

These Indentures form the start of the schedule of deeds for the property that was three cottages, gardens, orchard with a barn and other buildings, and a meadow of about two acres. The location is off the High Street in Shrivenham, directly opposite the flower shop and the Methodist church, down the little lane to the side of No 51. The cottages are no longer there and the garden, orchard and meadow now have modern houses built upon them. The schedule of deeds starts with Will of Joseph Bliss made in 1801. He owned the property and left it to his wife Mary. Eventually the property came into the hands of the Fairthornes and was sold with the whole of their Shrivenham estate in 1922. These documents form the deed trail of these particular premises whose Copyhold belonged to the Manor of Stainswick.

Thomas Midwinter Bliss was the son of Joseph Bliss who started this trail of ownership of the property explained above.

**Conveyance.** The first Indenture dated 3/11/1821 between Thomas Midwinter Bliss, Shrivenham, Gent, on the first part and James Walter of Beckett, Yeoman, on the second part and Thomas Clark of Little Coxwell, Berks, Baker, on the third part.

Thomas Bliss sold the Freehold for £25 and the Copyhold for £30, to James Walter, to become effective when he would die. In the meantime, and for the length of one year, the property would be in the hands of Thomas Clark. The Copyhold is part of the Manor of Stainswick and more of the documents referred to in this listing, are certificates from that Manor.

The description of the property. All those three cottages or tenements in Shrivenham now in the occupation of Thomas Gosling, George Knapp and Thomas Thatcher, with the gardens etc, and also the Orchard and Meadow or Pasture Ground being about two acres near to the cottages. Also the Barn and other buildings in the Orchard that are in the tenure of William Saunders and Edward Cavey.

**Lease** – Indenture dated 9/11/1829 between James Walter of Beckett, Shrivenham, Berks, Yeoman on the first part and William Ward and James Haines, both of Faringdon, Berks,

Gents, on the other part. This is the lease part of the sale so is for the token gesture sum of five shillings.

Description: All those three cottages or tenements in Shrivenham lately in the occupation of Thomas Gosling, George Knapp and Thomas Thatcher and now Thomas Reason, Thomas Kemble and Thomas Clark, with the gardens and appurtenances, the Orchard and Meadow of two acres, in the Orchard the Barn and other buildings lately in the tenure of William Saunders and Edward Cavey.

**The Release** – Indenture dated 10/11/1829 between James Walter and William Ward and James Haines, as above.

The deal is for the price of £100 made up of £55 for the freehold and £45 for the Copyhold

It mentions that James Walter did on 13/6/1829 receive £45 from William Ward and James Haines, and surrendered into the hands of the Lords of the Manor of Stainswick, Berks (of which Manor the Copyhold hereditaments belong) and they are now joint tenants of that Copyhold.

Description: Barn and premises in the Orchard lately in the tenure of William Saunders and Edward Cavey and which Orchard is now converted into a Garden and is in the occupation of Edward Cavey and the Meadow is in the occupation of Robert Saunders.

Whereas we don't have the Lease or Release, we do have the transfer of the Copyhold to John Fairthorne on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1830. He died in 1861 and the Copyhold of the property therefore passed to his son Amariah when he applied to the manor of Stainwick at a Special Meeting of the Court Baron in 1863.

Description from the Fairthorne Estate Survey of 1920 carried out by Adkin, Belcher & Bowen of Wantage.

Nos 8 & 9 coloured brown on the plan. These three cottages all adjoin, are in a ruined state, were formerly stone and thatch, they are to the south of the High Street, so afford a building site and some materials. Well of water.

The area is about 14 poles and frontage to the Street about 36 feet and there is an Oak tree. All together we consider this might make £48 and be security for £32. This would be included as it joins No 4 and would give an entrance thereto from the High Street.