

Date	60 & 62 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
	<p><i>These premises long played an important part in the recreational life of Cowbridge. They included the site of Cowbridge's Ball Court or Tennis Court, adjacent to which was a public house called first 'The Three Tuns', then 'The Tennis Court' and finally 'The Wheelwright's Arms'. The twentieth century saw the inn replaced by the construction of Cowbridge's Pavilion cinema, with dance floor above – which was also used for dramatic and music hall productions.</i></p>	
1652/3	<p>Lease by Rimbron Stocke of Llanblethian gent. to William Miles of Cowbridge, baker, wife Mary Miles (alias Lloyd) and daughter Joan Williams – of a messuage (half burgage) <i>probably no. 62</i> adj. east the house and lands of Edmund Jenkins gent., <i>probably no. 60</i>, west the house and land of Thomas Harry, <i>probably no. 64</i>, and north the highway through Cowbridge</p>	D/Ed 120
1685	<p>Clemenston deed sworn at house of Edward Bullock, innkeeper in Cowbridge</p>	D/D C1 1/39
1698	<p>Lease by Henry Richards of Cowbridge, tanner, and wife Cicill Stock to Richard John of Cowbridge yeoman and wife Mary Stradling – messuage, half burgage, between lands of Wm Jenkins alderman and Edward Bullock innholder</p>	D/Ed 121
1708	<p>Lease by Henry Richard snr. of Cowbridge, cordwainer and Henry Richard jnr, late of Cowbridge, yeo. To Evan Jones of Pendoylan, yeoman – messuage, half burgage, adj. east houses and lands of Edmund Jenkins gent., south lands of Edmund Jenkins, west houses and lands formerly of Thomas Harry</p>	D/Ed122-4
1709	<p>William and Evan Jenkins gave permission to Evan Jones of Hensol, Pendoylan, to erect the side wall of a house now being built adjacent to their freehold one called The Three Tuns, provided he builds a new pigstye to replace the one allowed to be taken down.</p>	D/Ed125

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1725	A messuage or malthouse (half burgage), <i>probably no. 60</i> , was leased by David Jones of St Hilary and Daniel Jones of Bewper to William David senior, alderman of Cowbridge. It stood adjoining on the east and south the house and lands of Evan Jenkins gent., and on the west the house and lands formerly of Joan Jones decd., <i>probably no. 62</i> .	D/Ed 126/7
1741/2	Mortgages of the property between Evan Jenkins, Henry Llewellyn of Cardiff gent., Anne Howard of Llysworney spinster and then Thomas Edmondess gent. of Cowbridge.	D/Ed 271/2
1746	Thomas Edmondess, mortgaged to Anne Howard and Evan Jenkins, was owning 'a ruinous house and garden called the Three Tuns', formerly occupied by Richard Bassett innholder. It lay to the west of Thos. Edmondess' malthouse (called the upper malthouse), and to the north of the land called stumpy four acres, occupied by Stephen Skynner, exciseman.	D/Ed 1-3
1748/9	Reference to the 'tennis court house*' of Thomas Edmondess' and its adjoining passageway through to the rear (on the east side of the court). A stable, converted into a brewhouse adjoined this passage, and Thomas Edmondess appears to have had it on a long term lease from Stephen Skynner.	
	<i>* Ball playing (a form of 'fives') was said to be widespread in Glamorgan, particularly in churchyards during the 18th and early 19th centuries. There was keen rivalry between Cowbridge and Llantrisant, and a match between these two would draw a crowd of several hundred.</i>	Roy Denning in 'Saints and Sailing Ships' 1962
1759	Thomas Edmondess took out a mortgage with Abraham Clibborn of Haverfordwest, merchant, for his messuage that he had 'lately rebuilt (formerly a malthouse) called the Three Tons, with tennis court, cartilage and garden'. It was then occupied by Thomas Gwillin victualler	D/Ed 265
1772	Thomas Edmondess of Isleworth leased long-term to his son and heir, John Edmondess of Cowbridge esq.,... various properties in the town including a 'messuage called Three Tons and Tennis Court', then said to be let to Griffith David.	D/Ed 292.
1773	John Edmondess esq. as owner was taxed 5 shillings for the property	LTA

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1773/4	Griffith David (occupier) showed 12 windows and paid 3 shillings	Window tax/LTA
1775	Mortgage transferred from Abraham Clibborn to Samuel Price of Park esq. The Three Tuns was now occupied by Anne Davies, widow.	D/Ed268.
1777	Thomas Edmondess granted a long-term lease at £8.8s pa to the then innkeepers, William and Anne Bowen, provided they buy only his malt. The lease included the parcel of land at the rear known as lower stumpy (£9 pa)	D/Ed 143
1783	Thomas Edmondess owned; William Bowen occupied, half burgage William Bowen occupied the Tennis Court	BR Bute
1784	Thos. Edmondess owned the property, William Bowen was the occupier. It was taxed at 6s 8d.	LTA
1795	The Tennis Court (inn) – William Bowen	Universal British directory
1800	Thomas Edmondess esq. owner; Thomas Llewellyn occupier – 12/-. Called the Three Tuns	LTA
1806-16	Thos. Edmondess owned; William Bowen occupied, half burgage + one burgage, the Tennis Court	BR Bute
1815	Thos. Edmondess owner, William Bowen occupier – 12 shillings. Described as Three Tuns and Court. William Bowen of the Three Tuns (or the Tennis Court), 60-62 Eastgate, was tenant of the Edmondess family from 1775 to about 1815. In addition to being innkeeper, Bowen was regularly supplying his landlord, Thomas Edmondess of Llandough Castle, with meat and coal.	LTA Wm. Bowen's account with Thos. Edmondess 1789-90
1829 & 1830	Thos. Edmondess esq. owner, Watkin Lloyd occupier – 12/-, Three Tuns.	LTA
1835	Watkin Lloyd – Three Tuns	Pigot's directory
1843	Thos. Edmondess owner, David Lloyd occupier	Tithe records
1844	David Lloyd – Three Tuns	Pigot's directory
1848	Margaret Jones – Tennis Court	Hunt & Co. directory
1850	David Lloyd – Tennis Court	Slater's directory

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1851	Llewellyn Price, 31 yrs., born St Georges, publican and sawyer employing one man, wife Mary, 26 yrs, and nephew James, 4 yrs., lodger John Nicholas, 24, carpenter's journeyman, house servant Sarah Davies, 16 yrs - property called the Tennis Court	Census 154
1852	John Evans, Tennis Court	Scammel's directory
1852/3	David Lloyd, Tennis Court	Slater's directory
1854	Death of John Aubrey aged 82 yrs.	Parish records
1858	Ball match last Saturday at Tennis Court inn between the best two of Gwaun y rerw, nr Pontypridd and the best two of Cowbridge. Players selected by either side (for Cowbridge) were Messrs Richard Aubrey and William Morgan. The match was for £5 a side, which was to be paid to the winners of the two first out of three games. When the game was closed, the score was : first game Cowbridge 21, G 9; second G 212, Cowbridge 7; third Cowbridge 21, G 12. Thus it will seem that Cowbridge players were victorious. The court was crowded during the whole day, the match appearing to create considerable excitement. Bets were freely made to large amounts.	<i>Glamorgan Gazette</i>
1858/9	Richard Aubrey, who was a lodger with Hannah Howe, 8 Church St in 1851, (possibly son of Richard and Ann Thomas of St Hilary) was in this property, Tennis Court	Slater's directory
1861	Richard Aubrey, 35 yrs., victualler, wheelwright and master blacksmith employing one man, one boy Wife Elizabeth, 36, son Richard, 6, daughter Anne, 5, and daughter Catherine, 9 ?months Workman William Williams, 24, blacksmith's journeyman. Property called the Tennis Court	Census 214
1865, 25th May	Eisteddfod held in Tennis Court (all for 2000; several carried out fainting); three immense trains.	<i>Bridgend Chronicle</i>
1871	Richard Aubrey, 43, carpenter and coachmaker, wife Elizabeth, 36, son Richard, 16, pupil, daughter Anne, 15 scholar, son John, 3 scholar. Property called Tennis Court inn.	Census 228
1873, 25th July	The old ball court at the Tennis Court inn has recently been opened and several interesting games have been played between local lovers of the pastime. Visitors from Llantrisant etc have had several friendly contests.	<i>Co Glam. Gazette</i>

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1874	Thomas Edmondson owned; Richard Aubrey occupied	LTA
1875	Richard Aubrey – Wheelwright’s Arms. This is the first mention of the change of name.	Worrall’s directory
1881	Richard Aubrey, 55, wheelwright and innkeeper Wife Elizabeth, 56, son Richard, wheelwright, daughter Annie, 25, dressmaker, son John, 13, scholar. Property called the Wheelwright’s Arms	Census 110
1884	Death of Ada Aubrey at 11 weeks	Parish records
1886	Death of Lena Aubrey at 6 weeks	Parish records
1891	Richard Aubrey, 63, wheelwright and innkeeper Wife Elizabeth, 66, daughter Annie (single). Property called the Wheelwright’s Arms.	Census 99
1895	Richard Aubrey, beer retailer, East village	Kelly’s directory
1901	Richard Aubrey, wheelwright, East village	Kelly’s
1906	Richard Aubrey, wheelwright and Wheelwright’s Arms public house	Kelly’s
1907	Death of William Aubrey, Wheelwright’s Arms, aged 24 years	Parish records
1910	Wheelwrights Arms	Bennetts Business Directory
1910	Richard Aubrey, Wheelwrights Arms	Kelly’s
1910	Mrs Edmondson owned; Richard Aubrey occupied	LTA
Early 1900s	Richard Aubrey, who was a celebrated wheelwright and cart-maker (one of his carts is preserved in the St Fagans Folk Museum) also invented a three-wheel velocipede, ‘an early form of bicycle propelled by thrusting his feet against the ground. Sad to narrate, when Mr Aubrey demonstrated his machine in front of huge cheering crowds on the Stallingdown, the occasion ended in a complete fiasco. The machine, after plunging headlong down the slopes, crashed because of faulty brakes; the velocipede was a complete write-off, and the inventor was lucky to escape serious injury’.	<i>‘Cowbridge & Llanblethian Past and Present’</i> James & Francis
1921	Richard and Celia Aubrey, Wheelwrights Arms, 60 Eastgate	Poll Tax records

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1922	Vendor of the property – Charles Thomas Edmond Buyer – Arthur Thomas Mills, garage proprietor All that piece or parcel of land with dwelling house or public house known by the name or sign ‘The Wheelwright’s Arms’, together with the garden and the sheds or workshops and other outbuildings at the rear, and also with the piece ...of land with building known as the Ball Court adj. eastern side of Wheelwrights Arms, also the passage or pathway on eastern side of the Ball Court...leading to the rear of the said dwelling house and offices to be a freehold cinema and Dance Hall known as the Pavilion and also a freehold dwelling house and shop situate in and being no. 62 Eastgate	Deeds
	Sold for £590	Huw Davies, schoolboy researcher
	Arthur Mills built and ran a motor garage at 44 High St at this time. He lived above there with his wife and children.	
1925	Ballroom opened on Armistice night, with maple floor and grand décor on the first floor, the cinema on the ground floor having opened a couple of months earlier on the night of the Cowbridge Agricultural Show.	Huw Davies
	‘When the ballroom was being used, it sounded like a herd of elephants to those in the cinema. Ollie Jones was the film operator and mechanic; his wife played the piano – that is how he met her’	Gethin Thomas
1926	Death of Richard Aubrey, aged 71 yrs, at 42 Eastgate	Parish records
1930	David Lloyd George presented with the Freedom of the Borough in the ballroom	E.g photographs
1932	Pavilion cinema and ballroom – used for public performances of amateur dramatic society formed by Alan Brown and Ralph Bird. Mr Owen Phillips (The Cairns, Llanblethian) was the producer. Seating for 400.	Ralph Bird’s memoirs
1933	AT Mills died	
1934	Pavilion leased to Philip Phillips to August 1st 1943 – ‘freehold cinema and dance hall....cinema, in part, destroyed by fire’	Deeds
1942	Ballroom and cinema destroyed by fire. White hot pieces of asbestos fell on the lawn of Heath House	Ralph Bird’s memoirs

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1947/8	The cinema, but not the ballroom, was re-built. 'It was an iron girder building and the girders had twisted in the heat of the fire. Harry Webb, who had his blacksmith's forge in Bear Lane, built a portable furnace in the yard at the back, and straightened them. There were concrete lintels on those girders – a tremendous weight. The cinema was then re-opened in 1948'.	Danny Powell's memories
1949	No. 62 was sold to D Brown and Sons, who used no. 62 as offices for their printing works situated behind no. 64	Deeds
1950	Pavilion cinema – proprietor Philip Phillips 250 seats. Prices 9d to 2 shillings	Kine handbook
	Mr Phillips also ran a cinema in Pontyclun. The films were swapped between the cinemas in the interval by Len Sterling on his motorbike.	Huw Davies (who wrote a thesis on the Cowbridge cinema)
1961	Glamorgan County Council bought the cinema, and used it as a depot for their refuse lorries, the ground floor having been gutted at the rear	Huw Davies
	In the 1990s, it was bought by Penlline Properties, and after local protest that the front should be preserved as a town landmark, was converted to its present form – now containing office space for small businesses.	

Date	60 & 62 Eastgate, Cowbridge	Source
2016	<p>The Pavilion was bought on December 14th 1922, from Charles Thomas Edmondes gent. of Old Hall, Cowbridge, by Arthur Thomas Mills. Mills was a Motor Garage proprietor of High Street. He paid £590 for the building, which comprised the dwelling house or public house called the ‘Wheelwright’s Arms’, Eastgate Street, together with the garden and sheds or workshops, and other buildings, at the rear. It was also together with a piece of land, ‘with the building thereon’, called ‘The Ballcourt’, adjoining the eastern side of the Wheelwrights Arms.</p> <p>At one time, the Wheelwrights Arms was called the Tennis Court Inn. Also here Mr Aubrey, famed for his Glamorgan Waggon, carried on his trade.</p> <p>Alderman Mills (as he became) developed the site into a luxury ballroom on the top floor, with a cinema below showing silent movies. The ballroom was considered the best in Wales with a maple sprung floor. The cinema was completed and opened on Agricultural Show night in September 1925, the first feature film being ‘The House of Vanity’. The ballroom did not open until Armistice Night 1925. Mr Mills and a trusted architect drew up all his own plans for 44 High Street (his garage) and the cinema. Most of the town went to the grand opening, which was first a Whist drive followed by a dance. The ballroom burned down during the war in 1942 and never re-opened. The cinema operated until the mid 1950s.</p>	<p><i>Kath Thomas, wife of Jeff Thomas, local builder (Penlline Properties), who bought the derelict property in the 1990s and restored it for offices</i></p>

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