

## 18 High Street, Cowbridge

*Nos. 16 to 30 High Street are grade II listed for their group value. All were originally Carne properties, leased or conveyed by Richard Franklen of Clemenstone in 1830-40.*

1836 Lease for 99 years, Richard Franklen of Clemenstone to Richard Rees of Cowbridge, mason – piece of ground on which Richard Rees is now erecting a dwelling house on the south side of the turnpike road through the town, meadow called Gwaun y gare on the south, ground devised by Richard Franklen to Richard Rees in 1833 and garden of James Bird, ironmonger, on the east, and the land of Richard Franklen on the west (i.e. the east side)  
*D/D Cl 1-17 and Aberthin papers 76*

1838 Lease for 99 years, Richard Franklen to Thomas Davies of Cowbridge, surgeon,  
1). All that land on the west side of the dwelling house now occupied by Thos. Davies, 14 ft wide near the road, and 100 ft deep,  
on the east the land devised by Richard Franklen to Richard Rees mason in 1836 and on which Richard Rees built a house now occ. by Thos. Davies  
on the west the land of Richard Franklen  
on the north the high road  
on the south part of 2) below

2). The land, 63 and a half perches, with Richard Rees's house on the east, on the west the land devised by Richard Franklen to Thos. Lewis, on the north the land of Richard Franklen, and south the close called Waun y Gaer,  
and a right of way from 2). through Richard Franklen's land. *D/D Cl 1-17*

(1838, 1851, 1871, 1900, 1903, 1907 – details of mortgage arrangements )  
*Aberthin papers 82, 83, 94, 120, 128, 156, 157 & 158*

1843 Richard Franklen owned; Mary Davies occupied *Tithe*

1851 Vacant *Census*

1861 Henry Johnson, 51, master watchmaker, born Evesham, Worcs. with daughter, son and sister *Census 183*

1866 Advertisement : Henry Johnson, watchmaker and Jeweller, Cowbridge.  
'Henry Johnson, having made considerable alterations and improvements in his shop....as varied an assortment of watches, jewellery and fancy goods....gratitude to friends and patrons for support in past 17 years' *Glamorgan Gazette 6/7/1866*

1871 Henry Johnson, 59, with daughter, sister and servant *Census 197*

1881 Henry Johnson, 70, with his daughter and a servant *Census 68*

1891 Richard Watkins, 48, tailor, with wife, 2 sons, 2 daughters, a tailor and an apprentice, plus a Methodist visitor *Census 67*

1901 Richard Watkins, outfitter and shopkeeper, 59, born Llanblethian, with wife, 2 sons and a daughter *Census 134*

1910 Richard Watkins occupied; EW Miles owned, house and shop  
*D/D PRO/VAL/1/46*

1912 RE Watkins, outfitter *Western Mail directory*

1928 *Note made by owner EW Miles :*

The lease contains a covenant to build the house to the same elevation as the house then occupied by Richard Rees on the east, if required (and the right of the lessor to build on the west pine end).

This house has sometime past been added to the next on the east side and converted into one, now occupied by Richard Watkins and his son-in-law and is part of no. 18 High St.

This lease relates evidently to the private portion of house and shop, and is the part adjoining the Royal Oak inn; the back part of the garden has been cut off and added to the large piece of ground secondly described, now occupied by Robert Newman.

1947 George and Mary Clements *Electoral register*

Bailey's electrical shop (he was tall and slim), but he ended up at the side of the Town Hall (where Colliers electrical continued). Mr Bailey's son set up a tannoy system in Bontfaen school.  
*Memories of Barbara Davies*

1965 Ken George, gents' outfitters  
(Ken George was a town councillor and Mayor of Cowbridge) *Electoral register*

1999 Jon Ian shoes (east), Tapes video shop (west); The Hair Business (above)

**Sources/abbreviations :**

*GRO Glamorgan Record Office*

*PRO Public Record Office*

*D/D Deposits held in GRO*

*LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)*

*BR Burgage rents (GRO)*

*Tithe, census, directories, electoral register – in GRO*