

### 37 High Street

With No 35, a grade II listed building, and was one *Details, CADW/RCAHM* property until the 1840s. Originally a Seys property

1773	Mr. Benjamin Thomas (12 windows) 3/9d	<i>Window and land tax</i>
1784	Owned by Robert Jones, occ. by Benjamin Thomas	<i>LTA 5/-</i>
1800	Owner Robert Jones, occ. by Miss Diana Thomas	<i>LTA 5/-</i>
1815	Owned by Dr. Bevan, occ. by Thomas Thomas and others	<i>LTA 5/-</i>
1830	Owned by John Kayes, occ. by Mr Harrison and William Davies (nephew of John Kayes - see additional notes) <i>First reference to division of property</i>	<i>LTA 3/- &amp; 3/-</i>
1843	Owner William Davies, occ. by Edward Ballard - house and garden	<i>Tithe map records</i>
1851	Mary Morgan, house servant aged 22	<i>Census #103</i>
1861	Edward Ballard died aged 79	<i>Parish records</i>
1861	David Spencer, head, aged 22, linen and woollen draper born Glamorgan + brother (draper's apprentice) + 3 apprentices (All possibly part of adjoining drapery business of Benjamin Williams in No 39)	<i>Census #73</i>
1866	'A dwelling house, shop and garden in the occupation of John Kayes Davies'	<i>Information from the deeds of No 39</i>
1871	David O. Williams, nephew (of SD Evans, draper at No 39), linen and woollen draper born Cardigan + nephew (draper's assistant) + 2 draper's assistants + 2 milliners	<i>Census # 82</i>
1881	Appears same schedule as for No 39 - Samuel D. Evans, 48, general draper and outfitter + wife + 3 sons + niece + draper's salesman and saleswoman + milliner's assistant + cook and 2 housemaids (See additional notes on S.D. Evans and family)	<i>Census # 245</i>

### 37 High Street

1887 A dwelling house, shop and garden belonging to Mrs. Watson and in occupation of Samuel D. Evans the elder, being so occupied in connection with the Drapery business carried on by him on the premises hereby conveyed (i.e. no 39) and between which two business premises there exist internal communications. *Information from deeds of no. 39*

1891 Samuel D. Evans, widower, draper aged 58 + 3 sons + assistants *As for No 39 - Census # 242*

1892, 17<sup>th</sup> December Indenture - John Bevan to the Mayor etc. of Cowbridge : all that land in the borough of Cowbridge and parish of Llanblethian 140 yds long, 10-15 feet wide, part of a piece now in the occupation of Samuel David Evans, numbered 412 on OS map, bounded on the north by land owned by John Bevan and occupied by S D Evans (386 OS) and on south and south west by land of the Corporation and by lands, messuages and premises occupied by George Pickard, Elizabeth Ann Williams (or her undertenant John Phillips), Decima Prichard (no 41), SD Evans, Margaret Mary and ME Davies (no 35), Thos. John Parsons (no 33), Mary Williams (no 31), Morgan Thomas (no 29), Wm Mordecai (no 27), Catherine Howells (no 25) and Ebenezer Wm Miles (no 23).

1895 Samuel David Evans and son, drapers and outfitters - Vale of Glamorgan Emporium *Kelly's directory*

1901 Arthur S Evans, master draper & outfitter, 36, b Cowbridge, with wife Catherine, 33, b Pentre, Rhondda, and 2 daughters and 2 sons, plus one retired servant (b Pembs), and 4 domestic servants (2 b Cards), and 4 drapery assistants. *Census 179*

1906 Arthur S. Evans, draper and outfitter *Kelly*

1910 AS Evans occ; Mrs Watson owned; shop

AS Evans occ; SD Evans owned; house & garden

AS Evans owned & occupied; house

*D/D PRO/VAL/1/46*

1914-23 Frederick Evans, draper (no. 37) *Kelly*

*(Notes in parish magazine of 1970s – Mrs SD Evans, drapery emporium with adjoining separate shoe shop – now Walters & Bay Tree)*

1926-35 Barry and District Industrial Cooperative Society Ltd, grocery. *Kelly's & Wales trade directory*

1939 - 1960 Mary and Evan Carter (in flat above) *Electoral register*

1973 The Bay Tree florists *Cowbridge Week programme*

2002 “ “

## Notes on John Kayes

Said to be a currier, i.e. leather trade.

12/6/1828 - from diary of Edward Ballard - "Kayes thrown out of his carriage against the post of the turnpike gate and his servant, William Morgan, both very much bruised. Kayes arm broken".

David Jones of Wallington's diary 1889 - "Tun bellied Kayes of Iolo Morgannwg's song of the Cowbridge toppers (drinkers)....". Said he walked with 2 sticks. A "huge bundle of a man". Kayes and son were curriers (i.e. Joseph and John, as John does not appear to have had children). "Above Llwynhelig, and attached to the farm, are some buildings known as 'Trevychan'. In the middle of the yard stands an enormous elm tree - exceedingly old, and completely hollow, yet otherwise showing no signs of decay, its branches in summer being covered with luxuriant foliage. Seventy years ago, eleven of the largest men in Cowbridge, "Tun-bellied Kayes" being one of them, went up there and got inside of it all at one turn. I have some recollection of memory that a certain quantity of beer was handed to them as they stood inside, a wager depending not only upon them getting comfortably inside, but upon their drinking so much beer while there, and then getting out again - all of which was accomplished."

18/1/1768 parish records show baptism of John, son of Joseph and Mary Kayes.

1800 land tax records show John Kayes and William Williams occupying 44 High St.

3/4/1836 parish records (from notes of David Jones of Wallington) - death of John Kayes.

1889 - currier business carried on by Mr. Edward Davies, son of William Davies and grand-nephew of John Kayes *David Jones of Wallington.*

## Notes on Samuel David Evans and family

SD Evans the elder was born in Cardigan, as was his wife Susanna. They appear to have come to Cowbridge around 1856, as 1861 census returns show he was then establishing his drapery business, employing 8 men, at 50 High St., on the corner with Church St., and the Bridgend Chronicle in 1857 reports his "new tailoring establishment, Cloth Hall, Cowbridge, having taken over the stock of Thomas Williams, late Alma House (? East village).

By 1866, deed information shows he had moved his business across the road to 39 High St. which had 'internal communications' with 37 (35a) next door east. The 1871 and 1881 census records him, his growing family, their domestic servants and business staff in these two premises, his nephew David Williams having also joined him from his native Cardigan. The business was known as 'The Vale of Glamorgan Emporium'. A niece, Mrs G Williams, remembers that this large shop was in three parts, a gentlemen's outfitters, a shoe shop, and an ordinary drapers; upstairs were workrooms where seamstresses used to work.

There were four sons - Samuel David junior, Arthur Stephen, Frederick and Thomas Edward. The latter was recorded as an Oxford undergraduate in the 1891 census, and he appears to have become the Revd. Thomas Evans of Chester by 1932. SD Evans junior, born about 1863, was a solicitor in the 1891 census, still with his father and brothers although their mother had died in 1882. He had moved to 71 High St. (Glandare House) by 1906, and died aged 57 in 1919. His widow was Lena Evans, and their son was David John Evans, medical practitioner of Woodstock House.

Arthur Stephen Evans appears to have taken over his father's business by 1910 (Kelly's directory) and was there in 1912 (Western Mail Street directory), but in 1912 already had a cycle depot at No 39 (with his outfitters at No 37) and by 1914 was running his motor garage at 4 High St whilst younger brother Frederick took over the drapery business at No 37. Arthur S. Evans's motoring business appeared to thrive. He lived in Eastfield House and also built the garage at the bridge (where the garage is today) before 1931/2 (S. Wales and Mon. Buyers Guide).

Frederick Evans and his wife moved to live in Bridge House, 5 High St., continuing the drapery/outfitters business at No 37, but had retired by 1932. Their son, Samuel, married Judith Yorwerth of No 65 High St. in 1922.

*Further information see Gwyneth Williams in 'Cowbridge and District Remembered', 1900-1950, published by Cowbridge Record Society, 2002*

**Sources/references :**

*LTA = land tax assessments in Glamorgan Record Office (GRO)*

*BR = burgage rentals in GRO*

*Kelly's, Hunt's Worrall's etc = directories in GRO*

*PRO = Public Record Office, Kew*