

Oxfordshire

BURFORD GAZETTEER: OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

High Street: No. 18 (Richards Cottage)

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Gretton, The Burford Records (1920), which summarises a vast body of early property deeds; and research (published and unpublished) by the Revd Raymond Moody and Mrs Joan Moody of Burford, drawing in part on title deeds in private possession.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

2003

Domestic property; called Richards Cottage.

1960s—c.2000

Property occupied successively by: Dr Ronnie Wilkinson (doctor) and Mrs Wilkinson; John and Vera Stanley; absentee owner; Tony and Frances Corner (inf. from R. Moody).

1958 or 1959

Richards Cottage sold by Burford Grammar School; bought by Mrs Gwen Thomas (retired concert pianist) (inf. from R. Moody).

1951—1958 or 1959

Occupied by LSA Jones, first Headmaster of Burford Grammar School not to be a house master (inf. from R. Moody).

c. 1920--40

Acc. to R. Moody, the building was occupied by Bertram Richards, brazier (hence the name). B. and F. Richards of High Street are listed in directories from 1908-9 under iron and tinsplate workers; Bertram Richards is listed separately from 1915. Perhaps he succeeded Search at this address around this time.

1915

Joseph Search, 'haulier', listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

1910

Owner, Grammar School Governors; occupied by Joseph Surch (DV Survey, ref. no. 195).

1903

Joseph Search, 'shopkeeper', listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

1901

Occupied by Joseph Search ('haulage'), wife, 5 children, boarder (shoemaker) (census, entry no. 5).

1899

Joseph Search, 'shopkeeper', listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

1891

Occupied by William Hall (blacksmith), wife, 2 children (census, entry no. 3).

1881

Uninhabited (census, entry no. 1).

1876

Thomas Hall, 'painter &c.', listed (Harrod's Dir. Oxon.).

1871

Thomas Hall (plumber and painter), wife, 3 children (eldest son is plumber and painter) (census, entry no. 7).

1869

Thomas Hall, 'plumber & glazier', listed (PO Dir. Oxon.).

1863

Thomas Hall, 'plumber, glazier, and tombstone erector', listed (Dutton, Allen and Co.'s Dir. Oxon.).

1861

Thomas Hall (plumber and painter), wife, 3 children (census, entry no. 7).

1859

Occupied by Thomas Hall; described as in 'fair repair' (inf. from survey of charity property, supplied by R. Moody).

1854

Following both listed under High St: (addresses unspecified): Thomas Barrett, 'collar and harness maker', and Thomas Hall, 'plumber and glazier' (Billing's Dir. Oxon.).

1851

Thomas Barrett (collarmaker), 4 children (census, entry no. 9).

1847

Thomas Barrett, 'harness maker', listed (PO Dir.).

1842

Following both listed under High St (addresses unspecified): Thomas Sharp Barrett, under 'saddlers and harness makers', and William Smith, under 'painters, plumbers and glaziers' (Pigot's Dir.).

1841

William Smith (glazier), 4 children (inc. straw bonnet maker, glazier, cordwainer); three others (inc. apprentice glazier, straw bonnet maker) (census, entry no. 123).

1830

John and William Smith, 'painters plumbers and glaziers', listed (Pigot's Dir.).

1737

Trustees lease house to Malachi Gladwin, blacksmith; called 'the College'; lease for 21 years at £3 p.a. (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 332).

1716

Trustees lease house to Richard Smith, blacksmith; called 'the College'; lease for 21 years at £3 p.a. (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 331).

1685

Property apparently entered on burgage rent roll as tenement occupied by Richard Smyth (R.G. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 458).

1678

Trustees lease house to Richard Smith, blacksmith; called 'the College'; lease for 21 years at £3 p.a. (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 329).

1658

Trustees lease house to Richard Smyth, blacksmith; called 'the College'; leased for 21 years at £3 p.a. (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 328).

1652

Property apparently entered on burgage rent roll as tenement occupied by Richard Smyth (R.G. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 449).

1628

Property included in schedule of 'School Lands'; called 'The College' (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 346).

1571

Churchmen, corporation officers and burgesses lease property to William Butcher; in tenure of Thomas Butcher the Younger; late in tenure of Philip Griffith; lease is for 41 years at 13s. 4d. p.a. (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 322). The property was evidently assigned around this time to the endowment of Burford Grammar School (inf. from R. Moody).

1568

Property appears to have been one of four messuages charged with supporting anniversary commemorations of souls, but acquitted (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 428).

1492

Walter Tyckeford and wife Elena, late wife of Henry Howchyn of Burford, convey property to four wardens of Burford parish church (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 427).

1484

Richard Harcourt, kgt, releases and quitclaims property to William Bray and wife Elena (dau. and heir of Robert Solas, formerly of Shipton Solas, Glos.); RH, with William Garnon, had received property from Thomas Send, formerly vicar of Burford (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 426).

1457

Walter Mareys and Robert Bond, 'clerici' of Burford, and Henry Hull of Swell, Glos., convey properties (pres. including this one) to Richard Sterre of Burford; had received properties from Richard's father, William Sterre (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 424).

1446

William Symonds of Burford conveys property to Thomas Sende and Robert Bond, 'clerici' (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 424.)

1435

Property conveyed by Thomas Feyster of Northleach to Thomas Send of Burford (R.H. Gretton, Burford Recs., p. 422).

PLOT INFORMATION

Frontage width (OBR measurement): 8.45 m. Length (map measurement): 30 m.

1999

Single building occupies width of tenement and about half the depth.

1921

Front width and side depth appear to be the same as in 1999; but rear of building consists of two parallel ranges with narrow passage between.

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