

National Gazetteer 1868

TISBURY includes the parishes EAST TISBURY, WEST TISBURY and WARDOUR and is an ancient town in the hundred of Dunworth in the county of Wilts, 3 miles south east of Hindon, and 14 west of Salisbury. It is a station on the Yeovil and Exeter section of the Great Western railway. This place, which is considerable, is situated in an agricultural district, watered by the river Nadder, a tributary of the Avon.

It includes the hamlet of Wardour, whence the Lords Arundell of Wardour take their title. The original castle, of which there are still some remains, was built prior to the reign of Edward III and was successively held by the families of St. Martin, Touchet, Audley, Willoughby-de-Broke and subsequently by Sir John Arundell, whose son Thomas was created Lord Arundell of Wardour by James I.

In the civil war, the castle was held for the king by Lady Blanche but was taken by Sir E. Hungerford on the 4th of May 1643 after a week's siege and committed by the Parliament to the keeping of General Ludlow. In the course of the same summer, it was retaken by Lord Arundel and a party of Royalists dismantled and the Roundheads dislodged. It remained in ruins for more than a century but in 1776 the family of Arundel erected Wardour Castle, about a mile from the original site. This mansion is built on an eminence and consists of a centre and two wings projecting in a curvilinear form. Incorporated with the mansion is a Roman Catholic chapel containing many paintings.

The village of Tisbury stands on the declivity of a hill overlooking the vale of the Nadder; below it are the remains of a manor-house, formerly belonging to Shaftesbury Abbey, but now converted into a farmhouse; and near it is the church. The land is fertile and well cultivated.

The great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £880, besides 12 acres of glebe, and the vicarial for £440; besides which £67 12s is annually paid to the rector of Compton-Chamberlayne and £50 to another impropiator.

The living is a vicarage in the archdeaconry and diocese of Salisbury, value £306. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is of the early part of the 13th century. In the interior is an old font, two brasses (the earliest of Lawrence Hyde) bearing the date 1590, and monuments to the former Lords Arundell, over one of which is the helmet worn by the first Lord Arundell. In the churchyard is a yew tree, 30 feet in circumference and said to be thirteen centuries old. The register commences in 1563.

The Independents and Wesleyans have chapels.

The parochial charities produce about £100 per annum, applied towards the support of the schools and apprenticing poor children.

There are National and parochial schools for boys and girls and a school supported by the Independents.

The Poor-law Union of Tisbury comprises 20 parishes and townships, the union workhouse being situated at Wardour. It is also the seat of a superintendent registry but belongs to the Shaftesbury New County Court district.

Sir Nicholas Hyde, Chief Justice of the King's Bench and Lord Treasurer in the reign of James I was born in Hatch House and Sir John Davies, the lawyer and poet, was a native of the hamlet of Chisgrove.

CHICKSGROVE (or Chisgrove), a hamlet in the parishes of East Tisbury and Wardour in the county of Wilts, 4 miles east of Hindon.

EAST TISBURY, a parish in the town of Tisbury in the county of Wilts.

HATCH, a tything in the parish of West Tisbury, county of Wilts, 2 miles south of Hindon. The Salisbury and Yeovil railway passes within a short distance. It is situated in an agricultural district and there are quarries of excellent building stone. Hatch House, the old seat of the Hydes and Carterets, is now a farmhouse.

STAPLE, a tything in the parish of West Tisbury, county of Wilts, 3 miles south east of Hindon. It is joined with Chicks Grove.

WEST TISBURY, a parish in the town of Tisbury, in the county of Wilts.