

WICKWAR



Much of the information has been taken from the Gloucestershire Tithe Map and its accompanying index; compiled in 1839 and published in 1840

In 1086 the inhabitants of Wickwar centred around the area of the Church. At this time there were at least 28 villagers.

THE "STANK" "Stank" is an old name for a dam. The Stank made a path across the ponds to the Church



THE NEW INN

Nowadays, the New Inn is called The Buthay. In 1839 the keeper was Mrs E Harding. Next door was the Wheelwright's Shop, proprietor Mr H Perrot.

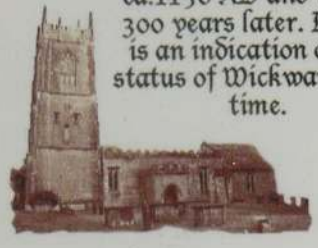
Wickwar was established as a market town by the de la Warre family. The de la Warre coat of arms is shown above. Dyeing and weaving were important occupations from the Middle Ages until the 18th Century. Clay pipe making was also important in the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries.

THE ROMAN ARCHES



This old bridge which crosses the Little Avon is reputed to have been built in the 2nd Century. The mortar which separates the solid masonry is hard as flint. In 1839 it was called Sturt Bridge and earlier carried packhorses en route to London linking with Plumber's Trench to pass through Lower Woods. Even stage coaches crossed the ford next to the bridge but the old road to Wotton which passed through Poplar Lane is now overgrown

The Church of the Holy Trinity was first built ca.1150 AD and rebuilt 300 years later. Its size is an indication of the status of Wickwar at the time.



In 1839, the area of Wickwar Town was 13 acres, 3 rods and 20 perches.

A "shippen" was an old word used to describe a cattle shed. The lane leading to these sheds used to be called "Cowshippen Lane" but now it is shortened to "Cowship Lane".

In 1844 the Railway came to Wickwar. This changed the character of the north end of the village. Pool house was demolished and the ponds drained.

THE TOWN HALL

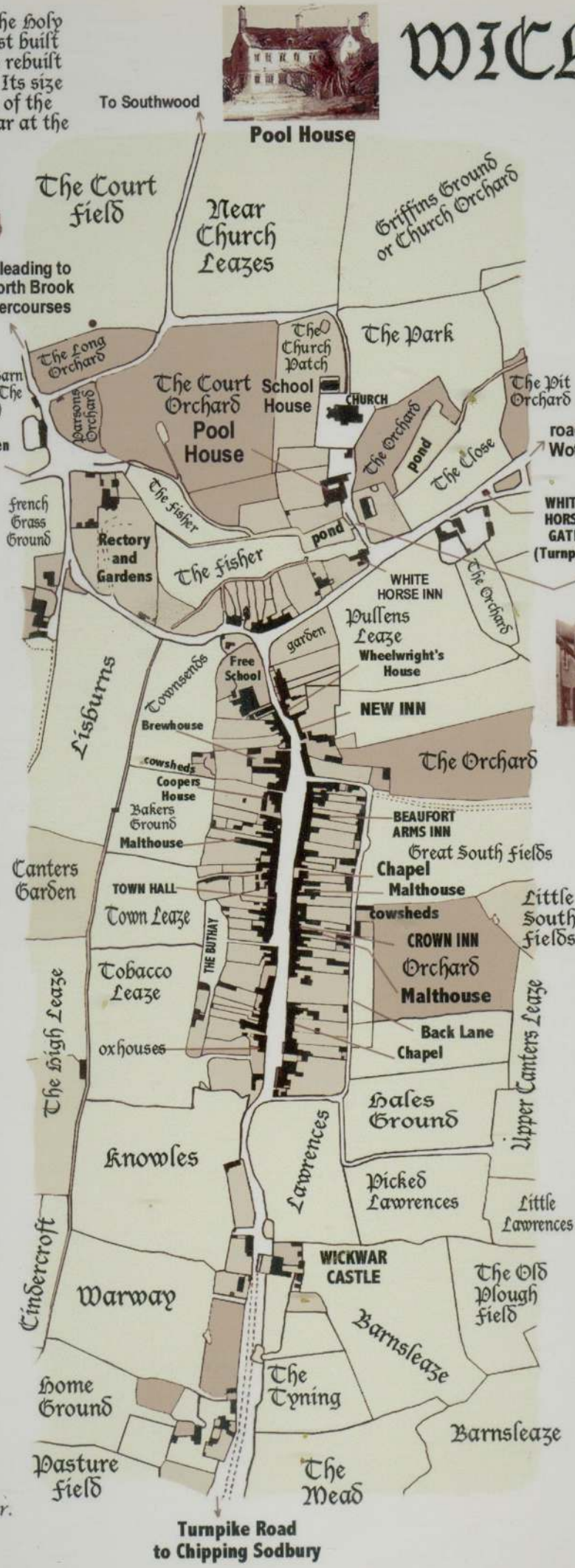


Wickwar was granted Market Town status in the mid 1600s. The present Town Hall was built in 1795. Wickwar had a Mayor until 1893 when Parish Councils were formed. The last Mayor of Wickwar was Mr John Asway (1856, 1924).

In 1800, Thomas Arnold opened a brewery in Wickwar High Street. Brewing became a very important industry in Wickwar. Early football teams were called "The Brewers".

- PASTURE
- ORCHARD
- ARABLE

The old names of fields have been used to name several of the roads in recent housing developments in Wickwar.



Turnpike Road to Chipping Sodbury