

BRICKYARD FARM

Origin of Name : Adjacent to the Brickyard

Location : All Saints Lane, Sidley

History: This small farm, now gone, was owned and farmed by the Adams family who also owned and worked the brickyard. It is not clear as to when this farm came about. It was certainly not here in the middle 19th century. It is not shown on any map as Brickyard farm. It is more of a small holding than a farm.

In the 1920's it was owned by Tib and George Adams and tenanted by George Allen who lived at 22 North Road but this was later renumbered and became 32. Mr Allen worked from home and cooked his pig swill there. He carried two buckets of swill on a yoke from North Road to his pigs on the farm. He took his corn to be ground to the windmill on the Down. There is a footpath still in existence, which was between the brickyard and the farm and led from Sidley to the Mill. (Mr Kiff's reminiscences).

When the Sidley Primary School was built there were pigsties close by at the back of the school and some entries in the School Log Book read:

1929 July 18. Bad smell from the farmyard at the back of the school during the heat it was most offensive. Man from Town Hall called out.

1929 Nov 05. Miss Carr unable to take drill in the yard owing to bad smell.

1929 Nov 07. The staff think that the bad smell does not emanate from the pigs but from the swill. It causes a sense of nausea.

1932 Jul 18. A letter was sent to the owner of the piggery about the smell.

1936 Jun 12. Sanitary Inspector was called out owing to the bad smell.

In the late 1940's Peter Carey remembers the pigs were still there.

SOURCES

Bexhill Tithe Map 1839 ESRO TD/E141
Mr Bert Kiff