



Kellys Directory Extract 1898



Figheldean

Figheldean is a parish and village on the river Avon, and on the road from Amesbury to Pewsey, 9 miles north-by-west from Porton station on the main line of the London and South Western railway, 4 north from Amesbury and 12 north from Salisbury, in the Southern division of the county, hundred and union of Amesbury, petty sessional division of Everleigh and Pewsey, Salisbury county court district, rural deanery of Amesbury (Amesbury portion), archdeaconry of Sarum, and diocese of Salisbury. The church of St Michael is an ancient building of flint and stone in the Norman and Early English styles, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave of four bays, aisles, south porch and a western tower containing a clock and 3 bells: the east and four other windows are stained: in the chancel are several monuments to the Poore family, and in the porch lie two ancient effigies in armour, discovered in a field near the adjoining village of Milston: the chancel retains an ancient piscine and credence: a part of the staircase to the rood loft remains in the north aisle: the church was restored in 1861, and affords sittings for 228 persons. The register dates from the year 1660. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £207, including 2 ³/₄ acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the bishop of Salisbury, and held since 1895 by the Rev John Henry Calley MA of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Here is a Primitive Methodist chapel, built in 1882. A reading room, the gift of George Knowles esq. was erected in 1891 for the use of the parish: it has a small library and a supply of indoor games. Figheldean House is the residence of Col. William Waddington JP. HM War Office now owns the land, including the manor, as part of the military manoeuvring ground, acquired in 1898. The soil is light and chalky; subsoil chalk. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats and turnips. The area is 5,422 acres of land and 17 of water; rateable value £2,242; in 1891 the population was 472.

Ablington hamlet is half a mile south-east; Alton a quarter of a mile south, on the west side of the river Avon.

Parish clerk, Albert Dobson.

Post Office – Enos Sheppard, sub-postmaster. Letters through Salisbury arrive at 6.30am and 3pm; dispatched at 9.55 am and 6.15 pm; Sundays, arrive at 6.30am; dispatched at 3.40pm. Postal orders are issued here, but not paid. Netheravon is the nearest money order & telegraph office, 2 miles distant.

Wall letter box, Ablington, cleared at 10.5am and 6pm; Sundays at 3.30pm

National school (mixed), a handsome building, with residence for mistress, the gift of two parishioners, erected in 1858, for 96 children; average attendance, 74; Miss Frances Dunford, mistress.

Carriers:

Louis Sheppard, to Salisbury, on Tues. & Sat; Devizes, on Thurs. Robert Sawyer, to Salisbury, Tues. Thurs. & Sat.

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Calley	John Henry	Rev., MA		Vicarage
Pay	Edward			
Waddington	William	Col., JP.		Figheldean House

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
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Cawsey	Henry		Farmers	Ablington
Cawsey	John		Farmers	Ablington
Cobb	Henry William		Farmer	Knighton
Harris	Jacob		Miller (water)	
Pearce	James		Farmer	Choulston Farm*
Pickard	Ann	Mrs	Grocer and Baker	
Rawlins	Alfred		Farmer and cattle dealer	Ablington
Rawlins	Frank		Farmer	Alton Magna
Rumming	J Stowell	Sec	Reading Room	
Rumming	John Stowell		Farmer	Alton Parva
Sawyer	George			Wheatsheaf PH **
Sheppard	Louis		Carrier	Ablington
Sheppard	Nias		Blacksmith	

*(Letters should be addressed Netheravon, Salisbury)

** central for military camp; good accommodation