

<b>Research Document:</b>	<b>Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge</b>
<b>Accession Number:</b>	<b>chs03523</b>

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*Most of the information was researched and assembled by study groups led by Jeff Alden during the period 1997-2007. The Cowbridge Record Society was established in 1999 to publish books using this research, such as 'Cowbridge Buildings & People' and 'Llanblethian Buildings & People'. The Society later merged with the Cowbridge and District Local History Society and is now 'Cowbridge History Society'.*

*Future editors are requested to identify changes they may make in accordance with CHS guidelines.*

*E.M. Alden, January 2018*

<b>Source Abbreviations</b>	
GRO	Glamorgan Record Office
CADW	Welsh Assembly – preservation of ancient monuments in Wales
	Directories, electoral roll, tithe & census held in GRO
	Parish records – Glam. Family History Soc. (GRO)
	National Westminster Group archives - London
	Cowbridge marriages (GRO)
	<i>Welsh History Review</i> – 'The Recruitment, Apprenticeship & Mobility of the mid-Victorian Clerk' vol 7 p 341
LTA	Land tax assessments (GRO)
D/D Tre	Trecastle papers (GRO)
IGI index	Church of the Latter Day Saints
LL	Llandaff probate records (National Library of Wales)
RCAHM	Royal Commission Ancient & Historic Monuments

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Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<i>Grade II listed – a well preserved 18th century town house. The house is situated on the South side of Eastgate. The house is listed Grade II. The CADW listing record no 13195, as amended 16th Sept 1999, reads:</i>	RCAHM
	<b>1. The Building</b>	
	1.1. The house is situated on the south side of Eastgate. It is currently the home of Mr & Mrs David Jones.	
	1.2. The house is listed Grade 2. <i>Exterior</i> C18 frontage to possibly earlier core. Front elevation four asymmetrically spaced bays wide with roughcast cladding and long and short quoins; centre doorway; slate gabled roof with stone stacks, one at each end, with large panelled stack common with no 56 and with stack to right hand of centre. Sash windows with glazing bars and horns; doorway in third opening from left hand with open wooden boarded pediment on pilasters, stuccoed reveals, blocked fanlight with radiating and scalloped tracery, reeded band and six fielded panelled door. Interior not inspected but possibly with fittings of special interest.	CADW 13195, 5 Dec 1963, amended 3 Feb 1981
	1.3. CADW is currently carrying out a relisting exercise.	
	1.4. The house is situated in the area calculated to have been built on by 1295*	
	(1). The nearby ‘Ancient Druid’ is dated as prior 1550 (1). The current house was built sometime between 1560 and 1715, perhaps covering several stages.	* ‘Cowbridge : the archaeology & topography of a small market town in the Vale of Glamorgan’ P 42 by David M Robinson 1980
	<b>2. Owners and occupiers</b>	
	Owner	Occupier
1717-1721	Edward Morgan	Edward & Mary Morgan
1722 - 1724	Joan Jones	
1724 - 1738	Edmund Kemeys	Edmund & Mary Kemeys
1738 - ?	Edmund Kemeys	Mary Thomas
? - 1765	Nathaniel Taynton	
1765 - 1773	Jennet Llewelin	Jennet Llewelin

<b>Date</b>	<b>Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge</b>		<b>Source</b>
1784-1789	Henry Lloyd	Henry & Catherine Lloyd	
1790	Henry Lloyd	Frances Llewelin	
1791 - 1796/9	Henry Lloyd	Morgan Williams	
1797/9-1815	Morgan Williams	Morgan Williams	
1816-1817	Thomas Llewellyn Williams senior owned & occupied		
1818	TL Williams senior	[empty]	
1819-1827	TL Williams snr	TL Williams junior.	
1828-1829	TL Williams jnr. Mullock	Miss MacGregor & Miss	
1830-1831	TL Williams jnr	Miss Nicholl [Mary Nicholl]	
1832-1844	TL Williams jnr.	T.L. & Frances Williams	
1844-1870	Frances Williams	Frances Williams	
1870-1872	Evan Williams	Christina Ord	
1872-pre 1891	Evan Williams	Owen Davies	
Pre 1891 - 1910	Alice Williams	Annie Llewellyn & sisters	
1910-1928	Annie Giles	William & Annie Giles	
1928-1930	Annie Giles	[empty]	
1931	Annie Giles	Ralph & Betty Bird	
1932 - 1961	Ralph Bird	Ralph & Betty Bird	
1961 - 1962	Isobel Murray	Isobel Murray	
1962 - to date	David & Sheila Jones	David & Sheila Jones	
	<b>The History</b>		
	<b>Edward Morgan</b>		
	In 1717 the house was owned and occupied by Edward Morgan who was a 'cordwainer' as shoemakers were called at that time. / He was born in Llanblethian in 1675, the son of William and Mary Morgan. In 1704 he married Mary William of Llantrithyd. <sup>2</sup>		1 Trecastle papers 2 IGI index

Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Joan Jones</b></p> <p>In 1717, the lease was acquired by Joan Jones from Edward Morgan <sup>3</sup> and in 1722 she purchased the house. <sup>4</sup> In the same year she is shown as a Freeholder at St Mary Church but it is not known if she lived at Heath House.</p>	<p>3 D/D Tre 46 4 D/D Tre 47</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Edmund Kem(e)ys</b></p> <p>In 1724, Joan Jones died leaving the house to her daughter Mary and son-in-law Edmund Kemeys. He was born in 1663, the son of Richard and Mary Kemys of Llanblethian.<sup>5</sup> He had a brother and sister who both died in their infancy. Thomas born in 1684, died 1686 and Phillippa, born 1687, died 1688. The Kemys family was well established in Cowbridge and Llanblethian. In 1570, John Kemys held an acre of land near 'St Flethian's Well', seven acres at 'Bere Furlong' and one acre at 'Blumig Well' of which the current name is probably Bowman's Well. In 1670, a Thomas Kemys was assessed for four hearths in the Cowbridge Hearth Tax Assessment. He is also recorded as a churchwarden in 1675.<sup>6</sup></p> <p>Edward Kemys (1663-1688) had a daughter who married Evan Jenkins. Evan Jenkins lived at Maendy and was the brother of Leoline Jenkins, the statesman and benefactor of Cowbridge Grammar School.<sup>7</sup></p> <p>During the ownership of Edmund Kemys, at different times the mortgage was held by different people. In 1733 it was held by Catherine Powell of Llantrithyd. <sup>8</sup> In 1734 by J Watkins of St Bride's Major.<sup>9</sup></p>	<p>5 Llanblethian parish records</p> <p>6 Parish records</p> <p>7 'Jenkins Family' Arch. Camb. 8 D/D Tre 49/50 9 D/D Tre 51</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nathaniel Taynton</b></p> <p>In 1738, Nathaniel Taynton acquired the lease <sup>10</sup> and at some time after 1738 he acquired the house.<sup>11</sup> He died in 1754 or 1758. His wife Joan and daughter Elizabeth survived him. The deeds make mention of his 'furnace and grate'. They also state that in 1738 the house was occupied by a Mary Thomas</p>	<p><sup>10</sup> D/D Tre 56.1 <sup>11</sup> Parish records</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jennet Llewellyn</b></p> <p>By 1765 the house had been bought by Jennet Llewellyn.<sup>1</sup> Her maiden name was Miles and she was the widow of David Llewellyn. The couple lived in Llandough and had two daughters; one was called Frances and the other called Catherine who was born in 1763.<sup>2</sup> On the 20th February 1776 Catherine married Henry Lloyd of Coity.</p> <p>Jennet Llewellyn died in 1773.<sup>3</sup> At this time Frances and perhaps her mother were living in the house.<sup>4</sup></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> D/D Tre 58</p> <p><sup>2</sup> IGI index</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Will LL 1724/40 <sup>4</sup> LTA</p>

Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Henry Lloyd</b></p> <p>On her death, Jennet Llewelin left the house to her daughter Frances. Frances Lloyd first leased the house to her brother-in-law, Henry Lloyd. By 1784, Henry Lloyd was both the owner and occupier of the house.<sup>5 6</sup> In 1789 Henry Lloyd moved to Coychurch and in 1790 his sister-in-law, Frances Llewellyn, is living in the house for a short while.<sup>7</sup></p>	<p>5 &amp; 6 D/D Tre 59-60 &amp; LTA</p> <p>7 LTA</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Morgan Williams</b></p> <p>In 1791, Morgan Williams was the tenant.<sup>8</sup> In 1797 he purchased the house from Henry Lloyd and Catherine Lloyd and Frances Llewellyn. He remained living there until 1815.<sup>9</sup> Morgan Williams was a Freeman of Cowbridge and listed among the gentry of that time.<sup>10</sup> By 1816 he had left Cowbridge, probably for Bonvilston where he died in 1825, his executor being his son Thomas Llewellyn Williams <i>11</i>, to whom Morgan Williams appears to have handed the house over.</p>	<p>8 D/D Tre 61-2</p> <p>9 LTA</p> <p>10 UBD 1795</p> <p>11 Will LL 1825/19</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thomas Llewellyn Williams senior</b></p> <p>By 1816, the house was owned and occupied by Thomas Llewellyn Williams <i>12</i>, the son of Morgan Williams. He was a solicitor sharing a practice in Cowbridge with his son who was also named Thomas Llewellyn Williams. They also owned 85 and 87 Eastgate.</p>	<p>12 LTA</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thomas Llewellyn Williams junior</b></p> <p>Williams snr. probably died in 1817 or 1818 and the house was vacant in 1818.<sup>13</sup> By 1819, Williams jnr. was living in the house and continued to do so until 1827. Like his father he was a solicitor. He was married to Frances Williams who was born in Margam in 1801.<sup>14</sup> They had two children: Edward who became a doctor, and a daughter, also called Frances.</p>	<p>13 LTA</p> <p>14 1851 census</p>
	<p><i>1.5.1819</i> <i>Leasehold estate to be sold by private contract</i> <i>A capital Mansion House in Cowbridge Ground floor - drawing room, dining room and breakfast parlour, kitchen, back kitchen, larder, pantry, cellars, etc</i> <i>1st floor - 5 good bedrooms and dressing closet</i> <i>2nd floor - 2 good bedrooms and lumber room</i> <i>Two good walled gardens, planted with fruit trees, etc</i> <i>Now occ Dr Nicholl as tenant from year to year</i> <i>Held by lease for 99 years, 39 yrs of which will be unexpired 24/6/1819</i> <i>Thos Williams, solicitor, Cowbridge</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cambrian</i></p>

Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p>In 1828 and 1829 the house was rented by two ladies, Miss MacGregor and Miss Mullock.</p> <p>In 1831 the tenant was Miss Mary Nicholl who had moved there from the house next door.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Thomas Llewellyn Williams owned the house until he died in 1844.<sup>2</sup></p>	<p><sup>1</sup> LTA</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Tithe</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Frances Williams</b></p> <p>In 1844 the house was mortgaged by Frances and her son and her daughter, Dr Edward Williams and Frances Williams to Evan Preece a farmer at Wick.<sup>3</sup> They all gave their address as Pendoylan House where perhaps Frances had gone to stay with her children after the death of her husband. In 1848 the mortgage was transferred to another farmer, Samuel David of Pancross.<sup>4</sup> It was probably his widow, Anne David, who in 1877 endorsed the mortgage for £211.<sup>5</sup> to Samuel Gibbon of Newton House.</p> <p>By 1851, Frances is again living at Heath House.<sup>5</sup> She describes herself as a 'Landed Proprietor'. Living there with her was her sister, Catherine Thomas, who was also a widow. She was also born in Margam in 1806. She is described as a 'Fund Holder'. They had two female servants, one who originated from Worcestershire and another who was born in Cowbridge.</p> <p>The two sisters were still there in 1861. There are two different servants, one described as a cook, the other a housemaid.<sup>6</sup></p>	<p><sup>3</sup> D/D Tre 64</p> <p><sup>4</sup> D/D Tre 65</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Census</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Census</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Christiana Ord</b></p> <p>Christiana Ord, born 1811 in Edmonton, Middlesex 7 and Ralph Ord, born in 1802 in Sunderland 8, first set up home in Redcar in Yorkshire. Ralph's occupation is not known.</p> <p>They moved to County Durham and from there to not far from Christiana's birthplace, setting up home in Kilburn in London. From Kilburn they came to live in St Mellons, Monmouthshire, and from there they moved to Llanblethian by 1861. There, they are described as living in a house by the 'Little Bridge'. The house belonged to George Nicholl of Penarth.<sup>9</sup> This was, almost certainly, what is now known as Llanblethian House.</p> <p>The Ords had eight children, five daughters and three boys, born at the following dates:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Christiana</td><td>1833</td></tr> <tr><td>Charlotte</td><td>1838</td></tr> <tr><td>Emily</td><td>1839</td></tr> <tr><td>Sarah</td><td>1842</td></tr> <tr><td>Louisa Susanah</td><td>1844</td></tr> <tr><td>Robert</td><td>1847</td></tr> <tr><td>Charles</td><td>1850</td></tr> <tr><td>Edward</td><td>1852</td></tr> </table> <p>The time in Llanblethian was not a happy period. In January 1860, Ralph Ord died. Ten months later, their eldest daughter, Christiana, died in November. In 1862, Louisa Susannah died aged seventeen. Four years later, in 1866, Emily died aged twenty-seven. In 1868, Sarah died aged twenty-six. At the time she was living in the Armoury in Eastgate. She was buried with her father and sisters in Llanblethian churchyard.<sup>1</sup> Perhaps because her home in Llanblethian held so many sad memories, Christiana moved with Robert and Edward to Heath House and was living there by 1871.<sup>2</sup> The following year in April 1872 Christiana died aged sixty-one and was buried with the rest of the family at Llanblethian.</p> <p>Of the surviving members, Robert became a bank cashier and Edward did rather better by becoming a solicitor.<sup>3</sup> In 1872, Robert married Alice Emma Stockwood, daughter of John Stockwood, solicitor. <sup>4</sup> [See <i>Old Hall</i>.]</p> <p>By 1880 (probably 1878), Edward had set up in Caercady House; he was listed as a member of the 'gentry'. He was agent for both the London &amp; Lancashire Fire Insurance Company and the Norwich &amp; London Accident Insurance Company. In 1884 he was the Hon. Secretary to the Glamorgan Hunt <sup>5</sup></p>	Christiana	1833	Charlotte	1838	Emily	1839	Sarah	1842	Louisa Susanah	1844	Robert	1847	Charles	1850	Edward	1852	<p>7 Census 8 IGI index</p> <p>9 Electoral roll</p> <p>1 Parish records</p> <p>2 Census</p> <p>3 Slater's directory</p> <p>4 Cowbridge marriages</p> <p>5 Slater's</p>
Christiana	1833																	
Charlotte	1838																	
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	<p><b>Owen Davies</b>  Owen Maurice Davies was born in Lledrod, Cardiganshire in 1844.<sup>6</sup> He trained as a bank accountant. He was married to Catherine Florence Davies.</p> <p>In 1870, the National Provincial Bank purchased for £1,900 from F Llewellyn what is now the National Westminster Bank at 4 Westgate. On the 13th June 1871, Owen Davies was appointed Accountant of the new branch.<sup>7</sup></p> <p>During the following year Davies and his wife set up home at Heath House. Although the Bank Accountant's role was more important than the job title makes it sound, Heath House seems rather a grand home for the family to rent. Of the time it was said, 'To the Victorians, the status of the bank clerk within the field of the nineteenth century clerical labour was generally recognised as being a high one. Recruitment was only by personal recommendation.'<sup>8</sup></p> <p>Five Davies children were born in Cowbridge <sup>9</sup>:</p> <table> <tr><td>Pauline Myfanwy</td><td>1873</td></tr> <tr><td>Florence Gladys</td><td>1874</td></tr> <tr><td>Leonora Ceridwen</td><td>1876</td></tr> <tr><td>Mabel Morfyd</td><td>1876</td></tr> <tr><td>Sydney Tudor</td><td>1878</td></tr> </table> <p>Owen Davies was also a poet, writing under the name of 'Eos Afan' [The Nightingale of Afan].<sup>1</sup> In April 1873, Owen Davies was the Chairman of the Colwinston Eisteddfod Committee. However, in August of the same year he was Chairman of the Cowbridge Eisteddfod Committee.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>The Cowbridge Eisteddfod was no small event. Held in the Bear Field, a temporary wooden building was erected capable of holding seven to eight thousand people, with room for two hundred choristers. People came long distances for the event.'<sup>3</sup></p> <p>Being the Chairman of the Committee does not seem to have hampered Owen Davies from participating in the competitions. He is recorded as having won first prize of £1 for the best six stanzas in Welsh. His piece was called 'The view from Mount Ida, or Llanblethian'. He also won three guineas for the best poem on 'The Welsh farmer, his habits and customs'. The organisational talents of Owen Davies seem not to have been reflected in career opportunities at the bank. In 1874 he applied for promotion, pointing out that he had received a good offer to act as the agent for the Commercial Union Assurance Company. His promotion was refused.</p>	Pauline Myfanwy	1873	Florence Gladys	1874	Leonora Ceridwen	1876	Mabel Morfyd	1876	Sydney Tudor	1878	<p>6 Census</p> <p>7 Nat. Westminster Group archives</p> <p>8 <i>Welsh Hist. Review</i> vol 7</p> <p>9 Parish records</p> <p>1 <i>Western Mail</i>, 15/8/1873</p> <p>2 <i>Western Mail</i> 1873</p> <p>3 <i>Cardiff Times</i> 16/8/73</p>
Pauline Myfanwy	1873											
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Mabel Morfyd	1876											
Sydney Tudor	1878											



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	<p>This does not seem to have hampered his social ambitions because in 1875 he is listed amongst the 'local gentry'.<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Perhaps the interesting choice of the children's Christian names, English for the first and Welsh for the second, resulted from Owen's profession and the need for clear identification on insurance documents. Owen Davies was not the manager of the bank but he is shown as the agent for a number of insurance companies.<sup>5</sup> At this time, this was usually a 'perk' reserved for the manager of a bank. The insurance companies were: Accident Insurance Company; Britain Insurance Company; Medical &amp; General Company.</p>	<p>4 Worralls' directory</p> <p>5 Slater's directory</p>
	<p>Scarlet fever arrived in Cowbridge in 1875. In those days, it could be a deadly disease. On the 6th March, 1875, Owen Davies was given leave of absence because of the fever in his household. In 1878 he was again turned down for promotion.<sup>6</sup></p> <p>Owen Davies seems to have concentrated on building up the agencies he held for the insurance companies. By 1880, he is listed as being the local representative for: Accident Insurance Company; Britain Life Insurance; Imperial Fire Insurance; Imperial Live Stock Insurance; National &amp; Provincial Plate Glass Insurance.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> In March 1880, relations with his employer turned from bad to worse. Davies was persuaded to leave the bank in a rather acrimonious climate.</p> <p>The 1881 Census makes for sad reading. It shows Owen Davies as living in Heath House with Pauline and a housekeeper. He is still married but his wife and the four younger children were not shown in the Census. Also, he is described as 'unemployed'.<sup>8</sup></p>	<p>6 Nat. Westminster Group archives</p> <p>7 Slater's</p> <p>8 Census</p>

<p><b>The Llewellyn family</b>  Thomas Llewellyn (1766-1832) was both a maltster and Clerk to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.<sup>9</sup>  He was married to Anne [-1852], They had ten children.<sup>1</sup></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Thomas</td><td>1800</td></tr> <tr><td>Anne</td><td>1800 - 1856</td></tr> <tr><td>Mary</td><td>1801</td></tr> <tr><td>Jane</td><td>1804</td></tr> <tr><td>Thomas</td><td>1808</td></tr> <tr><td>Harriet Sarah</td><td>1808</td></tr> <tr><td>John</td><td>1810 - 1872</td></tr> <tr><td>Elizabeth</td><td>1813 - 1870</td></tr> <tr><td>Nathaniel I</td><td>1815 - 1855</td></tr> <tr><td>Matilda</td><td>1817 - 1868</td></tr> </table> <p>By 1822, Thomas was also dealing in tea.<sup>2</sup> Towards the end of his life it seems that his son Nathaniel I had joined him in the business and that they were also selling ale and porter.<sup>3</sup> In 1810, Thomas was appointed Postmaster of Cowbridge. When he died in 1832, his daughter took over his duties. She later married Thomas Lister who is recorded as the first chemist in Cowbridge. [<i>However, there is a recorded Apothecary in Cowbridge by the name of John Roberts, born 1736. See 56 High Street.</i>]</p> <p>Nathaniel I first became a Road Surveyor and then changed to become a saddler by trade. In 1852, he was also Clerk to the Commissioner of Taxes (as his father had been).<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Nathaniel I's wife was called Jane I. She was born in 1814 in Flemingston in Glamorgan.<sup>5</sup> The Llewellyns had thirteen recorded children born in the following years:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Thomas Young</td><td>1835</td></tr> <tr><td>Nathaniel II Jenkins</td><td>1836-1867</td></tr> <tr><td>Evan Jenkins</td><td>1837</td></tr> <tr><td>William</td><td>1839</td></tr> <tr><td>Jane II</td><td>1841-1933</td></tr> <tr><td>Margaret Ann</td><td>1842-1910</td></tr> <tr><td>John</td><td>1844-1934</td></tr> <tr><td>Llewellyn</td><td>1846-</td></tr> <tr><td>David Octavius</td><td>1847</td></tr> <tr><td>Octavius</td><td>1848-</td></tr> <tr><td>Annie</td><td>1849-1944</td></tr> <tr><td>Charles</td><td>1851 -</td></tr> <tr><td>Ellen</td><td>1855 -</td></tr> </table> <p>Nathaniel I died in 1855 leaving this large family.<sup>6</sup> The Llewellyns probably lived at that time in Church Street because in 1861 Jane I was operating the</p>	Thomas	1800	Anne	1800 - 1856	Mary	1801	Jane	1804	Thomas	1808	Harriet Sarah	1808	John	1810 - 1872	Elizabeth	1813 - 1870	Nathaniel I	1815 - 1855	Matilda	1817 - 1868	Thomas Young	1835	Nathaniel II Jenkins	1836-1867	Evan Jenkins	1837	William	1839	Jane II	1841-1933	Margaret Ann	1842-1910	John	1844-1934	Llewellyn	1846-	David Octavius	1847	Octavius	1848-	Annie	1849-1944	Charles	1851 -	Ellen	1855 -	<p><i>9 'The Cowbridge Story' J Richards</i>  <i>1 Parish records</i></p> <p>2 Pigot's directory</p> <p>3 Pigot's</p> <p>4 Scammel directory</p> <p>5 Census</p> <p>6 Parish records</p>
Thomas	1800																																														
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	<p>saddlery and harness making business from there.<sup>7</sup> The house was the first one on the right when entering Church Street from the High Street. The house was a substantial building, one of three or four with cellars. They are no longer there and the site is now the Duke of Wellington car park.</p> <p>Nathaniel II helped his mother to run the business and young Llewellyn Llewellyn was apprenticed to the trade. Margaret Ann worked as a draper's assistant in Cowbridge.</p> <p>Annie Llewellyn was judged a very bright girl at the age of eleven and was given a place reserved for orphans at the school of Thomas Howell in Llandaff, which had just opened. Now known as 'Howell's School'. She came to be considered one of the two cleverest pupils in the school. Her favourite subjects were French and learning to play the piano.' By the time she was eighteen she was teaching one of the younger classes. In June 1867 the school asked for permission to keep Annie on as an assistant to the teachers, but this was refused by the Governors and Annie left.</p> <p>In May 1870 the Governors heard from Annie again. She wanted a grant from them to open a school of her own in Cowbridge for which she had gained the support of both the Headmaster of the Grammar School (Rev William Franklen Evans) and the Rector (Rev Thomas Edmondson). This time the Governors were kinder and gave her a £50 contribution.</p> <p>By 1871 the school was up and running in what must have been a rather cramped saddler's premises in Church Street. There were six Llewellyns living there plus four school boarders. In addition, Jane I employed two men working in the saddlery.<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel II was no longer there to help her as he had died in 1867.</p>	<p>7 Kelly's directory</p> <p>2 Census</p>
1880, 1st February	<p><i>Death at Heath House of Leonora Ceridwen, third daughter of Owen Morris Davies Esq. of the National Provincial Bank, Cowbridge, aged 5 years. – added later by B Alden</i></p>	<p><i>Cambrian newspaper</i></p>
	<p>By 1881 the school had moved to 'The Bridge', which is now 5 High Street.<sup>3</sup> Annie and Jane still had four boarders and one servant. Also living with them was Marianne Annie Llewellyn, their niece aged two who had been born in Merthyr. She had lost her mother and her two aunts had taken on her upbringing. Jane I stayed on in Church Street still running the saddlery.</p>	<p>3 Census</p>

	<p>By 1891, the school had moved across the road to Heath House. There were now five boarders. Marianne was still with them and Jane I, now aged 77, had finally given up the saddlery and had moved in with her daughters. There was one domestic servant to help.<sup>4</sup> Although Annie was the youngest, it seems that it was 'her' school. Her sisters Margaret and Jane II also operated as schoolmistresses. The three aimed for high standards. The school was advertised as an <i>'Establishment for Young Ladies'</i>. <i>An advertisement in the Kelly's Directory of 1884 reads: 'Heath House, Cowbridge, Boarding and Day School Principals - The Misses Llewellyn Subjects Taught: Reading, Writing and Arithmetic; Geography and History; English Grammar and Composition; Needlework, Plain and Fancy; Music; French; and Drawing.'</i> <i>This was followed by a rather strange bit: 'The Domestic Arrangements are most liberal; Pupils have the Comforts and Privileges of Private Life. Prospectus forwarded upon application.'</i> [One wonders if the same liberal principles apply in today's household?]</p> <p>Heath House School seems to have had a good reputation and Annie's old school, Howell's, followed her career with interest. At that period, Cowbridge enjoyed a good reputation for schooling, presumably on the back of the Grammar School's fame. In the 1880s, in addition to Annie's, there were several other private schools in the town, mostly catering for girls I:</p> <p><i>Mrs and Misses Culverwell Ladies Boarding</i>  <i>Misses Margaret, Eliza &amp; Mary Davies Ladies Boarding</i>  <i>William Lewis Boarding &amp; Day</i></p> <p>Annie seems to have enjoyed a good relationship with the Cowbridge Grammar School as boys still too young to go there were first educated at her school. When the Girls' High School opened it was time for the smaller schools to disappear. Annie and Jane II retired 'up the road' to 'The Armoury'. Jane II died in 1933 but Annie saw her ninety-fifth year, furiously knitting for her soldier great-nephew until she died in 1944.<sup>2</sup> The two sisters are buried together under a large cross in the Limes Cemetery.</p> <p>Of this large family, John Llewellyn was another notable member. He became a chemist, succeeding in the business of uncle Thomas Lister. He also had an</p>	<p><i>1 'Thos Howell &amp; the School at Llandaff 1869 – 1890' J E McCann</i></p> <p><i>2 Census</i></p>
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Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p>ironmonger's business. These two activities were in what are today 36 and 38 High Street.</p> <p>John was a Town Councillor for very many years and also the last Freeman of Cowbridge in his own right.<sup>3</sup> He seems to have had only one bad professional experience and that was as a director of the ill-fated Gas Works.</p> <p>Things seemed to have worked out well for Marianne, the ward of Annie and Jane, who subsequently married Mr John of The Verlands.</p>	<p>3 <i>'The Cowbridge Story'</i> John Richards</p>
	<p><b>The Giles family</b></p> <p>Around 1820 the marriage took place between David Giles and his wife Catherine. They had two sons, William born 1821 and David born 1827 or 1829. <sup>4</sup> David Giles had four children <sup>5</sup>:</p> <p>John Griffiths 1856  William 1860  Frederick 1864  Alfred 1869</p> <p>The family lived in Cowbridge. David Giles was a boot and shoe maker. Annie Elizabeth Giles, the wife of William Giles, purchased Heath House in 1910 from Alice Frances Williams of Great House, Pendoylan, the widow of Evan Ivor Williams. Annie used a mortgage of £250 from Dora Forsdyke of Chatham in Kent. <sup>6</sup> At that time William was a haulage contractor.<sup>7</sup> His horses were stabled on the Cardiff road at what is now Quarry Cottage. The couple had married in 1882. For the first time, the documentation covering the sale names it as 'Heath House'. The tenancy of the Llewellyn sisters had just ended or was reaching its end. At the time of the purchase, a 'Chief Rent' of one shilling was payable to the Marquess of Bute.</p> <p>The couple were still living in Heath House in 1922. William's profession was now that of a Commission Agent.' In 1926, Annie renegotiated a new mortgage with a farmer at Pansfeddfan Ystrad in Glamorgan, called Lewis Evans. The property was quite spartan for that time. There was no gas, electricity or running water in the house. The only toilet was a 'two seater' right at the end of the garden. (<i>Ralph Bird's memoirs</i> state : empty &amp; forlorn')</p> <p>William died around 1928 and his wife left the house empty for some time.</p>	<p><sup>4</sup> Parish records  <sup>5</sup> Census</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Deeds  <sup>7</sup> Kelly's directory</p>

Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Bird family</b></p> <p>In 1931, Ralph and Betty Bird plus their children Roger and Rodney came to live in Heath House. They started by renting it from Mrs Giles at a rental of ten shillings per week. After some time it was decided to buy the house from Mrs Giles for £500 less the rent already paid. A mortgage was secured at a rate of interest of 4%.<sup>2</sup> The Birds set about bringing the house up to date including the installation of an Aga.</p> <p>The house consisted at the time of a large lounge, a large dining room, a large kitchen plus a back kitchen. Also on the ground floor were a breakfast room, panelled with Swedish pine, a china pantry and a cloakroom. Upstairs there were four bedrooms, a very large bathroom and a large loft.</p> <p>The garden was enclosed by a high wall. There was a lawn, a lime tree described as 'majestic' and some fruit trees. The south facing walls were covered by a wisteria.</p> <p>The Birds occupied the house until 1961. Initially, there was no water, electricity or gas indoors. The toilet was an ancient 2-seater at the bottom of the garden. Betty Bird's mother, Mrs Mason, lived with them and died aged 96 in the early 1930s. They had a housekeeper, Mrs Powell, for seven years.</p>	<p>2 Heath House deeds &amp; memories of Ralph Bird</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Isobel Murray</b></p> <p>Isobel Murray purchased Heath House from Ralph Bird in June 1961. She was a doctor serving in the Royal Air Force at St Athan.<sup>3</sup> She owned the house for only a very short period, returning to Scotland in 1962.</p>	<p>3 ibid.</p>

Date	Heath House, 54 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source								
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Jones family</b></p> <p>David and Sheila Jones acquired Heath House as their home in 1963. Four children followed:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Simon David Frederick</td> <td style="text-align: right;">born 1964</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Wyn</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1966</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarah Elizabeth</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1969</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nicholas Philip</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1971</td> </tr> </table> <p>In addition to being a stockbroker, David Jones has led an active public life. He served on the Cowbridge Borough Council from 1965 until the restructuring of Local Government in 1974. He was Mayor of the Borough in 1971. He served on the Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council from 1983 until 1986. He was High Sheriff of South Glamorgan for 1998-1999.</p> <p>David Jones has been a Trustee of the Cowbridge Institute Educational Trust for over twenty years. The Jones family seems intent on establishing the family presence in Cowbridge. One son, Andrew, a microbiologist, has lived at 18 Westgate since 1997, and Nicholas, a chartered surveyor, has recently set up home at 44 Westgate. Simon, also a stockbroker, lives in London, as does Sarah who is an underwriter/art expert.</p>	Simon David Frederick	born 1964	Andrew Wyn	1966	Sarah Elizabeth	1969	Nicholas Philip	1971	Information as supplied by family
Simon David Frederick	born 1964									
Andrew Wyn	1966									
Sarah Elizabeth	1969									
Nicholas Philip	1971									
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Why the name?</b></p> <p>There is a mystery surrounding the name. Why 'Heath House'? There is no heath in close proximity and there is no trace of anybody of that name being associated with the house. For what it is worth, this is the author's theory.</p> <p>The first record of it being named 'Heath House' was during the occupation by the Llewellyn sisters. It will be remembered that Annie Llewellyn's schooling was in Llandaff, where she would have boarded. To the north would have been the open land of The Heath which has since given its name to the Heath Hospital. It is quite possible that Annie would have walked on the Heath during her time at Howell's School, such as when her family came to see her.</p> <p>When she moved her own school to Eastgate, perhaps she thought the name could support some 'cachet' and remembering her schooldays hit on the idea of 'Heath House'. As she did not own the property, she presumably obtained the agreement of her landlord and subsequent owners have been happy to keep the name.</p>									
	<i>Researched &amp; written by George Haynes ca 2000</i>									

