

THE FRANCIS FRITH COLLECTION®

Photogenic Britain



A stunning selection of images from the world's leading publisher of historical photographs



Images are loosely categorised as follows:

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The Francis Frith Collection is renowned for its “historical local photographs” of thousands of British cities, towns and villages.

But this is only a part of the Frith story – we hope this catalogue will show that the Collection also contains thousands of photographs which illustrate:

- **British Life** – in all its rich variety, including:

Everyday life in Britain

Beautiful landscapes

Holidays & high-days

Transport through 110 years

Famous landmarks

People & characters

Crafts & occupations

Rural life

Engineering milestones

Postwar Britain – the 1940s, 50s & 60s

Social history – and much more!

- **Postwar Britain:** the Frith company was taking photographs continuously from 1860 to 1970 so the Collection includes 200,000 photographs taken after 1940 which depict Postwar Britain and the changes which followed two world wars.
- **Creative opportunities by the thousand:** most Frith images are of such high quality that they can be enlarged to fill a whole wall, OR, this same quality also provides opportunities to crop small details to provide new and fascinating snapshots of life in Britain.
- **Aesthetically pleasing images:** which have a universal appeal, regardless of their geographical location.
- **Personal connections:** thousands of people who have browsed Frith photographs on the Frith website in the last three years have added some six million words to the website – the personal memories the photographs have inspired in them. Memories that have made them laugh, cry, rejoice, angry, reunite, or just plain remember. Such is the power of Frith photographs to connect with the British.



Francis Frith (1822-1898).

Francis Frith was born in 1822 in Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Born into a Quaker family, Frith was a remarkable person who, by the time he founded what was to become The Francis Frith Collection in 1860, had already achieved a great deal in his first 38 years:

- Together with a partner he had established a wholesale grocery business in Liverpool which was so successful that by 1856 he was able to sell his share for the equivalent of £15 million at today's value.
- Had been a founder member of Liverpool Photographic Society in 1853 – only 14 years after the invention of photography.
- In 1857, as a gentleman of leisure, he had embarked on the first of three expeditions up the Nile taking bulky photographic equipment and glass plates with him.

On his last expedition he travelled further up the Nile than any photographer had been before. The impact of his photographs of the pyramids and antiquities have been likened to the first photographs taken on the surface of the moon, in terms of their effect on all who saw them. Published in London and New York in limited edition part works, sales of the images totalled over £3 million at today's value.

These were pioneering and at times dangerous journeys but Frith's skill as a photographer meant that the photographs he took on these expeditions established his reputation as an outstanding pioneer photographer.

Having returned from his third expedition in 1860 Frith married and settled in Reigate. Fired by the commercial and artistic success of the photographs taken on his expeditions, Frith started the business which created The Francis Frith Collection as we know it today.

Frith's avowed intention was to photograph every town and village in Britain and, although he didn't quite succeed in this goal, his business did create an unrivalled record of Britain over 110 years of amazing physical and social change.

Although Frith took a lot of photographs himself, as a wealthy man he also quickly employed other photographers but ensured they all worked to his own high standards of quality and composition. He ensured that every photograph was meticulously catalogued and these catalogues form the basis of today's digital database which add considerably to the value of the photographs as a record of Britain.



Island of Philae, Pharaoh's Bed c1857 1820

The boat moored to the left of this photograph is Frith's dhow and his dark room tent can be seen in the middle of the boat.



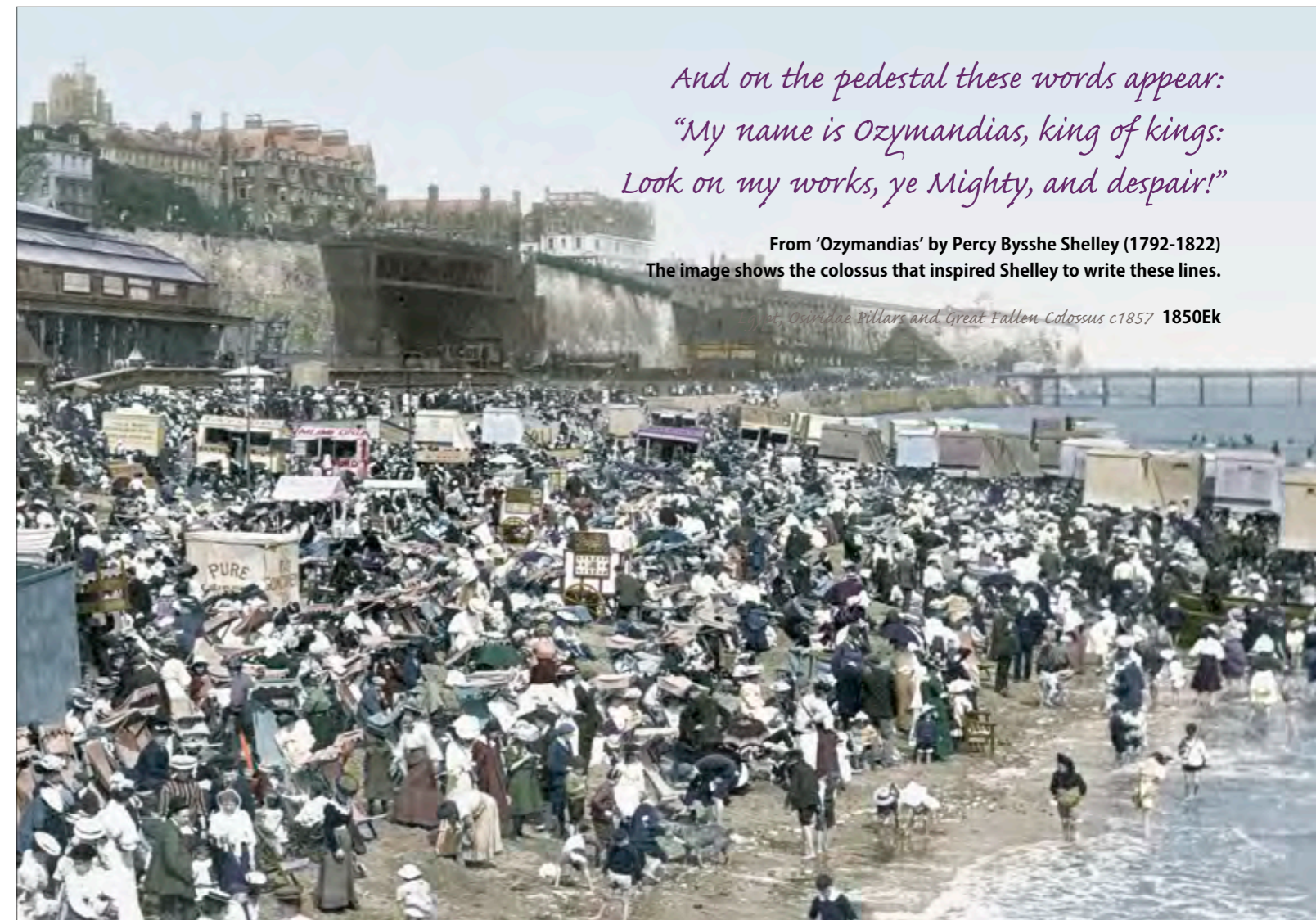
Gizeh, The Sphinx and Great Pyramid c1857

643

The Collection today:

The Collection is recognised as being of national importance and as the only archive of its kind which remains in private ownership. The archive itself is valued at over £2 million but several million has also been invested in its development in recent years.

Totalling approximately 350,000 images it is an archive without equal, providing an irreplaceable record of Britain, and remains as a tribute to the foresight of a remarkable man.



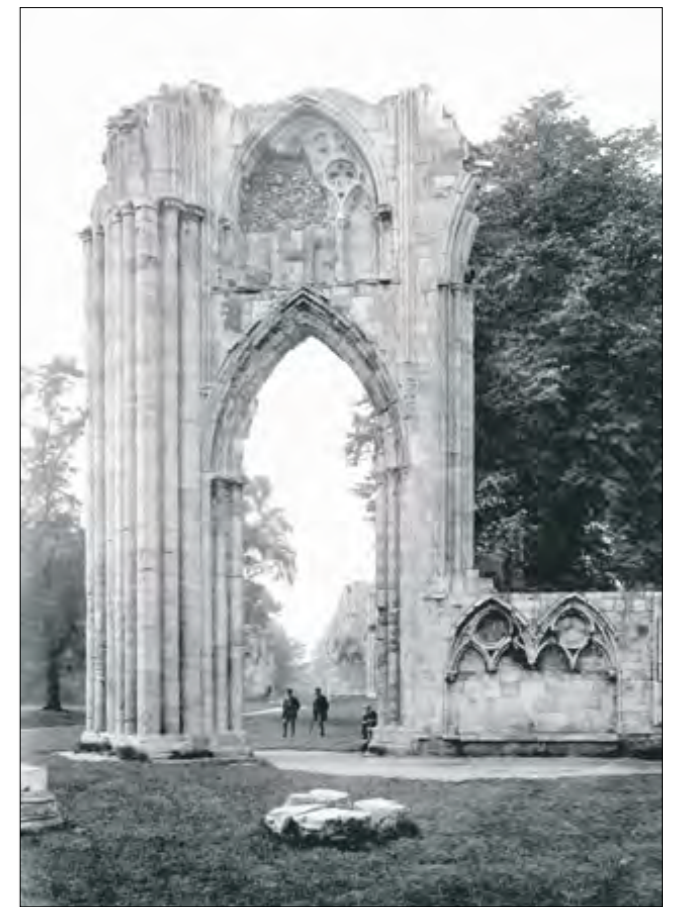
*And on the pedestal these words appear:
"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"*

From 'Ozymandias' by Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)
The image shows the colossus that inspired Shelley to write these lines.

Siout, Ozymandias Pillars and Great Fallen Colossus c1857 1850Ek



Edinburgh, The Castle from the Grassmarket 1897 39121



York, St Mary's Abbey, east end c1880 12945



Windsor, Castle Hill 1906 53719t



Tintagel, King Arthur's Castle 1894 33595A



Caernarfon, The Castle 1890 23112

Enlargement:

The quality of Frith photographs and our scanning is generally so high that most images may be effectively enlarged to 10 ft on the longest length to provide décor with significant impact.



Newlyn, The Lighthouse 1920 **69751B**

Lighthouses are found all around the coast of Britain, guiding vessels safely home. The lighthouse seen here stands at the harbour entrance on the South Pier of Newlyn, Cornwall's greatest fishing port.



Looe, Mending Nets 1906 **56412**



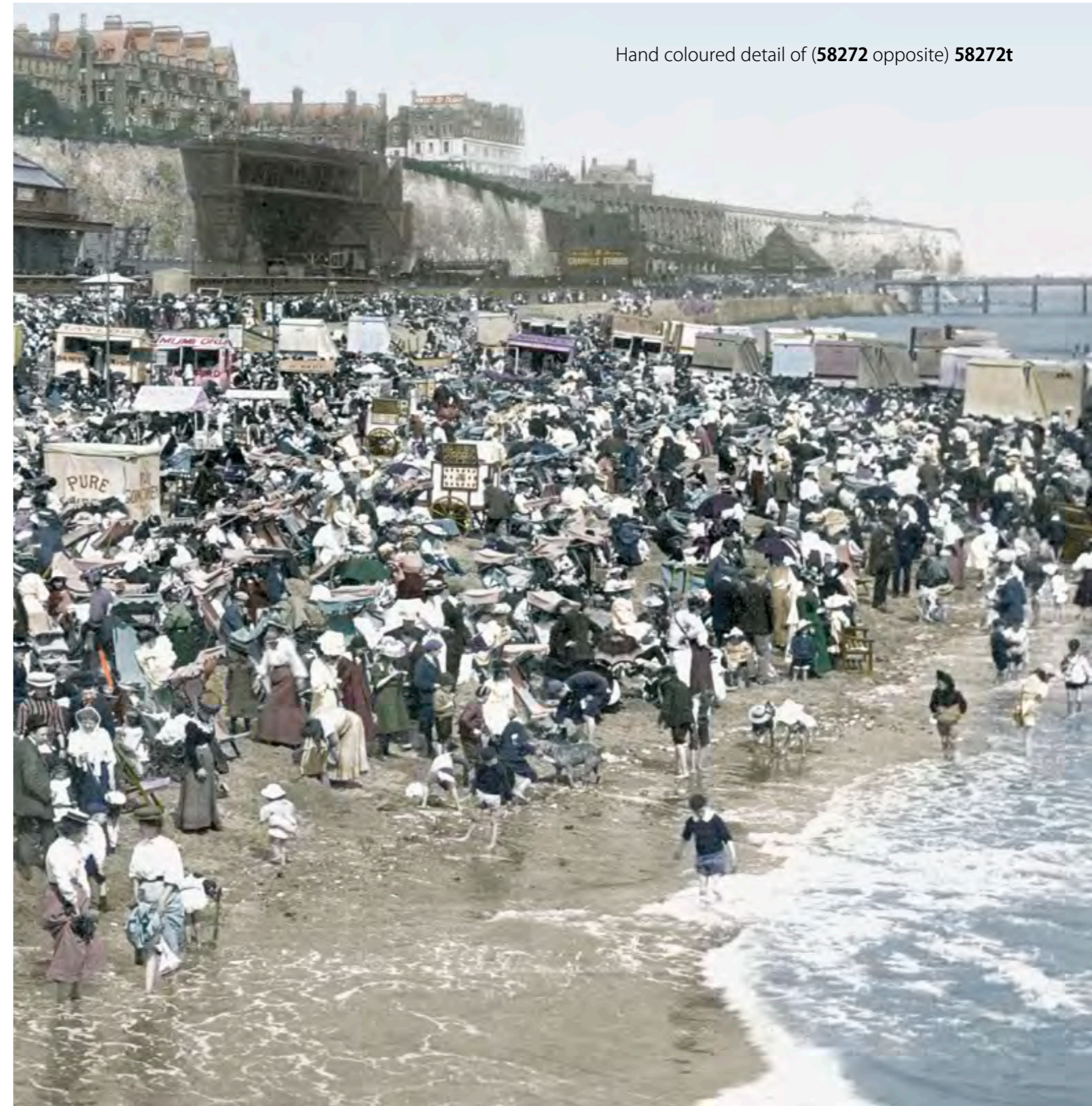
Ramsgate, The Beach 1907 **58272**



Sheringham, Fishermen 1893 **33313**



Newlyn, Fishermen 1906 **56532**



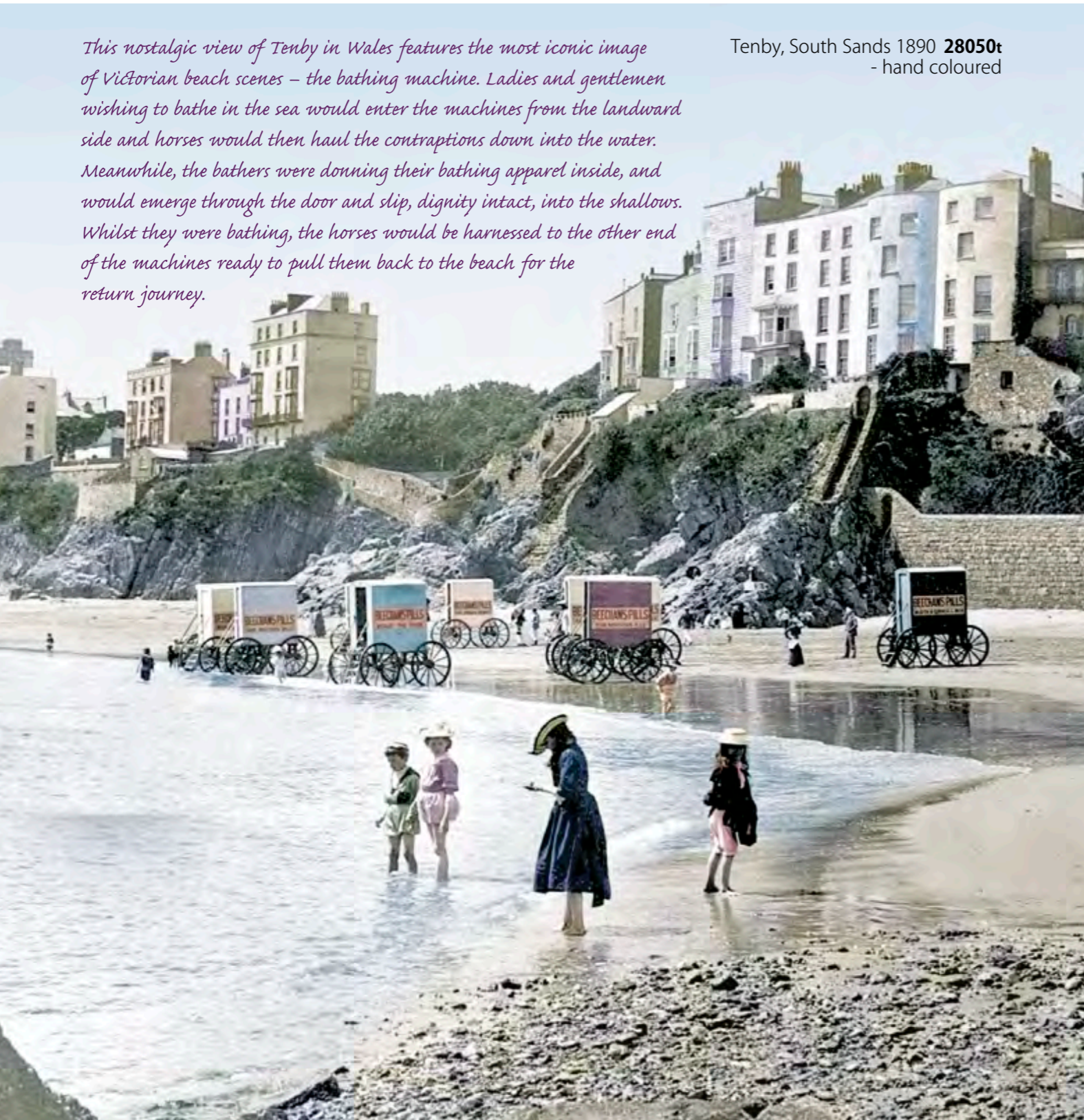
Hand coloured detail of (58272 opposite) **58272t**

Hand Coloured images:

Frith images were taken in Black & White as this provided the best archival quality, but we do offer a hand colouring service in the Victorian style. Today the work is done digitally but still involves a great deal of artistic skill – see above example. Please ask for details.

This nostalgic view of Tenby in Wales features the most iconic image of Victorian beach scenes – the bathing machine. Ladies and gentlemen wishing to bathe in the sea would enter the machines from the landward side and horses would then haul the contraptions down into the water. Meanwhile, the bathers were donning their bathing apparel inside, and would emerge through the door and slip, dignity intact, into the shallows. Whilst they were bathing, the horses would be harnessed to the other end of the machines ready to pull them back to the beach for the return journey.

Tenby, South Sands 1890 **28050t**
- hand coloured



Scarborough, The Pierhead 1890

23472



Rhyl, Donkeys on the sands 1891

29151p



St Ives, On the Beach 1890

24178



Paignton, Preston Sands 1918

68533

These Avro 504J float-planes were part of a batch of 200 built by Avro for the Royal Flying Corps in 1916 and are seen here still carrying their military markings.



Plymouth, The Barbican 1890

22474



Wells-next-the-Sea, The Quay 1929

81998t

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Trevoze Head, The Lighthouse 1894

33573A



Weymouth, The Sands 1909

61597



Borth, Carefree Days c1940

B147066a



Brixham, Trawlers, Waiting for a Breeze 1889

21556



Cromer, The Lifeboat 1922

72651



Eastbourne, The Pier 1925

77946



Hope Cove, Fisherman's Corner c1955

H112031x



Sorting the Catch c1900

F6003



Boscastle, The Harbour 1893

33606



Fraserburgh, Herring Boats c1900

F63002p



Salcombe, Fishermen 1962

S44272x



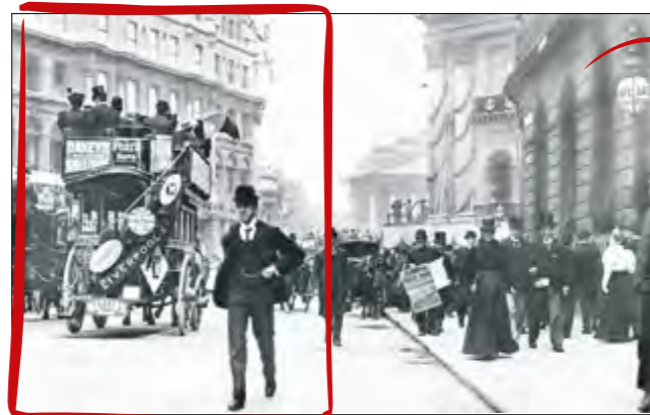
Sunlight and Boat c1930

A001023



London, London Bridge 1880

L130034



London, Queen Victoria Street 1897

L130055



London, Mansion House and Cheapside 1890

L130209



London, The Bank of England & the Royal Exchange c1910

L130193



London, Tower Bridge and the Pool of London 1896

L130248



Crystal Palace 1890

C207020



Detail of L130055 - opposite

Cropping:

The quality of Frith photographs generally allows small areas of detail to be cropped out of an image – effectively creating new subject matter and a different style of image.



Hand coloured detail of (L130284 opposite) L130284p



London, Trafalgar Square c1890

L130284



London, Piccadilly 1964

L1305318



London, A Hokey Pokey Stall, Greenwich 1884

L130110p



London, Westminster Bridge c1900

L130303



Crystal Palace c1886

C207992

Spot Coloured images:

An alternative, and less expensive option than our hand colouring service is Spot Colouring where one or a few details in a Black & White photograph are coloured to add impact or to emphasise a particular feature – see example above.



Cambridge, Petty Cury 1909

61469



Knaresborough, Market Day 1921

71687



Liskeard, Fore Street 1906

56300z



Market Drayton, Market Day 1911

63338



Wolverhampton, Dudley Street c1900

W285007

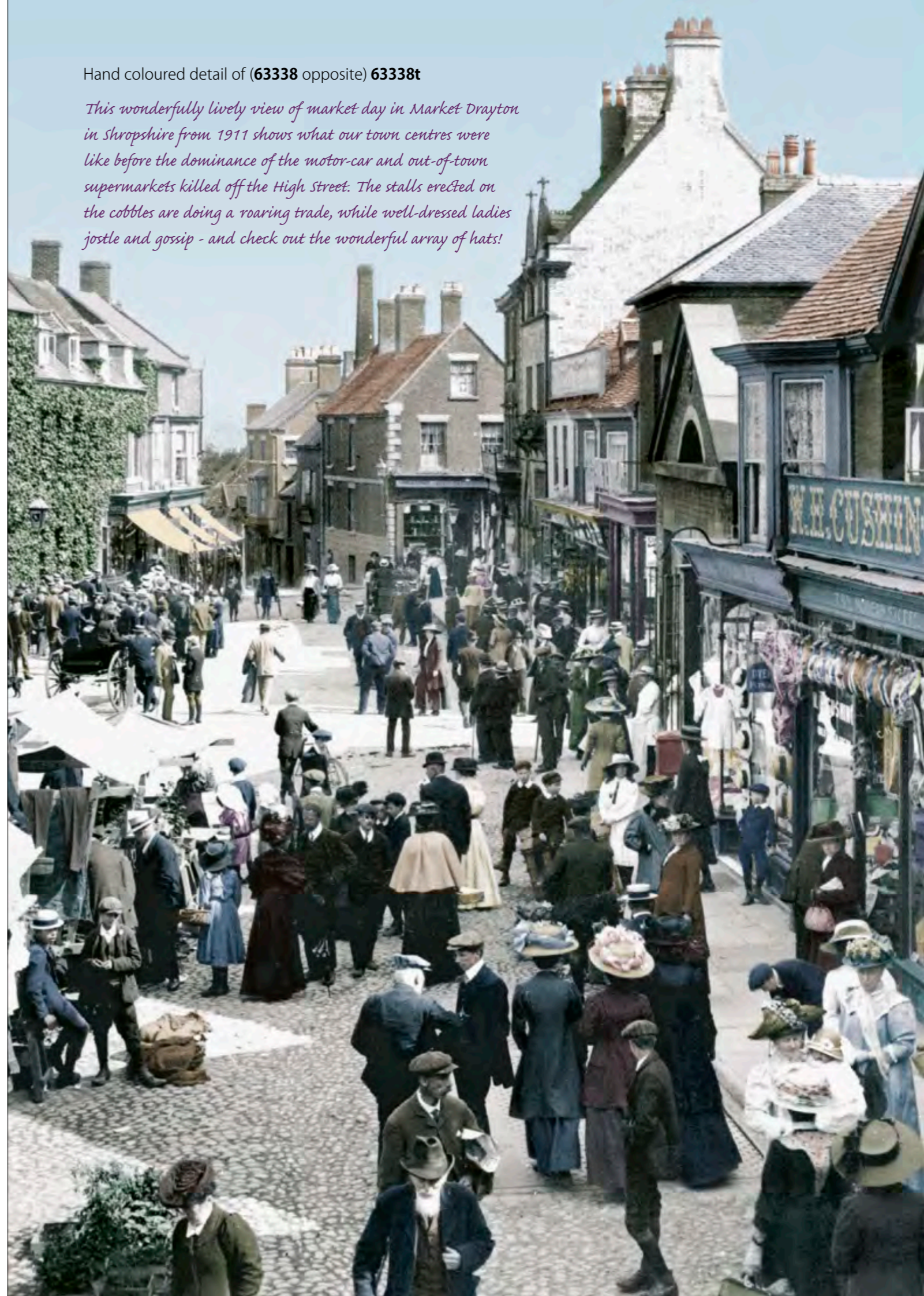


Nottingham, Long Row East 1902

48326

Hand coloured detail of (63338 opposite) 63338t

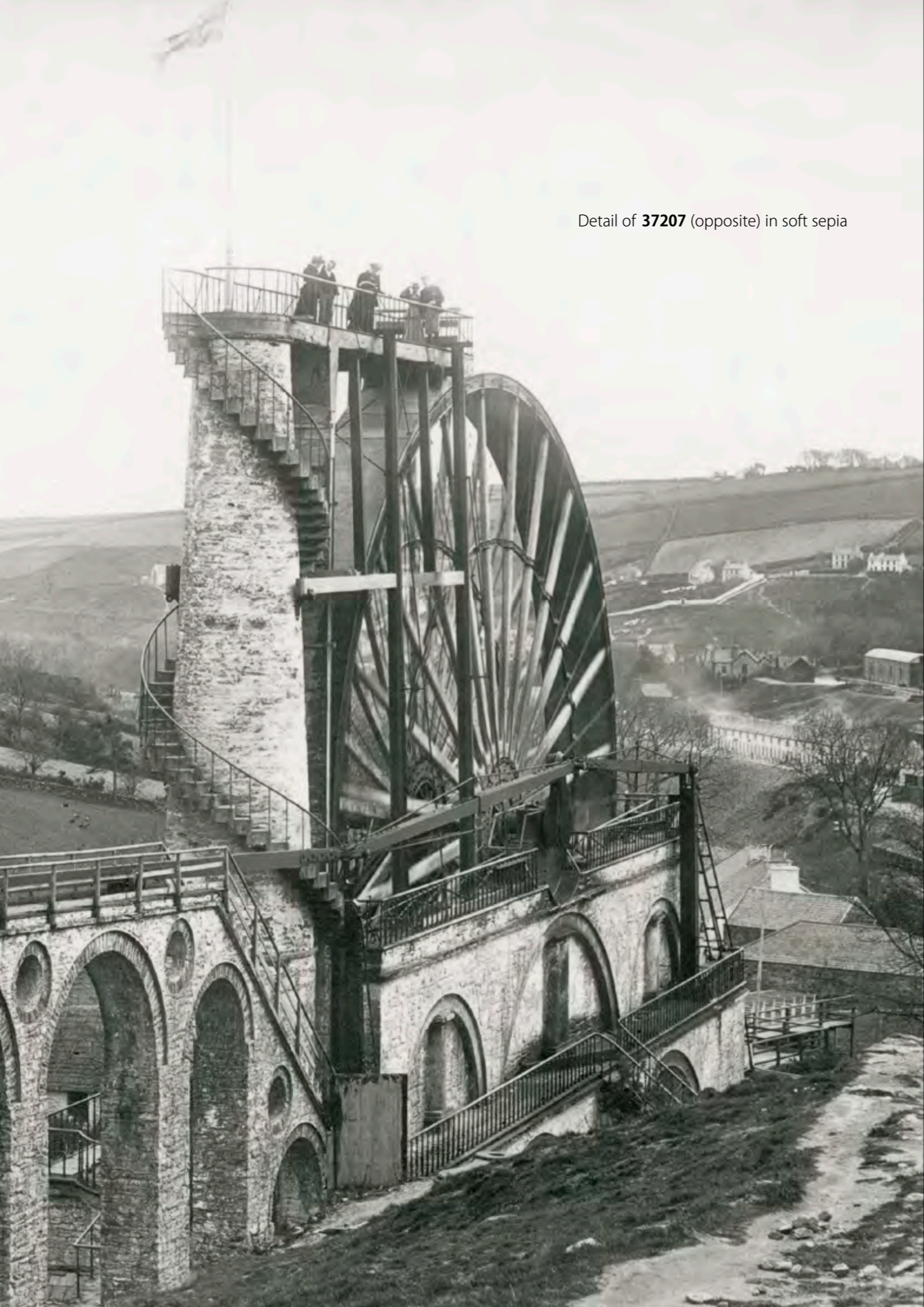
This wonderfully lively view of market day in Market Drayton in Shropshire from 1911 shows what our town centres were like before the dominance of the motor-car and out-of-town supermarkets killed off the High Street. The stalls erected on the cobbles are doing a roaring trade, while well-dressed ladies jostle and gossip - and check out the wonderful array of hats!



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Detail of **37207** (opposite) in soft sepia



Laxey, The Wheel 1896

37207



Dagenham, The Ford Jetty c1950

D178010



York, The Station 1909

61850



The Forth Bridge 1897

39145



Dagenham, Interior View of the Ford Works c1950

D178009



The Locomotion, Number One Engine, Darlington, S & D Railway 1825

30646



Reigate, Park Lane c1900

R20502



Liskeard, St Keyne's Well 1906

56313

Spot coloured detail of (56313 opposite) 56313p

This carefully-posed photograph shows the site of the historic St Keyne's Well, which is situated a little way down a lane from St Keyne village in the East Looe valley of Cornwall. The well is just visible beneath the huge tree, where the man and boy are standing with buckets. Legend tells us that the Celtic princess St Keyne bestowed a special power on this well, to the effect that whichever one of a newly married couple drank its water before the other would be the master of the marriage. The legend was immortalised in a work by the 19th-century poet Robert Southey, in which one unfortunate husband rushed to the well straight after his wedding ceremony to find that he had been out-manoeuvred by his quick-witted wife - she had already drunk from a bottle of well water that she had taken with her to the church!



Cookham, Cookham Moor, Wayfarers 1890

27240x



Castle Combe 1907

57832



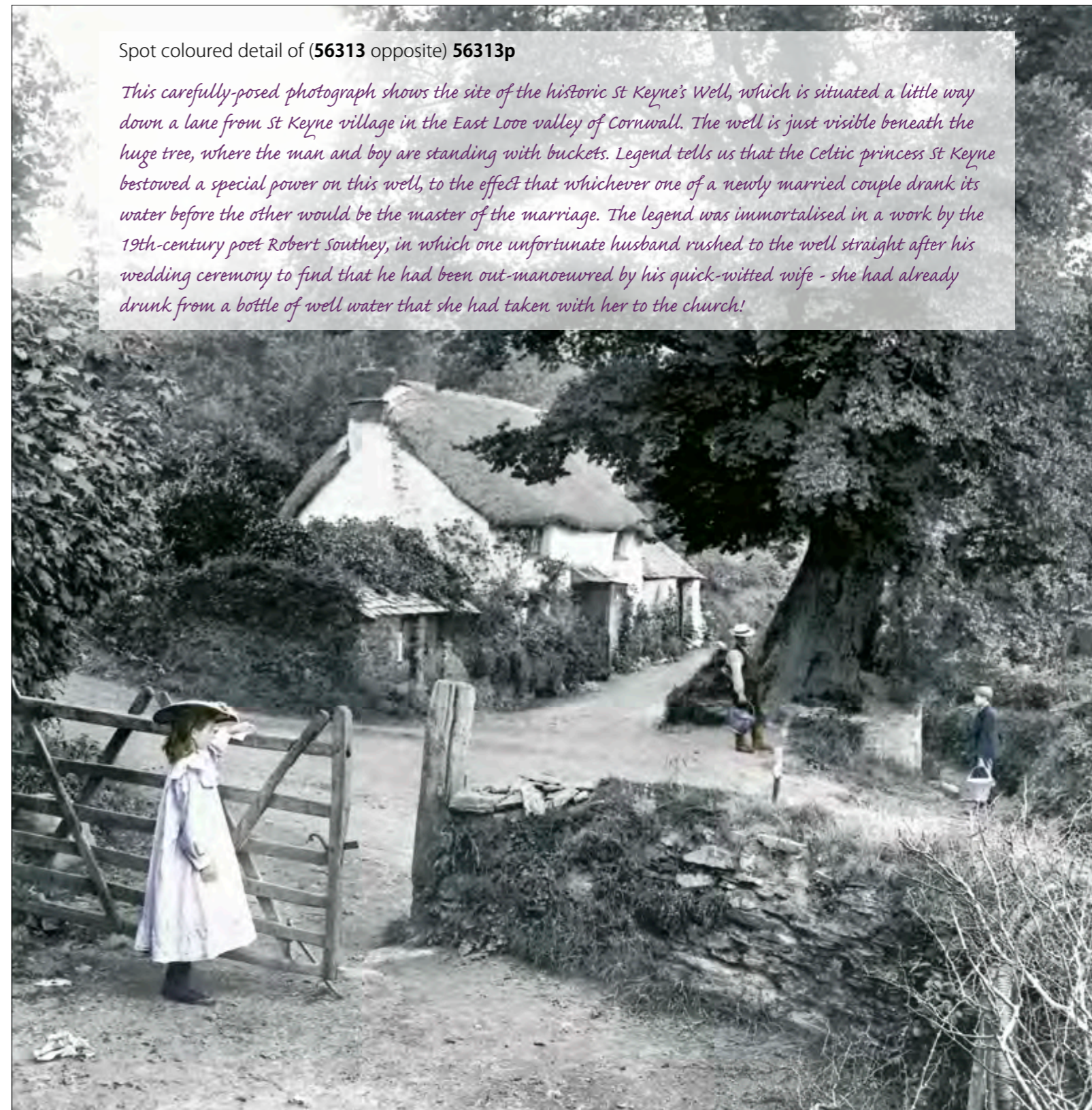
Lynnmouth, Cherry Bridge 1907

59423



Lustleigh, From the East 1920

69626p



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Hand coloured detail of (65231 opposite) 65231p



Merrow, The Forge 1913

65231

In former times the village blacksmith was an important member of the community. Horses were the main form of motive power for both transport and agriculture, and the skill of the blacksmith in keeping horses well shod and farm implements in good repair was vital to the local economy. Few, however, could have boasted such a magnificent structure as this forge at Merrow in Surrey, where the very entrance incorporates a giant horseshoe in its brickwork. By 1927, however, this enterprise had succumbed to the irresistible growth of the motor-car and become a garage. All traces of this picturesque forge have now gone, and its former site is occupied by a modern service station.



Merrow, Petrol Pumps at the Forge 1927

79918x

The Somerset village of Selworthy is part of the Holnicote Estate, which is now in the care of the National Trust. The village is famous for its delightful thatched cottages. In this view, an old woman poses for the cameraman outside her cottage porch whilst another old woman sits below the ancient creeper-clad walnut tree.



Selworthy, The Village 1890

23528



Hindhead, Broom Squire's Cottage 1907

57877ax

Time sequences:

Frith photographers returned to many towns and even some villages many times over 110 years and so we are often able to show the same location photographed years apart – sometimes even on multiple occasions and these can provide a fascinating insight into the changes that have occurred – see example above.



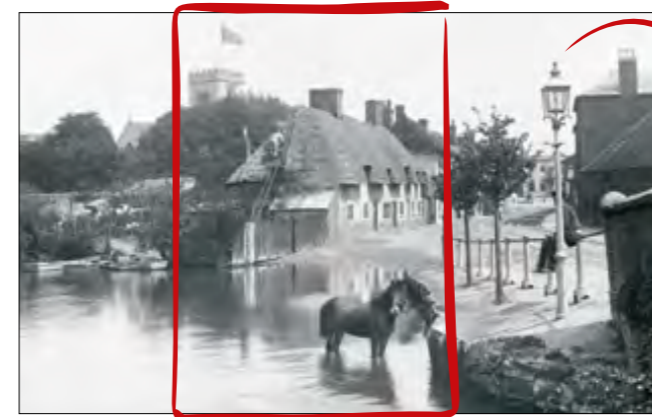
Farnham, Hop Gardens 1904

51618v



Newby Bridge, The Swan Hotel 1914

67414



Ringwood, The Millstream 1900

45027



St Neots, Mill Lane 1897

39986



Maiden Newton, Dorchester Road 1906

54563



Hand coloured detail of (45027) 45027t



Hand coloured detail of (27091) 27091t

Mapledurham is one of Oxfordshire's most picturesque and historic villages. Its former watermill, partly Tudor, is approached down a short leafy lane. The mill, which is now open to visitors, has in recent years been carefully restored to working order using one waterwheel, and regularly produces flour. It is now the only working corn and grist watermill left on the River Thames.

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Mapledurham, The Mill 1890

27091



An Old Farmstead c1900

Z100002



A Cornish Stile c1890

A001161



The Old Footbridge c1890

A001050



The Thatcher c1910

A001006



The Harvest c1900

A001079



Ploughing c1900

A001135



Preparing the Reed for Thatching 1910

A001007



Hop Packing 1957

B128010



Newmarket, Racehorses Exercising c1955

N23033xp



Criccieth, Golf Club 1913

65789



Hindhead, Beacon Hill Bowling Club 1921

71370



Epsom, Derby Day 1928

81597



Oxford, Boating on the Cherwell 1922

72066ax



Caister-on-Sea, The Holiday Camp c1955

C450025p



*The uglier a man's legs are,
the better he plays golf
- it's almost a law.*

H G Wells ('Bealby' 1915)

Spot coloured detail of (65789 opposite) 65789p

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*Horse sense is the thing a horse has
to keep it from betting on people.*

W C Fields

Epsom, Derby Day 1928 - hand coloured 81595t





Hand coloured detail of (S22038v opposite) S22038vt

St Ives encapsulates everything Cornish with its labyrinth of narrow, pitching streets, its broad stretches of golden sand, and its fishing fleet and harbour. St Ives has also long been famous for its artistic community. Renowned artists such as Christopher Wood, Ben Nicholson, Barbara Hepworth, Peter Lanyon and Patrick Heron all lived and worked here, making use of the particularly clear quality of light that this area is famous for, which suits the open-air style of painting. Today the St Ives Tate Gallery, a striking building above Porthmeor Beach, celebrates that artistic tradition.



St Ives, An Artist c1947

S22038v



Marlow, Fishermen c1955

M35039x



Fetcham, Fishing by the River Mole c1955

F168007x



Bolton, Artist and his Wife c1886

18510v



Box Hill on Bank Holiday 1906

55711av



Goyt Valley, Stepping Stones 1914

67587ax

The River Goyt is one of the prettiest rivers in Derbyshire. It rises on the moorland of the Peak District south-west of Buxton, then runs north to join the River Mersey in Cheshire. In this view, two children, perhaps a brother and sister, negotiate the stepping stones across the infant River Goyt downstream from Goyt's Bridge in the peaceful days of 1914, just before the First World War broke out. This scene disappeared under the waters of the Errwood Reservoir when it was constructed in the 1960s, and will never be seen again.



Leintwardine, Children at the Bathing Pool c1955

L214022x



Cookham, A Picnic at Odney Common 1925

77588vp



The Broads, Hunsett Mill on the River Ant at Stalham c1925

T213064



Loch Lubnaig Boatmen 1899

44428x



Thorpe St Andrew, The River Yare 1919

69075



Horning, A Wherry on the Broads 1902

48108



Lostwithiel, The Parade 1906

56425



The Broads, The Evening Ferry c1900

T213073



Llangollen, On the Canal 1913

65830



Durham, The Cathedral from the River 1921 - hand coloured 70712t

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Newdigate, Six Bells 1924 - hand coloured 75521t



Bowness-on-Windermere, The Ferry Boat 1896

38800



Stamford, Horse and Carriage 1922

72316x



Snowdon, Mountain Railway 1896

37764



Torpoint, Ferry c1955

T63005x



Lyme Regis, Victoria Pier 1912

65043



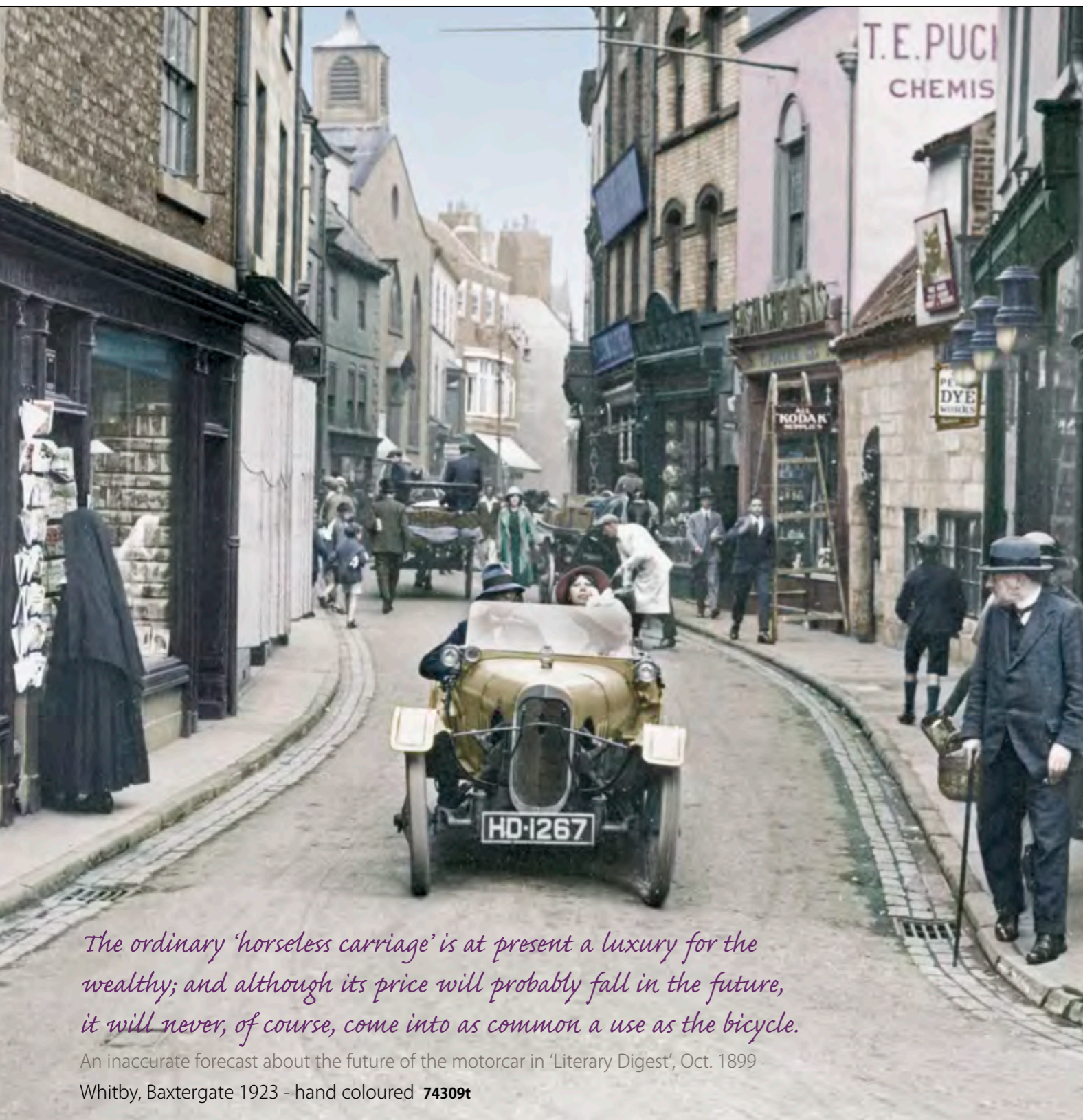
East Cowes, Saunders Roe Seaplane Base c1955

E139005

Enlargement of East Cowes, Saunders Roe Seaplane Base c1955 **E139005**



One of the Isle of Wight's most famous industrial giants of the past was based at East Cowes: Saunders-Roe, an aero- and marine-engineering company which was particularly known for making giant flying boats for commercial passenger use. This photograph was taken in the mid 1950s looking across the River Medina from Cowes, on the west bank, to the main Saunders-Roe yards at East Cowes. The view is framed by the wing of a Short Sunderland flying boat. Saunders-Roe also built other vehicles, such as the SR45 Princess flying boat, lifeboats, as well as Sir Malcolm Campbell's Blue Bird K3, designed by Fred Cooper of Saunders-Roe, in which Campbell broke the water speed record 3 times, twice in 1937 and again in 1938. After a series of company changes and merges over the years, what used to be Saunders-Roe is now part of GKN Aerospace Services, which continues the tradition of aircraft component design and production at East Cowes.



The ordinary 'horseless carriage' is at present a luxury for the wealthy; and although its price will probably fall in the future, it will never, of course, come into as common a use as the bicycle.

An inaccurate forecast about the future of the motorcar in 'Literary Digest', Oct. 1899

Whitby, Baxtergate 1923 - hand coloured 74309t



Portsmouth, Harbour, HMS St Vincent 1890

22758x



Newhaven, The Harbour c1960

N20052x



Clovelly, Post Office, Transfer of mail 1936

87551



Pell Wall Hall, The Garage 1911

63377



Cutty Sark in Falmouth Harbour 1924

76614

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Filey, Primrose Valley c1935

F23099p



Newlyn, An Old Fisherwoman 1906

56530



Tenby, Llangwm Cockle Women 1890

28091

The wringer, or mangle, was invented in the 1800s. Before that, excess water had to be physically wrung out of the laundry, as in this photograph.



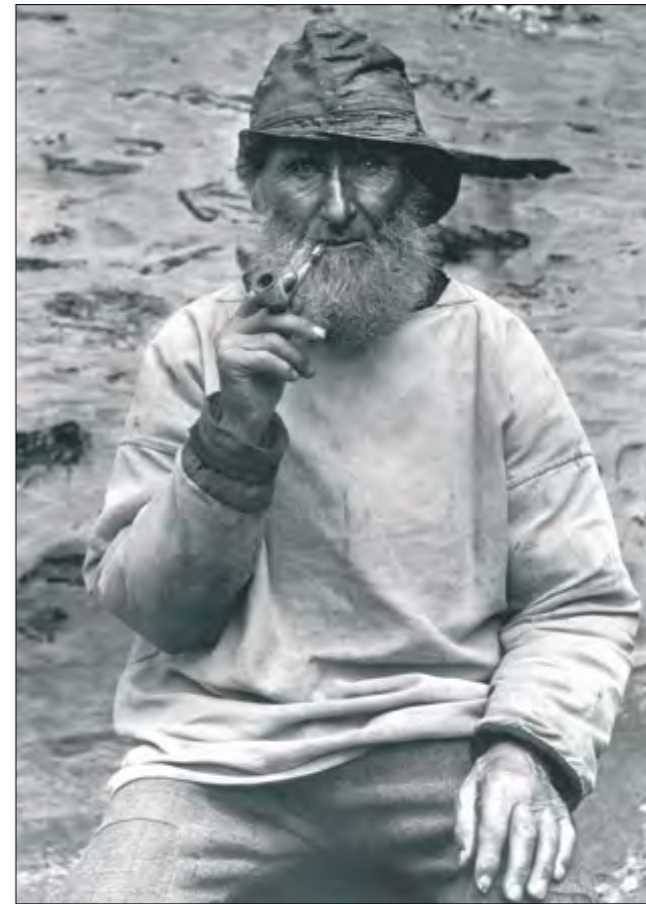
A Lady in Welsh Costume c1930

A001016



Strathpeffer, Highland Girls Wringing the Washing c1890

S421003p



Port Isaac, A Cornish Fisherman 1896

56186



Winchester, The Brethren, St Cross Hospital 1906

55884



A Welsh Tea Party c1900

A001401



York, The Cavalry Barracks, Sword Practice 1886

18716x



Carmarthen, Coracles 1898

41093p



A Welsh Lady Spinning c1863

1973B



Exmouth, A Cockle Woman 1906

53961



St Ives, Lifeboatmen 1906

56543



Plymouth Onion Sellers 1907

59208



Beer, Lace Workers and their Apprentice c1900 47861e



The Snowdonia Harp Choir c1938

B49046



Looe, Fisherman 1906

56416



Hitchin, The Inner Courtyard, The Biggin 1903

49743vp

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Lace Maker 1890

A001125x



Match Sellers c1898

A001158



Cleveland, High Street 1885

18134v



Settle, Castlebergh Wells and Steps 1924

75792p



Darlington, Children in North Lodge Park 1911

63547x



Boscastle, A Village Family 1906

56169x



Paddock Wood, Measuring the Hops c1950

P220010



London, Organ Grinder 1895

L130109



Whitby, 'Gemini' 1891

28862p

This image is shown here with its original title from the Frith archive of 'Gemini' - and information received by The Francis Frith Collection from a family descendant explains why, as the two children perched precariously on a seaweed-covered rock on the beach at Whitby in Yorkshire are twins. However, all is not as it seems! Although they are wearing dresses, they are actually two boys, Matthew and Robert Peart, from a local fisherfolk family that is still well-known in the town. Children in poor families in the past were clothed in whatever was available, and it was not unusual for small boys to wear hand-me-down dresses passed on from older siblings.

This delightful view of two little girls in Edwardian times was taken in 1906 in the Cornish village of Boscastle, where slate-built cottages cling to the side of the beautiful River Valency, an important route inland in the past down which came the slate and grain that were shipped from the harbour. Kay Davy saw this image on the website of The Francis Frith Collection, and posted this information against it on the 'Share Your Memories' facility of the website:

'The little girl on the right of this pair is Nellie Davy, my aunt. She was the eldest child of Harry and Mary Ann Davy (née Ferrett). Nellie and three other siblings were born at Butts in the village, but between 1906 and 1908 the family moved to Providence House (now named St Christopher's) in the High Street where four other children were born. Here Harry ran a grocery business from one of the front rooms and Mary Ann ran the guest house. If there was a great demand for rooms the eight children slept in the barn with a girl from the village looking after them!'



Best of Friends 1906

56169z

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Gardens and Gardening | PHOTOGENIC BRITAIN



Cranleigh, Mowing on the Common 1904

51313x



Saffron Walden, Bridge End Gardens, Fry's Garden 1907

58821



Midhurst, King Edward's Sanatorium 1907

58337



Turving, Shapwick, Somerset 1904

52061

The remarkable holly hedge of Pennyhill Park in Surrey grew in places up to 40 feet high. This is now a lost view – the hedge was cut down around 2000.



Bagshot, Pennyhill Park 1906

57177



Exmouth, Esplanade Gardens 1906

53949b

Sepia detail of **58821** (opposite)

Bridge End Gardens at Saffron Walden in Essex were initiated by Francis Gibson, a member of a well-known Quaker family. The grounds included a rose garden, vegetable and fruit gardens, and a maze of yew hedges in Fry's Garden. The latter (pictured here) was not open to the public, but the key could be obtained from Mr Swan - the man seen here in the bowler hat.



Cropping:

The quality of Frith photographs generally allows small areas of detail to be cropped out of an image – effectively creating new subject matter and a different style of image.



Hand coloured detail of (S160056 opposite) S160056t



Southport, Children's Zoo c1955

S160056



Ross-on-Wye, The Market in Broad Street c1955

R57093

One of the resort's more enduring pleasures, the children's section of Southport Zoo truly gave happiness to many hundreds of thousands of small visitors over the years, where they could get up close to all manner of small, and usually friendly, animals. The site was closed in 2004 under the pressures of changing regulations and the activities of animal rights activists - but these children in the 1950s were simply having a wonderful time.



Mablethorpe, Donkey Rides c1955

M1053p

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Spot coloured detail of (H135117 opposite) H135117p



Folkestone, Cockles and Whelks Stall c1965

F35154p

In the 1960s, Folkestone was crowded with day trippers who came to the seaside town for sun and seafood.

Tommy Steele, in 'Half a Sixpence', sung how:

Folkestone's the place where its gotta be fine, 'cus that's where I'm meeting my girl'

... and it usually was: the town frequently topped the 'sunshine league' in the summer.



Hunstanton, The Fun Fair c1955

H135117



Newhaven, A Summer Outing c1965

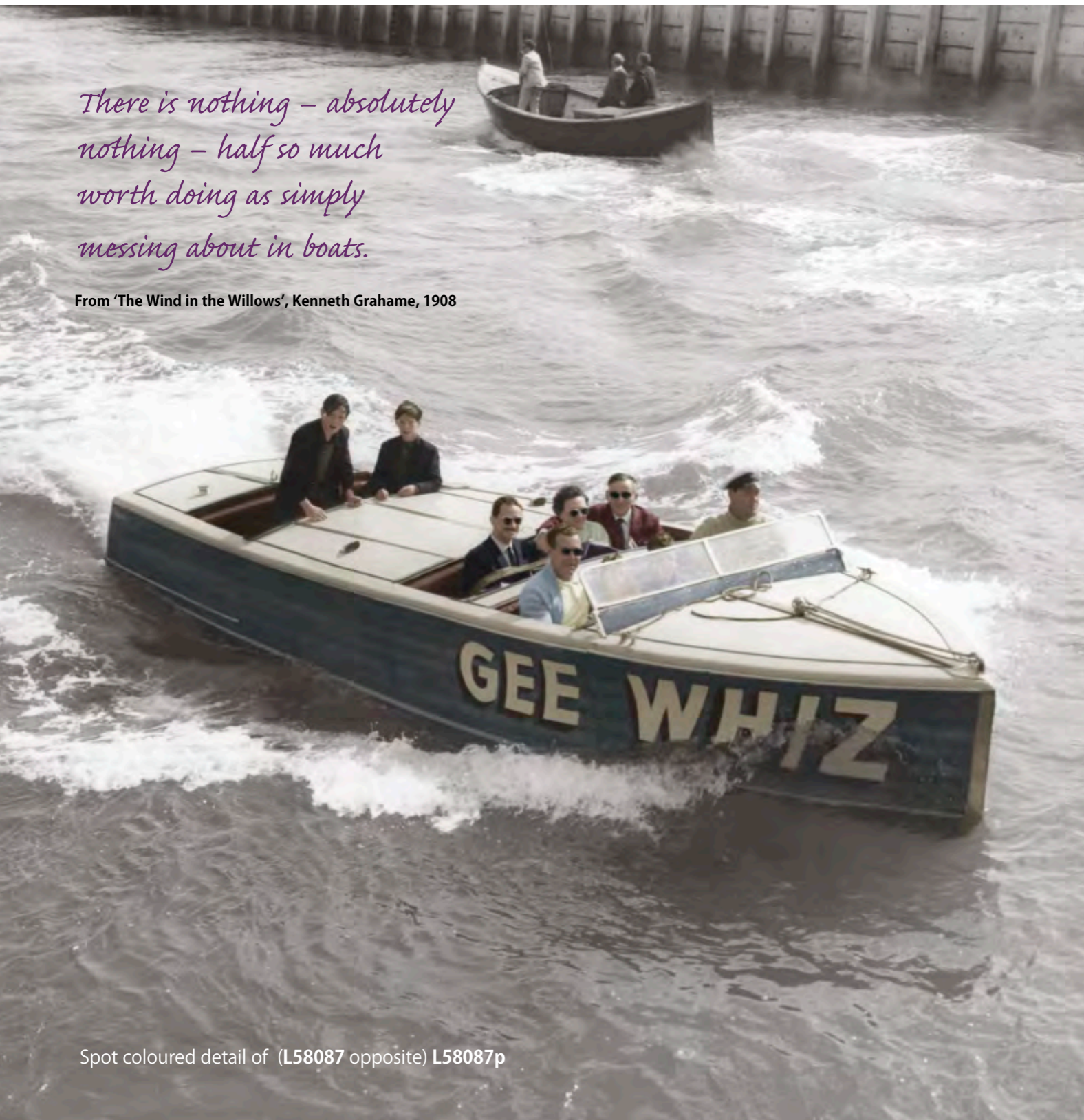
N20071x

1950s and 1960s:

The Collection contains approximately 200,000 images from this era which prove a fascinating reminder of how much has changed, even in the last 50 years, and are very evocative for the baby boomer generation!

There is nothing – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.

From 'The Wind in the Willows', Kenneth Grahame, 1908



Spot coloured detail of (L58087 opposite) L58087p



"Gee Whiz" c1960

L58087



Roper's Shop, Cambridge Street c1965

S37060



Family at the Telescope c1955

C192038x



The "Camp Special" arrives c1955

C450004



New Forest Ponies c1960

B43063x



Flower Picking on the Isles of Scilly c1955

S859002



Infantry at Mess 1894

34942



The Shrimpers 1894

34933t



Dreamy Days 1894

34902xt



Hampered for Room c1900

A001010

These nostalgic images are part of a series illustrating nursery rhymes produced by the Frith company to appeal to the sentimental Victorian public.



Mine's Best 1894

34939

Immensely popular in Victorian and Edwardian times, these vintage images are still in great demand today to illustrate nostalgic greetings cards, gifts and prints.



Family Cares 1894

34912



Tired Chums 1895

37103t



Kiss and be Friends 1895

37101



Ambleside, Crossing the Stepping Stones 1888

20484x



Salcombe, The Ferry Step c1935

544113



Scarborough, Taking the Air 1890

23452x



Shanklin, East Cliff Promenade 1913

66203x



Dunster, Horse and Trap c1880

15837x



Three Bridges, Contemplation 1906

55387x



Lewes, A Delivery Cart 1890

22743x



Chertsey, The Lock Keeper 1904

51717x



Wimborne, A Busy Day in East Brook 1908

60622x



Rickmansworth, Girls in the High Street 1921

70500z



Poole, Men outside the Town Cellars 1887

19511x



Redhill, Horse Drawn Traffic in Brighton Road 1906

55042x



Torquay, Fishermen 1888

21445x



A Country Walk 1912

65063a



Lazy Days 1904

51619a



A Devonshire Cottage and Children 1909

61310x



A Hampshire Cottage 1917

68041x



Carefree Days 1912

64745x

Watchet, The Newsagent 1961

W35072x

Cropping:

The quality of Frith photographs generally allows small areas of detail to be cropped out of an image – effectively creating new subject matter and a different style of image.



The Fishing Trip 1897

39642a



Hastings, White Rock Gardens Bandstand 1925

77986



Twice a Child c1890

A001051x



Great Yarmouth, Boys in Regent Road 1896

37959x



Deepcut Camp, Gunners at Work 1906

55053

*'Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside,
I do like to be beside the sea...
I do like to stroll along the prom, prom, prom,
Where the brass band plays, tiddly om, pom, pom...'*

Hand coloured detail of (77986 opposite) 77986t





Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

A001029

*It was the nation and the race
dwelling all round the globe that
had the lion's heart.
I had the luck to be called upon
to give the roar.*

Sir Winston Churchill was a historian, writer and an artist, but most importantly a politician. His inspirational leadership of the country as its Prime Minister through the dark days of the Second World War has earned him the reputation as one of the greatest statesmen in British history.



David Lloyd George (1863-1945) 1931

C105301x



Queen Victoria at her Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 1897 L130158



Queen Victoria Jubilee Day, Westminster Bridge 1897

L130219



Queen Victoria c1890

F6505



The Duchess of York followed by her mother 1930

R999035



King Edward VII at Wellington College 1909

W46301



King Edward VII 1903

R999001



Detail of 47503 (opposite) in soft sepia



Highland Cattle 1901

47503



London, Zoological Gardens, The Elephant 1913

65249



Feeding the Animals 1929

82394



The Donkey Cart 1909

61661x



Conwy, Military Goat 1908

60747



Loading Hops for the Oast Houses 1950

P220018

BUYING FRITH PHOTOGRAPHS:

Frith photographs can be divided into three broad categories by type which are:

LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

Virtually every photograph in the Collection is associated with a specific location and most depict the built environment, or landscapes. When used in public spaces these provide great conversation pieces and help reinforce connections with the local community.

Use the Frith website to search for photographs of the towns or villages that interest you and then select the images with most relevance to your site, or its community. Currently you can browse 128,000 photographs by location, but during 2014 this number will increase to over 300,000 as we scan the rest of the Collection.

Order online, or make a note of the unique "Ref" numbers that appear under each image and email this to us with the town name and details of your requirements.

Or simply call us for assistance. We are happy to select images for you, or to help you.

GENERIC PHOTOGRAPHS:

These are Frith images that have been selected as having a broader appeal than just the location in which they were taken. They depict aspects of British life, customs and traditions that many people can associate with and as such are suitable for use in many locations, or to provide an element of décor that focuses on something other than the location.

This catalogue contains a selection of generic images and an indication of the way in which more may be created by cropping parts from a whole image.

Please ask us for help if you are looking for more images depicting a particular theme or activity.

1950s & 60s:

Photographs from this era are proving increasingly popular as the baby boomer generation reaches an age where nostalgia for the Britain of their youth is a strong emotion. Fortunately, the Collection contains approximately 200,000 images from this era which provide many fascinating reminders of just how much has changed, even in the last 50 years!

To find photographs from this era, use the Search function on the Frith website and on the Thumbnail page select "Sort by: Newest to Oldest". Or ask for our assistance.

SPECIAL IMAGE SERVICES:

In addition to providing assistance in selecting images we can provide any of the following services:

CROPPING:

The quality of Frith photographs generally allows small areas of detail to be cropped out of an image – effectively creating new subject matter and a different style of image. Please ask for details or to check particular images.

HAND COLOURED IMAGES:

Frith images were taken in Black & White as this provided the best archival quality but, we do offer a hand colouring service in the Victorian style. Today the work is done digitally but still involves a great deal of artistic skill – see examples on previous pages. Please ask for details.

SPOT COLOURED IMAGES:

An alternative, and less expensive option than our hand colouring service is Spot Colouring where one, or a few details in a Black & White photograph are coloured to add impact or to emphasise a particular feature – see examples on previous pages. Please ask for details.

TIME SEQUENCES:

Frith photographers returned to many towns and even some villages many times over 110 years and so we are often able to show the same location photographed years apart – sometimes even on multiple occasions and these can provide a fascinating insight into the changes that have occurred in a particular street or town.

TEXT AVAILABLE:

Our database includes over 10 million words written by professional authors describing the locations and history depicted by Frith photographs, and another 3 million words of personal memories inspired by the Frith photographs and added to the Frith website by visitors. Selected extracts from these are available for use in conjunction with Frith photographs – see examples in this catalogue. Please ask for details.

For further information or assistance, contact:

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THE FRANCIS FRITH COLLECTION®

Photogenic Britain

A stunning selection of images from the world's leading publisher of historical photographs

VOLUME 1



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