

## MILL ROAD STREET STORY



Chris Taylor, April 2020

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## Introduction

Mill Road (at different times known as Malling Hill and Old Ringmer Road) leads uphill eastward for few hundred metres from the A26 towards the combined footpath and cycle track to Ringmer and the Sussex Wildlife Trust nature reserve. The oldest complete structure in Mill Road is Mill House, built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Nearby stands the roundhouse which once formed the base of Malling Mill, an imposing windmill that stood on the site for at least 300 years. The terrace beyond the mill on the right-hand side of the road was built in the first years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The mixture of semi-detached and detached houses and bungalows on the left-hand side developed in the 1920s and 1930s and, towards the top of the hill, in the 1970s and 1990s. The block of flats at the bottom of the road on the right-hand side was constructed in the late 1950s.



*Mill Road, 2019*

### Early history: archaeological finds

Excavations in the Malling Hill area have proved it fairly rich in archaeology. In 1830, during the roadworks that altered the course of the main turnpike route between Lewes and Uckfield, a large, high-status Saxon cemetery containing about 20 skeletons was found opposite the first mile-post from Lewes at Earwig Corner. Among the objects found were swords, spearheads, knives, shield-bosses, iron buckles, two small earthen vessels and a rare bracelet of green glass, either Roman or early Saxon, now exhibited in the British Museum.<sup>1</sup>

An excavation in 1973 uncovered another Saxon burial pit containing the well-preserved remains of 13 young men lying irregularly over one other, face down and in a position that suggested that their hands had been tied behind their backs. Some of them had received fatal blows to the head. A further excavation of the same site in 2005 revealed 9 more bodies, from which only one head was recovered. The burials were apparently victims of execution. Carbon dating produced an estimate between 810 and 910 AD.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Historic Environment Report, East Sussex Record Office: MES7185

<sup>2</sup> Historic Environment Report, East Sussex Record Office: MES1762

## South Malling Manor

From Saxon times to the Reformation in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century the land on which Mill Road now stands was within the Manor of South Malling. Manors were the principal administrative unit of medieval landed estates. In 838 Egbert, King of Wessex, who had annexed Sussex and Kent after victory over the rival Saxon kingdom of Mercia in 825, granted 'land in Malling in Sussex' to the archbishop of Canterbury.

The archbishop's manor of South Malling appears in Domesday Book (1086) and comprised an enormous stretch of land from Cliffe Bridge in Lewes to the Kent border. The parishes within the manor formed a Peculiar: their priests were subject to the authority of the archbishop, not to that of the bishop of Chichester, an arrangement that lasted well into the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Until the Reformation the priests staffed a college of canons on the site of the modern Deanery.

By the 1280s archbishops on progresses from Canterbury to visit their estates in western Sussex frequently lodged at their palace at Old Malling, which stood on the site currently occupied by the police headquarters. The entire Manor of South Malling, including all the land surrounding what is now Mill Road, remained the archbishops' property until the Reformation in the 1540s, when it passed to the Crown, after which the palace buildings became redundant and fell into disrepair.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> See Colin Brent, Pre-Georgian Lewes, 2004 for a comprehensive and scholarly account of South Malling manor



## The Windmill

During the 16th and 17th Centuries a succession of freehold sales propelled much of the lands of South Malling Manor into private ownership including, by the 1620s, the Mill Field on which stood Malling Mill. I am unsure of the precise date of the transfer: my ability to decipher manorial rolls in mediaeval Latin is, sadly, unequal to the task of making that discovery.



*Malling c. 1650. From Colin Brent, Pre-Georgian Lewes, 2004*

Milling corn was undertaken in Mill Road for more than 300 years, from at least the late 16th to the early 20th Centuries. The windmill was one of a ring of mills on the Downs above Lewes. The mill, its outhouses and stables were the only buildings in Mill Road until the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century when Mill House was built.

The earliest reference that I have found to milling corn at Malling is to the miller, John Gallop, in 1596.<sup>4</sup> The first documentation of ownership dates from 1626, when John Parson, 'cutler of St Katherine's next the Tower of London', inherited the windmill, stable and barns from his brother, William<sup>5</sup>. Parson in turn gave the property to another brother, Thomas, in the same year, presumably as part of a rationalisation of the family's estate. Thomas Parson owned the windmill until 1634, when he sold it 'and the banks whereon it was standing in South Malling' for £60 to Cornelius Fox, miller of Heathfield. Seventeenth Century millers include John Bayley and John Kenner, Levy Edmonds and Fox himself. In 1645 Fox's widow was charged 1 shilling and 8 pence poor rate 'for his Mill'<sup>6</sup> and in 1649 was named by Constables as one of the millers having taken 'much more toll in these dear times than is their due'.<sup>7</sup>

A fairly rapid succession of owners and millers followed until the mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century when William Hoather bought 'a messuage (a dwelling house with outbuildings and land assigned to its use), windmill and lands in South Malling commonly called the Mill Green'.<sup>8</sup> The mill remained in the Hoathers' ownership for more than 30 years. In 1806/7

<sup>4</sup> Colin Brent, *Georgian Lewes*, 1993

<sup>5</sup> East Sussex Record Office: SAS/C 775

<sup>6</sup> East Sussex Record Office: SAS/ACC 1454

<sup>7</sup> Colin Brent, *Pre-Georgian Lewes*, 2004

<sup>8</sup> East Sussex Record Office: BMW/C/2/15/1

Thomas Packham bought the freehold in two stages from Thomas Hill and it was the Packham family who, from 1810, undertook extensive renovations. These included, by 1817, an additional, wooden, upper floor to the roundhouse, by which means the height of the mill was raised by about 6 feet. H.S.E. Simmons, an authority on Sussex windmills, describes the mill at that time as 'one of the finest in the county'.<sup>9</sup>

John Hamlin bought the mill in 1817 and it remained in his and his devisees' possession until at least 1851. David Morris was the miller from 1822.<sup>10</sup> and in 1826 he agreed with Hamlin a 14-year lease of 'All that messuage situate on the West side of Malling Hill ... and mill called Malling Mill with the garden, yards and outbuildings and erections ... and also all that piece of meadow land thereto adjoining called the Mill Field'.<sup>11</sup> The house and mill in 1844 covered an area of 1 acre, 0 rods and 1 perch.<sup>12</sup>

### Road alterations

The main road from Lewes towards Uckfield originally passed to the east of the mill, shown for example on William Figg's map of 1824 (below). The windmill is depicted in the top right-hand section of the map.



*William Figg, 1824 (extract). Sussex Archaeological Society*

The map shows the original Lewes-London turnpike (constructed from the mid-1700s, but probably an upgrade of a much older route) running uphill to the right of the windmill. Near the top of this steep hill, which ran in a cutting as it crossed the shoulder of the Downs, a left turn led down Mill Road and Church Lane to Malling. Carrying straight on, the road re-joined the present A26 route just past the current Earwig Corner allotments. Turning right, the road led towards Ringmer via what is now the track through the nature reserve, which was the old turnpike route to Heathfield and Hurst Green.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>9</sup> H.E.S. Simmons in *Sussex County Magazine* Vol XV, 1941

<sup>10</sup> Land Tax assessments

<sup>11</sup> East Sussex Record Office: HIL 7/7/3

<sup>12</sup> Tithe Apportionment, 1844

<sup>13</sup> I am indebted to John Kay for information on the course of local turnpike roads





*Malling from the Wallands c1860. Sussex Archaeological society. The flour mill at the Pells in the foreground was demolished in 1868.*

Mill Road is visible in the photograph, running west from the old Lewes-London turnpike, downhill towards Malling via Church Lane.

In 1830 the route was altered to its present course to run round (rather than over) Malling Down in order to reduce the gradient for horse-drawn vehicles. This alteration involved taking some land on the west side of the mill (from an area known as the Miller's Slip) and compensating that loss with land acquired from the Spence family of Malling



House in what was known as the Gore Field, stretching south to the new highway.<sup>14</sup> The Ringmer parish labour gang, armed with picks, shovels and wheelbarrows, were contracted to build it and it took them about three months.<sup>15</sup> The new route started where the flint wall starts on the west side of Malling Hill, where there is a short pillar with a concrete capstone and the engraved date 1830, which once read 'Road Turnpike to avoid Malling Hill'.

Malling turnpike gate (now a bungalow at Stoneham) was one of the busiest in the Sussex network. Collecting the tolls was auctioned to contractors at regular intervals. There was no charge for using the new turnpike from Cliffe to Malling Mill, but you would have to pay if you approached from the other direction.<sup>16</sup>

### **A Sussex Post Mill**

John Smith of East Street, Lewes bought the mill with its brick residence, garden and meadow in March 1852. It was at this time that it was once again substantially re-built, almost certainly by the millwright firm of Samuel Medhurst of Lewes, who were responsible for similar work at other neighbouring mill sites.

Medhurst, the son of a miller, was born at Beddingham in 1799 and set up his millwright business in Lewes in the 1820s. The premises were in St Anne's High Street, now Western Road. Medhurst was always interested in new ideas and techniques. He bought the rights to Cubitt's patent sweeps, a method that allowed the miller to adjust the shutters on the sails without having to stop the mill. His two sons joined the business, but they both pre-deceased him in the late 1870s and early 1880s. Medhurst died in 1887 and is buried in St Anne's churchyard. Another company bought the business in 1903 and, in the 1920s, the site was turned into a garage.<sup>17</sup>

Malling was a fine example of a post mill. The main structure was built entirely of wood. It comprised an upright centre post (an oak tree trunk), supported by two inter-locked triangular frames, resting horizontally on 4 brick piers in the roundhouse. The lower storey of the roundhouse was made of tarred brick and flint; the upper storey was walled with corrugated iron and painted white. The outside body of the mill was weather-boarded. Entry to the mill was by a door at the back, via steps from the ground.

The mill was designed to work facing into the wind and so the entire body could be rotated around the centre post. This procedure was called 'winding' (pronounced as in 'window'), using a long tail-pole. The steps were raised from the ground and lowered again in their new position by a lever, known as a talthur. The steps in effect tethered the mill to the spot. The four large sails (known as 'sweeps' in Sussex) were shuttered.

### **Accidents at the mill**

Windmills were notoriously dangerous places. Several accidents occurred at Malling mill during the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, reported in the Sussex Advertiser and Sussex Weekly Advertiser.

- In September 1803 a grinder working at Malling windmill suffered a fractured skull when hoisting tackle fell on him but, after trepanning, was reported as well on the way to recovery.
- A cow walked into the path of the sweeps of Malling mill in April 1804 but, while one broke off, the cow came away apparently unharmed.
- In January 1817 'a poor woman named Wood', was hit by a sweep while taking a short-cut too close to Malling Mill. The blow shattered her arm and, before she could get out of the way, the next sail fractured her collar bone and one of her thighs. She was taken home and later died of her injuries. This accident might well have had a bearing on the decision to raise the height of the mill later the same year.
- In November 1821 the brother of the grinder, who had come over from Poynings for bonfire, got his hand trapped in the cogs, but Mr Mantell, the surgeon, 'hoped to save part of it'.

### **Later 19th Century millers**

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<sup>14</sup> East Sussex Record Office: HIL 7/7/3

<sup>15</sup> John Kay, *ibid*

<sup>16</sup> John Kay, *ibid*

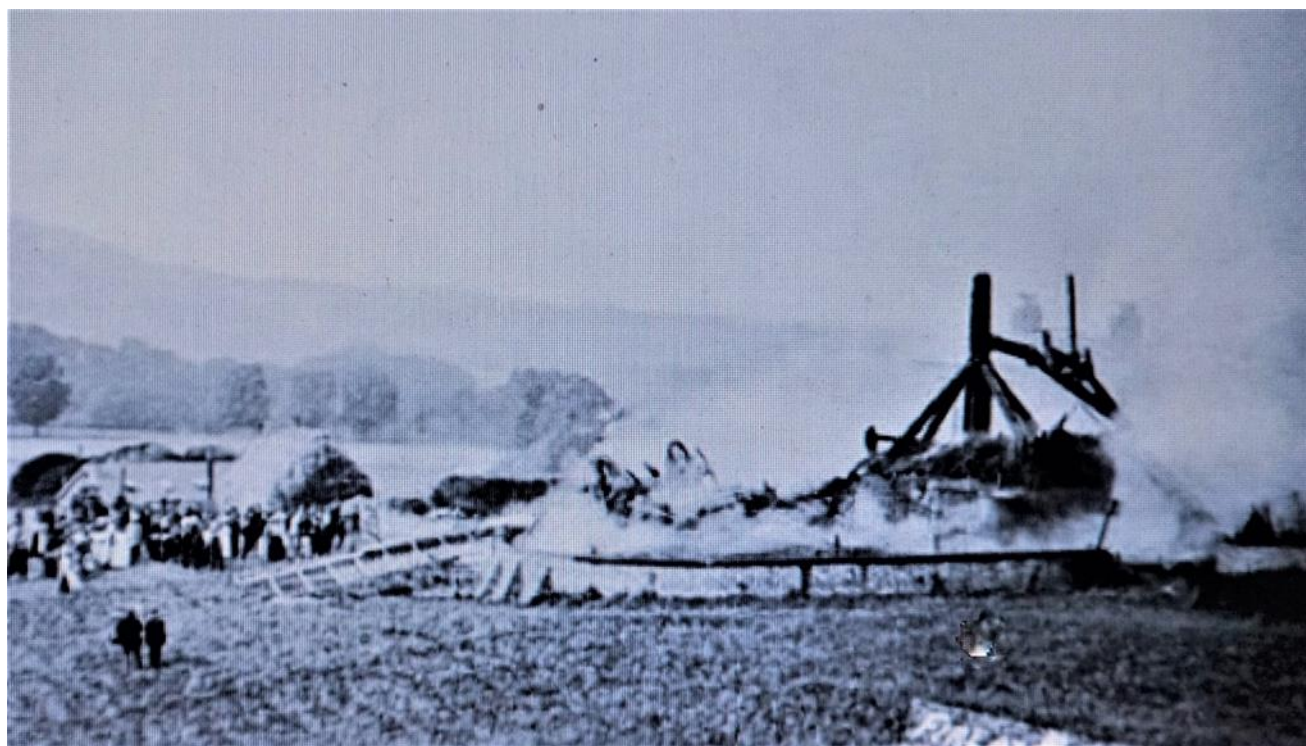
<sup>17</sup> Matthew Homewood, Sussex Mills Group Newsletter, April 2016

A long-standing miller in the later 19<sup>th</sup> Century was Richard Markwick, who worked Malling mill from around 1861 to 1887.<sup>18</sup> He was living next to the mill at Mill House at the time of each of the 1861, 1871 and 1881 censuses. The last miller to work the site, from around 1887, was Frank Stone, a Lewes baker, who was living at Mill House when the 1891 census was conducted. At the outbreak of war in 1914 Stone had two premises at 42 High Street and 42 Cliffe High Street and had been joined in the business by his younger son, (Frank) Leslie, born in 1888. During the First World War Leslie served as a sergeant in the Royal Sussex Regiment and won the British War, Star and Victoria medals. He was wounded and arrived back in Lewes just before Christmas 1918. He lived until 1953 and his wartime diary is in the Imperial War Museum. He appears in uniform in a Reeves photograph taken in 1917.

### The fire

A fire destroyed Malling Mill on 8 September 1908. It was described as in good order in the early 1900s, although used very little and for jobs such as cutting chaff for animal feed rather than grinding corn. A gas engine had been installed around 1900. Immediately before the fire the mill was being used as a store for the laundry that had opened at the bottom of Mill Road (see below).

At 11.30 am on 8 September Mr Taylor, a corporation carter who was working nearby, saw black smoke coming from the mill. He rode on horseback to Cliffe Corner to raise the alarm, using one of the 5 new telephone alarm points, which had been installed in May that year. This was the first time the new system had been used. The Fire Brigade sent a steam fire engine (purchased by the Town Council in 1906 with the help of a loan of £350 from the Local Government Board) and a manual appliance from North Street to the scene of the fire but found 'a furnace throughout' with flames up to 100 feet in height. Too little water could be pumped to this elevation (about 110 feet above the river) and, after about 1000 gallons had been used, the fire was allowed to burn out.<sup>19</sup>



*Malling mill on fire September 1908. Weald and Downland Living Museum*

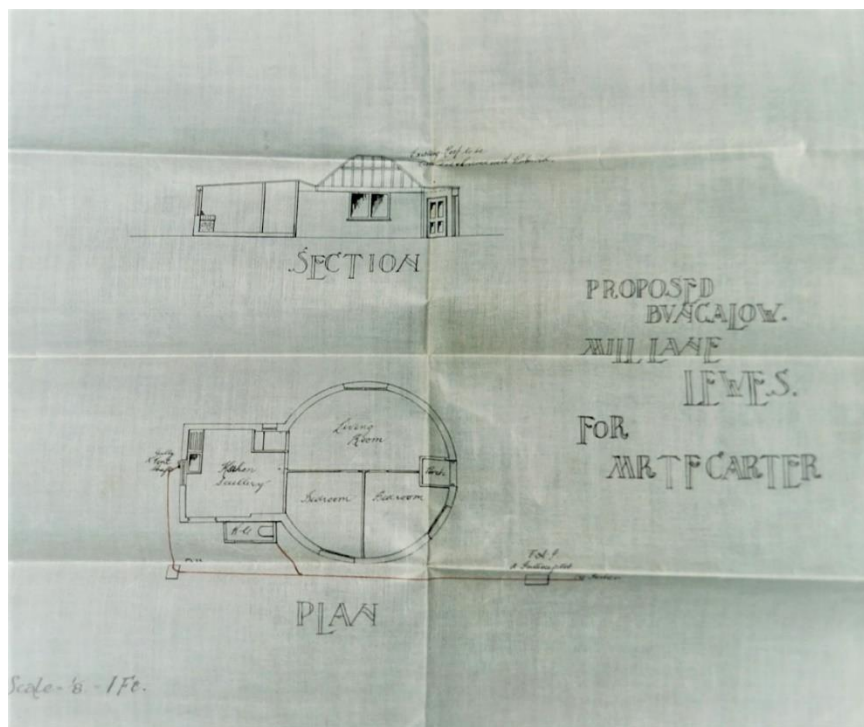
By early 1902, some years before the fire, the mill, house and land had passed into the ownership of Mr (William) Castle Leaver of Alsace House, Surrenden Road, Brighton, proprietor of the Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry, which occupied the corner site at the bottom of Mill Road, where the flats now stand. In 1903 the laundry began a 21-year lease of the mill from Mr Leaver.

<sup>18</sup> H.E.S. Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV, 1941

<sup>19</sup> H.E.Ss Simmons, *ibid*

The laundry continued to make some use of the mill after the fire, mainly as a store. The Valuation Office Survey field book in December 1914 described the building as 'a dismantled windmill. Top portion pulled down. Roofed', with a market value of £70.

### Reconstruction as a dwelling



*Plan for converting the mill into a single-storey dwelling, 1925. East Sussex Record Office: DL/A 25/646*

In October 1925 Thomas Frampton Carter, managing director of the East Sussex Sanitary Steam Laundry Co., resident at Mill House, which the company owned, and later Mayor of Lewes, applied successfully to the Borough Council for permission to convert the surviving lower storey of the roundhouse into a single-storey dwelling. The work was undertaken by T. Sands, builder of 18 New Road, Lewes. It included adding an extension to the east of the building to accommodate a kitchen, scullery and toilet. The millstone became the doorstep to the bungalow.

The mill has been much photographed and sketched subsequently.



*Bungalow ex post mill, South Malling Mill, H.E.S. Simmons, April 1940*





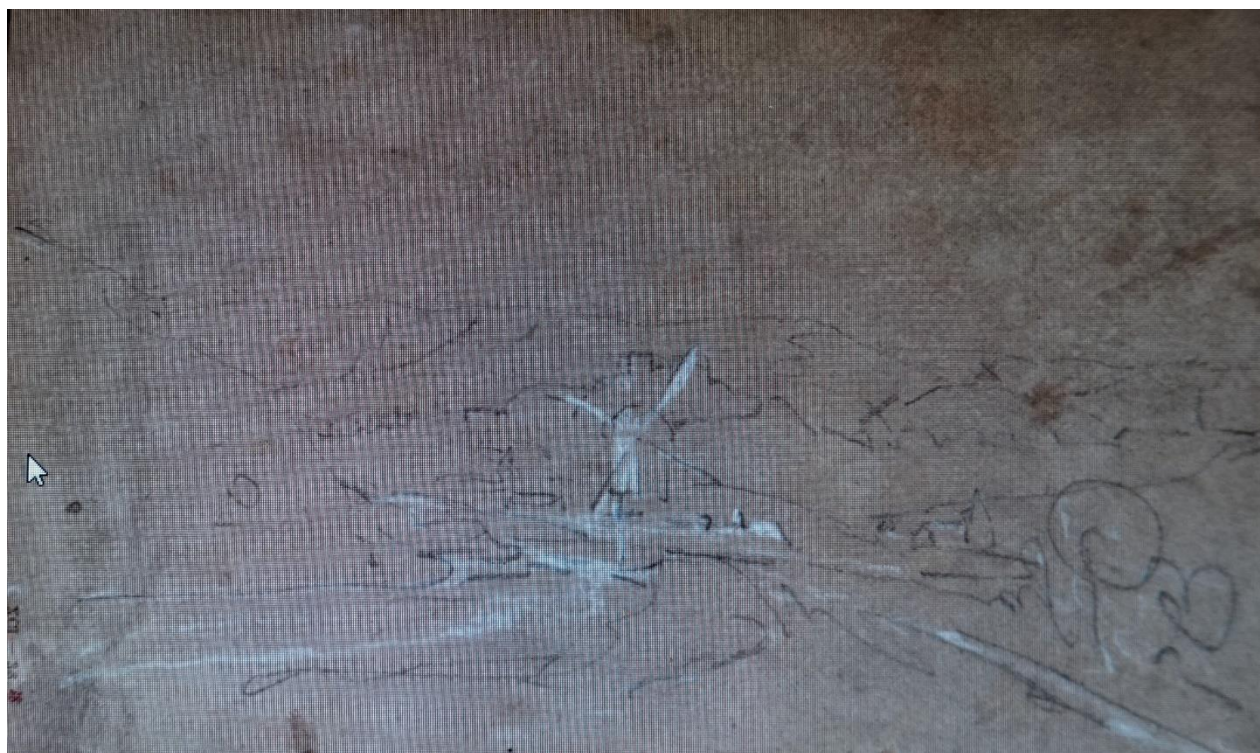
*Pen and ink sketch, Karl Salisbury Wood, August 1939*

Subsequent owners made further alterations and additions to the building: in 1985 and again in 2014 when an upper storey was added, using the 4 original brick pier foundations of the working mill.

#### **The subject of a sketch by Turner?**

An archaeological buildings survey, conducted for the owners of the mill in 2014<sup>20</sup>, suggests that the windmill in its final form stood in another location on the banks of the Ouse, where it featured in a sketch by JMW Turner c1806 (see below), and had been later moved up the hill to its current position. The survey's author cites *The Windmills of Sussex* by Martin Brunnarius (1979) as the source of this information, but I can find no reference in Brunnarius's book to a mill in the location apparently depicted, or to its having been moved. Not least because of the unpromisingly low-lying position he gave it, I'm inclined to think that Mr Turner invented this mill, for artistic effect.

<sup>20</sup> East Sussex Record Office: ACC13307/1



*A Windmill by the River Ouse; Lewes Castle in the Distance c.1806–10 by Joseph Mallord William Turner*

#### Malling Millers 1596-1908

Date	Owner	Miller	Notes	Source
1596 - ?		John Gallop		Brent: Georgian Lewes p.28
? - 1626	William Parson			ESRO reference: SAS/C 775
1626	John Parson, cutler, of St Katherine's next the Tower of London	John Bayley and John Kenner	Inherited windmill, stable and barn from William, his brother	ESRO reference: SAS/C 775
1626 - 1634	Thomas Parson, cutler, of the Cliffe	Levy Edmonds	Given to him by his brother, John	ESRO reference: SAS/C 775
1634 - 1675	Cornelius Fox, miller, of Heathfield	Cornelius Fox John Fox	Sold by Thomas Parson to Cornelius Fox for £60 'Windmill and the banks whereon it was standing in South Malling' Widow Fox charged 1/8 poor rate in 1645 'for his (sic) Mill'. The 'Widow Fox' Named by Constables as a miller having taken 'much more toll in these dear times than is their due' (1649)	ESRO reference: SAS/C 776  ESRO reference SAS/ACC 1454 Brent: Pre-Georgian Lewes p.256
1676	Anthony Penifold	Anthony Penifold	Document transferring the title from John Fox and his wife Mercy Fox to Anthony Penifold of South Malling, miller, and his wife Mary Penifold the messuage and windmill	ESRO reference: SAS/C 778
1685 - 1699	Anthony Penifold Ambrose Galloway, tailor, of Lewes (d 1696)	Anthony Penifold	Counterpart mortgage for £95 Messuage and windmill	ESRO reference: SAS/C 786
1699 - ?	James Morris of Litlington, husbandman		Sold by Ambrose Galloway Jnr to James Morris South Malling mill and lands for £180/2/6	ESRO reference: SAS/C 788
? -	James Souch, of			ESRO reference:

Date	Owner	Miller	Notes	Source
1738	Poynings, yeoman and miller			SAS/C 789
1738 - ?	Susannah Souch, wife of James		Probate document. James Souch left Messuage, windmill and ground in South Malling called South Malling mill, near Lewes to his wife, Susannah and, upon her death, to his son James and his heirs.	ESRO reference: SAS/C 789
1751-1758	John Fearall			Land Tax assessments
1759 - 1778	William Hoather (also Hother, Hoadler, Hoder)	William Ridge 1767 Henry Burtenshaw 1769	A messuage, windmill and lands in South Malling commonly called the Mill Green 1770 – first reference in tax assessments to ‘House and mill’, but then reverts to Mill and Land in subsequent years	Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments
1779 - 1791	Charles Hoather	Charles Hoather		Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments
1792 - 1800	Edward May and William Goldsmith	Edward May and Barnaby Goldsmith (later BG only)		Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments
1801 - 1805	Thomas Hill	Thomas Hill		Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments
1806	Thomas Packham	Thomas Packham	Purchased half the freehold from Thomas Hill for £400; purchased whole freehold in 1807	Abstract of title to windmill
1810	Thomas Packham (nephew) Robert Ashdown, draper of Cliffe	Mr Stephen (?) Steere	Simmons says Thomas Packham went bankrupt in 1810 and the mill was taken over by his son, Henry. Henry had the mill rebuilt and substantial renovations made: additional upper floor to the roundhouse (1817, following accident) – ‘one of the finest mills in the county’.	Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments HES Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV 1941 (sources not quoted) Historic Environment Record
1817 – at least 1851	John Hamlin (later his devisees)	John Hamlin From 1822 David Morris	Purchased the freehold for £1250 Tithe apportionment refers to house and mill: 1 acre, 0 rods and 1 perch. Lease 1826: £100 per year rent. Morris agreed to dig a new well behind the messuage (Mill House) and to paint the mill every 2 years. Mortgage deed in 1827 refers to ‘a Messuage, Windmill, Buildings, Garden and a piece of land in South Malling’. 1832 is the first reference in Land Tax assessments to Mill House and Land	Abstract of title to windmill Land Tax assessments Tithe apportionment 1844 Lease 1826 [HIL 7/7/3] Mortgage deed 1827 1841 and 1851 Censuses
1851	John Hamlin (later his devisees)	Peter Fuller, master miller, employing 2 men	Mid-century refitting, almost certainly by Samuel Medhurst of Lewes.	1851 Census HES Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV 1941 (sources not



Date	Owner	Miller	Notes	Source
				quoted) Brunnaruis: The Windmills of Sussex
1852	John Smith of East Street, Lewes			HES Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV 1941 (sources not quoted) Brunnaruis: The Windmills of Sussex
1861 - 1887	Richard Markwick	Richard Markwick, formerly of Broadwater Mill, Worthing		1861, 1871, 1881 censuses HES Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV 1941 (sources not quoted)
1887 - 1901	Frank Stone	Frank Stone, baker of High Street, Lewes	Gas engine employed from c 1900	HES Simmons in Sussex County Magazine Vol XV 1941 (sources not quoted) 1891 Census
1901 - 1908	Castle Leaver of Brighton (proprietor of Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry)		Mill used latterly for laundry storage.	1901 Census



*Malling Mill, 2019 Photograph courtesy of the owners*

## Mill House



### How old is the building?

Mill House is a large, 3-storey dwelling, just to the NW of the mill. I have been unable to find any conclusive documentary evidence to identify precisely the date of its construction. The house's Historic England Grade II listing dates it to 'circa 1830'.



*Mill House, 2019*

The house appears to be of late 18th or early 19th Century construction. The 1783 Yeakell & Gardner map of Sussex shows a building more or less on the site of Mill House, but it is not set back from the road and is more likely to have been a stable or a store of some kind. The First Series 1 inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map (1813) has an apparently larger building on the site, which might be Mill House and would be consistent with its having been built at the same time as the mill was substantially renovated in the 1810s. It looks, however, more like an outbuilding of the mill.



*1" OS Map, First Series, 1813 (extract)*

A building in this position is depicted on William Figg's map of 1824 (see page 6). This might be Mill House or a predecessor on roughly the same site. Certainty appears in the land tax assessment of 1832 with the first clear reference to 'Mill House and Land'; and the later tithe apportionment (1844) refers to 'House, Mill and Lands'.

From the time of its construction Mill House was the principal dwelling associated with Malling Mill. A stable block stood to the west of the house from at least the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century to at least the late 1930s: it appears on the 1938 OS map but is absent from the version published in 1950. Mill House was inhabited continuously by the mill owners or head millers (often the same person) and their families until milling on the site ceased in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.



*Mill and Mill House, c 1900. Mills Archive*

The house then became associated with the steam laundry, which stood on the site now occupied by the flats (numbers 1 to 11 Mill Road). By 1901 Mr Castle Leaver, later the first managing director of the Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry Company, had bought the property from the baker and miller, Frank Stone. The transition from milling to laundry is apparent in the two heads of household who occupied the house at the time of the 1901 census: William Robins, miller and baker; and Edward Bishop, retired draper, the husband of Sarah, manageress of the laundry.





*Mill House immediately after the fire at the mill, 1908. Bob Cairns collection*

Mrs Bishop was still renting the property from Castle Leaver at the time of the Valuation Office survey in December 1914, for an annual sum of £30. The survey records two rooms, a kitchen, scullery, larder and WC on the ground floor and four rooms on each of the first and second floors. It describes the house as in fair structural condition, with a market value of £570.

In November 1921 Castle Leaver sold the house, the mill, the laundry and accompanying land (about 2 acres in total) to the East Sussex Sanitary Steam Laundry Company for £2700. Thomas J. Frampton Carter, the new Managing Director and Company Secretary lived at Mill House from 1921 until the late 1930s.<sup>21</sup> He was Mayor of Lewes from 1929 to 1931, which coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of the borough in 1881. A locally shot film shows the Mayor and Corporation attending a commemorative service at the Dripping Pan on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1931, having led a procession of more than 1000 people from Castle Banks, including the Town Band, the Fire Brigade, the British Legion and the Boy Scouts.

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<sup>21</sup> Pike's Directories.



*T. J. Frampton Carter, Mayor of Lewes 1929-1931, East Sussex Record Office Ref P410/2/23*

The government register, compiled on the outbreak of war in 1939, records the house as unoccupied.

The Company sold Mill House to their tenant, Alfred Woodward, for £2000 in December 1947. Woodward is described as a retired baker and confectioner. He died there in May 1950. His widow, Hettie, took over ownership and lived there until June 1986, when it was sold to Brian and Margaret Pointing for £71,650.<sup>22</sup>



*Hettie Woodward celebrates her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday at Mill House in 1986. Photograph supplied by Monty Driver, neighbour*

Hettie Woodward was a remarkable character. She celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at Mill House in 1984. In her youth she had travelled with her army family in Afghanistan, Ireland and India. She was a keen motor cyclist and driver from an early age, drove an ambulance during the Second World War but waited until the age of 88 before taking and passing the driving test. She married Alfred in 1913 and they lived at first in Ditchling, next door to Vera Lynn. She was distantly related to the actor, Donald Sinden, and took part in many amateur theatrical productions. She

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<sup>22</sup> House deeds

loved animals: one of the bedrooms in Mill House was dedicated to the recovery of injured birds, often several at a time.<sup>23</sup>

## The Laundry

### Foundation

In September 1891 the 25-year old Malling miller, Frank Stone, applied successfully to the Borough Council for permission to build a flour mill and bakery on the empty site on the corner of Mill Road and the main highway, where the flats now stand. The firm of Messrs Berry and Bussey of Malling Street erected the building, which later included a baker's and confectioner's shop.<sup>24</sup>

Eight years later he came up with a new scheme involving a new purpose for the premises. In 1899 Stone & Co issued a prospectus for the sale of 3000 shares at £1 each in a proposed company to establish a steam laundry. Stone was to retain 10% of the shares. The company would lease a 2-acre site comprising the 1891 flour mill building and an adjoining field, together with stabling and the right to take water from a well at Malling Mill. A well would subsequently be sunk on the laundry premises. The Company would have the option to buy within 5 years the whole of the Stone & Co premises: the laundry building, windmill and dwelling house (Mill House).

The prospectus emphasised the importance and benefits of modern laundries – better hygiene, support for the town's economy and good working conditions:

“Of late years it has been generally recognised that a steam laundry, fitted with up to date machinery and appliances and run on hygienic principles, is an almost indispensable institution, and it is felt that such a laundry ..... will, by doing the work which has for years been sent to other towns, keep the money paid therefore in the town and thus tend to benefit its prosperity, and .... also by the fact that a good deal of Local Female Labour will be required, which will enable many workers who have for a long time done their work amidst disadvantageous surroundings to work under conditions far more pleasant and healthy ...”.<sup>25</sup>

The same firm that had built the flour mill was contracted to convert the building.

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<sup>23</sup> Evening Argus 9.4.1984. Conversation with neighbouring resident

<sup>24</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/A 25/81

<sup>25</sup> East Sussex Record Office





*Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry. Postcard, posted 1911. East Sussex Record Office Ref AMS 6871/1/3*

## Business

The laundry business was established in December 1900 and flourished: in 1902 trade was described as ‘beyond all expectations’. By that time Mr Castle Leaver of Brighton had bought the land on which the mill and the laundry stood and had bought the business from Frank Stone.

(William) Castle Leaver was born in Newhaven in 1861, the son of the proprietors of Albert School at Sussex Lodge, Newhaven, which stood at the top of the High Street until it was demolished in 1961. In the 1901 census he is described as ‘living on (his) own means’ at Villa Alsace, Waldegrave Road, Brighton. In 1890 he had married Elisa, an author and French national from Strasbourg, which presumably accounts for the name of their house. They appear to have had no children. By 1911 they occupied the grander, 12-roomed Alsace House in Surrenden Road, along with a housemaid and a cook. Castle Leaver died in Brighton in 1938.

In March 1902 Mr Leaver’s property was described for tax purposes thus: ‘(a) windmill which is very little used; a house worth £30 a year; stables; laundry started a year ago; this property stands on 1 and three quarter acres of grass land.’<sup>26</sup> Leaver leased the land to the laundry company, of which he was the managing director. The laundry also rented on a yearly tenancy land stretching along Malling Street as far as the Prince of Wales pub (now Horsman’s solicitors) from the trustees of the late Robert Hillman.<sup>27</sup>

An advertisement for the laundry in the 1902 edition of Pike’s Blue Book for Lewes, Seaford and Newhaven reads:

The premises are situated on the outskirts of the Borough and are fitted up with the finest and most approved machinery and appliances; the Company is therefore enabled to turn out and guarantee perfect work.

All linen is thoroughly aired before being delivered – special care is given to this important question.

<sup>26</sup> East Sussex Record Office: ACC 4113/4/93

<sup>27</sup> Valuation Office Survey field book, Dec. 1914

The admirable position of the Laundry, with its well adapted drying fields, ensures a freshness, sweetness, healthiness and colour to the Linen unobtainable when dried in towns.

The Lewes (later East Sussex) Sanitary Steam Laundry Company was created in 1903 with a nominal capital of £6000 and with Castle Leaver as majority shareholder and Managing Director. The other directors were John Lade of Falmer and William Gates, solicitor, of 23 School Hill, Lewes.<sup>28</sup>

Receiving offices stood on the right hand side of Malling Street going out of town, between numbers 5 and 7, as well as in Newhaven, Seaford and Uckfield. These offices were used only to collect small parcels of laundry because horse-drawn vans called to collect direct from customers throughout the towns of the district.<sup>29</sup>

An inventory of the premises in January 1902 listed, among other items, a 6 horsepower horizontal engine, a vertical boiler and two horses to pull the vans.

The laundry building was extended in 1910 by the addition of a two-storey extension to the east side, which housed a 'mess room' (canteen) for the staff and a further store room. It appears that the work was begun without planning permission having been obtained from the Council. A letter of apology from Castle Leaver to the planning committee states that 'it never entered my head that I had to submit plans' and stresses that he, rather than the Company, had borne the expense and that the work had been carried out 'for the better accommodation of the workers'. The Valuation Office Survey, conducted in December 1914, lists an ironing room and a staff mess room on the first floor and, on the ground floor, an office, washroom, mangling room, WC, engine house and boiler house. The stables comprised 3 horse stalls, a loose box, fodder store and staff room. The premises also included a harness room and a cart shed. The market value was assessed as £730.

A 30 feet high brick chimney was added in 1915 to replace the existing shaft, which was 16 feet nearer to the road. A garage was added behind (to the east of) the laundry building in 1924. The plans for the new garage describe the land on the north side of Mill Road, the area currently occupied by The Lynchets and both sides of Church Lane as 'arable land'.

Thomas J. Frampton Carter took over as Managing Director and Company Secretary in 1921. According to the trade directories, he lived at Mill House from November of that year until the late 1930s. He was Mayor of Lewes from 1929 to 1931.

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<sup>28</sup> East Sussex Record Office: ACC 4113/4/93

<sup>29</sup> East Sussex Record Office: ACC 4113/4/93



*The laundry staff outside the premises, undated photograph, East Sussex Record Office: AMS 6871/1/3*

## **The fire**

The Laundry building was destroyed by fire in the early morning of 18 January 1941. In one source at the ESRO the fire is described as having been caused by enemy bombing in the East Sussex Office record. However the contemporary newspaper report makes no mention of a bomb and there is no account of such an incident in the meticulous police records of the time.<sup>30</sup> It therefore seems highly unlikely that the laundry's destruction was the responsibility of the Luftwaffe, although the newspaper account advances no suggestion of what might have caused it. R. A. Elliston claims that it was later established to have been caused by an electrical fault.<sup>31</sup>

Only the walls remained after the fire; the interior and the roof were gutted. It was the last large fire attended by Lewes Fire Brigade: all brigades were merged to form a wartime National Fire Service in August 1941 and then re-organised into county brigades in 1948. The Brigade attended promptly when the alarm was raised at 1.32 am. The alarm was raised so late because, owing to blackout regulations, the fire did not become visible until flames burst through the windows. Serious damage was prevented from spreading to the adjoining garage, which contained soap and other materials. The fire was brought under control in about an hour. Three quarters of the customers' items were destroyed, although the safe and the cabinets in the office were saved.

The fire spelled the end for the East Sussex Laundry. The Wick Laundry at Hove stepped in to provide an emergency service for customers and eventually bought the business outright.

It proved impossible to save the main building, although the site is still marked as East Sussex Laundry on the 1950 edition of the OS map. And for many years after that the bus stop at the bottom of Mill Road was known as 'The Laundry'.

The fire achieved some national significance. The Council took the Laundry Company to court because no firewatcher had been on duty at the time of the fire, as required by the Fire Watching (Business Premises) Act. The prosecution failed because the court found that, while the Act obliged the Company to maintain a rota of fire

<sup>30</sup> East Sussex Record Office: AP/A/2/21/1/2

<sup>31</sup> R. A. Elliston, *Lewes at War*, 1999



watchers during the hours when the premises were closed, the owners were not responsible for ensuring that the rota was implemented. The Home Office subsequently amended the order to close this loophole.<sup>32</sup>



*After the fire, January 1941. East Sussex Record Office: AMS 6871/1/3*

### **After the fire**

The laundry site stood empty for several years following the fire. The Council demolished the buildings and levelled the site in 1950, following a letter from Sir Frank Sanderson at Malling Deanery complaining about the unsightly condition of the outer walls.<sup>33</sup> At some point, which I have as yet been unable to identify precisely, it passed into the possession of Lewes Borough Council. Lewes Borough Council Housing Committee minutes indicate that the Council acquired several acres of land at Mill Field shortly after the War for the Lynchets housing estate, so perhaps the former laundry site was included in that purchase.<sup>34</sup>

### **The Flats**

There were several proposals for developing the old laundry site in the immediate post-war years, including plans for shops and landscaped gardens. By 1953 the Council's preferred option was to build two houses and a bus shelter, but these plans were deferred. In 1956 the Council was considering building 8 garages on the site for the use of its tenants at the nearby Lynchets estate. The site was considered inappropriate for housing because of the high cost that would be incurred owing to the great difference in levels between the laundry and the surrounding ground; the length of drain required to connect it to the nearest sewer; and the need to insulate any building from the adjacent electricity transformer.<sup>35</sup>

However, in October 1957 an official from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government visited the site and suggested the Council consider building a two-storey L-shaped block of six flats with three garages to the rear, behind the transformer. Accordingly, the Council adopted a scheme for one two-bedroom and five single-bedroom flats, which the Ministry approved in January 1958. In October, Ringmer Building Works won the £9240 contract, which was to include the supply of a cooker to each flat. The flats were designated to be occupied by elderly people.

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<sup>32</sup> R. A. Elliston, *ibid*

<sup>33</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/D/169/11

<sup>34</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/D/169/11-12

<sup>35</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/D/169/3

In January 1959 the Ministry agreed to pay the Council an annual subsidy of £22.1.0 for each flat for a period of 60 years, provided they were used directly or indirectly for slum clearance purposes.

Perhaps thanks to the unusually fine weather that summer, the building work was completed three weeks ahead of schedule on 15 October 1959. All but one of the first tenants were reallocated from what the Council considered under-occupied 3-bedroom properties in the town and the Council paid their 'reasonable removal expenses'.



*Numbers 1 to 11 Mill Road and the 'Laundry' bus stop, 2019*

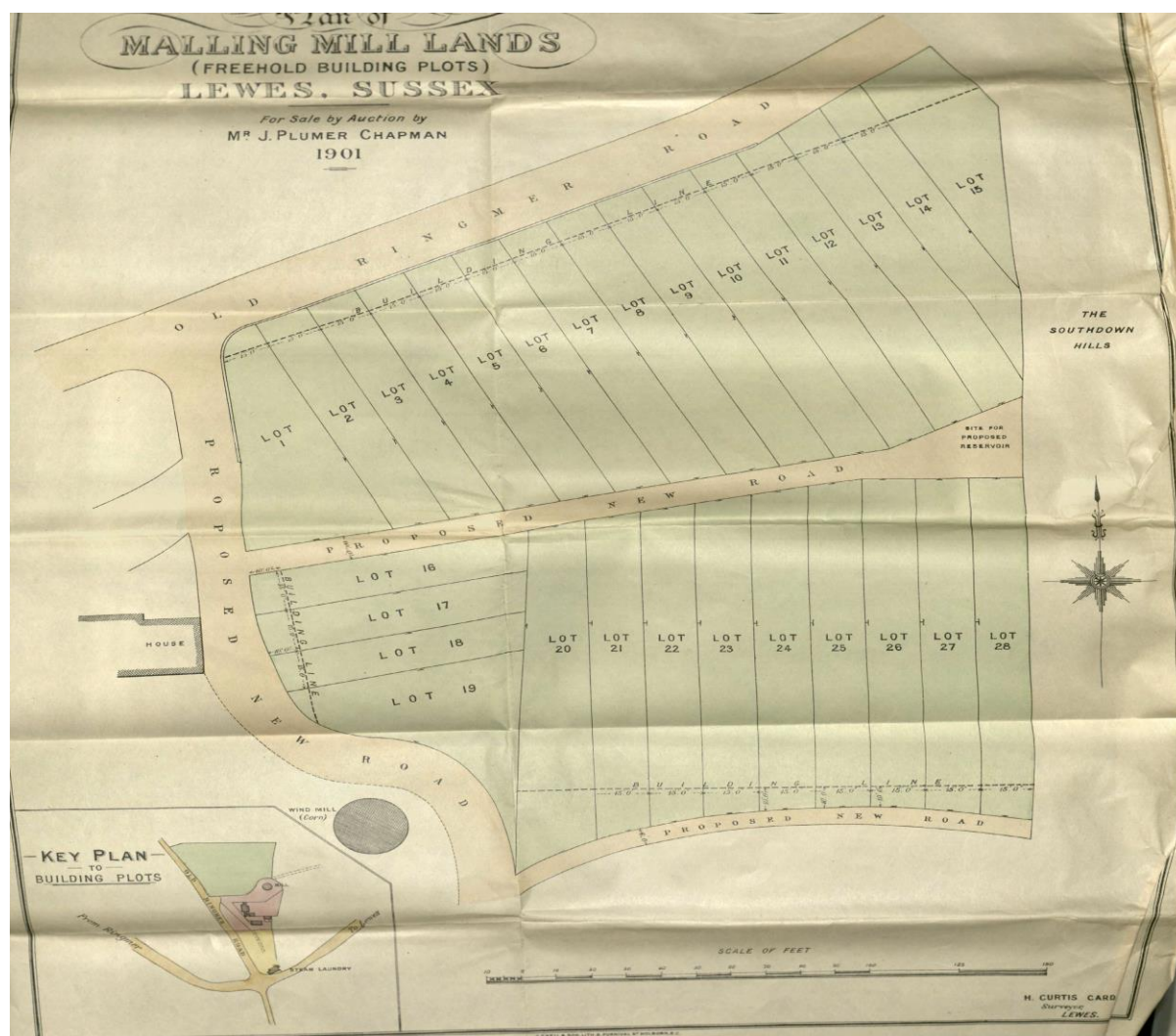
## **Malling Hill Villas**

### **Building**

Malling Hill Villas is the name originally given to the early-20<sup>th</sup> Century terrace built on the right-hand side of Mill Road going up the hill. The name also referred to the pair of houses built opposite the windmill, now numbers 13 and 15 Mill Road. The villas were built on land that had for centuries been attached to Malling Mill. In 1901 Frank Stone, the last Malling miller, sold the windmill and its land to Mr Castle Leaver, managing director of the newly-established Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry Company.



Leaver decided to sell the land adjacent to the laundry. The plan<sup>36</sup> shows the freehold building lots put up for auction at the White Hart Hotel in June 1901. Mill Road is referred to as Old Ringmer Road.



Alfred Grieves of Southdown House, Silverdale Road, Eastbourne, a builder with premises at 132 High Street, Lewes, bought Lots 1 to 15 for £225 in October 1901. They became what is now the terrace comprising 17 to 45 Mill Road. The houses now numbered 13 and 15 Mill Road were built on Lots 16 and 17 on the opposite side of the access lane, nearest to the mill. These two building lots were bought and developed by W. H. Hobden of Hull.<sup>37</sup> Grieves agreed to erect a reservoir of at least 1000 gallons capacity, enclosed in brick and with an iron bottom. This was to prove inadequate to the task of extinguishing the fire at the mill in 1908. These were to be strictly residential properties: another condition of the sale was that no trades or commercial activities should be conducted in the houses constructed on the site, except those of 'a professional man'.<sup>38</sup>

In January 1905 Grieves sold lots 10 to 15 (now 35 to 45 Mill Road) for £125 to William Weller of 55 Malling Street, who subsequently had the houses built. Weller's building firm was active in the Lewes area from the 1880s through to the 1920s.

A building plan for the dwelling behind the villas, known as Willesboro, was approved by Lewes Borough Council in May 1935. The proposed bungalow was for Mrs Ethel Mabel Ford of 44 Morris Road, Lewes and the builder was G.E.J. Hayward of Chapel Hill. Further development of the area covered by the plan remained unfulfilled until The Lynchets development in the 1950s.

<sup>36</sup> East Sussex Record Office: ACC 5500/1/171

<sup>37</sup> Valuation Office Survey Field Book, December 1914

<sup>38</sup> House deeds



The first houses were constructed quickly. A company prospectus issued by the Lewes Sanitary Steam Laundry in 1903 refers to 'building plots in the immediate vicinity on which suitable houses have been erected (which) places the company in a good position for obtaining the necessary labour for the laundry'.

The houses were originally served by cess pits. In March 1910 Lewes Borough Council applied to the Local Government Board for a loan of £290, approved in 1913, to extend the sewerage system up Malling Hill and Mill Road. The Laundry Company had requested the extension and agreed to pay £5 a year to use the sewer.

The houses were known as 1-17 Malling Hill Villas until they were re-numbered as houses in Mill Road. House deeds indicate that this had taken place by October 1927, although building plans for houses on the other side of the road in the early 1930s and Pike's Directory of 1936-38 still refer to the terrace as Malling Hill Villas and to the road as Malling Hill.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Century Owners and occupiers**

The original developers appear to have retained ownership of most of the houses for quite some time. Alfred Grieves sold numbers 8 and 9 Malling Hill Villas (31 and 33 Mill Road) to Mrs Caroline Halliday of London in 1904 for £250 each. She leased the houses to tenants until 1920, when both houses were sold at auction. Grieves sold two further houses (17 and 21 Mill Road) in 1918, both to their tenants. William Weller and W.H. Hobden were still the owners of numbers 10 to 15 (35 to 45 Mill Road) and 16 and 17 (13 and 15 Mill Road) respectively when the First World War began. Further sales may have taken place in the post-first world war period, to be confirmed by house deeds.

According to the Valuation Office survey conducted in December 1914, rents were between 7 and 8 shillings (40 pence) a week; the average weekly wage at that time was about 30 shillings. When the freeholds to numbers 8 and 9 (31 and 33 Mill Road) were put up for auction in 1920 the rent was 7 shillings a week, and about to rise to 9 shillings and 10 pence (49 pence), a considerable increase, suggesting that the amount had remained the same for some while and in line with the steep rise in prices and incomes that had taken place during the First World War.

According to the 1911 census, sixteen of the 17 villas on what is now Mill Road were occupied and provided homes to a total of 74 people (21 men, 24 women and 29 children under 18), an average of 4.6 per dwelling. The largest household comprised nine people and the smallest two. Five of the houses gave accommodation to one or more lodgers. Among the heads of household were 3 van drivers, 2 carpenters, 2 clerks, a plasterer, a bakery worker, a laundress, a laundry engineer, a domestic groom and a widow of private means. Despite proximity to the laundry, relatively few Mill Road residents are specifically identified as working there in either the 1911 census or the 1939 Government Register: eight and two respectively. It is, of course, possible that more laundry workers lived there at other times and their occupations not recorded.

Among the residents of the villas in 1911 was Emma Jane Gale at number 7 (29 Mill Road), aged 51 years. She had been married to her painter and decorator husband, Frank, for 34 years, during which time she had borne 12 children, 11 of them still living. Two of them, Rose aged 19 and Florence aged 9, were living with their parents in Mill Road in 1911. Three years later, in September 1914, the Sussex Express reported the tragic death of another child, Frederick, aged 15. He had been cycling in South Street on his way to work in Glynde when a dog ran into the road, causing him to tumble into the path of a road engine owned by Harvey's brewery. He was dragged along the ground, crushing one of his legs. 'Soldiers and civilians' gave assistance and he was taken to the Victoria Hospital, where his leg was amputated and he died that night. The widowed Emma was still at 7 Malling Hill Villas, aged 80, in 1939, by then joined by her son, Frank, described in the Government Register as a Royal Navy pensioner.

Perhaps the most interesting menage in 1911 was at Number 3 (21 Mill Road), comprising an actress in a portable (travelling) theatre company, her son, daughter and niece, and a husband and wife, both actors. The scattered birthplaces of the children (Aberdeen, Birmingham and Maidenhead) indicate the itinerant nature of the adults' profession. Portable companies tended to avoid larger centres with permanent theatres. Their venues were sometimes tents, sometimes collapsible wooden booths, and sometimes a combination of wooden walls with a canvas top. All these could be dismantled easily and carried from place to place on carts or railway wagons.

The comprehensive register of residents taken at the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939 lists a total of 58 people in the 16 occupied properties. The changed nature of employment by the 1930s is reflected in the occupations listed, which by then included three retired railwaymen, a fitter and a labourer at the cement works, two lorry drivers, two salesmen, a baker's roundsman, a plumber, a secretary and a telephonist.

There seems to have been quite a lot of movement of tenants between the villas in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. For example, Albert Moon lived at numbers 35 and 43 between 1911 and the early 1950s; and May Whitfield lived at number 37 as a child and at was at number 23 in 1939, aged 43. But the record belongs to Frederick Goody, a gas company clerk who, in the space of 11 years, managed to occupy number 31 (in 1906), number 35 (in 1907), number 45 (in 1911), number 43 (in 1913-14) and number 23 (in 1916-17).

Several families have lived in Malling Hill Villas for many years and through more than one generation. For example, the Cheeseman family at number 21 from the mid-1930s to the 2000s; the Testers at number 33 from around 1911 to the early 1950s; and the Whitfields at number 37 from before 1911 to the 1980s.



*Malling Hill Villas, 2019.*

## **Development since the 1920s: Numbers 2-32 Mill Road**

Before numbers 2 to 32 Mill Road were built, the land on which they stand formed a section of the Gore Field, part of Lower Stoneham Farm, owned in the earlier part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century by Captain Henry Hume Spence RN of Malling House (now the Police HQ). The farm was auctioned upon his death in 1842. At that time the tenant was Stephen Grantham, who paid £13 a year in rent. He was described as “a most respectable tenant, well known as the eminent breeder of south down sheep.”<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> East Sussex Record Office: AMS 1666



The Gore Field was purchased by Thomas and Robert Hillman, two of the four sons of John Hillman of Cliffe (1780-1864), a successful Lewes merchant with several different business interests. He sold corn, coal and lime and he farmed too, as well as owning ships and barges. Four of his five sons followed him into the business. When he retired in around 1840 Thomas (1810-1856) and Robert (1816-1884) continued in the coal and lime trade and operated the chalk pits at the top of Malling Hill, on land leased and farmed by their brothers, John Jnr and Alfred, who also took the corn business and went into brewing.<sup>40</sup>

From 1904 the trustees of Robert Hillman's estate leased the Gore Field to the East Sussex Laundry company for an annual rent of £19. The 1914 Valuation Office survey describes it as 'arable land, good for building but without a sewer and with a questionable water supply'. Its market value was assessed at £550.<sup>41</sup> The trustees eventually sold some of the land to the County Council in the early 1920s and to individual builders in the early 1930s.

Building began on the left hand side of Mill Road in the 1920s. The first Labour Government's Housing Act in 1924 raised the level of government subsidies to be paid to local authorities by 50% to build municipal housing for rent for low paid workers. Around half a million houses were built under the terms of this act, the first council houses to be equipped compulsorily with bathrooms. In September 1926 East Sussex County Council duly submitted plans to Lewes Borough for two pairs of cottages in Gore Field on Malling Hill. In the plans the houses are described as being 'for the housing of county roadmen'. They were approved on 6 October.<sup>42</sup>

These houses (the present 2 to 8 Mill Road) appear on the 1930 OS map, along with the first 3 pairs of houses round the corner in what is now known as Malling Hill, which were built by ESCC at the same time. The numbering originally went down the hill. They had begun to be numbered 2 to 8 Mill Road by the time of the 1951-52 edition of Pike's Directory.

Plans for numbers 10 to 26 Mill Road were submitted by private individuals and received Council approval in 1931 and 1932.<sup>43</sup> Number 28 was added in the late 1970s and numbers 30 and 32 in the 1990s. Almost all were constructed for occupation by those who had had them designed and built. Among the exceptions were the two pairs of semi-detached houses (now 12 & 14 and 16 & 18 Mill Road), which were constructed by local builders, respectively Harry Milham and Percy Wicks and then occupied by tenants. In both cases, however, the tenants included members of the builders' families.

The development of Mill Road was typical of the boom in housebuilding in the 1930s when interest rates were close to zero and construction costs were low. Land, too, was relatively cheap: each of the building plots in Mill Road were purchased for around £50. Nationally, the number of houses built by the private sector each year more than doubled between 1931 and 1935 (133,000 to 293,000). By 1937 about 18% of non-agricultural working-class households were buying or owned their own homes. Mortgage companies required as little as 5% deposits and repayment terms were extended to 25 or 30 years. Land for building was plentiful, underpinned by an almost complete absence of land-use planning restrictions. The provisions of the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act lay in the future. All this meant that houses became relatively cheap: 85% of new dwellings sold for less than £750 (about £45,000 in today's terms) when average annual earnings were about £165.

The houses built in the 1930s were all originally referred to by their house names, as follows:

- Sunny Brae (10 Mill Road) Detached house for Mr C. Painter, motor repair works foreman. Building plan approved May 1931.
- South Winds and Dorarth (12 and 14 Mill Road) Pair of semi-detached villas for Mssrs H. Milham & Sons, builders. Building plan approved October 1931.
- Wyndgates and Cresswell (16 and 18 Mill Road) Pair of villas at Malling Hill for Mr P.R. Wicks, builder. Building plan approved February 1932.

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<sup>40</sup> John Kay, Lewes History Group Bulletin 51.

<sup>41</sup> Valuation Office survey field book, December 1914

<sup>42</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/A/27/1

<sup>43</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/A/2/25

- Thiseldo (20 Mill Road) Bungalow for Mr A.E. Rawles, occupation unknown. Building plan approved November 1931.
- Wendy (22 Mill Road) Bungalow for Mr H. Hindon, foreman printer. Building plan approved February 1932.
- Erzanmyne (24 Mill Road) Detached house for Mr A.S. Ellis, plumber. Building plan approved February 1931
- Spithurst (26 Mill Road) Bungalow for Mr B. Parris, dairy farmer Building plan approved September 1931.

The September 1939 Register lists the occupations of the residents at numbers 2 to 26 Mill Road, those built before the Second World War. There were three general labourers and a range of tradesmen including a blacksmith, a butcher and a plumber. A foreman motor mechanic and a foreman printer lived there, alongside a newsagent, a builder, a retired dairy farmer and the chief clerk at a building society. No female resident is listed as being in paid employment and every property housed at least one married or single woman whose occupation was rendered as 'unpaid domestic duties'.

At four of the houses (numbers 10, 12, 16 and 22) the list of residents in September 1939 includes children with different surnames from the adults living there. It is possible that these children were among the very first evacuees to Lewes from the London area. At each of these addresses the number of residents and family members listed in the Lewes Borough Register of Accommodation for Possible Evacuees is the same as that listed in the 1939 register minus the children who by that time were living there.<sup>44</sup>

Jim Dodd (12 Mill Road) confirms that their family hosted an evacuee, presumably the Mary Regan named in the 1939 Register. Similarly, Barbara Ryan, who has lived at 20 Mill Road since 1982, remembers her elderly neighbour at number 22, Gladys Hindon, who had lived there since the 1930s, mentioning that her family had evacuees staying with them during the war. These would include Marie L. Donovan (Hayward). The original entry in the 1939 Register is Donovan, later altered to Hayward, apparently in 1949 and for an unknown reason.<sup>45</sup> Harry and Gladys Hindon hosted 3 evacuees. One (Eileen) remained in Lewes and married locally.

Harry (Henry) Hindon grew up in Hastings and moved to Mill Road from Waterloo Place in Lewes in 1932. He had served in the army in the First World War and survived unscathed. He later served in the Home Guard between 1940 and 1944. Harry was a printer by trade. He worked as a letterpress machine minder at Lewes Press in Friars Walk (the present NHS building) and became the foreman printer there. Harry and Gladys had no children. They kept a large garden and grew vegetables. Gladys was nicknamed Wendy after the house name, not the other way round. She died in 1997, aged 96, in a residential home, where she had moved after Harry's death in the 1960s.<sup>46</sup>

At least two of the 1930s houses have remained in the same family until the present day. Jim Dodd (number 12) and Geoff Wicks (number 16) have both spent most or (in Jim's case) all of their lives in houses built by their grandfathers. Geoff's grandfather, Percy Wicks, ran a very successful building firm in the pre- and post-war periods.<sup>47</sup> He numbered Leonard and Virginia Woolf among his clients: in 1934 they contracted him to move their famous summer house and re-erect it on a different part of the site at Monk's House in Rodmell.

## Mill Road in the Second World War

### The defence of Lewes

With the outbreak of war in 1939 Lewes, because of the strategic importance of its road and rail bridges over the Ouse, was designated a 'Type A. Nodal Point', which meant that the town was deemed capable of holding out against enemy attack for six days. In the event of invasion the whole of the borough would be defended, with the exception of two areas, one of which was 'the new houses at Malling Hill, Malling Villas and Mill Road'. This was

<sup>44</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/D/148/1

<sup>45</sup> Conversations with residents

<sup>46</sup> Conversation with June Eade, the Hindons' niece

<sup>47</sup> East Sussex Record Office: DL/A/47/1934/203

defined as a 'clearance area', whose residents would be evacuated and brought into Lewes, so as to allow the town's defenders a clear line of fire.

In response to the threat of imminent invasion, a roadblock was established in 1940 across the main highway at the junction with Mill Road. It was manned by Local Defence Volunteers, later known as the Home Guard. A Home Guard platoon of 40 men, part of A Company, 16th Battalion Sussex HG, had its HQ at Grey House, which stood until 1965 on the opposite side of the road to the Prince of Wales pub in Malling Street.<sup>48</sup> All traffic had to stop at the road block and travellers were required to produce ID cards. They were to be refused entry to the town unless they were a resident of the restricted area or could show a genuine reason to enter.

The road block was at first constructed of old carts, lorries and trailers, arranged to form a chicane. More substantial obstacles – concrete cubes, anti-tank coffins and buoys – supplemented by a flame fougasse, were substituted later.<sup>49</sup>

Anti-tank coffins comprised a 5 feet square-based pyramid, 3 feet high at the front, tapering down to 18 inches at the back.

Buoys were concrete cones with rounded bottoms, about 2 feet 9 inches high, and with a 2 inch diameter hole through the axis.

The flame fougasse was developed by the Petroleum Warfare Department as an anti-tank weapon during the invasion crisis of 1940. It was a type of mine, which used an explosive charge to project burning liquid onto a target. It had to be positioned where the road was banked at the side so that any vehicle it disabled would block the way forward for others following. The fougasse comprised a 40-gallon steel drum filled with petrol and waste oil, fitted with an explosive battery-operated igniter charge, which was fired from a nearby slit trench. The drum (2 feet wide and 3 feet high) was buried in the roadside bank and a 4 inch drain pipe allowed the oil to pour rapidly onto the road.<sup>50</sup>

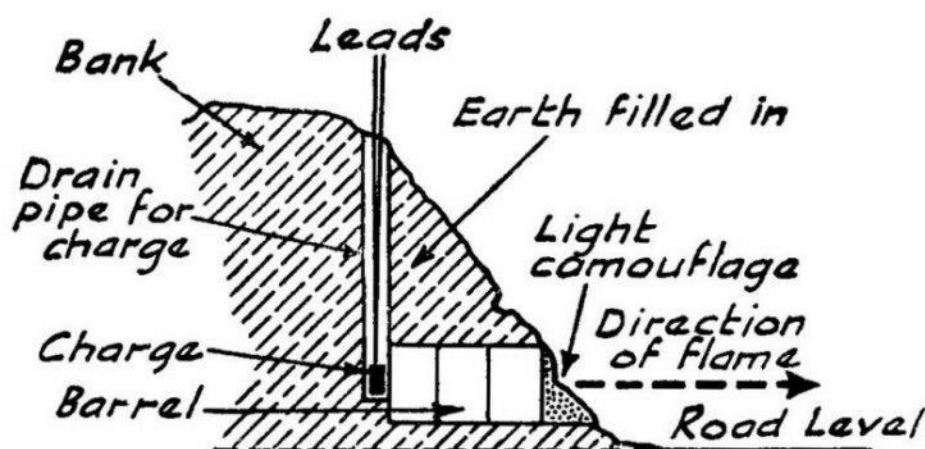


Fig. 4.—Barrel installed. Emplacement filled in. Charge lowered into position in drain pipe.

It seems likely that the fougasse at Mill Road was contained in the bank on the left hand side of the road approaching Lewes, below the houses in Malling Hill.

The flame fougasse was designed to be a formidable weapon. The fireball generated by the explosion would cover an area of up to 50 square yards. The heat of the flames was beyond intense: anyone caught in the torrent of fire would perish within seconds.

<sup>48</sup> R. A. Elliston, *Lewes at War*, 1999

<sup>49</sup> Chris Butler, *East Sussex Under Attack*, 2007

<sup>50</sup> Diagram from War History on line





*A demonstration of Fougasse, c1940. A car is surrounded in flames and a huge cloud of smoke<sup>51</sup>*

## **Canadians**

Two pioneer companies and one battalion from 1 Canadian Division, deployed to the UK for coastal defence duties, were stationed in Lewes following the fall of France in June 1940. A further Division arrived in East Sussex in July 1941, many of whom took part in the ill-fated Dieppe Raid in August 1942. Canadian troops remained in the area for the duration of the war until D Day. Because of wartime secrecy there is only fragmentary information remaining about the exact locations of the troops. Canadians were certainly stationed on Malling Down for long periods up to June 1944. Many of them frequented the Prince of Wales on Malling Street (now Horsman solicitors), often going there on foot via a path they referred to as “The Burma Road”.<sup>52</sup>

Firing ranges were set up all over the South Downs. Malling Down was fenced off with barbed wire and red triangular signs appeared: No Entry Military Area. Various incidents were recorded in the local press. Firing from the Golf Course in Lewes in 1943 injured a man working on his roof in Bishopstone. In January 1945 a 3-inch calibre artillery shell was found on the roadside 50 yards north of the Prince of Wales pub. On 4 August 1944 John Trigwell of Ringmer, aged 12, was killed while playing at Bridgwick Chalkpit. He had found the nose-cap of an artillery shell and threw it against a piece of concrete. The explosion killed him but his brother, who was unhurt, ran home to raise the alarm. John had apparently been warned only the day before about the danger of playing with thunder flashes.

## **Air raid shelters**

One of Lewes’s 18 Air Raid Protection (ARP) wardens’ posts was established by the side of Malling Laundry in 1939. At first it was housed in an allotment shed. In 1941, a brick and concrete building was constructed in the bank by the south side of the by then burnt out laundry. The post was manned whenever the air raid sirens sounded. It was equipped with first aid kits, rattles, hand-bells and whistles.

<sup>51</sup> Photograph from War History Online

<sup>52</sup> Conversation with Jim Dodd, Mill Road resident

Several British Concrete Federation (BCF) communal air raid shelters, each with seating accommodation for 50 people, were erected in the South Malling area: on the green at the front of Mill House; at the top of Mill Road; and at the rear of Malling Hill Villas. A typical shelter of this sort was 7'6" high x 11' wide x 30' long. They were half-buried below ground, the excavated soil forming a protective bank on the sides and roof, which was waterproofed with asphalt. Five concrete steps led past brick flank walls to the entrance door, which had a gas curtain. The inside was fitted with wooden slatted seats on each side and the floor was paved. A battery provided lighting. There were two chemical toilet cubicles made of asbestos sheets. An escape ladder led to a ventilation shaft with a drain cover.

### **Evacuees**

Several children were billeted in Mill Road (see the section on Houses 2 to 32). Lewes had been designated a safe area for evacuation in 1938 and in January 1939 households willing to take them were asked to register. Captain R. B. Newson was appointed Billeting Officer and Miss E. W. Foster his honorary assistant.<sup>53</sup>

Lewes was the destination for a large number of evacuees from London. The Council paid the host families a boarding allowance of 10/6 (53 pence) a week per child, reimbursed by central government. The first group arrived in Lewes by train from Croydon, Bermondsey and Tooting on 1 September 1939. They were taken to a number of control centres in the town and then walked to their host families. It was a large party, comprising 511 school children with 60 teachers; 360 children under school age with 233 mothers; and 160 blind adults and children. Over the next three days a further 300 or so young children with their mothers, 158 school children and 30 teachers arrived. Another 450 children were evacuated to Lewes in 1940. Around 300 boys from Tooting Bec School, previously evacuated to Chailey, were brought into Lewes in October 1939, placing a good deal of strain on the available accommodation. They remained until December 1943, when they returned to London, to be confronted with the onset of V1 and V2 rocket attacks.

Some children remained with the same family throughout their stay; others moved several times from host to host. I understand that several evacuee children remained in Lewes after the war, married here and stayed for considerable periods. However, I have been unable to speak to anyone with direct knowledge of who they were or where they lived.

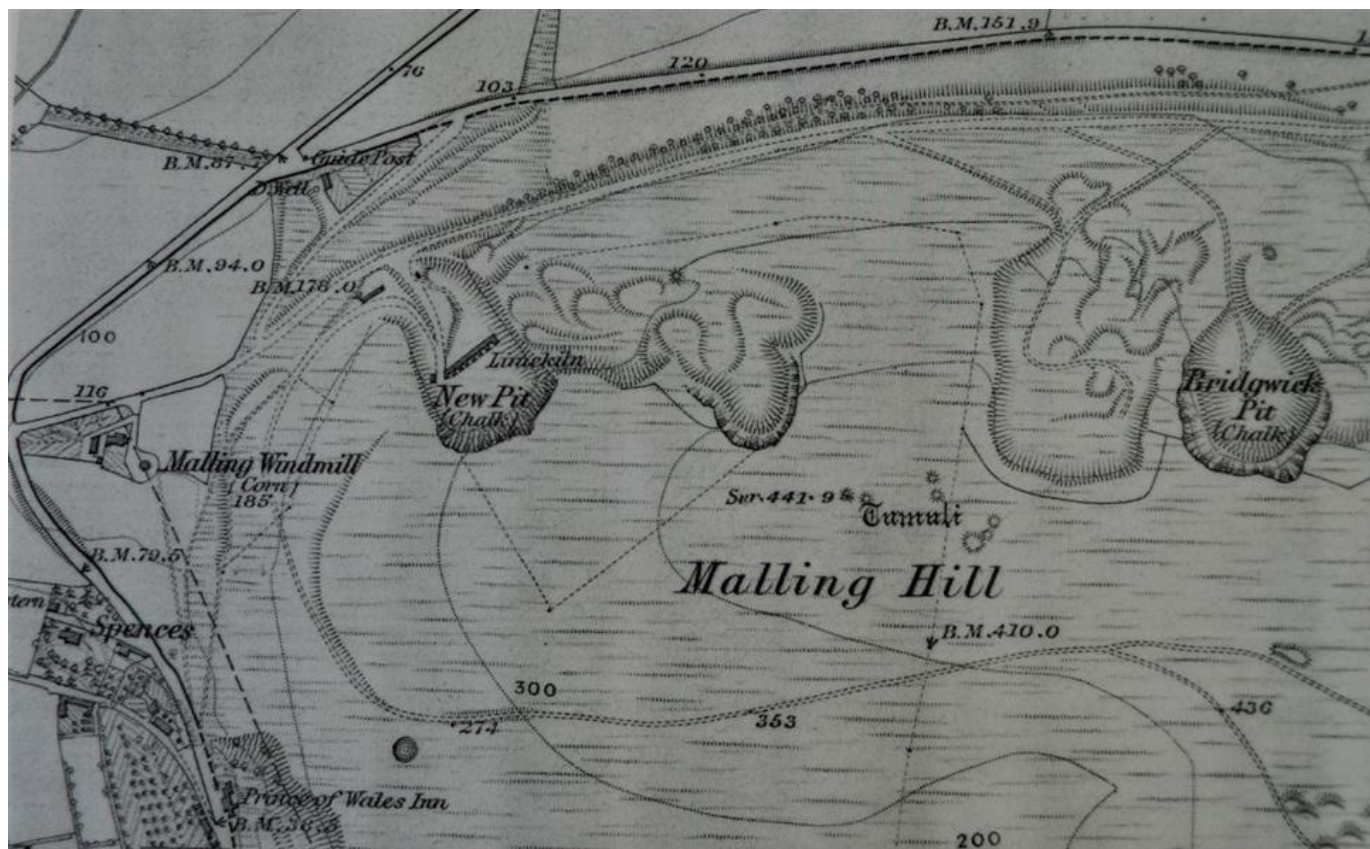
### **Chalk pits and lime kilns on Malling Hill**

Chalk and lime from the nearby pits were probably conveyed down Mill Road for just about as long as flour from the windmill. An almost continuous line of chalk pits lies along the South Downs escarpment from Washington in the

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<sup>53</sup> R. A. Elliston, *ibid*

west to Glynde in the east. Most of the smaller pits – including those on Malling Hill – were used principally by the farmers who owned them or leased adjoining land.<sup>54</sup> Although the soil on the Downs is alkaline, most arable farms in the district include areas requiring the application of lime.



OS 6 inch map (extract), 1873

The pits on Malling Hill were never developed on the much larger scale of those at Southerham, which benefitted from readier access to sea-going vessels on the lower Ouse and, from 1850, to the railway; or at Offham, where a quarter-mile cut and an incline plane connected the quarries to the navigable river.

The Malling Hill pits are on land which formed part of Stoneham Manor which, until the Reformation, formed part of the Archbishops of Canterbury's Malling estates. In 1691, after a series of complicated transfers of title between members of the Polsted family, Stoneham Manor was divided into two main holdings, which became the Lower and Upper Stoneham farms. The 1691 agreement stated that the chalk pit (it doesn't specify which) was to be held in common by both farms. By 1700 the farms had passed into the possession of the Spences (Lower Stoneham), soon to build Malling House and the Burrells (Upper Stoneham), later of Knepp Castle at Horsham.<sup>55</sup> New Pit and the chalk workings to the east formed part of Lower Stoneham Farm; the range of Bridgwick Pits were part of Upper Stoneham Farm.

It is difficult to provide a full chronology of how the pits operated and who worked them. It is likely that the various tenants of the Stoneham farms did so until the later 18th Century, probably largely to supply lime for their own fields. From the early 19th Century members of the Hillman family took a leading role in the local chalk and lime industries. They owned and operated the river barges that distributed the products. The brothers Robert and Charles Hillman advertised lime for sale in the local press in 1826, directing all orders to "the Malling Home Pit, Lewes".<sup>56</sup> I am not sure to which pit this refers.

<sup>54</sup> Margaret Holt, Limekilns in central Sussex, Sussex Industrial History vol. 2 1971

<sup>55</sup> East Sussex Record Office: AMS 5763/1-126

<sup>56</sup> Sussex Weekly Advertiser, April 1826



Lower Stoneham farm was sold at auction in 1842 following the death of Captain Henry H. Spence RN. The bulk of the farm land was bought by the merchant William Catt of Bishopstone for £17,724 7s 6d. New Pit (Lot 23) is described as the “very valuable chalk pit on the north-west side of Malling Down” with a stable and adjoining seven acres of land. Spence had let it to Thomas and Robert Hillman, nephews of the previous operators, for which they paid £120 annually plus £2 for the stable.<sup>57</sup> It is possible that these tenants bought Lot 23 in 1842, although I can find no explicit documentation to that effect. Whether as owners or tenants, they continued to run New Pit until their deaths in 1856 and 1884 respectively. Members of the Hillman family also worked the much larger Southerham pits and lime kilns, which they had leased from the Firle estate since at least 1811.<sup>58</sup>

The 1881 census notes that Robert Hillman lived at 104 High Street, describing him as a lime and coal merchant employing 60 labourers. He had five daughters and a son, who pre-deceased him. Other members of the extensive Hillman clan were the tenants at Lower Stoneham farm from 1855.

Certainly by 1914 the New Pit and its buildings had passed into the ownership of Robert Hillman and his descendants. In his will he had left his estate to his brother John (d. 1889), his nephew Aubrey (John’s son, d. 1906), Bernard Hussey Hunt, Andrews Nicholson (gentlemen) and their heirs upon trust. The Valuation Office survey of that year identifies these trustees as the site’s owners. It was occupied by E. Fiske on a quarterly tenancy of £5 a year. The pit was disused and the sheds boarded up. Its market value was put at £125.

In the same year the area covering the old chalk workings to the east of New Pit, a house, a cottage and land (all part of Lower Stoneham Farm) were owned by Alfred and Charles Sayer and occupied by Michael Stacey on a yearly tenancy from 1893 for £370 rent. The Valuation Office survey does not mention the chalk pit, which had clearly ceased to operate.

The Valuation Office survey lists the range of Bridgewick pits, part of Upper Stoneham farm, still in the ownership of Sir M. R. Burrell of Knepp Castle. In 1914 the farm was occupied by Robert Bannister on an annual tenancy of £450 and a market value of £11,300. The implication of the Valuation Office report is that some use was still being made of the pits at that time.



*The main Bridgewick Pit, 2020*

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<sup>57</sup> East Sussex Record Office: AMS 1666

<sup>58</sup> East Sussex Record Office: SAS-G/49/18/1282

There is now very little evidence of chalk and lime workings left on the ground. In the early 1970s one brick face remained of the four lime kilns at New Pit;<sup>59</sup> I have been unable to get access to the site to check if it is still visible. The Bridgewick pits are heavily overgrown and no traces are discernible.

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<sup>59</sup> Margaret Holt, Limekilns in central Sussex, Sussex Industrial History vol. 2 1971

## Appendix A

### MAPS: Mill Road 1783 – 1950

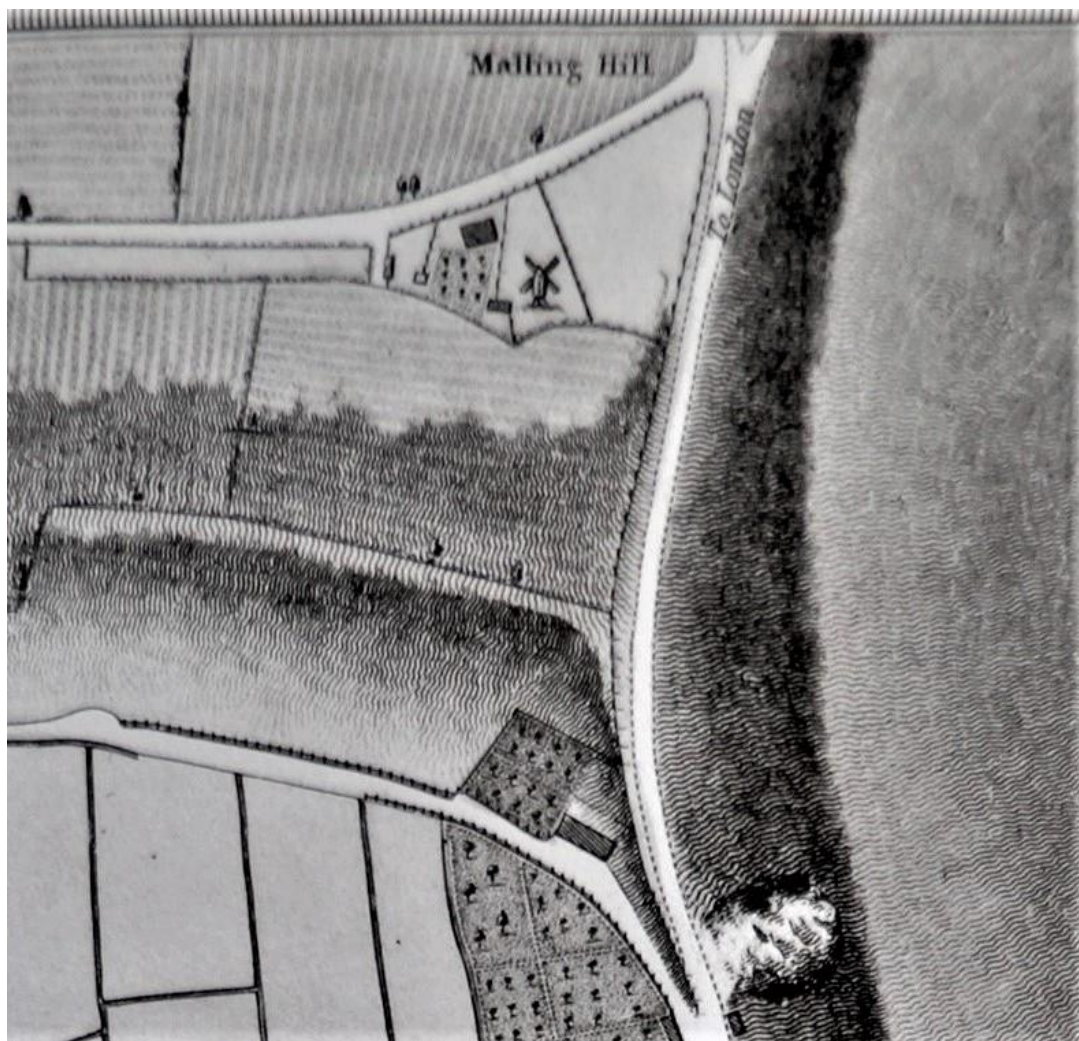


Thomas Yeakell and William Gardner 2 inch, 1783

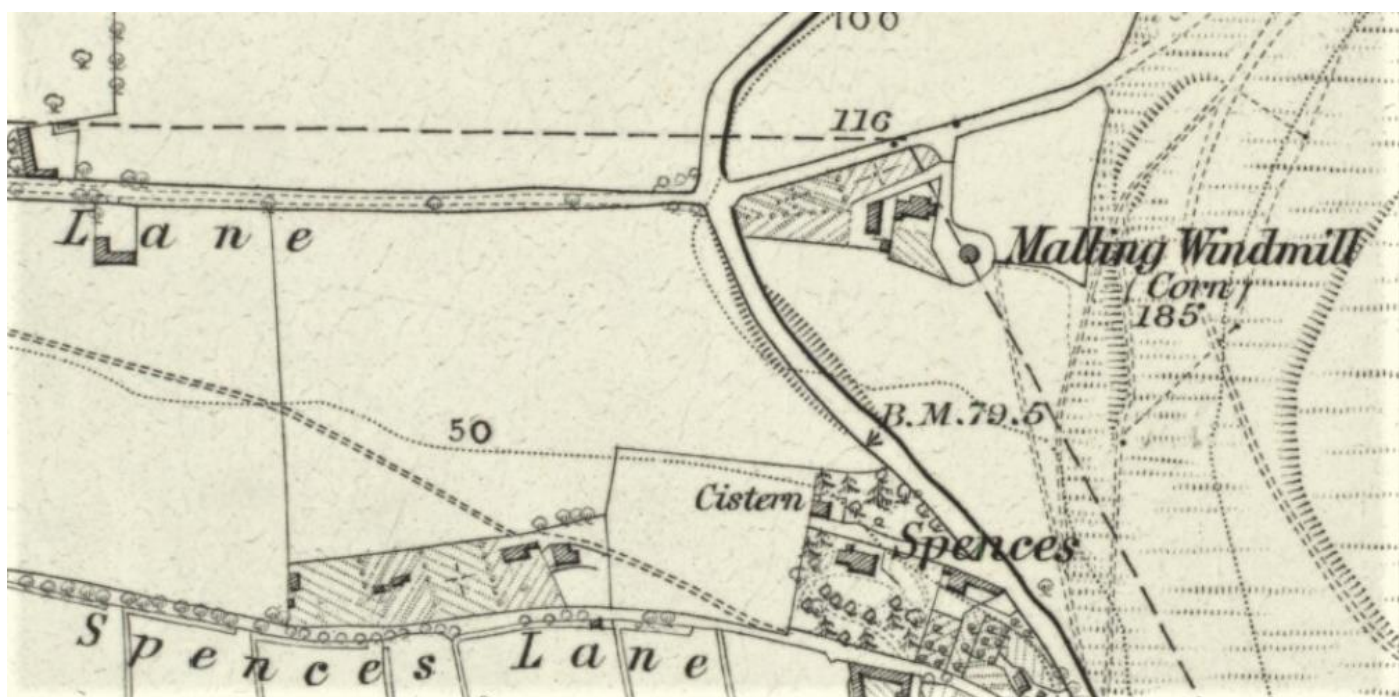


OS 1 inch First Series 1813

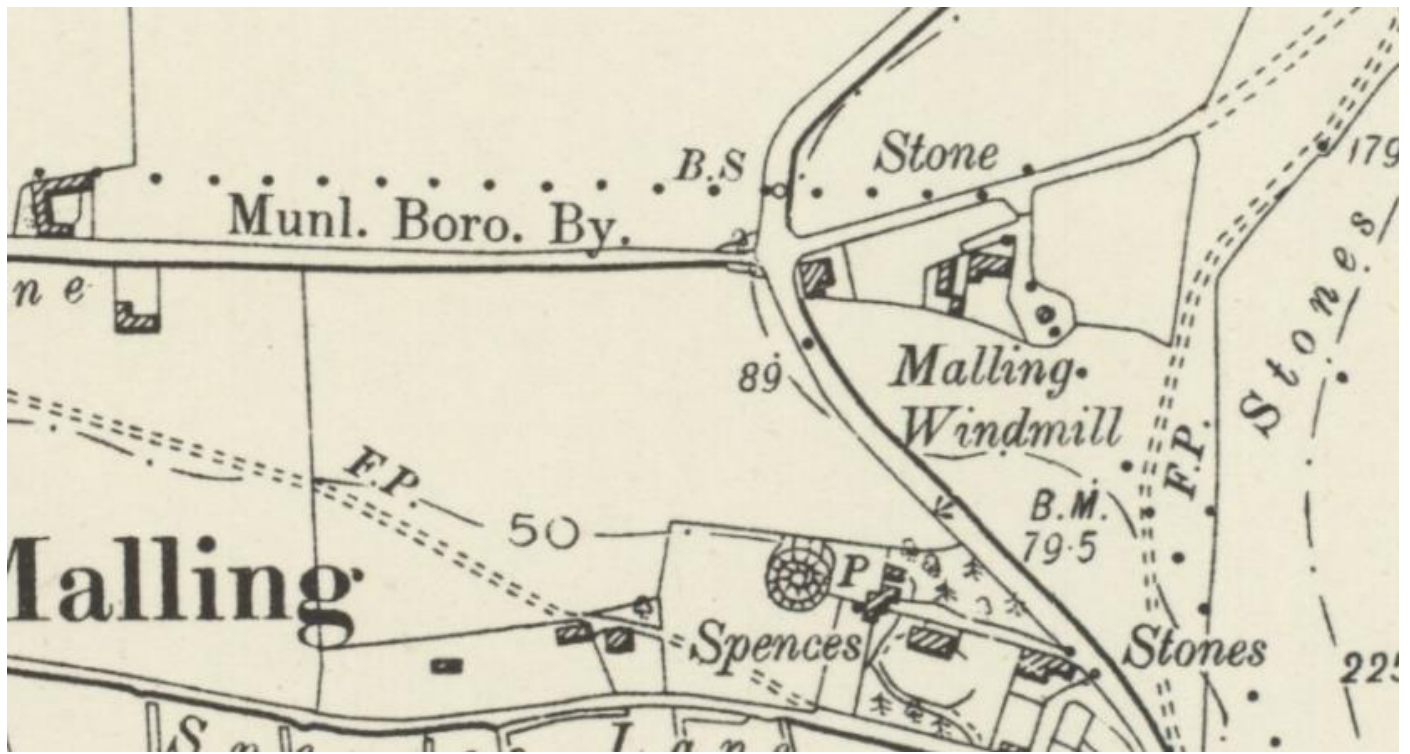




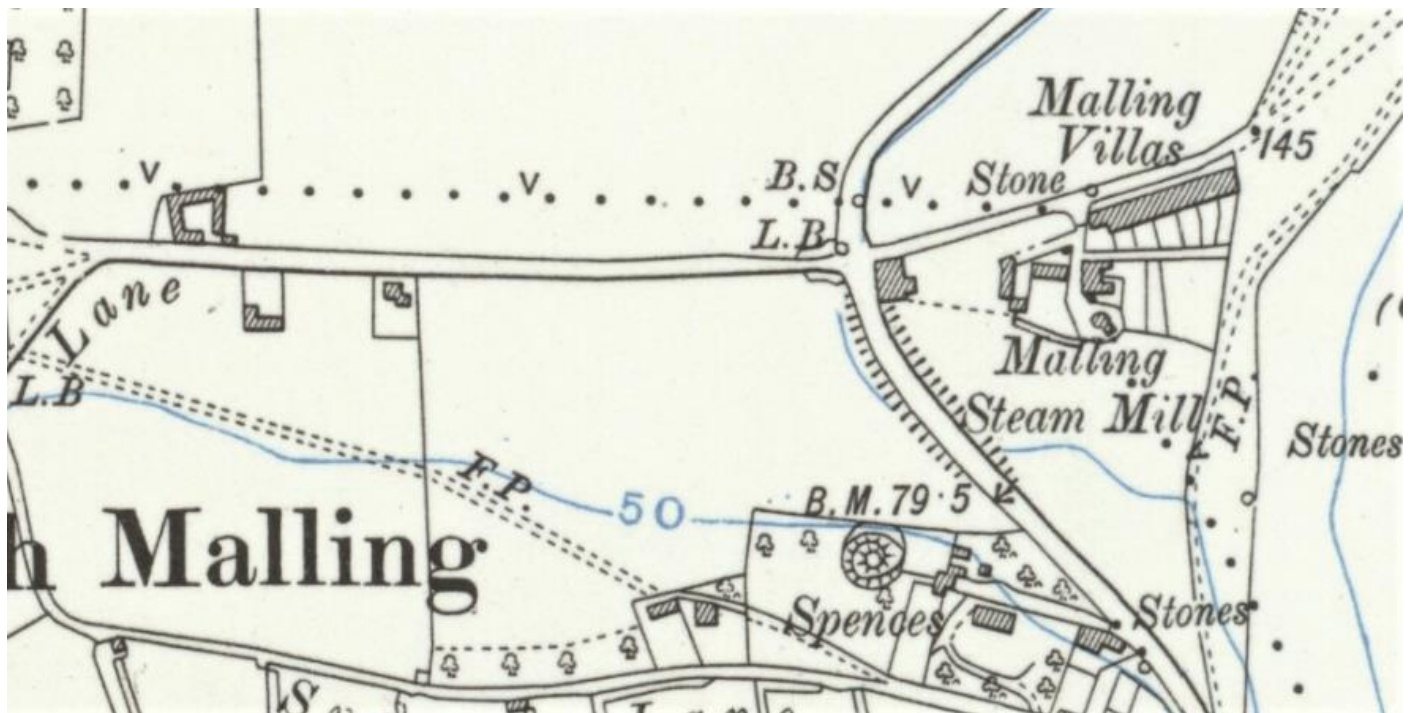
William Figg 1824



OS 6 inch 1878

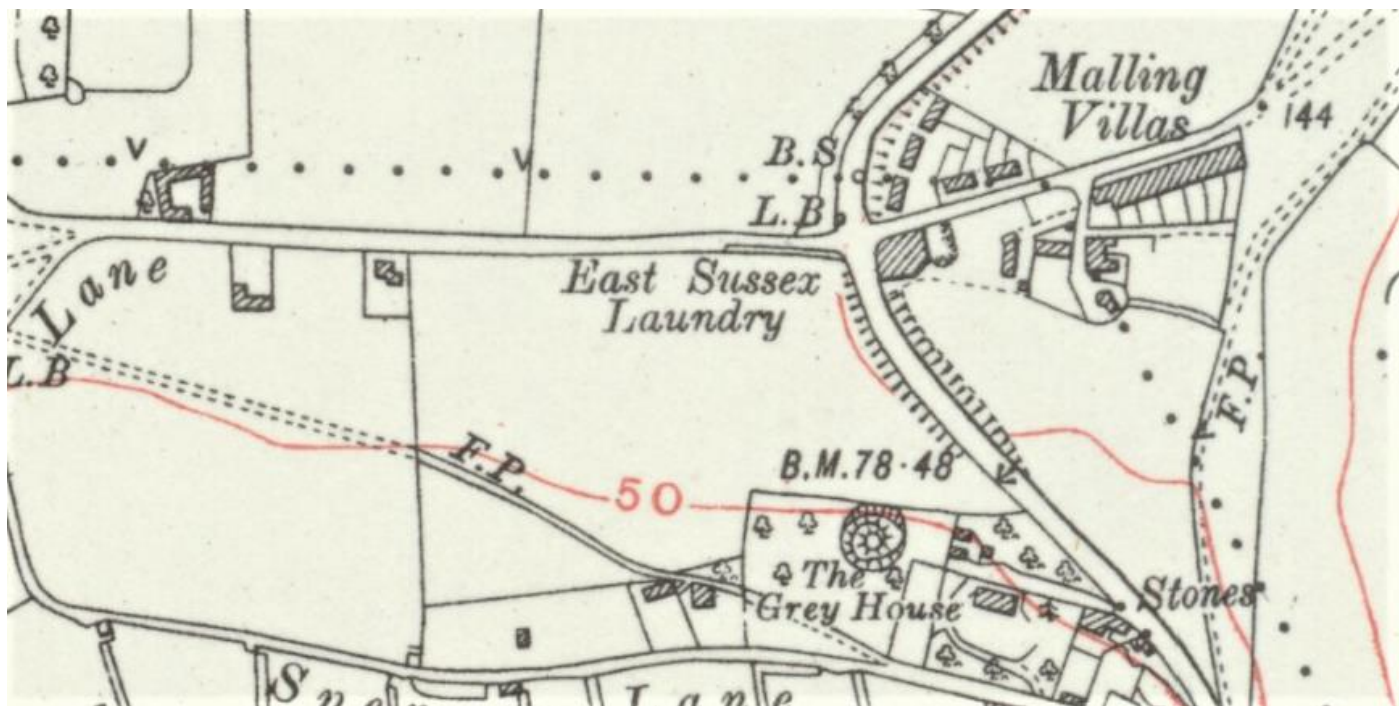


**OS 6 inch 1898**

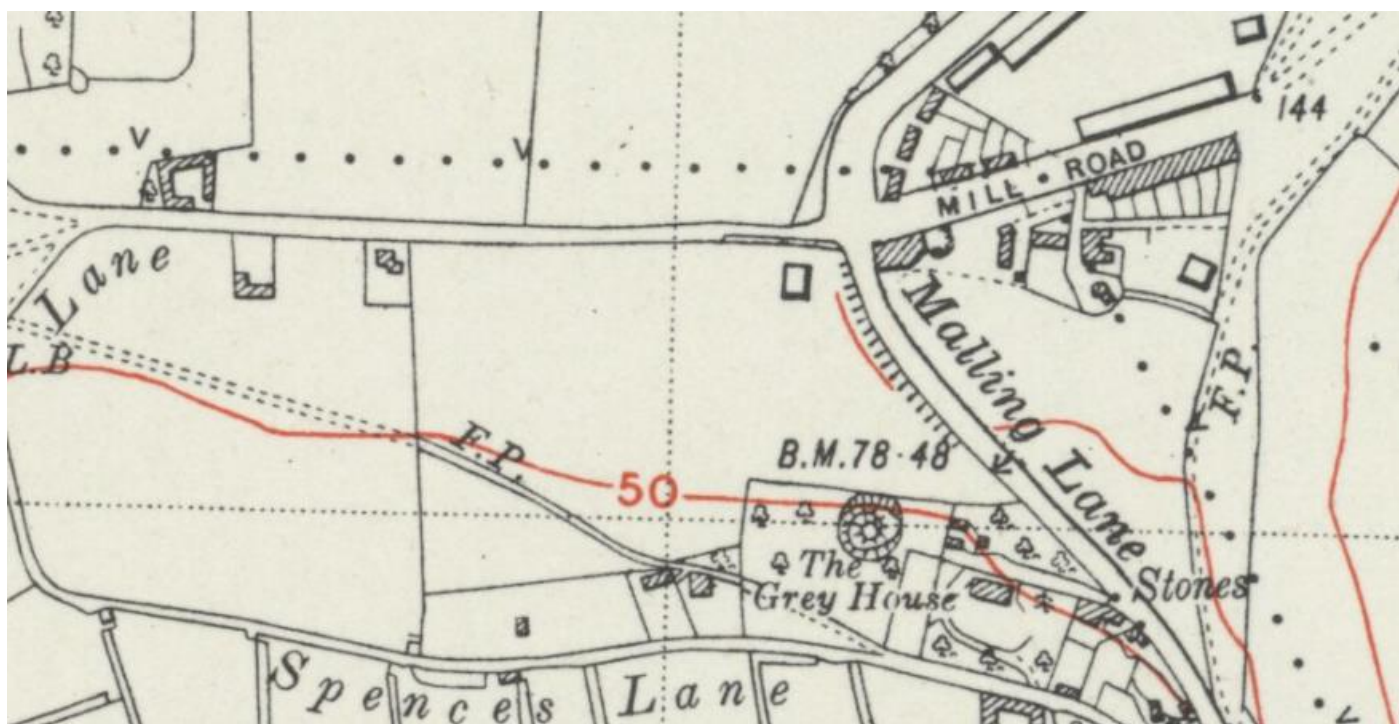


**OS 6 inch 1908**



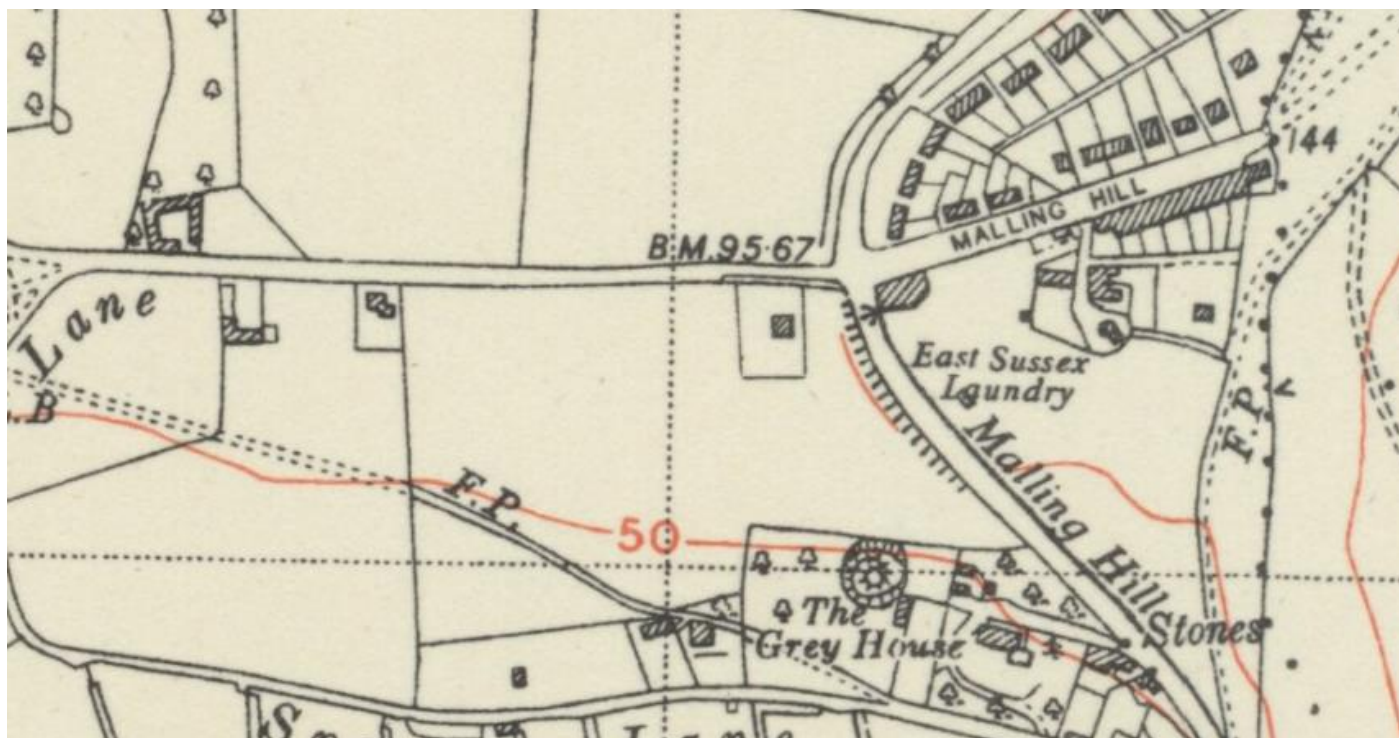


OS 6 inch 1930



OS 6 inch 1938



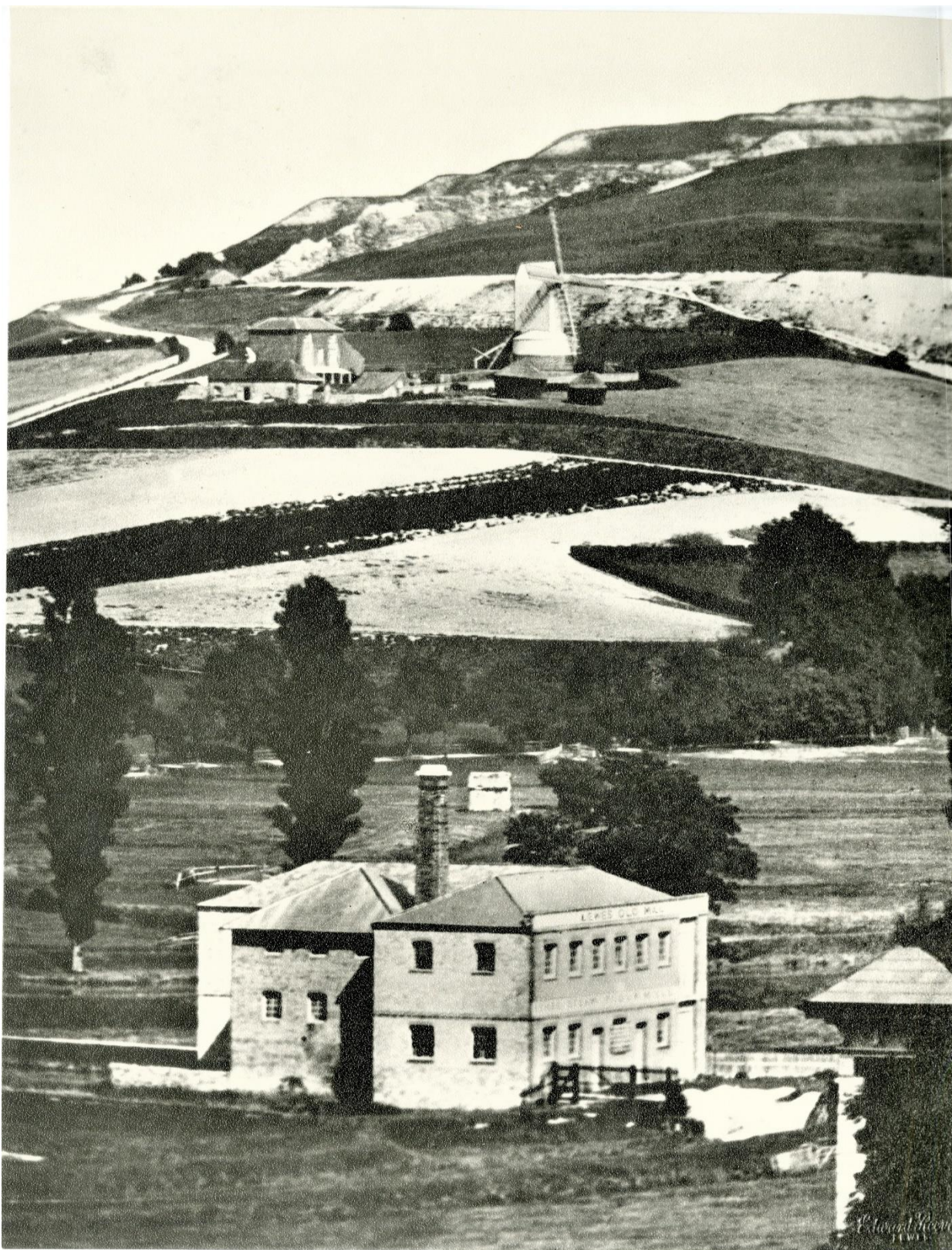


OS 6 inch 1950



## Appendix B

### Photographs of Malling Mill



Malling mill and Mill House from the Wallands c1860.

Photographer: Edward Reeves

With permission Sussex Archaeological Society Ltd





**Malling mill from Malling Brooks c1900**

**Photographer: Unknown. R. Jeeves collection**

**With permission ESRO ref: AMS 6871/1/3**



**Malling mill from Church Lane 1905**

**Photographer: unknown**

**With permission Bob Cairns, Lewes Postcard Collection**

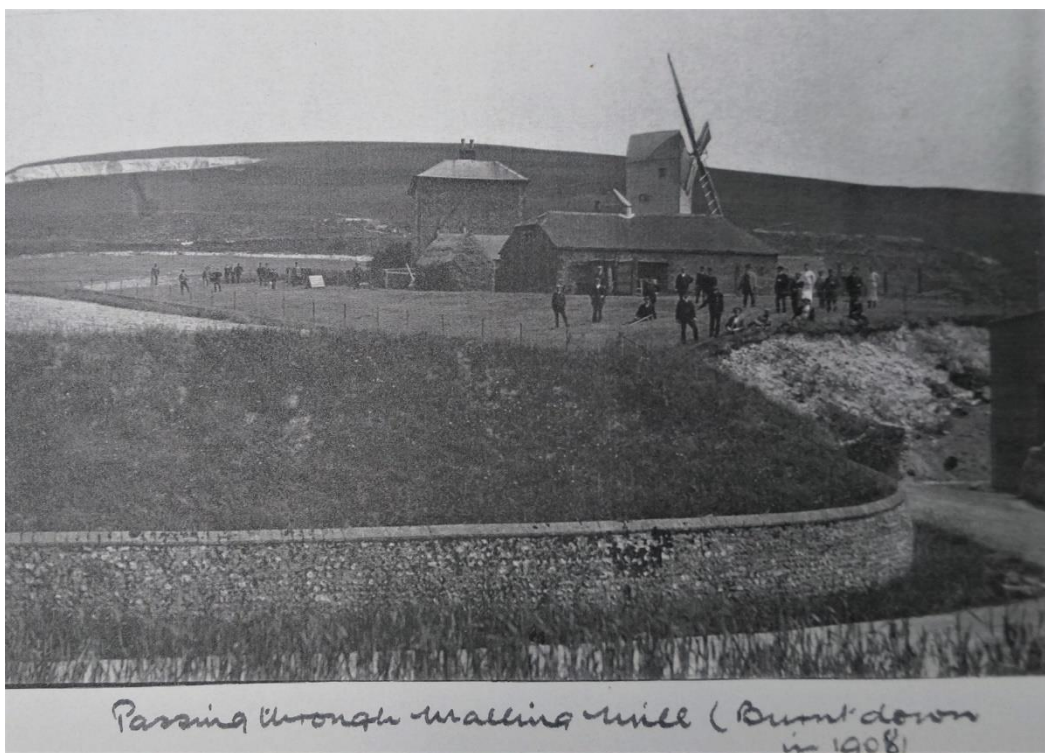




Malling mill with flags flying. Possibly August 1902 (Coronation of Edward VII)?

Photographer: unknown

Frank Gregory Collection. *[Fee required from the Mills Archive]*



Beating the bounds passing through Malling Mill 1895.

Photographer: Unknown

Les Davey Collection *[permission may be required]*. Permission from ESRO ref: AMS 6871/1/3



**Malling mill from Malling Street c1900**

**Photographer: likely to be William Brooker, Sussex Gardens, Eastbourne, who published the postcard**

**Permission from ESRO ref: AMS 6871/1/3**



**Malling mill and Mill House**

**Photographer: unknown**

**Watlington Postcard and Art Collection [Fee required from the Mills Archive]**

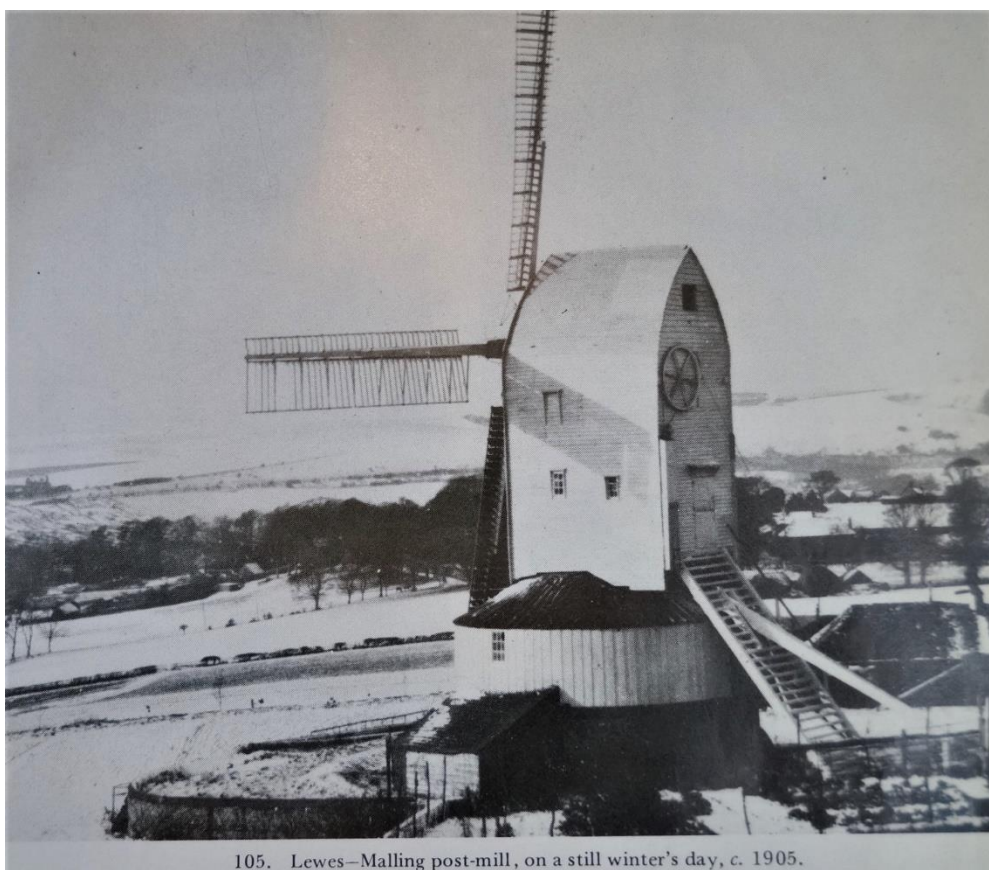




**Malling mill from the Combe. Postcard with postmark dated 1904**

**Photographer: unknown**

**Watlington Postcard and Art Collection *[Fee required from the Mills Archive]***



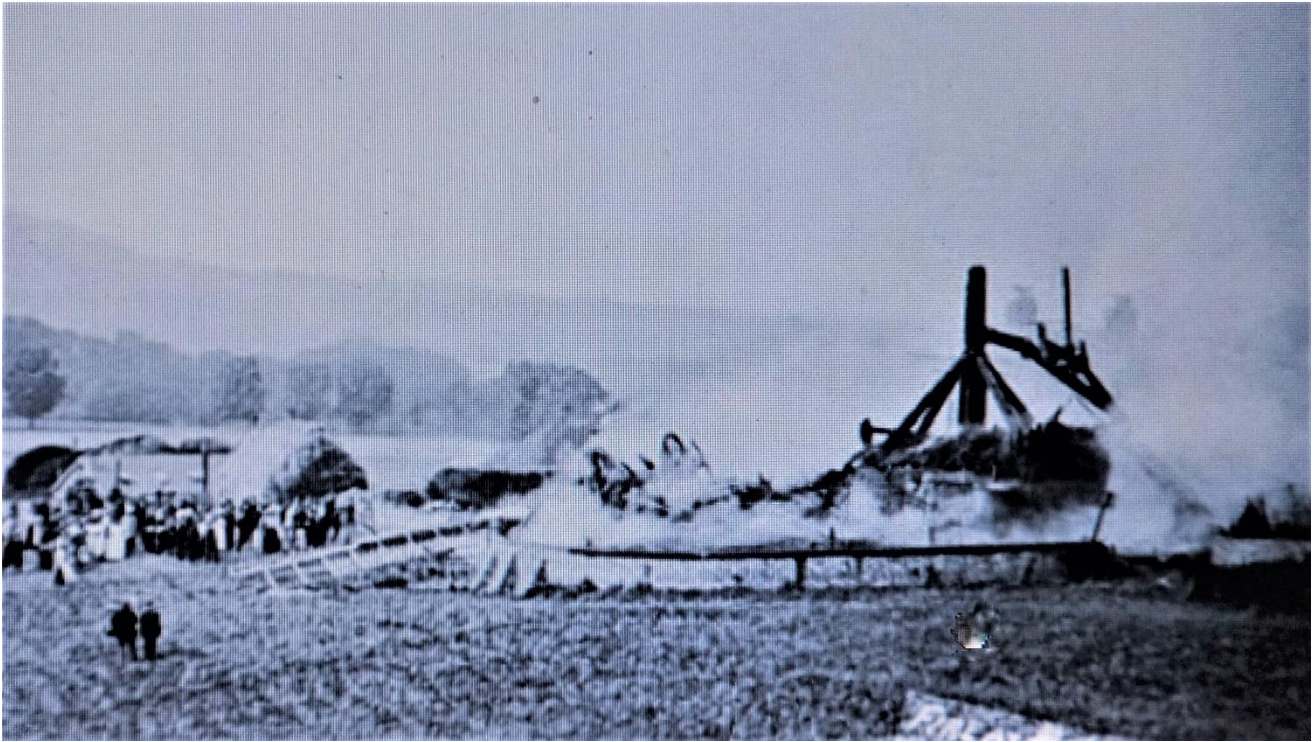
105. Lewes—Malling post-mill, on a still winter's day, c. 1905.

**Malling mill on a winter's day c1905**

**Photographer: Frank Burt of Ringmer, later 46 Malling Street**

**From M. Brunnarius, *The Windmills of Sussex*, Phillimore, Chichester 1979. *[Permission requested – no response]***





**Malling mill on fire September 1908**

**Photographer: unknown**

**Permission from Weald and Downland Living Museum**



**Malling mill soon after the fire September 1908**

**Photographer: unknown**

**Permission from Bob Cairns, Lewes Postcard Collection**





**The remains of Malling mill c1910**

**Photographer: James Cheetham (?)**

**Permission from Bob Cairns, Lewes Postcard Collection**

## Appendix C

### Residents of Mill Road up to AD 2000

Sources: Kelly's Directory; Pike's Directory; electoral registers; Government register, September 1939; planning applications and approvals; Censuses 1841-1911; Valuation Office Survey, 1914; house deeds; auction sale notices; conversations with current and former residents.

The tables indicate ownership only in cases where it is supported by available documentary evidence.

#### 1 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Walter Clay
1977	Amy C. Arch Henry G. Arch
2001	Alan K. Fidler

#### 3 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Miss Kate Chandler
1982	James C. Ridley
1988	Thomas R. Stark
1990	Timothy C. Driver-Williams
1995	James S. Randall

#### 5 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Alfred H. Jennings
1964	E. Johnson
1966	W.W.Steedman
1970	William E. Dabson
1977	Ada M. Dabson
1979	May A.E. Marshall
1988-2000	Beatrice A. Funnell



### 7 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Ronald R. Robinson Laura Robinson
1984	Thelma I.E. Woolgar
1986	Arthur H.S. Small Thelma I.E. Woolgar
2000	Thelma I.E. Woolgar

### 9 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Mrs A. K. Gander
1964	H. Stevens
1973	Harry Patching Kathleen S. Patching
1986-2000	Margaret A. Tooth Michael E. Tooth

### 11 Mill Road

Date	Occupier
1962	Miss Nora Pratt
2000	Sally House

### Mill House

Date	Owner	Occupier
? - 1841	John Hamlin	David Morris (45) Miller. b. Sussex Andrew Haywood (30) Labourer. b. Sussex Sarah Haywood (30) b. Sussex Joseph Upton (40) Agricultural labourer b. Sussex Joseph Upton (15) Agricultural labourer b. Sussex William Upton (15) Agricultural labourer b. Sussex Harriot Upton (15) b. Sussex George Upton (10) b. Sussex
1851	John Hamlin (or his devisees)	Peter Fuller (25) Master miller, employing 2 men. b. Brighton Frances Fuller (26) Miller's wife. b. Newtimber, Sussex Fanny Fuller (3) daughter. b. S. Malling Rose Fuller (3 months) daughter. b. S. Malling William Evens (16) Unmarried. Apprentice to miller. b. Balcombe William Scrace (26) Unmarried. Loader and general servant. b. Balcombe Loueasa Fannell (16) Unmarried. House servant. b. Chiddingly
1861	Richard Markwick	Richard Markwick (44) Master Miller, employing 2 men and a boy. b. Isfield. Hannah Markwick (44) b. Lewes. Miller's Wife Hepzibah Markwick (10) b. Worthing. Scholar. Daughter

Date	Owner	Occupier
		Hannah Bates (10) Niece. Scholar. b. Lewes Ebenezer Markwick (73) Retired shoemaker. b. Uckfield. Head Jane Markwick (75) Wife. b. Isfield Elizabeth Markwick (36) Daughter. Unmarried. Formerly dressmaker. b. Isfield
1871	Richard Markwick	Richard Markwick (54) Miller, master employing 2 men and a boy. b. Isfield. <i>Mary Markwick (52) b. Chailey. Wife NEW WIFE?</i> Hepzibah Markwick (20) b. Worthing. Unmarried. Daughter Ebenezer Markwick (83) Retired cordwainer. b. Uckfield. Head Jane Markwick (85) Wife. b. Isfield Esther Markwick (60) Daughter Unmarried. b. Uckfield
1881	Richard Markwick	Richard Markwick (64) Miller, master employing 2 men. b. Isfield. Mary Markwick (62) b. Chailey. Wife Hepzibah Markwick (30) b. Worthing. Unmarried. Daughter Ester Markwick (70) b. Isfield. Unmarried. Sister <i>Sarah Colbrow (55) Independent. b. Lewes. Visitor</i>
1891	Frank Stone	Frank Stone (25) Miller and Baker. b. Newhaven. Annie Stone (24) b. Newhaven. Wife Reginald Stone (5) b. Lewes. Son Frank L(eslie). Stone (3) b. Lewes. Son George Blackmore (17) Assistant Baker. b. Lewes Oliver Washer (13) Domestic servant. b. Lewes
1901	Castle Leaver	William G. Robins (35) Miller and baker. Worker. b Dorset Elizabeth Robins (34) Wife. b. Dorset. Albert Robins (12) Son. b. Dorset Daisy Robins (3) Daughter. b. Glynde.  Edward Bishop (48) Retired draper. b. Lambeth. Sarah Bishop (54) Manageress of Laundry. b. Chatham. Wife Maggie Bishop (16) Laundry Clerk. b. Greenwich. Daughter Richard Bishop (14) b. Woolwich. Son Emmie Howard (33) Assistant Manageress of Laundry. Single. Boarder. b. Norwich Mary Finnerty (22) Head Packer in Laundry. Single Boarder. b. Kensington
1905	Castle Leaver	James Charles Berry, builder (possibly of Berry & Bussey, Malling St, who built and converted the laundry) Pike's Directory has Berry living at 9 Malling Hill Villas in 1906
1911	Castle Leaver	Edward Bishop (58) Invalid. b. London. Sarah Bishop (64) Laundry manageress. b. Chatham. Wife Madge Bishop (26) Bookkeeper + journalist. b. Greenwich. Single Isabel Burrons (38) Laundry machinist. b. Cheltenham. Boarder (m) Kitty Matthew (24) Laundry packer + sorter. b. Hammersmith. Single
1914	Castle Leaver	Mrs Bishop [annual rent £30]
1916-17	Castle Leaver	Mrs Bishop
Nov 1921	East Sussex Sanitary Steam Laundry Co.	Thomas John Frampton Carter, Managing Director and Secretary of East Sussex Steam Laundry
Sept 1939		Unoccupied
? - 1947	East Sussex Steam Laundry	Alfred Woodward.

Date	Owner	Occupier
	Co.	
Dec 1947	Alfred FJ Woodward	Alfred Woodward, retired baker and confectioner. Purchased from the East Sussex Steam Laundry Co. for £2000
Aug 1950	Hettie L. Woodward	Mrs Hettie Lucy Woodward, widow of Alfred, who died in May 1950
1977	Hettie L. Woodward	Helen Silvester Hettie L. Woodward
Aug 1986	Brian Arthur Pointing Margaret Jean Pointing	
June 1987	Roy Marsh Denise Yvonne Marie Marsh	Roy and Denise Yvonne Marie Marsh
1999-2001	Martin Jangaard Nicola Jangaard	Martin Jangaard Nicola Jangaard

### Malling Mill

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1925	T.F. Carter		Converted to a bungalow
1934		Charles Finch	
Sept 1939		Charles Finch (56) Kathleen Finch (57) Amy Dorrell (55) Cecily Elsdon (33) Kenneth Elsdon (7) Doris Finch (32) + 2 redacted	Stationer. Retired Unpaid domestic duties Married. Unpaid domestic Married. Unpaid domestic At school Unpaid domestic duties
1951-1970		Mrs K.L. Finch	
1971-2000+	Rose E. Culver	Rose E. Culver	Alterations and additions 1985

### 13 Mill Road (16 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	W.H. Hobden	John Parsons	
1907	W.H. Hobden	Daniel Moore	
1911	W.H. Hobden	Susan Moore (56) Rose Moore (19)	Married. b. Southwick Daughter. Single. Dressmaking. b. Ringmer Where was Daniel Moore?
1914	W.H. Hobden	Daniel Moore	Market value assessed at £200
1922-23		Daniel Moore	
1938-40		G. Winder	1939 Register and subsequent directories place him at No. 17



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Sept 1939		Unoccupied	
1951-57		George W Tester	At number 33 (aged 9) in 1911
1964-77+	Edith Tester	Edith Tester	At number 33 (aged 11) in 1911
1979		Christine M. Arbenz Christopher J. Arbenz	
1982-2000+		Diana L. Ellis Leslie Ellis	In the 1980s named Mill Cottage

### 15 Mill Road (17 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	WH Hobden	William Robins	
1907	WH Hobden	William James Biddle	Moved from 7 MHV
1911	WH Hobden	James W. Biddle (61) Elizabeth Biddle (48)	Railway pensioner b Brighton Wife. b. Cambridge
1914	WH Hobden	JW Biddle	Rent £18 a year. Market value £205 (more land than next door)
1938-40		Mrs Biddle	
Sept 1939		George A Winder (50) Rose Winder (46)	Builder's labourer. Concrete mixer Household duties
1951-74+		George A Winder	
1977-2000		Christine E. Ramsauer Hans C. Ramsauer	

### 17 Mill Road (1 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	Alfred Grieves	Mrs Bishop	Did she later move to Mill House?
1907	Alfred Grieves	Henry Cook	
1911	Alfred Grieves	Caleb Skinner (34) Kate Skinner (39) Charles John Skinner (8) Ada Kathleen Skinner (8) Ernest William Fiske (55)	Carpenter. b. Eastbourne Wife. b. Norwood Son. b Chiselhurst Daughter. b Chiselhurst Boarder. Married. Poultry farmer on own account
1913-14	Alfred Grieves	Miss Bradley	Now called 'River View'
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Dennis	Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed at £260
1916-17		Samuel Dennis	
June 1935	Miss Joan Dennis		

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Sept 1939		Ethel Dennis (55) Phyllis Davies (24) Ellen Fox (41) + 3 redacted	Married. Housewife Secretary. Single Unpaid domestic duties
1951-2		John Christian	
1957-74+		Mrs Christian	
1977	Margaret Pettit Thomas R. Pettit	Margaret Pettit Thomas R. Pettit	
1984-2001	John E. Winter Marjorie E. Winter	John E. Winter Marjorie E. Winter	

### 19 Mill Road (2 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	Alfred Grieves	Mrs Sargeant	
1907	Alfred Grieves	A.W. Worster	
1911		Arthur William Worster (34) Myra Rowena Worster (37) Arthur William Worster (8) Kate Hepzibah Worster (4) Eliza Dunk (72) <i>Sarah Ann Bushly (34)</i>	Carpenter. b West Hoathly Wife. b Brighton Son. b Chichester Daughter. b Lewes Mother in law. Widow <i>Visitor. Cook. b Chichester</i>
1913-14	Alfred Grieves	Joseph G. Evans	
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Luxford	8/- a week rent. Market value assessed at £250
1914-15		H. H. Timms	
1922-23		A. Brown	
1931-32		George Brown	
Sept 1939		George Brown (75) Mary Brown (76) Rebecca Brown (46)	Railway signalman retired Incapacitated Daughter. Unpaid domestic
1951-57		Miss R. Brown	
1971-74+		Norman Byers	
1979		Charles F.D. Keen Jane Keen	
1988-2000+		Aileen W. Duncan Philip J. Duncan	

### 21 Mill Road (3 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
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1905	Alfred Grieves	Miss Sharpe, dressmaker	
1910	Alfred Grieves	George Brockhurst	
1911	Alfred Grieves	Marie King (32) Mable (sic) King (8) George King (6) Nellie Lapworth (14)William Thomas Sparswick (30) Lillie Sparswick (31)	Actress in portable theatre. Married. b Wales Daughter. b Peterhead, Aberdeenshire Son. b Maidenhead Niece. School. b Birmingham Boarder. Play actor. b Reading Boarder. Actress. b Birmingham
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Victor Jubilee Wood	Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed as £250
1918	Victor Jubilee Wood	Victor Jubilee Wood	Bought from Alfred Grieves for £150
1926	Mrs Lucy Voakes	Mrs Lucy Voakes	Widow of Grange Road, Lewes Bought from VJ Wood for £500 Died Dec. 1931
1927	Lucy Voakes	William Chamberlain	Inspector of weights and measures
1931-32	Lucy Voakes	George Edwin Ayling	
April 1932	Frank Washer	George Edwin Ayling	Washer, builder of Ringmer, bought from Lucy Voakes's executors for £350
June 1932	Henry Herbert Fudge and Annie Fudge	George Edwin Ayling	H.H. Fudge, farmer of Moor House Farm, Ringmer, bought from Frank Washer for £475
1934-36	Henry Herbert Fudge and Annie Fudge	Albert F. Cheeseman	
Sept 1939	Henry Herbert Fudge and Annie Fudge	Albert Cheeseman (32) Kate Cheeseman (30) Eric Cheeseman (6)	General fitter, cement works Unpaid domestic duties At school
1956-1959	Kate and Albert Cheeseman	Kate and Albert Cheeseman	Bought from Annie Fudge for £650
1971-2000+	Kate Cheeseman	Kate M. Cheeseman	

### 23 Mill Road (4 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	Alfred Grieves	Pickering	
1907	Alfred Grieves	George Stevens	
1910	Alfred Grieves	Louis E. Avenell	
1911	Alfred Grieves	Unoccupied	
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Frederick Baker	Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed as £250
1916-17		Frederick Goody	
1920-21		Thomas Copper	



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1932-34		Mrs Copper	
Sept 1939		Sarah Copper (78) Alice North (57) May Whitfield (43)	Widow. Unpaid domestic duties Widow. Unpaid domestic duties Single. Paid domestic (at No. 11 in 1911)
1951-2		Mrs S.A. Copper	
1957		Mrs A M North	
1964-74+		Miss M. Whitfield	
1977		Annie Whitfield	
1993-2000+		Colin P. Isted Joanne Isted	

### 25 Mill Road (5 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Oct 1901	Alfred Grieves		
1905	Alfred Grieves	J. Brown	
1911	Alfred Grieves	Joseph Brown (62) Louise Brown (55) Ernest Brown (18)	Plasterer. b. Lewes Wife. b. Wandsworth Son. Single. Bottle washer in brewery. b. Lewes
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Herbert Lower	Moved from 8 MHV Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed as £250
1916-17	Alfred Grieves	P. W. Leach	
May 1918	James (Jesse) Greenfield Lamper (railway clerk) of 20 Toronto Terrace (railway clerk)	James (Jesse) Greenfield Lamper	Bought from Alfred Grieves for £190. Mortgage of £140 from Lewes Coop Industrial and Provident Society
Oct 1927	James Morley (railway signalman) of Culver Junction, Barcombe	James Morley	Bought from Alice Lamper (widow) for £475 Jesse Lamper died 20/6/27
Sept 1939	James Morley	James Morley (75) Alice Morley (76)	Railway signalman retired. Unpaid domestic
1951-2		Norman FG Brummell Joan Brummell	Norman left in the late 1950s to become landlord of the Rifleman (later the Pewter Pot, then the Meridian) in Western Road
1960		Harry Foster	
1957	John A. Leister	John. A. Leister Ruth Leister	

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1982	Ruth Leister	Ruth Leister	
1988		Adrian N. Woolley Susan M. Woolley	
1990		Marian E. Pearce Trevor R. T. Pearce	
1997-2000+		Ian C. Bowley Petrina W. Bowley	

### 27 Mill Road (6 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	Alfred Grieves	J. Surgey	
1911	Alfred Grieves	Harold Hatchman (26)  Gladys Dorothy Hatchman (23) Harold Thomas Hatchman (1) Herbert William Gale (14) Ernest Frederic Gale (12)	Bakery and confectionery worker. b. Lewisham Wife. b. Lewes Son. b. Chichester Boarder. House boy (domestic) b. Lewes Boarder. School. b Lewes
1913-14	Alfred Grieves	William Wicks	
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Surgey (tenant in 1905)	Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed as £250
1916-17		Thomas Henry Proffitt-White Charles James	
1920-21		Joseph Clarke	
1922-38		Sidney Mountford	
Sept 1939		Emily Mountford (61) Alfred Mountford (30)	Widow. Unpaid domestic duties Single. Driver, mechanic light lorry
1951-2		Mrs E.J. Mountford	
1964		Harry Winter	
1968		Arthur H. Winter	
1970		Harold W. M. Vaughan	
1972		Stuart Plunkett	
1974		James R.W. Hunter Alexandra C. Hunter	
1982		Amanda J. Sanders Donald T. Sanders Douglas G. Sanders	
1984		Connie Gregory Alison L. Gregory	
1988-2000+		Connie Gregory	

### 29 Mill Road (7 Malling Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	Alfred Grieves	W. Dutton	
1906	Alfred Grieves	William James Biddle	
1907	Alfred Grieves	Thomas Blore	
1910	Alfred Grieves	Frank Gale	
1911 (2 households: Cox in 3 rooms; Gale in 2 rooms)	Alfred Grieves	Emma June Cox (33) Jack Maurice Cox (9) Roland Frank Cox (7) Florence Kathleen Cox (5) Eileen Cox (5 months)  Frank Gale (51) Emma Jane Gale (51)* Rose Annie Gale (19) Florence Grace Gale (9)	Widow. Laundress. b. Lewes Son. b. Brighton Son. b. Brighton Daughter. b. Brighton Daughter. b. Lewes  Labourer (painting worker) b. Lewes Wife. b. Lewes Daughter. Single. b. Lewes Daughter. b. Lewes *Married 34 years; 12 children; 11 living
Dec. 1914	Alfred Grieves	Gale	Rent 8/- a week. Market value assessed as £250
1939		Emma Gale (80) Frank Gale (57) George Todman (32) Sarah Jane Todman (33) Ernest Hockley (33)	Widow. Householder Royal Navy pensioner. Married General labourer, cement works Household duties. Groom. Single
Feb 1947	George W. Todman	George W. Todman	
1964	Mrs S. J. Todman	Mrs S. J. Todman	
1977	Mrs S. J. Todman	Sarah J. Todman John R. Beck Gillian M. Beck	
1986		John R. Beck Gillian M. Beck	
1995-2000+		John R. Beck	

### 31 Mill Road (8 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1904	Mrs Caroline Halliday		Of Bickenhall Mansions, London Bought from Alfred Grieves for £250
1906	Caroline Halliday	Frederick Goody	Later moved to 8 then 15 then 14 then 4 MHV
1907	Caroline Halliday	J. C. H. Martin	
1911	Caroline Halliday	Herbert John Lower (24) Elizabeth Lower (24)	Domestic groom. b. Lewes Wife. b. Lewes



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		Dorothy Lower (2) Herbert Frank Lower (2 months) Frederic Crowhurst (22)	Daughter. b. Lewes Son. b. Lewes  Boarder. Single. Traction engine labourer
Dec. 1914	Caroline Halliday	John Smith	Rent 7/6 a week Market value assessed at £220
1920		T. J. Bowles	Rent 7/- a week, to be increased to 9/10 a week from September 1920
1924-25		D. Burgess	
1929-30		Frederick Farrant	
1932-34		Robert Bourne	
1939		Robert Bourne (79) Frances Bourne (75)	Retired publican. Housewife.
1951-2-1974+		Miss W.N. Luck	Helper at the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls.
1977		Peter K. Roberts Rosemary M. Roberts	
1982-2000+		Norma Allen Richard L. Allen	

### 33 Mill Road (9 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1904	Caroline Halliday		Of Bickenhall Mansions, London Bought from Alfred Grieves for £250
1906	Caroline Halliday	James Charles Berry	
1911	Caroline Halliday	Thomas J Tester (37) Edith Mary Tester (38) Rose Elizabeth Tester (16) Thomas James Tester (14) Edith Tester (11) George William Tester (9) Alfred Henry Tester (4) Louise Tester (2) Robert John Tester (1 month)	Laundry engineer. b. Hove Wife. Ironer (laundry). b. Brighton Daughter. b. Hove Son. School. b. Hove Daughter. School. b. Hove Son. b. Hove Son. b. Hove Daughter. b. Hove Son. b. Lewes
Dec. 1914	Caroline Halliday	Tester	Market value assessed at £250
1920		T.J. Tester	Rent 7/- a week, to be increased to 9/10 a week from September 1920
Sept 1939		James T. Tester (TJ?) (65) Edith M. Tester (66) Florence Pope (23)	Engine warehouseman Wife. Laundry worker ironer Laundry worker drier
1951-2		James T. Tester	
1955	Dennis Leister	Dennis Leister	
1968		Thomas R. Pettit	At number 17 in 1977
1969-74+		J. Pettit	

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1977-2000+		Marie J. Brown Michael Brown	

### 35 Mill Road (10 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1907	William Weller	Frederick Goody	Moved from No. 8 MHV
1911	William Weller	Albert Moon (35) Mabel Hannah Moon (31) Harry Moon (38)	Horse driver (mineral van) b. Firle Wife. b. Chichester Brother. Farm labourer. b. Firle
Dec. 1914	William Weller	Albert Moon	7/6 a week rent Market value assessed at £235
1936-38		Frank Verrall	
1938-40		Cecil Robert David Musk	
Sept 1939		Doris M. Musk (35) Joyce BM Sutton (27) Kathleen LV Gillett (11) + 3 redacted	Married. Unpaid domestic duties Single. Telephonist At school
1951-2 – 1974+		Herbert P. Howard	
1977		John W. Chapman Elsie C. Howard Jane Urry	
1979		Daphne N. Dixon	
1982		Michael J. Fox Daphne N. Dixon	Police officer
1986		Daphne Fox Michael J. Fox	
1990		Tobias J. Dixon Katherine Dixon Daphne Fox Michael J. Fox	
1999		Daphne Fox Michael J. Fox	

### 37 Mill Road (11 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1907	William Weller	Frederick Moreton	
1911	William Weller	George Whitfield (61) Sarah Whitfield (50) Harry Whitfield (19)  Frank Whitfield (17)  May Whitfield (14)	Laundry Van man. b. Waltham Wife. b. Hawley, Hants Son. Single. Laundry van man. b. Wellingham Son. Single. Porter in iron foundry. b. Old Malling Daughter. b. Old Malling

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		Annie Whitfield (11)	Daughter. School. b. Old Malling
Dec. 1914	William Weller	Whitfield	7/6 a week rent Market value assessed at £235
1936-38		Frank Whitfield	
Sept 1939		Grace M. Whitfield (43) Frances G. Clinton (12) Edward A. Whitfield (10) Frank W. Whitfield (9) + 3 redacted	Married. Unpaid domestic duties At school At school At school
1951-2 - 1982+		Frank Whitfield Grace M. Whitfield Edward A. Whitfield	
1984		Helen J. Turner Ian A. Turner	
1993		Christopher Collinson Maisie Collinson	
1995		Simon C. Thomason	

### 39 Mill Road (12 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	William Weller		
1910	William Weller	William Norman	
1911	William Weller	William Norman (30) Elizabeth Norman (39) Henry Hemsley (62) Elizabeth Hemsley (62)	Carman at laundry. b. Rodmell Wife. b. Ringmer. Boarder. Mushroom grower. b. Ringmer Boarder. b. Lewes
Dec. 1914	William Weller	Frederick Morton	7/6 a week rent Market value assessed at £235
1916-17		Mrs Holder	
1920-21		Alfred Eade	
1938		George Frederick Townshend	
Sept 1939		George F. Townshend (30) Kathleen Townshend (30) Bryan G. Townshend (2)	General engineers Chief Clerk Unpaid domestic duties Under school age
1951-2		George F. Townshend	
1960		Miss Weller	A relative of the original developer?
1974		Paul R. Hulatt	
1977		Jane L. Barton	
1988		Anthony C. Bennett Sian Saunders	
1993		Constance Owen	



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1995-2000+		Constance Owen Miriam C. Owen	

#### 41 Mill Road (13 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	William Weller		
1910	William Weller	Mrs W. T. Martin	
1911	William Weller	Jane Martin (47) Venetia Winton Martin (20)	Widow. Private means b. Bramley, Hants Daughter. Single. b. Lewes
Dec. 1914	William Weller	Martin	7/6 a week rent Market value assessed at £235
1916-17		Albert Ellis	
1932-34		D. Luck	
Sept 1939		Cecil A. Taylor (36) Alice J. Taylor (37) Derek J. Taylor (5) + 1 redacted	Bakers roundsman motor driver Unpaid domestic duties At school
1951-2		Cecil A. Taylor	
1964		Ronald Guile Sandra M. Guile Debra J. Guile	
1990-2000+		Ronald Guile	

#### 43 Mill Road (14 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	William Weller		
1910	William Weller	Mrs Vallett	
1911	William Weller	Jesse Pannett (27) Ethel Pannett (25) Joan Pannett (5 weeks)	Brewers Clerk. b. Lewes Wife. b. Bexhill Daughter. b. Lewes
1913-14	William Weller	F. Goody	Moved from 15 MHV?
Dec. 1914	William Weller	F. Goody	7/6 a week rent Market value assessed at £235
1916-17		Thomas K. Farncombe	
1920-21		Frederick Goody	Moved back?
1934-36		David W. Rees	
1936-38		Albert Moon	

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Sept 1939		Albert Moon (64) Mabel H. Moon (59) Hubert Moon (24) Mabel E. Elliott (24)	Mineral water salesman Unpaid domestic duties Plumber and hot water fitter. Single Daily domestic. Single (Moons at 35 Mill Road in 1911)
1951-2		Albert Moon	
1957		Arthur C. Snell	
1964		Robert J. Steer	
1974		Christopher R. Scoble	
1977	Angela L. Hathaway Richard R. Hathaway	Angela L. Hathaway Richard R. Hathaway	
1988-2000+	Bridget M. I. Rose	Bridget M. I. Rose	Civil engineer, ESCC

#### 45 Mill Road (15 Malling Hill Villas)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1905	William Weller		
1911	William Weller	Frederick Goody (41) Emily Jane Goody (48)	Clerk in a Gas Company. b. Kenley, Surrey Wife. b. Stapleford, Wiltshire
1914	William Weller	Miss M. Bennett	8/- a week rent Market value assessed at £260 Large conservatory
1920-21		Stephen Homewood	
1922-30		Mrs Spurling	
1934-36		Robert Hill Shennan	
Sept 1939		Robert H. Shennan (33) Kathleen Shennan (28) Hugh PJ Rogers (28)	General fitter and driver Heavy worker Housewife Single. Soft furnishing salesman
1951-2 – 1979+		Robert H. Shennan Kathleen Shennan	
1984-2000+	John D.S. Broadhurst	John D.S. Broadhurst Bridget M. I. Rose (to 1990)	Marketing director Bought in a probate sale

#### 2 Mill Road (4 Council Cottages)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1929-30	East Sussex CC	Alexander Frank King	
Sept 1939		Alexander Frank King (39) Gladys J. King (33)	General labourer. ARP ESCC Unpaid domestic duties

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		+ 4 redacted	
1951-57		Alex F. King	
1960		Roy Puttick	
1966-2000		Daniel B. Cobb Evelyn Cobb	

#### 4 Mill Road (3 Council Cottages)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1929	East Sussex CC	Arthur Sharp	
Sept 1939		Arthur G. Sharp (42) Ethel B. Sharp (37) Richard Jenner (72) + 1 redacted	Steam lorry driver Unpaid domestic duties Lime works labourer, retired
1957		Arthur Sharp	
1964		Derek W. Bacon	
1973		Victor C. Miller	
1979		Derek A. Mackintosh Teresa Mackintosh	
1986		Alan S. Arnold Davina E.D. Arnold	
1990		David Gardner Frank S. Gardner	

#### 6 Mill Road (2 Council Cottages)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1929-30	East Sussex CC	George Charles Bryant	
Sept 1939		George C. Bryant (39) Gertrude E. Bryant (39) Geoffrey GR Bryant (12)	Lorry driver and fitter's mate. ARP ESCC Unpaid domestic duties At school
1952		George C Bryant	
1957-2000		Brian T. Green Agnes J. Green	

#### 8 Mill Road (1 Council Cottages)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1929-30	East Sussex CC	Samuel James Lee	
Sept 1939		Samuel J. Lee (55) Minnie Lee (54) Horace J. Lee (16) Eric R. Lee (13)	Blacksmith Unpaid domestic duties Labourer At school



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		James Lee (82)	Labourer, retired
1952		Samuel J Lee	
1957-2000		Kenneth C. Jarrett Anne Jarrett	

### 8a Mill Road

A dwelling erected in the garden of 8 Mill Road. An archaeological watching brief was prepared in September 2010, as a condition of permission being granted.

### 10 Mill Road (Sunnybrae)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
May 1931	Mr C Painter		
Sept 1939	Charles Painter	Charles Painter (43)  Frances Painter (38) Richard Short (77) Clifford Morfee (6) Bernard Chapman (4) + 1 redacted	Motor repair works foreman. ARP part time Housewife Butcher, retired At school At school
1952	Charles Painter	Charles Painter	
1957		Alfred M.P. Wilson	
1960		Alfred Godfrey	
1962		Mrs Zilla Williams	
1982		Gillian M. Hunt Martin J. Hunt	
2000		Catherine J. Castle Garry C. Taylor	

### 12 Mill Road (South Winds)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Oct 1931	Mssrs H Milham & Sons		
1934	Harry Milham	Arthur Beeforth	Arthur Beeforth later at number 14
Sept 1939	Harry Milham	Harry Milham (55) Jane Milham (65) Mary Regan (Rougarey) (11)  James F. Dodd (30) + 1 redacted	Brick-maker and layer Unpaid domestic duties At school. Identified as an evacuee. Original entry is Regan; later altered to Rougarey (possibly Lougarey) apparently in 1957. Groom (army during WW2)
			Harry Milham married Jane Dodd in 1939

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
			Jane Milham worked at the Laundry Harry Milham died in a motor cycle accident during the war
1951	Jane Milham	Mrs J Milham James F. Dodd Nellie Dodd	
1957	Jane Milham	Mrs J. Milham	
1962-2000	James F. Dodd	James J. Dodd Mark Dodd Hollie Dodd Stella G. Dodd	

#### 14 Mill Road (Dorarth)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Oct 1931-1940	Mssrs H Milham & Sons		
Sept 1939	Arthur Beeforth	Arthur Beeforth (30)  Doris Beeforth (35) + 1 redacted	Chief clerk, building society. Local Aux. Fire Service Unpaid domestic duties <i>A 'Mrs Beeforth' returned to teaching at Mountfield Rd Boys (Elliston p 35) Was that Doris?</i>
1957	Arthur Beeforth	Arthur Beeforth Doris Beeforth Trevor Beeforth	
1960		Cyril H. Evans Mavis Evans 3 children	
1966		Henry Stephenson	
1969		L.B.M. Stevenson	
1973-2000		Charles A. Ellis Merrilyn Ellis	

#### 16 Mill Road (Wyndgates)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Feb 1932	Mr P.R Wicks		Purchased from the trustees of Robert Hillman's will in 1931 for £50 (16 and 18 Mill Road) PR Wicks (b. c 1885) builders. Yard in Sun Street. Employed c 200 people. Did work for the Woolfs at Monks House.
1934-36	P.R. Wicks	William C. Gatcombe	
Sept 1939	P.R. Wicks	John W. Doughty (71) Desmond Banks (16) Gladys W. Frith (Doughty) (40) + 1 redacted	Restaurant (?) superintendent, retired At school (relative of PR Wicks) Unpaid domestic duties

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1951-57	P.R. Wicks	Mrs A Faulkner	
1961	Kenneth Percy Wicks Johanna Maria Wicks	Kenneth P. Wicks	Building foreman. Son of PR Wicks. Returned from Australia 1961 Ownership transferred by deed of gift from father to son and his wife, October 1961.
1977	Geoffrey Wicks	Geoffrey A. Wicks Johanna M. Wicks Kenneth P. Wicks	
1984-2000	Geoffrey Wicks	Geoffrey A. Wicks Pamela A. Wicks	Bought from Johanna M. Wicks.

### 18 Mill Road (Cresswell)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Feb 1932	Mr P.R. Wicks		Also built 16 Mill Road (see above)
1934-36	Mr P.R. Wicks	William J. Twort	
Sept 1939	Mr P.R. Wicks	Frederick Jenkins (28) Gwendoline D Jenkins (23)	Shopkeeper – newsagent / tobacconist Unpaid domestic duties
1951-52	Mr P.R. Wicks	Stanley T Weaver	
1957	Dennis Wicks	Dennis F.R. Wicks Jean A. Wicks Simon J. Wicks	Son of P.R. Wicks
1979		Kathleen M. Glennon Joseph P. Glennon Michael J. Glennon	
2000		Helen Skelton Kathleen M. Glennon	

### 20 Mill Road (Thiseldo)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Nov 1931	Mr A.E. Rawles		
1938-40		Archibald William Briggs	
Sept 1939		George Brown (65) Mary Brown (66) Rebecca Brown (46)	Retired railway signalman Incapacitated Unpaid domestic duties. Single
1934-36		A. W. Briggs	
1951-52		Mrs ES Briggs	
1957		George Whitfield	
1968		Eileen J. Stevenson Kenneth R. Stevenson	
1982-2000		Barbara A. Ryan	



Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		Harold E.J. Ryan	

## 22 Mill Road (Wendy)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Feb 1932	Mr H Hindon	Mr H Hindon	Harry Hindon grew up in Hastings; moved from Waterloo Place Served in the army in WW1: survived unscathed; Home Guard 1940-44 Served printer apprenticeship post WW1
Sept 1939	Henry Hindon	Henry Hindon (41)  Gladys M Hindon (38) Marie L. Hayward (Donovan) (12) + 1 redacted	Letterpress machine minder at Lewes Press in Friars Walk (present NHS building). Harry was the foreman printer Unpaid domestic duties At school. Identified as evacuee (Original entry is Donovan; later altered to Hayward, apparently in 1949) The Hindons hosted 3 evacuees. One (Eileen) remained in Lewes and married locally
1951-52	Henry Hindon	Henry Hindon Gladys Hindon	Harry and Gladys had no children. They kept a large garden and grew vegetables
1977	Gladys Hindon	Gladys M. Hindon	Gladys was nicknamed Wendy – after the house name. She died in 1997, aged 96, in a residential home, where she moved after Harry's death.
1988	Robert J. Bell Janet A. Bell	Robert J. Bell Janet A. Bell	
2001	Justine Horton	Justine (Dodie) Horton	

## 24 Mill Road (Erzanmyne)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Feb 1931	Mr AS Ellis		
Sept 1939	Albert Ellis	Albert Stephen Ellis (49) Lilian Ellis (54)	Plumber Household duties
Oct 1944	Albert Ellis		
1951-52	Albert Ellis	Albert Ellis Mrs EF Bending	Now in 2 flats: 24 and 24a
1957	Rev D.H. Hall	Rev Hall Mrs Bending	Flat 24 Flat 24a
Oct 1962	Captain R. Stone		
1964		Rev H. Llewellyn Mrs Bending	Flat 24 Flat 24a
1966		John H. R. Blount	Flat 24

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
		Mrs Bending	Flat 24a
1968		John H.R. Blount R. Bailey	Flat 24 Flat 24a
1971		John H.R. Blount M. Manser-Hawkesworth	Flat 24 Flat 24a
1973		John H.R. Blount Enid Blount	Now one household
1984		Angela M. Chapman Ralph H. Chapman	
2001		Dianna M. Gunnell Jeremy M. Simcock	

### 26 Mill Road (Spithurst)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
Sept 1931	Mr D.B. Parris		
Sept 1939	David Parris	David B Parris (59) Mabel Parris (54) Mary J Barnes (73)	Retired dairy farmer Home duties Home duties. Widowed
1951-57		Mrs S Sutherland	
1962		Peter S. White	
1970		Jack S.R. Phillips	
1977		Anne L. Ives Derrick B. Ives	
1984 – 2000		Carol Archer Michael D. Archer	

### 28 Mill Road (Roman Way)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1979 – 2000	Brian Bennett	Brian L. Bennett Phyllis I. Bennett	

### 30 Mill Road (Crickets)

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1993 – 2000	Andrew Thrower	Andrew S. Thrower Dorothy J. Thrower	

### 32 Mill Road

Date	Owner	Occupier	Notes
1993 – 2000	John Bradbury	Eileen Bradbury John F. Bradbury	

