

Leatherhead & District Local History Society

Potted Histories No 40

Park Farm House, Farm Lane, Ashted



This handsome, L-plan brick house in Farm Lane probably dates from the second half of the 17th century, but it was largely rebuilt after a fire in 1731. It is enclosed by a high wall, and has three rooms on each of the two floors, and a cellar. The façade is symmetrical, with six windows to the first floor. The back kitchen has its own chimney stack, and there is a stair turret. In the early 18th century, after the fire, a further storey was added and the roof was raised; at the same time, the stair was replaced with elegant, slender banisters, three to a tread, though the old 'bottle' banisters to the upper stair remain. Park Farm House shares with Merry Hall the honour of being the most elegant secular building in Ashted.

The bailiff of the Home Farm belonging to the Howards used to live here, which explains its name. In its early days it had been known as Hilder House, after the family of that name.

An old granary adjoins the house. It has a two-bay 18th century square plan, with a pyramid roof, central king post and butt purlins.

Goff Powell - Extracted from A History of Ashted -L&DLHS 1995- with additions

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