

## Lymington River by Anthony Thomas Devis (1729 – 1816)

St. Barbe Museum:

“Time and Tide – The Lymington River Exhibition”.

Exhibition – runs 21st March to 18th April 2009 at the St. Barbe Museum and Art Gallery.

The Exhibition notification card came with this picture on the back.

Illustration by Anthony Thomas Devis (1729 – 1816)

Lymington from a point two miles out of town, near the Turnpike Road, water colour.



Points of Interest:-

1. Assume picture was painted – say when Devis was 40 - makes scene around 1770 very approx.
2. A causeway was in place before 1770 period.
3. The Causeway from “Brief History of Lymington” by Tim Lambert – See RLYm Website.

Archivist Notes on the Dervis print of his watercolour.

9<sup>th</sup> February 2009-03-09 v1.0

- a. In 1731 a merchant from Boldre called William Cross built a dam across the river, much to the annoyance of the townspeople. He turned the dam into a toll bridge. The river tended to silt up and this was made worse by the dam.
- b. It very much worth noting how wide the river would have been prior to the Causeway being built.
4. There is a house built on the causeway. Presumably Mr Cross's Toll keeper.
5. To the right – West – of the house on causeway there appears to be a bridge structure – presumably thru' which the river free flowed with the tide.
6. The river above the causeway is wide & free of reed beds.
7. The river below the causeway is wide and the water unobstructed by marsh beds. Also there are large tall masted vessels alongside the quay.
8. Beyond the Quay there is a large building that appears to be where the RLym clubhouse is now. Perhaps this was Inman's or their predecessors. Looks far too large to have been the forerunner to Dan Bran's Boat Shed.
9. St Thomas's Church tower does not feature in this picture.

RLym Archivist  
9<sup>th</sup> February 2009