

## The origin of booths

Patrick Stevens

A Few Notes Having Some Bearing on the History of the Borough of Rawtenstall.  
P 75-77.

'In looking up the ancient records of the Forest of Rossendale we find in the year 1200 Ad Roger de Lacy granting lands in these parts to the Cistercian Monks of the Abbey of Stanlawe in Cheshire (the Abbey of Stanlawe occupied a site of land close to where Ellesmere Port now stands on the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal). Their success in cultivation and agriculture led the Lord of the Manor to enclose, or portion out, cow-pastures or vaccaries, wherein he stocked his cattle, and, incidentally, provided his servants with wooden huts or booths, in which the families of herdsmen and labourers dwelt. Eventually the landowner found it more profitable to let his land than stock it and pay for its upkeep in money or goods in kind, to the feudal Lord, or the Abbot of Stanlawe or Whalley, who in some instances was both their spiritual and temporal superior.

There were in the reign of Edward II eleven vaccaries – cow-pastures or booths, as they are now designated in the Forest of Rossendale – the herbage of which was (1311) valued at ten shillings each per annum of five pounds ten shillings for the whole; but the number of these was afterwards increased to nineteen (still later to twenty) including Yate and Pickup Bank, and in the decree of the twenty-second Henry VI (1507) which was confirmed as 2 James I (1604). Their names and estimated values are given as follows:

Gamulside	IV L	-	-
Dunnockshaw	II L	III s	IV d
Love Clough	V L	III s	IV d
Goodshawe	V L	VI s	VII d
Crawshawbooth	IX L	VI s	VII d
Constablelee	V L	VI s	VII d
Rawtonstall	III L	XIV s	I d
Dedquenecloughe	X L	XII s	VII d
Wolfenden Boothe	IV L	XVII s	II d
Tunstead	V L	XII s	-
Lenches	IV L	VI s	VIII d
Cowhope	V L	XIII s	IV d
Newhall Heye	VII L	XIII s	III d
Oakenheade Woode	IX L	VII s	III d
Musbury	XIII L	I s	VIII d
Hoddleden	IX L	XIX s	XI d
Bacope	XI L	XVI s	VIII d
Wolfenden	XIII L	V s	I d
Henheads	-	XIII s	-

In Dedquene Cloghe (Deadwenclogh) is contained the hamlet or village of Newchurch, which gives its name to the chapelry. A lease of this booth was

granted to James de Greenhalgh which was attested to at Lancaster by  
Humphrey, Duke of Goucester, Regent, in the minority of Henry VI.