Rutland is England’s smallest county. As shown in the map, it is surrounded by Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire (including the Soke of Peterborough). There are two main towns, Oakham and Uppingham, but they are small in comparison with the major centres in neighbouring counties, such as Leicester, Peterborough and Stamford.

The county acquired standards in 1825 and functioned as a separate weights and measures authority throughout the nineteenth century. In the twentieth century the inspection was gradually taken over by Leicestershire, and the two counties were eventually merged in 1974. However, the county of Rutland was re-established in 1997, when it became a unitary authority.

The small size of the county, and the dominant influence of its neighbours, means that there is little evidence of the scale trade, although ironmongers in Oakham and Uppingham must have sold scales and weights, and may have been involved in repairing and adjusting them.
## A: Inspection by the County of RUTLAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1825</td>
<td>Set of standards [59] issued.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1834</td>
<td>One inspector appointed, and another set of standards [469] issued</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1848</td>
<td>County Police formed. The chief constable was the sole inspector.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>Set of standard weights [1271] issued to the chief constable.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>Rutland CC formed; No.531 issued.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>One qualified inspector; office in Oakham, where it remained until 1928 at least.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>By 1939 the inspector was based in Melton Mowbray (Leics).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Following the retirement of inspector Bissill, the inspection was merged with Leicestershire [MR 50:87].</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Rutland became a district council; WM authority formally transferred to Leicestershire.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 hundreds: Alstoe, East, Martinsley, Oakham Soke, Wrandike

For an explanation of the horseshoe mark, see [2].

**Inspectors 1835-48:**
William Banks (1835-)
T. Goodwin (chief constable of the East Hundred [1846 W].)

**Chief constables acting as inspectors 1848-89:**
T. Garton (1848-55, listed as IWM in 1850 [S])
R.F. Mitchell (1855-71, listed as IWM in 1863 [W])
William Kemp (1871-1890-)
listed as IWM in 1876 [K])

**Qualified inspectors:**
George Phillips (1891-1924) see [1].
A. Bissill (1924-1950, formerly in Leics) [MR 50:126]
A bronze weight made in the reign of George IV and stamped with the Rutland horseshoe mark.

An 8oz brass weight verified in Rutland in the reigns of Victoria (this mark stamped 1890-1901) and Edward VII (1901-1910).

A bronze weight last verified in Rutland in the reign of Edward VII (1901-1910). The mark is stamped in a lead plug on the reverse, and the letters B and K are date codes.
B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of RUTLAND

The market towns of Oakham and Uppingham had pre-Imperial standards, but neither of them had the formal status of a borough, and there is no evidence of WM activity after 1826.

C: The trade in Rutland

No specific evidence of the trade in Rutland has been found, although there were ironmongers in Oakham (for example) who probably sold and repaired scales and weights.

References for Rutland

Published works


Directories

W. White’s Directory of Leicestershire … and Rutland. (N541, ST123) 1846, 1863, 1877.
S. Slater’s Directory of … Rutland. (N85) 1850.
K. Kelly’s Directory of … Rutland (ST9) 1855-1941.

Original documents

*Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Record Office*

Some of the Rutland records were lost in the Second World War, and they are known only as a result of articles written by the aforementioned George Phillips. The records that have survived are now in the Record Office in Leicester.

RQS2: Records relating to the Quarter Sessions in Rutland 1743-1971.