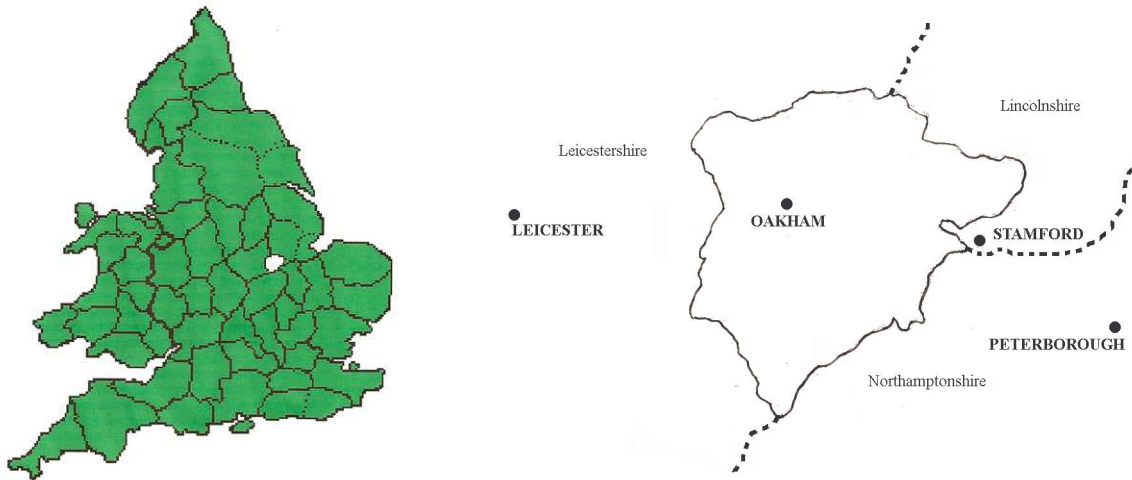


RUTLAND






Rutland is England's smallest county. As shown in the map, it is surrounded by Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire (including the Soke of Peterborough). There are two main towns, Oakham and Uppingham, but they are small in comparison with the major centres in neighbouring counties, such as Leicester, Peterborough and Stamford.

The county acquired standards in 1825 and functioned as a separate weights and measures authority throughout the nineteenth century. In the twentieth century the inspection was gradually taken over by Leicestershire, and the two counties were eventually merged in 1974. However, the county of Rutland was re-established in 1997, when it became a unitary authority.

The small size of the county, and the dominant influence of its neighbours, means that there is little evidence of the scale trade, although ironmongers in Oakham and Uppingham must have sold scales and weights, and may have been involved in repairing and adjusting them.

A: Inspection by the County of RUTLAND

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1825	Set of standards [59] issued.		5 hundreds: Alstoe, East, Martinsley, Oakham Soke, Wrandike
1834	One inspector appointed, and another set of standards [469] issued		For an explanation of the horseshoe mark, see [2]. <i>Inspectors 1835-48:</i> William Banks (1835-) T. Goodwin (chief constable of the East Hundred [1846 W]).
1848	County Police formed. The chief constable was the sole inspector.		<i>Chief constables acting as inspectors 1848-89:</i>
1859	Set of standard weights [1271] issued to the chief constable.		T. Garton (1848-55, listed as IWM in 1850 [S]) R.F. Mitchell (1855-71, listed as IWM in 1863 [W]) William Kemp (1871-1890-) listed as IWM in 1876 [K])
1889	Rutland CC formed; No.531 issued.		<i>Qualified inspectors:</i>
1890	One qualified inspector; office in Oakham, where it remained until 1928 at least.		George Phillips (1891-1924) see [1]. A. Bissill (1924-1950, formerly in Leics) [MR 50:126]
1939	By 1939 the inspector was based in Melton Mowbray (Leics).		
1950	Following the retirement of inspector Bissill, the inspection was merged with Leicestershire [MR 50:87].		
1974	Rutland became a district council; WM authority formally transferred to Leicestershire.		



¶ A bronze weight made in the reign of George IV and stamped with the Rutland horseshoe mark.

¶ An 8oz brass weight verified in Rutland in the reigns of Victoria (this mark stamped 1890-1901) and Edward VII (1901-1910).



¶ A bronze weight last verified in Rutland in the reign of Edward VII (1901-1910). The mark is stamped in a lead plug on the reverse, and the letters B and K are date codes.

B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of RUTLAND

The market towns of Oakham and Uppingham had pre-Imperial standards, but neither of them had the formal status of a borough, and there is no evidence of WM activity after 1826.

C: The trade in Rutland

No specific evidence of the trade in Rutland has been found, although there were ironmongers in Oakham (for example) who probably sold and repaired scales and weights.

References for Rutland

Published works

1. George Phillips. Weights and Measures in Rutland – A New Departure. *Monthly Review* 4 (1896) 251. Phillips was a prolific writer on all aspects of Rutland. Among other things he wrote a book on the geography of the county, published by Cambridge University Press in 1912.
2. H.W. Speight. Ancient Verification Stamps: Rutland. *Monthly Review* 40 (1932) 172.

Directories

- W. White's Directory of Leicestershire ... and Rutland. (N541, ST123) 1846, 1863, 1877.
S. Slater's Directory of ... Rutland. (N85) 1850.
K. Kelly's Directory of ... Rutland (ST9) 1855-1941.

Original documents

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Record Office

Some of the Rutland records were lost in the Second World War, and they are known only as a result of articles written by the aforementioned George Phillips. The records that have survived are now in the Record Office in Leicester.

RQS2: Records relating to the Quarter Sessions in Rutland 1743-1971.