

All Roads Lines lead to Taversal



Taversal Manor Station

There are two stations at Taversal. Jacob worked at Taversal Manor which was part of the Midland Railway Network. According to Jacob's granddaughter, Doreen Bilton, Jacob met his wife Annie Wycherley at the station.

Annie's mother, Ann Round, came from a Shropshire coalmining community centred on the villages of Wellington, Lawley Common, Horsehay and Dawley. During the late 1800s many members of this community, including Ann's extended family, travelled north to the new coal mines of Nottinghamshire. They settled in Taversall, Stanton Hill and Skegby.

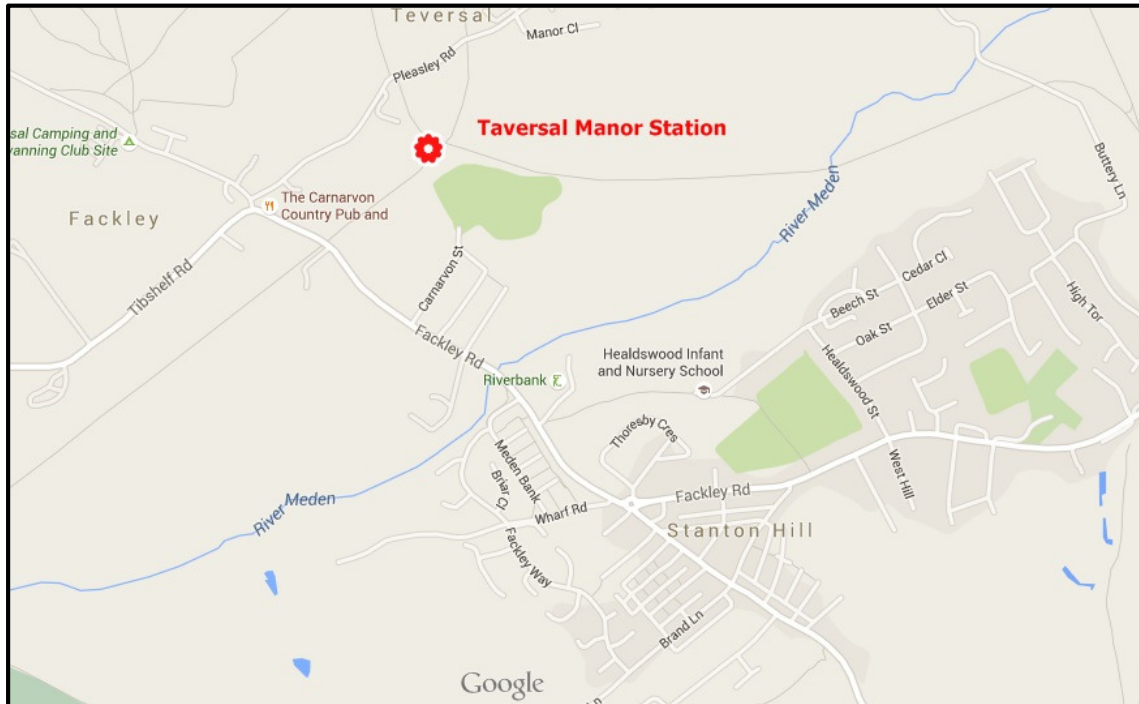
Ann Round married her second husband, John Baugh in 1885 and moved, with her daughter Annie Wycherley, to Stanton Hill which is approximately one mile from Taversal Station. Annie worked as a nanny to a local family. Her employment required trips to the Taversall station.

Jacob worked at the station in Taversall in 1887 but by 1888 he had been posted to a station in Horton-in-Ribblesdale. However, for a brief moment in time, Jacob who had travelled 30 miles south from Bradwell and Annie who had travelled 90 miles north from Shrewsbury, found themselves in the same place. Obviously Jacob's new posting did not deter him and in January 1889 he returned to marry Annie. By March 1889 he was back in Horton-in-Ribblesdale, presumably with his new wife, Annie.

They are recorded as being married at Skegby By Mansfield. The parish has three churches:

St Andrews, Skegby;
All Saints, Stanton on the Hill, and
St Katherine's, Taversal

All Saints was not built until 1899. Given that Ann Round and Annie Wycherley lived in Stanton, it is most likely that the marriage took place at St Andrews. This is supported by the fact we found Round and Baugh family graves in St Andrews Churchyard.



Map of Stanton Hill and Taversal

Mining has now ceased in the area. However, the Taversal Visitor's Centre does provide a valuable insight into the area's coalmining history. The Centre is a "Coal Garden", incorporating a variety of artifacts from the local colliery, including Pit Wheels. It is located at intersection of walking routes or trails which follow the old railway lines that served the local pits. There are several former collieries in the area including, Taversal, Silverhill and Brierley. The former station at Taversal is accessible from here.

Ann Round lived at 112 Stanton Hill. The dwelling no longer exists. While I was at the Visitors Centre I asked about Stanton Hill. The local view was that most people in Stanton Hill worked in the Brierley Colliery.

Courtesy of Wikipedia: *Stanton Hill was first mentioned in the census in 1871, and then only as a street within Skegby. It probably took its name from the Stanton Ironworks Company, which started sinking the Taversal (Butcher Wood) Colliery in 1867, and later the Silverhill Colliery in 1878. Many of the workers for these new collieries moved from other coalmining areas including Shropshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, and Leicestershire.*

Skegby Colliery was replaced by New Skegby Colliery (later renamed Sutton Colliery) in 1873. It was also known as Brierley Colliery, possibly renamed by the many Staffordshire colliers moving from the Brierley Hill area. This was later taken over by the Blackwell Colliery Company.

The huge increase in population of Skegby - from 1805 in 1869 to over 3,000 in 1884 - meant that new housing was required in the immediate area. One hundred and thirty-two houses were initially built on Cooperative Street, Institute Street and Cross Row by the Stanton Ironworks Company, beginning in 1877. However, these street names only developed later, because in 1881 they were all recorded as Stanton Hill. By 1881 Stanton Hill was described as a hamlet within the parish of Skegby.

Two years after the sinking of Silverhill Colliery the Stanton Ironworks Company acquired more land at Meden Bank, on which were built a further one hundred and twenty cottages and allotments for the workforce.

The Blackwell Colliery Company also contributed to the housing in the Stanton Hill area, building the terraces of houses named Longden, Bainbridge, Marshall, Gardiner, Cochrane and Scott's. These streets were named after some of the Directors of the Blackwell Company at the time of construction.

Annie Round's parents, William Round (born 1807) and Rebecca Wedge (born 1815), had preceded Annie and were already living in Stanton Hill by 1871. They lived at 52 Stanton Hill. William and his son Thomas were both coal miners.



52 Stanton Hill in 2015, the home of Thomas Round and Rebecca Wedge in the late 1800s



Taversal Visitors Centre



The platform at Taversal Manor



Photograph from Taversal Visitors Centre