

Blenheim House in Oxford Road, Benson



Blenheim House was built in 1876 on a large plot which included the land on the opposite side of Oxford Road, where there was an orchard of “Blenheim Orange” apples and several outhouses. These included a coach house and stabling, an ostler’s sleeping room, an apple store and a laundry. The earliest deed which has been found dates from 1896 when Alfred and Eliza Hyde obtained a mortgage.

Arthur Jenkins bought the house in 1919 for £1,100. He built a large bungalow on his land on the opposite side of Oxford Road in 1928, which he called “Meadfoot”.



Joyce Jenkins on her brother’s motorcycle outside Blenheim House.



Edith Jenkins and her daughter Joyce.



Arthur Jenkins 1925

Arthur and Edith Jenkins lived in Blenheim House until 1928, with their daughter Joyce and son Maurice. They moved into "Meadfoot" in 1928 and sold Blenheim House to Frederick Albert and Kate Paxman. Arthur Jenkins was chairman of the Benson Parish Council and a businessman in Wallingford. The Paxmans owned Blenheim House until 1951, when it was bought by Edwin Crump.

Ten years later he sold it to William Frederick and Eileen Stubbs of the Old Surgery, Benson. The name of the house was changed to Littleworth End, probably by the Stubbs. They sold the house to Terence and Sylvia Cartwright in 1977, who in turn sold it to John and Alison Reid in 1983. They sold the property to Conor O'Callaghan and Jo Whittaker in July 2011, who changed the name back to Blenheim House, and also rebuilt the greenhouse.