



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Chilmark

Chilmark is a village and parish, situated a short distance southward of the turnpike road from Salisbury to Hindon, in the Southern division of the county, Tisbury union, Hindon petty sessional division, Dunworth hundred, Shaftesbury county court district, diocese and archdeaconry of Salisbury, and rural deanery of Chalke, 12 miles west from Salisbury, 4 east from Hindon, and 3 from Tisbury and Dinton railway stations.

The church of St Margaret is an ancient structure, restored in 1856. It consists of a chancel, nave, transepts, and north aisle. It has a noble tower containing 4 bells, with a handsome spire. The restoration was brought about by the exertions of the rector, and the cost, £1,700, was defrayed by subscriptions, the Earl of Pembroke and members of his family contributing most liberally.

Mr Wyatt was the architect, who displayed great taste and judgment in blending the new and the old buildings. An ancient Norman doorway, now forming the entrance to the new aisle, is especially deserving of notice. For centuries, this relic stood on the south side of the church, entirely blocked up and disregarded. It has now been made to bear again its original stamp, and thus add to the beauty of a structure already very pleasing. Beneath a pointed arch in the south wall of the chancel, and in the south transept, are piscinae in a good state of preservation.

There are several windows of stained glass, the eastern window of three lights is beautifully painted, in the centre is the Saviour, to the right is St Peter, and on the left is St John. Two stained windows have been added, one in memory of Mrs Frederick King, in the south transept, representing our Lord's Ascension, the other, in the north aisle, opposite the porch, in memory of the rector's wife, given by the parishioners. In the churchyard, at the principal entrance, is a lych-gate, of recent construction.

The register dates from 1653. The living is a rectory, valued at £426, in the gift of the Earl of Pembroke, and held by the Rev. Charles Tower, M.A., of St John's College, Cambridge.

Here is a National school, with class rooms, and master's residence, erected at a cost of £1,000, supported by the rector, the Earl of Pembroke, the Government grant, and a rate made on the parishioners.

In this parish are great quarries of freestone, which have been worked for many centuries, and have yielded the stone used in erecting most of the churches and other buildings in the southern part of Wilts, as also in the parts of Dorsetshire bordering on this locality. The walls, buttresses, and other substantial parts of Salisbury, and the new spire of Chichester cathedral, are constructed of Chilmark stone.

Most of the land is the property of the Earl of Pembroke, who is lord of the manor.

The soil is light and chalky; subsoil, chalk and flint and stone. The chief crops are barley, wheat and turnips.

The area is 3,154 acres; gross estimated rental, £3,603; rateable value, £3,243; and the population in 1871 was 698, including **Ridge**.

Ridge is a tithing, a mile and a half south-west, with 163 inhabitants.

PARISH CLERK, Thomas Burrige.

POST OFFICE, Mrs Navarine Bowles, receiver. Letters arrive from Salisbury at 7 am.; dispatched at 6.50 pm. The nearest money order office is at Hindon.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, William Seamark, master; Mrs Elizabeth Seamark, mistress.

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CARRIER to Salisbury, John Mould, Tuesday & Saturday, returning same day.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
King	Frederick			Chilmark House
Tower	Charles	Rev. M.A.	Rector	

Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Baker	John		Blacksmith	
Bennett	William		Farmer	
Bowles	John & Levi		Quarry owners	
Dew	John		Farmer	Ridge
Fidler	William		Farmer	
Flower	William		Farmer	
Fricker	John			Black Dog
Grey	John		Shoe maker	
Harvey	John		Potter, brick & tile maker & beer retailer	Ridge
Jukes	Elizabeth	Mrs	Shopkeeper	
Mould	John		Shopkeeper & carrier	
Plowman	William		Farmer	Ridge
Rowden	Elizabeth	Mrs	Shopkeeper	
Shergold	John		Farmer	
Smith	Enos		Boot & shoe maker	
Webb	John		Farmer	