

Doc: From Ebay purchased by Neil Maw in April 2021

Release (Sale) of the Master's cottage in the churchyard. This is known today as Jasmin Cottage.

Some background history to this is that the main National School in the High Street, still the primary school today, opened in 1863, rendering the school in the churchyard obsolete.

Date of doc is 23/3/1864. Sale price is £86

Between Rev. George Murray of Shrivenham, Clerk (Vicar), John Wilson of Home Leaze, Yeoman; John Allaway of Bourton, Yeoman, on the first part (Wilson & Allaway were Churchwardens at the time of the sale. And William Willis of Shrivenham, Yeoman, on the second part and Edward Ernest Dymond of Highworth, Gent, on the third part.

It refers to the document of Edward Berens dated 2/9/1847, (copy of wording in this file) made under the authority of an Act concerning Charity Schools, whereby the schoolhouse and the master's cottage were given over to the Vicar and the Churchwardens for the purposes of the Act.

The description is, 'A cottage adjoining the churchyard at Shrivenham with the garden and appurtenances belonging, occupied by the Widow Hillier as tenant. Bounded on the east by the churchyard and partly bounded by the building lately used as a Girls School and on the west by the premises of George Haynes, and on the north by the premises of Amariah William Fairthorne.

Edward Ernest Dymond is included in the sale document probably because he has loaned the money to William Willis to buy the cottage. This document would then be his security in the event of non-payment.

Two Indentures, Willis to Harris and Harris to Fairthorne

Indenture dated 2/4/1903 between Silvester Willis of Watchfield, retired grocer, on the one part and Oliver Samuel Harris of 20 Barton Road, Saint Philips, Bristol, Pawnbroker, on the other part.

The series of events unfolds with William Willis' death on 30/5/1867 at Watchfield, (this was three years after buying the Teacher's Cottage - today Jasmine Cott). He had 11 children and Harriet his wife, to whom he left the cottage. Daniel Willis was the eldest son, but he died on 14/7/1845 at Watchfield and never married. Harriet Willis died on 6/6/1878 and had made a Will dated 2/2/1875 and left the cottage to her daughter Harriet Harris, the wife of Oliver Samuel Harris and appointed her sons, Silvester Willis and Arthur Willis as Executors. The probate of the Will was granted to them at the Oxford Registry on 14/11/1878. Harriet Harris died intestate (never made a Will) on 31/8/1889 and had no children.

Therefore, Silvester Willis, the eldest surviving brother of Harriet Harris became her heir by law. He in turn sold it by this document for a token amount of £2. (There must have been some arrangement made between them that is not explained in this document, for Oliver Harris immediately sold the cottage to Amariah Fairthorne).

The description. All that cottage or tenement and garden situate at Shrivenham adjoining to the churchyard there and to the property of Amariah William Fairthorne and now and for some time since in the occupation of John Tucker.

Indenture dated 27/4/1903 between Oliver Samuel Harris of 20 Barton Road, St Philips, Bristol, Pawnbroker (the Seller) and Amariah William Fairthorne of the Manor House, Shrivenham, Esq. (the Purchaser)

The cottage is sold to AWF for £100. The description is the same as above

There is also an abstract of title that lists the dates of the chain of events that led to the sale