

Leatherhead & District Local History Society

Potted Histories No 32

Roaring House Farm, Fetcham Downs



Roaring House Farm (pictured left) is a grade II listed building. It is on Fetcham Downs not far from Norbury Park, with a farmhouse of particular interest. It is a two bay,

almost square, timber framed building, probably dating from the early 17th century with many changes to it since then. In about 1790 the house was refronted in brick and this is a likely date of the barn and the granary. The old part of the house next to the chimney end retains a timber-framed gable end to the tie but above the framing there are modern timbers. The front of the building is clad in a dark, red brick with seams of gritty mortar. The central door opens directly into the hearth room with service rooms adjoining, paved with large tiles. The back door out to the well is by the hearth leading to a pantiled outshot. This little area outside the back door, with timber framing, dull brick noggin and the flint wall of the outshot, is typical of the scenes so loved by Gertrude Jekyll some of which she pictured in her book *Old West Surrey*.



A little way outside the back door of the farmhouse, but on the other side of the track way passing through the farm, is a large almost square granary (above). This stands on nine stone staddles, (Staddlestones are used to stop rats getting in the barns) and is possibly of 18th century date. Its roof is tiled and gabled at both ends, the cladding is of black-tarred weatherboarding.

Goff Powell - Extracted from - History of Fetcham L&DLHS 1998 with additions

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