

West Dean Village History Trail
NUMBER 17 YEW TREE COTTAGE

No 6



YEW TREE COTTAGE WHEN IT WAS THATCHED AND THE DOOR
USED FOR BUYING BEER IN THE 1700S STILL EXISTED.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BEFORE 1935

In the late 1700s beer was brewed here and sold to the navigators, often referred to as navvies, who were working nearby on the construction of the Salisbury – Southampton canal. The purchasers entered by the doorway, now visible but bricked up, and the beer was served to them through a hatch on the left.

The house is a listed building. It has late 18th Century English bond brickwork and was extended to the right in the mid 19th Century. The door still in use is described as boarded with a simple timber canopy.



YEW TREE COTTAGE, NOW TILED, PHOTOGRAPHED C 1962