

# VICTORIAN HISTORY OF MOSTON



Title	Longfold
Type	Tenement Cottages
Date Produced	20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024
Internal Reference	E58P
1840 Owner	Lord Crewe
1840 Occupier	William Charlesworth
Tithe Map Apportionments	278
1840 Area	2 Roods 20 Perches



OS Map - Longfold 1898



Longfold House 2023



Longfold in 1840 was a tenement with many occupiers covering roughly half an acre of land. The 1898 map before it was demolished gives a clearer picture of the layout.

In 1840 at the time of the tithe map, the property was occupied by William Charlesworth and his family.

Why William was named and none of the other tenants is unclear. Perhaps he was the principal tenant, most long standing or even alphabetically first?

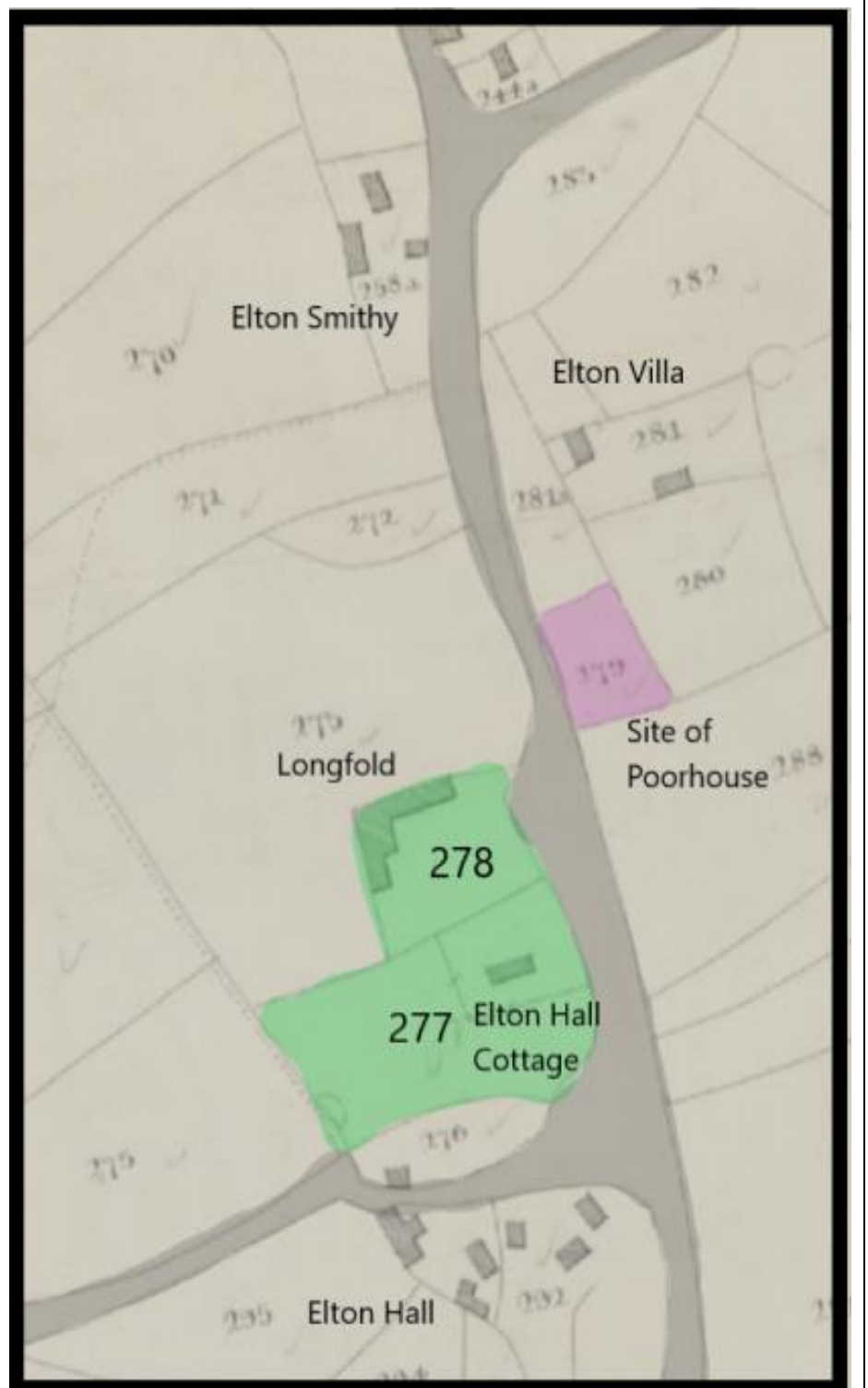
At that time, this area was heavily populated with 96 people living in the confines of the map shown opposite.

Elton Smithy was then a Public House, the White Hart Inn with Kester Kettell the landlord who would have had a busy time with the local trade.

Kester's uncle Ralph Kettle was at Elton Hall Farm where brewing was one of the farming activities.

William Pierpoint of Elton Villa was described as a shopkeeper in an 1843 newspaper (burglary) report.

The Elton poorhouse had been in the locality (Plot 279) but it seems to have been demolished by this time.



The 1841 census tells us there were seven households in the Longfold tenement in 1841. Later census returns and historic maps would show that these were a row of very small cottages of perhaps two or three habitable rooms. William Charlesworth was one of 29 people living in the properties so this area will have been a busy part of Elton.

Of the seven households, in five the head of the household was an agricultural labourer and the other two had elderly widows. There would have been plenty of work for these labourers at the local farms of which there were many.



The land tax records (which run until 1831) confirm that the land on which Longfold was built was leased to Samuel Latham (1771-1834) with Samuel being the youngest son of William Latham who held the lease at Fields Farm in Elton. William Charlesworth, was the only one of these tenants remaining in 1841 paying nearly a florin of rent per year.

Names of Proprietors.	Names of Occupiers.	Names or Description of Estates or Property.	Sums Assessed and Exonerated.	Sums Assessed and not Exonerated.
Samuel Latham	W <sup>m</sup> Charlesworth	do		11 3/4
do	Samuel Latham	do		11 3/4
do	Thomas Alcock	do		11 3/4
do	John Cornes	do		1 1 3/4
Samuel Latham	Widow Stocken	do		6 1/4
do	Timothy Kelsall	do		6 1/4

#### Elton Land Tax Returns for 1829

Moving on ten years, to 1851 there were five inhabited properties at Longfold with 2 being noted as uninhabited. This was in all likelihood due to the properties awaiting new tenants after previous ones moved out and an indication of the reasonably quick turnover of occupants.

As an example, William Lee appears in the 1851 with four young children, which eventually became ten. Hill eldest daughter was born in 1846 in Tetton. By 1853 children were born in Sandbach suggesting William was at Longfold for perhaps five or six years. No doubt there were many other Victorian occupants at Longfold who never appear in any records having not been there when the census returns were taken.

See Appendix 2 for a full list of Head of Households from the census returns 1841-1901

On the other hand, despite there being many short term tenants who just came and went, there is also evidence of two families at Longfold for many years passing the cottages down through the generations.

Firstly there is William Charlesworth who died in 1846. In the 1851 census his widow Esther was still at the property. Their daughter, also Martha married Joseph Dodd and two of their grandchildren through that line were there in the 1860s to 1880s.

The individual who helps us to understand the position at Longfold most clearly is Matilda Cooke (1823-1910) who was born at Longfold and spent her whole life there being described as of "Independent Means". Her baptism record at Warmingham explains the position. Thomas Brookes who also originally came from Brereton like Ann was probably Ann's brother.

July 21 <sup>st</sup> No. 364.	Matilda	Nancy Latham	Brookes	Elton	Shroton Farmer	W. Crewe
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#### Warmingham Baptisms Register 1823

So Matilda seems to be the product of a master/servant relationship which was all too common in Victorian times. What is perhaps a little more surprising is that Samuel Latham (who was the youngest son of William Latham, a wealthy farmer who lived at Fields Farm, Elton) seems to have openly accepted the child and taken the responsibility for her upbringing.

Neither Ann or Samuel ever married and they never had any further children. With the passage of time, it is difficult to understand the exact nature of this relationship but in Samuel's will of 1834 he leaves everything to Ann for life (See appendix 3). After her death, everything went to their daughter Matilda. This is a typical will of a husband catering for his wife which would suggest they had a closer relationship than the description of "Housekeeper" in his will which is perhaps a bit cold.

## Occupants of the Longfold Tenement 1851

Parish or Township of	Ecclsiastical District of	City or Borough of	Town of	Village of			
Eaton							
Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born
				Males	Females		
2 Longfold	Esther Charlesworth	Head	Widow	40			Cheshire Norton
	Jeremiah Charlesworth	Grandson	Widow	16			do Cotton
10 Longfold	Ann Brooks	Head	Widow	60		Retired Farmer	Cheshire Breerton
	James Cook	Son in Law	Widow	25		Labourer	do Warrington
	Matilda Cook	Son	Widow	28		Wife	do Elton
	Mary Ann Cook	Granddaughter		5			do do
	Oliver do	Grandson		6			do do
	Henry do	do		1			do do
11 Longfold	James Sharley	Head	Widow	65		Labourer	do Willington
	Elizabeth Sharley	Wife		65		Wife	do Burnswall
12 Longfold	Thomas Brooks	Head	Widow	50		Labourer	Cheshire Breerton
	Jane Brooks	Wife	Widow	60		Wife	do Warrington
	Samuel Stockton	Grandson		4			do Cotton
	Julia Stockton	Granddaughter		1			do do
14 & 15 Longfold	2 Houses Uninhabited						
16 Longfold	William Lee	Head	Widow	50		Sailor	Cheshire Congleton
	Rachel Lee	Wife	Widow	26			do do
	Harry Lee	Son		5			do Ilkley
	John Lee	Son		3			do Elton
	Ann Lee	Son		2			do do
	Emma Lee	Son		1			do do

National Archives 1851 census

James Cooke had married Matilda and no doubt it was their intention to have a large family however despite their best efforts, only two of their Children, Frederick (1851-1930) and Oliver (1847-1925) lived beyond childhood and all but one of their deceased siblings died before the age of 5.

This must have been particularly difficult for the two boys witnessing the deaths of so many siblings.

By the time of the census of 1871, Longfold was at its busiest with 30 people living at the tenement, after that time, the numbers started to drop off as some were combined and perhaps some became derelict.

There are certainly records in the Crewe estate that confirm those occupied by Frederick and Oliver Cooke were combined into a single unit.

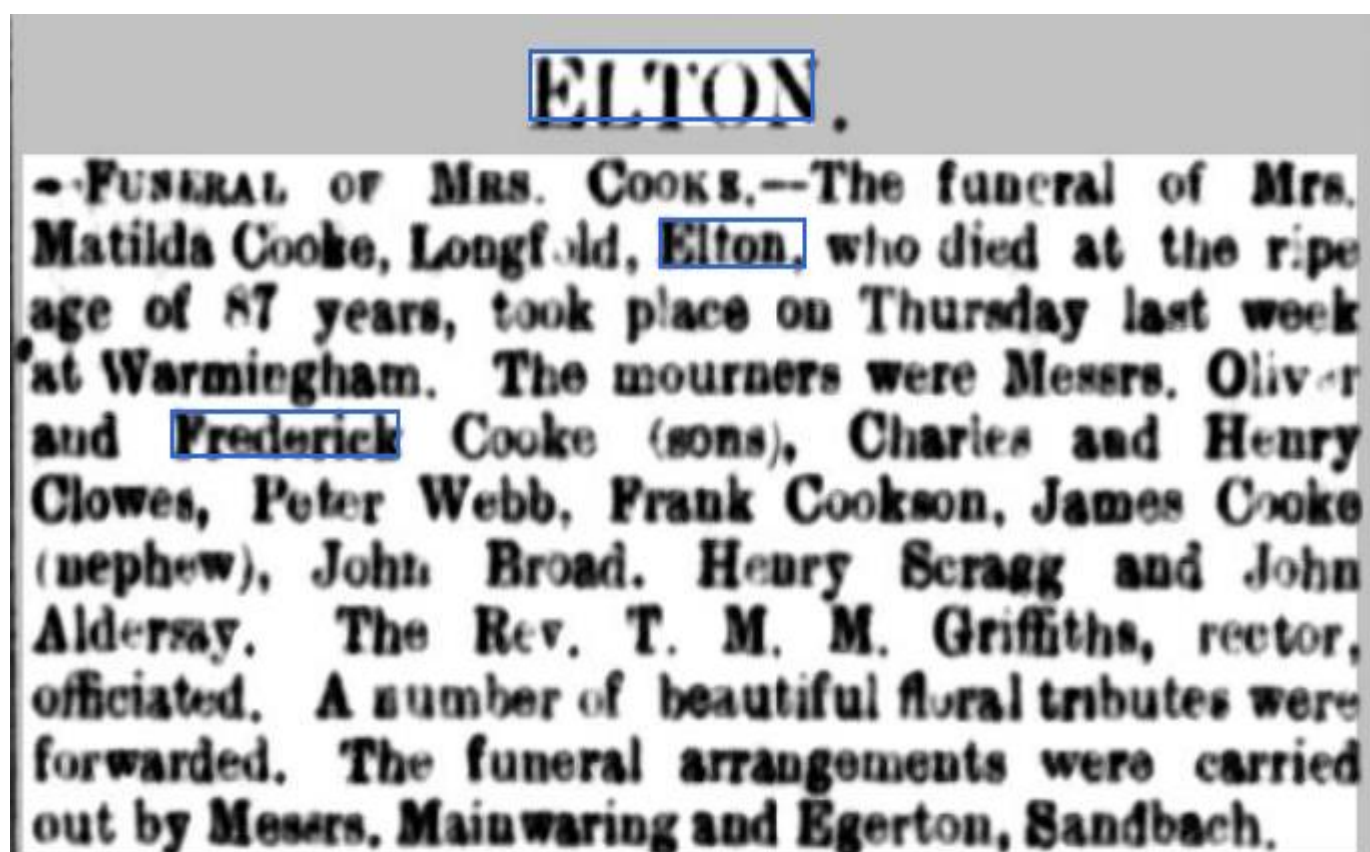
1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921
29	20	30	30	24	13	11	7	5

No of people living at Longfold 1841-1921 census

By this time, there are also indications of the agricultural revolution as work became more mechanised. As a result people started to seek alternative employment, so as well as agricultural labourers, we also have labourers on the Railways and the Rookery Bridge Bone Mill. Frederick and Oliver Cooke were at one time Road labourers.

The matriarch of Longfold Matilda Cooke died in 1910. John Aldersea died in 1912 and Hugh Glover had moved to Malkins Bank by 1913 just leaving the Cooke brothers in situ.

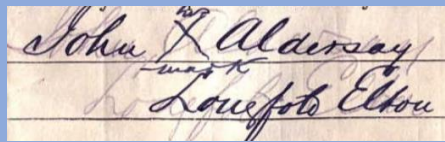
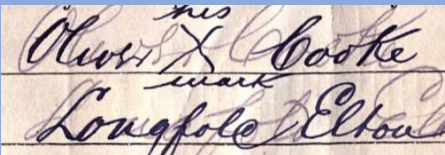
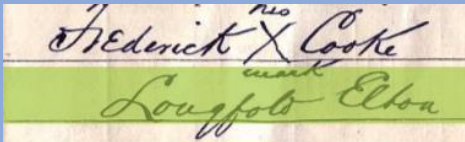
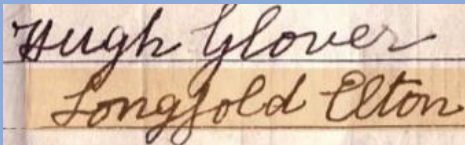
Within a few years the tenement was abandoned to the extent that when the Elton estate was sold in 1915, Longfold was described as a "building site".





## Occupants of the Longfold Tenement 1911

	NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				
1	John Aldersay	Head	76	Single				
1	Oliver Cooke	Head	63	Single				
1	Frederick Cooke	Head	59	Married				
2	Mary A Cooke	Wife	57	Married 36	-	-	-	-
3	Emily Cooke	Niece	33	Single				
1	Hugh Glover	Head	68	Married	<del>one</del>	<del>one</del>		
2	Fanniah Glover wife		68	Married 47	one	one		

Name	Born	Occupation	Rooms	Number in House	Signature
John Aldersay	Bebington Derbyshire 1836	General Labourer	2	1	
Oliver Cooke	Elton Cheshire 1847	Road Labourer Rural District Council	3	1	
Frederick Cooke	Elton Cheshire 1851	Road Labourer Rural District Council	3	3	
Hugh Glover	St Helens Lancashire 1843	Retired Colliery Fireman	2	2	

The occupiers of the land when the estate was sold were the brothers Frederick and Oliver Cooke already mentioned and Richard Whittaker Oulton a local farmer. By this time, Frederick and Oliver had moved to Watch Lane Cottage on Elton Moss.

**LOT 32**  
Coloured Blue on Plan No. 2.

## A Valuable Freehold Building Site

Known as  
**LONGFOLD**

In the occupation of Messrs. Fred and Oliver Cooke and Gardens No. 269 on Ordnance Survey Map, in the occupation of Messrs. R. W. & R. Oulton, situate adjoining Lot 30 and near Elton Hall,

Comprising an Area of  
**5 acres      0 roods      21 perches**  
Or thereabouts.

**SCHEDULE**

No. on Ordnance Survey.	Description.	Tenant.	Acres.
Part 273	Garden, &c.	F. Cooke.	.771
270	Field.	O. Cooke.	4.115
269	Garden.	R. W. & R. Oulton.	.292
		Total Acres ...	5.178

**Lot 32.**—Longfold building site, let to Messrs. Fred and Oliver Cooke, and gardens let to Messrs. R. W. and R. Oulton, 5 acres 21 perches, rent £12, withdrawn at £225.

**Lot 33.**—Cottage holding in Hall-lane, comprising 5 acres 1 rood 1 perch, let to Mr. Thomas Lovatt, rent £20 5s., sold to Mr. Boston, Sandbach, for £470.

As it turned out, Longfold failed to sell at the auction. The next lot, number 33 in the auction was Smithy Farm where Thomas Lovatt had been the tenant albeit for only about 4 years. Whether or not he had the resource to purchase the Smithy is perhaps immaterial and it was sold to an Arthur Boston from Warmingham.

What is clear though is that subsequent to the auction, Longfold was sold to Thomas Lovatt and he set about building a new home for himself on the land. How long it took him to build the Longfold House as we know it today is unclear but he didn't actually start paying rates on the property until 1926.

A half acre plot of land off Crabmill Lane was sold to his brother Harry.

In 1918 when further property from the estate was sold some three years later, Frederick became the owner of Watch Lane Cottage.

THE MARQUESS OF CREWE K.G.		
STATEMENT of Lots sold names of purchasers and purchase monies received at Sale by Auction on the 28 & 29th September 1915 of portions of the Crewe Settled Estates Cheshire.		
No. of Lot.	Name of Purchaser	Purchase money
32	Thomas Lovatt	220. 0. 0.
33	Arthur Boston	470. 0. 0.
35	Arthur Boston	105. 0. 0.
36	Harry Lovatt	25. 0. 0.

Crewe Sale Account 1915 – Extract of prices realised.

NAME and SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Household	AGE	SEX	MARRIAGE or ORPHANHOOD	BIRTHPLACE and NATIONALITY	OCCUPATION and EMPLOYMENT	EDUCATION
1 Thomas Lovatt	Head	39	M	Married	Bradwall Cheshire	Millwright Engineer, Brookery Bridge Refining Co. Sandbach Cheshire	3
2 Florence Lovatt	Wife	36	F	Married	Bannton Northwich Cheshire	Home Duties	1
3 Wilfred Lovatt	Son	9	M	Both alive	Ellon Cheshire	Whole Time	1
4 Ada Lovatt	Daughter	8	F	Both alive	Ellon Cheshire	Whole Time	1
5 Nellie Lovatt	Daughter	7	F	Both alive	Ellon Cheshire	Whole Time	1

To be filled up by the Enumerator.  
Male 2 Female 3 Person 5 Home 4

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
Signature: Thomas Lovatt  
(Head of Household, Manager of Establishment or other person)

National Archives 1921 census

1939 England and Wales Register for Thomas Lovatt									
Cheshire > Congleton Rd > Lgff									
Longfold, Lgff	24	1	LOVATT Thomas	-	M	81	M	Engineer, Works, R. H. H. & Co. Ltd.	
		2	LOVATT Florence	-	F	85	M	Superintendent Domestic Duties	
The Bungalow, Longfold	25	1	EVANS George L	-	M	10 <sup>12</sup> 9am	M	Manager, Works, R. H. H. & Co. Ltd.	
		2	EVANS Ada	-	F	12 <sup>12</sup> 9am	M	Superintendent Domestic Duties	

By the time of the national register of 1939, Thomas had built a bungalow on part of what was quite an extensive plot. This may well have ultimately been intended for his son Wilfred but as with many others of his generation, he lost his life during the war whilst fighting in Italy.

As such it was Thomas’s daughter Mary who took up residence in the bungalow, probably after her wedding in 1939 and she and her husband lived there for nearly 20 years before selling up. Thomas Lovatt died in 1960 and his wife continued to live at the main house until her own death six years later.



PRIVATE  
**WILFRED LOVATT**

Service Number: 14313215

🏠 **Regiment & Unit/Ship**

Hampshire Regiment  
1/4th Bn.

📅 **Date of Death**

Died 27 September 1943  
Age 32 years old

📍 **Buried or commemorated at**

SALERNO WAR CEMETERY

IV. D. 17.  
Italy

|||||  
**COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES**  
|||||

We are in the process of adding an image  
of this casualty's point of commemoration

By direction of G. L. Evans, Esq.  
**ELTON, SANDBACH.**  
WITH VACANT POSSESSION  
The Delightful Compact Freehold  
MODERN DETACHED BUNGALOW,  
known as  
**LONGFOLD,**  
**ELTON CROSS ROADS, ELTON.**

This attractive modern Bungalow of  
pleasing appearance is extremely well con-  
structed and in an excellent state of repair  
throughout. Situated on the Sandbach—  
Crewe 'bus route.

Accommodation : Entrance Hall, Lounge,  
Dining Room, Kitchen, Larder, 2 Good  
Bedrooms, Bathroom with W.C. Outside :  
Wash-house. Ample room for Garage.

Viewing: By appointment with the Auc-  
tioneers.

Nantwich Chronicle 5<sup>th</sup> July 1958

By instructions of the Executors of Mrs.  
F. Lovatt, deceased.

**ELTON**  
WITH VACANT POSSESSION.  
The Freehold Smallholding with  
Detached Residence.  
**LONGFOLD,**

**CLAY LANE, ELTON**  
Area 5 ACRES or thereabouts.  
For Sale by Auction by :  
**JOHN W. HILDITCH**

**AND SON**

on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd,** at  
7 p.m.  
Particulars preparing. cc

Crewe Chronicle 1<sup>st</sup> September 1966

In more recent times another bungalow has been built on the site between Longfold and Pine Cottage,  
firstly named Jersey Cottage but now Bramble Cottage.

## Appendix 1 - Chronological List of Occupiers and Owners

Longfold - Principal Occupiers									
Years at									
Year	Source	First Name	Surname	Lived	Age	Property	Occupation	Status	Other
1840	Tithe	Hungerford	Crewe	1812-1894	28	n/a	Gentleman	Owner	
1840	Tithe	William	Charlesworth	1774-1846	64	c20	Agricultural Labourer	Tenant	First Land Lax record 1827
1841	Census	William	Charlesworth	1774-1846	65		Agricultural Labourer	Sub-tenant	
1851	Census	Ann	Brookes	1791-1877	60	c60?	Housekeeper	Sub-tenant	to Samuel Latham, leaseholder
1861	Census	Ann	Brookes	1791-1877	70		Housekeeper	Sub-tenant	
1871	Census	Ann	Brookes	1791-1877	80		Housekeeper	Sub-tenant	
1881	Census	Matilda	Brookes	1823-1910	58	87	Annuitant	Sub-tenant	Dau of Ann Brooks and Samuel Latham
1891	Census	Matilda	Brookes	1823-1910	68		Annuitant	Sub-tenant	
1901	Census	Matilda	Brookes	1823-1910	78		Annuitant	Sub-tenant	
1911	Census	Frederick	Cooke	1851-1930	88		Road Labourer	Sub-tenant	Son of Matilda Cooke (nee Brookes)
1911	Census	Oliver	Cooke	1847-1925	88		Road Labourer	Sub-tenant	Son of Matilda Cooke (nee Brookes)
1915	Crewe Sale	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	34	45	Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1921	Census	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	40		Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1928	Rates	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	47		Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1935	Elector	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	54		Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1939	Register	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	58		Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1939	Register	George	Evans	1912-1995	27	19	Wages Clerk, Salt Works	Owner	Son in Law of Thomas Lovatt. BUNGALOW
1950	Elector	Thomas	Lovatt	1881-1960	69		Fodens Pattern Maker	Owner	
1958	Sale							Owner	BUNGALOW
1960	Assent	Florence	Lovatt	1885-1966	75	51	Widow	Owner	Wife of Thomas
1966	Sale							Owner	

## Appendix 2 – Longfold Heads of Household

### Analysis of Inhabitants of Longfold 1841-1901

First Name	Surname	Age	Status	No In		Occupation	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	Died	Comments
				House												
Samuel	Lewis	30	M	5		Ag Lab										
Samuel	Hughes	20	M	5		Ag Lab										
Samuel	Foxley	55	M	3		Ag Lab										Moved from Watch Lane Cottage
Ann	Sherratt	60	W	4		Independent										
William	Charlesworth	60	M	3		Ag Lab									1846	
Thomas	Brookes	34	M	5		Ag Lab										Probably brother of Ann
Ann	Brookes	50	W	4		Independent									1877	Housekeeper for Samuel Latham
Esther	Charlesworth	60	W	3		Independent									1855	Wife of William
William	Lee	30	M	6		Tailor									1882	Moved to Chapel Street, Sandbach
Joseph	Dodd	32	M	3		Labourer										Grandson of William Charlesworth
Richard	Phillips	29	M	5		Labourer										Servant at Elton Hall Farm in 1851
George	Stockton	26	M	3		Labourer										
Edward	Castlephone	26	M	4		Labourer										
William	Dodd	24	M	3		Labourer										Grandson of William Charlesworth
Thomas	Shaw	20	M	3		Labourer										
Edward	Kesteven	33	M	7		Labourer - Boneworks									1921	Moved to Ettiley Heath
Eliza	Norbury	50	W	3		Annuitant										
Richard	Ashley	65	W	1		Labourer - Bricklayer										Lodger of Eliza Norbury
Mary	Phillips	41	W	1		Shoemakers Widow										
Thomas	Steele	43	W	5		Labourer - Boneworks										
George	Latham	31	M	5		Ag Lab										
John	Brookes	38	M	5		Ag Lab										
Samuel	Farrington	47	M	6		Ag Lab										
Edward	Jones	53	M	3		Labourer - bricklayer										
Samuel	Jones	57	M	2		Ag Lab										
Matilda	Cooke	58	W	2		Independent									1910	Daughter of Ann Brookes
Frederick	Cooke	29	M	2		Ag Lab									1930	Son of Matilda Cooke
James	Kesteven	30	M	4		Railway Labourer									1934	Son of Edward
Joseph	Nightingale	32	M	4		Railway Signalman									1930	Moved to Haslington
John	Aldersay	65	M	1		Own Means									1912	Prev at 4 Lane Ends
Oliver	Cooke	63	M	1		Road Labourer									1925	Son of Matilda Cooke
Hugh	Glover	68	M	2		Retired Colliery Worker									1921	Moved to Sandbach



### Appendix 3 – Will of Samuel Latham

The Last Will and Testament of me Samuel Latham of the Township of Elton in the parish of Warmingham, in the County of Chester, is as follows—(That is to say, First— I order that all my just Debts shall be paid as soon after my decease as can conveniently be done, and that my Body be interred in Warmingham Church Yard, and that a good Gravestone be laid upon me as soon as possible. — I give and bequeath to Ann Brooks, my Housekeeper, all my Leasehold Houses and Lands, situate in Elton; together with all my Household Furniture, Goods and Chattels, and all my Farming Stock, live and Dead, and all my property by whatever Name or Names it may be called or known by, for her to have possess and enjoy during her natural life or so long as she continues unmarried; but if she marries, she shall lose all right whatever I have given her, and I order that Matilda Brooks Daughter of

Ann Brooks my said Housekeeper, shall then have all my property aforesaid, and enjoy the same as long as she lives; and shall have full power to leave by Will and divide the said property as she shall think proper; and I appoint for my Executors George Johnson of Warmingham Schoolmaster, Ann Brooks my Housekeeper, and Matilda Brooks daughter of Ann Brooks both of Elton; and I do declare this to be my last Will and Testament this fourth day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty four