

Southbourne History Settlements - Prinsted



This following is the foreward of the Prinsted Book
“A Place where Pears Grow”
compiled by Dennis Barry for the millennium

Prinsted and its shoreline nestles into the beauty of Chichester Harbour, between Thorney Island and Chidham. The village has as many facets as the people who live there. It is a gem of quiet and gentle tranquillity, full of neighbourly kindness and care, which we all enjoy.

In the summer of 1998 a Fête and Wheelwright Demonstration were held in Bob Marshall's field to raise funds for Southbourne Village Hall. At the Fête there was a display of several early photographs of Prinsted, and artefacts from the past.

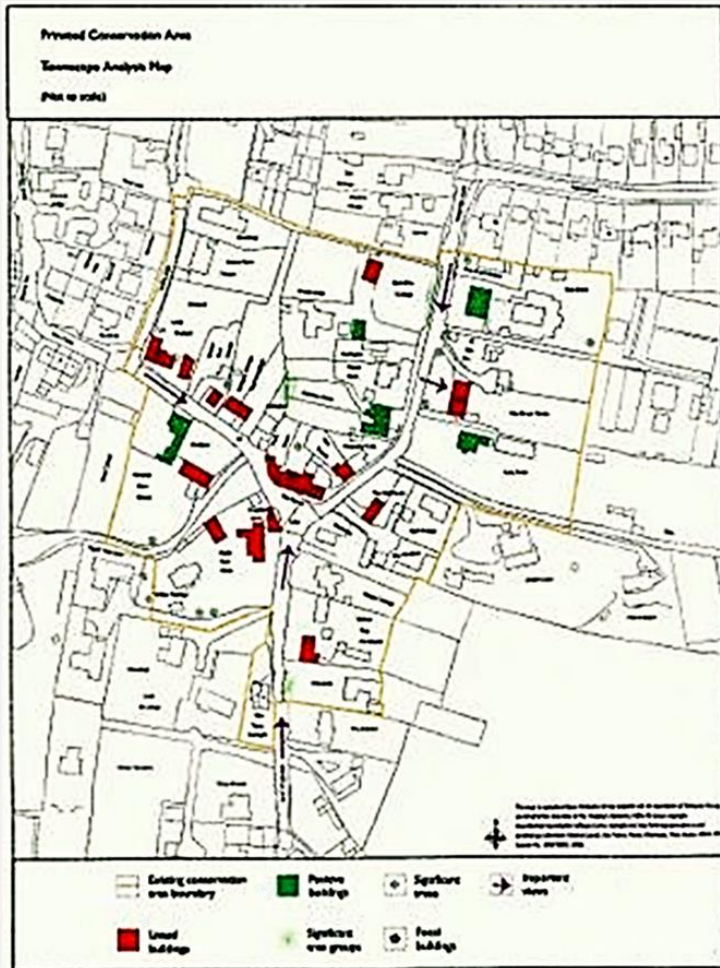
Interest was such that a number of villagers decided to form the **Prinsted Village History Group**. It met through 1998 and 1999 at the Church Centre and various local homes. The aim of the Group was to produce a book about Prinsted, to celebrate the Millennium.

Dennis Barry was invited to research and write about the history of the village in a way which would allow easy reflection on life in Prinsted by the villagers and their families. This he has done. We know that you too will enjoy reading about..... ***‘a place where pears grow’***.

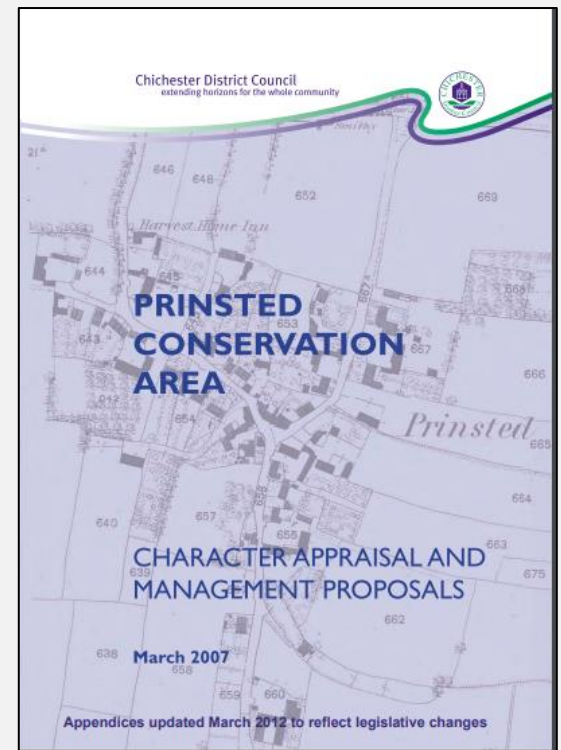
Visitors have increased, since the Covid lockdown from March 1920 to late 2021 and into 2022,
and Chichester Harbour walks booklet advertised the parking availability.



Chichester District Council Prinsted Conservation Area Appraisal 2007



It may seem out of date in 2023, but the buildings haven't changed much. Development is limited being a Conservation area and it is an interesting report of the area.



Prinsted.

This old-world hamlet is situated two minutes' walk off the Chichester Road. Turn down the lane by the Dorothy Tea Rooms and one is at once in a delightfully-situated village, the existence of which the visitor would not expect from the main road. A lane at the far end of the village leads to the sea. The village store and Post Office is situated in old-fashioned pleasant surroundings.



The Dorothy Tea Rooms, has been the Golden Chopsticks Chinese Takeaway since the mid 1970s.



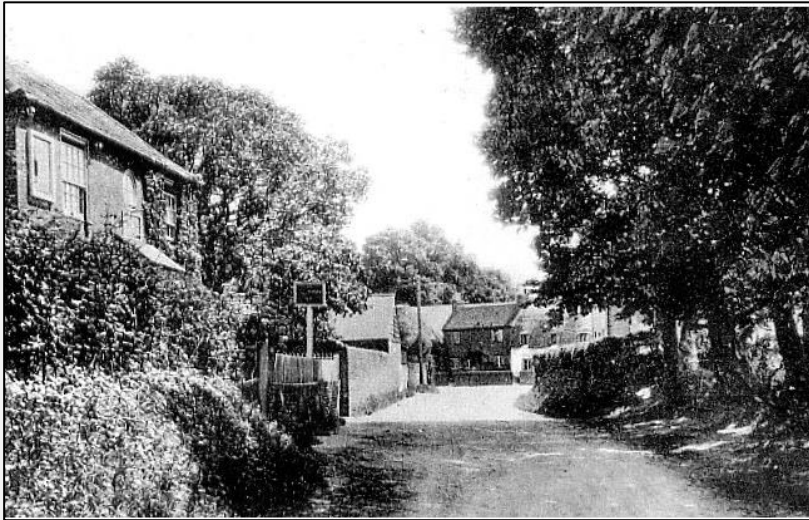
1928 Directory

Prinsted Directory.

Bailey, O. J. (The Cottage)
 Bailey, A. (Langley's Farm)
 Bailey, O. (Old Post Office)
 Bailey, W. Seabreeze Cottage
 Bailey, J. Marsh Lane
 Bailey, J. Harvest Home
 Bullock C. The Myrtles
 Batchelor, Mrs. K. (Fair View Cottage)
 Beecher, Mrs. S. (The Cabin)
 Bramble, F. G. (Prinsted Farm House)
 Bowles, W. B.
 Cutler, F. A. Langley Farm
 Chalmers, E. (Elm Tree Cottage)
 Cheeseman, H. R. The Olives
 Cook, C. 6 Victoria Terrace
 Davis, J. (Walnut Tree Cottage)
 Foster, T. B. 2 Fair View Cotts.
 Fox, Mrs. M. Marsh Lane
 Fleet, F.
 Gregory, A. 3 Fair View Cotts.
 George, A. (Smart's Farm)
 Greenwood, E. (Southlands)
 Hoar, R. H. The Gables
 Hammond, J. (The Cabin)
 Hayward, W. The Square
 Hiscocks, C. W.
 Hickman, R. (3 The Square)
 Kench, F. (4 Victoria Terrace)
 King, E. J. The Nursery
 Lee, G. (2 Marsh Cottages)
 Marshall, H. A. (1 Marsh Cottage)

Marshall, F. (Black Cottages)
 Miller, C. J. (Langley's Farm)
 Parham, Mrs. E.
 Parham, W. (4 Victoria Terrace)
 Ricardo, Miss M. F. Fraryhurst
 Rogers, W. (Sea View)
 Roman, Mrs. J.
 Sadler, W. H. Cyprus Cottage
 Sadler, J. (The Square)
 Savage, Mrs. F. (2 Victoria Terr.
 Searle, H. The Square
 Shepherd, S. Near Harvest Home
 Sherwood, H. L. (Old Place)
 Soper, C. E.
 Sparling, G. S. H. (Armada)
 Sparshott, J. Armadale
 Sparks, T. 5 Victoria Terrace
 Staker, F. G. (The Square)
 Staker, T. C. (2 The Square)
 Suter, F. T. (Armadale)
 Taylor, E. (The Square)
 Taylor, R. A. (Hillbrow)
 Terry, W.
 Terry, P. Rose Cottage
 Tuckey, J. H.
 Twine, Lacey Walnut Tree Cot.
 Twine, L. (Freeland House)
 Wade, J. T. Marsh Farm
 Walker, Mrs. Prinsted Farm House
 Weller, R. The Square
 Woods, B. (Old House at Home)
 Youle, G. A. (Wideacre)

Prinsted Lane entering from the west



Above and left : The Harvest Home
run by J. Bailey in 1928.

Prinsted also had a number of Ale Houses where the residents, if they had a well, brewed their own beer.

This was common practice at that time, and it would be sold by the jug.
The Old House and Black Fox Cottage both brewed and sold beer by the jug.



Bailey's Bakery Cart. Early Twentieth Century.

Bailey's the Bakers
It also became the
Post Office



Below the House for
sale in 2023 £1.295m





Picture left
Rose Cottage is in
the centre. The
thatched cottage
was removed.



Picture right
Rose Cottage 2023

Above: Far left and below is the chapel in the barn from 1855 until 1909.

A corrugated building was bought and assembled in The Drive and the congregation held their first service there in March 1909.



Below houses where the chapel once was.





Little Orchard, c1920, on the corner of Ham Lane is dated 1475

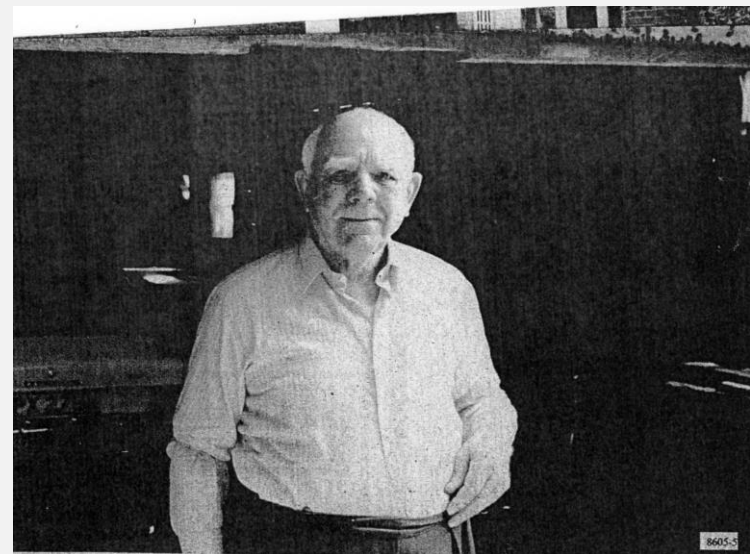


2010 Little Orchard one of the oldest buildings in Prinsted.
The shed on the right was used by Lacey Twine

Left:
undated picture of Little Orchard



Walnut Tree Cottage, owned by Lacey Twine
He used the barn next door to store coffins.



Lacey in 1975 he was born in 1894



Freeland 2022



Harold Twine launching his boat at
Prinsted Shore



Richard Ernest Twine
pictured at
St. John's Church
50th Anniversary
(1926)



Tench and Hotham were both initial
Southbourne Sea Scouts in 1933

R. Ernest Twine lived in Freeland.
He was a Church Warden at St. Johns.
The plaque in the south transept.

Freeland was given as a middle name
to the men of the Twine family.



Above: Baytrees



Left: Prinsted Farm House



Printsted Lane east



Above - Black Fox Cottage in 1940, when it was occupied by Alan Calkin and his young family during WW2.

Alan rented the house when he was serving in the Admiralty Signal & Radar Establishment (ASRE) at Haslemere during the war.

Above: the brick building on the right was the bakehouse.



For Sale in Dec 2023 £1.7m



Fraryhurst, owned by Agatha Christie's Grandfather, Nathaniel Frary Miller.

His first wife, Martha Messervey, Agatha's grandmother died.

He married Margaret West at Westbourne in 1863 and he died at Prinsted in 1869.

New owners in 2005 enlarged the home. The name Fraryhurst, in the glass panel over the front door, indicative of its heritage, was removed in 2012.

The building is not listed, but regarded as a "positive building" in the Conservation appraisal.

Headstone inscription

IN MEMORY
OF
NATHANIEL FRARY MILLER
WHO DIED AT
PRINSTED, SUSSEX,
ENGLAND
MAY 9th 1869
IN THE
48th YEAR OF HIS AGE
NEARER MY GOD TO THEE



Nathaniel Frary Miller
by Nicholas Biddle Kittell 1862

Nathaniel Frary Miller

Born 21 October 1821 Massachusetts USA

Died 9th May 1869 Prinsted, West Sussex

Buried 11th June 1869 Green-Wood Cemetery NY

Married Martha Messervey about 1845

One son Frederick Alvah Miller (b1847 - d1901)

In 1878 he married Clarissa Boehmer (b1854 - d1926)

Their youngest daughter was

Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie (nee Miller)

15 Sep 1890 - 12 Jan 1976

Nathaniel bought land from Richard Kelsey (Margaret West's Uncle) in 1863 and Fraryhurst was built mid 1860s according to the conservation appraisal.

There is a beautiful stained-glass window dedicated to him in St. John's Church, completed in 1876.



Fair View Cottages

Mr. Hiscock below, with his pond in his garden. It had windmills and water mills that worked with a pump. It was lit in the evening and the local children loved it.

Left his decorations for the Coronation in 1953 when he won the village competition.



Changes to "positive" buildings must be carefully controlled

Comment in the Conservation Appraisal.





In 1952, Mrs Doreen Laviolette bought '**Londmeadow**' and started a private school for girls.

This included boarders as there were a number of service families. In 1959, Mr and Mrs Cook bought the school and it became co-educational. Pupils were aged from 3 to 11.

In 1971 Longmeadow returned to being a private residence.

Prinsted Schools

In 1969 a school was opened by Miss Kathleen Keating in the Sea Scout HQ. There were no more than 15 children aged 4 to 8 taught by her and one other. The children moved to other schools at 8.

The school closed in 1974 when Miss Keating retired.





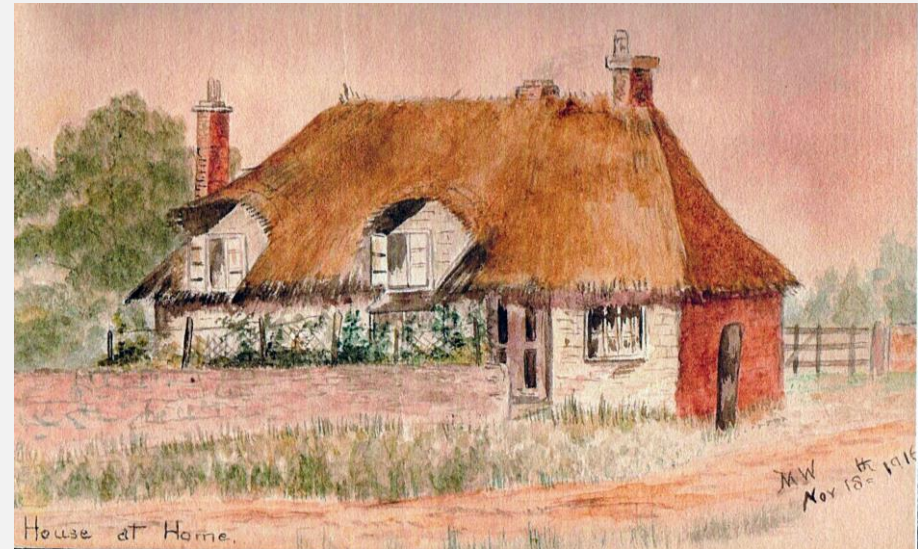
The Thatch is the nearest and Ha'penny cottage is behind both on the west side of the lane.

The footpath opposite, over a crepe stile, takes you to footpath 212 which goes from the shore to Main Road.

Right are glacial stones which can be seen on the south side of the path along this section before you reach 212.



The Old House c2020



The House at Home painted by MW Nov 18th 1916
At this time believe to be 3 cottages.
B. Woods was resident in 1928.

Prinsted Square, which is a triangle.
Older residents recall it had a grass island in the middle
which I haven't managed to find a picture of.



Dolphin Cottage



The Square, Prinsted
You may notice that the numbers go up to 6,
3 in each block, so you can imagine
how small they were.

Carols in the Square

Prinsted have for some years held Carols in the Square on Christmas Eve. I don't know when or who started it, but John Southgate was organising it when I came to Prinsted in 2004. He had done a Prinsted Carol Book. Merv Skidmore (bench on the shore) organised it a couple of years and I did it one year. No Carols in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid. It was reinstated in 2022 when Kim volunteered to organise it.

There is always a collection and for some years proceeds have gone to Southbourne Age Concern.



2015



PRINTED CAROLS	
Page	Carol
1.	Away in a Manger
	Silent Night, Holy Night
2.	Ding dong merrily on high
	Good King Wenceslas
4.	While Shepherds watched
5.	O come all ye Faithful
6.	Hark the herald angels sing
7.	We three kings
8.	The first Nowell
9.	The holly and the ivy
10.	I saw three ships
	Lully lulla, Thou little tiny child
11.	Once in royal David's city
12.	Unto us a boy is born
13.	Good Christian men rejoice
14.	As with gladness men of old
15.	God rest you merry gentlemen
16.	It came upon the midnight clear



John Southgate and Merv Skidmore 2013



Walnut Tree Farm in 2022.
The farm was owned by Charles Brundrett He founded our Sea Scouts and they met in his barn from 1933 to 1964.

Picture below taken from his book.



16th Century 3-bay house "And there I dwelt for over forty years"



Charles Brundrett, founder of Southbourne Sea Scouts

Charles Brundrett founder of Southbourne Sea Scouts

In May 1933

He was still the leader in 1964 when the Scout HQ was built.

He lived at Walnut Tree Farm for over 40 years.

He died peacefully on 21st January 2009 aged 103 at Ludlow.





Walnut Tree Farm Old Stables where Southbourne Sea Scouts (founded in 1933) met for over 30 years

Picture drawn by Alan Watts who was a scout leader for many years.



Walnut Tree Farm Barn. Dave Thompson and scouts inside the barn for their 80th Anniversary where we held a short ceremony. An evening event was held at the Scout HQ



The Hancock Brothers - 11 May 2013 at the Sea Scouts 80th Anniversary

Prinsted Lane, leading to the shore.

Walnut Tree Farm to the left with the old barns just visible



The taller one of the barns was used for Civil Defence Exercises in the 1950's

Elm Tree Cottage is on the right

The Sea Scouts built a crow's nest look out at the top of tallest of the three Elm Trees behind the barns.



Prinsted Lane
south of the square
Elm Tree Cottage
on the right
2022



Sir Frederick Brundrett, KCB KBE

Sir Frederick was a British civil servant and mathematician who served as the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Defence from 1954 to 1959.

Born: 25th November 1894, Ebbw Vale Died: 1st August 1974, Southbourne

They lived in Hill Brow, Prinsted Lane (now Three Greens)

Charles farmed the land to the west of Hill Brow, now Salterns Reach.

His wife Enid, was chair of Bourne Secondary School Governors and was a very active member of the community.

They had one son James Edward. born 1921. He died aged 23 on 30 Sep 1944 Service Number: 180924

Lieutenant 647 H A A Bty Royal Artillery attd 9th Bn Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment.)

Commemorated: Gradara War Cemetery, Italy.

He is commemorated on our Southbourne War Memorial

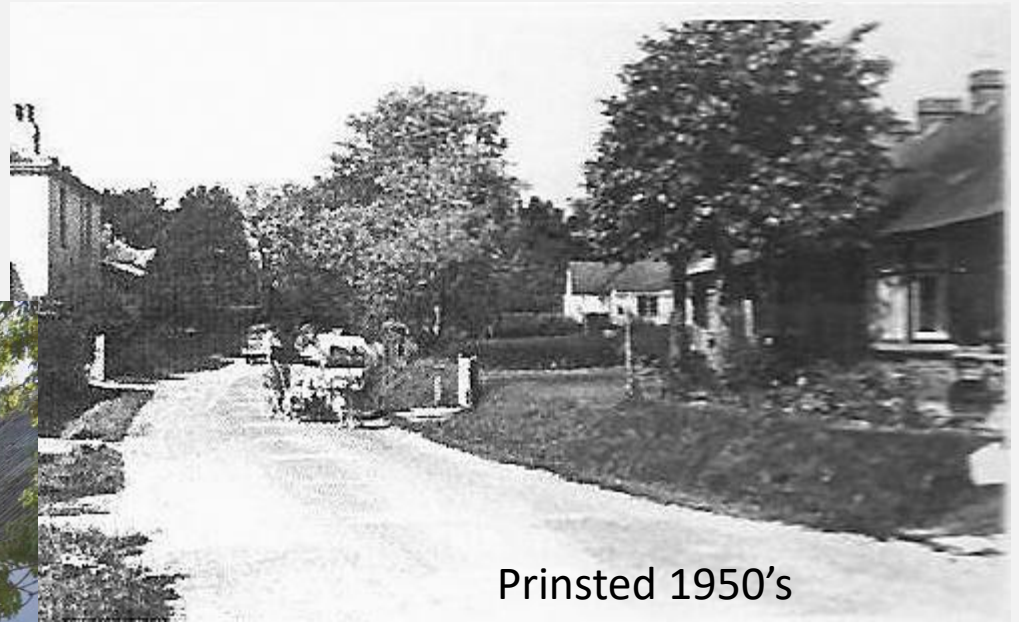


Marsh Cottages



Bob Marshall, George, Jack and Ted Lee outside 2 Marsh Cottages, Princed

Flora Lee above and her three brothers who all lived at 2 Marsh Cottages,
and far left Bob Marshall who lived at No.1.



Printed 1950's

above - Prinsted Lane, c1950. Marsh bungalows are on the right.
These were cowsheds until 1933 when they were converted into 5 'L' shaped
bungalows with the old farm cottages to the rear.
There were allotments opposite Marsh Bungalows



The lower end of Prinsted Lane, c1930.
The pond was removed when the army
cookhouse was built in WW2.

There was a mobile Ack Ack gun placement
along the lane toward Thornham. (At the
double gates which must never be closed)

Searchlight on a concrete base, was on the
bend on the right of the footpath that goes
to Thorney Road.



After the war the cookhouse was demolished and the site became the location
of Southbourne Sea Scout Hut in 1964

1st Southbourne Sea Scouts



1st Southbourne Sea Scouts HQ was built in 1964 on land donated by local farmer Mr Luff.

Our Scouts were founded in 1933 by Charles Brundrett. They met in his barn at Walnut Tree Farm, Prinsted for 30 years. (The land used as a car park belongs to the Parish Council.)

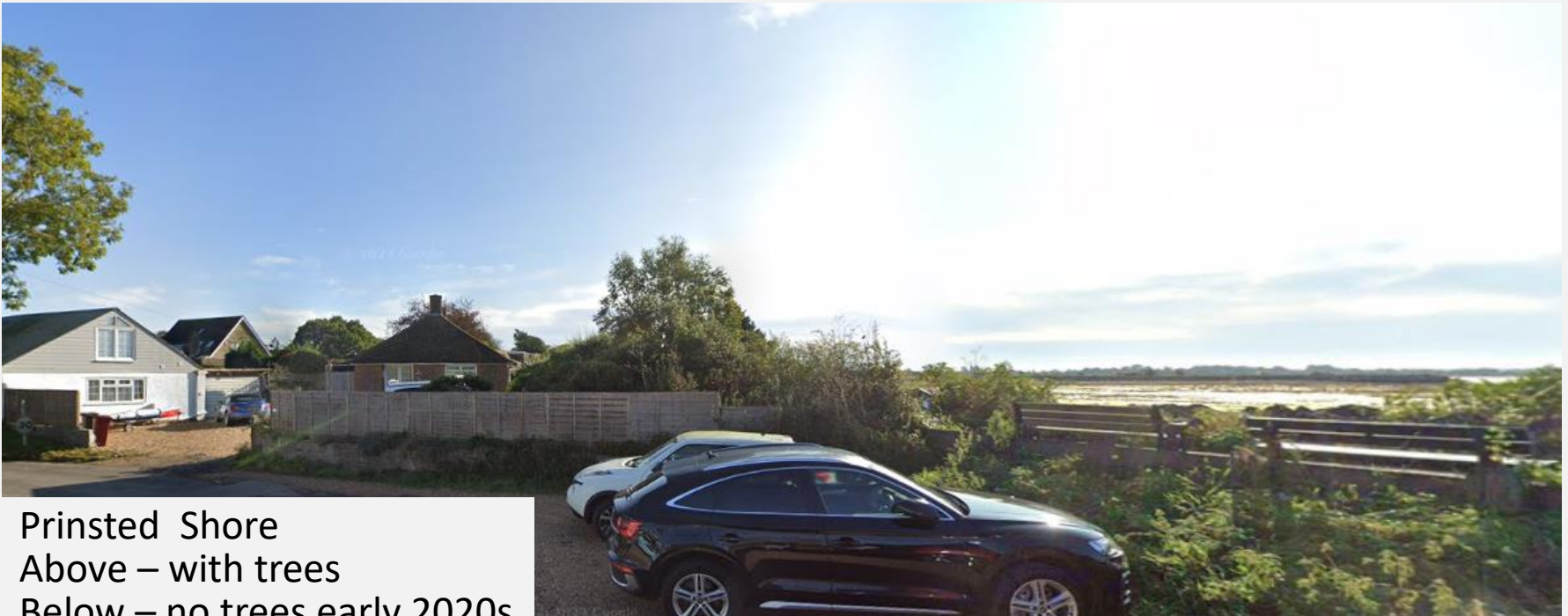
This is an important and well-used building. Beavers, Cubs, 2 x Scouts and Explorers meet every week during term time. That is over 150 youngsters plus leaders and helpers rely on this facility. A fundraising weekend and bank holiday coffee shop opens during summer and is well supported. Opening hours are dependent on our volunteer parents.

In 2021 the blue cladding was fitted which smartened it up considerably.

We celebrated our 90th Anniversary in May 2023 with activities on the water for scouts and later in the afternoon were joined by many old boys in the HQ.



Shore Cottage now
The Anchorage
Prinsted Shore



Prinsted Shore
Above – with trees
Below – no trees early 2020s



Prinsted Lane toward Thornham Lane.

Sometime in the 1950's gates were installed. This was strongly objected to by locals as it was a public highway.

It wasn't tarmac at that time but was an important access road.

No permission had been sought to close the road, and so objections were made and the gates must never be closed.

This is a public highway and must remain open at all times.

The gates are always open to traffic.

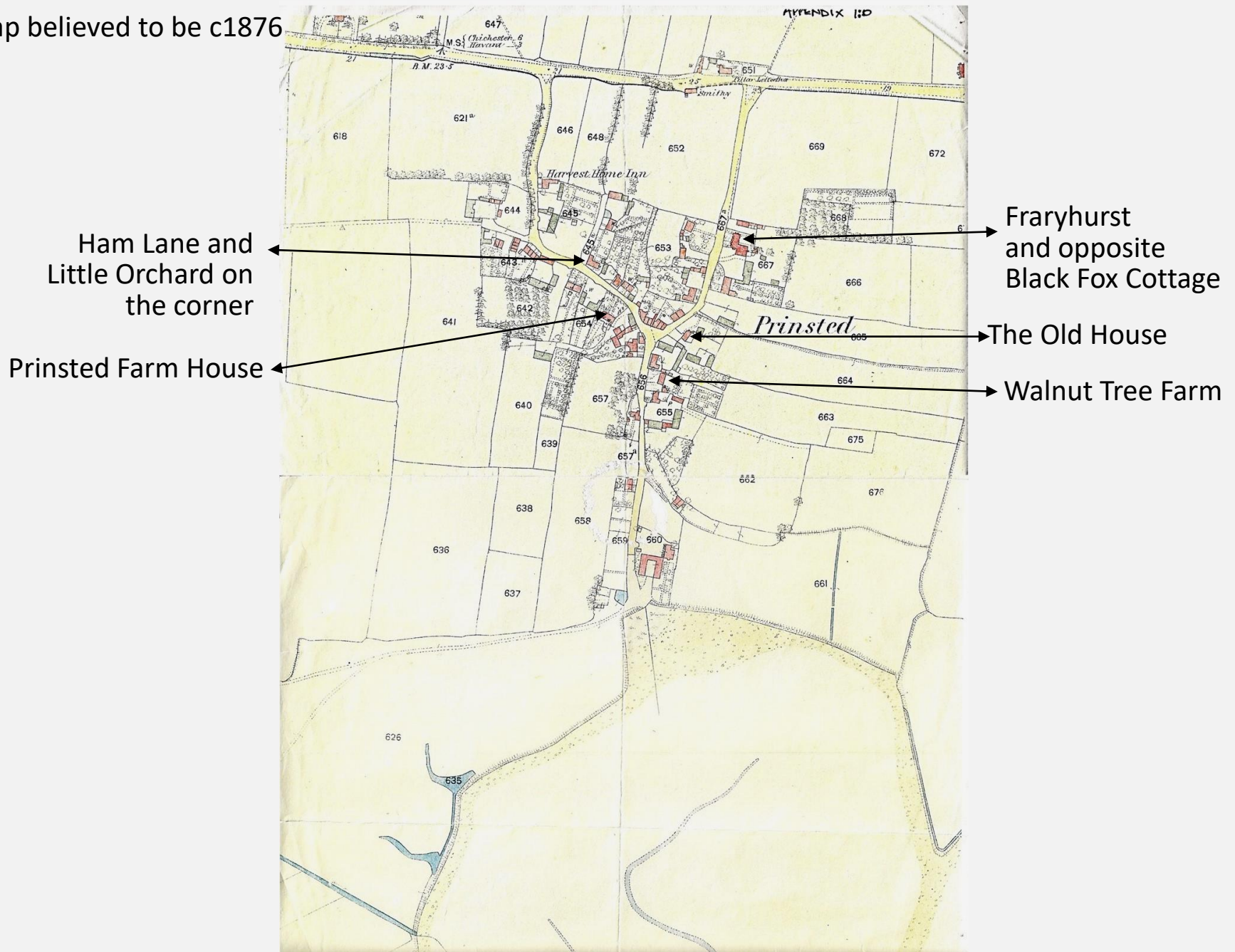


The Point - 2020 replacement bench to Jessie Kenning

Chichester Harbour Conservancy have a policy of replacement benches only to avoid cluttering the footpath.

We would have liked a bench in memory of John Southgate who was one of the residents that obtained funding and the necessary permission to get the wheelchair accessible resin bound path laid for the millennium.

Map believed to be c1876





Prinsted Bay, this picture hangs in the offices at Thornham Marina