

## 66 High Street – The Masons Arms, Cowbridge.

*Grade II listed building – ‘extremely rare example of town house retaining medieval features on important site in conservation area. The walls to The Butts are along the line of the medieval walls of Cowbridge, and incorporate in their footings parts of the old walls’.*

RCAHM

‘This is architecturally one of the most important historic buildings of Cowbridge, especially considering that the house was built on to the medieval town walls, adjacent to the West Gate, even incorporating them as part of the wall of the public bar. It may well have been linked with the Gatehouse – before the West Gate was removed by Thomas Edmondson of Old Hall in 1753’.

*‘Cowbridge Buildings & People’, CRS publication 1999*

- |             |  |                                    |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1738        | Thomas Lewis for half burgage late Ann Deere   | <i>BR# 19</i>                      |
| 1744        | Robert Lougher for half burgage late Anne Deere  | <i>BR#20</i>                       |
| 1756        | Lease to Oliver Richard of a waste spot of ground lying before the Spread Eagle Inn, adjoining east the house late of Robert Lougher, and west the town houses | <i>B/Cow 116</i>                   |
| 1762        | Margaret Lougher, late Robt Lougher, half burgage  | <i>BR#19</i>                       |
| 1767        | Margaret Lougher, late Robt Lougher, half burgage, tenant Margaret Lougher   | <i>BR#19</i>                       |
| 1773        | Margaret Loughor, 4/-  | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1779        | Anne Painter, prop, half burgage   | <i>BR#20</i>                       |
| ca 1780     | Ann Painter, half burgage, occ herself   | <i>BR#21</i>                       |
| 1784        | Anne Painter owned; William Thomas occ, 5/4  | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1793        | William Thomas, Masons Arms  | <i>Universal British Directory</i> |
| 1793        | Samuel Hallett Jnr owned; William Thomas, occ, 5/4d  | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1798        | Samuel Hallett, landlord and tenant, half burgage  | <i>BR#19</i>                       |
| 1800        | Samuel Hallett, owned and occ, 5/4   | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1804        | Sam Hallett’s widow, landlord, J Lewis tenant, half burgage  | <i>BR# 19</i>                      |
| 1815        | Mrs Hallitt, owned, Mrs Lewis, occ, 5/4  | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1822/3      | Mary Lewis   | <i>Pigot’s directory</i>           |
| 1830        | Mr Simpson owned, William Howe, occ, 5/4   | <i>LTA</i>                         |
| 1835        | William Howe   | <i>Pigot’s directory</i>           |
| 1843        | Mrs Simpson owned, Joanna Howe, occ  | <i>Tithe</i>                       |
| 1848 & 1849 | Joanna Howe  | <i>Directory</i>                   |
| 1851        | Wm Harvey, age 38, born Monmouth, married, 5 children  | <i>Census#38</i>                   |

- 1861 William Harvey etc *Census#144*
- 1866 Misses Annie & Mary Jones *Harrod's directory*
- 1868 Mary Jones *Slater's directory*
- 1871 Joseph Braddick\*, age 39, born Devon, married, 2 chn *Census#162*
- 1876 Joseph Braddick entered David (b 29.11.63) in school *School records*
- 1881 Thomas Evans, age 37, born St Lythans, no chn *Census#32*
- Pre 1889 Thomas Evans, owned *Deeds*
- 1889 Evans, Thomas, Masons Arms, had written to Mr Forrester to find out to whom he should pay rent; Mr F replied stating that premises had been sold, rent paid to date, and he had assumed Evans was the purchaser, and was surprised to have the enquiry made.  
 Informed Mr F's solicitor that the Thos Evans they had conveyed the property to was not their tenant. TE had been served by a notice to quit by Thomas Evans, Butchers Arms, and then Mr SD Evans, solicitor, had called for payment of the rent.  
 Mr F promised to let us know what he could do in the matter, after consulting his solicitors  
 Sept - SD Evans wrote informing us his client had sold the Masons Arms to Lewis Jenkins, brewer *T Rees, solicitor, Journal 11*
- 1889 Lewis Jenkins of Vale of Glam brewery owned, Thomas Evans occ *Deeds*
- 1891 Thomas Evans, age 48, wife Mary, no children *Census#34*
- 1895 William Meredith *Kelly's directory*
- 1901 Masons Arms: James Cross, 43, innkeeper and gen labourer, b Fitzhead, England + wife Mary J, 37, b Bridgend + son Alfred J, 16, stone cutter, b Llangan + son Sydney A, 3 months, b Cowbridge + Ada Williams, 16, niece, b Ystrad *Census# 154*
- 1901-10 James Cross
- 1910 Masons Arms: James Cross, occ, L Jenkins, Vale of Glamorgan brewery, owned *PRO IR58/18459*
- 1912 John Cross *Western Mail directory*
- 1919 Ely Brewery Co owned, let to W James on yearly tenancy *Deeds*
- 1920-6 James Cross *Kelly's directory*
- 1950s Rifle range here *Viv Blick*
- \* Joseph Braddick was brother of James Braddick of The Firs, Llanblethian (1871, 1881). Joseph married a daughter of James Reynolds and moved to Merthyr *Jean Istance, Hereford, gt-gt-gt-grand daughter*

Water heated in Masons Arms for baths for the soccer playing youths on the Grammar School field. *Memories of Longmeadow Court residents*

2005 Conversion to 'The Market Place' restaurant

*Sources and abbreviations:*

*GRO Glamorgan Record Office*

*PRO Public Record Office (Kew)*

*BR Burgage rents (GRO)*

*LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)*

*D/D Deposits in GRO*

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

*RCAHM Royal Commission Ancient & Historic Monuments*

