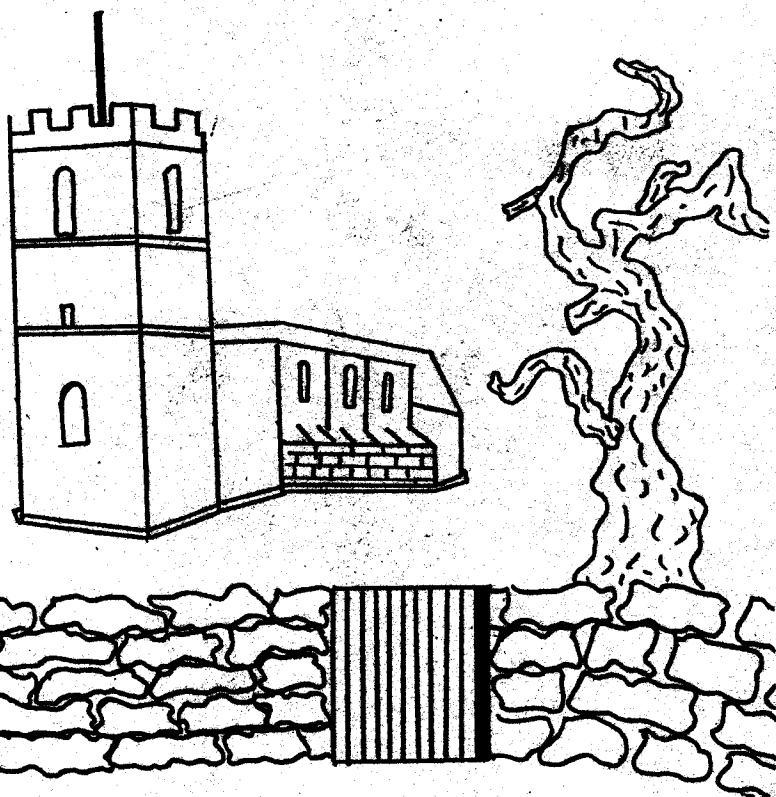


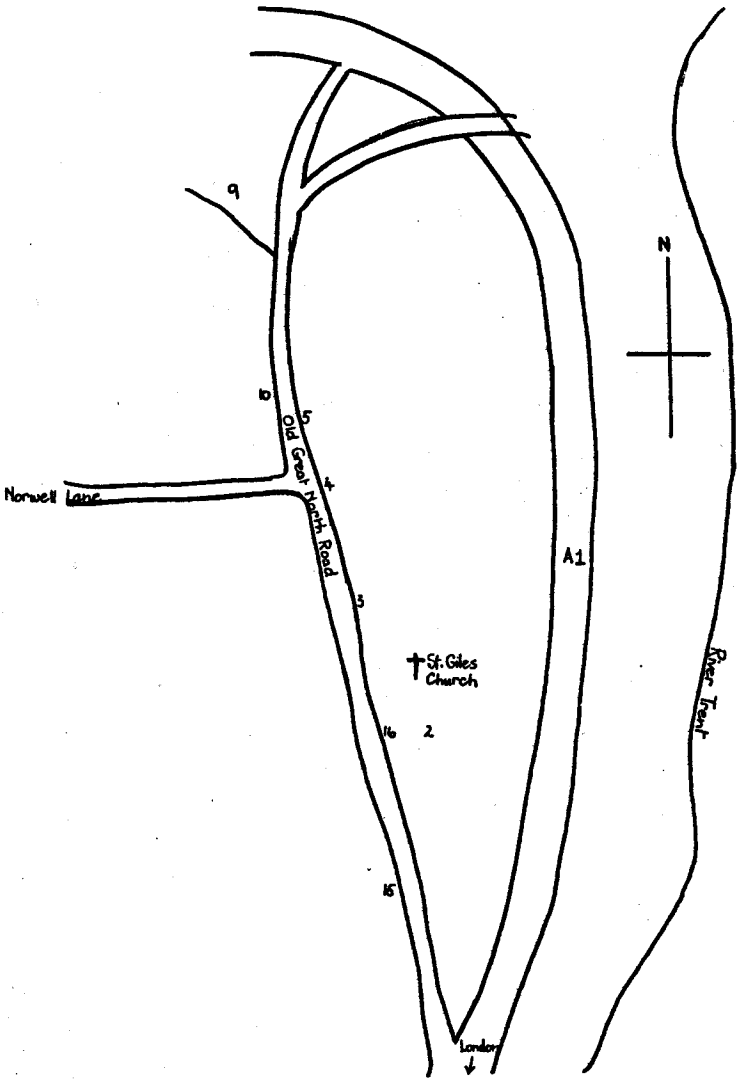
CROMWELL VILLAGE TRAIL



Compiled by Muskham School

1986

213





"Cromb" is an old English word meaning crooked. Cromwell means crooked stream. In the Domesday Book of 1086, the village appeared as Crunwelle. Fifty years ago, people still pronounced it as Crummel.

Crop marks show a settlement from Iron Age times.

In Roman times there was a bridge over the Trent near the present Cromwell Lock.

Thomas Cromwell, the famous minister of Henry VIII descended from Ralph de Cromwell, who owned the village in the thirteenth century. Oliver Cromwell was a later descendant.

Afterwards, it was passed to the Dukes of Newcastle. The village was sold in 1913 as separate properties.

The A1 modernisation in the 1960's by-passed Cromwell.



Cromwell church is called St. Giles and the vicar is Rev. James. The church is Church of England.

Outside of the church in the graveyard are many different styles of grave stones. There is a big wooden cross in the graveyard.

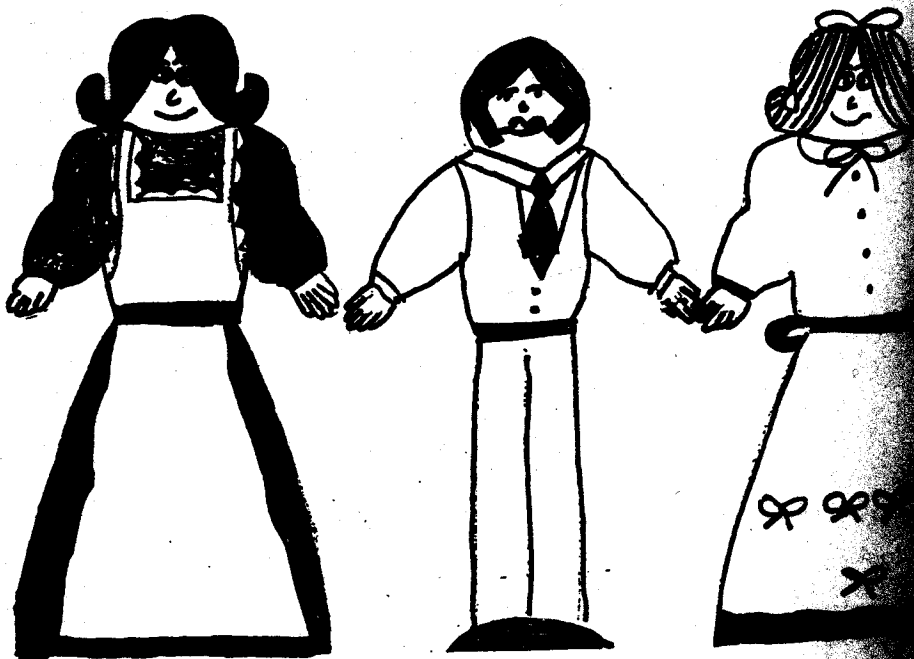
It was thought that once there was a passage-way from the church to the Rectory.

Inside the church the walls are painted white and the lights are made to fit in the corners. The curtains are made of velvet and most decorations are made of brass or wood. There is a tabernacle light over the altar. In the belfry there are names on the stone. The church has an organ. The atmosphere is quiet and peaceful. At Christmas 1986, Muskham school children and their parents had their Carol Service in Cromwell church, followed by tea and mince pies in the village hall.

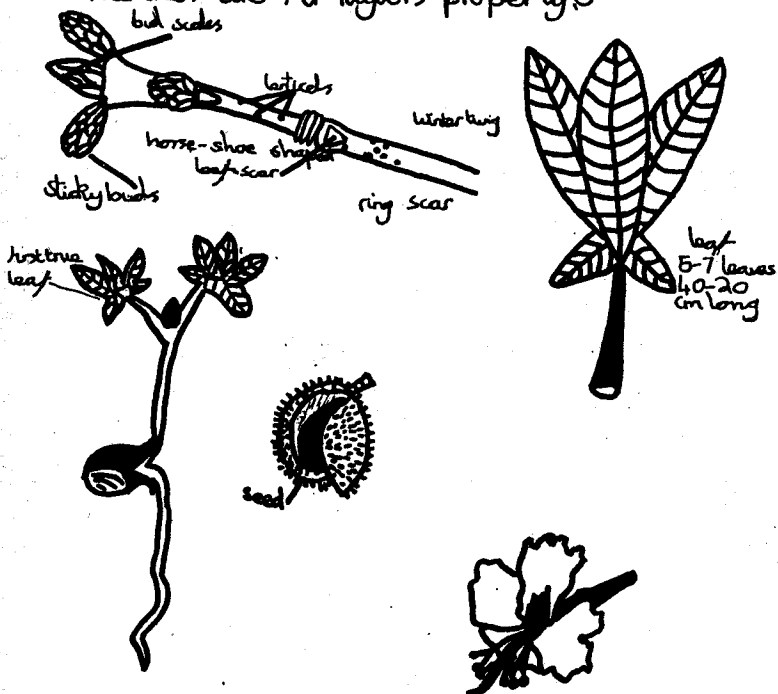
As you come out of the church, the Rectory is facing you. In the middle of the 19th Century Anna Craik wrote a book called "Annals of our Ancestors" first published in 1924. She was the granddaughter of Rev. Charles John Fynes - Clinton. In her book, she mentions that her grandfather's bedroom overlooked the Great North Road. In that very room twelve children were born. The local Dr Rantall lived in the uppermost room of the house. The Rev. Clinton kept ponies and carriages. He was the third youngest son of the Duke of Newcastle. The Crown children often visited the Rectory. The Rectory is said to be haunted by two ghosts. On one occasion, a little old lady dressed in grey was sighted by the maid and when the maid tried to let the woman in she was gone. The other occasion a shadow was seen in a back room murmuring strange words. This was seen by Vina Cooke - Chambers husband recently.

Hemmingway lived in the Rectory with his family. In his later years he researched a great many of books about the history of the Rectory, S. Monkham, N. Monkham, Bathwick, and the Rectory. Mr Hemmingway gave the Rectory to the Doll Museum.

Inside the Rectory is a doll museum kept and made by Vina Cooke - Chambers. The Museum consists mainly of old dolls and some made by Mrs Cooke - Chambers including Torill and Dean and other spectacular exhibits. The Museum is well kept and definitely worth visiting.



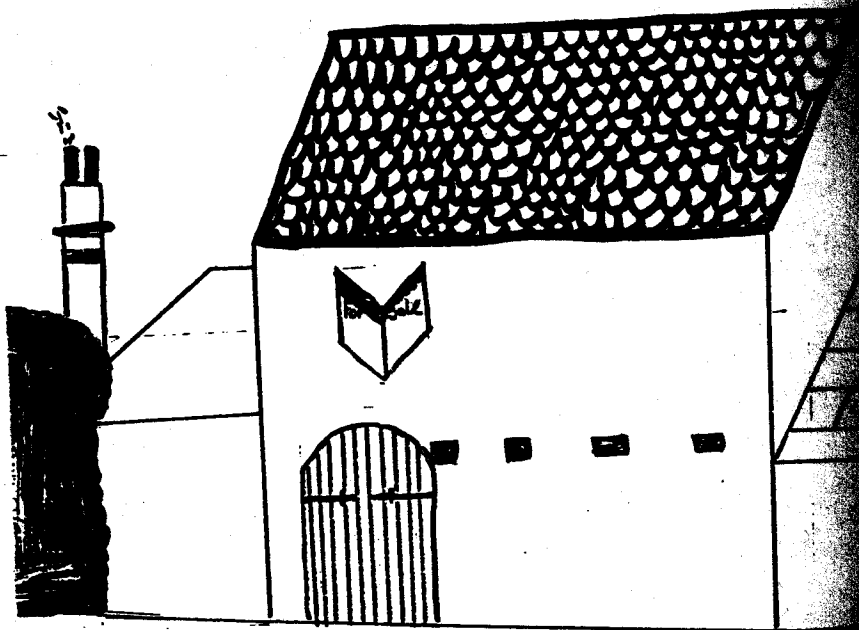
3. Walk into the village past St. Giles church till you see some enormous Horse Chestnut trees. Children love the cones in the Autumn. They must be very old and have seen many changes in Cromwell. The trees are Mr Taylor's property.



4. Continue along the road until you see Copposite Norwell lane) a pair of houses joined together. The house on the left used to have the post Office underneath the stairs. The letters were delivered and dispatched from Newark. The post office was open every day except Sunday; there wasn't much choice there because there wasn't a lot of room. Money orders and telegrams had to be sent from Sutton-on-Trent. There is no longer a post office in Cromwell.

5. Continue on the same side of the road. Just past Norwell Lane, there is what may have been an old pub. It is called New House because the Duke of Newcastle owned Cromwell. There is a spy hole in the pub or it might have been a Beer house. The spy hole is in the stairs and looks in to the saloon.

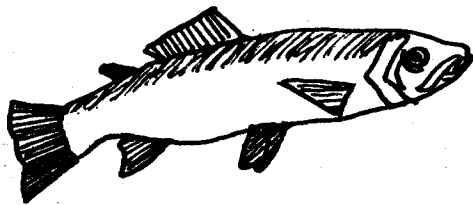
6. While you are walking down Main Street you will see many barns. This is because in former times all the people who lived in the village worked as farmers. Nowadays there are some barns for sale to become attractive houses.



7. Cromwell has many farms. There are four main farms: Mr. Eleys, Mr. Taylors, Mr. Jacksons and Holly Farm. Mr. Beresford has a Smallholding. The main crops are: carrots, wheat, oats, beans and there is a milking herd at Holly Farm.

8. As you go along Main Street there is a dovecote and at the beginning of Norwell Lane there is another dovecote. These were for keeping doves that were used as food in the winter. It was a source of food to the villagers when no other food was available at this particular time.

9. Continue from the dovecote down Main Street. Keep your eyes open for a turning left. It leads to a fly fishing lake. The lake is not natural for it was once a gravel pit until it was filled with water. It is now used as a fly fishing lake; day tickets are available.



10. From the fly fishing lake to the main road, Turn right. Carry on. You come to a terrace of four cottages. 1913 when they were sold they were to be modern model dwellings. They do have upstairs. On the end house is a soldier. We don't have fixed opening times. Above each arched doorway you see an emblem. We do not know what they mean but they may have some connection with the Duke of Newcastle.

Lot 15

(Coloured Strong Pink on Plan 3).

A Picturesque Block of Four Model COTTAGES

(Nos. 6, 7, 8 and 9 on doors).

Built of brick and slated in the Elizabethan style with gabled porches and stone dressings. They are pleasantly situated in the centre of the Village of Cromwell, with a frontage to the Great North Road.

They each contain:—Two Bed Rooms; Kitchen, with range; Scullery, with sink, copper and bake oven, etc. and the two end ones (Nos. 6 and 9) have also another Bed Room; Sitting Room and Dairy. Each has a Pigstye and Run; and Closet and Ashpit, while Nos. 6 and 9 each have a Set of Brick-built and Tiled Farm Buildings adjoining, as follows:—Calf House; Cow House for Two; Stable; Pigstye and Run; Privy and Ashpit. No. 6 has also a Timber-built and Iron-roofed Cart Shed with Granary over.

There is a small Garden at the back of each Cottage, and Water is supplied from a Well in Yard.

The Lot extends to about

·430 Acre

AS FOLLOWS:—

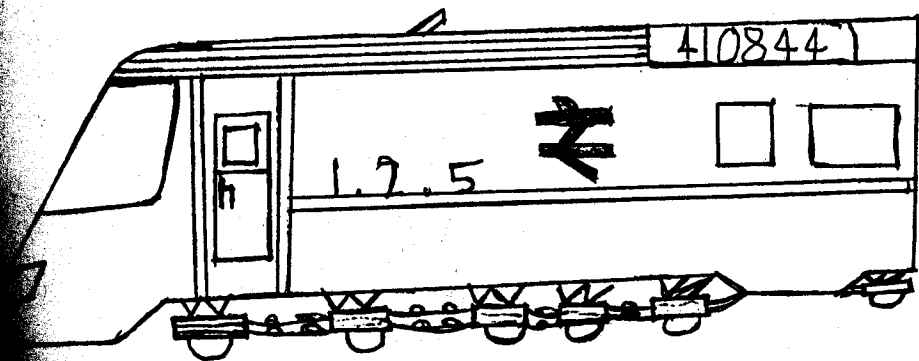
NO. ON PLAN.	NO. ON DOOR.	TENANT.	QUANTITY Acres.
	PARISH OF	GROMWELL.	
Pt. 152m	9 ...	Mr. J. Nettleship ...	·120
Pt. 152p	8 ...	Mr. W. Crook ...	·070
Pt. 152a	7 ...	Mr. R. Marston ...	·070
Pt. 152n	6 ...	Mrs. John Selby ...	·170
Total A.			·430

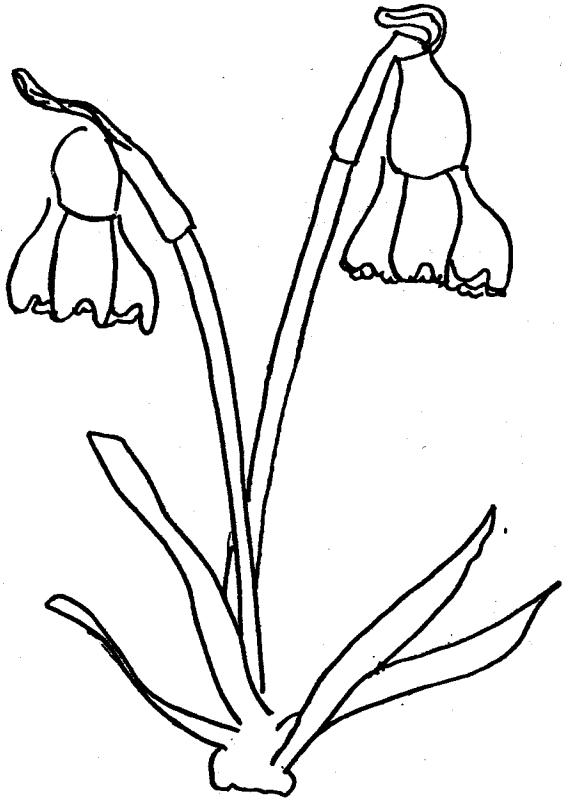
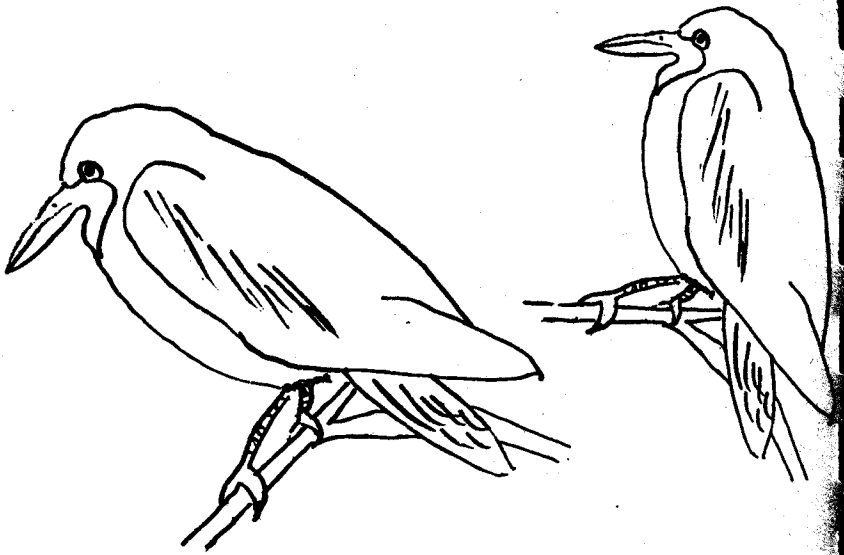
The above are let on Yearly (Lady-day) Tenancies terminating on March 25th next, when

VACANT POSSESSION CAN BE HAD.

Reproduced by kind permission
of the County Records Office.

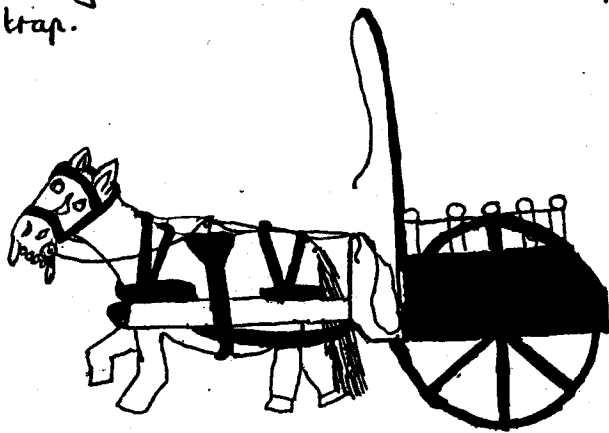
11. Continue down the street till you come to the bus stop and then turn right down Norwell Lane. A little way down you will see the second dovecote. Carry on down Norwell Lane; you'll notice that houses start to appear. Most of these houses are post-war. While you are walking down, have you noticed the house with solar panels in the roof? Now continue to the railway line.
12. Cromwell railway crossing has electric gates. The railway was built in the 1850's and now it is being electrified. The line goes from London to Edinburgh.





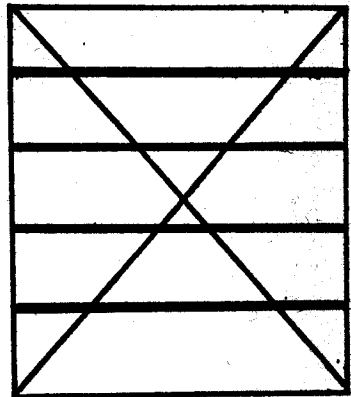
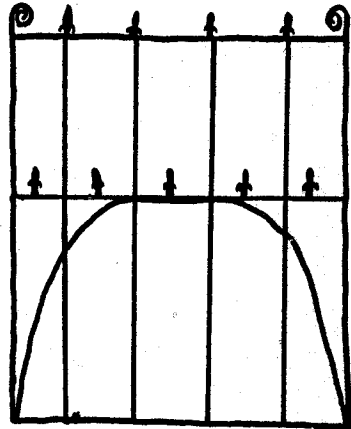
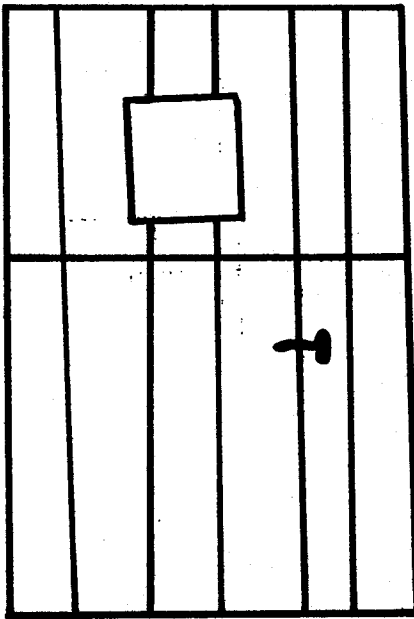
13.

Once you have had a good look at the railway line, turn around and come back on a return journey down Norwell Lane. On the way keep a look out for a rook that usually lands near one corner of a field. Also there is usually a beautiful, grey heron, that lands near the dovecote field. If you really keep your eyes peeled and look to the right, in a hedgerow and occasionally crossing the road you may see a fox. In the Winter time, if you look to the right all the way down Norwell Lane, you should see many snowdrops on the grass verges. While you are looking out for all of this wildlife, mind you don't run into Fred, who is a brown Shetland pony, or Sandy who is a yellowy, brown, large horse. You should see one of these pulling Mrs. Fuller along in a sort of cart called a pony and trap.

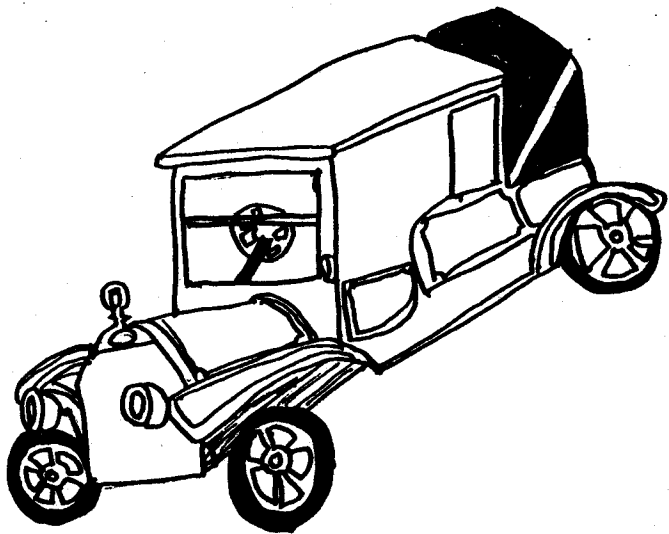


14.

There are a great number of different styles to doors and windows. Many doors are made out of wood and have patterns of iron on them. Some of the windows are like stained glass with iron in between. They are either Georgian, Victorian or modern.



15. The forge used to be a blacksmiths before the 1920s. because there were many farms and horses needing horse shoes. It was a very good trade. Then in the twenties it changed into a garage because cars had been invented. Now it does some work on cars but the main garage has moved to the AI.



You will have noticed that the road is very wide for a village street. It was the main road, the Great North Road. In the 1920s and 1930s, the road was widened by workmen from the depressed areas of County Durham, Tyneside and Jarrow. They used pick and shovel and they had to do a certain length that was measured out each day. There was not any white lines or cats eyes.



Cross over the road. Then walk towards the church. Stop
before the lane that leads to the Rectory. You are standing
by the village hall. It was a barn and then a school. In the
March 1873 a Miss Aked had worked at the school
for thirty years. In leaving she was given a Bible and a purse
containing £5.10s by the Rev. John Smith at a parish meeting.
In 1881 the Mary Woodhouse school was opened in
Mr. Muskham and all the children in Cromwell went to
and later in 1965 to the present Muskham School. The barn
has now become the village hall.

