

## 71 High Street - Prospect House

Part of Pierce Cornish's estate.

- 1738 Pierce Cornish, Esq, half burgage in tenure of Mary Gilcoat BR# 151
- 1762 Pierce Cornish, Esq, half burgage in ten of Mary Chilcott, late Mary Gilcott BR#147  
 1761 'houses and gardens of the late Pierce Cornish'  
*Deed of 69 High St in Hopkin-James papers, Cardiff Library 4.615 5/7*
- 1765 Messuage held by Mary Gilcot (annual rent 5/-) for sale. D/DX75/153
- 1765 'half burgage in possession of Mary Shelcott, with court and malthouse of Jn.  
 Edmondes on West side and house of John Thomas, peruke maker, on East side'.  
D/D X75/173
- 1768 House in possession of Mary Shelcott on 99 year lease to be sold on bankruptcy of  
 John Wilson D/D X75/237
- 1773 M. Gilcot 3/- LTA
- cal780 Thomas Williams, gent. 1 /2b. Mrs Kington tenant BR#152
- 1783 Nathaniel Williams gent, 6 (Mrs Kington deleted), A Thomas, occ BR# 151
- 1784 and 1788 Owner: Nathaniel Williams; occ: Anthony Thomas 4/- LTA
- 1795 Lease and release, Nathaniel Williams and Elizabeth Williams (1) Jane Jenkins  
 (2) - mortgage Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21
- 1800 Owner: Mrs Francis Taynton; Occ: Revd. J.J. Jones 4/- LTA  
*Revd John James Jones, MA, Rector of Gelligaer 1794-1827, m Mary Jenkins of  
 Caercady, parents of Mary Ann Thomas - at 58 High St in 1861*
- 1806-16 Mrs Sarah Llewellyn, o (Francis Taynton, Esq deleted), herself occ (Edward  
 Morgan, clerk deleted) BR# 151  
*Mrs Llewellyn was Sarah Thomas (cl755 -183 7) who married (1) Chas Simkins  
 (d 1793) and (2) Llewellyn Llewellyn (d 1800). Her daughters were Elizabeth  
 Simkins (1780-1855) and Mary Shaftesbury Llewellyn (1799-1866).*
- 1806 Lease and release, latter made between Jane Jenkins of Neath, spinster (1), Francis  
 Taynton of C, gent, nephew and heir at law of Elizabeth Williams, deed, devisee  
 of will of Nathaniel Williams of C, gent (2) and Sarah Lewellyn of C, widow (3)  
Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21
- 1806 Francis Taynton repaid mortgage after death of N and E Williams, and conveyed  
 property to Sarah Llewellyn - house on N side of street formerly in possession of  
 Mary Gilcot, decd, half burgage, with court and malthouse and dwelling house of  
 Thos Edmondes in possn of William Morgan, barber, on W; house and garden  
 formerly of John Thomas perukemaker on E, premises formerly in ten of Nathaniel  
 Williams and Elizabeth Williams and since then in tenure of Edward Morgan, clerk  
Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21
- 1815 Owner and occupier: Mr. Llewellyn 4/- LTA

- 1830 Owner and occupier: Thomas Llewellyn (stable) 1/- *LTA*
- 1835 Will of Sarah Llewellyn - shared equally between 2 chn Elizabeth Simkins and Mary Shaftesbury Llewellyn for lives, then to grad dau Elizabeth Rhys. Sarah L died 1837 *Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21*
- 1843 Owner and occupier: Elizabeth Simpkins *Tithe*
- 1851 Elizabeth Simpkins, 70, fundholder. Born Cowbridge with sister, Mary Llewellyn, niece and servant. *Census # 124*
- 1855 Death of E Simkins *Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21*
- 1861 Mary Llewellyn, 62, funded and landed proprietor, with niece and servant. *Census#93*
- 1862 Will of E Rhys, spinster - interest in house now occ Mary Llewellyn and herself to William Henry Strick of Ynyspenllwch (brother of Thomas Rhys, surgeon, RA, executor).  
Latter had died by 1866 when Eliz Rhys died *Gwyn & Gwyn, A/21*
- 1871 Unoccupied *Census*
- 1881 John Davies, 70, retired farmer, born Cowbridge. With two daughters (school governesses), two boarders and 1 servant. *Census #222*
- 1891 Sydney Gibson, 55, auctioneer and surveyor, b Birmingham with 1 servant *Census #259*
- 1901 Glandare House - Charles E Hansard, 38, brewer, b Merthyr Tydfil + wife Mary, 39, b Swansea + daus Constance ME, 6, b Bridgend; Maud E, 5, b Bridgend; Kathleen M, 3mo, b Cowbridge + nurse Rachel Davies, 25, b Briton Ferry + cook Annie Davies, 23 b Tally Llandeilo, Carm's *Census#161*
- 1910 S.D. Evans, o and occ *D/D PRONVAL/1/46*
- 1914 Samuel David Evans, BA, solicitor and commissioner for oaths *Kelly's*
- 1919 Death of SD Evans *Parish records*
- 1923 Mrs Samuel Evans, 71 High St *Kelly's*
- 1932 Mrs Lena Evans, widow, Glandare House *Deeds of 39 High St*
- 1967 - 72 Louise the Gown Shop *Wales Trades Directory*
- 1980s Lucas & Madley, estate agents *Local knowledge*
- 1999 David Birt, estate agent, ground floor; Adrian Larby, solicitors, 1st floor
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## **71 High Street – Prospect House**

Long known as 'Mary Shelcott's house' in the 18th century (though who Mary Shelcott, or Gilcot, was we do not know), this was part of the Pierce Cornish estate and was sold on the bankruptcy of John Wilson, Cornish's heir. Mary Gilcot continued as tenant for some years, but by 1784 the owner was Nathaniel Williams and the occupier Anthony Thomas.

Then came a variety of owners and occupiers. Mrs Francis Taynton owned the house in 1800, when it was occupied by the Revd JJ Jones. Taxed at 4/-, it was considered a fairly sizeable property. By 1815, Thomas Llewellyn owned and occupied the property, but its condition deteriorated so that by 1830 it was taxed as a stable

It remained in the hands of the Llewellyn family for some time, as the 1843 occupant, Elizabeth Simpkins was a Llewellyn by birth. Elizabeth lived there (as a fundholder, aged 70) in 1851 with her sister, Mary Llewellyn, and after Elizabeth's death Mary (a funded and landed proprietor) continued to live there in 1861. Their relative prosperity suggests that the house was rebuilt some time between 1830 and 1843.

The 1871 census saw it unoccupied, but in 1881 the head of the family there was John Davies a retired farmer who had been born in Cowbridge, with his two daughters, both school governesses, two boarders and a servant. Sydney Gibson, an auctioneer and surveyor, originally from Birmingham succeeded the Davieses, and eventually SD Evans the tailor came to retire here by 1912.

In its transition to commercial premises it was 'Louise - the Gown Shop' between 1967 and 1972. It is now occupied by David Birt, estate agents.

*From 'Cowbridge Buildings and People', published by CRS 1999*

### ***Sources/abbreviations :***

*GRO Glamorgan Record Office*

*PRO Public Record Office (Kew)*

*LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)*

*BR Burgage rentals (GRO)*

*Gwyn & Gwyn, solicitors' papers – seen by Jeff Alden 2004*

*D/D Deposits in GRO*

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