



Penhill

Penhill Farm - Timeline

Penhill Farm occupied 273 acres and was originally a sheep farm (hence the name from Pens on the Hill). It changed to grain production for brewing towards the end of its life as a working farm

1093

The farm is believed to date back to 1093.

1796

An Enclosure was awarded to Merton College, Oxford.

1833

Purchased by Thomas Arkell.

1837

On the 13th April a sale of sheep was advertised to be sold by John Jones in the Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette

1841-1861

The census returns record the Arkell family as residents.

1851

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An advert appeared in the Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette on the 10th April for vacancies as Bailiff and Dairymaid

1841-1861

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1871

George Legg is named as being the Farm Bailiff.

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1879

On the 4th April Thomas Arkell was selling up and all horses and Agricultural equipment were auctioned off.

1881-1891

The census returns record the Arkell family as residents.

1894

On 27th August, 32 acres of wheat were sold at public auction.

1896

20th March, Henry Arkell sells off 420 sheep, 9 Carthorses and farm machinery.

1899

Kellys Directory records Donald Hoddinott as farming here.

1901-1911

The census returns record Donald Hoddinott as being a farmer here.

1912

Around this date Francis Hoddinott was recorded as head of the household.

1924

The rates were levied at £43.

1936

Electoral Roll lists Donald Hoddinott as still being resident.

1939

The 1939 Register has Wilfred & Jessie Cornish as living here

1948

Street Directories for the area record P. G. Denly as living here.

1949

An accident was recorded in the Western Daily Press on the 4th February when Mr. E. J. Leon received severe leg injuries.

1951

Street Directories for the area record Ivy Barker as living here.

Swindon Corporation acquired the farm and land for building development

1965

By this time there were 2000 houses built here.

2001

The Census recorded a population of about 6000 in Penhill.

2013

The land is now the Penhill housing estate and the separate Farmhouse on the opposite side of Cricklade Road is used by Civil Service and NALGO as its Sports Clubhouse.