

# A little bit of South Wales history changes hands at £12,900

## For sale—a home 800 years old

AN 800-YEAR-OLD stone cottage in a South Wales town will come under the auctioneer's hammer this week.

No. 6 Clifton Street, Gwent, (pictured above), is expected to fetch more than the £10,000 price asked for by the borough council.

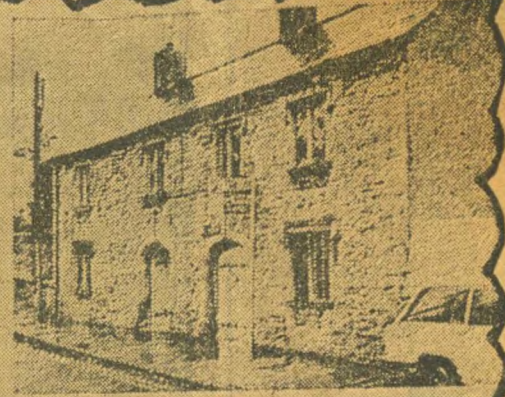
The 13th-century cottage is one of the oldest buildings in South Wales. It is located within the city walls and is made of the finest local stone and is the original entrance to the town when it was fortified.

One of the original stone walls, when they were attached to the church, is still to be seen in the street and is the subject of a recent re-erection in Kent.

Although there has been some modernisation of the cottage it still has its original beams and has all the features of an old Welsh house for walls and windows. The floorboards were specially made for the sale.

"It's the last time for someone to retire to."

There is a second cottage next door to the first that is also for sale. The auction will be staged on Wednesday at the Grosvenor, Gwent.



From Monday's Echo.



Mrs. Marguerite Roiley after the auction.

A SMALL piece of history was bought at an auction last night for £12,900.

Number 6 Church Street, Cowbridge — a 12th century alms house — was going, going then gone to widow Mrs. Marguerite Roley, of Church Hill, Llanblethian.

The conference room at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge was full, but most had come to watch. Few there had the cash to spend on what is basically a two-up two-down cottage.

Auctioneer Mr. Treharne Jones said he was not disappointed at the price the terraced house fetched for its owners — Cowbridge Borough Council.

"Properties of this type always hold their price, the current crisis has only affected it slightly. The house is still an excellent investment," he said.

Before the new owner moves in, builders will be unmodernising the cottage.

Said Mrs. Roley, "That will restore some of the character. There's a modern fireplace I particularly don't like.

"I live in Llanblethian at the moment but because of ill health I wanted something a bit nearer the centre of Cowbridge," she said.

## Interested

Cowbridge Borough Alderman Kenneth Hutchings just went along to watch the sale, but he had a special interest in the 800-year-old home—his grandparents lived there and his mother was born there more than 70 years ago.

"The house used to be used by the sexton of the Holy Cross Church I can remember visiting my grandparents, then going

# Now it will be made 'old' again

By Gareth  
Knowles

on to help my grandfather get the big stove in the church going.

"My mother was born there and left when she got married, just before World War I," said Ald. Hutchings.

Many of the spectators and speculators last night thought the house was too small for a family.

But Ald. Hutchings said, "When my mother was living there, there were 10 children in the family."

Cowbridge Mayor, Coun. Selwyn Davies, said the cottage had been owned and rented out by the borough for about 70 years.

"But I don't think we could really call it the oldest council-house in the country," he said.