



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

**Held at:** Private Collection

**Reference:** TGC2

**Source:** Guest Contribution

**Title:** Digital Archive: Tony Gray Collection 2 - Documents, Research Notes and Working Papers relating to Properties in the Upper Escley Valley; Files 1900/ 21-24

**Place name:** Michaelchurch Escley

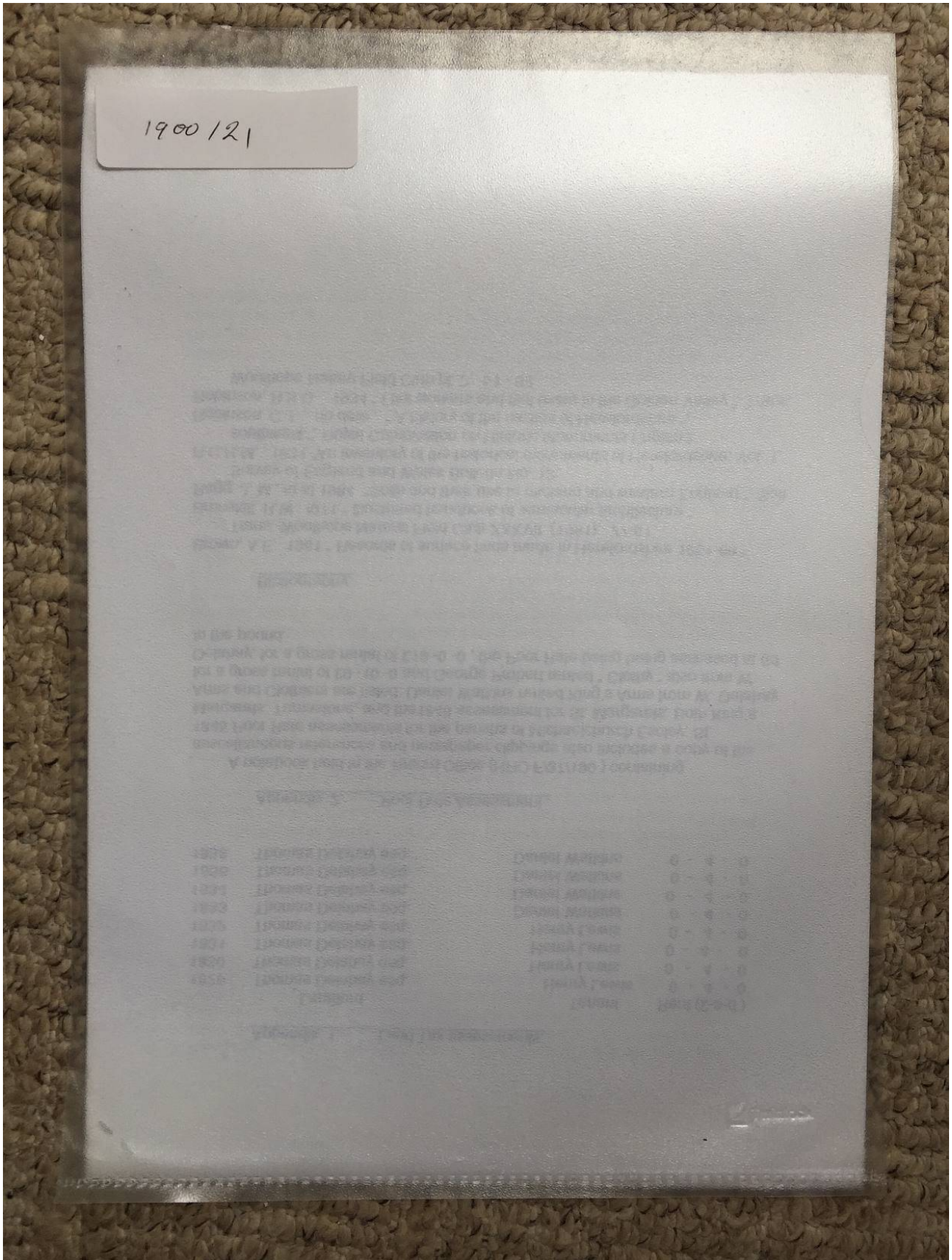
**Date:** 1900s

**Description:**

Photographs of part of a research portfolio of working papers, documents and other material relating to studies by Tony Gray of properties and ownership in the Upper Escley Valley, principally in the parish of Michaelchurch Escley, from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. Links to other parts of the portfolio can be found in the Index at [http://www.ewyaslacy.org.uk/doc.php?d=rs\\_mic\\_0668](http://www.ewyaslacy.org.uk/doc.php?d=rs_mic_0668)

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### Archaeological sources.

#### (i) The County Sites and Monuments Record.

The record contains information relating to two of the buildings on the farm : Clothier's farmhouse itself and the King's Arms barn.

#### (ii) Cartographical evidence.

The 1844 tithe map indicates the area of Urishay Common before it was enclosed. It also shows the extent of the properties of Clothiers and King's Arms. The text also states that Clothiers was at the time rented by one George Probert from Thomas Delahay, and King's Arms rented by Daniel Watkins, also from Thomas Delahay.

#### (iii) Documents and other sources.

No mention of the Urishay Estate or Clothiers Farm was found in the Domesday Book.

Copies of the Land Tax Assessments for the parish of Michaelchurch Escley in the years 1781 - 1838 are held in Hereford Record Office. An entry is to be found for Clothiers almost every year, although the name of the property is not always included. King's Arms is somewhat more elusive, appearing in the record for 1781, then disappears until 1829 and remaining in the records until 1838. The poor rate assessment 1845 for Clothiers and King's Arms also survives.

Of more recent date are the sole particulars from auctions in 1913, 1914, and 1919 when the Urishay Estate was sold. It proved difficult to sell the two farms, Clothiers and King's Arms, which were originally offered as one lot, split into two for the 1914 sale, and finally sold together as a single lot in 1919.

References to Clothiers were found in Kelly's Directory of the county of Herefordshire for the years 1913 when "Lane, Francis, farmer, Clothiers" is listed among the commercial residents of Michaelchurch Escley, and 1917, when "Jones, Cecil J., farmer" is listed, also for Clothiers. No entries were found for King's Arms, nor were there any references in the directories for 1891 and 1905.

#### (iv) Earthworks.

There are three former stone quarries on the farm: one relatively near the buildings at Clothiers, another near King's Arms, the third being in the area set aside in the 1856 enclosure award as a quarry for the maintenance of the new public roads.

#### (v) Buildings.



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The construction of the threshing floor and cow house to the north has been designated as phase III, with the shelter shed, extension C and extension B following as Phase IV. Extension B must now post-date the threshing floor building, since its north wall butts on to the east wall of the latter. Since extension C has been demolished it is impossible to establish for certain to which phase it belongs.

### Discussion.

#### Archaeological significance

The medieval evidence for Clothiers Farm is substantial. Documentary evidence testifies to the existence of a manor called "Clofhye Hopkyne" in 1528 and ridge and furrow earthworks are a indication of medieval cultivation. The size and location of the isolated patch of ridge and furrow is unexpected. Ridge and furrow earthworks usually represent the survival of part of an extensive medieval open field system. In this case, however, there is no indication that it continues into the adjacent fields. Furthermore, this area was part of the common land enclosed in 1856, so evidence of cultivation is somewhat surprising, possibly indicating much earlier enclosure of common land.

The documentary evidence of the Land Tax and Poor Rate assessments reveals the relative properties of King's Arms and Clothiers. The enclosure award of 1856 explains not only the differing field boundaries in the northern part of the farm, but also the origin of the earthworks in the field called 'Cwm Corse' as a quarry to provide stone for the repair of the new public roads. The types of building indicate that a greater diversity of farming activities was formerly carried out than at present. Cows were kept at both farms and threshing floors indicate arable cultivation, probably in addition to sheep. Horses were kept at Clothiers, and would probably have been used for traction and transport.

Despite its name and the tradition of King's Arms having been a public house, no direct evidence confirming this was forthcoming. The fabric of the barn gives no indication of this origin, nor was it described as such in any of the documents consulted.

A greater proportion of the cruck frame building at the King's Arms survives, and the rest of the building is also attractive, particularly the wooden framing of the partition on the northern side of the threshing floor.

The place of the farm within its landscape and historical and archaeological context is significant as is its proximity to the Norman Chapel of Urishay, the Offa's Dyke path, Longtown Castle and the Black Mountains to the southwest, Kilpeck church and the castle to the south, Abbey Dore and the Golden Valley to the west, and Arthur's Stone to the north.



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### Appendix 1. Land Tax assessments.

	Landlord	Tenant	Rent (£-s-d)
1829	Thomas Delahay esq.	Henry Lewis	0 - 4 - 0
1830	Thomas Delahay esq.	Henry Lewis	0 - 4 - 0
1831	Thomas Delahay esq.	Henry Lewis	0 - 4 - 0
1832	Thomas Delahay esq.	Henry Lewis	0 - 4 - 0
1833	Thomas Delahay esq.	Daniel Watkins	0 - 4 - 0
1834	Thomas Delahay esq.	Daniel Watkins	0 - 4 - 0
1836	Thomas Delahay esq.	Daniel Watkins	0 - 4 - 0
1838	Thomas Delahay esq.	Daniel Watkins	0 - 4 - 0

### Appendix 2. Poor Rate Assessment.

A notebook held in the Record Office (HRO F/37/190) containing miscellaneous references and newspaper clippings also includes a copy of the 1845 Poor Rate assessments for the parishes of Michaelchurch Escley, St. Margarets, Turnastone, and the 1846 assessment for St. Margarets. Both King's Arms and Clothiers are listed: Daniel Watkins rented King's Arms from W. Delahay for a gross rental of £9 - 10 - 0 and George Probert rented "Clothy" also from W. Delahay, for a gross rental of £19 - 0 - 0, the Poor Rate being assessed at 6d in the pound.

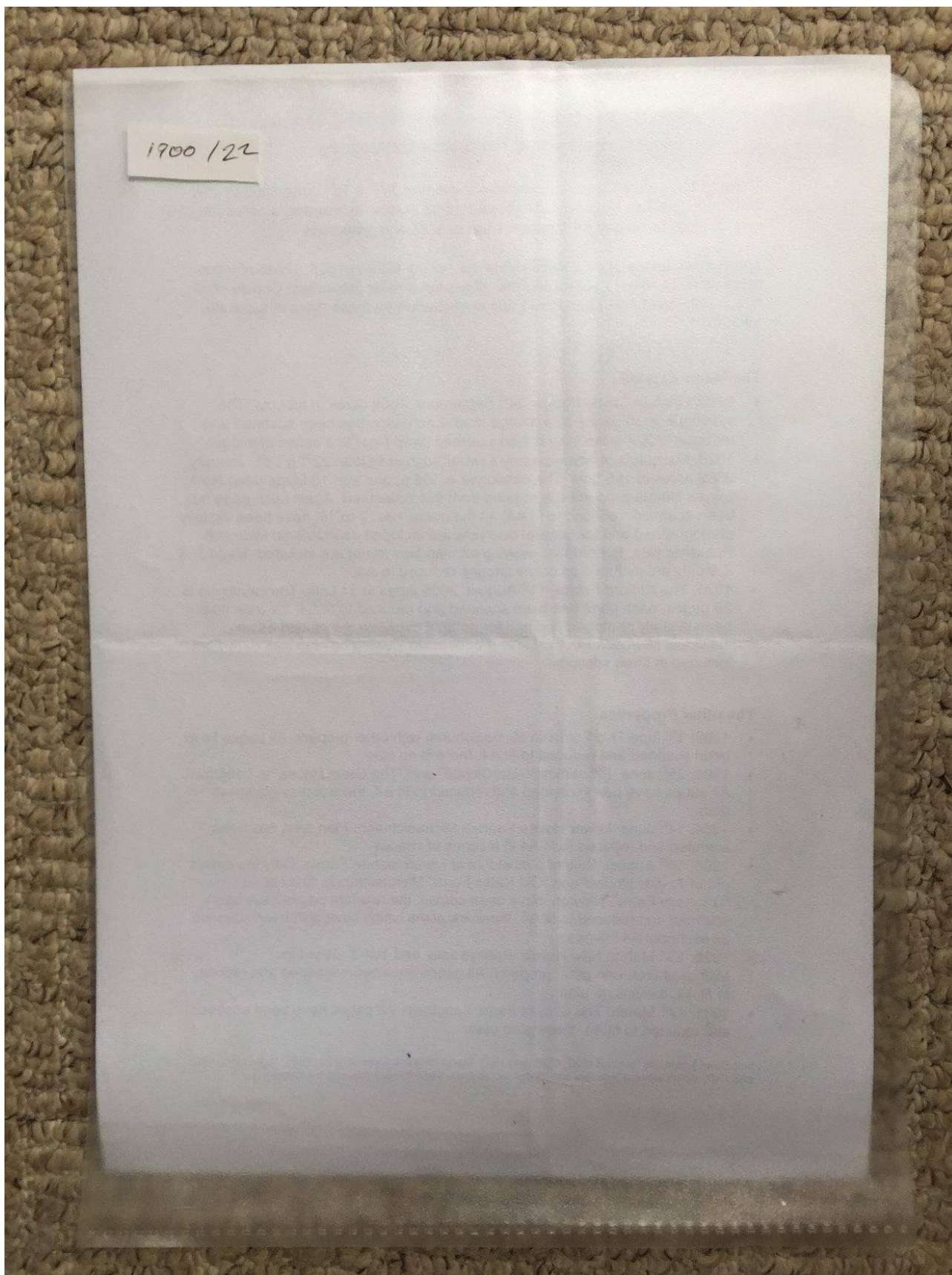
### Bibliography.

- Brown, A.E. 1961 "Records of surface finds made in Herefordshire 1951-60" Trans. Woolhope Natural Field Club XXXVII (1961), 77-91.
- Brunskill, R.W. 1971 "Illustrated handbook of vernacular architecture".
- Ragg, J. M., et al 1984 "Soils and their use in midland and western England". Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin No. 12.
- R.C.H.M., 1931 "An inventory of the historical monuments of Herefordshire; Vol. 1, southwest", Royal Commission on Historic Monuments England.
- Robinson, C.J., no date, "A history of the castles of Herefordshire".
- Robinson, R.S.G., 1934 "Flint workers and flint users in the Golden Valley", Trans. Woolhope Nature Field Club pt. 2, 54 - 63.



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### Estate and Farm Sale Catalogues

At the St Margarets Church Local History event of 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June 2006 Phyllis Gwillim of The Tan House kindly allowed me to borrow for copying a collection of 9 sets of Sale Particulars for Herefordshire estates and properties.

There were details of nine sales within the period 1899 to 1931. Three of these sales were for major Estates and the others for smaller properties. Copies of all documents have now been made and are included on these discs in separate folders.

#### The Major Estates

- 1913, Urishay Castle Estate, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1568 acres in 50 Lots. The catalogue is 38 pages plus a large map. Each page has been scanned and reduced to fit A4, the map is also scanned (bmp files) to a series of images.
- 1920, Marquess of Abergavenny's Herefordshire Estate, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2669 acres in 166 Lots. The catalogue is 104 pages with 10 Maps (Map No 1, Ewyas Harold properties is missing from this collection). Again each page has been scanned, reduced to fit A4. All the maps, nos. 2 to 10, have been digitally photographed and for general overview are included as individual Microsoft Publisher files. For detailed viewing bit map files (bmp) are included. Maps 3, 8 & 9 only are included as scans images reduced to A4.
- 1921, The Clifford Estate, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 acres in 51 Lots. The catalogue is 29 pages, each page has been scanned and reduced to fit A4, the map has been digitally photographed and for general overview is included as an individual Microsoft Publisher file. For detailed viewing bit map files (bmp) are included in three sections.

#### The other Properties

- 1899, 1<sup>st</sup> June. Two Farms in Michaelchurch with other property. All pages have been scanned and reduced to fit A4, there is no plan.
- 1901, 25<sup>th</sup> June. Properties "Glan Olchon" and "The Great House" in Longtown. All pages have been scanned and reduced to fit A4, there is a single sheet plan.
- 1904, 14<sup>th</sup> June. Lower House Farm in Michaelchurch. Plan only, has been scanned and reduced to fit A4 in a series of images.
- 1905, 16<sup>th</sup> August. Sale of a mixed lot of Herefordshire Farms. Only the details of Lot 7, "Old House" and "Old Kates Farm" Michaelchurch, and Lot 10 "Quarrelly Farm", Newton, have been copied, the relevant pages have been scanned and reduced to fit A4, there are plans which have also been scanned as sectional A4 images.
- 1928, 15<sup>th</sup> March. New House, Pennsylvania and Tyn-Y-Gwynt in Michaelchurch with other property. All pages have been scanned and reduced to fit A4, there is no plan.
- 1931, 17<sup>th</sup> March. The Groves Farm, Longtown. All pages have been scanned and reduced to fit A4, there is no plan.

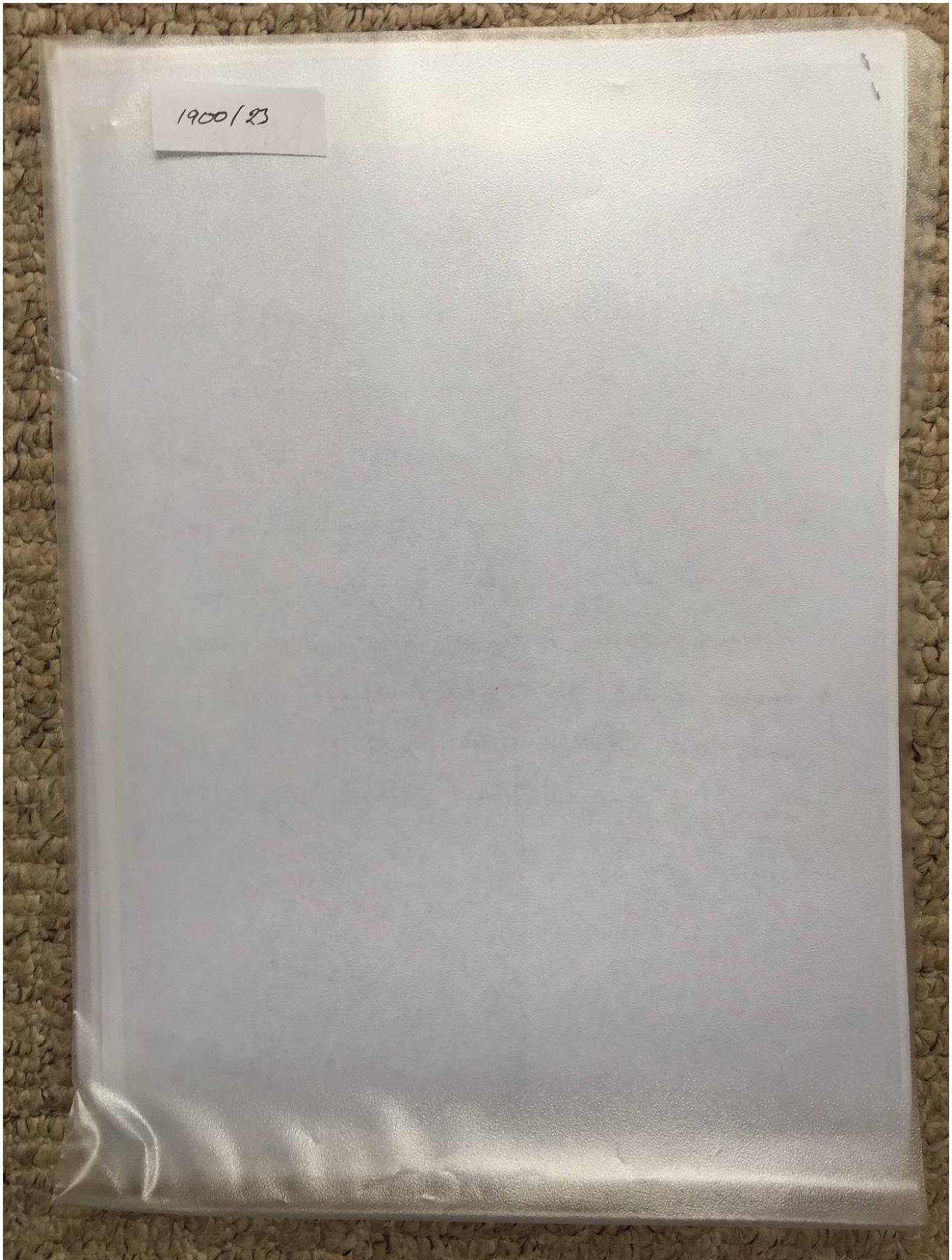
note: Disc 1 contains Sales of 1920, 1928, and 1931. Disc 2 contains Sales of 1899, 1901, 1904, 1905, 1913, and 1921. When viewing bmp files use 'zoom' as required. Some images may require rotation.

George 27-6-06



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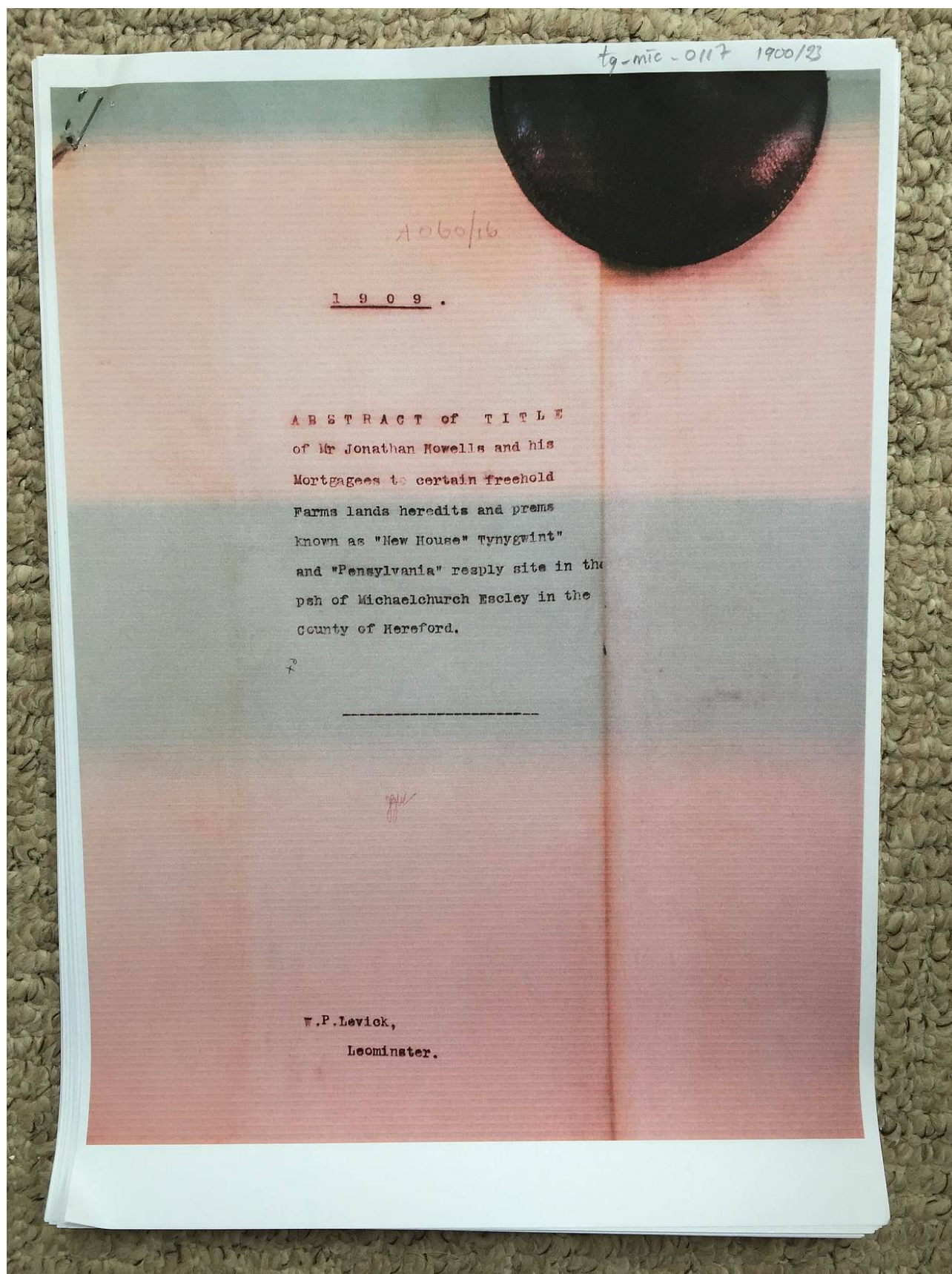
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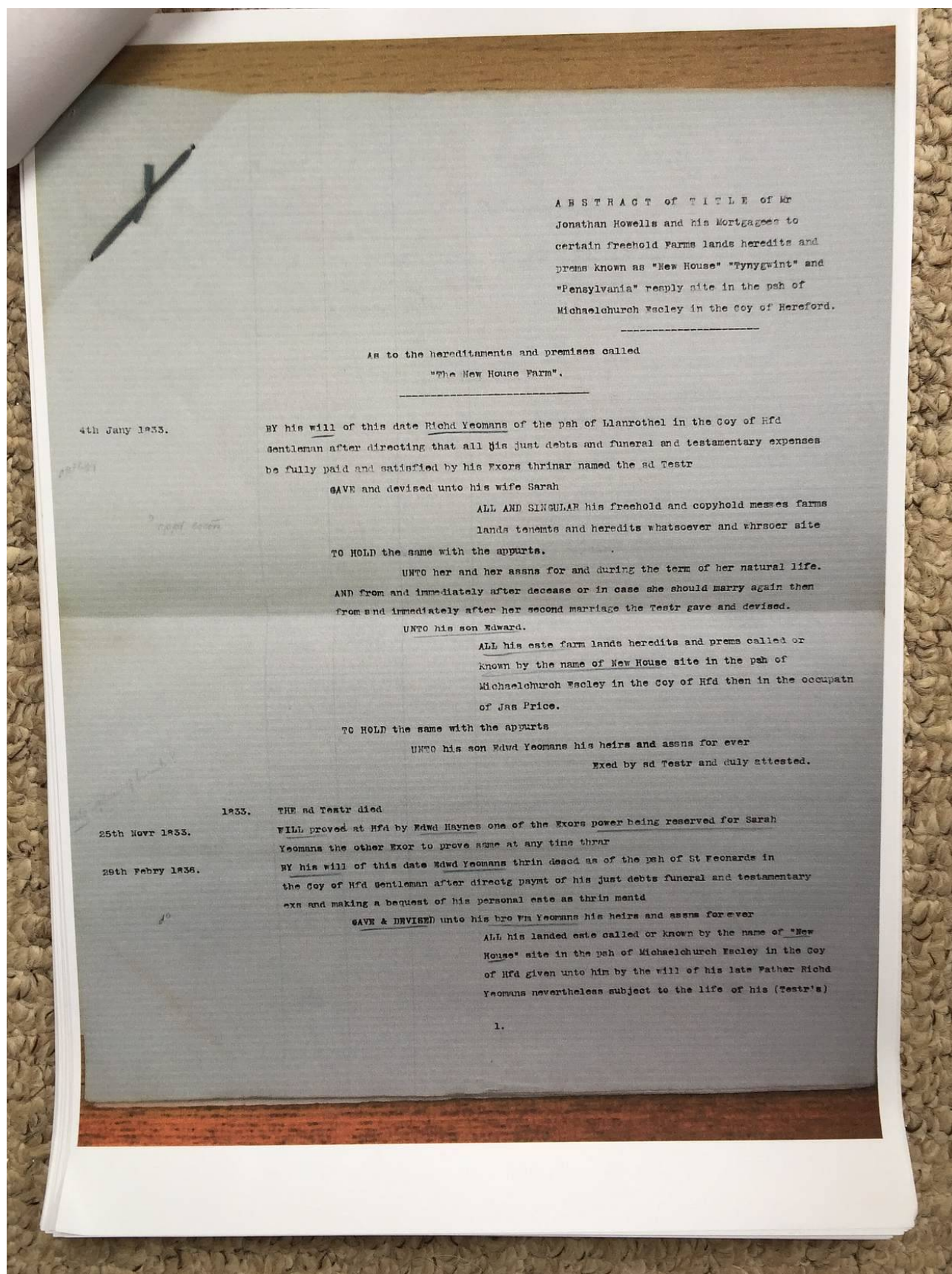
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ABSTRACT of TITLE of Mr  
Jonathan Howells and his Mortgagees to  
certain freehold Farms lands heredit and  
prems known as "New House" "Tynygwint" and  
"Pensylvania" resply site in the psh of  
Michaelchurch Wecley in the Coy of Hereford.

As to the hereditaments and premises called  
"The New House Farm".

4th Jan'y 1833.

BY his will of this date Richd Yeomans of the psh of Llanrothel in the Coy of Hfd  
gentleman after directing that all his just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses  
be fully paid and satisfied by his Exors thrinar named the sd Testr

SAVE and devised unto his wife Sarah

ALL AND SINGULAR his freehold and copyhold messes farms  
lands tenants and heredit whatsoever and whosoer site

TO HOLD the same with the appurts.

UNTO her and her assns for and during the term of her natural life.  
AND from and immediately after decease or in case she should marry again then  
from and immediately after her second marriage the Testr gave and devised.

UNTO his son Edward.

ALL his este farm lands heredit and prems called or  
known by the name of New House site in the psh of  
Michaelchurch Wecley in the Coy of Hfd then in the occupatn  
of Jas Price.

TO HOLD the same with the appurts

UNTO his son Edwd Yeomans his heirs and assns for ever

Exed by sd Testr and duly attested.

1833. THE sd Testr died

25th Novr 1833.

WILL proved at Hfd by Edwd Haynes one of the Exors power being reserved for Sarah  
Yeomans the other Exor to prove same at any time thrar

29th Febr'y 1836.

BY his will of this date Edwd Yeomans thrin deasd as of the psh of St Leonards in  
the Coy of Hfd gentleman after directg paymt of his just debts funeral and testamentary  
exs and making a bequest of his personal este as thrin mentd

SAVE & DEVISED unto his bro Wm Yeomans his heirs and assns for ever

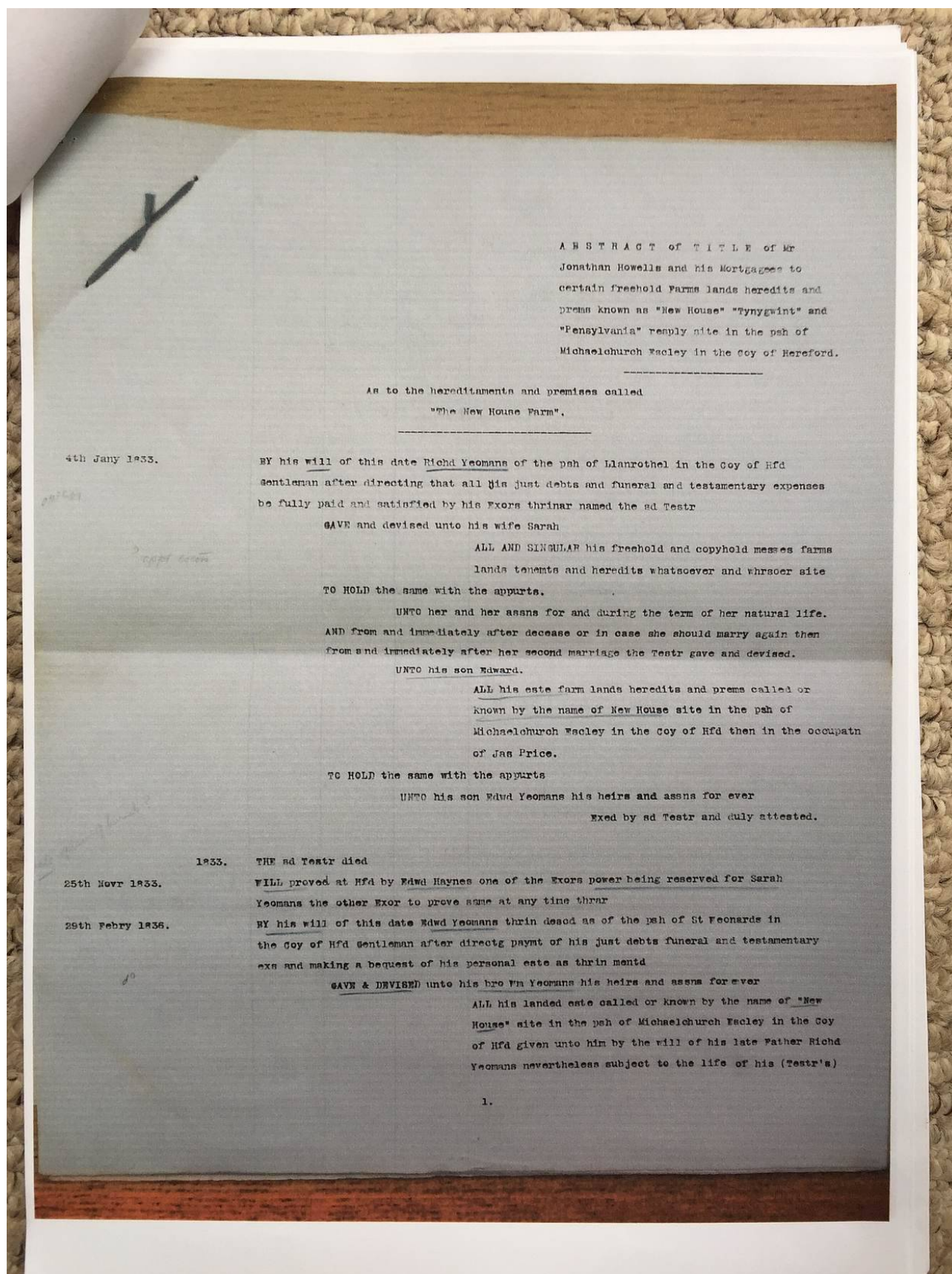
ALL his landed este called or known by the name of "New  
House" site in the psh of Michaelchurch Wecley in the Coy  
of Hfd given unto him by the will of his late father Richd  
Yeomans nevertheless subject to the life of his (Testr's)

1.



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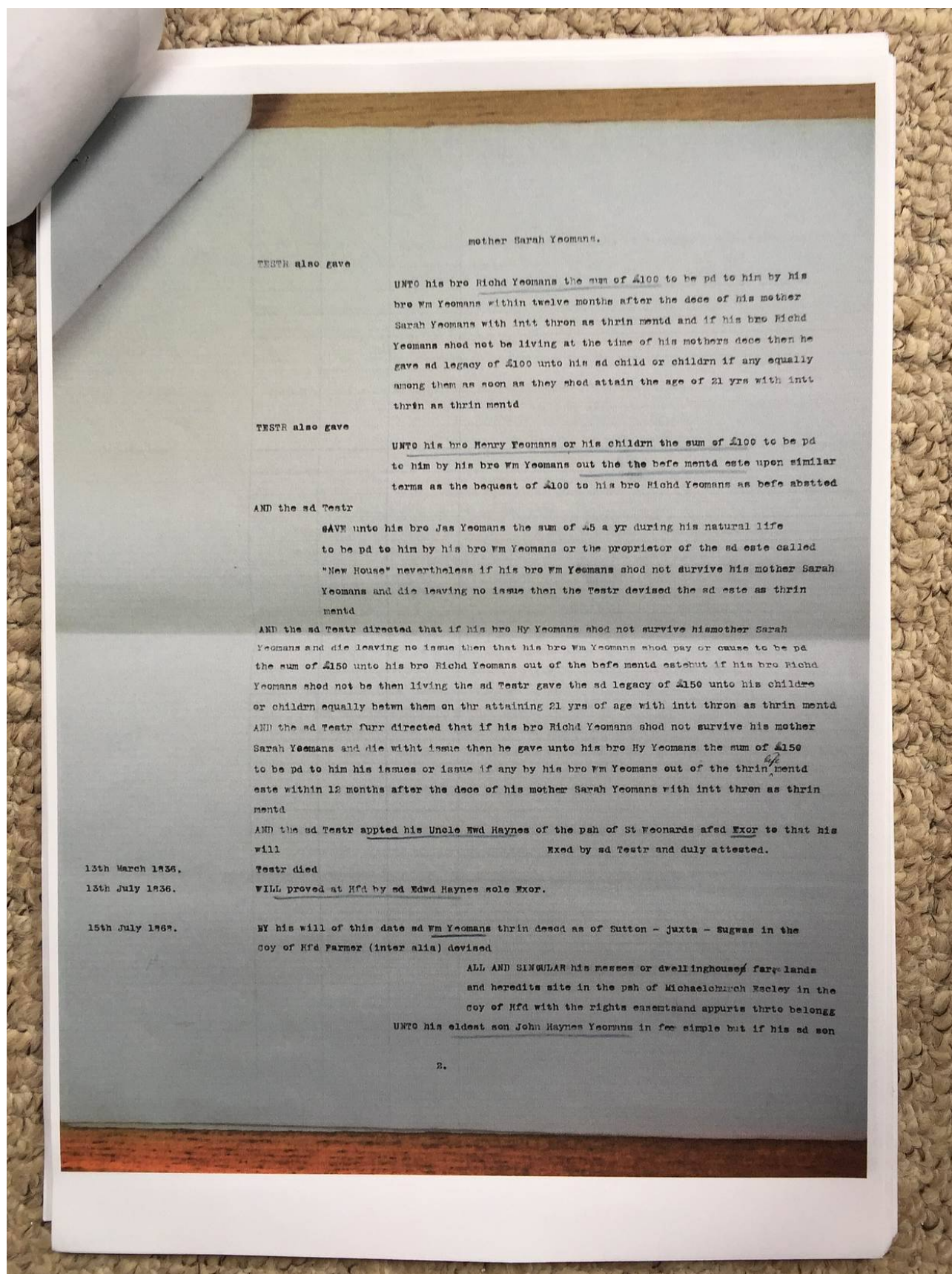
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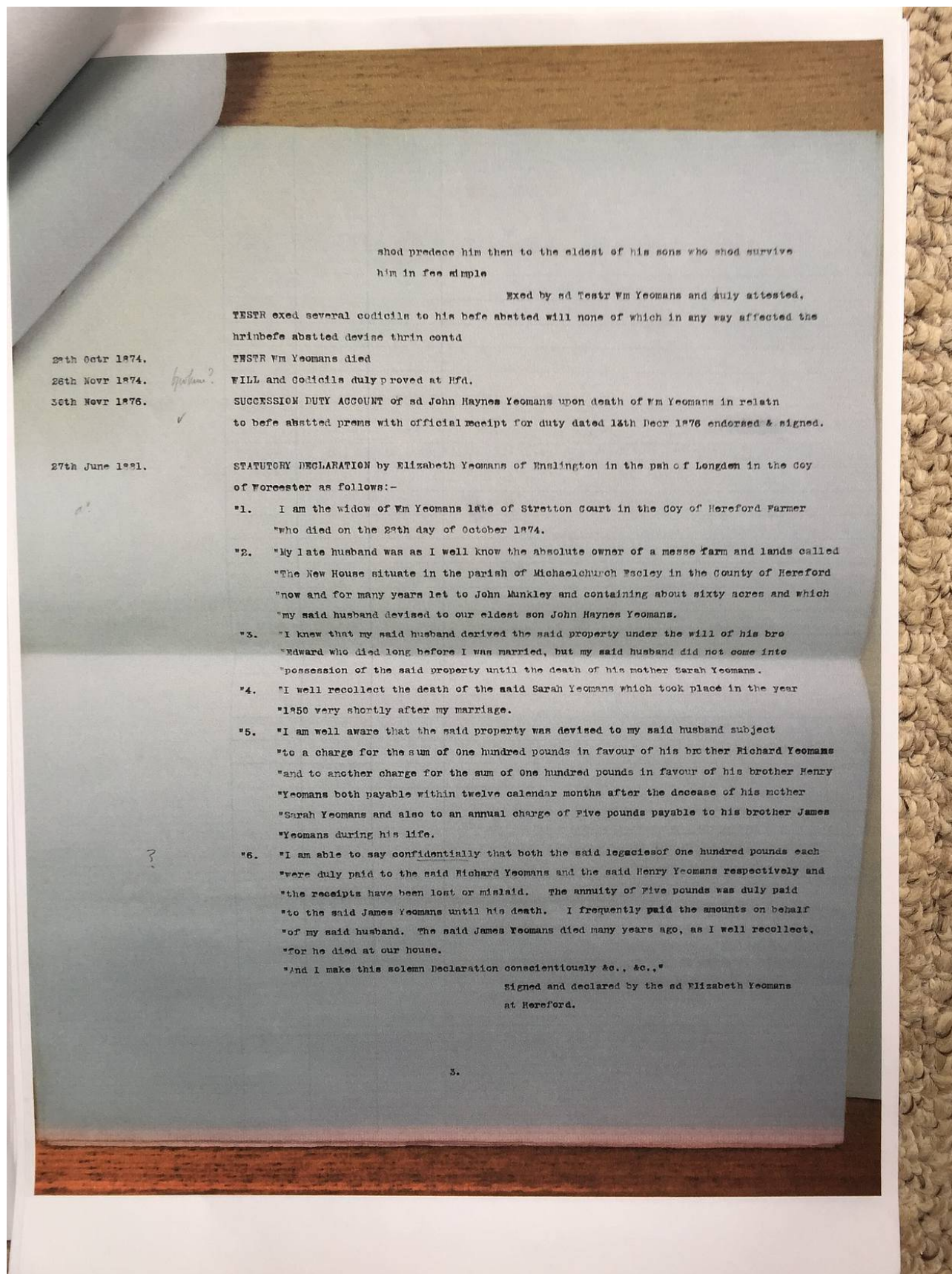
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22nd October 1900.  
Stamp. 21.

INDRE of this date made betwn John Haynes Yeomans of Stretton Court in the Coy of Hfd Farmer (thrinar called the Mortgagor) of the one pt and The National Provincial Bank of England Ltd., (thrinar called the Bank) of the other pt being a mige on the Bank's usual printed form by the Mtgor of the hrinbefe abatted hereditis and prems to secure to the Bank repayment of all such sums of moy as were then or shod from time to time be owing by him to the Bank including discount commission and other banking charges.

Exed by sd J.H.Yeomans and duly attested.

23rd October 1900.

INDRE of this date (endorsed on last mentd Indre of Mige) made betwn the thrin within named National Provincial Bank of England Ltd., of the one pt and the thrin within named John Haynes Yeomans of the other pt being the Bank's usual printed form of Reconveyance by the Bank of the hereditis comprised and decess in the last mentd Indre of Mige to the sd J.H.Yeomans

The seal of the Bank duly affixed and signed by two of the Directors and the Secretary to the said Bank.

23rd October 1900.  
Stamp. 25.

BY INDRE of this date made betwn sd John Haynes Yeomans of the one pt and Jonathan Howells of Catley Peterchurch in the Coy of Hfd Farmer of the other pt

RECITE seisin of sd John Haynes Yeomans of hereditis thrinar decess and intended to be thereby conveyed

AND RECITE agreemt for sale

IT WAS WITNED that in conson of £1000 to sd John Haynes Yeomans pd by sd Jonathan Howells on or befe exon of abattg presents -rect ackned - the sd J.H.Yeomans as Beneficial Owner thurby conveyed

UNTO sd Jonathan Howells

ALL THAT messe or tenemt commonly called or known by the name of New House with the outbuildgs garden and land site lying and being in the par of Michaelchurch Escley in the Coy of Hfd formerly in the possession of John Williams arwards of his widow Ann Williams then of Jas Price and then of Mary Munkley and containg by admeasurment 60 acres and 36 perches more or less

TO HOLD the same unto and to the use of the sd Jonathan Howells in fee simple  
Exed by sd J.H.Yeomans and duly attested.

24th October 1900.  
Stamp 21.

BY INDRE of this date made betwn sd Jonathan Howells of the one pt and Alfred East of Lansdown in the par of Cusop in the County of Hfd grower of the one part

4.



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RECITING seizin of sd Jonathan Howells and agreement for loan  
IT WAS WITNESD that in consen of sum of £800 paid to sd Jonathan Howells by sd Alfred East on or befe exen of absttg presents - rect acknowledged - sd Jonathan Howells thrby covenanted with sd Alfred East to pay to him on 17th April then next sum of £800 with intt thron in the meantime after the rate of 4 per cent per ann computed from 17th Octr inst AND ALSO so long aftr that day as any principal moy remained due under absttg presents to pay to him intt thron after the same rate by equal half yearly paymts on 17th Agst and 17th Octr  
AND IT WAS ALSO WITNES that for consen afsd the sd Jonathan Howells as Beneficial Owner thrby conveyed

UNTO sd Alfred East

The befe absted proms and by same diron as in last absted Indre

TO HOLD the same unto and to use of sd Alfd East in fee simple  
PROVISO for redemption in usual terms

COVENANT by sd Jonathan Howells with sd Alfd East to keep at all tims during continuance of absttg security the messe and buildgs comprised thrin insured agst loss or damage by fire in a sum of £350 at least in some Insee Office approved of by sd Alfd East his exors ads or assns and to produce on demand to him or them Policy of such Insee and the rect for every premium payable in respect thereof

Exed by sd Jonathan Howells and duly attested.

As to hereditaments and premises called  
"Twyn-y-gwint".

20th September 1889.  
Stimp £5.10/-

BY AN INDRE of this date made between John Meredith of High Street in the Borough of Brecon Grocer of the 1st pt Arthur Webb of Belmont Rd in the Town of Hay in the Coy of Brecon Gentleman of the 2nd pt Clara Ellen Holyoake the wife of Frank Holyoake of Droitwich in the Coy of Worcester Gentleman of the 3rd pt and Jonathan Howells of The Ostley in the psh of Heterchurch in the Coy of Hrd Farmer of the 4th pt

RECITING that Wm Webb late of the Town of Hay afsd Gentleman being seized in fee simple in posson free from incumbrs of the messe and lands thrinar descd and intt to be thrby convd made his will dated 15th Jan'y 1866 and thrby appted his wife Eleanor Webb and his bro Richd Webb Treas and Exors throf and gave and devised unto his sd Treas thr heirs exes ads and assns All and Singular his real este upon trust to pay the annual proceeds throf to his sd wife and children as thrin declared concerning the same during her life and after her dece to apply the same to the maintee and educatn of his sd children and to invest the residue as thrin directed but the sd will did not contain any furr trust as to or any power of sale over or other disposition of his real este or the rents or proceeds throf and the sd Testr thrby declared that the rects of his sd Treas or Treas for any moy payable to them or him under that his will shod discharge the persons to whom the same shod be resply given from being obliged to see to the applan  
5.



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thereof and from <sup>being</sup> answerable for the non-applon and that such persons shod not be bound to enquire into the necessity or propriety of any sale to be made under that his will And the sd Testr declared that as often as any of the Trees thrbly appted or any Tree to be appted under that his will shod die or desire to be discharged from or refuse or decline or become incapable to act in the trusts thrbly in them or him reposed it shod be lawful for his sd wife during her life if she shod so long continue his widow and un-married and after her dece or second marriage for the then Trees or Tree for the time being continuing to act in the trusts throb or if there shod be no continuing Trees or Tree for the Trees or Tree so desiring to be discharged or refusing or declining as afd or if there shod be no such last mentd Trees or Tree for the Exors or ads of the last surviving Tree exclusive of a Tree or Trees who might have become incapable to act in the trusts to appt any other person or persons to be a Tree or Trees in the place of the Tree or Trees so dying or desirous of being discharged or refusing or declining or becoming incapable to act as afd and such apptmt might be so made as either to maintain or enlarge or diminish the original number of Trees and upon every such apptmt the trust prems shod be thrupon vested by such assces or other acts as the circumstances of the case might requi re in such new Trees or Tree either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing Tree or Trees as occasn shod require and every such new Tree as well before as after the trust prems had become vested in him shod have all the powers and authorities of the Trees in whose room he shod be submitted.

AND RECITE that the sd Testr died on the 11th Jany 1880 witht having altered or revoked his sd will which was on the 18th Febr 1880 dulyproved in the Hfd District Probate Registry by the sd Eleanor Webb and Richd Webb

AND RECITE that ad Richd Webb died on the 27th Sepr 1892

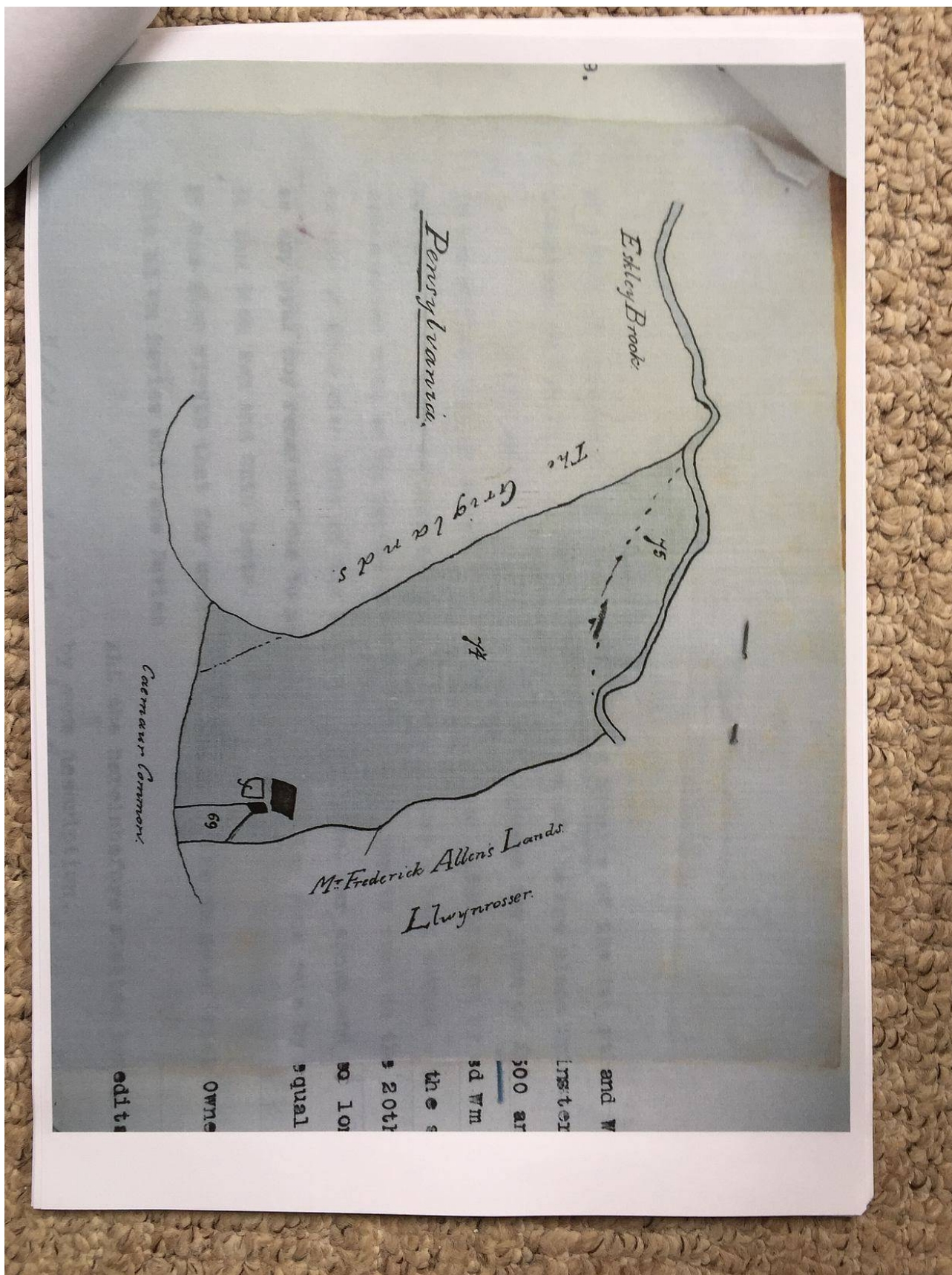
AND RECITE that by an Indre dated 14th Decr 1892 and made betwn the sd Eleanor Webb of the one pt and ad John Meredith of the other pt the sd Eleanor Webb in exercise of the power for that purpse contd in the thrin befe recited will appted the sd John Meredith to be a Tree of the sd recited will in place of the sd Richd Webb dead and ad John Meredith thrbly consented to be a Tree of the sd recited will and the sd Eleanor Webb thrbly convd with other hereditis the messee and lands thrtinar deved unto and to the use of the sd E.Webb and John Meredith in fee simple and it was thrbly agreed that the sd E.Webb and J.Meredith shod stand seized and possed of all the sd hereditis upon the trusts and wch andsubjt to the powers and provisions by and in the sd will contd concerning same resply or such of them as were then subsistg and capable of taking effect

AND RECITE that there was issue of the sd Testr living at his death two children and no more namely the sd Arthur Webb his only son and heir at law and the sd Clara Ellen Holyoake then Clara Ellen Webb Spinster who have attained the age



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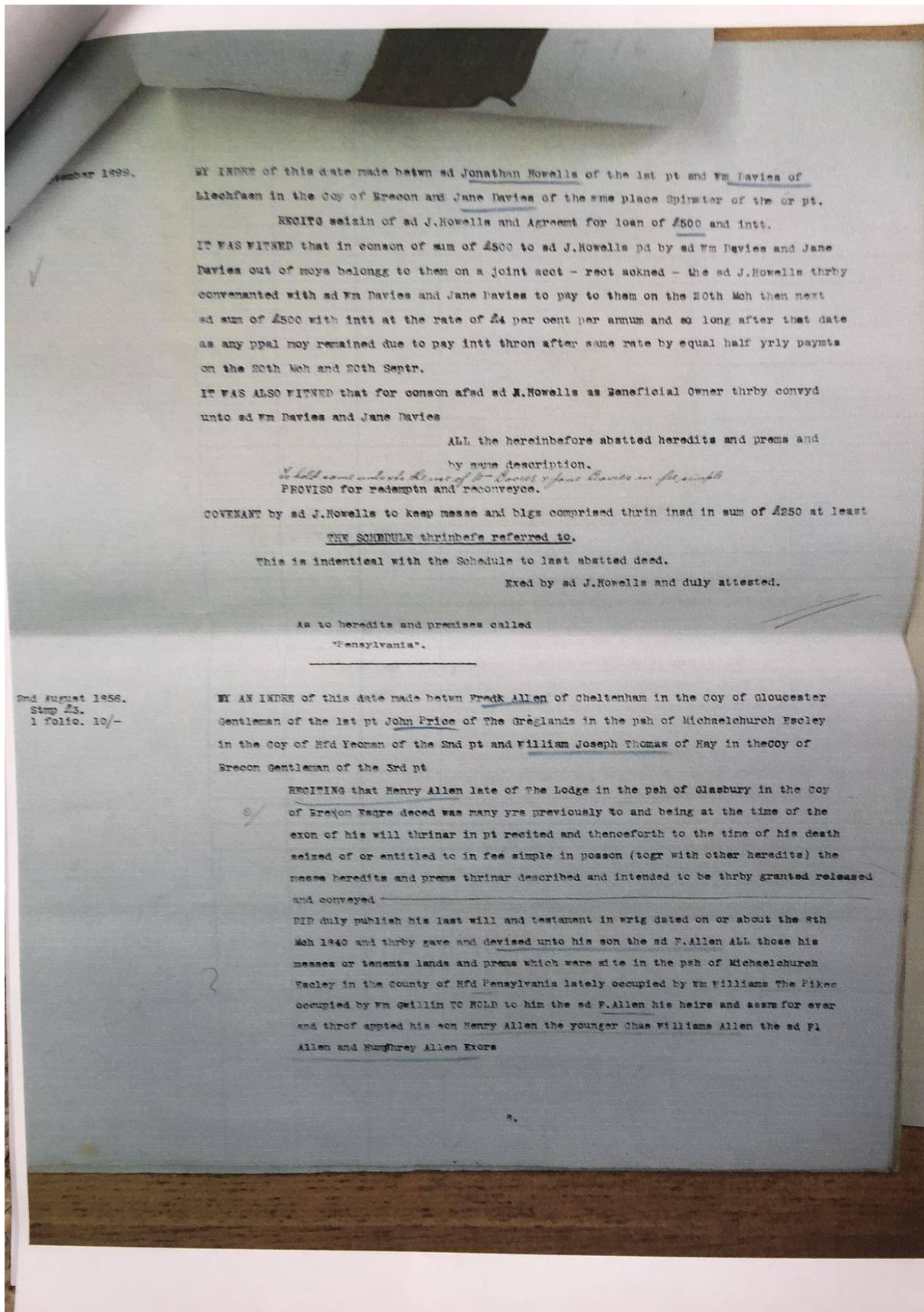
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AND RECITING that sd M.Allen the Testr departed this life on or about the 9th February 1847 without having altered or revoked his sd will which was duly proved by three of the Exors thrin named in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 17th May 1847.

AND RECITING that sd F.Allen had contracted and agreed with sd John Price of and in the heredit and premis thrinbefere referred to and thrinar descd and intended to be released and conveyed with the appurts free from incumbrs at the price of £600.

IT WAS WITNED that for purpose of carrying into effect sd recited contract and Agreement and in conson of sum of £600 to sd F.Allen in hand well and truly paid by sd John Price upon or immediately before the execution of those presents the rect &c.,

HE the sd F.Allen did by those presents (made so far as the same were intended to operate as a Release in pursuice of the statute for rendering a Release as effectual for the Conveyance of freehold estes as a Lease and Release by the same parties grant bargain sell release and convey unto the sd John Price and to his heirs and assens (inter alia)

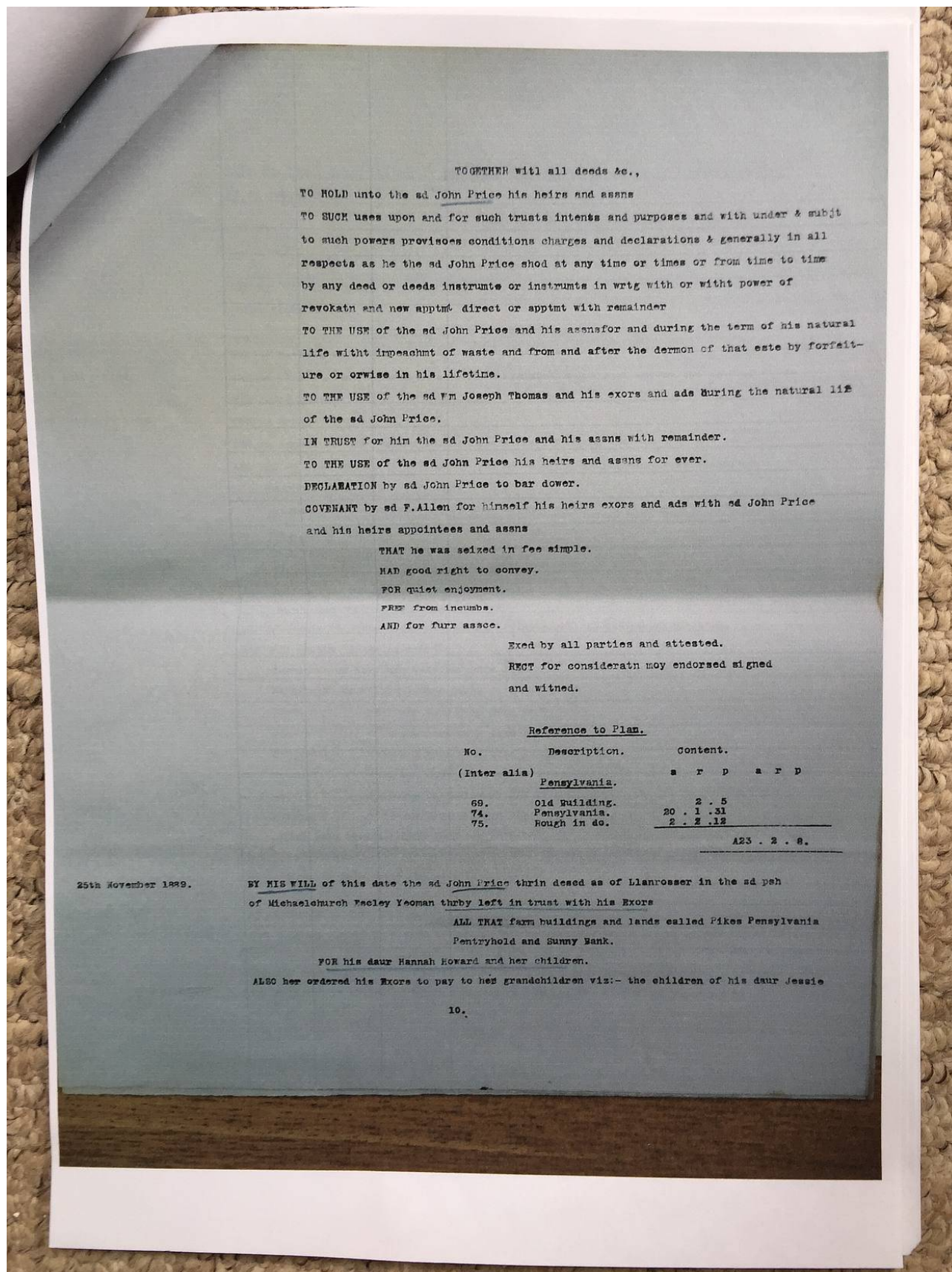
AND ALSO ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of pasture land with the appurts commonly called or known by the name of Pennsylvania situate lying and being in the psh of MichaelchurchEsceley afsd but which were then more parly known and distinguished by the descriptn following that is to say All that piece or parcel of pasture land called the Old Building containing by estimation 2r 5p be the same more or less and Nod 69 on the sd Commutation Map Also All that other piece or parcel of meadow or pasture land called Pennsylvania containing by estimation 20a 1r 31p be the same more or less and Nod 174 on the sd Map And Also All that piece or parcel of land called the Rough Pasture containing by estimation 2a 2r 12p be the same more or less and Nod 75 on the sd Map All which sd lands were bounded on the South and South East by the sd lands called the Griglands on the North and North East by open lands or common called Gsa Mawr common or Vagar Hill and on the West by lands of the sd F.Allen called Llwynrosser andwere then in the occupatn of the sd John Price and more parly delineated and descd in the Map or Ground Plan drawn onthe back of the 2nd skin of those presents and coloured green. TOGR with all houses outhses&c., AND the reversion &c., AND all the este &c.,

R.



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Williams (then dead) the sum of £500 with the intt thron when they attained the age of 21 out of

The Farms called Pikes Pennsylvania Pantyhold and Sunny Bank in the parh of Michaelchurch Escley in the Coy of Hereford

AND the sd Testr thurby nominated and appted his sons Chas Price and James Price as his joint Exors

Exed by the sd Testr and attested by 3 wits.

12th January 1890.

THE sd Testr died.

24th Februry 1890.

THE sd will was duly proved in the Hfd District Probate Registry by the sd Chas Price and James Price

12th February 1892.

THE sd Hannah Howard died.

THE sd Hannah Howard had the following 7 children living at the death of the sd Testr and all of whom are still living and the dates of whose births are as follows:-

Henry William Howard born Agst 12th 1874.

Elizabeth Jane Watkins (the wife of Albert Watkins) born June 29th 1876.

Emily Cook (wife of G.H. Cook) born May 1st 1878.

Chas Howard born Agst 4th 1878.

Alice Emma Howard born May 9th 1881.

Arthur John Howard born Februry 24th 1883.

Sarah Jane Howard born June 9th 1887.

THE sd Jessie Williams deced had the following 9 children living at the death of the Testr and born on the following dated:-

Thomas Price Williams born May 23rd 1875.

Elizabeth Ann Williams born Septr 30th 1876.

James C Williams born Decr 25th 1877.

John W Williams born Ostr 22nd 1877.

William H Williams born July 17th 1881.

Annie E Williams born July 17th 1881.

Chas W Williams born January 3rd 1883.

Arthur G Williams born May 5th 1884.

Alice Maud Mary Williams born May 15th 1887.

ALL the above named with the exception of the last named have been pd thr shares of thr aisd legacy of £500 under the sd will.

20th July 1898.

Simp 12/6.

BY INDENTURE of this date made betwn sd Chas Price and James Price of the 1st pt the sd Henry Howard Fm Howard Elizabeth Jane Watkins and Emily Howard of the 2nd pt and Mary Jane Dyke of Moreshampton Park in the parh of Abbeydore in the Coy of Hfd Spinster and Eva Catherine Wilson the wife of Reginald Dyke Jones of Holstrey in the parh of Vowchurch in the Coy of Hfd Farmer (thrinar called the Ktgees) of the third part.



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AFTER RECITING that sd John Price being well entitled to dispose of the fee simple in possession of the farm and lands thar dased & intended to be thrbly conveyed duly made his will as heretofore asbited and his death and the proof of his sd will

AND RECITG the sd death of sd Mannah Howard.

AND RECITG that sd Mannah Howard had the following children living at the date of the death of the sd Testr viz:- the sd Henry William Howard, Elizabeth Jane Watkins, and Emily Howard and Chas Howard, Alice Emma Howard, Arthur John Howard and Sarah Jane Howard of whom the sd Henry William Howard, Elizabeth Jane Watkins, and Emily Howard had then attained the age of 21 yrs.

AND RECITG some of the children of the sd Jessie Williams had then attained the age of 21 yrs and the sd Chas Price and Jas Price were desirous of raising the sd sum of £500 as directed by the thrinbefe recited will.

AND RECITG that the Mtgees had agreed to advance the sd sum of £500 upon having the security thrfor thrinar contd.

IT IS WITNED that in pursuance of sd Agreement and in conson of £500 then paid to the sd Chas Price and Jas Price by the Mtgees out of moys belonging to them on a joint acct with the prively and consent of the sd H.W.Howard, Elizabeth J.Watkins, and E.Howard testified &c., the rect &c.,

THE sd Chas Price and Jas Price H.W.Howard E.J.Watkins and E.Howard COVENANTED with the Mtgees for paymt of sd sum of £500 with intt thron at 4% and for paymt of intt half yrly.

AND IT IS ALSO WITNED that in furr pursuance of sd agreement and in consideration of the prems

THE sd C.Price and J.Price as Trees and in pursue of every power or authority them thrunto enabling

DID thrbly convey

AND each of them the sd W.H.Howard E.J.Watkins and Emily Howard according to his este and intt in the sd hereditis and as Beneficial owners

DID thrbly convey unto the Mtgees

First (inter alia)

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of pasture land with the appurts commonly called or known by the name of "Pensylvanãa" containg 25a 2r and 8p or thrabouts site in the sd psh of Michaelchurch Escley and then in the occupatn of the sd W.H.Howard.

TO HOLD unto and to the use of the Mtgees in fee simple subjt to the proviso for redemptn there following

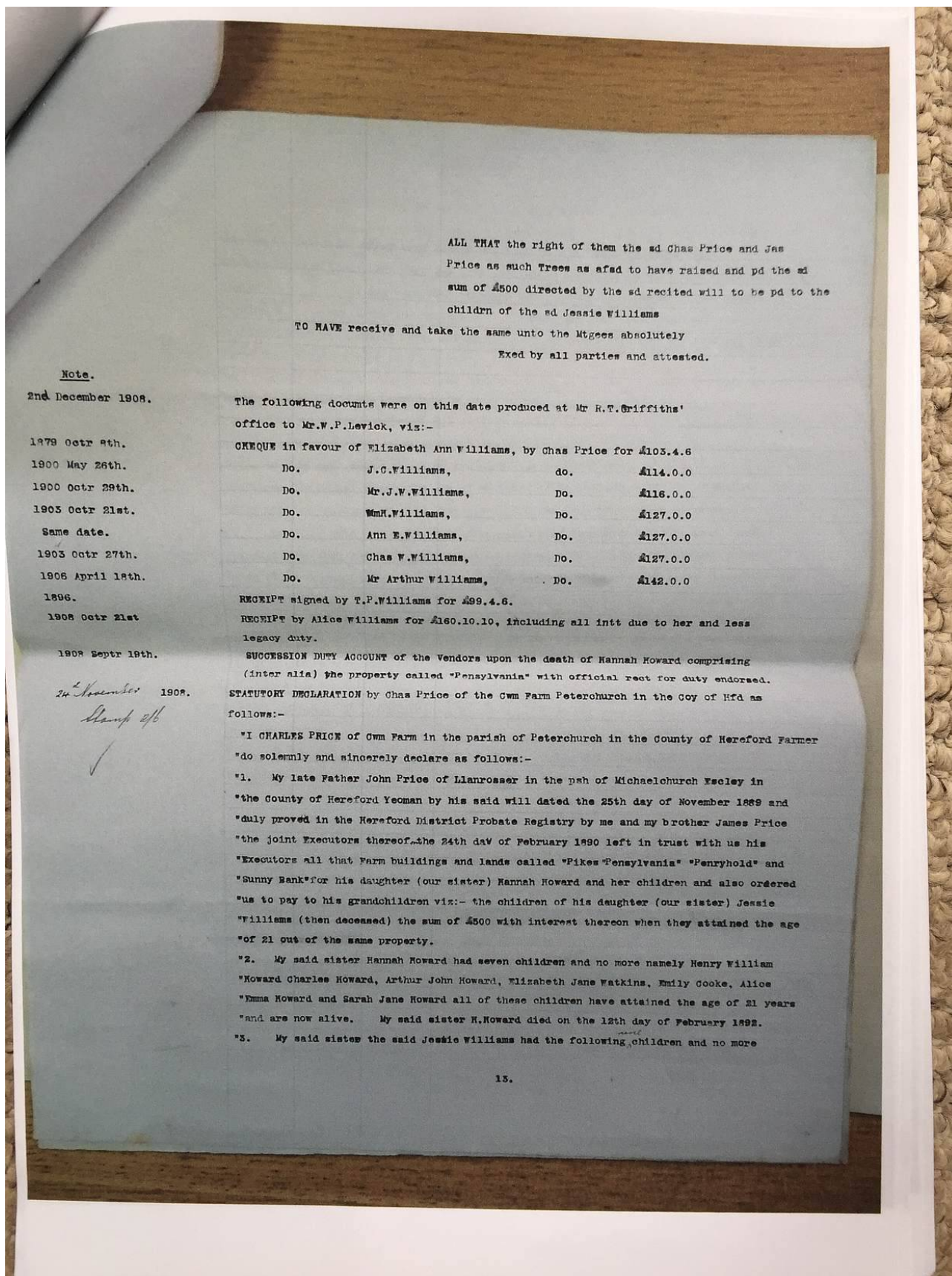
PROVIDO for redemptn on paymt of £500 and intt on 20th Jany then next

AND IT WAS FURTHER WITNESSED that in furr pursue of the sd Agreement & for the conson afsd THE sd C.Price and J.Price as Trees thrbly assigned unto the Mtgees



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record





# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

"living at the death of my said Father and born on the following dated viz:-  
 "Thomas Price Williams born 23rd May 1875. Elizabeth Ann Williams born 30th September 1878,  
 "James G Williams born 25th December 1877, John W. Williams born 22nd October 1878,  
 William H Williams and Annie E Williams both born 17th July 1881, Charles W  
 "Williams born 3rd January 1882, Arthur G Williams born 5th May 1884 and Alice  
 "Maud Mary Williams born 13th May 1887.

"4. I and the said James Price as such Executord as aforesaid raised the said sum of  
 "£500 so payable to the said nine children of the said Jessie Williams as aforesaid by a  
 "Mortgage of the farm buildings and lands aforesaid to Miss Mary Jane Dyke and Mrs Eva  
 "Catherine Wilson Jones dated the 20th day of July 1899. And I have personally from  
 "time to time duly paid to each of the said nine children after he or she had respectively  
 "attained his or her respective age of 21 years their respective shares of the said sum of  
 "£500 with the interest thereon respectively to the respective dates of payment.

"5. Only the said Thomas Price Williams and Alice Maud Mary Williams gave formal  
 "receipts for such shares so paid by me to them as aforesaid but the payment thereof to  
 "each of the remaining seven children were made by me by my cheques drawn in case of the  
 "said Elizabeth Ann Williams on the capital & Counties Bank Ltd., Hereford Branch, and of  
 "the other six on the National Provincial Bank of England Ltd., Ray Branch, and such  
 "cheques included besides their aforesaid respective shares of the said sum of £500 and  
 "interest also their respective shares of another legacy and interest <sup>repaid</sup> to them under the  
 "same will and were made payable to the respective child or his or her order and dated and for  
 "the amounts as follows:-viz:-

"Miss Elizabeth Ann Williams by my cheque dated Octr 8th 1907 for £103 . 4 . 6	
"Mr J.C.Williams, Do. May 26th 1900 Do. £114. 0 . 0	
"Mr J.F.Williams, Do. Octr 28th 1900 Do. £116 . 0 . 0	
"Mr Wm.H.Williams, Do. Octr 21st 1903 Do. £127 . 0 . 0	
"Annie E.Williams, Do. Octr 21st 1903 Do. £127 . 0 . 0	
"Chas W.Williams, Do. Octr 21st 1903 Do. £127 . 0 . 0	
"Mr Arthur Williams, Do. Apl 18th 1906 Do. £142 . 0 . 0	

"The said cheques were each duly endorsed by the respective payees as aforesaid and  
 "presented for payment and were paid by the respective Banks as aforesaid. Each of the  
 "cheques aforesaid is now in my possession.

"6. I depose to the above facts from my own knowledge.

"And I make this solemn Declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by  
 "virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835".

Declared at Ray.

*Signed and declared by the said Charles Price at Ray*

24th November 1908.

BY AN INSTRUMENT of this date made betwixt My Wm Howard of the Birches in the par of Michaelchurch  
 Escley in the Coy of Wilt Farmer Elizabeth Jane Watkins wife of Albert Watkins of Trelandon



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

in the psh of Clodock in the same Coy Farmer Emily Cooke wife of George Henry Cooke of 175 Mount Pleasant Road Fbbw Vale in the Coy on Monmouth Charles Howard of Tycanol Farm Llanwern in the Coy of Brecon Farmer Labourer Alice Emma Howard of Welgelgen Rose Bank Cape Town South Africa Spinster Arthur John Howard of The Lodge Farm in the psh of Muntington in the sd Coy of Rfd Farm Labourer and Sarah Jane Howard of The Almshouse in the psh of St Margarets in the sd Coy of Rfd Spinster (thrinar called the Vendors) of the 1st part Mary Jane Jones of Monnington Court in the psh of Vowchurch in the Coy of Rfd widow and Eva Catherine Wilson Jones the wife of Reginald Dyke Jones of Holstrey in the sd psh of Vowchurch Farmer (thrinar called the Mtgees) of the second pt Chas Price of The Gwm in the psh of Peterchurch in the sd Coy of Rfd Farmer and Jas Price of the Abbey Farm in the Township of Grasswall in the same Coy Farmer of the third pt Arthur Price of Griglands in the sd psh of Michaelchurch Escley of the 4th pt and Jonathan Howells of the Oatley Farm in the sd psh of Peterchurch Farmer of the 5th pt.

RECITE thrinbefe abstedd will of the sd John Price, his death and probate of his sd will as befe abstedd

AND RECITE that the sd Hannah Howard had seven childrn and no more being the Vendors and several parties thirto of the 1st pt

AND RECITE that the sd Hannah Howard died on the 12th Februry 1892.

AND RECITE that sd Jessie Williams had nine children and no more living at the death of sd Testator

AND RECITE thrinbefe abstedd Indre of the 20th July 1899.

AND RECITE that all the sd nine childrn of the sd Jessie Williams had then attained the age of 21 years and had out of the thrin last mentd sum of £500 been pd or satisfied his or her share with intt of and in the sd sum of £500 bequeathed to them as afed by the thrin befe recited will of the sd John Price decd

AND RECITE that all the Vendors had also then attained the age of 21 yrs

AND RECITE that the ppal sum of £500 secured by the thrinbefe recited Indre of 20th July 1899 with all intt thron had been paid and discharged as the Mtgees did thrby admit and ackne and that they had agreed to join in absttg presents for the ppses of and in manner thrinar appearg

AND RECITE that the Vendors accordg to their respective estates shares intts and powers had respectively agreed with the sd Jonathan Howells for the sale to him of the entirety of the sd hereditis and prems thrinar deacd and intended to be thrby conveyed at the price of £300

AND RECITE that the sd Chas Price and Jas Price and Arthur Price had agreed to join in absttg presents for the ppses of and in manner thrinar appearg

IT WAS WITNED that in pursuance of the sd agreement and in conson of the sum of £500 then pd by the sd J. Howells to the Vndrs (rect ackned) the Mtgees at the request and by the diron of the Vendors and as Mtgees

DID and each of them as Mtgees did thrby grant and release the Vendors

300 or  
500?



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

accordg to his or her este and intt in the sd hereditis and prems  
thrinar desod and intended to be thrby conveyed and as Beneficial  
Owner Mid and each of them did thrby convey and the sd Chas Price  
and Jas Price in pursue of every power or authority them thrunto  
enabling by the diron of the Vendors and as Trees  
DID and each of them as Tree Mid thrby convey and confirm  
UNTO sd Jonathan Howells

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of land with the appurts  
commonly called or known by the name of "Pensylvania"  
containg by estimatn 23 acres 2 roods and 26 perches or  
thrabouts site in the psh of Michaelchurch Escley in the  
coy of Hfd then and for some years past in the occupatn  
of sd Hy Wm Howard

ALL wch sd hereditis and prems were formerly known and  
distinguished by the description following (that was tosay)  
ALL that piece or parcel of pasture land called "The Old  
Building" containg by estimatn 2rood and 5 perches be the  
same more or less and Nod 69 on the sd Tithe Commitatn Map  
ALSO all that other piece or parcel of meadow or pasture  
land called "Pensylvania" contg by estimon 20 acres  
1 rood 31 perches be the same more or less and Nod 74  
on the sd Map.

AND ALSO all that piece or parcel of land called "the  
Rough Pasture" contg by estimon 2acres 2roods and 12 perches  
be the same more or less and Nod 75 on the sd Map ALL  
wch sd lands were bounded on the South and South East  
sides by lands called "Griglands" on the North and North  
East by open lands or common called "Gae Mawr" or Vagar Hill  
and on the West by lands of Fredk Allen called "Elwynroaser"  
and were then in the occupatn of the sd Testr John Price and  
more parly delineated desod and coloured green in the Map or  
Plan drawn on the back of the 2nd skin of an Indre dated  
2nd day of Agst 1856 being the Convey of the sd hereditis to  
sd J.Price deod.

TO HOLD unto and to the use of the sd Jonathan Howells in fee simple  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT by sd Arthur Price of right of sd J.Howells to production of sd documents  
specified on the Schedule thrtto and to delivery of copies throf and undertaking for safe  
custody throf

THE SCHEDULE thrinbefe referred to.

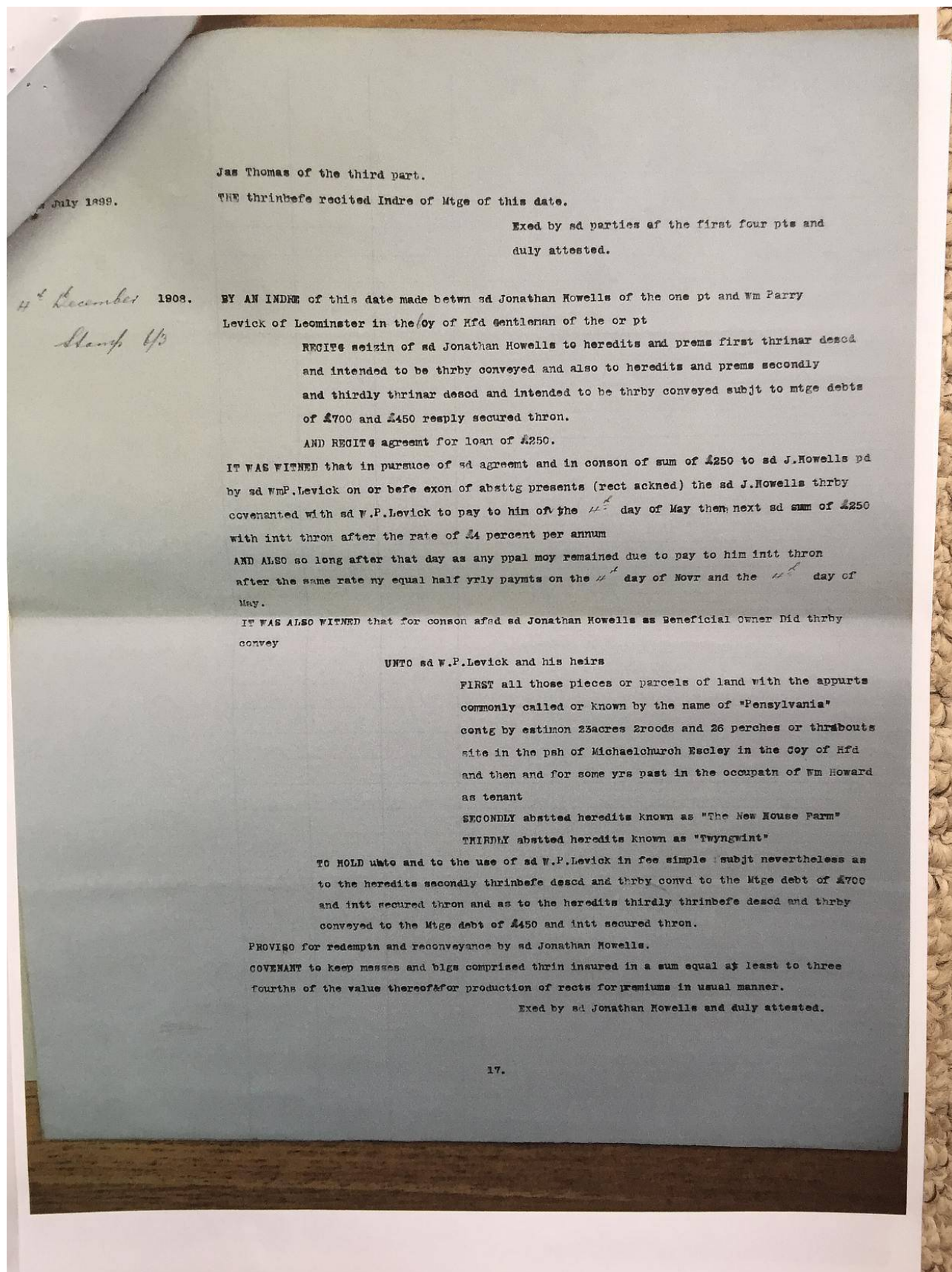
2nd August 1856.

INDRE OF CONVEE made betwn Frdk Allen of the 1st pt John Price of the second pt and Wm



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

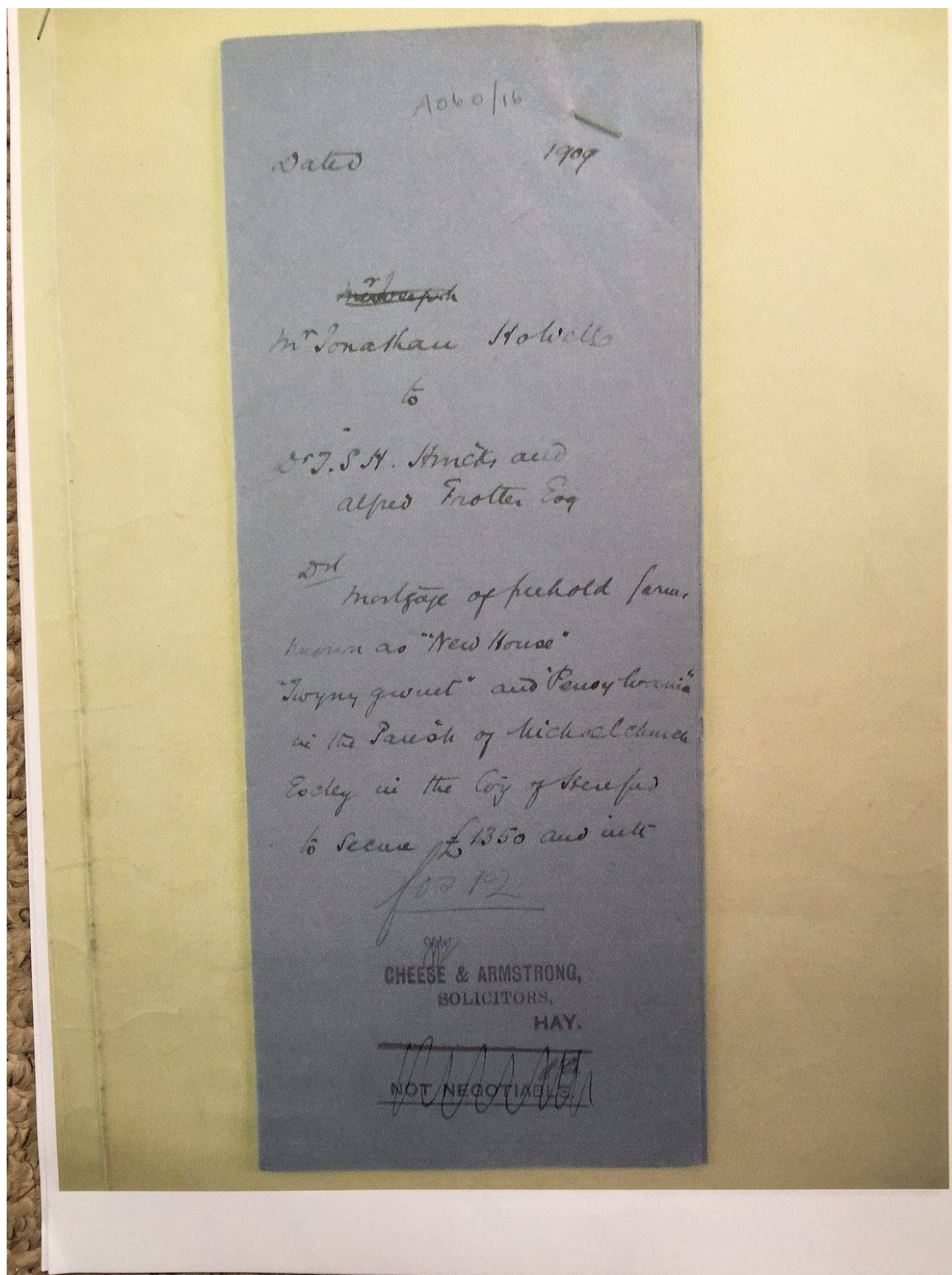
## Document Record





# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record





# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

1909

This Indre made the day of

Between Jonathan Howells of Cailey  
Peterschurch in the Coy of Hereford Farmer  
(hereinafter called the Mortgagor) of the one part  
and Alfred Trotter & Thomas Samuel Hawkesford  
Shicks Medical Practitioner and Alfred Trotter  
Bank Cashier both of Hay in the Coy of Hereford  
(hereinafter called the Mortgagees) of the other part

Whereas the Mortgagor is seized in fee simple  
free from incumbrances of the hereditaments  
intended to be here by conveyed and whereas  
the Mortgagees have agreed to lend to the  
Mortgagor <sup>the sum of £1350</sup> out of monies belonging to them on a



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

joint account upon having the repayment thereof with interest secured in the manner hereinafter expressed. Now this Indre Witelloseth that in consen of the sum of £1350 paid to the Mortgōr by the Mortgēes on or before the execution of these presents out of moneys belonging to them on a joint account (the receipt whereof the Mortgōr hereby acknowledges) the Mortgēes hereby covenants with the Mortgōr to pay to them on the day of next the sum of £1350 with int taken on in the meantime after the rate of £4 percent per ann. Computed from

after the date



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

the date of these presents And also so long  
after that day as ~~write~~ <sup>pay</sup> any ppal money remains  
due under these presents to pay to them  
interest after the same rate by equal half  
yearly payments on the day of and  
the day of and this

Indenture also witnesseth that for the  
Consent of the Mayor as Beneficial Person  
hereby Conveys unto the Mortees all the  
hereditaments particularly described in the  
Schedule here to to hold the same unto and  
to the use of the Mortees in fee simple

Provided always that if the s<sup>d</sup>. sum of £1350  
with witt thron shall be p<sup>d</sup>. on the day of  
next ascending to the foregoing Court



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

in that behalf the s<sup>d</sup>. premises shall at  
 the request & cost of the M<sup>r</sup>gor his heirs  
 or assigns be reconveyed to him or them  
 And the M<sup>r</sup>gor hereby covenants with the M<sup>r</sup>tees  
 that he the M<sup>r</sup>gor his heirs or assigns well at  
 all times keep during the continuance of their  
 security keep the messuages and buildings  
 comprised herein in good & substantial  
 repair and also insured against loss or  
 damage by fire in ~~the~~ <sup>an</sup> ~~the~~ same equal to  
 three fourths of the value thereof. and will pay  
 all premiums payable in respect of  
 such insurance within 7 days after the  
 same shall become due And will on  
 demand deliver to the M<sup>r</sup>tees their exors



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

admon or accen the Policy of such insurance  
and the receipt for every such premium

Provided always that sec 17 and subsect of  
sec. 18 of the Conveyancing Law of 1881  
shall not apply to these presents.

Inductio re.

The Schedule above referred to

First.

All that messu or tenement commonly called  
or known by the name of New House with  
the outbuildings garden and land situate  
lying & being in the parish of Michaelchurch  
Esley in the County of Hereford formerly in  
the possession of John Williams afterwards  
of his widow Ann Williams then of James  
Price & then of Mary Munkley & containing



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

by admeasurement 60. a. 0. r. 36 p. more or less  
Together with all rights of pasture appendant  
or appurtenant thereto.

Secondly all that messuages or tenement with the  
outbuildings yard gardens & lands thereto  
belonging called "Twyngy gwint" otherwise  
"Ty-ycha" or "The Upper House" in the parish  
of Michaelchurch Eocley otherwise St Michaelchurch  
Eocley in the County of Shropshire Cont<sup>d</sup> 34. a.  
2. r. 5 p. or thereabouts more particularly  
described in the Schedule to an Indenture of Conveyance  
dated the 20<sup>th</sup> day of Sep. 1899 and made bet.

John Meredith of the 1<sup>st</sup> part Arthur Webb of  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> part. Clara Ellen Holyoake of the 3<sup>rd</sup> part  
& Jonathan Howells of the 4<sup>th</sup> part.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

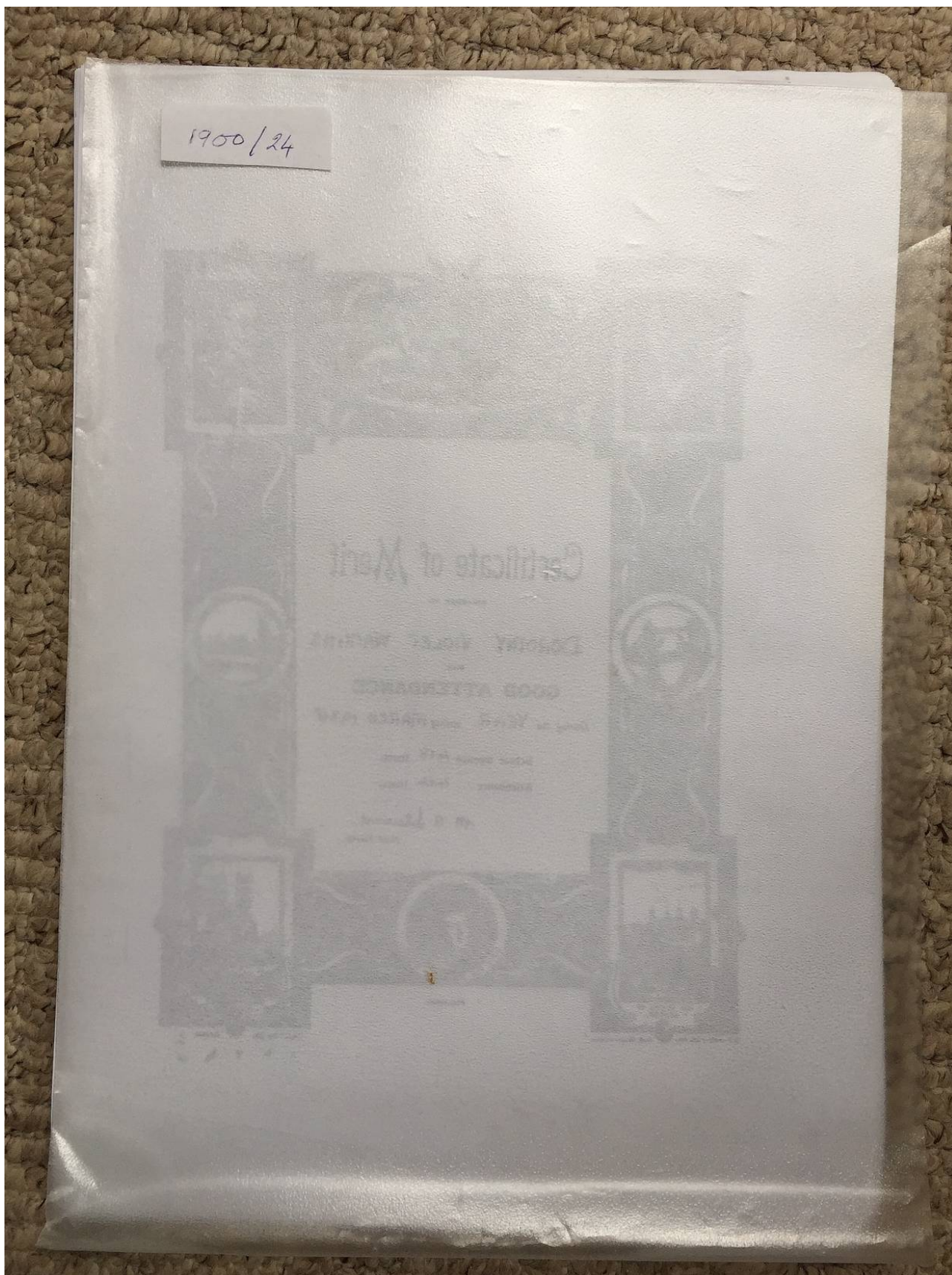
Finally

all these pieces of pasture land with the appurtenances  
commonly called or known by the name of  
"Pensylvania" Cont<sup>d</sup>. 23<sup>rd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> or thereabouts  
situated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> parish of Michaelchurch  
and now in the occupation of Henry William  
Howard. & more partly described in an Indenture  
of Conveyance dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1856 &  
made bet. Frederick Allen of the 1<sup>st</sup> part John  
Price of the 2<sup>nd</sup> part and William Joseph  
Thomas of the 3<sup>rd</sup> part.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

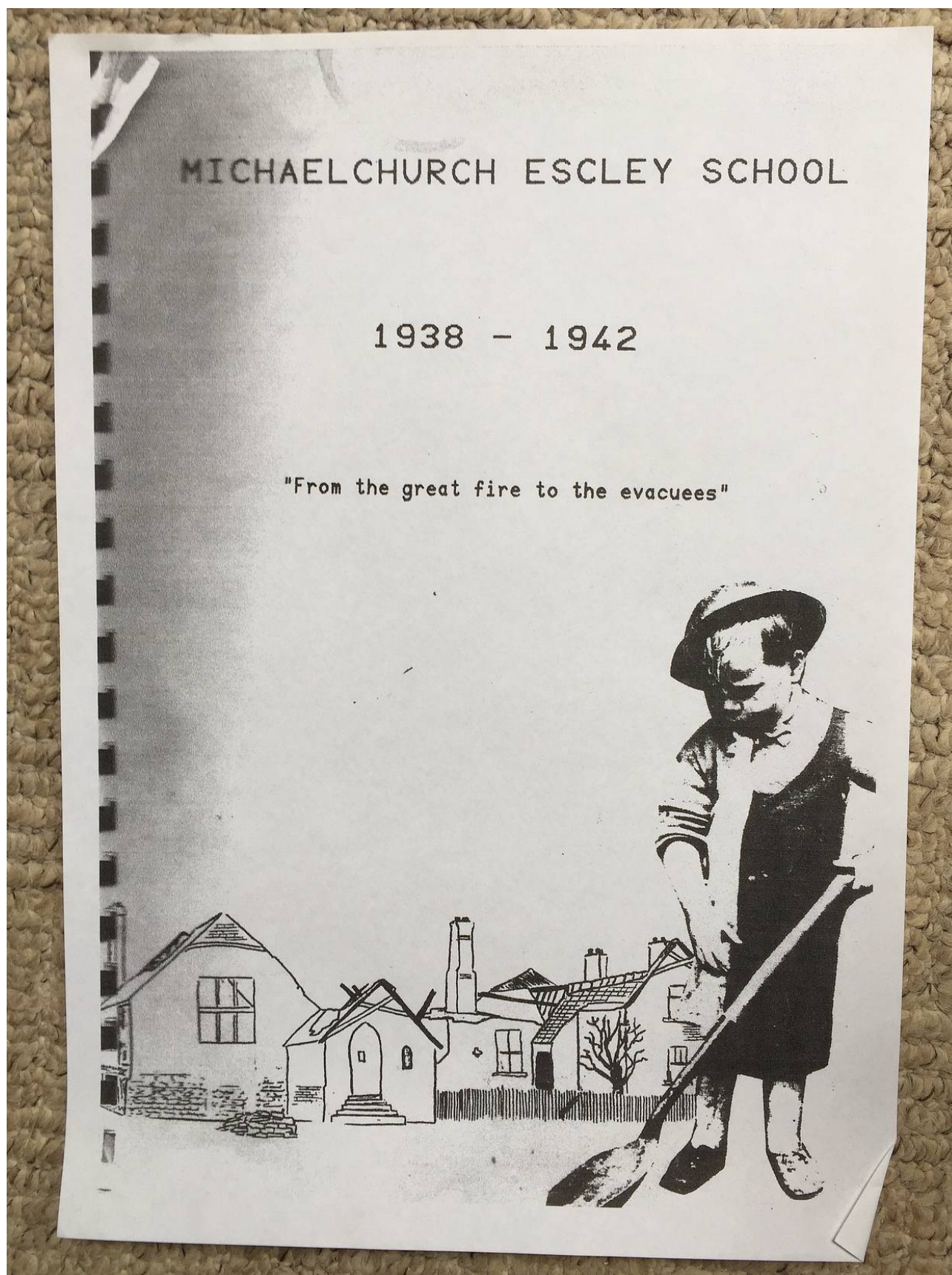
## Document Record





# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record



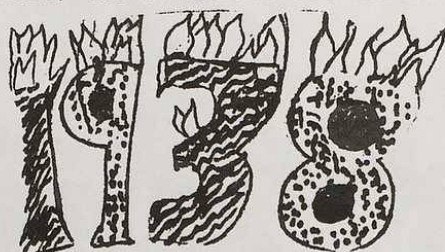


# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

*Eddie*

In this book we plot the history of Michaelchurch Escley School through 4 very turbulent years using official records and the memories of those who were there. We start with the disastrous fire and follow the events concerning the building of the new school, the beginning of the Second World War and the arrival of the evacuees from Bootle in the village. The book marks the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the new school on December 4th 1989. The event was celebrated by a fortnights Festival which included a tea party for the pupils who were on roll during the years 1938 - 1942, from whom much of the information was gleaned, and to whom we are indebted.



"The birds had carried some straw close to the stove pipe. The pipe was still hot and in the night the straw caught on fire and it all went up in flames. There was a little dog called Dandy and he was burned. Miss Isherwood and Mr. and Mrs. Jones went to live at Halt Farm. The school was held at the Cottage Room".

Mrs G. Christopher

"I was nine years old when I remembered seeing a fire behind some trees. I said to my dad that the school is on fire. But dad thought it was Mr. Lewis burning bushes. Later a neighbour told me that the school had been burnt down. Mr. Powell [Firs Farm] had helped the fire brigade put the fire out. We think the school was empty but Miss Isherwood was in the school house. She was rescued by Mr. and Mrs. Phillips. They let her live at New House Farm House until the school was rebuilt."

Kenneth Altree

We don't know whether they went to live at Halt Farm or New House Farm.

"My father owned a thrashing machine contracting business. He used to go up and down the road with his steam tractor. He used to blow the whistle as he went past and if we were on the playground we used to run up to the wall and wave to him. The night of the fire the steam tractor driver went down to the Bridge Inn, Michaelchurch, and came back to our farm, The Clothier's", and said that the school was burnt down. I could hardly believe it so I made the effort the following morning to walk down the bank from Cefn Kest and I saw for myself that he was right and I was very disappointed so I just went back home. There was thought to be a terrier burnt in the fire."

( Cecil Pritchard. )



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

## MICHAELCHURCH MAIL 3d

25th MARCH 1938

### DISASTROUS FIRE AT SCHOOL

On Thursday evening at 5:30 pm a disastrous fire broke out at Michaelchurch School. Luckily no one was hurt. The Headmistress, Miss Isherwood, got in with the help of a neighbour, name unknown, and bravely saved the log book and also the Attendance Register. It is thought that the school burnt down because the coal fire in the school caught hold of the oak timbers and then it started. The blaze could be seen for a mile. In the morning it was a devastating sight. The school and school house are now in ruins. The Education Department are looking for temporary premises. The school will

not be open for at least a month. It has been suggested that the Cottage Room would be a good place but it must be cleared with Mr. Trafford, the landowner.

When we talked to the children there they were excited and sad. I myself saw it in the morning and the timbers were still smouldering. Reporter: Rhyannon Williams.



All the news as it happens..for 3d



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

"Miss Isherwood was a good teacher, with strict discipline and very keen for all the children to do well and to be competitive. She and Mrs. Jones her friend (she was Miss Halliday) trained us for the musical festivals at the Shire Hall in Hereford. Many times we won cups and certificates in classes for folk singing and 'Rounds'. Sadly many of these were lost in the fire. I recall she had the Manchester Guardian delivered everyday by post. I think she was a northerner. She always liked the girl pupils to be smartly dressed with red jumpers and navy pleated gym tunics in the winter and in summer we wore brown cotton slips like pinafores, made by the older girls from material provided by the teacher. If a parent was not able to afford a school uniform Miss Isherwood bought it for them and it was kept in school, the child changing on arrival at school and back again before going home."

( Eillen Farr nee Altree )

School Log Book

25th April 1938

On March 24th at 5.30 pm a disastrous fire broke out in the school. The school and school house were completely burnt out - only log book and registers were saved.

The school re-opened today in the "Cottage Room", a temporary building until the school is rebuilt. All the children present - two new children admitted - each five years of age.

"During the fire they managed to get the Headteachers desk out. The whole desk was too big so they had to saw off its legs so that they could get it out of the door."

( Jim Davies )

"When the school was burned down I remember my parents talking about it. It must have been a major catastrophe in this sleepy mountain village. I remember the derelict building with a piece jutting out with 'Library' in red letters."

(Eileen Farr nee Altree )

"I have happy memories of my childhood and schooldays at Michaelchurch School and will always be grateful that I was lucky enough to attend a village school where discipline was strict but fair. I well remember arriving at school with my brother one morning and finding no school after the fire, the excitement of going to the Cottage Room and then the excitement of the evacuees from Liverpool increasing the number of pupils."

( Nancy McCall )



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

Elementary Education Sub-Committee Minutes 30th April 1938

Michaelchurch Escley Council School.

Your sub-committee regret to report the total destruction by fire on the 24th March 1938 of the above named school and teachers dwelling house. They have authorised negotiations being entered into with the owner of the building known as The Cottage Room, Michaelchurch, for the hire of such a building as temporary school accommodation subject to the premises being approved by H.M. Inspectors as suitable for this purpose. They have also expressed to Miss Isherwood, Headmistress, their thanks for the successful efforts made by her and a neighbour in saving at great personal risk the School Log Book and Attendance Registers.

Education Finance Sub-Committee Minutes 30th April 1938

In connection with the destruction of fire of this school on the 24th March 1938 your sub-committee have considered applications for payments for;

- 1) Physical training clothes and shoes belonging to the children attending the school.
- 2) Woodwork tools belonging to the Handicraft Instructor.
- 3) Text books and other special books for instructional purposes belonging to the assistant teacher.
- 4) Piano, gramophone, hanging lamps, books and various materials belonging to the Head Teacher.

And have passed accounts for payment amounting to £ 46 1s 1d.

School Log Book 27th May 1938

HMI Phillips visited the school this morning. He inspected the room in which the school is being held until the new school is built. He did not inspect the childrens work but was very pleased with the arrangements for lunch and dinner.

School Log Book 23rd June 1938

School will be closed tomorrow by order of the Managers as a local shearing match will be held in the village.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### Elementary Education Sub-Committee Minutes 2nd July 1938

Following destruction by fire of these premises the Cottage Room, Michaelchurch has been rented as temporary school premises from Mr. Trafford of Michaelchurch Court. The agreed rent is 25/- per week. A portion of field adjoining the school has been fenced off as a playground and for physical exercises at a rent of £4. The tenancy commenced as from 19th April 1938 and the school re-assembled on Monday 25th April.

### Salaries Sub-Committee Minutes 2nd July 1938

Michaelchurch Escley Council School... Cleaners salary increased from £2 to £4 10s 0d as temporary measure from 25th April.

### Finance Sub-Committee Minutes 2nd July 1938

Urgent... Michaelchurch Escley School and House.. re-building.. £2000

### School Log Book 21st July 1938

Mrs Cole (Supply Teacher) was exceedingly rude in school today in front of the whole school. When I informed her later in the day that I should report her to the Educ. Authorities she was very rude again.

### School Log Book 5th September 1938

School re-opened after the holiday. 36/37 present.

### School Log Book 5th October 1938

Received orders from the School Correspondent that school is to be closed tomorrow because of a local ploughing match.

### Building and Equipment Sub-Committee Minutes 22nd October 1938

Plans for the re-building of the above named school have been submitted to the Board of Education who state that the arrangements shown thereon appear to be generally satisfactory but that one of the classrooms falls below the area which the Board would normally be prepared to accept. The Board of Education have been informed that it is very desirable that the size of the two classrooms should not be altered having regard to the fact that the main classroom with its present dimensions will be extremely useful for physical training.

Builders are being invited by advertisement to tender for the re-building of the school.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### Education Finance Sub-Committee

22nd October

You sub-committee are pleased to report that the Insurance Companies participating in the Consolidated Fire Insurance Policy have paid sum of £2250 12s 0d being the amount of the Councils claim in connection with the destruction by fire of the School and Dwe House at Michaelchurch Escley. The amount of insurance due was £100 12s 0d and the Companies have paid an additional sum of £100 12s 0d over above the amount of the Policy in consideration of a premium of additional amount of the claim being paid for a period of 10 years: nominal sum of about 12s.

### Education Committee

22nd October

Tenders submitted for the re-building of Michaelchurch Escley C of E School.

Mr.C.Bowyer, Peterchurch	£ 1760 0s 0d
Messrs W.A.Greening and Son, Hereford	£ 2298 0s 0d
Mr.T.J.Watkins, Peterchurch	£ 2600 0s 0d
Messrs W.Powell and Sons, Hereford	£ 2700 0s 0d
Messrs Beavan and Hodges, Hereford	£ 3065 0s 0d
Messrs J.Evans and Son, Malvern	£ 3725 0s 0d

RESOLVED That the tenders be referred to a Special Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Education Committee, of the Buildings, Higher Education, Library and Fire Sub-Committees, with the power to recommend a Tender for acceptance to the County Council.

### School Log Book

25th November

Two Aladdin radiators were delivered today.

### School Log Book

22nd December

School closes today for the Christmas holidays to re-open on Jan 9th. Two children leave school - one 14 years of age and the other will attain 14 years during the holidays.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

# 1939

School Log Book 9th January 1939

School re-opened today. 6 children absent. 1 with Scarlet Fever.

School Log Book 26th January 1939

Terrific snowstorm and gale. Deep drifts on the roads and fields - only six children arrived at school. After giving them hot drinks they were sent home again as the snow was still falling heavily.

"I was in Hereford shopping with Miss Isherwood to get some material for a dress. We were watching the ice flows go down the River Wye. During the big freeze up the branches of the tree were breaking like gunshots. Even the blades of grass were spikes of ice"

(Mrs Sylvia Jones nee Howard)

Building and Equipment Sub-Committee Minutes 21st January 1939

Michaelchurch Escley Council School

a) On the recommendations on the Special Committee.....the County Council at their last meeting accepted the tender of Mr.C.Bowyer amounting to £1760 for re-building the above named school and house. The Board of Education have approved the acceptance of Mr.Bowyers tender, the cost to be met from the amount received from the Insurance Companies.

The commencement of the work has been deferred to enable the Special Committee to give further consideration to Mr.Bowyers tender.

b) The heating of the temporary school premises at the Cottage Room, Michaelchurch, has been improved by the provision of Aladdin oil radiators at a cost of £20 5s Od.

Education Committee Minutes 21st January 1939

That the Special Committee be empowered to present to the County Finance Committee an estimate for a sum equal to the amount of the 2nd tender, namely £2298, if it is found to be impossible to obtain a cheaper tender for the re-building of the school at Michaelchurch Escley.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book 3rd February 19

The Attendance Officer called today. 25/32 present. Some children still unable to attend owing to blocked roads.

When talking to the former pupils we heard many stories of arguments in front of the children between Miss Isherwood and Mrs. Cole.

School Log Book 2nd March 19

This morning because I asked Mrs. Cole not to disarrange so stockings I had placed on the fireguard she put on her hat and coat and said she was going home and never coming back to school again. When I informed her of the folly of such an action she remained at school but went out at dinner time and came back to school late in the afternoon. This is the third time she has informed me that she is going home and never returning.

School Log Book 17th March 19

Mr Williams, Physical Training Instructor for the County and an H called at school today - as physical training has to be taken on the road at present they watched the children there. They stated that the work was quite good in spite of the many difficulties.

School Log Book 18th April 19

New girl admitted today - 6 years of age. First attendance at school

School Admission Book 18th April 19

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Travers Olive	26.2.33	The Blainey	John Travers

This little girl turns out to be Mrs. Olive Howells, the present school Cleaner in Charge.

Building and Equipment Sub-Committee Minutes 22nd April 19

Mr.C.Bowyer has withdrawn his tender for the re-building of the school and dwelling house and the next lower tender, namely that of Messrs W.A.Greening and Son, amounting to £2298 10s 0d has been accepted. The work is in progress.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### Salaries Sub-Committee Minutes

8th July 1939

A number of out distance children who have not recently attended any school have been admitted and additional temporary assistance is necessary to enable these backward children to receive special instruction. Your sub-committee have authorised the appointment of a temporary additional teacher to the 31st March 1940.

Your sub-committee recommend that the salaries of the under mentioned Supplementary Teachers be increased as shown taking effect from the 1st July next.

Michaelchurch Escley Council School

Mrs D.M.Cole                      From    £ 85                      to    £ 90

We had many old pupils refer to the conditions in the Cottage Room. It was remembered as being a very dark and cold place, and they also mentioned both boys and girls having to do P.E. out on the road.

" I started school at The Cottage Room with a big log fire in the main part, freezing cold in the small class room. My teacher was Mrs.Cole who had a nasty habit of rapping your knuckles with a ruler if you didn't sit up straight. I remember her knocking over the blackboard and easle in temper because the Headteacher Miss Isherwood asked her to move it. It was obstructing the light to the main classroom. It was very dark in there. I think the lighting was by oil lamps."

(Eileen Farr nee Altree)

"It suited Mrs Cole to have her blackboard at one particular end of the room opposite the window with the children between the light and the board. This was in Miss Isherwood's light so she asked Mrs Cole to move it. Mrs Cole objected and the pupils were listening silently waiting for the argument to finish. One face was red with anger and the other white with temper"

(Mrs Sylvia James nee Howard)

### Cabinet Room. Downing Street

3rd September 1939

"I am speaking to you from the Cabinet Room of 10 Downing Street. This morning the British Ambassador in Berlin handed the German Government a final note stating that unless we heard from them by 11'o clock that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland a state of war would exist between us. I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received and that consequently this country is at war with Germany."

(Prime Minister Chamberlain, speaking on BBC Radio)



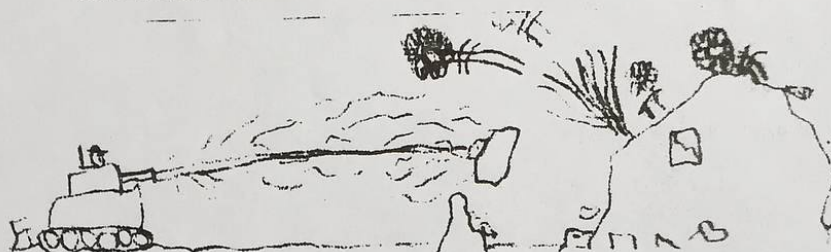
# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

The Kings Study. Buckingham Palace 3rd September 1939

"This is perhaps the most fateful hour of our history. Once again the Empire is to confront the bondage of fear and fight for liberty and justice. It is for this high purpose that I now call my people at home and across the seas who will make our cause their own. I ask them to stand calm and firm and united in this time of trial."

(The Kings speech delivered to every home in Britain)



School Log Book 18th September 1939

A new girl 5 years of age admitted today. 47 now on the register.

School Admission Book 18th September 1939

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Travers Eileen	12.8.34	The Blainey	John Travers

Education Committee Minutes 26th October 1939

The Executive Officer reported that the re-building of the school was nearing completion and asked for instructions as to a formal opening of the buildings.

**RESOLVED** That there be an official opening of the rebuilt school and that the following members of the committee be specially requested to attend. The selection of date and time to be left to the Chairman in consultation with the Director of Education and the Executive Officer viz:-

The Chairman  
Mr. J. J. S. Powell  
Mr. W. J. Bray  
Mr. J. Lewis



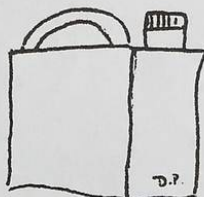
# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book

31st October 1939

The six children who are conveyed to school by car are all absent as the driver has been unable to obtain petrol owing to war petrol rationing.



Education Committee Minutes

27th November 1939

Mr. J.J.S.Powell reported that the offices at the re-built school required considerable repairs, the estimated cost of which was £80 and suggested that the school should be re-occupied as from the 4th December and the repairs to the offices carried out as soon as possible, the formal ceremony to be left until such repairs are completed.

School Log Book

1st December 1939

School will be closed on Monday as the furniture etc is to be moved up to the new building erected since the fire in March 1938.

"We watched with excitement the New School being built, having to pass everyday and note the progress. Then the grand opening and the lovely new tables and chairs for the infants class ( a lovely warm honey colour, probably pine, ) and the warmth of the whole school with hot pipes and huge radiators. The bliss of dry coats after a soaking getting to school, and a cloakroom with real wash basins and a peg all to myself ( what a luxury )."

( Eileen Farr..nee Altree )

It is interesting to note that 50 years on we still have the same pipes, radiators and boiler. Unfortunately the system is not as efficient as it was then and the boiler has been condemned. We now await for money to be made available for its replacement.

School Log Book

5th December 1939

School re-opened today in the new school.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### Education Committee Minutes

20th December 1939

The Director of Education reported that the re-built school premises were occupied as from 4th December 1939.

In connection with the Teachers Dwelling House Mr. J.J.S. Powell proposed, Mr. W.J. Bray seconded and it was resolved that the rent of the Teachers Dwelling House be fixed at £15 per annum - plus rate instead of £13 16s 8d per annum inclusive as formerly.

From conversations with the former pupils it seems that the cane was used with some frequency if ink was spilt on the new carpets. One day a girl aged 13 was filling her ink pot and she spilt ink on the carpet. Miss Isherwood was furious and she got out the cane. The girl was called out and put across Miss Isherwood's knee. She broke the cane over the girl's bottom.

"At 11 years we were allowed to write with ink pen. The ink was in powder form and was mixed with water in a jug. It was a senior pupil's job to fill the ink wells in the desks once a week, and woe betide anyone who spilled ink on the lovely new wooden floor or carpets. We had a habit of shaking excess ink from the nib on to the floor"

( Eileen Farr nee Altree



### School Log Book

30th January 1941

Received instructions from the Correspondent that the school is to close until Monday next owing to the severe weather conditions.

### School Log Book

7th February 1941

With consent of the Chairman of Managers the morning session ended at 11.45 and afternoon session commenced at 12.45 and school closed at 3 pm as the Headteacher and a scholar had to attend an inquest on Beryl Howard who was drowned in the brook on her way to school on Monday.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

"I shall never forget my classmate Beryl Howard being drowned in the river. She sat by me, a small girl with a fringe. She was handicapped in some way. I think the tips of her fingers on the right hand were missing. She fell from a bridge going home from school into the swollen river. She was taking a short cut home because her father had promised her sweets. She was with a girl called Jessie Cole, who was commended at the inquest because she took a stick to measure the water in the river and decided it was too deep for her to rescue poor Beryl. This small girl walked down from St. Margarets to school, truly amazing when you think about it."

( Eileen Farr nee Altree )

### Education Committee Minutes

6th March 1940

A letter dated 12th January was read from the Head Teacher agreeing to the increase in the rent for the Teachers Dwelling House but asking that the Committee would bear half the costs of the rates.

RESOLVED That the Head Teacher be informed that the Committee are unable to accede to her request.

"When we had air raid practices Miss Isherwood would blow a whistle and each older child would take a younger child and run over into our special places in the hedges and fields belonging to Firs Farm. We would stay there until the air raid was over and the whistle was blown again."



( Mrs Nancy McCall nee Price )

"During the war years we carried gas masks and practised hiding in an underground shelter, and in a deep dingle by the Cottage Room. I walked to school down the fields, over the river bridge, up the other side and down the road - a journey of over a half an hour, in all weathers. I remember walking to school one winter on top of deep snow, with drifts over the hedges, and the trees cracking off under the weight of the frozen ice. My highlight was the baked potato Miss Isherwood cooked for our dinner. We each took a potato which was cooked in the teacher's home kitchen by her daily help. Our usual lunch was sandwiches, mostly jam because food was rationed and in short supply."

( Eileen Farr nee Altree )



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book

14th May 1940

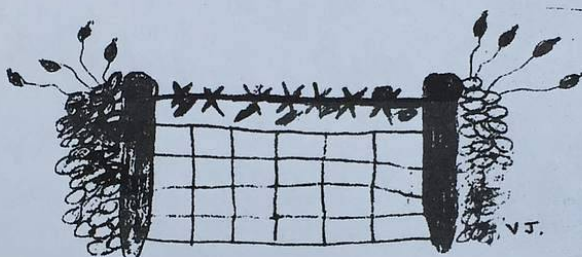
School re-opened today- Tuesday - by order of the Government - all holidays are cancelled. Only 26 children attended.

School Log Book

16th May 1940

As the holiday arranged was now over all children at school. Absentees made excuse they did not know they had to attend. This was untrue.

Children during the war years were also able to make a valuable contribution to the war effort. As well as their gas masks the children at Michaelchurch were also encouraged to bring into school foxglove seeds which were sent away for processing into medicine, wool off the barbed wire fences for salvage and straw and rosehips.



School Log Book

31st May 1940

Mrs Cole left school today for the duration of the war as she is taking up nursing on advice from Mr. Lewis Chairman of Managers.

"The school must have been brand new when I arrived - there was a small room and the big room where the dreaded Miss Isherwood reigned supreme! I lived a long way from the school, at Lower Llanon, Urishay, and I am never likely to forget the long walk every morning through the fields of Kefn Kest, down the banks and over the river Bridge below the farm nearest the school where the Powell family lived. There was no transport of any kind in those days - just a few older children from other farms who were supposed to keep an eye on the little ones. My father had died during the snows and cold of 1939 so our family was in crisis. Nevertheless I owe a lot to the little school where, as far as I can remember, there were about 33 pupils."

(V Rose Woodger)



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### Building and Equipment Sub-Committee Minutes 6th July 1940

That the tender of Messrs W.A.Greening and Sons, which amounted to £106 7s 3d, be accepted for re-conditioning the offices, and repairs to boundary walls, concrete paving and entrance gates.

### County Expenditure Sub-Committee Minutes 24th June 1940

A report from the Director of Education that the undermentioned teachers were serving with the Womens Auxiliary Forces.

Mrs D.M.Cole...Michaelchurch Escley Council School.....as from 1/6/40

### Building and Equipment Sub-Committee Minutes 19th October 1940

Tenders for repairs have been accepted.

W.A.Greening and Sons.....renewal of WC pans  
.....re-construction of drainage and flushing system

£42 14s 0d

.....Repairs to boundary walls and walls of tank room

£18 6s 0d

Very considerable difficulties have been experienced in finding school cleaners at a number of schools owing to the low rate of payment, and it has been necessary to vary the rates of payment in the following cases.

Michaelchurch Escley (weekly) from £13 0s 0d to £15 0s 0d (1/11/40)

Additional payments have been approved to cleaners for extra work occasioned by the admission of evacuees.

### School Log Book 2nd December 1940

Only eight infants at school owing to the prevalence of whooping cough.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book

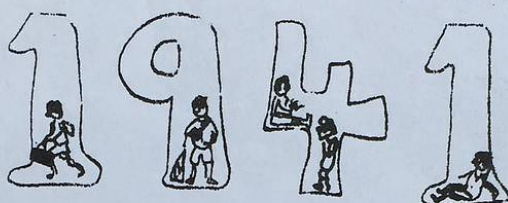
9th December 194

59% children at school - whooping cough epidemic.

School Log Book

12th December 194

School closed by order of the Medical Officer until January 6th.



School Log Book

13th January 1941

School closed until today, 13th January by order of the Medical Officer. Still a number of children absent.

Throughout the months of January and February deep snow caused great difficulty in the village. There are many references to this in the Log Book highlighting the number of days that the school closed, or finished early and the children sent home.

School Log Book

8th May 1941

The Director called at school today arranging for accommodation for evacuees from Liverpool.

School Log Book

12th May 1941

13 children and 2 teachers came into school today from Liverpool.

School Log Book

19th May 1941

There are now 23 evacuees on roll.



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

We tried to locate our evacuees by writing a letter to the Liverpool Echo and having a piece on the Billy Butler "Where are You Now ?" programme on BBC Radio Merseyside. Unfortunately we did not hear from any of them but we did get letters from Bootle evacuees who were sent to villages near us.



" I was evacuated at the age of 7 in June 1941 after the May Blitz. We were bombed for 8 nights on the run. Other children and I were transported from Lime Street Station to Hereford, then to a large hall. We were tired and sad having to leave our families and home town. People were at the hall waiting for us to arrive. These people were to become our foster parents. I was very lucky to be chosen by the Harding family. They looked after me very well and treated me like one of their own. My most treasured memories was watching the farmers dipping their sheep and thrashing the hay. My foster parents took me to see some lovely places. I recall Hereford, Builth Wells and Hay-on-Wye. which I grew to love in the 2 years I was there."

( Mr J.Garrett )

"I was sent with my brother Donald to your area. We stayed for four years with the late Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard at their home in Newton. I seem to remember it was called Upper Court and Lower Court. We spent happy times there and were sad to hear they had passed on. The Pritchards were very good to us and wanted us to stay after the war but that was not possible. We are also very grateful to all of you in the area for making us welcome and looking after us."

( G.R.Moffatt )

### School Log Book

5th June 1941

School reopened (after Whitsun holiday) 3 evacuees and one local child admitted. Miss Joyce (Bootle) absent owing to illness.

### School Admission Book

5th June 1941

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Carlin Mary		Old House	G.Christopher
McNully Maureen	31. 7.32	Old House	G.Christopher
McNully Aileen		Old House	G.Christopher
Yeomans Peter	30. 7.36	Upper House	Elwyn Yeomans



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book 2nd July 1941

Three evacuees taken home today. Mother came to school for them.

Reference to the Admission Book shows these children to be Hannah, Theresa and Vera Talant

School Log Book 7th July 1941

Two private evacuees admitted from London today.

School Admission Book 7th July 1941

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Dossett Donald	18.11.34	The Mill	Thomas Henry
Dossett Dorothy	1.11.35	The Mill	Thomas Henry

School Log Book 25th August 1941

School reopened (it had been closed since 11th July) 4 local children absent and 3 evacuees. 2 evacuees returned to Bottle during holidays.

School Log Book 26th September 1941

Received instructions from Correspondent that the school is to close next week to allow the children to pick potatoes.

School Log Book 7th October 1941

A girl admitted - unofficial evacuee - aged 7.

School Admission Book 7th October 1941

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Shotter Veronica	10. 6.34	The Gate, Urishay	



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

School Log Book 13th November 1941

School closes tomorrow as building is being used for distribution of ration books.

School Admission Book 2nd December 1941

Name	Date of Birth	Address	Parent/Guardian
Hughes Vincent	2. 8.32	The Grove	Mr. Lewis

School Log Book 19th December 1941

School closes today for the Christmas holiday to reopen on Wednesday Jan 7th. A party is being held for local and evacuee children.

1942

January 1942

Once again January proved to be a month of heavy snows with many entries in the log book referring to closures and poor attendance.

"When Miss Isherwood took over Michaelchurch school she inherited a unruly group of the pupils due to the lack of discipline by the previous head teacher. When attempting to give Jim Price the cane for some mis-conduct, he snatched the cane and broke it across his knee. Miss Isherwood then sent Geoffrey Cooper to cut a suitable cane out of the hedge. When Geoffrey returned with it he was told he had taken too long about it and was the first to feel the new cane. Although Miss Isherwood was very strict I don't think any of us resented it in later life. The cane was used in deserving cases. She did have her hand teaching all 7 to 14 year olds without any misbehaviour".

( Jim Davies



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record

### School Log Book

3rd July 1942

School closes today for 3 weeks to enable children to help with hay making.

"I have much to thank Michaelchurch School for, especially the teachers. I think Miss Isherwood equipped each one of us with a thirst for learning, and a love of books. When Fairfield Manor contents were sold she bought many of the books, which I helped unpack and store on top of the cupboard. We were allowed to borrow them if we took great care. I left school at 14 years and stayed home to help with my younger brother. Then I left to train as a State Registered Nurse at the General Hospital, Hereford. I mixed with many people who had perhaps a superior education to me, but Michaelchurch stood me in good stead. I look back with fond, happy memories to my schooldays and with gratitude for my education."

( Eileen Farr nee Altree )

### Admission Register.

The following pupils were attending Michaelchurch School during the period 1938 - 1942 (excluding evacuees).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Admitted</u>	<u>Left</u>
DAVIES James		23.12.38
ALTREE Freda		23.12.38
PRITCHARD Marjorie		31. 3.39
HOWARD Sylvia		13. 4.40
LEWIS Wilfred		21.12.39
FRANCIS Colin		4. 8.39
HOWARD Trevor		5. 7.40
HOWELLS Jessie		28. 6.40
CHRISTOPHER Leslie		5. 7.40
PRICE Phyllis		21. 3.40
PRITCHARD Henry		10. 4.41
COLE James		2. 4.42
CHRISTOPHER Mary		11. 7.41
PRICE Maud		10. 4.41
PRICE Eileen		11.12.40
JONES Arthur		27. 6.41
COLE Jessie		26. 9.41
ALTREE Kenneth		9. 7.43
POWELL Georgina	4.35	28. 4.44
PRICE Nancy	4.35	26. 9.41
LEWIS Olive		25. 9.43
COOPER Donna	4.35	1.12.39
PRITCHARD Cecil		22.12.43
GWILLIM Glennis		9. 7.43
BRIDGES Dennis	4.36	2. 8.39



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

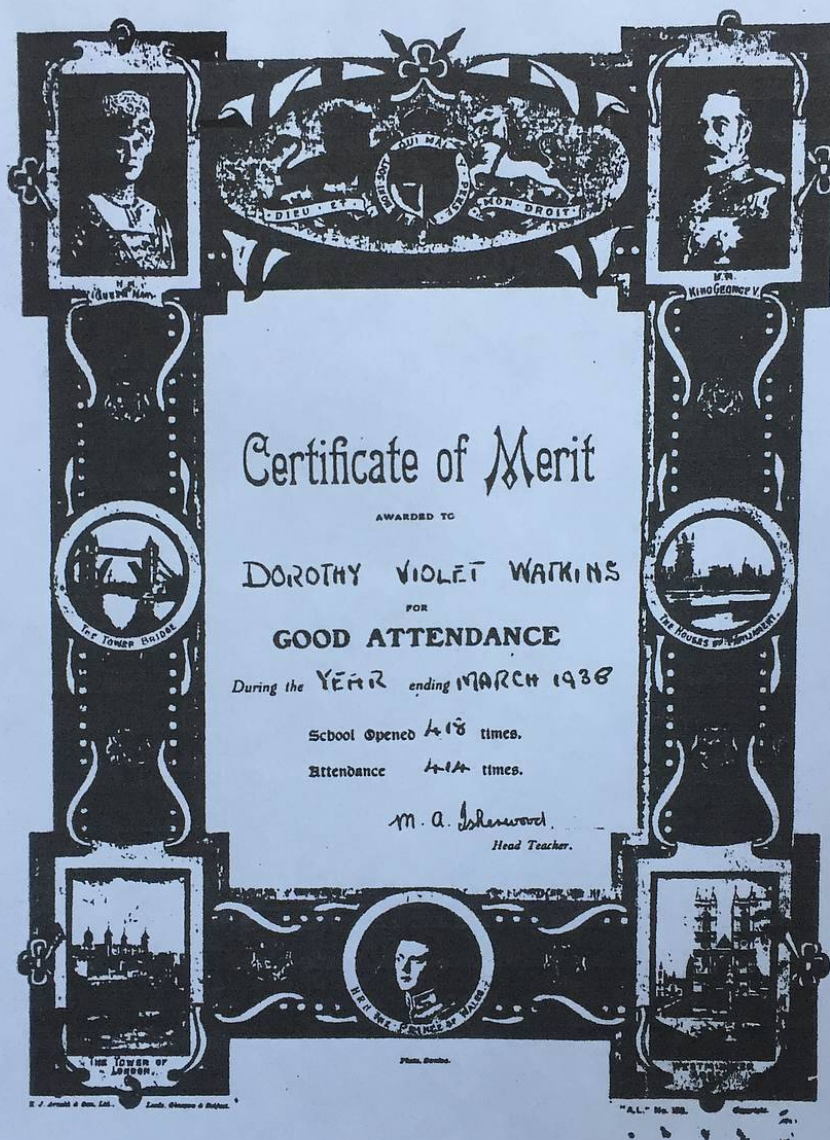
## Document Record

	4.36	9. 6.42
JONES Lucy		30. 6.45
GWILLIM Dennis		21. 7.44
PRITCHARD Geoffrey		30. 1.40
HOWARD Beryl		6. 4.44
YEOMANS Phyllis		11.12.40
LEWIS Mary	4.37	17. 4.46
PRICE Jack	5.37	22. 7.38
WEST Thomas	12.37	15. 9.44
DAVIES Doreen	25. 4.38	31. 3.47
POWELL Regina Alma	25. 4.38	20.12.46
ALTREE Eileen Nora	8. 6.38	5.12.46
WATKINS Ivy	3. 4.39	1.12.39
COOPER Ralph	3. 4.39	13. 4.49
WILLIAMS John	8. 4.39	20.12.46
STOKES Winnie	3. 4.39	31. 3.47
TRAVERS Olive	3. 4.39	14. 9.45
LEWIS Violet	17. 4.39	13. 4.49
PRICE Dennis Arthur	17. 4.39	20.12.46
GREENOW Oliver	17. 4.39	16.12.41
GREENOW Daisy	17. 4.39	21.12.39
SIRRIE Iris	26. 4.39	10.10.41
TRAVERS Mary Francis	3. 7.39	28. 6.40
MAPP Vernon	3. 7.39	8.12.44
MAPP Cyril	3. 7.39	8.12.44
MAPP Ray	3. 7.39	9. 7.43
MAPP Molly	11. 9.39	21.12.39
JONES Kenneth	11. 9.39	31. 3.47
PREECE John	18. 9.39	15. 7.49
TRAVERS Eileen	1. 4.40	19. 7.48
POWELL George Nazeby	1. 4.40	10.10.41
TRAVERS Doris	2. 4.40	16. 7.48
PRICE Henry John	10. 6.40	19.12.41
POWELL Lorimer	2. 9.40	19. 2.46
DAVIES Geoffrey	2. 9.40	18.12.44
MAPP Iris	13. 1.41	29. 3.45
WHITTAL Derek	25. 3.41	9. 4.41
EVANS Ernest George	7. 4.41	15. 7.47
ALTREE Muriel Winifred	21. 4.41	16. 7.47
PRITCHARD Rose Violet	21. 4.41	20.12.51
TRAVERS Leslie John	21. 4.41	10.10.41
TRAVERS Jean Gladys	21. 4.41	25. 3.51
WILLIAMS Manon	5. 6.41	3. 3.46
YEOMANS Peter	8. 9.41	1. 6.45
POWELL Dorothy	14. 4.42	20.12.50
GREENOW Joy Margaret	27. 4.42	28. 2.43
HAMER David	19.10.42	25. 5.51
TRAVERS Rhoda Mary		



# The History of Ewyas Lacy

## Document Record







# The History of Ewyas Lacy

Document Record

## Observations:

None