

Elbow Cottage

ST798602

51, Turleigh, Bradford-on-Avon

Owners: Mr and Mrs B. Griffith

On the canal bank, by a bridge, below Murhill. Facing W.

Rubble with an ashlar front, two platbands, sash windows without horns. Now a double house, the rear portion apparently later than the front, see quoins and joint at S gables, although rateable value suggests of present size in 1817.

First identified in the Bradford Poor rate book in 1817, owner John Gould, a coal merchant who was no doubt using the canal. By 1835 it had become a beerhouse, (rates paid on stock), continuing until about 1930. Mr George Mortimer, late of Turleigh Farm, remembered using the leanto at the end of the house as a skittle alley. He also remembered over 40 horses being grazed in the adjoining field. Village tradition asserts that cockfighting also took place. A watch was placed in Turleigh, and if necessary the participants could escape over the county boundary. Later it was used as farm cottages by the owners of Turleigh Farm, and then was sold to the maintenance man at the sewage works. Named after the elbow, or bend, in the canal.

Photographs: Front elevation

Fireplace in rear central room

Fireplace in rear S room, showing former oven.

November, 1988

R. and B. Harvey