

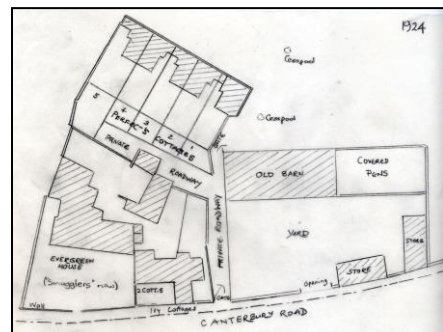
'Evergreen' / 'Smugglers'



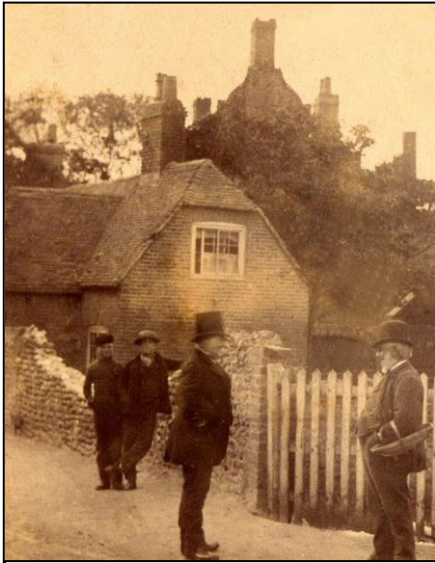
The house known as 'Evergreen' was built for a member of the Coleman family, who already owned a lot of land in the area at this time, hence 'Coleman's Stairs' – the name of one of the gaps to the sea. The Neame family have owned it since the mid 1700s and it would appear that the wall ties in the gables that eventually had to be fitted to all this design of house, hold William Neame's initials – albeit a 'back to front' "N" on its east gable! The house remained in their ownership, along with the farmland all round it, until it was eventually sold in c. 1930. It was then converted into a Tea House and Garden by Mrs D M Cornford.

Whether the property ever had any smuggling connections is not known for sure, but being so near the centre of the village and not that far from the sea, it could well have done. It is a Grade II listed property of two storeys with an attic and cellar. It is built of brown bricks, with red brick dressings, quoins and string courses. There are Dutch (or Flemish) gables at each end of the house, sharing this feature with several other properties round the Square from the same date.

Attached to the east end of the house stood a pair of small cottages, known as Ivy Cottages. By 1911 - 1912 Miss Brockman is listed in Ivy Cottages, but between 1924 and 1927, she is listed under simply 'Ivy Cottage'. In 1928 the property ceases to be included. In an aerial photo of 1926, the two houses can just be seen located butting right



up against the right hand side of the Smuggler's. Local knowledge said that the cottages continued to stand for a while after 1930, but had certainly been demolished by 1959, when another aerial photo clearly shows there is a car park beside the Smuggler's Restaurant.

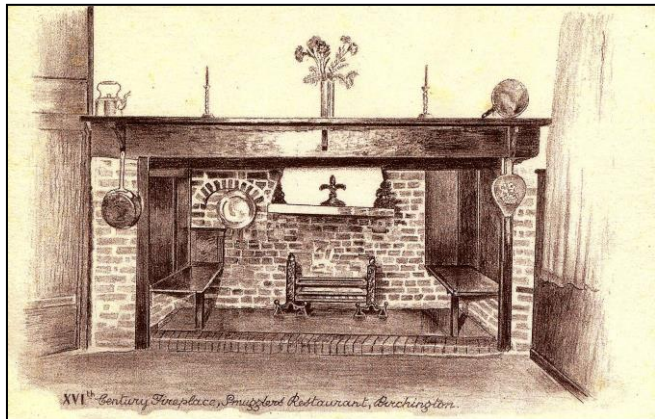


Edward Neame (l. foreground), & Ivy Cottages behind



Ivy Cottages, viewed from the front

The rooms on the ground floor of The Smugglers have lent themselves well to use as a bar lounge and dining room. There have been many changes in the house since it was sold in the 1930s, the biggest being the covering of the back yard, now converted into a large function room and restaurant.



These two images of the dining room were produced soon after the Tea House & Garden were opened in c. 1933