

Castle Street



Map of 1824, with location of Future Castle Street shown in red

Although some of the buildings date from earlier, Castle Street itself dates from 1858, when the building plots, part of the estate on George Dickin were auctioned off on 23rd December. It was proposed that a New Road be built, linking Berwyn Street (A5) to Llangollen Bridge, and the proposed Station.





1839 Tithe

Llangollen Abbot (All properties owned by Hon George Dicken) occupier and use

8 John Edwards House Yard & Garden

9 Pasture

10 John Jones, Pasture, (Butchers Arms)

11 House & Yard, Richard Jones, Tailor

12 House & Yard, Elizabeth Wilkinson

13 House Yard & Stable, David Hughes

14 House & Yard Robert Parry Lab

15 John Tudor Cordwainer

16 House & Yard, void

17 House Shop & Garden, Sarah Hughes, Pauper

18 House & Yard, Evan Francis, Joiner

19 House & Yard, John Jones, Hatter

20 House, Mary Minshall

21 House & Buildings , Richard Arthur, Lab

22 House & Yard, John Francis, joiner

23 House & Yard, Thomas Williams, Brewer

24 House & Yard, Margaret Davies, Ind

25 House & Yard, Catherine Ford, Confectioner

26 House, Elias Jones Miller

27 House, Martha Pugh, Baker

28 House, Thomas Roberts

29 House & House & Smithy, John Thomas, Blacksmith

Llangollen Bachau (owner, occupier, use)

269 George Dicken, John Jones, Croft

270 George Dicken Amy Phillips

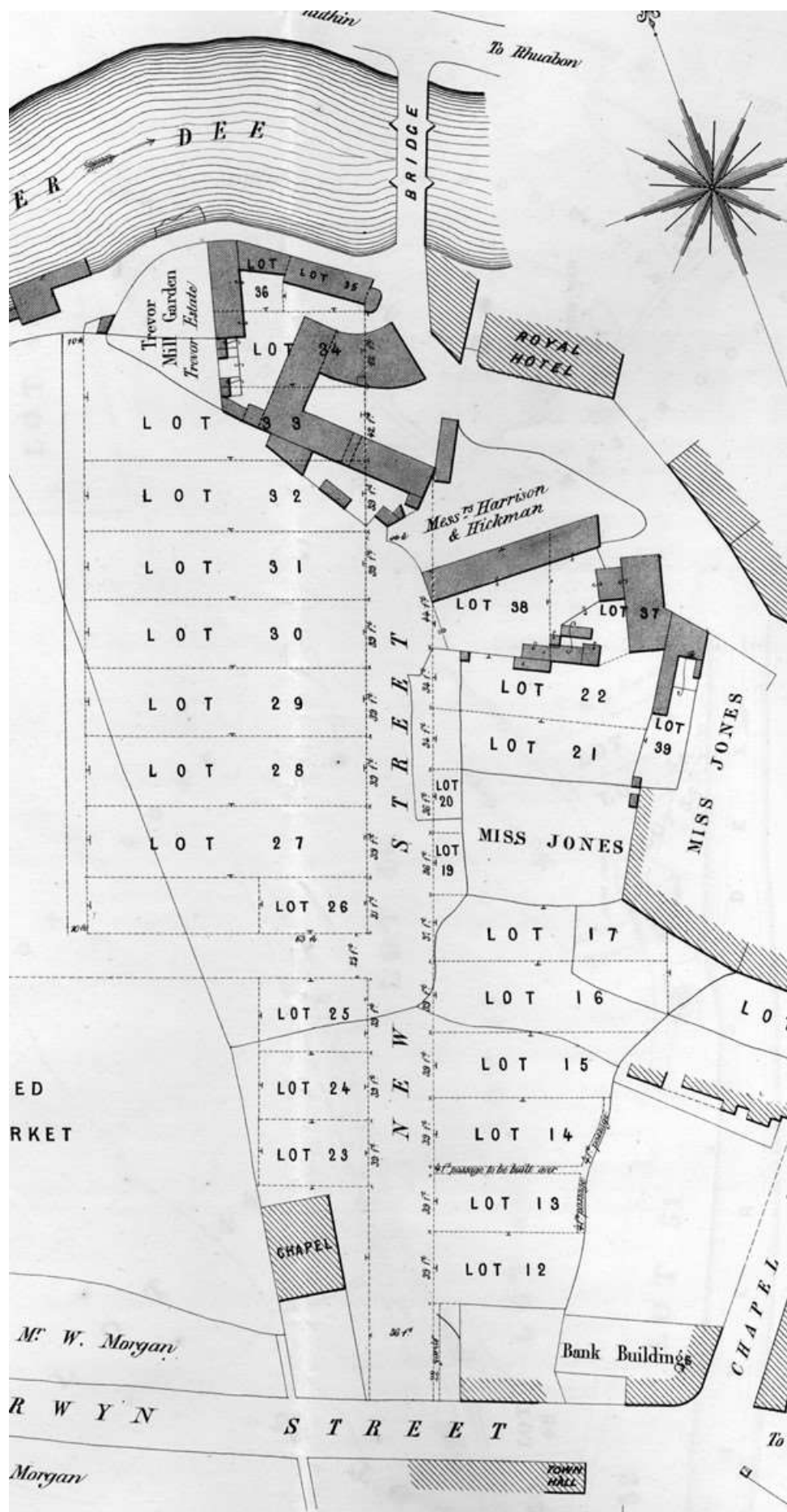
271 Glebe, Amy Phillips, Garden

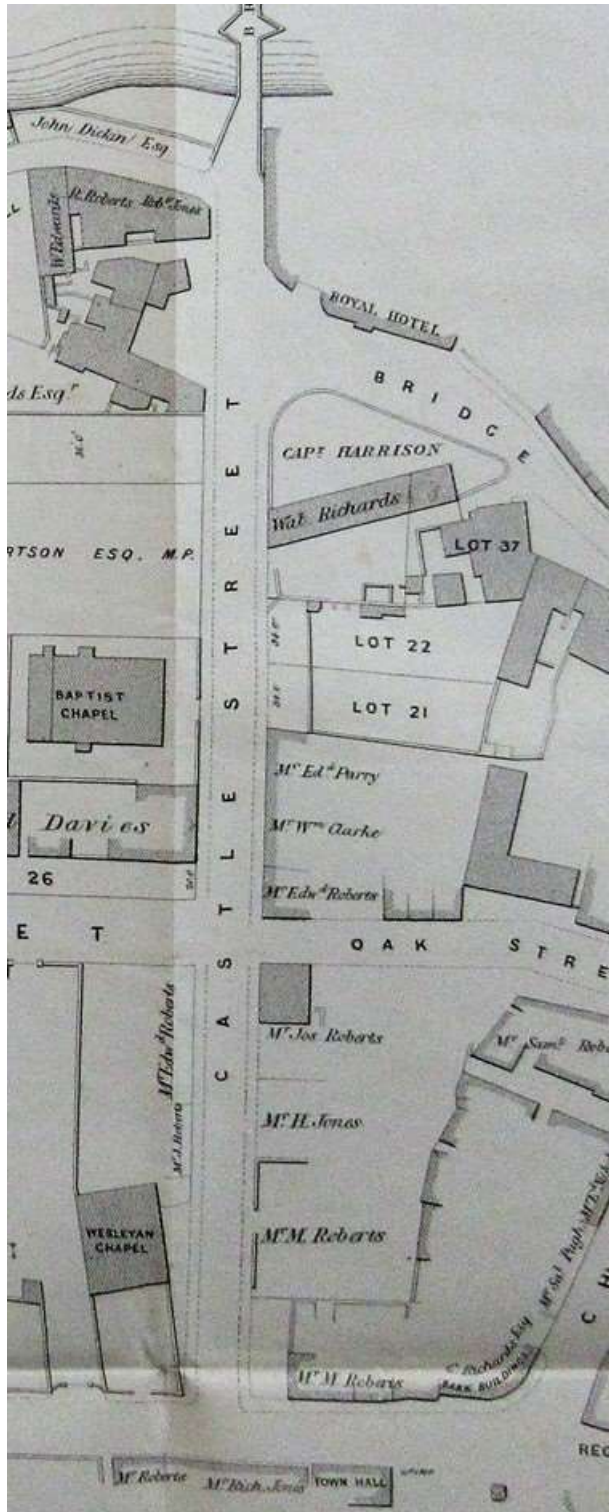
272 John George Edmund Lockett, In hand, Part of Butcher's Arms Inn & garden

1858 Occupiers of Castle Street Building Sites

Number	Description	Occupiers
12	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
13	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
14	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
15	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
16	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones and others
17	A Building Site, with a frontage of 37 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones and others
19	A Building Site, with a frontage of 36 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
20	A Building Site, with a frontage of 36 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
21	A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street	Mr. Edward Stedman
22	A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street, with the Buildings on it as marked on Plan	Mr. Edward Stedman
23	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
24	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts
25	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Samuel Roberts & Richard Jones
26	A Building Site, with a frontage of 31 feet along the new Street, Lots 25 and 26 join the road from the New Street into the proposed New Market, and have double frontage.	Richard Jones
27	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
28	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
29	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
30	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
31	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street	Mr. Richard Jones
32	A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street, There are buildings and portions of cottages on this lot, and the materials of the cottages in front of this lot will be sold with it.	Mr. Richard Jones and others
33	A Building Site and Cottages, portions of Cottages and Buildings with a frontage of 42 feet along the New Street	Mr. Richard Jones and others
34	A Building Site, Cottages and Buildings having a frontage of 42 feet along the New Street, together with the materials of the Cottages in front of this lot.	Robert Jones and others.
35	Cottages and Land, together with the materials of the Buildings at the East end of this lot.	Owen Roberts and others
36	Cottages and Land, and Buildings	David Pierce and others
37	An Excellent House, Shop (called "London House"). Land and Buildings admirably adapted for conducting a large business and situated in the middle of the town.	Mr. Edward Stedman
38	Yard, Buildings, and Land, with a frontage of 44 feet along the New Street	Mr. Edward Stedman
39	An Excellent House, Buildings Yard and Warehouse.	Mr. Edward Stedman

1858 Sale Map





1862 Sale Map

21 Abuilding site with frontage of 34 ft along Castle St

Occupier late Thomas Rowlands 436 sq yds

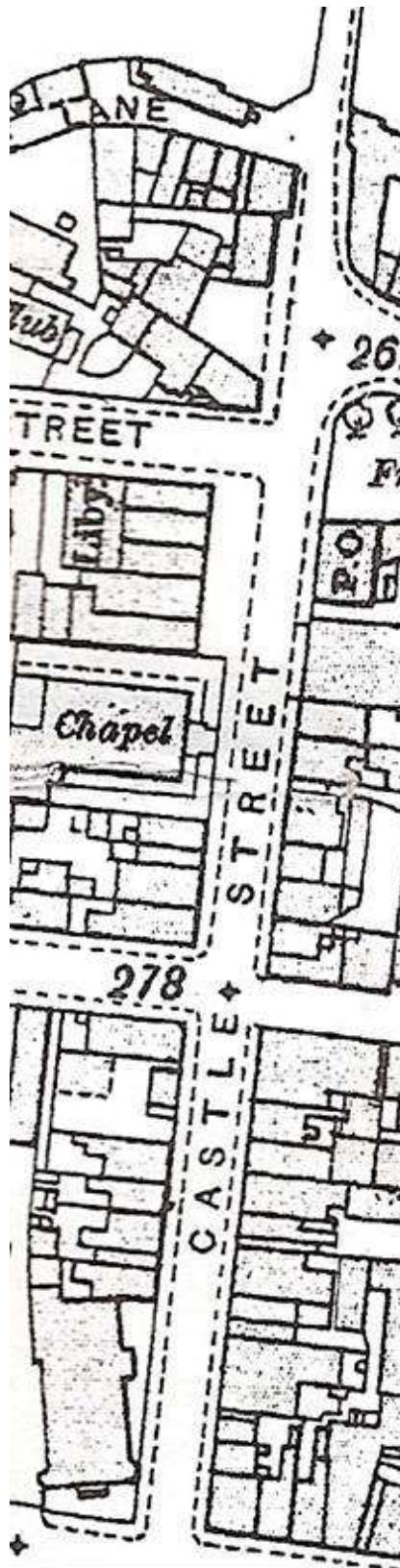
22 Abuilding site with frontage of 34 ft along Castle St

Occupier late Thomas Rowlands 439 sq yds

26 Abuilding site with frontage of 26 ft along Castle St

Occupier late Thomas Rowlands 393 sq yds

Castle Street 1872, 1911 and 2001





Llangollen circa 1810 Thomas Jameson









Wrexham Advertiser 7 June 1856

**GEORGE PEARCE,
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER.
NEW ROAD, LLANGOLLEN.**

RETURNS his warmest and most grateful acknowledgments to the Clergy, Gentry, and others, of Ruabon, Chirk, Cefn, and the neighbouring vicinity, for their kind and liberal patronage bestowed upon him during the last five years; and begs to state that he has removed from the Cefn to Llangollen, where he intends carrying on the above business. Having for several years previously been employed by some of the first class Chronometer Manufacturers, both in France and England, during part of which period he had the honour of working for some of the Royal Family, and thus acquired a thorough practical knowledge of the trade, he can, with confidence, undertake to execute in an accurate manner the most minute and critical repairs that may be entrusted to his care.

Jewellery, Watches (new and second hand), kept in stock; English, French, German, and American Clocks, and every other necessary article in the trade. Repairs executed on the shortest notice, and at a reasonable charge.

G. P. begs to call the attention of Farmers and others to his new improved Barometers, with pure Mercury, and refined Crystal tubes, set in beautifully ornamented Frames, warranted to indicate rain two days beforehand.

	£	s.
10 inch Dials, in ornamented frames ...	1	18
8 inch Ditto Ditto ...	1	10
10 inch Ditto, plain frames, polished	1	7
8 inch Ditto Ditto ...	1	1

All warranted, and exchanged if not found every way satisfactory.

Observe—NEW ROAD, LLANGOLLEN.

19th June 1869

Pearce v. Griffiths.—This was an action in which the wife of Mr George Pearce, watchmaker, of Buckley, appeared as plaintiff, to sue Thomas Griffiths, formerly her landlord for £1 11s 6d, balance alleged to be due to her for goods clocks, &c.—which had been taken possession of by defendant, for rent and shop goods. She said her husband had left her with five children, and she had left the house belonging to the defendant, as she could not pay for it. —Defendant had pleaded a set off of £5 15s 11d, and said the

American and another clock were at Mr Dean's, where defendant had taken them to be appraised, and they were there for the plaintiff to get.- Judgment for defendant.

SALE BY MR. W. OWEN.

CASTLE-STREET, LLANGOLLEN.

MR W. OWEN has received instructions from Mr G. Pearce, watchmaker, of Llangollen (who is leaving the neighbourhood), to **SELL** by **PUBLIC AUCTION**, on **MONDAY**, December the 24th, 1866, the whole of his **STOCK-IN-TRADE**, consisting of **GOLD** and **SILVER WATCHES**, silver plated forks and spoons, ladies' jewellery, barometers, thermometers, telescopes, musical boxes, fourteen days' shade clocks, eight days' spring clocks, laid in pearl, American and French clocks, together with a splendid **ORGAN CLOCK**, playing eight airs, including the National Anthem; spar and other useful toilet ornaments; also a fine toned five octave **HARMONIUM**, by Alexander; and various other articles.

N.B. Parties who have left watches to repair at Mr Pearce's shop will please to call for them on or before the latter end of this month.

Sale to commence at two o'clock.1963b

2nd July 1869

AN APPEAL TO THE HUMANE AND BENEVOLENT.

The Humble Petition of **GEORGE PEARCE, SHEWETH** That your Petitioner did for upwards of thirteen years reside and carry on the business of a watchmaker, and working jeweller, at Llangollen but through unforeseen misfortunes he was under the necessity to make a sale of his stock in trade, in order to liquidate his just debts, and removed with his wife and family of seven children, on the 29th of December, 1866, to Buckley, but not meeting with the prospects he expected there, together with the demands of medical attendance on his family, during a long and lingering illness. The residue of his little stock has now become quite exhausted and himself and family reduced to the lowest extremity of want. These and other recitals of his misfortunes, though painful to relate induce your petitioner with the deepest humility to solicit the sympathy of a few benevolent persons, with the hope of raising a little fund, sufficient to remove from the depressed neighbourhood of Buckley, to the town of Carnarvon. Should this meet the eye of any of his former friends, neighbours, and acquaintances, so as to induce them to assist him, in his present struggle, he will feel ever grateful and with the most profound gratitude feel for ever in duty bound to pray, and at the same time subscribe himself your most humble petitioner, **GEORGE PEARCE**. Any donations will be thankfully received by Mr. H. Jones, Stationer, Castle Street, Llangollen.

July 19 & 26 1978

PICTURES IN THE FIREGLOW

This used to be the title of a delightful little series on BBC Television many years ago. The series featured that famous old Welshmen, the late Bransby Williams (incidentally related to Messrs. Bill & Henry Thomas of Llangollen) reminiscing while staring into the glow of a coal fire. Hence this little feature which we hope will prompt other readers to contribute similar articles, bringing back happy memories of people and places which are dear to Llangollen.

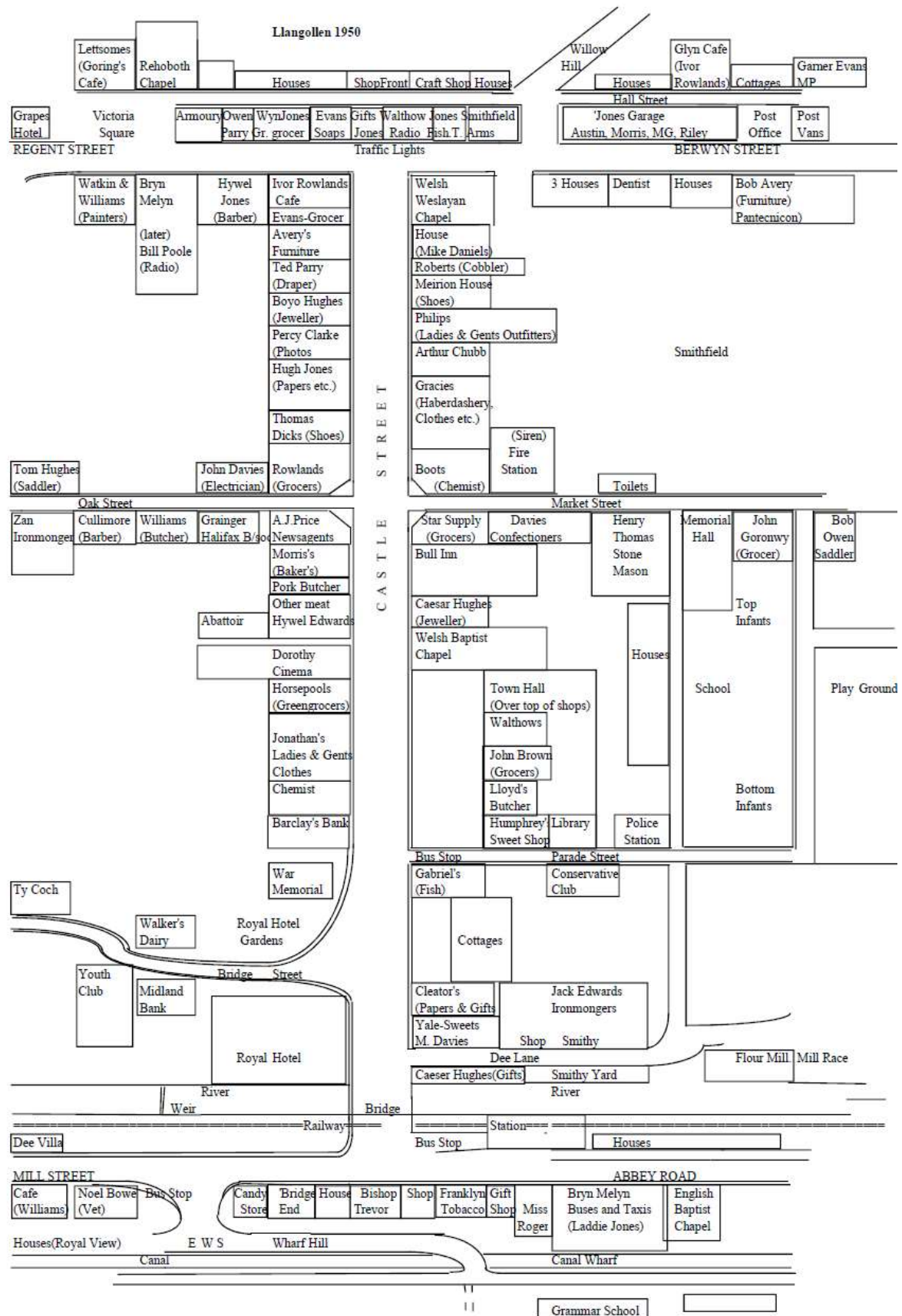
Just after the last War, if you stood at the top of Castle Street at dusk and looked down towards the Bridge you would notice very little structural difference apart from the new bank now next to Seion. However, on closer daylight inspection, the Town would prove almost unbelievable to recent arrivals. The 'robots' (traffic lights) were still there, but there was very little traffic to be seen and children happily played on the pavements with their bicycles and pedal cars. Seion chapel still had its large upstairs schoolroom, where the children from the Infants & 'Modern' schools came daily in long crocodiles for their mid-day meals, cooked by Mrs. Ellis & her staff. Meals were also cooked for the Junior School & the smaller schools in the outlying districts - packed in large aluminium containers and despatched via BMMS taxies.

The red-bricked chapel house - Wesley House - was attached to the schoolroom & the lecture room below. Next door, Mr. & Mrs. Davies kept their shoeshop, Meirion House & down the passage between the two, one could visit one of the two shoe repairers who worked from a large outbuilding at the back. Downstairs was Mr. Trevor Roberts & upstairs Mr. Lewis. Next was 'Phillips the Cutters' - Mr. Alex Phillips' tailors shop, where Mr. Phillips could be seen sitting cross-legged on the table sewing away - they made their own excellent suits in those days. The next shop was Chubbs - for sweets & tobacco. When Mr. Chubb died & his daughter Peggy went to Australia, Mr. Doug Phillips, son of Mr. Alex Phillips took it over and had a private lending library. The town library was not well served with new books in those days & children saved their pennies in order to hire the latest Enid Blyton adventure from Mr. Phillips. Set slightly further back from the road, came one of the great Aladdin's Caves of the town - Gracies emporium -- a large open plan, well ordered shop, managed by Mr. E. Hannaby, where one could buy anything from a reel of cotton to a bicycle. At the end of the store was an impressive double staircase leading to a veranda-like showroom which extended right around the shop. This was the building which was to entice Mr. Michael Forte & his local-born wife to Llangollen. On the corner with Market Street was Boots. Managed by Mr. Edgar Williams, the shop reflected the glory of the town as a Market centre, with its large stocks of various dips & remedies for cattle & sheep on the left as you walked in, together with the many strange, shiny instruments for attending the animals, the uses of which one could only imagine! Sadly, with the demise of the Smithfield Market - Boots moved on. Crossing the road, you came to the Star Supply Stores, one of the town's then ample supply of grocery shops. The Bull Inn was next - the meeting place for farmers & tourists. Mrs. Winnie Price's meals in the large upstairs dining room were legendary and coach loads of trippers made what were virtually annual pilgrimages to the Bull. The Round Table & the Observer Corps also met here. On the other side of the Bull Inn Stables was the deceptively small frontage of Mr. Caesar Hughes shop, which stretched way back to give a large sales area of fine jewellery. The Castle Street Baptist Church broke up the frontage of the street with its railings & small front garden..

On reaching the Town Hall, we get to Mrs. Fred Waltho's shop, which sold confectionery and I seem to remember it as dark & cluttered. (Mr. Waltho had a Radio shop at the top of Castle St. on the A5). The other shop 'under the Town Hall' was John Brown's a friendly grocery shop with a multitude of delicious smells which made the inevitable queuing a real pleasure ('Prepacking' has nearly killed off the aromatic romance of the small store). Crossing Parade Street we reach Mr. Gabriel's Fresh Fish shop with its forbidding cold room on the right making a strange contrast with Mr. Gabriel's ever present smile and merry quip. Crossing the Square we came to one of the largest & most impressive buildings in the street - Cleators. Mr. & Mrs. Smith ran this Newsagents/Fancy goods store, which was one of the few in the town at that time which would have appealed to the modern tourist.

There we came to buy foreign stamps, bottles of Corona pop with their porcelain stoppers held on with metal strips going through the glass - and football papers - battling through the queue which met here on a Sat. night about 7 o'clock. Here also you could stare at the huge stuffed birds in glass cases and buy your fishing tackle from the large and varied stocks. The last shop before the bridge was the Yale Corner. A sweet shop cum cafe on the corner of Dee Lane. Here you could use your coupons on creamy

whirls and pear drops or sit at one of the glass topped tables to drink a bottle of stone ginger beer, which here tasted like no other.



1970's Castle Street – Top half.

We are in the main street of Llangollen now and we will find that most of the shops have changed. Coming from the traffic lights down Castle street is a Chinese take away, on the corner where Ivan Rowlands had a bakery. Next door TJ Williams the draper became John Evans, grocer and is now Cegin Collen, a restaurant.

A china shop called G. Griffiths now houses Avery's furniture shop. ER Parry's Gent's Outfitters is still the same trade but kept by Mr Morgan. The jeweller's H. Dakin was later to be Hughes and Sons watch and clock makers,, present day it is a gift shop. Another drapery shop became Percy Clarke's photography studios and is now the Welsh Craft Shop.

A well known shoe shop called Dick's has been replaced by the Cottage Bakery with Bennetts' fish and chip restaurant on the corner was John Rowlands grocery.

On the other side of Castle Street the National Westminster Bank premises have included the well known Wesley House, the next was Merion House shoe shop is an estate agency. Phillips the tailor is a butcher's shop with Chubbs shop first a milliners, the sweets, cigarettes and lending library. It is now a job centre.

Gracies' Ltd was taken over by Forté's restaurant and is now LO cost supermarket whilst on the corner of Market Street was the well known landmark of Boots chemist. An estate agent shares the building with a gift and souvenir shop.

Castle Street – Lower half.

Continuing down the lower half of Castle Street we pass the newsagent J. Lea this used to be A.J. Price and Doddman's shoe shop next door was later Pugh's and now fancy goods.

A baker named Hiram Davies then changed to Alan Morris's café then again to Parkstores shoe shop. Jones 'Egrin House' drapers and haberdashery will be seen in the large photograph of Edwards and son butchers, the shop then became part of Edwards pies and cooked meat shop. It is now Eccleston's bakery with the butchery business still continuing next door under new ownership. JM Rowlands, baker, became the Dorothy cinema and café, it has also been a bingo hall and is a restaurant today.

Just before the cenotaph used to be a post office, but is now Barclay's Bank.

On the opposite side of the street used to be Star Supply Stores, now you can place your bets there.

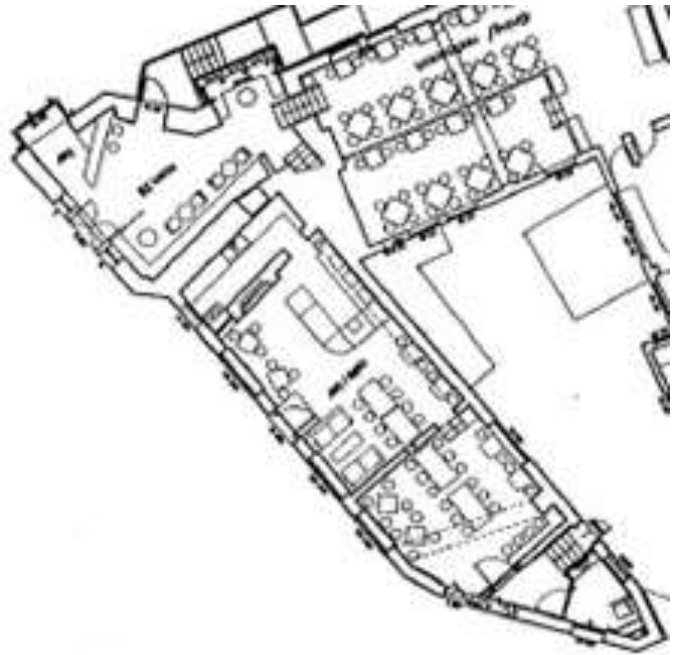
Mr Waltho, newsagent, we are under the town hall now, is a butcher's shop next door has remained a grocers with different owners. Miss Lloyd's butcher shop afterwards became the Council offices and has only recently been altered to the Llangollen Tourist Office, the latter being originally round the corner in Parade Street. The same building housed the library.

At the end of this street stood the Board School. Although to outward appearances this has changed little the inside is transformed into a European Folk Centre with the school play ground serving as a car park.

Royal Hotel/Cleators/Fouzi's



1927 plan



2006 plan

This property was formerly part of the Royal Hotel. It was used as a public bar and wine shop in the 1930's. By the 1960's the public bar had become disused, so that when plans were made to widen the Bridge in 1968, and demolish Douglas House, the location of 'Cleators', a newsagent and fancy goods shop, across the road, Bill Smith, the proprietor was able to obtain



a lease for the old bar, and transfer his business here. Subsequently, after the bridge widening, Bill Smith was able to recommence his fancy goods business across the road, and in sold 'Cleators' to Arthur Hardy, who moved in on 1st April 1973.

10th April 1973

"CLEATORS", Mr. & Mrs Copeland, Doreen and Bill Smith~ thank most sincerely, all past and present customers and friends for their valued custom during the time they have traded as "Cleators". It has indeed been a pleasure to serve you all and we hope you will patronise MR ARTHUR HARDY, (who took over on 1st April) in the same friendly way.

We, Doreen and Bill, still hope to see you from time to time in our shop opposite.

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN, EVERYONE

January 2015



Arthur Hardy was born in Garth, moved to Llangollen on his marriage and returned to Garth following the sad death of his wife. He was educated at Llangollen Grammar School and then worked at Monsanto Chemicals for many years. When the workforce was moved to Brussels he declined to go and instead went into the world of business, acquiring the news agency and general store then known as Cleator's, based in the premises now occupied by Fouzi's in the Royal Hotel building. He worked extremely hard there and was very successful. Later he opened another shop across the road, selling cards, this being in partnership with his nephew, also named Arthur Hardy. He retired a few months ago and returned to his roots in Garth. Arthur

joined Rotary in the 1980s and made his mark as an enthusiastic and reliable Rotarian. He served as Treasurer for three years and was elected as President for the year 1998/99. He has chaired various committees and is currently Chair of Vocational Service. He has always been deeply involved in organising fund-raising events such as Trolley Dash Runs and Race Nights. He is one of the Dial-a-Ride team and is always one of the first to volunteer when help is needed in any area of the club's activities.

Outside of Rotary Arthur is a keen member of the Twenty Club backstage team



In 2008 the premises were acquired by Ahmet Guven, and Mehmet Ilik, and is now run as Fouzi, offering a Italian pizza and pasta as well as a choice of other international dishes



Post Office/Barclays Bank



1839 Tithe

Tithe April 1839

No 8; owner Hon George Dicken; occupier John Edwards House Yard & Garden

1858 Sale

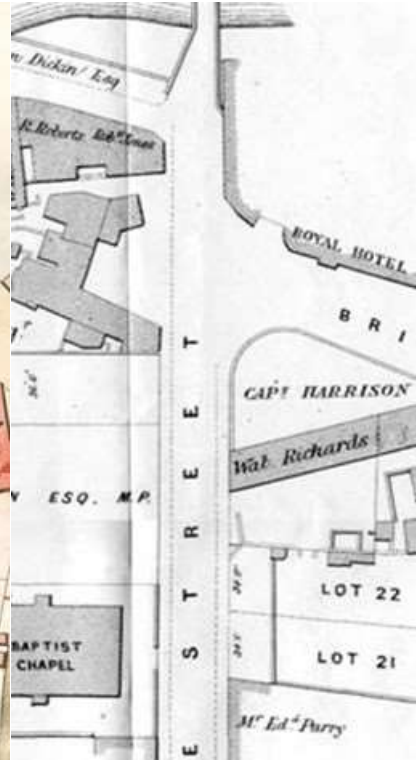
No 38 occupier Mr. Edward Stedman; Yard, Buildings, and Land, with a frontage of 44 feet along the New Street.

1858 Buyer

No 38 Watkin Richards, £157..14..0



1858 sale



1862 sale



Circa 1860 - long building in centre

The earliest reference to this property was the April 1839 tithe, when the long building was part of the property occupied by John Edwards, and owned by Hon George Dicken. It might possibly be John Edwards, Draper, who was living on Bridge St a few years later. By 1858 the occupier was another draper, John Stedman, who was based at London House in Bridge Street (the properties were linked at this time). In the sale the property was acquired by Watkin Richards, a local solicitor. Whether he bought it on behalf of a client, or

as an investment for himself is not clear. There is then a gap until October 1877, when William Arthur Thomas moves in. WA Thomas, originally from Penprisk in Glamorgan, had come to

Llangollen as a student at the Baptist College, but married a local girl and set as a stationer and bookseller in Bridge Street around 1868. In 1875 he had taken a 7 year lease on stalls in the Market Hall, but 2 years later he also leased this building. In 1881 he moved out, but maintained his stalls in the Market Hall.

1881 Census

William Arthur Thomas	Head	M	39(1842)	Stationer	Penprick, Glam
Mary Ann Thomas	Wife	M	44(1837)	Stationers Wife	Glyn Ceiriog
Arthur Richard Thomas	Son	S	11(1870)	Scholar	Llangollen
George William Thomas	Son	S	9(1872)	Scholar	Llangollen
Fred Herbert Thomas	Son	S	7(1874)	Scholar	Llangollen
Oswald Thomas	Son	S	21(1860)	Infant	Llangollen
Mary Thomas	Sis	S	27(1854)	Assistant Stationer	Penprick
Glam					
Emily Edwards	Serv	S	19(1862)	Domestic Servant	
Francis Jane Jervis	Lodg	W	50(1831)	Annuitant	Birmingham
Fanny Meyrick	Lodg	S	41(1840)	Dividends & Allowance	Middlesex

19th February 1897

We regret to announce the death of a well-known figure in Llangollen life, Mr. W. A. Thomas, who succumbed on Monday, after a severe attack of pneumonia. Mr. Thomas was born at Penprisk, Glamorganshire, in 1840. He came to Llangollen in 1864 as a student at the Baptist College, intending to go into the ministry. This intention was however not carried out, and he remained in Llangollen. He married Miss Roberts, daughter of Mr. David Roberts, stationer, Bridge-street, and for some years conducted an excellent stationer's shop in Bridge-street and Castle-street, on the spot of the present Post Office. His second wife was Miss M. A. Edwards, daughter of Mr. Richard Edwards, Pandy, Glyn Ceiriog, who with four sons, survives him. Mr. Thomas was best known as an active member of the School Board for the last eight years, and as a controversialist and an unbending Radical he acquired considerable popularity with a section of the townspeople. Within the last few months he fiercely contested and opposed the plans of the majority on the School Board, and it was only in our last week's issue that we reported a bout he had with the chairman (Captain Best) upon the question of the Town Schools improvements, at the Board meeting, on Tuesday week. On the following Thursday he was taken seriously ill with a fatal illness. The funeral, which took place on Wednesday, was well attended, there being present a large number of representative tradesmen, the Rev. D. Williams, H. Rees, and W. Foulkes, Messrs. W. G. Dodd and J. Rowlands, members of the School Board, and a large number of school children, marshalled by Mr. H. Lewis and Miss Williams, of the Board School. Among the mourners were the four sons of the deceased, Messrs. Arthur, George W., Hid H., and Oswald Thomas, Mr. Thomas Thomas (brother), and Mrs. Mary Griffiths (sister).

13th May 1881

POST-OFFICE.-The Post-office has been removed from Bridge-street to more spacious premises at the bottom of Castle-street, the house and shop formerly occupied by Mr. W. A. Thomas, stationer.

1st July 1881

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS – No one can have helped noticing that of late a spirit of the most commendable rivalry seems to have been animating the owners of property in this town, which has resulted in the carrying out of alterations and improvements on a scale of unusual style and magnitude. On the other side of the street, the fine, commodious and handsome business premises of Messrs. Morris and Hughes, drapers, tower their head far above all the surrounding buildings, and form one of the chief features of attraction in that part of the town.

No better site for the Post Office could have been selected than the shop below, though an application of the painter's brush would greatly relieve the sombre aspect of its exterior.

The present building was not shown on the 1873 map, but it is there on the 1912 map, so the change must have occurred between 1874 and 1912. Since the building was described as spacious in 1881 it may have occurred between 1874 and 1881. The post master was William Henry Davies, who had been postmaster since 1869.

1887 Rate Review

Occupier Wm Henry Davies, owner Morris & Hughes; House & Post Office

1891 Census

William H Davies	Head	S 44(1847)	Postmaster	Llangollen
Ann M Davies	Serv	S 37(1854)	Housekeeper	Llangollen
Jane Jones	Serv	S 28(1863)	Serv Dom	Denbigh

18th June 1897

DEATH OF MR. W. H. DAVIES, POSTMASTER.

The death occurred at the age of 50, after a comparatively brief illness, on Thursday, June 10th, of Mr. William Henry Davies, who for the last twenty-eight years has filled the important office of postmaster of Llangollen. Deceased succeeded his father, Mr. George Davies, who died in the year 1867, but as he was then only about 19 years of age, an interim postmaster was appointed until he attained his majority. The post was previously filled by Mrs. Davies, grandmother of deceased, so that it has thus been in the family for a period of at least sixty years. During the greater part of his life Mr. Davies had suffered considerably from a chronic affection arising from weakness of the heart's action, and during recent years has been subject to sudden and severe attacks, which have laid him prostrate for several weeks at a time. Indeed, the comparative immunity he has enjoyed from a harassing and dangerous complaint can only be attributed to the careful treatment of his medical attendant, Dr. Drinkwater, and the tender and affectionate nursing of his devoted sister, Miss Annie Davies. Mr. Davies as a public officer had always striven to make himself thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the Post Office, and devoted himself with the utmost assiduity to the complete mastery of every new improvement introduced into the system. He was always regarded as a most proficient telegraphist, and thoroughly understood the mechanical construction of the different instruments employed in that department of the Post Office, while in all the other branches of the service he was equally proficient. During his term of office he has trained a number of young men who now fill important positions in different parts of the country. Since his appointment the whole postal system has been completely revolutionized and the facilities afforded to the public now, as compared with 30 years ago, cannot possibly be adequately appreciated. In all those changes Mr. Davies took the keenest and most active interest, and always took the greatest pride in urging upon the Department the special claims of Llangollen for new postal facilities as the wants of the district from time to time presented themselves. He suffered considerably during his last illness which only lasted about a fortnight. Mr. Davies was brother to the late Mr. George Davies, who for some time held the postmastership of Ruabon, and whose death took place about eight years ago. The only surviving members of the family are two sisters, Miss Lucy Davies and Miss Annie Davies. His mortal remains were laid to rest in St. John's Cemetery, on Monday, the funeral service being conducted by the Rev. D. Lloyd and E. E. Williams, curates. The coffin, which was polished oak, mounted with brass fittings, was covered with a number of beautiful wreaths, the gifts of kind friends from far and near. Messrs Morris and Hughes were the undertakers, and the coffin was made by Mr. Edward Evans. It is interesting in this connection to trace the history of the Post Office as far as memory and hearsay evidence will enable us since the early part of the present century. We have it on good authority that about eighty years ago the Post Office was kept by a Mr. Griffiths in a small building near to the entrance to the churchyard, and which has since been absorbed into

the Hand Hotel. Subsequently, it was removed to the house in Chapel-street next to Mr. E. Knight Parry, Mr. Richard Jones being postmaster. Here the Royal mail direct from London used to bring the mail-bag, the contents of which were deposited on a large table, while those expecting letters picked them out for themselves, and requested to acquaint their neighbours if any letters were addressed to them. After this the Post Office was under the care of Mr. Davies, grandfather to our late postmaster, and was situated in a portion of the shop occupied by Mrs. Matthews, Bridge-street. It was afterwards removed to the shop now occupied by Mr. Kenyon in Bridge-street, and to the shop in Chapel-street now occupied by Mrs. Tinsley Roberts. Afterwards to a portion of the N. & S. Wales Bank buildings, from whence, if we remember rightly, it was taken to its present quarters. At a special meeting of the Urban Council on Tuesday, Mr. W. P. Williams presiding, the chairman proposed a sincere vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. W. H. Davies, postmaster, and referred to the loss the town had sustained of a conscientious public servant. Mr. M. H. Roberts seconded the motion, and said Mr. Davies's services to the town were well known, and he was anxious at all times to obtain whatever improvements he could for the public, and they had to thank him to a great extent for many of the postal facilities they now enjoyed. The motion was carried sub silentio.



1912 map

13th November 1912

TOWN OF LLANGOLLEN.

To be sold by Private Treaty.

Also that DWELLING HOUSE and SHOP used as the General POST OFFICE situate in Castle Street, Llangollen, let on a Lease to the Post-master General. Unexpired term 7½ years, Annual rent £70.

28th April 1922

The New Barclays Bank Branch.

The work of converting the old Post Office buildings into a branch of Barclay's Bank has commenced. Mr J.T. Jones, Builder, Cefn Mawr, is the contractor.



19th May 1922

The War Memorial.

Owing to the operations in connection with the converting of the old Post Office into a Branch Bank, the work at the War Memorial has been temporarily suspended, but men are engaged in fixing ornamental fencing around the Royal Hotel garden and Mr W.H. Jones, who has charge of the arrangements, has decided to build a wall facing Castle Street, and do away with the unsightly fencing which was fixed. The place will present a far more pleasing appearance

Although the lease on the building was advertised in 1912, it was not due to expire until around 1920. With the onset of WW1 the Post Office did not move to its new location on Berwyn St until August 1920. The building was acquired by Barclay's, and modifications started in April 1922. These works delayed the construction of the adjacent war memorial.



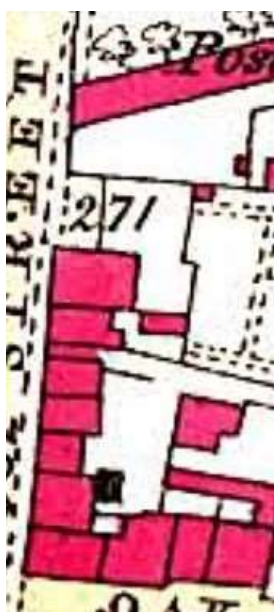
1930's



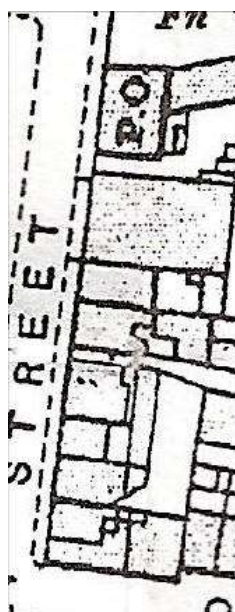
1960's



11, 11a, and 13 Castle Street



1874



1911



2017

Building work commenced here in May 1879 and Morris & Hughes, a drapers from Regent Street opened here 12th May 1881. Unlike many premises before then the property contained dormitories for the staff, whilst the owners lived elsewhere.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MORRIS & HUGHES
Have pleasure in announcing that
ON AND AFTER THURSDAY,
MAY 12TH, 1881,
Their business will be conducted in their
NEW PREMISES
IN CASTLE STREET,
Where they hope, by prompt and personal
attention to all orders entrusted to their
care, to merit the continued support so
LIBERALLY ACCORDED THEM at their
Premises in **REGENT STREET.**

M. & H. beg to intimate that their Stock
IS NOW REplete
WITH THE
NOVELTIES
OF THE
SEASON.

AN EARLY INSPECTION IS RESPECTFULLY
SOLICITED. (934a)

30th May 1879

HOUSE BUILDINGS, &c. - Messrs. Evans and Morris have five cottages building, in addition to the two houses to fill up the gap between Mr. Thomas's and Mr. Horspool's in Castle-street.

12th March 1880

New Buildings.-Plans of Messrs. Morris and Hughes's new shop, which is intended to be erected on the site immediately opposite the Market Hall, Castle-street, were laid before the Board for approval, the architect, Mr. Richard Owen, Liverpool, intimating that the building would be proceeded with without delay. It was stated that this building will be by far the largest and finest business premises ever erected in the town. The plans were approved of, and signed by the Chairman.

3rd December 1880

One of the latest additions in this way is the large shop now in course of completion by Messrs. Morris and Hughes in Castle-street, which greatly improves the appearance of the neighbourhood of the Market Hall.

1891 Census

Margaret Robert	Head	W 69(1822)	Housekeeper	Corwen
Hugh Williams	Serv	S 27(1864)	Drapr's Assistant	Holyhead
David Ellis	Serv	S 18(1873)	Draper's Assistant	Cefn Mawr
Edith Griffiths	Serv	S 21(1870)	Dom Serv	Llangollen



1901

1910

In 1895 it was extended onto the garden of Medical Hall, a Pharmacy in Bridge Street with the proviso that the peach tree was not disturbed. It was the largest shop in town, with departments on two floors. In 1889 during the visit of Queen Victoria they supplied her with some Welsh shawl's, and subsequently were able to display the Royal Coat of Arms, seen in the picture. Despite a fire in March 1908 the business flourished until in 1912 the partnership was wound up. In 1913 Jonathan Davies moved here from Commerce House. The store was known as 'Jonathans'

1901 Census

Robert A Jones	Head	S 34(1867)	Draper's Assistant	Beaumaris, Ang
Evan E Davies	Serv	S 22(1879)	Draper's Assistant	Festiniog, Merio
John W Kyffin	Serv	S 24(1877)	Draper's Assistant	Maentwrog, Merion
A H Hull	Serv	S 19(1882)	Draper's clerk	Northampton
M J Purchase	Serv	S 33(1868)	Milliner	Langport, Somer
M Edwards	Serv	S 46(1855)	Housekeeper	Garth
Lois Evans	Serv	S 16(1885)	Dom Serv	Garth
Edward Roberts	Serv	S 17(1884)	Draper's Appren	Llandyran
Howell B Jones	Serv	S 17(1884)	Draper's Appren	Pontypool



20th March 1908

ANOTHER LLANGOLLEN FIRE.

DESTRUCTIVE OUTBREAK AT MESSRS. MORRIS AND HUGHES'S ESTABLISHMENT.

A destructive outbreak of fire took place about eleven o'clock on Monday night, at the Drapery Emporium, of Messrs. Morris and Hughes, Castle-street, Llangollen, the details of which may be gathered from a narrative supplied to our representative by Capt. W. P. Williams, of the Llangollen Fire Brigade, who happened to be within a few yards of the premises when the outbreak was discovered. He says: I was talking to a friend near Messrs. Edwards' butcher's shop, when P.C. Thomas and P.C. Davies, who were on duty in Castle-street, saw the flames inside illuminating the windows of the second storey of Messrs. Morris and Hughes's establishment. P.C. Davies at once rushed to give the alarm by ringing the fire bell at the Station in Market-street; and I followed, whilst

P.C. Thomas made across the street to the scene of the fire, It was lucky that I did so for, before I reached the station, I was met by a boy, running bareheaded, who shouted that the rope attached to the bell had broken and the alarm could not be sounded. I had my key, which I always carry upon me and; throwing open the Station, placed those present in a position to get at the bell and sound the alarm whilst I placed things in order for getting out the hose and attaching it to the hydrant at the Castle-street end of Market-street. Pending the arrival of the brigade, and accompanied by a number of civilians who had assembled - foremost amongst whom were Mr. H. Jones (chemist) and Mr. J. H. Davies - I returned to the scene of the fire. I found P.C. Thomas who, from the outset, worked with the greater zeal, had obtained an entrance and I accompanied him upstairs. We were met by dense volumes of smoke issuing from the work room where the fire appears to have originated by a beam near to the heating stove having taken fire; and we were proceeding to take such action as we could in order to locate the fire when P.C. Thomas insisted upon the necessity of ascertaining if there were any occupants of the home asleep in the dormitories. With a common impulse we rushed up a further flight of stairs, which were also enveloped in smoke, and were able to induce several of the young ladies and the housekeeper to descend to the basement. By this time the Brigade had arrived and commenced to play upon the fire which must have been very fierce, the room next to the work-room being as hot as an oven, and the spacious mirrors which it contained being shattered to fragments by the heat. A constant stream of water was poured upon the fire and the result of this soon apparent; for, within half an hour of the outbreak being discovered any danger of its spreading was at an end. It is very fortunate that it was discovered before it had made further progress otherwise the consequences would have been very serious indeed. As it is much damage must have been done, more especially by the water that it was necessary to pour into the premises which contain a very valuable stock.

1911 Census 13 Castle St Llangollen

Morris Bardsley	Housekeeper	W 59(1852)	Housekeeper	Denbighshire
Lizzie Ellen Davies	Servant	S 17(1894)	Servant	Merion
Margaret Thomas	Servant	S 38(1873)	Dressmaker	Flintshire
John K Williams	Assistant	S 28(1883)	Drapers Assistant	Carnarvon
K E Williams	Assistant	S 21(1890)	Drapers Assistant	Denbighshire
M A Humphreys	Assistant	S 19(1892)	Drapers Assistant	Denbighshire
Robert Arthur Jones	Assistant	S 44(1867)	Drapers Assistant	Beaumaris

13th November 1912

TOWN OF LLANGOLLEN.

To be sold by Private Treaty.

All that Commodious DWELLING HOUSE and SHOP, 13 CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN, lately in the occupation of Messrs. Morris and Hughes, as Drapers and Outfitters. Vacant possession can be given of these premises, which are situate in the main street of the town.

31st October 1913

In Memoriam

THE LATE MR. JONATHAN DAVIES.

The death of Mr. Jonathan Davies, which sad event took place at Corwen, on Wednesday afternoon, has caused widespread expressions of sympathy throughout the district; and by his removal Corwen loses one who was, from many points of view, its most prominent public man, for, it is fair to state, there is scarcely an organisation in the town working for the good of the community at large that did not receive, either directly, or indirectly, his practical and sympathetic support. It is but a few weeks since Mr. Davies's many friends were startled by the news that he had been stricken down by a dangerous illness; but hopes were entertained for the best. Medical examination, however, indicated the urgent need for an operation and to facilitate this, the patient was removed to a Liverpool institution. Here, however, it was found the source of the evil was beyond the scope of human skill to grapple with and, on Friday last, he was brought back to Corwen, to pass his last



days amongst his own people. Bravely he battled against his weakness, and, to the last, maintained so wonderful fortitude, the end coming as a happy release from much pain and suffering. The deceased gentleman, who was about fifty-five years of age, was a native of Gwyddelwern, near Corwen, an Alderman of the Merionethshire County Council and a Justice of the Peace for the County. He took a keen interest in Educational matters, and was one of the foremost workers in connection with Educational reforms in Merionethshire. As a business man he did excellent work both at Corwen and Llangollen, where he had large drapery establishments having only a few months back, acquired and opened out extensive premises, once occupied by Messrs, Morris and Hughes, in Castle-street. He leaves a widow and eight children to mourn his loss, and to them, in their great affliction, profound sympathy is extended. The funeral, which will be of a private character, will take place to-morrow (Saturday).

On 29th October 1913 Alderman Jonathan Davies died, and the shop was run by a manager since his widow and daughter were running the Corwen branch. After the war his son Robert Ivor

Davies took over the Corwen business. In 1927 Jonathan's daughter, Anne Winifred Davies (Annie), who had just married Howell Glynne-Jones at the London Road Methodists, Corwen, took over the Llangollen branch, purchasing it from the Davies family in the 1930's. To reduce the debt he persuaded Mr. E.D. Jones the Pharmacist of Medical Hall Bridge Street to move his business into No 11, and to live upstairs with his family, his son who was born there was the well known rugby commentator G V Wynne Jones (Geevers). During the war E.D. Jones moved to Cardiff and the chemist was run by Harry Catlow until his death in 1944, when the business was transferred to Glynne-Jones, and managed by Clifford Jones..

1939 Register

1939 Medical Hall

Nantclwyd House	69	1	Jones William	-	M	11 Aug 84	W	Gardener Retired
		2	Jones Edith M.	-	R	6 Oct 86	S	Incapacitated Invalid
Medical Hall Castle St	68	1	Catlow Henry	-	M	14 Jan 83	S	Retail Chemist Pharmacist
		2	Austin Joyce	-	R	14 Jan 07	S	Ladies Children Hairdresser

Henry Catlow	17 Jun 1883	S	Retail Chemist Pharmacist
Joyce Austin later Armitage)	19 Jan 1907	S	Ladies Children Hairdresser

Nantclwyd House

William Jones	11 Aug 1857	W	Gardener Retired
Edith M Jones	06 Oct 1886	S	Incapacitated Invalid

The business later became known as 'Glynne Jones'. Their son David qualified as a pharmacist in 1952, and took over from Clifford Jones as the chemist, later moving the pharmacy to Regent Street in 1985 to be more convenient to the Health Centre – the pharmacy (by now Rowlands) moved to the new Health Centre in 2018.. The drapery now took over the whole shop



SEE OUR WINDOWS

CRAMMED WITH CHRISTMAS GIFT
SUGGESTIONS FOR LADIES, MEN,
BOYS, GIRLS AND THE CHILDREN

USEFUL PRACTICABLE GIFTS
TO WEAR - TO USE - TO ADMIRE

JONATHAN
DAVIES & SON

(CONTROLLED BY GLYNNE JONES (DRAPERS) LTD.)

13 CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN

Telephone : LLANGOLLEN 2265

When in Llangollen visit

**GLYNNE
JONES**

A family run store—same
family since 1913—for
ladies fashions and
casuals, men's wear,
children's and baby
clothes. Also perfumery,
photography and
pharmacy. Pottery,
kitchen ware and pet
supplies.

11-13 & 2 CASTLE STREET

Tel: Llangollen 860657
and 860265



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Handwritten notes:	67	1	Jones William	-	M 11 Aug 54	W	Gardener Retired
		2	Jones Edith M.	-	R 6 Oct 56	S	Incapacitated Invalid
Medical Hall Castle St	68	1	Catlow Henry	-	M 14 Jan 53	S	Retired Chemist Pharmacist
		2	Armitage Joyce	-	R 14 Jan 57	S	Ladies Childrens Hairdresser

business with his was the V Wynne E.D. chemist death in 1944, when the business was

SEE OUR WINDOWS

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When in Llangollen visit

**GLYNNE
JONES**

A family run store—same family since 1913—for ladies fashions and casuals, men's wear, children's and baby clothes. Also perfumery, photography and pharmacy. Pottery, kitchen ware and pet supplies.

11-13 & 2 CASTLE STREET
Tel: Llangollen 860657
and 860265

transferred to Glynne-Jones, and managed by Clifford Jones..

1939 Medical Hall

Henry Catlow	17 Jun 1883	S	Retail Chemist
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Joyce Austin later Armitage)	19 Jan 1907	S	Ladies
------------------------------	-------------	---	--------

Children Hairdresser

Nantclwyd House	William Jones	11 Aug 1857	W	Gardener Retired
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	Edith M Jones	06 Oct 1886	S	Incapacitated Invalid
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1930

1966

1971

The business later became known as 'Glynne Jones'. Their son David qualified as a pharmacist in 1952, and took over from Clifford Jones as the chemist, later moving the pharmacy to

Regent Street in 1985 to be more convenient to the Health Centre – the pharmacy (by now Rowlands) moved to the new Health Centre in 2018.. The drapery now took over the whole shop.



2010



2016



2018

In 1989 the premises were redeveloped into smaller units. Today 11 is Solitaire, Jewellery and Gifts, 11a was until recently Ci-Ci's, and 13 is Namaste-Wales Holistics.

August 2007

FOCUS ON BUSINESS - SOLITAIRE



Some sixteen years ago Gill Denham opened a shop on Oak Street, Llangollen, selling Welsh gold and other jewellery. Then called Peter Allan's, the shop became very successful and they moved to larger premises on Castle Street, near Barclay's Bank and re-named the shop - Solitaire. The window offers a tempting array of all types of jewellery, ranging from rings, bracelets and bangles through to delicate necklaces and fashionable pendants. The shop specialises in Welsh Gold and stocks a designer



range of Celtic pieces. Some incorporate precious stones, as in the pendant pictured above which is set with an emerald and is a beautiful item. Welsh gold wedding rings are especially popular. There are individual pieces and collections, see the range from Clogau Gold pictured left..

In addition to precious

jewellery, Solitaire stocks fashion jewellery at very competitive prices. They have several ranges, Fred Bennett designs are popular. There is a good selection of pendants ranging from £ 12 and fashion watches, Storm being a favourite, which range from £10 to £100. Steiff Teddy Bears, pens and various collectable ornaments makes Solitaire well worth a visit for that special present.

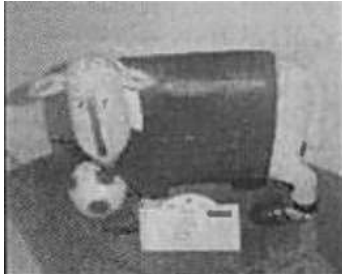
Handbags have now become the 'must have' fashion accessory. Gone are the days when a 'good leather handbag' would-be all one needed, now ladies have several bags as



an essential part of their fashion wardrobe. Solitaire holds a small selection of designer bags, beautifully made these bags add so much to an outfit. They also stock evening bags.

Some of the bags are pictured below. When I asked Gill about the most popular items in the shop, she said "Welsh gold" and this continues to be a best seller. However there is a growing trend towards silver jewellery and Gill now also specialises in silver items, all made from British Silver.





Jewellery for men is becoming more popular. Traditional and designer, fashion cuff links can be found in the shop. The range of ornaments is extensive. Solitaire caters for the collector. If you collect sheep (see left a particular attractive one), pigs, cows or fairies you will find something slightly different at the shop. Look no further if you are interested in Pooh Bear! They stock porcelain and have a small range of good quality glass.

Although primarily a jewellery shop, Solitaire compliments this with other items suitable for that special present. They also hold a selection of clip-on earrings which are now very difficult to find. For something really special, Gill has some striking oil burners. They are quite different from these normally found and are an attractive addition to your decor. There are various scents available and a special perfume which repels mosquitoes.

There is much to see in Solitaire, do pay a visit when you are seeking that special gift. Gill, pictured below right with Maria one of the four members of staff will be delighted to help you select something suitable. Or just pop in to browse, but beware, you may succumb to temptation!



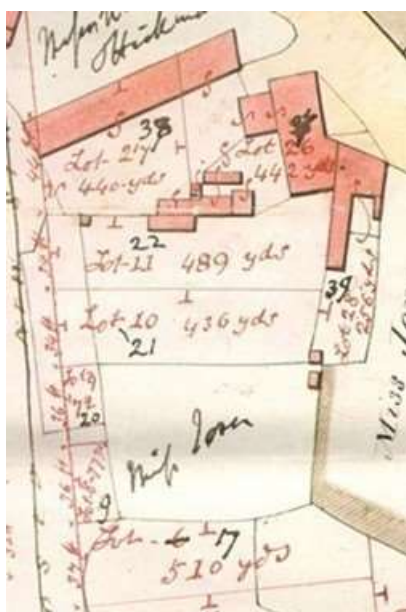
A café, bookshop and antique shop have also been developed in Castle Courtyard. The Café in the courtyard is in the oldest part, the pre-1858 structure. The first floor was once 'Williams' a tailor's shop. There was a gas lit platform upon which the tailors sat cross-legged whilst sewing

Courtyard Books

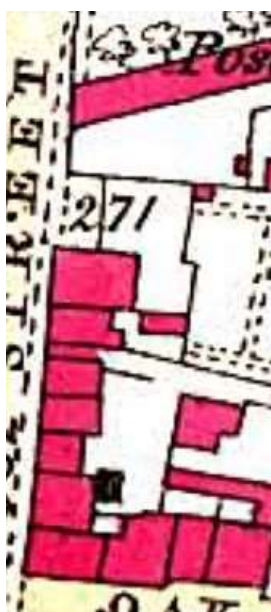


Courtyard Café

15 Castle Street



1858 map



1874 map



2017 map

1858

A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street

Occ Mr. Edward Stedman

1862

A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street now vacant 466 sq yds.

Occ Late Mr Thomas Rowlands

1871 Census

Robert Hughes	Head	M	31(1840)	Watchmaker
Catherine Hughes	Wife	M	26(1845)	
Mary Elizth Hughes	Dau	S	1m(1871)	
Thomas Hughes	Bro	S	19(1852)	Watchmaker
Caroline Owens	Serv	S	14(1857)	Dom serv

Ruabon
Henllan
Llangollen
Ruabon
Llangollen

The building was constructed between around 1870, by Edward Morris. The earliest occupant was Robert Hughes, the watchmaker, who was using workshops at the back. On 28th June 1871 Robert Hughes moved to 37 Castle Street. By 1874 Robert Horspool, a gardener – originally from Goadby – moved here from Tregwern Cottage in Hall St.

27th January 1888

Mr. Morris, as most of our readers are well aware was a native of Llangollen, where his parents now reside. When quite a young man he went to London, where he remained for some years during which he obtained a practical insight into the building trade. On his return to his native town his first speculation was the erection of the house and shop in Castle-street, now occupied by Mr Horspool.

6th February 1925

Obituary

A great loss was sustained by the town in the death of Mr Robert Horspool, who passed away in his 85th year at Cherry Tree, Llangollen, on Tuesday, Jan 27th. Deceased who had live in Llangollen for fifty years, was for many years fruitier and florist in Castle-street. Mr Horspool was a great churchman, a sidesman for over forty years and a churchwarden many years ago. He leaves six children, two daughters and one son still residing in Llangollen. The funeral, a public one, took place on Friday, interment being made at St John's Churchyard. A service was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. Merlin Davies and Rev. J.C. Lewis. The service at the graveside was

taken by the Rev. J.C. Lewis. The mourners were :- Miss E. Horspool, Cherry Tree, Mr and Mrs. R.A. Horspool, Mr Bernard Horspool, Mr Eddie Horspool and Miss Connie Horspool, Castle-street, Mr and Mrs H. Horspool, Upton, Mrs. T. Rogers, Liverpool, Mrs T. A. Waltho, Fair View, Mr T.F. Waltho, Fair View, Mr and Mrs J.O. Jones, Berwyn-street, Miss Stuart, Liverpool, Mrs J. Stubbs, Birkenhead, Mr and Mrs Holland, New Hall, Chirk, Mr A.E. Viggars. Wreaths were sent by Miss Horspool, Cherry Tree; Mr R.A. Horspool and family, Castle-street; Mr and Mrs H. Horspool Upton, Birkenhead; Mrs Rogers and family, Liverpool; Mrs Waltho and Mr T.F. Waltho Fair View, Mr and Mrs J.O. Jones, Berwyn-street; Mr and Mrs Buttens, Liverpool; Mr and Mrs Holland, New Hall, Chirk; Miss Stuart, Liverpool; Miss Stubbs, Birkenhead; Miss Stubbs and Miss Hodgett, West Kirby; Messrs. C. Viggars and family; Mr and Mrs A.E. Viggars, Wrexham; Mr and Mrs H. Birch, Hillcrest; the Misses Foulkes, Pengwern; Mr and Mrs Bradbury, Cherry Tree; Mr and Mrs Richard, Dolavon Villas; Miss Lucy Horspool, Bristol; Mr J. Brown, Castle-street.

9th July 1943

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR R. A. HORSPPOOL

It is with regret we record the death, which occurred on Saturday, July 3, of Mr R.A. Horspool, Greenacres, Llangollen. Deceased was one of the leading business men of the town. He built up several successful enterprises – his gardens and horticultural nurseries, his fruit and greengrocery stores, the Dorothy Café and Cinema are all well-established and well-known in the town and district. His knowledge on all horticultural matters was expert and extensive, and he was always most courteous and obliging in giving his advice to all who consulted him on gardening matters. Mr Horspool was also a great Churchman, a licensed lay reader, and a churchwarden for nearly twenty years, and was in his younger days a bellringer and chorister. He was a generous and devoted supporter of the church, and he will be greatly missed. Deceased was in his 74th year. He is survived by his wife three sons and three daughters, who have assisted in all his business activities, and much sympathy is felt with them.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, interment being at St John's Churchyard. A service was held at the Parish Church conducted by Canon W. Alcuin Jones, M.A. (vicar), Rev. Glyn A. Hughes, M.A. (curate), and the Rev. S. Scarlett Smith, with the organist and choir of the Parish Church. A large number of floral tributes were received.



1901



1907



1935



1938



1980

Telephone 3298 Telegrams: "Horspool Llangollen"

N. H. HORSPPOOL
 FRUITERER, FLORIST, SEEDSMAN, ETC.
 Floral Displays sent anywhere by Interflora



FRESH FLOWERS, FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FROM OUR OWN GARDENS DAILY
 Wide Range of Frozen Foods
 CASTLE STREET,
 LLANGOLLEN
 Nurseries and Gardens near Plas Newydd

1956



2010

The business continued through the family for many years with the emphasis more on green grocery in later years, in 1917 they had also taken over the premises next door (No. 17). They operated a market garden at what is now Maes Collen. In the 1930 the frontage was re-modelled in an art deco style. Number 15 later became Cellar 5,,a branch of the off-license "Threshers". In 2004 a new lease was agreed with Barnardo's commencing with a rent of £16,000 pa. No 15 is now a Barnardo's charity shop.

1881 Census

Robert Horspool	Head	M	42(1839)	Seedsman & Market Gardener	Goadby
Eliza Horspool	Wife	M	46(1835)		Kibworth
Selina Horspool	Dau	S	27(1854)	Shop Attendant	Wanlip
Emily Mariah Horspool	Dau	S	14(1867)	Scholar	Wanlip
Elizabeth Ann Horspool	Dau	S	16(1865)	Shop Attendant	Wanlip
Robert Alfred Horspool	Son	S	12(1869)	Scholar	Llangollen

Mary Louisa Horspool	Dau	S 9(1872)	Scholar	Llangollen
Arthur Horspool	Son	S 5(1876)	Scholar	Llangollen
Herbert Horspool	Son	S 2(1879)	((Infant))	Llangollen
Ann Burditt	Serv	S 50(1831)	General Servant	Kibworth

1891 Census 15 Castle St

Robert Horspool	Head	M 52(1839)	Seedsman & Florist	Goadby, Leic
Eliza Horspool	Wife	M 56(1835)		Market Harboro
Emily M Horspool	Dau	S 24(1867)	Florist & shop ass	Wanlip, Leic
Robert A Horspool	Son	S 22(1869)	Gardener	Llangollen
Mary L Horspool	Dau	S 19(1872)	Floris & shop ass	Llangollen
Arthur Horspool	Son	S 15(1876)	Gardener's app	Llangollen
Herbert Horspool	Son	S 12(1879)	Scholar	Llangollen
Mary A Burditt	Sil	S 60(1831)	Dom serv	Kibworth

1901 Census

Robert Horspool	Head	M 62(1839)	Nurseryman, seedsman, fruitier + florist	Goadby
Eliza Horspool	Wife	M 66(1835)		Market Harborough
Emily M Horspool	Dau	S 34(1867)	Fruitier's ass	Wanlip
Mary L Horspool	Dau	S 29(1872)	Fruitier's ass	Llangollen
Herbert Horspool	Dau	S 22(1879)		Llangollen
Mary A Burdett	Sil	S 71(1830)		Market Harborough

July 2015

WORK HARD AND BE NICE TO PEOPLE'



floral committee for their stage extravaganza or to bring back trays of polished peaches for the coachloads of tourists. It would infuriate him immensely when they

Display outside the shop during Eisteddfod week

served themselves, pulling out the reddest peach from his immaculately laid out display. But with a 'window to the world', he would proudly exhibit his home grown tomatoes, beautiful bedding plants, curious (in those days) Kiwi fruit and peculiar 'blue' carnations.

It is said that behind every strong man there is a strong woman and none more so than in my mother Daphne, and in remembering Eisteddfod week, I felt it was an opportune moment to write about her incredible life.

To everyone who knew our business, she was the backbone; the strength, the brains and the planning that made N. H. Horspool Fruiterer, Florist & Nurseryman successful. Just as importantly, she was

A tribute to Daphne Horspool
Eisteddfod Week always marks an important half-year point in the lives of Llangollen residents. None more so than to my parents, who like all local traders, anticipated the event with growing anticipation of the influx of tourists but also with trepidation at the huge workload involved both in the run up to and during the event

I have very fond memories of my father, Norman Horspool, making copious trips to Liverpool market at four in the morning to furnish the

the smile behind making it a welcoming place to shop. Nothing was ever too much trouble: The customer always came first. Early mornings, she was seen hurrying down Grapes Hill in her pale green overall to open up the shop before rushing home to cook breakfast for my father, or unloading the lorry, heaving sacks of King Edwards, boxes of chrysanthemums and crates of cauliflowers. She would be back up and down that hill to prepare lunch, serve customers all afternoon and close up and cash up at seven in the evening after all the orders had been delivered. (Who needs Internet delivery? They always delivered for free!) Despite her hard work and exhaustion, she was always chatty, always smiling and always with a brilliantly bright sense of humour.

Her sense of humour, hard work and kindness are what most people described when they sadly heard that my mother passed away this January. "She was a lovely lady, a real Lady" and a caring, considerate good friend to all.

After my father's death in 1999, she was supported greatly by her friends, but a sudden illness brought her to live with me in London.

Here, this Scottish/Welsh lass, embarked on a brand new adventure she had never dreamed she would experience. Her many regular outings included St Paul's Cathedral, the Millennium Wheel, Buckingham Palace, Borough market, The National Portrait Gallery and regular trips to the British Library. She excitedly travelled on red London double-deckers, calling herself jokingly a 'Londoner'. With the fantastic wheelchair facilities laid on at the London Olympics in 2012, she enjoyed a once in a lifetime trip to watch the diving, gymnastics and athletics.

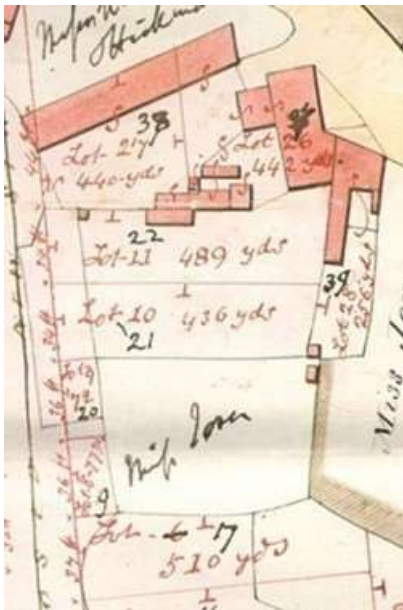
However much her heart and home were still in Llangollen, she adored the company of her growing grand children both in London and when they visited from abroad.' Amazingly we made a wonderful last visit to the Highlands of Scotland last Easter to visit her brother. The sun shone as if my father was smiling down on her.

Her wicked sense of humour stayed with her throughout, even during her illness and those who knew her are all lucky to have shared her friendship. For those who never had that privilege, she leaves a pretty good mantra, 'Work hard and be nice to people'.

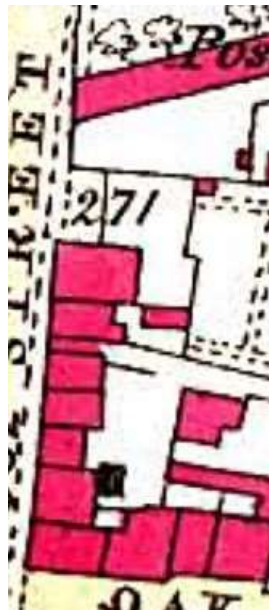
7th Jan 2004

Children's charity organisation Barnardo's has acquired primary retail premises at 15 Castle Street, Llangollen. The 1,000 sq ft ground-floor retail unit, let by Bolton Birch, was taken on a new lease basis at a commencing rent of £16,000 a year.

17 Castle Street



1858 sale



1874 map



2015

1858

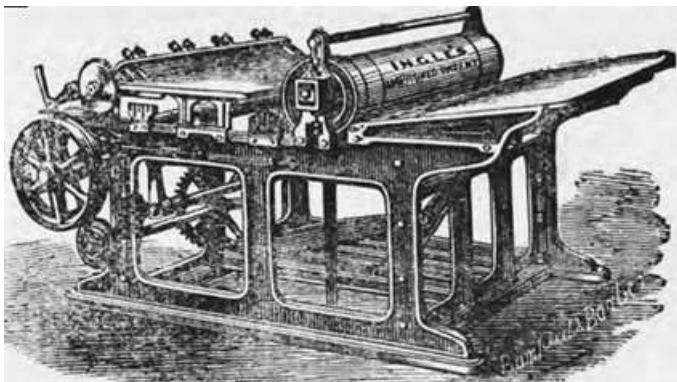
A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street

Occ Mr. Edward Stedman

1862

A Building Site, with a frontage of 34 feet along the new Street
now vacant 466 sq yds.

Occ Late Mr Thomas Rowlands

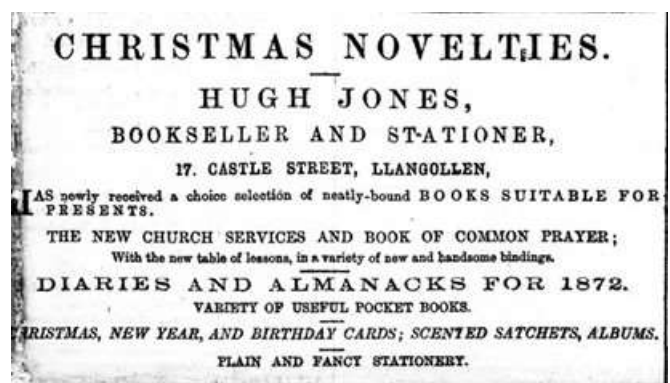


Hugh Jones had established a printing press in 1851, behind lots 19 and 20. He started to publish the "Llangollen Advertiser" here in 1860. He had established a shop in No 17 by December 1871, which implies that No 17 was built between 1862 and 1871.

The Ingle Double Royal Atmospheric Press of 1868

1st December 1871

It was not until July of 1883 that Hugh Jones's widow moved the press to No 33, although the shop had been vacated before 1871. In 1868 John Edwards, a confectioner from St Martins, was in business at No 17. In 1890 he retired, and moved to Plas yn Ddol, on Abbey Rd. The new occupant was Mary A Rowlands, daughter of Thomas Morris of Church Street. Her husband, Thomas Rowlands a Baptist minister in Caerphilly, had died ten years earlier. She and her two sons, Thomas Morris Rowlands and Ifor Hael



Rowlands were all cooks and confectioners. Ifor later went to London for more experience, but returned to set up at No 45 Castle Street.

1871 Census Castle St

John Edwards	Head	M 40(1831)	Baker & confectioner	St Martin, Salop
Caroline Edwards	Wife	M 39(1832)		Weston; Bath
John Bond	Board	S 23(1848)	Schoolmaster	Liverpool
Mary Jones	Serv	S 15(1856)	Gen Sev dom	Vivod Llangollen

1881 Census 17 Castle St

John Edwards	Head	M 50(1831)	Baker & Confectioner	St. Martins, Salop
Caroline Edwards	Wife	M 49(1832)	Baker & Confectioners Wife	Bath
Mary Williams	Serv	S 31(1850)	General Servant	Rednal Salop
Ann Bromley	Serv	S 15(1866)	Domestic Servant	Llangollen

1887 Rate review

Occ John Edward (conf) Owner John Edwards House & Shop Castle Street

In 1890 John Edwards retired and moved to Plas yn Ddol, Abbey Rd.

1891

17 Castle St

Mary A Rowlands	Head	W 49(1842)	Confectioner	Llangollen
Thomas M Rowlands	Son	S 22(1869)	Cook & confectioner	Caerphilly
Ivor H Rowlands	Son	S 19(1872)	Cook & confectioner	Caerphilly
Polly Bayley	Appr	S 14(1877)	App Cook & Conf	Llangollen
Maggie Lloyd	Serv	S 17(1874)	Gen serv	Glyn-Ceiriog
John Evans	Serv	S 22(1869)	Baker	Chester
David Parry	Serv	S 12(1879)	Errand Boy	Glyn-Ceiriog

4th July 1890

T. M. ROWLANDS,
(Late J. EDWARDS.)
COOK, CONFECTIONER,
FANCY BREAD AND BISCUIT BAKER,
17, Castle Street, Llangollen.

I. M. R. has the pleasure to announce that he has taken to the above Business, which has been carried on so successfully by Mr. Edwards for upwards of 27 years (who is now retiring), and trusts, by giving his best attention to business, to merit the patronage so liberally bestowed on his predecessor.

SOUPS, ENTREES, RAISED PIES,
GALENTINES, JELLIES, CREAMS, ICED PUDDINGS,
AND ICES.

☞ Wedding Breakfasts, Luncheons, Dinners, Ball Suppers, Tea and Picnic Parties, &c., catered for. (2753)



1907



1935

1901 Census

Thomas M Rowlands	Head	M 32(1869)	Cook & Confectioner	Caerphilly
Annie Rowlands	Wife	M 28(1873)		Blaenau Festiniog
Mary R A Rowlands	Dau	S 1(1900)		Llangollen
Thomas E G Rowlands	Son	S 1m(1901)		Llangollen
John Pate	Serv	M 45(1856)	Journeyman breadmaker	Higher Bebroytord, Cheshire
Maggie Hughes	Serv	S 17(1884)	Confectioner's ass	Corwen
Mary E Hughes	Serv	S 15(1886)	house dom	Maerdy

Sydney W Hassall

Serv S 13(1888) Baker's ass

Ellesmere

1911 Census 17 Castle Street Llangollen

Thomas Morris Rowlands	Head	M 42(1869)	Cook & Confectioner	Caerphilly
Anne Rowlands	Wife	M 39(1872)	Assisting Business	Blaenau Ffestiniog
Mary Rowland Rowlands	Dau	S 11(1900)	School	Llangollen
Thomas Euglawdd Griffith Rowlands	Son	S 10(1901)	School	Llangollen
Ernest Morris Rowlands	Son	S 7(1904)	School	Llangollen
Robert Clifford Rowlands	Son	S 4(1907)	School	Llangollen
Thomas Owens	Serv	S 22(1889)	Baker and Confectioner	Dolgelley

Around 1887. Thomas took over the business and expanded the business. He had organised many entertainments, so in 1901 he decided to build a location for larger entertainment on land he owned on Berwyn St. This took the form of a prefabricated pavilion. This was used for a large variety of concerts, plays etc. and later for film shows.

5th April 1901

PLANS.

Considerable discussion took place in regard to plans submitted for approval, and it was finally decided to approve those submitted by Mr. T. M. Rowlands for a building which he purposes to erect in Berwyn-street.

In 1917 Thomas Morris Rowlands sold the pavilion to a John Walters of Fleetwood, and moved away from Llangollen. Six years later in 1923 his wife Anne died in London. He sold No 17 to Robert Alfred Horspool of No 15. He used the name "Dorothy" for his new enterprise.

The PAVILION, Llangollen.
Proprietor .. T. M. ROWLANDS.

The Place to Spend a Pleasant Evening.

ANIMATED PICTURES.

MONDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, at 8 p.m.

Entire Change of Programme.

Doors open at 7 45, to Commence at 8 p.m.
Admission—8d. and 6d.

20th July 1917

WANTED, Young Lady, for Confectionery Shop. Apply R A Hospool, Castle Street Llangollen.

27th June 1918 Liverpool Echo

CONFECTIONERY.-Young Lady First or Second Hand for shop; also one for bakehouse; state experience and requirements.-Horspool, Dorothy Cafe, Llangollen. 17j409

Telephone No. 198. Telegrams: Horspool, Llangollen.

THE "DOROTHY" CAFE
— FOR —
LUNCHEONS, DINNERS, TEAS
Caterer, Cook, Confectioner

Birthday, Wedding and Christening Cakes.

Plain and Fancy Bread and Biscuits.

Afternoon Tea Fancies

SWEETS & CHOCOLATES of Leading Makers
17, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN
R. A. HORSPOL - - Proprietor

March 1927

Our Church Party, which was held in Mr. Horspool's splendid room at the Dorothy Cafe, on Feb 15th was a most pleasant affair

Operation of the Dorothy Café was principally done by Robert Alfred's son Edgar Victor, while Robert Alfred concentrated on the fruit, flowers and market gardening.

In 1930 planning permission to become a cinema was obtained, and it opened in 1931. The café was above the shop, and the cinema at the rear. The talkies arrived in 1932, but improved sound in 1939, and in that year a licence to show films on Sunday was obtained.



In 1930 planning permission to become a cinema was obtained, and it opened in 1931. The café was above the shop, and the cinema at the rear. The talkies arrived in 1932, but improved sound in 1939, and in that year a licence to show films on Sunday was obtained.

3rd March 1939

O.K. FOR SOUND –

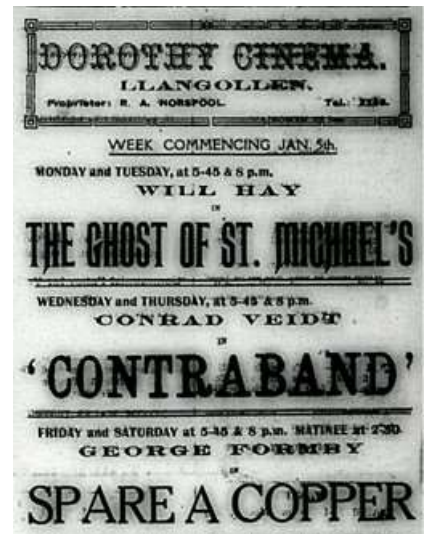
Cinema-goers will be pleased to learn that Mr Horspool has installed a new talkie apparatus at a cost of

over £250. The new machine, known as the Duosonic, is the latest type to be marketed by the British Acoustic Sound System. The firm installed the first talkie machine at the Dorothy seven years ago. The enterprise



of Mr Horspool is to be commended, for the Dorothy will now boast the most modern

reproduction in North Wales. I am told that the tone will be improved by at least 60 per cent, whilst the volume will be greatly increased. A

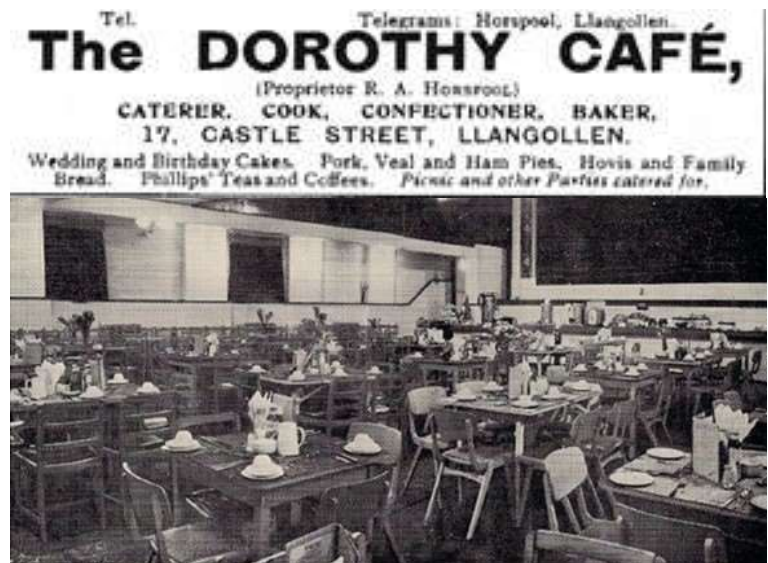


Edgar Victor

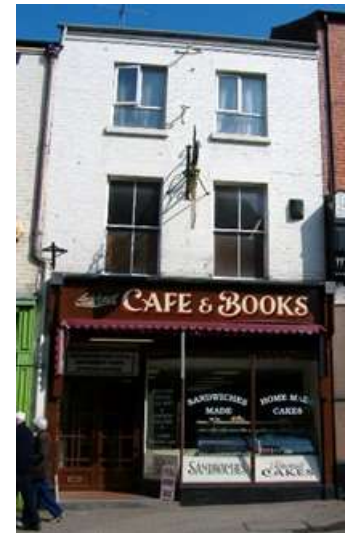
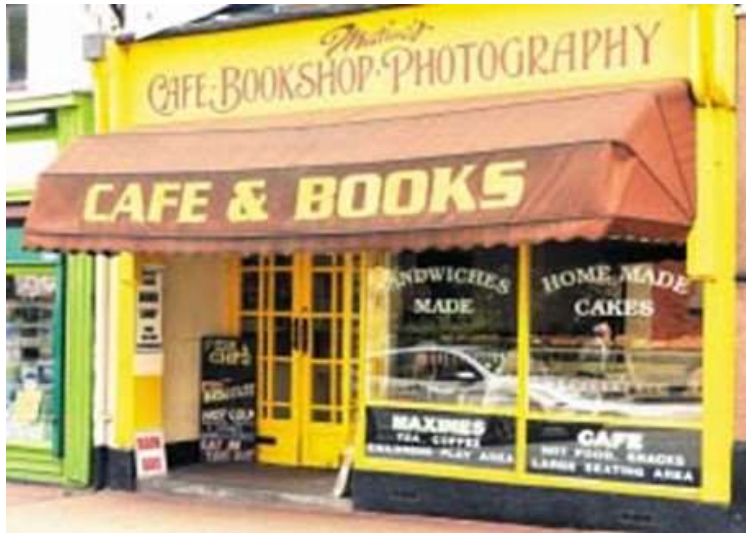
feature of the new installation is the non-directional sound system, which means that the sound will be spread equally in all parts of the cinema. I should like to point out that although the new machine is now working, the speaking equipment has yet to be fixed, and this will take another



three weeks owing to it calling for structural alteration. After that period the Dorothy will be O.K. for sound!



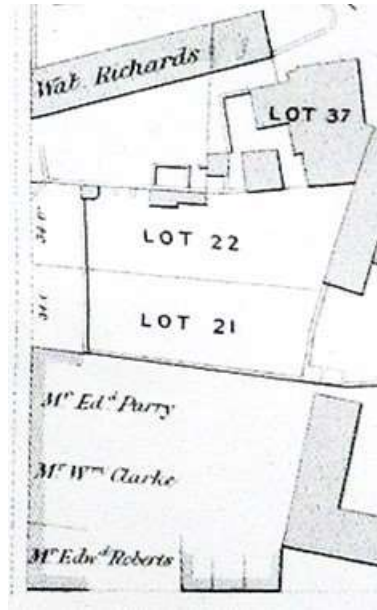
On 26th October 1963 the cinema closed and became the Luck Star Bingo Club run by Mr. Roberts from Corwen, later taken over by Evan Teifi Jones with a café in the front and bingo club in the two storey ex-cinema. Now the former cinema balcony houses a large second-hand book shop. The ground floor is still a Café, it went by the name Maxine's, but is now called the Internet Café & Books.



19 Castle Street



1858



1862



2017

1858 buyers No 20 Edward Parry (Geufron) £56..6..0

The buyer, in 1858 was Edward Parry of Geufron, who paid £56 6s for the plot. There was an Edward Parry at Geufron at that time who was a slater & plasterer employing 3 men. He probably bought the site as an investment, because he had not moved from Geufron in the 30 years before his death in 1888. The earliest occupant of the plot was John Edwards, a butcher. John had been brought up on farm of his father, Edward, Craig Ddu, Glyndyfrdwy. When he married Elizabeth (Betsy) they farmed at Tynllwyn, but they were forced to quit when the landlord enclosed much of the land without compensation. In 1856 they moved to Oak St, and John got the tenancy of the Royal Oak. When Castle Street was built the traffic on Chapel St was diminished and business at the Royal Oak was reduced. John decided that with his farming experience, he would try butchering, and he opened a shop on Berwyn Street in 1862. When the business took off he required larger premises and had 19 Castel Street built. Thee business first listed in the directories here in 1868, however the family lived at Greenfield Terrace until at least 1881. Family tradition has it that in 1874 John, now aged



53 decided to retire, and 12 year old Richard was left to run the business, while his father sat in the corner in his top hat. The name changed to J Edwards and Son, which remained the trading name until at least 1922, although by 1897 John had died.

1891 Census 19 Castle Street

John Edwards	Head	M	70(1821)	Butcher	Llangollen
Elizabeth Edwards	Wife	M	67 1824		Llangollen
Mary J Edwards	Dau	S	32(1859)	Housekeeper	Llangollen
Richard Edwards	Son	S	28(1863)	Butcher	Llangollen
Margaret E Edwards	Dau	S	26(1865)	Assisting in shop	Llangollen
John T Edwards	Son	S	24(1867)	Butcher	Llangollen
Emily Edwards	Dau	S	23(1868)	no occupation	Llangollen

28th June 1895

CHARGE OF ASSUMING AND USING THE ROYAL ARMS.

Thos. Rogers, butcher, Castle-street, Llangollen, charged John Edwards and Richard Edwards, trading as John Edwards and Son, butchers, in the same street, with that they did without the authority of her Majesty, or any of the Royal Family, or of any Government Department, assume and use in connection with their trade or business the Royal Arms, or arms so near resembling the same as to be calculated to deceive in such a manner as to lead other persons to believe that they were carrying on their trade or business by or under such authority as aforesaid, contrary to sec. 106 of 46 and 47 Vic., cap. 57.-Mr. Kendrick, Ruabon, appeared for Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Wynn Evans, Wrexham, for Messrs. John Edwards and Son. - Mr. Kendrick in opening the case, said that complainant, who lived in Castle-street, had been carrying on the business as a butcher in Llangollen for about 30 or 35 years. In December last, just before the Christmas Show, defendants caused to be placed on the outside of their shop the Royal Arms, or some- thing as near as possible resembling the Royal Arms There were the lion and the unicorn, and something resembling a crown, which had been evidently put up with the special purpose of leading the public to believe that it was the Royal Arms. The penalty under the section on which they were proceeding was £20, so their worships would see that it was considered by no means a light offence. Defendant had not a tittle of right to call himself a Royal tradesman. The proper course to pursue would have been to apply for a warrant from the Board of Green Cloth. All the warrants granted are there gazetted, and published once a year. He (Mr. Kendrick) held in his hand a copy of the Gazette which contains this list, and the name of defendant was not among them.-The chairman here expressed a hope that the case would not be unnecessarily prolonged. If defendant was able to produce the warrant, the matter would be settled at once. - Mr. Kendrick, continuing, said he held in his hand a letter from Mr. Marsh, of the Board of Green Cloth, which stated that at no time had defendant any authority to use the Royal Arms. Mr. Rogers naturally felt aggrieved that a person in the same trade living close to him should assume such a right without any authority whatsoever, as it could not fail to attract many people, more especially strangers, to defendants' shop, to the detriment of his (Mr. Rogers's) business. He had, therefore, come before their worships to ask them to restrain defendant from using these Royal Arms. -Thomas Rogers said he was a butcher carrying on business in Castle-street, Llangollen. He had been in business over 30 years. Defendants were also butchers, living 3 or 4 doors below him (complainant.) In December last he (witness) noticed what he took to be the Royal Arms placed over the door of defendant. They were, however, subsequently taken down. On the 30th May they were, however, put up again, and are up yet. The grievance he complained of was that they had been placed up without a warrant, with a view of leading people to believe that they were the Royal Arms, so as to attract business. - Cross- examined





**Richard and Mary Ellen
before their marriage**

by Mr. Wynn Evans Witness said he was not the holder of a Royal Warrant, nor had he ever applied for one. His objection was that these have been placed outside defendants' shop with the sole object of attracting customers there. Questioned as to whether he had had a dispute with defendant in regard to a right of light, witness said he declined to enter into that matter. - The Bench ruled the question out of order. - David Evans, butcher, Bala, said he held a Royal Warrant authorizing him to display the Royal Arms above his door. The date of the issue of his warrant was October 21st, 1889, and he had made an application for it. - Mr. Kendrick handed to the Bench a copy of the Gazette, in which the name of witness appeared as one of the recipients of the Royal Warrant. Mr. Wynn Evans, for the defence, pointed out that the Act was simply intended to protect the public from fraud, and he appealed to their worships to consider this case broadly. He (Mr. Evans), would ask whether it is likely to conduce to public peace and harmony to encourage a rival butcher or any other rival tradesman to sue another in a court of law, simply from

"private spite," or he would modify the phrase and say "private considerations?" He thought that in this case it would have been far better if some other person than Mr. Rogers had taken action, if that were considered necessary. Although Mr. Rogers had reported the matter to the Board of Green Cloth, they had not considered it necessary to take any proceedings whatever in regard to the matter. It was a general thing in all parts of the country for tradespeople to put on their bill-heads and signs "Patronized by the Queen," or by Royalty, and he considered it was a scandalous shame for one butcher in this manner to take proceedings against a rival local butcher on what Rogers had admitted himself to be a purely private grievance. The Act stated that where the offence is not an individual grievance a common informer cannot take proceedings. His client had done this quite inadvertently. One might have thought that Mr. Rogers would have called with or written to Mr. Edwards and drawn his attention to the matter. The first intimation which Mr. Edwards had, however, received was the summons. As a matter of fact, Mr. Edwards had supplied the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace and at Osborne, with consignments of meat, and he held in his hand the original copies of the order for and acknowledgment of the meat, and he, therefore, naturally felt that he was justly entitled to use as he had done the words "Patronized by her Majesty the Queen." He asked the Bench whether they were going to encourage a rival tradesman to take proceedings against another in this way. - Mr. Kendrick quoted from the section the words "Any person feeling himself aggrieved may take proceedings, and surely his client was aggrieved by a person in the same line of business, living a few doors from him, assuming a right for which he had no warrant whatever". - The Bench, after a short consultation, said they were agreed that a technical offence had been committed, and defendants would be fined the nominal penalty of 1s. without costs. This, of course, was on the understanding that the sign would be taken down. - Mr. Wynn Evans gave an undertaking that this should be done.

TO BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are invited for Alterations, &c., to Butchers' Shop, at Llangollen, for Messrs. EDWARDS & SON, Castle Street.

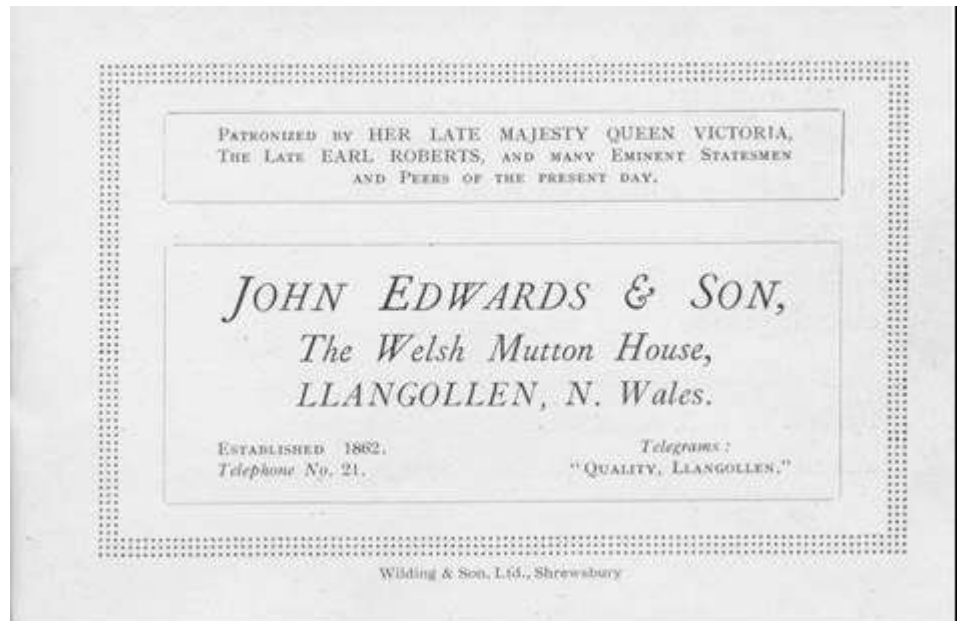
Plans and Specification can be seen from November 23rd to November 30th. Tenders to be sent not later than December 3rd.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

(12953)

R. T. JONES, Architect,
Llangollen.

In 1904 the building was enlarged and remodelled. The shop had a national reputation, selling meat all over the country, including Neville Chamberlain when he was prime minister. Meat orders, all stitched in sacking, were sent to London each Friday morning. When Richard retired the business was taken on by his son Hywel Islwyn Edwards. In



FAMOUS DURING SIX REIGNS FOR ALL THAT CAN BE DESIRED IN

MEAT

EDWARDS & SON

The Welsh Mutton House

LLANGOLLEN

And at 22 BRIDGE STREET

also the Renowned

COOKED MEAT and PIE SHOP

19 & 21 CASTLE STREET

Careful attention given to Campers Requirements

QUALITY, COURTESY, SERVICE Guaranteed

Phone 2221

1958 the business was known as Edwards & Son, The Welsh Mutton House, it gave its address as 19 & 21 Castle street, with 21 being the Cooked meat shop.. On 29th March 1977 the present butcher, Gwyn Davies, took over the business.

The alleyway between Nos. 17 and 19 led to a slaughterhouse at the rear of the Butchers, and allowed access to the rear of Oak Street properties.

GWYN DAVIES

High Class Family Butcher

19 CASTLE STREET

WILL BE OPENING

TUESDAY, MARCH 29th

HOME KILLED HIGH QUALITY MEAT
including
HOME-MADE SAUSAGES, BLACK PUDDINGS
AND ALL COOKED MEATS AND PIES

DEEP FREEZE ORDERS, A SPECIALITY
(will deliver)

WARM WELCOME TO ALL
(CROESO GYNNES I PAWB)

May 2004

"GWYN THE BUTCHER"



There has been a butchers Shop at 19 Castle Street, Llangollen for many years. Gwyn and Heather Davies took over 27 years ago and as their advert suggests are "High Class Purveyors of Meat".

An old fashioned expression perhaps, but it does convey the old fashioned values and courteous service, which you will find at this particular shop. At Gwyn Davies, Butchers you will find all the traditional meats including prime welsh lamb, best beef and tasty pork. You will also find specialist barbecue meats, spicy sausages and numerous cooked meats, pies and pates. The

display is always fresh, varied and inviting.

Traditional meats are readily available in season, the Christmas turkey, a goose or a chicken, young spring lamb, beef burgers and sausages for al fresco eating during the summer months. Pheasants, partridge and other game in season. A real old fashioned family butcher.

You will find the man himself behind the counter most days, ably supported by Richard (right) and Gareth (below). A warm welcoming smile is always offered when you enter the shop, good service and good meat.



Gwyn has lived in Llangollen for 30 years, shortly after his marriage to Heather, who was brought up in in the area, they farm in Rhewl and produce much of the beef and lamb for their shop. As well as selling meat "Gwyn the Butcher" sells tickets for almost every production in Llangollen. Tickets for plays can be bought from Gwyn, the Operatic Society tickets are on sale, concert tickets, coffee morning tickets, the list is endless. Publicity is always given to



the many charitable events held in the town. The support many organisations receive from this family business is considerable. When not helping in the shop, Heather organises many events; concerts, social evenings, sponsored walks, the list is endless. Being an avid fund raiser, she is always willing to support local charities. Heather and Gwyn have two children, Fiona and Martin. In his spare time Gwyn enjoys clay pigeon shooting.

November 2011

"AN AMAZING LADY"- THE LATE HEATHER DAVIES

Not my words, but those words were read at the funeral of the late Heather Davies, Fund Raiser extraordinaire, a "Local Hero" and "Superstar fundraiser with a Heart of gold" Heather, the daughter of Howel and Dilys Lloyd was born and brought up in Llangollen she attended Llantysilio School and Ysgol Dinas Bran , where she was later to be a member of the Governing Body.

After attending college, Heather worked at the Seed Factory and later opened a Bridal business, first selling and hiring wedding dresses from her home at Tyn Twll, Rhewl and later from a shop in



Llangollen. All this whilst running a Bed and Breakfast business from the farm too. Later Heather (in between her fund raising and voluntary work) served in Gwyn Davies the Butcher's shop on Castle Street, giving great support to Gwyn.

Heather's 'way of life' was helping others. She was nominated as a "Local Hero" in the Evening Leader and was invited to a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in recognition of all she had done for charity.

A Trustee of the Shooting Star, she was faithful and hard working and as a member of the Patients Trust in Llangollen, Heather helped to raise much needed funds. She also had been an active member of Llangollen Soroptimists .

At the time of the Foot and Mouth outbreak in the area, Heather quickly volunteered to help to man the Rural Stress Line. This well used facility continued long after the outbreak was under control.

Another way of helping others. A compassionate lady.

Heather has raised thousands of pounds for charity specially for the Shooting Star and the Air Ambulance. The different events organised by Heather are too numerous to list here, but they range from Fashion Shows to a 60s Night, A Parachute Jump and a Bucks Fizz Breakfast! The Talent Nights she organised became much talked about events.

Her regular Christmas Ladies Lunches at the Britannia Inn were eagerly anticipated and enjoyed by all who attended. It was for this event particularly that Heather created beautiful scarves which were sold at the lunch. Money raised at this event was sent to Children in Need.

Heather made giving easy for us, to use Julie's words again "Heather understood perfectly the golden rule of fund raising. It's no coincidence that the word fun is to be found in there, and she knew that if people are enjoying themselves they will give freely".

Heather would have been so proud of the tribute paid to her by the Air Ambulance Service when they flew overhead to salute a special lady, following her funeral at Llantysilio Church. I understand it has only happened once before, following the death of a member of their crew.

Gwyn and the family would like thank all who donated in memory of Heather, a total of £2500 has been received, which will be shared between the Air Ambulance Service and the Shooting Star They also sincerely thank the District Nurses for their amazing support. Thanks too to the Reverend Andrew Sully and John Thomas, undertaker

Our condolences to the family



Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Gwyn the Butchers wins top high street award



A well-known Llangollen business has landed a top award from the Welsh Government.

Gwyn the Butchers in Castle Street was recently shortlisted for the High Street Heroes Awards established by Communities Minister Lesley Griffiths.

And it's just been announced that the shop, which recently hosted a visit by the Prince of Wales on the day he was attending the International Eisteddfod, is the winner in the awards' hotly

contested Food and Drink category.

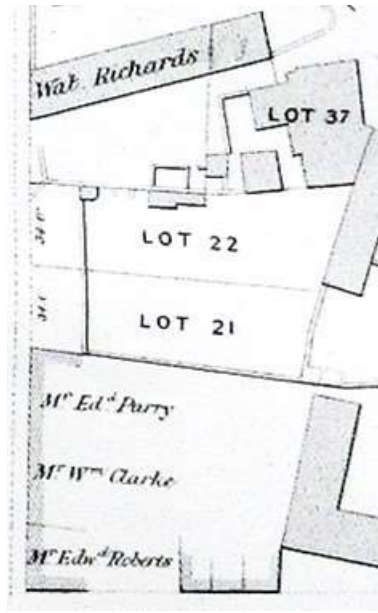
During a visit to Gwyn Davies, Lesley Griffiths said: "It should be a source of great pride to all of the winners of the High Street Favourites categories to have been celebrated in this way by local people.

These businesses provide vital services and great produce, as well as valuable places for family and friends to come together to socialise.

It is great to be here to meet the winner of the Food and Drink category, Gwyn Davies.

The members of the public who nominated Gwyn praised the friendly and personal service they receive at his family business as well as his dedicated community work. Congratulations on your well-deserved award."

21 Castle Street/Castle House



1858 buyers No 20 Edward Parry (Geufron) £56..6..0

The buyer, in 1858 was Edward Parry of Geufron, who paid £56 6s for the plot. There was an Edward Parry at Geufron at that time who was a slater & plasterer employing 3 men. He probably bought the site as an investment, because he had not moved from Geufron in the 30 years before his death in 1888. The earliest occupant traced so far was Margaret Roberts. Margaret was the widow of Edward Roberts, a currier, who had died before 1851. In 1851 she had been a dressmaker on London Road.

1871 census.

Margaret Robert	Head	W	48(1823)	Baby linen establishment	Llangollen
Sarah Ann Robert	Dau	S	21(1850)	Assistant	Ruabon
Jane Edward	Sis	S	42(1829)	Baby linen establishment	Llangollen

1881 Census

Margaret Roberts	Head	W	56(1825)	Draper &c	Llangollen
Sarah Ann Roberts	Dau	S	28(1853)	Assistant	Rhosymedre
Jane Edwards	Sis	S	50(1831)	Draper &c	Llangollen

1887 Rate Survey

Occupants *Mrs Roberts & Miss Edwards, Owner John Edwards* House & Shop

1891 Census

Margaret Roberts	Head	W	68(1823)	Draper	Llangollen
Jane Edwards	Sis	S	62(1829)	Draper	Llangollen
Sarah A Roberts	Niece	S	36(1855)	Assistant in shop	Llangollen

10th April 1903

DEATHS

April 8th, at Castle House, Castle-street, Llangollen, aged 83, Mrs. Margaret Roberts. Private funeral 1 p.m., on Saturday, interment at St. John's Cemetery

1911 *Castle House Castle Street*

<i>Jane Edwards</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>S 85(1826)</i>	<i>Fancy Drapery</i>	<i>Llangollen</i>
<i>Sarah Ann Roberts</i>	<i>Niece</i>	<i>S 55(1856)</i>	<i>Fancy Drapery</i>	<i>Rhosymedre</i>

31st December 1915

Dec. 27th, at Castle House, Castle-street, Llangollen, in her 90th year, Miss Jane Edwards.

9th April 1915



OPENING OF PREMISES.
21. CASTLE STREET,
 (LATE CASTLE HOUSE),
LLANGOLLEN.
W. Jones & Son
 beg to announce that the above premises
 will be opened
 On **FRIDAY, FEB. 7th,**
 AS A
Ladies' and Gents' TAILORING
 — AND —
Gents' Outfitting Business.
 All Goods will be of **SUPERIOR QUALITY**
 and **MODERATE IN PRICE.**
 Our endeavour being always to give the
BEST POSSIBLE VALUE.
TERMS:—CASH. b7 x

TO LET. -HOUSE & SHOP, No. 21, Castle Street. Apply to Miss ROBERTS, Castle House, 35, Castle Street, Llangollen.

Around 1915 Sarah Ann Roberts and her aunt moved to No 35, taking the name Castle House with them. Within a few months Jane Edwards died. In 1927 Sarah Ann Roberts married Robert Hartley Dodd, brother of William Charles Dodd, who had been the previous occupant of No 35.

1906

1919

The next occupants of No 21 were W Jones & Son, a Ladies and Gents' outfitters. According to the directories they were here until at least 1936.

In 1925 a William Griffith Jones, draper died at Egryn House, and was buried at the Fron Cemetery. His father was William Thomas. Were they W Jones & Son?

Towards the end of WW2 It became the Pies and Cooked Meats section of Edwards & Son at No. 19, with manager Edward Harris. Edward Harris died June 1957.

11th June 1957

THE LATE MR EDWARD HARRIS

Mr Edward Harris, whose tragic death on June 3rd at the age of 64, roused the deepest sympathy with his widow, so and daughters, had been a resident in Llangollen for twenty years. His early adult life had been spent in the Cheshire Constabulary, but on his marriage he went into the pork butcher business set up by his wife's parents at Altrincham. Thence to New Brighton but Mr Harris loved the country; and having come to Llantysilio to spend a holiday one October, they took such a liking to the lovely valley of the Dee that they came again and again for week-end visits. Finally Mr Harris undertook to manage Messrs Edward's pork and cooked meat shop when it first opened.

Towards the end of the second world war, they went to Ty Brython, at first sharing the house with Mrs Roberts. Here Mr Harris devoted himself to the cultivation of field and garden and the raising of poultry. For many years he had been far from well, but he never gave up work and was full of plans for next season.

The funeral took place on Thursday June 6th at St John's Church where the Vicar the Rev Dr Canon J Alun Thomas, conducted the service with feeling and simplicity.

The mourners were Mrs L Harris (widow); Miss Enid Harris (daughter); Mr and Mrs Desmond Thomas (son-in-law and daughter); Mr and Mrs Tom Harris (son and daughter-in-law); Mrs Annie Bridgewater (sister); Mr and Mrs R Bridgewater (nephew); Mr and Mrs Cadwalader (niece); all of whom reside near Shrewsbury; Mrs Lamb, Altrincham (sister-in-law); Mrs Baitel (niece); Mr and Mrs W Ball (brother and sister in law). Mr W Harris (brother) was unavoidably absent.

The bearers were Mrssrs Tom Harris; Desmond Thomas, E Llewelyn Evans, Victor Mathews, John Hughes and R Perrington.

It later (1960's?) became a branch of Eccleston, Bakers and Confectioners – originally founded by Arthur Eccleston in Wrexham 1898. On 2nd August 2010 the grandson of Arthur, David – now 73 retired – and the business was closed down. After 2013 it became Garrard's Bakery.



October 1925

Obituary (Marwgoffa)

Y Diweddar Mr W G Jones **The Late Mr W G Jones**

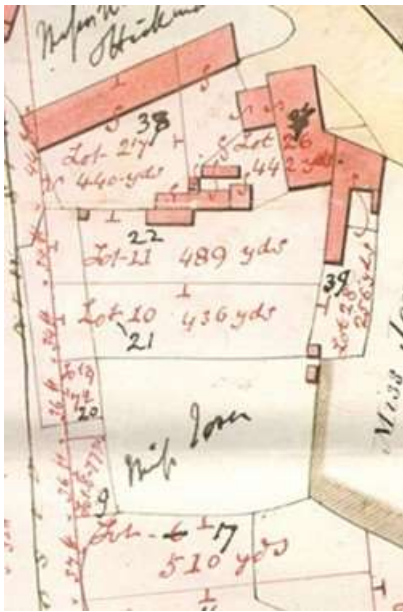
Drwg genym hysbysu marwolaeth Mr William Griffith Jones, mab ieuengaf Mr William Jones, Egryn House, Llangollen, yr hyn gymerodd le ar yr 17eg cyfisol yn y Royal Infirmary Lerpwl, ac a gladdwyd yn mynwent y Fron, Llangollen, ar yr 21 ain. Gwenyddwyd yn y ty gan y Parchedigion J Elias Hughes, B A, B D a J E Griffiths, ac wrth y bed gan y Parchedigion John Rowlands a J Elias Hughes. Cyfarfu tyrfa luog a pharchus o bobl I dalu y gymhwynas olaf I'r gwr ieuanc, yr hwn, e rei fod o nodwedd enciliol, eto a adwanenid y dda gan bron yr holl o drigion y dref a'r cylch. Adwaenid eff el cymeriad rhinweddol neillduol; nid oedd yn caru bod yn yr amlwg ar un adeg, eto edrychid I fyny ato, yn enwedig gan ei gyfoedion, gydag edmygedd, a thelid sylw arbenig i'w

Y Cyrnol John Jones. Colonel John Jones. Colonel John Jones.

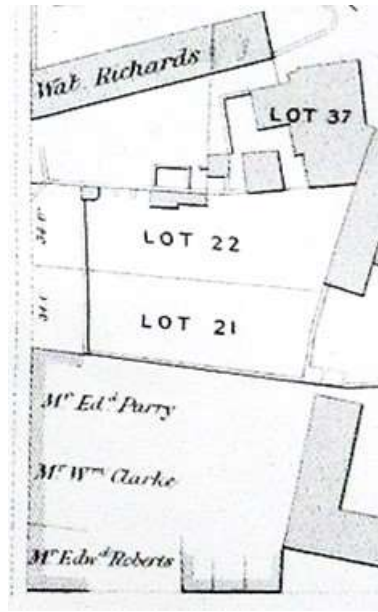
Nos Lun diweddaf, yn nghapel Penllyn, traddodwyddarlith gan y Parch J Roberts-Evans, M A Birmingham, ar y testyn uchod. Llywyddwyd gan Mr J Thomas, Barclay's Bank, Llangollen, a gwnaeth ei waith yn rhagorol. Cafwyd hanes manwl a dyddorol yr hen gymeriad uchod ga y darlithydd, o'I febyd I'w fedd, drwy gyfnodau o lwyddiant ac erlidigaeth. Dywedai y darlithydd main id dyn cyffredin o ran gallu oedd y Cyrnol; yr oedd yn alluog, a'I syniadau yn hollol werinol, ac yn hyn mae I'w edmygu yn fawr, Yr oedd hefyd yn Gristion gloew a phur, fel y dengys ei lythrau. Gorphenodd ei yrfa drwy gael tori ei ben am "deyrnfradwriaeth" pryd mewn gwirionedd dioddefodd y gosp am ddal at yr egwyddor boblogaidd y dyddiau hyn, sef mai y werin yn unig sydd a hawl I lywodraethu. Gwnaeth y darlithyddei waith yn hynod lwyddianus a thystiai paw bar y diwedd fod y ddarlith yn un wir addysgiadd am y cyfnod y bu y Cyrnol John Joes yn byw ynddo.

Rhoddwyd nifer luosog o ddarluniau yn ystod y ddarlith, a phrofodd y trefniant oedd cydrhwng y darlithydd, ac hefyd I Mr Ewart Davies am ei waith gyda'r llusern, ac ategwyd gan Mr E H Lloyd, Central Stores, a'r Parch J Elias Hughes, B A B D a phasiwyd yn unfrydol, Cynnygiwyd a chefnogwyd diochgarwch gwresocaf y cyfarfodi'r cadeirydd, Mr J Thomas, catebodd yntau yn hynod ddyddorol a phwrpasol, i'r cadeirydd, Mr J Thomas, catebodd yntau yn hynod ddyddorol a phwrpasol, r oedd cynulliad da yn bresenol, yr hyn syddarwydd eglur fod gweithwyr penderfynol yn Mhenllyn, a diau eu bod yn teimlo yn ddiochgar I bawb am eu cynorthwy a'u presenoldeb. Deallwn fod un ferch ieuane wedi llwyddo I werthu dros dri ugain o docynau yn nglyn a'r ddarlith.

23 Castle Street/Salop House



1858 map



1862 map



2017 map

1858 sale 19 a building site with a frontage of 36ft along the new street, at present occupied by Richard Jones (77 sq yds)

1858 buyer:-19 William Clarke (Ironmonger) £56..6..0

The purchaser of the plot in 1858 may have been William Clarke, who had been a glazier/tin plate worker on London Road in 1851, who later moved to Greenfield Terrace, his son James Clarke was the Schoolmaster – certainly James Clarke was living on Castle Street in 1862.

Later in 1862 Hiram Davies, a confectioner, moved here to the lower half from Shrewsbury. As well as his confectionary business here he also set up a mineral water business on the Geraint.

12th January 1906

THE LATE MR. HIRAM DAVIES.



THE death of Mr. Hiram Davies, which sad event took place at Llangollen, on Saturday last, removes one of the most familiar figures from the public life of the town; and has been received with profound sorrow by a very large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Davies was born at Baschurch, on August 31st, 1834, and married Miss Hannah Jones of Bodfor, near Llangefni, in 1858. One daughter and three sons were born of the marriage. The daughter died in her youth and the two younger sons occupy positions of trust in Manchester and Rhyl respectively; the eldest son being Mr. J. H. Davies, J.P., Chairman of the Llangollen Urban District Council. The deceased came to dwell in Llangollen in the year 1862 commencing in business as a baker and confectioner in Castle-street, and conducting a flourishing mineral water works at Geraint. The Castle-street business in process of time assumed considerable proportions; and, in 1896, Mr. Hiram Davies retired from it handing over the control to his eldest son. In 1879 Mr. Davies, who had become a widower, married his

second wife, a daughter of Mr. J. Tones, of Ladywood, Birmingham, who survives him. The deceased was a staunch Baptist, worshipping first at the Castle-street Welsh Chapel, which had just been built when he came to Llangollen and subsequently joining the English cause in the Penybryn Chapel--of

which the late Dr. Pritchard was the first pastor when it was founded. He was an active and most valued member of this Church being associated with every phase of the good work carried on at Penybryn and subsequently at the Pritchard Memorial Chapel, in- Abbey-road. As an open-air preacher in his early days, Mr. Hiram Davies was very successful and, when in Shrewsbury, where he was a member of Claremont Chapel, his preaching produced excellent results, and he constantly spoke of the time when, in company with Aaron Jones, the noted Salop prize-fighter, standing under the railway bridge, he preached the acceptable tidings to large gatherings. Mr. Davies many years ago played a prominent part, with the late Dean of Bangor and Mr. James Clarke, in founding the penny reading movement - a movement that, by providing pure and wholesome entertainment for the people, was the means of achieving incalculable good. The deceased was himself a capital comedian, and as a humorous vocalist his appearance was always welcome on the concert platform. His aim, which he attained with considerable success, was to promote fun without vulgarity; and his selections were at all times as well chosen as they were admirably rendered. There was no more ardent Liberal in the country than Mr. Davies and he was one of the most active workers in the interests of the party on the Election Committee of the late Sir George Osborne Morgan and Colonel West. He never hesitated to express his convictions, and was always able to give sound reasons for the political faith that was in him and on many occasions was called upon to make substantial sacrifices for the courage and fearlessness with which he espoused the cause to which he allied himself. The deceased was above all things patriotic. He was a lover of his country and an ardent champion of all its institutions. He was a pioneer of the Volunteer movement in the Llangollen district; and was one of the trio who waited upon the Lord Lieutenant to petition for a commission to form the local corps. Captain Conran (afterwards County Treasurer) was placed in command upon the Company being raised and at once offered the first lieutenancy to Mr. Davies, and all acquainted with his powers of organization and abilities to enforce discipline recognize that a better choice could not possibly have been made. The deceased, however, like many a good man before him, elected to remain in the ranks, and as a private did yeoman's service. His powers of organization were most forcibly demonstrated at the inauguration of the Llangollen Fire Brigade. He threw himself heart and soul into the work, and although the original organization had to contend against far greater difficulties than its successor, and the appliances at their disposal were of a very modest description, so well was the brigade handled and so thorough a knowledge had the Superintendent of the manner of making the best use of the material at his disposal, that splendid work was frequently effected, notably at the destructive fire that took place at the Mile End Flannel Factory in 1864, Mr. Davies was conversant with every new move made in connection with improvements in appliances for fire extinction and at the time the present Brigade was organized was always ready with advice as to the best methods to pursue and the best systems to adopt. How it came to pass that one who had for so many years occupied a foremost place in connection with Fire Brigade work should not have been asked to take command of the, present Brigade is difficult to understand. Certain it is that he felt, and felt keenly, the action of those responsible for making the selection in passing him over. As a member of the old Local Board, he did excellent work, and was one of the most attentive and efficient members of that authority. Mr. Davies was an admirable raconteur and had a fund of anecdote and interesting reminiscence at his disposal with which he was always ready to entertain those prepared to listen to him. He had good reason to take more than a passing interest in the sensational Tichborne case, being a second cousin to Sir Doughty-Tichborne, by which relationship he was also a second cousin of the present Marquis of Breadalbane. To the relatives in their bereavement we offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon the interment being made in the Fron Cemetery, The Rev. Cernyw Williams conducted a brief service at the house, and he assisted at the grave by the Rev David Williams and the Rev W. Foulkes. The chief mourners were the widow and three sons. Mr J V Davies(Shrewsbury) brother: Mrs Calcott and Mrs Aidley (sisters) and Mr. G. L. Doughty (brother-in-law). The members of the Llangollen Fire Brigade turned out in full force,

under the command of Lieutenant Davies, and joined in the mournful procession, acting as bearers at the house and cemetery. The Corwen Fire Brigade was represented by Capt. Sam Jones who acted as lieutenant to the deceased when the Llangollen Brigade was formed. Many beautiful wreaths were laid upon the grave, including one from the Church and congregation worshipping at Abbey-road. Messrs. Edwards and Hughes, the Crescent, Market-street, were the undertakers.

By 1872 the property was going under the name Salop House, reflecting Hiram Davies' origin in Baschurch.

1871 Census

Hiram Davies	Head	M	36(1835)	Master Confectioner	Baschurch, Salop
Hannah Daviess	Wife	M	36(1835)		Anglesey
Mary Jane Davies	Dau	S	10(1861)	Scholar	Shrewsbury
John Hiram Davies	Son	S	8(1863)	Scholar	Llangollen
Edward Jones Davies	Son	S	5(1866)	Scholar	Llangollen
Hannah Jones	M i L	W	60(1811)	Shopwoman	Anglesey
Jane George	Aunt	W	64(1807)	Gen Helper	Anglesey
Thomas Hughes	Serv	S	19(1852)	Baker	Cefn Buchan
Thomas Bent	Serv	S	15(1856)	Apprentice Baker	Manchester
Elizabeth Lewis	Serv	S	13(1858)	Gen Serv	Llantysilio

1881 Census

Hiram Davies	Head	M	46(1835)	Confectioner	Baschurch, Salop
Margaret Davies	Wife	M	39(1842)		Madeley, Salop
John Hiram Davies	Son	S	18(1863)	Musical Student	Llangollen
Edward Jones Davies	Son	S	15(1866)	Shopman	Llangollen
Herbert Victor Davies	Son	S	9(1872)	Scholar	Llangollen
Hannah Jones	M i L	W	68(1813)	Female Shop Woman	Llangefni
Jane George	Aunt	W	73(1808)	Assistant In House	Llangefni
William Underwood	Appr	S	18(1863)	Baker's Apprentice	Norwich
Henry Brewer	Appr	S	16(1865)	Baker's Apprentice	Shipston-On-Stour

1887 Rate Survey Occupier Hiram Davies Owner Thomas Hughes Esq House & Shop

1891 Census

Hiram Davies	Head	M	56(1835)	Baker & Confectioner	Baschurch, Salop
Margaret Davies	Wife	M	49(1842)		Madeley, Salop
Herbert V Davies	Son	S	19(1872)	Shop assistant	Llangollen
Hannah Jones	M i l	S	80(1811)	retired shopkeeper	Llangefni
Sarah J Cartwright	Serv	S	16(1875)	Dom serv	Cefn Mawr
Thomas Coles	Appr	S	18(1873)	Baker's assistant	Bristol

1901 census

John Hiram Davies	Head	M	38(1863)	Baker & Confectioner	Llangollen
Miriam A Davies	Wife	M	40(1861)		Llangollen
Mary H Davies	Dau	S	12(1889)		Llangollen
John H H Davies	Son	S	7(1894)		Llangollen
Adalaide M R Davies	Dau	S	6(1895)		Llangollen
Mary E Lewis	Serv	S	18(1883)	Gen serv dom	Cefn Mawr

1911 Census 23 Castle Street Llangollen

John Hiram Davies	Head	M	48(1863)	Baker and Confectioner	Llangollen
Miriam Davies	Wife	M	43(1863)	Assistant in Business	Llangollen
Minnie Davies	Dau	S	22(1889)	Assistant in Business	Llangollen
Herbert Davies	Son	S	17(1894)	Student	Llangollen
Addie Davies	Dau	S	16(1895)	Assistant in Business	Llangollen
Edna Davies	Dau	S	7(1904)	School	Llangollen



James Candy

Assist S 26(1885) Assistant in Business

Cardiff

James Candy was born in Cardiff, 21st July 1887, the son of Alfred James Candy, a brewer's assistant, and Rosina Ann Candy (nee Candy). His father died 29th April 1890 at 23 Maud St. His mother moved back to Somerset, but died May 1895 in Hinton Bluett, Somerset. James was sent to Mullers Orphan House in Bristol, but later became an assistant to John Hiram Davis in Llangollen. On 17th April 1917 Driver James Candy 675653, Royal Field Artillery, "D" Battery, 285 Brigade, aged 29 was killed. He was buried at buried plot 4, Row D, Grave 14, Le Grand Hasard Military Cemetery, Morbecque, France Nord. His parents were given as Albert & Rosina Candy, 23 Maud St., Roath, Cardiff. James Candy's name can also be found inscribed in the Berwyn Tunnel, next to the station, which contains many messages from local WWI recruits, with the message "I really want -- this baby." His name appears on the Llangollen War Memorial but as *Alfred* James Candy.



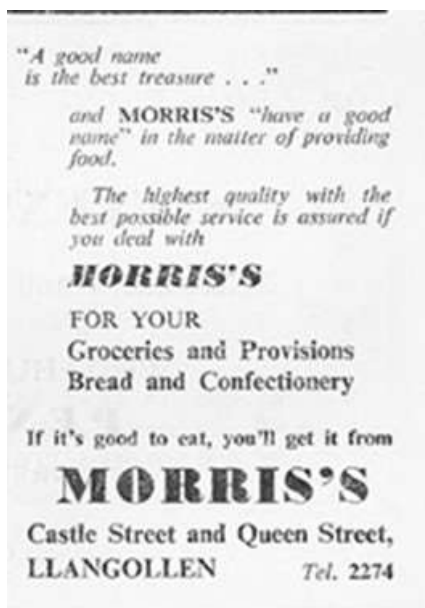
John Hiram Davies died June 1928, his widow, Miriam moved to Princess St. She was still there in 1939 with her youngest daughter Edna who was a music teacher. In January 1936 there was a dressmaker and Costumier here, this could have been Ada



Kyffin, daughter of John William Kyffin, a draper living on Birch Hill. By the 1939 this was the location of Morris's Café. Alun Morris, originally from Rhydycroesau, in Shropshire, had arrived

in Llangollen by 1907, and set up a baker shop in George Street, before moving to Queen Street. Following his death in 1939 his widow Priscilla carried on the business. Later her sister Elizabeth Ann Roberts and Elizabeth's adopted son joined her. Elizabeth's adopted son, James Iorwerth Roberts was Elizabeth's nephew, (born James Tecwyn Jones), but having lost his mother at an early age, had been brought up by his aunt. He officially changed his name by deep poll in 1955. By February 1955

Morris's had opened another branch at No 23 Castle Street, this branch was also a café. In February



1961 James Cledwyn Roberts, because of failing health sold the shop to Mr and Mrs G H Lloyd. He moved to Anglesey, but died three later, shortly before his mother. The shop is now a TENOVUS charity shop.

14th April 1939

Mr Alun Morris
BUSINESS MAN'S DEATH AFTER SEIZURE

Loss to Llangollen

The sad news of the sudden death of Mr Alun Morris, the Queen Street, Baker, Llangollen, came as a shock to the inhabitants of the town on Monday morning when his death was made known. It appears that he was about doing his usual business on Good Friday morning, but during the day he had a seizure, and although every possible care and attention was given him by the medical men and nurses, he never regained consciousness and passed away on Monday morning.

A native of Vroncysyllte, he had carried on an extensive bakery and confectionary business at the Queen St Bakery, and also had branches at Castle Street and at Cefn Mawr. He leaves a widow, an adopted daughter, and several brothers and sisters to mourn his loss, and with whom the greatest sympathy is extended.

The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon at the Vron Cemetery, Llangollen, and was largely attended. A short service was held at the house in Queen Street, conducted by the Rev J Elias Hughes, B A B D pastor of Rehoboth Chapel, and the Rev S Owens B A and at the graveside the Revs John Rowlands and J E Hughes took part.

The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs Rice Jones and Son. Messrs W Ernest Hughes, Ted Roberts, Arthur Hughes (employees), and John Hughes acted as bearers.

The mourners were:- Mrs Morris (widow) Miss Gwerfyl Morris Jones (daughter), Mrs Roberts (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Vaughan, Trevor (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs J I Morris, Queen's Ferry (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Morris Wrexham (brother and sister-in-law), Mr Morris, Welshpoll (brother), Mr Tom Jones, Berwyn, Mr Salisbury (brothers-in-law), Mr George Halsey, Mr Morris, Wrexham (nephews), Mr Heywood, Oswestry Mr Morris Preesgweene, Mr Jones Liverpool, Mrs Rowlands, Llanymynech, Miss Townsend, Manchester, Mr Gwilliam, Feston Rhyn (cousins), Mr and Miss Salisbury (nephew and niece), Mr Ellis, Llansilin, Mr Ellis, Brown Farm, Llangollen, Mr and Mrs Morris, Gwersyllt, Mr Morris, Cynwyd, Mr Robert Morris, Vron, Mr Salisbury, Chirk (cousins).

Wreaths were sent as follows – With everlasting love from his sorrowing wife; with everlasting love, with everlasting thoughts from Gwerfyl; With deepest sympathy from Lizzie (sister-in-law), From Ted Lizzie and Boris; With deepest sympathy from Lalla (sister-in-law), With love and sympathy J and G Halsey; from George and Hugh; From all at Pontymeibion, Tregeiriog; From David, Dorothy, and family; From Jack Morris and family; Oddiwrth Teulu Hafod-y-Maidd. From Cledwyn, Ella and Annie; From cousin Gwilliam; From the employees; From Mr and Mrs John Hughes and Hilda and family, Queen Street; From Mrs Davies, Glen View; From all at Caerwen, and 5 Queen Street; Llangollen; From Mr and Mrs Smith Edwards and family, Derwen Bakery; From Miss Dunn, Aled House; From Mr and Mrs Davies, Bryndethol Cottages; From Mr and Mrs Seth Roberts, Chirk; From Mr and Mrs Andrew Jones; From Miss Nellie Salisbury; From his brother Ted and family, elshpool; From Mrs Jones and Marjorie; A tribute from Miss Pugh; From Mr and Mrs Jones, Pentrefelin Mill; from Mr and Mrs Roberts, Denbigh; From Cousin Jessie and family.

February 1955

NOTICE is hereby given that JAMES CLEDWYN ROBERTS of Number 23, Castle Street, Llangollen, in the county of Denbigh, Baker and Confectioner, a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies by birth, lately called James Tecwyn Jones has assumed and intends henceforth upon all occasions and at all times to sign and use and to be called and known by the name of James Cledwyn

Roberts in lieu of and in substitution for his former name of James Tecwyn Jones and that such change of name is formally declared and evidenced by a Deed under his hand and seal dated the 21st day of January, 1955, duly executed and attested and enrolled in the Central Office of the Supreme Court of Judicature on the 3rd day of February, 1955.—Dated this 4th day of February, 1955.

*C. RICHARDS and SONS, Bank Buildings,
Llangollen, Solicitors for the said James (378) Cledwyn Roberts*

14th February 1961

A WORD TO CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS OF MORRIS'S OF LLANGOLLEN

As from February 27th next the business of Morris's of Llangollen will be operated by Mr and Mrs G. H. Lloyd of the Old Hall, Ellesmere, who will become sole proprietors.

I take this opportunity of extending to all customers and friends my very sincere thanks for the strong and continuous support which has been accorded to this old-established Llangollen business during the long period in which my family and I have been associated with it. It is a matter of regret to us that health reasons have made it necessary for me to dispose of the -business and also to leave the district; we shall always remember the friendship which has accompanied your support.

The new proprietors, Mr and Mrs Lloyd, have long and close associations with the Llangollen district and I am certain that they will endeavour to maintain the service which we have tried to offer during the years.

I should also like to thank the townspeople for the opportunity given to me of serving the community for a period 'of six years as a member of the Llangollen Urban District Council, and my family and I have enjoyed a very happy association with a number of other local organisations. As we shall be leaving the town, we shall-do so with happy memories and will continue to hope that - the town and all its institutions will continue to flourish and prosper.

Yours very sincerely,

*For and on behalf of Morris's of Llangollen,
J. CLEDWYN ROBERTS.*

27th October 1964

We regret to record the death of Mr Cledwyn Roberts, which occurred at his home "Collen" Holyhead, on October 20th after several weeks' severe illness. Mr Roberts had been a patient at the Maelor General Hospital in September and many of his Llangollen relatives and friends had visited him there.

Mr Roberts, who was 51 years of age, was the third son of the late Mt and Mrs Tom Jones, Hen Bandy, Berwyn. Bereaved early of his mother, he was adopted by his aunt, Mrs Isaac Roberts and brought up at Siamber Wen. After business experience away from Llangollen, he returned here to the Queen St Bakery and was later well known in Llangollen as the proprietor of Morris's Café. Some three years ago, having sold his business he went to Holyhead, which is Mrs Roberts's native town, but while in Llangollen he had associated himself with many town organisations, including membership of the Urban Council. He had suffered many bereavements in recent years, losing his brothers, Mt Penry Jones, Mr Isfryn Jones and his only sister, Miss Gwerfyl Jones. Only one brother remains, Mr David Roy Jones of Runcorn.

Our deep sympathy is tendered to his widow, Mrs Ella Roberts, and his son and daughter as well as to Mrs Isaac Roberts in their great sorrow. Also to his cousins here in Llangollen, Mrs Iorwerth Roberts and Mr Tom Jones, Queen St and his nephew Mr Glynn Parry Jones, who was so assiduous in visiting him while he was in hospital. The funeral took place at Holyhead on Thursday last.

15th December 1964

OBITUARY

The Late Mrs Isaac Roberts

It was with deep regret that her Llangollen friends learnt of the death of Mrs Elizabeth Ann Roberts, which occurred at the Stanley Hospital, Holyhead on December 8th

Mrs Roberts, who was in her 83rd year, was the only surviving of the three daughters of the late Mr and Mrs James of Fir Tree and later of Siamber Wen, Llangollen. After many years at Siamber Wen during which Mr Isaac Roberts operated the Canal Pleasure Boats, and where Mrs Roberts provided so happy a home for their adopted son, Mr Cledwyn Roberts, they removed to Yew Tree Farm, Gresford. Returning to Llangollen in 1944, they found a temporary home with Mr and Mrs John Hughes, West Street. But Mr Isaac Roberts died within a fortnight of their arrival and Mrs Roberts remains with Mr and Mrs Hughes for eleven years till she joined her sister, Mrs Alun Morris at the Queen St Bakery. Friends and customers will always gratefully remember her unfailing kindness and courtesy.

Mrs Roberts, through her difficulties and sorrows, losing her sister, Mrs Morris in a road accident, the death of her niece, Miss Gwerfyl Jones, retained an unfailing serenity and sweetness of temper which endeared her to all. When Mr Cledwyn Roberts and family went to Holyhead, Mrs Roberts was happily installed in her home on Birch Hill.

However, for the last few months, owing to her failing health, she joined the family at "Collen", Holyhead. The recent death of Mr Cledwyn Roberts was a severe blow to her.

The funeral took place on Friday, December 11th. The Rev Meurig Roberts conducted the service at Rehoboth at two o'clock. The singing was conducted by Mr R E Evans and Mrs Albert Davies was at the organ.

Miss Avery read a portion of Scripture in English, and a fitting tribute to the late Mrs Isaac Roberts, who had been so faithful at Rehoboth and to the Women's Fellowship at Penllyn, was paid by the Rev Meurig Roberts.

The only hymn sung "Ym mynwes glyd yr annwyl Oen, Heb frw na phone rwy'n llechu" was particularly suitable.

The family mourners were Mrs Ella Roberts (daughter in law); Mr David Roy Jones, Chester (nephew); Mrs Anne Hamsley Jones and Mr David Hawley Roberts.

Interment took place at the Fron Cemetery where the Rev Meurig Roberts and the Rev G M Gruffydd officiated.

The bearers were John Hughes, John Bailey, Emlyn Morris of Llangollen and H Pierce Jones of Holyhead.

To the left of No 23 there is a small unit which seems to have been used for a number of purposes over the years

3rd January 1873

ELLIS & WILLIAMS,
A U C T I O N E E R S .
OFFICES :—
23, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN,
AND
LLANGWM, CORWEN,

25th March 1881

TO BE LET, TWO HOUSES and a field
(one acre), ten minutes' walk from Llangollen.
Apply to Mr. J. Williams, saddler, 23, Castle-street,
Llangollen. (917)

To the left the shop was Uncle Peter's Fudge Shop (Peter Tofalos) which then became Pro ADVENTURE until they moved to 36 Castle Street about 2008, and it is now Castle Street Gallery, a picture framing business.

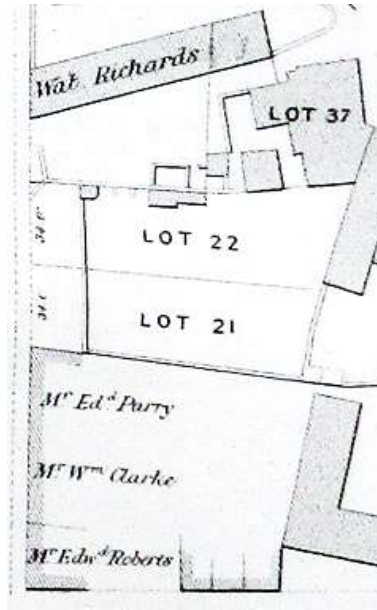
Pro ADVENTURE
To keep up to date with what's happening with us you can
sign up **FREE** to Club ProAdventure Online at
www.proadventure.co.uk
You'll get news, hints, tips and advice and special offers like the one below
Come in store to see our massive range of
Adventure & Bushcraft Equipment
And ask about our Adventure Activities
23 Castle Street, Llangollen 01978 860605



25 & 27 Castle Street (Central Buildings)



1858map



1862map



2017 map



Central Buildings circa 1870

The plot for buildings was shown as 17 on the 1858 sale map, and shown as being owned by Edward Roberts in 1862. Edward Roberts was the son of Thomas Roberts, a butcher. In 1851 he had been working with his father in Regent Street, before setting up business in Castle Street. He later became a farmer at Fron Hyfrydd.

1871 Census

Edward Robert	Head	M	37(1834)	Gentleman Farmer	Llangollen
Margaret Robert	Wife	M	31(1840)		Llanarmon

From about 1874 the trade directories mention J & C Hughes, milliners at No 25, In 1883 Jane & C Hughes. The Misses Jane & C Hughes were in No 25 until 1890, when Edward Roberts, a draper, who had previously worked with Davies, Drapers, established his business. Edward Roberts had died within a few years, and in 1898 his widow moved to 40 Berwyn St. In 1899 the business being run by David & John Rogers, two sons of Thomas Rogers in No 27, but in 1900 they had sold up and established themselves in Chapel Street.

**THE NEW DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
CENTRAL BUILDINGS,
CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN.**

EDWARD ROBERTS
(Late with Mr. Davies, Draper)

Takes the pleasure to inform his Friends and the Public that he has taken to the Shop and Business of the Misses J. and C. Hughes, Castle Street (who are retiring from the Drapery Business).

Having purchased the whole of the Extensive Stock on the Premises much Under the Original Cost Price, he has marked them off AT SUCH PRICES as will ensure PROMPT CLEARANCE, the whole of the Extensive Stock comprising Underlinens, Muslin Work, Corsets, Millinery, Silks, Gloves, Skirts, &c.

In addition to this Stock, E. R. has just returned from the Market, where he has purchased a LARGE STOCK OF GENERAL DRAPERY. In the New Stock will be found the NEWEST MATERIALS of the SEASON in LADIES' DRESS MATERIALS and GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING, with several Extraordinarily Cheap Lines in All the Departments.

The favour of a Call to Inspect the Goods will much oblige.

For Particulars, see Handbills. (2730)

23rd May 1890

26th January 1900

The next recorded occupant was a Miss Mary Sankey, who was originally from Shropshire, but had been in Hoole in 1901. She was another Milliner, she was first mentioned in April 1908, but the business was transferred about a year later to Lucy Mary Lloyd, presumably because of the ill health Mary Sankey. Mary Sankey died at

No 25 on 19th April 1910, and about a month later her mother sold off the household goods from No 25 and moved away. In January 1911 Lucy Mary Lloyd married Thomas Chubb of Springfield and at the time of the 1911 Census the property was unoccupied.

**SALE! SALE!
SALE!**

D. & J. ROGERS

Beg to call the attention of the public to their GREAT

**CLEARANCE SALE
Of DRAPERY**
AT THE
*Central Buildings,
Castle Street.*

AN INSPECTION IS RESPECTFULLY
SOLICITED.

Sale Commences SATURDAY,
JAN. 27th and will Continue
for 14 days.

1891 Census

25

Edward Roberts	Head	M 27(1864)	Draper	Caerwys
Sarah E Roberts	Wife	M 27(1864)		Llangollen
Wynne L Roberts	Son	S 1(1890)		Llangollen
Sarah Roberts	Serv	S 14(1877)	Gen serv dom	Llantysilio

14th October 1898

Mrs. S. E. ROBERTS
(Late of Central Buildings),
CAMBRIAN HOUSE, 40, BERWYN STREET,
LLANGOLLEN,

BEGS to thank her numerous customers for their kind patronage, and begs to state that she still carries on the Millinery Business at the above address. She has a large variety of Choice Selected Goods always in stock.

2nd April 1909

MILLINERY & FANCIES.

L. M. LLOYD,

HAVING taken over the Business formerly carried on by Miss SANKEY, 25, CASTLE STREET, hopes, by personal prompt attention, to be favoured with a share of the public patronage.
(19263)

3rd April 1908

MISS SANKEY
IS NOW SHOWING ALL
THE LATEST STYLES
IN
SPRING MILLINERY

25, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN.
(18173)

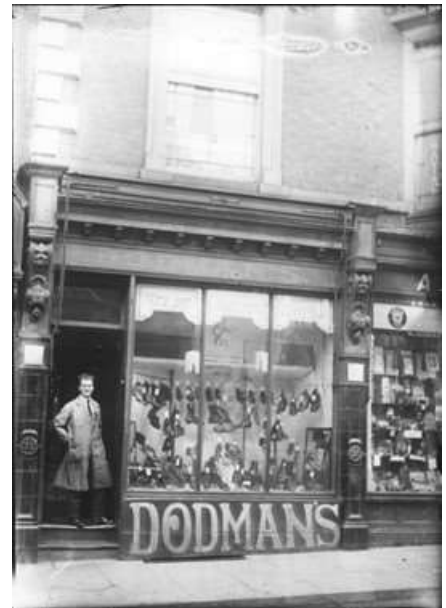
22nd April 1910

DEATHS. April 19th, aged 44, at Central Buildings, 25, Castle street, Llangollen, Miss M. Sankey, milliner.

27th May 1910

On THURSDAY, JUNE 2nd, at 1 30,
I MPORTANT SALE of HOUSEHOLD
FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, at
25, CASTLE ST., Llangollen,
By order of Mrs. Sankey (who is leaving the neighbourhood. Full particulars in posters.

NOTE.—The Auctioneers have other Sales in course of arrangement, and will esteem it a kindness if Vendors intending to favour them with their Sales will do so early to secure convenient dates.



1920's

During the 1920's and 30's No 25 was a boot & shoe shop run by Albert J Dodman.

May 2007

Older residents will remember the main exhibit in Dodman's window— a man's boot stood in a tray of water, but no one could see inside the boot. Was it wet inside the boot? I do not know for that is a trade secret!

Albert James Dodman had been born in Woolwich in 1899, but his father had later set up as bootmaker in Wrexham. Albert later returned to Wrexham by 1936, and the business became Pugh's Boot Stores. During WW2 the upstairs accommodation was used by the Llangollen Fire Watch. During the 1950's both 25 and 27 were linked, and called A J Price, (Arthur James Price, hairdresser, etc. had in fact died in 1933)

1939 Register. No 25

1 Arthur Pugh	21-Mar-1904	M	Boot Shoe Dealer Master Repairer
2 Harriet A Pugh	26 Jun 1899	M	Household Duties
3. Gwenda Pugh later Jones	26-Jun-1929	S	At School



ASTRID
HAIRSTYLIST
and
INTERNATIONAL GIFT SHOP
WE HAVE A CONSTANTLY CHANGING
SELECTION OF ARTISTIC GIFTS THAT
DELIGHT, GATHERED FROM ALL CORNERS
OF THE WORLD
OUR RANGE OF THE LATEST DESIGN
HANDBAGS, LIGHT TRAVEL GOODS, AND
COSTUME JEWELLERY INCLUDES MANY
CONTINENTAL ITEMS
OUR RANGE OF WOODWARE GIFTS IS
THE LARGEST IN THE AREA
We specialise in the unusual and you may be sure
there is always something new for the discerning
purchaser at
25 CASTLE STREET
TEL. LLANGOLLEN 3351

In 1959 Central Buildings were bought by Norman and Daphne Horpool from No 15. No 27 was leased to John Arthur Lea and his wife Dorothy, Robert Llewelyn (Llew) Evans, a barber was upstairs in No 27, but retired shortly afterwards. No 25 was run as a gift shop and hairdressers, by Gerald and Astrid Parry, and called 'Astrid's'. In 1963/64 No 25 Dorothy Lea, ran No 25 until her death in 1987. It continued in the Lea family traded as Bit 'n' Bobs but also sold the products of Uncle Peter's Fudge Shop (Peter Tofalos), until 2014. It now operates as a Munchies, a Pizza Burger Kebab House.





No 27

After Edward Roberts had moved to Fron Hyfrydd he was replaced at No 27 by another butcher, Thomas Rogers. Thomas had been a butcher in Chapel Street in 1871, and traded in Berwyn Street before moving to No 27 around 1883.

Thomas Rogers died in August 1900.
(see No 18 for obituary)

Circa 1901

1891 Census 27

Thomas Rogers	Head	M	51(1840)	Butcher & Cattle dealer	Llangollen
Catherine Rogers	Wife	M	51(1840)		Llangollen
Richard Rogers	Son	S	25(1866)	Butcher's Assistant	Llangollen
Sarah J Rogers	Dau	S	22(1869)	assisting in house	Llangollen
Charles Rogers	Son	S	20(1871)	Butcher's Assistant	Llangollen
Thomas Rogers	Son	S	19(1872)	Butcher's Assistant	Llangollen
David Rogers	Son	S	15(1876)	Draper's assistant	Llangollen
John Rogers	Son	S	13(1878)	Scholar	Llangollen
William Rogers	Son	S	9(1882)	Scholar	Llangollen

26th December 1890

Mr. Rogers, Central Buildings, whose extensive and still-growing trade seems to have far out-grown the limited dimensions of his establishment in Castle-street, had, however, endeavoured his utmost to exhibit his stock to his customers, by packing every available space of his shop with a splendid collection of meat, specially adapted to this season of the year. In beef, Mr. Rogers fairly excelled himself on many previous similar occasions with a magnificent prime 4-year-old heifer, bred and fed by J. D. Owen, Esq., of Plas-yn-Grove, Ellesmere. This splendid beast had gained several distinctions as prize winner at various agricultural shows in Shropshire, and closed its successful career by gaining the first prize in Messrs. Whitfield and Son's Xmas sale of fat stock in the Oswestry market. Its live weight was 15 cwt. 1 qr. In addition to this, Mr. Rogers had a fine cross-bred 4-year-old heifer, bred and fed by Mr. Samuel Williams, Middleton, near Oswestry, and also a very choice heifer, bred and fed by Major Tottenham specially for the Llangollen Christmas market. In mutton this show comprised the usual very large and choice display of carefully-selected Welsh wethers, purchased from the leading and well-known breeders and feeders of this and the surrounding districts, among whom we may mention Messrs. Charles Buckley, Cefn, Llanrhaiadr Jones, Henfache, Llanrhaiadr R. Jones, Ochor Michael Thomas, Bryneglwyys; Thos. Edwards, Hendreforfydd, Bryneglwyys; Pierce, Fron-goch, Llanrhaiadr, &c. A monster pig of unusually large size, home-fed, was also exhibited, as well as a large supply of geese, turkeys, pheasants, hares, &c.

18th December 1903

CHRISTMAS BEEF.

MESSRS. ROGERS' RIGHT ROYAL SHOW.

Those who failed to take advantage of Messrs' Rogers' hospitable offer to all comers to view the Royal steer which Councillor Edward secured for the firm at the Smithfield Show, missed seeing one of the most attractive and high-class animals ever exhibited in Llangollen. However, there are compensations in all things and those who had not the advantage of a view of the Royal beef on all fours will have an opportunity of inspecting it under what some consider equally favourable conditions at the premises of the noted meat purveyors in Castle-street. Whilst the produce of the Royal animal naturally takes precedence in Messrs. Rogers' splendid Christmas Show it does not obscure the attractions of scarcely less highly-descended beef. The steer from Norwich has cut up splendidly. One authority who viewed it pertinently remarked that it would have been quite possible to have played a game of billiards on its back and certainly, as a postmortem examination demonstrates, there is no lack of cushions of the soft and succulent order. Wherever Councillor Edward got his cue from when he steered for Norwich he certainly made a capital stroke by "shopping" the winner at the noted Norfolk Exhibition. The two animals alluded to supply the outstanding features of the Christmas Show but they are backed up by a striking array of lesser weights "butchered to make Llangollen's Christmas gay." Champions from the Vale of Clwyd, the pick of the products of noted breeders in Denbighshire, including grand animals from Frank Lloyd's sale at Wrexham, and some of the "best things" offered at Oswestry market, are amongst the items. Mutton is also well to the fore in fact Messrs. Rogers claim that they have secured the grandest collection of Welsh wethers in the Principality. They have been purchased from vendors who know how mutton should be fed for the market; and excellent judgment has been displayed in their selection. Then there is pork - but why continue the enumeration? The Central Buildings, in Castle-street, may be readily reached by the majority of our readers; and we should advise one and all to go early and avoid the rush anticipated during the next few days

Following the death of Thomas Rogers the family maintained the business, but most of his surviving sons had their own businesses, and it is likely that his daughter Sarah Jane Rogers ended up running the business. Not very successfully, since in 1909 the premises were put up for sale since there had been a default on the mortgage.

13th November 1908

The plans for a new slaughter-house submitted at the monthly meeting of the Urban Council, and approved by the members, were prepared for Mrs. Hannah Rogers, who is conducting a very successful butcher's business in Market-street, and not for Miss Sarah Rogers, of Central Buildings, as erroneously stated in our report.

UNDER A BILL OF SALE—*Re S. J. ROGERS.*

**27, CASTLE ST. & OAK ST.,
LLANGOLLEN.**

WEDNESDAY NEXT, FEB. 24th, 1909.

ASTON & SON, Limited, have received instructions to Sell by Auction, on the premises as above (entirely without reserve), the

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE & EFFECTS,

Comprising Mahogany Roll-top Desk, Mahogany Dining Table with Extending Screw. Painted Dresser with Drawers and Glazed Bookcase above, Sofa in American Cloth Spanish Mahogany Bookcase with Glazed Doors, Whatnot, Capital Pianoforte in Rosewood Case (by Charles Cadby), Easy Chairs, Walnut Low Table, Ebonised and Gilt Overmantle, Two Mahogany Overmantles, Brass Curb and Fire Brasses, Mahogany Bedstead, All Brass Bedsteads, Mahogany Wardrobes, Chests of Drawers, Satin Walnut Bedroom Suite, Oak Linen Chest, Brass Candlesticks, Antique China, and usual Household Effects. Also, a Useful

BAY HORSE,

16 hands high, Set of Silver-plated Harness, Capital Dog Cart with Rubber Tyres, Sausage Machine.

SALE AT ONE O'CLOCK PROMPT.

Further particulars from the Auctioneers, Regent Street, Wrexham.

UNDER DISTRESS FOR RENT.

On Tuesday Next, Feb. 23rd, at 10-30,

SALE of Butcher's Block, Tiled-top Side Table, Fire-proof Safe, Steelyards, &c., at the
CENTRAL BUILDINGS,
LLANGOLLEN.

JONES & SON, Auctioneers.

19th Feb 1909

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES,
TOWN OF LLANGOLLEN.
VALUABLE FREEHOLD BUSINESS
PREMISES,
AGRICULTURAL AND BUILDING LAND,
HOUSES AND COTTAGES.

To be SOLD BY AUCTION by
MESSRS. JONES & SON, at the **ROYAL**
HOTEL, LLANGOLLEN,

On TUESDAY, JULY 6th, 1909

(Subject to Conditions to be then Produced),
 AT 3 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON,
 The undermentioned Freehold Properties, viz:—

LOT 1.—All that Freehold Block of Property known
as CENTRAL BUILDINGS, LLANGOLLEN,

Comprising BUTCHER'S SHOP and HOUSE, now or lately occupied by Miss Rogers; DRAPER'S SHOP AND HOUSE, Castle Street, Llangollen, occupied by Miss Lloyd, at an annual rental of £30. TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Oak Street, Llangollen, occupied by Mr. E. Green Davies, at an annual rental of £26; together with a PIECE OF LAND at the rear of the foregoing properties; the tenants pay rates and taxes.

All the above, situated in the best position in the Town, form one of the most valuable properties in the Town and one of the best investments in Llangollen.

25th June 1909

It is not clear whether the sale went through, but from May 1909 Jones & Sons, auctioneers were using Central buildings as their offices, both as auctioneers and estate agents.

6th May 1910

Messrs. Jones & Son will hold a special Whitsuntide Sale in the Smithfield, on Tuesday next, which promises to be a grand success. Entries of beef and lamb are specially invited, and farmers should bear this in mind. On Thursday next they will hold their great May Horse Sales in the Wrexham Horse Repository, when a splendid lot of animals will come under the hammer. On Friday, an important sale of household furniture, etc., at the Pantechniou, Llangollen. The Auctioneers also desire to inform their numerous supporters that they have removed their offices from Chapel-street to Central Buildings, Castle-street. Entrance opposite the Central Stores.

Arthur James Price was a hairdresser, born in Neath, but had been living in Llangollen since at least 1902. In 1911 he was living Geufron, but it is possible he had a hairdressing business in Castle St, but by 1913 there are references to him here, and by 1914 there are also references to him as a stationer. It is believed that the stationary business was downstairs and the hairdressing upstairs, he later branched out into newspapers and tobacco as well.

LADIES' & GENT'S
Hairdressing.

PRICE'S

Ladies' HAIRDRESSING SALOON

provides the highest class of
 service in Shingling, Artistic
 Marcel, Water Waving,
 Shampooing, and Beauty
 Treatments.

A. J. PRICE,

CENTRAL BUILDINGS,
Castle Street, Llangollen





Arthur Price became a prominent member of the Llangollen community. When he died in 1933 his wife moved to Chester, but died in Llangollen in 1939. The business continued under the same name, but managed by Robert Llewelyn ('Boyo') Hughes from No. 37. In the 1950's A.J. Price was described as Jewellery, Newsagent, Pottery and Dolls Shop. In December 1959 Norman and Daphne Horspool bought Central Buildings leasing No 27 to John Arthur Lea and his wife Dorothy, following the death of John in 1993 son Nigel took over, still as a newsagents, but hopes to retire shortly.

WELSH COSTUME DOLLS

Beautifully made, almost indestructible dolls, four sizes. Posted to all parts of the World.

**Hand Thrown Pottery
our own Souvenir Designs**

**A. J. PRICE, Doll People
25-27 Castle St., Llangollen**

1956

13th January 1933

OBITUARY

DEATH OF MR A J PRICE

The sad news of the death of Mr A J Price, which occurred at the Southern Hospital, Liverpool, at which institution he had been laid up for some weeks undergoing an operation, was received in Llangollen on Wednesday night, and cast a gloom over the whole town and neighbourhood. Mr Price, who was 51 years of age, was a native of

Neath, South Wales, and had been in business at Llangollen for many years, and was recognised as one of the best business men in North Wales. The success of the town was one of his chief ambitions; and in every movement that had as its object the uplifting of the town he was the "live wire". As a member of the Urban District Council on which body he sat for 15 years, he was the only councillor who had ever been re-elected to the chair, and at the last election headed the poll with a large majority. He was the founder of the old Llangollen Advertising Committee, and through his efforts the Riverside Park became an accomplished fact. When the suggestion of the Denbighshire County Council a few months ago was put forward that Llangollen should be de-urbanised Mr Price started a campaign against it, and carried it through successfully. He gave his services wholeheartedly to the town. He also served as chairman and member of the County School Governors, and on the management committee of the Llangollen Cottage Hospital. He was appointed chairman of the

executive committee of the Powys Eisteddfod held at Llangollen last year. As a sportsman he gave the Town's football and cricket clubs his wholehearted support. As chairman of the Council, he on several occasions sat on the Magistrates bench. The poor and others in the town who sought his assistance were never turned away empty-handed. Mr Price's death will be keenly felt in Llangollen. He is survived by his wife, one son (Dr Harold Price), two brothers, and a cousin (Matron Price, of the Llangollen Cottage Hospital) to whom the greatest sympathy is extended. The funeral takes place on Sunday afternoon. A service will be held at the Parish Church at 2.30, the interment taking place at the St John's Cemetery.



Property:

Leasehold

Location:

Occupying a prime corner plot position within a busy North Wales tourist destination. The Business experiences high footfall particularly in the summer months. Llangollen has become extremely popular in recent years and is home to a steam railway, a famous canal, as well as the Eisteddfod and the picturesque River Dee. The area is popular with day visitors and those pursuing leisure and outward bounds facilities guaranteeing brisk trade.

Premises Details:

BUSINESS HISTORY

We understand that the Business has been established since the 1950's and is for sale due to our clients' wish to retire.

BUSINESS PROFILE

A busy Newsagents selling the usual confectionary, cigarettes, newsprint, stationery and gifts. There is a real opportunity here to expand fully into the card and gift retail sector given the popular location of trade.

FINANCIAL PROFILE

The Business shows steady turnover on short hours. Full accounts are available subject to the signing of a Confidentiality Agreement.

ACCOMMODATION

A corner plot position retail unit with full height display windows.

The main trading area covers 27'10" x 11'8" (300 sq ft approx) with point of sale encompassing cards, gifts, sweets, confectionary, drinks, newsprint, stationery and cigarettes.

There is also a large storage cellar to the lower ground floor.

Upstairs there is a bathroom and store room 17'2" x 12'

Store room two 14'5" x 11'2"

Store room three 12'5" x 11'10"

Agent's Note

The upper floors could be used as a flat subject to the usual consents.

TENURE

The property is held leasehold with passing rent payable of £6,500 per annum on a residual three year renewable lease.

STAFF

Staff details can be made available upon request.

FIXTURES AND FITTINGS

A schedule of fixtures and fittings will be provided in the form of an inventory subject to contract.

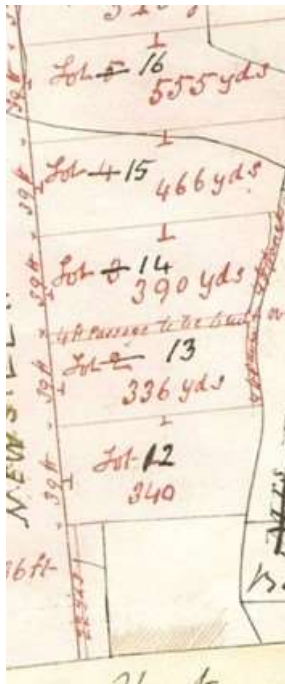
STOCK

Stock is available to purchase on valuation at completion.

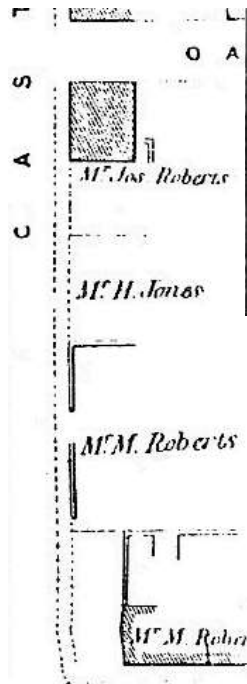
VIEWING

Viewing is strictly by appointment through the Sole Selling Agents Hart & Co. Under no circumstances must a direct approach be made to our clients or staff concerning any of the details contained herein.

29 Castle Street



1858 Sale Map



18620map

To Builders and Contractors.

TENDERS are invited for the ALTERATION OF A SHOP IN CASTLE STREET.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the house of Mr. John Rowlands, Chapel Street, Llangollen, on Tuesday, April 8th. Sealed tenders to be sent in on or before April 19th, to the foregoing address. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. (1398)

4th April 1884

The first building on this site was a workshop built by Joseph Roberts in 1859, he later built a dwelling house and shop in 1860, with a mortgage of £200 from Edward Roberts, butcher. The earliest recorded occupant was Thomas Jones of Denbigh, a draper, and his wife Sarah (nee Edwards). Sarah's father Richard Edwards was farming at Llandyn Hall, so the shop was called Llandyn House.

In 1882 the family moved to a new house in Bridge St, and took the name with them. From 1884, after some



John Rowlands

modification, (a

'pobty' was built behind Until 1960's, there remained in Oak Street at roof level, a contraption for raising goods up to a store-room where flour, agricultural seeds and sugar were housed. On ground level, a passage led up to the bakehouse and a small railway carried a truck on which goods were transported to the bakehouse in one direction and also cheeses, barrels of tub butter, barrels of syrup, sides of bacon hams, etc. were delivered to a side door of the shop by way of



the other half of the railway which was at right-angles to the bakehouse half. The new owner was John Rowlands, Grocer, from Llandrillo. He had opened his first shop in 1863 in Hall St, he later moved to Chapel St before coming here. The shop was known as the North Wales Grocer, but more usually as Central Stores Supply Stores.

On 4th May 1908 John Rowlands died and an employee Evan Henry Lloyd, who had been clerk, took over although it still traded as John Rowlands, or Central Stores. Evan Henry Lloyd ran the shop until around 1930, when he retired to live with his brother at Maesllyn Farm, Llantysilio – where he died in 1939.

During WW1 ten members of staff were called up, of whom 5 died and one was a POW. Amongst those who volunteered (with date of notice in paper) were:-

14th September 1914

E Jones Ellis North Wales (Llangollen) Pals Brigade

Willie Roberts North Wales (Llangollen) Pals Brigade

18 September 1914

John Ellis Jones North Wales (Llangollen) Pals Brigade

23th October 1914

Griff Davies, King's Own, Liverpool,

19th Feb 1915

Griffith Thomas Jones, Grenadier Guards

21st May 1915

Moses J Roberts, Montgomery Yeomanry,

28th May 1915

Edward Jones, Montgomery Yeomanry,



Amongst those who died were:-

William Lloyd

and

William Owen Jones



In 1939, under Robert Jones Pughe, they were looking forward to still

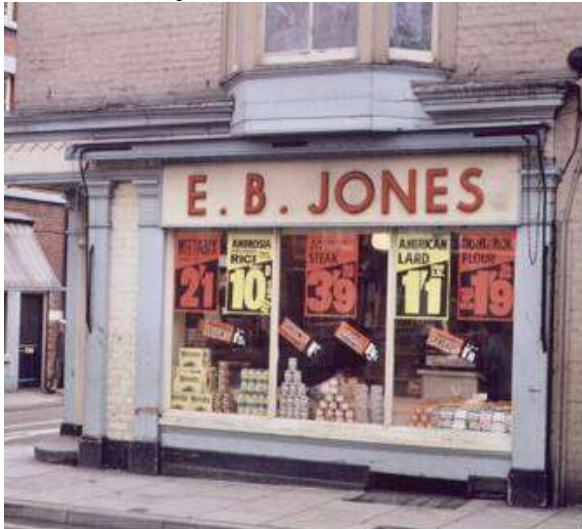


1950's

being in business in 2000. By 1957s it had become E.B. Jones, managed by S Pounder. However, by the 1970's it had become a Fish Bar and Restaurant, Initially it was J&C Burnett's Spinnaker Restaurant, expanding to take in No 29a. In 2010 it changed management, it was



called SeeJays, later Dee Corner and is now Nemo.



Fish Bar and Restaurant



J. & C. Burnett
Centre of Town,
Castle Street,
Llangollen.

With a unique
interior decor

Parties
catered for

Children's portions and high chairs available

****OPEN 11a.m. until 10p.m. All Summer****

Telephone: Llangollen STD (0978) 860462



1871 Census

Thomas Jones	Head	M	33(1838)	Draper	Denbigh
Sarah Jones	Wife	M	34(1837)	Draper's wife	Llangollen
Sarah Jane Jones	Dau	S	10(1861)	Scholar	Llangollen
Harriett Ellen Jones	Dau	S	4(1867)	Scholar	Llangollen

Richard Enest Jones	Son	S 2(1869)		Llangollen
Emily Davies	Serv	S 18(1853)	Dressmaker	Llanrhaider
Catharine Jones	Serv	S 24(1847)	Servant Dom	Llanyn Bala
Sarah Jones	Serv	S 14(1857)	Servant Dom	Llangollen
Joseph Cadesalade Thomas	Serv	S 20(1851)	Drapers Ass	Llangollen
William Charles Dodd	Serv	S 14(1857)	Draper's App	Llangollen

1881 Census

Sarah Jones	Head	M 47(1834)	Draper's Wife	Llangollen
Sarah Jane Jones	Dau	S 20(1861)	General Servant	Llangollen
Harriet Ellen Jones	Dau	S 14(1867)	Draper's Apprentice	Llangollen
Richard Ernest Jones	Son	S 12(1869)	Scholar	Llangollen
Mary Myfanwy Jones	Dau	S 7(1874)	Scholar	Llangollen
Annie Gwladys Jones	Dau	S 3(1878)	(Infant))	Llangollen
Joseph Davies	Serv	S 22(1859)	Draper's Assistant	Llangynhafal
Lemuel Jones	Serv	S 16(1865)	Draper's Apprentice	Llantysilio
Hannah Powell	Serv	S 16(1865)	Domestic Servant	Ruabon

1891 Census

John Rowlands	Head	M 48(1843)	Grocer	Llandrillo
Elleanor Rowlands	Wife	M 40(1851)		Llansanffraid
Mary G Rowlands	Dau	S 10(1881)	Scholar	Llangollen
Sarah C Rowlands	Dau	S 4(1887)		Llangollen
Deborah J Rowlands	Dau	S 7m(1890)		Llangollen
David Griffiths	Serv	S 29(1862)	Grocer's Assistant	Llangurig
Thomas Roberts	Serv	S 36(1855)	Grocer's Assistant	Llandegla
Evan Henry Lloyd	Serv	S 23(1868)	Grocer's Clerk	Llandrillo
John Hopwood	Appren	S 18(1873)	Grocer's Apprentice	Mold
Margaret Pugh	Serv	S 21(1870)	Gen Serv	Llanelltyd
Catherine E Davies	Serv	S 15(1876)	Gen nurse	Llandderfel

1901 Census

John Rowlands	Head	M 58(1843)	Grocer	Llandrillo
Eleanor Rowlands	Wife	M 50(1851)		Llansanffraid
Florence A Rowlands	Dau	S 23(1878)		Llangollen
Sarah C Rowlands	Dau	S 14(1887)		Llangollen
Deborah J Rowlands	Dau	S 10(1891)		Llangollen
Margaret J Edwards	Serv	S 21(1880)	Gen serv dom	Glynceriog
Evan H Lloyd	Serv	S 33(1868)	Grocer's clerk	Llandrillo
Richard Savage	Serv	S 35(1866)	Grocer's carter	Glynceriog

8th May 1908

MR. JOHN ROWLANDS.

It is with great regret that we have, this week, to record the death of Mr. John Rowlands, of the Central Supply Stores, Llangollen, which sad event took place at Walton House, early on Monday morning. The deceased gentleman, who was in his 65th year, had been confined to his room for several months, and although, in his illness he passed safely through several acute crisis, and his friends had bright hopes of his ultimate recovery, he had a serious relapse on Sunday from which he never rallied, passing peacefully away, as stated, to meet his great reward. Mr.



Rowlands was born in Llandrillo, his parents being farmers in the neighbourhood of this Merionethshire village, and from thence they removed to Cefn Mawr whilst their family were very young. It was at Cefn that he commenced that system of self-education – for the deceased was almost entirely a self-taught man – which in after life, was to serve him in such good stead. From his youth upwards he displayed indications of that conscientiousness and thoroughness which were the outstanding characteristics of a singularly admirable and useful life. When, forty odd years ago, he came to Llangollen he came well equipped to make an effective start in the business to which, after one or two experiments in other directions – he spent several successful and happy years as an apprentice with the Rev. Benjamin Jones (C.M.), who was in a large way of business at Bagilit he decided to devote his best energies. He commenced in a

small way – a very small way compared with the extent to which his enterprise was ultimately destined to grow – in Hall-street and had established himself in the confidence of a large circle of customers and made a name upon which..... his business, before he migrated to more primitive premises in Chapel-street from whence he again moved, approaching a quarter of a century ago, to the Central Supply Stores, in Castle-street, where he built up a business to which there are few equals of its kind in North Wales. During these years Mr. Rowlands was in the nature of things a very busy man. He left nothing to chance, every step in advance was made under his own personal guidance and direction; and when one looks back upon what he achieved commercially a splendid memorial presents itself of the strength and efficiency of his business methods to achieve success even amid a more or less unpromising environment. Had Mr. Rowlands devoted his abilities and energies to the creation of a business amid surroundings where the opportunities are greater there is no reason to doubt that he might have become one of the nation's "Princes of Commerce." As it was he did well and nobly the thing nearest to his hand; and he leaves behind him a splendid record of good work accomplished to bear witness to the efficiency of his methods. Mr. Rowlands was vice president of the Llangollen Trader's Association and one of the most active members of the Llangollen Farmer's Association.

It has often been said that the busiest men, the men whose own affairs make the greatest demands upon their time and energies are, as a rule, the men who find opportunities to do most for the good of the community in which they reside. Unquestionably this was true of the deceased; and the amount of work – often done quietly and unostentatiously done – for the public good which he managed to accomplish since he came to Llangollen forty-five years ago might well provide an inspiration to those whom he leaves behind. It is as an educationalist that Mr. Rowlands will be chiefly remembered in Llangollen. It has been suggested that the difficulties he experienced in his own early training; in days when even a knowledge of the three Rs had to be sought for "Diligently and with tears," and when the rising generation had few of the facilities for increasing their knowledge which are brought within easy reach of the children of today inspired him in this direction. Whatever may have been the impelling forces behind his work, however, soon after he came to Llangollen he commenced to take an active part in Educational affairs. Turning up old reports of the British Schools, relating to those days, we find his name constantly occurring and always in connection with proposals of sound and sterling worth. Then, when the order of things changed and the School Board system came into existence, so far from his activity diminishing it found new and broadened outlets that he never failed to take full advantage of. His work on the School Board was excellent and admirable, and the result it achieved played an important part in

paving the way for the more complete development of the Elementary system that was to follow. It was in the natural order of things that when the local Managers of the Grouped Council Schools were appointed Mr. Rowlands should take an important position upon that body, whose Chairman he was at the time of his death; and it was just as much a matter of course that when the County Schools, in connection with the Welsh Intermediate System were established at Llangollen that he should take a deep and very practical interest in the project. His efforts in connection with the Courses of Lectures with which this town has been favoured by the Gilchrist Trust, the earnestness with which he advocated and the warmth with which he appreciated the Agricultural Lectures promoted by Bangor University, his ever alert and active interest in the preparations for the National Eisteddfod to be held in Llangollen in the Autumn – from the gatherings of which his figure will be keenly missed – are but suggestive of the deep and abounding interest which he took in matters relating to Education. Whilst, as we gathered from many conversations with the late Mr. Rowlands, he was a strong opponent of the introduction of denominational differences into the field of Education, he took a very “live” interest in the struggle that, in recent years, has been waged in an endeavour to remove what, to many minds, is an insuperable hindrance to the progress of the great cause. He could never approach the matter without expressing deep regret that, in the turmoil of the struggle between sects and parties, the interests of the children might suffer. He recognised, to the fullest extent that, in this matter, the child is the all important factor; and, in Mr. Rowlands, the children of Llangollen, in the highest and best sense, lose a firm and consistent friend.

His religious activities were many and varied and his influence for good, exercised in many ways and many directions, will be sadly missed. Whilst all causes and all churches must feel the effect of the loss when so able and trusted a standard bearer as Mr. Rowlands had proved himself passes hence to be no more seen it is, of course, the denomination with which he was most intimately connected that will feel it the most keenly. His work for Penllyn Mission, which has been a living centre of real good in the locality where it was created by the late Mr. Kenrick Jones, the late Mr. David Jones and Mr. Rowlands, has erected a lasting monument to his memory in this connection. He took the deepest interest in everything connected with the cause, and his energy and influence were always exerted to promote the real good and for the spiritual and temporal uplifting of his fellow men. No appeal for help made on behalf of the truly deserving ever found in him an unsympathetic listener. He was ever ready to respond and those who knew him best, and were most closely in touch with what may be called his “inner self,” know how much good he did by stealth and most fully appreciate the extent of the loss which the poor of the town have sustained by his death. It is a somewhat curious circumstance that the three men who took the foremost parts in starting the Penllyn Mission – viz. Mr. Kendrick Jones, Mr. David Jones and Mr. John Rowlands – should all have passed away in the month of May of successive years, and that a young and flourishing cause should have been called upon to suffer this succession of blows, the full severity of which time may serve to mitigate but the lasting effects of which no earthly influences can possibly obliterate. The late Mr. Rowlands occupied a prominent place and was very highly respected in connexional circles, and was frequently appointed as a delegate to visit churches in connection with the Flintshire Monthly Meeting. For many years he was Connexional County Treasurer for Flintshire, and on several occasions he represented the County Meeting in associations and assemblies and sat on several important committees in connection with the affairs of the denomination.

His home life was the model of all that home life should be. He was kind and considerate to all. He was twice married, his first wife being a daughter of the late Mr. John Owen, Bridge End, Llangollen; and his second wife a daughter of Mr. George Edwards of Carrog, by whom he had five daughters, all of whom are living. Upon an occasion so full of sadness those who, in life, were nearest and dearest to him have the deepest and most heartfelt sympathy of all who, having known Mr. Rowlands in life, recognise to the full the irreparable loss that they have sustained by his removal.

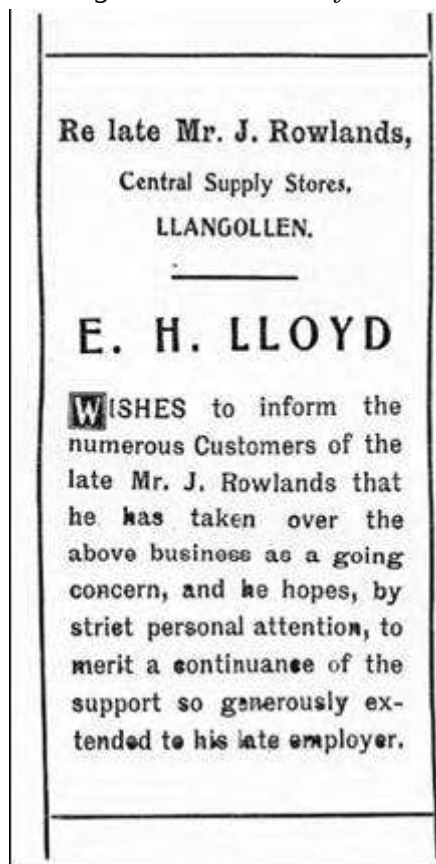
THE FUNERAL.



The funeral – one of the largest and most imposing that has ever been held in the locality – took place on Wednesday. A short service was conducted at Walton House by the Rev. W.G. Williams, pastor at Penllyn. At Penllyn Chapel the service was opened by the Rev. Clement Evans (Gwyddelwern) with devotional exercise, after which the Rev. W.G. Williams took charge of the meeting read a large number of letters of sympathy and condolence

received from those unable to attend the funeral, including communications from Mr. Herbert Roberts, M.P., Principal Ellis Edwards, Bala, and Rev. J. Owen, Mold, (chairman of the Flintshire Monthly Meeting). Mr. Ed. W. Jones, deacon at Penllyn spoke on behalf of Penllyn; Mr. R.E. Roberts, Meirion House, on behalf of Rehoboth Church; Rev. R. Jones-Williams for the Llangollen Churches; Rev. R. Jones (Rhos) for the Flintshire Monthly Meeting; Mr. W.G. Dodd, on behalf of the Education Authority (town and county); the Archdruid "Dyfed (who had journeyed specially from Cardiff to attend the funeral) and Mr. E. Foulkes-Jones (Chairman of the Executive of 1908 Eisteddfod) on behalf of the National Eisteddfod. Miss Maud Jones R.A. M., presided at the organ and played the "Dead March" in Saul at the close of the service. The funeral cortege, which was marshalled by Mr. E.M. Parry, of Messrs. Morris & Hughes (who most admirably carried out the funeral arrangements) was headed by the Rev. W.G. Williams, Rev. W. Foulkes and Rev. Clement Evans, and proceeded to the Vron Cemetery in the following order:- Representatives of the Flintshire Monthly Meeting, Deacons of Penllyn Church, Calvinistic Methodist Ministers, Governors of the Llangollen County Schools, Denbighshire Education Authority and Local Elementary Education Authorities, Representatives of the Eisteddfod of 1908, Representatives of Llangollen Traders' Association; Members of Mr. Rowlands's Sunday School Class, general public (men), and Members of the business staff at Central Stores, Children of the Council Schools and their teachers, the Hearse, four mourning coaches with the relatives of the deceased and the principal mourners who were:- Miss Lily Rowlands, Miss Florrie Rowlands, Miss Gertrude Rowlands, Miss Cordelia Rowlands and Miss Dora Rowlands (daughters), Mrs. David Roberts (sister), Mr. D. Roberts & daughter (Vron), Mr. John Rowlands, Manchester (nephew), Mr. D. Rowlands, Llanrhaiadr (cousin), Mr. J.C. Rowlands (nephew), Dr. Rowlands, Birmingham (nephew), Mrs. Evans, Tirllanerch (sister-in-law) Mr. and Mrs. Roberts and Son, Glyndyfrdwy (sister and brother-in-law), Mrs. Parry, Wrexham (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. David Edwards, Hafod, Elwy (brother-in-law) Mr. and Mrs. Alun Llud, Corwen (niece), Mr. W.E. Parry, Carrog, (nephew) Mr. D. Ll. Jones, Liverpool, (nephew), Mrs. Jones, Cynwyd, Mrs. Rees, Corwen, Miss Jarrett, Corwen, Mr. Evan Parry, Cerrigydruidion, Mr. R. Ll Hughes and Mrs. Hughes, Berwynfa, Mrs. Mitchell-Jones, Holyhead, etc. Then followed Dr. R. Drinkwater, medical adviser of the deceased, and representatives of the general public (female). Arrived at the cemetery, the coffin

was carried to its last resting place by eight bearers – Mr. Edward Thomas, Mr. John Hughes, Mr. David Davies, Mr. Robert Lloyd, Mr. John Ed. Jones, Mr. Edwin Hughes, Mr. Thomas Hughes and Mr. Hugh Evans – an address at the graveside being delivered by the Rev. W. Foulkes. The service, which was most impressive, concluded with a prayer by the Rev. Isfryn Williams (Rhos). Although there were “no flowers by request” wreaths were sent by the following:- The Employees,



Dr, Rowlands, Dr. R. Drinkwater, Mr. J.C. Rowlands, Mr. Philip Minshall, Mrs. And Miss Price, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones (London), Mr. and Mrs. Brassington, Master Albi Seed, Mrs. Webb, and Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, Moreton Hall. Funeral services in memory of the deceased will be held at Penllyn Chapel, by the Rev. W.G. Williams, on Sunday week.

18th December 1908

THE CENTRAL SUPPLY STORES.

In the capable hands of Mr. E.H. Lloyd, the present proprietor, these Stores, so long and so intimately associated with the name of the late Mr. John Rowlands, continue in favour with the public, and we are pleased to have the assurance that “business is booming” in all departments. The motto which the present proprietor states he has adopted is “The Best of Everything at the Lowest Prices.” No one can desire more than this, and no one who patronizes the Central Stores will receive less. The special selection of Christmas goods which are on show, have been chosen with the greatest care and, amongst the various proprietary articles in stock, one notes all those names which are “household word” in homes to which only the highest grade of provisions find entrance. Mr. John Rowlands made

a feature of English Pale and Smoked Bacon, Cheshire and Gorgonzola Cheese, Teas, Coffees, Cocoas, etc., and the quality and value which he supplied were unquestionably of the highest order. Mr. Lloyd is upholding the traditions of the firm in these departments it is of course, by the “good store” of necessary ingredients for providing the good cheer which at Christmastide, is customarily associated, with feasting and merrymaking, that the Central Stores are this particular season of the year rendered most attractive. Just as “a good wine needs no bush,” so Mr. Lloyd’s stock needs no laudation. “Step right in and sample it!” is our advice to buyers, and we hope it will be acted upon.

1911 Census 29 Castle Street Llangollen

Evan Henry Lloyd	Head	S 43(1868)	Grocer and Provision Dealer	Llandrillo
Mary Eliz Davies	Serv	S 16(1895)	Servant	Llandrillo
Margaret Eliz Lloyd	Sis	S 41(1870)	Housekeeper	Llandrillo
David Williams	Assis	S 21(1890)	Grocers Assistant	Liverpool
Robert Jones	Assis	S 27(1884)	Grocers Assistant	Blaenau Ffestiniog
Griff Davies	Assis	S 23(1888)	Bookkeeper	Bala
Ed Jones	Assis	S 18(1893)	Assistant	Glyndyfrdwy
Arthur Tegid Roberts	Baker	S 18(1893)	Baker	Bala
William Lloyd	Carter	S 19(1892)	Carter	Manchester
Ed James Ellis	Relat	S 15(1896)	At School	Manchester

1939 Register

Robert J Pughe	07 Jan 1886	M	General Manager Merchant Grocery Provision General
Gwladys Pughe	12 Mar 1894	M	Housewife Horne Duties

1st March 1973

JOHN ROWLANDS

John Rowlands was born of farming stock in Meirionnydd and trained as a provision and seed merchant in Flintshire. He visited Llangollen in 1863 on the day that the townspeople were celebrating the Royal Wedding of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra of Denmark.

He was looking for premises to set up in business and found them in Hall Street. He left there for Chapel Street not very long afterwards and later on bought the premises on the corner of Castle Street and Oak Street where Burnetts and Tom Harris's have now established businesses.

The name John Rowlands remained there for 100 years.

A 'pobty' was built behind Tom Harris's, Until recently, there remained in Oak Street at roof level, a contraption for raising goods up to a store-room where flour, agricultural seeds and sugar were housed. On ground level, a passage led up to the bakehouse and a small railway carried a truck on which goods were transported to the bakehouse in one direction and also cheeses, barrels of tub butter, barrels of syrup, sides of bacon hams, etc. were delivered to a side door of the shop by way of the other half of the railway which was at right-angles to the bakehouse half.

Whether public baking was done on the premises in my grandfather's time I do not know, but it may have been carried out later, after his demise in 1908. But in the Town, there were many baking houses. Some dealing with almost nothing else but bread. In the 1890's Ann Jones 'pobwreg' or 'pobreg' opened a bakehouse in Dee Lane, announcing that she did public baking daily. There was also a large bakehouse run by a man in Chapel Street and another 'pobreg' did public baking in Queen Street. Sometime about the beginning of this century, the late Mr. Andrew Jones, who had come to the town as a baker for my grandfather opened a successful bakery in Church Street. R. ROWLANDS HUGHES

29a Castle Street



1920's



1950's



1960's



1973



2010

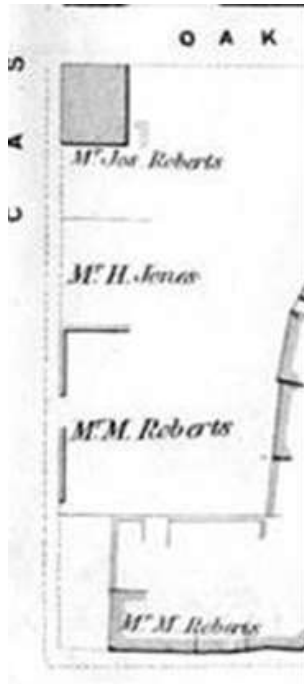


This is part of what was the first building on this site in 1860, owned by Joseph Roberts. The earliest evidence of a greengrocers on this site is the 1950's photograph. Prior to that it had appeared to be a residential property, although the rooms could have been let. It was still in business in the 1970's, but later became part of the Spinnaker restaurant, SeeJays, Dee to go and now Nemo

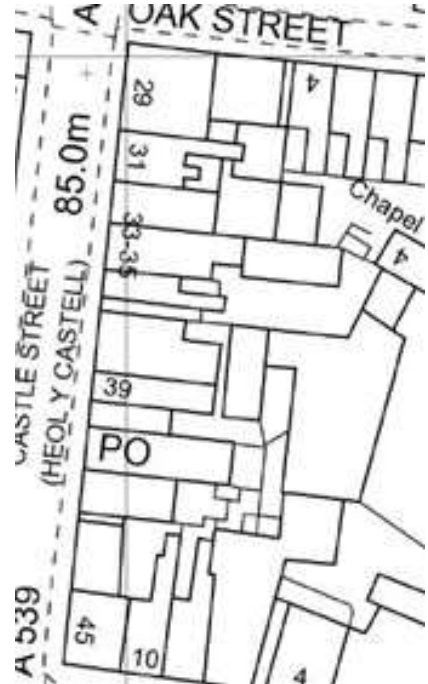
31 Castle Street



1858



1862



2001

This was shown as plot 15 on the 1858 sale document. The earliest occupant traced so far was Samuel Lloyd, his landlord in 1887 was John Rowlands, grocer. Samuel, a butcher, was the son of a Llantysilio farmer. He was here by December 1875. However, when his father Edward Lloyd retired he later became a farmer and butcher at Wern Isa.

31st December 1875

THE LATE CHRISTMAS SHOW OF MEAT.

We are extremely sorry that one of the best shows in the town was unintentionally left out from our list week, namely that of Mr. Samuel Lloyd, Castle- street.

1881

Samuel Lloyd

Head M 35(1846) Butcher

Birkenhead

Emma Lloyd

Wife M 27(1854) Butchers Wife

Oswestry



1908



1914



1950's



1960's

Lydia Catherine Lloyd Dau	S	3(1878)	Infant	Llangollen
Elizabeth Emily Lloyd Dau	S	2(1879)	Infant	Llangollen
Ethel Mary Lloyd Dau	S	7m(1880)	Infant	Llangollen
Elizabeth Thompson Vis	S	22(1859)		Liverpool
Frank W. Barnett Vis	M	29(1852)	Telegraphist	Shrewsbury
Maggie Barnett Vis	M	24(1857)	Telegraphists Wife	Madeira (B.S.)
John Jones Serv	W	66(1815)	Butcher	Oswestry
Catherine Jones Serv	S	17(1864)	Domestic Servant	Glyndyfrdwy

1887

Samuel Lloyd John Rowlands *House & Shop Castle Street*



Like several other businesses on Castle Street, he let out rooms regularly to a Dentist, in this Case to Cottam & Sons, on a Tuesday afternoon. By 1888 the occupant of No 31 was a Mrs Warren, who had moved to Leahurst on Abbey Road by 1890, in November the occupants were Dicks & Co bootmakers. However on 7th October 1969 there was reports of the 80th anniversary of the opening of the shop. Dicks had several shops all over North Wales at this time, and were owned by G & W Morton. The manager was Richard William Thomas, formerly a bootmaker from Llanrwst, but born in Dover. R W Thomas continued to manage the shop until his death in October 1957, and his second wife Margaret was running the shop in 1963. In the mid 1960's when she became unwell Harold Roberts, who had been a cobbler there since the 1920's, took over. In 1976 the shop finally closed.

1939 Register

Richard W Thomas	02 Dec 1870	M	Boot Shoe Merchant
Margaret E Thomas	30 Oct 1903	M	Domestic Duties Business
Audrey M Scott	13 Oct 1927	S	At School
Doreen C Lewis (Ross)	22 Oct 1927	S	At School

7th October, 1969

IN THE PRESS. The eightieth year of Dicks & Co. was marked by excellent photographs in last week's *Wrexham Leader*

MARCH 16th, 1976

DICKS' No need to repeat the sale advertisement in our last issue. The shop was veritably besieged with eager buyers from early Monday morning; all looking for bargains and all expressing regret at the closure of this long-established firm - the oldest business in Castle Street, dating from the 1890's. And all of us wondering where we can buy our boots and shoes, let alone get them repaired. And all admiring the way Mr. Harold Roberts has grappled with the difficult situation arising out of Mrs. Thomas's continued and much-regretted illness. Mr. Roberts has been at Dicks' ever since he left school and that is half a century ago.



6th April 1976

Our photo shows Mrs. Mary Bithell & Mr. Harold Roberts smiling gaily, albeit a sad occasion - the closure of Dicks at 31 Castle Street. The picture was taken two weeks ago, at great risk of life and limb in the middle of Castle Street by Miss S. Pugh Jones.

It was subsequently purchased by Mr. Evan Teifi Jones (previously No 17) and run as an Ice Cream Parlour and sweet shop. Later it was taken by the Cottage Bakery from Hall Street used the premises as an outlet for their products and as a Café until the retirement of the owners John (Scon) and Rowena Jones, in about 10th May 2007. The business was then taken over by The Village Bakery of Coedpoeth, but it is now Chatwins



May 2007

FAREWELL TO THE COTTAGE BAKERY



After a successful quarter of a century at the Cottage Bakery, Rowena and John (Scon) will shortly be retiring. We wish to thank all our loyal customers who have supported our business over the years. It has been a pleasure to serve you.

Thanks are also due to our conscientious staff who have worked for us during this time

Our final day of trading will be Thursday 10th May 2007 closing the shop at 3pm.

We are pleased to inform you that THE Vil.LAGE BAKERY of Coedpoeth, will be taking over the Castle Street shop.

They will be carrying out major refurbishments to the premises, creating a Coffee

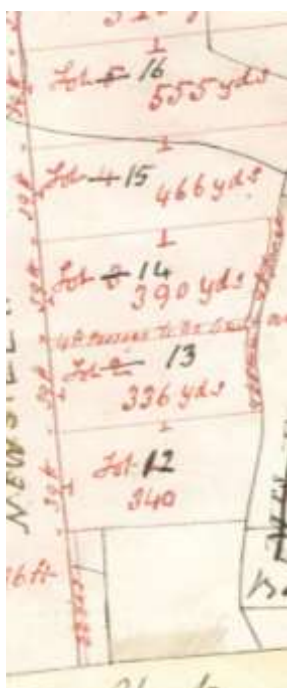
Shop, savouries and bread shop We hope that former and new customers will try their vast range of high class products.

Wishing every success to all the staff of the Village Bakery in their new venture.

John and Rowena Jones



33 Castle Street



1858

1858 Sale Plot 14 sold to Hugh Jones for £165..0..6

This building plot was sold to Hugh Jones, printer, for £165 in 1858,

"The Llangollen Advertiser and North Wales Journal," which had a very successful career, and was in existence for nearly 60 years, and after his death was carried on under the same firm until March 31st, 1916, when it was taken over by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall & Co., of Oswestry.

He died in 1880, and in 1882 his widow Ann had these buildings built with a facing of Bower's best pressed red brick, and the pillars, heads and cornices of the two bay windows of best hard close grained Cefn stone.

15th September 1882

New Buildings. – Plans of two new shops to be erected in Castle-street, by Mrs Hugh Jones, were approved of, subject to a slight alteration suggested by the surveyor in the supports of two bay windows

In June 1883 she moved in, with No. 35 leased out to Robert Francis. Anne was here until her death in 1899. She was succeeded by her eldest surviving son Thomas.

1887 Rates Register

252	Ann Jones	Ann Jones	House & Shop Castle Street
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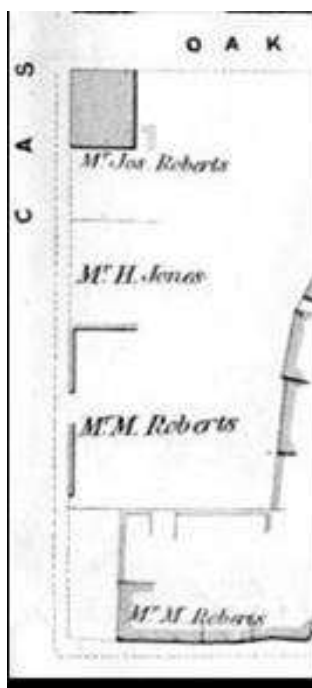
1891 Advertiser Office

Ann Jones	Head	W 69(1822)	Printer & bookseller	Llanrwst
John Jones	Son	S 45(1846)	Editor of Advertiser	Llangollen
Thomas Jones	Son	S 35(1856)	Printer	Llangollen
David Jones	Son	S 33(1858)	Bookseller & stationer	Llangollen
Benjamin Jones	Son	S 29(1862)	Draper	Llangollen

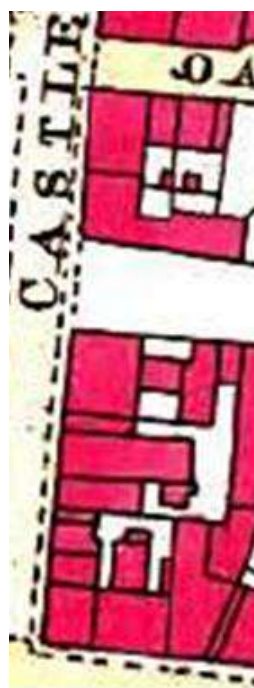
3rd November 1899

MRS. HUGH JONES, CASTLE STREET.

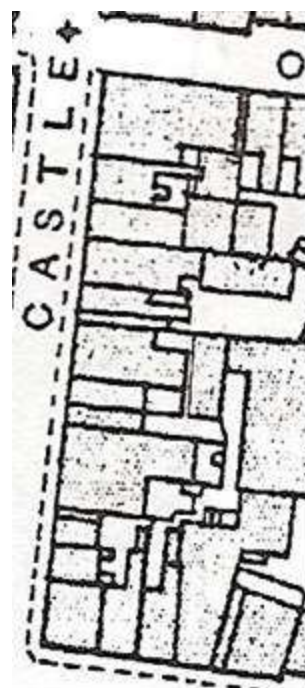
It is with deep regret we announce the death of the above esteemed lady, widow of the Rev. Hugh Jones, Calvinistic minister of this town, which took place at her residence in Castle-street, on Wednesday, her birthday anniversary, at the ripe age of 78, having survived her husband close upon 20 years. Mrs. Jones was born at Llanrwst, of a highly-respected family, and came to our town to



1862



1874



1912

reside 58 years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Jones, by dint of perseverance and integrity, built for themselves a large and prosperous bookselling, stationary, and printing business, and some 40 years ago they started the *Llangollen Advertiser*, which circulates largely in the district and adjoining counties. After the decease of Mr. Jones, she was assisted in the business by her sons. She took much interest in the *Advertiser*. Her anxiety about the issue of the paper found relief, when, in answer to her enquiries every Thursday evening, she would be told that the machinery was in motion and the paper in print. The first copy struck was invariably sent from the printing works to her. She manifested her concern about the publication of the paper up to the last issue. Mrs. Jones, until the later years, enjoyed remarkably good health, and bore her many trials and sorrows with exemplary fortitude and resignation. She possessed undoubted piety, and was well versed in scripture. She was of strong intellect and possessed good common sense. Being quiet and unostentatious, much of her goodness remained unseen, and many of her good deeds and kind acts will never be known. She was a faithful member of the Rehoboth Calvinistic Methodist Church, and for a period of over fifty years had charge of the infants' class in the Sunday school, and it is not too much to say that hundreds of children, now scattered over all parts of the world, received their first instruction and counsel at her hands. A daughter and four sons are left to mourn their loss. The funeral will take place on Saturday afternoon, at 3 p.m., at the Fron Cemetery.—COR.

10th November 1899

The funeral of Mrs. Jones, *Advertiser* Office, of this town, took place on Saturday, the 4th inst. At the residence of the deceased lady, the Rev. W. Foulkes, pastor of the church of which she was one of the oldest members, conducted the usual service of reading appropriate portions of Scripture and saying in prayer, and at the Fron Cemetery, the Rev. David Williams, Baptist minister, delivered an earnest and consoling address, and the Rev. T. B. Williams, B.D., Penllyn, engaged in prayer. In spite of unfavourable weather, a large number of friends, and many from long distances, came together, to testify to their deep respect for the deceased and her family, and the universal tokens of grief between the residence and the Fron testifies to the esteem in which she was held by her friends and acquaintances. At Rehoboth Church, on Wednesday evening, reference was made to the long connection which had existed between the deceased and her family and the cause, to her undoubted piety and her amiable qualities; and sympathy with the family in their bereavement and sorrow was expressed. One more link connecting the present with the past is broken, and in many respects the off-spring of the past generation was a noble race.

1901

Thomas Jones	Head	M 45(1856)	Printer & publisher	Llangollen
Mary Ellen Jones	Wife	M 31(1870)		Llantysilio
Hywel Berwyn Jones	Son	S 3(1898)		Llangollen

18th December 1908

HUGH JONES', CASTLE STREET.

For fancy goods of all descriptions, stationery of the best quality, and all those articles which are customarily stocked at an up-to-date Establishment of the kind, the "*Advertiser*" Stores continue to maintain the position long ago secured as, the premier establishment in Llangollen. Ladies' Dressing Cases, Gents' Dressing Cases, Ladies' Work Baskets, Ladies' Handbags, Wallets and Purses, Photo and other Frames, Calendars, Diaries and Almanacks, are a few of the chief lines in a stock that is amongst the most complete and well selected in North Wales.

At Christmastide what better or more appropriate gift is it possible to bestow than a good book; and the "*Advertiser*" Stores is the only place in town where facilities are presented for



making anything like a satisfactory selection of English and Welsh Books. The seasonable literature in stock includes all the Christmas Numbers and Magazines, whilst for Christmas and New Year Cards this Establishment should receive the first attention of intending purchasers, because here they can be best suited. There is yet time to have private greeting cards executed; and Hugh Jones' is the only Establishment in Llangollen where this work can be done up to the latest moment.

1914

1911 33 Castle Street, Advertiser Office

Thomas Jones	Head	M 55(1856)	Printer & Stationer	Llangollen
Mary Ellen Jones	Wife	M 44(1867)	Assistant in Business	Rhewl Llantysilio
Hywel Berwyn Jones	Son	S 13(1898)	School	Llangollen
Megan Olwen Jones	Dau	S 3(1908)		Llangollen

On March 31st 1916 the family ceased publishing the Llangollen Advertiser, which was taken over by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall & Co., of Oswestry, but the printing, bookselling and stationery business continued.

24th March 1916

Y "PAPUR LLAN"

[BY A FORMER REPORTER]

My earliest introduction to Papur Llan was when a copy came to our house on Thursday evenings. The copy was generally damp. I often held the damp sheet in front of the fire and a smell of print and printer's ink filled the kitchen. Mother said it was unhealthy, but I felt it was like drinking in something that came to one, a little lad, out of the world of great things. I know that "delightful" odour anywhere. But printers now do not damp the sheets before going to press.

The next stage was when I ventured to go to the office early on Thursday evenings for a copy. I was tolerated about the office, but I feel I must have been in the way. After the excitement of the last "forms" going to press I ventured to help in folding the paper.

A year or two later, soon after my father died, an advertisement appeared in the paper for an "Apprentice, as Reporter and Compositor." My mother made all the arrangements and I was taken on. I remember that first morning. At a few minutes to nine I left Bryndyffryn and went to business for the first time in my life. "Willie" Dodd met me opposite "The Sun" Inn, at the top of Church-street, and asked, "Are you coming to school, Alfred?" "Not just now, Willie," I said, for I was terribly afraid of owning up that I was really going to work.

At the office I got on well with "John," who was in charge, and equally well with "Owen," who was first mate. Owen helped me in my compositor's work and sympathised when my hands got all covered with blisters from "rolling," or got burnt up with the potash used for washing forms, or when blue ink nearly made me sick. What a lot of little things helped to make life for a young lad tolerable. Never be afraid of being kind to young folk. It really helps the world on.

My father had written again and again for Papur Llan. He was most painstaking. He wrote the memorial notice in reference to the death of Mr. Ebenezer Cooper. My brother, Mr. R. Foulkes



**Jones Family Tomb
at Fron Cemetery**

Griffiths, wrote scores of leaders and reports, and kept alive an active campaign on behalf of education.

It was a great event to me when I carried “proofs” of letters to Mr. Gregson Fell, or to that brave henchman of the people’s rights, Mr. John Thomas, The Foundry. Mr. John Thomas deserves a monument in the Recreation Ground for what he did for Llangollen. For Alas! Between the Railway Company and the Lord of the Manor, Llangollen boys were likely to be robbed of a recreation ground.

The cheapening of telegrams for the press caused the proprietor Mr. Hugh Jones (a gentleman who in every fibre and throb of his being was a Christian), to venture on special telegrams to arrive late Thursday evening. The first wires came to the Railway Station and I was deputed to go and see if any had arrived, and, with my apron tucked up, and feeling very important, I went. After a short time the message came. I received them, and ran from the station, over the bridge and up Castle-street, as if the whole of Llangollen was in my hands. The first telegram read as follows:- “Gladstone unwell. Granville has gout” (or words to that effect, as the police say) In the innocence of local journalism, we just put in the messages word for word as they were received. We had not been trained in the trick of amplification. Many a journalist of experience – “Hwfa Glyn” for instance – could have made two long, interesting and exciting paragraphs of the five words.

Mr. James Clarke and Einion Ddu from Tregeiriog were most acceptable and regular contributors, and Mr. Thomas Jones (“Taliesin o Eifion”), Gas Works, and Mr. Edward Rowlands, Booth’s Brewery, who also had a Bardic name – perhaps, Mr. Editor, you can supply it in a footnote – were rare but welcome contributors. I always marvelled at the wonderful precision of these poets in reference to punctuation. It seemed the awen of the englyn or poetry got into very indifferent prose when the “stops” were out or in as they ought to be.

For five years I was interested in producing Papur Llan, and, if agreeable to Mr. Editor, I will refer next week to some reports that may for memory’s sake be of interest to the present generation.

ALFRED P. GRIFFITHS

Thomas Jones died July 1928, his son Hywel had predeceased him in 1926 which left his daughter Megan Olwen Jones to take over the business. In 1938 she married Iorweth Glyn Roberts a market gardener. By 1944 he was a Lance Serjeant with the 4th Battalion. He was killed 27th September 1944 during the British advance into Holland, and is buried in grave I. E. 2., Cemetery: Valkenswaard War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands, a pine wood where most of the graves are of men who fell in the surrounding woods. In April 1946 Megan remarried to Reginald Francis Wrixon, from Hampshire.

20th July 1928

THE LATE MR. THOMAS JONES.

The sad news of the death of Mr. Thomas Jones, “Advertiser” Office, Llangollen, which took place at midday on Monday last, cast quite a gloom on the whole town. Although he had been in failing health for many years, and had not been able to attend to his business for some time, his death was quite sudden and unexpected by many. He was the fourth son of the late Rev. Hugh Jones and Mrs Ann Jones, his father being well known throughout North Wales as a local preacher in connection with the C.M. denomination. The late Rev. Hugh Jones, in the year 1838, established a very extensive business of printer, publisher and stationer in the town, and several books of note were turned out from time to time from his establishment. In addition, he was the founder and proprietor of the local newspaper “The Llangollen Advertiser and North Wales Journal,” which

had a very successful career, and was in existence for nearly 60 years, and after his death was carried on under the same firm until March 31st, 1916, when it was taken over by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall & Co., of Oswestry.

The late Mr. Thomas Jones, in his early days, completed his term of apprentice at the then well-known firm of grocers, Messrs. Griffiths, Castle Street, from where he removed to London, and was there for many years. On account of ill health, he returned to his native town, and entered the printing and stationery business which was then carried on by his brothers, Messrs John Jones and David Jones, and on the death of Mr David Jones, he took over the sole charge of the business. His wife, who predeceased him some nine years ago, was a native of Penygroes, Caernarvon. On the death of his only son, Mr Hywel Berwyn Jones, some two years ago, he had a seizure, from which he never fully recovered. In his early days Mr Thomas Jones was a keen vocalist, and one of the few who started the old Llangollen Choral Society, of which Mr W. Pencerdd Williams was then the conductor. Deceased had been a faithful member of the Rehoboth C.M. Church since his childhood. He leaves a daughter, Miss Megan Olwen Jones, a brother, Mr Benjamin Jones, Llandudno, and several other relatives to mourn their loss. The deepest sympathy is extended to Miss Megan Jones in her great sorrow. The funeral took place at the Fron Cemetery Llangollen on Thursday his mortal remains being laid to rest in the family burial ground.

The services at the house and graveside were conducted by the Revs J Elias Hughes, B.A., B.D., G. S. Griffiths, Samuel Owen, B.A., and J. Lewis.

The chief mourners were: Miss Megan Olwen Jones (daughter); Mrs Benjamin Jones, Llandudno, Miss Roberts, Rhewl (sisters-in-law); Rev E. Berwyn Roberts (brother-in-law); Mrs Francis, Miss Pollie Francis (nieces); Messrs Alfred Francis, Ewart Francis, Ben Francis, Llew Jones, Emrys Jones (nephews); Mrs Jones, New Inn, Glyndyfrdwy.

The following wreaths were received:- "Mewn hiraeth dwfn am Dada," oddiwrth Megan a'i nith (Pollie); "In affectionate remembrance," from his brother Ben and Family, Llandudno; "Deepest sympathy," from all at Llanberis and Caernarvon; "Deepest sympathy," from the Empolyees; "With deep sympathy," from all at Castle House.

1939 Register 33 Castle Street

Iorwerth G Roberts	10 Sep 1918	M	Market Gardener
Megan O Roberts (Wrixon)	17 Dec 1907	M	Stationer Fancy Goods Shopkeeper
Myfanwy Jones	10 Dec 1910	S	Domestic Duties



1935



1950's



1960's

13th October 1944

LLANGOLLEN

This week Llangollen mourns yet another of her sons. At the weekend news was received by Mrs. Glyn Roberts, Castle Street, that her husband, Sergt. I. Glyn Roberts, R.W.F., had been killed in action during September with the B.L.A. Sergt. G. Roberts who was the younger son of Mr J.Ellis Roberts Bryn Newydd, Vivod, Llangollen, was a market gardener before he joined the R.W.F. in 1939. He was educated at the Berwyn School and the Llangollen Council School, and was a faithful member of Eiranallt Chapel. We shall all miss his happy, genial disposition among us. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his widow, Mrs Glyn Roberts, and her father, brother and sister in their irreparable loss.

On 31st March 1973 Reginald and Megan retired,

3rd April 1973

THE ADVERTISER OFFICE. After three generations as newsagents and two of the three as publishers and printers, the really historic business of HUGH JONES & SON closed down on March 31st. Our readers will wish Mr & Mrs WRIXON a very happy retirement, together with their thanks for the kindness and courtesy to all customers. The friendly atmosphere of 33 Castle St will be greatly missed. With the Llangollen Advertiser established in the 1860's the firm played an important part in the public life of Llangollen.

6th July 1977

the building at the rear of 33 Castle Street, which from 1866 till 1946 was a printing works responsible for the Llangollen Advertiser and later the Llangollen Chronicle, has been transformed, quite suddenly, into an extension of Celtic Crafts, who have had the shop part of No.33 ever since Mrs.Wrixon retired from the newsagents business. It looks handsome and the Shell of the old building has been retained untouched.

In 2004 it became a branch of Seconds Ahead, which specialises in affordable clothing, the name changed in 2010 to Trade Secrets. In 2013 it became a branch of Edinburgh Woollen Mills.

November 2004

SECONDS AHEAD

One of the country's leading clothing retailers, Seconds Ahead is opening a new shop in Castle Street. Llangollen on October 28th. Established in 1987, the first Seconds Ahead shop was opened in Cardigan in 1987. The company now has almost fifty shops, and

employs over two hundred and fifty staff. Ninety five per cent of the stocks sold by Seconds Ahead are factory over makes, branded goods and garments sourced direct from suppliers. The extensive ranges of high quality, affordable family clothing represent excellent value for money resulting in the company developing loyal customer bases in all their current locations.



July 2013

We are delighted to welcome the Edinburgh Woollen Mill to Castle Street and wish them every success for the future

September 2013



THE EDINBURGH WOOLLEN MILL SHOP

In so many towns up and down the country a lot of shops have closed. Shops have also closed in Llangollen. But usually they do not stay closed for long! So it was with great excitement that we looked forward to the grand opening of the Edinburgh Woollen Mill shop on Castle Street. Lots of people turned up and a fully kilted Highland bagpiper ensured that this event was not going to go unnoticed. Our Town Mayor, Rob Lube, accompanied by his wife Margaret were on hand to cut the tape. And so they did. The new shop was open and all flooded in to view the wide range of goods on offer.

There were celebratory drinks and foodie goodies available. The manager, Rhian Roscoe and her staff welcomed all those who came and showed them what and why and where and how.

The Edinburgh Woollen Mill Company has lots of experience in setting up and running shops like this and managers and staff from other shops in the area all piled in to get this operation up and running. But also, shops round about offered lots of help in the

form of tea, coffee, cakes and the loan of all sorts of equipment to make everything come together. The staff extend their thanks to all who helped in the run up to opening day.

This is an important shop for Llangollen. It provides employment for eight local people and will utilise many local services in its operation. It will also be a tourist attraction. People will come to Llangollen because this shop is here.

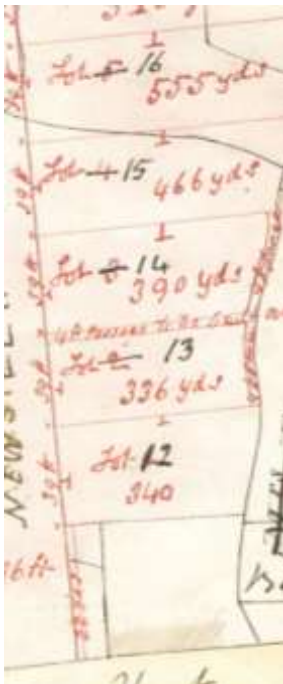
So! Expect promotional offers, (personally I fancy a half price Cashmere jumper)

There's a lot in this shop as well as clothes: serious toys such as Homby, Airfix and Scalextric as well as a whole section devoted to touristy stuff

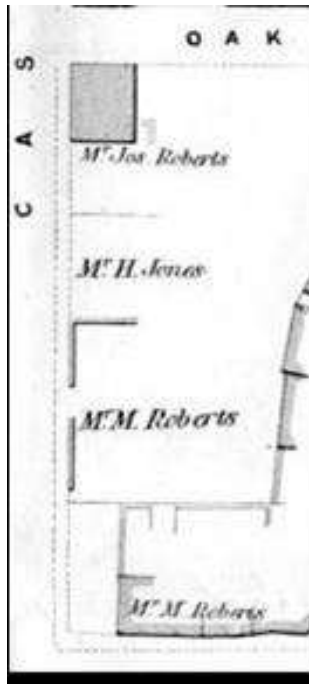
• Nowhere else in Llangollen sells such a range of Scottish shortbread!

Veda Williams

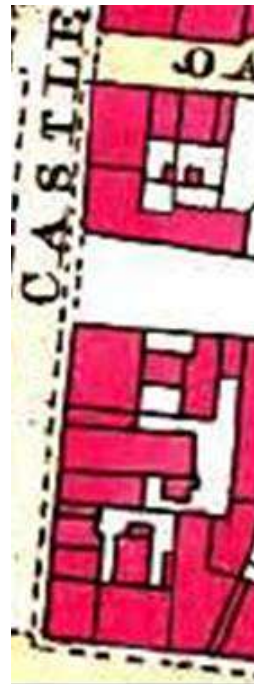
35 Castle Street



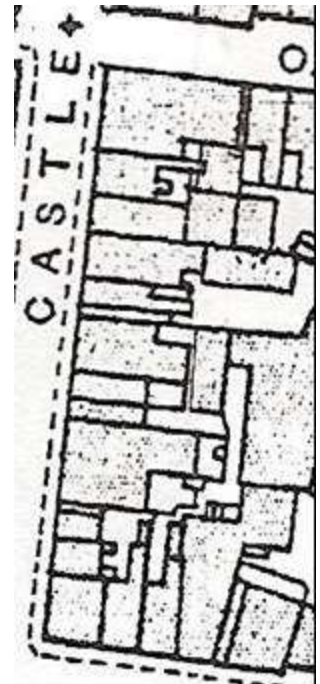
1858



1862



1874



1912

1858 Sale Plot 14 sold to Hugh Jones for £165..0..6



15th June 1883

This building plot was sold to Hugh Jones, printer, for £165 in 1858, but it was not until after his death, in 1880, that in 1882 his widow Ann had these buildings built. In 1883 she moved into No 33, and this building was let to Robert Francis, a grocer from Market Street.

1887 Rate Survey

Robert Francis

Ann Jones

House & Shop

1891

Robert Francis	Head	M	40(1851)	Male	Rhewl
Anne Francis	Wife	M	41(1850)	Female	Llangollen
Alfred P Francis	Son	S	11(1880)	Male	Rhwel
Hugh J Francis	Son	S	9(1882)	Male	Llangollen
John R Francis	Son	S	8(1883)	Male	Llangollen
Benjamin Francis	Son	S	6(1885)	Male	Llangollen
Annie M Francis	Dau	S	5(1886)	Female	Llangollen
Sydney G Francis	Neph	S	11(1880)	Male	Llangollen
John E Francis	Neph	S	9(1882)	Male	Llangollen
Sarah F Roberts	Niece	S	23(1868)	Female	Rhewl

1901

Ann Francis	Head	W 51(1850)	Llangollen
Hugh Jones Francis	Son	S 19(1882)	Stationer's assistant Llangollen
Benjamin Francis	Son	S 16(1885)	Llangollen
Annie M Francis	Dau	S 15(1886)	Llangollen

ROBERT FRANCIS,
FAMILY GROCER,
Plain and Fancy Baker,
CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.

Good Household Bread.
Pure Milk Wheatmeal Bread.
Barley and real Welsh Farm-house Bread fresh daily.
The celebrated French Muffin every Wednesday and Saturday.
The Noted Jenny Jones Cake.
Scones. Madeira Cakes. Meat Pies, &c, &c.

PUBLIC BAKING:—
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, AND FRIDAYS.

1890

11th June 1897

Robert Francis died on 26th April 1895. His family were still in residence in 1901, but in June 1897 the shop was let to William Charles Dodd, he was born in Llangollen the eldest son of

William Hartley Dodd, a commercial traveller for a cabinet maker. In 1901 William was still in Regent Street, but he had moved in by 1911.

35, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.
NEXT DOOR TO "ADVERTISER" OFFICE.

Hatter.
Hosier.
Glover.

Suits made to Order.

WILLIAM C. DODD.

Shirts,
Collars,
Ties.

Blouses,
Corsets,
Umbrellas.

WONDERFUL VALUE IN UMBRELLAS.

WILLIAM C. DODD,

Respectfully begs to inform the
Inhabitants of Llangollen and Neighbourhood
that he HAS OPENED the premises,

35, CASTLE STREET,
NEXT DOOR TO
"ADVERTISER" OFFICE,
LLANGOLLEN,

With a SELECTION of the
LATEST NOVELTIES
FOR THE
SPRING & SUMMER SEASONS,
CONSISTING OF
Hats, Shirts, Scarfs, &c.
Ladies' & Gentlemen's Gloves,
Hosiery and Umbrellas.

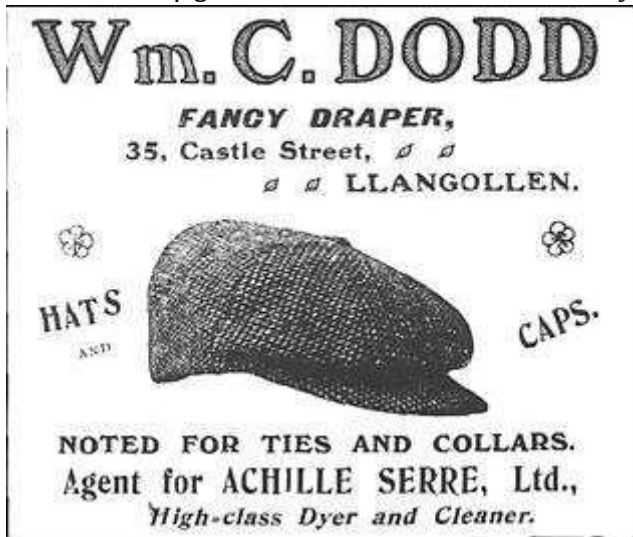
Your generous support is respectfully solicited.

20th December 1907

MR. WILLIAM C. DODD, 35, CASTLE-STREET

Mr. Dodd stocks precisely the class of articles that appeal to the Christmas buyer in search of a seasonable gift. His establishment is noted for ties and collars, hats and cap, and his stock of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Umbrellas is one of the most extensive in the district. These, of course, are only one or two lines; there are numerous others stocked in Mr. Dodd's well arranged business establishment that offer peculiar attractions to shoppers in quest of the right thing at the right price. Mr. Dodd purchases with singularly good taste, ha knows precisely the best sources of wholesale production to take advantage of, and this is the reason he is able to give his customers-such-

exceptional opportunities- These, he hopes, will be freely taken advantage of by townspeople and others during the present season, and we can assure all intending purchasers that from the varied assortment of goods which he has in stock they may rely upon being able to make a completely

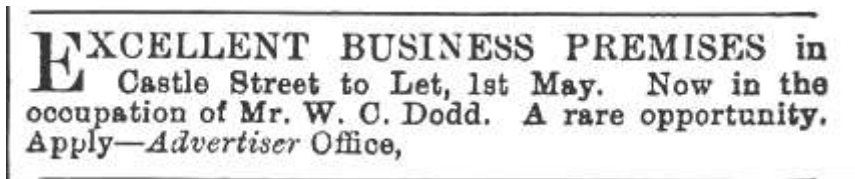


satisfactory selection

1911 35 Castle Street Llangollen

William Charles Dodd	Head	W 54(1857)	Draper
Jane Ellen Dodd	Dau	S 17(1894)	

Llangollen
Llangollen



8th May 1914



9th April 1915

In April 1915 Sarah Ann Roberts a Fancy Draper and her aunt Jane Evans moved to No 35 from No 21 took the name Castle House, formerly the name of No 21, although the blind still carried the name of W C Dodd. In March 1927 Sarah Ann Roberts married Robert Hartley Dodd, son of William Hartley Dodd, and brother of William Charles Dodd. A later occupant was Agnes Williams (nee Grisedale). Her husband, a timber merchant had died in 1921. In 1932 she and her daughters were living in 'Castle House'. In 1939 she and her sister Olive were living here, and Agnes was described as retired draper.

January 1916 – Parish Magazine

THE LATE MISS -JANE EDWARDS,

By the death of Miss Jane Edwards, which sad event took place at Castle House, 35, Castle Street, on December 27th, in her 90th year, Llangollen loses one of the oldest and most highly esteemed of its inhabitants. Miss Edwards resided at the time of her death with her niece, in Castle Street, a street in which she had lived for forty years. The deceased lady was, perhaps, the oldest member of the Church at Llangollen, having been confirmed by the late Dr. Short, who preceded Dr. Hughes

and Dr. Edwards as Bishop of St. Asaph. Miss Edwards was greatly esteemed by all with whom she came into contact, and took the keenest interest in all movements designed for the betterment of her native town. Her chief interest was, and always had been, centred in Church affairs; and she followed, with deep anxiety, movements which, she feared, might impair its power of doing good. She leaves behind her a memory that will be lastingly cherished by a very wide circle of relatives and friends. She was buried at St. John's Churchyard on Thursday, Dec.10th .

12th April 1929

THE LATE MR W.C.DODD, RHYL

It is a matter of much regret to record the death of Mr William Charles Dodd, of 12, South Avenue, Rhyl, after an illness of about six weeks' duration. He passed away on Thursday, March 28th, at the age of 73 years, and is survived by his daughter, the wife of Mr F.A. Jones, Innisfree, Dyserth Road, to both of whom many extend sympathy in their bereavement. Mr Dodd was a member of a well known and prominent Denbighshire family, of whom two brothers now survive – Alderman W.G. Dodd, of Llangollen, and Mr F.P. Dodd, headmaster of Grove Park County School, Wrexham. Another brother, Mr R.H. Dodd, a Rhyl tradesman of many years standing, died at Llangollen a short time ago. Mr W.C. Dodd came to Rhyl from Llangollen some fifteen years ago, and he retired from business as a draper a few years back. He was a man of great literary tastes, and also interested himself considerably in religious questions. He was attached to the Rhyl English Baptist Church. One of his recreations was the game of bowls, and he will be missed as a keen member of the Rhyl Bowling Club.

The funeral of the late Mr Dodd took place at 12, South Avenue, the remains were conveyed to Llangollen for interment in the family grave. The officiating ministers were the Revs. W.R. Watkins, at Rhyl, and J. Rogers, Llangollen, and E.K. Jones, Cefn Mawr at the graveside. The chief mourners were Mr and Mrs F.A. Jones (son-in-law and daughter); Messrs W.G. Dodd and F.P. Dodd (brothers); Mrs R.H. Dodd, Llangollen (sister-in-law); Messrs. Philip Dodd, Hooton, and Richard Dodd, Colwyn Bay (nephews); Messrs Sigge and Cabuzet, South Avenue.

Mr T.H. Whitley, King's Avenue, was the undertaker.

1939 Register Castle House

1 Olive Grisedale	26 th January 1887 S Assistant Superintendent PO Telephones
2 Annie Forest	30 th October 1886 S Assistant Superintendent PO Telephones
	3 Agnes Williams 30 th May 1877 W Draper, retired



Around 1940 James. Percy Clarke moved his photographic business here from Bridge Street, it later became a record shop. In 1955 James Percy Clarke died. In 1968 Evans Dairy from Hall Street moved in.

9th April 1968 CASTLE STREET will be brighter this week. Mason's new grocery store open. The Dairy removed from Hall Street to 35, Castle Street, and the Dee Cafe re-opening.

17th April 1968

TRADE NOTICE EVANS DAIRIES.

In a short time we shall be expanding from Hall Street into Castle Street, and therefore I should like: to take this opportunity of thanking my customers for the support they have given us. This is a family concern and as such is NOT associated with any persons' or person outside the family; therefore we .shall at all times endeavour to give a personal service second to none to each

and every customer, (signed) W V E Evans

6th July 1977 the building at the rear of 33 Castle Street, which from 1866 till 1946 was a printing works responsible for the Llangollen Advertiser and later the Llangollen Chronicle, has been

transformed, quite suddenly, into an extension of Celtic Crafts, who have had the shop part of No.33 ever since Mrs.Wrixon retired from the newsagents business. It looks handsome and the Shell of the old building has been retained untouched. In 2004 it became. Seconds Ahead It is now Edinburgh Woollens. (see No 33)

37 Castle Street



Robert Hughes 1838 - 1895

This was another building built by Morris Roberts in the 1860's. The earliest occupant traced was Robert Hughes from Ruabon, son of a blacksmith and self-taught watchmaker. Robert's first shop was in Rhosymedre, but in early 1867 he moved to Llangollen, and opened a shop and advertised for watchmakers from Coventry for his business, on the west side of Castle St. It was not until June 1871 that he moved to this address

Baner ac Amserau Cymru

20th February 1867

NOTICE.

WANTED, a Practical WATCH JOBBER,
by Mr. ROBERT HUGHES, Watchmaker, &c., &c.,
who has lately commenced business in Castle street (late of
Mr. PIERCE), Llangollen.

12th August 1870

PLATE GLASS BREAKING BY TRAMPS.

A very singular and fortunately very rare case of window smashing took place in this town on Saturday evening last, as will be seen from a Petty Sessions report Two desperate fellows came along Castle-street, and stood before the plate glass window of Mr. Hughes, watchmaker, one of them threw a stone of several pound weight which cut a round hole in one of the massive panes; the stone struck against the frame of the sliding glass case, otherwise it would have struck Jackson the workman in the face. It then fell on other glass and costly materials doing, considerable damage. While this was going on the other one was beating the adjoining pane with a rustic walking stick, by which it was cracked from top to bottom. The man that made the hole took two watches from the window. They made no attempt to run away, and no wonder, for, according to their own evidence before the magistrates, they did it on purpose in order to be sent to prison. Several people on hearing the heavy battering assembled to the spot and laid hands on the ruffians. In the meantime we noticed Mr. Hughes coming out of the shop with an iron rod in his hand, a great pity that he did not make the vagabonds feel the weight of it. To this class prison life is no punishment at all; a good flogging once or twice would probably deter them from committing such wanton mischief. We would advise all who have plate glass windows to insure them at once. We are sorry to understand that Mr. Hughes was not insured

SPECIAL SESSIONS,

Monday, August 8th, before J. Price, Esq., the Tower

Burglary. George Anderson, and George Rogers, (tramps) were charged with breaking the window of Mr. Robert Hughes, watchmaker, Castle-street, Llangollen, and stealing therefrom two watches, on Saturday the 6th of August. Robert Hughes, being sworn said: I am a watchmaker and jeweller. I saw the prisoners about quarter past seven on Saturday last, they passed my shop, both were going in the same direction, up the street; shortly afterwards they both returned, and just then a stone came in. Anderson had his hand in, and took out two watches at least, he might have taken more at the same time someone was beating at the other pane with a stick, the pane was cracked from top to bottom, the broken glass is 'plate' and is worth about £5, the watches produced are mine, one of them is worth £2, and the other 25s., I never saw the prisoners before, I received the watch with a long chain from William Humphreys.

William Humphreys said I am a brewer in the employ of Mr. Tanqueray. On Saturday the 6th of August I was going down Castle-street, about 7 o'clock, I saw Anderson beating the window with a stick, he broke it, I did not see anybody throw a stone, I saw both put their hands in and get the watches, I got a watch from George Rogers, Anderson would not deliver it up, I gave the prisoners in the charge of John Jones, a fellow-workman, and the watch now produced I gave to Mr. Hughes.

George Anderson said he did not take the watch but that it was Rogers that took the watch but that it was Rogers that took the watch and handed it to him.

John Jones said: I am a brewer, I saw both prisoners coming up the street towards Mr. R. Hughes's shop, and I saw both turning from the middle of the street to the window, I heard some noise and I saw Anderson beating the window with a stick, I saw a watch drop down and saw Rogers pick it up, W. Humphreys then took the watch from him, they came up the street together but not very near each other.

P.C. David Powell said: About quarter past seven on Saturday night I received information that two men had broken into Mr. Hughes's shop and had stolen some watches, I took both prisoners in charge, put them in the cell and searched them while searching Anderson he slipped a watch down his leg and put his foot upon it the small watch with a seal, and steal chain was the one, I then told them they were charged with breaking the window of Mr. Hughes. Anderson said he did it on purpose, and wanted seven years' imprisonment, and that he threw the stone through the window. Rogers said he wanted 10 years' imprisonment. Anderson told me he had just been discharged from gaol for stealing watches in London. Rogers said he had been just discharged from Shrewsbury gaol, after tearing his clothes at the workhouse. Upon being asked by the Clerk had they any- thing to say, Rogers said "I want to have the thick of it, and to tell the truth I came from Glasgow gaol last May, I did it just to get in gaol"" and Anderson said, "I did it to get penal servitude, as I would be better in gaol than I am now." Both prisoners were sent to gaol to wait their trial at the Quarter Sessions.

1871

Robert Hughes	Head	M	31(1840)	Watchmaker	Ruabon
Catherine Hughes	Wife	M	26(1845)		Henllan
Mary Elizth Hughes	Dau	S	1m(1871)		Llangollen
Thomas Hughes	Bro	S	19(1852)	Watchmaker	Ruabon
Caroline Owens	Serv	S	14(1857)	dom serv	Llangollen

30th June 1871

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

ROBERT HUGHES,

WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER,

CASTLE STREET,

LLANGOLLEN,

BEGS respectfully to return his most heartfelt thanks for the very liberal support received since he commenced business in the town; and takes the present opportunity to inform his friends that he has lately REMOVED FROM HIS FORMER SHOP TO THE PREMISES ADJOINING THE "ADVERTISER" OFFICE," where all orders entrusted to his care shall receive his best attention.

June 28th, 1871.

1881

Robert Hughes	Head	M	40(1841)	Watch Manufacturer	Ruabon
Catherine Hughes	Wife	M	36(1845)	Watch Makers Wife	Nantglyn
Elizabeth Ann Hughes	Dau	S	10(1871)	Scholar	Llangollen
Robert Llewelyn Hughes	Son	S	8(1873)	Scholar	Llangollen
Grace Mary Hughes	Dau	S	7(1874)	Scholar	Llangollen
Kate Elinor Hughes	Dau	S	6(1875)	Scholar	Llangollen
Thomas Harrie Hughes	Son	S	4(1877)	Scholar	Llangollen
Gertrude Margaret Hughes	Dau	S	inf (1881)	Infant	Llangollen
Mary Edwards	Gmoth W		68(1813)		Nantglyn
Rice Jones	Serv	S	18(1863)	Bookkeeper	Nantglyn
Ann Bradshaw	Serv	M	28(1853)	General Servant	Rhewl

1887 Rating Survey

Robert Hughes Morris Roberts House & Shop Castle Street

1891

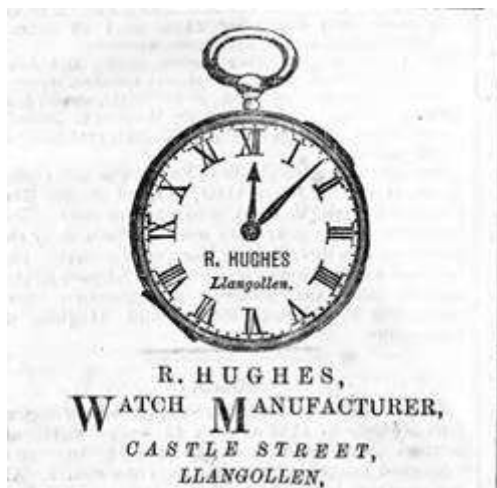
Robert Hughes	Head	M	52(1839)	Watch manufacurer	Ruabon
Catherine Hughes	Wife	M	46(1845)		Nantglyn
Elizabeth A Hughes	Dau	S	20(1871)		Llangollen
Robert D Hughes	Son	S	18(1873)	watch maker	Llangollen
Kate E Hughes	Dau	S	16(1875)		Llangollen
Thomas H Hughes	Son	S	14(1877)	Watchmaker's apprentice	Llangollen
Gertrude M Hughes	Dau	S	10(1881)	Scholar	Llangollen
Blanche M Hughes	Dau	S	9(1882)	Scholar	Llangollen
Arthur H Hughes	Son	S	7(1884)	Scholar	Llangollen
Jane G Hughes	Dau	S	5(1886)	scholar	Llangollen
Llangollen					
Hugh S Hughes	Son	S	2(1889)		Llangollen
Sarah A Davies	Serv	S	18(1873)	Gen serv	Bala

The business was so successful, that during the 1890's the family moved out of 37, to upstairs in No 31, so the whole building could be used for the business.

27th September 1895

DEATH OF MR. ROBERT HUGHES, WATCH MANUFACTURER.

It is with unfeigned regret that we have this week the painful duty of recording the death, at the age of 57, of one of our most highly esteemed and universally respected townsmen, in the person of Mr. Robert Hughes, watchmaker and jeweller, Castle-street. Deceased was one of those exceptionable characters whose biography, if precisely written, would form a most interesting chapter of local history, and would not fail to have a beneficial influence upon those who in their varied avocations are called upon



to engage in the active struggles and duties of daily life. By resolute and dogged perseverance, and a strict and determined adherence to honesty of purpose in all his trade transactions, he succeeded in establishing a business which was- second to none of its kind in the whole of the- Principality. Mr. Hughes, when a youth, worked in the brick yards in the neighbourhood of Ruabon, a fact which he often reverted to with considerable pride. Being, however, of a naturally ingenious turn of mind, he took no little pride in studying the mechanical construction of clocks and watches, and in course of time became known among his fellows as an adept in repairing such. Eventually he apprenticed himself to the trade, and subsequently commenced business on his own account in a small shop in

Rhosymedre. About twenty-eight years ago he opened a branch shop in Castle-street, opposite his present establishment, which gradually prospered until the business at Rhosymedre was abandoned, and his whole attention concentrated on the Llangollen establishment. In a few years he transferred his business to the premises now occupied, which also served as the family residence. Some years ago, at all events, his rapidly increasing business necessitated the removal of the household to No. 31, Castle-street, and the conversion of the whole of the other premises into a watch manufactory. Here a large number of practical workmen are employed in the different branches of the trade, the products of their industry being widely distributed through all parts of North and South Wales, and even a great number of the largest English towns. It will readily be perceived that the mental and physical energy required in the establishment of so large a business, involving, as it did, such vast responsibilities, was very great, and Mr. Hughes applied himself to it with such persistence and determination that, it is more than probable, the constant strain and close application told considerably upon his health, which at the best did not seem to be of the most robust character. About two years ago a violent attack of influenza quite prostrated him for a considerable time, and it became evident from his attenuated countenance that he was not able to rally from that shock. For some time it became apparent that he was suffering from an internal chronic complaint, and the advice of the best physicians, far and near, was sought, for after all the efforts made he passed quietly away about ten o'clock on Saturday night last, retaining his consciousness even to the end, leaving Mrs. Hughes a widow with a family of ten children -six girls and four boys. It is a great satisfaction to know that for some years past the eldest son, Mr. Llewelyn Hughes, had rendered great assistance to his father in the conduct of his large trade, and that, having a good, practical insight into the trade, he will be able to carry it on in the same successful lines as hitherto. Deceased was a great reader, and was well versed in the current literature of the day. Up to a year or two he took an active interest and a forward part in all local public movements. He was a faithful member of the Local Board for many years-in fact, there was scarcely a good movement in town with which he did not associate himself in some way or other. He was a good counsellor, and a valued and trusted friend. To Mrs. Hughes and her bereaved children we beg to tender our deepest sympathy in the hour of their great affliction. The funeral took place on Thursday, the particulars of which will appear next week.

The Oldest-Established House in the Trade.

HUGHES & SON

(Late R. HUGHES).

Watch Manufacturers, . . .
. . . Jewellers and Silversmiths,
Castle Street, LLANGOLLEN.

The Largest and Best-Assorted Stock of
Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Silver and
Electro-Plated Goods in the Neighbourhood.

A Choice Selection of **GOLD, SILVER,** and other Articles,
suitable for Presents.

Spectacles and Eye-Glasses to suit all sights.
Special attention is given to the Repairing Department.

All kinds of Watch, Clock and Jewellery **REPAIRS** are Promptly
Executed by a Large and Competent Staff of Skilled Workmen on the
premises.

We confidently assert that we are unsurpassed in this, as in other
branches of the business, by any house in the kingdom.





Robert Llewelyn 'Boyo' Hughes
1872 - 1960

Following his death 21st September 1895, his eldest son Robert Llewelyn ('Boyo') Hughes took over the business, with a younger son Thomas H Hughes opening a Wrexham Branch in 1906. By the turn of the century competition from Switzerland and elsewhere led to the closure of watch production; but the jewellery business continued in the family. By 1934 they termed themselves 'The Gift House' in their advertisements, and they were listed as Jewellers and Opticians. In April 1965 when the lease of No 37 expired there was a large closing down sale.



1870



1910



15th November 1978



2010

December 2004

FOCUS ON BUSINESS - WELSH COUNTRY CRAFTS

To walk into this shop is like entering Aladdin's cave. It is full of colour and warmth, the welcoming atmosphere enhanced with subtle music. The staff are welcoming. Attentive but never intrusive, they are helpful and professional.

There are so many things to buy, ranging from cards to large cushions and table lights. They are now stocking a new range of toiletries from Crabtree and Evelyn. The stock is vast, varied and there are some very special gifts.



Pictured above are Richard Street and Angela Bowley

Managed by Angela Bowley, Welsh Country Crafts was opened in 1993 by Richard Street. Richard has been involved in the retail trade for over twenty years, he owns three shops including Temptations on Oak Street. Angela does all the buying, visiting trade fairs throughout the year. Welsh Country Crafts, as the name suggests, specialises in items made in Wales, and carries a comprehensive stock of Welsh goods, including the "Silver Scenes" range. Welsh love spoons and slate items. All gifts are good quality and just that little bit different I spotted some very nice chess sets, very suitable for Christmas gifts this year as I

understand interest in chess is growing fast. There is a comprehensive selection of greetings cards and a small collection of interesting books. There are toys of varying types for the children, jewellery, and decorative boxes. Crabtree and Evelyn toiletries are also available. Love spoons (see below) are a speciality of the shop, they range from the beautiful, elaborately hand carved spoons, to the smaller spoons very suitable as a small "Present from Wales" when visiting.



Angela started working at the shop when it first opened and two years later Betsy Jones, originally from Texas, but now living in Glyndyfrdwy, joined. Betsy is responsible for the eye catching window displays. There are two other full time members of staff. Eileen Wooding and Joan Forkin. Sophie Davies and Amy Biddle are the "Saturday girls". Richard paid tribute to his staff, "They are the shop. They are always cheerful and welcoming and it would not exist without them".

Like most of the shops in Llangollen Welsh Country Crafts suffered a drop in income when the A5 was closed and following the 9/11 disaster in America.

However Welsh Country Crafts is not just a shop for the tourist, it is a shop for local people too. Whilst I was there on a Monday morning in November, the shop was very busy - and there are few tourists about in November. A delightful shop.

With Christmas just around the corner and new stock arriving daily, everyone is looking forward to the next few weeks, the staff are ready to offer help and advice on choosing the perfect present. And they offer a gift wrapping service!



In the 1970's there was a shop called Fabrics & Design here, but in 1993 it became Welsh Country Crafts. By 2015 it had become 4 Home 4 Pets 4 You, a Pet Store & Hardware shop.

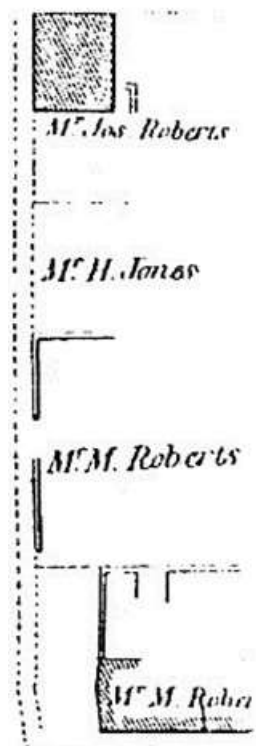
1891

Absalom Sidwell	Head	43(1848)	Watchmaker	Coventry, Warwick
Eliza Sidwell	Wife	42(1849)		Foleshill, Warwick
Ada Sidwell	Dau	14(1877)	Watch polisher	Foleshill, Warwick
William H Sidwell	Son	12(1879)	Scholar	Foleshill, Warwick
Rebecca Sidwell	Dau	9(1882)	Scholar	Foleshill, Warwick
Hellen Sidwell	Dau	8(1883)	Scholar	Foleshill, Warwick
Biarette Sidwell	Dau	5(1886)	Scholar	Foleshill, Warwic
Walter Sidwell	Son	10m(1890)		Llangollen

39 Castle Street

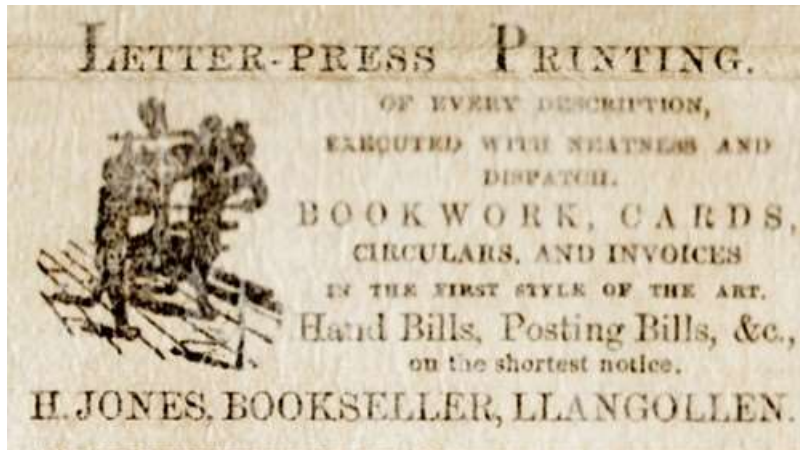


1858 map



1862 map

At the 1858 sale Plot 13 was bought by Morris Roberts, and this is shown on the 1862 sale map.



Hugh Jones, originally from Llanrwst was established as a printer in Chapel Street in 1851. On 2nd November 1860 he established the Llangollen, Corwen and Bala Advertiser. (as advertised in Issue No 1)

The paper was originally printed (with a blank front page) elsewhere, and the front page printed at the press behind No 17. He moved here in 1871. but continued to

print behind No 17.

1871

Hugh Jones	Head	M 54(1817)	Local Preacher, Calvinist Minister, Llanrwst Printer & stationer	
Ann Jones	Wife	M 49(1822)		Llanrwst
John Jones	Son	S 25(1846)	Compositor	Llanrwst
Mary Jones	Dau	S 23(1848)		Llangollen
Hugh Jones	Son	S 19(1852)	Office Clerk	Llangollen
David Jones	Son	S 13(1858)		Llangollen
Benjamin Jones	Son	S 9(1862)		Llangollen

Following his death in 1880, his widow built more extensive premises lower down Castle Street, and in July 1883 moved to 35 Castle Street.

20th August 1880

In Memoriam

Since the issue of our last number, an event has occurred which was so awfully sudden and wholly unexpected that a natural and almost irresistible shudder creeps over us as we attempt to chronicle its details. Our feelings have been so terribly shocked by the awful suddenness of the solemn event, that as yet, we feel it hardly possible to realize the fact that the originator, proprietor and editor of this paper is now no more amongst us. Our last issue was under his editorial management, in less than a week his body has been laid in the tomb, and we are called upon to place on record in the columns of his own paper, the tragic circumstances which attended his death. Whilst, however, we feel it our solemn duty to refer to this sad event in our columns, we trust our readers will grant us due indulgence in the remarks we are about to offer. The simple facts connected with the closing scene of his life are briefly told. On Sunday last, he attended divine worship throughout the day. In the evening service several persons had noticed that his countenance seemed to wear a most unnatural paleness, and it was evident at the close of the sermon that he was under some mental and bodily suffering, when he got up suddenly from his chair, while nearly half the congregation had left the gallery, to announce the Musical Festival on the following day, and to urge upon all to attend the meeting. During the society meeting he got up again to announce the subject which was proposed for consideration at the society meeting on the following Wednesday, and when in the act of doing so, he fell back in his chair, and was conveyed home in an unconscious state, where he expired in about three hours afterwards.

The funeral took place on Wednesday last. The mournful cortege started from the house of the deceased in Castle-street about two o'clock, the Rev. D. Jones, Rhos, Ruabon, having previously engaged in the usual devotional service. A halt was made in Rehoboth Chapel, and his coffin, covered with wreaths of most beautiful flowers, placed in front of the deacon's pew, while a service conducted by the Rev. T. Jones, Castle-street, at the special request of the family was engaged in. The Rev. Peter Ellis, Garth, read a portion of the Word of God, and prayed. Then Mr. Jones summarized in a concise form the principal traits in the character of his deceased friend, and incidentally remarked that he had commenced to preach the gospel when he was 18 years of age, and had lived at Llangollen upwards of forty years. Rev. D. Williams, Rose-place, then pathetically alluded to the close intimacy that had long existed between himself and the departed one, and dwelt upon the many virtues which the latter displayed. This was followed by an English address by the Rev. W. Powell, and a brief one in Welsh by the Rev. John Jones, Ruabon, after which the meeting concluded by the offering up of a prayer in English by the Rev. H. Barrow Williams, Wrexham. At the opening of this service it was announced that numerous letters had been received from ministers and others residing at a distance, among them being the rector of Llanrwst, expressing their sympathy with the deceased's family, and their sorrow in being unable to attend the funeral. The procession was then re-formed, and proceeded in the same order as before to the Cemetery. Here the Rev. J.H. Hughes, Cefn, delivered a short English address, based upon an intimacy which had been formed between himself and the deceased almost thirty-seven years ago. The Rev. R. Winter then followed in Welsh, the whole proceedings being closed by a prayer offered up by the Rev. John Jones, of Pencae. It is rarely that such universal public marks of esteem and regret have been shown to the memory of an inhabitant of this town. During the whole of the day almost all the public places of business were partially, and some entirely closed, while the blinds were drawn in every house, and other signs of sympathy with the family in their sad bereavement were everywhere visible. The Church of England, as well as the Dissenting bodies, was well represented in the funeral. The funeral procession was a remarkable instance of the wonderful influence which is always exerted by a godly and blameless life. In his conduct as a man, a citizen, and a Christian minister and deacon, our deceased friend at all times manifested that

kindness and meekness of disposition which was evidenced on Wednesday last, had endeared him to all classes of the people. Were we to consult our natural feelings of respect to his memory, we might have considerably enlarged upon several points in his character well worthy of imitation. The subject, however, is of such a delicate nature that we must refrain from doing so. It is to be hoped, however, that full justice will be done to those points by some less interested writers than ourselves. In his death the town will lose a genial, kind-hearted, and sympathising friend and counsellor; the church a wise, patient and godly minister, and the bereaved family a good and loving husband and father. On behalf of the family and friends, we would offer to all those who came to pay their last respect to his memory the warmest thanks of their grateful hearts. If anything could solace them in their deep affliction, it would be the evidences everywhere made manifest that his fond desire to lead a humble, nut conscientious and godly life has not been left unrequited even in this world. It is arranged that a funeral sermon will be preached on Sunday evening week in Rehoboth Chapel. The whole of the funeral arrangements were under the superintendence of Mr. T. Jones, Llandyn Shop, and gave the utmost satisfaction.

1881

Anne Jones	Head	W 59(1822)	Printer & Stationer	Llanrwst
Mary Jones	Dau	S 33(1848)	Housekeeper	Llangollen
Thomas Jones	Son	S 25(1856)	Printer's Compositor	Llangollen
David Jones	Son	S 23(1858)	Bookseller & Stationer	Llangollen

5th January 1883

6th July 1883

XMAS & NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
H. JONES,
39 CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN, 39
 Has just received his NEW STOCK of

PRESENTS

Christmas & New Year's

The Largest & Best-selected Stock in Llangollen, from 1d. upwards.

Marcus Ward, Giff & Sons, &c.,
 27, Southwood, Mansel's,
 including selections from Tuck, Hildesheim,
 Grawell, De La Rue.

NOTICES OF REMOVAL.
HUGH JONES,
 Stationer, &c.,
 CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN,
 HAS
REMOVED
 TO HIS
 NEW AND COMMODIOUS
 PREMISES,
Three doors lower down.

EDWARD DAVIES,
 IRONMONGER, &c.,
 REGENT STREET, LLANGOLLEN,
 HAS
REMOVED
 TO HUGH JONES'S LATE PREMISES
(39, Castle Street).

In July 1883 Edward Davies, an Ironmonger moved here from Regent Street, here was here until early 1892, when he was replaced by Edward Roberts Parry, a native of Pentredwr, he was a draper, who had formerly been in business in 9 Chapel Street.

1891

Edward Davies	Head	M 40(1851)	Ironmonger	Llangollen
Louisa Davies	Wife	M 36(1855)		Llangollen
David R Davies	Son	S 17(1874)	Assistant Ironmonger	Llangollen
Albert E Davies	Son	S 15(1876)	Grocer's Ass	Llangollen
Sarah H Davies	Dau	S 11(1880)	Scholar	Llangollen
Godfrey P Davies	Son	S 7(1884)	Scholar	Llangollen

29th April 1892

39, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.

HOUSE AND SHOP, with Commodious
WAREHOUSES, TO LET. Lately occupied
by Mr. E. Davies, Ironmonger. App'y to M. H
ROBERTS, 6, Berwyn Street, Llangollen. (3636)

**Exterior view
circa 1870**



E. R. PARRY,
TAILOR, CLOTHIER, &C.,
9, CHAPEL STREET,
WILL
REMOVE SHORTLY
To more Central and Commodious
Premises at
39, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN.

9th September 1892

Edward Robert Parry a prominent member of the Welsh Wesleyan cause (Seion). He was a Liberal and for many years an Aldeman, and a member of Denbighshire County Council, JP etc. Following his death in 1934 the shop passed to his nephew Edward Parry Roberts. Edward had been helping his uncle in the shop since he was 12 years old in 1910. Edward retired in April 1968.



1900

1930



3rd November 1899

In Memorium.

MRS. HUGH JONES, CASTLE STREET.

It is with deep regret we announce the death of the above esteemed lady, widow of the Rev. Hugh Jones, Calvinistic minister of this town, which took place at her residence in Castle-street, on Wednesday, her birthday anniversary, at the ripe age of 78, having survived her husband close upon 20 years. Mrs. Jones was born at Llanrwst, of a highly-respected family, and came to our town to reside 58 years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Jones, by dint of perseverance and integrity, built for themselves a large and prosperous bookselling, stationary, and printing business, and some 40 years ago they started the Llangollen Advertiser, which circulates largely in the district and adjoining counties. After the decease of Mr. Jones, she was assisted in the business by her sons. She took much interest in the Advertiser. Her anxiety about the issue of the paper found relief, when in answer to her enquiries every Thursday evening, she would be told that the machinery was in motion and the paper in print. The first copy struck was invariably sent from the printing works to her. She manifested her concern about the publication of the paper up to the last issue. Mrs. Jones, until the later years, enjoyed remarkably good health, and bore her many trials and sorrows with exemplary fortitude and resignation. She possessed undoubted piety, and was well versed in scripture. She was of strong intellect and possessed good common sense. Being quiet and unostentatious, much of her goodness remained unseen, and many of her good deeds and kind acts will never be known. She was a faithful member of the Rehoboth Calvinistic Methodist Church, and for a period of over fifty years had charge of the infants' class in the Sunday school, and it is not too much to say that hundreds of children, now scattered over all parts of the world, received their first instruction and counsel at her hands. A daughter and four sons are left to mourn their loss. The funeral will take place on Saturday afternoon, at 3 p.m., at the Fron Cemetery

April 6th 1934

Death of Alderman ER Parry JP Llangollen

On Good Friday 31st March the sad news of the sudden death of Alderman ER Parry JP Castle Street cast quite a gloom over the whole town. Mr Parry, who had not enjoyed very good health for some time, was seen out on Monday week when he recorded his vote in the Urban District Council Election. Since then he had been confined indoors, and the sad, unexpected news came as a shock to the townspeople generally.

A native of Pentredwr, Mr Parry commenced business as a draper and outfitter in the town some 50 years ago when he established a business in Chapel Street, later moving to Castle Street. He had been connected with the Wesleyan (Methodist) cause all his life, and had filled various offices in both the 1st and 2nd North Wales Districts: but it was at Llangollen that he gave his best to the cause, and the Zion Church had a warm place in his heart. He was a lay preacher, church officer, and a Sunday School teacher in his church. His departure will be keenly felt throughout the district. In politics he was a very strong Liberal. Mr Parry was a member of the Denbighshire County Council for many years before he was promoted to the Aldermanic bench. He was also a Justice of the Peace for Denbighshire and during his time had been a member of the Llangollen Urban Council, County School Governors, manager of the County School etc.. He had associated himself with every cause which had the town's interests in view, and in these connections he will be greatly missed.

The funeral took place on Tuesday at the Vron Cemetery, Llangollen, and was the largest seen in the town for some time which proved the great popularity of Mr Parry in the town and surrounding districts. A short family service was conducted at the house, and a public memorial service was held at Zion Chapel the Rev. WR James the circuit minister being in charge of the proceedings. At the commencement he announced the receipt of numerous letters and telegrams from influential persons and ministers in North Wales and other towns.

A letter of sympathy was also passed by the Rehoboth Church on Sunday evening with the family of the deceased and with the Church at Zion in their great loss. The Rev TC Roberts Cefn Mawr and the Rev P Vaughn Owen took the devotional part and the Rev Rhys Jones spoke in Welsh and the Rev Gwynfryn Jones in English. The proceedings closed with a prayer by the Rev Owen Evans. Three of the deceased's favourite hymns were sung. Mr JE Morris had charge of the singing with Miss Ffoulkes at the organ. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev T Arthur Morris and Rev Daniel Williams, Corwen.

In the evening at 7 o'clock a memorial service was held at Zion Chapel and was largely attended. The Rev TA Morris read a portion of the scripture and offered a prayer. Sympathetic references were made by the Rev JE Hughes BA BD, Rev DM Mason ATS, MR JH Proffit (Mayor of Oswestry) Rev R Jones-Williams and Rev WR Jones.

The chief mourners were: Miss SP Roberts PO Pentredwr, MR & Mrs ED Parry, Brymbo, Mr & Mrs Edward Parry Roberts, Llangollen, Miss Emma Jones Castle Street, Mr Ben Jones Liverpool, Miss K Parry Edwards PO Cynwyd, Mr & Miss Edwards Llanderfel, Mrs Evans Nevin, Mrs Alsopp Hognaston, Miss Gwladys Parry Oak St Llangollen etc.

1939

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 Edward Parry Roberts | 03 Nov 1898 M | Taylor & Outfitter |
| 2 Mary Parry Roberts | 03 Aug 1899 M | Domestic Service |
| 3. | | |
| 4, Edward Bruce Dalziel | 08 Mar 1934 S | Attending School |

23rd April 1968

Mr Edward Parry Roberts retires from business this coming Saturday. He first started work at 39 Castle St. (Saturdays only) in 1910, but in 1914 he went into the tailoring workroom with his uncle the late Alderman E. R. Parry. War service and a period of training in London followed before he resumed a since uninterrupted business career there. Mr. H. Hughes, son of Mr & Mrs Hughes, Forestry House, Fron Bache, takes over from him on Monday.

In May 1968 the shop was called Nolan Marsh.

Introductory SALE now on!
"NOLAN MARSH"
 (Formerly E. R. PARRY)
 TAILOR & OUTFITTER
 39 CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN!
 Welcome to old and new customers

Bargains *Bargains*



Tailor and Outfitter

NOLAN MARSH

39 CASTLE STREET
LLANGOLLEN

Telephone 3292

also at: Broad Street, WELSHPOOL

Agent for Sketchley Cleaners
and Moss Bros. Hire Service

12th Feb 1974

TO LET

SHOP & FLAT

at 39 Castle Street, Llangollen

Apply: Roberts, 32 Burns Drive, Rhyl.

Telephone: Rhyl 53887

In 1974 the lease was advertised it and the new occupants were Williams and Morgan.



Williams and Morgan

Craftsmanship and Tradition

in exclusive ranges of fine

MEN'S WEAR

for Formal or Festive occasion

HEOL Y CASTELL, 39 CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN. Tel: (0978) 860042

When this shop closed in 2001, the premises were bought from the Roberts family by Charles Hardy, the Chocolate specialist from Tarporley, and it traded appropriately as The Old Tailors Chocolate Shop, until it closed in November 2013. It was subsequently Witzend Gallery and now Quirky Art.

December 2006

FOCUS ON BUSINESS

THE OLD TAILORS CHOCOLATE SHOP

Oscar Wilde said "the only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it... I can resist everything but temptation. "

And there is plenty to tempt you in the Old Tailor Chocolate Shop on Castle Street. I am a bit of a chocoholic, so entering the portals of this shop was a delight to me. The ambiance, the scent, the colour and choice is amazing. The hand made truffles and traditional violet and rose creams are of course an attraction, but that is not all the shop has on offer. It can be a nostalgic trip down memory lane to look at the



range of traditional confectionery sold in the shop. There are for instance old fashioned American jelly beans in no less than twenty different flavours. There are pontefract cakes, pear drops, cough candy and a whole range of sweets the older people of Llangollen will remember buying with their pocket money when young.

Charles Hardy who owns the Old Tailors Chocolate Shop is very knowledgeable on the subject of traditional sweets and chocolate and also well versed in the history of chocolate - did you know that the first chocolate as we know it was made by J.S. Fry and sons in 1847, before this date chocolate was only available as a drink.

Charles joined the family business which made sugar confectionery, it was only afterwards that he and his wife opened their first Chocolate Shop in Tarporly. Here they started to make, by hand, the more traditional chocolates. This proved so popular that a second shop was opened and one day travelling through Llangollen he saw the old tailors shop was for sale, this was in 2002. Interestingly when Charles Hardy bought the shop it was first time it had been sold. It was built for the Roberts family and the family had owned it ever since. Upstairs is the large room where the tailors cut and made the suits. The cloth was pre shrunk in large vats kept just below the workroom. This room is now utilised by Charles when he welcomes guests to his chocolate parties.

As well as the chocolates and sugar confectionery, the Old Tailors Chocolate Shop stocks a wide selection of sugar free products which are suitable for diabetics, has a range of cards suitable for all occasions and also offers a gift wrapping service. It is a 'one stop shop' for that last minute gift a card and present.

When I asked Charles what he did in his spare time, he said he could not remember when he last had a holiday and days off away from his businesses were very rare. The Shop is open every day apart from Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. He does however admit to being a lover of the countryside, he lives on a farm and enjoys the surrounding area. It is this love of the countryside which first attracted him to Llangollen he said "there is a magic about the place". Charles is a member of Llangollen Enterprise and supports many local groups and charities.

His Chocolate parties are becoming very popular. A party can be booked through the shop. He caters for all ages, from children through to the older generation. Parties can be booked for



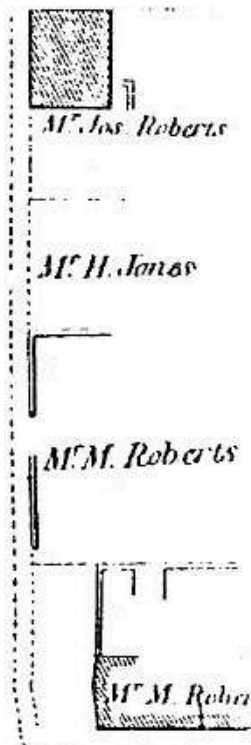
a group of up to twenty people, although recently a young Farmers Group of 35 arrived and all were accommodated. Charles will demonstrate how his chocolates are made and party members are invited to help to make chocolate hedgehogs which they are then able to take away. Depending upon the type of party, Charles will also give his audience details of the history of Chocolate.

At the Old Tailors Chocolate Shop you can be sure to find something rather special, a gift that is slightly out of the ordinary.

Pictured left is Charles with some of his chocolates and below is a small selection of the hand-made chocolates.



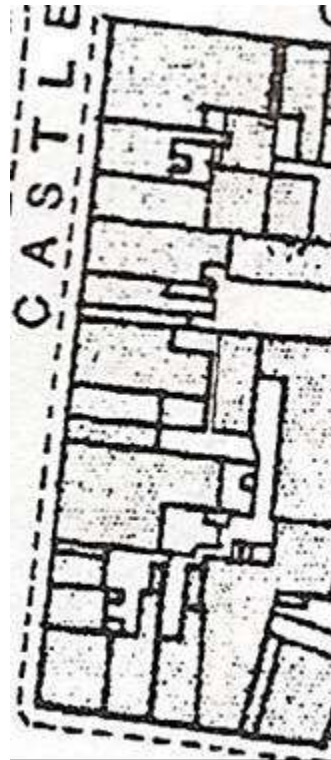
41 Castle Street



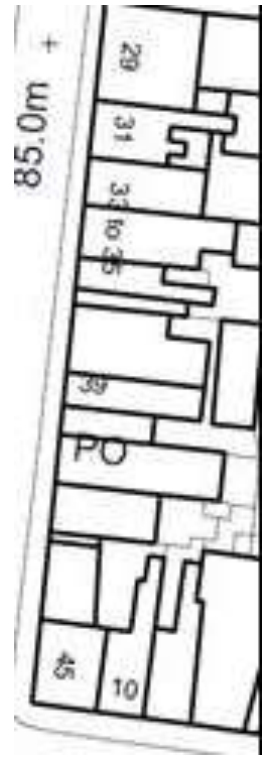
1862



1873



1912



2015



1870



1871

This plot was bought in 1858 by Morris Roberts, who was also responsible for erecting the building circa 1860. The earliest known occupants were Griffith & Richard Griffith, General Dealers from Llanaber. Griffith had previously been in business with another brother, Samuel, but had become bankrupt in 1865. In 1861 the census listed them on Chapel Street, but it was possibly Castle Street, since they were certainly there in 1862. They were described as Grocer & Sundries, Linen & Wool Drapers, Ironmongers & Seedsman, as well as running the stamp office (taxation). Griffith died in February 1878, and his widow carried on here, while Richard moved to No 43 *Wrexham Advertiser* 30 August 1862

Griffith & Samuel Griffiths, shopkeepers, Church Street, Llangollen, flour weighing machine 1/2 oz against purchaser; small beam and scales 2 drams against purchaser; 4oz barely 1 dram light. Fined £3 and 10s costs.

THE LONDON GAZETTE, MAY 5, 1865.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the following is a copy of an entry made in the book kept by the Chief Registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy for the Registration of Trust Deeds for the benefit of Creditors, Composition and Inspectorship Deeds executed by a Debtor, as required by the Bankruptcy Act, 1861, sees. 187, 192, 194, 196, and 198:—

Number—12,447.

Title of Deed, whether Deed of Assignment, Composition, or Inspectorship—Conveyance.

Date of Deed—13th March, 1865.

Date of execution by Debtors—20th April, 1865.

Names and descriptions of the Debtors, as in the Deed— Griffith Griffiths and Samuel Griffiths, of Llangollen, in the county of Denbigh, Drapers, Ironmongers, Grocers, and Provision Dealers and Co-partners, trading at Llangollen aforesaid, under the firm of G. and S. Griffiths.

The names and descriptions of the Trustees or other parties to the Deed, not including the Creditors— Lewis Roberts, of the city of Manchester, Warehouseman, Anthony Jones, of Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, Wholesale Grocer, and Edward Stephen Jones, of Llangollen aforesaid, Flannel Manufacturer (trustees).

A short statement of the nature of the Deed—Conveyance by the debtors of all their estate and effects to the trustees, to be administered for the benefit of their creditors, as in bankruptcy.

When left for Registration — 3rd May, 1865, at half past twelve o'clock.

1871

Griffith Griffith	Head	S 41(1830)	General Dealer	Barmouth
Richard Griffith	Bro	S 40(1831)	General Dealer	Barmouth
John Owens	Assist	S 19(1852)	Draper's Ass	Llangollen
William Edward	Appren	S 18(1853)	Grocer's Appren	Glyndyfrdwy
Ellis Evans	Appren	S 18(1853)	Grocer's Appren	Llangollen
Charles Humphreys	Appren	S 17(1854)	Grocer's Appren	Llangollen
Robert Francisco	Appren	S 18(1853)	Grocer's Appren	Llantysilio
Edmond Roberts	Appren	S 14(1857)	Grocer's Appren	Llangollen
Maryann Jones	Serv	S 25(1846)	Gen Dom Serv	Pwllheli

1st March 1878

DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MR GRIFFITH GRIFFITH

We are sorry to record the death of our old friend and neighbour, Mt Griffith Griffith, grocer and draper, of this town which took place took place on Friday last, after the deceased had been confined to bed but four days, he survived his brother John (Gohebydd) by only two months, and like him he was for many years of weak health and afflicted with bronchitis and a most distressing cough. It was quite evident for some time that his earthly career was fast drawing to an end although he was to the end very energetic with his avocation, as he always used to be. As a man of business he was very much liked by a large circle of customers. He was of extremely kindly disposition and had a kind word to say to everybody. He was a member with the Independents from his childhood, and was superintendent of Glan'rafon Sunday School up to the time of his death. As to literary pursuits, he did not reach the standard of his brothers, his turn of mind being entirely in another direction. Many, if not most, of the Independent ministers who visited this town made their homes at his house, and he was always delighted with their company. The funeral took place on Tuesday last at the Fron Cemetery. The Rev. David Roberts, of Wrexham, officiated at the house, and the Revs. J: H. Hughes, Cefn, H. Ellis, Llangwm, H. Jones, Castle-street, and John Roberts, Brymbo, at the grave. The deceased being so well known and so highly respected, there was an immense procession including

many ministers and deacons from various parts of the country. Deceased has left a wife and one child of five years to lament his death. His mortal remains were laid by the side of those of his mother and brothers, Samuel, George and John Griffith (Gohebydd). Peace be to his dust. The shops of the town were partly closed during the day, and every mark of respect to his memory was shown by the inhabitants. The arrangements of the funeral procession were entrusted to Mr. Thomas Jones, draper, Castle- street.

1881

Mary Griffiths	Head	W	35(1846)	Grocer	Llangefni, Ang
George Samuel Griffiths	Son	S	7(1874)	Scholar	Llangollen
John Roberts	Serv	S	24(1857)	Shopman Draper & Grocer	Llangefni, Ang
Elizabeth Roberts	Sis	S	20(1861)		Llangefni, Ang
Sarah Williams	Serv	S	16(1865)	General Servant	Rhuabon

1887

248 Mary Griffiths Morris Roberts House & Shop Castle Street 1887



29th April 1887

1889 Directory

Mary Griffiths grocer
H Davies Jones surgeon

MUSICAL TUITION.
VOICE CULTURE, HARMONY, AND
HARMONIUM PLAYING,
At No. 41, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.
Terms on Application to
MR. W. WILLIAMS
(PENCERDD BERWYN).
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.
After sending for several Musical Instruments during the last few months, Pencerd Berwyn wishes the public to have the advantage of buying through him direct from the best makers of English and Foreign Piano/ortes, American Organs and Harmoniums; also Violins and all other stringed Instruments with all their fittings. He is able to allow a very large discount from the Manufacturers' Price Lists for Cash, and also on an easy-payment system extending over three years. (3307)

5th December 1890

MUSICAL TUITION BY PENCERDD BERWYN.

It affords us much pleasure to state that Mr. William Williams, (Pencerd Berwyn) has started classes at 41, Castle-street, which will be continued during the winter months, to give lessons in voice culture, harmony, and harmonium playing', also to study the theory and practice of music. Pencerd Berwyn has no real need of praise at our hands, his great ability in training young people in the various branches named being already well known. The prospects of the classes for the present season are most bright, and numbers from afar and near have joined. We would advise all intending students to place themselves without delay under the tuition of Mr. Williams, whose

labours we have no doubt will, as in the past, be crowned with success. (See advertisement.)

1891

George S Griffiths	Son	S	17(1874)	scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Roberts	Sis	S	28(1863)	visitor	Llangefni, Ang
Margaret Roberts	Sis	S	32(1859)	visitor	Llangefni, Ang

Mary Griffiths remained at 43, but was sub-letting to a series dentists and educational tenants. She also sold goods on behalf of her landlord.

20th December 1895



Mary's son George Samuel Griffiths was also a dealer in fancy goods, but was also a Calvinistic Methodist Preacher. He stayed here until to 1940's. In 1946 Bob Avery opened a furniture shop here, and an estate agency.

1901

Mary Griffith	Head	W 48(1853)	Dealer in fancy goods	Llangefni, Ang
George S Griffith	Son	S 27(1874)	Dealer in Fancy goods preacher	Llangollen

21st December 1906

PAINLESS DENTISTRY. Tacey's is a name to conjure with; and, although, at Christmastide, any of the numerous ills that affect the dental organs are to the last extent unseasonable and unwelcome, it is good to know where to resort for the most effective and painless methods of securing relief when visitation of such a nature occur. Tacey, who attend at Mrs. Griffiths, at 41, Castle-street, every Tuesday, and who has gained an established reputation as a dental practitioner of the very first order at 30, Egerton-street, Wrexham, is absolutely the best firm in their particular line, who practise locally. What they promise they are thoroughly well able to perform and patients may rely upon the fact that "painless dentistry," as used by them, is no meaningless or misleading phrase.

20th March 1908



18th December 1908

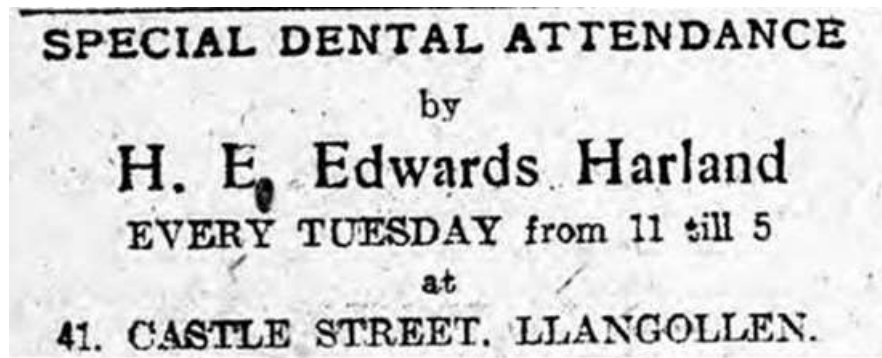
GRIFFITH & SON. Messrs. Griffith and Son, fancy goods and stationery merchants, have an excellently selected, and well displayed stock, at their Castle-street establishment. The leather goods they show, contain specimens of the very latest work and the firm make a speciality of local views, admirably chosen and designed to form most suitable Christmas presents. Again for children's toys,

Messrs. Griffith thoroughly maintain their reputation, and the contents of their place of business should prove a veritable centre of delight to hundreds of little ones this Christmas-time. They have also in stock a bewildering variety of the latest novelties and souvenirs, and a large assortment of china with local arms. Give them a call.

1911

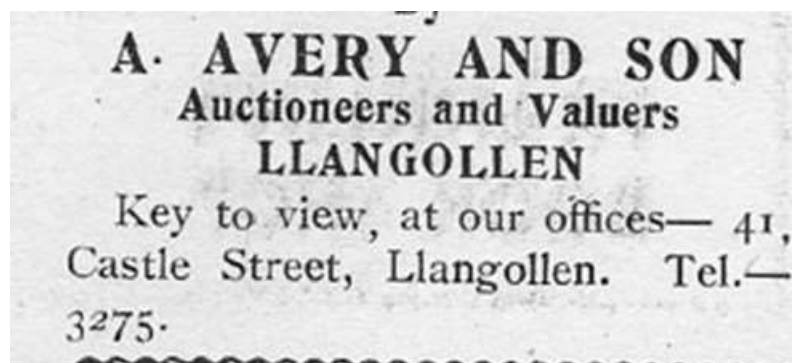
Mary Griffith	Wife	W 62(1849)	Fancy Goods Dealer	Llangefni Ang
George Samuel Griffith	Son	S 37(1874)	Calvinistic Methodist Preach	Llangollen

16th August 1918



1939

George Samuel Griffiths 22 Apr 1873 S Presbyterian Preacher & Fancy Goods & tobacco
George Samuel Griffith dies 27th May 1950 at Overton



The building had a residential part as well as the shop, which led to a number of residential occupants

16th My 1961

ELECTION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Miss Gwyneth Jones wishes to thank all electors for the confidence they

Telephone 3275

A. Avery & Son

(A. R. AVERY)

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS

41 CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN

*A Large selection of Soft Furnishing, China and Glasware
Boxed Fancy Goods etc. Very suitable for your Christmas
Shopping*

AT REALLY COMPETITIVE PRICES

d22/20

showed in her at the recent election for the Urban District Council and will do her best to merit this confidence.

41 Castle Street,
Llangollen.

22nd June 1965

Obituary

The Late Mr Edward W Davies

We regret to record the death of Mr Edward Davies, of 41, Castle Street, which occurred on Sunday night, June 15th at Llangollen Hospital where Mr Davies had been a patient for nearly three weeks.

Our sympathy is extended to his widow, only daughter and sisters in their bereavement. Mr Davies, who was in his 68th year, was a

native of Llansantffraid, Montgomeryshire, where his father was baliff on a large estate; but as Mr Davies, the elder subsequently entered the service of Sir Walter Williams Wynn, his early home was on the Wynnstay estate.

In the First World War Mr Davies served with the Welsh Guards.

Moving from Ruabon to Llangollen Mr Davies farmed at Cae Madoc and in 1943 was appointed Recorder for the Milk Marketing Board, a position he held until three years ago. For most of this period Mr and Mrs Davies and their daughter resided at 41 Castle Street.

Mr. Davies was a most useful member of the Tickets Committee of the International Eisteddfod; and his unfailing courtesy and efficiency at the main entrance will be missed next month.

A former Secretary for the N.F.U. in this district he also gave excellent service at eime-keeper at the Vivod Sheep Dog Trials. And was very popular with the farm community he knew so well.

The funeral took place on Thursday, when the service was conducted in the Chapel of Shrewsbury Crematorium at 1.30 p.m. The family mourners were Mrs. B. Davies (widow); Mr. and Mrs. J. E. C. Humphreys (son-in-law and daughter); Mr. and Mrs. Llew. Evans. Fronafon, (brother-in-law and sister); Mrs. Peate, Hanmer. Mrs. Powell, Ruabon (sisters); Mr. Gordon Peate (nephew); Miss Joyce Powell (niece); Mrs. J. Morris. Llanfechain (aunt); Mrs. Lily Morns (cousin).

11th April 1872

THE LATE Mrs, BARBARA DAVIES

We regret to record the death of Mrs Barbara Davies which occurred on April 1st at her home, 7 John St, and our sympathy is expressed to her daughter Mrs Charles Humphreys, Mrs. Deavies, who was 75 years of age came of a Cumberland family and, has one older brother, Mr John Carruthers living at Bassenthwaite. She was the widow of Mr Edward Davies, formerly of Cae Madoc and 41 Castle St., who predeceased her in 1965. In these last years when she lived nearer her daughter & son-in-law, she took a great interest in her young grandchildren, .'

The funeral, which was private was at Pentrebychan Crematorium on April 5th, when the Vicar the Rev J I Rees, conducted the service.

The mourners were: Mr. & Mrs Charles Humphreys (son-in-law & daughter) and Mr Llew Evans representing Mrs Evans (sister-in-law).

July 27th 1976

THE LATE MR. ARTHUR ROBERT AVERY

To the great regret of the townspeople of Llangollen, Mr. Avery died at the Maelor Hospital on Saturday morning July 31st. He was 76 years of age. He came to Llangollen as a young boy when

his father Mr. Arthur Avery bought the furniture business in Berwyn Street which had been established by the late Mr. M.H. Roberts. He developed the business, adding the popular Thursday afternoon auctions at the Pantechnicon. These, Mr. A.R. Avery continued and in 1946 opened the present furniture emporium in Castle Street. Mr. Avery was highly regarded in business for his probity and readiness to help in any way and his affable and kindly manner earned our affection. He had been in the then Royal Flying Corps in the First World War and was a great supporter of the R.A.F.A. Club of which he was President. A Rotarian and member of the Eisteddfod Grounds Committee, he contributed very much to our community and will be greatly missed. Fifty years ago he married Miss Madge Davies and they celebrated their Golden Wedding last April.

The funeral took place on Wednesday August 4th and the Parish Church held a large congregation, filling the nave and the greater part of the North aisle. The clergy present were the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Ivor Rees, the Rev. M.R. Williams and the Rev. P. Donavon, the last three taking part in the service. Mr. Lindop was the organist. The family mourners were Mrs. M. Avery (widow); Mr. & Mrs. Keith Avery (son & daughter-in-law); Mr. & Mrs. Howard, Abingdon (son-in-law & daughter); Mrs. Woods and Miss Cicely Avery (sisters); Mr. Martin Woods (nephew); Mrs. G. Lloyd-Jones, Mrs. Gwen Abbey, L/pool (Sisters-in-law); Mr. Trevor Abbey and Miss Jean Abbey; Mr. & Mrs. Carter, Penymaes and Mrs. John Davies, Avondale.

Mrs. Ethel Phillips, Oswestry (sister-in-law) was unable to attend. Crenation followed at Pentrebychan where the Rev. Canon Owen conducted the service. The bearers were all RAFA members: John Pugh Jones, Ken A. Mann, Glyn Thomas, Ray Watkin, Charlie Jones and Alec Evans. They were led by Grenville Fell. The coffin was covered with flowers from the family. A collection was made to be shared between the Parish Church and the R.A.F.A. Benevolent Fund.



41, Castle Street, Llangollen
Tel: 01978 861366
www.wingetts.co.uk

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Whether you are buying, selling or renting in the Dee Valley.....

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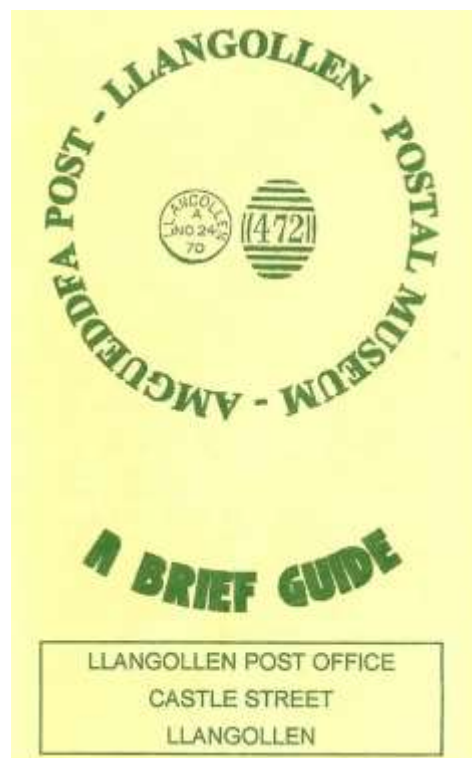
rightmove.co.uk
The UK's number one property website



In the 1980's the Post Office moved to No 41, and Wingetts estate agents moved next door, from No 24, across the road. In 1998 Derek Long opened a postal museum in

The Postal Museum
There are only three museums in the U.K.
devoted entirely to the history of the post.
One of these is in Wales, here in Llangollen!
At the Post Office in Castle Street
A nominal entrance charge of £1 for adults &
50p for pensioners & children over eight

the basement of the post office. Unfortunately in the early 2000's there was a fire, and the post office was moved



temporarily across the road to the Seion Vestry. The museum closed, and never reopened.

In 2013 the Post Office moved to Stan's Supermarket on Berwyn Street. The building was empty for a few years until Pro Adventure moved from No 36 across the road

In 2008 Wingett's moved to an office below the town hall. This shop was subsequently an employment agency, a dress shop Ci-Ci's, and is presently another dress shop, Ragamuffin.



43 Castle Street



1870



1906



1910



1919



1920's



1960's



2008



2010

This plot was bought in 1858 by Morris Roberts, who was also responsible for erecting the building circa 1860. An early occupant was John Clarke, a tinplate worker and inventor, who was here in 1868, but moved to Chapel Street in 1872, although the building had been advertised in 1869.

5th March 1869

T^O LET, a HOUSE AND SHOP in Castle-street,
Llangollen, now occupied by Mr. John Clarke.
Apply to Mr. MORRIS ROBERTS, builder, this town,

1871 43 Castle Street

John Clarke	Head	M 37(1834)	Tinplate worker	Llangollen
Elizabeth Clarke	Wife	M 36(1835)		Llangollen
Thomas Clarke	Son	S 8(1863)	scholar	Llangollen
Joseph Wm Clarke	Son	S 5(1866)	scholar	Llangollen
Mary Catherine Clarke	Dau	S 4(1867)	scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Clarke	Dau	S 1(1870)		Llangollen
Agnes Evans	Serv	14(1857)	Serv	Cefn Mawr
James Clarke	Board	32(1839)	School master	Llansplundwy Caern
John Williams	Board	29(1842)		Rhos Gwalia Merion
Ellen William	Board	27(1844)		Rhos Gwalia Merion

24th May 1872

A CLEVER AND USEFUL INVENTION. Picnic parties visiting the remote and picturesque nooks of our vale, have had their pleasures considerably curtailed by the impossibility of procuring hot water. Many will be happy to learn therefore that Mr. John Clarke, Chapel-street, has just manufactured an ingeniously contrived apparatus, which is capable of producing a good and constant supply of boiling water in a few minutes. This clever piece of mechanism is easily carried about, and considering the numerous tea and picnic parties that are annually held in this locality, this invention no doubt will be considered a great boon.

In the 1861 Richard and Griffith Griffiths, brothers, from Llanaber were in business in Chapel St as grocers, general dealers. By 1868 they had moved to Castle Street and were also Stamp Officers. It is possible that both brothers could have been at No 41, however by 1881 Richard and his wife had moved to No 43, leaving Griffith's widow at No 41. (Griffith had died in 1878). By 1891 Richard and his family had moved to his mother-in-law's in Regent Street.

1881 43 Castle Street

Richard Griffiths	Head	M 47(1834)	General Dealer	Llanaber, Merion
Eleanor Griffiths	Wife	M 35(1846)	General Dealer's Wife	Llangollen
John Walter Griffiths	Son	U 6(1875)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Richards	Serv	U 17(1864)	Domestic Servant	Llansantffraid

1887 Rating Survey

JP Davies & Jane Evans Morris Roberts House & Shop Castle Street

19th October 1883

J. P. DAVIES'S
GENTS' OUTFITTING
ESTABLISHMENT,
42, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN,
IS NOW OPEN
TO SUPPLY THE PUBLIC WITH
Superior Quality Clothing
At the Least Possible Profit for Ready Cash.
The public will be surprised to find at what
WONDERFUL LOW PRICES,
SUITS, OVERCOATS, HATS,
SCARFS, BRACES, &c., &c.,
OF THE BEST MAKE & QUALITY
are Sold by J. P. Davies.

To look at the Prices in the Window, or go into the Shop and inspect the Goods would at once convince every individual of the GREAT DIFFERENCE between J. P. D.'s Prices and those of the Big-Profits Shop Keepers.

In 1883 John Phillip Davies had opened a Gent's Outfitters here, although he gave the address as 42. He had the shop here for some time, but he lived lower down on Castle Street before he emigrated to South Africa about 1896.

FANCY DRAPERY,
BABY LINEN,
AND
LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING
ESTABLISHMENT,
43, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.

MRS. E. EVANS

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Llangollen and the public generally that she has commenced business at the above address with a Choice Selection of Goods of the Newest Styles and best workmanship, and hopes, by prompt attention, and strictly moderate prices, to merit a share of the public patronage.
An early inspection is respectfully invited.

April 2nd, 1887.

(2212)

1st September 1893

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.
MRS. E. EVANS
 IS NOW SHOWING
LATEST FRENCH MILLINERY
 AND
FANCY DRAPERY
 FOR THE COMING SEASON.
 An Inspection is Respectfully Solicited.
 Note the Address—
 42, CASTLE STREET,
 LLANGOLLEN.
 [NO CIRCULARS.] (3926)

Jane Evans from Llandegla had a shop here from 1887, selling babies linen and ladies' underclothing. She later branched out into fancy goods and millinery. In some advertisements she also gave the address as 42.

There was also a servants registry based here until 1906.

T J Williams originally from Carrog, draper, milliner in 1913 (when he advertised his address as 40), and 1922 but draper again in 1935.

1891

Jane Evans	Wife	W 34(1857)	Fancy Drapery	Llandegla
Albert E Evans	Son	S 9(1882)		Wrexham
Clara Blanderfield	Serv	S 24(1867)	Milliner	Newcastle, Staff

1901

Jane Evans	Head	W 44(1857)	draper	Llandegla
Albert E Evans	Son	S 19(1882)	medical student	Wrexham
Elizabeth Davies	Serv	S 25(1876)	housekeeper, dom	Bryneglwys

19th October 1906

Registry Office for Servants.
THE above Business, carried on by Mrs.
 EVANS, 43, Castle Street, has been
 TRANSFERRED TO
MONCRIEFF'S, 4, MARKET STREET.

6th August 1907

CLEARANCE SALE
NOW ON
 AT
T. J. WILLIAMS',
 43, CASTLE ST.,
 LLANGOLLEN.
GREAT REDUCTIONS
 IN
 Millinery and
 Fancy Drapery
 Of Every Description.

18th December 1908

T. J. WILLIAMS. "For Fancy Drapery go to 43, Castle-street!" We give the advice and Mr. T. J. Williams will do the rest and do it well, plies the labouring oar in connection with the Llangollen Traders' Association, of which he is hon. Secretary, and the improved conditions which he has been largely instrumental in bringing about in the trade of the town in general are abundantly in evidence in his own establishment. To few places of business in Llangollen can the purchaser go with greater certainty of obtaining complete satisfaction than to 43, Castle-street. The goods shown are of the very latest and most stylish descriptions and, to place in a sentence what could not be more adequately conveyed by columns of printed matter, the display is "one of the best." May good returns reward his enterprise!

1911 43 Castle Street Llangollen

John Williams	Head	M 46(1865)	Draper	Carrog
Martha Jane Williams	Wife	M 43(1868)		Tredegarr, Mon
Marjorie Williams	Dau	S 13(1898)	School	Tredegarr, Mon
Grace Beryl Williams	Dau	S 10(1901)	School	Tredegarr, Mon
Mary Edwards	Vis	W 54(1857)		Beaufort, Brecon
Kate Lewis	Serv	S 20(1891)	General Domestic	Gwyddelwern

1939

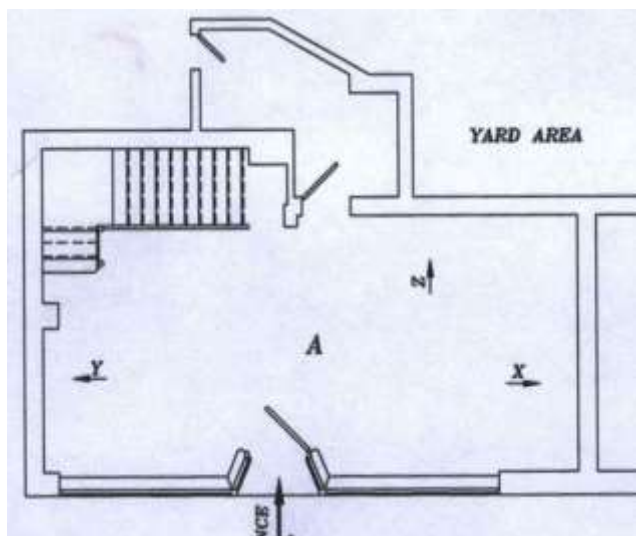
John Evans	15-Sep-01	Married	Grocer Provision Merchant
Gwyneth Evans	02-Sep-05	Married	Household Duties (Owen?)
John Lynn Evans	05-Aug-33	Single	At School

1st August 1950

*J. EVANS,
FOOD SPECIALIST,
43, CASTLE STREET,*

Begs- to announce that he now has a constant supply of-Delicious Ice Cream. Also Quick-Frozen Fruit & Vegetables. An excellent variety of SUMMER FRUITS for your WINTER PARTIES

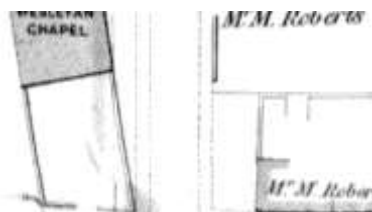
By the late 1930's the shop was a grocery shop run by John Evans, but they retired to Denbigh in the 1960's. In the 1980's it was a restaurant, Cegin Collen. In the 2001 it became a specialist supplier of handmade candles, Candlepower, run by Asheton and Chris Crawley.. In April 2008 it became Karian, selling jewellery, ornaments, crystals, pictures and clothes, with an art gallery/ framing shop upstairs, run by KAREN and IAN Pendragon. In 2012 it received planning permission to become a Chinese takeaway. The present business is called Chopsticks.



45 Castle Street



1858



1862



1873

This building was erected by Morris Roberts at some time in the 1860's. The earliest recorded occupant was John Williams, a saddler, formerly in Hall Street. He was recorded as being here in 1868, in 1870 his first wife, Margaret, died. He shortly afterwards married, Elizabeth, who died in 1909. It was about this time that he retired to Brygwyn, where he died in August 1918. Apart from his skills in Harness making and saddlery he was also a stalwart member of the Welsh Wesleyan movement, to which he had been a generous supporter.

28th February 1868

THE GALE

Some children were actually raised from the ground in Castle-street. When the gale was at its height, a window on the upper story of the house adjoining Mr. Williams's, saddler, was blown in. Fortunately no parties lived in the house.

1871

John Williams	Head	W 30(1841)	Saddler	Llangollen
Thomas Williams	Son	S 6(1865)	Scholar	Llangollen
Margaret Williams	Dau	S 5(1866)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Jane Williams	Dau	S 3(1868)	Scholar	Llangollen
William Williams	Father	M 63(1808)	Currier	Llangollen
Mary Williams	Mother	M 67(1804)		Mold, Flint
John Edwin Davies	Appre	S 15(1856)	Saddler's appren	Llangollen

1881

John Williams	Head	M 43(1838)	Saddler	Llangollen
Elizabeth Williams	Wife	M 50(1831)	Saddler's Wife	Llangollen
Thomas Williams	Son	S 16(1865)	Saddler's Apprentice	Llangollen
Mary Ann Williams	Dau	s 15(1866)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Jane Williams	Dau	s 13(1868)	Scholar	Llangollen

19th August 1887

A Request

Mr. John Williams, saddler, Castle- street, was refused permission to place up a temporary table in front of his shop, for the purpose of exposing his goods, as the Board had no power to grant such a request.

1891

John Williams	Head	M 53(1838)	Saddler	Llangollen
Elizabeth Williams	Wife	M 60(1831)		Llangollen
Thomas Williams	Son	S 26(1865)	Saddler	Llangollen
Mary A Williams	Dau	S 25(1866)		Llangollen

3rd July 1891

LOCAL INDUSTRY. Mr. John Williams, saddler of this town, has now on view in his establishment in Castle-street, a magnificent set of "four-in-hand" harness which have been specially made for Mr George Richmond, the well-known coach proprietor of Ardwick, Manchester, to whom has been entrusted the important contract of conveying the mails by road between Manchester and Liverpool We congratulate Mr. Williams upon the workman- like manner in which he has carried out this important order, and that he has been able for many years past to give entire satisfaction to a gentleman of Mr. Richmond's wide and varied experience.

1901

John Williams	Head	M	65(1836)	Saddle & Harness maker	Llangollen
Elizabeth Williams	Wife	M	71(1830)		Llangollen
Mary A Williams	Dau	S	32(1869)		Llangollen
Elizabeth J Williams	Dau	S	30(1871)	ass Scholl teacher	Llangollen
Annie Mason	Niece	S	14(1887)		Manchester

23rd August 1918

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WILLIAMS.

We regret to record the death at the advanced age of 80 -years of Mr. John Williams, who passed peacefully away after a long illness, on August 15th, at his residence, Bryngwyn. Mr. Williams who, .was a well-known saddler in the district, retired from business ten years ago. He had for many years been a member and steward of the Welsh Wesleyan Church, and took a great interest, in the erection of the new chapel to which he gave generous aid. Mr. Williams will be missed in; many ways, and much sympathy is felt. With the two daughters who survive him. The funeral took place on Saturday, the service in the home being conducted by the Rey. G. Humphrey, Pontypridd, the Rev. Elvin Humphreys. Llanrwst, and at the Vron ceremony -by the Rev. Rees. Jones and the Rev. T. C. Anwyl. Wreaths, were sent by the Misses Williams, Bryngwyn (daughters), the Rev. H. G. and E. J. Humphreys, the Misses Elvina and Olwen Jones Bangor. Miss M. -C. Clarke; Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds and family. Manchester. Mr. and Mrs Ralph Darlington, Mr. and Miss Horspool, Cherry Tree, Mrs. Lloyd and family. Dee Cottage. The mourners were the Misses Williams (daughters), Rev and Mrs. T. Jones Humphreys. -Wrexham (cousins), the Rev H G Humphreys. Pontypridd (nephew), the Rev E. J Humphreys, Eglwysbach (nephew), Mrs., Edwards, Wrexham, Mrs Reynolds, Manchester, Mrs A W Davies and Master Hugh Owen Davies, Bethesda.



The "CORNER" CAFE
(Top of CASTLE STREET).
Proprietor - - IVOR ROWLANDS



Head Chef de Cuisine
Officer's Mess - 2nd
Life Guards
Wrexham County
Club
and O.P.O. London

COOK, CONFECTIONER, & CATERER.

LUNCHEONS - LUNCHEONS, TEAS.

Chairs, Picnic and Excursion Parties
Catered for.

Charitable parties should write for SPECIAL
TERMS.

Family Bread and Biscuit Baker.

Pastries and Cakes in great variety.

Visitors are respectfully
requested to give
our Bread and Cakes
a trial.




In 1902 Ivor Hael Rowlands, a baker and confectioner, born in Caerphilly, trained in London set up in business at 11 Berwyn Street. By the start of 1911 he had moved into No 45. He

later expanded his business with the Glyn Café Hall Street. Both he and his wife took an active part in local affairs, being involved the Hospital, Silver Band, Operatic Society and the school. Ivor was here until he sold the business in 1945.

1911 45 Castle Street Llangollen Denbighshire

Ivor Hael Rowlands	Head	M 39(1872)	Baker and Confectioner	Caerphilly
Catherine Pryce Rowlands	Wife	M 34(1877)	Assistant in Business	Glyndyfrdwy
John Morris Rowlands	Son	S 8(1903)	School	Llangollen
Wilfrid Hugh Rowlands	Son	S 6(1905)	School	Llangollen
Thomas Lloyd Rowlands	Son	S 4(1907)	School	Llangollen
Cathrine Jones	Aunt	W 74(1837)		Llangollen
Kate Roberts	Serv	S 34(1877)	Servant	Rhosllanerchrugog

1939 45 Castle Street

1 Ivor H Rowlands	09 Jul 1871	Married	Confectioner Caterer
2 Catherine P Rowlands	05 Dec 1875	Married	Domestic Service
3 Wilfred H Rowlands	16-Jun-04	Single	Builders Plasterer
4 Ellen L Barber later Humphreys	03-Feb-23	Single	Domestic
5 Clarence K Herniman	15-Oct-13	Single	Assistant Baker

6

23rd March 1948

THE LATE

MR. IVOR HAEI ROWLANDS.

Though Mr. Rowlands had been failing in health for 'some time, and especially during the past winter months, the whole town was grieved by his passing. After being confined to bed for some three weeks he died peacefully in his sleep on Monday night, March 15th.

The funeral took place at the Vron Cemetery on Thursday, March 18th, at 2.30 p.m. The Rev. L. Coombs conducted a service at his residence, The Cottage, Birch Hill, and both he and the Rev. Robert Davies Officiated at the graveside. The chief mourners were: Mrs. Rowlands (widow); Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Rowlands (son and daughter-in-law), Messrs. Wilfrid & Lloyd Rowlands (sons); Miss Elsie Rowlands (daughter), Mrs. T. Swain (niece); Miss D Edwards ' (cousin), Mr. Arthur Davies, Wrexham.

Floral tributes were received from His Wife, Maurice, Wilfrid, Lloyd & Elsie; Maurice, Edith, Gwen and Eric; Mabel, .84 Ruabon Road Wrexham; Mr. Wynn Morris, Johannesburg; Mrs. Jonathan Roberts, Wrexham Mrs. Cadenn, Cardiff; Mr. Jocelyn Davies and family, Cardiff; Thomas and Ernest Rowlands, London; Llangollen Urban District Council; The Governors of Llangollen Grammar School ; Messrs. Ivor Rowlands Ltd.; The Staff of the Glyn Cafe; The Staff of the Corner Cafe; The Staff of Morris's Cafe; Mr. Arthur Davies, Wrexham; Mr. R. Llewelyn Hughes; Misses Overson; Mrs., Davies and Mrs. Ellis, Church St.; All at 19 John St.; Tom, Lily, Wynn and Pam, Vron Bache ; Mr. and Mrs. Pugh, Vera and Ann, Central Stores; Mrs. Lewis and Robert, Castle St.; Miss Freda Hayward; Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Minnie Littlejohns.

,

Mr. Ivor Rowlands had been, in business in Llangollen since 1902, first in the shop now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jones, and since 1911 at the Corner Cafe, Castle St., till 1945 when he sold his business. During this time he had also acquired the Glyn Cafe and throughout the period took the keenest interest in the affairs of the last election was the first subsequent one for which he did not stand.

He was also a member of the Hospital Committee and one of the founders both of the Town Band and the Operatic Society his part in the Yeomen of the Guard is still remembered by the older generation. A great reader and a keen debater, he was particularly interested in his work as one of the Governors of the Grammar School, the only public position, which he still held at the time

of his death, and while still able to go out in recent months his favourite walks were to view the new Pengwern houses and to go down Castle Street and meet old friends and business acquaintances

20th Feb 1968

THE LATE MRS. IVOR ROWLANDS.

Mrs Catherine Price Rowlands, whose death on Feb. 14 was briefly noted in our last issue, tho' all her life so closely identified with Llangollen, was born in Glyndyfrdwy where her father, Mr. John Morris was then in business. But he soon came to Llangollen as manager of Coward's Timber Yard, a position he retained all his life. On her father's aide, Mrs. Rowlands was descended from the Hughes family of Sarphele, Llanarmon D.C., and on her Mother's from the Davies family, Clocaenog.

She took a great interest in the history of both families, the Hughes especially numbering many personalities influential in the professional and public life in Denbighshire and the borders. She had a remarkable memory and was much sought after by those interested in local history. Her great love was for Plas Newydd.

Her husband Mr Ivor Hael Rowlands died in March 1948, two years after retiring from business as baker and confectioner at 45, Castle Street, and going to reside at the Cottage Birch Hill where in her latter years Mrs. Rowlands was so well cared for by her sons, One of her hobbies was wood carving and a later one embroidery and wool-work. Her keen interest in local affairs and her powers of conversation were maintained to the end. She had only three days illness due to a fall which caused a double fracture. Mrs. Rowlands attained her 93rd birthday on Dec5th last.

The funeral which was private took place on Monday Feb 19th. The Rev. Meurig Roberts assisted by the Rev J. Roger Roberts conducted the service at Pentre Bychan Crematorium. The family mourners were: Mr. Morris Rowlands, Mr Wilfred Rowlands, and Mr Lloyd Rowlands (sons); Mr and Mrs H C Corkhill, Bebington (adopted daughter) Mr Eric Rowlands and Mr. and Mrs R. Jones, Mold (grandson and grand-daughter); Miss Dilys Edwards, Wrexham (cousin); Miss Lala Jones, Mrs Downham, Mrs. Wooding, Mrs. Hughes 55 Maes Pengwern, Miss Beryl Roberts and Mrs. Amy Miller Trevor (neighbours and friends). At a later date the ashes will be interred in the family grave in Fron Cemetery.



As late as 1957 the business continued, still using the Ivor Rowlands name, although subsequently the alternative name of Corner Café was also being used. In 1958 the manageress of the café was Charlotte Friede Rother, a naturalised German, who later changed her name by deed poll to Williams. In the 1960 the right hand side of the building was a fish and chip shop.

Later in March 1978 the main building became the Silver Palace Takeaway. Today it is known as the Llangollen Kebab Shop



11th January 1978

SEEKING BARGAINS

There was last week one scene of great activity: housewives in crowds at the International Stores, clearing their shelves at greatly reduced prices. By Friday afternoon they were empty and the staff were busy cleaning up preparatory to the Re-opening on the 16th.

And at the Corner Cafe, workmen were busy adapting it to be a Chinese Restaurant. There will also be a take-away service. And the Laundry Depot finally closed its' doors on Saturday.

29th March 1978

WHAT'S GOING ON IN TOWN

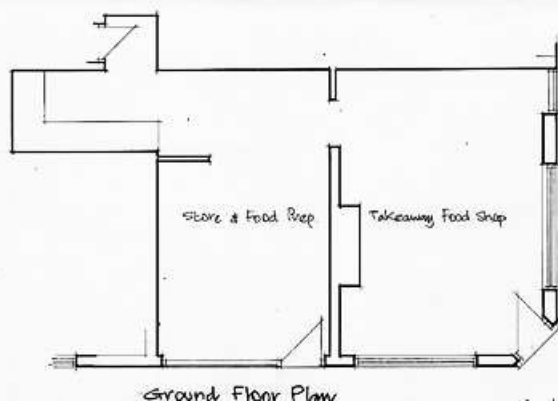
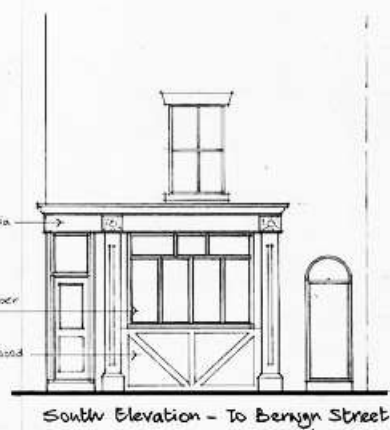
A china shop has opened in the Castle Street premises formerly known as Pandora's Box & the Corner Cafe is open for the sale of Chinese take-away food, of which there is a very varied menu. Glanafon is being converted to an hotel.

August 2005

The Town Council is to make representations to the Denbighshire County Council Licensing Department regarding the recent application for a 'Premises Licence' for the Charcoal Grill Kebab & Pizza shop at 45 Castle Street. Llangollen.



Tony Daniels 1970's



Dee Temperance Hotel/Caesar's Restaurant/Dee Side Bistro



1911 map



The DEE TEMPERANCE HOTEL.

Prior to 1890 this plot of land belonged to Mr Dicken, together with the land along the riverside up to Cerig-y-Llan. It was known as Dee Lane. There was a row buildings on the south side, starting with The Crow Castle Inn, and next door the house and smithy belonging to William Edwards, the Blacksmith. From the 1870's there had been proposals made to improve the area, In 1875 John Edwards, William's son, also a blacksmith, married Harriet Ellis of the Royal Hotel. A week later he had been granted the license of the Crow Castle Inn

1861 Census Dee Lane

William Edwards	Head	M	52(1809)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Elizabeth Edwards	Wife	M	42(1819)		Glyndyfrdwy
Richard Edwards	Son	S	19(1842)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
John Edwards	Son	S	16(1845)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
William Edwards	Son	S	14(1847)	Scholar	Llantysilio
Ann Edwards	Dau	S	10(1851)	Scholar	Llantysilio
Robert Edwards	Son	S	8(1853)	Scholar	Llantysilio
Joseph Edwards	Son	S	2(1859)		Llantysilio

1871 Census Dee Lane

Willm Edwards	Head	M	62(1809)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Elizth Edwards	Wife	M	52(1819)		Corwen
John Edwards	Son	S	27(1844)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
William Edwards	Son	S	24(1847)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Robert Edwards	Son	S	14(1857)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Joseph Edwards	Son	S	12(1859)	Scholar	Llangollen
Margaret I Edwards	Dau	S	8(1863)	Scholar	Llangollen

1881 Census Crow Castle

John Edwards	Head	M	35(1846)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Harriet Edwards	Wife	M	33(1848)		Staleybridge
Mary J. Edwards	Dau	S	4(1877)	Scholar	Llangollen
William Edwards	Son	S	3(1878)	Scholar	Llangollen
Sarah Jones	Serv	S	17(1864)	Gen Serv	Llangollen

John Edwards retained the license until 1882, but Harriet ran the Inn whilst John continued to work as a blacksmith. It is possible that at this point the couple ran a Temperance House in

Castle Street. In January 1888 John Edwards submitted plans for the Dee Temperance Hotel to the council. They objected on the grounds that the building was too narrow for its height, and the materials were of poor quality. There were also issues regarding access to the river, and an iron ladder had to be fitted.

26th November 1875

IMPROVEMENT. The Local Board have, at last, rebuilt the wall lying between Dee-lane and the river, which had been in ruins for several years, and which was in a most dangerous condition. The Board have been contemplating improvements on a much larger scale in this part, but owing to the refusal of a land-owner to comply with its wishes, the intended improvements cannot be proceeded with at present.

11th July 1879

Encroachment in Dee Lane.-Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. R. Roberts, baker, to inform him that no plan had been sent in of his building, and requesting him to send in same (without prejudice to Board's rights, as to his present infringement of the Bye-laws), and that Mr. R. Jones should be requested to send in his plan properly completed.

15th October 1886

Proposed Improvements in Dee Lane, The chairman announced that, in obedience to the wishes of the Board, expressed at the last meeting, he had had several interviews with Mr. Dickin, and had received some communications from him upon the subject of improving Dee-lane, and the approach to the river at Ceryg-y-Llan. Mr. Dickin was willing to transfer to them the plot of land near the bridge, extending along Dee-lane to the property of Mr. Wm. Jones the Mill, on condition that the Board repair the river wall, fence the property from the road, and plant it with ornamental trees. Mr. Dickin now received 4s. a year rent for this plot, and he proposed granting to the Board a lease on it at a yearly rental to that amount. In addition to this he would grant permission to the Board to make a footpath from the end of Parade-street to the river side, provided they would undertake to lay it out and fence it. This right, it was proposed, should be subject to a nominal rent. Plans of the proposed improvements were laid on the table. Mr. Wm. Jones pointed out that at the point opposite the smithy there was now sufficient space to turn a cart or a waggon. If the land was, according to the plan, fenced that would be impossible, and would, therefore, cause a great deal of inconvenience. If, however, the fence could be put back at that point about a yard he would have no objection to concede a corner of the pigsty wall which belonged to him, in order to widen the road at that part. All the members having expressed their opinions on the matter, a resolution was adopted leaving the matter in the chairman's hand to complete the necessary arrangements with Mr. Dickin.

13th January 1888

Proposed New House in Dee Mill Lane.-The surveyor submitted the plans for the proposed erection of a house, by Mr. John Edwards, Temperance House, Castle-street, on the strip of land adjoining the river wall in Dee Mill-lane. A letter was read from Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Wm. Edwards, owners and occupiers of houses on the other side of the lane, stating they would offer no objection to the proposed buildings. A letter signed by Messrs. John Morris, Evan Evans, and R. R. Williams, trustees of the remaining cottages in the lane, was also read, objecting to the street being made narrower in front of such cottages. The Board having inspected the plans, the surveyor, in reply to the chairman, said that they were not in accordance with the bye-laws. The road was only 13 feet 3 inches wide, while the proposed building was to be about 23 feet. According to the bye-laws, the building should not be higher than the width of the street. Mr. Wm. Jones said the point was whether the Board would exercise its power to modify the bye-laws so as to grant permission to erect this house. The chairman remarked that he was sorry to find that nothing was intended to be done to the river wall, which was such an unsightly object from the station, and that a space was left open in front of the smithy, which would still enable people to throw refuse into the river, so that in fact the

proposed building would be but a very little improvement to the place. The style of building was very poor. No room was more than 10 feet inside. The walls were very thin, and the bricks fastened together by means of iron girders. The Board certainly could not sanction the erection of such a structure, which would be liable to be blown down by a strong gale of wind. He would, therefore, propose that the Board did not consider the plans were in accord with their bye-laws, and that they saw no reason to modify the bye-laws to suit this particular case. Mr. Lloyd Jones seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted. The chairman suggested that the surveyor should see Mr. Edwards upon the matter, and endeavour to have the plans so modified as to meet with the approval of the Board, as there was no desire in any way to interpose any obstruction to the erection of a suitable building on this site.-The surveyor said that since the original plan had been drawn the building had been put back considerably further from the bridge, so that now it would not interfere at all with the cottages belonging to the trustees of the late Mr. Robert Jones.

10th February 1888

House in Dee Mill Lane.-The committee reported that Mr. Ed. Morris, builder, had submitted new plans for the proposed house in Dee Mill-lane. These plans were fully discussed and the committee recommended that they should be submitted to this meeting, with a specification of the materials, &c., with which the building was proposed to be erected. During the discussion of this question, it was stated that Mr. John Edwards intended in the erection of this house to point the remaining portion of the river wall above the bridge, so that it would assume a neat and tidy appearance. The steps down to the river at this point would also be repaired, and the public rights to the river reserved. -The members expressed general approval of the plans, and considered that in their altered form they complied with the Bye-laws of the Board. Mr. Ed. Evans wrote expressing regret that owing to the sudden death of his esteemed partner, Mr. Morris, the complete plans and specifications could not be prepared in time for this meeting.

16th March 1888

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM EDWARDS, DEE-LANE.

As going to press last week we had the regretful 11 el duty to merely record the death of the above well- known and aged resident of Llangollen. Mr. Edwards was born at the Green, this town, on February 2nd, 1808, and his parents, we understand, were also natives of this vale. Deceased had for many years carried on a successful trade as black-smith, when, in the year 1838, he was married to Elizabeth, who survives him, and by whom he had an issue of nine children, seven of these being now living. Prior to his marriage, he was in business at Rhewl, Llantysilio, from which place he removed to Castle Street-square, where he carried on an active trade during the old coaching days. Thence he removed to Dee-lane, which premises he purchased at the time of the Trevor Hall Estate sale of that property, about twenty-five years ago, where through diligence and uprightness he was successful in commanding a large and remunerative business. Mr. Edwards was a man of thoroughly good habits, being always faithful, honest, and strict. He was naturally of a jocular disposition and even in his old age he did not resign the practice of diverting or making merry by words or actions those around him. He was an exceptionally early riser, a faithful husband, and a kind father, and was moderate and regular in his habits, by which he set a good example for his offspring. Three weeks prior to his demise deceased was able to go about, though much affected with the infirmities of old age, but after a short period of confinement to bed Mr. Edwards calmly and peacefully passed away at the ripe age of 80 years. His familiar features will not be a little missed amongst us. Much sympathy is expressed for the family. Deceased was a member of Zion church. A large concourse of people assembled on Monday to show their last tribute of respect to the memory of the departed, there being among them a great number of farmers and others from a distance. The funeral service at the house was conducted by the Revs. W. Davies and W. Foulkes, and at the church by the Rev. E. R. James, B.D., vicar.

13th July 1888

The Steps to the River in Dee-lane.

Mr. Rogers asked whether it would not be prudent for the public to preserve their right of way to the river over the wall by the new temperance house in Dee-lane? At present it was being closed in - he chairman and others thought that on account of the very dangerous nature of the place, the public right of way, if any, should be waived-The matter was allowed to drop.

11th July 1890

Alleged Interference with a Right of way:- Mr. J. E. Jones called attention to the fact that the approach to the steps leading to the river side at the end of Edwards s Temperance Hotel, in Dee-lane, had been closed. Mr. E. II. Roberts said he remembered well that when the plans of this house were brought before the Board for approval, a dotted line showed an access to these steps. In reply to a question he then gave to the builder, he was told that it was a public access to the river. This, however, had been closed after the plans were passed.

15th August 1890

Right of Way to River in Dee Lane.

The committee went to view that portion of Dee-lane at the west end of Mr. John Edwards's, Temperance Hotel, and found that the right of way to the river opposite the smithy has been interfered with, a wall having been built across it, and recommend that notice be served upon the occupier, Mr. John Edwards, to open the path. The committee further recommend that an iron ladder be placed on this wall, instead of the stone steps which now exist.

12th September 1890

The minutes of the Works Committee were read. They had visited the public right of way in Dee-lane, and directed the surveyor to accept the tender of Mr. John Edwards to place an iron ladder and hand-rail at a cost of £2 10s.

1891 Census

John Edwards	Head	M 44(1847)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
Harriet Edwards	Wife	M 3(1848)	Hotel Keeper	Llarbia Warwic
Mary J Edwards	Dau	S 13(1878)		Llangollen
William Edwards	Son	S 11(1880)		Llangollen
John H Edwards	Son	S 3(1888)		Llangollen

1901 Census

John Edwards	Head	M 55(1846)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
Harriet Edwards	Wife	M 54(1847)	Hotel Keeper	Stourbridge
John H Edwards	Son	S 14(1887)		Llangollen
John G Jones	Serv	S 23(1878)	Blacksmith	Cerrig Y Druidion
Dinah Roberts	Serv	S 15(1886)	Gen serv dom	Llangollen

1911 Census Dee Temperance Hotel Llangollen

John Edwards	Head	M 64(1847)	Blacksmith	Llantysilio
Harriet Edwards	Wife	M 63(1848)	Temperance Hotel Prop	Staleybridge
John Henry Edwards	Son	S 24(1887)	Blacksmith Working In The Shop	Llangollen
Annie Hughes	Serv	S 18(1893)	General Servant (domestic)	Corwen

14th February 1913

In Memoriam

THE LATE MR JOHN EDWARDS

It is with extreme regret that we have, this week, to re the death of Mr John Edwards, of Dee Temperance Hotel and Llangollen Smithy, which sad event took place, after a comparatively short illness, on Monday night. Mr Edwards, who was in his sixty-sixth year, was one of the most widely-known and highly-respected residents of the town. Quiet and

unostentatious yet taking a deep interest in all matters relating to the welfare of his native town, he took a prominent part in public life; but as a faithful member and office bearer in connection with the Welsh Wesleyan Church, he did excellent service to his day and generation and his kindly helping hand and encouraging smile with be missed in many directions to which his soothing words had been constantly demonstrated. He took over the smithy in Dee upon the death of his father, the late Mr William Edwards and, at the Temperance hotel close by, during the years that he occupied it, had become widely known and highly esteemed by a large number of summer visitors to the valley, who will receive the tidings of his death with deep regret. He leaves behind him a widow and three children – two sons and a daughter – to mourn his loss. The funeral which was very largely attended was held yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, the Rev W R Roberts officiating at the Cemetery where the interment was made. A memorial service will be held at the Welsh Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday evening.

March 1972

THE LATE MR J H EDWARDS



Through the death on March 21st of Mr Edwards, affectionately known to us all as Jack-y-Go - Llangollen has lost a familiar figure who will be greatly missed. Following his father as blacksmith and ironmonger at Dee Lane he served the community well and was always ready to help in his quiet undemonstrative way. He married Miss Mary Hampson of Corwen who predeceased him in Feb 1954 and their home in Dee Lane was unchanged till the rebuilding of the premises after the widening of the Bridge, in all of which Mr. Edwards took a great interest. Mr Edwards was 87 years of age, and the last of his generation in a family very well-known in Llangollen.

An unfortunate accident about Christmas time entailed treatment in hospital with intervals at Gladwyn Home.

The funeral took place on Thursday at St John's where the Vicar took the service in Church and at the interment.

The family mourners were: Mr J H Edwards (son); Mr &

Mrs Eric Edwards (son & daughter-in-law); Mrs Walter Richards (sister-in-law); Mr & Mrs Robert Ellis; Mr. & Mrs. Barry Lewis; Mr Peter Edwards, Miss Julie Edwards; Mr & Mrs Gareth Phillips, Dergoed (grandchildren) and Mr Geraint Jones, Acrefair.

Many friends, especially from the farming community also attended. The bearers were Elwyn Jones, Glynceiriog, Ceiriog Jones, John Ridge & W Blake, Sun Bank.

Very many beautiful floral tributes were received from family and friends.

In February 1913 John Edwards died, and by 1920 when his widow Harriet died, the family had moved to West Street, and the Dee Temperance Hotel was under the charge of Nora Roberts and Miss Mond. Nora Roberts was still there in 1939, but Miss Mond was not.

21st June 1918

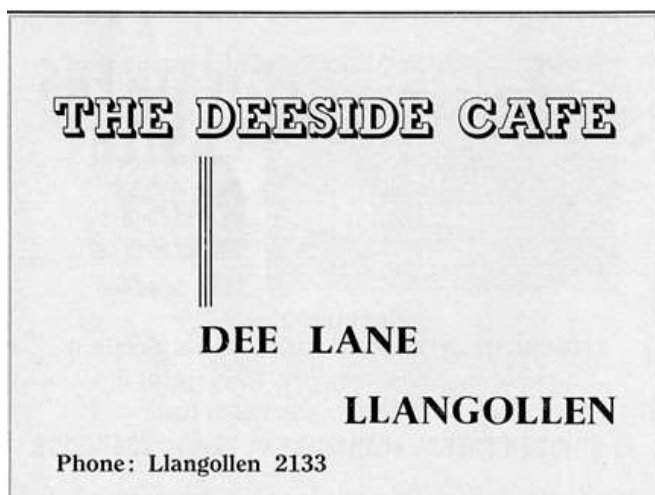
CHARGE OF ASSAULT. Friday, before Mr. E. R. Parry (in the chair), Mr. T. C. Davies. Mr. W. Pencerdd Williams and Mr. Hamlyn Price. F. V. Bloomvors, a Russian Finn, employed at the Board of Trade Timber Camp, Llangollen, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly on the previous night P.S. Jones proved the case and defendant was fined 35s.-A further charge was preferred against defendant for damage done to the Dee Temperance Hotel. and also for assaulting Miss Roberts and Miss Mond, the proprietresses,-Defendant was sent to three months' hard labour on both charges, the sentence to run concurrently, and also recommended for deportation.

1939 Register

Nora M Roberts	10 Oct 1881	S	Cafe Proprietress
Annie E Brown	11 Feb 1902	S	Companion Help
Thomas R Hodges	26 Aug 1872	M	Solicitor Retired
Mary M Hodges	15 Dec 1858	M	Private Means

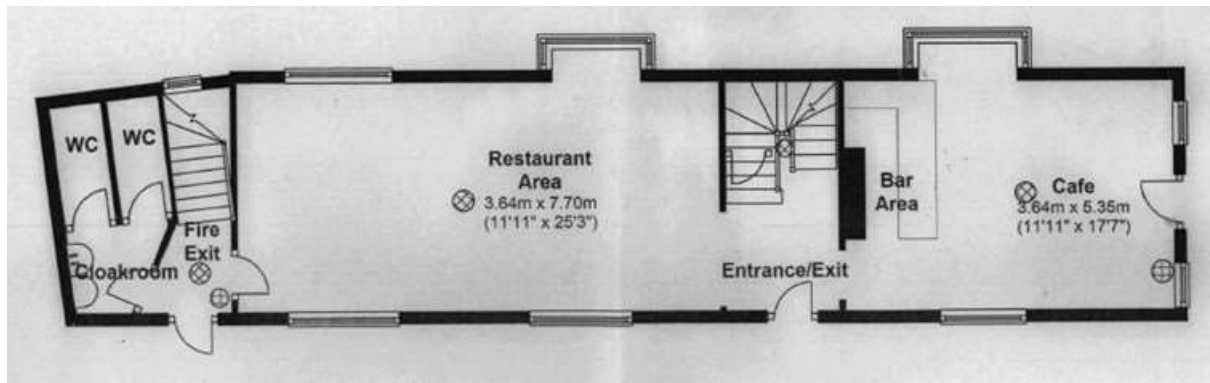


After the war Caesar Hughes, who was running a jewellery business at No 18 took over the premises, and it was renamed Ye Olde Dee-Side Shoppe. Caesar Hughes died in 1962, and by 1965 the building was again a café, this time it was known as the Deeside café.



It later became known as Caesar's Restaurant. In April 2009 Kemal Kinik took over, and it was renamed The Dee Side Bistro. Huseyin and Kemal are the Manager & Owner.



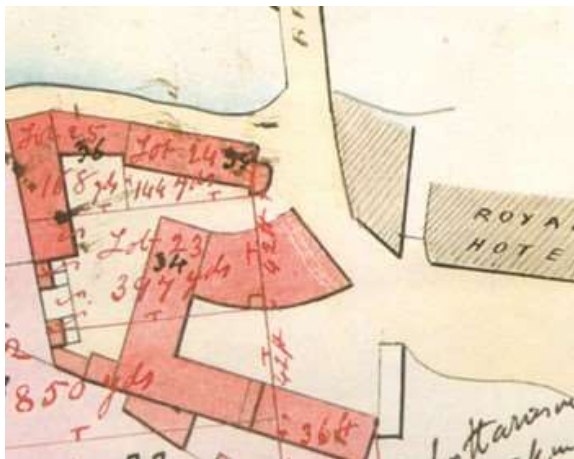


The Crow Castle



1839 Tithe Map

- 20 House owned by Hon George Dicken, occupied by Mary Minshall
 21 House & Buildings owned by Hon George Dicken occupied by Richard Arthur
 22 House & Yard owned by Hon George Dicken occupied John Francis



1858 sale

1841 Census

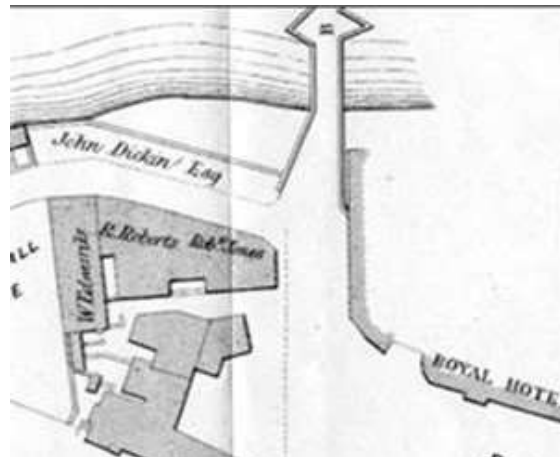
Richd Arthur	32(1809)	Labourer
Mary Arthur	30(1811)	
John Arthur	6m(1840)	
Margt Evans	14(1827)	
Eliz Jones	9(1832)	

1851 Census Dee Place Square

Robert Jones	Head	M	34(1817)	Shoemaker
Ann Jones	Wife	M	34(1817)	Shoe builder
Lot Jones	Son	S	8(1843)	
Mary Jones	Dau	S	4(1847)	
Thomas Williams	Visit	S	25(1826)	Shoemaker

1861 Census Dee Lane

Robert Jones	Head	M	45(1816)	Shoemaker
Ann Jones	Wife	M	47(1814)	



1862 sale

Denbighshire
Denbighshire
Denbighshire
Denbighshire
Denbighshire

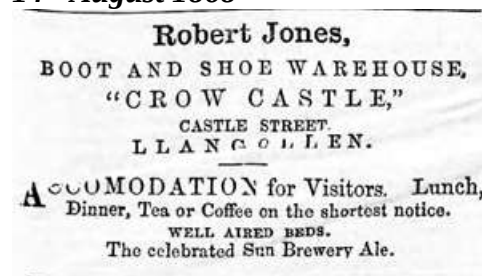
Llangollen
Northamptonshire
Llangollen
Llangollen
Llangwyme

Llangollen
Northamptonshire

Lot Jones	Son	S 17(1844)	Shoemaker	Llangollen
Mary Jones	Dau	S 13(1848)	House serv	Llangollen
Samuel Jones	Son	S 9(1852)	Scholar	Llangollen
Thomas Jones	Son	S 4(1857)	Scholar	Llangollen

At the time of the 1839 tithe this property was owned by George Dicken, and occupied by Richard Arthur, a labourer, but by 1851 the occupant was Robert Jones, a shoemaker. He had been born in Llangollen, as had all his children. By 1868 the Crow Castle was supplying beer brewed by the Sun Brewery. Robert passed the license to John Edwards in 1875, and his family lived in Dee Lane until after 1881, but in that census he is shown as living in No 4, whilst the new licensee John Edwards, a blacksmith, occupied the Crow Castle next door. John's wife Harriet had worked in the Royal Hotel before their marriage. John Edwards later built the Dee Temperance Hotel on the opposite side of Dee Lane, and lived there until his death in 1913.

14th August 1868



25th March 1870

MARRIAGES

On the 24th, by license, at the English Independent Chapel, Cefn Mawr, by the Rev. J. A. Morris, Mr. R. Share, Cefn Mawr, to Mary, only daughter of Mr. R. Jones, Crow Castle Hotel, Llangollen.

17th February 1871

BIRTHS.

Feb. 12th, Mary, the daughter of Mr. Robert Jones, Crow Castle, this town, of a son.

1871 Census Dee Lane

Robert Jones	Head	M 53(1818)	Shoemaker	Llangollen
Ann Jones	Wife	M 55(1816)		Northampton
Lot Jones	Son	S 25(1846)	Solicitor's clerk	Llangollen
Mary Share	Dau	M 23(1848)		Llangollen
Austin Share	Gson	S 1m(1871)		Llangollen

30th April 1875

Transfer of Licences. An application was made for the transfer of the licence of the Crow Castle Tavern, Llangollen, from Mr. Robert Jones to Mr. John Edwards. Inspector Humphreys, in reply to the Bench, said he had no objection, and remarked that the house had been very well kept by Mr. Jones, and hoped that Mr. Edwards would follow his example. Granted.

17th November 1876

BIRTHS.

Nov. 12th, the wife of Mr. John Edwards, Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen, of a daughter.

18th January 1878

BIRTHS.

Jan. 16th, the wife of Mr. John Edwards, Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen, of a son.

7th November 1879

BIRTHS.

Nov. 2nd, the wife of Mr. John Edwards, Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen, of a son

5th March 1880

DEATHS.

March 2nd, aged 4 months, Joseph, the infant son of Mr. John Edwards, Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen.

1881 Census

4 Dee Lane

Robert Jones	Head	M 64(1817)	Shoemaker	Llangollen
Ann Jones	Wife	M 66(1815)		Crick, Northants
Lot Jones	Son	S 40(1841)	Shoemaker	Llangollen
Mary Shane	Dau	M 30(1851)	Wife of Insurance Agent	Llangollen
Austin Shane	Gdson	S 10(1871)	Scholar	Llangollen

Crow Castle

John Edwards	Head	M 35(1846)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Harriet Edwards	Wife	M 33(1848)		Staleybridge
Mary J. Edwards	Dau	S 4(1877)	Scholar	Llangollen
William Edwards	Son	S 3(1878)	Scholar	Llangollen
Sarah Jones	Serv	S 17(1864)	FemaleGen Serv	Llangollen

1st December 1882

Licenses. The licence of the Talbot Inn, Llangollen, was temporarily transferred from Mrs. Matthews to Mr. John Morris, and that of the Crow Castle Inn from Mr. John Edwards to Mrs. Matthews.

In 1882 Sarah Matthews from the Talbot took over until her death in 1884, when her son in law David C Parry took over. He was replaced by Mrs Ann Jones in 1886, and R Humphreys in 1887. In 1892 the heirs of Robert Jones, shoemaker, the original landlord put the property up for auction, but withdrew it at £750. Subsequently Edward Barlow formerly a fish dealer from Bridge St, and in the employ of the Llangollen Mineral Water Company took over until his death on 27th December 1899. R Baker & Co, presumably having bought it from the heirs of Robert Jones put the property up to let in 1900. The new tenant was John Watkin, a bricklayers labourer, and his wife Ann (formerly Jasper) who had been a maid at the Prince of Wales.

24th October 1884

DEATHS.

Oct. 18th, at the Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen, aged 62, Mrs. Sarah Matthews, the beloved wife of the late Mr. Robert Matthews, of Llangollen. Her mortal remains were interred with every respect at Penybryn Chapel Cemetery, on Tuesday. The Rev. D. Williams (Welsh Baptist minister) officiated at the house, and the Revs. J. Williams (English Baptist minister) and Principal Davies delivered most appropriate addresses by the grave.

2nd January 1885

Transfer. The licence of the Crow Castle Inn was temporarily transferred to Mr. David C. Parry, son-in-law of the late Mrs. Mathews, the former tenant.

3rd December 1886

Transfers,-The licence of the Church-street Vaults was transferred to Mr. John Foulkes, that of the Crow Castle Vaults to Mrs. Ann Jones, and that of the Queen Inn to Mr. Richard Morris.

2nd September 1887

The licences were then all renewed, the licence of the Grapes Hotel, Llangollen, transferred to Miss Davies that of the White Lion, Froncyssylltau, to Edward Jasper and of the Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen, to R. Humphreys.

1st January 1892

A temporary transfer of the Crow Castle Vaults, Dee-lane, was granted to Mr. John Edwards,

10th June 1892

TOWN OF LLANGOLLEN.
DENBIGHSHIRE.
FREEHOLD PROPERTY.

MR. E. EDWARDS has been instructed to
SELL BY AUCTION, at
THE GRAPES HOTEL, LLANGOLLEN,
On *TUESDAY, the 14th day of JUNE, 1892,*
At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions.

Lot 1.

All that Freehold Old-established BEER HOUSE,
known as the
"CROW CASTLE,"

Situate at the corner of Castle-street and Dee-lane, in close proximity to the Llangollen Bridge, in the occupation of Mr. John Edwards, together with the two FREEHOLD COTTAGES adjoining, situated and being Nos. 1 and 2, Dee-lane, in the occupation of Messrs. Evan Jones and William Jones respectively.

This Lot occupies one of the best Business Sites in the town of Llangollen, and is sold subject to a lease for the term of 14 years from the 1st day of November, 1890, at the rental of £43 per annum.

17th June 1892

SALE OF PROPERTY. On Tuesday, Mr. Edward Edwards, auctioneer, conducted a sale of property in the Grapes Club-room, comprising three lots, which formerly was in the possession of the late Mr. Robert Jones, boot and shoe maker, in this town. The first lot comprised all that freehold old-established beer house, known as the Crow Castle," situated at the corner of Castle-street and Dee-lane, in the occupation of Mr. John Edwards, together with the two freehold cottages adjoining. This lot was, however, withdrawn at £750.

5th January 1900

TO LET, the "CROW CASTLE" INN, immediate
possession. Apply—Messrs. R. BAKER & Co.,
Llangollen. (7782)

2nd February 1900

At the Llangollen Police Court, on Tuesday, John Watkin, applied for the temporary transfer to himself of the Crow Castle, beerhouse, Castle-street. Granted.

27th April 1900

TRANSFERS. The following transfers were applied for and granted a Transfer of the Crow Castle to John Watkin;

1901 Census Crow Castle

John Watkin Head M 47(1854) Bricklayer's lab Llangollen

Ann Watkin Wife M 48(1853)
Catherine E Watkin Dau S 15(1886)

Vron
Llangollen

20th January 1905

Great surprise and profound regret was caused at Llangollen, on Tuesday morning, by the announcement that Mr. John Watkin, landlord of the "Crow Castle Inn, Castle-street, had



Crow Castle under John Watkin

passed away in the night. The deceased, who was widely known to visitors to the locality, was 51 years of age, and up to the last few weeks had been in robust health. On Saturday he was about as usual, but on Sunday complained of pains in his limbs. He went to bed on Monday in a state that gave no cause for apprehension; but, some hours afterwards, medical aid had to be summoned, and he expired from sudden failure of the heart's action

27th January 1905

THE LATE MR. JOHN WATKIN.

The death of Mr. John Watkin, landlord of the "Crow Castle" Inn, Llangollen, which took place suddenly on the 16th inst. has, as we stated last week, created a feeling of sincere regret in the community. Deceased was a very steady and industrious man, and was held in much esteem by all who knew him. He had been engaged, up to the time of his death, on the construction of the King's Bridge, at Berwyn. A large number of mourners attended the funeral which took place on Thursday, at Vron Cemetery. Wreaths were sent by the following:-

"Mrs. Watkin, family an Auntie"; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Birmingham; Mr. and Mrs. Hawthorne and family; Mr and Mrs. Bye Mr. and Miss Baker, Prince of Wales Mr. and Mrs. J. Edwards, Meadow Cottage; and Messrs. R. Baker and Co. Messrs. E. Evans and Sons were the undertakers.

27th September 1907

LOCAL WEDDING.

DARBY-WATKIN.

The marriage took place yesterday (Thursday) Llangollen Parish Church, of Mr. Sydney Darby only son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Darby, Bromwich, and Miss Kitty Watkin, youngest daughter of Mrs. Watkin, Crow Castle Inn, Llangollen. The service was conducted by the Rev T J. Davies, Llangollen. The bride was given by her uncle, Mr. Edward Jasper, Vron. bridesmaids were Miss E. A. Watkin, sister of the bride and Miss Gwladys Darby, sister of the groom. The best man was Mr. John Watkin, Llangollen. A reception was held at Mrs. E. Roberts, Castle-square, when a large number of assembled. Short speeches were made, congratulating the young couple, by the Rev. J. S. Davies. Mr Samuel Darby, Mr. Ernest Morris; Mr. Darby, responding. The presents are both numerous and costly.

The Crow Castle survived the "cull" of beer houses of 1908, and continued under the management of Ann Watkin. At some point before 1932 it did however close, and became the Yale Creamery, under E Lloyd, later David and Annie Davies with their daughter Margaret. They later specialised in sweets and confectionary, run by Margaret the Yale. The building was demolished when the Bridge was widened in 1968

5th June 1908

**LLANGOLLEN LICENCES
FIVE HOUSES TO BE CLOSED.
"CROW CASTLE" TO REMAIN.**

The Crow Castle Inn, Castle street, Llangollen, was the next house to be considered. Mr Graham, instructed by Mr Downes Powell, represented the owners and the licensee. Mr Venables said the house was in the same district as the Woolpack and the Golden Lion, which had been referred for compensation. It was a beer-house, and the rateable value £30. There were six other houses within a radius of 183 yards. Deputy Chief Constable Jones said the house belonged to Messrs Robert Baker and Co., Llangollen, and was let to Ann Watkin. The nearest house was the Royal Hotel on the opposite side of the road and the houses in close proximity were ample accommodation for the requirements. In answer to Mr Graham, witness said the house stood in one of the best positions in Llangollen. It did a good trade. He had no complaint against the house. Inspector Wyse corroborated the evidence of the last witness. Mr Robert Ll. Baker, member of the firm owning the house, said the firm did not object to the Church Street Vaults being referred for compensation, but they objected to this house going. At the request of the magistrates £400 was spent on the house four years ago. The house occupied a commanding position, and they averaged three barrels of beer per week. Mr Graham submitted that Mr Venables had failed to show any differentiation between this house and any of the others. A house situated like the Crow Castle, commanding probably the best position in Llangollen, ought not to be taken away. The trade done was ample evidence that the house was required, and he could not conceive why it should have been selected. The house not situated in a congested area. The Bench retired, and on returning after lunch, the Chairman said the license would be renewed.

18th November 1910

LLANGOLLEN LICENSES.

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE AND INCREASED CHARGES.

At the meeting of the Assessment Committee of the Corwen Union, held on Friday, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. P. Williams, Mr. Harvey Birch (from the offices of Messrs. C. Richards and Sons, Llangollen), again appeared to appeal, on behalf of Mr. R. Ll. Baker, Crown Brewery, Llangollen, for a reduction in the assessment of the "Crow Castle" Inn, Castle-street, Llangollen, by the amount of the additional license chargeable under the Finance Act, 1910. It will be remembered that, when the appeal came forward for hearing a fortnight ago, the committee adjourned coming to a decision in regard to it in order that they might obtain expert advice to guide them. Mr Birch, addressing the committee, said they invited them to adopt the case of the Crow Castle as a test case and they had selected it because it was a typical one and indicated the manner in which his clients would be affected by the working of the Finance Act. Their only object in bringing one case forward in this way was to avoid unnecessary expense, as the same arguments might be urged in regard to other houses as they brought forward in regard to the "Crow Castle." The rent of the house which was named was £36, and it was assessed at £30. Prior to the introduction of the Finance Act, the license was £ 3 10s now it was £12, and they asked that the assessment might be reduced by £8 10s., the amount of the increase in the license. They had already assessed the house at a certain value and if they were not satisfied that this assessment was right they were empowered to put it up and it would then be for the appellants to appeal against the increase if they thought fit. The reason they were in a hurry to have a decision come to in this matter was that their licenses were due and they had got to pay them and unless they got the assessment duty reduced then they would have to pay the increase. He pressed the committee to, give their decision as to whether this increased duty was right or wrong. Mr. E. P. Jones; You have selected the "Crow Castle" as a test case, Are you willing that the committee should select a house to go upon? Mr. Birch We select the; "Crow Castle as a typical case and I put it to you, as ratepayers, whether this charge, which is quite outside the ordinary routine of business, is not one from which we are entitled to relief? The Chairman: Do you suggest that this should be done before the landlord takes action? Mr. Birch The landlord has already taken action reduced the rent by £6 The Chairman You must produce the

rent book. Mr. Birch: The question is what is the house worth in the open market what would an individual pay for it.- Mr. E P. Jones: The best way to find out the value of a place is to take the rent as a basis -Mr. Birch said that thig was only the first move. If the tenant was satisfied with the reduction she got they would hear no more about it; but if they did not get justice done at the Assessment Committee, then they must take the appeals further. They were prepared to show, in regard to each individual house, that it was necessary to reduce the assessment. The Chairman Have you any authority to show us by which assessment placed upon houses have been reduced: owing to the passing of the Finance Act? How about Wrexham?-Mr. Birch said that, at Wrexham, they had not had a new valuation for years, whereas the Corwen Union had been recently re-valued.-The Chairman Well, to come to the point. what do you suggest we should do in regard to this particular house the Crow Castle Mr. Birch I think you should give the £8. -The Chairman And a similar amount pro rata off all houses where the Finance Act has increased the taxation, Mr. Birch Yes and we will supply you with full particulars to go upon, The Chairman Can you show us any single town where they have adopted the course you are asking us to adopt.-The Clerk It was not even done in London.-The Chairman Take Wrexham, the rule there is to take every case separately and, in several cases, the increase has been confirmed.-The Clerk The assessment at Wrexham is made upon the production of the receipts.-The Chairman We are willing to do all that we can, all that is fair, but you cannot expect us to bind ourselves to-day in the way that you ask us. Mr Birch Are you going to be guided entirely by what is done elsewhere and not yourselves consider the justice of the application. The increased duty, I would point cut, is an increase to the tenant and, to a certain extent, it reduces the value of the house. For this year we have to pay the license at once. Mr. E. P. Jones Say we reduced it by sixty or seventy per cent., what would yon say to that? Mr. W. H. Parry, Bridge End Hotel The trade is in a very bad way as it is and the brewers will be having houses thrown on their hands. This is only a small amount compared with what the ratepayers may have to suffer. If we get a little bit off the license, a little bit off the assessment and a little bit off the brewer we may manage to rub along.- The Chairman We are here representing the ratepayers and we must watch the interests of all the ratepayers. Mr. Birch And are we not here as ratepayers also, Under the altered conditions £36 is an outrageous rent for "the Crow Castle." The Chairman: So far as we have gone we have decided that each appeal must be tried on its merits. We have all the facts and we do not desire to try and pass anything unreasonable but we cannot go beyond what has been done in other places. Mr, Birch we will give you full information as to the increase a in each case The Clerk: You must remember that this is a national question and there appears to be no immediate call to rush it through, we can take time The Chairman And as to the licenses you can pay under protest. I am sure we shall be very glad to have the matter off our minds. Mr Baker: This this not, a general appeal it is a special appeal brought about by the Finance Act. Mr Parry Do not you admit that the assessment of licensed premises is too high?-The Chairman It must be borne in mind that they have certain privileges are protected. After the committee had discussed the matter in camera for a considerable time the Chairman informed the appellants that the committee had decided in all cases where it could be shown that properties are over-assessed to grant reductions, but they must have full and complete information in regard to each case before them before they would consider themselves justified in the amount of chargeability.

1911 Crow Castle Inn Llangollen

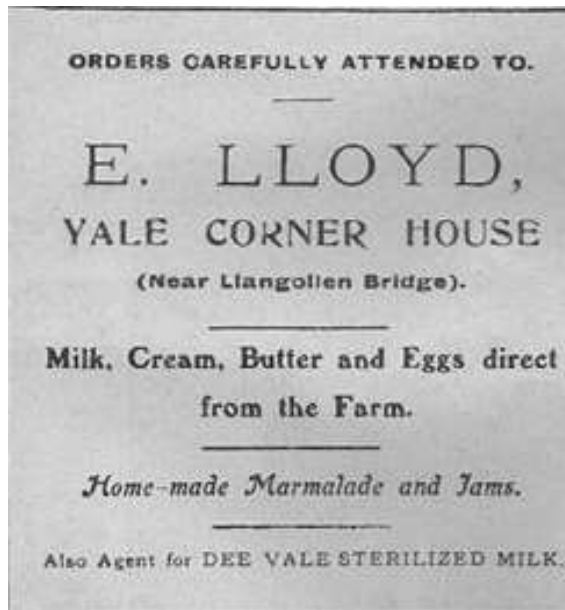
Ann Watkin	Head	Wid 58(1853)	Inn Keeper	Vron
Elizabeth A Watkin	Dau	S 28(1883)	Domestic	Llangollen

William H Smith

Board S 26(1885)

Labourer

Bolton Lincs



January 1932

1939

Yale Creamery	180	1	Davies David J	-	M	30 Dec	84	M	Shopkeeper Sweets Confectionery
		2	Davies Annie	-	F	7 Mar	92	M	Widow of David Davies
This record is officially closed.									
		4	Wright Ann	-	F	4 Dec	88	Wid	Widow of David Davies

Yale Creamery

David T Davies b 30th Dec 1884 M Shop keeper sweets and confectionary

Annie Davies b 7th March 1892 m

?

Ann Wright b 4th Dec 1858 Wid



January 1932



1950's



1968

Special Thoughts

2 Castle Street, Llangollen.
Telephone 01978 860866

Come and see our extensive range of
Hallmark Christmas Cards
and paper.

“Me to You” Christmas range
and many other gifts.

- Large range of Sikou toys.
- O.S. Maps. ▪ National Lottery

Best wishes to the show from
Vida & Arthur



Following the bridge widening, a shop was erected on this site, and the shop was leased by Arthur Hardy, who was running a newsagents and fancy goods shop across the road. This became a card shop, called “Special Thoughts”. It was later run by their son, also called Arthur Hardy.

YSIOPFACHGARDIAUWRTHYBONTDROSYRAFONDDYFRWYNNLLANGOLLEN

Little card shop by the bridge over the River Dee in Llangollen



January 2015

Arthur Hardy was born in Garth, moved to Llangollen on his marriage and returned to Garth following the sad death of his wife. He was educated at



Llangollen Grammar School and then worked at Monsanto Chemicals for many years. When the workforce was moved to Brussels he declined to go and instead went into the world of business, acquiring the news agency and general store then known as Cleator's, based in the premises now occupied by Fouzi's in the Royal Hotel building. He worked extremely hard there and was very successful. Later he opened another shop across the road, selling cards, this being in partnership with his nephew, also named Arthur Hardy. He retired a few months ago and returned to his roots in Garth. Arthur joined Rotary in the 1980s and made his mark as an enthusiastic and reliable Rotarian. He served as

Treasurer for three years and was elected as President for the year 1998/99. He has chaired various committees and is currently Chair of Vocational Service. He has always been deeply involved in organising fund-raising events such as Trolley Dash Runs and Race Nights. He is one of the Dial-a-Ride team and is always one of the first to volunteer when help is needed in any area of the club's activities.

Outside of Rotary Arthur is a keen member of the Twenty Club backstage team

FAMOUS NORTH WALES CARD AND GIFT SHOP FOR SALE

Llangollen, Clwyd, Wales

Leasehold Price: £26,500 Price Reduced

Request Details

Business Description

Arguably one of the most photographed and famous shops in North Wales. This Business is now for sale due to the owner's relocation. "The shop with the longest name" in the business is situated at the heart of one of North Wales' premier tourist destinations, selling cards and gifts. The Business provides an excellent opportunity for those looking to expand its already healthy trade. Llangollen is one of North Wales busiest tourist towns featuring a Steam Railway, the River Dee and Canal. Other highlights that the town has is the Annual International Eisteddfod and various other festivals at the Llangollen Pavilion. All enquiries are through the Sole Selling Agents Hart & Co 01244 403547.

LOCATION

Situated at the heart of this bustling tourist town, Special Thoughts enjoys high footfall, particularly through the Summer months. As a town Llangollen is famous for the Annual International Eisteddfod, Steam Railway, Llangollen Canal with World Heritage listed Pontyscllte Aqueduct in the Dee Valley.

BUSINESS PROFILE

A very famous busy cards and gifts shop offering the full array of cards, gifts, occasional jewellery, toys, stationery etc. The Business also has a Creation Express package which is highly popular and a unique concept creating bespoke and memorable personalised cards and gifts using customers digitalised photographs instantly obtained through phone, tablet etc. By far the most appealing element of this Business is its' location which commands the highest footfall in the town centre.

PREMISES

A glazed double fronted lock up shop.

Main retail area 25'1" x 17'11" (450 sq ft approx), with trade/till counter, assorted racks, shelving and point of sale display, small stockroom/cupboard and WC.

Tenure: Leasehold

Leasehold Term:

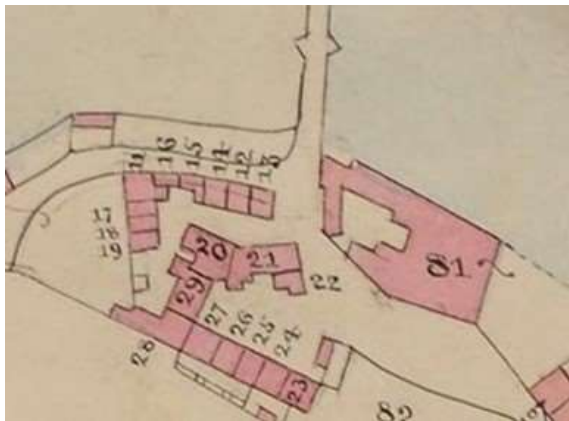
The Business is available leasehold. We understand the Landlord will look to grant a new lease to the prospective purchaser subject to the usual terms and conditions. Current rent payable is £450 p.c.m.

21st June 1895

The following communication has been sent us:-

Ladies and Gentlemen, Our regiment arrived in Llangollen by train from Welshpool. Being dry, we adjourned to the Ponsonby Arms, and finding good beer there we went to the Bridge End, then we heard that Jenny Jones had had a Sun, whom she called the Prince of Wales, at Crow Castle, where she was attended by the Hand of our Royal Queen, who, taking her seat on the Woolpack, summoned the Red and White Lions to take the Cross Keys and put the Golden Lion and the Bull in the Vaults underneath the Smithfield, for having pursued and tossed the Swan right into the Butcher's Arms We then went through Church-street to the Talbot, and going further along the Cambrian we were enabled to see the Star that shone over the field of Waterloo, and the Cross, though sly, Foxes that caught the Eagles, who stole the Grapes belonging to the Foresters. We then left Llangollen

North Wales Drapery Stores/Commerce House/Douglas House



Tithe Map 1839



1873 map



1911 map

Tithe

22 House & Yard; Occupied by John Francis, joiner. Owner Hon George Dicken

1841 Census

John Francis 60 abt 1781 joiner Denbighshire

Margaret Francis 60 abt 1781

Around 1840 there was a cottage occupied by John Francis, a joiner on this site. But it was not until around 1880 that the three store shop was erected. The first occupant would seem to have been Phillip Davies, a draper, originally from Gwyddelwern. He had occupied several

NORTH WALES DRAPERY STORES,
CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.
J. P. DAVIES is now Showing a **FULL ASSORTMENT** of the **LEADING NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON** in **MILLINERY, BONNETS, HATS, MANTLES, and JACKETS, DRESSES** in all the **NEW MATERIALS AND SHADES**, and a **Splendid variety of FANCY DRAPERY** of Every Description, Household Linens, Brussels, &c., Carpets, Cretonnes, Muslin Curtains, &c., &c.

sites in Llangollen, including 42 Castle St (probably 41a) and Bridge St, at No 11, Llandyn House.

He named this shop the 'North Wales Drapery Stores' In 1895 he moved all his business here from Llandyn in Bridge Street. The next year he moved to South Africa, and his brother Johnathan Davies took over, and gave the shop the same name as his Corwen Shop, Commerce House.

10th April 1885

1887 Rate Register

Occupier John Phillip Davies, Owner WH Richards, House & shop. Castle Street

The 1887 rate register shows that the landlord was William Hammond Richards, Son of Charles Richards. He was also a banker.

THE PUBLIC
 Are respectfully invited to call at
J. P. DAVIES'S,
LLANDYN SHOP, and
NORTH WALES DRAPERY STORES
 (Castle Square),
 To inspect
A MANUFACTURER'S STOCK OF
Real Welsh Woollen Goods,
 Very much under Ordinary Value, comprising:—
 Real Welsh Shawls, at 2/11, 3/11, 8/9.
 Real Welsh Linseys, at 1/4, 1/10, 2/6.
 Real Welsh (All-Wool) Costume Tweeds, 44 inches wide, at 1/6, 1/11, 2/11, 3/9.
 Real Welsh Flannels, at 5½d., 8½d., 11½d., 1/3, 1/4 1/6, 1/8.
 Real Welsh Knitting Wools (all Colours) at 2/4 per lb
 The **DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT** is superintended by a very able first hand. Perfect fit guaranteed. Style and finish always to be depended upon.

1891 Census

John P Davies	Head	M	35(1856)	Draper	Gwyddelwern
Annie Davies	Wife	M	31(1860)	Milliner	Ruthin
Winifred B Davies	Dau	S	8(1883)	Scholar	Llangollen
Joseph A Davies	Son	S	6(1885)	Scholar	Llangollen
Cyril G Davies	Son	S	4(1887)		Llangollen
Elizabeth A Davies	Dau	S	1(1890)		Llangollen
Margaret J Davies	Serv	S	18(1873)		Coepoeth
Elizabeth William	Serv	S	28(1863)		Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd
Llewelyn Lloyd	Serv	S	19(1872)		Glyndyfrdwy

19th October 1883

J. P. DAVIES'S
GENTS' OUTFITTING
ESTABLISHMENT,
42, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN,
IS NOW OPEN
 TO SUPPLY THE PUBLIC WITH
Superior Quality Clothing
 At the Least Possible Profit for Ready Cash.

The public will be surprised to find at what
WONDERFUL LOW PRICES,
SUITS, OVERCOATS, HATS,
SCARFS, BRACES, &c., &c.,
OF THE BEST MAKE & QUALITY
 are Sold by J. P. Davies.

To look at the Prices in the Window, or go into the Shop and Inspect the Goods would at once Convince every individual of the **GREAT DIFFERENCE** between J. P. D.'s Prices and those of the Big-Profit Shop Keepers.

THE PUBLIC
 Are respectfully invited to call at
J. P. DAVIES'S,
LLANDYN SHOP, and
NORTH WALES DRAPERY STORES
(Castle Square),
 To inspect
 A MANUFACTURER'S STOCK OF
Real Welsh Woollen Goods,
 Very much under Ordinary Value, comprising:—
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 Real Welsh Linseys, at 1/2, 1/10, 2/6.
 Real Welsh (All-Wool) Costume Tweeds, 44 inches wide, at 1/6, 1/11, 2/11, 3/9.
 Real Welsh Flannels, at 5½d., 8½d., 11½d., 1/2, 1/4, 1/6, 1/8.
 Real Welsh Knitting Wools (all Colours) at 2/2 per lb

The DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT is superintended by a very able first hand. Perfect fit guaranteed. Style and finish always to be depended upon.



In 1913 Johnathan Davies moved to a shop on the opposite side of the road, but died shortly afterwards. The next occupant of this property was Williams Alfred Cleator, who had come to Llangollen as a hairdresser in Llangollen since 1879. Although he was born in Liverpool his family had come from the Isle of Man, so he called the building Douglas House. Immediately prior to moving here he had been at No 11 Regent Street. Not long after he moved in here he had expanded into Fancy Goods, Tobacco and newspapers.





1939

Douglas House, Castle St	1871	1	Cleator Walter A	-	M 12 Aug 1871	M	Tobacco & Confectionery Shop
		2	Cleator Claudia	-	A 25 March 1878	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties
		3	Cleator John R	-	M 9 April 1911	S	Business Unpaid Help In Parcels

Douglas House, Castle Street

Walter A Cleator 12 Aug 1871 M Tobacco & Confectionery Shop Keeper Proprietor News

Claudia Cleator 25 Mar 1878 M Unpaid Domestic Duties

John R Cleator 09 Apr 1911 S Business Unpaid Help In Parcels

29th July 1958

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR W. A. CLEATOR

Mr Vol. A. Cleator, whose death on July 18 was briefly recorded last week, had lived in Llangollen for 60 years, having come here from the Isle of Man, to which he only returned on three brief visits, for he loved the town of his adoption. One, of sixteen children, one sister of whom survives, Mr Cleator was nearing his 87th birthday and though, he had not been out very much the last month or two, he retained his keen interest in life to the last, and his illness, was

but brief Mr Cleator had carried on business in Church St., at the Ivanhoe, and finally at Douglas House where he and the family have resided since 1914. Mrs Cleator predeceased eight years ago.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, July 22nd. The Vicar, Dr. J. Alun Thomas, conducted a service at Douglas House and also officiated at the Fron Cemetery.

The family mourners were Mr and Mrs Wm. Smith (son-in-law and daughter); Mr John Cleator (son); Mr Colin Smith, Mr & Mrs P. Smith, Miss Monica Cleator-Smith, (grandchildren); Mr Abel Roberts (Brother-in-law); Miss Olwen Roberts, Mr & Mrs Caradog Davies, Miss Marian

Francis, Mrs Myra Jones, Mr & Mrs H. Thomas (nieces).

Floral tributes were from: Mona & Billy; John ; Colin, Joy and family; Monica; Mat, Marian and Poll (Caernarvon); Marie, Arthur , John, David and Lyn; Abel & Ollie; Norah & Crad; Nancy, Gerald and family; Myra & Johnny ; Mary & Henry; May & -George (Belmont); Annie & Dai (John St.) ; May & Frank; Lily & Ted; Girlie; Miss Gertrude Roberts; Mr & Mrs Wilf Burrows ; Mrs Pugh; Mr & Mrs Weetman; Mrs Robson ; Harold & Dorothy ; Lily & Mildred.

Walter Alfred Cleator

Following the death of Walter Cleator the business was run by his daughter Mona and her husband William Smith. However, they were only there for a few years before the business was taken over Mr & Mrs William Henry Copeland, and their sister and brother in law William Albert Smith from Stoke on Trent. (There was a misapprehension at the time that it was WH Smith were to take over the shop.

27th October 1964

Appreciation

"CLEATOR'S". We the proprietors, Mr and Mrs W. H. Copeland and Mr and Mrs W.A. Smith wish to express our gratitude and thanks to all the people of Llangollen and district who have been so kind and helpful during our first season here with you. We could not have wished to come and live with nicer people anywhere and we thank you most sincerely for everything.

*Douglas House,
Llangollen*



In 1968, when the shops had to be demolished, to allow for the Bridge to be widened, Cleators obtained a lease on an unused cafe at the Royal from Michael Forte the then owner. Mr & Mrs Copeland and Mr & Mrs Smith later transferred the newspaper business to Arthur Hardy and moved back to the site of Douglas House, to run it as a Tourist Gift Shop. Called "Gifts from Wales"

Bill Smith

We have rented our shop premises from Mr Dudley Richards for well over 40 years. I remember when the river flooded and filled our cellars one Saturday, and how we were unable to sell papers the following day. It was a dreadful time, with so many dead sheep and cattle piling up against the bridge. The old buildings were constructed of lovely Ruabon bricks and the pavement right to the edge of the road, was part of the property. When the bridge was widened, not

only was there a compulsory purchase on the pavement, but our lovely building was partly demolished and all the fine bricks were tipped into the cellars as ballast. We had temporary premises over the road, where the café had been under the Royal Hotel and rented this from Michael Forte's

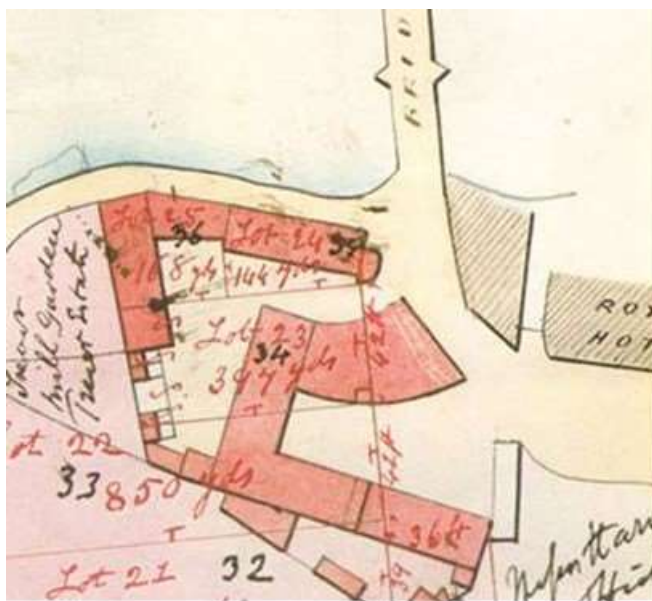




Bridge Street Square/Castle Street Square/Ham & Egg Square

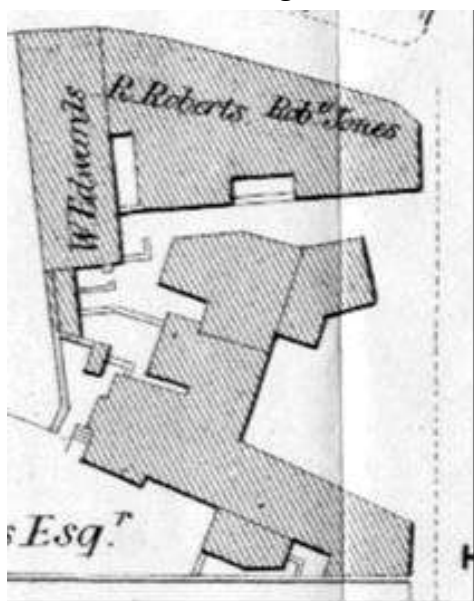


1839 Tithe Map

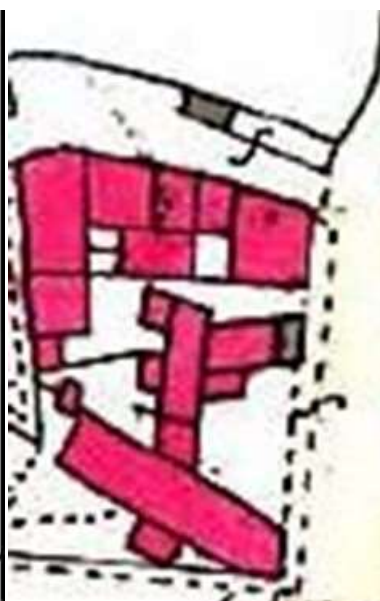


1858 Sale Map

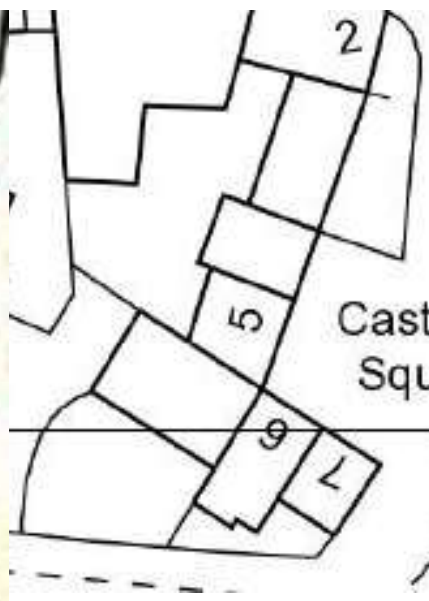
These buildings, originally 2-storey cottages with whitewashed rubble fronts, slate roofs; wide boarded eaves and red brick chimney stacks would appear to date to the later eighteenth century some of the eastern portions were removed at the time of the 1858 development of Castle Street, and some more at the time of the 1968 Bridge widening. Several were also knocked together.



1862 map



1873



2015

At the time of the 1839 tithe most of the buildings were owned by George Dickin, a local landowner, who also had inherited mining interests.

Tithe 1839

23 27 – All owned by George Dickin

23	House & Yard Thomas Williams	Brewer
24	House & Yard Margaret Davies	Ind
25	House & Yard Catherine Ford	Confectioner
26	House Elias Jones	Miller

27 House Martha Pugh Baker

Prior to 1861 these properties were listed as being part of Bridge Street.

1841 Census (Bridge Street)

Catherine Ford	50(1791)	Confectioner	Denbighshire
James George Murry	15(1826)	weaver	

Elias Jones	36(1805)	millar	Denbighshire
Susana Jones	40(1801)		Denbighshire
Sarah Jones	14(1827)		Denbighshire
Catharine Jones	9(1832)		Denbighshire
John Jones	6(1835)		Denbighshire
Thomas Jones	4(1837)		Denbighshire
Edwd Jones	10m(1840)		Denbighshire

Martha Pugh	45(1796)	baker	
Leah Pugh	5(1836)		Denbighshire

John Francis	60(1781)	joiner	Denbighshire
Margaret Francis	60(1781)		

1858 Sale

32 A Building Site, with a frontage of 39 feet along the new Street, There are buildings and portions of cottages on this lot, and the materials of the cottages in front of this lot will be sold with it. Mr. Richard Jones and others

33 A Building Site and Cottages, portions of Cottages and Buildings with a frontage of 42 feet along the New Street Mr. Richard Jones and others 32&33 sold to Charles Richards

34 A Building Site, Cottages and Buildings having a frontage of 42 feet along the New Street, together with the materials of the Cottages in front of this lot. Robert Jones and others.

After 1841 it is not until 1871 that it is possible to identify occupants of specific properties. In 1871 No 7 was in the occupation of Thomas Jones, a watchmaker from Corwen. His wife, Elizabeth was his second wife, they had married in Rhosymedre in 1869. Her first husband, John Jones, had been the landlord of the Cross Keys in Chapel St. until his death in 1850. Following the death of Thomas Edwards in 1880, Elizabeth lived quietly in obscurity, until in 1888 her neighbour Mrs Thomas Roberts, in No 5, related to her the story of an appalling tragedy in Salford, in which a dentist had murdered his wife and six children before taking his own life. She was unaware that the dentist's wife was the daughter of Elizabeth by her first husband, John Jones. Elizabeth died in 1892.

1871 Census

Castle Square

171

John Edwards	Head	M	32(1839)	Joiner	Corwen
Arabella Edwards	Wife	M	32(1839)		Corwen
Elizth Edwards	Moth	M	63(1808)		Corwen

172

Maria Roberts	Head	W	59(1812)	Lodging house keeper	Llangollen
Jane Jones	Niece	S	29(1842)	? 's wife	Llangollen
James Bargge	Board	M	35(1836)	ostler	Shrewsbury
Mary Jones	Board	S	49(1822)	cook	Dolgellau

No 7

Thomas Edwards	Head	M	72(1799)	watchmaker	Corwen
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Elizth Edwards Wife 56 (1815) Corwen

1881 Census

5 Castle Square

Jonah Roberts	Head	M	55(1826)	Wool Carder (Fh...)	Manchester
Elizabeth Roberts	Wife	M	57(1824)		Corwen
Christmas Roberts	Son	S	22(1859)	Railway Porter	Llangollen
Margaret Roberts	Dau	S	18(1863)	Asst in Service	Llangollen
Eliz. Ann Saunders	Gdau	S	6(1875)	Scholar	Market Drayton

2 Castle Sqr

Maria Roberts	Head	W	69(1812)	No Oc	Llangollen
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7 Castle Square

Eliz. Edwards	Head	W	63(1818)	Shopkeeper	Corwen
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10th February 1888

We little thought, when reading in the late editions of the evening papers on Friday, the story of the appalling tragedy at Salford, that the victims were so closely associated with this town, but next morning the papers told us that "the deceased woman was a native of Llangollen, where her mother now resides." A painful sensation passed over the whole town, and it was not until noon that the sad news was broken to the aged mother of poor Mrs. Derby. The surroundings of the dreadful affair were full of pathos, and the tragedy made a profound impression throughout the country. Mrs. Edwards, the mother of Mrs. Derby, who was poisoned with her six children, lives alone in Castle-street Square, and appears to have been almost forgotten in her solitude. She was prostrated by her overwhelming sorrow, and it need not be added that the utmost sympathy and kindness was evinced by her neighbours and friends. Much might be done by gentle hands to soothe the aged widow's declining years, and we trust she will not be overlooked.

10th February 1888

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY AT SALFORD.
FAMILY OF EIGHT PERSONS POISONED.
THE MOTHER A NATIVE OF LLANGOLLEN

A tragedy of a startling character was brought to light in Salford, on Friday. There has resided for some time in that borough a chemist and herbalist named Samuel Hill Derby, the son of a retired merchant. He was married and had six children. The family consisted of Samuel H. Derby, aged about thirty-five his wife, apparently a little older and six children Ernest Llewellyn, aged thirteen Harold Percy, eleven Frederick Cecil, nine; Clara Elizabeth, seven; Florence Helen, five; and Gladys, three. There was no evidence of want or grinding poverty in the surrounding of the family; on the other hand, Derby seems to have had very good prospects. Recently, however, he has been in a desponding condition, because he thought certain property left by his uncle was not being fairly dealt with in his interest. He had an uncle in Ireland at whose death he expected a legacy that would greatly help him in his distressed condition. It appears to have been well known that the deceased, as well as his two brothers and sister, were interested in the will which this relative had made, and when their kinsman died, in August last, the deceased immediately started for Ireland. He stayed in that country from two to three months, but returned scarcely any better physically from the trip. When he reached his home, in Garfield-street, he acted very strangely. He was found to be in possession of all the testamentary documents of his uncle, which, however, were unproved in the ordinary legal way. By these documents he would have benefited to a considerable extent if the necessary formalities had been complied with, but singularly enough he declared that neither solicitors nor anyone else should have them; "I will burn them first." Seeing that the deceased was in straitened circumstances, this strange resolution forcibly indicated the condition of his mind at that period. The fact that he alone was the Person who was most in need of money his father,

brothers, and sister being in good positions caused the latter to expostulate with him on his persistent folly. Their entreaties were of no avail, and eventually his disordered mind conjured up the fancy that his father, brothers, and sister were conspiring to deprive him of his interest under his uncle's will. During this time the deceased was a regular visitor at his father's house in the adjoining street (Monmouth-street), and conversed with him on the subject. Throughout the intercourse he acted in a strange manner, and at length quarrelled with his parent. Mr. Derby, sen. was so upset by the threatening conduct of his son that he forbade him to visit the house. This occurred about two months ago, and since that time Mr. Derby, sen. never saw his son alive. The family lived on very amicable terms with the whole of the occupants of the adjoining houses, and they are described as well-behaved people, though the strangeness of the deceased man's demeanour was often noticed. The children are said, to have been especially bright and intelligent, and their mother a careful and thrifty housewife. Nothing of an unusual character took place in the proceedings of the family until the previous Tuesday, when it was noticed that none of them appeared. It was remembered that they had been about as usual on Monday, and on the evening of that day one of the children went to an adjoining shop to make a small domestic purchase. On Tuesday and Wednesday nothing was heard of them, but as their neighbours were used to their absence, little was thought about it. On Thursday morning the first inquiry was made by Derby's sister, who lives in the adjoining street. She called at her brother's house to inquire as to their welfare, and was surprised at finding it locked up. This circumstance she reported to her father. On Thursday evening the father called at the house and was unable to gain admittance. He made his way to the back of the house, and got into the yard. The blind at the sitting-room window was down, and nothing could be seen. He then borrowed a ladder, and rearing it against the back-bedroom window, ran up it. He saw a bed at the far end of the room, and three people apparently asleep in it. He knocked vigorously at the window without securing a response, and the conviction was forced upon him that the occupants of the bed were dead. Descending from the ladder, he invited the assistance of a friend, who, at his request, went to Regent-road Police Station, and there reported all the circumstances within his knowledge. Police-constable Shipway and Police-Constable Smith (50) were instructed to inquire into the matter. By means of the ladder left by Mr. Alex. Derby, the constables climbed to the bedroom window, and forced an entrance through it. It would have required more than a hasty glance to convince them that the three occupants of the bed were not dead, were it not for the faint odour that pervaded the room. In the middle of the bed lay the mother, her face slightly turned towards the wall, and on each side of her a little girl nestling close to her arms. All three seemed to be sleeping peacefully; not a sign of pain was on their face, and no evidence of a struggle was to be seen in the room. The bedclothes were neatly arranged, and were tucked under the chins of the children. A close inspection disclosed a slight froth about the mouths of all three, which was sufficient to convince the constables that death had been brought about by poison. The rooms were scantily furnished, and the walls were all but bare, besides being in a state of some dilapidation. Here and there large patches of paper were missing from the walls, and in the absence of a washstand, the washing utensils were placed on the floor beneath the bed. The next room the constables visited was that over the kitchen, This Was evidently used as a lumber room, and contained nothing beyond a bicycle, some musical instruments, and a number of boxes. The front bedroom was now entered, and here four children, three boys and a girl, were seen lying in bed. To provide accommodation for so many, the bed had been made up lengthwise, the children lying across the bed, their heads toward the wall, and their feet pointing to the window facing Trafford-road. They lay just as they had fallen asleep, and it was easy to see that these, like their 2 sisters in the other room, were well-developed children. One was a fair-haired boy, but the others were dark, like the mother and .father. Death was no more plainly Written on their features than in the case of the two girls in the back room, and it was evident they had

died without a struggle. Their clothes were scattered about the bed, and at the back of the long bolster that served as a pillow rested a pint mug, containing a liquor that looked like milk. Beyond the bed there was a little furniture, and here, too, the services of the paperhanger were much needed. In neither room was there a carpet. In the parlour, the window of which overlooks the footpath in Garfield-street, there was nothing unusual to be seen. This was a comfortably- furnished room, containing couch, table and chairs, a number of books, chiefly upon chemistry and kindred subjects. On the table lay a drawing-book, in which were rude sketches, the work evidently of some of the children. The sitting-room presented a curious sight. The blind being down, the room was in semi-darkness, and for some time it was difficult "to distinguish objects. As their eyes became more .accustomed to the gloom, the constables saw the figure of a man lying on the couch, which had been drawn up in front of the fireplace. The man lay on his right side in an easy position, and had wrapped his shoulders in a mackintosh, and his feet in a great coat, as though he intended making a night of it. On the table at his back were the remnants of supper a portion of a loaf of bread, dry and cracked, some bits of meat, a jug, and knives, cups and saucers, and plates. In one corner ,pear to the window stood a sewing-machine with cottons and bits of cloth strewed around, as though the person who had last used it had intended resuming her work in the morning. A little harmonium was near the door, and almost above the recumbent figure on the couch hung a bit of mistletoe, and even that was withered and dead. A bulky envelope on the mantelpiece and three small bottles on the table attracted the attention of the officers, and having secured these they made a closer inspection of the dead man. He, too, had evidently taken poison, for there was the froth on his lips, and there was a peaceful expression on his face, showing that he had met the same death as his wife and children. The largest bottle was labelled "Chloral hydrate," and was empty. The other two, one of which contained a liquid, and the other a powder, were labelled respectively Prussic acid and "Morphia." There seems undoubted evidence that the crime was premeditated. This is made clear by various letters which are in the possession of the police, in which he makes reference to his intention of doing away with himself, and says he has told his wife, and she is willing to go with him. The letters are addressed to various persons, including his sister (a Mrs. Booth, who lives at Eccles), his former employer (Mr. Brook), and other friends. All the letters are of much the same purport. In them he bids farewell to his friends, tells them he contemplates committing suicide and taking his family with him, and attributes his action to the conduct of his relatives in connection with the property left by his uncle in Ireland. The letter to his sister is in the following terms:

"Garfield-street. Salford.

My dear Sister,-I hope you will not think too much of what must be heard more or less about very shortly. I have made a will, by which you take nearly all I have. You have always been very kind and affectionate with me, and I wish you every earthly blessing

Your affectionate brother, SAM.

Tell father I entirely forgive him. I could not leave my darling wife and children behind. In fact, Annie often said she did not want to live after I went, and when I told her a few days ago that I could not stand this any longer, she said she was quite ready to go. I wish our bodies to be sent to Owens College for dissection. &c., or if they are buried let the funeral be conducted in the quietest way possible, and at the least possible expense."

This letter bears no date, but there is little doubt in the minds of the police that the murders were committed some time during Monday night. The commonly-accepted theory is that the man poisoned his wife and children whilst they slept, possibly by inhalation, and afterwards took his own life. This awful tragedy, which for the past week has caused such a fearful sensation throughout the whole of the country, deserves a special and horrible local significance from the fact that Mrs. Derby, the poor victim, was a native of Llangollen, and that she and her husband and little children used frequently to visit this town. When on

Saturday last the morning papers announced that "the mother of the deceased woman I now reside in Llangollen," the greatest consternation prevailed throughout the town, and many were the surmises made as to the identity of the poor woman to whom by some means this sad intelligence would sooner or later be communicated. About mid-day, however, it transpired that the mother of the murdered woman was Mr. Edwards, Castle-street-square, Llangollen, widow of the late Mr. Thos. Edwards, watchmaker. Mrs. Edwards's first husband was Mr. John Jones, Cross Foxes, of this town, and by him she had several children, John, Hugh, William, Elizabeth, and Anne, the latter (the youngest), being the unfortunate victim of this tragedy. While a growing girl she was engaged as nurse with Mrs. Walter Booth, Penybryn, and subsequently went to Manchester. She was of a most lively, industrious and agreeable disposition, a fact which is fully borne out by the unanimous testimony of her neighbours in Salford, and indeed, by all who were in any way acquainted with her. The tragical death of her favourite and beloved daughter was communicated to Mrs. Edwards by her neighbour, Mrs. Thomas Roberts, Castle-street Square, who had casually called in to read the report of the murder, without at the time surmising that the poor victims bore any relationship to the poor old woman, who sat intently listening to the tale of woe which was gradually being unfolded to her. Slowly, however, it became more painfully evident to her that the mother and children whose names were given with such exactness of detail, were of her own flesh and blood, and the feelings of the aged and infirm widow can be better imagined than described. Mrs. Edwards says her son-in-law was a man of a rather peculiar disposition, and had lately given her much anxiety with reference to her daughter and her children, Mr. Derby was always very kind to her personally, and she believed he had a strong affection for his wife and children, but he possessed very peculiar views, and she had long been afraid lest he should do something strange. Four years ago he told her daughter (Mrs. Derby) that if ever anything happened to her he would poison him-self and all the children, for he would not live after she was gone. Mrs. Edwards's fears that he was pre-disposed that way, and she has been anxious about the family ever since a week before the sad event took place. She knows he was in a very singular and depressed frame of mind. Ever since she heard of his state of mind in regard to the Irish legacy she had been distressed about him and was disturbed at night, for she knew he was an austere man and nothing would move him. His wife never complained of his conduct towards her, but she knew he was very stern with the children at times.

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

The deceased was musically inclined, and played the harmonium which he possessed with considerable facility. In pathetic contrast to the awful tragedy which has taken place is the fact that on Sunday week the poor children gathered round their parents in the warm glow of the sitting-room fire, and whilst the dead man played the harmonium they sang with the melodious sweetness of childhood the hymn, "Take oh take me to Thy care." Such was their last song on earth-the significance of which is as overwhelming as the catastrophe which followed. Less than twenty hours after their childish lips formed the innocent invocation they were truly at rest-in the sleep that knows no awakening.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest was held on Monday, at the Rechabite Hall, Salford, by Mr. F. Price, coroner. Mr. Price intimated that the letters written by Samuel Hill Derby just prior to his death would not be read in their entirety, as they reflected injuriously upon certain persons mentioned therein who, possibly, were unwarrantably aspersed. Only excerpts from the documents would, therefore, be submitted. After being sworn, the jury proceeded to view the bodies at an early hour in the morning, at the suggestion of Dr. Wilson, who made the post mortem-examination on Saturday. The bodies were laid out in the ordinary way, coffins at that time not having been provided. The first witness called was Police-constable Shipway of the Salford borough police force, and he was followed by Mr. Cooper, chemist, of Chorlton-on-Medlock, who said that on

Tuesday, the 31st, ult., Derby visited him at a shop in London-road, and asked him as an old friend if he would attest a will which deceased wished to make. Witness asked him why he wished to make a will, to which he replied, "Oh, everybody ought to make a will." Derby, however, refused to let the attesting parties read the document. Witness asked about the health of his family, to which deceased replied, "Oh, as usual." Witness knew that the deceased had a general assortment of drugs at his house, and that prussic acid was amongst them. Deceased complained to him of his domestic affairs, and the general tenor of his complaint was that his relatives was wronging him. He was perfectly sane at that time, and there was nothing to indicate that he contemplated murder the same evening. Alexander Derby, father of the deceased man Derby, was afterwards called. He said the deceased took obstinate views of family matters, and this led to an estrangement between them. Eventually lie began to think that witness and others had formed a conspiracy to deprive him of some documents relating to property bequeathed to him in Ireland. The coroner afterwards read various documents left by Samuel Hill Derby. Among them was the following communication: Dear Mr. Brooke. I could not go without saying good-bye. You have been always kind and considerate with me, and even much more so than I deserved. You know, my boy, how three years ago my money, health, and friends all went at once. My hopes were crushed. My life became a misery. Barely supported, I struggled hard for a while against the horrible feelings that possessed me, and I thought that leaving Cross-lane and taking-a good holiday would set me right; but it was only a temporary benefit. I became worse instead of better. A year ago, as I told you, my attention was attracted by the railway rails, and that certainly roused me more than I had thought possible, and, so far, a good thing for me. My greedy brothers and sisters have taken care that I should not benefit by it. I have found out my idea was not a new one, and that, in fact, it was acted upon several years ago by one company, and therefore was not patentable. My dear friends did not know that. I only learned it about a fortnight ago. I was disappointed, of course, but very little compared with the bitterness I felt at the treatment I had from those I had a right to expect kindness from. However, my bitterness will soon be at an end. I wish every earthly blessing to you and yours. Good-bye. S. H. DERBY. I cannot allow my darling wife and children to suffer more than they have already done." Then followed a letter to another sister:- Garfield-street, To my once loved sister By the time this reaches you I shall have got beyond the reach of your selfish schemes. Had it not been for you, and the poison you instilled into others, I believe I might have had still a little happiness in this world. You can now congratulate yourself on the eminent success of your schemes. You will have done with me for ever unless the memory of me haunts you. I don't want to preach to you, but if you will take a fool's advice you will begin anew. Your heart-broken brother, SAMUEL." Sarah Jane Derby, Magherafelt." The coroner said there were two letters he should like to abstain from reading addressed to brothers of the deceased. In these the writer made use of very bitter expressions. Next was read the following communication, which the coroner understood was written for the sister and husband of Ann Derby: I cannot go without a word. I need not tell you how much I regret that their ever should have been any differences between us. However, if there is any doubt on your part as to my forgiveness of you let it be removed at once. I wrote a note from Ireland to say so, and I should have been very glad to see you, but as you did not come, I did not know what to make of it. You could not possibly have felt more keenly than I did on falling out. If I had thought less of you it would have been different. My darling wife and children are now out of reach of trouble and storm. I am about to follow. The world has no more use for heart broken men. Money misfortunes three years ago, and the selfish greed of my relations, have made my life a misery. I could endure it no longer. Annie always said she would like to go when I did, and a few day ago declared she was ready any time. She was a noble-minded woman, and a devoted wife and mother. I could not leave any of them behind. They are better off now than millionaires. They have not had a particle of pain. I hope you will not think too much of this. Annie took her dose

as "comfortable as her tea, with the understanding that we should all go, and wished to be remembered to you all. I wish you every earthly blessing. I am sorry for mother. S. H. DERBY. Dr. W. Wilson gave the result of his examinations of the dead bodies. He was of opinion that death was caused in all cases by poisoning with prussic acid, which was one of the most painless and deadly poisons known to science. He did not find any poison in the bodies; but that, no doubt, was owing to the length of time between the death and the examination. Treacle would be the best thing in which to administer the poison to the children. The man, after seeing the convulsions of his children might have combined the prussic acid with the choral hydrate, and that would prevent him suffering from convulsions. The bottle labelled prussic acid would not hold enough of the poison to destroy the whole family, but no trace of another bottle had been discovered- The jury, after some consideration, found that the deceased Samuel Hill Derby had murdered his wife and six children by administering poison to them, and had afterwards committed suicide in a similar manner whilst temporarily insane. The interment of the victims of the sad domestic tragedy took place on Monday afternoon at the Salford Borough Cemetery.

One family in Castle Street Square at this time was Evan Jones. He had been born in Llangollen in 1826, but in 1844 he married Eleanor Rebecca Howard in Bersham. They moved to Geufron where he worked as a Labourer/stone cutter/flagstone mason, before moving to No 6. By 1891. Evan died in early December 1896, but his widow stayed here until her death in June 1908. Their daughter, Arabella had married Randel Carden, a joiner and builder from Overton. They took over occupancy of No 6 until their deaths in 1925 and 1930 respectively. They were followed by Thomas James Clutton, and his wife Amy. Thomas was the eldest son of William Clutton, who had died at the Somme in August 1918. In 1939 William was working at Monsanto.

1891 Census Castle St Square

5

Thomas Roberts	Head	M	34(1857)	Weaver	Llangollen
Elizabeth Roberts	Wife	M	33(1858)		Froncysyllte
Jonah Roberts	Father	W	65(1826)	Carder	Manchester

6

Evan Jones	Head	M	65	1826	flag stone mason	Llangollen
Ellen R Jones	Wife	M	64	1827	Female	Wrexham

7

Elizabeth Edwards	Head	W	73(1818)	help from parish	Cynwyd
Mary Jones	Sister	W	70(1821)	own means	Cynwyd

1901 Census

5

Elizabeth Roberts	Head	W	43(1858)	temp hotel keeper	Froncysyllte
Jonah Roberts	Fil	W	75(1826)		Manchester
Elizabeth A Watkin	Niece	S	18(1883)	dressmaker	Llangollen
Harold W H Cubley	Visit	M	29(1872)	dramatic ?	Retford
Alice W Cubley	Visit	M	19(1882)		India

6

Ellen R Jones	Head	W	76(1825)		Bersham
Florence E Carden	Niece	S	17(1884)		Liverpool
Robert Jones	Visit	M	31(1870)	fell monger	Oswestry
Elizabeth A Jones	Visit	M	22(1879)		Oxford

7

William Gee	Head	M	40(1861)	hotel boots	Wrexham
Elizabeth Gee	Wife	M	30(1871)		Chester

James Gee	Son	S 8(1893)		Wrexham
William Gee	Son	S 5(1896)		Llangollen
Archie Gee	Son	S 3(1898)		Llangollen
George Gee	Son	S 1m(1901)		Llangollen
Violet Jones	Serv	S 15(1886)		Llangollen

1911 Census

5 Castle St Square

Elizabeth Roberts	Head	W 53(1858)	Boarding House Keeper	Vron
Evelyn Gertrude Roberts	Niece	S 22(1889)		Maentwrog, Merion
Evan Edwards	Board	S 29(1882)	Plaster	Ruthin

6 Castle St Square

Randle Carden	Head	M 51(1860)	Carpenter House	Overton
Arabella Carden	Wife	M 52(1859)	House Wife	Llangollen

7 Castle St Square

William Gee	Head	M 52(1859)	Hotel Servant	Wrexham
Elizabeth Gee	Wife	M 43(1868)		Chester
James Gee	Son	S 18(1893)	Apprentice To Plumber	Wrexham
William Gee	Son	S 15(1896)	Apprentice To Grocer	Llangollen
Archie Gee	Son	S 13(1898)	School Part Time, Butcher	Llangollen
George Gee	Son	S 10(1901)	School	Llangollen
Katie Gee	Dau	S 4(1907)	School	Llangollen



Canterbury Lamb Stores and Castle Street Square circa 1932

In the 1920's Evan Jones, from Llandegla, ran the Canterbury Lamb shop here on behalf of Edwards & Son, butchers. Edward Gabriel, who had previously had a fish shop in Bridge St later took over the shop. (He actually lived in Abbey Road.) In 1939 the occupant of No 7, next door was Ernest H M Hayward, son of Ernest Hayward, who ran Dodd & Co fruit & fish dealer at 3 Chapel Street.

Ernest H M Hayward died here in 1955.



1939 Register

5

1 Christina Martin	23 Nov 1884	W Retired Shop Assistant
2 Maud Toomes	19 Jan 1887	M Home Duties Domestic
3 Marjory Griffiths later Thomas	17-May-02	S House Duties Domestic Paid
4 Elizabeth Roberts	15 Apr 1857	W Domestic Home Duties
5 Gertrude (Evelyn) Roberts	10 Oct 1888	S Domestic Home Duties

6

1 Thomas J Clutton	08-Mar-14	M Heavy Chemical Industry Senior Laboratory Assistant
2 Amy Clutton	19-Apr-14	Married Unpaid Domestic Duties

3

7

Ernest H M Hayward	31 Jul 1908	M Fishmonger Married
Fanny Thomas (Hayward)	10 Feb 1912	M Unpaid Domestic Duties

Edward Gabriel operated the shop at the end until 1971, when he retired, and his son Ramon Gabriel took over, and ran it until 1996.



11th January 1972

THE LATE MR EDWARD GABRIEL

Mr Gabriel, whose death after only a day's illness was such a shock to his family and the townspeople, was a native of Wrexham, when quite young he had set up his fishmongery business here over 45 years ago. His marriage to Miss Elizabeth Thomas proved a happy partnership in every respect, and our sympathy goes out to her and her son and daughter in their sudden bereavement. .

The funeral was on Wednesday Jan 5th, the Service in the Parish Church being conducted by the Vicar the Rev J I Rees~ assisted by the Rev J K Hughes, with Mr Dilyn Roberts at the organ. Interment was in St John's Cemetery.

The family mourners were: Mrs. Elizabeth Gabriel (widow); Mr & Mrs. Ramon Gabriel (son & daughter-in-law), Mr & Mrs D. Valentine (son-in-law & daughter); Mr John Gabriel and Mr & Mrs Herbert Gabriel (brothers); Mr & Mrs Arthur Thomas, Mr & Mrs Ch Thomas Mrs Carita Thomas~ Mr R. Flack formerly of Cherry Tree (brother- in-law & sisters-in-law). By request there were no flowers~ but Llangollen Fire Service sent a wreath commemorating Mr Gabriel's past services as leading Fireman. Donations were received for Parish Church Funds

+ + + + +

THANKS Mrs Gabriel and family wish to thank friends and neighbours for their sympathy and kindness in their sudden bereavement Also Dr Davies and Dr. Wyn Jones, Matron and Staff of Llangollen Hospital, for their kind attention. Sundorne, Abbey Road, Llangollen.

2010Mr Ramon Gabriel Reminisces: *When we left Bridge Street, Dad's shop moved to Castle street to the Canterbury Lamb shop and as the family moved at the same time, we moved to Abbey Road. There was the railway at the back and, close by on Abbey Road, there was the field used for the May Day functions. Bryn "Fairview" kept his horses by there.*

We used to shop at the local shops, using those shops whose keepers bought their greengrocery from Gabriels. Our main grocers was at the top of Church Street- Idris Davies- a brother and sister ran it. Food was served out of large containers into paper bags for sale. There was P Jones-grocer as well a very old local family. (Father of Glyn Parry-Jones). On being married my wife was taken out and bought our first frying pan and shown which shops were our customers. Our childhood holidays were Sunday school outings and a holiday to Rhyl. Also I used to go to stay at my grandmother's in Liverpool.

I remember the Air crash on Dinas Bran. We stood and watched the plane circling. He was waving to some scouts-there was loads of smoke. The Nuclear shelter was manned by the Royal Observer Corp. I was in the Royal Observer Corp, but the Corwen branch-we manned a shelter up the mountain there. There was a geiger counter.

In the war there was aircraft spotting day and night from the shelter at the top of Dinas Bran and contact was made with the aerodromes. I was at an age where I was too young to fight in the war, but was called up for National Service as soon as I was old enough I was in the airforce in the 1950's and after this, when I came home I joined the Royal Observer Corp.

My own career on leaving Dinas bran School was to start as an apprentice joiner (there wasn't much work in those days, but I was not very keen on the joinery) Then came the years in the Airforce. I met my wife 12 months before joining up when she was 14/15 and lived in Acrefair and met up again just before I was called up. We started courting then-mainly by letter and the occasional leave. I was at RAF Honnington. Leave home was rare due to the time it took to travel. When I came home I went into the shop for a while and then to work at Monsanto. They had a major redundancy purge- a very worrying time-but I left there one day and got taken on in a Staff job at Air-Products the very next day. When my dad wanted to retire I took over Gabriels greengrocers and ran it from 1971 to 1996. I sold it to Malcolm?- who couldn't cope and he to a lady. Last year Chris Smith took it over and it is now a successful Ice cream parlour.



Immediately after bridge widening



2007



2010



2018

The shop is now run as a Fudge Factory and Ice Cream Parlour by Christ Smith (son of Bill Smith) of Cottage Cards & Gifts

No 5 Ham & Eggs/Mrs Roberts/ Cottage Tea Rooms



1920's



1950's



1960's



1968

2010



2018



Jonah Roberts was at No 5 in 1881. He gives his birth on the later censuses as Manchester, although earlier ones say Llangollen. He lived originally in Mill Street/Factory Square, but was at No 5 by 1881. He worked as a wool carder and wool slubber (machinery operator in the woollen mill). After the death of his wife Elizabeth in 1882, his son Thomas and his wife Elizabeth moved in with him. Thomas also started worked in the woollen business, as a weaver, but later he became caretaker at the Assembly rooms, but was also described as a Bill Poster. Thomas died in November 1900, and Jonah in October 1905. In 1901 Thomas's widow was described as a temperance hotel keeper, and in 1911 she was described as a boarding house keeper, also living here at that time was Evelyn Gertrude Roberts. Evelyn was the daughter of Christmas Roberts, one of the sons of Jonah. In 1939 Elizabeth was still here, but described as having unpaid domestic duties, as was Evelyn Gertrude Roberts. She carried on running the Cafe- providing sandwiches and snacks. She died in 1970.

1881 Census

5 Castle Sqr

Jonah Roberts	Head	M	55(1826)	Wool Carder (Fh...)	Manchester
Elizabeth Roberts	Wife	M	57(1824)		Corwen
Christmas Roberts	Son	S	22(1859)	Railway Porter	Llangollen
Margaret Roberts	Dau	S	18(1863)	Asst in Service	Llangollen
Eliz. Ann Saunders	Gdau	S	6(1875)	Scholar	Market Drayton
2 Castle Sqr					
Maria Roberts	Head	W	69(1812)	No Oc	Llangollen

1891 Census Castle St Square

5

Thomas Roberts	Head	M	34(1857)	Weaver	Llangollen
Elizabeth Roberts	Wife	M	33(1858)		Froncysyllte
Jonah Roberts	Father	W	65(1826)	Carder	Manchester

1901 Census

5

Elizabeth Roberts	Head	W	43(1858)	temp hotel keeper	Froncysyllte
Jonah Roberts	Fil	W	75(1826)		Manchester
Elizabeth A Watkin	Niece	S	18(1883)	dressmaker	Llangollen
Harold W H Cubley	Visit	M	29(1872)	dramatic ?	Retford
Alice W Cubley	Visit	M	19(1882)		India

1911 Census

5 Castle St Square

Elizabeth Roberts	Head	W	53(1858)	Boarding House Keeper	Vron
Evelyn Gertrude Roberts	Niece	S	22(1889)		Maentwrog, Merion
Evan Edwards	Board	S	29(1882)	Plaster	Ruthin

16th June 1970

THE LATE MISS GERTRUDE ROBERTS

We regret to record the death of Miss Evelyn Gertrude Roberts which occurred at the War Memorial Hospital on Sunday June 7th.

The third daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. Christmas Roberts, Station House, Glyndyfdwy, Miss Roberts was 81 years of age and had lived in Castle St Sq Llangollen since she was 16 years of age, having come there to assist her widowed aunt, Mrs. Tom Roberts. She enjoyed good health throughout her active life until her last illness. She is survived by her youngest sister, Mrs D. A. Jones (Glen) the last of a family of seven.

The funeral, which was private took place on Thursday, June 11th at 11:00 am when the Rev J. Roger Roberts officiated at the Fron Cemetery.

The mourners were: Mrs. D.A. Jones (sister); Mr. & Mrs. J Teague & Mr. & Mrs .D. Richards, Glyndyfrdwr (nieces) ; Mrs. Evans, Alwenfa.; Mr. & Mrs Evans, Llys Madoc; Mrs D P Jones, Mr. J. Ivor Jones, Mr. Blythe, Mrs. Richards the Chestnuts; Mrs Usherwood and friends, West Bromwich

The cottages were knocked through and expanded in to a larger café which was run by Ronald and Judith Dodd. At the end of 2003 Ronald died when he was on holiday in Egypt. His widow carried on running the café, before selling to Chris Smith around 2010, but it later was run by Ahmet Guven, and Mehmet Ilik, of Fouzi's. Ahmet Guven, and Mehmet Ilik



Jan 2004. *The Late Mr Ronald Dodd Mr Ronald Dodd died whilst on holiday in Egypt. Originally from Shropshire, he served in the army and later became a member of North Wales Police. Some years ago he retired to Llangollen and with his wife Judith ran the Cottage Tea Rooms, on Castle Street. Ronald Dodd was an active member of Llangollen Royal British Legion. Mrs Judith Dodd is the Chairman of the Llangollen Tourism Association and Chairman of the Local Crime and Disorder Action Team. We offer sincere condolences to Judith and the family.*

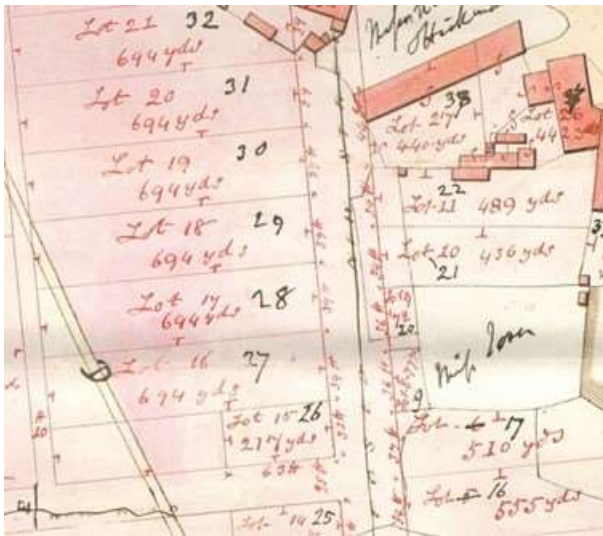
**OPENING OF REFURBISHED COTTAGE TEA ROOMS BY ANDREW RT DAVIES,
LEADER OF THE WELSH CONSERVATIVES**



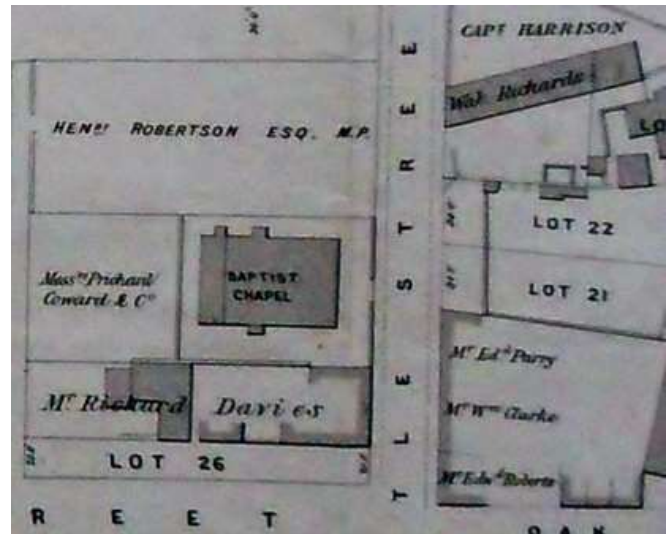
Andrew RT Davies AM, Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, opened the newly refurbished Cottage Tea Rooms in the centre of Llangollen on 12th March. He was accompanied by Simon Baynes, Welsh Conservative Assembly Candidate for Clwyd South, and met Ahmet Guven and Mehmet Ilik, who run the business which is also a bistro, and their team.

Photographed above left to right: Cihan Oguz, Maria Florin, Paul Davies, Ahmet Cuveo, Andrew RT Davies, Mehmet Ilik, Simon Baynes and Meliksah Logoglu.

MARKET HALL/ASSEMBLY ROOMS/TOWN HALL



1858



1862

At the 1858 sale lots 30 and 31 were part of the lands purchased by Henry Robertson, as can be seen on the 1862 map.

In the eighteenth century there was a town hall on Church Street, where the Hand Gardens are nowadays. Subsequently the 1st floor of the Lock up on the corner of Hall St and Berwyn Street was used as a town hall. With the epidemics of the 1850's there was a need for better management and in 1857 the Llangollen Board of Health was established.

In the early 1860's markets had been held in Regent Street, with the proposal of a new market, there was a growing demand from local landowners and ratepayers for a market hall. The land was purchased from Henry Robinson for £258. It was also decided that some of the land be used to build a new court house and lock-up.

(Before 1868 quotations are from Wrexham and Denbighshire Advertiser and Cheshire Shropshire and North Wales Register)

12th December 1863

The Clerk reported to the Board, the verbal proposal of the Justices for allowing, on certain conditions, land for a Market Hall, and it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned to the 31st of December instant, then to be held at the Town Hall, Llangollen, for general purposes.

12th March 1864

LOCAL BOARD. At a meeting of the board held in the Town Hall, on the 3rd inst. the following gentle- men were present:- J. Hughes, Esq., chairman Rev. J. Edwards. Messrs. Coward, Parry, Jones, and M. Roberts. The first thing they took into consideration was the Market-hall. If the county surveyor shall make the plans and superintend the building of the hall. Mr. Edwards proposed, and Mr. Coward seconded, that tenders be received for making the new streets, which passed unanimously. The Rev. J. Edwards, Messrs. E. Roberts, Morgan, and E. Francis, presented plans of new buildings before the board, which were approved of. Bills to the amount of £12 18s. were ordered to be paid.

2nd April 1864

NEW MARKET HALL AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

At the Petty Sessions, on Monday, Mr Lloyd Williams, the county Surveyor, exhibited some very nice plans for a new market hall and assembly rooms for Llangollen. The latter will be a noble hall, 58 feet by 45 feet, and the whole a graceful ornament, as well as a vast convenience to the town. He also exhibited the plans for the much desired widening of the bridge.

14th May 1864

PROPOSED NEW MARKET HOUSE

A public meeting called by the Local Board at the request of certain of the owners and ratepayers of the district was held on Monday afternoon last, to pass resolutions on the following matters – 1. To provide a market place, and construct a market-house, and other conveniences for the purpose of holding markets. 2. To provide houses and places for weighing carts. 3. To make convenient approaches to such market. 4 To provide all such matters and things as may be necessary for the convenient use of such a market. 5 To purchase or take on lease land for any of the following purposes. 6 To take stallages, rents and tolls, in respect of the use by any person of such market house.

On the proposition of Mr Maurice Roberts, seconded by Mr John Thomas, Mr Hughes, The Tower, was voted to the chair.

The chairman then read the requisition calling the meeting, to which was attached the following names – John Edwards, Pengwern-cottage, owner and ratepayer; Edward Hughes Parry, Llangollen-fechan, Thomas Hughes, Penybryn, owner and ratepayer; Thomas Hughes, The Grove, owner and ratepayer; John Hughes Dee Mill-place, owner and ratepayer; Robert Jones, Castle-street, owner and ratepayer; John Roberts, Castle-st., owner and ratepayer; Morris Roberts, Builder, owner and ratepayer; Robert Baker, Sun Brewery, owner and ratepayer; Richard Jones, tailor, Chapel-street, owner and ratepayer; John Jones, Regent street, ratepayer; John Thomas, Hall-street, owner and ratepayer; Robert Evans, Regent-street, ratepayer; Thomas Jones Castle-street, ratepayer; Wm. Clarke, Castle-street, owner and ratepayer; John Price, Hall Street, owner and ratepayer; John Clarke, Hall-street, owner and ratepayer; David Davies, Berwyn-street, owner and ratepayer; John Roberts, Cross Foxes, owner and ratepayer; W Williams, Regent-street, Ratepayer; J Roberts, Builder, owner and ratepayer; T Edwards, Ratepayer; T Jones, owner and ratepayer; J Williams, saddler, ratepayer; Hugh Jones, stationer, ratepayer; David Jones, Berwyn-street, ratepayer.

Mr Charles Richards stated that he had been in communication with the Secretary of State on the matter that had brought them together, and had received a letter stating that if the Local Board wished to raise money for the purposes set forth in the notice, it would be necessary that the sanction of the Secretary of State should be secured. Accordingly it was required that the resolutions attached to the notice should be formally passed. The resolutions were then read over by the chairman. The first was proposed by Mr Maurice Roberts, and seconded by Mr John Thomas; the second by Mr T Edwards and Mr Hugh Jones; the third by Mr J Morris and Mr W Williams; the fourth by Mr Dodd and Mr J Roberts; the fifth by Mr A Reid (who then entered the room) and Mr T Edwards, and the sixth by Mr D Jones and Mr John Clark.

The resolutions were all put and carried unanimously.

2nd July 1864

NEW COURT-HOUSE AT LLANGOLLEN.

It was stated that the conveyance of the site for Llangollen Court-house and Market-hall was completed, and that Mr Robertson had accepted a smaller price for the land than he could have obtained from private purchasers. The amount for the erection, viz. £1,000, had been borrowed, and was to be re-paid at the rate of £80 per year for thirty years. The contract for the building had been let on Tuesday last, for £1,057., whereas the Surveyor's estimate was £1,100

23rd July 1864

LOCAL BOARD. At an extraordinary general meeting of the Local Board, duly convened and held at the Town Hall, at noon, on the 14th inst., the following gentlemen were present:-

A Reid, Esq, chairman Mr W. Coward, timber- merchant; Mr John Hughes, flannel manufacturer; and Mr Morris Roberts, builder.

Resolved that a resolution be come to (the terms of which are embodied in the annexed copy letter) and that the sanction be required for a loan of £3,000 for the Market Hall.

Llangollen, July 14, 1864,

Sir, After the interview with Mr Inspector Morgan, on Saturday, the 9th inst., as to the proposed Market Hall, &c, a meeting of the Board was held on this day at twelve o'clock. Mr Inspector Morgan pointed out that the proposed plans did not afford sufficient accommodation for Board Meeting, for Surveyor's office, or I depot, or for clerks' offices, or any rooms for stores belonging to the Local Board, all which matters the Local Board for Llangollen consider requisite. They have therefore passed a resolution that permission be asked to raise a loan of £3,000 instead of £2,200, as previously decided upon. The Board desire me to add that they believe Mr Inspector Morgan will support an application for the sum of £3,000 for providing a Market Hall in this district.

Your obedient servant,

C. RICHARDS

Tom Taylor, Esq.

Richmond Terrace, London.

13th August 1864

Resolved, that the surveyor for the county be requested to complete his plans, elevations, and specifications for the Market Hall; that the committee-room be enlarged to 16ft. by 20ft., and there be an office of 14ft. square, and a depot, or storeroom 15ft. by 20ft.

15th October 1864

Ordered that the encroachment of the south end of the bridge be removed. Ordered that Mr J. Griffiths, builder of the County Hall, pay the sum of £5 for the use of the land near Castle-street, and that he have the use thereof till the 1st of May next, provided that every requisite room and facility be given for the removal of soil and also for building the market hall, &c., and that he also be required to restore the kerb stones, and restore all damages.

Mr J. Forster's, C.E., letter being read, it was resolved that he be required to comply with his proposal as contained in the letter of the 24th September.

Ordered that H. Robertson, Esq. M.P., be paid for land and interest (market hall, &c.) £258; vendor's costs £17 19s. 8d; committee expenses 15s conveyance £2 2s. Resolved, that a vote of thanks be tendered to H. Robertson, Esq. M.P., for the very generous manner in which he dealt with the Board as to the land required for the market hall.

Ordered that Mr J. Hughes and Mr J. Humphreys inspect Mr R. Edwards, of Maesmawr, house as to encroachment on the road or otherwise.

Ordered that the mortgage of market hall account for £400 to Mr S. Hughes be sealed and signed. The like to Miss Lloyd, the Abbey, for £300.

12th November 1864

TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

MARKET HALL, LLANGOLLEN.

ANY PERSON desirous to contract for the above, may inspect the plans and specifications at the Local Board Office, Bank buildings, Llangollen.

Tenders to be sent to me on or before the 1st day of December next.

By Order of the Local Board of Health, for the District of Llangollen.

CHARLES RICHARDS,
Clerk.

Llangollen, Nov. 3rd, 1864.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept any Tender.

1210

The plans and sections of the New Market Hall were read and considered. In order to get a local supervisor of the works, it was resolved, that the clerk should write to Mr R. L. Williams, the county surveyor, to re-quest him to appoint one, and have his reply before advertising for tenders. The plans with some minor suggestions as to some portions of the specifications were approved of.

10th December 1864

Resolved, that the petition of the vestry to the Lord Chancellor, be confirmed and

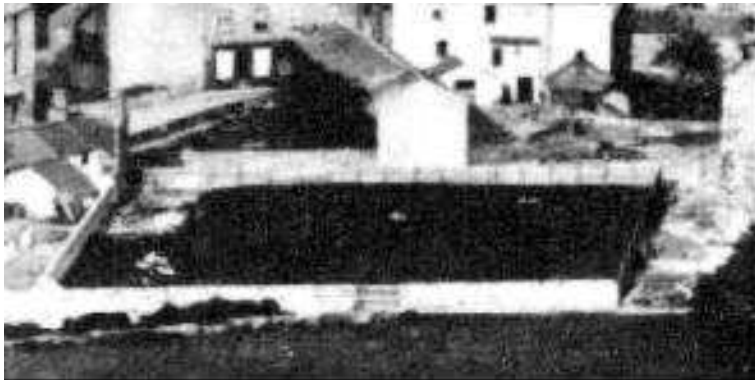
signed, with the following addenda That there is a large and convenient County hall in process of building at Llangollen, and that the Court ought to be held there when its conveniences &c., are completed, and that is the intention of the Board to apply for the same in due time. The petition to the Home Secretary for Loans on rates, was read and confirmed and Messrs M & J. Roberts & Co's tender (for Market Hall), was accepted, with Aberdeen granite column.

12th May 1866

That Mr. Robert's instalment of principal and interest be paid (£22 15s. 3d.), as well as Mr. Samuel Hughes (£13 0s. 2d.). That the turret on the Market Hall as planned be accepted, provided the estimate be satisfactory to the Chairman and Surveyor. That the Surveyor's certificate, as to Mr. M. Roberts, be deferred till next meeting. That the bills for incidentals, &c., to the amount of £16 2s. 9½d be paid.

11th August 1866

If the market hall be not completed before next meeting it will be taken out of the contractor's hands



Under Construction circa 1865

The Market Hall was designed in the Early Gothic style by Lloyd Williams and Underwood, who were County Architects for Denbighshire. In December the contract for the building went to Morris & John Roberts, local builders. The first function, a bazaar was held in August 1866, but it was in December 1866 that Morris Roberts reported it as being complete.

1st September 1866

WESLEYAN BAZAAR IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM.

A person visiting Llangollen after an absence of ten or twelve years would be surprised with the many improvements that have been carried out within that period in the way of laying out new streets, the erection of villa residences, and public buildings, carrying out a system of main drainage. out a system of main drainage, and the bringing into the town from the neighbouring hills a copious supply of pure water. Amongst the public buildings that have sprung up the most conspicuous is a large building in the Gothic style of architecture, situate in the fine new street lately opened out, leading from the bridge to the New Road. The entire block includes a Town Hall, a market-hall, a lock-up and session chamber, and other accommodation, the whole having been designed by Messrs. Lloyd Williams and Underwood, of Denbigh, and built by Messrs. M. and J. Roberts. Over the Market-hall there is an Assembly Room, which measures 56ft by 35ft, and is a lofty, well ventilated, and tastefully designed room. The first occasion on which the room has been called into requisition for any public purpose was on Friday and Saturday last, when a bazaar was held within its walls for the purpose of raising fun is towards defraying the expenses incurred in making some additions; to the English Wesleyan Chapel.



15th December 1866

Mr Morris Roberts reported the completion of the Market Hall contract, and Mr Williams was requested forthwith to inspect the work and report upon it. Mr T. Hughes gave notice that on the first Thursday in January next he would move that the payment fixed for holding Penny Readings be altered. The Surveyor was ordered to bring an estimate to the next Board for improving the scale of water-rate, and it was resolved that Messrs. M. and J. Roberts's tender as to filings for the Assembly Rooms be accepted.

The new building had an Assembly Room upstairs, with a market hall at street level. This was to be let out for stalls to local merchants. Unfortunately these stalls were not popular

with the dealers, and were often unlet, despite many initiatives by the board. Eventually the ground floor space was converted into shops.

10th February 1888

Proposed New Shops in the Market Hall. – The committee reported that Mr. Wm. Jones submitted the plan of the proposed scheme for the conversion of the front portions of the Market Hall into shops. It was recommended that the specifications and estimate of cost be obtained. – Mr. Wm. Jones now submitted plans prepared by Mr. R.T. Jones by which it was proposed to take up all the open space in front of the Market Hall by erecting thereon 5 lock-up shops, at a cost of £270, exclusive of the internal fittings. The adoption of this scheme would according to his calculations, effect a clear profit to the Board of £30 a year. Already application had been received for the whole of the shops. Miss Horspool and Mr. C.H. Humphreys, the tenants of the present shops complained sadly that their premises were too far back from the street to attract business and he (Mr. Jones) believed the plan if carried out, would be a very practical improvement. – Mr. Ed. Roberts said that these plans had been shown to Capt. Best before he went away, and he pooh-poohed the scheme. Mr. Lloyd Jones did not think it would be an improvement in any way. – Mr. Ed. Roberts thought that it would be a pity to do away like this with the only open space they had in the town. He was most anxious if possible to reduce their rates, and it was for that object that he had advocated the proposed removal of the Smithfield. He could not advocate expenditure of this kind. He thought it would spoil the Market Hall. As to the shops being too far back from the street, it would be found that as a rule if people kept proper article they were bound to do business. He would advise the Board not to embark at present upon any new undertakings, but to do the best of what they had. It was a far more practical and cheaper proposal to spend £60 in converting the present stalls into shops. The applications for these shops would hold good in that case. – Mr. Robert Hughes said that if that was so, by all means carry out the smaller plan. – Mr. Wm. Jones considered the carrying out of his scheme would be equal to a saving of £600 to the Board. At the same time, the project was in a very incomplete form, and he would counsel them to take it under their consideration for another year. Mr. Edward Roberts said that one of the two plans must be adopted that day, as it would affect the new estimate for the current year. It was proposed to lay aside £60 in the next estimate for carrying out some scheme of shops in the Market Hall. – After further consideration the matter was deferred.

30th March 1888

An important subject, of material interest to the town, is to be discussed at the next meeting of the Local Board. As everyone knows, the Market Hall beneath the Assembly Rooms has for a period of years been a failure – only one stall being used, whilst the side portions have been converted into shops. The tenants of these shops complain that business is greatly retarded owing to the fact that their premises fall back many feet from the pavement. It is now proposed to remedy the matter by bringing forward the entire frontage, and rearranging the interior of the market place.

Plans have been prepared and are to be submitted to the Board. From these we find that it is proposed that the lower half of the frontage from the corner of Parade-street to the entrance to the Assembly Rooms, shall be brought out to the pavement. By this means five shops would be inserted on the front, with store rooms behind, in place of two as at present. It is also suggested that a portico, with glass roof, be constructed from the pavement to the doors of the Assembly Rooms. Everyone will agree as to the advisability of this plan. In wet or stormy weather the space from the street to the Hall door has often proved a matter of considerable inconvenience to ladies and gentlemen driving up to the pavement on ball or concert nights. The new frontage would be built in masonry, with doors and windows to correspond with the Town Building.

In addition to these enlargements the scheme includes the construction of a Concert or Lecture Room, capable of seating 130 to 150 persons, access to which would be gained from Parade-street, where there is at present an unused entrance and large window, adjoining the Library and Reading Room. This would prove an immense boon to the town. The Assembly Room is often found

to be too large for lectures and social gatherings, whereas we have no smaller room in the town on neutral ground. The whole scheme is one of great utility, and the only argument we can find against it is, the question of closing an open space in an important part of the town.

Now comes the question of expense. The promoters are prepared to show, that in this matter, it will be a distinct gain to the ratepayer. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at £300. This may appear a comparatively small figure for so extensive an alteration, but we are informed that a careful computation has been made. The present rentals realize \$42 per annum, but under the new scheme rentals are already guaranteed to the extent of £78, exclusive of the public Room. This room will be hired from the Board at a fixed sum, in the same manner as the Assembly Room. Placing the modest rental of £10 on this room – though double that sum would in all probability be realized – we have a gain of £46 on the present rentals, which is equivalent to 15 per cent interest on the sum expended.

The scheme will commend itself to most minds as feasible, and attended with desirable advantages. It will, moreover, be a saving of £30 a year to the ratepayers, which is a desideratum in these times. Then the new building would form an excellent support to the main structure, which has given way somewhat. The attention of the Board has already been drawn to the fact that the building leans towards Castle-street. We are given to understand that there are applications for each of the shops, the tenants being prepared to take a five or seven years' lease on their premises at an approximate rental of £78.

15th June 1888

Market Hall Alterations – A letter was read from Mr. Horspool agreeing to the alterations, provided his light on the market side of the shop be not interfered with. – Mr. Thos. Edwards, it was stated, would not agree to pay whatever amount of rent would be fixed by the Board for one of the new shops. He desired the Board to fix the amount and he would then decide whether he would continue his tenancy. – The surveyor, in reply to a member, said the rents obtained now were:– Thos. Edwards (stall), £9 2s.; Mr. Horspool (shop), £15; Mr. C.H. Humphreys (shop), £18. – The Clerk read a letter from a boot and shoe firm in Rhyl, offering a rent of £20 for one of the shops. A letter was also read from Messrs. Stead, Simpson and Nephew, Leicester, stating they were prepared to stand by their letter of Jan. 2nd, in which they offered to take the premises for two years with the option of a lease. – Mr. Edward Roberts thought that as long as the latter firm were the first applicants it would be only fair that the offer of the shop be made to them first. He would propose it should be so, and that as the other party offers £20, that it be offered to the first applicant for the same rent. – Mr. David Parry seconded, and it was carried unanimously. – The surveyor, in reply to a member, said the estimated cost of the alterations for the two shops was £60, which had been provided in the estimate.

Friday 13th May 1892

Death of Mr Morris Roberts Builder.

Once more the hand of death has removed from amongst us one of the few men whose name are associated with the history of Llangollen since the early part of the century. In the death of Mr Morris Roberts, which took place at his residence in Cambrian Terrace on Tuesday morning at the ripe age of 78 the town has lost a man whose career, though confined within its ordinary narrow limits of the immediate neighbourhood illustrated to a remarkable degree some of the finest traits of character associated with true manhood.

The deceased was a native of Llangollen, having been born in Mill Street. His father John Roberts as well as his grandfather Morris Roberts were millwrights by trade and at that time nearly the whole of the machine was composed of wood, it required no small amount of ingenuity to construct the intricate and mechanical arrangements of a mill and, as in those days few possessed the necessary ability, the services of such men were greatly in demand far and near. In early life Mr Roberts turned his attention to the manufacture of clock cases of the high-fashioned type which are now almost out of date. In this work which required considerable artistic skill combined with superior workmanship he became widely known, and the products of his manufacture found ready

sale in Oswestry, Wrexham, Whitchurch and other towns. Gradually he turned his attention to building and in conjunction with his brother in law, the late Thomas Jones, the firm being known as M & J Roberts & Co., important works were undertaken, which will always remain as monuments of their labour in that department of industry. The Assembly Rooms and Market Hall, the restoration of the Parish Church, the erection of National Schools, the Vicarage, Hand Hotel, Llantysilio Church, Glyndyfrdwy Church, N & SW Bank, Grapes Hotel, Corygedol Hotel Barmouth, Mile End Factory and others we may mention are but a few instances of the character of the work which they designed or carried out. He also conducted from time to time extensive building operations on his own account and at the time of his death was no doubt the largest owner of household property in the town. He has carried out important contracts under many of the most eminent architects of his day, including Sir Gilbert Scott, Mr Street, Mr Pountey Smith of Shrewsbury, all of whom bare the most flattering testimony to the thorough satisfactory manner in which the firm performed their work. Similar testimony is borne by the owners of Rhûg and Nantelwy Hall estates whose extensive works were carried out by the company.

At the first formation of the Local Board in 1857 he was appointed the surveyor and had, therefore probably more to do than anyone else in the planning and laying out the new streets and other extensive alterations to which the establishment of the Board gave such an impetus. In the subsequent years he sat on the Board as a member, where his ripe judgement and comprehensive knowledge were at all times highly appreciated. He never took any very prominent part in the educational social or political movements, which from time to time agitated the mind of the local community, though at the same time he entertained strong intelligent and decided views upon all questions which formed the staple subjects within the circle of his acquaintances.

For many years, carving, as an art in which he greatly excelled had occupied perhaps the greater part of his time, more especially since his retirement from the active pursuits of his business. The restoration of Plas Newydd which was carried out by General Yorke under his supervision, must always be considered as the most successful combinations of design, skill and ingenuity which he ever accomplished, and it was always a trite saying of the late General that even London could not have produced a man more capable of carrying out almost with his own hands the work done by Mr Roberts in connection with the antique oak carvings of the house, and the skill he exhibited in introducing carvings of his own handiwork in order to preserve the harmony and completeness of the original designs.

To those, however, who were not intimately associated with him in private life perhaps the most interesting trait in his character was his intense religious conviction, and the earnestness, fidelity and devotion which during the whole of his long life he manifested in connection with the cause of Christ. In his youth he attached himself with the Welsh Wesleyan Methodists when they were worshipping in their old sanctuary in Hall Street. The present Wesleyan Chapel in Castle Street may almost be regarded as his own creation since he was the most active promoter in its first erection and subsequent restoration. For about sixty years he had without any interruption been a class leader and Sunday School teacher both of which offices he continued to fill until within a few days of his death.

After an illness of about a week Mr Roberts passed away peacefully at 6:30 m on Tuesday morning. He leaves a wife, a son (Mr MH Roberts, Berwyn Street) and two daughters (Mrs Cyrus Watkin and Mrs Edward Davies Berwyn Street) to mourn his loss with whom in their affliction we deeply sympathise. The funeral, which is to be a public one is announced to start from Cambrian Terrace for St. Johns Cemetery at three o'clock Friday (today).

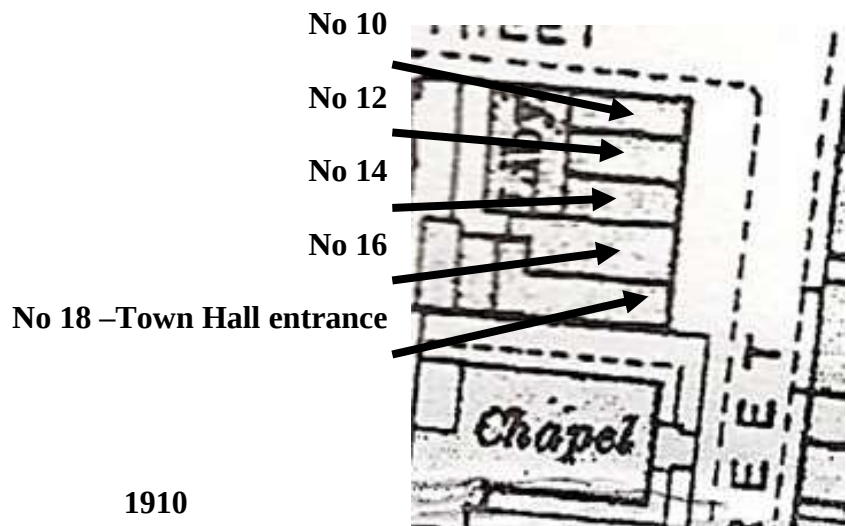
The quality of the building had been a problem from the start, and problems were raised as early as 1870. And plumbing the deviation of the east wall had shown a deviation of $2\frac{3}{4}$ " from vertical, an heavy gales had led to some window's cracking.

15th April 1870

Defective Building. The Clerk said he had received an intimation that the walls of the Market Hall and Assembly-rooms were giving way, The Surveyor was ordered to report upon the same.

However, by 1903 the problems were such that a large overhaul costing some £3000 was required. This was the original cost of the building. Not surprisingly there was a great deal of upset, and a Local Government Board of Enquiry was held to investigate the matter. In 1904 the improvements were made.

20th February 1903 Mr R. Davies, architect, Bangor, produced the plans for the proposed alterations and improvements of the building which he said he had drawn up with the instructions of the Council. He had large experience in connection with public buildings having been associated with the construction of four public halls and over two hundred chapels. He plumbed the buildings two years ago and found that it was 3½" out of the straight and that morning he again plumbed it and found that in 8ft it was 4" out. When he examined the building, in 1901, it was not safe in his opinion and he advised the Council that it would be necessary to take off the roof. The Council informed him that they wanted more room and that the building could not be licensed for stage purposes without a fire extinction appliance and better provision as to exits etc. Strengthening the building, according to the plan which he submitted would cost £900 without any improvements whilst for the scheme providing heating apparatus and for fire extinction appliances £1,450 would be required, and for the complete work £2,690, and this would provide for a stage. He considered the estimate a very moderate one and strongly advised the Council to go for the plan, in order to bring the building up-to-date.



1910

There were efforts made to make more use of the Town Hall and in 1917, The Council's Advertising Committee of the town agreed, not without some opposition, to run a cinema in the Town Hall. The proceeds from these film shows were to advertise the town and provide attractions for visitors and locals. The proceeds were so good that the Committee were able to spend £707 on the purchase of land, which today forms the major part of Riverside Park. The Hall was often used for concerts and meetings, but was superseded as a cinema by the Pavilion and the Dorothy.

Under later local government changes ownership of the town hall passed to what is now Denbighshire County Council. On 15th March 2012 it was sold back to Llangollen Town Council. The Llangollen Town Council are still the landlords for the shops.

24th August 1917 *Inquiries made by a correspondent to elicit what may be a possible explanation of the rumpus! It appear that the Council Chamber, at the present time has been commandeered by*

Mie Town Advertising Committee, who are running a living picture show in the Town Hall for the purpose of raising funds to boom Llangollen; and, from all accounts, doing the thing very well, indeed. However this may be, the local authority has been carried out of the Council Chamber and meets in the Surveyor's office, if not in a hole-and-corner manner, at any rate in a more restricted environment. "Now," the correspondent states, "no self-respecting Council, Anywhere, would consent to play second fiddle to a living picture show; and, their desire evidently was to go one better in the way of melodrama than anything exhibited in the Town Hal and who shall say they failed? Had an enterprising photographer been present, with the apparatus necessary to obtain a moving picture of the scene, how fine a result, have been obtained? Reminiscent of those stirring days when, with uplifted arms. Irishmen filed out of the House of Commons in protest against a supposed injustice, Llangollen Council would indeed have been immortalised by the representation of the three just members leaving the council chamber. And what a draw the picture would have been on the screen in the Town Hall What an aid to advertising Llangollen Of course, it has achieved something in the direction as thing are.

The last major incident during the year was at Llangollen on the 27th December. This being a Sunday, following Christmas Day and Boxing Day, business premises had been closed for three days. It had been a traditional white Christmas with heavy falls of snow in the area, when late on Sunday evening a fire call was received to the Town Hall, Llangollen. The building concerned consists not only of the Town Hall itself, but also offices, a library and a number of lock up shops, and smoke was seen to be pouring from many of these premises, most of which, including the Town Hall itself were heavily smoke-logged. Undoubtedly, there was a serious and a deep-seated fire somewhere in the block, but its precise location was not discernible from outside. The outbreak had actually originated in a store room, enclosed in the centre of the block, and at the rear of one of the shops, and had spread, unnoticed until it now threatened the entire block. After three hours hard firefighting in sub-zero temperature outside, and intense heat and thick smoke inside, the crews were successful in containing the fire to the store room of the origin with slight spread to one shop only. The Senior Fire Officer present was not particularly gratified, nor amused, as he stood in the snow at 3 am admiring the results of the good work of his personnel, when he was approached by two prominent local dignitaries, who shall be nameless, with the comment that but for 'the blasted efficiency of the Fire Service we would have had a new Town Hall we have for so long needed. We may never have such a chance again.'

For many years, following its inception by Sir Theodore Martin the Town Hall had housed the Llangollen Library. This opened onto Parade St. It was replaced by a purpose built library in Parade St in 1974. Over the years the Town Hall has provided a venue for concerts, meetings, rallies, exhibitions, bazaars etc. It has also hosted the Llangollen Twenty Club and Llangollen Operatic Society Productions.

1967 Amorous Prawn XX Club





December 2010

FRIENDS OF THE TOWN HALL

The Friends of the Town Hall Group was formed in July 2009 and comprises representatives of the Town Council, Denbighshire County Council and the main user groups of the Town Hall. The terms of reference of the Group are:-



To maximise the use of the Town Hall

To promote the Town Hall as an inclusive community facility

In consultation with Denbighshire County Council to oversee the effective and efficient administration of the Town Hall

By fundraising, by grant applications and by liaison with DCC to improve the facilities of the Town Hall to make it an attractive community centre for the Twenty-First century.

To maintain a sense of civic pride in a historic building which has been at the centre of Llangollen life since 1870.

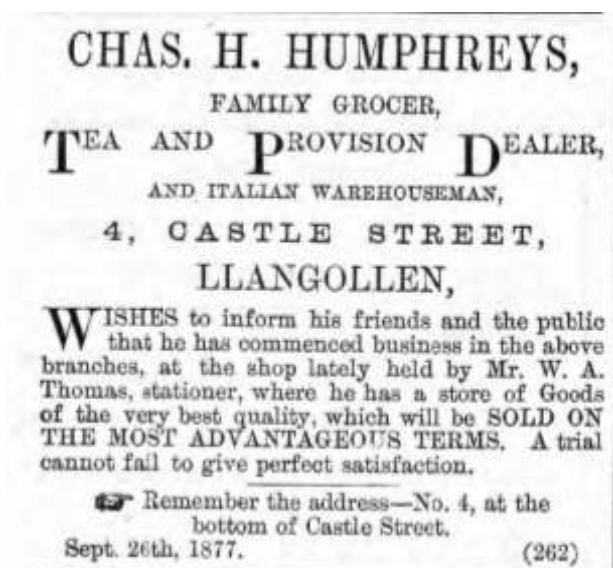
The Friends thought it would be useful to let people know what they have been doing in relation to its fund raising role and the improvements to the Town Hall they hope to make in the near future.

Two successful bids were made to the Town Council as part of its Participatory Budgeting project - one of £500 for stage improvements (a new backdrop) and another of £600 for two portable staging units. Recently the Friends organised two tables in an Attic Sale at the Town Hall and raised over £200 and the Table Sale on the 21st November was expected to raise over £100. The Friends identified Portable Staging Units and Stage Improvements to be the main priorities. They are also looking at how to make the Foyer area more attractive and inviting. With a significant donation from Llangollen Twenty Club they are now in a position to place an order for further portable staging units at a total cost of over £2500 which hopefully will be delivered before the end of the year.

Further Fund Raising events include a Quiz Evening in February and probably more Table Sales as these have proved very popular. The Friends believe that there will be a great deal of local support for the improvements they are intending to achieve for the Town Hall and anyone who is able to contribute financially by making a donation or indeed by taking an active role in any of our fund raising activities will be most welcome. They will greatly appreciate any help and more ideas for fund raising activities in order to carry out a continued programme of events to raise significant sums for improvements to the Town Hall.

Shops

No 10 (originally No 4 Market Stores)



The first tenant of the north end shop was William Arthur Thomas, originally a student at the Baptist College, in 1875 he had taken a 7 year lease on stalls in the Market Hall but 2 years later the lease on one passed to Charles Henry Humphreys. He had been an apprentice with Griffith Griffith at No 41 when he first came to Llangollen. His shop was a grocer's and was known as Market Stores, but by the 1950's it was known as Humphrey's Sweet Shop. Charles Henry Humphreys died in 1926, and his son John Henry Humphreys, also a grocer died in May 1954.

10th December 1881

Proposed Conversion of Portions of the Market Hall into Shops. A long discussion ensued as to

applications made by Mr. C. H. Humphreys, grocer, and Mr. Joseph Evans, cabinet maker, for permission to convert portions of the north and south ends of the Market Hall into shops for carrying on their respective businesses. The former applicant stated his willingness to incur an expenditure of about £60 or £70 in carrying out the necessary alterations, and to pay a rental of £12, provided the Board would grant a lease of fourteen years.

After the 1965 fire No 10 & No 12 were joined together, and acted as the UDC rates office, later becoming the tourist office. This was replaced by a Staffordshire China Shop, before becoming an office Wingett's Estate at the end of 2008.



1950's



After the fire



Wingetts 2018

No 12 (Market Buildings)



1910



1950's



1964

Samuel Lloyd, the earliest tenant of No 12 had a butchers business at No 31 Castle St from about 1872, but when his father died he took over his father's farm, but from 1888 he used Market Buildings shop to sell his and other farmer's produce.

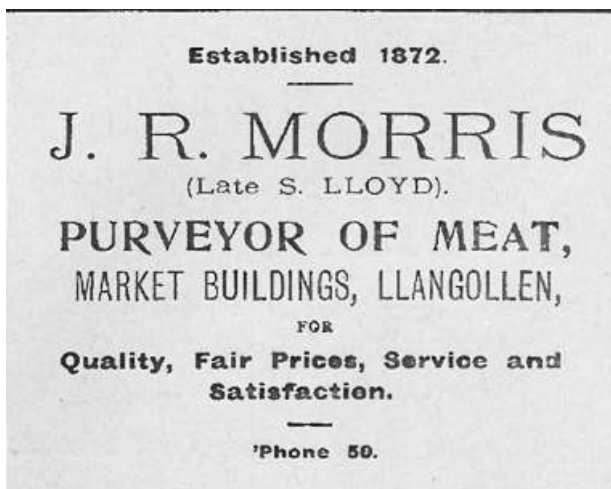
14th December 1888

New Shop in Market - The recommendation of the Works Committee that the new shop in the Market Hall be let to Mr. Samuel Lloyd, butcher, Castle-street, at £20 a year, was confirmed.

26th December 1890

Mr Samuel Lloyd, whose commodious premises in Market Buildings enables him to set off his stock to advantage, displayed a prime 3 year old heifer, selected from among the six prize heifers at Messrs. Bailey and Groves's Auction Mart, Oswestry.

Jan 1934



Samuel Lloyd died in 1912, but the business continued under his name. By 1934 the butcher was John Robert Morris. John was one of around nine brothers, sons of Thomas Morris of Froncysyllte – a younger son, George Leonard Morris took over No 14.

In 1948 the Town Council allowed the shop to use 30ft of the floor space of the Library to allow the butcher's to have a refrigerator. This led to the Library Committee resigning in protest.

28th December 1948

To the Editor "Tuesday Review."

Tegfan,

\Llangollen.

Dec. 21, 1948.

Sir, As a resident in Llangollen for nearly forty years, I have been considerably amused and somewhat disturbed by the narrow-minded attitude of the Llangollen Library Committee. They threaten to resign if a small portion of the library is sacrificed to enable a refrigerator to be installed by a butcher. In these days one hears a great deal about hygiene, and in view of the difficulties of the meat trade and the smallness of the ration, it would appear sensible to say that the correct storage of meat is considerably more important than the storage of old dusty books which ought to have been sent for salvage during the war years. The butcher is accused of taking more space than was allotted to him. If he has got a foot or two more, what does it matter? There will still be plenty of room for readable and up to date books. How many people visit the library for books? What is the expenditure and income? How many Ratepayers know this information? Is

the complaint of the Committee backed by the majority of Llangollen people?if not, let the Library Committee resign. Who cares?

Yours Faithfully, R C RIDDELL

In the early 1950's John Robert Morris was operating here as a butcher, but many people still referred to the shop as Lloyd's butchers. By around 1960 he seems to have moved to No 16, and was certainly there by the time of the fire in 1964.

29th December 1964



DISASTROUS FIRE AT TOWN HALL .SHOPS

What a sight met the eyes of those out early on Monday morning! A heap of smoking debris outside Morris's Grocery Stores-half buried packets of Tate and Lyle Sugar-a spare orange or two keeping company with a still good box of kippers and the N.S.P.C.C. boy "Please help me," smoke blackened. "Please help Mrs Morris", we thought. Nor did Mr Morris's butcher's shop fare any better. Firemen were still carrying out dust-bins full of smouldering wood and rubbish. The Library had a gash in the back wall and was

blackened with smoke, but no books were damaged. The firemen had removed them from the shelves against the back wall. The only undamaged room is the Reading Room. The fire broke out about 11.30 pm. on Sunday night.

The cause It still unknown, but it appears to have started at the rear of the Grocery Stores. It is feared that the floor of the Town Hall has also been weakened.

We sympathise truly with the two shopkeepers in their tragic loss and disruption of business.

January 5, 1965

TOWN HALL FIRE

One unfortunate consequence of the Town Hall fire is that THE TOC H PARTY for PENSIONERS HAS HAD TO BE POSTPONED. Intended to be held next Saturday, January 9th it will take place as soon as alternative accommodation can be arranged. THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE URBAN COUNCIL TONIGHT, owing to damage to the Council Chamber will be held in the COUNTY BUILDINGS FIRST FLOOR, entrance Police Station main door, Parade St. The discovery of the fire was due to Mr David Edwards, Homelands. He had been to the Smithfield late on Sunday night, December 27th to see that all was well with the Dee Valley Transport vehicles. As he passed the Town Hall on his way home about 11.30 p m he noticed what he thought was steam issuing from the ventilator window of John Brown's. Looking again he saw a dull red glow at the back of the shop and immediately informed the police. All night the Fire Servicemen, the Police, the Town Hall Caretaker were at work. Mr Ellis Roberts and Mr Fawcett were also quickly on the scene. And all day Monday was spent clearing of the debris – a task not completed till 4 p m Tuesday. Nevertheless on Tuesday morning Mr Morris's Butcher's shop was open as usual, and thanks to the assistance of staff from the County Library at Ruthin, the Library also opened as usual on Tuesday. Only smoke and grime affected the Council Offices and Council Chamber, but it is feared that damage to the floor of the Assembly Room will be some time before it can be repaired,

After the fire it would seem that No 12 was joined with No 10 to form the UDC rating office.

No 14 (Tea Mart)

In the early 1890's this shop was occupied by Joseph Lloyd, a grocer. The shop then went under the name of Tea Mart

11th August 1893

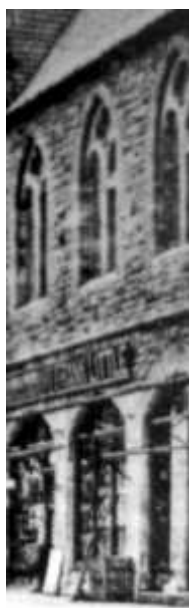
Market Hall Shops.-That the alterations in the rear of the shops occupied by Mr. Joseph Lloyd and Mr. T. A. Waltho, as agreed to by them, be carried out.

19th October 1894

In July Edward Frank Little, another grocer replaced Joseph Lloyd.

12th July 1895

MARKET HALL SHOPS. The Council agreed to accept Mr. Frank Little as tenant to the shop now occupied by Mr. Joseph Lloyd, in the Market Hall, satisfactory references having been received.



THE TEA MART
(Opposite the Post Office),
LLANGOLLEN.

**PURE TEA, 1/4, 1/3, 1/3, 1/10 and
2/- per lb.**

**GROCERY AND PROVISIONS OF THE
BEST QUALITY.**

**HARRIS'S WILTSHIRE SMOKED
HAMS AND BACON.**

JOSEPH LLOYD, Proprietor.
(4307)

29th November 1901

**NEW
SEASON'S
FRUIT**

FOR
MINCEMEAT AND **DESSERT.**

QUALITY & PRICE UNSURPASSED.

**FRANK LITTLE,
FAMILY GROCER,
LLANGOLLEN.**

TELEPHONE 199.

JOHN BROWN
(Late LITTLE),
FAMILY GROCER,
**Italian Warehouseman and
— Provision Merchant, —**



By the 1930's Frank Little had retired to Rhos on sea and the shop was now called John Brown. After the war the shop, still known as Brown's, was run by George Leonard Morris, and his wife Susie. Leonard was the younger brother of John Robert Morris who had the shop next door. Leonard died in 1961, but his wife carried on. After the fire in December 1964, it was not until the end

BROWN'S
(Prop: Mrs. S. MORRIS)

- ★ High-Class Family Grocer and Provision Dealer
- ★ Prompt Delivery when required
- ★ Our Maxim 'Quality and Service'

CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN
Telephone: 3217



of April that the shop was able to reopen.

After the Fire December 1965

20th April 1966

REOPENING

Mrs S Morris wishes to inform the public that her Grocery Establishment, "Brown's" at Market Buildings will reopen on Monday, April 26th.

She also wishes to thank the townspeople for their kindness and sympathy shown to her after the disastrous fire on Dec 29th.

20th June 1961

THE LATE MR LEONARD MORRIS

It was not surprising that the funeral on June 10th of, the late Mr Leonard Morris was one of the hugest ever seen in Froncysyllte. There was universal sympathy with Mrs Morris and Melvin in losing so affectionate a husband and father while in the prime of his life; and Mr Morris's unfailing reliability and courtesy had won the esteem not only of those in Froncysyllte who had known him all his life but also of all who dealt with him at 'John Brown's', Llangollen, both before and after he had acquired the business to which he gave assiduous attention.

Living in the home which had also been that of his parents, he had much pleasure in effecting improvements. Mrs Morris was his constant helpmeet at home and in business, and during the weeks he spent in hospital, she and Melvin gave him all the devoted companionship that time permitted, while Mr and Mrs George Doyle kindly took charge of the business.

St David's Church, of which Mr Morris was a churchwarden, was filled to capacity for the service, which the Vicar, Dr J. Alun Thomas and the Rev John Gilpin, curate-in charge, conducted after a short service at Castle View. The organist was Mr Joycelyn Wilson and the choir were also present, as was Mr Dennis Williams, people's warden.

The Vicar paid a tribute to Mr Morris, whose death was so tragic a loss to the family and also to the Church, of which he had been so useful a member.

The family mourners were: Mrs 'Susie Morris (widow); Mr Melvin Morris (son), Mr William Morris, Mr Ernest Morris, Mr Bertram Morris and Mr Maurice Morris (brothers); Mr and Mrs Clifford Morris (brother and sister-in-law); Mr and Mrs J. R. Morris (brother and sister-in-law; Rose (sister); Mr and Mrs Stanley Jones (sister and brother-in-law); Mr Ernest Williams (brother-in-law) : Mrs Doyle (sister-in-law); John, Alice, Tony, Yoland, Clive, Rita, Graham, Gwen, Chris, Mr and Mrs George Doyle, Elaine, Eleanor (nephews and nieces); Miss Elaine Butterson (friend); Mr and Mrs Oswald Jones, Mr William Henry Williams, Mr and Mrs J. R. Morris, Fron, Messrs John Edward and Robert Morris, Walter and Freda Corfield; Mrs Clara Roberts, Tom and Eric Corfield; Albert Pritchard, Lloyd Pritchard and Nancy; Mr and Mrs H. Valentine and Mrs Mary Ann Williams (cousins). Miss H. Brown, Mold was also present and Miss Marian Jones, Llangollen.

27th July 1977

THE LATE MRS. SUSAN MORRIS

Her many friends in Llangollen were sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Morris, widow of Mr. Leonard Morris, both of whom were so deservedly popular when they carried on the grocery business at the Town Hall buildings, which is now Mr. & Mrs. Abrams. Their courtesy and kindness will always be remembered. Our deep sympathy is tendered to her son, Mr. Melvin Morris, now married and with, a son of his own. Mrs. Morris resided with her son and daughter-in-law at Castle View, Froncysyllte. She died in Chirk Hospital on July 8th and the funeral service was in St. David's

Church on July 12th. Chancellor Cledwyn Owen officiated, assisted by the Rev. MacGregor Pearson and the Rev. M.R. Williams.

The Morris's were succeeded by James A Bailey & Co. a delicatessen, which is now known as LLANGOLLEN OGGIE SHOP & FINE FOODS



No 16



1910



1930's



1940



1965



2012

1st July 1881

The general appearance of some parts of the town has, during the last six months, undergone quite a transformation. This is the case especially in the immediate neighbourhood of the Market Hall. The conversion of portions of the Hall itself into two shops has been very tastefully carried out by the Local Board. The "Market Stores," occupied by Mr. C. H. Humphreys, grocer, are admirably suited for carrying on his business; while the other shop, held by Mr. W. A. Thomas, has been specially arranged to suit the class of business in which he is engaged. This week a slight alteration is being effected at the back of the Hall, which, with those referred to above, will give the place an air of neatness and order in marked contrast to its former cheerless and deserted appearance.

15th April 1887

Notice to Quit.-Notice of intention to quit the Market Hall Shop in September next was received from Mr. Mason.

15th July 1887

A letter was read from Mrs. Mason intimating that she had let the shop in the Market Hall to Mr. Horspool, Castle-street, who would, subject to the Board's consent, take possession the following week. The Board approved of the arrangement and consented to accept Mr. Horspool as tenant.

10th February 1888

Proposed New Shops in the Market Hall.-The committee reported that Mr. Wm. Jones submitted the plan of the proposed scheme for the conversion of the front portion of the Market Hall into shops. It was recommended that the specifications and estimate of cost be obtained. Mr. Wm. Jones now submitted plans, prepared by Mr. R. T. Jones, by which it was proposed to take up all the open space in front of the Market Hall by erecting thereon 5 lock-up shops, at a cost of £270, exclusive of the internal fittings. The adoption of this scheme would, according to his calculation, effect a clear profit to the Board of -£30 a year. Already application had been received for the whole of the shops. Miss Horspool and Mr. C. H. Humphreys, the tenants of the present shops, complained sadly that their premises were too far back from the street to attract business, and he (Mr. Jones) believed that the plan, if carried out, would be a very practical improvement. Mr. Ed. Roberts said that these plans had been shown to Captain Best before he went away, and he pooh- poohed the scheme. Mr. Lloyd Jones did not think it would be an improvement in any way. Mr. Ed. Roberts thought that it would be a pity to do away like this with the only open space they had in the town. He was most anxious if

possible to reduce their rates, and it was for that object that he had advocated the proposed removal of the Smithfield. He could not advocate an expenditure of this kind. He thought it would spoil the Market Hall. As to the shops being too far back from the street, it would be found that as a rule if people kept proper articles they were bound to do business. He would advise the Board not to embark at present upon any new undertakings, but do the best of what they had. It was a far more practical and cheaper proposal to spend £60 in converting the present stalls into shops. The applications for these shops would hold good in that case. Mr. Robert Hughes said that if that was so, by all means carry out the smaller plan. Mr. Wm. Jones considered the carrying out of his scheme would be equal to a saving of £600 to the Board. At the same time, the project was in a very incomplete form, and he would counsel them to take it under their consideration for another year. Mr. Edward Roberts said that one of the two plans must be adopted that day, as it would affect the new estimate for the current year. It was proposed to lay aside £60 in the next estimate for carrying out some scheme of shops in the Market Hall. After further consideration the matter was deferred.

12th September 1890

The Space in Front of the Market Hall.-

A letter was read, signed by Mr. C. H. Humphreys, Mr. S. Lloyd, and Miss Horspool, calling the attention of the Board to the unsatisfactory state of the frontage to their shops, and suggesting that it be paved on to the pavement. The surveyor said the nature of the application was quite a new thing to him. He did not know that the place was in an unsatisfactory state. Mr. David Parry thought that tiling the place would be a great improvement, inasmuch as it was their main thoroughfare. Mr. E. H. Roberts was not of the same opinion, and eventually it was resolved that the matter be referred to the Works Committee to report thereon to the next meeting.

Elizabeth Ann Horspool was the daughter of Robert Horspool, seedsman, florist and Market Gardener, of 15 Castle Street. She worked in his shop, before running the Market Hall toy and fancy repository Shop. In September 1890 she married Thomas Andrew Waltho, son of Sergeant Instructor Thomas Waltho, at the time he was a clerk at the slate works, but the shop became a stationer's and newsagent. Following the death of her husband Elizabeth ran the shop under her name "E A Waltho". She died Feb 1952.

22nd December 1893

Nor must we omit to mention the magnificent collections of Christmas novelties which are collected together in the stationery establishments of Mr. H. Jones and Mr. T. A. Waltho, Market Hall.

1893 the Bazaar

7th June 1901

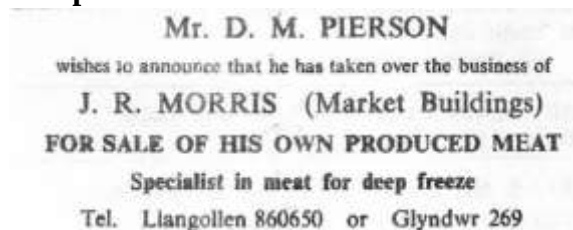
THE LATE SERGT. T. A. WALTHO.

Intelligence of the death of Sergt. T. A. Waltho was received in Llangollen on Saturday afternoon with widespread feeling of regret. Deceased had been in failing health for some time, but his naturally vigorous constitution stood him in good stead and enabled him to surmount previous attacks of the disorder with which he was afflicted. In the early days of last week he appeared to rally; and hopes were entertained for his recovery. Pneumonia, however, set in, and the end came about four on Saturday afternoon. Deceased, who was the son of Sergt.-Instructor Waltho, of Gwalia House, was 33 years of age. He probably occupied the unique position of being the youngest Volunteer in North Wales to receive the long-service medal. He joined the Llangollen H. Company, 1st Royal Welsh Fusilier Volunteers, at a remarkably early age, acting primarily as bugler to the local company, and after he became a non-commissioned officer of the rank of sergeant. One of the finest shots in North Wales, he had in his time carried off innumerable prizes for shooting, whilst as familiar a figure at the now disbanded Denbighshire County Rifle Association meeting he was generally among the prize-winners. As an instrumentalist he was well known, having assisted for many year the Wrexham Borough Band, but prior to his death he was one of the leading members of the 1st Royal Welsh Battalion Band (Ruabon). When the Government appealed to the country for assistance shortly after the outbreak of hostilities in South Africa, Sergeant Waltho was one of the

first of the Llangollen Company to volunteer for active service, but, although not finally accepted, he was relegated to the Reserve section of the 1st Royal Welsh Service Company. He had been a member of the Llangollen Church Choir from early childhood. The last mortal remains of the deceased were interred in St. John's Churchyard, on Tuesday afternoon, the funeral being a military one, and the manifestations of sorrow along the route traversed from the residence in Market-street to the place of burial were most striking. There was a full muster of local volunteers, both the Llangollen and Ruabon companies turning out in force to show their respect for the memory of their late comrade and the Denbighshire Imperial Yeomanry were also represented. The mournful procession left the house at five o'clock, preceded by many of the personal friends of the deceased. The firing party, followed by the Ruabon band, of which Sergt. Waltho was a valued member, marched before the coffin and, as they proceeded "with solemn step and slow" along Castle-street to the sad strains of the "Dead march in Saul," the spectacle was most impressive. Borne shoulder high by six of his comrades, and covered with a Union Jack, the coffin, which was of polished oak, and bore an appropriate inscription, was followed by the nearest relatives and friends members of volunteer companies and other branches of the service falling in to the rear. The funeral service was impressively performed by Archdeacon Wynne-Jones, who was assisted by the Rev. John Edwards, the Rev. E. Roberts also being present. Many beautiful wreaths and other floral mementoes were sent by sorrowing relatives and friends. Deceased leaves a widow and three children to mourn a loss in which they have the sincere sympathies of the community. Messrs. J. Roberts and Sons were the undertakers.

After the death of Elizabeth Ann Waltho, John Robert Morris moved here from No 12, but in 1975 the shop was taken over by David Pierson

1st April 1975



December 2008

FOCUS ON BUSINESS D. M. PIERSON - BUTCHERS



New ownership, yet familiar faces at D.M. Pierson - Butchers. David Pierson retired earlier this year and Mark McCormick and Nigel Williams are the new owners. Situated in the Town Hall building this business is a long established one in Llangollen.

D.M. Pierson specialise in locally sourced meat. Only the finest breeds of Welsh lamb are used and the only beef sold is from Welsh Blacks. Free range pork is another speciality and their sausages are homemade, at the shop, and have won a gold award.

To help their customers during this difficult financial situation, D.M. Pierson is offering special "Freezer Deals". Half pigs and lambs are available at discounted prices. Braising Steak and Casserole Beef are also on offer, buy 2 kg and get a further 1 kg free. Between now and the end of February local customers can obtain a 10% discount on all orders including Christmas orders.



For the coming festive season Nigel and Mark are selling farm fresh, free range turkeys, also free range chickens and geese. A Christmas speciality is their “4 in 1 Turkey” – a turkey, a chicken, a pheasant and a duck, all fowl are boned and rolled into one. An easy joint to cook and carve, with a variety of tastes.

From the photograph you can see some of their varied range of meat products. In addition the shop sells, chutneys and pickles to accompany your meal. They have pickled eggs, pickled onions and piccalilli all of which is homemade, Mark has been with the business for some 20 years and Nigel for 10 years, so they are

both well experienced butchers.

Sausages are the biggest seller apparently, although regular customers also appreciate the prime Welsh black beef which is also a speciality and of course Welsh lamb.

Most of their customers are from the Llangollen area, however they have a growing number from further afield. Some travel to the shop to buy their meat, but increasingly D.M. Pierson is selling via the internet. Mark and Nigel are finding that their mail order sales are growing. They offer a next day delivery service on orders placed via their website. It is obvious there are discerning customers who are aware of quality and find that shopping in Llangollen, albeit ‘on line’ is convenient and guarantees a certain standard.

Both Mark and Nigel are family men with children. They work hard, some 60 hours a week on average and have little time for hobbies. What spare time they have is spent with the family.

David M Pierson was succeeded in 2008 by Mark McCormick and Nigel Williams. They were later followed by Cyril Jones. In 2014 Cyril Jones applied for planning permission to convert the shop into a café. Denbighshire County Council granted planning, but the Town Council, as landlord refused permission, and the lease was terminated acrimoniously. The next tenant was Fizzywiggs, a confectionary shop which had previously been in Oak Street. They closed in 2018.

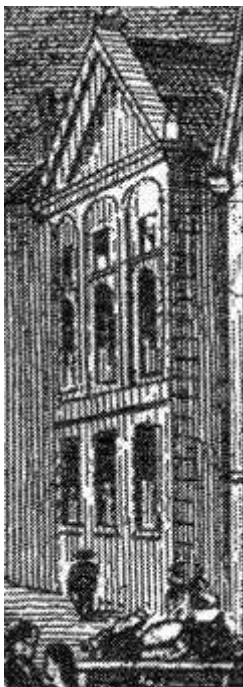


Castle Street Welsh Baptists Chapel (Bedyddwyr Chapel)



1860 (from rear during construction)

by the pulpit, in the front of which was the baptismal bath. It was lit by eight windows on either side and six in the front gable, and by a number of jets of gas in the ceiling. . The approach to the galleries was on the right and left of the vestibule, which forms the entrance to the body of the chapel. There were also two side entrances.



1868

In 1823 there were nine Welsh and one English Baptists in Llangollen. They all used Pen y Bryn Chapel on Hill St, now demolished. In 1856, with the growth of the congregation the English and the Welsh congregations were separated.

Following the development of Castle Street, this Chapel was built for the Welsh Baptists in 1860. The architect was Mr Ishmael Jones, of Newbridge, near Ruabon. It cost £2,500 including land, and was designed to hold a congregation of 400. It was built in a Romanesque style, with a two storey front of brick with stone dressings. It has three arches on pilasters beneath a pediment. The chapel itself is a plain square building, very lofty, well pewed, and a gallery traversing three sides of the building, the fourth being occupied

Despite storm damage during the construction the first service was held on Sunday 12th May 1862 – although the official opening was Tuesday 14th.

It was subsequently found that height and rake of the gallery was such that it was not possible for the occupants to see the pulpit. (or for the minister in the pulpit to see the occupants.) It was also felt there was the need for a school room. Hence when in 1872 there was a need for redecoration, it was subsequently decided to make a number of modifications at the same including raising the level of the ground floor, and building the schoolroom. The architect for this was Richard Owen of Liverpool. The builder Joseph Roberts, and decorator Cyrus Watkins were both of Llangollen, and the cost was £400

THE COMMITTEE OF CASTLE STREET BAPTIST CHAPEL, LLANGOLLEN, are prepared to receive TENDERS FOR THE PAINTING OF THE SAID CHAPEL. The specifications to be seen on the premises. Tenders to be sent to Mr. HUMPHREY JONES, Chemist, Llangollen, by Friday, the 25th inst. The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.
Llangollen, Aug. 9th, 1871.

TO BUILDERS.
BAPTIST CHAPEL, CASTLE STREET,
LLANGOLLEN.

THE COMMITTEE are prepared to receive
TENDERS FOR NEW SCHOOLROOM AND
ALTERATIONS TO CHAPEL. Plans and Specifi-
 cations to be seen on the premises, and Tenders to be
 sent on or before the 20th of May, to Mr. HUMPHREY
 JONES, Chemist, Llangollen. The Committee do not
 bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

RICHARD OWENS,
 Architect,
 2, Breck Road,
 LIVERPOOL.

Front 1910



Interior when floor raised



The chapel closed in 1982 when all the Welsh speaking non-conformists agreed to meet together at Seion. The building was acquired by the County Council and converted for use by the European Centre for Trade and Regional Culture (ECTARC), with a concert room upstairs. ECTARC later moved to the old school in Parade St. In 2004 the upper floor became the Library, with the Tourist Information Centre moved from No 10/12 Castle Street, under the town Hall, into the ground floor.





Wrexham and Denbighshire Advertiser and Cheshire Shropshire and North Wales Register
2nd June 1860

DAMAGE DONE TO THE NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.

On Sunday last we were visited by a fearful storm of wind and rain, early on the following morning, the storm still being unabated, a large portion of the gable end of the above chapel (which is in course of election), was blown down, causing damage to the building about £20. Fortunately no further damage or accident happened in this town.

The North Wales Chronicle and Advertiser for the Principality
9th June 1860

LLANGOLLEN. ACCIDENT.-

On Monday last, a serious accident occurred to the west gable end of the Baptist chapel, now in the course of erection in Castle-street. The westwardly wind was so severe as to cause a great portion of the building-about forty-seven yards-from the top, to become a complete ruin. Damage-about fifty pounds. The committee have decided that the contractor, Mr. B. O. Jones, shall be exempted from loss.

Wrexham and Denbighshire Advertiser and Cheshire Shropshire and North Wales Register
18th May 1861

OPENING OF THE NEW WELSH BAPTIST CHAPEL

This splendid chapel was opened on Sunday last for divine service, and also again on Monday and Tuesday, the latter being considered the real day of opening, and vast crowds of people

from all the neighbouring districts of the Principality of the Baptist persuasion came to swell the ranks and do honour to the noble edifice raised for the honour and glory of God, and the extension of His dear Son's kingdom. The chapel itself is a plain square building, very lofty, well pewed, and a gallery traversing three sides of the building, the fourth being occupied by the pulpit, in the front of which is the baptismal bath. It is well lighted by eight windows on either side and six in the front gable. The approach to the galleries is on the right and left of the vestibule, which forms the entrance to the body of the chapel. There are also two side entrances. The chapel is lit up by a number of jets of gas in the ceiling. The collections on Tuesday amounted to upwards of £105. The services being all in Welsh, is our apology for no report of their proceedings. £60 more was promised during the day, in addition to the £105. Over and above these amounts about £600 was subscribed towards its erection some time since. The chapel is well and substantially built, and appears to give great satisfaction, which must be a source of pleasure and gratification to the architect, Mr Ishmael Jones, of Newbridge, near Ruabon. The following ministers preached during the opening service:- Rev Hugh Jones, Ruthin Rev John Robinson, Llansilin Rev. Mr Thomas, Liverpool and the Rev John Rhys Morgan, of Llanelli. The whole of the meetings were well attended.

Llangollen Advertiser

19th January 1872

THE RENOVATION OF CASTLE-STREET BAPTIST CHAPEL.

This chapel was built ten years ago at a cost including site, of nearly £2,500. Unfortunately, the gallery was placed too high to be comfortable either to the preacher or to the hearers, and in some other respects its internal arrangements were considered defective. It was also felt that a good schoolroom was necessary before the requirements of the congregation could be satisfactorily met. As the chapel required painting, the church thought it wise to consider what could be done in the way of erecting a schoolroom, and correcting the mistakes which had been made in building the chapel. It was decided to secure the services of Mr. Richard Owen, of Liverpool, as architect, who was known to have had great and successful experience in chapel building. He felt sure that the chapel could be set right with comparatively little expense; he accordingly prepared plans and specifications for the alterations in chapel and the erection of a schoolroom. The contract of all the work, with the exception of the painting, was let to Mr. Joseph Roberts, of this town; and the contract for the painting to Mr. Cyrus Watkin, also of this town.

The chapel was reopened on the 24th ult., and during the last week finally passed under the inspection of the architect and it is very gratifying to the congregation to see that the success of the undertaking has surpassed their most sanguine expectations. The chapel is now an exceedingly comfortable one, for both preacher and hearers, on the floor and in the gallery. The architect has been very successful, and it is due to the contractors to say they have also done their work to the entire satisfaction of the architect and the committee. The basement floor has been raised, the platform is almost all new, and all the pews of the gallery have been re-fixed. The schoolroom is a most comfortable building, and is already felt to be a great boon for the Sabbath school and week evening meetings.

The whole outlay has been somewhat over £400, about half of which has already been subscribed by the congregation. Several of the friends have also been very kind in giving carpet, cushions, &c., for the platform and deacons' pew. Mr. Jones of Plastirion, Glyndyfrdwy, has also presented the church with a set of seven very handsomely carved chairs for the deacons' pew, supplied by Mr. M. Roberts of this town. As far as accommodation is concerned, the church feels that it now lacks nothing. The Baptist church under the leadership of its earnest pastor the Rev. O. Davies, rapidly gains strength, and it is to be hoped the new building will be a centre of Christian activity.

August 2000

EXHIBITION AT ECTARC LOCAL HISTORY AND CULTURE



Llangollen Bridge before it was widened in 1873

Many people (both local and visitors) have mentioned that they would like to see an exhibition in Llangollen celebrating local life, history and culture. From the beginning of September this will become a reality.

ECTARC have agreed that when the present exhibition finishes on 4 September, it can be replaced by one about Llangollen and the local area. The exhibition is being organised by local historian David Crane, and the layout of each of the exhibition cabinets is being done by local people. The exhibition will include displays covering the history of the town, farming and rural life, mining and

quarrying, the mills, Valle Crucis Abbey and Castell Dinas Bran, as well as cabinet showing Llangollen as it is today.

The aim is to give information about different aspects of life in the area over the centuries that will be of interest to local people and visitors alike.

Material used for the exhibition includes artefacts, photographs and information given or loaned by many local people. However, if you think that you may have something that could be included in one of the displays, or wish to take an active part in helping to set up the exhibition, then please contact David on 01978 861760.

Some of the costs of setting up the exhibition have already been supported by the Clwyd Community Chest.

However, further contributions are always welcome and would help ensure that the exhibition will be a feature of which the people of Llangollen can be proud.

The Courier has already agreed to help with supporting and promoting the exhibition. If any local businesses or individuals wish to help with funding then please contact David Crane - 01978 861760

April 2001

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

As ECTARC was giving up the lease on the old Baptist Chapel on Castle Street, it would add to the property in Llangollen administered by the County Council. There were plans to change the use of some of the buildings in Llangollen. The Committee of Chairmen had made some suggestion which had been adopted.

The following comments were also made -Councillor H. Gibson felt that by moving the library to the first floor of the Chapel it would mean losing the auditorium which was very suitable for certain performances.

He also felt the present library building would not be suitable for the Tourist Information Centre.

Councillor A. Bailey expressed the views of all members that the present library building should not be sold, but should be retained for public use. Councillor H. Gibson felt it could include a commercial aspect which would provide funds towards the running costs. A Heritage Centre was thought to be a very good idea.

Councillor Mrs M. Honan felt the Tourist Information Centre could move to the ground floor of the Chapel.

Councillor .Mrs S. Williams expressed reservations over moving the library to a second floor site.

Councillor G.K. Jervis felt the One Stop Shop should be housed in the Town Hall and should be with the Town Council offices. He felt the County offices should expand into the present Tourist Information Centre. This would provide improved facilities for those using the One Stop Shop.

It was agreed to discuss these matters with Mrs Ann Gosse when she met with the Council.

May 2001

New vision for Old Chapel

Denbighshire's Cabinet has agreed to explore the possibility of providing a new culture, learning and information centre at the Old Chapel, Castle Street. Meeting in Llangollen last week they agreed to look at the possibility of refocusing refurbishing and relaunching the Old Chapel to provide a facility for both the local community and visitors. The Old Chapel, formally the ECTARC Centre, would also house the library. Councillor Rhiannon Hughes, Cabinet member with lead responsibility for tourism and culture, said: "The new vision for the centre involves the relocation of the library and the one stop shop to the first floor of the centre together with an IT facility for business advice, training and homework club to provide a new learning and information services." A social history trail and display will run throughout the building. The ground floor would incorporate a gallery space to sell local, regional and national fine art, a craft shop stocked by Ruthin Craft Centre, the relocation of the Tourist Information Centre and Countryside Services staff. This would be backed up by a new Cultural Tourism Strategy with destination marketing and IT provision for people to design their own visits, walks and stays in Denbighshire." The costs involved in achieving this new vision are to be analysed and reported back to Cabinet.

January 2002

NEW CULTURAL CENTRE PLANS GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD

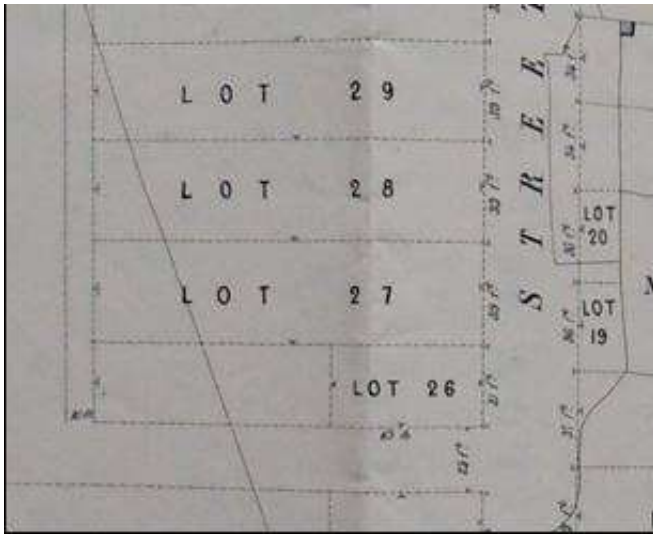
Plans to provide an integrated Culture, Learning and Information Centre in Llangollen have been approved by Denbighshire County Council. Work at the Old Chapel on Chapel Street, formally the Ectarc Centre will involve the relocation of the library and the one stop shop to the first floor of the centre, together with an IT facility for business advice training and homework club to provide a new learning and information service which will continue to be managed by Economic Regeneration and the Countryside Services staff.

The ground floor will incorporate gallery space to sell local, regional and national fine art, a craft shop, as well as the relocation of the Tourist Information Centre and Countryside Services staff.

This would be backed up by a new Cultural Tourism Plan with destination marketing and IT provision for people to design their own visit or walks in Denbighshire.

Councillor Rhiannon Hughes, lead Cabinet member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism said: "The Old Chapel provides an ideal location and opportunity to provide this new and innovative cultural service that will be of major benefit to the local community and visitors to Denbighshire. This really is an exciting project for Llangollen and for Denbighshire, and shows that the council is totally committed to providing top quality attractions and information services."

22 Castle Street



1858 Sale Map

1858 Sale 26 A Building Site, with a frontage of 31 feet along the new Street, 26 joins the road from the New Street into the proposed New Market, and has double frontage. Occupier Richard Jones

There was no building on this site shown on the 1873 map. The earliest reference to a building here might be in 1876 when Thomas Jones had a shop here called Shop Llandyn, in 1880 he was given planning permission to build a new shop in Bridge St., to which he transferred the name. In 1883 John Rowlands said that he was the owner of Llandyn House, and it was being run as a china by his son Stephen (business established 1882). John was applying for an Excise Licence, which seems at variance with his later occupation as a Temperance House Keeper.

31st August 1883

Application for a Wine and Spirit Licence-Mr. Ll. Adams, Ruthin, appeared on behalf of Mr. John Rowlands, Chapel-street, in support of an application for an off-licence to sell wines and spirits in the house now occupied by Mr. Stephen Rowlands, the house having been recently bought by the applicant. The application had for some time been the subject of considerable discussion in the town, and it was well known that the local branch of the Licensed Victuallers Association were opposing it. Mr. Davies, solicitor, Holywell, now appeared in court, and said he opposed the application on behalf of the general interest. Mr. Yale wished to know whom Mr. Davies represented. Mr. Davies said he had a petition there signed by the Guardians, also one signed by the clergymen, ministers, and several leading tradespeople in the town. It was free for anyone to oppose in cases of this kind. Mr. Adams contended that the Bench could only refuse the application on three grounds. 1st, that the applicant was not a person of good character 2nd, that his licence was one of a disorderly character and, 3rd, that his house had been forfeited for misconduct. On all these points his client, he ventured to say, was safe. The statute of 1st August, 1882, granting power to magistrates to refuse licences, only had reference to the sale of beer off the premises. His application simply referred to the sale of wines and spirits in bottles off the premises. In support of this contention,

7th September 1883

TO THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR AND
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE OF
THE PARISH OF LLANGOLLEN, IN THE
COUNTY OF DENBIGH.

I JOHN ROWLANDS, now residing at Chapel Street, Llangollen, in the County of Denbigh, Grocer and Provision Dealer, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the County Hall, Llangollen aforesaid, on the Twenty-fifth day of September instant, for a Licence to hold any Excise Licence or Licences to Sell by Retail, under the Intoxicating Liquor Acts, Spirits to be consumed off the premises thereunto belonging, called Llandyn Shop, in Castle Street, Llangollen aforesaid, of which premises I am the owner, and which premises are now occupied by Stephen Rowlands, as a China Shop.

Given under my hand this First day of September, 1883.

(1317)

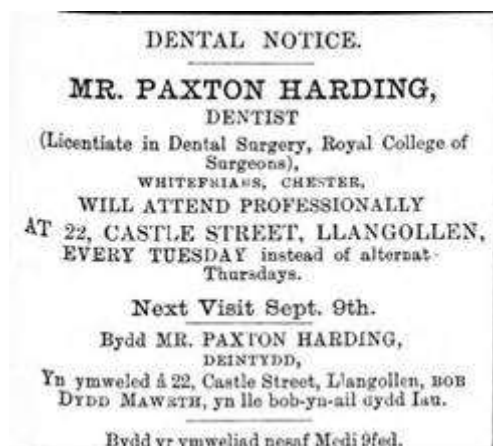
JOHN ROWLANDS.

he ventured to say, was safe. The statute of 1st August, 1882, granting power to magistrates to refuse licences, only had reference to the sale of beer off the premises. His application simply referred to the sale of wines and spirits in bottles off the premises. In support of this contention,

Mr. Adams quoted 23 Vict., chap. 27, sect. 3 52 and 53 Vict., chap. 27, sect. 8, and 35 and 36 Vict., chap. 94, sect. 69. He trusted his friend, Mr. Davies, would confine himself entirely to those three points. The formality proving the legal issue of the notice having been gone through, Mr. Davies pointed out an informality in the wording of the same; there was no reference whatever to spirits in the application. It simply said "wines and liqueurs." He, therefore, argued that there was no application for a spirit licence before them. Mr. Adams argued that liqueurs included spirits. Mr. Davies pointed out that the words were "liqueurs or spirits." Mr. Adams: It is there the act is wrong. (Laughter.) The Bench, however, refused to accept Mr. Adams's reading of the Act. Mr. Yale remarked that that was a most remarkable omission. Mr. Adams said that the applicant had drawn it out himself, and it showed the danger of not having employed a solicitor. However, his client had consented to accept a wine licence alone, as he only wanted it for two months, to wait the expiration of his lease. Mr. R. S. Richards, deputy-clerk, said that if by some inadvertence the applicant had omitted anything in the application, the justices may, if they think fit, adjourn the sessions, in order to have the case further considered. The Bench then decided to grant a licence to Mr. Rowlands for the sale of wines, and to consider any further application he may have to make at the next Court.

In 1884 the upstairs was being used by a dentist. That address was later given as Hendre, Market St.

5th September 1884



1891

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 36(1855)	Builder & Contractor	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 29(1862)	Female Oswestry	
John Rowlands	Father	M 67(1824)	Temperance Hotel Keeper	Llangollen
Mary Rowlands	Mother	M 67(1824)		Glyn



STEPHEN ROWLANDS,
 THE WELSH CHINA SHOP,
 22, Castle Street, & 12, Bridge Street,
LLANGOLLEN.

Visitors to Llangollen should not fail to call and inspect our Stock of . . .
 Souvenirs, Present Goods, Welsh Specialities, Valentine's Beautiful Photographic Views, mounted, unmounted, and Special New . . .
 Collotype Book of Views.



By 1899 the shop had also branched out into furniture.

25th December 1908

Mr. Stephen Rowlands is a tradesman with a good many "strings to his bow," and the large stock of furniture – dining room, drawing room and bedroom suites – stored upon his spacious premises in Castle-street and Bridge-street undoubtedly, constitute one of the most reliable and varied in North Wales. For wringing machines, pianos, bath chairs, mail carts and perambulators, and the latest designs in wall-papers, at all prices, his excellently selected goods must give satisfaction to



all. Again his Castle-street premises are crowded with articles specially suited to form Christmas Presents or New Year's Gifts; and all intending purchasers should pay a visit of inspection before buying elsewhere.

1901 Market St (22 Castle St)

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 46(1855)	House Furnisher	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 39(1862)		Oswestry
Maggie Parry	Serv	S 15(1886)	Genl Serv Domestic	Froncysyllte

1911 22Castle St Llangollen

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 56(1855)	House Furnisher	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 49(1862)		Oswestry
H E Morris	Neph	S 32(1879)	Student For The Clergy	Llangollen
A D Morris	Niece	S 36(1875)		Llangollen
Elizabeth Williams	Serv	S 23(1888)		Cefn Ruabon



Stephen Rowlands later disposed of his Castle Street Branch, concentrating on the Bridge Street Business, and by 1913 The business was a grocer's called "Star Supply Stores"

23rd May 1913

LLANGOLLEN STREET
SCENE
RUNAWAY HORSE ENTERS
GROCER'S SHOP.

Considerable excitement was aroused in Castle-street, Llangollen, on Monday morning, the horse, which usually draws the "Hand" 'bus,

being the principal performer. Something appears to have startled the animal, which was fastened up to a chain at the rear of the hotel, and, by a sudden jerk, it dragged the reins over its head and

“broke away” down Oak-street, with the vehicle rattling behind it. In Castle-Street some attempt to arrest its progress but this only added to the animal’s fright and it dashed across the street into the doorway of the Star supply stores. The entrance, of course, was not sufficiently wide to permit the bulky customer to enter, and the large window, at the corner of Market-street, behind which cheese, bacon, and dairy produce is displayed, fell into the street wholesale, with a loud crash. The woodwork of the doorway was scattered in fragments on the road, and the right-hand side window of the shop was damaged, chocolates and confectionery being scattered on the pavement. It was with some difficulty that the horse was removed from amidst the debris and it was found to have suffered severely, being cut about the head with broken glass, whilst the “Hand” ‘bus had to be “docked” for repairs to make good the injuries it had sustained. Later in the day the broken window was boarded up and, with this exception, the evening Star was as bright as ever.



John Edward Evans



George James Ellis

4th August 1916

TWO PALS. –

Inquiries made by our correspondent elicit the information that there is scant reason for hoping that Pte. George Ellis, R.W.F., survived the hot fight near Mametz Wood, during the great advance, when his regiment suffered so severely. Mr. A. J. Price, his employer, who speaks of him with the highest respect and of his loss with the deepest sorrow, says that a letter was received a few days ago from the front placing it beyond all doubt that the gallant young soldier has made the great sacrifice. From all quarters of the wide district throughout which Ellis was known and his pluck admired letters of inquiry and sympathy have been received. News also reached the town during the week-end that Pte. Eddie Evans, R.W.F., who "joined up" from the "Star Supply Stores," immediately opposite to where Pte. Ellis was employed, had also fallen at Mametz another great loss to the local shop assistants

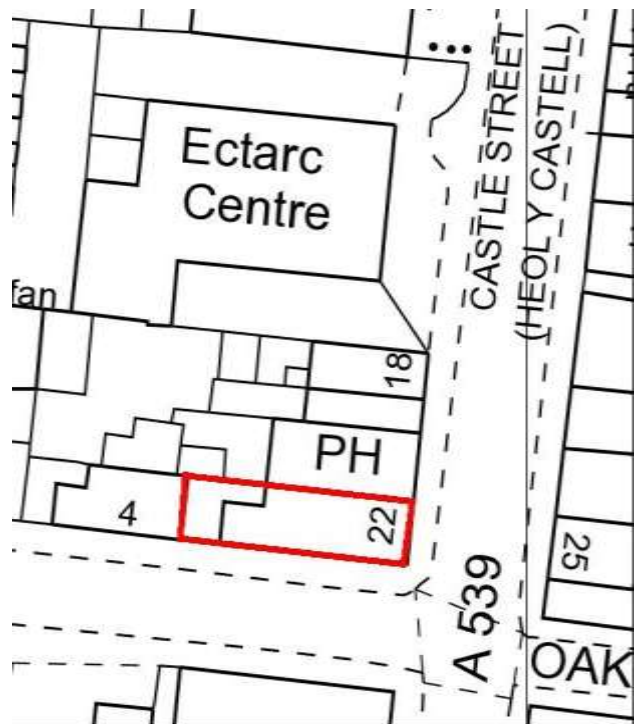


In the 1930's the manager was Thomas J Owen, who was succeeded around 1950 by Walter Rex Thomas. In March 1956, when the shop had become George Mason's Walter remained as manager. He moved with them 1968 when they removed to No 26.

When Mason's moved the building became a betting shop, it is now a branch of Ladbrooke's. Upstairs, formerly Hendre has been used for offices,



but an application has been made to convert the space into flats.



25th November 1887

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 21st, at Trefonen Church, near Oswestry, by the Rev. G. Williams, Mr. Stephen Rowlands, glass and china warehouse, 22, Castle-street, Llangollen, to Miss Jane Lloyd, Moelydd Uchaf, Trefonen.

9th February 1894

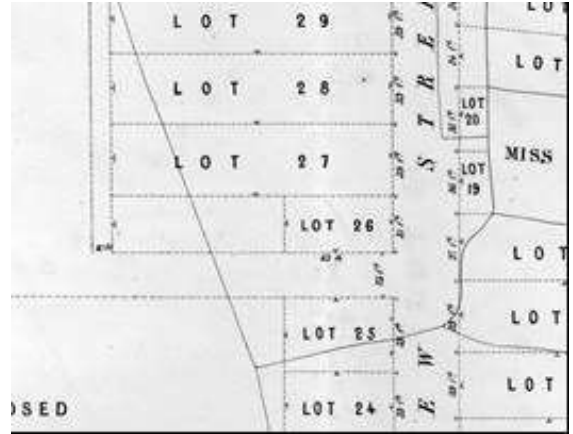
SURVEYOR'S REPORT.. Also plans for a combined warehouse and joiner's workshop to be erected adjoining the private road leading to the Butcher's Arms yard for Mr. Stephen Rowlands. These also conform to our by-laws, and I recommend that they be passed. The plans of Mr. Stephen Rowlands were passed.



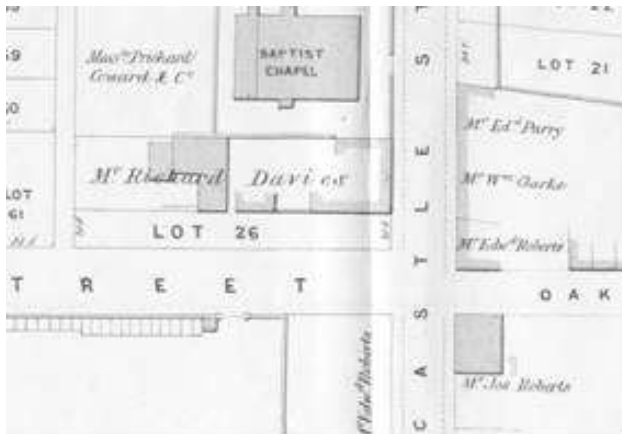
The Bull Inn,



1858 Sales Document draft



1858 Sales Document final



1862 Sales Document



1874 OS map

Prior to 1858 this plot was open land, used mainly for grazing (roughly where the cattle are shown in the painting of 1818) owned in 1840 by George Dicken. With the prospect of the railway coming, in 1858 much of George Dicken's land was sold off in lots to develop the new street shops and buildings. Plot 27 was listed as a building site with a frontage of 39 feet, area of 694 sq yds, occupied by Mr Richard Jones. In 1861 the Bull Inn was opened by Richard Davies, who had previously been at the Trevor Arms, in Trevor Isa. It is probable that the



rear of building in 1860

inn was originally a temperance hotel. Since in 1868 Richard Davies was refused a licence, Later the property was split between the Bull Inn and an adjacent Temperance hotel.



The site in 1810

1861 Census, Bull Inn, Castle Street

Richard Davies	Head	M 36(1825)	Public House	Corwen
Elizabeth Davies	Wife	M 38(1823)		Llangollen
Ann Davies	Dau	S 14(1847)	House servant	Llangollen
David Davies	Son	S 13(1848)	Scholar	Llangollen
James Davies	Son	S 11(1850)	Scholar	Llangollen
George Davies	Son	S 8(1853)	Scholar	Llangollen
Wilkin Davies	Son	S 5(1856)	Scholar	Llangollen
Sem Davies	Son	S 1(1860)		Llangollen

28th August 1868

Licences.-This was the annual licensing day, and as there were no complaints against any of the houses, the licences were renewed. An application was made by R. Davies, for a licence for the Bull Inn, but the Bench refused to grant it.

1871 Census, Bull Inn, Castle Street

Richard Davies	Head	M 44(1827)	Innkeeper	Corwen
Elizth Davies	Wife	M 48(1823)		Llangollen
Ann Davies	Dau	S 24(1847)	Barmaid	Llangollen
David Davies	Son	S 23(1848)	Slater	Llangollen
James Davies	Son	S 20(1851)	Blacksmith	Llangollen
Walter Davies	Son	S 14(1857)	Labourer	Llangollen
Shem Davies	Son	S 10(1861)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizth A Davies	Dau	S 9(1862)	Scholar	Llangollen
Georgiana Davies	Dau	S 3(1868)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizabeth Hughes	Serv	S 17(1854)	Domestic Serv	Llantysilio

Richard Davies died 2nd April, and was buried at St John's, 6th April 1876;

7th April 1876

THE LATE MR. DAVIES, BULL INN.

The funeral of Mr. Davies took place on Thursday afternoon, at St. John's Cemetery. There was a large concourse of people. The Rev. John Morris rotated at the house, and the service was read by the Rev. R. Bowcott, B.A. Deceased was much respected by a large circle of friends, and his loss will be sadly felt, especially by his family. The shops were partly closed and blinds drawn during the day.

His wife Elizabeth died 12th Dec and was buried 15th Dec 1877 at St John's cemetery.

15th August 1879

TOWN AND VALE OF LLANGOLLEN.

DESIRABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY.

MESSRS. DAVID ROBERTS & SON will **SELL BY AUCTION**, at the Royal Hotel, Llangollen, on Tuesday, September 2nd, 1879, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions:

Lot 1.
All that Freehold Public House and Premises, called "THE BULL INN," situate in Castle Street, Llangollen, and occupied by Miss Ann Davies. The House is very convenient, and is the nearest fully-licensed house to the Town Hall and Smithfield.

Lot 2.
All that Freehold Dwelling House, now occupied by Mr. Evan Davies, as a "TEMPERANCE HOTEL," and adjoining Lot 1.

Lot 3.
All those Two Freehold attached COTTAGES and GARDENS, situate at the rear of Lots 1 and 2, now occupied by Messrs. David Davies and Jacob Edwards.

Lot 4.
All those Two Freehold attached COTTAGES and GARDENS, situate near the Sun Inn, Trevor, Llangollen, now occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Evans and another.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneers, Corwen, or to Messrs. Charles Richards and Son, Solicitors, Llangollen.

(693)

5th September 1879

SALE OF PROPERTY.

Some very valuable freehold property was disposed of by auction on Tuesday by Messrs. D. Roberts and Son, of Corwen. The sale took place in the Royal Hotel. The first lot put up was "All those desirable farms called respectively Panthredynog and Tynewydd, situate near Glyndyfrdwy, containing about 36 acres of arable and pasture land, together with right of pasturage for sixty sheep on an unenclosed common adjoining the farm. After very spirited bidding, the property was knocked down to Mr. Richards, Bank Buildings, at £1150. The auctioneer, then offered for sale the whole of the property of the late

Mr. Richard Davies, Bull Inn, Llangollen, which was apportioned in the following lots, and disposed of as under:- Lot 1, consisting of the Bull Inn, yard, brewhouse, stabling, &c., was bought by Miss Davies, the present tenant, for £930. Lot 2, comprising the Temperance House adjoining, was also knocked down to Miss Davies, for £340. Lot 3, containing two cottages and garden, at the rear of lots 1 and 2, fetched £205, the purchaser being Mr. Roberts, Grapes Hotel. The two cottages at Trevor were knocked down to Mr. Thomas Rogers, butcher, Llangollen, for £80. The sales throughout were very brisk, and the result shows the continually enhancing value of property in our neighbourhood.

Their daughter Ann Davies bought both Bull Inn and the Temperance Hotel following their deaths. In April 1888 the Bull Inn was transferred to John Speke, from Liverpool, who had previously been a coachman at Vivod.

1881

Ann Davies	Head	S 34(1847)	Publican	Llangollen
Shem Davies	Bro	S 21(1850)	Plasterer	Llangollen
Elizabeth A. Davies	Sis	S 9(1862)	No Oc	Llangollen
Georgina Davies	Sis	S 13(1868)	Scholar	Llangollen
Mary Pritchard	Serv	S 18(1863)	Dom Serv	Llangollen

12th January 1883

The following monthly report of the surveyor was read:-

Surveyor's Office, January 4th, 1883.

Gentlemen,-I have the honour of submitting the following report for past month:

Complaint has been made by the Castle-street Chapel trustee of a nuisance arising from the liquid of a midden in the Bull Inn yard penetrating into the schoolroom attached to the chapel. Dr. Drinkwater has examined the place, and he is decidedly of opinion that it is a nuisance dangerous to health, and as such ought to be remedied at once by the person through whose neglect the nuisance is caused.

T. K. JONES.

30th December 1887

Licence Transfers.-The following transfers of licences were granted :-Bull Inn, Llangollen, to Miss Ann Davies; Cross Keys, Llangollen, to Mr. R. LI. Baker White Lion Inn, Vron, to Mr. John Jasper and the Britannia Inn, Vron, to Mr. Edwd. Jasper.

27th April 1888

Transfer of Licences. - The transfer of the licence of the Woolpack Inn was made from Evan Evans to Arthur Edwards. John Speke obtained a temporary transfer until June of the Bull Inn, Castle-street. The application made by William Morris, now of the White Lion Inn, for the transfer to him of the licence of the Talbot Inn was refused, on the ground that 3 convictions had been recorded against the applicant.

29th June 1888

Transfer of Licences.- The licence of the Bull Inn, Castle-street, was transferred to Mr. Speke, and that of the Foresters Inn, Regent-street, to Mrs. Maria Humphreys. A temporary transfer of the Talbot Inn, Church-street, was granted to Mr. Griffith Morris.

26th February 1897

LICENSING. Transfers of the licences of the Australia Arms, Trevor, to A. E. Taylor of the 'Wild Boar Inn. Bryneglwys, to Mary Smith; Hand Inn, Glynceiriog, to David Davies; and the Bull Inn, Llangollen, to Mrs. Speke, were granted.

1891

John Speke	Head	M 38(1853)	Publican	Liverpool
Lucy Speke	Wife	M 36(1855)		Bath
Fanny Speke	Dau	M 10(1881)		Llangollen
John Speke	Son	S 4(1887)		Llangollen

On 26th January 1897 John Speke died, and the licence was transferred to his wife Lucy. In 1903 she sold up and moved to Bath. The new licensee was Walter Richard Hawthorne, he was also a member of the fire brigade, and the horses were kept in the Bull Stables – the engine was kept across the road in Market Street.

1901 Census Bull Inn

Lucy M Speke	Head	Wid 6(1855)	Publican	Bath
Fanny Speke	Dau	S 20(1881)	Stationers bookkeeper	Llangollen
John Speke	Son	S 14(1887)	Male	Llangollen
Ellen J Jones	Serv	S 20(1881)	Gen Serv	Bala

13th November 1903

SALE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AND EFFECTS at the
BULL INN,
CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN.

MESSRS. JONES & SON have received instructions from Mrs. Speke (who is leaving the town), to Sell by Auction, at the above premises,
On THURSDAY, NOV. 26th, 1903,
The whole of her **HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, viz. :-**
Stained Kitchenpiece with Cupboards and Drawers. Oak 2-leaf Table, 2 Round Oak Tables, Easy Chair upholstered in Leather, Wicker Easy Chair, Mahogany Couch upholstered in American Leather, Grained Oak Sidecupboard, 6 Kitchen Chairs, Pier Glass in Rosewood and Gilt Frame, Zinc-top Drinking Table, 12 Cast-iron Spittoons, Plated Cork Extractor, Steel-top Fenders, Brass-mounted Fenders, all Bright Steel Fire Stool, Pictures in Oxford, Maple and Gilt Frames, Room and Stair Oilcloth, about three dozen Brass Stair Rods, Cast Fenders and Fire Irons, &c.
The **SIX BEDROOMS** contain Single and Double Brass-mounted and other Bedsteads, Wool, Flock and Straw Palliasses, Birch and Painted Chests of Drawers, Painted Dressing Tables and Washstands, Mahogany and Birch Toilet Glasses, Birch Towel Rails, Bedroom Chairs, Sets of Toilet Ware, Excellent Feather Beds, Bolsters & Pillows, Counterpane, Blankets, Sheets, etc., Chair Commode, Carpeting, Sundry Pictures, Walnut Timepieces, and other items.

SALE AT ONE O'CLOCK.
(12920)

23rd February 1906

APOLOGY.

WALTER HAWTHORNE, Bull Inn, Castle Street, Llangollen, desire to publicly apologise to G. T-ALLEN, Wynnstay Hotel, Llangollen, for having circulated a statement to the effect that the said G.T. Allen reported to Deputy Chief Constable Jones regarding the Air Gun Clubs. I sincerely regret any harm that this unfounded statement may have caused. WALTER HAWTHORNE.



Walter Hawthorne

9th August 1907

HARD LINES. Walter Richard Hawthorne, of the "Bull" Inn, Castle-street, Llangollen, was charged with being the proprietor of a carriage and having permitted it to be used as a hackney carriage plying for hire in the Urban District of Llangollen without having obtained a license. P.S. Wyse said he saw George Farrington driving a waggonette about the town and soliciting people to take a drive. He was plying for hire, in Castle-street, along the Bridge and at the Bridge End. He asked him if he had a license for the carriage and he replied he did not know, he did not think that there was. The driver told him his master sent him out but told him not to go on the stand. Witness subsequently saw Mr. Hawthorne and he admitted that he had not a license. Mr. Downes-Powell (Wrexham), who defended, said that the defence was an emphatic denial of Sergt. Wyse's

story. Farrington was a licensed driver at Llangollen and, on the day in question, he was walking about without a conveyance and met a party of nine people who desired to go for a drive and they asked him if he would take them and he went to Mr. Hawthorne and asked him if he had a carriage he would lend him and he brought the waggonette down opposite the Royal Hotel but the party would not go with him as it was too small. He then took it back to the Bull and Hawthorne told him to take it out and drive about "a bit" in order to school a young horse which was one of the two in the shafts. It was whilst doing this that he met P.S. Wyse. Walter Richard Hawthorne gave evidence bearing out his Solicitor's opening statement. He said that on the 15th of last month George Farrington came to him for a waggonette and he lent him one in which there were a pair of horses only one of which had been three times before in double harness. The party which he desired to take out proved to be too big and he told him to take the horses in the trap about the street for a time and give the horse some schooling. The reason he could get no license for the carriage, was because it had to be repaired, and the work had been delayed. He denied in toto the truth of the statement made by P.S. Wyse. He had driven in Llangollen, but was not accustomed to picking up loads in the street and had not himself been plying for hire with the same carriage having as many as nine or ten passengers in it at the same time eight had been the limit.-Fred Thomas, ostler at the Bull, said that he put the horses in the carriage for George Farrington but he heard nothing of the conversation which was alleged to have passed. After giving evidence, George Farrington admitted in cross-examination that he had, at times, pulled up near parties in the street but denied that he had asked them to go for a drive whilst he was in charge of this carriage.- The magistrates imposed a fine of 2s. 6d. and costs -13s. in all.-Edward Jones, Trevor-square, was charged with loitering for fares near the Bridge- end and in Castle-street, on July 15th, contrary to the bye-laws. P.S. Wyse said he saw defendant speak to several people and that, altogether he was loitering about for fifteen minutes. A practise of this kind, on behalf of some drivers, placed others who remained on the stand and observed the bye-laws at a great disadvantage. Mr. Downes Powell, for the defence, pointed out that this year had a very bad season in Llangollen and urged that the point to be decided was technical one of what constitutes "loitering" There had, he held, been no breach of the particular bye-law under which the prosecution commenced. The magistrates imposed a fine of 2s. 6d. and costs. A case against another driver was dismissed.

In 1908 Robert Llewelyn Baker, of the Sun Brewery, who by this time owned the Bull replaced the façade of the Bull with the present terra cotta finish, to improve the appearance ahead of the National Eisteddfod. In 1916 Walter Hawthorne had indicated that he was moving, but he was still at the time of his death from poisoning in 1933.

7th February 1908

Mr. Ll. Baker applied for permission to carry out certain alterations to the " Bull" Inn, Castle-street, These include placing a new façade on the premises and generally increasing convenience of the for other than drinking purposes. The Chairman Could not this matter stand over until the adjourned session to give us a little more time to consider it? Mr. Baker It will take us some time to get the material and I may point out we have been asked by the Eisteddfod Committee to improve the premises in the town before that event. The magistrates granted the application.

17th April 1908

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are invited for Building a New Terra Cotta Front and other Works at the Bull Inn, Llangollen, for R. Ll. Baker, Esq.

Plans and Specification may be inspected at my office, and all tenders are to be forwarded to me by noon on Thursday, the 23rd day of April.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

E. VAUGHAN EDMUNDS,
Llangollen, Architect.
April 16th, 1908. (18253)



Circa 1900



WALTER HAWTHORNE,
MOTOR CAR & CARRIAGE PROPRIETOR,
THE BULL LIVERY STABLES,
LLANGOLLEN.

Motor Cars, Landaus, Victorias, Waggonettes, Char-a-bancs
and Dog Carts for Hire.

Telephone—194.

1911 Census Bull Inn

Walter Richard Hawthorne	Head	M	44(1867)	Licensed Victualler	Holt, Worcest
Sarah Ann Hawthorne	Wife	M	45(1866)		Lichfield, Staffs
Nellie Violet Hawthorne	Dau	S	17(1894)		Temple Grafton, Worc
Annie Jones	Serv	S	20(1891)	Domestic Servant	Glyn Ceiriog

15th December 1916



17th November 1933

THE LATE MR. W. R. HAWTHORNE.

By the passing away, on Friday last, of Mr. Walter Rd. Hawthorne, of the Bull Inn, Llangollen has lost another well-known and highly respected tradesman, and one who always had the town's prosperity at heart. He was always ready to render aid to anyone in need. Deceased, who was 69 years of age, came to Llangollen 35 years ago from Stratford-on-Avon, and at the time a carriage proprietor. Prior to the present motor fire engine being secured, deceased always drove his pair of horses drawing the fire engine to the scenes of fires. He has been the Licensee of the Bull Inn for 31 years, and many years ago became the proprietor. He was an old member of the Parish Church choir. The funeral, which was private, took place at Llantysilio Churchyard on Monday. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. W. Alcuin Jones (vicar), and at Llantysilio Church by the Rev. R.H. Owen.

The chief mourners were Mrs. Hawthorne (widow); Mrs. And Mr. F. Griffiths, Chainbridge Hotel (daughter and son-in-law) Mrs. Slater, Llantysilio (daughter); Mr. H. Hawthorne (brother); Mr. Phillips (brother-in-law); Miss Griffith (niece), &c.

The bearers were Messrs. T. Prew, H.R. Hughes, Bob Davies and Ed. Hughes.

A large number of beautiful wreaths were sent from His Wife; Lily and Fred; Nellie and Abe; Brother Harry and Wife; Brother Dick and Wife; Iris and Alice; All the Grandchildren; Sarah, Margaret Dorothy (Wrexham). Mr. and Mrs. H. Irving; Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Taylor and Sons; Mrs. Crowe; Mrs. Morris; Mrs. Bythell.

Messrs. J. Roberts & Sons were the undertakers at both these funerals.

1st December 1933

LLANGOLLEN INQUEST.

Mr. M.V. Evans, H.H. Coroner for East Denbighshire, sitting with a jury of which Mr. R.. Thomas was appointed foreman, conducted an inquiry at Llangollen on Wednesday, into the circumstances attending the death of Walter Richard Hawthorne, of the Bull Inn, Castle Street, Llangollen, on November 9th.

Addressing the jury at the outset of the proceedings, the Coroner outlined the facts as reported to him, and stated he had opened the inquiry, but after only hearing evidence of identification by deceased's daughter he had adjourned it in order to await the result of a post mortem examination. The post mortem revealed no evidence of the cause of death, and

consequently he had ordered a further examination. That had been made by Dr. Grace, of Chester, and it was found that death was due to phosphorous poisoning. The duty of the jury was to listen to the evidence and form an opinion as to how the poison had been administered.

The first witness, Mr. Lily May Griffiths, Chainbridge Hotel, Berwyn, daughter of the deceased, confirmed her evidence of identification given when the inquest was opened. Her father was 67 years of age.

Questioned by the Coroner, witness said that she visited the Bull frequently, but was not there on Monday, November 6th, when her father had a slight seizure. She did not go until the Wednesday, and he was then under the doctor. He made no statement to her as to the cause of his illness. The state of his health had been indifferent for some time.

Coroner; "Do you know anything about a statement he made to the doctor about him having taken a tin of rat poison?"

Witness; "He never mentioned it to me."

Questioned by Mr. Dillwyn Ffoulkes-Jones (for the family), witness said that on the day she saw her father he complained of his heart, head and memory. His memory was very bad, and had been for some time. As far as she knew he had no financial worries. Continuing, witness said that he father was most peculiar regarding his meals. He would never have his meals with other members of the family. He cooked his own food, and would go out and buy different things and mince them up. He was very keen on paste meat, and he usually had his meals in the tea room in the yard. His memory was so bad that he had been known to go the bank to deposit money and would return with the money he intended banking.

Further examined by Mr. Jones, witness said that she found the little pocket book (produced) in her father's waistcoat pocket the night he died. Entries such as "Brain Sparkles," 3/3, were recorded in the book, and they related to patent medicines which he used regularly.

Mr. Jones; "He never suggested suicide?"

Witness: "No. He would be the last man in the world to do that."

Further examined, witness said that her father suffered from sleeplessness and avoided people.

Questioned as to where deceased kept the tin of rat poison referred to, witness said that he kept all his things in a building at the back of the house, and he kept the key himself. Witness did not see any rat poison about the place.

Mrs. Hawthorne, widow of the deceased, said that her husband had been unwell for some time. His memory was very bad, and he wanted to be by himself most of the time. He was very fond of getting little bits of food and cooking them in his room. He was also subject to heart attacks and seizures, and he had a bad one on Monday, November 6th, at 10 a.m. He recovered, and later carried on with his work as usual. Later in the day witness found him sitting by the fire in the smoke room, and he had a tin of tablets in his hand. He frequently used the tablets in order to strengthen the heart, but witness thought that they were weakening the heart, and she knocked the tin out of his hand, and it fell in the fire. Deceased went to bed that evening, and he was vomiting as a result of the attack he had earlier in the morning. He got up at 5 o'clock the next morning, and went about his work as usual. When witness came down at 8 o'clock she found him in a state of collapse on the billiard table. She wanted him to have some breakfast, but he refused, and later went to bed. Witness then called the doctor in.

The Coroner: "It is alleged that he told the doctor that he had taken some rat poison."

Witness: "He never said a word to me."

Replying to further questions, witness said that she did not see any rat poison in her husband's possession. He had never threatened to do away with himself.

Questioned by Mr. Dillwyn Ffoulkes-Jones, Mrs. Hawthorne said that deceased had no financial trouble. He was also very absent-minded, and was fond of making various meat pastes and brawn. He was also fond of buying and taking patent medicines.

Mr. Henry Catlow, a chemist, of Castle Street, Llangollen, said that deceased purchased a small tin of rat poison from his shop on Monday morning, November 6th. He told witness he wanted it in order to kill some rats. The poison supplied by witness was made of phosphorous. He did not remember Mr. Hawthorne buying any rat poison from his shop before.

Questioned by Mr. Dillwyn Ffoulkes-Jones, witness said that when deceased bought the poison it was the annual Rat Week. The poison was a dark brown paste, and looked something like meat paste. It was quite possible for deceased to have mistaken it by its similarity in colour for meat paste. It was not a registered poison.

Dr. Fred Drinkwater said that he was called in to see Mr. Hawthorne on Tuesday morning, November 7th. He was in bed at the time, and he complained of a shivering feeling. He later told witness that he had taken a tin of rat poison the previous morning. The next day Mr. Hawthorne informed witness that he couldn't understand how he came to take the poison, and his explanation was that he must have had some kind of seizure and had taken it then. Witness attended the deceased until his death on Thursday. He felt that death was not due to natural causes, and felt he could not sign the death certificate.

Questioned by Mr. Dillwyn Ffoulkes-Jones, witness agreed that phosphorous was an accumulative poison if taken over a long period.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said that he attended M. Hawthorne for the past four years, during which period he was not in good health.

Replying to the Foreman, witness said that all illnesses if continuous would bring about a certain amount of depression.

Dr. W.H. Grace, pathologist at Chester Royal Infirmary, said that the contents of deceased's stomach and small intestines and portions of the liver and heart were taken for chemical examination. A considerable amount of yellow phosphorous was obtained by distillation of the contents of the small intestine, and there was a smaller amount of yellow phosphorous in the distillate from the stomach. Death was due to phosphorous poisoning.

The Coroner summing up, pointed out there was no doubt that Hawthorne took the poison himself. If the jury was satisfied that it was self administered they had to consider whether it was taken accidentally or intentionally..

After a short retirement the foreman of the jury said it was the jury's unanimous opinion that deceased died from phosphorous poisoning, and that he took it in error.

Coroner: "You say he took it accidentally?"

Foreman: "Yes."

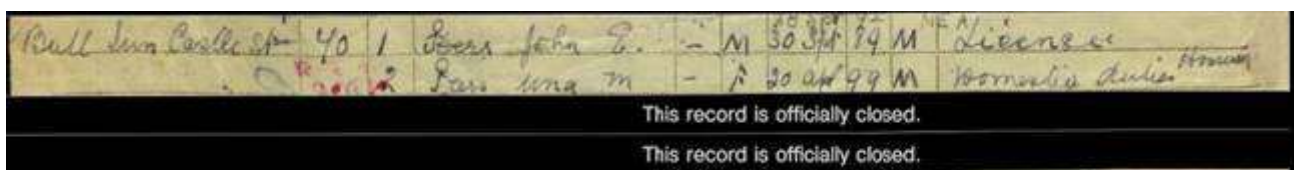
Coroner: "Then your verdict is "Misadventure."

Following the death of Walter Hawthorne in 1933 the licence was transferred in 1938 to John Edward Peers, but by the 1940's the Bull was run by Mrs L Price

9th September 1938

Licences Transferred. – The full transfers of the licences of the Bull Inn, Llangollen and the White Hart Inn, Pentredwr were granted to John Edward Peers and William Cameron Wooley respectively, at Llangollen Sessions on Monday. The Bench also passed plans of proposed alterations to the White Hart Inn, subject to the approval of the police.

1939



Bull Inn, Castle Street

John Edward Peers 30th September 1889(92) M Licensee
Una M Peers 20th April 1899 M Domestic Duties housekeeper
?
?



1960's

19th July 1978

The Bull Inn was next –the meeting place for farmers & tourists. Mrs.Winnie Price's meals in the large upstairs dining room were legendary and coach loads of trippers made what were virtually annual pilgrimages to the Bull. The Round Table & the Observer Corps also met here
In 1964 the landlord was Donald Bell.

22nd September 1964



June 2007

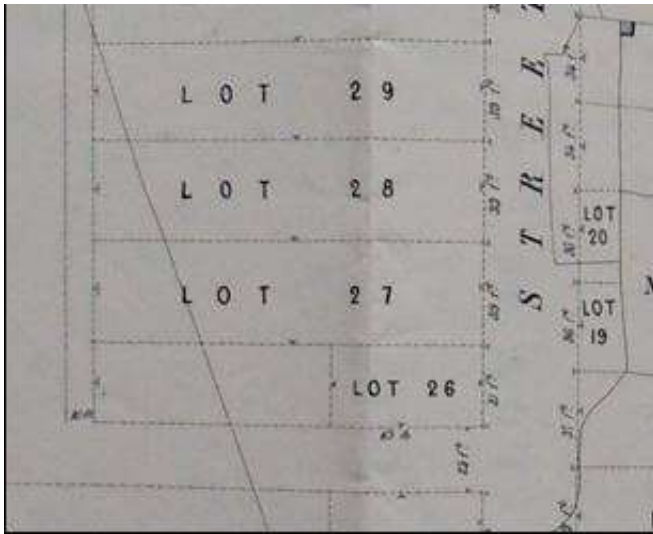




Satellite Image

Today

22 Castle Street



1858 Sale Map

1858 Sale 26 A Building Site, with a frontage of 31 feet along the new Street, 26 joins the road from the New Street into the proposed New Market, and has double frontage. Occupier Richard Jones

There was no building on this site shown on the 1873 map. The earliest reference to a building here might be in 1876 when Thomas Jones had a shop here called Shop Llandyn, in 1880 he was given planning permission to build a new shop in Bridge St., to which he transferred the name. In 1883 John Rowlands said that he was the owner of Llandyn House, and it was being run as a china by his son Stephen (business established 1882). John was applying for an Excise Licence, which seems at variance with his later occupation as a Temperance House Keeper.

31st August 1883

Application for a Wine and Spirit Licence-Mr. Ll. Adams, Ruthin, appeared on behalf of Mr. John Rowlands, Chapel-street, in support of an application for an off-licence to sell wines and spirits in the house now occupied by Mr. Stephen Rowlands, the house having been recently bought by the applicant. The application had for some time been the subject of considerable discussion in the town, and it was well known that the local branch of the Licensed Victuallers Association were opposing it. Mr. Davies, solicitor, Holywell, now appeared in court, and said he opposed the application on behalf of the general interest. Mr. Yale wished to know whom Mr. Davies represented. Mr. Davies said he had a petition there signed by the Guardians, also one signed by the clergymen, ministers, and several leading tradespeople in the town. It was free for anyone to oppose in cases of this kind. Mr. Adams contended that the Bench could only refuse the application on three grounds. 1st, that the applicant was not a person of good character 2nd, that his licence was one of a disorderly character and, 3rd, that his house had been forfeited for misconduct. On all these points his client, he ventured to say, was safe. The statute of 1st August, 1882, granting power to magistrates to refuse licences, only had reference to the sale of beer off the premises. His application simply referred to the sale of wines and spirits in bottles off the premises. In support of this contention,

7th September 1883

TO THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR AND
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE OF
THE PARISH OF LLANGOLLEN, IN THE
COUNTY OF DENBIGH.

I JOHN ROWLANDS, now residing at Chapel Street, Llangollen, in the County of Denbigh, Grocer and Provision Dealer, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the County Hall, Llangollen aforesaid, on the Twenty-fifth day of September instant, for a Licence to hold any Excise Licence or Licences to Sell by Retail, under the Intoxicating Liquor Acts, Spirits to be consumed off the premises thereunto belonging, called Llandyn Shop, in Castle Street, Llangollen aforesaid, of which premises I am the owner, and which premises are now occupied by Stephen Rowlands, as a China Shop.

Given under my hand this First day of September, 1883.

(1317)

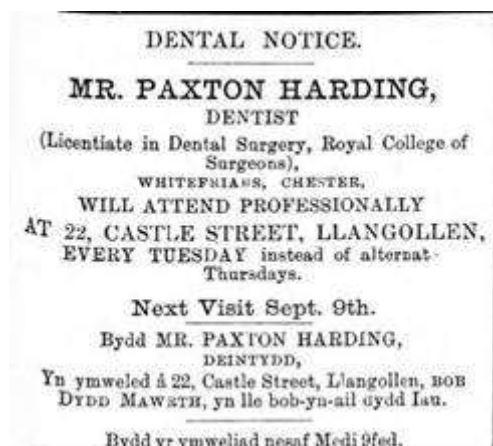
JOHN ROWLANDS.

he ventured to say, was safe. The statute of 1st August, 1882, granting power to magistrates to refuse licences, only had reference to the sale of beer off the premises. His application simply referred to the sale of wines and spirits in bottles off the premises. In support of this contention,

Mr. Adams quoted 23 Vict., chap. 27, sect. 3 52 and 53 Vict., chap. 27, sect. 8, and 35 and 36 Vict., chap. 94, sect. 69. He trusted his friend, Mr. Davies, would confine himself entirely to those three points. The formality proving the legal issue of the notice having been gone through, Mr. Davies pointed out an informality in the wording of the same; there was no reference whatever to spirits in the application. It simply said "wines and liqueurs." He, therefore, argued that there was no application for a spirit licence before them. Mr. Adams argued that liqueurs included spirits. Mr. Davies pointed out that the words were "liqueurs or spirits." Mr. Adams: It is there the act is wrong. (Laughter.) The Bench, however, refused to accept Mr. Adams's reading of the Act. Mr. Yale remarked that that was a most remarkable omission. Mr. Adams said that the applicant had drawn it out himself, and it showed the danger of not having employed a solicitor. However, his client had consented to accept a wine licence alone, as he only wanted it for two months, to wait the expiration of his lease. Mr. R. S. Richards, deputy-clerk, said that if by some inadvertence the applicant had omitted anything in the application, the justices may, if they think fit, adjourn the sessions, in order to have the case further considered. The Bench then decided to grant a licence to Mr. Rowlands for the sale of wines, and to consider any further application he may have to make at the next Court.

In 1884 the upstairs was being used by a dentist. That address was later given as Hendre, Market St.

5th September 1884



1891

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 36(1855)	Builder & Contractor	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 29(1862)	Female Oswestry	
John Rowlands	Father	M 67(1824)	Temperance Hotel Keeper	Llangollen
Mary Rowlands	Mother	M 67(1824)		Glyn



STEPHEN ROWLANDS,
 THE WELSH CHINA SHOP,
 22, Castle Street, & 12, Bridge Street,
LLANGOLLEN.

Visitors to Llangollen should not fail to call and inspect our Stock of . . .
 Souvenirs, Present Goods, Welsh Specialities, Valentine's Beautiful Photographic Views, mounted, unmounted, and Special New . . .
 Collotype Book of Views.



By 1899 the shop had also branched out into furniture.

25th December 1908

Mr. Stephen Rowlands is a tradesman with a good many "strings to his bow," and the large stock of furniture – dining room, drawing room and bedroom suites – stored upon his spacious premises in Castle-street and Bridge-street undoubtedly, constitute one of the most reliable and varied in North Wales. For wringing machines, pianos, bath chairs, mail carts and perambulators, and the latest designs in wall-papers, at all prices, his excellently selected goods must give satisfaction to



all. Again his Castle-street premises are crowded with articles specially suited to form Christmas Presents or New Year's Gifts; and all intending purchasers should pay a visit of inspection before buying elsewhere.

1901 Market St (22 Castle St)

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 46(1855)	House Furnisher	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 39(1862)		Oswestry
Maggie Parry	Serv	S 15(1886)	Genl Serv Domestic	Froncysyllte

1911 22Castle St Llangollen

Stephen Rowlands	Head	M 56(1855)	House Furnisher	Llangollen
Jane Rowlands	Wife	M 49(1862)		Oswestry
H E Morris	Neph	S 32(1879)	Student For The Clergy	Llangollen
A D Morris	Niece	S 36(1875)		Llangollen
Elizabeth Williams	Serv	S 23(1888)		Cefn Ruabon



Stephen Rowlands later disposed of his Castle Street Branch, concentrating on the Bridge Street Business, and by 1913 The business was a grocer's called "Star Supply Stores"

23rd May 1913

LLANGOLLEN STREET
SCENE
RUNAWAY HORSE ENTERS
GROCER'S SHOP.

Considerable excitement was aroused in Castle-street, Llangollen, on Monday morning, the horse, which usually draws the "Hand" 'bus,

being the principal performer. Something appears to have startled the animal, which was fastened up to a chain at the rear of the hotel, and, by a sudden jerk, it dragged the reins over its head and

“broke away” down Oak-street, with the vehicle rattling behind it. In Castle-Street some attempt to arrest its progress but this only added to the animal’s fright and it dashed across the street into the doorway of the Star supply stores. The entrance, of course, was not sufficiently wide to permit the bulky customer to enter, and the large window, at the corner of Market-street, behind which cheese, bacon, and dairy produce is displayed, fell into the street wholesale, with a loud crash. The woodwork of the doorway was scattered in fragments on the road, and the right-hand side window of the shop was damaged, chocolates and confectionery being scattered on the pavement. It was with some difficulty that the horse was removed from amidst the debris and it was found to have suffered severely, being cut about the head with broken glass, whilst the “Hand” ‘bus had to be “docked” for repairs to make good the injuries it had sustained. Later in the day the broken window was boarded up and, with this exception, the evening Star was as bright as ever.



John Edward Evans



George James Ellis

4th August 1916

TWO PALS. –

Inquiries made by our correspondent elicit the information that there is scant reason for hoping that Pte. George Ellis, R.W.F., survived the hot fight near Mametz Wood, during the great advance, when his regiment suffered so severely. Mr. A. J. Price, his employer, who speaks of him with the highest respect and of his loss with the deepest sorrow, says that a letter was received a few days ago from the front placing it beyond all doubt that the gallant young soldier has made the great sacrifice. From all quarters of the wide district throughout which Ellis was known and his pluck admired letters of inquiry and sympathy have been received. News also reached the town during the week-end that Pte. Eddie Evans, R.W.F., who "joined up" from the "Star Supply Stores," immediately opposite to where Pte. Ellis was employed, had also fallen at Mametz another great loss to the local shop assistants

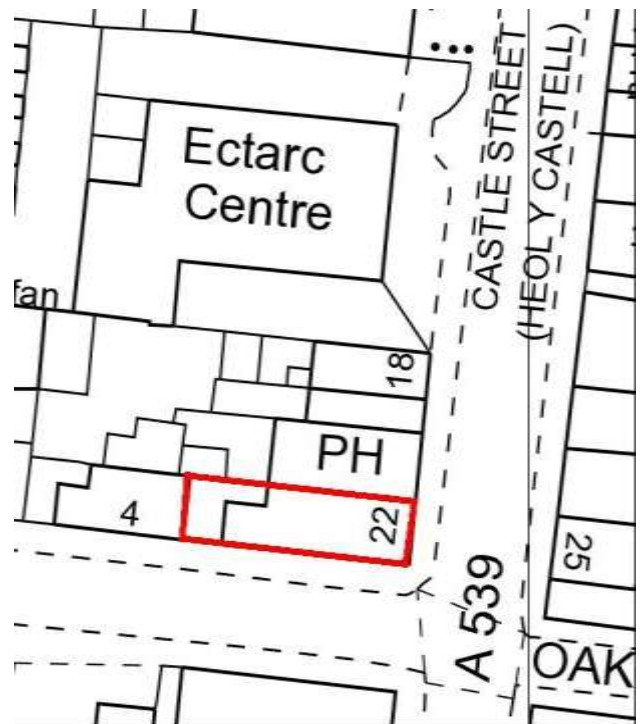


In the 1930's the manager was Thomas J Owen, who was succeeded around 1950 by Walter Rex Thomas. In March 1956, when the shop had become George Mason's Walter remained as manager. He moved with them 1968 when they removed to No 26.

When Mason's moved the building became a betting shop, it is now a branch of Ladbrooke's. Upstairs, formerly Hendre has been used for offices,



but an application has been made to convert the space into flats.



25th November 1887

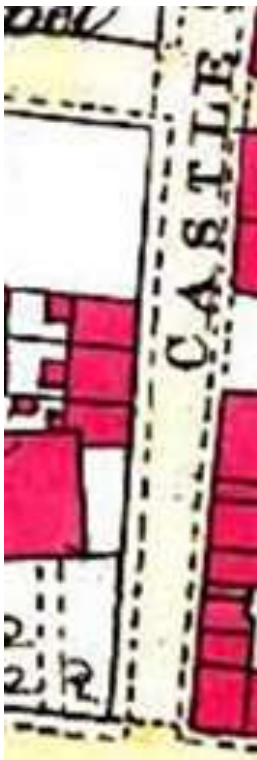
MARRIAGES.

Nov. 21st, at Trefonen Church, near Oswestry, by the Rev. G. Williams, Mr. Stephen Rowlands, glass and china warehouse, 22, Castle-street, Llangollen, to Miss Jane Lloyd, Moelydd Uchaf, Trefonen.

9th February 1894

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.. Also plans for a combined warehouse and joiner's workshop to be erected adjoining the private road leading to the Butcher's Arms yard for Mr. Stephen Rowlands. These also conform to our by-laws, and I recommend that they be passed. The plans of Mr. Stephen Rowlands were passed.

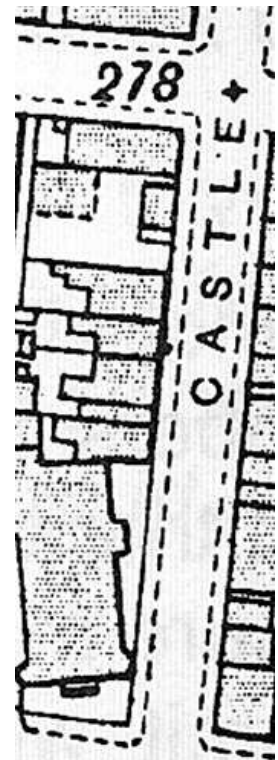
24 Castle Street



1875



March 1894



1912

Humphrey Jones was named as occupier of the land in 1887, as a tenant of the trustees of the Oddfellows Club, although he and his family were still living at 2 Berwyn Street in 1891. Thomas A. Jones, a builder received planning permission for this building in Jan 1893

13th January 1893

Plans of a new shop and dwelling house, prepared by Mr. E. Evans, county surveyor, Carnarvon, for Mr. Humphrey Jones, chemist, at the corner of Market-street and Castle-street, were submitted for approval. The surveyor had certified that they conformed to the bye-laws, with the exception of the height, which was 3ft. in excess of the width of the street. The building being, however, situated in a corner made a difference. On the motion of Mr. J. E. Jones, seconded by Mr. H. O. Thomas, the plans were unanimously approved of and signed by the chairman, Mr. Ed. Roberts and Mr. Lloyd Jones having previously left the room.

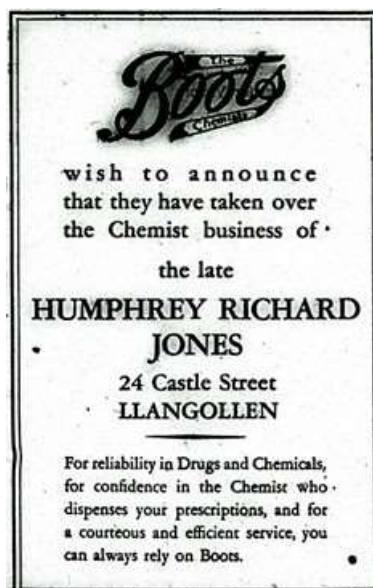
Humphrey Jones was a Pharmaceutical chemist, born in Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, he trained in Chester and London.

6th April 1894

A most welcome addition to the many finely built and attractive places of business which already existed in the town is the opening of the large and commodious premises recently erected by Mr Humphrey Jones, chemist, in Castle-street at the corner of Market-street. The building, which consists of a shop and dwelling house, is an imposing structure of five storeys high and admirably adapted for carrying on the large and increasing business which Mr Jones has established for himself in his old premises in Berwyn-street. No doubt it is the wish of all who know the sterling good qualities and the business aptitude of Mr Jones that in removing to his new and more commodious premises, his business may meet with that increasing success which his enterprising spirit so justly entitles him to.

1930's





Humphrey Jones died in September 1922 but his son Humphrey Richard Jones, who was also a chemist, took over. In January 1942 Humphrey Richard Jones died and in May 1943 the business was taken over by the Boots Company who remained there until July 1973.

On the corner with Market Street was Boots. Managed by Mr. Edgar Williams, the shop reflected the glory of the town as a



Market centre, with its large stocks of various dips & remedies for cattle & sheep on the left as you walked in, together with the many strange, shiny instruments for attending the animals, the uses of which one could only imagine! Sadly, with the demise of the Smithfield Market - Boots moved on.

31st July 1973

THE NON-EVENT OF THE WEEK The closing down of Boots Chemists Shop, much regretted by all.



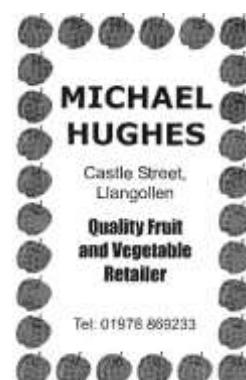
Wingett's



2017

Later it became a branch office of Wingett's Estate agents, until they moved to No 41. It was next a Greengrocer, Michael Hughes, but in 2017 it became Daisy Chain, florist.

In the early part of the 20th Century the address given was Canoldre, although it was later used for the Canoldre café in Market street, which Humphrey Jones's daughter Ellen ran.





2018

1901 Canoldre, Castle Street

Humphrey Jones	Head	M 67(1834)	Pharmaceutical Chemist	Llansanffraid G C
Mary J Jones	Wife	M 61(1840)		Llangollen
Mary E Jones	Dau	S 36(1865)		Llangollen
Humphrey R Jones	Son	S 26(1875)	Chemist & Druggist	Llangollen
Ellen A Jones	Dau	S 23(1878)		Llangollen
David H A Jones	Son	S 21(1880)	Chemist Student	Llangollen
Sarah Jones	Serv	S 26(1875)	Gen serv dom	Cefn Mawr
Annie Parry	Serv	S 16(1885)	Gen serv dom	Carrog

1911 Canoldre Llangollen

Humphrey Jones	Head	M 77(1834)	Pharmacist	Llansantffraed Glynceiriog
Mary Jane Jones	Wife	M 71(1840)		Llangollen
Humphrey Richard Jones	Son	S 36(1875)	Pharmacist	Llangollen
Ellen Anne Jones	Dau	S 33(1878)		Llangollen
David Hugh Andrew Jones	Son	S 31(1880)	Chemist Assistant	Llangollen
William Tudor Jones	Son	S 30(1881)	Electrical Engineer	Llangollen
Mary Evans	Serv	S 24(1887)	Gen Serv (domestic)	Penygroes, Carnarvon

1939 Register

Humphrey R Jones	25 Oct 1874	S Male	Pharmacist
William T Jones	19 May 1881	M Male	Pharmacist Assistant
Maud T Jones	19 Oct 1879	M Female	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Eleen A Jones	11 Sep 1877	S Female	Unpaid Domestic Duties

Catherine I Davies (Preston) 12 Feb 1924 S Female Domestic Servant



24th September 1926

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR. H. JONES

On Sunday last a gloom was cast over the town when it became known that Mr Humphrey Jones, Chemist, Canoldre, Llangollen, had passed away. He had been ailing for some weeks, but previous to this he was very sharp, and appeared hale and hearty, although in his 93rd year. His funeral took place on Wednesday at the Fron cemetery, when a very large number attended.

Mr Humphrey Jones was the son of Mr Edward Owen Jones and Mary Jones and was born at Glynceiriog on March 24th 1834, and when six years of age his parents removed to Llangollen where he received his elementary education at the small National School which now forms part of the present National School, on leaving this school he went to the Penrallt British School at Glyndyfrdwy and from there he went to the Liverpool Mechanics his intention on entering this institute was to become an engineer, but instead decided in favour of becoming a chemist and with this purpose in view entered a Clergyman's School at Egremont and from there was apprenticed to a Mr Higgins, Northgate Street, Chester, where he remained for 5 or 6 years, he then served at one or two shops in London before qualifying and later passed his minor and major examinations with distinction, he then entered the services of Messrs Squires, His Majesty's Chemists, for two years 1857 to 1859 and in the latter year he returned to

Llangollen and opened a business on his own account in Berwyn Street and remained there until 1894 when he moved to his own premises Canoldre in Castle Street.

He became a full member of the Baptist Church while in London and on his return became prominently connected with the Baptist denomination in this town and, a little later, became an officer of the Penybryn, and later in the Castle Street Baptist Church. From 1865 to 1916 he filled the office of Secretary of the Sunday School of the Baptist Denomination in the town, and during all these years took a very active interest in the work of the Sunday School, and after giving up the Secretaryship in 1916, took an active part as a teacher. Although he was an out and out Baptist he exercised the greatest toleration with others that were not quite of the same opinion as himself on this subject. He was gifted with that rare quality of never making enemies.

In October, 1906, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace which gave great satisfaction to the residents of this room.

He had served on the Library and Cottage Hospital Committees for many years when his services were always much appreciated and had been a director of the Llangollen Gas Co. for a long period.

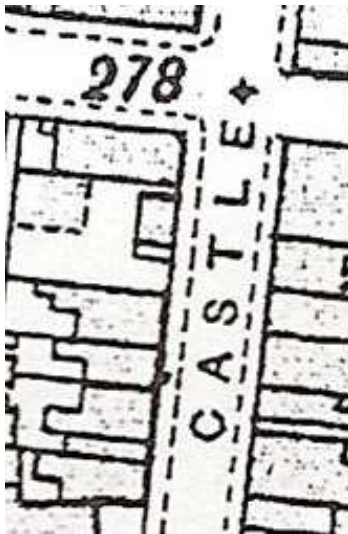
In 1923 he was publically presented in the Castle Street Chapel with the "Gee" Medal for long services and connection with the Sunday School when representatives from all other Sunday Schools in the town attended and spoke in eulogistic terms of his faithful and long services, this medal he valued very much, not for its intrinsic value but for the sake of what it represented. Mr Humphrey Jones had been a household name in Llangollen ever since he settled down in business in the town he was acknowledged by all to be a "good man" and a Christian gentleman.



David Hugh Andrew Jones was born 25th October 1879 in Berwyn St, Llangollen the son of Humphrey Jones, Pharmaceutical Chemist, and Mary Jane Jones (nee Roberts). By 1901 Humphrey Jones had moved his chemist's shop to Canoldre, Castle Street, and David was shown as a student chemist, he had progressed Assistant Chemist by 1911. He joined the 10th Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and was involved in most of the heavy fighting of May 1917. On the eve of the fighting he had been offered an opportunity to go to Gallipoli as a dispenser, in the light of his chemist background, but he had declined. He died 14th May 1917, and is commemorated on memorial Ba6 6 Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.



26-28 Castle Street



1912 OS map



circa 1912



2001

On the 1912 map there only appeared to be a small structure on this site, as the earliest picture shows. In fact we have as yet no specific records of anything here before 1939. It is probably that there was never any residential occupation on this site. In the 1939 Register there were a number of tenants at 62 Berwyn Street, including Robert Aspen Gracie, clothier. Gracie, who had been born in Birkenhead 28th January 1876 had been a pawnbroker in Ruabon during WW1. Another entry for 1939 was Enoch Hannaby in Abbey Road, who was described as the manager of a drapery store. It is probable that Gracie's was in business by then, with the business managed by Enoch Hannaby. Robert Gracie later moved to Sunny Bank, where he died 1955 – although the shop continued, managed by Mr. Enoch Hannaby.



Gracie's has been described as "one of the great Aladdin's Caves of the town - Gracies emporium - a large open plan, well ordered shop, managed by Mr. E.Hannaby, where one could buy anything from a reel of cotton to a bicycle At the end of the store was an impressive double staircase leading to a verandah-like showroom which extended right around the shop."

CASH OR HIRE AT
GRACIE'S
 (LIMITED).
 Castle Street - - - LLANGOLLEN

Oak Sideboard with Mirror	•	£7 15s 0d
All-Wool Full Size Blankets (Grand Value)		32s 6d
Single		19s 6d
Full Size Spring (Mesh Top)	•	37s 6d
Lovely Fleecy Blankets (Grand Value)	from	7s 11d
Single Size Wool Mattress	•	22s 6d
Large Quantity of Odd Lengths in Oilecloth to be Sold Cheap		
Good Assortment of Kitchen Rugs, from 2s 6d each		
AND ANNOT BE REPEATED AT THE PRICE.		
GRACIE'S Ltd.		
LLANGOLLEN		



1940's and 1950's



The speaker for the evening was Mr Michael Forte, of Llangollen. He told a fascinating story of the mushroom growth of the Forte business from its beginning in an Italian farm over a hundred years ago to its present nationwide proportions. The contribution made by Mr Michael Forte and his brother, who at the age of 19 and 24 respectively, launched out in business in London in 1935 with a capital of a few hundred pounds, made a success story rivalling any in fiction. To housewives, accustomed to thinking frugally in terms of pound, shillings and pence, this story of transactions entailing many thousands of pounds seemed like a fairy tale. Mr Forte's falling in love at first sight with the Vale of Llangollen and deciding to cut adrift from his business commitments in London in order to settle here is, we hope, in the "living happily ever afterwards" tradition of every fairy story.

Mrs E. Bowen and Mrs Pierce expressed the thanks of the Institute to Mr Forte.

Delicious refreshments were

GOOD EATING IN LLANGOLLEN ALL-DAY CATERING AT ALL-IN PRICES The Restaurant is open every day including Sundays for seven full three-course meals at inclusive prices 6/6 to 15/- CONTINENTAL MEALS Made with a splash of continental glamour for "Dining Table Treasures" PERSONAL CHOICE Wide variety of dishes to your own delight EARLY AND LATE MEALS The early meal and late arrival are both welcome Telephone: Llangollen 3288	MICHAEL FORTE'S FORTEL LIMITED TO COACH OPERATORS Special Reductions for Parties of Old-Age Pensioners, especially during early and late seasons, April, May, June and Sept., Oct. Parties up to 10—All inclusive meals—Soup—Fish or Meat—Vegetables—Dessert from 2/- per head WAYFARERS Many holidaymakers travel overnight—we shall be open at 9 a.m. and stay open until 10 p.m., attending your needs all day.
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Following the death of Robert Gracie the shop was turned into a restaurant by Michael Forté and his locally born wife.

NORTH WALES' PREMIER RESTAURANT, 26 CASTLE ST. LLANGOLLEN



In April 1968 it became George Mason, then it was a Lo- Cost supermarket and is now a SPAR supermarket, operated by Blakemore Retail



15th September 1916

Robert Gracie, 24, Heol Maelor, Coedpoeth,, pawnbroker and general salesman, applied for exemption on the ground of serious hardship. He had only himself and a lady assistant



attending to the business. He was 40 years of age and had sunk all his capital in the business. He had a large stock on hand, a large amount owing to him on his books, and he was also heavily indebted to wholesale houses. He had a considerable number of pledges, which required personal and experienced attention, and for which he was liable under the Pawnbrokers' Act. He was the main support of a widowed mother and invalid brother. He considered that his business was essential to the neighbourhood. Exemption had been granted to Sept. 21, without the right apply again except by consent. This decision was upheld.

24th June 1969

George Mason's stop was commended for neatness and the very welcome absence of posters in the windows and the award was handed to Mr Thomas the Manager.

28th June 1978

THE LATE MR. WALTER REX THOMAS

'Priceright' Stores were closed last Thursday afternoon to enable staff to attend the funeral of their Manager, Mr. Thomas, who died with such tragic suddenness while on his way to work on Saturday June 17th. Though his home was in Ruabon, Mr. Thomas was very much a Llangollen man. He started his association with the grocery stores at The Star, under Mr. Tom Owen and became manager. When the Star became Masons and moved from the corner premises which is now the Betting Shop, to its present site, Mr. Thomas came with it. Through all the changes of name and style of the Stores, Mr. Thomas remained the same: courteous, efficient and highly regarded by both staff and customers. Altogether he had been Manager for 28 years. Mr. Peter Kinghorn now takes over. Our deep sympathy is tendered to his widow, Mrs. V.M.Thomas, his son Philip, now starting his medical career and his daughter Julie, still at school. The funeral service was held at Ruabon Parish Church and interment was in Ruabon Cemetery.

32 Castle Street



1875



1911

23rd September 1887

LLANGOLLEN, DENBIGHSHIRE.
SALE OF VALUABLE FREEHOLD LAND, BUILDING SITES,
AND THREE STACKS OF HAY.

MR. EDWARD EDWARDS has been instructed to offer for Sale
BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
AT THE GRAPES HOTEL, LLANGOLLEN,
On MONDAY, OCTOBER 17th, 1887

, At 2 o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to Conditions-

LOTS 2 AND 3.-All those most Eligible Freehold Building Sites situate on the west side of Castle Street, adjoining the "Trevelyan" Temperance Hotel on the south side, and the Smithfield on the west, containing altogether 273 square yards, and having a frontage in Castle Street of 39 ft. These Lots being situate in the best part of Castle Street, which is the principal thoroughfare in the Town, and being the last two pieces of Building Land that are available for Sale in that Street, are extremely valuable with a view to the erection of business premises thereon, renders this an opportunity that cannot possibly occur again of acquiring such Sites. This Land will be sold in one or two lots, as may be decided at the time of Sale.

21st October 1887

Lot 2 consisted of a freehold building site in Castle-street, containing 273 square yards. The first bid was 20s. per yard, which gradually rose to 29s., at which sum it was purchased by Mr. John Rowlands, grocer.

The upper part of the building was known as Springfield, and in July 1890 the occupant was given as Mrs Robert Evans, presumably Mrs Elizabeth Evans, wife of Robert Evans, Wheelwright. Robert had been born in Llandegla, but had spent time in Connecticut before returning as a carpenter in Oswestry, by 1881 he had set an ironmonger's shop Oak Street, the business called variously Oakdene, and R Evans and sons continued on after death in 1919. There was a hardware

shop there trading that name until 1958 when it closed and became the Catholic Church. The family had moved to Springfield by 1890. After a fire at the Oak Street Premises they were rebuilt and the family moved back to Oak Street.

1891

Robert Evans	Head	M 41(1850)	Wheelwright & blacksmith	Llandegla
Elizabeth Evans	Wife	M 37(1854)		Bryneglwys
William T Evans	Son	S 15(1876)	Scholar	United States
John D Evans	Son	S 13(1878)	Scholar	Oswestry, Salop
Robert H Evans	Son	S 6(1885)	Scholar	Llangollen
Ada Roberts	Serv	S 15(1876)	Domestic Servant	Glyn-Ceiriog

1901 Springfield

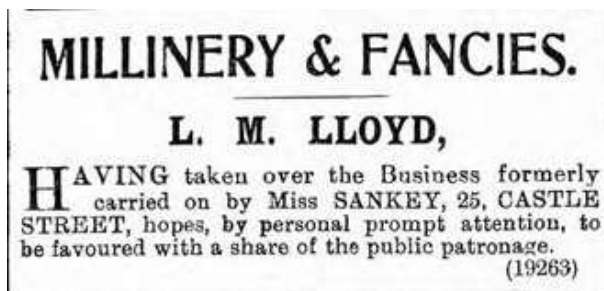
Robert Evans	Head	M 48(1853)	Ironmonger & Cycle repairer	Llandegla
Elizabeth Evans	Wife	M 47(1854)		Bryneglwys
William T Evans	Son	S 25(1876)	B S	United States
John D Evans	Son	S 23(1878)		Oswestry, Salop

In 1909 Lucy Mary Lloyd, a daughter of Samuel Lloyd a farmer and butcher of Wern Issa, had taken over the millinery & fancies business of Miss Sankey of 25 Castle Street. In 1910 Lucy was operating from London Hose, probably the ground floor of Springfield House. In January 1911 Lucy Mary Lloyd married Thomas Wycherley Chubb, a Fancy Draper, originally from Flintshire.

26th March 1909

Lucy Mary

18th March 1910



1911 Springfield Llangollen

Thomas Wycherley Chubb	Head	M 39(1872)	Fancy Draper	Whitewell, Flint
Lucy Margaret Chubb	Wife	M 27(1884)	Assistant in Business	Llangollen

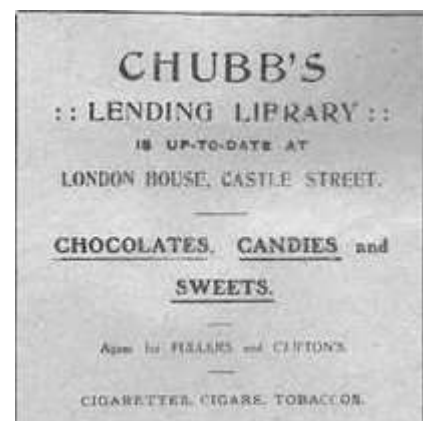
13th February 1914





1920's

London House originally sold millinery and fancy drapery, by 1933 it was a confectioner and also home to a lending library, Thomas Chubb also ran a confectioner's shop in Oak St and a refreshment booth at the top of Dinas Brân, while his daughter, Priscilla ran a Dancing Academy on the upper floor, Springfield. Thomas died 2nd February 1949, but his widow Lucy was still at Springfield in 1955 when she died, having left her body to medical research. Priscilla emigrated to Australia a few months later.



Immediately afterwards the lending library was operated by Doug Phillips. The premises was later occupied by Laundrycraft who had taken over Caefelin

Laundry., but in July 1979 it became a Job Centre which closed in 2006, and has since then it has been empty

1939 Register

Thomas W Chubb	03 Dec 1871	Married	Sugar Confectioner Tobacconist Dealer
Lucy M Chubb	03 Oct 1883	Married	Unpaid Domestic Duties
Priscilla M Chubb	06-Jun 1913	Single	Unpaid Domestic Duties Corsetier

August 1955

In Memoriam.-T. W. Chubb, a loyal Churchman, Sidesman, Parochial Church Councillor, and formerly Church Warden, who passed on, on February 2nd; his quiet steadfast loyalty to his Church remains a treasured memory to those with, whom he worked and served



September 1955

MISS P M. CHUBB has been engaged for some time in the making of a new and worthy white frontal for the Parish Church. I have already seen the work so far accomplished and I feel sure that we can look forward to a magnificent piece of work. We sympathise deeply with her on the passing of her mother. As some may know, it was Mrs. Chubb's wish to give her body for the purposes of the advancement of medical science. As cremation cannot take place for another two years, a special memorial was made for the repose of her soul with suitable prayers for the advancement of medical learning at Evensong on St. Bartholomew's Day.

CHUBB. — The relatives and friends of the late Miss Priscilla Margaret Chubb, are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, which will leave the Parish Church of St. Phillip, O'Connor, after service to commence at 10.30 a.m., Monday, June 22, for interment in the Church of England portion of the Canberra Cemetery. No flowers by her request, a contribution may be forwarded to St. Saviours Girls' Home, Goulburn in lieu.
M. H. O'Rourke,
Funeral Director
Canberra — Queanbeyan
Phone Queanbeyan 52



7th December 1977

LAUNDRYCRAFT CLOSURE

It was stated in a recent L.C.C. report in the Broadsheet that the Caefelin Laundry was due to close in February 1978. Mr. Michael Fay brings to our notice that it is intended to close the Castle Street 'Laundrycraft' shop in January next and thereafter to provide a weekly van service.

He goes on to say "This seems to be another reduction in the facilities and services available in the town and I have written to Laundrycraft Services Ltd., asking them to re-consider their decision: the proposed van service will not be as convenient. Presuming that the closure goes ahead, perhaps some other enterprising firm will provide a comparable laundry and dry cleaning service."

2nd Aug 1978



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

An application is in for the residential development of a fifth of an acre adjacent to Castle Buildings and access thereto. There is also an application for the use of 32, Castle Street, the premises formerly used by Laundrycraft, as a Job Centre. The Manpower Service has been looking for premises for this purpose for some time and this should be a good location for it.

Messrs. Edwards, Dee Lane, have applied to use the Caefelin Laundry buildings as Car Show Rooms with repair area and a Garden Centre

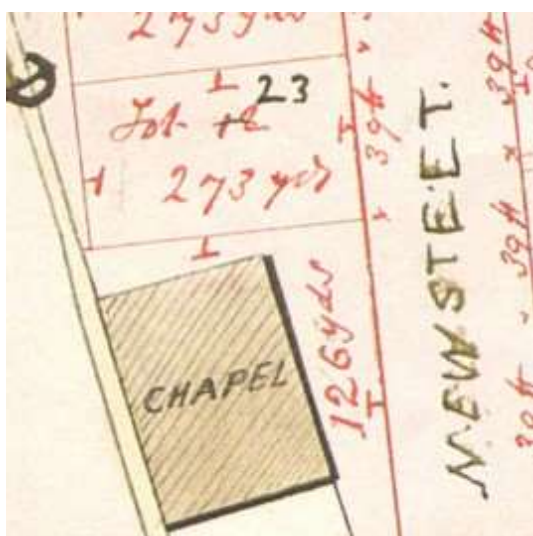


2018

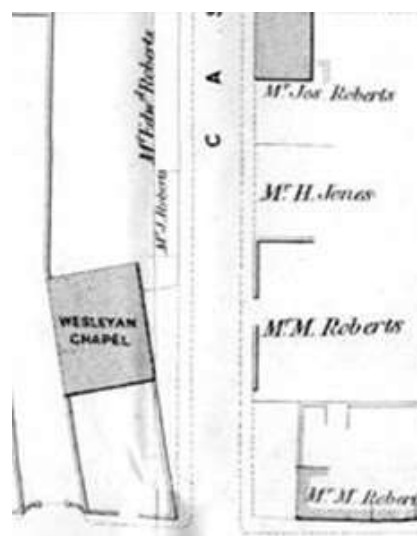


Chubb Family at Lauriston in 1947

34 Castle Street



1858 sale map

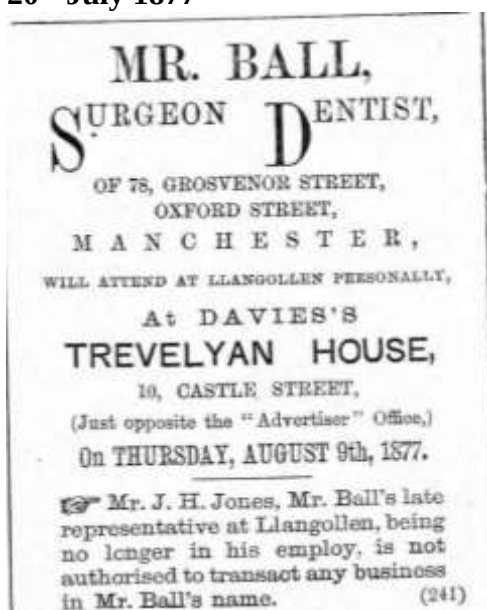


1862 sale map

Plot 23 was described as a building site with a frontage of 39 feet along New Street containing 273 sq yds., in the occupation of Samuel Roberts (a butcher on Chapel Street). In 1862 a further sale sold off more of John Dicken's land, to the west of the earlier sale. On this plan it was shown that what are now 34 & 36 were owned by Mr John Roberts, Grocer having paid £74 17s 6d. on 25th March, 1859

No 34 became known as Trevelyan. In the 1870's it was run as a temperance hotel by Mrs Ann P Davies, from Llandegai, wife of Charles Davies, a plasterer.

20th July 1877



During the late 1870' Mr Ball a surgeon dentist used to operate here on a Thursday. Note that the address given was No 10, Castle Street – numbers were still quite fluid at this time. In 1881 Chales Davies had become unemployed. He later travelled to Workington, Cumberland, where he died in 1883 aged 36. But his wife Ann continued to run the place as a temperance hotel for some years until she was replaced by Hannah Roberts by 1886. Hannah had been married to Elias Jones, a weaver until his death in 1881. In 1882 she had married Ellis Robert, who had also died before 1891.

John Roberts died in 1888 the property passed to his son Edward Roberts.

1881 Trevelyan House

Charles Davies	Head	M	38(1843)	Plasterer (Unemployed)	Llangollen
Ann P. Davies	Wife	M	34(1847)	Refreshment Housekeeper	Llandegai, Caern
Owen W. Parry	B i L	S	11(1870)	Scholar	Llandegai, Caern

29th June 1883

Deaths

June 18th, at Workington, Cumberland, Mr. Charles Davies, late of Trevelyan House, Castle-street, Llangollen

6th August 1886

Bank Holiday

Mrs. Roberts. Trevelyan Temperance House, catered for a picnic party 56 from Liverpool, and another of 50 from Chester.

1891

Hannah Roberts	Head	W	49(1842)	Temperance House Keeper	Llansanffraid, Merion
Jane Jones	Dau	S	22(1869)	gen serv	Llangollen
Edith E Jones	Dau	S	12(1879)	Scholar	Llangollen

12th May 1893



When Hannah Roberts died in September 1900, her daughter Edith Emily Jones took over, until her death in 1911.

Later, in 1922 and 1936 a Mrs. John Edwards was running the Trevelyan apartments and cafe. Between 1911 and 1913 James Percy Clarke, the photographer was in business here on the ground floor, he published many local post cards at the time, as well as some fantasy photos, showing an aerial bombardment on Castle Street, and warships on the Dee. He later moved to Bridge St and later the business later moved back to other side of the street. On 12th March 1927 Robert Edward Roberts sold the property to Richard Edwards, butcher of the Grove. In 1936 this was the Waltho Wireless Depot. On the death of Richard Edwards in 1942 the property passed to his daughter, Eira Wynne Edwards and son Hywel Islwyn Edwards. In the 1954

Eira Wynne Parry (nee Edwards) sold the property to Raymond Phillips, an outfitter (Phillips the Cutter). After Ray Phillips retirement in 1977 Roger's the Butchers bought the property, and moved in from Market Street on 5th April. After Richie Roger's retirement in 1993 it became the location of Craftmans Halt, a picture framing business run by Peter and Linda Kay, which also incorporated No 36, Later Seren Fach, a clothes shop and subsequently Hearts of Oak, a Dolls House and toy shop, before being part of ProAdventure. It is now owned by Bowen Son & Watson, Estate Agents.



1900

7th September 1900

THE LATE MRS. HANNAH ROBERTS. Intelligence of the death of Mrs. Hannah Roberts, proprietress of the Trevelyan Temperance Hotel, Llangollen, which took place at Denbigh, on Sunday, at the age of 61 years, has been received with general feelings of regret. Deceased was taken to Denbigh, three weeks ago, under some- what painful circumstances, in which she had the sympathy of the entire community. The body was brought from the county town to her late home on Tuesday and the funeral took place at the Vron Cemetery on Wednesday, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. The Rev. David Williams officiated at the house and graveside, being assisted by the Rev. W. Foulkes, Many beautiful wreaths were sent from all parts of the surrounding district where the deceased, who was of a remarkably amiable disposition and ever ready to aid the suffering, was widely known and respected

1900
1920's

1910

1909 montage

1910

Visit Prolonged.
EYE SPECIALIST
VISITING LLANGOLLEN
For the next 14 days.
W. J. F. KALVIN,
A.T.S.,
 (Formerly Optician to the Carmarvonshire
 and Anglesey Education Authority),
 AT
TREVELYAN CAFE,
CASTLE STREET

Please take the opportunity to call if
 your eyes are defective. **Your Eyes**
will be Tested Free. No obligation
 whatever.

Should you need spectacles or eye-
 glasses, be assured the charge will be
 moderate.

1911

BIJOU PHOTOGRAPHY
 (MIDGETS).
J. PERCY CLARKE

Has pleasure in announcing that he has just completed arrangements
 for the above style of Photography, and, having had one of the Latest
 Photographic Illuminators installed.

DAYLIGHT IS DISPENSED WITH.

You can therefore be Photographed at any time, Night or Day,
 and so thus obtaining a change from the ordinary line of **CHRISTMAS**
CARDS, these Photos, when mounted in any of the various designs of
 Cards which are stocked, will form a Novel and Charming Christmas
 memento that cannot fail to be appreciated by friends far and near.

Note the Price, 1/6 per Dozen.

CARDS and MOUNTS for mounting same, with appropriate
 Mithras, from 3/6 per Dozen.

There are no trinkets, but are beautiful productions in **ENAMELLED**
PAPER, and are especially adapted for serving in Lockets, Pendants,
 &c.

A Large Selection of other Photographic Novelties suitable for
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS, such as Coloured Miniatures, Gold Photo
 Frames & Locketts, Photo Postcards with Christmas Greetings,
 Medallions, Midget Photo Autograph Albums.

CALL AND SEE SPECIMENS.
 Studio Open Every Day & E. BARNARD, 9 till 8 PM.

J. PERCY CLARKE, 34, Castle St., Llangollen

1911

Important to Amateur Photographers.

In the Vale of Llangollen will be found an
 unsurpassed variety of **Securay**, which
 renders the neighbourhood specially adapt-
 ed to Pictorial Photography. To Amateur's visiting the Locality it is
 therefore important that they should know
 the Best house where they can obtain
 their Photographic Supplies.

J. Percy Clarke

Has always on hand, a large and varied
 stock of all the Standard makes of Photo-
 graphic Materials.

KODAKS & all Supplies.

Developing, Printing, Enlarging.
 By expert hands and finished in the best
 possible manner and at Moderate charges.

Well-Equipped Dark-Rooms

Free and expert advice will gladly be given
 at any time. Demonstrations given on
 the Kodak, Tank, Daylight Developer.
 All kinds of Photographic Work under-
 taken and finished in all the latest processes
 and up-to-date styles.

Note the
 address: **J. Percy Clarke,**
34, Castle St., LLANGOLLEN.



One of
 Percy
 Clarke's
 Photo
 Montages



1920's

1950's



PICTURE FRAMING

Craftsmans Halt,
 34 Castle Street,
 Llangollen.
 (01978) 861961

ART MATERIALS

Craftsman's Halt 1990's





☆

Seren Fach

34, Castle Street
Llangollen
01978 860560

☆

Premier Welsh Clothing

Ladies High Fashion & Knitwear

Jewellery and Accessories

Open Daily





HEART OF OAK

36, Castle Street, Llangollen

01978 860560



Collectors of Dolls Houses and Accessories

will love our shop.

We carry a fantastic range of furniture and all

accessories needed to make your Dolls House unique.

Also Wooden Educational Toys, Collectable Teddies, and

Traditional toys you will love to remember.

New and exiting range of Betty Boop collectables

arriving soon

OPEN DAILY



Bowen Son and Watson 2018

36 Castle Street, Meirion House

R. E. ROBERTS,
MEIRION HOUSE,
LLANGOLLEN,
SELLS BOOTS
AT
Marvellous Low Prices.

MEN'S NAILED BOOTS at 3/11, 4/11,
5/8, 6/3, 7/6, 8/3, 8/6, &c.
MEN'S LIGHT BOOTS at 4/11, 5/6, 5/9,
6/6, &c.
WOMEN'S LIGHT BOOTS at 5/6, 1/-,
1/3, 1/6, 1/9, 4/11, 5/6, 6/-, &c.
WOMEN'S NAILED BOOTS at 3/6, 4/-,
4/11, 5/11, &c.
GIRLS & BOYS' LIGHT & NAILED
from 2/2.

GENT'S BOOTS for SHOOTING & WINTER
WEAR at 15/-, 15/-, 20/- & 25/- (Water-
proof "K" Boot).
THOROUGHLY RELIABLE WORKMEN'S
BOOTS (Nailed) at 19/6, 11/6 & 15/6.
Leppers, Gaiters, Gaiters, Snow Boots, &c.

REPAIRS DONE — **BEST MATERIALS**
— **WORKMANSHIP.**

1901



1920

Do your shoes pinch?

Do you long to slip off your shoes under cover of the table? Then you should certainly allow us to show you "K" Plus Fitting Shoes.

They are made with the heel part a fitting narrower than the forepart (see diagram). That is why they fit the heel so closely, while giving plenty of room for the toes and — the Fashionable Fit.

D. J. DAVIES
MEIRION HOUSE,
LLANGOLLEN.
REPAIRS Neatly Done.
K - SHOE - AGENCY

1930



1930



1935

*For Property in LLANGOLLEN
and the DEE VALLEY*

DAVID OWEN
Estate Agent

MEIRION HOUSE
36 CASTLE STREET
LLANGOLLEN
Telephone : 860117

*We aim to give a personal,
prompt and polite service*

1975



2008



2010

In 1862 the occupant of the land was said to be a John Roberts. This building first appears on the 1873 map, and the first business definitely in this building was John Roberts Grocer and Leather dealer in 1881, but a later advertisement suggested that the business was founded in 1852. John Roberts seems to have started as a grocer, before becoming involved with leather and shoe, and was also a preacher. His son Robert Edward Roberts took over from him by 1891 and was still here in 1922, and died in 1931. After 1933 David John Davies, arrived from Machynlleth. He was here until his death in 1948. The boot shop continued under the management of Mr Preece Smith, until his death in 1969. The shop closed in 1974, It was used temporarily as a Charity shop for the Inner Wheel and then it was used by David Owen, Estate Agents and later Kent Jones, also Estate agents. In the 1990's it was part of Craftman's Halt in number 34, a picture framing and painting business. It later became Hearts of Oak, a Dolls House shop which had moved from Oak St, before moving to number 34. It was Pro-Adventure, a shop for outdoor activities requirements, until that moved across the road, and is now Lily Rose Interiors.

1939

David John Davies 27th Feb 1902 M Boot shop, repairer

Ceinwen Davies 12th November 1904 M (nee Roberts) m Sept 1926 Machynlleth

Delyth W Davies 13th August 1933 S at school b Machynlleth

D J Davies d 13th June 1948 buried St John's (Glarafon) 17th June 1948

May 1969 Mr Preece Smith died, and on 30th June 1974 the business closed. It was used temporarily as a charity shop

20th April 1976

MEIRION HOUSE. We are grateful to Llangollen-born Mr. W.H. Jones of Rhyl for his contributions to the Broadsheet. This week he writes, musing on the closure of 'Dicks' "Another shop across the road was 'Meirion House', Mr Roberts the owner. I remember this gentleman displaying the skins of various animals - lions, tigers & many other exhibits which he brought home from different parts of the world, at an exhibition at the Hand Hotel. As a youngster I was thrilled to bits. Do any Broadsheet readers remember this event? Meirion House, after being a shoe shop for many years, is now, of course, the Sales Office of Mr. David Owen, our Estate Agent. The premises are particularly well-known to me as I spent most of my life living next door, at Wesley House, now sadly demolished. During the War, our family sheltered from bombing raids in the spacious cellars of Meirion House. Ed.

19th July 1978

PICTURES IN THE FIREGLOW

This used to be the title of a delightful little series on BBC Television many years ago. The series featured that famous old Welshmen, the late Bransby Williams (incidentally related to Messrs. Bill & Henry Thomas of Llangollen) reminiscing while staring into the glow of a coal fire. Hence this little feature which we hope will prompt other readers to contribute similar articles, bringing back happy memories of people and places which are dear to Llangollen.

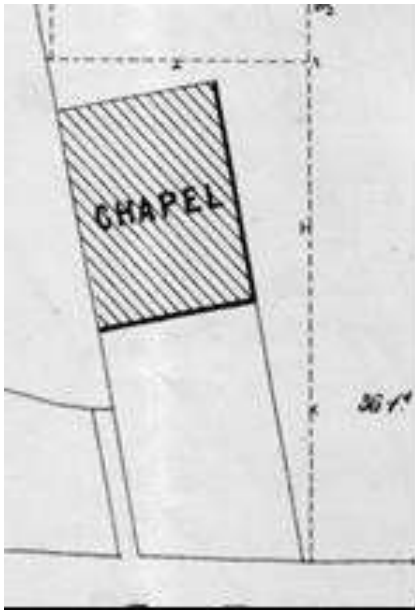
Just after the last War, if you stood at the top of Castle Street at dusk and looked down towards the Bridge you would notice very little structural difference apart from the new bank now next to Seion. However, on closer daylight inspection, the Town would prove almost unbelievable to recent arrivals. The 'robots' (traffic lights) were still there, but there was very little traffic to be seen and children happily played on the pavements with their bicycles and pedal cars. Seion chapel still had its large upstairs schoolroom, where the children from the Infants & 'Modern' schools came daily in long crocodiles for their mid-day meals, cooked by Mrs. Ellis & her staff. Meals were also cooked for the Junior School & the smaller schools in the outlying districts - packed in large aluminium containers and despatched via BMMS taxies. The red-bricked chapel house - Wesley House - was attached to the schoolroom & the lecture room below. Next door, Mr.& Mrs. Davies kept their shoeshop, Meirion House & down the passage between the two, one could visit one of the two shoe repairers who worked from a large outbuilding at the back. Downstairs was Mr.Trevor Roberts & upstairs Mr. Lewis. Next was 'Phillips the Cutters' - Mr. Alex Phillips'. tailors shop, where Mr. Phillips'couldbe seen sitting cross-legged on the table sewing away - they made their own excellent suits in those days. The next shop was Chubbs - for sweets & tobacco. When Mr.Chubb died & his dtaughter Peggy went to Australia, Mr. Doug Phillips, son of Mr.Alex Phillips took it over and had a private lending library. The town library was not well served with new books in those days & children saved their pennies in order to hire the latest Enid Blyton adventure from Mr.Phillips. Set slightly further back from the road, came one of the great Aladdin's Caves of the town - Gracies emporium a large open plan, well ordered shop, managed by Mr. E. Hannaby, where one could buy anything from a reel of cotton to a bicycle At the end of the store was an impressive double staircase leading to a veranda-like showroom which extended right

around the shop. This was the building which was to entice Mr. Michael Forte & his local-born wife to Llangollen. On the corner with Market Street was Boots. Managed by Mr. Edgar Williams, the shop reflected the glory of the town as a Market centre, with its large stocks of various dips & remedies for cattle & sheep on the left as you walked in, together with the many strange, shiny instruments for attending the animals, the uses of which one could only imagine! Sadly, with the demise of the Smithfield Market - Boots moved on. Crossing the road, you came to the Star Supply Stores, one of the town's then ample supply of grocery shops. The Bull Inn was next –the meeting place for farmers & tourists. Mrs. Winnie Price's meals in the large upstairs dining room were legendary and coach loads of trippers made what were virtually annual pilgrimages to the Bull. The Round Table & the Observer Corps also met here. On the other side of the Bull Inn Stables was the deceptively small frontage of Mr.Caesar Hughes shop, which stretched way back to give a large sales area of fine jewellery. The Castle Street Baptist Church broke up the frontage of the street with its railings & small front garden. On reaching the Town Hall, we get to Mrs. Fred Waltho's shop.

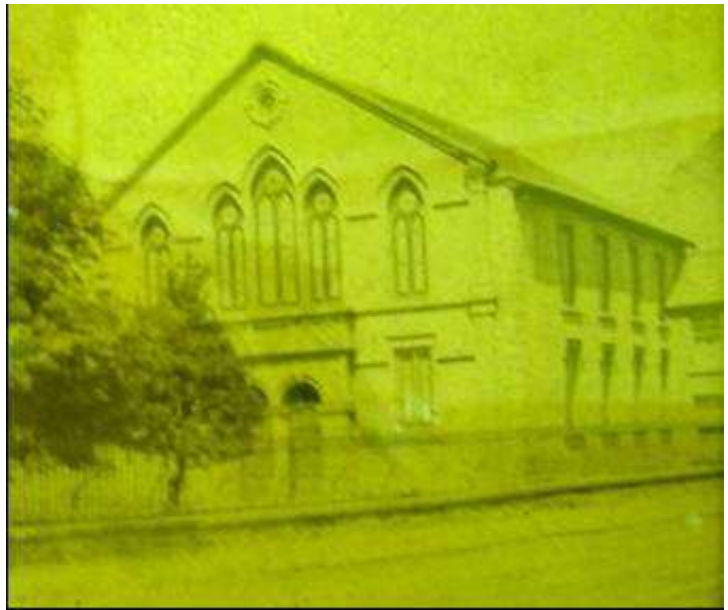
On reaching the Town Hall, we get to Mrs.Fred Waltho's shop, which sold confectionery and I seem to remember it as dark & cluttered. (Mr.Waltho had a Radio shop at the top of Castle St. on the A5). The other shop 'under the Town Hall' was John Browns a friendly grocery shop with a multitude of delicious smells which made the inevitable queuing a real pleasure ('Prepacking' has nearly killed off the aromatic romance of the small store). Crossing Parade Street we reach Mr.Gabriel's Fresh Fish shop with its forbidding cold room on the right making a strange contrast with Mr.Gabriel's ever present smile and merry quip. Crossing the Square we came to one of the largest & most impressive buildings in the street - Cleators. Mr.& Mrs. Smith ran this Newsagents/ Fancy goods store, which was one of the few in the town at that time which would have appealed to the modern tourist.

There we came to buy foreign stamps, bottles of Corona pop with their porcelain stoppers held on with metal strips going through the glass - and football papers – battling through the queue which met here on a Sat. night about 7 o'clock. Here also you could stare at the huge stuffed birds in glass cases and buy your fishing tackle from the large and varied stocks. The last shop before the bridge was the Yale Corner. A sweet shop cum cafe on the corner of Dee Lane. Here you could use your coupons on creamy whirls and pear drops or sit at one of the glass topped tables to drink a bottle of stone ginger beer, which here tasted like no other.

38 Castle Street



1858 plan

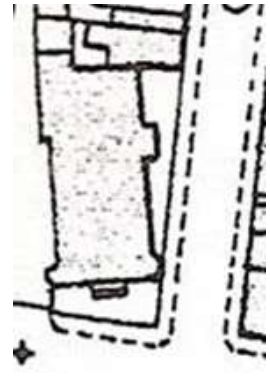


1840 chapel

In 1840 a portion of land on the corner of Cae Bach was purchased from George Dickin of Ty'n Dwr for £62, and the original Seion Chapel was built and opened between 4th and 6th April 1840. In 1860 more land was purchased to enlarge the chapel, two pieces one from Morris Roberts and the other from John Dickin, one of these was in front and other on the Castle Street side was built. The caretakers house was known as Wesley Cottage, Between August 4th August 1904, and 13th August 1905 the present chapel was built.



1874 map



1912 map

1904 Chapel

The new building had a school room and caretaker's house, which was now known as Wesley House.

28th March 1890 Mrs Rowlands 38 Castle Street attended a funeral at Fron Cemetery. In September 1891 an advertisement for a servant in London appeared in the paper, applicants were told to go 38 Castle St.

An occupant of Wesley Cottage was a Mr John Hughes in July 1893

18th June 1897

GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes, Wesley Cottage, Llangollen, were married at Rhosymedre Church, on June 19th, 1847.

29th October 1897

L LANGOLLEN, Berwyn Street. To Let, a compact 16-qr. MALTHOUSE, in full working order—Stanley's patent tiles Kiln. Possession and inspection Nov. 1st next. JOHN MORGAN, 38, Castle Street, Llangollen. (5659)

Miss PARRY,
MILLINER,
(Formerly at Messrs. Morris & Hughes,)
HAS pleasure in informing the general public that she has COMMENCED BUSINESS at
WESLEY COTTAGE,
38, CASTLE STREET, LLANGOLLEN,
And hopes to be favoured with a share of their patronage. (6309)

21st October 1898

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
MISS PARRY,
MILLINER,
BECS to inform the Public that she has REMOVED from 38, Castle Street, to
CASTLE VIEW,
MARKET STREET,
And begs to solicit a continuance of their favours, which shall have her prompt attention.
CASTLE VIEW,
LLANGOLLEN. (6843)

17th March 1899

John and Susanna probably moved around this time. John was a woollen weaver at Mile End Mill, who had previously lives on the Geraint, whilst his wife Susannah ran Wesley House as a lodging house.

1901 Census

John Jones Head M 35(1866) Woollen Weaver
Susanah Jones Wife M 31(1870)

Llangollen
Llanwddyn, Mont

14th August 1903

DEATHS.

August 9th, at Wesley Cottage John Jones, son of Mr R. Jones Geraint, aged 37 years. Buried 12th August, Fron Cemetery



John died in 1903, but his wife remained until 1907, when Edward Edwards and his family moved in.

Wesley House circa 1906

1911 Census Wesley House Castle St Llangollen

Edward Edwards	Head	M	60(1851)	Weaver
Harriett Edwards	Wife	M	59(1852)	42 7 5 2
William Edwards	Son	S	34(1877)	Watchmaker

Glyn Ceiriog
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant
Glyn Ceiriog

11th December 1914

LATE MR. EDWARD EDWARDS.

It is with extreme regret that we have, this week, to announce the death of Mr. Edward Edwards Wesley House, Llangollen, which sad event took place, somewhat unexpectedly, on Tuesday last. The deceased who, for some months past had been in failing health was cheerful and bright to the end, and only a few days prior to his death was out walking with Mrs. Edwards. He was a native of Glynceiriog, coming to Llangollen over forty years ago, being, in his day, one of the most highly esteemed employees at the Mile End Mills. It is six or seven years ago since he came to reside at Wesley House with his wife, a native of Llanrhaiadr, near Oswestry, to enjoy a period of well-earned repose that is closed with death. The deceased gentleman was a faithful member of the Welsh Wesleyan Church, at Llangollen, and, here his musical abilities, as leader of the singing, were greatly appreciated. He was a Sunday School teacher of many years standing and very greatly esteemed for the clear and reasoned views that he was ever prepared to advance regarding biblical matters and his loss will be very severely felt by the denomination of which he was so valued a member. He leaves a widow and five children to mourn his loss; his children being Mr. William Edwards, Wesley House; Mrs. Maggie Williams, Glyndyfrdwy Mrs. Priscilla Jones, Llangollen Mrs. George Walker, Hull and Mrs. G Ellis, Bala, to whom sincere sympathy is extended. The deceased took a close and intelligent interest in passing events, was of a singularly bright and cheerful disposition making friends wherever he went; and passes from amongst us with the esteem of the entire community. The funeral takes place to-day (Friday).

10th January 1919

OBITUARY. The deaths of Mrs. Harriet Edwards took place at Ty'nllwyn, Bache, on December 31, at the age of 69. Deceased was the widow of Mr. Edward Edwards, weaver, Mile End Mill, and was a faithful member of Zion I Welsh Wesleyan Chapel, and together with her late husband had resided at Wesley House, acting as caretakers for the chapel, for many years. The funeral took place on Saturday at the Vron Cemetery, the Rev. Rhys Jones officiating at the house and graveside. Deceased leaves a son, three daughters and a large number of relatives to mourn her loss.



The Edwards family had moved out by 1919, and the next family that we know of was John Jones Davis and his family, who were here by 1933. John was a gardener, and his wife Mary was running a refreshment rooms in 1936.

1935

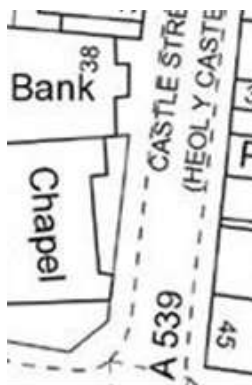
Mary died in 1945, and John in 1947, their youngest daughter, Winifred, who had married William Henry (Bill) Daniels, who was for many years conductor of

the Llangollen Town Band, of which his two sons, William Michael and Charles were also prominent members. Bill died in September 1971



St John's Cemetery

2010



2001

In 2017 Nat West closed down, and the building was converted into a shop on the ground floor, with a flat above. Trespass, an outdoor clothing & equipment shop opened in August 2018.

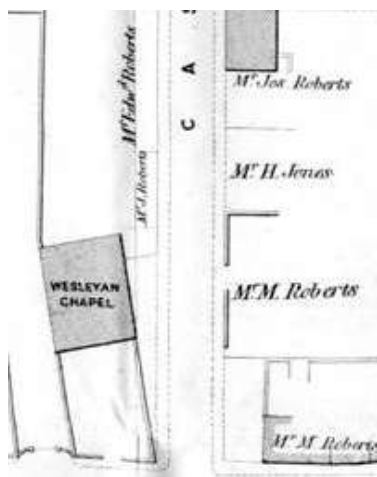
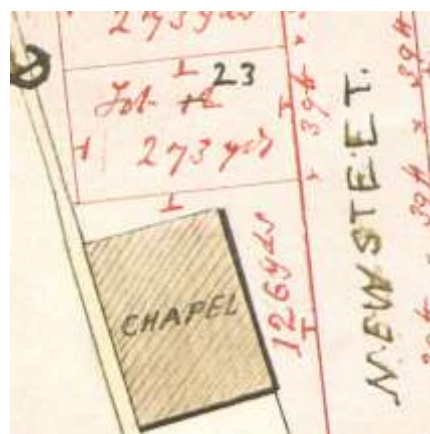


36 Castle Street, Meirion House



Prior to 1860 most of the land to the west of Chapel Street was grazing land for local butchers, as was shown in the picture (left) painted in 1809. On the 23rd December 1858 an auction was held in the Hand Hotel, when land, belonging to John Dicken was sold off. The land was between the A5 with the Llangollen Bridge, and hence to the impending Llangollen Railway. The plots were

either side of a new road of what was to be called Castle Street. Plot 23 was described as a building site with a frontage of 39 feet along New Street containing 273 sq yds., in the occupation of Samuel Roberts (a butcher on Chapel Street).



1858 sale map

A notice in the Shrewsbury Chronicle for 22nd June 1860 reported that the younger son of John Roberts died at Meirion House Castle-street.

In 1862 a further sale sold off more of John Dicken's land, to the west of the earlier sale. On this plan it was shown that what are now 34 & 36 were owned by Mr John Roberts, Grocer having paid £74 17s 6d. on 25th March 1859

1862 Sale Map

1861 census Castle Street

John Roberts	Head	M 38(1823)	Leather Dealer	Llangollen
Sarah Roberts	Wife	M 38(1823)		Llandderfel
Robert Edwd Roberts	Son	S 4(1857)		Llangollen
Mary Thomas	Serv	S 15(1846)	House Servant	Llangollen

JOHN ROBERTS,
SHOE, GROCER AND PROVISION
WAREHOUSE,
MEIRION HOUSE,
LLANGOLLEN,

BEGS respectfully to inform his friends and the public, that he has just received a New Stock of first-class LADIES and GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS, all leather (there is nothing like leather) and not that unhealthy Gutta Percha.

Prices of LADIES' BOOTS from 4s. 6d. to 10s. per pair. GENTLEMEN'S from 7s. 6d. to 15s.

Repairs neatly and expeditiously executed on the premises.

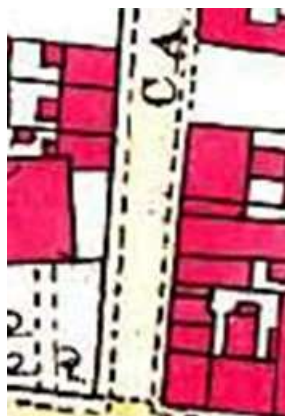
MEIRION HOUSE,
TOP OF CASTLE STREET

10th June 1870

In 1851 John Roberts had been a boot & shoe maker in Bridge St, he later was a leather dealer but also operated as a grocer, as can be seen in an advertisement from 1870. He was also acting as a preacher, as reported in the 1871 census. He was Welsh Calvinistic Methodist. An advertisement in 1902 implied that the business had been established in 1852,

1871 Census Castle Street

John Roberts	Head	M	45(1826)	Preacher & Grocer	Llangollen
Sarah Roberts	Wife	M	45(1826)		Llangwm
Robert E Roberts	Son	S	14(1857)	Scholar	Llangollen
Elizth Robert Roberts	Serv	S	14(1857)	Domestic Servant	Montgomery
Edd Walter Williams	Board	S	18(1853)	Bank Apprentice	Flintshire



On the 1873 map Meirion House is shown between Wesley Cottage and Trevelyan House

In 1880 John Robert's wife, Sarah, died. She was buried in her home town of Llandderfel. John's son Robert Edward was now also a grocer in the business.

27th August 1880

Aug. 25th, aged 53, much respected, Mrs. Sarah Roberts, the wife of Mr. John Roberts, Meirion House. Castle-street, Llangollen. The funeral cortege will leave the house at 9 o'clock, on Saturday morning, for Llandderfel.

1881 Census Merion House

John Roberts	Head	W	55(1826)	Grocer & Leather Dealer	Llangollen
Rob. E. Roberts	Son	S	24(1857)	Grocer	Llangollen

On 25th January 1883 John died and was buried at Pen y Bryn on 30th, his son Robert Edward took over the business. On 22nd April 1890 Robert Edward Roberts married Catherine Edwards, daughter of John Edwards, butcher 19 Castle Street. They had four children before Catherine's death in 1896, at the age of 41. Unfortunately three of them had died by the end of 1897 – only Winifred Sybil survived.

1891 Census

Robert E Roberts	Head	M	34(1857)	bootmaker, grocer, leather dealer	Llangollen
Catherine Roberts	Wife	M	36(1855)		Glyndyfrdwy
Elizabeth Williams	Serv	S	17(1874)	gen ser dom	Llandysilio

R. E. ROBERTS,
MEIRION HOUSE,
LLANGOLLEN,
Has a large Stock of
BOOTS
For the coming season, to suit all classes, which
is offered for Sale
AT THE LOWEST PRICES.
Sole Agent in this District for the Celebrated
'K' BOOTS & SHOES,
of which he holds the Largest Stock in North
Wales.
Goloshes, Gaiters,
Snow Boots, Leggings,
Spats, Dress Shoes.
REPAIRS NEATLY AND PROMPTLY
EXECUTED.

4th May 1900

ESTABLISHED 1852.
R. E. ROBERTS
FAMILY BOOT &
SHOE DEALER.
The "K" Boot Agency.
Portland, Cinderella,
Hobbs,
and other Well-known
Makes.
Tennis, Cricket & Golf Boots and
Shoes. Leggings, Goloshes, etc.
REPAIRS
Promptly Executed by
Experienced Workmen
with BEST MATERIALS.
NOTE ADDRESS:
Meirion House, Llangollen

1901 Meirion House, Castle Street Census

Robert E Roberts	Head	W	42(1859)	Bootmaker	Llangollen
Winifred S Roberts	Dau	S	8(1893)		Llangollen
John R Roberts	Serv	S	21(1880)	Bootmaker	Llandeblog
Naomi Williams	Serv	S	23(1878)	Gen Serv Domestic	Llangollen

1911 Meirion House Llangollen

Robert Edward Roberts	Head	W	51(1860)	Bootmaker	Llangollen
Winifred Sibyl Roberts	Dau	S	18(1893)	Assisting Shop & House	Llangollen
John Robert Roberts	Serv	S	31(1880)	Shop Assistant	Penygroes, Carn
Naomi Williams	Serv	S	32(1879)	Housekeeper	Llangollen



1920's



1930's



1935

MEMORANDUM (endorsed on above abstracted deed) By an Conveyance dated the 19th day of July 1926 made between Robert Edward Roberts of Meirion House Llangollen in the County of Denbigh of the one part and John Davies of No. 5 Tanybryn Street Abergwynolwyn in the County of Merioneth of the other part a portion of the land therein within described with the dwellinghouse and shop known as Meirion House aforesaid with the outbuildings erected thereon and belonging thereto was for the consideration therein mentioned conveyed to the said John Davies in fee simple

From Deeds

On 19th July 1926 David John Davies of 5 Tanybryn Street, Abergwynolwyn, Merioneth bought the property from Robert Edward Roberts, and he moved to Bala later to Bodhefin, Market Street, where he died 26th July 1931. (31st & 7th Aug)

16th December 1938

A Shopping out on Your Behalf.

MEIRION HOUSE.

“Say it with slippers,” is the slogan of D.J. Davies, Meirion House – the boot and shoe shop with the “K” shoe agency. For the ladies, there is a special show of camel hair, velvet and leather slippers, and for the men, a wide selection. You should call and inspect the grand range

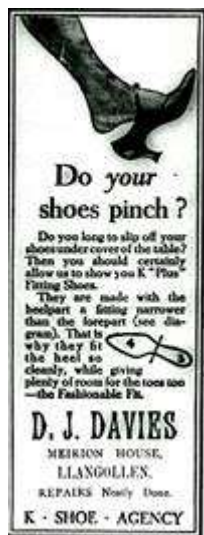
for all members of the family, and don't forget no gift is more welcome than a pair of cosy slippers.

Meirion House Card	43	1	Davies David J	M	27 Feb 02	M	Shop Repairer Meirion House
		2	Davies Ceinwen	A	12 Nov 04	M	Wife Domestic Service
	28 11 40	3	Davies Delyth W	S	13 Aug 33	S	At School
	Street CA	4	Davies David J	F	14 Jun 48	S	Wife Domestic Service

This record is officially closed.

1939 Register

David John Davies 27th Feb 1902 M Boot shop, repairer
 Ceinwen Davies 12th November 1904 M (nee Roberts) m Sept 1926 Machynlleth
 Delyth W Davies 13th August 1933 S at school b Machynlleth
 D J Davies d 13th June 1948 buried St John's (Glanrafon) 17th June 1948



1930's



Grave stone

Following the death of David John Davies the boot shop continued under the management of Mr Preece Smith, until his death in 25th May 1968, and on 30th June 1974 the business closed.

20th April 1976

MEIRION HOUSE. We are grateful to Llangollen-born Mr. W.H. Jones of Rhyl for his contributions to the Broadsheet. This week he writes, musing on the closure of 'Dicks' "Another shop across the road was 'Meirion House', Mr Roberts the owner. I remember this gentleman displaying the skins of various animals - lions, tigers & many other exhibits which he brought home from different parts of the world, at an exhibition at the Hand Hotel. As a youngster I was thrilled to bits. Do any Broadsheet readers remember this event? Meirion House, after being a shoe shop for many years, is now, of course, the Sales Office of Mr. David Owen, our Estate Agent. The premises are particularly well-known to me as I spent most of my life living next door, at Wesley House, now sadly demolished. During the War, our family sheltered from bombing raids in the spacious cellars of Meirion House. Ed.

19th July 1978

PICTURES IN THE FIREGLOW

This used to be the title of a delightful little series on BBC Television many years ago. The series featured that famous old Welshmen, the late Bransby Williams (incidentally related to Messrs. Bill & Henry Thomas of Llangollen) reminiscing while staring into the glow of a coal fire. Hence this little feature which we hope will prompt other readers to contribute similar articles, bringing back happy memories of people and places which are dear to Llangollen.

Just after the last War, if you stood at the top of Castle Street at dusk and looked down towards the Bridge you would notice very little structural difference apart from the new bank now next to Seion. However, on closer daylight inspection, the Town would prove almost unbelievable to recent arrivals. The 'robots' (traffic lights) were still there, but there was very little traffic to be seen and children happily played on the pavements with their bicycles and pedal cars. Seion chapel still had its large upstairs schoolroom, where the children from the Infants & 'Modern' schools came daily in long crocodiles for their mid-day meals, cooked by Mrs. Ellis & her staff. Meals were also cooked for the Junior School & the smaller schools in the outlying districts - packed in large aluminium containers and despatched via BMMS taxies. The red-bricked chapel house - Wesley House - was attached to the schoolroom & the lecture room below. Next door, Mr. & Mrs. Davies kept their shoeshop, Meirion House & down the passage between the two, one could visit one of the two shoe repairers who worked from a large outbuilding at the back. Downstairs was Mr. Trevor Roberts & upstairs Mr. Lewis. Next was 'Phillips the Cutters' - Mr. Alex Phillips' tailors shop, where Mr. Phillips' could be seen sitting cross-legged on the table sewing away - they made their own excellent suits in those days.

*For Property in LLANGOLLEN
and the DEE VALLEY*

DAVID OWEN
Estate Agent

**MEIRION HOUSE
36 CASTLE STREET
LLANGOLLEN
Telephone : 860117**

*We aim to give a personal,
prompt and polite service.*

Following the closure it was used temporarily as a Charity shop for the Inner Wheel and then it was used by David Owen, Estate Agents and later Kent Jones, also Estate agents. In the 1990's it was part of Craftman's Halt in number 34, a picture framing and painting business. It later became Hearts of Oak, a Dolls House shop which had moved from Oak St, before moving to number 34. It was Pro-Adventure, a shop for outdoor activities requirements, until that moved across the road, and is now Lily Rose Interiors.

Hearts of Oak





Pro- Adventure



Lilly Rose Interiors



Tomb Stone of Robert Edward Roberts family in Fron Cemetery

31st July 1931

Y DIWEDDAR MR R E ROBERTS

Nos Fawrth, yn ei breswylfod, Bodhefin, Westbourne Terrace, Llangollen, bu farw Mr R E Roberts (gynt o Meirion House) yn 75 mlwydd oed. Cymer ei gladdedigaeth le yfory (Sawn), ym Mynwent y Fron, Llangollen. Cychwynir oddiwrth y ty am 2 o'r gloch, a byd gwasanaeth yng Nghapel Rehoboth am 2-15 o'r gloch.

7th August 1931

THE LATE MR. R. E. ROBERTS.

As briefly announced in our last week's issue, by the death of Mr R E Roberts, at his residence, Bod Hefin, Westbourne Terrace, Llangollen, on Tuesday evening, the town has been deprived of one of its oldest residents. Deceased, who was 75 years of age, had, for over half a century, conducted an extensive boot and shoe business at Meirion House which he relinquished some few years ago. Mr Roberts enjoyed the reputation of being a Welsh scholar, and was considered one of the best authorities on Welsh subjects. As a bard he was known by the title of "Geraint". He was the oldest member of Rehoboth Church, having been elected a deacon 34 years ago, and had been secretary of the church for over 30 years. He had held several other offices such as treasurer and also chairman of the East Denbighshire Presbytery, of which he had been a very faithful and valuable member, and had been chairman of the Llangollen District C M Sunday Schools. Deceased had resided in the town of Llangollen the whole of his life time, but had never taken any path in public affairs, &c he would have been a very valuable member. He devoted all his life to religious matters, and he always aimed at the uplifting of his fellow-people. About five years ago he gave up his business and went to reside near Bala, but returned to his native town a short time ago. The funeral took place on Saturday, at the Fron Cemetery, Llangollen, and was largely attended. Several of his friends from Merionethshire attended to pay their last tribute of respect. Among the general public were Messrs. W G Dodd, Penybryn; E R Parry, S C Richards, J O Griffiths, Rev D M Mason, Messrs Ellis Edwards, J E Jones (Bala), Richard Edwards, Edward Edwards, E W Jones, W Wilson Williams, E H Lloyd, Rice Jones, Edwin Hughes, E Roger Roberts, Acrefair, R Morris Vron, R H Jones, David Roberts, Eirianallt; Members of the East Denbighshire Presbytery, &c. The service at the house was conducted by the Rev H O Morris, B A and Rev J Elias Hughes, B A ,B D. At Rehoboth Chapel a short service was held, presided over by Rev J E Hughes, The Rev T E Davies, Penycae, and Rev W Jones, Parc, Bala, took the devotional part. Addresses were delivered by Mr Ellis Edwards (who had been closely associated with the deceased for the last 50 years at Rehoboth Chapel), Rev G S Griffiths, and Rev W Morris Jones, M A, Llansantffraid, Mont. The chairman acknowledged receipt of letters regretting inability to be present from the Revs J H Williams, Rhyl; E J Williams, Acrefair; Mostyn Owen, Johnstown; R Ernest Jones, Ruthin; and Messrs Wm Parry, Acrefair; Jonathan Williams, Pontcysyllte; W Edwards Rhos. As the congregation left the chapel the "Dead March" was played on the organ by Miss Myfanwy Roberts, Tan'rallt Terrace. The service at the cemetery was conducted by the Rev Samuel Owen, BA, and the Rev T R Jones (Clwydydd), Bala. The chief mourners were Mrs Jones and Dr Trevor Jones (daughter and son-in-law) and their son: Mr Richard Edwards, Grove, and Mrs E Jones, Blodwell (brother and sister-in-law) to whom the greatest sympathy is extended. A large number of beautiful wreaths were sent by sorrowing friends.

Outline Descendant Report for Robert Edward Roberts

..... 1 Robert Edward Roberts b: 1859 in Llangollen, Denbighshire, Wales, d: 26 Jul 1931 in Llangollen, Burial: 01 Aug 1931 in Llangollen

..... + Catherine Edwards b: 1855 in Corwen, m: 22 Apr 1890 in Glyndyfrdwy, d: 25 Jul 1896 in Llangollen

..... 2 John Goronwy Roberts b: 22 Apr 1891 in Llangollen, Christening: 10 Jun 1891 in Llangollen, d: 16 Sep 1894 in Llangollen.

..... 2 Winifred Sybil Roberts b: 02 Dec 1892 in Llangollen, Christening: 01 Feb 1893 in Llangollen,

..... + Thomas T James b: 22 Dec 1886, m: Sep 1934

..... 2 Edward Hywel Roberts b: 08 Aug 1894 in Llangollen, Christening: 15 Oct 1894 in Llangollen, d: 31 Dec 1897 in Llangollen,

..... 2 Charles Edward Roberts b: Jun 1896 in Llangollen,, d: 13 Feb 1897 in Llangollen, Burial: 16 Feb 1897 in Llangollen,

World War One Casualties



David Downey

David Sutherland Downie was born JQ 1895 in Ashton son of George Downie, a coal miner, and Ann Jane (nee Jones) but by 1901 was living with his uncle David Owen Jones, a tailor, at 47 Regent Street. He worked as a shoemaker for R.E. Roberts in Meirion House, Castle Street, before January 1916, when he joined the Denbighshire Yeomanry, which was associated with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He was invalided back from France, and discharged, and spent some years working in Liverpool. At the beginning of May 1918 he caught a severe cold which developed into pneumonia, and died on 21st May at the Mill-road Hospital, West Derby, Liverpool. The body was transported to Llangollen, and he was buried in the Jones family grave MMM8, St John's Cemetery.



John Robert Roberts

John Robert Roberts was born in Caernarvon 1880, son of Robert Roberts, a police constable at Llanbeblig and Laura Roberts. By 1901 John Roberts was working as a bootmaker for Robert E Roberts in Meirion House, Castle Street, Llangollen, where he was still employed in 1911. He became a private, 026568, in 58th Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps. He died 20th July 1918 in Salonika, and was buried in grave 1458, Salonika (Lembet Rd.) Military Cemetery, Greece.

Seion Chapel



Original Chapel circa 1860



Architect drawing of present chapel 1903



1920



Seion today

In 1840 a portion of land on the corner of Cae Bach was purchased from George Dickin of Ty'n Dwr for £62. The present Chapel occupies some of the same land. The chapel was opened between 4th and 6th April 1840. It is thought that Morris Roberts of Mill Street, his brother John and his brother in law Thomas Jones were the builders of the new chapel. The slate used was from the Wynne Slate quarry in Glyn Ceiriog.

In 1860 more land was purchased to enlarge the chapel, two pieces one from Morris Roberts and the other from John Dickin, one of these was in front and other on the Castle Street side.

The foundation stone of the present structure was laid on Thursday August 4th August 1904, it was built in Ruabon Red Brick with stone dressing in the Gothic revival style and opened 13th August 1905. It was designed by W.J. Morley and Son of Bradford, Seion has a traditional chapel interior, with a three sided gallery. The contractors were Edward Evans & Sons, Llangollen, and the total cost including architects fees of near to £4,000.

Since the 1980's most of the Welsh Non-conformist congregations have combined to use Seion, and the other chapels have been closed.