

Some notes on Yew Trees, Lindale

Yew Trees used to be a farm, with an orchard, with old apple, damson and plum trees in 1981 when it last changed hands, bought from **Jim Henderson**, stonemason, who had been there since 1934¹, and his father before him². It was originally two houses, with an attached barn nearer the main road. They were probably quarrymen's cottages. Two further cottages nearer to the Post Office were later demolished. There were two pig sties, both now demolished. Jim kept some goats on the land behind called 'Jim's Lots'. Old Mrs Burton, Pat Moorsby's aunt, when little, used to buy eggs from Yew Trees, which was then a farm. There is a surviving privy in the back garden³.

The Mannex Directory 1851 names Edward William Milne, Gentleman as residing at Yew Trees. Yew Trees deeds include 6 **documents** from 1857 to 1863, relating to the will of Edward Doran, which appeared to be disputed. The documents are difficult to decipher. The property was left to 4 brothers, then 4 friends; William Charnley, Jonathan Wearing, John Bell and Joseph Smith. There is a mortgage document, and details of the sale of the land in 1862-3. In 1862 William Keith is recorded as living there. In October 1862 Yew Trees was sold to John T Hibbert and Thomas J Hibbert.

A further complication in trying to work out the history of this house is the proliferation of similar house names in this part of Lindale (see map). Yew Trees may have once included Yew Tree Cottages, but Yew Tree House and Yew Tree Terrace are separate properties on opposite sides of Lindale Hill.

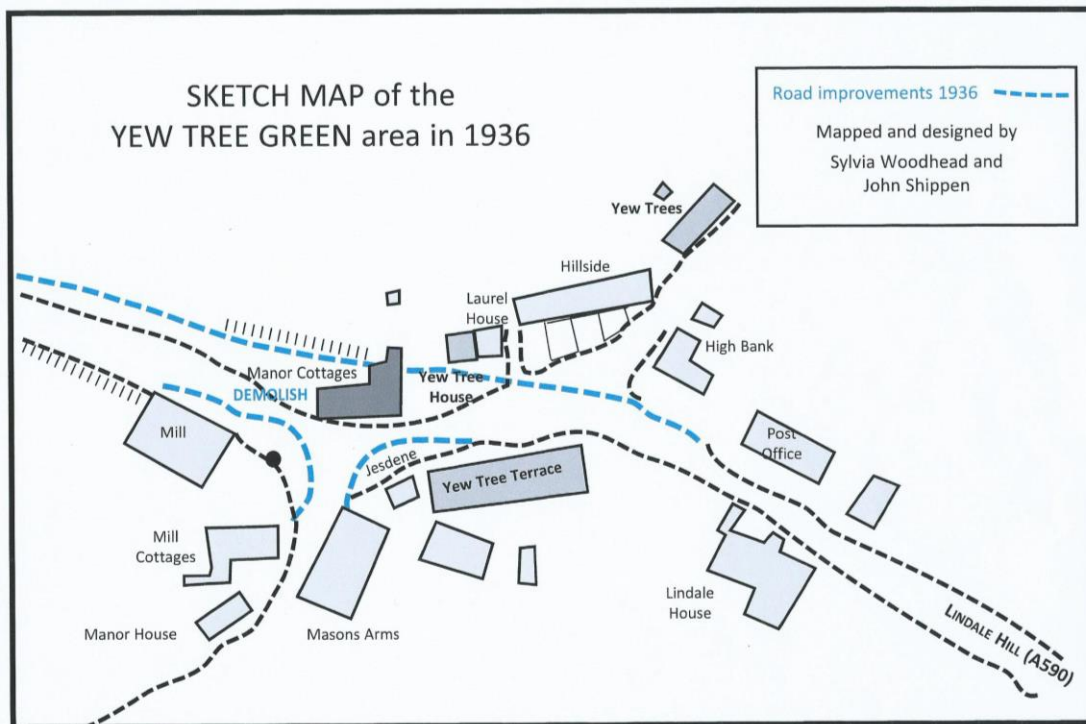
The end cottage of Yew Tree Terrace (two up and two down) was occupied by a family with 6 sons. All went to fight in the first World War, and all returned.

In 1928 some land 'adjoining the main road in the centre of Lindale village' was sold to Jessie Keith, and the house Jesdene was subsequently built. In November 1928 three cottages (Mason Cottages) were sold to Lancashire County Council and subsequently demolished to widen the road up Lindale Hill.

¹ Grange Red Books record James Henderson at Yew Trees from 1931-35

² Bulmer's 1914 directory records Mrs Agnes Henderson, shopkeeper and apartments, but no address is listed

³ Interview with Marilyn Shiel 2 Dec 2014



Further light is thrown on this house demolition from the deeds of **Yew Tree House on Lindale Hill**, which include a plan entitled '*Barrow, Ulverston, Meathop Bridge A590 Improvements at Manor Cottages*'. Added in biro is the date 18 November 1936. The plan shows three cottages, with small front gardens (reaching nearly to the present opposite kerb), with privies behind, all to be demolished for road widening. A cutting into the hillside is indicated. A new stone wall was built here, and the date stone (1864) from the demolished house was set into the wall. The wall lies in the middle of what would have been the back garden of the middle house. This plan states that the demolished house was called Manor Cottages, at least in 1936. Some confusion remains, though this may just be journalistic inaccuracy. An undated newspaper cutting included a photo entitled 'Yew Tree Cottages now being demolished'.

It is interesting to note that Norman Atkinson has a photo of his grandmother Libby Atkinson, taken some time between 1922 and 1930. She is standing in the doorway of a house. On the back is written Yew Tree Cottage. The location of this cottage is currently uncertain.

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