

# Oxfordshire

## BURFORD GAZETTEER: OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

### High Street: No. 152 (Dragon Inn)

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Gretton, The Burford Records (1920), which summarises a vast body of early property deeds; and research (published and unpublished) by the Revd Raymond Moody and Mrs Joan Moody of Burford, drawing in part on title deeds in private possession.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

Dragon Inn Chinese restaurant.

#### post-WWII

New Inn renamed the Rampant Cat (after town's device, corporation seal, and Robert Fitz Hamon's seal) (Moody, Inns of Burford, p. 71).

#### 1939

'New Inn (Albt. Edwd. Weller)' listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

#### 1920

William Lucas, New Inn, listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

#### 1915

Sydney Mosson, New Inn, listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

#### 1911

Sydney Mosson, New Inn, listed (Kelly's Dir. Oxon.).

#### 1910

New Inn, owned by Thomas Taylor; occupied by Sydney Mason (DV Survey, ref. no. 459). On rear of tenement plot, New Inn Cottage, also owned by Taylor, occupation 'void' (ref. no. 458).

#### 1908--9

New Inn listed, George Bishop 'proprietor' (Oxon. and District Trades Dir.).

#### 1903

William Kibble, New Inn, listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1901**

Occupied by William Kibble (stone quarryman), wife, dau. (seamstress); named as New Inn (census, entry no. 89). Following household possibly in New Inn Cottage (at rear): Frank Eley (tailor), wife (dressmaker) (census, entry no. 90).

**1891**

Occupied by William Kibble (inn keeper), wife, dau. (own means) (census, entry no. 96).

**1887**

Joseph Young, New Inn, listed ([Kelly's Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1881**

Occupied by William Cooper (publican and carpenter), wife, mother-in-law, lodger (retired blacksmith); named as The New Inn (census, entry no. 107).

**1871**

Occupied by William Cooper (carpenter), aunt (house keeper); named as The New Inn (census, entry no. 105).

**1864**

William Cooper, New Inn, listed ([PO Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1863**

[New Inn not listed ([Dutton, Allen & Co.'s Dir. Oxon.](#)).]

**1861**

Probably occupied by Thomas Smith (baker), wife, son (census, entry no. 118).

**1854**

Thomas Smith, 'victualler, and chimney sweeper, New Inn', listed ([Billing's Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1851**

John Smith (chimney sweeper), wife, 2 children, 2 servants (census, 3rd part, entry no. 54).  
[Presumably John was written in error for Thomas.]

**1850**

Thomas Smith, New Inn, listed ([Slater's Dir.](#)).

**1847**

Eli Merchant, New Inn, listed ([PO Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1842**

Eli Merchant, New Inn, listed ([PO Dir. Oxon.](#)).

**1841**

Occupied by Edward Tomes (publican), wife, 6 children, John Tomes (farmer), female servant, cabinet turner (census, entry no. 321).

**1830**

John Bowl, New Inn, listed ([Pigot's Dir.](#)).

**1823--4**

[New Inn not listed under Taverns and Public Houses (Pigot's Dir.).]

**pre-1830s**

This tenement thought possibly to have been the site of the Quart Pot inn in the 18th century (R. Moody, Inns of Burford, pp. 70--1).

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## **PLOT INFORMATION**

Measured by Oxfordshire Buildings Record. Frontage width (OBR measurement): 11.5 m. Length (map measurement): 60 m. (S bay, 4.6 m., carriage entrance, 2.2 m., N bay, 4.7 m.)

**1999**

The building appears to have retained most of its extent in 1921, though the carriageway has been incorporated into the front and there is a gap in the N range.

**1921**

Building consisted of 2 parallel ranges with a carriageway and narrow court between them. The S range extended about half the plot's depth, the longer N range about two-thirds of the depth.

**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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