

# Piper's Croft, 9 Silver Street, Lyme Regis

<https://www.lymeregismuseumresearchteam.co.uk>

Graham Davies, 2011/2016



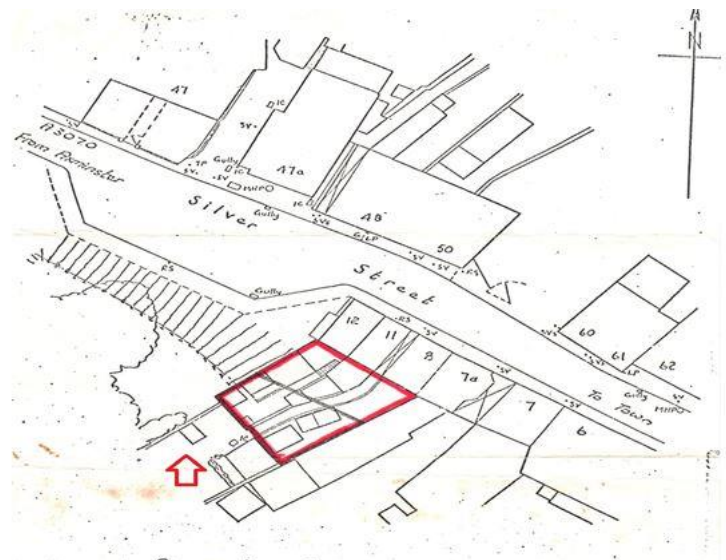
Piper's Croft has only been a single dwelling house for a relatively short period. From at least the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the mid/late 1960s, it was two houses, identified as Nos. 9 & 10 Silver Street. And before that, the tithe map of 1841 indicates that the property was divided into three dwelling houses.

Piper's Croft appears to be a modern name, presumably created some time after the conversion of Nos.9 & 10 into one house, viz. No.9 Silver Street.



1841 Tithe Map

The above map not only shows the location of three dwelling houses on the site of Piper's Croft, but also the access from the street to the site has barely altered during the next 125 years, as seen in the 1966 plan, although by then, house Nos.13-19 Silver Street, had been demolished to allow the building of the lay-by and library in 1965.



1966 Plan

Apart from its location on maps, it has proved difficult to add any further information from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This is basically due to its lack of identity. Lack of deeds for that period leaves us with no house names, if any, and no certain identity of the inhabitants. In addition, Street numbers for houses did not begin in Lyme Regis until 1900. Tithe maps often provide information on owners and tenants of

properties, but again, not in this instance. Reference to the National Archives and the British Newspaper Archive has again produced no results.

The 1911 census describes the property as Nos.9 & 10 Silver Street:

**No.9** (3 rooms)      George Clarke (56 years old), farm labourer  
Jane Clarke (42), wife  
Beatrice Fowler (10), niece

**No.10** (6 rooms)      William G K Chappell (59), widowed, gardener  
Missie Emma Bishop (35), daughter, married  
Arthur Maurice Bishop (3), grandson  
Doris Lena Bishop (1), granddaughter

The recorded room numbers include the kitchen but not the scullery, landing, lobby, closet etc. The date of the two dwellings is not yet known, but from the census I think we can suggest that the original three dwelling houses had three rooms each.

The electoral registers give information for the following years.

**No.9**

1922-30	George & Jane Clarke
1932-39	Jane Clarke, Harry Austin
1945-47	Harry Austin
1949-54	Arthur & Mary Loveridge
1955	William B Liddicoat
1959	William B & Shirley Liddicoat
1960	Ernest & Bridget Steele
1963	-----
1970	Ronald & Gladys Cabbage
1974	Jonathan, Katherine & Thomas Hodkinson
1981	Katherine & Thomas Hodkinson

**No.10**

1922-54	John & Susan Spurle
1955-63	Susan Spurle
1967	Ronald & Gladys Cabbage

The above records indicate that the conversion of the property to a single dwelling occurred in the 1960s, when other changes were also taking place in the street below, leading to greater access to the property, as we find today.

In the absence of suitable photos, I have annotated a 1950s painting (see below) clearly showing the access to Nos.9 & 10 through a passageway between Nos.8 & 11, Silver Street. By 1970, the remaining houses, Nos.8, 11 & 12 Silver Street had been demolished.



---

In 2011 the then owner loaned the team deeds from the 1960s.