

RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE



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Watercolour of Iver Grove House by Joshua Gosselin, 1812
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RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

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Putting *Records* on-line – a notice to authors and executors

The society has launched a project to make back issues of *Records of Buckinghamshire* available in electronic form on-line through its website.

An initial pilot process has been started to ‘digitise’ articles in *Records* volume 11, which was originally published in seven parts in 1919–1926. If this is successful the scanned articles will go on-line, initially as part of the society’s website (www.bucksas.org.uk). Work will then start on *Records* volume 17 (1961–1965). Both volumes are currently out of print.

The current procedure for publication in *Records* requires authors to assign to the society the copyright in all material published, though the society will freely permit authors of materials which it has published to reproduce their work elsewhere. Regarding on-line publication, the society’s ‘Notes for Contributors’ state that: ‘The society reserves the right to reproduce elsewhere, for example on a website, in a display, or in a volume of thematic papers, any matter which has appeared in its publications’.

In the past copyright was not expected to include electronic publication because the world-wide web had not been invented. To identify and locate all authors who have previously contributed to *Records*, or their executors, in order to obtain their permission to republish their work electronically would be an enormous task and beyond the resources of the society. The society is a charity; all our publications – printed and electronic – are for public benefit, not financial gain.

The society is therefore taking this opportunity to notify authors and executors about the proposed digitisation project and to ask any author or executor who might object to contact the society. In the absence of such an objection the society will assume that permission has been given.

The society is concerned to ensure that this notice is disseminated as widely as possible. Please draw it to the attention of any individual or their executor who may have published in *Records* in the past.

The work to make articles from *Records* available through the society’s website is expected to take several years. *Records* volume 1 was published in 1854. Many back volumes of *Records*, particularly those of recent date, are still available in printed form, so the aim of on-line publication will initially be to make available articles that are currently out of print.

Peter Marsden

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