

## Book Summary

# The History of Hetton-le-Hole

By C.A. Smith

64pp. A4 Price £5.00

The History of Hetton-le-Hole was written by C.A. Smith during the period 1956-1959. He was a local historian of some note who wrote many articles for newspapers and periodicals as well as local guides.

His father was also vicar of Hetton for over 30 years at the beginning of the century and he was responsible for publishing a detailed history of St. Nicholas' church in Hetton.

The articles within the book were actually written for Hetton Urban District Council and published in their Civic Newsletter of the period.

Written as a series of instalments the articles start with the early history of Hetton then into the Medieval period. The industrial development of the town is covered in a series of articles looking closely at the formation of coal mines and connected railway systems. The social aspects of life in a colliery place are adequately covered looking at the type of houses occupied by the families of miners, their lifestyles, influences and deprivations they suffered. Finally he describes the old customs and traditions as well as the spiritual influences and superstitions which dominated the lives of the miners and their kin.

The book is illustrated with a wide range of topical photographs from the various periods which assist the descriptive elements of the well-written text.

