

## **Bartons History Group Walk 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

Alice Marshall Hall, or as the Bartonians call it, the Mission Hall. Built in **1888** by the fundraising efforts of Alice Marshall, daughter of Jenner Marshall of Westcote Barton Manor as a Mission and Temperance hall to keep the young men out of the pubs and off the streets! It was built on land purchased from William Haynes, a farmer in Middle Barton. Used extensively for various functions over the years, a doctor's surgery from 1966 to 1974, weddings, meetings, youth club, cubs and scouts. Parking has become the main problem for using the hall now.

On the opposite corner is a bungalow called Old Pound Rise, on the site of one of the two pounds (an enclosure for housing stray stock until the owners came to claim them); an old building stood on this piece of ground shown on the Enclosure Award of 1795, one of only two old houses on the north side of the road. Technically now Worton Road.

No. 1 North Street is recorded as part of Pound Piece in 1796, owned by an old family the Luings. By 1855 William Reeve a blacksmith owned it. Described as a 'house and blacksmith's shop on part of Pound Close.' In 1900 a tea dealer, James Parsons owned it. By the early 1900s members of the Stockford (an old Barton family) occupied it. Now occupied by the Burrups.

Mrs. Prior's house was built in 1850 for the Haynes family. Nothing else in the file.

Wayside, home now of Rob and Teresa Webb, a bungalow built in the late 20s or early 30s; an aerial photo of 1935 shows the bungalow all by itself on that part of North Street, possibly ridge and furrow behind and what looks like the faint marks of a large ring ditch. All under Frances Road now.

The old butcher's shop, occupied by Verity Roberts now. Mrs. Prior, Percy's mum lived in the attached house. The whole lot used to be a slaughter house and butchers. Stan Gardner was a butcher here, also Mr. Allen before he took over the Fox Pub.

On the site of the new houses now nos. 10-14 North Street were 3 old stone cottages and an old red brick shop front used by the haulage firm, and behind that were some old houses, possibly 18<sup>th</sup> century. Craftsmen living in Washington Terrace were recorded as leather workers in the census, probably workers for the cordwainers operating out of no. 16. A datestone of 1819 JPM was on the front of one of these cottages, now incorporated into the wall the first new house next to Verity's. Haven't found out who JPM was yet.

Washington Terrace, a row of 6 19<sup>th</sup> century small cosy cottages with long beautiful gardens down to the river and pigstys on the site of the new garages. These were occupied until the 1970s, left unoccupied then demolished in 1997.

Cox's shop. A three storey house built for the Luings, who ran the shop for 150 years, then taken over by the Kirby family, relations to Ruth, who ran the post office. Then the Cox's, closing in 1977.

Rose Cottage was built as a cordwainers for Charles Minton around 1860, although the documents in the file say 'newly erected house and cordwainers shop 1880' Built on land possibly belonging to 18 North St. Chris Edbury's house. We have deeds going back to 1714, when the land occupied by 16 and Washington Terrace was called Bowles Close on the Enclosure Award. Cherry Kent's old part of the house was built around 1796, then had a Victorian brick addition, which was a shop belonging to the Luings in the 1800s. Our house, the demolished pub the Three Horseshoes and Horseshoe Cottage were probably some of the oldest houses in the village, they are built end on to the road, an indicator of age, something to do with making the most of the evening (west) sun.

Opposite, this cottage was one of the post offices in 1895 to 1932, run by the Grimsley family. The land belonged to Mr. Haynes the farmer, he owned land on the north side of North Street and the farm was what is now Horseshoe Cottage, and the two new brick houses.

The row of town houses occupies a site that was once a garage with ironmongers shop and behind this shop was attached the remains of a thatched building once the Three Horseshoes Pub. It was all demolished in the 1970s to build the new houses. It had ceased to be a pub in 1933, it was in quite a ruinous state when we moved here — there was a stone barn in the yard, approximately where the road behind the new houses is.

Rushall Cottage, 34 North Street, was once a shop called Alldays. A building is shown on this site on the Enclosure Award. Shows up on the same deeds as the Three Horseshoes pub. We lived there from 1960 to 1977, when my parents built the new house at the back. Miss Ward Jackson, moved with Mr. Greenslade to the small farm up the Duns Tew road. Mr. Greenslade owned the land about 2 1/2 acres, and Miss Ward Jackson owned the cottage and a strip of land down to the river. All sold together in 1960 to Savage.

Horseshoe Cottage is described as a 'homestead 3 roods, 35 perches with land opposite of 137 acres' on the enclosure award, the owner recorded as Mrs. S. Hindes, although the house is probably older. Traces of a long window on north wall, perhaps for moving hay/stray in and out. Was once called Old Forge Cottage, after it ceased to be a farm, occupied by a smith who divided the house into two and lived in one part. The forge was on the site of the two new brick houses, sold in the 1960s. The cottage was once also part of the Barton Abbey estate, possibly purchased by them around 1837 and sold off when the estate was broken up and sold in the mid 1920s.

The four council houses were built in 1928.

2 Bungalows built by Robin Cox and his father on the site of the old British Legion club. One for them, one for newly married Robin and Helen.

41 North Street, Cottage on the Horsecommon, recorded as a detached part of Westcote Barton in the 1730s. The name indicates that the house bounded land that was once part of the open field system before enclosure. A long extension, now gone, was once the Doctor's surgery, then it became storage space for a television repairman and Mr. Savage,

casemaker, before being sold and demolished. Sam's Hill cottage was once 3 separate small cottages. Coal was kept in the old garage at the front. The lock up next door was owned by Jarvis's garage, established 1923, several generations used the garage, the school minibus included. Hollier's Farm has a datestone of 1714 and was built for Joseph Hollier. The datestone says ERJ but don't know who that is at present. Datestones were sometimes added as houses were modernised or upon marriages. It is unusual to find a surviving farm with land in the middle of a village. Jack's long barn was thatched, as well as other parts of the property – shows on the photographs in the archive. There are still some datestones surviving around the village; recorded in the Barton's booklet 'Walk around Middle Barton'.

The cottages on the Carps end of North Street were built on what is called wayside waste – land adjacent to the road, no owners. The land behind the waste ground was owned by the Abbey estate and the cottagers eventually purchased bits of land from the estate for gardens. No known early buildings before 1800 along this part of the North Street. Described as a typical 19<sup>th</sup> century open village.

Bradshaws, shoe and boots (and wool, haberdashery etc). Was once Jarvis the saddlemakers, taken over by Fred Bradshaws father as a saddler, then Fred and Elsie who extended the business. Fred also built and opened to the public a very fine model railway in the room above the shop. Photos in the archive.

A cinema occupied the site of these two new houses, it closed down about 1959-early 1960s, started in 1924 with silent films and a pianist. Bob Jarvis, coaches used to provide transport from surrounding villages. There was a fish and chip shop next door.

Opposite, the old post office, kept by Miss Kirby, who most people will remember. She was given an OBE in the 1980s. The first Kirby here was a tailor in the 1880s who worked in the room above the post office. Ruth's father, also a tailor, ran the post office as well after the Grimsley's stopped operation in 1932, Ruth retired in 1982. Her brother George worked at the Cowley works, but was also roped in to help in the PO.

Cottage on the corner, another blacksmith's at one time. Was Hall's shop when I came in 1960.

A wooden thatched bungalow occupied the site of the 2 new houses – burnt down in 1935.

Entrance to the Firs built 1981 was another row of 19<sup>th</sup> century cottages, demolished to make the new road.

Soden nurseries occupied the next site from 1840s to 1920s. The house to the right is called The Grove. Mr. Hynes owned the Grove and probably all the land that used be the nursery, he also divided the house into two. The Hills moved there in 1966. Mr. Hynes built the new bungalow behind the Grove, now occupied by the Lawries, as his wife became an invalid and was in a wheelchair, he had the bungalow specially designed for this. The garage of the

bungalow next door, now occupied by the Parkinsons, is the remains of some of the outbuildings of the nursery. The Parkinson's bungalow was built before the Woods bungalow. The Woods bungalow was occupied by a Kirby family who kept donkeys, called the Donkey House, before that the Kirby's (no relation to the village Kirbys') occupied the house and land the Allens now have. Jackie Woods remembers gypsy caravans being stored and renovated — they stood under the fir trees in the front garden of the Parkinsons. Still had remains of the old fruit trees and cages for soft fruit in my time, I remember Mr. Hynes showing us round and telling us his plans for the new bungalow.

The Carps (Carpenters Arms) used to be called Fleur de Lys and was recorded by this name in 1774. It was sold to Hall's brewery in 1823. The original building is probably much older than 1774.

Old Mr.Doddimedede used to stand in the middle of the road at the Turnpike thumbing a lift, you either gave him one or ran him over, I always thought he was going shopping in Banbury, but Jenny Bochinek says he was going to the Doctors in Bicester.

The oldest building in the village is supposed to be the mill, a mill was recorded in the 1300s and was called an outlying mill, a mill on a stream. No village then. Middle Barton is supposed to have been occupied by people fleeing the plaque which attacked Steeple Barton. Another mill recorded for Westcote Barton, which of course, is an early village, the church having Saxon foundations.