



Ashland Mysteries is the result of artists Denna Jones and Stuart Mugridge's site visits and interactions with the Ashland and Simpson community during September – December 2010. Their work has unearthed the history and sometimes mystery of the area, alongside the community's aspirations for and views about Ashland. Designs for flags and banners have been produced – these are a visual record of some of Stuart and Denna's findings.

Stuart and Denna's ideas will also inform the development of a lasting legacy and artwork for the area. Denna and Stuart have made a number of suggestions of what type of work this could be. These will be explored over the coming months. If you would like to get involved with deciding what the lasting legacy is, please let us know through <http://www.simpson-parish.co.uk>

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Mr. Howden was a breeder of Rhode Island Red and Light Sussex chickens and owned or rented land on three sides of Robert Beckett's land. Mr. Howden was concerned about the impact of greyhound race days on his stock.

His letter of objection dated September 11th 1962 is interesting as he signs off with the following: 'I cannot say that I am in favour of such a track in the middle of this purely agricultural district'.



The street names of Ashland sound like a random collection of English hamlets, defunct communication satellites, misspelt symphonic works and 1970s rock bands, but the names are inspired by English vineyards.

Forty years ago the Development Corporation selected these names for a development in this grid square. Some of the vineyards still produce wines and others seem to have fallen by the way.

Grove way most likely dates from around the medieval period and is likely to mean the way to the grove or wood. The wood in question - Pilgrove or Simpson Wood - was in the area that Beanhill occupies today. This wood was probably part of Simpson manor in the 17th century as it was listed in the will of John Hatch whose family were linked to the manor for most of that century.

