Research Document:	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge
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Most of the information was researched and assembled by study groups led by Jeff Alden during the period 1997-2007. The Cowbridge Record Society was established in 1999 to publish books using this research, such as 'Cowbridge Buildings & People' and 'Llanblethian Buildings & People'. The Society later merged with the Cowbridge and District Local History Society and became 'Cowbridge History Society'.

Future editors should ideally identify their additions/changes with their initials in brackets beside the new text, and record the date of the changes and their name in the 'Changes record' table below.

E.M. Alden, September 2020

Changes record	l	9/9/20 E M Alden		
		2/3/2022 E M Alden		
		17/1/23 EMA		
		Source Abb	oreviations	
GRO	Glamorgan Record Office			
	Census, registers of electors & directories – all in the GRO			
chs	Cowb	ridge History Society a	rchive	
D/D WP		n papers in GRO		
	Resear	rch of Brian James, Jan	uary 2023	
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Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
	At the far end of the borough was a house in a small field or croft called, since at least the seventeenth century, Gibbet's Hill or Hangman's Hill. There is no known record of the existence of a gibbet, on which the corpses of felons would be hung in an iron frame as an awful warning to passers by, but a gibbet may have stood here in the Middle Ages or in Tudor times (but not since then). It would have been the first thing that travellers from the Bridgend direction saw on approaching Cowbridge. The thatched house (35 Westgate), with its pine-end to the road, survived into the twentieth century, but was demolished long since. Soon after 1831 the Westgate Inn (37 Westgate) was built next door. That has been a private residence since it closed as a public house in 1928, though there are memories of a small shop in the back premises during	Brian James
	the Second World War.	
1779, 17 th July	Earl Talbot to William Meyrick, a lease for the 3 lives of William Morgan, Mary his wife and Thomas, the son of Richard Meyrick of Penllyn, brother of the said William Meyrick, at a yearly rent of £3.10s.	D/D WP, box 5 bundle 24
1799, 7 th July	Rt. Hon. George Talbot, Baron Dynevor, to Revd Evan Jones, clerk (bought at auction for £78) – all that messuage, dwelling house, garden and close called Gibbet Hill (about one acre), in the possession of William Meyrick or his undertenants at a yearly rent of £3.10s	D/D WP, box 5 bundle 24
1831, 7 th June	Reference (in the sale information of 1907) of an indenture between Evan Jones clerk and Thomas Lewis	chs01848
1831	Evan Jones, vicar of Colwinston, to Thomas Lewis, then of Cowbridge, ironmonger, but now of Bridgend, brewer - 99 year lease (soon after the lease was granted, Thomas Lewis built the dwelling house now used as a public house called the Westgate Inn)	D/D WP, box 5, bundle 24
1843	Death of Evan Jones. The title of the Westgate Inn passed to the Revd Samuel Fenton of Wavertree, Liverpool, his wife Lydia and Theophilus John Fenton, also a freehold dwelling house adjoining the same; also three closes of pasture land adjoining and near the Westgate Inn in Llanblethian	D/D WP, box 5, bundle 24

Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
1851, 12 th April	For sale – freehold public house occupied by Joseph Williams called the Westgate Inn, and the garden and close of land adjoining (about one acre) by the name of Jibbett's Hill, near the western turnpike gate; also that freehold dwelling house adjoining the before-mentioned premises occupied by John Morgan; also those three closes of pasture land (customaryhold of the manor of Llanblethian), adjoining each other, containing about five acres, near the Westgate Inn, now occupied by Mr Edward Williams, surgeon	Cardiff & Merthyr Guardian
1851	Westgate Inn – Joseph Williams, 63, victualler, born Bristol, with wife Ann 45 born Penllyn	Census 16
1861	Westgate Inn – William Rees, 39, victualler, born St Mary Hill, wife Catherine, 30, born Wick, sons Francis 10, and William 2, and daughter Mary 6 months, born Llansannor and Cowbridge	Census 119
1871	Westgate Inn – Illtyd David, 31, agricultural labourer and publican, born Marcross, wife Alice 31 born Wick, step-daughter Mary Jenkins 2 born Marcross, son Edmund Davies 3 months born Cowbridge, brother William Davis 34, agricultural labourer born Marcross and lodger John Bright 26, a painter born Cowbridge Alice David was born Alice Lloyd, and she was previously married, as Alice Jenkins, before marrying Illtyd David. She had six daughters from her two marriages. One daughter, Adelaide, married William Walter Russell about 1903 and their two daughters, Daisy and Maud, were born in the early 1900s – and it is Adelaide and her daughters who eventually continued the trade and occupation of this property.	Census 133
1873	Birth of daughter Adelaide David	Stephanie Harris – chs01848
1881	Westgate Inn – Illtyd David, 42, agricultural labourer and innkeeper, wife Alice 42, stepdaughter Mary Jenkins 12, daughters Adelaide 8 and Margaret 6, and son William 3 (the last three were born Cowbridge)	Census 289
1891	Westgate Inn – Illtyd David, 57, licenced victualler, born Marcross, with wife Alice 57 born Wick, and daughters Adelaide 18, dressmaker's assistant, and Margaret 16, dressmaker, both born Cowbridge	Census 5
1900, 8 th August	Margaret David married William Edgar Thomas of the Cowbridge Arms, 46 High Street, and they had three daughters	Stephanie Harris, chs01848
1901	Westgate Inn – Illtyd David, 60, publican born Marcross., with wife Alice, 60 born Wick, and daughter Adeline 28, born Cowbridge	Census 230

Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
Ca 1903	Marriage of Adelaide David aged 30 to William Walter Russell, a professional cricketer (attached to the Glamorgan Gypsies Club), who represented Glamorgan on many occasions and a groundsman, and who had been a boarder in 1901 in Westgate with the Willment family. He came to Wales about 1886 to prepare a ground which was played upon for several years by Mr Ebsworth's XI at Cowbridge. He died fairly suddenly in 1908 aged 37 years, leaving a widow and two children.	Stephanie Harris – chs01848 & 1901 census 223
1903, 25 th July	'Glamorgan's professionals are an exceedingly chummy lotand have a variety of nick-names. Russell is known as 'Old Cowbridge'.	Evening Express
1906 1907, 12 th	Illtyd David – beer retailer The estate of Alban Watts deceased. For sale – much	Kelly's directory Glamorgan
April & 17 th May	property in Llantwit Major, and the leasehold house and premises known as the Westgate Inn (let to Mr Illtyd David as yearly tenant), and cottage near thereto (let to George Burley as monthly tenant).	Gazette
1907, 27 th May	Illtyd David bought the property for £100 from Mrs Cecil Watts	chs01870
	William Edgar Thomas of 'The Cowbridge Arms', Cowbridge, acting as agent for his father-in-law Illtyd David, was the highest bidder for Lot 10, for which he paid £100. The vendor was Mrs Cecil Watts, who inherited it from the late Alban Watts. She lived at Colhugh Villa, Llantwit Major. Only ten lots were offered for sale. The auctioneer was Mr Howard Williams. 'Lot 10. The Westgate Inn, Cowbridge – (for which a licence is held for malt liquors only), outbuildings and croft, let to Mr Illtyd David as yearly tenant, and a cottage and garden adjoining, let to George Burley as monthly tenant. N.B. These premises are held for the term of 99 years from 1st May 1832, subject to the right of the lessee to quarry and sell stones, slates and materials without extra payment, at the annual ground rent of £10. Part of the premises originally leased having been assigned free from any part of the ground rent.' On completion of the sale, Mrs Watts would hand over to the purchaser of Lot 10 the indenture of lease dated the 7th June 1831 made between Evan Jones clerk of the one part, and Thomas Lewis of the other part.	Stephanie Harris, chs01848
1911	Westgate Inn, Mr David, five people	Census 37

Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
1911, 18 th	The death of Mrs Alice David aged 72	Stephanie Harris –
October		census 01848
1912, 13 th May	Illtyd David, innkeeper, agreed to grant to William Arthur James of Stafford House, Cowbridge, builder and contractor, a lease 'of all the quarries, strata, seams and beds of limestone spar and other stone which may be got by quarrying and excavations from the surface and open to daylight, and not by underground workings within or under all that parcel of land known as Gibbet Hill field By estimation an area of two rods and three perches or thereabouts together with the liberties and subject to the exceptions and reservations hereinafter mentioned for a term of 18 years from January 1st 1912. Renewable by the lessee at the end of the 6th and the 12th year, and subject to six months' notice. Terms – a yearly rent of £1.10s.0d to be paid on January 1st each year, whether in fact any limestone spar be got or not. A royalty of 4d. for every cubic yard of limestone spar and	chs01848
1912	other stone got from the said land, such royalty to be paid half-yearly. Westgate Inn – Illtyd David	Western Mail
10110	25.77	directory
1914 & 1920	37 Westgate – Mrs Adelaide Russell, beer retailer She was the stepdaughter of Illtyd David	Kelly's directory
1914, 11 th December	A. Russell of the Westgate Inn fined 20s for having supplied drink on Sunday. Thomas Harkett fined 15s for having been on licensed premises during prohibited hours.	Glamorgan Gazette
1915, 15 th October	In Memoriam: Alice David who died 18th October 1911 at the Westgate Inn – from her husband and daughters.	Glamorgan Gazette
1918, 5 th April	Adelaide Russell, licensee of the Westgate Inn, summoned and fined £1 for permitting the consumption of intoxicating liquor on her premises during illegal hours.	Glamorgan Gazette
1921	Westgate Inn – Adelaide Russell and her father, Illtyd David	Register of electors
1921, 24 th	Death of Illtyd David aged 82 at the Westgate Inn – his	Stephanie Harris –
April	funeral was in Holy Cross church	chs01848

Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
	Westgate Inn, now renovated and called Westgate House. Mrs Russell's father held the license – I only saw him a few times and although I can see him plainly in my mind's eye, I cannot remember his name. He was a tall, military looking man, always immaculate. Mr and Mrs Russell lived at Rock House and on his death she, with her two little girls, Daisy and Maud, went over to live with her father and took over the licence. Mr Russell was the first 'Pro' at the Athletic Club and I think must have been engaged by the late Mr Ebsworth of Llandough Castle, who started the ground. He was a fur dealer and used to go to Russia to buy, but of course when the 1914-18 war broke out, he was unable to do so. His portrait hangs in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall (or did so). I only once saw him in the flesh.	Freda Evans, chs02537
1926	37 Westgate – Mrs Adelaide Russell, beer retailer	Kelly's directory
1928, 17 th July	Licence withdrawn by the Glamorgan Licensing Committee. Compensation of £1,300 accepted.	Western Mail
1931	'Auntie Addie (Adelaide) surrendered the lease after payment of an unspecified dilapidation claim. Legal advice cost her £5.50s. I have found no record of what rent she paid from then until her death.'	Stephanie Harris – chs01848
1930s	Mr Russell at the Westgate – his picture was in the hall. He looked like W.G. Grace. They wanted him to play county cricket, but he wanted to stay in Cowbridge	Mervyn Harkett
1935	Westgate House (formerly the inn) – Adelaide Russell, Gertrude Daisy Russell and Alice Maud Russell	Register of electors
1947	Westgate House – Adelaide Russell, G. Daisy Russell and Alice Russell (Maud)	Civilian Residence register
1954, 27 th February	Death of Mrs Adelaide Russell aged 81. She was widowed five years after her marriage at the age of 30 in 1908. Had been a milliner in her early adult years.	Stephanie Harris – chs01848

Date	Westgate Inn, Cowbridge	Source
	Following their mother's death, Daisy and Maude Russell signed an agreement to rent The Westgate on an annual basis for £30 a year, payable from the beginning at half-yearly intervals. They agreed to pay the rent at all times; to pay all existing and future rates, taxes and outgoings during their tenancy; not to erect any additional building on the said premises without the landlord's previous written consent, not to use the premises for any trade or business whatsoever, other than for the sale of sweets and mineral waters, cigarettes, tobacco, teas and refreshments. 'To keep and leave at the end of the tenancy the interior of the premises in good and tenable repair and shall also cultivate the garden in a proper manner, and in particular to paint the outside thereof every three years, and the inside every seven years. Not to assign, underlet, or part with the possession of the premises without the landlord's previous written consent. If at any time the rent is in arrears for 15 days, whether formally demanded or not, or any of the tenants' stipulations are not performed, the landlord may re-enter upon the premises, and thereupon the tenancy shall be determined'.	Stephanie Harris – chs01848
1940s & 1950s	'Daisy Russell lived in the Westgate Inn, a publican along with her mother and sister Maudie. The publicence ended just before WW2, but during the war they sold cigarettes & Corona pop in the back room. You had to go along a flagged passageway to access it. There were scrubbed wooden shelves with different varieties of Thomas and Evans Corona, and later Northern in fatter bottles. Maud was usually the one pouring it into the glasses – a penny a cup (like Ellen Crowley who served in the Bridge Inn). Daisy worked in the Grammar School kitchens. Her father was W.W Russell. A fire was always going in the shop, with a big kettle on it.'	Memories of Tim Edwards, chs03854
1956, 25 th May	A giant petrol tanker crashed into the front garden of Maude Russell (<i>Westgate Inn</i>)	Western Mail
1974, 9 th October	Death of Maud Russell aged 69	Stephanie Harris – <i>chs01848</i>
1976, October	The terms of the agreement were such that six months' rent was due five days after Daisy's death in October 1976, Major Homfray waived it aside and gave us another month rent free in which to clear the premises. He also refrained from putting in a dilapidation claim to which he was entitled. The inside of the property has since been restored.	Stephanie Harris – chs01848