

ART. XIV – *Some Notes on three early Westmorland Dissenters and their Real Estate connections with the Ravenstonedale Meeting House*  
By KEITH LOVET WATSON

**John Hewetson c. 1567–1654, of Nateby and Ravenstonedale Yeoman and Special Bailiff**

JOHN Hewetson, born c. 1567, was the son and heir of Michael Hewetson, yeoman, of Nateby in the parish of Kirkby Stephen, by Janet his wife, née Spooner. Michael Hewetson's parentage is uncertain, but he had probably married well, for although he and his wife were prematurely carried off by plague in 1588, they seem to have been prosperous and well connected. Their wills<sup>1</sup> were witnessed and supervised by some of the leading men in the parish, one of whom, Michael Wharton, a younger son and commissioner of Thomas, Lord Wharton, had been appointed captain of the Dumfries garrison in 1547 and, with over one hundred horse at his command, had been very active along the north-western marches between that date and 1565. It seems likely that Michael Hewetson, the first Hewetson to settle on a Wharton manor in Westmorland, may have formerly served in some capacity with that family, perhaps on border service, and later been granted a messuage and tenement at Nateby under the Border tenant right.

Admittance:

From the Manor Court Rolls of Kirkby Stephen, and Nateby:

NAITBIE 1560 Janry.15th. MIGHAEL HEWETSON holds the tenement 6 acres of arable land and meadow with appurtenances to have and to hold as above paing 6s. and eight pence, for improvement, 17 pence, for suit mill, 16 pence, one yallin [Hen-Cock], one falc day [mowing], one metend day [reaping] one harpicand [plowing]. Two carrucates of terreford. [fordaria or pasture land] is admitted tennant by Christopher and John Dent and Thomas Bowland making and carrying all dues and services owing to the crown, etc.

On his father's death, John Hewetson inherited the family messuage and tenement at Nateby:

NAYTBIE: JHON HEWETSON paies quindene at Martinmas 1588, 30 shillings. The said John Hewetson at Penticost 1589; 30 shillings.

Relative prosperity in the bottom of Westmorland is difficult to assess at this date, but the Quindene payments of thirty shillings made by John Hewetson, both at Martinmas and Pentecost, suggest a substantial holding. John Hewetson, as will be shown later, received a good education, whilst his younger brother, Edward, was still completing an apprenticeship at the time of their parents' death. On 7 October 1595, John married Ellin Blertt,<sup>2</sup> the eldest daughter of Gilbert Blerthorne of Lockholme,<sup>3</sup> at Ravenstonedale Parish Church.

1595 October 7 Was weded John hewatson & Ellin Blertt

Whilst continuing to live at Nateby, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen, John Hewetson chose to have his children baptised at Ravenstonedale Parish Church; an unusual practice, even allowing that his wife's family resided in the latter parish. A possible reason for this decision could have been John Hewetson's occupation and status within the manor of Ravenstonedale. On 22 May 1621, John Hewetson appeared as a deponent before a Court Baron held at Ravenstonedale. He described himself as a "Special Bayliffe"; stated that his age was "threscore years or there aboute" and that he had "neither lands nor Tenements within the said Lordshipp". On 9 September 1628, when interrogated in the Court of Star Chamber, at an Inquiry into the Ravenstonedale Hay Tythe, he again stated that he owned no lands or property within the manor of Ravenstonedale.

John Hewetson's responsibilities must have made him a familiar figure in Ravenstonedale even though obliged to live outside the parish by regulations then governing the appointment of manorial bailiffs. However, at least one exception to these conditions appears to have been made, namely, that John Hewetson was allowed to retain his estate at Nateby. Normally, manorial bailiffs were prohibited from holding their own farms.<sup>4</sup> Searches into the history of the English manorial system have thrown no light upon the responsibilities of a "Special" Bailiff, or how such duties might have differed from those of a manor court bailiff.<sup>5</sup> "Special" might have implied a temporary or part-time commission to execute certain court orders. In a case brought before the Ravenstonedale Court Baron of 1621, John Hewetson had been instructed to arrest the defendant, George Peacocke, with an attachment issued by the Council of the North at York, which exercised wide civil and criminal jurisdiction throughout the northern shires. Remuneration for such an appointment might have taken the form of individual payments for work undertaken, or an annual stipend;<sup>6</sup> either would have made a welcome supplement to John Hewetson's income from his customary estate at Nateby.

In 1633, when aged about sixty-five years, John Hewetson made over his estate at Nateby to his son, Michael, who had come of age that year and was duly admitted by the Court Steward:

NAITBIE. Fines for 1633. Michael Huetson paies 7 shills 7d. one day and a halfe mowing, one Cartfull of peate leading, one day molehills scaling. Multure rente 16d and one hen. Suma 7s 7d.

In the same year, 1633, John Hewetson purchased a small messuage in "the Middle of Rayvinstondall Toun", where he lived until his death in 1654. During his retirement he may well have supported himself by practising as a schoolmaster, his previous position having well equipped him to obtain a livelihood by this means. (As a bailiff, he would have had some legal knowledge, been able to read Latin, write fluently, and keep accounts.) No records remain to confirm such an hypothesis, but circumstantial evidence lends some support to this supposition:-

- 1) John Hewetson, himself, removed from his hereditary farm at Nateby to live in a small fire-house<sup>7</sup> in Ravenstonedale Town.

- 2) His eldest son, John Hewetson, "Senior" (1606–1701), was a well educated man, became a Presbyterian Commissioner for Westmorland and, later, possibly, a schoolmaster.
- 3) His grandson, John Hewetson "the Elder" (1638–1723), was schoolmaster at Long Marton from 1681 until 1683.
- 4) Until 1683, all three men had earned their living by fees – rather than in the accumulation of land, property and stock, more common in a farming community.

**John Hewetson, 1606–1701, of Town, Ravenstonedale  
Commonwealth Commissioner and Presbyterian Elder; later Yeoman of  
Lockholme Foot**

John Hewetson, "Senior", was born in 1606 and baptised in Ravenstonedale Parish Church on 12 October of that year. Like his father before him, he was a well educated man, an ardent Calvinist and a staunch supporter of the Parliamentary cause throughout the civil wars. On 18 July 1641, both father and son took the Oath of Protestation in their parish church of Ravenstonedale and in the next year, 1642, John Hewetson, then aged thirty-two, may well have fought for the parliament in Lord Wharton's regiment at Edgehill; recruits for which were largely drawn from the latter's Westmorland manors of Nateby and Ravenstonedale.

Towards the end of the first Civil War, a letter dated 10 March 1645/6, sent from Kendal on the authority of the Speaker of the House of Commons, recommended Mr John Hewetson as a Church Elder for Dufton;<sup>8</sup> his name appearing on a list of Ministers and suggested Church Elders for the different parishes of Westmorland. Later, during the Protectorate, at an Inquisition taken at Appleby in 1657, bearing the Great Seal of England and dated 18 November 1656, Philip, Lord Wharton and Mr John Hewetson are recorded as serving on a commission directed to enquire into the number and valuation of church livings in Westmorland. At this time, it seems likely that John Hewetson held some recognised position in the Presbyterian administration for Westmorland; perhaps simultaneously with that of being a local schoolmaster. After the Restoration, the widespread reprisals taken against Presbyterian dissenters in the Appleby area no doubt persuaded John Hewetson to return to the relative safety of his message in Ravenstonedale Town. Here, together with at least one former ejected non-conformist minister<sup>9</sup> and other like-minded dissenters, he maintained a low profile under the protection of Philip, Lord Wharton, and henceforth devoted himself to promoting the Presbyterian cause in Ravenstonedale.

John Hewetson, "Senior", died at the great age of ninety four, and was buried in Ravenstonedale churchyard on 12 November 1701. Unfortunately, no will has survived.<sup>10</sup>

**John Hewetson, 1638–1723/4, of Ravenstonedale Town  
Schoolmaster and Presbyterian Dissenter; later Yeoman of Lockholme Foot**

John Hewetson, eldest son of John Hewetson, "Senior", by his wife Elizabeth (née Green) was born in 1638 and baptised in Ravenstonedale parish church on the 29

April that year. John was only four years old when the Civil War broke out, and he was a teenager during the time of the Commonwealth. His childhood may have been partly spent at the family's house in Ravenstonedale Town, helping his relations on their farm at Nateby and attending a school where his father may have taught. There is no doubt that he grew up a well educated young man for he was schoolmaster at Long Marton from 1681 to 1683.<sup>11</sup> There is also no doubt that, again like his father, he was a convinced and fervent Presbyterian dissenter. On the 16 June 1670, when he was thirty two years old, John Hewetson married Sarah Todd, at Ravenstonedale parish Church.

1670 June 16 Was maryed John Heutson and Sarah Todd

Sarah Todd, born in 1642, and baptised at Ravenstonedale on 22 June, was the second daughter of Michael Todd of Town. Michael Todd's eldest son, John, had removed to London where he was probably apprenticed to his father's cousin, Michael Todd of Dufton, a prosperous merchant in that city. Ann, wife of Michael Todd of Ravenstonedale and mother of Sarah, was aunt to John Hewetson of Town. An otherwise advantageous match, the apparent oversight of possible unfortunate genetic consequences could well have led to the liaison being later used as a pretext to remove John Hewetson from his position as schoolmaster at Long Marton. John and Sarah were first cousins, a combination of blood lines that may well have been responsible for the serious mental illness which was to afflict a number of their descendants in later years. The dangers of such an alliance were well known by doctors long before the seventeenth century,<sup>12</sup> but inter-marriage between cousins had long been common in small, isolated, communities such as Ravenstonedale.

Between 1671 and 1681, the Ravenstonedale parish registers record the baptisms of seven of John and Sarah Hewetson's children, five of whom survived, including two sons, John, the eldest, and Richard. All were born at the "fire-house in the midle off the Toune", after his father John Hewetson, "Senior", and his third wife, Annas, née Adamthwaite, had removed to a "house, garden and garth" at Townhead. After the birth of his last child, Richard, in 1681, John Hewetson was appointed schoolmaster at Long Marton,<sup>13</sup> a parish one and a half miles west of Dufton, for which parish John Hewetson, "Senior", had earlier been recommended as a Presbyterian Elder. This appointment appears to have been expected, for on 25 October the preceding year (1680), the property at Townhead was let to one James Mosse,<sup>14</sup> and John Hewetson "Senior" and his wife, Annas, then moved back to the house at Town, probably in order to assist Sarah look after her young family during her husband's absence teaching.

It is likely that John Hewetson had practised as a schoolmaster elsewhere prior to his appointment at Long Marton, perhaps at Ravenstonedale, where all such appointments were made on the recommendation of Lord Wharton. Unfortunately, the names of only two Ravenstonedale schoolmasters have survived prior to 1677; Edward Minyes, mentioned in 1546, who had attended a University,<sup>15</sup> and William Robinson mentioned in 1630.<sup>16</sup> Robinson held the post for only two years, after which no other schoolmaster is named for a further forty five years. The few surviving early references to Ravenstonedale school are almost all concerned with its endowment, funding and buildings.



On 14 December 1682, after John Hewetson had served only one year as schoolmaster at Long Marton, the General Chapter for the Deanery of Westmorland, meeting in the Parish Church of St Lawrence, Appleby, appears to have questioned his fitness for the position, and after a further session held at Appleby, on 2 May 1683, no further reference to Mr John Hewetson occurs in the list of schoolmasters for the Diocese of Carlisle.

The reason for John Hewetson's sudden dismissal from his post of schoolmaster remains unclear. It is possible that the General Chapter were notified later of the close blood relationship existing between John and his wife, Sarah. Such a circumstance might well have been a breach of regulations governing Chapter appointments, but gone unrecognised two years before when John Hewetson had been "judged fit" on 4 May 1681. However, many reprisals are known to have been carried out against former Cromwellian supporters in the Appleby district, and it is more likely that John Hewetson's strong Presbyterian convictions, together with his father's former active support of the Parliamentary cause in Westmorland, provided the real motivation for his dismissal. In an area rife with divided loyalties, some person, or persons, bearing a religious or political grudge, might well have informed the Carlisle Chapter of John and Sarah's existing family relationship prior to their marriage, and thus provided the local royalist faction and established church with an excuse to rid the district of a potentially dangerous influence.

Whatever the reasons underlying John Hewetson's dismissal, he had little option but to return to the relative safety of Ravenstonedale. Lord Wharton's manor of Kirkby Stephen, ("that nest of all vipers"), and his manor of Ravenstonedale (probably regarded with equal venom), still offered a safe haven for Presbyterian dissenters. Indeed, it was for that very reason that John's own father had retired there after the collapse of the Commonwealth. On his return from Long Marton, in 1683, John rejoined his family in the Town, whilst his father, John Hewetson, "Senior", once again took up residence in the smaller property at Townhead, formerly rented by James Mosse.

In 1683, these two small messuages and tenements represented the sole Hewetson property in Ravenstonedale. Now, however, following the abrupt termination of their political and professional aspirations, both John Hewetson and his father proceeded to direct their considerable energies and capital resources to farming and religion. The results of this new enterprise were little short of astonishing. Between 1690 and 1723 John Hewetson, with the assistance of his father (until the latter's death in 1701), succeeded in purchasing many of the most sought after estates within the parish of Ravenstonedale. (See subsequent list.)

There can be little doubt that the Hewetsons' rapid acquisition of so much land and property was only made possible by former financial payments received for services to the Parliament during the Civil Wars, the Commonwealth and Protectorate. In addition, the Hewetsons had gained the approval and support of Philip, Lord Wharton, in recognition of their efforts in promoting the Presbyterian cause in Westmorland. They may also have had some small savings from former teaching stipends and encouraged their children's advantageous marriages with other influential and sympathetic dissenting families in Ravenstonedale.<sup>17</sup> John Hewetson's practice upon purchasing a new estate, was to first occupy it himself and then to rent out the older property to his two sons, or other near relatives.

Evidence of the rapidity with which the Hewetsons acquired their freehold property in Ravenstonedale may be judged from the qualifications governing the parliamentary franchise of the period. Until the Reform Act of 1832, the franchise for electing members of Parliament from the counties of England was limited to those who held freehold estates valued at forty shillings per annum or above. Thus, even large tenant farmers were denied a vote, but, as early as 1700/1–1702, John Hewetson is recorded as having voted for the Hon. Gervais Pierrepont, the Tory candidate at the Appleby elections, and from 1708–15 for the two Whig candidates, Edward Duncombe and Thomas Lutwyche.

By the time of his death, in 1723/4, John Hewetson, “Senior”, of Lockholme Foot, had already made over all his largest estates in the parish of Ravenstonedale to his two sons, John and Richard Hewetson. These were the messuages and tenements at Town and Townhead, Lockholme Head, Lockholme, Lockholme Row Foot, Lockholme Foot, Green, Ellergill, Street and Banks. Hence only two smaller properties are referred to in his will of 1723, namely: A fire-house in Kirkby Stephen and 6 pasture cattle gates at Waitby Intack.

A more complete list of John Hewetson’s real estate may be traced in the Admittance Books of the Wharton Manors for the years 1680–1842:<sup>18</sup>

- 1633      A messuage in Ravenstonedale Town. (Later the site of the High Chapel.)
- 1680      A house and land at Townhead: Tenancy let to James Mosse.
- 1690      A messuage and tenement at Murthwaite, purchased from James Fawcet.
- 1691      3 acres of arable and meadow land at Claylands: Tenancy let to Thomas Robinson.
- 1692      Several parcels of land in the Town Angle, purchased from Richard Wharton, Gent.
- 1693      A messuage and tenement at Fell End: Tenancy let to Abraham Handley.
- 1693      A parcel of Land at Burthwaite: Tenancy let to Thomas Fawcet.
- 1696/7    Two purchases of messuages and tenements at Lockholme. (One almost certainly Lockholme Foot, but only the index has survived for this year.)
- 1697      A messuage and tenement at Ellergill, purchased from John Robinson. (Purchase included the exchange of John Hewetson’s tenement at Outhgill, in Mallerstang.)
- 1698      A messuage and tenement at Locum (probably Lockholme Row Foot), purchased from James Dawson.
- 1698      A messuage, house and garth at Townhead, sold to Anthony Fothergill.
- 1698      Challons Close, in the Town Angle, sold to Henry Barber.
- 1700      Houses at Ellergill, with a garden and garth, purchased by Richard Hewitson of Lockholme Foot from Richard Adamthwaite of Lowcome.
- 1701      A messuage and tenement at Ellergill, purchased by Richard Hewetson of Lowcome from William Shaw of Street.
- 1707–1709    Rents paid for 2 acres in Alderson Bottom, at Kaber, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen.
- 1714–      Rents paid for Cattle Gates at Waitby, in the parish of Kirkby Stephen.
- 1717      A messuage and tenement at Lowkholme, purchased by John Hewittson Junior from John Hewittson Senior.



PLATE 1. Lockholme Foot, Ravenstonedale. A facsimile made by the researcher from the original water-colour painting by Anne Hewetson, dated 1787. The date cut into the stonework above the porch shows 1714.

- 1718      A messuage and tenement at Street Side, purchased by Richard Hewittson from Richard Hunter.
- 1721      A messuage and tenement at Ellergill, purchased from John Hewittson.
- 1722      A Messuage and tenement at Streetside, purchased by John Hewetson from his brother, Richard Hewetson. (Previously purchased in 1718 from Richard Hunter.)
- 1722      Two closes called Banks purchased by John Hewittson from Mr Richard Mitchell.
- 1723/4    John Hewittson, son and heir of John Hewittson deceased is admitted tennant of messuage and tenement at Lockholme in the Town Angle, &c.

Beckstones and Crooksbeck, also Hewetson properties, were acquired later in the eighteenth century through marriages.

John and Sarah Hewetson both lived to an old age, he being aged 86 when he died and she 74. Both were buried in Ravenstonedale churchyard: Sarah, 6 November 1716 and John, senior, 7 February 1723/4.

In his will, written on 6 June 1721 and proved in 1723/4, John Hewetson, the elder, formerly of the Town, Ravenstonedale, describes himself as "John Hewetson, the elder, of Lockholm Foot". It is the earliest surviving Hewetson will proved within the Peculiar Court of Ravenstonedale and therefore a document of particular interest and quoted in full:-

**Will of John Hewetson of Lockholm Foot:  
Written 6 June 1721. Proved 1723/4**

In the name of God I John Hewetson the elder of Lockholm Foot in the Parish of Ravenstonedale and County of Westmorland yeoman very weak of body but of sound and perfect minde and memory praise be given to Almighty God for the same Do make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in maner and form following:

First I commend my soul to God hoping through the meritts of my Redeemer Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon of all my sins and eternal life. And my body I committ to the ground to be decently buried at the Discretion costs and Charges of my joint Executors hereinafter named. And as touching the Disposition of all such temporall Estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and Dispose these as Followeth, viz:

- Imprimis: I Give and bequeath to my Grandson John Hewetson, the son of my son John Hewetson my fire house messuage and tenements which I had by purchase from Thomas Shaw situate in Kirkby Steven with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging to him and his Heires and Assignes for Ever.
- Item. I give to Elizabeth the wife of Henry Knewstubb two shillings six pence.
- Item. I give and bequeath to my son Richard Hewetson my six pasture Cattel gates laying in Wateby Intack in the Parish of Kirkbysteven with all their Appurtenances to him his Heires and Assignes for ever and I Do also give my said son Richard Hewetson the sum of twenty pounds.
- Item. I give to Every one of the children of Richard Hunter my son in law the sum of one pound.
- Item. I give to my Daughter Ann the wife of Humphrey Davison the sum of ten pounds and the sum of five shillings at every years end to be paide to her by my Joint Executors from the day of my Death During her natural life.
- Item. I give to my son in law Humphrey Davison and to Every one of his Children the sum of one pound apiece.
- Item. I give to Henry Knewstubb two shillings and sixpence.
- Item. I give to my son in law Richard Hunter the sum of one pound.
- Item. I give to Every one of the [Legattees?] of this last Will and Testament the sum of one shilling.
- Item. I give to my Daughter Ann Davison my bed of clothes I lay in and my clothes chist.

All the rest and residue of my goods and chattels bills bonds mortgages or Lawfull debts Due to me I give and bequeath to my two sons John Hewetson and Richard Hewetson Joyntly and Equally whom I nominate and Appoynt Joynt Executors they Joyntly paying all my legaces herein mentioned my Just Debts and Funeral Expences. And I Do hereby revoke Disanull and make voide all former Wills and to this my last Will and Testament Do sett my hand and seal the sixth Day of June Anno Dom 1721.

Signature: John Hewetson Marke and Seal.  
Signed sealed and Acknowledged in the presence of us viz:  
Richard Hunter. H marke. Henry Knewstubb. Jurat.

John Hewetson's signature, although rather wavering owing to old age (he was then 84) still possesses a certain elegance. Both his sons, John and Richard, sign an accompanying Bond with similar stylish handwriting. At this period less than half the inhabitants of Ravenstonedale could sign their own names. Attached to John Hewetson's will is the following Inventory:

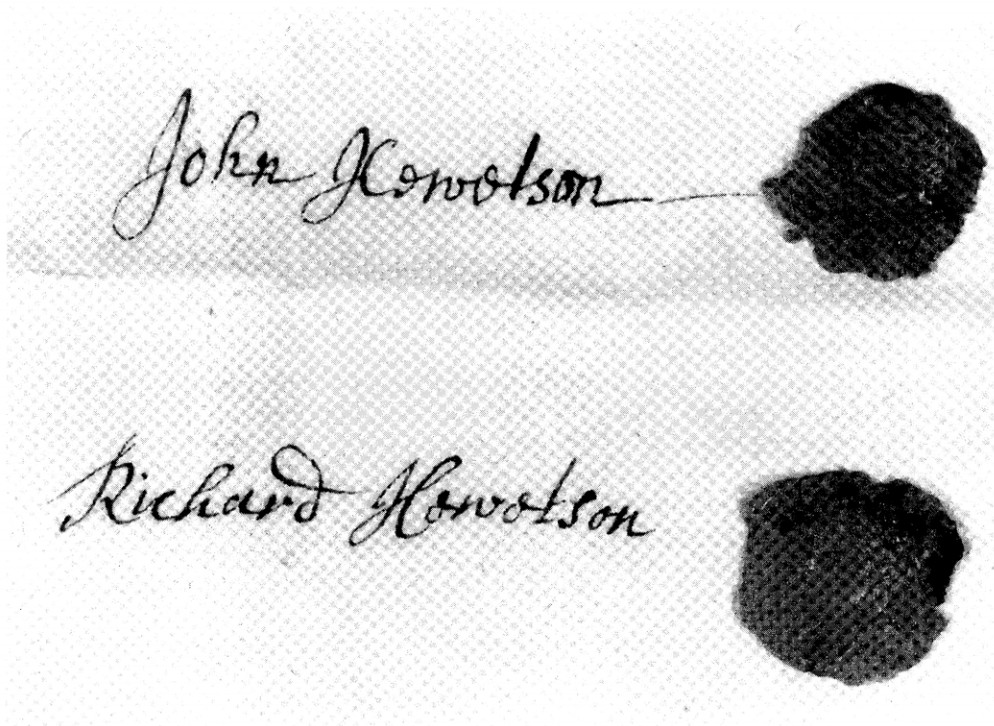


PLATE 2. The signatures of the two Hewetson Presbyterian Brothers: John Hewetson, 1678/9–1752, and Richard Hewetson, 1682–1763. Taken from the Administration Bond of their Father, dated 1723/4.

A true and perfect Inventory of all ye goods cattels chattels and etc Wch John Hewetson Senr. late of Lockholme-foot died possess'd of as they were taken view'd and appriz'd the Eleventh day of February 1723 by those Four Sworn Apprizers whose names are here underwritten.

		£ . s . d.
Imprimis.	Purse	3 . 10 . 00
	Apparel	1 . 09 . 06
	In Bills Bonds and Mortgages	201 . 13 . 10
	Reconings in John and Richard's hands	10 . 00 . 00
	Bedding	02 . 02 . 00
		218 . 15 . 04
	Funeral expenses	10 . 00 . 00
	Clear Goods	208 . 15 . 04

Apprizers hereof: Richard Hunter, Mrk.R.H. Henry Knewstubb George Morland Richard Mitchell

### **John Hewetson's Fire-House in the Middle of the Town, Site of the Ravenstonedale Meeting House**

It is possible that John Hewetson (1567–1654) may have originally inherited land at Lockholme through his father-in-law, Gilbert Blerthorne, who died in 1643/4, but of this we have no record owing to the loss of wills and manor court records prior to 1680.

The first Hewetson properties in Ravenstonedale, of which we have certain knowledge, were the messuage in the “middle of the toune”, purchased in 1633, and the later “house, garden and garth at Townhead”, mentioned as being let to James Mosse in 1680, and sold to Anthony Fothergill in 1698. At some date unknown, but probably 1696, when his eldest son, John, had removed to farm the new property at Lockholme Foot,<sup>19</sup> John Hewetson, “the elder” (1638–1723/4), transferred the messuage and fire-house in the middle of the town to his younger son, Richard. In 1724, Richard Hewetson sold part of this estate to his brother-in-law, Richard Hunter, of Bowberhead, and John Shaw, who purchased the site for the proposed Meeting House on behalf of the Protestant dissenters of Ravenstonedale. At this time the dissenters were still meeting at the house of Mr George Parkin, which was situated lower down the Town from the Hewetsons' messuage, but on the same side of the present road. It was at Parkin's house that the Revd. Christopher Jackson, who having been ejected from Crosby Garrett in 1662, had continued to hold services until his death in 1689. From then on, a succession of non-conformist ministers were carefully selected, ordained and appointed by the Meeting House

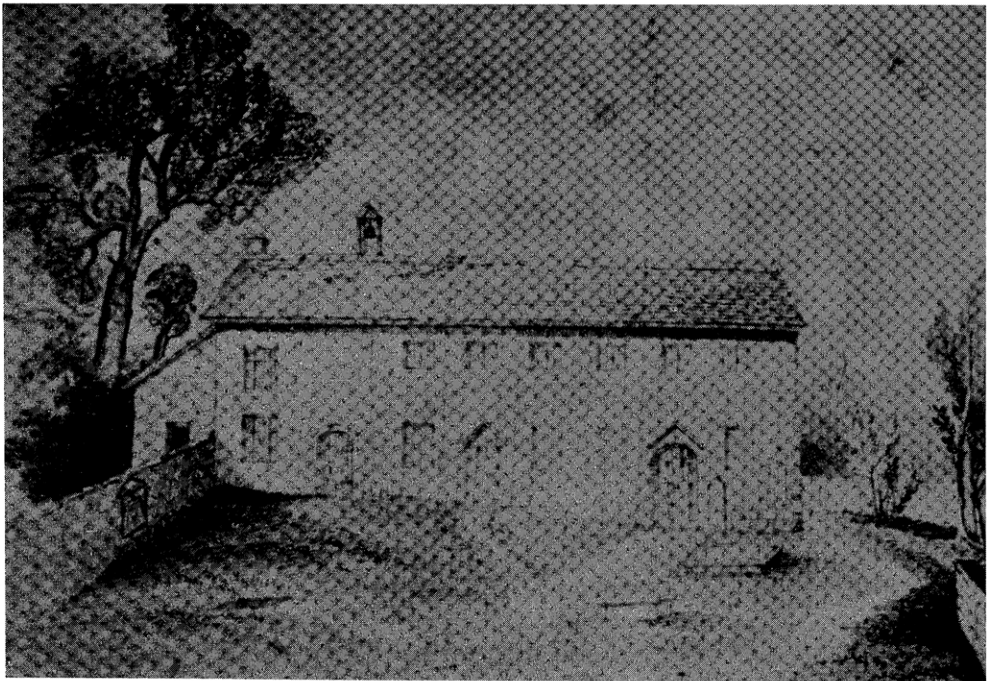


PLATE 3. The original High Chapel, Ravenstonedale. Photographed from a Cart de Visite of an engraving probably made about 1780. Note the few grave stones in the chapel garth.

Trustees, with the approval of Philip, Lord Wharton. They too officiated at George Parkin's registered Meeting House in Ravenstonedale Town, although very few of these early ministers lasted for more than a few years.<sup>20</sup>

The construction of the original Meeting House, or "High Chapel" as it became widely known, was completed in 1726, and on 10 April 1727, the building was officially registered at the Public Sessions at Appleby. The same year, John Parkin, a Blacksmith, was named as tenant in order to act as caretaker of the premises on behalf of the Meeting House Trustees.

The history of the Ravenstonedale High Chapel is one of a long succession of fierce doctrinal disputes, financial arguments over payment of the ministers' stipends and clashes of personality. Much of the trouble was due to an influential faction of the Trustees demanding that the minister preach only the strictest Calvinist doctrine. If he did not, then the Trustees withheld his agreed stipend. This might have proved an acceptable, if somewhat restrictive, arrangement but for the fact that neither the Trustees nor the congregation were able to agree on what *was* strict Calvinist doctrine. At different times sectional interests veered between Presbyterianism, Arianism, Unitarianism and, later still, Congregationalism and different forms of Methodism.

One of a number of understandably disgruntled chapel ministers, was James Richie, M.D., who had been educated at Glasgow University and invited to become minister at Ravenstonedale on 7 October 1733.<sup>21</sup> In spite of the Trustees unanimous agreement to his appointment he was, like others before him, ejected from the Chapel by those who had only recently elected him. Initially the trouble was the usual one of the doctrine preached, as illustrated by the following testimony given at Penrith, in 1738, by one of the deponents in the Court of Chancery case of *The Rev. Richie v. The Ravenstonedale High Chapel Trustees*, who said:-

. . . that about two years ago to the best of his remembrance as to the time the Plaintiff John Hewetson sent for the Complainant James Richie to the House of one Richard Mitchell in Ravenstonedale Town aforesaid and as soon as the Complainant came to the Plaintiff the Plaintiff John Hewetson then told the Said Complainant that he acknowledged that the Said James Richie was their minister but that since he the Said James Richie had been Ordained with persons contrary to his mind he the Said James Richie should never have a penny out of the Sallery belonging to the Said meeting House that he the Said Deponent John Huetson could hinder the Complainant . . .

The account of this interview, which had taken place in 1734, proved merely a polite overture to future events. When previous disagreements had got out of hand they frequently ended in court cases with the contestants having to pay heavy legal fees; but on more than one occasion ministers and groups of rival chapel supporters resorted to armed force and this occasion was to prove no exception. Following the altercation over matters spiritual and financial with the Trustees, Richie took violent exception to John Parkin being appointed as a virtual caretaker of the Meeting House and chapel garth:-

1738 2 October. Presentment that John Parkin being seised of one close commonly called the Meeting House garth in Ravenstonedale did peacefully and quietly continue his possession of the same until James Ritchie of Ravenstonedale, John Miller of Asfell, Christopher Bousfield of Bowderdale and many others did on 20 August with force and arms that is to say with



staves, swords, files and gavellocks enter the said close and with strong hands and armed power did drive out and remove the said John Parkin from his possession and have with power kept him out to this day against the peace of our sovereign lord the king.<sup>22</sup>

It was as a result of this and other incidents that, in 1738, the suit already referred to, between James Richie, Clerk, the minister of the High Meeting House, Ravenstonedale, plaintiff, and John Perkin, John Hewetson, Richard Hewetson, Robert Hunter, James Robinson, William Robinson, Godfrey Milner, James Alderson, John Shaw and William Shaw, Trustees of the said High Meeting House, defendants, was brought before the Court of Chancery.

Several of the questions put to deponents in the case related to the purchase of the Meeting House site and to the financial arrangements made for the maintenance and salary of the dissenting minister. An extract is now given from the voluminous MSS of the above case,<sup>23</sup> which shows beyond all doubt that a part of the original Hewetson messuage in the middle of Ravenstonedale Town was indeed chosen for the site of the intended chapel.

John Hunter, Husbandman, aged 52 years or thereabouts. Living near Ravenstonedale in the parish of Ravenstonedale in the County of Westmorland being produced as a Witness on the part and behalf of the Complainant in this Cause . . . being Sworn Deposeeth and saith:

1. To the first Interrogatory that he doth know the Complainant. James Richie in the Title of these Interrogatories named and hath known him for the spase of 3 years now last past or thereabouts. and this Deponent doth also know the Deft. John Huetson Robert Hunter James Robinson Richard Huetson John Shaw John Perkins William. Robinson also named in the title of these Interrogatories and this Deponent hath known them for the space of 30 or 40 years last past and more to this Interrogatory Saith not.
- 2d. To the 2d. Interrogatory this Deponent Saith that he did know John Shaw late of Ravenstonedale in the pleadings in the Cause named in his Life time and knew him between 30 and 40 years before his Death and this Deponent did also know Richard Hunter late of Ravenstonedale aforesaid in the pleadings in this Cause also . . . in his life time and knew him likewise between 30 and 40 years before his Death and this Deponent Saith that the Said John Shaw dyed about a year ago and the said Richard Hunter dyed about Seven Years ago to the best of this Deponents remembrance and more to this Interrogatory saith not.
- 3d. To the 3d. Interrogatory this Deponent saith that this Deponent doth know the peice or Parcell of Ground whereon the meeting house in question is now built for the meeting and Worship of the Protestant Dessenters in Ravenstonedale aforesaid and the Garth thereto adjoining and this Deponent Saith he hath known the said Peice of Ground and the said Garth for the Space of 30 Yers and upwards this Deponent did know the same before the said meeting house was built thereon and the same did belong before the building of the Said meeting House unto the Deponent Richard Huetson and this Deponent Saith that the Said peece of Ground as purchased of the Said Richard Hewetson for the Sume of £6 and upwards by the Said John Shaw and Richard Hunter both since deceased in order to Erect a Meeting house thereon for the Protestant Dissenters in Ravenstonedale aforesaid and this Deponent saith that about 9 or 10 Years ago to the best of this Deponents Remembrance as to the time he this Deponent beeing Employed by the Said John Shaw and Richard Hunter to levell the floor of the Said Meeting house before the same was finished he heard the Said John Shaw and Richard Hunter in a Jocular manner tell the Said



Richard Huetson that they had paid him a great price for the Said Ground and Garth and the Said Richard Huetson in answer there to acknowledged that he was well paid for it but Said it was the Dissenters money of the parish of Ravenstonedale that paid for it and the John Shaw and Richard Hunter then own'd that it was the publick money belonging to the Dissenters of the Said parish that paid for the purchase of the Said Ground in order to Erect a Meeting house thereon etc. . . .

[This same conversation was overheard by James Fawcett, another deponent.]

4. To the fourth Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he Doth believe that the Ground or Soil whereon the said meeting house now stands with the Garth there to adjoining Called the meeting house Garth was Purchased by the Said John Shaw and Richard Hunter but in whose name or Names the same was purchased or in whose name or Names the Conveyance thereof was taken this Deponent doth not know . . . etc.
5. To the 5th Interrogatory this Deponent Saith that no Person doth now Preach in the Said meeting house by reason that the Dissenters of the Said Parish disagree amongst themselves but the particulars of Such differences this dept. Cant morally depose to his now best Remembrance.

Other witnesses called gave similar depositions, all confirming the sale of the messuage in the middle of the town by Richard Hewetson to John Shaw and Richard Hunter, on behalf of the Protestant dissenters of Ravenstonedale. What is not stated in the depositions is that Richard Hewetson had only recently purchased additional land adjoining the original Hewetson messuage in the middle of Ravenstonedale town and that he still retained part of his original messuage and fire-house after the site had been sold and the Meeting House built. It is tempting to think that Richard Hewetson either had advanced knowledge as to the choice of the chapel site, or else possessed an uncanny degree of business acumen. The following references taken from the Manor Court Admittance Books illustrate his shrewd dealings at this time:

1724 November 11th.

*Articles of Agreement:* about Bargain and Sale to be made between John Jackson of Gamasby, Adingam [Addingham] parish, Cumberland on behalf of himself and his wife and Richard Huetson of Ellergill, Ravenstonedale, yeoman. 1) John Jackson and wife shall convey to Richard Huetson for ever all that whole messuage and tenement at Ravinstondale town with all appurtenances with rents (1s 6d old and 1d new) due to the Duke of Wharton. 2) Consideration for messuage to be £82 10s 6d. paid thus: 10s 6d. in hand. £5 at sealing of deed sometime before Christmas [sic] at Thomas Glenton's in Appleby and remainder at or on 11 November 1725.

*Addendum:* agreement that wood growing upon the old roots on the above premises shall belong to Richard Hewetson and his heirs for ever to fell and carry away, not doing any damage thereby.

*Endorsements:* Receipt, 7 April 1726, of Richard Hewetson for £6 from John Perkins.

*Witnesses:* Richard Hunter, John Shaw; approval of deed by Grand Jury, 18 October 1726, before John Bousfield; deposed in case in Chancery between Richie, Clerk, plaintiff and Perkin and others, defendants, heard at Penrith, Cumberland, 9 July 1738, upon examination of witnesses before Wm. Lambert and John Brougham.

1725 October 20. *Conveyance*:

Richard Hewetson of Streetside, Ravenstonedale, Innkeeper; to John Perkins of Greenside, bachelor, with consent of Philip, Duke of Wharton. Premises: All that tenantright in certain parcel of Hewetson's garth lying on the west side of his fire-house In Ravenstonedale Town as marked out "this day", with right of way to same through barn: 2 yards wide and 2½ yds. high, which parcel is part of a messuage and tenement to which Hewetson is admitted tenant "this day" from Agnes Jackson and John Jackson, her husband of Gamsbe [in Addingham parish, Cumberland] with all appurtenances (except wood growing thereon) and with ancient yearly rent of 6d Philip Duke of Wharton. Consideration £6.

*Witnesses*: Richard Hunter, John Shaw, John Hewetson. Every party bound in penal sum of £100 to be forfeited in case of breach of any article. *Witnesses*: John Milner, John Beck.

1725 October 20. *Agreement*:

Between Richard Hewetson of Elergill, Ravenstonedale, and John Perkins about timber and rights of way on occasion of sale of parcel of garth on west side of Hewetson's house in Ravenstonedale Town by deed poll of same date [see above]. 1) John Perkins agrees that Richard Hewetson and his heirs shall have free liberty to fell and carry away any wood now growing on the premises out of the old roots but shall plant no more. 2) Richard Hewetson shall allow John Perkins to make a way through his barn against the north end of his cow house 2yds wide and 2½ yds. high and a way from thence through his garden to the said covenanted premises 2½ yds. within the walls making all the walls of partition between them at his [Perkins] costs and charges and maintaining them for ever.

1726 October 18. *Admittance*:

By Ric. Baynes, Steward and Richd. Waller, Commissioners (at Court of Manor of Ravenstonedale held for Phillip Duke of Wharton) of John Parkin, by purchase from Richard Hewittson of a parcel of ground in Russdale [Ravenstonedale] Town with appurtenances of ancient customary rent of 6d. paying fine of 6d.

*Endorsement*: Deposed in case of Chancery between James Richie, clerk, plaintiff and John Hewetson and others, defendants, heard at Penrith, Cumberland, 17 May, 1738, by John Bousfield at time of his examination before And. Hudleston, John Brougham, B. Highmore, Tho: James.

A later conveyance dated 24 October 1732, between James Richardson of Town, carpenter, and Henry Barber of the same place, yeoman, mentions "... a firehouse and barn adjoining the house of Roger Barber or John Milner at the north end and to the house of Richard Hewetson at the south end. . .".

On these evidences, one may assume that Richard Hewetson had sold only a small parcel of his land for the site of the Meeting House, and that probably a part of the messuage and tenement recently acquired from John Jackson of Gamblesby. After the High Chapel had been built, Richard Hewetson still retained the old family fire-house, together with a small garth, in the middle of Ravenstonedale Town.

### Lockholme Foot and the Minister's Stipend

In the same way that Hewetson land in the Town had supplied a site for the High Chapel, so Lockholme Foot, the Hewetsons' first farm in Ravenstonedale, was initially designed to provide financial capital, the interest from which was to contribute towards the minister's annual stipend. It is necessary at this point to refer to the initial endowment of Ravenstonedale High Chapel. Nicolson and Burn give the following description:

There is also an handsome dissenting meeting house at Ravenstonedale; for the support of which, Philip Lord Wharton gave by his will the sum of £100, to be laid out in a mortgage as soon as might be of some estate in Ravenstonedale for three years, according to the laudable custom of that manor; the interest thereof to go for the benefit of Mr. Timothy Puncheon the then dissenting minister and his successors forever; And the same to be laid out in a purchase of lands as soon as might be convenient; Accordingly in 1693; the same was laid out on a mortgage in Ravenstonedale [Lockholme Foot] with a declaration of trust that the same should enure [inure] for the benefit of the minister, and the mortgage to be renewed every three years according to the custom of the said manor. Besides this, one Mr. Pinder, a dissenting minister at London, gave to the said meeting house £30. John Thompson of Kirkby Stephen, hosier £20. Isabel Langhorn £6. James and Mary Fawcett £20. George Murthwaite £10. All which sums have been laid out in the purchase of lands. There was also £100 in money contributed by Christopher Todd and others; £20 of which has been lost, and the rest is let out at interest by the trustees. The rest of the salary is raised by voluntary subscriptions. And the whole revenues of the meeting house raises to the present minister about £40 a year.<sup>24</sup>

The First Indenture of the High Chapel, Ravenstonedale, dated 18 August 1693, is more specific, but of very great length and suffers from the customary legal tautology. The relevant passage of this document reads as follows:

This Indenture made the 18th day of August in the 5th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord and Lady William and Mary by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King and Queen, Defenders of the Faith Anno Domini 1693 between George Parkin of Locom in the Parish of Ravenstonedale in the County of Westmorland, yeoman of the first part and Thomas Fothergill of Brownberr in the said parish and County Yeoman of the Second part; and Peter Pinder of the Burrough of Southwark in the County of Surrey Gentleman, William Milner of Assefell in the said parish of Ravenstonedale in the said County of Westmorland Christopher Todd of the Rother Garths in the same parish Thomas Knewstubb of the Dubbs, James Perkin of Greenside, Richard Hunter Brownbarhead, Robert Fothergill and George Murthwaite both of the Wath and Henry Cautly of Greenside in the said parish of Ravenstonedale yeomen of the third part;

Whereas the said George Parkin in or about the fourth day of November in the 4th year of their majesties reign have purchased of Richard Wharton of Hartley in the County of Westmorland gentleman all that fire house called by the name of the 'New Chamber' with a peat house at the south and thereof one barn, and Cow-house and stable, and close called High Gills and moiety or the one half of a pasture called the Great Pasture and moiety or the one half of all that Close called the Gales and the garden in it and moiety or the one half of all that garth called the Gilly Garth with al Eifitts Houses Buildings Orchards gardens Bank Fronts Ways Water Easements Woods Underwoods Commons Common of Pasture Peat Moss Turbary with singular the appurtenances to the said premises or any

part parts parcels thereof belonging or in any wise appertaining for the sum of three score thirteen pounds of lawful English monies in hand paid to the said Richard Wharton to Have and to Hold all and singular the abovesaid premises with and every of their appurtenances to the said George Parkin his heirs and assigns for ever according to the custom of Mannor or Lordship of Ravenstonedale in the said county of Westmorland of the yearly rent of three shillings English money or rent, three shillings of lie money new rent payable yearly unto the Right Honourable Philip Lord Wharton his heirs, Assignes And the said George Parkin is since legally admitted Tennant to the said premises according to the customs of the same Mannor and Whereas the said George Parkin since his admittance For, in consideration of the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money to him the said George Parkin in hand paid by the same Thomas Fothergill hath . . . mortgaged conveyed and engaged all and singular the premises with their and every of their appurtenances unto the said Thomas Fothergill his heirs and assigns according to the Customs of the Mannor or Lordship of Ravenstonedale under the said rents of three shillings English moneys old rent and three shillings more like moneys being new rent and such boones customs Fines by the laudable Customs and Usages of the same Mannor or Lordship or hereafter may or shall become due and payable unto the said right honorable Philip Lord Wharton his heirs and assigns.

And in the same mortgage deed or conveyance there is a proviso to the effect following viz: provided nevertheless that the true intent and meaning of the said . . . morgage deeds that if the above said George Parkin his heirs or assigns should pay or arrange to be paid unto the above Thomas Fothergill to his certain attorney heirs or assigns the last mentioned sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money and alone entire payment in or upon the seventeenth day of August which will be in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and ninety six and that then the said morgage to be void otherwise upon nonpayment in manner aforesaid the said George Parkin did thereby promise to come in open court to be holden for the said Mannor or Lordship of Ravenstonedale next after the said seventeenth day of August which shall be Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and ninety six and there fully freely and finally surrender yield and give up the above bargained and mortgaged premises unto the said Thomas Fothergill his heirs assigns forever As by the said deed of mortgage and bearing date the seventeenth day of August Anno Domini 1693 being thereunto had it doth and may more at large appear.

Now this indenture witnesseth and all the said parties to these present do for themselves respectively and every of their respective and several heirs adms. and assigns hereby confess acknowledge and declare that the said one hundred pounds English moneys mentioned to be paid by the said Thomas Fothergill to the said George Parkin was the proper moneys of the said Peter Pinder William Milner Christopher Todd Thomas Knewstubb James Perkin Richard Hunter Robert Fothergill George Murthwaite Henry Cautley and that the name of the said Thomas Fothergill is only made use of in trust for them. . . . &c.

In contrast, the following letter, submitted to the Court of Chancery in the dispute between the Rev. James Richie and the Trustees of the Ravenstonedale Meeting House in 1738, (by an unknown attestor – no signature has survived) is both clear and concise. Lockholme Foot is specifically mentioned as the site of the “New Chamber” tenement<sup>25</sup> and the mortgage conditions relating to the property and minister’s stipend are explicitly stated:-

. . . and your Orator sheweth that before the said Benefaction by the said Lord Wharton so given as aforesaid one Geo. Perkin a member of the said congregation having purchased a

customary messuage and tenement suitable lying and being at Lockholmfoot within the parish of Ravenstonedale of the yearly value of £6 or thereabouts and held of the Manor of Ravenstonedale aforesaid as a parcel thereof. He the said Geo. Perkin was willing to secure the said £100 upon a Mortgage of the said estate and having occasion for that sum he therefore borrowed and received of the said trustees the said £100 and for securing the repayment thereof with interest after the rate of 5 percent for the use of the said minister. . .

Reference has already been made to George Parkin, one of Ravenstonedale's earliest recorded dissenters. At the end of his three year tenancy of Lockholme Foot, which ended in 1696, Parkin was unable to raise the £100 necessary to redeem the mortgage, which the Chapel Trust Deed clearly states was due on the 17 August that year. Consequently, Thomas Fothergill, of Lockholme, on behalf of the Chapel Trustees and with the approval of the Duke of Wharton, sought a new tenant for the chapel tied estate. Hence it was that in 1696/7, John Hewetson purchased the customary tenant right of the farm under the conditions laid down in the Chapel Trust Deed.

Researches made in 1963 led to the discovery of a small water-colour painting of Lockholme Foot, dated 1787 and made by Ann Hewetson, the eighteen year old daughter of John Hewetson of Lockholme Foot, by his second wife, Isabel née Elliotson. This painting, together with three others,<sup>26</sup> were traced to Mrs Mary Muriel Homan (née Hewetson), widow of Captain Charles Edward Homan, through family wills. A descendant of the Lockholme Foot Hewetsons, who later became cornfactors at Catherine Court, London, Mrs Homan then resided at Burley, Hampshire. Although reluctant to lend these paintings for much needed restoration, the researcher was given permission to visit Burley and make facsimile copies. This was done and reproductions in both pencil and water-colour were made of two of these works; the painting of Lockholme Foot and a miniature of John Hewetson of Catherine Court. When Mrs Homan died a few years later these interesting family heirlooms disappeared without trace.

In 1964, the barn and cow houses still standing at Lockholme Foot, to the south of Lockholme beck, were carefully inspected by me in company with Mr Michael Bunney.<sup>27</sup> Careful drawings and photographs of these buildings revealed an exact correspondence with Ann Hewetson's painting of the original Hewetson farmhouse as it appeared in 1787. The main stone structure appeared to date from about 1680 and to have been erected upon the foundations of a much earlier and cruder homestead. Windows, door and porch, filled in with stonework, were still clearly visible and tracings of these features, taken from photographs and enlarged to the same size as the painting, corresponded exactly with the latter when superimposed. A much larger building than the typical Westmorland farmhouse of the period, the painting shows it to have been greatly extended and an additional upper storey added. A similar, but well restored, example of this unusual design may be seen today in the Back Lane, Ravenstonedale Town.

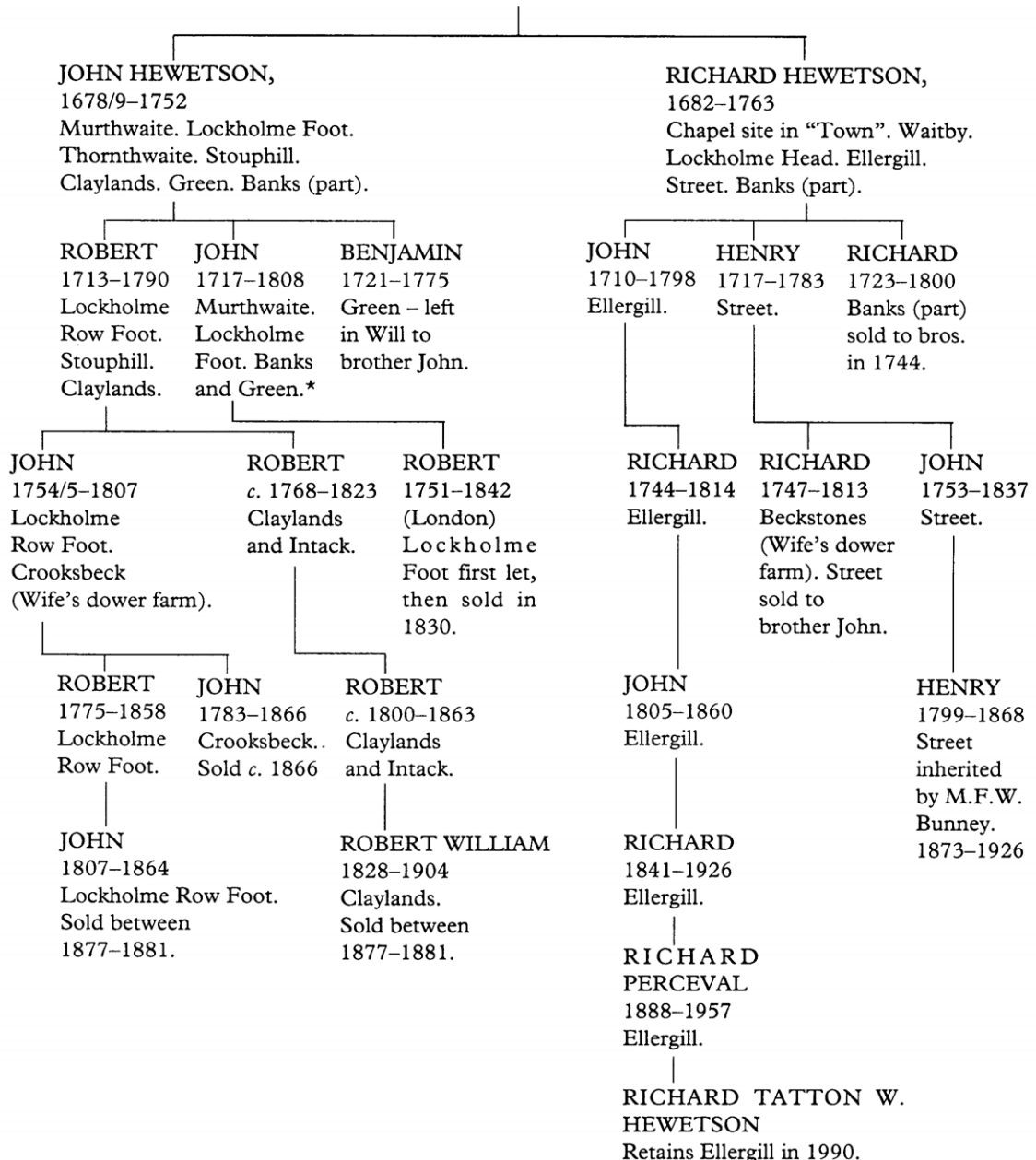
A detail of particular interest shown in the original painting is the date, 1714, cut into the stonework above the porch. This almost certainly records the year in which renovation and enlargement of Lockholme Foot was completed. It was at this time that the window-lit third storey must have been added by conversion of the original loft area, and the whole exterior facade of the house given a stuccoed "Queen Anne

style" appearance. Three figures are shown in the painting: an old woman, partly hidden by the porch, and a young woman, supporting a wooden wash tub on her head, in conversation with a man in austere puritan dress, presumably a minister of religion. The painting was clearly made by an accomplished amateur water-colourist who would have received expert tuition in the mastery of this difficult medium. Meticulous attention was paid to architectural detail, the costumes of the people and to such topographical features as the lopped off lower branches of scotch firs near the house (in order to allow maximum penetration of light to the interior). The whole painting retained the direct, translucent, wash technique typical of the early English water colour school – a quite extraordinarily competent accomplishment for an eighteen year old amateur painter.

## APPENDIX 1

A SIMPLIFIED TABLE SHOWING DESCENT OF THE MAIN HEWETSON  
PROPERTIES & LAND IN RAVENSTONEDALE

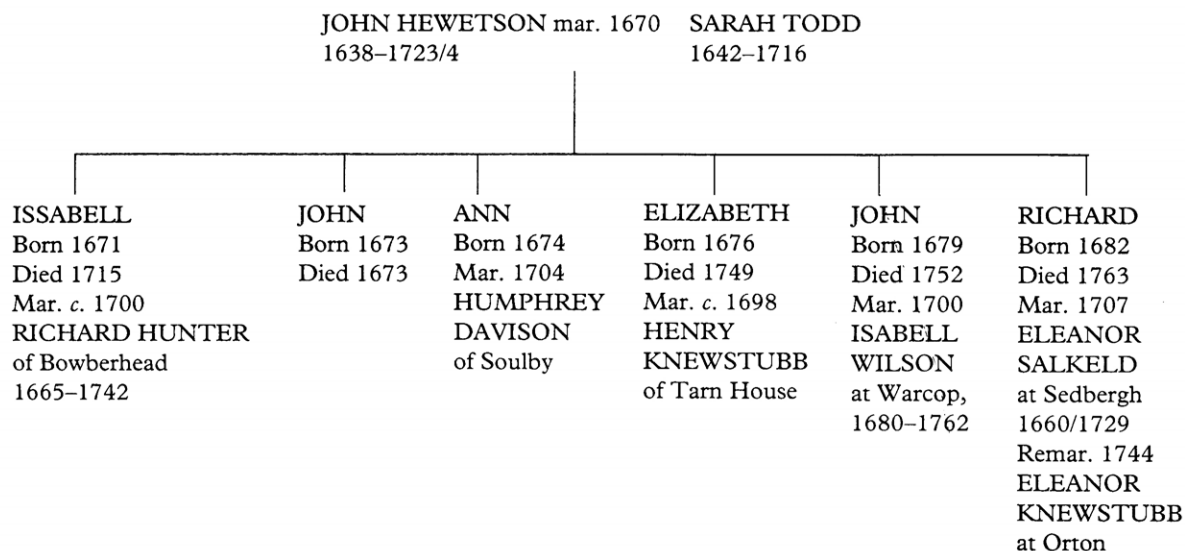
JOHN HEWETSON, Senior, OF LOCKHOLME FOOT, 1638–1723/4  
Acquired properties at "Town" (including site of later High Chapel), Townhead,  
Murthwaite, Claylands, Waitby, Outhgill, Lockholme Foot.  
Green, Thornthwaite, Ellergill, Street & Banks.



\* Green was later inherited, first by Benjamin Hewetson (1776–1859), son of John Hewetson (1717–1808) and secondly by Benjamin's son, Benjamin Hewetson (1811–1892). Sold in 1892.

## APPENDIX 2

## THE FAMILY OF JOHN &amp; SARAH HEWETSON OF TOWN RAVENSTONEDALE



## Notes and References

- <sup>1</sup> The Will of Mychaell Hewetson of Naitbie, in the Parish of Kirkby Stephen, was written on 18 January, 1587/8, and that of his wife, Janet, on 14 July, 1588. Both Wills were proved in 1588 in the Consistory Court of Carlisle. Inventories of the goods of Michael and Janet Hewetson were taken on 28 January, 1587/8, and 4 August, 1588.
- <sup>2</sup> Ref. Ravenstonedale Parish Registers. The peculiar name of Bleritt was an abbreviation of Blerthorne – perhaps an earlier corruption of Bleatarn, a farmstead in Warcop parish.
- <sup>3</sup> Rentals for Ravenstonedale; 1541, 1560 and 1580. Lockholme was then the collective name given to a series of small farmsteads in the Town Angle of Ravenstonedale, now known by their individual names of: Lockholme Head, Lockholme Hall, Lockholme, Lockholme Row Foot and Lockholme Foot (later renamed Piper Hole). The farmsteads follow the course of Lockholme beck from near Crossbank to Ravenstonedale Townhead. The derivation of Lockholme is given as: “Water meadows where leeks or garlic grow.”
- <sup>4</sup> “A good bailiff ought to be a full-time man of middle age. He must not have a farm of his own to occupy him when he ought to be about his master’s business. . . . The bailiff, too, ought to be a married man with an honest and thrifty wife.” An anonymous 17th Cent. writer, quoted in G.E. and K.R. Fussell, *The English Countryman* (Orbis Pub., London, 1981).
- <sup>5</sup> “Baylife is an officer that belongeth to a manor, to order the husbandrie, and hath authority to pay quit rents issuing out of the manor, fell trees, repair houses, make hedges, distrain beasts doing hurt upon the ground and divers such like. This officer is he whom the Saxons calleth a Reeve.” Stroud’s, *Judicial Dictionary* (Sweet and Maxwell Ltd., 1986).  
“Above the Reeve was a bailiff or Sergeant (Serviens) who often controlled two or more manors. He was a free layman or a clerk in minor orders, a professional farm overseer who was both an instigator and a product of the managerial revolution of the thirteenth century. The bailiff was usually responsible for drawing up the accounts, which were written by a scribe. It was essential for both Stewards and Bailiffs to have legal knowledge.” Ed. J.R. Strayer, *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*.
- <sup>6</sup> At this period, Lord Wharton’s regular bailiffs received £4 6s. 8d. per annum.



- <sup>7</sup> "Fire-house": A dwelling house with a hearth and chimney. After 19 May, 1662, owners of such houses, valued at over twenty shillings a year, were liable to pay a Hearth Tax of two shillings for each hearth. Those who paid neither Church or Poor Rate were exempt. The Hearth Tax of 1669–1672 records John's son, "John Hewetson", rated at 1 Hearth for a house situated in the Town Angle of Ravenstonedale. It was this house, the earliest home of the Hewetson family in Ravenstonedale, that stood upon part of the site purchased in 1726 for the Dissenters' Meeting House.
- <sup>8</sup> The title of "Mr." was used throughout this correspondence to denote Schoolmasters. Ministers and Clerks were described as such, whilst other parishioners were named but given no particular title. At this time, Dufton and the district around Appleby were as steadfast in their support for the King as were Kirkby Stephen and Ravenstonedale for the Parliament.
- <sup>9</sup> The Revd. Christopher Jackson, ejected from his living at Crosby Garrett in 1662.
- <sup>10</sup> The earliest surviving Will, proved in the Peculiar Court of Ravenstonedale, is that of James Taylor of Wath (proved on 7 June 1664). Very few Wills, Admons, or Court Records have survived prior to 1700.
- <sup>11</sup> From the Correction Court Act Books lying at Carlisle Record Office. Ref. 1681–1683 4v. 1681; (DRC/5/2.25). 1682 and 1683 (DRC/5/3) Long Marton. The MSS is in Latin.
- <sup>12</sup> Empirical studies conducted in ancient Greece had already convinced many physicians of the danger of mental illness being contracted by the descendants of marriages made between near relatives.
- <sup>13</sup> Monday, 4 May, 1681, a Visitation of the General Chapter of the Deanery of Westmorland, was held in the Parish Church of Saint Lawrence, Appleby, at which John Hewetson was approved as schoolmaster at Long Marton.
- <sup>14</sup> The Admittance Books for the Wharton Manors in Westmorland, 1680–1830. Originally held at the Lowther Estate Office and now lying at Cumbria County Record Office, The Castle, Carlisle. 1680 Oct. 25 Russendale: Admit. James Mosse by virtue of a Deed from John Hewitson Junior and John Hewitson Senior proved in court is admitted tenant of one House and Garth and Gardens with th'appurtenances scituated at Russendale Towne head aforesaid of the anciente yearlie rent of two shillings two pence and he to pay fine for the same two shillings two pence in hand and for lycence ten shillings.
- <sup>15</sup> This was almost certainly the same Edward Minyes who Lord Wharton chose to be the first master at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School in 1566. Swailes, Alec., *Kirkby Stephen Grammar School, 1566–1966* (Appleby, 1966).
- <sup>16</sup> John Metcalf was appointed in 1677; James Calvert in 1684; Thomas Barber in 1690; Matthew Rudd in 1694; Robert Shaw in 1700; James Moore in 1703; Marmaduke Holme in 1703; William Fawcett in 1707; Edward Holmes in 1726; Thomas Coulston in 1726; Thomas Robertson in 1759; James Sedgwick in 1764; John Robinson in 1767; John Robinson in 1796. Prior to 1767, appointments of three or four years seem to have been usual in Ravenstonedale, but after that date periods of up to thirty years were quite common.
- <sup>17</sup> See Appendix 2
- <sup>18</sup> Originally held at the Lowther Estate Office; now lying at Cumbria County Record Office, The Castle, Carlisle.
- <sup>19</sup> Unfortunately, only an index of persons who purchased property in 1696 has survived in the court records for that year. No descriptions of the particular estates are given other than that they were both at "Lowcome".
- <sup>20</sup> In 1691, Mr Timothy Puncheon was invited and ordained; in 1697, Mr James Mitchell of Lockholm (who died in 1712); in 1713, Mr James Magee, who persisted in his ministry despite the appointment of Mr Caleb Rotherham in 1714, and Mr John Mallinson in 1716.
- <sup>21</sup> James Richie replaced the Revd John Magee, the latter minister highly thought of by the Hewetsons, and who later became a close friend. Magee was ejected early in 1733 on account of his "form of preaching". He continued to live on in Ravenstonedale until 1743, after which he retired to the Isle of Wight, from where he maintained a regular correspondence with "Mr Hewtson of Locolum", care of his brother "Robert Magee of kerbystephen. By London".
- <sup>22</sup> Extract from the Appleby Quarter Sessions for 1738, at Cumbria County Record Office, Kendal.
- <sup>23</sup> MSS copies of the Case of the Revd Richie V. The Ravenstonedale High Chapel Trustees are at the Cumbria Record Office at Kendal. (Typed copies may also be found in Hewetson Genealogical Data, Vol. 5, Files Geneal. 124, 125, 126 and 127, deposited at Kendal and Carlisle Record Offices.
- <sup>24</sup> Nicolson & Burn, Vol. 1, 523–4.

- <sup>25</sup> The name "New Chamber" only occurs in the Indenture of 1693, but the description of the fire-house, out-buildings and location of the stated fields all correspond with the present day farm buildings and land at Lockholme Foot.
- <sup>26</sup> There were two small water-colour paintings; one of Lockholme Foot and one of Ravenstonedale Grammar School, both made by Ann Hewetson in 1787. In addition there were two fine miniature paintings: The first of John Hewetson of Lockholme Foot (later, Cornfactor of Catherine Court, London), 1742-1804, described on the reverse as being the son of John Hewetson of Lockholme Foot, 1680\*-1752: \*1678 in the Ravenstonedale parish registers. The second painting was of Mary, formerly, Neilson, wife of the said John Hewetson.
- <sup>27</sup> Prior to his retirement, Mr Michael Bunny was architectural adviser to the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society.