The field-name suffix -royd is undoubtedly a key word for those interested in the history of the landscape in West Yorkshire. It has long been recognized that it described land newly cleared of trees, but its particular attraction lies in the possibility that its use chronologically might be defined with more precision. As it is one of the finest field-name elements in the region, accurate information relating to its rise and decline as a descriptive naming suffix, would clearly tell us more about the whole question of woodland clearance in the Middle Ages.

It is already clear that royd was the everyday word for many of the assarts mentioned in medieval documents. Such clearances, unlike the common arable fields, were enclosed with fences of one kind or another, and consequently it is frequently possible even now to locate their boundaries, either on maps or in the present-day fields. Therefore the place-name evidence, in conjunction with the archaeological and botanical evidence, can be used to indicate just how much ground was cleared when the clearance was carried out. It can additionally provide information on a range of related topics, including the size and shape of the assarts, the type of woodland removed, the nature of the cleared ground, the changing use of the land and, finally, the names of people involved with it throughout its history. This is only possible, however, if the assart can be identified with absolute accuracy.

The restricted distribution of the element, already discussed elsewhere, is the result of a localised pronunciation of the more widespread OE *red* and the spelling is common from the 16th century at least. However, it should not be assumed, simply because of this local distribution, that each royd possessed characteristics common to the whole of the region. In the Calder Valley, for example, a number of royds gave rise to distinctive surnames in the period 1275-1375, but this did not happen in neighbouring tributary valleys such as the Colne, even though the place-name element was common there also. It seems likely that this had something to do with the timing of the clearances, but there is also a clear inference that the Calderdale roydens were the sites of settlements, or closely associated with them from the very beginning.

If a major aim is to define more precisely when *red* or royd came into use and when it declined, one method must be to accumulate accurate data on individual clearances in a variety of areas. It is, therefore, intended to examine the histories of a number of well-documented royds in towns to the north of Huddersfield. Initially however, it seems worth in an early reference to a general conclusion which has already been advanced. It is said, for example, that the element is a later term than OE *red*, first coming into prominence in the twelfth century and markedly common by the 1300s, an argument which hinges on the fact that most of the personal names it combines are Middle English in character.

This conclusion appears to be borne out in the evidence from the Huddersfield area, for in the township of Almondbury, which has forty royds, almost half fall into this category, e.g. Adcock RoYd, Gib RoYd, Daw RoYd, Hudd RoYd of Huddersfield. Indeed, it is, in milk RoYd, not even so by any means unusual in early documents, to find *red* linked with a distinctive personal name which is OE or ON in character, e.g. Thorntroth (Huddersfield), Godwynrode (Elland), and Ulfhildrode (Kirkburton). The most explicit name of this kind is probably William de Kerethonde (Kirkheaton), described c.1250 as containing three acres quos ipsa Walter venit. Many other names of this type, such as Adelwoldrode (Flockton), or even Thirkilrode (Thurstonland), which

**Appendix C: Unidentifiable individuals**

As yet no firm territorial links in England have been established for:

Gefridus de anglo f.3r; Petrus de aritin f.10v; Robertus de caho f.2v; Rodbertus de ieruamal f.10v; Willelmus de luer f.3r; Hugo de muld f.9v; Rogerus de orogenic f.1v; Iohannes de rotomago f.3r; Rodbertus capellanus de rotomago f.10v; Randal us de war‘ f.10v; Alansus de unda f.1v; Lewesw.

Rogomunus alein f.10v; Leofiuinus architectus f.10v; Simon bened f.10v; Arnichulu ni blint f.3r; Radulhus buche f.12r; Hugo/Willelmus burner f.2v; Leofriscus carpentarius f.10v; Godglue uxor petri cementarii f.3r; Adam constabularius f.2v; Galtarus coterei f.2r; Willemic crampes f.1v; Leofric duua f.9v; Albertus us engles f.3v; Elwine/Lefiuenuis faber f.9v, 5v; Harold Frisun f.9v; Siual God f.1v; Iohannes gurdan f.1v; Leouinos heort f.3v; Atsero hof f.10r [but cf. Apkpo, s.n. hefele]; Willerbus kouerol f.9v; Walter lacernu[n] f.9v; Rodburth languynu f.2v; AlPhelm litherwar f.9v; Rodbertus mutus f.3r; Almer nunnamarius f.9v; Langliue ‘num‘ f.10v; Kluriclus palmaris f.2r; Iohannes palmaris f.4r; Rainulfus le palmer f.1v; Alfricus piscator f.3r; Briem/Ricardus/ Ringuolus piscator fr.3v, 5v; Ricardus ‘red‘ f.10v; Willemus scot f.10v; Alman linctor f.9v; Vulluine tobe f.10v; Alansus Valtirariu[n] f.3r; Ioe unator f.2v; Eimer wort f.3r; Azo ybiere f.3v.

N.B. Not all occupational by-names have been included in the above list; ecclesiastical titles are excluded, and instances ofocus, dagifer, etc., have been disregarded when context implies the individuals concerned to have been dependants of a particular magнат.
are not evidenced until many centuries after the decline of the personal names, can probably be assigned to this earlier period also. So, no doubt, can others such as Lepton Royd in Almondbury, which was mistakenly explained as 'le stan rode' or stony royd by Smith. The evidence of the earliest documents does not support this view. In 1321, Henry de Hodersfield granted to Thomas de Neuseon half an acre, 'in the place called Lestanrode', formerly acquired by him from Adam del Finy. Thomas then granted it to his own son Adam in 1338. It seems much more likely that this was the case in this instance. The personal name Lestan (OE Leastran), which survived in parts of England into the early fourteenth century, although the inference from the Almondbury deeds might be that Lestan's interest in the land was rather easier.

Equally important, perhaps, is the suggestion in the Almondbury evidence that the highway at Lepton Royd may have been significantly altered in the seventeenth century. In maps and documents of the 1600s the name is given to a house on the north side of the highway, whereas between 1321 and 1584 it is stated to be on the south side. In fact there was a family called Hepworth living at Lepton Royd from the 1950s, and, as the original assart boundaries cannot now be identified, it is likely that this transference of the field-name to the dwelling ensured its survival.

Smith's conclusion that the fourteenth century was the period of the greatest advance in the clearing of woodland may well be correct, and it is worth noting that to support this view he instanced names such as Gibbe, Jeppe and Judder, which 'are Middle English in character,' and yet it would be difficult to prove that these were fourteenth century rather than thirteenth.

The Lepton field-name Judd Royd will serve to illustrate this point. It is well evidenced in the township from the sixteenth century, and deeds from that period, as well as the eighteenth century estate maps, show that it lay adjacent to an assart called Thurgory, both fields being part of a western extension of the town fields. In fact Judd Royd can be identified as Jordanrode, unum (um) assartum infra divisas de lepton, enfeoffed to William de Lepton as early as the thirteenth century. Jordan was often abbreviated to Judd, despite Withycombe's assertion to the contrary, and as the field is clearly linked with Thurgory (Thorhgarau) in the earliest references, the identification does not seem in doubt.

Both assarts were later subdivided as shown in Fig.1. and it is surely significant, in an almost treeless landscape dominated by wall fences, that part of the boundary between the two is still a hedge row. The variety and frequency of the shrubs in the hedge, together with the bluebells growing in its shade, are a clear indication of the boundary's antiquity; it may even be a relic of the woodland cleared some 750 years ago. It is also true that there is a marked difference in the level of these assarts and the adjoining town fields.

In the case of Jordanrode it may even be possible to identify the person responsible for the clearance, and thus be more precise about the date at which it took place. In c.1225, a Lepton man named as Jurdanus filius Roberti de Lepton made a grant of land quod iacet infra culturas dicti Jordan. This 'cultura' seems likely to be the Jordanrode in which later generations of de Leptons held an interest.

There is one further way in which the early origin of a royd may be masked. It has been said that many roys were held by individuals in severity, and the frequent use of a personal name as the specific must often indicate that this was so. However, in such cases a change in ownership or, at a later date, a change in the pattern of tenancy, could sometimes lead to a deceptive change in the place-name. This can be shown to have happened in the case of
another Lepton assart known originally as Shakershaw Royd, but here the
identification is by no means straightforward.

The main road from Huddersfield to Wakefield reaches a height of
approximately 800ft at Grange Moor, having climbed almost 600ft from Fenay
Beck to the west. The last, arduous stage of the ascent is known as Lepton
Edge and consists mainly of rough pasture, which was common grazing until
the enclosure of 1780. However, parts of the rising ground to the south of
this road have a history which distinguishes them from the later fields, and
they are shown in their pre-enclosure days in Fig. 11, abstracted from the
map of the estate surveyed in 1720. 25

The history of the twelve closes marked A presents no great problems,
for all but one of them contain the elements high (royd) and rooyd, suggesting
that they represent what was earlier 'the field called le heithrude' (1486) 26 or
the tuone hyeroyd (c.1600). 27 A reference to Little Heyroyd (1625) 28 may
indicate that this former assart had first been subdivided soon after 1600,
whereas the earlier references suggest that it had originally formed part of
the town fields. In contrast, the closes marked B have only the generic
element in common, but from detailed references in the manorial rolls they
can be identified as the medieval assart called Shakershaw Royd. 29 These
references locate the assart to the east of Blakeman Hill, separated from
High Royd by the common pasture.

From c.1225 to c.1350, a family called Tastard had a major interest
in Shakershaw Royd, but this passed to the Taylors, and by the 1540s the
name of the assart had changed to Taylor Royd, e.g. 'a close called
Shakershaw Roode or Taulour Rod in Lepton' (1532). 30 About this time the
Taylors moved to Stillingfleet in East Yorkshire and the land passed into
the possession of the Beaumonts of Whitley Hall, the new lords of the manor.
As neither Shakershaw Royd nor Taylor Royd is mentioned after 1547, it is
probable that the subdivision of the former assart took place soon afterwards,
possibly as part of the same development which overtook High Royd. The
continuing process of subdivision, and the changes in tenancy, probably
account for the fluidity in the names of the closes in subsequent centuries.
The land called Lodge Royds actually passed out of the ownership of the Lodge
family as recently as the 1970s.

It is clear that tenurial changes, and new developments in husbandry,
could result in misleading alterations to an assart name. Over a period of
centuries Shakershaw Royd came to be represented by no fewer than ten
distinctive names, all incorporating royd: 31 it would not be difficult when
dealing with a less well-documented township to draw totally wrong conclusions
from such data, particularly if a statistical argument were being advanced.
That in not to say that the subdivision of the assarts invariably leads to
potentially confusing changes of name. Jack Royd in Newsome, the current
name for an area near Castle Hill in Almondbury, can readily be identified with
'Jackirode, a piece of ground in Newsome', granted to Alice de Longley
in 1333. 32 A portion of the assart gave rise to the names Bether- and
Over Jackroyde before 1584, but later estate maps show that the place-name
survived further internal enclosure, although a highway which had originally
skirted the assart was re-routed through it before 1716 to take advantage of
a more favourable gradient. 33

Despite the frequency of John and its pet-fore Jack in the thirteenth
and fourteenth centuries, it may be possible, here also, to identify the
individual behind the place-name. In the deed of 1333 already mentioned,
the grantor was named as Adam, the son of John de Castell, and men with these
names were two of the five wealthiest residents in Almondbury in 1297. 34
Jack Royd was an assart of over fifteen acres, far too much for an individual
to clear on his own, and this raises the question of precisely what rôle was
played in the clearance projects by the men whose names are commemorated in the place-name specifics: Tom, Dick, and Harry are quite likely to have been tenants of some status.

The decline of royd as a creative place-name element almost certainly began in the fourteenth century, and may have resulted indirectly from the great social and economic upheaval caused by the Black Death. In the Elizabethan period and later, when large-scale clearance was again taking place, the newly-won fields were not being called royds. When the estate owner John Raye wrote in 1570 of the progress made by his workmen he said they 'dyd stubb a pace of the Carr ... Callyng yt the Great Stubbing', and 'ryddyd the Botom of the mylncroftes.' Both "rydding and stubbing survived the Black Death, although royd apparently did not. The reason may be that individual trees still had to be stubbed and patches of land ridded of scrub in those years of arrested development, even though there was no assarting on the scale recorded before 1350. Once again it is the identification of tenants' names used as specifics, which helps to throw light on the matter.

It has already been shown that personal names characteristic of the period c.1175 – c.1350 were relatively common as specifics. Although hereditary surnames became commonplace after 1350 and are regularly found in minor place-names of most kinds, significantly, they rarely occur in royd compounds. Of those which do Kid Royd and Sharp Royd, both in Almondbury, can probably be linked with tenants whose surnames appear in a rental of 1340, but these are the exception rather than the rule and are in any case recorded before 1350. Furthermore, the history of Shakershaw Royd demonstrated quite clearly how surname specifics such as Taylor and Lodge developed centuries after the coining of the original name. The conclusion must surely be that royd was used particularly in connection with assarting, and that when this declined after 1350 the element was no longer required. It is true that the examples discussed here come from a limited area to the south of Huddersfield, and may not be representative of the whole region, but at the very least they may have highlighted some of the problems associated with a suffix which remains one of the most potentially rewarding elements in West Yorkshire name studies.

LEPTON, HUDDERSFIELD

NOTES

This is a revised version of a paper given on 24th March 1985 at the XVth Annual Conference of the Council for Name Studies held at Christ's College, Cambridge. The initials WD refer to the Whitley Beaumont Collection, Huddersfield Central Library. MD/335 is a deed collection at the Yorks. Arch. Soc. Headquarters, Leeds. PH YW = A.H. Smith (ed.), The Place-Names of the West Riding of Yorkshire, 8 vols. (EPNS 30-7, Cambridge 1961-3).

1. e.g. Sakerserode early 13th cent. DD/WB/IV/2; quodam assarto nomine Schakershawe c.1225 MD/335; two assarts in the name misspelled Bakerode ... Cartulary of Fountains Abbey, ed. W.T.Lancaster (Leeds, 1915), 359.
I am interested in Cornish surnames mainly from a place-name point of view, which is also the only one from which I am competent to examine them. In looking at them I am particularly interested in one problem. What is normally thought of as a typical Cornish surname ('by tre, pol and pen you shall know the Cornish men') is originally a place-name every time, and I want to know whether place-name surnames are in fact commoner in Cornwall than elsewhere, and, if so, how far back this characteristic goes. One might note, in passing, that in this respect Cornwall is in marked contrast with Wales, where place-name surnames of that sort are very rare, but agrees with Brittany, where similar surnames are also widespread: they have been studied by F. Gourvil (1970). His work is particularly useful in a Cornish context, for Cornwall in 1327 was still largely a Celtic-speaking country, although in the east the language was fast giving way to English by that date and two areas had been thoroughly anglicised for several hundred years.

The 1327 Lay Subsidy Roll is the obvious initial source to use for this purpose. Clearly one would use a wide range of further sources to do a thorough study, but this one record provides a convenient corpus of surnames, evenly distributed across the whole county, at the date when hereditary surnames were probably just beginning to become usual (though, for Cornwall, it remains an open question just when that was). Ifsiners were unfortunately exempt — an important, and perhaps substantial, part of the Cornish population; however, their surnames, as seen in Stannary Court rolls, do not appear to have been significantly different from those to be studied here.

Unfortunately the roll of 1327 is the only such roll surviving for Cornwall before the sixteenth century. That is particularly sad, since the roll itself is in poor condition and illegible in some parts, and since it also has some corruptions due to miscopying: it would be wonderful to have a second one of similar date against which to check things, as in Dorset (Mills 1971; Rumble 1980). Nonetheless, it is still the best source to use for an initial survey of medieval Cornish surnames. My subjective impression is that the types of surnames found in it are certainly no different from those in other documents of the period; whether the proportions are the same it is impossible to say at the moment.

The total number of surnames appearing in the roll is 5,769, not counting illegible ones. Of these 2,714 are locational (including surnames derived from place-names not now known), while 3,055 are of other sorts. (All these figures should be considered approximate: they would probably come out slightly differently if I were to repeat the exercise.) Into the 'other sorts' category, as well as the obvious patronyoms, nicknames and occupational surnames, I have also put the incomprehensible ones, those giving nationality, and a few derived from Norman place-names but obviously here functioning as hereditary surnames. Note that in the category of 'locational' or place-name surnames I include both the 'locative' ones (derived from a true place-name) and the 'topographic' (of the type atte Forde), since from my place-name point of view I find the distinction between the two, in Cornwall at least, to be so blurred as not to be of much use.

That gives us somewhat under half of the Cornish surnames in the 1327 roll as locational, which is not markedly different from other counties at about the same date. (See, for instance, McKinley 1981, 77-9: the Cornish figure is near to that of Lancashire, though not as high; in eastern and midland England the proportion is considerably lower.) If one breaks down the total into the different geographical hundreds, one finds considerable discrepancies.