

INTRODUCTION

The Parish of Redlynch includes the settlements of Redlynch, Woodfalls, Morgan's Vale, Hamptworth, Nomansland Lover and Bohemia. Redlynch was originally part of the Parish of Downton, but became a Civil Parish in 1896, with Morgan's Vale, Woodfalls and Nomansland included from 1934. The 1901 census gives the population as 1279; by 2001 it was 3475. Much of the area was lightly settled until the late 18th Century and most houses date from the late 19th Century or 20th Century.

This trail covers part of the Parish, aiming to give a walk back in time, indicating places of interest and some of the shops and trades which once existed. Old photographs have been used where possible.

REDLYNCH

The hamlet is mentioned in the 13th century, but developed quickly after the enclosure of common lands in 1822. There are various suggestions as to how the name originated – it could mean the red ridge or a road passing over a steep hill. It had brick kilns and was a local centre for metal working, lace making and besom making.

LOVER

The name possibly comes from Lower Redlynch. Originally called Warminster Green, it covers the triangular area around Besomer Drove, School Road and Church Hill.

MORGAN'S VALE

This is thought to be named after a man called Morgan who was the first to build his cottage at the bottom of the Vale.

WOODFALLS

The name means wooded place. It was also referred to in the 13th century, being originally based around the Manor of Upper Woodfalls. There were once several timber yards and sawmills here.



Produced by Redlynch & District Local History Society 2011

The Society aims to promote interest in Local History and meets on the first Tuesday of the month in Morgan's Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall at 7.30p.m.

More information: www.southwilts.com

An Historical Ramble through Redlynch & Woodfalls

