



# Kellys Directory Extract 1907

## Alton Priors



**Alton Priors**, is a small village and chapelry, in the parish of Overton, Southern division of the county, hundred of Elstub and Everleigh, Everleigh, Pewsey union, Marlborough county court district, diocese of Salisbury, archdeaconry of Wilts and rural deanery of Avebury, situated near the Kennet and Avon canal, 7 miles east from Devizes, 8 south-west from Marlborough, and 4 north-west from Pewsey. The church is an old stone building, with square tower and 1 bell. The register dates from 1664. The living is a vicarage, annexed to those of Overton and Fyfield, joint annual value £310, in the gift of the Duke of Marlborough, and held by the Rev. William J. B. Angell, of Queen's College, Oxford. Head Pottinger Best, Esq. (who is the lord of the manor), and James George Simpkins, Esq., are chief landowners. The soil is clay; subsoil, chalk. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The area is 2,630 acres, and the population in 1861 was 207.

WEST STOWELL is a tithing. On the downs, to the north, are barrows: on the side of one of the downs has been formed a singular figure of a white horse, which, from its immense proportions, is a conspicuous object for many miles; it is more than a stone's throw from head to tail; when close to the object no resemblance to the animal can be traced, but at a distance from it the shape becomes perfect.

Parish Clerk - Thomas Bailey.

Letters received from Marlborough, via Pewsey. Pewsey is the nearest money order office.

### Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bailey	Thomas		Parish Clerk	
Simpkins	James George	Esq.		
Tanner	John	Esq.		Stowell House

### Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Newman	William		Farmer	West Stowell
Simpkins	James George		Farmer	
Tasker	Thomas		Grocer	