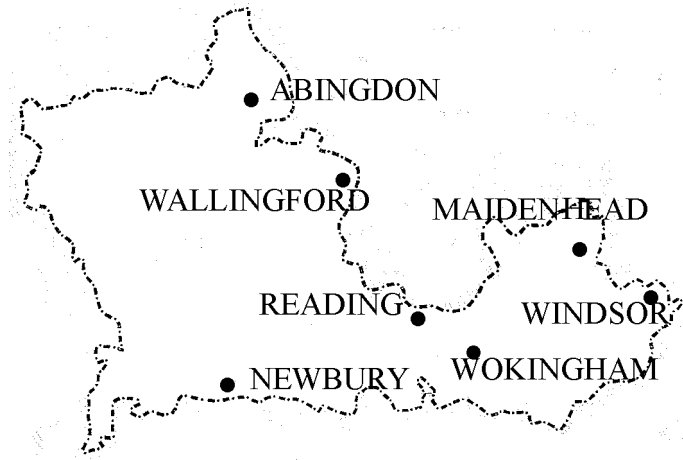
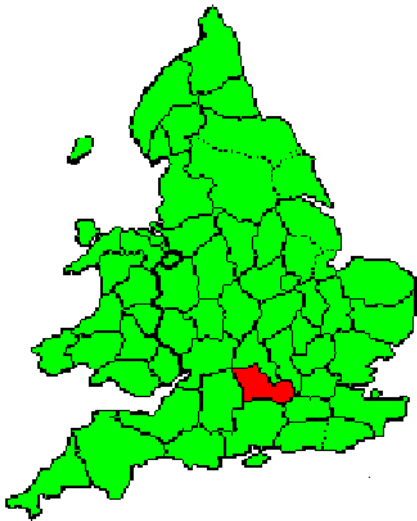


BERKSHIRE





Berkshire is a small county to the west of London. To the east it is bordered by Middlesex and Surrey, to the south and west by Hampshire and Wiltshire, and to the north by Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Following the local government reorganisation of 1974, some northern parts of the county are now in Oxfordshire.

The county town is Reading, an ancient borough which has always exercised separate jurisdiction over weights and measures. The other ancient boroughs are Abingdon, Maidenhead, Newbury, Wallingford, Windsor (strictly, the Royal Borough of New Windsor), and Wokingham. Wallingford appointed an inspector in 1834/5 but appears to have been almost completely inactive; inspection there and in Wokingham was in the hands of the county authorities by 1860. Windsor appointed a local ironmonger as inspector in 1834/5, but following the Act of 1859 the borough decided to use one of its professional officers as inspector, and thenceforth regulation of weights and measures was done on a regular basis. Abingdon and Maidenhead functioned intermittently, but they were disqualified in 1889 because they were too small. Newbury and Windsor continued as weights and measures authorities in the twentieth century, but gradually handed over their responsibility to the county.

The first trained scale maker in Berkshire was Joseph Twine, who had been apprenticed to Robert Wenborn in London before going to Windsor c1850. The origins of the trade in Reading are obscure. It seems likely that local ironmongers adjusted weights before the specialist scale makers appeared: Henry Martin (1856) and Robert Turner (c1865). In Newbury the Toomer family, ironmongers of longstanding, provided for the borough's needs. This included making the standard measures, inspecting the weights, and supplying and adjusting the weights and scales used by local traders.

A: Inspection by the County of Berkshire

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1825	One set of standards [32] verified.		In 1795 the head constables of the 20 hundreds were appointed as examiners.
1834	One inspector for the whole county. He was ordered to work with the examiners, suggesting that the head constables still had some authority. Standards [468] issued.	 	John Broad was appointed inspector in 1834 and he continued in active work throughout the county until the police took over in October 1857. In 1836, at the Berkshire QS, the order dictating his place of residence was rescinded and in 1843 [BA] and 1848 [K] he was residing in Ashamstead. His mark was the county emblem of a stag under a tree, with the initials IBI = John Broad Inspector (this is sometimes stamped incuse).



¶ A weight stamped by John Broad, the Berkshire inspector 1834-57. He stamped the Berkshire emblem of a stag under a tree and the initials I B I, standing for John Broad Inspector. The weight also displays the fact that it was made in the reign of George IV after the introduction of the Imperial Standards, and thus it can be dated very closely to the years 1826-30

COUNTY OF BERKS.

TO all PERSONS Making, Selling, or Ex-
posing for Sale, or Using WEIGHTS and MEA-
SURES in their respective Trades or Callings :

I DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE,—That under and by
virtue of an Act the 4 and 5 William IV. cap. 49, I have
been appointed sole INSPECTOR of WEIGHTS and
MEASURES for the County of Berks ; and that for the
purpose of carrying the duties of my Office into effect, I
shall attend on the days and times and the places under-
mentioned, with authenticated Copies of the Imperial
Weights and Measures, when and where all Persons con-
cerned, residing in the several Divisions of the said County,
are invited to attend, and have their Weights and Measures
examined, compared, and stamped, otherwise they will be
subject to the penalties imposed by the said Act.

Lamb Inn, Wallingford,	Thursday, Nov. 6
	Friday 7
New Inn, Abingdon,	Saturday 8
	Monday 10
Bell Inn, Faringdon,	Tuesday 11
	Wednesday 12
	Thursday 13
Alfred's Head Inn, Wantage,	Friday 14
	Saturday 15
	Monday 17
Three Swans' Inn, Hungerford,	Tuesday 18
	Wednesday 19
Globe Inn, Newbury,	Thursday 20
	Friday 21
	Saturday 22
Swan Inn, Ilsley,	Monday 24
Rose Inn, Oakingham,	Tuesday 25
	Wednesday 26
Crown Inn, Windsor,	Thursday 27
	Friday 28
White Hart Inn, Maidenhead,	Saturday 29
	Monday, Dec. 1
Inspector's Office, Reading,	Tuesday 2
	Wednesday 3

Each day from 9 in the morning till 4 o'clock in the
afternoon.

JOHN BROAD,




Inspector of Weights and Measures for the
County of Berks.

N.B. The following are some of the important provisions
of the Act referred to :—

The Magistrates at Quarter Sessions assembled shall
procure for the use of the Inspector good and sufficient
stamps for the stamping and sealing Weights and Mea-
sures used or to be used in such county, which stamp so
procured shall be taken to be *the stamp for such county*,
and none other shall be considered legal stamps ; and that
all Weights and Measures used for buying or selling, or
for the collecting of any tolls or duties, or for the making
of any charges on the conveyance of any goods or mer-
chandise shall be examined and compared with one of the
copies of the Imperial Standard Weights and Measures
provided for such Inspector, *who shall stamp* in such man-
ner *as best to prevent fraud* such Weights and Measures :
when so examined and compared as aforesaid, if found to
correspond with the said copy, on being paid the fees for
examining, comparing, and stamping, mentioned in the
said act.

All Persons who, after the 1st of January, 1835, shall
make, sell, or expose to sale, or use, any weight and mea-
sure *which have not been so stamped*, or which shall be
found light or otherwise unjust, shall, on conviction, FOR-
FEIT A SUM NOT EXCEEDING £5 (one half to the Informer)
and that any Contract, Bargain, or Sale made by any such
weight and measure, shall be wholly null and void, and
that all such light or unjust weights and measures so used
shall be seized, forfeited, and condemned.

¶ An advertisement taken from the
Berkshire Chronicle. 1 November. 1834.




Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1856	County Police formed.		<i>Police districts 1857-82</i> A: Abingdon & Wallingford B: Faringdon C: Maidenhead & Windsor D: Newbury E: Reading F: Wantage G: Wokingham
1857	Superintendents of police appointed as WM inspectors [RM: 4/7/57; 9/1/58]. 7 more sets of standards [1197-1202] issued to Chief Constable.		
1858	Set of standards [1214] issued.		
1882	Numbers issued for the seven police districts. A - 449 B - 450 C - 451 D - 452 E - 453 F - 454 G - 455		

Police superintendents as inspectors 1857-1903

<i>A Abingdon and Wallingford</i> William Hunt (57-58) Peter Hedger (58-85) John Heath (86-00)	<i>D Newbury</i> William Harfield (57-74) George Bennett (74-96) *Oliver Robotham (96-03)	<i>E Reading</i> George Crook (57-76) George Pocock (76-97/8) <i>F Wantage</i> Benj. Millard (57-65) Chr. O'Neill (65-82) Thomas Dorrell (82-91) *Oliver Robotham (91-96)
<i>B Faringdon</i> Aaron Riddiford (57-60) Charles Coleman (60-66) Robert Johnson (66-69) Herbert Reece (70-80) Robert Butcher (81-03)	*Robotham was formerly CC of the Abingdon Borough Force, and IWM. He became DCC for Berks, and in 1912 [Hbk] he was listed as an IWM, using No. 453 in Reading.	<i>G Wokingham</i> John Bostock (57-61) Christopher O'Neill (61-65) Benjamin Millard (65-80) James Borlase (80-82) Edward Atkin (82-96)
<i>C Maidenhead and Windsor</i> Ebenezer Iremonger (57-90) Thomas Dorell (91-03)		

¶ A 1oz brass weight stamped by the police superintendent for the E division of Berkshire between 1856 and 1882.




Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1889	Berkshire CC set up; WM remains in Chief Constable's Department, with 11 qualified inspectors, including the Supts of the boroughs of Abingdon and Maidenhead.		<p>In 1892, Henry P. Cox was appointed inspector, subject to his passing the qualifying exam, which he did in 1893. He was listed as inspector for the whole county in 1896, alongside the police divisional inspectors (see above).</p> <p><i>Chief inspectors 1903 onwards</i></p> <p>A.F. Poulton (q1904-1932, also Chief Constable) [MR 32:177]</p> <p>A.J. Wright (q1890 in Reading, returned to Berks 1903, chief 1932- 34) [MR 31:199, 34:75, 39:211]</p> <p>J.G. Dodds (q1909 in Bucks, moved to Berks 1913, chief 1934-41) [MR 43:3]</p> <p>C.C. Sopp (q1930 in Berks, chief 1942-70) [MR 70:206]</p>
1893	The first qualified inspector.		
1896	Inspectors listed for petty sessional divisions plus the Borough of Maidenhead, and one for the whole county.		
1907	Only Nos. 453 and 455 in use.		
1908	County inspector appointed on behalf of Windsor.		
1922	Only No. 453 in use; office in Reading.		
1932	WM transferred to civilian department.		
1946	Nos. 249 (Newbury) and 291 (Windsor) transferred to Berks.		
1974	Parts of Berkshire transferred to Oxfordshire.		



¶ Detail of a brass weight originally verified between 1856 and 1882 in B district, and restamped in the same district after the adoption of the uniform verification number 450.

B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the County of Berkshire

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Abingdon	AncBo MB:1835 qsb		---	s:1826 [118] r:1861


The standards issued in 1826 were for the use of James Leverett, inspector, who was also sergeant-at-mace.

The inspector from 1834 to (at least) 1854 [B] was William Honey; he resigned his role as Bellman in 1860 [BC: 17/11/60]. During the period 1839-44, the Court Leet jury was active in the examination of the WM [RM: 4/5/39, 9/11/44]. In 1863 [DA] and 1877 [K] George Payne was listed as the inspector; in 1864, the Borough Seal was affixed to the warrant to him, allowing him to enter shops, etc [BC: 13/2/64]. Oliver Robotham became CC in 1881 and in 1887 [K] he was listed as IWM for the borough. He continued until the borough force was absorbed by the county in 1889.



¶ A 11b bronze weight, stamped variously by John Broad (IBI), Berkshire County 449, used between 1882 and 1907 for the Abingdon division, the borough of Abingdon and the Parish of St Marylebone.

Farringdon: a short set of standards [401] was issued in 1827 to W. Bennett, Lord of the Manor.



Maidenhead	AncBo MB:1835 ncp	 DSI MC	466	s:1826 [88] r:1860 n:1882-1889
-------------------	-------------------------	--	-----	---------------------------------------

The inspector from 1834 to 1843 was James Fuller, a corn dealer [BA1843]. In 1846, [RM: 30/5/46] Daniel Sexton (CC 1836-62) was appointed as IWM in the place of Mr Fuller, who had left the town. In 1862, Sexton was succeeded by Henry McGraw [RM: 24/5/62] (CC 1863-75); William Henry Austin (CC 1875-80), and James Taylor (CC 1880-89). In 1883, Henry Martin, of Reading, was assisting James Taylor and it was reported that they were using the new stamp [RM: 3/5/83].

After authority was transferred to the county in 1889, Taylor continued as inspector for the Borough of Maidenhead, based at the Borough Police Station, at least until 1896. He may have continued to use the No. 466 for a time, but the number was listed as obsolete in 1911.



¶ Detail from a 4oz bronze weight, initially stamped in Victorian times in the City of London; the weight moved to Berkshire, was stamped in Maidenhead, during the time Daniel Sexton was the Inspector (DSI), and was then stamped by Ebenezer Iremonger, the County Inspector for the Windsor and Maidenhead District (C).

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Newbury	AncBo MB:1835 qsb	 	249	s:1825 [18] r:1874

The mark depicts Newbury Castle, a building of which no trace remains.

Samuel Neville Toomer was the inspector appointed in 1834. See also Section C. Throughout his time as Inspector, the Leet Jury was active in examining the weights and measures of the borough; in 1838, Thomas Granger was IWM to the Leet Jury. In 1858, when the standards needed to be reverified, the Town Council discovered that, although Samuel Toomer had been named as the IWM in 1834, he had never been formally appointed; he had provided the necessary standards, but had never been paid for them. The Town Council decided to accept his offer of providing verified standards but also decided that an IWM should be appointed who would work with the Court Leet, still active in its annual examination of the WM [RM: 26/11/59]. Toomer officially resigned his post in 1860 [BC: 7/4/60], but he was again listed as IWM in 1863 [BC: 19/12/63]; by 1864, it was recognized that, as Toomer sold weights, he could no longer act as IWM. The Court Leet recognized its limitations in the testing of WM and asked that it be replaced by an IWM [RM: 13/1/66]. Finally, in 1866, Thomas Long was appointed IWM [RM: 24/2/66], to work alongside the Court Leet, and, in 1870, he was named as the IWM to the Court Leet [RM: 19/11/70]. The standards were reverified in 1874 for his use [SBk]. When Long died in 1878, it was noted that his son Robert Long was ineligible for the post, as he sold weights, etc. Henry Pratt, the Manager of the famous Newbury Corn Exchange, was unanimously elected as the inspector in his stead [RM: 14/12/78]. Finally in 1880, when the desirability of reassembling the Court Leet was questioned [RM: 16/10/80], the Borough decided that the work done by the Court Leet should pass to a Committee of its Council [RM: 13/11/80]. As a practicing inspector before the introduction of the BoT examination, Pratt continued in that role until his retirement in 1923.

Pratt was succeeded by William Stillman, who moved from Winchester in 1925 but died in 1931 [MR 31:121]. At that time the county inspector was appointed [MR 31:200], and this arrangement continued until the borough was formally disqualified in 1965.



¶ The Newbury mark from the shoulder of a 7lb bronze bell weight; the other shoulder bears a similar mark, whilst the handle bears the mark of S.N. Toomer, shown below. Toomer was the inspector appointed in 1834.







¶ A bronze and a brass 2oz weight, showing the two marks used by S.N. Toomer, as Inspector in Newbury, both employing the Newbury Castle mark of the borough; the brass weight also bears the stamp of George IV.



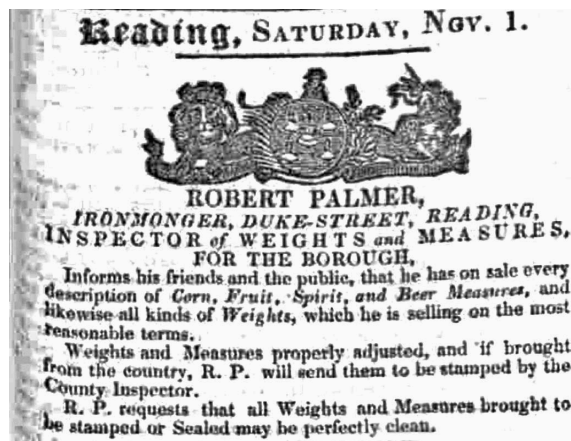
¶ The two shoulders of a 7lb brass bell weight, one showing the mark of T. Long, Inspector, also stamped in the Georgian era, and the other the uniform verification mark of 249, stamped in the reign of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII, as used by Henry Pratt. The weight also bears the mark of its maker, J. Gutteridge, Reading (see Section C).

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Reading	AncBo MB:1835 CB:1888	 	254	s:1830 [428] s:1860 [1285] s: 1891 [2243] n:1879-1974

The mark represents the heads of a queen and four maidens. It usually occurs with the initials of an inspector. Before 1834, the Court Leet had exercised responsibility in examining the weights and measures of the borough. The inspector appointed in 1834 was Robert Palmer, a local ironmonger (not the MP of the same name). In 1839, he was replaced by John Middleton, who may have been a full-time inspector and served until his death in 1855. However, there was a call for the Leet Jury to be reconvened in 1844 [BC: 20/1/44], to control the market sale of meat. John Saunders was appointed IWM in 1856 [RM: 9/2/56] and that year the WM Office was moved from Forbury to St Mary Butts, to be near the Weighbridge. In 1868, the Town Council recognised that Saunders needed help to combine the jobs of IWM and Collector of Tolls at the Weighing Bridge [RM: 4/4/68]. Finally, in 1871, the two offices were separated, with William Coxhead appointed IWM and John Saunders continuing as Collector of Tolls [RM: 11/2/71]. Before this division of labour, William Collier had been appointed an IWM, with responsibility for Petroleum inspection. The initials seen on weights are: R.P.I. = Robert Palmer, 1834-39; I.M.I (or J.M.I) = John Middleton, 1839-1855; I.S.I = John Saunders, 1856-1871, W.C.I. = William Coxhead, 1871-90 [R].

The first qualified inspector was Henry Wright, appointed 1890, subject to his passing the BoT exam; his son A.J. Wright was later inspector for Berkshire [MR 39:211]. Both Wrights passed the qualifying examination in 1890/1. Henry Wright died in 1926 [MR 26:16] and J. H. S. Hall took over as chief inspector, retiring in 1959 [MR 71:187]. He was succeeded by A.F. Sarfas (1960-73).

Mr. R. Palmer, of Duke-street, is appointed Inspector of Weights and Measures for this town. We observe by Mr. R's advertisement, that every description of Measures and Weights can be procured at his house.



¶ Two items from the Reading Mercury, of 3 November, 1834, p. 3, one the formal announcement of R. Palmer's appointment as Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Borough and the other, his personal advertisement, reminding the public that he can also supply them with weights and measures.



¶ Weights stamped with the Reading mark and the initials of an inspector.

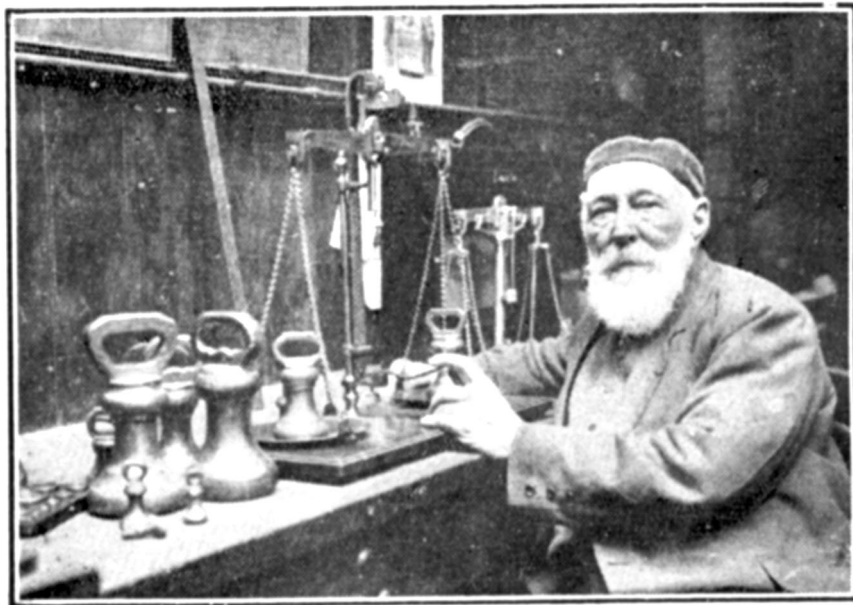
Above left: IMI signifies John Middleton, inspector from about 1840 to 1856.

Above and right: W.C.I signifies William Coxhead, inspector 1874-91.






¶ A ¼ oz brass weight, stamped with the Reading borough mark in the reign of Queen Victoria.



¶ Henry Wright, the first qualified inspector for Reading, who served from 1891 until his death at the age of 89 in 1926.


Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Wallingford	AncBo	 GPI	---	s:1835 [484]

The portcullis that appears in the non-uniform mark also appears as the seal of the Mayor, in the arms granted in 1955.

In 1834, it had appointed an inspector, George Palmer, an ironmonger, the son of Robert Palmer, the inspector appointed in Reading, and it is recorded that George received the standards [Sbk]. By 1842, George was running his father's business in Reading [RM: 10-12/42].



¶ A 2oz brass weight, showing the portcullis mark of Wallingford, together with GPI, George Palmer, Inspector. The weight also shows the mark for King William IV.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Windsor	AncBo MB:1835 qsb		291	s:1826 [263] r:1864 n:1879-1946

The inspector appointed in 1834 was William Weaver Berridge, an ironmonger. The borough emblem is a stag's head with a shield between the horns, and this has been recorded with the initials W B, probably denoting the inspector rather than Windsor Borough.


From 1846 to 1861 John Lovegrove was listed as inspector, but no evidence that he was active has been seen. In 1862 the Corporation took note of the provisions of the Act of 1859 and appointed the Town Surveyor, Frederick Brown, to be the inspector. The mark shown below has been seen on a weight alongside the initials FBJ, the J possibly being a date code. In 1871 T.V. Davison replaced Brown, and he is recorded in 1874 [SBk]. In 1873, in a case brought against some traders for incorrect weights, the traders' defence was that the weights had been rectified, prior to inspection, by Mr Twine, who worked with the IWM [RM: 19/4/73]. Brown continued until 1904, when he retired, not having qualified. After an interlude, during which S. Mellows was listed as inspector in 1905 [Ma], and the Head Constable M. Nicholls in 1906-7 [Ma, K], the county inspectors were appointed in 1908, although the borough retained its formal authority until the number was transferred to the county in 1948.

¶ A 4oz bronze weight stamped with the mark of Windsor and the letters W B, probably signifying William Berridge, the inspector appointed in 1835.





¶ A 1oz brass weight stamped with another form of the Windsor mark and the letters F B and J. The letters F B probably indicate Frederick Brown, who was the inspector from 1862 to 1871.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Wokingham	AncBo Unref MB:1883		---	s:1835 [694]

The original name was Oakingham, as indicated in the verification mark depicting an acorn and oak leaves. This mark has been seen on pewter measures, but not on weights as yet. Thomas Boulton and Thomas Hill were appointed as inspectors on 25 April 1834, but replaced by William Burrett on 19 November 1834. He received the standards in 1835 [SBk]. In 1851 [K] and 1856 [MB] the inspector was Thomas Chambers, clerk of the market. After the formation of the county police force, the superintendent of the Wokingham division was IWM for the borough.

C: The trade in Berkshire

HUNGERFORD	
George Earle	George Earle advised his customers in 1834 (RM: 1/12/34) that with the imminent visit of the IWM they should get him to adjust their weights.
NEWBURY	
Toomer <1826-1870>	The Toomer family were ironmongers in Northbrook Street, Newbury, from 1692 onwards [KN: 1927]. In 1825 the firm made the standard measures for the borough, as recorded in the Day Book for 31 December 1825 [D/EX 1718/1/2]. The same Day Book shows that they sold and adjusted weights and measures at this time. In 1834 Samuel Neville Toomer was reported as being the IWM. In 1839, Toomer's advertised (RM: 7/9/39) that they sold weights and scales, with the business in the hands of Joseph Toomer Jnr. A note in the 1847 Court Leet presentment records that a weight had been sent to Mr Toomer for adjustment. When the county Bushel measure was stolen in 1854 (and sold as scrap metal in Reading) Toomer's supplied the replacement Exchequer Bushel measure [RM: 18/2/54]. The firm, known as the House of Toomer since 1926 [D/EX 1718], closed its Bartholomew Street showrooms in 1995, because of redevelopment; the remnants of the business are retained (as of 2014) by Barry Forkin/Toomers.
Edward Lack	From 1853 to 54, Edward Lack, Post Office, advertised Letter Weights "in various elegant designs" [RM: 12/53-5/54].
Robert Long	On his father's death in 1878, Robert Long, ironmonger, was explicitly declared to be ineligible for the post of IWM, as he was a seller of weights, etc [RM: 14/12/78].



¶ A 4lb bell weight, made by J. Gutteridge of Reading but stamped by T. Long, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for Newbury between 1866 and 1878.

READING

READING	
Blandy & Palmer	In 1825, Blandy and Palmer advertised [RM: 29/1/25] a complete assortment of every description of weights and measures required by the Act.
Millard	In November, 1834, Henry Millard was advertising [RM: 10/11/34] weights and measures for sale. However, in 1854, the stock of James Millard, of 17&18, King St was sold for the benefit of his creditors [RM: 8-9/54].
John Leech	An ironmonger and brazier, John Leech advertised [RM: 17/10/34] weights and measures for sale and that he repaired and adjusted old weights.
H & G Hawkes	H & G Hawkes advertised in 1834 [RM: 15/12/34] that they adjusted weights and measures.
Palmer 1834-1837>	The inspector for Reading appointed in 1834 was Robert Palmer, an ironmonger of Duke Street. He advertised [RM: 11-12/34] that he had weights and measures for sale and was the Borough Inspector. He was replaced as inspector in 1839, and by 1842 [RM: 10-12/42] the business in Duke Street was being run by George and Francis Palmer, who advertised Imperial Standard Weights and Measures.
John Snare	John Snare, 16 Minster St, advertised in 1840 [RM: 11/1/40] that he sold Hooper's Post-Office Letter Weights.
W. Cecil	A general ironmonger, whitesmith and bell-hanger, of Broad St, Cecil advertised that he "carefully adjusted weights, etc" [RM: 20/6/40].
Gutteridge c1840	J. GUTTERIDGE READING <i>On an early 7lb brass bell weight.</i>
	This may refer to John Gutteridge, a journeyman blacksmith who worked in Caversham in the 1840s.
H. James & Son	"Weights and Scales accurately adjusted" [RM: 30/1/58].

<p>Martin 1856-1916.</p>	<p>Henry Martin b<1838> Shoreditch, established his business in 1856 [RM: 1901] and was listed as a scale maker [1861 Census]. In 1872, he proposed to the Reading Town Council that he be responsible for their WM, at an annual fee of £3; the offer was accepted for one year initially [RM: 3/2/72]. By 1876, he was working alongside the IWM [RM: 27/5/76]. In 1877 [K], he first announced himself as scale, weigh and weighing machine manufacturer to Her Majesty's Honorary Boards of Custom and Crown. In 1890, the newly-formed Berkshire County Council cited the duties of the inspectors to verify and stamp, if correct, but added that "Mr Martin, Scale Maker, Reading, or his Foreman will attend, although he holds no official position" [RM: 13/12/90]. Between 1892 and 1895, Henry Martin advertised prolifically [RM], emphasizing the fact that the inspectors had no power to repair or adjust any weighing instrument but that any proper person might be employed to undertake the necessary work! In July 1900 [RM], he auctioned off his stock-in-trade to allow rebuilding of the premises at 47 Minster St and then in 1901 advertised [RM] as "Official Scale Maker ..." with business as usual there. At</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 Market Place <1861-1867> • 136 London street <1869> • 5 London St [1874 W, 1876 H, 1877 K]; • 47 Minster St <1883-1901>; • 51A Minster St <1903-1916>; <p>Gone by 1917.</p>
<p>Turner <1867-1913</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TURNER READING</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On brass weights.</i></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">TURNER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On iron weights with edges decorated in the style of Keesey of Birmingham</i></p> <hr/> <p>Robert Turner (c1836-1903), blacksmith journeyman [1863, birth certificate of son Robert], scale maker and ironmonger [advt 1867 M]. In 1881, he was summoned for adjusting weights, previously stamped, without having them properly stamped [RM: 21/5/81]. During 1895 and again in 1899, he advertised as a practical scale maker, selling scales and weights [RM]. At</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Union Street <1867> • 105 Friar Street <1870> • 49A Friar Street <1874-1913. <p>Firm run by widow Mrs M. A. Turner, at same address 1903-1913, sold to Avery 1913. See also <i>Windsor</i>.</p>



¶ Ceramic scale-plate made for Henry Martin.



¶ A bread scale, made by Henry Martin.



¶ A scale beam, made by Henry Martin, for Huntley and Palmer, the biscuit manufacturers, based in Reading.



¶ A 2lb brass bell weight, made by Henry Martin, and stamped by John Saunders, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for Reading between 1856 and 1871. The other shoulder bears the word READING and the later VR254 mark.

WEIGHTS ADJUSTED AND STAMPED ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
SCALES AND WEIGHTS CLEANED AND ADJUSTED BY THE YEAR.

R. TURNER,

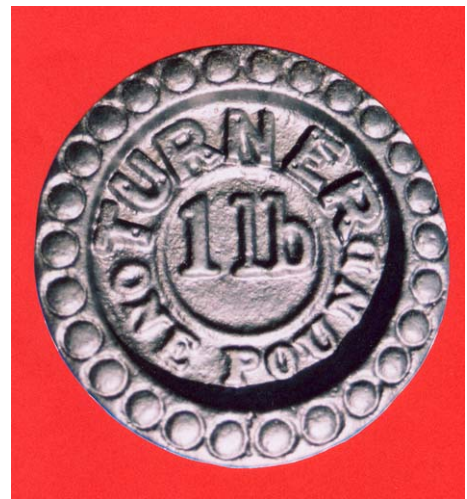
Scale, Beam, Weights, & Weighing Machine
MANUFACTURER AND IRONMONGER,
10, UNION STREET, READING.

R. T. makes and repairs all kinds of Scales, Weights, Weighing
Machines, and Mills on the lowest terms.

Coffee and Spice Mills recut, &c.

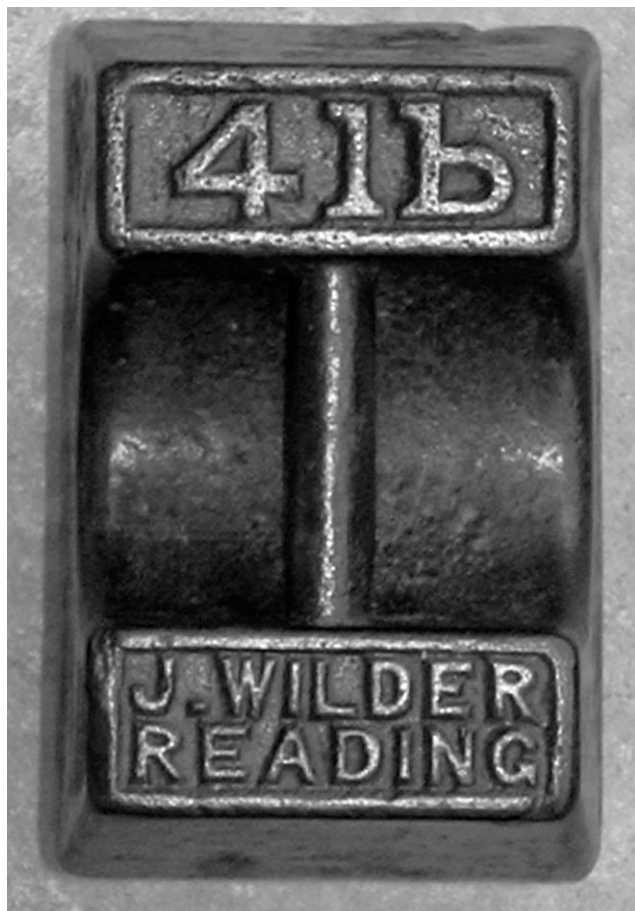
¶ Advertisement for Turner of Reading, from Melville's Directory for 1867. Note that he offered to adjust *and stamp* weights.

¶ 1 lb iron weight with the name Turner, decorated in the style associated with Keesey of Birmingham.



READING (continued)

<p>Kirk Latimer <1894-1934></p>	<p>Kirk Latimer & Co, scale makers [1894 S] at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 London St <1894-99>. <p>Also in <i>Oxford</i>. A scale beam marked Kirk & Latimer, Reading and Oxford has been seen.</p> <p>Latimer & Co. at same address <1900-1901>, but gone by 1903.</p> <p>W.J. Kirk Ltd, scale makers at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 64 Kings Road, 1930-32 <p>Succeeded by Catch at this address.</p> <p>W.J. Kirk & Co, Ltd, scale maker at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85, Caversham Road, 1934 [KR]
<p>Rane <1899-1938.</p>	<p>Rane & Co., scale makers [1899 K] at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42 London St <1899-1908>; • 92 London St (1909-1938). <p>Acquired by Avery 1938, to be part of the Pooley subsidiary.</p>
<p>Avery <1908-1983></p>	<p>W&T Avery first advertised in 1908, acquiring Turner's firm in 1913, at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 St Mary's Butts <1908-17> ; • 27 Friar St <1922-31>; • 63 Catherine St <1931-1949> (repair shop only), • 96 Castle St <1944-67>; • 181 Kings Road <1966-68 • High Bridge Wharf (works depot) 1968 • 79 Silver St 1969-83>.
<p>Wilder <1923-52></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J. WILDER READING</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On 4lb iron bar weight</i></p>
	<p>Richard Wilder was an ironfounder in Faringdon back in 1847, from which the Reading branch developed. First listed as John Wilder, jointly at Faringdon and Reading, in 1923, and acquired by Avery in January 1953.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yield Hall Foundry <1923-38 • Cattle Market 1933-52>
<p>Catch 1933-1949></p>	<p>H.W. Catch (late Kirk), scale makers [1933 KR]; as Catch, H.W. & Son in 1935 [K]. At</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 64 Kings Road <1933-1949>.
<p>Foster</p>	<p>Samuel Foster, scale repairer [KR], at 39, Castle Street for 1935-36.</p>



¶ A 4lb iron bar weight, with the name of J. Wilder, Reading.

READING (continued)	
Reading Scale Company	Scale makers, [1935 KR], at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72a, York Road <1935-36> • 1 Robin Way, Tilehurst [1977 YP].
Pooley <1938-1941>	Took over from Rane 1938, at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 92 London St [<1939-41>]. May have shared Avery 's premises.
Rewell & Co	Rewell and Co, ironmongers, advertised as scale makers in 1939 [KR], at 18 King's Road.

Waymaster (Precision Engineering) 1941-	Precision Engineering Co. Ltd, founded 1941. Makers of scales for various purposes, including postal, shop, bathroom, etc. Also makers of the Gascoigne Goats Milk Balance [EQM 2931-33]. First listed in 1958 as Precision Engineering Co. (Reading) Ltd. (Makers of Waymaster Scales) [KR] Taken over by Kenwood 1993, who continued to use the Waymaster trade name. At <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Meadow Road <1958-1994>. • 176 Caversham Road <1964-1985>
Mattock's Automatic Scales, Ltd	Mattock's were listed as scale makers, at Ardler Road, Caversham for 1942-47 [KR].
Asco Ltd	Asco advertised as scale makers between 1954 and 1964, at 40B Caversham Road.
Swift & Swallow Ltd	Swift & Swallow advertised as weighing machine makers in 1958, at 3 Alfred Street.
Avon <1968-1974>	Avon Scales (Reading) Ltd, possibly associated with the Heath firm of <i>Edmonton, Middlesex</i> , at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43 Prospect St, Caversham <1964-74>. Gone by 1977.

52, PEASCOD STREET, WINDSOR.

TURNER & SONS,

Scale, Weight & Weighing Machine Manufacturers.

EVERY DESCRIPTION
OF

Scales and Weights
Made and Repaired.

Scales and Weights
Cleaned and Adjusted
by Contract.



New Scales, Weights
and Measures

Supplied to Order.

Patent Agate Balances
For Tobacco,
&c.

OUR COAL WEIGHING MACHINES A SPECIALITY.

HAY, COAL and BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS.

¶ Advertisement for Turner & Sons, scale makers in Windsor, taken from *Marshall's Windsor Directory* for 1907.



¶ A 4oz brass weight stamped by Turner. The word ‘maker’ must be interpreted liberally, since clearly Turner did not make the weight, and the scales he ‘made’ were either assembled from component parts, or simply bought from a larger maker. The VR 291 was the Windsor Borough mark from 1880 until 1901.

WINDSOR	
Twine <1851-1876.>	Joseph Twine (1827-1876) appr to Robert Wenborn in London 1844, scale maker [1851 K]. Responsible for maintaining the borough standards in the 1870s [1]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kings Road <1851-54> , • Spital Road <1864-1868>; • 56 Peascod St 1869-76, Firm closed down on his death in 1876.
Lacy <1876-1882>	John C. Lacy, brass finisher, maintained the borough standards after the death of Twine, 1876-1882 [W1/CA]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Victoria Street [1876 H].
Turner <1883-1934>	R. TURNER MAKER WINDSOR <i>On brass weights with VR291 and ER291 (Windsor) marks.</i>
	Robert Turner (1863-<1934>) son of Robert Turner of <i>Reading</i> , at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 Peascod Street <1883- 91>[K], • 52 Peascod Street <1895-1934 [advt 1902 M]. Name given as Turner & Sons [advt 1907 M] only. Closed down 1934.
Torsion Balance	Torsion Balance Co. (GB) Ltd., subsidiary of the American firm, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vale Road [1972 KW] <1972-74>.

References for Berkshire

Published works

1. *Sixth Hall Book of the Borough of New Windsor* (ed. E.H. Cuthbert), 1984. Covers the period 1852-1874, including the appointment of inspectors and maintenance of the standard weights.
2. [Obituary of Henry Wright]. *Monthly Review* (34) 1926, 14. With picture of HW at work.
3. S. and B. Webb. *English Local Government: The Parish and the County*. London, Longmans 1906. This classic work contains several passing references to WM. For Berkshire in particular see page 496.

Directories

- P. Pigot's Directory of Berkshire (N78) 1842.
- BA. Berkshire Almanack and Directory (N -) 1840, 1843.
- K. Kelly's [Post Office] Directory of Berkshire etc (N112, ST20, ST195) 1854-1939.
- R. Rushers Reading Guide (ST 193) 1852, 1855, 1857.
- MB. Macauley's Berkshire Directory (ST194) 1853, 1856.
- MR. Macauley's Reading Directory (ST196) 1859-1871.
- B. Billings' Directory of Berkshire ... (ST115) 1854.
- DA. Dutton Allen's Directory of Berkshire etc (ST40) 1863.
- M. Melville's Directory of Berkshire etc (ST46) 1867
- Ca. Cassey's Directory of Berkshire etc (ST126) 1868.
- S. Smith's Reading Directory (ST200) 1875, 1876, 1893-1905.
- H. Harrod's Directory of ... Berkshire etc (ST55) 1876.
- KN: Kelly's Directory of Newbury (ST221) 1927.
- KR. Kelly's Directory of Reading (ST202) 1889-1974
- KW. Kelly's Directory of Windsor Eton and Slough (ST203) 1889-1974.
- Ma. Marshall's Directory of Windsor (ST208) 1898-1935.
- W. Webster's Reading Directory (ST199), 1874.
- YP. Yellow Pages, 1977.

Newspapers

- BC. Berkshire Chronicle 1825-1870.
- RM. Reading Mercury 1831-1903.
- WEE. Windsor and Eton Express 1839-1876.

Original documents

Berkshire Record Office

D/EX 1383. Letters sent by the Chief Constable of Berkshire enquiring about the arrangements for WM inspection in other counties, and replies (1863).

D/EX 1718. Records of the Toomer family of Newbury c1781-1989.

NAC 1/2/2. Newbury Borough Council Minutes.

N/AM/1/8. Newbury Court Leet Records.

WI/A2. Minutes of miscellaneous Windsor Borough committees, including the General Purposes Committee, see esp.1862.

WI/CA. The Seventh Hall Book of Windsor, 1874 onwards, with minutes of the General Purposes Committee (esp.10/4/1879) and references to stamping WM by John Lacy.