

**From:** Took, John  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 6:32:21 PM  
**To:** Jackie Wallace  
**Subject:** Re: I have a question.

Dear Jackie,

Thank you for this and we very much hope you are settling into the Bay house and enjoying it. We ourselves have fond memories both of the house itself and of the people we knew in RHB. By way of reply to the question you raise we can confirm (a) that, in response to the previous owners' request we did indeed rent out the ground floor to them for the purposes of winding up their business there (they had a sort of craft shop with cane and raffia goods of all kinds); and (b) that at that time there was indeed no staircase from the ground to the first floor. In order, in other words, to reach their kitchen on the first floor and the bathroom etc. on the second floor they had to go out of the ground floor entrance and in by way of the Brig Garth entrance. We ourselves, having sought and obtained planning permission, converted the ground floor to a kitchen and, at the same time and for the purposes of creating a properly domestic dwelling, had the current stair case installed. We have, alas, no photographs either of the exterior or of the interior to pass on, but are able as a matter of absolute certainty to confirm that, at the time of purchase, there was no staircase from the ground to the first floor, both the stairs and the kitchen having been installed by Robert Harrison and Sons of Whitby in the early years of our residence there.

All good wishes,

John and Patricia Took

---