

TIMES PAST IN KEINTON MANDEVILLE



**The story of Keinton Mandeville
told by those who live there.**

The Story of Keinton Mandeville

Prologue

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Epilogue

In the Beginning: The Origins of Keinton Mandeville.

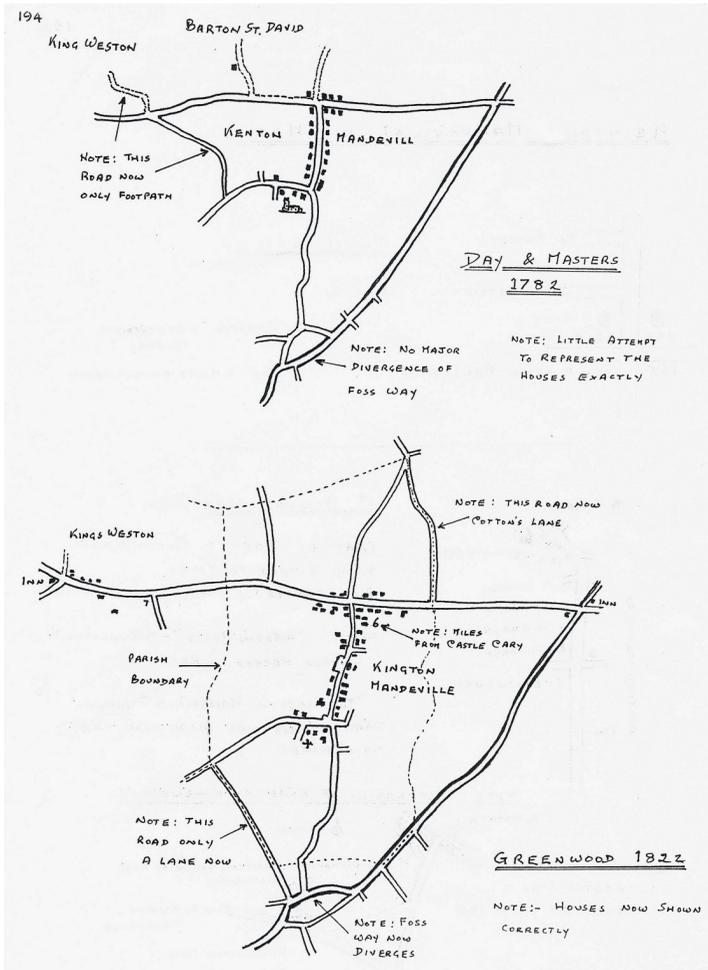
The Name.

Keinton comes from the Old English *Cyne-tun*, meaning *King's Manor*. Many spellings have been used in documents relating to the village: *Chintune* in the Domesday Book; *Kington* in the rents and Customs of Glastonbury Abbey; *Kyngton / Kingeton* in C13th Assize Rolls; *Kenton* in Collinson's History of 1791; and now *Keinton* on the Award Map of 1811.

The second element of the village name, as often, derives from a noble family name. A knight, *Geoffrey Mandeville*, joined William of Normandy on his invasion of England in **1066** and was rewarded with lands in many parts of the new kingdom – several of which were forfeited lands of English nobles such as *Aelmer* of Barton plus two unnamed *thegns* of Keinton, and *Asgar*, whose lands included Hardington Mandeville, 10 miles south west of Yeovil. Geoffrey's son, *William(1)*, and grandson, *Geoffrey(2)*, were both constables of the Tower of London and the latter was created Earl of Essex in 1141. *Geoffrey (3)* and his brother *William(2)* inherited the Earldom in turn. It was *William(2)* who arranged *Kyngton* to be held by his brother *Geoffrey (4)* from *Count Mortain* who also held Barton lands. This was regularised in 1205 and lands passed to son, *John de Maudeville* in 1269. It didn't stay in the family long (John's son *William(3)* was of 'unsound mind') and the connection disappears soon afterwards, in 1275, with lands having been divided between **St John's Hospital in Wells**, who held almost half the lands of Keinton till the C16th and *William de Favelore* of Barton, through whom some Keinton lands passed, in C14th, to *Richard Compton* and *John Gerard* still of Barton. Thus Keinton was divided, never had its own 'lord' and developed relatively independently....

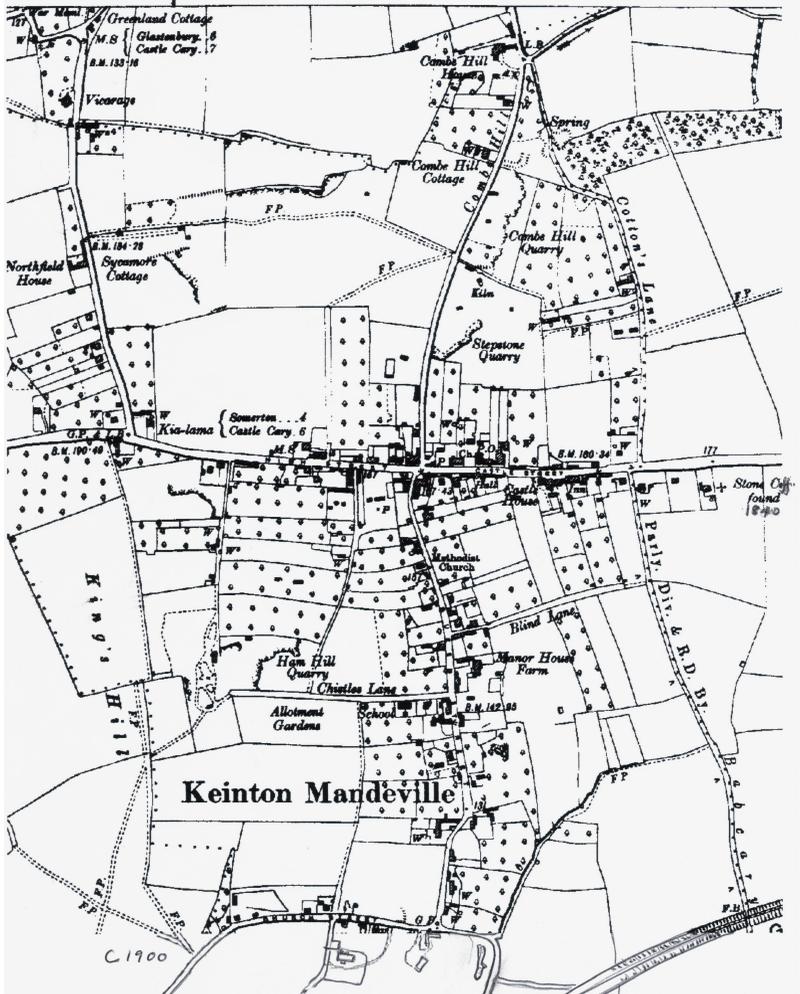
Location and local connections.

Keinton is mid-way between the two market towns of Castle Cary and Somerton. It also lies on a coaching road between London and the south-west. Because of this, the village gradually migrated from around the church, northwards, to cluster around the cross roads.

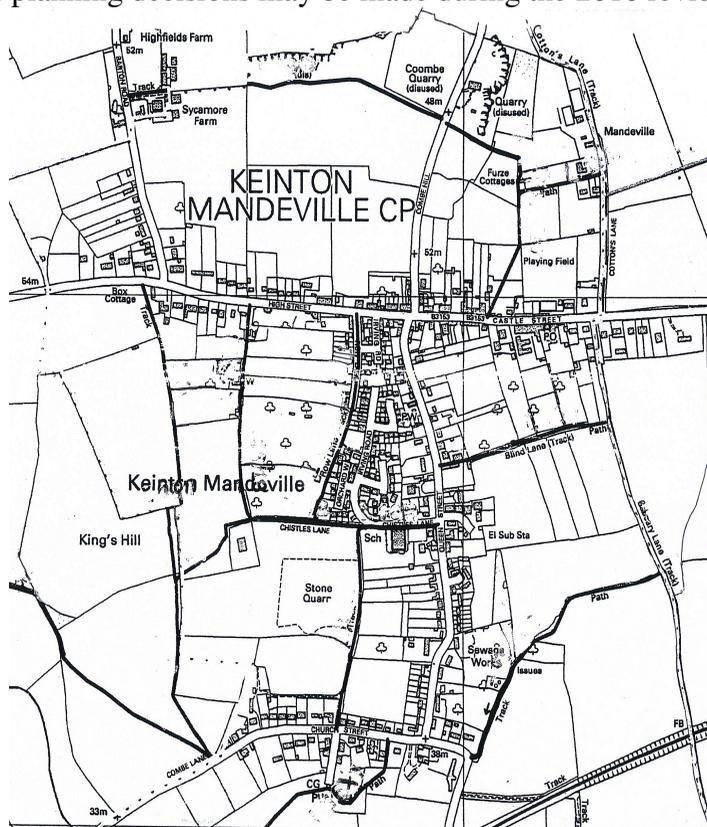


Drawn by Colin Myles-Hook

By 1900 it is clear that the pattern of settlement along the two main axes had developed, but the character of the village remains one where some houses have small orchards attached. A few quarries can be identified, though the hayday is passing.



Below, is the village in 2000, with the new infill development between Queen's Street and Row Lane. Not much remains of the orchards and all but one quarry has closed but a school, shop, hairdresser, pub, church and bus services remain. Population in 2009 is around 1,000 persons, living in about 400 households. Few now work within the village itself. Further major planning decisions may be made during the 2010 review.



After the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII, from 1535, lands held by St John's Hospital Wells were divided and sold into smaller and smaller holdings held by local individuals. Thus a veritable 'patchwork of fields' - so typical of English villages - grew around Keinton, as elsewhere.

