

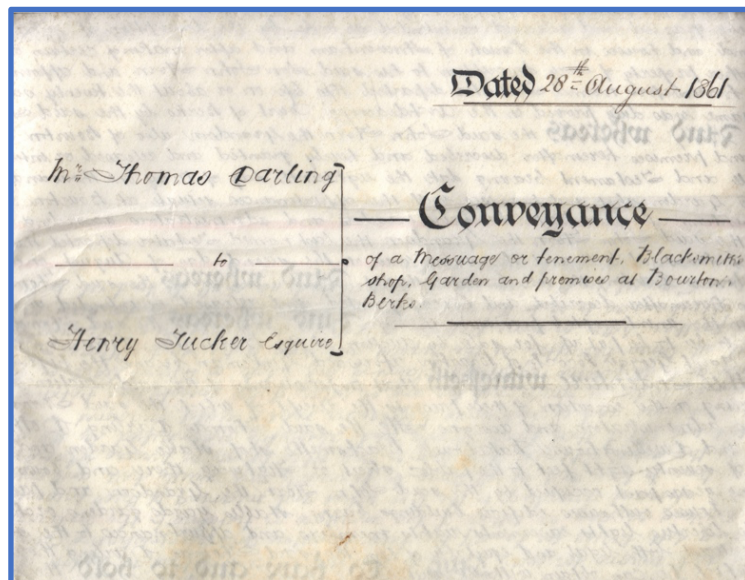
Precis of the Sale of the Blacksmiths Shop in Bourton

By Neil B. Maw



The Blacksmith's workshop on the left. Photo circa 1910 courtesy of Paul Williams

The earliest conveyance is dated 28th August 1861, between Thomas Darling of Shrivenham, Berks, Baker on the one part; and Henry Tucker of Bourton House, Esq on the other part.

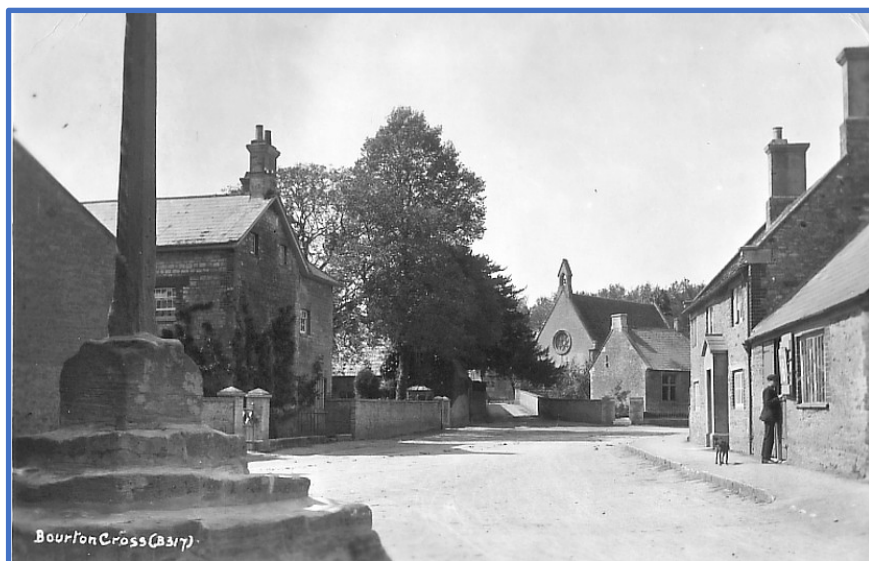


Whereas John Horn the Elder, late of Bourton, Blacksmith, at the time of his death was seized of an estate of inheritance of fee simple (Freehold). His Will dated 12th August

1800 made legacies to his daughter Mary Gay, the wife of William Gay of Swindon, Wilts, Surgeon, £30, and to Joseph and Betty Hughes, the children of his late daughter Elizabeth Hughes, deceased, the wife of Thomas Hughes of Shrivenham, Shoemaker, £10 each. He left the remainder of his property to his son John Horn and made him sole Executor of his Will. John Horn died on 12th July 1803 and his Will was proved by his son John at the Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire on 1st November 1803. The son John Horn passed the property to his son, also John. Father died on 22nd October 1830 and his Will was proved in the same court on 27th April 1831. The Grandson John made a Will dated 18th May 1853 and left his cottage, Shop, Garden to Thomas Darling of Shrivenham, Baker and made him his Executor. John Horn the Grandson died on 16th June 1858 and his Will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court on 2nd August 1861 by Thomas Darling, who put the property up for sale by auction at the Barrington Arms Inn, Shrivenham, on Thursday 18th July 1861. Henry Tucker's Agent, George Pocock of Bourton, Gent, purchased it for £200.

The description, *'All that messuage or tenement and dwelling house, Bakehouse, Blacksmiths Shop, Stable, Garden in Bourton, having a frontage of 78feet to the public street or highway, bounded on the south east by the Almshouses, and on the north-west by the property belonging to Mr Lawrence, formerly and for many years past occupied by John Horn, the grandson and previously by his father and grandfather and now or late in the occupation of Eleazar Dixon.'*

Below. The Blacksmith's workshop on the right where the man is. Photo circa 1925 courtesy of Paul Williams.



moonlight when his hat was taken.

The Jury acquitted the prisoner.

LEAD STEALING AT BOURTON.

JOHN HORN, 38, blacksmith, was indicted for stealing a quantity of lead, value 6s., the property of Thomas Tucker, Shrivenham, on the 19th September.

Mr. Goodlake prosecuted.

Henry Cook, of Bourton, deposed that he was managing a farm for his uncle (Mr. Tucker). On the 18th September there was a drinking trough, lined with lead, in a field, and he missed the lead on the day following. He afterwards saw a portion of the lead in the possession of Police-constable Collins. He picked up a tap near where the lead stood, and it fitted the lead which the police had.

Police-constable Collins stated that on the 22nd September last, he went to the marine store of Mr. Fowler, at Ashbury, and inquired about some lead. Mrs. Fowler denied that any lead had been purchased; but Mr. Fowler admitted having bought some, which witness took possession of. He afterwards took the prisoner into custody. He admitted to witness that he had sold Mr. Fowler some lead, but said it had been left him years ago by his uncle. Witness subsequently showed the lead to Mr. Cook, and compared it with the wooden frame at Mr. Fowler's, and found the two corresponded exactly.

Mr. Fowler proved buying the lead of the prisoner, who told him he had become possessed of it honestly. He called a person to witness the transaction.

Prisoner said he found the lead, and took it in the day time to Mr. Fowler's to sell.

In reply to a question from the Chairman, Mr. Cook stated that the remainder of the lead had been found since the pri-

soner's apprehension, concealed near where the prisoner slept.

The Jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

The Chairman cautioned Fowler to be more careful in future dealings.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1861.

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BERKSHIRE
HOLDEN AT FARINGDON.**

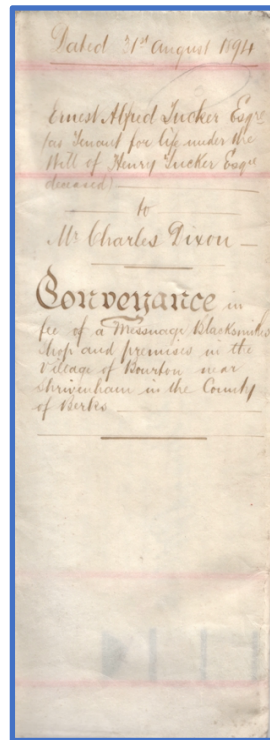
IN the Matter of **ELEAZAR DIXON**,
of the Township of Bourton, in the Parish of
Shrivenham, in the County of Berks, Blacksmith,
adjudged Bankrupt on the Tenth day of JULY, 1867.

A Meeting of the Creditors of this Estate will be
held before the Registrar, at the Court House, in Far-
ingdon, on the Twenty-fifth day of FEBRUARY, 1868, at
Ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of declar-
ing a Dividend, and also whether any allowance shall
be made to the Bankrupt. Proofs of Debts will be
received, and Creditors who have not yet proved, and
do not then prove, will be excluded the benefit of the
Dividend.

GEO. F. CROWDY,

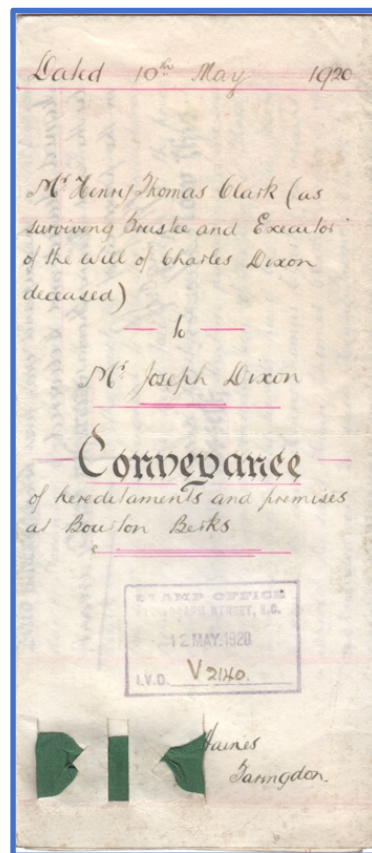
Registrar.

Another Indenture dated 31st August 1894 between Ernest Alfred Tucker (a great nephew who inherited from Henry Tucker's estate), and others (mortgage lenders); Charles Dixon, Engineer of Bourton. The sale is for £250 and used the Settled Land Act of 1882 – 1890, to sell the property in fee simple as mentioned in the schedule, at an auction held by Messrs Walter & Lee at the Goddard Arms Hotel, Swindon on 23rd July 1894. At the signature spot on the Indenture there is a lot of writing that includes the mortgagers.



Also an Indenture dated 10th May, 1920 between Henry Thomas Clark of Neville Road, Bognor, Sussex, Solicitor's Clerk on the first part; Joseph Dixon of Bourton, Blacksmith on the other part. It refers to the Indenture of 1894 that transferred the premises to Charles Dixon in fee simple. He made his Will dated 1916 and appointed his wife Lucy Dixon and Henry Thomas Clark as Executors. The Will states that Lucy should benefit financially from income raised by the property and business for the rest of her life and then it should be sold off. Charles died on 10th May 1918 and the probate was granted at Chichester District Probate Registry on 2nd July 1918. Lucy Dixon died on 18th November 1919. Henry Clark sold the premises to Joseph Dixon for £330. 'All that piece or parcel of land containing 32 perches in Bourton, together with the messuage, Blacksmith's

shop and premises thereon standing and formerly in the occupation of Eleazar Dixon and now of messrs Walter & Joseph Dixon.'



Also a Conveyance made in August 1930 between Joseph Dixon of The Forge House, Bourton on the first part; and Sir Cyril Kendall-Butler on the other. Price is £350 fee simple (Freehold). *'All that parcel containing 32 perches, Blacksmiths Shop, Carpenters Shed and premises. (The Shed is rented to Walter Dixon for £4 per annum).'*

There are other documents concerning Land Registry etc.

Below. Where John Horn was laid to rest in 1858. St Andrew's, Shrivenham. Photo by Neil B. Maw

