

**The History of
Greengates, 69 High Street,
Church Stretton, SY6 6BY
formerly known as Hayles' Messuage**



Researched by Barrie Raynor, 2020

There are three copies of this booklet:

- 1 Kept at Greengates and to be passed to the next occupant**
- 2 Church Stretton Library Local History Section**
- 3 Shropshire Archives, Shrewsbury in collections numbered 6437 and XM19715**



During the last ice age the ice sheet spread from the north across the Cheshire plain and North Shropshire and southwards into the Church Stretton valley as far south as Marshbrook. It was at its thickest about 23,000 to 18,000 years ago. This large chunk of granite shown here originally came from Dumfries and was trapped in the ice as the glacier moved southwards over thousands of years. When the ice sheet eventually melted and retreated northwards, it was deposited in the front garden of Greengates.

Abbreviations:

b, bp, m, d	born, baptised, married, died
Bilbey	David Bilbey, <i>Church Stretton</i> , Phillimore, 1985.
Bilbey CSW	<i>David Bilbey's Church Stretton Walkabout</i> , reprinted from <i>Stretton Focus</i> 1981-1991
CH&C	C W Campbell Hyslop & E S Cobbold, <i>Church Stretton</i> , vol II, 1904.
CS	Church Stretton
fn	footnote in <i>VCH</i>
GRO	General Register Office
Grounds	Douglas Grounds, <i>A History of the Church of St Laurence, Church Stretton</i> , 2002, Logaston.
HRO	Herefordshire Record Office
MI	Monumental Inscription
PR	Parish Registers
Rolls	The court rolls of the manor of Stretton en le Dale in Shropshire Archives
SRO	Shropshire Archives (Shropshire Record Office).
SS&T	Sprott, Stokes and Turnbull
TSAS	<i>Transactions of the Shropshire Archeological Society.</i>
VCH	<i>Victoria County History, Shropshire</i> , vol 10 unless otherwise stated.
Will xx	Refers to wills numbered in the Appendix

Acknowledgement:

I am particularly grateful to Ivar Rømo for researching much of the early years of the history of the house and answering so many of my questions.



Sheep being driven up the High Street in front of Greengates for the sheep sales on Lion Meadow. These sales continued every September until about 1982.

The Fire of 1593

Fire was an ever present hazard in all towns because of the close-packed nature of properties which were built of such flammable materials as timber and thatch. The use of fire in so many trades such as bakers, smithies and wheelwrights, as well as the domestic hearths in every house, made towns highly vulnerable to conflagrations. This happened to Church Stretton in 1593 just ten years before Queen Elizabeth died when a fire rapidly spread through the town. It is thought that the fire started in a bread oven in property in Shrewsbury Road adjacent to what is now known as The Hotel or Old Copper's Malthouse. With a northerly wind, the fire rapidly spread southwards. The church, with the fire-break of the churchyard, was undamaged and the only other property in the central area of the town which escaped serious damage was the Buck's Head Inn, probably because it was built mostly of stone. The rectory, too, escaped unscathed. The parish had a population probably around 300-400.

The damage to buildings and livelihoods was so great that an appeal was made in aid of those who had lost their houses and belongings by order of the Queen's Council in the Marches of Wales and issued from Ludlow Castle. As a result a collection of 46 shillings and 10 pence was made. The rebuilding was carried out still with timber and thatch, though it would have incorporated more use of brick and stone and better designed fireplaces. Many of the town's present properties date from this period, some of which hide behind Georgian and Victorian frontages. The King's Arms, Hardwick House, the Lion Inn, the Old Barn, Greengates and Tudor Cottage are some that date from that period.

The Hayle family of the Strettons

The first recorded occupant of Greengates was John Hayle. Evidence for this appears in the Bailiff's Accounts for 1628-29. More about this opposite. The Hayle family had been prominent citizens of Church Stretton from the beginning of the sixteenth century. They probably lived mainly in Little Stretton and Minton since it is known that a Thomas Hayle, a weaver, was living in Little Stretton in 1570 [Ref: VCH p103, fn 645]. Various other members are referred to in records of the Manor of Stretton en le Dale. Thus a Ralph Hayle of Little Stretton, son of John Hayle, deceased, was recorded as a juror in 1566 [Ref: SRO Rolls].

A Church terrier of about 1576 refers to land of presumably this Ralf Hayle called Woulder Sharve and to an Hade Acre of land (grassland) of Francis Hayle, late deceased; this terrier was signed Radolphi Hail, churchwarden [Ref: SRO SS&T Glebe Terriers 1709/203]. A 1553 church inventory document refers to a John Hayle implying he was a past or succeeding churchwarden [Ref: Grounds, p81]. Richard Hayle was a member of a homage jury in 1595 implying he was one of the leading parishioners. Again, in 1609, Richard Hayle, juror, together with Richard Higgins senior and Richard Higgins junior, are mentioned in the Bounds of Church Stretton [Ref: TSAS, vol XLIX, p250].



Dugdale pedigree, 1623, *Visitation of Shropshire*.

A partial family tree (illustrated opposite) was made by Sir William Dugdale, Garter King of Arms, in his visitation of Shropshire in 1623 which aimed to check the pedigrees of those families aspiring to carry a coat of arms. Edward Hayle (labelled 1 in the pedigree opposite) was one of two constables who represented All Stretton in the Manor Court in 1566 [Ref: SRO Rolls and CH&C, p176]. He married Margaret, daughter of Peter Higgys and died sometime before 1621. His wife then remarried to Sir William Harries (labelled 2 in the pedigree), Rector of Church Stretton, who was incumbent from 1579 to 1621. [Ref: Grounds, p86]. Sir William's step-son, John Hayle (labelled 3 in the pedigree) claimed to have bought the right to make the next appointment of the rector in 1592 [Ref: Grounds, pp85, 99].

There are various wills of possible but not proven relevance. [Refs 1-4]. A John Hayle married Mary Jenkins at Conover on 30th Dec 1588. [Ref: Conover PR]. This will be the John Heale numbered (3) in the pedigree opposite.

A list of copyholders of the manor in 1613 listing their rents payable mentions Francis Hayle and Jos. Haille of Church Stretton, Richard Hayle of Little Stretton and John Hayle for Womerton Chapel (rental 2s) and for a cottage in All Stretton. [Ref 5,]

The house, known since 1829 as Greengates, was known originally as Hayles' messuage and is in the Bristol Road, now High Street, along which coaches from Bristol to Liverpool passed. Further proof of the position of the property is given in the section on Thomas Waring (2) on pages 10 and 11 where a description of the land associated with Hayles' messuage is linked to the 25 inch OS map.

John Hayle [Copyholder, early 1600s]

An indenture dated 1621 between Bonham Norton of Church Stretton and Sir William Owen leases in trust for his younger children various messuages including one late of John Hayles and another late of Richard Hayles of the manor of Stretton for Jane Norton, wife of Bonham to occupy after his death. This John Hayles is almost certainly our John Hayles or his father. [Ref 6].

The accounts for the manor for the year 1628-29 prepared by the bailiff Peter Medlicott show, amongst the rental entries, a note about John Hayles (labelled 3 in the pedigree opposite) refusing to pay his rent for Womerton chapel because it had fallen down and many of the stones had been taken.

And he putteth over upon John Hales for the rent of Womberton's Chaple alias St Peter's Chaple charged in the rental supra. For that the said Chaple being utterly defaced & the stones thereof carried away, he refuseth to pay the rent thereof. 2s.

[Ref: Bailiff's Accounts for the Manor of Stretton 1628-29. TSAS, 50, p179]

Womerton, two miles north of Church Stretton, with its chapel, is referred to in the Domesday book and was important in early medieval times because of an outcrop of coal which was mined there. The coal became exhausted and the village lost its reason for existing; it soon died and was deserted by John Hayles' time. In fact, the manorial officers were putting the church to secular uses by the early 1560s and John Hayles was a tenant in 1613, paying an annual rent of 2s. [Ref: VCH vol 10, p112; also Ref 5]

Shortly afterwards, John Hayle fell ill and died. He dictated his will on 9th August 1629 and the thin spidery 'X' of his mark suggests he was on his deathbed. The will and its transcription are shown on the next page. He describes himself as John Hayle the younger of Church Stretton and besides giving £3 to the poor of Church Stretton to raise their stock, he bequeaths money to his three sisters and their children as well as others. Since no mention is made of his wife or children, then they have presumably predeceased him. [HRO wills 1629, no. 143, see next page].

John Hayle had married Mary Jenkins at Conover on 30 Dec 1588. This further suggests the link with the pedigree opposite since the sister, Elizabeth, of John Hayles (labelled 3) also married a (John) Jenkins.

It is not known if John Hayles actually lived in this property. No court records exist for this period.

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Johannis Haile
 I the younger of Church Stretton in the Comtie of
 Sallop make my last will and testament in
 manner and forme followinge. First I bequeath
 my soule unto Allmightie god my saviour and
 redeemer and my bodie to be buried in Christian
 burieall
 for my wordly affayres first I bequeath unto
 the poore of the parish of Diddleburie £3
 Ite To the poore of the parish of Stretton
 to raysse there stock I give £3
 Ite I give unto my sister Elizabeth three
 Daughters Dorothe Marie and Jane £3
 Ite I give unto my sister Margrets
 five yonger Children 40s beinge in the hande
 of there mother. Ite I give unto William Lewis
 my sister Catherines sonne 30s
 Ite I give unto William Lewis wife and hir
 Daughter 20s a peece
 Ite I give unto Margret Miles alias maredith
 my foster sister £6 in the hande of Thomas
 Browne of Munslowe. Item I give unto Thomas
 Bucher the yonger £3 beinge in his owne hande
 Ite I give unto Cicily Higgins and hir
 to Children 10s a peece. Ite I give unto John
 Hughes three Children that live at home 10s
 a peece and to his wief 10s more out of the
 three pounce that hee oweth me
 All the rest of my godes Cattells and Chattels
 moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath
 unto William Lewis my sister Elizabeths
 sonne in lawe to see my debts and legaces payed and funerrall
 expences discharged and do make him my
 sole executor of this my last will and testament
 in wrighting and have put to my hand
 and marke the ninth day of August anno dom 1629

John Hayles X his marke

Delivered in the presence
 of
 William Lewis
 Francis Higgins

Transcription of John Hayles' will

Johannis Haile
 1 In the name of god, Amen. I John Hayle
 2 the younger of Church Stretton in the Comtie of
 3 Sallop make my last will and testament in
 4 manner and forme followinge. First I bequeath
 5 my soule unto Allmightie god my saviour and
 6 redeemer and my bodie to be buried in Christian
 7 buriell.
 8 for my wordly affayres first I bequeath unto
 9 the poore of the parish of Diddleburie £3
 10 Ite To the poore of the parish of Stretton
 11 to raysse there stock I give £3
 12 Ite I give unto my sister Elizabeth three
 13 Daughters Dorothe Marie and Jane £3
 14 Ite I give unto my sister Margrets
 15 five yonger Children 40s beinge in the hande
 16 of there mother. Ite I give unto William Lewis
 17 my sister Catherines sonne 30s
 18 Ite I give unto William Lewis wife and hir
 19 Daughter 20s a peece
 20 Ite I give unto Margret Miles alias maredith
 21 my foster sister £6 in the hande of Thomas
 22 Browne of Munslowe. Item I give unto Thomas
 23 Bucher the yonger £3 beinge in his owne hande
 24 Ite I give unto Cicily Higgins and hir
 25 to Children 10s a peece. Ite I give unto John
 26 Hughes three Children that live at home 10s
 27 a peece and to his wief 10s more out of the
 28 three pounce that hee oweth me
 29 All the rest of my godes Cattells and Chattels
 30 moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath
 31 unto William Lewis glover my sisters Elizabethes
 32 son in lawe to see my debts and legaces payed and funerrall
 33 expences discharged and do make him my
 34 sole executor of this my Last will and testament
 35 in wrighting and have put to my hand
 36 and marke the ninth day of August anno dom 1629

John Hayle X his marke (signs X in a very weak hand)
 Delivered in the ---
 of Thomas Smith
 William Pinchet
 Franncis Higgins

The key beneficiaries of the will are:

- Sister Elizabeth's daughters Dorothe, Marie, Jane
- Sister Margaret's five younger children
- Sister Catherine Lewis's son William
- William Lewis's wife (i.e. Catherine) and daughter
- Foster sister Margaret Miles (alias Meredith)
- Thomas Bucher the younger
- Cicily Higgins and her two children *
- John Hughes' wife and their three children

* This Cicily Higgins is probably the daughter or niece of Edward Hayle's wife Margaret Higgins. This suggests that our John Hayle is the same person as the John Hayle (3) in the Dugdale pedigree. Also a witness is Francis Higgins.
 [Executor: his sister Elizabeth's husband William Lewis]

Lord of the Manor of Stretton en le Dale

In the latter part of the sixteenth century, the lords of the manor were members of the Thynne family (now Marquis of Bath, of Longleat). They were absentee landlords and a bailiff was employed to manage the manor and, through the twice yearly Manor Court, recorded changes in 'ownership' or 'possession' of each of the properties and fields held by copyhold tenure (equivalent to leasehold today). The bailiff recorded all such transactions together with other relevant information in the records (court rolls) of the Manor Court and a copy given to the new owner. Properties held by copyhold could be sold and passed on to heirs but fees (called *finer*s) were paid whenever ownership changed and annual rentals still accrued to the lord of the manor, the ultimate owner, with a record held by the court. The copyhold owner could, and often did, sub-let the property to a third party but no record of this was usually kept by the Manor Court; that was a private matter between the copyhold owner and his tenant. These court rolls hold a mine of information about ownership.

Queen Elizabeth on the throne 1533 to 1603

Bonham Norton [Copyholder, - 1629] and heirs

From sometime soon after 1593 until 1715, Hayles' messuage was owned by wealthy absentee copyholders who were all interrelated. The first was Bonham Norton (born 1565 - died 1635) whose family came from Onibury. He was Master of the Stationer's Company of London and Printer to King Charles I. In 1590, he married Jane Owen of Condover Hall and because of both their local connections and, well supplied with ready money, bought nine or ten copyholds in Church Stretton as an investment in the years after 1593, much of it left from the destruction caused by the great fire of that year. He probably aimed to profit from the fire's effect on local property values and from the added value of rebuilding the property. In 1617, he built the half timbered Market Hall. He lived in Church Stretton at The Hall when not living in London and was bailiff from 1624 to 1625. [Ref 7]

By 1613, Bonham Norton owned much land in Church Stretton [Ref: VCH p93, fn84] and it is recorded in a court judgement of 1635 that he had bought a messuage from John Hayles, the price included a heriot of the 'best beast'. [Ref 8]



Bonham Norton effigy in Condover Church

George Norton (1) [Copyholder, 1629 - 1654]

Bonham Norton fell out with his eldest son and heir Arthur, who was referred to as his 'thankless heir. and a frequenter of ale houses in London'. He transferred all his land in and around Church Stretton to his cousin George Norton of Abbots Leigh in Somerset in or just before 1629. This included Hayles' messuage. George Norton then sold the land in 1654 to Sir William Owen (brother of Bonham Norton's wife Jane) by an indenture dated 21 Oct 1654 [Ref 9, see next page; Grounds p98].

Sir William Owen [Copyholder, 1654 - 1663]

and David Jones [Occupier, 1654 -]

A document dated 21 November 1654 [Ref 9] recites an indenture dated 21 October 1654 which demised, granted, set and let unto William Owen the messuage called Hayles House together with four parcels of land, two — (*unreadable*), Street Meadow and Home Close for 99 years. The document states that David Jones and his wife Joan and their son William may occupy the said house and farm the land for an annual rental of £10. Sir William died in 1663 intestate. Because of this, it seems that his lands reverted back to the Norton family.

Sir George Norton (1) of Abbots Leigh [Copyholder, 1663 - 1677]

George Norton (1), who had been copyholder from 1629 to 1654, was knighted in 1660 in gratitude for his service in sheltering the future King Charles II at his house, Abbot's Leigh near Bristol, in 1651 during the king's flight to France after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester. In 1663, George Norton regained the copyholds held by Sir William Owen upon Owen's death. These in turn passed in 1667 to George's son, Sir George Norton (2), on his father's death. [Ref 10]

Sir George held Hayles' messuage in 1664, since the rent roll for that year records [Ref 10]:

The heirs of Bonham Norton Esq for one messuage of late Hailes' 2s 4d

Sir George Norton (2) of Abbots Leigh [Copyholder, 1677 - 1712]

John Freke [Copyholder, 1712 - 1715]

After his father died in 1677, Sir George Norton (2) was copyholder until 1712 when he sold much of his land and property including Hayles' messuage to John Freke of the Middle Temple, London. John Freke was a brother of Sir George's wife Frances Freke. The sale arose because they had no surviving children to whom the property could be passed on to. The new owner, John Freke never married and died in 1717. He held his properties in Church Stretton for only three years before deciding to sell the Hayles' messuage part of his estate in 1715 to Edward Appleyard and Thomas Waring. [Ref 11; *Dictionary of National Biography*]

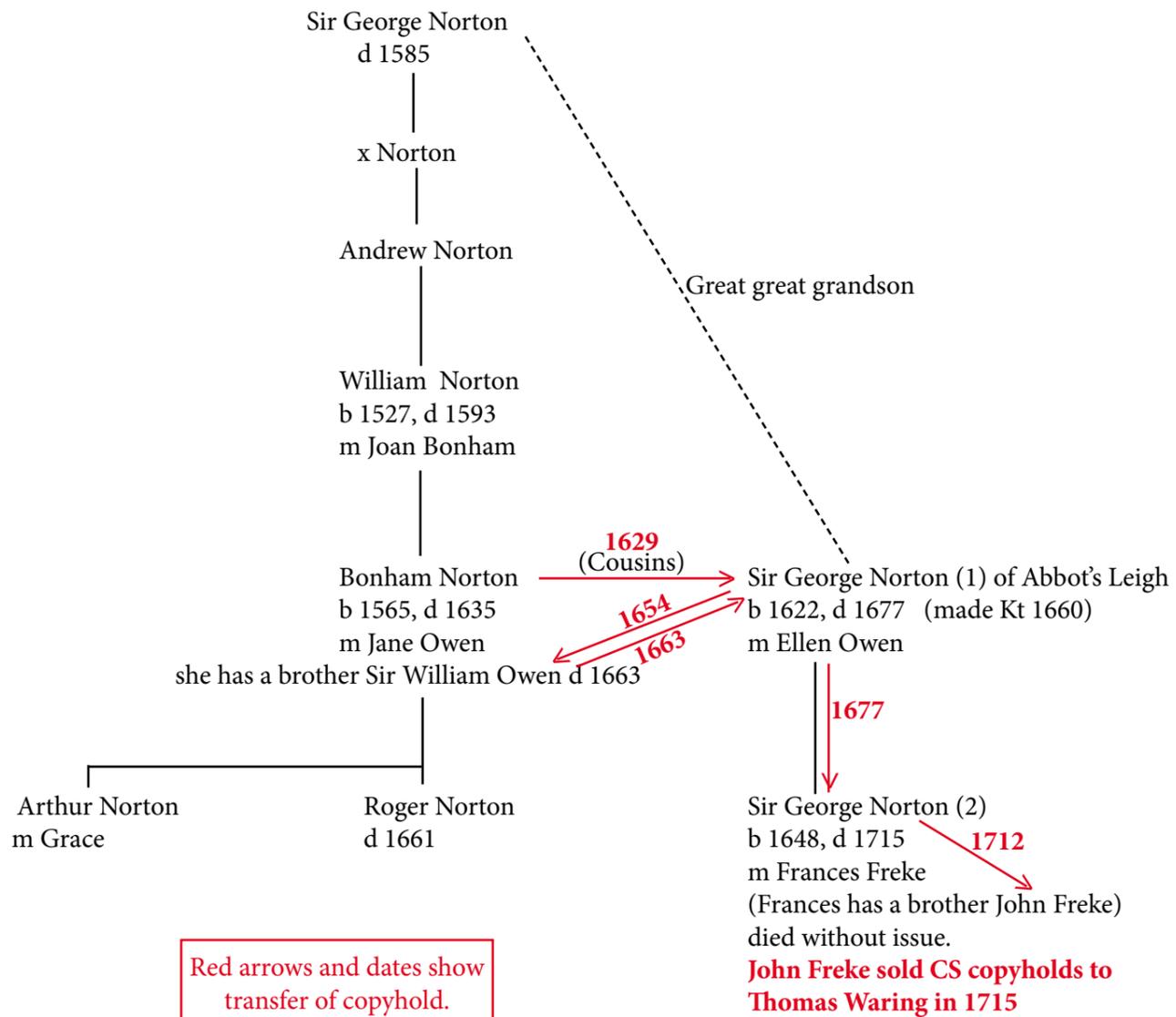
On 24th August 1687, King James II rode through Church Stretton on his way from Ludlow to Shrewsbury.

The Norton family relationships are presented in the family tree on the next page.

Throughout the period from the 1590s to 1715 copyhold ownership was in the Norton, Owen and Freke families, all of whom were closely related by marriage. Thereafter, their copyholds, and in particular Hayles' messuage, were held by local people. Hayles' messuage was usually sub-let and occupied by persons unknown, except for the one case of David Jones' family (above).

Richard Davies [Occupier, ca 1711/12 - 1715]

Richard Davies and his wife Mary, along with their first child Anne, born in 1713, occupied Hayles' messuage in 1715 together with the land coloured on the map overleaf [see Thomas Waring below, Ref 12]. It seems that Richard, a labourer who originally came from Little Stretton, only lived in the house for 3 or 4 years since records show that they were living in All Stretton when their next child, John, was born in 1716/7. [Ref: CS PR]. Presumably they were evicted when Thomas Waring bought the property ca 1715.



Part of the Norton family tree showing how the copyholds were transferred from one to another.

Thomas Waring [Copyholder, 1715 - ca 1716]

From 1715, the copyholders of Hayles' messuage in the manor of Stretton were wealthy landowners in the locality, the first being the Waring family whose holdings included the Crown Inn, now called Old Copper's Malthouse. The sale of Hayles' messuage by John Freke in 1715 to Thomas Waring of Church Stretton is detailed in the deed of conveyance and summarised below. [Ref 12]

Hayles' messuage in Church Stretton with the fold, backside, garden and appurtenances, the close and yard below and adjoining to said backside and garden, 5 acres; two parcels of land together above Watling Street, called the [blank] Leasows, 2 acres; the meadow below Watling Street, called Watling Street Meadow, 2 acres, all in the occupation of Richard Davies. (The land referred to is shown on the map on the next page).

A declaration of trust, below, between Edward Appleyard and Thomas Wareing relates to the payment of £1,545, conveyance and surrender from John Freke of lands in Church Stretton, 11 June 1715. Edward Appleyard also owned several properties in Church Stretton. [Ref: SRO D6000/3552]

Thomas Wareing bought much land and messuages from John Freeke of the Middle Temple, London, for £1,545 including:

All that messuage and tenement called Hayles situate lying and being in Church Stretton aforesaid with the fold backside garden and appurtenances thereto belonging and all that close or yard adjoining to the said messuage and lying below and adjoining to the backside and garden belonging to the said messuage containing by estimation five acres or thereabouts to be the same more or less. All those two pieces or parcels of pasture land belonging to the same messuage lying together with their and every of their appurtenances containing by estimation seven acres to be the same more or less and lying above Watlingstreet road in Church Stretton aforesaid and all that meadow belonging to the same messuage lying below Watlingstreet road aforesaid containing by estimation two acres be the same more or less commonly called Watlingstreet meadow. All which the said messuage tenement pieces and parcels of meadow and pasture ground last mentioned are now in the possession of Richard Davies.

Signatures and seals of Edward Appleyard and Thomas Wareing.

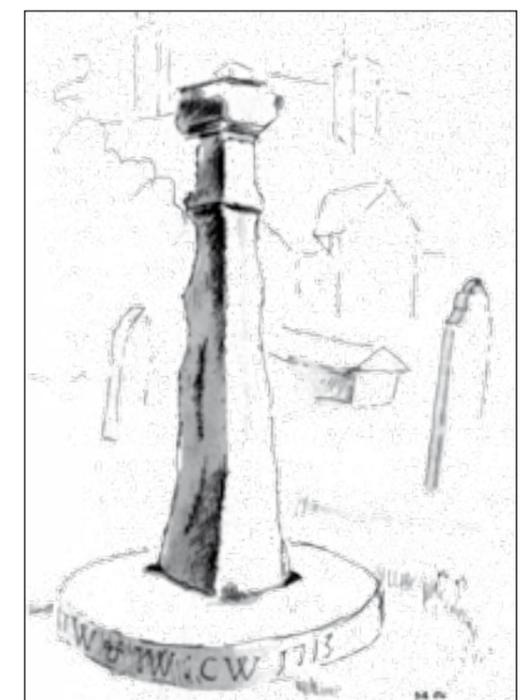
The Waring family were well established citizens of the town since Thomas Waring was described as a gentleman farmer. Thomas Waring had been a churchwarden in 1713 and presumably paid for, or was responsible for, positioning the churchyard cross or sundial at its current place in the churchyard. His initials are inscribed on the mill wheel at its foot (see illustration below). Thomas Waring appeared in the Poll Book for 1714.

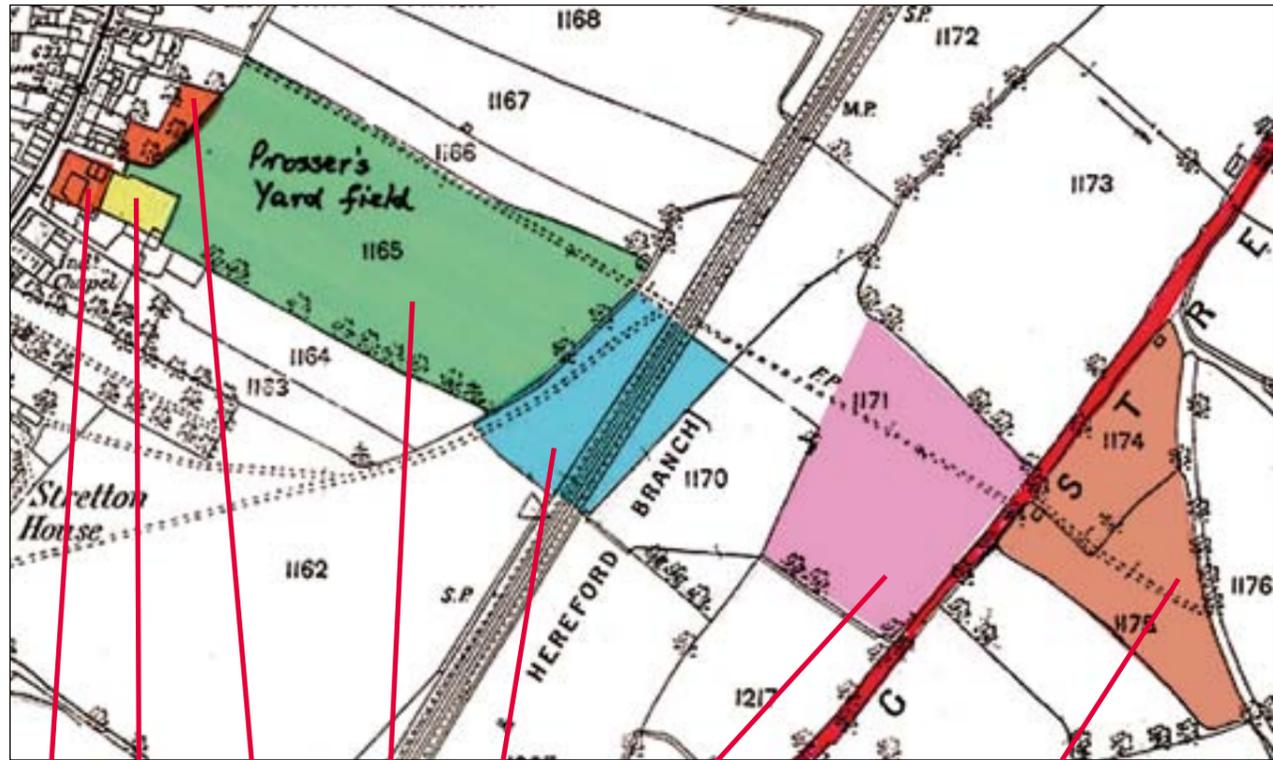
Thomas Waring died in 1716.



Thomas Waring's signature on the Declaration of Trust document above.

Churchyard crosses were usually surmounted by elaborate crucifixes which were destroyed after the Reformation and occasionally replaced by a sundial. This shaft of the sundial or possibly the stump of the old parish cross, supported by a mill wheel, is in the churchyard. The mill wheel bears the initials 'TW & IW' representing Thomas Waring and John Williams who were churchwardens (CW) in 1713. On the top was a brass dial covering an earlier one with the inscription 'LAT 52 28'. Only the mill wheel remains today. [Ref: Bilbey]





House Backside Garden Yard Close Meadow below Watling Street Meadow above Watling Street

Map showing the probable land referred to in the 1715 conveyance superimposed on the 1885 25 inch OS for easy identification. Note: The track marked on the map above that runs alongside Prosser's Yard Field is still in existence and is commonly called Coffin Lane. The boundary curve between Prosser's Yard Field (in green) and the Close (in blue) is seen today in the curve of the road Central Avenue. The whole of the field 1170 should be coloured blue Likewise, the 'Garden' (in brown) is the curtilage of 67 High Street.



St Laurence Church, Church Stretton

Earlier Hearth Tax returns for 1672, below, names a Thomas Wareing occupying a house with two hearths for which he paid 4s. This Thomas was probably the father, though the property was not Hayles' message since he was living elsewhere in Church Stretton in a more substantial property.

Church Stretton.	Firehearths.	ll.	s.
Mr. Thomas Powell	11	1	2
Robert Williams	5	0	10
William Wick	5	0	10
Sylvanus Yeomans	5	0	10
Thomas Kyte	1	0	2
Edward Laungford	1	0	2
Richard Griffiths	2	0	4
George Harding	1	0	2
Edward Kyte	1	0	2
Thomas Bottfeild	2	0	4
John Poston	2	0	4
Widdowe Saunky	4	0	8
Richard Bowdler	3	0	6
William Pynshes	2	0	4
Thomas Allen	1	0	2
Thomas Wood	1	0	2
Thomas Tomblins	4	0	8
William Kyte	1	0	2
Thomas Kyte	2	0	4
John Legers	2	0	4
Edward Berry	3	0	6
Richard Mellychop	2	0	4
Edward Higgons	2	0	4
Richard Colley	4	0	8
Elizabeth Poston	1	0	2
Thomas Gardner	1	0	2
Edward Mullott	1	0	2
Thomas Wareing	2	0	4
David James	4	0	8
Mary Parker	1	0	2
Mr. Edward Brooke	6	0	12
Edward Pryce	1	0	2
John Medlicott	3	0	6
Mr. Cleaton	6	0	12
John Whynehood	1	0	2
Thomas Marsh	1	0	2
Widdowe Powell	1	0	2
	96	9	12

Hearth Tax, 1672. The Thomas Wareing listed is probably the father of our Thomas Waring in a large property having two hearths.

The Hearth Tax was part of the lay subsidy, i.e. money for the king from the lay people, as opposed for the churches or for the government. The tax was imposed by Charles II in 1662 for every fire hearth and stove of every dwelling, except those who are poor, at 2/- per annum. It was abolished in 1689 because it exposed every house to be entered and searched by persons unknown to the occupier. It was paid by the occupier, not the landlord. The lists were compiled by the Parish Constable and certified by the Minister, Churchwardens and overseers of the poor.

Stephen Garrett/Jarrett [Copyholder, ca 1716 - 1717]

We know that Thomas Waring bought Hayles' messuage and much associated land in 1715 (page 11) and that Stephen Garrett/Jarrett possessed it before Isaac Prosser took possession of it around 1721. [Ref 13]. Unfortunately the Manor Court rolls prior to 1721 do not exist in Shrewsbury Archives and so the record of transfer of tenancy has not been seen.

Stephen Garrett was baptised on 20th May 1678, son of Stephen and Elizabeth Garrett in Church Stretton and married Mary Redge in Lydbury North on 11th November 1710. They had three children:

- Joanna (baptised 9th February 1711, Worthen),
- Ann (baptised 17 January 1716, Church Stretton)
- Stephen (baptised 30 June 1717, Church Stretton)

Their father, Stephen Jarrett died before his last child was born, dying in February 1717 (buried 14 February 1717) [Ref: CS PR]. The death at the relatively young age of 39 must have been sudden since despite being a substantial farmer, he had made no will. The inventory of his assets was recorded by law and is given below and on the next page.

His widow married Thomas Poston, a widower, on 4 July 1719 in Church Stretton. [Ref: CS PRs]

Transcript of the items and value in the inventory of effects of Stephen Jarrett, 1717 (next page)

	£	s	d
One Yoke of Oxen	7	0	0
Four Cowes and one Calf	12	0	0
Eight Young Beasts	16	0	0
Three Years old Beasts	4	10	0
One Mare and three Colts	7	0	0
Fifty Sheep	12	10	0
Three small Swynes	1	0	0
Geese and Poultry		3	6
Corne in the Barns unthresht	3	10	0
Corne and other Graines in the house	1	9	0
Malt & Shtikes		10	0
Hay and Fodder and Dung	6	10	0
Implements of husbandry	3	0	0
in the Kitchen Brass & Pewter of all sorts	2	0	0
Potts and other Iron Ware		15	0
Beds & Bedstead, Good Clothes & Appallious?	7	0	0
Linnens of all sorts	3	0	0
Hemp and Flax ready drest		15	0
Barrells, Pails & other Wooden Ware	3	0	0
Chests and Boxes & Chaires	1	3	0
Provisions in the house	5	0	0
Bridle & Sadle and Wearing Apparrels	1	5	0
things Omitted & not seen	0	2	6
	99	3	0
Desperate debts due to him	10	0	0



The original inventory of the effects of Stephen Jarrett, 1717 which was transcribed on the previous page. [Ref: HRO wills]

Isaac Prosser [Copyholder, 1717 - 1739]

Stephen Jarrett held Hayles' messuage for only one or two years before he died in 1717. It passed to Isaac Prosser of Bromfield but without all of the land at the rear. On Isaac Prosser's death in 1739 this combined property passed to William Prosser, his son and heir. [Ref 14].

In 1727, the churchwardens were told to get several of the churchyard fence sections restored or to present the persons in default. Isaac Prosser and Thomas Minton were two of the names put forward.

The rent roll for 1731 (shown below) lists Isaac Prosser for a messuage late Hayles, having a customary rent of 3s 5d and a heriot being liable upon his death by the new owner.[Ref: 15]. Throughout this period it is not known if he actually lived in Hayles' messuage since the rent was paid by the copyholder, not the occupier.

Tenant / Property	Rent	Notes
Thomas Lymburgh Esq for the Hall Messuage and other lands late of	0 1/2	1/2 heriot
Edward Appleyards	-	-
Mary Stringer for Land late S. Geo. Norton	-	0 1/4
Wm. Kewlings for a messuage late M. Appleyards	0	10 1/2 heriot
Wm. Kewlings for Land late M. Deltovile	0	0 9
John Gaus, late M. Deltovile	0	0 2
Thomas Mills for a Cottage called the Kings Arms	0	0 6
M. Deltovile for a Messuage late Berrys	0	0 1/2 heriot
Mary Stringer for Land late Deltovile	0	0 1
Mary Stringer & Edward Deltovile for a Cottage	0	0 2
Thomas Munn for a House & Garden	0	0 1
Thomas Waring for a Messuage late Sealworks	0	1 8 heriot
The same for a messuage late Sealworks	0	0 2
The same for Land called Round Hill	0	0 4
The same for a Meadow called Gosmore	0	0 1/4
The same for Land late Dooport & Balls	0	0 9
The same for a messuage late Dooport	0	6 8
For Stewards Meadow	0	3 1/4
For 400 Acres of the Manor of y ^e Cordock	0	0 8
The Phillips of Paworth for a Messuage late Deltovile	0	1 2 heriot
Isaac Prosser for a Messuage late Hayles	0	3 5 heriot
The same for a messuage late Hayles	0	0 2
Thomas Deltovile for a Messuage late Deltovile (sold to y ^e Rev ^d M ^r Howland)	0	1 8 heriot
The same for Land late Prossers	0	0 6
Thomas Bishop for a Cottage	0	0 5
The Deltovile way Jun ^r for a Messuage	0	2 1/2 heriot
for a Messuage late Deltovile (M ^r Russell)	0	3 1/2 heriot
Thomas Phillips Jun ^r for a Messuage	0	4 1/2 heriot

Part of the rent roll for 1731 showing copyholder Isaac Prosser paying 3s 5d rent for a messuage late Hayles

William Prosser [Copyholder, 1740 - 1773]

After his father's death in 1739, William Prosser, the eldest surviving son of Isaac and Elizabeth Prosser (baptised 4 Feb 1706, Bromfield) was admitted as tenant in Hayles' messuage together with Barn Leasow Yard adjacent and a pasture in Little Stretton called Astlith Leasow.

At this Court came William Prosser Eldest son of Isaac Prosser late of Bromfield in the County of Salop Gentleman, deceased, in his own proper person and prayed to be admitted Tenant to the Lord of the Manor aforesaid to all that Customary messuage and Tenement with the appurtenances called Hayles' messuage late in the possession of Stephen Garrett situate lying and being in Church Stretton. And one Close or parcel of land adjoining to this said messuage called the Barn Leasow Yard. And also all that piece or parcel of Arable Land or pasture ground commonly called or known by the name of Astlith Leasow situate and being in Little Stretton Adjoining Longmont. Fine 3s 7d. [Ref 16]

In 1773 William Prosser, classifying himself as a yeoman, sold the Hayles' messuage to John Bridgman (4a) of Church Stretton, wheelwright, at which time the property was recited as the customary (i.e. copyhold) messuage or tenement with the appurtenances called Hayles' messuage, formerly in the occupation of Stephen Jarrett, and the barnyard adjoining thereto, also Astlith Leasow adjoining to Longmont formerly part of Bright's messuage (in Little Stretton).

William Prosser of CS Yeoman and Catherine his wife surrendered Customary messuage or Tenement with the Appurtenances called Hayles' messuage formerly in the possession of Stephen Jarret situate in CS and one Close or Parcel of Land adjoining to the said messuage called the Barn Yard. And also Astlith Leasow adjoining to Longmont formerly belonging to Bright's messuage all in the possession of William Prosser which were in the estate of his father Isaac Prosser at the time of his decease. To use of John Bridgman of CS wheelwright who desired to become tenant..... Fine 3s 7d. [Ref 17]

The Bridgman Family

The Bridgman family stretched its tentacles widely in Minton, Little Stretton and Church Stretton in the 18th and 19th centuries. They were notable farmers, wheelwrights and tanners and various members, through marriage, held Hayles' messuage from 1773 through to 1924. Some of those named 'John Bridgman' were churchwardens in the years 1718, 1776, 1777, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1789 - 1792, 1805, 1824 and 1846, though it is not clear which ones. [Ref: Grounds] The family tree on page 20 links the key members. The numbers in brackets indicate the generation number.

The earliest relevant record of the Bridgman family is of John and Frances Bridgman (1) who were farmers in Minton. They had three sons, John (2), Benjamin and Thomas and a daughter Elizabeth. John (2) (his wife Dorothy) was a farmer who lived at a property called Teal's with land called Broad Meadow in Minton on the border with Little Stretton. On his death in 1747, Teal's passed to his (presumably eldest living) son Benjamin (3). He in turn passed Teal's to his son John (4a) (born ca 1739, married Mary Mapp in 1766, and died 1803). [Refs 18 - 20; CS PR]

A metal, presumably steel, snuff box has been donated to the Shrewsbury Museum and is inscribed *John Bridgeman of Little Stretton 1757*. Carved above the writing is a man smoking a pipe beneath a tree. This is probably the John Bridgman (3), tanner of Tan House, Little Stretton. [Ref 21]



John Bridgman (4a) [Copyholder, 1773 - 1802]

In 1773, this John Bridgman (4a), now a wheelwright, sold the copyhold of his property called Teals to his second cousin John Bridgman (4b), a tanner of Tan House, Little Stretton, and bought Hayles' messuage and the barnyard at the rear, together with some land in Little Stretton

John Bridgman of Church Stretton wheelwright and Mary his wife surrendered messuage or tenement formally Christopher Teal's with yard and garden in Little Stretton and land The Knowle and Long Vill Beach in Little Stretton to use of John Bridgman of Little Stretton, tanner. fine 6d. Admitted tenant hereof by the Rod according to customs of the Manor. [Ref 17]

The following Court record lists and consolidates John Bridgman's (4a) holdings and refers to the will he had made so as to establish his succession.

At same court, John Bridgman of CS wheelwright, surrendered all that customary messuage called Hayle's Messuage in CS. And one close adjoining the said messuage called the Barn Yard. Also, all that parcel of arable or pasture land called Astlith Leasow in LS adjoining the Longmont (i.e. Long Mynd) and was formerly belonging to Bright's Messuage and all rights, privileges (etc.) to the said messuage lands and premises belonging formerly to the estate of Isaac Prossor and since of William Prossor.

And also all Messuage and Tenement in CS formerly Wilkes with piece of ground called the Yeilds and a cottage and garden thereto belonging.

And also two pieces of land called the Lines formerly Davies's and a small close formerly Appleyards. And $\frac{3}{4}$ acre in Ashbrook Field. And that small piece of ground called Little Ashbrook.

And also that shop formerly Rawlins's now in possession of John Haynes which said several pieces of land cottage and shop in CS and in possession of the said John Bridgman or his tenants. To the use of the said John Bridgman for his life and from after his demise. To the use of those named in his last will and testament. [Ref 17]

Partial rebuild of Hayles' messuage. It was about this time that Hayles' messuage was partially rebuilt. The front room of the original two-bay timber frame house was in a bad condition and was replaced with a double-fronted brick structure as seen today. It is known that a similar brick house opposite, Ashford House, was built in 1775 and it is possible that the same builder, Robert Roberts of Church Stretton, built both properties in the 1770s for John Bridgman. John Bridgman had sold Tan House in Little Stretton in 1773 and bought Hayles' messuage. The structural survey carried out in 1998 suggests that the stone of the large (south) chimney breast is 16th or 17th century. It also reports that the cellar is probably the oldest part of the building.

John Bridgman (4a) died in 1803. His wife predeceased him and they had no children. As a result, his will (below) records bequests to numerous relatives. He had accumulated considerable wealth since his effects totalled nearly £1,000, a considerable sum at the time. It is unclear whether he actually lived in Hayles' messuage since he owned other property in Church Stretton [Ref 22].

The will of John Bridgman (4a)

To my cousin Mr Randolph Jones 20 gns for suit of mourning

To cousin William Jones senior of AS, glazier, £50 which he owes me plus further £50

To his children £100 to share except eldest son unless his father does not will his copyhold estate to him

To Richard Smith senr. of Cardington, wheelwright £100

To his children £100 to share except eldest son unless his father does not will his copyhold estate to him

To Thomas Waring of CS 5 gns

To Sarah Waring of CS 5gns

To Mary Bridgman daughter of Mr John Bridgman of LS and God daughter of my late wife 10 gns

To Mary Davis of Bronarth Mill par Guisfield, dau of late Katherine Jones of Leebotwood whose maiden name was Cooper 10 gns

To Richard Cop (?) my late parish apprentice £5

To my present servant Ann Price 20 gns provided she continues in my service to my decease

To executors in trust to give to the Minister and churchwardens of CS to poor housekeepers of CS £100

Interest on the balance to be shared between William Jones senr and Richard Smith senr.

Executors William Waring of Church Stretton, William Jones senr. of All Stretton, Richard Smith of Cardington. Signed. Under £1000

The report of the Charity Commissioners in 1839 found that the executors of John Bridgman's (4a) will had not paid the £100 bequeathed to the Rector for the benefit of the poor as promised in the will. This was remedied and noted on one of the benefaction boards in the vestry of St Laurence's Church, see illustration on next page. The report reads as follows:

John Bridgman, by his Will, bearing date 5th October 1796, and proved at Hereford in 1804, bequeathed to his executors, William Waring, William Jones and Richard Smith, £100 in trust, within 12 months after his decease to pay the same to the minister and churchwardens of Church Stretton, to be by them placed out at interest, on such security as they should think proper, and the interest to be by them distributed annually on 28th March, to such poor housekeepers of the said parish as they should think proper.

It appears from an inventory of the property of the late John Bridgman, made out by Mr. Waring, who was the principal acting executor, that £100 was due to the testator upon a note of the Rev. Richard Wilding, dated 21st April 1796.

This money has never been paid in, nor any fresh security given; £4 10s. is now paid as the interest thereof, by Samuel Wilding, son of the above-named Richard Wilding, and added to the other funds distributed as hereafter mentioned.

Mr. Wilding has expressed his readiness to pay in this money whenever it is required; and we have suggested the expediency of investing it in the funds or other permanent security.



The plaque is in St Laurence's Church Vestry

Mrs Lloyd, Samuel Small and Sarah Rawlings [Copyholders]

In the Manor Court roll of 1802, it is recorded that

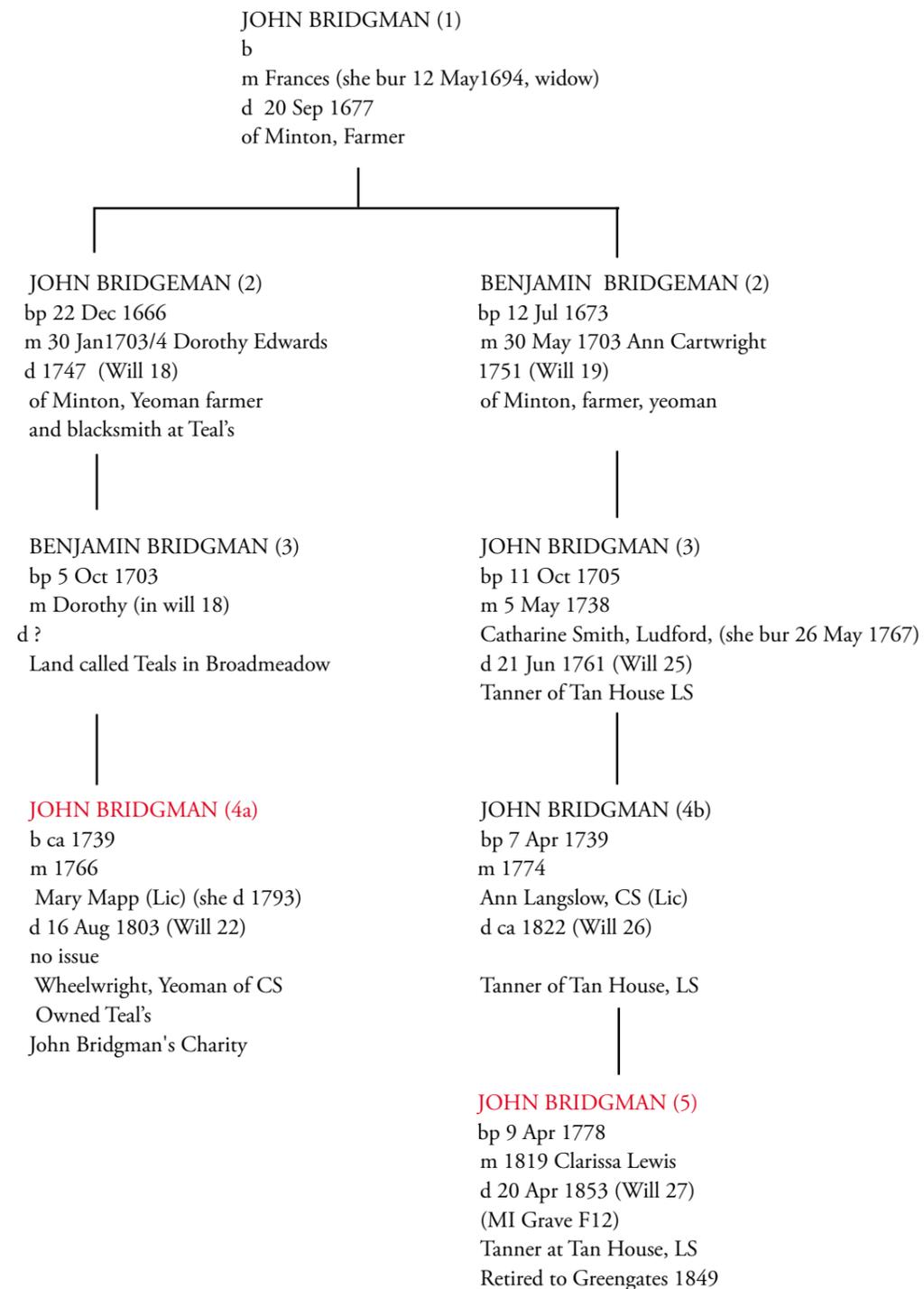
1802 John Bridgman surrendered messuage or Tenement with appurtenances called Hayles' messuage formerly in possession of Stephen Jarrett and now Mrs Lloyd. Also all that messuage, Cottage or Tenement now in the possession of the said John Bridgman. And also all that close, meadow or pasture land adjoining the first mentioned messuage called or known as the Barn Yard now in the possession of Richard Price. To the use of Samuel Dolphin. Fine 3s 5d [Ref 23]

In the Manor Court roll of 1818, it is recorded that

Elizabeth Lewis of Little Stretton widow, paid to Thomas Woodcock of Chatwall, parish of Cardington, £240 for absolute purchase to hereditaments below to be surrendered by Thos Woodcock: Hayles in possession of Stephen Jarrett and afterwards Samuel Small, since Sarah Rowlings and now Elizabeth Lewis ... Admitted. Fine 1s 2d. [Ref 24]

Unfortunately no dates are known for when the said Mrs Lloyd, Samuel Small and Sarah Rawlings occupied Hayles' messuage other than it was in the period between 1802 and 1818, nor is there any other information from other sources.

The Key Relationships in the Bridgman Family of Minton and Little Stretton



RED owners of Hayles' messuage
Will numbers are reference numbers in the appendix
CS = of Church Stretton
MI = Monumental Inscription, Ch Stretton
b = birth
bp = baptism
m = marriage
d = died
lic = by Bishop's licence
All wills in Hereford Record Office

Notes:

John Bridgman (4b), known as 'the elder' in Gibbon mss [Ref 28]

John Bridgman (5) 'the younger'. Lived at Tan House in 1841
Admitted to Greengates 1849. Will all to Clarissa, wife

Thomas Woodcock [Copyholder, 1804? - 1818]

Parts of the Manor of Cardington had been sold by the lord of the manor to Thomas Woodcock, a local farmer of Chatwall in the parish of Cardington, who in turn had bought parts of the manor of Church Stretton, in particular, Hayles' messuage. He sold it to Elizabeth Lewis in 1818.

Elizabeth Lewis, née Gibbon [Copyholder and Occupier, 1818 - 1846]

Elizabeth Lewis had the means to buy outright Hayles' messuage from Thomas Woodcock for £240 on 30 April 1818.

Elizabeth Lewis of Little Stretton widow, paid to Thomas Woodcock of Chatwall, parish of Cardington, £240 for absolute purchase to hereditaments below to be surrendered by Thos Woodcock: Hayles in possession of Stephen Jarrett and afterwards Samuel Small, since Sarah Rowlings and now Elizabeth Lewis plus three kneelings 15, 27 and —. Admitted. Fine Is 2d. [Refs 29, 30]

Elizabeth Lewis was a daughter of Thomas and Mary Gibbon of The Marsh, Wistanstow (Mary was a daughter of John Bridgman (3)). Elizabeth was born in 1772 and married Richard Lewis on 8th December 1791 at Chetton, Shropshire. He was a naval surgeon but was unfortunately killed in the Napoleonic wars at Gibraltar in the battle of Algeiros and died in October 1801, before Elizabeth was 30 years old. There was a memorial stone, now gone, in St Laurence's Churchyard, though its inscription has been recorded and is shown opposite. [Ref: SRO 1643/3-5]. See p23 for a family tree showing these relationships.

The earliest trade directory for Church Stretton was published by Pigot in 1829 (below) and refers to a Mrs Lewis with the address Greengates under the heading 'Gentry & Clergy'. This is the first reference to Hayles' messuage having the name by which it is still known today.

CHURCH STRETTON, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.		
<p>CHURCH STRETTON is a small market-town and township, in a parish of the same name, and in the hundred of Munslow, 153 miles from London, 16 from Ludlow, and 13 from Shrewsbury and Wenlock; pleasantly situated on the Roman <i>Prætorian</i> highway, and in the most hilly part of the county, where innumerable flocks of sheep are kept, which produce immense quantities of good wool, and is generally sold to the dealers in Yorkshire. The mauling business is carried on here to a great extent; and the poor of the town are chiefly employed in the making of coarse linen cloth, which is used for the packing of hops and wool. The</p>	<p>air of the place is very healthy; the soil is a fine gravel, and there are fine rivulets running from the hills, which produce plenty of excellent trout. The parish church is a rectory, in the patronage of the Rev. Robert Hograve Pemberton. The market is on Thursday; and the fairs are, the Tuesday before Shrewsbury March fair, May 14th, July 3rd, September 25th, and the last Thursday in November. The parish embraces the townships of ALL STRETTON, CHURCH STRETTON, LITTLE STRETTON, and MINTON, which, in 1821, contained collectively 1,226 inhabitants.</p>	<p>POST OFFICE, William Haverkam, <i>Post Master</i>.—The HEREFORD Mail is despatched every afternoon at half-past two, and arrives every evening at eleven.—The SHREWSBURY Mail is despatched every forenoon at eleven, and arrives at half-past two in the afternoon.</p>
<p>GENTRY & CLERGY. Benson Ralph, esq. M.P. Lutwyche Bry Richard, gent. Church Stretton Lewis Mrs. Greengates Mott Charles, gent. (surgeon) Nunn Rev. Preston, Church Stretton Pemberton Rev. Robert No. graye, Church Stretton [Acton scot Stackhouse Thomas Pendarvus, esq. Wilding William, gent. (surgeon)</p>	<p>Bridgeman Wm. tanner, Lit. Stretton Broom John, auctioneer Child Edward, blacksmith Corfield George, grocer, mercer, ironmonger & snuff manufactr. Corfield Miss, ladies' academy Craig Robt. t., maltster Edwards James, joiner Fewtrill James, tailor Fewtrill Joseph, saddler Glover Edward, saddler Gough William, stone mason Hall Wm. maltster, All Stretton Horton Richard, butcher Jones Thos, plumber and glazier Lewis Wm. plumber and glazier Lucas Francis, shopkeeper Lucas John, tailor Marston Richard, tailor Nicol Richard, saddler Pardoe John, currier, Little Stretton Pitt John, maltster, All Stretton</p>	<p>Pocock John, boot & shoemaker Preen Samuel, butcher Robinson & Home, grocers, mercers, tallow chandlers, and agents to the Eagle fire office Robinson Ann, milliner Robinson Edw. baker & flour dealer Robinson John, boot & shoemaker Robinson John, wheelwright Thesdale William, cooper Tomlinson Wm. butcher, All Stretton</p>
<p>INN, TAVERNS & PUBLIC HOUSES. Buck's Head, Richard Phillips Crown, Thomas Heighway Lion, Jonathan Mills Plough, John Home Raven, Daniel Evans (& maltster) Talbot (posting house and excise office), William Haverkam</p>	<p>SHOPKEEPERS & TRADERS. Atkinson Joseph, butcher Beddoes Richard, skinner Bellingham James, hair dresser</p>	<p>COACH: To HEREFORD, the Royal Mail (from Shrewsbury) calls at the Talbot Inn, every afternoon at half-past two; goes through Ludlow. To SHREWSBURY, the Royal Mail (from Hereford) calls at the same Inn, every forenoon at eleven.</p>
		<p>CARRIER, To SHREWSBURY, Thos. Lloyd, every Wednesday and Saturday.</p>

Pigot's Directory for Church Stretton for 1829

**Grave F15,
St Laurence Churchyard
(Stone disappeared)**

Richard Lewis, surgeon,
died at Gibraltar
-th Oct 1801 aged 38

Thos Gibbon LEWIS
son of
Richard and Elizabeth
LEWIS infant

Thomas LEWIS
son of C J LEWIS died
9 Oct 1835 aged - years

Elizabeth Lewis appeared in Pigot's Directory for 1836 and 1842 living in Greengates. In the 1841 census (below), she is shown as living with 15 year old Elizabeth Fox, her servant girl. The apportionment of the tithe conversion in 1838 shows that Elizabeth Lewis was owner occupier of the Greengates property. She was a wealthy woman and owned other property in Church Stretton, including 41, 43 and 45 Church Road. [Ref: Bilbey CSW p 16]

Elizabeth Lewis died on 31 December 1846, aged ca 73y and was buried in Church Stretton, though no memorial stone exists. In her will, which she wrote in 1831, she left her copyhold messuage or dwelling house in Church Stretton in trust for her children of whom only Clarissa survived her. [Ref 31]

See the simplified family tree opposite.

PLACE	HOUSES		NAMES of such Persons who shew therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
	Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited		Male	Female		Whether Born in same County	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
Church Road			Edward Haughton	44				
do			James Butterlain	57		Wain Weaver		
do			Annab Do.	58				
do			Mary Barry	24				
do			Arabella Do	2				
do			John Do	6 Months				
do			1 Elizabeth Lewis	65		Wid		
do			Elizabeth Fox	15		S. P.		
do			1 Thomas Millicope	50		Carpenter		
do			Annab Do	50				
do			George Do	13		Carpenter		
do			Edward Lewis	50		Malster		
do			Will Do	11				
do			Mary Do	11				

The first census in 1841 shows Elizabeth Lewis (aged 65+), now a widow, living with her 15 year old servant Elizabeth Fox.

The 1838 Tithe Apportionment

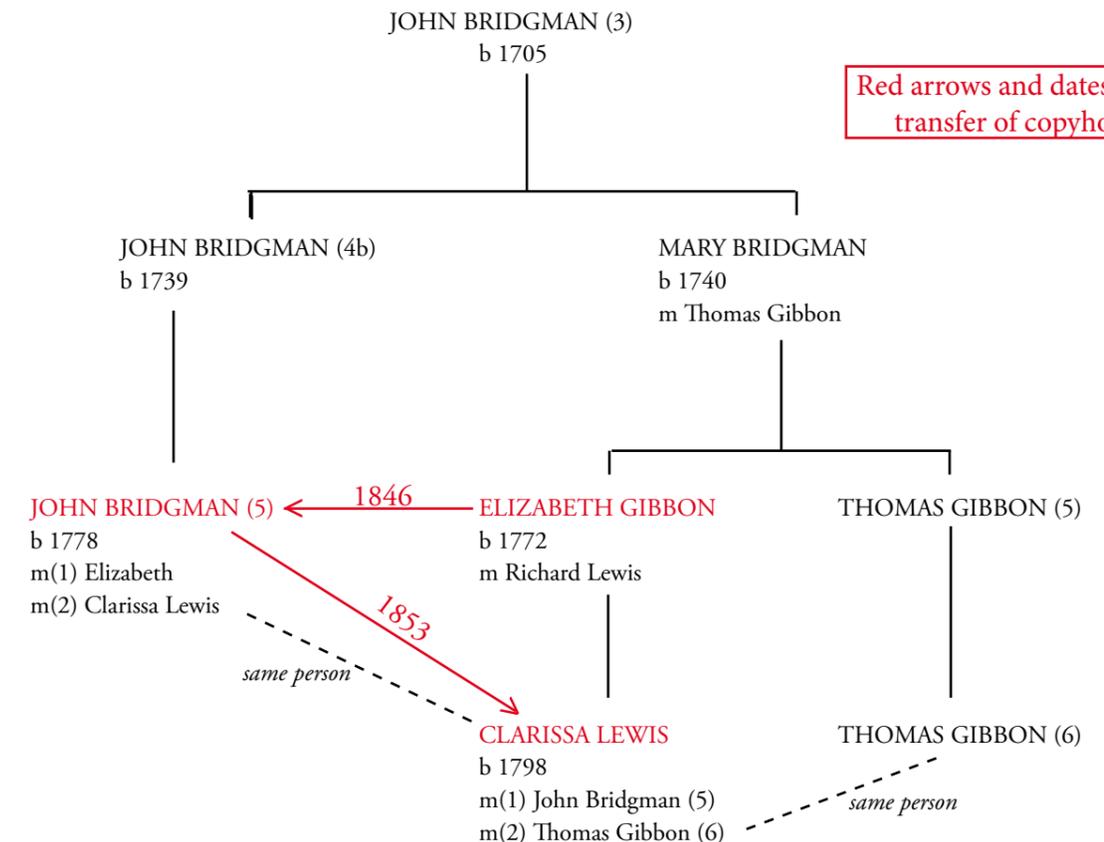
The tithe apportionment map and data, made in 1838 records how much each owner of land nationally had to pay in annual tithe to the rector. It lists all plots of land in the parish, its owner, the occupier and its area. In Church Stretton Elizabeth Lewis owned and occupied plots 1340 (house and front garden) and plot 1843 (the back garden) bounded by the stone walls still extant. The map also shows the two cottages (plots 1341 and 1342) which are within the curtilage of the property and owned by Richard Nichols, but more about these later. Elizabeth Lewis also owned and occupied plot 1319, described as a garden on the land now occupied by the house and garden at 67 High Street. These are all coloured red on the map on the next page.

Tithe apportionment 1838

Record of how much each owner had to pay in annual tithe to the Rector

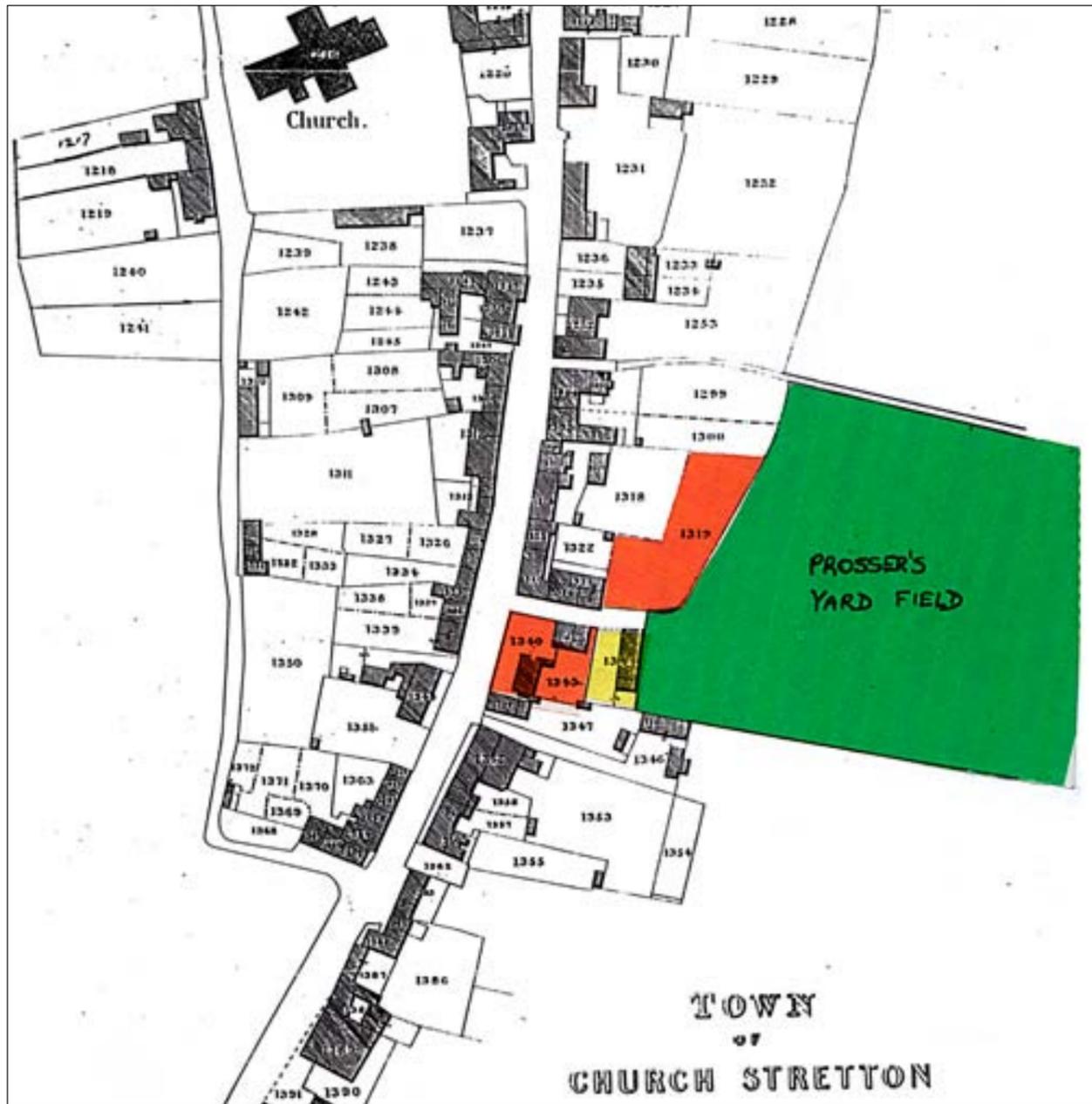
Plot	Owner	Occupier	Description	Area
1340	Elizabeth Lewis	Elizabeth Lewis	House and garden	9p ≈ 272 sq yds
1343	Elizabeth Lewis	Elizabeth Lewis	Garden	5p ≈ 151 sq yds
1319	Elizabeth Lewis	Elizabeth Lewis	Garden	26p ≈ 786 sq yds
1341	Richard Nichols	James Bellingham		1p ≈ 30 sq yds
1342	Richard Nichols	Richard Haughton		1p ≈ 30 sq yds
[note: Richard Nichols owned the Queens Head Inn]				
1344	Thos Wenlock and - Wall	Jonathan Mills	Barn, pigsties and yard	8p ≈ 242 sq yds
1298	Thos Wenlock and - Wall	Jonathan Mills	Prosser's yard field	3a 3r 8p ≈ nearly 4 acres

Note: 1 perch = 30.25 sq yds. 1 rood = 40 perches = 1210 sq yds. 1 acre = 4 roods = 4840 sq yds.



Red arrows and dates show transfer of copyhold.

Simplified family tree showing the relationship between the Bridgman and Gibbon families



Tithe apportionment map, 1838

Behind Greengates, the land marked in yellow contains a barn, pigsties and yard and covers the area now containing the garages and strip of land owned by the South Shropshire Housing Association. Beyond this is Prosser's Yard field which was called after a previous owner of Greengates (see page 16-17) and is now built upon and is part of Central Avenue.

John Bridgman (5) [Copyholder and Occupier 1846 - 1853] and his wife Clarissa [Copyholder and Occupier 1853 - 1876]

After Elizabeth Lewis died in 1846, Greengates was held by the trustees of her daughter and heir, Clarissa, wife of John Bridgman (5). They formally took possession in 1849.

Admittance of Mr John Bridgman (5) and wife 15 Nov 1849. [Ref: SRO 6437]

Paid to Thomas Bray of Darwell Bank, Sussex gent, and Thomas Gibbon of East Wall Salop gent, £55 by John Bridgman and Clarissa his wife gent of Little Stretton customary messuage formerly in possession of Stephen Jarrett afterwards of Samuel Small afterwards Sarah Rawlins and late Elizabeth Lewis and now of the said John Bridgman together with three kneelings in the parish church of CS numbered 15, 27 and [blank] belonging to Thomas Bray and Thomas Gibbon.

'To be holden of the Lady by copy or court roll according to the custom of this manor by fealty suit of court the ancient annual rent or rents heriot of the best beast or chattel when it shall happen and other duties and services therefore due and of right accustomed pay on admittance a fine of one shilling and two pence and their fealties are respited.'

The Gibbon and Bridgman families were closely linked through marriage. (See the simplified family tree on page 23). Both families were well known in the district; Elizabeth Lewis's father, Thomas Gibbon (4), was the owner of a corn water mill called Marsh Mill in Wistanstow. The Bridgman family were tanners in Little Stretton and lived at Tan House.



A contemporary painting of Tan House, Little Stretton

Clarissa Lewis was 21 when she married John Bridgman (5) in 1819 in Church Stretton. John Bridgman was 20 years older than her and was the cousin of Clarissa's mother Elizabeth (Lewis, née Gibbon) and so the couple were second cousins. They lived (Census 1841, below) in Little Stretton at Tan House until John Bridgman retired whereupon they moved to Greengates in 1849.

1841 Census, Little Stretton

John Bridgman	60y	Tanner	b Shropshire
Clarissa Bridgman	40y		b not Shropshire
Margaret Cadwallader	23y	Female servant	b Shropshire

Pigot's Directory for 1850 refers to him as Mr John Bridgman, gentry. The 1851 census (below) shows just the two of them living in Greengates.

Parish of	Electoral Division of	City or Borough of	Urban Sanitation	Village of		
Name of Street, Town, or Hamlet, and House or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Person	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where BORN
Greengates	John Bridgman	Head	Free	50	Tanner	Little Stretton
	Clarissa Bridgman	Wife	Free	40		Little Stretton

The 1851 Census showing occupants of Greengates.



Grave F 12 (St Laurence Churchyard)
 Underneath lie the remains of
 JOHN BRIDGMAN
 Late of Little Stretton
 He was born April 18 1778
 and died April 26 1853

The grave stone of John Bridgman (5) in St Laurence Churchyard

John Bridgman died two years later in 1853 and was buried in the churchyard in Church Stretton. In his will, he left everything to his wife Clarissa. His effects amounted to £450 [Ref 27].

Three years later on 7th October 1856, Clarissa married her cousin Thomas Gibbon (6), a retired farmer the same age as her. [Ref: CSPR, by licence] The register says 'Clarissa Bridgman, widow, father Richard Lewis, surgeon, and Thomas Gibbon, gentleman, father Thomas Gibbon, Farmer, were married'. Both signed the register. The marriage was by Bishop's licence which meant that banns did not have to be read in the parish church. This would be because their marriage was between cousins and may have been frowned upon.

At the time, the property was recited as

Hayles's messuage, formerly in the possession of Stephen Jarrett afterwards Samuel Small, afterwards Sarah Rawlins, afterwards Elizabeth Lewis, since in the possession of John and Clarissa Bridgman.

They continued to live in Greengates and by 1861 we see that 21-year-old Mary Grainger (7), Thomas Gibbon (6)'s niece, was also living with them. (See the family tree on page 30).

Harrod's Directory for 1861 gives Thomas J Gibbon (6) as living in Greengates and described as 'gentry'. Thomas Gibbon was a churchwarden in 1859-60.

Details about the Gibbon family are given in a series of documents at the Shropshire Archives and are summarised in the Appendix. [Ref 28].

The relationship between the Bridgman and the Gibbon families is shown on page 30.

1861 Census, Church Stretton [RG9/1844 f2]

Tho. Gibbon	Hear, mar	59	Ret'd farmer	b Endon
Clarissa Gibbon	wife, mar	60		b London
Mary Grainger	niece, unmar	21		b Langley

1871 Census, Church Stretton [RG10/2734 f8]

Thomas Gibbon	Head, mar	69	Ret'd farmer	b Bridgnorth
Clarissa Gibbon	wife, mar	71	Ret'd farmer wife	b Smithfield. Middx
Ellen Aveline	Serv, unmar	22	Housekeeper	b Bilston, Staffs

Thomas Gibbon died in 1873 and Clarissa died two years later on 21st June 1876 at the age of 75 years. They are buried in Cunnery Road cemetery. Clarissa never had any children and in her will written in 1874 Clarissa made bequests to many relatives. She devised the Greengates messuage to trustees in favour of her cousin Mary Acton Wainwright (née Gibbon), wife of Samuel Harley Kough, a Shrewsbury solicitor who also ran a practice in Church Stretton. [Ref 32]

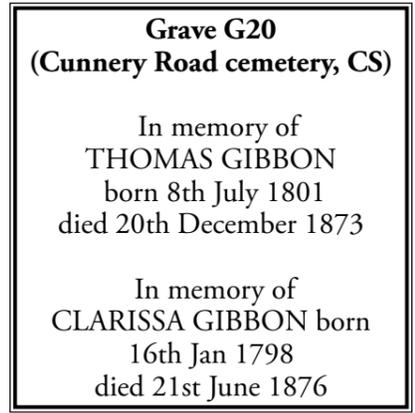
When her trustee, Edward Gibbon of Woolton near Liverpool esquire (who provided a mortgage), was admitted of her property the year after, it was recited as

Hayles's, now in the occupation of Elizabeth Evans, Richard Pugh and — Grainger, with three kneelings in the parish church.

[Ref: SRO 6437, 27 Oct 1877, see Deed of Enfranchisement below]

In the above record, Elizabeth Evans and Richard Pugh were the occupants of the two cottages within the garden of Greengates and '— Grainger' is presumably Mary Grainger, now Gibbon.

[Ref: SRO 6437, 27 Oct 1877]



**Grave G20
 (Cunnery Road cemetery, CS)**
 In memory of
 THOMAS GIBBON
 born 8th July 1801
 died 20th December 1873
 In memory of
 CLARISSA GIBBON born
 16th Jan 1798
 died 21st June 1876

Text on the adjacent headstone

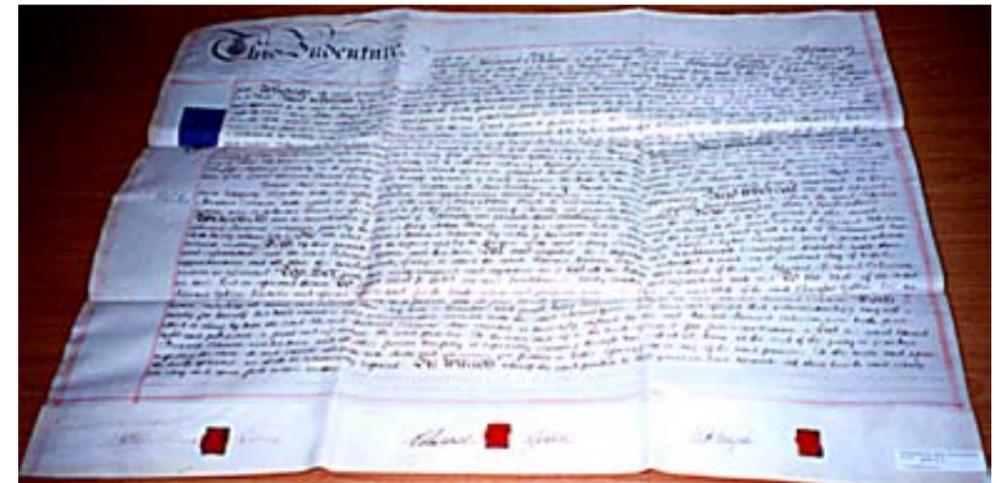


The headstone of the grave of Thomas and Clarissa Gibbon in Cunnery Road cemetery.

Greengates becomes a Freehold Property

The Copyhold Act of 1852 allowed tenants to demand enfranchisement. Prior to this date, all land was owned by the Lord of the Manor and rented to the principal tenant. However, property could be passed on according to a will and also sold to someone else who then became the tenant. Pressure had been mounting for many years for the Government to make all property freehold.

The change in ownership when Clarissa Gibbon died in 1876 provided the opportunity to enfranchise the property, that is, make it freehold. This important Deed of Enfranchisement, dated 1877 and signed by the trustees of her estate is shown here.



The Deed of enfranchisement

The document recites the will of Clarissa Gibbon to Edward Gibbon, trustee, to permit Mary Acton Kough to have possession. Occupied since death of Clarissa Gibbon by Mrs Elizabeth Evans, Richard Pugh and [blank] Grainger their under tenants.

An important sentence in the document is:

'All that Customary messuage or tenement with the garden and appurtenances thereunto belonging called Hayles's messuage formerly in the possession of Stephen Jarrett afterwards of Samuel Small since of John Bridgman and Clarissa then his wife afterwards his widow then of her second husband Thomas Gibbon and herself but since her death in the occupation of Mrs Elizabeth Evans, Richard Pugh and - Grainger their under tenants and assigns together with three kneelings in the Parish Church of Church Stretton aforesaid numbered 15, 27 and - and thereto belonging.'

Agreed that request by Mary Acton Kough to enfranchise said copyhold messuage unto Edward Gibbon, Mary Acton Kough paid £20 9s to Lord of the Manor. [Ref: SRO 6437, 27 Oct 1877]

From this we see that the property was legally called Hayles's messuage. The document gives the names of two former occupiers Stephen Jarrett and Samuel Small besides the Bridgmans and their descendents. In addition three kneelings in the parish church; these would be old box pews. Box pews were commonly built by prominent citizens in churches after the reformation and those in Church Stretton would have been built in the late 16th or early 17th century. They were the property of the house and passed to the new tenant. It is not the property of a person. [Pew holders and plan. Ref: SRO P67/B/3/1-6]

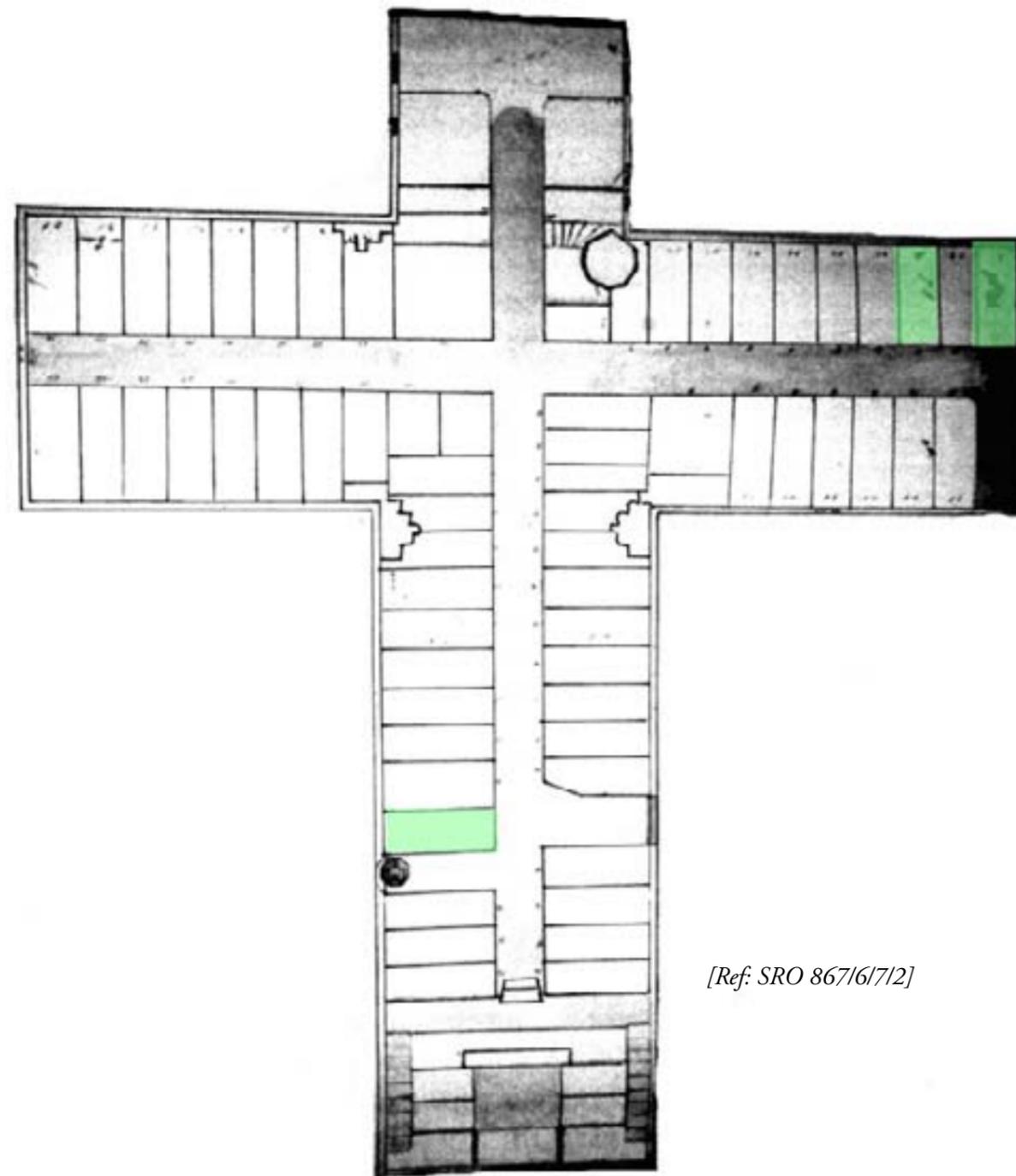
According to A S Horricks [*Bilbey CSW*, p22], the high pews from the church were sold some time after 1867 when the church was restored, and parts may be seen at The Raven (formally an inn in the Square, now a private residence) and at Greengates in the High Street (see photograph below).

A separate deed of enfranchisement for the two cottages in the grounds of Greengates is shown on page 41.



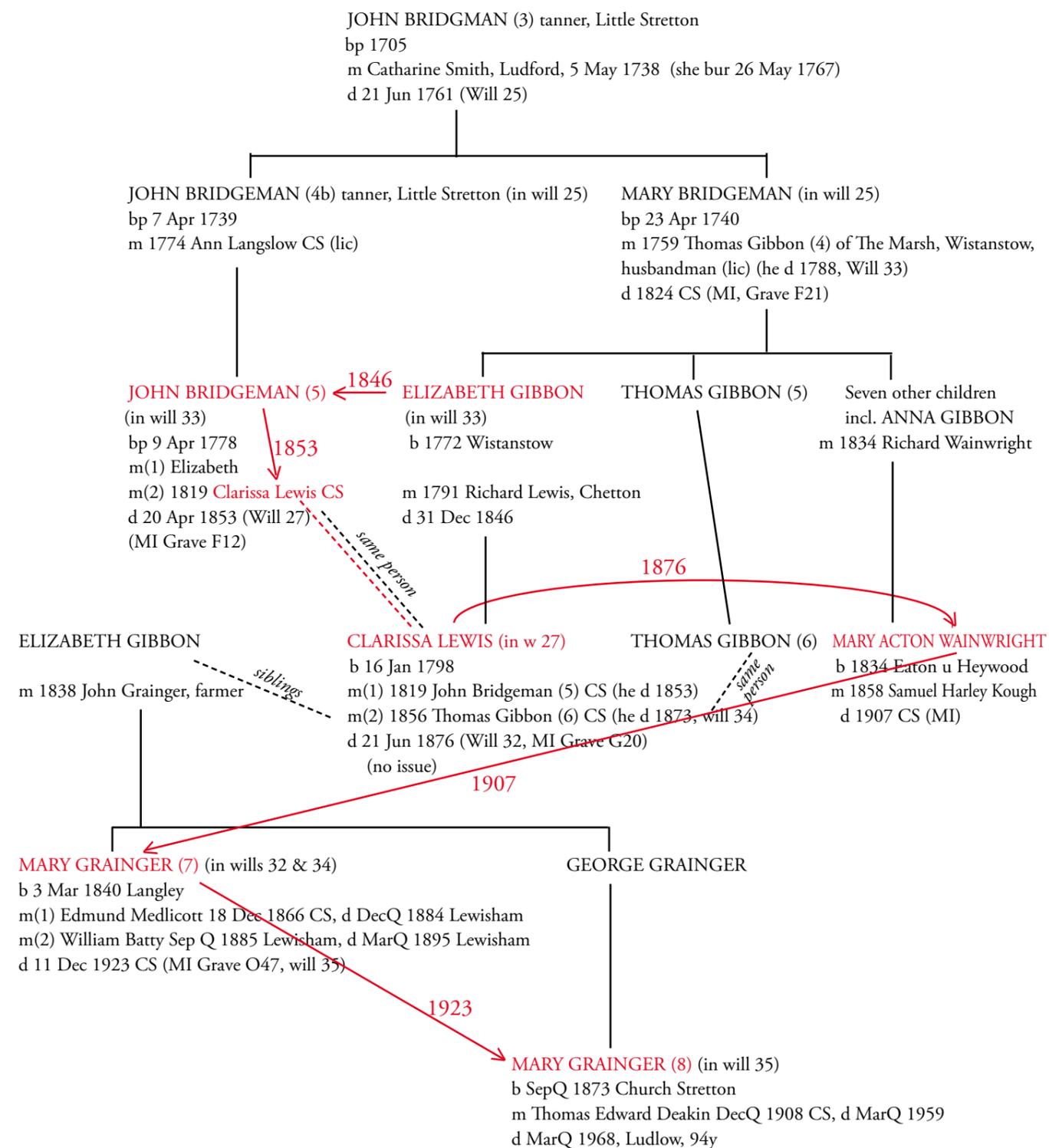
Panelling at Greengates which came from St Laurence's Church in 1867 when the box pews were removed during the church restoration in 1867.

Below is a plan of St Laurence Church, Church Stretton, made in 1824 which records the pews and their owners. Elizabeth Lewis (or more correctly the property Greengates) owned one seat in each of those pews marked green. At the time of the Victorian restoration and extension of the church in 1867, the box pews were removed. Some, presumably those marked, were taken to Greengates and form one wall of the lounge.



[Ref: SRO 867/6/7/2]

Family Tree of the Bridgman, Gibbon and Grainger Families



Notes:

John Bridgman (4b), known as 'the elder'
[Ref: SRO 1643/57 in Gibbon mss SRO 1643/58]

John Bridgman (5) 'the younger'. Lived at Tan House in 1841
Admitted to Greengates 1849. Will 27 all to Clarissa, wife

Red arrows and dates show transfer of copyhold

RED = Owners /occupants of Greengates
Other names are mentioned in deeds, etc.
CS = of Church Stretton
MI = Monumental Inscription, Ch Stretton
b = birth , bp = baptism
m = marriage , d = died
lic = by Bishop's licence
w = Will
Q = Quarter of civil registration indices
SRO = Shropshire Record Office
All wills in Hereford Record Office

Gibbon Family Graves in St Laurence Churchyard



Gravestone of Thomas (4) and Mary Gibbon of the Marsh, Wistanstow, and their family

Grave F 21 (St Laurence Churchyard)

To the memory of
MARY GIBBON relict of Thomas Gibbon
late of the Marsh
Who died at Little Stretton Dec 20th
1824 aged 84 years
--- memory of ---
Thomas GIBBON

In memory of
JOHN GIBBON eldest son of
Thomas and Mary Gibbon
Midshipman lost on board
*HMS Penelope in November 1778
Aged 17 years

-- CATHARINE PARRY third daughter
of the said Thomas and Mary
Gibbon died at St.Johns Clerkenwell
May 25th aged 32 years

-- GIBBON second daughter
of the said Thomas and Mary Gibbon
died
Little Stretton May 2nd 1818
Aged 53

-- GIBBON third son of Thos.
-- Gibbon died at Shebdon
Staffordshire. Sepbr 30th 1821 aged 45

ELIZABETH third daughter of Willm and
Ann Gibbon died at Church Stretton
November 21st 1832
Aged 23 years



Grave F 20 (St Laurence Churchyard)

Underneath
lie the remains of MARY
relict of Edward Acton
of Brockton Esquire
and eldest daughter of
Thomas and Mary Gibbon
of the Marsh
She was born 12th August 1760
and died 23rd February 1853

* HMS Penelope was a small 24 gun frigate which was launched in 1778. John Gibbon was probably a casualty of the American War of Independence.

Mary Acton Kough, née Wainwright [Owner, 1877 - 1907]

Mary Acton Kough was born in 1834, the granddaughter of Mary Bridgman and cousin to Clarissa Gibbon.

She married Samuel Harley Kough in Ivington, Leominster on 6 July 1858. Although she owned Greengates, having been bequeathed it from her cousin Clarissa, she never lived in it, renting it out to various tenants. In the 1881 census, the house was unoccupied; in 1891, it was occupied by Ann Jackson, a charwoman, and family plus two lodgers. In 1901, it was occupied by Elizabeth Wright and her niece. During Elizabeth Wright's tenancy, she took in lodgers, describing her occupation as 'letting furnished apartments'

[Ref: Church Stretton Directories 1905 - 1917, Census 1911]

Mary Kough and her husband lived in Insurance House, 51 High Street, Church Stretton, a much larger property. Her husband Samuel was a solicitor and had a practice in Shrewsbury and in Church Stretton. For a period, he was Clerk to Church Stretton Rural District Council, but in June 1873, he was declared bankrupt.

Mary died on 29th April 1907 and was buried in Church Stretton. In her will dated 8 Mar 1892, proved 29 Jun 1907, her executors agreed the sale of Greengates to Mary Batty for £730.

Description of the Greengates property.

According to the sale notice, Greengates consisted of the house and part of a garden, the rest of garden, Lot 2, i.e. that which is now the plot of 67 Church Street, was occupied by Mr John Rogers.

The description of the property is interesting. The interior has an entrance passage, a sitting room with a range (presumably in the inglenook), a second sitting room, kitchen with sink and boiler, gas and water laid on, a larder and basement cellar. On the upper floor, there were four bedrooms (presumably the present bathrooms were a small bedroom), a WC, and above is an attic.

At the rear, there is a coal house and a store house with loft over and was formerly a stable (this is presumably the current store). The coal house is presumably the current garden store.

LOT 1.

Freehold Residence, known as "GREENGATES" High Street, Church Stretton, in the occupation of Miss Elizabeth Wright.

The House is erected in Stone, Brick and Timber, part with galvanized iron roofing—it contains on the ground floor—Entrance Passage, Sitting Room with Range, Dining Room, Kitchen with Sink and Boiler, Gas and Water laid on, Larder and Basement Cellar. On the upper floor, there are four bedrooms, W.C., and above is an Attic.

At the rear of the house is a Coal House and Store House with Loft over (formerly a small stable) and other outbuildings. There is a small Garden at the front and side of the property and a Yard at the rear with entrance to side lane.

The property has a frontage of about 65 feet 6 inches on High Street, Church Stretton, and is let to Miss Wright at a Rent of £25 per annum.

LOT 2.

A Piece of Freehold Garden Ground near the above property in the occupation of Miss Wright, and partly in the occupation of Mr John Rogers, the latter paying £1 10s. 0d. per annum for the same, now occupied by him.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Auctioneers Messrs. Potts & Potts, Shrewsbury; or from Messrs. Potts & Potts, Solicitors, Broseley, Salop.

*The sale notice for Greengates (10 October 1907).
Note: The freehold garden, lot 2, is now the property 67 High St.*

The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Shropshire, holden at Shrewsbury. In the Matter of a Bankruptcy Petition against Samuel Harley Kough, of Shrewsbury and Church Stretton, both in the county of Salop, Attorney-at-Law and Scrivener.

UPON the hearing of this Petition this day, and upon proof satisfactory to the Court of the debt of the Petitioner, and of the trading, and of the act or acts of the Bankruptcy alleged to have been committed by the said Samuel Harley Kough having been given, it is ordered that the said Samuel Harley Kough be, and he is hereby, adjudged bankrupt.—Given under the Seal of the Court this 27th day of June, 1873.

By the Court,
Cecil Peale, Registrar.

The First General Meeting of the creditors of the said Samuel Harley Kough is hereby summoned to be held at the office of the Court, at Shrewsbury, on the 22nd day of July, 1873, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and that the Court has ordered the bankrupt to attend thereat for examination, and to produce thereat a statement of his affairs, as required by the statute.

Until the appointment of a Trustee, all persons having in their possession any of the effects of the bankrupt must deliver them, and all debts due to the bankrupt must be paid to the Registrar. Creditors must forward their Proofs of Debts to the Registrar.

Bankruptcy notices in The London Gazette, 1873

Grave O26, (Cunnery Road cemetery)

In loving memory of

MARY ACTON
Wife of S HARLEY KOUGH ESQ
of Church Stretton
who died April 29th 1907
Her children rise up and call
her blessed

SAMUEL HARLEY KOUGH
(Solicitor)
died July 26th 1911 aged 82 years
Thy will be done

Georgina Frances daughter of
S HARLEY and MARY KOUGH
died February 20th 1907

At rest
CATHERINE ANN BOWEN
1861 -1964

The headstone of Samuel and Mary Kough in the Cunnery Road cemetery in Church Stretton is missing but a transcription exists.

Mary Batty, née Grainger (7) [Owner and Occupier 1907 - 1923]

A story has long circulated in Church Stretton that a Mary Grainger climbed out of the rear bedroom window of Greengates one night and ran away with her soldier boyfriend Edmund Medlicott to get married. They are said to have had a baby girl and settled in Lewisham where they ran the Coach and Horses Inn. Because of this, the Aunt and Uncle struck her out of their will. However, Mary brought the baby back to Church Stretton to show them and there was a reconciliation. Unfortunately, though, both the baby and the father died shortly afterwards.

The truth is somewhat different and the story has grown somewhat in the telling. At the age of 26, Mary Grainger did get married to Edmund Medlicott, he was not a soldier but was a farmer in Little Stretton and they married in Church Stretton church on 18th December 1866, hardly running away to marry when you are 26y! They did, however, go to Lewisham, living at a property called The Woodlands and they had baby daughter six months later (7 July 1867) who they named Clarissa Gibbon Medlicott. The occupation of the father on the birth certificate was coachman and domestic servant at The Woodlands, not the innkeeper at the Coach and Horses Inn!



Mary Grainger, age 20y., 1860

Unfortunately, the baby died a few month's later and they had no more children. [GRO DecQ 1867, Lewisham]

In the 1881 census, they were living in the Coach and Horses Inn in the High Street, Lewisham. Her husband, Edmund Medlicott, was a job master - coach and omnibus, being responsible for hiring out these vehicles. He died at the inn on 27th October 1884 aged 51 years, leaving effects worth £849.



The Woodlands, Lewisham, before demolition

Mary worked as a refreshment house keeper in the High Street, Lewisham and married again a year later on 18th August 1885 to William Batty, a 57 year old widow, at St Mary's Church, Lewisham. They continued to live in Lewisham but he died in 1895.

Mary returned to Church Stretton and in 1907 bought Greengates from Mary Acton Kough and lived there until she died in 1923, aged 83 years. Mary bequeathed Greengates to her niece Mary Grainger (8). [Ref 36].



Contemporary photo of part of the Coach and Horse Inn, Lewisham

The 1911 census shows Elizabeth Wright still occupying Greengates as a tenant and still taking in lodgers. However, she told the census enumerator that she was head of the household and that Mary Batty was a boarder, not the owner and technically head of the household!

Church Stretton Parish Register

Page 116.

1866. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Church Stretton in the County of Salop

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
231	Dec 18	Edmund Medlicott	full	Bachelor	Farmer	Little Stretton	Samuel Medlicott	Farmer
		Mary Grainger	full	Spinster		Church Stretton	John Grainger	Farmer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by License of the Bishop of Hereford

This Marriage was solemnized between us: Edmund Medlicott in the Presence of us: Mary Grainger James Gibbon Rector

Marriage certificate of Mary Grainger and Edmund Medlicott, 1866

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH

ISSUED AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Registration Number 4008076

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Lewisham

1867 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Lewisham Village in the County of Kent

No.	When and where born.	Name of the Child.	Sex.	Age of the Mother at Birth.	Name, Rank or Profession of the Father.	Signature, Rank or Profession of the Registrar.	When registered.	Signature of Registrar.	Name entered after registration.
183	July 1867 The Woodlands	Clarissa Gibbon	Female	26	Edmund Medlicott formerly Grainger Coachman & Domestic Servant at the Woodlands Lewisham	James Gibbon Registrar	1867	[Signature]	Clarissa Gibbon Medlicott

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of the original as the certified copy of a Registrar of Births & Deaths

Emitted at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE under the Seal of the said Office on 19th day of March 1899

BXBY 549057

*See note overleaf

Birth certificate of Clarissa Gibbon Medlicott, 1867



Mary Grainger's 1862 dress on a mannequin at an exhibition in All Stretton.

**Grave O47
(Cunnery Road cemetery)
No stone remains**

In Loving Memory
Mary Batty
Born 3 March 1840
Died Dec 11 1923
THY WILL BE DONE

The transcription of the headstone of Mary Batty in Cunnery Road cemetery. The headstone no longer exists.

Mary Deakin, née Grainger (8) [Owner and Occupier 1924 - 1965]

Mary Deakin was the niece of Mary Batty. She married Thomas Edward Deakin in 1908 in Church Stretton but only in 1924 did she inherit Greengates from Mary Batty though they had lived in it since Mary Batty died.

After her husband died in 1959, she continued to live in Greengates until 1965 when she sold it to the Hart-Royces, having moved to Ludlow and dying there in 1968 aged 94.
[Ref: Kelly Directory, 1922, 1929, 1934; Thomas Edward Deakin, 69 High St, Private resident]

Vincent and Kathleen Hart-Royce [Owner and Occupier 1965 - 1997]

Vincent Hart-Royce bought Greengates from Mary Deakin on the 29th January 1965. He and his wife lived in it but he died on the 7th December 1992 and the property passed to his wife Kathleen. She lived in it for a while but moved into a care home. She rented out the property to various tenants and eventually it was sold, in a very poor condition in 1997.

J Barrie Raynor and J Rosemary Raynor [Owner and Occupier 1997 -]

Occupants of Greengates from 1841 (from census data)

1841					
Elizabeth Lewis		65	Independent		
Elizabeth Fox		15	Servant		
1851					
John Bridgeman	Head, mar	70	Retired tanner	b Church Stretton	
Clarissa Bridgeman	Wife, mar	50		b London	
1861					
Thomas Gibbon	Head, mar	59	Retired tanner	b Endon, Shrop	
Clarissa Gibbon	Wife, mar	60		b London	
Mary Grainger	Niece, unnm	21		b	
1871					
Thomas Gibbon	Head, mar	69	Retired farmer	b Bridgnorth	
Clarissa Gibbon	Wife, mar	71	Retired farmer wife	b Smithfield, Middlesex	
Ellen Aveline	Serv, unnm	32	Housekeeper	b Bilston, Staffs	
1881	unoccupied				
1891					
Ann Jackson	Hd, wd	30	Charwoman	b Eaton	
Annie Jackson	Dau, unnm	5		b Eaton	
Fanny E Jackson	dau	3		b Wistanstow	
Eliza Carter	sister, unnm	36		b Eaton	
William Lloyd	Boarder	9	Scholar	b Dawley Green	
Annie Lloyd	Boarder	7	Scholar	b Dawley Green	
1901					
Elizabeth Wright	Head, unnm	43		b Eacup, Yorks	
Mary Rollinson	Niece, unnm	?		b Cookridge, Yorks	
Arthur Jackson	Wdr	42	Architech	b Cleckheaton, Yorks	
1911					
Elizabeth Wright	Head, unnm	53	Letting furnished apartments	b Eacup, Yorks	
Mary Batty	Boarder, wd	68	Retired innkeeper	b Langley, Shrops	
James William Baird	Lodger, unnm	61	Retired wine merchant	b	

Trade Directory references

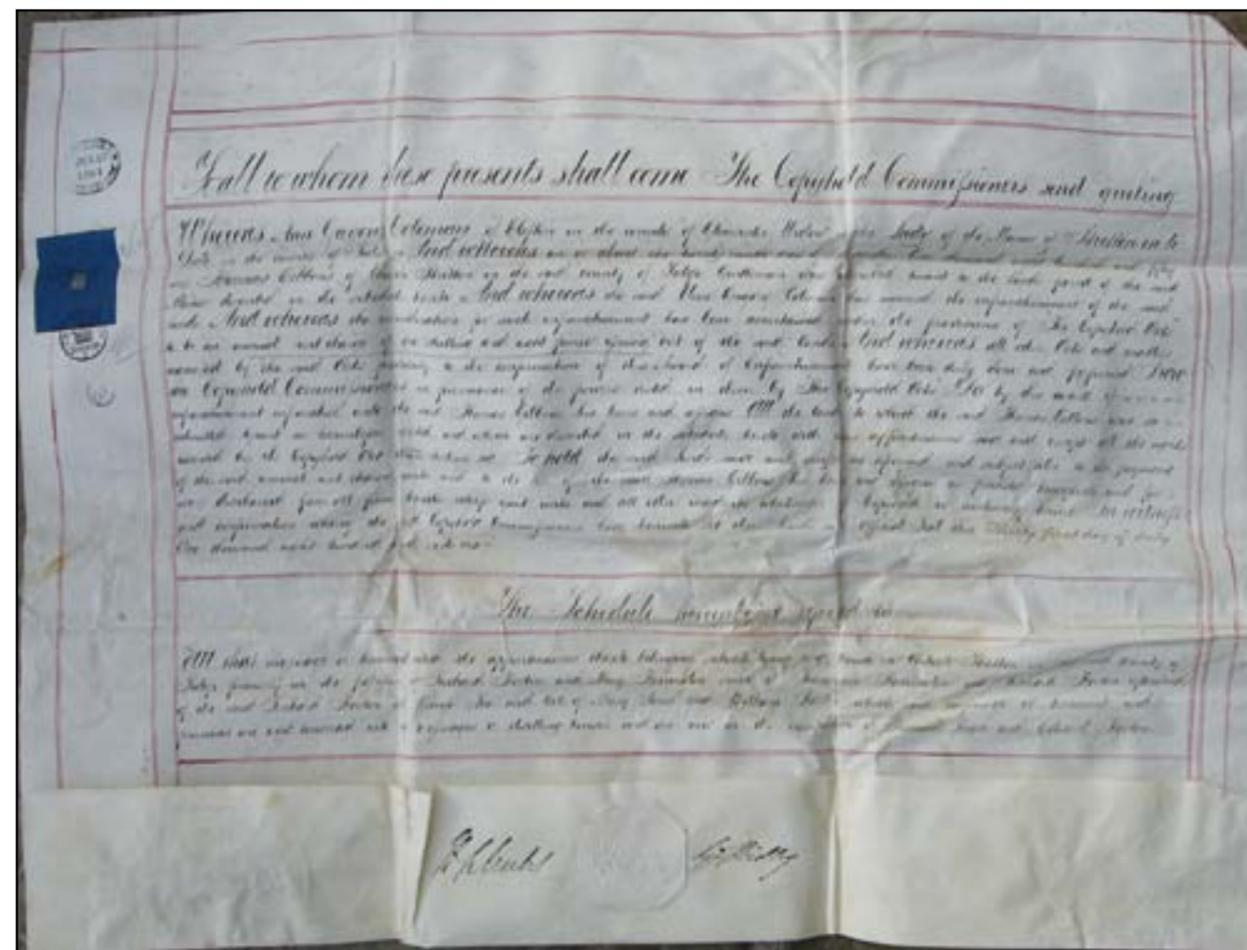
1829, 1834 Pigot.	Mrs Lewis, Greengates. (Gentry)
1836 Pigot.	Mrs Elizabeth Lewis. (Gentry)
	John Bridgeman, tanner, Little Stretton
1840 Hobson's	Mrs Elizabeth Lewis, Gentry
1842 Pigot	Mrs Elizabeth Lewis
	John Bridgeman, tanner, Little Stretton
1850 Slater's.	Mr John Bridgman, (gentry)
	Mrs Eliz Lewis, (Gentry)
1851 Bagshaw.	Mr John Bridgman
1861 Harrod's	Thomas J Gibbon, Greengates, Gentry
	Mrs Ann Gibbon
1863 Kelly	Mr Thomas John Gibbons
1879 Kelly	Miss Bowdler, Greengates (Private Resident)
1929 Kelly	Thomas Edward Deakin, 69 High St, (Private resident)

List of Deeds and papers re Greengates received from Priestley, Solicitor, Church Stretton

30 Apr 1818	Admission of Elizabeth Lewis
15 Nov 1848	Admission of Thomas Bray and Thomas Gibbon
5 Nov 1849	Admission of John Bridgeman and Clarissa his wife
29 Nov 1856	Admission of Thomas Gibbons as tenant
27 Oct 1877	Indenture between Edward Bernard Coleman (1st part), Edward Gibbon (2nd part), and Mary Acton Kough (3rd part)
30 Oct 1877	Indenture between Edward Gibbon (1st part), Samuel Harley Kough and Mary Acton Kough his wife (2nd part), and Edward Bagnall Potts (3rd part, solicitor)
14 Nov 1903	Transfer of mortgage from E B Potts to Catherine Ann Bowen
29 Apr 1907	Mary Acton Kough died, probate granted to E B Potts. power reserved to daughter C A Bowen (then C A Kough) and E B Potts (trustees). Sold to Mary Batty. Refers to garden nearby (probably plot no. 1319) occupied by Miss Elizabeth Wright and John Rogers at a rent of £1 10s 0d.
10 Oct 1907	Sale by auction document. Sold by trustees of will of Mrs Mary Acton Kough to George Marsh. £730. Currently rented to Miss Wright for £25pa
21 Dec 1907	Indenture between Catherine Ann Bowen (1st part), Catherine Ann Bowen and Edward Bagnall Potts (2nd part), to Mary Batty widow (3rd part). i.e. sold to Mary Batty.
11 Dec 1923	Mary Batty died. Will bequeathed house to Mary Deakin, niece, wife of Thomas Edward Deakin.
4 Nov 1924	sold to Mrs Mary Deakin
1947	Conveyance Mary Deakin to Joyce Esme Hounsley Elderwick the garden of ???*
29 Jan 1965	Sold by Mrs Mary Deakin to Vincent Pateman Hart-Royce and Kathleen Hart-Royce. £2,250 . Vincent Hart-Royce died 17 Dec 1992
7 Nov 1997	Sold by Mrs Hart-Royce to John Barrie Raynor and Jean Rosemary Raynor. £77,500

The Two Cottages in the Grounds of Greengates facing the tTack to Prosser's Yard Field

This sketch by David Bilbey (right) shows the two cottages which stood in the grounds of Greengates. In 1841, one was occupied by James Bellingham, a hair dresser, and his wife Hannah and a lodger Mary Parry with her two babies Arabella and John. The other was occupied by Richard Haughton, a cow leach, and his son Edward. Ten years later, it was occupied by his son William who was referred to as a beast leach. Beast leaches did simple medical work like pulling teeth. In Mary Webb's *Precious Bane* she refers to the beast leach in the market place pulling teeth at one penny each.



Award of enfranchisement to Thomas Gibbons, 31 July 1861 concerning the two cottages. [personal possession]

The document notes that the messuage in the possession of Richard Horton and Mary Harrington since of Susannah Harrington and Richard Horton afterwards of the said Richard Horton and George Lee and late of Mary Jones and William Horton which are now converted into two dwelling houses and are now in the occupation of Thomas Pugh and Edward Horton.

Summary of owners of two cottages in the grounds of Greengates facing road to Prosser's yard field

1856	Thomas Gibbon, as copyhold tenant, owned by Lord of the Manor.
1861	Thomas Gibbon, freehold
1877	Edward Gibbon
1877	— Grainger
1900	Thomas John Grainger, of East Wall, p. Rushbury, Farmer who sold it to
1900	Bernard Harley Kough, of Moor, p. Broadwood, Devon sale price £85 who sold it to
1908	William Campbell Hyslop, of 6 Lancaster St., Hyde Park, London. Sale price £100
1914	Will of William Campbell Hyslop of 80 Coleherne Court, South Kensington, to his wife Eveline dated 2 Mar 1914, died 7 Apr 1915, proved 14 Oct 1915, Shrewsbury)
1916	Eveline Esther Campbell Hyslop (widow, of Woodcote, Church Stretton). Trustees of her will (dated 28 Mar 1916, died 12 Apr 1916, proved 28 Apr 1920, Shrewsbury). Sale price £30 Trustees sold it to
1925	(9 Dec) Mary Deakin wife of Thomas Edward Deakin of Greengates. She being resident in Greengates presumably pulled it down at this date.

Trade Directory references

1822 Pigot Directory	James Bellingham, Flour dealer and hairdresser
1836 Pigot.	Jas Bellingham, hair dresser
1840 Hobson's	James and Robert Bellingham, Haircutter
1850 Slater's.	Jas Bellingham, hair dresser
1861 Harrod's	Robert Bellingham, Hairdresser and toy dealer
1901 Kelly	Orlando Pugh, Town crier and bill poster

Deeds and Papers re the Two Cottages in the Grounds of Greengates

29 November 1856 Copyhold Commissioners, 29 Nov 1856

The two cottages.

Ann Gregory Coleman of Clifton, Gloucestershire, widow of the Lord of the Manor.

Thomas Gibbons admitted tenant and now (13 July 1861) admitted freehold for ever at annual rent charge of Is 8d, discharged from all fines, heriots, reliefs, quit rents and all other incidents whatsoever of copyhold or customary tenure.

Delineated in map of 1877 of Special Drainage District of Church Stretton, nos. 117 and 118.

Subject to payment of annual rent of Is 8d to the Lord of the Manor of Stretton en le Dale arising out of the enfranchisement of the Copyhold Commissioners of 31 Jul 1861.

As at 1877

Number on plan	Land Owner	Occupier	Description	Acreage	Total acreage
117	Grainger	Pugh, Richard	Cottage	1½ perch	
118	Grainger	Roberts, widow	Cottage	¾ perch	2¼ perch

Cottages, (originally one but now divided into two) formerly in possession of

Richard Horton and Mary Harrington (earliest known)

Richard Horton and Susannah Harrington

Richard Horton and George Lee

William Horton and Mary Jones

Edward Horton and Thomas Pugh

widow Roberts and Richard Pugh 1877

William Williams and John Pugh 1900

John Morris and John Benbow 1908

31 Jul 1861 Deed of Enfranchisement to Thomas Gibbons (see image on page 41) Document from Priestley (solicitor, Church Stretton)

messuage formerly in possession of

Richard Horton and Mary Harrington

since of Susannah Harrington and Richard |Horton

afterwards Richard Horton and George Lee

and late of Mary Jones and William Horton

and now converted into two messuages or dwelling houses occupied by Thomas Pugh and Edward Horton

14 May 1900

The 2 cottages sold by Thomas John Grainger to Bernard Harley Kough. £85

18 Feb 1908 Indenture between Bernard Harley Kough of Moor in parish Broadwood, Devon, seller, and William Campbell Hyslop, purchaser. £100. Document from Priestley (solicitor, Church Stretton)

Two cottages, forming in past times one messuage or tenement facing road to Prosser's Yard Field off the Main Street, Church Stretton.

Delineated in the map of 1877 of the then Special Drainage District of Church Stretton numbered 117 and 118 (below).

formerly occupied by Richard Horton and George Lee

then Thomas Pugh and Edward Horton

then Richard Pugh and widow Roberts

more recently John Pugh and William Williams

and now John Morris and Charles Benbow

Occupants of the Two Cottages in the Grounds of Greengates

(from census and other data)

1822 Pigot Directory: James Bellingham, flour dealer and hair dresser.

1829 Pigot Directory: James Bellingham, hair dresser

1841

Richard Haughton 78 Cowleach

Mary Haughton 80

William Haughton 35

Edward Haughton 14

James Bellingham 57 Hair Dresser

Hannah Bellingham 58

Mary Parry 24 Female Servant

Arabella Parry 2

John Parry 6m

1851

William Haughton Head, wdr ? Beast Leach b Church Stretton

Edward Haughton son, un 25 Beast Leach b Church Stretton

Elizabeth Haughton, sister, un 53 b Church Stretton

Sarah Haughton dau, un 24 b Church Stretton

James Bellingham Head, wdr ? Hair Dresser b Wem

Arabella Perry gdau, un 13 b Church Stretton

1861

David Richards Head, mar 72 Labourer b Haughton

Emma Richards wife, mar 69 b Chirbury

William Richards son, wdr 40 Blacksmith b Chirbury

Emma Richards gdau 11 b Church Stretton

Thomas Richards gson 7 b Church Stretton

James Bellingham Head, wdr 79 Hair Dresser b Wem [alone in house]

1866 Occupied by Thomas Pugh and William Roberts [Ref 34]

1871

Richard Pugh Head, mar 63 Gardener b Ratlinghope

Anne Pugh wife, mar 60 Gardener's wife b Church Stretton

Anne Pugh dau, un 30 Dressmaker b Church Stretton

Thomas Pugh son, un 18 Railway Porter b Church Stretton

William Roberts Head, mar 62 Tailor (master) b Welshpool

Sarah Roberts wife, mar 52 Tailor's wife b Church Stretton

William Roberts son 12 Scholar b Church Stretton

continued on next page

1881				
Richard Pugh	Head, mar	73	Gardener	b Stiperstones
Ann Pugh	wife, mar	69	Gardener's wife	b Church Stretton
Annie Pugh	dau, un	40	Dressmaker	b Church Stretton
Orlando B Pugh	son, un	32	Painter journeyman	b Church Stretton
Thomas Pugh	son, un	28	Gardener	b Church Stretton
William Davies	Head, mar	56	Shoemaker (master)	b Church Stretton
Charles Davies	son, un	18	Shoemaker, journeyman	b Church Stretton
Thomas Davies	son, un	13	Grocer's errand boy	b Church Stretton
Sarah Davies	dau	10	Scholar	b Church Stretton

1891				
Ann Pugh	Head	50	Dressmaker	b Church Stretton
Orlando B Pugh	brother, un	43	Bill poster	b Church Stretton
Mary Pugh	sister, un	38	Nurse	b Church Stretton
Ann Williams	Head, un	60	Charwoman	b Longnor

1900 Voter's list
Ann Pugh

1901				
John Pugh	Head, mar	72	General labourer	b Norbury
Mary Pugh	Wife, mar	73		b Sibdon
Jane Pugh	dau, un	29	Servant, domestic	b Church Stretton
Edward Harris	Lodger, un	61	Railway labourer	b Norbury

Ann Howells	Head, wd	?	Charwoman	b Longnor
Anne Healey	Lodger, un	30	Charwoman	b All Stretton
Florence Howells	dau, un	8	Scholar	b Church Stretton

1904 Voter's list
Ann Pugh

1908 Sale indenture
John Morris
Charles Benbow

1910 Voter's list
John Morris
Charles Benbow

1911
no sign of entry

1918 Voter's list
John Morris
Maria Harvey

The Restoration of Greengates, 1998

When Barrie and Rosemary Raynor took possession of Greengates in 1997, the property was in a very bad state of repair. The rear (east) wall had suffered subsidence and was leaning outwards badly and panels in the south wall were bulging outwards. Many of the wattle and daub panels had rotted, as well as some of the structural timbers. It was not surprising that the property had been on the market for several years without buyers after the owners had departed. In the meantime, it had been sublet.

After a full structural survey by Carroll and Williams of Shrewsbury, Nick Wood (now Blackwood Architects of Aylesbury) drew up the restoration plans and appointed J P Hall, builder of Ludlow, to carry out the restoration work. All the interior fittings, water and gas pipes and electric wiring were replaced. A new roof supported by a Glulam structural roof beam was inserted the full length of the roof east-west. An RSJ steel beam was inserted along the east wall at first floor level to support the upper floors.

The flimsy conservatory and the store on the south side were removed and replaced, the cellar entrance re-sited and a double garage built. Several trees were removed including a large western red cedar from the front garden and old apple trees from the back garden, stone boundary walls repaired and a new vehicle entrance made on the north boundary.

The driveway between Greengates and the Masonic Lodge (65 High St) is owned by the Masonic Lodge. Agreement was reached in 1998 for the owners of Greengates to have vehicular right of way on this driveway and to share maintenance of it.

Storm water drainage from the rear facing parts of the main roof, the conservatory, and front and rear roofs of the garage all drain into a soakaway beneath the paving in the north-east corner of the garden. Rain water from the front roof of the house and the store roof, together with water from the downpipe belonging to no. 71 drains into a grid near the front boundary to no. 71 and then drains into the road gutter.

The building had been submitted earlier for listing and this was recognized in October 2000 as Grade II.



*Greengates
before
restoration in
1998*

*Greengates rear (east wall)
showing old wattle and daub
infill.*



Original front porch



South wall at the rear bulging outwards



*Greengates rear (east wall)
showing new concrete footings
and the insertion of a steel
beam to support the upper part
of the rear wall*



*Greengates north wall showing
what was beneath the plaster
facing.*



*South west corner showing part of the old poorly built
store*



*The large western red cedar tree in the front garden
which was removed despite objection from the
occupant of Ashford House opposite*

Appendices and Source Documents

- 1 **John Hayle of Litle Stretton. Will 1566.** [HRO wills] Have photocopy
- 2 **Edward Hayle of Cardington. Will 1590.** [HRO wills]. Have photocopy.
- 3 **Thomas Haylle, yeoman of Litle Stretton. Will 1595.** [HRO wills] Have photocopy
- 4 **Thomas Haile of Stretton. Will 1624.** [HRO wills] Have photocopy

5 **Longleat documents.**[MSS 3804; SRO 6636/8/9].

The following customary tenants called copyholders are mentioned in the mss:

CS - Heir to Fra Hayle late Rawlins	9s 9d
CS - Jos Haille for 2 messuages	4s 9d
AS - Thos Vernols for messuage late Hailes	2s 0d
LS - Ric Hale for message	4s 8d
LS - Ric Hayle for messuage late Vernolds	6d

Tenants at Lords Well:

John Hayle for Womerton chapel	2s 0d
John Hayle for cottage in AS	2d

6 **Indenture. Manor of Stretton. Lease in trust of a capital messuage. Bonham Norton, etc.**

- (1) Bonham Norton of Church Stretton Esq.,
- (2) Sir William Owen of Shrewsbury Kt., Richard Mitton of Halston Esq., & John Newton of Highley [Heightley] Esq. For the benefit of his younger children & by license of the lord of the manor, - Lease in trust of a capital messuage late Leighton's of Wattleborough, another late Leighton's of Cotes, another late Scaltock's of Emestre, another late of Jo. Hayles', another late of Rich. Hayles, another late Thynne's, another late Hughes', parcels of the Manor of Stretton; Jane Norton wife of Bonham to occupy after his death. [SRO 6000/9359] Indenture dated 5 Dec., 19 Jas.1 (1621)].

7 **The Norton Family History.** [TSAS, 50, p183; 54, p41];

8 **Longleat documents.** [MSS 3804; SRO 6636/8/9].

A court judgment of 1635 recorded after Bonham Norton's death gives a list of lands bought in the manor by him. It includes a messuage bought of John Hayles and a best beast due as a heriot.

9 Church Pulverbatch document. Source unknown. Dated 21st Nov 1654

Note: dashes have been inserted in the place of words we have been unable to decipher.

To all Christian people to whom this present writing shall come I William Owen of Church Stretton in the Countie of Salop send greeting whereof George Norton of Abbots Leigh in the Countie of Somerset Esq., by Indenture — — under his hand & seale beareing date ye twenty first day of October last past before the date of these presents did demise graunt set & let unto mee ye sayd William Owen that messuage or tenemt. in Church Stretton comonly called or knowne by ye name of Hayles House or tenemt. And all those fower parcells of land had & used to & with the sayd messuage or tenemt. comonly called & knowne by ye name of two — — — ye street meadow & ye home close together with all ways waters easemts — — — to or with ye same belonging or in anywise appertaining to have & to hold the same to me ye sayd William Owen my executors administrators & assigns from ye sealing & delivery of the same recited Indenture for — — — ye full end & terme of fower score & nineteene yeares if David Jones of Church Stretton aforesayd Joane his wife & William Jones sonne of ye sayd David Jones or any of them, shall soe long live Att & for the yearly rent of ffive pounds of currant money of England payable at two feasts or termes in ye yeare in ye same recited Indenture specified as in & by ye same recited Indenture whereby if due relation bee had more playnely & at large it doth & may appear & whereas I ye sayd William Owen by Indenture of Lease under my hand & seal beareing date ye fifteenth day of this instant moneth of November & yeare hereunder written Have demised graunted set & to ffarme letten unto ye sayd David Jones Joane his Wife & William Jones their sonne All ye sayd messuage tenernt. lands & premises to mee demised by ye sayd George Norton as aforesayd with their & every of their apptenacs. To have & to hold the same to ye sayd David Jones Joane his wife & William Jones their sonne from ye nyne & twentieth day of September last past before the date of the same last recited Indenture for & during ye full end & term of fower score & eighteen yeares if the sayd David Jones Joane his wife & William Jones their Sonne or any of them shall soe long live Yeelding & paying therefore yearly during the sayd terme determinable as aforesaid to mee the sayd William Owen my Executors Administrators & assignes Tenne pounds of lawfull money of England at ye feast dayes of ye Annuntiacon. of ye blessed Virgine Mary & St. Michae ye Arch-angell by even and equall portions as in — & by ye same last recited Indenture of Lease whereunto if due relation bee had more plainely & at large it doth & may appeare Now knowe yee that I ye sayd William Owen doth hereby expresse & declare & it is my true intent & meaneing That ye Rents issues & pfitts to mee my Executors Administrators & Assigns. issuing & accruing out of ye same demised premises by virtue of ye said lease by me made to ye sayd David Jones Joane his Wife & William Jones their Sonne over & above ye Rents duties & paymts. due & payable upon or by virtue of ye sayd first recited lease unto ye sayd George Norton his heirs & assigns shalle — employed & bestowed in manner & forme following That is to say That thereout there shall bestowed by mee my Executor administrators & assigns on every Sunday or Lords day & on every ffive and twentieth day of December comonly called ye feast day of the Nativitie of or. Saviour Jesus Christ & on every Passion day comonly Good ffryday & on every Ascention Day comonly called Holy Thursday yearely during ye continuance of ye same lease unto & among ye Poore of ye severall Parishes of Pontesbury Pulverbatch & Condoover in ye sayd Countie of Salop Eighteene pence in bread, to witt six penny loaves of good & wholesome bread unto & among ye Poore of each of ye said Parishes And ye overplus of ye sayd Rents of Tenne pounds to bee to mee ye sayd William Owen my Executors Administrators & assigns to make good ye Rent duties & paymts due & payable upon or by — — — of ye said lease to me made by ye sayd George Norton & other — gent, charges & expenses touching & concerning ye sayd messuage — — — & premises. In witnesse whereof I ye sayd William. Owen — — — unto put my hand & seal this twenty first day of November in the year of or. Lord One thousand six hundred & ffyftie & fower.

Seald & delivered in presence of
Robert Milward Edward Doody This I acknowledge
Isacke Medlicott John Dowlett — — — copy of
John Jaundrell Richd. Davies a Deede before — —
of Wrentnall — — & delivered by me William Owen

10 **Rent Roll** [24 Oct 1664, TSAS. 54, p36, original SRO 6000/8633].

11 **Sir George Norton to John Freeke** [SRO Manor Court August 1712, SRO 6394]
In 1712, Bonham Norton's heir Sir George Norton sold much land and property in LS and CS to John Freeke, of the Middle Temple, London. He was an absent copyholder. One property he did not sell was that belonging to Richard Hayles: *'Except un Customar' Mesuag. Sive Tentu' cu' ftm' Quanda Vor Rici Hayles'*

12 **Glebe Terriers** [SS&T 1709/203; SRO D3552]

13 **Court Rolls**, [Thursday 10th April 1740, SRO 248/11 p202]

14 **Isaac Prosser** [Buried 4 Oct 1739, Bromfield PR; Administration 23 Oct 1739]

15 **Rent Roll** [SRO 248/11] Have photocopy

16 **Court Rolls** [Thursday 10th April 1740, SRO 248/11 p202]

17 **Court Rolls** [25th March 1773, SRO 248/13 p177]. Have photocopy

18 **John Bridgman (2) of Minton. Will Proved 5 May 1747. Have photocopy.**

To my three sons Thomas, Benjamin and Luke £40 each after decease of my wife
To son Benjamin land called Teal in Broad Meadow after decease of my wife
To grandson John Bridgman 5s
To son in law William Jones three children 5s each
Also a small inventory of farm animals and grain.
Executors: Son Benjamin and Dorothy my wife. [HRO wills]

19 **Benjamin Bridgman (2) of Minton. Will Proved 24 Sep 1751. Have photocopy.**

To wife Ann Bridgman dwelling house, garden, yard, outbuildings in LS. Likewise that cottage formerly Banksses during her life.
To son Francis Bridgman £40 and one fleece of ewe sheep before they are sheared.
To son Thomas Bridgman £1
To my granddaughter Elizabeth Bridgman £1
To son John Bridgman and Katherine his wife £1 10s
To my grandsons John Bridgman and granddaughters Ann and Mary Bridgman £1 each.
A small inventory of 20 sheep
Exec: son Benjamin Bridgman. Written 15 Feb 1746/7. He gives mark X [HRO wills]

20 **Thomas Bridgman (3) of Minton, Yeoman. Will Proved 18 July 1749.**

To mother Dorothy Bridgman £10
To brother John Bridgman £8
To brother Luke Bridgman £8
To sister Elizabeth Jones £8
To nephew John Bridgman 5s
To brother in law William Jones' three children 5s each
To Martha Walhouse 5s
All the rest to brother Benjamin Bridgman who is sole Executor. Dated 8 Aug 1748 [HRO wills]

21 John Bridgeman's Snuff Box, 1757

Verbatim from website:

Tasked with cataloguing a collection of military and personal items, perhaps the most intriguing piece was a steel snuff box dated 1757, donated to the museum by the Viscount Bridgeman in 1984. The box, made of white metal, presumably steel, is inscribed *John Bridgeman of Little Stretton 1757*. Carved above the writing is a man smoking a pipe beneath a tree.

Initially the box was considered broken as the button one assumed opened it failed to function. On further inspection it was discovered that on its acquisition it was described as a 'trick' snuff box. Assuming therefore, that there was a less obvious method of opening the item, detailed observation was conducted. However, as a unique hand crafted piece, finding anything remotely similar on the internet was impossibility. Luckily, careful observation of the object revealed that within the intricate hinge there is a hidden catch and the box was finally opened, presenting a elegant mechanism attached to the under side of the lid utilising a hand made spring similar in appearance to a treble cleff.

The history of the snuff box is relatively unknown, indeed the Bridgeman family had acquired it by chance. Bearing their name it was sent in the belief that it belonged to a member of their family. Alongside the snuff box the museum received a series of letters from Ernest Bridgeman to William Bridgeman and after deciphering the hand writing it was found that they were discussing the likelihood of 'John Bridgeman' being a member of their family tree. The challenges that this, on first appearances, simple task has presented has made the work particularly interesting and somewhat Indiana Jones-esque.

Charlie Foxhall, volunteer

[<http://volunteeringshropshiresheritage.wordpress.com/2012/12/20/john-bridgemans-snuff-box/>
Dec 20th 2012; Shrewsburymuseum.org.uk and search for 'john bridgeman's snuff box']

It is not certain which John Bridgman this refers to, though it is probably John Bridgman (3) of Tan House.

22 John Bridgeman (4a) of CS Yeoman. Will dated 5 Oct 1796, proved Hereford 9 Apr 1804.

- (1) To my cousin Mr Randolph Jones 20 gns for suit of mourning
- (2) To cousin William Jones senior of AS, glazier, £50 which he owes me plus further £50
To his children £100 to share except eldest son unless his father does not will his copyhold estate to him
- (3) To Richard Smith senr. of Cardington, wheelwright £100
To his children £100 to share except eldest son unless his father does not will his copyhold estate to him
- (4) To Thomas Waring (3) of CS 5 gns
- (5) To Sarah Waring of CS 5gns
- (6) To Mary Bridgman daughter of Mr John Bridgman of LS and God daughter of my late wife 10 gns
- (7) To Mary Davis of Bronarth Mill par Guisfield, dau of late Katherine Jones of Leebotwood whose maiden name was Cooper 10 gns
- (8) To Richard Cop (?) my late parish apprentice £5
- (9) To my present servant Ann Price 20 gns provided she continues in my service to my decease
- (10) To executors in trust to give to the Minister and churchwardens of CS to poor housekeepers of CS £100
- (11) Interest on the balance to be shared between William Jones senr and Richard Smith senr.

Executors William Waring of CS, William Jones senr. of AS, Richard Smith of Cardington
Signed. Under £1000

Note: wife Mary Bridgman buried 22 May 1793 [CS PR]

John Bridgman of Church Stretton buried 16 Aug 1803 [CS PR]

Marriage: John Bridgman and Mary Mapp 6 Mar 1766 [CS PR]

23 Court Rolls [6th May 1802, SRO 248/17 p70 and also the same court record on pp71 and 73]

24 Court Rolls [13 April 1818, SRO 248/17 p307]

25 Will of John Bridgman (3) of Little Stretton. Dated 4 May 1761. [HRO Wills]

to daughter Ann £200
to daughter Mary Gibbons wife of Thomas Gibbons 21s
to granddaughter Mary Gibbons 5 gns
to daughter Ann one feather bed bolster and bed hangings to the same
to daughter Mary Gibbons one feather bed bolster and bed hangings to the same
to wife Catherine best feather bed, bedsteads and bed hangings and furniture rest of stock of hides, skins and leather to son John (4) and copyhold estate of the manor
Executor son John
He signed will
Proved 16 July 1761, Ludlow.

26 Will John Bridgman (4b), tanner of Little Stretton. Proved 7 Sep 1822. [HRO]

To sons Benjamin and William Bridgman executors of Minton
To executors my piece of pasture called Dole and sell timber on the land.
To Ann Bridgman, daughter, to grandchildren Ann and Thomas Beddoes of daughter Mary by her first husband. John Ainsworth son of dau Elizabeth Ainsworth. Signs. Dated 10 Jun 1820

27 Will of John Bridgman (5) of Church Stretton. Dated 11 Nov 1851

To wife Clarissa everything
She is executor.
He died 20 April 1853. Signs will
Value under £450

28 Gibbon manuscripts [SRO 1643/3-5, 2nd and 3rd August 1799]. (copied verbatim)

1. Thomas Gibbon of Ewdon in the parish of Chetwyn gent. (Eldest son and heir at law and one of the executors and residuary devisee and legatee in the will of Thomas Gibbon late of the Marsh, Wistanstow, gentleman, decd) and Mary his wife, Ann Gibbon now of Ewdon spinster, Thomas Parry of St John Street, Clerkenwell, London, mercer and Katherine his wife, previously Katherine Gibbon spinster, Richard Lewis of St John Street surgeon and Elizabeth his wife, previously Elizabeth Gibbon spinster, William Gibbon now of Little Stretton gentleman, Richard Gibbon late of St John Street surgeon, Edward Gibbon of Ewdon gentleman, Fanny Gibbon of Little Stretton spinster (Ann, Katherine, Elizabeth, William, Richard, Edward and Fanny being 7 of the younger children and residuary legatees named in their father's will)
2. Mary Gibbon of Little Stretton widow and an executrix named in the will
3. Thomas Beddoes of Cheney Longville gentleman and James Kinnersley of Ludlow esq

Recital of will of William Jones [see SRO1643/1] and assignment 23 May 1781 [SRO 1643/2]

Recital of indenture of 10 August 1759

- (1) Thomas Gibbon decd
- (2) John Bridgman, Mary Gibbon widow by her then name of Mary Bridgman spinster, daughter of John
- (3) Benjamin Bridgman and Richard Hollis

Settlement on the marriage of Thomas and Mary. [i.e. Thomas Gibbon and Mary Bridgman, 1759]

Thomas granted the trustees £200 and £100 to be raised as directed in trust to permit him to take the income during his life, after in trust for Mary for her life, after to divide the principal equally among younger children at age 21
Thomas Gibbon obtained a licence from the lord of the manor to dispose of copyholds in Stretton en le Dale by will
At the time of his death he was seized of messuages, water corn mill and lands in Wistanstow and Acton Scott called the Marsh Mill

By will Thomas Gibbon of the Marsh, dated 12 August 1788, [Will 2] after providing for debts, he [i.e. Thomas Gibbon] gave his wife Mary an annuity of £20 p.a. during widowhood payable out of real or personal estate; his 3 sons William, Richard and Edward £200 equally divided among them; Ann, Thomas, Katherine, Elizabeth, William, Richard, Edward and Fanny all real and personal estate equally divided (his copyhold being surrendered to uses of his will). Executors his wife and son Thomas; trustees John Bridgman his brother in law, and Thomas Beddoes his cousin Thomas Gibbon died at the end of 1788

Thomas the son took all household goods and furniture, stock and crops on the farm at the time of his father's death, without accounting for them; his mother and adult brothers and sisters, on behalf of Edward and Fanny who are still infants, that he should come to an account and the estate be divided as directed

Personal estate of testator after payment of debts amounted to £1097.18.0 to be divided in 8 shares, which Thomas the younger is unable to pay. He has agreed to assign his 8th part and pay £36.15.0 each in money in satisfaction

All the children have agreed to convey the freehold and copyhold to trustees to secure an annuity of £35 to their mother for life, which she will accept in lieu of dower and all claims under her settlement Consideration payment of the £36.15.0 to each, 10s apiece paid by Beddoes and Kinnersley to Thomas (party) his wife, Ann Gibbon, Thomas Parry and wife, Richard Lewis and wife, William Gibbon, Richard Gibbon, Edward Gibbon and Fanny Gibbon

Lease and release, and counterpart release of the messuage tenement and water corn mill in Wistanstow called the Marsh Mill (late Edward Whistance, now John Ankrite) containing by a late survey 9 acres 19 perches; parcel of land in the township of Henley, parish of Acton Scott (1.1.1) (now John Ankrite); liberty of collecting hay from part of a meadow called Henley meadow (26p) belonging to Sir Richard Acton bart in the township of Henley; 3 parcels land in Henley (1.3.26) (John Ankrite and John Lewis); on trust. Covenant to levy fine of 3 undivided 8ths of Thomas Gibbon, the Parrys and the Lewises in the mill to enure to use of Beddoes and Kinnersley on trust.
Consideration: 10s apiece

Assignment of freehold in Church Stretton (as before) (all formerly Richard Wilding, now Mr John Bridgman and Mary Gibbon widow) [NOTE: this is Greengates]; the waste or common allotted in respect of the last mentioned land under the inclosure act of 28 George III for the manor of Stretton in the Dale and award thereunder, for remainder of a term of 500 years in trust
Consideration: 10s apiece

Assignment of copyhold property (as before) in Church Stretton (formerly Richard Morris, since Mr Richard Wilding and Mr Hawkins, now Mr John Bridgman and Mary Gibbon widow), for residue of term of 500 years on trust. Trustees to pay out of rents an annuity of £35 clear to Mary Gibbon for life; subject to this, an undivided 17th in trust for Ann Gibbon and for each of the others, apiece
Account stated as schedule at end

Signatures of Thomas Gibbon, Mary Gibbon, Mary Gibbon, Thomas Parry, Katherine Parry, Richard Lewis, Elizabeth Lewis, William Gibbon, Richard Gibbon, Ann Gibbon, Edward Gibbon, Fanny Gibbon

Witnesses:-W. Baxter, William Surman, Henry Lloyd, Thomas Haslewood, James Marshall, Spen: Meredith, and William Lloyd of Grays Inn. Robert Robbins of Lincolns Inn and William Flower his clerk, John Williams, Thomas Lewis

The following documents are on the next page:

[no title] 1643/6 13 December 1817

[no title] 1643/7 5 January 1818

[no title] 1643/8 14 November 1818

1643/6 13 December 1817

1. Thomas Beddoes of Cheney Longville gentleman, who survived James Kinnersley his co-trustee
2. William Gibbon of Lydbury gentleman
3. Edward Gibbon of Everton Terrace, in the parish of Walton, Lancs, esq

Recital of wills of William Jones (see S.R.O.1643/1) and assignment of 23 May 1781(S.R.O.1643/2); will of Thomas Gibbon 12 August 1788 (see S.R.O.1643/3-4) and lease and release of 2 and 3 August 1799 (S.R.O.1643/3-5). James Kinnersley died March 1804

Consideration: an agreement for sale, 10s to Beddoes, £350 paid to William Gibbon by Edward Gibbon
Conveyance of his 1/7th interest (except in such parts of the property as have been assigned to Edward Mansell and Francis Buckley) unincumbered except for land tax, chief rent, and the annuity

Signatures of Thomas Beddoes, William Gibbons
Witnesses:- John Stephens, Ludlow; William Lloyd, Ludlow; John Phillips of Church Stretton

1643/7 5 January 1818

1. Thomas Beddoes of Cheney Longville gentleman, who survived his co-trustee
 2. Thomas Parry of Bred Street, Cheapside, London, merchant, who survived his late wife Katherine
 3. Edward Gibbon of Everton Terrace, Walton, Lancs, esq
- Recitals as in 1643/6. Katherine Parry died May 1802
Consideration £200

Conveyance of Katherine's 1/7th share (except as before)
Signatures of Thomas Beddoes, Thomas Parry

Witnesses:- Thomas Chrimes of Lincolns Inn, William Lloyd of Ludlow, John Phillips of Church Stretton

1643/8 14 November 1818

1. Thomas Beddoes
2. Thomas Gibbon of Rushbury gentleman, devisee in trust named in codicil to will of Ann Gibbon late of Little Stretton spinster deceased
3. Elizabeth Lewis of Little Stretton widow of Richard Lewis late of Clerkenwell surgeon deceased
4. Richard Wainwright of Stanway in the parish of Rushbury esq and Fanny his wife, previously Fanny Gibbon sp.
5. Richard Gibbon late of Clerkenwell, now of Madrass
6. Edward Gibbon of Everton Terrace, Walton, esq

Recitals as 1643/6
Part of the property has been sold to Francis Buckley and Edward Mansell, and Edward Gibbon has purchased from William Gibbon and Thomas Parry their respective 1/7th parts - he had contracted to buy Ann Gibbon's before her death. Her will dated 22 April 1818 made her brother Edward executor and residuary trustee; a codicil of 1 May 1818 devised to her brother Thomas the 1/7th share on trust to convey it to Edward on payment of the £400 which he had contracted to pay. Will proved by Edward 2 November in the Consistory court of Hereford

Edward has agreed to pay £400 for Elizabeth's share, £400 for Fanny's share, and £300 for Richard's share.
Consideration: these sums and 10s to Beddoes

Conveyance of the shares
Signatures of Thomas Beddoes, Thomas Gibbon, Elizabeth Lewis, Richard Wainwright, Fanny Wainwright, Richard Gibbon by Thomas Gibbon his attorney, Richard Gibbon
Witnesses:- William Lloyd, Ludlow, John Phillips of Church Stretton, J.B. Edwards and Charles B. Viveash clerks to Blackstock and Bunce, Temple;

29 Purchase of *Hayle's* messuage by Elizabeth Lewis, 1818
[Manor Court. SRO 248/17 p307, 13 Apr 1818]

30 Schedule of Deeds, etc. 30 Dec 1907. Document given by Miss Smout of Little Stretton, 2002.

Schedule of Deeds and Writings relating to property situate at Church Stretton in the County of Salop, belonging to Mrs Mary Ann Kough <i>Mary Batty</i>	
30 April 1818	ADMISSION of Mrs Elizabeth Lewis.
15 Novr 1848	ADMISSION of Messrs Thomas Bray and Thomas Gibbon.
5 Novr 1849	ADMISSION of Mr John Bridgeman and Clarissa his wife.
1877.	Succession Duty Account.
1877	ABSTRACT of the Copyhold Title.
27 Octr 1877.	INDENTURE of this date made between Edward Bernard Coleman Esquire of the first part Edward Gibbon Esquire of the second part and the said Mary Acton Kough of the third part
30th Octr 1877	INDENTURE of this date made between the said Edward Gibbon of the first part Samuel Harley Kough Gentlemen and Mary Acton his wife of the second part and Edward Bagnall Potts Gentleman of the third part.
14th Novr 1903	TRANSFER of Mortgage R.B.Potts to Catherine Ann Bowen indorsed on about Mortgage.
10th Oct 1907	CONTRACT for Sale.
1907.	ABSTRACT of Title.
21st Decr 1907.	Indenture made between the said Catherine Ann Bowen of the first part the said Catherine Ann Bowen and Edward Bagnall Potts of the second part and Mary Batty widow of the third part.
<i>9625659</i> <i>16801442</i>	<i>Royal Assurance Fire Policy £500 (Xmas present)</i> <i>Præsumptio 7/6</i>
	RECEIVED the foregoing Deeds and documents. <i>30 Dec 1907</i> <i>Mary Batty</i>
<i>4 Nov: 1924</i>	<i>Assent to the devise of Livingston Church Stretton to Mrs Mary Seakin</i>
<i>31 Oct 1924</i>	<i>Succession Duty Account</i>

31 Elizabeth Lewis will and Admittance of Thomas Bray and Thomas Gibbon, 15 Nov 1848

Recited death of Elizabeth Gibbon (*actually* Lewis) died 31 Dec 1846 and her will dated 19 Jan 1831 bequeathed to her friend Thomas Bray of CS gent and nephew Thomas Gibbons (therein by mistake John Gibbons) son of her brother Thomas Gibbons the copyhold messuage upon trust to pay her daughter Clarissa £100 and the rest to be divided between her three children Clarissa, Edward and Charles James. But Chas James died 13 Apr 1840 and Edward died 5 Oct 1839. Therefore only Clarissa survives.

Will Proved 18 June 1853. [SRO 6437]

32 Clarissa Gibbon will [SRO: 1876/467]

Will of Clarissa Gibbon, widow, dated 21 May 1874, proved 10 July 1876. She died 22 Jun 1876 [note Thomas Gibbon died 20 Dec 1873]

To cousin Amelia Bridgman £200

To cousin Dinah Gibbon £100

To nephew John Ainsworth £100

To godson Edward Daniel Phillips £100

To Mary Acton Kough £100

To Bertha Eleanor Kough £100

To Mary Medlicott wife of Edmund Medlicott £200

To Servant Ellen Aveline £50

To god daughter Clarissa Ainsworth £50

To Mary Wainwright £25

To Thomas Grainger £50

Greengates to be in trust to allow Mary A Kough to take rents

Executor: Edward Gibbon

Codicil 21 May 1874: Revoke bequest to Thomas Grainger and bequest it to her sister Mrs Mary Medlicott

She died 22 Jun 1876. Value <£2000

33 Thomas Gibbon of the Marsh, Wistanstow, husbandman, will dated 12 Aug 1788 [HRO Wills]

to mother Mary Holroid messuage in Hintisford, parish of Kings Winford, Staffs for life

to wife Mary Acton (*sic*, her maiden name) annuity £20 pa

to son Thomas messuage in Hintisford above plus two dwelling houses in Sedgely plus piece of land

to three youngest sons William, Richard and Edward £200 between them

to daughter Mary Acton 1s

to children Ann Thomas, Katharine, Elizabeth, William, Richard, Edward and Frances - rest of estate between them

Executors wife Mary and son Thomas

Trustee brother in law John Bridgman (4)

He signed will

Value under £2,000 Proved 20 Sep 1789, Ludlow

34 Thomas Gibbon, gentleman. Church Strctton, will dated 19 Nov 1866

To wife Clarissa Gibbons all household goods and furniture, plate, etc, thereafter to my niece Mary Grainger.

Also, after the decease of my wife, £2000 to be divided between my nephew Thomas John Grainger and niece Mary Grainger, children of my late sister Elizabeth Grainger.

Various other legacies totaling £450 to friends.

Remainder to Mary Grainger.

My cottages [i.e the two next door to Greengates] in occupation of Thomas Pugh and William Roberts to niece Mary Grainger.

My freehold hereditaments at Wall to nephew Thomas John Grainger

Proved 1874. Exec. Edward Bagnall Potts

[SRO Gibbon mss.3933/248; and HRO will ref 1874/62]

35 Mary Batty, widow of Greengates. Will dated 3 Feb 1917, proved 14 Mar 1924.

To brother Thomas John Grainger £50

To several half brothers £

To Mrs Sarah French of Catford, Lewisham £50

To Mrs Mary Elizabeth Fieth of Catford, Lewisham £50

To niece Annie Elizabeth Smout £50

To the daughter of George Grainger (her half brother) Mary, married to Edward Deakin £50

Property Greengates to Mary Deakin, Value £4019

[HRO wills]

36 Personal communication: 9 Nov 1998, Mrs A E Smout of Little Stretton, great niece of Mary Batty]

Original documents deposited with Shropshire Archives [SRO box 6437]

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|---|--------------|--|
| 1 | 31 July 1861 | Award of enfranchisement Thomas Gibbons |
| 2 | 14 May 1900 | Conveyance Thomas John Grainger to Bernard Harley Kough of two cottages for £85 (in the grounds of Greengates) |
| 3 | 10 Oct 1907 | Conditions of sale of Greengates and garden ground. Also notice of sale by auction of same property |
| 4 | 18 Feb 1908 | Conveyance of two freehold cottages (in the grounds of Greengates) Bernard Harley Kough to William Campbell Hyslop |
| 5 | 1924 | Abstract of title of trustees of will of E E Hyslop to two cottages (in grounds of Greengates). |
| 6 | 9 Dec 1925 | Conveyance of two freehold cottages (in grounds of Greengates) by trustees of will of E E Hyslop to Mary Deakin |
| 7 | 1947 | Abstract of title of Mary Deakin to a piece of land situate near Greengates (land now 65 High St) |
| 8 | 1818 - 1924 | Schedule of deeds and writings relating to property belonging to Mary Batty (Greengates) |
| 9 | 1964 | Folder of papers relating to conveyance of title of Greengates from Mary Deakin to V P Hart-Royce |

The Shropshire Archives has other documents not catalogued relating to Greengates at SRO box 6437 and XM 19715.