

**DANEHILL WINDMILL**  
**Hylda Rawlings**

From a Sale Catalogue. 28th of August 1821 (*Mrs. B. Estate Papers. Copy at E.S.R.O., extracted by Mrs. Rawlings, page 25*) Hardy's  
In Chancery. Jenner and another versus Hills and others:

Particulars and Conditions of Sale. In Chancery. Between Robert Jenner and Thomas Hills, Plaintiffs and Ann Hills and Others, Defendants.  
Freehold Estates, late the property of Mr. John Hills deceased in the County of Sussex, called by the names of BRAYBROOKS and INHAMS which will be offered for sale pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery made on the Hearing of the above Cause before George Verall with the approbation of Francis Cross Esq. one of Masters of the said Court at the White Hart Inn in Lewes on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1821, 4 - 5 in the afternoon in Two Lots.

Lot 1 (*description of Braybrooks, Horsted Keynes:-Freshfield Lane area*)

Lot 2.

A Messuage or Tenement, Garden, Barn and several pieces of parcels of Arable, Meadow and Woodland containing about 46 acres in Horsted Keynes and called by the name of Inholmes.

This Estate is situate at Danehill about 38 miles from London, 12 from Lewes, 18 from Brighton and 2 miles from the River Ouse, and adjoins the Turnpike Road leading from Lewes through Chailey to London: is subject to a Years Quit Rent of 4d, to two Heriots on Death and to the Relief of a Years Quit-Rent upon Death or Alienation.

About one acre of Lot 2 upon which a Windmill and other Buildings have been erected is let off upon Lease for 14 years commencing from Michaelmas 1820 under the yearly rent of 10 pounds and upon Condition that at the expiration of the said Term, the Proprietor of the Estate shall be at liberty to purchase the Mill and other Buildings thereupon by Appraisalment, or permit the Tenant to take down the same and carry away the Materials thereof for his own use.

In Chancery (copy) Jenner v Hills.

Report as to Contract for Sale into Execution dated the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1822. Absolutely Confirmed by Order dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 1822.

The Rev. Mr. Bayntun declared the best purchaser (of both Lots) at £3,000.

11<sup>th</sup> of June 1860. (*Mrs. Hardy's deeds, as above page ??*)

Charles Bayntun of Brighton Esq. conveys the above mentioned property to Francis John Davies of Danehurst, Lt. General.

The Schedule for the above property includes:-

No. on Tithe map	description	cultivation	quantity
199.	Windmill Field	meadow	1a-2r-38p.

**THE FIRE AT DANEHILL WINDMILL (*Brighton Ref. Library*)**

*The Brighton Herald* December the 4<sup>th</sup> 1830 (*Saturday*)

At about midnight on Saturday last the village of Danehill was aroused by the cry of "Fire". The mill of Mr. Magennis was burnt to the ground in under an hour, but it was believed that the fire was purely accidental.

And that was the end of Danehill Windmill. It was never re-built.

If the fire had not happened, what difference (if any) would it have made to the Danehill landscape of today?

The building of the “Holy Trinity” Chapel would not have been affected, but would the architect of “All Saints” Church have chosen a different situation for his new church, if the Windmill was on the hill, in good repair, fulfilling a local need, plying a brisk trade? Or would the Windmill by then, due to the depressed state of agriculture and changed economic conditions, have already become ruined and redundant? If the latter, it could then have been pulled down together with the three cottages, so that the fine new Church would crown Danehill as now.

“It is idle to speculate” the saying goes, but if the fire had not taken place, would “Church Lane” now be called “Windmill Hill” or “Windmill Lane”? How totally different Danehill would look to-day, with a Windmill (probably now carefully restored) dominating the hill and “All Saints” Church on a level site in Danehill village.