

CAMBRIA

(now Cambria Court since 1961) was a semi-detached property and originally described as a villa, one of its former occupants was person of note who once graced the streets of Feltham.

The Resident of Cambria was a Herman Charles Merivale MA
1839-1906

Barrister, Playwright and Civil Servant, born in St. Pancras Ward of London, registered as a barrister in Kensington on 1871 and marrying an Elizabeth Pittman in Camden in 1878. He was friend of Anthony Trollope, Charles Dickens and Gilbert and Sullivan .



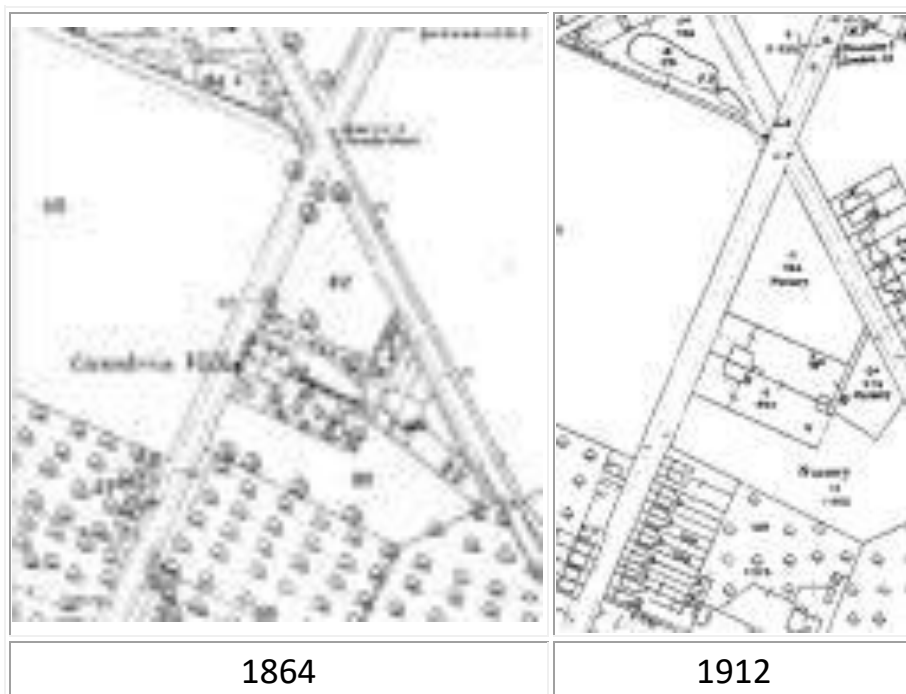
Herman Charles Merivale 1901 census living in Feltham but not before

He was well known at the time for his plays, dramas and poetry and came from a family of writers and clerics with the original name of the family as MERVAYLE who are recorded as early as 1558 in Northamptonshire.

He was constantly writing and his first Romantic play was issued in 1873 and his last novel a comedy was printed in 1896, he moved to Chiswick in the late 1900's dying of heart failure in 1906.

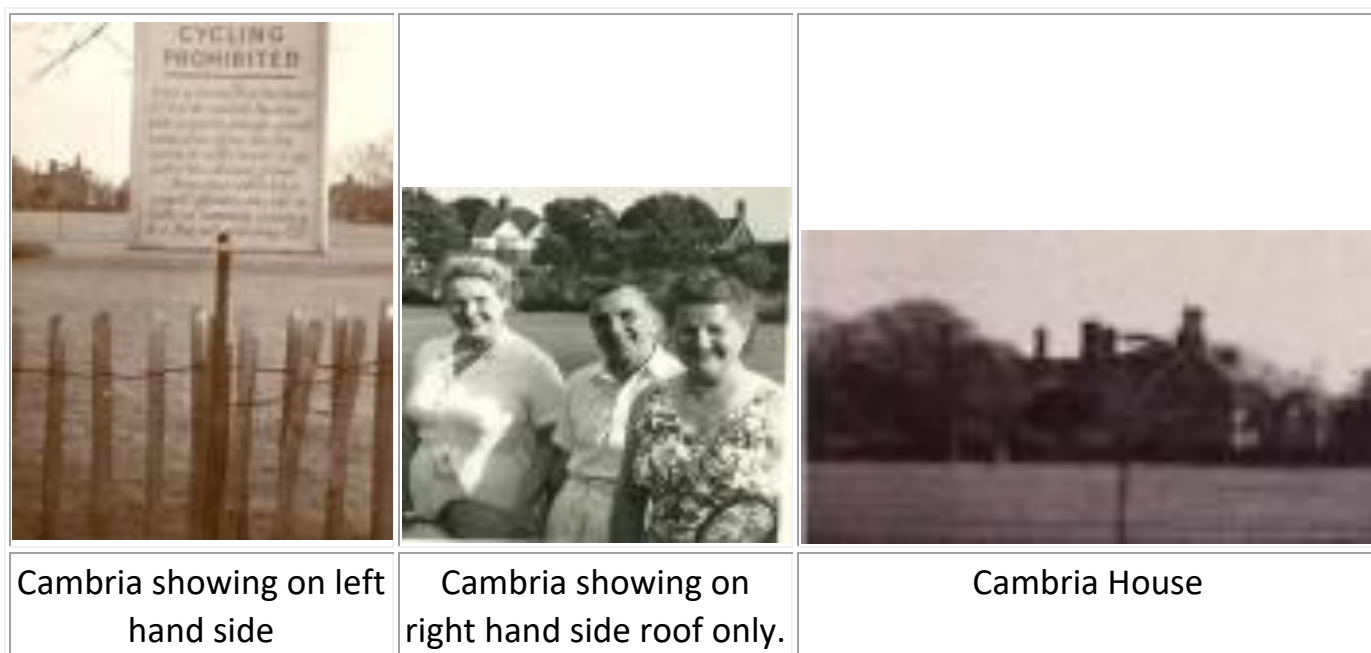
Over the long period of writing he produced a combination of plays, dramas and comedies (14 in total) along with 12 novels but suffered a period of depression and committed himself to an asylum ,where his substantial income was spent by executors of this estate in absentia. In 1900 he was granted a pension of £125.00 with his wife receiving a pension of £50.00 after his demise in 1906.

The following are the details on the CAMBRIA residence



Maps showing location

Photos



We are grateful for these photos and thank 'the late' Michael Betts and Mr. Curtis for providing these.

All of the Merivale men suffered from a heart condition but this did not prevent them from leading active lives albeit with a shorter than normal life span. They did however, contribute greatly to the arts both in their writing abilities and theatrical achievements.

Herman Charles Merivale was indeed a 'Person of note' who lived in Feltham

The list below includes the novels, plays and poems of
H C Merivale

1867 - He's a lunatic - one act play.

1868 - 6 month's ago - a comedy.

1872 - Son of the soil - Romantic play in 3 acts

1873 – A husband in clover - Lyceum Theatre.
Alone - a comic drama in 3 acts.
1874 – Peacock’s Holiday - Court Theatre.
White Pilgrim – a tragedy.
1875 – All for her - a drama in 3 acts.
1878 – Lady of Lyons – a vaudeville in 3 acts.
1879 – Forget – me –not -an original play in 3 acts.
The Lord of the Manor- drama 3 acts.
Peacock’s Holiday –farce 2 acts.
Non –fiction book, Experience in a Lunatic Asylum.
1882 – The Cynic – Globe Theatre.
Faucet’s of Balliol.
1884 – Binko’s Blues a tale of children.
Florien, a tragedy in 5 acts.
1885 – A Whip Hand with his wife –Cambridge Theatre Royal.
1886 – The Butler – a drama
1887 – Our Joan - The Grand Theatre.
1888 – The Don.
1890 – Souvenir of Ravenswood – novel.
1891- Life of W M Thackeray.
1896 – The Queen’s Proctor – comedy.
1902 – Bar, Stage and Platform.

Particular thanks to Katy Cox for providing the details on the birth and marriage.

Persons of Note 2020