

Fine Garth : a few snippets.

1) Fine Garth came out of the Old Hall Estate when , on 12 June 1980 , it was sold to Ian Westwood , son of the farmers of Well Hill Farm , and Jennifer Elizabeth Hill of Flint Mill , Thorp Arch , for £ 30,000. [Interesting , this price , in view of the fact that , only 4 years earlier , Tony Clegg 's company had bought the whole estate for £ 58,200 !] The 1980 sale included the cottage and its garden ; right of way to Back Lane ; and all services through adjoining land [ie. across the beck and Firbeck Road to Clifford Road.]

2) From before 1924 to 1945 the Scott family lived in Fine Garth , during the time when Hugh Robert Hardcastle owned the Old Hall Estate. Their rental agreement with his predecessor 's wife [Mr. Gordon was away fighting in WW1] was maintained by Hardcastle right through to 1945 at £5 . 14 . 0 per year . Clearly Mr. Hardcastle was a generous landlord.

3) Before Fine Garth Close was built , there was open ground between Fine Garth Cottage and the buildings associated with Church View , and a path from Back Lane which originally ran past Fine Garth Cottage. Hearsay has it that this path was a normal route to and from Clifford and Boston Spa , where the churches were built only in Victorian times.

This open land was named Robinson 's Garth [possibly associated with the Robinson family who farmed from what became the Village Hall.]

4) On land now occupied by the " new bungalow " owned by the Tilletts , were the two Rose Cottages , attached to the side of Church View. These were demolished by Kettlewell ' s of Boston Spa in the late 1960 's to make way for the new bungalow.

Robinson 's Garth and the part of Firbeck Road last developed were sold by the Old Hall Estate [Mrs. Ruth Whittington] to Auckley Homes in May 1976 for £24,000. They built Fine Garth Close soon after , but completed Firbeck Road only in 1998 - 9.

5) Harry Tindall tells me that , when he was Head Boy at Bramham School in 1926 - 7 , he and a couple of other senior pupils were sent each week to collect water from about 5 springs around the village. On returning to school they carried out scientific tests , always finding that the Fine Garth water was the purest .



DM 9.99

Accounts found at Fine Garth Cottage , Bramham , 1981

Supplied for view by current owner , Richard Ward - Smith in 1999

Bill One : 1773 Antony Nollan to Geo. Taylor

Variety of dates , 12 Nov 1773 -- 12 Sep 1774 , seemingly for the supply and repair of shoes at prices of 6 sh., 3 sh., and 1 sh 6d. for supply , and pence for repairs.

Bill Two : March 15 , 1773

To Henry pater , a bill for a variety of provisions --- bacon , ribbon , cloth , starch , sugar , tea . Total cost : 13 sh. 9 d. of which 5 sh. 3d. was paid by October 11 , 1773 . " Remain due to me Jos. xx fy 8 sh. 6d."

Bill Three : May 29 , 1774

Names of Colton ? and James ? Brill , a butcher 's bill for supplying calf ? , neck of mutton and beef -- 3 sh. 8d.

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