

LITTLEWORTH FARM

A map of Littleworth Farm dated 1899 indicates that it covered less than 40 acres: (approximately 38 acres 1 rod and 5 perches).

Acre Mead: *arable* 19 rods 2 poles 5 perches; *pasture* 7 rods

Crab Tree Ground: 4 rods 2 poles

Home Close & Upper Close: *pasture* 5 rods 1 pole

Rick Yard Close: *pasture* 1 pole 33 perches

Orchard: *pasture* 1 pole 33 perches

House/building & yard: 1 pole 29 perches

Cottage & garden: 25 perches

Sold 10th November 1899 by Maria Sarah Parrott of The Chestnuts, Aylesbury to Fowler brothers as tenants in common.

The Farmhouse (numbered 22 Littleworth and now known as Kelly's Cottage) is a large stone house and the garden extends behind numbers 42 - 48).

The farm declined after the arrival of the railway in 1864. The land on the north side (technically in the Parish of Forest Hill with Shotover) was gradually developed for housing. The first houses were built along the west side of Old Road and Mr Woodcock still had a small-holding in Acre Mead in the 1960's and 1970's. He kept pigs and chickens, and also sold vegetables and eggs.

Mr Henry Edney (Harry) Fowler (*Gentleman*) and his brother Frederick Edney Fowler (*Oxford Grocer*) bought **Acre Mead** (the land on the north-east side of the railway between Littleworth and Old Road). Harry Fowler built a splendid brick villa for himself (Acremead House) which still stands today (2009). (*Susan Prest remembers visiting him there, in the early 1960's, to collect half a crown every month for the Red Cross chiropody service!*)

Mr Albert (Bert) Barrett bought **Crab Tree Ground** where he built his own house (Crabtree Cottage) and ran a very successful small-holding.

The first properties to be used for housing along Old Road (above what is now the junction with Acremead Road) were bought by Mssrs. Clapton, Brownsill, Drake and Richards. Behind these houses were allotments.