

The History of Brinkworth House

The land on which Brinkworth House now stands was mentioned in the Domesday Survey in 1086 as being owned by Malmesbury Abbey. This continued until 1584 when it became the property of Thomas Howard, who was to become first Earl of Suffolk. The land was then sold to William Potter, a farmer, for grazing.

The house itself was constructed between 1871 and 1881 and was known as Clitchbury House in the ownership of Robert Beardsley, an Army Captain in the Fifth Dragoons whose wife was a daughter of the 4th Marquess of Waterford.

In 1888 the house was acquired by Thomas Wijuelin, his wife and six children. It was then sold in 1894 to Frank Day, a London solicitor. Mrs. Day sold the house following her husband's death to Sir Adrian Carton de Wiart who was awarded the Victoria Cross after the battle of the Somme.

In 1919 he had sold Brinkworth House to Major Noel Campbell. The Major did not stay long and in June 1922 it was put up for auction. At this time the house had three storeys and was substantially different from the building today. It was purchased by a Mr. Basil Turner, a former army captain. During the war years there are no records for the house, but by 1949 it had been sold to Major George William Murray-Smith, his wife and daughter.

In 1954 he sold Brinkworth House to Commander Scarlett-Streatfield who lived here with his wife and their five children. He then sold it to Anthony Richard Fitch and his wife Margaret. They divided up the estate, selling the old coach house and two cottages. In 1989 they sold Brinkworth House to John Peter Millward of the JPI Group who converted the premises to use as a corporate headquarters building.

In February 1997 the house was acquired by Ken and Barbara Cooper, who after extensive refurbishment have converted it to a business and events centre.