



Penhill

Penhill Farm

Penhill Farm occupied 273 acres and was originally a sheep farm (hence the name from Pens on the Hill).

The farm is believed to date back to 1093, and changed to grain production for brewing towards end of its life.

An Enclosure was awarded to Merton Collage, Oxford 1796.

Purchased by Thomas Arkell in 1833 and the 1841 - 1891 censuses record the Arkell family as residents.

27th August 1894 32 acres of wheat were sold at public auction.

The 1899 Kelly's Directory and the 1901 & 1911 censuses show that Donald Hoddinott was a farmer here and the 1936 Electoral Roll lists him as still resident.

Around 1912 the head of household was recorded as Francis Hoddinott In the 1948 & 1951 Street Directories P. G. Denly & Ivy Barker were living here.

In 1951 Swindon Corporation acquired the farm and land for building development and by 1965 there were 2000 houses built there.

The land is now the Penhill housing estate and the separate Farmhouse on the opposite side of Cricklade Road is used by Civil Service and NALGO as its Sports Clubhouse.

The 2001 Census recorded a population of about 6000 in Penhill