

Oxfordshire

BURFORD GAZETTEER: OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

123 High Street : House of Simon

Work on the owners and occupiers of Burford's buildings was undertaken during 2003-6 as part of the Oxfordshire EPE project. The research accompanied the architectural investigations summarised on this website.

Standard sources included: census enumerators' books 1841-1901 in The National Archives; District Valuation assessments in Oxfordshire Record Office; printed trades directories including Kelly's Directory of Oxfordshire (1883-1939); RH Gretton, The Burford Records (1920), which summarises a vast body of early property deeds; and research (published and unpublished) by the Revd Raymond Moody and Mrs Joan Moody of Burford, drawing in part on title deeds in private possession. In some cases lack of documentation prevents the building's history being taken back earlier than the 19th century. The research was carried out by RB Peberdy of VCH Oxfordshire.

OCCUPATION and USE

2006

Women's clothing shop, 'House of Simon'.

1920

Harry Smith, 'painter', listed (*Kelly's Dir. Oxon.*).

1910

Owned and occupied by Henry Smith (DV Survey, ref. no. 215).

1908--9

H. Smith, painter, decorator and slater, listed (*Oxon. and District Trades Dir.*).

1901

Occupied by Harry Smith (house decorator), wife, niece (laundry maid), servant (census, 2nd part, entry no. 121).

1891

Occupied by Harry Smith (slater and plasterer), wife, child, servant (census, 2nd part, entry no. 142).

1881

Occupied by Albert Smith (plasterer), 6 children (inc. plasterer, laundress), servant (census, 2nd part, entry no. 142).

1874

Albert Smith, 'plasterer', listed (*Mercer and Crocker's Dir. Oxon.*).

1871

Occupied by William Wheeler (farmer of 54 a., employing 2 men, 1 boy), wife, 2 children, apprentice; also saddle/harness maker (employing 1 apprentice) (census, 2nd part, entry no. 117).

1861

Occupied by William Wheeler (saddler), wife, servant (census, 2nd part, entry no. 176).

1854

William Wheeler listed; described as ‘saddler, harness maker, and licensed to let horses and gigs for hire’ (*Billing’s Dir. Oxon.*).

1852

William Wheeler listed as saddler and harness maker (*Gardner’s Dir. Oxon.*).

1851

Occupied by William Ward (bank agent), wife, 4 children (inc. bank agent, bank clerk), servant (census, 2nd part, entry no. 51).

1841

Occupied by William Ward (bank agent), 2 children, female servant, 2 independents (census, entry no. 190).

1830

William Ward listed as actuary of Savings’ Bank, High St (*Pigot’s Dir. Oxon.*).

1823—4

William Ward listed as ‘bookseller, stationer & printer, and agent for the county fire-office’ (no street specified) (*Pigot’s Dir. Oxon.*).

PLOT INFORMATION

Frontage measurements by Oxfordshire Buildings Record; plot information compiled for EPE.

Frontage width (OBR measurement): 6.7 m. Length (map measurement): 65 m.

1999

The building’s area appears to be little changed from 1921.

1921

The building consists of a single long range which extends about two-fifths of the plot length.

Read more in the EPE book *Burford: Buildings and People in a Cotswold Town* by Antonia Catchpole, David Clark and Robert Peberdy (published 2008)