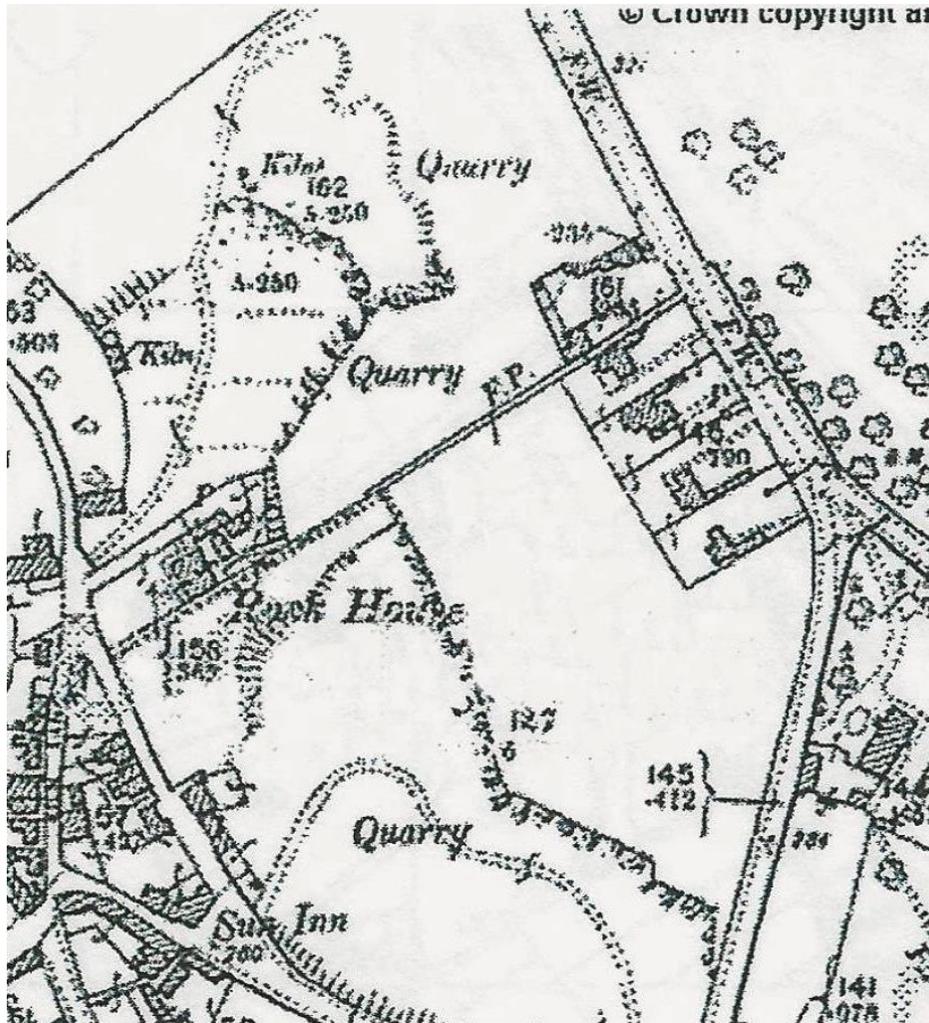


Park Hill in 1900 and 1910



The map from 1899, published 1900, shows that there were five houses here then. The one was later known as The Mount, where the first known record of an owner was John Juggins who is recorded, in the 1851 and 1861 census, as living here with his housekeeper, Ann. Cock-fighting took place in the old stables at the back of the site. John Juggins died on October 19th 1869, after which there is a suggestion that there was then a Dame School here, possibly run by a Miss Sadler in the 1890s with 10 girls.

The old house (right) still exists today as No. 11, but a new house, No. 11a, has been built behind it.

| 1910 number | Owner | | Occupier 1910 | Address | Occupier 1911 | Acc No. | Comment |
|-------------|----------------|--|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|
| 649 | John Cooper | | John Cooper | The Racks or Taunton House | Cooper | 955/1788 | Not built until after 1911 despite 1908 date on Taunt photo |
| 445 | Mrs Cooper | | Mrs Cooper | The Lodge | Mrs Cooper | 2497 | See below |
| 444 | Welch family | | Welch family | | Vacant plot | 2497 | Became 19, The Turrets |
| 443 | Welch family | | Arthur Welch | 17, The Gables | Arthur Welch | 2497 | |
| 447 | William Lee | | Arthur Welch | Garden Land | | | No. 15 built here by 2013 |
| 446 | Arthur Welch | | J Roberts | Stable & garden | | | See next entry |
| 612/613 | C B Smith | | Frederick Alden | 9, The Mount | Frederick Alden | 1859 | 613 cottage accessed from footpath |
| 449 | Biscoe | | Catherine Parker | 7, Home of Rest | Home of Rest | 954 | Demolished 2021 |
| 451 | Miss Hawes | | Thomas Griffen | 3, Chestnuts | ?? | 953/952 | Mrs Hanson lived here at least between 1904 and 1906 Demolished 2021 |
| 448 | Walter Tyndale | | The Misses Dupre | Number 5 | Fanny Deare | 953/952 | Dupre/Deare one a misspelling? Demolished 2021 |
| 450 | John Crook | | John Crook | (later The View) | John Crook | 952 | |

Unattributed memories (record 2628) recorded as being ‘50 years ago’ (referring to the turn of the century, so presumably collected in the 1950s) have the following comments, attributed to Miss Ellen Gunn

‘The houses on Park Hill were built during the 1890s by Mr Joseph Cooper, the owner of the brick kilns. then very much in use.

‘No 4 Park Hill was a convalescent Home, matron Miss Parker, a very jolly person.

‘The Mount was the only house on Park Hill in the 1880s but, by 1898, there were another four houses (record 1859). 17, 19 and 25 had occupiers in 1911.

Mrs Hanson was clearly also living in Park Hill as she recalled in her letters from 1904-1906 to her daughter in Australia (record 2623)

‘J. and I have had a friendly call from Dr Barns this evening – he has been telling of the building of our house and the rest of the row of houses by the Cooper Family they are all very badly built – will seem old in 30 years he says. Mr Tindall (Tyndale) spent money on the one Mrs Turner lives in [no record of either living in Park Hill] but not to much purpose. Now he has built a sort of bungalow in a lovely position at Forest Hill and finds it doesn’t suit him very, to live in it.’

‘You would like the view from my room and from Mary’s – broken ground in front and sloping fields beyond and a windmill on the top and trains now and then thro the middle distance’; and ‘we do not like the new redbrick houses being built in the field below us [new houses in Westfield Road, establishing that she lived in Park Hill, and believed to be at No. 3 Chestnuts]- it is on the right hand side – not at all an improvement in our view.’

The added comments in square brackets should be noted in the context that there seems to have been a rapid turnover of occupiers, with only Tyndale in the schedule, but neither Turner or Hanson appearing in the 1901, 1910 and 1911 records.

More recent comments on the houses are as below:

Numbers 1, 3 and 5 have been demolished and a new 65-bed care home is due to open in 2023



The plot of number 9 used to come up as far as the road frontage. In about 1952, when the Audley-Millers came to live at The Mount, number 11, they bought the front strip of land from the elderly man who was then living at The Cottage, number 9. The latter is now accessed from the footpath, but when this cottage was built is not known.

11a was built on the back of the Audley-Millers land and by them, but date not known.

17, The Gables was bought by the Barbour family in 1986 together with the plot on number 15. They obtained planning permission in 2010 on this plot and built the house, number 15, shown by the 2013 advertisement for sale of the garden view (top) and the front view in 2021, shown together on the right. Its main front gable is similar to numbers 17 (now painted white) and 19.

No. 21 (Autumn Leaves) looks recent as does No. 23 which seems to have been built in the garden of No. 25, the building date of which is not known but it may have existed in 1910.

In 1931, W Cameron Sillar lived at The Gables (also in 1939), Ernest Piggott at The Turret (in 1939, Herbert Morgan-Brown), Raphael Wilkins at Taunton House (also in 1939). In 1939, Frederick Thomas Holbrow lived at Hill Brow (seems to have been named after him), Miss Savill at No.3, Mrs Smith at The Mount, Butler John Henry Wright at The Chestnuts.

David John (ex-head of Wheatley Park School) later lived at No. 1.

