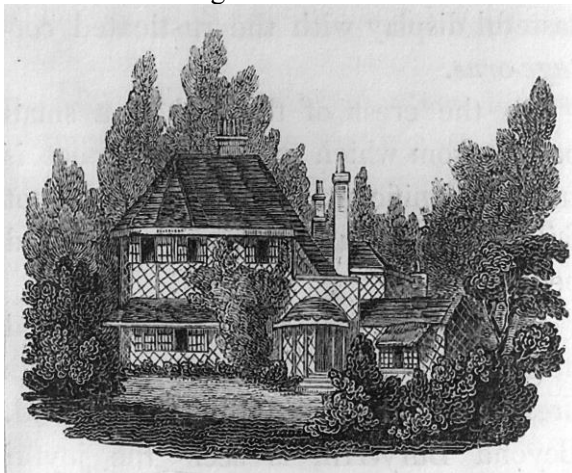


Mrs Hibbert's Cottage Orné

After describing his visit to Milton Street (page 1) John Timbs continued his 1823 'Pictorial Promenade Round Dorking':

"Ascending Westcott Hill, on the left is a genteel farm-house; and adjoining, is the neat residence of Mrs. Hibbert: where, looking over the hedge, I espied the retired gardens, corresponding in tasteful display with the rusticated *cottage orné*¹."



Mrs Hibbert died in

1827 and her cottage with an acre of 'pleasure grounds' was bought for £1330 by Richard Fuller to extend his Rookery Estate. The contents were auctioned separately and among the 40 purchasers of household furniture, (including 'night conveniences', What Nots, fine wool mattresses and straw paliasses) and garden implements were several names that feature large in Westcott's history including: Balchin, Bravery, Cheesman, Dewdney, Dibble, March, Rose, Ryde, Theballier and Worsfold



The house was enlarged (as shown left) and was occupied by members of the Fuller family for the rest of the 19th Century, notably by Richard's brother Burrell Fuller.

The house has since been converted into three separate dwellings: Pippacre, The Middle House and Menawethen.

¹ Cottage Orné was a term associated with the picturesque movement of the late 18th, early 19th century. It described small houses built in a somewhat artificial rustic manner characterised by the use of thatch and timber.