

Hele's Tenement

The following information is derived mostly from source material collated by John Usmar in 2007 as part of his study of the Witheridge Outliers.

From a tithe apportionment listing, that was not dated, Heles Tenement comprised of:-

House and garden; Garden, Back, Long and Bottom East Orchards; Lawn and Back Fields, Little Hill and Joe's Close (arable); Great Mead, Little Mead, Bottom and South Bottom (meadows).

The land tax records show Hele's Tenement was owned and occupied by the Bidgood family from 1780 – 1832, which was still the case recorded by the 1841 census. By the time of the 1861 census the land (only listed as Heles) was farmed by John Thomas. The 1901 census shows Emma Rolle as the head of the household with her five children.

It seems that latterly this was called Old Hele and by 1939 there were just traces of a building; the 1980 6 inch map shows that access to Old Hele was across Mill Bridge and then at once right.