

RACKS LAND

The house now stands on a piece of land which was once known as The Racks, and later became called the Racks Hamlet.

31st July, 1818

Deed Poll of Enfranchisement - The parcel of land was released from Copyhold to Freehold by the Marchioness of Downshire, Stephen Godson and Thomas Fulganner and Thomas Malpas, deceased.

16th and 17th November, 1818

Indentures of Lease and Release of the landlord interest in the property, between Thomas Malpas, deceased, and Phoebe his wife of the one part, and said Thomas Dinon of the other part.

5th October, 1822

Indenture between said Thomas Malpas of the one part, and said Thomas Dinon of the other part.

6th April, 1833

Deed of Disclaimer of Trust by Edward Burrow. He renounced his legal right to benefit from the inheritance.

Francis Malpas (butcher) inherits the land.

17th May, 1833

Francis Malpas leases a piece of land on Racks Close to Philip Armstrong, (a Master Cooper who lived in Hill Top Lane), for the nominal amount of one peppercorn. The land measured an area of 1 rod and 5 perches, (approximately 60 yards).

18th May, 1833

Francis Malpas puts up the whole of the Racks land, then known as Racks Close for auction at The Crown for building purposes. The whole area measured 2 acres, 2 rods and 9 perches, (approximately 2 acres, 110 yards). The land was offered in 11 lots.

Philip Armstrong then bought Lot 9, which he had been leasing, in trust for his wife Margaret. It was upon this piece of land that the house was built.

The family lived off “private means” and it appears that their income came from owning and letting out property, such as Allies Farm at Boreley, and other cottages.

By the time the First World War started, both Ann Tombs, senior, and her sister Letitia had died; the former on 4th February 1900, aged 89 and the latter on 24th September 1894, aged 80 years. This left Ann junior and her younger sister Susanna to share the cottage for the rest of their lives, as neither of them ever married. From Susanna’s diary when she was younger, she tells how one of their greatest pleasures was getting together and singing around the piano. Sadly on 1st April, 1917 Susanna died, aged 75, and her sister Ann remained in Boreley Cottage until her death on 26th October, 1922, aged 84. Ann had therefore lived in the cottage for 60 years and her sister for 55 years. The cottage was sold by auction on 20th November, 1922, and the contents were sold on 29th November. In her will Ann left £1,161 6 shillings and 7 pence. Both Ann and Susanna were buried in Holt Churchyard.

Sources:- Family letter dated 1906 - Original archives
 Diary of Susanna Tombs - Original archives
 Boreley Cottage sale details - Original archives
 British Newspaper archive
 1841 and 1851 census
 Hartland tombstone, St. Andrew’s Churchyard.

BORELEY COTTAGE FURNITURE SALE

On 29th November, 1922, the contents of the cottage, including antiques and other household furniture, were sold by auction as the Crown Inn (now Crown & Sandys). It can be assumed that all of these items would have all been in use during WW1.

CATALOGUE

Bedroom No.1

1. Quantity of toilet ware.
2. Capital 3ft 3in Antique Mahogany Chest of 5 drawers with brass mounts.
3. Chippendale swing glass with 3 drawers, plate 19 in x 17 in.
4. Set of 3ft wood bedsteads and flock mattress
5. Feather bed, 2 bolsters and pillow at per lb
6. Painted 2ft 6in chest of 4 drawers
7. Small piece of carpet
8. Cane-seated chair, towel rail and picture
9. Folding chair bedstead and cushions
10. Sundries

Bedroom No.2

11. Quantity of toilet ware Valuable 2 ft 6 in. Queen Anne toilet table, inlaid walnut with 3 drawers and original brass mounts
12. Mahogany framed swing glass, plate 17in x 13in.
13. Genuine old oak night stool, fitted
14. Very fine and genuine antique carved oak 5ft bedsteads with panelled and handsomely carved head and top, foot supported by 2 massive carved bulbous posts
15. Wool mattress
16. Feather bed, bolster and 2 pillows, at per lb.
17. Ditto
18. 2 sets of clothes pegs and cap box
19. Circular mahogany table, 18in. diameter
20. Antique carved oak arm night chair
21. Well made mahogany chest of 5 drawers 3ft 6in.
22. Painted bath
23. Ink stand with 2 bottles
24. 3 boxes and contents
25. Cap basket and work box
26. Ditto
27. 3 pictures and frames
28. Skin mat and sundries
29. Bamboo cornice pole, rings and fittings
30. Sundries

Bedroom No 3

31. 2 ft 6in. antique brass-mounted fender
32. Ash pan and sundry ornaments
33. 2 ft 6in. tray top wash stand with drawer and toilet ware
34. Small circular table
35. Towel rail, clock and sundries
36. Photo frames and 2 pictures
37. Set of 4ft 6in 4-post wood bedsteads, hangings and flock mattresses
38. Feather bed, 2 bolsters and pillow at per lb
39. Rail backed chair
40. 2ft telescope bedstead
41. Small walnut cabinet
42. Mahogany tea caddy and rosewood box
43. Old oak box
44. Small box
45. Ditto
46. 2 small boxes
47. Travelling box
48. Long painted bath
49. Quilting frame
50. Painted chest of 3 drawers
51. Mahogany framed swing glass, plate 16in x 12 in
52. 2 clothes baskets
53. Pair of coloured curtains

54. Strip of carpet
55. Cornice pole, rings and fittings
56. 2 sunblinds

Linen

57. Pair of sheets
58. Ditto
59. Ditto
60. Knitted counterpane
61. Ditto
62. Coloured counterpane
63. Old patchwork quilt
64. Ditto
65. Coloured blankets
66. Quantity of bed valances
67. Ditto
68. 7 toilet covers
69. Quantity of antimacassars
70. Quantity of towels
71. Sundry linen
72. Ditto

Landing, Staircase, etc

73. Grandfather clock in old oak case by *Jno. Skarratt, Worcester*
74. Round tin box
75. Linen chest
76. Water can and tin box
77. Stair carpet, about 16ft
78. 11 brass stair rods
79. 3 door slips
80. 2 wire flower stands
81. Foot scraper
82. Sundries

Sitting Room

83. 2ft 6in iron fender and fireirons
84. Coal vase with lining
85. Lamp and sundry ornaments
86. Basket and spark guard
87. Hand Sewing machine by *Singer*, in good order
88. Mahogany framed stool and 2 small footstools
89. Cottage Pianoforte in rosewood frame by *Coventry and Hollier*
90. Mahogany stand table, 22in x 22in
91. Couch, upholstered in horsehair
92. Folding chair and cushion
93. Circular oak stand table, 13in diameter

94. Semi Prie Dieu chair
95. Set of 3ft 3in bookshelves
96. The Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, and other books
97. Sundry books
98. Ditto
99. Ditto
100. Ditto
101. 5 pictures in frames
102. Carpet as fitted
103. Hearth rug
104. Cornice pole, rings and fittings
105. Sundries

Dining room

106. 4ft iron iron fender and fireirons
107. Pair of brass candlesticks
108. Pair of brass chamber candlesticks
109. Chimney glass in gilt frame, plate 38in x 27in
110. Pair of shells and sundry ornaments
111. Letter scales and sundries
112. Upholstered armchair
113. Ditto
114. Genuine old oak framed table with drawer, 29in x 23in
115. Ditto, 30in x 19 in
116. Rosewood writing desk
117. Mahogany framed gentleman's easy chair
118. Excellently made mahogany card table with drawer, 2ft x 9 in
119. Kneeling stool
120. 3-tier mahogany whatnot with drawer under
121. Lamp with circular burner
122. Old mahogany tea caddy
123. Windsor chair and 2 hassocks
124. Sundry pictures in frames and photo frames
125. Strip of carpet
126. Cloth rug and coal hod
127. Curtain pole, rings and fittings
128. Linoleum as fitted
129. Sundries

China, Glass, Plated goods etc.

130. Green Wedgewood dessert service, 24 pieces
131. Cheese dish and 3 white dishes
132. White and gold honey jar with lid and stand, and odd china
133. Black Wedgewood tea pot and brown ware jug
134. Old blue and white plate and 4 others
135. Blue and white china mugs
136. Old brown ware jug and jar
137. White and gold tea china with figure decorations

138. Quantity of dinner ware
139. Sundry dishes
140. 5 wine glasses and odd glass
141. Glass pickle jar and water jug
142. Cut glass dish, sugar basin, 2 salts and odd glass
143. Pair of decanters
144. Decanter and odd glass
145. Sundry glass
146. Toast rack and biscuit tin
147. 4 bottle cruet
148. Pewter tankard
149. Pewter plate, 9½ in diameter
150. 2 pewter hot water plates
151. Circular and pewter dishes
152. Tin kettle with lamp and stand and sundries
153. 12 large plated forks
154. 12 small plated forks
155. 12 plated dessert spoons

Kitchens

156. Ash pan and coal hod
157. Fork, pair of tongs and sundries
158. Copper kettle
159. Ditto
160. Tin kettle and coal bucket
161. 4 saucepans
162. Brass pestle and mortar
163. Copper saucepan
164. Ditto
165. Brass maslin kettle
166. Fish kettle
167. Rail back armchair with cushions
168. Card table
169. 3 rail back chairs
170. 9 pots of jam
171. 6 flat irons
172. Umbrella stand
173. Small cupboard
174. Copper warming pan
175. Wine stein and brown ware jugs
176. Coffee mill and pots
177. Quantity of tin ware
178. Large iron pot, large saucepan and cooking utensils
179. Quantity of meat tins
180. Quantity of cooking utensils
181. Deal table 4ft 6in x 2ft 6in
182. Set of scales and weights
183. Brown ware stein and sundry ware
184. Stool and odd ware

185. Dolly and tub
186. Clothes horse and galvanized bath
187. Ditto
188. 2 tubs and tram
189. Enamel ware and bucket
190. Quantity of bottles
191. Sundries

Garden and out-door effects

192. Quantity of netting and galvanized sheet
193. 4 line posts and sockets
194. Platform weighing machine by *Day*
195. Pair of shears and odd tools
196. Ditto
197. Oak form
198. Ladder, 21 – round
199. Ditto
200. Ladder, 22 – round
201. Set of steps and ladder
202. 2 small casks
203. Quantity of flower pots
204. Octagonal Summerhouse with door, seat and 2 glazed windows
205. 2 hen coups, run and tram
206. 3 hens

Included by permission

207. Set of 4ft 6in oak bedsteads with spring and wool mattress
208. 2 chairs
209. Brass rail fender
210. Child's chair with tray
211. Perambulator
212. 6 large table knives
213. 5 small table knives
214. Chaff cutter

Source: Original Archives