

Heath Cottage (now Barrington House)

Heath Cottage was built on a quarter acre of copyhold land that originally formed part of Short Dean, a 2½ acre piece of ground owned at the beginning of the 19th century by Edward Stone. The land was purchased by Thomas Waterer in 1830 and two cottages were built on it; shown as plots 971 and 972 on the 1840 Tithe map.

These were named Heath Cottages and in the 1881 census the occupants were Henry & Lucy Cooke and George & Mary Gregory. In an 1886 Valuation List just one owner/occupier is shown; Henry Cooke. Henry died in March 1888 and Lucy in October 1892, following which manorial records show that George James Brown was admitted to the property on 15 Feb 1893. He and his wife Eliza were shown as the occupants in the 1901 census.

In September 1936 the property was bought by Richard Bates Dunkley who sold it a year later to Mr Arthur Gadd, a builder, who established the village post office in Heath Cottage. He was also the sextant at Holy Trinity Church.



Following the death of Arthur Gadd in March 1962, Heath Cottage was sold (on 25 February 1963) by his widow, Freda Gadd, to William Garman for £4500. It was later used, until June 2002, as offices by Johnson Fry, Insurance Brokers, and known as Barrington House.

At some stage most of the rear garden of the property was transferred to the Hill House estate and is now the garden of The Copse (5 Heath Rise).

[The title to Lot 4 comprises with an indenture dated 10 July 1856. Lot 3 and part of Lot 1 with a mortgage deed and ??? ??? of 30 August 1855. The rest of the property was purchased by Mr Israel Walker in small quantities and at many different times between the year 1840 and 1873 from different persons holding different titles, all the whole thereof having since been brought from him by the trustees of a marriage settlement.]

Condor and Southdown House

This pair of semi-detached houses proclaim that they were built in 1900 but the 1840 Tithe Map suggests that there had been two earlier cottages and gardens on the site.

Although it has now reverted to its original role, Southdown House was for many years Balchins & Sons, Butchers, with a shop front occupying its front garden.

An abattoir at the end of the rear garden now serves a much more modern use as the home of Southdown Software.

The Southdown name is attributable to the Southdown sheep that provided one of the firm's favourite product.



Main Road Shops

This painting shows the 'Main Road' shops towards the end of the 19th century.



The following photograph, taken a few years later, probably in 1901 or 1902, shows how a four storey and a three-storey building, both of which survive today, replaced the original Bricklayers Arms.



The appearance of the parade of shops has not altered significantly during the past 100 years but the products sold and the names of the retailers has changed. These are the subject of a separate note.