

Pond Farm, Pigeon Loft, Pond Farm Gable, Coaching Wall

Compiled by Pat Nightingale

The occupier of the property was Joseph Miles. He is also recorded as the occupier in the 1841 Census, along with this family.

In the 1851 census the building was recorded as Pond Farm. William Mills, a farmer, and his extended family were living there. One son was a butcher and a daughter was a teacher. In 1841 they had been living at Manor House (plot no. 461).



The building is now called Pond Farm House and is a Grade 2 listed property. It has been surveyed by Dr Annabelle Hughes, who suggests a pre-1750 date, possibly from the 1690s to 1725.

In the roof space is a pigeon loft (described in Sussex Notes & Queries, Vol. 4 1932-33 P.157) which still has many of the earthenware pots in which the birds nested. The entrance to the loft is via a small opening in the east gable.



The garden wall of Pond Farm House is also Grade 2 listed. Built of flint cobbles, the wall was originally 8 feet high but another 3 feet were added in 1850 to provide privacy for people in the garden from passing stage-coaches.

In 1997 a 40 foot long section was rebuilt as it had become unsafe. When two houses were built behind the wall a few years ago, all the materials had to be lifted over the wall by crane as no additional openings were allowed to be made.

