



Pidgeon House Farm

The farm covered 75 acres.

A 1786 Enclosure Award was granted to John Hitchmore.

1809 - Freehold Farm, Wiltshire. By Mr. Shuttleworth, at Garraway's Coffee House, Cornhall, on Wednesday, the 22nd Inst. At Twelve. A Desirable Freehold Farm, Tythe free, situated in the parish of Stratton St. Margaret's, a fine dairy country, two miles from Swindon, four from Highworth, 10 from Faringdon, and 13 from Marlborough, in the county of Wilts; comprising 63 acres 2 roods, and 10 poles of meadow and arable land, in a high state of cultivation, with a farm-house, farm-yard, barn, stabling, and suitable appurtenancy; in the occupation of Mr. Edward Curtis, a tenant at will, at an old and very low rent. May be viewed by applying to the tenant, of whom particulars may be had; also at the Bell, Swindon; Bell, Faringdon; Duke's Arms, Marlborough; Crown & Thistle, Abingdon; at Garraway's; and of Mr. Shuttleworth, 17 Austin Friars. *Public Ledger & Daily Advertiser 08-03-1809.*

1829 – Valuable Freehold Estate, Tithe free & Land Tax Redeemed. To be sold by auction, by Mr. Dore, at the Goddard Arms Inn, Swindon, on Friday the 9th day of October next, (by order of the devisees in trust for sale, under the will of the late Mr. John Large) subject to such conditions as will then be produced, and either entire or in lots, as may then be agreed upon (unless previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given), all that valuable Freehold Estate, called PIDGEON HOUSE FARM, situate at Stratton St. Margaret, aforesaid, consisting of a substantial and well-built Farm house, in excellent repair, good Barnes, Stables, Yard, and Garden, and all other necessary and convenient Outbuildings; and sundry closes, Parcels, or Allotments of capital Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land, in a high state of cultivation, containing in the whole by admeasurement, 54 acres, 1 rood, and 19 perches; of which 43 acres, 2 roods, and 19 perches, are Arable, and the rest Meadow and Pasture; and now in the occupation of Mr. William Large and Mrs. Herbert. Stratton St Margaret's is about 2 miles from Swindon, and 4 from Highworth. And in an easy distance from Cirencester and Faringdon, & other good market towns. Mr. William Large of South Marston, will shew the Estate; and for further information, and to treat, apply to Mr. Dore, of Bishopstone, and Mr. Joseph Brind of Liddington; or to Messrs. Crowdy, at their offices, Swindon, (if by letter, free of postage). *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24/09/1829*

02/05/1830 now up to 75 acres and including the brewery is sold as part of estate of Mr William Large.

The 1841-1871 censuses show Ralph Wilkins as farmer here and the 1871 and 1881 shows his widow Jane as having taken on the farm. (70 acres)

c.1846 – 4 2 bed cottages built, sold at auction in 1847. *Reading Mercury 24-04-1847.*

1850 Was put up for sale by the estate of William Large. Tithe Free, Dwelling house, Brewery & 75 acres of

land. The yard and some outbuildings are in use of Robert Arkell. Lots: - Williams Close occupied by James Adams, Cosside in occupation of Mrs Kirby, Paddock let out as garden allotments, (2 Tenements near workhouse, 3 meadows next to Workhouse, Great Sturrey Field, First Street Furlong, Third & Forth Street Fulongs, currently rented by Robert Arkell) Dwelling house occupied by Mrs Dore. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 25-04-1850.*

A further sale was held later in the year Lot 1 being a messuage and compact brewery Lot 2 The Farmhouse and surrounding buildings and orchard 2 acres, Lot 3 6 bed Dwelling house with walled garden and orchard.

Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 19-09-1850.

1880 Jane Williams is farmer. *1880 Kelly's Directory*

1886 owner Thomas Day.

The 1890 North Wilts directory shows the farmer as Fuller Fyson and in an article in local paper, – John PENNEY, a lad, of Stratton was charged with unlawfully wounding a mare in foal worth £60, the property of Mr. Fullard FYSON, farmer. Bench dismissed case as accidental. *Citizen 25-7-1890*, he is also referred to in 1891 Census.

1896 owners W H Day and Levi Morse.

The 1893 & 1898 Kelly's Directories have Walter Henry Jukes as farmer, also in 1901 Census, still there in 1903 Kelly's. In 1906 he was charged with setting fire to the farm. *Citizen 16-3-1906*. And sent to prison. *Citizen 09-06-1906*.

1910 Edgar Ellison was in charge (81 Acres), shown in 1911 Census and in newspaper 1911' Edgar ELLISON of Pidgeon House farm, Stratton for driving a horse and cart while drunk on April 4th, being a danger to the public. *Citizen 11-04-1911.*'

1928 Swindon Directory, 1930 Kelly's, 1936 Electoral Roll & 1939 Register William George & Maud Russell lived here, William was listed as a cattle dealer.

1948 Street Directory A Large and A L Richardson were in occupation.

By the time, the 1951 Street directory was published the occupants had changed again to W B Tompkins and Gladys Gible. In 1953 Mr. Tompkins was advertising Two blocks of 108 Clyde-built easy clean laying Cages for sale. *Wiltshire Times 08-08-1953*.

The current postal code is SN3 4ST