



YEW TREE BARN

Yew Tree Barn in Lower Road was Grade 2 listed but has changed significantly over the years since it was built in the late 17th century. It was the main barn for Yew Tree Farm, which lies immediately to the west.

It was originally thatched and had a massive timber frame with, as shown in the painting on the left, weatherboard cladding and plinth walls of red brick. The roof was later changed to corrugated metal (lower left photo). It had five bays, with one said to have been for the shire horse.

It was primarily used for cows, as Yew Tee Farm was a dairy farm. The farm was rented from the Whitaker family and run by Joe Smith from the 1930s until he passed away in the 1980s. Some of their land was along Lower Westbury Road, so they used to regularly walk 40 or 50 cows along Lower Road. In Marjorie Reeves' memoirs she describes, as a young girl in about 1910, going into "the great barn" which "was like a dim cathedral". From 1989 to 1992 the barn began to be converted to the house that we see today (below), with a footprint that matches the original. All of the wood from the original building was used to construct the frame of the new house.

