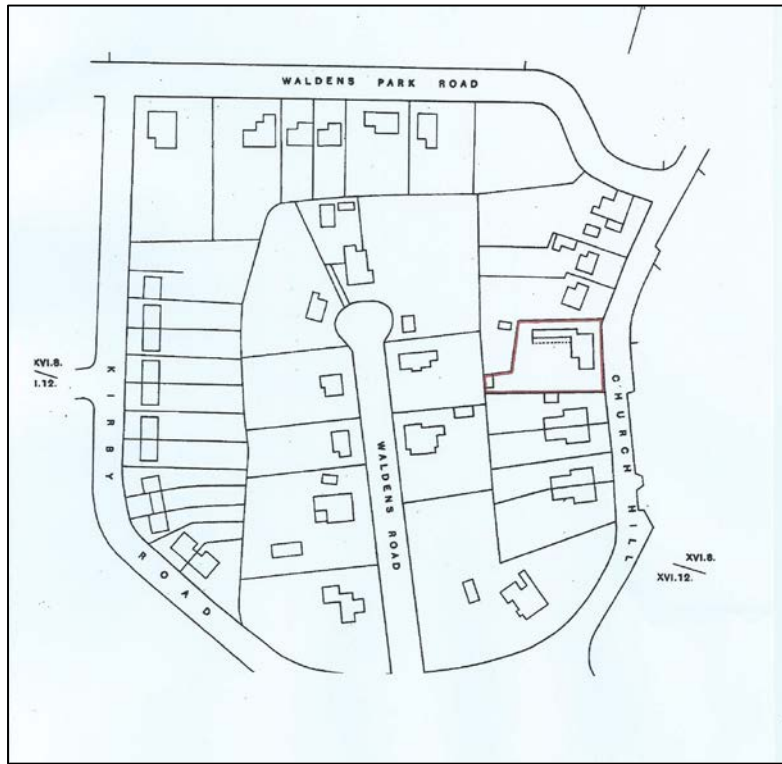


The Cottage



The Cottage is part of the extension made in April 1992 adding Church Hill and Waldens Park Road to the original Horsell Conservation Area. It has been designated a locally listed building of architectural or historic significance.

It is a brick built cottage with tiled roof. Although originally it had been thought that houses must have a timber supporting structure, it was now accepted that a brick built house was every bit as practicable as the old timber framed buildings. The building can be seen on the right of the map above and would initially have consisted of little more than that part of the structure behind the present front door. This original building ran south to north parallel to the road outside with chimneys at both ends. A tile faced extension has been added to the south beyond the original chimney and more considerable extensions into the plot to the west.

The brickwork shows that the present doorway has been added at a later date and the apparent bessumer inside to the north chimney is deceptive in that whilst it appears adequate to support the wall above, inspection reveals it is only a few inches deep. As might be expected there is no evidence of a supporting timber structure but there is no doubt to the cottage having been built in 1794. The bricks bearing this date can be believed for a change.



Along the front of the cottage showing the tile faced extension to the south on



The brickwork around the front door

There were two Cobbett families living in Church Hill in the middle of the 19th century, the nursery proprietor Carmi Cobbett and his family on the church side, very likely living in what is now Kalmia and farmer James Cobbett on the other side. Although the two families may well have had a common ancestry in the past, there is no reason to think they shared anything other than a common surname. However, Henry Cobbett of Horsell, Carmi's brother, was an Executor of farmer James's will although he resigned the position 1875.



Plan Nos.612, 613, 614 and 615 of the Ryde survey

In addition to the Censuses which start from 1841 there are a number of other aids which help trace the history of the house namely the 1834 survey of the parish made before the coming of the railways, the 1845 Tythe map and apportionment and Edward Ryde's 1851 survey of Horsell.

According to Edward Ryde's survey, James Cobbett owned a number of fields on *The Cottage* side of Church Hill and his farmhouse would have been near where Walden Road is today, probably Plan No. 618 described as Farm Homestead and plat. *The Cottage* appears on the survey as Plan No.614, owner Celia Knowls, occupier Samuel Willis, House and garden, the corresponding entries on the 1841 and 1851 censuses being:

1841

Horsell Street	1	Samuel Willis	65		painter	N
		Mary Willis		60		N

and

1851

12	Street	Samuel Willis	head	m	72	painter & glazier	Berks Cookham	614
		Mary	wife	m	72		Bucks Farnham Royal	

Next up the hill on that side on the Ryde survey is Plan No. 613 owner James Stedman, occupier John Gale, Garden. Above that entry is Plan No. 612 split into two pieces each containing a tenement and garden.. The occupants are John Gale and S Tickner. The piece occupied by the former being next door to his other holding the latter being nearer the church.

The corresponding entry in the 1851 census is:

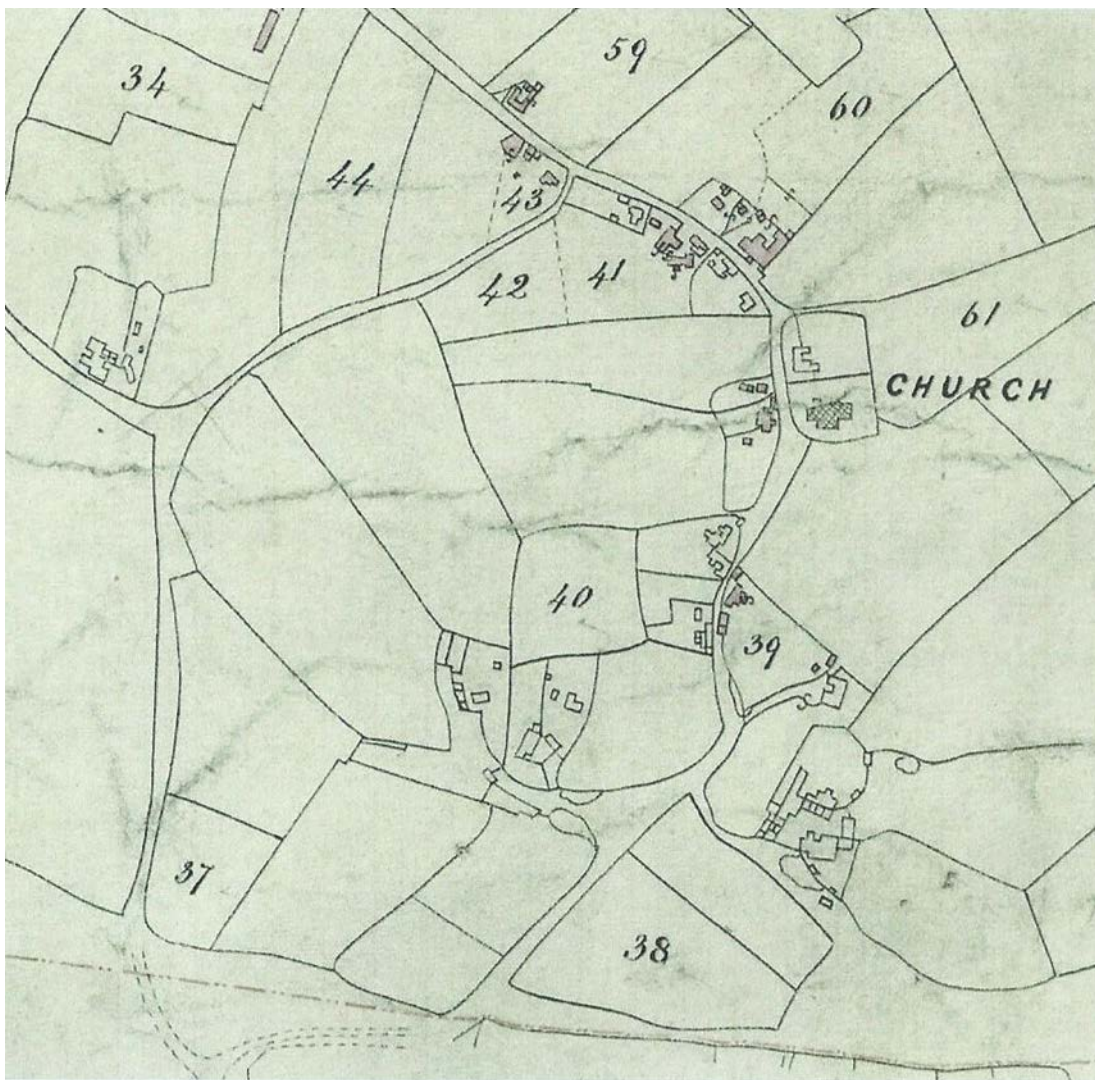
10	Street	John Geale*	head	w	65	ag lab	Surrey Bisley	612
		William	s	u	25	ag lab	Surrey Horsell	

• or Gale

		Martha	d	u	22	housekeeper	Surrey Horsell	
11	- do -	Sarah Tickner	head	u	50		Surrey Horsell	612
		Hannah	sister	u	52		Surrey Horsell	

Behind Plan Nos.612, 613 and 614 is Plan No.615 owner James Cobbett occupier, James Cobbett, Butchers Field arable. Perhaps some of the properties on this side of Church Hill have lengthened their gardens by acquiring pieces of this field.

The Cottage appears on the 1845 Tythe map and apportionment for the area below, as the bottom plot of three to the right of plot 40:



Parcel No.	Owner	Occupier	Description	A	R	P
34	Henry&Carmi Cobbett	Henry & Carmi Cobbett	Nursery	2	0	10
40	James Cobbett	James Cobbett	Arable	1	2	20
39	Richard Fenn	Henry & Carmi Cobbett	Nursery	0.	2	26
49	James Fuller	Henry & Carmi Cobbett	Meadow	4	2	10
47	Henry Fenn	James Gale	Cottage & Garden	0	1	15
56	John Wiblen	James Cobbett	House Garden & Land	1	0	37
54	Sarah Whitburn	James Cobbett	Arable	4	3	4

The Cottage also features in the 1834 survey. There is no map to this record but the cottage can be found as item 13 with Henry Knowls as the owner, House and garden, 39 perches.

As the result of information supplied by the present owners together with the Edward Ryde survey, the Census returns, the 1845 Tythe map and apportionment and the Woking News & Mail directories we have the following account of the owners and occupiers of the house since its construction in 1792:

	Owner			Occupier
1792	Henry Steer	to	Henry Knowls	
1828	Henry Knowls			William Hammond
1834	Henry Knowls		Celia Knowls	Probably Samuel Willis
1841				Samuel Willis
1851	Celia Knowls			Samuel Willis
1864	Celia Knowls	to	James Cobbett*	John Willis
1875	James Cobbett**	to	Stephen Cobbett	
1885	Stephen Cobbett	to	John Henry Dimmock	James Hayward ¹
1900	John Henry Dimmock	to	Charles FD Lang	Ronald Gale and family ²
1901	Charles FD Lang	to	Robert Blagden	Eliza Harding spinster ²
1902	F Baker, C Pryor & R Blagden	to	Francis D Morice	
1916				Mrs AE Morice
1919				- Lyndhurst
1919	Rev FD Morice	to	Misses Alice Emma & Gertrude Du Bochet	
1923-1950				Miss Alice Emma Du Bochet
1957				Miss Gertrude Du Bochet
1964				Miss Jessie Du Bochet
1969				FC Simmonds
1977	Paul S & Margaret Ann Rowlands	to	Frederick RA & Rachel J Turnbull	
2011		to	James A & Rebecca C Hughes	
2011	James A & Rebecca C Hughes			

*or to Philip William Lovett ** his Executors and Trustees

¹ No trace James Hayward in the Censuses

² 1901 census has Ronald Gale and his family living at the house in Church Hill on 31st March 1901

1901

30	The Cottage	1	1Ronald Gale	Head	M	36	glass merchant	Surrey Chertsey
			Elizabeth E	wife	M	37		London C
			Geoffrey A	son		5		Surrey New Malden
			Dennis L	son		8m		Hants Bournemouth
			Annie S Colman	servant	M	31	cook	Salisbury
			Lilly M Bullen	-do-	s	19	housemaid	Surrey Woking

The burial registers of St Mary's show the burial of Thomas Emmanuel Watkins Lewis in March 1904 from The Cottage. This was Major Lewis of the Army Veterinary Department. The Lancashire Evening Post of 11th March that reported his death at Horsell, Woking in his 38th year. He was the son of the late Major Frederick Lewis and Mrs Lewis of Camberwell.

As the event occurred during the Morice ownership of the cottage it would seem that Major Lewis was staying at The Cottage at the time of his death

³ Although the 1881 census has a Harding family living in Church Hill in that year, there is no Eliza Harding only a Hannah Elizabeth Harding who married widower Abraham Aaron Neall at St Mary's on 1st December 1890. In any event Eliza is a separate name and she was Mrs Neall in 1901

⁴ The 1891 census has the Dimmock family living at The Cottage

14	Village	1	(John) Henry Dimmock	Head	Mar	56	Builder etc	Lymington Hants
			Susan	wife	Mar	54		Stoney Stratford Bucks
			Susan	daughter	Sing	18		City of London
			Frederick	son	Sing	16	scholar	St. Georges Hanover Square
			Ann	daughter	Sing	14	scholar	St. Georges Hanover Square
			John H*	son	Sing	12		St Georges Hanover Square
			Hester Saunders	servant	Sing	18		Reading Berks

* Blind and dumb from birth

The 1911 Census confirms the ownership and occupation of the Morice family from 1902 to 1919.

6 10 2.2	The Cottage	MORICE Alice Letitia	head	M	20	48	private means	London
		WOODWARD Florence	serv	S		20	domestic servant	Portsmouth

Interesting the fuller information required in this census shows that the cottage had 10 rooms then. The instructions to the enumerator were to count the kitchen as a room but not any scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, or shop.



Note the above photograph of Church Hill from the thirties judging from the car. Moorhatch is in the distance and *The Cottage* is on the right. The house seems to have a trellis over the brickwork to support the climbing plant over the door.

Sources

Mr & Mrs James Hughes

Ancestry.co.uk

Edward Ryde's 1951 survey

The Censuses

Land Registry

Woking News & Mail Directories

17th October 2015

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