

1046 Ambrose Farm owners and occupiers

Ambrose Farm (55 Crown Road) (Owners and Occupiers)

Ambrose Farm is a Grade II listed building on the north side of Crown Road. The original house dates from the early seventeenth century, and it was extended in the eighteenth century, and further alterations and extension in the twentieth century.

There is a plaque on the inner kitchen wall (which may have originally been an outer wall before a later extension).

Robert Day 1776

There are numerous Days/Daies/Daie baptised and buried at Cuddesdon (see People Box) – but we have no evidence that they have any connection with this Robert Day. He may have been a tenant farmer and/or a builder who extended the farmhouse.

Robert Day, son of Ralph, baptised 26.07.1724 in St Andrew's Church, Headington, would have been 52 years old in 1776

It is thought that the name of the farm 'Ambrose' may be derived from the surname Armbrough. This family were the owners in the 18th /19th centuries. And of nearby Mulberry Court from 1772-1789

1798 Thomas Armborough (1768-1812), Yeoman of Headington and heir of the late John (d. 1796) – Gent. Lease of 2 cottages and gardens.

1841 census: Elizabeth Armborough (wife of John) aged 70 yrs, Independent – appears to be still living at Armrose /farm.

pre 1894 Farm owned by Reverend Henry Wace. Tenant: Edward Davis, and later by his son James Davis.

1894 Owned by William Boughton. Tenant: Charles Shepherd.

1920 William Boughton died. Charlie Shepherd was still the tenant.

1922 Charlie Shepherd bought the farm in 1922 (see Crown Road Farm). . In addition, in 1922, Charles Shepherd bought a large area of land, which had been part of Crown Farm, owned by the late A. W. Hall. During the succeeding years, some land was sold for housing and the new London Road. He also sold Ambrose Farm and the land in two lots, in 1927, to Mr Gibbard and Magdalen College, retaining only Plots 120 – 121 on which he subsequently built 8 homes for himself and his family.

1927 Edward Gibbard, a horse-dealer, bought the farm. He also owned Garden Croft (now 5 Roman Road) and sold three acres to the Paris family for their market garden. Edward Gibbard died on 4th March 1949.

1949 The farm was bought by May Jefferies

1950 The farm was sold to John Ernest Freeborne who had a butcher's shop.

1955 Marjorie Baylis bought the house in 1964. She died in 2007 aged 92 (?)