

Oxfordshire

BURFORD GAZETTEER: OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

High Street: No. 80 (Orvis)

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Gretton, The Burford Records (1920), which summarises a vast body of early property deeds; and research (published and unpublished) by the Revd Raymond Moody and Mrs Joan Moody of Burford, drawing in part on title deeds in private possession.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

Anthony Nielsen Antiques replaced by Orvis fishing and clothes shop.

Late 20th c.

Property occupied by electrical business of Stuart Thomas, and then antiques business of Anthony Nielsen (inf. from R. Moody).

1939

[Mrs Elizabeth Smith, 'toy dealer', listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).]

1920

[Mrs Edwin Smith, 'toy dealer', listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).]

1915

[Mrs Edwin Smith, 'toy dealer', listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).]

1911

Mrs Harriet Smith, 'toy dealer', listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).

1910

Nos. 80 and 82 are reported to be both owned and occupied by William Smith (DV Survey, ref. no. 396). W. Smith listed as builder ([Cope's Oxon. Dir.](#)).

1901

Occupied by William Smith (hse builder), wife (toy dealer), son (carpenter, joiner) (census, entry no. 40).

1899

William Smith listed as builder (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

1895

William Smith listed as cabinet maker, toy dealer, and tobacconist (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

1891

Occupied by William Smith (cabinet maker), wife (toy dealer), son (cabinet maker) (census, entry no. 40).

1881

Occupied by William Smith (cabinet maker), wife (toy dealer), 2 sons, lodger (corn merchant's clerk) (census, entry no. 47).

1871

Occupied by Sarah Unwin (teacher), sister (teacher), visitor, 4 pupils, servant (census, entry no. 47). [N.b., this household could be in the next tenement and this building unoccupied.]

1869

Both William Smith, toy dealer, and Miss Sarah R. Unwin, 'seminary', High Street, are listed (PO Dir. Oxon.).

1861

Occupied by John Meredith (printer), visitor (census, entry no. 60).

1854

John Samuel Meredith listed; described as 'printer, bookbinder, and stationer; agent for the Legal and Commercial Fire and Life Office, Stamp Office, High st' (Billing's Dir. Oxon.).

1852

John S. Meredith, 'printer, bookseller, and stationer', listed (Gardner's Dir. Oxon.).

1851

Occupied by William Bunghope (printer, book setter), mother, servant (census, 3rd part, entry no. 33).

1847

William Burghope (sic) listed; described as 'printer, stationer, perfumer & vendor of patent medicine' (PO Dir. Oxon.).

1841

[Tenement unlocated in census.]

PLOT INFORMATION

Measured by Oxfordshire Buildings Record. Frontage width (OBR measurement): 7.43 m. Length (map measurement): 52 m. (Length is of tenement plot in 1921.)

1999

Since 1921 the building's ground area appears to have changed little. The passageway cover has been made shorter at the street end.

1921

The building consists essentially of one long range, occupying most of the plot's width, which abuts the Mermaid on the north side. Alongside the building at the front is a covered passageway, with an open passageway behind.

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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