



The History of Frating A parish, manor and its people



This book is dedicated to Mike Brown and Tom Millatt, previous historians of this Parish. June 20th 2023

Index-

Prehistory	3	Figure 1 – cropmarks seen at Moreham’s Farm, 1970	3
		Figure 2 - Radio-carbon dating of charcoal	4
Roman	5	Figure 3 – cropmarks Frating Lodge, 2011	5
Anglo-Saxons	6		
Domesday	6	Figure 4 - The National Archives E31/1/1/288	6
		Figure 5 - The National Archives E31/1/1/664	7
Manor of Frating Hall (1086-1618)	8		
Frating Hall Farm (from 1618)	10	Figure 6 - advert for agricultural dresser	12
Manor of Moreham’s Hall	16		
Manor of Wheelers (Abbey Farm, Frating)	20	Figure 7 – Plan of the Manor c1600	21
Church	26	Figure 8 - Plan of South Chancel windows c.1300	26
		Figure 9 - Plan of Church (RCHME 1922)	29
		Figure 10 – Interior (c1938) & window (1990)	31
		Figure 11 – Tower partially fallen	33
		Figure 12 - inscription on Bells	34
Medieval (1066-1485)	35	Figure 13 – seal of Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster	35
Tudor and Stuart (1485-1714)	39	Table 1 – 1670 Hearth Tax	44
Post-medieval crime	46		
Highways	48		
Innkeepers	49		
Georgian (1714-1837)	50	Figure 14 – Andre and Chapman’s maps (1777)	51
Victorian (1837-1903)	55	Figure 15 – Population Line-Graph	55
		Figure 16 - 1 st Edition OS map (1821)	56
		Table 2 – 1842 Tithe Awards acreage on farms	57
		Figure 17 – 1838 Frating Green Map	58
		Figure 18 – Hagger’s Royal Electric Bioscope	65
A. William Hagger (1851-1925)	65		
School (1855-1934)	66		
Frating in the early twentieth century	69		
World War One & War Memorial Hall	72	Figure 19 – War Memorial in the Hall (MAB)	77
		Figure 20 – Opening of the War Memorial Hall	77
		Figure 21 – Memorial in St Mary Magdalene’s Church	77
		Table 3 – Men who served	78
		Figure 22 - 2 nd Lt Barrell, Lt Chisnall	79
		Figure 23 – 1938 pea picking Hall Farm	88
Between the Wars (1919-39)	82		
Frating & District British Legion (1930-9)	91		
World War Two	95	Figure 24 – Gooch DSM, London Gazette	95
Frating Hall Farming Society (from 1943)	104	Figure 25 – advert for David Brown Tractors dem ^o	107
After the war	109	Figure 26 – Ploughing Match newspaper advert	110
The 1950s	112	Figure 27 - Chandra advert 1952	112
		Figure 28 - Frating Garage c1950	113
The 1960s	115		
The 1970s	116		
The 1980s/1990s	118		
The New Millenium	121		
<i>The Tartan House</i> Nightclub	124	Figure 29 – Piping in the Carpet	124
		Figure 30 - <i>Tartan House</i> adverts and photograph 1976	125
		Figure 31 – <i>Tartan House</i> from 1981 onwards	126
		Figure 32 – <i>Tattoo</i> flyers 1991-2	126
Village sign	128	Figure 33 – Village Sign dedication, 2011	128
Listed Buildings	129	Figure 34 – Guide post and Milestone	129
Quarrying in Frating	130	Figure 35 - Map of Potential Quarrying sites, 2011	130
Recent changes (from Sept. 2020)	131	Figure 36 - sat photos & map of Frating Green	131
Researcher’s Notes	132	Figure 37 – OS 1:25,000 map	132
Bibliography	133		

Prehistory

There are over a dozen multi-period cropmarks viewable from seventy years of aerial photography over Frating.¹ Near to the Hall there was observed a ditched *Sub-rectangular enclosure* of 100 metres in diameter, *field boundaries, pits, partly obscured by existing boundaries. To the north a small, irregular penannular enclosure.* This is undated but estimated to be from between 500000BC and 42AD. **(SMR 2576)**²

South-west of Moreham's Hall there is an Iron Age, *Sub-rectangular double ditched enclosure, entrance through both ditches on the south side and at the south end of the east side. Linear features, obscured by geological features and field boundaries. Two small ring ditches to the west and a curving double ditched trackway* **(SMR 2536)**.³ Neither of these sites have not been excavated.



Figure 1 – Crop marks at Moreham's Hall Farm seen in 1970³

Cropmarks at Lufkins Farm, Frating included: *a single ring-ditch; a rectangular enclosure; and a double-ditched trackway.* Prior to the digging of an agricultural reservoir the land was evaluated in 2007 and excavated in 2016/7 using 84 trenches. This revealed fifty-one features of prehistoric date, consisting of 33 pits, 16 tree-throws, one pit/ditch terminal and one ditch/tree-throw. These dated from the Early Neolithic (c.4000 BC) to the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age date (c.700 BC)⁴

313 sherds of prehistoric pottery were found, of which 245 were flint-tempered. These included sherds from a number of plain early Neolithic carinated and bag-shaped bowls.⁵ The rims from at least thirteen deep bowls were found but none are decorated.⁶ Parts of the rim of a Middle Neolithic (c.3400-2800 BC) Fengate-style, Peterborough ware bowl³ and sherds of decorated, flint-tempered pottery were recovered.⁷

One hundred and eighty-nine pieces of worked flint were discovered.⁸ From the Neolithic period these were six blades (including three retouched), a blade core and five flakes with platform preparation. A pick, probably used for digging, is either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. One hundred and seventeen of the worked flints are flakes (62%); fifty-five are blades; ten cores, four tools of convenience and three axe thinning flakes/axe pieces.⁹ A cowrie shell, which may date to the Neolithic period, was also excavated.¹⁰

Permission to dig a second agricultural reservoir at Lufkins Farm was requested in December 2020.¹¹

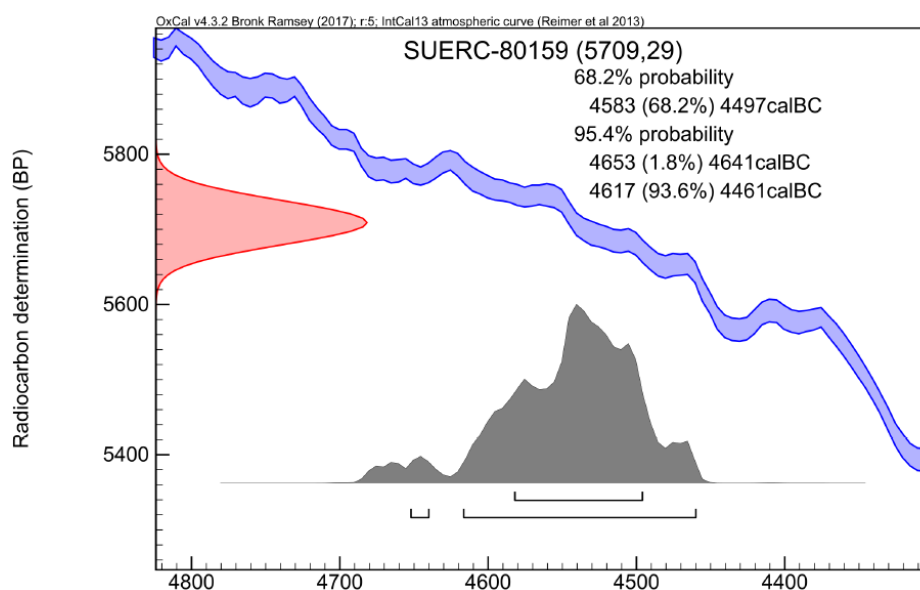


Figure 2 - Radiocarbon dating of charcoal identified as cherry/plum/sloe (*Prunus* sp.) and from 5709 ± 29 years ago.¹²

Crop-marks (**EHCR 2635, 2522, 2622, 2536**) were also investigated at the site of the National Car Auctions in 1993, but only found post-medieval ditches,¹³ and north of Tokley Road in 2017 which located frost-cracks.¹⁴ Land east of Frating Green, the site of a planned industrial estate, was field-walked in 1993 and found burnt flint, mostly near to Bentley Brook.¹⁵

In 2001, a Neolithic, leaf-shaped arrowhead was found at Frating Hall. It measured 41mm long, 18mm wide and was dated to c.4000-2500BC.¹⁶ Also found near to the Hall was a *Stone battle-axe, group 18, of quartz dolerite from Whin Sill, Northumberland*. This was dated from the *Lower Palaeolithic to Late Bronze Age - 500000 BC to 701 BC. (SMR 2538)*¹⁷

In 2003, an adze measuring *Length 52.74mm, width 26.38mm, thickness 7.82mm, weight 13.6g* and a blade were found measuring *width 42.48mm, thickness 24.48mm, weight 108.1g (SMR 50914)*.¹⁷ Also reported that year was a flint core of *dimensions 42.74mm x 41.18mm. Weight 51.4g (SMR 50915)*.¹⁸ All dated to 8000-3500BC.

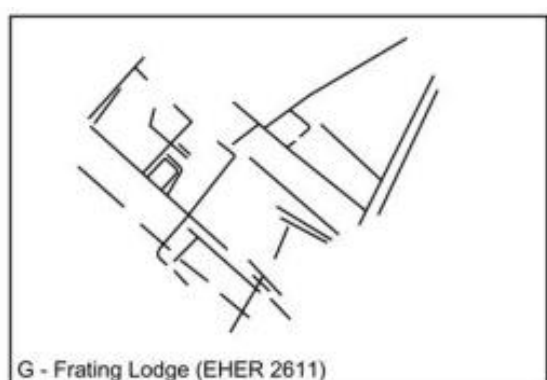
1. Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch (2008) Tendring District Historic Environment Characterisation Project
2. Colchester Archaeological Trust (1976) Annual Bulletin #19p.16;; Ingle, CJ, Strachan, D, Tyler, S and Saunders, H, (1993-2012) *NMP* Cropmark Plot - 1:10,000 (Map) SEX22419
3. CAT (1975) newsletter #18 p.23; Ingle, CJ, Strachan, D, Tyler, S and Saunders, H, (1993-2012) *NMP* Cropmark Plot - 1:10,000 (Map) SEX22419

4. Polley L. (2018) *CAT Report 1303: Archaeological excavation on land at Lufkins Farm, Great Bentley Road, Frating – Nov 2016 – April 2017 p1*
5. *Ibid* p.10
6. *Ibid* p.12
7. *Ibid* p.13
8. *Ibid* p.16
9. *Ibid* p.21
10. *Ibid* p.24
11. Minutes of Frating Parish Council December 2020 - Application No: ESS/134/20/TEN/SPO
12. Polley L (2018) p.85
13. Barber, A. J. (1993). *NCA Site, Colchester Road, Frating, Essex: Archaeological Fieldwork (Report No 93149)*
14. Esteves L (2017) Land north of Tokely Road, Frating, Essex Archaeological Evaluation Site Code: TRF14/97 (TM 0923 2353)
15. *Work Of The County Archaeological Section (May 1994) Newsletter 119 of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History p.16*
16. Wise PJ (2004) *Recent finds from Essex reported to Colchester Museums 2001-2002 in Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History third series xxxv p.220; Portable Antiquities Scheme (2003) Portable Antiquities Scheme Database, ESS-621A02 (Digital archive). SEX68540.*
17. Wise PJ (2004) *Recent finds from Essex reported to Colchester Museums 2001-2002*
18. *Portable Antiquities Scheme (2003) Portable Antiquities Scheme Database, ESS-046561 (Digital archive) SEX68540*
19. *Portable Antiquities Scheme (2003) Portable Antiquities Scheme Database, ESS-0460A2 (Digital archive) SEX68540*

Roman (AD 43-410)

Roman activity at the Lufkins Farm site dated from the 1st to 2nd century. Ditches divided the area into a series of fields and paddocks with a large trackway running through the centre of the area. Sparse finds evidence suggests this was mainly an agricultural area, on the periphery of a small farmstead.¹

320 sherds of pottery weighing 2849g were found; including 156 pieces of Black surface ware six from large storage jars.² Six pieces of Roman Ceramic building material (234g) were found at the east of the site.³ There were two piece of *tegula* roof tile - orange-red in colour with a sandy fabric. A third probable Roman brick has a grey core to the fabric. Another piece of brick or tile unusually had a silty buff/cream coloured fabric and is less certainly Roman.⁴



Aerial photographs of crop-marks show a potential Roman site at Frating Lodge (EHER 2611).⁵

Figure 3 drawing of crop-marks from aerial photographs (2011)

1. L. Polley (2017) *CAT Report 1303: Archaeological excavation on land at Lufkins Farm, Great Bentley Road, Frating, Essex –Nov 2016 – April 2017 p1*
2. *Ibid* p14
3. *Ibid* P15
4. *Ibid* p16
5. Ingle C, Saunders H (2011) *Aerial Archaeology in Essex: the role of the National Mapping Programme in interpreting the landscape p.76 Fig 3.14*

Anglo-Saxons (AD 410-1066)

The first written evidence of Frating comes the Will of Ketel (1052 x 1066 A.D.) which was written whilst planning to make a pilgrimage to Rome. Ketel was a thegn of Archbishop Stigand and nephew of Edwin, a King's thegn.¹ This included bequests of nine estates in Norfolk and Suffolk and *land at Fretinge, Essex, according to an agreement made by Earl Harold and Archbishop Stigand*² of Canterbury.

And ic an þe lond at Fretinge after þat ilke forwarde þat þu þe self and Stigand Archebiscop mine louerd wrouhten.

1. Kemble J (2011) *Place-names of Frating* p.5; A Thegn was a free-man of an Anglo-Saxon lord resembling a feudal baron by holding lands and performing military service for the king.
2. <http://www.anglo-saxons.net/hwaet/?do=get&type=charter&id=1519> Will S 1519

Domesday (1086)

Frating is recorded in two folios of the Little Domesday Book. One part in 1066 was owned by King Edward (d1066) along with the manor of St Osyth, Burna, Frowick and Tendring. This passed to Engelric, but all were held by the Count (Eustace II of Boulogne) by 1086. *Fratinga* was a berewick with 40 acres, ½ plough. Its value was included in St Osyth's £10.¹ Eustace died in 1087, his sons rebelled against William II in 1088, were captured at Rochester Castle and lost their lands in England. They were exiled and left for the First Crusade where Baldwin became King of Jerusalem.²

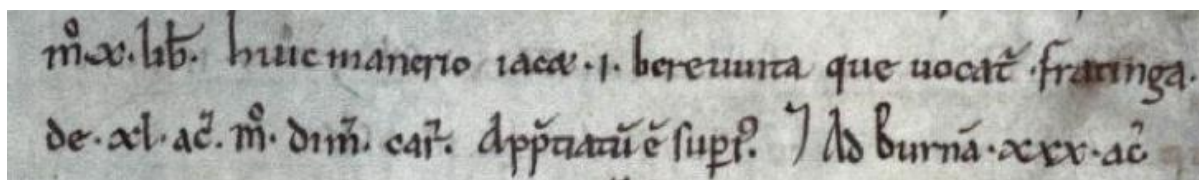


Figure 4 The National Archives E31/1/1/288

The main part of *Freanga* was held by Tuold for Ranulf along with St Osyth, Leigh, and Tolleshunt. Folio 75v recorded that “.. *Ketil held as a manor and as 2 hides* ..” (240 acres) In 1086, there were five households comprising 3 bordars (up one) and 2 slaves (decrease of one). The lord had one plough (down one) and the men one plough. There was woodland for 150 pigs, 4 acres of meadow, 1 horse, 2 cows (down 2), 2 cattle (down 2), 66 sheep (down 34), 20 pigs (down 20) and 6 hives of bees. It was worth 40/- in 1066, and 60/- in 1086.³

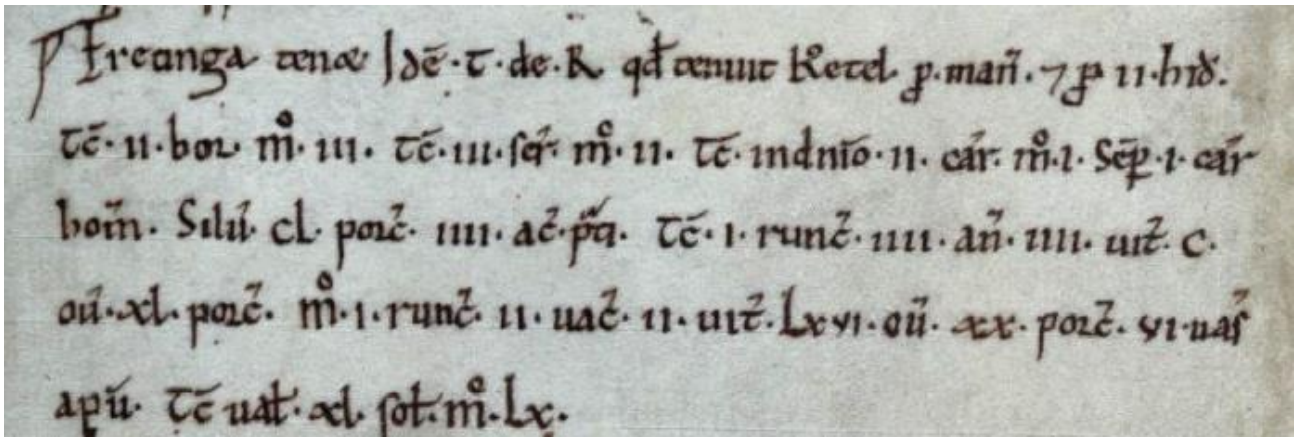


Figure 5 - The National Archives E31/1/1/664

Ranulph (1030-1072) was a Lord born in Normandy, but was already Earl of East Anglia under King Edward in 1066. As a reward for not fighting against King William he received a vast addition to his estates after the invasion. The Saxons called him *Peperking*; the Normans *Peverell*.⁴ He died in 1072,⁵ with his lands inherited by his son Ranulph (b.1054). He later rebelled against William II in 1088 and his estates were confiscated.

1. The National Archives E31/1/1/288
2. Savage A (1984) *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles* p225, 228
3. The National Archives E31/1/1/664
4. Watson (1877) p116, Kemble J (2011) p5
5. <https://gw.geneanet.org/ebiechl?lang=en&pz=gabriela&nz=biechl&ocz=0&p=ranulph+norman+knight+earl+of+essex&n=de+peverel>

Manor of Frating Hall

There were two Manors in Frating: Frating Hall and Moverons.¹ Little is known of Frating during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, but this is true of much of Tendring due to the nearly continual warfare and revolts. By 1285, Stephen and Joan le Keu had transferred to Richard and Avelina Maheu *a tenement, 3 messuages, 60 acres of land, 20 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood in Fratinges and Benetleye. Worth 4 marks of silver.*² This was then settled as part of the dowry of Matthew de Louvian's daughter Eleanor to Sir William de Ferrers 5th Earl of Derby, of Groby, Leicestershire (1240-1287)³ but he died soon afterwards.

Whilst collecting rents from their Scottish estates, the widow was abducted from Baron Alan de la Zouche's Castle Fa'side near Musselburgh, Scotland, by Sir William the Hardy, Lord of Douglas in January 1288. Douglas was arrested and paid a fine of £100 on February 28th 1290. Eleanor married him, much to the displeasure of King Edward I who seized all of the Douglas' lands in England and ordered the married couple imprisoned. To leave detention in Knaresborough Castle, Eleanor paid a fine of £100. In 1296, Douglas revolted against the King again and after a siege that killed 8000 civilians on Good Friday he was imprisoned in the Hogs Tower of the Castle. They were released after surrendering their Essex and Hertfordshire manors. Douglas chose to become the first noble to join William Wallace's rebellion in 1297, instead of accompanying Edward I to a campaign in Flanders against Philip IV. Douglas recaptured Sanquhar Castle, killed 500 retreating English soldiers and launched attacks against Derisdale and Scone Abbey. Edward 1 captured Douglas whilst he was with Sir Robert the Bruce.. He was imprisoned for a third time in Berwick Castle; and then the after the defeat at Stirling Bridge he was moved to the Tower of London where he died from abuse in 1298. The couple had two sons, Hugh (1296-1344) and Sir Archibald Douglas (1298-1333; a future Guardian of Scotland). By 1305, she had married William de Bagot paying a fine of tenements in Staffordshire in 1313.⁴

During this time, Sir John de Frating had been tenant-in-chief of the Manor of Frating for one Knight's fee to de Bagot, until his death in 1308. de Frating had witnessed de Bigot's dowry to his wife in 1290⁵ and accompanied him to war in Wales in July 1286.⁶ His heir Alice married Robert de Cheddeworth and they settled the estate by fine in 1310 and 1320. *The manor of Fratynge and 1 messuage, 200 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow and 12 acres of wood in Benetlegh⁷ and 20 acres of pasture in Great Benetlegh... and the heirs of their bodies to hold of the chief lords, with remainder to the right heirs of Robert.* Thomas acknowledged that his brother, Thomas had the rights to the

tenements (manor house) for life.⁸ Thomas de Cheddeworth, Clerk, held it under Henry de Ferrers for one Knight's fee (£10 pa) until he died in 1336.

John de Vere, 7th Earl of Oxford,⁹ then held it till his death in 1360, by a Knight's fee of Sir William Ferrers, 3rd Baron Ferrers of Groby (1333–1371). Both fought with the Black Prince at Crecy (1346), Poitiers (1357) and the raid into Burgundy (1360) where de Vere was killed.¹⁰ The manor was transferred to Dr. Robert Wells and then on to John Ford, of St. Osyth. The Manor passed through three generations of John Ford's before a fourth John Ford died without issue. His sister Eleanor married Thomas Bendish, of Bumpstead Steeple, (1540-1602). They held Frating Hall of the King of his honour of Tutbury, by Knight's service, with other lands in the parish called "*Christmasses, Belches, Gateland, and Crabtrees; the Pounding and Swallows, Hickford Hall Wood, and Pipsgrove.*"¹¹ Thomas Bendish died in 1602 and was buried in the Church under the east window, where a monument was erected. *

*** Inscription on his tomb:** *Hic Jacet Thomas Bendish, Armiger, filius et hseres Johannis Bendish de Bumspted and Turr im in eomitater in Essexice, duxit in uxorem Elinoram filiam et eohoeredem Johannis Forde de Horkesley Magna Armi geri, per quam Terras and Frating Hall pertineutes alias que alibi adjacentes habuit. Mortuus est xxiii. Feb. Anno Domi ni 1603, cetatis sua lxiii. Eeliquit filios Thornam et Richardum, Alias que Barbaram Elizabethan! et Elionoram.*

TRANSLATION *At this point lies buried Thomas Bendish, soldier, a son, then an heir of John in Essex in the county about Steeple Bumsptead, when he came to his wife, Eleanor of Horkesley Great esquire's daughter, and the co-heir of John Forde, by means of which adjacent to the lands he had to the other parts of others which suggest the Frating Hall pertineutes. He died 23rd April in the year of 1603, the age sua lxxiii. Eeliquit children Thorn et Richard, alias that Barbara Elizabeth and Eleanor.*¹⁰

In 1615, the Frating Hall estate of 1180 acres was purchased from the bequest of Dr Stephen Perse (1550-1615) for £5000,¹³ and presented to Gonville and Caius College Cambridge in 1618,¹⁴ *to raise yearely for ever two hundred and fifty pounds to be employed for the maintenance of ... the said Colledge... to receive and take all and singular the rents issues and profitts of the said mannour lands*¹⁵ The Tenants were recorded in detail.

Tenant	Acres	Parishes	Type
Thomas Higham	233	Frating Elmestead Thoringtonne	
Robert Dawkins	42	Frating	
John Allen	128	Frating, Great Bently, Litle Bently, Elmsted and Thorington	
John Sommersom	84	Elmested	
William Thoringtonne	160	Greate Bently, Litle Bently and Bromley	
Turner	100	Frating, Thoringtonne	

Davy	55	<i>Frating, Thoringtonne</i>	
John Crosse	34	Greate Bently and Litle Bently	
	120	Greate Bentley, Litle Bentley, Much Bromley, Litle Bromley	woodgrounds
		Frating	
	46	Frating	wood underwoods and woodground
	186	<i>Frating, Great Bentley, Little Bently, Much Bromley, Little Bromley, Winninghoe, Thorington, Elmedsted, Alesford alias Awford</i>	other messuages lands tenements meadows pastures feedings woods underwoods & hereditaments

In 1637, it was agreed that *Mrs Perse shall have to her owne proper use all her household stnffe utensills, in Frating house, to sell or carry away at her pleasure.*¹⁶

In 1667, there was a property transfer between John Sewell and the Master & Fellows of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge for property in the Manor of Frating.¹⁵

1. Watson JY (1877) p.116
2. 13 EDWARD I. (1254-1285) 302 Mich. At Chelmsford
3. Inq.p.m. 28 Nov 1308 *Groby had fought against Henry III in 1264 at Northampton and for Edward I in Wales in 1282.*
4. CP V:342; <http://www.mytruthliesintheruins.com/england.html> list and photographs of Groby properties visited by Douglas' <https://georgiadouglases.wixsite.com/genealogy/copy-of-sir-william-of-douglas>
5. Close Rolls, Edward I: June 10 1290 Westminster
6. Calendar of Patent Rolls, Edward I: July 23 1286 Hereford
7. EDWARD II (1320-1321) 825. Eas
8. Calendar of Close Rolls, Edward II (June 15th 1310); 15 EDWARD 11(1312-1322) 887. Mich.
9. Watson JY (1877) p.117
10. Tuck A (2004) Vere, John de, seventh earl of Oxford (1312–1360) in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*
11. Watson (1877) p117; TNA DL 30/73/899 (1524-5) under Maundeville Honour; [Essex,]: Estreats, Rents of Assize. 16 Hen VIII.
12. Google Translation
13. Cooper CH (1845) *Annals of Cambridge* v p.93
14. *Ibid* (1845) p.100; (ed) Roach JPC (1959) *The colleges and halls: Gonville and Caius A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 3, the City and University of Cambridge*, p356-362
15. Caius J (1904 ed) *Annals of Gonville and Caius College* p289-4
16. *ibid.* p398
17. TNA C 10/472/194

Frating Hall Farm

In September 1759, Benjamin Cook, gent, was tenant of Frating Hall when he died. His will was proved on September 10th 1759, and he left his estates to his daughters Esther and Ann; including land at Thorryngton Cross,, *ffingringhoe*, and Great Bentley.¹

On Thursday 27th September 1787, the farming stock and household furniture of Robert Powel was sold by auction. This included *seven very useful cart-horses and mares, two very fine cart colts all of a remarkable good strain, one good road waggon, one harvest waggon, two tumbrels, two wheel ploughs, one pair of harrows, good cart & plough harnesses and sundry other implements in the farming business; household furniture consists of bedsteads with their furnitures and bedding, tables, chairs, and chests of drawers, looking glasses, a long writing desk, some books, two coppers, very good hasks, and sundry other useful household furniture.*²

In May 1821, *At Frating Hall, aged 71 years, Mrs Balls, relict of the late Mr. Richard Balls, of Springfield* died.³ Between 1818 and 1836 WK Dawson, the auctioneer of properties, boats and timber throughout NE Essex, leased the Hall.⁴ In September 1826 his wife, Judith, died.⁵ In 1831, Dawson was the Colchester and St Osyth agent for the *Royal Exchange Assurance of houses and goods from fire Cornhill, London*.⁶ In August and December 1832, Dawkins joined the Colchester Committee to return Bart and Baring as MPs; and in December 1835 to return Tyrell and Baring.⁷ In June 1835, it was announced that his eighteen year old son, Henry had died in Calcutta. He had been third officer on the ship *Hashemy*.⁸ When the lease expired in October 1836; the contents of the house were auctioned. These included *“Excellent household furniture, china, glass, books; very good dining, drawing, and bed-room furniture.. 2 hogshead and other sweet beer casks; 2 pieces of good hops of 1835; beautiful brown cob, with black legs, quiet to ride or drive; a useful hackney Mare, gig, harness, saddles, bridles, ornamental hurdles and gate, turret bell..”*⁹

By 1841, Henry Vincent was resident at Frating Hall for a rent of £420 for 370 acres.¹⁰ He offered an one sovereign reward for the return of a *light-coloured, brindled greyhound bitch* called *Twist* belonging to the visiting John Taylor of Great Cornard, Suffolk. On *Twist*'s neck were a tag with name and owners details.¹¹ Arable farming and animal husbandry continued at the farm. On January 9th 1847, *28 well-fatted young hogs weighing from 9 to 12 score each* were sold at the Goat and Boat yard, East Hill Colchester.¹² In 1853, Vincent gave a testimonial for a Dressing Machine.¹³

Saving of 50 per Cent. in Labour.
EAGLE FOUNDRY,
BROOK STREET, IPSWICH.

F. MASON

BEGB to call the attention of Agriculturalists to his **NEWLY-INVENTED** and **HIGHLY-APPROVED**

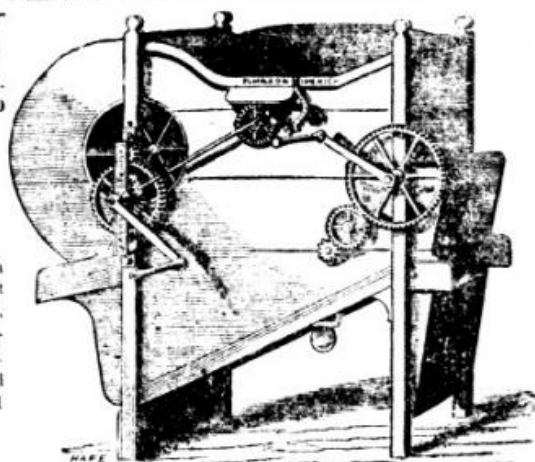
DRESSING
MACHINE,

which will take any kind of Grain rough from the Threshing Machine, and Dress it in *once* passing through, fit for Market, there being an Apparatus fixed in the Machine for humbling or horning the Barley.

For Malting purposes, this Machine will be found to surpass any other ever offered to the public.

CASH PRICE, £12.

Castings and Gutters supplied from this Foundry at very Low Prices.



TESTIMONIALS.

Nore Farm, near Guildford, Surrey.
 SIR,—In answer to your letter, the Corn Dressing Machine I bought of you last summer I highly approve of, as our Wheat was so much sprouted last harvest, I do not know what I should have done without it, and likewise a great saving of labour.

Your's respectfully,

February 11th, 1853.
 Mr. Mason.

W. COUSENS.

Frating Hall, Feb. 1st, 1853.

DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in acknowledging the satisfaction your excellent Dressing Machine has given me, and I hope you will state to the Public it is the best Implement I have ever seen used, as it does its work in shorter time, and with the greatest nicety. I shall certainly recommend it to all my friends.

I am, your's respectfully,

To Mr. F. Mason.

H. VINCENT.

Frating Hall, Feb 1st 1853

DEAR SIR — I have great pleasure in acknowledging the satisfaction your excellent Dressing Machine has given me, and I hope you will state to the Public it is the best Implement I have ever used, as it does its work in shorter time and with greater nicety. I shall recommend it to all my friends.

I am, your's respectfully,

To Mr. F. Mason.

H. Vincent

Figure 6

In March 1859, he was one of forty farmers who attended a talk at the Three Cups, Colchester about the successful cultivation of flax at the neighbouring Frating Lodge farm by William Caldicott. A profit per acre of £8 16/6 per acre for three months effort. Other farms had generated a profit of between £9 and £14. The subsequent turnip crop's yield was two or three times greater.¹³

Vincent's five daughters were married locally. In 1854, Sarah married Mr Carrington Sizer of Great Bentley at Frating-com-Thorrington Church.¹⁴ In February 1860, Elizabeth Mary married the maritime butcher James Cant of Colchester.¹⁵ In April 1860, Susannah married Henry Roberts of Liverpool.¹⁶ In February 1868, Ann married RS Joy of Slisbury in Great Bentley Church.¹⁷ In January 1872, Jane married Robert Cable of Stockwell Park Road, Brixton at Great Bentley.¹⁸

Following his death after a short illness in May 1859, his stock and equipment was auctioned. These included: *agricultural implements for an occupation of nearly 400 acres, in good condition; 30 sets of harness, wood and iron harrows, 11 foot and wheel ploughs, Bowles horse rake, 4-horse-power threshing machine, corn and seed drill, 7 tumbrels, 5 wagons, Coleman's scarifier, horse shoe; new: 3 Gardner's turnip-cutters, patent chaff-cutter,*

*Mason's dressing machines; a capital Dog Cart 28 heads of superior horse stock, 34 fat sheep, 44 head of swine, 5 home-bred steers..*¹⁹

Philip B. Vincent (1828-1893) was resident 1863 between 1891.²⁰ Percy Waller was a farm student there in 1871.²¹ In 1875, Frating Hall advertised for a *well-broken retriever dog (curly-coated preferred) ... not over 2 ½ years old*²² and for a *Governess to take the entire charge for four little girls.*²³ The following year, a small lamb had gone *astray* and a reward offered.²⁴ At the June 1878 Suffolk Agricultural Show, he was an invited Judge.²⁵

In May 1880, his eldest daughter Lizzie Marion married the Colchester solicitor Asher Prior at Frating Church.²⁶ In July 1886 at Frating Hall, a daughter gave birth to a son. Her husband was William Milne of Merville Hill, Iowa.²⁷

In May 1889, Mabel Grace married Mr P Zurrer of Hansen, Zurich at Frating Parish Church on her eighteenth birthday. *The weather was delightfully fine, and in honour of the occasion the avenue leading from the Hall to the Church was prettily decorated with bunting, while an archway of evergreens had been erected at the entrance to the sacred edifice, and several flags floated from the Church tower. The ceremony was fixed for two o'clock, and long before that hour the church was filled to overflowing with residents in the parish and neighbourhood, and large number assembled outside to witness the arrival and departure of the wedding party... The bride ... was charmingly attired in a simple dress of ivory Duchess satin, with a long train and semi-wreath of orange blossoms, and veil. She wore no jewels, but carried an exquisitely arranged bridal bouquet of gardenias, lilies of the valley and stephanotis... After the Service, as the newly wedded pair left the Church, flowers were strewed in their path, among others by a number of the cottagers of the parish. Mr and Mrs Vincent subsequently held an "At Home" at the Hall where they received a number of friends in addition to the "wedding party".... During the day the bride received a number of telegraphic congratulations from friends of the bridegroom in Switzerland, and at 5pm the newly wedded pair left Frating Hall for Colchester en route for Paris, Austria and Italy.*²⁸

In November 1890, *a daily or weekly governess for a girl of seven – good music and French* was wanted.²⁹ In 1890, *full-grown, healthy chickens* were wanted.³⁰

His oldest son, Joseph, became a missionary in Chefoo, north China before returning to complete three years of studies at Dorchester Theological College. He received numerous gifts including a chalice from Rev Canon Mayor prior to going to the Bahamas where he was to be Ordained by the Lord Bishop of Nassau.³¹ In May 1890, he

returned to preach at Thorington Church.³² In September 1892, he officiated at his younger brother Philip's marriage to Edith Ellen Plowman at All Saints Church, Wandsworth. At the time he was Curate in Stirling. Two years later he became Curate in Charge and Secretary to the Bishop of Argyle and the Isles.³³

In 1891³⁴ and 1905, the '*Frating Hall Estate*', *situated in the parishes of Elmstead and Frating near Colchester comprised 'Frating Hall', garden and stabling, six cottages, two farm homesteads, plantations and spinnies and approximately 418 acres, 3 roods, 1 perch of meadow land and arable and manor of Frating Hall*, was advertised.³⁵ The College had been forced to take an ... *overdraft ..since 1882 ... owing to the depreciation in the value of the main portion of the school endowments, which consisted of an estate at Frating Hall, near Colchester. Not only had the rent decreased, but a large amount of money had to be spent in the way of new buildings.*³⁶ In 1913, it was again offered *By direction of the Trustees Thomas Charles Western, Bart. KELVEDON; FRATING HALL FARM,... situate the Parishes of Frating and Elmstead, within 5 miles of Colchester, and mile of Thorington Station, on the Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea branch the Great Eastern Railway, comprising Acres, including the Residence, Frating Hall, 2 Homesteads, 6 Cottages, and the Manor of Hall; with possession at Michaelmas next.*³⁷

In September 1900, vacancies were advertised for a *horseman wanted at Michaelmas; light land farm; also, engine driver; same family preferred; house on farm;*³⁸ and a *general servant; able to do plain cooking; two in family; work light.*³⁹

In 1902, Joshua Finch farmed Hall Farm.⁴⁰ In November 1904, *Mr. C. W. Gray, J.P., was one of a party of sportsmen shooting over the Frating Hall estate. had taken his stand near a gravel pit, when, without any warning a large piece of the gavel gave way, nearly covering a man called Leatherdale working in the pit. Mr Gray at once went to the rescue, and unearthed the unfortunate man, who was not much the worse for his narrow escape.*⁴¹

In 1911, Charles James Richardson and his family lived in the Hall.⁴² Between 1914-28, J. Hines JP was resident.⁴³

Frating Hall was surveyed by the RCHME before World War One: *is of two storeys; the walls are of modern brick and the roofs are tiled. It was built early in the 16th century and has four original tie-beams with curved braces in the roof and a central purlin. East of the house is a 16th-century gateway of brick. The outer archway has two modern inserted piers; the inner archway has a four-centred arch and a square label, above which is a moulded cornice and capping. The garden wall is of similar date and of red brick with a modern coping; the wall contains*

several round-headed niches. In the garden are several moulded stones of the 13th or 14th century and probably brought from the church. Condition Of house, good.⁴⁴ There were also two duck decoys with rectangular islands.⁴⁵

By 1931, William H Sexton Snr. was resident⁴⁶ and he became Vice-chairman of the Parish Council.⁴⁷ In August 1936, WH Sexton of Frating Hall was elected unopposed to the vacancy on the Tendring Rural Council.⁴⁸ In 1938, a lorry he owned was involved in a fatal road traffic accident.⁴⁹ In the 1939 National Register, he was living at Frating Hall with his wife Kate and twin sons William Jnr. and John.⁵⁰ In March 1943, he sold the farm to the Frating Hall Farming Society Ltd.⁵¹ On March 31st, the live and dead stock were sold in a well-attended auction. *Items of dead stock included: International 16/20 tractor £170; Cockshutt 3-furrow tractor plough £45; tractor disc narrow by Bentnall £49; 7rt tractor self-binder by International Harvester Co.£53; self-binder by McCormick £59; improved stacking elevator by Maldon Iron Works fitted with 1 ½hp Lister engine £136; 54in threshing drum £270; straw elevator £55; dung carets to £55; road waggons to £48; scotch cart on pneumatic tyres £73; 16-hp Standard farm truck £37; trolley on pneumatic tyres £50; water cart on iron wheels £12. The Cyldesdale horses sold for up to £3 15/- each. Household furniture was also sold.⁵²*

1. ERO D/ABW 99/3/63 Will of Benjamin Cook 1759
2. Chelmsford Chronicle - Friday 21 September 1787
3. Jackson's Oxford Journal Saturday, May 12 1821
4. The Ipswich Journal Saturday December 19th 1818, donation of £50 to Essex and Colchester Hospital
5. Jackson's Oxford Journal September 28th 1826
6. Essex Standard Saturday 1st October 1831
7. Essex Standard August 18th 1832; Friday December 18th 1835
8. Bury and Norwich Post Wednesday 10th June 1835
9. Essex Standard Friday October 21 1836
10. Essex Standard Friday October 8 1841; Essex Record Office D/CT 145a; White W (1848) Directory of Essex; Henry CC (1852) Annals of Cambridge Vol. V, 1850-1856 p638
11. Essex Standard Friday January 8 1847
12. The Ipswich Journal Saturday August 13 1853
13. Essex Standard Friday March 18, 1859; Wednesday March 23 1859
14. Essex Standard Friday September 9th 1854
15. Essex Standard Friday February 10th 1860
16. Essex Standard Friday April 27th 1860
17. Essex Standard Friday February 22nd 1868
18. Essex Standard Friday January 19th 1872
19. Essex Standard Wednesday May 18th 1859; Friday September 2 1859; Friday 9th September 1859
20. White W (1863) Directory of Essex; Post Office Directory (1874); Essex Standard Saturday December 30 1893, died aged 65
21. Essex Standard Friday December 15 1871
22. Essex Standard Friday July 30th 1875
23. Essex Standard Friday July 31st 1875
24. Essex Standard Friday October 27th 1876
25. Essex Standard Friday, June 28 1878
26. Bury and Norwich Post Tuesday May 4, 1880; Saturday May 18 1889 *They had four sons Vincent, Claude, Clement and Basil who dressed as sailors at her sister's wedding.*
27. Essex Standard Saturday July 17th 1886
28. Essex Standard Saturday May 18 1889
29. Essex Standard Saturday November 8th 1890
30. Essex Standard Saturday September 20th 1890
31. Essex Standard Saturday October 9th 1886
32. Essex Standard Wednesday May 31st 1890
33. Bury and Norwich Post Tuesday September 13 1892; Essex Standard Saturday April 21 1894 – his parents had moved to Stafford House, Clacton
34. Essex Standard Saturday February 7th 1891
35. ERO D/DBw B2/18 1905; East Anglian Daily Times Friday 21 July 1905 p2; East Anglian Daily Times Saturday 29 July 1905 p2
36. Cambridge Independent Press Friday 20 April 1906 p5
37. ERO SALE/B1265 1913; Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 23 May 1913 p4; Friday 30 May 1913 p4; Friday 13 June 1913 p4

38. *East Anglian Daily Times* Friday 07 September 1900 p.6
39. *East Anglian Daily Times* Saturday 08 September 1900 p.6
40. *Kelly's (1902) Directory of Essex* p.184
41. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 02 December 1904 p.8
42. *Census 1911*
43. *ERO D/F 129/4/23; Kelly's (1914) Directory of Essex* p.244; *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 05 August 1921 p3; Friday 30 November 1928 p4
44. *His Majesty's Stationery Office (1922) An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Essex, iii North East.* p.104.
45. *Ingle C, Saunders H (2011) Aerial Archaeology in Essex: the role of the National Mapping Programme in interpreting the landscape* p.143
46. *COUNTY COURT APPEAL Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 08 May 1931 p12 *Essex Newsman* Saturday 09 May 1931 p3
47. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 12th April 1935, Friday 26 March 1937
48. *Essex Newsman* Saturday 22 August 1936,
49. *Essex Newsman* Saturday 16th July 1938
50. *National Register DDYM record 13*
51. *ERO D/DU 1599/1 (1949); Worpole (2021) No matter How Many Skies Have Fallen* p85-6
52. *Gazette and Times* Saturday April 4th 1943

Manor of Moverons

The name of the manor derives from the surname 'Montviron,' of which the St. Clair family were part. In 1260, Mariote, one of the heirs of John de Montviron, claimed her late father's land in Brightlingsea and Frating from William de Harenold and his wife Cecily.¹

In 1326, John de Munyvon and Margery his wife and Godfrey de Munyvon, received from Richard Bromelegh *2 messuages, 160 acres of land, 14 acres of meadow, 3 acres of pasture in Great Bromelegh and Frating. ... the heirs of the body of Godfrey to hold [two parts] of Richard Bromelegh and his heirs, rendering yearly 1 rose at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (January 24th) and doing to the chief lords all other services, and also the remainder of the third part which Lucy holds in dower of the inheritance of Richard Bromelegh, with remainder to the right heirs of John. Cons sterling.*² Margeria de Movyroun paid 2/- for the 1327 Lay Subsidy. John de Mouviron, was resident in 1331.³

In 1341, *John de Moueroun the elder and John his son, received 3 messuages, r mill, 400 acres of Janel, 12 acres of meadow, 20 acres of wood, 2c acres of alder and 40s. rent in Great Bromlegh, Fratyng and Elmeded .. to hold of the chief lords, with remainder to William de Harewold and Cecily his wife and the heirs of their bodies and the right heirs of John de Moueroun.*⁴ In 1344, *John de Moveroun the elder, purchased 50 acres of land, 1 acre of meadow, 50 acres of marsh, 2/10 rent and a third part of 1 messuage in Brightlyngeseye, Thuryton, Great Bromlegh and Fratyng. ...rendering 1 rose.*⁵

An early fifteenth century pleading at the Court of Chancery between *Joan Seyntcler, daughter of John Seyntcler, of St Osyth* and *William Godmanston, esq. of Frinton, & John Frethe, of St Osyth* concerned the *Manors of Mevaroms (Moverouns), Frating, Coldhall, and Oklehalle. Essex, Kent.*⁶

On 19 October 1485, *a Receipt from Gilbert de Lee, esq., and his wife Agnes, formerly wife of Thomas Sencler, Esq., of St. Osyth, was given to William Stephen of Elmstead, for rent on a messuage called Moverons (Moreham Hall) in Frating and lands in Frating and Bromley.*⁷

In 1549, William Cardynall, gent., received from the late Sir John St Clair (*Seyntclere* d.1546) *the Manors of Moveromes & Colehall & 6 messuages, 4 cottages, 6 gardens, 20 acres arable, 30 acres meadow, 200 acres pasture, 30 acres wood, 100 acres furze & heath & 40/-s rent in Great Bromeley, Fratyng, Elmedsted, Allesford & Great Bentley.* Valued at £86.⁸ Sir John St Clair was also Lord of the Manor of Moverons in Brightlingsea, which passed to Thomas D'Arcy by 1557.⁹

It next passed to the Beriff family, of Brightlingsea. Augustus Beriff's son, William married Catherine, daughter of William Draper of Aldham. Their eldest son, William Beriff, of Colchester, held the Manor of Moverons in Frating and Bromley, and a capital messuage in Colchester and Greenstead. He died in 1627 and was succeeded by his son William. William married Frances Sidemore of Ipswich and had a son, John. He was succeeded by Richard Beriff, who lived at Moverons and married a daughter of James Harvey of Cockford, Suffolk. He died without issue so his widow, gave the estate to Jacob Band, of Polstead Hall.¹⁰

On Wednesday 10th June 1801, Morehams estate was auctioned. There were 242 acres of land, of which 40 acres were copyhold of the Manor of Wix. The tenant was Thomas Lake.¹¹ In the 1830s, the Misses Seaman ran a Ladies Seminary at the Hall for twenty guineas per annum.¹² In 1842, Shadrach Seaman farmed the estate, which was owned by Bartholomew Brown.¹³ Between 1848 and July 1863, Joseph Kirby farmed at Moreham's Hall.¹⁴

In May 1864 the hall was taken down and the buildings materials sold at auction. These included *sashes and frames; shutters; doors and jams; windowsills, staircase, flooring, and firewood.* A new residence was constructed.¹⁵ Between 1865 and 1883, Henry Simons Brown was owner.¹⁶ In April 1874, Brown sought the indictment of William Lord, 15 a pupil at Brunswick House School Mistley on the charge of theft of a pony valued at £35.¹⁷ In October 1874, Brown donated ten guineas to Essex and Colchester Hospital.¹⁸ In November 1877, Brown failed to attend Grand Jury Duty and was fined £5.¹⁹ On August 6th 1879, Brown purchased from Geo. Harvey of Newark *goodwill of wine and spirit merchant "Harvey and Co". at Newark, interest in occupation of cellars at Town Hall, and all stock in trade in Kirkgate and Paxton Court.*²⁰ John Miller farmed the Moorhams until his death in 1881. The farm lease was allowed to run until its expiration in 1889 and then the sale of his stock of eighteen young cart mares and geldings; ten cows, 168 lambs and 54 *keeping sheep* realised a total of £1,343. Duke a *capital bay mare, 6 years old* and Boxer a *short-legged bay gelding, 5 years* both sold for 40 guineas.²¹

In 1889-92 and 1900, Moreham's Hall Farm was offered for lease with *Gentleman's Residence, 253½ acres of land – including 25 acres of pasture. There is capital Partridge Shooting on this Farm, and it is situate in the centre of the Essex and Suffolk Hunt.*²² In 1899, Henry Brown died, and the farm was sold.²³

In 1900, Henry Wenden was resident and winning second and reserve prizes for turkeys in the Dairy Show.²⁴ The following year he won first place for turkey cockerel.²⁵ In 1905, the farm was selling *INDIAN Game Cockerels. big, healthy 'birds, 5s. and 7s. 6d. each.*²⁶ On the second day of the 1905 Dairy Show, held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington taking premier award for MV. H. E. Wenden, of Frating near Colchester, was very successful with his turkey exhibits, receiving firsts in each of the cockerel and pullet other ...²⁷ In November 1905, Mr. H. E. Wenden, of Frating, was third at the Crystal Palace Poultry Show Tuesday.²⁸

At the October 1906, the Dairy Show's East Anglian Poultry Competition *Mr. H. E. Wenden, Frating, near Colchester, being very highly commended another class for Wyandottes, Columbian cockerel or pullet.*²⁹ In November 1906, in the cockerel class, *Mr. Wenden, Frating, near Colchester, being reserved.*³⁰

*On Monday 23rd March 1903, the military Eastern District Point-To-Point Steeplechases were run at Moreham's Hall on land occupied by Mr. H. E. Wenden; as the original venue of Great Wigborough was unavailable. General Sir W. Gatacre acted as judge, assisted by Col. Tyssen.*³¹ In 1906, the Sixth Division Point to Point Steeplechases took place at Frating *The Heavy Weight Cup was won Captain. P. Kerr Smiley's (12th Lancers) Rob Roy; Capt. Anderson's (11th Hussars) Moortown being second and Major E. St. G. Prate's (Durham Light Infantry) Wizard third. The race for the Imperial Yeomanry Cups resulted as follows: - First, Corporal JD Noble's (Suffolk IY) Searchlight; second Corporal GC Poole's (Essex IY) Uncle Fred; and third Regimental Serjeant-Mayor Lambart's (Suffolk IY) Halloween. The 6th Division Light Weight Cup was won by Captain R Anderson's (11th Hussars) Kilcurley, Mr M Graham's (16th Lancers) Perfection being second and Major RA Bright's (RHA) Dick Turpin third. Mr J Hawke's Harkaway secured the first prize in the farmer's race; Mr HE Dyer's Togo the second and Mr CH Westropp's Bad Egg the third.*³² In 1915 he assisted John Eagle of Walton in organising the first Tendring Show.³³

By 1914, Frank Pertwee farmed 750 acres there, at Frating Lodge, Cold Hall and lands south of Colchester.³⁴ He launched a corn merchandising business as farming was unprofitable at Morehams.³⁵ In April 1923 Morehams Hall Farm with residence, cottage, homestead, furniture and 253 acres was sold.³⁶ It was sold again in October 1926, with Lodge Farm, when Pertwee retired and relinquished his tenancy.³⁷

The Stewarts' from Scotland farmed Moreham's from October 1926 until September 2020 when it was sold for over £2 million.³⁸ Currently, Lord & Hunt rent some of the farm to grow root vegetables.³⁹ In 2022, Mr Irwin converted a garage into a two-storey building which was inspected by TDC officials in September 2022 and he was asked to submit an appropriate planning request.⁴⁰

1. **Watson (1877) p.118**
2. **20 EDWARD II (1326) 12 Octave of Trinity**
3. **Ward JC (1983) The Medieval Essex: The Lay Subsidy of 1327 p.9; Kemble J (2011) The Place-names of Frating p.9 #94**
4. **14 EDWARD III (1341) 535**
5. **18 EDWARD III (1344) 693**
6. **TNA C 1/6/152 Probably 1404-1407, 1413-1417, or 1424-1426**
7. **ERO D/DBw B2/18; ERO D/DRg 1/24.**
8. **CP25(2)/57 /420 TRINITY, 3 EDWARD VI (1549) 54 TNA C 3/166/31 (1558-1579)**
9. **<https://www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk/?p=19151>**
10. **Watson (1877) p.118**
11. **Ipswich Journal Saturday 23rd May 1801**
12. **Essex Standard Friday December 29th 1837; Friday January 12th 1838**
13. **Essex Record Office D/CT 145a #94**
14. **White W (1848) Directory of Essex; White W (1863) Directory of Essex; Essex Standard Wednesday July 22nd 1863 – he died on July 9th aged 57. Essex Standard Friday August 26th 1864 his daughter Fanny married Arthur Green of Langham Hall**
15. **Essex Standard Friday May 20th 1864**
16. **Essex Standard Wednesday February 22nd 1865 Brown married Emily Paine of Mildenhall; Post Office Directory (1874); Watson (1877) p.118 The Ipswich Journal Saturday, Aug. 11, 1883 announcement of death**
17. **Essex Standard Friday April 24 1874**
18. **Essex Standard Friday October 9 1874**
19. **Essex Standard Friday November 23 1874**
20. **TNA/Notts Archives DD/H/154/184**
21. **Essex Standard Saturday Sept 28 1889**
22. **Essex Standard Saturday February. 23rd 1889; Saturday May 12 1900 Saturday, Apr. 18, 1891 Bury and Norwich Post Tuesday September 10 1889**
23. **Essex Standard Saturday November 11th 1899**
24. **Essex Standard Saturday 28th July 1900; October 13th 1900.**
25. **Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 11 October 1901 p7**
26. **East Anglian Daily Times Saturday 16 December 1905 p8; Tuesday 26 December 1905 p6**
27. **Evening Star Thursday 05 October 1905 p4**
28. **Essex Newsman Saturday 11 November 1905 p.2 East Anglian Daily Times Thursday 09 November 1905 p3**
29. **Evening Star Thursday 11 October 1906 p4**
30. **Evening Star Wednesday 14 November 1906 p4**
31. **East Anglian Daily Times Saturday 16 December 1905 p8; Tuesday 26 December 1905 p6 Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 27 March 1903 p2**
32. **Steeplechases at Frating Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 24 March 1905 p7**
33. **Kelly (1902) Directory of Essex; Harwich and Manningtree Standard 11th July 2015; Live Stock Journal Almanac (1908) p.214; Vinton's Agricultural Almanac and diary (1910) p.67.**
34. **Kelly (1914) Directory of Essex p.244; Frostwick H Harvest Time (2013) Bromley Messenger Vol. 28 #6 p.18; National Pig Breeders' Association (1918) Herd Book Vol.36 p.521**
35. **Wormell P (1999) Essex Farming 1900-2000 p.37**
36. **Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 06 April 1923 p5**
37. **Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 10 September 1926 p4**
38. **Great Bromley Messenger November 2018 vol2, p.20; <https://www.farmingscout.com/company-abram-c-stewart-in-colchester-45096>; <https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/196631>; <https://nethouseprices.com/house-prices/street-details-sale/BC8936BC35BC0E2CE0536C04A8C0DBF4/MOREHAMS%20HALL%20CLACTON%20ROAD,%20FRATING,%20CO7%20DQ/2020>**
39. **<http://www.lordandhunt.co.uk/cropping/potatoes/>**
40. **Frating Parish Council Minutes of meeting October 3rd 2022**

Manor of Whelars, now Frating Abbey Farm

“.. A medieval monastic establishment existed at Frating”¹ but little trace of it can be found either looking in documents; records of clerical taxation or at the existing architecture at Frating Abbey Farm. Wix Abbey had held land in Frating from c.1125 until Victorian Times, but that was at Frating Green over a mile away.²

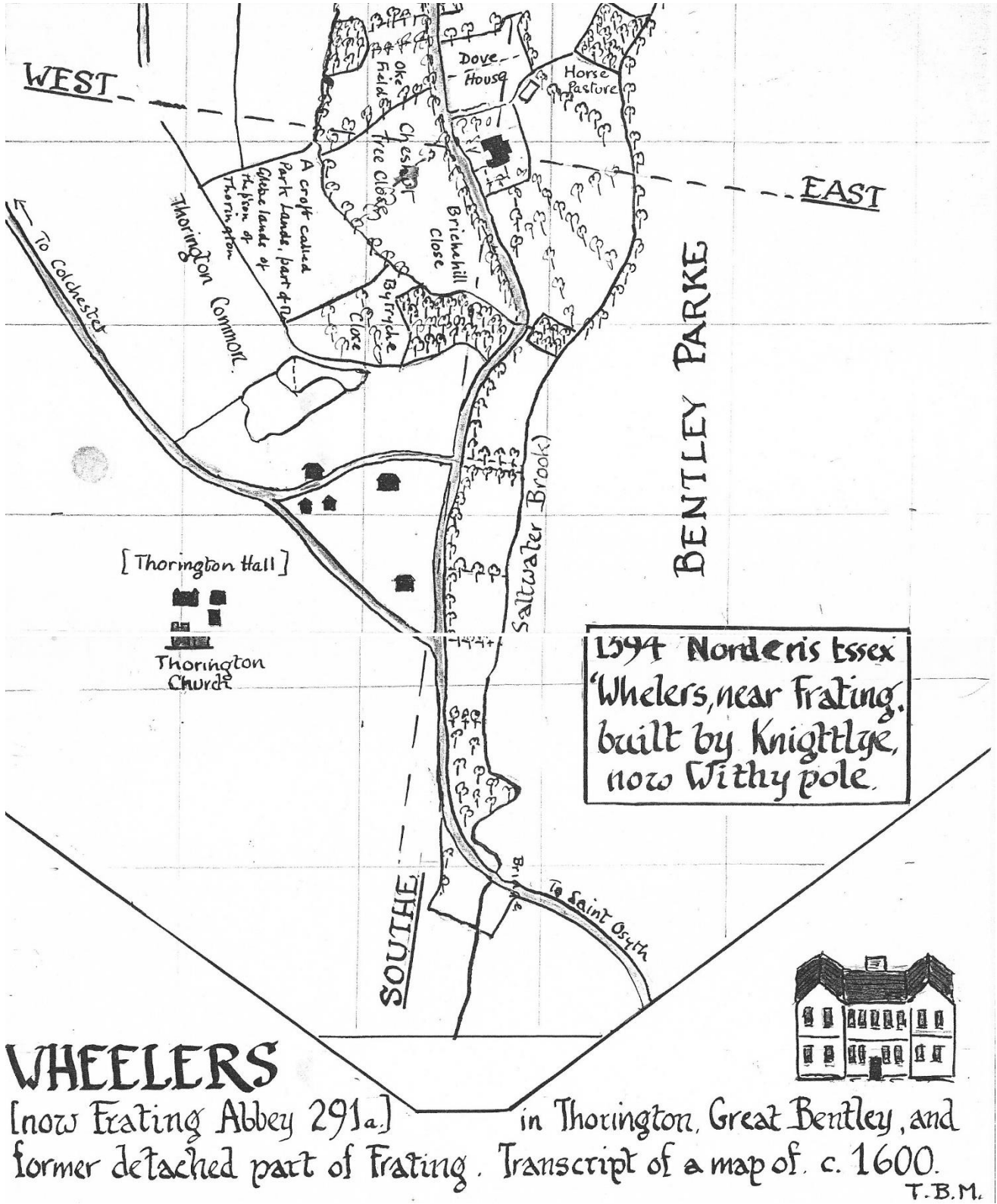
The Manor of Whelars originally stood on this site and was a long, low early medieval building.³ *The old house there, ... was situated partly in Bentley and partly in Thorrington, as well as in Frating. It was an inconvenient dwelling-place possibly, but it is said to have been delightfully antique. The principal room, the hall had a roof vaulted to the top of the house. ...*⁴

This manor was twice mentioned in Tudor land transfers. At Easter 1547, Richard Taverner, esq., Roger Taverner & Robert Taverner, gent, purchased from Robert Gurdon, gent., & wife Rose, *The manors of Hanhams alias Bulleyns & Whelars & 6 messuages, 6 gardens, 400 acres arable, 50 acres meadow, 500 acres pasture., 200 acres wood & 40/- rent in Tenderyng, Fratyng, Great Bentley & Thoryngton. Def. quitclaimed to pl. & the heirs of Richard.* 620 marks.⁵ In 1564, William Watson, gent., acquired from William Wilford, esq., & wife Agnes, *the Manor of Whelars, 2 messuages, 3 tofts, 1 barn, 1 dovecote, 3 gardens, 100 acres arable, 20 acres meadow, 60 acres pasture, 30 acres wood & 2/- rent in Great Bentley, Fratyng & Thorington.* Worth 190 marks.⁶

By May 1582, Edmund Withypool (1510-1582) MP (1558), JP, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk (1570-1) and builder of Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich (1549) owned the *Manor of Wheelers with appurtances in Thorrington and Bentley.* Withypool had also accompanied Henry VIII to besiege Boulogne in 1544; been pardoned for the manslaughter of William Mathew by Queen Catherine Parr in December 1545 and hosted Queen Elizabeth in August 1561. He left the Manor of Wheelers to his son Ambrose (1551-85) for the surrender of a £30 pa annuity paid to his wife Martha from Holy Trinity Ipswich. Ambrose's debts were also cleared. Upon his death without issue the Manor reverted to his nephew Paul who died in the same year and left his property to his mother Dorothee. His heir was his twelve year old brother, Edmund (b.1573-1619.) He married Frances a co-heir of Sir John Neville, Lord Latimer; was knighted in 1600 and became Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1601. After his death his widow sold the Lincolnshire estates to pay his debts.⁷

In 1594, Norden's Description of Essex states Wheelers, near Frating, Buylt by ... Knightlye, now Withypole.

c.291 acres⁸ and is included on his county map.⁹ The Estate Map #100, c.1600 of Great Bentley and Thorrington shows the manor of Wheelers (291 acres) in perspective view.¹⁰ Figure 7



In 1619, a servant of Richard Turner of the Wheelers was buried in Frating Churchyard.¹¹ Blome's Map of

Essex in 1689 recorded "Whellers".¹²

From the latter part of the seventeenth century Wheelers was part of the Manor of Wix Hall and farmed by generations of the Barrington family. In 1680, Isaac Barrington donated 6d to an appeal at Frating Church. In 1708, Isaac Barrington is mentioned as tenant of Mr Honeywood in the Rent Rolls of the Manor of Thorrington.¹³ *Isaac Barrington who made his Last Will and Testament in 1724 was a well-to-do man with lands in Bentley and Thorrington. He left his children comfortably provided for. To his beloved wife Hester, besides property, he bequeathed her riding mare, side saddle, and all such goods as were hers at the time of his marriage with her.*¹⁴ They had eleven children baptised at Frating Church between 1724 and 1740.¹⁵

In 1768, Morant mentions the estate.¹⁶ In 1758-1800, the Manor of Wheelers is recorded with 168 acres in the Honeywood family estate book.¹⁷ The 1777 Andre and Chapman map of Essex shows Wheelers.¹⁸ In 1813, the Inclosure Award Book mentions a *private carriage way .. leading to "The Homestead" belonging to William Honeywood's and his tenant Isaac Barrington.*¹⁹

In 1814 the *Manor of Wheelers and mansion and land (200a.) in Great Bentley, Frating and Thorrington* was mentioned in a land deed for the Manor of Kirby Hall owned by the Honeywood family of Marks Hall.²⁰ On October 3rd 1823, *The Manor of Wheelers, a farm called Wheelers; in Great Bentley, and a wood containing together with the copyhold 200 acres; in Great Bentley, Thorrington and Frating* was sold by *William Philip Honeywood of Lincolns Inn, esquire, barrister, to Henry Brougham of Lincolns Inn, esquire, barrister, William St. Julien Arabin of the Inner Temple, esquire, barrister, Henry Dalston Lowndes of Red Lion Square (county Middlesex), gentleman, Peter Rainier of the Albany (county Middlesex), esquire, and Reverend Thomas Knox of Tonbridge (county Kent), clerk* for £3000. These were occupied by *William Freeman under a Lease for 7 years granted from Michaelmas 1821.*²¹

The manor house was demolished by John Boghurst (d.1870), after moving from Kent.²² He built a Regency farmhouse using gault brick,²³ whilst residing at Great Bentley Lodge.²⁴ On the First Edition of the *Ordnance Survey* map the site was labelled Wheelers. **(Figure 14, p47)** In the Tithe Award of 1842, John Boghurst owned site #218 (yards) with the fields of c.65 acres farmed by Thomas Brooks.²⁵ There is no mention of an Abbey. John Boghurst is recorded as a voter in 1842 (resident in Elmstead) with *house and land freehold* in Frating. William Boghurst (1826-1886) is listed as resident in *White's Directory of 1848* and the *Post Office Directory of 1874.*²⁶ In 1853-4, Boghurst was a frequent letter-writer to the *Essex Standard* during his campaign to get better treatment for Widow Jaggard

and used Frating Abbey as his address.²⁷ For the renovation of St Mary Madgalene's Church, Thorrington, Boghurst donated an oak pulpit and £10 in April 1867.²⁸ In 1877, Rev Lufkin was resident at Frating Abbey Farm.²⁹

On April 22nd 1884, Frating Abbey Farmhouse was damaged by the Wivenhoe Earthquake... *a new well-built house, about 40 years old, one chimney was much damaged and the others so much loosened as to require supporting.*³⁰ In September 1885, the live and dead farming stock were auctioned. These included: *8 capital cart mares and geldings; 3 cows in milk and in calf; poultry; road and harvest wagons; tumbrils; Smyth's 13-coulter corn and seed drill; Garrett's mangold seed drill; Hornsby's self-delivery reaper .. stack of mixed stover (18 acres), meadow hay (8 acres), two hills of manure.*³¹ He retired and let his farm to his tenant Charles Henry Chisnell. Boghurst died in 1886 aged 60.³²

*In June 1904 the DEATH OF MR. H. BOGHURST FISHER (1828-1904) was announced. We regret to report the death of Mr. Henry Boghurst Fisher, of Pitt Place, Great Baddow. The deceased was the second son of the late Mr. Boghurst, who built Frating Abbey. The name of Fisher was legally taken by the deceased. When a man he went to Australia and made a fortune in gold fields ...*³³ *His funeral took place Frating on Saturday. The coffin, which was oak, brass fittings, was conveyed by rail to Colchester, and thence road to Frating. The Rev. Dr. Caldecott, rector, conducted the service.*³⁴

In 1902, Charles Chisnall was still farming at Frating Abbey and breeding white leghorn poultry for 2/6 per dozen.³⁵ In 1903, a building application was filed for two cottages.³⁶ On October 24th 1914, his son Lieutenant George Henry MB FRCS attached to the 1st Cameron Highlanders, died at Poperinghe Hospital, Belgium. He had been treating a wounded soldier at the time when shells landed nearby, before being taken to the hospital. He is commemorated on the Memorial in St Mary Madgalene's.³⁷ On May 28th 1919, his youngest son, Lieutenant Charles Alain of the Royal Flying Corp died a year after being hit by machine-gun fire and was buried in Ripon, Yorks.³⁸ In 1926, Charles Chisnall died and the estate was sold. He had been a member of the Tendring Board of Guardians, Tendring Rural District Council and Essex & Suffolk Hunt. His body was conveyed to Thorrington Church for his funeral in an ordinary farm waggon.³⁹ *WITH POSSESSION. ESSEX: THORRINGTON & GREAT BENTLEY. SALE of the VALUABLE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING FARM FRATING ABBEY, comprising excellent Residence, ample Farm Buildings. 5 Cottages, and 252 Acres Mixed Soil Arable and Pasture Land.*⁴⁰

In 1931-3, a sugar beet test centre was established by HT Smith at Frating Abbey Farm on behalf of the Institute of Agriculture, Chelmsford. In 1931, crops infected with skin-spot, only reduced the number of plants grown – the yield from 140 tubers was 197 lbs, 180 lbs. and 104 lbs.⁴¹ These were inspected in July 1931, by two coaches full of farmers and students.... *inspection of the experimental and demonstration plots laid down in the district by the Institute of Agriculture, Chelmsford, at Frating, Mistley, Clacton, etc. An instructive day brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the district organiser.*⁴² In 1932 and 1933, experiments were run to improve the number of roots and yield by varying the interval between plants; and reducing the amount of husk on the seed by chemical and physical agents.⁴³ In August 1935, *pure breed scotch collie puppies* were advertised for sale.⁴⁴

Between 1937 and 1973, the Adie family were resident and announced six weddings in the *Times*.⁴⁵

In September 1941, George Miller of Frating Abbey married Miss Jessie Lord of College Farm, Great Bentley, at St Mary Magdalene's, Thorrington. Both were members of the Young Farmers' Club. Bridesmaids were Janet Miller, Betty Mitchell and Patricia Lord. Officiating at the service were Rev H Wilcox assisted by Bishop Chapman; with Beryl Finch, organist.⁴⁶ Best man was Tom Miller who was Rector's Church Warden at St Mary Magdalene's and Senior ARP Warden. Also, that year, Tom Miller sold Frating Abbey Farm and moved to Mark's Tey.⁴⁷

On 6th March 1945, at 21:10 Mosquito B MK. IX MM237, of 105 Squadron from RAF Bourn, was returning from an operational flight to Wesel. The aircraft was attacked by a friendly night-fighter in error as it crossed the Essex Coast and was badly damaged. Squadron Leader Robert Burrell **DFC** (#90603) was wounded in his right thigh; and he with his navigator Flight Officer James McCulloch (#156435) had to bale out before the aircraft crashed south of Frating Abbey Farm, Essex. Both air-crew landed in the sea off St. Osyth.⁴⁸

On April 10th 1987, the farmhouse was listed at Grade II.⁴⁹ In 1989, Frating Abbey, the Lodge, farm buildings and 234 acres were sold.⁵⁰ Since 1999, the Barns have been used by Lee Scott Classic Cars to restore Jaguars.⁵¹ In 2016, permission was granted to install 10Kw Solar PV array to be screened by planting.⁵² The four acre lake contains some carp, tench and perch. It is managed by Alresford Angling Association in 2019.⁵³

1. Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch (2008) Tendring District Historic Environment Characterisation Project p.287
2. ERO T/B 247/7
3. Watson (1877) p119
4. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt, quoting Sizer K (1870) *Glimpses of Great Bentley*
5. CP25(2)/57/418 EASTER, 1 EDWARD VI (1547) 21
6. CP26(1)/124 (1564) 56 Mich.
7. Will of Edmund Withipool (P.C.C. 1582); <https://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk/assets/F-Heritage/Guides-and-documents/The-Withypoll-Family-and-the-Church.pdf>; Bindoff ST (ed) (1982) *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1509-1558*; Moore Smith GC, Reaney PH (1936) *The FAMILY OF WITHYPOLL* p.45, 49-52 p.65, p.66 *Court of Wards, Inquisitio post mortem*, 21/102 p.67-72 – there is no specific mention of *ffratyng* after 1582
8. Norden's Description of Essex (1594) in MAB file *History of Frating 2 and Residents in the Nineteenth Century*

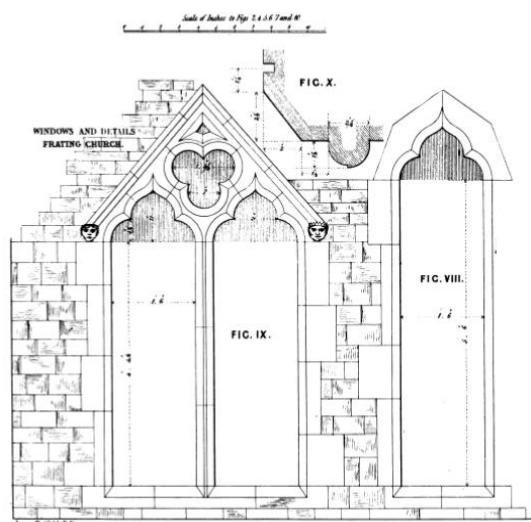
9. ERO Issued a reprint in 1966; purchased from e-bay 2022
10. ERO D/DB P1; Transcript in MAB *Residents of the Nineteenth Century*
11. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
12. Blome's map of Essex (1689) in MAB file History of Frating 2
13. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
14. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt, quoting Sizer k (1870) Glimpses of Great Bentley
15. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
16. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
17. ERO D/DCm E2 (1758-1800)
18. <https://map-of-essex.uk/>
19. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
20. ERO D/DHt T439; 1 VCH Essex, i. 443 Filmer Honeywood died in 1809 and in 1818 WP Honeywood inherited.
21. ERO D/DC 27/867 (1823)
22. Essex Standard Saturday October 16th 1886 says the house was built 40 years earlier; *The Ipswich Journal Saturday January 1 1870* John Boghurst died in Ipswich aged 77
23. <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1265151>
24. Essex County Standard June 1935 – Letter by TB Millatt
25. ERO D/CT 145 a, b and six fields/premises in Great Bentley ERO D/CT 29a where John Boghurst collected £15 19/- rent charge
26. White W (1848) *Directory of Essex*; *Post Office Directory (1874)*; Dennis G (1840) *An historical and geographical description of Walton on the Naze* p9 John Boghurst was already living in Elmstead and the only villager mentioned
27. Essex Standard Friday December 23rd 1853, December 29th 1853
28. Essex Standard, Friday April 26 1867; Wednesday, May 1, 1867
29. Kemble J (2011) *Place-names of Frating* p13
30. White W (1994) *Report on the East Anglican Earthquake of April 22nd 1884* p.102
31. Essex Standard September 19 1885
32. Essex Standard Saturday October 16th 1886
33. Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 10 June 1904 p5
34. Essex Newsman Saturday 18 June 1904 p3
35. THE COLCHESTER OYSTER FEAST Essex Standard Saturday, Oct. 28, 1899; *Tendring Hundred farmers Club Essex Standard* Saturday July 28 1900, Kellys (1902) *Directory of Essex* p.184; *Stockbreeder's Magazine (1899) Volume 1* p.1279
36. ERO D/RT Pb1/88
37. The Times Monday November 2nd 1914; <http://www.greatwar.co.uk/ypres-salient/town-poperinge.htm>; <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/4009539/> <https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205292140> [https://livesonline.rcseng.ac.uk/client/en_GB/lives/search/detailnonmodal/ent:\\$002f\\$002fSD_ASSET\\$002f0\\$002fSD_ASSET:373353/one?qu=%22rcs%3A+E001170%22&rt=false%7C%7C%7CIDENTIFIER%7C%7C%7CResource+Identifier](https://livesonline.rcseng.ac.uk/client/en_GB/lives/search/detailnonmodal/ent:$002f$002fSD_ASSET$002f0$002fSD_ASSET:373353/one?qu=%22rcs%3A+E001170%22&rt=false%7C%7C%7CIDENTIFIER%7C%7C%7CResource+Identifier)
38. CWGC
39. Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 12 March 1926 p2; Clacton Graphic Saturday 13th March 1926
40. Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 21 May 1926 p4
41. Essex Institute of Agriculture (1931) *Report* p.41
42. NEWS IN BRIEF Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 24 July 1931; Essex Newsman Saturday 25 July 1931
43. Essex Institute of Agriculture (1931) *Report* p.46, 52
44. Essex Salesman Saturday 03 August 1935
45. The Times Thursday 24 1937, Tuesday November 16 1948, Wednesday January 7 1953; Wednesday October 2nd 1957; Wednesday January 1 1958; Walter G Adie was father. Friday October 20th 1972; Tuesday November 13 1973 AG Adie was named as the father of the bride; Suffolk Record Office HG400/2/450/5 early 1950s building work at Frating Abbey cottage; Suffolk Record Office K626/18/4/20 East Anglian magazine article
46. Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 26th September 1941
47. StMM Record II: 1940-47 Summer 1941
48. <http://www.yorkshire-aircraft.co.uk/aircraft/yorkshire/york41/z6471.html>; <https://aviation-safety.net/wikibase/70255;> <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/37088/supplement/2624/data.pdf> DFC awarded May 22nd 1945
49. <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1265151>
50. ERO SALE/D1450
51. <http://www.leescottclassiccars.co.uk/about-us/our-history>
52. Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council January 2016 p.2 15/01122/FUL
53. <https://www.alresfordangling.co.uk/frating-abbey>

Frating Church

The patronage of the Church belonged to St Botolph's Priory,¹ but no records of its original construction or dedication remain. In 1125, Frating was a chapel-of-ease for Great Bentley, and it became a parish church in 1237. The south wall of the nave was of early twelfth century Norman construction, with the south-west quoin and a single Norman window dressed in Roman brick. In the fourteenth century, the chancel (c1300), north chapel, west tower and south porch were constructed.²

On April 27th 1215 at Frating, two Abbots found the Rector David de Mora of Moorfields, London guilty of withholding five marks since he was appointed.³

During medieval times, the actions of some of the Rector's of Frating are recorded in the Ancient Deeds. In *Ancient Deed A46* the Parson of Frating, Richard de Broma, witnessed an undertaking by Basilia, prioress of Wix to levy from Richard Beknesfeud of 4/6 yearly during the minority of John de Hoding for heath held there.⁴ In 1285, the Parson, Henry de Gressenhall released all rent and services from a tenement in Skemming.⁵



The windows in the southern wall of the Chancel date from the Decorated Period of Edward I and Edward II, between 1299 and 1325. The interior sill was lowered to permit sedila (stone seats for clergy recessed in to the wall).

Figure 8⁶

In 1514, John Brown became Rector. In 1521, he gained license to "*absent himself from the benefice for three years cause studii.*" Possibly to complete a degree at Cambridge or Oxford.⁷

Henry VIII, on December 30th 1528, gifted the profits of Frating, and those of many other parishes, to Cardinal Thomas Wolsey's College in Oxford.⁸ After Wolsey's death in 1530, Henry VIII gave it to Sir Thomas Dudley, his Lord Chancellor. In his will of April 19th 1544, he left it to his brother, Thomas Audley.

Visitations by the Archdeacon by 1548, found that in *Fratynge. Thomas Stevyn, Elyze Churche, Churchwardens doo say that they have sold certayne latten and yron of the saide churches extinge to the Somme of Xs. Which ys bestowed upon a pulpytt and a hutche in the same church.*⁹

Contiguous church records were kept *from the seventeenth daye of November, Anno Domini 1558-1560.* The Rector, Rev. RB Mayor, provided some for publication in 1877.¹⁰

- *seventeenth daye of November, Anno Domini 1558-1560. Vicesimo Certio die was Andrewe Woodh, the sonne of Andrewe Woode, christened.*
- *xxviii. daye of April, Anno Domini 1560: Vicesimo Nono die Alis Heckford, the wife of John Heckford, buried.*
- *first of December, Anno Domini 1560: John Heckford and Marieri Broker, married.*

At the end of the Registers the following entries were found:

1609 April 9 - *J Gathered for the Turkish Captivity*

8 Sept. 1680 *Collected in the Parish towards the Redemption of the English Captives: - Thomas Baythorne, rector 2s. 6d; Mrs. Beriffe 4s; Richard Beriffe 6d; Thomas Baker, 6d; Thomas Champnesse 6d; Isaac Barrington 6d; Samuel Champnesse 6d; Edward Boradel 4d; Thomas Augur 3d; Robert Bigger 2d; Ann Champnesse 3d; Em Champnesse 3d; George Gilbert 2d; Andrew Wilkins 1d. The whole sum is ten shillings and sixpence.*

1681 *Collected towards the Briefe of St. Albans, four shillings and three pence.*

1683 *Collected towards the Briefe of St. Albans, £00 04s. 03d.*

The Terrier of 1610 records that Frating consisted of *a Parsonage house, a Barn, a Garden-Plot, and an orchard and about 23 acres of Glebe.* 6/8 was payable annually to the patrons, the Audley family in Berechurch, for an acre of land intermixt with the Glebe. Another fee was payable via St Bartholomew's to the Bishop of London.¹¹ In 1613, the Church Wardens' reported, *The Chancell is wonderfull out of reparacions and we se cleane threw and threw it.*¹²

At the Archdeacons Visitation of 1633, Anthony Cage was *Rector – Surrogate;* Thomas Burre and Robert Munt were Wardens. *The seats in their church want boarding in ye bottoms. They want a hood for their minister. They want a decent flagon for their wine. The church wants liming. The pillars of the windows of their steeple want repairing. The south-west buttress of their steeple is cracked and wants repairing. They want a sufficient chest with three locks with keys to put their goods and ornaments in. The desk of their pulpit is too little – to be made bigger.*

*Their second bell is cracked and wants recasting and rehangng. Their chancel wants glazing. The east end of their chancel want paving. The Churchwardens are admonished to the repairs above and to provide the ornaments above before Christmas next and to certify the same in the next court. Mr Cage is to pay for the chancel and certify.*¹³

Augustin Underwood MA, a graduate of Caius College was rector in 1655-71; and a curate at Great Bentley in 1662.¹⁴ To take the living he did not have to show his ordination. Instead, the Church Commissioners (Triers) were to consider *the grace of God in Him, his holy and unblameable conversation, and his being as regards knowledge and utterance able to preach the Gospel*. Three testimonials were also sought from men of *known godliness and integrity* – including one who was an established preacher *in some constant settled place*. Initially he was admitted as a preacher – he became a Rector after the end of the Commonwealth.¹⁵ The Archdeacons Act Book recorded in 1666, *The second bell is broken – to be recast. Mr Underwood the minister states that said bell is now recast and rehung.*

There was a bell at Frating inscribed Miles:: Graye:: Made::Me::1663 .¹⁶

In 1707, the Church possessed a *silver Cupp and Patten, and a pewter flagon*.¹⁷

Henry Audley, a descendant, alienated the Parish to the Rev. David Kinnear¹⁸ in the early eighteenth century.¹⁹ It was purchased by St. John's College, Cambridge in 1736.²⁰ The Rev. Thomas Lufken was the last Rector before it passed to St. John's College. As St John's College owned the advowson to both Frating and Thorrington it petitioned the Bishop of London to allow the union of the Parishes in 1763.²¹

A new eight bedroom Rectory from gault brick was erected in 1832. For the next hundred years, the Rector of Frating cum Thorrington resided here; a Curate lived in the Thorrington Rectory. Between 1932 and 1949, the Rectory was used by the Suffragan Bishop of Colchester The Right Rev Thomas Chapman DD (1922-33). He stayed in the house until he died in 1949. In 1950 it was sold for private use.²²

At the 1851 Census, the Congregation was 55 for the morning service, 125 for the afternoon and 190 for the evening.²³ In 1857, HH Hayward extended the nave and added stained glass windows by Powell.²⁴ In 1872, the architect CF Hayward and builder Mr J Grimes of Colchester restored the tower with a Bath stone arch; rebuilt the chancel arch; removed the plastered ceiling to form an open timber roof of fir; and extended the Chancel westwards to form a north aisle with encaustic tiles fitted and a carved Bathstone arcade. The three bells were rehung. The pulpit, desk and choir stalls were rebuilt. The Church was rededicated by the Rt Rev TL Claughton, Lord Bishop of

Rochester.²⁵ The churchyard was also extended.²⁶ In 1874, the stained glass window showing the *Good Shepherd* was placed in the West Window.²⁷

The bell cast in 1663 was found to be cracked and replaced in 1884 by one from Mears and Stainbank.²⁸

In September 1899, a stained glass window and tablet in the Chancel was dedicated in memory of the late Rev Canon Robert Bickerstaff Mayor by the Rural Dean of Colchester, Rev Canon Corbett. *The memorial is of classical design, executed in white Carrera marble with a Maltese cross in the centre of the tablet, whilst the arms and crest of the deceased are carved upon a medallion at its base.*²⁹ This East window, by Clayton and Bell, showed the Ascension with kneeling apostles and infant cherubs.³⁰

In June 1906, a Festival of Parish Choirs was held with 214 choristers from Brightlingsea, Kirby, Great Clacton, Little Clacton, Thorpe, Great Bentley, Weeley, Frating and Thorington, Walton-on-Naze, Frinton. and St. Osyth. There was a rehearsal in the afternoon, *after which the choristers partook of tea in the charming Priory Park.*³¹

In 1909, the Bells were recorded, and it was customary to *Death-knell 24 hours after death; tellers, 3 for male, 2 for female, one for child. Tolling at funerals. On Sundays a bell is rung fir a few minutes at 8 a.m.; bells chimed for 30 minutes before services. Ringing for weddings by request. A bell rung for Vestry Meetings. Gleaning bell discontinued some twenty years ago.*³² In 1914, the church was surveyed by the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments in England who examined all buildings constructed prior to 1700.³² Publication was delayed due to the War and finally completed in 1922.

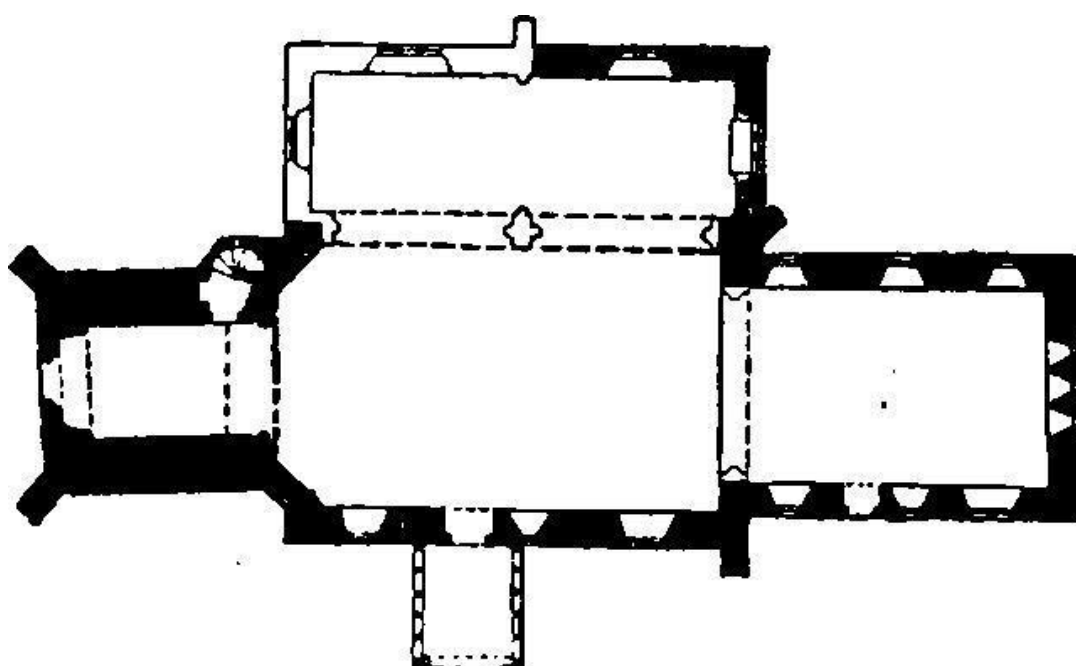


Figure 9 - The Church, Plan³²

Architectural Description—The Chancel (23½ ft. by 15½ ft.) has a modern East window. In the North wall are three early 14th-century windows each of one trefoiled ogee light. In the South wall are three windows, the easternmost is of two trefoiled ogee lights with a trefoil in a gabled head with a moulded label and head-stops; it is of c. 1300 with the head restored; the second window is uniform with those in the North wall; the third window is similar but partly restored and carried down below a transom to form a 'low-side' with a modern shutter; between the second and third windows is a doorway of c. 1300 with chamfered jambs and two-centred arch. The chancel-arch is modern.

The Nave (35 ft. by 20½ ft.) has a modern North arcade. In the South wall are three windows, the easternmost and westernmost are modern; the middle one is an early 12th-century light with Roman brick jambs and round head; between the two western windows is a modern South doorway with a round cemented rear-arch, possibly of the 12th-century.

The North Aisle (13½ ft. wide) has old walls to the East bay which formed a North chapel. The East window is modern except the 14th-century splays and moulded segmental rear-arch. The eastern window in the North wall is modern except the splays and hollow chamfered rear-arch which are possibly of the 14th-century.

The West Tower (about 9 ft. square) is of mid-14th-century date and of three stages with a modern parapet. The tower-arch is modern and is set within a cemented two-centred arch dying into the side walls and perhaps of the 14th century. The West window is modern; the West doorway has stop-moulded jambs and two-centred arch. The second stage has in the West wall a single light window with brick jambs and trefoiled ogee head of stone. The bell-chamber has in each wall a window of two cinquefoiled lights in a two-centred head with a moulded label, all much restored.

The South Porch is timber-framed and probably of the 14th century. It has a plain two-centred outer archway, and the sides are each divided into five lights by diamond-shaped mullions.

The Roof of the N. chapel (East bay of North aisle) is flat with a moulded ridge-beam and joists; the beam has an oval panel in the middle with 'umbrella' flutings and is probably of the 17th century. The 14th-century roof of the South porch has ogee curved braces under the trussed collar-beams.

Fittings—Bells: three; said to be, first possibly by William Dawe, c. 1400 and inscribed, "Johannes Est Nomen Ejus"; third by Kebyll, 15th-century and inscribed, "Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum."

Glass: In chancel—in the North-west window, border of foliage and ruby glass, 14th-century.

Monument: In N. aisle—against East wall, to Thomas Bendish, 1603, and Elinor (Ford), his wife, altar-tomb of alabaster and black marble, inscription with ornamental cresting, two shields of arms.

Piscina: In chancel—with chamfered two-centred head and round drain, 14th-century.

Plate: includes cup of 1584.

Recess: In chancel—in North wall, with moulded jambs and four-centred arch, enriched with small flowers, square head with foliated spandrels, early 16th-century, probably Easter Sepulchre.

Sedile: In chancel—sill of South-west window carried down to form seat.

Condition—Good, much restored.³³

By 1925 the Church plate consisted of a 6½ oz silver cup (1722 by William Fawdery) has a deep bell-shaped bowl with a moulded lip on a short, thick, tubular stem which is divided midway by a ring; a Sheffield plate (inscribed Frating Parish Church 1843) patten, flagon and alms dish. There was also an Indian silver Box for bread or wafer inscribed A token of love from the Teachers of S Thomas' Sunday School Douglas Isle of Man. To the Rev^d FBPN Hutton, August 21st 1877.³⁴ For the Services held on Friday 17th and Sunday 19th September 1937, the Church was decorated with asters, dahlias and chrysanthemums for the Harvest Festival. The fruit, flowers and vegetables were sent to Groom's Orphanage, Clacton.³⁵

On Whitsunday 1938, the newly installed "Positive" pipe-organ was used for the first time, by Maurice Woods, at a service led by the retired Bishop, Rt. Rev Chapman. The cost of £20 was raised by donations and the

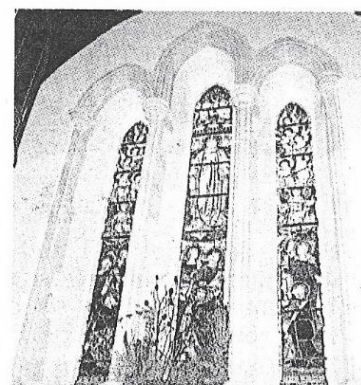
Sunday collection. The old American organ was donated to Miss E Vince, the honorary organist and choir-mistress.³⁶

In January 1948, a series of four whist drives were run by Mrs Gray, Mrs L Gray and Mrs E Sexton for the Church Restoration Fund which raised £29 13/-. Overall winners were Mrs AE Sayers and Mrs Newton (gentleman) Miss L Gray returned the Competition Prize which was sold for £1 3/-.³⁷ On Easter Sunday, after evensong, the Frating Hall choir sang a selection of unaccompanied French and English *Easter carols* conducted by J Watson. *The unaccompanied singing was most inspiring in the setting of the old beautifully decorated old church.*³⁸ In May, the Hon. Reader for the previous seventeen years TB Millatt left the Parish when he became Headmaster of Birch School. A presentation was made by Church Warden Miss PEB Vince.³⁹ His successor, RT Howard was invested on May 7th at Chelmsford Cathedral.⁴⁰

In 1961, the Church was re-plastered, and the interior cleaned.⁴¹ In September 1963, the Harvest Festival was held and produce sent to a Church of England Convent. Mr French was organist and Psalm 8 was set by the Rector.⁴² By 1967, the church required many repairs totalling £3,000. The supports for the bells were rotten; the West Window was in danger of collapsing so was removed; loose parapets at the top of the tower and one bell was cracked.⁴³ In February 1968, the Sunday School was due to reopen after a gap of two years due to lack of numbers.⁴⁴



Figure 10 –
The interior of
Frating Church
(c1938)⁴⁵
and the East
Window (1969)⁴⁶



A whist drive was held in the War Memorial Hall which raised £9 14/6 for the Church repairs.⁴⁷ In March 1968, repairs were completed on the West window. Previously, only one of three lights had stained glass.⁴⁸ In September 1968, a coffee morning at Mrs Lucas' home which raised £3 5/- for Frating Parish Church Appeal.⁴⁹ In October and December 1968, combined Church Services were held with the Balls Green Methodist Church.⁵⁰ By January 1969, £1800 had been raised for the repairs fund. Leslie Francis produced the fifteenth century morality play *Everyman* in the church to raise funds, with characters appearing in

different parts of the church. Derrick Morgan played *Everyman*; Lawrence Cawthorne was *Death*; Mrs S Fieldgate, *Knowledge*; Mrs D Munroe, *Goods*; Yolande Chambers, *Beauty*; Karen Miller, *Good Deeds* and Kathy Miller, *an Angel*. The choirs from Alresford and Thorrington Church were joined by the children of Great Bromley CP School led by Penelope Carter. Preceding this was the nativity from *A Man Born to be King* by Dorothy L Sayers (1941). John Fieldgate was Producer and played *Herod*; Tony Simons, *a slave boy*; Leslie James as *Zorastes*; G Bowers, Don Cardy and D Golby as the Three Kings; Mrs G Bower, *Mary*; and Denise Golby, *Zillah*.⁵¹

In April 1973, the Parochial Church Council agreed to restore the church roof and porch with a flower festival to be held in 1974. Churchwardens were Doug Everett and Mrs D Sexton; Ron Lucas, treasurer and J Lucas as Deaneery synod representative. It was agreed to ask for an extra 25p per week from each member in the collection.⁵² In July, an united service was held with Balls Green Methodists.⁵³ In 1973, Frating paid £46 towards the diocesan purse.⁵⁴

In September, a coffee morning at Mrs Lucas' home raised £32.50 for the church appeal.⁵⁵ The Rector, Trev John Ryall announced he had accepted the living at Great Yeldham after seven years in the Parish.⁵⁶ The church was decorated with produce for the Harvest Festival. This was then distributed to the old and needy in the parish.⁵⁷ The Congregation were invited to the Harvest Festival⁵⁸ and the Guild Anniversary at Balls Green Methodist Church.⁵⁹

In November, the Church Bazaar in the War Memorial Hall made £103 for the church appeal, including a draw of £36. £200 was received from *Friedns of Essex Churches* towards the repairs of the roof and thirteenth century porch.⁶⁰ A coffee morning and bring-and-buy antique sale at Joan Greenaway's home raised £30 for the church appeal.⁶¹

On the afternoon of Sunday December 23rd the Carol Service was held and the Scouts *banner* blessed. Lessons were by Joan Greenaway, Caroline Folkard, John Matthews, Marilyn Lee, Gary Clarke, Mrs Culley snr and the Rector.⁶²

Due to a declining congregation the process of redundancy started in 1975, after cracks were spotted in the Tower and the roof was leaking. The Church was closed for worship. Options given to the Church Commissioners were: - £3,000 to shore up the tower; £30,000 to repair; demolition £18,000.⁶³ The

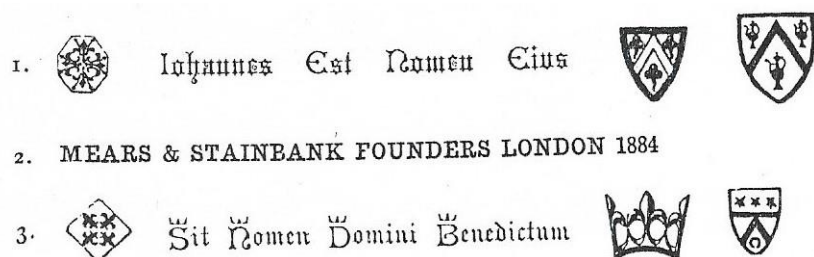
tower was quickly demolished, and the wall shored up with 12,000 bricks in May 1976 as it was deemed unsafe by the Tendring District Surveyor⁶⁴ *regrettably, but legally as the Church had not been declared redundant it was outside the scope of planning legislation.*⁶⁵ By this time *the interior is very damp and patching of the decayed floors has taken place; further work may be needed.*⁶⁶



Figure 11 – ⁶⁷

The church was sold and became a private home on June 6th 1980 for industrial designer John Grainger.⁶⁸ In May 1976, Queen Elizabeth II signed an *Order in Council* uniting Frating and Thorington as one Parish.⁶⁹ In May 1980, the churchyard was also declared closed, though villagers could still be buried in existing family graves. Of the 190 gravestones, only three needed to be moved.⁷⁰

The three bells were removed to a barn at Felix Erith's farm at Ardleigh. They were subsequently sold to St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall (31" William Dawe Treble c1400); Pool Quay, Welshpool (32" A flat – Mears and Stainbank 1884) and St Mary the Virgin, Great Ilford (36" Kebyll of London Tenor 1470).⁷¹ The 1938 pipe organ was traced to the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary & S Patrick, Walthamstow.⁷²

Figure 12- Inscriptions on the Bells⁵⁹

1. (ed.) Page W. and Round HJ (1907) Houses of Austin canons: Priory of St Botolph, Colchester in *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 2*, pp. 148-150.
2. Rodwell W, Rodwell K (1977) HISTORIC CHURCHES a wasting asset (1977) The Council for British Archaeology Research Report #19 p116; An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Essex, Volume 3, North East. 1922 section 28; Chancellor F (1913) *Frating Church* in Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society new series xiii p29-30 – paper read at the excursion of 1912
3. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History (1989) Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History xxxvii p97
4. Maxwell Lyte HC (ed.) (1890) *Deeds: A.1 - A.100* in *A Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds: Volume 1*, pp. 1-9. (possibly Richard 1237)
5. Maxwell Lyte HC (ed.) (1902) *Deeds: A.10101 - A.10200* in *A Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds: Volume 4*, A.10125
6. Hadfield J (1860 new edition) *Ecclesiastical Architecture of the County of Essex from the Norman Era to the Sixteenth Century* p22, Plate xxvii
7. MAB File 1 Notes on Rectors p4
8. Pat. 20 Hen. VIII. p. 1, m. 34., 18 HENRY VIII (1526) File 365. DIVERS COUNTIES. 11. Trin. and Mich.
9. Dickin EP (1913) *Embezzled Church Goods of Essex (7)* Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society new series, Volume 13 p. 168
10. Watson (1877) p120
11. Newcourt R (1710) *Repertorium Ecclesiasticum Parochiale Londinense: Comprising all the county of Essex* p275/6
12. *SIGNS OF THE TIMES* Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 30 December 1927 p5
13. MAB File 1 Archdeacons Visitations
14. Biographical History of Gonville and Caius College (1849-1897) i. p.313
15. Smith H (1930) *Admissions to Essex Livings by Triers* Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society new series XX p199-200, 204 quoting Lambeth Palace Library MSS 999,157
16. MAB File 1 Archdeacons Visitations
17. Council of Essex Archaeological Society (1883-1925) Church Plate of the County of Essex
18. Watson (1877) p119
19. Millat TB, Sharpe R (2009) *A Short History of the Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen, Frating with Thorrington, Essex* p.20
20. Roach J P C (ed) (1959) *The colleges and halls: St. John's* in *A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 3, the City and University of Cambridge* Pages 437-450
21. Millat TB, Sharpe R (2009) p15
22. *English Regency House, Wall Street Journal* September 26th 2011; ERO D/CP 6/20 *Declaration that Thorrington rectory be the house of residence of the parish of Frating with Thorrington*; *The Times* Thursday June 2 1949 *The Times* Saturday April 22 1950; *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 5th May 1950 He left £9,181. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 14th October 1949
23. TNA Ho 129/303/1 p.5
24. Bettley J Pevsner N (2007) *The Buildings of England: Essex* p.368
25. ERO D/CC 23/3; *The Architect* April 27, 1872 p.219; Bettley J Pevsner N (2007) *The Buildings of England: Essex* p.368; *Essex County Chronicle* April 16th 1872; MAB File 1 Frating parish Church (T Millatt)
26. ERO D/CP 6/19
27. *East Essex Gazette* January 10th 1969
28. MAB File 1 Archdeacons Visitations
29. *Essex County Standard* September 16th 1899
30. *Essex County Standard* September 23rd 1899
31. *East Anglian Daily Times* Saturday 11 June 1904 p6
32. Deeds C, Walters HB (1909) *The Church Bells of Essex*
33. *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Essex (1922)* iii North East p.104
34. Council of Essex Archaeological Society (1883-1925) Church Plate of the County of Essex
35. *Clacton Times & Gazette* September 25th 1937
36. MAB File 1 New pipe Organ 1938
37. *Clacton Times* Friday January 1948
38. *Clacton Times* Friday April 2nd 1948
39. *Clacton Times* Friday May 7th 1948
40. *Clacton Times* Friday May 21st 1948
41. ERO D/CF100/1/4;
42. *East Essex Gazette* October 4th 1963
43. T Millatt in MAB File 1
44. *East Essex Gazette* January 10th 1969
45. *Essex County Standard* October 11th 1991
46. *East Essex Gazette* February 9th 1968
47. *East Essex Gazette* March 1st 1968
48. *East Essex Gazette* March 22nd 1968
49. *East Essex Gazette* September 27th 1968
50. *East Essex Gazette* October 25th 1968
51. *East Essex Gazette* January 10th 1969
52. *East Essex Gazette* April 21st 1973
53. *East Essex Gazette* July 20th 1973

54. East Essex Gazette Friday October 19th 1973
55. East Essex Gazette Friday September 28th 1973
56. East Essex Gazette Friday September 28th 1973
57. East Essex Gazette Friday October 5th 1973
58. East Essex Gazette Friday September 21st 1973
59. East Essex Gazette Friday October 19th 1973
60. East Essex Gazette Friday November 30th 1973
61. East Essex Gazette Friday November 9th 1973
62. East Essex Gazette Friday December 29th 1973
63. Evening Gazette November 14th 1975
64. Bettley J Pevsner N (2007) *The Buildings of England: Essex* p.368; Evening Gazette May 20th 1976; East Essex Gazette May 21st 1976
65. Rodwell W (1977) p.116; Rodwell W (1981) *The Archaeology of the English Church The Study of Historic Churches and Churchyards* p37-8
66. Ibid p116
67. East Essex Gazette June 4th 1976
68. Bettley J (2007) p.368; Church Commissioners Order in Council June 6th 1980
69. Chelmsford Diocese November 10th 1989
70. MAB letter to Mrs Karen Dennis, Western Front Association December 12th 2011 in *War Memorial Frating*; MAB File 1 *Bells of Frating Parish Church (with photographs)*; Deeds C, Walters HB (1909) *The Church Bells of Essex*
71. Deeds C, Walters HB (1909) *The Church Bells of Essex*
72. MAB File 1 letter from the former Archdeacon Venerable ECF Stroud September 2nd 1999

Medieval Frating (1066-1485)

A Charter of Henry I (1125) granted the rent of 10/- of land in Frating to the Priory of St Mary, Wix. The Taxation of 1291 showed Frating, and nineteen other Parishes contributed towards the priory's costs.¹



In 1239-40, *Maurice son of Roger of Ridel* transferred land in *Boreham, Crustwick, Layer and Frating* to *William de Ferrers son of Earl William*. Witnesses at the Duchy of Lancaster included Hugh, bishop elect of Coventry and Lichfield.²

Figure 13 – seal of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster²

The complicated nature of land transfers, involving properties in multiple parishes, are recorded in the Feet of Fines. Yearly tributes of local flowers or a hunting bird might be used instead of money. The first recorded property transfer was prior to 1252, when John Drawsword granted to Ranulf de Stonach lands called Puchelote in Fratinghes. Also holding lands was Balderwin Betel. One of the witnesses was Richard de Hasketot, Lord of the manor of Thorrington until 1252.³ In 1257, *Master Thomas de Wydmundham*, acquired from *Richard, son of Simon le Ken, of Bromleg'*, *One carucate of land (120 acres) with appurts. In Bromleg' and Freting*. This was worth *one sore sparrowhawk*.⁴

In 1289, Robert de Harewade and Cecily his wife received from Richard, son of John le Ken of Great Bromleg, *125 acres of land, 6 ½ acres of meadow, 23 acres of wood. 12 acres of pasture, 4s. of rent and 1 ½*

messuages in Great Bromlegh and Fratyng. Plea of covenant. Pl. and the heirs of Robert to hold of def. and his heirs, rendering a rose yearly at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (January 24th) and doing to the chief lords all other services. Cons., one sore sparrowhawk.⁵

In 1291, Ralph de Coggeshale leased from Roger de Coggeshale, 2 messuages, 280 acres of land, 50 acres of marsh, 64 acres of wood, 5 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture and 22s. of rent in Thoriton, Alesford, Fratyng and Great Benelegh. Plea of covenant. Def acknowledged the premises to be the right of pl. and for this pl. granted the same to def. and Isabel his wife for life, they rendering yearly 1 clove of a gillyflower at Easter and doing to the chief lords all other services, with reversion to pl. and his heirs.⁶

In 1314, John Cristemasse and Constance his wife acquired from Andrew atte Grave of Great Acle and John Broun, 1 messuage, 44 acres of land, 5 acres of wood, 3 acres of alder and 2 acres of meadow in Elmeded and Fratyng'... to hold of the chief lords This agreement was made in the presence of Richard and Sarah, and they did fealty.⁷

In 1317, Henry de Coulonde leased for life from Hugh de la Roklonde and Margaret his wife, 1 messuage, 140 acres of land, 8 acres of wood, 8 acres of alder, 4 acres of meadow, 23d. rent and a moiety of 1 messuage in Great Benteleye and Fratyng. rendering yearly 20 quarters of rye and 20 quarters of oats, viz. 5 of each at Christmas. Easter, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and Michaelmas, and doing to the chief lords all services. with reversion to def. and the heirs of Hugh to hold of the chief lords.⁸

Sometimes, villagers were selling lands in other parts of Essex. Five years after the Black Death of 1348, Hugh Bray of Fratyngg and his wife Joan sold to Richard Packard and Margaret his wife, 1 messuage, 21 acres of land and 60 acres of marsh in Bradewell by Tillyngham. Pl. and the heirs of Richard to hold of the chief lords.⁹ Bray sold more lands in 1359 to William de Lavenham, parson of Lavenham, John de Benyngton, John Lygon and John Lech, 1 messuage, 240 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, 12 acres of pasture and 10 acres of wood in Great Gelham, Little Gelham, Stanborn, Omyton, Beauchamp St. Paul and Tillebery by Redeswell. Pl. and the heirs of William to hold of the chief lords. Cons. 100 marks.¹⁰

In 1361, Sir John de Coggeshale, Lord of the Manor of Alresford, left in his will to his son Henry many Manors and messuages in Alresford and Frating.¹¹ John de la Grave also had holdings in Frating as a prominent

landowner in Tendring Hundred.¹² Both Sir John de Coggleshalle and John de la Grave were appointed Royal Commissioners of the Peace in 1351.¹³

In 1423, William Raynford, esquire, Geoffrey Estwode, John Hekford, William Gasewey and Robert Kyng received from John Paynot and Joan his wife, *1 messuage, 50 acres of land, 3 acres of meadow, 4 acres of pasture and 4 acres of wood in Elmestede and Fratyng. Def. quitclaimed to pl. and the heirs of William Gasewey. Cons. 100 marks.*¹⁴

Adam Frating was allowed to transport hides from London to Colchester in 1338. The tanner Adam, son of Stephen, dealt with a London glover in 1345 and bought 165 hides in London in 1357.¹⁵

On 12th March 1462, John Waynshed, butcher, and *other malefactors and breakers*, were accused of assaulting the rent-collector John Hunte at Frating so preventing him doing his business *for fear of death and injury for a long time*. His servant William atte Wode was also assaulted so badly he could not work for a month. At Easter 1463, the case was heard at the Court of Common Pleas with Hunte seeking £20 damages. Rents had not been collected for over a year. Waynshed offered to *imparl*, seeking a settlement outside of the court. There were eighteen further licenses to *imparl* and one adjournment before 1468.¹⁶

Records for taxation on *Fratinge* exist from 1237, when the village was grouped with *Aleford* to pay 12/9. Poor people with less than 40d in goods were exempt.¹⁷

Fulk Bassett, the Bishop of London (1244-1259), registered the churches in his diocese to pay Pope Innocent III a tax of 1/3 of beneficed clergy who were resident and ½ for non-resident. (Henry III wanted a tenth on the pretext of a Crusade.) St Botolph's was Patron; the estimated value of *Frating* was 40/- and there was no Vicar resident. 20/- were payable in 1254 as the Norwich Taxation. *Frating* was assessed at ½ mark in 1291.¹⁸

Frating paid taxes in 1324 of 11/1 pa, which rose by 1527 to £5 7/7 (870% increase).¹⁹ In 1327, the *Villata de Fratyngge* was assessed and taxed at 1/20th of the value of their moveable goods (e.g.- cows, sheep, crops) to pay for the Defence of the Realm.²⁰ De Roberto Geddworthe was assessed at 3/1¼ ; Roberto Morisse 8¼d; Richardo de Hekeforde 8¼d; Margeria de Movyroun 2/-; Rogero Warde 18d and Henrico Elesand 3/18.²¹

In 2003, a medieval ditch was found in the western part of the Mannheim Auction Site.²² Aerial photography of a circular cropmark near to Captain's Wood suggests the site of a *medieval windmill with cross trees*.²³

1. Pat. 17 Hen. VI, pt. 1, m. 1; Page W, Round JH (ed) (1907) *Houses of Benedictine nuns: Priory of Wix* in **A History of the County of Essex: Volume 2**, pp. 123-125; <http://www.wykes.org/wix.html> ; TNA E42/316; ERO T/B 247/7 The manor of Wix Hall or Abbey controlled to own land at Frating Green until the nineteenth century
2. TNA DL 25/2216/1912
3. Norwich Public Library MS Jessop 223/63
4. 42 HENRY III. (1257-1258). 1350. Mich. in 1 month
5. 18 EDWARD I (1289- 1290) 463 Mich.
6. 23 EDWARD I. 1291/i-1295. 598. Mich
7. 8 EDWARD II (1314-1315) 399 Hil
8. 11 EDWARD II (1317-1318) 631 Hil
9. 27 EDWARD III (1353) 1026. Eas. and Trin.
10. 33 EDWARD III (1359) 1215 Mich, 31 Edward III, and Eas, 33 Edward III
11. Furber EC (1953) *Essex Sessions of the Peace 1351, 1377-79* p.19n
12. *ibid* p.21n
13. *ibid* p.14
14. 1 HENRY VI (1423) 3. Trin.
15. Cooper J (ed) (1994) *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 9, the Borough of Colchester* p. 26-38. *Cal. Close, 1337-9*, 596; 1343-6, 542; 1354-60, 375.
16. CP40/806: Michaelmas term 1462 rot. 143d; Court of Common Pleas, CP 40/808, rot. 264 Easter 1463.
17. Fowler RC (1927) *An Early Essex Subsidy* in *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society, new series* xix p27,29
18. Fowler RC (1926) *Fulk Bassett's Register and the Norwich taxation (cont'd)* *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society, new series* xviii p.15-6, 124; Tax of Pope Nicholas IV in 1291-2 Astle T, Ayscough S and Caley J(ed) (1802) *Taxatio Ecclesiastica Angliae et Walliae Auctoritate P. Nicholai IV*
19. Galloway JA (1986) *Colchester and its region: 1310-1560* p.46 During the same period Elmstead paid 500% more.
20. Ward JC (1983) *The Medieval Essex The Lay Subsidy of 1327* p. iii, <https://www.fairfordhistory.org.uk/the-1327-lay-subsidy/#:~:text=The%20Lay%20Subsidy%20of%201327,those%20in%20the%20major%20towns>
21. *Ibid* p.9
22. 44. *Frating – Mannheim Auction* (2004) in *Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History* third series xxxv p.114 ECC FAU 1159
23. Ingle, CJ, Strachan, D, Tyler, S and Saunders, H. (1993-2012) *NMP Cropmark Plot - 1:10,000. paper. 1:10,000. TM02SE.*

Tudor and Stuart Frating (1485-1714)

From the records it appears that the Tudor times were years of wealth and property speculation with massive estates being amassed. Often multiple investors are named. The first recorded land transfer in Tudor times took place in 1502, when William Teye and Walter Hoberd, received from John John and Katharine his wife, *1 messuage, 40 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture and 2 acres of wood in magna Bromley, parva Bromley, Fratyng and Elmedsted. Cons. £20*¹

In 1529, John Gurdon, John Brashey, clerk, John Coote, Giles Elys and Robert Crodokk, acquired from Robert Botye and Agnes his wife, *1 messuage, 2 tofts, 70 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow. 40 acres of pasture, 24 acres of wood and 2s. rent in Bentley magna, Fratyng and Thoryngton. Def. quitclaimed to pl. and the heirs of John Brashey. Cons. £8.0*²

In 1533, King Henry VIII forced the Nevill families to sell their lands in north Essex, including Frating, to St John the Evangelist College, Cambridge for £800.³

In 1542, William Cardynall, gentleman, acquired from John Guldeford, knight, and Barbara his wife, *The manor of magna Bromley, 4 messuages, 1 dovecote, 4 gardens, 200 acres of land, 30 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 200 acres of wood, 400 acres of furze and heath and £20 Rent in magna Bromley, parva Bromley, Elmedsted, magna Bentley, parva Bentley, Fratyng and Trymley, and the advowson of the church of magna Bromley. Cons. 800 marks.*⁴ Villagers also benefited from Wills as Hocfirth received £10 from Robert Wilvet of West Mersea.⁵

In 1548, The King's uncle Edward, *duke of Somerset, Mich. Stanhoppe, kt., Tho. Darcy, kt., & Jn. Lucas, esq.,* received from John, earl of Oxford, the Honour (*honore sive honorie*) of Henyngham at the Castle, more than twenty manors and lands in other forty parishes including Fratyng. The estates crossed fourteen counties and were worth £40,000.⁶ In 1553, Mary transferred land in twenty-seven parishes to her brother King Edward VI including some in Frating, Elmstead and Thorrington.⁷

In 1551, William Walgrave, acquired from Thomas Bynder & wife Thomasina, *30 acres arable, 6 acres meadow & 8 acres wood in Fratyng. Worth £30.*⁸

In 1556, Edmund Beawpre, esq., inherited from his cousin Edward. Thursby, esq., the Manors of Alresforde & Esthal & 20 messuages, 10 cottages, 1 water-mill, 20 gardens, 500 acres arable, 30 acres meadow, 500 acres pasture, 260 acres wood, 100 acres furze & heath & £10 rent in Alresforde, Fratyng, Thoryngton, Stysted & Wyvenho, view of

frankpledge & free warren in Alresforde, a several fishery in the salt water called 'Alresforde Forde' in Alresforde, the advowson of the church of Alresforde, & a moiety of 1 water-mill in Alresforde & Thoryngton. Worth £600.⁹

On March 26th 1559, John Marsh of Frating husbandman, left... *To Margery Rombold my daughter 20/- . The rest of my goods to Margaret my wife, whom I make ex'rix to bring up my children.*¹⁰

In 1562, William Veysey & Robert Veysey & wife Joan, purchased from Edward. Gylbert & wife Alice the Manor Whykes Abbey & 20 messuages, 20 cottages, 20 tofts, 10 dovecotes, 20 gardens, 20 orchards, 1,000 acres arable, 100 acres meadow, 500 acres pasture, 200 acres wood, 300 acres marsh, 1,000 acres furze & heath & 56s. Sd. rent in Wykis, Tendryng, Fratyng, Myseley, Bradfild, Wrabnes & Great Okeley. Worth £600.¹¹

In April 1570, Margaret Forde, mother-in-law of Thomas Bendishe, in her Will left her messuage and lands of Wardes to her son John. These had been occupied by the late Robert Hall and now by his widow.¹² In March 1576, John Forde left in his Will “..to the poor people of Frating .. 30/- ..”¹³

On October 11th 1571, John Sawyer, husbandman “.. To Agnes my wife, my lands and tenements free and copy in Frating, Great Bromley, Ardleigh for her life..” The Will mentions the tenement in Frating called Knappes and “To 10 Poor Folk 10 bushels of rye at harvest ..” On February 17th 1571, Richard Smithe, husbandman left “..to Ellen my wife my house that I dwell in, with my lands belonging free and copy and the pastures, meadow and woods, until my eldest son John is 20, then he to have it, paying the rest of my children 20s. apiece at 21, The residue of my goods to my wife, whom I name executric. I make John NEVARD my supervisor. To the poor men's box 12d. Witnesses : John FENAR, Andrew WOODE, Matthew PICKE, Thomas WADE parson.”

On April 15th 1573, Lettice Hyll, single woman ..*She gave to Anne HYLL her sister wife of the said John DYER, £20, Margaret HYLL her sister £10, and her sister EDE £10. The rest of her goods to Anne, whom she appointed executrix. Witnesses: John WENEND and Geoffrey ALLYN of Frating husbandmen..*” On November 5th 1574, Elice Church left .. *To Elis CHURCHE my eldest son my house called Buschemans wioth the lands bbelonging and barns and stables; also my goods within the house or without and corn and cattle. I make him my executor and ordain Anthony WOOD my supervisor. Witnesses: Thomas SAINT, Thomas Rogers, Thomas CLERKE..*”

On February 23rd 1574, William Richard, husbandman, left “.. To Thomas RICHARD my brother all my lands in Great Bentley, paying my debts, and to John RICHARDS my brother £6 to the use of the said John, viz. John and Parnell each £3 at 18. Judith wife of Thomas shall have the 1st year's farm of my lands to buy her a gown, viz. 26s.8d.

*to Thomas. To John my best doublet and green hose. The rest of my goods to Thomas, whom I make my executor and John my supervisor. Witnesses: George KNIGHTLEY, John BROWNE..*¹⁴

John Hecford's will Proven on January 17th 1581 stated *To my wife my house and land in Frating for 12 years after my decease, making no waste of the wood growing on the same, also all my goods, I will that she pay to my daughter Cecily £3 at 21 and to Thomas my son £3 12 years after my decease. If Cecily die before, to Thomas. If both die before 21, my son William to be their heir. To my son John my house and land after the 12 years; for want of issue, to Thomas, and so from 1 of my children to the other. I will John to pay William £4 at 21. To Cecily, Thomas and William each an ewe and a lamb. I make my wife and Andrew WOODE my uncle exors. And my uncle Davy HECFORD supervisor. Wit. Thomas LAYER, Davy HECFORDE, Samuel HARRIDANCE writer..*¹⁵

In 1583, Thomas Sawyer the younger of Frating left to his servants *Valentine Lambert and Timothy Pecock each a black bullock and the vantage, 2 ewes and 2 pairs of gaskins hose, and Katherine Tilles 40s. To the poor of Frating ... 40s each parish, according to the need at the discretion of my exor. To John Lambert and his wife as much black frize as will make him a coat and her a gown ... To Steven my Godson £5 at 21; if he die before, to be equally divided among hi sisters. To Lettice, Ellen, Mary and Susan Steven my sister Steven's children £4 equally divided at 18; to her 2 beasts, 2 bullocks and my corn growing at harvest next. To my brother John £5. To my godchildren 12d. apiece. To John Sawyer my godson 1 ewe. To my brother Roger Steven 1 load of hay and the corn in my barn and my best cloak. Towards the reparation of Frating church 40s. To my cousin John Parker 20s. To my sister Steven half my brass and pewter and a featherbed. To Thomas Steven my Godson the rest of my apparel. More to Roger my plough, harrows, plough chains, ox yokes, and plough harness. To my father-in-law my carthorse, cart harness, cart, and 2 young steers, paying out of the same 40s. to the reparations of Frating church according to my said bequest. The rest of my goods to my mother to her proper use. I make my father-in-law Thomas Sayer the elder exor.*¹⁶

On April 5th 1584, Davy Hecford left *To Margaret mu wife my lands and tenements copy and free in Alresford and Elmstead for her life: after her decease, to Davy my son 5 beasts, 20 ewes, 1 horse, 12 seam of rye, £7 and my household stuff. To my sons Thomas and Isaac and my daughter Grace each £6 at Michaelmas after my decease and my daughter Rose £6 at 18 to remain in the hands of my wife's brother Harry NEVEARD until then. I will have that Davy pay Thomas, Isaac, Grace and Rose each 40s. in the 1st. 2nd. 3rd. amd 4th. Years after he have my lands. To John WADE of St. Osyth 4 bushels of rye and Mary FINCH 3 bushels of rye. To John BATMAN, John BAKER the elder, Gabriel*

AUSTIN, widow WOOD, anmd widow HUGGIN each 12d. All my corn and cattle unbequeathed to be divided equally between Thomas, Isaac, Grace and Rose. I make my wife and my brother-in-law Henry NEVEARD exors., and to him for his pains 20s. I make Samuel HARRIDANCE supervisor and for his pains 20s. To Joseph Cole 12d. Surrender given. Wit John WAKERINGE, Thomas ROGGERS.¹⁵

On December 16th 1585, Andrew Wood left To John my son all my houses and lands in Frating copy and free; I will that he shall pay out of them £60 to Andrew my youngest son within 8 years after the decease of Mary my wife, ie every year £7 10s. To Margaret WOOD my godchild 4 ewes into the hands of John her father. To the child that Margaret CARTER my daughter is now withal 2 ewes at my exor's. will. To my godchildren Grace COKE, Edmund SHEPARD, the daughter of Gregory STONE, John HARRIDANCE, Samuel SMYTHE, Thomas STEVENE, and William BURE each a lamb at May day next after my decease. The rest of my goods to my wife, whom I make ex'rix. Surrendered my lands to the lord according to my will in the presence of Thomas.¹⁵

In 1588, Edward Cole received from William Haye, yeoman', &: wife Joan, 20 acres arable & 1 acres meadow Called 'Hulwoods' in Great Bentley, Frating &: Wyvenhoo £40.¹⁷ On April 22nd John Warde of Beaumont left for Helen my beloved wife enjoyeth in her own right a free tenement and land in Great Bentley, Frating and Great Bromley..¹⁸

On 12th January 32 Eliz (1589) John Hay of Great Bentley yeoman bequeathed ... To Bridget my wife land called Bentley Field (10 acres) abutting on the highway to Frating Heath and now separated from my other lands with the lane or said highway between them; on condition that she sell it and the money to be employed paying my debts. To her my lands and tenements in Great Bentley for her life, after her decease, to my son John. If she die before all my children are 14, John shall receive no penny of rents until the rest of my children, Henry William and Bridget are 14.¹⁹

On December 13th 1593, Thomas Sair of Thorrington yeoman left to his son John Sair... a free grove (2 acres) in Frating and £7.²⁰ On January 27th 1596, William Young left To Sybil my wife my best bed with the rest of my goods, I make her my ex'rix. Wit. John SAWYER, Richard PRICK. On June 17th 1598, Robert RUSHMER of Elmstead left To Samuel HARRIDANCE , parson of Frating, I red cow which he hath in his custody.

On March 17th 1597, Roger Steven left To William BURRE my son-in-law 1 cow, 5 ewes, my long pightle of corn, my cart and plough and harness, 2 colts, 2 fustian pillows, my best coverlet, and 2 of my best chests. To Thomas BURRE his son 1 cow, Audrey STEVEN my daughter 4 ewes, and Martha HARRIDAUNCE 1 lamb at May Day next. To

the poor of Frating 2s. The rest of my goods to be equally divided between Lettice, Mary, Susan and Audrey STEVEN my 4 daughters. I make William BURRE exor. Wit. Samuel HARRIDAUNCVE, John BAKER, Abel HECKFORD.

On June 24th 1599, Anne Izake of St Osyth, widow left *To my kinswoman Anne SAWYER of Frating 1 warming pan.*²¹

A map c.1600 of Great Bentley and Thorrington shows the manor of Wheelers (291 acres) and Frating Church in perspective view.²² An undated Elizabethan document saw Valentine Saunders challenge William Smith's claim to Hockley in *Fratinge* and *Thorington* on behalf of William Saunders.²³ In 1604, Luke Unger and Awdry Unger his wife conveyed land from Thomas Bendishe.²⁴

On June 14th 1602, Richard PRICK, yeoman left *To Joan, Fraunces, Elizabeth and Constance STONE 2s a piece. To Joan my wife 3 milch neat for her life; after her decease, the neat to be equally divided among them. To my wife my best bedspread, 3 coombs of rye and 2 coombs of wheat to be delivered to her within 2 years after my decease. To Richard my son my houses and lands free and copy in Holbrook, on condition that he pay my sons Robert £20 at 24, William 44 at 26, and John £40 within 1 year after my decease. To my daughters Alice £40 within 1 year and Jane £40 at 22. To Edmund PRICK my customary tenements and lands in Great Bentley purchased of BROKER at 26, to receive the rents and profits of my copy lands and tenements until Edmund is 26, and the money so received to be employed towards discharging my legacies; if he die before without heirs and Robert doth enjoy the lands given to Edmund, then the money given him shall be void and the money divided amongst all my children part and part like. The rest of my household stuff (the lease of my house only excepted which I give to my exors.) shall be equally parted between my wife and my children, and my corn and cattle not sons exors. and my well-beloved friend Thomas PARCYVALL of Holbrook yeoman supervisor to pay the legacies. Wit, Thomas RIGBE, Thomas PARCYVALL, Richard PRICK. Surrendered to the lord of the mano by Thomas RIGBE in stead of the bailiff in the presence of Stephen KINGSTON and Robert ARCHER customary tenants.*²¹

Following the English Civil War, estates changed hands as their owners fled abroad. In March 1650, Frating Hall was investigated by the Committee for the Advance of Money in order to force a loan for the Parliament. Its owner, Mrs Mary Glascock, a widow of Boxworth, Cambridgeshire had fled to a French nunnery and her estate sequestered by the county commissioners for recusancy (being a Catholic). She had subsequently sold the estate to Lady Cutts. Mrs Glacock claimed that Edward Broughton, clerk, owed her £200. Investigations showed this was a mortgage for £16 pa and he refused to pay an order of £40 pa. Broughton offered the rents from Plumstead Manor, History of Frating

Kent until the debt was paid if it was proven that Mrs Boxworth was a recusant at the time of signing. By May 9th 1651, Glasworth had not appeared at the Nunnery. Broughton was still paying arrears and appearing before the Commissioners in 1655.²⁵

The Plague came to Colchester in 1666 and 4599 of 10,000 people died in 935 households.²⁶ Neighbouring villages were ordered to help financially via the *Rates for relief parishes visited with plague "Hate"(s) made 13 Oct. (no.66) and 28 November (no.67) by Sir John Shaw Knight and John Eldred sen., and junior esqs., for four weeks "for the reliefe of the poore visited with the Plague in Colchester uppon severall persons inhabiting in the severall parishes hereafter following."* Frating was ordered to pay £1 4/- on each occasion.²⁷

Between 1662 and 1689, the King raised finances via the annual Hearth Tax. 2/- was paid for each hearth in a property in two instalments at Lady's Day (March 25th) and Michaelmas (September 29th). There were exemptions for the poor.²⁸ The returns still exist for *Frating* in 1670 (**Table 1**) collected by John Maschall (Royal Collector) and Richard Turner (Constable).²⁹

	Number of Hearths	Table 1 – Hearth Tax in Frating (1670)		Discharged by certificate	Number of Hearths
Ricardus Turner	02	Thomas Champneys	11	The Alehouse	02
Eliz Borodell vac	01	Willelmus Moore vac	02		
Elizabetha Borodell	01	Willelmus Went	02		
Stephanus Joanes	05	Willelmus Kittle	01		
Thomas Clarke vac	01	Johannes Dynes 316	02		
Vac domus	01	Adam Dynes vac	03		
Simo Gilman	01	Isaac Barrington	08		
Thomas Boanes	01	Johannes Burr	02		
Thomas Clarke vac	01	Augustin Underwood clerk	03		
Johannes Kittle vac	01	Willelmus Edwards	03		
Elizabetha Berriffe	09	Ricardus Baker	04		
Willelmus Wiles	02				

Villagers also had to pay a Poll Tax for the Dutch Wars of at least 1/- per person in 1667 and 1668.³⁰

In 1690, the Court Rolls for the *manor of Wix Hall or Abbey* show the *Admission of William Smith of Great Bromley, blacksmith, on surrender of William Tampon and wife Elizabeth to 7 closes (16 acres) part of Hulls in Frating copyhold of manor of Wix Hall or Abbey. Court of Samuel Warner, esquire. Steward: Clement Raye, gentleman.*³¹

A hammered silver coin, a groat of Elizabeth 1 from 1560-1 has been found.(SMR 54684)³²

1. 17 HENRY VII (1502) 155 Eas.
2. 20-21 HENRY VIII (1529) 31 EASTER

3. 25 HENRY VIII (1533) 34. Eas. and Mich.
4. 34 HENRY VIII (1542) MICHAELMAS 36
5. ERO document D/ABW 39/55 - 1542 Will
6. CP25(2)/66/546 1-2 EDWARD VI (1548) Hil. & Eas. 9. DIVERS COUNTIES
7. TNA E326/11862
8. CP25(2)/57/422 EASTER, 5 EDWARD VI (1551) 59
9. CP25(2)/70/583 MICHAELMAS, 3 AND 4 PHILIP AND MARY (1556) 32
10. Emmison FG (1993) Essex Wills: The Bishop of London's Commissary Court, 1558-1569 P.100 (Will 521) 26 March 1599
11. CP25(2)/126/1618 EASTER, 4 ELIZABETH (1562) 40
12. Emmison FG (1978) Elizabethan Life: Essex Gentry Wills p.83-4 [13/14]
13. ibid p.195-6
14. Emmison FG (1983) Wills of the County of Essex (England) 1571-7 Wills 588, 612, 706, 741, 810
15. Emmison FG (1992) Essex Wills The Bishop of London's Commissary Court 1578-88 Wills 430, 457, 1084
16. Emmison FG (1982) Essex Wills (England): 1578-1588 p.198 Will 899
17. CP25(2)/70/586 TRINITY, 4 AND 5 PHILIP AND MARY (1558) 66
18. Emmison FG (1982) Essex Wills (England): 1583-1592 p283 Will 1065
19. Emmison FG (1982) Essex Wills (England): 1591-1597 p.148 Will 723
20. Emmison FG (1998) Essex Wills The Bishop of London's Commissary Court, 1587-1599 p.242 Will 1225
21. Emmison FG (1998) Essex Wills The Bishop of London's Commissary Court, 1587-1599 Will 1121A, 778, 853, 535, 758
22. ERO D/DB P1
23. TNA C2/Eliz/S12/58
24. TNA C 8/34/67
25. Her Majesty's Stationery Office (1888) Calendar, Committee For the Advance of Money: Part 3, 1650-55.
26. Doolittle IG (1972) The Plague in Colchester 1579-1666 p145
27. ERO Q/SR 407/66 EPIPHANY 1666
28. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/England_Hearth_Tax_1662_to_1689_\(National_Institute\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/England_Hearth_Tax_1662_to_1689_(National_Institute))
29. ERO Q/RTh 5
30. NA E179/112/704; E179/300/7 There was an additional sliding scale from £50 for Duke to Gents 20/-.
31. ERO D/DU 381/31
32. Portable Antiquities Scheme (2003) Portable Antiquities Scheme Database. ESS-2262C2

Post-Medieval Crime recorded at the Quarter Sessions and County Assizes (1485-1714)

Quarter Sessions, with Juries for non-capital crimes, started in 1344¹ in Essex and records exist from 1556.² Frating villagers were involved in ten Assizes cases for serious crimes tried in Chelmsford or Brentwood and fifty-one Quarter Sessions tried locally. John Paunter of Great Bentley, yeoman, was indicted in January 1557 for forcibly expelling William Waldegrave from 30 acres of land in Frating. He was found guilty and fined 3s.³

Men from Frating were also called to serve as Jurors. Andrew Woodd was summoned but failed to appear in 1577, so was summoned to the Assizes in Chelmsford.⁴ In Michaelmas 1585, David Heckford was sworn;⁵ in Midsummer 1587 John Smythe;⁶ at Easter 1588 Abraham Cole;⁷ at Midsummer 1588 Roger Steven.⁸ Jurors could also be summonsed for the Assizes in Chelmsford with John Burr attending in March 7th 1636.⁹

On April 18th 1583, a writ was issued to take William Turner of Great Dunmow, victualler, and John Smythe of Frating, yeoman, ... and have them at the same Sessions.¹⁰

At the Assizes held at Chelmsford on 10 March 1578, Robert Streate of Frating, labourer, plead not guilty to stealing a sheep there worth 3s., He was found guilty; to the value of 6d. only.¹¹

In Michaelmas 1584, *Distrain Recalcitrant* Thomas Horning of Frating, yeoman, was summoned, ... *for not coming to church from the above date until 1 July then next following, for the space of three months, contrary to the Act of 23 Elizabeth.*¹² Also in 1584, **Distrain** Ambrose Wyttypool of Frating, gentleman was fined 2/ 6 and 6/ 8.¹³

On July 18th 1602 at the Chelmsford Assizes, Thomas Fowler of Frating Labourer confessed to *there stole three sheets worth 9d., belonging to John Reven.* He was fined 10d.¹⁴

On July 30th 1619 Richard Turnor was summonsed to keep the peace towards Richard Tirrell of Frating.¹⁵ The following year, John Davie was called to answer Art. Howe of Frating husband keep the peace towards him. He defaulted and the recognizance was estreated.¹⁶

In Midsummer 1655, *Thomas Wentt of Frating having sworn the peace against Edward Grate of Weeley, came before me and entered into a recognizance* before the Justice Henry Barrington.¹⁷

At the Assizes held at Chelmsford 9 March 1657, *John Barnard of Frating labourer there stole an iron cutter for a plough worth 8d., belonging to Richard Pricke. Plead not guilty; found not guilty.*¹⁸

On June 7th 1664, a Mortgage was granted by John Sewell, yeoman of Frating, Essex, & son, John Sewell, to Richard Greene, merchant of Much Horcksly, Essex, of Messuage etc. Shepcoates in Gt. Henny, Lt. Henny, & Middleton (late occ. by Robt. Andrews then by Jn. Leget.¹⁹

At the Assizes held at Chelmsford on 15 July 1672, William Went, labourer, and Mary his wife and Rebecca Wright widow, all of Frating, 24 March 24 Charles II, there assaulted John Basey, ages 9 years, apprentice of the said William. And Mary Went "did hold and gripe" him by the throat so that she broke his "necke bone" so that he instantly died; and William Went and Rebecca Wright were present aiding and abetting her. Plead not guilty; all acquitted.²⁰

At the Assizes held at Chelmsford on 21 February 1687, the evidence from an Inquisition taken at Frating heard that Sara Lord of Frating spinster, 13 February 3 James II, there gave birth to a female bastard whom she "did hold and gripe" by the throat till she died. Pleads not guilty; found not guilty.²¹

1690, John Burr of Frating (Ess) conveyed a Messuage and 8 Parcels called Orchards, Ponds, How Fenn and Lovenges containing 32 acres, closes called Folkes alias Newbarneside containing 14 acres formerly part of a tenement called Folkes in Stoke by Nayland, to William Sadler of Great Horkesley (Ess), with receipt.²²

On 16th May 1693, a Removal order was signed for Peter Aldis, a poor boy, from St. Mathew's, Ipswich, to Frating, Essex.²³ He was then indentured as an apprentice to John Burr, husbandman.²⁴

An undated Elizabethan record from the Star Chamber saw Edmund Withipoll alleged that Edward Odyerne, and Martha his wife, John Heckford, William Burron and others for Forcible entry and assault on plaintiff's servants.²⁵

1. Emmison FG (1946) Guide to the Quarter Sessions p. i
2. ibid p iv Capital Crimes were dealt with by the County Assizes and minor crimes in front of a JP or Manor Court without a Jury.
3. ERO Q/SR 3/24 1 January 1557
4. ERO Q/SR 60/20 EPIPHANY 1577 Q/SR 61/55,56
5. ERO Q/SR 94/3 Michaelmas 1585
6. ERO Q/SR 101/13 Midsummer 1587
7. ERO Q/SR 104/9 Easter 1588
8. ERO Q/Sr 105/17 Midsummer 1588
9. ERO T/A 418/114/29 [ASS 35/78/1] (ASS 35/78/1/29)
10. ERO Q/SR 105/47, 49
11. ERO T/A 418/29/85 [ASS 35/20/2] [ASS 35/20/2/85]
12. ERO Q/SR 89/17 MIDSUMMER 1584, Q/SR 95/79 1584
13. ERO Q/SR 93/49, Q/SR 95/76
14. ERO T/A 418/71/39 (ASS 35/44/2) (ASS 35/442/39) 30 June 1602
15. ERO Q/SR 226/76 MICHAELMAS 1619
16. ERO Q/SR 227/61 EPIPHANY 1620
17. ERO Q/SR 365/54, 55 MIDSUMMER 1655
18. ERO T/A 418/148/30 [ASS 35/98/1] ASS 35/98/1/30] 30 September 1656
19. TNA Suffolk Record Office 613/506
20. ERO T/A 418/175/9 [ASS 35/113/3] Ass 35/113/2/9]
21. ERO T/A 418/201/30, 31 [ASS 35/128/1] [ASS 35/128/1/30] [ASS 35/128/1/31] [ASS 35/128/1]
22. TNA HA 108/2/30
23. Suffolk Record Office FB95/G5/7
24. Suffolk Record Office FB95/G9/17A
25. TNA STAC 7/9/10 undated (died in 1582)

Highways

The villagers of Frating were responsible for mending the roads that crossed the land, clean any ditches and clear obstructions. For many years, they were expected to spend at least six days per annum on such tasks. Failure to comply led to fines at the Quarter Sessions. This was especially true of Frating in the 1580s when lands were illegally enclosed which blocked roads.

In 1585, Ambrose Wittipoll¹ and in 1588, the landholders of *Whellers*, Edward Oggyn and John Hayes of Frating, were instructed to remove gates across the highway *which is a great annoyance to the Queen's liege people.*²

Ditches needed scouring by John Smith³ and Mr Ogene in 1587,⁴ John Baker of Morames in 1588,⁵ John Balker in 1602,⁶ Arthur Howe in 1622,⁷ Thomas Carter in 1644 and 1645,⁸ Widow Martin in 1663⁹ and Rich. Baker of Frating in 1667.¹⁰

Other obstructions blocked the roads leading to court summonses. John Baker of Morames had built a *whelive* (a fence) across a ditch,¹¹ Mr Ogene "*hath sartayn trese that doth sore anoye the quense hye waye lying in Fratyng.*"¹² and *William Smythe of Frating for that he hath ditched and hedged up the way in the parish of Frating, leading through a ground called Hocklye.*¹³

On April 18th 1588, *Writ: Witnessed by Sir Thomas Myldmaye, knight, at Chelmsford, to take and distrain the tenants of the lands of Frating and have them at the Sessions to be held at Chelmsford ... to answer for the divers trespasses, annoyances and offences whereof they severally stand indicted.* This resulted in *John Hayes, gentleman, John Baker, yeoman* being fined each 3s.4d.¹⁴

Disturbances continued and the fines were increased. *John Hayes gent Endorsed, the issues of each of the inhabitants within-written 10s., and the issues of the within-named George Clarke and the rest of the persons, farmers and tenants of lands and tenements within-written 5s. Sir Edmund Huddilston, knight sheriff*¹⁵

On September 10th 1686, the villagers were congratulated for the condition on the main road that crossed the parish. *That, on their own view, the highway from Great and Little Bentley towards Elmstead in the parish of Frating is well repaired by the inhabitants of Frating. Signatures of: William Mott, Ralfe Creffield.*¹⁶

Yet four years later, parts of it were in disrepair again and they were instructed by the Chelmsford Assizes to do repairs. *The highway in Frating leading from Great Bentley to Elmstead for 1,000 feet, 5 July 1 William & Mary, was and still is in great decay. The inhabitants of Frating to mend it.*¹⁷

On October 4th 1687, Robert Shercroft of Frating Hall, *From 27 September to 4 October, has not repaired the ..way ... at Frating containing 10 rods in length leading from Frating church ... which he ought to do by reason of his tenure of the farm and lands called Frating Hall* Return: True bill ¹⁸

This system of the parish mending the roads passing through, continued in to the mid-1860s when Parliament wanted a Highway District established in each sanitary District. Frating had 6 ½ miles of roads and spent: £26 3 9 in 1864; £26 4 6 in 1865; £44 15 1 ½ in 1866 and £26 4 9 ½ in 1877. At a meeting called by the Hundred, Mr Boghurst opposed the concept of a Highway District.¹⁹

1. ERO Q/SR 91/22 EPIPHANY 1585
2. ERO Q/SR 105/32 MIDSUMMER 1588
3. ERO Q/SR 101/30 MIDSUMMER 1587
4. ERO Q/SR 100/33 EASTER 1587
5. ERO Q/SR 105/32 MIDSUMMER 1588
6. ERO Q/SR 156/18 EPIPHANY 1602
7. ERO Q/SR 235/52,53 EPIPHANY 1622
8. ERO Q/SR 320/35 EASTER 1644. Q/SR 325/52 MIDSUMMER 1645
9. ERO Q/SR 395/10 EPIPHANY 1663
10. ERO Q/SR 413/73 MIDSUMMER 1667
11. ERO Q/SR 105/32 MIDSUMMER 1588
12. ERO Q/SR 115/49 EPIPHANY 1591
13. ERO Q/SR 100/33 EASTER 1587
14. ERO Q/STR 105/47 Q/ST 107/68 Epiphany 1589 Q/SR 108/ 34 10 Jan 1589
15. ERO Q/SR 110/80, Q/SR 111/69
16. ERO Q/SR 452/80 MICHAELMAS 1686
17. ERO T/A 418/206/8 [ASS 35/131/1] [ASS 35/131/1/8]
18. ERO Q/SR 456/106
19. Essex Standard Friday Oct. 11 1867 Neighbouring Elmstead paid for their road repairs using a 3d rate for three years.

Innkeepers

The first recorded Innkeeper was Richard de la Grane, in 1285, at the Kings Arms.¹ Victuallers sureties were paid in 1604 by Robert Sayer,² and John Sayer at Easter 1605, Michaelmas 1605, Easter 1607 and 1608.³ Not everyone paid for a surety and in 1659, Widow Smith was presented by the petty constables for drawing beer without a license.⁴ At the Petty Sessions of October 1901, Stephen Harper, a farmer, Frating, was charged with brewing beer without a licence. The attendant pleaded guilty through ignorance.⁵

Deeds exist from the King's Arms from at least 1790.⁶ Between 1848 and 1882, James Robert Warren, was *victualler, King's Arms*.⁷ In 1886, John C. Squirrell was listed, then the landlord was Walter Butler between 1890 and 1895.⁸ In 1898, Arthur Chinnery was landlord;⁹ succeeded by his wife Harriet between 1906 and 1922.¹⁰ On April 7th 1917, she was prosecuted for permitting the consumption of intoxicating liquor after 9 p.m in breach of the war-time rules.¹¹ Between 1922-1937 her son-in-law William C Mathams was landlord.¹² He was prosecuted and found innocent of serving after hours in July 1922.¹³

Between 1963 and 1977, Jack Edwardes was owner and converted the stables into a restaurant. He was a former holiday camp Entertainments Manager and actor who appeared in 91 episodes of BBC and ITV's "*Mick & Montmorency*" (1955-8) with his wartime RAF colleague Charlie Drake.¹⁴ They were the first comedy double-act on ITV children's programmes. Jack died in October 2001, aged 88.¹⁵ Over 250 people watched a bonfire and firework display at Frating Kings Arms paddock on Monday November 4th 1963, collections and profits from sales of refreshments raised £13 for the Freedom from Hunger campaign.¹⁶

In 1991, the landlord was Ron Marshall and regular entertainer was Joseph Connor.¹⁷

Landlords for twenty years until February 2020 were Neil Smith and Gill Till who diversified the business into a music venue.¹⁸

1. Kemble J (2011) *The place-names of Frating* p.14 #251 Ass
2. ERO Q/SR 166/89-126 EASTER 1604
3. ERO Q/SR 171/78 EASTER 1605, Q/SR 173/127 MICHAELMAS 1605, Q/SR 179/89 EASTER 1607, Q/SR 183/84 EASTER 1608
4. ERO Q/SR 378/26 EPIPHANY 1659
5. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 04 October 1901 p2 *Essex Newsman* Saturday 05 October 1901 p2
6. ERO C887 Box 3
7. White W (1863) *Directory of Essex; Post Office Directory (1872); White W (1882) Directory of Essex*
8. White W (1886) *Directory of Essex, White W (1890) Directory of Essex, White W (1895) Directory of Essex,*
9. White W (1898) *Directory of Essex, Census of 1902, White W (1902) Directory of Essex, Kelly's (1902) p.184*
10. White W (1906) *Directory of Essex, Census 1911, White W (1922) Directory of Essex; Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 21 April 1922 p6 funeral
11. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 11 May 1917 p.2
12. Kellys; <https://pubwiki.co.uk/EssexPubs/Frating/kingarms.shtml>
13. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 21 July 1922 p3
14. *Black Eagle journal*; <https://pubwiki.co.uk/EssexPubs/Frating/kingarms.shtml>; <http://www.turnipnet.com/whirligig/tv/children/other/mickmont.htm>
15. <https://nostalgicentral.com/television/tv-by-decade/tv-shows-1950s/mick-montmorency/>; *Jack Edwardes (Frating) Daily Gazette* October 29th 2001
16. *East Essex Gazette* November 8th 1963
17. 'Complain to me first about noise, says pub landlord' *East Essex Gazette* February 8th 1991
18. *Couple calls time on Kings Arms pub in Frating after two decades* *Daily Gazette* 4th February 2020

Georgian (1714-1837)

From 1732, there were eight transfers of the messuage of Hulls, near to Frating Green *copyhold of Wix Hall or Abbey. Admissions of Abraham Maskell, Robert Bacon, Martha Brockett, John Brockett, John Smith, Robert Bowell and William Scotchman to messuage called Hulls in Frating, cottages on Frating Green and 6 closes of land (21 acres).*¹ In 1802, it was agreed to split the land and messuage. *Agreement between (i) John Borrodell and wife Mary of Great Bromley and (ii) Abraham Maskell of Frating to divide messuage called Hulls and land into two parts.*²

*At the Election for a Knight of the Shire of 1768, the voters from Frating were John Barrington, Chappel Fowler and Robert Powell. Each elector had two votes as two MPs for Essex were returned to the House of Commons.*³



Figure 14 -
Chapman and Andre map of
1777⁴

At the first Census, the population of Frating was 176 in 1801. It increased to 204 in 1811 and 269 in 1831⁵ living in 32 households.⁶

In 1741, *James Frost of Frating (Ess) and his wife, Mary, daughter of James How, conveyed to Isaac Everett of Capel, with copy of a Fine, a Messuage in Coram Street and 30a of land formerly a wood called Damsells and Florences in Hadleigh.*⁷

Frating appears in local newspapers from February 1783 when John Ames received *effects .. for the benefit of his creditors* from William Turner of Alresford.⁸ From 1785, Game Licenses were issued to Thomas Lake, farmer and TW Fowler, clerk for £2 2/-.⁹

As a way of protecting their properties from trespass, theft and damage the local landowners formed the Frating Association. In June 1787, the Treasurers were Thomas Lake and Thomas Thompson at their dinner at the Black Boy, Great Bromley.¹⁰ Attending the August meeting were Rev TW Fowler, Thomas Lake, Thomas Thompson, Stephen Lufkin jun., John Garrard, Isaac Bardington, John Grimley, John Ames, James Burr, and Thomas Houldon. Ten men from Great Bromley, Elmstead and Great Bentley also attended.¹¹ The June 1789 meeting was attended by nine from Frating and 14 from Great Bromley, Elmstead, Great Bentley and Thornington.¹²

In 1788 and 1798, farmer Maskell was insured by the Sun Fire Company.¹³

On May 25th 1797, a Parish Terrier confirmed the boundaries of the village; including going right through Hockley farmhouse. Fields are mentioned and prominent trees are used as boundary markers between estates.

Names mentioned as landlords or tenants were Benjamin Wiles, Mr Simons, Mr Nunn, *the boy* Thomas Porter, Mr

Grimsey, Mr Lufkin, Mr Stephen Lufkin, Mr Holding, Mr Manning, Mr Archer, Mr Wilkins, Mr Garrard, Mr Barrington,
History of Frating RJ Butcher MA Lockdown 2021-2

Mr Edward Lugar, Mr Thompson, Rev Dr Frewen, Mr Warren, James Burr, Mr Richardson, Mr Isaac Dawson, Mr Cardies, Mr Mason and Mr Kendal.¹⁴

In May 1802, the household furniture, brewing and dairy utensils of its owner Rev Dr Frewin was auctioned. This included a “.. *handsome 4-post and tent bedsteads, mahogany pillars with marine, white dimity, and cotton furnitures; fine bordered goose featherbed mattresses, and bedding; three servants’ beds, complete; a complete set of mahogany dining tables, ditto Pembroke and card tables (fine wood), mahogany chest of drawers ..8-day clock ... rocking horse ... wheel-barrow..*”¹⁵ In June, “*a most desirable farm, consisting of a Dwelling-house, barns, stables, and requisite buildings, in excellent repair, and 137 acres of rich arable, meadow and pasture land .. 23 acres in the parish of Frating ..*” was offered for sale.¹⁶

In 1804, Lodge Farm and Hall farm in Great Bentley were sold with the Manor of Great Bentley “..*extends over .. parts of Frating ... profits more than £150..*”¹⁷

At the 1810 Parliamentary elections, the electors were Joseph Archer, Thomas Lake, Jacob Manning and Thomas Thompson (resident in Ardleigh).¹⁸

In 1813-4, the 1st East Essex Volunteer Cavalry recruited from local villages, including Frating.¹⁹

From 1815, meetings of the *Elmstead & Thorrington Association* (for prosecuting felons) at the Great Bentley Lion were attended by eight land-owners from Frating.²⁰

Some villagers started to attend Wesleyan Methodist services in Colchester and Thorrington. The first Baptism was of Samuel Almond on December 24th 1820. There were a further seven baptisms in Georgian times to families including Almond (4), Strutt and Porter (2).²¹

During this period, destitute people were obliged by the Courts to return to their home village. In 1823, the Vestry received a Solicitor's bill for fees incurred in connection with removal of Charlotte Wallace to Frating.²² On November 3rd 1828, a removal order was issued for the pregnant Charlotte Marsh from Frating to Thorpe-le-Soken.²³ A vagrant's pass was issued for Sarah Barker to return from the parish of St Leonard to *Fraton*, via Elmstead. In 1829, John Lake was removed from Frating to St Mary's at the Walls.²⁴

On Tuesday 7th April 1829, John Frost was committed to Chelmsford Gaol by RW Cox esq. and J Scott, clerk for entering a dwelling-house and stealing a brass copper, the property of Nicholas Grimsey.²⁵ He was convicted of stealing the item then handing it off to *Minter, errand woman from St Osyth* who took it to Colchester to sell to Mr Catchpool. Frost was sentenced to six months hard labour.²⁶

In 1831, the average annual produce per acre was wheat twenty, barley thirty-two and oats thirty-two bushells.²⁷

On Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th September 1832, the live and dead farming property of the late John Tills of Hockley Farm were sold. *Comprising nearly 20 very clever short-legged young horses and colts of good sizes and ages; a dairy of prime cows, sows, pigs and hogs, part of the household furniture, dairy and brewing utensils, and other effects.*²⁸

In November 1833, *William Keys, 40 seaman, pleaded guilty of stealing a slop, the property of William Goldaker, at Frating; and also of having been convicted of a felony in 1831.* The prisoner had been imprisoned for vacancy seven times and was sentenced to seven years transportation.²⁹ A slop was an outer garment like a smock. On Tuesday 17th January 1834, he was removed from Chelmsford.³⁰

On November 18th 1835, the *Tendring Union for the Poor Law* was formed, with the intension of constructing a workhouse and centralizing the support for the unemployed.³¹ This led to savings in the first year. Previously Frating had spent a three-year average, in 1832-4, of £229 on the Poor Law. In 1836, only £152 2 9 ½ was spent – a saving of £71 17 2 ½.³² In the year ended 25 March 1837, £138 was levied on Frating. £151 was spent in total of which £127 was *expended for the relief of the poor; £2 for removal of paupers, law charges etc; £19 towards the County Rate.*³³

On Saturday 30th July 1836, there was a road accident in Frating involving two vehicles. Mr Posford was returning to Great Clacton from Colchester Market when it entered a narrow piece of road between Frating Hall and the Green. Here it met the travelling carriage of H Vint esq. of the Crescent House, Lexden who was returning from Walton. *Mr Posford's horse shyed, and, rushing forward, dashed the chaise against the carriage with such force against the carriage as to overturn the former, with Mr and Miss Posford on the side of the road. By the shock the shafts of the gig were both broken off, with which the spirited animal ran home to Clacton.... On examining the*

*chariot, it was found that the splinter-bar was broken, as well as the irons connecting it with the carriage; and after repairing the damage, as well as circumstances permitted, they proceeded at a walking pace to Lexden.*³⁴

On 24th September 1824, the Frating receiver's salary was increased from £2 to £4 pa.³⁵

1. ERO T/b 247/4
2. *ibid*
3. Clay RL (1768) *The Poll for the Knights of the Shire to Represent the County of Essex* p.128 Also, two MPS were returned for each of Colchester, Harwich and Maldon by separate elections.
4. <https://map-of-essex.uk/>
5. https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/TOT_POP
6. https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/HOUSE_OCCUPANCY
7. TNA HA 108/3/2
8. *Chelmsford Chronicle* - Friday 27 February 1784 p3
9. *Chelmsford Chronicle* - Friday 13 January 1786 1785; Friday 13 October 1786; Friday 12 October 1787
10. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 22 June 1787
11. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 10 August 1787
12. *Chelmsford Chronicle* - Friday 24 July 1789
13. TNA MS 11936/351/539493, MS 11936/353/542987
14. MAB File 1 *The Parish Terrier of May 1797*
15. *The Ipswich Journal* Saturday May 1 1802
16. *The Ipswich Journal* Saturday June 5 1802
17. *The Ipswich Journal* Saturday August 25 1802
18. *The poll for a knight of the shire for the county of Essex (1810)*
19. ERO L/L 1/5; L/L 1/ 4 *Muster Rolls*.
20. Brown AFJ (1996) *Prosperity and Poverty: Rural Essex 1700-1815* p52
21. Eureka Partnership (2020) *Colchester Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Volume 1* p16
22. ERO D/P 8/16/3
23. ERO D/P 8/13/3/26
24. ERO D/B 5 SBb1/17 1724-1820 Quarter Sessions Bundle; ERO Q/SBb 498/71.
25. *Essex Herald* Tuesday 14th April 1829
26. *Essex Herald* Tuesday 5th May 1829
27. Wright (1831) *History of Essex* ii p765
28. *Essex Standard* Saturday 1st September 1832
29. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 29th November 1833
30. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 17th January 1833
31. *Essex Standard* Friday January 20th 1837
32. *Essex Standard* Friday February 24, 1837
33. *House of Lords (1838) Reports from Commissioners* xliv p.130
34. *Essex Standard* Friday Aug. 5 1836
35. (1971) *The Postal History of Tendring Hundred of Essex* p84

Victorian Frating

In Victorian times, the population of Frating was 271¹ in 53 households in 1841,² then fell to 247 in 1851 and 213 in 1901 in 54 households.

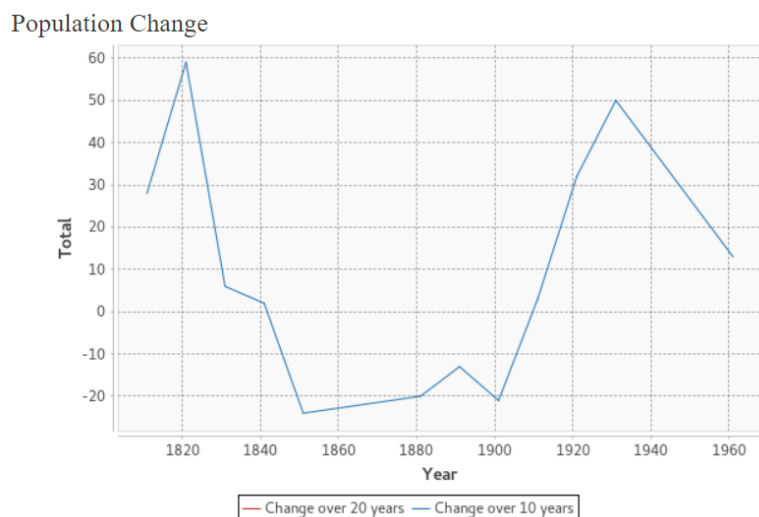


Figure 14 – showing population change in Frating 1811 - 1961²

In the 1831 Census, there were twelve farmers employing labourers, one working alone and 48 agricultural labourers. Eight men were involved in retail and handicrafts, two were professionals and two were non-agricultural labourers.³ After the agricultural depression of the late 1870s,⁴ by the 1881 Census, employment recording had changed as men and women were counted – the number involved in agricultural decreased to 42, there were now 20 domestic servants, one in Local Government, two professionals, one looked after animals, four were involved in food and lodgings, two in dress-making, one in vegetables, four in minerals, fifty without specified employment and three with unknown employment.⁵

In 1840, it was described as *FRATING HEATH: this is a wild irregular Moorish-looking place – there is not a good house in the village, it consists of a row of low thatched cottages, inhabited by labourers.*⁶

White's Directory of Essex in 1848 described: - *FRATING, 6 miles East Southeast of Colchester, is a pleasant village and parish, containing 271 souls and 1233 acres of land, bounded on the east and west by two rivulets, which run to the creeks of Alresford and Brightlingsea. A large portion of it is in the manors of Great Bromley, Moverons, and Wix, and the rest is in the manor of Frating Hall, which belongs to Caius College, Cambridge. The other principal landowners are P. Thompson, J. Boghurst, W. Caldecott, Miss Adams, R. Bacon, W. Cant, and B. Brown, Esq.*

The parish is called Fretingham in Domesday Book, and part of it was held of the Honour of Tutbury, by the Ferrers family. The Church is a small structure, in the early English style, and a new window has recently been

inserted at the east end. The rectory, valued in K. B. at £10, and in 1831 at £809, with that of Thorrington annexed to it, is in the patronage of St. John's College, Cambridge, and incumbency of the Rev. Rd. Duffield, B.D., who was appointed 1832, and has a large and handsome Rectory House, of white brick, encompassed by beautiful pleasure grounds, laid out and planted with great taste. The advowson was purchased by St. John's College, about 1744. The glebe is 41A., and the tithes of Frating have been commuted for £345 per annum.

The poor parishioners have a house given by an unknown donor, and several garden plots, enclosed from the waste many years ago.⁸



Figure 16 – First series OS 1" map⁷

Frating Hall and Church are in the centre of the map; Moorhams Farm is in the north and Wheelers in the south-east.

Following the Tithe Commutation Act of 1835,⁹ Frating was mapped in 1839 at a scale of 26.6" to the mile and an award made in the 1842.¹⁰ This showed that a rent-charge was payable to Rev. Richard Duffield of £345 and £10 for his glebe. The parish measured 1161 acres, consisting of 1040 acres arable, 50 acres meadow, 36 acres wood and 35 acres glebe.¹¹ The parish pump was at Frating Green (today in the grounds of 5, Bromley Road).¹²

Caius College were the largest land-owner with more than 358 acres; contributing the majority of the £1727 3/- per annum from their Tendring holdings.¹⁴ By 1874, PB Vincent was paying £427 10/- p.a. rent, rated for the Poor Rate at £445 15/-pa; W Cross was paying £124 rent, rateable at £187; and the Rector was paying £15 10/- rent.¹⁵ The average rent per acre was £1 6/-8 pa.¹⁶

Farm location	Owned by	Acres	Roods	Perches	Farmed by
Slough Farm	<i>late George Neville Adams, Lord of the Manor of Alresford</i>	91	1	13	Mully Simpson
Mannings	Peter Thompson	123	2	27	William Webb
Frating Green	Joseph Clark Archer	76	0	38	Henry Cross
Hovells	Rochester Bacon (d. 1857)	28	2	20	Rochester Bacon
Dairy House	Caius College rent £120 pa	75	2	4	William Abbott
Morehams	Bartholomew Brown	122	1	24	Shadrach Seaman
Hill House	Thomas Norman	42	0	22	Samuel Kingsbury
Frating Lodge	William Hobson	61	2	23	Alexander Davidson
Frating Hall	Caius College rent £420pa	270	2	4	Henry Vincent
Glebe	Rev Driffield	43	0	7	Rev Driffield
Hockley	Caius College rent £198 pa	121	1	39	Prudence Pike
Peartree	Susannah Burr	8	2	1	Susannah Burr
Wheelers	John Boghurst	80	2	17	John Boghurst
E of Frating Green	Caius College	10	3	15	Nathaniel Bromley
W of Frating Green	William Cant	19	3	3	William Cant
Holly Cottage	Henry Rand	12	1	32	Henry Rand
Captain's Wood	Estate of Charles Round	13	0	30	Ward

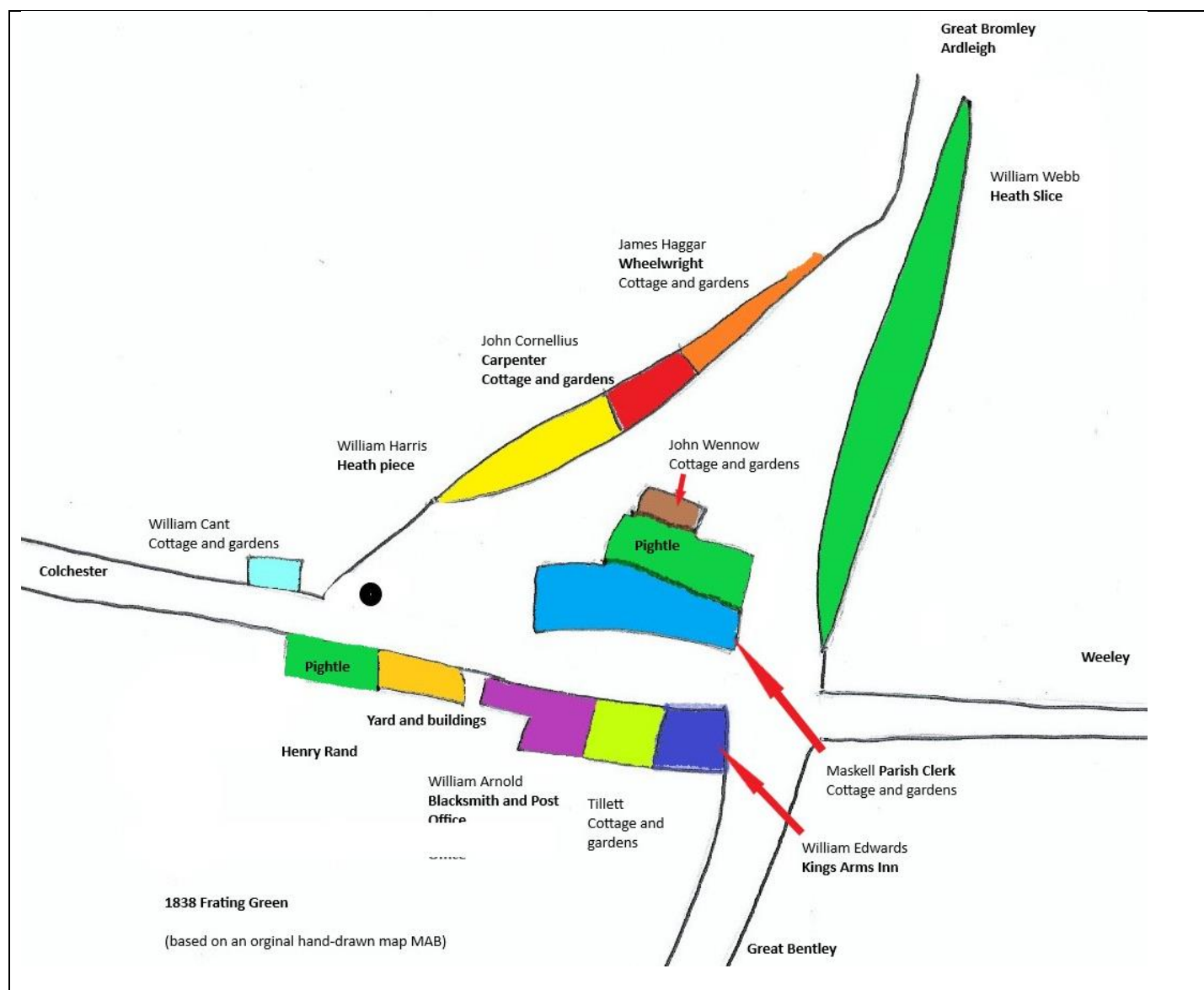
Table 2: Farm details from an analysis of the Tithe Award and Map. Rent from Annals of 1840¹³

After 1832, electors had to earn more than £10 pa,¹⁷ but only had to have a link to property in the Parish. In 1841-2, the seventeen electors were: William Abbott (Dairy House Farm); Joseph Archer (Semer, Suffolk); Rochester Bacon (Havel's Farm); John Baker (Wivenhoe – owned four houses); John Boghurst (Elmstead – owned Wheeler's Farm); Thomas Brooks (tenant at Wheelers' Farm); William Cant (Great Bentley – farmed at Frating heath); Alexander Davidson (Lodge Farm); Rev Richard Duffield; William Edwards (King's Arms); Samuel Obel Kingsbury (land at Walton road); James Lufkin; Daniel Maude (Manchester – co-owned Frating Hall); Francis Offley Martin (19, Grosvenor Street, London – co-owned Frating Hall); John Mudley Simson (land on Bentley road); William Stannard (farmed *Moremas*) and Henry Vincent (farmed Frating Hall.)¹⁸ There were nine electors in 1847, William Abbott, Rochester Bacon, John Baker, John Boghurst, William Caldecott, William Cant, Rev. Richard Duffield, Robert Glanfield and Henry Vincent.¹⁹ In 1867, the only Elector was Gregory Cowell.²⁰

In 1840, £75 was levied by assessment and £135 2/- expended in total. £101 8/- was expended for the relief and maintenance of the poor exclusive of medical relief; £11 9/- for medical relief; £17 16/- towards the County Rate; one guinea towards the costs of the *Registration Act*; and 3/-8 spent on *other purposes*.²¹

The Parish Overseers of the Poor, Guardian of the Tendring Poor Law Union and Surveyor of the Highways were selected by a vote in the Vestry, then the Justices at the Thorpe Petty sessions were informed. In 1853, the Frating Guardian decided that Mrs Sarah Jaggard, the widow of the Parish Clerk and former school-mistress should

go from her free room in Mr Caldecott's home to the Tendring Workhouse and without her weekly allowance of 6d for bread. WP Boghurst started a campaign for her and received many donations.²² In 1878, the Overseers were William Boghurst and William Robinson. The Surveyors were Philip Vincent and William Robinson.²³ In 1887 the Overseers were the same; but Zenos Downes had replaced Mr Robinson as Surveyor.²⁴ **Figure 17 Frating Green**



In 1844, a warrant was signed by the Sheriff of London to arrest Samuel Kingsbury for a debt of £500 owed to Jeremiah Haddock, Samuel Burrows and John Barnes.²⁵ c.1850, Henry Wright, aged 26, was discharged from the 53rd Foot Regiment.²⁶

In 1856, Tendring was broken into eleven medical districts, and each was to have a doctor. In District 6, were the Parishes of Great and Little Bentley, Frating, Thorrington and Alresford with a total population of 2424 and a salary of £40. This was *exclusive of fees for vaccinations, quarterly visits to the on insane paupers, fractures, midwifery, etc.*²⁷

There were two road accidents in the first week of April 1858. On April 1st, James Appleby was leading a horse pulling a wagon holding three tons of salt for Mr Vincent of Frating Hall. He went to talk to his colleague who was riding in the wagon and got his foot caught against the fore wheel which caused him to fall forward. The hind wheels then rolled over his arm fracturing his shoulder-blade. He was administered to by the surgeon, Mr Meadowcroft. At 9pm on Monday 5th April, James Carter was driving a cart for Joseph Bennell of Head Street, Colchester near to the Kings Head Inn. For an unknown reason, the cart ended up in a ditch with Carter trapped between it and the bank. He was rescued by Mr Warren, the Landlord. Carter was injured around the hands and knees so was admitted into the Essex and Colchester Hospital.²⁸

In the year ending March 1864, Frating in Tendring (Census District 203) was assessed as having 1237 acres, a population of 235 and a rental value of £2404. This worked out as 10/- ¾ per £ of rental-charge was paid for the *relief of the poor*; with an average of 0.19 persons per acre and £10 4/-5 rental each.²⁹

Records of crime in Victorian Frating still exist. In 1854, George Barry Lough was accused of burglary by Joseph Woollard.³⁰ On March 14th 1859, servant Mary Barnes appeared at Thorpe Petty Sessions accused of arson at Frating Lodge, where a fire was spotted six minutes after she left the dining-room. Straw in the yard was found on fire. Many witnesses were called, but the accusation was not proven, so Barnes was discharged.³¹

In 1862, Alfred Pretty, 16 labourer, was accused of arson against the property of James Wright. Henry Smith, 33 labourer, was indicted for theft from Rev. Richard Duffield. Joseph Smith, 52 rat catcher, was accused of theft from William Mortimer. In 1865, Ann Clarke, 25 hawker, and Mary Ann King (alias Johnson), 32 hawker, were

indicted for fraud against Ann Cross and John Page in Frating and Little Bentley. In 1868, Joseph Rose, 23 labourer and George Bugg, 27 farm labourer, were accused of theft against James Fisher, Isaac Jacons, William Threadgall.³²

On February 28th 1868, Mr Sparrow (51) was driving a cart of coal from Manningtree to Frating Hall when the horse shied at an empty cart. He got down to comfort the horse, but was kicked on the right side of his head below the ear. He was treated by the local assistant Surgeon Mr Walker in the *Princess Alexandria Inn* for a broken jaw, facial fractures and bitten tongue. He was married with nine children.³³

On August 12th 1871, John Peachey of Frating was indentured as a gardener to John Wright of Peldon and Bawtree of Abberton.³⁴

At the Mistley Petty Sessions on 23rd October 1871, the losses from Foot and mouth disease were disclosed by Inspector Lennon. These included Henry Brown who lost three heifers at Morehams Hall, Frating and ten at Cold Hall, Great Bromley. Mr J Girling was also charged with having a sick bullock on his farm at Ramsay and claimed he did not know he had to notify the Police. He was fined 5/- with 10/- costs.³⁵

The following year, Brown lost a further 20 bollocks from Morehams Farm, and William Robinson, of Frating, lost two cows and ten swine.³⁶ In February 1874, an ox at Moreham's Hall caught the disease³⁷ and eighteen in November.³⁸ Also in November 1874, Mr J Girling, of Ramsay, lost nine bulls at Frating and received £5 5/- for previous losses.³⁹

At the June 29th-30th 1875 Essex Agricultural Society meeting at Colchester, farmers from Frating were successful. W. Cross of Ivy Cottage won the first prize of £8 for *Nancy*, a four-year old cart mare in the local category and second prize of £5 in the United Kingdom category. PB Vincent's gelding won the Reserved prize.⁴⁰

In July 1875, Henry Girling of Frating lost 28 steers at Great Bromley and Philip Vincent one bull, four cows and 34 swine.⁴¹ In December 1875, Mr Thomas Girling lost an ox, a cow and 11 swine at Weeley.⁴² Also in December 1875, Thomas Girling received £10 10/- for losing a cow to pleuro-pneumonia in Frating⁴³ and a further £10 17/6 *being three-quarters fo the value of each animal being slaughtered* in February 1876.⁴⁴ In December 1879, WP Boghurst of Frating Abbey was part of the Sub-committee for Contagious Diseases. Two calves of Mr Downes of Hockley Farm, Frating were inspected by the veterinary surgeon Mr Taylor and found to have pleuro-pneumonia. He valued the calves at £10, so £7 10/- was paid.⁴⁵

On September 18th 1882, Swine Fever was found in the herd of seventeen day old piglets at Frating Rectory, belonging to Rev RB Mayor. Inspector Womack and Mr Taylor conducted a post mortem on one of the four dead piglets and examined twenty-three surviving before they confirmed the disease was present. Seven infected piglets were slaughtered and buried, *the litter burnt, the pigstye was cleaned and disinfected*. The premises and two small meadows were marked as infected.⁴⁶

On January 2nd 1883, twelve bullocks sold by Thomas Girling to Orchard Meadow, Frowick Farm, St Osyth were found to have *foot and mouth* with an infected area marked out. On January 4th Girling found that four of a herd of 19 bullocks in Stable Field at the Lodge, Frating recently bought from St Ives were infected. *"The infected*

area is ...: - from corner of Frating Hill, turn left along the main road leading to Frating Church; turn left by Long Meadow Fence through Fifteen Acre; turn left up the fence in Garden Field along the footpath into the main road leading from Frating Street to Frating Hill. This area contains 65 acres on the Lodge Farm, and 45 acres of Frating Hall in the occupation of Mr Philip B Vincent..” On the 12th January, a further nine bullocks were infected. The disinfection zone would be in place for a minimum of 28 days and could only be removed on orders of the Petty Session.⁴⁷ In March, these areas and Elmstead Lodge were declared free of the disease as recommended by Inspector Womack.⁴⁸ On November 9th 1883, seven bullocks out of a herd of twelve and four pigs out of twenty-seven belonging to John Miller were infected. The bullocks had been purchased from William Makins at Ipswich Market on the 23rd October when they were healthy.⁴⁹ On December 24th 1883, the quarantine was lifted.⁵⁰

In November 1882, Thomas Girling was indicted by Inspector Winfield by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for wilful neglect, carelessness and indifference to a lame mare that could not get back to its feet. Police Constables Say and Poulton from Great Bromley on October 23rd found the mare, *fearfully emaciated*, laying on a clover bed with nothing to eat or drink. Raw wounds were observed on its head and torso, with the *ground around regularly ploughed up, apparently by the animal’s struggles*. The following day, PC Say went for Inspector Winfield in Colchester who returned with him to examine the animal. Thomas Girling chose not to attend court as he had gone to St Ives to purchase more stock. Via his solicitor he insisted he had instructed his son to cull the six-year old horse on the Monday, but he had neglected to do so until the RSPCA acted. His son was present in court and said the horse had been there from the previous Saturday until seen by the Inspector. A number of farm-hands were called to give further details. *Eventually the Chairman intimated that the Magistrates were of the opinion the case should be dismissed.*⁵¹

In 1884, the Manor of Wix Hall sold a property at Frating Green. *messuage divided into 2 cottages, with brick and tiled bakehouse, gardens, barn, stable, cattle-shed and land (17 acres).*⁵²

In August 1884, farmers reported on their harvest. *Frating – Farmers were quite busy in carting wheat and barley. The wheat on this land averages about 9 sacks per acre; barley very short. Oats were generally light. Mr Boghurst of Frating Abbey, has some good crops of wheat and barley, as has Mr. Robinson. Turnips, mangolds, &c. begin to look healthy owing the little rain we had.*⁵³

On February 9th 1883, William Garrod, labourer, was observed near the Black Boy Inn, Great Bromley driving a tumbrel. He was on the hind horse and had no control over the lead horse. He was asked to stop by PC Say but initially ignored him, before giving his name. Another tumbrel was being ridden in a similar manner, but that driver got down when he saw the PC. The Chairman of the Justices asked “.. Was defendant holding the bearing rein?” PC Say answered “No sir; he had no control over the front horse in any way. There is a great deal of this done in this parish and it is no use cautioning the man. I have cautioned a numbers about riding like this, but if they get down they get up again directly afterwards. The Chairman said it was a very dangerous practice and it must be put a stop to.” Garrod was fined 2/-6 and 7/- costs.⁵⁴

In April 1884, George Casin plead guilty to being drunk in Frating and was fined 5/-.⁵⁵

In October and November 1887, Nathaniel Bromley, farmer of Great Bromley was indicted for not paying the Poor Rates for his land in Frating parish of 6/-5 and 5/-6, even though he had been asked for them. He disputed whether land used for shooting should be rated. The Chairman asked why he did not pay the rates. Bromley replied, “Because he brought it onto another rate.” The Court ordered a warrant of distress to be issued which Bromley refused to pay.⁵⁶

Edward Jennings, labourer of *Thorington*, was charged with riding a cart drawn by two horses without reins, without proper control on 14th November 1887. He worked for Mr Harper, brickmaker of Thorington. He was observed by PC Joyce and reported to the Court. He plead guilty and was fined 1/- with 7/- costs.⁵⁷

On Saturday 25th August 1888, Edward Hills, 13, was leading a horse attached to a Samuelson’s reaper when it bolted. He legs got caught in the *knives* and the left was severed at the ankle. He was taken by cart to Essex & Colchester Hospital where the leg was amputated by the surgeons Mr Laver and Worts.⁵⁸ His employer Mr PB Vincent of Frating Hall Farm started a Benevolent fund for him.⁵⁹

On Tuesday 19th May 1894, a ploughing match was held at Hall Farm, between the villages of Frating and Thorington. There were 27 competitors in 3 classes including four under-20s. The Champions Class prize of 25/- was won by Mr J Fitch employed by Mr Wenden of Moreham’s Hall; Class 2 by C. Jarvis of Hall Farm (20/-) and under-20s by Charles Clark of Thorington Hall (4/-).⁶⁰

The first annual Tendring Hundred Farmers Club exhibition was held in July 1899. The prizes won by Mr HE Wenden included: Class 4 mares; second prize Class 5 colt or filly foals (£2); first prize Class 8 fillies foaled in 1896 (£2) and first prize Class 9 mares (£3).⁶¹

On September 22nd 1899, Swine Fever was found in pigs at Mr Gibbs' Hill Farm. Two had died and 64 were slaughtered.⁶²

In November 1899, Walter Grimsey and Harry Jewers, young labourers, were charged with trespassing in search of rabbits on land occupied by JA Fitch. They had run away from Arthur Mingay with two nets and a third was found nearby. Grimsey did not appear in court and was fined £1 with 7/- costs. Jewers was fined 5/- with 5/-6 costs.⁶³

The new century was welcomed in by the Rector hosting several events. On January 3rd 1900, the Rev A. Caldecott entertained forty of the parishioners of Frating and Thorrington at Thorrington School “..to a capital knife and fork tea ..” There were toasts, songs and a Magic Lantern show of South Africa. On Thursday 4th, the second event was for church officials with the bellringers entertaining with handbells. On the Friday evening, the ladies of the two villages were invited for tea with their husbands allowed in from 7pm. The school children led by Miss Caldecott in a Christmas cantata “*Mildred and Patty*”. Lucy Levebre, the assistant teacher, received an Oxford Bible to mark her success in the Government examinations. Oranges were given to the children and the evening finished with the National Anthem.⁶⁴

At the Annual Parish Meeting of March 29th 1900, the Rector was re-elected Chairman; Mr. Ernest Girling and Mr. C. Richardson were elected as Overseers.⁶⁵ *On Monday, June 11, the inhabitants of Great Bentley, ably assisted by Frating and surrounding parishes, celebrated the hoisting of the British Flag in Pretoria by a grand torchlight procession and bonfire.*⁶⁶

Victorian Post Masters included Robert Almond (1845-74) and the blacksmith Alfred Almond (1878-1912).⁶⁷

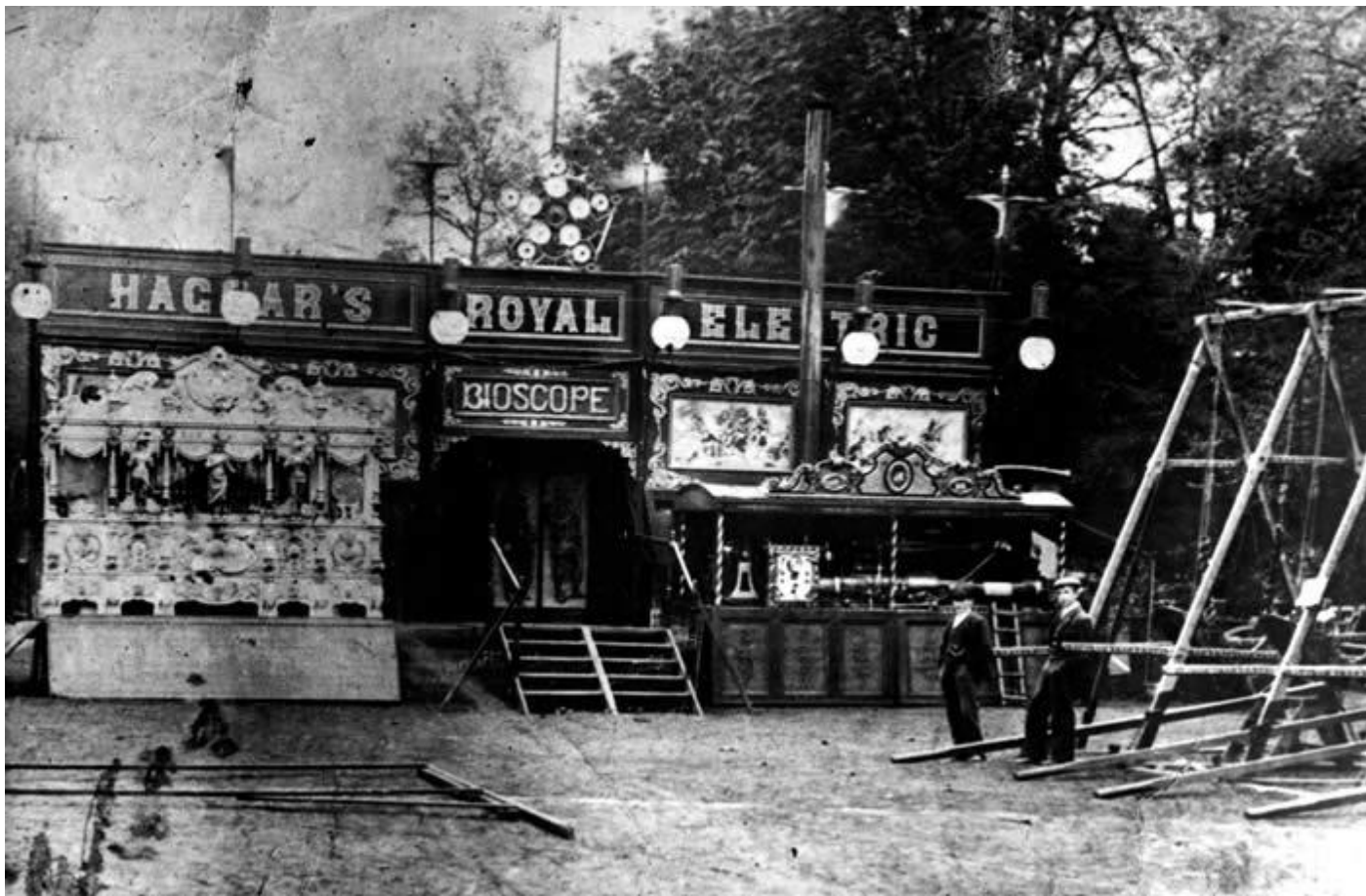
In the 1870s, Miss Mayor painted local scenes including the Church, Rectory and Percy Munson's cottage.⁶⁸

1. https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/TOT_POP
2. https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/HOUSE_OCCUPANCY
3. <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/INDUSTRY>
4. Perrin R (1995) *Agricultural in depression 1870-1940* p9 1879-1896 affected many in East Anglia as average prices fell by 40%
5. <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/INDUSTRY>
6. Dennis G (1840) *An historical and geographical description of Walton on the Naze* p9
7. OS Map (1805)
8. White W (1848) *Directory of Essex*
9. 6 & 7 Will 4 c 71
10. ERO D/DCT 145a, b; TNA IR 29/12/138 (1842); IR 18/2333 (1836-70) | perch = 30 ¼ square yards; 1 rood = 40 perches; 1 acre = 4 roods; 1 square mile = 640 acres
11. Cooper CH (1866) *Memorials of Cambridge Volume 3* p.158
12. MAB Local History Recorder Scheme – thin green file May 1999
13. ERO D/DCT 145a, b; Henry CC (1852) *Annals of Cambridge Vol. V, 1850-1856* p638

14. **Universities Commission (1874) Report of the Commissioners Appointed to Inquire Into the Property and Income of the Universities ... p.133**
15. **ibid p.151**
16. **ibid**
17. **http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/citizenship/struggle_democracy/getting_vote.ht**
18. **(1841-2) Copy of the Poll p.125**
19. **ERO LIB/POL 1 21**
20. **THE POLL FOR MEMBER TO SERVE IN PARLIAMENT, TAKEN ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1867,**
21. **Poor rate returns of Unions and Parishes House of Commons (1840) Reports from the Commissioners xviii p.175**
22. **The Case of Sarah Jaggard – Mr Caldicott vs the Frating Guardian Essex Standard** Friday December 23rd 1853; Friday December 30th 1853; Friday January 6th 1854; Wednesday 18th January 1854; Friday 27th January 1854.
23. **Essex Standard** Friday April 5 1878
24. **Essex Standard** Saturday April 9, 1887
25. **ERO D/DHt O2**
26. **TNA WO 97/668/93 (1847-52)**
27. **The Lancet London (1856) A Journal of British and Foreign Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacology, Public Health and News I p.248**
28. **Essex Standard** Wednesday April 14 1858
29. **House of Lords - (1868) Accounts and Papers xviii p.122**
30. **Ipswich Journal** 20 May 1854
31. **Essex Standard** Wednesday March 16 1859
32. **ERO Q/SMc 9, 1868 Calendars of prisoners for Essex Quarter Sessions, Essex Assizes and Special Sessions of Gaol Delivery**
33. **Essex Standard** Wednesday 9th March 1868
34. **Mersea Museum PH01_HSC_015**
35. **Essex Standard** Friday October 27 1871
36. **Essex Standard** Friday October 11 1872
37. **Essex Standard** Friday February 27 1874
38. **Essex Standard** Friday Nov. 6 1874
39. **Essex Standard** Friday Dec. 4 1874
40. **The Farmers Magazine (1876) Volume 80 p.126-7**
41. **Essex Standard** Friday July 2 1875
42. **Essex Standard** Friday Dec. 3 1875
43. **Essex Standard** Friday Dec. 31 1875
44. **Essex Standard** Friday Feb. 25, 1876
45. **Essex Standard** Saturday Dec. 27 1879
46. **Essex Standard** Saturday Sept. 30 1882
47. **Essex Standard** Saturday Jan. 20, 1883
48. **Essex Standard** Saturday, Mar. 10 1883
49. **Essex Standard** Saturday November 17th 1883
50. **Essex Standard** Saturday December 29th 1883
51. **Essex Standard** Saturday November 25 1882
52. **ERO D/Du 680/34** Manor of Wix Hall
53. **OUR Harvest Reports Essex Standard** Saturday, Aug. 16, 1884
54. **Essex Standard** Saturday March 10 1883
55. **Essex Standard** Saturday May 3 1884
56. **Essex Standard** Saturday October 29 1887, Saturday 12th November 1887
57. **Essex Standard** Saturday 10th December 1887
58. **The Ipswich Journal** Friday, Aug. 31, 1888; **Essex Standard** Saturday, Sept. 1, 1888
59. **Essex Standard** Saturday December 8th 1888
60. **Essex Standard** Saturday, June 2 1894
61. **Essex Standard** Saturday, July 22 1899
62. **Essex Standard** Saturday October 7, 1899
63. **Essex Standard** Saturday December 16 1899
64. **Essex Standard** Saturday Jan. 13 1900
65. **Essex Standard** Saturday 07 April 1900 p.5
66. **Essex Standard** Saturday 23 June 1900
67. **(1971) Postal History of Tendring Hundred of Essex p.84**
68. **STMM** stored in a photograph album **(September 2022)**

A. William Hagger (1851-1925)

Arthur William Hagger was born in 1851 in Dedham. His mother, Elizabeth (b.1830) returned him to her home village of Frating the following year to be baptised and raised by her father. William attended the local school, paying a penny a week. At the age of 11, he went to work at the shipyard in Wivenhoe, then for five years at his uncle's sawmill. William was musical, learnt to play a cornet and formed a travelling band at the age of 18 with three friends. On March 31st 1871, he married the actress Sarah Hemmings in Fakenham, Norfolk.¹



The travelling band of actors moved across the north of England to South Wales where in the late 1890s Hagger invested in a film-projector costing £80, using a generator run on hydrogen and oxygen, in their tent. **Fig. 18** Soon he started directing his own movies, with his family as actors - including *The Dumb man of Manchester* (1901), *Maid of Cefn Ydfa* (Welsh Folk Story) in 1902 and *The Poachers* (1904). In 1902 he opened a cinema in Aberdare called *Hagger's Coliseum*; then others in Llanelli, Pontardulais, Neath, Mountain Ash and Pembroke. He became a Poor Law Guardian and a member of Aberdare Council. When he died in 1925, he left a fortune of £16,921.²

1. Yorke, P. (2011) *William Hagger: Fairground Film-maker* p.36, 37, 150
2. <https://hagger.one-name.net/page22.html>; <http://cynonculture.co.uk/wordpress/aberdare/william-hagger/>
<http://www.screenonline.org.uk/people/id/449862/> Hagger made 30 films, of which 4 are still viewable. *Desperate Poaching Affray* (1903), *The Life of Charles Peace* (1905), *The Sheepstealer* (1908) and *Revenge!* (1904)

Frating Schools

In 1812, there was already a Church school in Frating for 8 boys and girls.¹ Three years later, the number of pupils was still only eight.² In 1818, Parliament recorded *"Population 204. A day school, containing 14 children, and a Sunday school, consisting of 10 boys and 14 girls. The poor have not sufficient means of education, and the children would be uneducated but for the subscription of the wealthier inhabitants."*³ By 1819, this had increased to 24 boys and 26 girls daily and on Sundays; with a further 12 boys and 10 girls on Sundays.⁴

In 1833, *"Population 269. Two Daily Schools (commenced since 1818) wherein are 15 males and 16 females, of whom 15 are paid for by the Rector, and the remainder by their parents. One Sunday School (commenced 1832) attended by 22 males and 17 females, is supported by the Rector."*⁵

In 1855, Rev RB Mayor built a National School for ninety pupils at the corner of Rectory Road and the road to Thorrington. *".. A new school-room for Frating and Thorrington, erected at the expense of the Rev R Duffield, Rector of the former Parish, was opened a few days since by a treat to the children (about 90 in number); and a large party of the reverend gentleman's parishioners and friends were entertained upon the occasion.."* Eliza Rawlinson was schoolmistress in 1863.⁶ In 1864, the school had space for 49 pupils (ten square feet per pupil) an average attendance of 27 and received a Parliamentary Grant.⁷

On October 11th 1870, the school logbook recorded *"several children away from school gathering acorns."*⁸ In 1874, the Council Education reported that Frating National School was in Census District 194, due to be inspected in March and had not received any parliamentary grants for building enlargements in the preceding year. Average attendance was 39 pupils for which the school received grants of £29 5/-.⁹ The school was enlarged in 1879.¹⁰

In April 1883, JW Cook MD, Medical Officer of Health for the Tendring Hundred reported on disease outbreaks that had forced Frating National School to close. Fourteen children in Frating and Thorrington had small pox, brought to the area by a tramp from a workhouse where people were not vaccinated. Dr Cook put in place a programme of vaccinations through-out the Tendring Hundred. Further there was an outbreak of Scarlet Fever brought from a parish in an adjoining Sanitary District by a girl who came to the parish school before desquamation had ceased. *On account of Scarlet Fever, it was necessary to close the schools in Frating and Tendring as the disease existed largely in these parishes. Every house where the disease existed was carefully disinfected, principally by Mr*

Sase, to my desire, and when requested by me to do so, the school managers had the school-rooms purified before they were re-opened..”¹¹

In July 1887 and October 1889, William Chippington, labourer, was summoned to the Quarter Sessions by Mr Edmund Blowers, School Attendance Officer of the Tendring Union, under three separate informations, for neglecting to send his three children, Kate, aged 12, Arthur, aged 7, and Elizabeth, aged 5, to school, on the 13th October. Mr Blowers stated that the eldest of the three, had not been in school for a year, and the other two had been refused admission on account of their almost nude condition. Defendant pleaded that his wife had died some time back, and since then he had been obliged to keep eldest child at home to look after his house; he was always at work and could not attend to the other children himself. The Bench fined the defendant 2s 6d in the first case, and 1s each in the other two, and cautioned him that under a recent Act of Parliament he might be proceeded against for neglecting his children if he did not take more care of them. Allowed 14 days to pay.¹²

At the Petty Sessions held at Thorpe-le-Soken on December 10th 1894, George Tokley, labourer, who did not appear, was summoned for not sending his child to Frating School. Mr. WC Bareham, School Attendance Officer, said that the child was twelve years of age, and had only passed the second standard, having made but 219 attendances out of 453. Fined 2s 6d or three days.¹³

The pupils from Frating and Thorrington schools were treated each Summer and prizes awarded for progress. On Friday August 7th 1891, Rev and Mrs Mayor¹ gave 160 their annual treat in the Frating Rectory garden, where tea, bread and butter, plum cake were consumed. Cricket and other games were played.¹⁴

On Wednesday August 10 1892, nearly 200 attended where they were joined by 22 London children who were spending their Summer holidays in the county. On Friday August 12, Canon and Mrs Mayor distributed prizes of books to the children of Thorrington and Frating schools for regular attendance and good behaviour. The schools were then closed for a month for the summer holidays.¹⁵

In August 1900, prizes were awarded; best attendance to Alice Jarvis and Alfred Chaplin; religious knowledge to Maud Taylor. Villagers lent wagons, swing ropes and sent prizes. The attendance at this school have not been good during the past year and is hoped that the attention called to it by the prizes allotted will stimulate parents to see that greater regularity is made next year.¹⁶

By 1876, Rev. RB Mayor was Diocesan Inspector of Schools until 1895 when he retired from the Parish of Frating cum Thorrington.¹⁷ In 1894, the school had room for 89 scholars with an average attendance of 60. A grant of £72 12/- was received.¹⁸ In 1899, the new Diocesan Inspector reported on the Religious knowledge shown by the pupils.¹⁹

In May 1899, Miss Alice Bacon was appointed Assistant-Mistress.²⁰ In 1902 and 1922, Mrs MA Mills was mistress with average attendance of 30 pupils in 1902 and 42 in 1914.²¹

In August 1924, R. J. Johnson, Frating earned a scholarship to Colchester Junior Trade School.²²

Frating C. of E. School closed in 1934²³ following the implementation of the Education (Necessity of Schooling) Act 1933 and the pupils sent to Great Bentley County School.²⁴ Plans were made to convert the building in to a home.²⁵ Log Books exist from 1864 – 1905²⁶ and 1905-34.²⁷ In 1950, Alan Bridgeman Gray, 28, a garage proprietor of Frating Garage was resident.²⁸

1. **National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church Throughout England and Wales (1812) Annual Report p.65**
2. **National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church Throughout England and Wales (1815) Annual Report iii p.65**
3. **Whittam G (Jnr) (1819) Digest of Parochial Returns. Select Committee on Education of the Poor p.255, p.282**
4. **The National Society for promoting the education of the poor in the principles of the established church (1819) eighth annual report p.49**
5. **House of Commons papers, Volume 41. Abstract of Education Returns 1833**
6. **White W (1863) Directory of Essex; Essex Standard Friday May 25 1855**
7. **House of Lords · (1868) Accounts and Papers xviii p.123**
8. **Raphael Samuel (2016) Routledge Revivals: Village Life and Labour (originally published 1975)**
9. **Council on Education (1874) Report of the Committee of Council on Education (England and Wales) p.323**
10. **Kelly's 1902 p.184**
11. **The sanitary condition of the Tendring Hundred Essex Standard April 28th 1883**
12. **Essex Standard Thursday July 30 1887, fined 1/- Saturday Oct 26th 1889**
13. **Essex Standard Saturday Dec 15 1894**
14. **Essex Standard Saturday August 15 1891**
15. **Essex Standard Saturday Aug. 13 1892**
16. **Essex Standard Saturday Aug 4 1900**
17. **Essex Standard Friday February 25 1876; The Eagle (1895) A Magazine Support by Members of St. John's College · xviii p.310**
18. **Council on Education (1894) Report of the Committee of Council on Education (England and Wales), with Appendix p816**
19. **ERO D/P 349/28/5**
20. **Essex Standard Saturday Mar 11 1899**
21. **Kelly's (1902) p.184, Kelly's (914) p.245, Kelly's (1917), Kelly's 1922**
22. **Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 01 August 1924 p2**
23. **ERO E/ML 10/2; Essex Newsman Saturday 01 December 1st 1934.**
24. **Essex Newsman Saturday 03 March 1934 p.3**
25. **ERO D/RT Pb1/5748 Building plans, 1936-1938 A.C. Girling (surveyor) 1938**
26. **ERO E/ML 10/1**
27. **ERO E/ML 10/2**
28. **Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 24 May 1950; <https://www.facebook.com/brightlingseahistoryhub/posts/495564717614503>;**

Frating in the early twentieth century

In 1901, the population was 213 living in 54 households. This rose to 216 in 1911, 248 in 1921 and 310 in 1931.¹ In 1902, Kelly's described *Frating is an ancient village and parish, 1 ½ miles north-north-west of Thorrington station ... The principal portion of the land belongs to Caius College, Cambridge, in which the manor is vested and to the trustees of Perse school, Cambridge. The soil is mixed, producing choice wheat; subsoil gravel. The area of the parish, which is well-watered is 1,184 acres; rateable value £1,187.* The farmers were Charles Chisnall (Frating Abbey), Arthur Clarke, Hart Ferris (The Lodge), Joshua Fitch (Hall Farm), Horace Gibbs, Ernest, Harrison and Thomas Girling, John Macrae (Hockley Farm) Samuel Pittuck (The Cedars); Charles Richardson (Mannings Farm), Mrs James Vince and Herbert Wenden (Moreham's). Rev Caldecott was Rector, Alfred Almond the blacksmith and postmaster, Arthur Chinnery the landlord of the King's Arms, Abraham Maskell the cooper and grocer.²

The first recorded accident involving a motor vehicle was in 1906. *MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT AT FRATING. Mr. Pollock, a London gentleman, accompanied by Mrs. Pollock and Mr. H. Bailey, was on Sunday night driving a motor car to ...*³

*Agriculture remained the main source of income and employment. In December 1905, at the Halesworth Market, Suffolk, Mr. Charles Chisnall, Frating Abbey, .. sold .. fat beasts for £26 10/ to £23 15/6.*⁴ *At the Essex Show held in Colchester in June 1908, C Chisnell came third in the category for nag, horse and turnout "used for bona fide business purposes by a farmer residing in Essex."*⁵ In October 1909, the *Sir Thomas Lipton's Challenge Cup was won for the second year in succession by Harvey, employed Mr. F. Pertwee, of Frating. The cup has to won three times in succession before becoming the property of the winner.*⁶ Harvey won again the following year with a Bentall I.P.⁷ iron plough and kept the trophy worth £10 10/-.⁷

In November 1910, Tendring Hundred Rural Council voted £100 towards the extermination of rats in the 31 parishes.⁸

Farms continued to change hands. In November 1905, To be Let, with immediate possession, Hill House, Frating, with coach house and stabling, on main road, five miles from Colchester; low rent.⁹ In August 1906, the Live and Dead FARMING STOCK of Hill Farm were sold for Mr. J. Western.¹⁰ In 1911, *Messrs. Edwin J. Gilders and Co. sold the freehold occupation known Hill Farm, 43a. 2r. op., in the parishes of Frating and Elmstead, to Mr. I. Wigg, for Tiptree Brewery, which has been carried Mr. C. T. Thorn for many years.*¹¹

In June 1911, *Stanford sold Frating Lodge, comprising residence and 62 acres l rood 3 perches by direction of the trustees under the wills of Mr. J. V. Fearis and Miss Emma Fearis.*¹² In 1921, *Hockley Farm, about xxx acres, with farmhouse and cottages, in Frating and Thorrington, sold for £2,000.*¹³

In 1907, a humorous story was recorded. *Mr. Alain Chisnall, of Frating Abbey, who recently went to Canada, sent Mr. Robert Taylor, of Wix. a postcard addressed Bob, Wix. England. The card reached ...*¹⁴

The lawn tennis court at the Rectory started to be used for team competitions. In June 1910, *Frating beat Witham 8 matches to 1.*¹⁵ In July, *Frating beat Miss Blyth's team winning eight matches; 111 points to 50.*¹⁶ In July 1911, *Clacton beat Frating by ... 14 sets to 9, and 113 games 89.*¹⁷ In July 1913, *Frating beat East Colchester 5 matches to 4.*¹⁸

In September 1910, *Captain A. B. Bourne. R.M.A., M.V.O., son the Rev. C. W. Bourne, rector of Frating, is one of the officers selected accompany the Duke of Connaught to South Africa.*¹⁹ Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn (1850 - 1942), was the seventh child of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. They travelled aboard the SS *Balmoral Castle*, to open the first parliament of the newly formed union of South Africa. In Johannesburg on 30 November he laid a commemorative stone at the Rand Regiments Memorial, dedicated to the British soldiers that died during the Second Boer War.

Crime still occurred. On May 8th John Woodruff Eagle, farmer, Frating, was summoned for keeping a carriage without licence at Great Bromley. He had a previous conviction for a similar offence.²⁰ In September 1910, *Sylvia Potter, 18, a kitchen-maid was charged with stealing five knives, three forks, three mustard and two tea spoons, and several articles of crockery, together of the value of 4/- at the London Buffet, Walton, between May 1 and August 9.* Asher Prior represented her, the son-in-law of the late Mr Vincent of Frating Hall. *Rev CW Bourne of Frating, also spoke on her behalf* and she was bound over under the First Offenders Act.²¹

In April 1912, *at the Tendring Hundred point-to-point races .. a pony harnessed to a cart driven by Miss Porter of Hockley Farm.. bolted.* The animal crashed into the back of a motor car, and Miss Porter was thrown on to the car, sustaining severe injuries, which necessitated her removal to the hospital in Colchester.²² In June 1912, John Woodruff Eagle, Mannings Farm, Frating, was summoned for keeping a dog without a licence at Frating on May 13. The defendant, who did not appear, wrote stating that it was an oversight.²³ In July 1912, *Frederick Montague, 32, cycle agent, of Frating, pleaded not guilty to a charge of receiving a bicycle, knowing it have been stolen.*²⁴

In 1913, a mixed Bowls competition between Frating and East Colchester resulted in a win for the visitors by 6 matches to 2.²⁵

A Post Office was opened in the early nineteenth century single-storey malting house at Frating Green. The remains of the conical kiln were at the west end.²⁶ In 1914, the Postmaster and blacksmith, was Leonard Almond (1914-1922); with letters arriving at 0640am and delivered to Colchester at 8pm. Frederick Hart was wheelwright in Haggard's Lane. Farmers included George Carter (Holly Farm), Eldred James Clarke, John Woodruff Eagle (Bailiff to E&H Girling) and Archer Lord (Slough Farm).²⁷

In 1911, the Census for Frating recorded forty-four unique surnames for heads of households. Only Bacon, Chimney, Maskell and Almond were repeated. There were twenty-eight different occupations. Fifty-four worked on farms, eight were servants, three nurses, four cooks, three blacksmiths and five labourers. Other occupations included a wheelwright, cooper, dressmaker, music teacher, bacteriologist and a Governess.²⁸

By June 1914, Richardson had not attended any meetings of the Tendring Board of Governors for six months, and a new member was requested.²⁹ In July, the twenty-fourth Tendring Hundred farmers Show was held at St Osyth Priory with some prize-winners coming from Frating. 1st and 2nd places for *Agricultural Horses: Gelding, four years and upwards* was won by E & H Girling. They also won £5 from Mrs Cowley for *best turned out Pair Cart Horses, mares or geldings, to be shown in waggon*. C Chisnall won first prize for *Channel Island Cow*.³⁰

1. https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10239576/cube/TOT_POP
2. Kelly (1902) *Directory of Essex* p.184
3. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 26 January 1906 p2,3 *Essex Newsman* Saturday 27 January 1906 p3
4. *East Anglian Daily Times* Monday 11 December 1905 p6
5. *The Times* Friday June 12 1908
6. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 15 October 1909 p8
7. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 20 October 1911 p8; Friday 03 November 1911 p.1; Friday 15 December 1911 p1
8. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 18 November 1910 p3
9. *East Anglian Daily Times* Friday 03 November 1905 p6
10. *East Anglian Daily Times* Wednesday 29 August 1906 p1
11. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 15 September 1911 p7
12. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 09 June 1911 p8
13. SALES OF PROPERTY *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 13 May 1921 p7
14. Story of the Week *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 17 May 1907 p5 Chisnall enlisted in the RAF during WW1 and died of his wounds.
15. *Sports and Pastimes* *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 10 June 1910 p3
16. *Sports and Pastimes* *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 01 July 1910 p3
17. *Sports and Pastimes* *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 07 July 1911 p3
18. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 11 July 1913 p7
19. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 09 September 1910 p5 Royal Military Academy, Member of the Royal Victorian Order
20. POLICE COURTS *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 04 July 1913 p6
21. *Essex Petty Sessions* *Essex Newsman* Saturday 3 September 1910
22. EXCITING RACE INCIDENT *Essex Newsman* Saturday 27 April 1912 p2
23. POLICE COURTS *Essex Newsman* Saturday 14 June 1913 p3
24. *ESSEX QUARTER SESSION* *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 05 July 1912 p5; *Essex Newsman* Saturday 06 July 1912 p3
25. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 05 September 1913 p7
26. Alderton D, Booker J (1980) *The Batsford Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of East Anglia Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk* p.89
27. Kelly (1914) *Directory of Essex* p.245; (1971) *The Postal History of Tendring Hundred of Essex* p84
28. *The National Archives Census 1911 – Tendring 197 / 5 / 17*
29. *East Coast Illustrated News* June 6th 1914
30. *Frinton and Walton Graphic* July 18th 1914

World War One and the Frating War Memorial & Institute

Men from Frating and the neighbouring villages went off to War from August 1914. Indeed, thirteen volunteered before January 1915.¹ They served and died in Britain, Belgium, France, Gallipoli and at sea. Eight of them were commemorated inside the purpose-built War Memorial Institute: Private Harold Barrell (No. **9733** 1st Battalion Essex Regt); his brother Second Lieutenant Philip Barrell (2nd Battalion Essex Regt); Gunner Joseph Barrell (No. **64155**, 57th Heavy Siege Battery); Bernard William Bull, (No. **214140** *HMS Hogue*); Bombardier Herbert Joseph Hervey **MM** (No. **68755** 97th Battery, 147th Brigade Royal Field Artillery); Private Charles Cyril Jewers (No. **43566** 9th Battalion Essex Regiment); Private George Thomas Long, (No. **3566** Durham Light Infantry); and Private Walter Charles Parker (No. **34729** 11th Battalion Essex Regiment.)²

On September 22nd 1914, the first man from Frating commemorated was killed in action. Able Seaman Bernard William Bull (1883-1914) was thirty years old. He was born on April 3rd and baptised on May 18th in Frating. His father John was a farm labourer from Great Bentley and his mother Emma Robinson was born in Great Barton, Suffolk. In 1901, the family lived at 41 Haggars Lane and Bernard was a Grocer's Porter. His siblings were Emma, Edith and Lewis. He enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1902 and was described as 5' 6 ½" tall with light hair, grey eyes and a fresh complexion. Ships and bases he served at included: *HMS Northampton*, *Cleopatra*, *Pembroke*, *Amphitute*, *Vernon*, *Horth*, *Thames* and *Bonaventure*. These were mainly mine sweeping ships. On February 26th 1910 he married Gertrude Daisy Burling from Thorrington. The 1911 Census recorded them as living in Frating Road, Thorrington with Sarah – his mother-in-law. On December 1st, their daughter Gladys Violet was born. In April 1914, he retired to the Royal Naval Reserve. Only four months later he was recalled to serve on *HMS Hogue*, an obsolete cruiser as part of a Royal Naval blockading force off the coast of Belgium with *HMS Aboukir* and *HMS Cressy*. Their destroyer escort had not returned from Harwich after a period of bad weather. They were sighted by the German submarine *U-9* and sunk. Captain Drummond, on board *HMS Aboukir* had ignored standing orders to zig-zag and was torpedoed. Then he called in *HMS Hogue* and *HMS Cressy* to stop and collect survivors. They were torpedoed within minutes. Sixty-two officers and 1397 men of other 2200 were killed – more than at the Battle of Trafalgar. Bull had drowned. A pension of 15/- per week was awarded on March 25th 1915, payable until 1927. His widow lived until 1981 when she died aged 98.²

Three of the seven Barrell brothers were killed. They were sons of the farm horseman, Herbert and dress-maker, Esther of Frating Lodge Cottages. Second Lieutenant Philip James Barrell (1880-1915) was already a soldier at the outbreak of War enlisting in the Essex Regiment in 1899. He had been born in Langham in the summer of 1880 and in 1891 lived in Great Bromley In 1910, he was the Champion Shot. In 1911, he was Serjeant No. **5390** in E Company, 1st Battalion at Quetta, India aged 30. He passed a Class of Instruction Musketry at Satara on May 26th 1912 and the following year was promoted from the ranks to Second Lieutenant. On March 26th 1915, he reported for duty with the 2nd Battalion. He was killed in action on May 1st 1915, probably shot from the rear by covering fire. He left effects of £155 10/6 to his parents.²

The following month, his brother Corporal Harold (1892-1915) of the 1st Battalion was died of wounds received at Cape Hellas, Gallipoli. In 1911, he was home for the census with his brothers Ernest and Cyril at Frating Lodge Cottages. He was employed as a horseman on a farm. Later that year he was enlisted at Colchester. He was in the 3rd Battalion by October 5th 1911 receiving his third Class Education Certificate. On March 1st 1912, he received his second Class Education Certificate whilst part of the 2nd Battalion. On August 12th, he was promoted to Lance-Corporal. By 1915, he had promoted to Corporal of the 1st Battalion. He left £10 12/10.²

A third brother was Joseph (1889-1917) who had moved by 1911 to work in St Nicholas, Cardiff. He enlisted in the 57th Siege Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery in October 1915, listing his occupation as gardener on his Short Service Attestation. He was 5' 6 ½" tall with a chest of 34 ½" and expansion of 2". Joseph died of wounds at the Canada Farm Dressing Station on July 24th 1917 near Ieper, West-Vlaenderen, Belgium. Their surviving siblings were George Herbert (1893-71), Arthur (1895 – 1954), Ernest (1887 – 1954), Frederick Cyril (1894-1959) and sister Claudia (1879 –1959; m.1903)²

Private Walter Parker (1888-1917) of the 11th Battalion Essex regiment died on April 24th 1917 at Loos, Pas de Calais. He was born in Elmstead and enlisted at Thorrington. He resided at Hockley Cottages in 1911 where he and his brother, Jess, were employed as general labourers. His father Charles was a farm labourer. Walter also had a sister Jennie Maude and a younger brother Claude. He left effects of £2 2/3; and his family received a gratuity of £9 on November 7th 1919.²

Private Charles Cyril Jewers (1888-1917) of the 9th Battalion, Essex Regiment died on July 18th 1917 at Arras. He was born on January 11th and baptised on March 28th 1888; the son of Nathan, an agricultural labourer, and

Elizabeth of Hagers Lane - with brothers Alfred, Arthur and Harry. In 1911, he was 23 and lived alone whilst employed as an Outfitters shop assistant at Market Square, Wantage, Herts. By 1917, he had moved to Colchester where he enlisted. He left effects of £12 1/10; and his family later received a gratuity of £9 on January 6th 1920.²

Two of the men commemorated on the Frating Memorial died after the end of the War. Private George Thomas Long (1877-1918) of the 2nd/9th Durham Light Infantry was 42 when he died on December 23rd 1918 in Salonika, Greece. (Three quarters of the deaths at these hospitals were due to influenza.) He was the son of William and Mary. He 1901, they lived at Harwich Road, Ardleigh and George was employed as a platelayer on the railway. In 1911, he lived in Ardleigh and his future wife, Emma Elizabeth Brand, was listed as his housekeeper. On April 29th they married at St Andrew's Greenstead. Their address was given as Station Road Cottages, Frating and George's occupation as Roadman.²

The other was Bombardier Herbert George Harvey (1893-1919) of the 97th Battery, 147th Brigade, who was 26 when he died on February 11th 1919. He was the husband of Ivy if Morehams Hall Cottages. In 1911, he had lived in Hagers Cottages with his father George, mother Alice, brothers Raymond, William, Walter and Albert; and sisters Lily, Alice and Elsie. He worked as a horseman on the farm. For bravery he was awarded the Military Medal. Herbert left effects of £42 12/6.²

Some were granted exemptions by Local or County Tribunals if they were doing work vital to the war effort, such as specialized agricultural trades. In June 1916, a shoeing and general smith, of Frating, was granted conditional exemption.³ In July 1916, ... conditional exemption Charles Lambert, horseman Frating employed by Mr. C. Chisnall.⁴

Rural life continued. In April 1915, Frederick Tricker, trading as Frederick Montague, cycle dealer was summoned for violating the conditions of his petroleum license by storing 42 gallons in unlicensed premises. PC Lazell of Great Bromley found 82 gallons .. his license only allowed him to store 40. He was fined 19/6.⁵ Also that summer, Hill Farm with forty-four acres was sold.⁶ In July, Lt Waite Watson of the West Somerset Yeomanry came to Montague's garage only to find it closed after 5:30pm. He broke the padlock using an iron bar and took petrol for his shopping trip to Colchester and return to his Mess Dinner that evening. This was witnessed by HW Appleton, licensee of the King's Arms and the Police were called. Watson returned at 8:25pm offering to pay for the new padlock and petrol. He was summoned to court and the case was dismissed for 4/- costs. In August 1915, Frederick Hart was

fined 7/6 for keeping a carriage without a license and Second-Lieutenant Hayward 5/- for cycling without working lights.⁷

In June 1916, Flagg Days were held for the ESSEX REGIMENTS COMFORTS FUND. Great and Little Bromley, Elmstead and Frating, raised a combined £9 8/3.⁸ In October, Sawyer the Farm bailiff at Hill Farm sort new employment.⁹ In October 1916, Pertwee was the Auctioneer raising funds for the British Farmers Red Cross.¹⁰ In December, Tendring villagers collected for the British Red Cross over £3600 which paid for six 20—25hp Brock cars. These toured the local villages, including Frating, as a thank you. *At nearly all of the places the school children were present in large numbers and everyone – including the children – were allowed inside.*¹¹

In 1917, the Government mounted a campaign of pest eradication so the limited food supplies could be eked out. People were paid 2d for every rat tails they brought to the Parish Council. By May, 196 had been caught in Frating and the Tendring District Council urged that sparrows should be treated in a similar way offering *3d a dozen for old birds and 3d a score for eggs and unfledged birds.*¹² In July 1917, Great Bromley, Frating and Elmstead, led by Mrs. Hirst, raised £17 for the British Red Cross.¹³ By 1917, new villagers included: Charles Bacon (Lodge Farm); Edward Pearl Leggett (Farm Bailiff to James Hines esq. Hall Farm); John Bull (Parish Clerk); and Rev Charles Hutton MA (Rector).¹⁴ Farmers who added extra arable land could get assistance with labour and horses from the Essex agricultural Executive Committee – chaired in Tendring by C.H. Chisnall of Frating Abbey.¹⁵ Chisnall was himself summoned for driving a car with headlights and with not renewing his license on September 25th. He paid a fine of £1, 5/- costs and 5/- to the poor box.¹⁶

On March 15th 1918, Private John Browning took a cycle from William Nevard's shop, Great Bentley and sold it three days later at the Frating cycle shop managed by Mrs James. He was identified in a line-up and initially told PC Goodey he had found it in a ditch. The cycle was valued at £1 15/-. Browning was also charged with stealing another cycle in Great Bentley and had a lengthy military discipline record. He was sentenced to two months hard labour. East

Coast Illustrated News April 6th, 13th 1918

In 1920, Rev. Charles F. Hutton, the Rector of Frating-cum-Thorrington started an appeal for a War Memorial Hall and Institute.¹⁷ After a bazaar was held in August 1920, £500 of the required £1500 had been raised. The Rev WEF Rees of St Mary the Virgin's, Wiston (near to Nayland) entertained the gathering by escaping from inside a mail-bag, after being handcuffed by a policeman, within five minutes or pay a fine of 10/-.¹⁸ He also gave *ventriloquial and*

conjuring performances. On September 9th, at a Parish meeting it was agreed to purchase an old cottage and land *in the centre of the village* belonging to Arthur Clark a retired police sergeant for £60, next to Forge Cottage. This plot measured 52' 6" by 80' deep.¹⁹ Plans were drawn up in 1921²⁰ and the building was dedicated on September 24th 1922.²¹ Inside is a dedicatory plaque with inscription in black and red painted lettering, mounted on to a wooden board with semi-circular pediment that measures: height c.750mm, width c.450mm.²² This was designed by HJ Carter, son of the Parish Clerk. It was unveiled and the door unlocked by Brigadier-General Towsey CMG, CBE, DSO using a golden key. Hymns were *Soldiers of Christ, arise* and *O God, our Help in ages past*. Frating Parish Choir accompanied by Miss E Vince sang an anthem. Five buglers of the Herts and Bedfordshire Regiment sounded *the Last Post*, before the *National Anthem*.²³ The main room measured 36'6" by 20', with a retiring room at the rear. 100 chairs were donated by Frating Men's Club.²⁴

The Barrell family also donated a Bible to the War Memorial Hall for use in non-denominational services.

Due to it's poor condition it was retired after 75 years and safely stored in a chest at St Mary Magdalene's. In 2022, it was restored at a cost of £275 paid jointly by the Benefice and Frating Parish Council.²⁵

On April 18th 1990, the War Memorial Hall became a registered charity. In 1999, the roof was found to be leaking and had to be replaced with new slates costing £10,000.²⁶ Grants were awarded by the Millennium Festival of All - Eastern Region, Tendring District Council, Frating Parish Council,²⁷ Brightlingsea Community Reach, The East of England Development agency – Market town initiative; Rural Activity Grant Scheme (£1,000); and Co-op Community Grant Scheme (£200).²⁸ Annual sponsored walks were also organised; in August 2001 £293 was raised; in August 2003 c£550 by seventeen walkers; in August 2007 £260; September 2009 £200. In March and October 2003, a quiz nights raised £243.²⁹

TO THE
 GLORY OF GOD
 THIS HALL IS ERECTED AND
 THIS TABLET INSCRIBED
 IN HONOURED MEMORY OF THE
 MEN OF FRATING WHO
 GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE
 HOMETLAND
 1914 1919
 (NAMES)
 1939 (NAME) 1945



Figure 19 – The War Memorial Plaque (MAB)



Figure 20 – Opening of the War Memorial Hall, September 24th 2022

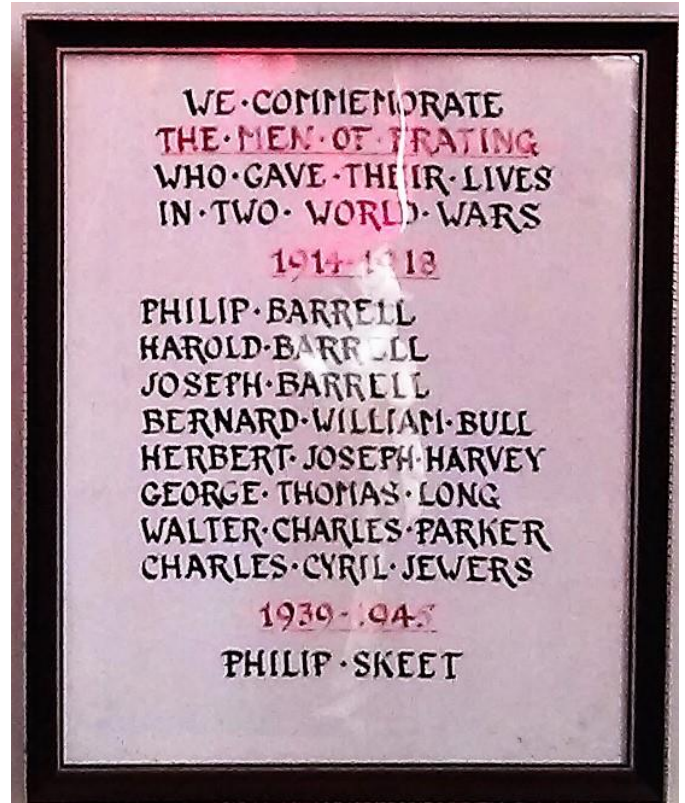


Figure 21 - War Memorial in St Mary Magdalene #22745

In 2002, it was found that the kitchen and toilets were no longer fit for purpose.³⁰ On December 14th 2005, Frating Memorial Hall received £3,619 from the TNL Community Fund. This Award was used to become government

legislation compliant by providing an Access ramp to ensure ease of access for disabled, elderly and infirm persons. Also, to assure safety by providing external emergency lighting.²⁷ A total of £35,000 was fundraised in these few years. In 2015, the Hall was repainted.³² In October 2020, a donation of a defibrillator and refurbishment of its kitchen was received from the contractors Sanctuary Homes and Hill Construction.³³

On August 4th 2014, a Centenary event was held with a display of WW1 artefacts and four guest speakers. As part of the preparations a *Frating Roll of Honour* was created of all the men who had served.³⁴

Frating Roll of Honour (1914-9)

+ commemorated on the War Memorial
BOLD additional research since 2014

A Adams	J Clark	E Leatherdale	AN Tokeley
C Barrell	H Clarke	+ G Long	F Tricker
+ E Barrell	FH Dedman	W Mathams	H Worth
+ H Barrell	E Graham	A Miller	C Downes
+ J Barrell	W Grimsey	G Miller	EG Downes
+ BW Bull	J Harvey	P Nixon	H Jewers
LT Bull	+ H Harvey	O Parker	FC Maskell
W Chapman	F Hickford	+ W Parker	M Maskell
AE Clark	G Jewers	C Reeve	W Maskell

A memorial was also unveiled next to the Thorrington plaque inside St Mary Magdalene.

Other men with Frating connections died but were not commemorated on these War Memorials. Surgeon-Lieutenant George Chisnall MB, BS, FRCS (1886-1914) was from Frating Abbey Farm – the son of Charles Henry and Eugenie Chisnall. He was born at Great Bentley. With his two brothers he attended Framlingham School (1896-1903). Then he trained at the London Hospital Medical College qualifying in 1908 and gaining the MB (London) in 1910. He was a *member of the Tendring Guardians*. He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps on a temporary Commission as Lieutenant on August 6th 1914 and started work in the surgical ward at the No.7 General Hospital Amiens. This was abandoned in the retreat from Mons and he was attached to the 1st Battalion Cameron Highlanders. He was mortally wounded by shell-fire on 23rd October whilst tending to an injured man between the villages of Bixscoote and Langemarcke,³⁵ on the coast of Belgium. *He was carried into the Divisional dressing station, and, recognising that his time was near, he at his own desire, received Holy Communion at the hands of the Rev JWS Parry Evans, Chaplain to the Forces. His work among the injured had been magnificent and his loss was greatly deplored. He was laid to rest in the churchyard of Elverdinghe, in Belgium, with full military honours.*³⁶ He was commemorated on the Thorrington School Scroll (now outside the Village Hall) and on a plaque inside St Mary Madgalene.³⁷ He was the first Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons to fall in the War.

His youngest brother, Lieutenant Charles Alain Chisnall (1888-1919), was born in Frating and had also attended Framlingham School (1898-1904). He was farming in Rosedale, Alberta, Canada when the War broke out and he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Alberta Regiment Canadian Infantry. After Service in France with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, he transferred to the Royal Air Force on February 28th 1918. He was wounded whilst flying with 2 Squadron on March 25th 1918 and died in a North Yorkshire Hospital in May 1919 from his injuries. He is buried in Ripon. Their father was Church Warden at St Mary Magdalene's, Thorrington.³⁸

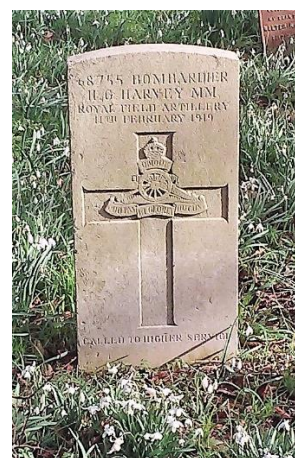
Private Albert Sharpe (1887-1915) (No. **1784**) of "E" Company, 5th Battalion, Essex Regiment died on 15th August 1915 during the Dardanelles Campaign. He was born at Great Bromley; the son of John and Annie Sharpe. In 1901, they lived at Burnt Heath, Ardleigh with his siblings James, Sarah, George, Ernest, Edgar, Daisy and Leonard. In 1911, they were living Near Badley Hall, Great Bromley and he was employed as a farm labourer. After the war, his parents were given the lease of the newly built 6, Council Houses, Frating. Albert was commemorated on the Helles Memorial.³⁹



Figure 22 - 2nd Lt Philip Burrell



Lt George Chisnall



grave of Bombardier Herbert J Harvey MM in Frating churchyard

Private Harry William Dines (1884-1918) was born in Frating. By the time he was 17 he had moved to Little Bentley and worked as farm labourer. He married Eliza Maria Randall in 1914 before moving to Peldon. He served in the 684th Company (Aldershot) of the Labour Corps (No. **454276**) which formed in February 1917. The records are now lost but there are unconfirmed reports of the 684th fighting in France in 1918 and of it being an Infantry Depot in Warley, Essex. Harry died in Little Warley Military Hospital from influenza. He is commemorated in a Memorial Book in St Mary's Church, Peldon.⁴⁰

Corporal Frederick Balaam (No. **5292** of the Royal Garrison Artillery and No. **459445** of the 47th Agricultural Company of the Labour Corp) was born in Frating, but resided in Dovercourt. Died at the Great Eastern Military Hospital, Harwich on August 21st 1918. He left effects of £21 11/10 to his brother James.

Private George William King (No. **S/2941**) of the 12th Rifles Brigade (1896-1917) was born in Frating to Walter and Emily. In 1911 the family resided in Brightlingsea where he worked as a grocers errand boy. He enlisted at Colchester. He died of wounds in Flanders on August 19th 1917. He left effects of £12 4/9 to his father; and the family received a gratuity of £14 on November 8th 1919. He was buried at Vleteren, Arrondissement Ieper, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

Private Bertie George Morpew (no. **8919**) of the 1st Battalion, Essex Regiment (1888-1915) was born in Ringshall, near Needham Market, Suffolk to James and Sarah. Bertie resided in Frating. He was killed at Gallipoli on June 6th 1915. He left effects of £12 5/4 which were split between his sisters Mrs Sarah J Francis and Mrs Maude E Guymer. On October 23rd 1919, they each received a gratuity of £2 10/-.⁴¹

Lance-Corporal William Willsher (No. **18606**) of the 2nd Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment died on July 1st 1916. He was born in Kelvedon and in the 1911 Census was recorded as living at Sabine Cottage, Marks Tey with his parents and siblings Cecil, Arthur, Ethel, George, Mary, Ernest and Johnie. He was employed as a horseman on a farm. When attested on September 5th 1914 at Colchester, he gave his next of kin as Hannah Elizabeth Willsher. He was 5' 5" tall, weighed 130 lb. with a chest of 36". He joined the 20th Hussars (no. **19726**), but was transferred first to the 3rd Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment in June 1915 then to the 2nd Battalion the following month. His mother received a pension of 5/6 per week at Frating Hall. His siblings Private Cecil Willsher (No. **18664**) and Private Arthur Willsher (no. **18599**) were also members of the East Yorkshire Regiment.

Some men did return to Frating. The carpenter and joiner Ernest George Downes enlisted in 1918 into the Royal Flying Corps (No. **295909**).⁴² Harry Jewers (No. **208768**) had enlisted in the Navy for twelve years until February 1914. He re-joined the Royal Navy serving on shore establishments and on *HMS Royal Arthur* (1915-8). She was a guardship at Scapa Flow during the early part of the War and later as a submarine depot ship.⁴³

The Centenary of the Frating War Memorial Hall was celebrated on Saturday 24th September 2022 when the Barrell Family Bible and the Hall were rededicated. An exhibition of local history was held and Jubilee Medallions handed out to the children of the village. Over sixty people attended. This cost slightly over £1300, with at least £900

collected as donations from advertisers and Tendring District Council. Donations for the History Books and refreshments generated around £200 for the Colchester Food Bank.⁴⁴

1. **Rusiecki P (2006) Impact of Catastrophe p71**
2. **Commonwealth War Graves Commission; War Memorial 22744; MAB (2014) folder War Memorial Frating**
3. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 23 June 1916 p6
4. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 14 July 1916 p6
5. **Mistley Essex Newsman** Newsman Saturday 12 June 1915
6. **The TIMES** Friday June 9th 1915
7. **East Coast Illustrated News August 21st 1915**
8. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 05 August 1916 p8
9. **The TIMES** Friday October 16th 1916
10. **East Coast Illustrated News** October 14th 1916
11. **East Coast Illustrated News** December 6th 1916
12. **East Coast Illustrated News May 5th 1917**
13. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 27 July 1917 p4
14. **Kelly's 1917**
15. **The TIMES** August 31st 1917
16. **The TIMES** October 13th 1917
17. **ERO D/DU 746/21, D/DU 746/25 (1920)**
18. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 21 August 1920 p3
19. **MAB (2014) The War Memorial Hall; Deed and Letter from Sparling Benham and Brough solicitors** 26 March 2001
20. **ERO D/RT Pb1/1010**
21. <https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/22744> **ERO D/DU 746/25**
22. **ibid**
23. **Order of Service** September 24th 1922
24. **MAB (2014) War Memorial Frating** undated newspaper account
25. **Frating Parish Council** Minutes of Meeting September 5th 2022
26. **Essex County Standard** October 6th 2000
27. **MAB Grapevine** November 2000
28. **Frating Parish Council Annual Report 2003/4**
29. **MAB** August 2001; *Best foot forward* **Evening Gazette** Wednesday August 27th 2003 **MAB 2007** **MAB** September 9th 2009 **MAB File 1 War Memorial Hall** – some notes for information
30. **MAB** March 10th 2003
31. <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/grants?westminsterConstituency=E14000734&page=3&locale=en> **Disabled access**
32. **MAB** Recorders snapshot file
33. <https://www.sanctuary-homes.co.uk/news/2020/10/frating-war-memorial-hall-gets-a-new-lease-of-life>
34. **Frating Parish Council Annual Report 2013/4**
35. **The Times** Monday November 2nd 1914; **Du Ruvigny** *The Roll of Honour, Volume 1*
36. **East Coast Illustrated News** November 14th 1914 p5
37. <https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/22933>
38. **CWGC**
39. **CWGC**
40. https://www.merseamuseum.org.uk/mmresdetails.php?tot=8&pid=WW1_DIN&typ=search&rt=XTBPLDI&wds=Frating&hit=8 ; <https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/regiments-and-corps/the-labour-corps-of-1917-1918/>
41. **MAB (2014) folder Frating War Memorial - Soldiers who died in the Great War** -search *Born in Beginning with Frating*
42. <https://livesofthefirstworldwar.iwm.org.uk/lifestory/6612431>
43. <https://livesofthefirstworldwar.iwm.org.uk/lifestory/6155868>
44. **Frating Parish Council** Minutes of Meeting October 3rd 2022

Between the Wars

Before the First World War, only three new residences were built in Frating. From 1922 to 1939, Tendring District Council received planning submissions for one cottage, forty bungalows, seven houses (one was disapproved), five additions to existing buildings, a steel-framed building at Frating Cross, a tea-room and a café. The majority were built after 1933.¹ In 1920, *the first eight houses of the Tendring Rural Council's scheme are in the course of erection at Frating, and the first pair are expected to be ready for occupation in May. The cost averages £830 per house.* These were built as the very first since the Housing Act (1919) with the price rising to c£1000. *They comprised a kitchen, parlour, scullery, pantry, three bedrooms, a coal house, tool shed, a quarter of an acre of land, and a covered well providing water, eventually for eight pairs of houses. There were no bathrooms, only a small proportion of Tendring's houses possessed these.* A rent of 5/- per week was suggested at a meeting of Tendring Rural District Council in June 1919.²

In February 1935, the newly built shop on Clacton Road was advertised. *Unusual opportunity: Café, Tobacco, Confectionery Grocery: Freehold for sale, recently erected attractive shop: excellent House: 150ft frontage main Clacton Road, 1¼ acres: stamp or inspect this position: Smith "Highview", Frating, near Colchester.*³ In March 1937, Tendring RDC approved the purchase of land east of the Frating-Bromley Road to build four more council houses.⁴ In May 1937, *Hill Farm Estate* offered bungalows and houses from £425 or rent from 10/- (ex.)⁵ In October 1937, *19-32 acres or arable, close Frating Church; 1-3 years lease.- Apply JA Culley, "Hockley," Frating.*⁶

Many road improvements were commenced during this period. In November 1924, the bridge over Frating Brook was strengthened and widened at a cost of £1100.⁷ In 1925, the Frating-Ardleigh-Dedham road was to be reconstructed with funding from the Ministry of Transport and the Tendring R.D.C. totalling £29,694.⁸ In 1927, Charles JW Sage owned the Tally Ho Garage, was an agent for the RAC and advertised in their handbook.⁹ In 1930, Harold Gray became proprietor of Frating Cross Garage (until 1952).¹⁰ In 1929, the road between Thorrington and Frating was reconstructed.¹¹ From February 1935, the road between Frating and Weeley was widened.¹² In the first week of January 1936, widening to thirty feet, to allow three lanes of traffic with banked corners, and resurfacing of the main road started between Frating and Weeley.¹³

Between August 10th-16th 1936, a traffic census near Slough House saw a 23% decrease in tonnage from 616 down to 485.¹⁴ In March 1937, *Workmen employed by the Essex County Council on a road widening scheme near Crabtree Farm, between Weeley and Frating, were pulling out some large roots when they came across a nest of fifteen snakes. The reptiles which were hibernating, were destroyed.*¹⁵ In June 1938, the reconstruction work between Elmstead, Frating and Weeley was still continuing.¹⁶

Roads accidents frequently occurred at Frating cross-roads damaging buildings, fixtures and people. On July 26th 1923, Alfred James Hendry, 56, a commercial traveller from Tottenham clipped the front of a bus whilst dangerously overtaking in his Dodge car. The bus, with 41 passengers on board, went into a ditch and Hendry was prosecuted for *driving his car in a dangerous manner*. He claimed not to have felt anything; but evidence from PC Debnam who stopped his car - included his missing near side rear hub cap found at the crash site, his car's paint on the bus and that was the road was 17'9" wide so the on-coming car was visible up to 150 yards ahead. He was fined £5 with £8 12/6 costs.¹⁷

In July 1926, Pte Charles Edward Hill from Colchester and Ronald Knights, of Upper Kirby, were fined for cycling without lights.¹⁸ On Sunday September 17th, PC Thorn observed Oliver James Gurton of Hemel Hempstead overtaking a line of stationary traffic at 30mph coming down Moreham's Hill. Witnesses included labourer Edward Tullett who was having refreshments in a hut on the Clacton Road. Gurton was fined £1 with 12/- costs.¹⁹ Later that month, coming down Frating Hill two cars and motorcycle *were all proceeding in the same direction, when, through a misunderstanding with a bus, the three ran into each other*. The worst injury was a badly bruised arm treated by Guide Triton of the RAC.²⁰

On February 26th 1936, PC Agate observed Leslie Goodley of the Bungalow, *driving a motor-van on the Colchester by-pass road at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour .. the safety glass was obscured and he did not have a license*. He was fined a total of £2.²¹ In August, a car from Peckham hit a telegraph pole near to DP Poultry Farm, *Charenda*, near a slight bend in the road, killing two passengers and seriously injuring five more.²² In November, Sidney Sousier from Ilford was fined £3 with \$4 costs for hitting a cyclist from Greenford at Frating cross-roads. He took 163 feet to stop although his wife claimed he had only been driving at 15-20mph.²³

On April 21st 1937, a Post Office lineman, John Catton, 49, sustained fractured ribs when a telegraph pole he was attached to near the King's Arms broke at the base and crashed to the ground.²⁴ On February 18th 1938, AA Patrolman Scout, Frederick Harold Gillingwater was fatally injured whilst directing traffic at the crossroads. A speeding car driven by Stock Exchange clerk Alfred Garner of Great Baddow, ran over him leading to a prosecution and Coroners Hearing at which he claimed to have been speeding at 55mph, but was blinded by the sun at the time of the impact.²⁵ In October, two speeding heavy goods vehicle drivers were fined by breaking the 20mph speed limit. One was estimated to have been driving at over 38mph.²⁶

On August 19th 1938, PC Arthur Elder stationed at Great Bromley, was knocked down by a motor car at Frating cross-roads. He was taken to Colchester hospital with severe facial injuries.²⁷

In April 1919, a bus service started operating between Clacton and Colchester. The fair to Clacton was 1/ 2 with one service each way daily.²⁸ Express Parcel Services from Station Road, Clacton also offered to deliver and collect according to weight: 3lb 6d; 7lb 9d; 14lb 1/-; 56lbs 1/9; 112lbs 2/6.²⁹ In September 1920 Charles Reeves, of Burr's Farm, Frating was fined for permitting a horse to be worked while it was unfit.³⁰ On the afternoon of Monday August 1st 1921, *Mr. James Hines of Frating Hall, noticed smoke close Frating Rectory... acres of grass and fences near the Rectory were found to be alight, and ten men beat out the flames.*³¹

By 1922, new villagers included Arthur Clarke (boot repair), Frank Pertwee (Corn Merchant, Morehams Hall); Montague Tricker (Grocer) and John Whitely Stokes (Hill Farm). The rateable value was £1376.³² In 1922, Allan Bennett featured the dining room at the Kings Arms in his comedy *Mr Prohack*. *"..The Inn at Frating had been constructed ages earlier entirely without reference to the fact that it is improper for certain different types of humanity to eat or drink in each other's presence. In brief, there was obviously only one dining-room, and not a series of dining-rooms classified according to castes.."*³³ This was filmed in 1949.

In September 1924, Elizabeth Vincent (nee Manning) a former resident of Frating Hall Farm celebrated her one hundredth Birthday.³⁴

In April 1926, *Mr. Frank Pertwee, of Frating, reported he had a seven-acre field green peas bursting into bloom. This is probably a record in early blooming for the district.*³⁵

In 1927, *Frating Parochial Church Council applied for an Order for the establishment of a Civil Parish Council*. This was granted.³⁶ In 1927, Slough House Farm with 92 acres was auctioned for £1,500.³⁷ In October 1927, *Charles Reeves, dairy farmer, Frating was summoned for selling milk to the prejudice of the purchaser, on August 18, and for not having his name and address on.*³⁸

In Spring 1928, Hockley Farm ran 22 advertisements for *PURE-Bred Rhode 1927 Cockerels, 8/6 and 10/6 each; best quality Chicks, from 8/- doz., Rhodes or Leghorns. Hockley Farm, Frating, Colchester.*³⁹

In July 1930, ... *Seddon, 17, labourer, was committed from Mistley for sentence on a charge of stealing bedspread, of Caroline Calladine, at Frating, April 23. —Mr. D. Jones, prosecuting, said that prisoner had been previously convicted on four occasions.*⁴⁰ In December 1930 at the Fat Stock Sale, Mr. A. C. Stewart, of Morehams Hall got the reserve prize of £3/7/- for four half-bred sheep.⁴¹

In April 1931, *Frating Social Club's annual supper entertainment evening was held at Thorrington Village Hall*. Music was played by the band of the 7th Battalion (Queen's Own Hussars) with solos by Lance-Corporal Godfrey on xylophone and by Bandsman Parsley on cornet. Comedy was provided by Miss Edna Elmer and TH Crump.⁴² In September, a quoits match was held at Great Bromley. The contestants were: White Star (Dovercourt), Rose and Crown (Elmstead), Bricklayer's Arms, and the King's Arms (Frating). The White Star were the victors.⁴³

At the Essex Agricultural Show of June 1932, Tom Miller won a Young Farmers Club section prize for Shorthorn heifer calves over nine months old.⁴⁴

On Sunday 24th March 1934, there was a train crash as some-one had failed to close the level crossing gates. *The 5.40 express train to Clacton dashed into the gates at Frating level crossing, between Clacton and Colchester, Sunday night. Both gates were smashed. The train pulled up and it was found that a steam pipe at the front of the engine had been damaged ...*⁴⁵

In April 1935, the coming Jubilee Celebrations were discussed in the Frating Memorial Hall. HL Almond presided and the accounts were presented by EF Pannell; with £15 11/11 in hand. Officers for the Village Hall were elected: Chairman - Rev Wilcox; Vice-chairman – WH Sexton; Secretary AL Almond. There was to be a house-to-house collection to pay for the celebrations.⁴⁶

On January 23rd 1936, the greengrocers cart of WF Poole of Ruskin Farm was stopped by Inspector GH Balls (Weights and Measures) and the scales were found to be unstamped and measuring 3oz too much. He was fined 30/-.⁴⁷ In February, Frating Men's Club beat Thorrington 551-508 at Billiards.⁴⁸ In March, the return match was won; 650 to 636. Individual scores were F Long 75; G Hiskey 67; A Steady 68; J Suly 75; G Miller 36; W Tokley 75; S Burrows 31; C Golding 75; F Payne 75; AL Almond 66; R Long 75; S Tokley 56; L Turner 51; F Ware 75; P March 75; C Groves 27; C Fitch 75; B Tokley 59; Button 74; J Golding 75.⁴⁹ The club also organised a Whist Drive in the Frating Memorial Hall which raised £3 19/8 towards its upkeep. Mrs Sexton awarded the prizes: Ladies 1. Miss Leggett, 2- Mrs Whiting, 3 Mrs Mills. Gentlemen: 1 A Auston, 2 A Dykes, 3 C Greenleap. Lowest score Miss Adams; competitions Miss Vince, Mrs Mills and C Groves.⁵⁰

The annual parish meeting of the Parish Council was held under with Mr AL Almond in the Chair. Members were WH Sexton, EW Gardiner, C Groves and Miss PE Vince.⁵¹ Later in March, E Hanslip, immediate past president, and his wife attended the second annual dance of the Colchester and District Grocers association.⁵² The following week, Mrs Hanslip won the ladies first prize for Whist at the Colchester and District Branch of the National Newspapers Association.⁵³

On 4th April 1936, Leslie C Goodley, rag and bone dealer of the Meadows, Frating was prosecuted in Southminster for trading without a license. He claimed he did not know the law and did not attend in person due to the cost. PC May described how he had found Goodley collecting sack of rags and rabbit skins in Crouch Road, Burnham. He was fined 10/-.⁵⁴ Later in April, there were further billiards matches against Thorrington a Whist drive at the Memorial Hall. The Trustees meet. Miss PEP Vince, treasurer presented the accounts of £20 12/9½; over £5 more than the previous year.⁵⁵ Egg Week saw 532 collected for the Essex County Hospital under the supervision of Miss Vince of Frating Lodge.⁵⁶

In June, the King's Arms beat the Cherry Tree, Brightlingsea at Quiots 62-11. The following week, the team lost, for the first time in the season, to Thorpe Ex-Servicemen's Club 62-56.⁵⁷ The Essex Oil & Agricultural Supply Co of Frating exhibited at Stand 37 of the Essex Show at Saffron Waldron. They were selling oils, refiners, *Caterpillar* tractors and *Raines, Sims & Jefferies* Threshing Machinery.⁵⁸

In August 1936, a fete was held for the *Wivenhoe, Alresford and Thorrington Nursing Association* in the grounds of Wivenhoe Park. Brigadier-General KJ Kincaid Smith, DSO, opened the fete and received a

button-hole from Janet Miller of Frating Abbey, who also presented the President, Mrs Gooch with a bouquet. There were stalls, a competition for chickens, bowling for a pig, a treasure hunt, a *Punch and Judy show*, sports for children and refreshments. Many of these were organised by Frating villagers.⁵⁹

On Saturday August 8th, Frating Kings Arms played Elmstead Bowling Green at Quiots, winning 61 to 55. Individual scores were F Webber 19, W Harvey 4, C Groves 5, N Tokley 18, S Tokley 10, G Sparrow 5.⁶⁰

In December, the Kings Arms Slate Club distributed 8/2 to forty-two members, an increase on the previous year. £8 had been paid in sickness benefit. AL Almond was re-elected hon. secretary and WC Mathams as hon. treasurer.⁶¹

In January 1937, Frederick W Wage, labourer was found guilty of taking a pair of chain ploughs worth 5/- from CH Hall, farmer, his employer at Great Bromley. The defendant was Bound over for six months and ordered to pay 22/4 costs.⁶²

In February, nearly 1000 card players played Whist to raise money for the Essex County Hospital, at the Moot Hall Colchester. Miss E Bull came third in the Women's event.⁶³

In March, the Parish Meeting elected Rev Wilcox, EW Gardiner, W Sexton, F Matthews and Miss P Spence.⁶⁴ In July, Captain F Toogood of Frating Hill, sued his landlord JH Turner for repairs he had paid for. The County Court ordered the sum of £2 8/- to be repaid.⁶⁵ Harold Gray attending Peterdick School in Weeley was successful in the examination so of the Royal Drawing Society: Honours.⁶⁶ During the evening rush hour on Sunday July 25th, a female motorcyclist passenger from Woodford pulled up on the gravel beside Frating Hill and was taken to hospital.⁶⁷ In August, the Church Choirs from Frating and Thorrington, went to Felixstowe for their annual outing.⁶⁸

In September, George Carter, Holly Farm celebrated his 89th birthday – thirty years after moving there on his Doctor's advice to *get country air*.⁶⁹ On Saturday 2nd October, the *Ardleigh and Great Bromley ploughing matches, root and corn show* was held at Pew Wood Field, the Heath, Ardleigh. W Powell jnr. of Mannings Farm, won fifth prize for Sugar Beets: Ipswich.⁷⁰ In October, Mrs Florence Gold of *Charenda* had to amend her *Deed of Assignment* as some-one had offered to pay all debts in 1931. She had debts of £1,409 10/2, with additional assets of £506 15/7.⁷¹ In November, a whist drive held to raise funds for the district nurse to have a car raised £4 18/8. Miss Barton, Chair of the Nursing Association distributed the prizes.⁷² In

December, a driver from the Camping Grounds was prosecuted for speeding over 30 mph at Elmstead and paid 4/- costs.⁷³

In February 1938, Miss WS Carter, organist, received gifts of a Bible and hymn book from the church and Sunday school at Great Bromley (Balls Green) Methodist Church.⁷⁴ Right Rev Chapman found a man inside Bishops House eating a cake and claiming to be called Bert Tyler, 23, a clerk. When he moved into a different room, the police were called. He was tried at Chelmsford where the Court heard evidence of his true identity as George Doney from Plymouth, his alcoholism and absconding from Chelmsford and Colchester Institutions. He was sentenced to a month's hard labour.⁷⁵



Figure 23 – 1938 Pea picking at Hall Farm

In August 1938, the quoits team from the King's Arms beat the Tendring Crown by 61 to 31.⁷⁶ On Sunday August 21st 1938, Colchester Fire Brigade spent three hours dealing with a corn stubble fire that spread to 500 yards of hedge at Hall Farm and Morehams Hall Farm. They used over 1000 feet of hose.⁷⁷

In March 1939, Miss FG Ide won third place in the Afghan Hounds open bitches category of the Ladies Kennels Association at Olympia.⁷⁸ Throughout the Spring, JA Colley of Hockley was advertising *Hunter Hay, 5-ton stack for sale*.⁷⁹ In July, Mr Barrell of 5, Bromley Road won the best gardens in Frating category of the Tendring RDC competition.⁸⁰

Leonard Almond was Postmaster until 1922 and Arthur L Almond between 1926 and 1933. EP Hanslip then took over at *the Stores, Frating Green, opposite the King's Arms PH* until 1945. The nearest Money Office and Telegraph office was Elmstead Post Office.⁸¹

1. ERO
2. *Essex Newsmen* Saturday 01 May 1920 p3; Rusiecki P (2006) *Impact of Catastrophe* p363 ; *East Coast Illustrated News* June 28th 1919
3. *Essex Newsmen* Saturday 23 February 1935
4. *Walton Times and Gazette* March 23rd 1937
5. *Walton Times and Gazette* May 15th 1937

6. **Clacton Times and Gazette** October 9th 1937
7. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 16 May 1924 p1 Friday 23 May 1924 p4
8. *Essex County Council* **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 10 July 1925 p5
9. **Royal Automobile Club Guide and Handbook (1927) p.151**
10. **MAB** January 4th 2001
11. *State of the Roads* **The Times** Thursday September 24 1929 , *State of the Roads* **The Times** Thursday November 14 1929
12. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 22nd February, Friday 22nd March 1935, Friday 17th May 1935
13. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 03 January 1936 p4; **Walton Times and Gazette** March 26th 1936
14. **East Essex Gazette** November 20th 1937
15. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 5 March 1937
16. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 24 June 1938
17. **Clacton Graphic** October 13th 1923
18. **Clacton Graphic** July 24th 1926
19. **Clacton Graphic** October 23rd 1926
20. **Clacton Graphic** October 2nd 1926
21. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 21st 1936
22. **Clacton Times and Gazette** Saturday August 15th 1936
23. **Clacton Times and Gazette** Saturday November 7th 1936
24. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 5 March 1937
25. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 24 June 1938 **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 23 April 1937 **Essex Newsman** Saturday 16th April 1938 Garner was fined 20 **Essex Newsman** Saturday 24 March 1934 p4 On January 28th 1934, he had been knocked off his bike whilst cycling home from Frating. The driver was prosecuted.
26. **Clacton Town & Gazette** October 16th 1937
27. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 27 August 1938
28. **East Coast Illustrated Gazette** April 5th 1919
29. **East Coast Illustrated Gazette** April 5th 1919
30. **POLICE COURTS Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 17 September 1920 p2
31. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 05 August 1921 p3
32. **Kelly's 1922**
33. **Bennett A (1922) Mr Prohack** Chapter XVIII A Homeless Night. p236
34. *Horndon's Centurion* **Essex Newsman** Saturday 13 September 1924 p1
35. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 17 April 1926 p3
36. *LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE* **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 04 March 1927 p5 **Essex Newsman** Saturday 05 March 1927 p3
37. **The Times** Tuesday July 5th 1927
38. *PETTY SESSIONS* **Essex Newsman** Saturday 01 October 1927 p2
39. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 27 January 1928 **Essex Newsman** Saturday 28 January 1928 p4
40. *ESSEX QUARTER SESSION* **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 04 July 1930 p9 **Essex Newsman** Saturday 05 July 1930 p3
41. **FAT STOCK SALES Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 19 December 1930 p9
42. **Clacton Graphic** April 18th 1931
43. **Quoits Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 18 September 1931 p3
44. **The Times** Friday June 10 1932
45. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 31 March 1934 p4
46. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 12th April 1935
47. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 7th 1936
48. **Walton Times and Gazette** February 28th 1936
49. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 7th 1936
50. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 7th 1936
51. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 14th 1936
52. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 14th 1936
53. **Walton Times and Gazette** March 21st 1936
54. **Essex Chronicle** Friday 10 April 1936
55. **Walton Times and Gazette** April 14th 1936
56. **Walton Times and Gazette** April 25th 1936
57. **Walton Times and Gazette** June 20th 1936
58. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 05 June 1936
59. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 14 August 1936
60. **Walton Times and Gazette** August 15th 1936
61. **Walton Times and Gazette** December 26th 1936
62. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 01 January 1937
63. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 5 February 1937
64. **Chelmsford Chronicle** - Friday 26 March 1937
65. **Clacton Times & Gazette** July 17th 1937
66. **Clacton Times & Gazette** July 24th 1937
67. **Clacton Times & Gazette** July 31st 1937
68. **Clacton Times & Gazette** August 28th 1937
69. **Clacton Times & Gazette** September 25th 1937
70. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 08 October 1937
71. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 18 February 1938; **Clacton Times & Gazette** October 30th 1937
72. **Clacton Times & Gazette** November 27th 1937
73. **Clacton Times & Gazette** December 18th 1937
74. **Chelmsford Chronicle** February 1938
75. **The Times** Thursday May 26 1938, **Essex Newsman** Saturday 28th May 1938
76. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 05 August 1938
77. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 26 August 1938

78. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 17th March 1939
79. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 17 February 1939
80. **East Essex Gazette** July 22nd 1939
81. **Trinder, IV (1971) The Postal History of Tendring Hundred of Essex p84**

Frating & District branch of the British Legion (from 1930)

The national British Legion was formed in 1921 to care for the two million unemployed, many of whom had served in World War One. Artificial poppies were made at factories from 1922, including one established by Lady Haig in Edinburgh.¹ On May 29th 1971, it was rewarded for fifty years of work by being titled *Royal British Legion* by the Queen.²

In 1930, the Frating & District Branch of the British Legion was formed,³ often meeting at Great Bromley Village Hall. On Friday 11th February 1931, the Branch were entertained by an Ipswich concert party at an event organised by Captain Farley.⁴ On Sunday 8th May 1932, the Standard was dedicated at Frating Church. The Parade was also attended by Great Bentley Legionnaires and Great Bromley Girl Guides.⁵ A fortnight later, *The dedication of the Legion standard took place at Great Bentley on Sunday. Legionnaires from Colchester, Clacton, Brightlingsea, and Frating attended. A procession formed at the station.*⁶ On November 13th, Frating and District British Legion and the Great Bentley Branch attended the Parade at St Mary Magdalene's marching behind the Alresford Silver Band. The Poppy Wreath was laid by Captain Farley.⁷

In 1933, the fete was held at Great Bromley cricket ground and opened by Miss Mary Crossman.⁸ In November, the parade to Church was led by the Alresford Silver Band with Great Bentley Branch also attending.⁹

On June 10th 1934, Langham Branch hosted a Parade and reunion. Members of the British Legion from Wix, Great and Little Horkesley, Copford, Brantham. Great Bentley, Nayland, Frating, Coggeshall and Langham, together with Boy Scouts, took part.¹⁰ The following week, the first rally of the Tendring branch of the British Legion took place on Sunday afternoon, when members from the Walton, Wix, Bradfield, Stratford St. Mary, Brantham, Great Bentley, Frating, and Manningtree branches joined them.¹¹

In September 1935, led by Mr Ansell they attended the annual Church parade of the Tendring and Weeley branch at St Edmund's Church. Also attending were *Wix and district, under Capt. Guy Wright; Bradfield, Capt. Arnold; and the women's section of the branch, Mrs. Smoothy.*¹²

On Saturday 7th September 1935, a fete was held in the meadow adjoining Great Bromley Village Hall opened by Mr Thomas Barnshaw. *Attractive stalls and sideshows were in charge of Mesdames Cook, Shark, Sherwood, Collis, Dredge, Goodner, Lock, Garwood, Cole, Keeble, Rycraft, Springette and Poll, Miss Springett, Messrs Fillingham, C McCann, W. Parker, F Rycroft, A Miller, B Austin, B Taylor, R Sage and A Evans. Sports for the children*

were organised by E Hanslip. In the evening there were a dance and whist drive. The Burnt Heath Band rendered popular numbers.¹³ Poppy day raised £20/19/9.¹⁴ In November 1935, the British Legion paraded led by the President E Hanslip and led by the Burnt Heath Silver Band. They marched to Great Bromley Church. The Last Post and Reveille were played by Messrs. Jaggard and C Keeble.¹⁵

In March 1936, J Elliott attended the Stratford St Mary and District Branch dinner. Later that month, the Women's Section held competitions in Great Bromley Village Hall. *The judges were Miss A Girling, Great Bentley, home produce; Miss Langdon, Dedham, needlework; and the winners were Mrs J Rycraft; shortbread, Mrs J Rycraft; bottle of peas, Mrs Gunter; lady's night dress – 1. Mrs Springett, 2- Mrs Poll; garment made from an old one – 1. Mrs Polson, 2 Mrs Pryke; knitted sock – 1 Mrs Keeble, 2- Mrs Collins; baby dress, Mrs Gowers. The first prize winners' garments were sent away to headquarters for the main competition.*¹⁶

In June, the British Legion with Wix and Stratford St Mary's branches, paraded at Tendring.¹⁷ A fortnight later, two coach loads of members attended the County Rally at Southend. Standard bearers were S Austin and Mrs Poll.¹⁸ In July 1936, *the Fete was opened by Stanley Holmes, MP for Harwich (1935-54). There were stalls, sports and a dance in the evening with the Burnt Heath Silver Band playing.*¹⁹ In September 1936, the British Legion from Frating, Great Bentley and Wix paraded at New Road, Great Bromley, past the Black Boy to the Village Hall grounds. They were led by Burnt Heath Silver Band; Mrs Poll had the Women's Section standard and S Austin the Men's. A wagon was used as an altar and the standards blessed upon it by Rev Chapman, the former Bishop of Colchester. The band played the Hymns *Our God, our help in ages past; Onward, Christian Soldiers; Fight the Good Fight; and Abide with me.* Bandsmen Jaggard and Keeble played the Last post and Reveille.²⁰ In October, the Annual Meeting at Great Bromley Village Hall, reported a slight increase in numbers. The officials elected were President: E Hanslip; Vice-President: Colonel Mangles, Major Gunter, C Sage and Q Clarke; Chairman G Springett; Hon Secretary EW Gardiner; Hon Treasurer A Taylor.²¹ In November, on Armistice Day the British Legion paraded from Pound-corner to Great Bromley Parish Church lead by Burnt Heath Silver Band.²² The Poppy Day raised £22 14/1.²³ The Annual Dinner was held in November. Mr. H. A. Beatt, of Braintree, the county Hon. Sec. of the British Legion, speaking at the annual dinner the Frating and district branch, said *we had with us to-day a legacy of the war —men prematurely aged who have no pension.* He urged the Government to establish a national pension fund.²⁴

On Sunday June 26th 1937, fifty-one members and the Standard of the Frating Branch attended a Royal review in Hyde Park. The next day, the Legion attended the Parade outside Colchester Town Hall which formed a guard of Honour for visiting German ex-servicemen.²⁵

In September 1937, the Poppy Collection raised £22 2/-²⁶ In October, a whist drive was held in the Memorial Hall.²⁷ In November 1937, the British Legion parade was held outside the Rectory and marched to the Parish church led by the Alresford Band. The Standard Bearer was S Austin, escorted by G Springett and CW Gardiner; The Women's Section met there. Mrs Poll escorted by Mrs Hanslip and Mrs B Andrews. Rev MP McCready of Tendring and Bishop Chapman led the Service. In the afternoon, they paraded at the Bricklayers' Arms, Little Bentley. J Rycraft, Mrs J Rycraft and Mrs F Rycraft were escorts. Both collections went to the Earl Haig Fund.²⁸

On September 1938, the fete was held at Great Bromley cricket grounds opened by P Crossman.²⁹ At the annual meeting in October, it was announced that there were six more members. Elections followed: President, E Hanslip; Hon Sec EW Gardiner; Hon. Treasurer A Taylor; Chairman G Springett; Chaplain Rev H Walker; Flag Bearer, S Austin.³⁰ The annual dinner was held in November at Great Bromley village Hall. It was announced that £25 had been raised for Poppy Day – a Branch record.³¹ On November 6th 1938, Frating and District British Legion, Great Bentley and Brightlingsea branches paraded, led by President E. Hanslip, from the Church Rooms Thorrington to the Parish Church where they were joined by the Women's Section. The standard bearers were Mr B Austin escorted by EW Gardiner and G Springett (Men's'); Mrs H Poll, escorted by Mrs Rycraft and S Short.³²

On April 23rd 1939, *The British Legion held their customary Anzac Day service at Colchester Cemetery Members of the Colchester men's and women's sections, under ex-R.S.M. J. Blake, and including contingents from the Rowhedge and Frating branches, gathered.*³³ In June, 8000 members with 154 standards paraded at Clacton for a service led by the Bishop of Chelmsford.³⁴ In August, the British Legion held a parade from Second Avenue to Cliffe Park, Dovercourt attended by 2,000 men and three bands – including standard bearer S Austin from Frating & District.³⁵

1. Frostick H *Armsiticetide The Messenger* (Nov 2017) p19
2. https://support.britishlegion.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/1243/~/history-of-the-royal-british-legion#:~:text=While%20having%20royal%20patronage%20from,a%20member%20of%20the%20Legion.
3. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 4 September 1936
4. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 18 December 1931 p10
5. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 13 May 1932 p6
6. *Chelmsford Chronicle* Friday 27 May 1932 p10
7. STMM Records I, November 13th 1932

8. **Frostick H *Armsiticetide* The Messenger (Nov 2017) p19**
9. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 17 November 1933 p10
10. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 15 June 1934 p8
11. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 22 June 1934 p8
12. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 06 September 1934 p10
13. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 14 September 1935
14. *Poppy Day Report* **Essex Newsman** Saturday 14 September 1935 p1
15. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 15 November 1935
16. **Clacton Times and Gazette** March 14th 1936
17. **Clacton Times and Gazette** June 6th 1936
18. **Clacton Times and Gazette** June 20th 1936
19. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 31 July 1936
20. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 4 September 1936; **Clacton Times and Gazette** September 6th 1936
21. **Clacton Times and Gazette** October 24th 1936
22. **Clacton Times and Gazette** November 21st 1936
23. *Poppy Day Report* **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 11 September 1936 p2; **Clacton Times and Gazette** September 4th 1937
24. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 28 November 1936 p1; corrected Friday 04 December 1936 p10
25. **Clacton Times & Gazette** July 3rd 1937
26. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 04 September 1937 p4
27. **Clacton Times & Gazette** October 23rd 1937
28. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 19 November 1937; **Clacton Times & Gazette** November 20th 1937;
29. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 16 September 1938
30. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 28 October 1938
31. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 2 December 1938
32. **STMM Records I, November 6th 1938**
33. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 28 April 1939 p12
34. *Memorial Clacton Gathering* **East Essex Gazette** June 24th 1939
35. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 25th August 1939

World War Two

Preparation for the coming war were started from 1938. In July 1939, 61 men from Frating and neighbouring villages attended Air Raid Precaution training organised by GF Debnam (chief warden). A course of lectures was given by Capt. McCready Kemball and Mr Lister before a visit of the Home Office Gas Van in Weeley School playground. Thomas Miller of Frating Abbey Farm was a leader of the ARP until 1942.¹

Women served in the Land Army. Dorothy Dewhurst, from Brightlingsea, worked at Frating Hall farm from September 1942-1943. After the war she received a thank you from Queen Elizabeth “for her devoted loyal services from September 1942 to January 1946.”² Other land girls worked at Hockley Farm.

<p>2216 SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 18 MAY, 1943</p> <p><i>The Distinguished Service Cross.</i> Lieutenant John Evans, R.N.V.R. Lieutenant Eric Gordon Lawrence, R.N.V.R. Lieutenant John MacLeod, R.N.V.R. Lieutenant-Edward Robert Denys Sworder, R.N.V.R. Lieutenant (E) John White, Royal Navy. Lieutenant Ronald John Major, R.A.N.V.R.</p> <p><i>The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.</i> Petty Officer Ronald Herbert Frank Hyde, C/JX.151957.</p> <p><i>The Distinguished Service Medal.</i> Acting Chief Petty Officer Lawrence Thomas Hazard, P/JX.125131. Leading Seaman Samuel Bolton, P/JX.180491. Engine Room Artificer Third Class Robert Sidney Smith, C/MX.53378. Chief Engine Room Artificer George Harry Rolls, P/MX.49955. Engine Room Artificer Third Class George Albert Park, P/MX.56580. Petty Officer Bert Ballentary Clark, P/JX.130780. Petty Officer Richard Charles Young, P/JX.131554. Able Seaman Fred Henry Buck, P/J.08014. Able Seaman John Joseph Canavan, P/JX.264529.</p>	<p><i>The Distinguished Service Cross.</i> Lieutenant Philip Frederick Cole, Royal Navy. Lieutenant Charles Alexander Headon Owen, Royal Navy.</p> <p><i>The Distinguished Service Medal.</i> Chief Petty Officer William Richard Bulley, D/J.111796. Chief Petty Officer Frederick George Yandell, D/JX.158736. Chief Engine Room Artificer William Scott Brydon, C/MX.48459. Chief Engine Room Artificer William Henry Hewitt, C/MX.48370. Chief Engine Room Artificer John Hornbrook Smith, D/MX.47428. Chief Stoker John Alfred Dix, C/K.60991. Petty Officer Walter Arthur Gooch, C/J.91440. Yeoman of Signals Charles Donald Rothnie, D/J.63086. Petty Officer Telegraphist Bertie Reginald Larke, C/J.106367. Ordnance Artificer First Class Harry Stanley Ford, C/M.39082. Ordnance Artificer Fourth Class Donald Bragg, C/MX.96241. Temporary Acting Leading Seaman Leslie Francis Riches, C/JX.129695.</p>
--	--



Walter Gooch was an agricultural labourer who joined the Royal Navy on October 15th 1929 as an Able Bodied Seaman (C/J 91440). He was described as 5'10 1/2" tall with a 37" chest, light brown hair, hazel eyes and a fair complexion.

He served on *HMS Vendetta* (V class destroyer), *HMS Diana* (H49 destroyer), *HMS Boyne* (Mersea-class trawler), at Egremont, Pembroke and Woolwich. He became a Petty Officer on July 18th 1937 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in 1943,³ for bravery and resourcefulness on active service at sea by a Naval rating.

Figure 24 – Distinguished Service Medal notification in the London Gazette⁴

Gunner Philip Skeet (No. **835146**) of the 5 Medium Regt., Royal Artillery died in Tunisia on March 3rd 1943. He was the son of Arthur Edward and Claudia Skeet; and husband of Mabel. He was a nephew of the Barrell brothers who died in World War One.⁵

Private Dennis [G] Bruce (No. **6013872**) (b.10/5/1919) Essex Regiment was captured. He was held at Camp Stalag IVB Muhlberg. His Prisoner of War (PoW) number was **274887**.⁶

Also captured in North Africa in 1942 was Lance Corporal Alan Gray (No. **6016254**) Essex Regiment, of the Old School House. He was taken as a PoW at El Alamein to Italy where he was held at a camp with fifty others. When Italy capitulated the men escaped and hid in the woods for ten months fed by the Italian locals. *The people went mad with joy when they heard the news. They seemed to think that the war was over as far as they were concerned. They forgot that the Germans were still in possession and thought everything would be all right again. The men in our camp got away one night. We all split up and four of us got to a small village. A reward of 5,000 lira was offered for the recapture of a British prisoner-of-war and I believe that many of our chaps were betrayed , but for the most part the peasants and farmers were wonderful and gave us all the help they could.* The men attempted to get through to Cassini, but turned back as there were too many Germans. When the British advanced they came out of hiding and spent July in Naples before a ship bought 1000 former PoWs back to Britain. He then spent a month on leave with his family.⁷

Private Jack Gardiner went missing after the Fall of Singapore. His brother was Private AJ Gardiner, sister was Ciss was in the Woman's Land Army and her fiancé, Corporal Pat Finch.⁸ Corporal Joyce Ellen Hanslip **420671** Women's Auxiliary Air Force enlisted in 1940.⁹

The nearby radar masts at RAF Great Bromley were bombed more than a dozen times. If they had been destroyed a gap of twenty-two miles would have been opened. To supplement the radar masts there and allow low-level coverage, 60 Group (Fighter Command) deployed Station 24M - a lorry with receiver and transmitter to operate a collapsible 87' mast - in October 1940 to Frating. It operated from fields behind the church on the 7 metre waveband. This was recalled at the end of the year; but redeployed in 1941 with an 105' mast. The Great Bromley Buried reserve was operable in October 1942 so the equipment was removed to Stock for testing in early 1943 by Marconi. The Frating equipment was never used in action as RAF Great Bromley was not damaged during the War.¹⁰

Working men joined the local Home Guard unit and an ammunition store was built in a field east of Gordon House (**TM 086 232**). This was removed by 1951.¹¹

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food set the targets for the amount of food needed to be grown in 1941-43.¹² Mrs Culley of Hockley Place, Frating advertised a “..*Comfortable Home offered to useful Help in fruit grower’s household in return for assistance in light household duties: good salary to suitable person; modern house and all conveniences.*”¹³

Fund-raising for the war effort and charities continued during the war. Poppy Day in October 1939 raised £26 3/8 in *Frating & District*.¹⁴ In November 1940, the Methodist Guild held a Cobweb Social which raised £2 2s for the Christmas parcels to be sent to the men. President was Pastor W Lord and Secretary J Sparrow.¹⁵ Poppy Day 1940 organised by the Frating and District British Legion reached £17 7/8 – with £4 8/4 raised in the village. Collectors were: Mrs Gardiner, £2 10/8; Mrs Mathams £1 0/½; Mrs Hanslip 17/ ½. Later that month, Frating Parish Church held a jumble sale at the Memorial Hall which raised £8 14/11 for the Red Cross, St John War Organisation and the church. Stall-holders were Mrs Vince (boots and shoes); Mrs Montgomery (children’s toys); Mrs Montgomery (miscellaneous); Mrs Almond, Mrs Page and Mrs Culley (ladies clothes); Mrs Gray (gent’s clothes); Mrs Stone (children’s clothes and groceries.)¹⁶ On Lifeboat Flag Day, Saturday 23rd August 1941 collections in *Frating and Thorrington* helped to raise a total of £625 3/2 in Essex.¹⁷

In February 1942, Mrs Ides and Mrs Sage ran a Whist Drive for the Home Guard Casualty station which raised £10 9d from twelve tables.¹⁸ In March, the Home Guard Dinner was organised by Second-Lieutenant W Powell at the Memorial Hall. Lieutenant Ide presided with guests Lieutenant Joslin (Colchester), Lieutenant Sage (Great Bromley), Sergeant Coppin (Essex Regiment), Sergeant E Rudd (Great Bentley).¹⁹ Twenty tables participated in the Red Cross Whist Drive organised by Mr W and Mrs Powell which raised £28 2/-.²⁰

During Warship Week, GH Hiskey of Rose Cottage, won the Divisonal Darts Competition at the Black Boy, Weeley. In the village there was whist drives on March 20th and 27th ; an united service on March 25th ; and a concert on March 27th . Against a target of £750, Frating saved £4283 during the Week; and Tendring District raised a total of £123,259 to pay for a corvette.²¹ In April, Mrs Hanslip organised the Buttercup day with £1 5/- collected by Mrs Mathams and Miss Humm.²² In May, the rates were set at 13/6 with no special rates in Frating.²³ The monthly Whist Drive for the Welcome Home fund raised £6 1/10 The Committee was Chairman, E

Gardiner; Hon Secretary, Mrs F Skeet; trustees E Sexton, Mr Wash; Mrs Powell, Wash, Gray, Ide, E Sexton and Roberts. Ration books could be collected from *The Garage* May 25, 27, and 28 2-4:30pm; June 1, 3 and 4, 2-4:30pm.²⁴

Elmstead PC asked for Essex CC *to attend to the path from Blue Gates farm to Frating Hill.*²⁵ Pupils at Peterdick School, Weeley were successful in the Royal Drawing Society Examinations. Norman Hall was awarded Honours in the First Division.²⁶ The July Whist Drive for the Welcome Home Fund raised £5 13/8.²⁷ and in August, £3 2/8.²⁸ By October, £35 had been raised.²⁹ In August, the collection for the Tendring District's Empire Air Raid Relief Fund raised £1 4/- in Frating.³⁰ On August 12th, the Flag Day for the Essex War Welfare Fund raised £ 10/.³¹ In November, Mrs Culley organised a house-to-house collection for the Red Cross Agricultural Penny-a-week fund which amounted to £3 17/2.³²

In February 1943, Betty Boyce collected door to door and made articles to sell raising £7 7/- for Mrs Churchill's Aid to Russia Fund. Followed by a Red Cross Whist Drive which raised a further £7 6/11.³³ Monthly Whist drives for Frating Services Welcome Home Fund raised nearly £120 by the end of May 1943.³⁴ In April for Buttercup Day, Mrs E Hanslip and Mrs A Tokley raised £1 6/- for the National Children's Home and Orphanage.³⁵ In May, an auction in aid of the Red Cross Agricultural Fund held in the Memorial Hall raised £176 2/6. *Donations and lucky competitions raised a further £8 2/-.*³⁶ On Anchor Day in July, £3 16/9 ½ was collected for the British Sailors Society by Mrs Powell, E Hanslip and Ann Stewart.³⁷

In August, Mrs Gray of the WVS collected £1 2/2 for the Essex War Welfare Fund.³⁸ In November, a Whist Drive raised £28 7/7 for the Red Cross and £5 for the Welcome Home Fund. The Poppy Day appeal led by George Springett, Mrs F Rycraft and Mrs J Rycraft raised £25 7/5. Balls Green Methodist Guild, *bought and brought presents with the proceeds going to provide comforts for members of the guild and Church serving with HM Forces*, raising £7 8/-.³⁹ In December, Frating was set a target of raising £50 for the British Red Cross prisoners of War appeal – with a further £50 promised if this was achieved. A whist drive, with 7 ½ tables, raised £18 1/- towards this.⁴⁰

Between June 19th and 26th 1943, Tendring held a Wings for Victory Week to raise money for 20 spitfires, £100,000. Frating was set a target of £4000 which it exceeded saving £4833.⁴¹ Frating Garage correctly guessed

that Tendring would save a total of £185,000 and won fourteen savings certificates.⁴² Altogether, over £400 was raised for the Red Cross in 1943.⁴³

In January 1944, £4 2/- was collected by Mrs Culley for the Penny-a-Week Fund.⁴⁴ In June, Mrs A Tokley collected £2 1/6 for the Red Cross.⁴⁵ During the Tendring *Salute the Soldier Week*, Frating saved £3679 3/6, after being set a target of £2000. On Tuesday July 11th, Clown Bertram performed at the Memorial Hall. On Friday 14th, a partner whist was held with saving stamps and certificates as prizes won by Mrs Sexton, Miss Vince, W Grover and Fred Ware. There were competitions for salad cream and eggs.⁴⁶ In August, Mrs Gray and Mrs Powell organised the collection for the Essex Welfare Fund which realised £2 12/9.⁴⁷ In December, £2 15/9½ was collected for the Tendring Aid for Russia Fund.⁴⁸

Whist Drives for the Welcome Home Fund On March 6th 1945, raised £3 18/2⁴⁹ and on May 23rd for the Colchester Hospital raised £8 12/6.⁵⁰ In April, Mrs Tokley and Mrs Hanslip collected £1 10/- on Buttercup Day in aid of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.⁵¹ On April 13th, Private J Barrell after four years and five months service in the Middle East, presented the prizes at the Welcome Home whist drive. Private Biddlestone was a prize winner.⁵² In June, £2 1/6 was raised for the Red Cross.⁵³

Crime and road traffic accidents still occurred during the War. In October 1939, a farmer from Frating Abbey Farm was prosecuted for not having his car's lights correctly masked nor both bumpers painted white. He subsequently fitted jam covers over the lights which met the satisfaction of PC Green. He was fined 10/- for each offense.⁵⁴ In February 1940, a farmer was fined £1 for *permitting swine to stray on the highway while a swine fever order was in force on December 30th*.⁵⁵ A County Court bailiff taking *walking possession of a cow* was assaulted at Hill Farm. This led to a fine of £2 and costs.⁵⁶ On July 26th 1940, a driver was fined 10/- for failing to display front and red lights.⁵⁷ On October 3rd 1940, a worker drove a lorry, belonging to Harold Gray of the Cross Garage, into the railway crossing gates at Ardleigh. He had an expired license and the brakes failed. He had an accident on the way to court so was unable to attend. Although, there had been a weekly maintenance three days earlier when tested by PC Lawrence, the brakes took 47 yards to stop at 20 mph (instead of the required 13.) The driver was fined 10/- for having an expired license and £2 for insufficient brakes. Gray was fined £1 for having an unlicensed driver.⁵⁸ A lorry driver of Elmstead Heath failed to halt at the stop sign at Frating Crossroads

and was fined 10/-.⁵⁹ In September, a farmer from Frating Hall farm driving a *motor-lorry* was fined for speeding at 43-46mph in a thirty mph zone.⁶⁰

On Saturday December 27th 1941, Private Alfred James Pitt was found shot in Frating where he was attending training under the command of Second Lieutenant Robert William Croxton. He was living in a 60' x 20' hut. Witnesses at his Inquest included Private WC Wilkes, Sergeant English and PC Avery (Great Bentley). Dr Radcliffe found a bullet hole through the left armpit. An Open Verdict was given.

A Whist Drive organised by Mrs J Culley raised £4 7/2 for the Sailor's War Fund.⁶¹ On January 27th, a sheep truck hit a car at the crossroads and Mr Diment, the car driver from Marsh Farm, Thorrington was taken to hospital.⁶² In July, Robin Poole decided to be helpful by taking a trailer full of of turnip tops from Lufkins Farm to Thorrington Station for the 4:30pm train. As he was only 15 the police stopped him, leading to charges of driving without a license or insurance, under age and taking without permission. In Court, he said he had driven as his father was busy and the driver called up. The case was dismissed when costs of 16/- were paid. His father Oliver was a Special Constable. Four dog owners were fined 7/6 each. for not having licenses.⁶³ On September 27th, a lorry belonging to H Sexton collided at Elmstead with one from a London firm. The later, was forced into Mr Dent's radio and bicycle shop.⁶⁴ On December 1st, a villager was found guilty of theft and encouraging children to shop-lift. Items stolen included a kettle, torch, handkerchief, battery, socks, bow, brooch, wooden toy, fish slice, a game and knitting pins worth 15/6. She was stopped in Woolworths by a detective and Police Sergeant Dorothy Watson, with children aged 12, 6 and 4. Costs of £1 and Probation were applied.⁶⁵

In June 1943, a threshing contractor Rowland F Fenn was fined a total of £4 for five cases of threshing without erecting fences first.⁶⁶ On Monday June 27th 1944, a visitor from Charlton was fined £2 for *being in a protected area without permission*.⁶⁷ On December 19th 1944, Alfred Poole's son driving a truck and a and a Sage bus from Great Bromley collided. Poole was unsuccessful in receiving the claimed £200 damages.⁶⁸

Sport also continued. *In April 1940, William Groves, 24, of Council Houses, Frating sustained a broken leg playing for Great Bromley v the Colchester Fire Brigade. He was taken to hospital, but the CFB won 6-1.*⁶⁹ In July 1943, Frating played Great Bentley at Cricket on Bentley Green. *It was a low-scoring match, Great Bentley being all out for 41. Frating's first wicket put on 24 and they were 34 for 4, the whole side was out for 40... In the bowling Cyril Seaman took three wickets for one run..*⁷⁰

The Military held a service in the Parish Church in August 1940, led by the soldiers band, Rev Wilcox and Rev W Dixon.⁷¹ In August 1940, the children from the Parish Sunday School *were invited to Hockley Place by Mrs JA Culley for their annual school treat. After tea the children enjoyed games and each of them was given of a prize. At the close the Rev H Wilcox accorded a vote of thanks to Mrs. Culley. Mrs Page, supervisor was present and the children were in the charge of Mrs J Stone and Mrs Whiteman, teachers.*⁷² In September 1940, a Harvest Festival was celebrated at the Church. The fruit and vegetables were taken to the Essex County Hospital.⁷³

In January 1943, a Sunday School Party was held at Balls Green Methodist Church organised by Mr Leswell.⁷⁴ In April 1943, Elmstead, Great Bromley, Little Bentley and Frating Nursing Association met in the War Memorial Hall with the President Mrs Culley in the Chair.⁷⁵ Monthly socials were organised by the Methodist Guild at Balls Green led by Pastor Thomas and E Hanslip, throughout 1943 and 1944.⁷⁶ In June, new ration books were issued and villagers had to travel to the Wayside Stores, Elmstead to collect them on Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd or Wednesday 23rd June.⁷⁷ From June 21st, work began removing iron railings *for the national war effort in iron and steel works and foundries.*⁷⁸ J Culley, pest officer of the Essex War Agricultural Committee gave evidence that 25 rats could eat an acre of crops each year; and that one pair could breed to 800 to 1000 rats per annum.⁷⁹

In September 1943, W Powell of Mannings Farm organised the first furrow drawing match in the village for thirty years, which raised £100 for the Red Cross Agricultural Fund. It was opened by CMD Gooch of Wivenhoe Park, who was introduced by J Culley of Hockley Place. There were so many competitors that the soil had to be re-harrowed. Horses were lent by O Poole, A Stewart, W Powell snr, and W Powell jnr. The Horse: Open section was a tie between B Spragget and A Carter with a width of 1 ½". Tractors were lent by Mr Adie, M Keeble, M Culley, F Askew and W Powell jnr. Fund-raising events included stalls organised by Mrs Avery; bowling for a pig; balls in a bucket; highest darts and paper treasure hunt.⁸⁰ Later that month, villagers were encouraged to pick blackberries to make Hartley's jam for HM Forces and were paid 4d per lb at E Hanslip Stores. Children over 14 were encouraged to attend the Great Bentley Youth Centre which had reopened for the autumn.⁸¹

On Sunday May 14th, C Company of the 17th Battalion Home Guard paraded at Great Bentley, led by Major Sarson. The Company Band played including J Jaggard.⁸²

On May On Saturday September 9th, a drawing match was held at Morehams Hall, to raise funds for the Red Cross. The event was opened by Mr and Mrs Culley. Overall, A Partridge drew the straightest furrow using a

horse and plough with a deviation of one inch. C Austin and S Soames tied using a tractor, 1¼". The Horse Open was won by F Hall; Horses Non-ploughman Mr Maskell; Old-age Pensioners, A Partridge; Tractors Open, C Austin; Tractors Non-ploughman, S Soames. Mrs Culley awarded the prizes and Lance-Corporal Gray announced the winners of the Big Competition (raffle) which raised £55. Sideshows included bowling for a pig, darts and a competition for a goose.⁸³

On Sunday March 4th 1945, a memorial service was held at the Memorial Hall with the names of all servicemen and women from Frating were read out.⁸⁴ In May 1945, Tendring RDC set the rates at 14/9 and the Parish Council added a penny.⁸⁵ W Sexton was chair of the TRDC Rating Committee.⁸⁶ A hailstorm on Sunday August 5th destroyed much of the apple harvest.⁸⁷

1. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 14th July 1939, **The National Archives DDYO 1939 Register** p11 property #127
2. **Daily Gazette** 6th September 2008; **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 19th December 1941 there were over 1000 land Girls deployed in Essex
3. **The National Archives** ADM 363/260/75 Petty Officer Gooch's service record card; ADM 188/1829/91440.
4. **SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE**, 18 May 1943 p.2166; 1 JUNE,1943 p.2527
5. **CWWG**
6. **The National Archives** WO 416/43/448
7. **East Essex Gazette** August 19th 1944; **Clacton Gazette** Friday June 15th 2001, **Evening Gazette** Thursday 14th 2001
8. **East Essex Gazette** June 13th 1942 August 18th 1945
9. **East Essex Gazette** September 5th 1942; **NTA AIR 78 69 2**
10. **Foynes JP (1994) The Battle of the East Coast p.132**; https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=ddcdbcb8-7ba2-4f0b-a657-894ad78bc298&resourceID=19191
11. **Clacton VCH Group (2018) Discovering Dad's Army Project**
12. **The National Archives** MAF 32/839/311 Parish No. 311 Parish: Frating 1941-1943 food growing
13. **The Times** Thursday 15th 1943
14. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 21st October 1939
15. **East Essex Gazette** November 23rd 1940
16. **East Essex Gazette** November 30th 1940
17. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 7 November 1941
18. **East Essex Gazette** February 21st 1942
19. **East Essex Gazette** March 7th 1942
20. **East Essex Gazette** March 7th 1942
21. **East Essex Gazette** March 21st, 28th 1942
22. **East Essex Gazette** April 18th 1942
23. **East Essex Gazette** May 2nd 1942
24. **East Essex Gazette** May 18th 1942
25. **East Essex Gazette** July 4th 1942
26. **East Essex Gazette** July 11th 1942
27. **East Essex Gazette** July 18th 1942
28. **East Essex Gazette** August 22nd 1942
29. **East Essex Gazette** October 31st 1942
30. **East Essex Gazette** August 8th 1942
31. **East Essex Gazette** September 12th 1942
32. **East Essex Gazette** December 12th 1942
33. **East Essex Gazette** February 6th 1943
34. **East Essex Gazette** January 30th February 29th 1943 April 17th May 29th
35. **East Essex Gazette** April 10th
36. **East Essex Gazette** May 29th
37. **East Essex Gazette** July 10th 1943
38. **East Essex Gazette** August 24th 1943
39. **East Essex Gazette** November 13th, 20th 1943,
40. **East Essex Gazette** June 19th; June 26th 1943 **East Essex Gazette** December 4th 1943
41. **East Essex Gazette** July 10th 1943
42. **East Essex Gazette** September 16th 1943
43. **East Essex Gazette** January 29th 1944 1944
44. **East Essex Gazette** June 24th 1944
45. **East Essex Gazette** July 15th 1944
46. **East Essex Gazette** August 5th 1944 1944
47. **East Essex Gazette** December 2nd 1944
48. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 4th November 1939
49. **East Essex Gazette** March 17th 1945

50. **East Essex Gazette** March 31st 1945
51. **East Essex Gazette** Saturday April 28th 1945
52. **East Essex Gazette** Saturday April 28th 1945
53. **East Essex Gazette** Saturday June 30th 1945
54. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 4th November 1939
55. **Essex Newsman** Saturday 10 February 1940
56. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 17th January 1941
57. **East Essex Gazette** August 17th 1940
58. **East Essex Gazette** December 21st 1940
59. **East Essex Gazette** March 20th 1943
60. **East Essex Gazette** September 18th 1943
61. **East Essex Gazette** January 3rd 1942
62. **East Essex Gazette** January 31st 1942
63. **East Essex Gazette** July 4th 1942
64. **East Essex Gazette** October 3rd 1942
65. **East Essex Gazette** December 5th 1942
66. **East Essex Gazette** June 5th 1943
67. **East Essex Gazette** July 1st 1944
68. **East Essex Gazette** April 14th 1945
69. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 26 April 1940
70. **East Essex Gazette** July 3rd 1940
71. **East Essex Gazette** August 17th 1940
72. **East Essex Gazette** August 24th 1940
73. **East Essex Gazette** September 7th 1940
74. **East Essex Gazette** January 23rd 1943
75. **East Essex Gazette** April 17th 1943
76. **East Essex Gazette** April 10th 1943, January 29th, February 5th 1944
77. **East Essex Gazette** April 10th 1943,
78. **East Essex Gazette** June 26th 1943
79. **East Essex Gazette** June 5th 1943
80. *Frating Farmers help Red Cross* **East Essex Gazette** September 18th 1943
81. **East Essex Gazette** September 18th 1943
82. **East Essex Gazette** May 20^h 1944
83. **East Essex Gazette** September 16th 1944
84. **East Essex Gazette** March 10th 1945
85. **East Essex Gazette** Saturday May 28th 1945
86. **East Essex Gazette** Saturday June 9th 1945
87. **East Essex Gazette** August 25th 1945

Frating Hall Farming Society (1943-58)

On Lady's Day, 25th March 1943, a group of thirteen Conscientious Objectors, Christian pacifists and socialists moved from their New Adelphi commune at Langham (1934-42) to the unoccupied Frating Hall led by former Consett blast-furnaceman, Joseph Hunter Watson (1902-62). The farm consisted of the Hall, three cottages and twenty-one fields. The soil was mixed - some was good, some was poor; often in the same field. Work was hard and decisions were made communally. Soon more than fifty members farmed the 370 acres of mostly potatoes and cabbages; and tended up to 8,000 chickens for the next 15 years. Only two of them had previous farming experience – one of them a Quaker, Hugh Barrett.¹ By 1946, seventeen or eighteen single people lived in the main Hall where pre-martial relations were not allowed. Couples and families lived in five estate cottages paying 2/6 or 5/- per week. Newcomers might have to sleep in a shed, until accommodation became available.² Produce including the eggs, milk and meat was shared between them rather than relying on rations alone.

The writer Vera Brittain, author of *Testament of Youth* (1933), was a Shareholder and Director; whilst her teenage daughter Shirley Williams worked there³ as second cowman⁴ after St Paul's Girls School, Hammersmith was bombed in 1943. Shirley Williams (1930-2021) became Labour MP for Hitching, Hertfordshire and Stevenage (1964-1979); Minister for Education and Science (1967-9), Minister for Home Affairs (1969-70), Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection (1974-6); Secretary of State for Education and Pay-Master General (1976-9); Social Democratic MP for Crosby (1981-3) and Liberal Democrat Baroness Williams of Crosby in the House of Lords (1993-2021).⁵ Other visitors included the composer Billy Wordsworth, operatic Tenor Charles Craig, Sir Alexander Gibson (future Principal Conductor of the Royal Scottish Symphony Orchestra) and Jurgen Holst (future leader of the BBC Scottish Orchestra.)⁶

The commune established a choir and a touring theatre company.⁷ Plays performed from 1945 included *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Henry IV Part I*; and T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* which was performed in Frating Church. Plays were performed at Nayland Sanatorium; Great Bentley and a Colchester school.⁸ Choral singing practice was led by Joe Watson; performances were arranged and conducted by the visiting Imogen Holst.⁹ The children attended Great Bentley Primary

School;¹⁰ secondary schools in Colchester; and Quaker schools in Saffron Waldon and Leighton Park School, Reading.¹¹

Short Sunday services were held in the Tithe Barn from 1945.¹² Ecumenical Harvest Festivals were led by the visiting Rev. Hugh Davison with over eighty eating supper. In 1945, this was followed by a scene from *King Lear*. The following day, Peter Watson was christened.¹³ At the Harvest Festival of 1948, Phoebe (6), Hugh (5) and Andrew Max (2) were Christened.¹⁴ Some attended the nearby Frating Church for 8am Sunday services. Trevor Howard became a Lay Reader of the church of England preaching at Churches near to Manningtree, before becoming a Priest.¹⁵

Frating Hall became a sanctuary for runaways and former Prisoners of War – including the Czech Engineer John Vostatek. He helped with engineering projects and set up a loom.¹⁶

A *recies conveyance* was signed between William Sexton of the Hall, Frating and Frating Hall Farming Society Ltd. in 1943. Mortgages were arranged in 1943 and 1946 for c.£6000 between the society and the Midland and Westminster Banks.¹⁷ In 1944, a plan was filed for converting a timber shed to living accommodation.¹⁸ That year, the farm purchased *neat stock: cows, milk, heifers, calves* but were too ambitious buying in two year old heifers to be serviced by their own Friesian bull Prince. Many were sold for less than the purchase prize. Three cows were kept; one of which produced four gallons of milk per day.¹⁹ Poultry was much more successful, and the number were doubled. Eggs were sold to local hatcheries.²⁰ The total loss for 1944 was £1800.²¹

In 1945, a pair of cottages were added with Simon DeC. Bennett the architect and the builders were W.A. Hills and Sons Ltd.²² These replaced two cottages that were damaged by debris from a V-1 flying bomb so needed demolition.²³ War Damage Insurance of £2 16/3 was received.²⁴ Two new bulls were purchased; a four year old Ayrshire, *Chislet Dairyman*, and a week old bull calf.²⁵ The yield of sugar beet and corn improved, whilst a similar quantity of potatoes was grown as in 1944. Sales of sunflower seeds, runner beans and peas for seed were poor due to *gluts* in the market and raised less than half of the Government minimum. The onion crop failed. Lettuce, cauliflowers, spring and Christmas cabbage were good. Savoy's were planted in December 1945. AA Howard started the hurdle-making business with an apprentice using wood from the Farm.²⁶ All three tractors were over-hauled at a cost of £290 and buildings repaired. Over

£1000 in £1 shares had been sold.²⁷ A profit of £13 was made,²⁸ plus the sale of Lufkins Farm which raised £1026.²⁹ The officers were: Chair of Directors, Joseph Hunter Watson; Secretary and Treasurer, Donald Whitehouse; Directors Joseph Hunter Watson, Geoffrey Wright, Vera Brittain (Chelsea), Irene Palmer, Richard J Burrows, John Donnelly (Gothic Farm, Halesworth, Suffolk), William A Brewin (Doddinghurst), Hugh G Barrett (Appleacre Farm, Sudbury), R Trevor Howard, Frederick M Wickenden (Bentleigh, Elmstead) and Donald Whitehouse.³⁰ The overdraft of £4766 7/1 was reduced to £2133 11/5 in 1945.³¹

On Saturday August 16th 1947, twenty-five German Prisoners-of-War were entertained. The Choir sang with solos by Betty Goodchild, Penelope Short and Peter Watson. Dancing on the lawn was accompanied on the piano by P Watson and Edward Taylor.³²

On Easter Sunday 1948, after evensong, the Frating Hall choir sang a selection of unaccompanied French and English *Easter carols* conducted by J Watson in the Parish Church. *The unaccompanied singing was most inspiring in the setting of the old beautifully decorated old church.*³³ In July, a group ten Dutch school students, from Thirbeck HBS, Hague visited Brightlingsea School then came to the farm. *They lent a hand with the harvest and getting a real thrill out of it.* The pupils were aged between 17 and 19, supervised by one teacher.³⁴ On Saturday September 11th, the annual *Frating Farrow Drawing Competition* was held at Frating hall Farm competing for the Janice Watson Cup for the Horse Class and Ernest Doe Trophy for the Open Tractor. The grand corn and root show and competitions were also held. Afterwards, there was a prize-giving and concert in the barn with profits going to the Essex County Hospital.³⁵ Tendring RDC announced that two council houses would be built at the farm to accommodate families.³⁶ On Friday December 5th, the Frating Hall Players performed TS Eliott's play *Murder in the Cathedral*. The Frating Hall Singers performed from the bell ringers gallery. Miss Joan Watson played the closing hymn on the organ.³⁷

In 1949, an incubator house and diesel electric power house designed by W.A. Hills and Sons Ltd was built by the members.³⁸ Joe Watson was elected as a Parish Councillor.³⁹



In April, the farm was used for a demonstration by David Brown Tractors.⁴⁰

Figure 25 – Advertisement⁴¹

In 1950, a profit of £651 was made. The hens laid 175,395 eggs and the farm gained National Recognition for breeding hens. The production of milk by the Ayrshire cows, sugar beets, spring cabbage and cauliflower were high. One field of winter oats was grown under contract. There were twelve married couples, fifteen children and the *staff at the Hall*.⁴²

In 1954, the Directors called a special meeting of members. Although profits were then being made the previous losses were unbearable and three of the Directors resigned as the ideals on which the co-operative had been formed no longer existed.⁴³ Derek Crosfield (b.1915) was part of the small group who bought out Frating Hall Farm when the cooperative arrangement came to an end in 1958. As owner of the farm, he stayed at Frating until 1974, when he moved to Colchester. He continued to farm one or two days a week. Derek became Chairman of Frating Parish Council, District and County Councillor; a member of the North East Essex Divisional Executive; a magistrate at Clacton from 1965; vice-chairman of the North East Thames Regional Health Authority; and the last Chairman of the Tendring Rural District Council.⁴⁴

The farm was inherited by his step-son Martyn Thomas and family.⁴⁵ In February 1998, 200 metres of hedge between two fields and a dead oak tree damaged by lightning were removed. This was to make farming easier.⁴⁶

In 2022, the barns are used by companies including: - Metallic Elephant, GB Farm Services Ltd. and Nelson Woodcraft.⁴⁷

1. *Back to the Land COs at Frating Hall The Friend (June 2021) p.12-3* He was the son of a CO imprisoned during WW1. His brother Roderick (1920-2000) was an artist and also at Frating Hall. <https://www.colchesterartsociety.co.uk/roderic-barrett>
2. *Frating Hall Farming Society Ltd (1945) Three Years A-growing p17; Worpole K (2021) No Matter how Many Skies Have Fallen p.78*
3. <https://thenewenglishlandscape.wordpress.com/tag/frating-hall-farm/> Russel S *The edge of Essex... land of dreams in East Anglian Daily Times* December 7, 2013; *The Land Question TLS* January 3rd 2021; *North East History (2009) Issue 40 p.164* Joe became manager, his wife Doris was the house-keeper
4. <https://peacenews.info/node/9992/lost-history-frating-hall-farm>
5. Lady Williams of Crosby Obituary *The Guardian* Monday 12th April 2021
6. *Worpole (2021) p111-4*
7. Russell S *The edge of Essex... land of dreams in East Anglian Daily Times* December 7, 2013
8. *Worpole (2021) p104-5*
9. *Worpole (2021) p113*
10. <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2021/23-july/features/features/faith-pacifism-and-farming-alternative-life-working-on-the-land>
11. *Worpole (2021) p105*
12. *Gollifer DE (1945) Three Years A-growing p21*
13. *ibid p20*

14. **Worpole (2021) p117**
15. **Worpole (2021) p119**
16. **Worpole (2021) p113**
17. **ERO D/DU 1599/1 (1949); Worpole (2021) p85-6** The farm was valued at £8000 in December 1943 and Lufkins Farm at £965.
18. **ERO D/RT Pb1/6078 (1944)**
19. **Gollifer DE (1945) Three Years A-growing p9**
20. **ibid**
21. **ibid p10**
22. **ERO D/RT Pb1/6134 (1945)**
23. **Gollifer DE (1945) Three Years A-growing p12**
24. **Ibid p9**
25. **ibid**
26. **ibid p10**
27. **ibid p11**
28. **ibid p10**
29. **ibid p22**
30. **ibid**
31. **Frating Hall Farming Society (1945) Accounts p12, 14**
32. **Clacton Times** Friday August 22nd 1947
33. **Clacton Times** Friday April 2nd 1948
34. **Clacton Times** Friday July 30th 1948
35. **Clacton Times** Friday June 25th 1948
36. **East Essex Gazette** Friday October 1st 1948
37. **East Essex Gazette** Friday December 10th 1948
38. **ERO D/RT Pb1/6508 (1948)**
39. **East Essex Gazette** May 13th 1949
40. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 22nd April 1949
41. **Chelmsford Chronicle** Friday 22nd April 1949
42. **Worpole (2021) p97**
43. **Worpole (2021) p128**
44. **East Essex Gazette** April 26th 1974; March 22nd 1974
45. <https://www.littleoller.co.uk/the-clearing/bread-salted-with-tears-by-ken-worpole/>
46. **East Essex Gazette** February 1998; March 13th 1998
47. <https://opengovuk.com/place/ChIJPyWMnzAO2UcR5XzvJzBAyjc>

Frating after the War

On Saturday September 9th 1945, JA Culley drew the first of 350 furrows at the annual competition. The refreshment stalls raised £20 for the for the Essex County Hospital. W Bush drew The best tractor furrow and won the Silver Challenge Cup presented by Ernest Doe & Sons, a medal given by Brooks of Mistley and a cash prize. FJ Buckle won the Silver Challenge Cup presented by JH Watson, a medal given by Brooks of Mistley and a cash prize for the best horse drawn furrow. Mrs B Wickenden won the ladies tractor competition. The local horse class was won by J parker. E Sexton won the *bowling for a pig*.¹

In October, B Fisher took over from E Hanslip as sub-postmaster and grocer.² During the Tendring Thanksgiving Week £837 7/6 was saved.³ A poultry keeper from *Newlands*, Colchester Road was fined £1 with costs for stealing poultry meal, worth 1½d. from a neighbour.⁴

In January 1947, Tendring RDC asked for tenders to paint the eight council houses.⁵ In March, Tendring RDC sent the rates at 18/7 in the £.⁶ In April, Mrs Gray collected £1 17/6 for King George's Fund for Sailors.⁷ A farmer from Luffkins farm was prosecuted for not having insurance and fined £5 with 1/9 costs. His employer was fined £10.⁸ Tendring RDC announced tenders for two more Council Houses to be build in the village. There would also be thirty temporary houses at RAF Great Bromley.⁹

On Sunday May 24th, there was a collision at the crossroads between a motorcycle ridden by a soldier from Ardleigh and a car from Romford.¹⁰ The driver was fined £2 with costs of £2 12/9.¹¹

On Wednesday June 18th, villagers could collect their Ration Books from the Memorial Hall between 09:45 and 12:10 pm.¹² In July, Tendring RDC Councillors toured the council construction sites. These included J Culley representing Frating and WR Sexton (Elmstead).¹³ A whist drive at Frating Working men's Club raised £3 7/-. Winners were Miss J Tyler, A Tokley, Mrs A Langley, Mrs G Maiden, Rev H Wilcox and Mrs A Lungley.¹⁴ On Tuesday July 15th Janice Watson of Frating hall was crowned Sunshine Queen – in connection with £1000 appeal for the *Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies*. Mrs W Johnston was president and Mrs Gray, the local organiser. Terry Edwards, Hilda and Joan entertained.¹⁵

On Saturday September 13th, 400 competitors participated in the annual ploughing match was held at Mannings Farm to raise funds for the Essex County Hospital. Organisers were WE Powell jnr, Chairman; D Whitehouse of Frating Hall and A Stewart, Treasurer. The choir from Frating Hall sang in the War Memorial

Hall as the results were collated. There were also lots of sideshows including darts, bowling for two cockerels and skeeball. At the auction .. *A packet of matches fetched 15/-; one dozen eggs 12/3 and a bunch of flowers 13/-*. Jesse Parker won both the tractor and hors categories for local farmers.¹⁶



Figure 26 Advert - Clacton Times

1947

In January 1948, Parish Councillors from five villages meet to complain about the poor bus service. Mrs Hiskey organised a whist drive for Essex County Hospital which raised £5 2/6 from 8 ½ tables.¹⁷ On January 30th, there was a whist drive organised by the Sports Committee of the Frating Workmen's Club. There were 5 ½ tables in play and £4 4/6 was raised for club funds. Winners were Mrs Martin and C Groves. Miss K Barrell returned her prize and it sold for 14/6.¹⁸ In April 1948, W Taylor at Frating Hall advertised a Spencer upright piano for sale for £70.¹⁹ In April, Tendring RDC stated that eight council houses were needed in Frating.²⁰ An auto-cyclist from Brightlingsea was killed after colliding with a Colchester-bound lorry at Frating Cross-roads. He had ignored the halt sign.²¹

In May, Mrs Culley and Mrs Gray raised £3 12/5 for the King George's Fund for Sailors. In September, Tendring RDC announced that two council houses would be built at the farm to accommodate families.²² On June 19th, three packs of Brownies attended a Revels at the Cedars, guests of Mr and Mrs Lord. *Tea was served in the barn owing to rain, but with the re-appearance of the sun, games were enjoyed outside after tea, among them being a treasure hunt with donkey tides for the winners.* families.²³ Ration books were collected from the War Memorial Hall on Monday 28th June, between 9:45-12:30pm.²⁴ In September, Tendring RDC announced that two council houses would be built at the farm to accommodate families.²⁵

On Saturday September 11th, the annual *Frating Farrow Drawing Competition* was held at Frating hall Farm competing for the Janice Watson Cup for the Horse Class and Ernest Doe Trophy for the Open Tractor. The grand corn and root show and competitions were also held. Afterwards, there was a prize-giving and concert in the barn with profits going to the Essex County Hospital.²⁶

In October, the secretary at Frating Garage was fined £2 for speeding at 42 mph through Elmstead.²⁷ In December, a whist drive for St Dunstan;s was held I the Village Hall organised by the Furrow Drawing Committee. Prizes were won by Mrs Hobson and Mr Gale,. A tray and basket made by the St Dunstan;s was won by J Thornton and Mr Sparrow. The profit was £7.²⁸

In March 1949, a violent storm hit NE Essex. The AA box at the crossroads was pushed back against a telegraph pole *in a drunken manner* and three chimneys at the Post Office damaged.²⁹ In April, eight council houses were needed in Frating.³⁰ On Tuesday May 10th between 2 and 8 pm at the Memorial Hall, six villagers were on the ballot for the five seats on the Parish Council. Joseph Hunter Watson was elected with 42 votes; William Henry Sexton, 37; Derek Harvey Crosfield 35; DW Wash, 23; and Henry Wilcox 17. Unsuccessful was Miss Priscilla Eliza Burr Vince with 15. The turn-out was 17.8%. William H Sexton, of Bottles Farm, Elmstead was unopposed as Tendring Rural District Councillor. He had been first elected in 1936 and served as Chairman of the Rating Committee for the previous six years and Vice-Chairman of the Tendring RDC from 1946-49. Sexton succeeded Harry R Carter of Little Clacton as Chairman.³¹ A Colchester van driver was fined 30/- for overtaking at 48mph.³²

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | East Essex Gazette September 15 th 1945 | 17. | Times Friday January 9 th 1948 |
| 2. | East Essex Gazette October 20 th 1945 | 18. | Clacton Times Friday February 6 th 1948 |
| 3. | East Essex Gazette October 6 th 1945 | 19. | Chelmsford Chronicle Friday April 30 th 1948 |
| 4. | East Essex Gazette October 27 th 1945 | 20. | Clacton Times Friday April 29 th 1948 |
| 5. | Clacton Times January 31 st 1947 | 21. | Clacton Times Friday May 7 th 1948 |
| 6. | Clacton Times March 21 st 1947 | 22. | Clacton Times Friday May 28 th 1948 |
| 7. | Clacton Times May 2 nd 1947 | 23. | Clacton Times Friday June 25 th 1948 |
| 8. | Clacton Times April 18 th 1947 | 24. | Clacton Times Friday June 18 th 1948 |
| 9. | Clacton Times April 25 th 1947 | 25. | Clacton Times Friday October 1 st 1948 |
| 10. | Clacton Times May 30 th 1947 | 26. | Clacton Times Friday June 25 th 1948 |
| 11. | Clacton Times July 4 th 1947 | 27. | East Essex Gazette Friday October 15 th 1948 |
| 12. | Clacton Times May 30 th 1947 | 28. | East Essex Gazette Friday December 24 th 1948 |
| 13. | Clacton Times July 25 th 1947 | 29. | East Essex Gazette March 4 th 1949 |
| 14. | Clacton Times August 1 st 1947 | 30. | East Essex Gazette April 29 th 1949 |
| 15. | Clacton Times July 18 th 1947 | 31. | East Essex Gazette April 22 nd ; May 13 th ; May 27 th 1949 |
| 16. | Clacton Times September 19 th 1947 | 32. | East Essex Gazette May 13 th 1949 |

The 1950s

On January 28th 1950, a Frating resident was stopped for *driving a motor vehicle - his jeep – without due care and attention* into the rear of a chauffeur driven car of the Police Superintendent at Elmstead. He claimed the police car had slowed without indicating. He was fined £5.¹ In March, some of the Frating Sunday School pupils attended the Mothering Sunday Service at Thorrington Church with Mr RT Howard MA (Lay Reader).² In May, a detached brick bungalow with two bedrooms at Frating Hill was offered for sale for £1,850.³

In September 1950, The Ploughing Competition was held in Frating. There were no horse-drawn ploughs, instead there were 150 tractor-ploughs.⁴ In September 1951, there were fewer entries for the competition at Munnings Farm due to the late harvest. J Smith won the Ernest Doe Cup, and J Cole the Janice Watson Cup. The Harry Ainger Concert Party gave a concert in the War Memorial Hall with prizes

presented by Mrs WC Powell.⁵



In January 1949, March 1949, 1952 and 1953, Charenda Poultry Farm were advertising *Chicks, R.I.R., Sussex R. x S., black leg x R.I.R. white leg R.I.R., booking chicks, growing stock hatching Friday Gt Bentley 244* and also farm machinery.⁶

Figure 27 –Advert
East Essex Gazette Friday March 21st 1952

In March 1952, there was one vacancy on the Parish Council.⁷ In April, William Henry Sexton was elected unopposed to the Tendring Rural District Council.⁸ Fam labourer Joe Watson of Frating Hall Cooperative (Labour) stood for the Brightlingsea (and district) seat on Essex County Council gaining 1057 votes. He lost to the retiring member, Hazel George Pulley JP (Independent), by 314 votes – with a turn-out of 30%. 113 voted in the village.⁹ Tendring Rural District Council set the county rates at 19/6 with a precept of 3d¹⁰ and requested

History of Frating
 RJ Butcher MA
 Lockdown 2021-2

tenders for painting sixteen council houses.¹¹ On Saturday April 26th, villagers collected their ration books from the War Memorial Hall, between 09:45 and 12:15.¹²

In May, fruit-grower, JP and chairman of the Finance Committee, Councillor John Arthur Culley of Hockley Place was unanimously elected Chairman of Tendring Rural District Council.¹³ In June, a teenage motorcyclist from Romford was chased by the police from Frating crossroads at 90mph. He was fined £40 and banned from driving for ten years; as this was his fourth offense. His father made him sell the motorbike and join the RAF as air-crew.¹⁴

On September 17th, a villager from Frating Hill accidentally took a fatal dose of concentrated nicotine used for spraying fruit.¹⁵ Frating Parish Council organised a whist drive and house-to-house collection which raised £21 for the Devon Flood Relief Appeal.¹⁶

After the Floods of February 1st 1953, Captain WJ Goldworthy-Jones and Mrs Middleton of Tally-Ho Kennels transported and homed forty-seven dogs and nine cats. Some were there for nine months. In June 1954, they received RSPCA Medals from the Lord-Lieutenant's wife, Lady Whitmore.¹⁷

On November 26th 1953, *Johann Vostatek*, a German received his *Naturalisation Certificate*.

BNA29271.¹⁸



In 1954, the Gray family, owners of the Frating Cross Garage **Figure 28**, purchased the Elmstead garage, from the Brettans family who lived next door, and changed the company's name to Frating Garage (Elmstead) Ltd. They had earlier in the year, applied unsuccessfully to Essex County Council to demolish and rebuild the garage on two floors with the working level raised to the same height as the

road outside. This had been denied owing to its proximity to the junction and the new two storey building obscuring the corner of Great Bromley Road., so the Days' appealed to the Ministry.¹⁹

In October, CB Starling appealed against a planning refusal for a bungalow near to his café and 4½ acre small-holding on the Main Road. A compromise was reached with his resubmission of plans with the building nearer to

the café. He planned to increase the number of poultry farmed from 1000 to 3000, with his daughter and son-in-law living in the new bungalow to manage them. There were also ten pigs.²⁰ In December, a man from Park Cottages, Cowie Green, Great Bromley was found guilty of attempted theft from Frating 's telephone kiosk and sentenced to three years' corrective training.²¹

In 1958 Alexander Smith started *A Smith Great Bentley (ASGB)* as a versatile commercial body builder. In the early 1970s, ASGB built its first Outside Broadcast vehicle, with more than 300 produced serving in around 65 countries. Shortly after, ASGB developed a range of sound proofed generators used in the film and television industry. In 1987, ASGB moved to the current site on Colchester Road erecting purpose built offices and workshops. In 1995, ASGB started constructing hospitality units for F1 and MotoGP teams; and two years later began a partnership with Vanguard Healthcare for medical units. In 2007, a third factory was erected giving an additional 1,700m² of workspace.²² In 2016, the Chinese BISLT group took over 60% of ASGB with an investment of £4 million. More than 100 were employed there.²³

In February 1955 and July 1960, after fatal accidents neither the Tendring Rural Council's Road Safety Committee nor Inspector EN Adams of the police supported Frating Parish Council's suggestions *for traffic lights, a roundabout or an island with "Keep left" signs at the village crossroads.*²⁴ In September 1960, an East Essex *Laundry van plunged into a field besides the crossroads near Lufkins Farm... after being a collision with a car.. being driven by Robert John Smith of Lottslow, Great Bromley Road, Frating. This was the second crash at the cross-roads recently. Three women passengers in the car were slightly injured.but did not require hospital treatment. They were Mrs Smith, wife of the driver, Mrs Beatrice Underhay, of Slweius, Bromley-road, Frating and Miss Ada Martin of Hornchurch. Since the accident the hedges by the crossroads have been cut giving drivers better vision.*²⁵

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. East Essex Gazette January 1950 | 15. East Essex Gazette Friday September 19 th , 26 th 1952 |
| 2. East Essex Gazette March 24 th 1950 | 16. East Essex Gazette Friday October 3 rd 1952 |
| 3. Chelmsford Chronicle Friday 12 May 1950 | 17. Clacton Graphic Tuesday January 26 th 1954 |
| 4. Essex Newsmen Tuesday 12 September 1950 | 18. TNA HO 334/373/29271 |
| 5. Clacton Graphic September 1951 | 19. https://www.facebook.com/brightlingseahistoryhub/posts/495564717614503 recalled by Alan Gray's daughter; Clacton Graphic May 18 th 1954; Clacton Gazette Friday June 15 th 2001; Evening Gazette Thursday June 14 th 2001; |
| 6. East Essex Gazette January 21 st 1949; Essex Newsmen Tuesday 29 th March 1949, East Essex Gazette Friday March 21 st 1952; Clacton Graphic September 11 th 1953 | 20. Clacton Graphic Tuesday October 19 th 1954 |
| 7. East Essex Gazette Friday March 14 th 1952 | 21. Clacton Graphic Tuesday December 14 th 1954 |
| 8. East Essex Gazette Friday April 18 th 1952 | 22. https://www.asgb.co.uk/history-of-asgb/ |
| 9. East Essex Gazette Friday March 21 st , April 11 th 1952 | 23. Chinese group BISLT to acquire 60% stake in Essex vehicle maker ASGB East Anglican Daily Times May 10 th 2016 https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/00347103/charges?page=2 |
| 10. East Essex Gazette Friday March 28 th 1952 | 24. East Essex Gazette Tuesday February 8 th 1955, Friday July 8 th 1960 |
| 11. East Essex Gazette Friday April 4 th 1952 | 25. East Essex Gazette Friday September 16 th 1960 |
| 12. East Essex Gazette Friday April 18 th 1952 | |
| 13. East Essex Gazette Friday May 30 th 1952 | |
| 14. East Essex Gazette Friday June 27 th 1952 | |

The 1960s

During the early 1960s two sites in Frating applied for permission to host caravan pitches. Captain W Jones, owner of Tally Ho Garage, applied for six caravan pitches. The site was discontinued by 1980. Frating Caravan Site, Main Road, owned by Miss L. Jones had twenty-five pitches from April 1962 on 2.5 acres.¹ In 1984, Tally Ho Garage became part of Arriva.²

In March 1963, the rates were set at 8/9 in the £.³ In April, Mr and Mrs Sexton advertised *An entirely new conception of Boarding Kennels Grey Roofs Frating Hill. Great Bentley 400*⁴ In May, the 1st Thorrington Guides and Brownies, and Great Bentley Gudies and scouts paraded at Frating Church for Commonwealth Day.⁵ Eleven pupils from the Sunday School went with Mrs DG French to Walton for their annual outing. A motorcycle crashed into a car of Lieutenant-Colonel Napier who was using the telephone. Both sixteen year old girls were injured and taken for treatment in Essex County Hospital. Forty members of the *Good Companions* went to Maldon, stopping at Tiptree for strawberries, Great Baddow for tea and returned via Chelmsford.⁶ Over 250 people watched a bonfire and firework display at Frating Kings Arms paddock on Monday November 4th, collections and profits from sales of refreshments raised £13 for the Freedom from Hunger campaign. The evening was organised by Jack Edwardes.⁷ On Tuesday December 9th, members of the Elmstead and Frating Over 60s Club Christmas Luncheon at Elmstead Victory Hall.⁸

In 1964, an unmanned Continental style lifting barrier was installed at the level crossing to Frating Abbey Farm Road.⁹

In January 1968, there was a delay in presenting the £125,000 sewerage scheme for Frating and Great Bromley to the Ministry as Tendring Rural Council's Public Health Committee already had two other schemes awaiting Government funding. Plans for two semi-detached houses with garages on the Main Road were refused due to through traffic.¹⁰ In September, the first of the monthly whist drives was held for the Frating Ffeasants in the War Memorial Hall.¹¹

1. O'Dell S (2015) *Post-war Tourism in the Tendring District and Beyond: The Rise of the Holiday Caravan Park, c. 1938-1989* p309, 373
2. *East Essex Gazette* 1984
3. *East Essex Gazette* March 29th 1963
4. *East Essex Gazette* April 26th 1963
5. *East Essex Gazette* May 31st 1963
6. *East Essex Gazette* June 28th 1963
7. *East Essex Gazette* November 8th 1963
8. *East Essex Gazette* December 13th 1963
9. *East Essex Gazette* January 12th 1968
10. *East Essex Gazette* January 5th 1968
11. *East Essex Gazette* September 27th 1968

The 1970s

In January 1970, the Frating Ffeasants held a whist drive at the War Memorial Hall. The MC was W Groves and prizes presented were by Mrs Bretton to Mrs Coote (Ladies, miniature), Mrs Baxter (highest half); Mrs Farthing (booby); Mrs Coote (first place); Mrs Barr (second); Mrs Polley (third); Mr Coote (gentleman's miniature); Mr Pryor (highest half); Mr Halls (booby). Competition winners were Mrs Farthing, Mrs Polley, Mr Parrish, Mrs Wong, Major Hall, Mr Tyler, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Barr and Mr Groves.¹ In September, an experimental self-propelled apple picking platform was used for the first time at John Colthorpe's orchards at Hedgerows. The machine was 25' long, rose to a height of 10' and was 6' wide which allowed six employees, at three different levels, to pick fruit. The apples went by conveyor into bulk bins. It was tested for two days and would return for the pruning season.²

In May 1973, there were only three nominations for the five seats on the Frating Council: Mrs Sylvia Creasey, Derek Crosfield and Marjorie Wexler.³ In September, Tendring Rural District Council introduced fines for dogs fouling the footpath of £20.⁴ In October, the Elmstead and Frating Over-60s club held their Harvest Festival.⁵ In November, Mrs I Taylor, 2 Abbey Cottages, won the *East Essex Gazette* competition for ten thousand Green Shield stamps.⁶

In February 1974, a female villager was fined £15 for stealing from Keddies Department store in Colchester.⁷ The *Elmstead & Frating Over-60s Club* normally met at Elmstead Victory Hall. In January, Mr Rose shared a film of birds in Essex estuaruies.⁸ In February, the committee was re-elected with Mr W Powell as President. Rev C Lyall gave a talk about the ancient churches of Essex.⁹ In June, they were invited to the garden of Mumples Hall by the invitation of Mr and Mrs S Cobb.¹⁰

In May, a planning enquiry was held into the appliacion for Holly Farm to have an additional house to hold farm-workers at the poultry farm. Mrs Julie Delane explained there were 100,000 chickens kept on the 5.5 acre site. Tendring RDC opposed the building as there was already one house on site and a new access-way would need to be built.¹¹ On Thursday May 9th, seven students from the University of Essex in one vehicle were involved in a late-night road traffic accident in Bentley Road. Sadly, the driver and two passengers were killed with four injured.¹² Leonard Parrish was elected to the Elmstead and Frating seat on the new Tendring District Council.¹³

In October , the Essex Old People's Welfare Association held a competition to write an ode beginning with *There was an old woman from Frating*.¹⁴ Richard Philip Orman of the Council Houses, Bentley Road was killed in Thorrington. A lorry driver from there was charged with murder.¹⁵ In November, a teenage member of the Few motorcycle gang admitted a charge of threatening behaviour in Brightlingsea after entering the Youth Club when trying to find members of another gang. He was fined £15.¹⁶

In January 1976, Derek Crosfield of Frating Hall spoke at the Elmstead Bypass Public Inquiry in opposition; *this Western Link is unnecessary – certainly at this time of economic problems. It would be a gross misuse of public funds if this section was built now*.¹⁷ Ultimately, this road was never built and is now on the site of the proposed Garden Village.

In February 1976, the owners of Newlands, Colchester Road applied for planning permission to add a bathroom, utility room and lounge extension.¹⁸ At the Parish Council elections in May 1976, there were only four nominations for the five seats: Mrs S Creasey, DH Everett, Mrs M Perkins and KH Sceats.¹⁹ There were five nominations for two seats for the new *Alresford, Frating and Thorrington* constituency of the Tendring District Council: R Grinstead, D Fitch, Myrinda Snell, Anthong Shelton and Stanley Wayman. Councillors Grinstead (721 votes) and Fitch (617) were elected.²⁰ On Sunday May 9th, Tendring DC's Planning Committee met on-site at Sunningdale Café to assess the location of Landownes Luxury Coaches Ltd request to store machinery prior to export. They were already working at Frating cross-roads and needed the additional storage space. Any observations would have to go to Essex CC.²¹

In May, J Culley at Hockley Place was disturbed by burglars as they prepared to steal his television. *I was in the house. I just heard a noise and I came downstairs. They had just broken in I think. Police dogs failed to locate the criminals*.²²

In October 1976, Priscilla Eliza Burr Vince of Frating Lodge left £17,047 – including £500 to Frating Church and the residue to five other charities.²³ The owner of Bishops House was committed for trial for causing death by dangerous driving, with a bail of £300.²⁴

On Tuesday 7th June 1977, 150 villagers attended the Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Tall Trees. Children took part in sports and swam in the heated pool. Jubilee mugs were presented to 50 children under 16 before the grand disco and a rock group played in the Memorial Hall which 70 attended.²⁵

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|--------------------|---|
| 1. | East Essex Gazette | Friday January 9 th 1970 | 14. | East Essex Gazette | October 11 th 1974 |
| 2. | East Essex Gazette | September 25 th 1970 | 15. | East Essex Gazette | November 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd 1974 |
| 3. | East Essex Gazette | Friday May 18 th 1973 | 16. | East Essex Gazette | November 8 th 1974 |
| 4. | East Essex Gazette | September 28 th 1973 | 17. | East Essex Gazette | January 31 st 1976 |
| 5. | East Essex Gazette | October 19 th 1973 | 18. | East Essex Gazette | February 1976 |
| 6. | East Essex Gazette | November 16 th 1973 | 19. | East Essex Gazette | April 16 th 1976 |
| 7. | East Essex Gazette | Friday February 15 th 1974 | 20. | East Essex Gazette | April 9 th , May 14 th 1976 |
| 8. | East Essex Gazette | Friday January 18 th 1974 | 21. | East Essex Gazette | April 30 th 1976 |
| 9. | East Essex Gazette | Friday February 22 nd 1974 | 22. | East Essex Gazette | May 21 st 1976 |
| 10. | East Essex Gazette | Friday June 14 th 1974 | 23. | East Essex Gazette | October 22 nd 1976 |
| 11. | East Essex Gazette | Friday May 3 rd 1974 | 24. | East Essex Gazette | October 15 th 1976 |
| 12. | East Essex Gazette | Friday May 10 th 1974 | 25. | East Essex Gazette | June 17 th 1977 |
| 13. | East Essex Gazette | February 13 th 1974 | | | |

The 1980s and 1990s

In January 1991, a new telephone kiosk was installed outside the War Memorial Hall and the Parish Council received £900 from Tendring Council towards providing services.¹ In March, Churchgate Investments outlined plans for a stadium, business park, hotel and industrial buildings on 100 acres east of the village. This was opposed by the Parish Council who wrote to all 160 homes. Improvements at Frating cross-roads were also delayed again due to a desire to keep the Essex County Council Community Charge low.²

In 1992, plans for the 400,000m² business park were approved by Tendring District Council subject to the Ministers approval. This displeased villagers and the Parish Council.³ In August, a woman was attacked in Rectory Road by two men. She was beaten, knocked to the ground and sprayed in the face with an aerosol can and £20 was stolen. The police helicopter failed to find the assailants.⁴

In March 1993, Pioneer Aggregates won a contract to build an agricultural reservoir at an orchard at Hockley Farm. Permission was given for fifty lorries a day to remove ballast, but there were fears this could rise to 200 if the company won a contract to build the Little Clacton By-pass. Farmer Hugh Culley explained construction was needed as there was insufficient water on site and would take between fourteen weeks and a year.⁵ In June, Frating Parish Council asked Tendring Hundred Water to provide mains water to properties near to Frating Hill. They refused to fund this.⁶ Instead, the water company expected the residents to pay £3000 for each home connected.⁷ In October, Crossways Tyres sort permission to display and sell cars. This was refused *on the grounds it could cause a danger to motorists*.⁸

In March 1993, the sign at the junction of the B1029 and Rectory Road needed repairing.⁹ The following year, the hedge there was creating a danger to traffic and needed pruning. There had been 13

crimes in the previous year. Gay Culley was re-elected as Chair and Alan Day as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.¹⁰

In 1994, the future area of the Frating Green Business Park (32 acres) was evaluated by the ECC-FAU, led by supervisor Stuart Foreman. *An archaeological evaluation by fieldwalking survey has been carried in advance of development of a site to the east of Frating Green. A concentration of burnt flint suggests the presence of prehistoric activity. Two distinct concentrations of postmedieval tile, pottery and daub may indicate that buildings of that date once existed on the site. The costs of the evaluation are to be met by the developer.*¹¹ Tiptree Book Service received an incentive of £100,000 from Essex County Council and moved in with 300 staff.¹² In September 1997, Stephen Fry opened the new centre which distributed 50 million books and multi-media products each year.¹³ In June 2001, TBS received permission to add a 5870m² high bay warehouse, a 2790m² low bay warehouse and a 1,534m² office block to employ a further 50 people.¹⁴ The estimated cost was £6 million.¹⁵

In July 1994, the Parish Council meeting was called off as they were not quorate due a holiday, a spouse's birthday party and another Councillor moving away.¹⁶

In 1995, Christopher Ferens Pertwee of Hockley House became High Sheriff of Essex.¹⁷ In 1996, he became Deputy-Lieutenant.¹⁸ In March 1995, Essex County Council were examining ways of making the junction between Great Bentley Road and Luffkins Lane safer. Also, kerb lines on Main Road were to be built up to make the road narrower and reduce speed.¹⁹

In July 1996, Wimpey Homes revealed the *Three Greens Plan* for 2000 homes on a 400 acre site, with a business park, school, shops and sports facilities – leading to a rise in population to 6100. Local residents formed *Campaign against Rural Destruction (CARD)* to oppose these plans.²⁰

In 1997, automatic half-gates were fitted at Frating level crossing.²¹ Later that year, a battery charger failed so the gates did not open between 12:30 and 4:30pm; which led to drivers dangerously zig-zagging between them.²²

In 1999, Prowting plc built sixty-seven homes in Fenn Close, Tokely Road and Barrell Close on a site of 6.5 hectares. There was 0.27 hectares of open land for a play-ground.²³ In July, Tendring District Council made an enforcement notice against a mobile home stored on land next to Frating Caravan Park. In January

2000, the Council agreed to enter the land and remove it.²⁴ In November 1999, Eastern Contracting announced plans to build a new depot employing 150,²⁵ on 2.2 acres adjacent to Brooklands bungalow on Colchester Road.²⁶ Tendring Council refused planning permission, but the developers Equity ALP Property Partnership appealed. The Government Inspector felt the *character and appearance of the area* would suffer if he gave permission.²⁷

1. **East Essex Gazette** February 8th 1991
2. **East Essex Gazette** March 8th 1991
3. **Essex Gazette** February 2nd 1992
4. **East Essex Gazette** August 7th 1992
5. **East Essex Gazette** March 5th 1993
6. **Letter from Roger Rayner, Managing Director June 8th 1993 JAWR/SR/15g/6**
7. **East Essex Gazette** July 2nd 1993
8. **Drake Work Of The County Archaeological Section (May 1994) Newsletter 119 of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History p.16; Business park set to go ahead Essex County Standard** May 15th 1992; TDC Planning Application TEN/91/0821
9. **East Essex Gazette** March 5th 1993
10. **Essex County Standard** August 8th 1997
11. **East Anglian Daily Times** Wednesday June 27th 2001
12. **Clacton Gazette** Friday June 29th 2001
13. **East Essex Gazette** September 26th 1997
14. **The Times** Thursday March 16 1995
15. **The Times** Saturday June 22 1996
16. **East Essex Gazette** July 8th 1994
17. **East Essex Gazette** October 26th 1996; **Essex County Standard** August 8th 1997;
18. **East Essex Gazette** March 3rd 1995
19. **TDC RVS/BJO/E/ECC/HT/14**
20. **MAB The Parish of Frating in Essex p3 15th December 1999; East Essex Gazette** September 9th 1994; July 28th 1995;
21. **East Essex Gazette** August 18th 1997
22. **East Essex Gazette** August 18th 1997
23. **East Essex Gazette** January 7th 2000
24. **Evening Gazette** Tuesday November 23rd 1999, *Fury over business depot plan*
25. **Clacton Gazette** Friday November 24th 1999
26. **MAB** January 4th 2001
27. **East Essex Gazette** Thursday December 30th 1999 *Frating Appeal is dismissed Clacton Gazette* Friday June 30th 2000 p4;

The New Millenium -

To celebrate the Millennium, the Parish Council organized 86 photographs – each was of a houses with villagers standing outside in August 1999. This was published as *Frating – a snapshot*.¹ A notice board was also erected at the crossroads.²

On June 26th 2001, Colchester Meeting Room Trust submitted plans for a hall and car parking for seventy cars off Colchester Road.³ In October 2021, permission was granted for the car parking to be doubled.

In 2002, work started at the crossroads to install traffic lights. This deterred people from going into the Kings Arms. Work was completed and the lights were switched on at 4pm on Friday 17th May.⁴ The Post Office and General Store shut on April 30th 2003 due to a loss of parking spaces which had restricted passing trade.⁵

In April 2002, mains water finally reached Frating Hill. Residents had to pay to be connected or continue to use their own wells.⁶ On Monday 3rd June 2002, Frating celebrated the Golden Jubilee with a family fun day in the field behind the Snooty Fox. Jubilee Medals were presented to around one hundred children under sixteen. Over 150 attended.⁷

In July 2003, fire crews spent an hour putting out a blaze amongst crops on Frating Hill.⁸ In September, crews from six local fire stations dealt with a stubble fire that spread to Frating Hall and Holly Farms – including a 10 x 33m building.⁹ On Monday 6th August 2007, a spark from baling equipment at Frating Hall Farm led to 150 acres being ablaze threatening the neighbouring caravan park. Ten local crews were deployed.¹⁰

In March 2006, residents objected to the 27-hectare Oasis site being included in the Tendring Council's draft local plan for commercial and industrial use. A petition collected 6000 signatures and 2000 letters of objection were received.¹¹ Essex County Council opposed this and issued a certificate of non-conformity. Plans were changed to straddle the A120/A133 junction instead.¹²

In March 2007, Frating was certified as a Quality Parish Council and was re-accredited in March 2011.¹³ On June 2nd 2012, the Diamond Jubilee was celebrated at the War Memorial Hall with a presentation of medallions to all under-16s.¹⁴

In December 2014, Mike Brown (d.2021) was nominated to receive the Pride of Tendring Award. *Frating Parish Council chairman Mike Brown has been active in the village for the past 17 years, serving on the Memorial Hall committee, acting as official historian and being active in the church. A former police chief superintendent he helps distribute the parish magazine, served on Tendring District Council's Standards Committee for six years and was chairman of the Tendring Association of Local Councils from 2003-2008.*¹⁵

Anglia Salads was formed from the joining of three local Frating farms.¹⁶ In 2007, melons were grown for the local Tesco's.¹⁷ In 2014, 40 acres of polytunnels were announced to supply baby leaf lettuce and other bagged leaves.¹⁸

National Car Auctions started building their site on Main Road at the edge of Frating Parish from 1993 after the archaeological survey.¹⁹ In 2002, they received permission from Tendring Council and the Deputy Prime Minister's Office to expand using eleven acres of agricultural land.²⁰ In 2022, this is Mannheim Car Auctions with the only four-lane auction in Europe and is capable of running six auctions a week.²¹

In July 2021, residents started moving into the sixty-seven new homes of Mannings Road, built north of Tokley Road by Sanctuary Homes.²²

The Post Office stayed at the Stores, opposite the King's Arms but the Postmaster changed. It was J Fisher until 1957; Mr Bensley in 1957; Mr Hudson until 1967 when his wife took over; R Webb until 1969 and then I Cooper.²³

1. **Frating Parish council (2000) Frating – a snapshot**
2. **MAB January 4th 2001**
3. **TDC 01/01153/FUL**
4. **East Essex Gazette** September 9th 2000; **MAB** 10th March 2003
5. *Village set to lose its post office and shop* **Clacton Gazette** February 28th 2003; *Search is on for sub-postmaster* **Evening Gazette** Friday February 28th 2003; *New road system spells end for rural post office* **East Anglian daily times** March 1st 2003; *Post office set to shut down* **East Anglian Daily Times** March 2nd 2003;
6. **MAB** 10th March 2003
7. **MAB Grapevine** June 2002
8. **East Essex Gazette** July 25th 2003
9. *Fire fighters tackle big farm blaze* **Clacton Gazette** September 19th 2003
10. *Flames sweep 150-acre field* **Clacton Gazette** Thursday August 9th 2007
11. **Essex Gazette** March 9th 2006
12. **Essex Gazette** Thursday November 10th 2007
13. **MAB** Certificates
14. **Frating Parish Council Annual Report 2012/3 p2**
15. *Unsung heroes recognised in Pride of Tendring awards* **East Anglian Daily Times** December 31 2014

16. <http://www.angliasalads.co.uk/history.html>
17. *Essex Farmer grows melons* **East Anglian Daily Times** August 22, 2007
18. *Essex: Angflor salads joint venture extends under-cover production* **East Anglian Daily Times** August 14, 2014
19. 1997; Saturday November 16, 1996; Saturday October 12 1996
20. **MAB** March 10th 2003
21. <https://www.manheim.co.uk/our-centres/colchester>
22. **Daily Gazette** July 2nd 2018; <https://www.sanctuary-homes.co.uk/developments/penny-fields>
23. **Trinder IV (1971) Postal History of Tendring Hundred of Essex p84**

The Tartan House Nightclub

The Tartan House was created in the car park of the café/tobacconist, built in 1935, on the Main Road.¹ Since 1969, this had been taken over by Colin and Marie Archer and called the *Highview Transport Café*. In 1970, bed and breakfast for sixteen people. The *Tartan House Bar and Restaurant (Great Bentley 250391)* was built between March and October 1973 by Terry Drake's construction team, which still had 100 parking spaces. The bar was 100 by 35 feet faced with simulated York stone installed by Drake & Buxby of Ipswich. It was carpeted in 440'² Hunting Stewart pattern woven in Glasgow, which weighed two tons. This was the largest carpet in East Anglia and was piped in, by Ian Morrison of the Scottish Piping Society, when laid by Curtis, Bell and Smith. The bar was pine clad with wooden shields made by local carpenter Robin Molton. There was a medieval style fireplace with illumination from triple-level droplets of red, blue and mermaid green fitted by Peter Bates. In the main porch hung a chandelier, whilst one wall was a mosaic of blue, red, amber and green glass.



Figure 29 – Piping in the carpet September 1973

The restaurant could seat 200, on refectory dark oak tables supplied by FL Collyer of Colchester. The menu consisted of fresh steaks, chicken and thirty wines. On Monday and Tuesday evenings there would be a buffet with hot meals served Wednesday to Saturday. Sunday luncheon would be accompanied by music. There was a dance floor, and dias for bands, to use every Friday and Saturday. *Time gentleman pleased* was replaced by a recording of *Amazing Grace*. Parties for up to 200 could be accommodated.

Twenty chalets were to be built over the Winter.²

Champagne was opened and the piper played at the Grand Opening on Saturday October 13th. Several diners did not have ties, which were required on Friday and Saturday nights, and were asked to leave.³

In 1974, the *Tartan House Restaurant and Sunningdale Café* was mentioned in the Egon Ronay *Good Food* guide for truck-drivers.⁴ This was first licensed for Music and Dancing in September 1973⁵ and proved popular with teens and students from the newly opened University of Essex; with others travelling from as far away as Ipswich. It had a small car-park that quickly filled up; so, cars parked on the grass verge outside. At the back, was a small room that sold burgers and chips; with tables and *Pacman*, *Space Invaders* and *Cube* arcade machines. There was a free admission to a disco on Monday-Thursday with live music at the week-ends. Private functions of up to 200 people could be catered for. It sold Tolly Cobbold and McEwans beers; with Carling and Carlsburg lagers.⁶ In July 1976, a Colchester man was fined a total of £77 for assaulting the landlord, Colin Archer, when asked to leave after the closing bell had been rung. Archer was punched in the face four times, so was treated for a fractured nose and had stitches for facial injuries.⁷

FRATING

THE TARTAN HOUSE

FREE HOUSE
MIDWAY BETWEEN CLACTON AND COLCHESTER
Tues., Wed., Thurs., Free Disco : Open late Friday
and Saturday : Live music Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Main Road, Frating. Tel. Gt. Bentley 250391

**COLIN & MARIE
and STAFF
of the
TARTAN
HOUSE**
Main Road, Frating
wish all their customers
a
Very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

Situated midway between Clacton and Colchester The Tartan House at Frating has a free adm. Disco each night Monday to Thursday, and live music Friday, Saturday and Sunday from popular local bands. Open late on Friday and Saturday nights, The Tartan House can cater for up to 200 people for private parties and functions. Hosts Colin and Marie Archer are now taking bookings for Christmas and the New Year. This spacious Free house has ample parking facilities.

Figure 30 - East Essex Gazette Advertisements 1976⁸

On January 3rd 1977, the building burnt down at an estimated cost of £250,000; the landlord and Marie Archer were rescued by ladder. *All Marie's jewellery was one gob of molten metal and stoneware. The cash tills were unrecognisable lumps.*⁹ In June 1977, permission was given for *replacement of public house and restaurant, domestic garage, Tartan House, Frating Road.*¹⁰ Within two years it was rebuilt on a larger scale for £300,000; then in 1984 a further £100,000 was spent improving the inside; and the following year a similar amount on lighting effects.



Figure 31 – The rebuilt *Tartan House* exterior from Main Road, Frating

In 1990, it was taken over by Nick Auger and Perry Miller.¹¹ It was rebranded as *Tutu's*¹² hosting 800 paying guests, with an investment of £750,000,¹³ including £25,000 spent on soundproofing and sixty additional car-parking spaces sourced.¹⁴ Local complaints led to a two-day licensing hearing in 1991,¹⁵ after 660 fixed penalty parking tickets had been issued in a year (the most in Essex), complaints about the noise and a concert by Bernard Manning.¹⁶



Figure 32 – flyers for Tartan Nightclub found on eBay

In January 1992, Tendring Council measured, pre-announced, the decibel levels in two nearby houses at 11pm. This did lead to a reduction of noise and complaints.¹⁷ In March, Tattoos was prosecuted for an over-running event that finished at 1:54am. Auger protested he was relying on a video timer as he was not wearing a watch, but was fined £480 and Miller £48; with each additionally paying £37.50 costs.¹⁸ In May, Auger and Miller were *conditionally discharged for illegal events held* but did not lose their licenses.¹⁹ The Parish Council responded by offering to give disturbed neighbours the phone numbers of District Councillors so they could complain at 2 or 3am about the noise.²⁰ In July after failing a decibel test,²¹ the night club went into receivership with offers accepted for more than £400,000²² but the license was not surrendered. In August, Essex Police stopped a planned rave at the nightclub.²³

1. **Essex Newsmen** Saturday 23 February 1935
2. **East Essex Gazette** September 28th, October 12th, 19th 1973
3. **East Essex Gazette** October 19th 1973
4. **East Essex Gazette** Friday July 12th 1974
5. **O'Dell S (2015) Post-war Tourism in the Tendring District and Beyond: The Rise of the Holiday Caravan Park, c. 1938-1989 p.393**
6. Dave's memories October 8th 2021; Mark Foreman's memories March 1st 2021; **East Essex Gazette** August 27th 1976
7. **East Essex Gazette** July 23rd 1976
8. **East Essex Gazette** September 3rd, December 10th, August 27th 1976
9. **Evening Gazette** January 4th 1977
10. **East Essex Gazette** June 3rd 1977
11. **Evening Gazette** November 9th 1994
12. **Dave Twiss, Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10214421907157330&set=pcb.978658392473944>
13. **Evening Gazette** November 26th 1991
14. **Evening Gazette** November 27th 1991
15. **Evening Gazette** May 28th 1992, November 9th 1994
16. **East Essex Gazette** May 17th, **June 7th**, September 6th, November 26th 1991
17. *Nightclub sound test slated for not being a secret* **East Essex Gazette** January 31st, February 4th, May 8th 1992
18. *Tootoos fined for too late night party* **East Essex Gazette** March 1992
19. **Evening Gazette** July 17th 1992
20. *Locals praise police over rave action plan* **East Essex Gazette** August 7th 1992
21. *The disco sound set to disturb* **East Essex Gazette** May 29th 1992
22. **Evening Gazette** November 23rd 1992
23. *Locals praise police over rave action plan* **East Essex Gazette** August 7th 1992

Frating Village Sign (2010)



Figure 33 – dedicating the new Village sign¹

Following the Village Appraisal in 2006, the Parish Council proposed the erection of a village sign. Funding towards the project was identified and boosted by an annual grant over three years allocated to Tendring District Councillors to support parish projects and donations received from A Smith GB Ltd, Tendring District Council and B&Q Colchester. The project was then commissioned to Mark Dyvig of Dyvig Metal Work Design, a local company who completed the design and manufacture.

The sign is based around a fruited apple tree with additional insertions:

- the bell represents the three church bells of Frating Church;
- the ram's head is from the coat of arms of the Bendish family of Bumpstead Steeple. Sir Thomas Bendish (1540-1602) married Eleanor, daughter of John Ford III, Lord of the Manor of Frating Hall;
- the cartwheel represents the Wheelwrights of Haggars Lane;
- the apple tree acknowledges the apple growing industry in Frating during the twentieth Century.

The new village sign has been placed at the junction of the A133/ B1029 and was dedicated by the Reverend Pauline Scott on Saturday, 11th September, 2010.¹ It is insured for £2000.²

1. Frating Directory (2021) p.2; <https://e-voice.org.uk/fratingparishcouncil/frating-village/> Frating Parish Council Annual Report 2010/1
 2. Frating Parish Assets

Listed Buildings –

From March 27th 1987, sixteen buildings were listed at Grade II in Frating. These included the late nineteenth century cast iron guide post to the old Church off Frating Hill¹ and a cast iron mile marker on the A133 near to Frating Lodge- possibly made by Lawford Ironworks.²

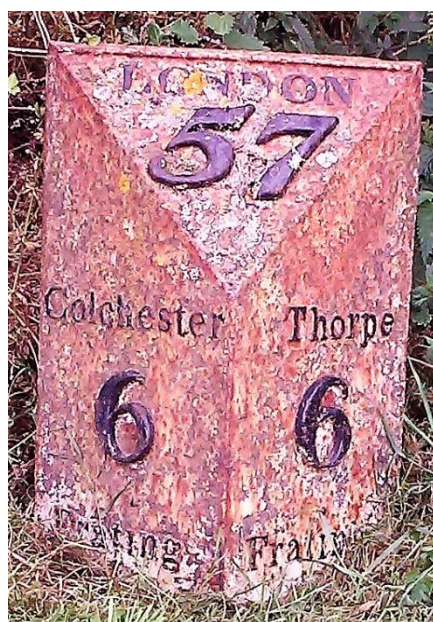


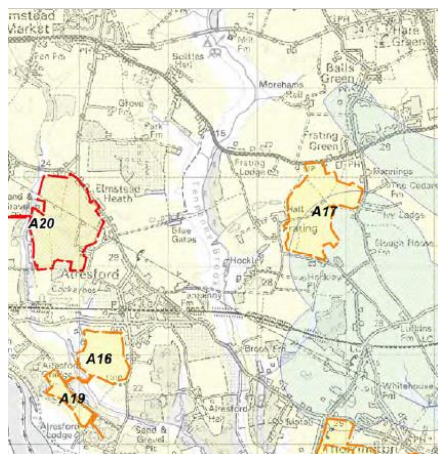
Figure 34– Guide Post and Milestone

Others included the seventeenth century Hill Farmhouse, the weather-boarded Forge Cottages, the seventeenth century Pudners cottage and the seventeenth century Thatched Cottage on Main Road. The seventeenth century Mannings on Great Bentley Road and its nineteenth century, exterior cast iron pump which has a plain stem, with a pointed finial, curved handle, fluted spout and head.

In the centre of the Parish, the Old Church House and Frating Hall - the main house, granary, barn, gateway and two garden walls - were listed.

Quarrying in Frating

The 1842 Tithe map shows Gravel Pit Field (#30) east of Slough Farm.¹ Until 1921, William Loveless owned a quarry in Frating when the ballast ran out and the Wivenhoe Sandstone and Gravel Company, Ltd. was formed in 1925 to mine in other locations.²



In 2010, Essex County Council were down to their last 8.6 years of ballast for the county and inspected over 50 sites. Two of the sites selected for future excavation were at Frating Hall (A17) and Church Road, Alresford (A18).³

Figure 35 – OS 1;50,000 map Potential Extraction Sites Frating Hall is labelled A17³

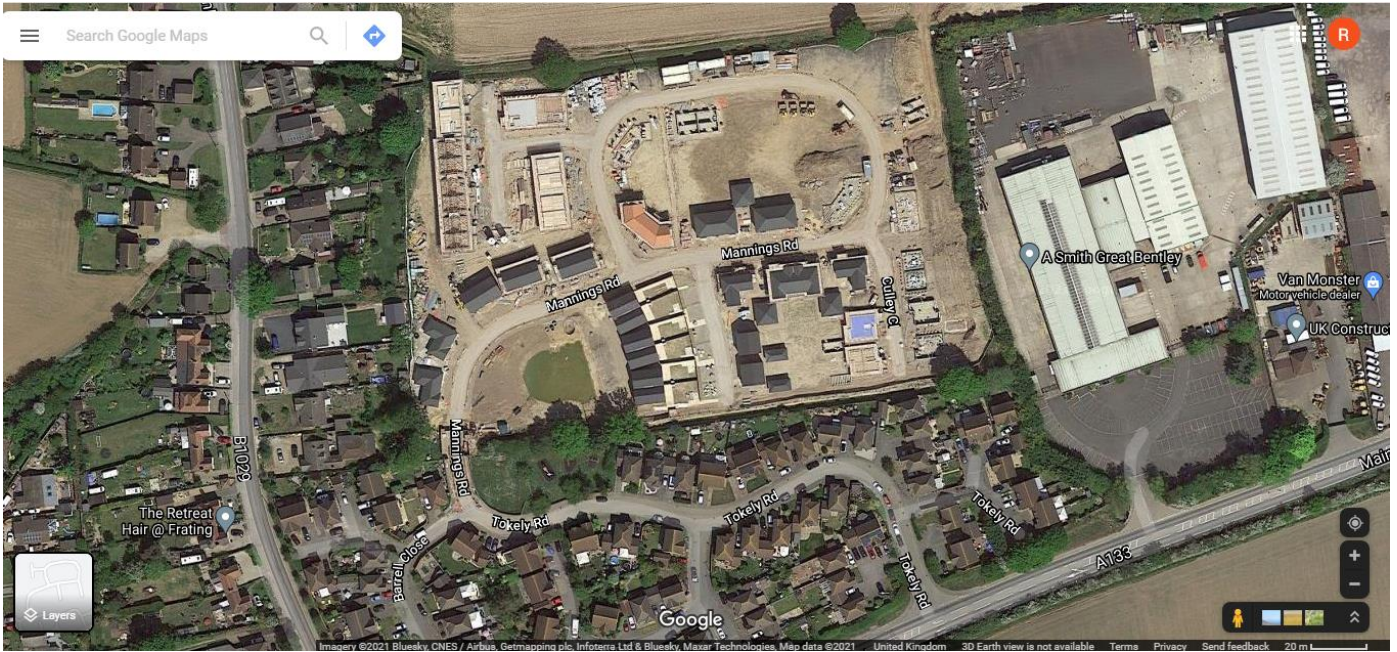
Frating formed Frating *Against Mineral* Extraction (*FAME*) and mounted a campaign to prevent these quarries.⁴ In February 2011, the Tendring Council Cabinet opposed the development on the grounds that: -

- i) highways/transportation (there is no convenient means of access to the main A120/A133 highway network for eastbound HGVs);
- ii) residential amenity (the site lies close to the village, to the rear of a significant number of dwellings including a residential mobile home site);
- iii) local amenity (visual – limited screening exists in winter and recreational – a network of public footpaths crosses the site);
- iv) heritage (crop marks and enclosures and setting of listed buildings); and
- v) agricultural land quality (the site comprises the best and most versatile Grades 1 & 2 agricultural soils).
- vi) Additionally, potential use of the ballast by Harwich Port would lead to an almost constant stream of lorries most days of the year.⁵

By 2012, ECC had decided instead to extend the existing Alresford Lodge Quarry(A19)⁶ and quarry between Sunnymede Farm Elmstead and Heath Farm Alresford (A20) a decade later.

1. Kemble J (2011) *The place-names of Frating* p.7
2. <https://www.wivenhoehistory.org.uk/content/topics/places-buildings/wivenhoe-quarry/sea-change-wivenhoe-remembered-the-wivenhoe-sand-and-gravel-pit>
3. Essex County Council (2010) *Minerals Local Plan Level 1 SFRA* p.11; Tendring District Council CABINET (16 FEBRUARY 2011) REPORT OF INTERIM HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES A.4 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MINERALS DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT (MDD): p.1
4. *Daily Gazette* January 31st 2011, *Daily Gazette* February 22nd 2011
5. *Tendring Cabinet Minutes (16th February 2011) P.7*
6. *Quarry Plans for North-Essex Revealed Daily Gazette* December 7th 2012

Figure 36 – recent changes (2021)



Sanctuary Contact us to discover your new home

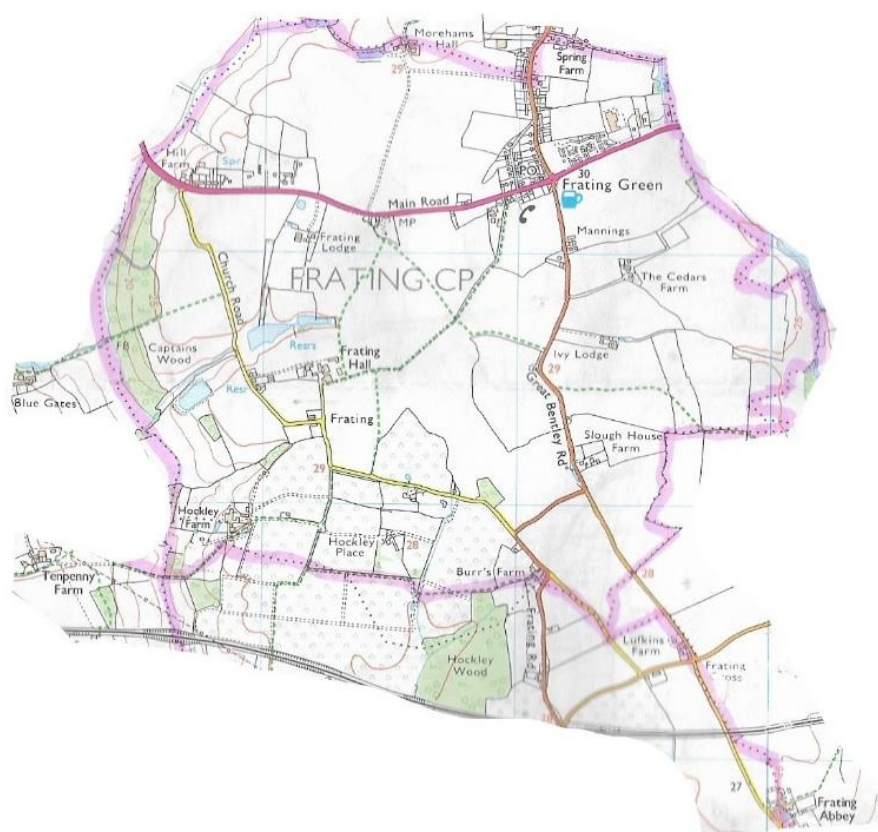
[Covid-19 update](#) [Find your home](#) [Buying with Us](#) [Shared Ownership](#) **Developments** [News](#)

[Enquire now](#) 23 Properties available £104,000 Frating, CO7 7E

The site plan diagram illustrates the layout of the development, including a central pond and various property models. The legend categorizes properties by bedroom count and model name:

- 2 Bedroom:**
 - The Colne (Green)
 - The Hythe (Blue)
 - The Roman (Light Green)
 - The Sixpenny (Light Blue)
- 3 Bedroom:**
 - The Abberton (Purple)
 - The Ardleigh (Pink)
 - The Lexden (Dark Green)
 - The Porter (Red)
- 4 Bedroom:**
 - The Balkeke (Magenta)
 - The Bentley (Yellow)
 - The Elmstead (Orange)

Figure 37 -



OS 1:25,000 map (2002)

Researcher's Notes

This project was written during Lockdowns in 2021-2, after reading the available archaeological reports, newspaper articles, books saved to the web and census returns since 1801. As all libraries, schools and universities were closed due to Lockdown, I attempted to use sources primarily on-line via Essex Library's free access and summaries of documents held by the Essex Record Office. Other on-line sources included the Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology & History, Victoria County History of Essex, RCHME surveys, The National Archives, British Library and google books. What started as a brief article for a proposed village cookbook for Alresford, soon grew as more history was uncovered about all four villages in the Tenpenney Benefice.

On November 7th 2021, I received the archive from the late Recorder and Parish Council Chairman Mike Brown, of twenty-five folders, 59 books, three audio-tapes, two plates and a box of maps.

All photographs are my own, except where noted.

Bibliography –**National-**

Savage A (1984) *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles*

Local –

Gollifler DE (1999) *Three Years A-growing* – reprinting of the account of Frating Farming Society Ltd 1943-5

Frating Parish Council (1999) *A Snapshot of Frating*

Accessed on-line

- **Bettley J, Pevsner N (2007)** *The Buildings of England: Essex*, via Essex Libraries (E.720) also 1951 & 1964 editions are on-line
- **British Library** <https://www.bl.uk/catalogues-and-collections>
- **(Ed.) Doubleday HA and Page W (1903)** *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 1* <https://archive.org/details/victoriahistoryo01doubuoft/mode/2up>
- **(Ed.) Cooper J and Elrington CR (1994)** *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 9, the Borough of Colchester, British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol9/> no entries written for Frating yet, but this includes Colchester and Wivenhoe (Vol. 10)
- **Denney P (2010)** *Villages around Colchester through time* - same photos as in Hedges (2000)
- **Essex Record Office** – summaries of key documents <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk/>
- **Morant P (1768)** *The History and Antiquities of the County of Essex* <https://ia800700.us.archive.org/13/items/b30455583/b30455583.pdf> - extremely unreliable
- **National Archives** – free document downloads of Wills and Domesday Book entries during lock-down normally £3.50 each <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/records>
- **Open Domesday** – free access to the Domesday Book in English, interactive map <https://opendomesday.org/place/TM0822/frating/> there are errors compared to the National Archives version
- **Vision of Britain** – Census analysis for each village 1831/1881/up to 1961– population, social status, housing, employment <https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/6713>
- **Yorke P. (2011)** *William Hagger: Fairground Film-maker*

Accessed via Essex Society for Archaeology and History (formed 1852 as Essex Archaeological Society)

- **Transactions** over sixty volumes from 1854 – 2015 <http://esah1852.org.uk/research/transactions> More recent editions are in the Special Collections room, University of Essex (membership and library card required)
- **Feet of Fines – Emmison FG** - records of property transactions - six volumes – (1182-1603) <http://esah1852.org.uk/research/wealth-of-resources/feet-of-fines>
- **Museum Reports** - nine volumes (1907-1970) – <http://esah1852.org.uk/research/wealth-of-resources/colchester-museum-reports>
- **Newsletters** - <http://esah1852.org.uk/research/newsletters-blog>
- **Essex Industrial Archaeology Group (EIAG)** – seven volumes - <http://esah1852.org.uk/eiag-info/eiag-reports>
- **Essex Journal Spring 2004 – Spring 2022** – two volumes per year <https://www.esah1852.org.uk/publications/essex-journal>
- **Essex Review** 1893, 1985, 1896, 1899, 1904, <https://www.esah1852.org.uk/publications/essex-review>
- **Place-names of Essex** – tithe for each village from 1840s showing fields names, usage & acreage; ownership; tenants – with some historical background. Separate texts for Elmstead, Frating, Thorrington and Wivenhoe
- **Kemble J (2011)** *The place-names of Frating* <https://www1.essex.ac.uk/history/esah/essexplacenames/index.asp>
- 1893 Museum Guide <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89097137988&view=plaintext&seq=13>