

# BETWEEN THE WHITE GATES

*A History of the Barn,  
the Tree, and Some Notable Inhabitants of  
Pullen's Lane, Headington*



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## CHAPTER FOUR

### *The Victorian Builders and Some Residents of Pullen's Lane*

THE ORDER OF THE BUILDING OF THE VICTORIAN HOUSES would seem to have been as follows: The Pullens, 1879 (now Fairfield); The Croft, 1880; Torbrex, 1883 (now Pullen's End); Professor Vines's house, unnamed, 1888 (now Pollock House); Langley Lodge 1895-99 (now Rye St Antony School); Cotuit and Mendip House; High Wall, 1910..... p 39

On the west side, however, three houses were to be added around the turn of the century, with Mendip House and Cotuit coming first. Much later the latter became the property of the Oxford City Council and was used for a while as a children's home, finally becoming a residential hall for Polytechnic students, with the addition of modern hostel blocks below the old house. Secondly and lastly came High Wall, built in 1910 by Miss Feilden in the grand manner. This had a fine garden, laid out by Percy Cane, as a series of formal terraces and enclosed gardens combined with beautiful tree groupings and a glade, complete with rock garden and stream. The gardener's cottage, called Jean Cottage, was itself a large house in the north-west corner of the site surrounded by a big kitchen garden and orchard; in addition a paddock of some two and a half acres lay to the south of High Wall and is known to local residents as 'the field'. It is hoped that whatever development occurs, some at least of this garden's trees and long vistas will be preserved.



High Wall. p50