

THE HISTORY OF VIRGINIA COTTAGE, BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE

by Linda Moffatt 2014, revised 2018©

on behalf of the present owners
and the Barton Stacey History Group.

Virginia Cottage stands to the south of the old Plough Inn on the western side of Barton Stacey Street. I am very grateful to its present owners, who made its deeds available for study. At the time they purchased it in 1977, it was in a derelict condition, with dirt and brick floors, two staircases near-collapse and full of bicycle spares remaining from its time as a cycle shop run by Vic Collins. Its garden, together with those of adjacent properties, has since been extended down to the recreation ground.

The first owner of whom we are aware was

Samuel Newman, owner in 1821 and perhaps earlier

Samuel Newman (ca.1759-1821) was an ironmonger of Cow Cross Street, St Sepulchre, London who owned in 1821 five houses in Barton Stacey, including what is now known as Virginia Cottage. These houses were presumably built after the 'Great Fire' of Barton Stacey in 1792 when most of The Street was destroyed. It is not presently known when Newman acquired the houses, possibly through his connection with the Child(s) family in the parish.

He had two children by his first wife Sarah Smith¹, both girls and both married at the time of his death late in 1821². His daughter Sarah was married to William Lewis, a horse hair manufacturer of Old Street, St Luke's, London. Samuel Newman in his will³ left to William Lewis 'the four houses at Barton Stacey occupied [in 1821] by Henry White, George Hunt, John Pople(? People) and Mr Withers.

- Henry White died aged 52 in 1829 and was buried at All Saints', Barton Stacey on 3 March.
- George Hunt died aged 47 in 1830 and was buried at All Saints' on 13 June. There were no families called Hunt in the parish at the time of the first census after this date, that of 1841. However, a George Munt lived in the appropriate area of the village street in 1841.
- The one family by the name of People in Barton Stacey parish were protestant dissenters - on 2 April 1827 Thomas Futchter applied to use the house in which William People resided as a non-conformist place of worship. William People and his wife Ann (née Rendal) were living at the

¹ He married secondly Ann Ayers Brown on 29 October 1820 in London.

² He was buried at St John's, Clerkenwell on 30 December 1821, aged 62.

³ PROB 11/1652/151 from the National Archives.

time of the 1841 census in The Street, near to Wade's Farm, presumably in one of the houses left to William Lewis.

- Mr Withers. This *perhaps* refers to Charles Withers, an agricultural labourer, and his family, found in the 1841 census.

Thomas Newman Childs, owner until 1838

Samuel Newman's other daughter Harriet was married to Thomas Childs and had a son Thomas Newman Childs (b.ca.1815-d.1882 in Liverpool). Thomas Childs was from an old Barton Stacey family and was living in Barton Stacey at the time of his father-in-law's death in 1821. We know this because Samuel Newman left to Thomas and Harriet Childs of Barton Stacey 'the freehold house they now occupy' and this was to pass to their son when they died. This is the house now called Virginia Cottage. Thomas Childs died on 23 March 1838 (probably in London). His wife Harriet and their son Thomas Newman Childs sold the house to William Horwood of Barton Stacey, a builder, in August 1838.

William Horwood & family, owners from 1838 to 1847

A builder, William Horwood (ca.1795-1843) was living at the time of the 1841 census⁴ with his wife Elizabeth at what is now Virginia Cottage, next to and north of the shop run by Charles Tarrant and his wife Jane. William Horwood died on 1 March 1843 without leaving a will. Administration of his estate was granted on 8 April 1843 to his widow Elizabeth and his eldest son John Childs Horwood.

Mary (White) Lewis and her brother William White, owners 1847-48

John Childs Horwood then sold the house in June 1847 to Mary Lewis, a widow of Broad Oak, Odiham, Hampshire (b.early-mid 1780s-d.1848 and daughter of Mrs Elizabeth White). In her will dated 10 March 1848 (proved at the Consistory Court of Winchester) Mary Lewis left to her brother William White all the houses she owned on mortgage. Very shortly afterwards, in May 1848, he had the property sold by auction.

1848 Auction at the Swan Inn, sold to blacksmith James Davis, owner from 1848 to 1860

On 31 May 1848 the house was sold by auction for £175 to James Davis, a blacksmith. Other houses in Barton Stacey and Binstead were sold at the same time but we have yet to find the details of this auction.

James Davis was from an old blacksmithing family which had been in Barton Stacey, probably since the 1720s. He was baptised at All Saints on 23 February 1800, the son of William and Sophia (Diddams) Davis. He married Mary Ann Lovell on 18 July 1824 at St George the Martyr, Southwark, Surrey. They lived in Carshalton, Surrey until 1831-32 before settling in Barton Stacey. They were living in 1841 on The Street in Barton Stacey. His occupation was given as 'whitesmith', denoting a worker in tin, though thereafter he is always found in documents as a blacksmith. In 1861 he was employing two other men in his business. Children, as known - Sophia Sarah, James Matthew, George, Emily, Rose Selina, David, Daniel and Matilda.

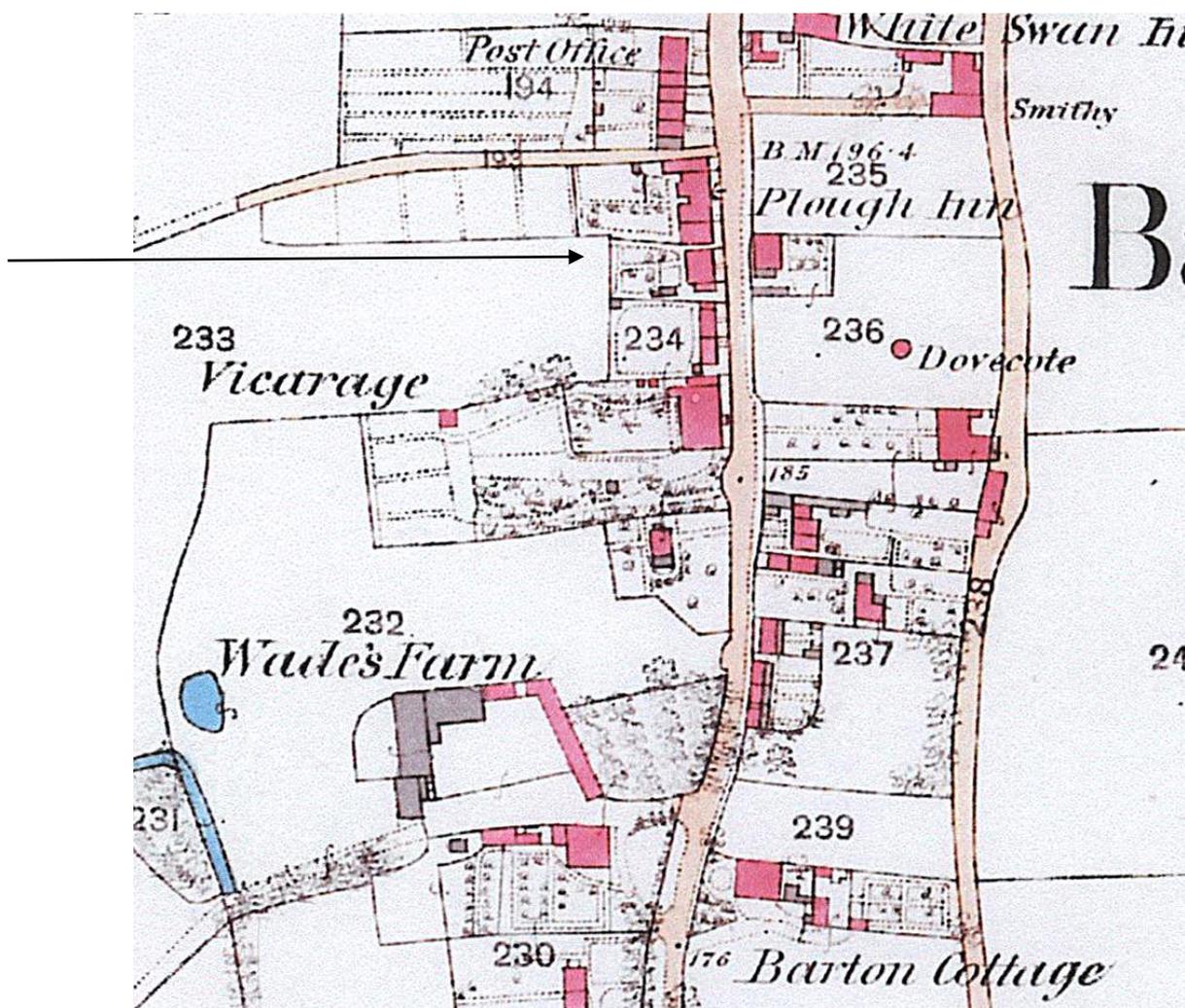
⁴ 1841 census, piece 383, folio 12/6, page 7.

James Davis provided the property for the use of Joseph Diddams during James Davis' lifetime. James Davis did not live in the property as can be deduced from the document of 1860 conveying it to his daughter Emily.

Emily (Davis) Silvester, owner from 1860 to 1902

On 29 May 1860 James Davis 'in consideration of natural love and affection' conveyed to his daughter Miss Emily Davis (1832-1901) 'a tenement, garden and premises at Barton Stacey' which was at that time in the occupation of James Futcher, James Gamble and Charles Ball 'bounded on the north by a garden now or late belonging to and in the occupation of Edward Ayres, on the east by Barton Stacey Street, on the west by a meadow called Broad Close now or late in the occupation of William North and on the south [i.e. towards Winchester] by a house and garden now or late of Charles Tarrant.

Below is a map of about 1850 showing this area of the village and on the following two pages is part of the 1861 census for The Street, Barton Stacey [RG9 piece 713 folio 23], showing James Davis' property and its neighbouring properties.



Two consecutive pages from the 1861 census for Barton Stacey village. The houses run from north to the south. The Schedule numbers are not house numbers - they refer to the returns for each household.

Schedules 35, 36 & 37 show Virginia Cottage in multiple occupancy. Schedule 34 is Edmund Eyers premises, where The Old Plough stood. The exact location of the Robins family's house or rooms is not clear but Schedule 39 shows the grocer's shop belonging to Charles Tarrant, before The Vicarage.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the											[Page 5
Parish [or Township] of		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of		Town of		Hamlet or Tything, &c., of	Ecclesiastical District of
No. of Schedules	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	HOUSES		Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, or Deaf and-Dumb
		Inhabited	Uninhabited (U.S. or Building (B.))				Male	Female			
30	Village	-	-	James Doswell	Son		5		Scholar	Hants Barton Stacey	
		-	-	Alfred Do	Son		7			Do Do	
38		1		Elizabeth Roe	Head	M	68		Grocer & Keeping Post office	Do Bolder	
				Sarah Ann Do	Daughter	Un	30		Assistant in the above	Do Barton Stacey	
				Mary Jordan	Visitor	M	56		Laundress	Do Hurstbourne Sarant	
31		1		William Lock	Head	Mar	75		Carter	Do Barton Stacey	
				Hannah Do	Wife	Mar	63			Do Do	
32		1		John Bennett	Head	Mar	69		Ag Lab	Wiltshire Whylis	
				Mary Ann Do	Wife	Mar	62			Hants Tuffen	
33		1		Walter Jarless	Head	Mar	27		Journeyman Carpenter	Do Cheshollow	
				Hannah Do	Wife	Mar	26			Do Barton Stacey	
				Mary Ann Do	Daughter		1			Do Do	
34		1		Edmund Eyers	Head	Mar	60		Jocenswood Vit	Do Hurstbourne Priors	
				Sarah Do	Wife	Mar	66			Wiltshire Sturminster Wald	
				Laura Do	Daughter	Un	22		Milliner & Dressmaker	Hants Barton Stacey	
35		1		James Fletcher	Head	Un	60		Landholder	Do Broughton	
36				James Gamble	Head	Mar	26		Police Constable	Wiltshire Melton Mowbray	
				Selena Do	Wife	Mar	23			Hants Stoken Abbas	
				James Do	Son		11			Do Barton Stacey	
37				Charles Bale	Head	Widow	70		Ag Lab	Do Do	
38		1		Robert Robbins	Head	Mar	56		Bricklayer	Do Overton	
				Mary Do	Wife	Mar	55			Do Do	
				Ann Do	Daughter	Un	23		Servant	Do Barton Stacey	
				George Do	Son	Un	14		Scholar	Do Do	

Page 6j		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the											
Parish [or Township] of <i>Barton Stacey</i>		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of		Town of		Hamlet or Tything, &c., of		Ecclesiastical District of	
No. of Schedule	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	HOUSES		Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born		Whether Blind, or Deaf- and-Dumb	
		In- habited	Un- inhabited (U.S.) or Inhabited (B.)				Males	Females					
39	Village	1	-	Charles Farrant	Head	Widr	77		Grocer	Hant. Barton Stacey			
				Ann Goodall	Niece	Un	30		House Keeper	Do Do			
40	Vicarage House	1	-	Samuel G. Dudley	Head	Mar	48		Curate of Barton Stacey	Exford			
				Agustaf Do	Wife	Mar	43		Clergyman's Wife	Middlesex Tottenham			
				Agustaf Do	Daughter	Un	16			Barks Chilton			
				Adah L Do	Daughter	Un	13			Hant. Morwell			
				Mary H Do	Daughter		10			Do Do			
				Edith G Do	Daughter		8			Do Do			
				Louisa Hearn	Governess	Un	27		Governess	Isle of Wight Newport			
				Martha Davis	Servant	Un	25		House servant	Wilt. Chilmark			
				Mary Mansbridge	Serv	Un	25		Cook	Hants Kings Worthy			
41		1	-	Joseph Jerome	Head	Mar	43		Brewer & Baker	Do Hurstbourne Priore			
				Jennett Do	Wife	Mar	40		School. Mistress	Do Do			
				Rhoda Do	Daughter	Un	16		House Keeper	Do Loversley			
				Arthur Do	Son		14		Servant	Do Do			
				Edith Do	Daughter		12		Scholar	Do Barton Stacey			
				Jennett Do	Daughter		10		"Do	Do Do			
				John Do	Son		7		"Do	Do Do			
				Cecilia Ann Do	Daughter		4		"Do	Do Do			
42				Robert Rounold	Lodger	Un	38		Ag Lab	Do Do			
43		1	-	Elizabeth Webb	Head	W	42		Carrier	Do Chilbolton			
				James Do	Son	Un	17		Carrier	Do Barton Stacey			
				John W Do	Son		13		Plough Boy	Do Do			
				Henry Do	Son		11		Scholar	Do Do			
				Walter Do	Son		8		Scholar	Do Do			
5	Total of Houses...	4		Total of Males and Females...			10	15					

Emily Davis married Henry Silvester in 1875, which explains why the house was called Silvester's Cottage at the time of the 1891 census. She died on 3 May 1901 at Park Lodge, Park Gate, Sarisbury, Hampshire, and, after a number of bequests, appointed trustees to sell all her real and personal estate. (Will proved 11 April 1902 at Prerogative Court of Canterbury). These trustees were her nephew George Reginald Grace Davis, a rate collector of Crawley near Winchester, together with her friends George Henry Child, builder of Soberton and Graham Whitlock, solicitor of Fareham.

Emily Silvester's trustees sold the property to Albert Charles Barter on 4 December 1902 for £240. Since its sale forty years earlier, it had been divided into two houses and was now occupied by Mrs Rose Davis. Mr Ayres garden now belonged to Thomas Sainsbury. Broad Close was the property of George Judd and Charles Tarrant's house was now occupied by Henry Webb.

Albert Charles Barter, owner from 1902 to 1922



Albert Charles Barter (1846-1922) was the son of Charles Barter, a thresher on a farm, and his wife Sarah. He was born in Stratford, Wiltshire in 1846. He married Anna Maria Humby in 1871 in Wiltshire and by the time of the 1881 census was a policeman in Abbots Ann, Hampshire. The birthplaces of his children show that they had in the ten years since their marriage lived in Woking, Surrey, in Godalming, Surrey, and in Salisbury, Wiltshire. They moved to Barton Stacey some time before 1891. After a time living in Freefolk (Whitchurch parish), Hampshire, he took the opportunity in 1902 to buy a property in Barton Stacey in his retirement.

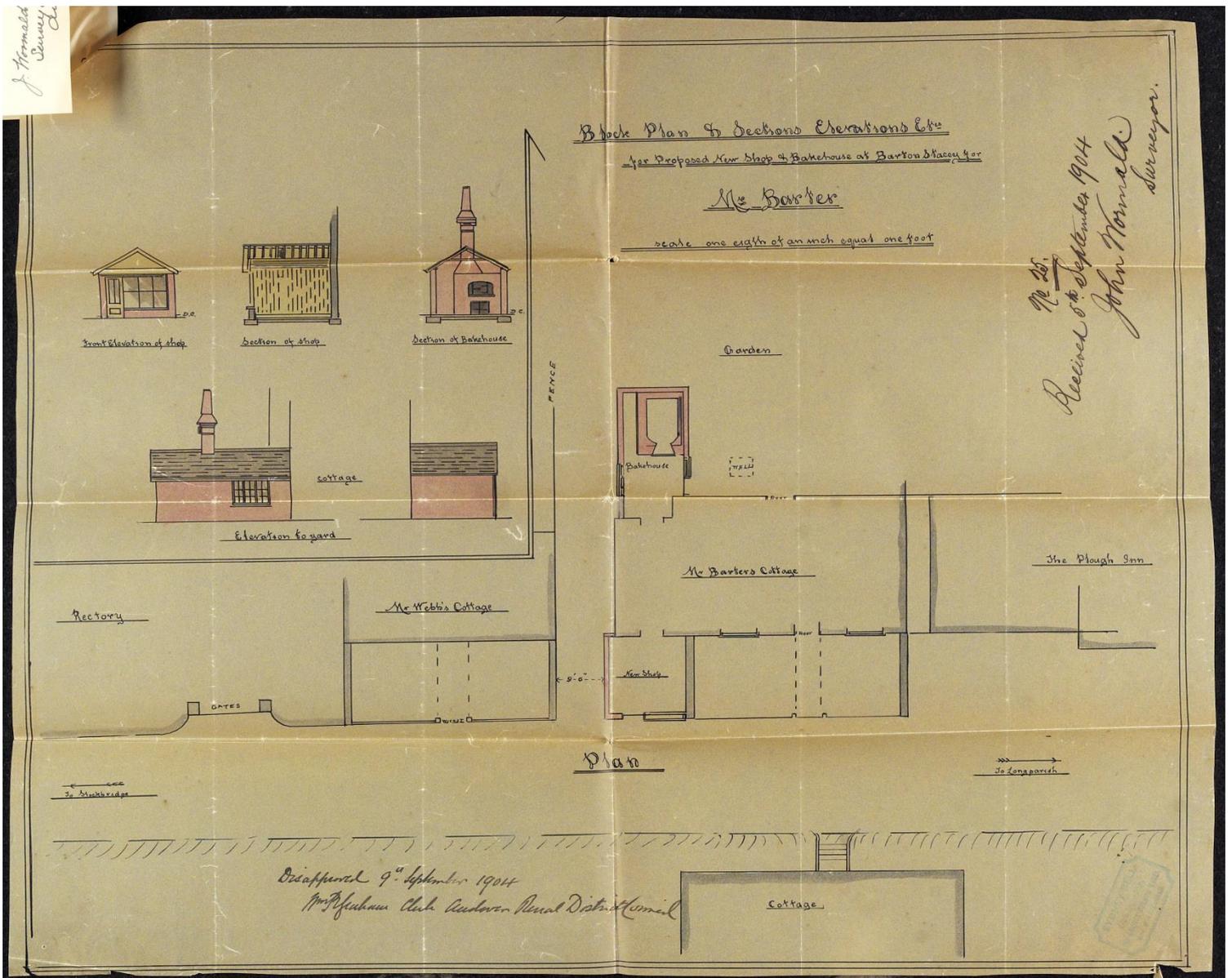
Albert Charles and Anna Maria Barter.

In order to make changes to the property, Albert Charles Barter submitted building plans to Andover Rural District Council in 1904, for the addition of a small shop at the front of the house and a bakehouse at the rear.

The plans show The Street, with Rose Cottage opposite to 'Mr Barter's Cottage'. The Plough Inn lies to the north and Mr Webb's cottage and the Rectory to the south.

Though these plans were 'disapproved', permission was obtained and on 28 September 1906 a mortgage of £100 was granted to Mr Barter, presumably for this building work, from The trustees of the Hope of Andover Tent No. 133 Branch of the Independent Order of Rechabites (a Christian group keen to promote total abstinence from alcohol⁵).

⁵ The Trustees of Branch 133 at that time were Benjamin Baverstock Pond of Andover, draper, Frank Sims of Andover, blacksmith, and Henry James Street of Andover, ironfitter.



Charles Albert Barter died in Barton Stacey on 15 April 1922, survived by his wife Anna Maria, to whom letters of administration were granted. His funeral was arranged by Mr Charlton of Barton Stacey, undertaker, and cost £8 10s 0d.

For the purposes of Estate Duty, Virginia Cottage was then described as

The brick and flint built and slated house containing sitting room kitchen scullery pantry and four bedrooms (also a small front shop with store room over and a small bake house not now used). There is a garden in the rear on which there are two sheds. These premises are situated in the centre of Barton Stacey and the gross poor rate Assessment amounts to £10.

Walter Albert Barter, owner from 1923-1933

Anna Maria Barter of Barton Stacey passed her husband's real estate to their eldest son Walter Albert Barter on 29 March 1923. He lived at the Butts, Pottern, Wiltshire.

Richard Renfree, owner from 1933-34

On 4 August 1933 Walter Albert Barter of Barton Stacey sold the property (now reunited into one dwelling) for £550 to Richard Renfree, an undertaker of 220 The Grove, Hammersmith, London. A witness to the transaction was E. L. Hoare, a farmer of Barton Stacey. Richard Renfree died on 3 October 1933.

Elijah Levi Hoare, owner from 1934-1960

Richard Renfree's executor sold the property on 6 March 1934 to Elijah Levi Hoare, a farmer of The Limes, Barton Stacey, retired miller, for the sum of £350.

Elijah Hoare was born in 1855 in Newbury, Berkshire and married firstly Elizabeth Ann Richardson. He was a farmer at Polesdon's Farm, Bagshot (in the parish of Shalbourne, Berkshire). At some point in the 1890s they moved to a mill at 18 Bridge Street, Andover before retiring to Barton Stacey. Elizabeth Ann Hoare died in 1919 aged 70 and two years later Elijah married Henrietta Jane Chiles, who ran a boarding house at Ash Farm, Barton Stacey. She was born in 1868 in Barton Stacey, daughter of John W. Chiles and his wife Mary. Henrietta's father was a wheelwright and a farmer of 50 acres; at the time of the 1871 census he employed four men and a boy.

Elijah Levi Hoare of Ash Farm, Barton Stacey died on 2 August 1938 aged 82. His executors and trustees were Jesse Walter White of 126 Junction Road, Andover, railway guard, (and on his death in 1950 to his widow Martha Jane White) and Samuel William Chapman of 76 Weyhill Road, Andover, solicitor's clerk (died 1950). His trustees sold the property to F.W. May in 1960, from whom the present owners purchased it in 1977.

Virginia Cottage was rented from the 1930s until its sale in 1977 by Mrs Annie Collins and, after her death, by her son Victor (Vic). Mrs Collins is seen here in front of the shop in a photograph we have dated to December 1934. The quality of this photograph is excellent and was perhaps arranged by Elijah Hoare, its then owner.



The shop as it appeared in the days when it was a cycle repair shop run by Vic Collins.

*Annie Collins standing in the doorway of her shop.
December 1934.*