St Wulstan’s as it is today

FADBE of monastic superior and diocesan bishop. He was one of only a few Englishmen to retain surrounding lands increasing their wealth. The land around the old hospital site was with Saxon parents in Warwickshire and educated at the abbeys of Evesham and Peterborough. In 1062 he became bishop and was one of the best examples of combining the roles of monastic superior and diocesan bishop. He was one of only a few Englishmen to retain high office to the end of William the Conqueror’s reign. He died at the age of 87.

Hornylod. Land in this area was owned by Alfonso Ortho Gandolfini Hornylod (The Duke) who died in March 1896. The Hornylod family has held estates in Worcestershire since the time of Henry III. They developed a pottery business at Hanley Castle area and they bought up surrounding lands increasing their wealth. The land around the old hospital site was sold in 1919 to Frederick Samuel Wilson Smith. There is still to this day a member of the Hornylod family living in The Hanley area.

Black Hill Quarry also known as Little Malvern or Berington’s Quarry. The land was part of the Berington Estate and, although a small amount of quarrying started in about 1880, commercial quarrying did not commence until it was leased from 1909 to 1910 to Pys Granite Company Limited. They constructed a substantial self-acting railway from the quarry to the Wells Road for transporting the stone. The base to the winding drum at the quarry and two substantial concrete structures at the bottom of the incline, just before note 1, can still be seen. The provision of the Malvern Hills Act of 1924 was that the lease would not be renewed when it expired and The Conservators bought the mineral rights in 1925 to prevent further quarrying. The land remained in the ownership of Little Malvern Estates until 2002 when it was purchased by Malvern Hills Conservators. The Malvern Hills Conservators are one of the oldest conservation bodies in the country and were set up look after the Malvern Hills.

Access. The area now known as Upper Welland was formally Assarts Common. Two roads carry the name Assarts in the area. The origin of the name stems from the time when a licence was required to clear the land for farming. This licence was known as permission to assart.

Abbey International College. Miss Edmunds started Abbey School on this site in 1876. It was later taken over by Miss Florence Judson, whose mother, Margaret Judson, had started a school in Blockley. Miss Florence brought the school from Blockley to Hazebank in Malvern Link before taking over the school at the Wells from Miss Edmunds. Florence and her sister, Alice, ensured that the Judson family ran the school until 1942. In 1979 The Abbey School amalgamated with St. James’s and The Abbey for the next 7 years. The Abbey International College took over the site back at the Wells and still operates there today.

St. Wulstan’s Local Nature Reserve. Formerly a hospital of the same name, it was built to accommodate the American wounded in the D-day invasion of WWII. After the Americans left it became a TB hospital. From 1962 to its closure in 1987 it was used as a psychiatric unit and rehabilitation hospital.