

Mancetter-Manduessedum

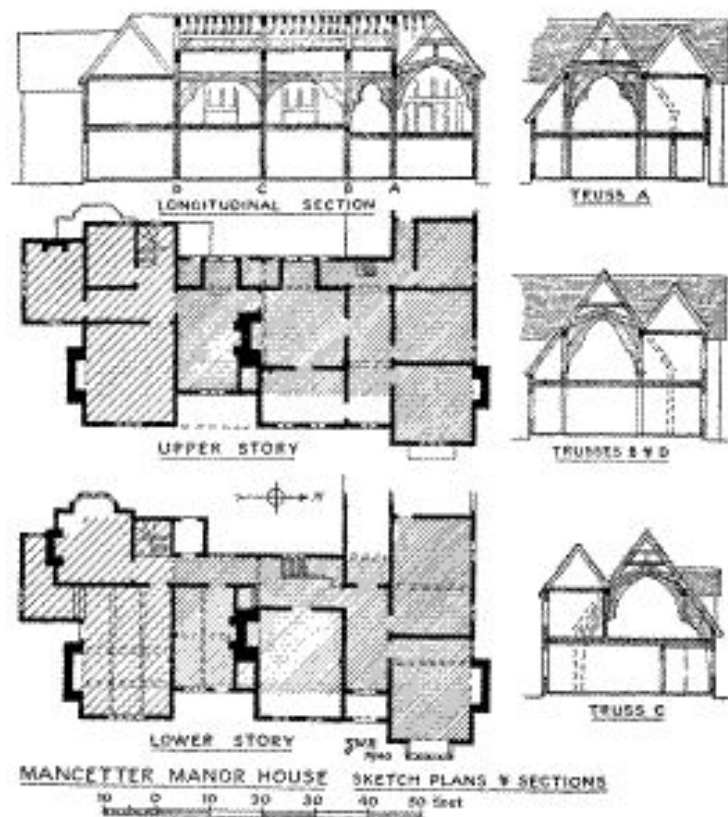
And the Battle of the Watling Street (Boudica)

Sunday, 28th July 2013

Nuneaton Local History Group



Mancetter Manor



Mancetter Time Line

Date	Event
1 st . century	A <i>burgus</i> or strong point was established by the Romans on the Watling Street road near the current Bull Inn.
1 st century	Manduessedum – <i>The Place of War Chariots</i> – was established by the Romans with a camp where the current church and manor house stands. There are 70 Roman kilns identified in the Mancetter area.
61AD	Mancetter and the surrounding area was the scene of the great battle between Boudica, her 120,000 strong army of Icenii & Trinovantes tribes and the Roman army of Paulinus with little more than 11000 highly trained, tough, disciplined and well equipped soldiers. There is some doubt as to where the battle was fought and it is often referred to as the “Battle of the Watling Street”. Boudica was described by a Roman historian <i>Dio Cassius</i> as “ <i>A large woman with a great mass of the tawniest hair which fell to her hips, in appearance terrifying, the glance of her eye most fierce, and her voice was harsh</i> ”. Even today despite a lot of research no-one can be sure where the battle was fought but it seems most likely that Boudica and her army advanced off the Watling Street in the direction of Mancetter and were met there by the Romans. 80,000 Britons were killed and only 400 Roman lives were lost. Such was the advanced capabilities of the Roman soldiery. We have no idea what happened to Boudica, some reports say she died in battle which is probably true because she led from the front, but others say she escaped and committed suicide. We have no idea. There are no reports of her after the battle. Tens of thousands of corpses would have been left to rot where they fell. Locals may have robbed them of anything useable but generally they were left to be scavenged by wild animals. When the skeletons were left various bouts of flooding over hundreds of years in the Anker valley would have swept the remains away, so it is not surprising that a bone bed has not been found. A recently geological survey carried out by Alan Cook has determined that the likeliest place where the battle took place is a 90km2 area centred on the footpath that runs from Mill Lane in Mancetter across the Watling Street beyond Witherley. This is based on a 400km2 forensic survey using satellite imagery in infra red with assistance by NASA in looking for hot spots where iron in blood, corroded iron artefacts and other metals had sunk into the ground leaving detectable stain signatures in the soil.
1086	Mancetter is not mentioned in the Domesday Book
1196	Walter de Mancetter granted land endowment for a parish church with 3 acres of land
	The earliest parts of the church date back to the 12 th century with 13 th and 15 th century additions. There may have been an earlier church on the site as there was a crypt discovered in the floor of the nave which might have been part of an earlier building as it does not seem to be in keeping with the construction of the current church.
1235	Mancetter is listed was among the fees of the Earl of Warwick
1242	The Mesne lordship was held by Henry de Hastings and continued in their family past 1414.
1330	Mancetter Manor House built by Sir Guy de Mancetter
1365	Sir Guy de Mancetter died and the manor was divided between his family into three parts, to his son in law William Prilly, a grandson Geoffrey Brokehull, (Brokholes), Another third passed down the female line to Margaret Worthyn.
1420	The tower was added to Mancetter church.
1449	A Gild was founded by John Riggeley, Abbot of Merevale. The gild house was built at Mancetter.
1550	First mention of a water mill at Mancetter
1557	Joyce (or Jocasta) Lewis of Mancetter was burnt at the stake for her religious beliefs in December 1557
1559	Robert Glover of Mancetter Manor burnt at the stake for his protestant beliefs on 19 th September 1555 at Little Park Street, Coventry.
1642	Edward Glover was the last Glover to live at Mancetter Manor. Ownership passed to the Gramer family.
1724	James Gramer, citizen and Goldsmith of London by will dated 11 th March 1724 gave £2000 for the endowment of one almshouse for six poor men. The endowment latterly consisted of eleven almshouses a farm and land at Mancetter and is run by seven trustees.
1728	The original six almshouses built date to 1728.
c.1750	Mancetter House was built.
1754	Mancetter Manor passed to the Rev. Arthur Miller in 1754. He gave the house a facelift. He incorporated Gothic features.
1833	A memorial was erected to Robert Glover and Joyce Lewis in Mancetter Church
1840's & 1850's	Captain John Anstruther Thompson of the 13 th Dragoons lived at Mancetter Manor during this period.
1848	The parish of Hartshill was created from within the parish of Mancetter
1851	The parish of Atherstone was created. The patronage was still vested in the Vicar of Mancetter in both Hartshill and Atherstone parishes.
1873	Mancetter Quarry working by this date. (diorite). Original proprietor – Eli Green of Oldbury Hall.
1887	A narrow gauge railway came into use bringing stone to a canal wharf and railway siding on the Trent Valley railway line.
1891	Thomas H. Green took over the working of Mancetter Quarries

1900	Mancetter Quarries working as Ireland & Knight
1908	W.L. Ireland became sole proprietor of Mancetter Quarries
1909	The Hon. Arthur George Villiers Peel (1868-1956) lived at Mancetter Manor. Son of 1 st Viscount Peel.
1911	Population 703
1921	Population 763
1929	Capt. Edward Ramsden M.C. followed the Hon. A.G.V. Peel as the owner of Mancetter Manor.
1931	Population 702
1932	Mancetter Quarries were operated by Mancetter Granite Quarries Ltd.
1934	Mancetter Lodge, a Georgian house offered for sale after the death of Lt. Dempster Heming aged 90 in March 1934. The Dempster family had been associated with Mancetter since 1768. It was demolished c. 1965.
1936	Harold Austin purchased the Mancetter Manor house.
1951	Mancetter Granite Quarries Ltd became Man-Abell Quarries Ltd.
1956	The narrow gauge railway line at Mancetter Quarries abandoned.
1956	Harold Austin sold Mancetter Manor to the National Coal Board, A later resident was a Mrs. Thompson
1965	Mancetter Lodge demolished.
1970	Mancetter House demolished. It had been empty for four years and this beautiful house wrecked by vandals causing it to be demolished.
1998	Allen J. Lloyd purchased Mancetter Manor, who has, with advice from English Heritage carried out a careful restoration.
2001	Population 2449



Spennells 1912 Street Directory for Mancetter

