

Pictures of old Brompton

Water End around the Black Swan (Village Inn) 1910



This picture kindly contributed by Colin Narramore shows Water End in 1910 with the Black Swan pub (now Village Inn) in the far centre of the shot beyond the horse and cart. The sign on the pub says Black Swan and John Smiths but the landlord's name is hard to read.

The horse and cart grazing on the green belongs to the gentleman delivering to what is now Number 78, it looks like he has a basket on his arm. Could be a baker, a grocer or perhaps it is one of the Hoare's delivering fruit and vegetables? Poultry can be seen on the green and there is a man holding a horse outside what is now Number 82 which is now a much bigger house.

This picture shows a view in June 2009 from more or less the same position.



Walker's Shop at Water End

(Picture kindly contributed by Colin Narramore)

One of Brompton's many shops (see Doreen Newcombe's article on shops in Brompton for further details), Walker's Shop was located halfway down the south side of Water End almost opposite the "Middle Bridge".



Floods at Water End.



*(Picture & text kindly contributed by **George Appleby**)*

This picture shows the foot bridge which was to be replaced by the road bridge for motor cars very well.

Children at the weir at Water End



*(Picture kindly contributed by **Colin Narramore**)*

This excellent view taken in 1906 of children with their prams, shows how the beck was dammed to provide a weir and there was sufficient water to use the area as a boating lake. This made Brompton very popular as a day out in the country for Teessiders who came by train and charabanc. The boats are believed to have been removed after the First World War but there are many people who continue to visit Brompton and the Village Inn to this day. Needless to say, they normally come by road nowadays.

At the back can be seen the cottages on the north side of Water End and the geese who were so familiar to Bromptonians can be seen behind the children.

Boating at Water End



*(Picture kindly contributed by **Colin Narramore**)*

This picture shows the dam and the weir at Water End with a few of the local men enjoying the Jolly Boating Weather. On the left can be seen the ford through the beck and the bridge on the left was just a footbridge at the time.

Claude Wilford had a bridge built which was big enough to take road traffic when he got his car in about 1912 and it has been known as Wilford bridge ever since. The "middle" footbridge can be seen in the background and the trees which are fairly young there are now fully mature and magnificent.

The end of a busy day on the Boating lake at Water End



*(Picture kindly contributed by **Colin Narramore**)*

Here you can see the boats at rest in the boating lake at Water End. The geese are feeding on the green and there is a gas lamp on the north side of the green. There seems to be plenty of water in the beck, we always nowadays seem to have either too little or too much when it floods!!

Cedar Mount, Boating Lake and children of Brompton



*(Picture kindly contributed by **Harry Cooke with thanks to Mary Wilford-Nowe in Belgium**)*

This picture of Cedar Mount taken about 1900 once again shows children playing by the boating lake. At this time, George Henry Wilford was living in Cedar Mount until his death in 1910. He was a grandson of John William Wilford who started the linen business of JW Wilford & Sons which was in existence from about 1750 to about 1960.

His son John Claude Stewart Wilford became head of the house at this time and he lived at Cedar Mount with his wife Louisa (nee Fowler) until his death in 1948. His wife Louisa died in 1966 and they are believed to be the last Wilfords to live in the village although there are many relatives and/or descendents of the Wilford family in the village and the local area.

Cedar Mount & Water End cottages 1908



*(Picture kindly contributed by **Colin Narramore**)*

Water End Brompton 1908, the stone gate pillars on the left mark the entrance to Cedar Mount, once the home of Claude Wilford great-grandson of the Wilford Mill founder. The cottages show the northern side of Water End including Stainthorp's cottages leading to Fullicar Lane.



This aerial view of Cedar Mount shows the old windmill, in use for farming storage, and cow-sheds. Vera Brittain who kindly contributed this picture, remembers the farmer used to let the local school girls practise their milking in the cow-sheds.