200 Years of the Hindleys in Antrobus; 1769-1969.

On the map of Antrobus, Cheshire, above, the numbers refer to:-

1. Joseph Hindley (1806-1892) lived on Hollins Lane in the area of Reed House and Reed House Cottage. Censuses 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881.
2. Joseph Hindley (1832-1903) lived at Hammersmith Villas on Pool’s Platt Lane.
   Censuses 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901.
   Joseph Hindley (1875-1956) was here for the 1911 Census.
   Frank Hindley (1869-1949) was living here during the 1911 Census.
4. Fanny Hindley (1878-1958) lived here in her later years.

Where did the earliest Hindleys in the Antrobus area actually live?
And the search for Reed House Cottage.

The earliest document relating to the Hindleys in Antrobus is from the marriage of George Hindley (c1743-1839) and Margaret Gandy on 17th June 1769 but this only says that George is from the Parish of Great Budworth. However, their first child, Mary, was baptised on 16th July 1769 at Great Budworth Church. The Chester Bishop’s Transcript for this Baptism lists Antrobus as the village of residence. All six children had Antrobus as their home village.

According to the Censuses (from 1841) the Hindleys of Antrobus were living in the vicinity of Reed House Cottage. Unfortunately most Census data does not give exact addresses.

My original thinking was that Reed House Cottage would be close to Reed House Farm on Hollins Lane, Antrobus.

In 1998 I wrote to the occupier of Reed House Farm and had the following reply:- “I have had to make some enquiries. The cottage you refer to is in Barbers Lane (marked by a cross on the enclosed map). There are two houses now called Hammersmith Buildings but were known as Reed Cottages many years ago”. The cross referred to above is just north of Hill House in the Whitley Reed area and is unlikely mark the right spot.

Then I thought that Reed House Cottage could have been on the Arley Estate so, in 1999, I contacted Arley Hall. Charles Foster replied that the Estate never owned Reed House or Pools Platt and they had no archives that might help. However, he suggested that Reed House Cottage would be close to Reed House Farm. It could have been a one-storey timber framed building with one or two rooms that was demolished, or fell down, around the 1860s.

By 2012 the internet allowed me to take a close look at the Census entries with regard to housing and occupiers. This is what I found based on the order of the Census entries.
These Census details tell us that from 1841 (at the latest) until around 1880 a Hindley family was living on Hollins Lane, Antrobus, quite close to Grandsires Green.

Also, one branch of the Hindley family had moved to Pools Platt by 1871. This semi-detached property was Hammersmith Buildings, built in 1857. These houses were later known as Hammersmith Villas. A Hammersmith is a name derived from a Hammerman. A Hammerman is defined as a man who works with a hammer, especially a smith or worker in metal; also a blacksmith’s striker. A shoemaker also works with a hammer.
1881 Census for Antrobus

66  Shaw Brook
67-73  Grandsires Green
74  Reed House
75-76  The Hollins

(Joseph Hindley, 75, was the 76th entry)

77-87  Pools Platt

(Joseph Hindley, 48, was the 80th entry)

88  Gib Hill

1891 Census for Antrobus

60  Shaw Brook Farm
61-64  Grandsires Green
65-67  Reed House
68  The Hollins
69-73  Pools Platt

(Joseph Hindley, 58, was the 71st entry)

74-76  Reed Side
77-78  The Grange
79  Belmont Lodge

1901 Census for Antrobus

14  Whitley Reed
15-18  Oak Cottage
19-21  Hill Farm

(Joseph Hindley, 68, was the 21st entry)

22  Pools Platt
23  Flash Farm
24-26  Nook Lane

(Joseph Hindley, 26, was the 24th entry)

27-28  Nook Farm
29-30  The Hollies
31-36  Reed House

1911 Census for Antrobus

Not numbered.

Nook Cottages

Nook Cottages  Frank Hindley, 41.

Flash Farm

Antrobus  (Antrobus is the address given by Joseph Hindley, 35, on the Census form. He was actually living at Hammersmith Villas).

Pools Platt Lane

After 1911 Joseph Hindley continued to live at Hammersmith Villas until his death in 1956. His son, Frank Hindley, became the owner until his death in 1969.

Frank was the last of the Hindleys to live in Antrobus.

1969 was the end of 200 years of Hindleys in Antrobus.