

Account of Purley on Thames

Steven's Directory

R200403 5/7/2017

Stevens Directory 1888

PURLEY (Berks)

A small village and parish 4 miles NW of Reading and 2 miles E from Pangbourne railway station in the union and rural deanery of Bradfield, hundred of Theale, Reading county court district, archdeaconry of Berks and diocese of Oxford; it is prettily situated on the banks of the Thames and the surrounding scenery is not surpassed in the county. on a summer house on the top of the hill are the following lines

"Ever charming, ever new
When will ye landskip tire ye view"

Warren Hastings resided at Purley Hall, a handsome brick mansion in a delightful situation and is now the seat of Frederick Wilder Esq JP.

The church of St Mary's, date of register 1660, is a neat compact edifice having a small tower and Norman arch, the living is a rectory with residence held by the Rev Matthew Powley MA of Queens college, Oxford.

Major Anthony Morris Storer JP is lord of the manor who with Fredk Wilder JP and PL Powys-Lybbe Esq constitute the chief landowners.

Sexton: - Job Burgess

Schoolmistress - Mrs Daw

Post Office - Wm Pocock receiver. Letters arrive through Reading and are delivered at 7 am and despatched at 7.25 pm, Sunday the same.

Pangbourne is the nearest Money-order and Telegraph office and Reading is the post town.

Population 188

Private

BOYLE - Mrs , Purley Lodge

POWLEY - Rev Matthew, rector MA Purley Rectory

STORER - Major Anthony Morris JP Purley Park

Wilder - Fredk JP Purley Hall

Commercial

BASELEY - Wm., Lodge keeper

BASWORTH - Hy., Lodge keeper

BURGESS - Job, parish sexton

COX - John , blacksmith
DAW - Mrs, schoolmistress
OADES - George, farmer, Westbury Farm
POCOCK - T. wheelwright and shopkeeper
POCOCK - Wm. post office
STONE - John farmer, Scraces farm
WEST - Chas, farmer Belle Isle farm
1893

PURLEY (Berks)

The first paragraphs are identical to the 1888 entry.

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Wilder - Fredk JP Purley Hall

Commercial

BASELEY - Wm., Lodge keeper

BURGESS - Job, parish sexton

COX - John , blacksmith

CAPEL - Mrs, schoolmistress

LEE - Wm Henry, farmer, Scraces farm

OADES - George, farmer, Westbury Farm

POCOCK - T. wheelwright and shopkeeper

POCOCK - Wm. post office

SYMONDS - Philip, farmer Belle Isle farm

