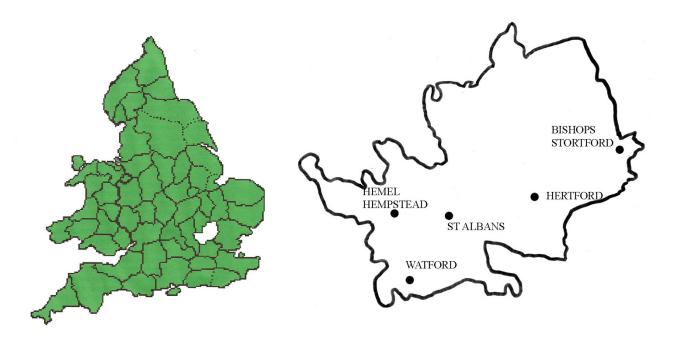
HERTFORDSHIRE



Hertfordshire lies to the north-east of London. It is bordered to the south by Middlesex, to the east by Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, to the north by Cambridgeshire, and to the east by Essex. For many centuries the south-western part of the county, known as the Liberty of St Albans, was a separate jurisdiction. This situation gradually changed in the 19th century, and the two parts of the county were formally united in 1874.

The major ancient boroughs were Hertford and St Albans. In Hertford and the main part of the county, the practice of using a local ironmonger for weights and measures purposes was followed, the Nunn family being involved until 1835 at least. The county (including the Liberty) was divided into four WM districts with civilian inspectors in 1835, some of them based in market towns such as Bishops Stortford. In 1844 the police force took over. There was a recurrent difficulty about the Barnet district, which was in the area covered by the Metropolitan Police.

Throughout the 19th century the town of Watford grew greatly in importance, but it did not become a municipal borough until 1922. A London scale maker, Walter Parry, set up there in the 1880s, and around 1900 his business was acquired by Leonard Doyle, a member of another family of London scale makers. In 1935 Doyle was bought out by Avery. Smaller firms were established in other parts of the county throughout the 20th century, one of them, Stringer & Co (Scales) Ltd was still in business in 2021.

A: Inspection by the County of HERTFORDSHIRE

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1796	Charles Brittain appointed examiner for the county, not including the Liberty. [1, VIII 462-470].	#	The Liberty of St Albans acted separately until 1844. <i>Inspectors in 1834:</i>
1825	1 set of standards [5] verified.	\mathbb{H}	M. Chapman (Hitchin) W. Nunn (Hertford)
1834	Two inspectors [1, X 53].		Inspectors 1835-44
1835	Inspectors appointed for four districts; two more sets of standards [816, 817] verified.	H H	Hertford [816]: S.Gutteridge (1835-37) J.Randall (1837-44) Hitchin: Michael Chapman (1834-41) Isaac Spencer (1841-44)
1844	Police take over WM duties [1, II 420-423]. There was one police force for the whole county including the Liberty, and eleven districts, as below.	2 H	Royston: Josiah Johnson (1835-44) Bishops Stortford [817]: George Taylor (1835-42) Samuel Warner (1842-44) A few marks with numbers higher than 4 are known and can
1873	Short set of standards [1515] issued to Supt W. Isgate	11	be attributed to the period when the police acted as inspectors.
1874	Liberty of St Albans formally merged with county.		
1879	Set of standards [1650] issued to the County.		
1882	Nos. 394-399 issued, for Barnet and the five police divisions.	∰ V R 394	

ALL Persons having neglected to have their WEIGHTS and MEASURES STAMPED, agreeably to the Act of Parliament, are requested to send them to the Inspector's Office forthwith. The penalty for such neglect is £5.

WM. NUNN, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the County of Hertford.

Fore Street, Hertford, Feb. 5, 1835.

[¶] From the *Hertford Mercury and Reformer*, 10 February 1835.





¶ Two bronze weights stamped in Hertfordshire c1834. The detail on the left is from a weight first verified in the City of London, in the reign of William IV (1830-37), before it was stamped in Hertfordshire with the county mark and the initials W N of William Nunn, one of the inspectors appointed in 1834. It was later stamped with the mark of 3 over H indicating District 3, probably in the period before the police took over inspection in 1844. The weight on the right has only the older county mark of a crown above H in a shield, together with a mark for the borough of St Albans.





¶ Two brass weights. The 2 oz one on the left was made in the reign of George IV (1820-30), before being stamped in District 1 of Hertfordshire, probably in the period 1835-44; the 1 oz one on the right simply bears the H over 4 of District 4 of Hertfordshire. Note that neither weight carries its denomination.

Police officers as inspectors 1844-81 (eleven districts)

Berkhampstead

George Mackay 1844-56 Henry J Coulter 1856-70 Robert Goodyear 1870-81

Bishops Stortford Waldron Kelly 1844-47 Robert Barnes 1847-58 Edward Beckwith 1858 William Ryder 1859-81

Buntingford William Bryant 1844-55 Richard Oliver 1855-78 William Yorke 1878-81

Hatfield Isaac Pye 1844-49 Thomas Evans 1850 Abraham English 1851-64 William Isgate 1864-68 Stephen Chapman1869-72 Jehu Bourne 1872-75 George Best 1876-78 Joseph Penn 1878-81 Hemel Hempstead

Henry J. Coulter 1847-56 Edward Evans 1857-59 Jehu Bourne 1859-72 William Isgate 1872-1879 Stephen Chapman 1879-81.

Hertford

Robert Dunn (Supt) 1845-61 Richard Wheeler 1861-64 Henry Hunt 1865-80

Hitchin

James Wakenell 1844-50 George Cocksedge 1850-56 George Capron 1857-1859 William Pangbourne 1859-67 George Young 1867-81

Royston

William Wright 1844-55 George Capron 1855-57 John Hilsden 1857-62 George Cocksedge 1862-81 Stevenage

Charles Good 1844-51 Edward Evans 1851-57 James Hawkes 1857-69 John Reynolds 1869-81

Ware

Robert Barnes 1844-47 Edward Evans 1847-51 Charles Good 1851-53 Robert Dunn 1853-61 Thomas Bygrave 1861-80

Watford

Edward Evans 1844-47 Waldron Kelly 1848-56 George Cocksedge 1857-62 John Hilsden 1862-68 William Isgate 1869-72 Stephen Chapman 1872-79 William Isgate 1979-81

Barnet: Part of the Barnet petty sessional division was in the Metropolitan Police area, and so a different system operated there, with a civilian acting as IWM. These included Peter Mann (-1853-55), John Maxted (1855-), Robert Peele (1861-), David Faulkner (1869-80) and Samuel Foulsham (1880-89) [HGAJ 8/11/53, 21/4/55; HMF 2/11/61, 17/7/69, 10/4/80, 18/5/89]. In 1882, when Foulsham requested that the Barnet standards be sent for reverification, the decision was taken to sell these standards and provide Foulsham with one of the sets of standards freed up in the reorganisation of 1881 [HMF 7/1/82]. Standards were issued to the Liberty of St Alban's in 1853 [1109], 1859 [1283A] and 1873 [1518]; the last set was received by Bourne, the Inspector for the Hatfield district.

Police officers as inspectors 1881-90 (five districts plus Barnet)

A: Ware

Hyde Clarke 1881-83 Arrowsmith 1883-85 Stephen Chapman 1885 Henry Hilton 1886-89 R.A. Wymer (CC) 1889-90

B: Bishops Stortford William Ryder 1881-85 Henry Hilton 1885 Charles Innes 1886-90 C: St Albans

William Isgate 1881 Herbert Terry 1882-86

William Hummerstone 1886-90

*D: Hemel Hempstead*Stephen Chapman 1881-85
Charles Pearson 1885-90

E: Hitchin

John Reynolds 1881-90

F: Hertford (created 1889) James Parish 1889-90



¶ Detail from a 4 oz brass weight, showing the 8 over H of District 8 (or is it H over 8?) in the period 1844-81. The VR484 stamp dates from the period 1890-1901. (There seems to be no consistency as to the arrangement of the number and the H in the period 1844-81.)

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1890	Number 484 issued; Herts CC formed; 2 divisions, each with a civilian inspector established; Two sets of standards [2106, 2129] issued. West (Watford) 396 East (Hertford) 484	© V R 484	Qualified inspectors: Western Division (Watford) W.G. Rushworth (1890-1908) R. Robertson (1908-23) A.E. Webb (1924-51) E.H. Griffiths (1951-67)
		E R 396	Eastern Division (Hertford) T. Johnson (1890-1902) R. Robertson (1902-08) G. Rushworth (1908-34) F. Chamberlain (1935-49)
1930	Central division (Hatfield) formed: No.397.		G.F. Hart (1949-55) W. Swan (1955-73) Central Division (Hatfield)
1939	Barnet division formed (No.395); temporarily closed 1940-46.		G.F. Hart (1930-49) W. Swan (1949-55) Barnet Division W. Swan (1939-40, 1946-49)
1949	Barnet division finally closed down.		The Chief Constable was chief inspector of WM until 1939; the
1963	Numbers 398, 399, 904 brought into use for Hertford division.		Clerk of the CC was responsible 1939-51. After 1951 the chief inspectors were: G.F. Hart (1951-58) J.E. Ford (1958-63) E.A. Nisbet (1963-73) [MR 51:281; 55:27; 63:38; 63:76; 72:323]





¶ Details from two 2 oz brass weights, showing the uniform verification numbers used in the East and West Divisions respectively, stamped during 1890-1901and 1901-1910 respectively.





¶ Two details from the reverse of a 1lb brass weight by Walter Parry (see also Section C) showing the date stamps for 1926 - 29 and the GR395 mark of the Barnet Division.

A: Inspection by the LIBERTY OF ST ALBANS (Hertfordshire)



Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1796	The high constables were appointed as examiners. [1, IV: 99].		The Liberty was also the Cashio hundred of Hertfordshire.
1826 1835	Standards [169] issued for the Watford division. Three inspectors appointed; two more sets of standards [798-9]	Lĭ SīA	Inspectors 1835-44: Barnet: Isaac Pye (1835-40) Henry Cope (1840-41) John Stevens (1841-44)
1844	Police force set up, jointly with Herts. Henceforth inspection was essentially unified (see above), although the Liberty was not formally united with the county until 1874.		Watford: John Neale (1835-37) St Albans: John Deayton (1835-37) Jeremiah Deayton (1838-44)
			Letters indicating the districts CB (= Chipping Barnet) and W (=Watford) have been seen with the mark.

B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of HERTFORDSHIRE

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates
		Non- uniform	Number pre-1951	& Notes

Bishops Stortford Standards made by James Nunn of Hertford, dated 1835, and assigned to this town [Sbk], were almost certainly a county set [D/EGm/128].

Cheshunt Standards [237] were issued for this Manor in 1826, when the beadle acted as the inspector. The standards were reverified in 1856 but inspection had ceased by 1866.

Hemel Hempstead A Market Town which received standards [190] in 1826. Almost certainly under the authority of the county.

· ·	•		
Hertford	AncBo MB:1835 cp	419	s:1825 [6], 1860 [1287] r:1868 n:1882-1889

A mark comprising a hart's head, a shield, and a letter H has been recorded on measures.

Thomas Knight (CC 1839-62) was acting as the inspector in 1854 [HMF 21/1/54]; in 1859, he reported that, six years previously, the town standards had been accurate when compared against the recently reverified county standards [HMF 15/10/59] but a second set of standards was issued to him in 1860 [Sbk]. In 1861, under the terms of the new Law, his appointment as IWM was confirmed by the Town Council [HMF 16/11/61]. Alfred Jarrett (CC 1862-89) was appointed inspector in 1863, following Knight's resignation [HMF 3/1/63] and his appointment was confirmed in 1880 [HMF 14/8/80]; he probably continued until 1889 when the borough was disqualified because its population was less than 10,000.

Hitchin A Market Town which received standards [222] in 1826. Almost certainly under the authority of the county.

¶ A 4 oz bronze weight, made in the reign of George IV (1820-30), and bearing the non-uniform mark of the Borough of St Albans.



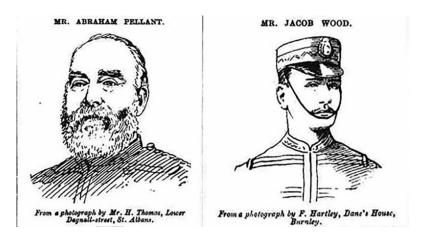
Locality	Status	Marks		Dates
		Non- uniform	Number pre-1951	& Notes
C4 Albana	AncBo MB:1835	S ^T A	260	s:1826 [125],1863[1357]
St Albans	ср	В	369	n:1891-1974

Although standards were acquired in 1826, inspection seems to have been erratic initially. In 1843, Richard Oliver, of the Rural Police, was appointed IWM for St Alban's and its neighbourhood [HMF 18/1/45].

But in 1855 Oliver was appointed IWM for the Buntingford District of the County, the borough weights were sold butapplication was made for a Borough IWM [HMF 17/2/55], with the borough having use of the Liberty weights [HMF 17/5/62]. However, in 1859, the Liberty directed that it should have sole use of the weights, with the onus resting on the borough to provide its IWM with weights [HMF 17/5/62]. In 1861, the standards for the Liberty were removed to Hatfield, by the district IWM, leaving the Liberty without standards [HGAJ 27/4/61]. After extended negotiations [HMF 2/11/61;17/5/62; 3/1/63], new standards were obtained for the borough in 1863.

W.J. Pike (CC 1859-1883) was confirmed as IWM in 1861 [HMF 24/8/61], despite having no standards at his disposal. He and A. Pellant (CC 1883-89) were both recorded as the IWM. Pellant's successor Jacob Wood was appointed IWM in 1889 [HA 29/6/89], resigning in 1893 [HA 4/2/93]. Wood's successor was unqualified and the initial solution was to appoint the County Inspector William Rushworth as the Borough IWM too [HA 10/2/94]. The final resolution came in 1894, when A.E. Slough (q1890/1) was appointed [HA 21/7/94], holding the appointment jointly with that in Luton (Beds). Inspection remained under the control of the borough police, and after Slough resigned in 1913, A.C. Sampson qualified and was appointed. The chief constable at that time was George Whitbread, who was required to resign for drunkenness in 1916. As a result, the police force was temporarily amalgamated with the county force, until the appointment of J.E. Harrison (CC 1919-29) who also served as inspector of WM.

Harrison was succeeded by N. Ashton (CC 1929-33), who was also IWM. From 1934 to 1938 the inspector was F.H. Moran, who was not a police officer. Eric Preston was appointed in 1938 and when the city police amalgamated with the county force in 1947, Preston became chief inspector. He continued to serve until 1969 [MR 69:3] and was succeeded by E.F.L. Welch [MR 69:50].



¶ The two Inspectors of Weight and Measures for St Albans in 1899. (From the *Herts Advertiser and St Albans Times*, 25 May 1899.)

C: The trade in Hertfordshire

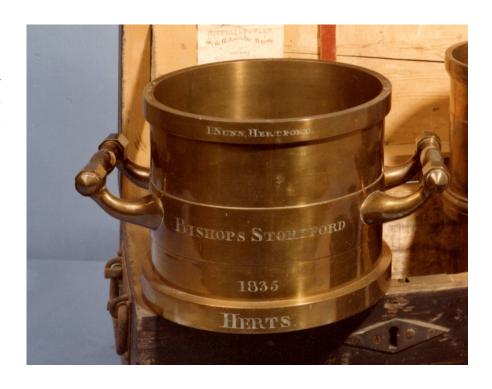
	BISHOPS STORTFORD
Selves	Richard E. Selves, scale maker [1914 K] at
	• 9 Devoil's Lane <1914-1922>
	A branch of the firm based in Saffron Walden, Essex.

	HERTFORD
Nunn	James Nunn established a firm of ironmongers etc in 1798. In 1834 William Nunn was appointed as IWM for the county, and in 1835 the firm made standards for the Bishops Stortford division of the county [D/EGm/128]. The firm is listed as William Nunn & Sons, ironmongers, in Fore Street in 1859 [K]. They probably continued to repair and adjust scales and weights throughout this period, and were still in business in 1890 [K].
Hayward	George Hayward, scale and weight maker [advt 1894 K]. • 30 Railway St <1894-1908>. Geo. Hayward and Sons [1914 K], at • Mill Road <1914-1922> • 24 Ware Road <1933- 1945> [advt 1945 KH]. Firm purchased by Herbert & Sons 1959.
Poupard	W. Poupard & Son, a London firm, had premises at 5 Mill Lane in 1908 [K].
Avery	At Queens Head Yard in Fore Street 1965.

¶ The sign that hung outside the shop of James Nunn, ironmonger in Fore Street, Hertford. It is now on display in the Hertford Museum.



¶ The standard bushel made by James Nunn for the Bishops Stortford division of the county in 1835.



GEORGE HAYWARD,

Scales, Weights, Platform Weighing Machines and Agate Bearing Scales

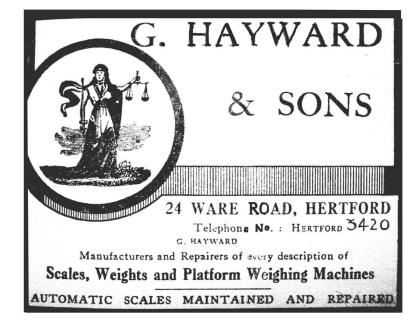
- OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

Weights and Scales Adjusted and Contracted for by the year.

- ALL KINDS OF SHOP MATERIALS KEPT IN STOCK. --. . . . Scales and Weights Repaired and Re-adjusted.

30, RAILWAY STREET, HERTFORD.

¶ Advertisements for George Hayward of Hertford. Above: from Kelly's Directory of Hertfordshire 1894; right: from Kelly's Directory of Hertford 1945.





¶ A brass weight, with the name of George Hayward & Sons. There are year stamps for (19)46 and (19)48 on the reverse.

	ST ALBANS
Booth	Ernest J. Booth, scale maker, first noted 1941-2 [KS], at 11A Holywell Hill <1941-1956> 332 Watford Road (St Stephens) <1962-1968> Firm bought by Herbert and Sons in 1955, but continued to function under the old name. [advt 1962 KS].
Stringer	Stringer & Co. (Scales) Ltd, established 1955, at: • 1 Half Moon Yard [1958 KS] • 2A Lower Dagnall Street 1960-1962 • 4 Lower Dagnall Street 1964-1975>. Still in business 2021 as suppliers to the trade, at Kimpton, near Hitchin.

WATFORD
Walter Parry, the London scale maker, set up a factory in Watford in the 1880s, and a shop [1890 Kelly] at:
• 18 High St <1889-1899>.
Succeeded by Doyle.
Leonard Doyle was a member of the Doyle family of Southwark (Surrey), an old firm of scale makers. He took over from Walter Parry [advt 1906 K], at: • 67 Sotheron Road <1902> • 2 Clarendon Road <1906-1922-> • 18 Clarendon Road <1926-1935. Acquired by Avery 1935.
First noted 1906 [K] at: • 67 Sotheron Road <1906> • 18 High Street <1910-1935. Took over the Doyle business 1935, at • 18 Clarendon Road 1935- 1966>
A.F. Burrows, scale maker [1937 KW] at • 1A Hatfield Road <1937-1966>

WALTER PARRY.

SCALE, WEIGHT, MEASURE, AND PATENT AGATE BALANCE MANUFACTURER,

18, HIGH STREET, WATFORD, & 273, Old Street, LONDON, E.C. SCALES AND WEIGHTS READJUSTED BY CONTRACT OR JOB.

Weighing Instruments Adjusted, Denominated, Plugged, ready for Stamping, in compliance with the new Weights and Measures Act now in force.

WALTER PARRY.

PRACTICAL SCALE & WEIGHT MAKER.

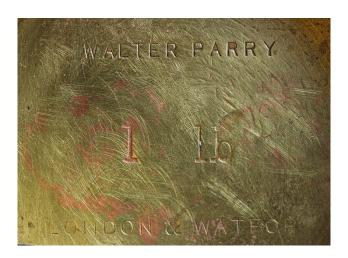
Every description of Revalrs done, and Weighing Instruments
prepared for Stamping at a Moderate Charge.

80ALES and WEIGHTS contracted for by the year, or done on your own premises by
Experienced Men.

A VARIETY OF SCALES AND WEIGHTS KEPT IN STOCK, STAMPED
BY A CRETIFIED INSPECTOR, AT

18, HIGH STREET, WATFORD, and
278, Old Street, London, E.C.

¶ The first advertisement appeared throughout a period of six months, beginning in November 1889, whilst the second one appeared over Christmas and the New Year 1894/5. Both advertisements were carried by the *Herts Advertiser and St Albans Times*.



¶ Detail from a 1 lb brass weight, with the name of Walter Parry, stating his premises in London and Watford.

¶ Advertisement for Leonard Doyle from Kelly's *Directory of Hertfordshire* 1906. It states explicitly that Doyle was the successor of Walter Parry.

Telephone 14 Y 4 Watford. . . .

L. DOYLE

(Successor to WALTER PARRY),

SCALES

and

WEIGHTS

CLEANED

and

ADJUSTED

by

CONTRACT.

Scale, Weight

Weighing Machine

MANUFACTURER, &c.

Measure Manufacturer, &c.

Clarendon Road, WATFORD.

i



¶ 4oz brass weight stamped with Leonard Doyle's name. There are various date stamps on the reverse, the earliest being 1926.

¶ Advertisement for E.J. Booth from Kelly's *Directory of St Albans* for 1962.



Dampier's Weighing Machine. — The Inventors' Advocate gives the following notice of this new and elegant machine, in its list of Specifications entered at the Enrolment Office:—

"Caristopher Edward Dampier, of Ware, Hertford, attorney, an improved weighing machine, May 11.—A circular pinte or disc is formed with a nave on its centre, through which a hole is made to receive an axis projecting from an upright standard, or connected with a balance holder; a weight acting as counterpoise is attached by a link to the battom of the disc, and on a line with the axis. The scale for holding the article to be weighed is affixed on a line with the horizon, and at right angles with the weight acting as counterpoise. On the upper arc of the disc is arranged a geometrical or graduated scale, for indicating the number of ounces or pounds. As the article to be weighed depresses the scale on one side, the weight acting as counterpoise is elevated on the other; and the geometrical scale on the upper part of the disc is moved, while the stationary index points to the amount of the weight to be ascertained. There are other modifications, but they all work on the same principle."

DAMPIER'S Patent Geometric Balance.

GEORGE ALLEN, FURNISHING IRONMONGER, &c. HODDESDON,

EGS most respectfully to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has been appointed AGEN'I for the Sale of the above entirely new and most valuable self-adjusting Weighing Machine; and that he has now an assortment of the machines, both plain and ornamental; adapted for Laurens or Packers; for all domestic purposes; for trade; coach proprietors, carriers, &c.

DAMPIER'S PATENT GEOMETRIC BALANCE is equally applicable to weighing the smallest particles, as well as the most bulky packages, and in all cases with undeviating accuracy.

GEORGE ALLEN avails himself of the present opportunity of expressing his GRATEFUL THANKS for the very liberal support which he has received during a period of 17 years.

¶ Christopher Dampier, an attorney living in Ware, obtained patent 8342 for a letter scale in 1840, and patent 8924 in 1841. His scales were sold by the Furnishing Ironmonger George Allan, but few examples have survived. (From the *Hertford Mercury and Reformer* 8 February 1840 and 9 May 1840.)

References for Hertfordshire

Published works

- 1. *Hertfordshire County Records*. A series of ten volumes covering the Quarter Sessions records up to 1843. Published between 1905 and 1957.
- 2. Gillian Sheldrick. *The Hart Reguardant: Hertfordshire County Council 1889-1989*. Hertfordshire Publications, 1989. Includes short sections on weights and measures.

Directories

K. Kelly's Directory of ... Hertfordshire (ST576) 1851-1937.

KS. Kelly's Directory of St Albans ... (ST584) 1900-1949.

KW Kelly's Directory of Watford ... (ST585) 1900-1949.

KH. Kelly's Directory of Hertford ... (ST595) 1936-1945.

Newspapers

HA Herts Advertiser and St Alban's Times 1889-95

HGAJ Herts Guardian, Agricultural Journal and General Advertiser 1853-67

HMF Hertford Mercury and Reformer 1835-1913

WO Watford Observer 1890

Original documents

Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies

QS/Misc/B/**. Various papers relating to inspectors of WM.

L/Misc/965-969. Papers relating to WM in the Liberty of St Albans (1824-1853).

D/E/Gm/128. Papers of local antiquarian Gordon Moodey, with correspondence about local standards from Bishops Stortford, Hemel Hempstead, and Ware (manorial). Also some photographs.

Correspondence with M.D. Howlett of Hertfordshire CC Trading Standards Department. 1994. Contains lists of inspectors and standards.