





COLLETT.

MOTOR REPAIRS.

MOTOR
AGENT

Wipers
Sets
Repaired.

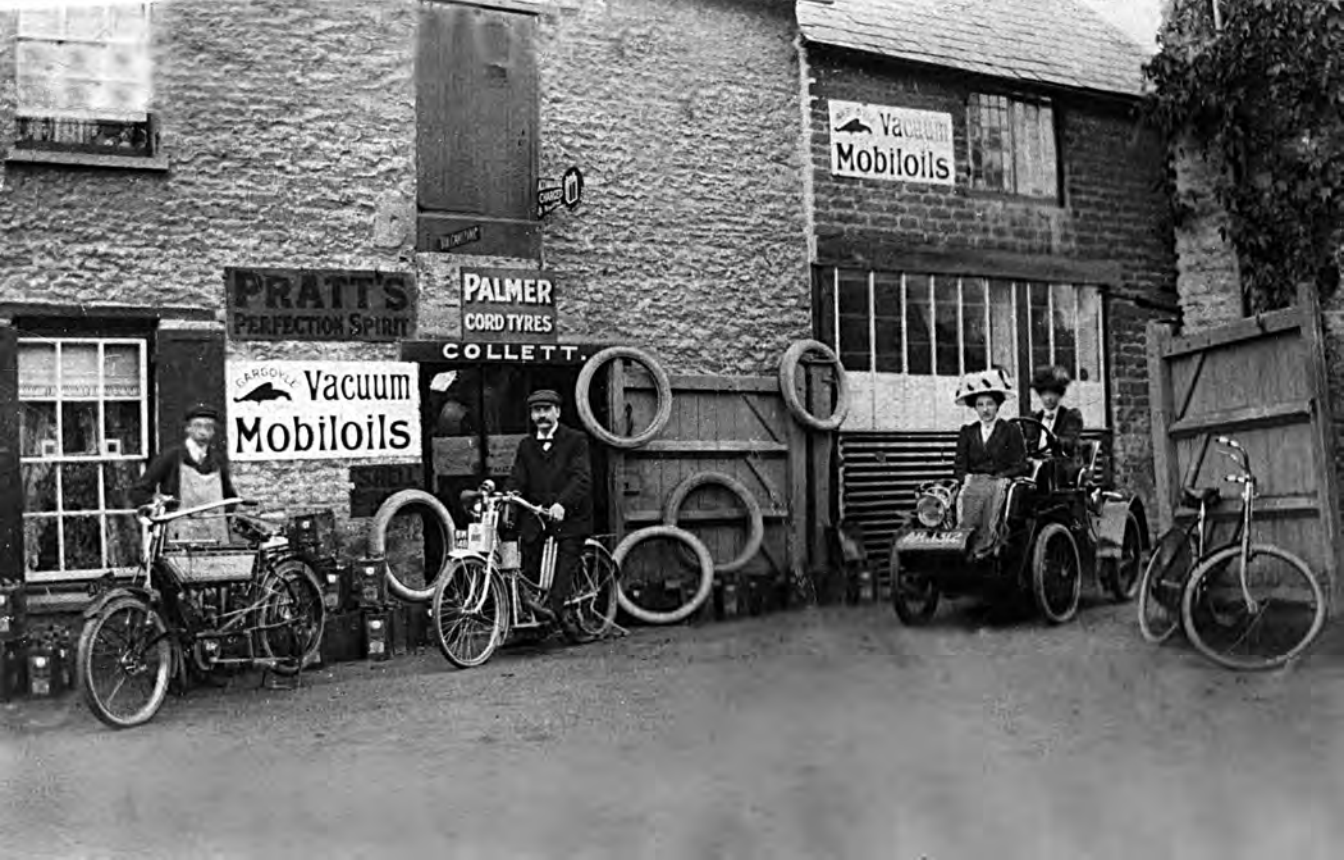
FILL UP HERE

FROM THE PUMP

MOTOR
REPAIRS

GARAGE





PRATT'S
PERFECTION SPIRIT

PALMER
CORD TYRES
COLLETT.

DARGVILLE
Vacuum
Mobiloils

Vacuum
Mobiloils

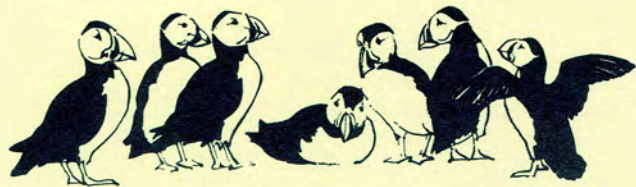




our house as it used to be
Ethel on tricycle. Dad motor bike mother in

Boobyway

I love Ethel's tricycle!





Dad, Ethel, & Christopher

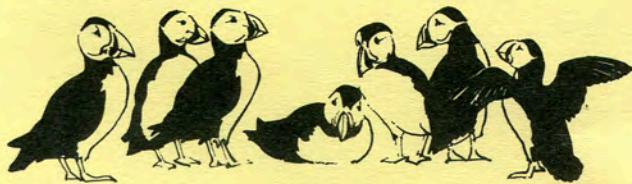
* the petrol shed

Oliver with his children

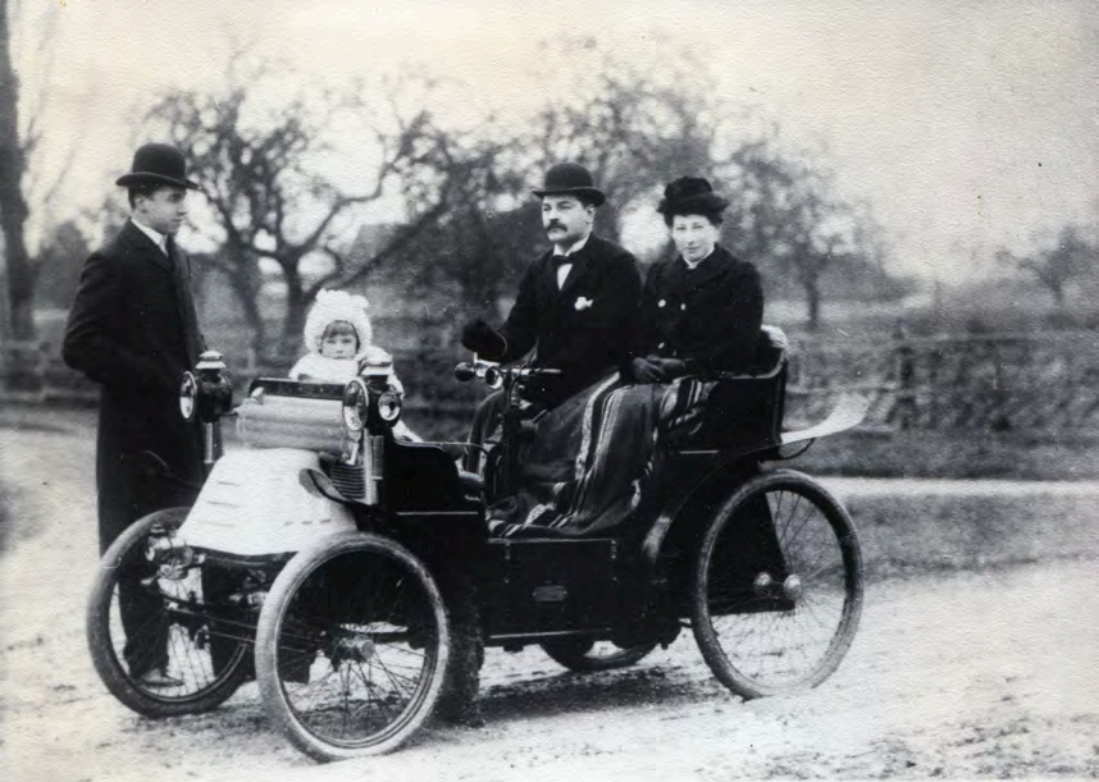
Ethel ~ born 1900

Christopher ~ born 1911

(my father)







The Bampton Voiturelle - & its makers.



GEORGE DRAGON

CYCLISTS' TOURING CLUB.

Founded 1878



Incorporated 1887.

CHIEF OFFICES: 47, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.

E. R. SHIPTON, Secretary, and Editor of the "C.T.C. Gazette."

REPAIRER'S CERTIFICATE.

This is to Certify that *O. O. Collett*
of *St. Albans* *is appointed Official Repairer to the Cyclists'*
Touring Club

For the Year 1907,

unless the appointment be earlier cancelled.

E. R. SHIPTON,

Secretary

All communications relative to this Certificate should be addressed to

Mr. E. R. Shipton, Secretary, 47, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
the Care of the Country in which your business is situate.

O.O. Collett's 1907 certficate from the C.T.C. authorising him as an 'official repairer'.

Cocoa tin

IT SEEMS that Onesipherous Oliver Collett, the energetic inventor of the Bampton Voiturette in 1901, the first motor car to be seen thereabouts, did not stop at mechanical vehicles when using his ingenuity.

Ethel Moss of Appleton Road, Cumnor, the daughter of O. O. Collett — Onesipherous, I had better explain, again means bringer of benefit, from the Greek — popped in to see me the other day with another of his clever ideas.

"I remember during the First World War when everyone was collecting the Christmas parcels for 1916 to send to the Bampton soldiers my father heard that the lads in the trenches were making tea in cocoa tins over candles.

"He thought he could make it easier for them by putting a hollow funnel up through the middle of the tin to get the heat round beter," Ethel recalls. "So we got everyone to give us their spare tins and my father and mother and I spent ages soldering the new bits in and we stuck some wire on top as a holder.

"We worked in his workshop until late in the evening sometimes and packed 120 of them off to the Tommies as our family contribution to the parcel, along with the fruit cakes and the tobacco from everyone else. It was a good idea, too, because several of the men when they came back said they had been glad to have the Collett cocoa tins."

Collett's Salve,



Collett's Salve

REGISTERED.

THE BEST KNOWN FOR
GATHERINGS, BROKEN CHILBLAINS,
BURNS, SCALDS, &c.

As a Family Remedy it is invaluable, and
may be used without fear on the most
delicate Skin of Children.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

Wash the affected part with warm water, soften the Salve
by holding before the fire, spread on linen and apply twice
daily.

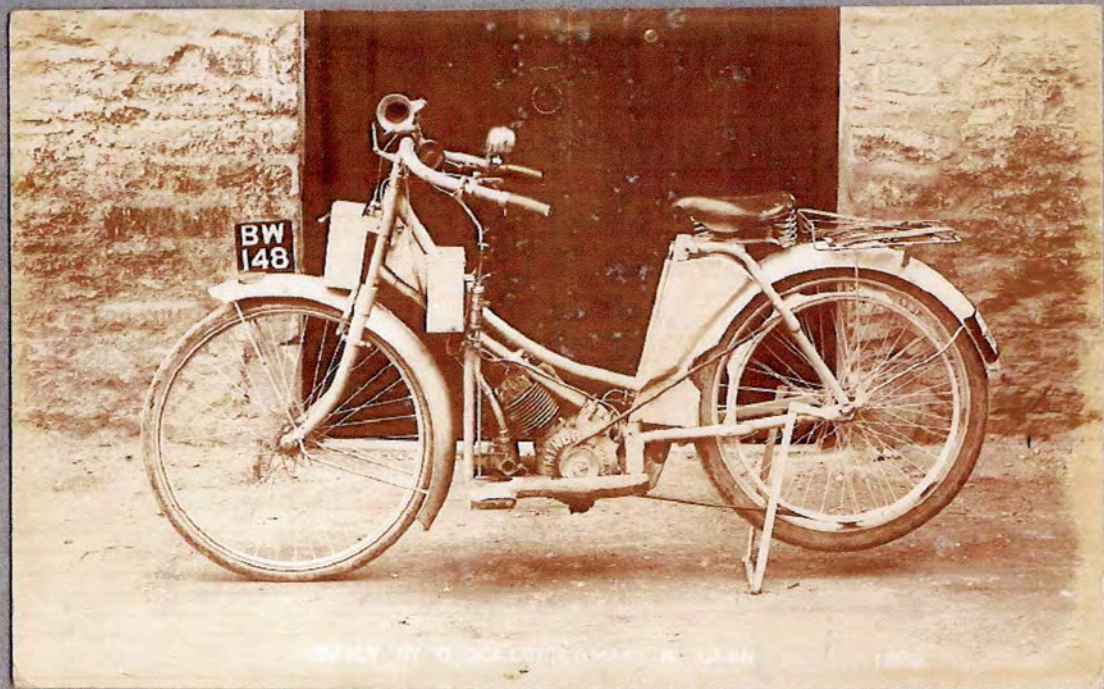
Excellent Testimonials and References on Application.

None Genuine without our Trade Mark.

Sold in Boxes of 6d., 3s. & 1s.

OR SENT FROM

S. & O. C. COLLETT,
BANTON, OXON.



Dad Meter Bike made 1908

Civil Parish Part of of <u>Bampton</u>		Ecclesiastical Parish <u>Bampton</u> of <u>St Mary</u>		County Borough, Municipal Borough or Urban District of <u>Wiltshire</u>	Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District of <u>Wiltshire</u>	Rural District of <u>Wiltshire</u>	Parliamentary Borough or Division of <u>Wiltshire</u>	Town or Village or Hamlet of <u>Bampton</u>								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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 as to Marriage	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lunatic (4) Imbecile, feeble- minded			
		In Occupation	Not in Occupation	Building										Number of Rooms Other than Kitchens	Males	Females
	Cottage School		1													
114	Shop Market Place	1			Thomas Abonetale Louisa Conable Florence Conable	Head Wife Daughter	M F F	30 27 4	Bookbinder Corsetmaker	run account at home		Wiltshire Berkshire Wiltshire				
	Private House		1													
115	Private House Market Place	1			William H. Tipping Alice Tipping	Head Wife	M F	56 66	County Police Sergeant	Police		Wiltshire Wiltshire				
116	Stationer Shop Market Place	1			James Beard Amy Beard Bertha Beard Joseph Beard George Beeding Frank Turvill Edith Jones	Head Wife Daughter Son Son Son Daughter	M F F M M M F	48 47 19 16 21 18 22	Stationer Printer Printer Printer Printer Printer Printer	run account at home at home at home at home at home at home at home	London Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire					
	Private House		1													
117	Private House Market Place	1			Alfred Jones Esther A. Edgington Amelia F. Edgington Walter Jones Maurice Cross Frank Curtis Frank Toeling	Head Wife Daughter Son Son Son Son	M F F M M M M	17 50 48 32 22 21 17	Bookbinder Bookbinder Bookbinder Bookbinder Bookbinder Bookbinder Bookbinder	run account at home at home at home at home at home at home at home	Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire					
	Bookshop		1													
118	Bookshop Chesapeake	1			Samuel Woodham Mary Woodham Florence Woodham	Head Wife Daughter	M F F	23 24 8	Printer Printer Printer	run account at home at home at home		Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire				
→	119	Bookshop Chesapeake	1		Julia J. Collett Cecilia Collett	Head Wife	F F	23 28	Printer Printer	run account at home at home		Wiltshire Wiltshire				
→	120	Jewellers Shop Chesapeake	1		Oliver Collett Mary E. Collett Ethel E. M. Collett Sarah E. Warner	Head Wife Daughter Daughter	M F F F	31 29 4 19	Printer Printer Printer Printer	run account at home at home at home at home		Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire Wiltshire				
7	Total of Schedules of Houses and of Tenements with less than Five Rooms	7	2		Total of Males and of Females...			13	15							

NOTE—Draw your pen through such words of the headings as are inapplicable.

Eng.—Sheet 'C.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 119
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection)

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME <small>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</small>	RELATIONSHIP <small>to Head of Family.</small>	AGE <small>(last Birthday) and SEX.</small>	PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE				PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION <small>of Persons aged 10 years and upwards.</small>				BIRTHPLACE <small>of every person.</small>	NATIONALITY <small>of every Person born in a Foreign Country.</small>	INFIRMITY.
							PERSONAL OCCUPATION		INDUSTRY OR SERVICE WITH WHICH WORKER IS CONNECTED				
(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or (2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of schedule.)	Write whether "Head," or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other Relative, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."	For Infants enter age just past the age in months or under one month, "one month," etc. Ages of Males. Ages of Females.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," opposite the name of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.				The copy should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c. If engaged in any Trade or Manufacture, the particular kind of work done, and the kind of work or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 8 and Examples on back of Schedule.)				(1) If born in the United Kingdom, write the name of the County, and Town or Parish. (2) If born in any other part of the British Empire, write the name of the Dependency, Colony, &c., and of the Province or State. (3) If born in a Foreign Country, write the name of the Country. (4) If born at sea, write "At Sea." Note.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "Resident" or "Visitor" in this Country.	State whether— (1) "British subject by personage." (2) "Naturalised British subject," giving year of naturalisation. Or (3) If of foreign nationality, state whether "French," "German," "Russian," etc.	If any person included in this Schedule is— (1) "Totally Deaf" or "Deaf and Dumb." (2) "Totally Blind." (3) "Lame." (4) "Incurably Paralyzed" or "Feeble-minded," state declaratorily opposite that person's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
1. <i>Oliver Collett</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>Married</i>					<i>Waltmaker (Dialling, Repairer)</i>	<i>Employer</i>		<i>Clayfield Oxon</i>		
2. <i>Mary Emma Collett</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Engineer, (Motor Repairer)</i>			<i>Wimborne St Giles</i>	<i>160</i>	
3. <i>Edith Beulah Mary Collett</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>10</i>						<i>School</i>	<i>0</i>		<i>Banbury Oxon</i>		
4. <i>Susannah Ada Collett</i>	<i>Sister</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>Single</i>					<i>Draper's assistant</i>	<i>4</i>		<i>Banbury, Oxon</i>		
5.													
6.													
7.													
8.													
9.													
10.													
11.													
12.													
13.													
14.													
15.													

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that—

- All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex column.
- I have counted the males and females in Columns 7 and 8 separately, and have entered their sums with the total number of persons.
- After making the necessary corrections I have compared all entries on this Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Total		
Males	Females	Persons
1	3	4

Initials of Enumerator *CMK*

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, W.C., or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count auxiliary, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

6

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature *O. Collett*

Postal Address *Banbury Oxon*

Amelia Dring = S. Room (W)

Sister of Annie Jack Room
35 Burford Rd
Witley

apprenticeship, then started his own cycle business.

Robert WARNER = Sarah JANES
b. 17/10/1839 Pershore
m. 23/4/1870 Swansha
d. 18/90 W.M.
b. 29/1/51 Kenarworth, Herts.
d. 1905 Witley

Elizabeth WARNER
b. 3/12/1870
d. 1875

Mary Emma WARNER
b. 1872
d. 1934
= Oliver

Robert WARNER
b. 1874
d. 1950
= Annie DRING

John WARNER
b. 1876
d. 1941
= Annie
EELES

Alfred WARNER
b. 1878
d. 1957
= Evelyn DORE

Sarah Elizabeth WARNER
b. 1881 (Sis)
d. 1965

Ellen Clara WARNER
b. 1883 (Nell)
d. 1956

Grace WARNER
b. 1887 (12/3) Witley
d. 1960 (27/3) Witley
= William Henry JENNINGS

made a motor car in 1901 before he had ever seen a car.
Onecipherous COLLETT
Engineer, electrician & Watchmaker.
Bampton

(d) Christopher COLLETT
= Phyllis WEARING
b. Sep 1911 Witley

Ethel COLLETT
= Percy George MOSS

Olive WARNER
= Maurice AMBROSE
b. Dec 1900

Dorothy WARNER
= Mr. FAULKNER
Samuel

Herbert WARNER
= Ella Townsend

Chris WARNER
= Nancy (Evelyn) DORRIS
Ells
Joan Green
b. June 05

Wilfrid WARNER
= Mr Thomas JOHNSTON

Kathleen WARNER
= Mr Cecil GREEN
Kathleen Annie?
b. March 1899

Ruth WARNER
= Mr Alfred Harold
b. Sep 05
or Harold Hubert
b. June 07.

Harold WARNER
Philip WARNER
= Howard Standley
b. Sep 1908
Chipping Norton

Margaret WARNER
= Margaret BOND
b. 1/4/1917
Cowley, Oxford.

Eric JENNINGS
Mary JENNING
b. 1921

GD x 4 GS x 2

Robert Faulkner

Robert Warner
b. Dec 1929
Haddington

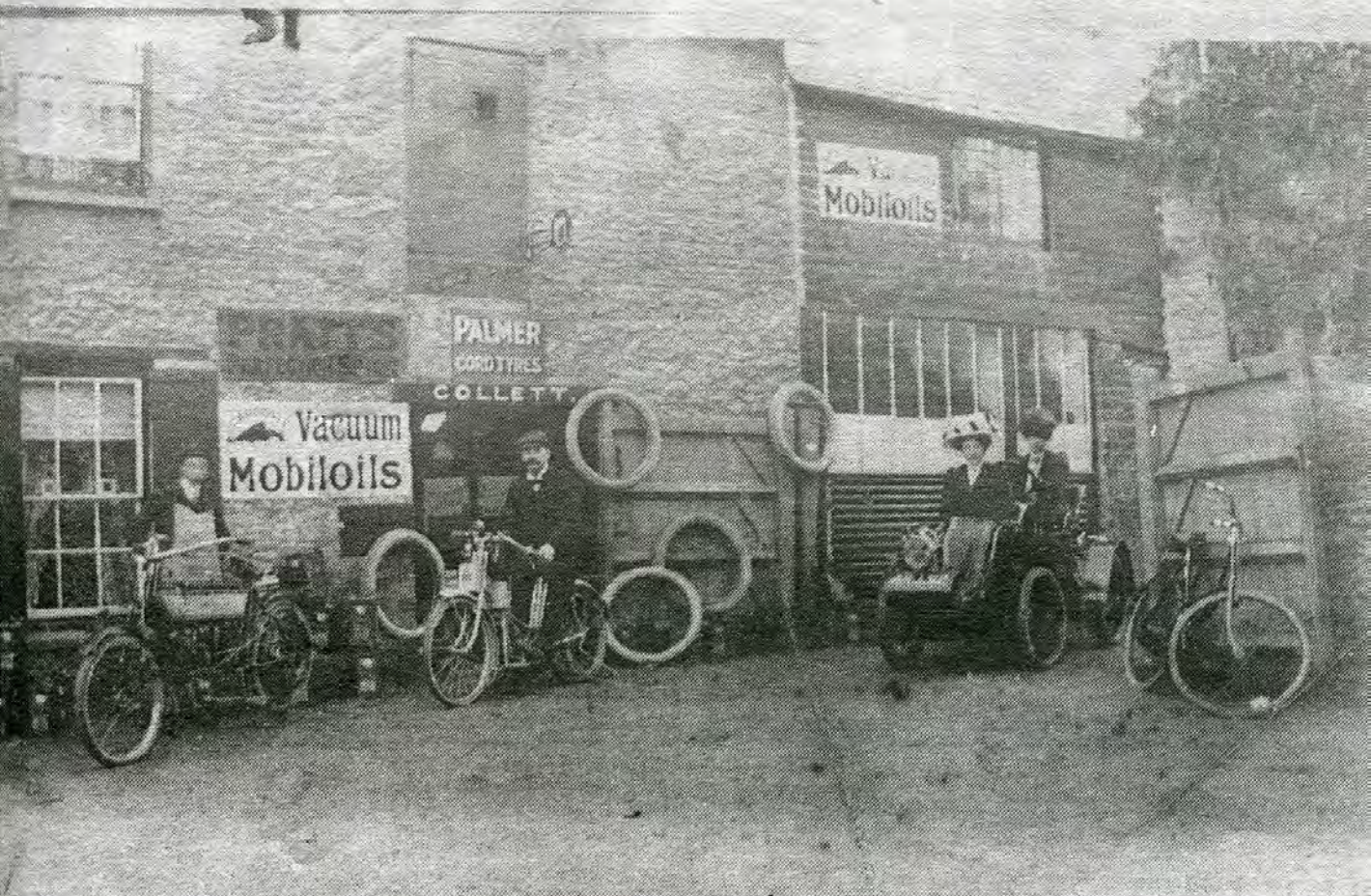
Robert Warner

machine knitting business in Witley

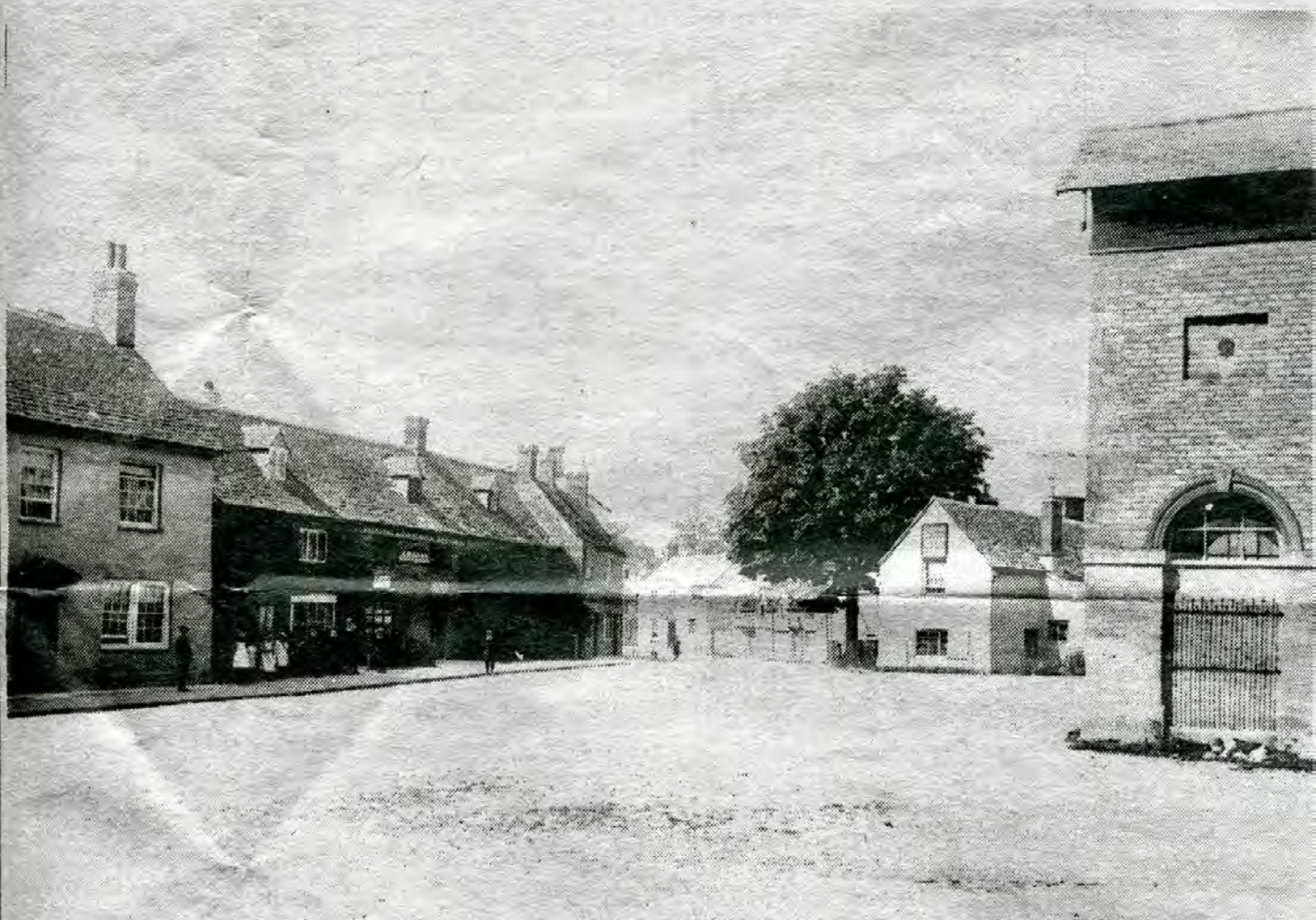
A Witley woman (Am)

2nd wife of a Witley nurse
= Minnie King? Dec 1929 Chelsea?

b. 26/9/1882 S. Hockley, Widdow.
m. 8/4/1914 Witley



Colletts garage where Yeats newsagents now is. On the right is the Bampton Voiturette, one of two cars built by Oliver Onesiphorous Collett in 1903.



No traffic and very few people — an early photograph of the Market Square.



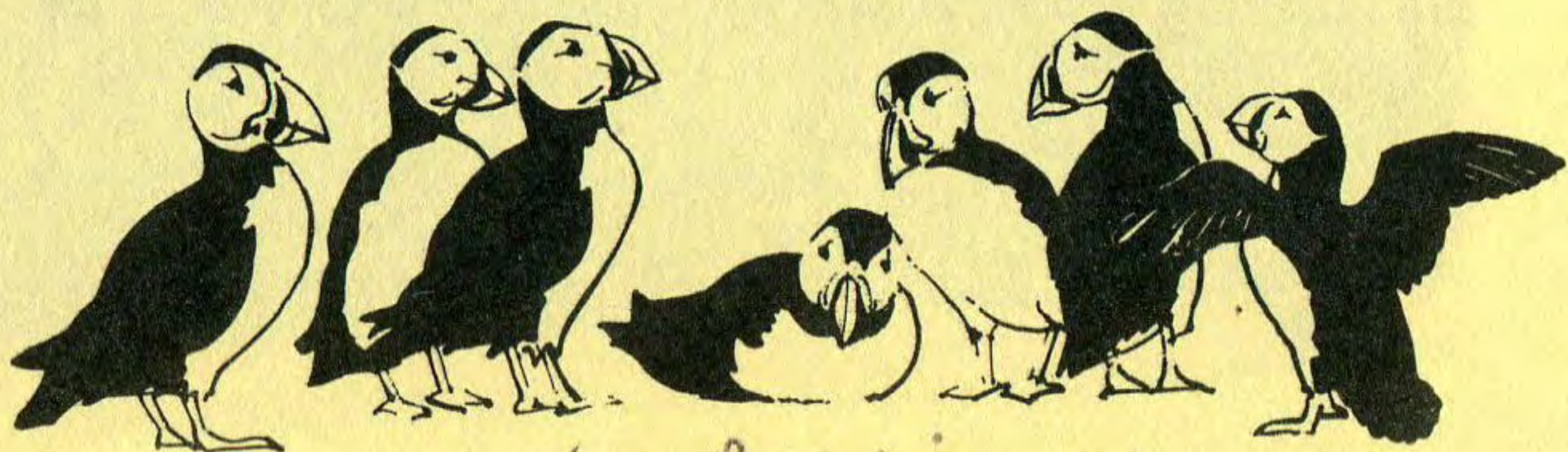


The old house and shop.

Cromwell House

The workshop behind the house,
in the building in the old photo.

The old car could be the Bampton
Voiturette. Oo. Collett on his bike



which he adapted for his stiff leg.



Mr. Collett. Watchmaker Bampton.

1908.
June.

~~Making + fixing frame as per
estimate
Matchlocks + flooring to window
etc rendered.
Shutters as per estimate~~

etc rendered
Paid - a.s.f.

£	0	1.
2	5	6
3	1	9
1	5	0
<u>£6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>

'It could have been a very different place'

Why Bampton is not Cowley

Oliver Onesipherous Collett with his wife and daughter in the Voiturette in 1904. The man standing is a Mr Taunt



By Debbie Waite

witney@witneygazette.co.uk

BAMPTON bears little resemblance to the bustling industrial sprawl of Cowley, Oxford, but it could have been so different if a humble watchmaker had had his way.

In 1888, the impressively named Oliver Onesipherous Collett opened a watchmaker's and jeweller's business in Cheapside (now Exeter House), in Bampton. But while he spent his days mending watches, Mr Collett's dreams lay in the exciting world of motorised transport.

Sometime before 1900 he built a motorcycle, and later made the first sidecar in the district.

The jewellery business soon took a back seat to his cycle and motorcycle building and repair work.

He enlarged his premises by taking over the adjoining Cromwell House, and between 1901 and 1902 — a decade before William Morris conceived his famous Bullnose Morris — Collett built a small car, which he named the Bampton Voiturette. Voiture is French for car.

The incredible tale of the watchmaker-turned car maker from Bampton is being told in the exhibition *Why Bampton didn't become Cowley — The history of Bampton vehicles, including Collett's Voiturette*, at Bampton Library until November 1.

Graham Newman, from Bampton Museum and History Society, is one of a host of local historians who have had their imaginations fuelled by Mr Collett.

Mr Newman, who has put together the exhibition said: "Mr Collett was a true pioneer.

"He was early into the market at a time when there were many forward-looking, entrepreneurial, creative, and skilled engineers all over the country building motor cars.

"The photographs show the engine in front



"Oliver Onesipherous Collett and his motor car occupy a very important place in the history of Bampton," said Graham Newman

only one had the right product, at the right time, in the right place, and at the right price."

Mr Collett died in 1934.

His daughter married and left Bampton, whilst his son, Christopher, continued the business until after the Second World War, when the business was bought by Leonard Hughes.

Mr Newman said: "We would be very interested to find out whether his family are still around.

"Oliver Onesipherous Collett and his motor car occupy a very important place in the history of Bampton."

● *Why Bampton didn't become Cowley — The history of Bampton vehicles including Collett's Voiturette*, is in the Vesey Room of the Bampton Library, in Church View, Bampton, until November 1. Open Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday 2.30-4.30pm, and Wednesday and Saturday 10am-noon.

Admission is free.

of the radiator of the Voiturette was a typical French/Belgian design and a construction design favoured by Renault.

"Looking at the vehicle, it is easy to see the skills progression from building bicycles, tricycles, and motorcycles to the Voiturette."

While a village like Bampton may not seem the perfect location for motor manufacturing, it did have one major advantage.

Mr Newman explained: "We had had a rail connection just a mile or so away from the village since 1873, so if Collett had started producing the cars, there wouldn't have been a problem in distribution — Bampton could have been the Cowley of Oxfordshire!"

Unfortunately for Mr Collett, his dream was not meant to be.

Mr Newman said: "Sadly, cars were regarded by many at the time as rich men's

playthings, and by some as total folly. Motor cars were also expensive, and one can only assume that the recession of 1907 led to Mr Collett dismantling the car and ending his venture by 1908."

By 1911, the local *Kelly's Directory* refers only to Mr O O Collett as a watchmaker.

Mr Newman said: "Bampton could have been a very different place if circumstances

had been a little different for Mr Collett — he was just ahead of his time.

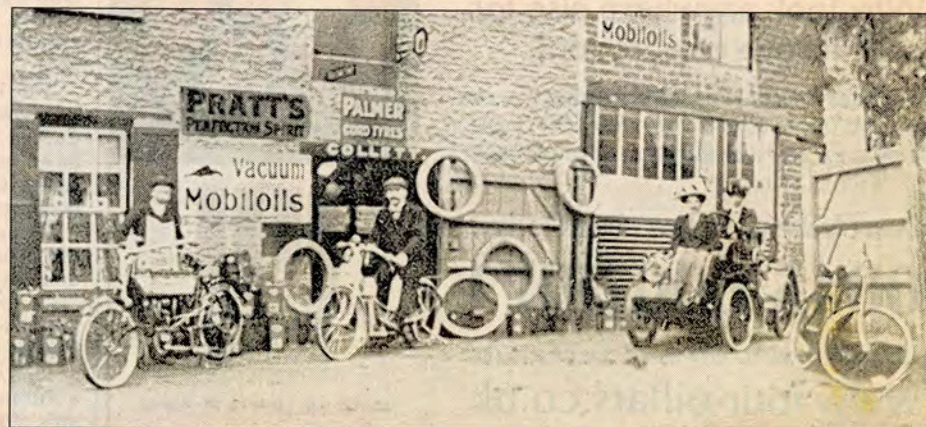
"Ironically, it was in 1908, not too far from here, in Oxford, that a Mr William Morris built his first of many hundreds of thousands of motor cars.

"Both he and Mr Collett built bicycle and motor cycle businesses.

"Both men had creative, inventive, and visionary minds, but



Mr Collett outside his shop in about 1888



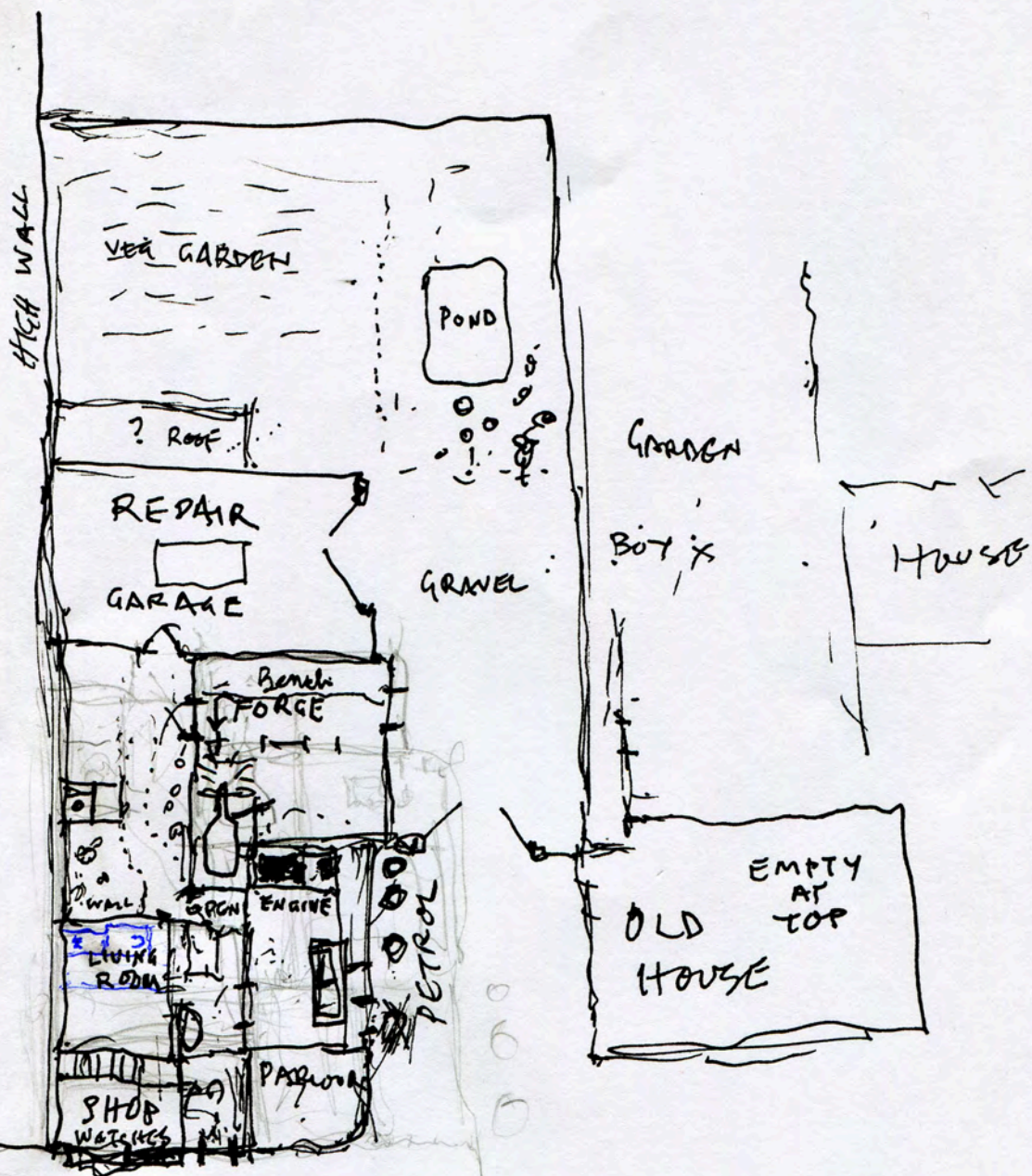
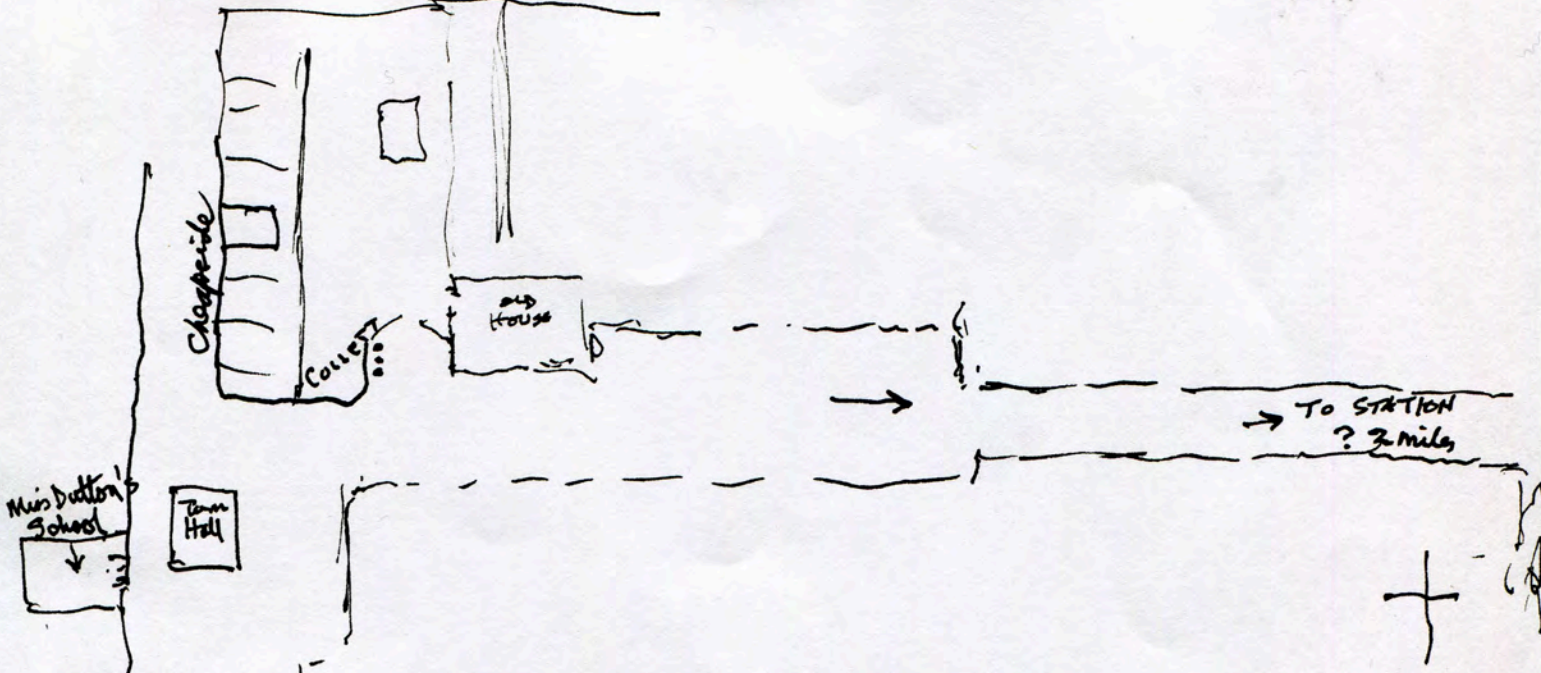
Mr Collett astride a motorcycle. The machine with two ladies aboard was probably the first of the two cars he is reported to have built



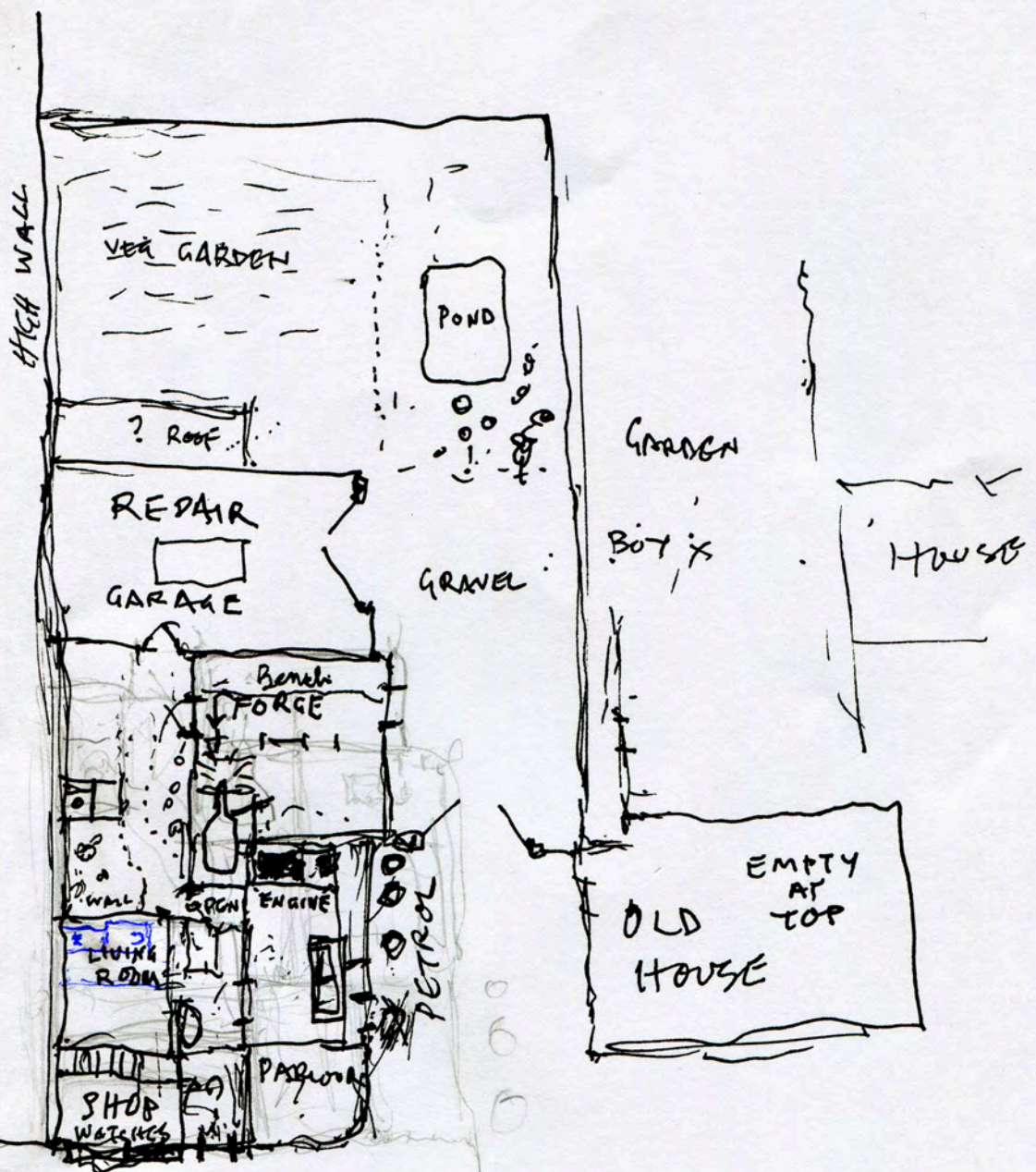
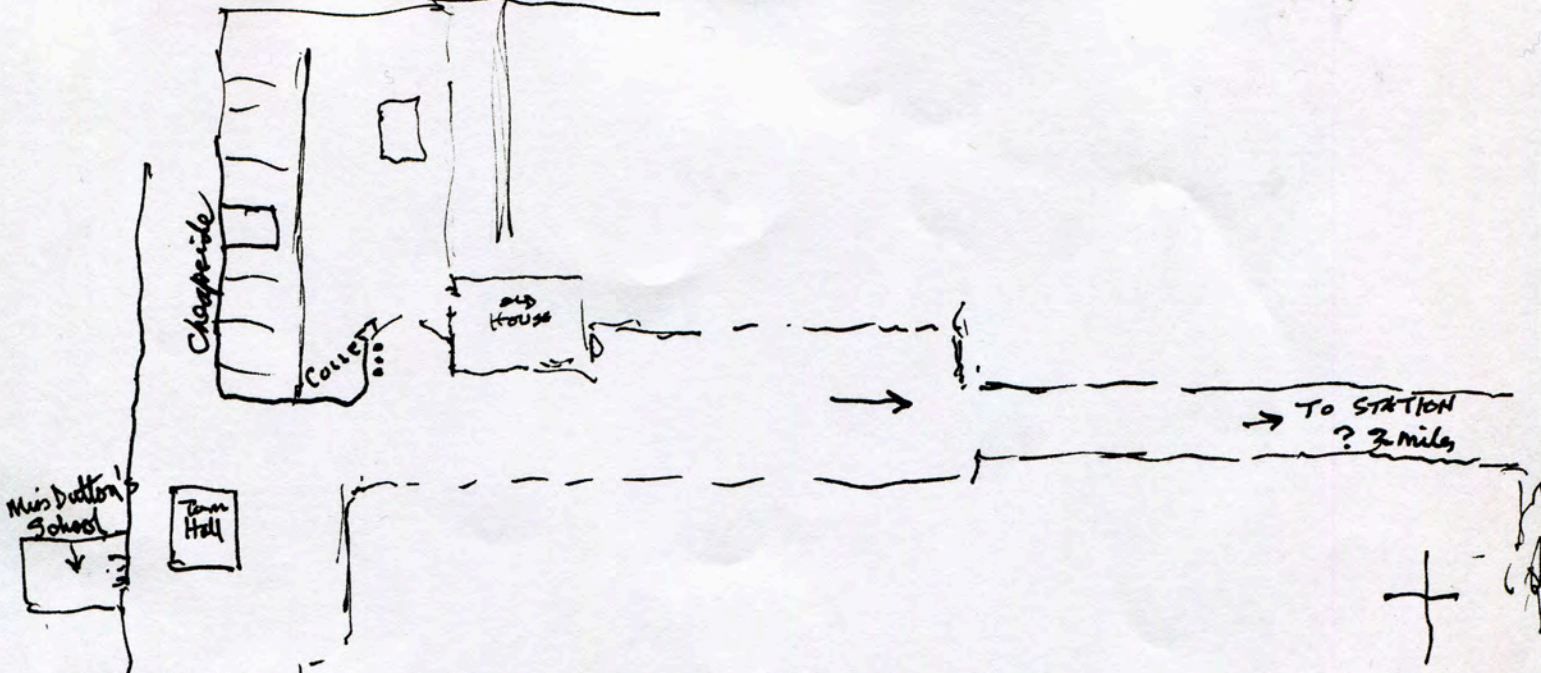
Eric Jennings



Miss Dutton's School



EWJ 7 yrs old.



EWJ 7 yrs old.

'Dad' (Dark photo).







'Bampton Church taken by Eric
from Uncle Oliver's Garage Roof
top?' ✓ EWJ. Curfew rung there.





Grace Jennings, Eric & Mary.



Eric & Mary.



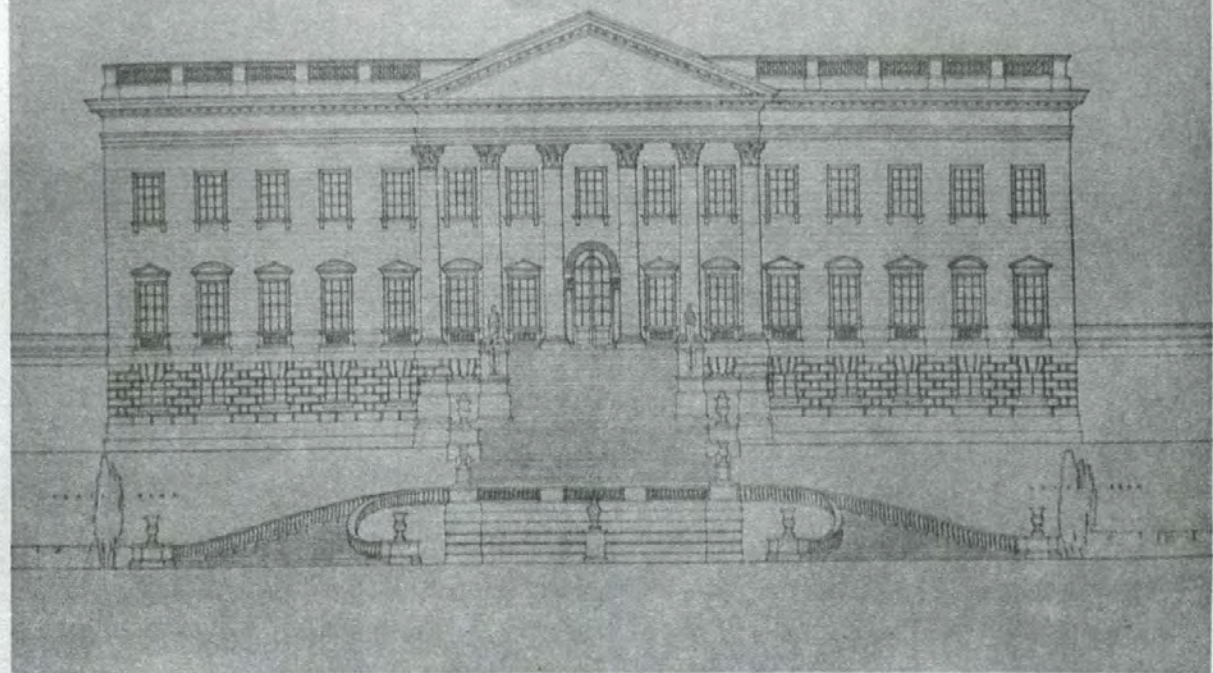
Ernie & Marjorie playing game
found in Air Raid Shelter.

Eric, Grammy (Mary Ann)
in back of car.



Eric. WHAT'S car?





'Architectural Drawing by Eric Jennings'

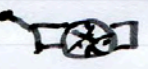
Eric William Jennings
With a wide rib the thick and thin
effect would be more emphatic.

Miss Dutton ...

Calligraphy



Before setting out for
school at Whitney,
Christopher set me an electrical
draughtsman's task to draw
by the time he returned.

We lit a fire, or put in red hot coals,
in an old oil drum... Put it in a large
hoard cart , with potatoes; and
Christopher Collett and I tried to sell hot potatoes
to folk in Bampton.

-The R

*men who do not wear fine
clothes can feel deeply*
William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

BUCK

Workload

The first one
looking into
it was prob-
ably not the

In 1771 a
the meeting
Hartford to
Shannon in
south of W
Oxford Pa.

The road
Wright be-
havioral
had previ-

The Tron
Thames
they com-
with half
implanted
1870 be-

Customers
profit in
hobby
growth.



Workload

What

to be
and to
from the
they re-
they re-
1.0 in
1.0 in



Ernest Hall, 5 Beaumont Street, Oxford.

Oliver Onesiphorus Covert
and Mary Covert in 1932.
A photograph taken at my
parents wedding.