

MOUNT IDOL FARM & THE MILL LANDS

Freehold of the Manor of Bexhill

PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7330 1030)

In the 16th century this seems to have been known as Stumblett Pit and the land where the farm buildings were is on high ground in the Ninfield Road with views to the north, the land falls steeply to the south to Turkey Road. One of the O.S. Maps shows an area of boggy land where Gunters Wood alias Fullers Wood used to be and also extending to the west. Could this have been the 'pit'?

OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

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| 1587 Mar 10 | Richard Sole leased six pieces of land called Stumblett Pit with a little house and buildings and 12 acres to Robert Hoarde for 99 then 1000 years, rent 6d. (1) |
| 1704 Jan 19 | Thomas Pelham leased 2½ acres part of Pebsham Farm (N.W. Stumblett Pit; E. John Coleman; S. Sidley Green - Church Green Lane (Clinch Green?)) to Richard Glazier for 999 then 1000 years paying 6d. (1) |
| <c1808> | John Russell owner/ocupier 19 acres known then as Quaffs Farm (2) |
| <1833> | William Camac owner, Stephen Thomas tenant as Mount Idol (3) |
| <1843> | Sarah Lushington owner, Stephen Thomas tenant with 19 acres (4) |
| <1851> | David Cocket vetinerary surgeon (5) |
| <1855> | David Cocket farmer and cow keeper (6) |
| <1861> | David Cocket farrier and cowkeeper (5) |
| 1867 | Both the leases of 1587 and 1704 were assigned by Wastel Brisco senior and junior to Newton Parks who died in 1891 April 12. On 20 May his executor Albert Parks of Sidley House, gent, mortgaged this estate Mount Idol and the Mill Land to Walter and W.E.F.Cheeseman of Hastings, solicitors and Mill Land only to Architect P.A. Clement of Broomham in Guestling for £6100; both mortgages were redeemed by Albert Newton Parks and Joseph Henry Parks (Albert Park's executors) on 19 & 20 Nov 1919, and the following day the whole estate was sold to William Samuel Harris of Crosby House, Wanstead, Essex for £2,500. A schedule suggests that the Mill Lands had been purchased by Newton Parks from Sir Peregrine Ackland on 26 |

Feb 1866. By virtue of the Conveyancing Acts of 1881 and 1882 the leasehold terms on Mount Idol were enlarged by William Samuel Harris by deed of 1 August 1924. (1)

- <1890> John Whyborn tenant (7)
 <1916> John Dicker and G. Saxby tenants (7)
 <1919> Albert Parks owner recently deceased and at the sale already referred to the property as: Pair of brick and tile cottages, brick and tile stable for three horses, timber and tile slate built barn, brick and slate built cow lodge, timber and corrugated iron calf lodge, no open yard. The farm land consisted of 19½ acres and the Mill Land c25 acres. Tithe at £5 19s and Land Tax 1d in the £. (8)
- 1919/1920 J. Oliver for Mount Idol Cottages (3)
 1920's Bert Kiff remembered that in the 1920's many of the hedgerows had gone and much of the land was one large open field with large oak trees.
- <1924> George Ravenshear owner, Sydney Message tenant (9)
- 1924 An Abstract of Title was drawn up which states transactions under ref (1) and states that Mount Idol and the Mill Lands were then known as the Southland Park Estate. Southlands Road runs through the property today. (10)

The land was developed in the 1950's and the two cottages have survived and are now one house called 'Pippins'



SOURCES

- 1 ESRO AMS 5828/9
- 2 ESRO AMS 5819
- 3 ESRO Land Tax
- 4 ESRO TD/E 141 Tithe Award
- 5 Hastings Library Census Returns
- 6 Sussex Directory
- 7 Bexhill Directory
- 8 Bexhill Museum Bill of Sale
- 9 Kay Slater daughter of Sydney Message
- 10 ESRO AMS 5828/9

MOUNT IDOL AND THE MILL LANDS

Abstract of Title to the Southlands Park Estate at Sidley (formerly Mount Idol and the Mill Lands. 1924.

On 10 March 1587 Richard Sole leased six pieces of land called Stumblett Pit with a little house and buildings (12 acres) to Richard Hoarde for 99 and then 1000 years, rent 6d.

Thomas Pelham leased 2 ½ acres part of Pebsham Farm (N.W. Stumblett Pit; E. John Coleman; S. Sidley Green - Church Green Lane) to Richard Glazier on 19th January 1704 for 99 and then 1000 years. Paying 6d.

In 1867 both leases were assigned by Wastel Brisco snr and jnr to Newton Parks who died 12th April 1891. On 20th May his executor Albert Parks of Sidley House, gent, mortgaged this estate (Mount Idol) and the Mill lands to Walter and W.E.F. Cheeseman of Hastings, solicitors and the Mill Land only to Architect P.A.Clement of Broomham in Guestling, bart. For £6100; both mortgages were redeemed by Albert Newton Parks and Joseph Henry Parks (Albert Park's executors) on 19th and 20th of November and the following day the whole estate was sold to William Samuel Harris of Crosby House, Wanstead, Essex for £2500. A Schedule suggest that the Mill Lands had been purchased by Newton Parks from Peregrine P.F.P. Ackland. Bt, 26th February 1866. By virtue of the Conveyancing Acts of 1881 and 1882 the leasehold terms on Mount Idol were enlarged by William Samuel Harris by Deed 1st August 1924.

Reference East Sussex Record office AMS 5828/9