

## GUNTERS/THE WENDY HOUSE, GUNTERS LANE

Freehold of the Manor of Bexhill

### PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7313 0926)

This property with 5 acres of land lying on the south east corner of today's Gunters Lane and Turkey Road, was originally called **THE GUNTERS**.

John Gunter gave his name to the property in the 17th century at which time there must have been a much earlier residence here. The 18th century in 1754 George Smith is living here. During the 19th century there still only seems to be one cottage at this point but earlier in the 20th century local residents remember that there were two shepherd's cottages which were converted into one house.

### OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

- <1567> Henry Souton as Parrys 6a land (1)
- <1660> John Gunter, owner and 5 acres (2)
- <1673> William Drinker house and lands late James Baker's (3)
- <1726-1727> John Wilson, his house and orchard (4)
- 1727-1737> Samuel Brett (4)
- <1754> George Smith paying poor rate for The Gunters (5)
  
- <1839> Tithe Award plot 1531 has owner of cottage and two fields containing 5 acres 2 roods and 230 perches as Henry Reeves. Henry Vidler is tenant of the cottage and John Adams is tenant of the two fields called House Field and Little Croft. The cottage in Gunters Lane south of The Gunters plot was also owned by Henry Reeves and occupied by James Sargent. This cottage had gone by 1899 and the present house called 'Rickstones' is modern. (6)
  
- 1919 Aug 30 In the early part of the 20th century there were two shepherd's cottages here. They were sold by auction at the Devonshire Hotel, Bexhill. They were the property of the late Albert Parks and sold by Walter Parks. They were described as 'A pair of well built semi-detached brick and tile cottages that can readily be converted into a compact residence. Area about 3 roods. Also valuable pasture land called Gunters of about 5 acres. Mr Bodle bought the cottages for £600 Mr Grand bought the land for £520. (7)

Mr Larkin converted the two cottages into one house in the 1930's and around this time this area was known as Dunks Corner as Mrs Dunk lived in one of the cottages.

## SOURCES

- 1 KAO U269 M20 Maidstone Record Office
- 2 ESRO D165/1413 (on deeds of Whitehouse Farm as abutments)
- 3 ESRO ADA 49 Manor Rental
- 4 ESRO AMS 5641/2 Rev Ott Tithe Book
- 5 ESRO Par/240/30/1-1754 Poor Rate
- 6 ESRO TD/E 141 Tithe Award
- 7 Bexhill Museum Bill of Sale