Oxfordshire



BURFORD GAZETTEER: OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

High Street: Godfrey's (or Beal's or Bowl's) Yard (behind Nos 156-160)

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Gretton, The Burford Records (1920), which summarises a vast body of early property deeds; and research (published and unpublished) by the Revd Raymond Moody and Mrs Joan Moody of Burford, drawing in part on title deeds in private possession.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

Note. This yard is named as Bowl's Yard in 1851, Beal's Yard in 1871, and Godfrey's Yard in 1881 and 1901. Households appear to have been accommodated somewhere behind Nos. 156-160.

1901

Two items are listed under 'Godfrey's Yard': (a) Sam. Drew (agric. labourer), niece (house keeper), boarder (4 rooms); (b) private house, tenant absent (census, entry no. 92, and following remark).

1891

The following household was probably in this place: Sam. Drew (agric. labourer), wife, niece (census, entry no. 101).

1881

The following household is listed under 'Godfrey's Yard': John Shafford (retired boot maker), wife (census, entry no. 111).

1871

The following two items are listed under 'Beal's Yard': (a) Alfred Smith (agric. labourer), wife, granddau. (washerwoman), great-grandson; (b) unoccupied house (census, entry no. 108, and following remark).

1861

The following household appears to belong here: Albert House (blacksmith), wife (milliner and dressmaker), son, apprentice (census, 2nd entry numbered 119).

1851

The following two items are listed as being in 'Bowls Yard' in separate list of 'yards' (census, 3rd part, entries nos. 80—1):

- (a) Arthur Tomes (agric. labourer), wife, 2children.
- (b) Mark Leanch (agric. labourer), wife, son, lodger.

Note: Bowl's Yard may be named after the family of Ann Bowl who occupied an adjacent tenement in 1841 (see No. 158 below).

1841

[Probably no inhabitants.]

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

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