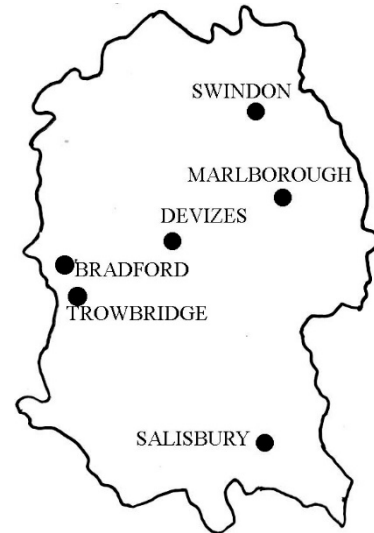
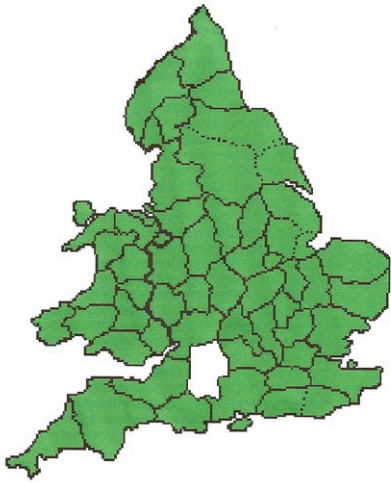


WILTSHIRE







Wiltshire is a mainly rural county about 120km due west of London. It is bounded by Gloucestershire to the north, Berkshire and Hampshire to the east, Dorset to the south, and Somerset to the west.

Following the Weights and Measures Acts of 1834/5 the county authorities tried several different systems for inspection [1], but in 1845 the task was handed over to the county police force. They continued to fulfil this function until 1889, when qualified civilian inspectors were appointed.

The three ancient boroughs of Devizes, Marlborough and Salisbury were all WM authorities in the nineteenth century, although Devizes did not obtain its own standards until 1846 and always used the county inspectors. Only Salisbury remained after 1889. There were several manorial jurisdictions, Bradford-on-Avon being the most noteworthy.

There were no specialist scalemakers in Wiltshire until the very end of the nineteenth century. In the county town of Devizes ironmongers catered for the needs of the local people, and tradesmen in the west of the county probably relied on the scalemakers of Bath and Bristol.

A: Inspection by the County of WILTSHIRE

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1820	Standards obtained for each of the 29 hundreds.		The story of inspection up to 1845 is discussed in detail by Anderson [1].
1826	One set of standards [317] verified; one examiner for whole county.		<i>Examiner 1827-34</i> Henry Potter Burt, ironmonger of Devizes
1834	One inspector appointed.		<i>Inspector 1834-36</i> Francis Buonaparte Axford
1836	Three more sets of standards 813-5]; four inspectors appointed.		<i>Inspectors 1836-45</i> <i>1-Devizes:</i> John Ferris (1836-43) Charles Bristowe (1843-45) <i>2-Salisbury:</i> William Beach (1836-63) <i>3-Warminster:</i> Jacob White (1836-44) John Beezer (1845) <i>4-Marlborough:</i> Thomas Wheeler (1836-43) Edward Baverstock (1843-45)
1845	Inspection transferred to police, with the exception of Beach. The other three inspectors in post had been warned that their offices would not be permanent.		
1846	Set of standards [949] issued,		
1848	Five sets of standards [1004-8] issued; 9 districts, denoted A-I.		
1860	Set of standards [1288] issued.		
1867	Nine superintendents of police acted as WM inspectors.		
1882	The pre-uniform mark remained in use [AR 1882].		
1883	No.464 issued, districts denoted by letters as before.		

WILTSHIRE.
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

NOTICE is hereby given,—That the Justices of the Peace of the County of Wilts, in Sessions assembled, have ordered and determined that one Copy of the Imperial Standard Weights and Measures is requisite for the use of this County, and that one such Copy, together with sufficient Stamps for Stamping and Sealing the same, be provided accordingly, and deposited at Devizes, as the most central and convenient place within the county.

That FRANCIS BUONAPARTE ANFORD, of Devizes, gentleman, be (and he was accordingly appointed) Inspector of Weights and Measures for this County. And that full publicity of the nature of the Enactments of the Act, and of the Penalties to which persons offending against its provisions will be subjected, be as early as possible given by the Clerk of the Peace, by advertisement, in the papers in general circulation in the County.

¶ Notice from the Salisbury and Wiltshire Journal of 10 November, 1834, p. 3.



¶ A roughly-cast 11lb bronze weight with the county mark but no district number. This almost certainly dates from the period 1834-36.



¶ An 8oz brass weight with the county mark for district 1 (Devizes). Since the monarch is shown as William IV, it must be from the years 1836-37.



Police officers as inspectors 1845-90		
<p><i>A Bradford</i> (Melksham, Trowbridge)</p> <p>John Foley (1845-62)</p> <p>John Harris (&1862-74)</p> <p>Thomas Gibson (&1874-75)</p> <p>Henry White (1875-89)</p>	<p><i>D Warminster</i></p> <p>Thomas May (1845-49)</p> <p>James Abbott (1849-76)</p> <p>Thomas Pierce (1876-81&)</p> <p>William Perrett (1881-89)</p>	<p><i>G Marlborough</i></p> <p>Thomas Stretten (1845-76)</p> <p>Levi Wiltshire (&1876-80)</p> <p>Thomas Pierce (&1881-89)</p>
<p><i>B Hindon</i></p> <p>James Leonard (1845)</p> <p>John Harris (1845-62&)</p> <p>Edward Dann (1862-82)</p> <p>Frederick Bull (1882-89)</p>	<p><i>E Devizes</i></p> <p>Francis Wolfe (1845-70&)</p> <p>Thomas Gibson (&1870-74&)</p> <p>Samuel Woodman (&1874-80)</p> <p>William Baldwin (&1880-89)</p>	<p><i>H Chippenham</i></p> <p>James Wright (1845-66)</p> <p>William Staples (&1866)</p> <p>Levi Wiltshire (1866-76&)</p> <p>William Baldwin (1876-80&)</p> <p>Archelaus Barrett (1880-89)</p>
<p><i>C Swindon</i></p> <p>Joseph Hall (1845&)</p> <p>William Warner (1845-50)</p> <p>Henry Haynes (&1850-68)</p> <p>George North (1868-89)</p>	<p><i>F Malmesbury</i></p> <p>Henry Haynes (1845-50&)</p> <p>Thomas Eringey (-1855-)</p> <p>William Staples (1858-66&)</p> <p>Samuel Woodman (1866-74&)</p> <p>Francis Beauchamp (1874-75)</p> <p>Isaac Luffman (1875-85)</p> <p>Henry Collet (1885-89)</p>	<p><i>I Salisbury</i></p> <p>(William Beach continued in post, retiring only in 1863.)</p> <p>George Matthews (1863-68)</p> <p>Thomas Gibson (1868-70&)</p> <p>Francis Wolfe (&1870-76)</p> <p>John Stephens (1876-89)</p>





¶ On the left, a detail from a 1lb weight, showing the WR mark (1830-34), the WRIV/W/4 mark used in the period 1836-37 in the Marlborough district and finally the VR/W/G used in the Marlborough District in the period 1845-83. On the right, a detail from a 4 oz bronze weight, showing GR marks but also the mark of Wiltshire District B (Hindon), used in the period 1845-83.



¶ Two details from a 4 oz brass weight, showing the mark used by the County in the borough of Marlborough, in the period 1889-96. The weight was also stamped on the reverse in the reign of George V (1910-36), using the 574 stamp. The obverse carries the 1892 stamp.

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1889	Wiltshire CC formed. Three inspectors qualified by 1891, one retired before 1896. The County acted for the disqualified borough of Marlborough, the standard mark with the addition of M being used.	 	<i>Qualified inspectors:</i> <i>Northern division (Swindon)</i> J. Ward (q1890/91-94) [MR 94:416,432; 38:43] Sam Smith (1894-1911) C. Keating (1911-38) [MR11:402] W. Hurry (1939-44) M.A. Chapman (-1950-54) J.D. Derbyshire (1954-59) [MR 54: 127] W.B. Adams (1959-62-
1890-1	Three sets of standards [2121, 2174, 2186] issued.		<i>Southern division (Trowbridge)</i> W. Selby (q1889/90 -93-) Frank Beardsley(q1890/1-1911) W. Nelson (1911-27) [MR 11:402] A.W. Butlin (1927-31) E.C. Mercer (1931-38 then chief) [MR 31:139] C. Sears (1939-50 then DCI and CI) E.B. Saxty (1950-54) M.A. Chapman (1954-61-then DCI)
1896	Two divisions: North (Swindon) 464N South 464S The Southern office was in Warminster and/or Trowbridge.		<i>Salisbury office</i> C. Kent (1938-) R.H. Brockland (-1950-54-) W.E. McCulloch (-72-)
1907	No.574 issued for N. Division.		<i>Chief inspectors 1938-77</i> E.C. Mercer (1938-54) [MR 54:167] C. Sears (1954-77) [MR 77:48]
1938	Chief Inspector appointed and Salisbury sub-office opened, issued with No.462. No.463 allocated to Trowbridge.		
1947	Nos.454, 455 issued.		
1949	Nos.135, 136 issued.		
1950	No.79 transferred from Borough of Salisbury.		
1954	Offices in Swindon, Trowbridge and Salisbury [MR 54:280].		

B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the County of Wiltshire

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Aldbourne	Manor	 ?	---	s:1826
Standards [244] were obtained by the Lord of the Manor of Aldbourne and High Sheriff of Wiltshire, T. Baskerville, in 1826. Ricketts (p.208) suggests that the mark shown above refers to this jurisdiction. No example has been recorded on a weight.				
Bradford-on-Avon	Manor	 ?	---	s:1843
<p>In 1842 the county inspector (John Ferris) visited Bradford and fined several tradesmen for using deficient weights. They objected, initially on the grounds that his general warrant was not valid, but that objection had already been over-ruled in cases elsewhere. In 1843 J. Bush, the Steward to the Lord of the Manor, obtained standards [907] for the 'Manor, Borough, and Hundred', clearly with the intention of establishing a separate jurisdiction. The dispute continued for some years, with the Manor appointing its own inspectors at the annual Court Leet. Despite the Legal Verdict in 1847 that the Manor had no right to stamp, or own the relevant stamp, under the letters patent granted to the manor in 1567, Bush wrote to the county inspector (Supt Foley) in 1849 threatening legal action if he operated in Bradford, and quoting the letters patent [A1/556].</p> <p>The mark shown is recorded on a weight that also has the mark for the A district of the county, which included Bradford, and it may be a mark of the manorial jurisdiction.</p>				



¶ The letters WN and BW on this weight may be the mark of the 'Manor' of Bradford-on-Avon, stamped in the period of disputed jurisdiction 1843-1849. It also bears the marks of the county district A.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Devizes	AncBo MB:1835 qsb	---	210	s:1846 r:1868 n:1879-1889

In 1846 standards [944] were issued by Tyler and Tyler to the mayor, Joseph Burt. The police force in the borough was part of the county force, a subdivision of the Devizes division (E). It was headed by a police inspector who was also the IWM for the borough, and it is likely that he used the county mark. (The mark BD was at one time attributed to Devizes but is now known to refer to Bideford.)

The inspectors were Alexander Selby (1847-) [*DWG 11/2/47*], George Hill (1851-70), Henry White (1870-75), Isaac Luffman (1875), Henry Manley (1876-80), Frederick Bull (1881-82) and Thomas Tyler (1883-89). The borough adopted the uniform number 210 in 1879 but ceased to be a WMA in 1889.

DEVIZES WHARF.

THE Lessees of Devizes Wharf beg to call the attention
of the Trading Public to their

PUBLIC WEIGH-BRIDGE
For weighing COAL, HAY, STRAW, ROOTS, &c.

They have received the following Certificate of its correctness and condition:—

[COPY.]

“ Borough of Devizes, 19th October, 1888.
“ I hereby certify that I have this day examined the
Weigh Bridge in use at Devizes Wharf, and find it correct
and in thorough working order.
“ Signed, **THOMAS TYLER,**
“ Inspector of Weights and Measures for
Borough of Devizes.”

¶ Advertisement from the Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette
of 8 November, 1888, p. 4

¶ This 8oz bronze weight has the rare marks stamped under the authority of the borough of Marlborough. It also has the Founders (London) marks and the Wiltshire county mark for district G, which included Marlborough.



Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Marlborough	AncBo MB:1835 ncp	M H	425 464 M	s:1835 [625] n:1881-1889 1890-1896
<p>In 1785 the Mayor, in his capacity as Clerk of the Market, revived a ‘Mayor’s Court’ specifically for WM offences, and this continued until 1851. In that year the borough regained its own commission of the peace, which it had lost in 1835. For more details, see [2].</p> <p>In 1834 Henry Mackrill, the foreman in an iron foundry, was appointed inspector but he died in 1842. By 1866 a superintendent of police was the inspector of weights and measures. This was almost certainly Thomas Stretten, the superintendent of the Marlborough division of the county. The borough adopted the uniform number 425 in 1881, and continued to be a WMA until 1889, when it was disqualified because the population was less than 10,000. Initially, the county introduced the mark VR/464/M.</p>				

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

I, JAMES PICKFORD, having been appointed INSPECTOR of WEIGHTS and MEASURES for the BOROUGH and CITY of NEW SARUM, do hereby give Notice,—That I shall ATTEND at the COUNCIL-CHAMBER, in the said City, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY NEXT, the Eleventh and Twelfth Days of NOVEMBER, from the hour of Eight o'clock in the Forenoon to Five in the Afternoon, for the purpose of EXAMINING, ADJUSTING, and STAMPING all WEIGHTS and MEASURES which may be brought to me, in accordance to the Act of Parliament in that case made and provided.

16709

SALISBURY, Nov. 7, 1840.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

I, The Undersigned, do hereby give Notice, that I shall ATTEND at the COUNCIL-CHAMBER, in the City and Borough of NEW SARUM, on THURSDAY NEXT, the 18th day of November, from Eight o'clock in the forenoon till Six o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, for the purpose of Examining, Adjusting, and Stamping all WEIGHTS and MEASURES that may be brought to me for that purpose, in pursuance of the Statute in such case made and provided.

JAMES PICKFORD, Inspector.

SALISBURY, Nov. 12, 1841.

11395



¶ Two advertisements from the Salisbury and Winchester Journal, that were published 9 November, 1840, p. 4, when he was just appointed, and 15 November, 1841, p. 4.



¶ Details from a bronze 8oz weight and a brass 2oz weight, showing the mark used in Salisbury in the period 1835-79.



¶ A close-up of the Salisbury mark 1879-1901, incorporating the old shield as well as the uniform number 79.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Salisbury	AncBo MB:1835 qsb			s:1825 [2] r:1866 n:1879-1967
<p>In 1835 James Clark was appointed inspector. By 1840, James Pickford was the inspector [<i>SWJ</i> 9/11/40] and returns in the Weights and Measures book of the borough [G23/870/1,2] show that he was still in post for the period 1853-56; following Pickford's resignation in 1856, the post went to Charles Crouch (1856-77).</p> <p>Subsequently, Alfred Mathews (CC 1874-1903) was listed as IWM [1889, 1903 K]. His successor as CC, Frank Richardson (1903-29), was listed as IWM in 1904-05 [MYB], but in November 1904, an arrangement was made with the County for Frank Beardsley to act for the City until such time as Richardson qualified [<i>SWJ</i> 14/11/04]. This arrangement was formalized in 1905 [<i>WWJ</i> 5/8/05] and renewed regularly at three-year intervals. In 1948 a formal arrangement was made, and Number 79 was transferred to the county. The borough was finally disqualified as a WMA in 1967.</p>				
<p>Swindon A bushel measure [890] was verified for the Clerk of the Market in 1842.</p> <p>Swindon became a Municipal Borough in 1900 but did not become a WMA until 1965. W.B. Adams was the chief inspector 1965-1974 [MR 74:70].</p>				
<p>Trowbridge A set of standards [158] was issued for the manorial jurisdiction in 1826, but no other evidence of WM activity has been found.</p>				

C: The trade in Wiltshire

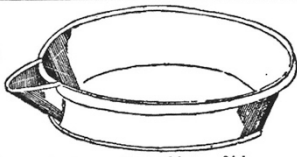


¶ This view of the market place in Devizes c1880 shows the shop of Burts the ironmongers. Henry Burt was the examiner for the county 1826-34, Joseph Burt was the mayor of Devizes in 1846 when the borough obtained its own standards, and the firm continued to sell scales and weights throughout the rest of the nineteenth century.

DEVIZES	
Burt	<p>Henry Potter Burt set up as an ironmonger in Devizes in 1810, according to advertisements at the turn of the century. In 1824 he obtained a patent for an improved bell crank. In 1825 he contracted with the county to supply the standards required by the different hundreds [DWG 20/10/25] but, in 1826, was appointed examiner of weights and measures for the county, taking custody of the standards. His position was overlooked in 1834 when the time came to appoint an inspector [1]; he moved to Southampton that year.</p> <p>The Burt family and their firm continued to be involved in WM affairs, as evidenced by payments from the county [DWG 7/1/47; 6/1/48]. Joseph Burt was mayor of Devizes in 1846, when the borough obtained its own standards, issued to Tyler and Tyler [F6/200/1]. Joseph Burt died in 1876, his son William Henry Burt taking over the business. William died in 1892; Initially, Mrs Burt was listed as owning the business [1900 G] but, by 1913, the business was in the hands of Stiles Bros [G], and known variously as W.H. Burt and Burt's Ironmongery stores. An advertisement that they sold scales and weights, stamped by the county inspector, appeared in 1893 [G].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41, Market Place 1810-1916>
White	<p>George White, b 1815, was listed in the 1841 Census at Sidmouth Street and was operating there as a General Ironmonger by 1843 [WI 23/11/43]; by 1847, his son, Thomas Henry was an assistant in the business and had taken over from his father by 1867 [K]. Although he died in 1899, the business continued in his name until 1915 [G]; the following year a motor garage was operating there under the name of White Devizes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2, Sidmouth Street <1841-1915.
Bowsher	<p style="text-align: center;">A. BOWSHER DEVIZES</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On a 7lb iron bar weight</i></p> <p>Alfred Bowsher, b<1827>, set up as a furnishing and general ironmonger in Devizes in 1858 [DWG 25/3/58], opposite the Burts' shop in the Market Place [advt 1863 G]. The iron bar with his name cast underneath the bar dates from the 1890s.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Market Place 1858-1916>. <p>Alfred Bowsher died on 16 May 1916 aged 88 [G].</p>

THOMAS H. WHITE,
Furnishing & General Ironmonger,
2 SIDMOUTH STREET, DEVIZES.

BEDSTEADS from
8/6 upwards.
MATTRESSES,
BRUSHES & MOPS,
Cocoa Matting, Mats



Garden Engines and
Saws.
Electro-plated Goods
Wrought Cutlery,
Washing and
Mangling Machines.

Marble and Enamelled Slate Chimney Pieces.

LAWN MOWERS

BY

Best Makers.



BATHS

Petroleum

Cooking Stoves.

SAUSAGE AND MINCING MACHINES.
WEIGHING MACHINES & WEIGHTS.

White's unsurpassed Hand Seed Drill, 21s. each.
WOOD MEASURES AND SEED LIPS.

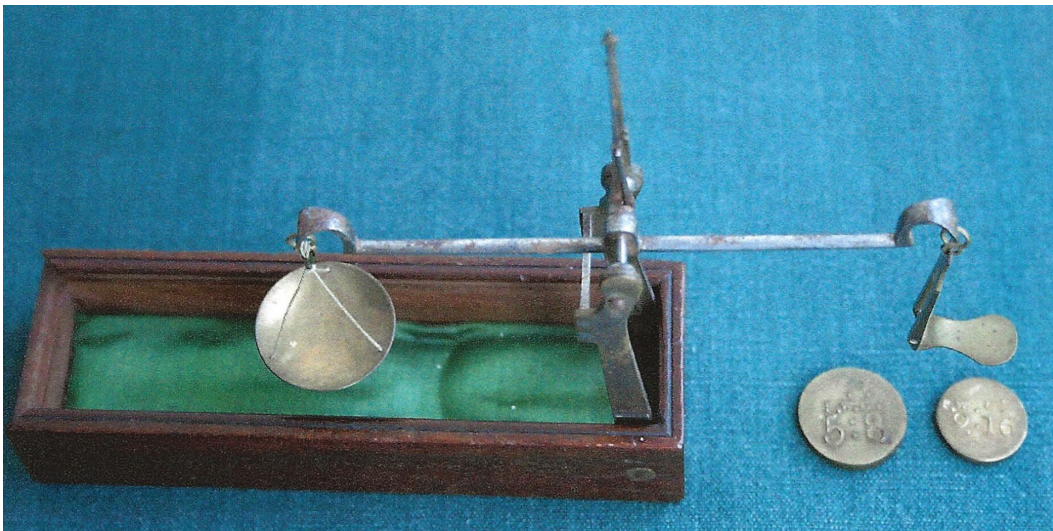


¶ On the left, an advertisement from Gillman's Devizes Directory of 1898 whilst, on the right, a 7lb iron bar weight with the name of A. Bowsher, Devizes cast in it. Both White and Bowsher were ironmonger who clearly had dealings in scales and weights.

MARLBOROUGH

Pickett

John Pickett was listed as a clock maker and whitesmith, working in Marlborough in 1795, but he appears in other directories of the 1780s too. He was one of the pioneers in making coin balances; the first of the two balances shown is marked with both Pickett, Marlborough and G.W. & Co., 86, Cheapside, London, signifying the retailers Goodbehere, Wigan & Co who flourished in this period.



¶ Two scales by John Pickett; the upper one is a coin “folding scale” (non self-erecting) whilst the lower one is a folding “rocker balance”.

SALISBURY	
Haynes	Joseph Haynes (b. 1847) appears as a scale maker in the 1891 Census, living in St. Edmunds, Salisbury, and he advertised weekly as a scale and weighing scale maker in the Salisbury Times between May 1893 and December 1894. He is listed as a scale maker in 1895 [K] but died in 1897. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 57 Salt Lane <1893-5>.
Howard	A.C. Howard, branch of the <i>Southampton</i> firm, was listed in 1898 [K] at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 64 Winchester St <1898>.
Jenkins & Pinder	Jenkins and Pinder was listed in 1907 and 1911 [K] as ironmongers but an advertisement of 1907 [ST 21/6/07] cites them as practical scale makers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1, Winchester Street <1907-11>.
Avery	Avery, first noted 1911, at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100a Fisherton St <1911-23> • 25a North St <1927-31> • 37 Wilton Rd <1935-67> • Edison Rd <1968-74> .
Hann	Arthur J. Hann, scale maker, at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95 Devizes Road <1925-30> • 100a Fisherton St <1935> • 25a North St <1938-42 Acquired by Avery in 1942.

**SCALE AND WEIGHING MACHINE
MAKER.**
J. HAYNES, Salt Lane. Weighing instruments of
every description repaired and adjusted. Yearly
contracts taken. Coffee mills re-cut

¶ Advertisement from the Salisbury Times of 26 May, 1893.

SCALES AND WEIGHTS for trade or private
use, also coal and sack machines, Govern-
ment stamped and ready for use, repairs by
practical scale makers.—JENKINS AND PINDER,
Ironmongers, Market Place, Salisbury.

¶ Advertisement from the Salisbury Times of 21 June, 1907.



- ¶ A 2 oz brass weight; only a single reference to the scale maker Edwin Cooke has been traced.

Under the New Act.
JAMES LOTT,
 50 & 51, REGENT STREET, SWINDON,
 IS OPEN TO
ADJUST SCALES AND WEIGHING
MACHINES
 Of all Classes, and Guarantee each Scale or Machine to
 PASS THE COUNTY INSPECTOR.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES ACT.
 —
 SCALES AND WEIGHING
 MACHINES
 OF ALL KINDS
REPAIRED
 ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
 —
 Every Scale or Machine is Tested and
Stamped by the Inspector before re-
 turned to the trader.
 —
JAMES LOTT,
 IRONMONGER,
 REGENT STREET, SWINDON.

- ¶ Two advertisements of James Lott, the first appearing for six months in 1898 in the Trowbridge Chronicle and the second for three months in 1901 in the North Wilts Herald.

SWINDON	
Lott	<p>James Lott first appeared in the 1881 Census as an ironmonger but was declared bankrupt in 1889 [SA 29/6/89]. By 1898, he was trading again, but at 50 Regent Street, and by 1910 the business was known as James Lott & Sons, still trading at 50, Regent Street. They were listed as scale repairers in 1911 [K], based at the Temple Street address, with the ironmongery at Regent Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 91 Regent Street <1881-89> • 50 Regent Street <1898-1930> • 1 Temple Street <1911-1923>.
Cooke	<p>Edwin Cooke is cited as a scale maker at 17, Commercial Road, New Swindon in 1893 [NW] but this is the only reference to him that has been uncovered.</p>
Pooley	<p>H. Pooley & Sons were at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colbourne Street 1906-8 • 1-2 Regent Street 1908-1915> • Devizes Road <1923> • 100a Commercial Road 1924 -27> <p>The premises were occupied by Avery by 1939 [K].</p>
Bragg	<p>In 1920, G. Bragg advertised that, formerly at H. Pooley & Sons, he had now established himself as a practical scale repairer and adjuster, working at 7, Lowestoft St [NWH 6/2/20].</p>
Avery	<p>W & T Avery were at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 Commercial Road <1939> • 9 Westcott Place <1952-70>.
ASCO	<p>ASCO, the Automatic Scale Company, were at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 Morse St <1952>. <p>Later they became part of Bizerba., a German firm.</p>
Wiltshire	<p>The Wiltshire Scale Company originally had premises in Swindon, but by 2008 it was located in Chippenham.</p>

WEIGHTS & MEASURES ACTS, 1878 & 1889.
ISAAC FORD,
PRACTICAL SCALE MAKER.
 Late with Bartlett & Co., Bristol,
 36, BOUNDSTONE STREET,
TROWBRIDGE.
WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS of all descriptions
REPAIRED, ADJUSTED & RETURNED,
 ready Stamped by the County Inspector. No charge
 will be made unless stamped. Contracts taken.
 New **WEIGHTS, MEASURES, & WEIGHING**
INSTRUMENTS supplied.
 Branch Establishment at Mr **HULBERTS**, General
 Smith, Fore Street, **WIMBORNE**, Wilts. [5550]

¶ Advertisement from the Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser from Jan/Feb 1893.

¶ A 11b brass weight stamped with the name of Ford of Trowbridge.



TROWBRIDGE	
Ford	<p style="text-align: center;">FORD TROWBRIDGE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On a 1lb flat round brass weight</i></p> <p>Isaac Ford, b 26 September 1865, was an apprentice scale maker to Bartlett & Son in Bristol in 1881 [Census]. The family came from Mangotsfield in Gloucestershire and Isaac was living there in 1891 [Census], listed as a scale maker. By 1893, he was working in Trowbridge; the following year, an offer to maintain the weighbridge was rejected [TC 28/4/94]. But in 1915, his tender for the upkeep of the Frome Road weighbridge was accepted [WTTA 23/1/15]; he finally resigned this role in 1934 [WTTA 3/2/34]. When he closed his business in 1926, he cited a contact at 20, Roundstone Road, by which he could be reached to supply new scales and weights, and for repairs [WTTA 17/4/26]. By 1939, he was living in Mangotsfield again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36/44 Roundstone Road <1893-95> • 40 Harford St <1899> • 1 Hilperton Road <1901-1915> • 13 Roundstone Road <1922-26.
Parsons	<p>L. Parsons, repairer [1927 K]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court Street <1927>.
Ben Nevis	<p>Newman Hender & Co., formed 1896 as valve manufacturers. Makers of egg-handling machines, patentees 1956,1959, produced egg poises with the trade name of Ben Nevis, at St George's Works, Trowbridge.</p>
Perox Engineering	<p>In 1949, Perox Engineering, of Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, advertised scale repairs to any make of scale, with official stamping arranged, as necessary [WTTA 27/8/47].</p>



¶ A 4oz bronze weight with mysterious marks. Similar marks have been seen on several weights that appear to date from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The marks comprise: the conjoined letters AB (almost certainly a form of abbreviation for ‘averdepois’); a crossed sword and mace (?); and the crowned letters W and T. The style seems to be an attempt to imitate the London marks, suggesting a provincial maker. The current best guess is that the letters W and T stand for Wiltshire and Trowbridge, with a possible link to the famous firm of G.N. Haden.

References for Wiltshire

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank Local Studies (Swindon Libraries) for their work in tracking down our only reference to Edwin Cooke, scale maker, of Swindon.

Published works

1. R.F.J. Anderson, ‘Appoint an Inspector I, II, III, IV’. *Monthly Review* (70) 1962, 118-119, 140 – 141, 160-161, 208-210. Four articles with many details of the period 1826-44.
2. A.R. Stedman, *Marlborough and the Upper Kennet Country*, Marlborough: 1960. Chapter XXIII contains useful material on the Marlborough courts, especially the Mayor’s Court which dealt with WM offences.

Directories

- P Pigot’s Directory of ... Wiltshire (N78) 1844
- K Kelly’s [Post Office] Directory of ... Wiltshire (N113, ST1482) 1848-
- S Slater’s Directory of ... Wiltshire (ST34) 1852
- G Gillman’s Devizes Public Register, Business Directory and Family Almanack (ST1484) 1858-1916
- H Harrod’s Directory of ... Wiltshire (ST1483) 1865
- NW North Wilts, Borough of Cricklade & District Directory (ST1489) 1893
- L Langmead & Evans Directory of Salisbury and District (ST1495) 1897
- B Brown’s Directory of Salisbury (ST1496) 1912, 1925
- KS Kelly’s Directory of Salisbury (ST1503) 1927-1956.

Newspapers

BC Berkshire Chronicle 1869
DWG Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 1825-88
NWH North Wilts Herald 1874-1938
RM Reading Mercury 1845-1897
SA Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 1866-1911
ST Salisbury Times 1894-1908
SWJ Salisbury and Winchester Journal 1834-1911
TC Trowbridge Chronicle 1875-1898
WI Wiltshire Independent 1842-63
WTTA Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser 1863-1934
WWJ Warminster and Westbury Journal and Wilts County Advertiser 1905.

Original documents

Wiltshire and Swindon Archives

A1/555. Papers relating to inspection by the county 1834-1845.

A1/556. Papers relating to inspection in the 'Manor, Borough and Hundred' of Bradford-on-Avon, 1842-49. Also contains a printed list of the initial appointments of police in 1845.

A2/190. Weights verified in the Borough of Devizes, inspection by county police 1872-74.

F6/200/1. Indentures for the county, Marlborough and Devizes.

G23/154/8. Arrangements for inspection in Salisbury by the county 1906-1926.

G23/870/1,2. Weights and Measures, Inspector's Record Books, Borough of Salisbury 1853-77.