

The Butts

These are without doubt the oldest council houses in Cowbridge! A document of 1756 refers to these 'town houses' and another of 1787 acknowledges the corporation's receipt of rent for "the five houses or cottages by Pwll y Butts, three whereof are now annexed of the workhouse". The workhouse did not stay long at this spot, for in 1813 four cottages here were leased to Thomas Rhys, the schoolmaster of the Eagle Academy; at that time the cottages were occupied by Evan Lewis, John Bowen, Margaret David (though a year earlier she had had notice to quit for "continuing to take in bastard children") and Cecil Jones.

By 1851, there were three cottages occupied - by Richard Rees, a stone mason, David John, also a stonemason, and John Davies, a carpenter, with their respective families. By 1861, however, the house nearest to the main road had become the Globe Inn, occupied by William Llewellyn, victualler and post boy, while the other two properties housed Matthew Williams, toll collector, and Morgan Davies, carpenter's journeyman.

Mary Phillips was the landlady in 1871 and 1881, but the inn seemed to expand to take over the cottages, so that by 1891 when Henry Trott was the licensed victualler he had a family of wife and four children plus fifteen lodgers living there. The Corporation's sanitation report was not favourable! In addition, the licensee was fined on a number of occasions for permitting drunkenness on the premises, and so the licence was terminated in 1894.

By 1897 the building was in a poor state, with part of the thatched roof falling in on the bedroom ceilings; it was renovated (as three cottages) and then for a short time became a 'lodging house or workmen's home'. In 1912, the residents were Thomas Eddowes (or Eddolls) in the former Globe and Elizabeth Lawrence in No 2 and Arthur Lawrence in No 3.

From 'Cowbridge Buildings & People'

The Butts and Livestock Markets

Nos 1-3 The Butts are Grade II listed; the Town Walls here are Grade II* listed.

CADW/RCAHM

- 1630 .. one other parcel called the Butts, containing about half an acre.
Survey of Cowbridge (from '*The Cowbridge Story*' and '*Old Cowbridge*')
- 1643 Will of Jevan Jenkins - 2 acres of land called the Lesser Butte, situate without the
West Gate. From '*Old Cowbridge*'
- 1746 Close called pwll y butts 3 acres in occupation of Thomas Edmond's gent and
Nicholas Morgan cooper *D/Ed. 1-3*
- 1754 Thos Edmond's gave permission to pull down the West Gate and remove the
stones (some used later to build pig market) From '*The Cowbridge Story*'
- 1755 Lease to Oliver Richard of a waste spot of ground lying before the Spread Eagle
Inn, adj east the house late of Robert Lougher (Mason's Arms) and west the town houses
B/Cow 116
- 1762 Mortgage taken out by John Edmond's from Bloom Williams, Cardiff apothecary,
for £200 - 2 closes or parcels of land called the Butts *D/Ed.*
- 1776 Assignment of mortgage - Bloom Williams to Jane Petrie of Cardiff spinster.
Same as above *D/Ed.*
- 1777 Mortgage of property lately purchased from John Edmond's by Thomas Edmond's
including - 2 closes called the Butts *D/Ed. 151*
- No date Estate formerly of Thos. Edmond's includes 2 fields by the Butts *D/Ed. 308*
- 1787 Rent of the five houses or cottages by Pwll-y-Buts three whereof are now annexed
of the Workhouse. Poor Law Admin. (from '*Old Cowbridge*')
c. 1800 Iolo Morganwg counted 3 houses opposite Pwll-y-Butts '*Old Cowbridge*'

Markets and fairs were traditionally held in the High Street. Pressure mounted to get livestock off the street, and pens for sheep and pigs had been set up on the site of the town ditch as early as 1806.

- 1805 Sheep and pig market constructed, the part fronting on to the main road. Prior to this
sheep and pigs enclosed behind hurdles near Butts pool.
From '*The Cowbridge Story*'
- 1806 Sheep market constructed in the town ditch adjoining the wall and the Masons Arms
'*Cowbridge & Llanblethian Past and Present*'
- 1812 Boundary marks to be placed in the garden of the workhouse to mark out and
distinguish the quantity of ground that appertained to the cottages near the Butts and
now taken into the said garden and Thomas William Esq. agent for James Maxe Esq
engages to attend on his behalf as proprietor of the remaining part of the garden and to

remaining part of the garden and to see the same marks properly placed.
 (Workhouse possibly removed by 1830, as another was to be built
 elsewhere in the town) From 'Old Cowbridge'

1812 Ordered that Margaret David do quit the House near the Butts where she now
 lives, she having continued to take in Bastard children contrary to her promise
 and that if she refuses to quit the house quietly on the 19th of the present
 month that the Constables do turn her out. From 'Old Cowbridge'

1813 Butts cottages listed as borough property -
 4 cottages near Pwll y Butts (occ. by Evan Lewis, John Bowen, Margaret
 David and Cecil Jones)
 Leased to Thomas Rhys, schoolmaster, for 99 years B/Cow. 192

1830 approx. Rev. Morris Price Williams of Church Street - occ. of land at Butts
Cowbridge Hundred records.

1831 Revd Edward Morgan - the Globe LTA

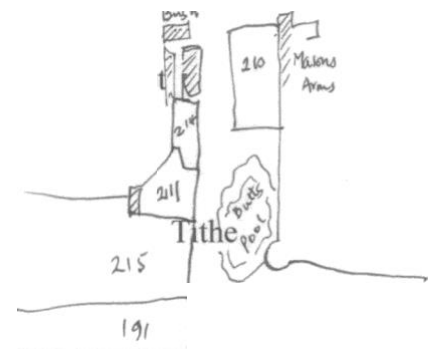
1835 Lease by Corporation to Anne Llewellyn, for lives of Henrietta, daughter of
 Thomas Llewellyn the Vurlong, Catherine Thomas and Ann Thomas, daughters
 of Richard Thomas of Cowbridge labourer
 Piece of ground near sheep pens (75 square yds.)
 Rent £3.15s, with covenant that it is built on within 18 months B/Cow. 192

1837 approx. Butts field nr. Butts pool in occ. of Thomas Edmondess D/Ed.

1838 Bailiffs Edward Ballard jun. and Thomas Edmondess jun.
 Letting by auction the toll of the market and sheep pens (an
 annual event) Court of Common Council reds.
 (i.e. the old Corporation) - from 'Cowbridge Story'

1843 Tithe map shows some variations to the above:

- #210 Corporation of the Town of Cowbridge - Sheep
 market, Pig Market
- #214 o, Thos Rees, occ Nathaniel Llewellyn - garden
- #211 o and occ, Revd Thos Edmondess - buildings and fold
- #215 o and occ, Revd Thos Edmondess - meadow
- #191 o and occ, Jesus College, Oxford - meadow



1851 Bailiffs John Bevan and Thos. Edmondess
 Erecting 8 iron sheep pens, flagged with rough stone 1851 Bush inn - Miles
 Common Council records, from 'Cowbridge
 Story'

1851 Miles Morgan, victualler, born St Nicholas, with wife and 5 chn
 Butts Row - Richard Rees, stone mason and family
 David John, " " " , wife a laundress
 John Davies, carpenter, with 3 adult children (2 carpenters
 and a dressmaker)
Census #34-37

1852 Resolved that application be made to trustees of Marquis of Bute for the removal of
 the Pound from its present site (just within South Gate) to a place on the eastern side
 of the market place, the Corporation providing the ground free.
From 'Old Cowbridge'

1857, October 24th Corporation agreed to extend the stock market further down the Butts.
Bridgend Chronicle

1858 Birth of a son to William Llewellyn, Globe Inn *Bridgend Chronicle*

1861 Bush Inn - Miles Morgan
 Globe Inn - William Llewellyn, victualler and postboy, 38 yrs.
 his son and his nephew *Census#141*
 Matthew Williams, toll collector, 62, and daughter, 23 *#142*
 Morgan Davies, 33, carpenter's journeyman, wife & 3 chn. *#143*

1864 Bailiffs Francis Taynton and Thos Edmondess
 The necessity of providing additional sheep pens
 Council records from 'Cowbridge Story'

1871 Bush Inn - Miles Morgan
 High St (Globe Inn) - Mary Phillips widow, born Llanharry, victualler
 with 2 grandchildren and 2 adult male boarders
 The Butts - Morgan Davies, carpenter and joiner, wife and 4 children
Census #160, 161

1877 Receipts throughout 1876 to the Corporation of rents include:
 Butts garden - from late Mrs Bradley
 Sheep pens, etc - from David Thomas snr. and jun. and
 Ebenezer Davis £77
 Ground rent for Butts cottages - J W Lewis Esq.
 Bush Inn - Rev W Llewellyn MA £3-14s
 Stable nr West Gate William? Evans
 Also:
 Paid John Pike for levelling ground nr. Butts Pool to extend sheep
 pens on fair days. £2-10s
 John Pike's salary, and free house and garden £5

B/Cow 194

B/Cow 179/97/1

Ct of Common Council, 7. 11. 1878 – that Mr Stockwood proceeds against Mr JW Lewis for recovery of arrears of rent
 due (£32. 10s to Nov 1878)

Letter from JW Lewis of Bridgend to Mr Stockwood (Town Clerk?) apologising for non-payment of rent of Globe

1881 Bush Inn - Isaac Williams
 Butts Road (Globe Inn) - Mary Phillips, innkeeper and granddaughter
 Catherine Thomas, 12, plus lodger *Census #30*

Proposed Market place at Cowbridge

12th June 1885

The question of providing a proper market place at Cowbridge has been revived among some of the leading agriculturalists in this neighbourhood. At present, a number of farms sell their stock at home in preference to attending the market, but we have no doubt that if a convenient market place were provided they would soon discover the benefits which always result from open competition.

More than forty years ago, in connection with the Fat stock show, Mr David Owen of Ash Hall proposed a scheme for the erection of an agricultural hall and offered to subscribe £50, but failed to find any support from amongst the agriculturalists of the district. The Rev. DW Williams of Fairfield has now offered £100 towards a similar object, and we understand that Mr Owen is still prepared to abide by his original offer.

For many years the Cowbridge markets have been getting smaller by degrees until they have become so insignificant that butchers and dealers from a distance will not attend. The Vale of Glamorgan is celebrated for the excellent quality of the stock produced there, and the only reason which can be assigned for the gradual decline of the Cowbridge market is the fact that there is not proper accommodation provided for the animals which are brought in. The Fat Stock Show would without a doubt be far more successful if the stock exhibited could be put under cover. It cannot be expected that agriculturalists will allow valuable animals to stand shivering in an open field on a cold wet December day, and the result is that they keep them at home.....etc.

'Western Mail'

1887 Corporation properties listed from Parish Map of 1841 - include
 #210 In hand Pig market
 239 Lewis Thomas - Cottage and garden near West Gate, claimed by D.Reynolds
 by lease from Lord Bute
 193 Canon Edmond's - Garden nr. Butts Pool and 2 pieces of garden near West Gate
 214 Mrs. Stiles and Rev. W Llewellyn - Globe Inn, cottages and gardens, Bush Inn

B/Cow 192

1888 Cattle market constructed, behind sheep market, and Butts Pool filled in. The pool was said to have been used for skating during periods of hard frost.

From *'The Cowbridge Story'*

New charter 1888.

New market and weighbridge and house.

Covered sides, with chains.

Drainage to river Thaw near the Poplars till the 1955 sewerage system.

Memories of Hubert Thomas, public health officer for the Cowbridge RDC

1889 Butts pool drained to create a new cattle market

1889, 29th January Borough of Cowbridge - New Cattle Market

The new cattle market will be opened on Tuesday, the fifth day of February next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

All cattle and other animals will be toll-free on that day.

Special arrangements have been made with the Taff vale Railway Company for the conveyance of cattle from Cowbridge to Pontypridd early in the afternoon on market and fair days.

Dated the 23rd day of January 1889

John Stockwood, Town Clerk

1891 Bush Inn - John Kibblewhite

Globe Inn - Henry Trott, licensed victualler, wife and 4 children,
plus 15 lodgers

Census #33

No date *Corporation's* survey of sanitation included:

John Kibblewhite, Bush Inn - closet, with stable and closet attached

Henry Trott - closet foul, stable attached, slopwater cesspool very
foul, cleaned periodically.

1894 Corporation law suit against Lewis Jenkins, owner of the Masons Arms, who had erected 3 iron posts on the pavement in front of the inn. The corporation stated that since 1873 they had collected tolls for stalls on mkt and fair days for this site, and also that the sheep pens owned by them had formerly been erected up to the inn doorway (the entrance door being then on the E side of the inn). These pens had been let to William Howe in 1836 for 1/- a year. The Corporation could not produce evidence and the posts remained for many years. *From 'The Cowbridge Story'*

1897 Globe cottages, the Butts, listed as Borough property, reference to the thatched roof of the old inn (in bad state), suggestion to restore the property, making three cottages and dividing the garden presently occ by Mr A H Hughes into 3 parts.
The cottages said to be in very poor state, with part of the thatched roof fallen in on bedroom ceilings. *B/Cow 192*

1898 Correspondence between the Town Clerk and Mr T J Lewis, Bridgend (Mr J W Lewis's brother) - following the death of John Bevan, property fallen to Corporation. Mr Stiles seemed to be the tenant of the Globe and was paying ground rent to J W Lewis (see 1813: lease to Thomas Rhys). *B/Cow 192*

1899 Specification of works to repair Butts Cottages includes:
"Take down all portions of wall of corrugated iron coach house not required for ends and backs of same." *B/Cow 192*

1899 Re alterations and repairs at Globe cottages:
To Charles William Stewart Esq, bank manager, from Borough Treasurer
- Notice to quit possession of garden with yard and premises adjoining situated near the Globe cottages which he now holds and occupies (formerly occ by Robert Hugh Hughes)
also garden with yard and premises adjoining - tenant to build up with good stone and mortar walls the 2 openings made between the garden and yard and the premises of the National Provincial Bank, such openings having

been made for the convenience of the tenant of the Bank premises, etc.
(Mr Stewart's reply asked for a delay in building up one opening as the new tenant Mr Tinsley had no objection to it remaining open.) *B/Cow 192*

1899 A G James, and also John and Evan Thomas Hopkin, carried out the restoration of the cottages. *B/Cow 192*

1899 Mr James Tinsley of Cardiff Workmen's Home, 251 Bute Street, Cardiff, lodging housekeeper, became the new tenant of Globe cottages, garden, yard and premises, for the purpose of a lodging house or workmen's home
-all those cottages known as the Globe cottages and garden and yard and premises adjoining, 3 yrs lease at £40 pa *B/Cow 192*

1912 Thomas Eddolls, No 1 occ, Corporation owned
Elizabeth Lawrence, No 2 occ, Corporation owned
Arthur Lawrence No 3 occ, Corporation owned *D/D PROVAL/1/46*

5.2.1925: Licence renewal for Bush Inn which belonged to the Corporation had been objected to by the Police authorities

10.3.1925; Bush Inn – licensing justices had referred the licence for compensation on grounds of redundancy

2.7.1925: Bush Inn – Compensation Authority offered £800 compensation, which the Borough Agent agreed to accept (£685 to corporation, £115 to tenant) *B/Cow 18. Minute Book*

Livestock auctions were discontinued soon after the war started in 1939. Animals were graded & slaughtered outside, under the supervision of the Ministry of Food.
About 1956, the Borough Council purchased the Old Hall field and provided a new sheep & pig market, a new covered sale ring for cattle, and new pens. *Memories of Hubert Thomas, public health officer for Cowbridge RDC*

1960s Conversion of the former sheep market into a car park (by the Masons Arms)

The Butts - the Globe Inn

The GLOBE INN is described in the book "Old Cowbridge" by HOPKIN-JAMES as being "A small house in the Butts where Mr.EDDOLLS now lives, it was an old thatched house and was afterwards burnt down". It was situated in the Butts adjacent to the rear yard of the Bush Inn.

The 1843 tithe map shows that it was owned and occupied by the same Ann LLEWELLYN who owned the Bush Inn (# 213).

In the 1851 Census the residents of the three cottages situated in Butts Row are given as a Richard REES (#35), a David JOHN (#36), and a John DAVIES (#37) but there is no reference to one of them being an innkeeper or any mention of a Globe Inn.

The 1861 census however does show the first property (at the rear of the Bush Inn's

backyard) as the GLOBE INN and the keeper as a William LLEWELLYN (#141).

In the 1871 Census the innkeeper is listed as a Mary PHILLIPS (#160) and again in the 1881 Census (#31) as the same.

The 1891 Census shows Henry TROTT as the innkeeper (#33) and the Petty Sessions Records give the same person as being the licensee up to August 1894. In the same records the owner is given as Mrs. STILES, The Brewery, Bridgend.

On the 23/7/1889 the licensee was fined £1 plus costs for permitting drunkenness on the premises, on 28/4/1891 the fine was £2 incl, on 18/8/1891 the fine was £1 plus 9/2d costs and finally on 17/7/1894 £2 plus 4/- costs. The last two entries were endorsed "conviction to be recorded" and subsequently an application for renewal was refused in August 1894.

It is quite possible to assume, as the rear of each premises were adjacent to one another, that the two beer sellers may have brewed their beer together in order to save on production costs

The 1912 directory gives the occupier as a Thomas EDDOWES who may have been the "Mr. EDDOLLS" referred to in the book "OLD COWBRIDGE", but it does not indicate that it was still a public house and the Petty Sessions Records do not indicate that a licensed premises were situated at that address from 1894 to 1916.

Researched by K. P. MORGAN, R. PRESS and I. ASHBY, 1998 (for the local history class of Jeff Alden).

Authority	Vale of Glamorgan	Grade	II	Date Listed	16/09/1999
Community	Cowbridge with Llanblethian				
Locality	Cowbridge			Grid Ref	29923 17472
				Record No	22283
Name					
Street No, Name	1-3 The Butts				
Street Side	W				

Location

About 50m S of junction with Westgate.

History

Late C18/early C19. On Tithe Map of 1841.

Exterior

Three 2-storey houses, each of 2-window. Nos 2 & 3 with common roofline; No1 with higher roof. Local rubble, painted; slate roofs, yellow brick chimneys. Squarish 4-pane sash windows. No 1 has 2 square sashes on first floor and one to L on ground floor; modern door to R. No 2 has 2 square sashes on first floor and one to R on ground floor; ledged door to L. No 3 has 2 square sashes on first floor and one to L on ground floor; ledged door to R.

Listed

Group of early C19 houses on prominent and historic site in conservation area.

THE BUTTS, COWBRIDGE, VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Cardiff Archaeological Unit was commissioned to undertake a building recording of The Butts, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan. The Butts are a detached terrace of three dwellings (Grade II listed) situated on a prominent and historic site in a conservation area and adjacent to the medieval town wall probably dating from the early fourteenth century. The buildings are situated close to the location of the medieval West Gate in Cowbridge which was removed by Thomas Edmondes of Old Hall in 1753.

Research by the Cowbridge Record Society identified the buildings in existence by 1756 and 'annexed of the workhouse' in 1787. By the early nineteenth century they had become privately leased and by 1861 the house nearest to the main road had become the Globe Inn. In 1891 the inn had expanded to encompass all three cottages until the licence was ended in 1894. By 1897 the building had fallen into disrepair until it was renovated and became for a short time a lodging house.

The front elevations of all buildings retain early door and window apertures *in situ* although no evidence of early doors or windows survive and all three buildings are of simple plan and architecture. Number 1 is the largest dwelling with two rooms at ground floor level and a relatively large upper floor. Numbers 2 and 3 in contrast had only one room at ground floor level. All of the buildings have an upper storey containing bedrooms and number 1 a later bathroom and later ceiling to the upstairs landing. The whole terrace has a later slate roof evident and an absence of early roof timbers with the present roof likely to date from the end of the nineteenth century when documentary sources also reveal the building had fallen into disrepair and the thatched roof replaced, there are also some twentieth-century roof tiles repairs. Infilled doorways in the north wall of the living room in number 2 once connected numbers 1 and 2 at ground floor level and also at first floor level through the north wall of the front bedroom. The buildings are likely to have been interconnecting, at the end of the nineteenth century when number 1 became the Globe Inn and expanded to include numbers 2 and 3. However, there is no apparent surviving architectural evidence to suggest that number 3 was also interconnected. During the twentieth century the building reverted to three separate domestic dwellings with the addition of a rear single storey extension to numbers 2 and 3 housing kitchen and bathroom facilities.

The buildings are likely to date from at least the middle of the eighteenth century and are synonymous with the expansion of Cowbridge and its growing importance as a 'coaching town' when infilling of the plots along Eastgate and Westgate took place.

A watching brief was later conducted during ground works to the car parking area and alterations to the building. Excavation of foundation trenches revealed made ground above natural grey clay formations and evidence of buried topsoil was found in Trench 1. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recovered.

*Jane Turner, Jim Turner
Cardiff Archaeological Unit*

From 'Morgannwg' Vol. LVII 2013

Sources/references :

'Old Cowbridge' by Lemuel Hopkin James

'The Cowbridge Story' by John Richards

'Cowbridge & Llanblethian Past & Present' by Brian James & David Francis

D/D, D/Ed, B/Cow deeds in Glamorgan Record Office

PRO = Public Record Office, Kew