



(Picture from Swindon Library Collection)

Parsonage Farm

This was an ancient farm with some of its walls dating to Elizabethan times, it had two large barns, one thatched the other a slated tithe barn

Papers of 1608 show owners as Merton College, Oxford.

1756 William Croome is farming here.

1836 Farm Sale (see advert of right)

1855 Farm Sale – Leasehold by Merton College, Oxford for 21 years from 6th April 1851, renewable every 7 years, payment £8 per year, 6 qts. of wheat, 8 qts. of malt and 5s for accuitance. Leaser has to keep building and chancel of Parish church in good order, Dwelling house, stable for nag & 9 cart horses, barn, wagon-house, yards with sheds, and other outbuildings, and 173 acres of land, (71 acres arable), together with two small enclosures of freehold near the house. Four small closes of pastures land 2a in occupation of Mr. Brunsdon. Wilts & Berks canal tow path, &c for a rent of £2 6s. The Corn Rent in lieu of Tithes averages £34 14s 9d.

1851 census has Peter Dore with 38 acres.

Sale by Mr. W. Dore for Thomas Arkell. *Reading Mercury* 3/11/1855.

1861 Census shows Thomas Lord as farmer of 40 acres,

1871 Census has Steven Davis,

1881 Census Stephen Jarvis,

1890 Directory Joseph Higgins,

1896 Henry Arkell sells of his herd of 50 shorthorn cows, 7 cart horses and 50 pigs.

1901 Census Edward Tuckwell.

1908 Hay Rick fire attended by Stratton Fire Brigade.

1911 Census Henry J Wiltshire are shown as the farm bailiffs living here with family, still here in 1928 Swindon Directory.

1937 called Rectory Farm in some papers, farmer Mr John Harris, there is a Foot & Mouth outbreak on the farm. 27 cows, a bull and 4 pigs had to be destroyed. *Aberdeen Press & Journal*, *Gloucestershire Echo* and *The Western Daily Press* 31-12-1937.

ESTATE IN NORTH WILTS.
Eligible Investment, paying 5 % Cent., Net Interest.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Wm. DORE, at the BELL INN, SWINDON, on Monday, the 30th day of May, 1836, at four o'clock in the afternoon (subject to conditions).—The PARSONAGE FARM, situate at Stratton St. Margaret, within three miles of the market towns of Swindon and Highworth, and within an easy distance from the great agricultural markets of Cirencester and Faringdon.

This valuable and highly improvable Estate contains a commodious FARM HOUSE, with all necessary Farm Buildings, and upwards of 616 Acres of Arable and Meadow, or Pasture Land (a small proportion only being Meadow or Pasture), in good cultivation, and let to respectable tenants, at low rents; also sundry corn-rents, in lieu of Great Tithes, amounting to upwards of 40*l.* per annum.

The tenure of 67*A.* 0*R.* 20*P.* of this Estate is Copyhold of Inheritance (equal to Freehold), 1*A.* 2*R.* 27*P.* is Freehold, and the remainder is held by Lease under Merton College, Oxford, for a term, of which fifteen years were unexpired on the 5th day of April, 1836.

The "Great Western Railway" will pass through the parish, and very near this Estate, which cannot fail to enhance its value.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Crowdy, solicitors, Swindon: letters to be post-paid, | 6897

The Salisbury and Winchester Journal
9/5/1836

1939 Directory has John Harris as the farmer.

1954 Pressed Steel bought to land.

The farmhouse area was bought by Deloro Sellite in 1950's itself since demolished and site is now a Business Park.