



Kellys Directory Extract 1915

Semington



SEMINGTON is a civil parish on the road from Melksham to Warminster, with a halt for the rail motors about three-quarters of a mile north from the village (in the parish of Melksham Without), 2½ miles south from Melksham station and 3½ west from Trowbridge station on the Great Western railway, in the Western division of the county, hundred of Whorwellsdown, Trowbridge and Melksham union, Melksham petty sessional division and county court district, rural deanery of Potterne (Bradford portion), archdeaconry of Wilts and diocese of Salisbury. The Wilts and Berks canal here joins the Kennet and Avon canal. The chapel of St George is a building of stone in the Early English style, consisting of chancel, nave, north porch and a turret at the west end containing one bell: inside the porch is a curious, but much worn, inscription in Norman French: the church was restored in 1860, and a new chancel erected, and a vestry added in 1877: there are 160 sittings. The register dates from the year 1586. The living is a chapelry, annexed to the vicarage of Steeple Ashton, joint net yearly value £467, including 14 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of Magdalene College, Cambridge, and held since 1897 by the Rev Edward Ponsonby Knubley MA of that college, who resides at Steeple Ashton; the Rev Alfred William Watt has been curate since 1911, and he is also chaplain to Trowbridge Union. There is a Wesleyan chapel here, built in 1884, to seat 150. The workhouse for Trowbridge and Melksham union is situated in this parish; for particulars see Trowbridge or Melksham. The Duke of Somerset is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is loam and stone brash; subsoil, clay. The land is mostly pasture and a little arable. The area is 1,555 acres of land (including Littleton tithing) and 10 of water; rateable value, including Whaddon, £3,362; the population in 1911 was 471, including 17 officers and 157 inmates of the Melksham Poor Law Institution.

By an Order of the County Council, dated August 7, 1894, pursuant to sec. 36 of the "Local Government Act, 1894" (56 and 57 Vict. ch. 73), the parish of Whaddon was amalgamated with Semington for civil purposes, the two being known as Semington.

Parish Clerk and Sexton: George Ritchens

Post & MO Office: Henry James Stockwell, sub-postmaster. Letters are received through Trowbridge at 7.15am & 5.15pm; Sundays, 7.15am; dispatched at 9.50am & 7.10pm week days & 9.55am on Sundays. Melksham is the nearest telegraph office

Police Constable: James Henry William Wells

Elementary School (mixed), built in 1859, & enlarged in 1908, for 72 children; Miss Millicent Dowse, mistress

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Brown	Samuel			Homefield
Brown	Thomas			Brookside
Bruges	William			Semington House
Keevil		Mrs		Highfield
Mann	William Horace	JP		Brooklyn House
Redman	John			Highfield
Watt	Alfred William	Rev	Curate & Chaplain to Trowbridge Union	Parsonage

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bailey	Stephen William		Farmer	
Bishop	James		Carpenter	
Bond	James		Farmer	
Burbidge	George		Pig Dealer	Littleton
Burbidge	John		Farmer	Littlemarsh
Cottle	Albert		Farmer	Newtown
Dallimore	Thomas		Beer Retailer	
Fivash	Alfred George		Blacksmith	
Freestone	William		Farmer	
Hancock	Henry		Poulterer	
Hawkins	Richard Simon		Farmer	Littlemarsh
Jefferys	William		Farmer	Manor & Church Farms
Jefferys	William Ghey		Farmer	
Little	Albert Blake		Farmer	Paxcroft Farm
Moore	Harry			Somerset Arms PH
Noad	J&J		Millers (water) & Farmers	Littleton Wood
Noad	Walter		Farmer	Littleton Mill Farm
Rogers	Joseph Edward		Farmer	
Stockwell	Henry James		Grocer & Asst Overseer	Post Office
Taylor	Charles Herbert	Master	Workhouse	