

## Teachers Notes

### Slide 1

Title Page

### Slide 2 – Map dated 1840

This is one of the earliest maps the village has had access to. It was an important document at the time as it showed the various fields owned by Manor Farm. The numbers identifying the fields relate to a key which gave the names of the fields and sometimes an indication of their use. For example:

*16 Ten Acres Field, arable occupied by John Bonham-Carter.*

*17 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*18 Road*

*19 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*20 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*21 Hedgerow wood occupied by Fielder King*

*22 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*23 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*24 Spelt Hill Common, occupied by John Bonham-Carter*

*25 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*28 A garden occupied by the Poor of Buriton*

*29 Orchard occupied by John Atkins*

*99 Part of Lime Kiln Field occupied by George Fielder*

*99a Part of Lime Kiln Field occupied by Edward Stallard*

*104 Wenham Field, arable occupied by Fielder King*

*105 Little Wenham, arable occupied by Fielder Kin*

The map shows:

- An agricultural village based around Manor Farm
- Gardens for the poor of the village
- Field 99 is labelled 'Kiln Field' and would have been a small lime works for use by the village. Lime was used on the farm to condition the soil and in making mortar for building.

We know that in 1811, there were 89 families living in the village and over 75% gained their main income from working in agriculture.



### **Slide 3 – Map dated 1860**

*Discussion point:*

- *Why did so many people work in the village? (Due to road conditions it was difficult to travel elsewhere)*

Buriton, prior to the railway, was reliant on horse drawn vehicles for transport. Roads were not good and highway men were common. People lived and worked in the village. In 1859, the first train ran on the new railway that linked Portsmouth to London and a siding and halt for the village was included.

The map shows:

- The line taken by the new railway (this is still a field map so the railway line is left blank)
- The first sign of the lime workings
- The owner of the lime workings moved from Winchester to set up business in Buriton. The proximity of both the chalk hills of the South Downs and the railway make this an ideal location
- The village has not changed significantly otherwise

### **Slide 4 – Map dated 1870**

*Discussion points:*

- *How did the railway help the development of the lime works? (Easier to transport good, materials and people)*

The map shows:

- The chalk pits are now labelled.
- The extent of the Lime Workings is growing quickly. The railway siding is clearly shown and the first of the quarries is visible
- There is a large sweep of narrow gauge railway track used for transporting the chalk to the kilns
- There are kiln blocks adjacent to Kiln Lane
- The owner has built himself a new house in North Lane called, Pilmead House
- Railway cottages adjacent to the railway line



### **Slide 5 – Map dated 1897**

*Discussion points:*

- *Do you think women worked at the Lime works?*

There are now four quarries shown in the Chalk Pits. The Lime Workings at Buriton are employing many more men and have become an important source of employment in the village. People are moving into the village to find employment.

The map shows:

- The expansion of the quarrying, the new Hoffman Kiln (the circular kiln near the end of the railway siding) and a block of bottle kilns.
- More narrow gauge railway lines can be seen in the main quarries. These could be moved easily as necessary.
- There are a few new cottages appearing in the village to house the new workers

### **Slide 6 – Photo, date uncertain**

*Discussion points:*

- *Discuss the kinds of tools and clothing worn in this photograph and compare how work like this would be carried out today.*

The photo shows the workers at Buriton Chalk Pits taken in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The men are wearing working clothes which look similar to those working on the fields. The clothes change with time. The man in the middle is the site manager. The horse in the back ground would have been one of several used to move the trucks around the site. The men are carrying the tools they would have used for their respective jobs.

### **Slide 7 – Extract from the census of 1901**

*Discussion points:*

- *Why did people come from out of town to work here? (In order to get work in a growing industry)*

This is an extract from the census. There is more information in the village archive available if needed. It shows that people are coming into the village from further afield. There was another lime workings at Burghclere (near Basingstoke) and men moved from there to Buriton



### **Slide 8 – Map dated 1932**

*Discussion point:*

- *Why had the lime works closed by 1939, what happened at this time? (WW2)*

Having been a successful industry, lime for use in construction was being replaced by harder, faster drying mortars based on Portland cement. Lime in agriculture was still being used but not in quantities large enough to ensure a viable business. The site was bought by British Portland Cement when the Manor Farm was sold. It is probable that they wanted to set up a cement works there but this did not happen and by the time WW2 started they had gone and the site was closed.

The map shows:

- The Hoffman kiln is not shown. It is still there but buried and all that can be seen is the chimney. (you can just see it)
- Only one kiln is now working
- A few more houses in the village as access continues to improve via roads

### **Slide 9 – Photo date approximately 1895/1900**

*Discussion point:*

- *What do you notice about the people? (There are no women)*

These two kilns are of the continuous draw type which allowed a perpetual process of filling with chalk and drawing off the lime. The men have stopped work for the photograph.

Once again it is interesting to look at the clothes the men were wearing. These appear to be of a later date than the picture in slide 6.



## Slide 10 – Photo dated 1940/45

*Discussion points:*

- *Why was it important to have this disposal site during the War? (To study the bombs and have a safe place to dispose of them)*
- *Why did they choose this site? (It was in the countryside, away from concentrations of population, and that if any of the mines had exploded then the walls of the quarries would have directed the blast upwards rather than horizontally)*

The Lime Workings were used by the Royal Navy bomb disposal unit during WW2. There was an X-ray machine on site and bombs and mines were brought here from Portsmouth and elsewhere to be investigated and to have the explosives steamed out of them.

The site was given the name HMS Mirtle based on the acronym MIR - **M**ine **I**ntelligence **R**esearch. Valuable information was fed back to the Navy on probable booby traps and safe methods of de-fusing the bombs.

The bombs were brought to site by road. The road network and vehicles were both so much improved that this was a sensible option.

## Slide 11 – Aerial Photo dated 1950

*Discussion point:*

- *What do you notice about the village? (Very similar to early maps despite changing nature of industry)*

The Lime Workings did not re-open after the war and the site was abandoned.

The photo shows:

- Natural vegetation is gradually coming back in the chalk pits
- The shape, size and layout of the village hadn't changed much since the earlier maps (1840/60).



### **Slide 12 – Aerial Photo dated 1963**

The road links are now so good that people can opt to live in the village and work elsewhere. The village starts to expand.

The photo shows:

- The chalk pits are even more overgrown (slowly turning into the nature reserve they later become)
- Two new housing estates have been planned. The new roads have just been built – you can see them at the top of the photo.

### **Slide 13 – Aerial Photo dated 1969**

*Discussion point:*

- *Why has population not increased? (More households but less people living in each house)*
- Both of the new housing areas have now been built – there are more houses but the actual population remains very similar to that of 100 years before owing to numbers living in each household having fallen.
- One of the old chalk pits is now the council tip.

### **Slide 14 – Current day map**

*Discussion point:*

- *Why is it important to look after this area?*

The Chalk Pits are now a local nature reserve with only one quarry left as it was. One quarry has become an industrial unit (southern quarry) and the other has been completely filled with municipal rubbish and is now being left to settle.

The village has not changed significantly since 1969

