

TALES OF CATISFIELD -

The Mystery Girls

A Mystery Photo Came To Light.....



to know about this
photo?

Just where was it?

When was it?

Who were they?



Solving the Mystery - Searching



From a 1980 Aerial view of
Catisfield

‘Fairthorne Cottages’

Catisfield Lane, near the A27

Solving the Mystery - Where?

The cottages still stand.

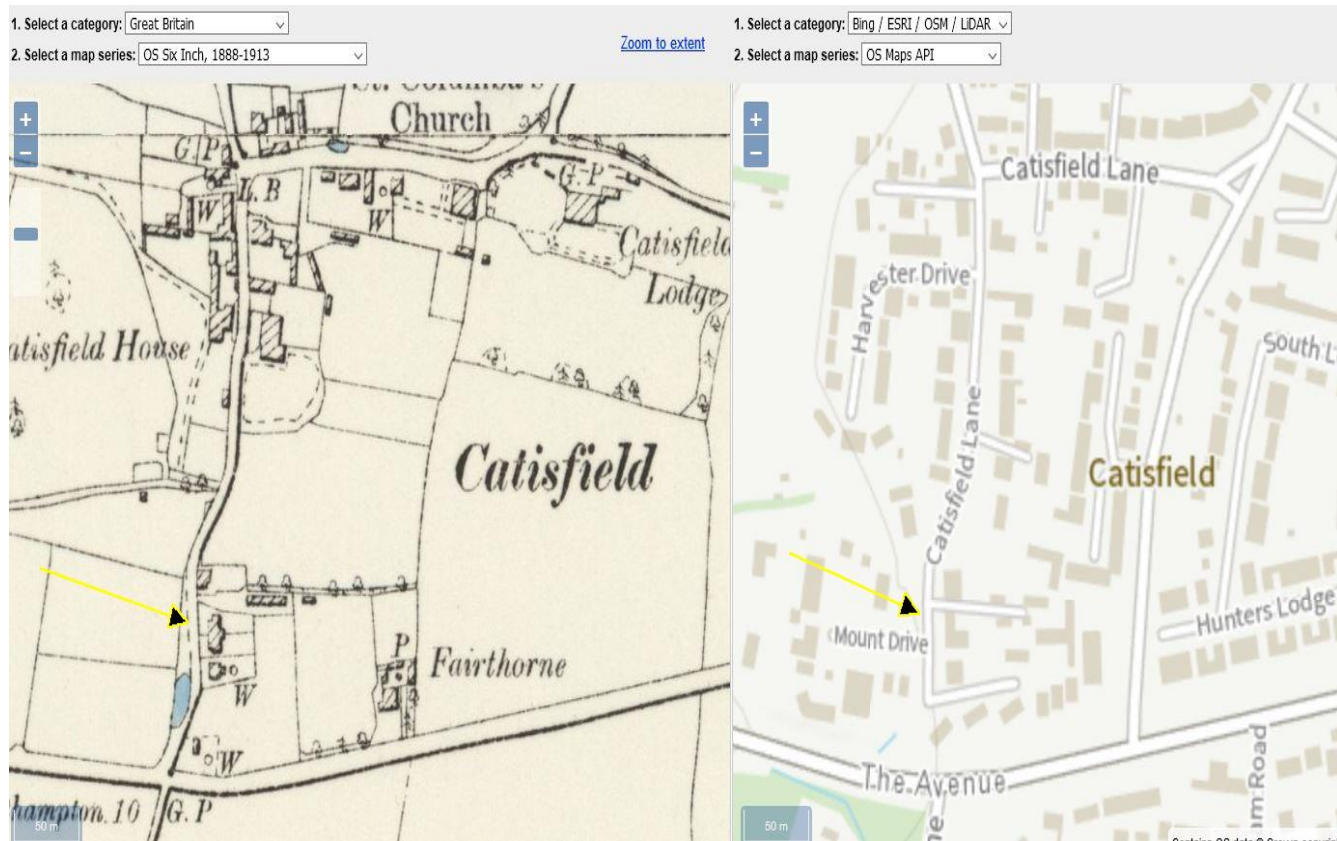
More recent Photo: taken from roughly today's junction of Catisfield Lane and Mount Drive,(about 100 yards up from the A27).

The large trees, hedge and lamp-post have gone.

They are outside what were known as **Fairthorne Cottages** - the right-most cottage here is today number 81 Catisfield Lane.



Then and Now



Solving the Mystery – When?

Date was unknown – so maybe the clothes will help. ?



For dress
comparison – a
1906 Catisfield
photo

So the date
might be **early**
1900's

perhaps??



Solving the Mystery - Who

- A bit more digging lets us make a better guess.
- If you look at the **1901 census**, and accept that the Enumerator's squiggle transcribed as Thile Cottages is **actually Fairthorne Cottages**, then you find 9 young ladies living there.
 - At no. 1 was Lea Alcock (5)
 - At no. 2 were Elsie (8), Lilian (7) and Hilda (4)
 - At no. 6 was Alice Hancock (4)
 - At no. 7 were Martha (12) and Jane (5)
 - At no. 8 was Florence Allen (6)
 - At no. 9 was Elsie Greenman (13)
- One could even hazard the guess that the left most and the right most are sisters (as they have the same hat?)..... from no. 7?.



To conclude.....

With link to next talk