

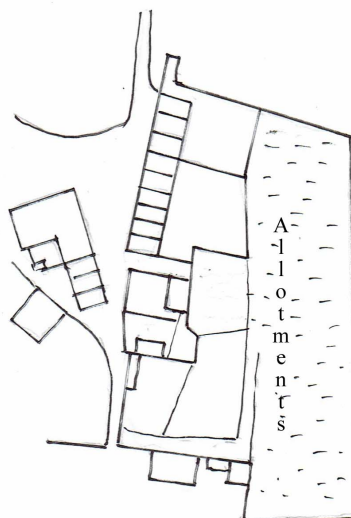
## Chapter 25 Langcliffe Allotments

There were two sets of allotments in Langcliffe. The first set lay either side of Pike Lane and traces of small brick buildings are still apparent by the footpath across to the main road by the railway bridge. The second set lay behind St John's Row, in the ownership of the Paleys at first, then the Fine Cotton Spinners and Doublers association, then the Langcliffe Hall Estate.

The Langcliffe Parish Council Minutes (PC/LAC for 1740-1942 at North Yorks. CRO) record a balance for the allotments of £5-6-9 in the period 1897-1903. The Minutes of 1894 (PC/LAC 1/5) refer to the allotments committee and a problem with pilfering. An improvement in the water supply was requested in 1907. In 1917 there was a discussion about acquiring more land for allotments. Langcliffe Parish Council controlled the Pike Lane allotments and in 1928 issued a booklet called New Allotment Gardens Letting Conditions (courtesy Barbara Johnson).

(Note that early references to allotments concern the Enclosure Award of 1789 and high grazing land.) It is not known when these allotments were closed, but probably in the late 1900s.

The 1844 Tithe Map and the 1847 OS map show gardens behind the houses on St John's Row (9 to 12 then but now renumbered). The gardens were bounded by fields. By 1912 allotments had been created as shown on the map accompanying a transaction made by George Paley.



*G. A. Paley map 1912 Lots 1 and 2 (West Yorkshire Registry of Deeds, Wakefield, vol.34, page371, no. 140)*

In 1912 George Arthur Paley sold three cottages (Lot 1, currently nos. 7,8 and 9 St John's Row) together with Lot 2 (the allotments) and several other Lots elsewhere in Langcliffe, all for £800, to Fine Cotton Spinners and Doublers Association.

The marriage settlement of June 1919 between Geoffrey Dawson and Margaret Cecilia Lawley vested a plot of land at Scar View, Settle (on Langcliffe Road opposite the mill) in the Trustees for the benefit of Mr Dawson. In May 1923 the Trustees for George Geoffrey Dawson exchanged the plot at Scar View in Settle for the allotments in Langcliffe, of equal size of 4018 square yards. The allotment land was at that time held by The Fine Spinners and Doublers Association Ltd. bought by them in 1912 from George Arthur Paley. The deed for No.2 Scar View, the property of Mr John Reid, shows the plans for the land at Scar View and the allotments in Langcliffe.

In 1928 The Trustees transferred the allotment property to Geoffrey Dawson. In later years the Langcliffe Hall Estate managed the allotment, renting allotments to village residents.

In 2014 the Estate decided to close the allotments and the land reverted to a grass field. The Estate offered to create allotments elsewhere but without specifying the new location; in the absence of further information the offer was not taken up. Most of the tenants found small plots nearby to continue growing crops.