

Chapter 2 Part 1 The 1890s

Rowhill Copse cottages

Setting the Scene

Monarch Queen Victoria, Prime Ministers - Robert Gascoyne-Cecil, 3rd Marquess of Salisbury (Conservative), William E Gladstone (Liberal), Archibald Primrose, 5th Earl of Rosebery (Liberal)

Elementary Education Act abolished fees for primary schooling, death of Prince Albert Victor, second-in-line to the throne, Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* published, the last broad gauge train ran on the Great Western Railway main line out of London Paddington station with 177 route miles of its line then converted to standard gauge, the annual Budget established death duties, Michael Marks formed the partnership of Marks & Spencer with Thomas Spencer, and the first motor bus ran in London. In 1895 John Henry Knight built in Farnham the first purpose-built petrol driven vehicle to run on public roads.

Rowhill Copse Cottages and beyond

Chapter 1 had looked at the 1881 census. In the 1891 census, Heath End was part of the Rural Sanitary District of Farnham, and in the Parliamentary Division of Guildford. The village of Heath End had grown. There were two small semi-detached cottages, the large Heath End nursey with the Royal Arms public house at one end of the road. A large house called The Warren and the Army College were at the other end.

The map below published in 1897 shows B.S.W↑D as a Boundary Stone for the War Department, touching the Nursery boundary and crossing the top of Rowhills. It also shows on the right-hand side a 400ft contour, top to bottom which adds a little confusion as this looks like a track.



Ten years have passed since the 1881 census in Chapter 1. What has happened to the families and properties we met previously? The main road, once called Heath End Hill (from the current roundabout at Cranmore Lane to the church of St John the Evangelist) was now called London Road.

The two cottages previously called Heath End Hill became Rowhill Copse. Edward Beare living here was still alive and had voting rights. He was in one cottage with his sister Catherine Champion, age 71 and now widowed. Her occupation was shown as 'gardener, domestic servant'. Edward at 66-years of age was a general labourer and his wife Hannah, a 'wash laundress, domestic servant'.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Edward Beare				
Guildford > 1895				
178	Beare, Edward	Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house	Heath end
179	Bedford, Richard	Badshot Lea, Farnham	Dwelling house	Heath end

ROAD, STREET, No. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (1)	Number of rooms occupied if less than five	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	SEX	MARRIAGE	Age at Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	Where BORN
London Road			Edward Beare	Head	M	Wid.	66	General Labourer	Hurstpierpoint, Sussex
Rowhill Copse			Richard Bedford	Brother	M	Wid.	66	General Labourer	London
			Hannah Beare	Wife	F	Wid.	66	Wash Laundress, Domestic Servant	Farnham

(There is a property in Weybourne called Rowhills which can muddy the research somewhat.) A new family was living next door and astonishingly 11 people squeezed in to the small cottage.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Robert Hunter			
Guildford > 1893			
Hunter, Robert	Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house	Heath end

Robert Hunter	Head	M	45	
Caroline	Wife	F	34	
Arthur	Son	M	12	
William	Son	M	10	
Elizabeth	Daughter	F	8	
Frederic	Son	M	7	
Francis	Son	M	5	
Kate	Daughter	F	3	
Mary	Daughter	F	2 months	
Abel	Son	M	2 months	
Robert H.	Son	M	2 months	

Robert Hunter, age 45 from Syderstone, Norfolk was a caretaker and domestic servant. His wife Caroline née Gander (1852-1918) was from Hurstpierpoint, Sussex. Their children had been born in Norfolk, Froyle, Seale and Farnham, perhaps indicating the need for their father to chase work. How did they all fit in, since the cottage was not large, possibly a 2-up 2-down? Their ages were 17, 15, 13, 11, 10, 7, 5, 3 and 2 months.

We will continue to follow this family.

In 1881 we learnt that Heath End Nursery was next door and that was still the case in 1891. (Appendix A maps has some very detailed layouts of the glass house buildings.) Widowed William Heath Charman, 73, was still a nurseryman and florist with daughter Caroline keeping the books and watching the cash-flow, especially in the shop.

William H. Charman	Heath	Will	19	1/2	Thursford and Frost	X		Surrey
Lucy	Russ	S		1/2	Ed. Brock Ripon		X	Warrington
					Christine Annie's house		X	North

England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for William H. Heath Charman

Guildford > 1898

Charman, William H.	Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house	Heath end
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William's son William Henry Charman had married, had a family and was living close by on the London Road at Woodbine Cottages, near to The Wellington public house.

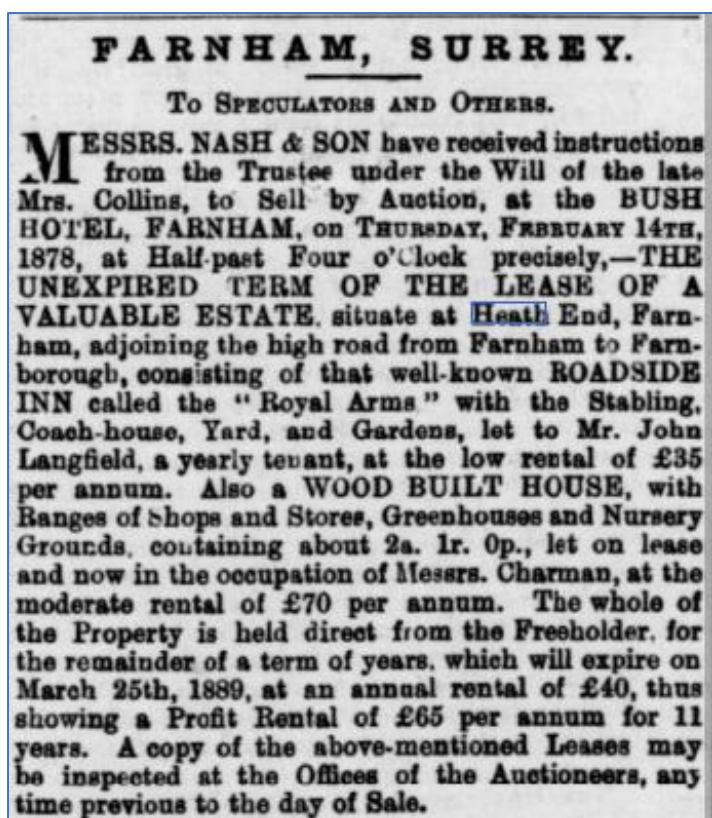


William Charman had been advertising locally, such as this advertisement from 1885 in the Aldershot Military Gazette.

Joining their father in the nursery and floristry were son, daughter-in-law and daughter. The business looked thriving. In today's terms, it was a garden centre.

The Heath End Nursery and dwellings were on a rental lease until March 1889 paying £70 per annum and the Royal Arms next door had a similar but cheaper arrangement.

The Aldershot Military Gazette had published the following, back in February 1878.



Under the will of the late Mrs Collins
The unexpired term of the lease of a valuable estate situate at Heath End, Farnham, adjoining the high road from Farnham to Farnborough, consisting of that well-known roadside inn called the "Royal Arms" with the Stabling, Coach-house, Yard and gardens let to Mr John Langfield, a yearly tenant at the low rental of £35 per annum.

Also a wood-built house with ranges of shops and stores, greenhouses and nursery grounds containing about 2a. 1r. Op., let on lease and now in the occupation of Messrs. Charman, at the moderate rental of £70 per annum. The whole of the property is held direct from the Freeholder for the remainder of a term of years which will expire on March 25th, 1889.

We met Mr John Langfield, the Victualler of the Royal Arms in Chapter 1.

HEATH END, FARNHAM, SURREY.
 HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Trade Fittings, and Utensils, Phaeton, Useful Pony, Harness, and other Effects.
MR. RAGGETT has received instructions from Mr. Joseph Ellis, who is quitting, to Sell by Auction, on the Premises, "The Royal Arms" Hotel, Heath End, Farnham, on FRIDAY, June 22nd, 1866, at 12 for 1 o'clock punctually, the entire equipment of the above Premises, comprising the Trade Fixtures and Fittings, Spirit Casks, Taps and Pipes, Racks and Shelves, 10 Dozen Pewter Pots, Imperial Measures, 8-day Dial, Glass, &c. The Furniture includes Mahogany Dining, two-Flap, and other Tables, Mahogany-framed and other Chairs, Sofas, Easy Chairs, 5 ft. 6 in. Cellaret Sideboard, Damask Curtains, 4 Chimney Glasses in gilt frames, Bagatelle Board, marble-top and other Washstands and Toilet Tables, 6 capital clean Feather Beds, Blankets and Counterpanes, mahogany half-tester, iron, wood, and other Bedsteads, 30 cane-seat Chairs, wool and mixed Mattresses, Paillasses, mahogany Dress Closet, 4 feet wide, Night Commode, &c., &c.; Kitchen Requisites, Stable Utensils, and other items, also, a useful Pony, Pony Phaeton, with lamps, &c., complete, set of Plated Pony Harness, 20 head of Poultry, and numerous other Effects.—On View, day

Maybe Mrs Collins had gained ownership of the Royal Arms from an extraordinary auction in 1866.

This occurred when Joseph Ellis sold by auction his multiple possessions linked to the premises. The detail went right down to pewter pots, mattresses, bagatelle board and pony. It even included the 20 chickens.

The sale had been listed in the Aldershot Military Gazette and may have attracted a wide interest.

But times move on and a change had occurred in the Royal Arms by 1891. The Licensed Victualler of the pub was now John Gallop, age 54 with his wife Mary Ann. (John had previously been a coachman and with coachmen going between coaching inns, the occupation of victualler might follow on.) Their niece Susan Badey from Salisbury was working as a barmaid. Alice Church and John Earles worked in the public house as general domestic servants.

It is worth looking at the 1892 Petty Sessions for Surrey Licensed Victuallers for inns, alehouses and taverns. Number 87 row is John Gallop, fully licensed public house and in fact licensed before 1869. Unlike the Wellington, the Royal Arms did not have an off-licence. Column 10 stated that John Gallop was residing on the premises. The owner was Farnham United Breweries, Ltd and Column 11 stated it was a tied house. But what about stabling for horses and dining for hungry visitors?

No.	PARISH	Sign and Situation of each Licensed House.	BEER HOUSE.				Name and Address of Owner.	Name of Lessee (if any).	Name of Licensee and whether Residing on Premises.
			Fully Licensed.	On and off.	Off.	Wholesale Licensed prior to 1869.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
85	FARNHAM	Alma, Heath End	Yes	...	...	Yes	Farnham United Breweries, Ltd.	...	David Jarvis. Yes
86	"	Wellington, Heath End	...	Yes	...	Yes	Ditto	...	John Varney. Yes
87	"	Royal Arms, Heath End	Yes	...	...	Yes	Ditto	...	John Gallop. Yes
88	"	British Grenadier, Heath End	Yes	...	...	Yes	Thomas Kenward, Hartley-row	...	William Norris. Yes
89	"	Rose and Crown, Heath End	...	Yes	...	Yes	Isaac Pharo, Heath End	Messrs. Crowley & Co., Alton	Frederick Bicknell. Yes
90	"	Half-way House, Heath End	Yes	...	...	Yes	Farnham United Breweries, Ltd.	...	George Garrett. Yes

Looking again for row 87, column 12 said that dinners and teas were served. There was stabling for 4 horses. The Royal Arms was 200 yards from the Wellington and half a mile from Pavilion public house, Aldershot (on the Surrey/Hampshire border). Quite a number of auctions were held at the Royal Arms so it is not too much of a surprise that the "character of persons frequenting each house" was not Labouring class but All classes.

ACCOMMODATION.		Distance from two nearest Licensed Houses, with nature of License of each such House.	REMARKS. Inter alia, the character of the persons frequenting each house.	No.
For Travellers and Persons requiring refreshment other than drink.	Provision of Stabling.			
12	13	14	15	1
Dinners, teas, &c.	3 horses	60 yards from No. 84, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from No. 86	Labouring class	85
Ditto	None	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile from No. 85, 200 yards from No. 87	Ditto	86
Ditto	4 horses	200 yards from No. 86, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Pavilion public house, Aldershot (on border of County)	All classes	87
None	None	50 yards from No. 86, 20 yards from No. 89	Labouring class	88
Ditto	Ditto	20 yards from No. 88, 200 yards from No. 90	Ditto	89
Dinners, teas, &c.	2 horses	200 yards from No. 89, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from No. 74	Ditto	90

For the 1891 census enumerator to reach "our" three groups of Heath End dwellings, perhaps it meant trudging up the hill on the London Road from St John the Evangelist, Hale. If this was thirsty work, fear not because after passing Hale Farm, there lay the Half Way House, the Grenadier Arms, the Rose and Crown and the Wellington Arms to refresh the spirit and not forgetting the Alma close by.

Close to the Royal Arms on the census was College House housing Lieutenant James P Jefferson, his wife Marian and two servants, one a groom. This house was thought to be in the grounds of the Army College. (See Appendix B for a photograph.) The road starting from the Royal Arms and running south towards Badshot Lea, is now called Upper Weybourne Lane but used to have its upper part called College Road with 14 cottages between the Royal Arms and the Army College. The lower part down to the Weybourne crossroads was called Queens Road.

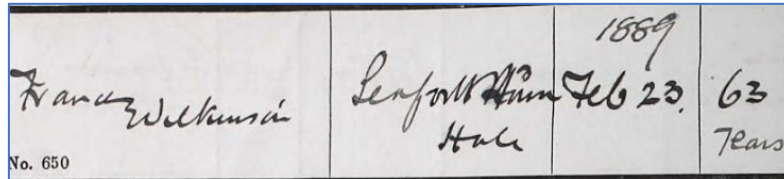
College House	1		James P. Jefferson	Head	M			
			Marian P. Jefferson	Wife	M			
			James J. Hole	Serv	S			Occasional Servant Domestic
			Thomas Price	Serv	S			Groom General Domestic (Groom)

The Army College was growing with residents originating from England, Ireland, Scotland and India. The Resident Secretary at the College was 37-year-old Captain Thomas Henry Khyber Payne of the York and Lancaster Regiment. Aside from the 12 students, there were listed an assistant secretary, a housekeeper, four officers as tutors and four general domestic servants. (See the Appendix for 'Hale in 1891' for more details.)

So where were the two College Principals residing and who actually owned the Army College?

Colonel Berdoe Amhurst Wilkinson was widowed by 1891 and living ten minutes away in his comfortable, rented six-bedroomed Seaforth House on London Road. He lived with his 40 year-old son Edmund, born in Canada (a stockbroker), with an Irish daughter-in-law Marion and a 9 year-old grandson Dermot. Caring for the family were a cook from Co. Fermanagh, Ireland, a parlour maid from London and a housemaid from Farnham.

Berdoe's wife Frances had advertised for a 'thoroughly efficient parlour maid.' Let's hope the one from London suited. Mrs Frances Wilkinson had died in 1889 and her coffin was taken from Seaforth House to be buried at St John the Evangelist, Hale, just down the road.



Berdoe spent his time from 1885 until his death in 1895 as Principal of the College. He lived at Seaforth House, at the Army College and other times at Cranmore, in Hale Crescent.

As an aside, the property next to Seaforth House on London Road, called Sylvan Lodge had a for sale advertisement in 1884:-

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, $\frac{3}{4}$ acre, apply Major Dixon, Seaforth House, Heath End.

Having established that Colonel Berdoe was working and living in Heath End, in 1891 his co-Principal Colonel Shaw was (on holiday?) in Torquay, Devon with his Jamaican-born wife Lavinia and 7 year-old daughter Esme Mary Shaw.

COLONEL BERDOE WILKINSON
AND
MR. PERCY WILKINSON
RECEIVE RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT
PUPILS TO PREPARE FOR
ALL ARMY EXAMINATIONS.
—
MILITIA MILITARY COMPETITIVE.
To meet the requirements of the severe Competition at the present time, this Department has been entirely reorganised. The Classes are conducted at **TANFIELD HOUSE, FARNHAM.** A limited number of Militia Officers reside with Mr. Percy Wilkinson in his house, which is close to the Studies. Colonel Wilkinson personally directs the studies, and is assisted by a large staff of experienced and successful Instructors.
—
Out of **263** Pupils sent up for this Examination, **ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR** have obtained Commissions, being **59** per cent. of success.

Ownership of the College is a little difficult to follow. Colonel Shaw, Colonel Wilkinson and Colonel Wilkinson's son Percy all worked in the business of military tutoring.

The advertisement from the Army and Navy Gazette published in July 1892 was typical of the weekly appearances in a range of publications, giving the impression that Berdoe and son Percy Wilkinson were actively involved, with Colonel Shaw directing the studies.

In summary, the combined tutoring businesses consisted of Tanfield House, Farnham, Army College, Heath End, Victoria House, Aldershot and the foreign branch in Darmstadt, Germany.

The published voting for father Berdoe Amhurst/Amherst Wilkinson and son Percy Wilkinson in 1893 showed that they both had Occupational voting rights, both marked for The College - Joint.

Guildford > 1893			
Wilkinson, Berdoe Amhurst	The college, Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house, joint successive	Seaforth house and The college
Wilkinson, Charles	Guildford road, Farnham	Dwelling house	Guildford road
Wilkinson, Charles	Badshot lea, Farnham	Dwelling house	Badshot lea
Wilkinson, Daniel	Dippenhall, Farnham	Dwelling house	Dippenhall
Wilkinson, George	Dippenhall, Farnham	Dwelling house	Dippenhall
Wilkinson, George	Bacon's row, Badshot lea, Farnham	Dwelling house	Bacon's row
Wilkinson, James	Alton road, Runwick, Farnham	Dwelling house, successive	Bunce's and Alton road
Wilkinson, Percy	The chestnuts, East street, Farnham	Dwelling, house joint	The college and East street

However, under Ownership Voting rights for that same year, Berdoe Wilkinson had one undivided share of freehold house and land for the Army College.

Guildford > 1893			
Wilkinson, Berdoe Amherst, Col.	Army college, Heath end, Farnham	One undivided share of freehold house and land	Army college
Wilkinson, Berdoe Amherst, Col.	Army college, Heath end, Farnham	Freehold house and land	Army college

Equally in 1892 Colonel Shaw had one undivided share of freehold house and land for the Army College.

Guildford > 1892			
Shaw, Wilkinson Jocelyn	Army college, Heath end, Farnham	One undivided share of freehold house and land	Army college

And in 1893 Colonel Shaw had ownership voting rights for the freehold property The Warren.

Guildford > 1893			
Shaw, Wilkinson Jocelyn	The warren, Heath end, Farnham	Freehold house	The warren

Colonel Berdoe Wilkinson died on 10th January 1895.

WILKINSON Berdoe Amherst of the Army college Heath end Farnham Surrey late lieutenant-colonel in the royal engineers died 10 January 1895 Probate London 21 October to Percy Collins Neal Wilkinson land surveyor Effects £2844 0s. 9d.

He was buried at St John the Evangelist, Hale four days later.

Berdoe Amherst Wilkinson	Heath End	1895. January 14 th	67 years
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Quite swiftly advertisements in the Army and Navy Gazette referred to the **late** Colonel Berdoe Wilkinson (Royal Engineers) and life at the Army College, Heath End carried on.

CAPTAIN E. NASH
 (late Royal Artillery),
 and formerly Professor of Tactics, Military History,
 Military Administration and Law at the Royal
 Military College, Canada,
 Having purchased the Military Department of the
 business carried on for many years by the late
COLONEL BERDOE WILKINSON
 (Royal Engineers)
 At TANFIELD HOUSE, FARNHAM, SURREY,
 is prepared to take Pupils for the
MILITIA COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION
 and all other Military Examinations.
 Captain NASH retains the services of the Staff of
 Instructors to whose ability the marked and in-
 creasing Successes of the last few years are due.
 At the last Militia Competitive Examination,
 Eight Candidates were presented from Tanfield
 House, and FIVE COMMISSIONS WERE GAINED.
OFFICERS FOR ALL BRANCHES OF THE
SERVICE prepared for PROMOTION and other
 Examinations by Correspondence or otherwise.

ARMY ENTRANCE and Other EXAMINATIONS.
 The CLASSES conducted until recently by Colonel BERDOE
WILKINSON, R.E., Deceased, will for the future be carried on by
 his Sons; work in all departments is now going on.—For prospectus,
 list of successes, &c., apply to Captain N. Wilkinson, Heath End.

Time for a new Principal, Mr Courtenay Welch. Army and Navy Gazette 18 April 1896.

ARMY COLLEGE, HEATH END, FARNHAM, SURREY.
 PREPARATION FOR ALL ARMY, CIVIL SERVICE, UNIVERSITY, AND OTHER EXAMINATIONS.
Mr. COURTENAY WELCH
 Receives a Limited Number Only of Resident and Non-Resident Pupils to be prepared for the above Examinations.

<p>LITERARY DEPARTMENT: THE ARMY COLLEGE, HEATH END, FARNHAM, SURREY. WOOLWICH, SANDHURST, MILITIA, AND OTHER LITERARY EXAMINATIONS. Mr. COURTENAY WELCH is assisted not only by highly-qualified Resident Tutors, but by the best known London Specialists in each subject required for the Army and other Examinations, so that Pupils reading at the ARMY COLLEGE receive individual attention and instruction from a Staff unequalled outside the London District, while at the same time enjoying those additional advantages which only the country can afford. The College Buildings contain a well-equipped Laboratory as well as Science, Billiard and Reading Rooms. The Grounds contain two Lawn Tennis Courts as well as a Cricket and Football Field. STAFF COLLEGE EXAMINATIONS.—Special arrangements for Officers reading the Literary Subjects for the Staff College.</p>	<p>MILITARY DEPARTMENT: OAKDENE HOUSE, HALE CRESCENT, HALE (within three-quarters of a mile of the South Cavalry Barracks, Aldershot). PROMOTION AND MILITIA COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS. Mr. COURTENAY WELCH is assisted in Military Subjects by Colonel F. WOODWARD, late 68th Durham Light Infantry, and Major COCHRANE FORSTER, late the Royal Fusiliers. PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS.—Officers are prepared in Military Law, Field Fortification, Military Topography and Tactics. A special feature is made of the INSTRUCTION by CORRESPONDENCE. MILITIA COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.—The number of Pupils being strictly limited, Class Work is avoided, and each Officer receives INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION adapted to his particular requirements. The Military Department is carried on in separate premises in the neighbourhood of the Army College, and officers can avail themselves of the College Cricket, Football and Lawn Tennis Grounds.</p>
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Chapter 1 ended by contrasting the residents at one end of Rowhills with the other end. Ten years later, what had changed? Eleven of the Hunter family were squeezed into one small cottage. Next door Edward Beare at 66-years old was labouring, his wife Hannah was a wash laundress and the 71 year-old sister Catherine Champion was working as a gardener. If it is the same person, a Katherine Champion had Occupational voting rights.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Katherine Champion

Guildford > 1892				
1593	Champion, Katherine	Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house	Heath end

And with property at the other end of the road? In 1897 Colonel Wilkinson Jocelyn Shaw was living at the Naval and Military Club at Piccadilly in London. He had Parliamentary and Parochial voting rights because of his ownership of The Warren.

Guildford > 1897			
Shaw, Wilkinson Jocelyn	Naval and Military club, Piccadilly, W.	Freehold house	The warren

He was also an Occupational Elector for County and Parochial voting.

Guildford > 1897			
61	Shaw, William Jocelyn	The warren, Heath end, Farnham	Dwelling house

There appeared to be no change to the contrast.