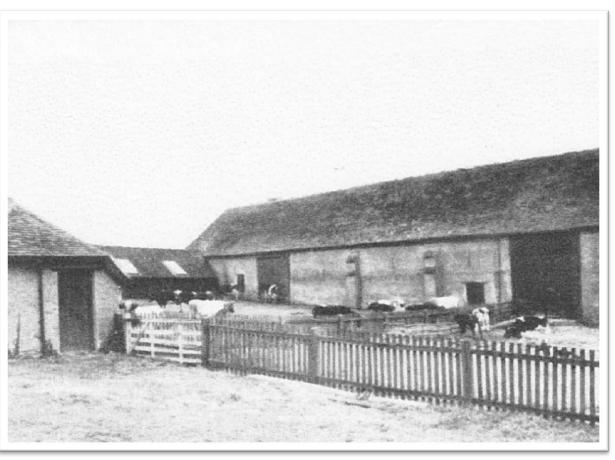
West Dean Village History Trail THE TITHE BARN



THE TITHE BARN IN 1945

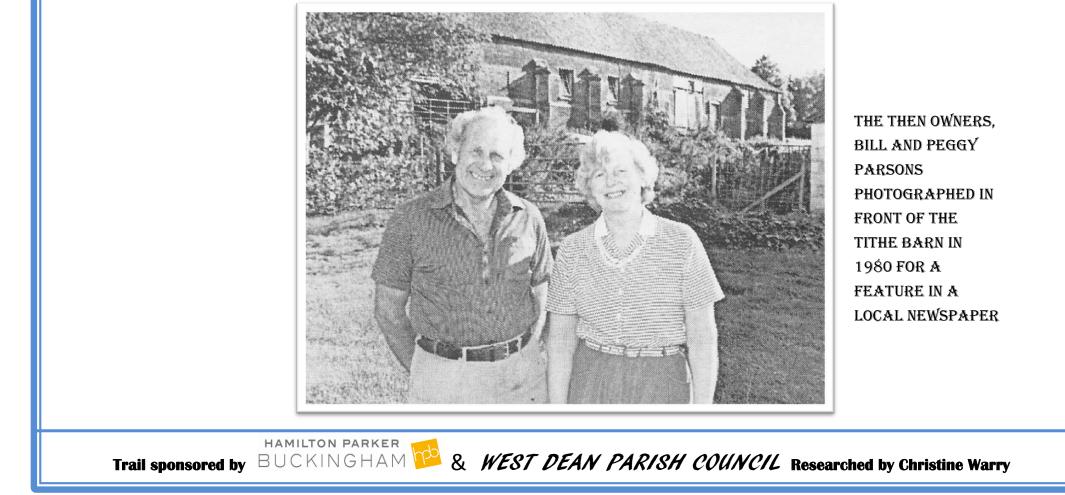
This is a fine 15th Century buttressed building, an early example of the use of bricks for farm buildings. [Bricks were not made in this country until the 15th Century.]

It was associated or belonged to Mottisfont Abbey until the Abbey's dissolution in 1536 at the time of the general dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII.

Later, it was sometimes used, in very severe weather, to shelter and house red deer from the New Forest.

In more recent times it was used for dairy cattle – cow stalls, milking parlour, dairy and sterilising room.

The tithe barn is a listed building. It measures 152 feet by 28 feet. The roof is hipped with ventilation slots and it is supported by a timber frame described as having tie beam trusses with raking struts to lower butt purlins and collars to upper purlins.



No 15