

Some of these trains were worked by the Great Western's imposing 4700 class 2-8-0s which could occasionally be seen on passenger workings on Saturdays in summer, particularly the relief which preceded the 14.10 from Paddington.



8. Slow freight. A 2-6-2T from Leamington Spa, no 4112, climbs towards Cropredy on 19 June 1961 with a load of limestone from Ardley destined for the cement works at Greaves's Sidings, Harbury.

The only significant source of mineral traffic on the Bicester cut-off was at Ardley. Around the 1960s the quarries which supplied the cement works at Harbury, alongside the Banbury–Leamington line, were becoming exhausted, and the factory, linked to the railway at Greaves's