

[Interleaved between pp. 44 and 45]

1794 An Estate at Drayton belonging to the Revd Mr Humfries³⁰

	£	s	d
The condition the land is now in for a farmer to rent is not worth more than 20s. per acre, but being near Daventry probable it may be let for 24s per ditto, and if 51 acres, at the last price, will bring	61	4	0
But suppose the largest close was divided into four, and the other two were drained (expencc of which will be about £66) it's likely the land would let to different tenants (such as inn holders or trader people) for the prices at under (viz.) 20 acres at 35s	35	0	0
And suppose 20 acres at 31s	31	0	0
The remaining 11 acres at 20s	15	8	0
brings a yearly rent of	£81	8	0

For laying out the above sum brings an income of twenty pound a year and being in small lots will be much better managed

[MEMORANDA OF THE REV SAMUEL SMITH, CURATE 1795 TO 1833]

[p. 1] This book was given into my hands in the mutilated state in which it now is, and I have reason to believe that it was so mutilated by Mr Akehurst

[Signed] Samuel Smith

[leaved between pp. 44 and 45]

[A letter to the Rev Mr Smith]

Searazens Head Inn Daventry
August 17 1795

Dear Sir,

Being employed by the Company of Proprietors of the Grand Junction Canal to value and agree for the purchase of such lands as they want for the said Canal, its towing paths etc. etc., I hereby inform you that a plan of an intended reservoir in the parish of Daventry was put into my hands yesterday evening in which said plan I perceive there is about an acre of your land which is intended to be purchased by the said Company, and as I am going to view the said reservoir this morning should be obliged if you can make it convenient to appoint some person to attend me on your behalf to settle the price of the same.

I am, Revd Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
William Collisson.

Am going to look over some damage in Daventry Field this morning after which I shall look over the said reservoir, the principal part of which belongs to Mr Richard Stanton of this town and the Revd Mr Rose, and I understand Mr Penn of Norton is to meet me on their behalf.

³⁰ In the hand of Samuel Smith, who succeeded Humfrees in 1795.

[p. 37]

1796

On the third day of December this year the Company of Proprietors of the Grand Junction Canal paid me the sum of £87 1s 3d as the price of 1a Or 39p of land taken from the estate in the Hamlet of Drayton belonging to the curate of this parish, for the purpose of making (with other lands) a reservoir for the use of their canal.

Samuel Smith, curate of Daventry.

Of this was paid to Mr Penn for his valuation of the land £1 1s.

1800

The land tax charged on the house and premises belonging to the curate of this parish, and the estate at Drayton was redeemed and the said premises and estate and all the profits of the curacy were exonerated from the land tax charged thereon, from the 25th of December 1799. The sum paid upon this account was £70 5s to be deducted from the above £87 1s 3d.

[p. 51]

[Memorandum about a monument in the church]

Mrs Clay returns compliments to Mr Smith, and she wishes the monument to be placed in that part of the church which Coxe³¹ who made it thinks best calculated for it. The inscription Mrs C supposes Mr S can have no objection, as 'tis only a plain one, but if Mr S will take the trouble to call on Coxe he may see the monument as it is there finished.

Any fee Mr S requires, Mrs C will not scruple to pay

Daventry January 5th 1803

The fee was five guineas, with four of which I bought the Communion table book. S. S.

[p. 38]

1818

On the first of January this year the plot of ground in Drayton belonging to this curacy containing 49a. 2r. 16p. or thereabouts was lett to Mr William Wilkins for the term of twelve years at a rent of £84 per annum if I so long continue curate of Daventry. And I hereby recommend to my successor if I should cease to be curate within that time to continue Mr Wilkins tenant on the above terms which I believe to be fair and equitable, he having been at considerable expense in improving the land by banking and draining it

[Signed] Samuel Smith, Curate of Daventry

³¹ Samuel Cox the younger of Northampton and Daventry, 1767-1851, one of a dynasty of Northampton stone masons: R. Gunnis, *Dictionary of British Sculptors 1660-1851*, rev. edn (1968), p. 115.