Luppitt's 'River Love'

6/8/1991 When clean raking six acres Mr Stan. Birch of Ford Farm spoke to me about efforts to be made to clean up the stream, with a view to restocking with trout, asking for permission and support from all landowners adjacent to the stream. He made reference to the river 'LUPP', and when I questioned that name, he was able to show it me on a map used by the National Rivers Authority.

6/9/91 N.R.A. A letter with this date was received from the N.R.A. explaining their plans and asking for co-operation, and stating that 'The River LUPP has been chosen as a banked stream'

11/9/91 I telephoned the N.R.A. asking why this name as it had always been known locally as the LOVE. the Fisheries Dept. said that for years it had been referred to as the LUPP, but no O.S. maps had a name for it.

I telephoned E.D.D.C. at Sidmouth, but they could offer no confirmation, and suggesting D.R.O. the Devon Record Office as a source. I therefore wrote to the Archivist on 13/9, asking if they had any record of a name for Luppitt's main stream.

Their reply in full — Dear Mr Sage.

23/10/91 Thank you for your enquiry concerning the name of the stream which runs through the parish of Luppitt into the River Otter. I apologise for the delay in responding to your letter, but it has taken some time to identify and check several of the sources consulted in the course of this enquiry.

I should perhaps state at the outset that we have been unable to find any documentary evidence which gives the name of the stream in which you are interested. However we have unearthed several pointers which may lead you to further information.

The various editions of the Ordnance Survey maps, from the end of the nineteenth century to the present, do not, as you rightly say, provide any clue to the name of the stream, nor have we been successful in locating any estate maps which contain this information. The English Place-name Society volume covering Devon lists the early variants of Luppitt, Lovapit Domesday including 'Lovapit' from the Domesday Book.

Pole 1630 Lufa dove

and a reference from W. Pole's Collections for a History of Devon of 1630 to 'Dovehutt, nowe called Duffitt'. The suggested derivation of the place-name is given by the editor as 'Lufa's hit or hollow', which would suggest that the 'Dove' element derived from an individual rather than from the name of the river. However, while the work represents the standard reference on Devon place-names, there is a considerable degree of controversy over many of its interpretations.

Polwhele 1793

R. Polewhele's History of Devonshire (1793) contains a passage describing Duffitt, in which there is described 'a small rivulet, which rising in this parish, runs through the centre of it, and falls into the Otter', but, unfortunately, no mention of its name is included.

Alexander 1935

J. Alexander's article on 'Devon River Names', T.D.A. 67 (1935), 399-419 does not refer to the stream in question directly, but it does consider the work of Richard

Lewis 1739-75

Lewis, Headmaster of Honiton School from 1739-1775, who was a noted philologist and an authority on place-names. We have checked our indexes, but can find no records relating to Lewis. However it may be worth checking with Honiton Museum in the hope that they have some information on his literary output!

Vol III 119. Dunning & Bicknell

The records of the Honiton solicitors Dunning and Bicknell contain a large number of deeds and leases relating to property in Duffitt, any of which may include references to the stream, if it was used as a boundary marker, for example.

Deeds Leases

The collection includes twenty four bundles of deeds, 1553-1852 (ref. 337B/1/226-243); sixteen bundles of leases, 1640-1883 (ref. 337B/2/101-116); additional deeds and leases, 1670-1897 (ref.

Title Deeds Dolish Sharcombe

337B add 2/Title Deeds/19a-R); a sale catalogue of Dolish and Sharcombe farms, with plans, 1865 (ref. 337B add 2/Sale Catalogues/32). There are also two court books for the manor of Mohuns

Mohuns Ottery

Ottery, 1786-1860 (ref. 337B/3/4-5), but I am not sure if the stream fell within this particular manor. We have not had time to check these documents in detail, but if you would like to do so, please note that all the above references require 48 hours notice for production in our Search Room.

I am sorry that we are not able to help you directly with your enquiry, but hope that the enclosed information may provide further clues.

REF TW/HCM
Mr T Womkeighton

Yours sincerely
M M Rowe
County Archivist.

3/11/91 Wrote to David & Charles asking if any early maps would give a name to our stream. They replied that they could not help me.

6/11 Visit to Westcountry Studies Library because the office of 'Express and Echo' had told me that there were microfilm copies held there of newspapers. They were able to give me photocopies of the paper for November 12th 1939 and an article by Frank Broome in which he wrote 'Crossed by the sparkling LOVE stream' and linked this with Pitt giving a popular derivation for Luppitt.

See VOL I 67.

12/11 Visit to Honiton Library to check through the 'Luppitt' information Box, but could find no information concerning a name to the stream.

15/11 Telephoned Mr Jallop, Curator of Honiton Museum, asking if he knew of any local reference to the name of the stream, and then posted to him copies of correspondence from N.R.A. and D.R.O. He would take the matter up with the N.R.A. he confirmed by a telephone call.

14/2/92 Mr Jallop wrote to me explaining that he had written to the N.R.A. but they could give no indication as to the origin of their name LUPP, but also saying that it had been referred to as the 'Wick Stream'. However he felt that if local people could confirm that they know of it as the LOVE, then local useage should be accepted.

28/2 Wrote a letter to the Clerk of the Parish Council asking if members would support my point of view that the name should be the river LOVE and not the LUPP as seems to have been dreamed up by the N.R.A. I referred also to the change of WEEK, for which I have plenty of evidence, being changed by the then R.D.C. misspelling the name on a new sign post at Barn Cross in the 1920's to WICK. Sad to change traditional names without reason.

WEEK

WICK

26/5 The following is the text of the P.C. reply

Swallowcliff Cottage

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Your letter concerning the N.R.A.'s naming of the river Love as Luph was discussed at the last Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council agree with you that the river has always been known as Love and that it would be sad to see the traditional name lost. I am, therefore writing to the N.R.A. supporting your view that the name of the river should remain as the river Love.

Yours sincerely Sally Twiss
Clerk to Luffitt Parish Council

28/5 Wrote to Mr Yallop thanking him for his efforts on our behalf, and informing him of the Parish Council's support.

Also wrote to the N.R.A. explaining that I had had the above letter from the Clerk to Luffitt Parish Council, and hoped that they would feel able to comply with our local wishes by retaining the traditional name for our 'River Love' and that they would have success in its restocking of trout.

11/6 The following reply was received from the N.R.A.

Ref GRB/DSC Manley House Kestrel Way Exeter

THE RIVER LOVE

Thank you for advising me of your research in to the matter of the name of the watercourse adjacent to your property. I will ensure future print runs of the action plan record the correct name and that colleagues are advised.

The action plan is progressing well and I hope the River Love will benefit from the works in the catchment.

Yours sincerely Geoff Bateman
Catchment co-ordinator.

On the Vicar's (Rev N. Wall) report for the A.P.C.M. 22/4/93

Verses You are writing a Gospel, a chapter a day,
By the things that you do, and the things that you say;
People do read your Gospel, whether false or true.
So, what is the Gospel according to you?

Writer not given.

10/7/92

Ancient Churches for Beginners

EL-RN-65

by Eric Delderfield.

What? Why? When? How?

There are 16,630 parishes in England, —

Dates — Dates and Periods.

Pre Norman — 8th to 11th centuries.

Population — The population of the country in the 8th C has been estimated at one million.

Middle Ages — Period between the fall of the Roman Empire in the West (476 AD) and the Renaissance towards the end of the 15th C.

476 AD.

Renaissance, approx. middle of 15th C.

Reformation — revolution of the 16th C

Dissenters — the common name by which all Christian denominations in Britain, except those of the Established Church.

1665 — Five Mile Act — An act of Charles II (1665) forbidding nonconformist clergy to preach if they had refused to swear that they would not attempt any alteration of Church or State, or to come within five miles of any corporate town to preach. Repealed in 1688

1688

1538 Registers. Henry VIII's Vicar General, in 1538, ordered that every parish priest should keep a register of weddings, christenings and burials. English first used at the Law Courts in 1362, and in Parliament the following year.

The Plan of the Church.

Church architecture may be roughly divided under 6.

Saxon 7th to 12th C

Norman 1066 – 1190

Transitional (Norman - Early English) – 1154

Early English 1200 – 1300

Decorated 1280 – 1350

Perpendicular 1370 – 1550

Church Windows

Doorways

Bell Towers, Spires and Steeples

Inside the Church.

Altar — In mid 16th C the Reformers destroyed many. Altar rails installed towards end of 16th C.

Piscina — Piscina Credence shelf close by.

Font — Font Usually towards West end.

Only about a score of lead fonts in country.

Screen — Screens. Designed to divide the priests part (the chancel) from the peoples (the nave)

Rood — over the screen, the Rood, (an image of Christ on the Cross)

Candelabra — Lighting by candle up to 18th C

Pyx — receptacle to hold Host for sick

Squints — apertures to see High Altar

Sedilia — stone seats for assistants

Misericorde — tip-up seats for aged clergy

Royal Arms — the placing of Royal Arms in churches became usual in 1660. many destroyed by Cromwellians.

1660

Queen Anne's — Perhaps the most numerous are of Queen Anne's reign which is explained by the gratitude of the Clergy to the Queen for Queen Anne's Bounty — the restoration to the Church of endowments which had been taken away a century before

1603 Vol I — A canon of 1603 ordered that the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments be displayed in churches and they were usually placed at the eastern end of the nave.

Chests — Chests — Strong box for churchwardens accounts parish registers etc. some with several locks so that no single person could open a chest.

Tombs and memorials. The earliest are plain stone slabs of the 12th C. with an incised cross. A

Effigy — hundred years later, the recumbent effigy made its appearance. The style of dress of the effigies, even the hair styles, can help us to date them.

Brass — Particularly useful in this respect are "brasses" which were made of a material similar in appearance to brass. Known as 'latten' it was made of an alloy of copper, zinc and a small quantity of lead and tin and came largely from Cologne. It was used in church memorials from the 13th C. onwards and conventional portraits were engraved on large ~~sheets~~ plates of the material which give us exact details of the dress and armour of the various periods. These "brasses" as they came to be known, were common all over Europe and particularly so in areas of these islands where easily workable stone was scarce. The earliest in England is in the church at Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey and is

1277 — dated 1277. Some 10,000 "brasses" remain in England today — more than in the whole of Europe.

Bench Ends and Pews. Until the 15th C. seating in parish Churches was a rare luxury. Some stone seats round the sides for the infirm.
Saying — the weakest go to the wall!
At East Budleigh (Devon) there are sixty square headed bench ends of solid oak, three or four inches thick and can be dated by the Raleigh Pew (1537)
Horsebox Pews. enclosed and varied in size.
Pews were formerly assigned to the occupants of the different Houses in a parish, who changed their seats if they moved from one home to another.
Pulpit Upwards of sixty pre-Reformation stone pulpits remain today.
1603 In 1603, all churches were ordered to have pulpits
They were an essential part of the 'furniture', the hour
1523 glass fixed to pace to time the lengthy sermons, the earliest known being dated 1523.
3 deck Pulpit In the Georgian Church, the three-decker pulpit was a necessity due to the high pews.
Clerk — responses. Reader of Scriptures. The Preacher.
Lecturns Eagle — gospel carried on wings.
Pelican — at Rockbeare
Outside the Church
"Lych" Old English word for corpse.
The poorer people were conveyed to the church in the parish coffin, which was wheeled on the parish bier, or carried shoulder high, and were buried in
1678 only a shroud. Only the well-to-do in coffins.
In 1678, an Act was passed making it illegal for the dead to be buried unless wrapped in woolen material
Penalty £5 or the estate of the deceased. The law remained in force for 136 years.
Yew Trees Edward I ordered their planting for the protection of the church against wind and weather.
Tombstones The passing of the Anatomy Act of
1832 1832 banished the need for gruesome safeguards against "Resurrection Men" or Body-snatchers.
Porch
Holy Water Stoup Recessed basin in stone niche
Scratch Dials Pre-Conquest or Norman
Gargoyles To throw water clear of walls.
Corbels
Weathercocks Refer to Fall of Peter
1127 The office of Churchwarden was instituted in 1127
Churchwarden

24/8/12

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Domesday

A few notes about some words used in Domesday Book

Acre As a square measure 4 x 40 perches
Bordar } A cottager; a peasant of lower status
Cottar } than a Villan
Demesne The lords home farm; produce for him.
Exon Domesday Manuscript of five S W shires returns
Fief Land held in return for military service
Free man A non-noble landowner in Eastern England.
Furlong 40 perches — length of a furrow.
Geld English land tax based on the Hide
Hundred Subdivision of shire — 100 to 120 hides
League Equals 12 furlongs mile & furlongs
Lord Holds homage of vassels. Gives protection and land in return for support
Manor Estate centre
Messuage Unit of land with house or houses
Pannage Autumn feed for pigs, acorns & beechnuts
Perch 14 – 18 feet, perhaps up to 20 feet
Ploughland Estimate of arable capacity, an assessment of dues
Sheriff Royal officer set over shire
Tenant-in-chief Man holding land directly of King
See IV 150 Thegn man of noble status, not a peasant
Tithe A render to the church, one tenth of annual produce
⅓ to church of manor ⅔ to mother church — minster.
T.R.E. Tempore Regis Edwardi. 'In the time of King Edward'
Died 5 January 1066
Vill Represents an area of land rather than settlement.
Villan A peasant of higher status than Bordar in village
Virgate One quarter of a Hide
Waste Land which does not render dues - desolate

Domesday's purpose

It would appear that the Survey was intended to provide a comprehensive basis for revising the taxation system, to define the new feudal structure in order to rationalise the collection of feudal dues, to solve disputes over ownership of land and to make possible a more rational redistribution of estates.

The survey was carried out between Jan. 1086 and Sept. 1087. The country was divided into 7 circuits each visited by a different team of Commissioners.

William 1066 William the Conqueror Landed at Pevensey on 28th September 1066, he ~~seized~~ the castle there and then on to Hastings where he won the famous victory on 14th October 1066. Exeter castle founded in 1068 after the defiance of the Conqueror by that City. Abundant records of the period 1154 to 1216 indicate a total of 350 castles in England and Wales which were active.

1087 William died 9th September 1087.

Greater Domesday is the title given to the overall national survey

Little Domesday deals with three eastern counties of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

Exon Domesday deals with five South Western counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset Dorset and Wiltshire, is more comprehensive than Greater Domesday's record of this area. Now held at Exeter Cathedral Library.

T.R.E. See P138 Domesday gives some comparison with the manorial situation prior to William's survey and before his conquest in 1066.

The names of manors and their owners over the whole country on a systematic basis.

The taxable capacity was based on the unit Hide known as a HIDE which in times past was related to the arable area needed to support a family. It was therefore variable in size, perhaps from 40 acres in Wiltshire up to 120 acres in much poorer land areas.

An estimate gives something like 70,000 Hides, but probably not all liable to taxation; royal land and much Church land exempt.

Geld Normal geld levied at 2s a Hide, some considered excessive at 6s a Hide. All land in England belonged to the King, some held as direct tenants, some held as tenants of manorial Lords.

Domesday was a survey of the Kings rights and of other Mens resources as they affected the King.

There was a dominance of arable farming, but pasture was also needed for plough teams and war horses, as well as for livestock farming.

Generally it is reckoned that 8 oxen made a plough team, and that Domesday recorded just over 31,000 plough teams, the main crops being wheat, barley, oats, rye and legumes.

manorial system was being built, and the manor was the unit of lordship. The demesne
demesne referred to the home farm. manorial society based on a fivefold classification of society, villans, bordars and cottars, freemen, sokemen, and slaves. About 200,000 dependant peasants, 108,000 or 20 villans, over 82,000 bordars, nearly 7,000 cottars, some 12,000 freeman, and 23,000 sokemen. Some 25,000 recorded as slaves and over 600 female slaves.
Approximately 14% of population were freemen and sokemen, 41% were villans just peasant farmers, 32% bordar and cottars who were small holders. 10% were slaves engaged in the routine domanial tasks, ploughing and carting, looking after the cows and diary, pigs and beehives.

Place names — Domesday has some 13,400 place names, not all identifiable today. The Exeter Domesday contains 13 place names not in Great Domesday; in the 980 listed and referred to.

Weights and measurements were not standardised
1196 before the Assize of measures of 1196, earlier measures may be based on the human body or human activity.

Inch — breadth of the human thumbnail
Hand — width of hand with extended thumb
Ell — length of forearm.
Furlong — length of furrow, notionally distance a team of oxen could plough before rest in turning probably about 40 perches
Perch — maybe 16½ feet a field measure, or about 20 'natural' feet length of 10 inches.
Acre — 4×40 perches. 66 feet × a furlong. 160 square perches — 160 virgates
Virgate — square perch — rood.
Mile — Roman mile 1000 paces — 8 furlongs
league — 12 furlongs — 1½ English miles.

At the spiritual heart of the community was the Church. Minsters had been the basis of local church organisations in the 7th, 8th and 9th centuries, with communities of priests over 300 such churches mentioned with teams of priests. Thousands of little manorial churches.
A thegn might have 5 hides of land with a manor house (kitchen, bell cote, hall with gated enclosure) and a church. By the 1180's England had a two-tier parochial system, Dioceses with Cathedrals, parishes with their churches. 'PORT' place with a market 'TUN' place where people lived.