

CHANTRY OR CHURCH FARM

Freehold of the Manor of Bexhill. Quit Rent 9s 1d and 3 heriots on death to the Manor of Bexhill and to a yearly quit rent of 10s and 3 heriots on death to the Manor of Pebsham and to a relief on death or alienation to the Lords of both Manors. (1)

Old name 'Jeames'.

PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7454 0814)

The original house which was built on one floor is very old and difficult to date documentary wise as transactions do not appear in the Court Rolls owing to the property once being in the hands of the Church. A two-story extension was added in the 19th century. This ceased to be the farmhouse in the 20th century and became the Rectory. A purpose built Rectory was built in the garden in the 1990's and the old farmhouse is now a private residence.



At a sale in 1928 the house was described as a Semi-Bungalow brick built residence with slated roof, modernised and enlarged a few years since. The ground floor contained a Roofed in Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Dining Room having slow combustion fireplace with tiled hearth and brick surrounds. Drawing Room with slow

combustion fireplace set in brick surrounds with French casements leading to the garden. Bedroom or Reception Room, Maids Bedroom, Bathroom, Trade Entrance lobby, Kitchen with scullery recess and spacious cellar.

First Floor Two Bedrooms. All windows are casements.

The Farm Buildings; Boulder wall enclosed Stock Yard having a range of brick built Piggeries, Spacious brick built and slated roof Barn. Range of brick built and tiled Cow Houses, 4-stall brick built and slated roof Stable, Modern brick built and tiled roof Bullock House and Yard, Thatched Calf House and Yard, Modern brick built and tiled Mixing Shed, Brick and tiled roof Piggery, 2 brick built and tiled roof Boiler Houses, Timber built and galvornised roof Waggon Lodge, Brick built and

Boulder faced Granary with tiled roof, Boulder built thatched roof Cart Lodge, Boulder built lean-to Cart Shed.

Garden to the front of the house, Kitchen garden to the East and an Orchard in the rear.



The east of the land along Holliers Hill had already been set out in building plots and Chantry Avenue had been laid out with building plots on both sides. The rest of the land remained until the 1950's.

Some of the farm buildings remain converted into an attractive residence.



Three pictures of the small barn and buildings lying north of the house taken in 1989.



OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

<1802	William Lucas Shadwell owner (1)
1802 July 8	Sold to Arthur Brook for £2,200. House buildings and 52 acres of arable, meadow and pasture. (1)
1802-1836	Arthur Brook remained owner/occupier (2)
1836-1890	Arthur Sawyer Brook son of above as owner until his death in 1890 (2)
1869 Oct 15	There was a reported fire at the farm. Hay stacks were set alight and a 9 year boy called Henry Freeman confessed to this. The Property was insured with the Royal Exchange and valued at £300. (3)
1890>	Arthur John Brook, son of Arthur Sawyer Brook (5)
1891>	Tenant was Thomas Morris ag lab of 47 years born Ninfield and his wife Sarah aged 45, Esther daughter 18 who was a launderess, Owen son 14 shop Assistant, daughters Annie 11 and Florence 8 scholars. (6)
<1928	A.F. Brook (1)
1928 July 12	Land was sold for building see above. The entire estate apart from the kitchen garden was in the occupation of Mr Leonard Pocock and held on a yearly tenancy of £195 15s. Notice to terminate at Michaelmas 1928 had been given.
1932-1937	Mathias Catt tenant (4)
1954	This ceased to be a farm (per Mr Forward) but many of the buildings exist (2000) The cow and pig house have been converted into a very desirable residence containing many of the features. The small barn and some other buildings can be seen from the bridge which crosses the by-pass but are steadily getting derelict.

SOURCES

- 1 Bills of Sale Bexhill Museum
- 2 ESRO TD/E 141 Tithe Award and Arthur Brook's Obituary
- 3 Sussex Weekly Advertiser
- 4 Mrs Cosser daughter of Mathias Catt
- 5 The Will of Arthur Sawyer Brook, London Probate Office, Holborn
- 6 1891 Census Returns