

# A (bit of) a History of Dogmersfield in the county of Hampshire

"Dogmersfield" - from Anglo-Saxon - the land (feld) by the lake (mead) under the water lilies (dog) grow

Dokemeresfeld (x cent.)  
Dechemeresfeld (xii cent.)  
Dogmeresfeld (xiii cent.)

Dognans Feld (1575)  
Dognans Field (1595)  
Dogmers field (1673)

Extracts from the Churchwarden's accounts:

	£	s	d
1689 ringing on Gunpowder and Treason day		2	6
1739 a new pair of stocks		7	6
1739 ironwork for stocks		1	6
1741 Tobacco and pipes			11
1733 Work done at the 2 bridges at pilcull and the Bridge at laundry pond	6		0
1753 Bleeding ye wife		1	
1764 ..towards fating his hog		18	0
1817 Expenses going to Winchester with Boy Bill by mad dog	4	0	0
1821 for encouragement	1	0	0

**The clay pits and kiln**  
These fields were used to provide clay to make bricks in the kiln in Burnbake Copse (so called because people brought their dough to bake on the sides of the kiln). Reinstated as agricultural fields by German POWs in WWI.

**Joe Lee, The Gypsy King**  
Joe, his wife and son, lived in a bow topped Romany caravan in Burnbake Copse and Joe worked on the local farms. He died in 1966 and following tradition was cremated in his caravan - hundreds of travellers came for the occasion.

**Boats for hire**  
Henry Potter rented the 2 bedroom house and his 4 punts and rowing boats for hire. Mrs Potter laid on teas on the common for clubbable parties, especially annual evenings of church choir.

**The Red House**  
The best cottage with a narrow cloak!  
And a well.

**Old Bridge Cottage**  
First recorded infants' school in the village. Tried cottage to Pilcot Farm.

**Wellwaters**  
Previously two cottages tenanted by Mr Lambden and another Mr Poulter.

**Mallows**  
Previously a thatched cottage that burned down in the 1930s - current house built 1936.

**The White House**  
Previously two cottages, rented by another Mr Poulter and a Mr Ferguson.

**Dogmersfield Primary School**  
Built 1912 but the previous School, 'Dysons', had closed in 1910 - for 2 years the children walked each day to the school house of St Mary's Winchfield. Portakabin 'temporary' classrooms 1977-2002.

**Lords and Ladies**  
The oldest known house, built 1935. In the 1920s were two cottages, one let to Mr Riley, and one to Pilcot Farm. One had thatch, the other was corrugated iron. One was the village post office. In 1955 the phone number was Fleet 11.

**Pilcot Common, Site of the 1935 Jubilee Garden**

**Oops!**  
1941 a tank driver lost control as he crossed the bridge. Heading for the pub, the army tank broke through the top of the pub's septic tank and that stopped it in its tracks!

**Catherine of Aragon**  
In 1920 was two cottages, one let to Mrs Wooders, and one to Pilcot Farm.

**Catherine of Aragon, The Barracks and Lords and Ladies**  
Made over in the late 1930s and given these names by the marketing department of the developers - That they were the accommodation of the royal party in November 1501 is just a cunning myth!

**Produced by Rus Slater ©2021**  
With thanks to the local who have spoken to me and the internet for providing information for the 10 years it's taken to build this!  
(This is designed for entertainment and should not be taken as a degree level history lesson)

!!Not to scale, do not use to navigate!!

**Mr Butcher, a Suffolk timber merchant**, brought the family to Dogmersfield in the 1830s when he acquired the standing timber in Arch Plantation. On Good Friday 1935 he had an accident and his son Alan, aged 13, drove their Bedford lorry to the Old Laundry to get help, he had to drive standing up to see out of the windscreen.

**The Gothic Arch**  
Erected by the 1st Baronet astride his entrance driveway. Dismantled by the 2nd Baronet.

**The Neolithic Avenue**  
Very early maps show two rows of standing stones flanking the route up to Dogmersfield Park. Charles Kingsley spent a lot of time trying to work out their celestial alignment...they are actually aligned to the parish boundary! The stones had been moved the 17th Century and re-cycled as boundary markers.

**The Dower House**  
Built 1930 for Lady Isabel after death of Sir Gerald Mildmay. Original inhabitants were Lady Isabel, her maid, Miss Wise, Parsons; the chauffeur and Lewis (the Corgi). Lady Isabel came to the old Sunday School in the Servant Hall. When she died in 1935 she gave each of the children a Girl Scout and a Virgin Mary Medal on a black cord.

1909 Rev Farmer donated £217 to build the 'Parish Rooms' a sort of village hall.  
1925 Rev Cissold Curtis bought a mandolin, piano, timpani, banjo, piccolo and cello and formed the Dogmersfield Toy Symphony Band. Walter Wilson was the conductor and they raised enough money to endow a bed at Fleet Hospital and to set aside £200 to install electricity in the church and the Parish Rooms.

**Pilcot House**  
Formerly Mr Terry's Shop, and before that Mr Beasley's Sweet Shop.  
Shop front shot up by a Hurricane and a German bomber in 1942 - bullets narrowly missed Rev Larner as he took a wee against the wall of the pub!

**Highways**  
Post Office and shop in the 1930s when it was Ivy Cottage. Run by Mrs & Mrs Jack (Mrs & Mrs Jack). Installed petrol pump in 1930 (no 18, Motor).  
In 1955 the phone number was Fleet 11.

**The Queen's Head**  
1928 Landlord Mr Vast, cut his own throat over the kitchen sink! The new landlords, George and Gertrude Stone, fed up with people wanting to see the sink, had it moved into the garden.  
During WW2 was the Air Raid Precautions centre, and Fire station (Frank Terry, from Pilcot House was the ARP Warden).  
Home of the Graves family evacuated from London during the Blitz - their youngest child was christened in the Smoking Room. RAF pilot from Doha, and Farnborough used to get 'tidily', the Stone's pony, drunk in the bar, and she used to sleep it off on the common.

There was a stand of elms on the glebe land which held a large rookery. Every year the village arranged a rook shoot and everyone ate rook pie for about two weeks afterwards!

**Tundry House**  
Formerly the vicarage. Built 1836 at a cost of £270.

**Blacksmith's Bridge and the Dragon's teeth**  
Until the village was moved, the forge stood next to the bridge. WW2 the canal was heavily fortified as part of the GHQ Stop Line. There are concrete holes on the bridge - house Mk 5 anti-tank mines, each containing 2kg of high explosive. The Dragon's Teeth were to prevent the Germans bridging the canal.

**The old 'glebe land'**

**The Old Laundry**  
Stopped being the laundry in 1934. Was rented out to the Butcher family whilst Mr Butcher managed the sawmill on Sprats Hatch Lane.  
The rent was 25s per week 97% of Mr Butcher's wages!

**The Barracks**  
In 1920 was four cottages, one let to Mr Charles Pink, one to Mr J R Turner, one to Mr Hoar, and one to Miss S Lunn. They had their own well.

**The Belvedere**  
Tower built by the 1st Bt Mildmay to show off his lands to his guests. Now just a viewing mound on the public footpath.  
**Belvedere Pond**  
Large formal pond, surrounded by water. Since filled in and replaced with a (city) natural looking pond!

**Site of the old hatchery pond and duckery**

The village used to be around the pond but was dismantled between...  
Tundry Pond (formerly Wake Pond) ... 1798 and 1836

**Dogmersfield Park**

- Pre -1066 the manor was held by Suen, "as an auld to the king". After the Norman Conquest it was taken and given to Hugh Barbatus ("The Bearded One") Ralph Flambard, Bishop of Durham. He passed it to Henry I, who granted it to Godfrey, Bishop of Bath and Wells (1123-36) and his successors: Fitz Jocelin, Savaric, Walter Gifford, William Buiton II, Robert Burnett, Ralph of Shrewsbury, John Harwell, Thomas Beckington, Oliver King, Hadrian de Castelle, Thomas Wolsey and John Clerk
- 1500 Prince Henry met his future wife Catherine of Aragon here (though she was destined to marry his elder brother, Arthur, first), brokered by Oliver King
- 1540 the manor was sold to king Henry VIII who appointed Sir John Wollop keeper of the manor and park
- 1542 leased to Oliver Wollop (brother of John)...
- 1547 The manor was granted to Thomas, Lord Wriothesley (pronounced 'Wrizzly') 1st Earl of Southampton, by Edward VI
- 1581 Henry, 3rd Earl of Southampton, friend, idol and patron of one William Shakespeare, who left it in 1624 Thomas, 4th Earl sold it to Anthony Bathurst
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- 1629 conveyed to Edward Dickenson and William Terry, "in trust for William Godson"
- 1671 William Godson became a priest and sold it to Edward Goddyer
- 1718 passed to Martha Goddyer St John, her son...
- 1772...Paullet St John made a baronet
- 1784 3rd Baronet Henry Paullet St John adopted his wife's surname 'Mildmay' styled himself Lord Mildmay
- 1806 4th Baronet Henry Carew St John Mildmay (married his late wife's sister, unfortunately she was already married and they had to pay £15,000 damages.) He shot himself in 1848
- 1916 Sir Anthony St John Mildmay 7th Baronet, married Isobel Emily Shaw Lefevre granddaughter of Viscount Everley (of Everley Hill)
- 1937 Sir Anthony St John Mildmay, 8th Baronet proposed to a nurse, Miss Fendera, but jilted her. Sued for breach of contract in the House of Lords, and fined £2000
- 1936 Mildmay's sold the house to Claud and Frederica Anson
- 1939 Ansons sold it to become Reed's School but it was taken over by the War Office and
- 1939-45 Wartime used as a billet for Dutch Marines and Polish troops. Dogmersfield Platoon of the Home Guard based there - 3 Platoon, C Coy, 25th Royal Hampshire Regiment. Goering wanted to take it over as his spoils of war which is allegedly why Odiham Airfield was never bombed!
- 1946 Reed's School moved the girls into Dogmersfield Park
- 1956 became a Casallian College
- 1973 became Danes Hill School
- 1981 became the HQ of Amdahl Corporation, 1996 HQ of Systems Union, 2005 became the Four Seasons Hotel

**Dogmersfield Park**

**Dogmersfield or 'Pilcot'? (or Pylcot, Pylcott or Pilcutt)**  
Pilcot means 'the small dwelling by the pool'. The mill and some houses stood here before the Norman Conquest. Pylcott Mill valued in the Domesday Book at 6s and 6d. Last known working as a mill in 1928. In 1932 was being used as a carpenter's workshop by Mr Trimmer.

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