

Time detectives: Answers for teacher use

How many people lived in this house?

One or two. Double bed

What clues to their names can you find?

Initials B and C on quilt

What did they drink?

Tea

How educated were they?

Numerate because of working out and collecting tolls

Is this a house where children lived?

No evidence that there were. Generally a job for post-children. Accommodation very small.

How was the house lit?

Candles (box by door) and lamp, also with candle

How was the house heated?

Fire in one room, though in original house there may have been a fireplace in the inner room too.

How did they cook?

On fire (crane over fire for griddle and kettle)

How warm do you think they were?

Glass in windows, fire warm, only one blanket on bed

Would they have had many clothes?

No, kept in drawers and on hooks

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What did they do for a job?

Collected tolls! Draw attention to strongbox in outer room. May have had other jobs too, or one half of a couple may have had other employment.

What did they do when they weren't doing their job?

Pipe smoking, making rag rugs, gardening, patchwork

Were they well off?

No, either poorly paid, or had paid in advance for right to collect tolls

What did they eat?

What they grew in garden, pig products, what they could buy

What food did they grow themselves?

List of fruit and vegetables in garden includes chard, parsnips, beetroot, carrots, radish, onions, potatoes, leeks, runner beans, rhubarb, soft fruit

What food would they have had to buy?

Tea! Flour, eggs, milk, butter, (sugar)

What flowers grew in the garden?

Roses, Iris, Primroses, Golden Rod, Sweet Williams

Why were there some unusual plants?

Might be given them (see board in garden)

If the inhabitants were there, what would you like to ask them?

What jobs had they done before the toll keeping? Did they have grown up children? Other answers that the children suggest