

'Engraved' window in Mulberry House

In a bedroom window in Mulberry House, one of the panes has been engraved by a daughter of the house in the late 1800s. She was one of the Neame family who were big land owners in the area at the time. If my memory is correct, her name was Mabel Neame and it would appear she used a diamond ring to engrave ('scratch' might be a more accurate word) on the glass in her bedroom. The room was either the first or top floor of the wing which juts out at the rear of the property.



There has been much speculation as to why she did it. Was she sent to her room for misbehaviour and this helped to fill the time? Or was it a teeming wet day and she had nothing better to do than scratch her name on the pane?

The writing is not very well formed, but even if her hand writing was good when using a pen, it must have been very difficult to manage the same task with a ring on a vertical piece of glass – and almost certainly it was the first – and probably the last – time she ever did such a thing! One could write a whole story around the 'if's and 'maybe's of this little event, all those years ago.

The front of the house stands right on the pavement now, which is above the level of the front door, meaning that the visitor has to step down into the front small entrance hall.

