

Gillotts

1600s: At one stage known as Gilletts, origins as an Elizabethan farm, with small house on site, by the 1600s held by a Henry Round, possibly a tenant farmer.

1790s: Parish of Rotherfield Peppard contained eight farms, Gillotts being included, consisting of 40 acres.

1802: The farms of Highlands and Gillotts combined under a Daniel Piercy.

1823: Gillotts Farm appears on Bryants Map, part of a series of countrywide maps published by Andrew Bryant, he sending out teams to map selected locations, the company ceasing to trade in 1833.

1830s: Landowner of Gillotts William Hodges, with tenant John Sedgwick.

1837: While tenanted by the Sedgwick's, the stable, coach house and several outbuildings were destroyed as result of a fire. There is a small report in Jacksons Oxford Journal of Saturday April 15th 1837, which runs as follows.

“On Monday evening, about eight o'clock, a fire broke out in the stables of J. Sedgwick Esq, at Gillotts near Henley, which was connected with the coach house and several other outbuildings. The horses were saved with difficulty, but so rapid was the progress of the flames that a carriage, chaise, and many other valuable articles were cremated. A hay rack, about 23 tons, and a large pile of fire wood and roots also shared the same fate. The engines of the Sun and Royal Exchange were speedily on the spot, but there being no water (except from a well) could render little assistance. The Henley Parish Engine (generally out of repair) broke down just out of the town, and impeded the progress of other vehicles going to the fire. The property was insured to the Imperial Fire Office. The fire was at first supposed to have been accidental, but circumstances have since transpired which almost lead us with the conviction of it being caused by the hand of incendiary”.

1849: A section of the Rotherfield Peppard Parish was passed into the Parish of the newly built Holy Trinity Church, known as the Parish of Rotherfield Greys, with the full cooperation of Trinity's Rector Robert Richard, Gillotts being one of the estates affected. Henley was at one time divided into two Parishes, being Henley and Rotherfield Greys, the dividing line running up through the middle of Friday Street and on in a straight line up through the town. Thus the side of Friday Street, which is still occupied by the Anchor Public House, fell under Rotherfield Greys, the opposite side being in Henley Parish, which had in the past been part of the Parish of Lincoln.

1850s: Gillotts held by John Fowden Hodges (Bolney Court), Henry Hodges (his son) and Reverend John Johnson Hodges, no doubt a sizable income secured from Gillotts farming land.

1850s: Tenant Joseph Henry Wilson (later held 'The Priory' in Caversham), a Barrister residing at Gillotts House in the Parish of Rotherfield Henley in 1851 census, with his brother Cornelius (later to go into holy orders, Rector of Southampton and then of Lapford Devon) and two servants, Eliza Harriet Grey and Tabitha Mason, the cook. The gentleman listed in Salters Directory of 1850 and again in 1854, in Billings Directory, both publications detailing private individuals and tradesmen of the area.

1857: In the Petty Sessions of Henley Division November 19th, a Samuel Lofting, Toll Collector at Hew Gate on the Reading and Hatfield Turnpike Road, was charged with taking a greater toll than he was authorised to do so for a dog cart, which should have had the same toll as a gig or chaise, the plaintiff Joseph Henry Wilson of Gillotts, the collector fined one Shilling and costs of twelve Shillings. (Source: Jacksons Oxford Journal Saturday November 21st 1857)

1859: "Hews & Son have been instructed by Joseph Henry Wilson Esq: who is leaving, to sell by auction on premises at Gillotts on Friday June 24th 1859, about 100 dozen of wine, comprising old Port, Sherry, Claret and Champagne, also lots of household furniture and garden implements and a very prime in calf Alderney cow. Furniture and garden sale eleven, wine sale two o'clock". (Source: Jacksons Oxford Journal Saturday June 11th 1859)

1863: Tenant at Gillotts W. Scott. (Source: Dutton Allen & Co Directory of Oxon, Berks & Bucks)

1864: 29th August 1864, sale condition made between John Fowden Hodges (Bolney Court), Henry Hodges, Reverend John Johnson Hodges and William Woodcock. It may be around this time that Edward Mackenzie secured full ownership, as Gillotts was subsequently diverted away from its farming past, being transformed into a fine manor style residence with the addition of extensive remodelling and landscaping of its grounds, to produce scenic gardens. It is to be noted that Edward Mackenzie's (who in 1853 had purchased Fawley Court for £90,000), eldest son William Dalziel Mackenzie later made Gillotts his home.

1866: "Gillotts Henley-on-Thames modern house, Mr W. T. Hews is instructed to sell by auction at Gillotts about one and a half miles from the Henley Railway Station, tomorrow, April 17th at 11 for 12 precisely, a portion of the contents of the residence, including Mahogany Arabian and Iron bedsteads, a 6 foot Mahogany wardrobe, Mahogany marble top washstand and dressing tables, Cheval (V-shaped) Glass and

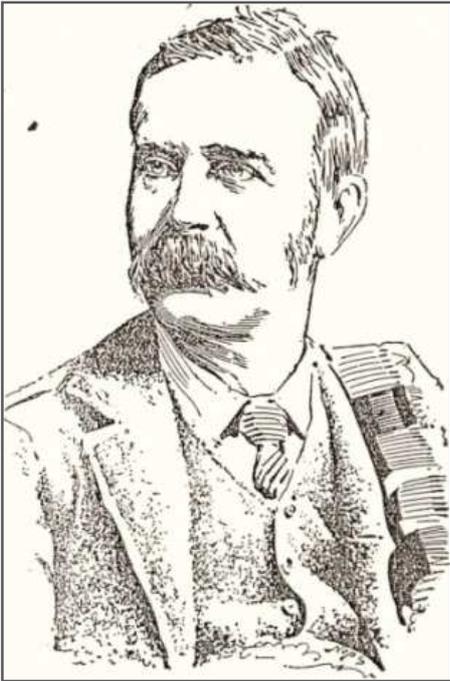
looking glasses, a superb dining room suite in Spanish Mahogany comprising a massive 8ft sideboard, with plate glass back, pair of dining waggons, a 5ft 4 telescope dining table, extending to 17foot, a set 18 circular backed chairs on castors, couches, ottoman, (storage chest with a padded lid for use as a seat) an elegant Walnut Wood Cheffonier with oval plate glass back and panels, library and fancy tables, a well-made 5ft Mahoney Secretaire, (writing desk with drawers) large Brussels and other carpets, window curtains, the Kalmptuileon (does any reader know what this is) to hall, 30 feet by 18 feet, engravings, books, an Amateurs Lithographic Press with stones complete, and containing photography and lettercopy, a 10 foot slate Bagatelle (board game in which balls are struck into holes)table, (Thurston) a well-built Landau, (4 wheeled convertible carriage) pony carriage, and all the outdoor effects, also a useful carthorse and three handsome cows, on view and catalogue obtained by W. T. Hews Auctioneer & Valuer Henley-on-Thames. (Thomas Hews & Sons Auctioneers, Land & Estate Agents & Valuers ran their business out of Hart Street, run initially by Thomas Hews, followed by his son William Hews.(Report source: The Times Monday April 16th 1866)

1867: Mrs W. D. Mackenzie gave birth at Gillotts delivered of a daughter on November 19th. (Source: Pall Mall Gazette Wednesday November 20th 1867)

1868: Papers produced which recorded accounts for Gillotts farm labourers. (Source: Mackenzie Papers Record 339)

1869: Birth at Gillotts on October 29th, the wife of W. D. Mackenzie being delivered of a still born son. (Source: Jacksons Oxford Journal Saturday November 6th 1869)

1871: On March 19th William Dalziel Mackenzie's wife gave birth at Gillotts to a son, still born. (Source: Daily News Thursday March 23rd 1871)



William Dalziel Mackenzie

1872: There is a nice story about how in the November, Mackenzie gave food and money to his Gillotts' tenants, inclusive of children, each tenant receiving 5 pounds of meat and bread, the widows and single tenants given money.

1873: The Royal Agricultural Society held an event at Gillotts.

1874: A Ball took place at Gillotts, being held in a temporary ballroom constructed on the front lawn, as main house did not possess a ballroom.

1874: On December 11th Mrs W. D. Mackenzie was safely delivered of a son. (Source: Oxford Journal December 19th 1874)

1878: October 15th a daughter was delivered at Gillotts, (Source: Pall Mall Gazette October 18th 1878) the baptism celebrations of Kathleen Helen, daughter of William Dalziel and Mary Ann Mackenzie held at Gillotts House.

1880: The will of Edward Mackenzie dated September 8th 1879, with a codicil dated June 28th 1880, indicated that his personal estate was under £1,000,000. The testator left to his widow Ellen,(nee Mullett) £500 and an annuity of £1,600 and the house and grounds on his estate of Gillotts as a residence, with plate, furniture, linen, china, glass and effects during her life or widowhood. The Gillotts Estate settled on his fourth son Keith Roland Mackenzie, (Son from Edwards first marriage to Mary nee Dalziel, she having died aged 41, on 21st July 1861). (Source: The Times November 12th 1880) It is to be noted that William Dalziel Mackenzie, as eldest son inherited Fawley Court Estate.



Mackenzie Mausoleum: Fawley Churchyard

1883: Occupier of Gillotts Lodge William Mackenzie's Farm Bailiff Cyrus Pether. Cyrus was born 1830 in Harwell Berkshire, marrying in 1851 Elizabeth Ward, born 1831 in Greys. The couple having children Richard born 1853, Thomas born 1855, Minnie born 1857, George born 1859, Lucy born 1861, Frederick born 1869, Priscilla born 1870 and William born 1873.

Cyrus who was initially Bailiff at Lucys Farm, before moving on to Gillotts, died aged 84 in August 1914.

1890s: Occupier Miss Mary Maud Janetta Mackenzie, youngest daughter of Edward Mackenzie, born 21st January 1860. Gillotts House extensively panelled in dark hues, with painted ceilings and frescos, the lady still present in 1900 as indicated by Kellys Directory, the essential guide to the gentlefolk who lived in the great houses, which were built in and around Henley.

1900: Agreement to let for the period of 5 years, land at Gillotts for the exclusive right to shoot game, drawn up between Keith Roland Mackenzie of Gillotts and Charles Pretzman of Boyne Holme, retired Captain of HM Navy, Owen Spearing of Holmwood, Alfred Behrend of Henrich and Frederick Ford of Kimbers House Maidenhead Berks.

1900: Keith Roland Mackenzie and Cara Mary Emily, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald Moreton of Isle of Wight, married in the February.

1900s: Correspondence in relation to Insurance Policies of Keith Roland Mackenzie for Gillotts House. (Source: Mackenzie Papers 977)

1903: An agreement drawn up between Keith Roland Mackenzie of Gillotts and Walter Lester of Market Place, giving him rights over parts of the land, Mr Lester's the Butchers located at 17 Market Place Henley.

1905: Agreement of sale on 10th April between Keith Roland Mackenzie of Gillotts and Colonel Sir Thomas Makins (held the estate of Rotherfield Court, now the Rotherfield Block of Henley College), piece of land in Rotherfield Parish.

1906: “Sporting and agricultural estate, between Henley-on-Thames and Nettlebed, estate of 1,350 acres in one or more lots, including several charming residential sporting farms, and building sites in immediate neighbourhood of Peppard Common, Rotherfield Greys, Nettlebed, Huntercombe and some of the most delightful and bracing parts of the Chiltern Hills, yet within easy reach of London by Great Western Rail, from Shiplake or Henley. This choice estate known as Gillotts divided into 9 farms, each with superior farm houses, cottages, and affording exceptional shooting, will be sold in lots at the London Auction Market on Friday 21st September, by Nicholas Denyer & Co, 43 Pall Mall S. W. and at Station Road Reading, Tunbridge Wells & Tonbridge. (Source: The Times Wednesday July 25th 1906)

1906: Messrs Nicholas, Denyer & Co on 21st September brought forward Gillotts Estates in 28 lots. (Source: The Times 22nd September 1906)

Lot 11: Arable land adjoining Gillotts House being part of Gillotts Estate was placed in auction, Gillotts House remaining under the ownership of the Mackenzie’s. The lands in question were itemised as such. “Although not possessing a mansion, affords some unrivalled sites upon which a residence could be built, and a purchaser who acquired the whole property and built would then have a fine sporting estate extending from the villages of Satwell and Rotherfield Peppard to Harpsden near Henley-on-Thames.

At this time Keith Roland Mackenzie was at Gillotts House and the auction of various portions of the estate, were to commence with a clarification of the 1879 will of Edward Mackenzie, the vendors father.

1911: Ellen widow of Edward Mackenzie died aged 88 on 15th August, being interred in the Mackenzie Mausoleum.

Post 1911 typed memorandum in relationship to ownership and condition of Gillotts House. (Source: Mackenzie Papers 381)

1913: A H. W. Hooper is noted as an owner occupier, farming part of what was a section of the Mackenzie’s Gillotts Estate, working the fields at Highlands and Gillotts.

1918: Letter and opinion in relation to possible site of Mackenzie’s settled estates at Gillotts. (Source Mackenzie Papers 856)

1919: Portions of Gillotts Estate auctioned on 21st September 1919 by Simmons & Sons, Bell Street Henley-on-Thames.

1919: Commander Robert Corbett Bayldon secured the property, the gardens were considerably expanded in 1920, with alterations to exterior of Gillotts House, with the addition of a Loggia (covered gallery on side of a building) and Mullioned windows (design feature in which a narrow vertical bar is run between the panes of a window) on the east and south sides.

1920s: Farmer George Shorland held the land at Gillotts; he owned Sheepphouse Farm and later Normanstead, which still stands on Greys Hill.



Normanstead

1928: Keith Roland Mackenzie died 1st March 1928 aged 66; he had relocated to 'The Hollies' Fore-Land Road Bembridge Isle of Wight, but passed away in Cannes France, leaving his widow Cara Mary Emily effects to the value of £21520 17s 4d.

1928: Gillotts Lodge occupied by Head Gardener William Wherrell, there is a man of the same name who died in Henley September of 1928 aged 64.

1931: The engagement announced between Lieutenant Edward Cresswell Bayldon of the Royal Navy, only son of Commander R. C. Bayldon Royal Navy and Mrs Bayldon, of Gillotts House, and Lorna Irene eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel H. W. Tomlinson Royal Engineers and Mrs Tomlinson of Engineer House Gibraltar. (Source: The Times Wednesday January 14th 1931)

The marriage subsequently arranged to take place at the Cathedral Gibraltar on Tuesday June 2nd 1931. (Source: The Times Monday May 11th 1931)

1931: The Cottage Gillotts occupied by estate gardener a Jas Callis.

1937: Mrs Bayldon recommends in the Domestic Staff Column, her French Nursery Governess, leaving after four years, the young woman having experience of children of all ages and willing to travel, any interested parties requested to write to Gillotts House Henley-on-Thames. (Source: The Times June 1st 1937)

1941: The family of the late Mrs Edwin Robson recommend highly Miss de la Pole as a Housekeeper with staff companion, willing to take a position anywhere any interested parties to apply to Gillotts House Henley-on-Thames, or phone Henley 171. (Source: The Times Thursday September 25th 1941)

1940s: Convalescent home for soldiers, Gillotts House still held by the Bayldon's, family furniture stored in Gillotts out house, in the 1941 Phone Book Commander Bayldon's address is listed as Gillotts Lodge.

Robert Bayldon moved on, setting up home at 'High Croft' St Andrews Road, his widow Mrs G. D. Bayldon still being present in 1962.

1944: Mary Maud Janetta Mackenzie died at her home 'Western House' Marlow Buckinghamshire, on 8th February 1944. She left a Kathleen Mary Mackenzie, also unmarried, a share of her £34661 2s 10d estate.

1947: Gillotts House sold by Bayldon's, being purchased by Oxfordshire County Council, one wing later demolished.



Gillotts House: 1947

1950: Former manor house opened as a girl's only Technical School aptly named 'Gillotts', offering commercial and nursing courses, the Headmistress Miss Barford. The number of pupils initially 25, with boarding provision in 'Thorne House', by the 1960s the pupil numbers increased to 80 girls, the students made up of top performers from other schools. In the early 1960s part of the house was demolished, revealing in the process shallow foundations, which indicated the buildings earlier life as a farm house.

The school closed in 1960 becoming the location of Henley's Secondary Modern, which relocated from its Gravel Hill site. In the 1960s the Staffroom was a grand area, with painted ceiling and decorative wall frescos, some of these features now concealed. The two exterior wells subsequently filled in, by the mid-60s the school having over 400 pupils.

On the matter of the infamous ghost, said to roam the corridors of the old house, the Bayldon's did report seeing such a spectre in a wing of Gillotts, now demolished and others have reputedly seen him. Thought to be the ghostly presence of a Butler who had hung himself following the self-inflicted fatal stabbing, of his sweetheart the cook, I can find no indication of any such tragedy reported in newspapers local or otherwise.



A somewhat dilapidated looking Gillotts in the Parish of Harpsden: 1971

Principal owners and tenants of Gillotts Estate

John Fowden Hodges: 1815-1894

John Fowden Hodges was born 1815 in Wigan Lancashire, the son of James Alexander Hodson MP, of Holland Grove near Wigan in Lancaster, John being educated at Rugby, finishing his schooling at Merton College Oxford.

Hodges married Caroline Margaret (born 1820) in 1842, the daughter of Henry Gaskell of Wigan. It was not until John inherited Bolney Court from his uncle Frederick Richard Hodges that he took the name of Hodges a proviso of the inheritance. After he inherited Hodges rebuilt the house commencing in 1852, using the proceeds from the families ownership of coal mines in Lancashire, Bolney Court had not been lived in since 1813 and had fallen into serious disrepair. The new house completed in 1854, an elaborate stone structure standing on arches with a surrounding terrace and classical entrance portico. The property included a library, smoking room, double staircase and seventeen bedrooms. The main house and walled kitchen gardens, stable block and boathouse were at the end of a tree-lined drive, surrounded by a seventy acre park, the house was only to survive until the early 20th century, being replaced by 1908.

The census of 1861 lists John and his wife living at the court with five children, Henry, (born 1843) John, (born 1849, in Hurley) Henrietta, (born 1854, died at Bolney, unwed aged 43) Maria and James, the families' domestic needs met by six servants.

The 1881 census lists John as Magistrate and farmer of 11,000 acres, employing two Bailiffs and 32 men and boys. Whether at one stage the Hodges were renting Harpsden Court is unclear, but in 1855 John Hodges purchased it, Thomas Hall the previous owner moving near to Weymouth.

John served as County Magistrate, retiring in later life due to deafness; he was also Magistrate in the County of Lancaster and High Sheriff for Oxfordshire in 1860. He had many local interests, serving for thirty years as President of Henley Savings Bank, retiring in 1893; he was Trustee of Henley Grammar School, acting Steward of Henley Royal Regatta, becoming Chairman of the Committee of Management up until his death. Hodges was keen on the sport of cricket and purchased land for Henley Cricket Club, he had earlier built a cottage which stood adjacent to the grounds, which was donated for the use of the club. He supported the Volunteer Movement from its start in 1859 and awarded prizes known as the Bolney Challenge Cups, he also served for many years as Church Warden at St Margaret's. John would spend the last sixteen years of his life as Chairman of the Board of Guardians.

John Hodges died on Good Friday, March 23rd 1894, (his wife Caroline having predeceased him, dying August 19th 1889) having been taken ill the previous Sunday, his funeral took place at Harpsden Churchyard, followed by an interment in the family vault. Hodges requested that his service be a simple one with no flowers, the service officiated by the Rev: J. W. Nutt. John's sons Henry and John attended, as did William Mackenzie (Fawley Court), R. Raikes (Bellehatch Park), Colonel Baskerville, J. Martin, Master of the Workhouse and Mr and Mrs Noble (Park Place). Hodges probate was proved June 6th 1894, with his sons Henry and John as his main beneficiaries, his effects are listed in the September of 1894 as £149382 1s 3d.

Henry Hodges: 1843-1907

Henry Hodges was the eldest son of John Fowden Hodges; he inherited both Bolney and Harpsden Court from his father, selling in 1894 parts of the estate to James Rawlins and Emil Theodor, London property developers, the two men acquiring rights of Manorial Lordship.

Henry married Eleanor Palairt on August 8th 1867, having met her through her parents while they were leasing Harpsden Court from the Hodges.

Hodges stood as a J.P. for Oxfordshire, in his leisure time Henry was an ardent Salmon fisher, spending time in Ireland pursuing his sport. He spent considerable time in later life travelling with his wife Eleanor, who was by now an invalid.

Henry Hodges died on January 30th 1907, at his Villa at Girasole in Monte Carlo, from heart failure aged 63, his body being repatriated, arriving in London then onward to Harpsden. Henry lay in Harpsden Church the night before his funeral, which took place on Thursday February 7th.

Joseph Henry Wilson: 1821-1896

Joseph was the eldest son of Joseph (born 1786 died 1855) and Emma (daughter of Christopher Aplin, Emma born 1784 died 1876), Joseph born Clapham Surrey 1821, baptised October 24th, part of an old Suffolk family settled many generations at Stolangloft Hall, Joseph senior relocating to Lower Norton North Oxfordshire. Joseph enjoyed a privileged education, going onto Exeter College Oxford, called to the Bar at Middle Temple in 1845.

Wilson married 1845 in Wandsworth London, Henrica (baptised July 6th 1822, eldest surviving daughter of William and Eliza Haigh of Furzedown), the couple's daughter Frances Henrica born 1846, in Northwood St Giles, baptised April 9th.

By 1871 Wilson had left Gillotts, relocating to the Glens in Devonport Devon, there becoming a qualified JP, moving by 1881 to Reading Berkshire, acting as JP for Oxfordshire and Recorder of Henley Middle Temple, at this stage no longer in practice as a Barrister. Joseph was present at the foundation of Kendrick School in 1877, later becoming Chairman of the Governors.

Joseph Henry Wilson left Reading in 1882, taking up residence at 'The Priory' in Caversham, immediately joining as Manager of the National Schools in Caversham, also acting as Treasurer. He worked tirelessly on the Reading School Board, visiting one school each week, until too many schools made it impossible, he would invite children connected to the School Board to his home at Whitley Hill and entertain them, the cost of which often exceeded £80.00.

His only daughter Frances, unmarried, died at The Priory aged forty three on May 13th 1889, her probate proved in London on June 11th to Harold Jennings White Solicitor effects £16137 5s. 8d.

By 1891 Wilson sat as County Magistrate for Oxfordshire and Devon, also being Chairman of Henley's Petty Session, sitting on the Bench, though not a Magistrate for Berkshire he was always sworn in on the Grand Jury at Berkshire Assizes.

Later in life Joseph lived at 'Marchmont' Addington Road, with positions as Vice President of Berkshire Hospital, Chairman of the Board of Management and Hospital Auditor. When a Mr Benyon succeeded the late Mr Mortimer George Thoytage as President of Reading Savings Bank, Wilson became Vice President.

Joseph Wilson died aged 74, on Monday May 25th 1896, his funeral held Wednesday May 27th. His Probate proved London September 15th to Alexander Clark Forbes Esq: and Harold Jennings White Solicitor affects £10066 10s 9d. His widow Henrica dying aged 75 in 1898, in Windsor Berkshire.

Edward Mackenzie: 1811-1880

Edward Mackenzie was the youngest son of Alexander Mackenzie of Fairburn in Ross-Shire. He married twice; firstly to Miss Mary Dalziel of Craigs County Dumfries, the couple having four sons and six daughters, William, Edward, Maria, Clair, Sara, Alia, Annie, Austin, Keith and Mary. After being widowed in 1861, his wife living to only 41, he went on to marry Ellen Mullett in 1864. They had a daughter Ellen, who died on the 2nd of December, a few hours after birth being buried at Fawley.

Edwards's wealth, which was considerable, was made from his civil engineer and contractor practice, which he undertook with his eldest brother William and a Mr Brassey, the men initially working in the early days of the railways, taking part in construction both in France and England.

Edward was a generous man; he donated £14,000 in 1863, for the building fund for the construction of a new residence for the British Orphan Asylum. The organisation being founded in 1827, by the Rev: Andrew Reed, had previously been situated in the former Royal Hotel in Clapham, a Mackenzie Street being named in Edward's honour, the new building located in Slough, officially opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales in June 1863.

Fawley Court in Buckinghamshire was sold for nearly £90,000 to Edward Mackenzie in 1853, Mackenzie retiring to the estate after the death of his business partner and brother William.

It would seem that as part of his position as Lord of the Manor Mackenzie had certain financial advantages, receiving from Henley an annual quit for tolls, fairs and cattle markets of seven pounds. Stalls that were let in the town also brought in monies, such as one let to a man named John, for which he paid twenty five pounds per annum, the Henley Market raising another forty pounds.

During Edward's occupation of Fawley Court, the saloon, which faced down towards the river, boasted a ceiling from 1690, which was ascribed to Grinling Gibbon. The crest of previous owner James Whitelocke was visible in the property and inlaid

woodwork in the library, on the bookcases and doorway, were the work of Mrs Anne Damer, who had been friends with the onetime owners the Freeman's.

The dairy, an elaborate ruin which stood in the grounds, contained a door supposedly from the ruin of an ecclesiastical building, which had stood in Hart Street Henley, there also being a four centred doorway from the Great Chamber of Crosby Hall in London.

Mackenzie took an active part in local life and was a Magistrate, Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Oxford and in 1862-3 the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire. He donated land in 1860 to the Henley Town Council, for the construction of a sewage farm near Middle Assendon, which was in use until the middle 1960s.

Edward died 1880, aged 70, he had suffered a paralytic seizure four years earlier, but had recovered well; his death took place shortly after his return to Fawley from his Scottish estates. The funeral was held at St Mary's Church Fawley; Edward laid to rest in the granite mausoleum, which he had erected for his first wife. He was survived by his mother who attended the service, as did his second wife. The funeral procession consisting of 18 empty carriages that followed the hearse, sent as a mark of respect by the neighbouring gentry.

William Dalziel Mackenzie: 1840-1928

Mackenzie was educated at Harrow in the 1850s, going on to complete his education at Magdalen College, being called to the Bar of the Inner Temple in 1865. By this time he was married, having wed Mary Anne, (born 6th May 1841, died 15th November 1908, daughter of Henry Baskerville of Cowley Park Oxon) in 1863. They had two sons and four daughters, William was to be widowed, but remarried, to Mary Katherine, (born 17th October 1849 died 22nd October 1924, the daughter of Adam Stuart Gladstone of Hazelwood Herts) Mary being the widow of Sir F. G. Stapleton Bart of Greys Court.

As a young man Mackenzie joined the Queens Oxfordshire Hussars, rising to second in command.

Mackenzie also held estates in Farr Invernesshire, Newbie Dumfries and Galloway, in both places he would serve as Justice of the Peace.

The Mackenzie's were powerful men in business and William was Director of the London & North Western Railway Company from 1873 until 1882.

William was an active Conservative and as such was adopted by the Truro Division of Cornwall, but he did not proceed. He also stood as a candidate for Woodstock, at a time when the Borough was disfranchised.

William inherited Fawley Court from his father Edward Mackenzie in 1880; one of the major projects he undertook was restoring the house to its original colour, a process which involved scraping and refacing the bricks. William added the north east wing in 1884; a new wing was built at the side of the court in 1883, containing the billiard room and study, the original design of the house being four ornamental fronts, representing the four points of the compass. The farming of the estate was

improved and William won awards at agricultural shows and wrote widely on the subject.

The summer house commissioned by Sambrooke Freeman, on Temple Island was altered by Mackenzie, he had the ground level raised and the lower door and windows filled in, so that the building was able to be habitable.

Mackenzie was it appears a man who enjoyed the river and was a Senior Steward of Henley Royal Regatta, having rowed himself in the competition in 1861 in a pair, with F. D. Hay, in the 'District Goblet', the pair being beaten by two lengths by Hopkins and Norsworthy. William was a member of the Conservative Party and founded the Salisbury Club in Henley; he was also by the year of his death a senior member of the Thames Lodge Freemasons, his son and grandson also members; William had in 1890 donated the site for the Freemason Lodge on the Reading Road in Henley-on-Thames. In his political life, he was beaten in the running for the seat for the Borough of Reading in 1874, though he had been High Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1873 as well as County Magistrate of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Dumfriesshire and Kirkcudbrightshire. Mackenzie also was for over fifty years the Chairman of the Henley Bench, retiring at the advanced age of 85. He was the original Alderman of Oxford County Council, retiring at the age of 82. Mackenzie did not spend the whole year at his estate at Fawley, spending part of his time in Inverness, where he was at one time Deputy Lieutenant.

The Smith Isolation Hospital, which is situated on the Fair Mile outside Henley, (now the site of a private company) was given to the town by Mackenzie. The building of the hospital was commenced by the Right Hon: W.H. Smith being opened in 1892, by his son W. F. D. Smith, the hospital having four separate buildings which could take up to fourteen patients.

William died aged 88 on 4th December 1928; it would appear from reports of his death, that up until eighteen months before he had enjoyed good health. As Lord of the Manor of Henley, flags were flown at half-mast on Henley's municipal buildings. Mackenzie's funeral, which took place on Saturday December 8th 1928, was an elaborate event, the body being taken from Fawley Court by motor hearse, the service taking place at Fawley Church led by the Chapel Rector, as well as the Rector of Henley. The coffin was borne into the church by estate workers and garden staff lined the procession to the grave, with moss and chrysanthemums. Mourners included the Henley Mayor; the Corporation of the town, with Tomlin's acting as funeral directors. William Dalziel Mackenzie is buried, alongside family members, in a rather austere mausoleum of granite, which is situated just inside the entrance to Fawley Churchyard, his second wife having predeceased him dying in 1924.

George Shorland: 1871-1938

George Shorland was born 1871 in Farringdon Devon, son of George (born 1832) and Mary (born 1844), with siblings Annie (born 1872), Louis (born 1875), Ellen (born 1873) and Louisa (born 1875).

By 1911 George was resident at Sheep House Farm Harpsden, with his wife Ethel Edith (nee Linscott, born in Holloway London, the couple having married in St Thomas Devon). The family completed by children Ben (born 1895), Dorothy (born 1901), Stanley (born 1904) and Marjorie (born 1906), the first two children born in Dunsden the latter two in Harpsden.

Normanstead was initially the home of Rev: William Phillip Pinckney, who died November 1898, his sons inheriting the house, which was kept in the family and let out to James William Walker. After Walkers death in 1920 Normanstead was sold in 1921 to Shorland, by now a very wealthy farmer.

Normanstead being sold after George Shorlands death, which occurred at Greenlands Reading on 26th March 1938, though his executors, did not dispose of Normanstead until the May of 1946. George left £88,458 10s 10d, split between sons Benjamin Shorland and Stanley Linscott Shorland, both being farmers.

Robert Corbett Bayldon: 1881-1958

Robert was born May 4th 1881, the son of Edward Herbert Bayldon, (JP, Deputy Lieutenant and Sherriff of Devon) Robert educated as a boarder, at a prep school in Eastbourne.

Bayldon went into the Royal Navy, reaching the rank of Lieutenant in September 1902, retiring in the July of 1905. He was for some time in the service of the Egyptian Government, in respect of which the Khedive conferred on him the Imperial Ottoman Order of the Medjidieh.

In June 1906 Robert married in the Parish of Marylebone St Andrew Westminster, Gertrude Doris Robson, (born 26th March 1885 in Leeds York, eldest daughter of Arthur W. Mayo Robson, a Surgeon and Florence, Doris having two sisters Phyllis and Evelyn) the couple had two sons Edward Cresswell born May 26th 1907, in Nairobi British East Africa and Christopher Mayo, the latter born in London, he was to die at sea on October 21st 1908, aged just 4 months.

While living at Gillotts Bayldon gave away his niece Margaret Rosaline Tudor-William at her wedding, which took place at St Margaret's Church Harpsden.

Robert Corbett Bayldon died on 25th August 1958, at his home 'End House' Gibson Place Fife. His probate of November 10th, unusually mentions his club the Constitutional Club Northumberland London W. C. 2. He left his widow Gertrude and son Edward, by now a retired Royal Navy Captain £259872 11s 4d.

Gertrude Bayldon died December 1971, aged 86 in Torbay Devon, her son Edward Cresswell dying 9th October 1998 in South Hampshire.

Bibliography

Burn, J. S. (1861) *History of Henley-on-Thames*, (Longman & Co).

Christine Peters (1995) *The Lord Lieutenants & High Sheriffs of Oxfordshire*, (Oxford: Perpetua Press).

Climenson, Emily J. (1896) *A Guide to Henley-on-Thames*, (Sidney H. Higgins).
Kestor, George (2000) *The Millennium History of Harpsden*, (Hermes Estate).
Thacker, Alan editor (2011) *A History of the County of Oxford Volume XVI Henley-on-Thames and Environs*, (London: The University of London Institute of Historical Research: Boydell & Brewer).
Tomalin, G. H. J. (1975) *The Book of Henley-on-Thames*, (Barracuda Books Limited).
Townley, Simon (2009) *Henley-on-Thames Trade Town and River*, (Phillimore).
Whitehead, David C. (2007) *Henley-on-Thames*, (Phillimore & Co).

Sources

British Library: British Newspapers 1800-1900 available at Henley Library via research computers
Dutton Allen & Co Directory of Oxon, Berks & Bucks: Published London 1863
Fawley Buckinghamshire, a short history of the Church and Parish: Geoffrey Tyack: Pub: Fawley
Fawley Church Records: Births & Deaths Register
Harpsden Church: Births Marriages & Deaths Register
Henley & South Oxfordshire Standard: Henley Library Local History Archive
Historical maps of local area: Held at University of Reading Library
Kellys Directory Berkshire, Bucks & Oxon: Kelly & Co
Mackenzie Papers: held at Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies: County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UU
Simmons & Sons Auction Catalogues: Copies held at Henley Library
The British Library Newspaper Archive
The Times Digital Archive: 1785-2006
Who Was Who: Published by Adam & Charles Black: Series of books which contained short biographies of notable men of the 19th and 20th centuries
www.englishpastforeveryone.org.uk