

29 June 1996

Information concerning Brown's Piece from researchers, both connections of the Flora Thompson family, who called and showed us family trees and other documents.

The house was built by John Shaw (buried in Piddington Churchyard) in 1777; there is a date stone on the East side of the house. It was built on the site of an earlier tenement, part of which may form the lower part of the West wall. Records show the Shaw family in Piddington around 1690.

John Shaw left the house to his daughter

Elizabeth a spinster born 1751, died 1820. She left it to

Martha Wallington born 1784, died of plague 1824. Martha was the wife of the tenant farmer. He was specifically prevented from any possibility of inheritance by the appointment of Trustees. He died of plague in 1825 leaving a number of children and large debts of some £3000. One of the children who was born and spent her early years in Brown's Piece was

Martha, grandmother of Flora Thompson She married in 1844 Thomas Timms in Ambrosden.

In 1830 the house was bought for £900. by the Reverend Cloebury of Piddington.

In 1847 it was in the possession of John Treadwell.

Ragget Tapper
25 March '99