

RECORDS OF C F SNOW

Accession no : DX318

Introduction

Cecil F Snow (1903-1984) was a schoolmaster and amateur photographer, who took most of his photos in Southern England during the Second World War. His images of rural crafts and craftsmen illustrate many of his wife Mary's articles in *Country Life* and other publications. Snow's last significant contribution to rural life photography was a commission by Katherine Woods to provide photographs for her detailed survey, *Rural Crafts of England* (1949).

The collection was built up by the Rural History Centre over a number of years through selective printing of negatives loaned by Mr Snow. The full set of original negatives was then deposited in 1976, and copyright in them passed to the Rural History Centre on Snow's death in 1984. All Snow negatives formerly filed in the 60/ series are now in H1-45.

Record Types

A	Biographical and personal information
E	Published work
H1-45	Photographs: negatives
H46-74	Photographs: prints
H75-169	Photographs: transparencies

A BIOGRAPHICAL AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

E PUBLISHED WORK

E1 PHOTOCOPY of three of Snow's scrapbooks, with manuscript index [241 pages]

H PHOTOGRAPHS

H1-45	NEGATIVES (60mm film)
1	Nets [7 items] (60/12547-12553)
2	Blacksmith/ironworks, Pangbourne [13 items] (60/12554-12566)
3	Archery [24 items] (60/12567-12590)
4	Blacksmith welding, Reading [9 items] (60/12591-12599)
5	Archery: bowmaking (60/12600)
6	Blacksmith welding, Reading [5 items] (60/12601-12605)
7	Well-boring tool [12 items] (60/12606-12617)
8	Binder-twine [24 items] (60/12618-12641)
9	Violin-making [31 items] (60/12642-12671)
10	Tanning with oak bark [29 items] (60/12672-12700)
H11	Bell founding [34 items] (60/12701-12734)
12	Hurdles and spurs [7 items] (60/12735-12741)
13	Bowl turning [21 items] (60/12742-12762)
14	Brickmaking [36 items] (60/12763-12798)

- 15 Telegraph poles [22 items] (60/12799-12820)
- 16 Setting and using a scythe [13 items]
(60/12821-12833)
- 17 Mill: Islip [17 items] (60/12834-12849)
- 18 Saddler [15 items] (60/12850-12864)
- 19 Walking sticks [17 items] (60/12865-12881)
- 20 Tree felling and sawmill, Aldermaston [30 items]
(60/12882-12912)
- 21 Pit props [2 items] (60/12913-12914)
- 22 Cutting hay from ricks [3 items]
(60/12915-12917)
- 23 Hay press [2 items] (60/12918-12919)
- 24 Wheelwright [14 items] (60/12920-12933)
- 25 Blacksmith (60/12934)
- 26 Charcoal [4 items] (60/12935-12938)
- 27 Cricket bats [14 items] (60/12939-12952)
- 28 Trugs [4 items] (60/12953-12956)
- 29 Sheep cages [12 items] (60/12957-12968)
- 30 Gate making [4 items] (60/12969-12972)
- 31 Tree felling and sawmill, Aldermaston
(60/12973)
- 32 Gate making [9 items] (60/12974-12982)
- 33 Tree felling and sawmill, Aldermaston [4 items]
(60/12983-12986)
- 34 Baskets [11 items] (60/12987-12997)
- 35 Wattle hurdles [18 items] (60/12998-13015)
- 36 Tent pegs [4 items] (60/13016-13019)
- 37 Walking sticks [3 items] (60/13020-13022)
- 38 Gate hurdles [8 items] (60/13023-13030)
- 39 Laying a hedge (60/13031)
- 40 Gate hurdles [6 items] (60/13032-13037)
- 41 Chairs [60 items] (60/13038-13097)
- 42 Rakes [15 items] (60/13098-13112)
- 43 Scythe handles [8 items] (60/13113-13120)
- 44 Osiers [42 items] (60/13121-13162)
- 45 Birch brooms/besoms [31 items] (60/13163-13193)

H46-74 PRINTS

- H46 Brick making including clay handling and processing,
making hand-made and wire-cut bricks, moving the latter
on special barrows, drying in the hacks, and firing, in Reading
[36 items] (**see also H14**)
- H47 Pipe boring
 - /1 long handled auger mounted on tressles
 - /2 close-up of the handle end
 - /3 close-up of the spoon auger
 - /4 range of augers
 - /5 [pump ?]

- /6 barking irons
/7 open pitsaw and framed pitsaw
- H48 Bow making process and finished bows in use [10 items]
- H49 Archery target making [5 items]
- H50 Arrow making: shaving the shafts, tipping and flighting the
 arrows with feathers [7 items]
- H51 The making of lignum vitae woods for the game of bowls,
 Taylor Rolph Ltd (**see also H13**)
- /1 using a circular saw to cut lengths from a baulk of timber
 /2 octagonal sections, stacked
 /3-5 turning the ball on the lathe
 /6 varnishing the balls
 /7 turning the discs
 /8-9 inserting the disc into the side of the ball¹
 /10 cutting the repeat pattern round a disc
 /11-12 polishing the wood on a buffing wheel
 /13 spraying the wood with its finishing coat
 /14 drying sprayed wood on stands [missing]
 /15-17 testing the accuracy of woods on a special machine
- 52 Basket making: soaking, weaving several types of basket,
 finished baskets [10 items] (**see also: H34**)
- 53 Alec Appleton² of Baughurst, Hants, making besoms c1943
- /1-3 trimming, tying and stacking hazel rods [1 missing]
 /4 gathering up the twigs for the broom
 /5 binding the broom head with cane [missing]
 /6 forcing the handle into the head
 /7 boring the hole for the peg which holds the head to the handle
 /8 stacking finished brooms
 /9 a dozen brooms ready for market³
- 54 Alec Appleton of Baughurst, Hants, making besoms c1941
- /1 pulling off brushwood
 /2-3 bunching the birch twigs (longest ones placed in middle of broomhead)
 /4 binding the head with cane (two bonds are used)
 /5 fixing the head on to the handle
- 55 Violin maker E H Varney of High Wycombe and finished

¹ Each ball has two, one each side and one smaller than the other. The small disc indicates the bias side of the wood. The number of the wood is sometimes marked on the smaller disc and the initials of the owner on the larger one.

² In 1959 he was still making besoms occasionally although he was nearly ninety years of age. See *The Field* (23 January 1943) p90.

³ The brooms sold at seven shillings a dozen when the photographs were taken. three shillings of this went to the broom maker and the remaining four shillings covered the cost of the wood.

- violin being played [19 items]
- 56 Walking stick makers Messrs Linlott and Sons,
Chiddingfold, Surrey [22 items]
- 57 Chair bodging, Samuel Rockall of Summers Heath nr c1943
Henley, Oxon [9 items]
- 58 Chair bodging, Edward Goodchild (1885-1950) of Knapp c1942
Hill Common, High Wycombe, maker of Windsor chairs
[18 items]
- 59 Framing a field gate [10 items]
- 60 Gate hurdle making, Alec Appleton of Baughurst, Hants c1941
[13 items]
- 61 Handlemaking, Ernest Sims, Pamber End, Tadley, Hants c1942
[5 items]
- 62 Rakemaking, Ernest Sims, Pamber End, Tadley, Hants c1941
[7 items]
- 63 Tent peg making in the Chilterns [6 items] c1941
- 64 Trugmaking, Thomas Smith and Sons, Herstmonceux,
Sussex [11 items]
- 65 Wheelwrighting, Mr Bowyer, Warfield, Berks [13 items] c1945
- 66 Two pages from a wheelwrights account book for 1751,
1748 and 1750 including charges for repairing cart and
carriage wheels, making ploughs and a harrow, making
sheep cribs
- 67 Wattle hurdle making [12 items]
- 68 Stages in the weaving of a wattle hurdle [6 items]
- 69 Felled pines and stacks of pit props cut to correct length
[4 items]
- 70 Telegraph poles being made [12 items]
- 71 Trees being felled at Aldermaston, Berks [23 items] c1940
- 72 Scythe setting [12 items]
- 73 Stripping of bark [11 items]

H75-169	TRANSPARENCIES (lantern slides)
75	Carrying coppice wood
76	Gathered bundles of osier standing in water
77	Tying bundles of osier
78	Cutting coppice wood from its roots
79	The osier harvest
80	The basket maker
81	Arranging bundles of osier ready for basket-making
82	Bundles of osier in uniform rows
83	Tying osier into bundles
84	Stripping osiers
85	Splitting wood on block
86	Two men sawing branch
87	Using draw shave to roughly shape wood for chair legs
88	Different types of chair legs made by Sam Rockall
89	Stripping osiers
90	Sawing wood for gate hurdles (60/13025)
91	Stacking finished chair legs
92	Turning chair legs
93	The Bodger
94	Cleaving wood with axe
95	Measuring wood for gate hurdles (60/13023)
96	Frame for measuring gate hurdles
97	Shaving wood for hurdles
98	Splitting wood with a fromard (60/13028)
99	Shaping wood with axe (60/13032)
100	Cleaning the mortices of gate hurdles
101	Hammering nail into gate hurdles
102	Gate hurdles (60/13036)
103	Making gate hurdles
104	Drilling mortices in gate hurdles (60/13033)
105	Stacking tent pegs (see also NMC35/10354)
106	Sawing a tree trunk (60/13017)
107	The tent peg maker
108	Finishing touch to gate hurdle
109	Aligning wood to hammer in nail on gate hurdle (60/13034)
110	Sawing trunk of felled tree (see also NMC35/10350)
111	Boring hole in rake head to take teeth
112	Splitting pieces of wood with axe to be used for rake teeth
113	Sawing division in handle enabling it to carry head of rake
114	Making tent pegs (see also NMC35/10351)
115	Making hay rakes
116	Sawing notch in tent pegs (see also NMC35/10352) (60/13016)
117	Making teeth for hay rakes
118	Hammering in teeth of hay rake
119	Drilling hole in head of hay rake
120-121	Stacking coppice wood for making rake handles
H122	Attaching metal band to rake handle
123	Using scythe to cut coppice wood stump
124	Stripping coppice wood for rake handles

- 125 Sharpening hay rake teeth
 126 Making rake handles
 127 Turning a handle at the pole lathe (**see also NMC35/4737**)
 128 Chair-making
 129 Stacking chair seats
 130 Drilling chair seat
 131 Shaping chair seat with adze (60/13040)
 132 Straightening steamed scythe handle in setting pin
 133 The steam box, for softening scythe handles
 134 Stripping wood for rake handles
 135 The 'snead' bender
 136 Smoothing scythe handle with a pole shave
 137 Bending coppice wood for making hurdles (60/13009)
 138 Stripping coppice wood for making hurdles
 139 Splitting coppice wood for making hurdles (60/13008)
 140 Sharpening the end of coppice wood for hurdles?
 141 Making hurdles (the 'hurdle maker')
 142 The finished hurdles
 143 Making wattle hurdles
 144 Thatched house with hurdles ('a country scene')
 145 Man carrying coppice wood for hurdles
 146 Making wattle hurdles
 147 The hurdle maker
 148 Making wattle hurdles
 149 Sharpening coppice wood
 150 Making brooms ('the besom maker?')
 151 Chopping wood in forest
 152 Making brooms
 153 Levelling twigs of broom head with axe
 154-155 Stripping wood for broom handles
 156 Fixing broom handle (**see also NMC35/13181**)
 157 Peg hole being made to secure broom head (**see also NMC35/13178**)
 158 Broom maker carrying bundle of brooms
 159 Gathering twigs into bunches for broom heads
 (**see also NMC35/13168**)
 160 Removing twigs from branches for broom heads (60/13171)
 161 Sanding back of chair
 162 Hammering chair legs into position (**see also NMC35/9101**)
 163 Shaping and smoothing frame of chair back
 164 The village chairmaker
 165 Making a chair - 'a Chiltern craftsman' (**see also NMC35/9102**)
 166 Roughly shaping wood for chair leg
 167 Staining chairs in tank before polishing
 168 Turning chair leg on fly-wheel lathe
 H169 Shaping chair leg with draw shave (60/13063)

H170- ADDITIONAL PRINTS

- H170 Cricket bats
 H171 Sheep cages

Related material

D RHC SH Country Crafts exhibition (C F Snow pictures)