Mead were part of Barton Farm, some were farmed by others.



This drawing also by Irvine shows the view across what is now Culver Close. The farm cottages now demolished, in which so many people must have lived, are on the left with the Tithe Barn behind.

- CENSUS RETURNS FOR BARTON FARM**
- 1841 GEORGE SPENCER FARMER + 11 male and 12 female names. Mostly ag labs. But also a ploughman, a pauper, a cutter and a cloth dresser
 - 1851 RICHARD CLARKE FARMER of 400 acres + wife, niece and 1 general female servant - all born outside Bradford
 - THOMAS MARSH farmer's shepherd = 8 children. All born outside Bradford except last 2 children
 - THOMAS TAYLOR Ag lab + wife and 4 children All born in Monkton Farleigh except last 2 children
 - DANIEL SHELL Ag lab + wife and 2 children - all born Monkton Farleigh except last child born in Bradford
 - 3. JOHN LARGE (?) Ag lab Born Lynnham Aged 77
 - 6. JEREMIAH BASS Ag lab. Born Inber
 - 7. HANNAH HINTON Woollen cloth spinner. Born Crockerton
 - 8. WILLIAM MAY Canal carrier + wife. Born Abington (Berks) and Little Bodwyn
 - JOHN WHITE Woollen cloth weaver + wife and daughter (tailors journeyman) and son (blacksmith's labourer). John born Bradford Wife and 2 offspring born Trowbridge.
 - 1861
 - 1. JOHN SCOTT (?) 270 (?) acres + wife 3 offspring & 1 servant and 1 visitor (aged 5 and the only one born in Bradford)
 - 2. JOHN HODDINETT, dairyman + wife and dairymaid and labourer. None born in Bradford
 - 3. GEORGE FLETCHER (?) Ag. Lab + wife and 2 children. All born outside Bradford
 - 4. GEORGE WITCHARD Carrier + wife + 1 carter. All born outside Bradford
 - 5. HENRY WILD + wife and 2 children. All born outside Bradford
 - 6. HENRY??? Ag lab + one. Both born Shillington?
 - 7. WILLIAM DUKE Ag lab + wife. Neither born in Bradford

These excerpts from three censuses show how many people lived at Barton Farm, many of them in the cottages that have now been demolished to make way for a bungalow originally built for the headmaster of Fitzmaurice school. George Spencer held the lease of the farm until 1866 but the 1851 census shows Richard Clarke running the farm and by 1861 he had been replaced by John Scott.



- 1796 AD Barton farm leased by Benjamin Hobhouse to John Spencer, yeoman
- 1810 AD Completion of the Kennet and Avon Canal
- 1815 AD End of Napoleonic wars; growth in agricultural depression set in
- 1826 AD Rioting in the town over a rise in the price of potatoes from 5d to 6d a peck
- 1841 AD Failure of a local bank bankrupted many Bradfordians
- 1846 AD Repeal of the (protectionist) Corn Laws led to a short period of reduced farm incomes but enclosure and cultivation of increasing amounts of land
- 1857 AD Completion of railway through Bradford
- 1875 AD - ONWARDS Development of the American prairies led to the import of cheap grain; coupled with years of bad weather this led to severe agricultural depression and rural depopulation
- 1894 AD | Barton Farm leased to Joseph Chard, who walked nearly 20 miles from Binegar near Shepton Mallet to take the farm