

Brampton College formerly Hope Lodge School

In the 1860s a certain Miss Waghorn lived at Hope Lodge, next to the old Guy, Earl of Warwick at Welling.

The rate book for November 1869 describes the property as a school as well as a house; so we assume that she had just started her school then. She was succeeded by the Cockmans in 1870. According to the Census Enumerator's Returns in the 1871 Census Hope Lodge was occupied by James Cockman, aged 55, a grocer, born at Hayes in Middlesex, his wife, Elizabeth, aged 52, born in London, and described as a schoolmistress, his daughter Elizabeth, aged 18, born in Poplar, described as a teacher, and his son Henry, aged 13, also born in Poplar. There were also four pupils, Anne, Fanny, and Rosa Lamb, aged 13, 12, and 7, whose home was in Rotherhithe, and Annie Thompson, aged 11, from Pimlico. There was one servant, Jane Anderson, aged 15, who came from Bermuda. Presumably there were other pupils who were not boarders.

The rate books show that Mrs. Cockman (whose husband seems to have died in the early 1890s) continued the school until 1895, when the daughter took it over. She moved it to No. 70 Crook Log, Bexleyheath, in 1896. She was succeeded by Miss Amos, who was later followed by Miss Barnes. In 1929 Mr. and Mrs. Kent acquired it. They moved to 24 Brampton Road in 1936 and changed the school's name from Hope Lodge School to Brampton College. Their daughter became headmistress in 1952.