



Kellys Directory Extract 1931

Derry Hill - Bowood



BOWOOD, a liberty, included in 1889 for civil purposes in the parish of Calne Without, is 2 miles south-west from Calne terminal station on a branch of the Great Western railway and 3½ south-east-by-east from Chippenham, in the Chippenham division of the county, hundred, rural district, petty sessional division and county court district of Calne and ecclesiastical parish of Derry Hill. The estates 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 D.S.O., M.V.O., D.L., J.P., 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 Emperor Diocletian's palace at Spalatro; this forms the southern side of two quadrangular courts and contains the libraries, conservatories 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 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, inclosed with stone balustrading, adorned with vases: the park and pleasure grounds of this demesne, including the woods, extend over an area of 1,000 acres, naturally diversified, and studded with oaks, pines and cedars: in the midst is a noble lake of about 40 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, 1st Earl of Kerry, and Anne, his wife, daughter of Sir William Petty, physician general to the army in Ireland: William, son of John, and Earl of Shelburne, was created Marquess of Lansdowne, 6 Dec 1784. The principal landowner is the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O. The soil is for the most part sandy, belonging to the calcareous grit formation, but on the higher parts 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, nearest M. O. & T. office.

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Lansdowne		Marchioness of		Bowood
Lansdowne		Marquess of, D.S.O., M.V.O., D.L., J.P.		Bowood; & 20 Mansfield Street W1 & Brooks's, Turf & Guards Clubs, London

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Cowley	George I.		Clerk of the works	The Osprey
Forbes	Archibald		Farm bailiff & forester to the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O.	The Home farm

Holman	Edward		Gamekeeper to the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O.	
Hood	Albert Oscar	Capt.; J.P.	Agent to the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O.	
Knight	J. W.		Gardener to the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O.	
Wilson	A. N.		Accountant to the Marquess of Lansdowne D.S.O., M.V.O.	The Office