

43 High Street

Grade II listed, with massive ceiling beams and 18th century style fireplaces. '17th century building retaining much character'. Details, CADW/RCAHM. Originally a Seys property.

- 1738 Mr Richard Seys for half burgage in tenure of James Morgan *Burgage rentals*
 1762 Mrs Says late James Morgan, f/h, James Morgan, ten *BR#132*
 1765 Occupier - Robert Jones (deed for adj. house refers to 'messuage of Robert Jones on west'). He was linked to the Seys family. *D/D X75/173*
- 1770 Probate of will of Rachel Seys of Swansea, devising ppty in co Glam to 'niece' (grand-daughter of sister Catherine Butler) Margaret Higginson
Pembs RO D/Pem 17/3-12
- 1773 Mrs Morgan, 6/- *LTA*
 Mary Morgan, widow, 17/- *Window Tax*
- 1774-91 Deeds re mortgage of property by Margaret Higginson 'now or late in tenure and occupation of Mary Morgan, widow, and heretofore in possession of James Morgan, mercer, deed' *Pembs RO D/Pem 17/3 -12*
- 1779 James Butler, gent, prop *BR#136*
- 1784 Margaret Higginson, owned, Mary Morgan, widow, occ. 8/- *LTA*
- 1791 Probate of will of Margaret Higginson *Pembs RO D/Pem 17/13*
- 1793 Mgt. Higginson spinster, o, Mrs Mary Morgan, occ 8/- *LTA*
- 1793 Mary Morgan, shopkeeper *Universal British Directory*
- 1800 Mgt Higginson, o, Messrs. Lewis and Samuel, occ 8/- *LTA*
- 1809 Rhys Davies of Swansea conveyed to Mary Morgan *Deeds*
 (Reference to Mary Morgan's house, near the Market Place, being charged 12 shillings a year for distribution in bread to the poor of the town by the churchwardens every Sunday after service)
Benefactions board, Holy Cross church
- 1815 Mrs Mary Morgan, o, Mr Sweet, occ, dwelling, 8/- *LTA*
'Attic Sweet' in Iolo Morgannwg's 'Cowbridge Ale Triumphant'
- 1817 'To let.... good house and old accustomed shop in the market place, now in tenure of Mr Arthur Morgan Sweet'. Enquire of Mrs Morgan, Cowbridge.
Cambrian, 20/12/1817
- (1823, 20th September Death of Mr Arthur Sweet at Llanblethian *Cambrian*)
- 1820 Mary Morgan bequeathed the property to grandson, George Cadogan Morgan of Bridgnorth, Shropshire *Deeds*
- 1824 Mary Morgan died aged 85 *Parish records*

- 1825 Re-lease of house and premises by David Davies M.D. (described as Doctor of Physic, of Carmarthen and Pembroke) to Messrs. Morgan (Geo. C.M.) and Willins (husband of Mary Morgan's daughter) *Deeds*
- 1825 George C. Morgan and George Willins (London) re-leased property, then sold it to Thomas Llewellyn, gent, of Cowbridge and Nathaniel Young, his trustee, saddler of Cowbridge *Deeds*
- 1830 Thomas Llewellyn junior, owned, Robert Stibbs, occ, house and garden, 8/- *LTA*
- 1840 Thomas Llewellyn (of the Verlands) owned a house in the centre of the town. *Cowbridge Hundred records*
- 1843 John Bevan was apparently owner and occupier, although a D.Davis was already a printer and bookseller in Cowb. *Tithe*
Bible Society handbill
- 1851 David Davis, 46 yrs., bookseller and stationer, born Cardigan + wife + 3 sons + 2 daus *Census#106*
- 1856 David Davies - bookseller and stationer (publisher of engravings of Cowbridge and Llanblethian) *Slater*
Local collections
- 1859 Martha Davis, daughter, died aged 19 *Parish records*
- 1861 Ebenezer Davis, single, 25 yrs., bookseller and stationer; Ann Davis, sister, single, 27 yrs, stationer assistant in fancy department *Census#77*
(Also William Williams, master shoemaker, with wife and 2 sons, appeared to be lodging with Ebenezer Davis) *Census#78*
- 1864 (23 May) Thomas Llewellyn sold to Ebenezer Davis, bookseller and stationer *Deeds*
- 1864 Ebenezer Davis mortgaged to William Thomas, gent, Llantwit Major *Deeds*
- 1865 E. and A. Davis - printer, booksellers, stationers, news and advertising agents, Berlin wool, and fancy repository. Reading room and library open from 9 am to 10 pm *Webster*
- 1867 Second mortgage to William Thomas *Deeds*
- 1871 Ebenezer Davis, 35, printer (master) employing 1 man, 1 boy + wife + 2 daus + a boarder and printer-compositor + a servant *Census#85*
- 1871 (Nov) Further re-mortgaging involving Ebenezer's father-in-law, Richard John of the Leys, St. Athan *Deeds*
- 1872, 26th April To be let – a large room in centre of town, well adapted for an office. Apply – Miss A Davis, stationer. *Central Glam Gazette*
- 1872 Mr Richard John and Mr Thomas John to become security for payment of composition. 25 creditors. Auction sale 12 Sept. raised £104 towards paying composition. *Journal of T Rees, solicitor*
- 1872, 23rd August Trustees of estate of Mr E Davis bookseller to sell by auction September 4th, 5th and 6th the extensive and valuable stock of upwards of 2000 volumes of new and second hand English and Welsh works, stationary, Berlin wool and fancy goods. *Central Glam Gazette*

1872, 27th September Ebenezer Davis begs to inform his customers that he will offer for sale the whole of his remaining stock at a considerable reduction below cost price. *Central Glam Gazette*

- 1872 Death of David Davis (the elder) *Parish records*
- 1873 Ebenezer Davis published 11 journals : "The Glamorgan Observer"- a financial loss. *Cardiff library*
- 1873 Secretary to Cowbridge Eisteddfod *Named on advert*
- 1875 Ebenezer Davis, printer and stationer, High St. *Glam & Mon directory*
- 1875 Another daughter, Lilian, born to Ebenezer and Elizabeth. She died 2 years later. *Family information*
- 1875 Ebenezer Davis, High St - agent for the Allan line, as well as bookseller, stationer, newsagent and printer *Worrall*
(Ann Davis, sister, bookseller, stationer and newsagent, now in East End at 70 Eastgate,
and David Davis, brother, a bookbinder, also East End) *Worrall*
- 1881 Ebenezer Davis, bookseller, printer, 45 yrs + wife + 6 daus + 1 son + 1 servant *Census#247*
- 1882 Daughter Gwladys born *Family information*
- 1883 Only son, Ebenezer Richard, died aged 2 years *Parish records*
- 1885 Daughter Amy Adeline born *Family information*
- 1885 Ebenezer emigrated to the U.S.A.
He found an apartment in New York State, and his wife and 8 daughters joined him a few months later. He worked as a salesman, became involved in politics for the Republican party and died in 1914. *Family information*
- 1885 Shop etc put up for sale at public auction as Ebenezer Davis was in default with mortgage. David Williams, Aberthin gave highest bid on behalf of his wife, Eliza. *Deeds*
'sale of f/h bookseller's shop, dw ho, cottage occ Mr Phillips, and garden'
Gwyn & Gwyn, Box A, bundle 27
- April 1: long attendance on Mr Richard John, his son and Messrs TJ Parsons and WJ Davies the overseers of Cowbridge as Mr Davis having absconded leaving unaccounted for some parish money which he had received as assistant overseer, and owing large sums to creditors..'
May: E Davis adjudged a bankrupt. *Journal of T Rees, solicitor*
- 1885 Eliza Williams mortgaged property to William Thomas of Llantwit. *Deeds*
- 1891 Property appears to have been uninhabited, but could have been running as a shop. *Census*
- No date (David Brown who later went into partnership in "Gibbs and Brown, printers" lived here before 1906; when Arthur John took over, a printing press remained on the first floor) *Information from Dai John*
- 1893 Eliza Williams died, leaving property to her three nieces, Mary, Catherine and Caroline Tutton. *Deeds*

- 1896 Conveyance of property to Misses Tutton *Deeds*
- 1901 Evan Thomas, 28, ironmonger shopkeeper, b St Athan + w Edith, 28, b Neath, + 2 daus + 1 son + mother, 68 b Flemingston + m-i-1, Clara Richards, 70, b Oxford + s-i-1, Kate Richards, 31, b Neath *Census#177*
- 1906 Rees Morgan and Company (ironmongers) - shop leased from Tutton sisters *Deeds*
- 1907 Arthur John *Dun & Bradstreet* 1909
Deed of partnership between
Arthur John, ironmonger and Thomas Jenkin
Yorwerth, saddler - leasehold premises assigned to Arthur John as the working
partner, residing in premises adjoining the shop. *Deeds*
(Thomas Yorwerth had married Arthur John's sister.)
- 1910 Arthur John, occ, Misses Tutton, owned, house shop and garden
D/D PROVAL/1/46#300
- 1912 Arthur John, iron (*sic*) and furnisher *Western Mail dir*
- 1925 Arthur John and Kate John *Elect reg*
- 1925 Mary Eliza Tutton died at Avondale, 50 Eastgate, a spinster and intestate. Her
estate, including 43 High St passed to her two sisters *Deeds*
- 1927 Kate Tutton died in Banwell, 40 Eastgate, leaving her estate to sister Caroline
(also part of estate was a bungalow under construction in Eastgate, probably that
next to Basil's Brasserie, No 4, and 32 Loudoun Square, Cardiff) *Deeds*
- 1928 Arthur John sub-leased land (4 acres of pasture land with shed and pigstyes) to
Samuel Oakley *Deeds*
- 1939 Caroline Tutton bequeathed her estate to her nephew, George Tutton of
Stockport, Cheshire. She died in 1941. *Deeds*
- 1958 Landlord George Tutton leased to 'Arthur John and Company' - i.e. William
Thomas John (son) and wife Evelyn May John - a dwelling house, shop, yard,
warehouse, storehouse and offices. *Deeds*
- 1961 George Tutton died, leaving property to his wife. *Deeds*
- 1962 The John family bought the property from Mrs. Tutton and it remains in the
family as an ironmonger's shop to this day, with residential accommodation
above. *Deeds*
- 2002 Arthur John and Co, ironmongers

Notes on Ebenezer Davis and family (see Davis family file)

His father, David Davis, published a number of engravings of scenes in the Vale of Glamorgan - notably of Cowbridge and Llanblethian. Ebenezer's main venture into publishing was the series of eleven monthly magazines entitled 'The Glamorgan

Observer' which appeared in 1873 (can be seen in Cardiff library). He was also secretary of the Cowbridge Eisteddfod in the 1870s (named on the poster).

Ebenezer's great- granddaughter, Mrs. Carol Simmons, living in New Jersey, U.S.A., has sent detailed information on the family members, and on her grandmother's recollections of living in Cowbridge as a young child and visiting her maternal grandparents in Gileston. Ebenezer's daughters Mary, Emma, Lilian and Amy all died within a few years of arriving in America. Daughter Jennett died aged 30. Bertha, Beatrice, Muriel (Mrs. Simmons's grandmother) and Gwladys lived to marry and raise families of their own. Emma appears to have married, in the USA, another emigrant, Samuel Warren, formerly of 16 High Street Cowbridge. It seems that Ebenezer's elder brother Samuel married, had a large family and emigrated to Australia. Samuel's daughter, Florence Amy, married a Thomas Pullen, grocer of Cardiff, in 1889 (Parish records). Brother Richard lived in Aberdare and it was his daughter Katie who featured in the Census returns as assisting her aunt Ann Davis in her newsagents shop in Eastgate. (Ann Davis published a book 'Sixty-one Views of Cowbridge' in the late nineteenth century). Brother David never married, and was described by his niece as much loved and very tall. Parish records show he died aged 60 in 1891. His Cowbridge addresses (in census returns) include Bethuel's Court and Church Street.

Notes on the Tutton sisters

They appear, from parish records and census returns, to have been the daughters of George Eaton Tutton, schoolmaster in the Board School, and lived initially in the schoolhouse on Broadway. Parish records show that Eva Caroline Tutton, schoolmistress and daughter of George Tutton, married David Tilley, implement maker of Cowbridge, in 1881, his first wife (see Tilley family file).

Sources/references :

PRO = Public Record Office, Kew

RO = Record Office

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

Webster, Worrall etc = directories in GRO

BR = burgage rentals in GRO

D/D = deeds in GRO