# History of the Willow Tree

### 1890s and early 20th century

In 1899 the Parish Council took responsibility for maintaining the Greens.



There were shops and a garage on the Globe Green. (centre left in the photo above)

LOT 7. The Valuable

#### BUILDING SITE

situate on "THE GREEN," upon which Mr. Gardiner's Garage at present stands. Lannum; the Tenant paying the Rates.

The Site has a frontage of about 53 feet, and a depth of about 43 feet. The Building thereon is the property of the Tenant.

The shops and garage were demolished. Mr Gardiner built a new garage in central High Street by the Tudor House, where the Co-op now stands.

Parish Councillor **Charles Hill** was a gardener at Wycliffe College.

He planted the willow tree on the new piece of Green in 1921.

He was also responsible for renovating and caring for the Village Greens.

In 1920 the land was advertised for sale.

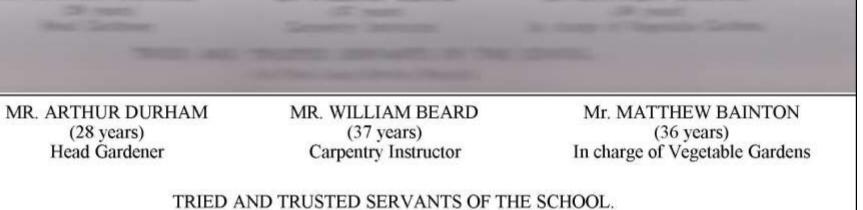
Captain T.M. Sibly bought the land for the people of Stonehouse. He collected subscriptions to pay for it.

Mr. CHARLES HILL (37 years) Gardener at Haywardsfield.

Mr. JOSEPH BRAIN (in charge of cows and other live stock since 1912).







(A Fine Long Service Record)

This photo (left) was taken between 1932 and 1934.

The willow tree can be seen behind the lamppost.



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#### 1930s - 1970s



Late 1930s (photo left)

The willow tree is well-established.



#### The Green 1960s. (above)

Featured in Country Life 1969. (right)

"Village greens" are numerous in and around Stonehouse. Beautifully maintained, they are jealously guarded by the residents who, in 1899, successfully fought a legal battle to retain ownership of them. Here, a find willow graces Weeping Willow Tree Green





The willow tree and Globe Inn sign, 1970s.

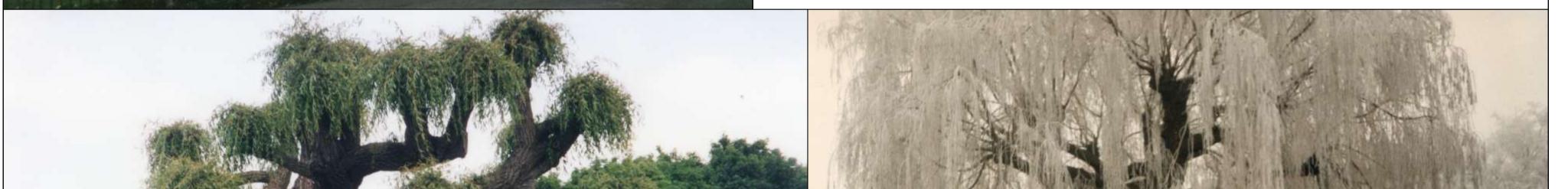
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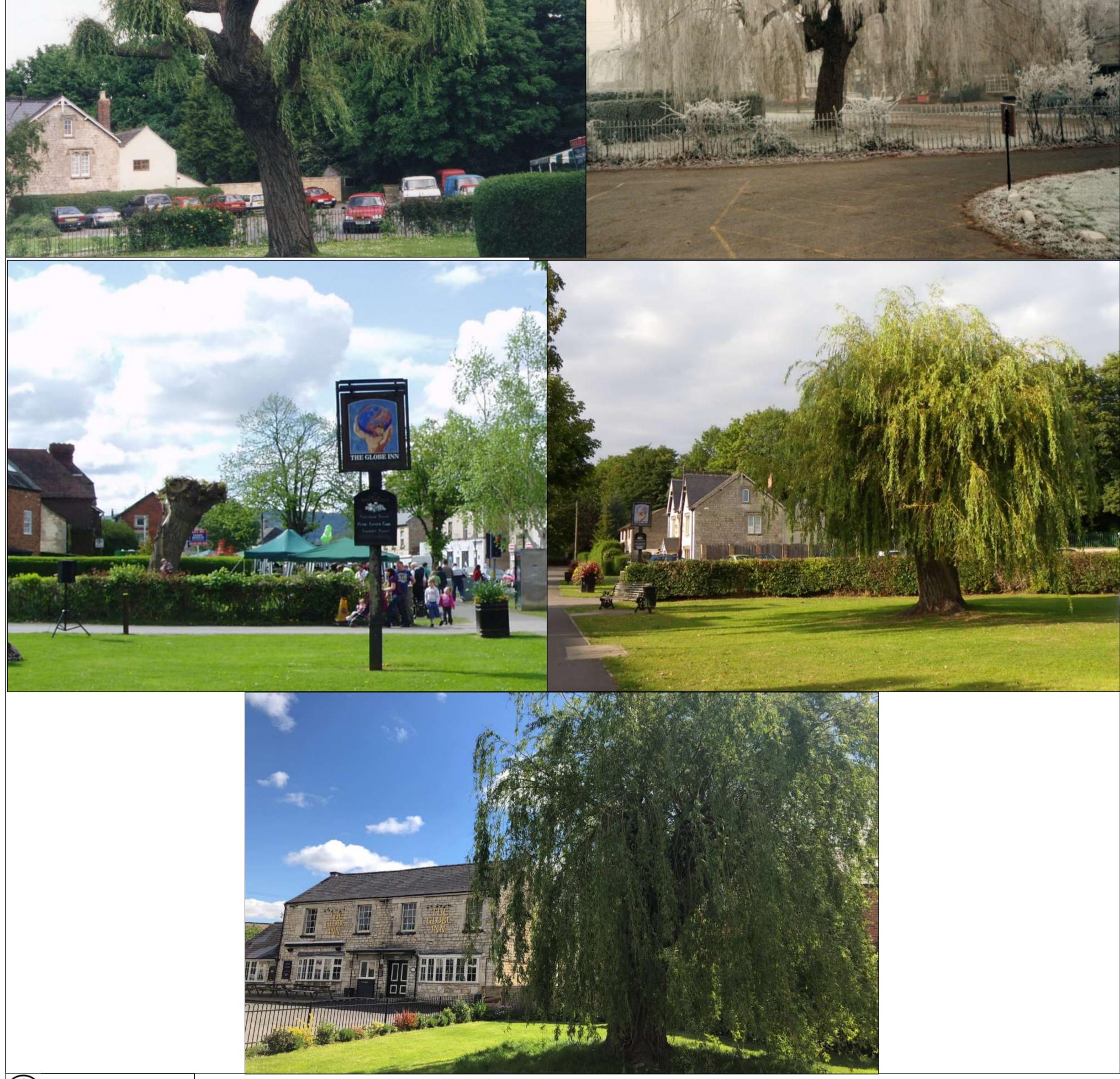
1990s - 2021



This tree is a weeping willow. It has been regularly pruned or "pollarded" to maintain its shape.

In 2021 it is 100 years old.





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