

FLINTSHIRE






Flintshire is a small county in North Wales, bordered by Denbighshire, Cheshire and Shropshire. Its main claim to fame was that it had two detached parts, the smaller one comprising the hundred of Maelor.

The county appointed inspectors of weights and measures in 1835, and the police took over these duties in 1858. A police office qualified as an inspector in 1894 and a civilian inspector was appointed in 1910. The small borough of Flint had separate jurisdiction for a short time in the nineteenth century,

For the most part the county relied on the scale trade in the nearby towns of Liverpool, Chester, and Wrexham, although Avery's did eventually set up a branch in Flint.

In 1974 Flintshire became part of the new county of Clwyd. In 1996 it was re-established as a unitary authority, but with altered boundaries so that it was all in one piece.

A: Inspection by the County of FLINTSHIRE

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1825	Set of standards [41] issued.		5 hundreds: Coleshill, Maelor, Mold, Prestatyn, Rhuddlan,
1835	Second set [583] issued; inspectors appointed for four districts: 1. Hd. of Mold and Divns of Northop and Hope. 2. Hd. of Coleshill except Northop, and Hd. of Prestatyn. 3. Divisions of Overton and Hanmer. 4. Hd. of Rhuddlan		<i>Inspectors 1835-58</i> <i>1. Mold</i> Peter Price (1835-57) <i>2. Holywell</i> Humphrey Owens (1835-55-) <i>3. Overton</i> Charles Studley (1835-)
1850	Short set of standards [1043] issued for Maelor hundred.		<i>4. St Asaph</i> Thomas Roberts (1835-52-)
1856	Set of weight standards [1171] issued.		<i>Police officers as inspectors 1858-1910</i>
1858	County police force set up, and took over inspection. There were three police divisions: 1. Holywell 2. Mold 3. Overton.		<i>Holywell</i> Rees Davies (1858-60) Charles Adams (1861-72) David Hughes (1872-97-) <i>Mold</i> William Thomas (-1863-71) Charles Adams (1872-84)
1882	Nos.441-444 issued.		
1884	Overton division combined with Mold.		<i>Overton</i> James Bolton (-1864-84&)
1890	Police continue as inspectors, under the Chief Constable (R.T. Webber, 1888-1909) [MR 09:143]		<i>Mold & Overton combined</i> James Bolton (&1884-94) J.Ivor Davies (1894-1910) [MR 18:36]
1894	One qualified inspector (J.Ivor Davies).		

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1910	Davies became CC, inspection transferred to one civilian inspector [MR 18:36]		<i>Qualified inspectors 1910 onwards:</i> G.O. Roberts (1910-46) [MR 46:147] R.D. Wass (1918-) [MR 18:122] R.J. Jackson (-1922-1946, chief 1946-59) [MR 46:147, 59:256] W. Kirkham (chief 1960-74) [MR 74:51]
1911	No.441 not in use.		
1922	Two civilian inspectors, both based in Mold, using Nos. 442, 443, and 444.		
1950	Same numbers in use.		
1974	Authority transferred to Clwyd CC.		



¶ A Flintshire verification mark stamped on a brass weight, probably in the period 1835-1858.

¶ Reverse of a brass weight stamped with the Flintshire number 443 in the years 1882-1901. The date marks refer to later re-verifications in 1908 and 1909.



B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of FLINTSHIRE

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Flint	AncBo MB:1835 ncp	?	---	s:1861 [1310]

The borough of Flint exercised separate jurisdiction for a brief period only. Levi Toothill was the head constable for the period 1859-64 and is recorded as the inspector of weights and measures in 1860 [NWC 24/3/60], although standards were not obtained until 1861. The borough police force was wound up in 1864 and inspection was probably transferred to the county at that time.

C: The trade in Flintshire

There is little evidence of a scale trade in Flintshire, but Averys had a branch at 46 Chester Street, Flint, in 1965.

References for Flintshire

Published works

Directories

S1. Slater's Directory of ...Wales ... [ST39] 1858, [ST48] 1868.

E. Eyre's Wales Register and Guide [ST1693] 1878.

S2. Slaters's Directory of North and Mid Wales ... [ST1694] 1880, [ST1695] 1885, 1895.

Newspapers

There are frequent references to the activities of the Flintshire inspectors in the following newspapers. Only a couple of examples are listed here.

[NWC] North Wales Chronicle, 24 March 1860: report on the county constabulary, including their WM activities.

[CO] Cheshire Observer, 18 May 1894: arrangements following the retirement of Supt Bolton.