

The Elms

Home of the Norman family from the mid to late 1800s

The Elms on Sherrard Street once stood in magnificent glory as a reminder of Georgian and Victorian times. Originally, known simply as '*The House*', it stood for over two centuries and it is difficult today for residents and visitors to Melton Mowbray to realise that such a wonderful three-storey stately house with its beautifully manicured gardens actually existed there. For most people today it, or its memory, is known as *The Elms* and once stood in the very centre of Melton Mowbray at the point where today stands the semi-derelict, flat roofed and already decaying 1950s telephone exchange. The once grand gardens of large lawns and flower beds, together with an ice house and magnificently outfitted stables, now comprise the modern streets and dwellings of the Elms and Oaks Roads which contain many of the modern homes of townsfolk. In its heyday the gardens spread, manicured and painstakingly tended, to be bound only by Mill street and Brook street to the south. As a dwelling, *The House* was a very favourite hunting box in the winter months, as well as a residence to a series of top social people including Lord Markham and the Manners family of Belvoir. Around 1900, The House was purchased by Jessie Powell, more than likely with the proceeds of her father's will, it becoming the home of the Powell family for the next three decades. It was in this grand old house that their only son, Philip Lionel William Powell was born, who was to later marry and produce a son of his own who would one day become an internationally renowned author.

John McQuaid

[Yesterday in Melton Mowbray](#)



The Elms, Melton Mowbray - circa 1925