

Up to the beginning of the nineteenth century the township was entirely agricultural, was traversed only by footpaths and was almost destitute of roads. Jesmond Dene Road, which leads from the Great North Road through the north end of the township, ended at Moor Crook—or rather near that point it turned northward up Haddrick's Mill Lane. Sandyford Lane, which skirted the south of the township, was continued westward of Sandyford bridge by Benton Lane to the Benton bridge, and there was a short road from near the Benton bridge to Jesmond village which was situated around and to the eastward of the site of Jesmond Manor House. When this road was extended at the beginning of the nineteenth century round the course of the dene of the Ouseburn, to join the road from the moor at its junction with Haddrick's Mill Lane, it made a loop or double turn to cross over the bridge at the entrance gate of Jesmond Grove, passed close under the ruins of St. Mary's Chapel and entered the straight again near the Banqueting Hall in Jesmond Dene. Provisions for the straightening of this road by

<sup>5</sup> *Archaeologia Aeliana*, N.S., vol. xxiv. pp. xvii. and xviii.

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cutting across the loop were contained in the Newcastle Improvement Acts of 1865 and 1871, and the alteration was made shortly after the latter act was passed. Jesmond Road, which was at first called Cemetery Road, was planned by Mr. John Dobson and was formed by the Corporation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in or about the year 1840. In its course from the Great North Road to its junction with Benton Lane, it passed mainly through lands of the Mary Magdalene Hospital, which were under the control of the Corporation, but also through lands which belonged to the Corporation and land of Mr. James Archbold; and an exchange was made between the Corporation and Mr. Archbold to enable the scheme to be carried out. Osborne Road from Jesmond Road to Clayton Road was made by Mr. Pears-Archbold between 1860 and 1870, and its continuation from Clayton Road to Jesmond Dene Road was made by the late Mr. Richard Burdon Sanderson and his successor, the present Mr. Richard Burdon Sanderson, between the years 1870 and 1880.

Traces still remain of the footpaths which crossed the township. One footpath, known in its later days as the 'Church Walk,' entered Jesmond at Barras Bridge and, proceeding in a north-easterly direction, was joined at the back of the present Jesmond Church by another footpath from the Great North Road (being the footpath from Brandling Park to Eskdale Terrace, which was closed by the Newcastle Corporation in December, 1902), and then proceeded on the line of Fernwood Road and Manor House Road past the west end of Jesmond Gardens—formerly known as Jesmond Place—to Jesmond village. After the road through Jesmond Gardens was made in 1805, the footpath was closed to the northward of that place and was diverted westward through Jesmond Gardens into Jesmond Dene Road. Another footpath led from Sandyford Bridge, in the line of Hutton Terrace and the Portland Bowling Green, to Church Walk. Another footpath, known as the 'Lovers' Walk,' entered the township in the line of Burdon Terrace, and, turning up Tankerville Terrace across the

site of the present Presbyterian Church, was continued along the line of St. George's Terrace and through the grounds of Jesmond Towers to the Jesmond Dene Road. The part of this footpath which extends from Osborne Road to Jesmond Dene Road still exists. There were two branches from this footpath. One led westward to the North Road, on the line of the present Forsyth Road, and the other eastward to Jesmond village, approximately on the line of Acorn Road and through the garden of Eldon House and Mr. Alderson's tennis ground. Eastward of Osborne Road it was diverted, by order of the City Council, to the line of the lane which now leads from that road past the back of Jesmond Cottage to Jesmond village. A fifth footpath, which has recently been closed, led up Jesmond Vale and across the Benton Lane, through the lands to the north of that road, to Stote's House on the Jesmond Dene Road. Besides these footpaths there was an occupation road from Jesmond Towers to the neighbourhood of Burdon Place, and a branch of it turned off by Burdon Place on the line of Haldane Terrace and Clayton Road to the Great North Road.