

THE HISTORY  
OF THE  
BLUE ANCHOR

The History of the "BLUE ANCHOR" Inn at Walberswick.

The "BLUE ANCHOR" was Walberswick's village inn for several hundred years and stood on what is now the forecourt of the present "Anchor" inn at Walberswick.

To make way for a new and larger inn on the same site, it was dismantled in 1927, removed and re-erected on it's present site, now as a private dwelling and known as "ANCHORLEA".

1787 In 1787 a Thomas Maggs became the licensee of the "BLUE ANCHOR" until his death on the 31.8.1799. His wife, Ann, b.1752 d.1848. Both in W. There have been members of the Maggs family living in East Suffolk since 1327 but they were of no great distinction worth mentioning, except perhaps the prosperous shipowner John Maggs of Aldeburgh in 1701 and his son William of Halesworth in 1749.

1782 Thomas Maggs, the landlord of the "BLUE ANCHOR" (perhaps a descendant) married Ann Snell from Darsham at St. Edmund's Church, Southwold on the 14.5.1782. The couple settled first in Dunwich where their first two children were born. Mary was baptised on the 11.7.1784 and Ann on the 13.3.1786 both at Dunwich. After Thomas Maggs and his wife took over the "BLUE ANCHOR" in 1787 in the neighbouring village of Walberswick, a further two girls, one surviving and eight sons, only two surviving were born at the "BLUE ANCHOR".

1797 James Maggs, the youngest of Thomas and Ann Maggs' children was born on the 9.2.1797 and at the age of 7 he went to school at Wenhaston run by Mr. Thomas Tuthill.

James Maggs became later a well-known personality of Southwold, where he became a teacher, auctioneer, registrar, coroner and bailiff of the court. He left to posterity a diary in which he wrote down most notable events of this town and district. This "Southwold Diary of James Maggs" was recently edited by Mr. Alan Bottomley, headmaster of Eversley School, Southwold and published in two volumes by the Suffolk Records Society. Many items mentioned in this typed record have been extracted from these two volumes.

1799 Thomas Maggs died on the 31.8.1799 at the age of 45 and his wife Ann took over the tenancy of the "BLUE ANCHOR". Thomas Maggs divided such possessions as he had between his wife and 5 surviving children, but James was allotted a double share because of his lameness.

- 1812 William Maggs, the oldest son married Susannah Palmer and at that time Ann Maggs, the widowed mother handed the "BLUE ANCHOR" over to her son-in-law, John Banks, a widowed tailor from Bramfield who had married her oldest daughter Mary in 1803. The second daughter Ann married in 1804 a Robert Dows and the couple settled in Woolwich. Robert Dows died in 1833 and Ann returned to Walberswick. Sarah, the remaining daughter married a Thomas Turrell in 1806. Widowed she married the butcher John Laws and they had one daughter who later lived at Kirby Cane.
- 1824 John Banks, the landlord of the "BLUE ANCHOR" coming home one night from Wickham Market fell into a well at Benhall and drowned. He must have died a slow death, for at the inquest held at Benhall it was stated that a witness heard a noise of the well-gear, but thought nothing of it. John Banks was interred at Walberswick and at the time of her husband's death, Mary Banks had several children, the youngest a baby daughter of 2½ months, Sarah Ann being born on the 7.8.1824.
- 1827 Three years later, the widowed Mary Banks gave up the "BLUE ANCHOR" and moved to Yarmouth, but soon returned to Walberswick to join her mother. On the 1.3.1827 a sale by auction of Mary Bank's effects was held at the "BLUE ANCHOR" Public House, Walberswick.
- 1827 William Easy became landlord of the "BLUE ANCHOR" on the 1.3.1827.
- 1837 Ann, daughter of Mr. William Easey of the "ANCHOR" Inn at Walberswick "drowned herself in a Rain Water Tub upon the premises" on the 26.3.1837 and "very singular her grandmother, relict of Mr. Francis Robinson of Walberswick - did then and there on the 20.9.1842 drown herself in a Rain Water Tub". She was 80 years old.
- 1844 Isaak Crisp took over the "BLUE ANCHOR" from William Easey on the 11.10.1844. A week before, on the 4.10.1844 the sale of Furniture and Effects of William Easey took place at the "ANCHOR" Inn for rent. Apparently William Easey was in arrears with the rent and had thus to give up his tenancy of the inn. At that time William Easey was 59 years old and his wife Alex 55 and 7 years later, in the 1851 census William Easey described himself as a labourer. Isaak Crisp was a carpenter and at the time when he became the landlord of the "BLUE ANCHOR" he was 28, his wife Elisabeth 28, his daughter Louisa 10 and they lived formerly in Quay Street.

During the tenancy of Isaak Crisp, probably in the 1850s (and not in the 1970s according to the book by Leonard P. Thompson "Inns of the Suffolk Coast") the following little incident happened as told by Mrs. Lusher to Carol Christie (a nom de plume) and recounted in her charming little book of the village life of Walberswick "Ferryknoll" which was published in 1911.

' Isaak Crisp was an obliging man and sometimes he allowed gipsies to hire one of his rooms for a merry evening of singing, dancing and drinking. While this was going on and while the gipsy girls entertained the customers, some of their men-folk secretly stole away and mowed the clover field behind the "BLUE ANCHOR".

When this was discovered, Mrs. Crisp a very determined woman sent for her kitchen help, Mrs. Lusher's mother, put the horse in the chaise and off they went to Blythborough.

At Blythburgh the pursuers heard that the gipsies had gone to Westleton, so they drove there and knocked up the village constable - probably Joseph Bruce and now the chase was on. We imagine this rural, mid-nineteenth century Flying Squad, in full cry, the determined Mrs. Crisp urging on her horse, the excited and possibly apprehensive member of her kitchen staff lurching by her side and the constable's weight reducing the speed of the chaise as it trundled through the peaceful, rutted Suffolk lanes on that Summer night. The gipsy van could not have been far ahead of the pursuing "BLUE ANCHOR" chaise, and from Westleton the trail led to Kelsale. Here the posse was told the gipsies had gone to Culfer Green and the relentless pursuers kept steadfastly on their way.

Now, says Mrs. Lusher: "It was werry dark and the lanes were narrow, but presently they heard the dogs a-barking and saw the lights."

Mrs. Crisp and the constable got out of the chaise, leaving it in the care of Mrs. Lusher's mother, and they set out to reconnoitre. Seeing the gipsy van, and being satisfied that here indeed was their quarry, they approached the gipsy camp to the increased barking of the dogs. The men came out swearing and their women-folk came out of their tents to reinforce the general commotion, but justice appeared to have prevailed, for the gipsies paid for the clover.

It was between two and three in the morning when the posse returned at last to the "BLUE ANCHOR" which was not surprising as they must have covered over 25 miles that night

# SUFFOLK BANKRUPTCIES

		<u>Name</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
Mar	8	John Salmon	Sudbury	????
→	26	Isaac Crisp	Framlingham	Innkeeper
	26	C. Warne	Syleham	Drabbett Manufacturer
Apr	2	William Charles Aberdain	Ipswich	Bookseller
	5	Ebenezer Bates	Bury St. Edmunds	Auctioneers Clerk
	5	Robert Gage	Boxford	Farmer
	5	William Fairweather	Haverhill	Tailor
	5	James Hartridge	Woodbridge	Pork Butcher
	9	Mary Summers	Bury St. Edmunds	Laundress
	12	Charles Henry Lamb	Elmswell	Grocer
	16	Henry Last	Norton	Rake Maker
	23	Robert Armitage Beart	Beccles	Wine Merchant
	26	James Atkins	Lowestoft	Ship Owner
	26	Ellis Wragg	Hepworth	Farmer
May	7	George Anthony Barnes	Scole	Mail Cart Contractor
	7	John Matchett junior	Kirtley	Labourer
	31	Jabez Bennington	Elmswell	Grocer
June	11	George Rackham	Saxmundham	Tailor
	18	Christopher Coleman	Weybread	Engine Proprietor
	18	Robert Ellis Austin	Chelmondiston	Builder
	18	James Miller	Metfield	????
	21	Henry Baldwin	Ipswich	Beerseller
	25	C. F. Jennings	Wood Ditton	Licensed Victualler
July	2	John Matthews	Lindsey	Farmer
	5	Robert Cooper Downing	Ipswich	Paper Hanger
	16	Benjamin Brooker	Ipswich	Bricklayer
	19	William Nunn	Withersfield	Grocer
Aug	6	John Cuthbert	Bury St. Edmunds	Innkeeper
	6	George Hartridge	Ipswich	????
	23	Charles Punchard	Haverhill	Maltster
Sept	6	Charles Moyse	Fornham All Saints	Carpenter
	10	William Thomas Smith	Lavenham	Woolstapler
	24	W. Revell	Woodbridge	Grocer
Oct	4	George Dupont	Lavenham	Agricultural Imple. Dealer
	4	Wm. Frederick Robinson	Southtown	Police Constable
	11	Robert Baldwin	Palgrave	General Dealer
	25	Charles Mann	Lindsey	????
	29	James Porley	Ipswich	Innkeeper
Nov	5	Garwood & Godfrey	Southtown	Shipbuilders
	12	Elijah Lofts	Mildenhall	Poulterer
	19	Charles Titlow Barrett	Lowestoft	Plumber
	19	H. Childerstone	Mildenhall	Farmer
	19	John W. Hayward	Elmswell	Farmer

*Peter Hanson*

It is very likely that the mentioned bankrupt Isaac Crisp, innkeeper of Framlingham was the same person as Isaac Crisp 32 innkeeper of the "Blue Anchor of Walberswick" from 11.10.1844 - ca. 1860.

Supplied by Mrs. Dorothy Jones. June 1998.

- 1861 In 1861 the "BLUE ANCHOR" was run by Henry Cleveland aged 44 and his wife Charlotte aged 40, both born in Walberswick.
- 1868 Robert Meadows became the next publican until approx. 1879.
- 1871 It is interesting to note that in 1871 the "BELL" Inn was managed by a William Cleveland (then 49 years old) and his wife Lydia (aged 47). Henry and William Cleveland were brothers (William 5 years younger) and the "BELL" Inn, even older than the "BLUE ANCHOR" Inn, was the public house for the fishermen, while the "BLUE ANCHOR" was the meeting place for the farmers and often there was friction and sometimes fighting on the village Green between the two camps.
- 1879 Gooding Burley became publican of the "BLUE ANCHOR" Inn from 1879-83.
- 1880s. According to Carol Christie's book "Ferry Knoll", in the late 1880s. "BELL" Inn was still run by William Cleveland and the "BLUE ANCHOR" by John Veasey and this was about 1883 - 1885.
- 1883 John Veasey was the next landlord from ca. 1883 - 1890.
- 1890s. George Lines - and later - members of his family became landlords of the "BLUE ANCHOR" from ca. 1890 - 1910. At that time George Lines combined his trade of a pork butcher with that of an innkeeper. This pork shop was situated at the far side and lower part of the building (west side). Also at that time the colour qualification was dropped and the inn was forthwith known as just the "ANCHOR", though in earlier references in Maggs' Diary it was also sometimes called just the "ANCHOR".
- 1920s. In about 1920 the "ANCHOR" was taken over by Clow. His brother was working at the brewery Adnams in Southwold, spelling his name as Clough. The pork shop was turned into a dairy.
- But Clow did not keep the inn very long, for in 1924 he left the inn - and his wife - suddenly for Canada to take up employment there.
- 1924 After Clow's sudden departure the "ANCHOR" Inn was taken over by John Winyard and his wife Florence in 1924.
- Soon a very distinguished guest lodged there, the artist and furniture designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh whose work found great acclaim during the last few decades - recently his life story was shown in a film on television in 1992 - including some scenes of Walberswick. Mackintosh knew and loved Walberswick which he visited almost every year since 1914 when he stayed there with his artist wife, Margaret Macdonald, and painted some landscapes but mainly flowers in a style so particular to him and which he intended to publish

in book form but this was foiled by the outbreak of World War I and in view of their Scottish accents, the couple was mistaken as German spies. These very dainty flower pictures by Charles Rennie Mackintosh are much in evidence in postcard form and picture sizes and are readily available in many Suffolk art shops. When Charles Rennie Mackintosh stayed at the "ANCHOR" at about 1925/26 he was on his own and slept upstairs in the guest room while his wife stayed in their home in the South of France. He died on 10. Dec. 1928 at the age of 60 at the result of cancer of the tongue and four years later on 10. Jan. 1933 Margaret died alone in London.

1926

In about 1926 it was found that the cottage-sized "ANCHOR" Inn was too small for the increasing number of customers, mainly the result of the popularity of Walberswick as a quiet holiday resort and attraction for artists. Therefore it was decided to build a larger and more modern public house and hotel on the same site, next to the stables behind the "ANCHOR".

The erection of the new building, which kept the same name of the "ANCHOR", took about 18 months and during that time the old Inn was kept open to serve the customers as usual.

1927

Towards the end of 1927 the opening of the new "ANCHOR" hotel took place and then the old "ANCHOR" Inn was pulled down and it was assumed that this would be the end of the old "ANCHOR" Inn. But this was not so, for it refused to die and like Phoenix rising from the ashes it was resurrected to find a new useful life as a private residence further down on the opposite site of the Street.

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1927

The local builder Fred Thompson had bought the now obsolete building with the exception of the stables in the rear which still stand to-day, for the sum of £ 35 with the intention to preserve and re-erect this old and picturesque building on another site. He therefore dismantled it brick by brick and beam by beam with loving care and rebuilt it in a likewise manner on a plot between the cottage "Thorpe View" and the house "Westons" which he bought on 15. Jul. 1927 for £ 87.10.0 from Squire Sir Ralph Barrett Macnoughton Blois of Cockfield Hall, Yoxford who owned most of the land in the area.

Not to lose it's identity completely, the newly erected building was named first "ANCHOR LEA" and later combined into one word "ANCHORLEA" and it carries this name until the present day.

The fact that "ANCHORLEA" had been rebuilt in the same fashion as the "ANCHOR" Inn had been varified on a visit in 1986 by the son of Mr. John Winyard, Mr. Ernest Winyard who was a boy of 11 when the "ANCHOR" Inn was pulled down in 1927.

One obvious alteration was a new staircase in place of a hen ladder (open rungs) and the creation of an extended dormer window for a second bedroom upstairs.

The kitchen of the Inn ran originally along the rear width of the building, part of this has now been modified to incorporate a bathroom and small bedroom on the groundfloor. The adjoining area which was once the pork shop and later the dairy has now become a garage.

When entering the front door one comes into a small lobby which is flanked on either side by two large rooms, divided by two large brick fireplaces, back to back, one having once been the Public Bar and the other the Saloon Bar. There was no room for a Bar Counter, the reason being that the beer was kept in a cellar, six steps below ground level and it was brought up to order in ewers. Two more steps dropped to a small space in front of a bricked-up doorway. The existence of an underground passage had always been suspected, and eventually, when water pipes were laid, a passage was indeed discovered and its course traced to the "ANCHOR'S" cellar. The passage ran towards the beach (creek) with which it would have formed a useful, secret way. The risk of flooding would have been slight, for it is believed that the passage was built in those remote days when Walberswick was higher above sea level than it is now. We can only make guesses as to the purposes for which the passage was used. (From the "Inns of the Suffolk Coasts")

In the early part of this century (prior to 1927) some alterations to the building were carried out as old photographs clearly prove. On the then East side of the building a door was inserted and on the front to the left of the dairy shop a low shute was put in where the beer barrels were rolled down into the cellar. The loft above this was built out into a room for guests and a second dormer window built into the roof and this is the room where Mackintosh stayed



- 1.11.1927 By this time the builder and carpenter Fred Thompson of Bell Cottage , Walberswick had already completed the erection of "ANCHOR LEA" on its present site, because on that date he took out a mortgage of £ 400 from Mr. Walter Francis Crittall of "Verulanum", London Road, Chelmsford Essex"on the said land of 35 perches and had erected thereon a messuage or dwelling house".
- 28.3.1928 The builder Fred Thompson found a purchaser for "ANCHOR LEA" in the person of Mrs. Catharine Corkhill Scott Morrison of Walberswick, Suffolk, married Woman, for the agreed price of £ 735. This conveyance was witnesses by Mr. Frederick Ellis Willcocks, a neighbour who owned the property adjoining to the East, now "Westons". A sister of Mrs. Catherine Corkhill Scott Morrison, a Miss Agnes Eleanor Broun Macgowan had married Mr. F.E. Willcocks of Brelands, Jersey on the 19.3.1924.
- 1.12.1937 On that date Mrs. C.C.Scott Morrison died at "ANCHOR LEA" and bequeathed the cottage to Mrs. Agnes Eleanor Broun (Brown in the will) Willcocks and to Mr. Martin Langston Howman, the executor, who died on the 26.4.1943 at Perth, Scotland.
- 26.7.1949 On that date Mrs. Agnes Eleanor Broun Willcocks, now a widow sold "ANCHORLEA"(now spelled in one word) to Mr. Frederick Charles Joseph Knights, retired auctioneer and estate agent of: St. Margarets Road Lowestoft, Suffolk, "ANCHORLEA" , Walberswick, Suffolk and "Rozel", Station Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk for the sum of £ 3000. It seemed that Mr. F.C.J.Knights had lived at "ANCHORLEA" as a tenant for some years and that he bought probably the cottage with the view of reselling it with a profit. This however did not seem to have materialized for 4 months later on the 29.11.1949
- 29.11.1949 Mr. Frederick Charles Joseph Knights sold "ANCHORLEA" for £ 3100 to Mr. Willi Hoffer of 21 Grove Road, London N.W.8. physician and surgeon (from Vienna and at that time a consulting psychiatrist of the Hampstead Children Therapy Clinic administered by Anna Freud, the founder and daughter of Prof Sigmund Freud. Dr. Willi Hoffer was also the co-editor of Prf. Freud's "Gesammelte Werke" Engl. edition and vice president of the Sigmund Freud archives in New York)

Dr. Willi Hoffer and his wife Hedwig used "ANCHORLEA" mainly as a week-end and holiday home as their permanent address remained in London. From notes that were found in the cottage and also from many gardening books they left behind it appears that they were keen gardeners and planted many shrubs, roses, clematis etc. from local nurseries, but over the past 35 years or so, the clematis have not survived.

A local born village lady with the name of Winifred Webb held the key of "ANCHORLEA" for many years and kept the cottage in good order and she still holds the key and keeps the cottage under her surveillance.

Dr. Hoffer's interest in Walberswick and particular in "ANCHORLEA" was obviously brought about by his close association with Anna Freud and Mrs. Dorothy Burlingham, also a child psychoanalyst at the Hampstead Clinic and who owned the cottage "THORPE VIEW" next door to the West of "ANCHORLEA". This cottage, partly from Elizabethan times, is now a listed building and subsequently belonging to her daughter.

25.10.1967

When Dr. Willi Hoffer died on the 25.10.1967, now a widower and childless, he left "ANCHORLEA" to Mr. W. Ernest Freud, a nephew of Anna Freud and Grandson of Prof. Sigmund Freud. This must have come as a pleasant surprise to Mr. W.E. Freud because his aunt Anna to whom he was close, owned a house in Walberswick together with her friend Dorothy Burlingham, "FAR END" and it was Anna Freud who witnessed the conveyance when W.E. Freud received the cottage.

The youngest brother of Anna Freud, the architect Ernst Freud owned also a house in Walberswick, "HIDDEN HOUSE" near the village green and his son, Clement Freud, former Liberal M.P. for Ely and his actress wife, Jill own the house "WESTON", next door to "ANCHORLEA" on the East side.

Another member of the Freud family, Mrs. Dorothy Jane Elford, the daughter of Mr. Stephen Gabriel Freud, the brother of Mr. Clement Freud owns a chalet in the village near the green which is named "Hidden Hut" and situated quite close to the "Hidden House".

Dr. Willi Hoffer installed 4 electric night-storage heaters in "Anchorlea" and made a planning application to have the garage extended. This application was turned down but at some time or other the garage was extended towards the rear by about two feet in tongue and grooved wood.

The wiring of the cottage was installed prior to Dr. Willi Hoffer's ownership.

During the ownership of Mr. W. Ernest Freud a very efficient double glazing system with sliding windows throughout the building was installed and the exterior woodwork was painted in battle-ship grey.

The cottage was frequently used for holidays and weekends mainly during Spring, Summer and Autumn by Mr. W. Ernest Freud, his wife Irene and son Colin for the next 18 years.

During this period a good friend of Mr. W.E. Freud, Hanns W. Lange and his wife Edna spent many memorable holidays at the cottage and at the same time carried out running repairs inside and out, including completely taking over the garden work latterly from Mr. J. Napthine of Westleton, whose employment ceased when in 1984 Mr. W.E. Freud permanently moved to Germany from Golders Green, London.

3.9.1986 Owing to Mr. W.E. Freud's permanent removal to Germany and very infrequent visits to Walberswick, H.W. Lange took up Mr. Freud's previous suggestions and bought the cottage from him on the 3.9.1986 as he was now in the financial position to do so.

Before moving into the cottage, however, much thought and re-organisation had to be carried out. There was furniture to be auctioned, some to be despatched to Germany, such as chairs, bookcases, cabinets, one large old antique table, personal items and clothing etc.

Prior to this, a large consignment of the Freud's possessions from London, which had been stored in the cottage from the previous year, were sent in advance of the latter consignment to Cologne. The beds, upstairs furniture, some of the kitchen ware, china saucepans and so on were to remain in the cottage together with some pictures of local views and a few vases.

The same removal firm who transported Hanns W. Lange's late mother's furniture from Purley to Walberswick, collected and took W. Ernest Freud's furniture to Cologne the very same day.

The cottage was awaiting well overdue attention as no major repairs were carried out in about the last 20 years.

The outside paintwork, guttering, walls etc., in green and white, the garage doors repaired, all in a very satisfactory manner by Nigel Hunt of Church Lane.

Two wrought-iron gates on either side of the cottage and a small wooden fence to divide the rear garden from the front were next erected by Nick English who was born in the village.

The roof over the kitchen was leaking and had to be dealt <sup>with</sup> promptly. This part of the roof was carefully stripped of it's tiles, the faulty lead flashing replaced together with the decayed battens and roof felt and then the pantiles replaced.

Now the interior had to be tackled: The hot and cold water tanks, immersion heater and all pipes were removed and replaced. Then the work on the kitchen, which was in a very poor condition, was commenced.

The rusty Ideal boiler and piping was removed together with the sink and cupboards. A new sink with cupboards in medium oak shade which blended in with the interior of the cottage was installed, together with a working bench.

Next, the adjoining breakfast room was completely repainted and the window repaired. All this work was expertly carried out by the two-men team John Abbott and Nick Westwood of Southwold and Wangford.

The remaining renovating and decorating work was carried out in stages during the next 18 months by Hanns and Edna Lange. In some cases this necessitated the washing off the distemper from the ceilings and mostly applying three coats of paint. The walls were all emulsioned, again with several coats and 14 of the doors were painted on both sides. Window frames had to be repaired and painted with several coats. All beams were treated against woodworm and stained in dark oak. Prior to the bathroom ceiling and walls being painted the W.C. cistern had to be replaced, as it was rusted through.

The floor quarry tiles in the kitchen, rear hall and bathroom were in bad need of attention. The accumulated grime of decades had to be removed, the surface polished and the deep cracks repointed in deep ochre.

The brick and mortar work of both fireplaces which was crumbling was given a coat of bonding clear paint to consolidate same, also the brick work in the front hall was given the same treatment.

The old carpet on the staircase was removed, the creaking treads rectified and a new carpet - this time with stairrods - laid. These unique stairrods came from Germany 50 years ago and had never been used before.

The wooden floors in the breakfast room and some other rooms were restained as necessary.

The inside coal cupboard in the kitchen was transformed into a small workroom - after removing sacks of slack. It held tools and ironmongery before, but now there is floor space to house garden tools, lawnmower etc. The window of same, where the coal was originally shot in, can now be opened freely and has now interior bolts and steel bars for security.

The larder window has also been fitted with steel bars and both areas had been redecorated.

Prior to all this work the cottage had been completely rewired by the reputable Southwold firm Neal of Queenstreet. This was an intricate work as old cottages as this have no space twixt ceiling and floorboards above.

During the period of internal renovating, the garden of  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre had to be kept in order and the lawns cut at regular monthly intervals. The vegetable plot had to be planted, new soft fruits and 5 new fruit trees were planted. Several old trees had to be grubbed out and others had to be pruned into shape. The very tall privet hedge had to be reduced by ca. 5 feet to make it more manageable.

The West side fence was completely overgrown by rampant ivy which also trailed up the shrubs and trees and suffocated them. This was drastically dealt with in time to save the lilac trees in the front garden and which were leaning dangerously towards the cottage.

A very old climatis, spanning the width of the cottage at the rear was sending it's shoots under the pantiles into the loft and subsequently had to be disengaged in the loft and disposed of in large plastic bags. A very dirty and dusty job and awkward as the entrance to the loft is only 2-3 feet square.

A large Pyracantha shrub growing to the left of the front entrance close to the cottage had to be dug out as it's root were undermining the foundations and was replaced by smaller and less vigorously growing shrubs.

The very old Wisteria to the right of the entrance and which trailed over the porch had to be pruned drastically and the dead wood had to be removed.

Three new climatis were planted along the front of the cottage to trail up trellises and a very old Buddleia in the front garden which gave up it's ghost finally, was replaced with a Yucca from Purley.

All roses, especially the very large white one outside the kitchen door and the red one behind the greenhouse had to be pruned drastically.

The very attractive pink Mallows were pruned and periodically replaced with new cuttings and three large Camellias, which also came from Purley were planted in the back garden.

The large lawn, especially in the back, was through neglect overgrown with weed and moss and had reverted to the original field. This was remedied by regular cutting and weeding and filling in the hollows with soil. Most of the moss was cleared by raking out over 70 barrow loads of this pest! Numerous packets of mosskiller were sprayed at regular intervals to help to keep the moss in the lawn under control.

Stepping stones and steps leading from the kitchen to the back garden were discovered under grass and soil, unearthed and put into use. The greenhouse which had been leaning was rectified, given a coat of creosote and the windows repaired. The old pear tree above had regularly shed it's pears through the glass which was partly boarded over to avoid recurrence.

A forty gallon metal water tank behind the greenhouse was riddled with rust holes and held water no longer. The problem was to find a similar one which were no longer manufactured and after scouring

the local countryside a similar unwanted one was found and duly erected after being purchased from the owner, the local funeral director.

The wooden front fence needed attention with new arris rails, where necessary and new hit-and-miss type fencing replaced, together with several new posts.

The small front gate and the large garage gate had a lot of attention and now swing and shut easily. The whole has been creosoted.

The stop cock on the road outside the garage gate had broken and was replaced by the Water Board.

It was found that some of the front windows on the ground floor let in rain. This was corrected by fitting wooden drip bars above the windows.

A front-door bell was fitted, using a disused lead internally and now ringing in the kitchen from an old brass bell.

The old back-door bell was found broken on a shelf. This was repaired and replaced in it's former position.

An old hanging brass ship's clock was also found broken, duly repaired and hung in the middle-room on the newly papered end-wall.

A later job was the hanging of three bronze chandeliers in the downstairs rooms, which came originally from the late Mrs. I. Lange's home.

The hurricane which severely damaged the South of England in October 1987 and wreaked havoc in Walberswick, to Houses, barns, trees etc. Telephone and electricity cables festooned the streets and most of the poles were left badly leaning. But "Anchorlea" and it's garden was left unscathed, except for electricity and telephone being cut off for nearly a week and the garage-roof tiles being damaged by barge-boards and tiles from the neighbour's, Sir Clement Freud's roof flying onto our cottage. This was immediately repaired.

The large sycamore tree belonging to the other neighbour, which has previously caused us concern because of it's height in the close proximity of our cottage, lost a huge bough, which fortunately missed our cottage, but smashed the fence. The debris were quickly dealt with, but our regularly pruned trees remained unscathed.

The only worth mentioning damage the hurricane caused to the garden was the partly blowing over of the already rather rickety pergola at the bottom of the garden on which rambling roses trail. This pergola was constructed from metal pipings which in time were badly rusted and had previously needed frequent attention. This time it needed a thorough repair, which was soon carried out.

Similarly, a chestnut fence which was originally erected by the neighbours on the West side was also blown over and we repaired it in a more substantial manner, by putting in new posts etc.

Considering the extensive devastation this hurricane caused in the village, we consider ourselves very fortunate for there were many beautiful old trees uprooted and many buildings damaged, far younger than our over two hundred year old country cottage. The garage doors which were painted green and facing South and difficult to keep in good condition, were replaced with oiled natural wood doors by the joiner D.L.Gill of Southwold in May 1993 and since treated annually.

Dr. Willi Hoffer (a previous owner) erected a small Cedar greenhouse (4'x6') in the rear garden, probably in the 1950s, in which we kept our garden tools. This greenhouse was getting more and more decrepit and in the Autumn 1994 it was replaced by a wooden chalet (8'x8') supplied and erected by the firm Rushmeres of Lowestoft with the cost of approx. £ 1.000, including the widening of the concrete base. From then onwards we spend most afternoons in this summerhouse which is facing South-West and gets the full sunshine. The old greenhouse found a good home in the garden of cllr. Ray H. Leighton, a capable D.I.Y. gentleman, who successfully dismantled and re-erected it for his own use.

In January 1996 the front fence and 4 gates were replaced by J.D.A. Builders of Reydon.