

‘Yes, the Nevill Estate does have a History!’

*Even though the Nevill Estate did
not exist in 1911.*

***Ann Holmes & Sarah Hitchings
(including the Nevill memories of
Brian Beck)***

***Lewes History Group 12/11/2012
leweshistory.org.uk***

Description of intended site (From Sussex Express Friday September 3 1920)

Site...is generally acclaimed as an excellent one

- Commands view from its highest point of Newhaven, Firle Beacon, Mount Caburn and the Weald
- The contour is such that roads can be made with simple and easy gradients
- It will be possible to connect up with a high level sewer....none of the sewage will require pumping
- Water and gas mains and the electric light cable are easily accessible
- The station is only about a mile and a quarter distant
- Three elementary schools in the neighbourhood
- Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches nearby
- Main bus route between Lewes and Brighton passes the end of Nevill road

“Altogether, therefore, it is felt that no serious disadvantage attaches to the site as regards its position”

1890 Housing of the Working Classes Act

Strengthened the Artisans' Dwellings Act of 1875 which gave powers to local councils to clear slums within their boundaries and to re-house at least half the people displaced by slum clearance. This was the start of councils providing people with houses for rent although few were built before WW1.

1919 Addison Housing and Town Planning Act

Made housing a national responsibility. Local authorities were promised government subsidies to help finance new housing (Homes Fit for Heroes) and rented accommodation where it was needed by working people. As the economy rapidly weakened in the early 1920s, however, funding was cut, and only 213,000 homes were completed under the Act's provisions.

1923 Chamberlain Housing Act

Reduced the housing subsidy to local authorities. Provided subsidies for private companies building affordable housing.. Introduced the Rent Restriction Act, which limited evictions and required rents to be linked to the property's state of repair.

1924 Wheatley Financial Provisions Housing Act

MacDonald dubbed 'our most important legislative item'. Provided public housing to council tenants, as against the previous government's commitment to privatisation. This landmark Act subsidised the construction of 521,700 rented homes at controlled rents by 1933, when the subsidy for encouraging local authority housing construction was abolished

Somerset
House. 14. D.
R. 827
11 Oct 1920.

Inland
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14.10.20.

P.D.S.

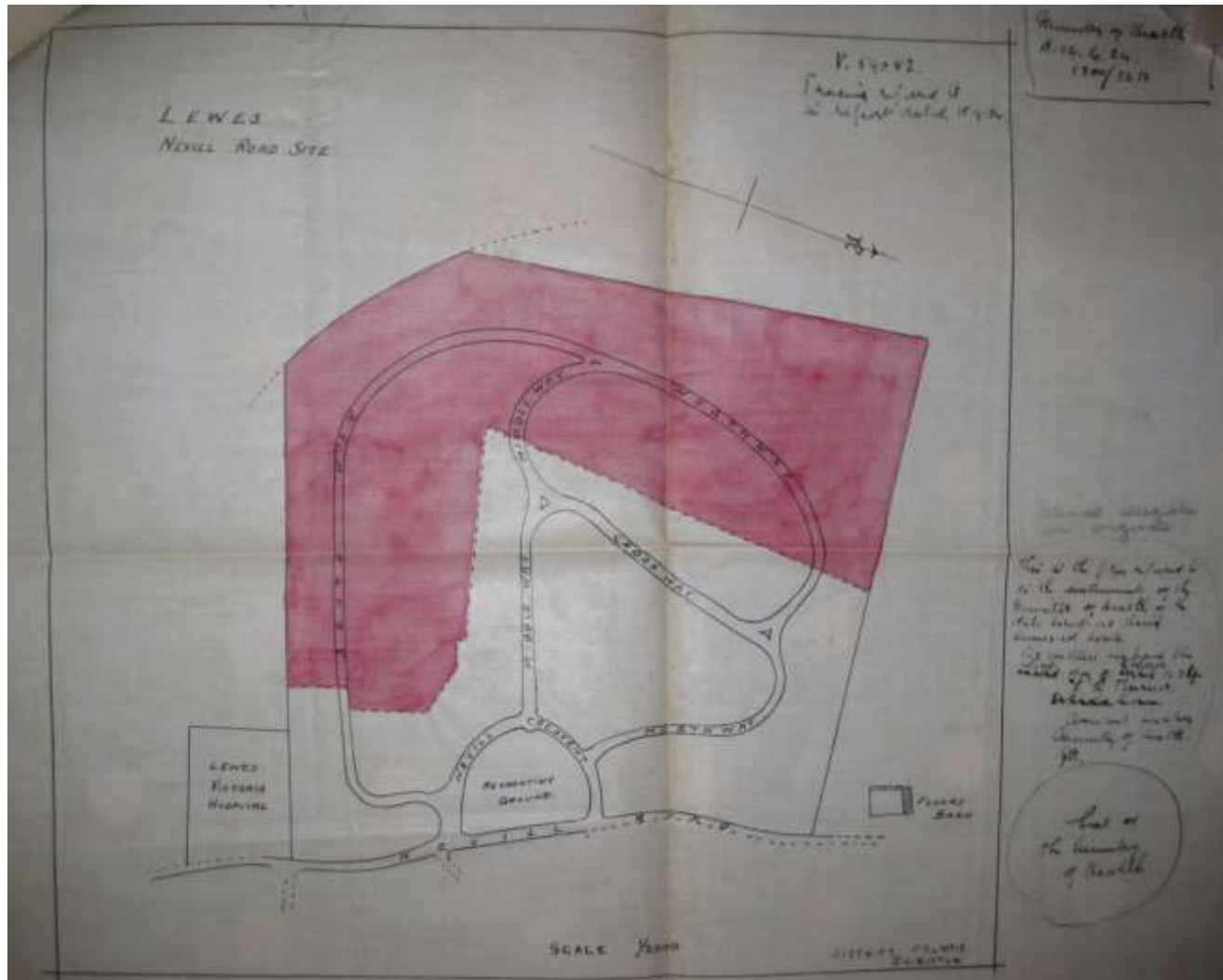
Ad Valorem
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8.11.20.

Produced to the
Commissioners
of Inland Rev-
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the provisions
of sec.12 of
the Act 58 Vict
ch.16 24 Nov
1920

THIS INDENTURE made the Fifth day of November one Thousand nine hundred and twenty BETWEEN the Most Honourable Reginald William Bransby Marquess of Abergavenny a person of unsound mind as found by Inquisition (hereinafter called the "vendor") acting by The Honourable Henry Gilbert Ralph Nevill of Eridge Castle in the County of Sussex commonly called "Lord Henry Nevill" (hereinafter called "the Committee") pursuant to the hereinafter recited Order of the twentysixth day of July One Thousand nine hundred and twenty of the first part The Honourable Richard plantagenet Nevill of Eridge Castle in the County of Sussex C.V.O.C.M.G., commonly called "Lord Richard Nevill" and The Most Honourable John Charles (Fourth) Marquis Camden (hereinafter called "the Trustees") of the second part and The Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Lewes in the County of Sussex acting by the Council being the Urban District Council of the Urban District of Lewes and being the Local Authority for the said District within the meaning of the Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890 (hereinafter called "the Local Authority") of the third part WHEREAS under an Act of Parliament passed in the second and third years of the reign

1938 copy of the agreement made in 1920 between the Abergavenny Estate and the Borough of Lewes. The Borough bought 39 acres of land on 5th November 1920 for £1,700 (Between £46 8s 10d and £81 an acre – compares with £1000 acre in Paddock area) for the purposes of Part III of the Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890."

On the 1st October 1924 the Ministry of Health consented to the sale of about 21 ¾ acres of this land (pink area) “for the purposes of Part III of the Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890.” Council houses were built in both sections.



THE SITUATION.

ORBETT FISHER AT UCKFIELD.

TO THE WORLD FROM DISASTER.

Goldsmith presided at a meeting the auspices of the local Labour the small Foresters' Hall, Uckfield, Wednesday evening. He was supported by Mr. J. Bushy Gadsden, and Mrs. Corbett Fisher (Dance, sister of the former M.P. for East

Orbett Fisher's subject was "The and was dealt with by her in an and lucid manner. The speaker but the last time she was on a Uckfield was during the election see these much had happened, also see especially to the days of the y had had to reconsider their th. Their sentiments as a nation burned up by the war, and they reconsider this question from a at of view. Her decision was to about Party and to help other o so. They had the world before illised world, and the more back-coming up behind. At the present could divide the civilised world out camps, the struggle between and labour. They might deplore it, it unnecessary and disastrous, be admitted it was there. The rided these forces, until they were camps. If they could help the in the right direction they would world from future disaster and They had heavy responsibilities houlders, but she thought they out on the strong and progressive

OM AND BROTHERHOOD.

ation were the most advanced he world. The struggle between labour was becoming more bitter y. The speaker emphasised the co-operative movement. Instead the breach and incurring blood, they should compromise by link-ether against national adversity. cessary for their own personal s on the labour side in that strug. also the right course to take for of the world. They had never rm of Labour Government in this their Government had been re- and not progressive. It was to interest to keep the nations of th-episodes, for the benefit of their. She urged those who were not f the Labour Party to take their own as possible, and so further of freedom and brotherhood and stood for

ENEVOLENT SOVIET.

with the question of Soviet it, the speaker said she was firmly that the attitude of the Soviet, and was friendly, and that our st and the French Government,

DIRECT LABOUR.

LEWES HOUSING SCHEME.

MAYOR TURNS THE FIRST SOD.

A start was made with the Lewes Housing Scheme on Monday, when the Mayor (Alderman A. E. Rugg) turned the first sod on the Nevill-road site on the spot pegged out for the first two dwellings.

The ceremony was quite an informal one, so much so that the spade with which the operation was performed had to be borrowed! The occasion was a meeting on the site of the Housing Committee, and besides his Worship there were present: Alderman J. H. Every, J.P. (Chairman of the Housing Committee), Councillors J. C. H. Martin, H. Tiller, and E. F. Young, with the Town Clerk (Mr. H. T. Baxter), the Chief Clerk (Mr. W. A. Tolland), Mr. E. H. Fuller (the architect), and Mr. H. Milham (the builder). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. G. Roberts), attended by invitation. Councillors C. Patrick and the Borough Surveyor (Mr. D. Roberts) were absent on holiday.

THE SITE.

The site, which extends to 30 acres, is generally acclaimed as an excellent one, and has been secured on advantageous terms. The purchase price, including the redemption of title and legal expenses, is £2,312. The negotiations for its acquisition from the Marquis of Abergrenny have been protracted as a result of having had to be conducted through trustees, and it is largely owing to the energies of the Town Clerk and Mr. Pollard that they have been brought to a successful issue. In fact, even now matters in several particulars have been somewhat anticipated to allow a start to be made. The land, which is undulating, adjoins the Victoria Hospital. It lies on an average 200 feet above ordnance datum, and commands views from its highest points of Newhaven, Firle Beacon, Mount Caburn and the Weald. The aspect is due east, and the contour is such that roads can be made with simple and easy gradients. It will be possible to connect up with the high level sewer, and as a consequence none of the sewage will require pumping. Water and gas mains and the electric light cable are easily accessible. The Government subsidy, so far as the Council is concerned, only applies to 16½ acres, which are situated more in the valley. The remaining 14½ acres are unsubsidised. The view of the inspector who paid a visit in November was that this portion would not get its proper share of sunshine, and he accordingly ruled it out from the grant. On Monday it was positively bathed in sunshine, and the fact did not pass without comment. To get it at the price at which the transaction was carried through it was necessary to buy the large area, and this was done.

The site is on the outskirts of the town and some criticism has been directed against it on this score. As against this argument, however, it is pointed out that the station is only about a mile and a quarter distant, that there are three elementary schools in the neighbourhood, and Anglican and Roman Catholic churches near by. Further, the main bus route between Lewes and Brighton passes the end of Nevill-road, about 200

NONCONFORMIST D

DEATH OF DR. ADEY LEWES.

Nonconformity lost one of its the death on Wednesday, at his "The Croft," Southover, Lewes, year, of the Rev. Walter Freder D.D.

A son of the Manor, late prin Lancashire Independent College, and Chairman of the Congregat in 1912, Dr. Adey came to li about three years ago. His b quently failed him, but, altho sufferer, he had borne himself fortitude and cheerfulness. Up cently he had been able to atten respondence, and his weekly co the "Sunday School Times," he within a few months of his deat

Dr. Adey occasionally prea Lewes Congregational Church, given a series of Bible studies i Y.M.C.A. He was the son of J. G. J. Adey, of Reigate, was bo and was educated at New Coll After working as a Congregatio at Acton for 17 years, he bec of New Testament Exegesis and tory at New College, London, i at Hackney College. Fourteen y was made principal of the Lan pendant College and Lecturer in of Doctrine at the University of He was a D.D. of St. Andrew lished many works on the hi Church and various theologic among them being "The The New Testament," which has lated into Japanese. He was author of "The Bible Story" as lical Introduction," and editor tury Bible.

After Dr. Adey retired from as principal of the Lancashire College in 1913 he went for a to world, accompanied by his wif count of their travels was sube lished in book form. For a sh fore coming to Lewes he lived Hatch, Tunbridge Wells.

A widow and a family of f three daughters are bereaved.

The funeral takes place at Cemetery to-morrow (Saturday at 2.30. It is expected that the be taken by Dr. B. F. Horto stead, a personal friend of the f ohnruh they used to attend.

Principal W. H. Bennett, of shire Independent College, di quite recently at the Colleg obituary notice immediately p of Dr. Adey in yesterday's

LEWES FOOTB PROSPECTS.

TOWN TEAM'S FIXT

The Lewes Football Club fixt

Sussex Express September 3 1920

Alderman Rugg, Mayor of Lewes, presides over the opening ceremony for the Nevill building project.

RED LABOUR MEETING AT LEWES. BA

EAN

NOT EXTREMISTS.

FA

Presiding at a meeting in the Co-operative Hall, Lewes, on Monday evening, when an exposition of the new Rent Act was given.

Mr. S. E. Plummer, one of the prospective Labour candidates for the municipal elections in November, said tenants had not really the means "of getting correct information from the Town Council as to how much their rents could be increased, whereas landlords are assisted in every possible way."

He wanted to point out to the Lewes town-people how much it would be to their advantage to vote for Labour at the approaching elections, instead of, as they always had done, for the capitalist class, who held sway in the Town Council. Unfortunately both of their present representatives, Councillor H. Tiller and Councillor J. Hills retired in November, but both were standing again, and he hoped they would send them back again with a bumping majority. As was well-known, both had been made J.P.'s during the last 12 months, and he would like to bear witness to the good work done by Councillor Tiller, especially with regard to the Housing scheme.

The Housing scheme, so far as Lewes was concerned, originated with the Trades and Labour Council. The Town Council thought it was not necessary, but the Trades and Labour Council were of a different opinion, and went further into the matter. Eventually the Town Council was forced to adopt a housing scheme for Lewes, which, owing to the endeavours of Councillor Tiller, had been pushed forward to a great extent, and was now, he was happy to say, in the course of operation.

The benefits that would accrue to working men and women by voting Labour were simply enormous. The men on the Town

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Sussex Express
October 1 1920

The prospective Labour candidate, S.E.Plummer, claims Trades and Labour Council had to press Town Council to agree to new Housing Project

ALS.

"TRAVESTY OF THE TRUTH."

:0:

ALDERMAN EVERY ON LABOUR IMPUTATIONS.

LEWES HOUSING SCHEME AND ITS HISTORY.

At the meeting of the Town Council on Wednesday evening, Alderman J. H. Every, J.P. (Chairman of the Housing Committee), repudiated the statements, which he described as "an entire travesty of the truth," made at a Labour meeting the previous week, and reported in the "Sussex Express."

NOT A MINUTE LOST.

He said he had two newspaper reports (which practically agreed) of the meeting at which the action of the Town Council with regard to housing matters had been somewhat criticised. In one paper, "The Sussex Express," it was stated that the housing scheme, so far as Lewes was concerned, originated with the Trades and Labour Council. The Town Council thought it was not necessary, but the Trades and Labour Council were of a different opinion, and went further into the matter. Eventually the Town Council were forced to adopt a housing scheme for Lewes which—owing to Councillor Tiller—and so on and so on. Alderman Every said he had dates before him which absolutely disproved the remarks he had quoted, and with all the assurance he had, he said, to suggest that the Town Council were in any way backward in coming forward, as Andy Andy put it, was an entire travesty of the truth.

Alderman Every traced the progress of events in detail, and said that from the time when the housing question began to get acute the Council did not lose one single minute in setting to work and getting matters under way. He would like to point out that Councillor Tiller had sat on the Housing Committee ever since he had been on the Council, and he had raised no protest whatever as

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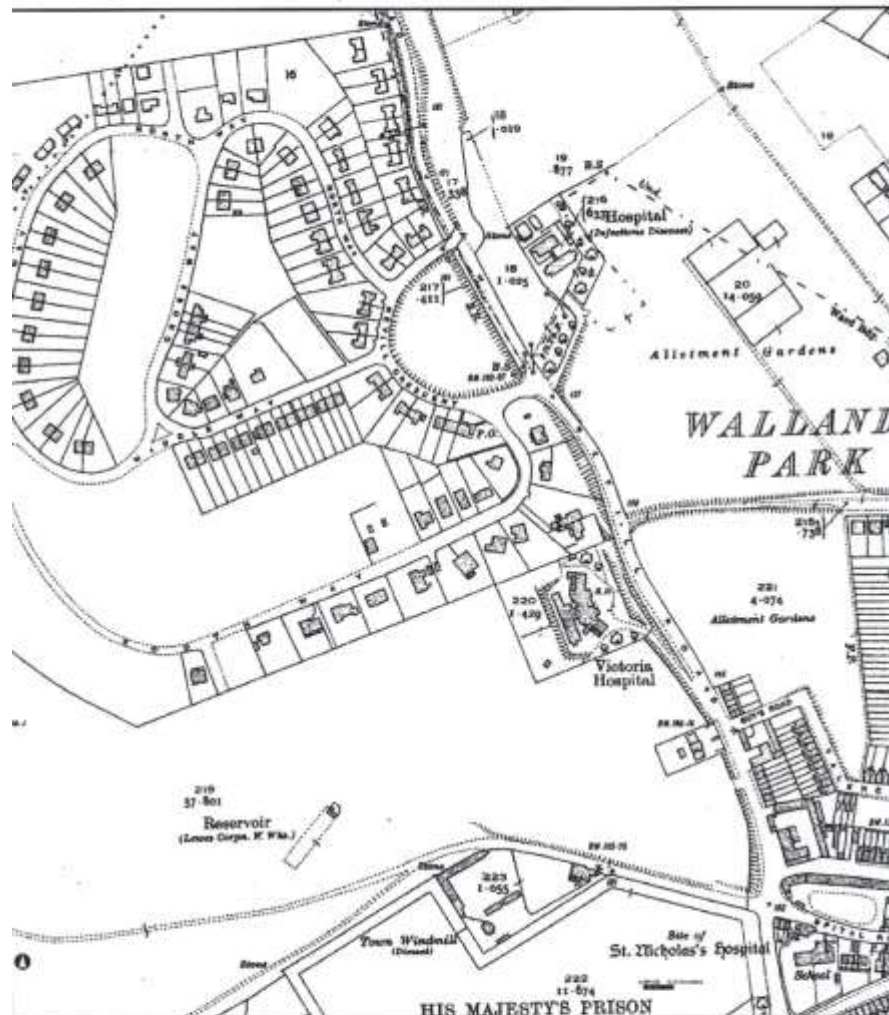
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Sussex Express 8 October 1920

Alderman Every says the Housing Committee "did not lose one single minute in setting to work" on the new Housing Estate and that there had been complete agreement on the committee.

Ordnance Survey Mapping (supplied under fair dealing)



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By 1930 a large part of the estate had already been built

Nevill Crescent from 1922
North Way from 1922
South Way from 1924
Nevill Road from 1922
Middle Way from 1927
Cross Way from 1927

1930



Development on the downs. The first houses on the Neville estate – North Way in 1930. To which has since been added South Way, Cross Way, East Way and a whole lot more. The road to the racecourse stands out. Nowadays trees and bushes largely obscure the line of the road. The remaining sheep grazing land, known as Landport Bottom, was ploughed during the Second World War but has now been restored to chalk pasture by Lewes District Council which acquired the land.

James Cheetham photograph from Lost Lewes by Kim Clark

- ([The National Archives | Access to Archives](#)
- www.nationalarchives.gov.uk › ... › [Access to Archives](#)
- Land (30a) and ***Floods Barn*** (part of Landport Farm), ***Lewes***, sold to John Christie on 16 Aug 1933 for the Nevill Housing Estate ABE/47D 1931 - 1937 ...)

Nevill Downs Estate – mid 1930s

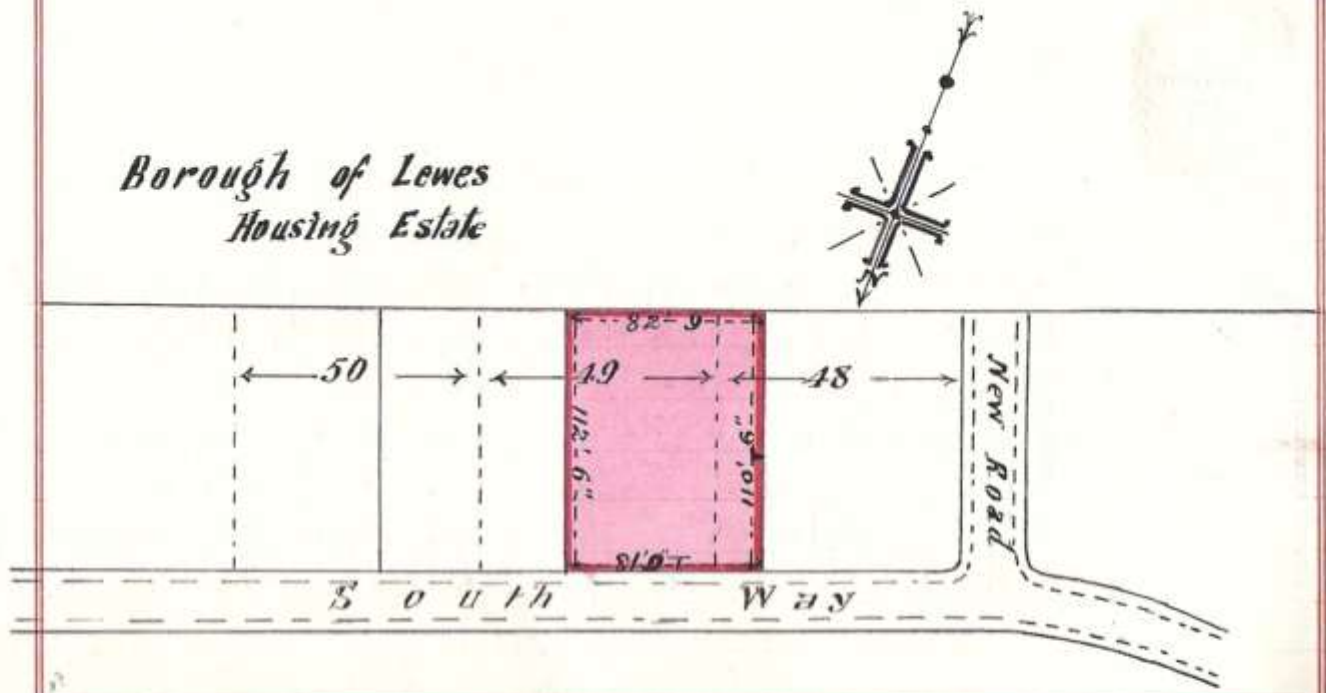


RESIDENTS OF SOUTH WAY 1924 - 1934

from Pike's Directory for Lewes, Seaford & Newhaven

Nos. from 1934	House name Named from 1924 to 1934 or as dated	Resident name 1924-5	1927-8	1929-30	1931-32	1932-34	1934-36	1936-38	1938-40
LEFT SIDE									
2	<i>The Gables</i>					Firmin AH	Webster Misses	"	"
4	<i>Rand Cottage</i>	Chandler H J	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
4a	<i>Downland</i>			Carter A	"	"	"	"	?
6	<i>Downsville</i>		Savage Alfred			"	"	"	"
8	<i>Penrith</i>	Gilbertson Mrs A E	"	"	"	"	"	"	No resident
10	<i>Holmbush</i>	Pannett Charles	Pannett C & Son	"	"	No resident	Potter Frank	"	Huck major John OBE MA
12	<i>Laverock</i>		Simpson W E	"	"	dla25/DL/A/25/1099	"	"	"
14	<i>Four Winds</i>			No resident	Skinner Miss E	"	"	"	"
16	<i>The Haven</i>			Sweatman, Albert E	"	"	"	"	"
18	<i>Bellerby Lodge</i>			Gilbert Frank	"	"	"	"	"
20	<i>Rathbarry</i>				Atkin Miss M V W	"	Holdoway Henry R	"	Kitching Laurence Charles
22	<i>Ecila/Elila 1932</i>					Butchers	" (Reginald)	"	"
24	<i>Ramleh 1936</i>					???	Letts F C	" (Fredk Cuthbert)	"
26	<i>Evelyn 1936</i>					Collett E A	Collett E A	"	Auld D M MA
28	<i>Aorangi</i>					Johnston W R S	"	"	"
30	<i>Lamorna 1938</i>						Easton W H	"	Euston Wm Hutton
32	<i>Four Corners 1938</i>						Pickard Mrs E	Bardsley Thomas Reginald	"

Sale of land to first owner of 20 South Way:
Miss Mary Victoria Worthington Atkin



the land to vest in him by virtue of Section 6 (d) of Part 2 of the Trust Schedule to the said Act. And whereas the Local Authority have agreed with the Purchaser for the sale to her of the piece of land hereinafter described and intended to be hereby conveyed for an estate in fee simple absolute in possession free from incumbrances subject however to the matters, covenants, restrictions and stipulations hereinafter referred to at the price of One hundred and twenty five Pounds. Now This Deed witnesses that in pursuance of the said agreement...

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

- [East Sussex Record Office](#)
- [Lewes Borough Council: building control plans](#)

Reference	dla25/DL/A/25
Former reference	DL/A 25
Covering dates	1882-1948
Held by	<u>East Sussex Record Office</u>
Extent	About 2400 files

- 20 South Way, Lewes for Miss M A Worthington Atkin by Messrs Wratten and Godfrey, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London, architects **dla25/DL/A/25/774** *6 Jun 1928*
- Garage, 20 South Way, Lewes for Miss M A W[orthington] Atkin **dla25/DL/A/25/775** *6 Jun 1928*

Roads and Bridges Committee a free hand to act in the matter. That was six months ago. This week the Roads and Bridges Committee asked the Council to rescind their resolution and take back the powers they gave to the committee. This was done, so there is order once more, and the committee chairman said: "When we have our plans ready they will come up in the ordinary way."

. . .

The County Council received a letter from the Lewes Borough Council expressing "considerable apprehension" at the proposal to build cottages for the prison staff in the area between the prison wall and the Brighton-road. Alderman Innes said the cottages would affect very much the appearance of this entrance to the town, and the proposal went clean through the town planning scheme. He appealed to the County Council to do what they could, and the matter was referred to the chairman of the Council, the chairman of the Roads and Bridges Committee and the chairman of the Town Planning Committee with power to act.

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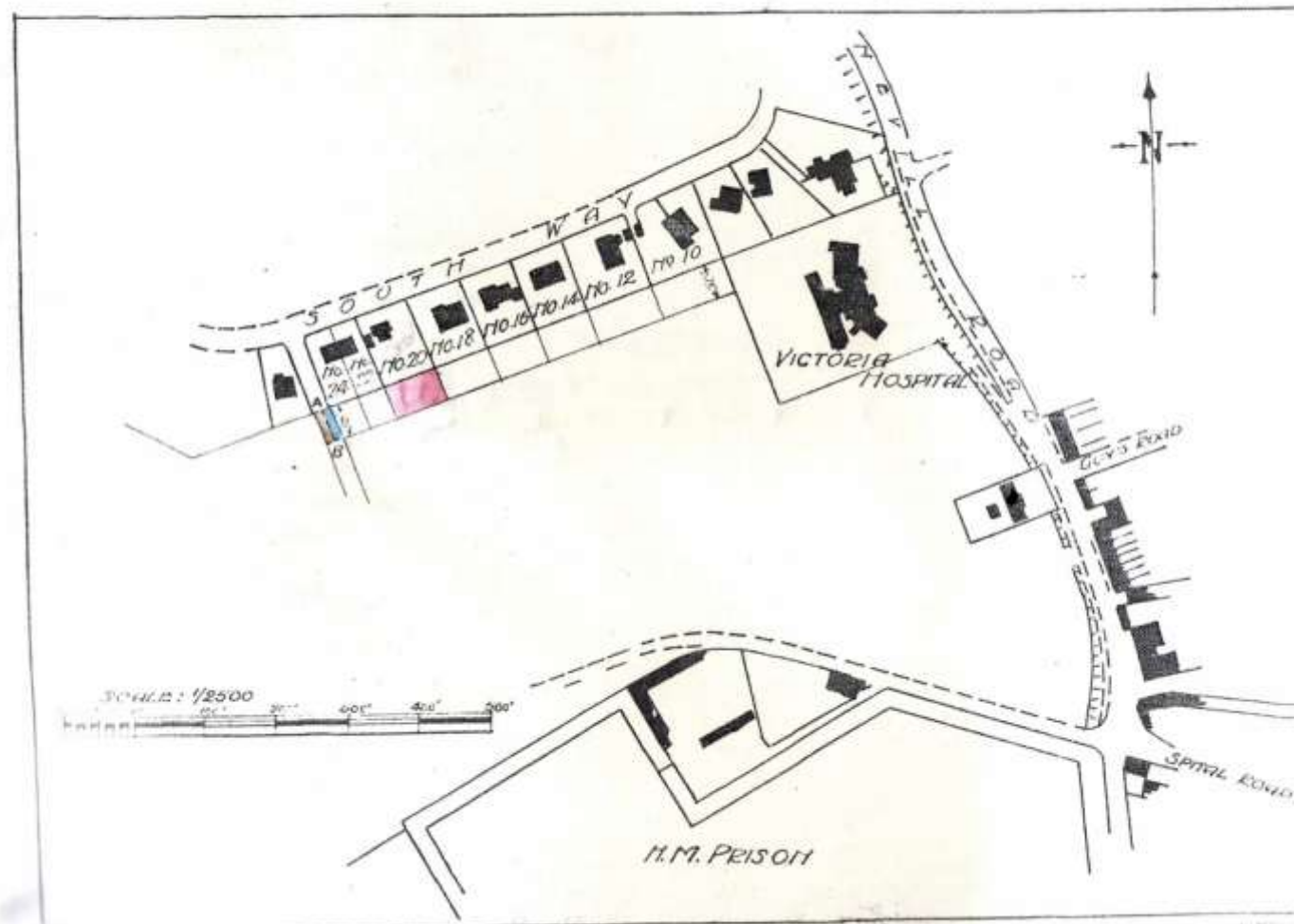
Councillor E. T. Hall has started his year as Mayor of the town under a happy augury. In a week of rain and dull, cloudy weather, the sun shone when he was being elected on Saturday morning. It peeped out from behind the clouds to shine on the mayoral procession on its way to church on Sunday morning, and the umbrella that the Mayor carefully

Sussex Express

15th Nov 1935

Where should
prison houses be
built?

Extra land was sold to South Way residents (angered by the proposed construction of houses blocking their view) 18th May 1939 on condition they maintained a short stretch of Hawkenbury Way. Later a large communal concrete air-raid shelter was built on the pink area of land acquired by number 20.



Wieding Co.
Odenheim/Brachsal
Germany (Baden)

P.O.W.

9 Feb 1947

2012/05/07 11:22

Hawkenbury Way before 1983 when houses were being built on the southern side of the road.





Brian Beck in
front of number 7
North Way

RIGHT SIDE NORTH WAY	House name Named from 1929 to 1930 or as dated	Resident name 1922-3	1924-5	1927-8	1929-30	1931-32	1932-34	1934-36	1936-38	1938-40
1 (5 in 1922)		Arnold E	Clark George William A	"	"	Jackson Stanley C	"	Lawler Thomas Joseph	"	"
3 (6 in 1922)		Ryder J Howarth professor of music	Butchers G	Butcher Charles	"	Sinnock Sydney J	"	"	"	"
5	Launceston				Booth W J	"	"	"	" - William James	"
7	Dilston				Beck W J (check)	Beck T G	"	"	"	"
9	Hillside				Wingfield Ernest	"	"	"	"	"
11	Beaulieu(not 1931))				Wallace William	Beck Mrs A	"	"	"	Micklin J
13	Elsenham '38						Wright A	"	Rowsell RTG	No resident
15	Netherleigh '38						Coleman The Misses	"	"	"
17								Seargill Leonard	"	"
19								Williams Frederick Charles	"	Finn Norman Ray
21								Whisker Alfred C	Mansfield Albert Job	Mawford Albert Job " ?
23								Field Hubert George	"	"
25	Slopefield (Plot 13 –Borough Minutes)			dla25/DL/ A/25/742 for Mrs Emma Avery	No resident	Avery Ernest	"	"	"	"
27 Archive record	St Valery (from 1927)			Duval	Duval William	No resident	Crotty Mrs C E	"dla25/DL/A /25/1290	"	"
29	Gorselands1931			dla25/DLA /25/757 TE Rawles builder?		Odom W E	"	"	"	"

Nevill Local History Group

Do you have stories to tell?

Do you have pictures and documents to share?

Would you like to explore the history of your street?

If so please contact us:

<http://leweshistory.org.uk/projects/the-lewes-street-stories-initiative/the-nevill-estate/>