

— 85 No. 1 Saundersfoot Bonville's Court 3644

— In the year 1868 the late Mr. Barnwell described, and Mr. Blight
— figured, Bonville's Court (Arch. Camb. III, xiv, 81). During the
— 28 years that have passed since that date, the old house has fallen
— on evil times. The greater part of the south side has been torn out
— the remainder standing in a perilously dilapidated condition await-
— ing the day which must soon arrive, when the colliery tip will bury
— all that is left of the ancient home of the Bonviles. It seemed to
— us that Mr. Barnwell to a certain extent misread his ruin, and that
— his illustration No. 8 (which is on the south side) represents the
— interior, and not the front, which must be sought on the north side,
— the entrance being through a somewhat flat-headed arch (which still
— remains in a very good state of preservation) and through the arch
— to the left of illustration No. 8, into a building, the gable of
— which he figures, and which may still be traced. The little door in
— the centre of the first floor also leads into this building. The
— gabled wing was no doubt of recent construction. The older building
— would not have been designed to stand alone as a fortress, with its
— three doors. It must have been intended as gate-house to some house
— or castle that has disappeared, pulled down perhaps to make way for
— the gabled house.

Fortified medieval tower house, with
additions having 7 hearths 1670.
Diminished throughout 19th by encroaching
coal slag heap, when raising miners.
By 1878 only the tower remained,
which went 1900.

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