

The Mill, The Street

[The Mill P.D.F.](#)

Charmouth Mill

The first record of a Mill in this district is found in the Domesday Book of 1086, which mentions that the value of the mill was threepence, but whether the site of that mill was the same as that of the present Charmouth mill is impossible to say. In 1295 William, Abbot of Forde, required each burgess of Charmouth to have his corn ground at his mill. The original document can still be seen in a Cartulary held at the Abbey. It records that each tenant "will owe suit to the monks' court twice a year on the Tuesday following Hockday and on the Tuesday following Michaelmas in the guildhall of Charmouth and not at other times unless an unforeseen event occurs. The burgesses owe suit to the monks' mill at Charmouth and will have priority at the mill after the corn of the miller".

After the dissolution of the Abbey in 1539, the Mill was bought with the rest of the Manor by Sir William Petre. A Survey of the village in 1564 records that "Joan, Payne, widow of John Paine, holds, during her widowhood, a cottage and grist mill with 30 acres (a); viz; curtilage, garden and orchard (½ a), Brodemede (10 a), mydell Wellesleye (5 a), Mydell mead (3 a), Wellesley pasture (4 a), Dollyns mead (2 d), Ryver mead (3 d), Le moore (1 d), and Le Common close (1 d) by copy 22 Apr 1509; fine £6 13 s 4d, rent 64s 5 ½ d.

It was his son John who sold a number of properties in the village in 1565. William Pole who lived nearby at Shute, near Axminster was to buy the Manor and its lands including the Mill.

It is interesting to see that when they sold their holdings to William Ellesdon from Lyme Regis in 1648 they retained the Mill and its surrounding 30 acres of fields. A Poor Rates list for 1754 shows that the honourable Sir John Pole was paying £2 -10-0d Tax, the second highest after Richard Henvill. They were to finally sell it in 1780 to Robert Knight, a wealthy land owner from Chideock. The record book of a map that has since disappeared supplies valuable information about the village in 1783. In it is the Mill and its surrounding fields listed as follows:

135. Mill, House & garden (£5-0-0d) 1r 10p, 136. Home Close (£1-2-10d) 3r 2p, 137. Mill Hams (£3-3-3d) 1a 3r 32p, 138. Mill Meadow (£5-13-11d) 3a 2r 13p, 139. Westley's Close (£4-9-6d) 3a 2r 13p, 140. Charmouth Meadow (£6-10-5d) 4a 1r 16p, 141. Middle Meadow (£5-1-7d) 3a 1r 22p, 142. Moor (£6-3-0d) 4a 16p, 143. Higher Marsh (£5-6-3d) 3a 2r 7p

144. Lower Marsh (£12-5-0d) 8a 29p, 145. A Common (£1-15-7d) 1a 30p, 146. Langmoor Wood (7s-10d) 3r 30p, total - 35a 3 r 16p.

It would seem from this that the total acreage was only slightly more than the earlier 16th century survey and no doubt the fields such as Westleys and Middle Meadow were the same. Robert Knight was to enjoy the income derived from the Mill estate. The Land Tax and Poor Rates lists show that Samuel Legg rented it until Robert died in 1790. It then passed to his wife, Ann who let it to Uriah Dare. On her death in 1798 it passed to her son in law, Doctor Robert Graves from Bridport, who had married her daughter, Maria. He in turn was to Rent the Mill to Uriah and later to Henry Smith, who with his son was to be his tenant for many years. An advert has come to light when in 1815 he advertised for a new tenant.

Mills to be let, and entered upon at Lady's Day next - the long established Water Grist and Flour Mills, situated at Charmouth, in the county of Dorset, together with an exceedingly good dwelling house, large stables, and other requisite buildings, and upwards of six acres of rich Meadow Ground immediately adjoining The house is sufficiently large to admit of letting a great part to lodgings in the bathing season, which the present tenant has been accustomed to do, and possesses also convenience for carrying on the business of baking. These premises will be let for a year, and more land may be had if required.

For viewing the premises apply to Mr. Smith, the present tenant, and for particulars to Dr. Graves, Allington, Bridport".

The advert does not seem to have been successful as Henry was to renew his lease and bring his family up there. It was his son Henry who married in 1837 Sarah, the youngest daughter of Joel Spiller of Colyford and was to continue his fathers work on his retirement. The 1841 Census has him, aged 25 as living there with his wife, aged 25 and daughter, Elizabeth, aged 1. This is also the year of the Tithe Map for the village The List below of approximate acreage is that for Dr. Robert Graves who is leasing the Mill to Henry Smith, the son of the previous owner.

The Mill House, yard and Garden (1/2 acre), Plot (1/2 acre), The Ham (1 acre), Millers Mead (4 acres), Westleys Close (3 acres), Plantation (1 acre), Common (1 acre), First Lears (4 acres), Second Lears (3 acres), Third Lears (3 acres). Forth Lears (3 acres), Fifth Lear (5 acres), Sixth Lear (1 acre).

The total is just over 35 acres, almost exactly the same as that owned by Robert Knight in 1783 and Sir William Petre in 1564.

In the same year Henry's fortunes were take a turn for the worse and he was made bankrupt by Robert Graves. At the same time his brother, Edward was to join him in Dorchester prison as his Ale house, where the Star Inn formerly stood at the rear of Nisa lost money. There is little to go on about the facts behind this terrible setback for the family. Henry never recovered and the census for 1851 shows him as a labourer. He died in 1864 and the grave of him, his wife and daughter, Elizabeth can still be seen in St. Andrews churchyard. After his departure the Mill was once again placed on the market and was advertised as:

A Dwelling House, Offices, and garden, and a flour and Grist Mill, called " Charmouth Mill", and about seven acres of excellent meadow or pasture land, situate at Charmouth, in the county of Dorset, lately in the occupation of Mr. Henry Smith, as tenant, and also five closes of excellent meadow or pasture land, containing about twenty two acres, situated near the dwelling house and Mill, and extending to the Sea Shore. Further particulars may be known on applying to Mr. Nicholetts, of Bridport, to whom Tenders, in writing, must be delivered or sent on or before the first day of March next. 22 February 1845 - Salisbury and Winchester Journal.

The next tenant was William Fooks who appears in the 1851 Census aged 35, living there with his wife, Jane and daughter, Mary. His life was cut short and by the time of the next census in 1861, his wife is a widow living in a cottage near to the Mill which is being run by Edward Henry Chilcott, aged 35 and his wife Louisa. He is described as a Farmer and Miller employing 2 men and a boy. The local paper records a year later that Mrs. Fooks has remarried the Charmouth Butcher, John Hodges.

We now jump a decade and find that the Mill had been sold by the Graves family and was owned and being run by Wallis and Sons who also operated Mills in Lyme Regis and Axminster. There manager was John Toms, who later became the proprietor and worked the mill successfully for many years until the competition of the larger mills became too heavy and it was bought by Colonel John Bullen Symes Bullen, of Catherston Manor who put John Gillingham in as miller.

The famous historian, Reginald Pavey writes "Some hundred yards south of Paradise Bridge, at the foot of Catherston fields, the river used to flow over a weir and could be turned into the mill dam, which took a course as far as the mill, where it turned a water wheel which was on the north side of the building. Since the mill became idle the dam has gradually silted up and the weir only exists as a trickle. The mill building was converted into two cottages when it was no longer a paying proposition; the mill yard became a farmyard and the mill house was occupied by the farmer. During alterations necessitated by the front of the house collapsing in 1947 Dutch tiles and bricks, which had been used as rubble many years ago, were discovered. An archaeologist, who was staying in the village at the time, told me that they had been made of London clay and were fourteenth century".

In November 1958 the entire Catherston Estate was put up for auction. It consisted of two farms and valuable coastal land in all about 969 acres. Included in this was the original Mill, farmhouse and surrounding fields. With these were three Farm cottage and a number of farm buildings. These were rented at that time by the Loosemore family who were successful in purchasing them in the auction. The original Mill buildings can be seen much altered as part of the Manor Farm estate. In 1957 a new bridge was built by the Mill House and the road level and pavement rose obscuring part of the front, which was made worse with a bus shelter directly outside the entrance. It is difficult today to visualise what once have been such an idyllic area of Charmouth when the old Mill was operating over a century ago.



John Gillingham, Farm Bailiff to the Bullens at Catherston stands outside Mill Cottage, in 1911.



The same view today. Almost unrecognisable with the road height raised and a Bus Shelter now obscuring the doorway.

SURVEY OF THE MANOR OF CHARMOUTH : made October 1564

Customary tenants:

Joan, Payne, widow of John Paine, holds, during her widowhood, a cottage and grist mill with 30 acres (a); viz: curtilage, garden and orchard (½ a), Brodemede (10 a), mydell Wellesleye (5 a), Mydell mead (3 a), Wellesley pasture (4 a), Dollyns mead (2 d), Ryver mead (3 d), Le moore

(1 d), and Le Common close (1 d) by copy 22 Apr 1509; fine £6 13 s 4d, rent 64s 5 ½ d. The reversion of the premises granted to Alice Speringe, dau of Roger Garlande and John Speringe, Alice's son, by copy 15 Sep 1573; fine £10.

SURVEY OF THE MANOR OF CHARMOUTH 1783

Sir John Pole

- 135. Mill, House & garden (£5-0-0d) 1r 10p
- 136. Home Close (£1-2-10d) 3r 2p
- 137. Mill Hams (£3-3-3d) 1a 3r 32p
- 138. Mill Meadow (£5-13-11d) 3a 2r 13p
- 139. Westley's Close (£4-9-6d) 3a 2r 13p
- 140. Charmouth Meadow (£6-10-5d) 4a 1r 16p
- 141. Middle Meadow (£5-1-7d) 3a 1r 22p
- 142. Moor (£6-3-0d) 4a 16p
- 143. Higher Marsh (£5-6-3d) 3a 2r 7p
- 144. Lower Marsh (£12-5-0d) 8a 29p
- 145. A Common (£1-15-7d) 1a 30p
- 146. Langmoor Wood (7s-10d) 3r 30p
- Total - 35a 3 r 16p

The Land Tax for 1789 show Robert Knight owning the Mill Lands and Samuel Legg renting them from him and paying £6-12-0d tax.

The Land Tax for 1791 show Ann Knight,Roberts widow owning the Mill Lands and Samuel Legg renting them from him and paying £6-12-0d tax.

The Land Tax for 1792 show Ann Knight,Roberts widow owning the Mill Lands and Uriah Dare renting them from him and paying £6-12-0d tax.

Land Tax for 1804 shows Dr Graves renting Mill Lands to Uriah Dare and paying £6-12-1in Land Tax.

1805 Poor Rates with P.Dare paying 3/9d for House and W. Dare £1/8/0d for Mill Lands and 1/0 for a field.

124 th Jury	Henry son of	Henry Sarah	Smith	Charmouth Miller	Warrant curate
No. 243					

Henry is born to Henry and Sarah Smith in 1814. He was to later continue his fathers business at Charmouth Mill.

Land Tax for 1824 shows Dr Graves renting Mill Lands to Henry Smith and paying £6-12-1in Land Tax.

MILLS.

TO be LET, and entered upon at Lady Day next.—The old-established Water GRIST and FLOUR MILLS, situate at Charmouth, in the county of Dorset, together with an exceeding good Dwelling House, large stable, and other requisite buildings, and upwards of six acres of rich Meadow Ground immediately adjoining.—The house is sufficiently large to admit of letting a great part to lodgings in the bathing season, which the present tenant has been accustomed to do, and possesses also conveniency for carrying on the business of baking.—These premises will be let for a year, and more land may be had if required.

For a view of the premises apply to Mr. Smith, the present tenant; and for particulars to Dr. Graves, of Allington, near Bridport. [6606

1815 Mills to be let, and entered upon at Lady's Day next - the long established Water Grist and Flour Mills, situated at Charmouth, in the county of Dorset, together with an exceedingly good dwelling house, large stables, and other requisite buildings, and upwards of six acres of rich Meadow Ground immediately adjoining The house is sufficiently large to admit of letting a great part to lodgings in the bathing season, which the present tenant has been accustomed to do, and possesses also conveniency for carrying on the business of baking. These premises will be let for a year, and more land may be had if required.

For viewing the premises apply to Mr. Smith, the present tenant, and for particulars to Dr. Graves, Allington, Bridport". 16th March 1815

Graves Took Self & Smith Mill & Land 6 12 18

1832 Land Tax show Henry Smith renting from Doctor Graves.

MARRIED.

August 31, at Colyton, Henry Smith, Esq., of Charmouth, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Joel Spiller, Esq., of Colyford, Devon.

August 31, at Colyton, *Henry Smith, Esq., of Charmouth*, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Joel Spiller, Esq., of Colyford, Devon. 14 September 1837 - Dorset County Chronicle -

PLACE	Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited	of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	Males	Females	or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Whether in same C.	Whether B. Scotland, Ir or Foreign
Charmouth Street		1	Henry Smith	25		Miller		
			Josh Do		25			
					1			
			W. Williams	10				

1841 Census has Henry Smith aged 25 as renting Charmouth Mills

Name	description	Acre	Rood	Perch	Tithe no.
The Ham	Meadow	1	1	36	34
Millers Mead	Meadow	4	-	9	35
Westleys Close	Meadow	3	1	30	36
House, Yard & Garden	-	-	1	20	38
Plot	Meadow	-	2	13	39
Plantation	Plantation	1	1	9	127
Common	Meadow	1	1	6	218
Sixth Lears	Pasture	1	1	19	227
Fifth Lears	Pasture	5	1	9	228
Fourth Lears	Pasture	3	2	19	229
Second Lears	Meadow	3	1	33	230
First Lears	Meadow	4	1	7	231
Third Lears	Meadow	3	3	13	232

The List above is that for Dr. Robert Graves who is leasing the Mill to Henry Smith, the son of the previous owner, his father, Henry. The total acreage is 35 acre 3 rood, 3 perches, almost exactly the same as that owned by Robert Knight in 1783 and Sir William Petre in 1564.

SMITH Henry, Charmouth, miller; No. 56,363 C—Assignee, Robert Graves

Smith Henry, Charmouth, miller; No. 56,363 Assignee, Robert Graves - 21 August 1841 - Perry's Bankrupt Gazette - London, London, England

ON OFFICE & RESIDENCE
Edward Smith, late of Charmouth, Dorsetshire, Beer
Housekeeper.—In the Gaol of Dorchester.
Henry Smith, late of Charmouth, Dorsetshire, Miller and
Baker.—In the Gaol of Dorchester.

Country.

(Continued from column 446).

Gazette—July 13, 1841.

Court-house, Dorchester, 4th Aug. ten.

Moore Frederic Harry, of Blandford, attorney

Roper John, of Whitchurch, out of business

Smith Edward, of Charmouth, beer housekeeper

Smith Henry, of Charmouth, miller and baker

Smith Edward, of Charmouth, beer housekeeper Smith Henry, of Charmouth, miller and baker. 17 July 1841 - Perry's Bankrupt Gazette

CHARMOUTH, DORSET.

CAPITAL FLOUR & GRIST MILL, DWELLING-HOUSE, AND LANDS.

TO be LET by TENDER, for a Term of Five or Seven Years, from the 6th day of April next,—A DWELLING-HOUSE, Offices, and Garden, and a FLOUR and GRIST MILL, called "CHARMOUTH MILL," and about Seven Acres of excellent Meadow or Pasture Land, situate at Charmouth, in the County of Dorset, lately in the occupation of Mr. Henry Smith, as Tenant; and also FIVE CLOSES of excellent MEADOW or PASTURE LAND, containing about Twenty-two statute Acres (the greater portion of which twenty-two acres is capable of being advantageously watered), situate near the said Dwelling-house and Mill, and extending to the Sea Shore.

The Premises are near to several Market Towns, and within moderate distances of the Harbours of Bridport and Lyme Regis.

Persons desirous of taking the *whole* of the Premises, or the Dwelling-house, Garden, Mill, and the Lands which have been let and occupied therewith, *only*, or the Five Closes of Meadow or Pasture Land *only*, may tender accordingly.

Further particulars may be known on applying to Mr. Nicholetts, of Bridport, to whom Tenders, in writing, must be delivered or sent, on or before the first day of March next.

13928

Charmouth, Dorset.

Capital Flour & Grist Mill, Dwelling House, Offices, and garden, and a flour and Grist Mill, called "Charmouth Mill", and about seven acres of excellent meadow or pasture land, situate at Charmouth, in the county of Dorset, lately in the occupation of Mr. Henry Smith, as tenant, and also five closes of excellent meadow or pasture land, containing about twenty two acres, situated near the dwelling house and Mill, and extending to the Sea Shore.

The premises are near to several market towns, and within moderate distances of the Harbours of Bridport and Lyme Regis.

Persons desirous of taking the whole of the premises, or the dwelling house, garden, Mill, and the Lands which have been let and occupied there with only, or the five closes of meadow or pasture land only, may tender accordingly.

Further particulars may be known on applying to Mr. Nicholetts, of Bridport, to whom Tenders, in writing, must be delivered or sent on or before the first day of March next. 22 February 1845 - Salisbury and Winchester Journal

CHARMOUTH, DORSETSHIRE.

TO BE SOLD, IN FEE, BY AUCTION,

By Mr. F. T. DAUNCEY,

At the GEORGE INN, in CHARMOUTH, on TUESDAY, the 17th day of OCTOBER, 1848, at 6 o'Clock in the evening,

ALL those Two DWELLING HOUSES, adjoining each other, pleasantly situated in the centre of the delightful Watering Place of CHARMOUTH, with a Court in front, and extensive Gardens, of a superior description behind, well stocked with choice Fruit Trees.

One of the Dwelling Houses is in the occupation of CAPTAIN FORWARD, as tenant from year to year, and consists of a drawing and dining room of good dimensions, 6 bedrooms, with a two stall stable, and other requisite offices. The other, and the Gardens are in the occupation of Mr. HENRY SMITH, as a yearly tenant, and comprises a dining and drawing room, 5 bedrooms, and various convenient offices attached.

For viewing the Premises, application may be made to the respective Tenants, and for further particulars, to

Mr. MOORE, Solicitor, Yeovil, Somerset.

Grave stone in St. Andrews Church:

Displaced, Upright Curved Top with Cross on in Top.

Sacred/to the memory of/HENRY SMITH/who departed this life April 17 th 1864/aged 49 years/6 lines of Verse/Also of ANNE wife of the above/who died July xx 1883/aged 67 years/Also to ELIZABETH their daughter/who died May 20 th xxx/aged xx xxxxx/Verse.

1	Mill House	William Fooks	Head	Mar	35	Miller	Dorset Melbury
		Jane Fooks	Wife	Mar	36	Wife	Dorset Bournemouth
		Mary A Fooks	Daughter	Mar	8	Daughter	Do Charmouth
		Louisa Chilcott	Servant	Un	26		Do Bournemouth
		William Case	Servant	Un	26	General Servant	Dorset Bournemouth
							Dorset Whitechapel

1851 Census has William Fooks, aged 35 as renting Charmouth Mills

No. of Schedule	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	HOUSES in which the Person is enumerated (B.)	Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Male / Female	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, or Deaf, and Dumb
1	Charmouth Mills	1	John Cambridge	Head	Mar	65	Appld. Minister, Apprentice	Dorset Bournemouth	
			Hartha	Wife	Mar	57	Widow	Dorset Bournemouth	
2	3 (2nd)	1	Jane Fooks	Head	Widow	70	Land Owner	Dorset Bournemouth	
			Mary Ann Fooks	Daughter	Un	19	Scholar	Dorset Charmouth	
			Mary Ann Chilcott	Servant	Un	20	Landholder	Dorset Milton	
			Edw. Maria Fooks	Servant	Un	26	Presbytery	Dorset Bournemouth	
3	Charmouth Mills	1	Edward Henry Chilcott	Head	Un	35	Farmer, Miller, Trade, Imp. boy	Dorset Wareham	
			Louisa	Wife	Un	34	Housekeeper	Dorset Bournemouth	
			Louisa Jane	Daughter	Un	1		Dorset Colyton	
			Maria Willington	Servant	Un	20	Housemaid	Dorset Melbury	
			William Bradford	Servant	Un	16	Mill Servant	Dorset Charmouth	
			Samuel Whitcomb	Servant	Un	20	Miller	Dorset	

1861 Census has Edward Henry Chilcott, aged 35 as renting Charmouth Mills

Sept. 17, at Hawkechurch, by the Rev. E. C Adams, the Rector, Mr. John Hodges, butcher of Charmouth, to Mrs. Fooks, widow of the late William Fooks, of Charmouth Mills.

Rev. E.C Adams, the Rector, Mr. John Hodges, butcher of Charmouth, to Mrs. Fooks. widow of the late William Fooks, of Charmouth Mills. 23 September 1862 - Sherborne Mercury - Sherborne, Dorset, England

CHARMOUTH.—During the night of Tuesday week, a valuable horse, belonging to Mr. G. Shellcott, of the Charmouth Mills, was stolen from the Mill-house stable. It appears that on the night of the theft, the stable door had been left unlocked—but with that exception it had been securely fastened nightly ever since Mr. Shellcott

CHARMOUTH. —During the night of Tuesday week, a valuable horse, belonging to Mr. G. Shellcott (Chilcott), of the Charmouth Mills, was stolen from the Mill-house stable. It appears that on the night of the theft, the stable door had been left unlocked—but... 18 January 1855 - Dorset County Chronicle

TO MILLERS.—Wanted a steady, honest, active young man as **SECOND HAND.**—Apply to W. WALLIS and SONS, Lyme and Charmouth Mills.

Wanted a steady, honest, active young man as SECOND HAND.—Apply to WALLIS AND Sons, Lyme and Charmouth Mills. 28 March 1871 - Western Times

Stevens Jno. grocer, also merchant, & agent for Gilbey's wines and spirits, the Weymouth soda water co. and Sun fire & life office, & at Lyme Regis, Stevens Jno. private hotel & boarding establishment, Charmouth house (see advt.)
 Tarr Miss Elzth. dressmaker, Axminster rd.
 Trott Geo. Hy. master of natl. school, Sea lane
 Turner Geo. Richd. farmer, Whitechurch
 Wallis Wm. & Son, maltsters, millers, corn and manure mchts. Charmouth mills, & at Lyme & Axminster

1874 Directory has William Wallis and Son running Charmouth Mills as well as others at Lyme and Axminster.

1	1	George Aplin	Head	M	58	Mills (The Mill)	Wife	58	Emily Louisa	Daughter	28
		Margaret	Wife	F	58						
		Julia	Daughter	F	28						

The 1881 Census has George Aplin, aged 58 living with his wife, Margaret aged 58 and their daughter Julia at The Mill.

1	1	John Toms	Head	M	30	Miller	X	Dorset	Taunton
		Rosina	Wife	F	28				Bristol

1891 Census has John and Rosina Toms at the Mill

4	1	John Toms	Head	M	40	John Toms	Employer	Taunton	Bristol
		Rosina	Wife	F	38				Bristol
5	1	Mary A. Stamp	Head	F	50	Livingston Street		Devon	Exmouth
		Helen	Servant	F	11				Charmouth

1901 Census shows John Toms, aged 40 with his wife Rosina aged 38 are shown living at Charmouth Flower Mills.

(For order of entries, notice the examples on back of Schedule.)		Sex		Age		Marriage		Profession, Occupation, or Trade		Place of Birth		Place of Birth		Place of Birth	
No.	Name	M.	F.	Years	Months	Single	Married	Occupation	County	Parish	County	Parish	County	Parish	County
1	John Toms	Head		50		Married	29	Farmer & Corn Dealer	Dorset	Taunton	Somerset	Taunton	British		
2	Rosina Toms	Wife		48		Married	29		Dorset	Taunton	Somerset	Taunton	British		
3	Madge Smith	Relative		25		Single		Help General Domestic	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	British		
4	Alfred Barrett	Boarder		45		Married	19	Retired	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	British		
5	Frederick Thomas	Boarder		7		Single		Nursery	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	Sturminster Newton	British		
6	Flora Mademayr	Servant		23		Single			Austria		Austria		Austrian		

1911 Census shows John Toms, aged 50 with his wife Rosina aged 48 are shown living at Charmouth Flower Mills.



John and Rose Toms with Madge Smith are shown outside Firland's House in the left picture. He was a Farmer and Corn Dealer at the neighbouring Mill which he rented off the Bullens.



Picnic at Lamberts Castle. John Toms by dog. Mrs Toms with umbrella lived at Firlands. Mr. & Mrs. Wilfred Smith sat in front they lived at 2 Firlands., Frank Coles in cap with his sister lived at Sunnyside (now Devonedge), Miss Nichols far right. John Toms was living at Firlands in

1911 with his wife, Rose. He is described as a Corn dealer and worked at the Mill then owned by the Bullens. Wilfred and Edith Smith lived at 2 Firlands in that year. Frank Coles ran the Bakery where Devonedge is today, whilst his wife operated a Boarding House above it.



John Toms with his workers by his cart laden with sacks of corn. The Mill went into decline and vestiges of it can still be seen by the County Bridge.



The same view today with raised road and extensive alterations compared with earlier photo.



Mrs. Toms feeding Geese on the Mill Pond.



The same view today





A drawing of the Old Bridge in 1826 with the Mill buildings in the distance.

1754 Poor Rates

The Honorable Sir John Pole £2-10-0

1775 Robert Knight married Ann Knight in 1775 in Chideock.

1776 Ann born to Ann and Robert Knight in Chideock

1778 Robert born to Ann and Robert Knight in Chideock

1780 Highways Tax Mr. Knight (Late Sir John Pole Lands) – £0-17-0d

1780 Poor Rates Mr. Knight (Late Sir John Pole Lands) – £0-2-10d

1780 Poor Rates Mr. Robert Knight for Charmouth Meads or occupier – £0-1-2d

1780 Land Tax Mr. Knight – £4-7-10d

1780 Land Tax Mr. Knight for Charmouth Meads – £2-0-5d

1780 Yearly Rents Robert Knight - £20 & £40

1781 Robert Knight & Mr Bulmer - Mill tenement - £4-7-10d

Charmouth Meads - £2-0-5

1782 Robert Knight still owns Mill, but Mr. William Gray now owner of Charmouth Meads.

In 1784 it is Rose Drewe who now owns Meads and rents to William Gray.

1789 Robert Knight paying £6.12-0 Land Tax

And Thomas Rose Drewe £2-12-0 on Meads which he is renting to Farmer.

1790 Robert Knight buried at Bridport

1790 Late Knight renting to Samuel Legg.

1793 Ann Knight renting

1798 Ann Knight dies

1799 Ann knight marries Robert Graves

1800 Dr. Graves for Mill Lands.

1803 Dr. Graves for Mill Lands & Coombes for Meads rented to Wakely,

Mr. Pole	Chideock	Robert Knight	1	7	10
Mr. Pole	Chideock	David Dreyer	1	12	8
Mr. Pole	Chideock	Mary Mungby	2	11	12
Mr. Pole	Chideock	Thomas Mungby	2	3	2
Mr. Pole	Chideock	William Gray	2	0	5

Mr. Knight	Mrs. Lante	Self	6	12	17
William Dreyer	Edney	David Dreyer	5	12	17
Rev. Giffordham	St. Martin's	Ed. Dreyer	3	11	12
John Dreyer	St. Martin's	Ed. Dreyer	2	11	12
John Dreyer	St. Martin's	Ed. Dreyer	2	12	17

Mr. Ann Knight	Ann Knight	for Riffordham	2	13	4
3	0	Maidenhead	8	17	1
2	0	for Chideock	1	3	5
2	0	for Dreyer	1	13	4
2	0	for Dreyer	8	11	4
2	0	for Dreyer	0	9	4
2	0	for Dreyer	15	0	0
2	0	for Dreyer	10	0	0
2	0	for Dreyer	1	12	0

1790 Mrs Ann Knight for Chideock

Ann Knight	Chideock	Ann Knight and Dreyer	1	0	0
0	0	Ann Knight	4	0	0
0	0	Ann Knight	1	2	0
0	0	Ann Knight	2	6	0

1812 Dr. Robert Graves for Charmouth

Dr. Graves	Chideock	Land	2	8	2
0	0	Land	1	2	5
0	0	Land	1	1	14
0	0	Land	7	11	8

1832 Dr. Robert Graves for Charmouth

Time line for Mill and lands originally owned by William Pole when he bought the Manor from Sir John Petre. It then was bought by Robert Knight about 1770 and was passed on to his son in law, Robert Graves on his death in 1790.

1754 Poor Rates The Honorable Sir John Pole £2-10-0

- 1775 Robert Knight married Ann Knight in 1775 in Chideock.
- 1776 Ann born to Ann and Robert Knight in Chideock
- 1778 Robert born to Ann and Robert Knight in Chideock
- 1780 Highways Tax Mr. Knight (Late Sir John Pole Lands) – £0-17-0d
- 1780 Poor Rates Mr. Knight (Late Sir John Pole Lands) – £0-2-10d
- 1780 Poor Rates Mr. Robert Knight for Charmouth Meads or occupier – £0-1-2d
- 1780 Land Tax Mr. Knight – £4-7-10d
- 1780 Land Tax Mr. Knight for Charmouth Meads – £2-0-5d
- 1780 Yearly Rents Robert Knight - £20 & £40
- 1781 Robert Knight & Mr Bulmer - Mill tenement - £4 -7-10d Charmouth Meads - £2-0-5
- 1782 Robert Knight still owns Mill, but Mr. William Gray now owner of Charmouth Meads.
- 1784 it is Rose Drewe who now owns Meads and rents to William Grey.
- 1789 Robert Knight paying £6.12-0 Land Tax and Thomas Rose Drewe £2-12-0 on Meads which he is renting to Farmer.
- 1790 Robert Knight buried at Bridport
- 1790 Late Knight renting to Samuel Legg.
- 1793 Ann Knight renting
- 1798 Ann Knight dies
- 1799 Ann knight marries Robert Graves
- 1800 Dr. Graves for Mill Lands.
- 1803 Dr. Graves for Mill Lands & Coombes for Meads rented to Wakely,

Sir John Pole 1783 Map of Charmouth Record Book;

- 135. Mill, House & garden (£5-0-0d) 1r 10p
- 136. Home Close (£1-2-10d) 3r 2p
- 137. Mill Hams (£3-3-3d) 1a 3r 32p
- 138. Mill Meadow (£5-13-11d) 3a 2r 13p
- 139. Westley's Close (£4-9-6d) 3a 2r 13p
- 140. Charmouth Meadow (£6-10-5d) 4a 1r 16p
- 141. Middle Meadow (£5-1-7d) 3a 1r 22p
- 142. Moor (£6-3-0d) 4a 16p
- 143. Higher Marsh (£5-6-3d) 3a 2r 7p
- 144. Lower Marsh (£12-5-0d) 8a 29p
- 145. A Common (£1-15-7d) 1a 30p
- 146. Langmoor Wood (7s-10d) 3r 30p

Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812 for Robert Graves

Married in this third day of March in the Year One Thousand eight Hundred and Sixty Nine By me Richard Jephson

This Marriage was solemnized between Us Robert Graves and Maria Bishop Knight

in the Presence of James H. Turner

ford.—Bradenham House, Wycombe.

GRAVES, ROBERT, Esq., of Charlton, Wilts. Eldest son of the late Robert Graves, Esq., M.D., of Delapré, Bridport, by Maria Bishop, only surviving child of the late Robert Knight, Esq., of Chideock, Dorset; b. 1800; s. 1849; m. 1st 1837 Mary, only dau. of the late Thomas Knyfton, Esq., of Wells, Somerset (she d. 1859); 2nd 1864 Emily Josephine, eldest dau. of the Rev. William H. Turner, Vicar of Banwell, Somerset, and has by the former, with other issue, * Albert Reginald, b. 1840. Mr. Graves, who was educated at Tiverton and Trinity Coll. Cambridge (B.A. 1821, M.A. 1824), and called to the Bar at the Inner Temple 1828, is a J.P. and D.L. for Wilts, and a Magistrate for Dorset.—*Charlton House, Ludwell, Salisbury.*

I Robert Knight Robert Knight 18

I, Robert Knight of Dorset Shire, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original of the will of the late Robert Knight, Esq., of Chideock, Dorset, who died on the 10th day of March 1809, and that the same is now deposited in my possession and control, and that I am ready to produce the same to all persons who may desire to see the same, and that I am ready to execute the same in all respects as the law requires.

This is the last Will and Testament Robert Graves 16

I, Robert Graves of the Parish of Bridport in the County of Dorset, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original of the last will and testament of the late Robert Graves, Esq., of Chideock, Dorset, who died on the 10th day of March 1809, and that the same is now deposited in my possession and control, and that I am ready to produce the same to all persons who may desire to see the same, and that I am ready to execute the same in all respects as the law requires.

DORSET

Lyne Regis 3 miles Bridport 7 miles Axminster 8 miles

PARTICULARS, PLAN AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

of

THE VALUABLE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

The Catherston Manor

Estate.

LOT 4

Coloured Blue on Plan

Area 274.810 acres

**A PRODUCTIVE T.T. AND ATTESTED DAIRY AND STOCK REARING
FARM**

known as

**CATHERSTON MANOR FARM
CHARMOUTH**



The farmhouse and buildings are in a convenient situation and lie just to the west of Charmouth Bridge, on the Bridport-Lyme Regis (A.35) Road.

THE FARMHOUSE

Constructed of brick and stone, rendered, and with an asbestos slate roof. It has been divided into two separate accommodation units by the tenant and contains:

FRONT PORTION—

GROUND FLOOR:

HALL.

SITTING ROOM, 14ft 4in x 13ft 7in with tiled fireplace.

DINING ROOM, 15ft 4in x 14ft 3in with modern tiled fireplace (T).

KITCHEN with sink (h. and c.) and Cellar under.

FIRST FLOOR:

BEDROOM 1, 15ft 6in x 12ft.

BEDROOM 2 (a single room).

BACK PORTION—**GROUND FLOOR:**

LOUNGE. 20ft 10in x 14ft 10in with modern tiled fireplace.

LIVING ROOM having sink (h. and c.) and Ideal Range (which provides Domestic Hot Water for both parts of the house).

LARDER.

BATHROOM with bath (T). W.C. Back Lobby.

FIRST FLOOR:

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS and a heated Linen Cupboard.

SERVICES. Main Water. Main Electricity. Village Drainage.

Also Estate Water (See Special Conditions of Sale No. 16)

THE FARM COTTAGES.

MILL COTTAGES—A pair of semi-detached stone, part rendered, and slated cottages adjoining the farmhouse.

No. 1, MILL COTTAGE—Containing a Living Room, Sitting Room, Scullery, Larder and W.C. On the First Floor are three Bedrooms.

No. 2, MILL COTTAGE—Containing similar accommodation to Cottage No. 1 plus a Bathroom and a Rayburn in the Living Room.

No. 2, CATHERSTON COTTAGE—Constructed of stone, rendered, and slated, it contains: Hall, Sitting Room, Living Room with single oven range, Scullery with sink, W.C. Over are Two Double Bedrooms and Two Box Rooms. Outside is an OUTHOUSE and garden.

SERVICES. Main Water and Main Electricity (T) are connected to all cottages.

THE FARM BUILDINGS

Convenient to the house and built of brick and tiled they include: Dairy, Cow Stalls to tie twenty and sixteen, Cake Store with loft over; Two Feed Stores; Piggery; Three Loose Boxes; former Three-Stall Stable and Loose Box; three-bay timber and galvanised iron Hay Barn; two timber Store Sheds (T): Straw Yard and four-bay galvanised iron roofed Implement Shed.

There is a Dutch Barn in one field. Estate Water is connected to the yard.

THE LAND. Is well situated, mostly on a South slope, much of it having easy access to hard roads. It should be noted that some 400 yards of foreshore is contiguous with and belongs to this lot.

SCHEDULE — LOT 4

<i>O.S. No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Area</i>
Parish of Whitchurch Canonicorum		
843	Pasture	16.187
844	"	12.506
845	"	3.918
846	"	4.972
889	"	3.420
890	"	4.121
891	"	2.637
883	"	4.013
885	"	2.514
886	"	3.197
Pt. 904	"	4.700 est.
894	"	7.304
895	"	4.859

SCHEDULE — LOT 4 (continued)

<i>O.S. No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Area</i>
Parish of Catherston Leweston		
8	Rough Pasture	.653
9	Pasture	15.313
Pt. 12	"	8.428 est.
13	"	4.361
Pt. 14	"	5.196 est.
34	"	9.523
35	"	5.349
37	"	8.832
41	"	6.665
43	"	5.742
45	"	7.851
46	"	5.655
47	"	14.928
48	"	12.496
Pt. 49	"	7.300 est.
Pt. 52	No. 2, Cutherston Cottages	.110 est.
Parish of Charmouth		
Pt. 100	Pasture	1.245 est.
100a	"	.349
Pt. 101	"	1.676 est.
Pt. 23	Farmhouse, Buildings & Mill Cottages	1.800 est.
		251.528
WOODLANDS IN HAND		
Parish of Whitchurch Canonicorum		
844a	Woodland	.524
888	"	.656
Parish of Catherston Leweston		
7	Woodland	.480
10	"	9.252
11	"	.930
12a	"	3.752
14a	"	1.464
36	"	.377
42a	"	2.118
43a	"	2.663
44	"	1.066
		23.282
		274.810

TIMBER VALUATION £573.

OUTGOINGS. Rateable Values: Manor Farmhouse £26.
 1, Mill Cottage £7.
 2, Mill Cottage £11.
 2, Catherston Cottages £6.
 Tithe Redemption Annuity £47 8 3.
 Land Tax 10/- per annum.

TENANCY. Let to Mr. R. Loosemore on a yearly Lady Day tenancy at an apportioned rent of £700 per annum.

LOT 5

Coloured Pink on Plan

Area 7.520 acres.

A VALUABLE PASTURE FIELD

being

POTENTIAL BUILDING LAND

situate on the edge of the village by Charmouth Bridge.

Main Electricity and Water adjacent. Main Drainage scheduled to pass across the field

Pt. O.S. 101. Area 7.520 acres est.



