

ANCIENT IFIELD



In the north east corner of the churchyard is Church Cottage, more commonly known as Lychgate Cottages.

Built in around 1840 using local sandstone, the building was the original church school and has also served as the Parish Office.

At one time in the early 20th century two prominent local sisters, Elizabeth & Anne Wood, lived at Church Cottage. Born at Ifield Court in the 1850s, as children the siblings lived with their father William at Craigans (near Ifield station and demolished to build Hillmead during the 1970s) from where he ran a timber and land business which was successful enough to fund his purchase of several local farms, including Bonwyckes in Ifield Wood. As adults, the sisters moved to Brooklands in Rectory Lane, before settling in Church Cottage.

The building is now split into two, with the Parish Office being downstairs and the upstairs apartment being occupied by another prominent local figure, Richard Symonds of The Ifield Society; one of the curators of this exhibition.

Text and photographs courtesy and copyright of Ian Mulcahy www.iansapps.co.uk

www.ifieldparishmap.org