

4 High Street, Cowbridge

The Wesleyan chapel was at the rear of the present building, approached by way of an entrance which now leads to the supermarket car park. The Chapel survey 6 (GRO ref: G431) describes the chapel as having been built in 1780 and closed by 1895, a new chapel having been erected on the south side of Eastgate some years earlier. The walls of the old chapel were eventually demolished when Filco was built.

This chapel is probably the one referred to in Rees and Gwyn journal 12 of 1887 : 1834 Lease and conveyance re old Welsh Chapel, from Mr David Jones and his mortgagees to Messrs Reynolds, James and others (David Jones owned no.6). 75 Eastgate was sold in 1850 'to erect a Methodist chapel thereon'. So it is probable that no. 4 High St. stopped operating as a chapel about that time. The same journal records 'the old chapel now used as a schoolroom'.

John Richards in 'The Cowbridge Story' provides the following additional information : 'During the South African war it was the Volunteer army and recruiting office, then in 1889 a Navvies' Mission, prior to the First World war was Mr AS Evans's garage, during the Second World war a Land army depot, after the war Mr Maddox's bus office, then the South Wales Commercial motors bus garage and finally the Post Office garage'.

The 1847 schools enquiry (the Blue Books) inspected the Wesleyan Sunday school at 'Ebenezer' and found it satisfactory.

Ralph Bird's memoirs to 'Cowbridge and district remembered' (CRS 2002) mention the Armoury here.

1926 Arthur S Evans garage

Kelly's directory

A store for Tilley family machinery

Tilley memories