

47 High Street and Verity's Court (deeds)

? This property - 11.7.1807 Cowbridge - to be let

A neat house with a 2-stall stable, garden and detached brewhouse. The house comprises 2 sitting rooms, kitchen, etc on the ground floor and 5 bedrooms. Modern built. near the market and about 5 miles from the sea, and not further from coal works. A desirable tenant might have a term of years at the low rent of £18. Apply to Messrs Verity *Cambrian*

Court in which the old Duchsfoot Hall stood used to be called Princes Square,
later Verity's Court

WAH Fisher, Vol 27, p 60 (? source David Jones of Wallington)

1864, 10th August Major David James Harmar of Bath and Lewis Jenkins of Cowbridge, maltster,
by virtue of the last will of Isaiah Verity of Llanblethian (died 3.9.1837),
Abraham Verity inherited,
by venture of lease and re-lease 18/19. 11. 1839 between A. Verity and Llewellyn Jones,
A. Verity to DJ Harmar 11/39 and 10/46

(DJ Harmar filed bill of complaint in the High Court of Chancery vs Thomas Edmondes, Evan David, Thomas Llewellyn, William Henry Morgan, Mary Ann Verity, Lucy Harmar, Caroline Verity, Sebastiano Fenzi and wife Emily*)

- Emily, wife of Cavaliere Sebastiano Fenzi of Florence, was the youngest daughter of Abraham Verity. She died 7th May 1869 at Naples on the way home from Egypt. *Central Glamorgan Gazette*

No. 47 - all that messuage, tenement or dwelling house with the shop and outbuildings, now in the occupation of James Dallimore as yearly tenant,
to the north a house the property of DJ Harmar in the occupation of Thomas Rees,
to the east on ground floor a public way or passage leading from the said High Street to a court now called Griffith's Court and formerly called Princes Buildings and afterwards Verity's Court,
to the east on upper floor the property of DJ Harmar in the occupation of Philip Griffiths
and on the west a house belonging or reputed to belong to the Countess of Dunraven and in the occupation of James Ballard and another.

1864, 5th September Major DJ Harmar, late of Old Castle, Bridgend and now of Bath, and Richard Jones Todd of Roath gent. and Richard Rees Todd of Roath gent.

Verity's Court - 5 freehold dwelling houses or cottages in Verity's Court (or Princes Buildings) in the occupation of Thomas Rees, Mrs Davies widow, John Lewis saddler, John Bowen and Thomas Perkins,

and all that land or garden in the occupation of Miss Dallimore and the said Thomas Rees on the north side of Verity's Court, all bounded to the north by a field at the back of the Bear Inn and belonging or reputed to belong to the Countess of Dunraven,
to the south by a dwelling house and shop in the occupation of Miss Dallimore,
to the east by other premises late of DJ Harmar but recently sold to Mr John Jones and David Morgan,
to the west by a shop garden and premises belonging or reputed to belong to the Countess of Dunraven and now in the occupation of representatives of the late Mr Edward Ballard, ironmonger deceased.

(Recited 4 and 5/8/1815 lease and release – Charles Vachell, druggist of first part and Isaiah Verity gent. (4) and Abraham Verity (3)
188/18/39 A. Verity, surgeon and Llewellyn Jones) etc.

1866, 9th October Richard Jones Todd to Richard Rees Todd, both shipbrokers of Cardiff

No. 47 - all that messuage, tenement or dwelling house and shop now in the occupation of David Thomas as tenant,
to the north a house the property of RJ Todd in the occupation of David Thomas,
to the east (ground floor) Griffiths Court,
(upper floor) another dwelling house the property of RJ Todd,
west a house reputed to belong to the Countess of Dunraven

1864, 11th October Lewis Jenkins, maltster and Richard Jones Todd

No. 47 – all that.....James Dallimore as yearly tenant
to the north a house formerly of DJ Harmar, now RJ Todd in the occupation of Thomas Rees,
east (ground floor) Griffiths Court,
(upper floor) house lately the property of DJ Harmar now Jones in the occupation of Philip Griffiths,
west a house reputed to belong to the Countess of Dunraven occupied by James Ballard and another.

1867 D Thomas's shop, known as Manchester House, selling millinery etc - letter
chs06648

1875, 13th January Richard Rees Todd (heir of his father) to Thomas Rees gent of Cowbridge

No. 47 and Verity's Court – all that dwelling house, draper's shop and premises now in the occupation of Mr William Williams, draper
and all those 4 cottages in Verity's Court belonging to Mr John Jones,
and by the premises belonging to Mrs Gwenllian Morgan,

on the west by the shop and premises belonging to the Earl of Dunraven,
occupied by Messrs Ballard,
on the north by the Bear Field belonging to the Earl of Dunraven.

1900, 27th November WT Gwyn and CJ Gwyn, executors of Thomas Rees, solicitor
(died 25. 5. 1900)
sold to Alfred George James of Cowbridge, house furnisher

No. 47 and Verity's Court – all that messuage and shop formerly in the occupation of
Evan Thomas, ironmonger, but at present unoccupied
and all those 3 cottages joining on the north side to the messuage and shop above
now occupied by Alfred Sloper, G Thomas Eddolls and Eliza Davies,
bounded on the west by a shop, mineral water manufactory and land or garden in
the occupation of Mr William Lewis Jenkins,
east by public way,
east by the messuage formerly the property of John Jones deceased and now of
Philip Griffiths, grocer.

1900, 28th November Mortgage – Alfred G James* and Anne Elizabeth Culverwell of
Great House, Cowbridge, widow

*(*Grammar School carpenter's shop – the able services of Mr Alfred James have
been secured as instructor Bovian magazine November 1894)*

1922, 2nd August Alfred G James of Manchester House, died – son inherited

1922, 21st November Conveyed to David William Silkstone, clothier of Cardiff.
All Verity's Court cottages vacant.
Philip Griffiths deceased, now Misses Griffiths.
Alice Eliza Culverwell to Rev. Gilbert Thomas of Bonvilston after 1905.
Anne Eliza Culverwell died 28.11.1905

1938, January William Henry Lewis, grandfather of 47 High Street had a speeding
fine. *? Glamorgan Gazette*

1948, 10th June 1, 3 and 5 Verity's Court – undertaking that 1 and 3 would be used for
storage and no. 5 attached to 47 High Street, present tenants to be re-housed in
one of the new houses in the course of erection by the council at the Limes
housing estate.

1949, 7th April DW Silkstone to Thomas John of 43 High Street.
T John died 26.9.1966

47 High Street**Occupants**

1762	Francis Thomas	BR#134
1773	David Williams, 6/-	LTA
1783	Thomas Lougher, Red Cow, 'A b	BR#138
1784	Thos Lougher, 8/-	LTA
1793	Richard Lougher, 8/-	LTA
1793	Richard Lougher, victualler, Red Cow	UBD
1800	Richard Lougher, 8/-	LTA
1804	Richard Lougher, Red Cow	BR#138
1815	John Morgan, 8/-	LTA
1830	David Davies, 8/-	LTA
1832-5	John Morgan, Red Cow	BR#137
1835	Joyce Morgan - grocer	Pigots
1843	Joyce Morgan	Tithe
1844	Joyce Morgan - grocer	Slaters
1849	Elizabeth & Marianne Morris - stationers and circulating library	Hunts
1851	Elizabeth Morris - Stationer, Princes Buildings	Census# 114
1852/3	Elizabeth & Mary (sic) Morris - Bookseller, stationer and Berlin Repository	Slaters
1858/9	Thomas Williams - shoemaker	do
1861	Thomas Williams - shoemaker, Verity's Court	Census#85
1864	James Dallimore - yearly tenant	Deeds
1864	David Thomas	Deeds
1871	William Williams - draper	Census#93
1875	William Williams - draper	Deeds
1880	William Price - draper	Slaters
1881	William Price - general draper	Census#255
1900	Unoccupied	Deeds
1900	Alfred George James - cabinet maker East Village	Deeds
1901	Evan Thomas - ironmonger	Kellys
1910	Alfred George James - cabinet maker	do
1920	Alfred George James - cabinet maker	do
1923	Boyles and Company - Bootmakers	do
1926	Boyles and Company - Bootmakers	do
1949	Thomas John	Deeds
1999	Arthur John, clothing	

Owners

1738	Mary Thomas, widow, half burgage	BR#138
1762	Mr Robert Jones, late Mary Thomas, wo	BR#134
ca 1780	Robert Jones, Esq, half burgage The Red Cow	BR#139
1784	Robert Jones 8/-	LTA
1800	Robert Jones 8/-	LTA
1804	Mr Prince	BR#138
Pre 1815	Charles Vachell - druggist	Deeds
1815	Isaiah Verity 8/-	LTA
1830	Isaiah Verity 8/-	LTA

1837	Abraham Verity, surgeon	Deeds
1846	Major D.J.Harmer	Deeds
1864	Lewis Jenkins - maltster	Deeds
1864	Richard Jones Todd	Deeds
1866	Richard Rees Todd	Deeds
1875	Thomas Rees, gent, of Cowbridge	Deeds
1900	Alfred George James of Cowbridge, Manchester House	Deeds
1900	Anne Elizabeth Culverwell of Cowbridge	Deeds
1922	D.W. Silkstone	Deeds
1949	Thomas John	Deeds
1966	David John	
Ca 2000	Arthur John and Co. clothing	

Census Returns

1851	Elizabeth Morris, head, unkm, 28, stationer, b. Cowbridge	
#114	Marianne Morria, sister, unkm, 24, stationer, b. Cowbridge	
	William Pritchard, visitor, mar, 38, shipowner, b. Cardiff	
	Jane Pritchard, wife, 34, b. Cardiff	
	Margaret Roberts, house servant, 15, b. Cowbridge	
1861	Thomas Williams, 33, shoemaker, b. Cowbridge	
#85	Elizabeth, wife, 33, b. Cowbridge	
	Annie, dau, 9, scholar, b. Cowbridge	
	Frederick, son, 2, b. Cowbridge	
	Alfred, son, 3mths, b. Cowbridge	
	Elizabeth Avery, house servant, 15, b. Cowbridge	
1871	William Williams, head, 28, linen & wool draper, b. Cayo, Carmarthenshire	
#93	Eliza, wife, 28, b Rudry	
	Mary Price, sister-in-law, unkm, 29, draper's asst	
	William H Owen, draper's asst, unkm, 15, b. Montgomery	
	Rachel Watkins, general servant, unkm, 16, b. Rudry	
1881	William L Price, 30, general draper, b. Llantwit Major	
#255	Augusta M, wife, 27, b. Cardiff	
	Kate I, dau, 2, b. Cowbridge	
	Charles J, son, 2months, b. Cowbridge	
	+ visitor + 2 servants	
1891	uncertain	
1901	Alfred G James, 47, cabinet maker shopkeeper, b Cowbridge	
	Elizabeth A James, wife, 42, b Llangyfelach	
	sons Alfred and Stuart, 14 and 9, both b Cowbridge	
	Ambrose DW Mole, nephew, 6, b Woodhouse Caves, Leics	Census# 172
1910	House and shop, owned and occupied by Alfred G James, Manchester House Freehold; purchased privately of late WT Rees, solicitor, Nov 1900 Stone and slate structure with bay on 1st floor. Shop, living room and kitchen; sitting room and 3	

beds. Very old property with 2 attics, v. poor condition (overwritten "very old but in fair condition"). 3 cottages at rear used as storerooms. *PRO IR58.18461/306*

Alfred George James (1853 - 1922)

He was a master cabinet maker, who also had a business making coffins. He became involved in a lawsuit over a right of way; which he lost. This loss was very expensive and so he began teaching woodwork in the Grammar School. He kept a shop selling china and furniture on the High Street.

He was a patriotic Welshman - when a series of plates were sent to him to sell on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, he noticed that they had motifs for England, Scotland and Ireland but none for Wales - so he had them sent back and some leeks inserted in the design.

Alfred George James visited Russia to stay with his sister on several occasions. He had various adventures doing this - at one time being mistaken for King George, whom he strongly resembled; on another being taken for a spy because of his fondness for sketching. He talked of the time when he was in the Caucasus and had terrible toothache and was very far from any dentist - the local blacksmith took out the tooth 'and it was the least painful extraction I ever had!'

He knew a great deal about the history of Cowbridge. He also wrote about his experiences in the Volunteers in the 1860's.

Source: descendant Ceridwen Harris, Ontario, Canada

His obituary (*in the Glamorgan Gazette?*) reads as follows

The social life of Cowbridge has been robbed of a familiar figure by the death of Mr Alfred G James of Manchester House. Mr James., was a native of the town, and had spent the whole of his life in the old Borough which he loved so well. He was the last surviving sergeant of the old 18th Glamorgan Rifle Volunteers, and many were the entertaining stories he could tell of the old Volunteer days.

See *James family of Cowbridge* in separate folder

Sources/abbreviations :

GRO *Glamorgan Record Office*
LTA *Land tax assessments (GRO)*
BR *Burgage rents (GRO)*
Tithe, census, directories, electoral rolls, all in GRO
PRO *Public Record Office (Kew)*