

## MALVINA HOUSE

John James “Jack” Felton, arrived in the Falkland Islands in 1849 at the age of eight, when his father, Sergeant-Major Henry Felton of the Life Guards, accompanied a detachment of military pensioners sent as settlers.

John married Sarah Turner in 1870 and they went on to have seven children. John became a sheep-farmer, having been granted in 1871 the lease of Teal Inlet, which he named Evelyn Station after his eldest daughter.

John built the original Malvina House, on the site of the present hotel, in the 1880's and by 1891 Malvina House was valued at £60.

The house was named after John's youngest daughter, Malvina Nathalia Felton who was born in 1881. Malvina is an old Scottish name derived from the Gaelic “mala mhinn” meaning smooth brow and was created by the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Scottish poet James MacPherson and used to be a popular girl's name in the Falkland Islands. The name also became popular in Scandinavia in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Malvina Felton**





**Malvina House circa 1900**



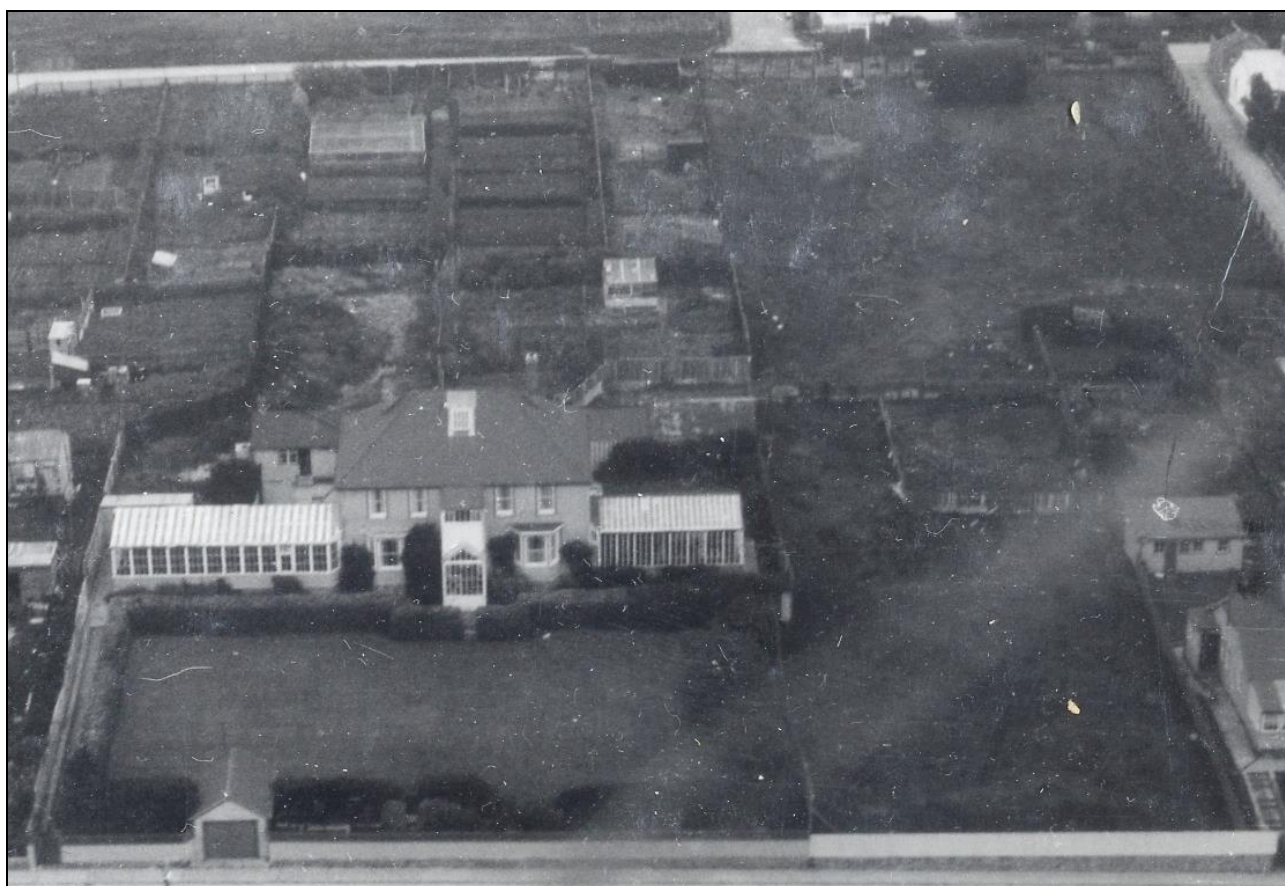
**One of the bedrooms**





**The drawing room – photographs Felton collection**

On 3 March 1903 John transferred Malvina House to his wife Sarah. James died 14 February 1911 in Weymouth, England. On 31 August 1936 James Beresford Felton, grandson of James and Sarah, sold his half share of Malvina House to his uncle George John Felton. On 25 June 1942 George transferred Malvina House to his wife, Wynnifred Felton. George died in September 1943. Wynnifred died in January 1945.



**Malvina House, gardens and paddock – photograph FIC Collection, JCNA**



In her will dated 9 March 1944, Wynnifred, who was living in Malvina House, left the property to her daughters Dorothy and Constance. They sold Malvina House to the Luxton family and William and Constance Luxton lived there.

In the mid-1960s one of their daughters, Viola (known as Babs) moved there with her husband Wickham "Wick" Clement when they retired from farming at Fox Bay. Mrs Clement had the old Malvina House pulled down in 1967 because it was cold and draughty and too large to manage easily. The new house, which was a Colt house, was finished about 1968. The only surviving part of the original house is the conservatory at the east end, now part of the restaurant. Viola died in June 1973 and Wickham died in September 1979, both in Stanley.



**The Colt House**

In 1980 the house was sold to Don and Margaret Davidson, who planned to run a market garden there, but they did not want to stay in the Falklands after the 1982 invasion and in 1983 they sold the Malvina House to Phyl and Mike Rendell who opened it as a hotel and extended it.

In January 2004 the Rendells sold Malvina House Hotel, as it was now known, to Stanley Services Limited who undertook a major refurbishment the following year and installed the first solar panels in the Falkland Islands in 2006. They have since built an extension in the paddock on the west side, extended the restaurant and built to the south.