

## 62 High Street (Barclays Bank), Cowbridge

*Grade II listed building.*

### **Information received from Barclays Group Archives on 2.6.99 :**

At the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century the premises at 62 High Street, Cowbridge comprised a dwelling house and malthouse known as the Green Dragon. In 1764 the property had been leased by Earl Talbot, Baron of Hensol, County of Glamorgan, to John Giddings of the town of Cowbridge innkeeper for a yearly rental of £8. Then in 1803 the property was sub-leased by Richard Pritchard and his mother Susanna Pritchard to Christopher Bradley of Cowbridge, maltster, the messuage, malthouse and premises known as the Green Dragon. [Susanna was the step-daughter of John Giddings; she married Evan Prichard of Collenna, who died in 1795] (*Brian James*).

In 1812 these buildings became a private dwelling house and shops and were no longer known as the Green Dragon. Instead, they were leased by Edward Bates, who had purchased the property from the trustees of the Earl Talbot, to Moses Godfrey, silversmith, and Elizabeth Bradley for £315.

By May 1827 the premises had been added to and now comprised of two private houses and Joseph Lister's druggist shop.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a bit of confusion as to what happened to the property next. One theory is that around the middle of the nineteenth century the malthouse was taken down and in 1873 the dwelling house, then occupied by a solicitor, was known as Wayn-y-Skeel.

However, as you will see from the enclosed information (C.Cowbridge/1) it appears that in 1849 the property "now in the occupation of John Woods or his undertenants" was leased for fourteen years to John Woods of the town of Cardiff, who was a spirit merchant, for a rent of £40 per year. Then in 1861 the buildings were conveyed by Edward Bradley the elder of Cowbridge (Jas Bradley had died in 1857) to William Alexander a merchant of Cardiff "of the messuage etc. in Cowbridge formerly the Green Dragon but then two dwelling houses and a shop in the occupation of Anna Woods and her undertenants; consideration £600". Moreover, in 1872 the property was conveyed by Wm Alexander to Daniel Owen of Ash Hall near Cowbridge, "of two messuages etc. in Cowbridge lately in the occupation of Thomas Thomas innkeeper, William John Goddard solicitor and John Thomas livery stable keeper as tenants but at that time in the occupation of Thomas Thomas as an inn under the name of the Green Dragon and W.J.Goddard as a private house". This last passage suggests, therefore, that the property was still being used as an inn up to the 1870s.

In 1873 part of the property on the east side of the Green Dragon was leased to Thomas Reynolds and was occupied by the London and Provincial Bank Limited.

Daniel Owen obtained a mortgage in 1877 of the messuages, one of which was known as the Green Dragon and in the occupation of Hall Reynolds and Co and Thos Thomas, the other (adjoining on the eastern side the Green Dragon) was leased to Reynolds and occupied by the bank.

A series of leases shows continuous occupation by the bank thereafter; at some period prior to 1916 the adjacent property, up to then occupied by Edward John, implement and seed merchant, was added to the bank premises. In October 1918 shortly after it had merged with the London and South Western Bank Limited to become the London Provincial and South Western Bank Limited in January 1918, the London and Provincial was absorbed by Barclays Bank Ltd. As such, the property was conveyed to Barclays by Edward Tudor Owen of Ash Hall for £1,300, in 1928.

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**Other information:**

The green dragon was the emblem of the Earl of Pembroke.

- 1599/1600 Probably - the site of the house of Nicholas Andrewe, to the east of the mansion later  
to become Old Hall *D/D Ed 60-61*
- 1627 Probably - the house of Thomas Andrews, gent (who also owned the cunninger and land  
behind, and whose wife was Elizabeth, with sons Thos and Edward).It seems  
that at this time Thos Andrews also acquired the Old Hall property as well. *D/D Ed 62/3*
- 1639 'The mansion house of Thos Andrew (probably)' *D/D Ed 64*
- 1738 Burgage rentals show that this property of 1½ burgages was owned by Lord Talbot and in the  
tenure of Isaac Redwood. *BR#23*
- 1744 Lord Talbot o, Isaac Redwood occ, one and a half burgs. *BR#24*  
The Edmondes papers include a letter inviting a solicitor to a meeting at the Green Dragon in 1777  
(D/D Ed 328), and in 1785 an advert in the 'Gloster Journal' writes of a visit from a travelling  
hairdresser.
- 1762 & 1772 Earl Talbot o, Mrs Morgan, late Isaac Redwood occ, one and a half burgages; no ref.  
to The Dragon *BR#23*
- 1777 Letter from Thos Edmondes jnr. inviting Wm Bassett of Neath executor of  
Margaret Gamage, to a mtg at the Green Dragon for financial transactions. *D/D Ed 328*
- 1778 Earl Talbot o, Mrs Morgan occ, 1 ½ burgs. *BR#23*
- Ca 1780 Earl Talbot owned; Thomas Griffiths tenant, Green Dragon *BR 25*
- 1778 Earl Talbot owned; Mrs Morgan occupied *BR 423*  
Ca 1780 Earl Talbot owned; Thos Griffiths tenant
- 1783 Earl Talbot, o, Mr Griffiths occ, 1½ b *BR#24*
- 1785 *'GLOSTER: Whittick, Hair Dresser and Perfumer, opposite the Boothall in the Westgate St, returns his most grateful thanks for the generous encouragement he has been honoured with in business, and most respectfully solicits a continuance of support. He has just received from the first shops in London the choicest English and foreign perfumes, essences, eaux, pomades and powders at the very lowest prices. Whittick intends being in Cowbridge on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., being the day preceding the races, and may be heard of at the Green Dragon. He begs leave to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has with him Figaro curls and cushions, dress chignons, carnation powder, which never soils the clothes, and every article to complete a Lady's head dress in the genteelest and most elegant fashion.'*  
*Gloucester Journal, 18<sup>th</sup> July 1785*
- 1792 Lord Talbot owned; Francis Thomas tenant, 12/- *LTA*
- 1793 Lord Talbot owned; the Miss Prichards tenant, 12/- *LTA*
- 1798 Earl Talbot o; Mr Davies occ, 1½ b: The Dragon 15/-arrears *BR 24*

- 1799 Lord Dynevor owned; David Davies tenant, The Dragon, 15/- arrears *BR 24*
- 1806-16 (Earl Talbot deleted, Mr Bates deleted) Mrs Elizabeth Bradley, o, (Mr Godfrey and others deleted) Mrs E Bradley, 1½ b The Dragon *BR 24*
- 1832 Elizabeth Bradley landlord, in hand, Dragon *BR 24*
- 1843 Edward Bradley, owner and occupier, National Bank and stables *Tithe 206,205*
- 1850 Letters from E Bradley to Mr Toogood, churchwarden, re pews in Cowbridge Church - his family owned 3 pews including the Green Dragon seat  
*Hopkin-James papers, Cardiff C Library, MS4.615 2/7*
- 1851 Occupier Catherine John, manager of spirit vaults, b Cowbridge +mother and servant  
*Census # 41*
- 1858 Green Dragon, Elizabeth Ormandy *Slater's directory*
- 1861 Occ, Georgiana Morgan, landed proprietor, b Carmarthenshire+ 3 chn + 1 servant  
*Census # 147*
- Occ, George Rees, schoolmaster, b Cowbridge + wife + 2 chn + 1 servant  
*Census# 148*
- 1862 David Vaughan's diary:  
19/2 At Cowbridge with David Alexander to report on dilapidation of Old Gin Shop  
09/09 In Cowbridge examining repairs to the Gin Shop  
30/09 In Cowbridge, examining works at the Green Dragon for William Alexander *D/D DV*
- 1868 Vaults, Charlotte Alexander *Slater's*
- 1871 Occ, William J Goddard, solicitor, b Amersham, Bucks + 1 servant + 1 visitor  
Census #164 (Green Dragon) Occ, Thomas Thomas, innkeeper, b St Hilary+ wife + son + 2 servants *Census# 165*
- 1874 London and Provincial Bank occupied; D C Owens owned *Glam Cty Rate*
- 1881 (London & Provincial Bank) occ, Thomas Hambly, bank manager, b Clifton, Glos + wife + son + mother-in-law + 2 servants *Census # 37*
- 1884 Nathaniel Bird – furnisher and ironmonger *Invoice*
- 1891 (Bank of Wales) occ, James L Thomas, bank manager, b Pontypridd + wife + 3 ch  
*Census # 36*
- 1901 (1) Uninhabited  
(2) London Provincial Bank; Wm D Jones, manager, 42, b Craiglas, Cards + wife Maria b Aberdare + D Beatrice, 15, b Pontypridd + daus Annie K, 10, Dorothy M, 4 and Veronica, 10 months, all b Cowbridge + 2 servants, Annie Jenkins, 23, and Elizabeth Jenkins, 18, (both b Cowbridge) *Census#152*
- 1910 London and Provincial Bank, occ J Codd, o ET Owen, Ash Hall *PRO/VAL/1/46*
- 1912 London & Provincial Bank, Geo Codd, manager *Western Mail directory*
- 1999 Barclays Bank

***Sources/abbreviations :***

*GRO Glamorgan Record Office*

*PRO Public Record Office (Kew)*

*D/D Deposits in GRO*

*LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)*

*BR Burgage rents (GRO)*

*Tithe, census, directories, electoral registers, county rate – in GRO*