# ‘Rymer’ – evidence presented to the RLC Panel

University of Reading, 18th November, 2025

## Summary

In the British Isles, the variety ‘Rymer’ had been known in the fruit literature from 1822 onwards and was stated to have been named after a gentleman called Rymer, of Thirsk in Yorkshire, who raised it. However, living trees continued to escape detection and it was thought probable that it was a lost variety.

Some 20-30 years ago fruit from two old trees from the Welsh Marches were identified by Mike Porter as ‘Rymer’, based upon its rather unusual morphological features. Grafts were taken and the young trees conserved by the Marcher Apple Network (MAN). Years later, in 2016, a sample, A477, was DNA fingerprinted by East Malling Research and found unmatched by any accession in the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale. In 2017 the second conserved tree was fingerprinted; its sample A1100 matched A477.

More samples from scattered sites emerged as a result of DNA testing and by 2023 a total of six exactly matching U.K. trees had been found. By then, the hunt for evidence of the name was underway.

However, in New South Wales, Australia, some catalogues from 1843 onwards indicated that ‘Rymer’ had been taken there, grown and replanted through the years and trees of that name are still known at a Farm near Braidwood in New South Wales (NSW). Direct evidence of the naming of these trees and fruit has been provided, both of living memory and newsprint. Crucially (dried) leaves that were sent in 2025 to the UK and DNA-tested at IBERS at University of Aberystwyth match the UK sample trees.

It is also now known that ‘Rymer’ was introduced to Kashmir in India, likely by British Officers, as part of the efforts to enhance crop production. It was named ‘Maharaji’ locally which most commonly refers to a royal title like "great king" or "great ruler" and is a respectful title for a guru, saint, or spiritual teacher. In 1979, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) received an accession of ‘Maharaji’ scionwood from Srinagar, Kashmir. Subsequent DNA testing and a recent analysis found it too matches the ‘Rymer’ in Australia, England and Wales. It has been allocated a MUNQ code of 7153 by INRAE and has no other matches in European records.

In an extraordinary new development, DNA testing using SNPs analysis shows unequivocally that ‘Rymer’ paired with Northern Greening are the parents of the well-regarded varieties ‘Annie Elizabeth’ and ‘Newton Wonder’.

Moreover, both ‘Rymer’ and ‘Northern Greening’ are either a parent or grandparent(s) of the much-loved ‘Bramley’s Seedling’.

Astonishing!

Stephen Ainsleigh Rice
Marcher Apple Network

Gary Sully
Old Cheese Factory

# Table of Contents

In view of the length and detail in this document it was thought helpful to give an order in which key aspects are presented. Much detail has been assembled in the Appendices.

1. The eight source trees, DNA matching of them, progeny of 'Rymer' from DNA.
2. Summary photographs of fruit.
3. Historic literature, consensus and differences.
4. Orchards with 'Rymer' are old mostly planted ca 1880-1920 when trees were available at local nurseries. There are no records or memory of the any of the original names, except thankfully of Milo Farm.
5. Milo Farm history, Richard Routley before arriving at Milo Farm, establishing Milo, Fred Routley, John and Inga Stachow's purchase, the creation of a new orchard and how Rudi helped Gary with the 'Rymer' history.
6. Appendices A-I.

## Contents

## Glossary

| | |
|---|---|
| DNA DArT | Diversity Arrays Technology, a high-throughput genotyping method |
| DNA SNP | ("pronounced snips") measures genetic variation along the DNA and highly characteristic for apple genetics |
| DNA SSR | Counts repeating patterns in designated areas, called markers, along the apple chromosomes |
| EMR | East Malling Research – now known as 'Niab – East Malling' |
| *Herf Pom* | Herefordshire Pomona |
| IBERS | Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences, at Aberystwyth University |
| INRAE | INRAE is France's National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment |
| MAN | Marcher Apple Network. The Welsh Marches are an imprecisely defined area along the border between England and Wales |
| MP | Mike Porter |
| MUNQ | Malus UNiQue genotype codes (MUNQ), coordinated by INRAE |
| NAR | National Apple Register – Muriel Smith (1971) |
| NFC | The National Fruit Collection, based at Brogdale in Kent, UK. |
| NSW | New South Wales, Australia. |
| RHS | Royal Horticultural Society |
| RLC | The Register of Local Cultivars – Naming of DNA fingerprints not matching the reference collections |
| SAR | Stephen Ainsleigh Rice |
| SCOG | Stamford Community Orchard Group |
| SLOG | South Lakes Orchard Group, UK |
| USDA | United States Department of Agriculture |

## Proposition

Our proposition is that the genotype MUNQ 7153 DNA A477 etc. is the heritage variety 'Rymer'.

## Dedication

I wish to note the wonderful work of my late colleague and friend, Mike Porter, in finding and identifying many heritage varieties of apples brought in for identification to Autumn

Shows from estates, farms and garden. Ever modest and kindly his legacy lives in valued old varieties now being secured into several collection include the National Fruit Collection.

### Mike Porter's Identifications

Mike Porter identified two old trees at Southwood farm in 1995 and Upper Coston farm in 2005 in the Welsh Marches. He used the morphological description of Thompson, and of others. The key features are the exceptionally short stalk, a narrow and shallow cavity and pearly specks on the base especially noticeable on fresh picked fruit. Other features, such as shape and taste, confirm the identity but are less unique.

## DNA of matching trees

DNA provides a firm basis that six old trees found in England and Wales are the same genotype. These are the first six listed in the Accessions above. Fingerprints of DNA from leaves of a tree propagated from Milo Farm Braidwood and one at the USDA (originally from Kashmir) matched these. Eight trees with the same genotype. This enabled separate strands of information to be accumulated and integrated.

Eight accessions have matching DNA SSR genotype MUNQ 7153. They are listed below.

**Original Tree at**

marker-pairs. Scanning an eye down each column over the eleven samples shows that there are few instances of alleles differing by 1 or 2 bp. All are diploid.

The sample A3892 is from a young tree grafted by Andy Gilchrist of SLOG from material MAN took from TC D18 that was itself sourced from the Martley tree; it should be and is identical to A1100. Among the five IBERS samples was a duplicate of the Upper Coston sourced tree, and two samples from different grafted trees of the Martley sourced tree. These were included for establishing that results at EMR and Aberystwyth IBERS laboratories were very closely similar. As with EMR, samples were sent to IBERS without any other identifier than MAN and a sequential sample number.

| Tree at | FruitID | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | HiO2c07_PK1 | HiO2c07_PK2 | HiO2c07_PK3 | HiO2c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AB TT03 (from Upper Coston) | A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| TOP Lady Gilbert Orchard | A1057 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| TC D18 (from Martley) | A1100 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| COG 3072 | A2376 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| SLOG | A3892 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| MABI | A4457 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |

| Tree at | IBERS | CH04c07 - A6 | CH04c07 - A6 | | CH04c07 - A6 | CH01h10 - A7 | CH01h10 - A7 | | CH01h10 - A7 | CH01h01 - A1 | CH01h01 - A1 | | CH01h01 - A1 | HiO2c07 - 2 | HiO2c07 - 2 | | HiO2c07 - 2 | CH01f02 - A8 | CH01f02 - A8 | | CH01f02 - A8 | CH01f03 - A9 | CH01f03 - A9 | CH01f03 - A9 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PA BB31 (from Martley) | A1246 | 107 | 120 | | | 88 | 96 | | | 130 | | | | 109 | 114 | | | 182 | 204 | | | 137 | 170 | | |
| TC D18 (from Martley) | A1247 | 107 | 120 | | | 88 | 96 | | | 130 | | | | 109 | 114 | | | 182 | 204 | | | 137 | 170 | | |
| TG C82 (from Upper Coston) | A1252 | 106 | 120 | | | 88 | 96 | | | 130 | | | | 109 | 114 | | | 182 | 203 | | | 137 | 170 | | |
| Llanerchaeron | A1262 | 107 | 120 | | | 88 | 96 | | | 130 | | | | 109 | 114 | | | 182 | 204 | | | 137 | 170 | | |
| Braidwood | A1266 | 106 | 120 | | | 88 | 96 | | | 130 | | | | 109 | 114 | | | 182 | 203 | | | 137 | 170 | | |

| Tree at | FruitID | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AB TT03 (from Upper Coston) | A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| TOP Lady Gilbert Orchard | A1057 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| TC D18 (from Martley) | A1100 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| COG 3072 | A2376 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| SLOG | A3892 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| MABI | A4457 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |

| Tree at | IBERS | GD12 - A3 | GD12 - A3 | | GD12 - A3 | GD147 - A&P1 | GD147 - A&P1 | GD147 - A&P1 | | CH04e05 - A10 | CH04e05 - A10 | | CH04e05 - A10 | CH02d08 - A11 | CH02d08 - A11 | | CH02d08 - A11 | CH02c11 - A4 | CH02c11 - A4 | | CH02c11 - A4 | CH02C09 - A5 | CH02C09 - A5 | CH02C09 - A5 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PA BB31 (from Martley) | A1246 | 147 | 153 | | | 131 | 137 | | | 173 | | | | 212 | 225 | | | 227 | | | | 233 | 245 | | |
| TC D18 (from Martley) | A1247 | 147 | 153 | | | 131 | 137 | | | 173 | | | | 212 | 225 | | | 227 | | | | 233 | 245 | | |
| TG C82 (from Upper Coston) | A1252 | 147 | 153 | | | 131 | 137 | | | 173 | | | | 211 | 225 | | | 227 | | | | 232 | 244 | | |
| Llanerchaeron | A1262 | 147 | 153 | | | 131 | 137 | | | 173 | | | | 212 | 225 | | | 227 | | | | 233 | 245 | | |
| Braidwood | A1266 | 147 | 153 | | | 131 | 137 | | | 173 | | | | 211 | 225 | | | 227 | | | | 232 | 244 | | |

To within a typical experimental margin for DNA SSR taken between laboratories, the eleven samples are identical and thus of a single genotype. It establishes that two trees not covered in the EMR dataset are the same, a tree at NT Llanerchaeron (now analysed twice) and a tree (re-)grafted from one of the three trees at Milo Farm. It is worth noting that Gary Sully collected leaves of four varieties, one was off a tree grafted from one of the three Milo 'Rymer' trees, and three more different varieties from other remnant orchards around

Braidwood. Gary picked Autumnal leaves in March and dried them over silica gel for a few weeks. They were posted to the UK with customs declaration of "dried leaves for research". Of the four, the 'Rymer' and another sample gave fingerprints essentially identical to ones already analysed by EMR; these give confidence in an unambiguous match; for the other two a match to a variety or as a plausible parent/progeny had been hoped but not expected.

## Sample analysis on 'Maharaji', 'Rymer', 'Northern Greening'

'Maharaji' received by the USDA from Kashmir in 1979 has also been analysed by DNA SSR and SNPs. The USDA fingerprint uses only nine marker-pairs of which five are common with the UK set. There is also a systematic difference in scoring alleles from marker-pairs between the two laboratories. A simple technique confirms it is very likely of the same genotype. It was first used for confirming ID of 'Black Gilliflower', then by Peter Laws for attempting alignment of the first batch of DNA 2023 results from EMR. If two samples are of the same genotype, taking the respective differences between allele scores of the first and second peaks for those marker-pairs in common must give the same number to within typical experimental uncertainty. As shown below for three samples 'Maharaji', those from fruitID (EMR) and IBERS difference of all five marker-pairs are the same within tolerance.

| Maharaji at USDA Geneva Collection | | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | HO2c07_PK1 | HO2c07_PK2 | HO2c07_PK3 | HO2c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01h03b_PK1 | CH01h03b_PK2 | CH01h03b_PK3 | CH01h03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marker-pairs in common | | | | | | | | | | 134 | 134 | | | | | | | 184 | 206 | | | | | | |
| difference Peak2-Peak1 | Maharaji | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 22 | | | | | | | |
| | fruitID | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 21 | | | | | | | |
| | IBERS | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 22 | | | | | | | |

| Maharaji at USDA Geneva Collection | | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marker-pairs in common | | 153 | 159 | | | 135 | 141 | | | | | | | 212 | 226 | | | | | | | | | | |
| difference Peak2-Peak1 | Maharaji | 6 | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | fruitID | 6 | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | IBERS | 6 | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | |

Nick Howard (2025) has kindly further clarified that the MUNQ 7153 attribution for PI 437063 came from INRAE who have SSR data for the accession. Henceforth the name 'Rymer' will be used instead of 'Maharaji'.

Howard (2025) has further analysed European and UK SNP results on summed potential lengths of shared haplotype information[1] of 'Rymer' compared with the dataset of an ongoing large-scale collaborative apple diversity and pedigree reconstruction project. He suggests it is likely Rymer came from the Low Countries or nearby, as a seed and was sown somewhere in England. A tree could also have been imported but have been lost on the continent.

Bramley's Seedling' was raised between 1809 and 1812, hence both 'Rymer' and 'Northern Greening' must have been in existence since at least 1770 and likely 1750, that is over 50-70 years earlier for 'Northern Greening' than the first recorded date given in the NAR.

[1] methods from this paper: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41438-021-00637-5

‘Dumelow’s Seedling’, which DNA SSR/DArT shows is likely progeny of ‘Northern Greening’, is reported in the NAR to be from Shakerstone in Leicestershire, with the original ‘Dumelow’s Seedling’ tree reported to have been flourishing in 1800. These suggests ‘Northern Greening’ arose rather earlier than 1770. Given its substantially earlier provenance it could well have originated elsewhere, perhaps nearer to Southwell.

These relationships are astonishing. For a period of time they place occurrence of ‘Rymer’ and Northern Greening into a relatively small area of the northeast Midlands and Lincolnshire.

Perhaps it was in response to both ‘Rymer’ and ‘Northern Greening’ being exhibited at the Horticultural Society of London in 1818, that nurseries (such as Pearsons’ and Pennells’) and breeders recognised their merit and progressively included them in their catalogues and enabled breeding of ‘Annie Elizabeth’ and ‘Newton Wonder’.

Incidentally, an excellent dessert apple, A565, maybe progeny of ‘Rymer’ or a grandchild via ‘Orange Goff’. Would that we could put a name to it!

## Further investigations

After the original submission was made at the RLC Meeting at the University of Reading on 18th November, 2025, Karen Meadows and Denis Smith of SCOG are now investigating whether the evidence that Mr Rymer wasn’t the first to have grown it, and that Sir Thomas Frankland was somehow mis-informed, is sufficiently clear and substantive. There is no other evidence supporting Mr Rymer than that of Sir Thomas Frankland. In early accounts, among other names, the apple was known as Caldwell’s Keeper. Karen and Denis have some circumstantial evidence that either Caldwells Nursery at Knutsford or Mr Padley at Burton Joyce grew it earlier. Their investigations, including assistance from the RHS librarians, is fascinating. It merits mentioning even at this early stage for ensuring that this Registration Request does not appear to endorse the name ‘Rymer’ has provenance; it may or not be correct.

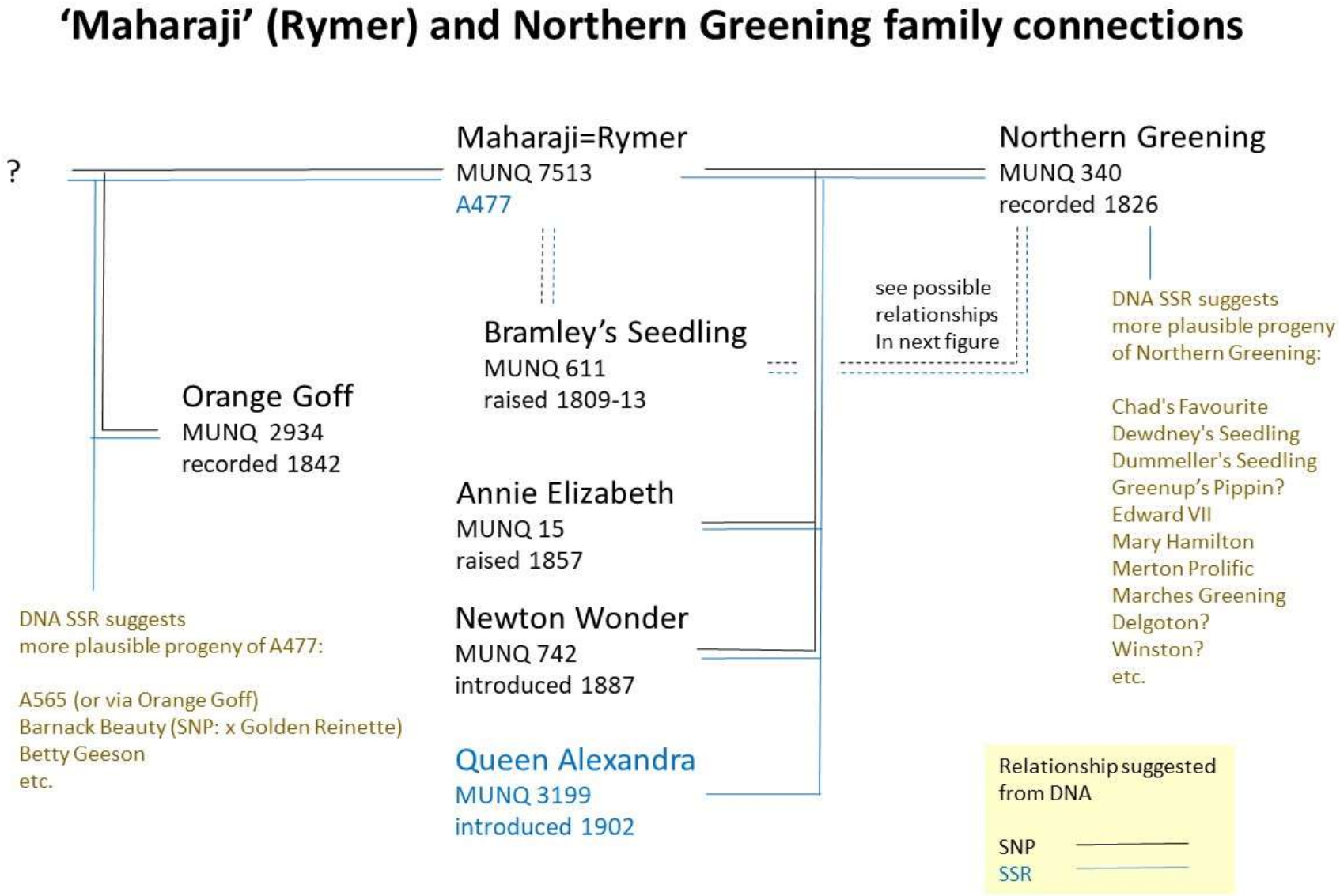



Figure 1 ‘Maharaji’ (Rymer) and Northern Greening family connections

Bjarne Larsen · Nicholas P. Howard, Caroline Denancé, Charles-Eric Durel, Carsten Pedersen, Jonas Skytte af Sätra, Larisa Garkava-Gustavsson, Michela Troggio, Eric van de Weg, Cultivar fingerprinting and SNP-based pedigree reconstruction in Danish heritage apple cultivars utilizing genotypic data from multiple germplasm collections in the world (2024) Genet Resour Crop Evol https://doi.org/10.1007/s10722-024-02104-1

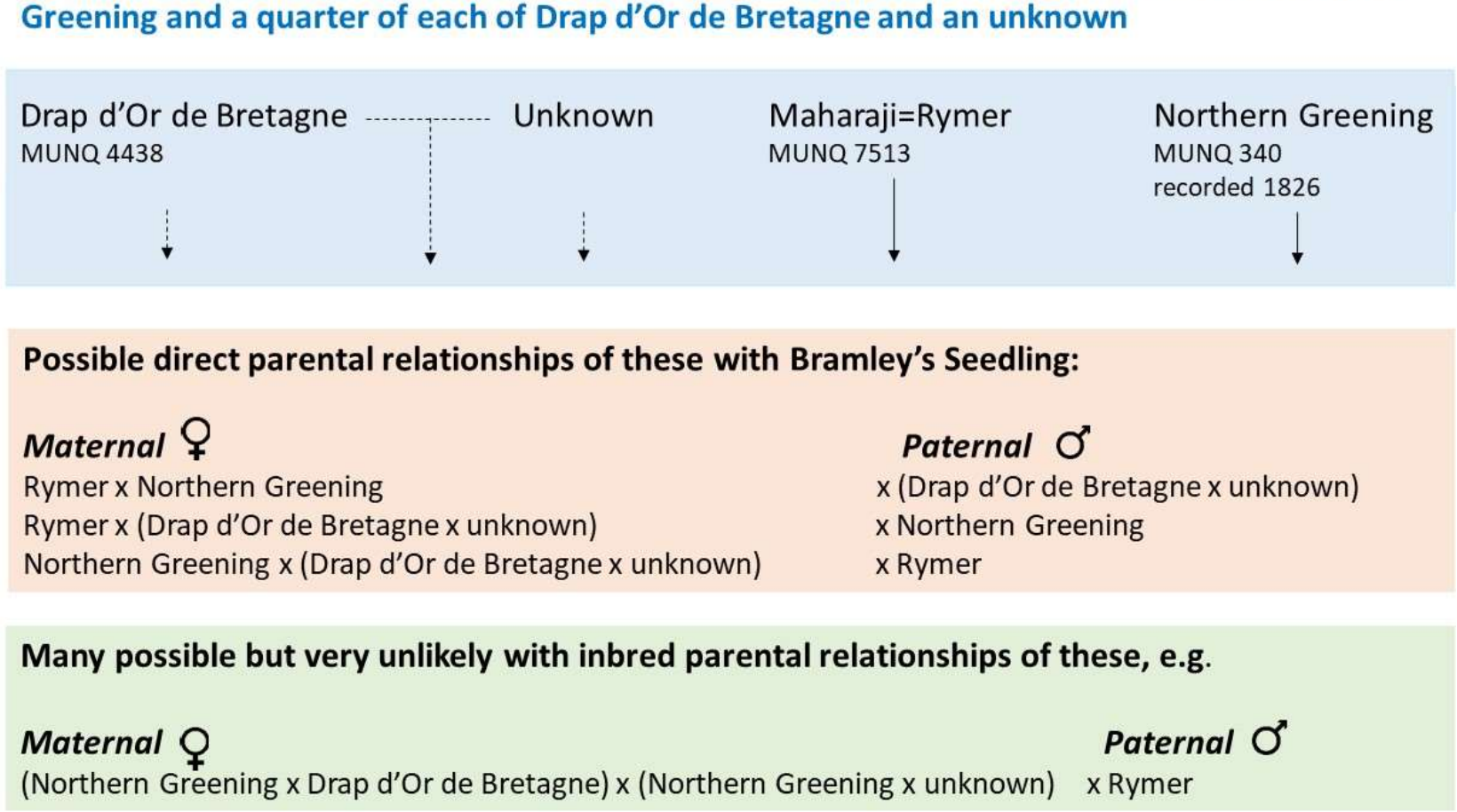



Figure 2 Bramley's Seedling parentage possibilities

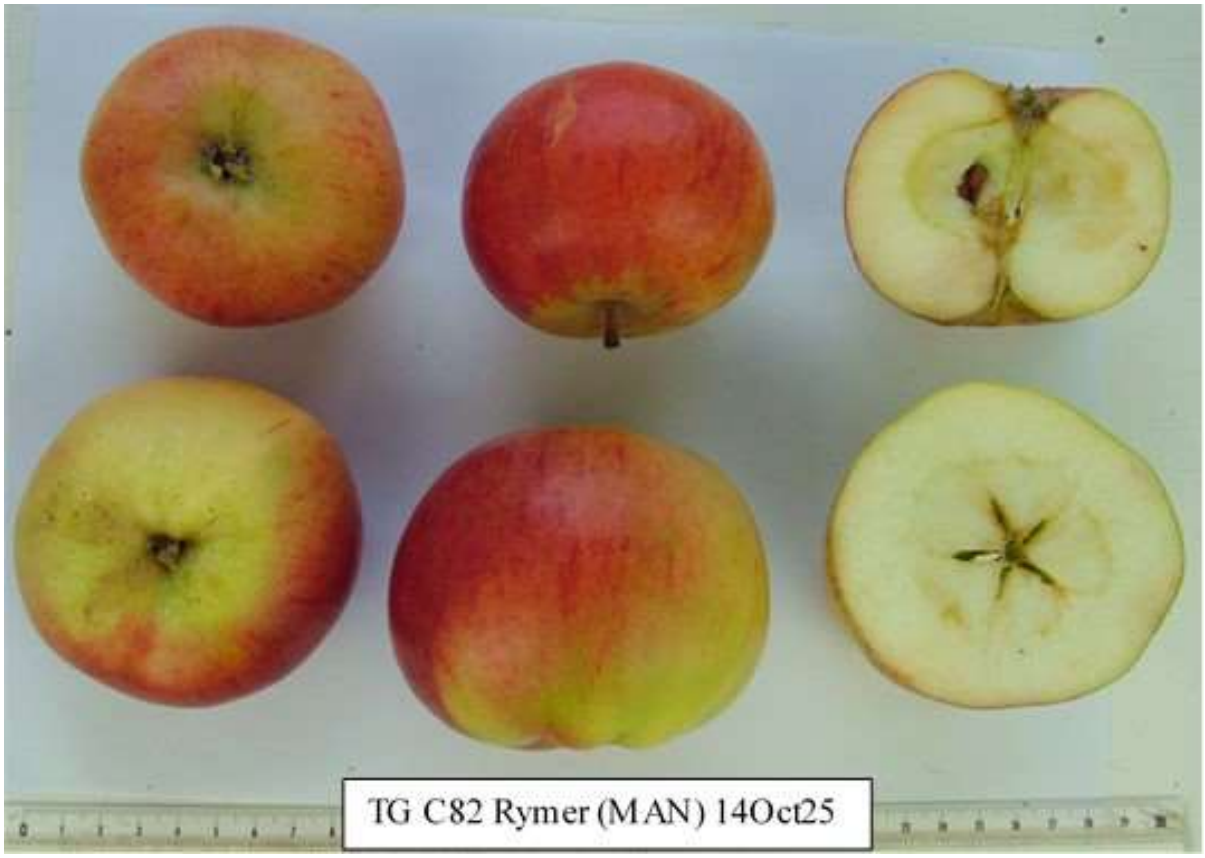
Bjarne Larsen · Nicholas P. Howard, Caroline Denancé, Charles-Eric Durel, Carsten Pedersen, Jonas Skytte af Sätra, Larisa Garkava-Gustavsson, Michela Troggio, Eric van de Weg, Cultivar fingerprinting and SNP-based pedigree reconstruction in Danish heritage apple cultivars utilizing genotypic data from multiple germplasm collections in the world (2024) Genet Resour Crop Evol https://doi.org/10.1007/s10722-024-02104-1

# Rymer (MAN) Photographs

Some of the 100+ apples from the young trees at Tredomen, near Brecon, and Ty Glyn, near Hay-on-Wye, were selected as broadly representative of features both typical and fairly commonly occurring. Photographs of them are shown below. These and similar apples were used to provide the basis for the morphological description below and in the formal Registration Request. Further details of the morphology are covered in Appendix B

TC D18 Rymer (MAN) 12Oct25

TC D18 Rymer (MAN) 24Oct15


TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 14Oct25


TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 14Oct25

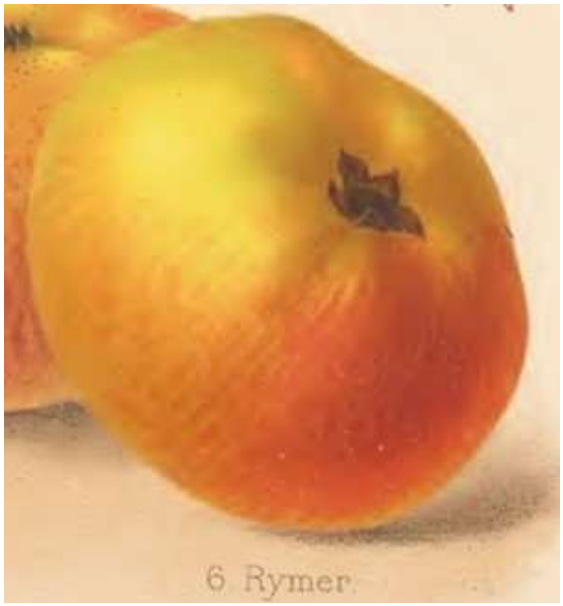
## Morphology - consensus and differences in historic literature

Nine accounts of 'Rymer' in historic literature were selected as the most detailed available. They span from Turner in 1822, who presented Sir Thomas Frankland's original notice of 1818, to Bunyard in 1920. Extracts of these are included as Appendix C against which the photographs of fruit shown above and in Appendices B and E can be compared.
Just eight years after that notice 'Rymer' featured in the nursery catalogue of John Miller of Bristol in 1826. Progressively it was included by many UK nurseries in their catalogues often initially as 'Caldwells's Keeper', later as 'Rymer' (Appendix D). One dish of fruit from Surrey was exhibited at National Apple Congress at Chiswick in 1883, four dishes were exhibited at the RHS conference in Chiswick of 1888 but just one in 1934. There has been no mention since. It was also was exported to Australia, Europe, India and USA.

Some features are consistent while others are unambiguously different. Differences are more and larger than is usually encountered in historic literature. That's why I hesitated before bringing 'Rymer' to the Panel for consideration. Now seeing the differences on fruit samples, having more old trees, SNP and SSR pedigree, and the crucial evidence from Milo Farm, we have pleasure presenting the evidence.

At the end of the Appendix C a table summarises all nine accounts against each fruit attribute. This enabled creating the table below that further condenses these accounts. The first three column list the characteristic, the author and their description. The fourth column describes fruit morphology of each characteristic. Where only one description is given there is some consensus and the one seeming clearest is taken, where descriptions differ significantly they are listed against the respective author.

There is agreement that the fruit is medium to large in size, flat-round, with obscure ribs at apex and ridges (or plaits) into basin which is described as round and rather or moderately deep. The undercolour is pale green to yellow and may have a thin flush or weak red streaks.




TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 20Oct25

Comparing the illustration in the Herefordshire Pomona with a sample highlights similarities

Sunny aspects become flushed deep salmon or dull red, scarlet or crimson with varying extents of streaks. Stalk is usually noted to be (very) short and not protruding beyond the base. Only two or three accounts mention the internal features: tube is a cone, stamens and coreline are median to marginal, and core is roundish obovate and axile. Most authors describe the fruit as subacid rather than acid, and a season extending from October to December or January.

Several features are described as markedly different. The undercolour may have white or reddish-brown dots. Sunny aspects have yellowish-grey, pearly or vermillion dots. Striking difference are about the eye and cavity. Lindley, Hogg (1851), Thompson, *Herefordshire Pomona* (*Herf Pom*) and JRHS describe it as open, while Scotts, Hogg (1884) and Bunyard have it (substantially) closed. There does appear to be some agreement that the eye is large with broad, convergent and reflexed segments. Hogg and the *Herf Pom* are notably different. Cavity is given by Hogg (1851, 1884), Scotts and *Herf Pom* to be deep, whereas Lindley, Thompson and Bunyard describe it as shallow or level and the *Herf Pom* illustrates it as shallow.

## Summary of Historic Literature – consensus and differences, and compared with fruit sample observations

Where only one description given there is consensus: the one deemed clearest is taken. Where descriptions differ significantly they are listed against author. Attributes noted varying are highlighted in blue. The right-hand column summarises observations of fruit samples.

| **Attribute** | **Literature** | **Description** | **Samples and Appendix B comments** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Size | Lindley | (82-89) x (63-75) | king fruit (73-95) x (60-76)<br>other (70-92) x (54-67) |
| Shape | Herf Pom | Roundish and flattened (slightly irregular) | Flat-round to round, sometimes slightly conical, sometimes lopsided, slightly irregular, eccentricity 5% |
| Ribs | Lindley | Very broad ribs, slight at base but prominent at crown | 5-8 obscure ribs reaching to crown but not to base; one or two ribs occasionally prominently enlarged. |
| Skin shaded | Hogg (1851) | smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots and a few faint streaks of pale red on shaded side | In sheltered situations fruit may have a conspicuous bloom when on tree; dry smooth skin slightly hammered though becoming oily then waxy by January; green maturing to a dull yellow by mid-November maybe with a weak pink or pale brown flush and streaking; areola conspicuous over base and occasionally the cheeks; lenticels may appear surrounded by a green or later a paler yellow colour. |
| | Lindley | pale yellow | |
| | Thompson | smooth, clear pale green | |
| | Scott's Orchardist | smooth, yellow thinly strewed with whitish green dots and a few streaks of pale red | |
| | JRHS | greenish yellow | |
| Skin sunny | Ronalds | rich crimson | Typically 40-50% surface mottled appearing orange-red, densest toward sunniest aspects and covered with broken streaks of darker red or crimson; on some fruit occasional patches and nets of thin pale russet; lenticels can appear as white dots if the fruit has a heavy bloom, though without bloom they are brown and inconspicuous; lenticels may be surrounded by small darker red spots. Raised hairlines may occasionally be seen, usually straight on the cheek but multiple and curved in and around the basin. |
| | Lindley | nearly covered with a thin deep salmon colour tinged with dull scarlet | |
| | Hogg (1851) | beautiful deep red covered with yellowish grey dots | |
| | Thompson | tinged with brownish red, and streaked with brighter red | |
| | Scott's Orchardist | vermilion and covered with vermilion dots | |
| | Bunyard | covered with deep crimson red flush and faint stripes | |

Summary of Historic Literature – consensus and differences, and compared with fruit sample observations - continued

| Attribute | Literature | Description | Samples and Appendix B comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Base | Thompson | the base marked with pearly specks appearing as beneath the skin | Gently undulating, areolae visible |
| Apex | Lindley | crowned | Crowns 1-3 mm |
| Basin | Hogg (1851) | round and moderately deep, ridges from apex | Typically 30 x 5, moderately deep; ridges from apex, some pleating, little or no russet |
| Eye | Hogg (1851) | open broad reflexed convergent segments | May be slightly downy, large, variously near to closed (ca 20%) but more often partially to fully open often with stamens visible; wide separate segments rather ragged, mostly erect, often one or more convergent, frequently slightly reflexed or twisted; segments prone to break. |
| | Thompson | Very large open | |
| | Hogg (1884) | closed broad convergent segments | |
| | Herf Pom | open broad reflexed segments | |
| | JRHS | large open | |
| | Bunyard | closed or a little open | |
| Cavity | Lindley | somewhat shallow | Moderately narrow and shallow (average width 25 mm, king fruit depth 7 mm while other fruit 10 mm, sometimes almost non-existent); round sometimes with a swelling or lip, russet thin sometimes rough extending ca 10 mm towards base and occasionally beyond. |
| | Thompson | stalk scarcely sunk at its insertion | |
| | Scott's Orchardist | deep round, russet extending as ramifications over the base | |
| | Herf Pom | round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet that extends in ramifications over base; line drawing shows it as very narrow and quite shallow | |
| | Bunyard | small shallow, often level or raised | |
| Stalk | Bunyard | extra short, ca. 8, probably shortest of any | Short stub, diameter and lengths approximately for king fruit 4.5 x 6, others 3.5 x 10, flared at tip, usually stalk of king fruit doesn't protrude, but others sometimes may by up to 5 mm. |
| Tube | Hogg (1884) | conical | Broad cone almost reaching core |
| Stamens | Hogg (1884) | median or marginal | Median or marginal |
| Coreline | Herf Pom (1886) | median or marginal | Median sometimes nearer marginal |
| Core | Hogg (1851) | roundish obovate, axile | Obovate or rounded, axile closed or open. |

Summary of Historic Literature – consensus and differences, and compared with fruit sample observations - continued

| Attribute | Literature | Description | Samples and Appendix B comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Flesh | Lindley | pale yellow, tender, sub-acid with brisk flavour | Slightly green or yellow, coarse, firm, crisp, fairly juicy, browns quickly; when picked very acid but matures to sub-acid by January |
| | Hogg (1851) | yellowish, tender, pleasantly subacid | |
| | Thompson | greenish white firm and acid | |
| | JRHS | acid | |
| Season | Ronalds | Nov-Dec | Keeps to February. |
| | Hogg (1851) | Oct-Dec | |
| | Thompson | Dec-Apr | |
| | Bunyard | to March | |

# ‘Rymer’ trees in orchards of England & Wales

‘Rymer’ was widely available from many UK nurseries in the London area, the East Midlands, Worcester and Somerset during the nineteenth century. It was also available almost contemporaneously in Australia and New Zealand. Excerps from catalogues are included in Appendix D.

Four dishes of fruit were exhibited at the RHS conference in Chiswick of 1888. In England and Wales six old tree have been found, likely to have been planted between 1880 and 1920. Mr Turton exhibited it at Reading in March 1895. It was also exhibited at the Chiswick conference in 1934. Events such as these may have encouraged planting of ‘Rymer’ along with other quality varieties.

Brief details of the six orchards in which old ‘Rymer’ trees have been found are given below. More details of the orchards, possible sources and planting dates, maps and photographs are given in the Appendix E.

## Southwood Farm, Martley

In 1995 Alf Jones brought an apple to the Malvern Autumn show for identification. Mike Porter made a tentative identification of it as ‘Rymer’ based upon a general similarity, and particularly the short stalk, shallow narrow cavity and prominent basal areola, to the description of Thompson (1853).

Mr Jones was fourth generation farmer at Southwood Farm. He died in 2017. The ‘Rymer’ grew in a mixed orchard of area about one-third ha. That orchard was marked on the 1883 and 1902 versions of the OS 6”-inch-to-the-mile map. There were about 170 mixed fruit trees originally there as recently as 1995. Only three remain, unfortunately not including ‘Rymer’.

It is presumed that the ‘Rymer’ tree was planted there and likely in the late nineteenth century. As ‘Rymer’ was available at St. John’s Nursery of Worcester, that would appear the most likely source, especially as there was no railway station much closer than Worcester.

MAN grafted a tree from the scionwood that Alf Jones kindly provided. It is on MM106 rootstock and was planted at Tredomen in 1997. Its growth is vigorous with an upright habit.

## Upper Coston

Mike and Chris Porter visited Upper Coston Farm in 2005 to see the old orchard. They were welcomed by the owners Brian and Ivor Morris and their cousin Tom Adams. Mike was thrilled to find four old trees which he was certain were not in the NFC. They included ‘Rymer’, again identified from similar features.

The OS 6”-inch-to-the-mile maps of 1883, 1901 and 1949 show the orchard, though in the latter there are fewer stylised trees shown, perhaps indicative of a decline. Most trees have died, some have fallen and are dying. Both ‘Round Winter Nonesuch’ and ‘Rymer’ still stand and have fruited in 2025, but ‘Gipsy King’, ‘Bringewood Pippin’ and ‘Huntingdon Codlin’ have died. With the exception of the latter variety, all those identified at Upper Coston could

have been sourced from Scott's; fewer were available from River or Veitch. Upper Coston is close to a Railway station.

'Huntingdon Codlin' only appears to have been available from Wood and Ingram for a short period, about 1880-1900. It then suggests replanting activity about 1890-1900. That 'Gipsy King' and 'Bringewood Pippin' were available earlier than 'Huntingdon Codlin' and they died a few years ago, may indicate that (re)planting was being done earlier and opportunistically. It appears selection was with awareness of the then current quality and interesting varieties available.

## Sunfold Orchard, Colwall

At Colwall, on the slopes of the Malvern Hills, orchards were extensive in the nineteenth century. Stephen Ballard, the engineer who oversaw digging the first railway tunnel through the Hills, planted many. He and his son developed several industries locally and are kindly remembered as good employers.

The old tree, number 3072, in this orchard was recognized via a DNA match. Its preservation is very fortuitous, since the tree was originally a Blanc Mollet cider variety top-worked with two varieties, 'Rymer' and another one. It was leaves from the branch of 'Rymer' that were sampled for DNA analysis.

## Lady Gilbert Orchard, Harrow

Grim's Dyke House was the home of Sir William and Lady Gilbert from 1890-1936. Planting at the orchard likely started about 1900. Since 1970 the house has been a hotel and the orchard management was more recently taken over by The Orchard Project. The 'Rymer' here is an old upright hollow tree, with several major branches broken off. It was identified from the DNA match and it still bears fruit.

Jim Arbury visited the orchard and made tentative identifications of other apple trees including 'Bismarck' and 'Grenadier'. Given their relative proximity to nurseries and the varieties in the orchard, Rivers, or Veitchs, or possibly Pearsons could have supplied trees.

## Padwicks Farm, Midhurst

There is no known history of this garden orchard. Two old trees were fingerprinted and matched 'Rymer' and 'Queen' the latter of which was introduced in 1880. The former is upright and appears of a similar age to those seen elsewhere. Planting would likely have been about 1900.

Padwicks Farm is about 1 km distant from the former railway station in Midhurst that had connecting services to London. James Veitch and Sons nursery is a likely source of these trees, given they were in the catalogue and it is the nearest large nursery stocking both varieties, though either Rivers or Pearsons are possible too.

## Llanerchaeron, Aberaeron

This delightful home dates from before 1634 and was remodeled to its current form by John Nash. In the nineteenth century the then owner Mary Ashby Lewis was a local

philanthropist. Produce from the walled garden supporting local folk's needs. Sometime likely after 1890 she had trees planted from an (as yet) unknown source and seemingly trained as espaliers. National Trust curatorial notes from 2006 record Adams's Pearmain', 'Kerry Pippin' and 'Wyken Pippin'. These trees now are free standing, are still vigorous and produces long healthy extension growth. The latter trees was found a DNA match to 'Rymer' by IBERS at University of Aberystwyth in 2018, a second blind repeat SSR in 2025 gave the same match.

## Grafted trees at Tredomen and Ty Glyn

Photographs of grafted trees at Tredomen and Ty Glyn shown in the Appendix E

## Other Trees

Taylor (1936) mentions a 'Green Balsam' a small green apple with thin stalk as a synonym of 'Rymer'; it is inconsistent with other descriptions and must be another variety. Grove Research Station inventory mentioned 'Rymer' but the one from there marketed by Bernwode Nursery is of another genotype (Appendix F).

# Rymer at Milo Farm Orchards

Gary Sully, Old Cheese Factory


Rudi Stachow

In 2008 Rudi Stachow invited Gary Sully of Sully's Cider and David Pickering from Orange, NSW, Australia for a stroll around the remnants of his family orchard at Milo, Majors Creek, NSW. Buds were taken from four different trees, which David propagated by bud grafting. At the time Rudi identified three of the varieties as ‘Granny Smith’, ‘Five Crown’ and ‘Rymer’. The fourth was from a separate section of the orchard and has never been identified. In 2010, one tree from each variety was planted at Sully's Cider, The Old Cheese Factory, Reidsdale. Another set at David Pickering's orchard at Linden Lea, Orange. Subsequently, Gary has grafted two of each variety and planted them in his home orchard at Hawthorn Lane, Braidwood. As each variety bore fruit they were compared with contemporary and historical accounts, leaving no reason to doubt Rudi's original identifications.


‘Five Crown Pippin’


‘Granny Smith’


‘Rymer’

In March 2025 Gary was in an email conversation with Ainsleigh Rice of the Marcher Apple Network about an unrelated apple variety.

Ainsleigh wrote:

***"Another query. Rymer. It was listed at the Horticultural Society of Victoria, Camden Park and Grove Research Station. Have you ever come across it?"***

Gary replied [2]:

***"We have Rymer on the trees at the moment, they should be picking in April. We found ours at an orchard near an old gold mine in Majors Creek."***

A few weeks later Gary was sending dried leaves from one of his 'Rymer' trees to Ainsleigh for DNA fingerprinting.

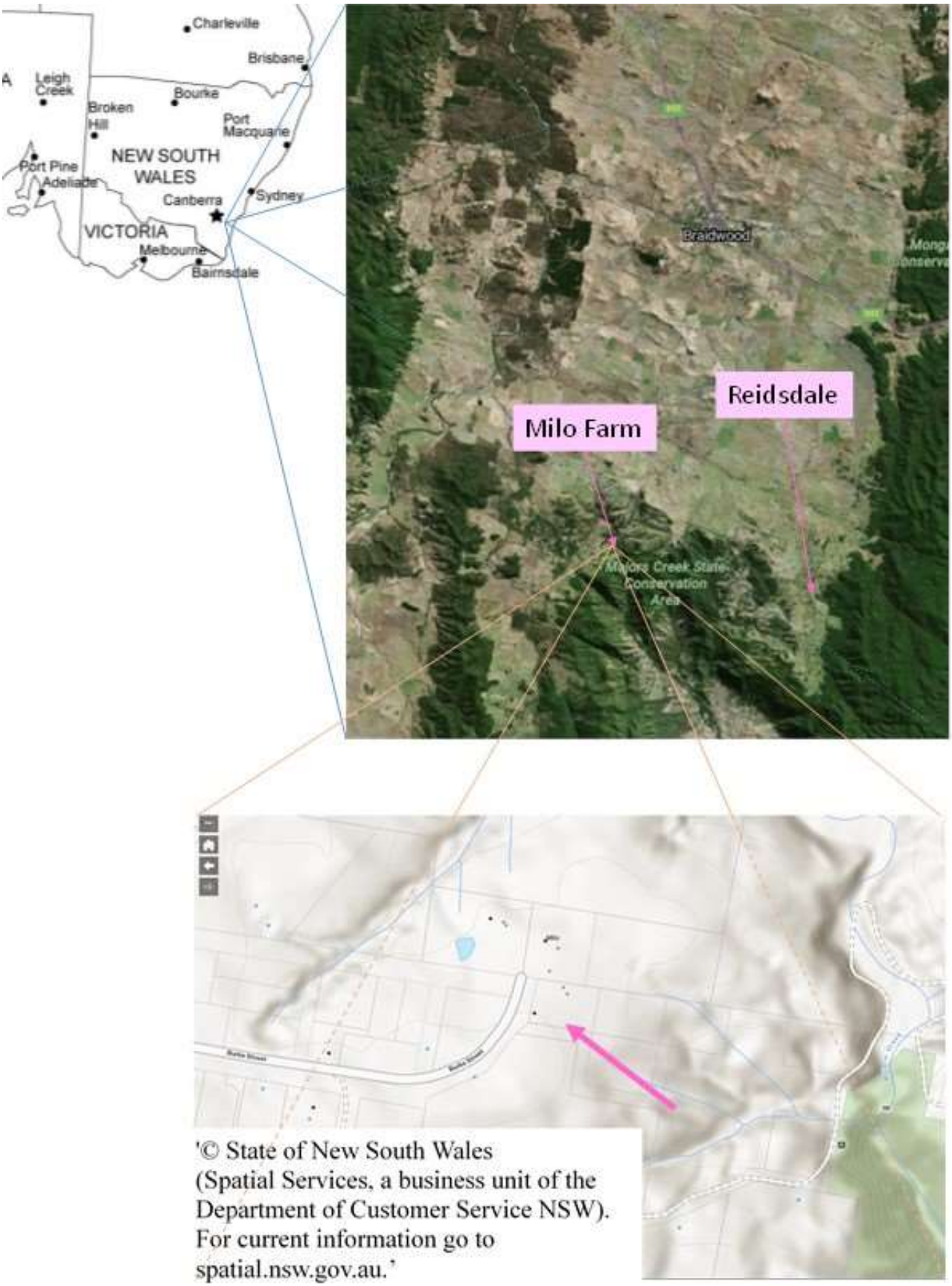
## Location

Blossom September 2025

Milo lies to the east of Majors Creek village and west of the creek from where the village gets its name. Majors Creek is in the high country east of the Great Dividing Range, about half way between present day Canberra and the coast.

Once at the limits of European settlement, the area was first selected in 1827 by Major William Sandys Elrington. The climate is favourable for growing apples and Elrington himself planted an orchard of apples, pears, plums, and walnuts not long after taking up residence in an area about ten miles west of Milo Farm. Many orchards were established in the district from the middle 19th century to the early 20th century. There was once a cider factory and associated orchard, as well as a number small scale commercial orchards.

[2] Tree list is given at: https://braidwoodmade.com.au/apple%20trees.html


Charleville
Brisbane
Leigh Creek
Bourke
Broken Hill
Port Macquarie
NEW SOUTH WALES
Port Pine
Adelaide
Canberra
Sydney
VICTORIA
Melbourne
Bairnsdale
Braidwood
Reidsdale
Milo Farm
Majors Creek State Conservation Area
'© State of New South Wales (Spatial Services, a business unit of the Department of Customer Service NSW). For current information go to spatial.nsw.gov.au.'

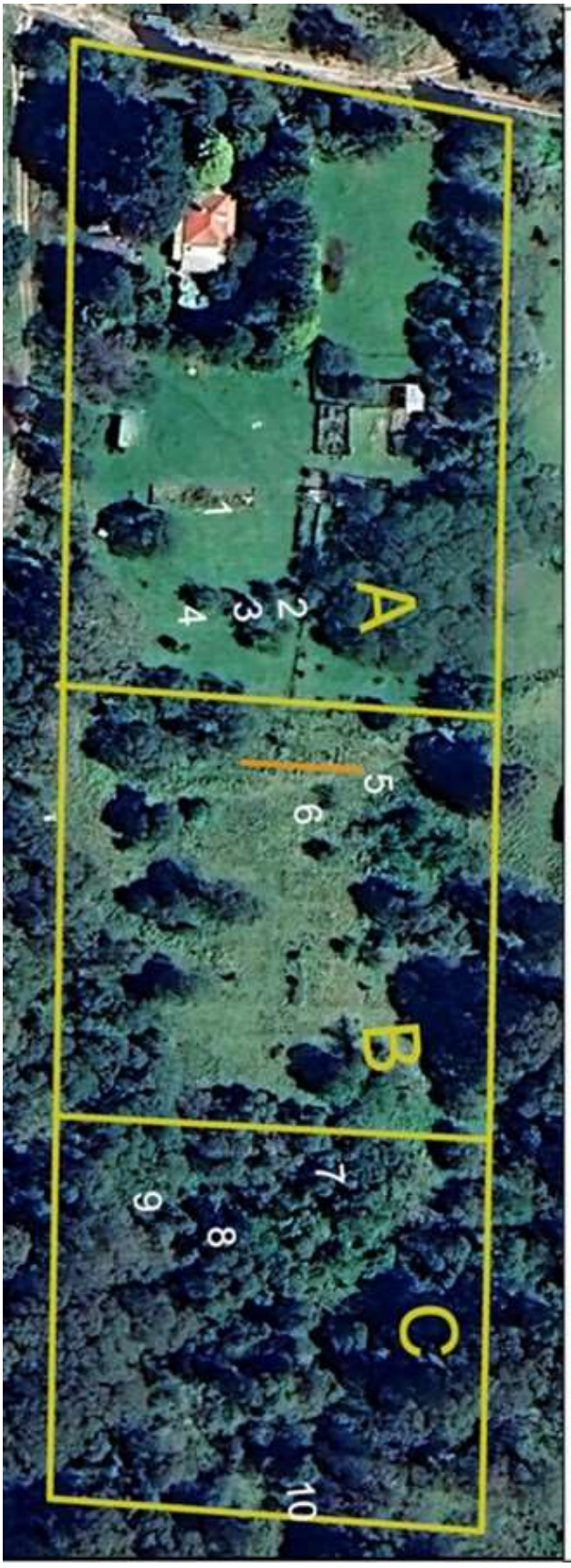
## Property History

Milo is presently owned by Sandra Rayner. Sandra purchased the property from Rudi Stachow in October 2015. Rudi lived at Milo Farm for 60 years from 1955 to 2015. The orchard there was run commercially by Rudi's parents, John and Inga, from 1955 to the early 1970s when, as a result of their age, many of the original trees planted by their predecessors became unviable. John was a Polish soldier in the occupying forces in Germany where he met Inga and they migrated to Australia in 1949. Prior to Mr and Mrs Stachow purchasing Milo there was an interim owner for a short period of around 15 months.

Evidence suggests that it was Richard Routley who purchased the property sometime between 1860 and 1872 and he planted the first 'Rymer' trees at Milo. He had qualified for assisted passage to NSW as an agricultural labourer and He arrived in Sydney as a passenger onboard the Mary Ann on the 19th March 1857. Richard was born in Bicknoller, Somerset in 1835

## The Orchards

There are three distinct stages of orchard development at Milo. At the east end on a two acre block is the '**Original Orchard**'. This was most likely established before the arrival of Richard Routley. The '**Routley Orchard**' was planted on terraced platforms on a steep slope, starting with Richard's arrival around 1870 with sequential plantings up the hill, finishing around 1920. At the top of the property is the **'Stachow Orchard'**. Here the land flattens out and has access from Burke Street, which can be reached via the contemporary Majors Creek Road. This is where, in about 1939 Arnold Routley, a grandson of Richard Routley, commissioned the building of a small timber cottage, which was renovated and extended by John Stachow later. The nearby slab timber-built packing shed was constructed in the 1930s.




| | |
|---|---|
| A | THE STACHOW ORCHARD |
| B | THE ROUTLEY ORCHARD |
| C | THE ORIGINAL ORCHARD |
| 1 | Packing shed ruin. |
| 2 | Rymer tree. |
| 3 | Rymer tree. |
| 4 | Rymer tree. |
| 5 | Were Rudi remembers there being a line of Rymers in the 1950s |
| 6 | Wickson plum tree. |
| 7 | Site of Routley house. |
| 8 | Old Nashi pear tree. |
| 9 | Grapevine growing over a group of pear trees. |
| 10 | Remnant gold diggings. |

**The ‘Original Orchard’**

At the bottom of the property is the '**Original Orchard**'. It was most likely planted between 1851 and the arrival of the Routleys around 1870s.

It is presently overgrown, but remnant fruit trees survive in the undergrowth. This planting was much less regimented and more eclectic than both the Stachow and the Routley orchards. There are surviving apples, nashi pears, plums, figs and a grapevine.

The presence of a very old nashi pear tree and the nearby old gold mine and diggings, suggest that the orchard was planted in response to the needs of those who worked this section of the creek extensively from 1851 to the 1890s. Nashis did not officially reach Australian shores until 150 years later.

By 1858 there were large numbers of Chinese on the Braidwood gold fields. Not just miners, some took up market gardening, many with European customers.

Fruit tree near the original Routley Home site

It was here where Richard and Emma Routley built their first home and packing shed not long after their arrival. Scant evidence remains.

Looking at today's maps it seems puzzling that the Routleys built here, as the best access is from Burke Street at the opposite end of the property. However, from the 1850s the main road into Majors Creek town crossed the creek about 100 metres to the east of the original Routley settlement. There was easy access to water.

**The ‘Routley Orchard’**

Planted by Richard Routley from around 1870 with the final planting in the 1920s. The older plantings are at the bottom of the hill with newer ones planted near the border with the Stachow orchard. This is the steepest section of the property and the terraces that the Routleys cut into the hill side can still be seen. Rudi has identified an area as,

***“where the Routley Rymers were”.***

Nearby is a Wickson plum. Wickson first arose in the latter part of the 19th century. Given that Rudi remembers the Routleys' Rymers as being very old trees, we may assume that the Routley's ’Rymer’ trees were planted between 1898 and 1920. It is possible that there are other ‘Rymer’ trees in the earlier plantings. Remnant trees in the lower section of the orchard have been propagated but are yet to bear fruit for identification.

Arial view of Milo Farm with a line of old ‘Rymer’ trees in the middle and left (trees 2,3,4) at the east end of the ‘Stachow Orchard’) and beyond remnants of the terraces cut for the ‘Routley Orchard’ are visible. Drone photo courtesy Jack Watkins-Sully

**The 'Stachow Orchard'**

Rudi has fond and vivid memories of helping his parents in the orchards at Milo and selling the apples in the Canberra suburbs.

***"Looking like a Valkyrie, my mother would ride the sledge [with tree spray solution in an old oil drum] along the terraces, pulled by our horse 'Major' She worked the pump with one hand and held the reins and the spray hose in the other."***

Rudi recalls lines of 'Granny Smith', 'Five Crown Pippin', 'Rome Beauty', 'Jonathan' and 'Rymer' apples, all planted near the packing shed in the '**Stachow Orchard**'.

John and Inga Stachow at Milo Farm

Rudi can still identify most of the varieties of the remnant trees.

Rudi particularly remembers Rymers being packed onto a truck and his father hawking them in the Canberra suburbs.

***"The Canberra people loved them, he always sold out. Too bloody sour for me."***

Rudi recalls his father planting the 'Stachow Orchard' around 1957. He remembers,

***"all of the wrapped sticks"***,

that his father used to propagate new trees from the ageing trees in the 'Routley Orchard'.

Rudi Stachow (left) and his siblings at Milo Farm

## Richard Routley

In the 1851 census Richard was a 15 year old servant/farm labourer on a 50 acre farm at Newton near Bicknoller occupied by James Dudderidge. Dudderidge also farmed on at least two other local farms at Halsway and Yard Farm. Tithe maps indicate that there were small orchards of 1-2 acres at all three properties, sufficient for the occupier, family and workers. Richard would likely have honed his orchard skills there.

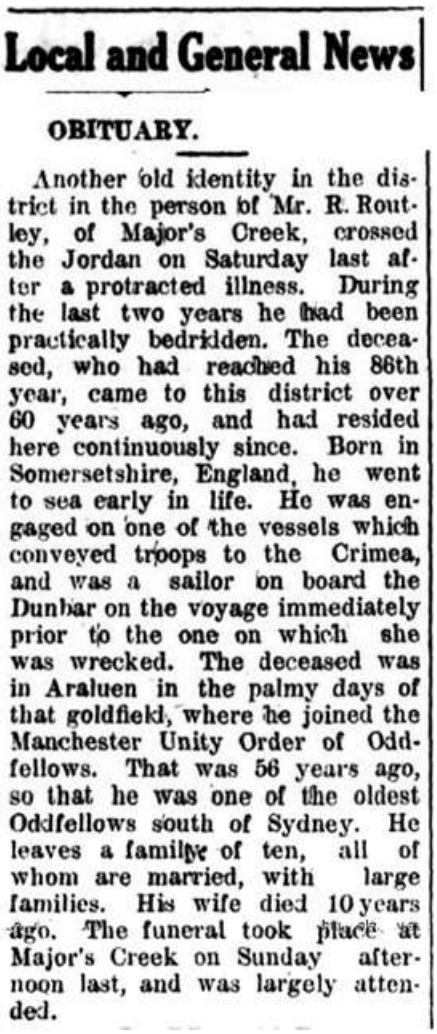
When Gary Sully discovered that Richard spent his early years in Bicknoller, only 4 or 5km from Roadwater, the birthplace of his own ggg grandfather, he looked a little deeper into Richard's family history. To Gary's surprise, Richard's mother, Elizabeth Routley was nee Sully. In the 1841 census Richard was a six year old living in Ford, Bicknoller with his father John, mother Elizabeth, younger brother James, older brother George, and 75-year old Hannah Sully. Astonishingly, it is most probable that Gary has a shared ancestry with Richard. It may even be a close link, as Gary's gggg grandmother was Hannah Sully being of a similar vintage in 1841. It is astounding to think that ten and half thousand miles apart and over 150 years on, a family connection has been established through the discovery of a single apple variety.

Here are the apples that make the connection:

Hay-on-Wye 25Sep25 Braidwood 26Mar25

Despite this seemingly idyllic existence, the plight of the English agricultural worker at this time was grim. Driven by the Enclosure Acts those at the lowest end of rural society, the agricultural labourers, had to leave the land permanently and seek work in the towns. Richard spent some time as a merchant seaman on the ships transporting soldiers to the Crimean war (1853 to 1856). At 21 years of age he applied to the British Emigration Commission and was accepted for assisted passage to NSW, as a single shepherd with no relatives in the colony. He arrived in Sydney onboard the *Marie Ann* in March 1857. Emma Seed arrived as an assisted passenger on the *Glen Isla* in July 1857. Shortly after they were married in Sydney.

Richard went back to sea as a crewman on the to-be-fated Dunbar. It may have been to get paid work or a re-union as the Dunbar was one of the ships that had transported troops to the Crimean War. Richard's obituary published in the Braidwood Review and District Advocate (NSW: 1914 - 1954), Tuesday 18 February 1919, page 2, states that Richard was a sailor on board the Dunbar on the voyage immediately prior to the one on which she was wrecked 20th August 1857." The wreck of the Dunbar ranks as one of Australia's worst maritime disasters, only one out of 122 survived.



**Local and General News**

**OBITUARY.**

Another old identity in the district in the person of Mr. R. Routley, of Major's Creek, crossed the Jordan on Saturday last after a protracted illness. During the last two years he had been practically bedridden. The deceased, who had reached his 86th year, came to this district over 60 years ago, and had resided here continuously since. Born in Somersetshire, England, he went to sea early in life. He was engaged on one of the vessels which conveyed troops to the Crimea, and was a sailor on board the Dunbar on the voyage immediately prior to the one on which she was wrecked. The deceased was in Araluen in the palmy days of that goldfield, where he joined the Manchester Unity Order of Oddfellows. That was 56 years ago, so that he was one of the oldest Oddfellows south of Sydney. He leaves a family of ten, all of whom are married, with large families. His wife died 10 years ago. The funeral took place at Major's Creek on Sunday afternoon last, and was largely attended.

By June 1858 Emma had given birth to daughter Mary Jane at Camden, a rural area to the south of Sydney that had become the heart of agricultural development in the colony of NSW. It is here that Richard had opportunity to become acquainted with 'Rymer' apples, particularly if as seems likely, he had gained employment at either William Macarthur's Camden Park Nursery or Ferguson's nursery, the two biggest employers of agricultural labourers in the district.

Macarthur was an accomplished agronomist, horticulturist, viticulturist and gardener, and plant collector. He published a catalogue of plants grown at Camden in 1843 and began what became an extensive and profitable wholesale and retail nursery business. 'Caldwell's Keeping' was listed in his first catalogue (see Appendix D).

Trading with the new colonies was encouraged by Sir Joseph Banks: Kew Gardens, the Horticulatural Society members including Hugh Ronalds, and others exported specimens and imported exotic plants in return. Several ships took cargos as early as the 1790s Hugh Ronalds - Wikipedia

Macarthur imported plants from all over the world, mostly on a barter system. He had a strong working arrangement with English nurserymen Conrad Loddiges, and Veitch and Sons of Exeter and London.

Francis Ferguson's Camden nursery was established in 1857 on a 50 acre property on the banks of the Napean River. Ferguson was a Macarthur protégé, having been head gardener at Camden Park Estate for William Macarthur from 1849-1856. There is no proof that Richard Routley worked for Ferguson. Yet, given that the date of Richard moving to Camden coincides with the time Ferguson was hiring agricultural labour for his nascent Nursery, it seems likely. Ferguson too had links with Veitch:

***"In 1864 a 25-year-old JG Veitch (Financial Times, 27 September 2014) led a plant hunting expedition to the 'South Seas' and delivered several Wardian cases to Australian colonial contacts. While in New South Wales, he visited William Macarthur's Camden***

***Park nursery and Fergusons' Australian Nursery, which impressed him. For a time, Ferguson acted as an agent for James Veitch and Sons nurseries. (Morris and Britton 2000; McMaugh 2005)".***

Camden History Notes web site

Emma and Richard Routley

https://camdenhistorynotes.com/2021/12/25/fergusons-australian-nurseries/

The Routleys second daughter was born in 1860 at Ryde, a well-known fruit growing centre on the north side of Sydney, near to where the 'Granny Smith' was discovered as a chance seedling.

By 1864 Richard and Emma had relocated to the Southern Tablelands of NSW. Their third child's birth was registered in the Braidwood district, which includes both Majors Creek and Araluen. It was the rich gold diggings that first drew the Routleys to the Araluen Valley. At its peak in the 1860s and 1870s, 30,000 men were working the area. As new diggings opened up many of the diggers moved on. Having made good money on the gold field, Richard and Emma were able to purchase a block of land at Elrington (present day Majors Creek).

The Routleys had six more children at Majors Creek, the last being Fredrick William in 1878. Fred likely inherited the property in 1919 and died 1940.

In the *Braidwood Dispatch and Mining Journal* of Friday 18 April 1930, page 2, it mentions that Fred Routley's Farm at Major's Creek grew and sold 'Rymer' apples alongside 'Prince Alfred', 'King David', and 'Jonathan'.

Richard and his son Fred were renowned apple growers in Majors Creek, they won top prize at the local agricultural show for many years.

**FINE FRUIT**

**The "Dispatch" has always urged that the Braidwood district is one of the finest apple and pear-growing districts in this State, and under better marketing conditions a big industry could easily be developed here. If any proof of this statement were needed it is to be found in an inspection of Mr. Fred Routley's orchard at Major's Creek. He grows dozens of different varieties of this fruit. The other day he left at this office some samples of Prince Alfred, Rymer, King David and Jonathan apples and several varieties of pears. They are fit to take their place amongst the State's best. Moreover, they reveal what care and attention bestowed upon trees can accomplish in fruit production.**

In addition to 'Rymer', this article mentions 'Jonathan' and 'King David', which the NAR lists have provenance in nineteenth century. Yet, 'Prince Alfred' is listed as being recorded in 1933 in the UK. A potential paradox? However, a series of letters to the editor of the Cumberland Times in which two fruit growing neighbours have a rather pedantic interchange via the editor, suggests the 'Prince Alfred' was raised at Grove Park, Huon, Tasmania about 1868 (see Appendix G).

Hellena and Fred Routley

Braidwood, NSW – tree cloned from Milo Farm, Major's Creek

Braidwood - May 2025 photo courtesy Gary Sully

Braidwood - May 2025 photo courtesy Gary Sully

Braidwood - May 2025 photo courtesy Gary Sully

## ‘Rymer’ in Australia.

For over a hundred years ‘Rymer’ was favoured as a quality culinary apple throughout the temperate east of Australia. It was first listed by William Macarthur as Caldwell’s Keeping in his Camden Park Nursery catalogue 1843. Caldwell’s Keeper was also the preferred name of Francis Ferguson in his 1861 nursery catalogue (see Appendix D). Although, in the 1899 catalogue it was listed as ‘Rymer’.

In 1871 John Smith of Riddle’s Creek in Victoria exhibited over 80 varieties of fruit at the Castlemaine Agricultural and Horticultural Show. ‘Rymer’ was in the culinary apple section. (Mount Alexander Mail, Thursday 23 March 1871, page 2).

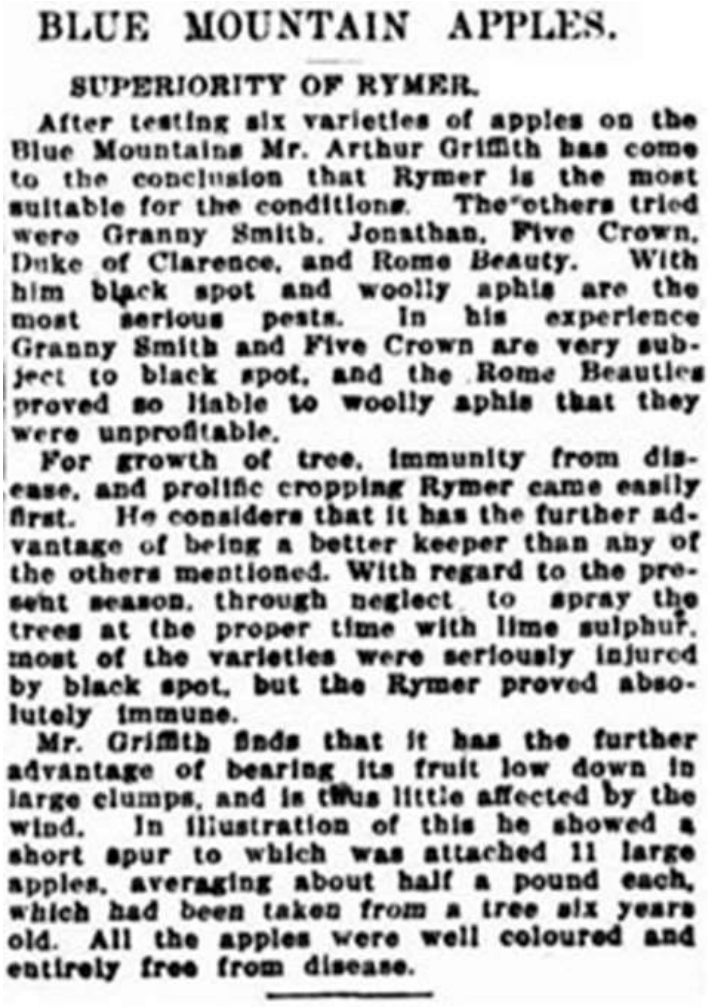
The Newcastle city and country almanac & directory: with farm and garden calendar 1879 promoted the ‘Rymer’ as a winter cooking variety in its ‘Select List Of Fruit Suited For A Small Garden’. This endorsement was repeated in the Gibbs, Shallard, & Co's New South Wales weather almanac1884. In A.H. Massina & Co's weather almanac and general guide and handbook for Victoria, the ’Rymer’ was recommended by the Department of Agriculture Victoria as a cooking apple suitable for cultivation and exporting.

David Crichton gives a favourable account of the ‘Rymer’ in his 1893 book, *The Australasian Fruit Culturist.* In the account the ‘r’ is missing from the end of ‘Rymer’. I assume it is a typographical error.

*"Ryme (Caldwell) —A first-class and popular old English variety, with medium-sized, or larger, roundish-oblate regularly-formed fruit. skin yellow ground, but to a great extent shaded with red. Flesh yellowish, firm, juicy, sub-acid, and well flavoured. Ripens late, will keep for a long time, and an excellent dessert and culinary Apple ; also a good variety for exporting. Tree robust and an excellent bearer.'*

The Sydney Morning Herald, Friday 22 April 1921 reports that Mr Arthur Griffith of the Blue Mountains, a well-known apple growing district to the west of Sydney, had tested six varieties of apples - Granny Smith, Jonathan, Five Crown, Duke of Clarence, Rome Beauty, and 'Rymer'.

*'For growth of tree, immunity from disease, and prolific cropping Rymer came easily first. He considers that it has the further advantage of being a better keeper than any of the others mentioned.'*



BLUE MOUNTAIN APPLES.

SUPERIORITY OF RYMER.

After testing six varieties of apples on the Blue Mountains Mr. Arthur Griffith has come to the conclusion that Rymer is the most suitable for the conditions. The others tried were Granny Smith, Jonathan, Five Crown, Duke of Clarence, and Rome Beauty. With him black spot and woolly aphis are the most serious pests. In his experience Granny Smith and Five Crown are very subject to black spot, and the Rome Beauties proved so liable to woolly aphis that they were unprofitable.

For growth of tree, immunity from disease, and prolific cropping Rymer came easily first. He considers that it has the further advantage of being a better keeper than any of the others mentioned. With regard to the present season, through neglect to spray the trees at the proper time with lime sulphur, most of the varieties were seriously injured by black spot, but the Rymer proved absolutely immune.

Mr. Griffith finds that it has the further advantage of bearing its fruit low down in large clumps, and is thus little affected by the wind. In illustration of this he showed a short spur to which was attached 11 large apples, averaging about half a pound each, which had been taken from a tree six years old. All the apples were well coloured and entirely free from disease.

Griffith concluded that the 'Rymer' was the best of the bunch.

Archives Australian Capital Territories have over 1500 hand written cards of nursery activity, at the Government Yarralumla Nursery, from 1913 to the mid-1960s. Card 95 is for a Rymer purchased from Nobelious Nursery in Victoria in 1915. Probably grubbed in 1923.

In the '14th annual report of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research 1939-40', there is an account of government researchers in Brisbane experimenting with double working apple trees. In the trial Delicious and Jonathan we used as the top scion, with Scarlet, Duke of Clarence, Dunns, Emperor Alexander, Reinette du Canada and Rymer used as intermediate stem pieces.

Rymers were mentioned in the Brisbane Fruit and Vegetable Markets report in the 'Warwick Daily News, Wednesday 17 August 1949, page 8'. Where they were being offered at 24/ to 28/ per bushel case.

## Australian models of ‘Rymer’

Combining the more consistent features of wood and wax models discussed in Appendix H suggests an apple that is medium to large, round slightly flattened and conical shape, with very broad ribs becoming more conspicuous near the apex, a skin green or yellow on shaded side and red flushed without stripes on sunny side, a fairly narrow and deep cavity with some russet, and a stalk that is about level with the base. It is similar to, though both less clear and comprehensive than, the summary morphology presented above derived from historic literature.

Model making was an art form popular from the eighteenth century that some rich folk used to impress others. In Australia, during the nineteenth century they were used to reassure the English elite that quality fruit could be grown in a colony. It became something of an artistic tradition in its own right.

Why ‘Rymer’ was selected often may be related to the value that was placed upon it. It is revealed in the article reproduced from the Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Friday 22 April 1921, page 7. Superior to Granny Smith!

# Appendix A – DNA fingerprints and parentages

Newton Wonder & Annie Elizabeth from Northern Greening x A477

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | MI02c07_PK1 | MI02c07_PK2 | MI02c07_PK3 | MI02c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening | 96 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 96 | 107 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 116 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 178 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 217 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 244 | 248 | 0 | 0 | 170 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| Newton Wonder | 96 | 106 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 180 | 182 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |

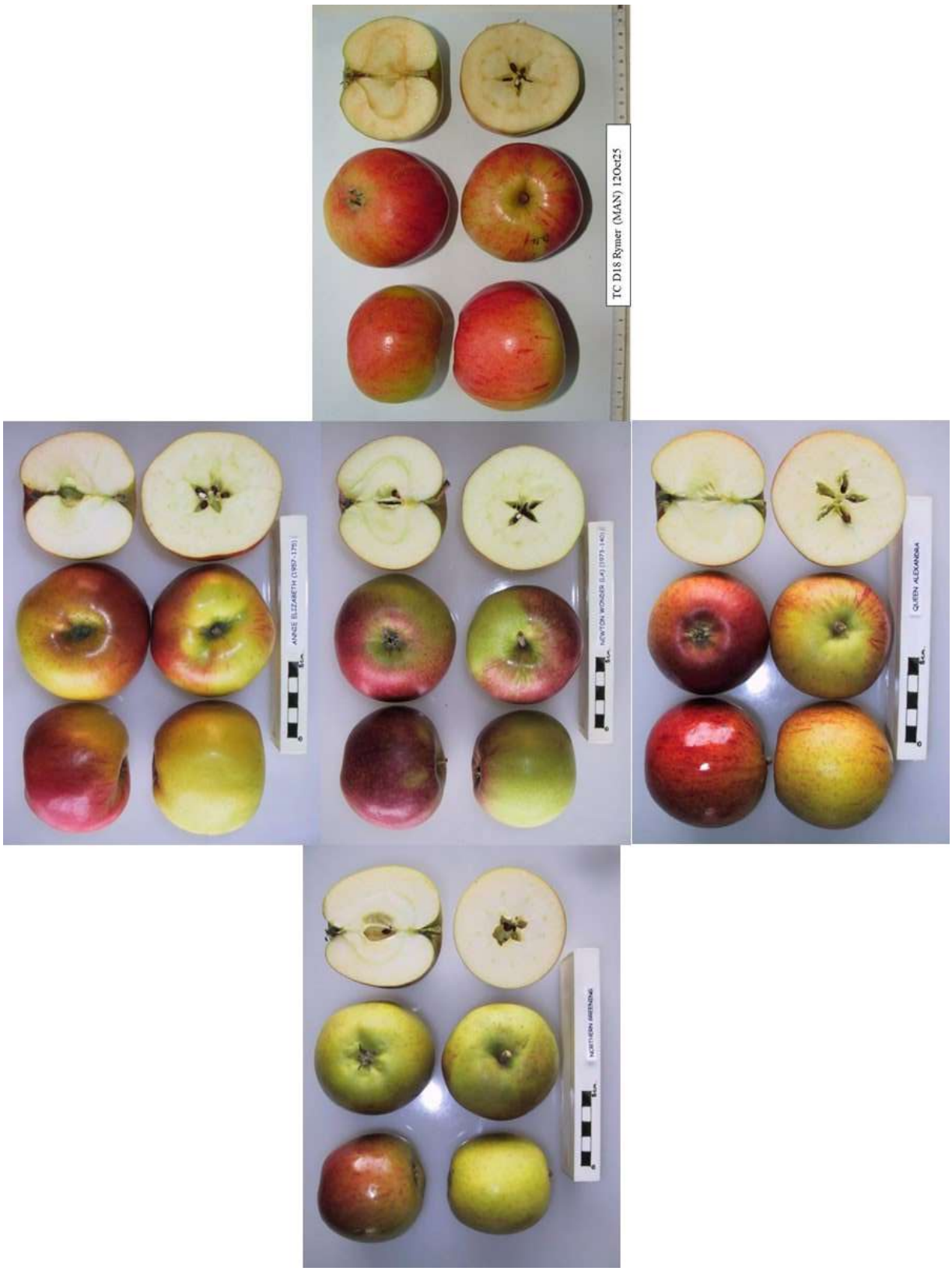
| | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening | 148 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 254 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 217 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 244 | 248 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| Newton Wonder | 148 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 224 | 254 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | MI02c07_PK1 | MI02c07_PK2 | MI02c07_PK3 | MI02c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening | 96 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 96 | 107 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 116 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 178 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| Annie Elizabeth | 112 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 180 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening | 148 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 254 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 217 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 244 | 248 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| Annie Elizabeth | 147 | 148 | 0 | 0 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 224 | 254 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |

Orange Goff from A477 and Queen Alexandra from A477 x Northern Greening

‘Newton Wonder’, ‘Annie Elizabeth’ and ‘Queen Alexandra’ as progeny of ‘Northern Greening’ x ‘Rymer’

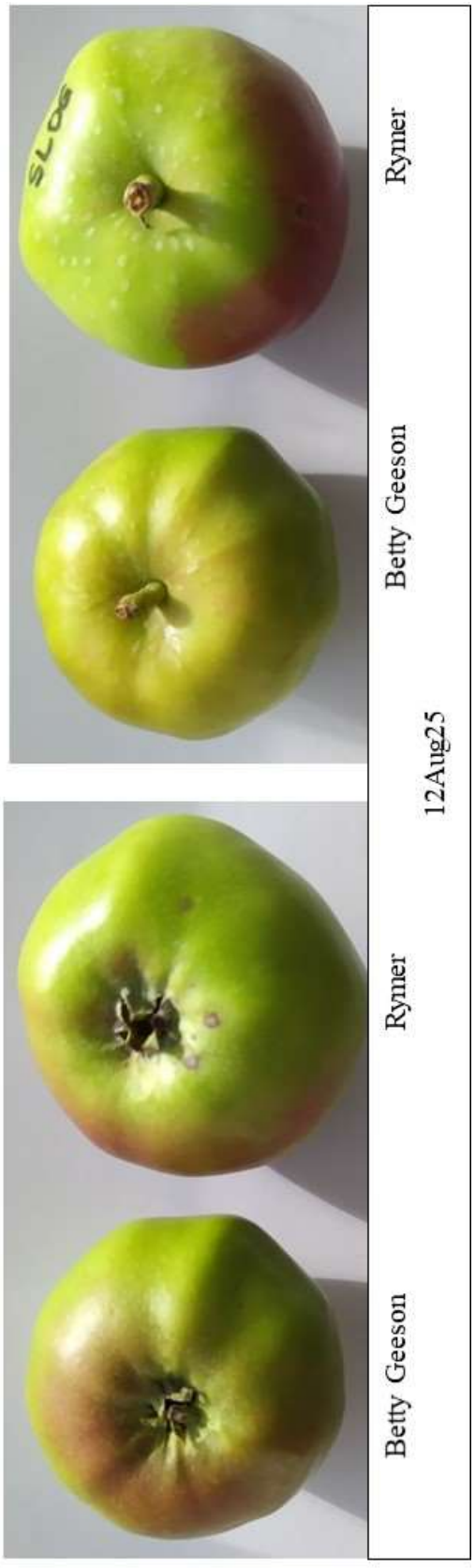


Bramley's Seedling from progeny of Northern Greening x A477

‘Betty Geeson’ appears related to A477, they have 18 alleles in common with all 12 marker-pairs matched.

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| Betty Geeson | 147 | 160 | 0 | 0 | 137 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 205 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | HI02c07_PK1 | HI02c07_PK2 | HI02c07_PK3 | HI02c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| Betty Geeson | 106 | 118 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 106 | 108 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 182 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |



‘Camelot’ = ‘Burr Knot (Howard)’ x A477 ?

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | Hi02c07_PK1 | Hi02c07_PK2 | Hi02c07_PK3 | Hi02c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Burr Knot (Howard) | 104 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 114 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 178 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 178 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| Camelot | 104 | 106 | 0 | 0 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Burr Knot (Howard) | 148 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 196 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 254 | 258 | 0 | 0 | 205 | 215 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 254 | 0 | 0 |
| A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| Camelot | 147 | 148 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 224 | 258 | 0 | 0 | 215 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

A565 maybe progeny of A477

| Explorer P2P Apple v7.71 Genotype | CH04c07_PK1 | CH04c07_PK2 | CH04c07_PK3 | CH04c07_PK4 | CH01h10_PK1 | CH01h10_PK2 | CH01h10_PK3 | CH01h10_PK4 | CH01h01_PK1 | CH01h01_PK2 | CH01h01_PK3 | CH01h01_PK4 | Hi02c07_PK1 | Hi02c07_PK2 | Hi02c07_PK3 | Hi02c07_PK4 | CH01f02_PK1 | CH01f02_PK2 | CH01f02_PK3 | CH01f02_PK4 | CH01f03b_PK1 | CH01f03b_PK2 | CH01f03b_PK3 | CH01f03b_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A477 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 | 114 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 170 | 0 | 0 |
| A565 | 106 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 131 | 0 | 0 | 114 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 203 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | GD12_PK1 | GD12_PK2 | GD12_PK3 | GD12_PK4 | GD147_PK1 | GD147_PK2 | GD147_PK3 | GD147_PK4 | CH04e05_PK1 | CH04e05_PK2 | CH04e05_PK3 | CH04e05_PK4 | CH02d08_PK1 | CH02d08_PK2 | CH02d08_PK3 | CH02d08_PK4 | CH02c11_PK1 | CH02c11_PK2 | CH02c11_PK3 | CH02c11_PK4 | CH02c09_PK1 | CH02c09_PK2 | CH02c09_PK3 | CH02c09_PK4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A477 | 147 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 224 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 244 | 0 | 0 |
| A565 | 147 | 160 | 0 | 0 | 131 | 137 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 224 | 254 | 0 | 0 | 227 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 244 | 256 | 0 | 0 |

‘Northern Greening’ family connections from

DArT matrix of likely progeny

| | Northern Greening | Annie Elizabeth | Newton Wonder | Orange Goff | Queen Alexandra | Bramley's Seedling |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening | 1 | 0.69 | 0.70 | 0.49 | 0.71 | 0.67 |
| Annie Elizabeth | 0.69 | 1 | 0.74 | 0.62 | 0.74 | 0.68 |
| Newton Wonder | 0.70 | 0.74 | 1 | 0.61 | 0.73 | 0.70 |
| Orange Goff | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.61 | 1 | 0.59 | 0.59 |
| Queen Alexandra | 0.71 | 0.74 | 0.73 | 0.59 | 1 | 0.70 |
| Bramley's Seedling | 0.67 | 0.68 | 0.70 | 0.59 | 0.70 | 1 |

# Appendix B Morphology and Photographs

## Size

Fruit size has been observed to vary considerably both of samples taken from the same tree and of samples taken from different orchards. In 2025 the heavy set and hot dry summer appear to have reduced average size considerably even of apples on younger trees. The younger trees at Tredomen and Ty Glyn grow in orchards at valley bottoms on thick old red sandstone soil of at least 2 m depth in which there is some ground water movement. Compared with most other orchard sites these likely have a lesser soil moisture deficit. Additionally a watering in mid-July at Ty Glyn will have ensured specimens were full sized. These give cleaner 'more' representative samples than can be had from trees of about 100 years age sometimes growing in well shaded sections of an orchard.

Tredomen TC D18 is a tree grafted from the original at Southwood Farm onto MM106 rootstock about 28 years ago and now about 6-7 m tall; Ty Glyn is a cordon re-grafted onto M26 rootstock from scion wood taken from Upper Coston Farm, it is now 7 years old and has fruited for the last three years.

| | **averages** | | | | | **ratios** | | **markings** | | **seen on fresh picked fruit** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orchard | **width** | **height** | **cavity width** | **cavity depth** | **visible stalk length** | **height /width** | **cavity width /width** | **hairline** | **ridges** | **areolae** | **bloom** |
| old trees | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lady Gilbert | 59 | 48 | 20 | 6 | 9 | 0.81 | 0.34 | yes | | yes | |
| Sunfold | 63 | 50 | 21 | 7 | 9 | 0.80 | 0.34 | | | | |
| Upper Coston | 68 | 53 | 20 | 6 | 9 | 0.77 | 0.29 | | yes | yes | yes |
| Padwick Farm | 73 | 56 | 26 | 8 | 8 | 0.76 | 0.36 | yes | | yes | |
| Llanerchaeron | 79 | 61 | 24 | 9 | 7 | 0.77 | 0.30 | | | yes | |
| new trees | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tredomen | 72 | 59 | 22 | 9 | 8 | 0.83 | 0.31 | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Ty Glyn | 82 | 64 | 25 | 9 | 8 | 0.78 | 0.30 | yes | yes | yes | yes |

From each of the five old trees, larger fruit were deliberately selected. Their sizes and descriptions are summarise in the table above. At Tredomen and Ty Glyn fruit is 10-20% larger than most older trees. Unsurprisingly, Llanerchaeron was less drought affected than all but Ty Glyn (watered), while Lady Gilbert was the most affected. At Tredomen all fruit on one major branch was harvested, while all fruit was taken from Ty Glyn. Fruit with a width at least 75% of the maximum seen at each site was considered broadly representative. At Tredomen 60 fruit samples selected have a width ranging between 62 and 82 mm and at Ty Glyn 38 range between 72 and 95 mm.

## Shape

Round or a little flat round with a hint of conical. Height is typically 80% of the width. Single fruit, or the larger of a pair of, on a cluster are about 5% taller on average than are the second apples of a cluster. Outline is fairly regular, with an eccentricity of about 5%; five to (about) eight very well rounded, or obscure, ribs are usually just evident that terminate in crowns, though sometimes one or two are more prominent . Some fruit is lopsided, more often than not the second fruit of a pair.

TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 10Dec24

About 5% of samples seen have a hairline which is raised perceptibly above the surface. They may be on the cheek and are not necessarily straight, or there may be curved hairline ridges running over the apex and into the basin, as shown in the photograph of 5Nov16.

TC D18 Rymer (MAN) 5Nov16

## Cavity and Stalk

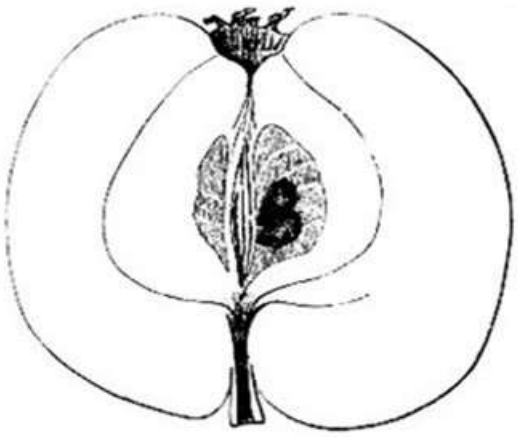
Inflorescence usually contains five or six florets and grow more often on spurs but also tips. While all flowers may be pollinated and could result in a cluster of as many as 6-7 apples, ‘Rymer’ usually has just a single or a pair of fruit on each spur or shoot. Clusters of three or four apples on the same shoot are relatively rare. There appears a natural process reducing the number of set blossoms even before the ‘June drop’. King fruit or, if absent, the first other that survives appear to dominate.


TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 25Sep25

Mike Porter identified two old trees in the Welsh Marches from the morphological descriptions, particularly that of Thompson (1853), to be ‘Rymer’. The first diagnostics are the exceptionally short stalk, a narrow and shallow cavity. Areolae, or ‘pearly specks’, on the base are especially noticeable on fresh picked fruit. Even young fruit have them. Other features confirm the identity but are less unique.


TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 10Dec24

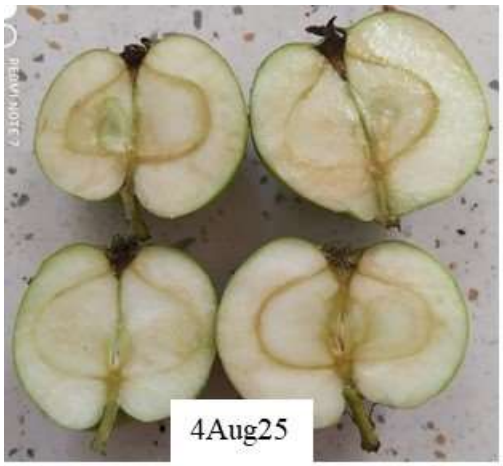
A possible explanation for the shallow narrow cavity is offered by Hogg and Bull in the line drawing presented in the *Herefordshire Pomona* (1885). The stalk is shown clearly and appears about 11-12 mm long and is about level with the base. It suggests that the flesh of the base has grown both outwards (i.e. downwards) and to engulf the stalk.



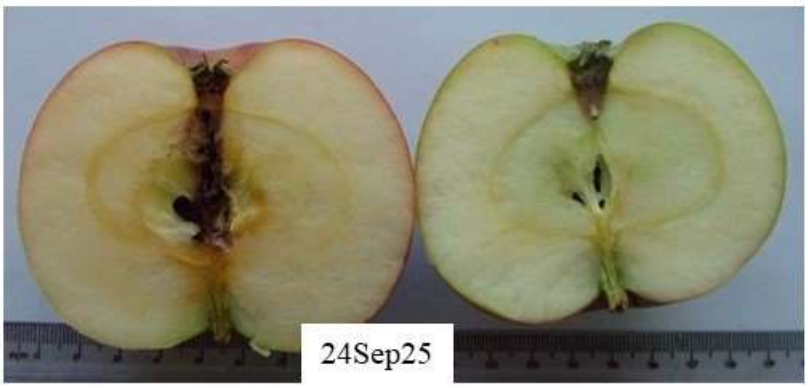
Herefordshire Pomona line drawing of Rymer

Representative samples were inspected over a time period of a few months. Undersized fruit in early August had stalks 11-15 mm long that protruded well beyond the base, except for that of the obvious king fruit sample (top right). By late August the fruit had grown in width and height and begun engulfing the stalk. Four weeks later, the stalk was level with the base and that openly visible was only about 3 mm long.

The photograph taken on 12Oct25 of the 'NFC style 6-apples' shows that the stalk is significantly recessed into the narrow and shallow cavity. Length from tip to attachment with flesh is 11 mm, though only 4 mm was visible before the fruit was cut. A length similar to that of fruit two months earlier. It is also of similar length to that of 'non-king fruit' that have a wider cavity in which much or all of the stalk can be seen.








It appears that the fruit enlarges by swelling outwards, proximally towards the shoot and in towards the stalk.


Shallower cavity and shorter visible stalk length are evident of king fruit. Measurements on 'Rymer (MAN)' set of apples shows the larger of an apple of a clustered pair also has a shallower cavity and shorter visible stalk length than the smaller fruit.

| | **average cavity depth of** | | | **average visible stalk length of** | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orchard | single fruit | larger of a pair | smaller of a pair | single fruit | larger of a pair | smaller of a pair |
| Tredomen | 1.2 | 5.6 | 8.8 | 5.9 | 7.1 | 8.8 |
| Ty Glyn | 8.4 | 8.1 | 9.6 | 4.2 | 6.9 | 10.5 |

Bunyard at the Conference on 'Apples and Pears: Varieties and Cultivation (1934) first drew attention to different form of 'king fruit'. He suggested that "they should be thrown out in any selection of average specimens equal with the extremes of size". If applied to 'Rymer (MAN)' many would be discarded and its most distinctive characteristics disregarded!

## Areola

The ‘Pearly Specks’ of Thompson are evident on most ‘Rymer (MAN)’ fruit when freshly picked but fade with time and are easily rubbed off, especially when fruit is fingered, or readily agitated as when in a bag, pocket or loosely in a box. Those on the base are usually the clearest.

Upper Coston Rymer (MAN) 6Aug25

TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 29Jun25

TG C82 Rymer (MAN) showing bloom and areolae on base 8Oct25

Areolae are also clear on the leftmost apple in the bowl shown a few pages above of fruit from TC D18.

## Bloom and lenticels

Bloom imparts a pinker bluer hue to the skin, perhaps matching to Lindley's description of "deep salmon colour".

Historic literature mentions four different types of dots. On the shaded side:

- Hogg and *Herf Pom* gives "thinly strewed with reddish brown dots"
- Scott gives "thinly strewed with whitish green dots"

On the sunny side:

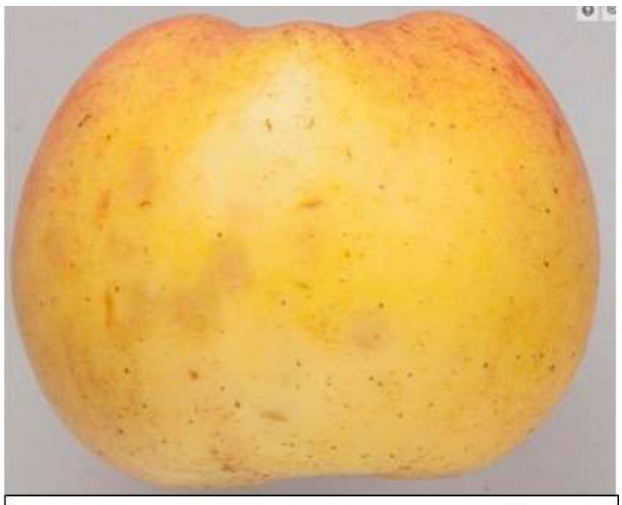
- Hogg and *Herf Pom* gives "covered with yellowish grey dots"
- Scott gives "covered with vermilion dots".

What dots were being described isn't clear or consistent. In his catalogue (1878), Scott only mentions 'vermilion dots' on one other variety 'Reinette Frisland'. Hogg mentions "reddish brown dots" on about three other varieties, all lost. Neither Thompson nor Bunyard mentions dots in their descriptions.

Ty Glyn cordons have a heavy bloom, particularly evident over lenticels, usually

TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 8 & 11Oct25

TC D18 Rymer (MAN) 12Oct25
lenticels are green



'Rymer' from AB TT03 6Nov18
courtesy Peter Laws - Note the lenticels

coloured brown, as a paler colouring on both aspects. Soon after picking, or rubbing, the bloom fades. Around lenticels on the shaded side there maybe residual areola or the original green colour may be retained. On the sunny side, lenticels are often surrounded by very tiny flecks or streaks of crimson.
Existing fruit samples hint at possible explanations, but do no match any description well.

Fruit in 2025 were generally noticeably free of scab and lenticels less conspicuous than in cooler wetter years. Few samples from any of the six available trees showed lenticels as conspicuous on shaded or sunny aspects as the one shown opposite. A few pale dots can just be seen.

TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 13Oct25 pale lenticels

## Eye

Over 100 samples were taken from the trees at Tredomen and Ty Glyn. Some had a fully closed eye, others wide open, and all intermediate stages too. Examples are shown in the photographs below.

About 20% of all samples from Tredomen and Ty Glyn had a closed eye when picked. Near and fully open is the most common situation.

Is the eye aperture be related to fruit width via outward swelling of the flesh increasing stress around the eye, rather as for an expanding balloon? To test this, the average width was calculated for five approximate apertures. No statistically significant correlation appears, just a 5% variation over the range from closed to fully open and not a monotonic trend either.

Hogg is inconsistent giving eye aperture as Open in 1851, Closed in 1884 and Open with the *Herf Pom* (1886). Lindley (1841), Thompson (1853) and Barron (1888) all give it as Open. Scott (1878) and Bunyard (1920) gave it as Closed.

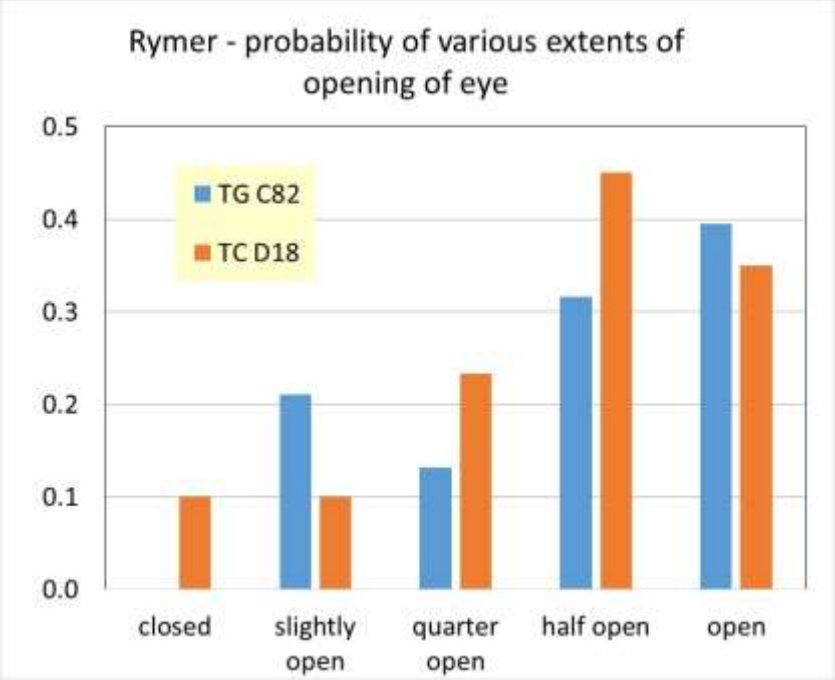
This inconsistency could be partly explained by one or more of several factors:

- Segments are brittle and even with careful handling some loss occurs. If fruit was inspected sometime after picking a wider aperture would likely be recorded.
- Observation of the eyes of 30+ fruit from the old trees shows these were more often than not to be closed or only partially open. If this is a typical situation, this would result in records favouring a closed eye.

TC D18 Rymer (MAN)

open and closed eyes
October 2025

- If as appears likely the width of aperture various greatly from sample to sample, selection of representative samples to describe may unintentionally 'cull' samples from one or other extreme. It is also rather cumbersome to record such variability and a simple preference of representative may be taken.




## Sports?

There may be clonal differences accumulated over its 100+ year existence to the nineteenth century, but no convincing systematic difference has been found to support it. Instead natural variability and environmental factors (temperature, hours of sunshine, rainfall, leaf shade, even soil type) appear the most likely cause of variability.

# Appendix C ‘Rymer’ – Historical Literature

**John Turner, Transaction of the Horticultural Society of London (1822) volume 3, p 329.**



*Rymer Apple.* So named in compliment to a gentleman at Thirsk, who raised the tree several years ago. We are indebted to Sir THOMAS FRANKLAND for bringing this excellent variety into notice. It is a handsome Apple of the middle size, with the eye considerably sunk; the ground colour of the skin is a bright green, deepening to yellow, with a good deal of red striping, freckled with russet; the flesh is soft, melting, and juicy, with a fine brisk flavour, which becomes very rich when the fruit is baked. The original tree has been grubbed up, but many young plants have been raised by grafts from it, several of which have been presented to the Society by Sir THOMAS FRANKLAND, and dispersed amongst the nurserymen round London, who are Fellows of the Society.

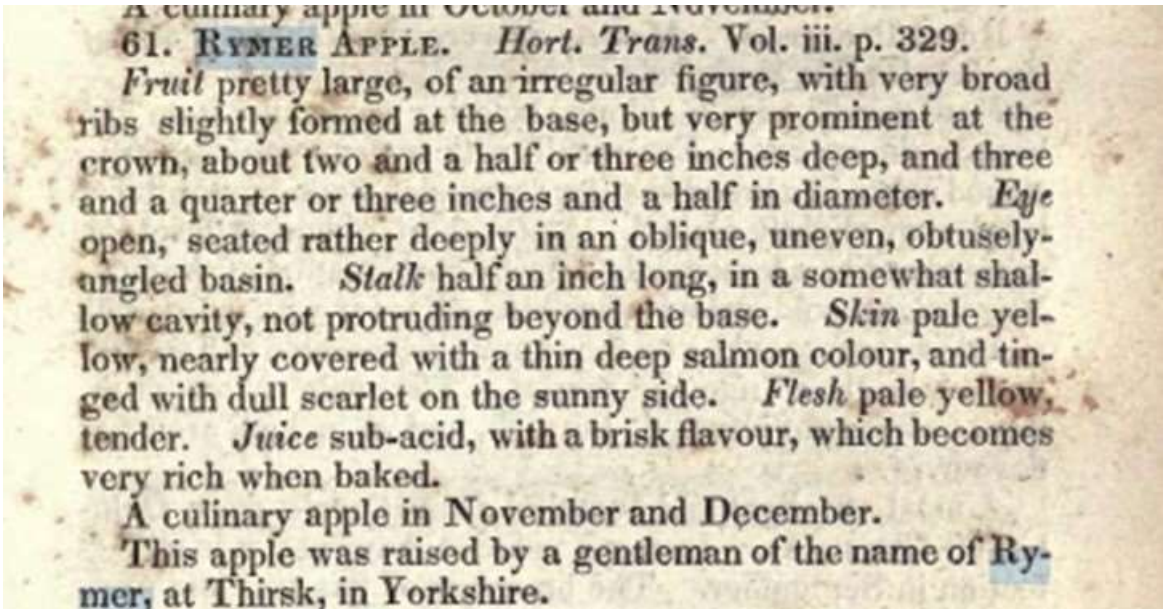
**Ronalds ‘Pomona Brentfordiensis’ (1831) pl XLI fig2**

## 2. RYMER.

This drawing is from the first fruit produced by a tree presented to me by the Horticultural Society. It is large, of a globular shape, a rich crimson colour on a yellow ground: it ranks very high as a sauce apple, is juicy, and highly flavoured; a great bearer, and appears very richly beautiful on the tree, which grows strong and healthily: it is in use from October till Christmas.

Blossoms, pink and white.

**Lindley (1833) p25**



A culinary apple in October and November.

61. Rymer Apple. *Hort. Trans.* Vol. iii. p. 329.

*Fruit* pretty large, of an irregular figure, with very broad ribs slightly formed at the base, but very prominent at the crown, about two and a half or three inches deep, and three and a quarter or three inches and a half in diameter. *Eye* open, seated rather deeply in an oblique, uneven, obtusely-angled basin. *Stalk* half an inch long, in a somewhat shallow cavity, not protruding beyond the base. *Skin* pale yellow, nearly covered with a thin deep salmon colour, and tinged with dull scarlet on the sunny side. *Flesh* pale yellow, tender. *Juice* sub-acid, with a brisk flavour, which becomes very rich when baked.

A culinary apple in November and December.

This apple was raised by a gentleman of the name of Rymer, at Thirsk, in Yorkshire.

**Hogg (1851) p177**

313. RYMER.—Hort.

Identification.—Hort. Trans. vol. iii. p. 329. Hort. Soc. Cat. ed. 3, n. 358. Lind. Guide, 33.

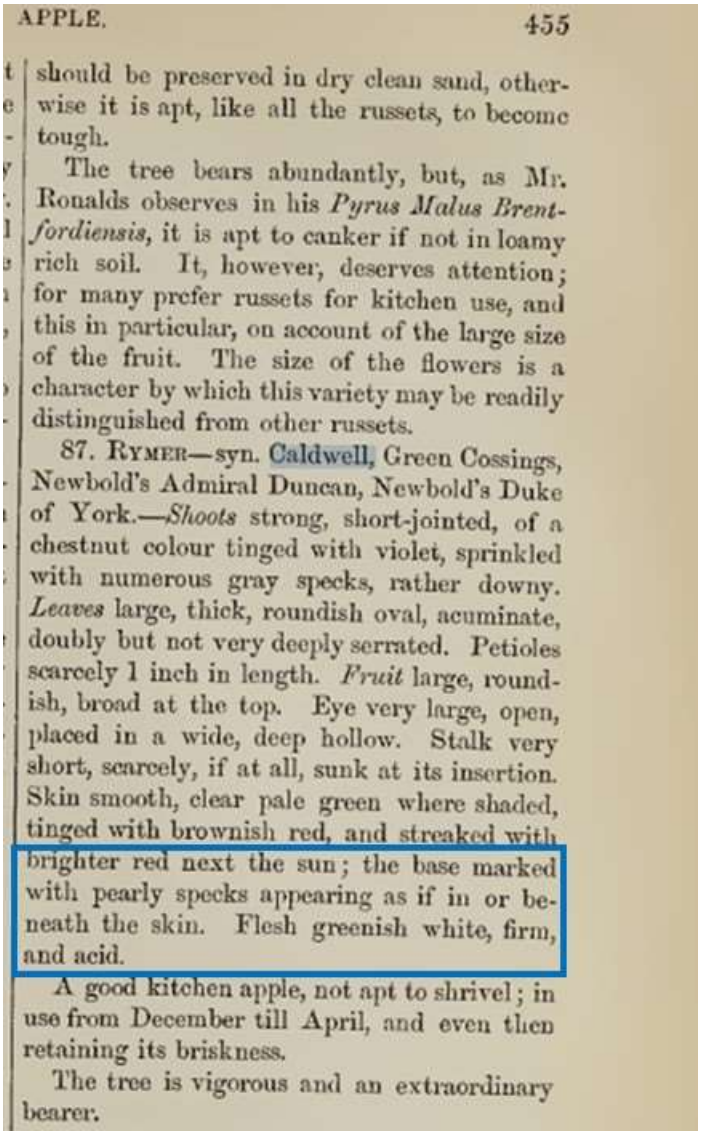
Synonymes.—Caldwell, *Hort. Soc. Cat.* ed i. 124. Green Cossings, *Ibid.* 411. Newbold's Duke of York, *Ibid.* 286. Cordwall

Figure.—Ron. Pyr. Mal. pl. xli. f. 2.

Fruit, large, three inches and a quarter wide, and two inches and three quarters high; roundish, and flattened, with five obscure ribs, on the sides, extending into the basin of the eye. Skin, smooth, thinly strewed with redish-brown dots, and a few faint streaks of pale red on the shaded side; and of a beautiful deep red, covered with yellowish-grey dots, on the side next the sun. Eye, open, with broad reflexed segments, set in a round and moderately deep basin. Stalk, short, inserted in a round and deep cavity lined with rough russet, which extends in ramifications over the base. Flesh, yellowish, tender, and pleasantly sub-acid.

A good culinary apple, in use from October to Christmas.

**Robert Thompson, Gardener's Chronicle (1859) p455**



APPLE. 455

should be preserved in dry clean sand, otherwise it is apt, like all the russets, to become tough.

The tree bears abundantly, but, as Mr. Ronalds observes in his *Pyrus Malus Brentfordiensis*, it is apt to canker if not in loamy rich soil. It, however, deserves attention; for many prefer russets for kitchen use, and this in particular, on account of the large size of the fruit. The size of the flowers is a character by which this variety may be readily distinguished from other russets.

87. RYMER—syn. Caldwell, Green Cossings, Newbold's Admiral Duncan, Newbold's Duke of York.—*Shoots* strong, short-jointed, of a chestnut colour tinged with violet, sprinkled with numerous gray specks, rather downy. *Leaves* large, thick, roundish oval, acuminate, doubly but not very deeply serrated. Petioles scarcely 1 inch in length. *Fruit* large, roundish, broad at the top. Eye very large, open, placed in a wide, deep hollow. Stalk very short, scarcely, if at all, sunk at its insertion. Skin smooth, clear pale green where shaded, tinged with brownish red, and streaked with brighter red next the sun; the base marked with pearly specks appearing as if in or beneath the skin. Flesh greenish white, firm, and acid.

A good kitchen apple, not apt to shrivel; in use from December till April, and even then retaining its briskness.

The tree is vigorous and an extraordinary bearer.

**Simon Louis Freres (1876)**

**RYMER. Fruit assez gros, de forme régulière presque sphérique, jaune-pâle légèrement marbré de rose-orange du côté du soleil; à chair assez ferme, d'une saveur acidulée particulière; de toute première qualité pour cuire; maturité fin d'hiver et printemps. Arbre rustique et fertile. — Belle Pomme, de longue conservation.**

Rymer Fruit assez gros, de forme reguliere presque spherique, jaune-pale legerement marbre de rose-orange du cote du soleil; a chair assez ferme, d'une saveur acidulee particuliere; de toute premiere qulite pour cuire; maturity fin d'hiver et printemps. Arbre rustique et fertile. – Belle Pomme, de longue conservation.

Rymer Fruit quite large, nearly spherical in shape, pale yellow slightly marbled with pink-orange on the sunny side; with fairly firm flesh, having a particular tangy flavor; of very high quality for cooking; matures in late winter and spring. A hardy and fertile tree. – Beautiful apple, with long shelf life.

**Scott's Orchardist (1878) p105**

**Rymer** (*Caldwell, Cordwell, Green Cossings, Newbold's Duke of York*), 1 size, 1 qual. as a cooking sort, October to January. Roundish and flattened with five obscure ribs, running up to the eye; *skin* smooth, beautiful yellow, thinly strewed with whitish green dots, a few faint streaks of pale red on the shaded side, and a beautiful vermilion, covered with vermilion dots on the sunny side; *eye* closed, and set in a round medium-sized plaited basin; *stalk* short, and set in a deep, round, russety cavity, the russet extending in ramifications over the base; *flesh* yellowish, tender, juicy, and pleasantly sub-acid. One of the most beautiful of Apples. The tree is hardy and a good bearer, and it does well upon the Paradise Stock.

**Hogg, 'The Fruit Manual' 5th Ed. (1884) p203**

RYMER (*Caldwell; Green Cossings; Newbold's Duke of York*).—Fruit, large, three inches and a quarter wide, and two inches and three-quarters high; roundish and flattened, with five obscure ribs on the

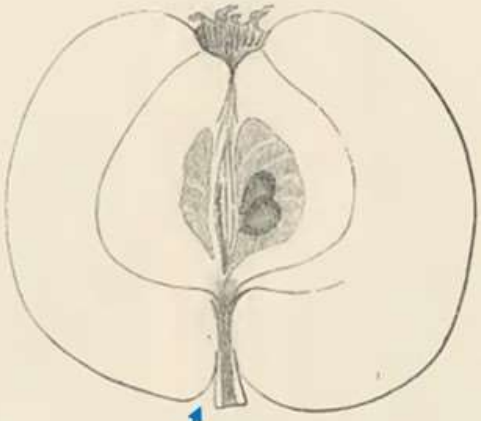


sides, extending into the basin of the eye. Skin, smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots, and a few faint streaks of pale red on the shaded side, and of a beautiful deep red, covered with yellowish grey dots, on the side next the sun. Eye, closed, with broad convergent segments, set in a round and moderately deep basin. Stamens, median or marginal; tube, conical. Stalk, short, inserted in a round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet, which extends in ramifications over the base. Flesh, yellowish, tender, and pleasantly sub-acid. Cells, roundish obovate; axile.

A good culinary apple; in use from October to Christmas.

This was raised at Thirsk, in Yorkshire, by a person named Rymer.

**Hogg and Bull, 'Herefordshire Pomona' (1885) 6 and plate 39**



6. RYMER.

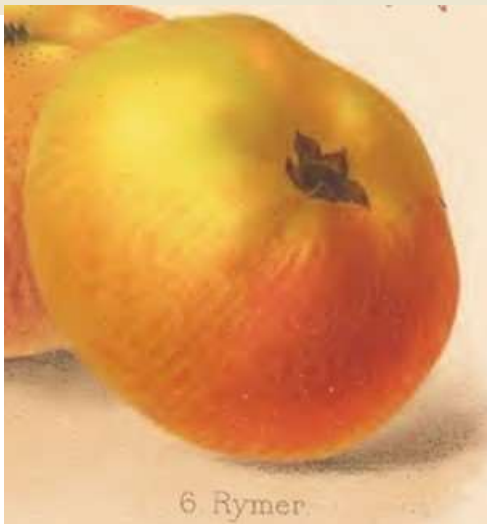
[Syn : *Caldwell ; Green Cossings ; Newbold's Duke of York.*]

This variety was first brought into notice by Sir Thomas Frankland. It derives its name from the gentleman at Thirsk, who raised the tree, "several years since;" says Sir Thomas, in the "*Trans. of the London Horticultural Society*" for 1818; so that its origin probably dates from the end of last century. It is figured by Ronalds, Pl. xli., fig. 2.

*Description.*—Fruit : large, three inches and a quarter wide, and two inches and three-quarters high ; roundish and flattened, with five obscure ribs on the sides extending to the basin of the eye. Skin : smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots, and a few faint streaks of pale red on the shaded side, and of a beautiful deep red, covered with yellowish grey dots on the side next the sun. Eye : open, with broad reflexed segments, set in a round and moderately deep basin. Stalk : short, inserted in a round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet, which extends in ramifications over the base. Flesh : yellowish, tender and pleasantly subacid.

A good culinary apple, in season from October to Christmas.

The tree grows freely, and succeeds best as a standard; in which form it is an old and favourite variety in many localities.



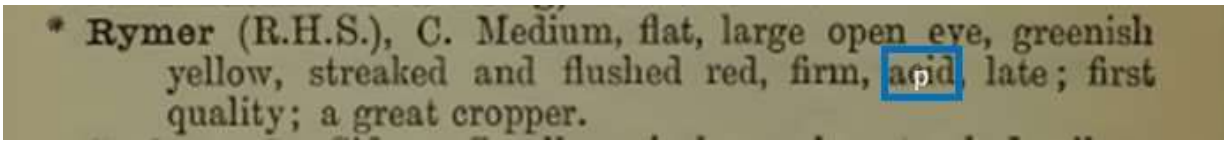

Commentary by Ainsleigh:

The eye in Ronald's illustration is open with erect reflexed segments. The illustration and description in the Herefordshire Pomona is more of erect reflexed or divergent segments.

The difference between of cavity depth description and line drawing indicates that the latter was likely taken from a king fruit whereas the former was not.

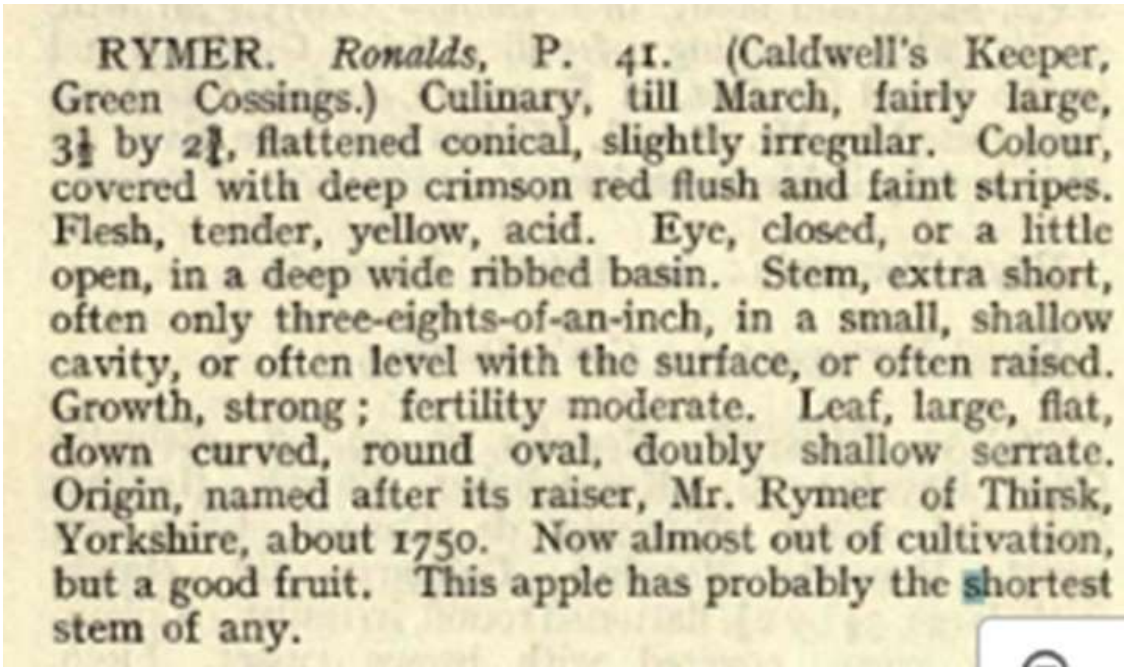
The illustration barely shows a few pale dots on the most intense flush but no dots elsewhere.

**JRHS Conference (1888) p352**



* **Rymer** (R.H.S.), C. Medium, flat, large open eye, greenish yellow, streaked and flushed red, firm, acid, late; first quality; a great cropper.

**Bunyard (1920) p116**



RYMER. *Ronalds*, P. 41. (Caldwell's Keeper, Green Cossings.) Culinary, till March, fairly large, 3½ by 2¾, flattened conical, slightly irregular. Colour, covered with deep crimson red flush and faint stripes. Flesh, tender, yellow, acid. Eye, closed, or a little open, in a deep wide ribbed basin. Stem, extra short, often only three-eights-of-an-inch, in a small, shallow cavity, or often level with the surface, or often raised. Growth, strong; fertility moderate. Leaf, large, flat, down curved, round oval, doubly shallow serrate. Origin, named after its raiser, Mr. Rymer of Thirsk, Yorkshire, about 1750. Now almost out of cultivation, but a good fruit. This apple has probably the shortest stem of any.

**Muriel Smith in National Apple Register (1971)**

Rymer *(published descriptions conflicting)*

*Syn Admiral Duncan, Allman's Scarlet Pippin, Belle Fleur Rymer, Belle-Fleur Rymer, Caldwell,*

*Caldwell Pippin, Caldwell's Keeper, Cordwall, Cordwell, Duke of York, Green Balsam, Green Casings, Green Gassings, Lanterne, Newbold's Admiral Duncan, Newbold's Duke of York, Old Caldwell, Parson's, Parsons, Rymer Apple*

*Ref* A + P, BAR, B POM, BUN *p.* I *16,* DOW, ELL, G P, HOGG *p. 203,* HP *pl.* XXXIX *6,* J R H S, LIN, MAT, RON *pl.* XLI *2,* SO, THOM

*Sts In existence 1934*

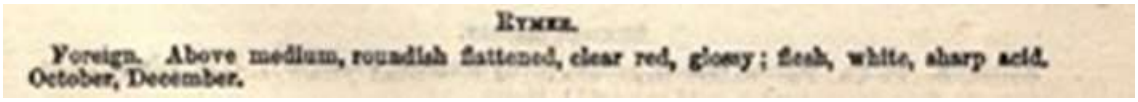
*Prv England, raised by Mr. Rymer of Thirsk, Yorkshire, brought to notice by Sir Thomas Frankland*

*Dte First recorded 1818*

*Des* (HOGG). *Size large 82 : 69 mm; shape intermediate to flat, rectangular, convex, ribbed on body and at eye; skin pale red flushed deeper red, light dots; flesh tender, yellowish; flavour subacid: season mid to late*

**USA Descriptions**

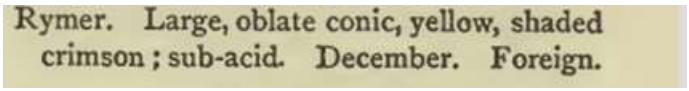
**Elliot (1858) p191**



RYMER.

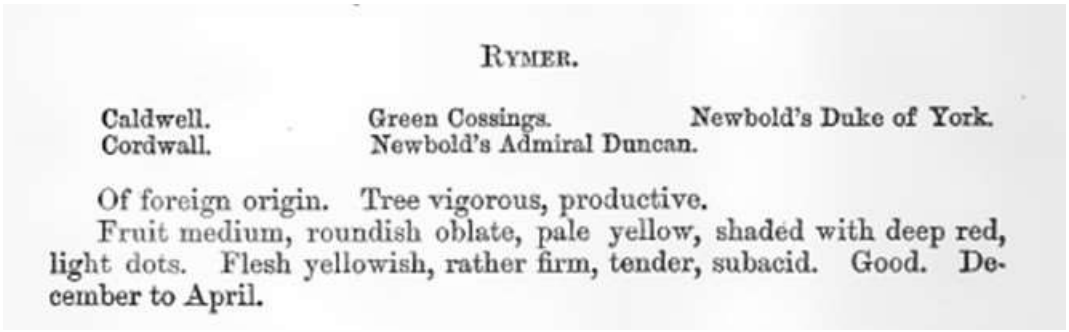
Foreign. Above medium, roundish flattened, clear red, glossy; flesh, white, sharp acid. October, December.

**Thomas (1867) p467**



Rymer. Large, oblate conic, yellow, shaded crimson; sub-acid. December. Foreign.

**A J Downing & C Downing (1889) p344**



RYMER.

Caldwell. Green Cossings. Newbold's Duke of York.
Cordwall. Newbold's Admiral Duncan.

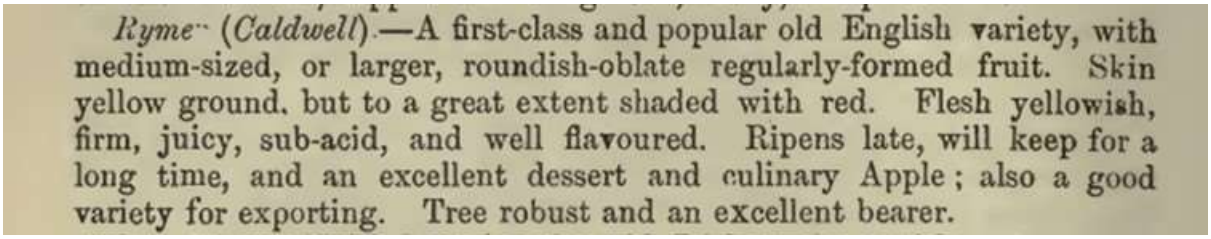
Of foreign origin. Tree vigorous, productive.
Fruit medium, roundish oblate, pale yellow, shaded with deep red, light dots. Flesh yellowish, rather firm, tender, subacid. Good. December to April.

**Rymer is not listed in the USDA database**

https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/gringlobal/search

**Australian description**

**David Alexander Crichton, The Australasian Fruit Culturist, Melbourne 1893 p180**



*Ryme* (*Caldwell*).—A first-class and popular old English variety, with medium-sized, or larger, roundish-oblate regularly-formed fruit. Skin yellow ground, but to a great extent shaded with red. Flesh yellowish, firm, juicy, sub-acid, and well flavoured. Ripens late, will keep for a long time, and an excellent dessert and culinary Apple; also a good variety for exporting. Tree robust and an excellent bearer.

**Rymer Literature - summary of descriptions - a**ttributes noted as varying are highlighted in blue

| **Attribute** | Ronalds 'Pomona Brentfordiensis' (1831) pl XLI fig2 | Lindley (1833) | Hogg (1851) p177 | Robert Thompson, Gardener's Chronicle (1853) p455 | Scott's Orchardist (1878) p105 | Hogg, 'The Fruit Manual' (1884) p203 | Hogg and Bull, 'Herefordshire Pomona' (1885) 6 and plate 39 | JRHS Confernce (1888) p352 | Bunyard (1920) p116 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Size | Large | (82-88)x(63-75) | Large 82x70 | large | 82x70 | 82x70 | 82x70 | medium | 82x70 |
| Shape | globular (flat round), ribbed | irregular | roundish-flattened | roundish, broad at the top | roundish and flattened | roundish-flattened | roundish-flattened | flat | flattened conical slightly irregular |
| Ribs | ribbed | Very broad ribs, slight at base but prominent at crown | 5 obscure reaching into basin | | 5 obscure reaching to apex and eye | 5 obscure reaching into basin | 5 obscure reaching into basin | | |
| Skin shaded | yellow ground | pale yellow | smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots and a few faint streaks of pale red on shaded side | smooth, clear pale green | Smooth, yellow thinly strewed with whitish green dots and a few streaks of pale red | smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots and a few faint streaks of pale red on shaded side | smooth, thinly strewed with reddish brown dots and a few faint streaks of pale red on shaded side | greenish yellow | |
| Skin sunny | rich crimson | nearly covered with a thin deep salmon colour and tinged with dull scarlet | beautiful deep red covered with yellowish grey dots | tinged with brownish red, and streaked with brighter red | vermilion and covered with vermilion dots | beautiful deep red covered with yellowish grey dots | beautiful deep red covered with yellowish grey dots | streaked and flush red | covered with deep crimson red flush and faint stripes |

| **Attribute** | Ronalds ‘Pomona Brentfordiensis’ (1831) pl XLI fig2 | Lindley (1833) | Hogg (1851) p177 | Robert Thompson, Gardener’s Chronicle (1853) p455 | Scott's Orchardist (1878) p105 | Hogg, ‘The Fruit Manual’ (1884) p203 | Hogg and Bull, ‘Herefordshire Pomona’ (1885) 6 and plate 39 | JRHS Confernce (1888) p352 | Bunyard (1920) p116 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Base | | | | base marked with pearly specks appearing as beneath the skin | | | | | |
| Apex | crowned | crowned | crowned | | crowned | crowned | crowned | | |
| Basin | | rather deep and oblique, uneven obtusely-angled | round and moderately deep, ridges from apex | wide, deep | round medium-sized plaited | round and moderately deep, ridges from apex | round and moderately deep, ridges from apex | | deep wide ribbed basin |
| Eye | erect reflexed | open | open broad reflexed convergent segments | Very large open | closed | closed broad convergent segments | open broad reflexed segments | large open | closed or a little open |
| Cavity | | somewhat shallow | round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet that extends in ramifications over base | stalk scarcely sunk at its insertion | deep round, russet extending as ramifications over the base | round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet that extends in ramifications over base | round and deep cavity, lined with rough russet that extends in ramifications over base; line drawing shows it as very narrow and quite shallow | | small shallow, often level or raised |

| **Attribute** | Ronalds 'Pomona Brentfordiensis' (1831) pl XLI fig2 | Lindley (1833) | Hogg (1851) p177 | Robert Thompson, Gardener's Chronicle (1853) p455 | Scott's Orchardist (1878) p105 | Hogg, 'The Fruit Manual' (1884) p203 | Hogg and Bull, 'Herefordshire Pomona' (1885) 6 and plate 39 | JRHS Confernce (1888) p352 | Bunyard (1920) p116 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stalk | | 12, not protruding beyond base | short | very short | short | short | short | | extra short, ca. 8, probably shortest of any |
| Tube | | | | | | conical | wide cone | | |
| Stamens | | | | | | median or marginal | median or marginal | | |
| Coreline | | | | | | | median or marginal | | |
| Core | | | roundish obovate, axile | | | roundish obovate, axile | | | |
| Flesh | | pale yellow, tender, sub-acid with brisk flavour | yellowish, tender, pleasantly subacid | greenish white firm and acid | yellowish, tender juicy, pleasantly sub-acid | yellowish, tender, pleasantly subacid | yellowish, tender, pleasantly subacid | acid | yellow, tender, acid |
| Season | Oct-Dec | Nov-Dec | Oct-Dec | Dec-Apr | Oct-Jan | Oct-Dec | Oct-Dec | late | to March |
| Other | ranks very high as a sauce apple highly flavoured | flavour good when basked | good culinary | | one of the most beautiful apples | good culinary | good culinary | first quality | Leaf large flat down-curved, round oval, doubly shallow serrate |

# Appendix D Nursery catalogues listing ‘Rymer’

The National Apple register lists the follow synonyms:

Admiral Duncan, Allman's Scarlet Pippin, Belle Fleur Rymer, Belle-Fleur Rymer, Caldwell, Caldwell Pippin, Caldwell's Keeper, Cordwall, Cordwell, Duke of York, Green Balsam, Green Casings, Green Gassings, Lanterne, Newbold's Admiral Duncan, Newbold's Duke of York, Old Caldwell, Parson's, Parsons, Rymer Apple.

Post RLC10 meeting note added. Members of the then new Horticultural Society of London, founded 1804, began accumulating plants and trees at their own estates and gardens pending finding a site for the Garden. In 1823 the Chiswick garden was started and member’s contributions were relocated there. It first concentrated on fruit bushes and tree, including apple. A catalogue of the collection was published in 1826, then a second edition in 1831 and third in 1842. Early work concentrated on descriptions, identification of duplicates, and synonymy.

It was from this work that many of the above synonyms were recognised.

RHS library staff have most generously looked through the early observational records held about the Garden apple trees 1821-1829 and looked for who contributed trees that were regarded as the same as ‘Rymer’, the name preferred following Sir Thomas Frankland’s notice of 1818.

| name | Contributed by | Contributed from | Garden Location |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cauldwell or Caldwell | Haythorn | Darley Hall, Notts | |
| Green Cossing | Dicksons | Chester | SN 230 ? |
| Newbold's Admiral Duncan | Brookes | | or Orchard 607 ? |
| Newbold's Duke of York, | Walker | | Balloon 423 was it or Orchard 607? |
| Rymer Apple | Frankland | Thirsk | Orchard 707 |
| Rymer Apple | Kirke | Brompton Road, London | Balloon W24 |
| Wareham’s Russet (false) | Judd | | Orchard 670 |

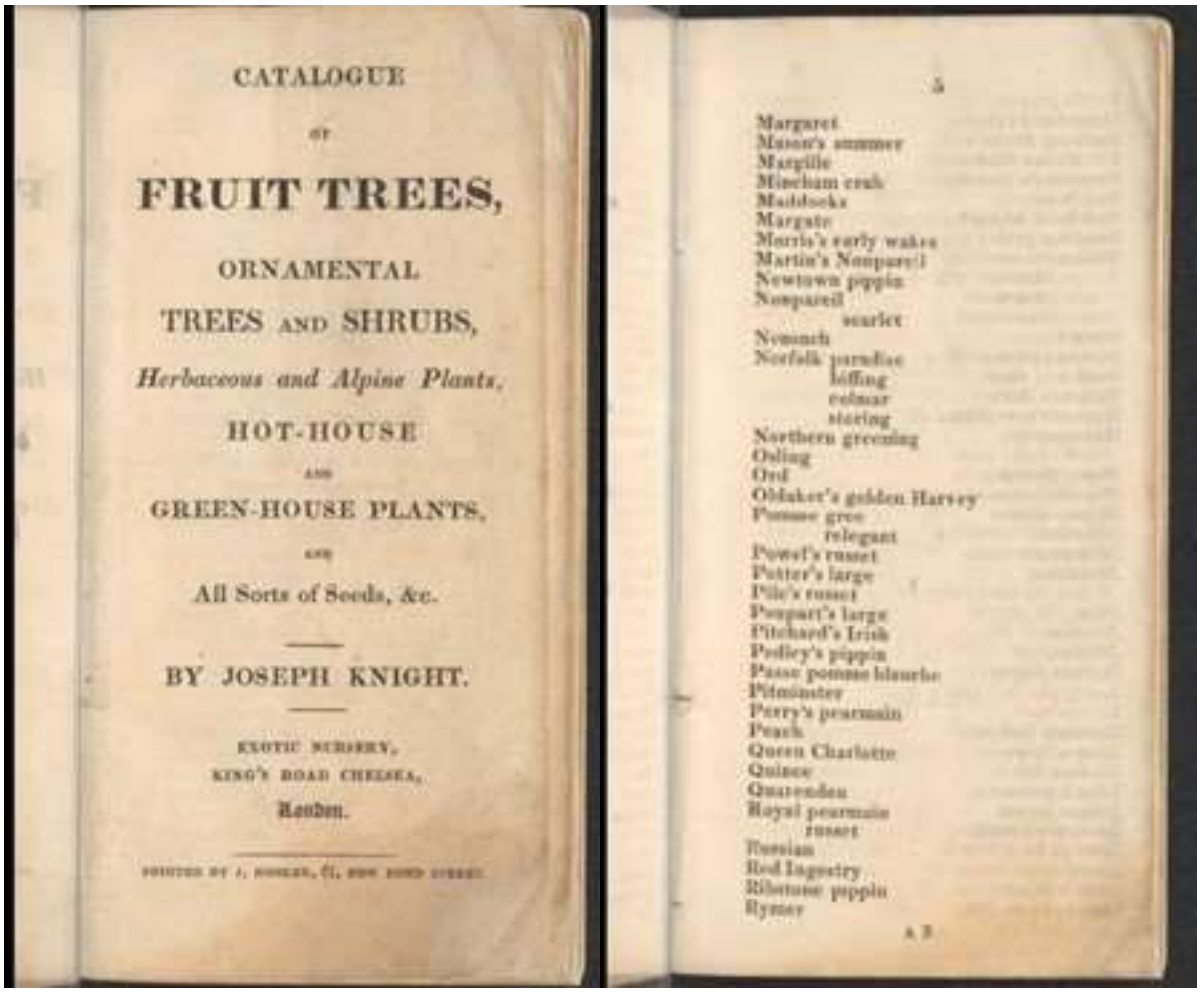
In practice only Caldwell's Keeper was fairly common. William Macarthur listed a Caldwell’s Keeping.

It appears to have been held at two nurseries owned by Horticultural Society members near London: Joseph Knight in Chelsea and Joseph Kirke at Brompton Road. Dates are uncertain but likely before or contemporary with Sir Thomas Frankland’s notice of 1818.

The first nursery not associated with a member we have yet found listing it was John Miller of Bristol in 1826 just eight years after it was introduced to the Horticultural Society. In 1843 it had reached William Macarthur at Camden Park, New South Wales. It is listed in many catalogues from about 1860. The last mention of ‘Rymer’ is at the exhibition of 1934 and in Australia in 1949.

**Joseph Knight, Exotic Nursery, Chelsea, published likely sometimes from about 1813-18.**

https://collections.rhs.org.uk/view/10144/c-1808-catalogue-of-fruit-trees-ornamental-trees-and-shrubs?q=must,any,contains,Rymer&offset=2&limit=12



CATALOGUE

OF

# FRUIT TREES,

ORNAMENTAL

TREES AND SHRUBS,

*Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,*

HOT-HOUSE

AND

GREEN-HOUSE PLANTS,

AND

All Sorts of Seeds, &c.

BY JOSEPH KNIGHT.

EXOTIC NURSERY,
KING'S ROAD CHELSEA,
London.



Margaret
Mason's summer
Margille
Mincham crab
Maddocks
Margate
Morris's early wakes
Martin's Nonpareil
Newtown pippin
Nonpareil
scarlet
Nonsuch
Norfolk paradise
lofting
colmar
storing
Northern greening
Osling
Ord
Oldaker's golden Harvey
Pomme gree
relegant
Powel's russet
Potter's large
Pile's russet
Pongart's large
Pitchard's Irish
Polley's pippin
Passe pomme blanche
Pitmaster
Perry's pearmain
Peach
Queen Charlotte
Quince
Quarenden
Royal pearmain
russet
Russian
Red Ingestry
Ribstone pippin
Rymer

**John Miller, Bristol Nursery (1826) p21**



APPLES.

81 Pearmain, Bright's
82 ——, Hubbard's
83 ——, Lamb Abbey
84 ——, Loan's
85 ——, Royal
86 ——, Summer
87 ——, Sweet
88 ——, Winter
89 Pigeonette
90 Pinner seedling
91 Pippin, Aromatic
92 ——, Barrow Court
93 ——, Binsham
94 ——, Breedon
95 ——, Christy's
96 ——, Crofton
97 ——, Downton
98 ——, Easter
*French Crab*
99 ——, Embroidered
*Drap d 'or*
100 ——, Fearns
101 ——, Flanders
102 ——, Golden
103 ——, Franklin's Golden
104 ——, Hereford. Golden
105 ——, Hughes's Golden
106 ——, Ronalds' Golden
107 ——, Grumage
108 ——, Holland
109 ——, Kentish
110 ——, Royal Kentish
111 ——, Kerry
112 ——, Knightwick
113 ——, Lemon
114 ——, London
115 ——, Marigold
116 ——, Newtown
117 ——, Green Newtown
118 ——, Orange
119 ——, Padley's
120 ——, Ponto
121 ——, Ribston
122 ——, Stone
*Norfolk White*
123 ——, Transparent
124 ——, Woodstock
*Blenheim Orange*
125 ——, Wormsley
126 ——, Wykin
127 Plata
128 Pomme d'Api
129 ——, Rambouillet
*Rambole*
130 Pomroy
131 ——, Herefordshire
132 Poor man's profit
133 Quarrendon, Red
134 ——————, white
135 Quince
136 Rambour

APPLES.

*Frank Rambour*
137 *Red Blanderine
138 *Redstreak, Devonshire
139 *——————, Dorsetshire
140 *——————, Herefordshire
141 *——————, Parson's
142 Reinette, Golden
143 ——————, Kirke's Golden
144 ——————, Kitchen
145 ——————, Minster Golden
146 Reinette gris
147 Russet, Aromatic
148 ——, Caraway
149 ——, Golden
150 ——, Mignonne
151 ——, Pitmaston
152 ——, Sykehouse
153 ——, Wheeler's
154 ——, Whites
155 Rymer
156 Sack and Sugar
157 Sam Young
158 Scarlet Admirable
*Hallingbury*
159 Spice
160 Spitzenberg
161 Stubbard
162 *Styre, red
163 *——, white
164 *Symonds's Brainton
165 Tockington Ruby
166 White Lily
167 *Woodcock, new
168 Yellow Harvest.

APRICOTS.

1 Breda
2 Brussels
3 ††—— willow-leaved
4 ††Davies's seedling
5 ††Greaves's seedling
6 Masculine, red
7 ——————, white
8 Miss Shipley's
*Early Blenheim*
9 Moorpark
*Anson's*
10 —— Hunt's
11 Orange
12 Peach
*Abricot de Nancy*
13 Purple
14 Roman
15 —— blotched-leaved
16 Turkey

BERBERRIES.

1 Common red
2 Maiden
3 White
4 Canadian



The nursery was bought by James Garaway and his partner around 1830 and continued on another site until 2015.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/504842115043025/posts/1094057619454802

**Rivers Nursery catalogue Sawbridgeworth** with thanks to Peter Laws

Rymer was present from 1853-54 1863 and until 1897-8, but absent thereafter, Described as briskly acidic and ripening in February onwards.



APPLES — *continued.*

| Name. | Quality. | Size. | Use. | Season. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reinette de Bretagne | 1 | 2 | T K | Jan. May | |
| Reinette de Doué | 1 | 1 | K | Jan. May | |
| Reinette du Canada | 1 | 1 | K T | Mar. May | "Good bearer, and, though large, of fine quality even as a dessert fruit;" in May and June juicy and excellent. |
| Reinette, Golden | 1 | 2 | T | Nov. | A very old and most excellent variety. |
| Reinette Grise dorée | 1 | 3 | T | April | Resembles the Golden Pippin, but keeps much longer. |
| *Reinette Van Mons* | 1 | 3 | T | Jan. May | Excellent, rich, and aromatic. |
| *Ribston Pippin* | 1 | 2 | K T | Dec. | "Ought to be in every collection." |
| Ribston Pippin, Spring * | 1 | 1 | T | May, June | One of the richest and most sugary of apples. |
| Rostocker | 1 | 1 | K | June | |
| Russet, Boston | 1 | 2 | T K | Mar. | "Of excellent quality, with Ribston Pippin flavour." |
| Russet, Golden | 1 | 3 | T | Jan. | |
| Russet, Pine Apple | 1 | 1 | T | Oct. | Flesh yellow, tender, aromatic, and exceedingly rich. |
| Russet, Pitmaston | 1 | 3 | T | Dec. Feb. | Not handsome, but very rich. |
| Russet, Royal | 1 | 1 | K | Feb. | |
| Russet, Syke House | 1 | 3 | T | Jan. | Excellent, and particularly deserving of cultivation. |
| *Rymer or Caldwell's Keeper* | 1 | 1 | K | June | "Keeps very firm, and contains a brisk, sharp juice." |
| Sam Young | 1 | 3 | T | Jan. | "Rich, and high-flavoured." |
| Selina or Cellini | 1 | 1 | K | Oct. Dec. | |
| South Carolina Pippin | 1 | 1 | K | Dec. | Very large. |
| Striped Reefing | 1 | 1 | K | Oct. May | |
| *Sturmer Pippin* | 1 | 2 | T | June | Excellent, great bearer, and one of the best late apples, either for dessert or kitchen, known. |
| Tower of Glammis | 1 | 1 | K | Nov. Feb. | "Excellent, heavy kitchen apple." |
| *Victoria (Hulbert's)* | 1 | 3 | T | April, May | Rich and excellent. |
| *Wadhurst Pippin* | 1 | 1 | K | Oct. Feb. | "Excellent kitchen apple." |
| *Waltham Abbey Seedling* | 1 | 1 | K | Dec. | "Large and handsome, requires but little sugar." |
| Warner's King | 1 | 1 | K | Dec. April | Very large, keeps well. |
| Winter Colman | 1 | 2 | K | Nov. April | |
| Winter Majetin | 1 | 1 | K | April | "Tree hardy, not subject to the attacks of insects." |
| Wormsley Pippin | 1 | 2 | K T | Dec. | Excellent bearer. |
| Wyken Pippin | 1 | 3 | T | Dec. | A favourite in Warwickshire, and deservedly so; flesh tender and aromatic. |
| Yorkshire Greening | 1 | 1 | | Jan. | |

Many of the American apples have a soft, melting, yet juicy texture, very agreeable to those with delicate stomachs: this is, perhaps, owing to the warmth of their summers. The Melon Apple, Northern Spy, and the Newtown Pippins are really delicious apples, and quite deserve a trial on a south wall, although they are hardy, and will bear well as pyramids. This form is highly eligible for gardens, as their culture is so easy and agreeable, and so many trees may be grown in a small space. My specimen quarter contains 350 sorts, — one plant of each, — and yet only occupies 350 square yards. The trees are planted 3½ feet apart, row from row, and 2½ feet apart in the rows, and biennially removed in November.

**PRICES OF TREES.**

| | s. | d. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Standards for Orchards | 1 | 6 | each |
| Upright or Pyramidal Trees on the Paradise stock | 1 | 6 | „ |
| Dwarfs on the Paradise stock | 1 | 6 | „ |
| Do. do. in pots | 2 | 0 | „ |
| Dwarfs trained for Espaliers on Paradise stocks | 2 | 6 | „ |
| Dwarfs on crab stocks | 1 | 0 | „ |

* I received this apple from Chelmsford under this name; but I now find that it has been re-christened as the Baddow Pippin.

**Pennell & Son Nursery Catalogue (1871) p17 with thanks to Denis Smith**

1871



# FRUIT TREES.

## SELECT APPLES.

The following is a selection of sorts of known excellence, and which have been for the most part tried and proved to bear well, and to stand the climate of this part of the country, but the sorts printed in larger type possess especial merit, and for the guidance of those making a selection, are recommended with the greatest confidence, as desirable, hardy, and free bearing varieties.

T. denotes those sorts best suited for dessert. K. those for kitchen use. Those marked TK are eligible for both purposes.

### PRICES OF TREES.

| | Each—s. | d. |
|---|---|---|
| STANDARDS FOR ORCHARDS, 5 to 6ft. stems | 1s. to 1 | 6 |
| YOUNGER TREES, 3 to 4ft. stems | 9d. to 1 | 0 |
| PYRAMIDS AND DWARF BUSHES, both on the Paradise and Crab Stocks, root pruned, full of blossom buds | 1s. 6d. to 2 | 6 |
| DWARFS | 6d. to 1 | 0 |
| ESPALIERS, trained for walls or rails | 2s. to 2 | 6 |

| Name. | Use. | Size. | General Remarks. | Season. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alfriston | K | *large* | Much esteemed in some districts | Nov.—Feb. |
| **Aromatic Russet** | T | *medium* | Excellent, great bearer | Nov.—Dec. |
| Ashmead's Kernel | K | *small* | Handsome, highly flavoured | Nov.—May. |
| Baron Ward | T | *medium* | Keeps well and bears well | Jan.—May. |
| Barton Free Bearer | K | *medium* | Good habit and great bearer | Nov.—Jan. |
| Beachamwell | T | *small* | Fine quality, handsome | Dec.—Mar. |
| Beauty of Kent | K | *very large.* | Hardy, great bearer and good | Oct.—Feb. |
| Bess Pool | TK | *large* | Forms a large tree, an excellent late apple | |
| **Betty Geeson** | K | *large* | A fine late apple, hardy and prolific | Dec.—May. |
| **Blenheim Orange** | TK | *large* | Handsome, a most excellent apple, forms a large tree | Nov.—Feb. |
| Borsdörffer, or Garratt's Pippin | T | *small* | A German apple of good quality | Nov.—Mar. |
| Brabant Bellefleur | K | *large* | Excellent, spreading habit | April. |
| Bracebridge Pippin | T | *medium* | Flesh tender, juicy, and excellent; originated in the Rectory garden at Bracebridge, growing upon the old *Caldwell* or *Rymer* | Dec.—June. |
| Caldwell, or Rymer | K | *large* | Keeps firm and juicy, prolific | Dec.—April. |
| **Cellini** | K | *large* | Handsome, and a good bearer, forms a fine pyramid | October. |
| **Codlin, Keswick** | K | *large* | Early, great bearer, the best early sort known, a certain cropper | |
| —— Dutch | K | *large* | Excellent, good bearer | Sept.—Nov. |
| Cornish Gilliflower | T | *medium* | Rich and aromatic, shy bearer | Dec.—Mar. |
| **Court-pendu-plat** | T | *medium* | Fine flavour and handsome, forms a very compact bush | Mar.—May. |

**Richard Smith & Co Nursery Catalogue (1880-81) p12**

Rymer is featured, also Keswick Codlin, Blenheim Orange, Round Winter Nonesuch, New Hawthornden, (Bringewood Pippin and Gipsy King not mentioned)



**MEDIUM SEASON APPLES**—*continued.*

MAGNUM BONUM, D.—Medium size. Flesh white, almost transparent, firm, rich, and juicy. An excellent variety. November.

MALSTER, K.D.—Large sized, greenish, of good quality either for cooking or eating, and will keep well until January.

MARGIL, D. (Never Fail).—Small ovate, angular sides. Skin light orange, streaked with red and brown, and patched with russet on one side. Flesh yellow, firm, breaking, juicy, and sweet, with a high aromatic flavour. A heavy cropper. November to February.

MELON APPLE, D.—Middle-sized, round, smaller towards the eye. Skin yellow, and bright red on the sunny side. Flesh yellowish-white, tender, sweet, and juicy, with an aromatic flavour. December and January.

MÈRE DE MÉNAGE, K.—Large, conical. Skin red covered with streaks of darker red, yellow on the shaded side. Flesh firm, crisp, and juicy. December and January.

NELSON CODLIN, K.D. (Nelson).—Large, broad, at the base, slightly angular on the side, and narrowing to the crown. Skin fine golden-yellow, having numerous dark spots. Flesh yellowish-white, very tender and juicy, with a slight acidity. An excellent apple either for culinary use or dessert. September to January.

NELSON'S GLORY, K.—Very large, weighing 20 ozs., with a fine aromatic flavour; makes an excellent sauce. Tree forms a good pyramid. September to December.

NORFOLK BEARER, K.—Middle-sized, roundish, angular towards the eye. Skin greenish-yellow, and covered with crimson on the sunny side. Flesh greenish-yellow, tender and crisp. December and January.

PARADISE PIPPIN, D.—(Eve Apple).—Middle-sized, oblong, broad at the base. Skin yellow, streaked with red on the sunny side, and dotted with russet. Flesh yellowish, tender, crisp, juicy, and sugary. Nov. and Dec.

PEASGOOD'S NONSUCH, K.D.—Large, roundish, and very handsome; similar to *Blenheim Orange*. Skin yellow, and red streaked with crimson on the sunny side. Flesh yellowish, tender and very juicy, with an agreeable acidity. September to November.

PENNINGTON'S SEEDLING, D. — Middle-sized, slightly angular on the sides, somewhat flattened, and broadest at the base. Skin green, changing to yellowish-green, covered with numerous russety spots, tinged with brown on the sunny side. Flesh yellowish-white, firm, crisp, and juicy, with a sugary and brisk aromatic flavour. November to March.

PITMASTON NONPAREIL, D. (Pitmaston Russet).—Middle-sized, roundish, flattened at the crown and base. Skin dull green, nearly covered with yellowish russet, and tinged with light red on the sunny side. Flesh greenish-yellow, firm, rich, highly perfumed, and aromatic. A very excellent dessert apple. November and December.

RIBSTON PIPPIN, D. (Glory of York, Formosa Pippin, Traver's Pippin). — Middle-sized, roundish, irregularly formed, broader at the base than the crown. Skin greenish-yellow, assuming a dull yellow when ripe, streaked thinly with dull red, and russety on the sunny side. Flesh yellow, firm and crisp, with a rich aromatic flavour. One of the very best dessert apples; a good bearer and robust grower; makes a fine pyramid. Oct. to May.

RYMER, K.—Large, roundish, with broad ribs extending from the base to the crown, most prominent at the crown. Skin smooth, pale yellow covered with light rose, tinged with deep red on the sunny side. Flesh yellowish, tender, and juicy, with a slight acidity. An excellent culinary apple. A vigorous grower and an abundant bearer. Oct. to Dec.

SAM YOUNG, D. (Irish Russet).—Small sized, roundish, flattened at the crown and base. Skin bright yellow, dotted minutely with brown, and covered with grey russet, tinged with red on the sunny side. Flesh yellow mixed with green, tender, crisp, firm and juicy, with a delicious flavour. A very good dessert apple. November to February.

SCARLET CROFTON, D.—Medium sized, roundish and flattened, yellowish on the shady, and red on the sunny side, marked with russet; crisp, juicy, and sweet, a delicious apple of first-rate quality. October to December.

SCARLET PEARMAIN, D. (Bell's Scarlet, Oxford Peach Apple).—Middle-sized, conical, regularly formed. Skin smooth, crimson-red interspersed with a little yellow on the shaded side, a rich crimson on the sunny side. Flesh whitish, tinged with red, crisp, juicy and sugary, with a pleasant flavour. September to December.

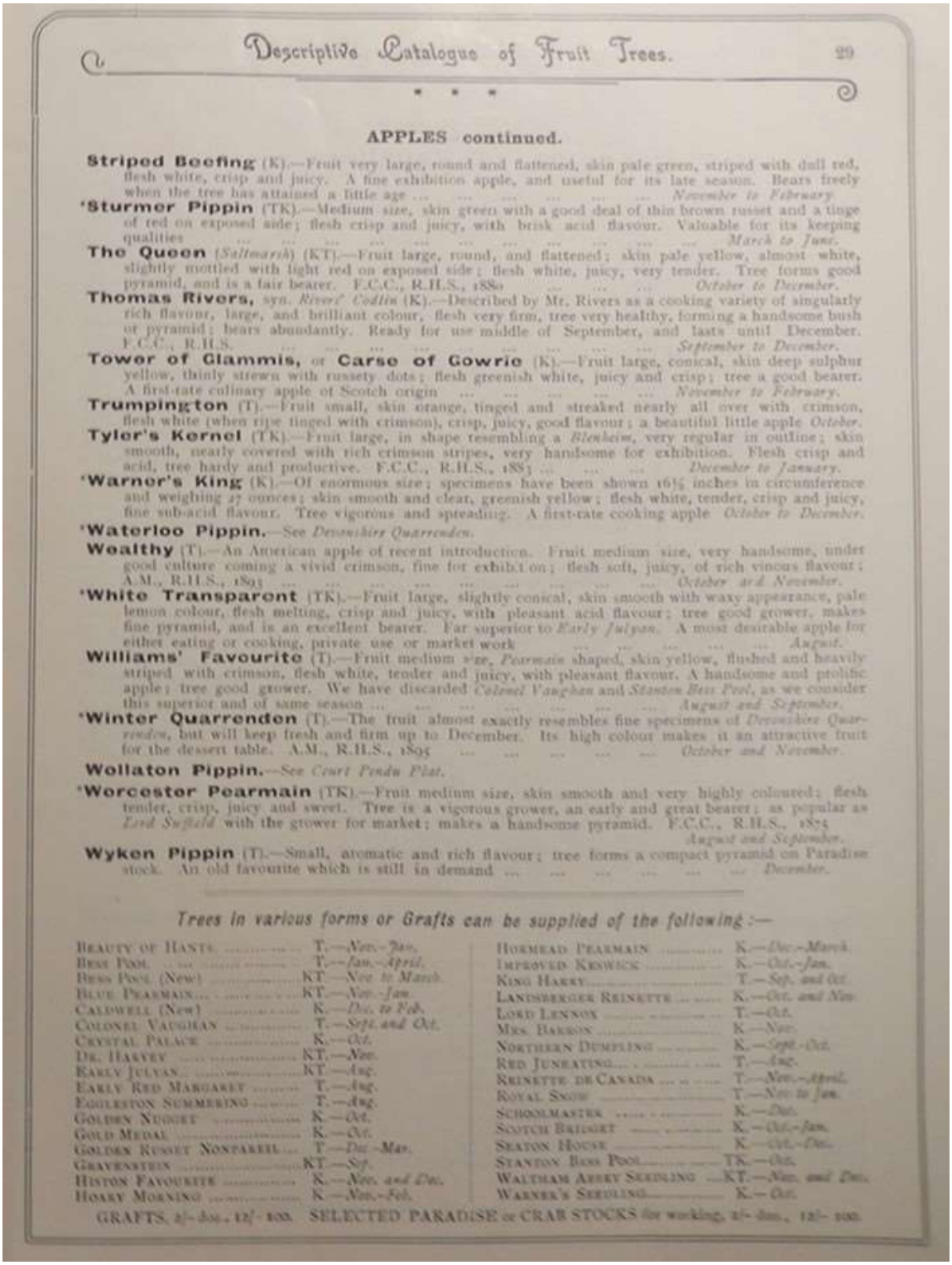
STIRLING CASTLE, K.—Large sized, roundish. Skin yellowish-green. Flesh white and crisp; an excellent culinary apple. A great bearer, and forms a fine pyramid. Oct. to Feb.

**Scott's Orchardist (1878) p105**

**Rymer** (*Caldwell, Cordwell, Green Cossings, Newbold's Duke of York*), 1 size, 1 qual. as a cooking sort, October to January. Roundish and flattened with five obscure ribs, running up to the eye; *skin* smooth, beautiful yellow, thinly strewed with whitish green dots, a few faint streaks of pale red on the shaded side, and a beautiful vermilion, covered with vermilion dots on the sunny side; *eye* closed, and set in a round medium-sized plaited basin; *stalk* short, and set in a deep, round, russety cavity, the russet extending in ramifications over the base; *flesh* yellowish, tender, juicy, and pleasantly sub-acid. One of the most beautiful of Apples. The tree is hardy and a good bearer, and it does well upon the Paradise Stock.

**Pearson's Nursery Catalogue (1904) p29 with thanks to Denis Smith**

Note mention of Caldwell bottom left as a dual, in season December – February. There is a qualifier '(NEW)'. We're not sure if this is a new accession to the catalogue or a new variety with this old name.



Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees. 29

* * *

APPLES continued.

**Striped Beefing** (K).—Fruit very large, round and flattened, skin pale green, striped with dull red, flesh white, crisp and juicy. A fine exhibition apple, and useful for its late season. Bears freely when the tree has attained a little age ... ... ... ... ... ... *November to February.*

**'Sturmer Pippin** (TK).—Medium size, skin green with a good deal of thin brown russet and a tinge of red on exposed side; flesh crisp and juicy, with brisk acid flavour. Valuable for its keeping qualities ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... *March to June.*

**The Queen** (*Saltmarsh*) (KT).—Fruit large, round, and flattened; skin pale yellow, almost white, slightly mottled with light red on exposed side; flesh white, juicy, very tender. Tree forms good pyramid, and is a fair bearer. F.C.C., R.H.S., 1880 ... ... ... *October to December.*

**Thomas Rivers,** syn. *Rivers' Codlin* (K).—Described by Mr. Rivers as a cooking variety of singularly rich flavour, large, and brilliant colour, flesh very firm, tree very healthy, forming a handsome bush or pyramid; bears abundantly. Ready for use middle of September, and lasts until December. F.C.C., R.H.S. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... *September to December.*

**Tower of Glammis,** or **Carse of Gowrie** (K).—Fruit large, conical, skin deep sulphur yellow, thinly strewn with russety dots; flesh greenish white, juicy and crisp; tree a good bearer. A first-rate culinary apple of Scotch origin ... ... ... ... ... ... *November to February.*

**Trumpington** (T).—Fruit small, skin orange, tinged and streaked nearly all over with crimson, flesh white (when ripe tinged with crimson), crisp, juicy, good flavour; a beautiful little apple *October.*

**Tyler's Kernel** (TK).—Fruit large, in shape resembling a *Blenheim*, very regular in outline; skin smooth, nearly covered with rich crimson stripes, very handsome for exhibition. Flesh crisp and acid, tree hardy and productive. F.C.C., R.H.S., 1883 ... ... ... ... *December to January.*

**'Warner's King** (K).—Of enormous size; specimens have been shown 16½ inches in circumference and weighing 27 ounces; skin smooth and clear, greenish yellow; flesh white, tender, crisp and juicy, fine sub-acid flavour. Tree vigorous and spreading. A first-rate cooking apple *October to December.*

**'Waterloo Pippin.**—See *Devonshire Quarrenden.*

**Wealthy** (T).—An American apple of recent introduction. Fruit medium size, very handsome, under good culture coming a vivid crimson, fine for exhibition; flesh soft, juicy, of rich vinous flavour; A.M., R.H.S., 1893 ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... *October and November.*

**'White Transparent** (TK).—Fruit large, slightly conical, skin smooth with waxy appearance, pale lemon colour, flesh melting, crisp and juicy, with pleasant acid flavour; tree good grower, makes fine pyramid, and is an excellent bearer. Far superior to *Early Julyan.* A most desirable apple for either eating or cooking, private use or market work ... ... ... ... ... *August.*

**Williams' Favourite** (T).—Fruit medium size, *Pearmain* shaped, skin yellow, flushed and heavily striped with crimson, flesh white, tender and juicy, with pleasant flavour. A handsome and prolific apple; tree good grower. We have discarded *Colonel Vaughan* and *Stanton Bess Pool*, as we consider this superior and of same season ... ... ... ... ... ... ... *August and September.*

**'Winter Quarrenden** (T).—The fruit almost exactly resembles fine specimens of *Devonshire Quarrenden*, but will keep fresh and firm up to December. Its high colour makes it an attractive fruit for the dessert table. A.M., R.H.S., 1895 ... ... ... ... ... *October and November.*

**Wollaton Pippin.**—See *Court Pendu Plat.*

**'Worcester Pearmain** (TK).—Fruit medium size, skin smooth and very highly coloured; flesh tender, crisp, juicy and sweet. Tree is a vigorous grower, an early and great bearer; as popular as *Lord Suffield* with the grower for market; makes a handsome pyramid. F.C.C., R.H.S., 1875 *August and September.*

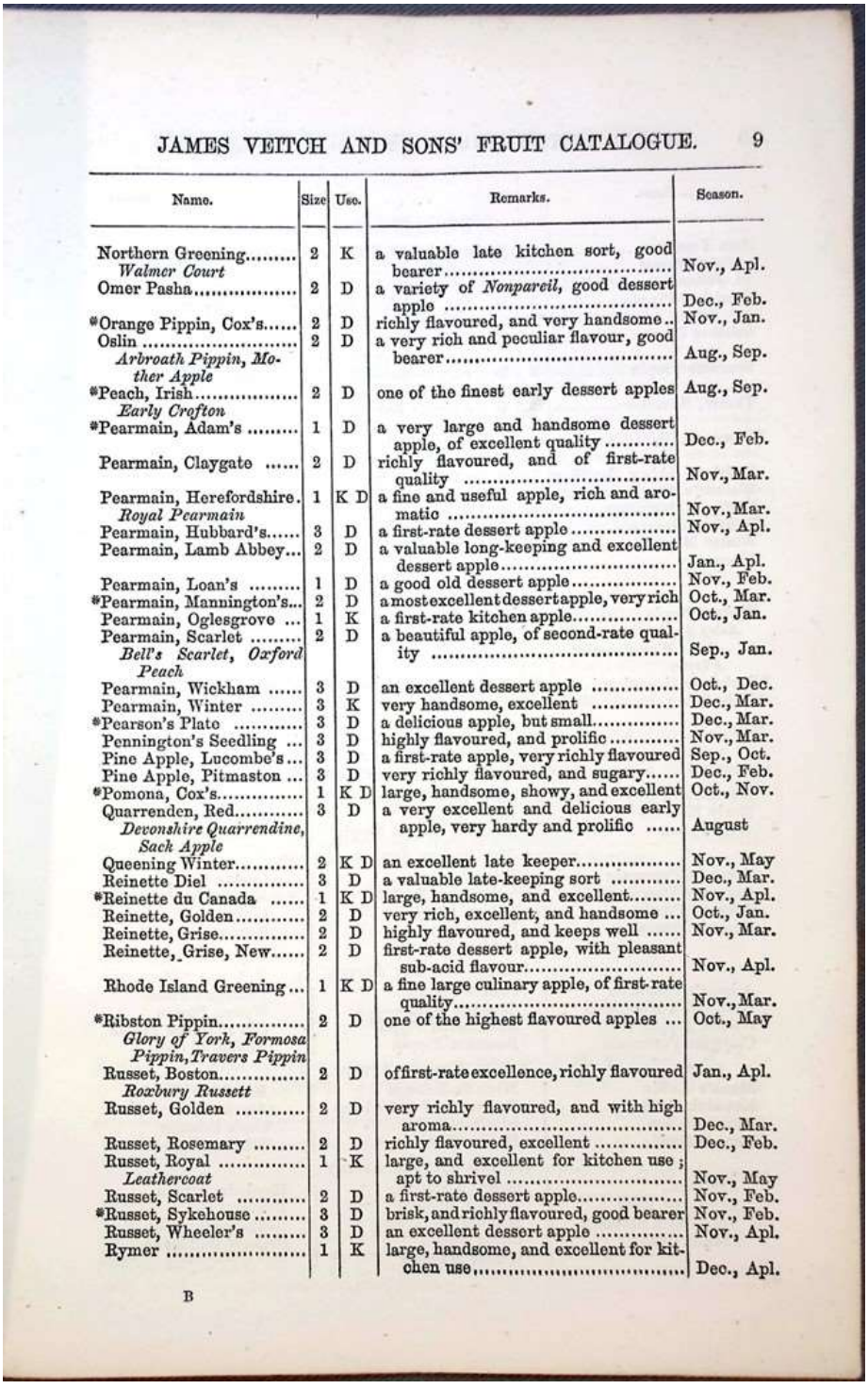
**Wyken Pippin** (T).—Small, aromatic and rich flavour; tree forms a compact pyramid on Paradise stock. An old favourite which is still in demand ... ... ... ... ... ... *December.*

*Trees in various forms or Grafts can be supplied of the following:—*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Beauty of Hants | T.—*Nov.-Jan.* | Hormead Pearmain | K.—*Dec.-March* |
| Bess Pool | T.—*Jan.-April.* | Improved Keswick | K.—*Oct.-Jan.* |
| Bess Pool (New) | KT.—*Nov. to March.* | King Harry | T.—*Sept. and Oct.* |
| Blue Pearmain | KT.—*Nov.-Jan.* | Landsberger Reinette | K.—*Oct. and Nov.* |
| Caldwell (New) | K.—*Dec. to Feb.* | Lord Lennox | T.—*Oct.* |
| Colonel Vaughan | T.—*Sept. and Oct.* | Mrs. Barron | K.—*Nov.* |
| Crystal Palace | K.—*Oct.* | Northern Dumpling | K.—*Sept.-Oct.* |
| Dr. Harvey | KT.—*Nov.* | Red Juneating | T.—*Aug.* |
| Early Julyan | KT.—*Aug.* | Reinette de Canada | T.—*Nov.-April.* |
| Early Red Margaret | T.—*Aug.* | Royal Snow | T.—*Nov. to Jan.* |
| Eggleston Summering | T.—*Aug.* | Schoolmaster | K.—*Dec.* |
| Golden Nugget | K.—*Oct.* | Scotch Bridget | K.—*Oct.-Jan.* |
| Gold Medal | K.—*Oct.* | Seaton House | K.—*Oct.-Dec.* |
| Golden Russet Nonpareil | T.—*Dec.-Mar.* | Stanton Bess Pool | TK.—*Oct.* |
| Gravenstein | KT.—*Sept.* | Waltham Abbey Seedling | KT.—*Nov. and Dec.* |
| Histon Favourite | K.—*Nov. and Dec.* | Warner's Seedling | K.—*Oct.* |
| Hoary Morning | K.—*Nov.-Feb.* | | |

GRAFTS, 2/- doz., 12/- 100. SELECTED PARADISE or CRAB STOCKS for working, 2/- doz., 12/- 100.

**James Veitch & Sons Nursery catalogue (1866-67) p9**



JAMES VEITCH AND SONS' FRUIT CATALOGUE. 9

| Name. | Size. | Use. | Remarks. | Season. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Greening..... *Walmer Court* | 2 | K | a valuable late kitchen sort, good bearer..... | Nov., Apl. |
| Omer Pasha..... | 2 | D | a variety of *Nonpareil*, good dessert apple ..... | Dec., Feb. |
| *Orange Pippin, Cox's..... | 2 | D | richly flavoured, and very handsome.. | Nov., Jan. |
| Oslin ..... *Arbroath Pippin, Mother Apple* | 2 | D | a very rich and peculiar flavour, good bearer..... | Aug., Sep. |
| *Peach, Irish..... *Early Crofton* | 2 | D | one of the finest early dessert apples | Aug., Sep. |
| *Pearmain, Adam's ..... | 1 | D | a very large and handsome dessert apple, of excellent quality ..... | Dec., Feb. |
| Pearmain, Claygate ..... | 2 | D | richly flavoured, and of first-rate quality ..... | Nov., Mar. |
| Pearmain, Herefordshire. *Royal Pearmain* | 1 | K D | a fine and useful apple, rich and aromatic ..... | Nov., Mar. |
| Pearmain, Hubbard's..... | 3 | D | a first-rate dessert apple ..... | Nov., Apl. |
| Pearmain, Lamb Abbey... | 2 | D | a valuable long-keeping and excellent dessert apple..... | Jan., Apl. |
| Pearmain, Loan's ..... | 1 | D | a good old dessert apple..... | Nov., Feb. |
| *Pearmain, Mannington's... | 2 | D | a most excellent dessert apple, very rich | Oct., Mar. |
| Pearmain, Oglesgrove ... | 1 | K | a first-rate kitchen apple..... | Oct., Jan. |
| Pearmain, Scarlet ..... *Bell's Scarlet, Oxford Peach* | 2 | D | a beautiful apple, of second-rate quality ..... | Sep., Jan. |
| Pearmain, Wickham ..... | 3 | D | an excellent dessert apple ..... | Oct., Dec. |
| Pearmain, Winter ..... | 3 | K | very handsome, excellent ..... | Dec., Mar. |
| *Pearson's Plate ..... | 3 | D | a delicious apple, but small..... | Dec., Mar. |
| Pennington's Seedling ... | 3 | D | highly flavoured, and prolific ..... | Nov., Mar. |
| Pine Apple, Lucombe's... | 3 | D | a first-rate apple, very richly flavoured | Sep., Oct. |
| Pine Apple, Pitmaston ... | 3 | D | very richly flavoured, and sugary..... | Dec., Feb. |
| *Pomona, Cox's..... | 1 | K D | large, handsome, showy, and excellent | Oct., Nov. |
| Quarrenden, Red..... *Devonshire Quarrendine, Sack Apple* | 3 | D | a very excellent and delicious early apple, very hardy and prolific ..... | August |
| Queening Winter..... | 2 | K D | an excellent late keeper..... | Nov., May |
| Reinette Diel ..... | 3 | D | a valuable late-keeping sort ..... | Dec., Mar. |
| *Reinette du Canada ..... | 1 | K D | large, handsome, and excellent..... | Nov., Apl. |
| Reinette, Golden..... | 2 | D | very rich, excellent, and handsome ... | Oct., Jan. |
| Reinette, Grise..... | 2 | D | highly flavoured, and keeps well ..... | Nov., Mar. |
| Reinette, Grise, New..... | 2 | D | first-rate dessert apple, with pleasant sub-acid flavour..... | Nov., Apl. |
| Rhode Island Greening... | 1 | K D | a fine large culinary apple, of first-rate quality..... | Nov., Mar. |
| *Ribston Pippin..... *Glory of York, Formosa Pippin, Travers Pippin* | 2 | D | one of the highest flavoured apples ... | Oct., May |
| Russet, Boston..... *Roxbury Russett* | 2 | D | of first-rate excellence, richly flavoured | Jan., Apl. |
| Russet, Golden ..... | 2 | D | very richly flavoured, and with high aroma..... | Dec., Mar. |
| Russet, Rosemary ..... | 2 | D | richly flavoured, excellent ..... | Dec., Feb. |
| Russet, Royal ..... *Leathercoat* | 1 | K | large, and excellent for kitchen use; apt to shrivel ..... | Nov., May |
| Russet, Scarlet ..... | 2 | D | a first-rate dessert apple..... | Nov., Feb. |
| *Russet, Sykehouse ..... | 3 | D | brisk, and richly flavoured, good bearer | Nov., Feb. |
| Russet, Wheeler's ..... | 3 | D | an excellent dessert apple ..... | Nov., Apl. |
| Rymer ..... | 1 | K | large, handsome, and excellent for kitchen use..... | Dec., Apl. |

B

With thanks to the RHS for permission to reproduce this page of the James Veitch and Sons nursery catalogue of 1866-67 from the "RHS Lindley Collections".

**Australian Accessions**

**Camden Park, Cambelltown, NSW**

It was reported via at Hortus Camdenensis https://hortuscamden.com/ Euan Mills (email 28Mar25) has confirmed that orchard was removed in the 1960s,

The Hortus attempts to correctly identify, describe, illustrate and provide a brief history of all the plants grown at Camden Park between c.1820 and 1861.

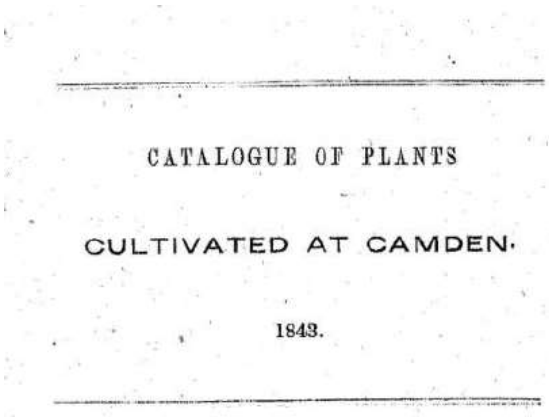
Rymer is listed as included in the collection as of 1843 and 1862

https://hortuscamden.com/plants/page/category/fruit/P150

Listed in all catalogues [Apple no.3/1843]. There are two references to the quality of fruit in William Macarthur's records.

Caldwell's Keeping. March-June. Great, very handsome large highly coloured apple, good for kitchen. [Notebook no.9, MP A2948].

March-June. Very handsome large highly [word indistinct but probably] coloured apple good for kitchen, not very good for dessert. [Diary B, 1862, MP A2951].



CATALOGUE OF PLANTS

CULTIVATED AT CAMDEN.

1843.

PRUIT BEARING PLANTS.

APPLES.
1 Golden Nonpareil
2 Scarlet ditto
3 Ribstone Pippin
4 Downton ditto
5 Caldwells Keeping
6 Russet
7 Hampshire Nonsuch
8 Winter Pearmain
9 Pippin (red-streaked, no name)
10 Early summer Apple (no name)
11 Supreme Crab
12 Desert Apple (no name)
13 French Crab (reinette Française)
14 Keeping Apple
15 Desert Apple (fine)
16 Ditto ditto (no name)
17 Nonpariel (variety)
18 Siberian Crab
19 American ditto
20 Mobbs large early
21 Jenneting
22 Hawthorndean
23 Apple (no name)
24 Ditto ditto

APRICOTS.
1 Moor Park
2 Camden pale superb

CHERRIES.
1 May Duke
2 Bleeding Heart

CHESNUT.

FIGS.
1 Small blue from Provence
2 Large white from ditto
3 Brown from ditto
4 Green Ischia

FILBERT.

GUAVA (Cattley's purple)
(Ditto white)

LOQUAT.

MEDLAR.

MULBERRY.

ORANGE TRIBE.
Bahia or Navel Orange
Chinese oval ditto
Chinese new year ditto
Nutmeg ditto
Seedling Orange (fine)

B 2

The 'Rymer' at Camden was likely sourced from Veitch Nurseries in Exeter and Chelsea (though others may be possible, such as Garaway in Bristol). John Gould Veitch was well acquainted with the Macarthurs at Camden Park. The https://www.camdenparkhouse.com.au/ maintains that William Macarthur ran one of the most important nurseries in 19th-century New South Wales. According to visiting English nurseryman John Gould (JG) Veitch, Macarthur was well known in Europe. He employed Macarthur to supply him with exotic plants for the UK nurseries, and in return likely received desiderata as exchange plant varieties to Camden Park.

Veitch and Sons also had dealings in North East India, which could explain why 'Rymer' is there.

**Grove Research Station**

See Appendix F

**Horticultural Society of Victoria (1863)** catalogue of Experimental Garden Survey, Paddock, Richmond p5. Plantzia (24Mar25) have confirmed the orchard has been removed long ago.



Melon apple
Mere de Menage
Minchall crab
Minier's dumpling
Morris's nonpareil russet
Mother apple, American
Mobb's codlin
„ royal
Marble pippin
Nanny
Nelson codlin
Newtown pippin
„ Spitzenburg
Nonesuch
„ new
„ pippin
Nonpareil
Norfolk bearer
„ Beefing
Northern greening
„ spy
New Rock pippin
New England pippin
Ord's apple
Oglesgrove pearmain
Oslin
Omar Pacha
Oakingpin
Padley's pippin
Parry's pearmain
Pearson's plate
Pennington's seedling
Piles's russet
Pine golden pippin
Pine apple russet
Pinner seedling
Pitmaston nonpareil
„ golden pippin
„ pine apple
Pomme grise
Powell's russet
Park Nonesuch
Pomme de Niege
Potts's seedling
Prince of Wales
Passe pomme blanche
Pidgeon
Pidgeon, New England
Pidgeonette Rouge
Prince Albert
Princess Royal
Pomeroy
Pippin, American
„ Carmarthen
„ Darton
„ Islay
Pippins, Queen of
Paradise pippin
Ravelstone pippin
Red Astrachan
Red streak
Reinette Blanche d'Espagne
„ du Canada
„ grise
„ van Mons
„ perle
Rhode Island greening
Ribston pippin
Ronalds's seedling
Rosemary russet
Ross nonpareil
Rostocker
Round winter nonesuch
Royal pearmain
Royal russet
Russet table pearmain
Rymer
Raspberry
Rambour Franc
Reinette Baumanne
Royal Sovereign
Red Caldwell
Red quarrenden
Reinette Madore
Red Juneating
Reading's nonpareil
Reinette St. Sauveur
Ringer
Russet caraway
„ scarlet
Reinette Jaune Hative
„ Diel
Rock pippin
Sack and Sugar

**Thomas Lang Nursery catalogue Ballarat Australia (1856); similarly late (1868)**



| | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|
| *Norfolk Beaver, large, excellent; a profuse bearer | 3 | 6 |
| Norfolk Beaufin. | | |
| *Northern Greening, medium size; a great bearer | 3 | 6 |
| *Northern Spy, an American Apple, large, delicious and beautiful; a great bearer. "A Dessert Apple, of the finest texture and excellent flavor."—See *Florist*, January, 1862. | 5 | 0 |
| Old Nonpareil. | | |
| *Oslin, or *Arbroath Pippin*, fruit firm, crisp, and highly aromatic; one of the best Summer Apples | 3 | 6 |
| *Paradise Pippin, or *Egg Apple*, medium size, tender, crisp, sugary and pleasant | 3 | 6 |
| *Peach Apple (*winter*), an excellent late American apple, flesh tender, juicy and good | 5 | 0 |
| Pine Apple Russet. | | |
| *Red Calville | 3 | 6 |
| Reinette du Canada, or *Monster Pippin*. | | |
| Ribston Pippin. | | |
| *Ross Nonpareil, medium size, flesh tender and richly aromatic | 5 | 0 |
| *Royal Pearmain, large, flesh firm, crisp, juicy and particularly rich and aromatic | 5 | 0 |
| Royal Sovereign. | | |
| *Rymer, or *Caldwell's Keeper*, large, keeps well, one of the best culinary apples | 2 | 6 |
| Scarlet Nonpareil. | | |
| *Siberian Bitter Sweet, medium size, first quality, great bearer, and excellent for Cider | 3 | 6 |
| *Snow Apple | 3 | 6 |
| *South Carolina Pippin, very large | 5 | 0 |
| *Spanish Reinette | 3 | 6 |
| *Spring Grove Codlin | 3 | 6 |
| *Stirling Castle, large and beautiful; a great bearer | 3 | 6 |
| *Striped Beaufin, very large, an excellent variety | 3 | 6 |
| *St. Sauveur, very large, handsome and excellent | 3 | 6 |
| *Sturmer Pippin, medium size, a most excellent late Apple, partaking of the Ribston and Nonpareil | 3 | 6 |
| *Summer Pearmain, medium size, flesh crisp, and richly perfumed | 3 | 6 |
| *Tam Montgomery | 3 | 6 |
| Tower of Glamis. | | |
| *Transparent Crab | 2 | 6 |
| *Waltham Abbey Seedling, or *Golden Noble*, very large and handsome | 3 | 6 |
| *Warner's King, very large; one of the largest of Apples | 5 | 0 |
| *Wheeler's Russet | 3 | 6 |
| *Winter Magetin, large and very prolific; a very desirable variety | 3 | 6 |
| *Woodhurst Pippin | 3 | 6 |
| *Wormsley Pippin, medium size, flesh white, crisp, and highly flavored; an excellent bearer | 3 | 6 |
| Yellow Siberian Crab | 2 | 6 |
| *Yorkshire Greening, large, one of the best Kitchen Apples | 3 | 6 |

## Apricots.

10s. to 15s. per dozen.

Brussells.
*Bush Peach 3 6
Mansfield Seedling.
Moorpark.
Musch Musch.
Washington.

## Cherries.

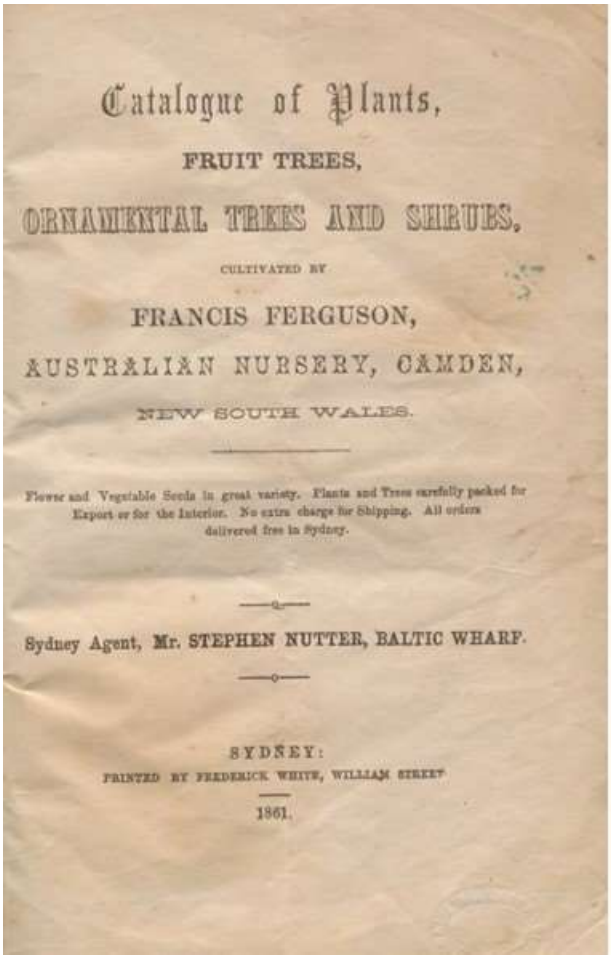
10s. to 30s. per dozen, except for those sorts quoted at higher prices.

Those varieties marked with an asterisk, are new to the country, and only the very newest are described, and the descriptions are those of Dr. Hogg or Mr. Rivers.

| | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|
| Arch Duke. | | |
| *Belle Magnifique, very large and excellent | 3 | 6 |
| Bigarreau, common or white. | | |
| * „ d'Hildesheim, medium and good flavor, an excellent and late Cherry | 3 | 6 |
| * „ monstreux de Mezel, or *Monstrous Heart*, very large rich, and excellent, one of the finest of the Bigarreaus | 3 | 6 |
| * „ Napoleon, large, rich and good, a most abundant bearer | 3 | 6 |
| * „ Rockport, large, rich and good, an American variety | 3 | 6 |
| Black Eagle. | | |
| „ Heart. | | |
| „ Tartarian or Circassian. | | |

**Francis Ferguson catalogue Camden New South Wales, Australia (1861 and 1898)**

Francis Ferguson came out to New South Wales as an assisted immigrant in 1849 on the John Bright after working at Chatsworth Estate in Derbyshire and other English estates. Initially, he worked for Sir Thomas Mitchell, laying out his estate at Parkhall. He was head gardener at Camden Park Estate for William Macarthur from 1849-1856 and could be styled as a Macarthur protégé. He established his own Camden nursery 1857, on a 50-acre site neighbouring Macarthur. Ferguson was also well acquainted with Veitch and had a similar arrangement as Macarthur. Ferguson's son, another Francis, spent five years in Chelsea working for Veitch. The Australian National Library have copies Ferguson's catalogue from 1861 and the title and relevant page of two are reproduced below (with our appreciation).



Catalogue of Plants,

FRUIT TREES,

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS,

CULTIVATED BY

FRANCIS FERGUSON,

AUSTRALIAN NURSERY, CAMDEN,

NEW SOUTH WALES.

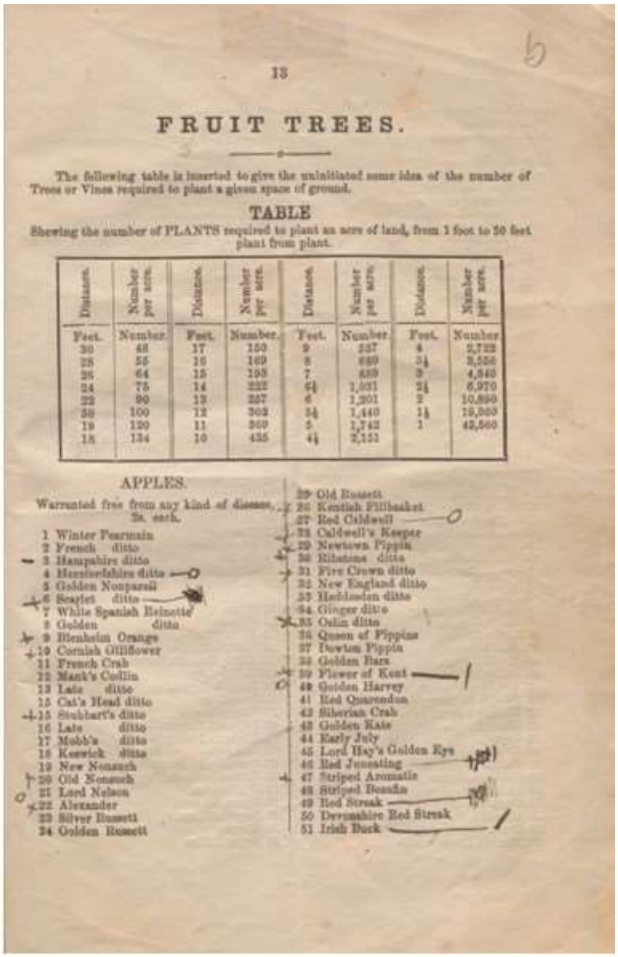
Flower and Vegetable Seeds in great variety. Plants and Trees carefully packed for Export or for the Interior. No extra charge for Shipping. All orders delivered free in Sydney.

Sydney Agent, Mr. STEPHEN NUTTER, BALTIC WHARF.

SYDNEY:

PRINTED BY FREDERICK WHITE, WILLIAM STREET

1861.



13

FRUIT TREES.

The following table is inserted to give the unlatiated some idea of the number of Trees or Vines required to plant a given space of ground.

TABLE

Shewing the number of PLANTS required to plant an acre of land, from 1 foot to 30 feet plant from plant.

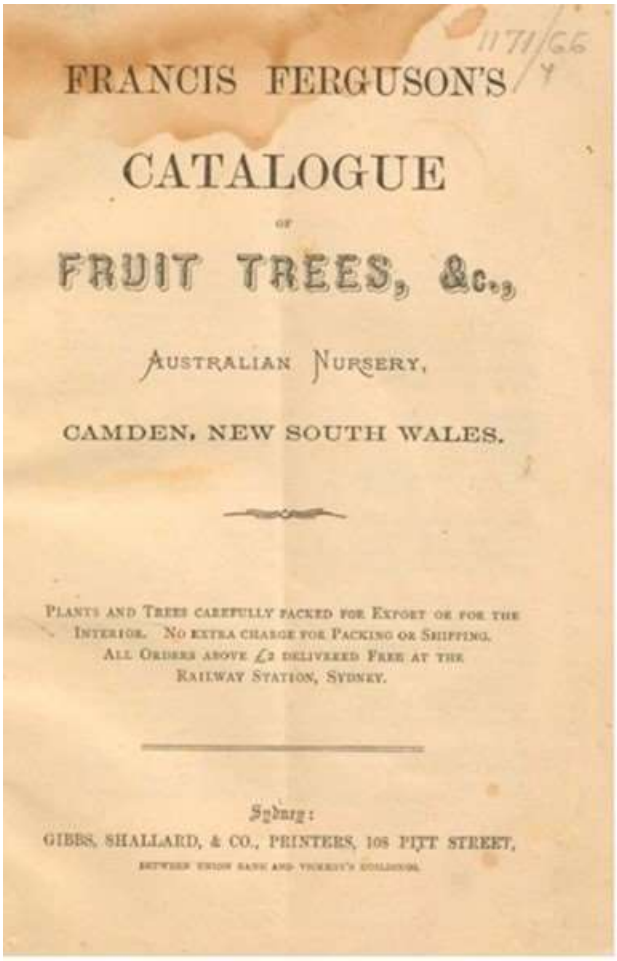
| Distance. | Number per acre. | Distance. | Number per acre. | Distance. | Number per acre. | Distance. | Number per acre. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feet. | Number. | Feet. | Number. | Feet. | Number. | Feet. | Number. |
| 30 | 48 | 17 | 150 | 9 | 537 | 4 | 2,722 |
| 28 | 55 | 16 | 169 | 8 | 680 | 3½ | 3,556 |
| 26 | 64 | 15 | 193 | 7 | 889 | 3 | 4,840 |
| 24 | 75 | 14 | 222 | 6½ | 1,031 | 2½ | 6,970 |
| 22 | 90 | 13 | 257 | 6 | 1,201 | 2 | 10,890 |
| 20 | 100 | 12 | 303 | 5½ | 1,440 | 1½ | 19,360 |
| 19 | 120 | 11 | 360 | 5 | 1,742 | 1 | 43,560 |
| 18 | 134 | 10 | 435 | 4½ | 2,151 | | |

APPLES.

Warranted free from any kind of disease. Per doz.

1 Winter Pearmain
2 French ditto
3 Hampshire ditto
4 Herefordshire ditto
5 Golden Nonpareil
6 Scarlet ditto
7 White Spanish Reinette
8 Golden ditto
9 Blenheim Orange
10 Cornish Gilliflower
11 French Crab
12 Mank's Codlin
13 Late ditto
14 Cat's Head ditto
15 Stubbart's ditto
16 Late ditto
17 Mobb's ditto
18 Keswick ditto
19 New Nonsuch
20 Old Nonsuch
21 Lord Nelson
22 Alexander
23 Silver Russett
24 Golden Russett
25 Old Russett
26 Kentish Pillbasket
27 Red Caldwell
28 Caldwell's Keeper
29 Newtown Pippin
30 Ribstone ditto
31 Five Crown ditto
32 New England ditto
33 Hebbsden ditto
34 Ginger ditto
35 Colin ditto
36 Queen of Pippins
37 Dewton Pippin
38 Golden Rare
39 Flower of Kent
40 Golden Harvey
41 Red Quarendon
42 Siberian Crab
43 Golden Kate
44 Early July
45 Lord Hay's Golden Eye
46 Red Junesting
47 Striped Aromatic
48 Striped Beaufin
49 Red Streak
50 Devonshire Red Streak
51 Irish Peach

Caldwell's Keeper appears in both but 'Rymer' is only listed in 1898.



FRANCIS FERGUSON'S

CATALOGUE

OF

FRUIT TREES, &c.,

AUSTRALIAN NURSERY,

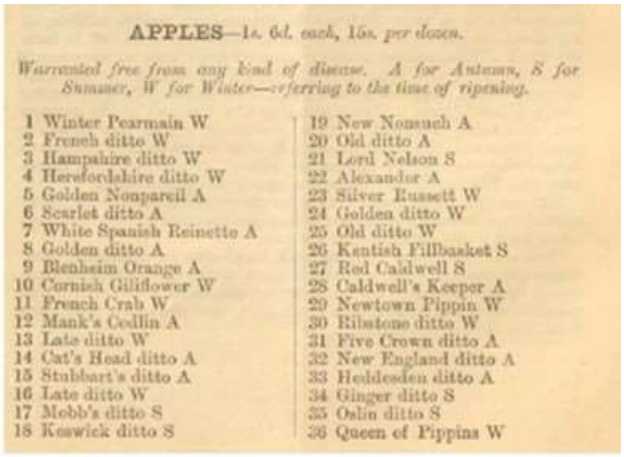
CAMDEN, NEW SOUTH WALES.

PLANTS AND TREES CAREFULLY PACKED FOR EXPORT OR FOR THE INTERIOR. NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR PACKING OR SHIPPING. ALL ORDERS ABOVE £2 DELIVERED FREE AT THE RAILWAY STATION, SYDNEY.

Sydney:

GIBBS, SHALLARD, & CO., PRINTERS, 108 PITT STREET,

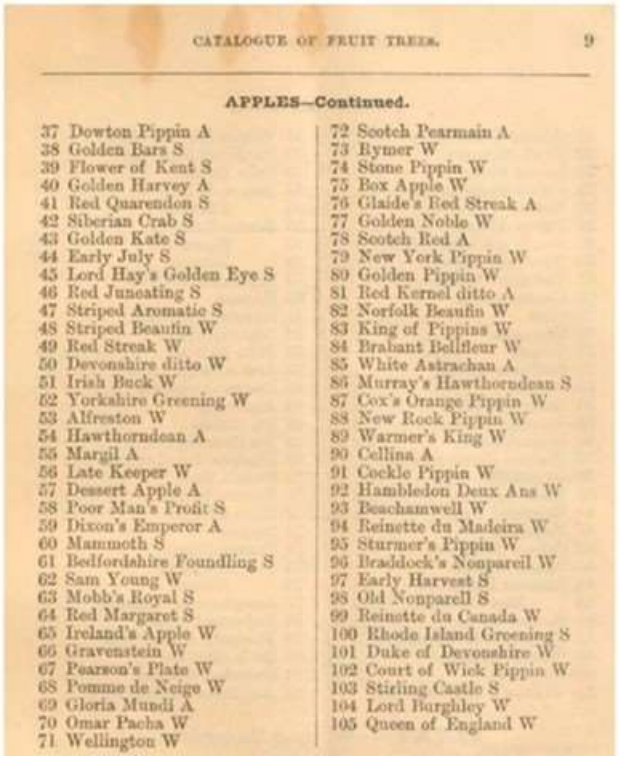
BETWEEN UNION BANK AND VICKERY'S COLLISION.



**APPLES**—1s. 6d. *each*, 16s. *per dozen.*

*Warranted free from any kind of disease. A for Autumn, S for Summer, W for Winter—referring to the time of ripening.*

1 Winter Pearmain W
2 French ditto W
3 Hampshire ditto W
4 Herefordshire ditto W
5 Golden Nonpareil A
6 Scarlet ditto A
7 White Spanish Reinette A
8 Golden ditto A
9 Blenheim Orange A
10 Cornish Gilliflower W
11 French Crab W
12 Mank's Codlin A
13 Late ditto W
14 Cat's Head ditto A
15 Stubbart's ditto A
16 Late ditto W
17 Mobb's ditto S
18 Keswick ditto S
19 New Nonsuch A
20 Old ditto A
21 Lord Nelson S
22 Alexander A
23 Silver Russett W
24 Golden ditto W
25 Old ditto W
26 Kentish Fillbasket S
27 Red Caldwell S
28 Caldwell's Keeper A
29 Newtown Pippin W
30 Ribstone ditto W
31 Five Crown ditto A
32 New England ditto A
33 Heddesden ditto A
34 Ginger ditto S
35 Oslin ditto S
36 Queen of Pippins W



CATALOGUE OF FRUIT TREES. 9

**APPLES—Continued.**

37 Dowton Pippin A
38 Golden Bars S
39 Flower of Kent S
40 Golden Harvey A
41 Red Quarendon S
42 Siberian Crab S
43 Golden Kate S
44 Early July S
45 Lord Hay's Golden Eye S
46 Red Juneating S
47 Striped Aromatic S
48 Striped Beaufin W
49 Red Streak W
50 Devonshire ditto W
51 Irish Buck W
52 Yorkshire Greening W
53 Alfreston W
54 Hawthorndean A
55 Margil A
56 Late Keeper W
57 Dessert Apple A
58 Poor Man's Profit S
59 Dixon's Emperor A
60 Mammoth S
61 Bedfordshire Foundling S
62 Sam Young W
63 Mobb's Royal S
64 Red Margaret S
65 Ireland's Apple W
66 Gravenstein W
67 Pearson's Plate W
68 Pomme de Neige W
69 Gloria Mundi A
70 Omar Pacha W
71 Wellington W
72 Scotch Pearmain A
73 Rymer W
74 Stone Pippin W
75 Box Apple W
76 Glaide's Red Streak A
77 Golden Noble W
78 Scotch Red A
79 New York Pippin W
80 Golden Pippin W
81 Red Kernel ditto A
82 Norfolk Beaufin W
83 King of Pippins W
84 Brabant Bellfleur W
85 White Astrachan A
86 Murray's Hawthorndean S
87 Cox's Orange Pippin W
88 New Rock Pippin W
89 Warmer's King W
90 Cellina A
91 Cockle Pippin W
92 Hambledon Deux Ans W
93 Beachamwell W
94 Reinette du Madeira W
95 Sturmer's Pippin W
96 Braddock's Nonpareil W
97 Early Harvest S
98 Old Nonpareil S
99 Reinette du Canada W
100 Rhode Island Greening S
101 Duke of Devonshire W
102 Court of Wick Pippin W
103 Stirling Castle S
104 Lord Burghley W
105 Queen of England W

**New Zealand – Nursery Catalogues that included 'Rymer'**

Charles Sonntag of Dunedin (1880)

Parnell of Auckland (1885-86)

Nairn and Sons of Christchurch (early 1900s)

# Appendix E - Source Orchards in England and Wales

Six old trees have been found in widely scattered orchards and gardens, five still survive. Trees variously appear to have been planted sometime between 1880 and 1920. During that period 'Rymer' was listed in catalogues of some of the most significant nursery businesses: Miller (later Garaway), Pearsons, Pennell, Richard Smith, Rivers, Scotts and Veitch. That 'Rymer' was readily and widely available is valuable circumstantial evidence supporting the six trees could be that variety. It is fortunate the trees have remained long enough to be recognised.

## Southwood Farm, Martley

Mike Porter (1996) described how Alf Jones of Southwood Farm near Martley brought apples in to the Autumn Malvern Show of 1995. He identified it tentatively to be 'Rymer'. MAN received graftwood that winter. In 2016 DNA fingerprints confirmed that the accessions from Southwood and Upper Coston matched each other.

Rachel Jones thought her great-grandfather was from Cardigan and had taken over running the farm about 1900. The orchard was in the steeply sloping rectangular field. Mike Porter recorded that there were 170 varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries. Just three remain, 'Rymer' and most are gone.


Ordnance Survey 6" to one mile map of 1883
reproduced under Creative Commons permission

## Upper Coston

From 1850 the farm was owned by Edward Turner of Coston Manor. Ted Morris became a tenant farmer about 1920 and later bought the farm. His two sons, Brian and Ivor, were cousins to Tom Adams. They managed the farm until 2018. Ivor died in 2022.


Upper Coston Farm, Aston-on-Clun

Ordnance Survey 6" to one mile map of 1883 reproduced under Creative Commons permission

Upper Coston February 2005 – photo courtesy Tom Adams

In the photograph above taken in 2005, ‘Rymer’ is immediately to the left of the group of four people, Mike and Chris Porter, Brian and Ivor Morris.

This small orchard remains the single most amazing source of re-found varieties in all of MAN site visits. Mike Porter (2005) reported that he’d identified ‘Bringewood Pippin,’, ‘Gipsy King’, ‘Round Winter Nonesuch’ and ‘Rymer’. All four varieties were lost. To date only these trees of ‘Bringewood Pippin,’ and ‘Gipsy King’, have been found and now both are dead.

Upper Coston August 2025 - Rymer

The tree has an upright habit and is still standing. Fruit was on the right-hand branches.

Fruit from the tree here was sampled in August and October. Fresh picked samples showed the areolae noted by Thompson, though they soon fade or a rubbed off (for 6th August see above).

They aren’t easy to see in the picture, a few arrows are added to aid spotting them.


Upper Coston Rymer 10Oct25 – areolae are still just visible

Upper Coston Rymer 10Oct25
ridges over the crowns to cheeks are just visible on the bottom two samples to the 'north-east'. A few hours after picking areolea are barely visible.

From a DNA match to the NFC accession it was also found that 'Huntingdon Codlin' was grown at Upper Coston. As noted in Appendix I this gives an indication of the likely age of some tree planting there.

## Sunfold Colwall

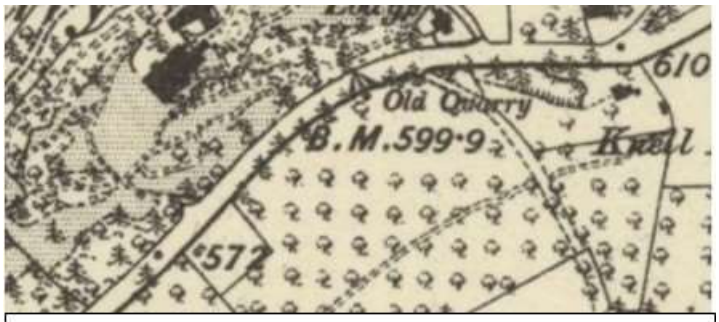
The Malvern to Hereford railway open in the early 1860s. Under the direction of Stephen Ballard a tunnel was dug manually through the exceptionally hard rock of the Malvern Hills and goes right under the extensive orchards at Colwall, on the west side of the hills. Colwall station then proved a convenient for transporting the apple harvest to the Birmingham market. This and other local industries grew up in the wake of the railway.

His great granddaughter, Freda, showed me the Sunfold Orchard where a 'Rymer' had been identified by DNA in 2018.

The tree was originally 'Blanc Mollet' (syn. 'White Beech', 'White Norman') likely planted in early C20. It has been top-worked with two culinary varieties, 'Rymer' and likely 'Lord Lambourne'. This was likely done during the time of Stephen Ballard's son, Stephen Ballard II. 'Rymer' fruit is on a branch seen on the left hand side of the tree (north side). The other variety is behind.

As orchard sales declined, maintenance was reduced. It is now a wonderful wildlife site with many standing and fallen dead trees.

Land slopes at about 1:10 towards the south. Soil depth is fairly shallow, of silt and clay, and drains fairly well. During the long hot dry summer of 2025, like many old trees with heavy set unthinned during the summer produced much smaller fruits than usual, only about 2/3 typical size. Two further aspects are relevant, the location is a little shaded




Ordnance Survey 6" to one mile map of 1883 surveyed 1886
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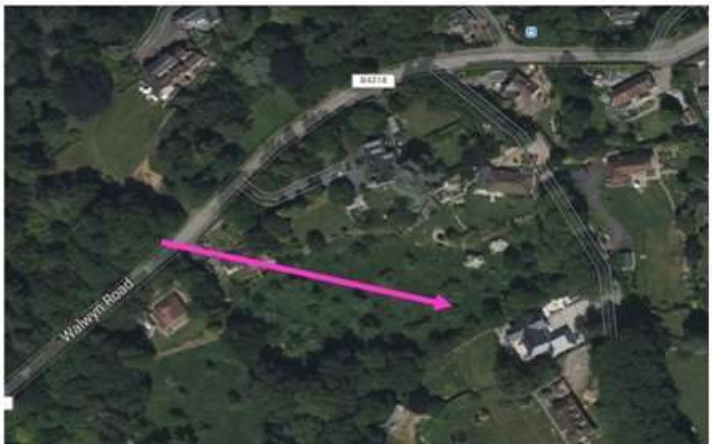



Colwall Sunfold orchard 3072 3Oct25

by Perseverance Hill and the fruit only begins colouring from September. Unsurprisingly, then, fruit is smaller and less coloured than might be expected in comparison with more favourable locations.

Despite being undersized, characteristic features of a short stalk and a shallow narrow cavity are clear. Areolae were partly rubbed off during handling and transport. Fruit almost invariably had closed eyes,

'Rymer' at Sunfold Orchard 3072 Colwall 6Sep25

## Lady Gilbert Orchard


Ordnance Survey 6" to one mile map of 1883 Surveyed 1886, revised 1912
reproduced under Creative Commons permission

The orchard area was once part of the gardens of Grim's Dyke House, built around 1870 by architect Norman Shaw for the Victorian painter Sir Frederick Goodall. From 1890-1911 it was the home of the librettist Sir William Gilbert (of Gilbert and Sullivan fame). Gilbert and his wife were keen gardeners, and it is believed the orchard was planted during the time they lived there (Gilbert died in the pond in 1911 but his wife lived there until her death in 1936.) The house was converted to a hotel in 1970.

Planting records show that 'Lanes Prince Albert' and 'Golden Noble' were planted at some time.

When Jim Arbury visited the orchard, he identified 'Grenadier' (possibly) and a 'Bismarck'. Both were introduced about the 1870s. These and 'Rymer' are listed in the catalogues of James Veitch (1917), Rivers and Son (1897) and Pearson and Son Nursery (1904). In view of their proximity to Harrow, Rivers or Veitch are the more likely source. Planting could have been sometime from about 1900.

As with fruit at Upper Coston and Sunfold, fruit size is similarly small though with a good colour.

The orchard is now cared for by the Orchard Project.
https://www.theorchardproject.org.uk/orchard-profiles/lady-gilbert-orchard/

Peter Laws with 'Rymer' at Lady Gilbert Orchard 18Sep25

The trunk is hollow

Rymer at Lady Gilbert Orchard 6Sep18, photo courtesy Stephanie Irvine of the Orchard Project

Fruit samples were typically 58 mm diameter or less, compared with fruit on the Ty Glyn cordons being about 80 mm. Small fruit may be expected on a very old tree, especially as the set was quite heavy with little rain during 2025.

A hairline is evident on one apple below (bottom right at 9 o'clock).

'Rymer' at Lady Gilbert Orchard 18Sep25

## Padwick Farm

Besides ‘Rymer’, the DNA sampling confirmed ‘Queen’ too is in the Garden. ‘Queen’ was introduced in 1880 and both varieties are in the catalogues of James Veitch, Rivers and Son (1897) and Pearson and Son Nursery (1904); the former particularly was quite nearby. Catalogues of Scotts (1878) and Richard Smith (1880) do not list ‘Queen’; later catalogues aren’t available. Planting may have been made about 1900.

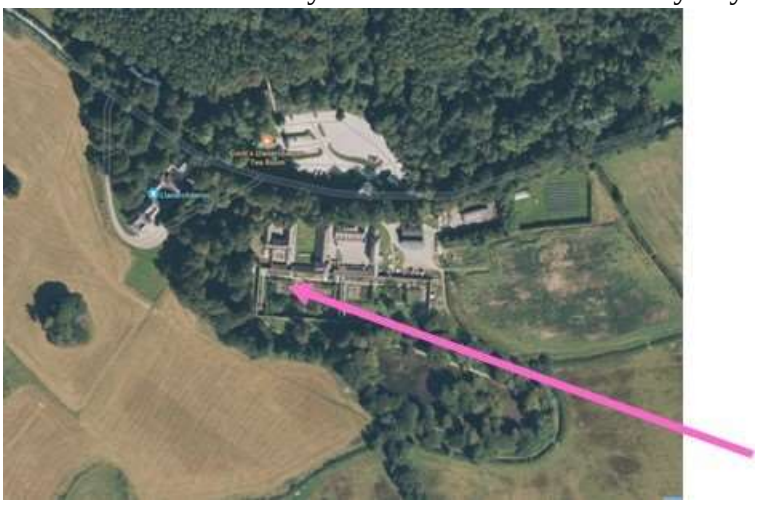

Ordnance Survey 6” to one mile map of 1883
Surveyed 1883, revised 1910
reproduced under Creative Commons permission


Padwick Farm 18Oct25 courtesy Mark Bilsland
top left areola are evident,
bottom right a hairline is prominent

## NT Llanerchaeron

Llanerchaeron was purchased in 1634 by Llewellyn Parry and grew progressively over the next 150 years. It was transformed by John Nash under the instructions of Colonel Lewes and his wife Corbetta Powell. Their son John Lewis inherited it in 1828. He died in 1855 and his widow, Mary (nee Mettam), lived there alone without children and died in 1917 aged 104. The property passed to a great nephew, and then his son. The property was left to the National Trust in 1989.

In Colonel William Lewis's diary of the 1820s he notes paying for trees and shrubs from Miller of Bristol. At the nearby estate in Ciliau Aeron of Ty Glyn (the same name, confusing isn't it!),



records from 1835-57 show purchases from Garaway of Bristol for fruit trees, shrubs etc. There are several references to trees, plants and furniture being brought in locally by sea. Most building materials and agricultural surpluses used that route until after the railway was opened in 1911 with a halt 1 km from the house.

Ceredigion Archives have Estate records of purchases from Dickson (of Chester, presumably) in 1913-16.

During the time when Mary lived there, the estate was well managed. Records indicate new trees were planted in the walled garden. They include 'Rymer', 'Kerry Pippin', 'Nolan Pippin' and 'Adams's Pearmain' likely originally planted as espaliers about 1900 and which are growing vigorously as free standing trees (see photo below). Outside of the walled garden are other free standing trees including several 'Bramley's Seedlings' and a 'Pitmaston Duchess' pear.

Curatorial notes from 2006 recorded the tree as 'Wyken Pippin' In 2018 DNA showed a match with A477 'Rymer' and it was renamed. This confusion with 'Wyken Pippin' is rather surprising as they are not very similar in appearance and are respectively a quite sharp cooker and for dessert.

Fruit appears less coloured and flushed than from other sources; even those grown during 2025 are relatively weakly coloured. At first glance it could be mistaken for its grandchild 'Bramley's Seedlings'!

Rymer at Llanerchaeron 6Mar25

Rymer, with Adams's Pearmain and Kerry Pippin, at Llanerchaeron 11Sep25

Llanerchaeron walled garden Rymer 15Oct25


Rymer on the NT Llanerchaeron display 15Oct25

## Tredomen TC D18

Tree grafted onto MM106 from Southwood Farm in 1996

Tree at TC D18 Rymer (MAN) 2Oct25

## Ty Glyn TG C82

Tree grafted onto M26 in 2018 from AB TT03 which in turn was from Upper Coston Farm

Cordon TG C82 Rymer (MAN) 16Sep25

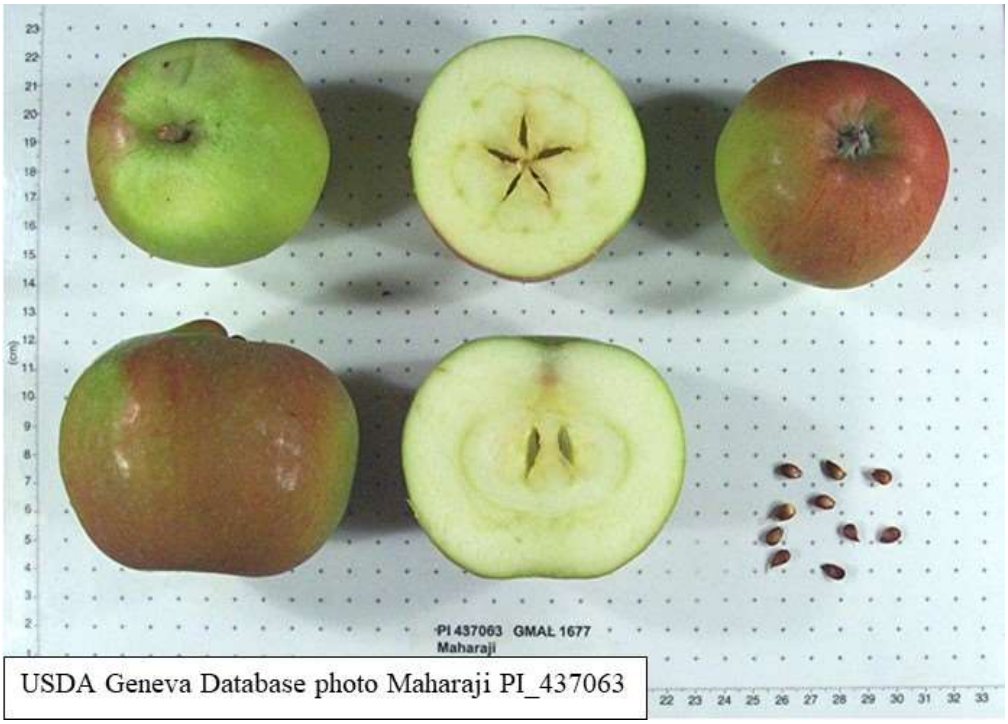
## Maharaji, Kashmir

That ‘Maharaji’ is the same genotype as ‘Rymer’ suggests that it was imported into Kashmir during the nineteenth century when businesses such as Veitch and Sons traded actively for exotic plants and sent in exchange fruit trees and such that would be popular with British soldiers and families. It is thus not a native variety to, nor bred in, Kashmir as is widely believed and noted in recent Indian literature https://specialtyproduce.com/produce/Kashmiri_Apples_24410.php It is possible that the name ‘Maharaji’ was selected to make the variety more acceptable and popular to Indian tastes.

For many years, ‘Maharaji’ has been an iconic variety in India. Grown extensively in Kashmir, Khursheed Ahmad Shah has reported that it was valued for being an attractive late keeping variety useful of making chutney and pickles. Later as it ripened it could be eaten uncooked and used in apple juice concentrate.

https://mediaindia.eu/environment/mahraji-apples-decline-threatens-kashmirs-fruit-legacy/

Competition from earlier ripening sweeter varieties has caused many orchard owners to grub-up the Maharaji trees.



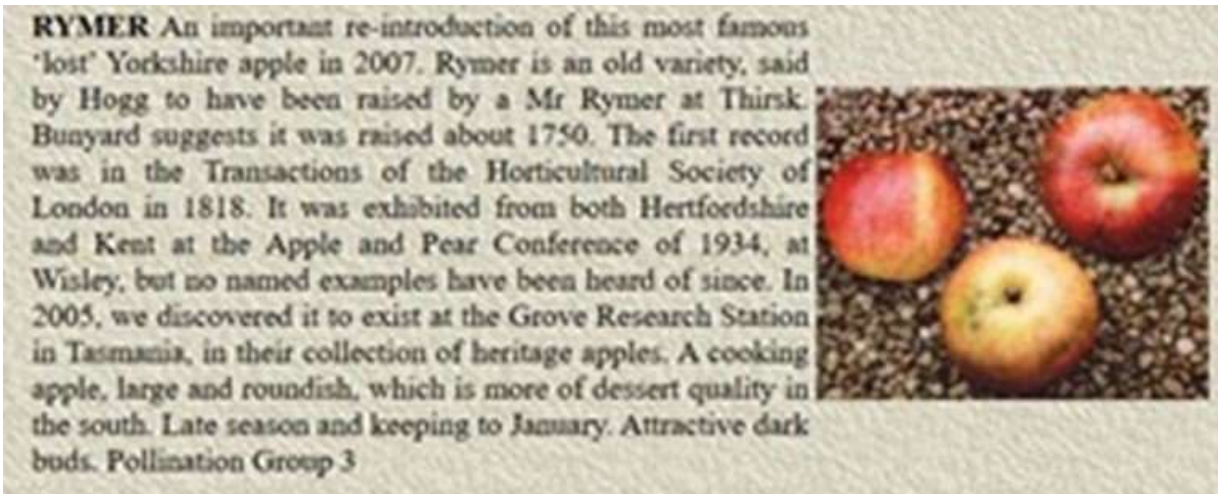

USDA Geneva Database photo Maharaji PI_437063

**Maharaji in the USDA collection**

Standard style photograph of fruit at the USDA in Geneva, New York. Accession received from Srinagar, Kashmir in 1979.

# Appendix F – Grove Research Station 'Rymer'

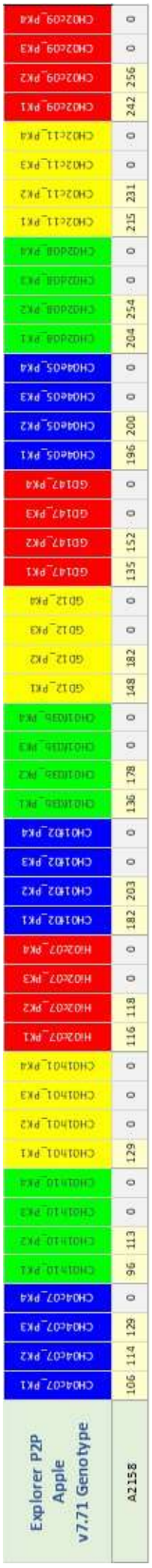
Anne McConnel and Nathalie Servant (1999) described 'The History and Heritage of the Tasmanian Apple Industry – Profile' and included the Grove Research Station list of varieties held, including 'Rymer'. Dr Gordon Brown advised that the Grove collection was formed about 1973 and had originally been at Blackwood, South Australia, then at the Bathurst Experimental Station in N.S.W. Bernwode Nursery obtained propagation material of the accession named 'Rymer' and has claimed to have re-introduced this variety to the UK in 2007 https://www.bernwodefruittrees.co.uk/descriptions/apple44.htm


**RYMER** An important re-introduction of this most famous 'lost' Yorkshire apple in 2007. Rymer is an old variety, said by Hogg to have been raised by a Mr Rymer at Thirsk. Bunyard suggests it was raised about 1750. The first record was in the Transactions of the Horticultural Society of London in 1818. It was exhibited from both Hertfordshire and Kent at the Apple and Pear Conference of 1934, at Wisley, but no named examples have been heard of since. In 2005, we discovered it to exist at the Grove Research Station in Tasmania, in their collection of heritage apples. A cooking apple, large and roundish, which is more of dessert quality in the south. Late season and keeping to January. Attractive dark buds. Pollination Group 3

Trees named 'Rymer' have been bought by several colleagues from Bernwode Nursery. Denis Smith has kindly shared four of his apples from a tree supplied by Bernwode Nursery. Denis's fruit are full sized this year. They show a stalk protruding well beyond the base, a cavity that is not notably narrow or shallow. They appear similar to the thumbnail images of the Bernwode website.

Several aspects of these samples are not similar to any of the literature descriptions presented in Appendix C. A summary of the most conspicuous differences is given in the table below.

| | **Literature** (from Summary of Historic Literature) | **Grove Research Station fruit samples** (Oct25) |
|---|---|---|
| Average size | 85 x 70 | 65 x 52 |
| Shape | roundish and flattened | round to slightly short round conical |
| Stalk | short (ca.8) | 23 |
| Eye | large, open or closed, broad segments | small closed or slightly open, narrow segments |
| Tube | broad conical | narrow cone, almost as a funnel with high neck |
| Taste | acid (harsh) ripening to sub-acid | sweet with some acidity |




**DNA**

Two trees, held by Bob Lever and Stephen Ainsleigh Rice were separately fingerprinted, they matched one another but were found to be a genotype unrelated to that of the 'Rymer' A477 presented in this report.

| **Original Tree at** | **with** | **DNA** MUNQ 7502 |
|---|---|---|
| Grove Research Station | Bob Lever<br>Ainsleigh Rice | A2158<br>IBERS_A1275 |

In 2018 a sample of the GRS 'Rymer' was fingerprinted as A2158 and is shown opposite. It is diploid and does not match any other genotype in Explorer-P2P v7.75. As the variety has been in existence for nearly 300 years, could it be parent to or progeny of any other heritage varieties? This requires all twelve marker-pairs have at least one allele in common. The varieties for which this occurs are listed below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Court of Wick | Cox's Early Export | Golden Reinette |
| Histon Favourite | Hormead Pearmain | Laxton's Rearguard |
| Pig's Nose Pippin | Rosy Blenheim | Scarlet Nonpareil |
| A2181 | | |

Of these only 'Golden Reinette' has a reported earlier occurrence in England to about mid seventeenth century. For 'Rymer' to be progeny of 'Golden Reinette',

the latter would have had to be in Yorkshire likely by early Eighteenth Century for allowing time to grow on pips. Possible but how likely?

**‘**Rymer’ was exported to Australia sometime in the early nineteenth century. It has been found at Braidwood in New South Wales as described herein, but it does not match that from GRS. Gary Sully of Sully’s Cider (email 24Mar25) has confirmed that he and other Australian customers received varieties from GRS that did not match their orders. One was Boy’s Delight. Chataignier’, ‘Closette’, ‘Rousse Latour’, have been noted as incorrect from tests by Cider Australia. There has been suspicion that during relocations of the collection from Blackwood, SA, to Bathhurst, NSW, to GRS, Tasmania, or during periods of neglect, tree labels were muddled, or rogue rootstock allowed to grow.

MAN has two other instances of varieties from GRS that do not appear correct. ‘Eggleton Styre’ was described and presented to the Panel in 2023. The fruit from the GRS does not appear a match to the historic descriptions in *Herf Pom*.

‘Reinette des Carmes’ was also obtained from GRS by Bernwode. Leaves from a young tree purchased by Ainsleigh were fingerprinted by IBERS in June. It does not match the fingerprint of these held in the German JKI nor Czech RPIBH collections, MUNQ344, the genotype given by INRAE. It is however a match to ‘Mannington’s Pearmain’, a progeny of ‘Reinette des Carmes’; both were listed as at the GRS and such a confusion is understandable.

‘Forfar Pippin’ of Woodbridge Fruit Trees Forfar Pippin Dwarfing - Woodbridge Fruit Trees, likely obtained from GRS, does not match the admitted brief descriptions in Hogg, Bunyard or Engelbrecht.

We believe another meriting investigation is the Maple Grove nursery variety ‘Cleopatra’ (‘Ortley’) likely sourced from GRS nearby. From photos it does not appear a good match to ‘Ortley’ held by NFC.

# Appendix G - Prince Alfred provenance

Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, visited Australia in 1868, his visit was memorable for several reasons

In the Braidwood Dispatch and Mining Journal (NSW : 1888 - 1889; 1895; 1897 - 1954), Friday 18 April 1930, page 2 copied from the National Library of Australia there is reference to 'Rymer' existing at Fred Routley's Farm at Major's Creek, these are the trees planted by his father Richard in the 1860s. This notice is an important piece of evidence linking the current old trees at Milo Farm to the original planting.

There are four varieties mentioned. The NAR lists Jonathan as provenance to Woodstock, NY USA in 1826 and King David to Washington County, AK USA discovered 1892 introduced in 1902. Both could have reached a dynamic fruit growing area well before 1930. The provenance of the tree 'Prince Alfred' is given as 1933 which is three years after it is was reported to have been well established at Braidwood.

This apparent paradox is easily resolved. The NAR is incomplete on this variety. It was bred at Grove House, Huon, Tasmania. It is was also listed in the inventory of Grove Research Station.

Three articles found by Gary Sully show that 'Prince Alfred' was of much earlier provenance.

Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954), Tuesday 1 January 1935, page 9

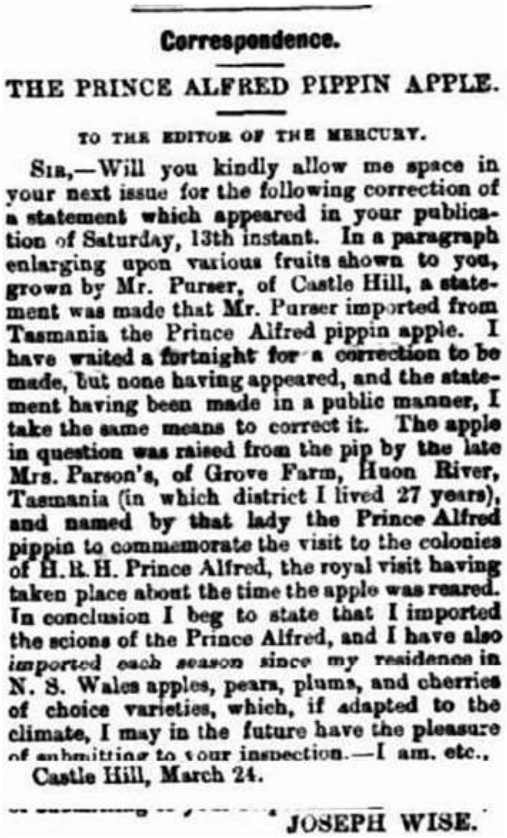
**FINE FRUIT**

**The "Dispatch" has always urged that the Braidwood district is one of the finest apple and pear-growing districts in this State, and under better marketing conditions a big industry could easily be developed here. If any proof of this statement were needed it is to be found in an inspection of Mr. Fred Routley's orchard at Major's Creek. He grows dozens of different varieties of this fruit. The other day he left at this office some samples of Prince Alfred, Rymer, King David and Jonathan apples and several varieties of pears. They are fit to take their place amongst the State's best. Moreover, they reveal what care and attention bestowed upon trees can accomplish in fruit production.**

ORIGINAL PRINCE ALFRED APPLE TREE IN TASMANIA

STILL BEARING FRUIT.—So named after the Duke of Edinburgh, who visited Tasmania in 1868, this historic apple tree may be seen growing on Grove House property, Grove, Huon. (See letterpress). W. J. Rowlands, photo.

Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895)



**Correspondence.**

THE PRINCE ALFRED PIPPIN APPLE.

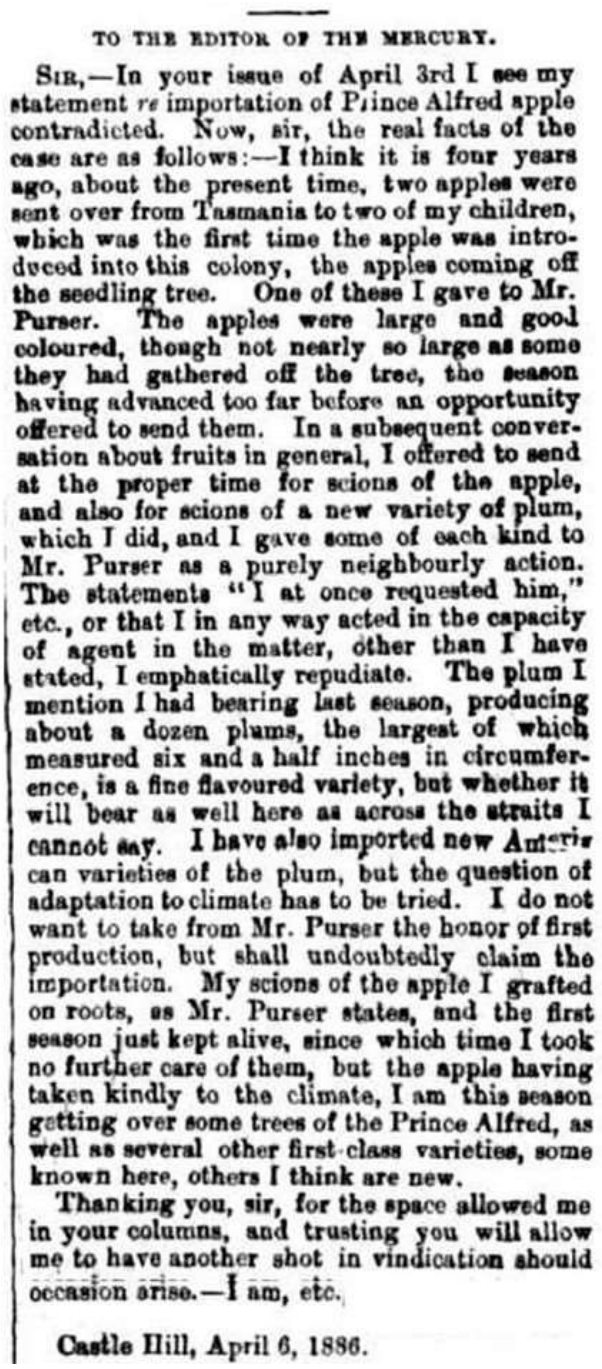
TO THE EDITOR OF THE MERCURY.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your next issue for the following correction of a statement which appeared in your publication of Saturday, 13th instant. In a paragraph enlarging upon various fruits shown to you, grown by Mr. Purser, of Castle Hill, a statement was made that Mr. Purser imported from Tasmania the Prince Alfred pippin apple. I have waited a fortnight for a correction to be made, but none having appeared, and the statement having been made in a public manner, I take the same means to correct it. The apple in question was raised from the pip by the late Mrs. Parson's, of Grove Farm, Huon River, Tasmania (in which district I lived 27 years), and named by that lady the Prince Alfred pippin to commemorate the visit to the colonies of H.R.H. Prince Alfred, the royal visit having taken place about the time the apple was reared. In conclusion I beg to state that I imported the scions of the Prince Alfred, and I have also *imported each season* since my residence in N. S. Wales apples, pears, plums, and cherries of choice varieties, which, if adapted to the climate, I may in the future have the pleasure of submitting to your inspection.—I am, etc.,

Castle Hill, March 24.

JOSEPH WISE.

Saturday 27 March 1886, page 1



TO THE EDITOR OF THE MERCURY.

SIR,—In your issue of April 3rd I see my statement *re* importation of Prince Alfred apple contradicted. Now, sir, the real facts of the case are as follows:—I think it is four years ago, about the present time, two apples were sent over from Tasmania to two of my children, which was the first time the apple was introduced into this colony, the apples coming off the seedling tree. One of these I gave to Mr. Purser. The apples were large and good coloured, though not nearly so large as some they had gathered off the tree, the season having advanced too far before an opportunity offered to send them. In a subsequent conversation about fruits in general, I offered to send at the proper time for scions of the apple, and also for scions of a new variety of plum, which I did, and I gave some of each kind to Mr. Purser as a purely neighbourly action. The statements "I at once requested him," etc., or that I in any way acted in the capacity of agent in the matter, other than I have stated, I emphatically repudiate. The plum I mention I had bearing last season, producing about a dozen plums, the largest of which measured six and a half inches in circumference, is a fine flavoured variety, but whether it will bear as well here as across the straits I cannot say. I have also imported new American varieties of the plum, but the question of adaptation to climate has to be tried. I do not want to take from Mr. Purser the honor of first production, but shall undoubtedly claim the importation. My scions of the apple I grafted on roots, as Mr. Purser states, and the first season just kept alive, since which time I took no further care of them, but the apple having taken kindly to the climate, I am this season getting over some trees of the Prince Alfred, as well as several other first-class varieties, some known here, others I think are new.

Thanking you, sir, for the space allowed me in your columns, and trusting you will allow me to have another shot in vindication should occasion arise.—I am, etc.

Castle Hill, April 6, 1886.

Saturday 10 April 1886, page 3

**DNA SSR evidence**

'Prince Alfred' is probably a cross of 'Alexander' and 'Ortley' (syn 'Cleopatra'). The former was available in NSW and Victoria in the early nineteenth century, and 'Cleopatra' is listed to have been obtained by Piallogo Nursery from Nobelius Nursery Victoria in 1915, but it could have been there much earlier as its provenance is 1817.

# Appendix H – Australian Models of ‘Rymer‘

## Models at Kew Gardens

model of Rymen (or possibly spelt Rymer)



model of Rhymer



Models of apples from Tasmania were made for the International Exhibition of 1862; they are now held at Kew Gardens. Photographs of models named ‘Rymen’ (or ‘Rymer’) and ‘Rhymer’ are presented below with kind permission of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

## Wax Model of ‘Rymer’ at Powerhouse, Parramatta, NSW

https://collection.powerhouse.com.au/object/223958

Reproduced with permission from the Collection: Powerhouse Museum. Technological Museum, 1900. Photo: Marinco Kojdanovski

## Wax Models at Museums Victoria

https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/search?query=rymer


This wax model is based on a specimen grown and presented to the museum by Thomas C. Cole of 'Twyford', Hawthorn in 1875. The model was made in the museum. The model maker was not recorded.

Museums Victoria Collections https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/372237 Accessed 17 July 2025


This wax model was based on a specimen grown and presented to the museum by James Lang of Harcourt from his first Prize Collection at the 1885 Horticultural Show. The model was made in the museum. The model maker was not recorded.

Museums Victoria Collections https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/394120 Accessed 17

This wax model is based on a specimen presented to the museum by the Department of Agriculture of Victoria. The model was made in the museum by Judith Walters, June 1962.


Museums Victoria Collections
https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/390174 Accessed 17 July 2025

## Summary of Australian models of 'Rymer'

The Powerhouse model should be discounted, it appears barely credible. The models Kew 'Rhymer' and Museum of Victoria 1962 appear distorted. Combining the more consistent features gives in summary: a medium to large, round slightly flattened and conical shape, with very broad ribs clearer near apex, a skin green or yellow on shaded side and red flushed without stripes on sunny side, a fairly narrow and deep cavity with some russeting, and a stalk that is about level with the base. In total it is similar to though both less clear and comprehensive than the summary morphology derived from literature.

| Attribute | Kew: Rymen | Kew: Rhymer | Powerhouse | Museum of Victoria (1875) 013676 | Museum of Victoria (1885) 04966 | Museum of Victoria (1962) 025228 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Size** | **Medium-large?** | **Medium-large?** | **Medium-large?** | **72x58(?)** | **100x85(?)** | **88x70(?)** |
| **Shape** | **Round, slightly flattened and conical** | **model distorted: conical?** | **Round, slightly conical, base a title flattened** | **Round, slightly flattened and conical** | **Round and flattened** | **Model maybe distorted: roundish-base flattened** |
| **Ribs** | **Very broad** | **Very broad** | **Slight trace** | **n/a** | **Hint near apex** | **hint of 2-3** |
| **Skin shaded** | **Yellowish-green** | **Yellow?** | **Broad long stripes od maroon grading to red on yellow-orange ground** | **Yellow** | **Yellow** | **Green** |
| **Skin sunny** | **Red-brown flush, no streaks** | **Red flush, no streaks** | **Broad long stripes of maroon grading to red on yellow-orange ground, appears rather brown** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **Red flush, no stripes** |
| **Apex** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **Not crowned** | **n/a** | **Possibly slightly crowned** | **n/a maybe distorted** |
| **Basin** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **round narrow fairly shallow and even** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **n/a** |
| **Eye** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **closed** | **n/a** | **n/a** | **n/a** |
| **Cavity** | **Fairly narrow and deep, some russet?** | **Model distorted: Fairly narrow and deep, some russet?** | **Fairly narrow and deep** | **Fairly narrow, depth unclear** | **fairly narrow and deep, some russet** | **Narrow and maybe shallow** |
| **Stalk** | **Very short** | **Very short** | **About level with base** | **Protrudes ca. 5 mm** | **About level with base** | **About level with base** |

# Appendix I Additional Note – possible sources for the apple trees at Upper Coston and elsewhere

Most of the trees identified at Upper Coston were widely available from nurseries over the period 1870-1910. Scott's had most: 'Rymer', 'Bringewood Pippin', 'Gipsy King', 'Keswick Codlin', 'Blenheim Orange', 'Round Winter Nonesuch', 'New Hawthornden', 'Webb's Kitchen Russet'. Richard Smith of Worcester nearly all too.

Of the varieties found by Mike Porter there are three, 'Bringewood Pippin', 'Gipsy King' and 'Huntingdon Codlin' that were not well established at nurseries. At the 1883 RHS Congress and the 1888 RHS conference Gipsy King was listed to have been exhibited by Veitch and Son and by Wood and Ingram, respectively. 'Gipsey King' is mentioned as at or known to be at Scott's in 'The Orchardist' (1873 and 1878); the *Herefordshire Pomona* mentions that Rivers had 'Gipsy King' in the catalogue of 1876.

'Bringewood Pippin' was also exhibited by Stacey of Pershore. It may be noted that Upper Coston is only 7.5 km from Downton Castle where Thomas Andrew Knight lived.

Mail order delivery to Upper Coston would have been eminently feasible from 1861 when a station opening at Broome on the Craven Arms to Swansea branch line. The distance between station and farm is 2.4 km along the farm track.

'Huntingdon Codlin' is described as having been sent by Wood and Ingram to Hogg in 'The Fruit Manual' and exhibited at the RHS Conference in 1888. It is not listed on any nursery catalogues available to MAN, including that of Wood and Ingram of 1904. Denis Smith has suggested that it was because it was assessed to be rather poor, and Peter Laws has suggested that it was eclipsed by the introduction of a much better early apple, 'Emneth Early'. Overall then 'Huntingdon Codlin' was likely bought and planted about 1890-1900. This timing is broadly consistent with the likely age of other trees there. Also similar in time with plantings of 'Rymer' at South Wood Farm near Martley, Padwick Farm and Lady Gilbert Orchard.

'Rymer' was available about this time from several nurseries, including Miller (Garaway), Scotts, St John's Nursery (Richard Smith), Rivers, Pennell and Son, Pearson and Sons, and Veitch and Sons. It had also been exported to the Continent, USA, Australia and possibly Kashmir. Veitch's or Scott's may have been the source for most of Upper Coston, Richard Smith for Martley and Colwall. Any could have supplied Lady Gilbert and Padwick Farm.

Local records suggests supplies to Llanerchaeron and other nearby estates were brought by sea; Miller and later Garaway were recorded as having been paid for trees and shrubs.

# Acknowledgements

It was my mentor, the late Mike Porter, who first identified two trees as ‘Rymer’ from fruit samples. Amazing. He guided me to some understanding of morphology, orchard history and DNA. His gentle clear teaching ultimately gave me courage to tackle reporting this, one of his many re-finds of a heritage variety.

Rudi Stachow, Joan Web (Routley), Sandra Rayner, David Pickering helped us reveal the place of ‘Rymer in Australia’ and the history and orchards of Milo Farm, vital for linking genotype with name.

Nick Howard and Matt Ordidge found the key link between ‘Rymer’ and its synonym in Kashmir ‘Maharaji’ and Nick Howard *et al.* did the DNA work to unravel its renowned progeny. They shared their information freely.

Hilary Dodson, Peter Laws, Andy Gilchrist, Denis Smith, Bob Lever, John Teiser provided kindly advice and guidance for sustaining motivation during the long gestation of this investigation; their quiet help was immeasurably re-assuring.

Site visits to orchards were essential to confirm that DNA matching was borne out by close morphological similarities and obtaining an insight into the orchards’ histories. They were all unstinting in their help:

- Tom Adams and Gaz Davis for Upper Coston,
- Rachel Jones and Oliver Rogers at Martley,
- Alex Muir and Alex Summers at NT Llanercharon,
- Freda Ballard, Jilly Rosser and Chris Blake at Sunfold Orchard,
- Stephanie Irvine and Hilary Coombes and Lady Gilbert Orchard,
- Mark Bilsland at Padwick Farm
- Caron Evan and Danny Thorogood kindly provided DNA analysis of several samples of leaves from several trees, including in Australia, and did so with an amazingly short turnaround time,
- Peter Laws gave generous of editorial guidance and help.

Gina Watkins-Sully and Jack Watkins-Sully provided invaluable energy and assistance with research, propagation and orchard management both during and long before this study was undertaken. Gary and Ainsleigh are most grateful to them.

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