

Kelly's Directory Extract 1915 Bowood



BOWOOD, a liberty, included in 1889, for civil purposes, in Calne Without, is 2 miles south-west from Calne terminal station on a branch of the Great Western railway, and 3.5 miles south-east by east from Chippenham, in the North Western division of the county, hundred, union, petty sessional division, and county court district of Calne, and ecclesiastical parish of Derry Hill. The estate of Bowood anciently formed part of the royal forest of Pewsham, but being disafforested, were ultimately acquired by the family of Petty, ancestors of the most Hon the Marquess of Lansdowne KG, PC, the present owner; the mansion consists of three distinct parts, built at various times, and hence presents an irregular and diversified mass of architecture; the eastern or principal portion was erected by the Earl of Shelburne, from designs by James and Robert Adams and includes the reception rooms: to this was added, at the end of the 18th century, a wing, 300 feet long, after the model of the Emperor Diocletian's Palace at Spaistro: this forms the southern side of two quadrangular courts, and contains the libraries, conservatory and chapel, which are surrounded by domestic offices: the third portion, to the north, consists of the drawing room and a series of private apartments: the principal front faces the south, and commands a rich and diversified view: the main entrance, at the eastern end is ornamented by a large portico, supported by 10 Doric columns, with corresponding entablature, and a pediment on which the family's arms are sculptured in bold relief: the mansion contains a very fine collection of pictures, by English and foreign masters: the gardens along the south front are arranged in two terraces, one above the other, enclosed with stone balustrading adorned with vases: the park and pleasure grounds of this demesne, including the woods, extend over an area of 1000 acres, naturally diversified and studded with oaks, pines and cedars: in the midst of a noble lake of about 30 acres, the outlet of which, falling over a mass of artificial rock, forms a grand cascade, encompassed with trees, and reached through winding caverns. About 1 mile west of the mansion, and deeply shaded by the woods, stands the family mausoleum, first consecrated to the memory of John Petty, created Earl of Shelburne, 1753 (d 1761), being the son of Thomas, first earl of Kerry, and Anne his wife, daughter of Sir William Petty, physician general to the army in Ireland. William, son of Sir John, and second earl of Shelburne, was created Marquess of Lansdowne 6th December, 1784. The soil is for the most part sandy, belonging to the calcareous grit formation, but on the higher part there are patches of Kimmeridge clay, above which occurs the iron brash of the Lower Greensand; the lowest parts of the valley reach to the Oxford clay, The area is 969 acres.

Letters through Calne, which is the nearest money order and telegraph office, arrive at 7am & 2.30pm, Sundays, 6.30am.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Lansdowne		Marquess of, KG, PC, GCSI, CGMG, DCL, JP		Bowood and 54 Berkeley Square, London
Kerry		Earl of, MVO, DSO		Bowood and 18 Gloucester Place, London

Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Baines	Matthew Talbot	MA	Agent to the Marquess	Calne
Brown	George		Gardener to the Marquess	
Cowley	George I		Clerk of the works	The Osprey
Forgan	William		Farm bailiff & forester	The Home Farm
Way	Robert		Gamekeeper to the Marquess	
Wilson	A. N.		Accountant to the Marquess	The Office

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