

1

00:00:14,880 --> 00:00:18,080

2

00:00:20,900 --> 00:00:23,657

If you've heard of Essex, be that through

3

00:00:23,657 --> 00:00:25,725

pop culture, be that through the

4

00:00:25,725 --> 00:00:28,137

punchline of various jokes, many of which

5

00:00:28,137 --> 00:00:30,205

are quite distasteful, you might be

6

00:00:30,205 --> 00:00:32,272

wondering why anybody would bother to

7

00:00:32,272 --> 00:00:34,340

produce a podcast talking about Essex.

8

00:00:35,110 --> 00:00:37,963

My name is Eri Berry, I'm your host and I

9

00:00:37,963 --> 00:00:40,811

am a proud Essex girl. Essex

10

00:00:40,811 --> 00:00:42,515

historically has been overlooked and

11

00:00:42,515 --> 00:00:44,219

massively underestimated. There's a lot

12

00:00:44,219 --> 00:00:46,604

more to us than white stilettos in

13

00:00:46,604 --> 00:00:48,649

leopard print, although both of those

14

00:00:48,649 --> 00:00:51,035

things are still utterly fabulous. A lot

15

00:00:51,035 --> 00:00:53,761

of what you think you know about this

16

00:00:53,761 --> 00:00:56,488

county is not the whole story. This is

17

00:00:56,488 --> 00:00:58,532

Unexpected Essex. Each episode we explore

18

00:00:58,532 --> 00:01:00,577

this fantastic county, we uncover hidden

19

00:01:00,577 --> 00:01:02,281

histories, perplexing mysteries and facts

20

00:01:02,281 --> 00:01:05,008

that will have you saying "I never knew

21

00:01:05,008 --> 00:01:07,786

that about Essex". Today's

22

00:01:07,786 --> 00:01:10,177

question is how did a man who grew up

23

00:01:10,177 --> 00:01:12,743

miles from the sea, with no opportunity

24

00:01:12,743 --> 00:01:15,340

to go to university and no nautical

25

00:01:15,340 --> 00:01:17,567

experience end up building the world's

26

00:01:17,567 --> 00:01:19,793

first offshore lighthouse? And why is

27

00:01:19,793 --> 00:01:22,390

there no memorial to him at all?

28

00:01:23,730 --> 00:01:25,960

If you're local to northwest Essex and

29

00:01:25,960 --> 00:01:27,871

you're interested in history, you might

30

00:01:27,871 --> 00:01:30,100

have guessed it already, but today we're

31

00:01:30,100 --> 00:01:31,693

talking about the lighthouse builder

32

00:01:31,693 --> 00:01:34,589

Henry Winstanley. She

33

00:01:34,589 --> 00:01:37,012

was a fair ship, but all's one for naught

34

00:01:37,012 --> 00:01:38,897

could bide the shock. "I will take

35

00:01:38,897 --> 00:01:40,782

horse," Winstanley said, "and see this

36

00:01:40,782 --> 00:01:43,123

deadly rock. For never again shall bark

37

00:01:43,123 --> 00:01:45,257

o' mine sail over the windy sea, unless

38

00:01:45,257 --> 00:01:47,657

by the blessing of God for this be found

39

00:01:47,657 --> 00:01:50,376

a remedy." Straight to the mayor he took

40

00:01:50,376 --> 00:01:52,180

his way. "Good master Mayor," quoth he.

41

00:01:52,180 --> 00:01:54,499

"I am a Mercer of London Town, an owner

42

00:01:54,499 --> 00:01:56,303

of vessels three. But for your rock of

43

00:01:56,303 --> 00:01:58,365

dark renown, I had five to track the

44

00:01:58,365 --> 00:02:00,426

main." "You are one of many," The old

45

00:02:00,426 --> 00:02:01,972

mayor said, "that on that rock

46

00:02:01,972 --> 00:02:04,572

complain." "Lend me a lighter good master

47

00:02:04,572 --> 00:02:06,510

mayor and a score of shipwrights free,

48

00:02:06,510 --> 00:02:09,002

for I think to raise a lantern tower on

49

00:02:09,002 --> 00:02:11,846

this rock o' destiny." It's a beautiful

50

00:02:11,846 --> 00:02:14,310

verse, it's very well crafted and it

51

00:02:14,310 --> 00:02:16,422

tells the story of Winstanley's noble

52

00:02:16,422 --> 00:02:18,182

reasons for attempting this architectural

53

00:02:18,182 --> 00:02:20,646

and engineering feat. It is, however, a

54

00:02:20,646 --> 00:02:22,758

complete fiction. Yep, it's both pesky

55

00:02:22,758 --> 00:02:25,222

Victorians, in this case a poetess named

56

00:02:25,222 --> 00:02:27,686

Jean Ingelow, who is stretching the truth

57

00:02:27,686 --> 00:02:30,150

and very much leaning on poetic licence.

58

00:02:30,830 --> 00:02:33,212

The fact is, Winstanley never owned any

59

00:02:33,212 --> 00:02:35,892

ships at all, so why did he build a

60

00:02:35,892 --> 00:02:38,274

lighthouse of all things? And why have so

61

00:02:38,274 --> 00:02:40,359

many of us, including me, sadly never

62

00:02:40,359 --> 00:02:41,550

actually heard of him?

63

00:02:43,480 --> 00:02:45,505

To answer this question, we really should

64

00:02:45,505 --> 00:02:47,240

start by examining his earlier life.

65

00:02:48,350 --> 00:02:50,718

We know that Winstanley was baptised in

66

00:02:50,718 --> 00:02:53,086

March 1644, right in the middle of the

67

00:02:53,086 --> 00:02:55,454

Civil War, this was an era that was

68

00:02:55,454 --> 00:02:56,934

marked by witchcraft accusations being

69

00:02:56,934 --> 00:02:59,006

thrown around and a lot of religious

70

00:02:59,006 --> 00:03:00,782

squabbling, with the pendulum of religion

71

00:03:00,782 --> 00:03:02,558

swinging, depending on who the monarch

72

00:03:02,558 --> 00:03:04,334

was, between Protestant and Catholic. We

73

00:03:04,334 --> 00:03:06,702

also know that he's the eldest of eight

74

00:03:06,702 --> 00:03:09,070

children and that he was born in Museum

75

00:03:09,070 --> 00:03:11,142

St in Saffron Walden. There's actually a

76

00:03:11,142 --> 00:03:13,214

blue plaque that marks the building in

77

00:03:13,214 --> 00:03:15,831

question. His grandparents were Catholic

78

00:03:15,831 --> 00:03:18,157

and they were persecuted into conforming

79

00:03:18,157 --> 00:03:21,001

in the 1620s. We also know

80

00:03:21,001 --> 00:03:23,024

that his father, also called Henry

81

00:03:23,024 --> 00:03:24,710

Winstanley, was baptised in Quendon

82

00:03:24,710 --> 00:03:27,407

secretly. But we're not too sure of Henry

83

00:03:27,407 --> 00:03:28,756

Winstanley's religious leanings himself,

84

00:03:28,756 --> 00:03:31,116

and given the time period and how

85

00:03:31,116 --> 00:03:32,801

controversial religion was, it makes

86

00:03:32,801 --> 00:03:35,161

sense that he played his cards quite

87

00:03:35,161 --> 00:03:36,510

close to his chest.

88

00:03:38,050 --> 00:03:40,146

His grandfather was a wealthy yeoman,

89

00:03:40,146 --> 00:03:42,243

which essentially, for anyone who's not

90

00:03:42,243 --> 00:03:45,038

sure, is a farmer who has his own

91

00:03:45,038 --> 00:03:47,135

land within the area surrounding Saffron

92

00:03:47,135 --> 00:03:49,580

Walden, and his father was a parish

93

00:03:49,580 --> 00:03:51,677

official at Saint Mary's in Saffron

94

00:03:51,677 --> 00:03:53,773

Walden as well. Now, Henry Winstanley's

95

00:03:53,773 --> 00:03:55,870

father absolutely doted on his mother.

96

00:03:55,870 --> 00:03:57,617

Martin Rose's fantastic book. Henry

97

00:03:57,617 --> 00:03:59,014

Winstanley, the Last Renaissance

98

00:03:59,014 --> 00:04:00,761

Engineer, describes his father as

99

00:04:00,761 --> 00:04:03,557

uxorious, which was a new word to me.

100

00:04:03,557 --> 00:04:06,002

It means a husband who is excessively

101

00:04:06,002 --> 00:04:08,156

fond of doting upon or affectionately

102

00:04:08,156 --> 00:04:10,095

submissive toward his wife. Who knew?

103

00:04:10,095 --> 00:04:13,012

Every day is a school day. We

104

00:04:13,012 --> 00:04:15,744

also know that he doted on his children,

105

00:04:15,744 --> 00:04:18,467

particularly his eldest, Henry. So

106

00:04:18,467 --> 00:04:20,473

Henry's father was a mercer, also known

107

00:04:20,473 --> 00:04:22,767

as a textiles dealer, and he also farmed

108

00:04:22,767 --> 00:04:24,773

100 acres around the town of Saffron

109

00:04:24,773 --> 00:04:26,780

Warden. In addition to those duties, he

110

00:04:26,780 --> 00:04:29,360

was a bailiff for Audley End, which is an

111

00:04:29,360 --> 00:04:31,080

estate close to Saffron Walden. There

112

00:04:31,080 --> 00:04:33,660

will be a lot more episodes to come on

113

00:04:33,660 --> 00:04:35,380

Audley End. It's a fascinating place.

114

00:04:35,380 --> 00:04:37,387

It's quite likely that Henry would have

115

00:04:37,387 --> 00:04:39,393

visited Audley End with his father, and

116

00:04:39,393 --> 00:04:41,687

this was likely to be a source of

117

00:04:41,687 --> 00:04:43,693

inspiration for his desire to become an

118

00:04:43,693 --> 00:04:46,545

architect. We also know that he

119

00:04:46,545 --> 00:04:48,061

attended Saffron Walden Grammar School

120

00:04:48,061 --> 00:04:49,879

where he studied History, Maths and

121

00:04:49,879 --> 00:04:52,303

Latin. He didn't go to university, but it

122

00:04:52,303 --> 00:04:55,031

was clear from an early age he was very

123

00:04:55,031 --> 00:04:57,758

bright and he was well read. He was very

124

00:04:57,758 --> 00:04:59,880

much a problem solver. He was highly

125

00:04:59,880 --> 00:05:01,395

inventive, drawing on traditional skills

126

00:05:01,395 --> 00:05:02,910
and knowledge of Alexandrian hydraulic

127

00:05:02,910 --> 00:05:04,729
and pneumatic engineers. But he wasn't

128

00:05:04,729 --> 00:05:06,850
one for the scientific approach that was

129

00:05:06,850 --> 00:05:08,972
being developed by the Royal Society. He

130

00:05:08,972 --> 00:05:10,790
liked those tried and tested methods.

131

00:05:11,640 --> 00:05:13,738
Don't think he was just a problem solver

132

00:05:13,738 --> 00:05:15,311
though. Henry Winstanley very much had

133

00:05:15,311 --> 00:05:17,904
flair, but he was less about being a

134

00:05:17,904 --> 00:05:19,756
visionary and more about solving problems

135

00:05:19,756 --> 00:05:22,700
as they came up. Winstanley

136

00:05:22,700 --> 00:05:24,041
borrowed ideas from absolutely

137

00:05:24,041 --> 00:05:26,053
everywhere, he was interested in making

138

00:05:26,053 --> 00:05:27,729

things work and making them

139

00:05:27,729 --> 00:05:30,076

spectacular, rather than being known as a

140

00:05:30,076 --> 00:05:32,758

man of progress. I like to think of

141

00:05:32,758 --> 00:05:35,104

him as an early modern Wallace from

142

00:05:35,104 --> 00:05:37,882

Wallace and Gromit. So

143

00:05:37,882 --> 00:05:39,343

after he finished school, Henry

144

00:05:39,343 --> 00:05:41,680

Winstanley took up his first job in the

145

00:05:41,680 --> 00:05:44,018

estate office at Audley End, and it was

146

00:05:44,018 --> 00:05:46,355

there that he learned how to draw up

147

00:05:46,355 --> 00:05:47,816

architectural plans. In 1669, King

148

00:05:47,816 --> 00:05:49,861

Charles the Second bought Audley End from

149

00:05:49,861 --> 00:05:52,199

the third Earl of Suffolk and the Earl

150

00:05:52,199 --> 00:05:53,952

became the official housekeeper of the

151

00:05:53,952 --> 00:05:55,705
estate. Winstanley had impressed the

152

00:05:55,705 --> 00:05:58,042
Earl, who recommended him for the role of

153

00:05:58,042 --> 00:06:00,087
Clerk of the Works. But King Charles

154

00:06:00,087 --> 00:06:02,425
thought that Winstanley might be a bit

155

00:06:02,425 --> 00:06:04,470
too young to take on the responsibility.

156

00:06:05,200 --> 00:06:07,432
So he didn't lament. He decided to do the

157

00:06:07,432 --> 00:06:09,903
Early Modern equivalent of taking a gap

158

00:06:09,903 --> 00:06:11,995
year, and he spent four years wandering

159

00:06:11,995 --> 00:06:13,489
around Europe checking out the

160

00:06:13,489 --> 00:06:14,684
architecture, particularly anything in

161

00:06:14,684 --> 00:06:16,477
the Baroque style, which influenced quite

162

00:06:16,477 --> 00:06:19,255
a lot of his later work. When

163

00:06:19,255 --> 00:06:21,672

he came home, he began creating simple

164

00:06:21,672 --> 00:06:23,053

mechanical devices, things like

165

00:06:23,053 --> 00:06:24,779

windmills, water pumps, musical boxes.

166

00:06:24,779 --> 00:06:27,196

This was just his hobby though, because

167

00:06:27,196 --> 00:06:29,612

he still wanted to be an architect.

168

00:06:29,612 --> 00:06:32,029

Unfortunately, he found that at the time

169

00:06:32,029 --> 00:06:34,791

there wasn't much of a demand for those

170

00:06:34,791 --> 00:06:37,207

services. So instead he bought an etching

171

00:06:37,207 --> 00:06:39,624

press and he learned engraving from a

172

00:06:39,624 --> 00:06:41,350

London artist named Wenceslaus Holler.

173

00:06:42,310 --> 00:06:44,191

His first engraving works were called

174

00:06:44,191 --> 00:06:46,071

Genre Prints. These were satirical work

175

00:06:46,071 --> 00:06:48,578

on the vanities of the idle rich. They

176

00:06:48,578 --> 00:06:50,772
proved very popular for the era, but

177

00:06:50,772 --> 00:06:53,280
sadly they seemed to be missing. I can't

178

00:06:53,280 --> 00:06:55,474
find any images of these anywhere. He

179

00:06:55,474 --> 00:06:57,354
also made geographical playing cards and

180

00:06:57,354 --> 00:06:59,861
we do have pictures of these. The public

181

00:06:59,861 --> 00:07:01,742
absolutely loved them when they were

182

00:07:01,742 --> 00:07:03,936
released in 1677, and they were reprinted

183

00:07:03,936 --> 00:07:06,443
all the way through until the 1720s after

184

00:07:06,443 --> 00:07:08,819
Winstanley's death. It was around this

185

00:07:08,819 --> 00:07:10,322
time he was commissioned for his first

186

00:07:10,322 --> 00:07:12,988
set of etchings by the Earl of Danby. And

187

00:07:12,988 --> 00:07:15,853
in 1676 he did 24 large views of Audley

188

00:07:15,853 --> 00:07:18,399

End. He published these in 1686 in bound

189

00:07:18,399 --> 00:07:19,990

portfolios. These were really detailed

190

00:07:19,990 --> 00:07:22,218

and they show why Audley End was

191

00:07:22,218 --> 00:07:24,128

considered the greatest house in England

192

00:07:24,128 --> 00:07:26,674

at this time. Naturally, in order to do

193

00:07:26,674 --> 00:07:29,221

these etchings, he spent quite a lot of

194

00:07:29,221 --> 00:07:31,767

time there. And as a consequence he did

195

00:07:31,767 --> 00:07:34,313

become the Clerk of the Works when the

196

00:07:34,313 --> 00:07:36,859

previous one died in 1679. Now this role

197

00:07:36,859 --> 00:07:39,087

didn't just cover Audley End, it also

198

00:07:39,087 --> 00:07:40,997

covered the King's House in Newmarket

199

00:07:40,997 --> 00:07:43,122

High Street in Suffolk, because the king

200

00:07:43,122 --> 00:07:44,738

would stay there when he was attending

201

00:07:44,738 --> 00:07:47,494

the horse races. Winstanley moved

202

00:07:47,494 --> 00:07:49,904

to Littlebury in that year, which is the

203

00:07:49,904 --> 00:07:51,712

village just outside of Saffron Walden.

204

00:07:51,712 --> 00:07:53,519

It's absolutely stunning and his house

205

00:07:53,519 --> 00:07:55,930

was opposite the church. It was about a

206

00:07:55,930 --> 00:07:58,340

mile away or a 10 minute gallop from

207

00:07:58,340 --> 00:08:00,449

Audley End Estate, so a nice suitable

208

00:08:00,449 --> 00:08:03,131

commute. The house Winstanley had was

209

00:08:03,131 --> 00:08:05,121

massive and it had some amazing features.

210

00:08:05,121 --> 00:08:07,395

I was absolutely gutted to find out that

211

00:08:07,395 --> 00:08:09,668

it was pulled down in 1778 because I

212

00:08:09,668 --> 00:08:11,942

would have loved to have seen it. There

213

00:08:11,942 --> 00:08:13,932

was a miniature windmill in the garden

214

00:08:13,932 --> 00:08:16,206

that pumped water from the River Cam to

215

00:08:16,206 --> 00:08:18,480

his kitchen. He had a weathervane with a

216

00:08:18,480 --> 00:08:21,038

Lantern on the top up on the roof and

217

00:08:21,038 --> 00:08:23,027

there were two clocks over the downstairs

218

00:08:23,027 --> 00:08:25,017

windows. One of these was an ordinary

219

00:08:25,017 --> 00:08:27,291

clock for keeping time and the other was

220

00:08:27,291 --> 00:08:28,996

an astronomical clock which showed phases

221

00:08:28,996 --> 00:08:30,986

of the moon, the hours until sunset, h

222

00:08:30,986 --> 00:08:32,918

ow planets were rising and setting and

223

00:08:32,918 --> 00:08:35,333

even the elevation of some stars. He made

224

00:08:35,333 --> 00:08:37,446

a similar one for the Saffron Warden

225

00:08:37,446 --> 00:08:39,257

Parish Church, which featured chimes. And

226

00:08:39,257 --> 00:08:41,068

again, I'm absolutely gutted that it's

227

00:08:41,068 --> 00:08:43,785

gone. It was working all the way up until

228

00:08:43,785 --> 00:08:46,201

1825 when it was taken down to be

229

00:08:46,201 --> 00:08:47,710

replaced with something more modern.

230

00:08:49,030 --> 00:08:51,840

Now the house had four acres of land. He

231

00:08:51,840 --> 00:08:54,338

had an orchard and a range of animals

232

00:08:54,338 --> 00:08:56,212

that he kept, including horses, cows,

233

00:08:56,212 --> 00:08:58,085

rabbits, chickens, pigeons and even a

234

00:08:58,085 --> 00:09:00,987

fish pond. He also made several

235

00:09:00,987 --> 00:09:03,292

engines which were way ahead of their

236

00:09:03,292 --> 00:09:05,926

time. And this was to make the work at

237

00:09:05,926 --> 00:09:08,231

Audley End easier. So he designed things

238

00:09:08,231 --> 00:09:10,207

like cranes for roof repair, movable

239

00:09:10,207 --> 00:09:12,182

scaffolds for ceiling painting, pumps to

240

00:09:12,182 --> 00:09:14,158

drain flooding from the gardens and

241

00:09:14,158 --> 00:09:16,133

things like that. So practical creations.

242

00:09:16,133 --> 00:09:19,097

And it was around this time that he met

243

00:09:19,097 --> 00:09:21,402

his wife, Elizabeth Taylor. No, not that

244

00:09:21,402 --> 00:09:23,377

Elizabeth Taylor. This one was the

245

00:09:23,377 --> 00:09:25,682

daughter of a rector, described as a

246

00:09:25,682 --> 00:09:27,962

bright, imaginative woman. She greatly

247

00:09:27,962 --> 00:09:29,593

admired Henry Winstanley's art and

248

00:09:29,593 --> 00:09:31,223

inventions and massively encouraged his

249

00:09:31,223 --> 00:09:33,506

creativity. And lots of his projects were

250

00:09:33,506 --> 00:09:35,789

designed for her amusement, so he created

251

00:09:35,789 --> 00:09:37,746
things for her like self-opening doors,

252

00:09:37,746 --> 00:09:39,702
wind up barrel organs. My favourite

253

00:09:39,702 --> 00:09:41,985
one, a trick chair that zoomed the person

254

00:09:41,985 --> 00:09:44,594
sitting on it back across the garden. I

255

00:09:44,594 --> 00:09:47,203
like to think of it as an early

256

00:09:47,203 --> 00:09:49,160
predecessor to a roller coaster. There

257

00:09:49,160 --> 00:09:51,443
were hidden passages and even a summer

258

00:09:51,443 --> 00:09:53,399
house that would change rooms and

259

00:09:53,399 --> 00:09:55,030
furnishings by flipping a switch.

260

00:09:55,600 --> 00:09:57,480
Generally Winstanley is best described as

261

00:09:57,480 --> 00:09:59,091
a bit of a prankster and

262

00:09:59,091 --> 00:10:00,910
definitely delightfully eccentric.

263

00:10:02,190 --> 00:10:04,636

So Winstanley kept his role as Clerk of

264

00:10:04,636 --> 00:10:06,811

the Works until 1701 and then the house

265

00:10:06,811 --> 00:10:08,985

went back to the fifth Earl of Suffolk.

266

00:10:08,985 --> 00:10:10,887

But we know that Winstanley continued

267

00:10:10,887 --> 00:10:12,518

working at the Newmarket property until

268

00:10:12,518 --> 00:10:15,430

1703. So why then, did

269

00:10:15,430 --> 00:10:17,636

he build the world's first offshore

270

00:10:17,636 --> 00:10:19,474

lighthouse? Impressive resume, I'm sure

271

00:10:19,474 --> 00:10:22,414

you'll agree, but nothing to do with the

272

00:10:22,414 --> 00:10:25,355

sea, working as a merchant, or owning any

273

00:10:25,355 --> 00:10:28,295

ships. Well, like so many things do, it

274

00:10:28,295 --> 00:10:30,868

came down to chance. Because in 1695,

275

00:10:30,868 --> 00:10:33,074

Winstanley met a man named Walter

276

00:10:33,074 --> 00:10:35,279

Whitfield. Now, Whitfield was a London

277

00:10:35,279 --> 00:10:37,852

businessman, and he was looking for an

278

00:10:37,852 --> 00:10:40,425

architect to build a lighthouse on the

279

00:10:40,425 --> 00:10:43,350

Eddystone rocks. The Eddystone rocks,

280

00:10:43,350 --> 00:10:45,497

it's worth pointing out, are not 200

281

00:10:45,497 --> 00:10:47,950

metres out to sea, walkable if the tide

282

00:10:47,950 --> 00:10:50,403

is out and the water level is low

283

00:10:50,403 --> 00:10:52,550

enough. We're talking 14 miles off the

284

00:10:52,550 --> 00:10:54,697

coast of Plymouth in the southwest of

285

00:10:54,697 --> 00:10:56,537

England. Historians have stated that it

286

00:10:56,537 --> 00:10:58,683

was a treacherous stretch of water. Rocks

287

00:10:58,683 --> 00:11:00,830

were causing issues for ships entering or

288

00:11:00,830 --> 00:11:02,670

leaving Plymouth Harbour for years before

289

00:11:02,670 --> 00:11:03,897

construction started. But actually

290

00:11:03,897 --> 00:11:06,350

there's not a lot of evidence of this.

291

00:11:07,240 --> 00:11:09,099

No ships had actually sunk for several

292

00:11:09,099 --> 00:11:10,958

decades leading up to the construction of

293

00:11:10,958 --> 00:11:12,552

that lighthouse, and there weren't any

294

00:11:12,552 --> 00:11:15,204

ships lost on those rocks. The

295

00:11:15,204 --> 00:11:18,118

thing is, it wasn't the rocks that were

296

00:11:18,118 --> 00:11:20,304

the issue, it was actually French

297

00:11:20,304 --> 00:11:22,125

privateers. Now privateers are not

298

00:11:22,125 --> 00:11:24,311

pirates, they are privately owned ships

299

00:11:24,311 --> 00:11:26,860

or individuals who were authorised by a

300

00:11:26,860 --> 00:11:29,046

government during wartime to attack and

301
00:11:29,046 --> 00:11:30,867
seize foreign vessels. Think state

302
00:11:30,867 --> 00:11:33,038
sanctioned commercialised raiding. In

303
00:11:33,038 --> 00:11:35,054
order to do this, they received Letters

304
00:11:35,054 --> 00:11:37,070
of Marque which gave them permission to

305
00:11:37,070 --> 00:11:38,510
operate without legal repercussions, but

306
00:11:38,510 --> 00:11:41,102
only up to a certain level. If they went

307
00:11:41,102 --> 00:11:42,830
beyond the granted powers, they were

308
00:11:42,830 --> 00:11:44,558
considered pirates. They weren't paid by

309
00:11:44,558 --> 00:11:46,286
the government, they actually took their

310
00:11:46,286 --> 00:11:48,302
payment from the loot from the captured

311
00:11:48,302 --> 00:11:50,606
ships, which as you can imagine could be

312
00:11:50,606 --> 00:11:52,334
pretty lucrative depending on what was

313
00:11:52,334 --> 00:11:54,726

being transported. The lighthouse would

314

00:11:54,726 --> 00:11:56,910

therefore make it easier to sail closer

315

00:11:56,910 --> 00:11:59,094

to the English coast, which leaves you

316

00:11:59,094 --> 00:12:01,278

with less risk of interception from those

317

00:12:01,278 --> 00:12:03,462

privateers. In his book, Martin Rose also

318

00:12:03,462 --> 00:12:05,646

speculates that the new naval base next

319

00:12:05,646 --> 00:12:07,518

to Plymouth also increased the pressure

320

00:12:07,518 --> 00:12:09,702

to build the lighthouse. But going back

321

00:12:09,702 --> 00:12:11,574

to Whitfield, his perception of building

322

00:12:11,574 --> 00:12:14,070

the lighthouse was how hard can it be?

323

00:12:14,070 --> 00:12:16,566

This sounds like easy money. In fact, he

324

00:12:16,566 --> 00:12:19,062

was so confident in 1692 he convinced the

325

00:12:19,062 --> 00:12:21,246

Trinity House board that he would fund

326

00:12:21,246 --> 00:12:23,118
and build the lighthouse on Eddystone

327

00:12:23,118 --> 00:12:25,647
Reef. As long as they let him keep the

328

00:12:25,647 --> 00:12:27,378
profits from shipping dues for the next

329

00:12:27,378 --> 00:12:29,602
three years and then half of it for the

330

00:12:29,602 --> 00:12:31,333
next 50 years, that's a lovely little

331

00:12:31,333 --> 00:12:33,063
passive income for a cheeky little side

332

00:12:33,063 --> 00:12:36,004
hustle. Trinity House is

333

00:12:36,004 --> 00:12:38,031
still around today. It was incorporated

334

00:12:38,031 --> 00:12:40,735
by a Royal Charter in 1514 and initially

335

00:12:40,735 --> 00:12:43,100
it regulated pilotage on the River Thames

336

00:12:43,100 --> 00:12:45,466
and provided for aged Mariners. Over time

337

00:12:45,466 --> 00:12:47,831
its work expanded, but it became the

338

00:12:47,831 --> 00:12:50,535

board to consult if you wanted to build

339

00:12:50,535 --> 00:12:52,562

a lighthouse to protect Mariners. Trinity

340

00:12:52,562 --> 00:12:54,590

House agreed to Whitfield's proposal, but

341

00:12:54,590 --> 00:12:56,956

they didn't take him too seriously. They

342

00:12:56,956 --> 00:12:59,321

thought he was, frankly, a bit bonkers

343

00:12:59,321 --> 00:13:01,687

and they agreed, well knowing that such

344

00:13:01,687 --> 00:13:04,052

work could not be accomplished in their

345

00:13:04,052 --> 00:13:06,749

words. Whitfield made

346

00:13:06,749 --> 00:13:09,624

a few attempts in 1693 and 94, but it

347

00:13:09,624 --> 00:13:11,540

became apparent quite quickly that he'd

348

00:13:11,540 --> 00:13:13,776

bitten off more than he could chew.

349

00:13:13,776 --> 00:13:16,651

However, he was a very proud man and he

350

00:13:16,651 --> 00:13:18,886

was not going to lose face after

351

00:13:18,886 --> 00:13:21,122
obtaining a royal patent for building the

352

00:13:21,122 --> 00:13:23,358
lighthouse and then failing to build it.

353

00:13:23,358 --> 00:13:26,233
So he needs to hand the torch over to

354

00:13:26,233 --> 00:13:27,830
someone else. Enter Henry Winstanley.

355

00:13:28,510 --> 00:13:30,640
Winstanley volunteered to this project to

356

00:13:30,640 --> 00:13:32,771
win favour with William the Third who

357

00:13:32,771 --> 00:13:34,901
wanted to protect his Navy. But Winstanley

358

00:13:34,901 --> 00:13:37,032
was also friends with Sir Christopher

359

00:13:37,032 --> 00:13:39,771
Wren who was MP of the area of Plymouth

360

00:13:39,771 --> 00:13:41,901
and his constituents were very worried by

361

00:13:41,901 --> 00:13:44,853
the reef. Very few people had much

362

00:13:44,853 --> 00:13:46,753
faith that Winstanley would be

363

00:13:46,753 --> 00:13:48,336

successful, though no one actually

364

00:13:48,336 --> 00:13:50,552

supported him apart from his family and

365

00:13:50,552 --> 00:13:52,451

the Navy. The Navy provided protection

366

00:13:52,451 --> 00:13:54,351

and transport for Winstanley and workmen

367

00:13:54,351 --> 00:13:56,884

out to the Eddystone Reef. It was a

368

00:13:56,884 --> 00:13:59,797

warship called the Terrible. Now the

369

00:13:59,797 --> 00:14:01,859

question becomes how is Winstanley going

370

00:14:01,859 --> 00:14:04,265

to pay for this? Well, historians are

371

00:14:04,265 --> 00:14:06,670

quite undecided. Some say that his modest

372

00:14:06,670 --> 00:14:09,075

inheritance is poorly paying job and the

373

00:14:09,075 --> 00:14:11,137

sale of playing cards wouldn't have

374

00:14:11,137 --> 00:14:13,543

covered it. And he resorted to selling

375

00:14:13,543 --> 00:14:15,948

tickets of admission to his house in

376

00:14:15,948 --> 00:14:18,010

Littlebury so people could see his

377

00:14:18,010 --> 00:14:20,072

inventions. But he also created the

378

00:14:20,072 --> 00:14:21,790

Mathematical Water Theatre in Piccadilly.

379

00:14:22,430 --> 00:14:24,447

Martin Rose points out that sometimes

380

00:14:24,447 --> 00:14:26,799

it's what history doesn't tell us which

381

00:14:26,799 --> 00:14:28,816

can give us greater insights. Henry

382

00:14:28,816 --> 00:14:30,496

Winstanley would have inherited a

383

00:14:30,496 --> 00:14:32,513

successful Mercery business and he would

384

00:14:32,513 --> 00:14:34,193

have had pretty significant land

385

00:14:34,193 --> 00:14:36,546

holdings. He's not exactly hard up. So

386

00:14:36,546 --> 00:14:39,235

Rose points out that this skews our view

387

00:14:39,235 --> 00:14:41,251

of Winstanley. This wasn't an eccentric

388

00:14:41,251 --> 00:14:43,604

engineer earning a decent chunk of change

389

00:14:43,604 --> 00:14:44,949
from his creative endeavours.

390

00:14:44,949 --> 00:14:46,965
Realistically, he invested far more into

391

00:14:46,965 --> 00:14:49,654
those projects than he would have made in

392

00:14:49,654 --> 00:14:52,160
return. Think about those etchings I

393

00:14:52,160 --> 00:14:55,062
mentioned previously. The man owned over

394

00:14:55,062 --> 00:14:57,690
220 copper plates. This is very

395

00:14:57,690 --> 00:15:00,318
expensive! It's therefore quite likely he

396

00:15:00,318 --> 00:15:03,165
funded the lighthouse himself. And

397

00:15:03,165 --> 00:15:05,510
a little bit more on that mathematical

398

00:15:05,510 --> 00:15:07,185
water theatre we mentioned before,

399

00:15:07,185 --> 00:15:09,530
because it's really quite cool. It was

400

00:15:09,530 --> 00:15:11,205
known as Winstanley's Waterworks in

401

00:15:11,205 --> 00:15:12,880

Piccadilly, London, and it featured

402

00:15:12,880 --> 00:15:14,890

displays of fireworks and water fountains

403

00:15:14,890 --> 00:15:17,235

along to music. He also showcased some

404

00:15:17,235 --> 00:15:18,910

other inventions here, including the

405

00:15:18,910 --> 00:15:20,585

Wonderful Barrel, which served visitors

406

00:15:20,585 --> 00:15:23,265

with hot and cold drinks from the same

407

00:15:23,265 --> 00:15:25,275

container. This was highly successful and

408

00:15:25,275 --> 00:15:27,955

profitable, and it carried on for a good

409

00:15:27,955 --> 00:15:30,887

few years after his death. The Water

410

00:15:30,887 --> 00:15:32,836

Theatre was very much seen as a trendy

411

00:15:32,836 --> 00:15:35,273

place for the time to both see and to be

412

00:15:35,273 --> 00:15:37,830

seen in. And this would have been a

413

00:15:37,830 --> 00:15:40,240

source of funding for the lighthouse. But

414

00:15:40,240 --> 00:15:42,561

the lighthouse itself was due to be quite

415

00:15:42,561 --> 00:15:44,592

a good source of income because once

416

00:15:44,592 --> 00:15:46,333

those initial costs had been recovered,

417

00:15:46,333 --> 00:15:48,364

it was estimated that Winstanley would

418

00:15:48,364 --> 00:15:50,685

have received £50 a year for the next

419

00:15:50,685 --> 00:15:53,006

half a century. Now £50 back then is

420

00:15:53,006 --> 00:15:54,747

about £10,000 in today's money according

421

00:15:54,747 --> 00:15:56,488

to the Bank of England's inflation

422

00:15:56,488 --> 00:15:58,809

counter, which would be enough to buy a

423

00:15:58,809 --> 00:16:01,130

townhouse to live in, just to give you

424

00:16:01,130 --> 00:16:03,954

some context. Now onto

425

00:16:03,954 --> 00:16:05,736

the lighthouse itself. What did this

426

00:16:05,736 --> 00:16:07,815

thing even look like? Well, it was

427

00:16:07,815 --> 00:16:09,597

octagonal. There were blocks of stone

428

00:16:09,597 --> 00:16:11,379

strengthened with iron bands for the

429

00:16:11,379 --> 00:16:13,755

lower part of the building, and the upper

430

00:16:13,755 --> 00:16:16,131

part was wooden. It had an open gallery

431

00:16:16,131 --> 00:16:17,617

with cranes attached for transporting

432

00:16:17,617 --> 00:16:20,290

goods to the top, but also with enough of

433

00:16:20,290 --> 00:16:22,963

a gap to let the sea pass through when

434

00:16:22,963 --> 00:16:25,636

storms would hit it. At the very top you

435

00:16:25,636 --> 00:16:28,012

had a glass lantern with a weather vane

436

00:16:28,012 --> 00:16:30,747

and large wooden candlesticks. There were

437

00:16:30,747 --> 00:16:32,213

mottoes carved into the stonework

438

00:16:32,213 --> 00:16:34,560

PAX IN BELLO which is peace in war.

439

00:16:35,030 --> 00:16:37,561

POST TENEBRAS LUX, light after darkness,

440

00:16:37,561 --> 00:16:39,670

and Glory be to God.

441

00:16:40,590 --> 00:16:43,207

There was an enormous flag flying from

442

00:16:43,207 --> 00:16:45,825

the lookout point and a moving engine

443

00:16:45,825 --> 00:16:48,068

trough to "cast down stones for

444

00:16:48,068 --> 00:16:50,732

protection from privateers". Everything

445

00:16:50,732 --> 00:16:52,822

tucked away when it wasn't in use and I

446

00:16:52,822 --> 00:16:54,680

just think it looks like something out of

447

00:16:54,680 --> 00:16:56,537

a Studio Ghibli movie. If you want to

448

00:16:56,537 --> 00:16:58,627

have a look at the picture of it, there's

449

00:16:58,627 --> 00:17:01,342

a link in the show notes. Frederick

450

00:17:01,342 --> 00:17:03,050

Talbot, in Lightships and Lighthouses

451

00:17:03,050 --> 00:17:05,443
described it, though, as being "more at

452

00:17:05,443 --> 00:17:08,177
home in a Chinese cemetery than in the

453

00:17:08,177 --> 00:17:09,885
English Channel." Victor Hugo, by

454

00:17:09,885 --> 00:17:12,278
contrast, absolutely loved it. In The Man

455

00:17:12,278 --> 00:17:15,012
Who Laughs, he described it as "a brave

456

00:17:15,012 --> 00:17:17,745
swagger by the land on the edge of

457

00:17:17,745 --> 00:17:20,479
the sea". It took three years to build

458

00:17:20,479 --> 00:17:22,872
this lighthouse, and as you can imagine,

459

00:17:22,872 --> 00:17:24,922
Winstanley couldn't leave it alone once

460

00:17:24,922 --> 00:17:26,973
it was built. He spent 1699

461

00:17:26,973 --> 00:17:28,681
strengthening, raising and enlarging it

462

00:17:28,681 --> 00:17:31,409
by the time he'd finished. It was 40

463

00:17:31,409 --> 00:17:34,136

feet higher than the first one, so it was

464

00:17:34,136 --> 00:17:36,561
over 120 feet tall, which is over twice

465

00:17:36,561 --> 00:17:39,288
as tall as the Hollywood sign. It was a

466

00:17:39,288 --> 00:17:41,106
really tricky bit of engineering. The

467

00:17:41,106 --> 00:17:42,318
weather conditions were largely

468

00:17:42,318 --> 00:17:44,439
horrendous and the workmen slept on the

469

00:17:44,439 --> 00:17:46,864
warship that was sent to guard them or

470

00:17:46,864 --> 00:17:49,288
they would have to sail back to Plymouth,

471

00:17:49,288 --> 00:17:51,409
sometimes ending up further around on the

472

00:17:51,409 --> 00:17:53,530
Devon coast, which was less than ideal.

473

00:17:53,530 --> 00:17:55,652
The sea was rough. Tools, materials and

474

00:17:55,652 --> 00:17:58,076
even workmen were washed out to sea on

475

00:17:58,076 --> 00:18:00,197
occasion and in June 1697, England was

476

00:18:00,197 --> 00:18:02,427

once again at war with France and a

477

00:18:02,427 --> 00:18:04,535

French privateer with 30 armed men came

478

00:18:04,535 --> 00:18:06,040

along. They partially destroyed the

479

00:18:06,040 --> 00:18:07,847

lighthouse. They stripped the workmen of

480

00:18:07,847 --> 00:18:09,955

their clothes, set them adrift in their

481

00:18:09,955 --> 00:18:12,364

longboat and left them to it. It's worth

482

00:18:12,364 --> 00:18:14,472

noting that the warship the Terrible was

483

00:18:14,472 --> 00:18:17,182

absent at the time due to said war with

484

00:18:17,182 --> 00:18:19,591

the French. It was in this instance that

485

00:18:19,591 --> 00:18:21,699

Winstanley was taken captive to Saint

486

00:18:21,699 --> 00:18:24,108

Malo. But King Louis the 14th did release

487

00:18:24,108 --> 00:18:26,216

him, stating "France is at war with

488

00:18:26,216 --> 00:18:28,681

England, not with humanity". There was

489

00:18:28,681 --> 00:18:30,537

also another notable time where they were

490

00:18:30,537 --> 00:18:32,925

marooned on the reef for 11 days in June

491

00:18:32,925 --> 00:18:35,790

1698. So how is

492

00:18:35,790 --> 00:18:37,710

this lighthouse actually lit up? Well,

493

00:18:37,710 --> 00:18:40,270

there were 60 candles and a hanging oil

494

00:18:40,270 --> 00:18:42,190

lamp, which was groundbreaking for the

495

00:18:42,190 --> 00:18:44,110

time because all other lighthouses were

496

00:18:44,110 --> 00:18:46,670

lit with candles or coal fires. Oil lamps

497

00:18:46,670 --> 00:18:48,910

weren't widely used until the 1780s. So

498

00:18:48,910 --> 00:18:51,790

Winstanley was way ahead of his time with

499

00:18:51,790 --> 00:18:54,030

this development, on the 14th of November

500

00:18:54,030 --> 00:18:56,590

in 1698, the lighthouse lit up for the

501

00:18:56,590 --> 00:18:58,830

first time, with the light being visible

502

00:18:58,830 --> 00:19:01,070

from the shore of Plymouth, 14 miles

503

00:19:01,070 --> 00:19:03,813

away. Winstanley arrived back on the 22nd

504

00:19:03,813 --> 00:19:06,000

of December to a hero's welcome and a

505

00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:07,913

civic banquet thrown at the Guildhall in

506

00:19:07,913 --> 00:19:10,583

his honour. He received a nice

507

00:19:10,583 --> 00:19:12,968

solid silver condiment set in the shape

508

00:19:12,968 --> 00:19:15,352

of the lighthouse, worth £90. So

509

00:19:15,352 --> 00:19:18,078

about £20,000 in today's money. Quite a

510

00:19:18,078 --> 00:19:20,095

lovely little trinket. Unfortunately,

511

00:19:20,095 --> 00:19:22,581

this amazing feat of engineering is sadly

512

00:19:22,581 --> 00:19:25,067

best described as a temporary triumph of

513

00:19:25,067 --> 00:19:27,552

man over nature. Allegedly, when told he

514

00:19:27,552 --> 00:19:29,683

was attempting to do the impossible

515

00:19:29,683 --> 00:19:32,524

Winstanley said "I only hope that I

516

00:19:32,524 --> 00:19:35,009

may be in the lighthouse when weather

517

00:19:35,009 --> 00:19:37,140

tests its strength to the utmost".

518

00:19:38,460 --> 00:19:41,420

On the 26th of November 1703 Winstanley

519

00:19:41,420 --> 00:19:44,010

got his wish because the Great Storm

520

00:19:44,010 --> 00:19:46,845

struck. This wasn't just a bit of

521

00:19:46,845 --> 00:19:49,702

wind and a bit of rain. We're talking an

522

00:19:49,702 --> 00:19:51,606

extra tropical cyclone, the equivalent of

523

00:19:51,606 --> 00:19:53,829

a Category 2 hurricane. For context, for

524

00:19:53,829 --> 00:19:56,051

anybody listening to this outside of the

525

00:19:56,051 --> 00:19:58,273

UK, firstly, hello, lovely to have you.

526

00:19:58,273 --> 00:20:00,495

But secondly, you need to understand that

527

00:20:00,495 --> 00:20:03,352

the weather in the UK tends to be fairly

528

00:20:03,352 --> 00:20:05,257

moderate. We don't tend to get

529

00:20:05,257 --> 00:20:06,526

particularly extreme weather conditions,

530

00:20:06,526 --> 00:20:09,066

so this was a big deal. Daniel Defoe

531

00:20:09,066 --> 00:20:10,653

covered this destruction, describing it

532

00:20:10,653 --> 00:20:12,875

as no storm, since the universal deluge

533

00:20:12,875 --> 00:20:15,651

was like this either in its violence, or

534

00:20:15,651 --> 00:20:18,142

its duration. We know that at least 8000

535

00:20:18,142 --> 00:20:20,011

people lost their lives within this

536

00:20:20,011 --> 00:20:22,190

storm, but given the time period, it's

537

00:20:22,190 --> 00:20:24,993

quite hard to know the real number. We do

538

00:20:24,993 --> 00:20:27,173

know, however, that one of these was

539

00:20:27,173 --> 00:20:29,352

Henry Winstanley, along with as many as

540

00:20:29,352 --> 00:20:30,909

three others who were conducting

541

00:20:30,909 --> 00:20:32,778

maintenance work on the lighthouse, which

542

00:20:32,778 --> 00:20:34,646

was tragically and entirely washed away

543

00:20:34,646 --> 00:20:37,371

by the sea. By morning,

544

00:20:37,371 --> 00:20:39,736

no trace of the lighthouse was left and

545

00:20:39,736 --> 00:20:42,100

Winstanley was resting in a watery grave.

546

00:20:43,130 --> 00:20:45,546

It's alleged, though to be honest quite a

547

00:20:45,546 --> 00:20:47,358

fanciful notion, that Winstanley's wife

548

00:20:47,358 --> 00:20:49,774

Elizabeth knew he was dead when the model

549

00:20:49,774 --> 00:20:52,492

of the lighthouse that sat on his desk in

550

00:20:52,492 --> 00:20:54,606

Littlebury fell to the floor and broke

551

00:20:54,606 --> 00:20:56,808
into pieces. Realistically, though, news

552

00:20:56,808 --> 00:20:58,704
still would have reached her quite

553

00:20:58,704 --> 00:21:01,535
quickly. As you can imagine, given that

554

00:21:01,535 --> 00:21:03,808
he fell into the sea, his body was not

555

00:21:03,808 --> 00:21:06,270
recovered. There's no tomb, there's no

556

00:21:06,270 --> 00:21:07,654
gravestone. Elizabeth herself remarried.

557

00:21:07,654 --> 00:21:10,421
She had no funds for a proper memorial.

558

00:21:10,421 --> 00:21:13,189
And the reason for this is, at the

559

00:21:13,189 --> 00:21:14,918
time, being married didn't automatically

560

00:21:14,918 --> 00:21:16,994
mean that you would inherit somebody's

561

00:21:16,994 --> 00:21:19,048
estate. Winstein's brother didn't provide

562

00:21:19,048 --> 00:21:21,196
the funds either, so aside from the

563

00:21:21,196 --> 00:21:23,651

plaque on the wall in Museum St that

564

00:21:23,651 --> 00:21:26,106

marks his place of birth, a small section

565

00:21:26,106 --> 00:21:28,254

in the Saffron Warden Museum which is

566

00:21:28,254 --> 00:21:30,709

well worth a visit if you're passing, and

567

00:21:30,709 --> 00:21:32,857

a bit of detail in Plymouth Museum

568

00:21:32,857 --> 00:21:34,698

explaining that he built the first

569

00:21:34,698 --> 00:21:36,539

offshore lighthouse, not a whole lot

570

00:21:36,539 --> 00:21:39,190

commemorates his existence. Copies of his

571

00:21:39,190 --> 00:21:40,971

drawings and playing cards do still

572

00:21:40,971 --> 00:21:43,048

exist, and there are some engravings of

573

00:21:43,048 --> 00:21:45,125

the lighthouse, but sadly for someone who

574

00:21:45,125 --> 00:21:47,499

is something of a celebrity in his day,

575

00:21:47,499 --> 00:21:49,576

he fell into obscurity just as his

576

00:21:49,576 --> 00:21:51,060
lighthouse fell into the sea.

577

00:21:53,250 --> 00:21:55,778
Now, what became of that lighthouse then?

578

00:21:55,778 --> 00:21:57,945
Well, Rudyard rebuilt the lighthouse. The

579

00:21:57,945 --> 00:22:00,834
final wooden tower was lit in 1709, and

580

00:22:00,834 --> 00:22:03,723
it stood for a further 47 years until

581

00:22:03,723 --> 00:22:05,890
it caught fire eventually in 1755.

582

00:22:06,420 --> 00:22:09,003
Smeaton started construction in 1757, and

583

00:22:09,003 --> 00:22:11,586
he finished his work in 1759.

584

00:22:11,586 --> 00:22:14,169
This time, the lighthouse remained in

585

00:22:14,169 --> 00:22:17,067
use until 1877. At this time

586

00:22:17,067 --> 00:22:19,857
it was discovered that the rocks it stood

587

00:22:19,857 --> 00:22:22,648
upon were eroding into the sea. The upper

588

00:22:22,648 --> 00:22:25,090

section was dismantled and it was rebuilt

589

00:22:25,090 --> 00:22:27,880

on Plymouth Hoe as a monument and it's

590

00:22:27,880 --> 00:22:29,973

still there today. In 1882, Douglass

591

00:22:29,973 --> 00:22:31,369

completed the present Eddystone

592

00:22:31,369 --> 00:22:33,462

Lighthouse. This was made fully automatic

593

00:22:33,462 --> 00:22:36,253

in 1982, which meant no further need for

594

00:22:36,253 --> 00:22:38,346

lighthouse keepers after 284 years. Now

595

00:22:38,346 --> 00:22:41,136

sure, they left a legacy, but it seemed

596

00:22:41,136 --> 00:22:43,927

pretty unjust to me that the first man

597

00:22:43,927 --> 00:22:45,671

to build this seemingly impossible

598

00:22:45,671 --> 00:22:47,500

lighthouse isn't better known.

599

00:22:48,380 --> 00:22:50,849

The story of his life would make a

600

00:22:50,849 --> 00:22:52,700

spectacular film. His curious nature, his

601

00:22:52,700 --> 00:22:54,243
eccentric inventions make him an

602

00:22:54,243 --> 00:22:55,786
incredibly colourful character, but he's

603

00:22:55,786 --> 00:22:57,946
really not that well known, even within

604

00:22:57,946 --> 00:23:00,414
the county of Essex. Sadly I didn't even

605

00:23:00,414 --> 00:23:02,266
know his story until I started

606

00:23:02,266 --> 00:23:04,426
researching for this podcast. The town of

607

00:23:04,426 --> 00:23:06,277
Saffron Walden has honoured him with

608

00:23:06,277 --> 00:23:08,437
street names. You have Winstanley Road to

609

00:23:08,437 --> 00:23:10,906
the South of the town and Eddystone Ave

610

00:23:10,906 --> 00:23:13,764
on the east side. The house in

611

00:23:13,764 --> 00:23:16,247
Littlebury is also gone, so very little

612

00:23:16,247 --> 00:23:18,020
of Winstanley's legacy actually remains.

613

00:23:18,540 --> 00:23:20,880

But I can't help but wonder what else he

614

00:23:20,880 --> 00:23:22,700

might have achieved had Fate not had

615

00:23:22,700 --> 00:23:25,638

other plans for him. At the very

616

00:23:25,638 --> 00:23:27,353

least, this first podcast episode serves

617

00:23:27,353 --> 00:23:30,213

as a tribute to him, and I hope with time

618

00:23:30,213 --> 00:23:32,500

that more people are aware of his story.

619

00:23:33,020 --> 00:23:35,069

If you've enjoyed this episode, please do

620

00:23:35,069 --> 00:23:36,533

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621

00:23:36,533 --> 00:23:38,290

podcasts. It genuinely makes a difference

622

00:23:38,290 --> 00:23:40,340

to a small independent show, and if

623

00:23:40,340 --> 00:23:42,096

Henry's story has sparked something, I'd

624

00:23:42,096 --> 00:23:44,439

love to hear from you. You can find

625

00:23:44,439 --> 00:23:46,195

Unexpected Essex online, please have a

626

00:23:46,195 --> 00:23:48,538

look in the show notes for details. And

627

00:23:48,538 --> 00:23:51,465

if you know of a story, a place, or a

628

00:23:51,465 --> 00:23:52,929

forgotten figure that deserves an

629

00:23:52,929 --> 00:23:54,979

episode, get in touch. This county is

630

00:23:54,979 --> 00:23:57,321

full of surprises and I'd rather not find

631

00:23:57,321 --> 00:23:59,956

them all on my own. Until next time, stay

632

00:23:59,956 --> 00:24:01,420

awesome and thanks for listening.

633

00:24:12,550 --> 00:24:17,030