

CHRONOLOGICAL DETAILS FOR MARSHALL'S ARM

1086 - 1721

According to the Domesday Survey (1086), Cheshire was divided between the Bishop of Chester and Hugh d'Arranches, Earl of Chester (also known as 'Hugh the Wolf' [Hugh Lupus] or 'Hugh the Fat'). Cheshire was a densely wooded county. Salt-mining was a chief industry.

Hartford was referred to as Herford. The landholder was Gilbert de Venables. There was a salt-house and half derelict salt-house (but not on Marshall's Arm). Herford was (in 11th and 12th centuries) in Roelan Hundred (now Eddisbury North by late C12).

Gilbert de Venables held a parcel of the Barony of Kinderton; the two manors of Hertford and Horton-in-Hertford were actually held under Gilbert by Doda (Dods) as a free man. There were 2 hides (equivalent to 240 acres?) paying tax. There was land for 2 ploughs.

There were 4 villagers, 2 smallholders and a smith with one plough.

Hartford = 'hart's ford' from 'heorot' and 'ford' (hart = male red deer). The area was primeval forest, small clearings, sparse population and little agriculture.

Horton = 'horn' + 'tun' = dirty farm or muck-yard. Virtually all Roelan Hundred was in the Forest of Mara. This was dry oak woodland on plateaux, with open tracts on gravels. After the Norman Conquest it was the area bounded by the rivers Gowy, Mersey and Weaver, with Hartford as the eastern boundary.

The uplands of the sandstone central ridge sloped down to the deep, wooded valley of the River Weaver. The valley floor was glacial and alluvial gravels and marls. The soil was sand or sandy loam.

By the early 17th century, in the time of James I's reign, there were no longer vast stretches of forest in Hartford. The extent of the royal forest by this time was reduced to the parish of Delamere Forest. The royal hunting forest was used for sport and to supply building timber. It was mainly scrub and heathland. There was little corn grown because of the deer (especially red and fallow deer). Wolves and wild boar had died out by the 16th century.

Forest laws meant hunting and game preservation only in designated areas, vested exclusively in the Crown. There was the death penalty for even minor offences. Dogs were only allowed under very strict conditions.

Edward I had been the last to use the forest for hunting, before James I did for one day in 1617.

The lands of the Earl of Chester were given to Vale Royal Abbey by Edward I. So the Abbey possessed lands in the valley of the River Weaver.

[1315 - 1316 there is a mediaeval watermill sited at Hertford (in Greenbank Wood) - precise location unknown, may be near small northern tributary].

By the time of the Tudors, the most common system of farming in Cheshire was the 2-field system of in-field and out-field, but this was not found along the River Weaver, where instead one large arable field would be worked for 3 years, then turned to animal pasture. The soil is good enough for grain or grass, but climatic conditions are best for use as rich meadows in mid-Cheshire. The wettest month is August, so harvesting corn could be hard. Rainfall is adequate, but comes at the wrong time.

Where cultivation took place, on the River Weaver shales, arable fields were small and square, with no regular crop rotation.

The condition of any 'roads' in the 16th century was dire, so it was easier to transport goods by water.

Before 1540, most of the land in Cheshire was Crown or monastic property; after this, Cheshire gentry gained most of it.

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII, Vale Royal Abbey lands went to Sir Thomas Holcroft. He acquired commons and profits in Weaverham in 1543. Four years later he negotiated the purchase of the manor of Weaverham.

The Venables family were lords of the manor in Middlewich (barony of Kinderton). The last Venables at Hartford was William Venables, who died near the end of Elizabeth I's reign. The barony of Kinderton passed to the Vernons of Sudbury in C17? The Kinderton estate was sold by Lord Vernon in 1857, following George Venables Vernon who became Baron Vernon of Kinderton (later Lord Vernon) in 1762. (Was it sold to the de Tabley family?). In the 17th century, the Cholmondley family purchased Vale Royal Abbey lands from the Holcrofts.

From mid 17th century to mid 18th century, smaller Cheshire estates in the Weaver valley deteriorated, they had been areas of early, close settlement.

River Weaver pre 1721

'Weaver' is Celtic word for 'winding river'. The river never used to carry cheese in big quantities. In C16th roads were difficult and narrow. It was easier to transport goods by water, but river passage blocked by shoals and a depth of seldom more than 3½'. Three men were needed to pull a 10 ton boat. Boats could only sail when the wind allowed or were punted with ashen poles, or went downstream on the tide. Tight bends on the river often held dangerous sandbanks.

The Weaver was only navigable upstream from the sea to the tidal limit at Pickering, between Frodsham and Dutton. Riparian landowners claimed right to sole use of the river upstream of this point. They had fishing weirs to protect.

1663-70 - During the reign of Charles II, there were two failed attempts to pass an Act to improve the River Weaver.

1690s Changes in salt industry

- a) Substitution of coal for wood as fuel for salt pans. Coal had previously been brought by land from pits in Staffordshire to the Cheshire salt wiches. This was costly overland, a bulky, but valuable cargo. Lancashire coal was also carried by water to Frodsham Bridge, then overland via Action Cliffe by packhorse.
- b) Discovery of rock salt at Marbury : dearer to transport than brine (former source of salt). Rock salt producers wanted to compete with the brine men.
- c) Increased competition from France and Spain to supply Ireland and abroad with salt.

1711 - 1720 Four Bills in Parliament were attempted to be introduced to push for canalisation to make the Weaver navigable as far as Winsford. This was called 'Improvement'. None was successful.

Opposition

- 1) Land carriers "carters" : approximately 3000+ families. They feared unemployment and poverty, because they were small tenant farmers who supplemented their income by carrying coal to the wiches in winter.
(The equivalence of boat carriage to land carriage was that: the (later) work of one 40 ton boat with 2 horses and 2 men was equivalent to 100 - 200 drivers using 400 horses to carry cargo overland).
- 2) Salt proprietors : They felt the equilibrium between rock salt producers and brine producers for salt and coal carriage would be adversely affected.
- 3) Riparian landowners : they feared harm to fishing; harm to existing weirs; flooding of meadows; destruction of fords; reduced value of farms; destruction of riverside amenities; cattle would stray into corn; poplars and willows would be cut down; boatmen would trespass; damage to salt springs; horses trampling.

There were supporters of a Bill :-

- a) Rock salt proprietors : who needed cheap transport for rock salt.
 - b) Liverpool merchants : who wanted to transport rock salt.
 - c) Bristol traders : who wanted to trade in rock salt
 - d) Brine producers : who wanted to send coal cheaply and also to send refined white salt abroad.
- * It was only when a proposal was made to extend improvement of the river to Winsford, instead of just to Northwich, did "the county" think that the work would be beneficial.

And they were offered compensation for damage to meadows, salt workings and riparian property.

The Bill took 20 years from inception to the passing of an Act of Parliament in 1721.

Marshall's Arm Area : Ownership through history

It is west of Northwich salt-field, north of Winsford salt-field.

It was under the Barony of Kinderton owned by the Venables family of Middlewich (later by the Vernons - see before).

Late C13	-	held by de Herteford family
Late C14	-	held by (de) Horton family
Early C15	-	held by Massey family
C16	-	held by Holcroft family
Early C17	-	held by Merbury family

In July 1694, the manor of Hartford was sold by Henry Davies of Dodleston and others to John Lowe of Winnington and Jeffery Houghton of Northwich; then Lowe sold it in severalties (11 shares). The shares were then in fewer hands, some landlords holding 2/3 shares each. Pre-1721, Hartford township was in Witton Chapelry in the parish of Great Budworth.

Marshall's Arm land area was in Hartford township opposite Leftwich township. The islands created by canalisation (Twig Island and The Mousey) were therefore in Leftwich township. The latter was owned by the Leftwich family, then the Oldfield family through a daughter's marriage. The map of 1721 River Weaver by John Billinge shows the landowners and occupiers at this time.

The 'Arm' is an arm or meander of the old course of the River Weaver, cut off from the main channel in early 1700s.

The Improvement of the River Weaver

The river was straightened in places to allow big boats to pass up to Winsford, carrying salt, coal etc. The new channel so created is called the 'Weaver Navigation'.

The work, when it eventually began around 1730 was to canalise natural streams, build locks, scour out deeper channels, make 'cuts' where necessary. The work was "carried out" by engineers backed up by entrepreneurs. Canal-cutting was very hard work, probably carried out by local farm labourers.

Originally, three "Undertakers" were appointed to control the River Weaver -

John Egerton of Oulton
John Amson of Leeds
Richard Vernon of Middlewich

They were allowed to levy tolls. They did little more, so the river fell into disrepair. Original prop..... amounts of £9000 increased to actual £18,000, but was not paid by original Undertakers.

1730 - 1757 By 1732 vessels up to 38 tons could reach Winsford. Vessels carrying up to 45 tons could reach Northwich.

- 1734 A timber-sided lock was built at Hartford. It was a pound lock and had an accompanying weir.
- The Navigation Improvement was officially completed by March 1733. There was now a towpath for 2 men to haul boats. There was a weir on the southern ox-bow, south of Greenbank Wood.
- 1730 - 50 Trade on the River Weaver doubled.
George Venables Vernon was one merchant who shipped rock salt and white salt down the Weaver from 1741 - 48.
The Marshall family did likewise 1734 - 1874.
- 1757 - 1880s/1900 Stone, corn, cotton, flint and clay. The Weaver Navigation boats carried coal, cheese salt, timber. In 1757, Commissioners took over from the original Undertakers. Surveyors discovered that Hartford Lock weir was new and back-filled, but that the lock and lock gates were rotten.
[Between 1758 to 1808, timber locks were replaced brick and stone along the Weaver Navigation].
- 1760 Weaver Navigation Trustees took over from the Undertakers and Commissioners. Any profits were to maintain Cheshire's roads and bridges.
- 1770 It was proposed to have a lock-keeper to protect the locks from damage by flatmen, but there was no house for the lock-keeper until 1796.
The lock-keepers carried out boat-gauging and toll-collecting. They also policed the canal and checked traffic ran smoothly, worked the locks, stopped quarrels and water wastage.
- 1770s → The salt trade quickened up. The river was dredged to 4'6" in the 18th century.
- 1790s A horse-towing path was built. This needed gates at boundary fences, bridges and culverts or minor streams. River paths were left unfenced, because they crossed private land, but were gravel-surfaced and had self-shutting gates.
- 1830 - 80 This was the period of the most rapid expansion in the salt trade. 1 million tons of salt per annum were shipped down to Liverpool.
- 1843-63 All locks on the Weaver Navigation were duplicated to become 'paired locks', 100' long x 22' wide x 9'3" deep.
- 1858 The river was 6'3" deep, but was dredged to 7'6" in 1865. This meant that flats of 180 tons could use the Navigation (formerly only up to 90 tons).
- 1866 New cut near Hartford Bridge opened up.
- 1868
(1888?) An extra man was allowed at Hartford Lock to turn the bridge above the lock. Hartford Lock removed on order of Edward Lead Williams, to speed up traffic *
There was a fixed bridge across the old river course near the site of Hartford Lock, for access to the meadows and for drainage. There was also a rolling bridge across the mouth of the cut, giving access to P.....

- 1880s → Decline set in, because of improved rail transport and construction of brine pipes.
- *1872 1360 yards of drainage was laid in Hartford Pond through the meadows of Lord Delamere and Mr Thomas H Marshall, with an outfall below Hartford Weir.
- *1871 Weaver Navigation engineer proposed that Hunt and Hartford Lock pounds be made one and to construct a new lock between Hartford and Hunt.
- 1888 Hartford Old Lock culvert installed for £2000.
- 1900 - 2003
From 1900 onwards, the trade really declined, due to a salt works being built at Weston Point, Runcorn, fed by pipes, carrying brine from mid-Cheshire. The landscape of Marshall's Arm changed greatly - still a lot of open space, with meanders and wooded ravines bordering edges of Hartford Manor parkland (now playing fields?).
- 1912 Hartford Old Lock House ("White House") had £40 spent on it on renovations and an extra bedroom. The rent was 3/- to 4/- per week.
- 1914 Colonel Sir Thomas H Marshall was lord of the manor. Mrs Milner lived in Hartford Manor (occupier). Arthur Stubbs owned Thorn Farm.
- 1915 By now, Pimlotts owned the boatyard site, which had moved from Northwich in 1909. Twig Island and The Mousey were owned by the Weaver Navigation.
- 1918 Trade prospects had decreased, tonnages had halved but debt had gone by 1935.
- 1920 Hartford Manor estate sold in lots including Thorn Farm, a high class arable farm occupied by Mr A Stubbs, and Hartford Manor House, occupied by Mrs Milner. Farm property included Cloughwood, Greenbank Wood and Middle Wood (and the riverside?).
- 1929 Hartford Old Lock House sold to Mr H Platt (farmer) for £250. There was no access to the towpath to Leftwich. It was then tenanted by Weaver Navigation staff until 1937, then by a farm labourer, but soon vacated.
- 1939 By now, ICI were the main landowners. John Armitage lived in Hartford Manor; E Stringer and Son had Thorn Farm.
- 1940 The towpath by Pimlotts was closed - a World War Two measure - it was diverted along the frontage of Clough Wood and never reinstated.
- 1965? - 1998 Hartford Manor was headquarters of gas board.
- 1970s Land was bought by Cheshire County Council as a result of the break-up of Thorn Farm.
- 1998 Land for Marshall's Arm Local Nature Reserve leased by Vale Royal Borough Council from British Waterways and Cheshire County Council.

British Waterways own Twig Island, The Mousey, the land in-between, also grassland between Jalsea Manor and Cloughwood, also Leftwich side of river.

British Waterways reserve fishing and shooting rights. They reserve right to moor craft in River Weaver Navigation and alongside demised land.

If demanded, there is an annual rent of one peppercorn, for a term of 12 years from 12 January 1998.

Cheshire County Council own an area of 20.5 acres, equal to land adjacent to Hartford Manor Campus, adjacent to River Weaver, on the Hartford side. This is the three woodland areas, and the old river frontage on the Hartford side.

They reserve the right to enter demised land for maintenance, repairs, drain work for schools and playing fields.

They reserve the right for pupils of Cloughwood School to enter and use up to 6 rods to fish in River Weaver for 12 years.

Annual peppercorn rent = 1 peppercorn (if demanded).

Other 20th century events -

- 1920 Hartford Manor estate sold, including Hartford Manor (house), Clough Wood, Thorn Farm, Hollies Farm, Greenbank Wood, Middle Wood.
- 22 Aug. 1902 Alice Vernon, aged 8 years, was drowned after she fell into the river by Hartford Bridge.
- 14 Jan. 1931 A body was found near Pimblott's Dock (10 am). [A previous letter had alerted Colonel Saner, the Weaver Navigation engineer, to the disappearance of a female relative from Moulton before Christmas. He ignored it, because the river was flooded and he thought it would probably have washed away any body].
- Nov. 1902-03 T H Marshall's agent objected to a permanent towpath replacing two bridges on the grounds that the water enclosed would become stagnant, on the old river above Hartford Lock. The Weaver Navigation engineer suggested placing a pipe through to keep the water moving. The upper bridge was removed and replaced by an earth bank. The lower bridge was left to afford drainage, but was later removed in World War Two and never replaced.
- 1924 Proposal to use Hartford Lock culvert to carry water pipes for Northwich Urban District Council.
- 1930 James Cowley, aged 67 years, was presented with an "Address" and 10 guineas; he is credited as having saved 10 lives in 51 years service for the Weaver Navigation (mainly at Hunts Lock). [In 1881 Census, he is shown as living at Hartford Old Lock (House), aged 28 years, head of household, lock sentry, with wife Harriet, 23 years and daughter Amy, aged 2 years].

Weaver Navigation vessels

1720s → The boats were sailing flats, originally hauled by gangs of men, then by horses and man, or by sail. The construction of locks led to alterations in hull design, from (old) pointed stern to (new) square stern to maximise any cargo holding. A sailing flat had a single mast, sails, a long hatch and a square stern. The mast was lowered on the Weaver Navigation.

1860s → Steam barges or packets mainly replaced sailing flats. They towed dumb barges (no boilers). After lock enlargement, a steam packet could tow 3 dumb barges.

The manual haulers were seen as troublesome because often drunk.

In the early 19th century, horse towage predominant. 800 flatmen → 400 flats.

Weirs and locks

These were originally used by the fishermen. A weir is a dam used to hold back water and create depth. The weirs on the 1721 map are not in the same place as on the 1878 map.

A river lock is built alongside the weir. Fixed overfall weirs were regulators of the water level in the pound lock. They sent excess water down a by-pass channel.

The water into Marshall's Arm is controlled by Hartford Weir on the southern ox-bow. Locks and weirs raised water level and increased the danger of floods. Summer floods were bad for crops, winter floods deposited silt and fertilised the land.

The lock-keeper got a lock-house, usually two storey, built of local raw materials and looking like a farm cottage. He also got a coal and candles allowance. He had to stop the theft of coal from the boats. His hours were long, including night work, for which he was paid extra.

The banks of the Navigation were protected by 3' square, 4" thick blocks of bass, which were vitreous clinker from the salt pans. Clinker is a hard mass formed by the fusion of the earthy impurities of coal in a furnace; a mass of slag.

The Marshall Family

- Died 1692 Richard Marshall died, leaving valuable textile and brine machinery. They were shoemakers, then framework knitters in 17th century Nantwich. They became prosperous and progressed into brine boiling.
- Born ?
Died 1772 The first Thomas Marshall went to Northwich in about 1720 to work in the salt industry. He set up in the salt trade in 1734, after 10 years as an apprentice.
- Born 1735
Died 1797
1779
1775
1774 The second Thomas Marshall (his son) was involved in waterway improvement schemes. He was a feoffee (a trustee) of Witton Grammar School (1772). He lent money to the Weaver Navigation. He had the first industrial housing built in Northwich, in New Street (3 storey). They adjoined Baron's Croft Salt Works and had craftsmen's workshops on the top floor. He bought Hartford Green Bank Manor House and estate, worth £9000. He added a new wing. Hartford Manor is a Grade II listed building, built of yellow ashlar stone (square-hewn), with a hipped grey slate roof, and 2 storeys. It replaced a mid 16th century house. Most time was spent in town. He bought land at Witton and opened the Dunkirk mine. He had salt works, a counting-house and a town dwelling. He married an heiress to a prosperous local trader. His estates and works were worth £50,000 on his death.
- Born 1767
Died 1831 The third Thomas Marshall married Elizabeth Thearsby*. He built Hartford Cottage in 1802, then Hartfordbeach in 1814-24. He is buried at Hartford. He left £7000 in the bank, and lands and works worth £90,000. In 1818 he claimed to be the largest proprietor of rock salt and white salt in the whole kingdom.
- *Elizabeth Thearsby was the daughter of William Thearsby, a wealthy Northwich surgeon.
- Born 1765
Died 1833 His brother, John Marshall, was a feoffee from January 1811, for Witton Grammar School, where he had been a pupil. He remained a bachelor all his life but had a mistress, called Mary Coates, a young widow from Hartford. She was alcoholic. She gave him five children, but the family removed her to Barnton after his death, providing for her in his will. Mary Coates and one of her daughters opened a day school in Barnton. He left £7000 and lots of real estate.
- 1820 John rebuilt the front portion of the house to provide a large drawing room, reception rooms and bedrooms. It was faced with grey stone with a colonnaded porch. The house contained all the family heirlooms: jewels, trinkets, portraits, fine furniture, silverware, china.
- The two brothers were brine and rock proprietors between 1798 and 1831. They started the Salt Traders' Association.
- Born 1802
Died 1838 The fourth Thomas Marshall, son of the third Thomas Marshall, took over the business in 1831, but also had legal interests outside Cheshire. When he was away, his mother controlled the business

- 1820 He went to St John's College, Cambridge, having been a pupil at Witton Grammar School (and Rugby?).
- 1832 He had married Agnes Phoebe Legard of Walton Abbey in Yorkshire. Agnes and her mother-in-law hated each other.
- 1833 He became a bailiff feoffee.
- 1836 He had to resign due to ill-health.
- 1838 He died suddenly. The business was left in confusion.
- Born 1833 Died 1917 The fifth Thomas Horatio Marshall was only five years old when he inherited the business. Guardians ran the firm, the works were neglected. There was over-production, low wages, low prices, business lost. Thomas H. sold Barons Croft, Witton and Dunkirk mines and works to the Salt Union. He joined the army instead. He left a lot of money to his children ***
- 1841 Elizabeth Marshall (mother of fourth Thomas Marshall) died and left Hartford Manor to be used by George Legard, surveyor-general of the Duchy of Lancaster.
- 1868 Agnes Phoebe Marshall (wife of fourth Thomas Marshall) died.
- 1857 *** He married Laura Anne Stapylton, who died in childbirth the following year.
- Born 1858 Died 1942 They had one son, Henry Marshall.
- He re-married to a vicar's daughter and had six sons and three daughters. His sons joined the army, navy and the church.
- 1871 The Hartford estate was worth £38,000. The fifth Thomas Marshall bought Towyn Lodge at Holyhead, and Bryn-y-Coed at Bangor, and enjoyed the life of the gentry and nobility. He died in Bangor in 1917.
- 1874 The Marshalls ceased to ship salt down river.
- 1880s The rock salt and brine works were sold.
- The first Thomas Marshall had a relative who was a salt tax collector, He was ruthless, ambitious, had sufficient capital, business contacts and social status, so he prospered and bought land for an office; he bought open-pan salt works, leased brine pits and land containing rock salt deposits. He had his estate office on Winnington Hill, also a town house and business premises on Brine Sheath Brow (now Winnington Hill). He also had a small farm. He lived all his life in a rented house on Brine Sheath Brow. He had married in the 1720s.

Anecdotal evidence concerning Marshall's Arm

This information came from elderly persons who were born and/or lived in the area during the 20th century.

They remember paddling in Paddling Pool - the area where the stream through Marshall's Wood (Third Wood) ran into the Arm, by Twigg Island.

They played in Marshall's Wood - there is a spring at the top end of this wood. The woods were called First, Second and Third Wood. First Wood (Cloughwood) was mainly oaks.

A 'Dutch' boat used to go up and down the river a few times each week; they spoke little English - going to collect Winsford salt.

Where Saxons Lane meets the Arm, there was an underground stream which emerged and was good as drinking water.

There were fishing clubs - with day permits.

On the river, by Twigg Island, there is a marker post to tell the lightermen the distance to Hartford Bridge.

Children played Tarzan, made dens, paddled, fished, ate plants :-

new green shoots of blackberry bushes

elderberries

sheep's sorrel ('sweet grass')

pignuts (from Third Wood) - area called Pignut Hill where families picnicked. The pignuts had a fiery taste (like a radish) - they grew under the grassy turf, which you peeled back.

Books read or referred to:-

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2. "The Book of Northwich" : Brian Curzon
3. "A History of Cheshire" : Dorothy Sylvester
4. "A History of Cheshire" : Alan Crosby
5. "The Weaver Watermen" : T S Lightfoot
6. "The Historical Atlas of Cheshire" : ed. by D Sylvester and G Nulty
7. "A History of Sir John Deane's Grammar School" : M Cox
8. "Canals of North West England, Vol.I" : Hadfield & Biddle
9. "Place names of Cheshire, Vol. 1")
"Place names of Cheshire, Vo,. 3") : J McN Dodgson
10. "Mersey & Weaver Flats" : E Paget-Tomlinson
11. "The Complete Book of Canal and River Navigation" : E Paget-Tomlinson
12. "Delamere : The History of a Cheshire Parish" : ed. Frank Latham
13. "The Navigation of the River Weaver" : T S Will...
14. "History Gazetteer and Directory of Cheshire 1850" : Bagshaw
15. "North-West Waterway Walks, Vol. 1, South of the Mersey" : Guy Lawson
16. "Salt in Cheshire" : A E Calvert, 1915
17. "The Victoria History of the Counties of England - Cheshire, Vol. 1, 2 and 3"
18. "General View of the Agriculture of Cheshire" : Henry Holland, 1808
19. "Some Venables of England and America" : Henrietta Brady Brown
20. "A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester" : P P Burdett, 1777
21. "River Navigation in England, 1600 - 1750" : T S Willan
22. "History of Cheshire" : G Ormerod

23. "History of Middlewich" : C F Lawrence, 1895
 24. "Middlewich Cartulary, Parts I and II" : J Var....
 25. "Winsford Record 3 : The River Weaver" : Winsford Local History Society, 1973
 26. "The Rise and Fall of the Marshalls of Northwich" by D Iredale in Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 1965
 - *27. "List of Commissioners and Trustees of the Weaver Navigation, 1721 - 1947"
 - *28. "Weaver Trustees Minutes, 1865 - 1895"
 - *29. "Further Selected Minutes Vol. 8, Nov. 1900 - Nov. 1903"
 - *30. Weaver Navigation Files
10-30, 10-44, 11-37, 19-23, 19-34, 23-10, 34-4, 53-31
 - *31. "A History of Cheshire" series, ed. by J J Ba....
Vols 1 - 10 cover before the Romans, up to 190...
- * in Ellesmere Port Boat Museum archives

Other sources referred to:-

Tithe maps 1841 and 1846 for Hartford and Leftwich townships (Northwich Library)

Photographic library at Northwich Salt Museum

Cheshire Record Office : 1721 map of River Weaver

Other maps at Northwich and Winsford Libraries

Also information given by more elderly persons on a "Local History Remembered" course in 1998

Cheshire County Council (Ian Gould) Property Services

Census Returns