

BERRY CLEAVE

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

The earliest reference to Berry Cleave (then spelt Berrie Cleave) that has been found was in relation to the Church Repair Rate on 11th May 1682, when Christopher Partridge paid 1d halfpenny.

From the Tax records, the following owners and occupiers were listed:

Year	Land Owner	Occupier
1780	Mary Down & Grace Melhuish	Thomas Bennett
1798	Mrs Robert Ven	Thomas Bennett
1810	Robert Ven	Mrs Bennett
1815	A. Comins	A. Comins
1828	Richard Comins	William Clapp
1832	Richard Comins	Richard Comins

From the 1837 tithe map Berry Cleave was still owned and occupied by Richard Comins. From the two inch 1806-7 map it appears that Berry Cleave and Sowdon's Cottage were on the site which later became Newhouse.

By 1841, from the census, the occupiers were John and Ann Nott, followed by Thomas Loosemore (?) and family in 1861. In the 1881 and 1901 census, the occupier was John Dilling and family.

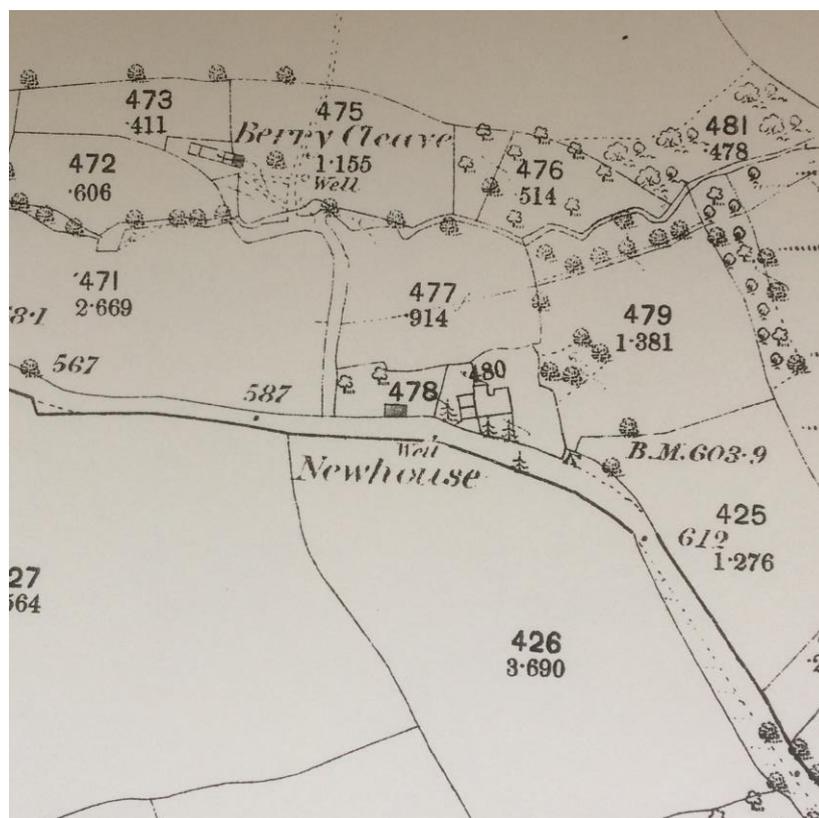


Figure 1 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map 1889

Berry Cleave was burnt down in 1947; this date was provided by Gordon Webber and has not been verified.