

Newsletter

Cambridgeshire Archives and Cambridgeshire Local Studies

November 2016

News from Cambridgeshire Archives, Huntingdonshire Archives and the Cambridgeshire Collection

Ely archive centre

Cambridgeshire County Council has been committed to finding a new home for the Archives at Shire Hall for some time. In April 2016 a new site in Ely, near the railway station, was acquired for conversion to a modern archive store, with new facilities for researchers and visitors to the centre. The project is a complex one and after a series of structural surveys and investigations a revised budget was proposed to the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee for its meeting on 11 October. They supported spending the appropriate funds to deliver the project and this decision was also agreed by the Assets and Investments Committee on 21 October. This Committee also requested that a final site search should be carried out across the county to ensure that the Ely project is the best possible value for money.

At this stage we are awaiting the results of this search and a revised building schedule. We are expecting that the movement of records to the new centre will necessitate the closure of the Shire Hall Record Office for a period of time, but we will keep researchers and members of the public fully up to date with progress and anticipated dates as they emerge. Please keep reading our newsletter and watching our website (www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/archives) for further announcements.

Available minutes and supporting papers of County Council Committee meetings can be found on the County Council website at https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccc_live/Committees.aspx.

Recent archive accessions

The Archives have continued to collect new material through October 2016. Records received since September have included a comprehensive collection from Willingham Baptist Tabernacle, a collection of records of the Ellis family of Cottenham and Swavesey, and a substantial deposit of Magistrates Court registers formerly at Northamptonshire Record Office.

News from the Cambridgeshire Collection

Repair work to the rolling stack in the Cambridgeshire Collection store area has been carried out. This involved emptying, packing and moving twelve bays of newspaper

volumes, glass negatives and books. Despite the disruption, the Cambridgeshire Collection study area remained open for enquiries throughout. The work was completed ahead of schedule, so we were able to resume normal service earlier than planned.

This photograph shows the store area while the work was being carried out, with the new central rail in place.



The Collection has recently received a wonderful donation of photographs and cuttings about the closure of the St Ives to Cambridge railway and the construction and opening of the Guided Busway. This will make a useful addition to the modern history of the county.

Following the retirement of Myles Greensmith from the Cambridgeshire Collection, we are pleased to report that Mary Burgess has increased her hours, so we now have one fulltime member of staff at the Collection.

This year's *Explore Your Archive* campaign

Explore Your Archive runs from 19th - 27th November. This year we will be highlighting the work, skills and experience of the CAS team by featuring a different

member of staff on Facebook each day, giving an insight into their role and hearing what they've been up to.

News from Conservation

Recent important work has included re-casing a sequence of Childrens' Homes registers and re-packaging of the former Isle of Ely County Council's minute books. Work on repairing maps and plans in the Archives' care continues apace, including flattening and re-backing two significant maps of the North Level.

Digitisation

Our in-house digitisation unit has digitised many documents recently, including Longstowe enclosure map, 20th century photographs of Papworth Hospital, a 19th century plan of Covington school and some court rolls of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Manors. Here is part of a poster for people intending to be emigrants, document HP34/23/2 at Huntingdonshire Archives.

EMIGRANTS' INFORMATION OFFICE,  **34, BROADWAY, WESTMINSTER, S. W.**

Revised of this Poster are exhibited in all Post Offices on the 1st day of JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, and OCTOBER.
1st APRIL, 1912.

Office Open—
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays in April, May, and June, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Note.—This Office was established by Her late Majesty's Government in 1886 for the purpose of supplying intending emigrants with trustworthy information respecting emigration chiefly to the British Dominions Oversea, and is under the direction of the Colonial Office.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

LOWEST FARES BY BRITISH STEAMERS.*

	(Liable to change.)		(Liable to change.)
CANADA	£6 0 0	WESTERN AUSTRALIA	£17 0 0
NEW SOUTH WALES	16 0 0	TASMANIA	16 0 0
VICTORIA	16 0 0	NEW ZEALAND	16 0 0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	16 0 0	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	9 9 0
QUEENSLAND	16 0 0		

* There may be sometimes cheaper through fares by vessels starting from foreign ports, but passengers by those vessels are not protected by the Board of Trade regulations as to seaworthiness, sanitary condition, accommodation, food, medical attendance, &c., which apply to British Emigrant Ships, and are expressly intended for the benefit of Emigrants.

PASSAGES.

1. FREE PASSAGES.—None.

2. ASSISTED PASSAGES.—NEW SOUTH WALES.—Assisted passages at £6 to £9 each, are granted to approved farmers and farm workers (not over 45 years old) plus a deposit of £3 to £4, and to female servants (not over 35 years old), plus a deposit of £2. Apply to the Agent-General for New South Wales, at 123, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

VICTORIA.—Assisted passages are granted to approved farm labourers at £6 a head; to mechanics at £6, their wives at £3, and children at rates up to £3; to women workers at £4; and to female domestics at £4.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Assisted passages at £4 each are granted to female domestic helpers and agricultural labourers under 40 years of age on certain conditions. Female domestic helpers may pay the £4 within six months of their arrival in South Australia.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Assisted passages at £3 per head are granted to single female servants between 18 and 35 years old; and at £6 per head and upwards to single and married men (not over 45 years old), and their wives and young children at 30s. to £3; the men must be bona fide farmers, farm labourers, orchardists or vigneron. Apply to the Agent-General for Western Australia, 15, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—Assisted or reduced passages are

4. ADVANCED PASSAGES.—VICTORIA.—Purchasers of certain farms may have 80 per cent. of their passage money advanced. Apply to the Agent-General for Victoria, Melbourne Place, Strand, W.C.

REDUCED PASSAGES.—NEW ZEALAND.—Domestic Servants, if they will have £2 on landing at any time in New Zealand, are eligible for reduced third class passages at £2 16s. to £6 16s. per head; and farmers, farm labourers, and shepherds, their wives and families, possessing fixed incomes or a capital of £25 and £10 respectively, arriving between September and January only, are eligible—if otherwise approved—for passages at the reduced rates of £8 to £12 in the third class and £27 in the 2nd class. Persons also in New Zealand can obtain these reduced passages for relatives here. Apply to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, 13, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

DEMAND FOR LABOUR.

FARMERS AND OTHERS WITH CAPITAL.—A demand in all the Colonies. Free grants of land are made in **CANADA** and **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**; in other Colonies land can be bought at low rates.

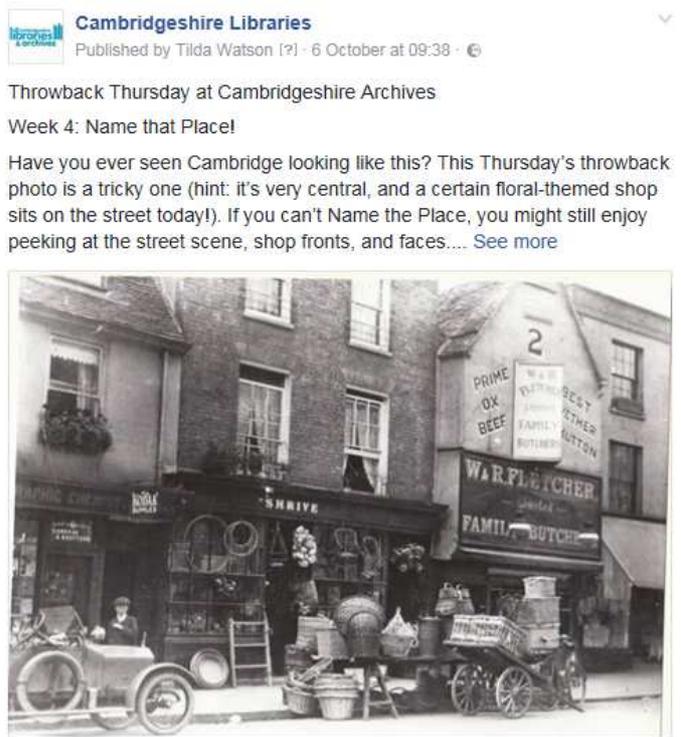
FARM LABOURERS.—There is a great demand in **CANADA** during Spring and Summer; see Warning II. below. A good demand exists for men and boys on farms and sheep and cattle stations and dairy farms in **AUSTRALIA** and **NEW ZEALAND**. In **SOUTH AFRICA** farm labourers are nearly always natives or other coloured persons and there is very little opening for persons from this country.

MECHANICS.—There is plenty of employment for mechanics in **CANADA**

Please contact our photographer Soo Martin if you have a digitisation request, on 01223 507200 or fsb@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Follow us on Facebook

We have recently launched a regular series of posts on the Cambridgeshire Libraries Facebook page called 'Throwback Thursday at Cambridgeshire Archives'. We post a photo every week of bygone Cambridge and invite people to guess when and where it was taken. The post has become quite popular and people regularly engage with it, identifying even the trickiest locations! The post has provided a nice opportunity to connect and interact with people who may not be able to visit the Archives in person.



Cambridgeshire Libraries
Published by Tilda Watson [?] · 6 October at 09:38 · 🌐

Throwback Thursday at Cambridgeshire Archives

Week 4: Name that Place!

Have you ever seen Cambridge looking like this? This Thursday's throwback photo is a tricky one (hint: it's very central, and a certain floral-themed shop sits on the street today!). If you can't Name the Place, you might still enjoy peeking at the street scene, shop fronts, and faces.... [See more](#)



News from a volunteer

We welcome anyone who is prepared to commit their time and efforts to working alongside us. For this issue we have welcomed a contribution from Peter Jackson, who has been volunteering on a Cambridge gaol project:

I started volunteering in archives after I retired aged 60. Having previously researched my family history I found I have ancestors from the Cambridgeshire village of Balsham; my 12xgreat grandmother died in 1588 leaving a very informative will proved in the Ely Probate court. I learnt to read older handwriting in order to read these wills, a C16th hand does take a bit of getting used to. Family history is made much more interesting if it is more than just a list of names, if you know something about what people owned, what they did, how they lived.

My ability at reading older documents made Jane Heward (now working at Gloucestershire) ask for my assistance in cataloguing the records of the 100ft levels.

With Jane I worked on the records from the early period of fen drainage from 1650 onwards; since she left I have also worked on later records of people living in the fens, the problems of maintaining the banks and stopping the and from flooding. Then I went on to the Eden Lilley deeds based on the village of Eltisley and covering several neighbouring manors. Then discharged prisoners from Cambridge Gaol, and so on. Going back to where I started, I have not found much about my own family from these more recent explorations, but it has all been interesting and put Cambridgeshire life into context.

If you would like to volunteer please get in touch with us at one of the contact details listed below.

Contact us

Cambridgeshire Archives: Box SH 1009, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP
01223 699399
cambs.archives@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Huntingdon PE29 3PA
01480 372738
hunts.archives@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire Collection: Cambridge Central Library, 7 Lion Yard, Cambridge
CB2 3QD
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