

SPRING COTTAGE, HAYE LANE, OMBERSLEY

SPRING COTTAGE, HAYE LANE, OMBERSLEY, WAS BUILT AROUND ABOUT 1821 ON WHAT WAS CALLED THE OLDFIELD COMMON. IT IS DESCRIBED AS A DOUBLE FRONTED DETACHED COTTAGE WITH FIVE ROOMS, A COAL HOUSE, PIG STY, BAKING OVEN AND OUTSIDE PRIVY.

THE COTTAGE WAS OWNED BY JONATHAN MOULE HAVING INHERITED IT FROM HIS STEP MOTHER, LETITIA MOULE, IN 1913. JONATHAN MOULE LIVED AT HADLEY HEATH FARM, SALWARPE. HE DID NOT LIVE IN THE COTTAGE HIMSELF BUT RENTED IT OUT TO TENANTS.

ON THE 1911 CENSUS IT WAS OCCUPIED BY ALBERT PASSEY AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH. THEY HAD NINE CHILDREN WHILST THEY RENTED THE COTTAGE. THE CHILDREN WERE CALLED

EVELINE
FLORRIE
ETHEL
ELSIE
PERCY
WILFRED
MAY
CECIL
STANLEY

IN 1911 ONLY PERCY, WILFRED, MAY, CECIL AND STANLEY STILL LIVED WITH THEIR PARENTS IN THE HOUSE. THE OTHER CHILDREN HAD GROWN UP AND LEFT TO LIVE IN OTHER HOUSES.

WILLIAM CHANCE, A BOARDER, ALSO LIVED IN SPRING COTTAGE. THE RENT THAT ALBERT PASSEY PAID WAS £6 PER YEAR TO MRS LETITIA MOULE.

ALBERT PASSEY AND WILLIAM CHANCE WERE FARM LABOURERS, AS WAS PERCY, WHO IN 1911 WAS 13 YEARS OF AGE. WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT PERCY IS THAT HE JOINED THE ROYAL ARTILLERY ON 3RD FEBRUARY 1917 AT HILSEA AND SURVIVED THE WAR DYING IN 1975. HIS NAME IS RECORDED ON THOSE WHO SERVED DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR IN THE OMBERSLEY MEMORIAL HALL.

THE PASSEY FAMILY MOVED OUT OF SPRING COTTAGE IN 1913 AFTER LIVING THERE FOR 18 YEARS AND MR AND MRS EDWIN COLLEY MOVED IN WITH THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS, ALICE ROSETTA (AGED 3) AND PHOEBE (AGED 2)

EDWIN COLLEY WAS EMPLOYED AS A FARM LABOURER BUT HE WAS ALSO A THRESHING MACHINE ENGINE DRIVER WHICH WAS A RESERVED OCCUPATION DURING WW1.

EDWIN COLLEY COULD NOT SERVE IN WW 1 FOR TWO REASONS.

1. HE WAS AGED 49 AND THIS WAS TOO OLD
2. HE WAS A THRESHING MACHINE ENGINE DRIVER AND HE WAS THEREFORE NEEDED TO WORK ON THE LAND

THE COLLEY FAMILY CONTINUED TO LIVE IN THE VICINITY OF OMBERSLEY AFTER WW 1.