



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Amesbury

Amesbury is a parish, formerly a market town, which gives name to a hundred and union, in the Southern division of the county, Salisbury county court district, diocese and archdeaconry of Salisbury, and rural deanery of Amesbury, situated in a small valley on the river Avon, 4 miles from Porton station, 8 north from Salisbury, and 88 from London.

The church of St. Mary is an ancient structure, apparently Norman, with chancel, nave, south aisle, square central tower, 6 bells and clock; it was extensively repaired about 1853, and contains an organ. The register dates from 1654. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £133, with residence, in the gift of the Dean & Canons of Windsor, and held by the Rev. Fulwar William Fowle, M.A., of Merton College, Oxfords, prebendary of Sarum, rural dean, and rector of Allington.

Here are National and Infant and two Endowed charity schools; also a Wesleyan meeting house.

The Amesbury Cemetery, containing an acre of ground, was laid out in 1860, at the sole expense of Sir Edmund Antrobus, bart.

The workhouse for the Amesbury union is situated here; the union comprises the following places, viz;

Allington	Amesbury	Boscombe	Bulford
West Cholderton	Durnford	Durrington	Figheledean
Idmiston	Maddington	Milston	Newton Tony
Orcheston St. George	Orcheston St. Mary	Rollstone	Shrewton
Tilshead	Winford & Lake	Winterbourne	Dantsey
Winterbourne Earls	Winterbourne Gunner	Winterbourne Stoke	Woodford

The river Avon here produces very fine trout. Fairs are held on the 17th of May and the 8th of October.

This was a Roman settlement, and its present name is by some derived from Aurelius Ambrosius, a king of the Romano-Britons. Vespasian's Camp is to the westward of the town, and is intersected by the turnpike road; it occupies the summit of an eminence on the banks of the Avon, and is surrounded by a single ditch and vallum, enclosing an area of 39 acres.

The celebrated remains of a druidical temple, called Stonehenge, are situated on Salisbury Plain, 2 miles west of Amesbury, and within the parish.

A nunnery was founded here by Queen Elfrida to expiate the murder of King Edward; it was once in such repute that Queen Eleanor, widow of Henry III., retired to it, and there, in the year 1284, took the veil, as did also, subsequently, the Princess Mary, daughter of Edward I., carrying with her a train of thirteen noble young ladies.

Amesbury Abbey, now occupied by Sir Edmund Antrobus, bart., M.P., was built by Mr. Webb, son-in-law of Inigo Jones, on the site of the nunnery, and was once the residence of Gay's patrons, the Duke and Duchess of Queensberry.

Sir Edmund Antrobus, bart., M.P., is lord of the manor and principal landowner.

The chief crops are barley, wheat, and oats. The area is 5,890 acres; rateable value, £6,991; in 1871 the population was 1,169.

Countess and West Amesbury are hamlets. On the downs are numerous barrows.

PARISH CLERK, Moses Soper.

POST & Money Order & Telegraph Office, Savings Bank & Government Annuity & Insurance Office, Thomas Merchant, postmaster.

LETTERS arrive from Salisbury at 7 a.m. & Devizes at 6 p.m.; delivered at 7.25 a.m. & 6 p.m.; dispatched for Devizes, 7.25 a.m.; London, 5.30 p.m.

INSURANCE AGENTS, Accidental Death, C G Turner. Lancashire Fire, J Hayes.
 London & Lancashire, C G Turner. Railway Passengers, F J Melsome.
 Royal Farmers', W C Kemps. Sovereign Life, C G Turner.

PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS, Inland Revenue Office, George Inn.
 Union Workhouse, Rev. G P Lowther, chairman; Wm. Long, vice-chairman; Richard Monkhouse Wilson, clerk; Charles John Pyle, medical officer; Edwin Richard Wilson, master; Mrs. Mary Ann Wilson, matron.

PUBLIC OFFICERS, Registrar of Births & Deaths & Vaccination Officer, Charles Giles Turner.
 Surveyor to the Amesbury Highway District & rural Sanitary Authority, Henry Adams

SCHOOLS, National, Mr. William Bangham, master.
 Rose's Endowed, Edward William Flower, head master.
 Spratt's Endowed, Miss Zillwood, mistress.

CARRIAGE to Salisbury, Robert Eyres, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Antrobus	Edmund	Sir, bart., M.P., J.P.		Amesbury Abbey
Batho	George Best			
Davies		Misses		
Fowle	Fulwar William	Rev., M.A.	Vicar	Vicarage
Hayes	William			
Leeson	William	Rev., B.A.	Curate	
Meyrick	Arthur	Rev., M.A.		Wyndersham house
Pyle	Charles			
Pyle	Charles John			
Robbins	Joseph			
Selfe		Mrs.		

Commercial

		Soul & Son	Drapers & outfitters	
		Soul & Son	Grocers & bakers	
Andrews	Edward		Builder	
Batho	George		Surgeon	
Bishop	Thomas		Stone mason & bricklayer	
Browne	Caroline	Miss		Museum
Browne	Joseph		Illustrator	Stonehenge
Edwards	Job		Maltster	
Everett	Francis		Dairyman & cattle dealer	
Eyre	Esther	Miss	Dressmakers	
Eyre	Sarah	Miss	Dressmaker	
Eyre	Susan	Mrs.	Shopkeeper	
Eyres	Robert		Bacon factor, shopkeeper & carrier	
Flower	Edward William		Headmaster	Rose's Endowed school

Gane	James		Blacksmith	
Gilbert	James		Plumber & painter	
Haines	Thomas		Baker & miller	
Hayes	John			New Inn
Hayes	Samuel		Head gamekeeper to Sir Edmund Antrobus, bart., M.P.	
Haylock	William		Agent for Sir Edmund Antrobus, bart., M.P.	
Jenkins	John May		Plumber, painter & glazier	
Kemm	William Cove		Maltster, brewer & beer retailer	
Lake	Henry		Basket maker	
Long	Charles		Farmer	Ratfin
Melsome	Francis John		Farmer	Earls farm
Merchant	Thomas		Hairdresser & bookseller	
Meyrick	Arthur	Rev., M.A.	Preparatory school for young gentlemen	Wyndersham house
Mitchell	James	& Son	Boot & shoe makers	
Payne	Daniel		Coal dealer	
Pyle	Charles		Surgeon	
Pyle	Charles	Jnr.	Surgeon	
Rooke	Michael		Farmer	West Amesbury
Sandell	George		Baker & provision merchant	
Sandell	Thomas		Breeches maker, wholesale glover, wool-stapler & tanner	
Sandell	William		Miller	
Sargent	James		Farmer	
Sheppard	Ann	Mrs.	Saddler & harness maker	
Sheppard	Walter		Brewer & farmer	King's Arms
Silver	James		Shopkeeper	
Smith	Charles		Butcher	
Towler	Henry		Boot & shoe maker	
Truckle	Benjamin		Beer retailer	
Turner	Charles Giles		Registrar of births & deaths & relieving officer	
Turner	Charles Giles	Mrs.	Fancy repsty	
Turner	Mary	Mrs.	Blacksmith	
Underwood	George		Wheelwright & carpenter	
Wheeler	John		Commercial & posting house, & inland revenue office	George Hotel
Williams	Joseph		Farmer	Countess Court farm
Yarham	Jane	Miss	Shopkeepers	
Yarham	Sarah	Miss	Shopkeeper	
Zillwood	John		Day school	