

# THE HISTORY OF GOLDWORTH FARM

## Introduction

Goldworth Farm was situated on Woking Common within the tithing of Goldsworth (aka Golding/Goldings/Goldworth/Goldworthy) in the parish of Woking, Surrey.

Goldworth Farm ceased to be a separate farm in about 1830, when it was bought by James Trigg, who also owned Lysee Farm (aka Royal Oak Farm). The farmhouse was converted into three cottages. These cottages were eventually demolished in about 1968.

## Origins

The earliest record of Goldworth Farm, is its depiction on John Rocque's 1768 map of Surrey (right, circled). It does not appear on the 1719 map by Remnant<sup>1</sup> so was likely built between these two dates.

The buildings to the south of the farm are shown within the same plot of land and likely were part of the farm at this time. The total area was about 9 acres. The main building in the southern cluster was later known as Farm Cottage, Goldworth Farm Cottage and Bridge Cottage, and is now called Langman's.



From John Rocque's 1768 map of Surrey

## Thomas Lee senior/junior

In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, Goldworth Farm was owned by Thomas Lee senior, quite possibly the builder and/or original inhabitant. He died in 1747 and his estate was inherited by his son, Thomas Lee junior.<sup>2</sup>

In 1777, Thomas Lee, then a butcher in Woking, sold Goldworth Farm to Richard Dare, described as a 'hair cloth weaver' of Farnham. At the time of the sale, the farm was occupied by James Steadman, but had previously been in the occupation of Mark Frost.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> SHC, G97/5/63/1, *Map of the Manor of Woking, surveyed by John Remnant 1719*

<sup>2</sup> SHC, G97/5/44, *Court book of the manor of Woking (1772 - 1793)*

## **Richard Dare**

Richard Dare was born in Farnham, Surrey in 1753. In 1775, he married Sarah 'Sally' Lee of Woking and, two years later, purchased Goldsworth Farm from Thomas Lee junior [probably a relation of his wife].<sup>3</sup> Richard moved to Windlesham where he became a nurseryman. In 1796, James Mersh replaced James Steadman as his tenant.<sup>4</sup>

In the 1790s, the Basingstoke Canal was constructed across Woking Common. Thereafter, the farm was accessed via a brick arch bridge, built across the canal, named Goldsworth Bridge. Now known as Langman's Bridge, it is one of only two of the original canal bridges which still exist within the Woking area - the other being Woodend Bridge. Both are scheduled ancient monuments.



Langman's Bridge, 1986

Richard Dare died in January 1803 and left Goldworth Farm to his son William.<sup>5</sup> William was only 14 at the time and his mother, Sally, died in July the following year. William's brother, Richard, one of the executors of his father's will, presumably administered Goldworth Farm until William came of age.

## **William Dare**

William Dare was born in Windlesham, Surrey in 1789, the son of Richard Dare; he was only 14 when he inherited Goldworth Farm. William married in about 1812 and his first child was baptised in Hammersmith in 1814; his second child was born in Woking in 1815. From 1815, the farm was occupied by Richard Howard, until 1827.

William Dare's wife died in 1835 and it seems probable that this is when he sold the farm to James Trigg.

## **James Trigg**

James Trigg, who is recorded as a farmer in Woking in 1806 and as a Jury-qualified freeholder as early as 1786<sup>6</sup>, purchased the farm probably in the 1830s. James died in 1838; in his will dated 1836, he states '...Goldworth Farm which I lately purchased of William Dare'.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>3</sup> SHC, G97/5/44, *Court book of the manor of Woking* (1772 - 1793)

<sup>4</sup> TNA, Land Tax Redemption Office: IR23; Piece: 87, *UK, Land Tax Redemption, 1798*

<sup>5</sup> TNA, The Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Series PROB 11; Class: PROB 11; Piece: 1392

<sup>6</sup> SHC, QS3/10A/4-6, *Surrey, Jury-Qualified Freeholders and Copyholders, 1696-1824*

The farm that James bought comprised some 7 acres and did not include Farm Cottage, which may have been sold either previously or separately at the same time as James's purchase. It was owned by Isaac Spooner at least as early as 1832.<sup>7</sup>

James Trigg left property in the parish of Woking to his sons, James and William, and his three daughters, Sarah, Mary and Elizabeth<sup>8</sup>.

It was likely James (or possibly his daughter Sarah – see below) who had the main farmhouse of Goldworth Farm converted into three cottages, which have separate occupancy recorded from the 1841 census forwards.

Initially known as Goldworth Farm Cottages, on the 1895 OS plan, the cottages are recorded as Norley Cottages. They were then surrounded by Walter Slocock's Goldsworth Nursery.



1895 OS Plan

The cottages were also later recorded with names Goldsworth Bridge Cottages and Langman's Cottages.



Norley Cottages (formerly Goldworth Farm) c.1910<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> SHC, *Surrey Electoral Registers, 1832-1962*

<sup>8</sup> LMA, DW/PA/5/1838/31

## William Trigg

William Trigg inherited Lysee Farm (at Royal Oak Green) from his father, James Trigg, in 1838<sup>8</sup>. William's sister, Sarah, inherited Goldworth Farm, which the 1840 tithe award records her as owning and William as occupying (as well as Lysee Farm) – part of some 23 acres he was renting from her in 1840<sup>10</sup>.



Woking tithe map, 1840

In the Woking Tithe Apportionment of 1840, the farm is shown on the accompanying map<sup>11</sup> (above); the extent of the land owned by Sarah is outlined in green. Farm Cottage was then owned by Isaac Spooner, who was

<sup>9</sup> SHC, 6812/6-7, *Woking and environs: scrapbooks compiled by Anthony Bathurst of Guildford*

<sup>10</sup> SHC, 6198/13/108, *Tithe apportionment for the parish of Woking, 1841*

<sup>11</sup> SHC, 6198/13/107, Woking Tithe Map, 1840

also the occupant in 1832, but since 1834 it had been occupied by David Piercy, farmer.<sup>12</sup>

Isaac Spooner died in 1840 and left Farm Cottage to his wife, Mary, and her heirs.<sup>13</sup> Mary remarried in 1841 – to John Hill of Bisley; they seem to have owned the cottage until 1848.

Name	Age (M)	Age (F)	Profession/ employment	Born in Surrey
William Notridge	21		Ag Lab	Y
Ann do.		24		Y
E Elizabeth do.		1		Y
William Stent	22		Ag Lab part of Not	Y
Jane do.		24		Y
Richard Howard	41		Ag Lab part of Not	Y
Thomas do.	17		Ag Lab	Y
Hannah do.		10		Y
James do.	8			Y
Mary do.		6		Y
Ann Billingsgate		25		Y
Rosy do.		3		Y
Jane do.		2 mths		Y

1841 Census return

Name	Relation to Head	Marital status	Age (M)	Age (F)	Profession/ employment	Where Born
William Notridge	Head	Mar	32		Labourer	Surrey, Woking
Ann do.	Wife	Mar		34		Do.
Elizabeth do.	Daur			11		Do.
James do.	Son		8		Scholar	Do.
Jane do.	Daur			5		Do.
Lucy do.	Do.			3		Do.
James Howard	Head	Mar	28		Labourer	Surrey, Horsell
Margaret do.	Wife	Mar		27		Do. Woking
Edwin do.	Son		9			Do.
Jane do.	Daur			7		Do.
Mary do.	Daur			5		Do.
James do.	Son		2			Do.
Henry do.	Son		? mth			Do.

1851 Census return

<sup>12</sup> SHC, *Surrey Electoral Registers, 1832-1962*

<sup>13</sup> TNA, DW/PA/5/1840; Will Number: 22

Richard Howard	Head	Mar	45		Labourer	Do.
Ann do.	Wife	Mar		33		Do.
Thomas do.	Son	Un	23		Do.	Do.
James do.	Son	U	18		Do.	Do.
Jane do.	Daur			9		Do.
Elizabeth do.	Daur			7		Do.
William do.	Son		4			Do.
Sarah do.	Daur			2		Do.
Mary do.	Daur			16		Do.

1851 Census return, continued

Name	Relation to Head	Marital status	Age (M)	Age (F)	Profession/employment	Where Born
William Nottridge	Head	Mar	42		Labourer Agr	Surrey, Woking
Ann do.	Wife	Mar		44		Do.
James do.	Son		17		Labourer Agr	Do.
Jane do.	Daur	Un		14		Do.
William do.	Son		8		Scholar	Do.
Mary Ann do.	Daur			5	Do.	Do.
James Howard	Head	Mar	38		Labourer Agr	Surrey, Horsell
Margaret do.	Wife	Mar		37		Do. Woking
Edwin do.	Son	Un	19		Labourer Agr	Do.
Mary do.	Daur	Un		14		Do.
James do.	Son		12		Labourer Agr	Do.
Elizabeth do.	Daur			7	Scholar	Do.
Fanny do.	Daur			5	Do.	Do.
Margaret do.	Daur			2		Do.
Martha do	Daur			mth		Do.
Richard Howard	Head	Mar	52		Labourer Agr	Do.
Ann do.	Wife	Mar		44		Do.
Robert do.	Son		5			Do.
George do.	Son		10 mth			Do.
James Chapman	Lodger	Un	30		Labourer Agr	Do.

1861 Census return

When Sarah Trigg died, in 1863, it appears that Goldworth Farm came to William Trigg.

The 1871 Ordnance Survey (OS) map shows the name of the farm as Goldsworth Farm – the first time the name is recorded.



OS map, 1871

Name	Relation to Head	Marital status	Age (M)	Age (F)	Profession/employment	Where Born
William Notridge	Head	Mar	59		Propagator in a nursery	Surrey, Woking
Ann do.	Wife	Mar		54		Do.
James do.	Son	Unm	27		Ag Lab	Do.
William do.	Son	Unm	19		Nurseryman's Lab	Do.
Henry Smith	Lodger	Unm	21		Do.	Do.
James Howard	Head	Mar	48		Nursery Lab	Surrey, Woking
Margaret do.	Wife	Mar		49		Do. Woking
Margaret do.	Daur			12	Scholar	Do.
Martha do	Daur			10	Do.	Do.
George do.	Son		8		Do.	Do.
Kate do.	Daur			4		Do.
Henry Davey	Head	Mar	33		Gardener's Lab	Sry, Pirbright
Margaret do.	Wife	Mar		32		Do. Do.
Sarah Boylett	Daur			10	Scholar	Do. Woking
Arthur H Davey	Son		7		Do.	Do. Do.
Alfred J do.	Son		5		Do.	Do. Do.
Alice do.	Daur			3		Do. Pirbright
Amy do.	Daur			1		Do. Woking

1871 Census return

William Trigg died in 1874. In accordance with his will, his real estate was sold at auction.<sup>14</sup>

### Mary Ann Trigg

William's daughter, Mary Ann, purchased Lot 8 "Goldsworth Farm", described as 'a freehold farm of 7½ acres', for £800 (this did not include the

<sup>14</sup> Principal Probate Registry, *Will of William Trigg*, 13 April 1874

two pieces of land south of the canal outlined on the tithe map, which sold to a Mr West and Mr Jackman respectively).<sup>15</sup>

In 1877, Mary Ann Trigg married Frederick William Abraham, a nurseryman, who had been living in Farm Cottage since 1870.

William Trigg's son, John Trigg, purchased Lysee Farm aka Royal Oak Farm in the auction.

It appears that John Trigg ran into financial difficulties. In 1884, Lysee Farm was put up for auction 'by direction of the Mortgagee under power of sale' - John had defaulted on his mortgage payments.

Although, the 1888 Rates valuation list shows John still as owner and occupier<sup>16</sup>, John's brother-in-law, Frederick William Abraham (who had married John's sister Mary Ann Trigg),<sup>17</sup> bought the property, in 1884, with a £900 mortgage.

Frederick was declared bankrupt in 1894/5. He came up for Public Examination before the Guildford Bankruptcy Court, on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 1895.<sup>18</sup> He owed £1,771 7s 3d; Frederick's assets were valued at £6 8s 3d, leaving a deficiency of £1,164 19s. He blamed his failure on 'poor seasons and heavy payments for law costs in connection with the mortgage on the Royal Oak Farm'.

Frederick had been struggling for some years; it is likely that Mary Ann sold the land and cottages of Goldsworth Farm to pay off her husband's debts. By 1891, the three cottages were in the ownership of Thomas Brooking Langman, who had been occupying Farm Cottage since 1881.

By direction of the Mortgagee under power of Sale.

WOKING, SURREY.

Within 15 minutes' walk of the S. W. Railway Station.

A complete COPYHOLD FARM, with small portion freehold, generally known as Royal Oak Farm, but formerly as Lysee Farm, situate in the parish of Woking, and in the occupation of Mr. John Trigg, comprising a substantial 10-Roomed DWELLING HOUSE, Farmstead, and convenient Buildings. Highly-cultivated Garden, Orchard, and Paddock, and the whole containing about 14 acres of fertile arable, or nursery land, which

Mr. F. N. Cunningham

IS instructed to Sell by Auction, at the White Lion Hotel, Guildford, on TUESDAY, JULY 29<sup>th</sup>, 1884, at 3 o'clock, punctually.

Possession can be obtained at Michaelmas. May be viewed on application to the tenant, Mr. Trigg.

Plans and conditions may be obtained at the farm; at the White Lion Hotel, Guildford; or of A. W. Mills, Esq., Solicitor, 1, Old Sergeant's Inn, Chancery Lane, W.C.; or at the Victoria Auction Rooms, 44A, Wilton road, Pimlico, S.W., close to Victoria Station.

West Surrey Times 26 July 1884

<sup>15</sup> Epsom Journal 14 July 1874

<sup>16</sup> SHC, 6198/13/3, *Rates: Valuation List Woking 1888*

<sup>17</sup> Frederick's sister, Margaret, had also married John & Mary Ann's brother, Walter Trigg

<sup>18</sup> Two newspaper reports of the hearing differ in some of the details.

After Thomas Langman's death in 1903, the cottages came into the ownership of Walter Charles Slocock, nurseryman, who already owned most of the land around them.

Walter Slocock died in 1926 and his estate passed to his son, Oliver Charles Ashley Slocock. Oliver Slocock resided in Langman's from 1937 until his death in 1970.

Walter Charles Slocock  
(1854-1926)



Langman's Cottages  
The earlier thatched roof has been replaced with tiles

Goldsworth Farm Cottages aka Norley Cottages aka Langman's Cottages were demolished in about 1968. After Oliver Slocock's death in 1970, the nursery was sold for development. The site is currently covered by the houses of Fenwick Close, Goldsworth Park (No.s 22-24).

### Langman's

In 1880, Thomas Brooking Langman and his wife, Mary, came from Notting Hill, to live in Farm Cottage. He was a retired Sanitary Inspector, then aged about 58. In about 1890, he had some alterations done to the house, adding two window bays and an entrance porch to the front.



Before<sup>19</sup>



After

Thomas Langman occupied the house until his death in 1903, at which time it appears to have been known as Bridge Cottage. It then appears to have been vacant until about 1907, when Charles Frederick Casella moved in. The name was then changed to Langman's.



Langman's c.2020

<sup>19</sup> SHC, 6812/6-7, *Woking and environs: scrapbooks compiled by Anthony Bathurst of Guildford*

For a brief period, Langman's was occupied by Miss Patty Louise Wells. She was recorded as living there in the 1915 electoral register (which would have been compiled in the autumn of 1914).

Under her stage name of Patty (or Pattie) Wells, she was a stage actress and singer, known for early musical comedies like *Havana* (1908) and *The Sunshine Girl* (1912) in London's Gaiety Theatre.

She was often featured on postcards as a "pretty stage actress".



Pictured in *Tatler*, 1911

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Occupier/Tenant</b>
-1748	Thomas Lee senior	
1748-1777	Thomas Lee junior	
1777-1795	Richard Dare	James Steadman
1795-1803		James Mersh
1803-1814	William Dare	
1815-1827		Richard Howard
1828-31		Robert Donald
c.1832-1837	James Trigg	
1838-1839	Sarah Trigg	

Owners/occupants of Goldsworth Farm

	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Cottage 1</b>	<b>Cottage 2</b>	<b>Cottage 3</b>		
1841	Sarah Trigg	William Notridge	William Stent	Richard Howard		
1842-50						
1851-61						
1862-63	William Trigg	James Howard				
1963-70						
1871				Henry Davey		
1872-74	Mary Ann Abraham néé Trigg	John Notridge				
1874-80						
1881				Jacob Kurn		
1882-88	Thomas Brooking Langman	William Notridge		Frederick Allwork		
1891						
1892						
1893-95						
1897		William ?	George Everett	Henry Flutter?		
1899		Thomas Fry	William Boniface			
1900						
1901						
1902			vacant	vacant		
1903						
1906-09	Walter Charles Slocock	William Peacock	William Pullen	Robert Howard		
1910						
1911		William Henry Collyer	Edward Field	Wm J Daniel		
1913-16						
1918-23						
1925-26	Oliver Charles Ashley Slocock	Fred Mattingley	Robert Chalcroft	Theodore Wyndonn Smith		
1929-30		Horace W Smith				
1931-32		Frederick Hadley				
1935						
1937		Samuel Shaw				
1939		Albert E Stevens	Wm King/Wm Hunt	Violet Nielson		
1945						

Owners/occupants of Goldsworth Farm Cottages

	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Cottage 1</b>	<b>Cottage 2</b>	<b>Cottage 3</b>
1948	Oliver Charles Ashley Slocock	Albert Stevens	Martin Brown	William King
1949			Thomas G Watts	
1950		Emma Stevens	<i>vacant</i>	
1951		Joinis Kalinovskis		Thomas King
1952-53		Cyril J Dorey		
1954		Malcolm McGregor	Thomas Rose	Tration Carey
1955		<i>vacant</i>		
1956		Edw.d G W Beachus		Edward A Buckle
1957-59				
1960-65				

Owners/occupants of Goldsworth Farm Cottages, cont.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Occupier/Tenant</b>
1832	Isaac Spooner
1834-41	David Piercy
1851	Charles Bullen
1861	<i>vacant</i>
1871-76	Frederick William Abraham
1881-1903	Thomas Brooking Langman
1907-12	Charles Frederick Casella
1913	Thomas Dudley
1914-15	Miss Patty Louise Wells
1918-19	Lt Cdr Howard Gilbert Nalder
1920-35	Benjamin Greenwood
1937-70	Oliver Charles Ashby Slocock

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