

GOTHAM FARM

Gotham was a Manor in it's own right in the 15th century but by the 18th century it was freehold to Barnhorn Manor.

PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7099 0904)

Gotham means 'Goats Valley' valley where the goats are kept. OE gata cumb, Gotecombe in 1369, Gotham 1430, Goteham 1507, Gotham 1571) The change from combe to ham is probably due to a contraction of combe to um during the 15th century. (1)

In the 15th century Gotham Manor was held by Richard Lyvet whose son Thomas granted it to Sir James Fiennes of the family which became the Lords Dacre of Herstmonceux but the grant was disputed in 1445 by Thomas's daughter Elizabeth and her husband Wiliam Gilderigge. Gotham remained in the family of Fiennes and descended with the Manor of Herstmonceux. Records of Gotham cease after 1819. (2)

OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

<1724>	Thomas Dicker is a copyhold tenant. This is now part of Barnhorn as is known as Gotam and Veryfield containing 87 acres 8 roods 16 perches (3)
<1727-1737>	James Ransome tenant (4)
<1740>	James Ransome paying Poor Rate (5)
<1754>	John Ransom paying Poor Rate (5)
1819 Jun 23	Gotham was sold by auction and it was described as containing 96 acres of arable, meadow, pasture, hop and wood ground with a good farmhouse, cottage and all agricultural buildings, free from Heriots and quit rents etc. (6)
<1833>	Eversfield Esq owner, Thomas Hammond tenant (7)
<1843>	Charlse Eversfield owner, tenanted by John Wood. (8)
<1851>	John Wood tenant of 93 acres (9)
<1861-1891>	John Wood tenant aged 62 (10)
1919/1920	F. Eversfield owner, J. Wood tenant (11)

SOURCES

- 1 The Place Names of Sussex by Judith Glover
- 2 Victoria County History Vol 9
- 3 ESRO BAT 4421 Plan of Barnhorn Estate 1724
- 4 ESRO AMS 5641/2 Rev Ott Tithe Book
- 5 ESRO DR/B33/1 Poor Rate
- 6 Sussex Weekly Advertiser 14 June 1819
- 7 ESRO Land Tax for 1833
- 8 ESRO TD/E 141 Tithe Award
- 9 1851 Census
- 10 1861 Census
- 11 ESRO Land Tax 1919/1920