

SOUTHAMPTON CITY LIBRARIES CLIPPINGS FILE

CLASS	HEADING	SOURCE	DATE
HS 1	Architecture Buildings A-Z	SDE	13 MAR 2000
DESCRIPTION		NOTES	
Roselands; Highfield			

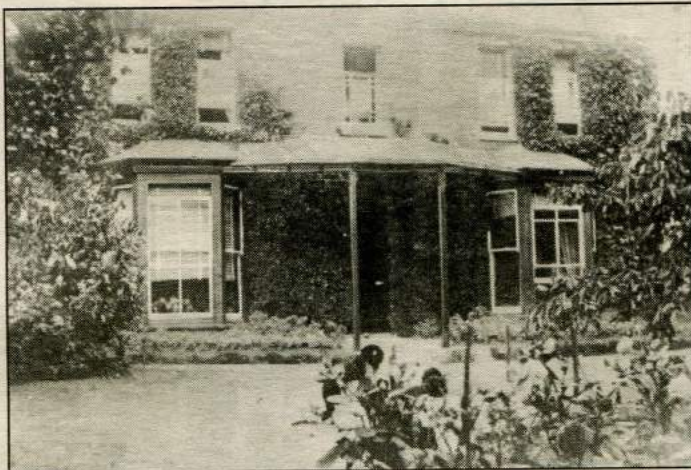
A HOUSE that had been home to three of Southampton's best-known sons has been demolished.

Roselands in Highfield was built in the last century by Richard Kimber, a schoolmaster turned brick-maker whose son Sidney (pictured left) was to become the city's most famous political personality.



The Tory visionary strode the first decades of this century like a Colossus ignoring any opposition or obstacle to his dream of creating a civic centre and sports centre the city could be proud of.

Those dreams became a reality during the 1930s leav-



HISTORIC: An archive picture of Roselands which was home to such notables as Charles Knott (right).

ing a lasting legacy to this remarkable man who was knighted in 1935.

Sir Sidney served the city for 38 years as a councillor, alderman and mayor during the First World War. He retired from public service in 1948 just a year before his

death. Roselands was sold in 1901 to the equally colourful William Bennett who had opened Southampton Docks' first canteen in 1885.

The son of a St Mary's ale-house keeper, Bennett went on to open several more canteens and a restaurant for ocean liner passengers and sightseers.

His broad business interests also included a slaughterhouse, pig farm and property development.

Roselands, which gave its name to Roseland Gardens, was next owned by another self-made man who has also left his mark on Southampton.

Fish shop entrepreneur Charlie Knott was born into dockland poverty in 1891 but moved up in the world through hard work and a keen eye for business - "sell everything except the wife and kids" he joked.



Charlie's favourite sport was coursing and is best known as the founder of Southampton's greyhound stadium and the pre-war Sportsdrome.

He is also remembered as the colourful promoter of speedway, ice and roller skating and many other sports in the city.

If walls could talk, those of Roselands would have been able to tell some remarkable stories.

The house was bought in the 1950s by the Morley family but following the death of Mr Charles Morley has now been demolished to make way for a luxury property development.



DEMOLITION: The house is knocked down.