

Ships Timbers
King Street, Winterton-on-Sea, Norfolk

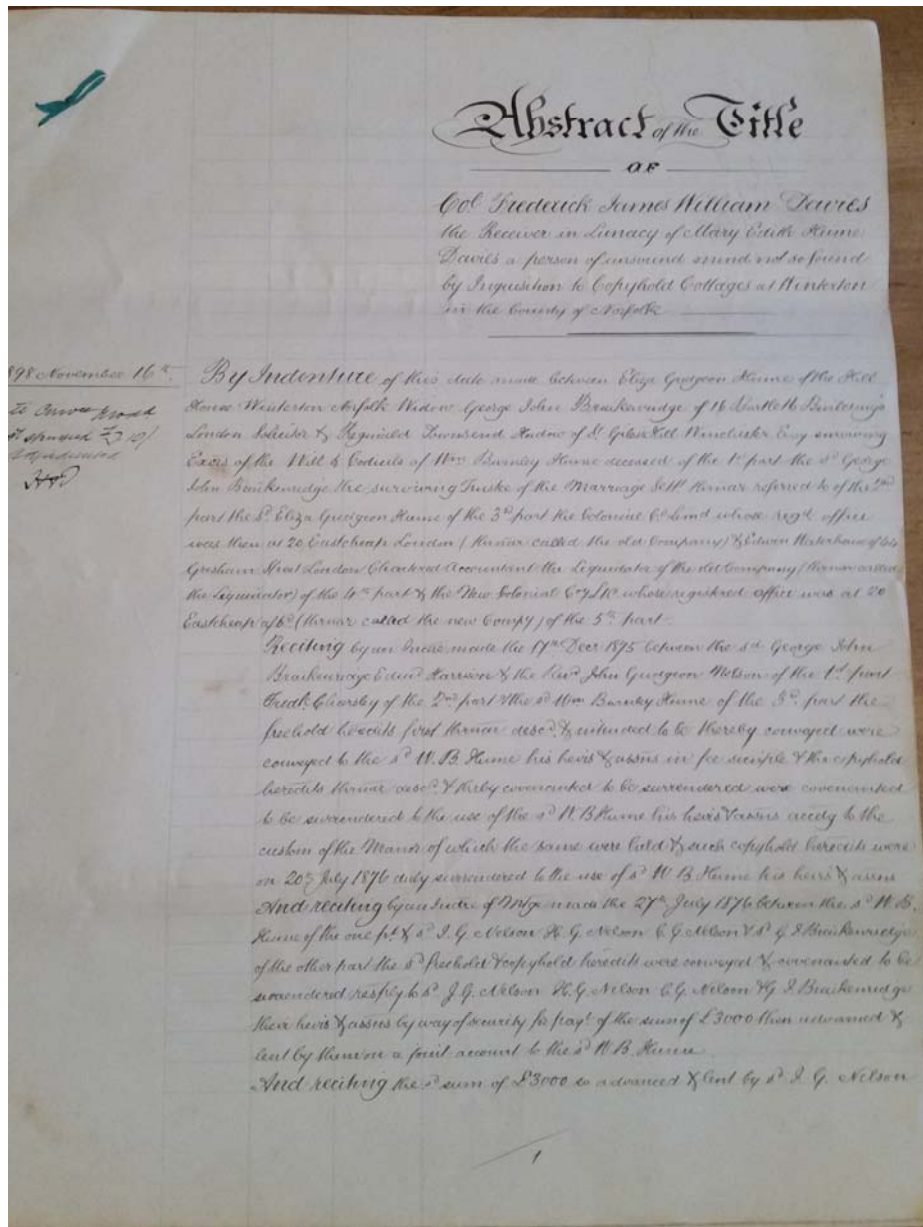


By Gill Blanchard
2020

Introduction

Ships Timbers is one-bedroomed thatched cottage on King Street in Winterton-on-Sea, Norfolk. It stands in a row of what was originally three cottages. The other two were converted into one property in the twentieth century. The cottage is over 300 years old, with many original features.

Research was undertaken a wide range of historical records, including records of tithes payable, deeds, census returns; the 1939 Register; birth, marriage and death registrations; parish registers of baptisms, marriage and burials; newspapers, sales particulars; local histories; maps; wills, electoral register, poll books, taxation records and trade directories. The first reference to an owner of the house occurs in 1743. This is noted in an abstract of title to the deeds of the neighbouring properties.



17th June 1799. By Order of the Masters in Lunacy of the said Court in the
 Matter of Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies a person of Unsound Mind
 as found by Inquisition. In the Matter of the Lunacy Laws
 1790 to 1800. Upon the Application of Andrew James Williams Deceased
 of Newmarket, Essex, Transferee of the said Estate in the County of Essex
 Defendant against (Petitioner) the Executors of the above named Mary Elizabeth Anne
 Davies and upon hearing the Petition for the Applicant and upon receiving
 the evidence before mentioned.

It is Ordered as follows:-

1. Upon the Certificate of the Masters in Lunacy that he has completed his Account
 of the said Andrew James Williams Deceased as aforesaid in the same Court on behalf
 of the said Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies & receive and give a discharge for the same
 (as)
- (a) The rents and profits including all arrears thereof of the house and cottages
 at Winstons in the County of Norfolk belonging to the said Mary Elizabeth Anne
 Davies with power to mortgage and let the same for any period not
 exceeding three years and to pay all proper outgoings in respect thereof
- (c) all arrears of rents and profits and all other moneys due or to be due
 which the said Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies is or may become entitled to.

of the said Andrew James Williams Deceased as aforesaid in the same Court on behalf
 of the said Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies & receive and give a discharge for the same
 (as)

It is Ordered as follows:-

1. Upon the Certificate of the Masters in Lunacy that he has completed his Account
 of the said Andrew James Williams Deceased as aforesaid in the same Court on behalf
 of the said Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies & receive and give a discharge for the same
 (as)
- (a) The rents and profits including all arrears thereof of the house and cottages
 at Winstons in the County of Norfolk belonging to the said Mary Elizabeth Anne
 Davies with power to mortgage and let the same for any period not
 exceeding three years and to pay all proper outgoings in respect thereof
- (c) all arrears of rents and profits and all other moneys due or to be due
 which the said Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies is or may become entitled to.

By Shewards Copy Remission of this date
 Recd by and^o sworn man of 26 Sept. 1798
 Was stated that out of Court on this date came the ^o M. E. Davies Deceased
 to be married Servant to the ^o M. E. Davies the said
 did grant & receive wages thereof at the rate of 8/-

16 October 1799
 By Order of this date made in the matter of Mary Elizabeth Anne Davies
 a person of unsound mind, and as found by Inquisition of the said matter of the
 Lunacy Acts 1790 to 1800 upon the Application of Andrew James Williams Deceased
 in Lunacy

It is ordered as follows: (inter alia)

1. The Receiver is authorized subject to the approval of the Masters in Lunacy
 in the same to on behalf of the above named M. E. Davies to sell by public auction
 or private contract the three cottages of copyhold tenure situate at Winstons in the
 County of Norfolk belonging to her & to receive & give a discharge for the proceeds
 thereof & execute & do all such instruments and things in the ^o Masters
 shall with the approval for the purpose of carrying such sale into effect

Abstract of Title to the three cottages on King Street, including Ships Timbers

It has been suggested that the three cottages were built using reused timbers from shipwrecks washed up on the shore, hence the current name. There are no original beams to be seen within Ships Timbers to confirm this theory. There are however original curved beams in the adjacent cottage. These have rectangular slots which it is suggested supported ships masts. Many of these beams are carved with initials, which is claimed could have been made by sailors.



Beams inside the adjoining cottage

Without a full architectural assessment of both cottages it is not possible to establish if this theory is correct. However, despite the prevalence of such stories, the majority prove not to be the case. This is mainly because reclaimed wood from shipwrecks would be of too poor a quality to use in building a house. Moreover, such wood is easily identifiable as it remains impregnated with salt even after several hundred years. Nevertheless, as Winterton is a fishing village, with a long and well documented history of shipwrecks along its coastline, this may be the rare exception that proves to be true.

The history of the ownership and occupancy of Ships Timbers on King Street, Winterton-on-Sea can be traced back to the early 1700s. The earliest description of the building is that it was a '*tenement of three cottages*'. This indicates at least part, if not all the cottages were built together. However, the placing of the original fireplace and chimney breast inside Ships Timbers indicates that the building may have been extended at some point, with what is now Ships Timbers either added, or created as a subdivision when the building was remodelled.



The three adjoining cottages (now two)



The back of Ships Timbers and thatched roof

Ships Timber and the two adjacent cottages were originally sold with the *Three Mariners* Public House. This stood next to the junction of what is now King Street and had a large plot of land on which many of the houses on King Street were later built. According the neighbour's house deeds these properties and most of its land were copyhold of the Manor of Winterton Mautbyes Begvilles and Bramptons.



Early 20th century map of Winterton showing the area around King Street and the *Three Mariners* Inn

(Tithe Redemption Commission Map: Winterton, Norfolk. Tithe District No.669. 1936 - 1977. TNA: IR 90/23/643)

Copyhold was a type of land tenure that existed from the Anglo-Saxon period until 1922 when it was abolished. Because the lords of the manor had rights over it every transfer of ownership had to be recorded in the manor court books. The closest modern equivalent is leasehold. Although manors varied in size, on average they consisted of a village, surrounding farmland and woods. The lord lived in the manor house, usually near to the church. If they owned several manors, they may not have occupied it on any permanent basis, with a steward standing in for them for court business. Traditionally, tenants and occupiers of property and land within a manor received protection from their lord or lady in

return for certain duties such as working on their land for a specified number of days each year.

Copyhold lands were smaller landholdings within each manor. As all land within a manor was technically owned by the lord the people who lived on or farmed it were 'tenants' who held it by custom. These copyhold tenancies could still be transferred in the same way as freehold land. However, each transaction had to be recorded in a court roll or minute book, with copies given to each party, hence the name copyhold. The Manor Court minutes can therefore be used to trace a copyhold property or piece of land back as far as the books survive (in some cases back to the medieval period and the Norman Conquest).

There were originally three separate manors with lands in Winterton called Winterton Mautbyes, Winterton Mautbyes and Winterton Bramptons. Sadly, the Manorial Documents Register held at The National Archives, which records the location of all manorial records throughout the UK, states that there are no known records surviving for these manors. This means that the history of Ships Timbers is only partial. As it had no house number or name until well into the twentieth century, and even King Street is not named on many documents, this made identifying it very difficult. Nevertheless, the deeds for the neighbouring cottages, wills, maps, sales particulars, electoral registers, and other sources have provided glimpses.

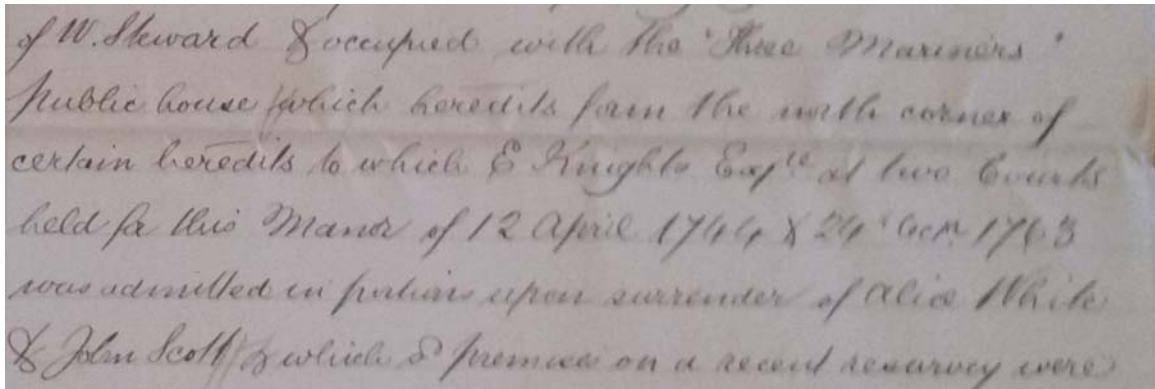
The earliest known owners were Alice White and John Scott. They sold their portions of these cottages to Engle Knights esquire in 1744 and 1763 respectively. The properties were subsequently bought by Joseph Hume, MP. They were later inherited by his son, grandson and great-granddaughter. In 1910, the three cottages were sold to a Henry Smith. He sold the two adjoining cottages to Alfred Arthur George in 1926, thereby ending the joint ownership of these three properties that had existed for at least two hundred years.



Ships Timbers 1744 to 1825

1744 to 1766

The earliest identified owners of the three cottages on King Street, which included Ships Timbers, were Alice White and John Scott. An abstract of title to the deeds of these properties compiled in 1898 records them as selling their portions, along with the *Three Mariners* public house, to E. Knights, Esquire in two separate sales on 12 April 1744 and 24 October 1763 respectively.



Close-up of the reference to the sale of these cottages by Alice White and John Scott in 1744 and 1763 to E. Knights, Esquire in the Abstract of Title Deeds

As the manorial records do not survive it is not known how or when Alice White and John Scott took possession. What is clear nevertheless, is that these three cottages formed part of one lot on a large plot of land which stretched from the *Three Mariners* public house along what is now King Street. As every subsequent transfer of ownership up until 1910 recorded included the *Three Mariners*, it is highly likely the cottages and Inn shared a mutual history of ownership even further back in time.

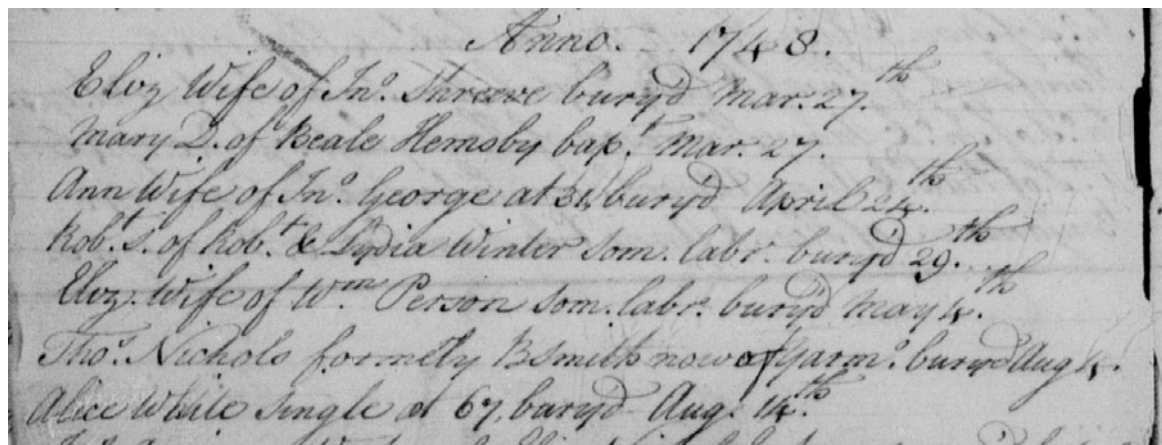
Alice White

As Alice White's name occurs first, it can be presumed that she was the first to sell her portion of the three cottages on 12 April 1744. The absence of any mention of her marital status on the abstract of title indicates that she was almost certainly single. This is because a married woman's property automatically became their husbands until the 1870s. Even then, the first Married Women's Property Acts in this decade, only gave them very limited rights over earnings and inheritances. Therefore, the only women who could own property were widows or single.

There were various means used to get around the law. The most common was to draw up a marriage contract, which allowed a wife to retain some rights to a property or put money and property into trust for her use during her lifetime, then

to her children. Such clauses allowing women the 'sole use' of a property or money were also written into wills by their relatives. This was in effect putting the properties into trust for her. The details can vary enormously from limited use during her lifetime to complete control, but the intention was to ensure that a woman had access to her inheritance or dowry without interference from her husband. However, it could still only belong to him in the eyes of the law. Therefore, women recorded as the owners of such properties were virtually always single or widowed, and those drawing up legal documents recorded whether a woman was widowed.

A search of the Winterton-on-Sea parish registers reveal only one woman living in the parish who fits with the Alice White who sold her portion of these three cottages in 1744. This was a single woman buried in Winterton at the age of 67 on 14 August 1748, and therefore born in around 1681.



Burial of Alice White, single, age 67, on 14 August 1748
(Winterton with East Somerton Parish Register. NRO: PD 463/1)

John Scott

A man named John Scott was the second person named on the abstract of title deeds as selling part of this property to Engle Knights, with the second date given as 24 October 1763. Only one possible match for John Scott has been located in the Winterton parish registers, who could have been an adult owning property in 1763. This was the baptism of a John Scott to another John and his wife Elizabeth on 12 April 1724.

Coincidentally, John Scott's baptism occurs on the same page of the parish register of that of Engle Knights, who took ownership of this property from these two people. There is no trace of John Scott in Winterton after the sale of his portion of these three cottages.

Eliz. D. of W. & Eliz. Holt labor born 28, bap. 14 June 1723.
 Eliz. D. of Tho. & Grace Clark born 1, & bap. 9, June 1723.
 Anne D. of Th. & Eliz. Hille was bap. 4 of Aug. 1723.
 Jn. son of Jn. & Mary Lye born 16, bap. 18, Aug. 1723.
 & Jn. & Martha Lye bap. 16, Aug.
 Engle son of W. Engle Knights by Clementra his wife was
 born 4, 18, & bap. 22, Sep. 1723.
 Mary daug. of Tho. & Eliz. Durrant born 10, & bap. 13, Oct. 1723.
 Jn. son of Jn. & Mary Wend was born & bap. 13, Oct. 1723.
 Tho. son of Tho. & Anne George labor. bap. 20, Oct. 1723.
 W. son of W. & Eliz. Moll labor. born 28 Nov. bap. Dec. 1, 1723.
 Jn. S. of Rob. & Eliz. Worts labor. 20. Nov. bap. 1. Dec. 1723.
 Sarah D. of James & Eliz. Wright Miller. born 11, bap. 19, Jan. 1723.
 Anne Domes 1724.
 Jn. S. of Jn. & Eliz. Scott second was bap. 12, Apr. 1724.
 Mary D. of Tho. & Eliz. Cobb second. bap. 4, 26, Apr. 1724.
 Jenn. D. of Charles & Jenny Carter born 12, bap. 17, May 1724.
 W. S. of W. & Mary Bulloch born 22, bap. 24, May 1724. A. 16.
 S. S. brother etc. 4, 8, May 1726 in his sister Martha.
 Mary D. of Rob. & Mary Surace born 13, bap. 15, June 1724.
 Sam. S. of Sam. & Frances Armisson labor. born 8, bap. 14, July 1724.
 Jn. S. of Anne Cobb widow brother. Dead bot 4, bap. 6, Sep. 1724.
 Tho. S. of Tho. & Eliz. Durrant miller born 19, bap. 22, Nov. 1724.
 Jn. S. of Jn. & Anna Luch born 6 bap. 10, Jan. 1724.
 a child of Jn. Liffens was Nand at home by M^r Savage and
 Sprancers taken at home by M^r Mackay aft 1001 in D. w. aft Jn.
 think of 22, Jan. I think) so, make out bet by my papers

Baptisms of Engle Knights, 22 September 1723 and John Scott, 12 April 1724
 (Winterton with East Somerton Parish Registers. NRO: PD 463/1)

Engle Knights

The next known owner of all three cottages was Engle Knights, esquire. He was a wealthy landowner, who was born in Winterton to Edward and Clementina Knights on 18 September 1723. His baptism took place at the parish church a few days later on 22 September.

Engle Knights owned many properties and lands in Winterton, East Somerton and elsewhere. In 1744 and 1763 he bought the three adjoining cottages with around 20 perches of land on King Street in two separate sales:

Which hereditaments to which E. Knights Esqr at two Courts held for this Manor of 12 April 1744 & 24 Octr. 1763 was admitted in portions upon surrender of Alice White & John Scott & which s^d. premises on a recent resurvey were found to contain 20 perches be the same more or less...

Engle Knights also owned the *Three Mariners*, a brewhouse, and other properties and lands close to Ships Timbers. He married Elizabeth Smith of Hoveton St Peter at Winterton parish church on 9 June 1754. They do not appear to have had any children, or none that survived to adulthood, as none were mentioned in his will, but other relatives were.

In 1798, the owners and occupiers of rateable lands were recorded after an Act of Parliament allowed them to commute their annual land tax payments into one lump sum if they chose to. The resulting land tax redemption records show that Engle Knights was the major landowner in the village, with several tenants named. These taxation records do not identify the properties, but the main tenants were Thomas Crow, Thomas Jealous, Edward Tooke and James Annison.

Engle Knights Esq	W ^m Manship	36	-	-	16 March 1799
S ^r Kings	S ^r	1	10	-	} 16- S ^r
S ^r Middleton	S ^r	1	-	-	
S ^r	Tho ^s Crow	22	-	-	16- S ^r
S ^r	Tho ^s Jealous	3	10	-	16- S ^r
S ^r	Edw ^d Tooke	1	10	-	16- S ^r
S ^r	Ja ^m s Annison	1	10	-	16- S ^r

Close-up of entries for Engle Knights in the Land Tax Redemption Records, 1798

COUNTY of *Norfolk* PARISH of *Winterton* 28

An Affidavit made in Pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the 38th Year of His Majesty's
 Reign for granting an Aid to His Majesty by a Land Tax to be paid in Great Britain, for the
 Service of the Year 1793. 356

No. of Register.	Names of Proprietors.	Names of Occupiers.	Sums Affid.	Date of Contract.
	<i>Tho' Grove Esq</i>	<i>W. Rising</i>	8	
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	70	
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	66	
	<i>Mr. Brooks</i>	<i>do</i>	14	
	<i>W. Rising</i>	<i>do</i>	20	
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	1	
	<i>Engle Knight Esq</i>	<i>W. Mansel</i>	36	16 March 1799
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	1 10	16 30
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	1	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	22	16 30
	<i>do</i>	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	3 10	16 30
	<i>do</i>	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	1 10	16 30
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	1 10	16 30
	<i>Mr. Rising</i>	<i>Sam. Nichols</i>	6	
	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	<i>himself</i>	3	
	<i>W. Pittard</i>	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	1 10	
	<i>Wm. Johnson</i>	<i>himself</i>	1	
	<i>do</i>	<i>himself</i>	1	
	<i>W. Hales</i>	<i>himself</i>	1	
	<i>Out of the</i>			
	<i>Engle Knight Esq</i>	<i>himself</i>	10 10	16 Decr 1799
	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	11	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Tho' Grove</i>	18	
	<i>Mr. Hens</i>	<i>do</i>	5 10	
	<i>Robt. Green</i>	<i>himself</i>	5	

No. of Register.	Names of Proprietors.	Names of Occupiers.	Sums Affid.	Date of Contract.
	<i>Mr. Fabb</i>	<i>himself</i>	1	
	<i>Mr. Dyball</i>	<i>himself</i>	1	
	<i>Mr. Womack</i>	<i>Mary Green</i>	1	
	<i>Let. W. Courney Esq</i>	<i>Gen. Wilson</i>	10	
			<u>£ 313 0 0.</u>	

Winterton Land Tax Redemption Records, 1798
 (TNA: IR 23/60)

Engle Knights died in East Somerton in 1801, at the age of 78, and was buried at Winterton on 24 February.

The perils of life at sea can be seen in a note on the same page of the burial register which describes how the six shipwrecked crew of the 74-guns *Invincible*, captained by Admiral Totty, 'foundered on the sands near this coast, on the 16th instant, were buried in the churchyard at Winterton the 20th day of March'. Further down the page is another note of how another body believed to be a lieutenant from the same ship had washed ashore and was also buried in the churchyard. The clerk carefully noted how this man's neckerchief had the initials 'S.W' sewn onto it, as this might help with identifying the unfortunate sailor in the future..

Engle Knights, of East Somerton, died February the 15th
and was buried February 24th 1801. Aged 78. ^{of East Somerton}
Dumfrey Dibol, ^{of East Somerton} married man, was buried March
the 18th 1801. Aged 78 ^{years}.

Six shipwrecked seamen, part of the crew of his Majesty's ship
the *Invincible* of 74 guns, Admiral Totty, which most were
= fortunately foundered on the sands near this coast, on the
16th Inst were buried in the Churchyard at Winterton the
20th day of March, 1801. Their names unknown.

The body of a Lieutenant supposed to have belonged
to the *Invincible* above mentioned was washed on shore
at Winterton on Sunday the _____ and interred in
the Church yard there on _____
The initials S. W. were on a Neckerchief found
upon him —

John, Son of Sarah and _____ Shales was buried October
the 10. 1801. Aged. _____ years —

Carabeta Daughter of Michael and _____ Mary Keady was buried
11th October 1801 aged _____ years —

William, Son of Charles & Semina Hoell (late Jurg.)
was buried Novem. 12. 1801 — an Infant —

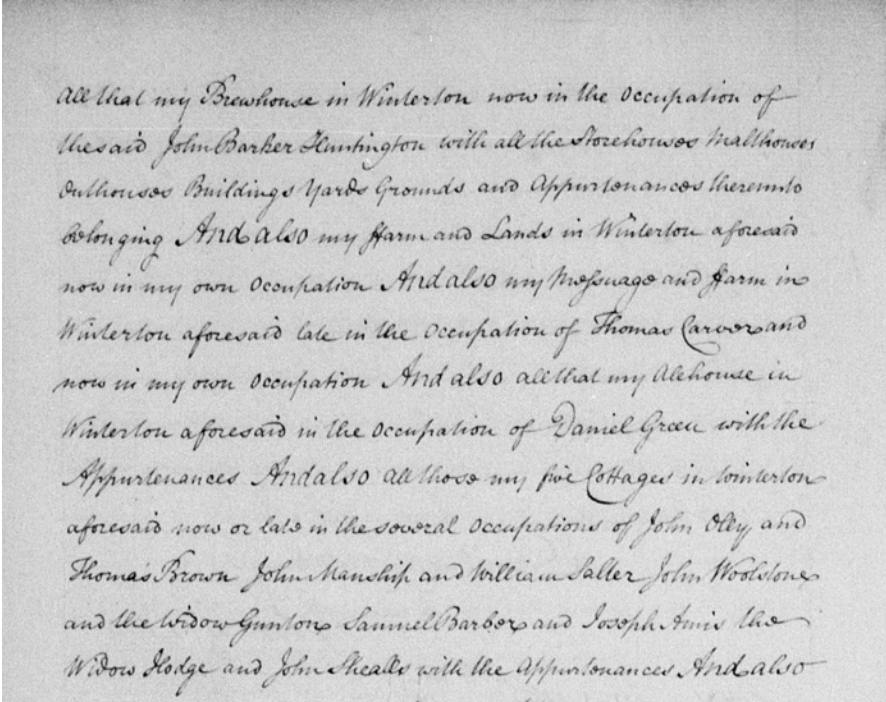
Elizabeth Daughter of William & Martha Brown (late Hoell)
was buried 12 November 1801 — died an Infant —

Burial of Engle Knights in Winterton on 24 February 1801

Engle Knights left a lengthy will, which he had written in 1799.. In it he left numerous properties and lands in East Somerton and Winterton as well as elsewhere in trust, with the rents and other income to be used for a number of annuities to be paid to his wife, his sisters, her children and other relatives and friends. His properties included a brewhouse in Winterton in the occupation of John Barker Huntington, *'with its storehouses, malthouses, outhouses, buildings, yards, grounds and appurtenances thereunto belonging'*. There were also two farms and an *'Alehouse in Winterton aforesaid in the occupation of Daniel Green with the appurtenances'*. This alehouse was undoubtedly the *Three Mariners* public house as this was always listed together with *'that cottage in three tenements'* recorded in the property deeds, of which *Ships Timbers* was one. Engle Knights immediately followed his reference to the public house with:

And all those my five Cottages in Winterton aforesaid now or late in the several occupations of John Olly and Thomas Brown John Manship and William Salter John Woolstone and the Widow Gunton Samuel Barber and Joseph Amis the Widow Hodge and John Sheals with the Appurtenances.

These properties evidently included the three on King Street where *Ships Timbers* stands today. Whether it was one of the five mentioned in his will cannot be ascertained with certainty as the manorial records which would have described its sale no longer survive. Nevertheless, the later title deeds make it clear that *Ships Timbers* and the two adjoining cottages were subsequently sold along with the *Three Mariners* to Joseph Hume.



All that my Brewhouse in Winterton now in the Occupation of the said John Barker Huntington with all the Storehouses Malthouses Outhouses Buildings Yards Grounds and Appurtenances therunto belonging And also my farm and Lands in Winterton aforesaid now in my own Occupation And also my messuage and farm in Winterton aforesaid late in the Occupation of Thomas Carver and now in my own Occupation And also all that my Alehouse in Winterton aforesaid in the Occupation of Daniel Green with the Appurtenances And also all those my five Cottages in Winterton aforesaid now or late in the several Occupations of John Olly and Thomas Brown John Manship and William Salter John Woolstone and the Widow Gunton Samuel Barber and Joseph Amis the Widows Hodge and John Sheals with the Appurtenances And also

The references in the second page of the will of Engle Knights
(NRO: NCC Will 1801, Francklin 27)

Ships Timbers circa 1825 to 1855



Map of estates belonging to J. Hume, MP, in East Somerton, West Somerton, Martham and Winterton, 1818-1855
(NRO: MS 21291)

Joseph Hume (1777-1855)

The next known owner of Ships Timbers was Joseph Hume. He was born in Montrose in Scotland on 22 January 1777 and was the younger son of a master of a trading vessel. His mother was widowed when he was still quite young, and she went to great efforts to ensure that he and his siblings received a good education. He became a doctor after serving an apprenticeship to a provincial physician in 1790. After three years he was sent to study medicine at the University of Edinburgh. After graduating and becoming a member of the College of Surgeons he became a surgeon in the service of the East India Company both at sea and on land.

Joseph spent many years living and working in the East Indies and learnt Hindi and Persian. Having also taken on the roles of paymaster of the forces, the prize agency office and commissariat, he left the service a wealthy man and landed in England in 1808. Joseph chose to spend several years travelling and studying in England and abroad. In 1811, he embarked on a political career, and joined parliament as an MP for Weymouth in 1812. Although he did not hold this seat for long, he re-entered parliament again as a Liberal in 1818, but joined the opposition the following year. He re-entered in 1820 and represented various seats in the Aberdeen burghs, Middlesex, Kilkenny and Montrose until his death, apart from the year of 1841, when he unsuccessfully stood for Leeds.

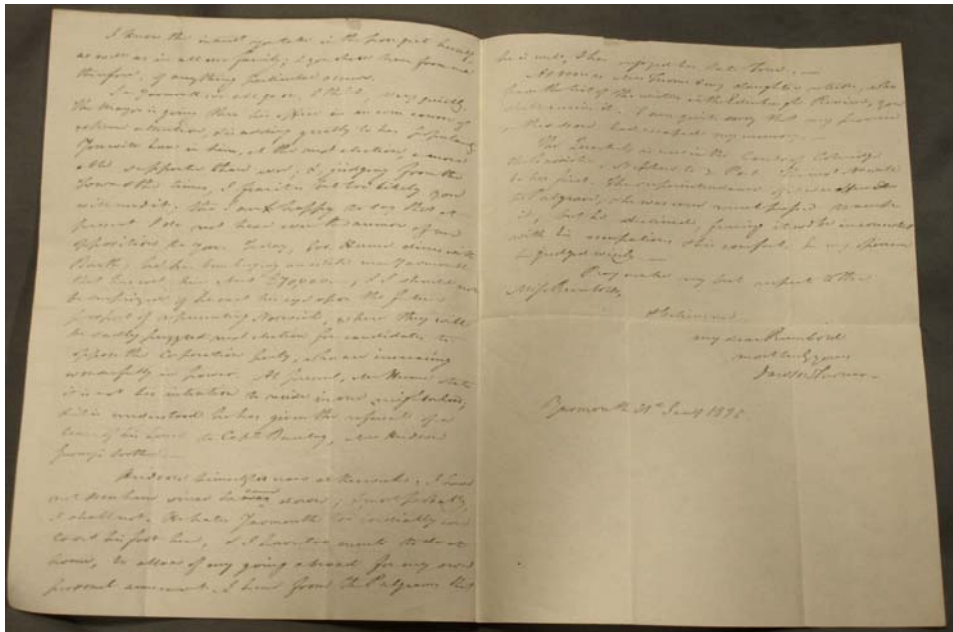
For thirty years he was a leader of the radical party. He was celebrated for his knowledge, patience and boundless energy. Among his many causes was the campaign to end flogging in the navy and imprisoning people for debt.

Joseph Hume appears to have bought the Winterton properties and lands in 1825. Although Winterton was not named, a letter from Dawson Turner to Charles Rumbold, the MP for Great Yarmouth dated 21 January 1825 refers to his buying an estate near Great Yarmouth.

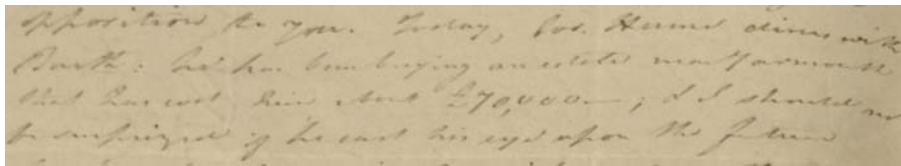
My dear Rumbold

In Yarmouth...

Today Jos. Hume dined with Barth: He has been buying an estate near Yarmouth that has cost him about £70,000. & I should not be surprised if he cast his eye upon the future prospect of representing Norwich, where they will be sadly puzzled next election for candidates to appon [sic] the Corporation party, who are increasing wonderfully in power. At present, Mr Hume states it is not his intention to reside in our neighbourhood; & it is understood he had given the refusal of a lease of his house to Capt. Burnley, Mrs Hudson Gurney's brother... ..



Letter, Dawson Turner, Yarmouth, to Rumbold, 21 Jan 1825
(Letters and papers of Charles Rumbold. NRO: Y/L 14/20)



Close-up of the section in Dawson Turner's letter to Charles Rumbold referring to Joseph Hume buying an estate near Great Yarmouth for £70,000

Joseph Hume's home in East Somerton was named Burnley Hall (sometimes referred to as Burnley House). He also had a town house at Bryanston Square London. The hall may have been named after his wife Maria's family as she was the daughter of a Mr. Burnley of Guilford Street, London. Her father was a wealthy East India proprietor, and the letter written by Dawson Turner to Charles Rumbold above mentioned Joseph offering the lease on his new estate to Captain Burnley.

An estate map of his holdings in East and West Somerton, Martham and Winterton was drawn up for him, which has a covering date of 1818-1828. There is also an estate map of an estate map of these parishes dated July 1828. This does not give the owner's name but does show the same area.

Although some lands in Winterton are shown on these estate maps, the area around King Street in Winterton is not shown in any detail. This may simply be because it related to one particular estate he had bought rather than everything he owned. Alternatively, he may have bought Ships Timbers at a later date.

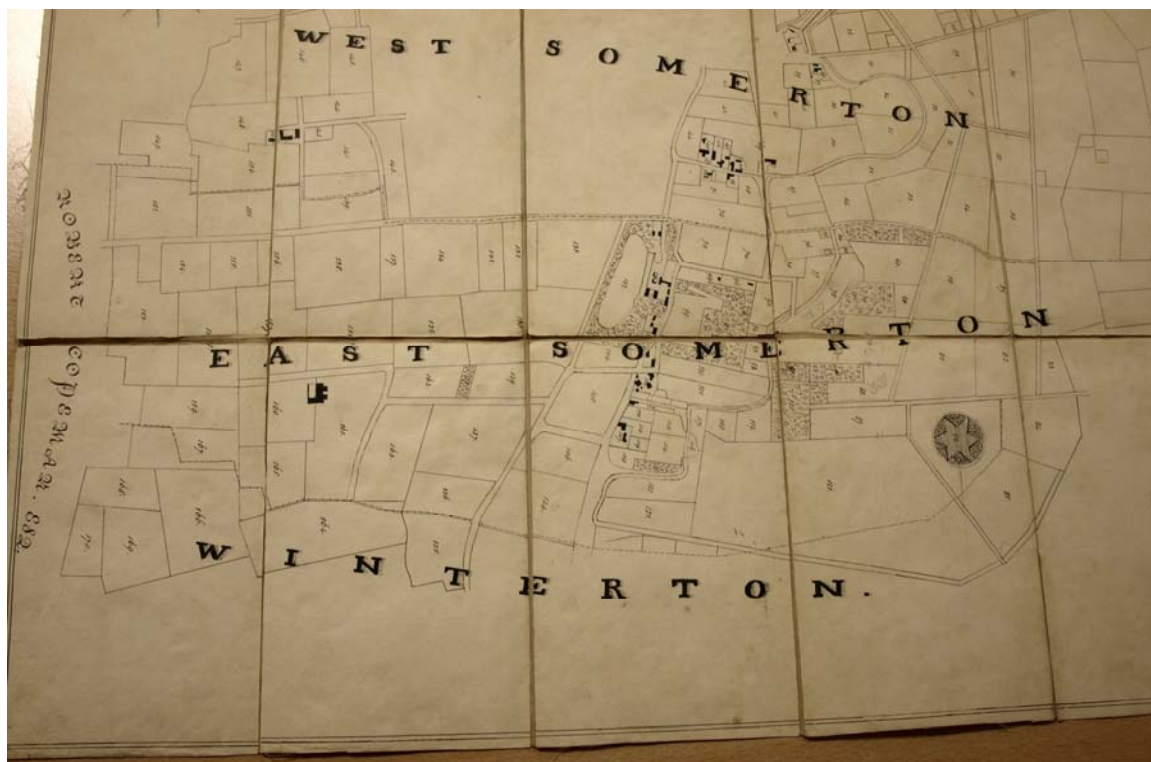
Nevertheless, electoral registers and poll books for the 1820s to 1850s reveal that Joseph Hume owned lands and property in Winterton from the 1820s onwards, although very little of it is identifiable from these records.



Map of estate in East Somerton, West Somerton, Winterton and Martham, 1828



Part of the map showing lands in Winterton in 1828



The Winterton area on the Hume Estate Map
(Map of estates belonging to J. Hume, MP, in East Somerton, West Somerton,
Martham and Winterton, 1818-1855. NRO: MS 21291)

Joseph was still listed as the owner when the tithe records for Winterton were compiled in 1844. Tithe maps were drawn up after the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836 allowed people subject to paying tithes to commute payments to a one off payment (not everyone did and the system of paying tithes to support the Church of England still existed until the twentieth century). Each plot of land subject to paying tithes were drawn up on the map and given a plot number.

These plots were recorded in an accompanying apportionment which listed the owners and occupiers, described the size and type of plot. The Winterton map is dated 25 April 1845 and the apportionment is dated 20 September 1844.

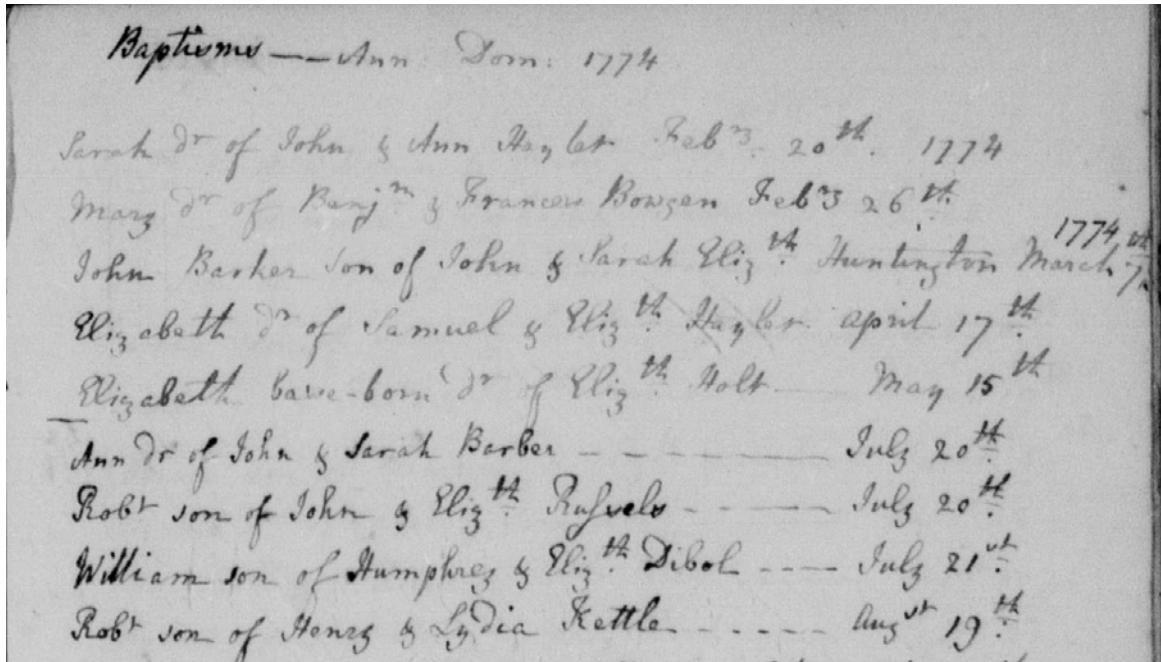
Ships Timbers and the two adjoining cottages are shown as on plot number 60. The occupier was Robert Kettle and one other unnamed person. The site was described as cottages and gardens and the size of the plot was 20 perches. This was an ancient unit of measurement along with rods (also called rods) used for surveying land. One rod equals one quarter of an acre and 40 perches equals one rod.



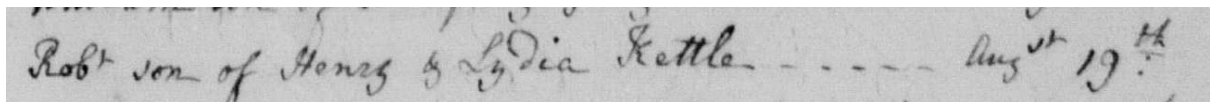
Robert Henry Junior	116	Cellars and Garden	Pasture	2	8	10	2	2	A
and others					1	11			
Thomas Joseph Esquire	11	Warens	Pasture			81			
	116	Malshouses and Yards		7	14			2	A
	111	Warens	Pasture	2	30				
	120	Warens	Pasture	6	1	32	4	2	A A
	118	Warens	Pasture	2	2	12	1	7	A A
	144	Warens	Pasture	1	2			7	A
	189	Marsh Wall	Wood			17			
Louis Robert	35	Ortase				2			
Robert Robert	60	Cellars and Garden				21			
and another									
Thos Abel	104	The Craft	Arable	1	10		8	10	A
Nelson Reverend John	118	Shrubbery				26			
Kelton William	170	Long Shot Marsh	Pasture	5	1	10	6	3	A
	171	The Quarry Water R.				1			
	172	House piece	Pasture	9	2	24	1	5	A
	173	House meadow	Pasture	1	2	2		2	A
	174	House and Yard				18			
Thomble Thomas	235	House Garden and Yard							

Robert Kettle (1774-1851)

Robert Kettle was the best known occupant of Ships Timbers. He became a tenant when Joseph Hume was the owner. Robert was the son of Henry and Lydia Kettle, and was baptised at Winterton-on-Sea parish church on 19 August 1774.



Baptism of Robert Kettle, 19 August 1774
(Winterton with East Somerton Parish Register. NRO: PD 463/1)



Close-up of Robert Kettle's baptism, 1774

Robert became a merchant seaman at the age of 14 but was press ganged to serve in the navy in 1796. He was sent aboard the 64-gun man-of-war, HMS *Monmouth*, and remained in the service for seventeen years. On 11 October 1797 he served under Admiral Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Camperdown, at which his ship played a vital role in forcing the surrender of two ships from the other side.

According to a local history, Robert saw service all over the world. He was transferred to the *Stawley* in 1805, then three years later to the *Illustrious*. His final ship was the *Bucephalus*, which he joined in 1813 shortly before his discharge the same year.

Baptisms — Ann. Tom: 1774

Sarah Dr of John & Ann May, let Feb³ 20th. 1774
 Mary Dr of Benj^m & Francis Bowzen Feb³ 26th
 John Barker son of John & Sarah Elizth Huntington March 7th 1774
 Elizabeth Dr of Samuel & Elizth Haylor April 17th
 Elizabeth bare-born Dr of Elizth Holt May 15th
 Ann Dr of John & Sarah Barber July 20th
 Robt son of John & Elizth Rufvelo July 20th
 William son of Humphrey & Elizth Dibol July 21st
 Robt son of Henry & Lydia Kettle Augst 19th
 Joseph Amer son of Stephen & Margaret Sutton Oct^r 17th
 Robt son of Robt & Elizth Dean Nov^r 15th
 Wm son of Wm & Ann George Dec^r 5th
 Tho^s son of Jeremiah & Susanna Amer Dec^r 12th
 Chris^{Daughter} ~~son~~ of Robt & Ursula Brown Dec^r 25th

Burials

Henry Holt
 Henry Kettle

After returning to Winterton, Robert Kettle worked as a fisherman from the beach. Robert married Sarah Townshend of the parish of East Somerton at their local church on 6 April 1815. They were both single, and as neither could write their name, they both made their mark on the marriage register.

The marriage took place by licence with the 'consent of friends'. This means that one or both of the bride or groom was a minor – under 21, so a family member or other adult connected to the minor had to give permission. This was obviously not Robert as he was 40 years old by this time. Later census returns show that Sarah was born in Woodbastwick in Norfolk around 1784/85.

Page 5.

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of Winterton
in the County of Norfolk in the Year 1815

between Robert Kettle of the Parish
of Winterton in the county of Norfolk single man
and Sarah Townshend of the Parish
of East Somerton in the county of Norfolk
were married in this Church by Licence with Consent of
friends this sixth Day of
April in the Year One thousand eight hundred and fifteen
By me Thomas White Holmes Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us { Robert Kettle his mark
Sarah Townshend her mark †

In the Prefence of { Rosette Churchard
Mary Webster her mark †
William Mason his mark †

No. 13.

Marriage of Robert Kettle and Sarah Townshend at Winterton, 6 April 1815
(NRO: PD 463/5)

Robert and Sarah had five children baptised at Winterton parish church between 1815 and 1825. These were Sarah in 1815, Jane in 1817, Henry William Kettle in 1819, Robert Townsend Uriah Kettle in 1822 and Walter Townsend Kettle in 1825. Robert's occupation was variously given as 'seafaring', 'mariner' and 'fisherman' on these entries.

When the census was taken on the night of 6 June 1841 Robert, his wife Sarah and a five year old child named Alfred were living 'Near the Light House Hill'. Relationships were not given on this census return, but the Winterton baptism

registers reveal that Alfred was their grandson. He was born illegitimately to their daughter Jane and baptised as Alfred Townsend Kettle in 1835.

Robert was still working as a fisherman when this census was taken, although he was by now in his late sixties. Ages for adults over 15 on the 1841 census were usually rounded down (and sometimes up) by the census enumerator when they copied the original forms into a register. As a result, Robert's was given as 65 and Sarah's as 55. No house number or street name was given for most of the entries on this census, including those on this page. However, based on local maps and their listing three years later on the tithe maps this was undoubtedly Ships Timbers cottage.

2

17

City or Borough of _____
 Parish or Township of Widerton Enumeration Schedule.

PLACE	HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
	Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited		Males	Females		Whether Born in same County	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
Widerton near the Light House Hill		1	William do	30		Shunter Light keeper		4
			James Simpson	15		Farmid		4
			Elizabeth do	20				4
			John do	7				4
			William John	50		Coast Guard		4
			Sarah do	45				4
			Mary do	15				4
			Richard do	9				4
			Robert Powell	55		Shunter		4
			Susan do	50				4
			Edward do	20		Fisherman		4
			Susan do	10				4
			John do	10				4
			James do	5				4
			William do	5				4
			Harriet Kettle	65				4
			Sarah do	55				4
			William do	5				4
			Samuel Gibbs	20				4
			Elizabeth do	20				4
		George do	8 months				4	
		Mary Ann do	15				4	
		Mary do	10				4	
		Ann do	25		Shunter		4	
		Daniel do	2				4	
TOTAL in Page 2	7			15	10	15		

Robert and Sarah Kettle on the 1841 Census Return
 (TNA: HO 107/0766)

1.	Robert Kettle	65		4
	Sarah do	55		4
	John do	5		4

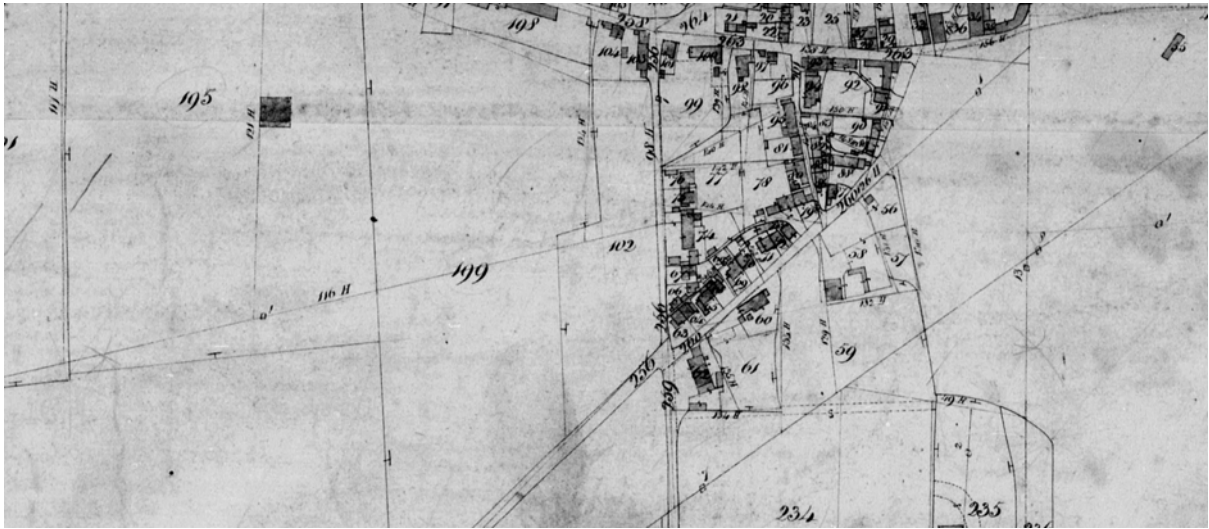
Close-up of the entry for Robert and Sarah Kettle on the 1841 Census

Robert Kettle was listed as the occupier of little one bedroomed cottage on King Street, but he when the tithe map and apportionment were created for Winterton in 1844. This cottage was part of plot 60, which was described as cottages and gardens, and 20 perches of land. The whole building was owned by Joseph Hume, Esquire. Next to Robert's name in brackets was the notation 'and another', meaning that someone else occupied the remaining cottages and part of the land, but their name was not given on the apportionment.

Kettle Robert	60	Cottages and Gardens	20
and another			



Close-up of Plot 60 on the Winterton Tithe Apportionment and Map, 1844



Plot 60 on the Winterton Tithe Map, 1844

Robert Henry Senior and others	116	Wares	Pasture	2	8	10	2	2	A
Home Joseph Esquire	4	Wares	Pasture	1	11				
	36	Malthouses and Yards				31	2	4	
	111	Wares	Pasture	1	14				
	120	Wares	Pasture	2	30				
	152	Wares	Pasture	6	1	32	4	2	A
	124	Wares	Pasture	2	2	12	1	7	A
	169 ^a	Marsh Wall	Pasture	1	2			7	A
Scuse Robert	35	Cottage	Wood			11			
Reble Robert and another	60	Cottage and Yards				2			
King Abel	101	The Craft				21			
Nelson Revmond John	247 ^a	Shrubbery	Arable	1	10		3	10	A
Reble William	170	Long Spots Marsh	Pasture			26			
	171	The Quarry Water R.	Pasture	5	1	10	6	3	A
	172	House piece	Pasture	3	1	10			
	173	House meadow	Pasture	9	2	24	1	5	A
	174	House and Yard	Pasture	1	2	2	2	8	A
Shonbille Thomas	235	House Garden and Yard				10			

Close-up of the entry for plot 60 on the Tithe Apportionment

C.—London: Printed and Published by the Authority, by Shaw & Sons, Fetter Lane.

LANDOWNERS	OCCUPIERS	Number referring to the Plan.	NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF LANDS AND PREMISES.	STATE OF CULTIVATION.	QUANTITIES		PAYABLE TO			REMARKS.	
					STATUTE MEASURE.	ROPE.	Shillings	Pence	Farthings		
<i>Edmund Joseph Burgess (deceased)</i>	<i>Charles Henry Lewis (deceased)</i>	167	Broom and Yard		64	2	1	26	19	0	
		175	part Garden	Pasture	12	3	2	1	0	A	
	174	Broom fence	Pasture	3	2	7	2	2	A		
	174	part of Garden	Pasture	2	2	10	2	2	A		
	176	Broom and Garden		1	1	11					
	<i>Thomas Joseph Rogers</i>	4	Woods	Pasture				2	4		
		36	Part of Woods and Yard	Pasture	7	1	10				
		111	Woods	Pasture	2	2	30				
		120	Woods	Pasture	6	1	32	1	0	A	
		121	Woods	Pasture	2	2	12	1	7	A	
		124	Woods	Pasture	1	2					
		129	Woods	Pasture	1	2					
	<i>John Robert Little Robert</i>	35	Woods					1	7	A	
		68	Woods					2			
		68	Woods and Garden					2			
		101	The Cliff	Gravel	1	1	10	5	10	A	
		112	Gravel					2	4		
		112	Gravel					2	4		
		112	Gravel					2	4		
		112	Gravel					2	4		
		112	Gravel					2	4		
		112	Gravel					2	4		
	<i>Thomas Rogers</i>	174	House and Yard	Pasture	1	3	2	2	0	A	
223		House Garden and paddock	Pasture	3	2	1	2	0	A		
37		Woods and Garden					2	0	A	1875 3/2158	
175		part of Garden	Pasture	2	2	6	3	10	A		
212		part of Garden	Gravel	7	2	26	4	0	A		
215		part of Garden	Gravel	12	3	29	7	9	A		
215		part of Garden	Gravel	3	1	13	2		A		
217		part of Garden	Gravel	15	3	23	2	11	A	1822/1/10/11	
217		part of Garden	Gravel	1	7		11	0	A		
222		part of Garden	Gravel	0	3		4	11	A		
223	part of Garden	Gravel	11	3		5	13	A			
223	part of Garden	Gravel	0	2		7	16	A			
318	part of Garden	Gravel	1	1		7	1	A			
<i>John</i>	<i>John</i>	78	Woods and Garden				6				
		74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			
		74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			
<i>John</i>	<i>John</i>	74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			
		74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			
<i>John</i>	<i>John</i>	74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			
		74	part of Woods and Garden				2	4			

Winterton Tithe Apportionment, 1844
(TNA: IR 29/23/6430)

Sadly, Robert and Sarah Kettle needed financial assistance as they grew older. In 1849 he applied to a charitable fund for seamen administered by Trinity House. This organisation was responsible for the supervision of lighthouses and buoys around the English coast, and also distributed charitable funds to the seafaring community. Robert was aged 75 at the time and the petition named his wife Sarah as his dependant.

The Kettles had moved by the time Robert died at the age of 75. Despite this, Ships Timbers was still being recorded on the abstract of title to the house deeds as 'lately in his tenancy as late as 1910. He was buried in Winterton churchyard on 10 January 1851.

It is not known if the Kettles had already moved out of Ships Timbers when Robert died, but when the census was taken on 30 March that year his widow Sarah was living on her own at 'The Clink'. She was aged 67 and described as a pauper. Ten years later she was residing at number 4 Leech's Lock. She was buried in Winterton on 1 May 1864, aged 79.

BURIALS in the Parish of *Winterton with East Sanditon*
in the County of *Norfolk* in the Year 1850

Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<i>Lydia George</i> No. 513.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>25</i> <i>November</i> <i>1850</i>	<i>57</i> <i>years</i>	<i>J. Nelson</i> <i>Off. Min.</i>
<i>Peter Jacob Brown</i> No. 514.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>Dec^r 18th</i> <i>1850</i>	<i>2$\frac{1}{4}$</i> <i>years</i>	<i>John Nelson</i> <i>Rector</i>
<i>Thomas George</i> No. 515.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>9th</i> <i>January</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>43</i> <i>years</i>	<i>J. Nelson</i> <i>Off. Minister</i>
<i>Robert Kettle</i> No. 516.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>10th</i> <i>January</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>77</i> <i>years</i>	<i>J. Nelson</i> <i>Off. Minister</i>
<i>Elizabeth Littlewood</i> No. 517.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>12th</i> <i>January</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>25</i> <i>years</i>	<i>John Nelson</i> <i>Rector</i>
<i>Henry William George</i> No. 518.	<i>Yarmouth</i>	<i>Jan^y 17th</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>3</i> <i>months</i>	<i>John Nelson</i> <i>Rector</i>
<i>Eleanor Green</i> No. 519.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>March</i> <i>10th</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>4</i> <i>months</i>	<i>John Nelson</i> <i>Rector</i>
<i>Benjamin Hudds</i> No. 520.	<i>Winterton</i>	<i>March</i> <i>23rd</i> <i>1851</i>	<i>1$\frac{1}{2}$</i> <i>year</i>	<i>John Nelson</i> <i>Rector</i>

[R]

Burial of Robert Kettle, 1851
Winterton Burial Register (NRO: PD 463/7)

Ships Timbers 1855 to 1910

William Burnley Hume (1820-1876)

William Burnley Hume was the second son of Joseph Hume. After his father's death he inherited the Norfolk estate in Winterton, East and West Somerton and Martham. This included Ships Timbers, its two neighbouring cottages, and their 20 perches of land, and Burnley Hall in East Somerton and as well as other properties and plots of land.

William Burnley Hume was born in 1820 in the parish of St. Marylebone, in what was then still the county of Middlesex, but later became part of Greater London. He went into trade as an East Indies merchant and married Eliza Gudgeon Nelson at Winterton on 1 November 1850. A marriage contract was drawn up shortly before the wedding which gave Eliza a lifetime interest in his estate, should William predecease her. This meant she was to receive an annuity for the rest of her life. They spent much of their married life abroad. He was appointed as a member of the legislative council of Trinidad in 1851, as well as for sugar plantations in Demerara, Trinidad and Barbados.

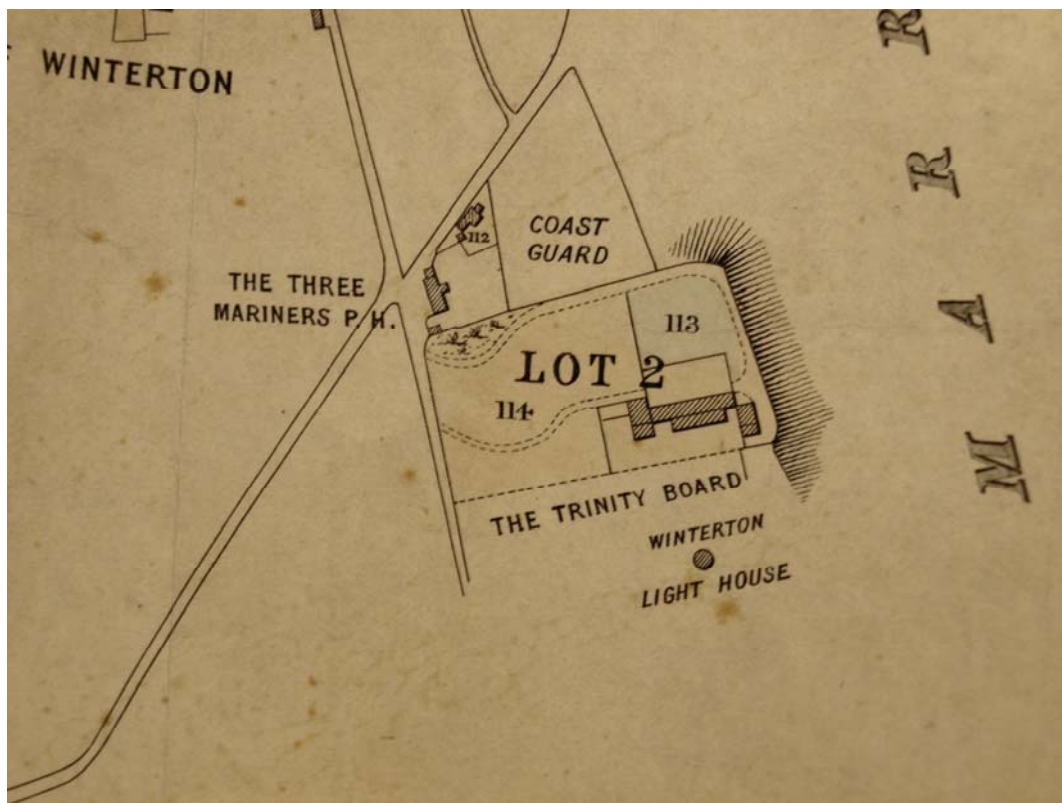
William was recorded on the electoral registers and poll books for Winterton, but his main residence was given as 18 Upper Harley Street, London. He qualified to vote in local elections in Winterton as still owned property in the village. Until the Secret Ballot Act of 1872 poll books were published for each parliamentary election listing who electors voted for. Although William Burnley Hume was listed, who he voted for was not. This was probably because he could not vote twice in the parliamentary elections, and his main address was in London.

	H.	R.	C.	B.		H.	R.	C.	B.
Cory Charles, Hopton-hall, Suffolk					Fellowes Henry, Kivestone-park				
Cory Robert W., Blundeston, Suffolk					Parker John, Filby				
Cory J. A., 3, Abbey-street, Carlisle					Waters James Denew, Yarmouth				
England Henry, Martham									
Lamb James, Great Yarmouth					Winterton.				
Read Trivett William, Great Yarmouth					Amis John ...				
Reynolds William, Belton, Suffolk					Boulton Edward Robert, the younger ...				
Upjohn John Francis, Gorleston					Brown Solomon ...				
Westgate Thos., Ormesby St. Margaret					Brown Robert, sen. ...				
Somerton East.					Empson James ...				
Nelson Henry Gudgeon ...					George William, Great Yarmouth ...				
	1	1	0	0	George William ...				
Clowes John, Great Yarmouth					Goffin William ...				
Somerton West.					Green John ...				
Andress James ...					Juby John ...				
Dyble John ...					King Benjamin ...				
Dyble James ...					King James ...				
Gibson John ...					Kittle James ...				
Manship Daniel ...					Nelson Rev. John ...				
	4	1	4	1	Pitchers Robert, Martham ...				
Grove Thomas Fraser, Ferne, Wilts					Rivett Grimes John, Gorleston ...				
Hales Thomas					Sheales Samuel ...				
Rising William, Somerton-hall					Soulsby John ...				
Rising Robert					Wilton George ...				
Rising Robert									
Varley John					Clowes Richard Sept., Caister	18	12	7	6
Warnes William					Clowes Francis, St. Andrew's-hall-plain,				
Stokesby with					Norwich				
Herringby.					Durrant Edmund, Hemsby				
Cudden John Watling ...					Guntton Simon				
Daniel Knights Francis ...					Hume William Burnley, 18, Upper				
Empson Thomas ...					Harley-street, London				
					Juby William				
					Leach Edward				
					Manship James, Palling				

In 1871, William, his wife Eliza and two servants were living at Hill House in Winterton. In 1872, William Burnley Hume attempted to sell his Norfolk estate. Sales particulars with an accompanying map were drawn up, and advertisements appeared in local newspapers. Although the three cottages on King Street and the *Three Mariners* were not included in this sale they are shown on the map as they were close to lot number 2.



Somerton East and West, Winterton, Martham estate map: Burnley Hall Estate, for sale by Messrs Butcher and Bowler, 1872 (Duleep Singh Collection. NRO: DS 305)



Close-up of Ships Timbers close to Lot 2

In 1875, William took out a mortgage of £3,000 against the value of the cottages and other Winterton properties. This was ratified at the manor court in July 1876.

However, William died the following month and Ships Timbers and the other lands and properties were left in trust to his widow Eliza during her lifetime. The executors of William's will and trustees were George John Brakenridge and Reginald Townshend Hadow.



Close-up of Ships Timbers and surrounding area on the Winterton Ordnance Survey Map, 1893

In 1898, the ownership of the business of one of the executors and trustees, George John Brackenridge, was merged with another company. This resulted in an abstract of title being drawn up describing the Hume estate. This referred back to the sales in 1744 and 1863, the subsequent ownership of Engle Knights, and then of Joseph Hume.

This abstract of title went on to describe how the three cottages, along with the *Three Mariners Inn*, and various lands, were inherited by Joseph's son, William Burnley Hume. It also referred to the marriage contract drawn up when William and Eliza married. Although the details are not included in the abstract of title, the only reason for mentioning the marriage contract would be if some kind of annuity or trust was set up against the rental proceeds or profits from these lands and properties upon Eliza's behalf. This is evidently what happened as Eliza was admitted as owner of the cottages after her husband's death.

A sketch was made of the three cottages showing their location in Winterton. The abstract of title was subsequently added to when the cottages were sold by William's heir.



Sketch of the three cottages made in 1898
(Abstract of Title Deeds)

Mary Edith Hume

Eliza Hume survived her husband until 19 March 1908, when she died at Hill House, Winterton in her 89th year. Their adopted daughter Mary Edith was then admitted at the manor court as owner to the copyhold lands in Winterton and elsewhere that formed part of what remained of the Hume estate. This was a legal formality required after the death of her mother in order for her to be recognised as the new owner.

William and Eliza Hume had adopted Mary Edith at some point after their marriage. However, formal adoption as is known today did not exist at the time, so there is no public record of this arrangement. The only record of her adoption are the newspaper announcements published when she married Major Frederick James William Davies at Winterton parish church in 1888, which all referred to her as William Burnley Hume's adopted daughter. She was also referred to by her nickname of Minnie.

Mary's marriage record to Frederick however gives her full name as Mary Edith Hume Harvey, the daughter of Augustus John Harvey. Mary Edith Hume Harvey was evidently Eliza's, as she was born in Marylebone in 1857 to Augustus John Harvey and his wife Mary Gudgeon (nee Nelson), who had married in Norfolk in 1854

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES.

A marriage is arranged, and will shortly take place, between Major Wilson, 10th Royal Hussars, and Annabelia Margaret, only child of Mr. John F. W. Drummond (Hawthornden), of 10, Cornwall-gardens, Queen's-gate, and Ednam House Kelso, N.B.

The marriage arranged between Major Fred. J. W. Davies, Royal Munster Fusiliers, Assistant Military Secretary China and Straits Settlements, and Minnie, adopted daughter of the late Mr. William Burnley Hume, of Winterton, Great Yarmouth, will take place at Winterton, to-day.

Wedding announcement for Mary Edith Hume in the *York Herald*, 14 July 1888

Mary Edith Hume's husband Frederick James William Davies was aged 40 and a widower with children when they wed. He was serving in Royal Munster Fusiliers at the time of the wedding.. Frederick rose through the ranks to become a Lieutenant-Colonel. Part of his duties included acting as assistant military secretary in the China and Straits Settlement.

Mary and Frederick do not appear to have had children together. After his retirement they settled full time in England at Brampford House, Brampford Speke near Exeter, Devon. They were living together at the family home in 1901. However, by the time the 1911 census was taken only Frederick was recorded at their home, along with some live in servants.

Tragically, Mary Edith was suffering from mental health problems by this date. The house deeds for the three cottages on King Street, Winterton reveal that on 17 June 1909 her husband had applied to the courts under the Lunacy Acts of 1890 and 1908 to have her declared of 'unsound mind'.

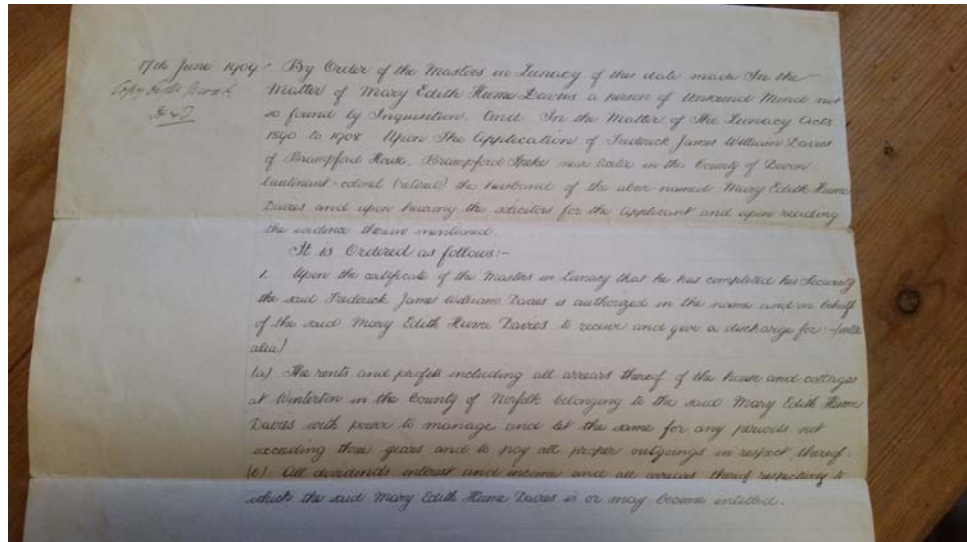
The Order of Lunacy was presented to the manor court the following year as part of the evidence that Frederick was now her trustee and wished to sell the cottages on Mary's behalf. It stated that:

17th June 1909. By Order of the Masters in Lunacy of this date made in the matter of Mary Edith Hume Davies a person of unsound mind so found by Inquisition. And In the matter of The Lunacy Acts 1890 to 1908 Upon the Application of Frederick James William Davies of Brampford House Brampford Speke near Exeter in the County of Devon Lieutenant-colonel (retired) the husband of the before named Mary Edith Hume Davies and upon hearing the solicitors for the applicant and upon reading the evidence therein mentioned.

It is Ordered as follows: -

Upon the certificate of the Masters in Lunacy that he has completed his Security the said Frederick James William Davies is authorized in the name and on behalf of the said Mary Edith Hume Davies to receive and give a discharge for (inter alia).

The rents and profits including all arrears thereof of the house and cottages at Winterton in the County of Norfolk belonging to the said Mary Edith Hume Davies with power to manage and let the same for any periods no exceeding three years and to pay all proper outgoings thereof. All dividends interest and income and all arrears thereof respectively to which the said Mary Edith Hume Davies is or may become entitled.



Abstract of Title referring to Mary Edith Hume Davies being declared a lunatic

Colonel Davies sold the cottages to Henry Smith, a carrier of Winterton on 13 June 1910 for £125. The abstract of title described the transaction thus in the minutes compiled three days later:

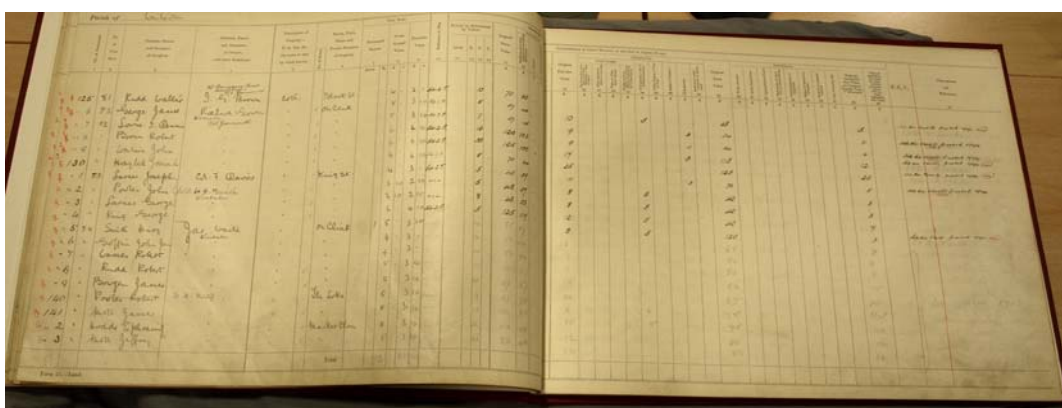
Manor of Winterton Mautbyes Begvilles and Bramptons.

Sixteenth June One thousand nine hundred and ten between Mary Edith Hume Davies the wife of Frederick James William Davies of Brampford House Brampford Speke near Exeter in Devon late a Colonel in His Majesty's Army acting pursuant to an Order in Lunacy dated sixteenth March 1910 by the said Frederick James William Davies the person appointed by Order dated seventeenth June 1909 to exercise certain powers of a committee of the estate of the said Mary Edith Hume Davies a copyhold tenant of the said Manor came before Alfred Anstey Deputy Steward and in consideration of One hundred and twenty five pounds to him paid by Henry Smith of Winterton Carrier surrendered into the hands of the Lord of the Manor All that cottage in three tenements late in the tenure or occupation of Robert Kettle [blank] Barnard and [blank] Kettle and George Larner John Amis Pawles and [blank] Kettle lying in Winterton together with the garden thereto adjoining bounded on the North West by the Public Road leading to the Sea on the East by land late belonging to the Right Honourable the Lord Braybrooke and afterwards to the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom and then by property belonging to Mrs A J Pratt and on the South by land lately belonging to Bell and then W Steward and occupied with the Three Mariners Public House and on the West by a newly erected cottage and hereditaments retained by the said Mary Edith Hume Davies to which the said Mary Edith Hume Davies was admitted tenant on the third day of December One thousand nine hundred and eight To the use of the said Henry Smith.

Shortly after this sale an inland revenue survey was undertaken across the whole of the UK, which assessed the value of every plot of land. This survey was introduced in 1910 and became popularly known as the 'Lloyd George Domesday', after the chancellor of the time. It aimed to value all property in preparation for a new land tax that would pay for the new old age pension and for a proposed new unemployment benefit. The survey of England and Wales was completed by 1915, but the tax was never implemented, and the Act was repealed in 1920. However, the surviving records provide a list of owners and occupiers of land and properties.

Although three sets of records were originally created, only the local register survives for Winterton. There is a note at the front of it that says the survey assessments were delivered in August 1910, and it is signed 21 November 1910. The surveyors collated the information gilled in on the survey forms about owners and occupiers, along with details about their rateable values into a series of columns in these registers.

Colonel F. Davis was noted as the owner of three cottages on King Street in Winterton, of which Ships Timbers was one. These were noted as being occupied by Joseph Larner, John Powles and George Larner. The sale of the cottages by Frederick Hume had obviously gone through while the survey was still in progress as otherwise his name would not have been noted as the owner. It took several months for all the information to be collated by the surveyors. As a result, a noted had been added underneath Frederick's name saying these three cottages had been sold to H. Smith of Winterton. Mary Edith Hume Davies died in Devon on 20 October 1913. Her widower, Frederick, survived her until 28 March 1924.



Winterton Inland Revenue Survey Register, 1910
(NRO: P/DLV 1/177)

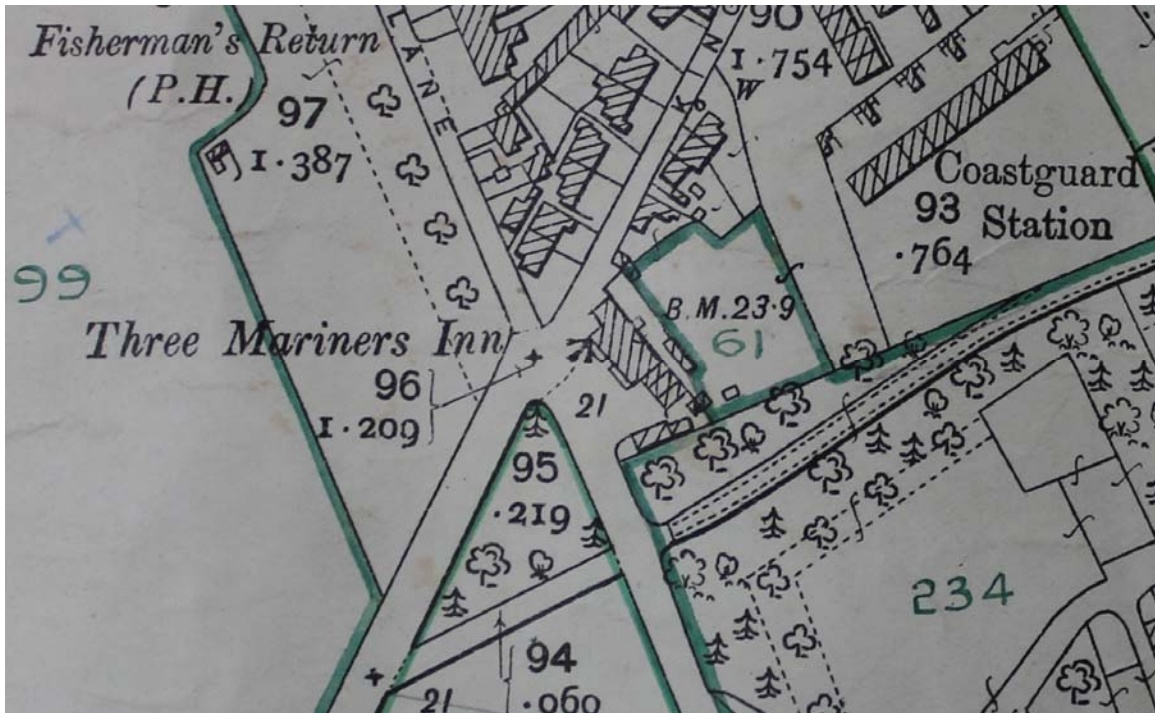
No. of House	Year Rate	Name of Occupier	Name of Owner with their Residence	By which known	Acres
125	81	Rudd Walter	55 Pumpford Road South Log Old Yarmouth J. L. Brown	coll.	Black St.
6	82	George James	Roland Brown Hemley Old Yarmouth	"	on Clink
7	82	Lorne J. Bennie	"	"	"
8	"	Parson Robert	"	"	"
9	"	Watson John	"	"	"
130	"	Hayled Josiah	"	"	"
1	83	Larne Joseph	Col. F. Davies	"	King St.
2	"	Powles John	held to #19 Winterton	"	"
3	"	Larne George	"	"	"
4	"	King George	"	"	"
5	84	Smith Henry	Jas. Waite Winterton	"	on Clink
6	"	Soffin John Jr	"	"	"
7	"	Larne Robert	"	"	"
8	"	Rudd Robert	"	"	"
9	"	Borger James	"	"	"
140	"	Powles Robert	D. R. RUDD	"	The Lake
141	"	"	"	"	"

Close-up of the Inland Revenue Register listing Colonel Davies as the owner of three cottages occupied by Joseph Larner, John Powles and George Larner

No. of House	Year Rate	Name of Occupier	Name of Owner with their Residence	By which known	Area			Value			Total
					Acres	Rods	Perches	Rateable	Unrated	Unimproved	
125	81	Rudd Walter	55 Pumpford Road South Log Old Yarmouth J. L. Brown	coll.	Black St.	4	3	2	10	70	80
6	82	George James	Roland Brown Hemley Old Yarmouth	"	on Clink	4	3	2	10	70	80
7	82	Lorne J. Bennie	"	"	"	4	3	2	10	70	80
8	"	Parson Robert	"	"	"	4	3	2	10	70	80
9	"	Watson John	"	"	"	4	3	2	10	70	80
130	"	Hayled Josiah	"	"	"	4	3	2	10	70	80
1	83	Larne Joseph	Col. F. Davies	"	King St.	3	1	2	5	25	30
2	"	Powles John	held to #19 Winterton	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
3	"	Larne George	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
4	"	King George	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
5	84	Smith Henry	Jas. Waite Winterton	"	on Clink	3	1	2	5	25	30
6	"	Soffin John Jr	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
7	"	Larne Robert	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
8	"	Rudd Robert	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
9	"	Borger James	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
140	"	Powles Robert	D. R. RUDD	"	The Lake	3	1	2	5	25	30
141	"	"	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30
2	"	Wade Edward	"	"	Winterton	3	1	2	5	25	30
3	"	Wade Edward	"	"	"	3	1	2	5	25	30

Left-hand page of the Inland Register Survey entries listing Joseph Larner, John Powles and George Larner

Ships Timbers from 1910



Ships Timbers and surrounding area in the early 20th century

Joseph Larnar, John Powles and George Larnar were the three tenants listed on the abstract of title when Frederick Davies sold the cottages on behalf of his wife Mary. The abstract of title also stated that one had been lately occupied by Robert Kettle. However, the only Robert Kettle who was living in Winterton in 1910 was not resident at Ships Timbers.

As this phrase about Robert Kettle having lately lived there also appears on the 1898 abstract of title deeds, it was obviously referring back to when Joseph Hume owned the cottages and Robert Kettle lived there in the 1840s.

It is quite common to see such out of date information about tenants simply copied from one set of deeds to another when sales occurred. The tenants tended to be included simply as a means of helping to identify a property, especially when there were no house numbers. It is also likely to occur if one particular tenant had lived there for a considerable time or was well known locally as more people would then know which property was being referred to.

Joseph Larnar, John Powles and George Larnar were listed as occupiers when the house was sold in 1910.

Joseph Larnar was a bricklayer born in Winterton in around 1848. When the census was taken, he was living in a two roomed cottage on the same street with

his 43-year old wife Lilly Eliza. This was the first census to note how many rooms a property had, including the kitchen, but not any scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom or warehouse, office or shop.

The 1911 census was also the first to record how long a couple had been married, the number of children born to that marriage, and how many of them were still alive. Joseph and Eliza had been married for 43 years, and had 12 children, of whom 9 were still alive.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF FAMILY	AGE AND SEX		PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION OF PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND UPWARDS	BIRTHPLACE OF EVERY PERSON	NATIONALITY OF EVERY PERSON	INFIRMITY
		Male	Female					
Joseph Larner	Head	62	Married	43	Druckleyer	Winterton	English	
Lilly Eliza Larner	Wife	67	Married	43		Winterton	English	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Joseph Larner*
Postal Address: *Winterton Norfolk*

Joseph and Eliza Larner on the 1911 Census

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

Two

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Joseph Larner*
Postal Address: *Winterton Norfolk*

Close-up of the section on the 1911 census stating that Joseph and Eliza Larner had two rooms, not including scullery, landing, lobby or bathroom

There was only match for George Larner on the 1911 census, who could have been the head of household listed on the inland revenue survey. This was George Ezra Larner, a lifeboatman, born in Winterton in around 1847. He was living on King Street with his 64-year old wife Jane Amelia. They share their three roomed dwelling with a 29-year old lodger called James Roberd [sic] Poules, who was sea going fisherman.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person next to years and periods		BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
				Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected			
George Ezra Larner	Head	64	married April 8 6 9	Lifboatman	54 4	Waken	Albion	Norfolk Winterton British
Jane Amelia Larner	Wife	64	Married 44 9 6 8					
James Robert Powles	Boarder	29	Single	Fisherman	54 4	Waken	Sea	Norfolk Winterton British

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

3 Rooms

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Mr George E. Larner*

Postal Address: *King Street Winterton Norfolk*

George Ezra and Jane Amelia Larner on the 1911 Census

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

3 Rooms

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Mr George E. Larner*

Postal Address: *King Street Winterton Norfolk*

Close-up of the section stating that George Ezra and Jane Amelai Larner occupied three rooms

There was also only one person named John Powles who could be the man named on the inland revenue register. He was living in a three roomed dwelling on King Street when the 1911 census was taken. His full name was John Amis Powles and he was a single man, aged 45, and born in Winterton. John was working as a fisherman and living with his sister Catherine and a niece named Evelyn Annie Hewett.

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

3 Rooms

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *John Amis Powles*

Postal Address: *King Street Winterton Norfolk*

Close-up of the section stating that the Powles had three main rooms

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedules *24*
(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last birthday and sex	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards		BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
			Notes for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of --	Children born alive to present Marriage (If no children born alive since "Date" in Column 7) has been born since last census	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected			
<i>John Amos Powell</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>Engl</i>		<i>Fisherman</i>	<i>Engl</i>	<i>Winton</i>	<i>Engl</i>	
<i>Catherine Amos Powell</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>Engl</i>		<i>at home</i>	<i>Engl</i>	<i>Winton</i>	<i>Engl</i>	
<i>Evelyn Amos Powell</i>	<i>Niece</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Engl</i>		<i>domestic servant (Winton)</i>	<i>Engl</i>	<i>Winton</i>	<i>Engl</i>	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of the dwelling)

I certify that the entries on this Schedule are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature *John Amos Powell*
Printed Address *King Street Winton Hants*

John Powles, his sister Catherine and niece Evelyn on the 1911 Census

On 3 August 1926, Henry Smith sold the two cottages adjoining Ships Timbers to Alfred Arthur George, a fisherman from Martham. At some point after this date they were converted into one house. Little is known of the subsequent occupiers of Ships Timbers as there were still no house numbers given for properties on King Street on electoral registers until well after WWII. Nor is any house number included on the 1939 survey of civilian population.

Today, Ships Timbers is a warm and welcoming holiday cottage, owned by the Hills.



Timeline

Late 1600s to early 1700s	Ships Timbers and the adjoining cottages are built
Circa 1681	Birth of Alice White; later owner of a portion of one of the cottages
1723	Birth of Engle Knights; later owner of the three cottages
1724	Birth of John Scott; later owner of a portion of one of the cottages
1744	A portion of the three cottages sold to Engle Knights
1763	A portion of the three cottages sold to Engle Knights
1774	Birth of Robert Kettle; later occupier of Ships Timbers
1777	Birth of Joseph Hume; later owner of Ships Timbers
1801	Death of Engle Knights; owner of Ships Timbers
1820	Birth of William Burnley Hume; later owner of Ships Timbers
1825	Joseph Hume recorded as buying an estate near Great Yarmouth
1840s	Robert Kettle recorded as living at Ships Timbers
1844	Joseph Hume recorded as the owner and Robert Kettle as the occupier on the tithe records for Winterton
1855	Death of Joseph Hume; his estate inherited by his son William Burnley Hume

1857	Birth of Mary Edith Hume Harvey, niece and adopted daughter of William Burnley and Eliza Hume
1875 to 1898	A fourth cottage is built on the same site
1876	Death of William Burnley Hume; owner of Ships Timbers
1908	Death of Eliza Hume, widow of William Burnley Hume Mary Elizabeth Hume Davis is admitted to the ownership of the cottages at the manor court following her adoptive mother's death
1909	Mary's husband, Frederick James William Davies appointed her trustee under Lunacy Acts
1910	Sale of the three cottages to Henry Smith
1926	The neighbouring two cottages sold to Alfred Arthur George

Sources

Abbreviations

NRO = Norfolk Record Office

TNA = The National Archives

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1841-1911 Census Returns

1911 Census Summary Book

1939 Register

Board of Inland Revenue: Tithe Redemption Office: District Record Maps. TITHE REDEMPTION COMMISSION LIST OF TITHE DISTRICTS. NORFOLK No. of Tithe Districts: 669. Winterton (P): 1936 – 1977. Reference: IR 90/23/643

British Newspaper Collection

Collage of Ordnance Survey map sheets cut, mounted and annotated to show the following registration districts as used for the 1891 census: District 220, sub-district 1: East Flegg; District 220, sub-district 2: West Flegg. 1891. Reference: RG 18/418

East and West Flegg Poor Law Union (Norfolk): boundaries file. 1883-1926. Reference: OS 24/368

Electoral Registers

Great Yarmouth Borough Archives. Records Deposited with Great Yarmouth Library and transferred to the Borough Archives. Letters and papers of Charles Rumbold [MP for Yarmouth].

House Deeds of neighbouring cottages

Indexes to Norfolk Parish Registers at Findmypast

Indexes to Trinity House Calendars, 1787-1854. TNA

Land Tax Redemption Records, 1798. TNA

Letter, Dawson Turner, Yarmouth, to Rumbold. Illness of the writer's daughter Harriet. Local news, including the Mayor's conduct and Mr Hume buying an estate near Yarmouth, 21 Jan 1825. Ref. Y/L 14/20

Manorial Documents Register

Map of estates belonging to J. Hume, MP, in East Somerton, West Somerton, Martham and Winterton, 1818-1855. Norwich Public Library Manuscript Collection. Ref. MS 21291, 247X4

Norfolk Church Court Probate Indexes to 1858

Norwich Public Library Manuscript Collection. Map of estates belonging to J. Hume, MP, in East Somerton, West Somerton, Martham and Winterton, 1818-1855. Catalogue Ref. MS 21291, 247X4

Norwich Public Library Manuscript Collection: Map of estate in East Somerton, West Somerton, Winterton and Martham, By R. C. Taylor, Jul 1828. Inc: Field names; names of adjacent owners; buildings include church and lighthouse. Ref. MS 4551

Ordnance Survey Map, 1893

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Sales Particular: Norfolk estates containing 372a. 3r. 29p. in the parishes of Hemsby, Winterton, Thirne, South Walsham, Scratby and Ormesby 1848. Ref. SPE 711, 316X6

Somerton East and West, Winterton, Martham estate map: Burnley Hall Estate, for sale by Messrs Butcher and Bowler, 1872. Duleep Singh Collection. Ref. DS 305

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Will of Engle Knights, esquire of East Somerton 1801. NCC will register, Francklin 27

Will of Joseph Hume, 1855. TNA: PCC PROB

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Winterton with East Somerton Norfolk Parish Registers

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Find A Grave

The Genealogist website

The National Archives

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Past Search

Norwich

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