

**Outside the South Gate, Cowbridge  
(including Rose Cottage, Poplars and Dynevor)**

**Rose Cottage**, grade II listed (late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century on line of town walls and adjacent to medieval town gate) – joined to the west side of the South Gate, outside the walls; the Butts garden relates to that land between Rose Cottage and the SW bastion of the town walls, lying outside the walls. In 1999, part is a macadamed car-park, the western part being used for the cattle market (officially on market days only).

The north west garden wall to Rose Cottage and the south west garden walls to Old Hall and the Grammar School garden at the south east are also Grade II listed – as a structure preserving the historic line of the medieval town walls).

The Poplars an early 19<sup>th</sup> century house, is also Grade II listed – preserving its historic character.

- 1654 Between William Praulfe of Cowbridge, gent. and Christopher Portrey of Boverton, gent. –  
lease of approximately three burgages without the South Gate *Dunraven 31*
- 1670 Between Rice Portrey of Boverton and Richard Williams of Cowbridge, gent. and his wife Anne –  
lease of a parcel of land called the croft, without and near the South Gate, containing three burgages between the way leading to Council Tut, the lands of Rice Portrey on the west, the lands occupied by Rees Thomas on the south, and the highway between Cowbridge and Llanblethian on the north (the land formerly being held by John Williams, father of Richard) *Dunraven 31*
- 1672/3 Land between South Gate and Pwll y Butts *B/Cow 123*
- 1673 Between ? Freame and Matthias Deane, both bailiffs of Cowbridge, and Thomas Phillips –  
half a burgage without the South Gate *Dun. 31*
- 1684 Lease for 21 years, Peerce Deere of Llanblethian, gent., to Griffith Arnald of Llanblethian, labourer – house called Councill Tutt (*The Poplars*)  
*D/Dx75 37*
- 1689 Marriage settlement, Pearce Deere of Llanquian to Francis Williams of Cowbridge, alderman –  
property including the house called St Kitts (*The Poplars*) in the possession of Griffith Arnold  
*D/Dx75 38*

- 1724 Assignment of lease, William Phillip, late of Cowbridge, gardener, and Evan Phillip of Coychurch, yeoman to David John of Cowbridge, victualler – the house called Council Tut, alias St Kitts, with half a burgage adjoining (recites a lease for 25 years – Mary Deere widow to William Phillip in 1706)  
*D/Dx75 58*
- 1743 Pierce Cornish to David Morgan, mason – house called Council Tut, in the possession of David Morgan  
*D/Dx75 58*
- 1748 We present the house in Council Tut, the Bowling Green, pwill y butts, Broad Sword to be the free liberty of the bailiffs, aldermen and burgesses...  
*Presentment of the Grand Jury, in 'Old Cowbridge' by Hopkin James*
- 1756 Counterpart of lease, to Oliver Richard of the toll of cattle etc. for 21 years...land including...all that spot of ground...called the Council Tut  
*'Old Cowbridge'*
- 1763 Executors of Pierce Cornish's will (John Wilson, saddler of Bath and the 'lunatic' sister Anne Cornish) inherit property including the Council Tut (St. Kitts) ...  
*D/Dx75 159*
- 1765 Particulars of Pierce Cornish's estate for sale included – a croft and garden called Council Tut, let to David Morgan (yearly rent 10/-)  
*D/Dx75 152*
- 1765 Reference to Council Tut, formerly in the tenure of William Phillips, alias ? Cribbur  
*Indenture of D/Dx75 173*
- 1767 ...also reversion of property including Council Tut (John Wilson's estate, on his bankruptcy, committed to John Snelson of Bathwick, gent. and John Davis of Bath, carpenter)  
*D/Dx75 223*
- 1768 Abstract of title by Snelson and Davis above – property including the house called St Kitts (*The Poplars*)  
*D/Dx75 236*
- 1768 (January) Butts garden let to Richard Morris for one year, 20/- pa  
1768 (April) Letting of Butts garden for one year at 20/- p a to John Giddings  
*Court of Common Council*
- 1769 Lease of half burgage of land leading from South Gate towards Council Tut, for 21 years, to Thomas Lewis  
*Book of Common Council*
- 1770 Lease of same land to John Williams of Breach, 6d. per year, in trust for the master of the Grammar School and his successors.  
*Book of Common Council*

- 1769 Lease of Butts garden for 21 yrs to John Giddings at 21/- pa  
1770 " " " " " " 20/- pa  
*Court of Common Council*
- 1775 Let to Walter Williams for 21 years at 10/- p a –  
garden near the South Gate *Borough records*
- 1790 Two gardens, being part of the town ditch, lately laid out as one garden, one of  
which being known as the Butts garden, lately occupied by Catherine Giddings,  
widow, deceased, and the other lately occupied by William Vallance, being  
without the South Gate and having the Butts Pool on the west, garden wall of  
Thomas Edmondes on the north with another garden belonging to the town and  
leased to John Jenkins on the east, all leased for 99 years to Christopher Bradley  
*B/Cow 192*
- 1790 Rose Cottage : leased by the Town to John Jenkins
- 1790 Edward Thomas, tiler – permission to erect a cottage on a piece of open ground  
outside South Gate, 75 ft x 50 ft x 75 ft x 28 ft *B/Cow 136*
- 1803 ...ordered that a bridge be made over the river near Council Tut....reward for 2  
guineas promised to any person giving information of the breaking down of the  
last bridge *'Old Cowbridge'*
- 1807 Order to Town Clark to give Richard Felton notice to quit (Rose Cottage), James  
John's house and garden *Borough records.*
- 1808 Richard Felton reinstated as tenant.
- 1811 Leased to William Nicholl for 99 years or lives of William Nicholl, Whitlock  
Nicholl surgeon and John Bevan (Wm N and Whitk. N left the leasehold premises  
to John Bevan) – cottage and garden outside the South Gate, formerly leased to  
John Jenkins, then occ. by Richard Felton (Rose Cottage)  
*Borough records – pencilled note*
- 1813 List of Corporation leases include :  
99 year lease of the bowling green,...called Council Tut croft , and the adjoining  
garden – a piece of waste ground between the turnpike road and the gate of  
Council Tut at either end, the Free School outhouses, offices and garden on one  
side, and the fields called the closes on the other (18 ft by 38 ft in the centre), let  
to the Rev. William Williams (headmaster of CGS) at £2.6s p a  
*B/Cow 192*
- 1820 Nantgarw pottery plate made for Rev. Wm Williams, headmaster of Cowbridge  
Grammar School 1787-1847, painted by William Weston Young, showing thatched  
cottage inside walled garden. *Illust. in 'Guide to Holy Cross Church' 1985*

1831 Bowling green (by the Butts), Council Tut and waste ground outside Free School garden (the Slang), 99 year lease to the Rev. William Williams – a dwelling house and garden of Rev. Williams, master of the Free School, called The Poplars

*Borough records*

1832 Lease from the Corporation of the piece of garden near the South Gate to Edward Ballard, for 99 years

*B/Cow 192*

1833 Will of Rev. Wm Williams bequests to his daughter Harriet, wife of Rev. Thos. Edmondson, freehold dwelling house called The Poplars and adjoining leasehold croft called Council tut.....

*D/D Ed 314*

1837, 3<sup>rd</sup> May Bailiffs and burgesses of Cowbridge to Mr Edward Ballard for £20 – all that piece of waste ground near the South Gate, at length 100 ft. for the turnpike house towards the mill, and of different widths up to the hedge of Lord Dynevor's, leaving a clear road of 26 ft. in width for the closes, the property of Dr Williams (*who was living in the Poplars*)

*D/D St 1/89*

1839 Will of Rev. William Williams leaves to his daughter Harriet – freehold dwelling house called the poplars and adjacent croft called council tut...

*D/Ed 314*

1840/3 The Poplars owned by Rev. Wm Williams; occupied by Hester Powell

*Tithe 345*

1841 Reference to Mill Road, or Promenade

*'Old Cowbridge'*

1841 No. 184. Council Twt – Canon Edmondson  
no. 192. House and garden near the South Gate – Canon Edmondson  
*Corporation property, from the parish map*

1843 Rose Cottage : John Bevan owned; Mrs Pritchard occupied  
Garden : Rev Thos. Edmondson owned  
Commissioners of roads owned; Owen Roberts occupied, turnpike house and garden

*Tithe*

Ca 1847 In Dynevor , with her clergyman father and family, lived Frances Hoggan (who was educated for a while in Cowbridge and went on to become the first British woman to receive a doctorate in medicine).

1850 Field near South Gate, tenant Mrs Howe

*Abstract of title, Gwyn & Gwyn BFB 3*

- 1851 Rose Cottage : Thomas Morgan, 43, butcher from Wenvoe, with wife Gwenllian, 43, born Llanblethian and five sons (Thomas, John, William, Joseph and Daniel) *Census*  
Dynevor : Joanna Howe, retired victualler, and her son *Census 60*

1851 'The Poplars' – Margaret Morgan, apparently head, unmarried, 73 yrs, housekeeper, b Llanilid, with Mary Llewellyn, lodger, 80 yrs, housekeeper, b Llancarfan, Visitor John Williams, 48, fundholder, b Cardiff, plus one servant and three boy boarders *Census 83*

'Mrs Morgan and Peggy were two old ladies who had the care of the household at the Free School when Dr Williams died, and for many years before. They removed with Mr Wm Williams to the Poplars and both died there at a good old age. Mrs Morgan was a housekeeper, Peggy the nurse. Peggy died about January 1850'.

*David Jones of Wallington MS 2.1144 (?)*

1852 Mrs Margaret Morgan occupied; Wm Williams Esq. owned – the Poplars *R13 2/5*

1852 Bailiffs Edward Bradley and Edward Ballard – proposal for purchasing the lease held by Mr Ballard of the piece of ground adjoining the South Gate. Lease to be purchased for a piece of ground adjacent to the south turnpike house, then exchanging it for a portion of the garden allocated to the Grammar school (to erect a Ball Court)

*The Court of Common Council in 'The Cowbridge Story' by J Richards*

1861 Rose Cottage : Jane Lewis, 63, retired grocer's widow, born Llanblethian, with son William and a servant *Census*  
Dynevor : Elizabeth Nixon, spinster aged 40, landed proprietor, born Durham, with 2 schoolboy nephews and a servant *Census 167*  
Poplars : William Williams, head, unmarried, 59, retired wine merchant, born Cowbridge,  
Mary Llewellyn, cook, 23, b Welsh St Donats,  
Elizabeth Thomas, housemaid, 22, b Pendoylan *Census 1*

1862 Assigned by John Bevan (executor of John Nicholl's will) to Thomas Edmondes (as at 1811) – all that cottage and garden lying without and adjacent to the South Gate as formerly leased to John Jenkins, carpenter, then in occupation of Richard Felton. *Borough records – pencilled note*

1871 Rose Cottage : Mary Llewellyn, widow, 48, dressmaker, born Cowbridge with her son, her nephew and a lodger (Walter Price, a groom from Hereford) *Census*

- Dynevor : Julius Simmonet, retired French tutor, aged 71, born Chaumont sur Marne, with his wife and 2 servants *Census 182*  
Poplars : A F Laloe, 28 yrs, teacher, b France, with his wife, b Essex, and child of 15 mths, plus a schoolboy boarder and a servant. *Census 1*  
M Laloe taught French and some science at the Grammar School  
*'A Certaine Schoole' by Iolo Davies*
- 22/9/1873 Probate of the will of Dr JA Simmonet (died 1/9/1873), doctor of laws, then of Clifton Place, Stow Hill, Newport. He left everything to his wife (owned also 77 & 79 Eastgate), Anne Short Jutson Simmonet of Dynevor Cottage *Gwyn & Gwyn papers*
- 1874 M. Laloe occupied; Corporation of Cowbridge owned – The Poplars  
*Glam. County rate 114*
- 1875 Thomas Whapham, veterinary surgeon, the Poplars *Worrall's directory*  
1875 Mrs Simmonet (Dynevor) *Glam. and Mon. directory*
- 1876 From receipts of Corporation leases throughout the year –  
Rev. T Edmondes for Council Twt and other properties, £4.6s.4d  
*B/Cow 192*
- 1877 Receipts of 1876 to Corporation of rents which include the Butts garden, from lately Mrs Bradley *B/Cow 194*
- 1881 Rose Cottage : James John, 42, general labourer born Cowbridge, with wife Ann, one son, three daughters and his father, David John, 82, former mason, born Cowbridge *Census*  
Dynevor : Anne Simmonet, 79, retired teacher, born Warminster, with her adult niece Miriam Carrington, a housekeeper and a servant *Census 53*  
The Poplars : Thomas Whapham, 44 yrs, vet, b St Nicholas, with wife Mary, 2 sons and 3 daughters, also 2 visitors (one a retired wine merchant) and a servant. *Census 93*
- 1884 Dynevor Cottage – Lot 9 (sale of Castell-y-Mynach Estate) dwelling house, extensive garden and premises (one acre 3 rods 20 perches) held by Mrs Simmonet under a 60 year lease from 25/3/1844 at £6.4s.6d. pa  
*Sale documents*
- 4/10/1886 Probate of the will of Mrs ASJ Simmonet – leasehold property called Dynevor Cottage, now in my occupation and gardens in the occupation of Revd MP Williams and Joseph Braddick (plus 77 & 79 Eastgate) to nephew George William Lean of Douglas Parade, Williamstown, nr Melbourne, Australia. She died 18/3/1886.  
*Gwyn & Gwyn papers*

- 1891 Rose Cottage : James John, 50, wife Ann and daughter Catherine, plus mother in law Mary ?Bailer, born Colwinston *Census 49*  
Toll house : Elizabeth Eddolls, widow of 72, with her daughter, 21, a general servant *Census 50*  
Dynevor Cottage : Rev. David Bowen, born Llandoverly, with wife, 2 sons and 3 daughters *Census 51*  
The Poplars : Thomas Whapham with wife and one daughter, Gertrude, 18, a pupil governess, also a nephew, a scholar named Percy Thomas *Census 47*
- 1897 ? (faint pencil) 'This property was formerly of Mr Bevan and sold by him to Mr Edmond. The ground rent paid by Mr Edmond as £1.15s *Borough records*
- 1899 Marriage of Ethel Montgomery Whapham, 27, daughter of Thomas, to C J Allen, 37, ironmonger of Abergavenny *Llb. Church records*
- 1901 Rose Cottage : Ann John, widow, 62, domestic cook, born Colwinston with daughter Catherine and granddaughter Maud *Census*
- 1910 Rose Cottage : Ann John occupied; Corporation owned *LTA*
- 1912 Dynevor Cottage : Mrs Eliza Shepherd *Western Mail street directory*
- 19<sup>th</sup> January 1916 *Letter from Nolton Cottage, Bridgend :*  
Dear Mr Gwyn,  
I have written to Mr Evans of the School who I believe holds the garden, the gate of which was broken in the Mill Road, asking him to let me know the cost of making good the damage. I do not understand that Dynevor Cottage or its surroundings were damaged at all. I have been seriously thinking of having all of the trees in the closes cut down and I should have done this only I thought that Cowbridge people would regret it. What say you about that? I am not inclined to go to much expense about lopping the trees.  
Yours truly, Frederic W Edmond
- 1920 Nurse Rymer kept a donkey and a cat in the Poplars *Memories of Arthur John, Church St.*
- 1921 Dynevor : Elsie and Albert Shepherd *Electoral roll*
- 1922 Dynevor : Mr WT Anthony, BA, Cowbridge Grammar School  
*Subscriber to 'Old Cowbridge'*
- 1927 Death at Dynevor of Mary Ann James, 75, widow of Aaron James, miller at Llandough *Ceri Harries (descendant)*
- 1947 Rose Cottage : Tom and Gwyneth Carter *Register of electors*

Mrs Gwyneth Carter, widow, continued to live in Rose Cottage during the 1960s into the 70s, and took in boy boarders from the Grammar School.

***Sources/abbreviations :***

*GRO = Glamorgan Record Office, where electoral registers, borough records (B/Cow), deeds (D/D), land tax assessments (LTA) etc are held.*

*Dunraven (Dun) deeds are in the National Library, Aberystwyth*