

Mr. Seymour, 14 Bakers Piece House, Kingston Blount.

10th 23rd
June & Oct 1987
1986

Nearly 90. Born Chinnor, came here in 1910.

Lived at Woodway cottages. May 1911 started on the farm, then he went in army for 2 years and when he returned he worked for Joe Hill until he was 70.

Aston House:

Staircase up to picture gallery, also had drawing room, dining room, library. To get into picture gallery had to go into house, no outside entrance. Had dances there. When Charles Sale bought the house he was worried about the fire risk, so he had a door cut through by the steps up to the groom's flats above the stables. Ladies used small room as dressing room. We still used

Dashwood came in 1929 - funny chap - cut through into the garage and had a door put outside so you didn't have to go into the house - this spoilt it, made it draughty.

In Sir William Plowden's time, had whist drives, dances etc there. When Plowden died, daughter married then came back for a little while before selling it. Charles Sale was a big business man, shipping magnate - chairman of a farming trust in Canada, fruit growing in Med. He was very good, and sold to Hayes Dashwood who used to sack people willy - nilly. He was a property owner in Hyde Park and used to go there every week. He bought a big farm at Chalford and going along ^FA40 knocked a man off his bike and they took his driving licence away.

When Charles Sale was at the house he was in film industry and he used to show new films, he used to get boys in the village to put up a screen and show them and he would provide coffee and a sandwich later. ^{It was all free.} He kept everything just so, the whole of the village belonged to him.

When Dashwood went next man pulled down everything, cut all the trees down until forestry commission stopped him. After that the Wheatley firm had it. They cut old hay crops, dried them to ash and stored them in the house, thousands of tons of it. Fire got going for a week. They had to pull place down it was so badly damaged. Stables still there. House was attached to the stable block. Went in big gates by the church. Over the stables were the flats for the groom. Picture gallery over garage and then main house.

Everybody in village were gardeners, flower gardeners, under gardeners: most of the village worked for the house and a lot of people came from Kingston to work as well.

Bricklayers, estate men etc. Used to be a shed which they knocked down to get the cars through. ^{The window gallery was finished in.}
In Plowden's time had big coach with two horses. They kept the horses when they had cars. The clock was added later when estate sold away.

Archery field on the way up to the main road. Pub used to be opposite to the church steps.

Used to go through by house on green to play football, to allotments behind and also meadow.

Charles Sale had army hut put in as a dressing room and they used to have whist drives etc in there. It was pannelled inside.

Cottages by Rosie's which was 2 houses plus 3 more. Cottage which sticks out called $\frac{1}{2}$ hr corner. ^{Breakside was a house. Was 2 next to it and one more with yard}
Bakehouse at back on corner of Green. Lion House - Coffee

House, Mr Seymour remembers seeing the sign board outside ^{not still open} although it was Congregational Chapel open for years. Then Methodist Chapel

closed 1960's. Used to be full, had a job to get in Kingston Church. ^{The chairs were bolted together} Old school used to be working mens club, played cards, darts etc and used to go across to the pub. When club closed, the Royal Oak also closed.

Doctor used to have surgery in Hamilton Cottage when NHS started, they came from Watlington. King Edwards? Irishman. When he died they had to close Watlington for his funeral. He just used the front room of the house. ^{Then moved to Wakelin Cottage. They are putting a new roof on the road end of it at the moment}
When the lady there died the Doctor came to Baker's Piece.

Mrs Davis used to live in one of the cottages (which one?) ^{putted down} which was at Kingston Halt crossing the gates had to be opened and shut by hand. ^(They used to have from the lights and his wife opened the gates while he was at work)
The first person he remembers was a plate layer on the railway, he lived in the house and had to do the signals. Trains used a lot for goods. In London horses were still being used for transport and they needed lots of bedding and fodder and twenty truck loads of hay used to go every evening to Paddington. Farmers going to Watlington had no road transport, the same with goods to go away, so ^{Ran off} Macclesfield of Shirburn, Plowden, Squire Brown built the Railway from Bledlow to Watlington to enable them to put their goods on to take away. G.W.R. bought it off them and it was passengers during the day and goods later, that's why it went to Watlington. G.W.R. carried on until road transport killed the business. Good send off when the Railway closed, ^(Saturday night) highwaymen stopped the train and it took four or five hours to Risborough and back, Lots of beer!

1928/29 A.R. football team, brother in that one. Mostly locals in the team. 2 brothers from Cherry Tree Sam & Ted Walters, three Lambourne brothers, Lionel, Peter's dad, Roland and Douglas. Two brothers, father a scotsman who was agent on the estate, named Stewart. ^{Frank a Danson} ^{Albert Turner} Gomme - fellow with cap, lived at top end of ^{the Green but [1923] photo Lionel Lambourne and Roland brothers and Stan a Mum and Dad lived in Aston. Two more brothers from Lewknor and one other. Their club broke up and they joined Aston.} ^{Chap Shirley from A.R. also Mr Seymour's brother.} ^{was goalie}

Mr Seymour was 11 when he came to Woodway, in 1910, moved from Chinnor where his family had lived in the house that used to be where Turners Fruit shop now stands.

Beacon Cottage was two cottages when he first knew it, it was privately owned. House on other side, white house, he remembers it ~~built~~

Talbot House one of first along road. Aston Rowant Stud bought it when Estate sold off. There was no accomodation at farm (now stud) so had a house built $\frac{1}{2}$ way along, Chinnor Road. Then had house right on corner built with water tank. When turned it into stud, made paddocks and new water supply and had a bore made at Tower Cottage. Man who lived there worked for Charles Hailey at the Stud. He drove car, ^{did gardenings} pumped water. ^{while he went away} Mr ^{to the army} Seymour himself did this for two or three years, ^{because his wife could not} ^{run the pump} Talbot House - someone who lived at Lambert had it built.

Evelyn Siarey * Mrs Scott, Winifred ^{was} her sister, and her brother Ron ran sawmill at Chinnor.

Bennetts started with horse and cart selling eggs - Cecil Bennett their dad extended it and bought Parkers. Then bought motor lorry and transported cement for the cement works. ^{Nigel lives in road down the}

Hills owned Woodway, Mrs Hill at Crowell is Joe Hill's step- ^{Volage} mother. Joe's father Joe married three times, his last wife is the one at Crowell. The Hills still at Woodway are Joe and his wife, son to be married soon and to live in one of the cottages ^{at Woodway}. The old man's house was at Crowell. First cottage was Mr. Seymour's Daughter Tina lived up Crowell Hill married a Stevens.

Mr. Seymour worked at Woodway, went in Army to Rhine in 1917. Then they had instructions if they had any farm workers to send them back, so he came back in March 1919. Worked until 1968. Not always run by Hills, let to tennants until 1945, then John Hill ^{at the} came along, he got killed then Joe took over. The old man farmed at Crowell whilst tennants in. Warren Farm was independent and then eventually Joe Hill bought it. Major Edward Cadogan had it & then ~~when~~ J. Hill bought it. It used to be a holiday camp, he was

cousin, asked at Cement Works. My son asked if he could show me, I had one just like it. It was my grand parents outside their house, he had the Chemist just round the corner, My father's mother & my older sister. Another picture of children playing on the road. Two of them were Jim Clarke & his sister. Remember the Old Black Boy. Duck Square. I went to St Andrew's school. I have a picture of children outside the school in 1904.

Mr. Seymour: Mr. Sadler was Mrs. Bill's father. Bill Brazell had a shop at Chinnor Corner. Lane by Aston Rowant Church was called College Lane. photo 23. Airforce Capt Genner lived in Joan Selby Lowndes old thatched cottage. Strawberry Wallington lived there before. Tom Wallington lived at K. Stert. Basher lived along at Sydenham. Genner had it enlarged. Photo 22: Long Cottage. Head Gardener Geo. Piddington. Kitchen gardener Drinkwater. Photo 24: Burial Path, Kissing gate at side. Mr. Turner lived in the cottage. Wallington, village sexton lived there, he opened the gates. Barnett had farm buildings. 1925 photo of Liberty Buckland. Photo of storm damage in fields 4th July, 1933. Britnell family lived at Old Croft.

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He was president of Playing Fields Association in the East End of London. Spent a fortune on it, put in cricket pitch, pool, indoor tennis courts etc. The club used to come in summer. Got caretaker lady in to do the catering. House gone now and Williams in little bungalow which belonged to the farm. They had no water supply up the hill there, so they had to pump it up from Woodway.

Mr Seymour had no electricity when he first came, they had oil lamps, aaddin lamp with mantle, hanging from the ceiling. Liberty Buckland - Baron Rothchild people called him, lived top of Fleck Lane in these cottages, 1 up and 1 down with shed at back for workshop. He made tin kettles, saucepan lids etc.

There were a lot of Piddingtons. George - head man in repair squad for bricklaying, when Sir William Plowden was there.

Arthur, Beatrice (bad foot) cripple, Frank, Henry, plus one more. They lived in the cottages down College Lane in the first one in the row. Drinkwater lived at the end, he was a gardener. Wallington lived in another house. His grandson Tom Wallington farming in K. Stert, first on the left. When it was sold an air force man came and took it for a week-end cottage. Tidied it up a bit. Wife had a big ladies outfitters business. Mr Seymour's wife used to look after their place and was given nice clothes.

Mr. Seymour's wife came from Stokenchurch - Beatrice Smith. * Aston had a cricket team then and they played on the moors. Mr Seymour has one son. I play whist over at Chinnor each week. Mr Seymour came from Donkey Lane, Chinnor where P.O. is now. One of his father's brothers emigrated in 1876. The house used to be a bakery people called Jenks then my grandfather lived next door.

* saw photo of wife Beat at Stokenchurch Carnival as a Dairy Maid also Peter Hambourne's mother was fortune teller. Also photo of son at Shoulder of Mutton, also Sis, chap from Henknor called Bartlett, Harold Hodges, chap Banisterock. Darts team. Another man & his wife. Cliff Folley from Henton used to keep The Peacock. (Spud & Eyedder?)

Big chap, no work. Joined Sydney police Had family. One of his daughters married a farmer & lived near to Perth (about 30 miles) shipped in Perth, when in a store, picked up paper Chinnor Gazette. There was nothing in there except an article about Jim Clark. She wrote to him. sent photos. he lived near Smiths Supper as