

Addendum to
'Excavations at Burrow Mump, 1939'

(Proceedings, lxxxv, 95-133.)

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IN January 1942 the Rev. H. Eardley Field presented to the Society a manuscript (8 pp., small 4to.) which throws important new light on the rebuilding of the Chapel on Burrow Mump, the remains of which stand in so prominent and attractive a position to-day. This building followed the cruciform church of which an engraving, by C. W. Bampfylde, dated 1763, is given in Plate IV of vol. lxxxv. A cruciform building is also figured in Henry Boswell's *Views of the Antiquities of England*, published in 1785.¹ On the other hand, a church with nave and west tower is represented in a small engraving of the bridge and the Mump, painted by R. Garvey, R.A., and published by Hatchard, Piccadilly, in 1801.

In the paper on the Mump (p. 97), under the description of the Garvey picture, the following is printed: 'The chapel is roofed, but it is a question if it was so protected at this date.' The probability, however, is that at this time the building was in good condition or at any rate partially reconstructed. It may be inferred that the restoration was never actually completed in view of the tradition preserved by the late Dr. R. L. Meade-King.²

The title of the manuscript which has just been discovered runs as follows:

'A List of the Subscriptions towards the Erecting and Rebuilding Burrough Chapel in the County of Somerset, 1793.'

¹ See also *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, lxxxv, 96, 97, 120.

² *Ibid.*, 101. Mr. R. Granville Harris, Registrar of the Diocese, has kindly examined the Bishop's Register from the closing years of the eighteenth century down to 1824, but finds no reference to the last church on the Mump.

The manuscript also gives a rough list of payments made to several tradesmen, etc., who carried out the work of reconstruction in 1793, or rather later.³

The subscriptions, after allowing for those promised but never paid, amounted apparently to £322 4s. 0d. They included a donation of £50 from the Rt. Hon. William Pitt (1759-1806) who, having been brought up under the shadow of the column at Burton Pynsent, would be interested at least in the grand view obtainable from that point across the marshes in the direction of Burrow Mump. Another contribution of £50 was subscribed by 'a person unknown, by the hand of Mr. Golden'. The substantial sum of £30 came from the 'Countess Dowager of Chatham'. Lady Tynte contributed £21, Mr. F. P. Perry £20, and Mr. John and Mr. William Kinglake £10 each. The same amount was subscribed by the Rt. Rev. Charles Moss, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and also by 'Mary Sullivan'. It is interesting to record that the 'Justices at Wells Sessions' made a first contribution of £9 10s. 0d., followed in January 1795 by £10 10s. 0d., and on 8 April 1796 by £15 0s. 0d. John Billingsley's name also appears in the list; at this time he issued his work entitled *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Somerset*.

Among other well-known names appearing in the list are Admiral Sir Alexander Hood, John and the Rev. John Chard, George Lockyer, John Slade, H. Hippisley Cox, Dr. Lovell, Archdeacon of Bath, and Richard King. We note that the fund was well supported by the clergy. One observes also that there must have been a good many boats and barges on the Parret in those days, for among the subscribers are no less than twelve named individuals described as boatmen.

The list of expenses, roughly drawn up, on a separate small sheet of paper (now attached to the list) is badly written, but the following appear to be the details:

	£	s.	d.
Carpenter's Bill	114	14	0½
Mason's Bill	86	10	11
Expended by Mr. Bath ..	49	19	9½
Mr. Brickdale's Bill ..	10	5	3½
Walter's Bill	52	8	2½

³ At least one of the largest subscriptions did not come in until 1796.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Haviland's Bill ..	5	5	0
Mr. Sealey's Bill	31	14	0
Turner's Bill for Sand, Plow Labr., etc. ..	7	10	0
Palmer ye Boatman's Bill	0	5	6
Buncombe's Bill for P. Labr.	8	12	6
Scriven's Bill for etc. ..	0	5	0
Hutchins's Bill for Lime ..	8	12	6
Wm. Adams's Bill for Do.	13	1	0
Mr. Yard's Do. for Do.	5	12	6
Wm. Jenkins's Bill for Iron	7	13	6
Mr. Chard's Bill for Bricks	6	6	6
Due to Mrs. Kittle 2 Hhd. Cyder	5	0	0
Lockyer's Bill for Plow Labour	3	16	0
Plumber and Glazier ..	32	8	5½

The total expenses, according to this statement, came to £450 0s. 8½d., a sum nearly £130 more than the amount represented by the donations. How the balance was defrayed we know not.

An appeal for the erection of a new church at Burrowbridge, at the foot of the Mump, was issued on 14 April 1836, and the building was consecrated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells on 11 September 1838. (*Bibliotheca Somersetensis*, ii, 212; *Taunton Courier*, 12 September 1838.)

In the vestry at Burrowbridge Church is a ground plan showing in distinct colours the lands which were taken from the parishes of Lyng, Stoke St. Gregory, North Petherton, Othery, Middlezoy, Weston Zoyland and Bridgwater to form the parish of Burrowbridge when the modern church was built.